

Vijayadashami (IAST: Vijayadaśamī, pronounced [vɪjəjəðəʃmɪ]) also known as *Dasara*, *Dussehra* or *dussehra* is a major Hindu festival celebrated at the end of Navratri every year. It is observed on the tenth day in the Hindu calendar month of Ashvin, the seventh month of the Hindu Luni-Solar Calendar, which typically falls in the Gregorian months of September and October.<sup>[3][4][5]</sup>

Vijayadasami is observed for different reasons and celebrated differently in various parts of the Indian subcontinent.<sup>[6][1][7][3]</sup> In the eastern and northeastern states of India, Vijayadashami marks the end of Durga Puja, remembering goddess Durga's victory over the buffalo demon Mahishasura to help restore Dharma.<sup>[3][8]</sup> In the northern, southern and western states, the festival is synonymously called Dussehra (also spelled Dasara, Dashahara). In these regions, it marks the end of "Ramlila" and remembers God Rama's victory over the demon Ravana, or alternatively it marks a reverence for one of the aspects of goddess Devi such as Durga or Saraswati.<sup>[1][4][5]</sup>

Vijayadashami celebrations include processions to a river or ocean front that carry clay statues of Durga, Lakshmi, Saraswati, Ganesha and Kartikeya, accompanied by music and chants, after which the images are immersed into the water for dissolution and a goodbye. Elsewhere, on Dasara, the towering effigies of Ravana symbolizing the evil are burnt with fireworks marking evil's destruction. The festival also starts the preparation for one of the most important and widely celebrated Diwali, the festival of lights, which is celebrated twenty days after the Vijayadashami.<sup>[9][10][1]</sup>

## Etymology and nomenclature

Vijayadashami (Devanagari: विजयदशमी ) (Kannada: ವಿಜಯದಶಮಿ) (Telugu: విజయదశమి) is a composite of two words "Vijaya"(विजय) and "Dashami" (दशमी), which respectively mean "victory"<sup>[11]</sup> and "tenth",<sup>[12]</sup> connoting the festival on the tenth day celebrating the victory of good over evil.<sup>[1][7]</sup> The same Hindu festival-related term, however, takes different forms in different regions of India and Nepal, as well as among Hindu minorities found elsewhere.<sup>[13]</sup>

According to James Lochtefeld, the word *Dussehra* (Devanagari: दुसहरा) (Kannada: ದುಸಹರಾ) is a variant of *Dashahara* which is a compound Sanskrit word composed of "dasham"(दशम) and "ahar" (अह), respectively meaning "10" and "day".<sup>[14][15][16]</sup> According to Monier Williams, *Dus* (दु) means "bad, evil, sinful", and *Hara* (हर) means "removing, destroying", connoting "removing the bad, destroying the evil, sinful".<sup>[17][18]</sup>

### Vijayadasami



Vijayadasami reveres either Durga or Rama's victory over evil depending on the region.<sup>[1]</sup>

<b>Also called</b>	Dussehra, Dasara, Navratri
<b>Observed by</b>	Hindus
<b>Type</b>	Religious, cultural
<b>Significance</b>	Celebrates the victory of good over evil
<b>Celebrations</b>	Marks the end of Durga Puja or Ramlila
<b>Observances</b>	pandals (stages), plays, community gathering, recitation of scriptures, immersion of Durga or burning of Ravana
<b>Date</b>	Ashvin (September or October)
<b>2017 date</b>	30 Sep, Sat <sup>[2]</sup>
<b>2018 date</b>	1 October, Thu

Part of a series on

## Hinduism



Hindu · History

Concepts

# Regional variations in Hinduism

## Northern India



Dasara is observed with the burning of Ravana effigies.

