



SHANMUGAM IAS ACADEMY

Self-Respect Movement

Previous Year Questions (2020 – 2026)

TNPSC Group 1, 2, 4 and other exams · with answers and explanations

20 questions

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The exam name and year are given in [] at the start of every question. Attempt the questions first without looking at the answers, then check with the answer section at the end.

Questions

1. **AHGS-2021** The combined programme of Self-Respecters and communists came to be called as _____ plan.
- (A) Chengalpat Plan (B) Erode Plan
(C) Virudhunagar Plan (D) Salem Plan
-
2. **AGGS-2021** The magazine started in 1925 which initiated the spread of Self-Respect Movement ideology is
- (A) Sudeśa Mithiran (B) Viduthalai
(C) Kudiarasu (D) Murasoli
-
3. **PSHY-2022** The achievement of Self-Respect Movement was
1. Widow remarriage
 2. Abolition of untouchability
 3. Communal representation
 4. Decline of the influence of Varnashrama Dharma
- (A) 1, 2 are correct, 3, 4 are incorrect (B) 1, 2, 3 are correct, 4 is incorrect
(C) 1, 3, 4 are correct, 2 is incorrect (D) 1, 2, 3, 4 are correct
-
4. **Group 1-2022** Thanthai Periyar referred to the philosophy of Self-Respect Movement as
- (A) not having belief in next birth (B) not having belief in God
(C) there was nothing beyond sexual pleasures (D) doing a thing which one believes to be right on the basis of reasoning, thereafter, if any correction is to be made, correcting the mistakes on the basis of reasoning and also having the mindset to accept the implication of such actions



5. **Group 1-2022** In 1929, at a 'Self Respect Movement' conference in Chengalpattu, Thanthai Periyar passed a resolution relating to an important matter -
- In 1989, 60 years later, Tamil Nadu had passed a law in this regard.
 - On August 11, 2020 Supreme Court passed a judgment in this regard.
- What is this?
- | | |
|---|---|
| (A) Giving equal rights to women in Government employment | (B) Giving equal rights to women in family properties |
| (C) Giving priority to certain communities in acquiring land rights | (D) Giving priority to certain sects in accessing holy places |
-
6. **ACF-2023** In 1925, E.V. Ramaswamy started the Self-Respect Movement.
- (i) The aim of the movement was the promotion of rational thinking, self-respect and self-confidence in the people.
 - (ii) It enabled them to enjoy the benefits of political and social freedom.
- Which statement is correct?
- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| (A) (i) | (B) (ii) |
| (C) (i) and (ii) | (D) None of the above |
-
7. **Fishery Inspector-2023** Consider the following statements:
- (1) The self-respect movement was a social protest against the dominant caste who were in higher positions.
 - (2) The self-respect movement was more interested in social freedom rather than in winning political independence.
- Which of the statements given above is correct?
- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| (A) (1) only | (B) (2) only |
| (C) Both (1) and (2) | (D) Neither (1) nor (2) |
-
8. **Veterinary Assistant-2023** I. The Self Respect Movement functioned as a forum and political platform. II. Its objective got fulfilled when DMK attained power and formed a government of non-brahmin in Tamilnadu.
- Which of the above statements is/are true?
- | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| (A) I only | (B) II only |
| (C) I and II | (D) None of the above |
-
9. **DEO-2023** The Self-Respect Movement represented the Dravidian reaction to liberate the society from which evil practice?
- | | |
|--|--|
| (A) Religious customs, practices and conventions | (B) Religious customs, practices and caste system |
| (C) Religious conventions and caste system | (D) Religious customs, practices and superstitions |
-



