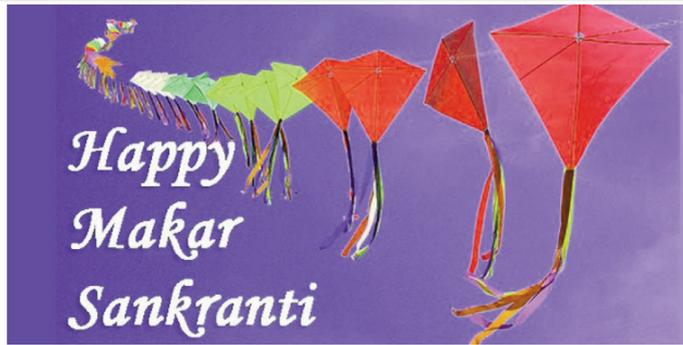




Know more about Makar Sankranti : Uttarayana 2017



Makar Sankranti, or Sankranti is a popular Indian festival. It is celebrated in many parts of the country and also in some other parts of the world with great zeal and enthusiasm. It is a harvest festival which is basically celebrated in the Hindu communities. In Indian, the states of Bihar, Bengal, Punjab, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu celebrate the festival with great fervor and gusto. In Tamil Nadu the festival is known as Pongal, in Assam as Bhogali Bihu, in Punjab, as Lohri, in Gujarat and Rajasthan, as Uttarayana. The festival of Makar Sankranti marks the day when the sun begins its northward journey as scientifically said that around December 21-22 is the shortest day of the year. After that the day span usually gets longer. Hence, Winter Solstice actually begins around this date when the tropical sun moves into the Makar rashi or Capricorn zodiac sign and enters the sign of Makar (the

Capricorn) from the Tropic of Cancer. It is like the movement of sun from Dakshinayana (south) to Uttarayana (north) hemisphere. This day falls on the 14th of January every year according to the Hindu Solar Calendar. The festival is considered to be a day from where onwards all the auspicious and ritualistic ceremonies can be solemnized in any Hindu family. This is thus considered as the holy phase of transition.

Makar Sankranti holds special significance in the solar calendar as on this day, the duration of the day and night remains equal. There are several important legends and myths associated with the origin of Makar Sankranti. The special significance of this day was recognized even by the Aryans and they largely celebrated the festival of Makar Sankranti. Warrior-hero Bhishma Pitamah even after

being offended in the Mahabharata war lingered on till Uttarayana set in. Death on this day is set to bring Moksha or recovery for the deceased. Since the festival is celebrated in the mid winter, the food prepared for this festival are such that they keep the body warm and give high energy. Laddu of til made with Jaggery (Gul) is specialty of the festival. Makar Sankranti is celebrat-

ed all across the country with great zeal, vigor and fervor. India being such a diverse country, all states celebrate this festival in their own individual style, tradition and culture. For the people in the Indo Gangetic plain, the day begins with taking dips in the Ganga and offering water to the Sun God. The dip is said to purify the self and bestow punya. Special puja is offered as a thanksgiving for good harvest. According to folklore, girls who take the holy dip get handsome husbands and boys get beautiful brides. While in the Western part of the country like in Gujarat and Rajasthan (including Udaipur) people offer prayers to the Sun God. They do this by flying beautiful kites. While in mewar junction of Rajasthan (including Udaipur) people also play Sitoliya (a game with 7 marble pieces and a ball). Although Kite flying festivals are organized throughout the country it takes place mostly in western India.

In rural places, cock fight is organised by the people. The villagers make merry by eating the cock which loses the competition. On this day, Saraswati, Goddess of Knowledge, is also paid respect. In South India, Makar Sankranti is a four-day long festival, each day signifying something important. People decorate their houses with mango leaves. Sesame sweets are prepared as a part of the festive feast. A dish made of rice called "Pongal" is relished on Sankranti. This is the main delicacy of the festival in the south. The festival of Makar Sankranti ties up states as flowers into a scared thread of joy and affection. Just like tying up many color flowers to one thread to increase its beauty. This festival also increases the dignity of nation by tying the states together so wish you all have a bombastic and joyful Makar Sankranti.