In most of northern and western India, Dasha-Hara (literally, "ten days") is celebrated in honour of Rama. Thousands of drama-dance-music plays based on the *Ramayana* and *Ramcharitmanas* (*Ramlila*) are performed at outdoor fairs across the land and in temporarily built staging grounds featuring effigies of the demons Ravana, Kumbhakarna and Meghanada. The effigies are burnt on bonfires in the evening of Vijayadashami-Dussehra.<sup>[5]</sup> While Dussehra is observed on the same day across India, the festivities leading to it vary. In many places, the "Rama Lila", or the brief version of the story of Rama, Sita and Lakshmana, is enacted over the 9 days before it, but in some cities such as Varanasi the entire story is freely acted out by performance-artists before the public every evening for a month.<sup>[16]</sup>

The performance arts tradition during the Dussehra festival was inscribed by UNESCO as one of the "Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" in 2008.<sup>[19]</sup> The festivities, states UNESCO, include songs, narration, recital and dialogue based on the Hindu text *Ramacharitmanas* by Tulsidas. It is celebrated across northern India for dussehra, but particularly in historically important Hindu cities of Ayodhya, Varanasi, Vrindavan, Almora and Madhubani – cities in Uttar Pradesh, Uarakhand, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh.<sup>[19]</sup> The festival and dramatic enactment of the virtues versus vices filled story is organized by communities in hundreds of small villages and towns, attracting a mix of audiences from different social, gender and economic backgrounds. In many parts of India, the audience and villagers join in and participate spontaneously, some helping the artists, others helping with stage setup, make-up, effigies and lights.<sup>[19]</sup> These arts come to a close on the night of Dussehra, when the victory of Rama is celebrated by burning the effigies of evil, Ravana and his colleagues.<sup>[13]</sup>

## God / Highest Reality

Brahman · Ishvara · God in Hinduism ·

God and gender

## Life

Atman · Maya · Karma · Samsara · Purusharthas

( Dharma · Artha · Kama · Moksha )

## Ethics

Niti shastra · Yamas · Niyama · Ahimsa · Asteya ·

Aparigraha · Brahmacharya · Satya · Damah ·

Dayā · Akrodha · Ārjava · Santosha · Tapas ·

Svādhyāya · Shaucha · Mitahara · Dāna

## Liberation

Bhakti yoga · Jnana yoga · Karma yoga

## Schools

### Six Astika schools

Samkhya · Yoga · Nyaya · Vaisheshika ·

Mimamsa · Vedanta

( Advaita · Dvaita · Vishishtadvaita )

### Other schools

Pasupata · Saiva · Pratyabhijña · Raseśvara ·

Īśvara · Pāṇini Darśana · Charvaka

## Deities

### Trimurti

Brahma · Vishnu · Shiva

### Other major Devis / Devas

#### Vedic

· Indra · Agni · Prajapati · Rudra · Devi · Saraswati

· Ushas · Varuna · Vayu

#### Post-Vedic

· Durga · Ganesha · Hanuman · Kali · Kartikeya ·

Krishna · Lakshmi · Parvati · Radha · Rama ·

Shakti · Sita

## Texts

### Scriptures

#### Vedas

Rigveda · Yajurveda · Samaveda · Atharvaveda

#### Divisions

Samhita · Brahmana · Aranyaka · Upanishad

#### Upanishads

*Rigveda*: · Aitareya · Kaushitaki

*Yajurveda*: · Brihadaranyaka · Isha · Taittiriya ·

Katha · Shvetashvatara · Maitri

*Samaveda*: · Chandogya · Kena

*Atharvaveda*: · Mundaka · Mandukya · Prashna

## Himachal Pradesh

*Main article: Kullu Dussehra*

Kullu Dussehra is celebrated in the Kullu valley of Himachal Pradesh, and is regionally notable for its large fair and parade witnessed by estimated half a million people. The festival is a symbol of victory of good over evil by Raghu Nath, and is celebrated like elsewhere in the Indian subcontinent with a procession.<sup>[20]</sup> The special feature of the Kullu Dasara procession is the arrival of floats containing deities from different parts of the nearby regions and their journey to Kullu.<sup>[21]</sup>

## Southern India

Vijayadasami is celebrated in a variety of ways in South India.<sup>[22]</sup> Celebrations range from worshipping Durga, lighting up temples and major forts such as at Mysore, to displaying colorful figurines, known as a *golu*.

