CHAPTER - V

THE BABBAR AKALI LEHAR

A study of the Babbar Akali Lehar's origin, aims and objectives is interesting and revealing. Babbar Akali Lehar has a deep rooted background. It was not a sudden and abrupt outburst, its actors had the bitter memories of the British Government which the Sikhs had been suffering since long. The Babbar Akalis were greatly affected by the incidents which became responsible for the establishment of their Movement. The failure of the Gadar movement (1915) and tyrannous and inhuman actions of the British Government during and after the First World War created the discontentment among the people of Punjab. During the 1st World War, the Gadrities were anxious to take advantage of the difficulties of the British Government but a large number of Indians were anxious to win the British goodwill by co-operating with them in their war efforts. The Sikhs, in the Punjab, went beyond all others. The number of Sikhs in the British War services rose to 1,00,000 by the end of war, while in 1915 it was about 35,000 only.\footnote{M.S. Leigh, The Punjab and the War, Government Printing Press, Lahore, 1922, p. 44.} But after the war, Punjabi's got only certificates and
medals, and the English Government adopted a repressive policy. The Government passed Anarchical and Revolutionary Crime Act, on 18 March 1919 (The Rowlatt Act) under the supervision of Defence of India Act. It sanctioned special powers to police. It spread a wave of indignation against these 'Lawless Laws'. Mahatma Gandhi started an agitation against the Act. The people felt that the Revolt Bill were a poor reward for their war services. Mahatma Gandhi gave a call to the Indians for the Satyagraha. We have already referred to it in chapter number three.567

Further, it can understand from the development of the Singh Sabha movement. (1872-1901) It is visible from the emergence of Gurdwara Reform Movement also.568

The Babbar Akali Movement emerged when the Gurdwara Reform Movement was passing through a crucial stage. While the Gurdwara Reform Movement was progressing peacefully, some incidents took place in 1921 and 1922 such as Tarn-Taran, Nankana Sahib and Guru Ka Bagh. In these incidents were killed many innocent reformers or Akalis. We have already referred to these incidents in chapter number four.

567 See our pages from 85 to 132.
568 See our pages from 133 to 187.
By these events, some Sikhs were more shocked than the others and started the violent movement against the enemies of Panth. These Sikhs afterwards came to be known as Babbar Akalis as they were deadly against the policy of non-violence adopted by the Gurdwara Reform Movement. This was the basic difference of the means between the Akalis and Babbar Akalis. The Akalis believed in non-violent method and Babbar Akalis propagated the aims of armed struggle for bringing about the reforms in the management of the Sikh shrines.  

The Babbar Akali Movement came into existence in the year 1921. In Doaba areas it was at its height during the years 1922 and 1923. The migrant Gadrities and retired army personal were also involved in it. In fact the Babbar Akali Movement flourished in the Doaba viz. territory between the Satluj and the Beas, the districts of Jullundhar, Hoshiarpur and the territory of Karputhala State. The most important reason for its flourishing in the Doaba was that these districts were known for the returned emigrant from U.S.A. and Canada who had taken active part in the Gadhar Movement between 1913 and 1915.

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All those Akalis who regarded the policy of courting arrests and undergoing inhuman punishments as cowardice became *Chakarvartis*. They formed the core of the Babbar Akalis.\(^{571}\) The atrocities perpetrated during the morchas and brutal treatments meted out to the Akalis in Jalis were compelled to adopt this course. "All those Sikhs who were imbued with religious fervor, whether they were ex-Gadrities like S. Karam Singh of Daulatpur, S. Piara Singh of Langeri and S. Karam Singh of Jhingar or Congress workers like S. Chattar Singh of Kandholu and Dhanna Singh of Behbalplur or active soldiers as well as ex-soldiers, like S. Kishan Singh Gargaj and Amar Singh of Dhaliwal, Jumped into the fray."\(^{572}\) The members of Babbar Akalis who were ex-Gadrities they knew to use of .32 bore revolers, mauser pistol and cyclostyle. These were the features which resembled the methods employed in 1915.\(^{573}\) The Babbar Akali Movement was establishment in March 1921 at the Sikh Educational Conference, which was held at Hoshiarpur.\(^{574}\)


\(^{572}\) Vide Interview of Pandit Durga Dass, Editor Urdu Weekly *Paigam-i-Watten*, and Manager, Bari Doab Bank and Eco General Secretary Congress Committee, Hoshiarpur (1921-30) told the writer that Dhanna Singh Behabalpur was the general secretary of his village Congress Committee, quoted in Gurcharan Singh, *Babbar Akali Movement-A Historical Survey*, p. 47.

\(^{573}\) *Proceedings Home Political*, No. 134/II of 1925, p. 25 (N.A.I.).

The radical Akalis and nationalists met separately at Hoshiarpur in the above conference. In this meeting Master Tara Singh of Patara, Kishan Singh Bning, Amar Singh of Delhi, Bijla Singh of Patiala, Gurbachan Singh of Ambala, Amar Singh of Kot Bare Khan, Chattar Singh, Bela Singh, Ganda Singh were present.\textsuperscript{575} They decided to murder all those who were allegedly responsible for the Nankana Sahib tragedy. According to a C.I.D. report, the following definite programme was agreed upon: "To create a rising in Patiala State, seeking in Bolshevik’s help and inciting rebellion on the Frontier. To forment trouble in Central Punjab, to procure weapons and to murder the enemies of the Khalsa Panth".\textsuperscript{576} In those days it was said that C.M. King the Commissioner of Lahore division, J.W. Bowring S.P., C.I.D. Mahant Dewa Dass of Nankana and Basant Dass of Manak, Sardar Sunder Singh Majithia as well as Babu Kartar Singh Bedi all were responsible for the Nankana tragedy.\textsuperscript{577} The Babbars decided to kill them.

