

THE ANGLO-SIKH WARS

The British and the Sikhs fought two wars between 1845-1849, which resulted in the liquidation of the Sikh kingdom and inclusion of the vast state of Punjab, from Peshawar to Sutlej, in the British Empire.

Most of the historians are of the opinion that the most startling issues concerning the First War viz., the causes of the war, the action on the battlefield and the outcome of the war were clothed with heinous treachery by the Dogra Chiefs, who were in control of both the Lahore Durbar and the Khalsa Army, and the political bribery by the British.

The Khalsa Army lost most of the battles due to the unforgivable treachery of the Dogra Prime Minister, the Misr Commander-in-chief of the Khalsa forces, Dogra officials who were associated with the Durbar administration, and the mistrust amongst the Sardars' own rank and file.

The script, the screenplay, the action and the direction of the First war displays most shameful betrayal of faith, belief and loyalty.

The Dogras from Jammu and Misrs from Uttar Pradesh, who were given maximum honour by the Punjab Durbar [the Sikh Kingdom], they stabbed their motherland at her back and rejoiced the sight of her badly wounded bleeding body. They intentionally played in the hands of the British and negotiated the sale of their motherland for countless rewards.

The history can never forgive them for their most hateful act. Firstly, they planned the most dreadful murders of all lawful heirs of Maharaja Ranjit Singh¹, and then they tore apart the fields, the villages, the orchards, the temples and the history of Punjab.

¹ See appendix A

The description and the critical analysis of the two wars are produced hereunder:

The First Anglo-Sikh War 1845-1846

The Actors:

TEAM A

The Khalsa Army: It was controlled by the following unscrupulous leaders:

Tej Singh: He was the Commander-in-chief of the Khalsa Army [An accomplice of the British and helped them to bring down the Sikh empire. He sold the Durbar secrets to the British. He kept the British informed regarding all plans of the Durbar and the Khalsa Army. He frequently visited the British camp to conspire with them the methods for the death of the Khalsa Army and the fall of Punjab].

Misr Lal Singh: He was the Prime Minister of Punjab [An accomplice of the British, betrayed the Khalsa Army at many occasions. When he double crossed the British over the appointment of Gulab Singh as the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir, he was exiled from Punjab by the British].

Gulab Singh: He was a brother of Dhian Singh, former Prime Minister of Punjab [An accomplice of the British, he regularly informed the British about the plans and moments of the Khalsa Army, and misinformed the Durbar about the plans of the British Army] He was made the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir for his help to route the Khalsa Army]

TEAM B

The British Army was controlled by the following:

Lord Charles Hardinge: Governor General

Lord Gough: Commander-in-Chief of the British Army

General Littler: General in the British Army

THE VENUE:

[The Lahore Treaty of 25th April 1809 read, “the Sikh kingdom will be to the northward of the River Sutlaj², and the Raja (Ranjit Singh) will never maintain in the territory occupied by him and his dependents, on the left bank of the river Sutlaj, more troops than are necessary for the internal duties of that territory, nor commit or suffer any encroachments on the possessions or rights of the Chiefs in its vicinity]³

The First Anglo Sikh War was declared by the British on 13th December 1845, and was fought at the following places⁴:

Mudki – 18th December 1845 [situated on the East-side of river Sutlej]

Ferozeshahr (also called village Pheru Shahr) – 21st December 1845 [situated on the East-side of river Sutlej]

Buddowal – 21st January 1846 [situated on the East-side of river Sutlej]

Aliwal – 28th January 1846, [situated on the East-side of river Sutlej] and

Sabraon – 10th February 1846 [situated on the North-side of river Sutlej]

Preparations by the British:

The preparation of the British Army are quoted by Lord Charles Hardinge, and are as follows:

Place of Garrison		Situation before the war	Situation at the eve of the war.
Ferozepur	Army personnel	4596	10,472
	Guns	12	24
Ludhiana	Army personnel	3030	7235
	Guns	12	22
Ambala	Army personnel	4133	12972
	Guns	24	32
Permanent force	Army personnel	17612	40523
	Guns	66	94

² Cis-Sutlej states: Jind, Kaithal, Jagadhari, Patiala, Nabha

³ Article 2 of the Treaty signed and sealed by the Maharaja Ranjit Singh and C.T. Metcalfe, later rectified by the Governor-General in Council on 30th May 1809

⁴ Refer to the attached maps in Appendix C

According to the Western writers, while the British army was being equipped for war, the mischievous trio of the Punjab Durbar: Lal Singh, Tej Singh and Gulab Singh were alluring the Punjabi soldiers to rejoice with drink and flesh.⁵ They did not inform the army personnel the news of British war preparations, in spite of having full knowledge of it. The trio had actually communicated with the British for rewards to betray the Durbar.

When the Khalsa Army crossed Sutlej river, Lal Singh wrote to Captain Nicholson at Ferozepur:

“I have crossed with the Sikh Army. You know my friendship with British, tell me what to do?”

Captain Nicholson replied:

“Do not attack Ferozepur. Halt as many days as you can, and then march towards the Governor General.”⁶

The Actual Play

- The British agent falsely accused the Durbar of the military preparation. (To find an excuse to start the war]
- Lord Gough and Lord Hardinge joined each other at Karnal on 26th November 1845 and marched towards Ferozepur for planning an assault on the Khalsa Army.
- From Ferozepur, the British could cross the pontoon bridge and easily reach Lahore.
- To foil this move of the British, the Khalsa army crossed the river Sutlej near Hari ki Pattan to reach their own territory on the other side of the river.
- Lord Hardinge declared war on the Durbar on 13th December.

⁵ A note by Major Broadfoot, the Agent at Ludhiana to F. August 1845.

⁶ Ganda Singh: Private correspondence relating to the Anglo Sikh Wars, page 907

THE FOUR BATTLES

First Battle: The Battle of Mudki [The movements and action of Lal Singh are to be watched]

- The first battle was fought on 18th December at **Mudki**.
- Lal Singh ordered Khalsa soldiers to attack and he himself disappeared from the scene leaving the Khalsa soldiers without a commander.
- The battle was fought up to midnight of 18th December.
- The Khalsa contingent lost half of their men and 15 cannons.
- The British casualties were also very heavy.
- Next day, the British marched toward Ferozeshahr.