The festival played a historical role in the 14th-century Vijayanagara Empire, where it was called *Mahanavami*. The Italian traveller Niccolò de' Conti described the festival's intensity and importance as a grandeur religious and martial event with royal support. The event revered Durga as the warrior goddess (some texts refer to her as Chamundeshwari). The celebrations hosted athletic competitions, singing and dancing, fireworks, a pageantry military parade and charitable giving to the public.<sup>[23][24]</sup>

The city of Mysore has traditionally been a major center of Dasara-Vijayadashami celebrations.<sup>[23]</sup>

Another significant and notable tradition of several South Indian regions has been the dedication of this festival to Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of knowledge, learning, music and arts. She is worshipped, along with instruments of one's trade during this festival. In South India, people maintain, clean and worship their instruments, tools of work and implements of their livelihood during this festival, remembering Goddess Saraswati and Durga.<sup>[13]</sup>

## Western India

In Maharashtra, the deities installed on the first day of Navratri are immersed in water. Observers visit each other and exchange sweets.<sup>[25]</sup>

## Other scriptures

Bhagavad Gita · Agama (Hinduism)

### Other texts

#### Vedangas

Shiksha · Chandas · Vyakarana · Nirukta · Kalpa · Jyotisha

#### Puranas

Vishnu Purana · **Bhagavata Purana** · Nāradeya Purana · Vāmana Purana · Matsya Purana · Garuda Purana · Brahma Purana · Brahmānda Purana · Brahma Vaivarta Purana · Bhavishya Purana · Padma Purana · Agni Purana · Shiva Purana · Linga Purana · Kūrma Purana · Skanda Purana · Varaha Purana · Mārkaṇḍeya Purana

#### Itihasas

Ramayana · Mahabharata

#### Upavedas

Ayurveda · Dhanurveda · Gandharvaveda · Sthapatyaveda

#### Shastras and Sutras

Dharma Shastra · Artha Śāstra · Kamasutra · Brahma Sutras · Samkhya Sutras · Mimamsa Sutras · Nyāya Sūtras · Vaiśeṣika Sūtra · Yoga Sutras · Pramana Sutras · Charaka Samhita · Sushruta Samhita · Natya Shastra · Panchatantra · Divya Prabandha · Tirumurai · Ramcharitmanas · Yoga Vasistha · Swara yoga · Shiva Samhita · Gheranda Samhita · Panchadasi · Stotra · Sutras

#### Text classification

Śruti Smriti

#### Timeline of Hindu texts

### Practices

#### Worship

Puja · Temple · Murti · Bhakti · Japa · Bhajana · Yajna · Homa · Vrata · Prāyaścitta · Tirtha · Tirthadana · Matha · Nritta-Nritya

#### Meditation and Charity

Tapa · Dhyana · Dāna

#### Yoga

Sadhu · Yogi · Asana · Hatha yoga · Jnana yoga · Bhakti yoga · Karma yoga · Raja yoga · Kundalini Yoga

#### Rites of passage

The festival has been historically important in Maharashtra. Shivaji, who challenged the Mughal Empire in the 17th-century and created a Hindu kingdom in western and central India, would deploy his soldiers to assist farmers in cropping lands and adequate irrigation to guarantee food supplies. Post monsoons, on Vijayadashami, these soldiers would leave their villages and reassemble to serve in the military, re-arm and obtain their deployment orders, then proceed to the frontiers for active duty.<sup>[26][27]</sup>

In Gujarat, both goddess Durga and god Rama are revered for their victory over evil. Fasting and prayers at temples are common. A regional dance called *Dandia Ras*, that deploys colorfully decorated sticks, and *Garba* that is dancing in traditional dress is a part of the festivities through the night.<sup>[28]</sup>

In Mewar region of Rajasthan, both Durga and Rama have been celebrated on Vijayadashami, and it has been a major festival for Rajput warriors.<sup>[23]</sup>

