

## Holi- The festival of colors

---

Holi is one of the important festivals of the Hindus. It is a colorful festival of great joy and enthusiasm. This festival is celebrated all over the country as a day filled with complete mischief, fun and enjoyment. Holi indicates the end of the winters and the beginning of the spring season. According to the Hindu Calendar it is celebrated on the full moon night of the months of Phalgun.

Holi is celebrated to mark the victory of truth over evil, the victory of Prahalad over King Hiranya Kashyap. Prahalad was a devotee of God. His father, King Hiranya Kashyap did not believe in God but believed in his own powers. He failed to deviate his son's devotion to God and decided to kill him by burning him alive. Prahalad's sister, Holika, had a God gifted boon that she would not be burnt in the fire. She sat with her nephew in the blazing fire. Holika let herself be burnt in the fire. She sat with her nephew in the blazing fire. Holika let herself be burnt and Prahalad was saved. The truth, the powers of the Supreme God defeated the false evil.

Next day is the festive day of Holi. All hearts are filled with joy. Children throw colored water on each other while the elder people apply gulal or abir, There are noisy scenes as little groups of children move from one locality to another exchanging holi greetings, singing songs and laughing at their own jokes. It is almost mid-day when people move indoors to freshen themselves.

Though this is a festival of brotherhood and unity it has some disadvantages too. Some ill minded people take this day as a chance to take revenge. They use dirty mud water. Use of strong colors harmful to the skin, charcoal and grease often create a serious quarrel. This leads to unnecessary enmity and spoils the charm of the festival.

People must understand that this festival is celebrated to bring people together to be happy. They must take care not to indulge in bad practices and make it one of the best festivals. They can enjoy to their maximum amidst the beautiful colors.