

DSPPL Chaitanya - Digital Newsletter Vol 01 Issue 01 // Guru Poornima Special

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Wed, Jul 13, 2022 at 1:02 PM

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A lot of people have this question about what is a significance of Guru Purnima. Purnima or the full moon has always been a celebration for Indians from the time of yore. There are totally 12 full moon days in a year as everyone knows. However, a full moon on Guru Purnima day is a special event as only on this day which comes on the 15th day of the month Ashadha (a month in Hindu calendar which generally falls in the English calendar month of July is difficult to see with eyes as the whole sky is generally occupied by the dark clouds so typical in this month which falls in monsoon. Obviously, the beauty of this moon can't be seen easily as it is shrouded in the veils of mysterious darkness, pregnant of falling rains. One needs a lot of patience and a special sight to view this wonderful phenomenon. One gets lost and looking at a moon becomes a challenge as good as a challenge of seeing something that exists but not seen in our daily life. That itself becomes a spiritual practice. It requires a master of supreme nature who can guide and show you that which is beyond a common sight. Guru does that.

This day also happens to be a Jayanthi or a birthday of a sage Vyasa, a supreme master from whom the traditions of Masters have originated. No wonder it is a special day for all those who walk on the spiritual path. Besides this, Guru Purnima is also known as Buddha Purnima as Lord Buddha gave his first sermon on this day after getting enlightenment.

This is the day a disciple (word discipline came from this) visits his Guru or a Master to pay his tributes, worships him and takes his blessings for proceeding further on this path. It is believed that this day, a sadhak starts on a new course on his chosen path as guided by his Guru. After Guru Purnima a month of Shravan starts and so do chaturmas- the four months of hard penance. These months are considered to be most ideal to experience the dhyanas- meditations and self- introspection. People in Indian sub-continent by this time finish their agricultural work and wait for monsoon to take care of the soil to make it potential with fertility and seeks his own spiritual growth through various spiritual practices.

- Ajit Sir



Dear students of DSPPL, and my young friends,

In an urban town of modern India lived a small family. The family consisted of a mother, father, and their two sons Rajiv and Rohan. The family was modern but they kept a very strong hold over their culture. They celebrated all cultural and religious festivals with great zest and zeal.

Parents instructed both their children to gear up for the most important day of paying respect to the Gurus and Teachers - **Guru Poornima**. Rajiv and Rohan obediently agreed to make preparations and pay obeisance to their teacher. Rajiv being the elder sibling knew a lot and was an extremely knowledgeable student. Rohan always looked up to him for any clarity in life. Rohan being his younger brother was catching up with him in his knowledge by bombarding him with a lot of questions. Let us look at the two young minds in conversation about Guru Poornima.

Rohan: Bhaiya, Teachers Day is celebrated on the 5th of September every year. Then why do we celebrate Guru Purnima separately?

Rajiv: Teachers' Day is more of a western concept. In India, we have Guru and hence this day is more important to us.

Rohan: What is the difference between a Guru and a Teacher?

Rajiv: A teacher is someone who can teach a few subjects. A Guru is someone who can take you towards the light from the darkness. Both can possess profound knowledge and hence deserve to be always respected.

Rohan: Bhaiya, is the festival celebrated in India alone?

Rajiv: No, my dear, it is also celebrated in Nepal and Bhutan.

Rohan: Ok, so only Hindus must be celebrating this festival as Maharishi Ved Vyas was born on this day as per the beliefs.

Rajiv: Not exactly Rohan, even Jains, and Buddhists celebrate this with full faith and emotions.

Rohan: Bhaiya, please tell me more about Maharishi Ved Vyas!

Rajiv: He was an eminent personality from ancient times; the author of incredible texts like Brahma Sutra, Mahabharata, Shrimad Bhagvat, and 18 Puranas. He was the son of Rishi Parashar. As per the Hindu Shastras, Veda Vyas was aware of all the Kaals (times- past, present, future). With his divine eye, he had witnessed that people will lose interest in higher knowledge in the future. Due to this, humans will believe less in God, they will avoid responsibilities, and will have lesser age. Such a person cannot easily go through the entire Veda. Hence, Maharishi Vyasa divided the Vedas into 4 parts; so that people with less understanding and memory can utilize this knowledge.

Rohan: So how did he get his name, Veda Vyas? Or were the Vedas named after him?

Rajiv: No Rohan, the Rishis of ancient times lived a life of gratitude. It was due to the four Vedas that he got famous with the name Veda Vyas.

Rohan: Bhaiya, if the four Vedas had the entire knowledge of the cosmos? Why did he write the Puranas?

Rajiv: The knowledge in Vedas was quite mysterious and difficult to fathom. Thus, Maharishi created the Puranas as the fifth Veda. In these Puranas, he explained the Knowledge of Vedas as interesting stories. He gave the knowledge of Puranas to his student Roma Harshan. Students of Vyasa Ji further divided these Vedas into many branches and Sub-branches.

Rohan: Thank you so much, Bhaiya! I regard you as my first Guru. Ever helpful and always enlightening.

Rajiv: Don't say that Rohan. Enlightenment is a big term. Nonetheless, let me remind you. On the 13th of July, Guruji will be here in town. Don't miss this auspicious occasion to get the Mantra from Guruji.

Rohan: I am eagerly waiting for the day and the opportune time. I also love massaging his feet every time he comes.

