

**INDIAN MYTHOLOGY & HISTORY**

**LORD SHIVA**

# TIMELINE

	-3000 BCE	-2500 BCE	-2000 BCE	-1500 BCE	-1000 BCE	-500 BCE	0 CE	500 CE	1000 CE	1500 CE	2000 CE
	5000 ya	4500 ya	4000 ya	3500 ya	3000 ya	2500 ya	2000 ya	1500 ya	1000 ya	500 ya	now
India	Indus Valley Civilization			Gangetic Valley Vedic Civilization			Jainism/ Buddhism Mouryas	Satavahans/ Sakas/ Hunas	Guptas/ Adi Sankara	Muslim Invasion	Mughals/ Marathas/ British/ Independent India
Mesopotamia	Mesopotamian						Parthian	Romans	Islamic		
Egypt	Egyptian					Greek	Byzantine		Islamic		
Europe		Greek				Greeks / Romans	Romans	Byzantine / Romans / Dark Ages		Renaissance / Colonization / Industrial Revolution / World Wars	
Persia		Ancient Persian				Persian			Islamic		
China			Ancient China			Imperial China					Ming, Qing, Communists
Americas		Mayan				Aztecs & Incas					Europeans

BRONZE AGE

IRON AGE



# WHO IS LORD SHIVA?

- In the Hindu mythology, Lord Shiva is the Destroyer and the most important one in the Holy Trinity, the other two being Brahma the Creator and Vishnu the Protector.

