

**MIR CHĀKAR KHAN RIND AT SATHGARAH****Durdana Mola Bakhsh***M.Phil Scholar, Balochistan Study Center, University of Balochistan, Quetta***Zahid Dashti***Lecturer, Department of Balochi, University of Balochistan, Quetta.***Abstract:**

*Mir Chākar was the ruler of Balochistan in today's Pakistani region. His rule came to end for several years due to some internal and tribal clashes. He had to migrate from Balochistan to the Punjab in 1520 AD.*

*This paper focuses on Satghara, where Mir Chākar spent the rest of his days in Punjab. He gained a vast area in the south Punjab through his bravery and steadfastness. Near "Okara", he settled an area full of civilized people and built seven castles around to protect the city called "Satghara" where, even today, his tomb stands as a pride for the Baloch people and proof of his rule in the Punjab. This paper aims to highlight the political activities of Mir Chākar Rind from his relationship with Satghara till his refusal of "Sher Shah Suri".*

**Keywords:** Sher Shah Suri, Satghara, Mir Chākar, tomb Satghara, Humayun.

**Introduction**

In the national histories, the role of individuals is very important. The individuals not only help their nations to unite and prosper, but to lay the foundation of great governments, because of their extraordinary achievements. Mir Chākar Khan Rind is one of the personalities, who had an important position in the Baloch history. Without mentioning his name, the history of Balochistan remains incomplete. Mir Chākar Khan Rind, born in 15<sup>th</sup> century AD in Kolwah, the region of Makran, was the eldest son of Mir Shayhak Rind Baloch. His father was the Head of the tribal alliance of

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Rind and lasharis. His birth was celebrated with a great pomp and show by the tribal chiefs of that time. According to Justice Khuda Bakhsh Bajarani Marri that Mír Chākar was born in 1468 A D (Marri, 1985) and he belonged to a royal family.

Mír Chākar Khan Rind was interested in horse riding from the young age. He was also very active, intelligent, wise and clever. He loved tales of battles and bravery during his childhood. He started his practical life only at the age of twenty. After the death of Mir Shayhak, Mír Chākar became chieftain of the Baloch people. With his bravery and determination, he conquered and increased his domain in Balochistan. His reign was the golden era, where he chooses "Sibi" as his capital of the then Balochistan. Even today, he is among the well-known heroes of Baloch folklore. After conquering 'Sibi' Mír Chākar Khan Rind united the Baloch on one platform and spread peace and tranquility in Sibi. It became the center of peace, culture and civilization. Mír Chākar was very fond of good art and architecture. During his reign, many castles and palaces were built in Balochistan. In those days, the main agricultural production of Sibi was cotton where trade was flourishing, horse races, dance, Balochi poetry, Balochi Literature and music improved much more in those days. According to Justice Khuda Bakhsh Marri "*it was Mír Chākar and his power which allowed the Baloch to rule, not even Balochistan, but the Punjab and Sindh as well*" (Ibid P: 181).

Mír Chākar moved towards the Punjab with a well-equipped Baloch army of forty thousands. It was a mass movement with about four to five hundred thousand persons, including non-Baloch mercenaries in his army.

In 1540 A.D, he controlled a large tract of land in southern Punjab including Multan. The Baloch people settled down in the Punjab and their descendants [ among them *lagharis*, *Mazaris* , *khakwanis* , *Gurmanis* and *Dreshik* ] have a huge number of properties in Multan , Bahawalpur and Dera Ghazi Khan Divisions , called *Jāgirs* . He had a well-organized army and where he allied with the langah rulers of Multan. They had assisted

emperor Humayun ,who defeated the Suri Afghans and recaptured Delhi in 1556 A.D (Ahmad, 1992 ).

Baloch, like the other peoples in early stages of the tribal culture , preserved the records of their important historical events through poems and folk-tales . In the first half of the 16th century, the Baloch fought a couple of battles amongst themselves , one in Balochistan and another in the Punjab . The results of these conflicts made damaging effects to the Baloch people and it paved the way of feudalistic set-up.

