



21st Death Anniversary of Swami Kalyandev Maharaj

Why in News?

Haryana Chief Minister paid tribute to **Swami Kalyandev Maharaj Ji** on his 21st death anniversary at his Samadhi located in **Shukdev Ashram**, Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh.

Key Points

- **Tribute to Swami Kalyandev Maharaj:**
 - CM unveiled a **statue of Swami Kalyandev Ji Maharaj**, calling it a source of eternal inspiration for future generations.
 - The CM also released an Odia book on Shukdev Tirtha.
 - He also announced a grant of Rs 11 lakh for the construction of Haryana Bhawan at Shukdev Tirtha.
 - He highlighted the saint's life of renunciation, service, and reform, rooted in humility and spiritual pursuit.
 - He noted that thousands of years ago, **Maharishi Shukdev guided King Parikshit toward salvation** through the **Bhagwat Katha at this very site**.
- **About Swami Kalyandev Ji:**
 - Swami Kalyandev Ji Maharaj, born into a humble family, lived for 129 years and **devoted his life to knowledge, education, and social service**, which he considered his true religion.
 - This revered saint attained samadhi in the year 2004.
 - He established several schools, colleges, and Gurukuls.
 - He opposed untouchability, caste discrimination, and other social evils and promoted equality, love, and brotherhood.
 - The Government of India honoured him with the **Padma Shri (1982) and Padma Bhushan (2000)**.
 - **Swami Kalyan Dev Seva Trust:** The Swami Kalyan Dev Seva Trust established within the Shukdev Ashram, carries forward the legacy of service and compassion through various welfare initiatives.
 - The trust extends support to the poor, the sick, and the underprivileged. It is actively engaged in the fields of education, healthcare, and social upliftment.