To fulfill this objects the Babbars, collected some arms and ammunition from the North-West Frontier through Tota Singh of

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\item \textsuperscript{575} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Iitias Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 46.
\item \textsuperscript{576} C.I.D. Report in \textit{Proceedings Home Political} No. 268/1922, and 261/1922, (N.A.I.)
\item \textsuperscript{577} \textit{Proceedings Home Political}, No. 268/1922, (N.A.I.); Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Iitias Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 46.
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Seven revolvers were procured from Ambala Contontment through the Air Force. After it the Babbars sent two of their men Ganda Singh and Bela Singh to murder J.W. Bowring, Superintendent of Police, of Lahore, on 23rd May 1921. The C.I.D. foiled their attempt and they were arrested and their plan was soon discovered. As a result Amar Singh of Kot Bare Khan, Narain Singh, Tota Singh, Chatar Singh, Chanchal Singh, Thakur Singh and Shankar Singh were arrested and warrants were issued to capture Master Mota Singh, Amar Singh Delhi, Vatan Singh, Bijla Singh, Kisan Singh and Gurbachan Singh because they had managed to dodge the police. But in a way, this was a grievous blow to the Babbars.

Kishan Singh Gargaj and Master Mota Singh of Patara were emerging as the prominent members of the Babbars and had been declared as absconders. At that time Kishan Singh Gargaj came in the forefront. He belonged to village Bning, district Jalandhar. Originally, he was Major Hawaldar in 35 Sikh Platoon. During the Martial Law regime in the Punjab, he had started propagating against the British Government in the army. He delivered fiery

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578 The Civil and Military Gazette, 6 June, 1922.
579 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, pp. 46-47.
581 The Civil and Military Gazette, 30th August, 1923.
582 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, p.49.
speeches condemning the British administration of the country and exhorted people to overthrow it by force. As a result he was sentenced to 28 days by the court martial. The result of this discontentment was that he left the military job and involved himself in the Akali Lehar. Soon after he turned against the leaders of Gurdwara Reform Movement as they were preaching non-violence. He wanted to bring an armed revolution in the country with the help of common-man. He became a deserter with the aim of establishing a 'Charkarvarti' Jatha. The Jatha purposed to spread hatred against the Government in order to collect money and weapons and to decrease army especially the Sikh portion of it.

To fulfill these aims, Kishan Singh of Gargaj came to villages for doing propaganda against the British Government. At a Nimani Fair of Mastuana, (Jind State) his first speech recited couplets from Guru Gobind Singh's Zafarnama and disclosed his plan of armed revolution in which he exhorted the audience to wield the sword. But his speech was interrupted by the president of meeting. In November, 1921, he came to Doaba and met Bhai Sunder Singh

and Karam Singh. They decided to form 'Jathas' for the purpose of demonstration against the British Government and to prepare the people for an armed revolution in the country.\footnote{586} These Jathas were named 'Charkarvartis'. In the beginning two Jathas were formed. Kishan Singh Gargaj, Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri and Karam Singh Jhingar formed one Jatha and Karam Singh Daulatpur and Asa Singh formed the second Jatha.\footnote{587}

These Jathas followed a very well-organized plan of propaganda. Every day two meetings were held, one at 1 p.m. in one village and second at 9 p.m. in another village. After second meeting they were used to take rest in another village, so that the police might not detect hem. In these meetings Kishan Singh Gargaj used to deliver lecture and Bhai Sunder Singh, recite revolutionary poems. The Jatha of Kishan Singh created an awakening against the British Government in the Jalandhar area and the Jatha of Karam Singh Daulatpur was active in Hoshiarpur.\footnote{588} Police was always pursuing them but as they were fully armed and overwhelmingly favoured by public evaded their clash with them. In 1922, the propaganda campaign was intensified, meetings were held in Bullena, Bhojowal, Kotli, Pindori

Nijjran, Ramgarh Jandala, Mahalpur, Jiani, Bari Kalan, Sirhala, Bedowal, Jassowal, in Jalandhar and Hoshiarpur districts. The sporadic propaganda at Anandpur and Kiratpur brings out one interesting feature of the Babbar Akali Movement. The Babbars never missed an opportunity of using the Congress or the Akali platform for propagating their own radical ideas. In March 1922 at Khurdpur a conference was organized by the Congress for propagating the ideals of non violence and Charkha and participated by the Kishan Singh and his companions to exhort the people to shed cowardice and use the revolutionary methods for ejecting the British Government out of India. A conference was held at Kot Fatuhi where all prominent Babbar Akalis like Kishan Singh Gargaj, Sunder Singh, Master Mota Singh, Karam Singh Daulatpur, Karam Singh Jhinger addressed the people. It was a very big meeting as compared to the previous ones and shows the powerful hold of the Babar Akalis over the masses.

There was no plan of punishing the 'Jholichuks', toadies (Agents of the Government) in the starting. It was only decided when the Government declared rewards for arresting the Babbars. After it the Jholichuks started to inform the Government about the

589 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akkali Lehar, p. 61.
590 Ibid.
activities of the Babbars in order to get rewards. In 1922 the Babbars, for the first time, thought of taking action against Jholichuks. On 19 March 1922 a conference was held at village Sangwal. By this time the Jholichuks had started asking the people not to attend the meeting of the Babbars. The people were really under police and the toadies had become so bold that they created disturbance in diwan and called the police. With the arrival of the police, Babbars escaped to the well. After it Jathedar Kishan Singh, Sunder Singh, Babu Santa Singh, Kartar Singh of Gondpur and Harbans Singh of Sirhala Khurad held a conclave at a well between the villages of Beas and Sangowal. At first they were warned but when they saw that those warnings had no effect only then they decided that they should be deprived of their noses and ears. It was also decided that the Babbars should always keep arms in order to defend themselves. To fulfill these objects razors be purchased by Babu Santa Singh from Jalandhar cantonment for cutting off the ears and noses of the notorious Jholichuks. Some Jholichuks like Sham Singh Zaildar of Talhan, Harnam Singh Sufedposh of Mehdipur were marked for immediate action.

