

## **1. Shrine of Shah Abul Ma'ali**

The shrine of Hazrat Khairuddin Shah Abul Ma'ali Qadri, well-known saint of Lahore (1025H/1616 AD) stands in bazaar of Gawal Mandi. It is approached from Dil Mohammed Road (formerly Beadon road) which itself is accessible from the Fleming Road.

Hazrat Shah Abul Ma'ali's father belongs to Syed family of Kirman, Iran. In those day, Kirman was a fluoresce of Iran. His ancestor Syed Faiz-ullah along with his son Syed Mubbarak migrated from, the historical city of Kirman to Hindustan, during seven-hundreds and ninety-six Hijri. On 10 Zilhaj, 960 H, this great saint of Islam Shah Abul Maali was born.

He was a great writer and poet of Persian language. He had written multiple books. A few names are Dewan Ghu Urabati, Tohafa tul Qadri, Risala guldasta, Risala nooria and Risala Ghausia. Moreover, he wrote Hulia Sarwar-e-Do Alam, Guldasta-e-Bagh-e-Iram, Munas-e-Jan and Zaafran in Persian. The book Hasht Mahfal is treatise of his Malfuzat (statements) which was compiled by his son.

He served the cause of Islam at Lahore for decades. The Mughal Prince Dara Shukoh wrote in his book Sakeena ul Ulia. "I, in the company of Niamet Ali submitted to Shah Abul Maali presence; meanwhile a devotee submitted a beautiful Tasbeeh to Hazrat Saheb. I thought in my mind, it would be very fortunate for me if Shah bestowed this Tasbeeh to me. When, we intended to depart the session, Shah Sahib called me and said you can take this Tasbeeh. He also advised me to read Daroord on it 100 times daily that would reward you, me and original donator of Tasbeeh."

Hazrat Shah Abul Maali, first matrimony was arranged with the daughter of Hazrat Syed Muhammad Ibrahim Daud Bandagi Kirmani. That pious woman died soon after her marriage. Then he married to the granddaughter of King Jahangir, who elapsed in Lahore and was buried in Mohala Abul Maali's women graveyard.

Hazrat Shah Abu al Mali died in 16 Rabi-al-Awal 1624 (1615 AD) Hijri at Lahore at the age of sixty five years. Near his mausoleum there is a mosque, where he used to preach.

The shrine is a specimen of the early Mughal tomb construction. The Chamber is conventionally octagonal. At its second stage, it is turned into sixteen sides by means of niches which consequently form the six sided drum over which rests a low cusp dome, with its lunches still slightly visible. Over it, there is pinnacle with inverted Lotus base, which is probably a later addition. Shah Abul Ma'ali initiated the construction of his shrine during his life. Before its completion, he passed away and its construction was completed after his death.

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