

## 12- KABIR



Kabir was a great poet and saint who lived in India hundreds of years ago. He preached people to love each other. He went from place to place singing songs in praise of God. Years passed by and Kabir grew older. By then he had thousands of followers.



Kabir's songs and poems tell us that God is everywhere. His writings show that he was a true saint. A few of his couplets are given here which show that he was a great thinker and a social reformer too.

***Aisi bani boliye, man ka aapa khoye.***

***Auran ko sital kare, apahu sital hoye.***

***Kabira khada bazar mein, sabki mange khair.***

***Na kahu se dosti, na kahu se bair.***

Kabir taught everyone to love God. He always said, “Kabir is the child of Allah and Ram.” But people did not like this. They took him to the Emperor. The Emperor heard people’s complaint and ordered his soldiers, “Throw this man into the river.” The soldiers threw Kabir into the river. But he did not drown.



The next time they put him in a hut and set fire to it. The hut burnt down but Kabir was safe. Finally, they threw him in front of a mad elephant. Instead of killing Kabir, the elephant ran away without harming him. On being defeated several times, the emperor set Kabir free.



And when Kabir died his natural death, his followers quarrelled among themselves. The Muslims wanted to bury his body. The

Hindus wanted to burn his body. Suddenly, the Hindus and the Muslims heard a voice from the sky. It was Kabir's voice. "Take the sheet off my body." When they removed the sheet, they did not find the body. In its place they found only some flowers. So the Muslims took one half of the flowers, while the Hindus took the other half.

## ***New Words/Phrases:***

Word Pronunciation Meaning

saint - सेन्ट - सन्त

follower - फ़ॉलोअर्(र) - अनयायी

writings - राइटिङ्ग - रचनाएँ

couplets - कप्लट्स - कविता की दो पक्तियाँ

thinker - थिङ्कअर्(र) - विचारक

social reformer - रिफ़ॉमअर्(र) - समाज सधुारक

bury - बॅरी - दफनाना

## ***Comprehension Questions***

### ***1. Answer the following questions:***

- a. What do Kabir's songs and poems tell us?
- b. Why were the Hindus and the Muslims angry with Kabir?

- c. What happened when the king's soldiers put Kabir in a hut and set it on fire?
- d. Whose voice did the Hindus and the Muslims hear from the sky?
- e. What did the people find when they took the cover off Kabir's dead body?

## **Word Power**

**1. Add 'er' to the given words and use them in meaningful sentences:**

Words Words ending in 'er' Sentences

- a. bank    bank + er = banker    \_\_\_\_\_
- b. reform    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_
- c. think    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_
- d. play    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_
- e. teach    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_
- f. publish    \_\_\_\_\_    \_\_\_\_\_

## **Language**

## **Practice**

**1. Phrasal verbs:**

Phrasal Verb	Meaning
set fire to	अग लगाना (put some one or something to flames)
burnt down	जला दिया (damaged by fire)
ran away	भाग गया (escaped or left)
set free	मुक्त किया (released someone)
passed by	गुजर गया (to go)

**2. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate phrasal verbs given in the box:**

burnt down set fire to passed by set free ran away

- The thief \_\_\_\_ the building.
- The bird was \_\_\_\_ from the cage.
- The crop was \_\_\_\_ totally.
- The boy \_\_\_\_ when he saw a snake.
- A car slowly \_\_\_\_ the front of the house.

**3. Choose the correct preposition to fill in the blanks:**

between - used for two people or things

among - used for more than two people or things

beside - at the side of

besides - in addition to

- Distribute sweets \_\_\_\_ two brothers. (among/between)

b. The principal distributed the prizes \_\_\_ students. (between/among)

c. Rakesh was sitting \_\_\_ me. (besides/beside)

d. He reads novels \_\_\_ the text books. (beside/besides)

### ***Let's Know More***

» The official language of the Government of India is Hindi and English.

#### ***Languages spoken in some states of India:***

State	Language
Bihar	Maithili
Odisha	Odia
Maharashtra	Marathi
Goa	Konkani
Kerala	Malayalam
Punjab	Punjabi
Karnataka	Kannada
Assam	Assamese

Andhra Pradesh

Telugu

### ***Activity***

» ***Write a paragraph about the great poet 'Tulsi Das'.***