592 Gurcharan Singh, Babbar Akali Movement-A Historical Survey, p.130.
593 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, pp. 67-68.
After it, in the first week of May 1922, Kishan Singh, Babu Santa Singh and Bela Singh of Pragpur met the soldiers Kirpal Singh of Malakpur and Partap Singh of Sialkot at the hermitage of Sant Kartar Singh, who were serving in 52 Sikh regiment at Jalandhar. They also met Ganga Singh Naik of the regiment and all were persuaded to spread propaganda of Chakarvarties and procured ammunition for them.\footnote{Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, pp. 70-71.} After the meeting with soldiers, Kishan Singh and Santa Singh went to Khalsa High School Jalandhar for a meeting with the students. Milkha Singh Pindori got education from here who had already become a sympathizer of the radical Sikhs. Kishan Singh came there and met some more students on his requests. After meeting with the Kishan Singh students offered their services for the mother land, but he said to them to continue their studies till appropriate time.\footnote{\textit{Ibid}, p. 71.} After it the Chakravarti Jathas delivered similar speeches in various other parts of the province and exhorted the people to give up non-violence. During that period on 11 may 1922, Sunder Singh Babbar was arrested by the people of Sundh village. The arrest of Sundar Singh came as a rude shock to the Chakarvartis. The Jatha of
Kishan Singh had opened its account by attacking Harnam Singh, Zaildar of Mehdipur to settle scores with the Jholichuks.

In August 1922, was started a paper on the duplicator by Karm Singh Daulatpur which becomes famous as the Babbar Akali Doaba. Because the Jatha of Karam Singh Daulatpur robbed Kaka Singh, Lambardar of Bachauri on July 3, 1922, was carrying the Government revenue of Rs. 575. This amount was utilized to purchase some arms and a cyclostyle machine for the publication of the newspaper.\(^{597}\) Karam Singh Daulatpur was its first editor. Its first two issues portrayed the pitiable plight of India, the tyranny of the British Government and the formation of 'Charkarvarti' Jathas and their aim.\(^{598}\) After it the Babbar Akali Doaba regularly highlighted the desperate economic condition of the people and their exploitation at the hands of the foreign Government. The first page of its each issue quoted a couplet form Gurbani:

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\text{;g} \text{k;} \text{g}f j \text{u} \text{h} \text{m}; \text{i} \text{b} o \text{d} \text{h} \text{b}; \text{e} \text{j} \text{s}.
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‘Its first few issues bore the name of ‘Safari Press’ which was later on changed into ‘Udaru Press’\(^{599}\). The ‘Babbar Akali Doaba’

\(^{597}\) Bakhshish Singh Nijjar, History of the Babbar Akali, p. 21.

\(^{598}\) Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, p. 65.

\(^{599}\) Milkha Singh Nijjar, Babbar Akali Lehar Da Itihas, Navyug Publishers, Delhi, 1986, p. 132.
was duplicated at Gurdwara Kishanpur, Fatehpur Kotli, Jasowal, Kot Fatuhi and Pindori. The paper was distributed free of charge among those who were either sympathizer with or were terrorized by it. It became a powerful medium for the propaganda of the Babbars.

Till now, the Babbars had no definite organization of their own. They were simply holding meetings and propagating against British Government. Now it was decided to merge the various Jathas and to rename their organization as 'Babbar Akali Jatha' and resolved to elect a committee for making more plans. Subsequently, a meeting of 'Chakarvarti' Jathas of Kishan Singh Gargaj and Karam Singh Daulatpur held at Gajowal in the hermitage of Sant Thakar Singh in the third week of August 1922. In this meeting Karam Singh Daulatpur, Udey Singh Ramghar Jhuggian, jathedar Kishan Singh Gargaj, Karam Singh Jhingar, Assa Singh of Phakarudi, Babu Santa Singh, Master Dalip Singh and Atma Singh of Bika were involved. In this meeting, an organization was established which was named 'Babbar Akali Jatha' and a working committee was elected for making the new

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600 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, *Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar*, p. 91.
programmes of the party and to print the paper and collect arms and ammunition. The office holders were as follows:

- Kishan Singh Gargaj - Jathedar
- Dalip Singh Gogal - Secretary
- Babu Santa Singh - Treasurer

Karam Singh Daulatpur, Karam Singh Jhingar and Uday Singh were assigned to assist them. Thus a definite organization of the Babbar Akalis came into existence.

The ultimate aim of the Babbars was to collect arms and money, to organize the army and especially the Sikhs who involved in Babbar Akali Lehar and to create a feeling of discontent against the British Government. When the circumstances were too ripe and people were to be ready, then there was to be revolution on the similar lines as the mutiny of 1857. The Babbars made the revolutionary propaganda through the medium of Diwans and publication of the articles and leaflets.

After the establishment of the organizations Babbar's intensified the propaganda campaign as meetings were held in various places in the end of 1922. Now the Babbar Akali Doaba was regularly published. At the demand of paper, another duplicator

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was purchased in Rs. 160 by the Jatha. For this work an aid was received from Ram Singh of Dharowal.\textsuperscript{604} During that time the Babbars had been collected some weapons from army persons and people. Moreover, The Babbars seem to have attracted a large number of adherents from the Sikh peasantry of the Jalandhar Doab.

When the propaganda crusade of the Babbars was at peak then the Government set up the peace societies at various places to counter the Babbar's propaganda. The organizers of these societies were Government's agents (Jholichuks) and endeavoured to enhance the cooperation by organizing meeting at various places. In these meetings they condemned the Babbar Akalis vigorously and explained the boons bestowed by the British Government. They persuaded the people not to give any support to Babbars.\textsuperscript{605} The result was that Khan Bahadur Mir Fazil Imam, Deputy Superintendent Police C.I.D., was sent to Jalandhar by D.I.G. to control the situation. He submitted his report to the Government.

\textsuperscript{604} Paper Book, \textit{Babbar Akali Conspiracy Case}, p. 681. It was confirmed by the Statement of Jagjit Singh S/o Hira Singh, Manager, Punjab and Sindh Bank, Amritsar, who told the court that cheque No. 46176 of Rs. 150/- of 8th November, 1922 related to Pass Book of S. Ram Singh of Dhorowal and was in favour of Bhai Santa Singh, quoted in Gurcharan Singh \textit{Babbar Akali Movement-A Historical Survey}, p. 149 and Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, pp. 93-94.

