

VIDHYA SAGAR HIGH  
SCHOOL

BOKAJAN , ASSAM

Topic: Essay on Lachit Borpuhan

Submitted By

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## LACHIT BORPHUKAN

Assam history cannot be complete without the name Lachit Borphukan. As a warrior of warriors, he holds a special place in history. Lachit Borphukan was one of the most valiant fighters of Indian history. He was born on 24 November 1622 to Momai Tamuli Borbarua and Kunti Moran. His father was the commander-in-chief of the Ahom army. Chakradhuj Singh, the Ahom King appointed Lachit as the Borphukan of Guwahati in 1667.

The Ahom Kingdom was located in the Brahmaputra valley of eastern India. It was first established in 1228. The Kingdom was repeatedly assailed upon Turkic and Afghan rulers of the Delhi Sultanate and later the Mughal Empire. The Mughal-Ahom conflict first began in 1615 and continued afterwards. It was in this backdrop Lachit grew up in. Upon completing his education in humanities and military strategies, Lachit was given the responsibility of serving as the Sola-dhara Barua (scarf-bearer) a modern-day equivalent of a private secretary to the Ahom King. He held other important positions such as Superintendent of the Stable of Royal Horses and Superintendent of the Royal Household guards before being appointed as the commander of the Ahom Army.



By the time of Lachit Borphukan's appointment as commander, the Mughals had occupied Guwahati and had forced the Ahom's to sign the humiliating peace treaty of Ghilajharighat in 1663 which imposed harsh conditions on the Ahom Kingdom. King Chakradhwaj Singha resolved to rid the entire region from Mughal occupation, a will that would be carried out by Lachit Borphukan.

Lachit raised the army and preparations were completed by summer of 1667. Aurangzeb sent a very powerful army under Ram Singha. Lachit attacked Ram Singha at Saraighat and defeated him completely. Ram Singha was forced to leave Assam. Before the battle of Saraighat it became necessary to construct a rampart within a night. So, he constructed the rampart, his maternal uncle was in charge of the work. He found to his uncle and men were asleep leaving the work unfinished. Lachit at once drew his sword and killed his uncle saying - "My uncle is not greater than my country". He will be remembered for his heroism, patriotism and devoted service to the cause of the nation.

Having exhausted all avenues Ram Singha made his way to Guwahati with a naval flotilla sailing upwards of the Brahmaputra river in 1671. He came upon an Ahom flotilla led by



Lachit Borphukan himself near Saraighat. Once again outnumbered and outgunned in open space, the Ahom soldiers began to lose their will to fight. Some elements began to retreat and seeing this Lachit boarded a boat himself to rally his troops, Lachit furiously threw some of them into the water bodily despite being severely ill, loudly proclaiming that he would "die fulfilling his duty to his King and country, even if it meant he had to do it by himself". Inspired, Lachit's soldiers rallied and a desperate battle ensued on the river Brahmaputra.

Lachit Borphukan was victorious. The Mughals were pursued to the Manas river, the Ahom Kingdom's western boundary. The Borphukan instructed his men not to attack the retreating army.

Lachit Borphukan died on 25 April 1672. His remains lie in rest at the Lachit Maidam constructed in the same year by King Udayaditya Singha at Hoolungapana 16 km from Jorhat.

On 24 November each year, Lachit Dinus is celebrated statewide in Assam to commemorate the heroism of Lachit Borphukan and the victory of the Assamese army of the Battle of Saraighat.

Lachit Dinus is celebrated to promote the ideas of Lachit Borphukan - the legendary general of Assam's history.