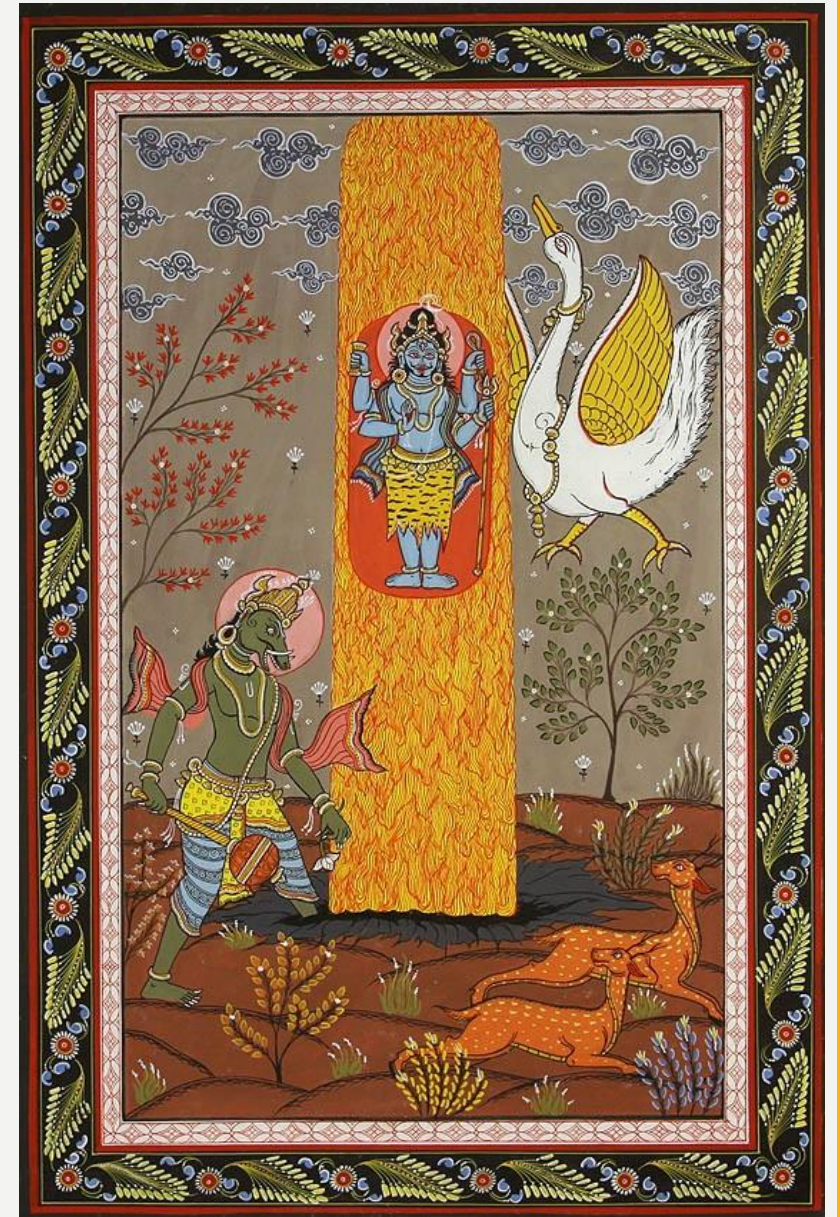


# UNIQUE APPEARANCE

- Lord Shiva has always fascinated his followers by his unique appearance:
  - he has not two but three eyes,
  - has ash smeared all over his body,
  - has snakes coiled up around his head and arms,
  - wears tiger and elephant skin,
  - leads a wild life in the cremation grounds far removed from social pretenses, and
  - is known for his proverbial anger.

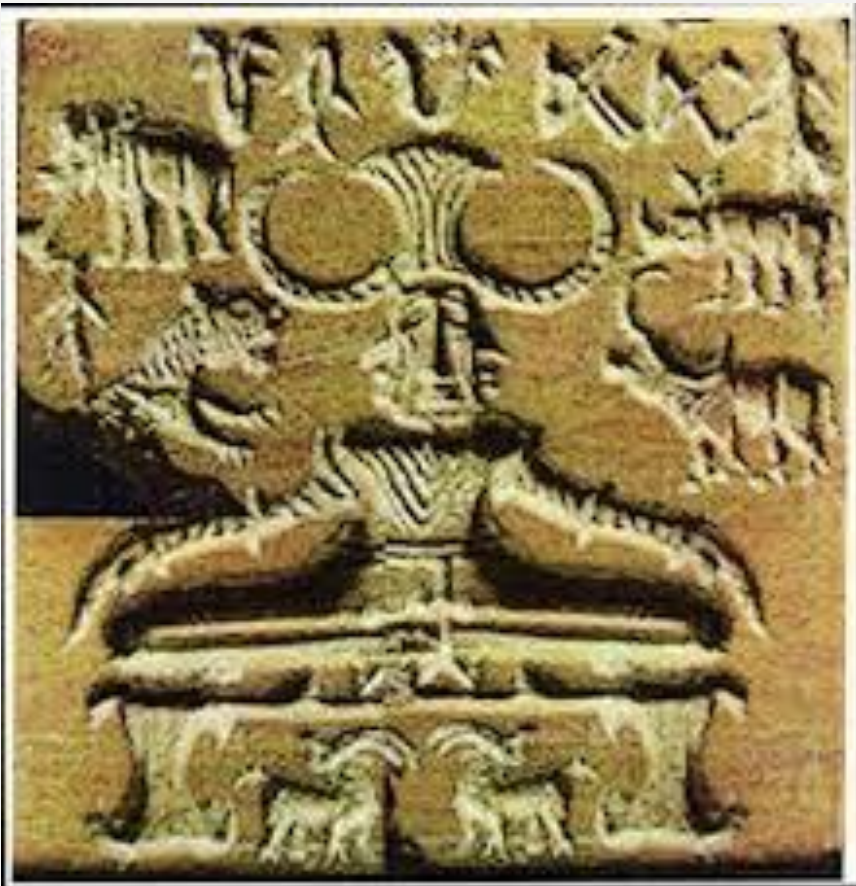
# STORIES OF SHIVA - BIRTH OF SHIVA

- Brahma and Vishnu trying to figure out who is the mightiest.
- A large unending pillar appears.
- Brahma became Goose and Vishnu became a boar.
- Cannot find the end of the pillar.
- Then they recognize their limitation and find that Shiva is this unending structure that they cannot fathom.

