

Glossary

- Abhangs** - devotional songs in verses in specified meter
Abhishek - ritualistic holy bath
Acharya - a spiritual teacher
Adharma - irreligious
Adhibhautik - primordial materialism
Adhidaivik - primordial & godly
Adhyatma - see adhyatma ramayan
Adhyatmik - spiritual
Adhyatma Ramayan - esoteric version of Ram's story
Adi Maya - primordial illusions
Advaita - doctrine of identity of human soul and divine essence
Agarbattis - perfumed incense sticks
Agnihotri - brahmin who maintains a perpetual sacred fire
Agninarayan - divinity presiding over fire
Agyan - ignorance
Ahutis - offerings put into the sacred fire
Akshata - consecrated rice
Allah Malik - God is all powerful
Allah Miya - endearing name of 'Allah'
Amalak - rare fruit
Amavas/Amavasya - dark night prior to the new moon
Ambemohar - fragrant variety of rice
Ambika - Goddess Durga
Ambil - a thin sour gruel
Amra - mango
Anandashram - a place of boarding & lodging named as such
Angarkha - long coat / cloak
Anima-mahima-laghima - laghima is the power to become as small as lilliput and mahima or garima – big as a giant
Ankush - goad
Annas - old Indian coin; sixteen annas to a rupee
Anna-shuddhi - ghee i.e. clarified butter added to food for purification
Anushtan - practice of religious austerity
Anusmruti - one of the five jewels from the Mahabharat
Apar Brahma - Sagun (manifest) Brahma
Aratis - circulatory waving of wick lights along with singing of praises of deity/guru
Archana - a ritual of performing worship
Arghya - oblation of water to God
Artha - meaning
Arvachin - modern or recent
Asat - untruth/illusory
Ashadi Ekadashi - 11th day of 4th month of Hindu calendar
Ashram - hermitage; four stages of life
Ashta satvik bhava - the eight forms of spiritual changes/ecstasies
Ashtami - 8th day of Hindu calendar
Ashtang - the eight parts of the body: hands, thighs, breast, eyes, forehead etc.
Ashwatha - peepal tree, holy fig tree
Ashwin - 7th month of Hindu calendar around October
Atal - one of the seven hells - refer saptapatal
Atithi - guest
Atma/Atman - soul
Atmaram - one rejoicing in knowledge of the self
Atma-tatva - essence of the Supreme Spirit
Attar - perfume
Attithi Yagna - offering food to the uninvited guest who may come to the door step
Augusti - a sage
Aulia - Muslim saint
Aum/Aumkar - a symbol of Parabrahma to be meditated upon and worshipped
Avatar - an incarnation of God
Avyakrit - unmanifested
Bairagi - an ascetic
Balgopals - children of God; also childhood of Lord Krishna
Barat - marriage procession
Barfi - Indian sweet made of milk & sugar
Basundi - Indian sweet
Batasas - Indian sweet made of sugar
Beeba - myrobalan - marking nut
Bel - aegle marmelos or cratoeva religiosa, a tree sacred to Shiva

