



BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAMPURA, DELHI – 110034
Class XII – HISTORY

Theme -6:- Bhakti - Sufi Traditions

Dear Students

Welcome to the new academic session 2020-21!

Before you go through this e-lesson, ensure that you have read the lesson 'Bricks, Beads and Bones'. Mark the historical / technical words, find out their meanings and note them in your history register. The various You Tube links provided in the lesson will help in comprehending the concepts, and make it easier for you.

Happy Learning

I. INTRODUCTION –

- We have seen that by the mid -first millennium CE the landscape of the subcontinent was dotted with a variety of religious structures -stupas, monasteries, temples.
- New textual sources available from this period include compositions attributed to poet-saints, most of whom expressed themselves orally in regional languages used by ordinary people.
- These compositions, which were often set to music, were compiled by disciples or devotees, generally after the death of the poet-saint.
- These traditions were fluid - generations of devotees tended to elaborate on the original message.
- Historians also draw on hagiographies or biographies of saints written by their followers (or members of their religious sect). These may not be literally accurate, but allow a glimpse into the ways in which devotees perceived the lives of these pathbreaking women and men.

II TOPICS

- Each topic has been converted into a mind map. It is a visual organization and representation of knowledge.

III. FURTHER REFERENCE –

Kindly watch the following videos for a better understanding.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w8IQpn0IJK8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQskLHsRPRI>

IV. EXPLANATION – MIND MAPS

Kindly see the attachment

V. ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS –

[To be attempted in the History register.]

[Answer in 100-150 words]

1. Discuss the ways in which the Alvars, Nayanars and Virashaivas expressed critiques of the caste system.
2. Describe the major teachings of either Kabir or Baba Guru Nanak, and the ways in which these have been transmitted.

[Answer in 500 words]

3. Discuss the major beliefs and practices that characterized Sufism.
4. Examine how and why rulers tried to establish connections with the traditions of the Nayanars and the sufis.
5. Analyse, with illustrations, why bhakti and sufi thinkers adopted a variety of languages in which to express their opinions.