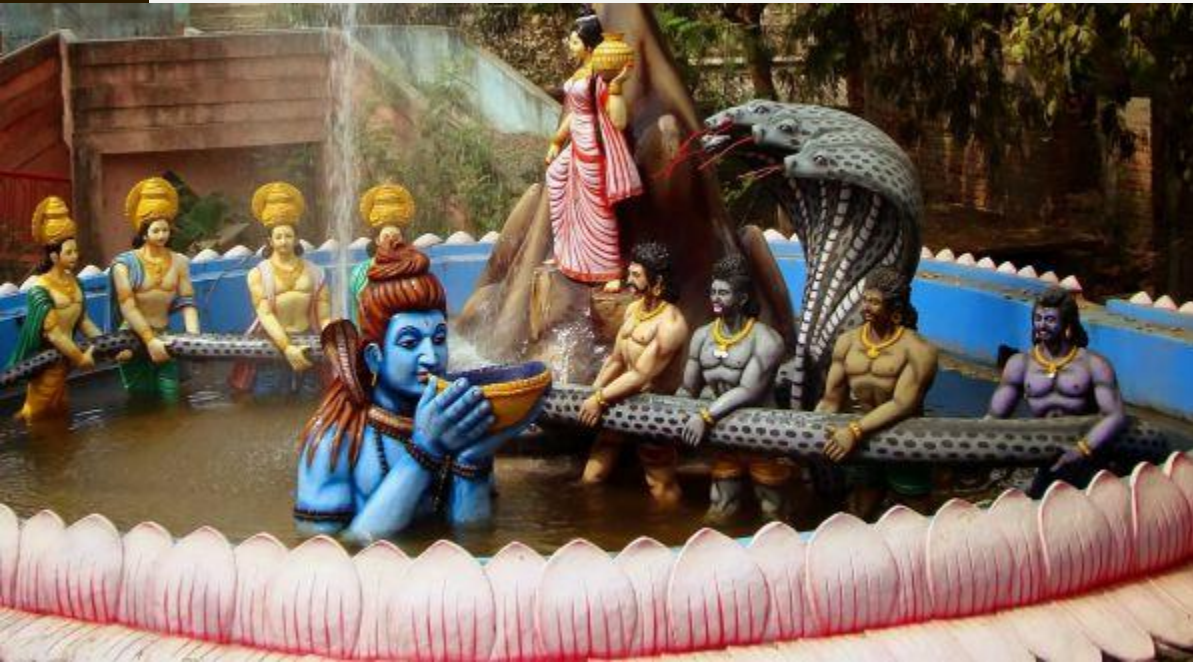


# REFERENCE OF LORD SHIVA

- YajurVeda Taittiriya Samhita I.8.6 clearly states '*Eka Eva Rudro Na Dwitiya.*' ie. 'Rudra yields noone to second.' He is revered as Rudra in Vedas.
- Many think that the Pashupati Seal in Indus Valley refers to Lord Shiva



# STORIES OF SHIVA - NEELKANTHA



- The churning of ocean (manthan) was done to get nectar of life from the depth of the ocean, well supported by Kurma incarnation of Vishnu.
- Poison came out of ocean before nectar and starting choking everyone. Shiva had to drink the poison and hold in his throat.
- That's why he is called Neelkantha.

# COSMIC DANCE OF SHIVA (TANDAV)

- When Lord Shiva does cosmic dance, Tandav, it represents the triumph of Truth over ignorance and impermanence. This eternal dance is so elevating and energizing the entire universe setting every created particle into a strong vibration, thus adding life into matter.
- When Sati, his wife dies, he starts the dance and almost destroys the universe.