These battle caused not only large - scale of bloodshed , but resulted the mass migration to Sindh, Punjab and even to India . Thereafter, Baloch power shifted from west to east which lasted there, ever since, having consolidated the eastern territories of Balochistan. This success resulted in large -scale of Baloch migration which changed the demographic features and political scenes of the region . There is still millions of Baloch population in Sindh and the Punjab, which is thousand times larger than the Baloch population of Balochistan .

Rind and Lashar tribes migrated from Iran to settle in Makran, but after a couple of centuries after the birth of Mír Chākar they migrated to Kalat. Chākar Rind was honored the throne of all Baloch, he conquered Sibi without any resistance, giving the Baloch people a capital, cultural hub and pride. Sibi Mela is one of the enormous public festival of Balochistan , its foundation was laid by Mír Chākar .The functions in Sibi festival show that Baloch had been living a peaceful life and other inhabitants .The qualities of the tribal society, hospitality, honesty, revenge ,and respect for women . Rind and Lashar were the two major tribes of the Baloch People who led the Baloch nation during the sixteenth century in Balochistan. An unfortunate rift led them to a 30 years' war.

In the meantime, Rind tribe was under Mír Chākar Rind and Lashari tribe under Mir Gohram Lashari. The rift emerged between the tribes due to some political economical, agricultural injustice and conspiracies by neighboring countries .Taking help from the Sultan of Herat, Hussain Shah Beekara and Arghoon of Qandahar, after that many areas of Balochistan

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Shah Baig Arghoon made his own government. The Rind tribe was to move on the plains of the Punjab and the lashari tribe to move further into Sindh. The disintegration of these two major tribes of the Baloch caused Mír Chākar to lose Balochistan and the Baloch tribal unity, culture and pride.

On his arrival to Multan in 1498 to 1525 A .D, during the rule of Mahmood Shah Langah, a great person came to Multan. Mír Chākar Rind who was the sole personality for the unification of the Baloch people. For the ownership and leadership over the tribes the Rind and Lashari tribes, the Rinds and Lashars fought 25 battles, in which 15 were won by the Rind tribe and 10 by Lashari tribe. After these bloody wars Mír Chākar Rind compelled to move on the bloody area of Balochistan and he migrated to the Punjab for a better sigh of relief. (Qadri, 2011).

Mír Chākar moved to the Punjab with a well-equipped Baloch army of forty thousands. It was a huge mass movement of about four to five hundred thousand persons, including camp non-Baloch mercenaries. (Ahmad, 1992)

Mír Chākar encamped in a vast area of the south Punjab, where he sustained equality, peace and prosperity among the people. He was not like Changhis Khan and Timurlang who pillaged different countries. He opted for progress rather than destruction. He wanted an actual kingdom of peace for his nation. He dwelled in a village named Satghara, near Okara, in which he promoted the agricultural lands, built grand and huge castles and forts.

The historians write that the small area of the Punjab in the south of the river Ravi lies at Satghara from 80 km far from Lahore , 40 km from Harappa and just 25 minutes from Okara . (Rind , 2004 ) Historian Qanoon Goh writes that Satghara was a castle city encircled by seven castles situated 65 miles due west from Lahore and Chkkar annd (Chakar Rind) border expanded till east, near a river (Byas) in the southern area. (Qanoon Goh, 1996).

Mír Chākar Khan Rind built a lot of forts. His famous castle in Sibi still a symbol of his grandeur for the Baloch people. The departure of Mir Chakar Khan was an unforgettable moment for the Baloch people and

Balochistan and it was difficult for him to live in a strange area like Satghara (Sahiwal district) was more difficult (Bukhari, 1987).

Though Mír Chākar and his sons were building Satghara, but they were aware of the politics of the surrounding nations. He built the roads of Multan, Delhi and Lahore were interlinked with the cities. Chākar Rind's rule in Satghara was a milestone for the local people in Punjab which brought a preliminary change due to his nobility, justice, honesty and much more. He was known as a progressive ruler among the bordering nations.