- Bhadrapad** - 6th month of Hindu calendar - Bhadon (August - September)
- Bhagat** - a devotee; a nickname given to Mhalsapati
- Bhagvan** - God
- Bhagvat Dharma** - ancient Hindu religious philosophy
- Bhagvat Gita** - preachings of Lord Krishna
- Bhajan** - devotional songs
- Bhajan Mala** - a garland of devotional songs
- Bhajis** - gram flour preparation, which is fried
- Bhakri** - thick bread of jowar (sorghum), bajri (millet) flour
- Bhakta** - a devotee
- Bhakta Leelamrut** - a sacred book written by Das Ganu
- Bhakti** - devotion
- Bharits** - brinjals seasoned with curds
- Bharta** - curry made from roasted brinjals
- Bhat** - rice
- Bhavarth Ramayan** - holy book
- Bhavartha Dipika** - Hindu sacred book
- Bhavishyottar Puran** - book predicting future events.
- Bhikshu** - one who solicits alms
- Bhishma Stavaraj** - one of the five jewels from the Mahabharat
- Bhoota Yagna** - refer pancha maha yagnas
- Bhu** - dearer than life (part of Gayatri Mantra)
- Bhuva** - destroyer of sorrows (part of Gayatri Mantra)
- Bhuvarelok** - region between the sun & the earth
- Bidi** - hand rolled tobacco leaf indigenous cigarette
- Brahma Gnyan** - divine knowledge
- Brahma Yagna** - refer pancha maha yagnas
- Brahmachari** - a person vowed to celibacy
- Brahmacharya** - celibate
- Brahmadev** - Brahma, supreme Hindu deity, the creator
- Brahmaiva** - one who has no desires and has no fruits thereof. So he is not re-born. Therefore, there is no departure of his vital life force. In this world, such a person is Brahma and attains Brahman
- Brahmalok** - abode of Brahma, one of the heavens
- Brahmananda** - divine bliss
- Brahmanic** - one with the Brahma, the creator
- Brahmaroop** - embodiment of Brahma
- Brahmarthi** - seeker of Brahma
- Buka** - fragrant dark powder
- Burfi** - Indian sweet
- Chaitra** - first month of Hindu calendar
- Chakor** - a greek partridge said to subsist on moon beans and drinks water from the clouds
- Chakravati** - emperor
- Chamar** - the tail of Bos grunniens, used to whisk off flies
- Chandi** - another name of Goddess Durga
- Chandogya Upanishad** - one of the ancient and longest Upanishads
- Chandrakant** - a fabulous gem
- Chandrayan** - religious observation or penance
- Changbada** - traditional musical instruments
- Chapatis** - round breads
- Charanatirtha** - holy water obtained after washing Lord's feet
- Charan** - sacred feet of the deity
- Chatak** - pied cuckoo/papiha that lives only on rain drops
- Chaturai** - cleverness
- Chavadi** - meeting place of the villagers, the office of the Kulkarni and where Baba slept on alternate nights
- Chela** - disciple
- Chhapi** - a piece of cloth placed around the chillum
- Chillum** - clay pipe for smoking
- Chintamani** - a jewel which grants desired object
- Chiplis** - wooden sticks which are beaten to a rhythm
- Chitnis** - patwari - the village revenue officer

Chopdar - mace bearer
Chulli - a mud hearth (refer panch soonas)
Chuna - lime
Chutneys - a paste with seasoning, chillies, coriander leaves, lemon juice, etc.
Da - dana - charity
Dada - respectful addressing of elder
Dakshina - offering of money as gift to God/sage
Dakshinayan - the half year in which the sun is said to move from north to south
Dal - pulses
Dama - control of body & senses
Dana - charity
Dand - punishment
Danda - baton
Danta - to have restraints
Darshan - divine vision
Darshan yatra - pilgrimage for divine vision
Dashavatar - the ten incarnations of Vishnu as Fish, Tortoise, Boar, Man-Lion, Vaman the Dwarf, Parshuram, Ram, Krishna, Buddha and Kalki yet to manifest
Dashmi - 10th day of Hindu calendar
Dassehra - see Vijaydashmi
Daya - kindness
Dev Yagna - refer panch maha yagnas
Deva - endearing way of addressing Baba
Devasthan - holy place
Dhangar - shepherd woman
Dhanteras - 13th day of dark half of the month of Kartik, 2 days before Diwali
Dharamshala - a building for stay of pilgrims
Dharma - religious & social obligations which a Hindu devout has to adhere to
Dhoti/Dhotar - a piece of cloth worn round the lower body
Dhoti-poti - yogic practice of cleaning of internal organs
Dhuni - sacred fire
Dhwaja - flag
Dhyana - meditation
Digambar - naked pious sage, anger personified, descendent of Bhrgu, follower of Parashuram

