

# AKSHARDHAM

## ABOUT

Akshardham Temple is a Hindu temple in New Delhi, India and was constructed in 2005. This map depicts the “mandir,” which contains the shrine to the deities the temple is dedicated to. The entire temple complex is much larger and is, in fact, the largest Hindu temple in the world.

## NOTES

Before continuing, I'd just like to state that everything you are about to read was written by a person that knows almost nothing about Hinduism. Any or all of this may be completely wrong. I can only promise that I am trying my best.

Akshardham is dedicated to several deities, but the primary one is Swaminarayan, an 18th and 19-century yogi who is believed to be a manifestation of the god Krishna. Krishna is the god of protection, compassion and love.

The small fountain just inside the entrance to the temple is called an *abhishek*. This is a holy bath, with a golden statue of a deity in the center. Worshippers who visit the temple pour water over the deity as a ritual of devotion.

In front of the temple's golden statues is an altar, where visitors may make offerings to the gods.

The temple does not contain accommodations for staff or clergy, who would live outside the temple itself.

The temple has a number of gardeners on staff. In a fantasy setting, this might be handled by a druid.









