The idea of creating an iconic fire like this (the statue is) to not build one more monument, but to use it as a galvanizing force to transform the world from a mass of believers to individuals who seek truths of life and that beyond. You know what issues today’s believers are capable of. All the conflict on the planet—some would like to project it in a good versus evil—is essentially one mass’s belief versus another man’s. The moment you believe something, no matter what it is, you become blindsided by everything else. But belief systems work; you need a flak. If you apply your own intelligence and think for yourself, your belief will collapse. The nature of seeking is individual. Every individual has to seek within himself or herself.

The most important thing is to build this culture in such a way that it is always an individual seeking, not a religion. The good thing about seekers is they are joyously confused. When you are seeking, you have something to strive for, but nothing to fight for. The world badly needs this. The way human beings are empowered today, we have a phenomenal ability to create and destroy. When we are striving, we try to create. When we are fighting, we destroy. Believing means assuming certain truths, dimensions of which you have really no clue. This will give you confidences without clarity, which is disastrous. Seeking means consciously moving from certainty to uncertainty. When you are constantly stepping into newer terrains, it means you are genuinely progressing. Certainty comes from familiarity. When you are making rounds in the same place, obviously you are not going anywhere. People who explore different dimensions of life are always uncertain. Even great scientists talk in ifs and buts.

We will unravel this image of Adiyogi sent by Mahashivratri. People here are seeking day and night to meet the deadline. On February 24, 2017, we will offer him to the world! This is a once-in-a-lifetime event. Those of you who missed the Dusshadasa celebration, this is your chance to experience something like this, and to make as much noise as possible about Adiyogi in the world. It is very important today that the next generation turn out to be seekers, not believers. It is imperative that they do not belong to some imaginary heaven, for which they only qualify after death.

This is what believing does—it makes you deal with things that you know nothing about. Adiyogi is significant to start a new awakening in the world, where instruments of self-transformation will be common. As today, most people on the planet know how to brush their teeth, they should know how to keep themselves peaceful and joyful. Human beings must know how to manage their body and their mind. If this happens, human beings will be full of tremendous potential and possibility. Right now, people are capable of making everything a struggle. This is because they do not have tools for self-transformation. It is time we change this, starting at our homes and social surroundings. We can create a culture, whereas we focus more on how we as human beings work. If you understand how your own system works, you can employ it in many wonderful ways. Otherwise, you live by accident, which means you are naturally random. That way the simplest things can be a great struggle. What are you doing today? They are earning a living. If they wish, they reproduce. And they will die one day. Every other creature is doing that too, quite efficiently.

The point is not that everything that human beings have created is negative. The quality of science and technology and what it can do to the world essentially depends upon the kind of people handling it. The point is to create people who can use science and technology in a sensible way, to enhance life for ourselves and for everyone else on the planet. Not in a way that is destructive for ourselves and for everything around us. Not in ways that bring trouble and suffering upon ourselves and everyone else, which is what is happening right now.

You may have noticed, the last two, three summers have been hotter than ever before. In the Himalayas, you can see this too. At Gomukh, where the river Bhagirathi is born, water was spouting out from the mouth of the ice like a fountain. Now, the ice has melted so much that you can walk a mile into the ice, and only a small stream flows out of it. Many puns that used to be covered in snow throughout the year are not anymore for months on end. River CryavHASHIVARATRI

A night of nameless ecstasies

#Shivashiva

FEBRUARY 24
Nightlong
Isha Yoga Center, Coimbatore

- Powerful Meditations
- Sadhguru’s Discourses
- Musical Performances
Science & Shiva Purana

The vast emptiness that was referred to as Shiva is a boundless oneness, Sudhaguru said. The Shiva Purana contains many aspects of fundamental science in its text as well as a powerful tool to transcend limitations.

Since human perception is limited to form, many forms of Shiva in the tradition and culture are created. The enigmatic, non-pervious Ishvara; the auspicious Shambhunath, dispassionately called Shiva; the great master and teacher of the Vedas, Shastras and Tantras Daksinamurti; the easily-forgiving Ashwatantra, the one united with the very blood of the creature, Mahavatar, the absolute slumber of Ashtamangala; and the most dynamic of all, Shiva is.

In general, divine is always referred to as good. But in Shiva Purana, Shiva is neither identified as a good or bad. He is everything - he is the ugliest, he is the most beautiful; he is the best and he is the worst; he is the most disciplined, he is a drunkard. Gods, demons and all kinds of creatures in the world worship him. The so-called civilization has conveniently eliminated all those indigestible stories about Shiva, but that is where the essence of Shiva is.

