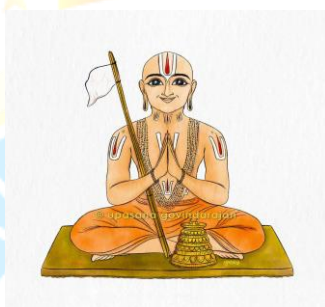# RAMANUJA : HISTORY (PERSONALITY IN NEWS)

NEWS : Ramanuja's seven guidelines

WHAT'S IN THE NEWS ?

Saint Ramanuja was a prominent philosopher and theologian in the 11th and 12th centuries, known for his contributions to the Vishishtadvaita (qualified non-dualism) school of Vedanta.His teachings emphasised devotion to Lord Narayana, the importance of grace, and the accessibility of divine connection for all devotees.

Saint Ramanuja:

1. **Supreme Being**: Lord Narayana, along with Goddess Mahalakshmi, is the Supreme Being beyond human understanding.
2. **Worship**: God can be worshipped both in temples and at home; His divine presence remains unchanged.
3. **Unity**: All beings, both sentient and insentient, are part of Narayana's divine body, promoting love and eliminating hatred.
4. **Devotion and Surrender**: Devotees should act to please God, recognizing they are instruments of His divine will.
5. **Paths to God**: Two main paths to God – **bhakti (devotion)** and **prapatti (surrender)** through an acharya (teacher).
6. **Sri Vaikunta**: In the afterlife, all devotees experience divine bliss equally without discrimination.
7. **Moksha (Liberation)**: Liberation is achieved after death, leading to eternal union with God.

More About Saint Ramanuja:

- Lived from 1017-1137 CE.
- Born in Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.
- Major proponent of Vishishtadvaita (qualified non-dualism).
- Emphasized devotion to Lord Vishnu and promoted spiritual accessibility for all castes.
- Key works: **"Sri Bhashya"** (commentary on Brahma Sutras) and **"Bhagavad Gita."**
- Helped establish temple worship and community rituals, promoting the tradition of the Alvars.

Source: https://www.thehindu.com/society/faith/ramanujas-seven-guidelines/article68768999.ece