Dñyaneshwar - Hindu saint
Dñyaneshwari - Hindu sacred book written by Dñyaneshwar
Dñyanoba Maharaj - sage Dñyaneshwar
Dugdugas - those who imitate the sound of a rickety, shaking article
Durbar - gathering of devotees around Baba
Durga - Goddess
Dwaravati - Lord Krishna's Dwarka
Dwarka Mayi - the mosque in Shirdi which was used as a dwelling by Sai Baba
Ekadashi - 11th day of a lunar fortnight
Eknath Bhagvat - holy book
Fateha - Muslim way of offering food
Feni - preparation like 'sevain', made out of wheat or rice
Gadi - seat with bolster
Gajendra Moksha - one of the five jewels from the Mahabharat
Gandh/Gandha - sandalwood paste
Gandharva - celestial chorister
Ganga/Gangas - holy Indian river
Garima - refer to anima-garima-laghima
Gayatri Mantra - a sacred & powerful mantra from the Vedas
Gharba-avasta - being pregnant
Gharge - fried pat of wheat or rice, boiled with sugar
Ghats - banks of the rivers, canals, ponds, etc.
Ghee - clarified butter
Ghol - ring with bits of iron loosely attached and fastened to the top of a staff
Girija - Parvathi, consort of Lord Shiva
Gita Rahasya - Tilak's commentary on the Gita in Marathi
Gnyani - learned one
Godavari - a river of Western India
Gokul Ashtami - Lord Krishna's birthday
Gondhalis - musicians and singers and makers of gondhal/noise
Gopal Kala - feasting and merriment, following the breaking of the mud pot, filled with curds, parched rice, coins etc. The pot is hung high and reached by the formation of human pyramids by the merry-makers

- Grinati** - one who teaches or gives sermon i.e. the guru
- Guavas** - Indian fruit
- Gulal** - coloured powder
- Gulpapdi** - cake made by frying wheat flour & adding it to jaggery
- Gulvadi** - wadis made out of jaggery
- Gunas** - the constituent qualities of nature
- Gurav** - a caste
- Guru Bandhu** - disciples of the same guru
- Guru Charitra** - the story of Narasimha Saraswati Swamiji, avatar of Dutta. Its reading is said to destroy all evils & grants salvation
- Gurudev/Gururaya** - guru - revered mentor - spiritual teacher
- Gururaj** - respectful address of a guru
- Gurumaya** - guru, the mother
- Gurupurnima** - full moon night for worship of guru
- Guruputra** - disciple
- Gyan** - knowledge
- Hakim** - learned in herbal medicines
- Halal** - slaughter of an animal in accordance with Islamic law
- Handi** - round vessel to cook food
- Harijans** - Hindu outcaste
- Hatha Yoga** - one of the yogic practices
- Hiranyagarbha** - the golden egg of the Brahman from which comes the earth, its seven islands and nine continents, the seven heavens and the seven netherlands
- Holi** - festival of colours
- Holika** - a deity, worshipped during Holi
- Homa** - havan
- Id** - Muslim festival
- Idgah** - a place for Muslim prayers
- Indra** - God of rain
- Ishavasya Bhavartha Bodhini** - holy book
- Ishavasya Upanishad** - holy book
- Ishta Devta** - favourite deity
- Jamadagni** - pious sage, anger personified, descendent of Bhrigu, follower of Parashuram
- Janalok** - abode of sons of Brahma
- Janmotsav** - birthday celebration
- Japa** - repetitive chantings of the name of deity
- Jari** - see zari
- Jeshth** - 3rd month of Hindu calendar
- Jhanj** - musical instrument
- Jholi** - a bag for alms hanging from the shoulder
- Jiresal** - excellent variety of rice
- Jiva/Jeeva** - soul - atman - individual
- Jñyana** - knowledge
- Jowar** - sorghum grain
- Kacharya** - delicacy of sliced brinjals fried crisp & brown
- Kadva** - bitter
- Kafni** - long, ankle length shirt like robe
- Kakad arati** - early morning prayer
- Kaliyug** - the 4th age of the world, the iron age or that of vice. Its duration is through 4,32,000 years
- Kalpataru/Kalpavraksh** - wish fulfilling tree
- Kamadhenu** - cow that fulfils all desires
- Kandani** - refer panch soonas
- Kans** - Lord Krishna's maternal uncle, who tried to kill Krishna
- Karmas** - law of retribution / cause and effect
- Karmath** - one who takes to the path of knowledge
- Kashi** - Banaras, one of the holy places
- Kasturi** - musk
- Kaustubh** - one of the fourteen precious things obtained from churning of the ocean
- Ketaki** - pandanus odoratissimus - flowering tree
- Ketu** - planet
- Khand-yoga** - yogic practice of severing & reassembling organs of the body
- Khanjari** - small tambourine
- Kheer** - rice, milk and sugar dish
- Khichadi** - dish cooked of a mixture of rice and pulses
- Kirtans** - singing the God's praises to the accompaniment of music
- Kolamba** - the mud pot into which all offerings of food including Baba's alms were put