Rajiv: Good for you Chote! The festival indeed needs to be celebrated with a pure heart and faith. You surely have one!

Rohan: The way our family is surrounded by the divine space, we all are moving towards bliss.

Rajiv: Indeed Rohan, eternally grateful we all should be.

We hope that this little piece of conversation will help make your life even more blissful.



Once upon a time a father and his son went to Kite flying festival. And the young son became very happy seeing the sky filled with colourful kites. And so he asked his father to get him a kits and a thread with a roller so he too could fly a kite. And so the father went to the shop at the park where the festival was being held. He purchased a kite and a roll of thread for his son. And his son started to fly the Kite. Soon his kits reached high up in the sky.

After a while, the son said: "Father, it seems that the thread is holding up the kite from flying even higher, if we break it, it would be free and ti could fly even higher. Can we break it? So the father cut the thread from the roller and the kite started to go a little higher. And that

made the son very happy. But then, slowly, the kits started to come down again. And soon it fell down on the terrace of an unknown building. The young son was surprised to see this. He had cut the kite loose of its thread so it could fly higher, but instead, it fell down.

He asked his father: "Father, I thought that after cutting off the thread the kite would be free and could fly higher. But why did it fall down?" And the father explained: "Son, at the height of life that we live in, we often think that we are tied to some things, and that these things are preventing us from going even further and even higher. You see the thread wasn't holding the kite from going higher, but it was helping it to stay high when the wind slowed down and when the wind picked up, you helped the kite go up higher in a proper direction through the thread. And when we cut the thread, it fell down without the support you were providing to the kite through the thread." Now the son realized his mistake.

You see in life.... In your life sometimes we feel that we can progress quickly and reach to newer heights in our life if we are not tied up with our family with our home with our friends but we fail to realize that our family our loved ones our friends, they help us survive the tough times in our lives, with their support and encourage us to reach higher heights in our life. They are not holding us back. But they are supporting us so never cut through the thread. And see your kites fly high and stable through life...

LINK FOR VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/ooO5W0jzXAQ>



Honesty is next to Godliness!

Imagine, if you are poor, sole bread earning person of your family, struggling, doing any sort of daily wage job to accomplish the basic needs of your family. If in such a situation, one fine day at a bus stop, if you find bundle of currency notes amounting to Rs. 40,000 which is lying unclaimed, what will you do???

This very same situation was faced by Mr. Dhanaji Jagdale, a resident of Pingli village in Satara district of Maharashtra. With wrinkled face aged 54 years, needing Rs 7 (seven) for bus ticket to his village but having only Rs 3 (three) in his pocket, he was waiting at Dahiwadi bus stop when he saw this bundle of cash. Instead of feeling greedy about the cash, he felt worried and compassionate for the person who might have lost his cash. He started looking around to find right owner of this money. A while later, he met a person who was profusely sweating, looking worried and searching for something he had lost. After verifying with him that he was actually looking for the lost money, Dhanaji returned the bundle of notes to him happily. Both looked relieved, happy and content. Both of these strangers hugged each other.

While reading this, I am sure you might be thinking that in this age of digital currency, who roams about carrying this many cash. It was even more heart wrenching situation for both

when the person whose money it was, informed Dhanaji that he had collected this Rs. 40000 cash by lot of efforts, so that he could pay for the surgery of his ailing wife. Both cried tears of joy at this moment.

The person wished to & offered Rs. 1000 to Dhanaji as token of appreciation for his honesty, however, Dhanaji refused and just took Rs. 7 for his bus ticket to home and came back.

The news of this goodness act spread through various media channels. Dhanaji was conferred appreciation by MLA of Satara and was offered financial help by various social institutions. With a smile on his face, Dhanaji rejected all offers and said that his only message to the world is that people should live their life with honesty.

Yes, truly, Honesty is still alive! Wish we all learn the virtue of honesty from Mr. Dhanaji Jagdale and imbibe it in our lives.

Ref Link: <https://www.deccanherald.com/national/west/maha-man-returns-rs-40k-with-only-rs-3-in-his-pocket-773096.html>

Illustrations: Ashish

Story: Pranjal Sir

LIFE IS ALL ABOUT SHARING





MUST WATCH: Oath Taking Ceremony by students for building their national character during Children Retreat Program at Devrukh in May 2022



QUIZ TIME

1. Identify the Guru in the picture:

- A. Santanu B. Dronacharya
C. Vashishta D. Baskaracharya



2. Guru Poornima is the birthday of:

- A. Lord Shiva B. Guru Dronacharya
C. Guru Vyasa D. Gautam Buddha



3. Guru Poornima is the day when Lord Shiva passed the knowledge yoga (Yogic Science) to:

- A. Ved Vyasa B. Narada
C. Valmiki D. Saptrishis

4. Guru Purnima is celebrated on full moon day in the month of ?

- A. Ashadha B. Sravana
C. Vaisakha D. Kartik



5. Even the Lord, in his avatars as Rama and Krishna, learned under a Guru. This shows the importance of a Guru. Who were the gurus of Rama and Krishna?

- A. Sage Brihaspati and Sage Vishwamitra
B. Sage Vasishta and Sage Sandeepani
C. Sage Gautama and Sage Kripai
D. Sage Veda Vyasa and Sage Vasishtai



Send your Quiz Answers!

Correct answers & winner names in next newsletter!



**Get in Touch! Send in your
Quiz Answers, Suggestions & Feedback to:**

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