

GS Advanced Program 2023**Generic Booklet**Test Name/Code/No. : **691042**

Name			
Email ID.			
Roll No.			
Mobile No.		Date	

Allotted Time : 60 Minutes**Instructions to Candidates -**

- There are 7 Questions in this Question paper.
- All Questions are Compulsory.
- For all updates, please visit the noticeboard -
<https://noticeboard.forumias.com/gsap-2023/>

Important -

- Answers must be attempted in the QCA Booklet only.
- To upload the Answer Copies please visit to "My Course" section on -
<https://academy.forumias.com/>
- Only those copies will be evaluated which will be submitted before the next class.

Q. No.	Grade/Score
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Overall Grade/Score	

Start Writing Here

1)

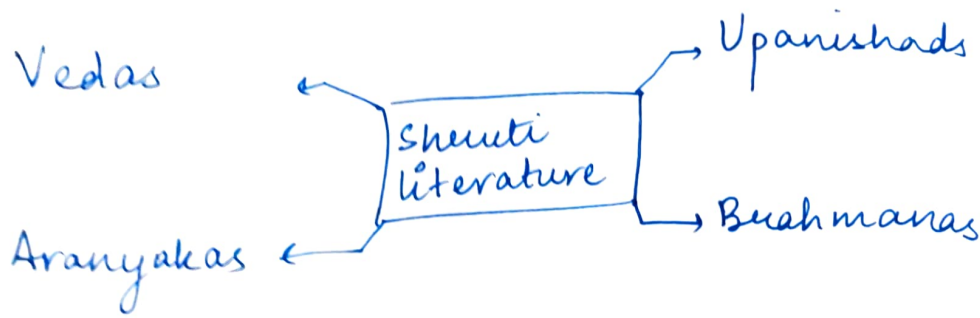
The Hindu religious texts have been carried forward through generations by sages and religious scholars. The

2 fold classification of this the literature is —

- Shruti literature
- Smriti literature.

SHRUTI LITERATURE

- Shruti literally means 'To hear' and hence it refers to the Hindu literature that is carried forward by oral traditions
- This text is considered to be the original words of God and hence not subject to any change.
- They are authorless and most authoritative texts of Hinduism.



SHRUTI V/S SMRITI LITERATURE

SHRUTI

- > Carried forward by oral traditions
- > Are authorless
- > Most authoritative and supreme → not subject to change.

SMRITI

- > Smriti means 'To recall' → hence carried forward by human memory & intellect
- > Have authors
Eg. Tulsidas' Ramayan.
- > Less authoritative than shruti.
Change spatially and temporally.
Eg. Kampan's Ramayan v/s Tulsidas' Ramayan.

Both the literatures are great legacy of India and there is need to preserve their sanctity and carry forward the legacy.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

The Bhakti Movement started 5-6th century AD in south India and 12th century AD in north India is a reformist movement within Hinduism. It is based on idea of love, devotion and complete surrender to God.

REASONS FOR EMERGENCE OF BHAKTI MOVEMENT

Social Factors

→ Caste and varna system → subsequent social cleavages caused isolation among sections of society.

Religious Factors

→ Rising ritualism → In Brahminical Hinduism in Later Vedic Period made religion a shell without substance.

Economic Factors

→ Animal sacrifice → rampant in Brahminical Hinduism in later Vedic Period was a major obstacle to the agrarian and livestock economy.

Political/External Factors

→ Influence of Sufism → provided techniques

and tools to the Bhakti movement.

Eg. Dance and music $\Rightarrow$ Bhajan & Kirtan

$\rightarrow$ Role of Saints $\rightarrow$ Nayanars, Alwars, Chaitanya, Mahaprabhu, Meerasbai, Nanak, Kabir etc.

$\rightarrow$ Royal patronage $\rightarrow$ Alwars: Chola patronage
Nayanars: Pallava patronage etc.

IMPACT ON SOCIETY

Social impact $\rightarrow$ egalitarian society $\rightarrow$ caste/varna discarded
Eg. Nanak, Ravidas, Kabir.
 $\rightarrow$ women emancipation.
Eg. Andal, Meerasbai etc.

Religious Impact $\rightarrow$ religion became more intimate and less ritualistic.
 $\rightarrow$ encouraged reforms in Hinduism

Economic $\rightarrow$ less ritualism $\Rightarrow$ brahminical rituals and related income declined.

