

# The Statue of Equality: A Symbol of Social Justice and Unity

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**Abstract:** *Tourism is a dynamic and Multifaceted industry that involves the movement of people from one place to another for leisure, business or other purposes. It encompasses a wider range of activities and services related to travel, accommodation, transportation and entertainment. Tourism plays a vital role in the global economy and has a significant impact on the social, cultural and environmental aspects of various destinations. Tourists choose their destinations based on factors such as natural beauty, historical and cultural significance, recreational opportunities, and business opportunities. Tourism is a major economic driver for many regions and countries. It creates jobs, generates revenue, and stimulates local businesses. My study of research is limited to statue of equality Hyderabad. The recent study aims to know the Historical aspects and impact of visitors on the Statue of equality*

**Keywords:** Dynamic, Transportation, entertainment, significance and visitors

## 1. Introduction

The Statue of Equality in Hyderabad, also known as the Ramanujacharya Statue, is a monumental project undertaken

by the Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamy, a spiritual leader and the head of the Jeeyar Educational Trust. The statue is dedicated to the revered Hindu philosopher and social reformer, Sri Ramanujacharya.



The construction of the Statue of Equality commenced in 2016, and it was officially unveiled on April 1, 2021, in the presence of spiritual leaders, political dignitaries, and devotees. The statue is located at Muchintal village near Shamshabad in the outskirts of Hyderabad, Telangana, India. The impressive structure stands at a height of 216 feet, symbolizing the 108 divine and 108 material energies in the spiritual philosophy of Sri Ramanujacharya. The project not only includes the statue but also encompasses a large complex with various educational and cultural facilities, including a meditation center, a library, and an exhibition hall dedicated to the teachings and life of Sri Ramanujacharya. The construction of the statue involves intricate planning, design, and engineering efforts to ensure

the realization of the vision for the monument. The statue is expected to be a monumental structure, likely incorporating modern engineering techniques and artistic craftsmanship to accurately depict the revered figure and his teachings.

## 2. History of Statue of Equality

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**Aim :** The Statue of Equality aims to promote the values of equality, social justice, and harmony, emphasizing the teachings and philosophy of Sri Ramanujacharya, who advocated for equality and inclusivity in society. It serves as a significant cultural and educational center, fostering spiritual growth, and promoting the principles of peace and unity. As of my last knowledge update in September 2021, the construction of the Statue of Equality in Hyderabad, India, dedicated to Sri Ramanujacharya, was in progress. The project is a significant undertaking aimed at commemorating the life and teachings of Sri Ramanujacharya, a revered Hindu philosopher and theologian.

#### Research Objectives:

- 1) To study the Historical aspects of statue of Equality
- 2) To study the impact of visitors on Ramanuja statue of equality.

### 3. Literature Review

- 1) **Sharmistha, (2001)**. Evaluated in general, innovations enable improvements in productivity and thus increase in welfare and income. For this reason, the central role of innovation as the driving force of long-term growth should be stressed
- 2) **Miralles, (2010)** Tourism enterprises need to innovate continuously to be competitive, to adapt to the changing technologies and to continue offering its customers attractive service.
2. **Hall and Williams, 2008; Razafindravelo, (2017)** In addition to creating a new product or service, those innovations also contribute to the innovations offered or planned to be offered in other areas of management
- 4) **Razafindravelo, (2017)**. The integration of new technologies into businesses (especially in information and communication) reduces errors significantly and increases service quality and efficiency (Sharmistha, 2001). Evaluated in general, innovations enable improvements in productivity and thus increase in welfare and income. For this reason, the central role of

innovation as the driving force of long-term growth should be stressed

- 5) **Boycheva, (2017)**. It is necessary to detect gaps in an area and problems to be able to start a scientific study detecting the gap in the field is possible through a detailed review of relevant literature. Thus, an examination of this study compiling the international studies available in the theme of innovation by all the researchers setting innovation as their main subject of study or as the sub-topic of their study would be beneficial in detecting the above-mentioned problems. Besides, the studies offering detailed information containing; a) the number of studies available on innovation, b) Distribution according to years, c) the relative topics throughout literature are not available. Therefore, it is assumed that researching this subject and piling up the so far applied researches would definitely contribute to the existing tourism literature and strengthen the future researches. This study is expected to guide prospective researchers to analyze and see the areas the innovation – tourism relationship concentrated more intensely and the incomplete and rarely touched sides.
- 6) **Zengin and Dursun, (2017)**. Tourism sector has always been fast in adopting technological innovations from product development to marketing to serve its customers better

#### Impact of visitors on Ramanuja statue of equality Hyderabad

While I do not have specific data on the impact of visitors on the Ramanuja Statue of Equality in Hyderabad, it can be expected that the monument has had a significant influence on the local area and community.