## Eastern India

*Main article: [Durga Puja](#)*

Vijaya Dasami is observed after Navratri, on the tenth day, marked by a great procession where the clay statues are ceremoniously walked to a river or ocean coast for a solemn goodbye to Durga. Many mark their faces with vermilion (*sindoor*) or dress in something red. It is an emotional day for some devotees, and the congregation sings emotional goodbye songs.<sup>[29][30]</sup> When the procession reaches the water, Durga is immersed, the clay dissolves, and she is believed to return to Mount Kailasha with Shiva and cosmos in general. People distribute sweets and gifts, visit their friends and family members.<sup>[31]</sup> Some communities such as those near Varanasi mark the eleventh day, called *ekadashi*, by visiting a Durga temple.<sup>[32]</sup>

## Nepal

In Nepal, Vijayadashami follows the festival of [Dashain](#). Youngsters visit the elders in their family, distant ones come to their native homes, and students visit their school teachers. The elders and teachers welcome the youngsters, mark their foreheads with [Tilak](#) and bless them. The family reveres the Hindu goddess of wealth Lakshmi, hoping for virtuous success and prosperity in the year ahead.<sup>[33][34]</sup>

## See also

[Garbhadhana](#) · [Pumsavana](#) · [Simantonayana](#) · [Jatakarma](#) · [Namakarana](#) · [Nishkramana](#) · [Annaprashana](#) · [Chudakarana](#) · [Karnavedha](#) · [Vidyarambha](#) · [Upanayana](#) · [Keshanta](#) · [Ritushuddhi](#) · [Samavartana](#) · [Vivaha](#) · [Antyeshti](#)

### Ashrama Dharma

Ashrama: [Brahmacharya](#) · [Grihastha](#) · [Vanaprastha](#) · [Sannyasa](#)

### Festivals

[Diwali](#) · [Holi](#) · [Shivaratri](#) · [Navaratri](#) ( [Durga Puja](#) · [Ramlila](#) · [Vijayadashami-Dussehra](#) ) · [Raksha Bandhan](#) · [Ganesh Chaturthi](#) · [Vasant Panchami](#) · [Rama Navami](#) · [Janmashtami](#) · [Onam](#) · [Makar Sankranti](#) · [Kumbha Mela](#) · [Pongal](#) · [Ugadi](#) · [Vaisakhi](#) ( [Bihu](#) · [Puthandu](#) · [Vishu](#) ) · [Ratha Yatra](#)

## Gurus, saints, philosophers

### Ancient

[Agastya](#) · [Angiras](#) · [Aruni](#) · [Ashtavakra](#) · [Atri](#) · [Bharadvaja](#) · [Gotama](#) · [Jamadagni](#) · [Jaimini](#) · [Kanada](#) · [Kapila](#) · [Kashyapa](#) · [Pāṇini](#) · [Patanjali](#) · [Raikva](#) · [Satyakama Jabala](#) · [Valmiki](#) · [Vashistha](#) · [Vishvamitra](#) · [Vyasa](#) · [Yajnavalkya](#)

### Medieval

[Nayanars](#) · [Alvars](#) · [Adi Shankara](#) · [Basava](#) · [Akka Mahadevi](#) · [Allama Prabhu](#) · [Siddheshwar](#) · [Jñāneśvar](#) · [Chaitanya](#) · [Gangesha Upadhyaya](#) · [Gaudapada](#) · [Gorakshanath](#) · [Jayanta Bhatta](#) · [Kabir](#) · [Kumarila Bhatta](#) · [Matsyendranath](#) · [Mahavatar Babaji](#) · [Madhusudana](#) · [Madhva](#) · [Haridasa Thakur](#) · [Namdeva](#) · [Nimbarka](#) · [Prabhakara](#) · [Raghunatha Siromani](#) · [Ramanuja](#) · [Sankardev](#) · [Purandara Dasa](#) · [Kanaka Dasa](#) · [Ramprasad Sen](#) · [Jagannatha Dasa](#) · [Vyasaraaya](#) · [Sripadaraya](#) · [Raghavendra Swami](#) · [Gopala Dasa](#) · [Śyāma Śāstri](#) · [Vedanta Desika](#) · [Tyagaraja](#) · [Tukaram](#) · [Tulsidas](#) · [Vachaspati Mishra](#) · [Vallabha](#) · [Vidyaranya](#)