Vernaculars $\rightarrow$ Tamil $\rightarrow$ Tevaram, Nalayira Divyaprabandham
 $\rightarrow$ Marathi $\rightarrow$ Abhangs by Tukaram, Eknath etc.
 $\rightarrow$ Awadhi $\rightarrow$ Hanuman Chalisa, Tulsidas Ramayana.
 $\rightarrow$ Assamese + Maithili $\rightarrow$ Borgeet by Shankardev

Thus, the Bhakti movement had multi-faceted impact on society and paved the way for a more moderate, liberal and inclusive Hinduism.

Overall Grading (✓)

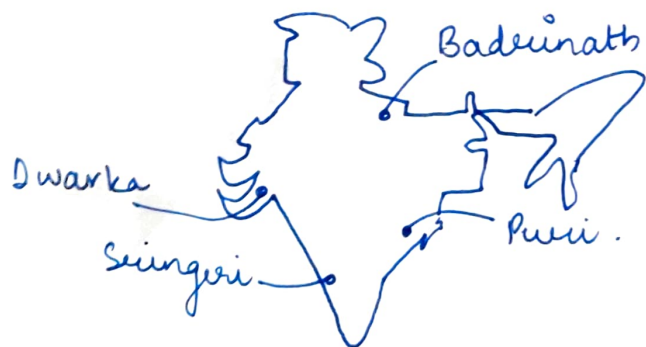
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3)

Shankaracharya born in 8th century AD in Kerala was the propounder of Advaita Vedanta school of philosophy and is credited with the revival of Hinduism in India following its decline with the advent of Sheraman traditions.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF SHANKARACHARYA TO REVIVAL OF HINDUISM

- He propounded the Advaita Vedanta → (monoism) school of philosophy (Brahma and Atma are same).
- Established 4 mathas → in the 4 corners of India to spread Hinduism.



- Established a new sect 'Smartism' → to unify the various branches of Hinduism wherein 5 Gods : Shiva, Shakti, Vishnu,

Ganesh and Surya can be worshipped together.

- Established the 'Sanyasi' sect on lines of Buddhist Sanghas to bring Hindu scholars and sages under one fold.
- Wrote treatises and commentaries on Vedas, Upanishads and Hindu religious scriptures like Bhagavad Gita.
- Promoted Egalitarianism in Hinduism

Thus, by the efforts of Shankaracharya, Hinduism was able to unify itself.

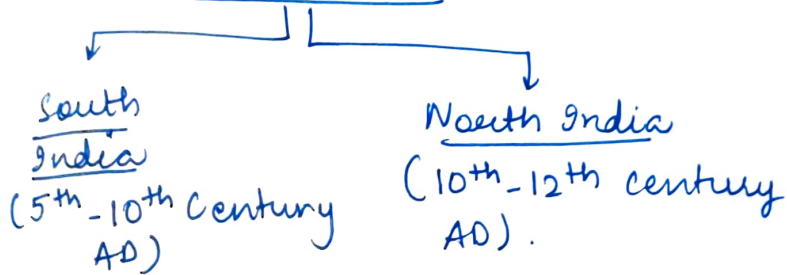
The traditions and legacies of Shankaracharya remain vital to Hindu religious practices and 2 of his mathas i.e. Badrinath and Puri form part of the holy 4 dharm yatras of Hindus.

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The Bhakti movement ~~is~~ was a religious reformist movement of Hinduism that was based on the ideas of love, devotion and complete surrender to the Almighty.

It had 2 strands



ORIGIN & EVOLUTION IN SOUTH INDIA

- The Bhakti movement in South India originated around 5th - 6th century AD
- The Alvars or worshippers of Vishnu in Tamil Nadu are credited with starting this movement in South India.
- The 63 Nayanars or worshippers of Shiva contributed to this movement.
- The 12 Alvars + 63 Nayanars are together called 75 apostles of Bhakti movement in South India.
- They produced Tamil religious texts:
Nalayira Divyaperabandham : Alvars and
Tevaram : Nayanars

- Received Royal patronage → Cholas: Nayanars and Pallavas: Alvars.
- was spearheaded by Brahmins and hence merged with Brahminical Hinduism by 10th C.A.D.
- In 13th C.A.D., inspired the Vishvaiva or Lingayat sect by Basavanna.

IMPACT ON REGIONAL LITERATURE

- The Nayanars and Alvars used Vernacular language to spread their message. This led to de-Sanskritization of religious texts
- Created masterpieces of their knowledge by compiling: Nalayira Divyaperabandham (Alvars) and Tevaram (Nayanars) often regarded at par with the Vedas.
- Inspired manathi vernacular in religious literature → Abhangs of Tukaram, Ramdas etc
- Shift from shlokas to religious hymns and Bhajans

Thus, the Bhakti movement was instrumental in bringing religion close to common man by using vernaculars. It made religious more substantive and less procedural and literature became reflective of the same.

