

# Path to Siva

**A Catechism for Youth**

Satguru Bodhinatha Veylanswami

Lesson 19

**What Is the Nature of Life for Saiivites?**



All people seek  
the same things in life.



**They want to be happy  
and secure, loved and  
appreciated, creative  
and useful.**

# Saivism has a rich and gentle culture

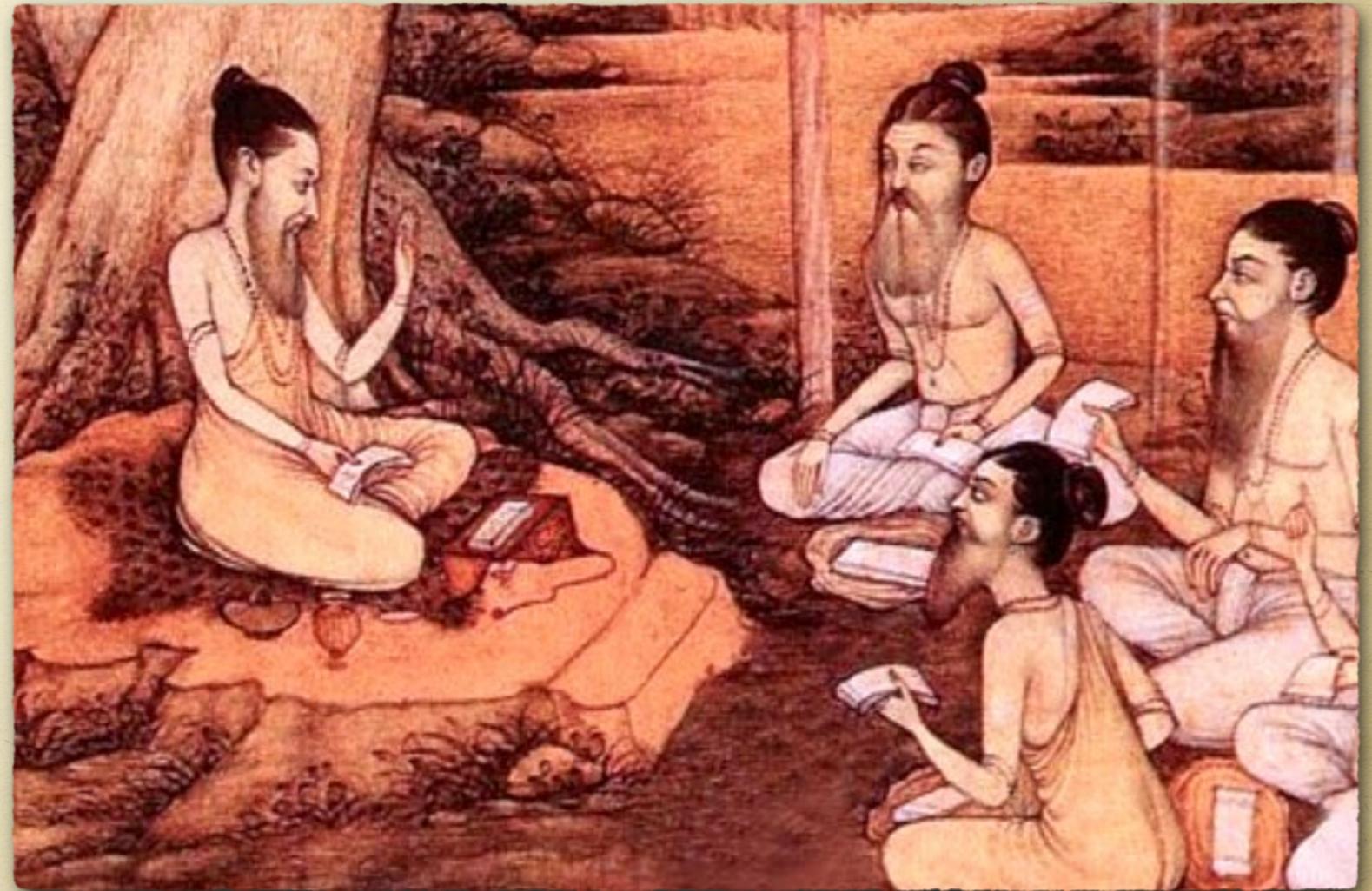
Saivism has a rich and gentle culture that fulfils these human wants.

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It has profound teachings that help us understand the world and our place in it.

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It gives guidance in the refined qualities of character so necessary in spiritual life: how to be patient, kind, tolerant, humble, hardworking and devoted.



# Saivism centers around the home and the temple.

Monastic life is its core and power.

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Family life is strong and precious.

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Mother and father are a child's first  
gurus.



# Saivism possesses a wealth of art and architecture.

It has beautiful traditions of music, art,  
drama and dance.

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It has a treasury of philosophy and  
scholarship.



# Saivite Temple Worship

Saivite temples provide worship services daily.

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Festivals are fun for the whole family.

