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Fabricated narratives overlooked sacrifice by Guru Gobind's sons: PM Modi

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NEW DELHI: PM Narendra Modi on Monday highlighted the sacrifices made by Guru Gobind Singh and his two 'sahibzaades' (sons), saying they represented the fight against religious fanaticism and barbarism inflicted by the Mughals and preferred to die rather than convert to Islam, as dictated by Aurangzeb.

In his first address on "Vir Bal Diwas" at Major Dhyan Chand stadium here, the PM regretted that the heroics and sacrifice of the Sikh guru's sons—Zorawar Singh Sahab and Fateh Singh Sahab—was brushed under the carpet and never found the prominence in the pages of history that it deserved as particular narratives were sculpted.

"On one side, there was Mughal Sultanate blind to communal extremism and on the other, there were our Gurus. On one hand, there was terrorism and on the other spiritualism, on one hand there was communal mayhem while on the other there was liberalism, on one hand there were forces of lakhs while on the other, there were brave Sahibzaades (sons) of Guru," said Modi.

The PM said Guru Gobind Singh stood steadfastly against the terror unleashed by Aurangzeb and his intentions to change India. "Against the terror of Aurangzeb and his plans to change India, Guru Gobind Singh ji stood like a mountain. What enmity could Aurangzeb have with young children like Zorawar Singh Sahab and Fateh Singh Sahab? Why was the cruelty done like bricking two innocent children alive? That is because Aurangzeb and his people wanted to convert the religion of Guru Gobind Singh's children through the power of the sword... But those brave boys were not afraid even of death," the PM said.

Asserting that in the name of history, "concocted narratives" were taught to infuse inferiority, he said there was a need to break

free from the “narrow views” of the past to move forward and underlined that new India is correcting the mistakes of the bygone decades by restoring its long-lost legacy. “Unfortunately, we were taught fabricated narratives in the name of history, which creates an inferiority complex within us! Despite this, our society, our traditions kept these glories alive,” Modi said. Reminding the youth of the country about the significance of the occasion, the PM said these incidents occurred only three centuries ago on the soil of this land.

“This is the strength of the strong youth of any nation. Youth, with its courage, turns the tide of time forever. With this determination, today the young generation of India has also set out to take the country to a new height,” he said.