10. **JSO-2023** Match the following:
Movement - Reformers
(a) Brahmo Samaj - 1. Natesan
(b) SNDP - 2. E.V. Ramaswamy
(c) Justice party - 3. Sri Narayana Guru
(d) Self Respect movement - 4. Raja Ram Mohan Roy
(A) 2 3 1 4 (B) 4 3 1 2
(C) 4 1 2 3 (D) 2 3 4 1
-
11. **Combined Research Assistant-2023** Assertion [A]: Women's liberation was one of the important objectives of the Self-Respect Movement.
Reason [R]: The Movement provided a space for women to share their ideas.
(A) Both [A] and [R] are wrong (B) [A] is correct but [R] is wrong
(C) Both [A] and [R] are correct; but [R] is not the correct explanation of [A] (D) Both [A] and [R] are correct, and [R] is the correct explanation of [A]
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12. **Research Assistant (Animal Husbandry)-2023** The Third Self Respect Movement conference was held at _____.
(A) Chengalpat (B) Erode
(C) Virudunagar (D) Coimbatore
-
13. **Mass Interviewer-2023, VAS-AHGS-2020** When and where did Periyar come out of the Congress and start the Self-Respect Movement?
(A) Kanchipuram - 1925 (B) Chengalpet - 1929
(C) Erode - 1930 (D) Viruthunagar - 1937
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14. **Group 1-2024, ARG-2020, Group 1-2022, JA-2023** Who was the Chairman of the first Self Respect Conference in 1929?
(A) E.V.R. Periyar (B) Sathyamoorthy
(C) W.P.A. Soundarapandian (D) Ramasamy Raja
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15. **Group 1-2024** Assertion [A]: Periyar left the Congress Party and started Self Respect Movement in 1925.
Reason [R]: Periyar visited a school of Gurukulam style run at Sheranmadevi; he noticed the segregation of Non-Brahmin students from the Brahmins by providing drinking water and food in separate places. He moved a resolution for reservation in government services for non-Brahmins. But this was not allowed.
(A) [A] is true, [R] is false (B) Both [A] and [R] are true, but [R] is not the correct explanation of [A]
(C) [A] is false, [R] is true (D) Both [A] and [R] are true and [R] is the correct explanation of [A]



- 16. Combined Technical Service (Interview Posts-II)-2024** Which of the following are the objectives of Self-Respect league?
- (I) Reforming Dravidian society to make it truly rational
(II) Teaching about ancient Tamil civilizations to Dravidians
(III) Permitting to keep practicing superstitious beliefs
(IV) Adapt to social and cultural dominance
- (A) (I) and (III) only (B) (II) and (III) only
(C) (III) and (IV) only (D) (I) and (II) only
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- 17. Group 1&1A-2025** Which of the following statement/s is/are true about the rationalist marriage system 'Self Respect Marriage', devised by Periyar?
- (i) The Self Respect Marriages were conducted without any priests or chanting of the rituals in Sanskrit.
(ii) They were often deliberately conducted in times considered auspicious.
(iii) They did away with thali-tying ceremony.
(iv) The couples took oaths promising to treat each other equally and as friends.
- (A) (i) and (iii) only (B) (i), (ii) and (iv) only
(C) (i), (iii) and (iv) only (D) (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv)
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- 18. Group 4-2025** Assertion [A]: E.V.R. Periyar started the Self-Respect Movement in 1925.
Reason [R]: New India was the official newspaper of the Self-Respect Movement.
- (A) [A] is true, but [R] is false (B) Both [A] and [R] are true, and [R] is the correct explanation of [A]
(C) [A] is false, [R] is true (D) Both [A] and [R] are true, but [R] is not the correct explanation of [A]
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- 19. Group 2A Mains-2025, Combined Technical Service (ITI)-2024** The first state level meet of Self-Respect Movement was conducted at which place?
- (A) Chengalpet (B) Madurai
(C) Chennai (D) Kovai
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- 20. Group 2A Mains (Revoked)-2026** Pick out the incorrectly matched pairs from the following:
- (1) W.P.A. Soundara Pandian - Presided the First Self Respect conference at Chengalpattu in 1929
(2) Periyar E.V. Ramasamy - Started the 'Karunchattai Thondarpada' (Black Shirt volunteer corps) conference in 1946
(3) Diwan Bahadur Krishnan - Became the Chief Minister of Madras province in 1930
(4) P. Munuswamy - Moved resolution to remove disqualification based on sex under electoral rule
- (A) 1 and 2 are incorrect (B) 1 and 3 are incorrect
(C) 2 and 3 are incorrect (D) 3 and 4 are incorrect



Answers and Explanations

1. (B) Erode Plan

In December 1932 Periyar convened a meeting of Self-Respecters and socialists/communists at Erode, where a joint socialist programme, known as the Erode Plan (Erode Programme), was adopted.

2. (C) Kudiarasu

Periyar launched the Tamil weekly Kudi Arasu on 2 May 1925 at Erode; it became the main organ for spreading Self-Respect ideas. Viduthalai came later (1935).

