

Siddharudha Swami

Sadguru Siddharudha Maharaj lived in the style of an <u>ascetic</u> throughout his life. Considered to be an incarnation of <u>Shiva</u>, one of the Trinity deities of Hinduism, Siddharudha renounced his home and his family ties at the very young age of 6 years, and set himself the goal of finding his <u>Satguru</u> or spiritual master. Siddharudha later surrendered himself, as a student, to the realized soul Shri Gajadandaswami, and served at his <u>Ashram</u>.

According to the book *Siddharoodh Charitra* by Shivadas, Siddharudha was blessed by his guru and was asked to undertake a pilgrimage with the purpose of helping those in need, dispelling ignorance, and revealing the right path to spiritual enlightenment to those who were seeking. Henceforth, Siddharudha traveled from <u>Kashmir</u> to <u>Kanyakumari</u>, delivering the right wisdom for spiritual awakening and methodical liberation to all those who were cognizant of his exemplary standards of spiritual practice before setting down at <u>Hubli</u>, where he was quickly recognized for his spiritual knowledge & immaculate sainthood. People sought him out from neighbouring states for solace, satisfaction of desires and spiritual enlightenment.

He died at <u>Hubballi</u> in the year of 1929 and was entombed at his ashram. He was believed to be working miracles for his devotees. [who?] A proverb runs by in a native Indian Language <u>kannada</u>:

Siddharudhara Jolige Jagakkella holige

which signifies the food that is served at his ashram and the miracles that occur of it.

Followers

- He served the people without any discrimination, having a Muslim disciple named Kabirdas (not his original name) who was known for his dedication to him.
- Parampoojya Shri Kalavati Devi (alias Aai meaning mother in Marathi), was his supreme
 disciple. Formerly known as Rukmabai Mallapur, she herself is well known as a supreme saint,
 whose samadhi is found at Shri Harimandir at Angol, Belagavi.
- He had a devoted disciple, Gurunatharudha. His samadhi is just beside the samadhi of Sri Siddharudha Swami in Hubli Matha.
- He gave <u>sannyasa</u> to Swami <u>Muktananda</u>, who studied at his ashram in Hubli until Siddharudha's death in 1929, he then left to study with a disciple of Siddharudha called <u>Muppinarya Swami</u> at his <u>Sri Airani Holematt</u> in Ranebennur <u>Haveri</u> District
- Shri Guru also had a disciple, Shri Shivaputra Appaji whose samadhi is situated at 20 metres distance from siddharoodh math. At present Shri Abhinav Shivaputra Swamiji is head of that math.
- Sri Iychanda Bolliappa from Devanageri village was his supreme disciple. Swami Bolliappa was
 a regular visitor to Siddharudha Matha located in Cherambane village, <u>Kodagu</u> district,
 Karnataka.

Teachings

Siddharudha Maharaj is an acknowledged <u>Hindu</u> master of the Saivite Advaita stream of Vedic thought and has many followers throughout India, especially in the villages of <u>Karnataka</u>, <u>Maharashtra</u> and Telugu states.