Power of Discussion Over Argument With Your Mother in Law



Himani Khanna

I have always supported women with issues and always will. My support does not measure my relationship level with them. Even if the matter does not seek my opinion and still it hurts my viewpoint I take stand, at least. My internet friend feels that after marriage you just need to go with the flow. It prevents you from unnecessary arguments. We talk often. She feels solace in sharing her personal life with me. I help her puke all her anger/opinion on chat. We are chatting for 2 years now and it was the time I had to talk to her about her personal life. It was the time to take the role of an agony aunt. Rather than calming her with words like, hmmm, oh, ok, OMG, I wrote real words. Do you love your Mother In Law? On which she said, Of course not. I have to live under her authoritarianism. How can I love her? Then I asked, I know you love your mother, but why? Can you answer that? It is so obvious. I do not have to ask for every little thing. And I can put my opinion before her choice. I feel comfortable when I have a view to share. exactly. I said.

Let me mail you something. Please read it and share your views. I sent this mail to her. Dear Sandhya, Try to practice the same with you MIL (mother in law) like you do with your mother. Do not go against her, instead keep your options in front of her and ask to choose one for you. If she comes up with her choice, at least have a look. She might have good taste. If not, then give genuine reason and put multiple other options and ask her to pick one for you. This way you can have your choice and her sentiments are maintained. Not only this, put your views as well. Discuss, do not argue. Yes, same applies to you. If you feel the discussion is changing to an argument, stop immediately. Take some time and when you feel there is a right moment start the conversation. Also, be a good listener. The more you will listen the more you will build a good foundation. Always remember, elders have experienced life. They may have valid point but that does not mean it applies to current period. Convincing someone with love is an art. Not everybody has that skill, but we can at least try. Do not distress your heart or soul by controlling your emotions. If you keep controlling yourself it will definitely come out someday and that might ruin your reputation. Let the things come out at the spot. I hope this mail finds you solace. Regards,

Your good friend. For many weeks I kept thinking about her and read my own email 5 times. She never replied. Then suddenly one morning I get this pop up notification on my messenger. Dear friend, I cannot thank you enough for the email. You must be thinking how insolence of me not to respond on such a lovely care. But believe me. I read every word carefully and more than 10 times and treated my mother in law in the same way I would do to my mother. I must tell you this. Our relation has changed. I have started feeling a certain level of confort with her. Not much but I now hope to build a great connection with her in future. I still have a few questions to ask you, but let me thank you for guiding me on this. It is nothing less than a boon. Let's chat tonight after dinner, if you are free. Regards, Sandhya Her email made me smile and gave my heart relaxation. That's all folks. I hope all the married girls take a step ahead and try to talk and not just distress their soul.

Legendary Cannon assumes Goddess position

Udaipur: A legendary cannon 'Jagat Shobha' made during the reign of Maharana Jagat Singh II, the erstwhile ruler of Mewar roughly around 1750 has been rediscovered lately by historians. Surprisingly, the cannon which is believed to have forced the Scindia army from Ujjain to retreat and saved Mewar's honour at a crucial time, has now assumed the position of Mother Goddess - Top Mata among the locals who worship it daily observing complete rituals that for any idol in a temple. The cannon lies in cenotaph at a buri (tower) opposite the city railway station. People hold high reverence for the cannon and consider it as their savior against all odds. Historians believe, there had been numerous other centuries old cannons that had faded into oblivion, however, firm belief of the residents have saved this heritage object from rotting away. Residents even offer a bowl of milk to the cannon after the evening Arti everyday. "Jagat Shobha had been a powerful as well as legendry cannon of its time. Mewar was witnessing a state of turmoil when Amarchand Badwa, a Brahmin took over as the prime minister of the state from 1751 to 1778 throughout the reigns of Maharanas Pratap Singh II, Raj Singh II, Ari Singh, and Hamir Singh respectively" says Dr Sri Krishna Jugnu, a historian and renowned author. The rulers were weak and unpopular among the masses. The treasury was empty and soldiers refused to fight for not given salary, Jugnu said. "At the crucial time Amar Chand Badwa accepted the responsibility as Pradhan and began fortification of Udaipur as retaliation from Maratha ruler Mahadji Scindia, was imminent" Commander Pratap Singh Mehta says, whose book 'Rajputana Chronicles: Guns and Glories' too carries an account of the Pradhan's gallantry. "Jagat Shoba and other cannons were effectively used at the time of siege of Udaipur by Scindia in 1769 CE during the reign of Ari Singh II. The legendry 'enemy killer' cannon was there on Eklinggarh fort atop Machhla Magra" Dr P.S Ranawat, retired professor and writer claims. At the earlier stage when Scindia forces were strong, they put up a condition of a demand of 70 lakh rupees or surrender before the army. However, Pradhan Badwa didn't lose hope. He sold all the gold and silver coins from the state's wealth and paid the soldiers. He rejuvenated the army and attacked the enemy from all the vintage points. "The Jagat Shoba cannon was such a powerful machine that when triggered the explosive propellants, its sound echoed through the hills and left the enemies trembling" Jugnu said. Amarchand's strategy was so successful that Mewar army emerged stronger and forced the Marathas to retreat.

