

Diwali

The Festival of Lights



Dear Friends,

Happy Diwali to you and your loved ones. Diwali or the Festival of Lights is the holiest days in Hindu tradition. It starts with a month long preparation to invoke the blessings of the Goddess Laxmi. It is celebrated on the new moon night of the Hindu Lunar month Kartika in the Hindu calendar.

The core festivities begin on the thirteenth day of the new moon cycle as Dhanteras – where house and businesses are cleaned and marks the birthday of goddess Lakshmi. The following day is the day of goddess Kali worship – to honor the goddess that removes the darkness from our soul and the universe to make room for the light.



The apex of the festival is Diwali – on the New moon night. When it is the darkest night of the soul, every individual, business and community lights countless candles or lamps that mirror the billions of stars in the dark night. When we encounter darkness in our life and the collective, what redeems us is the small lamp of individual consciousness which aligns with our star in the sky. Here the individual consciousness mirrors its Archetypal soul. In our darkest hour as individuals or society, when we light a small candle of Ego consciousness, our Universe and the Collective is never dark again, even if the candle is extinguished by the forces of darkness, since the universe holds the memory of our light – our Individuation and Sacrifices which we make to complete our inner work. Without sacrifice and SERVICE, our individuation and soul work – Moksha or Nirvana is not complete. Diwali is the day of celebration of goddess Laxmi – the goddess of Peace, Prosperity and Plenty and her union with her consort Vishnu, the archetype of the preservation of Spirituality or Dharma. It symbolizes HerosGamos or the sacred marriage between our masculine and feminine potentials towards wholeness of personality at its highest threshold.



The day after Diwali is the Hindu New Year – a day of New Beginnings. God Ganesha, the benevolent elephant headed god is the archetype of the remover of obstacles and auspicious new beginnings. The last of the five days of core festival of Diwali is the second day of the full moon cycle – Bhai Dooj, a celebration of the loving relationship between siblings especially between brother and sister. It symbolizes the brotherhood and sisterhood of human relationships. This sib ship symbolizes pure soul relationship without contamination by sexual Eros.



May Goddess Laxmi and God Ganesha Bless you and your loved ones in the coming year and many more to come with Peace, Prosperity - both material and Spiritual Prosperity and Plentitude of gifts of your Soul.

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