



Narak Chaturdashi 2024



When is **Narak Chaturdashi** in 2024?
November, 09 Nov, 2024

Narak Chaturdashi Muhurat For New Delhi, India

Abhyang Snan Time : 04:56:00 to 06:38:38

Duration : 1 Hour 42 Minute

Narak Chaturdashi is a festival celebrated in the month of Kartik, on the 14th day of the waning moon. It is also known as Narak Chaudas, Roop Chaudas or even Kali Chaudas. As per the earliest Indian mythology, people admire the Lord of death 'Yamraj' with utmost loyalty and adoration. As it is celebrated a day before Diwali, it is also known as Chhoti Diwali. On this day, people light up Diyas at their homes after dusk. By lionizing the god of death, people make sure that they are



absolving from the clutches of premature death as well as pray for a better or improved health. Along with this, it is also consider very favorable if, on this day, prior to the break of dawn, you be relevant sesame oil all over your body and bath with the water infused with Apamarg leaves. This shall lead you on your way of becoming fearless and would help you a great deal in your pursuit of going to paradise.

Narak Chaturdashi as per the Scriptures

As per traditions and notion, Narak Chaturdashi is celebrated on the 14th day of the waning moon of the Krishna Paksha of the Kartik month.

1. On the Kartik Krishna Paksha of the 14th day of the waning moon, just before the moon rise or the time before dawn (The time before the sun rises; for a duration of 1 hour and 36 minutes), we celebrate Narak Chaturdashi. Generally, going by the trend, the time before dawn is consider to be of more significance.
2. If both the Narak Chaturdashi dates are in touching distance of Moon rise and the time before the break of the dawn, then we celebrate Narak Chaturdashi on the 1st day itself. If that is not the case, i.e. the dates do not match with either the Moon rise or the time before dawn; even then we celebrate Narak Chaturdashi on the 1st day itself.
3. On Narak Chaturdashi, it is an age old belief to apply oil all over the body, before Moon rise or the time before dawn and worship the god of death 'Yamraj'.

Narak Chaturdashi Pooja Vidhi

1. On this day, taking a bath before sunrise is considered very favorable. During the bath, you have to apply sesame oil all over your body. After it's done, you are to circle Apamarg leaves over your head three times.
2. Before Narak Chaturdashi, fill a vessel up to the brim on ahoi Ashtami, during the month of Kartik on a dark lunar fortnight. Then on the day of Narak Chaturdashi, mix the water from the vessel with your bathing water. It is supposed that by doing this you charge the water and fight off your fear of Damn.



3. After you are done with your bath, pray diligently to the god of death, Yamraj with both hands joined and facing southwards. By doing this you are absolve from all your past sins.
4. On this day, light a well oiled diya right outside your main door in the reverence of Lord Yamraj.
5. In the evening of Narak Chaturdashi, all the gods are worshipped before lighting up an oiled diya, which is then kept at the both sides of the entrance area or the main door of either your house or the place where you work. It is utterly believed that by doing this you are inviting the goddess of wealth, Lakshmi to make herself at home and bring with her, her wealth in profusion.
6. We have many names for Narak Chaturdashi- namely Roop Chaturdashi, Roop Chaudas and this is an subsidiary reason why we laud Lord Krishna on this day as it leads to decoration of our body (our Roop).
7. On this day, there is a conspicuous time period known as Nisheeth kaal, where it is advised to throw away all our useless stuff out of the house. This belief is also known as removal of scarcity. It is firmly supposed on the next day of Narak Chaturdashi, which is on Diwali, the goddess of wealth Lakshmi enters your home, and with her enters her aura of affluence and wealth in galore. This is the reason why you cleanse your house of all the impurity and dirt.

Importance of Chaturdashi and the legendary tales about it

On the day of Narak Chaturdashi, the lighting of Diya holds great force as well as mythological importance. On this day on the evening, the light from the diya clears away the darkness from our lives for good. Due to this reason, we also call Narak Chaturdashi as Chhoti Diwali. There is much other theory as well behind lighting up the Diyas on Narak Chaturdashi.

The Killing of the Devil named, Narakasura: There once lived an evil named Narakasura, who with his uncanny abilities made it improbable for all the priests and saints to live in peace. His antics rose to such a level that it became almost improbable to keep him under check. Things took a turn for the worse when he took 16 thousand of the gods wives as hostage. Bearing every



possible torture that the hateful Narakasura could throw at them, the saints and the priests went to Lord Krishna for help. Lord Krishna assured all the anxious saints and priests that justice would be served to the guilty party. Narakasura was cursed that he would die off the hands of a woman. So, very cleverly, Lord Krishna took aide of his wife and in the month of Kartik, on a Krishna Paksha of the 14th day of the waning Moon, Lord Krishna finally brought upon justice by putting Narakasura to the sword. Once the sprite was dead, the 16 thousand hostages were freed. These 16 thousand hostages then came to be known as Patraniya. After the death of Narakasura, on the new Moon of the month of Kartik, people light up Diyas to celebrate Narak Chaturdashi and Diwali.

The Tale of Datyaraj Bali: This folklore clearly illustrates about the boon given to Datyaraj Bali by Lord Krishna. In this, Lord Krishna took an incarnation of a dwarf and between the 13th day and new Moon; he measured/covered the entire kingdom of Datyaraj Bali in three steps. Seeing this, the kind hearted King Datyaraj Bali gave his entire kingdom to the dwarf king. After this, the dwarf king asked King Bali for a boon. Having asked for a boon, King Bali reply dear lord the time slot between the 13th day & the full moon, my kingdom should stand the test of time and shall always remain for these 3 days, also anyone who celebrates Diwali in my kingdom shall be blessed with wealth and galore. Also, on Chaturdashi, anyone who lights a diya shall not have their ancestors in hell or otherwise. They would be exempted the trip to hell and the god of death Yamraj shall do them no harm.

Having heard the wish of King Bali, Lord Krishna was left impressed and he complied with his wishes by turning them into reality. From that day onwards, the ritual of observing a fast on Narak Chaturdashi and doing pooja as well as the lighting of Diyas became an actual thing.

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