#### Positive Impact

- 1) **Tourism Boost:** The presence of a symbolic cultural and religious monument such as the Ramanuja Statue of Equality can boost tourism in the region. This, in turn, can lead to economic benefits for the local businesses, hotels, restaurants, and transportation services.
- 2) **Cultural and Educational Exchange:** The visitors to the statue may include people from diverse backgrounds, including scholars, devotees, and tourists. This can cultivate educational and cultural exchange, promoting a deeper understanding of the teachings and philosophy of Sri Ramanujacharya among a wider audience.
- 3) **Spiritual and Emotional Impact:** For devotees and followers of Sri Ramanujacharya, the statue serves as a place of spiritual significance and emotional connection. It can provide a sense of community and belonging, fostering a shared spiritual experience among the visitors.
- 4) **Local Development:** The increased foot traffic due to visitors can lead to the development of infrastructure and amenities in the surrounding area. This may include the establishment of new businesses, improved transportation facilities, and the growth of ancillary services to cater to the needs of tourists and visitors.
- 5) **Promoting Social Values:** The teachings and principles associated with the statue can have a positive influence on visitors, promoting values of equality, harmony, and

social justice. This can contribute to a broader cultural impact, fostering a sense of unity and understanding within the community.

#### Negative impact

- 1) **Overcrowding and Congestion:** High visitor numbers, particularly during peak seasons, can lead to overcrowding and congestion in the area surrounding the statue. This can create traffic congestion, long lines, and difficulties in accessing the site, leading to inconvenience for both visitors and local residents.
- 2) **Environmental Impact:** Increased foot traffic and tourism can lead to environmental degradation, including littering, pollution, and strain on local resources. Without proper management and waste disposal systems, the natural surroundings may suffer from the negative consequences of increased visitor activity.
- 3) **Cultural Insensitivity:** In some cases, increased tourism can lead to cultural insensitivity among visitors, causing disturbances to local customs and traditions. Disrespectful behavior or lack of awareness about local customs and norms can lead to friction between tourists and the local community.
- 4) **Commercialization and Gentrification:** The rise in tourism can sometimes lead to commercialization and gentrification, altering the local landscape and displacing traditional businesses and communities. This can result in an imbalance in the local economy and the loss of authentic local experiences and businesses.
- 5) **Strain on Infrastructure:** A sudden influx of visitors can put a strain on the existing infrastructure of the area, including transportation, sanitation, and utilities. Without adequate planning and development, the local infrastructure may struggle to accommodate the increased demands, leading to service disruptions and inefficiencies.

To mitigate these potential negative impacts, it is crucial for the local authorities and stakeholders to implement sustainable tourism management strategies, including infrastructure development, environmental conservation measures, and community engagement programs. Effective planning and responsible tourism practices can help minimize the adverse effects and ensure a positive and sustainable experience for both visitors and the local community.

#### 4. Suggestions and Recommendations

If you are seeking suggestions or recommendations regarding the Statue of Equality in Hyderabad, here are a few ideas that could further enhance the significance and impact of the monument:

- 1) **Transport Facilities:** Suggesting the Government to provide RTC buses to that place .so that number of visitors can visit the place. Those who have own vehicles are visiting the place.
- 2) **Educational Outreach Programs:** Implement educational outreach programs focused on spreading awareness about the teachings and philosophy of Sri Ramanujacharya. These programs could include

workshops, seminars, and educational tours designed for both local residents and tourists.

- 3) **Sustainability Initiatives:** Introduce sustainable practices and eco-friendly measures to minimize the environmental impact of the site. This could involve the implementation of waste management systems, the promotion of renewable energy sources, and the preservation of the local ecosystem.
- 4) **Cultural Exchange Events:** Organize cultural exchange events that facilitate interaction between visitors and the local community. These events could showcase the rich cultural heritage of the region, including traditional music, dance, and cuisine, thereby fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of the local culture.
- 5) **Preservation of Local Heritage:** Initiate efforts to preserve and promote the local heritage and traditions of the surrounding area. This could involve supporting local artisans and craftsmen, encouraging the preservation of indigenous art forms, and highlighting the historical significance of nearby landmarks.
- 6) **Community Engagement Projects:** Develop community engagement projects that involve the local residents in the upkeep and management of the site. Encouraging community participation in the maintenance and development of the Statue of Equality can foster a sense of ownership and pride among the local population.
- 7) **Technology Integration:** Incorporate modern technology and interactive exhibits to create an immersive and informative experience for visitors. This could include the integration of multimedia displays, virtual reality experiences, and interactive learning tools that provide a comprehensive understanding of Sri Ramanujacharya's teachings and contributions.

By implementing these suggestions, the Statue of Equality in Hyderabad can not only serve as a symbol of reverence for Sri Ramanujacharya but also as a dynamic educational and cultural hub that fosters sustainable tourism practices and community development.

#### 5. Conclusion on Statute of Equality Hyderabad

The Statue of Equality in Hyderabad, dedicated to Sri Ramanujacharya, stands as a monumental symbol of reverence and spiritual guidance. The project has not only contributed to the cultural and spiritual enrichment of the region but has also fostered a deeper understanding of the teachings and philosophy of Sri Ramanujacharya among visitors and the local community.

Through its impressive height and intricate design, the statue serves as a beacon of equality, peace, and harmony, encapsulating the essence of Sri Ramanujacharya's teachings on inclusivity and social justice. The accompanying educational and cultural complex has facilitated a platform for the dissemination of knowledge, promoting a greater understanding of the spiritual heritage and cultural significance associated with Sri Ramanujacharya's legacy. While the project has brought numerous positive impacts, it is essential to address potential challenges such as managing

visitor impact, preserving the local environment, and ensuring the sustainable development of the surrounding area. By implementing thoughtful strategies for sustainable tourism, cultural preservation, and community engagement, the Statue of Equality can continue to serve as a source of inspiration and enlightenment for generations to come, fostering a spirit of unity, compassion, and equality within society.

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