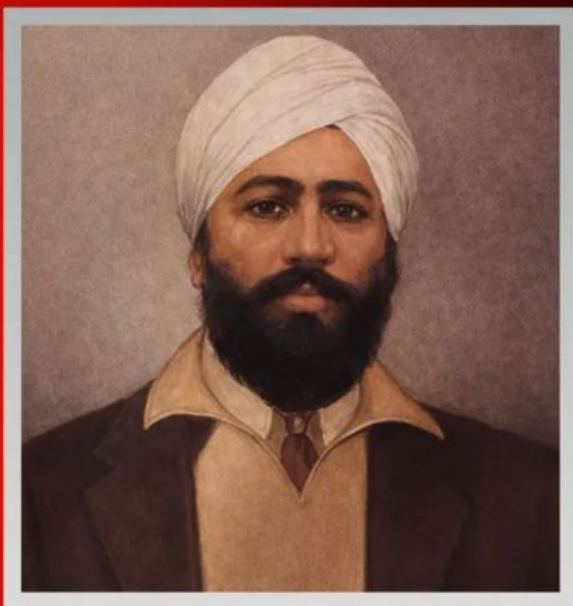


Shaheed Udham Singh, Biography, Early Life, Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

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SHAHEED UDHAM SINGH

Shaheed Udham Singh was a revolutionary freedom fighter of India who avenged the Jallianwala Bagh massacre by assassinating Michael O'Dwyer, the then Lieutenant Governor of Punjab.

Shaheed Udham Singh Early Life

- Sardar Udham Singh was born on **26 December 1899** in Sunam, in present-day **Sangrur** district of **Punjab**.
- At the time of his birth he was named **Sher Singh**.
- His father, **Tehal Singh**, belonged to the Kamboj community and worked as a low-skilled, low-paid manual laborer, while his mother was named **Narain Kaur**.
- He was **orphaned at an early age** and was brought up at the **Central Khalsa Orphanage in Amritsar** where he was named **Udham Singh**.
- At a very young age he started working for his survival. He worked as a labourer in Mesopotamia during **World War I**. He also went to Africa to work in the railways of Uganda. During his time in Uganda he became familiar with a lot of workers of the Ghadar Party.
- He also went to America where he helped Punjabi Migrants from Mexico to reach America. He formed the **Azad Party in Chicago** as a part of Ghadar Party.

Shaheed Udham Singh and Jallianwala Bagh Massacre

- Shaheed Udham Singh was about 20 years old when he witnessed the **Jallianwala Bagh massacre**, where General Dyer ordered firing on innocent, unarmed people. The incident became a turning point in his life and he decided to take revenge.
- In **1924**, he **joined the Ghadar Party** to overthrow colonial rule. He was also associated with **Hindustan Socialist Republic Association (HSRA)**.
- He was **deeply influenced by Bhagat Singh**.
- In 1927, he was arrested for illegal possession of firearms and sentenced to five years in prison.
- On 14 March 1940 he shot **Michael O' Dwyer**, the Lieutenant Governor of Punjab during the Jallianwala Bagh, in Caxton Hall, London.
- During his trial, he used the name **"Ram Muhammad Singh Azad"** to symbolize religious unity in India.
- He was hanged in **Pentonville Prison**, on 31st July 1940, in London.
- His remains (ashes) were brought back to India in **1974** and are kept at the Jallianwala Bagh memorial.

He is revered as **'Shaheed-i-Azam' (Great Martyr)** for his sacrifice and bravery in fighting against British imperialism.

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/shaheed-udham-singh/>

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