

Course Title: Sikhism and other religious movements

Course Code

Course Description

The course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Sikhism as a distinct religious tradition and explore its relationship with other religious movements. The course examines the historical development, key beliefs, practices, and teachings of Sikhism, and its interactions with other religious traditions. It aims to foster critical thinking, interfaith dialogue, and appreciation for religious diversity.

Course Objectives

1. To exploring the context and environment from which the Sikh tradition emerged.
2. To know the contribution of Sikh Guru's and the notion of asceticism, martiality and social engagement of Sikh Tradition
3. To explore the pluralistic nature of Sikhism and effect of colonialism on Sikh Thought
4. To provide an introduction to spiritual tradition of Bhakti and Sufi movement
5. To provide Philosophical- Historical framework to study bhakti movement
6. To provide detailed account of major thinkers of Bhakti movement

Learning Outcomes:

LO1: Understand the historical development, key beliefs, practices, and teachings of Sikhism as a distinct religious tradition, recognizing its significance and contributions to world religions.

LO2: Analyze and compare the theological and philosophical aspects of Sikhism with other religious movements, identifying similarities, differences, and points of intersection.

LO3: Examine the social, cultural, and historical context in which Sikhism emerged, understanding its evolution as a response to prevailing religious and social conditions.

LO4: Explore the interfaith dynamics between Sikhism and other religious traditions, fostering an understanding of the shared values, dialogue, and cooperation among diverse religious communities.

LO5: Evaluate the ethical principles and moral teachings of Sikhism and their relevance to contemporary societal issues, fostering an appreciation for the ethical dimensions of Sikh thought and practice.

The image shows five handwritten signatures in blue ink. From left to right, they are: a stylized signature, a signature with a large flourish, a signature that appears to be 'Amrit Singh', a signature that appears to be 'Harj Kumar Singh', and a signature that appears to be 'S. Singh'.

LO6: Engage in critical reflection and analysis of the challenges and opportunities presented by religious pluralism and interfaith dialogue, developing a nuanced understanding of the complexities of religious movements in a diverse global context.

1. History of Bhakti Movement

- 1.1 Origin and causes
- 1.2 Nature and characteristic
- 1.3 Factors

2. Ethical Implications and Philosophical Basis of Bhakti Movement

- 2.1 Literature and Philosophical foundation
- 2.2 Introduction to Sufism
- 2.3 The Sufi and Bhakti Movements and Cultural Synthesis

3. Torch Bearers of Bhakti Movement in medieval India

- 3.1 Torch bearers of South India
- 3.2 Torch Bearers of North India
- 3.3 Women Torch bearers

4. Introduction to Sikhism

- 4.1 Socio-religious milieu ,life and mission of Guru Nanak and Development of the Sikh Panth
- 4.2 The Sikh Scripture (Sri Guru Granth Sahib) and the Sikh Literature
- 4.3 The Sikh beliefs and the code of conduct

5. Socio Cultural Aspects of Sikhism

- 5.1 The Sikh institutions, ceremonies and festivals
- 5.2 The Sikh sects and Modern socio-religious movements
- 5.3 The Sikh diaspora and Modern Issues

The image shows five distinct handwritten signatures in blue ink, arranged horizontally. From left to right: the first is a stylized signature that appears to be 'J. Singh'; the second is a signature with a prominent vertical stroke and a loop; the third is a signature that looks like 'Anand Singh' with a circular flourish; the fourth is a signature that reads 'Ajay Kumar Singh'; and the fifth is a signature that reads 'S. Singh'.

Suggested Readings:

1. Chand, Tara (2006) (Reprint), Influence of Islam on Indian Culture (Nabu Book).
2. Iraqi, Shihabuddin, (2009) Bhakti Movement in Medieval India (New Delhi: Manohar).
3. Lorenzon, David N., (1995) Bhakti Religion in India: Community Identity and Political Action (New York: State University of New York Press).
4. Schomer, Karine, and W.H. McLeod, (1987) The Sants: Studies in a Devotional Tradition of India (Delhi: Motilal Banarasidas).
5. Shima, Iwao, (2011) The Historical Development of Bhakti Movement in India (New Delhi: Manohar).
6. Zelliott, Eleanov, (1976) 'The Medieval Bhakti Movement in History – An Essay on the Literature in English', in Bardwell L. Smith, ed., Hinduism – New Essays in the History of Religions (Leiden: E.J. Brill) (Numen Series), pp 143-168.

 Ashwini Kumar Singh. Anand Gupta. Hay Kumar Singh. S Singh.