

63 Shalaka Purush (Heroes or Great persons)

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The tradition states that time is infinite and follows repetitive cycles of ascents and descents. During the phase of ascent there is a gradual increase of truth and goodness, and during the period of descent there is a decrease of happiness and righteousness.

It is held that at each ascent and descent cycle, sixty-three shalaka purush (great heroes) are borned of whom there are twenty-four Tirthankaras.

Sixty-three Great Persons (Shalaka Purushas)

- 24 - Tirthankaras
- 12 - Chakra-varties
- 9 - Vasudevas (Narayans)
- 9 - Prati-Vasudevas (Prati-Narayans)
- 9 - Baladevas (Balabhadras)

63 Total

24 Tirthakaras - Name and Symbols

No. Name - Symbol - Color

1. Shri Rushabhadev - ox - gold
2. Shri Ajitnatha - elephant - gold
3. Shri Sambhavanatha - horse - gold
4. Shri Abhinandana - swami monkey - gold
5. Shri Sumatinatha - crane - gold
6. Shri Padmaprabhu - lotus - red
7. Shri Suparshvanatha - swastika - gold
8. Shri Chandraprabhu - moon - silver
9. Shri Suvidhinatha - crocodile - silver
10. Shri Shitalanatha - shrivasta - gold
11. Shri Shreyansanatha - rhinoceros - gold
12. Shri Vasupujya - swami he-buffalo - red
13. Shri Vimalanatha - boar - gold
14. Shri Anantanatha - falcon - gold
15. Shri Dharmanatha - thunder-bolt - gold
16. Shri Shantinatha - deer - gold
17. Shri Kunthunatha - he-goat - gold
18. Shri Aranatha - Nandyavrata - gold
19. Shri Mallinatha - pot - blue

20. Shri Munisuvrata - swami tortoise - black
21. Shri Naminatha - lily - gold
22. Shri Neminatha - conch - black
23. Shri Parshvanatha - snake - blue
24. Shri Mahavir - swami lion - gold

The Twelve Chakra-varties are:

1. Bharata
2. Sagara
3. Meghavan
4. Sanatkumara
5. Shanti-natha
6. Kunthu-natha
7. Ara(ha)-natha
8. Subhauma
9. Padmaprabha
10. Harisena
11. Jayasena
12. Brahmadatt

The nine Vasudevas (Narayans) are:

1. Tripushta
2. Dvipushta
3. Svayambhu
4. Purushottama
5. Nara(Purusha)Simba
6. Pundarika
7. Dattadeva
8. Lakshmana
9. Krishna

The nine Prati-Vasudevas (Prati-Narayans) are:

1. Asvagriva
2. Taraka
3. Naraka
4. Nisumbha
5. Madhukaitabh
6. Prahlada
7. Bali
8. Ravana
9. Jarasandha

The nine Baladevas (Balabhadras) are:

1. Vijaya
2. Achala

3. Dharmaprabha
4. Suprabha
5. Sudarsana
6. Nandi (Ananda)
7. Nandimitra
8. Ramachandra
9. Padma

The above are the total sixty-three Shalaka-purushas.