

LACHIT BORPHUKAN

Submitted By:-

Name:- Susmita Das

Roll no:- 84

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LACHIT BORPHUKAN

Lachit Borphukan was the Borphukan and the Commander in Chief of the Ahom Kingdom Army. He was born on 24 November 1622 in the Ahom Kingdom located in present Assam. His father's name was Momai Tamuli Borbarua (Governor of Upper-Assam and Commander in Chief of the Ahom Army) and his mother's name was Kunti Moxan.

He was the youngest son of his parents. After completing his study in humanities and military strategies, he was appointed as the Saladhara Barua (as Private Secretary) of Ahom King. He was also appointed to other important positions like the Superintendent of Stable Royal Horses and the Superintendent of house guards. King Chakradwaj Singha was impressed by his duty, honesty, and discipline and made him the Commander in Chief of the Ahom Army.

By the time of Lachit's appointment as

Commander, the Mughals had occupied the Guwahati and forced the Ahoms to sign a humiliating treaty named the "Treaty of Ghilajharé Ghat" in 1663. This treaty had several harsh conditions so Ahom King Chakradwaj Singha denied to sign that and resolved to rid the entire region of the Mughal Empire. The Ahom attacked Mughals under the Lachit's commandership. Feroz Khan and many others were incarcerated and Guwahati was free once again.

BATTLE OF SARAIGHAT

Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb appointed famous Rajput general Ram Singha to lead an expedition against Assam. IN 1669 Ram Singha reached Assam with more than 18,000 soldiers and the war started. The spasmodic war continued nearly for two years, but Ram Singh failed to break the Ahom's army. One day Ram Singha's army killed 10,000 Ahom soldiers, this gives a massive setback to the Ahom sold

iers, and they started to feel demotivated.

On the other hand, Lachit fell ill. Ram Singha wanted to take the advantage of this situation and he nearly succeeded in breaking the Ahom's defense through a naval fight on the Bisamha-putra's water, in Saraighat. By seeing that Lachit carried himself on a boat in spite of his illness, he joined the war, seeing Lachit's bravery, his soldiers inspired and started doing war with full motivation and defeated Ram Singha. Ram Singha left Assam on 5th April 1671.

Lachit dies in 1672 due to illness at the age of 50. With his great bravery, patriotism, and dutifulness Lachit remain a hero of Assam's history.

On 24 November each year, Lachit Divas are celebrated in Assam to commemorate the heroism of Lachit. Borphukan and celebrate the victory of the Battle of Saraighat.

For his Bravery and his contribution, the best cadet from the National Defence Academy is awarded the Lachit Borphukan gold medal. Lachit Borphukan's Maidam was created by Swargadeo udayaditya Singha in 1672 as a memory of Lachit Borphukan. Which is situated in Jorhat.