

# Maa Siddhidatri – The Ninth Aspect of Goddess Durga

Maa 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 Brahmapuavart 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 worshipping 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 worshipping 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 universe.

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 RECIPE

## Vrat Ka Halwa



**Ingredients**

- 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

**Method:**

Heat ghee in a kadai or pan. Add the flour and roast till they change color; texture and become aromatic. This roasting is similar to roasting semolina. Make sure you roast the flours very well with continuous stirring. 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 continuously 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 warm.



# Significance of Ramnavami

Ram Navami is a significant festival celebrated with fervour and devotion by millions of Hindus worldwide. This auspicious occasion commemorates the birth of Lord Rama, believed to be the seventh incarnation of Lord Vishnu, and is revered as the epitome of righteousness, virtue, and compassion. Ram Navami is celebrated on the ninth day if Chaitra Navaratni, according to Hindu calendar, which usually falls in the months of March and April. In 2024, Ram Navami will be celebrated on April 17.

**Importance of Ram Navami**

First and foremost, Ram Navami serves as a reminder of the eternal principles of dharma (righteousness) and the victory of good over evil. Lord Rama's life exemplifies the ideals of duty, honour and sacrifice, inspiring devotees to uphold moral values and lead a life of righteousness. It also marks the end of the nine-day Chaitra Navratni festival.

Devotees also perform special prayers and chant hymns in praise of Lord Rama on Ram Navami. Many visit temples dedicated to Lord Rama, offer prayers and seek his divine intervention for prosperity, success, and protection from adversity. Newly-inaugurated Ram temple in Ayodhya is expected to be one of the top destinations for devotees.

Ram Navami is a festival celebrated by Hindus to remember and honor Lord Rama. He is a very important figure in Hindu mythology. People celebrate this day with great enthusiasm and devotion. This festival usually falls in the spring season. It is celebrated particularly on the ninth day (Navami) of the Hindu lunar calendar's Chaitra month.

Ram Navami is a time for followers to reflect on his life and teachings. They seek his blessings and strive to emulate his virtues. Lord Rama is seen as an ideal man and an incarnation of the god Vishnu. His life, teachings, and deeds carry important spiritual and moral messages for believers.

**The Birth of Lord Rama :** The story of Lord Rama's birth is filled with wonder and significance. He was born in the ancient city of Ayodhya. It was ruled by his father, King Dasharatha, and his mother, Queen Kaushalya. Dasharatha had three queens in total, but Kaushalya was Rama's birth mother.

According to legend, King Dasharatha and Queen Kaushalya were childless for a long time. They prayed for a child. Finally, the gods answered their prayers, and

Lord Rama was born to them. His birth brought immense joy and happiness not only to his parents but also to the people of Ayodhya.

Rama's birth is celebrated as a divine event. It symbolises the victory of righteousness and the fulfilment of divine purpose. It marks the beginning of a remarkable journey that would shape the destiny of Rama. It inspires countless generations with his exemplary life and deeds.

**Marriage to Sita:** Rama's marriage to Sita was an important event in his life. Sita was the daughter of King Janaka. He was the noble ruler of Mithila. Rama and Sita's marriage was not just a union of two individuals but also a symbol of love, respect, and divine destiny. King Janaka organized the famous bow-breaking contest to find a suitable husband for Sita. Many princes and warriors from far and wide tried to string the divine bow of Lord Shiva. But none of them succeeded. When Rama arrived at the contest, he effortlessly lifted the bow and broke it while stringing it. Thus winning Sita's hand in marriage. This event showcased Rama's strength and prowess. It also highlighted his divine nature. It was a moment of great celebration and joy for everyone present. It marks the beginning of a beautiful journey of love and companionship between Rama and Sita.

**Exile to the Forest:** Rama's life took a turn when his step-mother, Kaikeyi, made some tough demands from his father, King Dasharatha. She asked that Rama be sent away to live in the forest for fourteen years. Moreover, her own son, Bharata, be made king instead. Despite Rama's innocence and goodness, Dasharatha, bound by his word to Kaikeyi, had to agree. Rama, being obedient and honorable, accepted the exile without any complaints. His wife, Sita, and his loyal brother, Lakshmana, decided

to accompany him into the forest. Together, they left behind the comforts of their palace life to fulfill their duty and uphold righteousness.