### Modern

[Aurobindo](#) · [Bhaktivinoda Thakur](#) · [Chinmayananda](#) · [Dayananda Saraswati](#) · [Mahesh Yogi](#) · [Jaggi Vasudev](#) · [Krishnananda Saraswati](#) · [Narayana Guru](#) · [Prabhupada](#) · [Ramakrishna](#) · [Ramana Maharshi](#) · [Radhakrishnan](#) · [Sarasvati](#) · [Sivananda](#) · [U. G. Krishnamurti](#) · [Sai Baba](#) · [Vivekananda](#) · [Nigamananda](#) · [Yogananda](#) ·

- [Bathukamma](#)
- [Madikeri Dasara](#)
- [Zatra](#)
- [Kullu Dussehra](#)
- [Vidyarambham](#)
- [Golu](#)
- [Dasara elephants](#)
- [Durga Puja](#)
- [Navratri](#)
- [Ayudha Puja](#)
- [Prasad](#)
- [Puja \(Hinduism\)](#)
- [Vidyārambham](#)

## References

1. ↑ [1.0](#) [1.1](#) [1.2](#) [1.3](#) [1.4](#) Christopher John Fuller (2004). *The Camphor Flame: Popular Hinduism and Society in India*. Princeton University Press. pp. 108–109. ISBN 978-0-69112-04-85.
2. ↑ [2017 Holidays](#) National Informatics Centre (NIC), MeitY, Government of India
3. ↑ [3.0](#) [3.1](#) [3.2](#) *Encyclopedia Britannica 2015*.
4. ↑ [4.0](#) [4.1](#) James G. Lochtefeld 2002, pp. 212-213, 468-469.
5. ↑ [5.0](#) [5.1](#) [5.2](#) *Encyclopedia Britannica Dussehra 2015*.

[Ramachandra Dattatrya Ranade](#) · [Tibbetibaba](#) · [Trailanga](#)

### Society

#### Varna

([Brahmin](#) · [Kshatriya](#) · [Vaishya](#) · [Shudra](#))

[Dalit](#) · [Jati](#)

[Denominations](#) · [Persecution](#) · [Nationalism](#) ·

[Hindutva](#)

### Other topics

#### Hinduism by country

[Balinese Hinduism](#) · [Criticism](#) · [Calendar](#) ·

[Iconography](#) · [Mythology](#) · **[Pilgrimage sites](#)**

[Hinduism and Jainism](#) / [and Buddhism](#) / [and Sikhism](#) / [and Judaism](#) / [and Christianity](#) / [and Islam](#)

### Glossary of Hinduism terms

 [Hinduism portal](#)



Mysore Dasara procession and celebrations in Karnataka are a major tourist attraction.



Durga image is Immersed into river on Vijayadashami in eastern regions of the Indian subcontinent.

6. † "[Happy Dashain 2074](#)". Lumbini Media. September 18, 2017. Retrieved 2017-09-18.
7. † [7.0 7.1 James G. Lochtefeld 2002](#), p. 751.
8. † [James G. Lochtefeld 2002](#), pp. 468-469.
9. † Susan B. Gall; Irene Natividad (1995). *The Asian-American Almanac*. Gale Research. p. 24. ISBN 978-0-8103-9193-2.
10. † Rina Singh (2016). *Diwali*. Orca. pp. 17–18. ISBN 978-1-4598-1008-2.
11. † "[Sanskrit spoken dictionary](#)".
12. † "[Sanskrit spoken dictionary](#)".
13. † [13.0 13.1 13.2 Constance Jones & James D. Ryan 2006](#), pp. 308-309.
14. † "[Sanskrit spoken dictionary](#)".
15. † "[Sanskrit spoken dictionary](#)".
16. † [16.0 16.1 James G. Lochtefeld 2002](#), pp. 212-213.



Colorful floor patterns to mark Vijayadashami.



Youngsters greet elders and seek blessings on Dashain (Dashami) among the Hindu community in Nepal and Himalayan regions.



