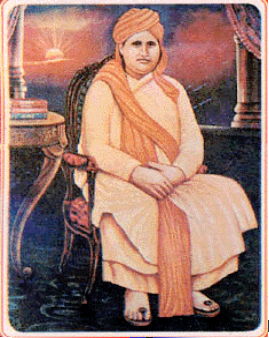


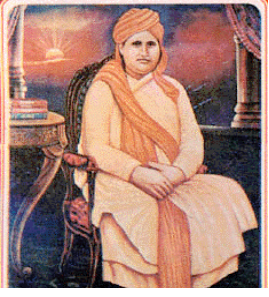


# देवता

## Devatā



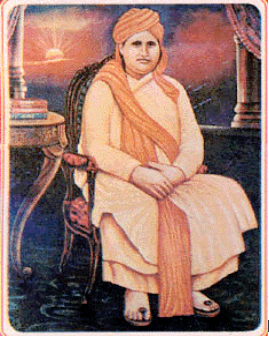
- God is the creator, sustainer and dissolver of all existence.
- It is the only one, infinite, eternal, consciousness, and bliss.
- It is every where, and it is inside each and every being and thing, seen or unseen and also beyond all this.



न द्वितीयो न तृतीयश्चतुर्थो नाप्युच्यते। न पञ्चमो न षष्ठः  
सप्तमो नाप्युच्यते। नाष्टमो न नवमो दशमो नाप्युच्यते। य एतं  
देवम् एकवृतं वेद।। तमिदं निगतं सहः स एष एक एकवृत् एक एव। "

*Atharva Veda.13.4.16-20*

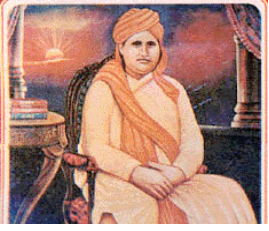
There is none second to It (God), neither third not even fourth.  
There is none fifth, neither sixth not even seventh. There is  
none eighth to it, neither ninth not even tenth.  
It is the only Supreme. This is to be known.



इन्द्रं मित्रं वरुणमग्निमाहुरथो दिव्यः स सुपर्णो गरुत्मान्।  
एकं सद्विप्रा बहुधा वदन्त्यग्निं यमं मातरिश्वानमाहुः॥

Rg Veda 1:164:46

The Being is only one. The wise tell vividly - as Agni, Yama,  
Matarishva etc...



एको देवः सर्वभूतेषु गूढः सर्वव्यापी सर्वभूतान्तरात्मा।  
कर्माध्यक्षः सर्वभूताधिवासः साक्षी चेता केवलो निर्गुणश्च॥

*Shwetashwatar Upanishad.6.11*

God, Who is one only, is hidden in all beings. He pervades all and He is the inner soul of all beings. He presides over all actions and He dwells in all beings.

एकमेवाद्वितीयं ब्रह्म ।

*Chāndogya Upaniṣad*

God is one, without a second .



What is meant by the mention of various **devatās** in our scriptures ?

Any thing having luminous properties is called devatā, as the earth for instance; but **it is nowhere regarded as God or an object of adoration.**

They are greatly mistaken who take the word "**devatā**" to mean God.



The word “**Deva**” or **Devatā** refers to one, who gives, illuminates, kindles and the celestial entities.

*Devo dānād vā dīpanād vā dyotanād vā dyusthāno bhavatīti vā. (Nirukta)*

In other words, any thing or any being, who has a contribution to one's life, is called Deva or Devatā.





# Concept of 33 Koti Devata *not 330 Million or 33 crore devatas :*



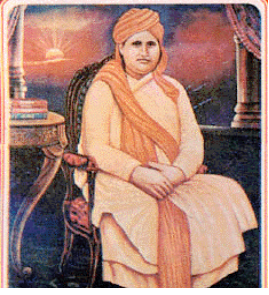
The Vedas refer to not 33 crore but 33 types of Devatas. They are explained in *Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa* (I.9.2) and many other scriptures very clearly.

**Aṣṭa vasu** (Eight abodes ),  
**Ekādaśa rudra** (Eleven Rudras),  
**Dvādaśa Āditya** (Twelve Ādityas),  
**Indra**  
**Prajāpati**

2019-07-07

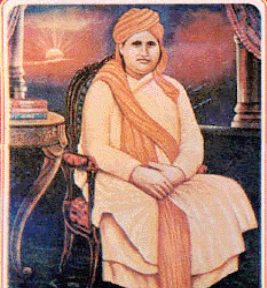
By Dr. Suryanarayan Nanda  
for Arya Samaj Greater Houston





## Aṣṭa-vasu (Eight abodes):

Earth, Water, Fire, Air, Ether  
Moon, Sun, and Stars.



## **Ekādaśa-rudra** (eleven Rudras):

They are ten **vital airs** called  
prāṇa, apāna, vyāna, samāna, udāna,  
nāga, kūrma, kṛkala, devadatta, dhanañjaya  
**Soul** the eleventh.

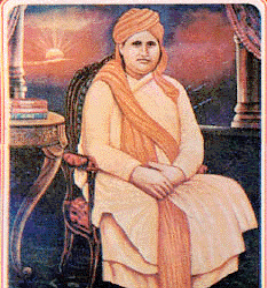
They are called Rudra because when they leave the  
body at the time of death they make people weep.

