# Shah Walli Ullah

### Conditions at the Time of His Birth

1. Muslim central government was extremely weak
2. Jatts and Marhattas carried rebellion activities and **Churamun** *(a Marhatta)* was a notorious dacoit of the time
3. Sikhs were dominating **Siharunpur** *and* **Sirhand** and were plundering Muslims
4. Nobles were oppressing farmers by taxation and other measures
5. Royal court was a hub of intrigues and conspiracies to an extent that in the life of Shah 10 kings changed
6. Muslims were fragmented and sectarian violence prevailed (**Golcanda** was a Shiite state)

### The Man

1. **Born** in February 21, 1703, **Died** in 1762
2. **Real Name** “Qutab-Ud-Din”
3. **Father name** Abdul Rahim, a learned saint who compiled **Fatwa I Alamgiri** and had a school **Madressa I Rahimia**
4. **Shah graduated** from his fathers school
5. **He went to Saudi Arab** for higher studies where **Abu Tahir** was his teacher who had liberal and broad view and was not extremist
6. **When he returned** (1733) he saw **two problems**
   1. **Moral Degeneration** of Muslims

### Threats to survival of Muslims (most important and imminent)

**Efforts to Mitigate Threats to Muslim Survival**

* **Wrote letters to rulers** but all in vain
* **Approached Nobles „Nizam Ul Mulk‟** but he refused to help him
* **Approached „Najeeb Ud Dowla‟** *(who was leader of a tribe named* **Rohilla** *in Rohil Khand* **)** and he promised to help him but he could not help him alone
* Hence, they jointly invited **Ahmad Shah Abdalli** form Afghanistan for help

### He came and defeated Jatts and Marhattas in „The Battle of PaniPat 1761”

* They asked Abdalli to stay and rule but he refused due to lack of resources and non-cooperation from local nobles
* *“If Abdalli would have stayed, it would have been a start of another Mughal Dynasty”* **Ishtiaq Ahmad Qureshi**

### Efforts to Eliminate Moral Degeneration of Muslims

1. **Translated Quran in Persian** (1738 & named it as *Fateh -Ur-Rehman)* as he thought that distance form its teaching is the root cause of their plight and the other being reliance solely on **the Ulema** (*later his sons translated Quran in Urdu)*
2. **Introduced “Ijtihad I Muqeed”** in which he emphasized the importance of it as well as guided that any interpretation of Quran should be within the limits of four established sects or school of thoughts (*Shaafi, Hunbali, Maliki, Hanfi)*
3. **He strongly discouraged the reference of incidents in order to translate or explain any verse from Quran** as he thought that it limits the Universal nature of Quran and this practice makes it time bound
4. **Emphasized that Shiite were in the pale of Islam** as they were considered not in his book **“Risala Azala tul-Khifa”**
5. **Wrote book on Muslim Caliphate** to highlight pious Caliphs

### Gave concepts of Justice and Equilibrium “Adal wa Twazan”

1. **„Concept of Irtifaqat”** where he elaborated hierarchy of society as **family, society, city government, and Caliph**
2. **Emphasized that Islam is all embracing** and it is not just a set of rituals

### He was mildly against Monism

1. He emphasized Muslim rulers to be morally correct through his book **“Tafheemat Illayah”**
2. *“Shah was among the first to remind Muslims about their glorious past”* **Iqbal**