Second Battle: The Battle of Ferozeshahr [The movements and actions of of Tej Singh and Gulab Singh are to be watched]

- The second battle was fought two days after, on 21st December, at **Ferozeshahr**.
- General Littler joined forces with Commander-in-chief Gough and they ordered an immediate attack on the Khalsa army.
- British suffered heavy casualties. Most of the governor general's personnel were either killed or wounded. The British had also run out of ammunition. The victory of the Khalsa Army was in sight.
- At this strategic movement Tej Singh, the commander-in-chief of the Khalsa army arrived with further Khalsa troops. The Khalsa victory was absolutely sure, but for no reason Tej Singh ordered his men to retreat leaving behind 80,000 lbs of gun powder.
- Lord Gough got the signal from Tej Singh and ordered his men to charge the retreating Sikh army.
- The Sikh Army was caught unaware and failed to face the unexpected assault on their retreating men.
- The battle was lost. The certain victory of the Khalsa army was turned into a shameful defeat due to the betrayal and disloyalty of Tej Singh and his stooges.
- Immediately after this unfaithful act, Gulab Singh Dogra sent an agent to the British at Ludhiana cantonment to negotiate for their reward.⁷

⁷ Dispatch to Secret Committee no. 319 of 26th December 1846 quoted by Khuswant Singh, History of the Sikhs volume 2, page 50

- At this tragic moment, to put fuel on fire, Lord Hardinge issued a proclamation inviting soldiers of Khalsa army to quit the service of the Punjab Durbar, and offered them higher wages and benefits if they joined the British.

Third Battle: The Battle of Buddowal

- The battle of Buddowal was fought on 21st January 1846, exactly a month after the Ferozeshahr battle.
- Khalsa army officers Ranjodh Singh Majithia and Ajit Singh Ladwa crossed Sutlej at Phillaur.
- They had a force of 8,000 men and 70 guns.
- In the initial victory they liberated many forts which had fallen to the British. The important forts so liberated were: Fategarh, Dharamkote, Gangarana and Buddowal.
- Many men of the Khalsa army entered Ludhiana and set many barracks on fire.
- British sent Sir Harry Smith to face the Khalsa Army.
- Ranjodh Singh Majithia defeated Sir Harry and captured his baggage train and stores.

Fourth Battle: The Battle of Aliwal

- Sir Harry gathered more enforcements, and a week later, on 28th January, he attacked the Khalsa posts. Battle was fought at Aliwal.
- Khalsa army which was busy in rejoicing their victory were caught unaware. There was no time to call for assistance.
- This resulted in loss of large number of Khalsa soldiers and 56 cannons.

Battle of Sabraon [Again The movements and actions of of Tej Singh and Lal Singh are to be watched]

- The battle at Sabraon was fought on 10th February 1846, two weeks after the battle of Aliwal.
- This was the most gruesome battle and had completely demoralised the Khalsa army. Lord Gough described this battle as the Waterloo⁸ of India.
- The Khalsa army was headed by two most hateful villains of the Punjab Durbar viz., Tej Singh and Lal Singh. Like before, they had again drawn a most atrocious plan to betray the Khalsa army in the thick of the battle.
- After the start of the battle, both deserted the Sikh army when the army needed them the most. Once again the Sikh Army was left with no commander.
- On his retreat Tej Singh signalled Gough's troops to break into the Khalsa army's strategic positions. This resulted in unaccountable casualties of the Sikh soldiers.
- Sikh general Sham Singh Attariwala⁹ fought heroically and died defending the motherland Punjab. He rallied Punjabi soldiers in a last desperate stand against the British, but the odds were too heavy.

⁸ The Battle of Waterloo, fought on Saturday 18 June 1815^[3], was Napoleon Bonaparte's last battle. His defeat put a final end to his rule as Emperor of the French.

⁹ SHAM SINGH ATARIWALA (1790-1846),

Sham Singh Atariwala was a general in the Sikh army and took part in the military campaigns of Peshawar, Attock and Multan. He also fought in Kashmir in 1819.

At the Durbar, Sham Singh Atariwala acted on occasions as Chief of Protocol. In that capacity, he received Sir Alexander Burnes when he had in July 1831 brought from the King of England presents of horses and a carriage for the Maharaja. Sham Singh's influence at the court was further enhanced by the marriage of his daughter, Bibi Nanaki, to Maharaja Ranjit Singh's grandson, Prince Nau Nihal Singh.

Sham Singh was nominated to the council of regency set up by Maharani Jind Kaur on 22 December 1844 for the minor sovereign Maharaja Duleep Singh.

In March 1845, Sham Singh led a punitive expedition against Gulab Singh of Jammu who had refused to surrender to the Lahore government the treasure of Hira Singh amounting to 35,00,000 rupees which he had carted away from Jasrota to Jammu. The army under Sham Singh reached within 10 km of Jammu and obtained from Gulab Singh the undertaking to indemnify the arrears of the tribute, pay nazaranas and return to the Lahore government Hira Singh's treasure.

- As per terms with the British , Tej Singh crossed the pontoon bridge and destroyed it behind him. The Sikh army was completely trapped. There was no hope for the fresh assistance and there was way to retreat either.
- Khalsa army was betrayed by its commanders, nearly 10,000 soldiers lost their lives. None of them surrendered. All their guns were seized by the British.
- Lord Hardinge who watched the complete action later wrote:

“.....few Durbar soldiers escaped; none, it may be said, surrendered. The Sikhs met their fate with resignation which distinguishes their race.”¹⁰

- The battles of this war were fought in the Malwa region, and the Sikh chiefs who supported the British included the territories of Patiala, Jind and Faridkot.

At the outbreak of the first Anglo-Sikh war, Sham Singh was at Kakrala, south of the Sikh frontier, for the wedding of his second son, Kahn Singh. As he heard the news, he rushed back to the Punjab. The defeat of the Sikh forces at Ferozeshah led the Maharani Jind Kaur, to summon him from Atari. Sham Singh immediately came to Lahore. He chided the commanders, Misr Tej Singh and Misr Lal Singh, who had fled the field, and himself crossed the Sutlej swearing an oath on the Guru Granth Sahib that he would lay down his life rather than return in defeat. The battle was joined at Sabhraon on 10 February 1846. Dressed in white and riding his white steed, the grey-bearded Sardar Sham Singh moved from column to column calling upon his men to fight to the last. He made a desperate charge along with his fifty men against the advancing enemy. He was overpowered by the British and he fell to the ground dead. In the evening as the battle was over, his servants swam from across the river to recover the body. On 12 February 1846, Sham Singh was cremated outside his village. A samadh raised on the site now honours his memory.

¹⁰ Charles Hardinge: Viscount Hardinge 1900, page 119

The Aftermath and the Treaties [In reality, the British had won Punjab even after the first war. The second war was only an excuse to dethrone the Sikh Maharaja and destroy the scattered and demoralised Khalsa soldiers]

- After the victory at Sabraon British crossed Sutlej and occupied Kasur.
- Lord Hardinge was anxious for a complete annexation of the Kingdom but knew that there were still a large number of Khalsa soldiers to win over.
- He tactfully weakened the kingdom further by incorporating obnoxious terms in the four treaties which the British signed with the Punjab Durbar after the British victory at Sabraon.
- During the three years gap between the two wars, most of the Punjab provinces had been either usurped by the British or had declared their own independence.

