

Maa Katyayani – Sixth Navdurga
Worshiped in Navratra

Maa Katyayani is the sixth form of Maa Durga. So the sixth day of Navratra is dedicated to Durga Katyayani. She is called Katyayani because she was born as the daughter of Sage Katya of Katya clan. Sage Katyaan performed very hard penance of Maa Bhagvati. It was his wish that Maa Durga be born as his daughter. The Goddess acceded to his request.

Meanwhile, army of the powerful demon Mahishasura, who could only be killed by a warrior Goddess, had reached heaven to overthrow the Gods from their abode.

The Trinity of Gods - Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, got infuriated and they created the Goddess Durga, who was a culmination of the powers of all deities. Sage Katyaana had the first privilege to worship her; so she was also named Katyayani.

Another myth goes by that she was born to Katyaana as his daughter on the 14th dark of the month Asvina. Katyaana worshiped her for three days, 7th, 8th and 9th of the bright fortnight in the same month and killed Mahishasur on Vijayadasami. Her worship done with devotion and faith leads to four objects - Dharma, Artha, Kama and Moksha.

This is the daughter form of Durga. Here she is a loving daughter. She is epitome of love but won't hesitate to rise up in anger to defend righteousness and Dharma. It is believed that Maa Katyayani persistently battles against the evil and deceitful entities.

She has three eyes and four arms. One left hand holds a weapon and the other a lotus. The other two hands respectively display defending and granting gestures. Her skin appears golden in colour. Her mount is a lion.

To get God Krishna as a husband gopis worship Maa Katyayani in Vraj. So she is established as the Queen of Vraj. There is a very famous Temple in Delhi (Chhattarpur) of Maa.

This Shrine is dedicated to Goddess Katyayani, whose Darshan can be availed only on Ashtami falling in every month. Otherwise, the Darshan of Goddess Katyayani can be made throughout the days of Navratra.

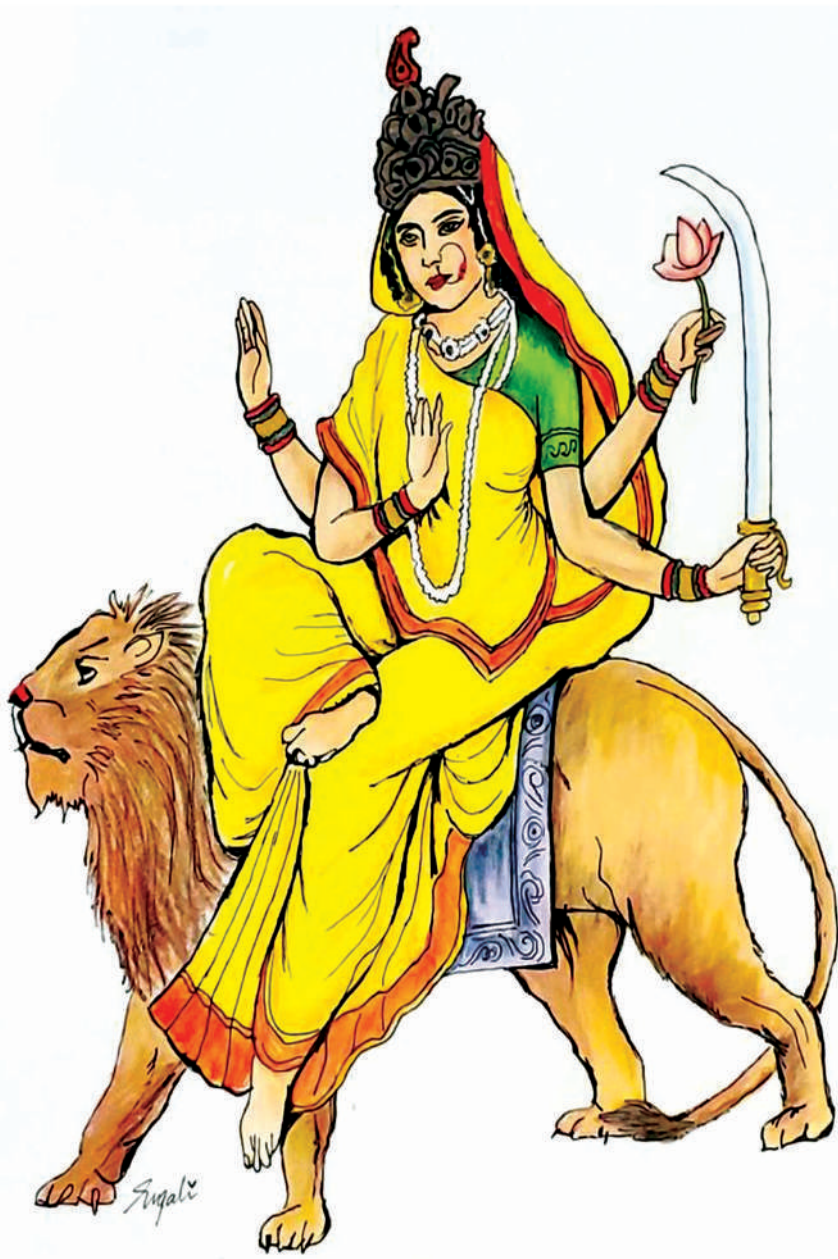
The golden image of Katyayani attracts the attention of devotees with its huge size and sheer divinity.