(Source : Udaipur Kiran)

Call To Rethink Development To Save Earth , Nature And Adivasis

Dr. H.S. Chandalia Udaipur. Adivasis of the country will meet on 14th and 15th January in Udaipur under the aegis of Adivasi Ekta Parishad to show their unity and discuss the serious issues that have threatened their existence, their culture and their livelihood. The form of development embraced by the world today is a threat to the entire humanity, the planet earth and Nature. It has already threatened the existence of the Adivasi culture, their languages and their sources of livelihood. The grand meeting will assert the constitutional rights of Adivasis and reassert the long cherished demands of their right over land, forests and water. The major concerns of the Adivasi Ekta Parishad are to check the exploitation of the

Adivasis by the rich capitalists, corporate and the state. The forcible evacuation from their habitat and land grabbing by the land mafia supported by the ruling parties has caused great suffering to Adivasis. Adivasi Ekta Parishad was founded by Kalu Ram Dhodade and Vaharu Dada Sonvane of Maharashtra twenty four years back and is functioning in eight states actively. However, the Adivasis of almost all the states in the country will participate in the Maha sammelan, says Ms. Sadhana Meena, one of the members of the organizing body. She told that delegates from Nigeria and South Africa are also likely to participate. The State President of the Parishad Mogji Bhai Bhagora, general secretary Ashok Bhai

Chaushary and Jeev Ram ji Damor are the main functioning of the event. Comrade Meghraj Tawar, Vice President of All India Adivasi Mahasabha and former MLA told that the constitution has provided in schedule 5 and 6 the tribal areas and the right of Adivasies. But the Union and state governments have failed to fulfill the provisions of the constitutions. The present government has increased attacks on the rights of Adivasis. If they unite and demand their rights they are dubbed as naxalites and Maoists. They are simple people who are trying to preserve their right to life through saving forests and hills. The Adivasi Ekta Parishad considers the present capitalist development as anti nature,

anti people and dangerous for the future of mother earth. Dr. Man Singh Ninama, member of the organizing body told that The Mahasammelan will begin on 14th at Dakan Kotda. In the morning a cultural rally will begin at 9.00am from Gandhi ground and will pass through the main roads of the city. It will end at Raty stand from where the participants will go to Dakan Kotda and will have their meetings for two days, discussing various issues. It is interesting that there will be no chief guest of the Mahasammelan. Everyone who comes will sit on the same plain in the Adivasi tradition. Comrade Tawar told that Adivasis will organize this event from their own resources as is the tradition.

