Happy Ganesh Chaturthi!

Ganesh Chaturthi/Vinayaka Chavithi

Hinduism

guh-naysh chuh-tur-thee 🔊

The 10-day festival marks the birth of the elephant-headed Hindu deity Ganesha, the god of new beginnings, prosperity, and wisdom. There are multiple stories of Ganesha's birth. Clay murtis of Ganesha are put on display in homes and public places. At the end of the festival, the murtis are immersed and dissolved in water and participants say, "Ganapathi Bappa Morya," this means "O Lord Ganapathi, our father, go ahead. Please come back again next year."

Date
- Ganesh Chaturthi is observed during the Hindu lunisolar month of Bhadra (between mid-August and mid-September).
- Check the Calendar Index for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings
Wishing someone a "Happy Ganesh Chaturthi" is welcome.

Common Practices and Celebrations
- Social gatherings at festivals
- Chanting of prayers and hymns
- Sweet dishes, such as Modak, are served
- Charity
- Stories regarding the birth of Ganesha (Vinayaka), especially Shamanthaka Mani, are read by devotees on this day.

Common Dietary Restrictions
- Some Hindu practitioners adhere to a lacto-vegetarian diet which excludes meat, fish, and eggs.

Impact to U-M Community
- Link to U-M Guidance Regarding Conflicts.

U-M Campus Resources
- Maize Pages - Hindu, U-M
- Association of Religious Counselors, U-M

Information Sources
- Wikipedia
- The Ganesh Chaturthi Festival, LearnReligions.com
- Ganesh Chaturthi, ganeshchaturthi.org

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION

Edited 12/16/2022