Kolhatinis - the rope dancers
Konkan - new land created by Parashuram by forcing the waters of the ocean in the western ghats of India
Koran - a sacred book of the Muslims
Koshimbiri - raw fruit or vegetables pickled or preserved
Koss - 9 miles equal to a Koss
Kruttika Nakshatra - third of lunar mansions
Kuber - treasurer of the heavens
Kulkarani - patwari, a village officer
Kumkum - vermilion
Kurdiyas - preparation of rice flour, fried in circular swirls
Lalaji - a term of respectful address
Langoti - a loin cloth
Leelas - divine sport
Lendi - stream on the outskirts of Shirdi village
Long Maharaj - long snake
Lota - tumbler
Maha Bhagvat - holy book
Mahasamadhi - leaving the mortal coil
Mahalok - sphere of sun and luminaries
Mahanaivedya - offerings of variety of delicious foods to a deity
Mahanirvan - refer mahasamadhi
Mahar - refer Harijan
Maharaj - respectful way of addressing Baba/emperor
Mahatal - one of the seven hells
Mahatma - high soul of noble nature
Mahattva - the 2nd of the twenty-five principles of samkhyas, one of the six Shastras
Mahendra - Indra, God of rain
Maheshwar - Lord Shiva
Mahoday Parva - a festival of joy. A good action that confers special merit upon the performance
Mahurat - auspicious time
Mala - garland
Mama - maternal uncle
Mamlatdar - a revenue official
Mandes - preparation of wheat flour, a very thin chappati slightly sweet
Mangal Ghat - banks on river Ganga in Kashi

Mantra - sacred verse or text from Vedas
Margashirsh Purnima - full moon night of 11th month of Hindu calendar around December
Marjani - refer pancha soonas
Marwadi - Hindu community hailing from Marwar - Rajasthan (India)
Masjid - mosque
Masjidmai - mosque where Baba lived & named it Dwarkamai
Math - religious establishment
Maulana - title given to a learned Muslim
Maulvi - Muslim priest
Mavashibai - aunt / mother's sister
Maya - the invisible, illusory or unmanifest and also the material world
Mimansa - ancient Hindu philosophy
Moksha - salvation, release from cycle of existence
Moong Vadis - small, flatish cakes made from moong pulse
Moulvis - Muslim priest
Mridang - drum
Muga vadi - small, flatish cakes made from phaseolusmango
Muhurat - auspicious time
Muhurram/Moharram - 1st month of Mohammedan year; fast observed in memory of killing of Hasan & Hussein (grandsons of prophet Mohammad)
Mujawar - a devotee who tends the tomb of a saint
Mukti - liberation; four fold mukti means absorption into the essence of brahman
Mulla - Muslim theologian
Munim - clerk
Munis - sages
Munshi - clerk
Munsif - civil judge
Muttal - one of the seven hells; refer saptapatalas
Naivedya - food offering to the deity
Nakshatra - asterism in the moon's path
Namaaz - prayer offered by the Muslims
Namaskar - respectful salutations
Nanda-deep - light kept burning before a deity, day & night

Nandi - bull God, vehicle of Lord Shiva
Narada - the most enlightened of enlightened sages - son of Brahma
Naradiya Bhakti - way of worship as per the sage Narad
Narasimha - a fierce avatar of Lord Vishnu
Nath Bhagvat - sacred book
Nautanki - street play
Navachandi Havan - oblations to the fire with recitations of hymns in praise of Goddess Durga
Navrathra - 1st nine days of the light half of the month of Ashwin during which Durga is worshipped
Neelkanth - Lord Shiva
Neem - margosa
Nidhis - nine treasures of the God Kuber
Nimbar - niche in the western wall of the mosque where the sandalwood paste etc. is applied
Nirakar - that which is without form
Niranjan - the lamp
Nirayan - leaving mortal coil
Nirgun - unmanifest, formless (abstract)
Nirvan - see mahasamadhi
Nirvikalpa - state of samadhi & complete peace
Oti - portion of the sari touching the lap
Ovi - verse
Pada-puja - worshipping of Lord's feet
Padukas - holy feet/shoes of the Lord
Palkhi - palanquin
Pan - betel leaf
Panch soonas - five sins i.e. "kandani" - pestle, "chulli" - lighting the hearth fire, "udkumbhi" - water pots; "peshani" - grinding, "marjani" - sweeping
Pancha - poormen's dhoti which is short - also used as towel
Panchamrut - a blend of curd, milk, sugar, honey etc.
Panchang - a calendar which deals with five things, such as the lunar date, the day of the week, planets' conjunction and half lunar day
Panchmaha yagnas - five yagnas i.e.

