



Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam

Why in News?

Nearly 3,000 people are expected to attend **Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam**. The festival aims to showcase “**age-old ties**” and cultural links between two coastal **States of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu**.

- The **Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam**, is similar to the [Kashi Tamil Sangamam](#).

What is Saurashtra Tamil Sangamam?

- **Background:**
 - Centuries ago, invasions between 600 and 1000 years ago forced numerous individuals to **migrate from Saurashtra in Gujarat and establish new settlements in Tamil Nadu's districts around Madurai**, now known as **Tamil Saurashtrian**.
 - People of Gujarati origin have settled in various places in TamilNadu, such as **Tiruchi, Thanjavur, Kumbakonam, and Salem**, creating cultural connections between **Gujarat and Tamil Nadu**.
- **Highlights of the Festival:**
 - The festival aims to **highlight the cultural diversity and strength of India and to reconnect people with pilgrimage destinations and [cultural heritage](#)**.
 - This event will take place at multiple locations in Gujarat such as **Somnath, Dwarka and the [Statue of Unity](#) at Kevadia**.

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▪ Significance of Logo:

- It is a representation of the **merging of the silk fabric expertise of the Tamil Saurashtrian people** and the **textile industry of Gujarat**.
- The confluence of the **two cultures is depicted through the Somnath temple**, the place of origin of the Saurashtrians, and the [Meenakshi temple](#) near Madurai, where they settled.
- A young woman, posing in a **dancing posture with dandiya (Gujarat) and bharatanatyam (Tamil Nadu)**, embodies the coming together of two art forms.
- The **upper tricolour signifies the message of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.'** while the **blue colour on the lower side symbolises the merging of the two states with the sea.**

What is the Significance of Sangamam?

- **Cultural Security:** It is as important as other forms of security, such as border security, economic security, food security, social security, and cybersecurity.
 - **Protecting cultural links and heritage through Sangamam** is essential for maintaining the identity of a nation and has witnessed a **cultural revival of India.**
- **Community Building and Social Cohesion:** Sangamam serves as a **platform for the community to come together, socialise, and build a sense of community.**
 - It also promotes **mutual respect, understanding, and harmony** among people from different walks of life fostering a **sense of unity and togetherness.**

What is Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat?

- **About:** It was launched in 2015 to promote engagement amongst the people of different States/UTs so as to enhance **mutual understanding and bonding between people of diverse cultures**, thereby securing stronger unity and integrity of India.
- **Ministry Involved:** The **Ministry of Education** has been designated as the Nodal Ministry for co-ordination of the programme.
- **Activities Under the Scheme:** Every State and UT in the country would be paired with another

State/UT for a time period, during which they **would carry out a structured engagement with one another in the spheres of language, literature, cuisine, festivals, cultural events, tourism etc.**

[Source: TH](#)

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