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SHAYKH - AL- HIND - MAHMUD HASAN DEOBANDI

An eminent theologian and freedom fighter who laid the foundation stone of Jamia Millia Islamia at Aligarh in Northern India in 1920, Maulana Mahmud Hasan, popularly known as Shaikhul Hind (leader of India), was born in 1851 at Bareilly where his father, Maulana Zulfeqar Ali, also a well known scholar of Arabic, was employed in the Department of Education.





MAHMUD HASAN DEOBANDI - EARLY DAYS

Mahmud Hasan was born in 1851 in the town of Bareilly (in modern Uttar Pradesh, India) into the Usmani family of Deoband. His father, Zulfiqar Ali Deobandi, who co-founded the Darul Uloom Deoband, was a scholar of the Arabic language and worked in the education department of the British East India Company's administration in the region. He received traditional Islamic education with a strong emphasis on the study of Islam, the Persian language and Urdu. His primary education was under his uncle Mahtab Ali. His father sent him to the newly established school, where he was the first student. There he studied with Mahmud Deobandi and completed his basic studies in 1286 AH (1869/1870), after which he studied under the guidance of Muhammad Qasim Nanotvi, with whom he studied hadith. After that, he studied higher level books under his father. He graduated from Darul Uloom Deoband in 1873.



MAHMUD HASAN DEOBANDI - REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES

Although focused on his work at the school, Maulana Mahmud Hasan developed an interest in the political environment of British India and the world. When the Ottoman Empire entered World War I against the British Empire in 1914, Muslims across the world were concerned of the future of the Sultan of Ottoman Empire, who was also the caliph of Islam and spiritual leader of the global Muslim community. Known as the Khilafat movement, its leaders Mohammad Ali Jouhar and Maulana Shaukat Ali organised protests across the country. Mahmud al-Hasan was fervently active in encouraging Muslim students to join the movement. Hasan organised efforts to start an armed revolution against British rule from both within and outside India. He launched a programme to train volunteers from among his disciples in India and abroad who joined this movement in a large number.



MAHMUD HASAN DEOBANDI - REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES

The most eminent among them were Maulana Ubaidullah Sindhi and Maulana Muhammad Mian Mansoor Ansari. Sending Sindhi to Kabul and Ansari to the North-West Frontier Province to mobilize popular support and recruit volunteers, Mahmud Hasan himself traveled to Hejaz to secure Turkish support in 1915. The most eminent among them were Maulana Ubaidullah Sindhi and Maulana Muhammad Mian Mansoor Ansari. Sending Sindhi to Kabul and Ansari to the North-West Frontier Province to mobilize popular support and recruit volunteers, Mahmud Hasan himself traveled to Hejaz to secure Turkish support in 1915.

He laid the foundation stone of the Jamia Millia Islamia in October 1920, a university founded by Indian nationalists Hakim Ajmal Khan, Mukhtar Ahmed Ansari to develop an institution independent of British control. Mahmud Hasan supported modern education and also supported Darul Uloom Nadwatul Ulama established in 1893 in Lucknow



LAST DAYS AND LEGACY OF MAHMUD HASAN DEOBANDI

Mahmud Hasan died on 30 November 1920. His endeavours won him the admiration not only of Muslims but also of Indians across the religious and political spectrum. He became an icon of the Indian independence movement, and was given the title of "Shaykh al-Hind" by the Central Khilafat Committee. Hasan issued a fatwa making it the duty of all Indian Muslims to support and participate with Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress, who had prescribed a policy of non-cooperation — mass civil disobedience through non-violence.

Shaikh-Ul-Hind Maulana Mahmood Hasan Medical College in Saharanpur is named after him. Asir Adrawi has written his biography entitled Shaykh al-Hind Hayat Aur Karname which is published by Shaikhul Hind Academy, Deoband. Darul Uloom Deoband has set up a research institute Shaikhul Hind Academy, named after him.

At the Aligarh Muslim University, Muhammad Tayyab wrote a Master of Philosophy thesis in Political science entitled The Role of Shaikh-Ul-Hind Maulana Mahmud-Ul-Hasan in the Indian Freedom Movement



LITERARY WORKS OF MAHMUD HASAN DEOBANDI

Mahmud Hasan Deobandi's major work is his translation of Qur'an in the Urdu language. He wrote incomplete annotations to this translation, as he had just completed the fourth chapter An-Nisa, that he died in 1920. This work was completed by his student Shabbir Ahmad Usmani, and is published as Tafsir-e-Usmāni.

- *al-abwāb wa al-tarājim li al-Bukhāri*
- *Adilla-e-Kāmilah*
- *Ahsan al-Qurā*
- *Jahd al-Muqil*
- *Īzah al-adillah*
- *Tas'hīh Abu Dawūd*



SOURCE OF INFORMATION & REFERENCES

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mahmud_Hasan_Deobandi

https://www.jmi.ac.in/aboutjamia/profile/history/Founders-14/_Shaikhul_Hind_Maulana_Mehmud_Hasan-2149



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