

Ramanujacharya was a great social reformer and worked for the upliftment of the society. Substantiate.

Ans: Ramanujacharya was a great poet, saint and an eminent teacher. Born in 1017 as 'ilayya Perumal', he had influential thinking towards Hinduism.

He was the founder of 'vishishtadvaita school of vedanta', a non-dualist school of vedanta philosophy.

He became disciple of 'Jedara Prakasa' but had conflict of his teachings. Hence he fled the place before Jedara eliminated him.

He wrote '9 scriptures' called Narayana and Composed Commentaries on vedic scriptures.

Religious Reform:

1) He derived 'Bakthi movement'. His teachings were inspiration for many poets like Annamacharya, Kabir, Meero Bai etc.

2) He was a great devotee of 'vishtnu' and his consort 'shree', hence he used to daily worship murtis for them.

3) He was a 'vaishnavite' and led a community called Vedanta

Social reforms:

- 1) He stressed the need of being in tune with nature and not to exploit
- 2) He propagated 'Temple to everyon' ^{ga} 'respective of gender, class, caste, cultural, social etc.
- 3) He gave education who was deprived of it.
- 4) Travelled across India propagating social equality and universal brotherhood in temple podiums.
- 5) Embraced socially marginalised people and asked the royal courts to treat them well.
- 6) He propagated 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' which means "universal is one family."

'Statue of equality':

To commemorate 11th century of vaishnavite Sri Ramanujacharya Government of India has constructed 'Statue of equality', which is of 216 feet tall at '40 acre' land in outskirts of Hyderabad. It consist of digital library, Research centre, ancient Indian texts, art gallery etc.

It is 'Tallest Metallic statue in sitting position in the world'.

'Statue of equality' reminds us the social reforms done by Ramanujacharya for the upliftment of all people with spirit of every human being equal regardless of nationality, gender, sex, caste, role etc. Hence the statue was named as 'Statue of equality'