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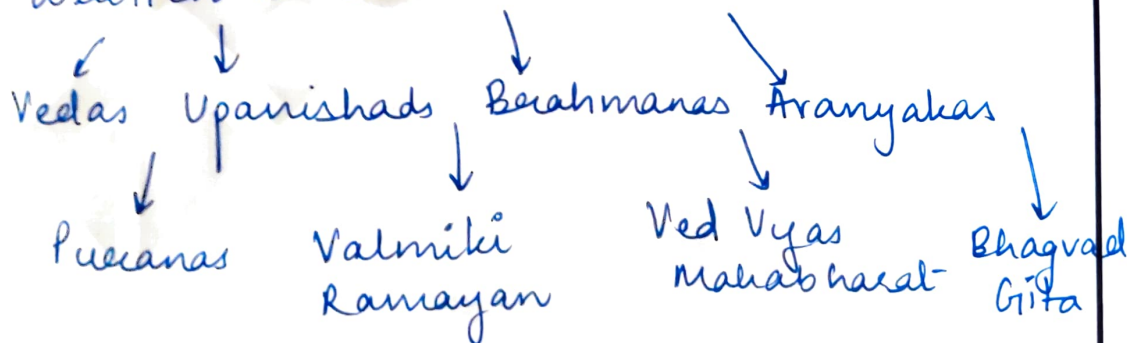
5) Sanskrit, one of the 8 classical languages of India has often been credited with being one of the most scientific and systematic language in the world.

It has also been the language of the Sanatan religion from the Vedic times and is considered the language of Gods

ROLE OF SANSKRIT IN ENRICHING ANCIENT INDIAN LITERATURE

Religious Literature

→ All major Hindu religious texts are written in Sanskrit. These include: -



→ Treatises and commentaries on these texts have also been written in Sanskrit.

- Voluminous manuscripts of Sanskrit have been found in Nepal and North Bihar.

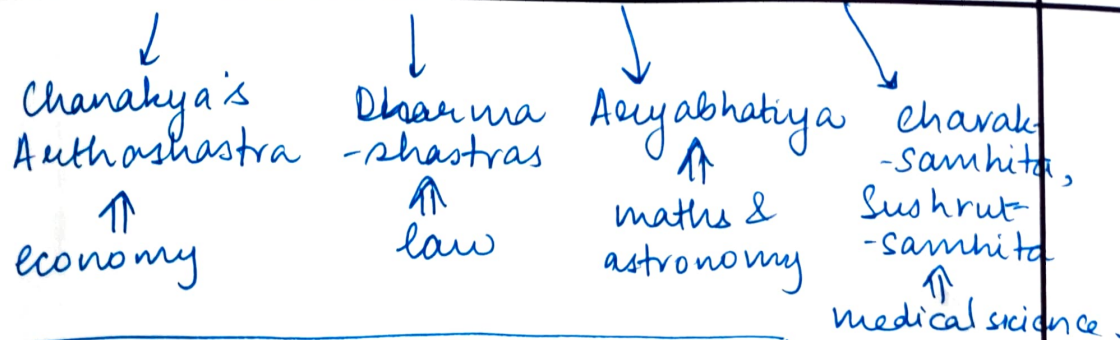
Secular literature

- Sanskrit replaced Brahmanic and became the court language of all major dynasties starting from the Guptas right upto Harsha.
- Drama prose and poetry → some of the greatest epics masterpieces of Indian literature.
- ```

graph TD
 A[the greatest epics masterpieces of Indian literature] --> B[Abhijnan Shaktuntalam]
 A --> C[Uttar Ramayan]
 A --> D[Meghdoot]
 A --> E[Ritusamhara]
 B --> F[Swagnavasava datta]
 C --> F
 D --> G[Nishchhkatika]

```
- Economy, law, architecture, geography → Sanskrit texts are the earliest pieces of material knowledge in diverse fields :-





## REASONS FOR DECLINE OF SANSKRIT

### Political

- cultural erosion due to foreign invasions
- Royal patronage to Bhakti/Sufi movement which used vernaculars.

### Social

- Brahminical monopolization of the language which prevented it from evolving ⇒ it remained archaic and the language of religion instead of society.
- Westernization → trend among youth.

### Economic

- English became the language of the world and gave jobs/employment.
- language of courts became English
- Academic knowledge not available in Sanskrit

Thus, there is a need to revive Sanskrit. The NEP envisages education in mother tongue, Sanskrit should be promoted and the youth should be encouraged to learn and promote this ancient language of our land.

