

Adi Shankaracharya

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Prime Minister of India has recently visited the birthplace of Adi Shankaracharya in Kochi

Adi Shankara also called Adi Shankaracharyawas an Indian Vedic scholar and teacher (acharya).

He was born 11th May 788 AD, at Kaladi near Kochi, Kerala.

He took Samadhi at the age of 33, at Kedar tirth.

He was a devotee of Shiva.

He propounded the **Doctrine of Advaita Vedanta** and wrote many commentaries on the Vedic canon (Upanishads, Brahma Sutras and Bhagavad Gita) in Sanskrit.

He was **opposed to Buddhist philosophers**.

Major Work: Brahmasutrabhasya (Bhashya or commentary on the Brahma Sutra), Bhajagovinda Stotra, Nirvana Shatakam, Prakaran Granths.

Other Contributions: He was responsible for reviving Hinduism in India to a great extent when Buddhism was gaining popularity.

He established four Mathas in the four corners of India at **Shingeri, Puri, Dwaraka and Badrinath**– for propagation of Sanathana Dharma.

He advocated the **existence of the soul and the Supreme Soul**. He believed that the Supreme Soul alone is real and unchanging while the soul is a changing entity and that it does not have absolute existence.



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