

Class vii

L8 (History) Popular Religious Beliefs

A. Answer the questions given by choosing the most appropriate alternative from those given below

1. C. Nirguna
2. C. Shankaracharya
3. B. Kirtanas
4. C. Shishya
5. D. Pir
6. B. Ajmer

B. Fill in the blanks.

1. Bhakti
2. Vitthala
3. Tulsidas
4. Weaver
5. Khalsa
6. Suf or Wool

C. Write (T)for true and(F) for false.

1. False
2. False
3. false
4. True
5. false
6. False

D. Match the following :

1. Silsilah. C.religious order
2. Govardhanamatha d. Puri
3. Adi Granth e. Guru Angad Dev Ji
4. Kirpan a. Dagger
5. Salim chisti b. Sikri

E. Answer the questions in about 50-70 words.

1.Shankaracharya, one of the greatest religious leaders ,propounded idea jnan marg. He taught that salvation was possible through devotion to God, strengthened by knowledge and called it Jnan Marg. This idea is central to the the philosophy of Advaita. The doctrine of Advaitava advocated that God is unique and that God and the created world are one.

2. Ramanuja preached during the 12 th century.He treated all human beings as equal. According to him, everyone could by the worship of God, attain salvation or Nirvana .

3.-- Mirabai was married into the ruling family of of Mewar. She was an ardent devotee of Krishna. She composed various devotional songs, known as Mira's bhajan.

4. The Adi Granth is the the holy book of the Sikhs. It was compiled by Angad Dev Ji.

5. The sufis were inspired by teaching from the Quran. They are organised themselves into Silsilahs or religious orders. Each order was headed by a teacher or Pir and had several disciples or murids. A Sufi order lived in a Khanwah or hermitage.

F. Answer the questions in about 80 - 100 words.

1.The early medieval period saw the rise and spread of the bhakti movement in South India. Led in South India by two streams of popular saints called Nayanars and Alvars, the movement attracted people from all sections of society due to its emphasis on simple means and practices to attain salvation. The Nayanars worshipped Shiva and were called Shaivites and Alvars worshipped Vishnu and were called Vaishnavites.By the 15 th century,both worshippers of Shiva and Vishnu were popular in North India as well.

2 -- Maharashtra witnessed the rise of a great number of saint-poets from the 13th to the 17th century. Janeshwar, Namdev, Eknath, Tukaram, Sakku Bai, and the family of ChokhaMela were some of the important bhakti saints of Maharashtra. Here the regional tradition of bhakti focused on Vitthal. These saints rejected all outward forms of ritualism, caste differences and emphasised on brotherhood, oneness and humanity. They believed in living the life of a householder, earning their living and helping their fellow beings.

3.-- Chitanya was a bhakti Saint who popularised the bhakti movement in Bengal Assam and Odisha. He was a devotee of Krishna and emphasised universal love as the first step towards God. He believed that

one can experience god's existence through love, song and dance.

4. The similarities between bhakti and Sufi teaching are as follows.

A. There are many different names for God but he is one.

B. Everyone is equal in the eyes of God.

C. Elaborate rituals are not necessary to attain salvation or the blessings of God.

D. Music is a means of expressing devotion to God and brings people closer to God.

5. as a result of the bhakti and Sufi movement a new form of worship emerged which inspired religious reforms. It gave a Ray of hope to the downtrodden because it opposed the rigid caste system. It also led to the growth of local languages as the bhakti and Sufi saints preached in the language of the common man. Rulers such as Akbar were influenced by these movements and followed a policy of religious tolerance.