\textsuperscript{605} But these meetings had no effect on the people except on those Jholichuks. The Babbar Movement progressed very well day by day. Mr. C.W. Jacob who was the Deputy Commissioner, Jallandhar, saw the situation was out of control. He wrote to D.I.G., C.I.D. that unless some special measures were taken, the Government would lose its grip over Doaba and it would be a fatal blow to its power. See in detail, Paper Book, \textit{Babbar Akali Conspiracy Case}, 1925, (A copy with Milkha Singh Nijjar, A.2, G.T Road, Adarsh Nagar, Delhi), p. 766.
saying that the situation in Doaba was serious. Jholichuks feared the Babbas and did not say anything against them. He requested to the Government that must be done something to tight their control over Doaba. As a result of his report an emergency conference was held on Nov., 1922, at Jalandhar between Mr. C.W. Jacob I.C.S., the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. F.C. Isemonger, C.B.E., D.I.G., C.I.D., Punjab, Khan Bahadur, Mir Fazal Imam D.S. Police, C.I.D. Punjab and Superintendent of Police of Jalandhar and Hoshiarpur district. In this meeting decisions were taken to adopt more strict measures for the suppression of the movement and offer higher rewards for the arrest of prominent Babbars. As a result on 30th Nov., 1922, a declaration of the prizes for the arrest of Babbars was made by the following way:

- Jathedar, Kishan Singh Gargaj Rs. 2,000
- Karam Singh, Daulatpur Rs. 1,000
- Karam Singh, Jhingar Rs. 500
- Dalip Singh, Gohgal Rs. 500
- Assa Singh Rs. 250.

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The declaration of rewards greatly changed the situation. It encouraged the Jholichuks. They set to pass the information of the Government about the programmes, plans and activities of the Babbars. The authority set up a special police station in every village to get information from the toadies easily. For this purpose, the authority was determined to widen her network so that a minuet information could be made accessible. On the other side, the Babbars launched a virulent campaign against the informers of the police and it was decided to exterminate the Jholichuks as their greed was likely to create difficulties in the way of the Babbars.609

During that time, the police inserted her agents (Jholichuks) in the villages who informed the Government against the Babbars. Consequently Kishan Singh called another meeting of the various Babbar Jathas on 25 Dec. 1922 at Jassowal. It was attended by all prominent Babbars like Kishan Singh Gargaj, Master Dalip Singh, Karam Singh Jhingar, Babu Santa Singh, Karam Singh Daulatpur, Dhanna Singh, Udey Singh, Buta Singh, Assa Singh etc.610 In this meeting they decided to follow a programme of 'reforming' the toadies. Within a short time on 30-31 Dec. 1922, another meeting of the general body of the Babbars was called at Jassowal in the

609 Gurcharan Singh, Babbar Akali Movement-A Historical Survey, p. 156.
610 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, p. 96.
**Haveli of Hari Singh.** Here the working committee announced the following important decisions:

i) **Who to whom and when to be murdered, will be decided by the working committee. No member was to initiate any action arbitrarily.**

ii) **In case a member comes across a Jholichuk, per chance, he should be murdered.**

iii) **They were to loot the property of Jholichuks and it was strictly ordered that the looted property should be deposited to the working committee so that the amount might be used to purchase arms and meet the expenses of the Babbar Akali Doaba.**

iv) **They should not insult their women and children during action against them.**

v) **Only those could remain members of the Babbar Jathas who were prepared to execute the orders of the working committee, giving up all other engagements.**

vi) **The decision of chopping of the nose and ears was replaced by immediate and instant murder. Because, it took much time, and also to identify them for action by the Government.**

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vii) Every murder was to be announced in the name of two or three Babbars in a special leaflet.

viii) While the Babbars were forbidden to loot innocent persons, the property of the Government, Jholichuks and notorious money lenders was considered. Cash or property such acquired will be the right of the party and not of any individual.612

After giving detailed rules and chalking out careful plans, the Babbars were asked to start their work of reform. The first in the list was Arjan Singh Patwari of Haripur allegedly responsible for the arrest of Master Mota Singh, but he could never be murdered.613 After it, on 2 Feb. 1923, the Babbars committed a dacoity in the house and shop of Munshi Ram of Shahukar of Jalda. This attempt did not bring them any worthwhile financial gain. Only, two ornaments fell in their hands. These ornaments were mortgaged by the Babbars for Rs. 180/-. This amount was spent on buying a gun, 25 cartridges and 2 swords from Nahan.614 Consequently, the first actual victim of the Babbars was Zaildar Bishan Singh of Rani

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612 C.F. Isemonger's Evidence in the Babbar Akali cases, quoted in the Civil and Military Gazette, 31 October, 1923; Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, pp. 98-99; Evidence of Amar Singh (P. W. 8) of Kote Bare Khan, Assa Singh Phakrudi (P.W. 25) and Ram Singh (P.W.13) of Muzara Kalan. Trial case no. 2, of 1924, pp. 42-43; quoted in Bakhshish Singh Nijjar, History of the Babbar Akali, p. 117.


Thua, a retired official of the canal department, who was shot dead on 10 Feb. 1923. His name appeared in the hit list of Jholichuks. He was helping the Government in every possible way of the suppression of the Babbar Akali Movement. The murder of Zaildar Bishan Singh launched a programme of wholesale slaughter of Jholichuks, greatly alarmed the authorities. After three days on 13 Feb. 1923, Diwan Singh Jholichuks of Hayatpur was murdered. He was an uneducated person but a great supporter of the British authority.

The activities of Babbar Akalis were increasing day by day. After the murder of Zaildar Bishan Singh, the police unleashed a wave of repression. The police would arrest the innocent people from villages for no fault of theirs. Every day between five to seven hundred Sikhs were arrested from Doaba area and harshed. On February 22, 1923 a meeting was held in the Haveli (House) of S. Hardit Singh of Jassowal to save the common villagers from police brutalities. It was attended by Kishan Singh Gargaj, Babu Santa Singh, Dhanna Singh of Behbalpur, Udey Singh, Buta Singh of Pindori Nijjaran, Harbakhash Singh and Hardip Singh Jassowal.