Overall Grading (✓)

| Poor |   |   | Average |   |   | Good |   |   |
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| 1    | 2 | 3 | 4       | 5 | 6 | 7    | 8 | 9 |

Q.6)

India has rightly been termed as the Grandmother of philosophy by Albert Einstein. As the rich lands of the subcontinent allowed fulfillment of all basic necessities, there was a scope to ponder on philosophical questions and many strands of philosophy emerged in India.

### MUTUAL CONTRADICTIONS

#### ① Astika v/s Nastika schools.

Astika schools  
of philosophy believe  
in the authority of  
the Vedas.

→ Nyaya, Yoga, Vedanta,  
etc.

Nastika schools  
discard the  
authorities of the  
Vedas.

→ Buddhism,  
Jainism, Ajivika,  
Ajanas.

#### ② Saguna v/s Nirguna schools

Saguna schools  
are confirmist  
and believe that  
God has attributes

eg philosophies of  
Mirabai, Chaitanya  
mahaprabhu.

Nirguna schools  
are radical and  
believe that God does  
not have any  
attributes.

eg philosophies of Nanak,  
Kabir, Ravidas etc.

### ③ Monism v/s Dualism

Monism or  
Advaitavada believes  
that Atman and  
Brahma are one  
entity.

eg Advaita Vedanta  
of Shankaracharya.

Dualism or  
Dvaitavada believes  
that Atman and  
Brahma are different  
and separate entities

eg Dvaitavada of  
Madhavacharya.

### ④ Sufism v/s Orthodox Islam

Sufism espoused  
love and devotion  
to God i.e. relation  
of love b/w God and  
devotee.

Orthodox Islam  
espouses relation of  
master and slave b/w  
God and devotee.



### ⑤ Seeking knowledge v/s Passivity

Many philosophies regard seeking true knowledge as the way to salvation.

eg Nyaya school of philosophy.

Some philosophies believe in 'Niyativada' or 'fatalism' like Ajinikas while others consider all knowledge to be fallible eg Ajanas.

### ⑥ Asceticism v/s Materialism

Propounded by Jainism as path to Salvation

Propounded by Charvaka based on hedonic principles.

Hence, Indian philosophies have been contradicting to each other on many aspects.

However, the inherent tolerance and accommodative attitude has allowed such diverse viewpoints to exist and even thrive. There are followers of most of these divergent philosophies even today who contribute to the intellectual richness of this soil.

#### Overall Grading (✓)

| Poor |   |   | Average |   |   | Good |   |   |
|------|---|---|---------|---|---|------|---|---|
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Sufism, came to India from Persia around 11<sup>th</sup> century AD as a reform movement in orthodox Islam.

It was based on the broad principles of : Love and devotion to Almighty, service to humanity and following the guidance of a Guru or Pir for attaining Salvation.

### IMPACT OF SUFIS ON MEDIEVAL INDIAN SOCIETY

#### Social

- Brought Hindus and Muslims closer → created a composite culture.
- Promoted Egalitarian society and emancipation of women.
- Promoted selfless service and helped remove some social evils of orthodox muslim society like oppression of women and their seclusion.

Political

→ Made orthodox Muslim rulers more humane towards their Hindu subjects.

→ Influence of Sheikh Muinuddin Chisti on Akbar's secular policies.

→ Made Islam more acceptable in India.

Cultural

→ Promoted Hindustani Music.

→ Promoted Urdu Language.

→ Promoted Ghazal and Qawalli.

→ Gave tools and techniques to Bhakti Movement.

FAILURE TO MODIFY RELIGION & SOCIETYReligion

→ Sufi saints could not bring major changes in radical, orthodox Islamic society.

→ Radical elements who misinterpret Holy texts continue to exist in society.

→ Naqshbandi and Suhrawardi Silsilas were only manifestations of orthodox Islam.

→ Aurangzeb who was a follower of



Nasq/bandi Sitsilah was religiously intolerant.

→ Basic distance between followers of Hinduism and Islam remained.

Eg Some communities continue to live in Ghettos in India.

## Society

→ Couldn't complete the emancipation process of women.

Eg Women education still being denied in Kabul and practices like Talag-e-biddat

→ Egalitarianism remains a distant dream.

Eg Sunni v/s Shia conflict.

→ Composite culture couldn't mature → religious identities remain rigid.

Eg Partition on religious lines.

Thus, while the Sufis moderated and liberalized the society to some extent, their teachings could not permeate and develop a sound footing in the subcontinent. There is a need to revive these teachings of selfless service and egalitarianism and propagate them for the harmony of the nation.

## Overall Grading (✓)

| Poor |   |   | Average |   |   | Good |   |   |
|------|---|---|---------|---|---|------|---|---|
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