# SATI'S DEATH

- Sati, daughter of Daksha (who is son of Brahma) marries Shiva against the wishes of her father.
- Father invites everyone except Shiva, upon which Sati is very disturbed and sacrifices herself
- Lord Shiva is very upset and leaves his Godly duties.
- Lord Vishnu uses his Chakra to cut Sati's body pieces and drop them in 52 different parts of India. That's where Shiva's temples 'Shakti Pithas' are.

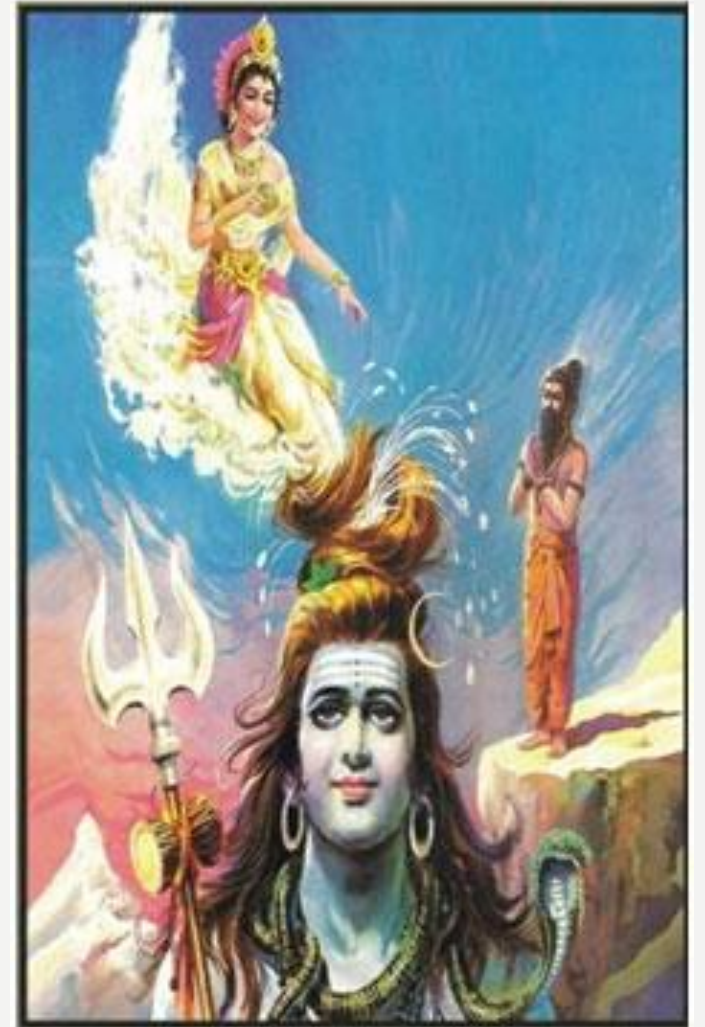
# SHIVA PARVATI

- Parvati wants to marry Shiva but Shiva was mourning for Sati.
- Devtas needed Shiva to marry Parvati so that their son will kill evil demon Taraka. So, they send Kama devta to Shiva and he falls in love with Parvati.
- Suddenly, Shiva realizes that he has been duped, so he banishes Parvati.
- But she does not give up and does severe penance.
- Shiva appears as a Brahmin and attempts to convince her not to marry a hermit.
- But, she does not relent.
- Then they get married.



# GANGA'S ADVENT ON EARTH

- Ganga needs to come to Earth to save the lives of 60000 uncles of King Bhagiratha.
- However, her force is so powerful that no one but Lord Shiva can take her force and let her gently glide on to Earth.



# REFERENCE

- <https://detechter.com/five-stories-to-tell-your-kids-about-lord-shiva/>
- <http://www.theholidayspot.com/shivratri/shiva-tales/shiva-and-sati.htm>
- <http://www.theholidayspot.com/shivratri/shiva-tales/shiva-and-parvati.htm>
- <https://www.lotussculpture.com/blog/shiva-hind-goddess-ganga/>