

Kalki

For other uses, see [Kalki \(disambiguation\)](#).

In Hinduism, **Kalki** (Devanagari: कल्कि; lit. *destroyer of filth*) is the tenth and final avatar of the god Vishnu in the current Mahayuga, foretold to appear at the end of Kali Yuga, the current epoch. The *Purana scriptures* foretell that Kalki will be atop a white horse with a drawn blazing sword. He is the harbinger of the end time in Hindu eschatology, after which he will usher in Satya Yuga.

In Buddhist Kalachakra tradition, 25 rulers of the Shambhala Kingdom held the title of Kalki, Kulika or Kalki-king.^[1] During Vaishakha, the first fortnight in Shukla Paksha is dedicated to fifteen deities, with each day for a different god. In this tradition, the twelfth day is Vaishakha Dwadashi and is dedicated to Madhava, another name for Kalki.

1 Etymology

The name Kalki is a metaphor for eternity or time. Its origins may lie in the Sanskrit word *kalka* which means foulness or filth. Hence, the name translates to the “destroyer of foulness”, “destroyer of darkness”, or “destroyer of ignorance”.^[2] Another etymology from Sanskrit is "white horse".^[3]

2 Maha Avatara

There are numerous interpretations of Vedic tradition. Avatara means “descent” and refers to a descent of the divine into the material realm in the Avatari’s self same form. The *Garuda Purana* lists ten avatars, with Kalki being the tenth.^[4] The *Bhagavata Purana* initially lists twenty-two avatars, but mentions an additional three for a total of twenty-five. He is presented as the twenty-second avatar on that list. Popular images depict him riding a white horse with wings, known as 'Devadatta' or *God given*. In these images, Kalki is brandishing a brilliant sword in his left hand, eradicating the decadence of Kali Yuga. Lord Kalki will remove the darkness of kali yuga and establish a new yuga (age) called Satya yuga (Age of Truth) on the earth. Satya yuga is also known as Krita yuga. Similarly, as per the characteristics of the next cycle of four yugas, the next satya yuga will be known as Panchoratha Yuga.

3 Puranas

One of the earliest mentions of Kalki is in the *Vishnu Purana*, dated to after the Gupta Empire.^[5] The *Agni Purana*, one of the earliest Puranas to describe Buddha as an avatar, also describes Kalki and the end time. It draws heavily upon the *Vishnu Purana* in content. The *Kalki Purana*, a minor scripture by comparison, has the most detailed descriptions of Kalki.

4 Birth

As written in the Kalki Purana:

Literal translation:

शम्भल ग्राम मुख्यस्य ब्राह्मणस्य महात्मनः ।
भवने वषिणुयशसः कल्किः प्रादुर्भवषियति ॥
Srimad Bhagavatha Maha Purana – 12:2:18

शम्भल ग्राम मुख्यस्य ब्राह्मणस्य
महात्मनः ।

शम्भु Shambhu (Shiv Shambhu Bhola) + ल or
ले (of) + ग्राम Grama (Community/Village)
+ मुख्यस्य Mukhyasya (Principally) +
ब्राह्मणस्य Brahmanasya (of the Brahmins)
+ महात्मनः Maha Atman (Great Souls) **The
Chief Holy Brahmin (Priest) of the Village
- 'Shambhal'.**

भवने वषिणुयशसः कल्किः
प्रादुर्भवषियति ॥

भवने Bhavanê (At the home of) + वषिणु
Vishnu + यशसः Yáśas (Worthy) + कल्क Kalk
(Mud or Sediment) + इ i (to arise from, come
from) + प्रादुर् Prādúr (Arise/Born) भवषियति
Bhavishyati (In the future)

In the future at the home of the aforementioned - Vishnuyashasa, 'Destroyer of Evil' will arise/be born.

This points to a name equivalent to mud or sediment born.

