

INSIGHT DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS



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BASAVA JAYANTI

Why Basava Jayanti is in the news?

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi paid tributes to Jagadguru Basaveshwara on the sacred occasion of Basava Jayanthi. In another program, the Union Minister for Home and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah inaugurated and laid foundation stones of various projects including the inauguration of Nripatunga University.



Basava Jayanti 2022

- Basava Jayanti is a Hindu festival. It is celebrated by Lingayats majorly in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra to honour the birthday of Lord Basavanna. It is a state holiday in all these states.
- Lord Basavanna was the founder of Lingayatism and his birthday is pondered as the commencement of a new age, which is called Basavanna era or Basaveshwar era.
- As per the Hindu calendar, the birthday of Lord Basaveshwar usually falls on the 3rd day of Vaisakha month. The date of Basav Jayanti will change from year to year.

About Basavanna

- Basavanna was born in the 12th century in Bagewadi, which is 20 km away from Hunugund. A few historians say that he was born in Ingaleshwar. His father's name was Madaras and mother's name was Madalambe.

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- He spent his childhood in Kudalasangama and married Gangambike. His wife Gangambike was the daughter of Bijjala's prime minister.
- Bijjala was the Kalachuri king. Basavanna began working as an accountant. Later on, he was invited by Bijjala to become the chief minister.
- Basavanna turned out to be a great poet, social reformer and philosopher. Through poetry, he started spreading social wakefulness. Gender or social prejudice was rejected and Ishtalinga necklace was introduced by him.
- Being the chief minister of Bijjala's kingdom, Basavanna commenced Anubhava Mantapa, which later became the common center for all classes of people to discuss spiritual issues of life openly. The literary works of Basaveshwar consist Vachana Sahitya.

Contributions Of Basavanna

- We can say Basavanna was one of the best social workers of the country. In Karnataka, there were two primary categories of Bhakti movements. The first form of Bhakti movement was begun by Madar Chennaiah. Later on, Basavanna continued it.
- The second form of Bhakti movement was based on Vachana sahitya. Many changes were brought to the society through these reforms. The bhakti path was supported by Basavanna, who said "Everyone is equal despite the caste, the color and the economic status."
- Basavanna made significant contributions in developing the sharana community, which produced great social reformers and poets such as Akka Mahadevi and Allam Prabhu. His beliefs and teachings were tremendous.
- Some people followed his teaching fully and others did not. He fought against the bad practices of the society and tried changing the society through his deep social knowledge and poetry.

Basava Jayanti 2022 Celebrations

- Basava Jayanti has been declared as a state holiday in Karnataka that has a huge number of followers of Basavanna. In Karnataka, people from all cities and villages celebrate it in a grand manner.
- On the day, people visit the temples of Lord Basaveshwar to submit prayers. It is an important day, especially for farmers. Lingayat committees organise various events and it is the common practice in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- People exchange sweets and greetings on Basava Jayanti. Lectures will be held to remember the teachings of Basavanna. Many people prefer visiting Kudalasangama, which celebrates Basav Jayanti for 6-7 days and conducts several cultural and spiritual programs.

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