

**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
1	
2	
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6	
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Overall Grade/Score	

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Start Writing Here

Q.1) Classical Indian literature can be classified into Shruiti and Smriti literature based on the mode of information gained.

Shruiti literature is that literature which contains those information which are heard by the people and then written. ~~into~~ ~~on~~.

eg Vedas, Brahmanas, Aranyakas, Upanishads.

Shruiti literature contains actual words of God / Saints.

Difference between Shruiti and Smriti literature

Shruiti

→ It is invariable with time, space

Smriti

→ It is variable
eg Ramayana by Tulsidasa is not same as Ramayana

ii) No change from generation to generation.

by Valmiki as former equates Rama with God while later doesn't.

It changes as it is outcome of human intellect

iii) It is considered more authoritative as it is invariable

It is considered inferior to Shreiti literature.

Thus, the primacy of originality in literary works ~~shapes~~ helps in reconstructing the socio-economic environment and Shreiti literature has helped in same.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.2) Bhakti movement emerged in around 7CE in South India and 13CE in North India.

Reasons for emergence -

- i> Increasing ritualisation of the religion making it difficult for lay followers to follow the religion.
- ii> Use of Sanskrit which didn't appeal the masses
- iii> Overdependence of priests
- iv> Sufism also ~~helped~~ helped in shaping North Indian Bhakti movement
- v> The rise of heterodox sects was seen as a decline of orthodox sects. So to re attract people towards Hinduism, the Bhakti movement was started.

Impact on society during medieval

- i) Emancipation of women.
- ii) Renunciation of priest, varna system, rituals.
- iii) Masses were united due to vernacular ~~commune~~ preachings.
- iv) Oneness of God.
- v) Birth of composite culture
- vi) ~~New instruments~~ ~~led~~

Thus, ~~the~~

Impact of Bhakti movement is still prevalent today in form of jagnans, and recitation of name of God.

Overall Grading (✓)

Poor			Average			Good		
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Q.3)

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Shankaracharya was a Shaivite saint who propounded the philosophy of Advaita.

Around 8CE when the heterodox sects were on rise, he took certain steps to revive Hinduism.

i) Hinduism was declining due to increased sectarianism. So he propounded Smartian sect of 5 Gods to promote inter sect harmony.

ii) He established 4 Mathas in 4 corners of country i.e. Badrinath, Puri, Dwarka and Karnataka. This was done to spread Hinduism in all directions and every corner of country.

iii) He was also a critic of

Buddhist philosophy of Anātmavāda
(policy of no soul) thus promoting
Hinduism.

iv) He established Sanyasi cult on
lines of Buddhist Sanghas in
order to spread Hinduism.

v) He also revived the Vedic philosophy
by propounding Advaita.

Thus, he is credited with the title
of father of Hindu revivalism.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.4) Bhakti movement in South India started around 7CE.

Origin and evolution —

1) Alvar saints :

1.1) Around 7CE in Tamil Nadu, 12 saints called Alvar started Vaishno Bhakti movement.

1.2) Under their influence Pallava ruler adopted Vaishnavite religion.

2) Nyanar saints

2.1) 63 saints in Tamil Nadu started Shaivite Bhakti movement.

2.2) Under their influence Chola ruler adopted Shaivism.

Impact on regional literature

1) Before advent of Bhakti movement the literature was not in vernacular

languages and the ones who could read
it were considered elite.
eg Tolkapiyam

2> After advent of Bhakti vernacular
literature started circulating
eg compilation of Alvar and Nayanar
saints are called Divya Prabandam
and Tevaram respectively are in
Tamil which is a language of
masses.

Thus, Bhakti movement brought a
act as a harbinger of change
and brought a paradigm shift
in the regional literature.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.5)

Classical Indian literature is written in Sanskrit including Vedas, Puranas, Upanishad, Aranyakas.

Role played by Sanskrit in enriching ancient Indian literature —

- i> It was a common medium amongst multiple regions of literature, thus providing exchange of ideas.
- ii> It remained in its form i.e. free from external influence for a much longer time, providing continuity of ~~its~~ medium.
- iii> It ~~was~~ was also practiced for a longer stretch of time thus providing as apt medium of literature.

Reasons for its decline —

- i> It became difficult for masses to interpret it.
- ii> The patronage by rulers also

declined, especially the rulers in South India preferred Tamil over Sanskrit.

- iii) Foreign invasion led to influx of Arabian and Persian in medieval centuries.
- iv) Heterodox sects, Bhakti movement led to upheaval of Sanskrit language, as it was considered elitist thus hindering an egalitarian society.
- v) The spread of civilisation to different regions and their relative isolation led to birth of multiple regional languages. eg Bengali in East India and Tamil in South India.

Thus, despite playing an important role in Indian literature it couldn't keep pace with changing dynamics of society which led to its decline.

Overall Grading (✓)

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

Q.6) Schools of Indian philosophy can be broadly classified into Astik and Nastik i.e. one who considers Veda as supreme and one who doesn't respectively.

Elucidation -

- 1) Ajivakas who didn't believe in Karma doctrine co-existed with Orthodox schools like Vedanta who believed in Karma
- 2) ~~2~~ Samkhya which didn't accepted God co-existed with Ajivak which ~~co~~ accepted God.
- 3) Charvakas, ~~who~~ ^{like} Vedanta believed in transmigration of soul whereas Buddhism didn't, and they co-existed
- 4) Dvaita and Advaita by Madhavacharya and Shankaracharya respectively coexisted despite former believing

in Universe and God becomes one after salvation whereas latter doesn't

5> Within Advait philosophy also, Advait by Shankaracharya, Vishishtadvait by Ramanujacharya and Shuddhaadvait by ~~the~~ Vallabhacharya co-existed despite subtle differences in late — correct?
ancient India

6> Ajanas who believed that God didn't exist co-existed with Ajivaks who believed that God existed.

7> Buddhism and Jainism co-existed despite differences over question of soul, God, transmigration.

8> Heterodox and orthodox schools co-existed despite former not accepting authority of vedas while later accepts.

9) Ajivika ~~was~~ which was a major rival of Buddhism and Jainism coexisted in 5-6 CE.

Thus, various schools of Indian philosophy co-existed despite their mutual differences.

Overall Grading (✓)

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Q.7)

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Medieval mystic saints like Kabir, Tirth and Sufis like Shaikh Chisti were the popular saints of medieval times.

Their contribution -

- 1) Tried to bring egalitarianism in the society
- 2) Women emancipation was sought.
- 3) Masses were encouraged
- 4) Shun Varna system.
- 5) ~~Be~~ Shun Bhramanical rituals -

However they had limited impact because -

- 1) The Beshara sects like Suhraward and ~~es~~ Nasqbandi were orthodox in outlook.

Nasqbandi went to the extent on criticizing policies of Akbar of abolition of Jizyah and

tolerance towards other religion

- They were also sceptical of music and dance.

Thus, all Sufi saints were not liberal and hence failed to modify the status quo.

For medieval mystic saints -

- 1> Though they ~~show~~ longed for egalitarian society, they failed to criticize caste, varna and vedic scriptures which were the root cause of non egalitarianism
- 2> They also got dominated by Brahmins, thus ultimately sublimed to Brahmanism.
- 3> Didn't directly focus over caste.

4) Sectarianism was rising and decline in inter sectarian harmony led to the failure.

Thus, despite their efforts any appreciable changes were not visible which can also be attributed to the patronage of conservative rulers like Sher Shah Suri, Aurangzeb.

Overall Grading (✓)

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