

# Simple Deepavali Pujan

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Hindus celebrate the four main Hindu festivals, namely Holi, Raksha-bandhan, Dushhera and Deepavali from time immemorial. Although each festival is full of its unique significance, Deepavali has its national and international importance because wherever Hindus live this festival is celebrated with full reverence and joy.

Deepavali is celebrated on three consecutive days. Hindu festivals are celebrated according to the lunar calendar. Deepavali starts on *Kartik Krishna Paksh triodashi* (13<sup>th</sup> day) and that day is called *Dhan Teras*. On this day people buy new utensils and jewellery and they believe that Goddess Maha Lakshmi has arrived at their house. On *chaturdashi* (14<sup>th</sup> day) they celebrate *Narak or Yama chaturdashi*. On this day, Lord Yama is worshiped in the evening for granting long life by lighting a four-wicks lamp in the middle of the courtyard. By this day people have cleaned and whitewashed their houses and shops. Cleanliness is the symbol of purity and knowledge.

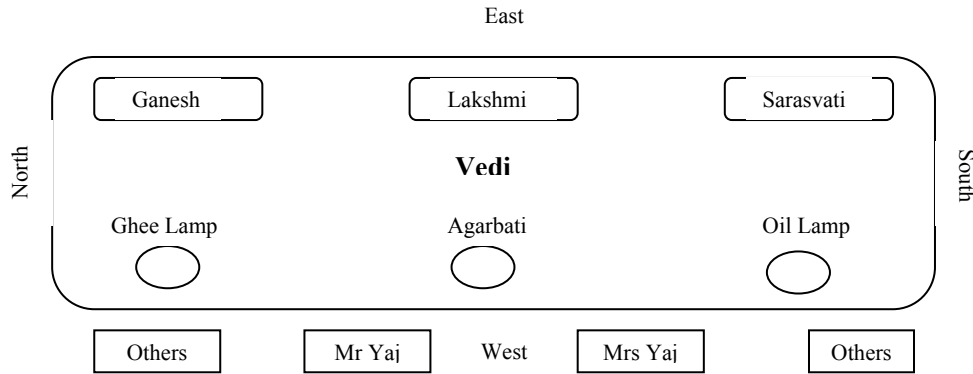
Most important is the *Amavashya* (15<sup>th</sup> day of the dark fortnight). It is celebrated at night by lighting rows and rows of lamps to drive away the darkness. This is the day when Goddess Maha Lakshmi is worshiped. The darkness, which symbolizes ignorance and leads to desires, anger, greed and violence is removed by lighting the lamp of wisdom and worshiping Goddess Maha Lakshmi, who is the giver of wisdom, wealth, peace and prosperity.

So let us all worship Maha Lakshmi for prosperity, Lord Ganesha for success, and Goddess Sarasvati for pure knowledge.

## Pujan-vidhi.

Before sitting for the worship collect all the necessary *samigri* (as given at the end). Worship means giving respect and serving God. Prepare a *Vedi* as per the diagram so that you are sitting facing east or north. Always sit on a matt for worship. Keep water in a pot. Make garlands of fresh flowers. Offer yellow flowers to Lord Ganesha; red flowers to Maha Lakshmi and white or pink flowers to Goddess Sarasvati. Place idols of Lord Ganesha, Maha Lakshmi, and Sarasvati on their respective places. If you don't have any idol you can use a *supari* (Beatle-nut) instead. The idols help us to visualize the presence of Gods and Goddesses.

## Simple lay out of the Mundapam



If you can chant the *mantras* then chant full *mantras*, otherwise just chant the following *beej* (core or seed) *mantras*:

***Om Gan Ganapataye Namah!***  
***Om Hrim Maha Lakshmiye Namah!***  
***Om Aim Sarasvatiye Namah!***

***For Lord Ganesha;***  
***For Goddess Maha Lakshmi;***  
***For Goddess Sarasvati.***

### **Aachman:-**

Take water three times in your right hand and do **aachman** (sipping), thinking that you are cleansing your mind and body. Then light the lamp and *agarbatti* (incense). Take a little water, flower, rice and a coin in your right hand, pray that you are doing the Deepavali Pujan along with your family and let the Lord accept your offering, placing them on the *Vedi*.

### **Chandan:-**

Sandal paste (chandan) should be prepared in two separate little containers, one for applying on the foreheads of the family members and other for the *Pujan*. Mix a few grains of rice with the paste for the family and apply *teeka* on their foreheads.

Now all the members take a flower each in their hands and pray to the Gods and Goddesses and invite them to take their seats on their respective holy *asanas*. Offer the flowers on the feet of the Lords. If you have the idols, place each idol, one by one, in a deep plate and pour water four times on each idol to symbolize washing their feet, hands, mouth and body. Then offer a small drop of *panchamrit* five times.

### **Panchamrit:-**

Milk (½ glass), yogurt (3 tablespoon), ghee (½ teaspoon), honey (1.½ teaspoon) and sugar (2 teaspoons). Mix them thoroughly.