615 Proceedings Home Political No. 134/11/1923. (N.A.I.)
617 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, pp. 112-113.
618 Ibid., p. 113.
In this meeting was decided that two or three Babbars announced the names held responsible for the murder of Zaildar Bishan Singh and henceforth all murders should be owned by them to save the innocent people from police brutalities. But they did not take any final decision, because some prominent Babbars like Karam Singh Daultapur etc., were not present in the meeting.\textsuperscript{619}

After the four days of meeting on 26th January, Kishan Singh Gargaj the Jathedar of the Babbars was arrested on information supplied by Kabul Singh Bning an agent of authority. Mr. Mathews, Assistant Superintendent of Police Jallundhar raided at village Pindari Mahal and got Kishan Singh arrested.\textsuperscript{620}

Though Kishan Singh Bning was arrested, even then the Babbars continued their activities with the great zeal. Because the movement had taken firm root in the Doaba and his arrest was not sufficient to check the outrages committed by the organization. On the night of 2nd and 3rd March 1923, Babu Santa Singh, Banta Singh of Dhamian, Sadhu Singh and Banta Singh of Pragpur attacked Jamsher railway station.\textsuperscript{621} It is situated on the Jalandhar to Nakodar Railway line. Chanan Ram the station Master and

\textsuperscript{619} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, pp. 113-114.
\textsuperscript{620} Ibid., p. 115.
\textsuperscript{621} \textit{Proceedings Home Political} No. 134/11/1923. (N.A.I.); The viceroy of India Lord Reading writes to the Secretary of state that the incident took place on 4.3.23. The incident took place on 3rd March but F.I.R. seems to have been lodged on 4th March.
Sapuran Singh the Gang Jamadar were troubling and misbehave the passengers by charging money though unfair means.\textsuperscript{622} They were also doing cooperation with the police against the Babbars. They both were warned with dire consequences but they did not desist. The Babbars entered the booking office and their houses. But the ornaments they could lay their hands were of little value and get Rs. 30/- only from there.\textsuperscript{623} Money was taken from them and they were warned to reform behavior in future.

The next target of the Babbars vengeance was Buta Lambardar of Nangal Shamman, who was a great supporter of the authority in the suppression of the Babbars. He was attacked on 11 March 1923, by the Babbars under the leadership of Babu Santa Singh and he and his grandson Surjan Singh were murdered.\textsuperscript{624} On 19 March Labh Singh of Garh Shankar, an ex-mistri of the police training school Phillaur was shot dead at the time of Dansiwal Chhinj. He was suspected for his complicity in the arrest of Jathedar Kishan Singh.\textsuperscript{625}

It was strange that the Babbars could not take revenge from traitors who had caused the arrest of Master Mota Singh earlier and

\textsuperscript{622} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 142.
\textsuperscript{624} Mohinder Singh, \textit{The Akali Struggle-A Retrospect}, Atlantic Publishers & Distributors, New Delhi, 1988, p. 126.
\textsuperscript{625} Gurcharan Singh, \textit{Babbar Akali Movement-A Historical Survey}, p. 168.
Kishan Singh later. "Labh Singh had actually received a reward of 750 for the part which he played in the arrest of Kishan Singh".\textsuperscript{626} They made three attempts to kill Labh Singh of Dhadda Fateh Singh and Kabul Singh Bning. The three attempts were made on 14, 17 and 23 March 1923. But under the few difficult circumstances they were escaped every time.

The prominent Babbars held a meeting at hermitage of Sant Thakur Singh Gajowal on March 22 1923, which proved a milestone in the history of Babbar Akali Movement. In the meeting it was decided that three Babbars would take the responsibility of all the murders. Karam Singh Daulatpur, announced in the meeting that many \textit{Jholichuks} had been killed and the police was trying the best to trace out the culprits. He also told that Babbars should declare the responsibility of all the murders so that people remain intact from the atrocities of the police. It was also decided that no Babbar would offer himself for arrest alive. After it, he himself gave his name and after that Udey Singh and Dhanna Singh Behbalpur offered their names for these murders. Consequently, the first Babbar declaration was published and an open letter was sent to Lieutenant Governor of Punjab. The letter stated that "Bishan

\textsuperscript{626} \textit{Paper Book of Babbar Akali Conspiracy Case}, p. 85.
Singh Zaildar of Rani Thua, Buta Lambardar, his grandson Surjan Singh and Mistri Labh Singh of Garhshankar had been murdered. It was further stated that another person was undergoing imprisonment for life in the Babbar Akali Jail and conspiracy. Having no penal code of their own the Babbar Akalis had devised three modes of awarding punishment namely:

i) Death

ii) Mutilation

iii) Fine"627

The letter was signed by S. Karam Singh of Daulatpur, S. Dhanna Singh of Behbalpur and Bhai Udey Singh Ramgarh Jhuggian and copies of this declaration were sent to the Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar, Diwan Durga Das and Mian Sahib, Minister of Kapurthala State.628 Its copies were also pasted in Pindori Nijjaran and were sent to many other villages.629

After these circumstances the inhabitants of Jalandhar, and Hoshiarpur districts were in a state of nervousness, and fright. Because the five Jholichuks were murdered by the Babbars within one month greatly alarmed the Jholichuks and also the
Government. The authority issued them licenses for weapons and decided to throw a wide network and a list of persons was prepared who were suspected of being in touch with the Babbars if not actually active members of the gang. But the Babbars continued their work of reform. Next action of the Babbars was against the Hazara Singh of Behbalpur (Jalandhar). Early in the morning of 27 March, Hazara Singh was killed by Dhanna Singh, Karam Singh editor and Udey Singh, and it was announced by the Babbars in Babbar Akali Doaba of April 14, 1923 that Hazara Singh was given a reward of three squares of land (three bullets) on 27th March 1923.\textsuperscript{630} On 17 April, ex-Subedar Gainda Singh was shot dead in front of his house in Ghurial Village in Jalandhar district for his active assistance to the police in the arrest of certain Babbars.\textsuperscript{631} Due to the activities of the Babbars, the Situation in the Doaba became very tense. On the advice of the Deputy Commissioner of Jalandhar the D.I.G. of police deputed Khan Bahadur Sheikh Abdul Aziz, S.P., C.I.D. to work in liaison with the Jalandhar police and help control the situation in the area.\textsuperscript{632}

\textsuperscript{630} Proceedings Home Political No. 245/K.W./1926, (N.A.I.); Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 156.

\textsuperscript{631} Proceedings Home Political, No. 134/11/1923, (N.A.I.).