THE TREATIES

First and Second treaties: The treaties of Lahore 9th March, and 11th March 1846.

The main terms of the two Lahore treaties were as follows:

- The Durbar was to give over the control of both banks of the river Sutlej to the British.
- The area of Jullundur Doab was also to be given to the British.
- The Durbar was to pay a war indemnity of 11.5 crores rupees to the British.
- The Durbar was to reduce its army strength to 20000 infantry and 12000 cavalry.
- The Durbar was to hand over all guns which they had used in the first war to the British.
- A British Resident was to be posted in Lahore. Colonel Henry Lawrence was later appointed at this post.

THE WAR INDEMNITY

The payment of war Indemnity

- The Durbar had no funds to pay the war indemnity, instead they ceded the hill territories between the river Beas and river Indus to the British.

- The British retained only areas of Kulu, Mandi, Nurpur and Kangra and sold the rest to Gulab Singh Dogra, a member of the ugly trio, for 75 lac rupees.

Third Treaty: The treaty of Amritsar 16th March 1846

- Another treaty, to humiliate the Sikhs, was signed at Amritsar. According to this treaty Gulab Singh Dogra was made the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir. It is obvious that he got much more than he had expected for his treachery.

Gulab Singh vs Lal Singh

- This most valuable gift to Gulab Singh made another member of the ugly trio, Raja Lal Singh, his enemy. He secretly advised the Muslim governor of Kashmir, Shaikh Imamuddin, not to let Dogras control Kashmir.
- But the forces sent by Colonel Lawrence made Imamuddin to surrender without any resistance.
- Imamuddin also gave to Colonel Lawrence the secret note sent to him by Lal Singh, which advised him not to let Dogras take the charge.
- Lal Singh was tried by the British court for his duplicity and was found guilty. He was exiled from Punjab. He lived in the valley of Dehra Dun and the hill station of Mussurie un-till his death in 1867.

The De-facto control of Punjab after First Anglo Sikh war and the Treaties

- The control of Punjab went into the hands of the British, though young Dalip Singh was still designated as the Maharaja was Punjab, Rani Jinda as his Regent and Lal Singh as the Prime Minister.
- Colonel Lawrence was made administrator of Majha region from Lahore.
- John Lawrence, a brother of Colonel Lawrence, was made administrator of the Jullundur Doab.
- George was given the control of Peshawar, Hazara and the Derajat.
- Other British officers were also posted at the strategic points.

Fourth Treaty: The treaty of Bhairawal, 16th December 1846

- The British drew a new treaty to replace the old treaties.
- They undertook the maintenance, administration of the Kingdom and the protection of Maharaja Dalip Singh during his minority.
- The British soldiers were to control important strategic positions in Punjab.
- These powers made the British Resident a de-facto Governor of Punjab and diminished drastically the authority of the Durbar.
- Rani Jinda was relieved of all powers and was given a pension of 11.5 lac rupees per annum [this amount was later drastically reduced, and Rani Jinda put under house arrest at Shekhupura]

The Dismay

[The parting ways of the Durbar ministers and the Civil Servant hierarchy, and the Khalsa Army]

- It was now too late for the Durbar and the Sikh Army chiefs to realise that the great Kingdom of Maharaja has been virtually liquidated. More than sixty percent of it was under the direct control of the British and the Dogras, and the forty percent, which was left, was also being indirectly administered by the British orders.
- The Khalsa Army had broken away from the Durbar administration. The Durbar looked to the British for protection and had to pay heavy price for it.
- Rani Jindan was very upset. She appealed to the Punjabis to gather and oust the British. On 7th August 1847, she was immediately removed from Lahore [dragged out by hair]¹¹ and sent to Sheikhpura and put under house arrest and her allowance reduced to less than a third.¹²

¹¹ SC 119, dt September 10, a letter from Jindan to John Lawrence dt 30th October 1847.

¹² Ibid. the letter read: "Surely, royalty was never treated the way you are treating us. Instead of being secretly King of the country, why don't you declare yourself so? You talk about friendship and then put us in prison. You establish traitors in Lahore, and then at their bidding you are going to kill the whole of the Punjab."

- The atrocities inflicted on the Rani made her a real heroine of the masses. The abolition of jagirs (privy purse) in the Jullundur Doab and changes in the lagan (revenue tax) system under the British control added fuel to the fire.
- The other stories circling around which aroused the passion of the Punjabis included: open sale of beef in the markets, army entering Gurdwaras with shoes, molestation of women, announcement that for two months European soldier would be able to accost any woman they chose, and that all Durbar officials would be jailed etc.¹³

All above happenings and many other political and economic factors were the causes of the Second Anglo Sikh War in Jan-March 1849.

¹³ Punjab Government records, Lahore Political Diaries 1846-1849, iv, 431.

The Second Anglo-Sikh War 1848-1849

The Second Anglo Sikh war was the culmination of many factors mentioned above and including the uprising in Punjab provinces, mistrust in the British policies, the violation of treaties by the British, the weakening of Durbar's control on its territories, the undefined power control at Lahore court, the interference of the British in the Punjab administration, and the in-fight of Durbar Sardars and many other factors.

The Actors:

Team A

Attariwalas:

The main actors in this war were Chattar Singh Attariwala and his son Sher Singh Attariwala.

Chattar Singh was at that time Nazim in North West Frontier and his daughter was engaged to infant Maharaja Dalip Singh. He and his son Sher Singh were against the power and influence of Rani Jindan, and were hoping that one day their daughter will become the Maharani of Punjab. In this hope they had helped the British also.

The Lahore Durbar :

It had lost its glory and power. Tej Singh and other Sardars were reduced to be mere puppets in the hands of the British.

The Sikh Sardars

Most of them were bribed with titles, jagirs and employments by the British and were thus pro-British.

Rani Jindan¹⁴

Maharani Jindan, the widow of Maharaja Ranjit Singh had a great influence on the Sikh masses. The British, no doubt, feared her. She was imprisoned at Sheikhpura and later banished to Benaras.

¹⁴ See appendix C

Dewan Mulraj:

Mulraj was Dewan of Multan. It was here that the initial trouble had started which later gave British an excuse to declare the Second Anglo Sikh War.

General Kahn Singh Mann – A short time successor of Mulraj, later imprisoned and put in dungeon.