द्वादश्यां शुक्ल-पक्षस्य माधवे मासि
माधवम् ।

जातं ददृशतुः पुत्रं पतिरौ हृष्ट-मानसौ ॥
(1:2:15 Kalki Purna)

द्वादश्यां - द्वा dvA (two) + दश्यां dashya
(tens/10's) meaning 12 शुक्ल-पक्षस्य - शुक्ल
Shukla (bright) + पक्षस्य(pakshaya) parts

(the first part of the moon cycle) + माधवे madhva is hindu month of Chaitra (First day of Chaitra is when Lord Brahma created the universe, Hindu new year starts) March/April + मासि masi (month of) + माधवम् Lord Krishna (as Kalki) arrived. जातं ददृशतुः पुत्रं पतिरौ हृष्ट-मानसौ ।।

जातं jatam (born - brought into existence) + ददृशतुः dadastu (then) + पुत्रं putram (a son) + पतिरौ pitarau (parents [were]) + हृष्ट hrshta (thrilling with rapture, rejoiced, pleased, glad, merry) + मानसौ manasau (mental feeling). or **12th of the first part of the moon cycle in the month of Chaitra (March/April, Hindu new year) Lord Krishna (as Kalki) arrived then the father was overwhelmed by the son being born** This also points to the sun sign of Aries. In Chaitra month, the fifteen days in Shukla paksha (first fortnight / first half of the month) are dedicated to fifteen gods or deities. Each day of the Chaitra month is dedicated to a different god. The 12th day (Chaitra Dwadashi) is dedicated to Lord Sri Maha Vishnu.

There is a description of his background in other sources of scripture. The Kalachakra tantra, first taught by Buddha to Dharmaraja Suchandra of Shambhala, also describes his background:

Lord Kalki will appear in the home of the most eminent brahmana of Shambhala village, the great souls Vishnuyasha and his wife, the pure of thought Sumati.

— Srimad-Bhagavatam Bhag.12.2.18

Vishnuyasha refers to the father of Kalki as a devotee of Vishnu while Sumati refers to His mother in Shambhala. Also it is written in Kalki Purana that he will have four brothers who are Sumanta, Prajna and Kavi.

The Agni Purana predicts that at the time of his birth, evil kings will feed on the pious. Kalki will be born son of Vishnuyasha in the mythic Shambhala. He will have Yajnavalkya as his spiritual guru.

Parashurama, the sixth avatar of Vishnu is a Chiranjivi (immortal) and in scripture is believed to be alive, waiting for the return of Kalki. He will be a martial preceptor of Kalki, teaching him military science, warfare arts and instructing him in the performance of a severe penance in order to receive celestial weaponry.^{[6] [7]}

Kalki will be born from suryavanshi clan . and finishing and destroying Kali the muscle power and authority demon which could lead threats of lots of fraud and will be living in the west of india. he will be born under the grace of surya dev in the east of india and destroying of darkness of west and removing violence cause by potency

of economical , political and physical power and remove huskiness , bully ,hooligan , roughneck , ruffian, tough and rowdy which just show muscle no brain. and Kalki will establish moral law in the form of the fourfold varnas, and organize society into four classes, after which there will be a return to the path of righteousness.^[8] The purana also relates that Hari, will then give up the form of Kalki, return to heaven and the Krita or Satya Yuga will return as before.^[9]

The Vishnu Purana also explains:

When the practices taught in the Vedas and institutes of law have nearly ceased, and the close of the Kali age shall be nigh, a portion of that divine being who exists of His own spiritual nature, and who is the beginning and end, and who comprehends all things, shall descend upon earth. He will be born in the family of Vishnuyasha, an eminent brahmana of Shambhala village, as Kalki, endowed with eight superhuman faculties, when the eight suns (represented by 8 solar deities or Vasu who lord over Dhanishta Nakshatra) will together shine over the sky. By His irresistible might he will destroy all the mlecchas (Barbarians) and thieves, and all whose minds are devoted to iniquity. He will reestablish righteousness upon earth, and the minds of those who live at the end of the Kali age shall be awakened, and shall be as clear as crystal. The men who are thus changed by virtue of that peculiar time shall be as the seeds of human beings, and shall give birth to a race who will follow the laws of the Krita age or Satya Yuga, the age of purity. As it is said, 'When the sun and moon, and the lunar asterism Tishya, and the planet Jupiter, are in one mansion, the Krita age shall return.

