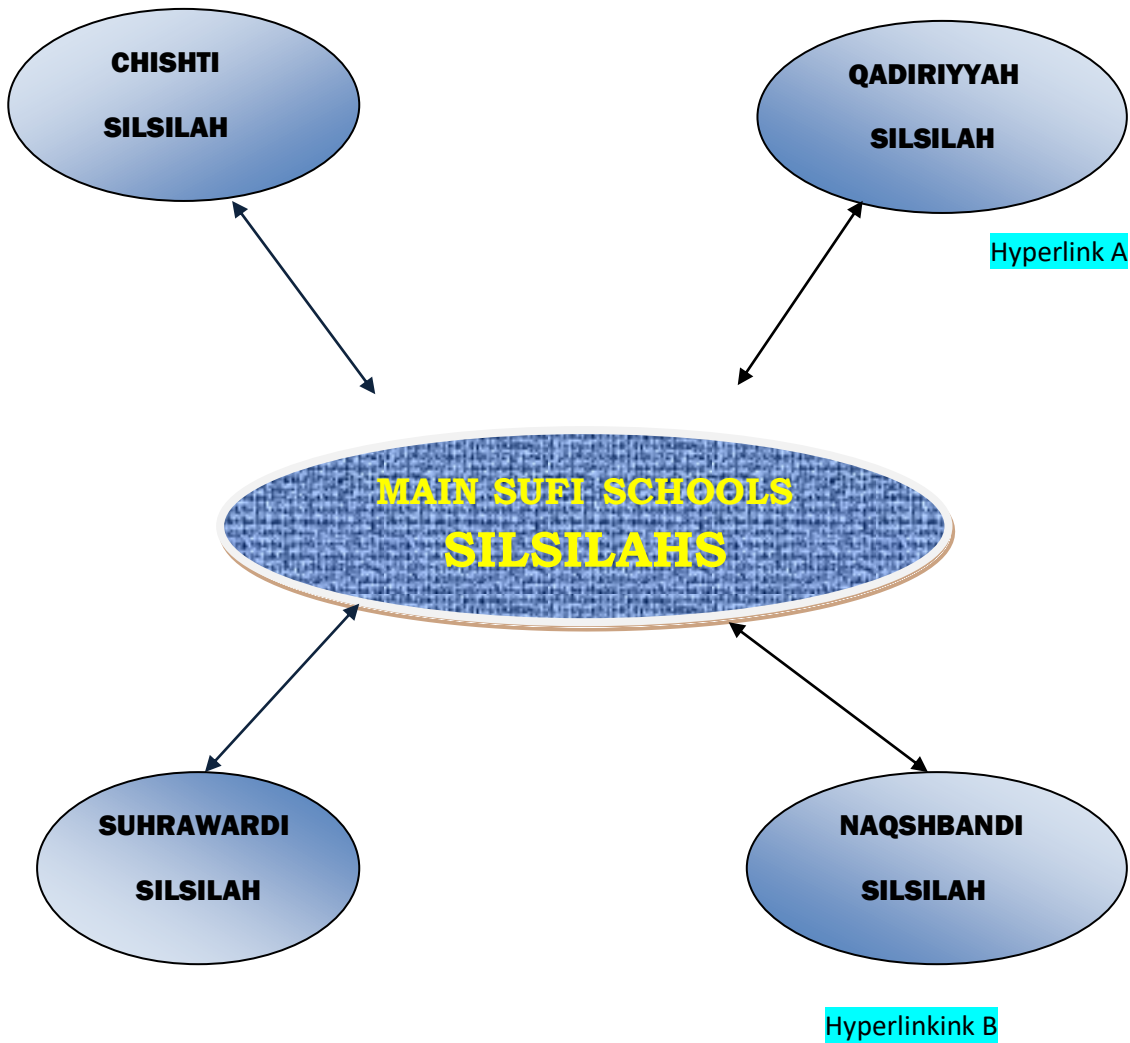


AREA OF META DATA	CONTENT
THEME	Sufism- Concept and four main Sufi Silsilahs
SUBJECT	History
LINKAGE OF THEME WITH CHAPTERS(NAME)	Devotional Paths to the Divine
CLASS/LEVEL	Class VII
OBJECTIVES	<p>1. To develop an understanding of Sufism and its practices.</p> <p>2. To explain the uniqueness of main schools of Sufism which gained popularity in the Indian Sub continent.</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>Sufism or <i>Tasawwuf</i> is commonly defined as the inner mystical dimension of Islam which emerged in protest against the growing materialism of the Caliphate as a religious and political institution. Practitioners of Sufism, referred to as Sufis, laid emphasis on seeking salvation through intense devotion and love for God, by following His commands, and by following the example of the Prophet Muhammad whom they regarded as a perfect human being. They seek to find the truth of divine love and knowledge through direct personal experience of God.</p> <p>With time there emerged chains's or silsilahs, basically groups based on common masters. This is an attempt to understand the origin, main teachings and unique characteristics of two the four main silsilahs which gained popularity in the Indian Subcontinent :</p> <p>The Qadriyya Silsilah The Naqshbandiya Silsilah</p>
KEY WORDS	Sufism, Tasawwuf, Silsilah , Chishti, Qadriyya Silsilah Naqshbandiya Silsilah

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CIET COORDINATOR	Indu Kumar

CIET: Please Hyperlink

The four main groups which gained popularity in the Indian Subcontinent were:



A. THE QADIRIYYAH SILSILAH

Hyperlink A

- ✓ This Silsilah derives its name from Abdul-Qadir Gilani who was from Gilan. The order relies strongly upon adherence to the fundamentals of Islam.
- ✓ Qadiri leadership is not centralised. Each centre of Qadiri thought is free to adopt its own interpretations and practices.
- ✓ The symbol of the order is the rose. A rose of green and white cloth, with a six-pointed star in the middle, is traditionally worn in the cap of Qadiri dervishes. Robes of black felt are also customary. Names of God are prescribed as chants for repetition by initiates (Zikr).
Formerly several repetitions were required, and obligatory for those who hold the office of sheikh.

B. NAQSHBANDI SILSILAH [Hyperlink B](#)

The Naqshbandi is a major Sunni spiritual order of Sufism. It traces its spiritual lineage to the Islamic prophet Muhammad, through Abu Bakr, the first Caliph and Muhammad's companion. It was later associated with Baha-ud-Din Naqshband Bukhari in the 14th century, hence the name of the order. Aurangzeb was a member of this order. The Naqshbandiyya was brought to India by Baqi Billah Berang around the end of the 16th century.

Principal Teachings :

- Remembrance or Zikr.
- Restraint
- Watchfulness: Being conscientious over wandering thoughts while repeating *Al-kalima*.
- Recollection : Concentration upon the Divine presence.
 - Watching one's step : Not being distracted from the purpose of the ultimate journey.

ACTIVITY

CIET : Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks:

1. The..... Silsilah derives its name from Abdul-Qadir Gilani.
2. the great Mughal emperor was a member the Naqshbandiyya his order.
3. Theis the symbol of the Qadiriyyah order.
4. The Naqshbandiyya was brought to India by

Answer

1. Qadiriyyah
2. Aurangzeb
3. Rose
4. Baqi Billah Berang