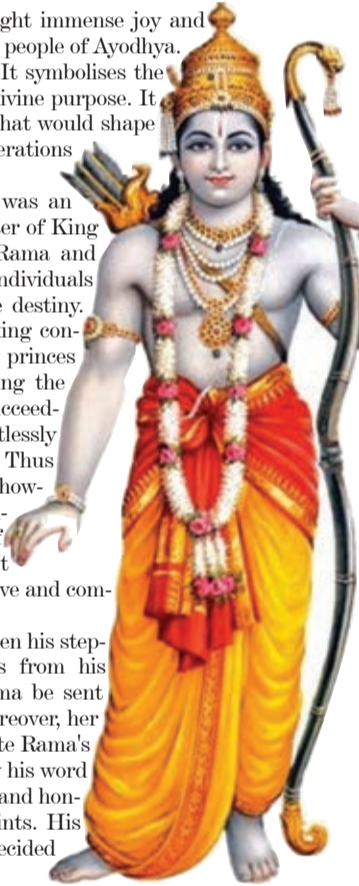
**Slaying of Demons:** During their time in the forest, Rama encountered many challenges. Such as fierce demons who disturbed the peace of the sages and the forest. One such demon was Tataka, who wreaked havoc in the forest with her evil deeds. Rama, with his exceptional archery skills, defeated Tataka and restored peace in the forest. Another notable encounter was with the demon Maricha, who took the form of a golden deer to lure Rama away from Sita. Despite the dangers, Rama bravely confronted Maricha and foiled his plans. Throughout his journey, Rama forged a deep friendship with Hanuman, a devoted follower of Lord Rama. Hanuman's loyalty, courage, and unwavering support proved invaluable to Rama during his trials.

**Rescue of Sita:** The peace of Rama, Sita, and Lakshmana's forest life was shattered when Sita was abducted by Ravana. He was the powerful demon king of Lanka. Rama was devastated by Sita's disappearance and resolved to rescue her at any cost. With Hanuman's help and the support of an army of devoted monkeys, Rama embarked on a perilous journey to Lanka. They faced many obstacles and challenges along the way, but Rama's determination never wavered.

In a fierce battle, Rama confronted Ravana. He ultimately emerged victorious, defeating the evil demon king and rescuing Sita. The reunion of Rama and Sita was a moment of immense joy and triumph. It symbolises the victory of good over evil and the power of love and righteousness.

**Victory of Good over Evil:** Rama's battle with Ravana was a fierce one. Ravana, the wicked demon king of Lanka, had abducted Rama's beloved wife, Sita, and taken her to his kingdom. Rama, fueled by love for Sita and driven by righteousness, waged war against Ravana to rescue her and defeat the forces of evil.

Rama faced Ravana in a mighty battle. Rama's unwavering courage, skillful combat, and divine blessings ultimately led to the downfall of Ravana. With a decisive blow, Rama defeated the evil demon king. Thus bringing an end to his terror. It was a momentous victory that restored peace and harmony in the world. It upheld the values of truth, justice, and righteousness. The destruction of Ravana marked the triumph of righteousness over wickedness, light over darkness, and good over evil.



# General Knowledge Question

<p><b>Q1. Name an electronic device which is used to measure the current in ampere?</b></p> <p>A. Altimeter B. Audiometer C. Ammeter D. Ailometer</p>	<p>B. Cytotron C. Cardiogram D. Avometer</p>
<p><b>Q2. Name an equipment through which the distances travelled by the wheels of the vehicles are measured?</b></p> <p>A. Accumulator B. Avometer C. Animometer D. Adiometer</p>	<p>A. Cathode ray tube B. Callipers C. Coolidge tube D. Bolometer</p>
<p><b>Q3. Name a device used for the magnification of the objects?</b></p> <p>A. Bolometer B. Barometer C. Binoculars D. Barograph</p>	<p><b>Q7. Through which equipment human’s heart beats are recorded and detected via graphics?</b></p> <p>A. Barograph B. Crescograph C. Comograph D. Cardiograph</p>
<p><b>Q4. The equipment used in internal combustion heat engine, vehicle engine etc. is known as:</b></p> <p>A. Altimeter B. Crescograph C. Cyclotron D. Carburator</p>	<p><b>Q8. Name a device which is used to convert mechanical energy into electrical energy?</b></p> <p>A. Dip Circle B. Denial Cell C. Dynamo D. Dynamometer</p>
<p><b>Q5. The device by which artificial climate is produced:</b></p> <p>A. Callipers</p>	<p><b>Q9. The device that confirms the presence of electric charge:</b></p> <p>A. Electric Meter B. Electro Meter C. Electron Microscope D. Electroscope</p>
	<p><b>Q10. Which equipment is employed to project or</b></p>

10. Epidiayscope  
11. Potential difference  
12. Volt  
13. J C-1  
14. Voltmeter
5. Cytotron  
6. Cathode ray tube  
7. Cardiograph  
8. Dynamo  
9. Electroscopes

1. Ammeter  
2. Audiometer  
3. Binoculars  
4. Carburator
- A. Epidiayscope  
B. Endoscope  
C. Density Meter  
D. Escalator

expose pictures on the screen?

