

Radha Soami movement

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Why is in news? PM visits Radha Soami Satsang Beas

It is a religious sect of India that has followers among both Hindus and Sikhs.

The sect was **founded in 1861 by Shiva Dayal Saheb** (also called Shivdayal), a Hindu banker of Agra.

The term radha soami signifies the **union of the soul with God**.

The Radhasoamis are a religious fellowship who have accepted saints and living gurus from many places across the world.

It is a spiritual organisation that respects the teachings of all religions, and is **dedicated to "inner development" under the guidance of a spiritual leader (Guru)**. The dera's philosophy is of "**selfless service and voluntarism**".

On the death of Shiva Dayal Saheb, the Radha Soami sect **split into two factions**.

The main group remained at **Agra**.

The other branch was started by a Sikh disciple of Shiva Dayal Saheb named Jaimal Singh. Members of this latter group are known as the **Radha Soamis of Beas**, because they have their headquarters on the **bank of the Beas River**, near Amritsar.