Neither Good, Nor Bad, He's Everything

In general, divine is always referred to as good. But in Shiva Purana, Shiva is neither identified as a good or bad. He is everything - he is the ugliest, he is the most beautiful; he is the best and he is the worst; he is the most disciplined, he is a drunkard. Gods, demons and all kinds of creatures in the world worship him. The so-called civilization has conveniently eliminated all those indigestible stories about Shiva, but that is where the essence of Shiva is.

Today, scientists are conducting a lot of research on the nature of modern education. One of the things that they are saying is that science is much more advanced than 20 years of formal education. A large percentage of this intelligence is irreversibly destroyed. They are suggesting that one of the best ways to impart education is to use the form of stories or in the form of play. A little effort has been made in this direction, but most of the education in the world has remained highly suppressive.

The huge volume of information suppresses your intelligence unless it is given to you in a certain form, and the story form of teaching would be the best way. This is what was done in this culture. The highest dimensions of science were transmitted in a wonderful story form.

The moon is referred to as soma, the source of immortal life. Shiva has the moon because he is a great yogi who is interested in all the time, but sits in great silent. To enjoy immortality, you must be alert. That's how yogis are - totally drunk but fully alert.

The most significant aspect of Shiva is that he opened his third eye. What it means is, through those two eyes you can only see what is physical. So this is the proof of a new dimension of perception. A deep look at the physical shows that the physical is referred to as the third eye.

The third eye indicates that Shiva's energy has reached the peak. Shiva is a symbol of Kundalini, the universal energy within you. A deep look at the physical is hard to see; unless it moves. Kundalini is also such that only when it moves, you realize there is so much power within you.

Trishul symbolizes the three fundamental aspects of life. This can be called Purusha, Ida and Sushumna as man, woman and divine. These are the three basic nadas - the left, the right and the central - the energy body of the human system.
When Shiva lost his home to the tricks of Vishnu

There is a legend about Badrinath. This is where Shiva and Parvati lived. It was a magnificent palace, 10,000 feet up in the Himalayas. One day, Narayana went to see his mother, Sita, and bride, Laxmi, who is constantly serving you and spoiling you all the time. Narayana saw a good creature and decided to take it with him on his journey to the planets. However, Shiva and Parvati, who had seen a good creature, were not pleased. They took their children and left the palace. Looking at this, Shiva cried out, "Parvati, my mother, will not allow me to let the child be like this." Then she took the baby into the house. The child was very comfortable, sitting on her lap, looking very gracefully. Shiva Parvati thought that this is an ideal place for him.

He found a house here and went into it. He realized it was the abode of Shiva, a dangerous person, who could do anything to Shiva. He thought he could just as well kill his own threat as yours, so Narayana transformed himself into a little child in front of the house. Shiva and Parvati, who had seen a good creature, were not pleased. They took their children and left the palace. Looking at this, Shiva cried out, "Parvati, my mother, will not allow me to let the child be like this." Then she took the baby into the house. The child was very comfortable, sitting on her lap, looking very gracefully. Shiva Parvati thought that this is an ideal place for him.

A night-long celebration to mark dedication of the iconic face

The celebration of the night-long festival of Mahashivratri on February 14 this year will be dedicated to Lord Shiva. This festival is celebrated in India in honor of Lord Shiva, the god of destruction, creator and preserver. It is marked by a night-long fast and the recitation of the Shiva Lingam Mantra, which is believed to bring blessings and prosperity. The festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion, and is a time for reflection and introspection. The festival is celebrated in various ways across the country, with people offering prayer, performing aarti, andworshipping the god.

According to the biologists, one of the biggest steps in the evolutionary process of animals was the movement from a terrestrial to a terrestrial species habit. This is said to have happened around 200 million years ago, when the earth was covered with vast oceans. It is believed that the first terrestrial animals, such as amphibians, started to colonize the land during this period. This was a significant step in the evolution of life on Earth, and it paved the way for the development of modern animals, including humans.

Mahashivratri

According to the biologists, one of the biggest steps in the evolutionary process of an animal was the movement from a terrestrial to a terrestrial species habit. This is said to have happened around 200 million years ago, when the earth was covered with vast oceans. It is believed that the first terrestrial animals, such as amphibians, started to colonize the land during this period. This was a significant step in the evolution of life on Earth, and it paved the way for the development of modern animals, including humans.
Who is Shiva: Man, Myth or Divine?

Who is Shiva? Many scripts and legends surround this most prominent figure of Indian spiritual traditions. Is he a god? A myth constructed from Hindu culture's collective imagination? Or is there a deeper meaning to Shiva, revealed only to those who seek?

Sadhguru interprets it for us...

When we say "Shiva," there are two fundamental aspects that we are referring to. The word "Shiva" means literally "that which is not." Today, modern science is proving to us that everything comes from nothing and goes back to nothing. The fields of existence and the fundamental equality of the cosmos is vast nothingness. The paradoxes are just a small happening: a sprinkling. The rest is all vast empty space, which is referred to as Shiva. That is the womb from which everything is born, and that is the oblivion into which everything is sucked back. Everything comes from Shiva and goes back to Shiva.

