Maa Sidhidhatri - The Ninth **Aspect of Goddess Durga**

-aa Siddhidatri is the ninth form of Goddess Durga worshiped in Navaratra. The last among the nine forms of Maa Shakti is Goddess Siddhidatri who is worshiped on the ninth or final day of Navratra. 'Siddhi' is a Sanskrit term which means 'perfection'. Goddess Siddhidatri has four arms. She holds a Chakra in her right lower hand and a mace in the upper. In the left lower hand there is a conch and in her upper left hand a lotus flower. She is seated on a lotus flower with the lion as her mount.

The Goddess Siddhidatri is capable of giving all sorts of occult powers and is also the possessor of 26 different wishes to grant her worshipers. All these achievements [Siddhi], which according to the Markandaye Purana:- Anima, Mahima, Garima, Laghima, Prapti, Prakaamya, Ishitva and Vashitva are eight Siddhis. As per the Brahmavaivart Purana there are 18 types of achievements which are Anima, Mahima, Garima, Ladhima, Prapti, Prakaamya, Ishitva, Vashitva, Sarvakaamaal, Saadhita, Sarvagynatva, DurShravana, Parkaayapraveshan, VakaSiddhi, Kalpavrushatva, Shrishti, Samharkaransaamarthya, Amaratva, Sarvanyayakatva, Bhavana and Siddhi.

Legend has it that the Supreme God Shiva got all these Siddhis by worshiping Maha Shakti. With her gratitude the half body of Shiva became that of the Goddess Shakti and therefore he also came to be called as 'Ardhanarishvar'. Dev, Danav, Gandharva, Kinnar, Yaksh, Manav, all worship Maa Siddhidaatri and attain achievements. Maa Durga removes ignorance and she provides the knowledge to realise That or Brahman. That is why She is surrounded by Siddhas, Gandharvas, Yakshas, Demons and Gods who are worshiping her. The Siddhi that she provides is the realisation that everything is Supreme Being or Brahman. If a Sadhaka worships in the prescribed manner with his full faith he acquires all Siddhis and nothing remains unattainable from him in the uni-

Dedicated to Goddess Siddhidatri form of Maa Durga the day is also observed as Mahanavami in many parts of the country. This form of Goddess Durga showers knowledge which makes each soul pure. People can wear Red, White colour on this day. On the ninth day Pujan, Archan, Havan, etc of Mataji are performed. The Conch shell, Chakra, Mace and lotus in the four hands of Maa Siddhidaatri signifies that she is always anxious to help us.



NAVRATRI SPECIAL

NAVRATRI SPECIAL RECIPE Vrat Ka Halwa



- ½ cup singhare ka atta
- ½ cup kutta ka atta
- 3 tbsp ghee 2 cups water
- ½ cup sugar or as required
- 2 cardamoms, crushed
- 8-9 almonds, sliced
- 8-9 pistachios, sliced

Heat ghee in a kadai or pan. Add the flour and roast till they change color, texture and

This roasting is similar to roasting semolina.

Make sure you roast the flours very well with continuous

Whilst the flours are roasting, add water and sugar in another pan and bring to a boil.

Add the cardamom powder, almonds and pistachios to the flour and roast for 1-2 minutes. Add the boiling sugar solution in a steady stream contin-

uously stirring to avoid the formation of lumps. Keep on stirring and cook till the mixture thickens and

starts to gather around itself.

While stirring break the lumps with the spoon or spatula. Remove from the pan and serve the vrat ka halwa hot or

What Does Ram Navami Stand For?

Ram Navami is an occasion which marks the birthday of Lord Ram. Rama was the Lord Hari Himself, incarnated on earth for the destruction of Ravana. He was well accomplished, beautiful and endowed with royal marks. His glory and prowess were unlimited. He was peerless on earth. He was free from malice. He was gentle. He was the protector of all His people. He always addressed them in gentle words. He never used any harsh words even when somebody provoked Him. He held swav over the whole world.

The festival of Ram Navami marks the birthday celebrations of the Hindu Lord Rama, who is considered to be one of the incarnations of Lord Vishnu. According to the Hindu calendar, it falls on the ninth day of the Chaitra month, which is the spring season. In some parts of India, it is celebrated as a nine-day festival that coincides with Vasanta Navratra, dedicated to the female force or Divine Mother better known as Durga or Shakti.

What Are the Rituals?

Ram Navami is one of the most important festivals of the Vaishnav sect of Hindus. In the states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, early morning rituals mark Ram Navami. It entails a Havan, chanting of Vedic Mantras and offerings of fruits and flowers.

A Rama temple is beautifully decorated and the image of the Lord Rama is adorned with rich clothes and jewels. Stories from the Ramayana are read out



in joyous public gatherings and Satsangs. Most people fast until midnight. They break their fast with a Prasad of fruits and milk.

