

## Twitter Thread by V■■■■■■■



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**Do We (Hindus) really have 33 Crore Gods and Goddesses?**

**The concept of 33 Koti devata in Hinduism!**

**'33 Crore Gods' is a highly misinterpreted fact. The term 'trayastrimsati koti' mentioned in Atharva Veda, Yajur Veda, and Satapatha-brahmana, was misunderstood as 33 Crores.**



The term 'koti' in Sanskrit has two meaning, one is 'supreme' and the other is Crore.

The term 'trayastrimsati koti' does not mean the number 'thirty-three crore'. Here koti means 'supreme', pre-eminent, excellent, that is, the 33 'supreme' divinities.

# ३३ कोटी देवी-देवता का सच

So, somewhere in translation, we missed the basic fact that Hinduism has 33 Supreme Gods and not 33 Crore Gods.

(The word koti has the same meaning as "Uchcha koti.")

In the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, chapter 3, Yajñavalkya has said that in reality there are only 33 Gods and Goddesses.

Of these 8 are Vasus, 11 Rudras, 12 Adityas, and Indra and Prajapati.

( 8+ 11 + 12 + 2 = 33).



8 Vasus (deities of material elements) are -

Dyaus "Sky",  
Prthivi "Earth",  
Vayu "Wind",  
Agni "Fire",  
Nakshatra "Stars",  
Varuna "Water",  
Surya "Sun",  
Chandra "Moon"

They are called Vasus, because they are the abode of all that lives, moves or exists.



The Rudras:

Rudras are the principles of life, intermediary between unconscious material elements and the intellect. thus they represent the 10 life breaths (pranas) and the mind as the 11th.

In the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad :

the 11 Rudras are represented by ten vital energies (rudra-prana) in the body and the 11th one being the Atman (the soul)

The ten Pranas are

Praana, Apaana, Vyaana, Samaana, Udaana, Naag, Kurma, Krikal, Devadutta and Dhananjaya)

i.e. nervous forces which live in the human body and the 11th is the "human soul".

These are called 'Rudras' because when they desert the body, it becomes dead and the relations of the deceased, consequently, begin to weep. Rudra means one who makes a person to weep.

The twelve Adityas are

- Vishnu
- Sakra
- Aryaman
- Dhaataa
- Vidhaataa
- Tvashtaa
- Pooshaa
- Vivaswaan
- Savitaa
- Mitraavarun
- Ansa and
- Bhaga

(This list sometimes varies in particulars)

The 12 Adityas are described in the Rig Veda as solar deities.

they cause the lapse of the term of existence of each object or being.

1. Indra which is also known as the (all-pervading) electricity, as it is productive of great force.

1. Prajaapati, also called the "Yajna" because it benefits mankind by the purification of air, water, rain

and vegetables and because it aids the development of various arts, and in it the honor is accorded to the learned and the wise.

The Master of these 33 Devatas is the "Mahadev" or "Ishwar" who alone is to be worshipped as per 14th Kanda of Shatpath Brahman.