3. (D) 1, 2, 3, 4 are correct

The Self-Respect Movement promoted widow remarriage, fought untouchability, championed communal representation (reservation) and weakened the hold of Varnashrama Dharma, so all four are its achievements.

4. (D) doing a thing which one believes to be right on the basis of reasoning, thereafter, if any correction is to be made, correcting the mistakes on the basis of reasoning and also having the mindset to accept the implication of such actions

Periyar described the Self-Respect philosophy as acting on what one believes right through reason, correcting mistakes through reason, and accepting the consequences - rationalism as a way of life.

5. (B) Giving equal rights to women in family properties

The 1929 Chengalpattu conference demanded equal property rights for women; Tamil Nadu amended the Hindu Succession Act in 1989 to give daughters equal coparcenary rights, and the Supreme Court (Vineeta Sharma case, 11 August 2020) upheld daughters' equal right in ancestral property.

6. (C) (i) and (ii)

The Self-Respect Movement aimed to foster rational thinking, self-respect and self-confidence among people, so that they could enjoy the benefits of social and political freedom; both statements are correct.

7. (C) Both (1) and (2)

The Self-Respect Movement was a social protest against the domination of the upper caste in public life, and it placed social freedom above the goal of political independence; both statements are correct.

8. (C) I and II

The Self-Respect Movement served both as a social forum and a political platform, and its goal of non-Brahmin political power was realised when the DMK, which grew out of this tradition, formed the government in Tamil Nadu in 1967.

9. (B) Religious customs, practices and caste system

The Self-Respect Movement was the Dravidian reaction aimed at freeing society from oppressive religious customs, practices and the caste system.

10. (B) 4 3 1 2

Brahmo Samaj - Raja Ram Mohan Roy; SNDP Yogam - Sri Narayana Guru; Justice Party - Dr. C. Natesa Mudaliar (one of its founders); Self-Respect Movement - E.V. Ramaswamy. Hence 4 3 1 2.



11. (D) Both [A] and [R] are correct, and [R] is the correct explanation of [A]

Women's liberation was a core aim of the Self-Respect Movement, and it gave women a platform through conferences and journals to voice their ideas, which explains the assertion.

12. (C) Virudunagar

The Self-Respect conferences: first at Chengalpattu (1929), second at Erode (1930) and third at Virudhunagar (1931).

13. (A) Kanchipuram - 1925

At the Kanchipuram session of the Tamil Nadu Congress in 1925, Periyar's resolution for communal representation was rejected; he walked out of the Congress and started the Self-Respect Movement that year.

14. (C) W.P.A. Soundarapandian

The first Self-Respect Conference held at Chengalpattu in February 1929 was chaired by W.P.A. Soundarapandian.

15. (D) Both [A] and [R] are true and [R] is the correct explanation of [A]

The caste discrimination Periyar saw at the Cheranmadevi Gurukulam and the rejection of his communal representation resolution at the 1925 Kanchipuram Congress conference led him to quit the Congress and launch the Self-Respect Movement in 1925.

16. (D) (I) and (II) only

The Self-Respect League sought to reform Dravidian society on rational lines and to make Dravidians aware of their ancient Tamil civilisation; it opposed superstition and social-cultural domination.

17. (C) (i), (iii) and (iv) only

Self-Respect marriages were held without priests or Sanskrit rituals, often dispensed with the thali, and had the couple pledge to live as equal partners and friends; they were deliberately held at times considered inauspicious (like Rahu kalam), so statement (ii) is wrong.

18. (A) [A] is true, but [R] is false

Periyar started the Self-Respect Movement in 1925, but its organ was Kudi Arasu; New India was Annie Besant's newspaper of the Home Rule movement.

19. (A) Chengalpet

The first provincial (state-level) Self-Respect Conference was held at Chengalpattu in February 1929 under W.P.A. Soundarapandian.

20. (D) 3 and 4 are incorrect

Soundarapandian presided over the first Self-Respect Conference at Chengalpattu in 1929 and the Black Shirt volunteer conference was held at Madurai in 1946, so pairs 1 and 2 are correct. B. Munuswamy Naidu, not Diwan Bahadur Krishnan, became Chief Minister of Madras in 1930, so pair 3 is wrong; the only option that includes 3 while excluding 1 and 2 is '3 and 4'.