So Shiva is described as a non-being, not as a being. Shiva is not described as light, but as darkness. Humanity has gone about valuing light only because of the nature of the visual apparatus that they carry. Otherwise, the only thing that is always, is darkness. Light is a limited happening in the sense that any source of light—whether a light bulb or the sun—will eventually lose its ability to give out light. Light is not eternal. It is always a limited possibility because it happens and it ends. Darkness is a much richer possibility than light. Nothing needs to burn; it is always; it is eternal. Darkness is everywhere. It is the only thing that is all pervasive.

But if I say "divine darkness," people think I am a devil worshipper or nut. In fact, in some places in the West, it is being propagated that I am a devil! But if you look at it as a concept, there is not a more intelligent concept on the planet about the whole process of creation and how it has happened. I have been talking about this in scientific terms without using the word "Shiva" to scientists around the world, and they are amazed, "Is this so? This was known? Where?" We have known this for thousands of years. Almost every peasant in India knows about it unconsciously. He talks about it without even knowing the science behind it.

The First Yogi

On another level, when we say "Shiva," we are referring to a certain yogi, the Adiyogi or the first yogi, and also the Adi Guru, the first guru, who is the basis of what we know as the yogic science today. Yoga does not mean standing on your head or binding your breath. Yoga is the science and technology to know the essential nature of how this life is created and how it can be taken to its ultimate possibility.

This first transmission of yogic science happened on the banks of Kashi Svarn, a glacial lake a few miles beyond Benares on the Himalayas, where Adiyogi began a systematic exposition of this inner technology to his first seven disciples, celebrated today as the Saptarishi. This predates all religion. Before people devised divisive ways ofpfurging humanity to a point where it seems almost impossible to fix, the most powerful tools necessary to raise human consciousness were realized and propagated.

Adiyogi - The Source of Yoga

Over 15,000 years ago, at a time predating all religions, Adiyogi appeared on the Himalayas. He attracted seven disciples and sitting in utter stillness, where the only sign of life were his tears of bliss trickling down his cheeks. People gathered around him in interest, but he was oblivious to their presence and eventually they all left. Except for seven intense sages. They beguaded him, "Please, we want to know what you know." Seeing their perseverance, Adiyogi gave them some preparatory sadhana. They did the sadhana with single-minded focus for 84 years. Then, on the day of the summer solstice, Adiyogi revealed the secret of the mind. Guiding the Saptarishi through 112 steps, through which humans can transcend limitations.

One and the Same

So "Shiva" refers to both "that which is not," and Adiyogi, because in many ways, they are synonymous. This being, who is a yogi, and that being, which is the basis of the existence, are the same, because to call someone a yogi means he has experienced the existence as himself. If you have to contain the existence within you even for a moment, you have to be that nothingness. Only nothingness can hold everything. Something cannot hold everything.

A visual cannot hold an ocean, but it cannot hold the solar system. The solar system can hold these five planets and the sun, but it cannot hold the rest of the galaxy. If you go progressively like this, ultimately you will see it is only nothingness that can hold everything. The word "yoga" means "union." A yogi is one who has experienced the union. That means, at least for one moment, he has been absolute nothingness.

When we talk about Shiva as "that which is not," and Shiva as a yogi, in a way they are synonymous, yet they are two different aspects. Because India is a dialectical culture, we shift from this to that and that to this. Efficacy. One moment we talk about Shiva as the ultimate, the next moment we talk about Shiva as the man who gave us this whole process of yoga.

Who Shiva is Not!

Unfortunately, most people today have been introduced to Shiva only through Indian calendar art. They have made him a chubby-chinned, blue-colored man because the calendar artist has only one face. If you ask for Krishna, he will put a flute in his hand. If you ask for Rama, he will put a bow in his hand. Every time I see these calendars, I always decide to never ever sit in front of a calendar. Photographs may all right— they capture you whichever way you are. If you look like a devil, you look like a devil. Why would a yogi look chubby-chinned? If you showed him skinny it would be okay, but a chubby-chinned Shiva— how is that?

In the yogic culture, Shiva is not seen as a God. He was a being who walked this land and lived in the Himalayan region. At the very source of the yogic traditions, his contributions in the making of human consciousness is too phenomenal to be ignored. Every possible way, in which you could approach and transform the human mechanism into an ultimate possibility, was explored thousands of years ago. The sophistication of it is unbelievable. The question of whether people were so sophisticated at that time is irrelevant because this did not come from a certain civilization. This came from an inner realization. This had nothing to do with what was happening around him. It was just an outer perceiving of himself. In great detail, he gave a meaning and a possibility of