\textsuperscript{632} Mohinder Singh, \textit{The Akali Struggle-A Retrospect}, p. 127.
During the year of 1923 the arrests of some Babbar leaders like Sardar Karam Singh Jhingar, Master Dalip Singh Gossal, on Jan. 5, 1923, Kishan Singh Gargaj on Feb. 26, 1923, Assa Singh on March 1, 1923 and Amar Singh of Kot Fatuhi on 26 March 1923 were, no doubt, crushing blows to the Babbar Akali Movement.\footnote{Gurcharan Singh, *Babbar Akali Movement-A Historical Survey*, p. 173.} According to Amar Singh Granthi of Kot Fatuhi police raided at Pindori, Kishanpura, Jassowal, Paragpur, Bika, Rajowal Kot Fatuhi and Daulatpur,\footnote{Ibid., p. 178.} On 20, 21 and 22 April, 1923. The police arrested some Babbar leaders like Batan Singh, Sadhu Singh and Milkha Singh from Pandori, Hari Singh and Labh Singh from Jassowal, Bela Singh and Sadhu Singh from Pragpur, Ujjagar Singh Birrampur, Sunder Singh Kot Fatuhi, Gurbachan Singh Sadhara, Sant Mit Singh Kishanpura and Nand Singh Ghurial.\footnote{Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, *Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar*, p. 201.} Consequently, the Government issued another proclamation on 25 April 1923, under the signature of Hari Kishan Kaul Commissioner of Jalandhar Division, declaring that six squares of land would be given to the person, who helping the arrest of all those members of the Babbar leaders, who were involved in the murders of Zaildar Bishan Singh, Buta Singh Lambardar, Labh Singh Mistri, Hazara Singh and Subedar Gainda Singh.\footnote{Ibid., pp. 201-03.}
After the arrests of 21 and 22 April the police carried on arresting of Babbars at the information of approvers. On 27 April, Waryam Singh Kot Fatuhii, Shiv Singh Haripur and Amar Singh Pindori Nijjaran were arrested. On 28 April, Dalip Singh Dhamian, on Ist May, Piara Singh Dhamian and on 5 May Sant Thakar Singh Rajowal and Banta Singh Pragpur were arrested. Thakar Singh, Harnam Singh Pandori Nijjaran and Atma Singh Bika were arrested, on 6 May and Prem Singh Pragpur was arrested, on 12 May 1923. On 15 May 1923, Mr. Townsend was appointed as a new commissioner. Two squadrons of cavalry and infantry of about 250 men were placed there and an additional police staff was also stationed. On 12 May 1923 Karam Singh Manko was arrested at Jalandhar Railway Station with the help of Anup Singh Manko, informer of the police.

According to the *Akali-te-Pardesi* on 15 May, 1923 twenty one persons were arrested. On the other side, the Babbars once again, delivered a sensational shock to the Punjab Government,

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639 Ibid, p. 204.
because they carried on their work of reform of Jholichuks. On 20th May, 1923 Chaudhri Ralla Ram and his brother Ditta were killed in the Kaulgarh village in the Hoshiarpur district.\textsuperscript{641} They were attacked by Karam Singh editor, Dhanna Singh of Behbalpur, Udey Singh Ramgarh, Banta Singh and Dalipa of Dhamian, Babu Santa Singh, Anup Singh, Dhanna Singh of Kotli Bawa Das and Bishan Singh of Magat.\textsuperscript{642} These two brothers were very thick with each other and they were informers of the C.I.D. and the police. Next action of the Babbars was made against the Subedar Sunder Singh Randhawa. He enrolled his son and other four persons as special constables against the Babbars. But Babbars were not successful in their plan and he escaped. Atta Muhammad Patwari of Nanda Chaur, district Hoshiarpur a notorious Jholichuk was murdered on 6th June 1923.\textsuperscript{643} Banta Singh, Dalipa of Dhamian and Dhanna Singh of Kotli Bawa Dass were involved in his murdered. On 15th/16th July 1923 another murderous attack was made on Bishan Singh of Sandhara but after serious injuries he was escaped.\textsuperscript{644}

\textsuperscript{641} Proceedings Home Political, No. 200, 1926 (N.A.I.).
\textsuperscript{642} Paper Book Babbar Akali Conspiracy Case, p. 153; Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 162.
\textsuperscript{643} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 165.
\textsuperscript{644} \textit{Ibid}, pp. 166-67.
The murders of 'Ralla and Ditta' had created panic in the villages. On the advice of Deputy Commissioner of Jalandhar the D.I.G. of police deputed Khan Bahadur Sheikh Abdul Aziz, superintendent of Police C.I.D. to work in liaison with the Jalandhar police and to help in control the situation in the area. He wrote in his report while commenting on the killing of Ditta and Ralla, "The most surprising fact in the outrage is that while the culprits stayed for about 1½ hours and in the early part of the night when the whole village comprising of about 100 houses was awake, not a single man came forward to the rescue of the victims, the neighbors shutting themselves in the houses."645

The S.G.P.C. and national leaders like Mahatma Gandhi did not approve of the Babbar's programmes which were following the policy of non-violent towards the Government. The S.G.P.C. and its members severely criticized the actions of the Babbar Akalis in order to please the Government.

While the Bishan Singh Zaildar was murdered, the Government took hard step to crush the movement by committing inhuman atrocities. The Government did not make any difference between the common Akalis and the Babbar Akalis. This barber

action shocked the non-violent Sikhs and developed the hatred feelings against the Government.\textsuperscript{646} Quickly the Government realized the situation and put intention to make distinction between the Akalis and Babbars. The Government also tried to create such a situation that Akalis might feel that actions were only served against the anti-British and violent Sikhs. The S.G.P.C. leaders made aware the Government that she must change the coercive policy against the common Akalis otherwise Akali movement would be out of control. The Government accorded on the provision that S.G.P.C. must condemn the actions of Babbars openly. The Government further released the 'Guru-ka-Bagh' morcha prisoners on April 25, 1923. On the other hand, on 30th May 1923, S.G.P.C. passed a resolution and advised the Sikhs and Akalis Jathas to dissociate and keep away the Sikhs from those who had taken to violence and forbade helping them.\textsuperscript{647} Thus the attitude of the S.G.P.C. turned anti Babbar Akali.

