



Happy Raksha Bandhan!

Raksha Bandhan

Hinduism

[rahk-shaw bahn-dan](#) 

Raksha Bandhan, known as Janai Purnima in Nepal, is an annual Hindu ritual highlighting the important bond between brothers and sisters. It is called the “Festival of Charm Tying” because one of the central elements is sisters tying a special charm or amulet called a “rakhi” around the wrist of their brothers to symbolically ask them for protection. The brothers also provide a small gift in turn. This ritual has extended beyond blood relations to include those that become voluntary kin and accept a role as a symbolic protector.

Date

- It takes place on the last day of Shraavana on the Hindu lunar calendar. This usually falls in August on the Gregorian calendar.
- Check the [Calendar Index](#) for Religious Holidays during the current academic year for the exact date.

Greetings

Wishing someone a “Happy Raksha Bandhan,” especially a brother or voluntary kin, is welcome.

Common Practices and Celebrations

- A charm or amulet is offered and tied around the wrist of the celebrant’s brother or the person standing in as voluntary kin.

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](#)
- [Raksha Bandhan](#), timeanddate.com
- [Raksha Bandhan](#), pujayagna.com
- [Janai Purnima](#), weallnepali.com

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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.