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. 2 J C  
C. 1.5 J C-1  
D. 0.5 J C-1

14. Which instrument is used to measure potential difference?

- A. Galvanometer  
B. Magnetometer  
C. Voltmeter  
D. Ammeter

## ASTRO SPEAK

<p><b>ARIES</b></p> <p>MAR 21 - APR 20</p>	<p>Creative whimsy fills the day, as the warming Leo moon encourages you to be outgoing, artistic, and authentically free. The temptation to forgo responsibilities in order to have fun will be pronounced, though you should be mindful of what you need to both stay on track and feel elevated. Find joy as each hour passes, lightening the mood whenever serious situations or important tasks pop up.</p>	<p><b>LIBRA</b></p> <p>SEP 24 - OCT 22</p>	<p>Open yourself to new connections as the moon continues its journey through Leo, dear Libra, putting you in the mood to expand socially. You'll feel more in tune with those you encounter, making it easier to bond over similar interests or philosophies. Much comfort can be found when aligning with those who hold similar views, especially when there are opportunities to volunteer or make a difference.</p>
<p><b>TAURUS</b></p> <p>APR 21 - MAY 20</p>	<p>The Leo moon illuminates the sector of your chart that governs private life, asking you to focus on health and familiar bonds. Use this energy to bring brightness wherever you go, looking for opportunities to raise the vibration. Buried feelings could also come to the forefront of your mind as the stars nudge you to nurture the emotional body. Embrace the people, foods, and activities that offer the most comfort.</p>	<p><b>SCORPIO</b></p> <p>OCT 23 - NOV 22</p>	<p>The Leo moon makes a solitary journey through your solar tenth house, dear Scorpio, asking you to appreciate the many accomplishments you've reached on your own. Use this energy to find pride in what you've built, taking a careful look at the path ahead. If it's been a while since you've outlined long-term goals by breaking them into bite-sized milestones, use this cosmic climate to do so.</p>
<p><b>GEMINI</b></p> <p>MAY 21 - JUN 20</p>	<p>Your chipper, chatty self shines through today, dearest Gemini, as the Leo moon puts you in a communicative and open headspace. Use this energy to invest further in dynamics that bring out the best in you, understanding how important your attention truly is. Your words carry more weight than usual under this luminary placement, and you'll want to keep a kind disposition.</p>	<p><b>SAGITTARIUS</b></p> <p>NOV 23 - DEC 22</p>	<p>Take into account the wondrous beauty of our world, dear Sagittarius, as the Leo moon continues to move through your solar ninth house. These cosmic tides will take you on a mystical journey if you make space to explore the unknown and embrace enlightenment. Release pre-conceived notions of what you think you know, finding expansion as you play with new ideas or explore new topics.</p>
<p><b>CANCER</b></p> <p>JUN 22 - JUL 23</p>	<p>Greet the day by finding your gratitude as Leo moon connects you deeply with surroundings. This energy is perfect for establishing a sense of security within, elevating your heart while keeping you centered in the present. Money matters could also come into focus, and you'll find that it's easier to visualize the path toward manifestation. Sow seeds to grow a greater future, allowing yourself to take pride in these goals.</p>	<p><b>CAPRICORN</b></p> <p>DEC 23 - JUL 20</p>	<p>Allow your ego to guide you as the moon moves through proud Leo, dear Capricorn, directing focus toward your personal path toward evolution. This energy is ideal for visualizing your most accomplished, collected, and successful self, considering any obstacles you currently face either externally or self imposed. Just be mindful that you cannot force others to grow alongside you.</p>
<p><b>LEO</b></p> <p>JUL 24 - AUG 23</p>	<p>A light shines behind your eyes as the moon continues its journey through your sign, helping you feel more at home within yourself and the universe. Use this energy to prioritize your personal goals, taking a break from catering to family and friends so you can focus on self-fulfilling prophecies. Just remember that you don't have to climb each mountain alone, seeking aid if needed.</p>	<p><b>AQUARIUS</b></p> <p>JAN 21 - FEB 23</p>	<p>The Leo moon clears new pathways within matters of the heart traveling without interference from surrounding celestial bodies. Don't be afraid to get a little bold when pursuing a mate. However, still be mindful of social norms and respect boundaries. Now is the time to focus on cultivating healthy relationships that allow you and your counterparts to thrive and feel supported.</p>
<p><b>VIRGO</b></p> <p>AUG 24 - SEP 23</p>	<p>The moon glides freely through warming Leo, putting you in an introspective yet optimistic headspace. Use this energy to connect with your deepest self, dear Virgo, finding the strength to face any dark corners of the mind you've been avoiding. Do your best to avoid others, making space for introspection to harness the healing energy at play.</p>	<p><b>PISCES</b></p> <p>FEB 24 - MAR 20</p>	<p>A warming energy motivates you to live well, dearest Pisces, as the Leo moon journeys through your house of health and wellness. Now is the time to consider what you truly want and how you can better support yourself physically, emotionally, and mentally. Consider how implementing new habits might elevate your daily life, especially if your schedule has felt chaotic recently.</p>