The Government then took certain special measures to meet the Babbar's challenge and to restore confidence among the loyalist in the affected areas. Special staff was deputed to assist the local police in their efforts to arrest the Babbars. All these measures

\textsuperscript{646} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 209.

\textsuperscript{647} Akali Leaders case 1923-25, p. 2025; Copy of the Proceedings of S.G.P.C., Register No. 3, Gurmata No. 3, P. 53 and Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 211.
made it very difficult for the Babbars to operate in the area. In the second week of June 1923 Babu Santa Singh, Dalipa and Banta Singh of Dhamian, Anup Singh Manko and Dhanna Singh of Kotli Bawa Dass decided to take refuge in the Malwa area. On the 20th June 1923 on the basis of information of Sant Kartar Singh, Babu Santa Singh was arrested by Mr. Fazal Imam at Tapa Railway Station. After his arresting some papers were recovered by him, including a letter addressed to Jawala Singh and Bhagwan Singh of Fatehpur Kothi. In that letter reference had been made about the 'Elam' duplicator "Uadru Press". As a result of this information the police raided at Fatehpur Kothi and Bhagwan Singh arrested with duplicator. But Jawala Singh escaped.

Babu Santa Singh surrendered himself to the police turned approver and on the behalf of his information nine Babbars were arrested. The police started giving them hard punishments to the arrested babbars for acquiring information about other Babbars and movement activities. Many types of physical tortures were meted out to the arrested Babbars. As a result, some of them did give information about the Babbars and their movement.

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650 Ibid., p. 217.
651 Ibid., p. 220.
The next step for the Punjab Government was to apprehend the absconding Babbars. On 8 August 1923, the Government issued the third proclamation regarding the awards for the arrest of the Babbars. The following criminals have been declared as proclaimed absconders. Rewards as mentioned against each name for their arrests were:

- Karam Singh of Daulatpur Rs. 3000/-
- Udey Singh of Ramgarh Jhuggian Rs. 2000/-
- Dhanna Singh of Behbalpur Rs. 2000/-
- Banta Singh of Dhamian Rs. 1000/-
- Dalipa of Dhamian Rs. 1000/-
- Waryam Singh of Dhugga Rs. 1000/-
- Dhanna Singh of Kotli Bawa Dass Rs. 500/-
- Anup Singh of Manko Rs. 500/-
- Bishan Singh of Mangat Rs. 400/-
- Buta Singh of Pindori Nijjaran Rs. 200/-

The Government adopted repressive policy to extract information about the Babbars and established police posts in various villages. On the information of approvers, Buta Singh Pindori was arrested on 14th Aug., 1923. After the Santa Singh's

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confessional statement more Babbar were arrested. Banta Singh Behbalpur arrested on Aug. 28, 1923. On Ist September 1923, Milkha Singh of Moranwali, Besant Singh of Randhawa Masandan, Chhaja Singh of Massanian, Bawa Singh and Udham Singh of Pindori Nijran were arrested. Munsha Singh of Johal on 4th Sept., Amar Singh of Rajowal on 6th Sept., Partap Singh Sialkot on 7 September Wattan Singh of Ganeshpur and Thakar Singh of Bharta were arrested on 9 September 1923. Other Babbars were arrested on 18 September, Kirpal Singh Malakwal, on 19th October, Narain Singh of Chattiwind and on October 26, 1923 Man Singh of Gujranwala.\footnote{653}

Tempted by the lure of gold and under the influences of his wife and family Anup Singh Manko who had recently joined the Babbar Akalis betrayed his fellow members. On 31 Aug., 1923, Karam Singh editor, Udey Singh, Bishan Singh, Mohinder Singh of Pindori, Ganga Singh and Anup Singh were travelling from village Domeli to Bubeli and were to stay at the latter till the afternoon.\footnote{654} But Anup Singh, who became informer, sent information to the police according to their pre planned scheme. He had managed to destroy the arms and ammunitions of the Babbars except a gun

\footnote{654}Mohinder Singh, \textit{The Akali Struggle-A Retrospect}, p. 128.
which Karam Singh carried with him.\textsuperscript{655} As the result was that these four Babbers were surrounded by the police in Bubeli village in the morning of 1st September 1923. Mr. Smith, the superintendent of Police who wanted to arrest the Babbers alive, tried to persuade them to surrender, but they refused to do so. The Babbar decided to face the enemy, but as their resources were very limited. Finally, the Babbers rushed to the Gurdwara Chaunta Sahib, across a small stream. The police opened fire and Karam Singh, Udey Singh, Mohinder Singh and Bishan Singh were died in the shooting.\textsuperscript{656}

The next blow to the Babbers came in the death of Dhanna Singh. Dhanna Singh was similarly betrayed by one of his associates Jawala Singh, Dhanna Singh went to Jawala Singh after the Bubeli tragedy. Jawala Singh brought Dhanna Singh to Mannanhana village. At the same time, he secretly gave the information to the police. At the night when Dhanna Singh was fast asleep, Jawala Singh damaged his weapons. Mr. Horton Superintendent of Police, Hoshiarpur accompanied by Mr. Jenkin, Assistant Superintendent of Police and a mixed guard numbering

\textsuperscript{655} Proceedings Home Political No. 134/11/1923 (N.A.I.).
\textsuperscript{656} Proceedings Home Political No. 134/11/1923 (N.A.I.).
38 officers and men reached the spot at night of 25 October 1923 and Dhanna Singh was arrested. After securing arrest Mr. Horton taunted him saying that he had been arrested alive whereas he used to say that he would never come into the hands of police alive. At that time, he made a violent jerk with his hands and exploded a bomb which he was carrying in his pocket. The result of the explosion of bomb was that five police men and Dhanna Singh died at the spot while Mr. Horton and Jenkim and three other police men were seriously wounded and later on they were also died.

New prominent members of the Babbars were Banta Singh of Dhamian, Dhanna Singh of Kohli Bawa Dass and Waryam Singh Dhugga. With the assistance of new recruits to the movement they carried on their activities. On November 13, 1923, they decided to attack on Jawala Singh and Narain Singh, these two were the notorious money lenders of Kotli Bawa Dass. Narain Singh was robbed of ornaments and his account books were also burnt but his brother Jawala Singh was murdered for his anti Babbar activities.

