

Study Questions
Medieval Philosophy
Ramanuja (Set 3)

1. What is the threefold classification of reality according to Ramanuja?
2. How does Ramanuja understand the upanishadic teaching that Brahman is the inner self of all beings?
3. Should Brahman be meditated on with all his attributes or only some? Explain.
4. Is meditation one or many?
5. To the extent that the individual self is factored into the object of meditation, should it be factored in in its bound or released state?
6. What is the object of meditation? Is it one or many? Explain.
7. Does Ramanuja accept meditation on Brahman with form or without form? Explain his view.
8. What is dhyana and upasana? How are they related to knowing (vedana) and devotion (bhakti)?
9. Is physical posture relevant to meditation?
10. Is meditation a practice to be repeated? Explain.
11. In what way is the "destruction of sin" a fruit of meditation?
12. Is the "path of light" one or many?
13. What is the state of release?
14. In release the self attains its essential, which is?
15. Does the release self possess attributes?
16. Can the released self realize all its wishes?
17. Can the released self create a body for itself?
18. Is the released self "omniscient"? Is the released self "omnipotent"?

19. Does the released self acquire absolute control over the universe or the cosmic activity/process?

20. Does Ramanuja think there is a possibility of return into samsara for the released self?