



Government of Karnataka

SOCIAL SCIENCE

PART - I

ENGLISH MEDIUM

(Revised)

7

SEVENTH STANDARD

KARNATAKA TEXTBOOK SOCIETY (R.)

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Akkamahadevi:

Akkamahadevi was an enterprising woman in the Vachana movement of twelfth century. She has made immense contributions to Vachana literature. She was born in Uduthadi of Shivamoga District. Her father was Nirmalashetty and mother Sumathi. Akka immersed in Shivabhakthi since her childhood. She claimed



Akkamahadevi

Channamallikarjuna himself to be her husband. Her parents forcibly got her married to king Koushika. She found it a hindrance to her service to Guru, Linga, Jangama, so she left the palace. Later, she stayed at Anubhava Mantapa in Kalyana for sometime. There she wrote many Vachanas under the pen name Channamallikarjuna. She was respected by all Shivasharanas. She left Kalyana and went to Srishaila towards the end of her life. She left her mortal body in the Kadali forest of Srishaila.

Purandara Dasa (1480-1564 CE)

He is one of the important persons in Kannada Dasa literature. Purandaradasa was born in Purandaragada. His original name was Srinivasa Nayaka. His father was Varadappa Nayaka and mother Leelavathi. Wife Lakshmibai was a religious woman. Srinivasa Nayaka was a miser and an atheist. Later he distributed all his wealth to the needy people and spent rest of his life in the thought of God. He travelled to many places, singing Keerthanas and at last, he reached Krishnadevaraya's court. Vyasaraya gave him deeksha and



Purandaradasaru

called him as Purandara. Later he became Purandaradasa. We can see humaneness in all his songs. He condemned caste system. We also see the combination of philosophy, moral and musical qualities in his songs. He is known as Karnataka Sangeetha Pithamaha (Father of Carnatic music). He wrote Keerthanas with the pen name of Purandara Vittala. He was praised by his own Guru (teacher) Vysaraya as "Purandara Dasa is Ultimate as a Dasa".

Kanakadasa (1508-1606 CE)

Kanakadasa is one of the famous Keerthanakaras of Daasa Literature. He was born about 1508 CE at Bada village of Bankapura Taluk in Haveri District. Thimmappa was his original name. Beerappa and Bachamma were his parents. He was a warrior and also a poet. He headed a group of over 78 villages. It is said that he found a potful of Gold and he came to be known as Kanakanayaka.



He renounced worldly things and became a disciple of Vyasaraya. Later, he came to be known as Kanakadasa. He has composed many Kirthanas with a pen name Adhikeshava. Adikeshava was his personal God. He has criticized the superstitious of the society in his songs and has preached the simple path of attaining Moksha in them. He has also criticized caste system in his songs.

Kanakana Kindi: The priests of Udupi temple stops Kanaka from entering the temple. It is said that, Lord Krishna pleased by his devotion turned his face towards west for Kanaka. This was named as Kanakana Kindi. Kanakadasa wrote Haribhakthisara, Nalacharithre, Ramadhyana Charithe (Shatpadi epics), Mohana Tharangini (The Sangeetha Kavya)

Shishunala Sharifa:

Shishunala Sharifa is the first Kannada Muslim mystic poet. He is known as Kabeera of Karnataka. He was born in 1819 CE at Shishunaala. His parents were Imam Saheb, mother Hajjamma. He studied both Hindu and Islamic religion in his childhood. Later he passed his Mulki exams and served as teacher for sometime. He took Deeksha from Govindabhatta and wrote many Thathvapadas. In his poems one can find Rewayath (Moharam words). Among those songs Kalagapada, Dharmika Neethipada, Alaavipada, Savaal Jawab Pada are famous. We can see his grave in Shishunala. He tried to spread humanity beyond the barriers of caste and religion.