17. † Monier Williams (1872).  
*A Sanskrit-English Dictionary: Etymologically and philologically arranged.*  
Clarendon Press. pp. 424–425.
18. † Monier Monier-Williams (2001).  
*A Sanskrit-English Dictionary.*  
Asian Educational Services.  
pp. 35, 240, 675–676.  
ISBN 978-81-206-1509-0.
19. † 19.0 19.1 19.2  
Ramlila, the traditional performance of the Ramayana,  
UNESCO
20. † Dutta, Sanjay (11 October 2008).  
"International Dussehra festival kicks-off at Kullu". *The Indian Express*.  
Retrieved 3 May 2016.
21. † James G. Lochtefeld 2002,  
p. 213.
22. † "Dussera or Vijayadahami – Why Do We Celebrate It?".  
14 October 2013. Retrieved 3 April 2014.

23. ↑ 23.0 23.1 23.2  
Christopher John  
Fuller (2004).  
*The Camphor  
Flame: Popular  
Hinduism and  
Society in India.*  
Princeton  
University  
Press. pp. 117–  
119. ISBN 978-  
0-69112-04-85.
24. ↑ S  
Sivapriyananda  
(1995). *Mysore  
Royal Dasara.*  
Abhinav  
Publications.  
pp. 73–75.
25. ↑ Shirgaonkar,  
Varsha.  
""Madhyayugin  
Mahanavami  
aani Dasara"."  
Chaturang,  
Loksatta (1996).
26. ↑ Jaswant Lal  
Mehta (2005).  
*Advanced Study  
in the History of  
Modern India  
1707-1813.*  
Sterling  
Publishers Pvt.  
Ltd. pp. 505–  
509. ISBN 978-  
1-932705-54-6.
27. ↑ Gopa  
Sabharwal  
(2006). *Ethnicity  
and Class:  
Social Divisions  
in an Indian City.*  
Oxford  
University  
Press. pp. 123–  
125. ISBN 978-  
0-19-567830-7.



28. † Aruna Thaker;  
Arlene Barton  
(2012).  
*Multicultural  
Handbook of  
Food, Nutrition  
and Dietetics*.  
John Wiley &  
Sons. p. 6.  
ISBN 978-1-  
4051-7358-2.
29. † Hillary  
Rodrigues 2003,  
pp. 244-245.
30. † June McDaniel  
2004, pp. 168-  
169.
31. † Hillary  
Rodrigues 2003,  
pp. 66-67, 236-  
241, 246-247.
32. † Hillary  
Rodrigues 2003,  
pp. 67-68.
33. † Dhurba  
Krishna Deep  
(1993). *Popular  
Deities,  
Emblems &  
Images of  
Nepal*. Nirala.  
pp. 50–51.  
ISBN 978-81-  
85693-25-5.
34. † Netra Bahadur  
Thapa; D. P.  
Thapa (1969).  
*Geography of  
Nepal: Physical,  
Economic,  
Cultural &  
Regional*. Orient  
Longmans.  
pp. 92–93.

## Bibliography

- Amazzone, Laura (2012). *Goddess Durga and Sacred Female Power*. University Press of America. Retrieved 5 February 2017.

- Coburn, Thomas B. (1991). *Encountering the Goddess: A translation of the Devi-Mahatmya and a Study of Its Interpretation*. State University of New York Press. ISBN 0791404463.
- Paul Reid-Bowen (2012). Denise Cush; Catherine Robinson; Michael York, eds. *Encyclopedia of Hinduism*. Routledge. ISBN 978-1-135-18979-2.
- Constance Jones; James D. Ryan (2006). *Encyclopedia of Hinduism*. Infobase Publishing. ISBN 978-0-8160-7564-5.
- David Kinsley (1988). *Hindu Goddesses: Visions of the Divine Feminine in the Hindu Religious Tradition*. University of California Press. ISBN 978-0-520-90883-3.
- James G. Lochtefeld (2002). *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Hinduism: N-Z*. The Rosen Publishing Group. ISBN 0-8239-2287-1.
- June McDaniel (2004). *Offering Flowers, Feeding Skulls: Popular Goddess Worship in West Bengal*. Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-534713-5.
- Rachel Fell McDermott (2001). *Mother of My Heart, Daughter of My Dreams: Kali and Uma in the Devotional Poetry of Bengal*. Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-803071-3.
- Rocher, Ludo (1986). *The Puranas*. Otto Harrassowitz Verlag. ISBN 978-3447025225.
- Hillary Rodrigues (2003). *Ritual Worship of the Great Goddess: The Liturgy of the Durga Puja with Interpretations*. SUNY Press. ISBN 978-0-7914-8844-7.
- "Navratri – Hindu festival". *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 2017. Retrieved 2017-02-21.
- "Dussehra – Hindu festival". *Encyclopedia Britannica*. 2014. Retrieved 2017-02-21.