The worship of Maa Durga as Goddess Katyayani on sixth day of Navratra has its very importance. Yogis and Sadhaks penance on Agya Chakra on this day.

Humans offer everything to Maa while worshiping on this day. She gives blessings to her devotee. Red and white colour should be used to wear on this day.

The Adolescent Virgin Goddess in the southern tip of India, Devi Kanya Kumari is said to be the avatar of Devi Katyayani. She is the Goddess of penance and Sanyas.

Women take a bath early in the morning and worship the idol of Goddess Katyayani, carved out of wet sand.



NAVRATRA SPECIAL RECIPE

Sabudana Dosa

Ingredients
1 cup sago
2 tablespoon yoghurt (curd)
1/2 cup samak chawal
salt as required

Method:
Soak sabudana for 4 hours and samak rice for about 30 minutes.
In a blender, add soaked sabudana/sago, samark rice, curd and some water. Blend to form a thick paste.
Add some water and blend again to adjust the consistency.
Take out the batter in a bowl.
The batter should be on the thinner side.
Add salt as per taste and whisk well.
Heat a tawa on medium heat.
Now smear a non-stick tawa with a few drops of oil and add 2 tsp of water.
With a muslin cloth, wipe it gently.
Pour 2 ladlefuls of batter on the tawa and spread in circular motions to form a thin layer.
Once golden and crispy from both sides, Sabudana Dosa is ready to be served.
Enjoy !

Tips
Pair up with coconut chutney for the best taste.

The 9 lessons that 9 avatars of Maa Durga teach us

Every year, sometime between March and April, Hindus all over the world celebrate Chaitra Navratri. Falling in the month of Chaitra, Navratri or 9 nights are the nights dedicated to the 9 different avatars of Maa Durga. It is said that when Maa Durga was created by Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, she fought with the demon Mahishasura for 9 nights, won against him and was then hailed as ‘Mahishasurmardini’ and the 9 nights of Navratri are thus dedicated to her:

Maa Shailputri - The daughter of mountains

Maa Shailputri is the first avatar of Maa Durga and is said to be the epitome of purity and shows humans the power of creation. Maa Shailputri teaches us the importance of being grounded and connected to our roots. Many say that just like a mountain stands tall and firm, she too teaches people to stay steadfast in their beliefs and values. Maa Shailputri inspires humans to realise and use their inner strength, stay strong in the face of challenges and emerge victorious.

Maa Brahmacharini

The second day of Navratri is dedicated to Maa Brahmacharini. She is the symbol of penance and austerity and teaches people the value of self-discipline and dedication. It is said that those who please Maa Brahmacharini with their pure nature, achieve every goal of their life.

Maa Brahmacharini teaches her devotees how by practising some restraint and focusing the same energy on the right path, can help you walk on the road to success and achievement. Maa Brahmacharini is a symbol of the true strength that comes from within.

Mata Chandraghanta

Worshipped on the third day of Navratri, Maa Chandraghanta has a crescent moon on her forehead and is the symbol of peace, calm, and serenity. It is believed that Maa Chandraghanta teaches people how important it is to maintain order, calm, and inner balance when you are hit with problems and obstacles. She is the teacher of maintaining inner balance during chaos and just like how the moon stays calm throughout the night, she teaches how to stay focused and worry-free in times of adversity.

The creator - Maa Kushmanda

On the 4th day of Navratri, devotees worship Maa Kushmanda, who is also known as the cosmic creator. Maa Kushmanda is the symbol of the power of cosmic energy and teaches her devotees the importance of nurturing life and maintaining balance



of power. It is said that Maa Kushmanda is the adi-shakti and helps her devotees channel their energies correctly.

