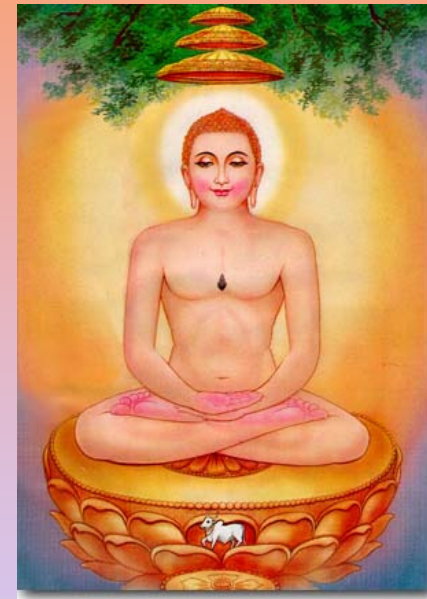


# Deepawali



**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**

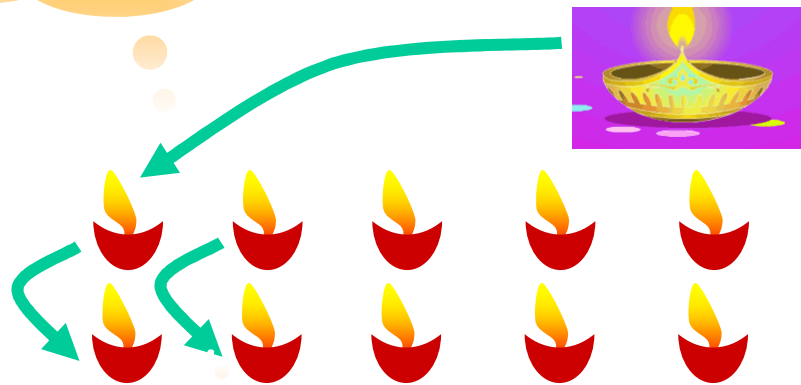


# The Pooja

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



“Knowledge Principle”



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

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



**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

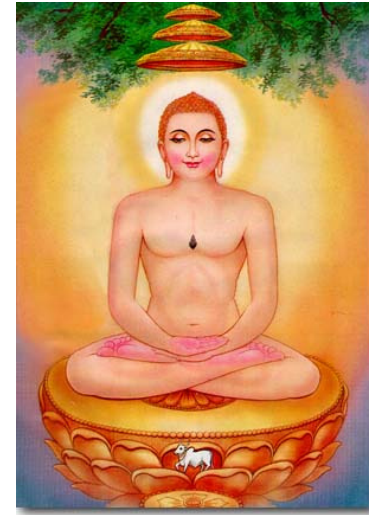


**Purify our ego, like the lamp, in the service of the society**





## Message of the Day



**Triumph of Good over Evil**  
**And**  
**Peace & Prosperity for All**