## External links

- [Rituals of Dasara](#)
- [Dussehra Celebration in Different Parts of India](#)
- [Pictures and Videos of Dasara celebrations in Mangalore](#)
- [Mysuru \(Karnataka\) Dasara Festival, Government of India](#)
- [Dussehra in Telangana, Government of India](#)

### ॐ Festivals in the Hindu calendar



#### Major festivals

Chhath · Diwali · Ganesh Chaturthi · Vasant Panchami · Holi · Galungan (Bali) · Kartik Purnima · Kali Puja · Krishna Janmashtami · Maha Shivaratri · Makar Sankranti · Nyepi (Bali) · Navratri (Ayudha Puja · Durga Puja · Vijayadashami) · Onam · Pongal · Rama Navami · Thaipusam · Vat Purnima · Mesha Sankranti · Bhratri Dwitiya · Dhanteras · Ratha-Yatra · Dashahara · Anant Chaturdashi · Guru Purnima · Buddha Jayanti · Hanuman Jayanti


#### Regional New Year

Bihu (Assamese) · Cheti Chand (Sindhi) · Gudi Padwa (Marathi, Konkani) · Nyepi (Bali) · Pana Sankranti (Oriya) · Pohela Boishakh (Bengali) · Puthandu (Tamil) · Ugadi (Telugu, Kannada) · Vaisakhi (North & Central India, Nepal) · Vishu (Malayali)

#### Holy days

Akshaya Tritiya · Amalaka Ekadashi · Vaikuntha Ekadashi · Kamada Ekadashi · Shravana Putrada Ekadashi · Shayani Ekadashi · Pausha Putrada Ekadashi · Varuthini Ekadashi · Prabodhini Ekadashi · Ekadashi · Gowri Habba · Karva Chauth · Mahalakshmi Vrata · Nirjala Ekadashi · Raksha Bandhan · Sankranti · Nag Panchami · Savitri Brata · Amavasya · Sharad Purnima · Kartik Purnima · Datta Jayanti · Pradosha

**Holy periods** [Chaturmas](#) · [Dhanurmas](#) · [Pitru Paksha](#) · [Uttarayana](#) · [Dakshinayana](#)

 [Hindu festivals](#)

## Hinduism topics

### Glossary



### Philosophy

#### Concepts

[Brahman](#) · [Om](#) · [Ishvara](#) · [Atman](#) · [Maya](#) · [Karma](#) · [Samsara](#)  
[Purusharthas](#) ( [Dharma](#) · [Artha](#) · [Kama](#) · [Moksha](#) )  
[Niti](#) ( [Ahimsa](#) · [Asteya](#) · [Aparigraha](#) · [Brahmacharya](#) · [Satya](#) ·  
[Dāna](#) · [Damah](#) · [Dayā](#) · [Akrodha](#) )

#### Schools

[Astika](#): [Samkhya](#) · [Yoga](#) · [Nyaya](#) · [Vaisheshika](#) · [Mimamsa](#) ·  
[Vedanta](#) ( [Dvaita](#) · [Advaita](#) · [Vishishtadvaita](#) ) · [Nastika](#): [Charvaka](#)

**Classification** [Śruti](#) · [Smriti](#)

[Rigveda](#) · [Yajurveda](#) · [Samaveda](#) · [Atharvaveda](#)

**Divisions** [Samhita](#) · [Brahmana](#) · [Aranyaka](#) ·  
[Upanishad](#)

#### Vedas

[Aitareya](#) · [Kaushitaki](#) · [Brihadaranyaka](#) ·

#### Upanishads

[Isha](#) · [Taittiriya](#) · [Katha](#) · [Maitri](#) ·  
[Shvetashvatara](#) · [Chandogya](#) · [Kena](#) ·  
[Mundaka](#) · [Mandukya](#) · [Prashna](#)

