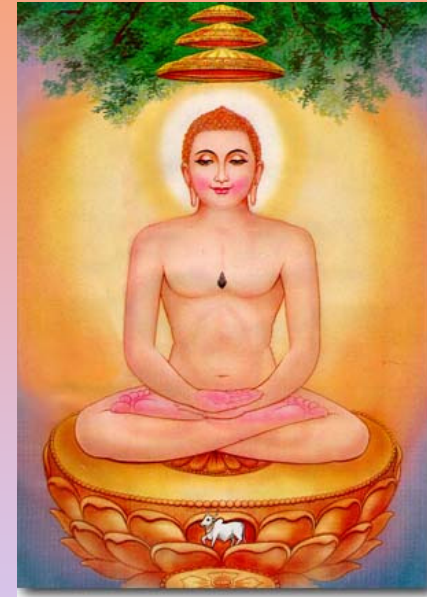


Deepawali



Festival of lights

('Deepa' means lamplight and 'avali' means row).



Deepawali - Essence

*Om Asato Maa Sat Gamaya
Tamaso Maa Jyotir Gamaya
Mrityor Maa Amritam Gamaya
Lead me from Falsehood to Truth
From darkness to light
From death to immortality*



- Deepawali is the festival of lights symbolizing the lighting of the lamp of knowledge .
- Praying to the Goddess Lakshmi for prosperity for all.
- Popularly known as Hindu Festival of lights.



The Diya - Lamp

Ishwar is the "Knowledge principle", the source of all knowledge; thus light is worshipped as Ishwar Himself

The flame of "knowledge" burns upwards – inspiring us towards **higher ideals**

"Knowledge" is the **lasting Inner Wealth** - the greatest of all forms of wealth



The wick represents our **ego**

Oil or ghee in lamp represents our **"vasanas"** or negative tendencies

When lit by spiritual knowledge, the "vasanas" get slowly exhausted, and the ego too finally perishes. Only then can true service to the society begin.



A Five Day Festival

Third Day

Laxmi Poojan
Kali Poojan
Bhagwan Mahavir
Puja



Fourth Day

Bali Pratipada
Govardhan Pooja
Anna-Koota
New Year



Fifth Day

Bhai Dooj



Second Day

Narak Chaturdashi



First Day

Dhanteras



The Preparation and Learning

- Cleanup, decorate, and light up homes to welcome "Lakshmi," goddess of prosperity



Prayers to
Sri Lakshmi,
Sri Ganesh,
Sri Kali



- This day Sri Rama returned to Ayodhya after liberating the Rakshas King Ravana
- This day Bhagwan Mahavira attained enlightenment
- This day Sri Krishna liberated Narkasura – who terrorized the world

And, of course, children get Gifts



The Pooja

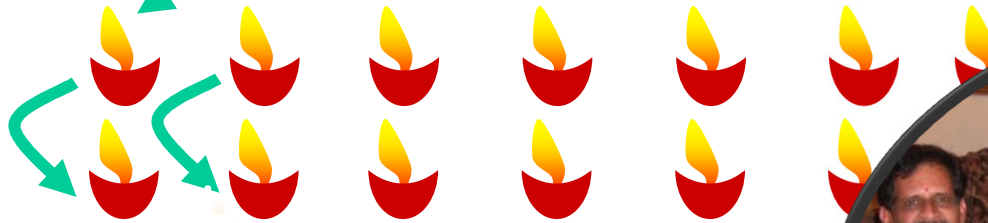


“Knowledge Principle”

Lighting the first row represents acquisition of the positive qualities by the individual self



Row of 64 Diyas representing 64 Kalas (Faculties/Skills/Qualities)



Lighting the second row from the first row represent transference of those qualities to others



A single lamp can light a hundred others; sharing with others does not diminish knowledge



The Prayers, Celebrations & Fun

Light
Fireworks

- Dhoom!
- Dhadaaka!!
- Pataaka!!!



Diwali Fun

Exchange
sweets, gifts with
friends and
relatives



Deepavali is celebrated in grand style by Hindus and others all over the world



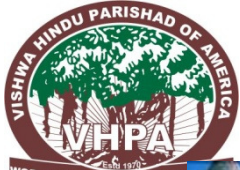
Assess and Re-focus

- Deepawali is a festival for strengthening the social fabric
- Celebrated on the darkest night of the year – Kartika Amavasya (New Moon)
- **Beginning of the Fiscal year**
- **Prosperity:** Promote Finance & Business – sweets, clothing, fireworks, jewelry, grains
- Marks the advent of a new season and the sowing of new crops.

Happy
Diwali



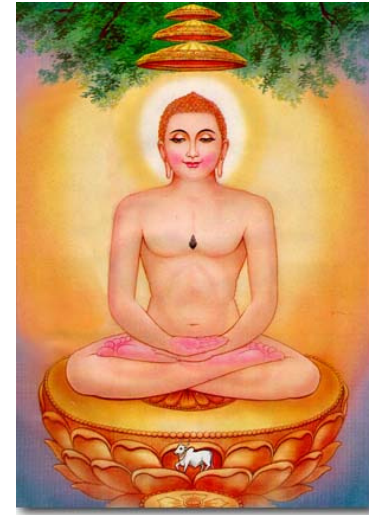
Purify our ego, like the lamp, in the service of the society



धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः



Message of the Day



Triumph of Good over Evil

And

Peace & Prosperity for All