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## NET, IAS, State-SET (KSET, WBSET, MPSET, etc.), GATE, CUET, Olympiads etc.: Social and Cultural Uprising

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### Brahmo Samaj

- Founded by Raja Ram Mohan Roy in 1828.
- Criticized Sati Pratha, casteism and advocated widow remarriage.
- He was opposed to Sanskrit system of education, because he thought it would keep the country in darkness.
- Other important leaders were Devendranath Tagore (father of Rabindranath Tagore) and Keshap Chandra Sen.

### Arya Samaj

- Founded by Swami Dayanand (or, Moolshankar) in 1875.
- His motto was 'Go back to the vedas' & 'India for the Indians' He disregarded Puranas, idol worship, casteism and untouchability. He advocated widow remarriage.
- Dayanand's views were published in his famous work, Satyarth Prakash. He also wrote Veda Bhashya Bhumika and Veda Bhashya.

### Ramakrishna Mission

- Founded by Vivekanand (earlier, Narendranath Dutta) (1863 – 1902) in 1897, 11 years after the death of his guru Ram Krishna Paramhans.
- Vivekanand attended the Parliament of Religion at Chicago in 1893.
- Irish woman Margaret Nobel (Known as sister Nivedita) popularized it.

### Young Bengal Movement

- Founded by Henry Louis Vivian Derozio (1809 – 31) . He was a teacher in Hindu College in Calcutta.
- He urged the students to live and die for truth. He also supported women's education and their rights.

### Veda Samaj

- Veda Samaj called Brahmo Samaj of South. Started by Sridharalu Naidu.

- He translated books of Brahmo Dharma into Tamil and Telegu.

## Dharma Sabha

- Initiated by Radhakant Deb in 1830.
- Was opposed to reforms and protected orthodoxy, but played an active role in promoting western education even to girls.

## Lokahitawadi

- Started by Gopal Hari Deshmukh. Advocated western education and a rational outlook. He advocated female education for the upliftment of women.
- As a votary of national self-reliance, he attended Delhi durbar in 1876, wearing handspun khadi cloth.

## Servants of India Society

- Formed by Gopal Krishna Gokhale in 1915.
- It did notable work in providing famine relief and in improving the condition of the tribal.

## Radhaswami Movement

- Founded in 1861 by a banker of Agra, Tulsi Ram, popularly known as Shiv Dayal Saheb or Swami Maharaj.
- The sect preached belief in one supreme being, the Guru's supreme position and a simple social life for the believers (the Satsangis) .

## Theosophical Society

- Founded by Westerners who drew inspiration from Indian thought and culture.
- Madam H P Blavatsky laid the foundation of the movement in US in 1875. Later, Col. MS Olcott of the US Army joined her.
- In 1882, it was shifted to India at Adyar (Tamil Nadu) .
- Annie Besant was elected its president in 1907. She founded the Central Hindu College in 1898, which became Banaras Hindu University in 1916.