



Tribute to Guru Ravidas

Why in News?

The Chief Minister of Haryana paid tribute to [Guru Ravidas](#) on his **birth anniversary**. **Guru Ravidas Jayanti** is celebrated on **Purnima Tithi of Magha Month**.

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Key Points

- **Government Initiative for Honoring Saints**
 - The Haryana government launched **the Sant-Mahapurush Samman and Vichar Prachar-Prasar Yojana**.
 - Under this initiative, **birth anniversaries and centenaries of saints and great personalities** will be **celebrated at the state level**.
- **About Guru Ravidas:**
 - Sant Guru Ravidas, **born in 1377 CE in Seer Govardhanpur, Uttar Pradesh**, is revered as a **saint, philosopher, poet, and [social reformer](#)**.
 - Known by various names like Raidas, Rohidas, and Ruhidas, he **hailed from a community traditionally associated with leatherwork**.
 - Guru Ravidas made significant contributions to **[the Bhakti Movement](#)**, emphasising **devotion to the divine and promoting spiritual equality**.
 - His teachings emphasised **human rights, equality, and spiritual enlightenment**.
 - Some of his compositions are included in the revered scripture, **[Guru Granth Sahib Ji](#)**, adding to his literary and philosophical significance.

Bhakti Movement

- The development of the **Bhakti movement took place in Tamil Nadu between the 7th and 9th centuries**.
- It was reflected in the **emotional poems of the Nayanars (devotees of Shiva) and Alvars (devotees of Vishnu)**.
 - These saints looked upon religion not as a cold formal worship but as a loving **bond based upon love between the worshipped and worshipper**.
- In course of time, the ideas of the South moved up to the North but it was a very slow process.
- A more effective method for spreading the Bhakti ideology was the **use of local languages**. The **Bhakti saints composed their verses in local languages**.
- They also **translated Sanskrit works** to make them understandable to a wider audience.
 - Examples include **Jnanadeva writing in Marathi, [Kabir](#), [Surdas](#) and [Tulsidas](#) in Hindi, Shankaradeva popularising Assamese, [Chaitanya](#) and [Chandidas](#) spreading their message in Bengali, [Mirabai in Hindi and Rajasthani](#)**.