

# SECULARISM IN INDIAN POLITICS

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- The term “ secular “ means being separate from religion ,or having no religious basis.
- A secular person is one who does not owe his moral values to any religion . His values are the product of his rational and scientific thinking.
- **MEANING OF SECULARISM:** Secularism means separation of religion from political, economic, social, and cultural, aspects of life ,religion being treated as a purely personal matter.

# SECULARISM IN THE HISTORY OF INDIA:

- Secular traditions are very deep rooted in the history of India. Indian culture is based on the blending of various spiritual traditions and social movements.
- In ancient India , **the Sanatan Dharma (Hinduism)** was basically allowed to develop as a holistic religion by welcoming different spiritual traditions and trying to integrate them into a common mainstream.
- Even after the advent of **Jainism, Buddhism, and later Islam and Christianity** on the Indian soil ,the quest for religious toleration and co existence of different faiths continued.
- In medieval India , the **Sufi and Bhakti movements** bond the people of various communities together with love and peace .
- The leading lights of these movements were **Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti , Baba Farid , Sant Kabir Das, Guru Nanak Dev, Saint Tukaram and Mira Bai** etc.

# SECULARISM AND THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

- The term “SECULAR” was added to the preamble by the forty - second constitutional Amendment Act of 1976, (since that India is a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic, republic .)
- ARTICLE 14 : Grants equality before the law and equal protection of the laws to all.
- ARTICLE 15: Enlarges the concept of the secularism to the widest possible extent by prohibiting discrimination on grounds of religion ,race, caste, sex or place of birth.
- ARTICLE 16(1),
- ARTICLE 25,
- ARTICLE 26,
- ARTICLE 27,
- ARTICLE 28 ,
- ARTICLE 29,
- ARTICLE 30.
- ARTICLE 51A

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THANK YOU