### Texts

**Upavedas** [Ayurveda](#) · [Dhanurveda](#) · [Gandharvaveda](#) · [Sthapatyaveda](#)

**Vedanga** [Shiksha](#) · [Chandas](#) · [Vyakarana](#) · [Nirukta](#) · [Kalpa](#) · [Jyotisha](#)

[Bhagavad Gita](#) · [Agamas](#) · [Itihasas](#) ( [Ramayana](#) ·  
[Mahabharata](#) ) · [Puranas](#) · [Minor Upanishads](#) · [Artha Shastra](#) ·

#### Other

[Dharma Shastra](#) ( [Manusmriti](#) · [Nāradasmr̥ti](#) ·  
[Yājñavalkya Sm̥rti](#) ) · [Sutras](#) · [Stotras](#) · [Subhashita](#) · [Tantras](#) ·  
[Yoga Vasistha](#) · [Yoga Sutras of Patanjali](#)

### Deities

**Trimurti** ( [Brahma](#) · [Vishnu](#) · [Shiva](#) ) · [Ishvara](#) · [Devi](#) · [Deva](#) · [Saraswati](#) · [Lakshmi](#) ·  
[Parvati](#) · [Shakti](#) · [Durga](#) · [Kali](#) · [Ganesha](#) · [Kartikeya](#) · [Rama](#) · [Krishna](#) · [Hanuman](#)  
· [Prajapati](#) · [Rudra](#) · [Indra](#) · [Agni](#) · [Dyaus](#) · [Bhumi](#) · [Varuna](#) · [Vayu](#)

### Practices

#### Worship

[Temple](#) · [Murti](#) · [Puja](#) · [Bhakti](#) · [Japa](#) · [Bhajana](#) · [Naivedhya](#) ·  
[Yajna](#) · [Homa](#) · [Tapa](#) · [Dhyana](#) · [Tirthadana](#)

#### Sanskaras

[Garbhadhana](#) · [Pumsavana](#) · [Simantonayana](#) · [Jatakarma](#) ·  
[Namakarana](#) · [Nishkramana](#) · [Annaprashana](#) · [Chudakarana](#) ·  
[Karnavedha](#) · [Vidyarambha](#) · [Upanayana](#) · [Keshanta](#) ·  
[Ritushuddhi](#) · [Samavartana](#) · [Vivaha](#) · [Antyeshti](#)

#### Varnashrama

[Vara](#) ( [Brahmin](#) · [Kshatriya](#) · [Vaishya](#) · [Shudra](#) )  
[Ashrama](#) ( [Brahmacharya](#) · [Grihastha](#) · [Vanaprastha](#) ·  
[Sanyassa](#) )

Festivals [Diwali](#) · [Holi](#) · [Shivaratri](#) · [Raksha Bandhan](#) · [Navaratri](#)  
([Durga Puja](#) · [Ramlila](#) · [Vijayadashami \(Dasara\)](#)) ·  
[Ganesh Chaturthi](#) · [Rama Navami](#) · [Janmashtami](#) · [Onam](#) ·  
[Pongal](#) · [Makar Sankranti](#) · [New Year \( Bihu](#) · [Gudi Padwa](#) ·  
[Pahela Baishakh](#) · [Puthandu](#) · [Vaisakhi](#) · [Vishu](#) · [Ugadi](#)) ·  
[Kumbha Mela](#) · [Ratha Yatra](#) · [Teej](#) · [Vasant Panchami](#) ·  
[Others](#)

Other [Svādhyāya](#) · [Namaste](#)

**Related** [Hindu](#) · [Denominations](#) · [Law](#) · [Calendar](#) · [Criticism](#) · [Gurus, saints, philosophers](#) ·  
[Hindu studies](#) · [Iconography](#) · [Mythology](#) · [Nationalism \( Hindutva\)](#) · [Persecution](#) ·  
[Pilgrimage sites](#) · [Glossary](#) · [Hinduism by country](#)

**Category** · **Portal**