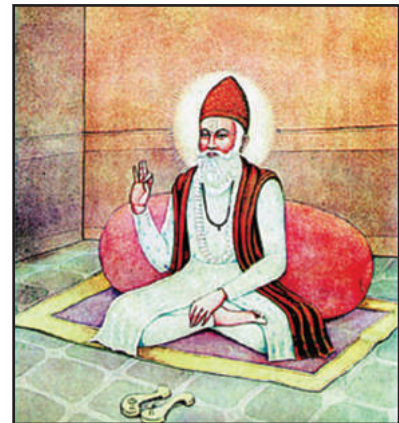


**Shishunala
Sharifa**

3.2 Bhakthi Heritage of North India:

Kabirdas (1398-1518 CE)

Kabirdas is a famous saint of Bhakthi cult and was a disciple of Ramananda. He tried to bring harmony between Hindu and Muslim religions. He was an adopted son of weaving Muslim couple Neeru and Neema of Varanasi. He condemned caste system, luxurious life, and discrimination based on religion. Allah and Rama are the two names of one God, he said. He described Hindu Muslims as pots of same clay.



Kabirdas

Kabir told that he is the son of Rama and Allah. According to him, it is not possible to see God by fasting, torturing

the body, sacred pilgrimages. It is only possible by sacred devotion. He taught his philosophy through Doha (Two lines poems) which is simple and easy to understand by common man. His followers are called Kabir Panthis.

Gurunanak (1469-1539 CE):



Gurunank

Gurunank is the founder of Sikh religion. He was born in 1469 CE at Thalavandi in Punjab, now it is in Pakistan. Mehtakalu (Kaaluchanda) and Thruptha were his parents. He stressed on good views of Hindu and Muslim religions. His songs called as Japaji are in Grantha Sahib, sacred book of Sikhs. Sikh cult has given importance for Japa and good deeds.

He stressed on gender equality. Nanak had great belief in the existence of the God. God is one and eternal, he proclaimed. He said, one can gain Guru through Bhakthi and with Bhakthi one can attain Mukthi. He opposed social evils like Idol worshiping, casteism, Sathi System etc., During one of his travels he visited Karnataka. He stayed in Bidar, the place called Naanak Jaara (Sweet water spring).

Tulasidas (1532-1623 CE)

Tulasidas was the first to support bhakthi Maarga in North India. He was born in a Brahmin family. He has contributed to the Hindi literature. He wrote Ramacharithamanasa. This is a great book in Hindi in the North, it is famous as Tulasiramayana. Ramabhaktha Tulasidasa. He sowed devotion, pure life, love, affection, patience, generosity among the people.



Tulasidas

Meerabai (1498-1569 CE)



Meerabai

Meerabai is a renowned saint of India and is called as Radha of Kaliyuga. She was born in a Rajput family in Rajasthan. She was Raja Rathansingh's daughter. She married prince of Mewar. She loved philosophy from her childhood, so she spent her time in offering Puja, meditation and singing. Her mother-in-law opposed her worshipping lord Krishna. Meerabai could not tolerate this and she left to Brindavan, the pilgrimage place of Srikrishna. Her songs are full of devotion and love. Giridhara Gopala is her favourite God. She has remained eternal due to her thousands of Bhajans.

Chaithanya (1485-1533 CE)

Chaithanya was born in **Nabadwip Dham** (Nadia) in Bengal in 1485 CE. Jagannatha Mishra and Sridevi were his parents. Vishwambara was his original name. Eshvarpuri was his Guru. Chaithanya left his family life and took Sanyasa at the age of 25. He rejected casteism. Bhakthi is the only way to attain Mukthi. Universal love is the first step towards the God, he said. He travelled to pilgrimage places of India and spread the message of love.



Chaithanya

Love, brotherhood and generosity are the essences of his teachings. Today's Hare Krishna cult has been influenced by him. The Bengalis call him Chaithanya Mahaprabhu and also treat him as the incarnation of lord Krishna

Influences of Bhakthi cult:

Result:

- Bhakthi saints created harmony between Hindu and Muslims.
- Bhakthi saints wrote in simple common man's language. This enriched the languages of the common man.

3.3 Heritage of Sufi:

Like Kabir, Kanakadas, Chaitanya and others brought in new awareness among the Hindus, Sufi saints brought awareness among the Muslims. They worked for the harmony among Hindu and Muslim. The Sufi cult originated in Arabia and entered India later.

The word Sufi comes from the word 'Saaf' which means clean and clear. The Sufi saints were Mystics and used to wear woollen dress.

Essence of Sufi cult:

1. God is one. He is powerful. We are all his children.
2. Encouraged good deeds
3. All are equal
4. Opposed caste system.

Later on, Sufis were influenced by Yoga, Vedantha, and Buddhist thoughts. Dharma means love, service to mankind is important are some of the philosophical thoughts of Sufis.