

## 1.6 Gandharas (Main Disciples) of 24 Tirthankaras and Guru Gautam Swami.

### What is a Gandhara ?

*Gandhara* means main disciple of Lord *Tirthankaras*. He composes the religion of Lord *Tirthankaras* in the form of ‘*Sutra*’ a formula. If Lord *Tirthankara* is maker of a religion, *Gandhara* is leader of four-fold *Sangh* and he is responsible for well being of the entire *Sangh* his own disciples etc.

Gandhara is next in order after Lord *Tirthankara*. That is why he is *Tirth* embodied. In no time, they can compose the *Agama* scriptures. And all Lord *Tirthankaras* \_\_\_\_\_ the *Gandhara* with the total responsibility of the religion whereas, *Tirthankaras* are 24 and twenty four only, the number of *Gandharas* are never so fixed.

For 24 *Tirthankaras*, the number of *Gandharas* have been 1452. *Gandhara* is one who holds the *Gana* – the group. Even for *Ganpati*, the same meaning is attached but unlike *Ganpati*, *Gandharas* not considered as God. At the best, they *Guru* of *Gurus* - A perfect *Guru* or the prime *Guru*.

Sr. No.	The name of first Gandhara	The name of last Gandhara	Total Number.
1.	<i>Shri Vrushabsen (Pundrik)</i>	<i>Shri Chamar</i>	84
2.	<i>Shri Sinhsen</i>	<i>Shri Mruganat</i>	95
3.	<i>Shri Gharu</i>	<i>Shri Kaliti</i>	102
4.	<i>Shri Vrajnabh</i>	<i>Shri Padmaganesh</i>	116
5.	<i>Shri Amar (Chamar)</i>	<i>Shri Yudhastha</i>	100
6.	<i>Shri Suvrat (Pradhyotam)</i>	<i>Shri Safalang</i>	107
7.	<i>Shri Vidarbh (Baldatta)</i>	<i>Shri Amndhya</i>	95
8.	<i>Shri Dinna (Datta)</i>	<i>Shri Kavindra</i>	93
9.	<i>Shri Varahak (Sangatik)</i>	<i>Shri Madhavan</i>	88
10.	<i>Shri Anand (Nand)</i>	<i>Shri Dipayan</i>	81

11.	<i>Shri Gaushubh (Kashyap)</i>	<i>Shri Keshkandh</i>	76
12.	<i>Shri Subham (Sudharma)</i>	<i>Shri Mardkeli</i>	66
13.	<i>Shri Mandar</i>	<i>Shri Urjati</i>	57
14.	<i>Shri Yash</i>	<i>Shri Sagaurat</i>	50
15.	<i>Shri Arish</i>	<i>Shri Rajayate</i>	43
16.	<i>Shri Chakayud (Mohnash)</i>	<i>Shri Jinendra Keval</i>	36
17.	<i>Shri Swayambhoo (Sanb)</i>	<i>Shri Argavjin</i>	35
18.	<i>Shri Kumbh (Sushen)</i>	<i>Shri Vivakshh</i>	33
19.	<i>Shri Abhiskhak (Indra)</i>	<i>Shri Uchayat</i>	28
20.	<i>Shri Kumb (Malli)</i>	<i>Shri Suraj</i>	18
21.	<i>Shri Shubh (Dhammark)</i>	<i>Shri Jartu</i>	17
22.	<i>Shri Nardatta (Vardatta)</i>	<i>Shri Sotyag</i>	11
23.	<i>Shri Aryadinna (Vardatt)</i>	<i>Shri Vijay</i>	10
24.	<i>Shri Indrabhuti (Gautam)</i>	<i>Shri Prabhas</i>	11
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1452</b>

## **Guru Gautam Swami**

Guru Gautam Swami means....

1. The great learned *Pandit* of Profound knowledge with master of 14 *Vidhyas* like, *Veda, Vedang, Puran, Commentary* and logic etc.
2. His mother's name is *Prithvi*, his father's name is *Vasubhuti*, His *Gotra* (family name) is *Gautama* and his name is *Indrabhoomi*.
3. AT the age of 50, he looked very youthful, his body was strong, his chest was wide, his body was fleshy, and his colour of body was golden, glittering, shining and bright.
4. When, for the first time, he went to Lord Mahavir, he was very very proud of his own knowledge. He thought, with his knowledge he would easily with over Lord Mahavir. With his pride he went to Lord Mahavir, but immediately he was won over by Mahavir with his immediate solution of the doubts in his mind. He need

not even enter any dialogue. He immediately surrendered to him with his own 500 disciples and become himself a disciple of Lord Mahavir.

5. There are totally 1452 Gandharas in Jainism, belonging to all 24 Tirthankaras in more or less number. But Guru Gautam Swami was the first Gandhara of Lord Mahavir.
6. Lord Mahavir gave him three words (Trio). “*Tripadi*.” On the basis of this, within one *Antar Muhurat* (48 minutes) he composed the total 12 *Anga*.
7. His disciples were 50,000 and Gautam Swami was a master of “*Labdhi*” the most auspicious blessings.
8. His penance was great. Throughout his life, he observed “*Chhath Tap*.” Two fasts together continuously for life time.
9. He was a perfect, a completer disciple a great disciple who was completely devoted to Lord Mahavir, in service to him, in devotion to him, in hospitability to him and that too with Respect, Honour, Courtesy.
10. His eyes were without any wanton curiocity, his speech was without any tension, his walking was without any undue haste, he was not affectionate to his food, and when not on fast, used to take only one meal a day.
11. He was indeed serious in nature, but not heavy with thoughts, he was quiet, but not withdrawn, he was always pleasant, happy, simple, frank, penance, observery bright, knowledgeable, meditations noble, high and possessing highest qualities of virtues.
12. With his auspicious “*Labdhi*” he went to “*Astapad Tirth*”, and there he composed the famous ‘*Jag Chintamani Stotra*.’
13. He was an obedient. Every thing that Lord Mahavir spoke, he just accepted it with ‘*Sevam Bhamte - Sevam Bhamte*.’
14. He has great love for Lord Mahavir, and yet he gave up his feelings and became *Vitrag* – without love to anybody or to anything.
15. He was graced with such a mysterious and marvelous capacity that whomsoever he gave ‘*Diksha*’ and made his disciple was sure to get *Keval Gyana* – the ultimate knowledge and *Keval Darshana* – the ultimate vision.

16. *Guru Gautam Swami* was most devoted, most unassuming, totally submitted disciple to *Lord Mahavir*.
17. When he come to know about the death of *Lord Mahavir* like a small child he cried, wept, became so sad, so disgusted. But then, just thinking of him only, he gave up his *Rag* for *Mahavir*, accepted reality and became *Vitrag*.
18. He rennunciated the world and become Mahavir's disciple at the age of 50 continued this monk- life for 42 years, and disciple at the age of 92. He was pioneer first Guru of the Jain Order.