Skandamata

Skandamata is the mother of Lord Kartikeya, or ‘Skanda’ as he is referred to in some cultures. Evident by her name, Skandmata is a symbol of maternal love and protection. She teaches her devotees the ways to shower unconditional love and also

at times the sacrifices you need to do for love.

Just like a mother supports and teaches her child, Skandmata holds her devotees hands and walks with them with care and compassion.

Maa Katyayani

On day 6 of Navratri, devotees worship Maa Katyayani who is also known as the ‘Warrior Goddess’. Maa Katyayani is the symbol of courage and strength and teaches us how to confront our fears without scare or worry. Maa Katyayani also teaches people that one should always stand up for what is right and like a warrior should face challenges and emerge victorious. People who worship Maa Katyayani develop a sense of inner courage that helps them achieve success against the negative energies of life.

Maa Kaalratri

On day 7, we worship Maa Kaalratri, the fierce form of Maa Durga. Maa Kaalratri is the face of destruction of evil energies and liberation from their clutches. It is said that Maa Kaalratri teaches people two things - First is the bravery and fierceness with which people should face challenges and second is the importance of letting go of attachments. Just like after every dark night there is a bright sun, waiting for you to wake up, after every rough phase of life, there is a reward that awaits.

Maa Mahagauri

Mata Mahagauri is said to be the representation of purity and innocence. She teaches her devotees the importance of inner-purification and self-reflection. Seated on a beautiful white bull, dressed in white clothes, Maa Mahagauri is the epitome of purity.

Just by looking at an image of Maa Mahagauri, devotees start feeling a sense of ease in their hearts and get the courage to let go of their ego, anger and fears. In her best form, Maa Mahagauri blesses her devotees with clarity of mind and purity of heart.

Maa Siddhidatri

Many believe that Maa Siddhidatri is the one who gives devotees supernatural powers in the form of ‘Siddhi’ and thus she is the ‘Siddhidatri’. But unfortunately, many now equate Siddhi with negative supernatural powers, which is quite untrue. Instead, Maa Siddhidatri is the giver of divine knowledge and wisdom and teaches her devotees to walk on the right path and always seek the truthful. Maa Siddhidatri reminds us that true fulfilment and knowledge comes from within.

General Knowledge Question

1. What do you call a special set of memory cells in CPU?

A. Registers
B. Cache
C. Junk
D. RISC

2. Name the two widely used forms of modern RAM?

A. System Ram & Serial Ram
B. Static RAM & Dynamic RAM
C. Static Ram & Serial Ram
D. Dynamic Ram & Static Ram

3. Which high level language was developed by Dennis M. Ritchie?

A. Java
B. C++
C. Cobol
D. Pascal

4. What is a homepage?

A. Home screen of your computer
B. Shortcut to your webpages
C. A web site's main page
D. None of the above

5. Which out of the following is a peripheral device?

A. VDU
B. Keyboard
C. Mouse
D. All of the above

6. What was the ATA renamed to after the introduction of Serial ATA (SATA) in 2003?

A. Parallel ATA
B. Primary ATA
C. Prime ATA
D. All of the above

7. What does ADSL stand for?

A. Asymmetric digital subscriber line
B. Arithmetic digital subscriber line
C. Access digital subscriber line
D. ActiveX digital subscriber line

