

PRINCIPLE TENETS OF THE DATTATREYA TRADITION

The principle tenets of the Dattatreya tradition are:

- Everyone should know oneself first and should know one's own reality, which is but **God**.
- One should realize the relationship between God, man and creation – the underlying kinship, unity and oneness of these three entities.



Shaneshwar mandira

Brahman is the immanent and all pervading reality in all matter – it is the origin, the support and sustenance of all.

- To obtain this vision and discern this truth, one should conquer one's **ego** through Yoga and renunciation.
- Guru's grace is indispensable. One has to surrender oneself totally and unreservedly at the feet of the Guru. His grace awakens



Kalleshwar mandira

'**Jnana**' (illumination) by which we can recognize the Reality of Brahman, which is the real self of all.

APART FROM THIS THE DISCIPLES SHOULD:

- ❖ *Have purity of thought, word and deed.*
- ❖ *Do 'Nama smaran' – remembrance of the Lord's name and meditation on it.*
- ❖ *Have compassion and love for all beings.*
- ❖ *Render selfless services at the feet of the Guru and surrender completely and unconditionally.*

INCARNATIONS OF SHRI DATTATREYA:

While Shri Dattatreya was the primal manifestation in "Datta Sampradaya" and Guru tradition, His incarnations are:

- ✓ **Shri pad Sri vallabh**
- ✓ **Shri Narasimha Saraswati**
- ✓ **ShriSwami Samarth of Akkalkot**
- ✓ **Shri Sai Baba of Shirdi**

The message of Shri Nrisimha Saraswati is summarized as under:

- ❑ **In our short fleeting span of human life, we should attempt to realize God through devotion**
- ❑ **Use Buddhi (intellect) and Viveka (discrimination) to purify the minds.**
- ❑ **Never think of hurting others in thought, word or deed.**
- ❑ **Consider yourself blessed, if you secure the blessings of a Guru. Strive to realize God who is inherent in your own heart.**