

## KABIR JAYANTHI: PERSONALITIES IN NEWS

**NEWS:** Sant Kabirdas Jayanti 2025: Date, history, significance, his famous couplets—all you need to know

### WHAT'S IN THE NEWS?

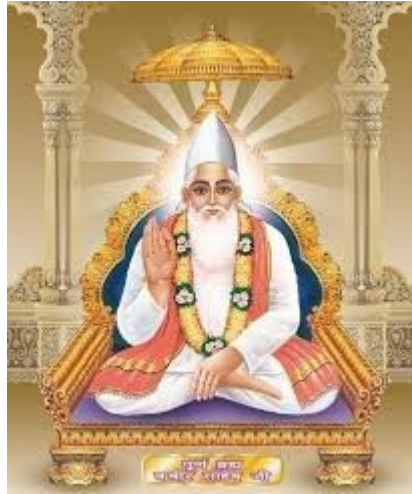
Sant Kabir Das, a 15th-century mystic poet and Bhakti reformer, is revered for his teachings on spiritual equality, rejection of caste and rituals, and promotion of devotion to a formless God. His verses, composed in local dialects, remain influential in multiple religious traditions, including Sikhism and the Kabir Panth.

### Occasion and Significance

- *Kabir Jayanti* was recently celebrated, marking the **648th birth anniversary** of the 15th-century saint.
- It is observed on the **Jyeshtha Purnima tithi** as per the Hindu lunar calendar.
- It is a day to honour **Kabir Das's teachings**, legacy, and contribution to Indian philosophy and spirituality.

### About Sant Kabir Das

- Born in **Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**, Kabir was a mystic poet, saint, and social reformer.
- He is believed to have lived between **1440 and 1518**.
- He is considered the founder of **Kabir Panth**, a religious community devoted to his teachings.
- Though born to a Muslim family (as believed in folk traditions), Kabir was raised in a spiritual environment influenced by both **Islamic Sufi and Hindu Bhakti traditions**.
- His **guru was Ramananda**, a prominent Hindu Bhakti leader and founder of the Ramanandi Sampradaya.
- Kabir promoted **religious harmony** and is respected by **both Hindus and Muslims**.
- His teachings became foundational to the **Bhakti movement** in North India.



### Kabir's Philosophy and Its Modern Relevance

- Kabir's core message centred on **unity of God, spiritual equality, and inner devotion** rather than external rituals.
- He **rejected caste discrimination**, blind faith, and idol worship.
- He denounced **meaningless rituals** and promoted **ethical conduct, compassion, truth, and introspection**.
- In the modern world, his teachings inspire:
  - **Social justice** and anti-caste movements.
  - **Spiritual minimalism** and simplicity.
  - **Religious tolerance** and universal brotherhood.
  - **Mindfulness and personal transformation** over blind religiosity.

### Language, Style, and Literary Expression

- Kabir composed his poetry in **Sadhukkadi** – a literary dialect blending **Khadi Boli, Braj, Bhojpuri, Marwari, and Awadhi**.
- Some of his verses, like *Mor Hīrā Herāil Bā Kichare Me*, are in **pure Bhojpuri**.
- His style was **simple, straightforward**, and often **metaphorical**, making his message accessible to the masses.
- He used **bhajans** (devotional songs) and **dohas** (rhyming couplets) to express deep spiritual and ethical truths.

### Themes in Kabir's Poetry

- **Inner devotion (bhakti)** over external rituals.
- **God is within the heart**; not in temples, mosques, or scriptures.

- **Unity of all religions**, belief in one formless God (Nirguna Bhakti).
- **Humanism**, simplicity, and questioning blind traditions.
- **Spiritual awakening** through love, self-reflection, and truth.

### Major Literary Contributions

- His compositions are preserved in:
  - **Kabir Bijak** – a foundational text for Kabir Panthis.
  - **Kabir Parachai, Sakhi Granth**, and **Kabir Granthawali** (Rajasthan).
  - **Adi Granth** – the Sikh scripture compiled by Guru Arjan Dev, where Kabir's verses are revered alongside other Bhakti poets.
  - **Anurag Sagar, Kabir Sagar** (compiled by his disciple Dharamdas).
  - **Satguru Granth Sahib** – used by followers of Saint Garib Das.

### Legacy and Impact

- Kabir's verses continue to influence:
  - **Saint-poets** like Guru Nanak, Ravidas, and Dadu Dayal.
  - **Movements for religious reform** and equality.
  - **Modern writers and activists** inspired by his call for social justice.
- His life and works serve as a **bridge between different faiths and communities**, promoting spiritual pluralism.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/when-is/sant-kabirdas-jayanti-2025-date-history-significance-famous-dohe-10059702/>