Brahma Yagna is reciting of Vedas; Pitru Yagna - offering food by encircling with water; Dev Yagna - offering food to the deities; Bhoota Yagna - offering food to all creatures. Attithi Yagna - offering food to the uninvited guest who may come to the doorstep
Panchikaran - combining amicably together of the five elementary substances
Panch-pran - five vital airs i.e. prana, apana, samana, udana, vayana
Panchratani Gita - a compilation of five jewels from the Mahabharat namely a) Srimad Bhagvat Gita, b) Sree Vishnu Saharsranam Stotra, c) Bhishma Stavaraj, d) Anusmruti, e) Gajendra Moksha
Pandits - one well versed in shastras
Panga - dough spread over a leaf, rolled and baked over fire
Panja - a hand, which symbolises the five great saints of the Muslims
Pan-vida - rolled betel leaf with areca nut & other ingredients
Papad - thin, crisp cake of urad pulse
Parabrahma - nirgun unmanifest Brahma
Pārāyan - religious observances - regular reading of sacred books / texts
Parees - a stone which can turn ordinary stone into gold
Parijat - flower
Parmarth - ultimate spiritual goal
Parmatma - the God
Patal - one of the seven hells
Pativrata - faithful & devoted wife
Payalu - child born with legs first
Payas - sweet made of milk, sugar & rice
Pedas - sweetmeat made of milk & sugar
Pehran - long shirt
Peshani - refer panch soonas
Phalgun Shud - 2nd fortnight of 12th month of Hindu calendar
Pheta - cloth headdress
Pie - coin of small demonitional value of British India
Pilaf - rice cooked with other ingredients
Pind - symbolic representation of Shiva / food offerings to the departed soul
Pir - Muslim saint

Pitamber - a dhoti of yellow silk
Pitru Yagna - refer panch maha yagnas
Polis - refer puran poli
Pothi - sacred text
Prabhuraya - respectful address of the God
Pradakshina - circumambulation of an idol by way of reverence
Prajapati - the creator
Prakrithi - the nature
Pralay - deluge
Pran-ahuti - oblation to the five pranas done at the beginning of meals
Prarabdha - previous karma; actions of past life
Prasad - sanctified food offerings
Prathnasamajist - one who does not worship image
Prayag - confluence of three rivers
Puja - worship
Pujari - priest
Puja-thali - a round tray containing articles for worship of a deity
Punya - merit
Punyatitthi - auspicious day of any saint leaving mortal coil
Puran/Puranas - ancient sanskrit Hindu mythology
Puranika - a brahman well versed in the puran (Hindu sacred text)
Puranoli - a wheat cake with stuffings of bengal gram cooked with jaggery
Purdah - veil
Puris - thin puffed wheat cakes
Purnima - full moon night
Purush - the supreme soul
Pushpanjali - offering of flowers
Rahu - planet
Rajaram - Lord Ram, the king
Rajas - passion, one of the three gunas
Rakshas - demon
Ram Raksha Stotra - hymn of praise to Lord Ram
Ramnavami - birth day of Lord Ram
Ramvijay - holy book
Rangoli - design drawn with lime/coloured powder
Rasatal - one of the seven hells; refer saptapatala