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Scriptures help us to know ourself, live a good life and love God”



# Daily Sadhana

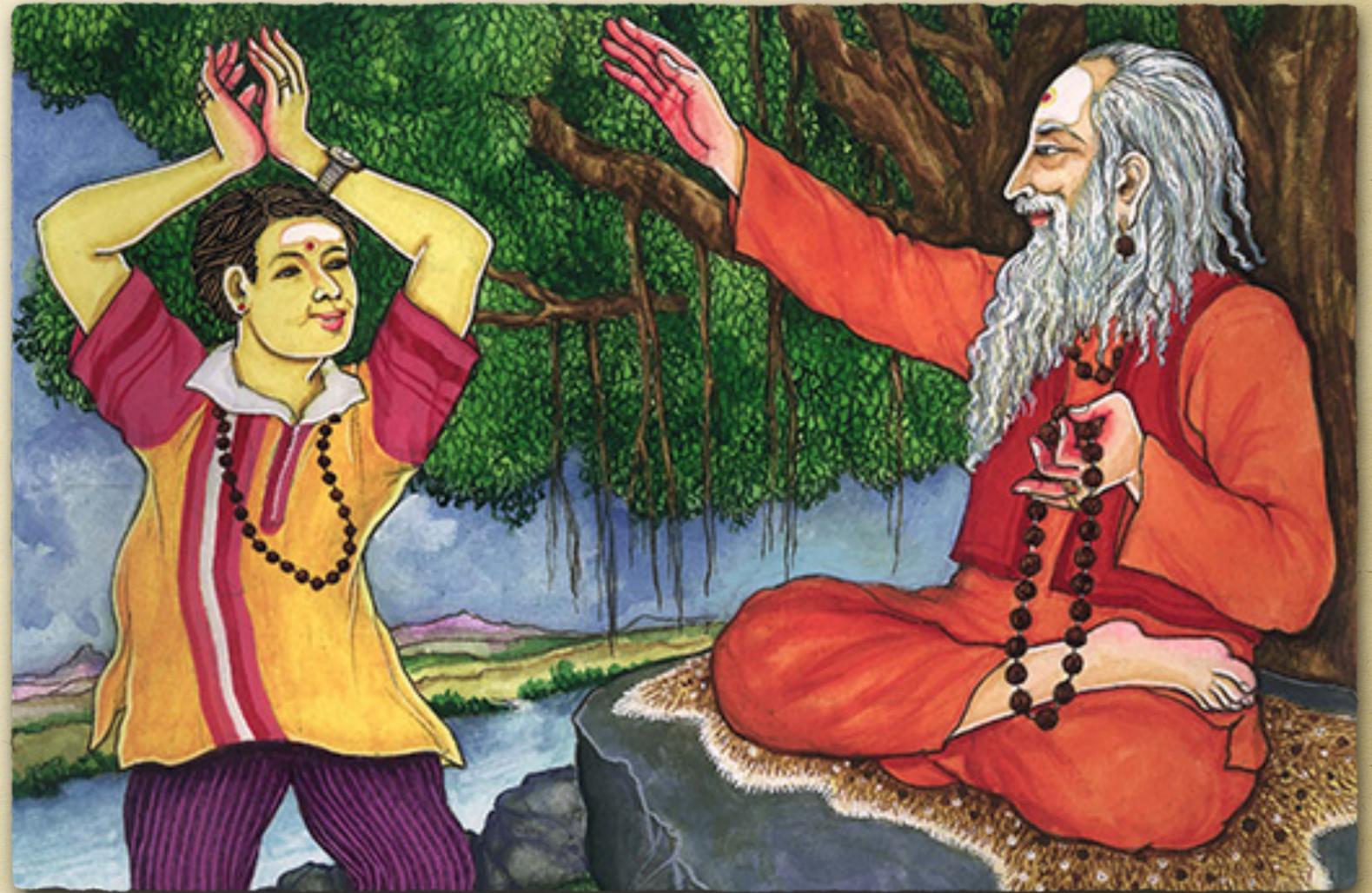
Our holy men and women teach us yoga and ways of worship.

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They inspire us in everything we do and give us daily sadhana, which are our spiritual studies and disciplines.

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Performing sadhana helps us control our instinctive impulses and live a pure and happy life.



# All of life is sacred

To the Saivite Hindu, all of life is sacred.

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All of life is religion.

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Thus, Saivite art is sacred art, Saivite music is devotional music, and the Saivite's business is not only his livelihood, it is his service to man and God.



# Stand Strong for Saivism

You are so fortunate to be a Saivite Hindu.

Stand strong for Saivism.



# Gurudeva says ...

Saivism's grandeur and beauty are found in a practical culture, an enlightened view of man's place in the universe and a profound system of temple mysticism and siddha yoga.

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# QUESTIONS for Lesson 19



**19.1** Saivism gives us guidance in the refined qualities of character so necessary in spiritual life:

(Check the one quality that does not belong in the list)

- A. Patient
- B. Kind
- C. Combative
- D. Tolerant
- E. Humble
- F. Hard-working
- G. Devoted

**19.2** Saivism centers around

(Check the correct answer)

- A. The temple
- B. The home and the temple
- C. The home

**19.3** Enter the letter from below of A - C that completes each sentence correctly.

- \_\_\_ Monastic life
- \_\_\_ Family life
- \_\_\_ Mother and father

- (A) Is strong and precious
- (B) Are a child's first guru
- (C) Is its core and power

**19.4** Enter the letter from below of A - E that completes each sentence correctly.

- \_\_\_ Temples
  - \_\_\_ Festivals
  - \_\_\_ Scriptures
  - \_\_\_ Our holy men and women
  - \_\_\_ Performing sadhana
- (A) Teach us yoga and ways of worship  
(B) Are sacred places where devotees find peace and closeness with God  
(C) Help us to know ourself, live a good life and love God.  
(D) Helps us control our instinctive impulses  
(E) Are fun for the whole family

**19.5** The Saivite's business is not only his livelihood, it is his service to man and God.

- True
- False