

Sant Tukaram and Sant Jnaneshwar

November 9, 2021

In news- Prime Minister has laid the foundation stone for four laning of five sections of Shri Sant Dnyaneshwar Maharaj Palkhi Marg (NH-965) and three sections of Shri Sant Tukaram Maharaj Palkhi Marg (NH-965G).

About Sant Jnaneshwar/Dnyaneshwar-

- He was a **13th century Marathi saint, poet, philosopher and a yogi of the Nath sect.**
- **He authored Dnyaneshwari, which is a commentary on the Bhagavad Gita, and Amrutanubhav.**
- These are the oldest surviving literary works in the Marathi language, under the patronage of the Yadava dynasty of Devagiri, and these are considered to be milestones in Marathi literature.
- He used to give a discourse on Dnyaneshwari to select audiences.
- It is believed that Sacchidanand Baba wrote Dnyaneshwari during such discourses by Dnyaneshwar. This is also known as Bhavartha Deepika.
- Shortly after the completion of Bhavartha Deepika, Dnyandeo joined the **varkari movement** probably under the influence of Namdeo and virtually became their leader.
- Dnyaneshwar learned and mastered philosophy and various techniques of kundalini yoga, which is considered as the specialty of the **Nath cult, from Nivrutti.**
- Sant Dnyaneshwar's **ideas reflect the non-dualistic Advaita Vedanta philosophy** and an emphasis on Yoga and oneness of Vishnu and Shiva.
- **His legacy inspired saint-poets such as Eknath and Tukaram.**

About Sant Tukaram-

- He was a 17th-century **Marathi poet and Hindu sant (saint)**, popularly known as **Tuka, Tuko Baraya, Tukoba, born in Maharashtra.**
- He was a **Sant of Varkari sampradaya** and was part of the egalitarian, personalized Varkari devotionalism tradition.
- He is best known for his **devotional poetry called Abhanga** and community-oriented worship with spiritual songs known as kirtans (or group songs).
- Abhanga poetry is a Marathi genre of literature which is metrical (traditionally the *ovi* meter), simple, direct, and it fuses folk stories with deeper spiritual themes.
- Abhanga sung in praise of the Hindu god Vitthal, also known as Vithoba.
- **His guru was bhakti movement Saint Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.**
 - In his work of *Abhangas*, Tukarama repeatedly refers to four other persons who had a primary influence on his spiritual development, namely the earlier **Bhakti Saints Namdev, Dnyaneshwar, Kabir and Eknath.**
- **Tukaram Gatha** is a Marathi language compilation of his works, likely composed between 1632 and 1650.

Extra

reading:

<https://journalsofindia.com/vitthalas-varkari-panth/>