

What is a Rudraksha?

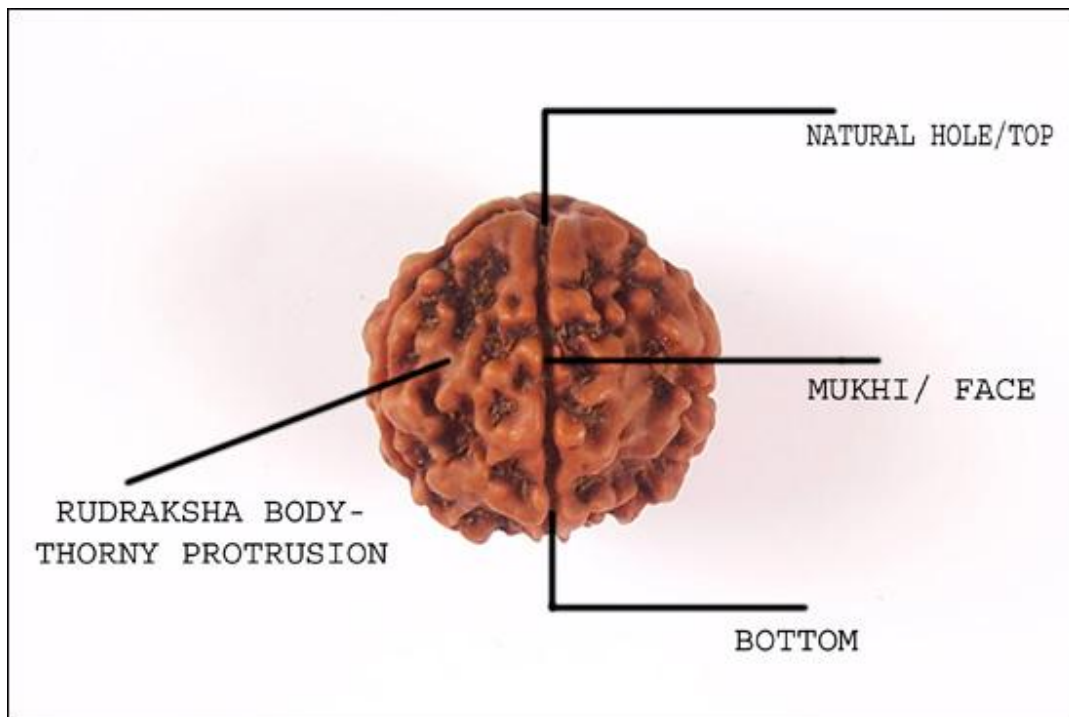
Introduction

Since the dawn of time, man has used various spiritual and natural healing products to overcome various problems that he comes across in day to day life. According to our ancient Vedic texts out of all the spiritual symbols, Rudraksha holds a very special place in today's materialistic and stressful world helping one in reducing their various day to day problems. It is accredited to possess mystical and divine properties. Rudrakshas are considered auspicious as well as powerful and are supposed to have intense astrological benefits according to modern astrologers.

Origin

'Rudraksha' has its origin from the Sanskrit words, 'Rudra' and 'Aksha'. 'Rudra' is one of the 1008 names of Lord Shiva, and 'Aksha' means eye. As per the old mythological tale, the Rudraksha berry was born out of Lord Shiva's (Rudra) eye drops (Aksha); hence the berry is called Rudraksha. It is so far found that Rudraksha berry which is botanically known as "Elaeocarpus Granitrus Roxb." are produced by "Utrasum" trees in pocketed Himalayan regions of Nepal, Indonesia, India & may be a few other countries. Ancient scriptures, such as 'Shiva Purana', 'Padma Purana' and 'Srimad Bhagvatam' mention the greatness and wonderful powers of the Rudrakshas. If you wish to know in detail how Rudraksha originated visit [Birth of Rudraksha](#).

Rudraksha Anatomy



Further, let us know the great divine Rudraksha minutely

Bifurcation of the Rudraksha bead

1) Mukhis/ Faces: - Rudrakshas are classified on the basis of the number of mukhis or faces it has on its outer surface- " mukhis are the natural clefts or grooves or thread like lines running completely from the top to the bottom of the Rudraksha." Each Rudraksha represents a lord according to Vedic texts and has a different corresponding effect, depending on the number of mukhis on it. For instance, if the bead has eight natural lines then it is called as eight mukhi or eight faceted Rudraksha which represents Lord Ashtavinayaka (obstacle remover) & is worn by one who faces regular obstacles in life. If you wish to know about the variety of Rudrakshas visit [Multifaceted Rudrakshas](#).