— Vishnu Purana, Book Four, Chapter 24



Kalki as Vajimukha (horse-faced).

The Padma Purana describes that Kalki will end the age of Kali and kill all mlecchas. He will gather all brahmanas

and propound the highest truth, bringing back the ways of dharma that have been lost, and removing the prolonged hunger of the Brahmin. Kalki will defy oppression and be a banner of victory for the world.^[10]

The Bhagavata Purana states

At the end of Kali Yuga, when there exist no topics on the subject of God, even at the residences of so-called saints and respectable gentlemen, and when the power of government is transferred to the hands of ministers elected from the evil men, and when nothing is known of the techniques of sacrifice, even by word, at that time the Lord will appear as the supreme chastiser.

— Bhagavata Purana, 2.7.38

It goes on to foretell his arrival:

The ascetic prince, Lord Kalki, the Lord of the Universe, will mount His swift white horse Devadatta and, sword in hand, travel over the earth exhibiting His eight mystic opulences and eight special qualities of Godhead. Displaying His unequalled effulgence and riding with great speed, He will kill the millions of those thieves who have dared dress as kings.

— Bhagavata Purana, 12.2.19-20

The Kalki Purana combines elements of earlier scriptures to describe Kalki. He will have the power to change the course of the stream of time and restore the path of the righteous. The evil demon Kali will spring from the back of Brahma and descend to earth and cause dharma to be forgotten and society to decay. When man stops offering yagna, Vishnu will then descend a final time to save the steadfast. He will be reborn as Kalki to a Brahmin family in the city of Shambhala.

Followers of Tibetan Buddhism have preserved the *Kalachakra Tantra* in which “Kalkin” is a title of 25 rulers in the mystical realm of Shambhala. This tantra mirrors a number of prophecies of the Puranas.

5 Kalki Avatar according to Sikhism

Kalki was described by Guru Gobind Singh in *Sri Dasam Granth*. Kalki is also mentioned in the oral traditions of Guru Gobind Singh known as the sau sakhis, and possibly the Sarbloh Granth. He is foretold to return on horseback with sword, manifesting himself at the village Sambhal and sounding his trumpet before fighting the wicked.



Kalki Avatar Punjab Hills, Guler, c. 1765.

Gobind Singh writes in the *Sri Dasam Granth*:

When there is incest, adultery, atheism, hatred of religion, no more dharma, and sin everywhere, the impossible Iron Age has come; in what way the world will be saved? For the helpless, the Lord Himself will manifest as the Supreme Purusha. He will be called the Kalki incarnation and will be glorious like a lion coming down from heaven.

The return of Kalki in Sikhism is also predicted to be the end of the “Iron Age” and beginning of end time.

6 Padma

Padma will be the consort of the avatar, as written in the Kalki Purana.^[11] The beloved of Kalki who is incarnation of Lakshmi lives at द्वीप द्वीपा (island) सहिले Simhalē (सहि simha (Lion) + ले lē(of))= “the island of the lion”(1:3:9). Lion City island.

7 Predictions about his birth and time of arrival

Main article: End time

Modern scholars have attempted to link recent history to Kalki. Given the traditional account of the Kali Yuga, which will last 432,000 years, and began in 3102 BCE,^{[12][13]} scholar such as Sri Yukteswar Giri have claimed there are smaller cycles within the larger 432,000 year revolution.^{[14][15]}

7.1 Origin of Kalki

It is believed that the origin of Kalki will be in India on banks of river Ganges.



Dashavatara: (from left) Matsya, Kurma, Varaha, Narasimha, Vamana, Parashurama, Rama, Krishna, Buddha and Kalki.

7.2 Astrology

Kalki can only be the one whose Birthday/Tithi falls on Dvadasi of Sukla Paksha. This amounts to just 12 days per any given year furthermore as it can only be the day of the Lord Sri Maha Vishnu (Chaitra Dwadashi) this amounts to just one day each year or 100 days in the last century.