8. What is communication system that transfers data between components inside a computer, or between computers know as?

A. Baud
B. Blob
C. Bridge
D. Bus

9. What does XML stand for?

A. Encryption Markup Language
B. Expandable Markup language
C. Extensible Markup Language
D. Exbiyte Markup Language

10. What is Amoeba, Oberon/Bluebottle, Plan 9 from Bell Labs?

A. Experimental OS
B. Browsers
C. Low level languages
D. None of the above

11. What out of the following is based on UNIX?

A. Experimental OS
B. Browsers
C. Low level languages
D. None of the above

12. Which command determines the amount of time it takes data to travel from source to destination?

A. Pan
B. Ping
C. Pile
D. None of the above

13. Which is the largest unit of measurement for computer data?

A. Yobibyte
B. Yottabyte
C. Zebibyte
D. Zettabyte

14. URL Stands for:

A. Universal Serial Locator
B. Uniform Runtime Link
C. Uniform Resource Locator
D. Universal Resource Link

15. In a byte how many set of bits represent a single character in the computer's memory?

A. 9 bits
B. 11 bits
C. 13 bits
D. 8 bits

1. Registers
2. Static Ram & Serial Ram
3. C++
4. A web site's main page

5. All of the above
6. Parallel ATA
7. Asymmetric digital subscriber line
8. Bus

9. Extensible Markup Language
10. Experimental OS
11. GNU
12. Ping
13. Yottabyte

ARIES

MAR 21 - APR 20

LIBRA

SEP 24 - OCT 22

TAURUS

APR 21 - MAY 20

SCORPIO

OCT 23 - NOV 22

GEMINI

MAY 21 - JUN 20

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23 - DEC 22

CANCER

JUN 22 - JUL 23

CAPRICORN

DEC 23 - JAN 20

LEO

JUL 24 - SEP 23

AQUARIUS

JAN 21 - FEB 23

VIRGO

AUG 24 - SEP 23

PISCES

FEB 20 - MAR 20

The weekend gets off to a hazy start as the Gemini moon forms a square with Neptune, using this energy as an excuse to linger in bed as long as you please before rising to greet day. Consider spending your free time catching up on domestic duties. Pull back from your electronics form an unbalanced connection mid-afternoon, especially if you notice a disconnect between you and your housemates.

You may feel burnt out when it comes to screen time, dear Taurus, as the Gemini moon squares off with hazy Neptune. If you struggle to connect with your surroundings or sense of gratitude, take it as a sign to put away your devices and explore nature. You'll feel clearer both in mind and heart when Luna migrates into Cancer, heightening your emotional intelligence and natural instincts.

The moon takes its final steps through your sign, forming harsh connection to hazy Neptune that may cause you to feel out of sorts. Dissolving stress and internalized pressures may be difficult, but try to give yourself permission to let go and relax. You'll feel more grounded and aligned once Luna migrates into Cancer. Don't hesitate to indulge as evening rolls in.

Sweet dreams may cause you to sleep in as the Gemini moon aligns with Neptune, dear Cancer, marking the perfect excuse to catch up on rest. You'll feel refreshed and ready to be seen once Luna enters your sign mid-morning, making it easier to socialize and receive attention. Focus on yourself as evening sets in, allowing your intuition to guide you toward plans with friends or a quiet evening in.

Try not to get wrapped up in social drama or intense news feeds, dear Leo, as the Gemini moon and Pluto square off. This cosmic climate could lead to overstimulation and confusion, making it important that you search for peace. The energy quiets down once Luna migrates into Cancer mid-morning, putting you in a private mood that's ideal for laying low and nurturing the spirit.

It may be difficult to fully remove yourself from work. Do your best to create space between your private life and professional ambitions, understanding that rest is just as important as hard work. Get out and explore the community and local arts scene if you need assistance switching gears as the moon enters Cancer and your solar eleventh house.

The Gemini moon aligns with Neptune, cultivating a dreamy energy that could cause you to forget engagements. You'll have a chance to recalibrate and reclaim order once Luna migrates into Cancer, especially when you set your sights on long-term goals and establishing healthy structures. This luminary placement also encourages healthy boundaries, asking you to find a reasonable balance within your private life.

You may feel suspended in time as the Gemini moon squares off with Neptune, dear Scorpio, bringing a stagnant and hazy energy to the table. Don't feel guilty about going slow, especially if your motivation needs time to catch up with your agenda. You'll feel uplifted mid-morning when Luna migrates into nurturing Cancer, thinning the veil that separates you from the divine.

Watch out for manipulative or gaslighting behaviors within yourself and others as the Gemini moon forms a harsh connection with deceptive Neptune. If you start to feel confused, create distance between yourself and these sources of frustration. You'll have a chance to release emotional weight once Luna migrates into Cancer, offering therapeutic and cleansing vibes.

Disorganization and miscommunications could muddy your mind as the Gemini moon squares off with hazy Neptune. Rather than fighting for transparency and truth, try to temporarily make peace with what you don't know and cannot see. Harmonious vibes carry you to happier times once Luna migrates into Cancer, nudging you to disappear into self-care or your sweetest connections.

You may feel slightly unlike yourself as the Gemini moon squares off with Neptune, bringing a disconnected and hazy energy to the table. Luckily, the energy shifts once Luna migrates into Cancer mid-morning, offering focus when you invest in wellness and living your best life. This luminary placement comes with certain expectations, asking you to work consistently toward personal goals and career aspirations.

The Gemini moon squares off with Neptune bringing a hazy energy to the table that could trigger a sense of disconnection or emotional drifting. Luckily, you'll have a chance to snap out of these hypnotic vibes once Luna migrates into Cancer, reigniting your lust for life and sense of self. Just watch out for drama or self-doubt when the moon and Pluto form an unbalanced connection.