2) Shape: - All the Rudraksha from all origins are globular in shape, some are elliptically round in shape (2 & 3 mukhi), some are round in shape (4,5,6,7 & 8 mukhi) whereas some are oval in shape (curve like) (8 to 21 mukhi & above). There is only one Rudraksha which is half moon like (crescent shape) & that is 1 mukhi from India.

3) Size: - The size of Rudraksha beads range between 4mm to 45 mm approx. The Nepalese Rudrakshas are way bigger than the Indonesian Rudrakshas, the size range of Nepalese beads would be 12 mm – 45mm approx & the average size of this origin would be 18mm approx, whereas the Indonesian beads are pretty smaller with the size range of 4mm to 30mm & with an average size of 12mm. Sometimes Indonesian Rudraksha is also produced in bigger size (32 mm & above) & they are highly rare in nature.

4) Center hole: - Each and every Rudraksha bead has a natural hole in the center, at times the hole is completely developed, at the times the hole may have developed upto $\frac{3}{4}$ level of the bead, whereas in some cases the hole may have not developed at all but definitely there would be an indication of the hole being there, the hole not being developed is very common in the case of Rudraksha beads of very small sizes & of lower mukhis. 1mukhi (half moon shape) from India do not have a natural hole. Each & every Rudraksha bead is covered naturally with pulp all around it, on cleaning or peeling of the pulp we find the Rudraksha, the procedure of cleaning peeling doesn't clean the natural hole, so before wearing usually the clearing of the hole is done manually. The natural hole enables us to string & wear the Rudrakshas around different parts of our body.

5) Body surface: - Each & every Rudraksha bead has mukhis / facets naturally formed on its outer surface. One would find that the outer surface of Nepalese Rudraksha beads have lot of uneven natural protrusions with very deep & well formed mukhis whereas the Indonesian Rudrakshas are slightly smoother & their mukhis are not deep & also resemble thread like lines, Indonesian Rudrakshas with deeper grooves are rare. We also find in nature a different variety of Rudraksha beads which are extremely smooth in nature & are called "Chikna" beads.

6) Number of seeds: - "The number of seeds in internal of each Rudraksha bead will be equal to the number of mukhis that it has on its external structure." If the number of seeds is not equal to the number of mukhis then there are chances of external manipulation taken place on the outer surface of Rudraksha which further can be detected by an expert. This is the closest test to find out the genuinity of a Rudraksha, this test also has some

limitations. At times when the Rudrakshas are cut open we have noticed that the seeds are not well developed & hence appear like a very minute cavity or like a dot. Well, now every time to test a Rudraksha one wouldn't want to cut open the bead & would rather prefer to get the x ray of the Rudraksha done, in such a case the seeds which are not well developed may not be well exposed in the x-ray or could be difficult for a lay person to interpret the x ray. This is the only close test that could prove the authenticity of a Rudraksha berry. If you wish to know how to check the genuinity of Rudrakshas visit [Authenticity of Rudraksha](#).

7) Effects: - Effects of the Rudraksha bead would vary from person to person depending upon the respect, faith the wearer has on it. It is said that regular respective mantra chanting on the bead also increases its effectiveness. Before wearing the bead for the first time one should perform Rudra Abhishek on the bead for best effects. Kindly beware of vendors who guarantee the percentage & time period of effects as this is just a marketing stunt. To know more visit [Effects of Rudraksha](#).

Well, the above are the basic, common & at the same time most important characteristics of a Rudraksha berry. There may be slight difference in their external appearance of Rudrakshas produced in different countries due to difference in soil, climate & farming conditions, the difference between Rudrakshas of different countries is put down by us for your convenience in the section [Nepalese Rudraksha Vs Indonesian Rudraksha](#).

As per the vedic texts Rudraksha beads are produced from 1 to 38 mukhis (facets) but Rudrakshas above 21 mukhis are extremely rare to find & the description of above 21 mukhi are not mentioned anywhere. RudraBlessings with the blessings of Lord Shiva has a collection of authentic 1 mukhi Rudraksha to 31 mukhi Rudraksha which we doubt anyone else would have. To view this authentic rarest collection visit [Rarest of Rare Rudrakshas](#).

As per science

As per science, Rudraksha due to its chemical composition & protrusive body has an acupressure effect which is positive on the human body as it relieves a person from problems of blood pressure, stress, anxiety, depression, nervousness, lack of concentration and various other troubles. The effect of this berry varies from an individual to another, mainly depending on the faith & respect they carry in the bead. To know more visit [Effects of Rudraksha](#)

If you wish to have any further Information, doubts or suggestions do write to us we would be glad to assist you.

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