



# Happy Ugadi!

## Ugadi / Gudi Padwa / Telugu New Year

Hinduism

[oo-gah-dee](#)



Ugadi and Gudi Padwa are festivals that celebrate the beginning of a new year on the Hindu lunar calendar and the arrival of spring. Ugadi means “the beginning of a new age.” It is celebrated with spring house cleaning, exchanging gifts of new clothes, feasts, dancing, colorful flags, decorations of mango leaves and floral designs, and festive foods that combine flavors to remind of life’s sweet and bitter experiences.



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](mailto:DEIHolidayFacts@umich.edu).

### Date

- It is the first day of the month of Chaitra at the beginning of the Hindu lunar calendar. This usually falls in the month of April 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 Ugadi” or “Happy Gudi Padwa” is welcome.

### Common Practices and Celebrations

- Ritual showers/baths with oil massages
- Spring cleaning of households
- Exchanging gifts of new clothes
- Enjoying feasts and festive food that combine all six flavors: salty, sweet, spicy, sour, bitter, and astringent.

### 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](#), Ugadi
- [Wikipedia](#), Gudi Padwa

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