

## Life Sketch: Qari Hifzur Rahman Partabghari ﷺ

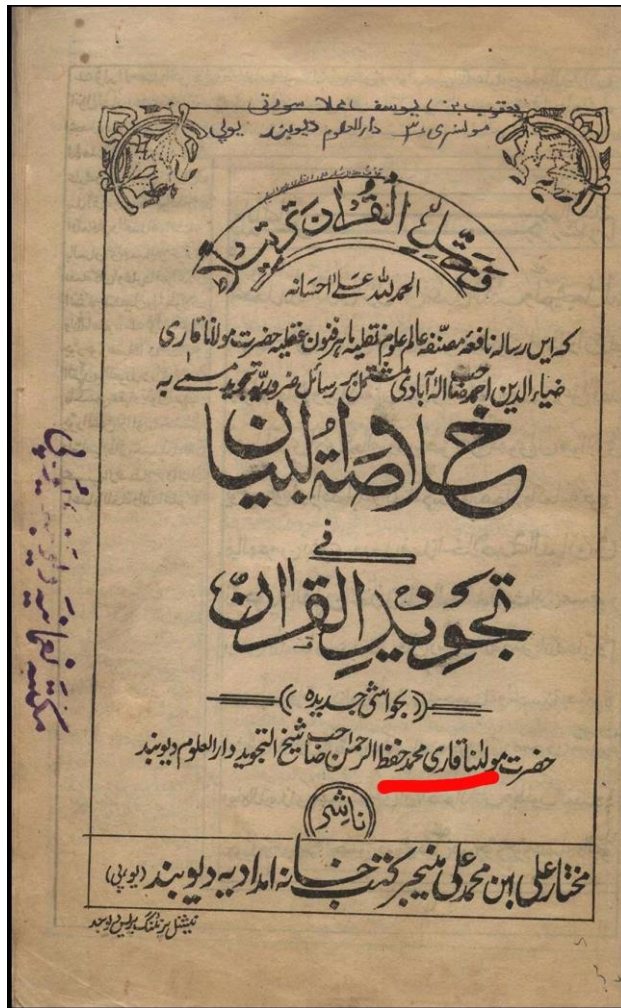
There are limited sources on the life of Qari Hifzur Rahman Partabghari ﷺ. The author of this brief article was only able to find a few lines describing the end of his life in Qari Mirza Bismillah Baig's *Tazkirah Qariyan Hind* pgs. 237-238. Thus, most of the information regarding Qari Hifzur Rahman was taken directly from one of his last remaining students, Qari Abdullah Saleem (may Allah preserve him).

Qari Hifzur Rahman ﷺ was born in Partabghar, a town in the Uttar Pradesh (UP) district in North India. He began his studies in Lucknow, India, and perfected his recitation of the Qur'an via the transmission of Hafs from 'Asim under Qari Abdul Malik ﷺ. He would then go on to Ilahabad, India and complete his study of the various modes of Qur'anic recitation (*Qira'at*) under Qari Abdur Rahman Makki ﷺ.

Qari Abdur Rahman Makki (d. 1341/1922) ﷺ was the author of *Fawaid Makkiyah*, a text on the science of Tajwid which is taught in many institutions globally. Qari Abdur Rahman Makki is considered an "anchor point" (*madar*) for the chains of transmission of the Qira'at sciences in India and is often referred to as "Shaikh al-Qurra" of India. Qari Hifzur Rahman spent **12 years** in the company of Qari Abdur Rahman Makki. He was constantly with him, whether they were on a journey or residing locally. Thus, Qari Hifzur Rahman was able to acquire an intense love for and mastery over the Qira'at sciences.

On one occasion, Qari Abdur Rahman Makki and Qari Hifzur Rahman were on a journey and stopped by Darul Uloom Deoband for a few days. Qari Hifzur Rahman decided to explore the madrasah and toured the entire campus. When he returned, Qari Abdur Rahman Makki asked him how he felt about the madrasah, to which Qari Hifzur Rahman replied with words of praise. Qari Abdur Rahman Makki spoke to the then principal, Maulana Habibur Rahman Uthmani ﷺ, informing him of Qari Hifzur Rahman's capabilities and qualifications, and how he could be of service for the Tajwid and Qira'at sciences in the institution. It was through Qari Abdur Rahman Makki's foresight that Qari Hifzur Rahman became the head of the Qira'at program in Darul Uloom Deoband. Furthermore, Qari Hifzur Rahman was unable to complete his Alimiyyah studies prior to this and was thus allowed to complete his studies at the institute as well. Not only was he an instructor, but he was also a student.

He began teaching here in the year 1350 and was granted the mantle of *Sadr al-Qurra* (head Qari) in the year 1356, which he held until the year 1388.<sup>1</sup> His arrival elevated the Qur’anic sciences not only in the institution, but would also lead to an impact that is still felt worldwide. This can be gauged by some of his students, who included the likes of Qari Fath Muhammad Panipatti ﷺ, Qari Abdullah Saleem, and Qari Ahmadullah Qasimi ﷺ. With the help of Allah, these three would go on to become authorities within the Qira’at sciences, and were able to lead a global revival of the Qur’anic sciences. Qari Hifzur Rahman ﷺ also penned a number of works, including a gloss on Qari Diya al-Din Ilahabadi ﷺ’s *Khulasatul Bayan*, a primer in the Tajwid sciences.



According to Qari Abdullah Saleem, Qari Hifzur Rahman passed away approximately in the year 1970 CE which corresponds to 1390 AH.

<sup>1</sup> *Darul Uloom Doeband Ki Jami' Aur Mukhtasar Tarikh* pg. 772