

VIDYA BHAWAN BALIKA VIDYA PITH

शक्तिउत्थानआश्रमलखीसरायबिहार

Class 11 commerce Sub. CCA Date 4.9.2020

Teacher name – Ajay Kumar Sharma

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan (5 September 1888 – 17 April 1975) was an Indian philosopher, academic, and statesman who served as the first Vice President of India (1952–1962) and the second President of India (1962–1967).

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan



2nd President of India

In

13 May 1962 – 13 May 1967

office

Prime Minister [Jawaharlal Nehru](#)
[Gulzarilal Nanda](#) (Acting)
[Lal Bahadur Shastri](#)
[Gulzarilal Nanda](#) (Acting)
[Indira Gandhi](#)

Vice President [Zakir Hussain](#)

Preceded by [Rajendra Prasad](#)

Succeeded by [Zakir Hussain](#)

1st [Vice President of India](#)

In office
13 May 1952 – 12 May 1962

President [Rajendra Prasad](#)

Prime Minister [Jawaharlal Nehru](#)

Succeeded by [Zakir Hussain](#)

Personal details

Born Sarvepalli
Radhakrishnayya

5 September 1888
[Thiruttani, Madras](#)
[Presidency, British](#)

	India (present-day Tamil Nadu, India)[1]
Died	17 April 1975 (aged 86) Madras, Tamil Nadu , India
Nationality	Indian
Political party	Independent
Spouse(s)	Sivakamu (1893 - 26 November 1956)
Children	5 (daughters) 1 (Son) Sarvepalli Gopal
<u>Alma mater</u>	University of Madras (BA, MA)
Profession	Philosopher Academician
Awards	Bharat Ratna (1954) Templeton Prize (1975)

One of India's most distinguished twentieth-century scholars of [comparative religion](#) and philosophy, after completing his education at [Madras Christian College](#) in 1911, he became Assistant Professor and later Professor of Philosophy at Madras Presidency College then subsequently Professor of Philosophy at the [University of Mysore](#) (1918-1921); the King George V Chair of Mental and Moral Science at the [University of Calcutta](#) (1921–1932) and [Spalding Professor of Eastern Religion and Ethics](#) at [University of Oxford](#) (1936–1952) by which he became the first Indian to hold a professorial chair at the [University of Oxford](#). He was Upton Lecturer at Manchester College, Oxford in 1926, 1929, and 1930. In 1930 he was appointed Haskell lecturer in Comparative Religion at the [University of Chicago](#).

His philosophy was grounded in [Advaita Vedanta](#), reinterpreting this tradition for a contemporary understanding. He defended Hinduism against what he called "uninformed Western criticism", contributing to the formation of contemporary Hindu identity. He has been influential in shaping the understanding of Hinduism, in both India and the west, and earned a reputation as a bridge-builder between India and the West.

Sarvepalli was awarded several high awards during his life, including a knighthood in 1931, the [Bharat Ratna](#), the highest civilian award in India, in 1954, and honorary membership of the British Royal [Order of Merit](#) in 1963. He was also one of the founders of Helpage India, a non profit organisation for elderly underprivileged in India. Sarvepalli believed that "teachers should be the best minds in the country". Since 1962, his birthday has been celebrated in India as [Teachers' Day](#) on 5 September every year.

He is the only [President of India](#) who could not attend the [Delhi Republic Day parade](#) due to his ill health He served as the professor of philosophy at Mysore(1918-21) and Calcutta(1937-41) universities.

Early life

Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born in a [Telugu](#)-speaking [Niyogi Brahmin](#) family, in [Tiruttani](#) of [Chittoor District](#) in the erstwhile [Madras Presidency](#) (Later in [Andhra Pradesh](#) till 1960, now in [Tiruvallur district](#) of [Tamil Nadu](#) since 1960). His father's name was Sarvepalli Veeraswami and his mother's name was Sarvepalli Sita (Sitamma). His family hails from [Sarvepalli](#) village in [Nellore district](#) of [Andhra Pradesh](#). His early years were spent in [Thiruttani](#) and [Tirupati](#). His father was a subordinate revenue official in the service of a local [zamindar](#) (local landlord). His primary education was at K.V High School at Thiruttani. In 1896 he moved to the Hermansburg Evangelical Lutheran Mission School in [Tirupati](#) and Government High Secondary School, [Walajapet](#).

Education

Sarvepalli was awarded scholarships throughout his academic life. He joined [Voorhees College](#) in [Vellore](#) for his high school education. After his F.A. (First of Arts) class, he joined the [Madras Christian College](#) at the age of 17. He graduated from there in 1906, and also finished his Masters from the same college.

Sarvepalli studied philosophy by chance rather than choice. Being a financially constrained student, when a cousin who graduated from the same college passed on his philosophy textbooks to Sarvepalli, it automatically decided his academics course.

Sarvepalli wrote his thesis for the M.A. degree on "The Ethics of the Vedanta and its Metaphysical Presuppositions". It "was intended to be a reply to the charge that the [Vedanta](#) system had no room for ethics." Two of his professors, Rev. William Meston and Dr. Alfred George Hogg, commended Radhakrishnan's dissertation.^{[[citation needed](#)]} Radhakrishnan's thesis was published when he was only twenty. According to Radhakrishnan himself, the criticism of Hogg and other Christian teachers of Indian culture "disturbed my faith and shook the traditional props on which I leaned." Radhakrishnan himself describes how, as a student, This led him to his critical study of [Indian philosophy](#) and [religion](#) and a lifelong defence of Hinduism against "uninformed Western criticism". At the same time, Sarvepalli commended Professor Hogg as 'My distinguished teacher,' and as "one of the greatest Christian thinkers we had in India.' Besides, Professor William Skinner, who was acting Principal of the College, gave a testimonial saying "he is one of the best men we have had in the recent years", which enabled him to get the first job in Presidency College. In reciprocation, Sarvepalli dedicated one of his early books to William Skinner.