After offering *panchamrit* wash all the idols with clean water and wipe them dry with clean cloth. While doing this, keep chanting the *beej mantras*. Offer *mauli* (red thread) symbolizing clothing of the idols. Also apply the sandal paste; put *rolli*, *avir* and *gulal* and keep chanting the *beej mantras*.

Take some rice grains and apply on the idols' foreheads. Offer the garlands of flowers, if available or just put a flower each on each idol. Light the *dhup* or *agarbatti* and wave them three times from right to left. If you have *itr* (rose water or Scent), sprinkle a few drops. Now show the lamp three times to the idols by waving the right hand.

### **Naivedya Bhoga: –**

Sprinkle some water on your hands (symbolizing cleaning), put *prasad* (sweets) in front of the idols. Then offer them to the Lord praying “Oh! Lord, you are the Giver, we do not have anything to offer you but we have prepared this food with our devotion. Please accept it, so that it becomes *Prasad* (consecrated food) for us.

### **Fruits: –**

Offer a plate of sweet fruits according to the season, again as *Prasad*.

### **Dravya dakhshina:-**

It is a custom of pujan that some coins must be offered. Money is our most loving attachment. That is why by offering it to the Lord we want to offer our most loving item and seek detachment from its bondage. By offering money we pray for its purity.

## Arati and pradikshina :-

Finally with the lighted lamp in right hand wave it at least seven times in front of each idol and sing the arati for Lord Ganesh, Goddess Maha Lakshmi and Goddess Sarasvati. If time is short then only sing arati for goddess Maha Lakshmi.

## Simple Lakshmi Ganesh puja Samagri.

Chandan powder	Cotton Balls	Flowers	Dry fruits
Red Thread (Mauli)	Match box	Garlands 3	Fresh fruits
Sindoor	Incense sticks	Mango leaves 7	Coconut
Supari 12	Camphor	Betel Leave 1	Sweet prasad
Red Cloth 2 mtr	Cloves & Cardamom	Grass (Doob, kush)	
Rice 1 Kg	Rose water		
Coins \$ 1 – 2	Other Items:	Mustard oil	plates, Napkins
Turmaric powder	2 Deepaks and 1 Aarti	Tea spoons,	Asanas for sitting
A plate with 11 Deepaks decorated for Deepawali pooja	2 Lotas for Kalash and water.	Bowls (11 small & big),	Table(s) for Murtis of Ganeshji, Lakshmi and Sarasvati

## AARTI SHRI LAKSHMI JI KI

Om Jai Lakshmi Mata, (Maiya) Jai Lakshmi Mata,  
Tumko Nishdin Sewat, Har Vishnu Vidhata (Tek).

- (1) Brahmani Rudrani Kamla, Tu Hi Hai Jagmata,,  
Surya Chandrama Dhyavat, Narad Rishi Gata. Om Jai ...
- (2) Durga Roop Niranjana, Sukh Sampati Data,  
Jo Koi Tumko Dhyavat, Ridhi Sidhi Dhan Pata Om Jai ...
- (3) Tu Hi Hai Patal Basanti Tu Hi Hai Shubh Data,  
Karm-Prabhav Prakashak, Bhavnidhi Se Trata. Om Jai ...
- (4) Jis Ghar me tum rahati sab sadgun aataa,  
Sabh Sambhav Ho Jata, Man Nahi Ghabrata. Om Jai ...
- (5) Tum Bin Yagya Na Hove, Vastra Na Koi Pata,  
Khan Pan Ko Vaibhav, Sab Tumse Aata. Om Jai ...

- (6) Shubh Gun Sunder, mandir Kshir Nidhi Jata,  
Ratna Chaturdash Tum Bin, Koi Nahin Pata. Om Jai ...
- (7) Maha Lakshmi Ji Ki arati, Jo Koi jan Gata,  
Ur Anand samata, Pap Utar Jata. Om Jai ...

*Aarti Shri Ganesh Ji Ki*

1. JAY GANESH JAY GANESH JAY GANESH DEVAA,  
MAATAA JAAKI PAARVATI PITA MAHADEVAA. JAY GANESH ---
2. EK DANT DAYAAVANT CHAAR BHUJAA DHAARI,  
MASTAK SINDUR SOHE MUSE KI SAVAARI. JAY GANESH ---
3. PAAN CHADHE PUSHPA CHADHE AUR CHADHE MEVAA,  
LADUVAN KA BHOG LAGE SANT KARE SEVAA. JAY GANESH ---
4. ANDHAN KO AANKH DET KADHIN KO KAAYAA,  
BAANJHAN KO PUTRA DET NIRDHAN KO MAAYAA. JAY GANESH ---
5. HAAR CHADHE PHOOL CHADHE AUR CHADHE MEVA,  
SUR SHYAAM SHARAN AAYE SUPHAL KIJE SEVAA. JAY GANESH ---

Useful links

<http://www.hinduheritage.org.au/>

<http://hinducouncil.com.au/>

<http://www.hinduheritage.org.au/faqs.html>

<https://www.mypanchang.com/simplelaksh mipuja.pdf>

<http://hindijyotish.com/vedic-astrology/diwali-puja-vidhi-in-hindi.html>