Rashi - the sign of the zodiac
Rath - chariot
Ravan - Ravan was the King of Lanka, who kidnapped Sita and was enemical to Ram
Rishis - saints
Rogda - puffed mass of dough baked on embers
Rudra - Lord Shiva
Rudraksh - a tree whose berries are used as beads for rosaries
Sabha-mandap - courtyard of Dwarkamai
Sachidananda - person pure in mind & body
Sadgati - liberation
Sadguru - realised teacher and avatar - an incarnation
Sadgurunatha - respectful address
Sadgururaya - respectful address of Sadguru
Sadhak - disciple
Sadhana - devoted striving
Sadhu - ascetic, holyman
Sagun - manifest, virtuous
Saimauli - Mother Sai
Sai Prabha - a magazine published by Sai devotees
Sairaya - respectful address of Sai Baba
Samadhan - quintessence of the mind
Samadhi - profound meditation; complete burial or entombment of a saint
Samadhi Mandir - temple where mortal remains of a saint are buried
Samarth - competent & powerful
Samsar - the world
Sandhya - religious meditation and repetition of mantras in the mornings/evenings
Sanjoriya - stuffed cake made out of sheera
Sansthan - Sai Baba Sansthan of Shirdi / any organization
Sant Leelamrut - a sacred book written by Das Ganu
Sant Vijaya - a sacred book written by Mahapati
Sanyas - a stage of reclusion
Sanza - wheat pudding

- Sapta Shringi** - carved image of the Goddess near Vani (Nasik)
- Saptapatala** - netherworlds; seven hells - atal, vittal, muttal, talatal, mahatal, rasatal, patal
- Saptashati** - collection of seven hundred verses in praise of Durga in Markandeya Puran
- Sardar** - head of a group
- Sari** - dress worn by Indian women
- Sarkar** - master
- Sarodes** - those who play the seven-stringed instrument and constantly practise the prediction of good fortune to the lower caste.
- Sat** - truth / real
- Satcharita** - life & teachings of Sai Baba / any great person
- Sat-chit-anand** - truth, consciousness & bliss
- Satka** - black wood baton about 2 1/2 feet long
- Satsang** - association with virtuous people
- Satva** - harmony, goodness, one of the three gunas
- Satvaguna** - righteousness
- Satvik** - spiritual
- Satyalok** - heaven of Brahma and rishis
- Satya Sai Katha** - reading of 3 chapter relating to Sai Nath from Das Ganu's Arvachin Bhakta Leelamrut
- Satya Sai Vrat** - Sai pooja after bath and being abstemious
- Satyanarayan puja** - worship of Lord Satyanarayan
- Seemolanghan** - the crossing of the border in pompous procession on the festival of Dassera
- Seer** - approx. 2 kilos
- Sesh/Sheshnag** - a legendary 1000 headed serpent
- Shake** - Hindu calendar / commencement of an era
- Shakti** - supreme & divine energy
- Shakti-pata** - transference of power from the guru to the disciple, which is effected by touch, words or even a mere glance
- Shama** - mental restraint
- Shastras** - Hindu religious literature
- Shastris** - well versed in shastras
- Sheera** - cream of wheat with sugar/jaggery and ghee
- Sheera-puri** - cream of wheat with sugar/jaggery and ghee and puffed wheat cake fried in oil
- Shehnai** - traditional Indian musical instrument played on auspicious occasions
- Shethji** - a term of respectful address
- Shidha** - rice, dal, flour and ghee
- Shikharini** - sweet dish made of ripe plantains in milk & sugar
- Shiva-ling** - the phallus or emblematic representation of Shiva
- Shivratri** - name of a festival in honour of Lord Shiva
- Shlokas** - spiritual verses
- Shradha** - faith in the guru
- Shravan** - 5th month of Hindu calendar
- Shrirang** - Lord Shriranga
- Shruti** - Vedas severally or collectively
- Siddha** - a person who abides within the perpetual bliss of self realization i.e. a semi divine person
- Siddha-rana** - one who has acquired all the eight siddhis
- Siddhi** - phenomenol power acquired through holiness
- Skanda** - sections of a holy book
- Smaran** - meditating on the Supreme Being
- Smritis** - Vedas
- Somakant** - jewel which starts oozing water when the rays of the moon fall on it
- Sovala** - state of purity
- Stambha** - all space
- Stotra/Stotras** - hymns - religious couplets
- Sudarshan Chakra** - the discus of Vishnu, a flaming weapon
- Sudras** - low caste
- Sunthwada** - sweetmeat with ginger
- Supari** - areca nut
- Surma** - antimony black powder applied to the eyes
- Sutak** - thirteen days after death when a household is deemed to be impure and during which no religious rites are performed