This festival is celebrated with great pomp and glory even in Pondicherry, Rishikesh and Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Rama. The Ram Navami fair held at Ayodhya draws a huge crowd of dedicated devotees. In the South, this festival is celebrated for nine days as the wedding of Lord Rama and his lovely consort Sita. People sing and chant the name of

the Lord. Devotees have a highly colourful ceremony to mark the wedding celebrations.

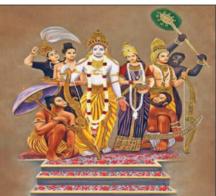
The Legend: The Ramayana is a story of Lord Rama, written by the sage Valmiki in the 4th century BC. As the legend goes, Lord Rama, eldest son of King Dashratha, was banished to the forest for 14 long years. He was dethroned due to his stepmother's plans who wanted to see her son Bharata ascend the throne in place of the elder brother Rama. Rama willingly gave away the throne and his wife Sita and brother Lakshman followed Rama to the forest, leaving the throne for Bharata.

In these 14 years of banishment, Rama waged and won a war against the evil Ravana, the King of Lanka, who had kidnapped his wife Sita. He was aided by a band of monkeys, the most loyal of whom is worshipped today as Lord Hanuman.

Rama ascended the Avodhva throne after the triumph over Ravana. Even as he started ruling, he was forced to banish his wife from the kingdom, following a villager's adverse comment about her association with Ravana. The legend is cited to prove how Lord Rama always lived a life of righteousness (Dharma). He was born to destroy the evil and pro-

As he embodies the highest ideals of man, he is alled the Marvada Pushottam, which means the perfect and best man, someone who follows the path 2023. of righteousness against all odds.

Muhurat and significance of Ram Navami



am Navami is one of the auspicious Hindu festivals that commemorates the birth of Lord Rama. Lord Rama also pronounced as Lord Ram is considered the most revered deities in Hinduism. This festival is celebrated with devotion and great enthusiasm in India and by Hindus around the world. This day is also known as Shri Ram Janmotsav.

According to Hindu calendar, Ram Navami falls on the ninth day of Chaitra month (usually in March or April). This year it will be celebrated on Thursday, March 30.

According to Drik Panchang, the Ram

Navami madhyahna muhurat will begin at 11:11 AM and end at 01:40 PM. History And Significance

Lord Rama holds the great significance in the hearts of people, especially Hindus. On this auspicious day, Shri Ram Chandra took birth as human and is the seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu, the preserver in the Hindu trinity of Gods. Eldest son of Ayodhya King Dashratha and queen Kaushalya, Lord Rama is believed to be an ideal human being, son and husband who fought evil forces and signifies the symbol of truth, bravery and power.

As per Hindu mythology, Kind Dasharatha had three wives but he had no child so the King Dashratha performed Ashwamegha Yagya for putra Prapti (for sons) on the advice of Maha Rishi Vashishth after the Yajna, queens were given a bowl of kheer which was blessed by the Lord of Yajnas himself. The queens consumed the bowl of kheer and soon become the mother of 4 sons. Sumitra gave birth to Lord Shatrughan and Lord Lakshaman, Kaikeyi gave birth to Lord Bharat and Kaushalya gave birth to Lord Ram on the ninth day of Chaitra month. Since then, the birth

anniversary of Lord Shri Ram is celebrated

all over by all Shri Ram Bhakts (devotees).

General Knowledge Question

- Q1. Name an electronic device which is used to measure the current in ampere?
- A. Altimeter B. Audiometer
- C. Ammeter
- D. Airometer
- Q2. Name an equipment through which the distances travelled by the wheels of the vehicles are measured?
- A. Accumulator B. Avometer
- C. Animometer
- D. Adiometer
- Q3. Name a device used for the magnification of the objects?
- A. Bolometer
- B. Barometer C. Binoculars
- D. Barograph
- Q4. The equipment used in internal combustion heat engine, vehicle engine etc. is known as:
- A. Altimeter
- B. Crescograph
- C. Cyclotron D. Carburator
- Q5. The device by which artificial climate is produced:
- A. Callipers

- B. Cytotron
- C. Cardiogram D. Avometer
- Q6. Name an equipment through which electrons are emitted or ejected?
- A. Cathode ray tube
- B. Callipers C. Coolidge tube
- D. Bolometer
- Q7. Through which equipment human's heart beats are recorded and detected via graphics?
- A. Barograph
- B. Crescograph
- C. Comograph D. Cardiograph
- Q8. Name a device which is used to convert mechanical energy into electrical energy?
- A. Dip Circle
- B. Denial Cell
- C. Dvnamo D. Dynamometer
- Q9. The device that confirms the presence of electric charge:
- A. Electric Meter
- B. Electro Meter C. Electron Microscope
- D. Electroscope
- Q10. Which equipment is employed to project or

expose pictures on the screen?