On Dec. 12, 1923, Waryam Singh Dhugga, Banta Singh Dhamian and Jawala Singh Fatehpur Kothi were staying in the

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657 Ibid.
658 Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, p. 192.
659 Babbar Akali Case Judgement 1925, p. 8.
house of Jagat Singh Mander. But he became informer of the police party due to the influence of his relatives and under the threats of the authority. When the Babbars reached his village he informed the police. The Deputy Commissioner Mr. W.C. Jacob along with Deputy Superintendent of Police and 500 policemen raided on the village and the whole village was surrounded.\textsuperscript{660} When they saw that their escape was not possible, they decided to face the enemies. In this encounter two of them, Banta Singh and Jawala Singh were died on the spot and Waryam Singh escaped.\textsuperscript{661} After a few months, Waryam Singh was also killed in police encounter in Chak no. 54 district Layallpur on 8th June 1924.\textsuperscript{662} Thus by mid June 1924 all the important Babbars had either been killed in the police encounters or taken prisoners and the situation in the province was brought under control.\textsuperscript{663}

After the arrest of the Babbars, the trial was conducted in the camera in Lahore and was presided over by an English Judge Mr. J.K. Tapp.\textsuperscript{664} On the 15 Aug. 1923, the main conspiracy was against 94 men, including 17 approves and 15 absconders and it

\textsuperscript{660} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehbar}, p. 194.
\textsuperscript{661} \textit{Proceedings Home Political}, No. 134/11/1923 (N.A.I.).
\textsuperscript{662} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehbar}, pp. 117-18.
\textsuperscript{663} For details see 'My Friend the Revolutionary' \textit{Collective works of Mahatma Gandhi}, Vol. XXVI, pp. 487-89.
\textsuperscript{664} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri,\textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehbar}, p. 237.
were sent up for trial.\textsuperscript{665} The total arrests up to that time 226 of whom 104 were present in the court under section 107, Criminal Procedure Code.\textsuperscript{666} All the Babbaris were brought to Lahore and the Judge asked them to have some \textit{vakil} for the purpose of defending their cases. But some Babbaris like Kishan Singh, Sunder Singh, Mukhsuspuri, Dalip Singh Sandhara, Karam Singh, and Babu Santa Singh were refused to have any \textit{Vakil}.\textsuperscript{667} The Babbar decided not to co-operate with the Government to participate in the court proceedings. The trial continued for a long period. 447 witnesses were put forth by the Government with an addition of 734 written documents and 228 other things, as evidence.\textsuperscript{668} The judgement on the Babbar Akali case was given on 28th Feb. 1925. According to the judgement of Mr. J.K. Tapp Additional Sessions Judge, awarding death sentenced to 5, life imprisonment to 11 and various terms of imprisonment of 38, while 34 were acquitted.\textsuperscript{669} But the police appealed to the High Court for revision of the judgement given by the session judge.

The judges of High Court were Boardway and Mr. Harrison. They delivered final judgement on 19 Jan., 1926. According to final

\textsuperscript{665} Proceedings Home Political No. 200/1926, (N.A.I.).
\textsuperscript{666} Ibid.
\textsuperscript{667} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar, pp. 237-38.
\textsuperscript{668} Ibid p. 230.
\textsuperscript{669} Partap Singh Giani, Gurdwara Sudhar Arthat Akali Lehar p. 261.
judgement, six Babbars were sentenced to death and 13 to life imprisonment. About 29 were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment while 40 were acquitted.\textsuperscript{670} Five Babbars passed away during the trial of the case, eight Babbars died bravely in the encounter with the police. One Babbar Mistri Amar Singh could never be arrested.\textsuperscript{671}

Kishan Singh Gargaj, Babu Santa Singh, Dalipa Dhamian, Dharam Singh Hayatpur, Karam Singh Manko and Nand Singh Ghurial were hanged on 27th Feb., 1926.\textsuperscript{672}

By the middle of 1924 the movement was ruthlessly suppressed but those Babbars acquitted by the court, carried on their work. In 1933, Bela Singh was killed by Babbar Hari Singh and his two friends.\textsuperscript{673} In 1936, Anup Singh an approver was done to death by Gurdit Singh, Kartar Singh Kirti and Ujagar Singh, a young lad of sixteen years and on 25th March 1940, Bachitter Singh and Ajaib Singh out short the life of Karam Singh Mananhana.\textsuperscript{674}

The aim of Babbar Akali Movement was an armed revolution in the country in cooperation with the army. But the Babbars were

\begin{itemize}
    \item \textsuperscript{670} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 254.
    \item \textsuperscript{671} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 254.
    \item \textsuperscript{672} Gurcharan Singh, \textit{Babbar Akali Movement: A Historical Survey}, pp. 221-22.
    \item \textsuperscript{673} Sunder Singh Mukhsuspuri, \textit{Itihas Babbar Akali Lehar}, p. 203.
    \item \textsuperscript{674} Param Bakshish Singh & Devinder Kumar Verma, \textit{Punjab and the Freedom Struggle}, Publication Bureau, Punjabi University, Patiala, p. 280.
\end{itemize}
no more successful in their mission. There were many reasons responsible for their ultimate failure. The main cause was unequal match of strength and resources between the British Government and the Babbers. They had to suffer due to the shortage of money, arms and ammunition. They had tried to keep contract with the army and to procure arms and tried to purchase arms with the robbed money. But it was not sufficient for carrying out their mission. Another cause was, the Babbers were no more successful in keeping of their organization as a secret than the Gadrities. The British C.I.D. did not have much difficulty in infiltrating the Babbar's inner circles. Another cause of failure of Babbers was the role of Jholichuks. Who gave their full cooperation to the Government against the Babbers. Some persons of Babbers became informer of the police after their arrest. This gave a big set back to the Babbers.

In addition to this the other parties like the S.G.P.C. and Indian National Congress though anti-imperialist in their own ways yet disapproved revolutionary methods of the Babbers. However their ideals and mission continued to work even after 1924. The S.G.P.C. radically protested against the activities of the movement and appealed to the people not to give any support to the Babbers.