History

Chapter 8

Religious Development in the Medieval Period

I Multiple Choice Questions

1. Bhakti

2. Advaita

3. Alwars

4. Vishnu

5. Sufi saint

6. Ravidas

7. Islam

II Very Short Answer type Questions.

1. Bhakti means a person's loving devotion to his or her chosen diety.

2. They believed in devotion to one God and two way relationship between the diety and devotees.

3. Hagiographies aur religious biographies of the Nayanars and Alvars are now used as sources of history to learn about the Bhakti movement of South India.

4. Bhakti saint, Ramanuja says that's all retains its identity after uniting with Brahma.

5. The Nayanars saints were devoted to Lord Shiva.

II Short answer type questions.

1. In the beginning of the mediaeval period:-

1. People believed in the idea that all living beings pass through countless cycles of birth and rebirth.

2. People could be free from these vicious cycles by performing good deeds.

3. They also believed that all human beings were not equal even at birth. They believed that social privileges came from birth in a noble family or a high caste.

2. 1.Basavanna initiated the Virashaiva. This movement begin in Karnataka in mid 12th century AD.

2. This movement advocated for the equality of all human beings.

3. They criticized the Brahmanical ideas of caste and the treatment of women.

4. They were also against all forms of ritual and idol worship.

3. 1. Saints of Maharashtra popularised the Vitthal ( Vishnu) worship. They also included important women saints. Who belonged to the untouchable mahar caste.

2. The rejected rituals and composed devotional poems. The saints also rejected the caste difference is based on birth.

3. They taught to serve fellow human beings in need. They believed that God resides in the hearts of all people. In this way, new humanist idea emerged.

4. 1. Mirabai was a disciple of Ravidas.

2. She gave up her life of luxury and became and ardent devotee of Lord Krishna.

3. She openly challenged the norms of upper caste through her songs.

That was why, she became popular with the masses. The masses preserved the memory of Mirabai.

5. 1. Shankaracharya preached the Advaita philosophy. this is the doctrine of oneness of the individual soul and the supreme God which is the ultimate reality.

2. That is, God and created means are one and the same. He helped in the revival of Hinduism.

3. he stressed on the adoption of the path of knowledge to know Brahma and attain salvation. He also taught that the world around us was an illusion or Maya.

IV. Long answer type questions.

1. Many religious teachers rejected prevalent religious beliefs and practices this statement is justified in the following ways:-

1. The social order head mini on equal social castes and equality among the Social castes could be obtained only by rejection of prevalent religious beliefs and practices.

2. People were un easy with religious sacrifices performed by Brahmanas. So, people were attracted to the idea of A supreme God who could be free humans from such bondage if approached with devotion or bhakti.

3. The teachers of bhakti or sufism wanted to free the right of worship of God from the brahmanas. so they rejected the idea of elaborate rituals to please the God.

4. The puranas also recommended that it was possible for devotees to to receive the grace of God regardless of their caste status.

2. The major beliefs and practices of the Nathpantis, Siddhas and Yogi's are:-

1. They religious groups that criticized prevalent rituals and unequal social orders.

2. According to them, meditation on the formless Brahma and realisation of oneness with Him leads to salvation.

3. They advocated intense training of the mind and body through practices like yogasanas, breathing exercises and meditation.

4. These groups became popular particularly among the lower castes.

3. The major beliefs and practices of the sufis were:-

1. Sufis believed in one God and that all men are his children.

2. They preached that there could be many ways of reaching God.

3. The emphasised love and devotion to God.

4. they taught that people should be kind towards fellow beings.

5. they often rejected the elaborate rituals and codes of behaviour.

6. Sufi saints composed poem and roses to express their feelings.

7. They also believed that the heart can be trained to look at the world in different way. So they developed a number of methods of training work performed under the guidance of a master or Pir.

8. Sufi saints held their assemblies in their Khanqahs or hospices were devotees of all caste and creeds, rich and poor assembled discussed spiritual matters, South the blessings of the saints in solving their worldly problems.

4. The major ideas of Kabir are as follows:-

1. Kabir taught the unity of God and religion.

2. His teachings openly ridiculed idolatry and external forms of worship by Hindus and Muslims.

3. He did not attach any importance to priestly classes nor did he believe in the caste system.

4. He encouraged people to search their own hearts if they wanted to find God.

5. Kabir preached was not some philosophy but giving up five passions lust, anger ,greed ,bondage and selfishness.

6. He preached that the only part of salvation was through bhakti or personal devotion.

7. He Drew his followers from different religions include in Hinduism and Islamism.

5. The major teachings of Baba Guru Nanak were:-

1. He preached the message of oneness of God. He said 'there is no Hindu there is no muslim'.

2. Guru Nanak had insisted that his followers must be householders and should have some productive occupations.

3. Guru nanak had insisted that caste,creed and gender one irrelevant to his followers.

4. The importance of right forms of worship honest, living and charity.

6. The main principles of bhakti movement were as under:-

1. Devotion to one God- They advocated his or her devotion to one God.

2. Through love devotion- It means emphasis on devotion and individual worship of gods or goddesses rather than performing elaborate rituals and sacrifices.

3. Spiritual images- According to the idea of bhakti, if a devotee worships The chosen diety with a pure heart, the it will appear in front of them in their desire.

4. Beginning of temples- Since the dieties were special , their images were placed within special homes known as temples.

5. Universality- Anybody, could follow the path of bhakti.

6. Emphasis on moral values - They stressed on the virtues of kindness, purity of heart and mind.

V. State whether the following statements are true or false.

1. True

2. False

3. True

4. True

5. False