- A. Epidayscope
- B. Endoscope C. Density Meter
- D. Escalator
- 11. In an electric circuit, the amount of work done in moving a unit charge from one point to the other point is called:
- A. Electric potential
- B. Conductor
- C. Potential difference
- D. Electric charge
- 12. What is the SI unit of potential difference?
- A. Coulomb
- B. Volt C. Ampere
- D. Ohm-metre
- 13. One volt is equal to:
- A. 1 J C-1
- B.2JCC. 1.5 J C-1
- D. 0.5 J C-1

D. Ammeter

- 14. Which instrument is used to measure potential difference?
- A. Galvanometer
- B. Magnetometer C. Voltmeter



MAR 21 - APR 20

How often does the universe give you a day off, Aries? Wednesday's skies are notably absent of cosmic action—giving you full permission to make it what you will. The moon cruises through theatrical Leo all day, lacking any real contact. It's an ideal day to be leisure and return to creative personal projects ner than push ahead with major productive



As a Libra, it's critical for you to have ample social interaction, as other people help you to better understand and define vourself. Todav's skies encourage you to reconnect with your friend groups, as the moon floats through playful Leo. Luna finds herself lacking any real cosmic connection, making it a low-activity day all SEP 24 - OCT 22 around. Focus on your inner circle and let the rest fall into place!



Wednesday's skies slow things down, Taurus Let yourself lean into the simpler pace, as the lazy Leo moon spends the day keeping to herself. The lack of cosmic connections renders a low activity day all around, so use this energy to catch up on rest and refresh your living space. You're likely to be in a homebody, familyfocused—so, honor your desire to pull away.



You're fixated on figuring out what's happening with your ambitions today, Scorpio. The moon floats through self-expressive Leo all day, pointing your attention towards your most pressing career concerns. Luna finds herself without any cosmic connections, which renders the day as one with low energy and low activity. It's best to stick to small efforts or maintenance on projects



As a Gemini, you were born to share your perspective. That concept of communication is key today, as the theatrical Leo moon urges you to express yourself in some shape or form. It's an ideal day to devote energy to a writing project or devote effort to any task requiring considerable mental stamina. Luna's lack of cosmic connections offers a simple, low-activity day all around.



The universe is giving you the reins today, Sagittarius. Wednesday's skies hold little cosmic action, making it easy for you to shape the energy of the day in whichever way you see fit. The moon floats through enthusiastic Leo all day, pointing your focus towards the big-picture perspective of your life while simultaneously stirring your need for refreshing travel and education opportunities.



selves under Wednesday's skies, Cancer. Yet, the cosmic fuel tank is running low on energy. Keep that in mind that you may not accomplish as much as you initially set out to. The moon floats through ambitious Leo, lacking connection to any other planets. Thus, it's a great day to focus on small efforts, maintenance, and projects that are already under way.

You're hoping that things will take care of them-



It's important that you pay attention to the emotions bubbling beneath the surface today, Capricorn. Wednesday's skies offer a moment to pull back and rest, as the moon's lack of cosmic connections renders the day slow and uneventful. The moon floats through self-aware Leo, helping you tap into the deepest parts of ries. Aim to confide in someone you trust today.



You deserve the pampering you crave, Leo. The moon meanders through your sign all day, making no cosmic connections to other planets. This creates a low energy, low activity sort of dayone that's best spent directing your attention towards your own needs. It's an ideal day to prioritize acts of self-care, as you need to treat your self with the same TLC you give everyone else.



What's going on in the world of your relationships, Aquarius? The cosmos is working to point your attention towards those special one-onones today, as the moon floats through your opposite sign of dramatic Leo. Luna's lack of cosmic connections makes for a low-key day all around, suggesting it's best to hold off on making major commitments or initiating big plans that require collaboration with others.



Follow your instincts to hide away from the world today, Virgo. Time spent in restorative solitude is key, as the moon floats through lazy Leo and makes no connections with other plan ets. Take the day off from any major responsi-bilities in whatever way feels feasible and try to focus on activities that rejuvenate you. The following days will demand ample energy



There's work to be tackled under Wednesday's skies, Pisces. Yet, the low energy atmosphere offered up today's cosmic landscape makes it difficult to plow ahead with your initial plans. The moon floats through expressive Leo, helping you devote focus towards finding equilibrium in your work/life balance. Luna's lack of connections makes it difficult to get new things off the ground.



9. Electroscope 8. Бупато 7. Cardiograph 6. Cathode ray tube o. Cytotron

4. Carburator 3. Binoculars 2. Adiometer 1. Ammeter :SJ9WSUV