Team B

Lord Dalhousie: Governor General

John Lawrence: Acting Resident in place of Henry Lawrence who was away in England on a sick leave. John Lawrence planned the attack on Mulraj of Multan

Edward Currie – Second acting Resident in place of Henry Lawrence. He was very close to Lord Dalhousie

Van Agnew – British Officer killed by mob in Multan.

Lieutenant Anderson – British Officer killed by mob in Multan

Captain Abbot – An army officer who intentionally aroused Muslim tribes of NWFP against the Sikhs, and after Colonel Canora's death suspended Chhatar Singh from the post of Nizam and confiscated his jagir.

Colonel Canora – An American Officer of the Durbar, later killed at the Haripur fort by Chhatar Singh Attariwala, when he refused to obey the orders of the Attariwala against the orders of Captain Abbot.

The war was declared by Lord Dalhousie in October 1848, when he was in Calcutta. He sent a note to Edwards Currie dated 8th October 1848, which read, “Unwarned by precedents, un-influenced by example, the Sikh nation has called for war and on my word sir, they shall have it with a vengeance.”¹⁵

The Venue:

[Since the end of the First Anglo Sikh War in 1846, and the signing of many treaties, the relations of the British and the Sikhs had deteriorated day by day. The mistrust in each others policies was obvious. The British wanted to increase their influence over Durbar and the Provinces, the Sikhs, on the other hand wanted minimum interference of the British in the Durbar affairs. Many British Military and Civil officers spared no chance to insult the Sikh Sardars.

Though history counts only two battles one at Chillianwala and one at Gujarat, but in fact battles were also fought at Multan and Haripur.

¹⁵ L.J. Trotter: Life of Marquess of Dalhousie. Lord Dalhousie to Edward Currie, 8th October 1848,

Officially the Second Anglo Sikh War was fought at the following two main places, after the declaration of war by Lord Dalhousie in October 1848.

Chillianwala – 13th January 1849 [situated near river Jhelum]

Gujrat – 21st February 1849 [situated south of Jhelum and north of river Chenab]

The Background of the main Action:

- Dewan Mulraj of Multan was unexpectedly asked, by the new Resident, to pay a tax of 20 lac rupees.
- District of Jhang, which formed a third of Mulraj's estate was forfeited by the orders of the Resident.
- Mulraj resigned from the post of Dewan of Multan in December 1848.
- General Kahan Singh Mann was chosen to replace Mulraj. He was later arrested and put in dungeon along with his son.
- Two British Officers, Vans Agnew and Lt. Anderson were sent to organize the takeover.
- Officially, Durbar troops took over the control of the garrison.
- During this takeover, a few soldiers of disbanded Multan forces killed Van Agnew and Lt. Anderson.
- At this juncture of Multan's turmoil, the Pathan and Balauch tribesmen, for reasons best known to them, shook hands with the Sikhs to reinstate Mulraj as the Dewan.
- At this period, Rani Jindan was removed from Punjab and banished to Benaras. The British believed that the Rani was influencing the Khalsa Army from her house arrest in Punjab. Attariwala Sardas tacitly sided the British and accepted their unfair move to banish the Rani
- Later, they too started suspecting that the British had the desire to annex Punjab and abolish the rule of the Maharaja. Their request of an early marriage of Maharaj Dalip Singh was also not entertained by the British.¹⁶
- British conquests in the North, where the Durbar's control had virtually gone in the hands of the local tribal leaders, had already started.
- The British had crossed Indus and occupied Leiah, Mangrota and Dera Gazi Khan.
- Mulraj organized a revolt in Multan and fought battles with combined troops of Durbar and the British.
- One Bhai Maharaj Singh came to help Mulraj, but was defeated by the Durbar troops.
- In the North, at Haripur, Chattar Singh Attariwala killed Colonel Canora for disobeying him and preferring to accept the command of the British Officer, Captain Abbot.
- The British, used their influence and Chhatar Singh Attariwala was removed from the post of Nazim and his jagir was confiscated.

¹⁶ Edward Currie wrote, "I do not see how proceeding with the ceremonies of the Maharaja's nuptials can be considered as indicative of any line of policy which the government may consider it right to pursue now or at any future time in respect of the administration of the Punjab."

- Chhatar Singh looked for help from Amir Dost Mohammed of Afghanistan and his brother Sultan Mohammed.
- The brothers agreed to help the Sikhs, if Peshawar and Derajat were restored to them. The request was not acceptable to the Sikhs.
- At Multan, Sher Singh Attariwala offered to help Mulraj, but the British had tactfully poisoned Mulraj against the intentions of Sher Singh Attariwala.
- Sher Singh Attariwala then proceeded to North to help his father.
- The unrest in Multan and in most of the adjoining areas was treated as revolt against the British by Lord Dalhousie and he declared a war against the Sikhs in October 1849.

Preparations

At the eve of the Second Anglo Sikh war, the military situation of the two sides was as follows:

The British:

Trained soldiers= 50,000

Soldiers at Lahore cantonment = 9000

Soldiers at Ferozepur cantonment = 9000

Forts under the control of the British were: Lahore, Kangra and Sheikhpura

Lahore Durbar:

Infantry = 20,000

Cavalry= 12,000

Guns = most of the guns had been surrendered to the British under the treaties of Lahore 1846.

The Situation:

The Chaj and Sind Sagar Doabs had declared their independence. Junlandur Doab and other Doabs were already under the British.

The places of resistance were:

Northwest – under the control of Attariwalas

South – under the control of Mulraj

Confrontation:

- Lord Gough marched up to Chenab and engaged Sher Singh Attariwala in a artillery duel near village Sadullapur.
- The Punjabis abandoned their positions and retreated to Jhelum.
- A British cannonball blew up 400,000 lbs of gunpowder at the fort of Multan, killing General Kahan Singh Mann and his son who were confined in the dungeon and 500 other soldiers.

First Battle: The battle of Chillianwala 13th January 1849

- The battle was fought between the British and the Punjabi Army at the village of Chillianwala.
- Though British were superior in numbers and ammunition, but they were defeated by the Punjabi army.
- The Punjabis captured 4 British guns and colours of three regiments.
- George Lawrence was made a prisoner of war.
- This was great a victory of the Sikhs, but they failed to reap its fruits due to their poor administrative ability.
- The Attariwalas sent George Lawrence back to his barracks with a letter of terms of truce, which read, “ Declare Dalip Singh as the Maharaja of Punjab, and withdraw British troops from the soil of Punjab.”
- The British rejected the truce terms.

