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Classical Indian Philosophy Shuddadvaita Vedanta by Vallabhacharya for Competitive Exams

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Introduction

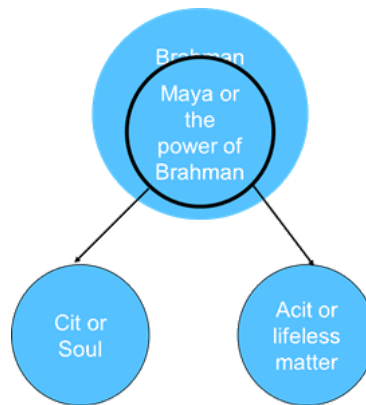
- Acharya Vallabha was a Telegu philosopher, born in 1479.
- Vallabhacharya is the founder of the Shudadvaita school of Vedanta
- His philosophy is known as, Pure-Non dualism undefiled by Maya. According to him, there is only one ultimate reality, that is, Brahman.
- He has written a commentary on the Brahma-sutra called the Anubhashya.
- His commentary on Bhagavad Gita called the Subodhini.

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The Concept of Brahman, Cit and Acit

- According to Vallabha, God or Brahman is an independent reality and this independent reality is identified with Sri Krishna.

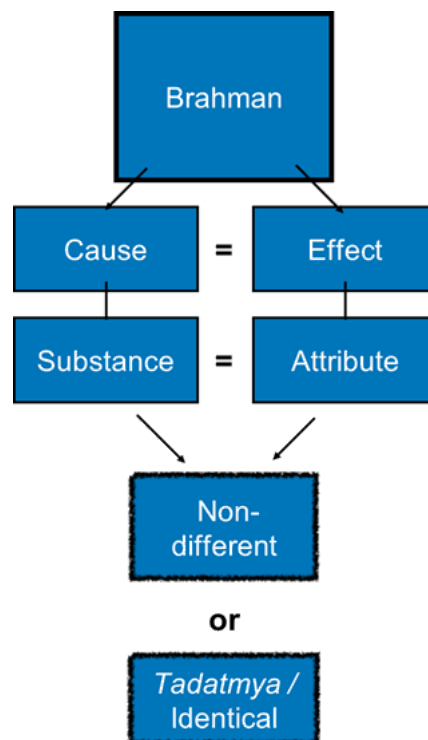
- His essence is Sat, Cit, Ananda- sat is existence, cit is knowledge and ananda is bliss.
- Therefore, Brahman is the abode of all good qualities. In other words, he is a Saguna Brahman.
- He also deals with contradictory qualities, such as;
- He is smaller than the smallest and greater than the greatest.
- He is one and many at the same time.
- Soul and matter are Brahman's real parts.
- According to Vallabha, maya is the power of Brahman according to which he manifests himself as soul and matter.
- In other words, maya or avidya is his power according to which he manifests himself into matter and soul, revealing his tripartite nature of Sat, Cit and Ananda (existence, knowledge and bliss) in different proportions.
- This manifestation via maya is, "neither unreal, nor an error, nor an illusion."
- It is real manifestation.
 - Vallabha believes in the concept of Saguna Brahman. Brahman is full of positive qualities such as benevolence, omniscience, etc. So, Brahman is devoid of all negative qualities, limitation and negations. Hence, he believes in the concept of Savishesha Brahman and rejects the concept of Nirguna or Nirvishesha Brahman



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The Concept of Avikrta-Parinamavada

- According to Vallabha, the universe is not a vivarta (or an appearance) . The theory of universe being a vivarta is accepted by Sankara's Advaita Vedanta philosophy.
- Vallabha says, universe is a real manifestation and not an unreal manifestation of Brahman.
- At the same time, it is also not a Parinama. (The concept of Parinama-vada is accepted by Nimbarka, Ramanuja, etc.)
- Vallabha says, it is not a parinama because the manifestation of universe does not bring out any change or transformation in Brahman.
- Therefore, the universe is a natural emanation from Brahman which does not cause any notion of change in him.
- This concept is called, Avikrta-Parinamavada.
- According to Vallabha, the cause and effect, the substance and its attributes are identical in nature. This relation is called the relation of Identity or *tadatmya*.
- Brahman is both the material cause or the inherent cause and the efficient cause.
- Hence, Brahman manifests himself as the universe without undergoing any change.



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Pushti-Marga

- Pushti-Marga Means The Path Of Grace.
- It Is A Vaishnava Sect Of Hinduism, Founded By Vallabhacharya.
- The Vedas, Bhagavad-Gita, Brahma-Sutras, And Srimad Bhagwat Are The Four Most Important Sources Of Their Literature.
- According To Vallabha, The Brahman Of Vedas And Brahma-Sutras, The Paramatma Of Gita And The Bhagwan Of Srimad Bhagwad Are All The Same Or Are Essentially One.
- Pushti-Marga Deals With Spontaneous Or Naturally Flowing, Self-Less And Motive-Less Love For Lord Krishna.
- Therefore, The path to attain liberation is called as Pushti-marga.

Some of the Teachings of
Pushti-Marga;

*Sarva Khalv Idam
Brahma* or
Whatever is, is Brahman

Ekn
or

The only aim is Lord
Krishna's grace.

Lord
all o

The true love is, the love
for Lord Krishna

T
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Self-less service or Seva for Krishna Bhakti

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Bhakti & Liberation

- According to Vallabha, bhakti is defined as a firm emotion and a surpassing affection for God.
- It is performed with a full sense of Lord Krishna's greatness.
- Bhakti is the only means of liberation.
- In other words, it is also known as the loving service of God.
- It means attachment to God which presupposes detachment from all the other things.
- It is neither worship nor knowledge. It is affection, it is adulation towards God/Brahman/Lord Krishna.
- According to Vallabha, grace of God is the only means of liberation which is earned when the heart is pure or when one shows pure affection towards Brahman.

#Shuddadvaita

#Vedanta

#Vaishnavism

#Epistemology

#Avikrta

#Parinamavada

#Vallabhacharya

#Bhakti

#Pushti

#marga

#Liberation

◀ Manishika

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