

Difference between Religion (Matam) and Darsanam

Religion

- Based on experiences and preaching of famous persons
- It does not stand necessary to any logic or reasoning
- They are most focused on blind faith and practices
 - Example: Adam and Eve have shown disobedience to God by eating forbidden Apple. Hence God has given curse that all the progeny of Adam and Eve, i.e., all the creation is sinful for non of its fault.
 - If they don't believe in Jesus, irrespective of their deeds they will go to Hell permanently. Even if they do all good things. This doesn't stand logic

Darsanam

- Are those which though evolved from Religious Texts, do stand to the test of Logic and Reasoning
 - Examples:
 - Visisthadvaita (Ramanuja Darsanam)
 - Advaita (Sankara Darsanam)
- These stand the test of Logic and hence are called Darsanam.
- Further they are prescribed practices and hence are also established as Mathams.

Examples like Saakteya are Matams and can't stand test of Logic and hence are not Darsanams. Six popular matams established by Aadi Shankaracharya are

- Vaishnava
- Saiva
- Sakteya
- Ganapathya
- Kaumara
- Souramu