Second Battle: The battle of Gujarat, 21st February 1849

- The Attariwalas advanced towards Chenab and deployed their forces in horse shoe formation between the river and the city of Gujarat.
- The British attacked the Khalsa formation at 7.30 a.m.
- The Sikhs opened fire too soon and exhausted their ammunition.
- The British continued their cannon fire for another hour and inflicted a lot of casualties in the Punjabi ranks.
- This was followed by a cavalry and infantry attack. The Punjabis engaged the enemy in a hand-to-hand combat.
- The British weight in number of soldiers defeated the Punjabi soldiers and they gave way.
- The British occupied Gujarat and destroyed and routed the Punjabi resistance.
- On 11th March 1849, the Attariwalas surrendered to the British, followed by the surrender of the whole Sikh Army on 14th March 1849.
- On 29th March 1849, a proclamation was made, declaring the kingdom of the Sikhs at an end.
- Ten years of Dogra conspiracy to kill every heir of Ranjit Singh, two years of battles with the British to demoralize the Khalsa Army, the deep drenched enmity of the Durbar Sardars for titles and positions, and the revolt and

uprising in the North West provinces for independence from the Sikh raj, deprived the Sikhs of the will to resist the annexation of their kingdom.

- And the Sikhs lost their most cherished love – The Punjab.

Appendix A

THE DRAMA OF THE FALL OF THE SIKH EMPIRE

The immediate heirs of the throne:

Son	Son	Son	Son	Son	Son
Kharak Singh	Sher Singh	Peshaura Singh	Kashmira Singh	Multana Singh	Dalip Singh
↓	↓				↓
wife	Wife				mother
Rani Chand Kaur	Rani Sahib Kaur				Rani Jinda
↓	↓				
son	Son				
Naunihal Singh	Pratap Singh				

The Villains who planned and executed the killings

Raja Dhian Singh Dogra	Prime Minister killed by Sandhiawala Sardars
Hira Singh Dogra son of Raja Dhian Singh	Prime Minister after the death of Dhian Singh. Alleged to have relations with Rani Jindan
Brahmin Lal Singh	Prime Minister after Hira Singh's death
Brahmin Tej Singh	Commander-in-Chief of the Khalsa Army
Gulab Singh Dogra	An uncle of Hira Singh
Sandhianwala Sardars	Cousins of the dynasty

Chronological order of killings

Date	Victim	Planner/Executor/Suspect
27 th June 1839	Maharaja Ranjit Singh died of paralytic attack (foul play suspected)	Raja Dhian Singh
8 th October 1839	Chet Singh Bajwa and his brother – brother in law of Kharak Singh	Raja Dhian Singh killed them in the presence of Kharak Singh

5 th November 1840	Kharak Singh poisoned to death	Raja Dhian Singh
6/8 th November 1840	Naunihal Singh crushed to death (fall of archway)	Raja Dhian Singh
9 th June 1842	Rani Chand Kaur – crushed to death in her sleep by her maid. Skull crushed by a grinding stone	Raja Dhian Singh
15 th September 1843	Maharaja Sher Singh and his infant son Prtap Singh	Ajit Singh Sandhianwala
15 th September 1843	Raja Dhian Singh	Ajit Singh Sandhianwala
16 th September 1843	Ajit Singh Sandhianwala and his associates	Khalsa Army at the instigation of Hira Singh Dogra
Sept 1845	Peshaura Singh	Chhatar Singh Attariwala on the instigation of Jawahar Singh, a brother of Rani Jindan
21 st September 1845	Jawahar Singh	Khalsa Army

Appendix B

EVENTS OF THE LIFE TIME OF MAHARAJA DALIP SINGH

EVENT	DATE	REMARKS/NOTES
Birth	6 th September 1838- Lahore	
Death	22 nd October 1893 - Paris	Age 58
Burial	October 1893 – Elveden, Cambridge, England	
Proclamation of Maharaja	2 nd February 1844	Age 5 ½ yrs.; Regent Rani Jindan
First Sikh War	13 th December 1845	Age 7 yrs
Treaty of Bharoval – Guardianship of Maharaja went to the British	9 th March 1846	Age 8 years
Second Sikh War	November 1848	Age 10 years
Annexation of Punjab	29 th March 1849	Age 11 years
Appointment of New Superintendent of Dalip Singh – Dr. John Login a Scottish	6 th April 1849	
Moved to Farrukhabad in U.P.	February 1850	Age 12 years
Appointment of Walter Guise as a Tutor		

Conversion to Christianity	8th March 1853	Age 15 years
Sailed to England	19 th April 1854	Age 16 years
Reached England	May 1854	In England first stayed with Login family
Request to go back to India refused on many occasions Until after the mutiny in 1857		Request of Rani Jinda to come to London also refused
Reached India (Calcutta)	January 1861	Age 23 years. Did not allow to go to Punjab. Rani Jindan joined him in Calcutta
Rani Jinda died	1 st August 1863	
Reached India with the ashes of his mother	1864	Was not allowed to go to Punjab. Ashes consigned to river Godavri (Nasik). In 1926 her daughter Bamba brought some ashes to Lahore and buried next to the tomb of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
Marriage to Bamba Muller in Alexandria (Egypt) daughter of a German Merchant	7 th June 1864	Marriage at British Consulate office
Death of Bamba Muller	18 th Sptember 1887	
Arrival of his cousin Thakur Singh Sandhniawala	1884 – stayed with Dalip Singh in Holland Park	
Went back	1885	
Left for India with an intention to settle down there	31 st March 1886	Stopped at Aden
Baptised as a Sikh/Khalsa in Aden	25 th May 1886	
Departure from Aden to Paris	3 rd June 1886	
Left of St. Petersburg (Russia)	21 st March 1887	To seek help? From Czar.
Return to Paris and died of Paralysis	22 nd October 1893	

The heirs of Maharaja Dalip Singh. They all died issueless

The heir	Birth	Notes
Victor Dalip Singh (son)	1866 two years after	Had commission in the 1 st

	marriage	Royal Dragoons, married daughter of Earl of Coventry
Bamba Jindan (daughter)	1869	Married Dr. Sutherland, settled in Lahore. Died 10 th March 1957 (89 years)
Katherine (daughter)	1871	
Sophia Alexandra (daughter)	1874	Sent a letter to one Santokh Singh Ahluwalia in India asking him not to remind her of her ancestry.
Edward Dalip Singh (son)	1879	
Frederick Dalip Singh	1886	Educated at Eaton and Cambridge took a tripos in History and then M.A Commission in Army

Appendix C

Maharani Jinda daughter of Manna Singh Aulakh

Date of birth	1817 (37 years younger to Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who was born in 1780)	Born in village Chachar in district Gujranwala.
Date of death	1 st Agusut 1863 at the age of 46.	At Kensington, London
Date of marriage	1835 (at the age of 18)	Became a widow in the age of 22 years when Dalip Singh was 1 year old
Date of the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh	1839	
Birth of Dalip Singh	1838 (at the age of 21)	Lived in obscurity until 1843 under the care of Dhian Singh Dogra
Came to Lahore	August 1843	
The political history of Jind Kaur begins when Dalip Singh is made raja and she is appointed his regent	16 th September 1843	
Exercised immense power with the support of the Khalsa Army	From 1843 - 1846	Assassination of Maharaja Sher Singh and his son Partap Singh, raja Dhian Singh by Sandhianwala (1843). She was accused of having illicit relations with Lal Singh
Appointed Regent of Dalip	December 1846	