Swami - respected Hindu guru
Swarlok - region between sun and polarstar
Tabut - see tazia
Takia/Takiya - resting place for the fakirs
Tal - pair of cymbals
Talatal - one of the seven hells; refer saptapatala
Taluka - a division of the district
Tamas - inertia, darkness, one of the three gunas
Tamasha - a show
Tamburi - a small Turkish guitar with four strings
Tantras - a system of techniques
Tapa - ascetic fervour or practice
Tapasvis - ascetic engaged in penance
Tapolok - heaven of the tapasvis
Taptamudra - impressions on the skins made by hot stamping
Tarak mantra - hymn for crossing the ocean of existence
Tathastuta - be it as you wish
Taziya - the bier supposed to be symbolically, the tombs of Hassan and Hussein carried in procession at Muhurram
Teli - oilman
Thali - platter
Tilak - circular auspicious mark on the forehead
Tirth - sacred water
Tirtha - holyplace of pilgrimage
Tithi - Hindu calendar date
Titiksha - forbearance, bearing the opposites
Tonga - a small carriage drawn by horse / horses
Tongawallah - driver of the horse carriage
Tripundra - three horizontal lines drawn on the forehead by applying sandalwood paste, turmeric or kumkum, particularly to Lord Shiva or self
Trishanku - person left hanging between heaven & earth
Trishudhi - corporal, oral & mental purification

Tulsi - sacred basil
Tumrel - tin pot used by Baba for collecting gravied food
Turban - head dress made of cloth
Tuvar - pulse
Uddhava Gita - 11th chapter of the Bhagvat
Udi - holy ash from Baba's sacred fire known as dhuni
Udkumbhi - refer to panch soonas
Udyapan - the concluding ceremony for religious observance
Ukkal - pot where the grains are crushed to remove chaff
Uma - Parvathi, consort of Lord Shiva
Upadesh - sermon / advice
Uparna - small cloth worn loosely over the shoulders
Upasana - worship
Urus - Muslim festival
Vades - cake made of pulses, ground spiced and fried
Vadranal - the fire under the ocean
Vaid/Vaidyas - learned in herbal medicines
Vairagi - an ascetic
Vairagya - a state of saintlyhood/asceticism
Vaishnav - devotee of Lord Vishnu
Vaishwadev - fire
Vajra - thunder bolt
Valpapdi - wax beans
Vanaprashthachari - 4th stage of life when those renouncing society are taken to the forest
Vanjari - a trader who knows the paths in the forest
Varan - highly tasteful dish made of pulses
Varun - God of water
Vasanas - desires
Vasudev - Lord Krishna
Vayu - wind
Vedangas - shastras
Vedant/Vedanta - system of Hindu philosophy
Ved - ancient holy scripture
Vedic Mantras - vedic hymns

- Vedis** - brahmin well versed in vedas; an altar prepared for sacrifice
- Veena** - Indian lute
- Venkatesh Stotra** - hymn to Vishnu
- Vibhuti** - see Udi
- Vichar Sagar** - Hindi version of 'Panchadasi'
- Vijaydashmi** - the 10th day of the light half of the Hindu month Ashwin and the festival celebrating the victory of Ram over Ravan
- Viraja** - state of desirelessness
- Vishnu** - Hindu God regarded as supreme deity & second member of triad i.e. Brahma, Vishnu, Shiva
- Vishnu Sahasranama** - thousand name of Lord Vishnu
- Vishnupad** - the image of Vishnu's feet at Gaya
- Vittal** - one of the seven hells; refer saptapatala
- Vivek Sindhu** - written by Mukundraji in 1188, i.e. more than 100 years before Dnyaneshwari, on Adwait, in Marathi
- Vrat** - religious ritual for observance of vow
- Vrindavan** - tulsi (sacred basil) plant holder
- Vrittis** - way of behaviour
- Wada** - a dwelling
- Yada Panchavatishtante** - when all the five senses & the intellect become steady, considered the highest state of yoga
- Yagnas/Yagya** - sacrificial act or rite
- Yajñya** - effort
- Yavan** - Muslim
- Yoga** - Hindu system of philosophical meditation & asceticism for effecting re-union with the universal spirit
- Yoga Agni** - sacred fire
- Yogacharaya** - spiritual teacher for philosophical meditation
- Zari** - golden
- Zilla** - district



Bow to Shri Sai
Peace be to all