According to Shikh Navid , Chākar Khan reaching at Satghara ,he established a new city adjacent to the old one . He a grandeur castle in the new city of Stagarah. In 1540 AD, Mír Chākar was passing a prosperous and empowered life, where he refused to support the gigantic army of Sher shah Suri. (Akram, 1997).

He defeated one of the brilliant Mughal king Humayun. The King Zaheer ud Din Babar never liked Multan under the Baloch rule, but he had no time to do something about it .In 1530 AD, when Humayun inherited the throne, Fareed khan gained massive land and power. He took over "Bihar" and claimed Bengal as well. At the time around, Multan was a state of Baloch people and was under Mir Chakar's son Mir Mirran. Sher shah Suri united the Afghans and attacked the Punjab for 10 years during which Humayun was defeated and the throne went to Sher Shah Suri. Sher Shah Suri appointed Khuwas Khan to pursue Humayun, who was fleeing to Multan. Humayun stayed only a day in Multan when he was to escaping via river, but there were no ships to help him across. He found that Khuwas Khan was approaching to Multan, hence he sent resources for supplies and ships by Bakhshoo Baloch of Multan. Bakhshoo sent 100 ships to Humayun full of grains and the army crossed the river easily. Humayun's sister '*Gulbadin Bhegum* ' writes that Bakhshoo helped us when we were in need of the shortfalls of grain (Bhegum, 1995).

Bakhshoo Baloch was one of Mír Chākar's right hands, he was ruler of Multan. According to dates and annals, Sher Shah Suri kept on good relations with the Baloch ruler and wanted to rule beside Baloch in

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Hindustan. He asked to help Mir Chākar, but Mir Chakar refused (Aslam, 2008 ).

According Abbas khan Sherwani, shah suri order Haibat khan to remove Fateh khan jatt who had pillaged countless areas near "*Pani patt*" also to rid Punjab of Baloch tribes and settle Multan. Haibat khan told Mir Chakar's lawyer that he was traveling into his land , he disclosed his agenda of eliminating Fateh Khan and asked the Mir's help in getting rid of Fateh khan (Bukhari, 1987)

When the messenger reached to Mir Chakar, told him of Haibat khan Nayazi's movement towards Satghara ,the Mir was worried in deciding what to do , he became more worried when he found out that Haibat khan will arrive sooner as he has travelled 12 miles towards their direction ,Mir Chakar's army was not formed yet .The next day general Haibat khan met Mir Chakar asking for his help in defeating Fateh khan jatt ,who was in Dipalpur ,the slightest word of general Haibat would spook him to flee . This time Mír Chākar was the ruler of Satghara.

According to the Baloch tradition ,when Multan was lost and Mír Chākar Rind's two sons dead ,he knew that Hindustan would be difficult to take over ,he wanted Humayun 's help ,when he found out that Humayun was exiled and on his way to Iran ,he caught up to him and exclaimed his desire to reinstate Humayun on the throne of Delhi ,even if it took the last drop of his blood Humayun praised his bravery but told that he wouldn't want the Baloch people to lose blood for a cause in vain , when the time is right both Baloch and Mughal will fight together (Kurd, 2015 )

Chākar Rind knew that Humayun would come very soon , hence he went around the country doing odd errands and collecting resources so that when the long awaited battle comes ,he would not have a shortage of supplies and food .Some traditions know that Mír Chākar Rind himself went to Iran and met the emperor Humayun and encouraged him to attack Hindustan(Faridi , 2014 ) and confirm that just a few in days ,he can

provide 50,000 troops to emperor Humayun .