Singh; Surrender of all political power to Council of Ministers appointed by the British		
Removed from Lahore to Sheikhpura and her allowance reduced to Rs. 48,000 from Rs. 150,000	20 th August 1847 – 16 th May 1848	Accused to kill the British Resident. Allegation could not be proved
Banished to Benaras under strict surveillance (practical internment)	16 th May 1848	At the order of Lord Dalhousie
Removed to fort of Chunar	1849	Allegation of correspondence with outsiders
Escape to Nepal disguising first as a maid servant and later as a Bairagan.	15 th April 1849, reached Kathmandu on 29 th April 1849 -1860 Here she learnt about the deposition of Dalip Singh as the Maharaja.	British stopped her pension and confiscated her wealth. Yung Bahadur, Prime Minister of Nepal gave her refuge, an allowance for maintenance. She lived at Thapathali at the banks of river Vagmati.
The Sorry Saga	The King of Nepal arranged a reception for her which was cancelled under the pressure of the British. She tried to correspond with the Sikh to restore the Sikh raj.	Under British pressure, Young Bahadur became hostile towards her and levied most inhuman restrictions on her.
¹ Reached Calcutta to meet her son	1860 -1861	Her pension was restored and her frozen assets were given back to her. (1861)
Accompanied Dalip Singh to London	1861	
Died heartbroken at Kensington, London	1863	

Appendix D

WIVES OF MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH

Maharaja Ranjit Singh had 20 wives.

The following were married by circumambulation:

1. Mahtab Kaur, daughter of Sada Kaur, born in 1783, married in 1786, *muklawā* in 1796, died in 1813.
2. Raj Kaur, daughter of Ran Singh Nakai, a Sandhu Jat married in 1798, died, in 1838.
3. Moran, a Muslim dancing girl of Lahore, married in 1802, sent to live at Pathanfort in 1811.
4. Rup Kaur, daughter of Jai Singh, headman of village Kot Said Mahmud in Amritsar district, married in 1815.
5. Lachhmi, daughter of Desa Singh a Sandhu Jat of village Jogkikhan in Gujranwala district, married in 1820.
- 6 & 7. Mahtab Devi and Raj Banso, daughters of Raja Sansar Chand Katoch of Kangra married in 1828. Raj Banso died in 1835, and Mahtab Devi became *sat*; in 1839.
8. Gul Bahar or Gul Begam, a Muslim dancing girl of Amritsar, married in 1832, died at Lahore in 1863, received an annual allowance from British Government of Rs. 12,380.
9. Ram Devi, daughter of Kaur Singh of village Chhachriwala .in Gujranwala district.
10. Bhuri, who built a temple at Lahore.

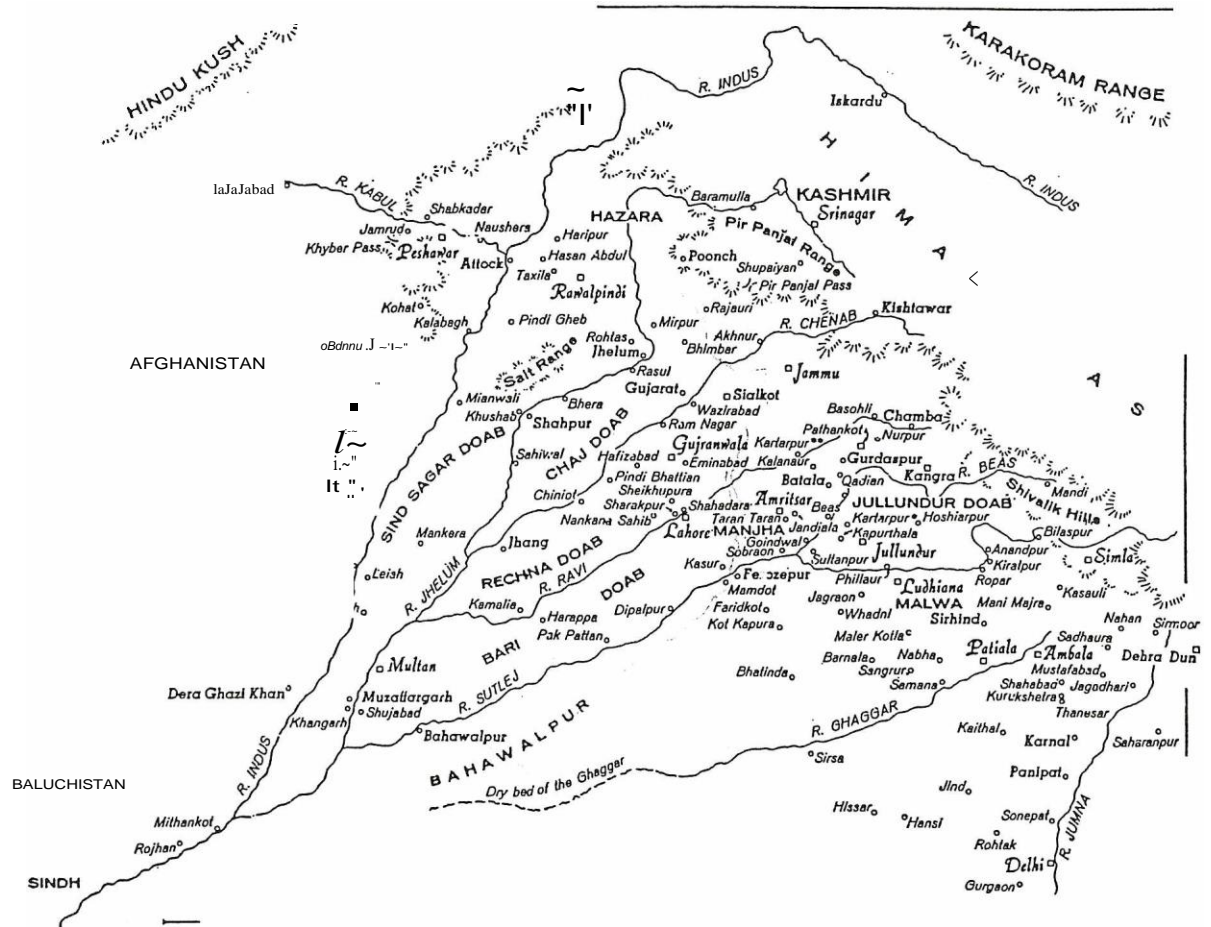
The following were married by Chadardalna.(a traditional marriage ceremony. It is not performed in the presence of Guru Granth Sahib)

1. Rani Devi, daughter of Wazir Nakudda of Jaswan, in Una district of Himachal Pradesh.
- 2 & 3. Ratan Kaur and Daya Kaur, two sisters, widows of Sahib Singh of Gujrat, renowned for their beauty, married in 1811. Sahib Singh's first wife was the sister of Ranjit Singh's father. Daya Kaur died in 1843.

