

Early Hinduism in South Asia

Gupta Period (c. 321–500)

Pallava Dynasty (c. 550–728)

Rashtrakuta Dynasty (8th to 10th centuries)

Udayagiri (c. 401–402)

Deogarh (c. 530)

Elephanta (c. 550–575)

Ellora (c. 752–790)

Mamallapuram (c. 650)

Yoga

Bhakti

Vishnu [Lakshmi] (Vaishnavism) [Garuda (eagle)]

Shiva [Parvati] (Shaivism) [Nandi (bull)]

Devi (Shaktism) [Divine Mother] (lion)

Ganesha (elephant head; remover of obstacles)

Mahabharata, Ramayana (sanskrit epics)

devas (forces of order; gods)

asuras (forces of chaos; demons)

Arjuna (warrior hero of the *Mahabharata*)

Ravana (demon king)

avatara (manifestations, avatars)

Rama (Vishnu in the *Ramayana*)

Krishna (Vishnu in the *Mahabharata*)

Bhagavad Gita (Krishna's sermon to Arjuna in the *Mahabharata*)

Varaha (Vishnu's third cosmic manifestation, the boar)

Ardhanari (half Shiva, half Parvati)

Shiva Mahayogi (Shiva, Great Yogi)

Mount Kailasa (Shiva's sacred mountain residence)

Gajalakshmi (Lakshmi with elephants)

Durga (Devi manifestations; literal meaning is "unstoppable")

Durga Mahishasurmardhini (Durga, Slayer of the Buffalo Demon)

garbha-griha (inner sanctum; literal meaning is "womb-house")

lingam/yoni (symbolic representation of Shiva/Shakti)

puja (offerings)

darshan (seeing)