

What makes Sankardev the saint!



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The neo Vaishnavism experts on Saturday stressed unity and brother good among the people of all castes and creeds for a wealthy society as they participated at a huge meeting in [Udalguri](#).

What they said in the speeches are worth mentioning at a time when religious intolerance has taken the centrestage of national discourse these days.

In his opening address Srimanta Sankardev Sangha Padadhikar Bhabendranath Deka said that saints and religious preachers like Kabir, Sankaradeva, Hazrat Muhammed, Jesus Christ and many others, are part of the religious heritage and that they all promoted the culture. He further said Assam is a witness to the fact that religion of love and devotion, as practised by Sankaradeva and others, have succeeded in strengthening the spiritual bond among mankind.

Exhorting the gathering of the followers of Eksarana Naam Dharma he further stated that the legacy of [Sankardeva](#) has eroded [over](#) the years, the institutions built in his name sending his creed hurtling towards inauthenticity. In a new [trend](#), he seems to be becoming appropriated by political parties for their vested interests which has been diverting the core agenda of satras, or neo-Vaishnavite monasteries.

Earlier in the day-long programme started with lighting of diya by advisor of [Bhergaon](#) district committee advisor Mangal Rabha followed by Prata-Sangha by Gopal Deka, recitation of Bhagawat, recitation of Diha-naam and Thia-naam by women. In the open session chaired by Mahendra Deka Chief secretary of SSS, Prafulla Bora attended as distinguished speaker along with many dignitaries of SSS. It is to be mentioned that a 31 member [Bhergaon](#) District Committee of SSS has been formed on Oct 22 last with Mahendra Deka and Atul Chandra Natha as Secretary.

Shajid Khan

Recipient of The Annual Colosseum Awards 2014 & 2015 (by The Assam Tribune group), Shajid Khan is an Independent journalist based in Assam. He has contributed numerous political, socio-political stories for bountiful national,international as well as Assam based publications including The New York Times,Firstpost,The Telegraph. He also pens down analytic commentary on print and web based publications.

BY SHAJID KHAN

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