In 1555 A.D Delhi was under the rule of Sikandar Shah son of Sher Shah Suri , Humayun came with a huge army aided by Chākar Rind 's 40000 Baloch troops .Mir Shahdad fought bravely , the Baloch fulfilled their promise to reenact Humayun as King of Delhi .Some historians write that Humayun took Delhi from Sher Shah Suri 's successor by Chākar Rind's help and after the conquest gave Satghara to Mír Chākar in 1556 AD. According to this research ,and the way historians describe that by Mir Chakar ,there was a prosperous and empowered life in 1540 AD. ( Aslam, 2008)

It is not doubt that in 1542 AD Humayun was in Sindh and Mir Chākar was in Satghara 1544 AD ( Baloch, 2009 pp ). In the time of the exile of Humayun , Mir Chākar was ruler of Sath Gara and Multan .He had achieved these areas with his ability .According to historian Bukhari ,many years back ,after capturing Delhi ,Humayun again became the owner of Mír Chākar in satghara( Bukhari,1987 ). Mir Chākar Rind built those lands, they were not given to him, he ruled before Humayun came back Satghara was a Baloch area and Chākar Rind's grave is still present there, a proof of Baloch rule in Punjab .Mir Chākar attained this area on his own and that Haibat khan general of the Sher Shah Suri met Mir Chākar in Satghara which clearly shows that Satghara was under the rule of Mir Chākar beforehand. Later on ,he aligned himself with Humayun on his return ,and helped him to recapture Delhi .Although we have we have ballad describing the event .The poem is attributed to Shahdad also called shahzad son of Mír Chākar ,the man who is said to be the first to have introduced Shiaism in Multan(McLagan, 2012)

There is a debate as when Mír Chākar passed away, if he was alive during the time of Badshah Jalal -din -Akbar something must have been written down .After Humayun's reign we cannot find any written work about him .According to Qanoon Goh ,The Chākar and Chākar Rind lived longer than the Suri family and they helped gained the throne of Delhi to Humayun of Babar dynasty (Qanoon Goh, 1996 ). So he death must

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have been around 1556 AD ,at the time of Humayun , he was already very old .

The fort built by Mir Chākar , is particularly vast , it is less and less fortified , it was built to protect the population . Satghara's fortbbwas very big and strong .Its 25 ft high wall covered all cities . As the city's population grew ,it spread out of the fort .Mir Chakar found a long lifetime and died when his tribe built a magnificent magnet for his last



restoration ,and he had long been under the guard , but during the time passed Baloch families gradually went to the surrounding areas and today they are present in most areas of Punjab, who call the Baloch tribes (Aslam,2008). The memory of Balochi glory only got mud and bricks



in satghara. Satghara was a Baloch area till 1745 AD ( Shahwani, 2014). Baloch people visit the grave of Mír Chākar in respect of great leaders. Apart from tourists interested in history, Baloch leaders often go there. Their mausoleum is the zombies of Baloch ,they consider them as their nation's feet.

### **Conclusion**

When Mír Chākar moved towards Hindustan, and temporarily succeeded in establishing his governments in Sathgarah and Multan. Mir Chākar is a great hero of Baloch, his presence is available in Satghara area of Okada district .It is proof that the Baloch era .From research ,it proved that the region of Satghara had achieved Mir Chakar's ability .He had settled his family and made for them mellat [palace] ,which is known as "Takia Nawab Chākar" .Despite being in archaeological custody ,who was suffering from distress during the period ,which is an important asset of the nation .The request of the high officials that Mir Chākar tomb should be protected so that generations of generations know the historical significance of their hero . He had played an important role in the history of India. The introduction of Saraiki language owe to these Baloch tribes ,who used to live on a wide range of areas of Punjab .They were the off spring of ancient Hooth and Rind tribes , who invaded areas of Punjab and KPK. They live in large numbers in different areas of Pakistan like Dera Ghazi Khan, Layyah, Bakkar, Rajan Pur, Tunsā, Sathgarah, Sahiwal, Sadiq Abad, Rahimyar Khan, and Multan etc. The famous tribes include *Hooth, Qaisarani, Buzdar, Chandia, Dreshak, Land, Dashti, Laghari, Kosa, Gorchanri, Rind* and many other tribes .

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