South Indian astrologers have analyzed Puranas extensively to try and foretell the time of birth of Kalki. The signs described in the Kalki Purana are as follows:

1. The moon will be in Dhanishtha nakshatra, Aquarius, suggesting he will be wealthy, acclaimed and swift in action and thought.
2. The sun will be in Swati, the nakshatra of the sword.
3. Jupiter will be in Purva Ashadha nakshatra, Sagittarius.
4. The Ascendant Lord will be in Purva Ashadha nakshatra, also Sagittarius, suggesting invincibility and early victory.
5. Saturn will be exalted in Libra, predicting a balance between justice and the sword.
6. Ketu, lord of horse-headed Ashwini, will be exalted in Scorpio, suggesting he will descend atop a great white steed.

The Puranas describe the date as twenty-one fortnights from the birth of Krishna, which itself falls on Janmash-tami in August. This would put his descent at Vaishakha, between April and May. At this time, the father of Kalki is foretold to be overwhelmed by the incarnation of God-head that he sees as his son. This places Kalki under the sun sign of Aries or Taurus.

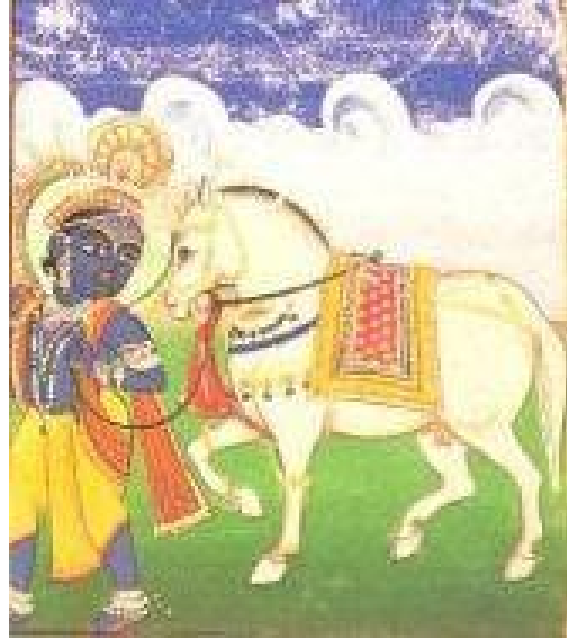
The Bhavishya Purana foretells:

The Savior of the entire universe, Maha Vishnu

will be born on Margashirsha Month, Krishna Ashtami

8th day after the full-moon day.

— Bhavishya Purana, Canto IV, Chapter 23, Text 15



Kalki with his white horse Devadatta

There have been a range of dates predicted, purportedly from different methods of calculation.^[16] Sri Potuluri Virabrahmendra Swami, for example, wrote 400 years ago in his *Divya Maha Kala Gnana*, or 'Divine Knowledge of the Time,' that Kalki would arrive when the moon, sun, Venus and Jupiter entered the same sign. This is not a rare occurrence and last happened in early 2012, passing without event.^[17] The time of arrival of Kalki has not been consistently asserted by astrologers.^[16]

7.3 People who have claimed to be Kalki

- Members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community believe their founder, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, to be the Kalki Avatar.^[18]
- Members of the Bahá'í Faith have interpreted the prophecies of end time as references to the arrival of their founder Bahá'u'lláh, which has helped growth of the Bahá'í faith in India.^{[19][20][21]}
- By some members of the Ahmadiya Muslim Community, Kalki Avatar is believed to be the Islamic Prophet Muhammad; some of the Muslim scholars and a few of the Hindu scholars^{[22][23]} also argued that kalki is mentioned indicating Muhammad in some Hindu scriptures.^{[23][24]} However, most of the Hindu scholars widely discarded it as a false theory, claiming that Kalki is supposed to arrive at the end of Kali Yuga, not in the beginning.

8 See also

- Dashavatara

- End time
- Kali
- Koka and Vikoka
- Lord of Light
- Mahabharata
- Maitreya
- Ramayana
- Suchandra

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10 External links

- Kalki Indian Mythology 1 2
- Hindu Prophecies: Translations from the Kalki Purana
- Commentaries on the Kalki Purana
- Sri Dasam Granth Sahib

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