Vāyu Vital air	Area of Body	Function
<u>Prāṇa</u>	Nostril to Chest	Governs intake, inspiration, propulsion, forward momentum
<u>Apāna</u>	Pelvis navel to the feet	Governs elimination, downward and outward movement
<u>Samāna</u>	Navel	Governs assimilation, discernment, inner absorption, consolidation
<u>Udāna</u>	ascending energy, flows heart to head	Governs growth, speech, expression, ascension, upward movement
<u>Vyāna</u>	Whole body flows through the nerve channels.	Governs circulation on all levels, expansiveness, pervasiveness



## Dvādaśa Āditya (Twelve Āditya):

The **twelve months** of a year are called Ādityas, as they cause the lapse of the term of existence of each object or being.

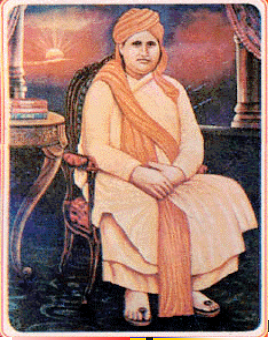


## **Indra :**

The (all-pervading) electricity is called Indra, as it is productive of great force.

## **Prajāpati :**

**Yajna** is called Prajāpati because it benefits mankind by the purification of air, water, rain and vegetables and because it aids the development of various arts, and because in it the honor is accorded to the learned and the wise.



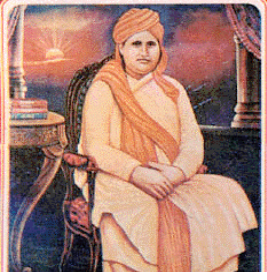
These thirty-three aforesaid entities are called **devatās** by virtue of possessing useful properties and qualities.



Being Lord of all and greater than all, the Supreme Being is called the thirty-fourth Devatā who alone is to be worshipped.

The God is called **Mahādeva** as he is the Lord of all devas, because he alone is the author of Creation, Sustenance and Dissolution of the Universe, the Great Judge and support of all.





# Deva



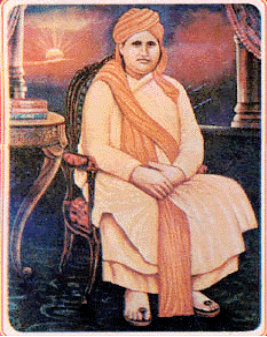
अभयं सत्त्वसंशुद्धिः ज्ञानयोगव्यवस्थितिः।  
दानं दमश्च यज्ञश्च स्वाध्यायस्तप आर्जवम्॥

अहिंसा सत्यमक्रोधस्त्यागः शान्तिरपैशुनम्।  
दया भूतेष्वलोलुप्त्वं मार्दवं ह्रीरचापलम्॥

तेजः क्षमा धृतिः शौचमद्रोहो नातिमानिता।  
भवन्ति सम्पदं दैवीमभिजातस्य भारत॥

Gita, 16.1-3

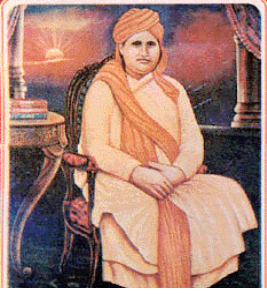
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# *Deva*



Fearlessness, clean living, unceasing concentration on wisdom, readiness to give, self-control, a spirit of sacrifice, regular study of the scriptures, austerities, candor, harmlessness, truth, absence of anger, renunciation, peacefulness, absence of crookedness, compassion towards beings, non-covetousness, gentleness, modesty, absence of fickleness, Vigor, forgiveness, fortitude, purity, absence of hatred, absence of pride, **these are the marks of Devatva (Divinity), O Arjuna.**



# Asura



दम्भो दर्पोऽभिमानश्च क्रोधः पारुष्यमेव च।

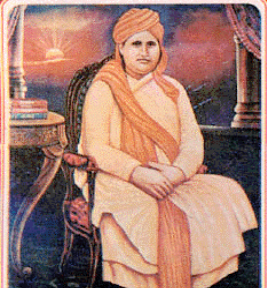
अज्ञानं चाभिजातस्य पार्थ सम्पदमासुरीम्॥ Gita, 16.4

Hypocrisy, arrogance and self-conceit, anger and also harshness and ignorance, belong to one who is born for a demoniacal state, O Partha (Arjuna).

प्रवृत्तिं च निवृत्तिं च जना न विदुरासुराः।

न शौचं नापि चाचारो न सत्यं तेषु विद्यते॥ 16.7

The demoniacal know not what to do and what to refrain from; neither purity, nor right conduct nor truth is found in them.



# Asura



एतां दृष्टिमवष्टभ्य नष्टात्मानोऽल्पबुद्धयः।  
प्रभवन्त्युग्रकर्माणः क्षयाय जगतोऽहिताः॥16.9  
चिन्तामपरिमेयां च प्रलयान्तामुपाश्रिताः।  
कामोपभोगपरमा एतावदिति निश्चिताः॥16.11

Holding this view, these ruined souls of small intellect and fierce deeds, come forth as the enemies of the world for its destruction.

Giving themselves over to immeasurable cares ending only with death, regarding gratification of lust as their highest aim, and feeling sure that that is all.



# Deva

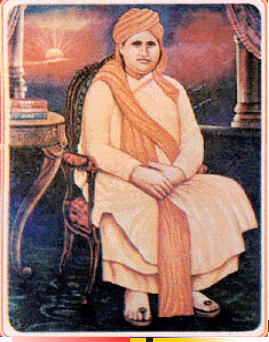


Many characters are described in *Purāṇas* (mythology) known as Devas.

Many of them are depicted as the heads of different sections of universe. who perform various functions, like executives in a large corporation.

These should not be confused with God.





केचिद् वदन्ति धनहीन—जनो जघन्यः  
केचिद् वदन्ति गुणहीन—जनो जघन्यः  
व्यासो वदत्यखिलशास्त्रगिरां प्रणेता  
नारायण—स्मरण—हीन—जनो जघन्यः