

## **Short Answer Questions**

**Q.1. How did Mirabai express her devotion for Lord Krishna?**

**Ans. (i)** Mirabai was a devotee of Lord Krishna.

**(ii)** For expressing her intense devotion, she composed many bhajans.

**(iii)** Mirabai's bhajans openly challenged the norms of upper castes and also became popular with masses.

**Q.2. How did the idea of one supreme God evolve?**

**Ans. (i)** One attractive idea was the idea of a supreme God who could relieve humans from such bondage of birth and rebirth, if approached with devotion or Bhakti.

**(ii)** This idea of Bhagvadgita grew popular in this era.

**Q.3. Who were Nayanars and Alvars?**

**Ans.** Between the 7th and 9th century, a new religious movement led by Nayanars (devotees of Shiva) and Alvars (devotees of Vishnu) who came from all castes including untouchables like the Pulaiyars and the Panars gained momentum.

**Q.4. How did dargah become a place of pilgrimage?**

**Ans.** Often people attributed Sufi masters with miraculous powers that could relieve others of their illness and troubles. The tomb or dargah of a Sufi saint became a place of pilgrimage to which thousands of people of all faiths thronged.

**Q.5. What did Tulsidas conceive?**

**Ans. (i)** Tulsidas conceived God in the form of Rama.

**(ii)** Tulsidas's composition, the Ramcharitmanas written in Awadhi (a language of Eastern UP) is important both as an expression of his devotion and as a literary work.

**Q.6. What were the evils prevalent in the Hindu religion?**

**Ans. (i)** The idea that all human beings are not equal at birth.

**(ii)** Likewise, the belief that social privileges came from birth in a noble family or a higher caste.

**Q.7. How did Shiva, Vishnu and Durga emerge as supreme deities?**

**Ans. (i)** Shiva, Vishnu and Durga came to be worshipped as supreme deities through elaborate rituals.

**(ii)** At the same time, Gods and Goddesses worshipped in different areas came to be identified with Shiva, Vishnu or Durga.

**Q.8. What did the Marathi saint poets believe in?**

**Ans. (i)** The Marathi, saint poets rejected all forms of rituals, outward display of piety and social differences based on birth.

**(ii)** They even rejected ideas of renunciation and preferred to live with their families. Earning their livelihood like any other person while humbly serving fellow human beings in need. The Bhakti movement now focused on humanism.

**Q.9. What did Sufis believe in? What were their methods?**

**Ans. (i)** The Sufis believed that the heart can be trained to look at the world in a different way.

**(ii)** They developed the methods of training using zikr (chanting of a name or sacred formula), contemplation, sama (singing), raqs (dancing), discussion of parables, breathe control, etc. under the guidance of a pir or master.

**Q.10. How did Sufis preach?**

**Ans. (i)** The Sufi masters held their assemblies in their Khanqahs or hospices.

**(ii)** Devotees of all descriptions including members of the royalty and nobility, and ordinary people flocked to these khanqahs.

**(iii)** They discussed spiritual matters, sought the blessings of the saints in solving worldly problems, or simply attended the music and dance sessions.

**Q.11. How did Sufism emerge strong in India?**

**Ans. (i)** A large number of Sufis from Central Asia settled in Hindustan from the 11th century onwards.

**(ii)** This process was strengthened with the establishment of the Delhi Sultanate, when several major Sufi centres developed all over the subcontinent.(

**Q.12. Who was Guru Nanak? What did he start?**

**Ans. (i)** Baba Guru Nanak (1469–1539) was born at Talwandi.

**(ii)** He started a regular worship that consisted of the singing of his own hymns which was followed by his followers.

**(iii)** Irrespective of caste, creed or gender, his followers ate together in the common kitchen called langar.