



Happy Holi!

Holi

Hinduism

[hoe-lee](#) 

Holi is one of the most popular festivals in Hinduism and known as the Festival of Colors, Festival of Spring, and the Festival of Love. It is a celebration of the arrival of spring, the divine love of Radha Krishna, and the triumph of the good over evil. Holi is a time to put aside past resentments and harsh feelings toward each other. Holi lasts for one night and a day starting with a bonfire the evening before and then celebrants spend the day playfully smearing and spraying each other with bright colors in the form of dry powders and dyed water with joy and enthusiasm. At the end of the day everyone cleans up and visits with friends and relatives.



This collection of information sheets on major holidays and cultural events is a joint partnership of the School of Information staff, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and the Office of the Provost. Facts have been vetted by U-M's Association of Religious Counselors (ARC), and other campus groups. Public feedback is welcome; please email DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu.

Date

- In the Hindu lunar calendar, it begins on the evening of the full moon in the month of Phalgun. This roughly falls in the middle of March on the Gregorian calendar.
- Check the [Calendar Index](#) for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings

Wishing a celebrant a "Happy Holi" is welcome.

Common Practices and Celebrations

- The lighting of a ritual bonfire called a Holika
- Playfully smearing or spraying colors in the form of powders or water on each other
- After the colorful play, celebrants get cleaned and dressed up to visit friends and relatives
- Sweets and delicacies are exchanged

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

- [Holifestival.org](#)
- [Wikipedia](#)

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