

Name: _____ Date: _____

Devotional Paths to the Divine

Q1. What did Ramanuja propound?

Ans. _____

Q2. Who was Kabir? How do we know about him?

Ans. _____

Q3. What purpose did khanqahs serve?

Ans. _____

Devotional Paths to the Divine

Q1. What did Ramanuja propound?

Ans. According to him the best means of attaining salvation was through intense devotion to Vishnu. Vishnu in His grace helps the devotee to attain the bliss of union with Him. He propounded the doctrine of Vishishtadvaita or qualified oneness in that the soul even when united with the Supreme God remained distinct.

Q2. Who was Kabir? How do we know about him?

Ans. He was one of the most influential saints. He was brought up in a family of Muslim julahas or weavers settled in or near the city of Benares (Varanasi). We have little reliable information about his life. We get to know of his ideas from a vast collection of verses called sakhis and pads said to have been composed by him and sung by wandering bhajan singers.

Q3. What purpose did khanqahs serve?

Ans. The Sufi masters held their assemblies in their khanqahs or hospices. Devotees of all descriptions including members of the royalty and nobility, and ordinary people flocked to these khanqahs. They discussed spiritual matters, sought the blessings of the saints in solving their worldly problems, or simply attended the music and dance sessions.