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Unit 3 One Shot + PYOs

Topics :-

- * → Indian Religion (2 marks)
- * → pre-vedic Religion (2 marks).
- * → Vedic Religion.

- * → Buddhism
- * → Jainism — 2022-23

- Six System of Ancient Indian philosophy.
- Adi Shankaracharya.

- * → Bhakti Movement — 2021-22, 22-23

- * → Sufi movement

- famous personalities.

- * → Modern Religious practices. — 2022-23

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AKTU-2021-22

Q. Discuss a short note on Indian Religion.

- Religion is the Science of soul. Morality and ethics have their foundation on religion.
- Religion has been central to Indian life since ancient time.
- It takes on various forms to suit different groups & their needs.
- Indian spirituality is rooted in ancient philosophical & religious traditions.
- Philosophy explained reality; while religion guided how to live.
- philosophy was the theoretical aspect; religion was practical.
- philosophy → Vision, Religion → fulfillment.
- Philosophy and religion together offered a holistic approach to life, blending \$ action.

AKTU-2022-23 (5th sem) - 2 marks.

Q. Define Pre-Vedic Religion.

→ [Harappan Civilization & Religion]

* Origin - The Harappan civilization traces its roots to preceding several cultures from Neolithic times, such as the Nal, Kulli, Zhab & Ore Ha cultures.

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- This civilization dates back to around 3000 B.C., matured around 2600 B.C., and declined around 1700 B.C.
- Archaeological evidence suggests that the most important aspect of pre-Vedic (Harappan) religion was the worship of the Mother Goddess or Nature Goddesses.
- Seals depict a female figure upside down with a plant emerging from her womb.
- Male Deities - Shiva as a principal deity.
- Harappan people possibly worshipped animals, as various animals are depicted on seals.
- They also likely worshipped natural elements like water, fire, and trees depicted on seals and artifacts.

* Vedic Religion

- The early Vedic tradition was primarily maintained by priests, featuring a pantheon of nature deities.
- The chief religious practice was sacrifice, involving specialized priests and the slaughter of animals.
- purpose of sacrifices were duties of hospitality for the gods, performed to obtain material rewards on earth and in heaven.
- Two Approaches.
 - ① Pravritti Lakshana - characterized by action
 - ② Nivritti Lakshana - characterized by renunciation

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Aims of Religion:

- Abhyudaya : prosperity in this life and enjoyment in heaven in the afterlife.
- Nibbaya : permanent freedom from all bondage and sufferings.

Vedic Texts:

- Mantra : Serve the purpose of Abhyudaya.
- Upanishads : Teach the ways and means for Nibbaya.

* **Buddhism**

- Religion Buddhism was founded by Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha) more than 2500 years ago in India.

Life of Gautama Buddha:

- He was born at Lumbini in present-day Nepal.
- He was the son of Shuddodana, the king of the Shakya clan of Kapilavastu.
- Siddhartha was deeply affected by seeing an old man, a sick man, a dead body and a meditative sage, which made him question the nature of suffering and the true meaning of life.
- At the age of 29, he left his royal life and went to the forests in search of the truth and the cause of suffering.
- He achieved enlightenment at Gaya, on the banks of the Uravula river, under a pipal tree.

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- After enlightenment, he became known as Buddha. He decided to share his insights with others, teaching a simple code of conduct in the local language, pali.
- He organized his followers into a monastic community called the Sangha, which followed specific rules and codes of conduct.
- At the age of 80, Buddha passed away peacefully at Kusinagar (present day - Uttar Pradesh).

* Types of Buddhism (Basis on geographical area)

- ① Theravada - Thailand, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Laos & Buddhism Burma
- ② Mahayana - China, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore & Buddhism Vietnam
- ③ Tibetan - Tibet, Nepal, Mongolia, Bhutan & parts of Buddhism Russia & northern India.

Main Characteristics of Buddha Philosophy

- Followers of Buddhism don't acknowledge a supreme god or deity. They instead focus on achieving enlightenment.
- Buddha presented simple principles of life and practical ethics that people could follow easily.
- Buddha considered the world as full of misery. Man's duty is to seek liberation from this painful world.

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- Buddha's teachings are very practical and suggest how to attain inner peace from the material world.

