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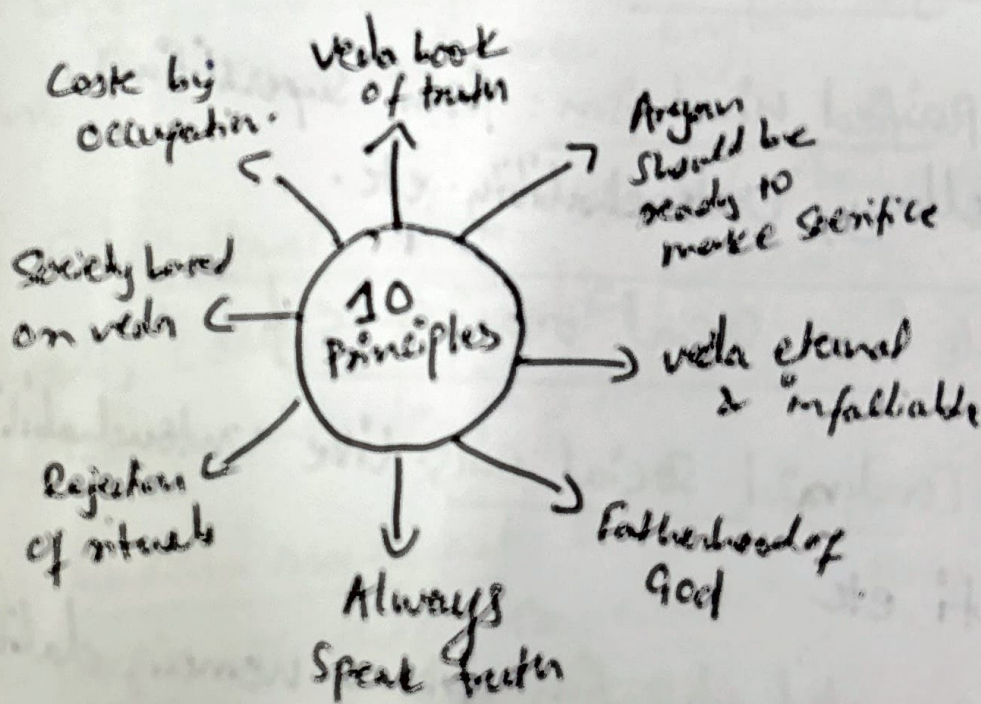
Riyasat IAS mentorship

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Q To what extent did Anya Samaj contribute to India's religious & social renaissance during the colonial period?

Anya Samaj was founded in 1875 by Swami Dayanand Saraswati. A revivalist movement made immense contribution to religious & social renaissance.

Contribution to Religious renaissance



① Supremacy of vedas: gave the call for "back to vedas". called them infallible.

② Rejection of later texts & smritis like

Rishyas & minor smritis

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- ③ Rejected idol worship : promoted vedic Yajnas & Havans.
- ④ Rejected & criticised priestly monopoly :
Called priests ignorant
- ⑤ Rejected caste discrimination : Caste not based on ~~caste~~ birth but work
- ⑥ Rejected rituals : Like Shroddha.
- ⑦ Purified Hinduism : from Superstitions, idolatry, Untouchability etc.

Role in social renaissance

- ⑧ Condemned social evils : Like untouchability, Sati etc
- ⑨ promoted education : Among women, dalits & others. [Eg] DAV Schools & Gurukuls.
- ⑩ Norms against child marriage ; fixed age of marriage for boys as 25 & girls as 16

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(11) Nationalism awakening patriotic call
& nationalist awakening among people.

(12) Promotion of Swadeshi: fostered call
for using indigenous, country made products,
, promoted khadi

(13) Linguistic revivalist movement promoted
Hindi in Devanagiri over English or Urdu

(14) Educational reforms: Started chain of
Schools, colleges & vedic pathshalas
[Eg] Kanya vidyalaya in Jabalpur

(15) Shuddhi movement: Bringing back via
or conversion of those converted to other
faiths. [Eg] Punjab 1920

Socialtension → mysticism promoted
→ hindu-muslim tension
→ promoted seclusion.

Arya Samaj movement aided at creating
equal society like those during vedic times.
Since 200 years this legacy is being cherished.

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Q

Jyotiba Phule was a pioneering social reformer whose ideas and activism laid the foundation for the anti-caste & gender equality movement in India. Discuss his contributions to social reform in 19th century India & their relevance in contemporary times.

Jyotiba Phule born in 1827 in Satara, played a key role in Indian reforms & renaissance. His ideas still hold water.

Contributions to social reforms

① Anti Caste movement: Called for Casteless Society & Society based on truth (Satya Shodhak Samaj)

② Empowerment of Subalterns: Advocated for the empowerment of Shudras, Ati Shudras & women

③ Educational reforms: Made schools for girls, dalits & promoted education.

④ Women empowerment: promoted education, self sufficiency among women

[Eg] helped Savitri Bai become first female teacher of India.

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⑥ Against social evils: untouchability, Caste based occupation, atrocities based on caste.

⑦ Against atrocities against women: Crusader against female infanticide, Sati & for widow remarriage [Eq] Fomeded Ballatya Prati Bandhak Griha,

⑧ Literary Contribution: wrote books like Gulamgiri, Satya Shodhak Samaj etc

Relevance in contemporary times

⑨ Role model & a source of inspiration: Dr Ambedkar, Kashi Ram, Karpuri Thakur all looked upto him.

⑩ Educational legacy: still gives education in Pune inspired by his ideals & vision

⑪ NEP 2020: Reflect his vision of inclusive Education for all

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- ① Anti Caste Struggles & reforms:
like Self respect movement by periyar
were inspired by him
- ② Political mobilization: Formation of
Parties like BSP etc
- ③ Identity formation: Terms used by him
like "Dalits", "Bahujan" today form the
identity of backward sections.
- ④ welfare measures & reforms: like
Constitutional mandate for equality etc
are his legacy.

Jyoti Ba Phule's Courage & Contribution
earned him the title of "mahatma". His
legacy will keep India moving & inspired for
ages to come.