

Summary in English

STORY IN A NUT-SHELL

This lesson is a sketch of Balgobin Bhagat.

In Hinduism and Sikhism, Bhagats were originally holy men of various sects. Members of a community that gives prominence to the religious teachings of Kabir are also known as Bhagats.

Balgobin too was a Kabir follower, had a long white beard, a tilak on his forehead and wore few clothes. In winter he used to cover himself with a black blanket. He was a farmer and had a house. He lived with his son and daughter-in law.

Balgobin used to sing during farming. Other farmers also used to enjoy his songs. During summer he used to assemble a few people and sing songs. The audience used to repeat his songs and dance with him.

His son, who was very weak died suddenly. Balgobin was sitting near the dead body of his son and started singing. He pacified his daughter-in-law and told her that the soul had reached God. He made the daughter-in-law lit the pyre. He did not believe in other rituals. He also told his daughter-in-law's brothers to arrange her re-marriage.

Even in his last days, Balgobin used to be singing. Even on the day of his death, he sang and breathed his last.