

Name: _____ Date: _____

Devotional Paths to the Divine

Q1. Who was Ramanuja?

Ans. _____

Q2. To whom did Baba Guru Nanak appoint as his successor?

Ans. _____

Q3. Why do you think many teachers rejected prevalent religious beliefs and practices?

Ans. _____

Q4. What do you know about Shankaradeva?

Ans. _____

Q5. How did Khalsa Panth emerge?

Ans. _____

Devotional Paths to the Divine

Q1. Who was Ramanuja?

Ans. Ramanuja, born in Tamil Nadu in the eleventh century, was deeply influenced by the Alvars. According to him the best means of attaining salvation was through intense devotion to Vishnu.

Q2. To whom did Baba Guru Nanak appoint as his successor?

Ans. Before his death in 1539, Guru Nanak appointed one of his followers as his successor. His name was Lehna but he came to be known as Guru Angad, signifying that he was a part of Guru Nanak himself.

Q3. Why do you think many teachers rejected prevalent religious beliefs and practices?

Ans. Many teachers rejected prevalent religious beliefs and practices because such beliefs advocated ritualism, outward display of piety and social differences based on birth.

Q4. What do you know about Shankaradeva?

Ans. Shankaradeva of Assam (late fifteenth century) emphasised devotion to Vishnu, and composed poems and plays in Assamese. He began the practice of setting up namghars or houses of recitation and prayer, a practice that continues to date.

Q5. How did Khalsa Panth emerge?

Ans. The Sikh movement began to get politicized in the seventeenth century, a development which culminated in the institution of the Khalsa by Guru Gobind Singh in 1699. The community of the Sikhs, called the Khalsa Panth, became a political entity.