

181544

M

Mahmud, Shah (15th Century A.D.)

Shah Mahmud was sufi poet who rose to eminence at Mangalkot. As tradition has it, he waged war with Bikarmajit, the Raja of Mangalkot, and won victory over him. He was a good scholar of Arabic and is said to have worked for the propagation of Islam. He lies buried at Arwal.

Further Reading

- Maulana Zainul Abedin, *Aktari Hazrat Waisi* (Urdu), Calcutta, 1955.
Ali Muhammad Khan Bahadur, *Mir 'at-i Ahmadi*, Supplement, Baroda, 1930.
N. K Singh, *Islamic Mysticism in India*, Delhi, 1997.
Encyclopaedia of Islam, Vol. III.
Achyut Charan Chowdhury, *Srihattar Itibiritti The Journal of Bihar and Orissa Research society*, Vol. III, 1917, pp. 372-373.
H.G. Kenne, *An Oriental Biographical Dictionary*, 1894.

Makhdum Shah Daula (d. 1293 A.D.)

Among the Sufis of high rank who drew the attention of the people of Bangladesh was Makhdum Shah Daula (1291 A.D.). He was a prince of Yemen. He came to Bangladesh to preach Islam and its doctrines. For this purpose he settled himself at Shahzadpur in the district of Pabna

He came with a large party including twelve darwishes, three nephews and a sister. This locality was under the sway of a

Hindu Raja of Bihar. A battle between the Raja's army and the immigrants took place and it resulted in the death of all; only Khawaja Noor, who was among one of his companions, survived. He was married with a Prince of Sonargaon, near Dacca.

Although, this saint did not get sufficient time to preach the teachings of Islam there is no doubt in his mystical rank and position. His mission was carried forward and completed by his comrade Khawaja Noor.

An annual urs (fair) is held at the shrine of Makhdum Shah Shahid in the month of Chaitra (April) which lasts for about a month. A popular belief is that the saint came to Bengal during the 12th century A.D.; but this fact is not supported by the historians.

Shah Jalalud-Din Bukhari flourished in 1291 A.D. and Shamsud-Din Tabrizi, the preceptor of Maulana Jalalud-Din Rumi, died in the year 1273 A.D. Makhdum Shah Daula was a younger contemporary of these two darwishes. Hence, he was probably alive in the later part of the 13 century.

Further Reading

- Aulad Hasan, *Notes on the Antiquities of Dacca*, 1904, p. 54,
Dani, *Muslim Inscriptions of Bengal*, JASB, 1957, p. 15.
J.N. Sarkar, *History of Bengal*, Vol. II.
Mymensingh District Gazetteer, 1917, p. 152.
Ain-i-Akbari, Vol. III, p. 369.
Tazkira-i-Auliya, Pt. III, pp. 139-150.
H.G. Kenne, *An Oriental Biographical Dictionary*, 1894, pp. 139-377.