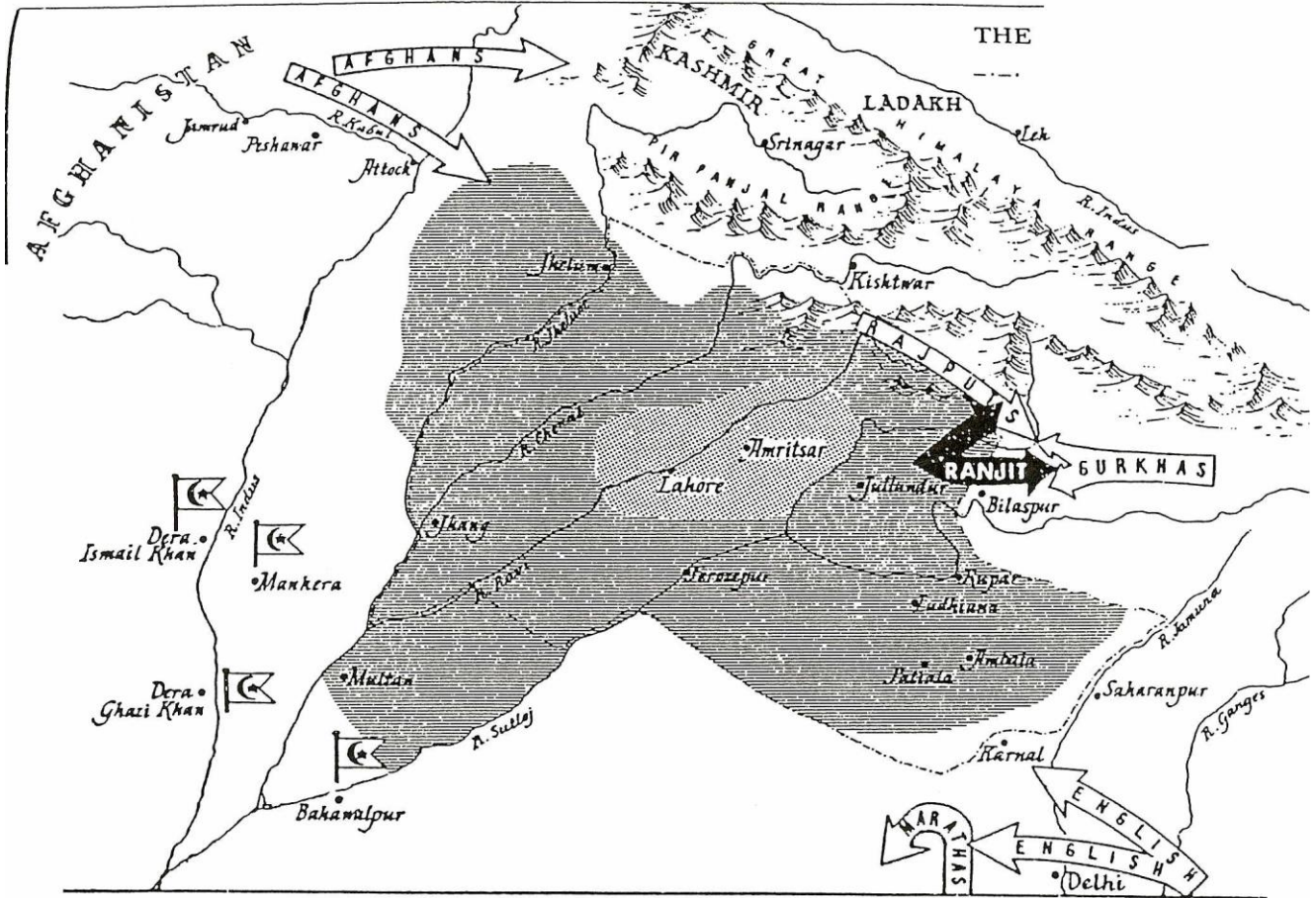
4. Chand Kaur, daughter of Jai Singh Jat of Map No- 1 Chainpur in Arnritsar district, married in 1815, died in 1840.
5. Mahtab Kaur, daughter of Sujan Singh Jat of Gurdaspur district, married in 1822.
6. Saman Kaur, daughter of Suba Singh Jat of Malwa, married in 1832.
7. Gulab Kaur, daughter of Jat zamindar of village Jagdev in Amritsar district.
8. Jindan, daughter of Manna Singh Aulakh Jat of village Chachar in Gujranwala district. He was Kumedan to look after hunting dogs. She was born in 1817, married in 1835 died in 1861.
9. Har Devi, daughter of Chaudhri Ramu Rajput of Atalgarh.
10. Devno, of village Deval Vatala in Jammu territory.