JAINISM

- Jainism is a very ancient religion. As per some traditions, it is as old as the Vedic religion.
- The Jain tradition has a succession of great teachers or Tirthankaras.
- All the Tirthankaras were Kshatriyas by birth.
- The first Tirthankara is believed to be Rishabhdev or Rishabhanath (Sign → Bull).
- The 23rd Tirthankara was Parshvanatha who was born in Varanasi (Sign → Snake).
- Founder of Jainism - Vardhaman Mahavira (540 - 468 BC)
- Vardhaman Mahavira, the 24th Tirthankara, was born in 540 B.C. in a village called Kundagrama.
- His father Siddhartha was the head of the Jainik Kshatriya clan.
- He contributed a new principle of non-violence to the four principles, told by Parshvanatha.
- Due to his simple codes of conduct and use of people language, Mahavira could successfully propagated Jainism.
- (Ardha - magadhi)

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AKTU - 2022 - 23 [5th sem] [10 marks]

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Basic principles of Jainism

- ① Rejection of vedas and vedic Practices.
- ② Self Control for Moksha
- ③ Immortality of the soul
- ④ Freedom from Actions for Moksha.
- ⑤ Belief in Equality.

The Vratas in Jainism

- ① **Maha-Vrata.**
 - Ahimsa - Avoid harming any living being.
 - Satya - Speak and promote truth
 - Asteya - Do not steal
 - Aparigraha - own only essential items.
 - Brahmacharya.
- ② **Anu-Vrata** - Soft version of the Maha-vrata.
- ③ **Guna-Vrata** →
 - ① **Dig-Vrata** - limit the divine in which you travel
 - ② **Kal-Vrata** - a duration in travel
 - ③ **Anarth-dandavat** - follow the ethical limits.
- ④ **Shiksha-Vrata** →
 - ① **Samayika** - meditating regularly
 - ② **prashadhopavasa** - fast on specific days and stay in Jain temples.
 - ③ **Bhoga-pabhoga Pari-nama** - set daily limits on food & other pleasures.
 - ④ **Atithi Samvibhag** - share a portion of your cooked food with worthy guests.

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* Six System of Ancient Indian philosophy

- The rational investigation of questions about existence, knowledge and ethics is called philosophy.
- following are the summary on the six philosophical system of Indian philosophy:

① SAMKHYA PHILOSOPHY -

- One of the oldest Indian philosophies, propounded by Sage Kapila.
- The 'term' 'Samkhya' relates to enumeration and rational analysis.
- Dualistic dualism, two eternal realities: purusha (spirit) & prakriti (Nature).
- Lost significance during the Gupta period.

② Yoga -

- Attributed to Sage Patanjali.
- yoga is a self-disciplining process of concentration & meditation such as yogic practice leads states of consciousness.
- eight limbs of Yoga Sutras
 - ① Yama (moral conduct)
 - ② Niyama (discipline)
 - ③ Asana (posture)
 - ④ Pranayama (breathing)
 - ⑤ Pratyaya (sensory withdrawal)
 - ⑥ Dharana (concentration)
 - ⑦ Dhyan (meditation)
 - ⑧ Samadhi (bliss)

Steps

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(C)

Vaisheshika Philosophy

- It was expounded by Sage Kanada.
- Everything is a combination of atoms, which remain after reducing material objects to their smallest parts.
- Vaisheshika thinkers believe that all objects of the universe are composed of five elements - earth, water, air, fire and sky.
- Living beings were rewarded or punished acc. to the law of Karma.

(D)

NYAYA philosophy

- propounded by Gautama Rishi.
- focuses on logical reasoning and epistemology. Believes that ideas, beliefs, emotions, and visions depend on the mind.
- Eliminate ignorance and spread of knowledge to everyone.

(E)

Purva Mimamsa philosophy

- Attributed by Jaimini
- means critical examination or solving a problem by reflection.
- Considers the Vedas as eternal and unchanging. Believes the world is without big. an end & explains Dharma as duty.

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(F) Vedanta

- Expanded by Badarayana
- Based on Vedanta Sutra & Brahma Sutra. (Text)
- dealing with the nature of reality and the self.

* Jagadguru Adi Shankaracharya

- Adi Shankaracharya consolidated the doctrine of Advaita Vedanta.
- wrote commentaries on the Upanishads, Brahma Sutras and Bhagavad Gita.
- His philosophy Advaita Vedanta emphasizes on ultimate reality.
- Brahman is true, the world is an illusion.
- Brahman is unchanging & the highest truth.
- Shankara traveled across the Indian subcontinent, propagating his philosophy through debates.
- He established the importance of monastic life as in the Upanishads and Brahma Sutra.

