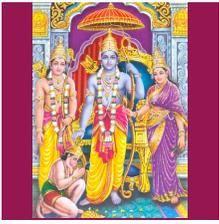


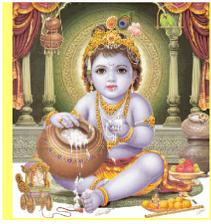
Sita Ram



Ganesh



Krishna



Durga



Shiva



Sanatan Hindu Sanskar Kendra

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Tax Id: 46-2580905

Vasant Panchami

As 'Diwali' – the festival of light – is to Lakshmi, goddess of wealth and prosperity, and 'Navaratri' is to Durga, goddess of power and valor, Vasant Panchami is to Saraswati, the goddess of knowledge and arts. This festival is celebrated every year on the 5th day or 'Panchami' of the bright fortnight of the lunar month of Magha, which falls during January-February. [This year Vasant Panchami falls on 3rd of February]. 'Vasant' comes from the word 'spring' as this festival heralds the beginning of the spring season.

Birthday of Goddess Saraswati

It is believed that on this day goddess Saraswati was born. Hindus celebrate Vasant Panchami with great fervor in temples, homes and even schools and colleges. Saraswati's favorite color white assumes special significance on this day. Statues of the goddess are dressed in white clothes and are worshiped by devotees adorning white garments. Saraswati is offered sweets which are given away as 'prasad' to all people attending the ritual worship. There is also a custom of ancestor worship, known as 'Pitri-Tarpan' in many parts of India during Vasant Panchami.



The Foundation of Education

The most significant aspect of Vasant Panchami is that it is also the most auspicious day to begin laying one's foundations of education – of how to read and write. Pre-school children are given their first lesson in reading and writing on this day. All Hindu educational institutions conduct special prayer for Saraswati on this day. It is also a great day to inaugurate training institutes and



new schools – a trend made famous by the renowned Indian educationist Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (1861-1946), who founded the Banaras Hindu University on Vasant Panchami day in 1916.

A Springtime Celebration

During Vasant Panchami, the advent of spring is felt in the air as the season undergoes change. New leaves and blossoms appear in the trees with the promise of new life and hope. Vasant Panchami also announces the arrival of another big springtime event in the Hindu calendar - Holi, the festival of colors.

Bhalchandra Jaykumar Swadia
[Nick Name: Subhashbhai]

Vasant Panchami Muhurta

February 3rd, 2014 (Monday)

Timings for Lafayette, Louisiana

Puja Time = 09:09 to 11:17
Duration = 2 Hours 8 Mins

For more details please refer DrikPanchang.com



Best Compliments from
**Sarika &
Sharad Gunda**

February Important Dates

Based on Lafayette, Louisiana, US Time

03 Monday	Vasant Panchami
05 Wednesday	Ratha Saptami
06 Thursday	Bhishma Ashtami
10 Monday	Jaya Ekadashi
12 Wednesday	Kumba Sankranti
14 Friday	Magha Purnima
25 Tuesday	Vijaya Ekadashi
27 Thursday	Maha Shivaratri

Ratha Saptami

Saptami Tithi is dedicated to Lord Surya. It is believed that Lord Surya Dev started enlightening the whole world on Ratha Saptami day.

Bhishma Ashtami

Magha Shukla Ashtami is death anniversary of Bhishma Pitamah and this day is known as Bhishma Ashtami.

Jaya Ekadashi & Vijaya Ekadashi is one of the twenty four Ekadashi vrats which are observed to seek blessing of Lord Vishnu.

For more details please refer DrikPanchang.com