Appendix E

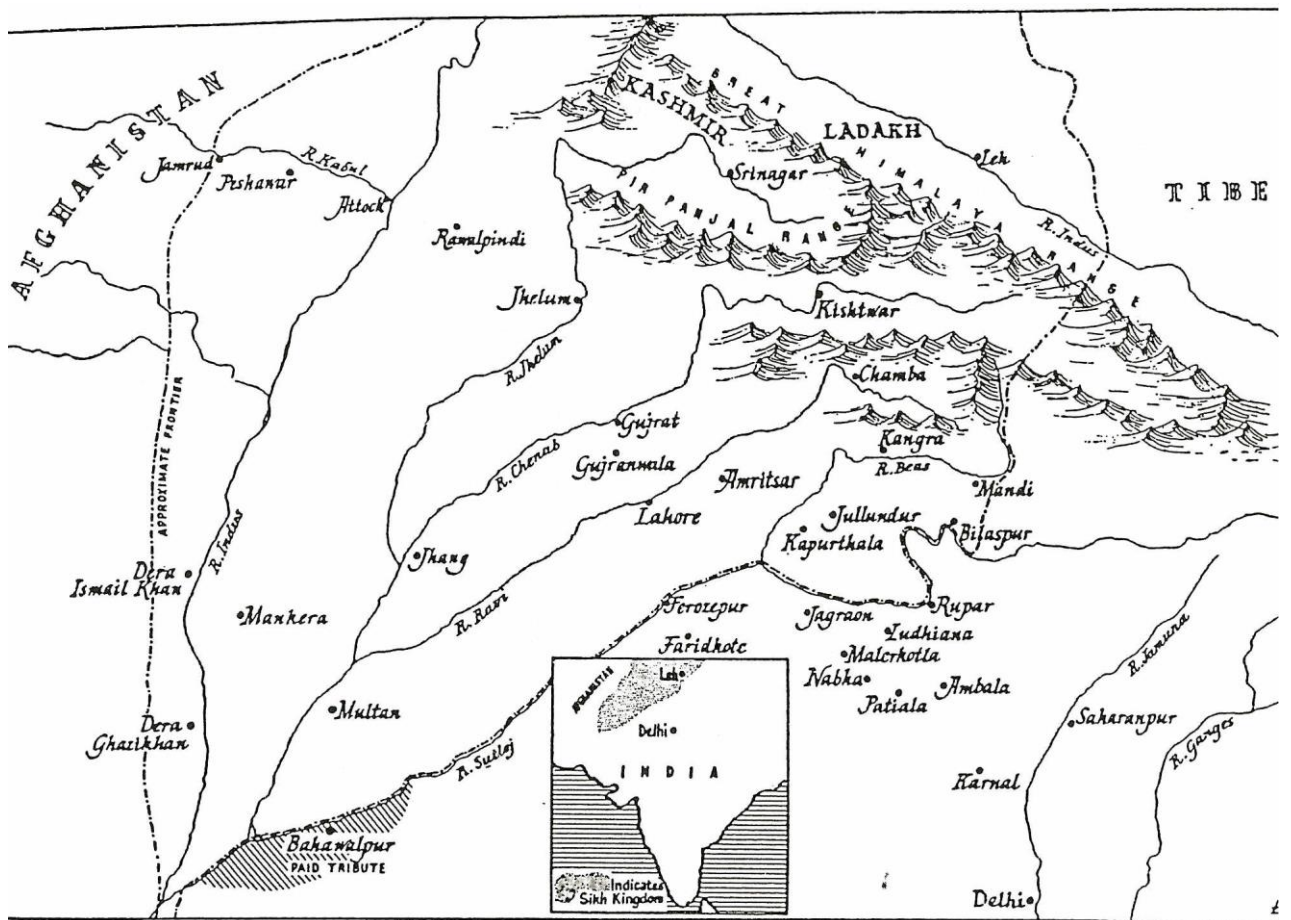
Map 1 Punjab in 1809



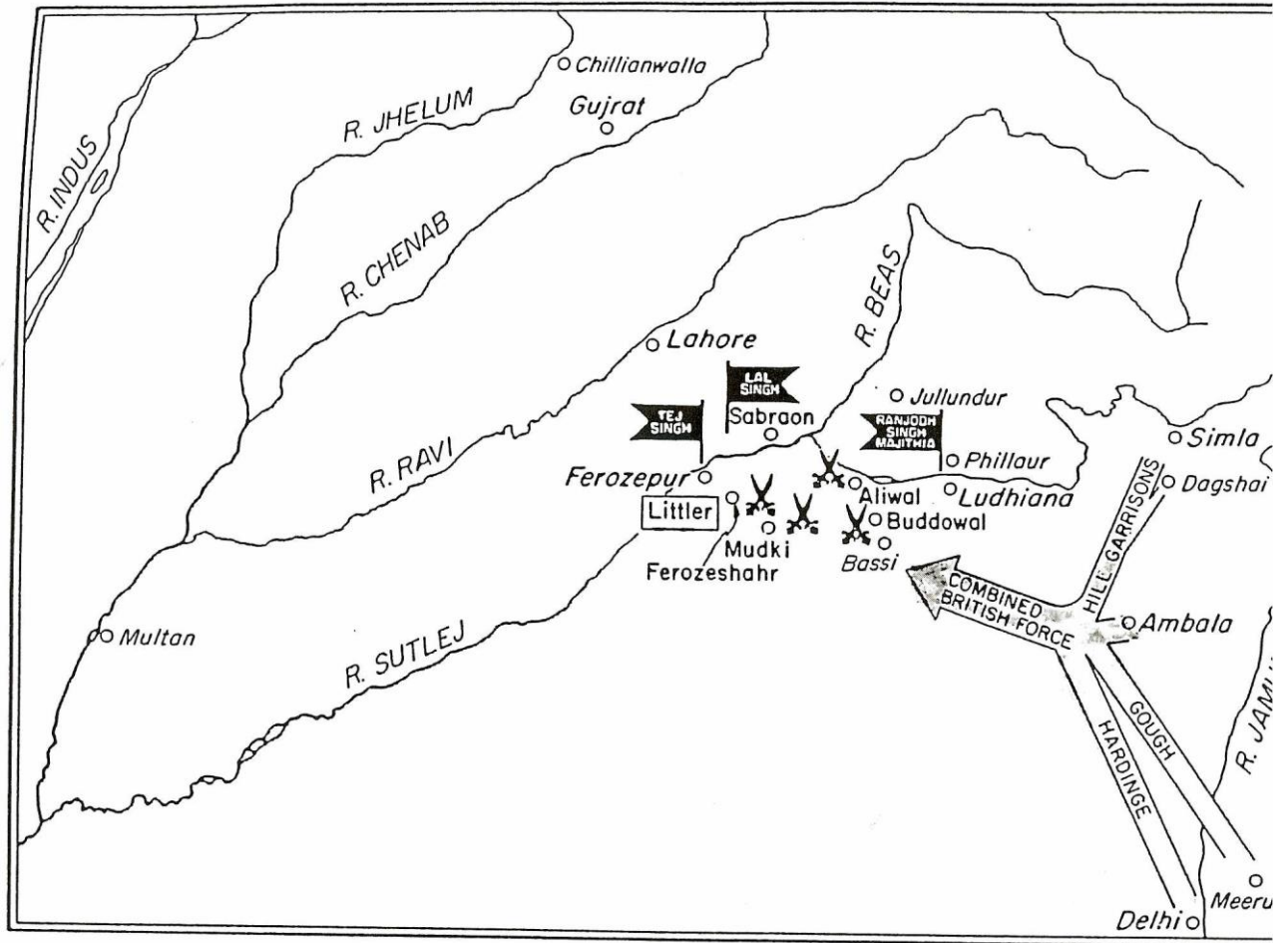
The territories of the Maharaja



Map No- 3
NORTHERN INDIA AT THE DEATH OF RNJIT SINGH, 1839



Map No- 4
FIRST ANGLO-SIKH WAR, 1845-1846



Map No- 5

SECOND ANGLO-SIKH WAR, 1848-1849