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Bhakti Movement

- The Bhakti movement was a nationwide mass movement.
- contributed to reduce the conflicts of Hindu-Muslim religion.
- It gave a right direction to Indian culture and society.
- Establishment of classless egalitarian society.

Reason for the Bhakti movement

- Bhakti movement was the predominance of bigotry, polytheism and rituals in Hinduism.
- Coming of sufi saints & other Hindu saints into contact for avoiding the defects of bigotry.
- Show the right path of elevation.
- Create a sense of social, religious and equality in the mind of the people.

Objectives of Bhakti movement

- for removing the many flaws prevalent in Hinduism.
- because in Hinduism, there were many law of worship, fasting, rituals which were difficult.
- main objective is to remove the discrimination in Hinduism.

Head of Devotional movement

- Swami Ramanujacharya, Swami Ramanand, Kabir, Guru Nanak Ji, Namdev, Tulsidas etc.

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Impact of Bhakti movement

- emphasized the equality of human beings while removing caste discrimination.
- formulated Hindu-Muslim unity.
- Increased respect for lower class.
- Karma Kand spread by Brahmins
- Hindus & Muslims both started being namastak in each other's worship & religious ceremonies.

* Sufi movement

- Just as the Bhakti-movement started among the Hindus, in the same way Sufism emerged on the basis of love-devotion among muslims.
- different opinions of different scholars on where the word sufi originated.
 - ① Sufi → Sata → life of purity & sacrifice.
 - ② Sufi → Su fa → wool
 - ③ Sufi → Sophia → Knowledge.
- Sufis are those who are concerned with the simplicity, purity, equality & generosity of Islam.
- Sufis two main streams
 - ① Vajudia → kept distance from radical Islam, they did not promote Islam.
 - ② Saudia → much closer to orthodox Islam, promoted Islam.
- Started in 12th century & popular in 13th century.

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- main theme was " wahadut - ul - wajood " means Unity of God.
- The first Sufi Saint was Begum Rabia of Basheer in Iraq.

Features

- Sufis derived its inspiration from Islam.
- Emphasized upon leading a simple life.
- Sufi saints seeks inner purity.
- Devotion is more important than Raza (fast) or Namaz (prayer).
- salvation through love for God.
- The sufis were divided into 12 orders.
- did not believe in caste system.

* Some famous personalities

- ① Raja Ram Mohan Roy - spread the modern education, science & technology.
- ② R.G. Bhandarkar & M.G. Ranade - promote inter-caste marriages & freedom for women.
- ③ Swami Dayananda Saraswati - founded the Arya Samaj, fought against untouchability and caste rigidity.
- ④ Sayyid Ahmad Khan - encouraged Muslims to adopt modern education, also speak about purdah system.

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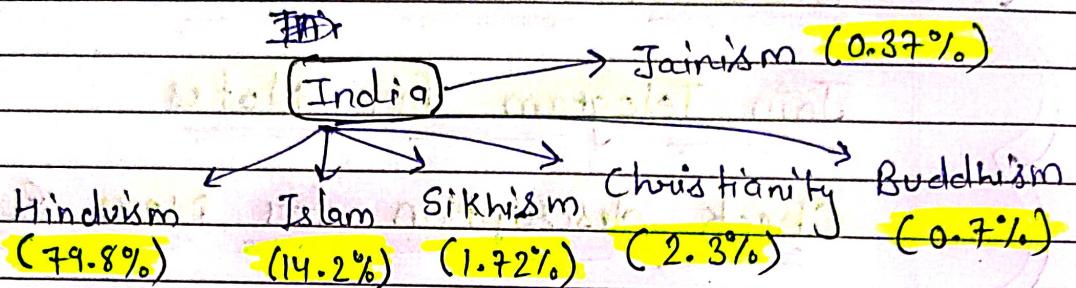
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Q Define Modern religious practices

→ Religion has been a significant part of India's culture throughout its history. Acc. to 2011 census.



1. Hinduism → most widely practiced religion in India, is diverse and often seen as an umbrella term for various religions and traditions.
2. Islam → It is the second most followed religion in India.
3. Sikhism → Originated in India, promotes devotion to a formless God and emphasizes service, humility & equality.
4. Buddhism → focusing on a universal ethic rather than caste-based ethic.
→ follow the Buddha teacher.
5. Jainism → Strongly upholds the principles of 'ahimsa' (non-violence)
→ promotes vegetarianism & animal welfare.
6. Christianity → Third most followed religion in India, mostly concentrated in the far South and Mumbai.

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