J P Singhal resigns after High Court's slamming his appointment as Vice Chancellor



Jaipur: The Vice Chancellor of the University of Rajasthan J.P. Singhal tendered his resignation from the post of Vice Chancellor after his appointment was slammed by the High Court. His resignation has been accepted by the Governor Kalyan Singh. J.P. Singhal was appointed as Vice Chancellor of the University of Rajasthan by the governor Kalyan Singh in consultation with the state government at the recommendation of a search committee on July 31, 2015 for a period of three years or till the age of 70 years. His term was going

to expire as he was going to be seventy in March 2017. His appointment was challenged by a PIL in the High Court of Rajasthan filed by Justice (Retd.) J.S. Israni, retired IAS officer Satyanarayan Singh, Professor Man Chand Khandela and Prof. K.L. Sharma. The petition charged that J. P. Singhal did not fulfill the eligibility conditions of being a Vice Chancellor as he did not possess a doctorate degree and ten years of experience as a professor which is mandatory as per UGC regulations 2010. J.P. Singhal was simply a retired principal of a private college

namely Agrawal College and a representative in Syndicate of Rajasthan University. It was alleged that he was appointed as VC only because of his close association with RSS and BJP. He had been an office bearer of Rajasthan University and College Teachers Association (RUCTA) Rashtriya, a BJP linked teachers' organization. The honourable High Court was very critical in the remarks made when it said that Singhal had no right to remain on chair even for twenty four hours. Observing the mood of the honourable court the government seems to have directed J.P. Singhal to step down. The Vice Chancellor of Udaipur based university is also facing similar charges of ineligibility in the Highcourt of Rajasthan. He also does not have ten years experience as Professor though he is enjoying his second term as VC. His selection in 2013 and again in 2016 has been challenged in different writ petitions and notices have been issued by the High Court.

Scholarship Cheque To 50 Needy Brilliant Students

Udaipur: On the eve of Makar Sankranti, 50 needy brilliant students will be given Scholarship Cheque of Rs. 5,000/- each under the banner of PISTAKUMARI - GEND SINGH KHAMESRA SMRITI CHATRAVATI YOJNA in a cultural Function at Deaf & Dump Senior Secondary School, O T C Scheme, Behind Charak Chatravas, Amba Mata, Udaipur. The Chief Guest of the programme will be Sri Vishnu

Prasad Paneri, Deputy Director (Education) Udaipur & chaired by Sri Shivji Gaur, DEO-1, Madhyamiki, Udaipur. The special invitee will be Sri Madhu Sudan Vyas, DEO-2, i, Udaipur. Dr. Yashvant Singh Kothari, Secretary, Viklang Kalyan Sammittee, Udaipur & other renowned Social Activists will also be present. The Organizer cum Managing Director of this Scholarship Yojna informed that all received eligible complete applications

numbering 50 have been accepted for Scholarship. The students (36 girls & 14 boys) presently studying in 10th, 11th & 12th are from 22 Government Schools scattered in & around Udaipur as well as from Rajsamand District. Under this yojna, students of all caste & creeds are eligible to get Scholarship. On this occasion, students of Deaf & Dump Sr. Sec. School will perform Cultural Programme.

All Religion Parliament organised in the presence of Dalai Lama



All Religion Parliament was organised in the auspicious presence of His Holiness Dalai Lama during Kal Chakra Puja at Baudh Gaya in which President of Parmarth Niketan Rishikesh Swami Chidanand Saraswati, Founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti and eminent Jain Acharya Dr. Lokesh Muni, Chief Jathedar of Akal Takht Amritsar Jathedar Gyani Gurbachan Singh, Maulana Hazi Abdul Rehman Patna, Bhramakumari Dr. Binny Sarin Sadhvi Bhagwati Saraswati and many eminent religious leaders were present. H.H. Dalai Lama addressing more than one lakh devotees said that essence of Jain, Baudh, Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and all other religions humanity. All religions preach non-violence, compassion, kindness, love and brotherhood. Religious tolerance is the need of present times. This will bring peace and harmony in the world. Acharya Dr. Lokesh said that polarist culture of India is its fundamental characteristic. Interfaith dialogue empowers it. Ideological pollution is more harmful than environmental pollution. Esswence of all reli-

gions is love and brotherhood not hatred and disgust. Swami Chidanand Saraswati said that cleanliness health are deeply related. Internal and external cleanliness both are important. He said that interfaith seminars encourage harmony and amity which is the need of the world. Jathedar Gyani Gurbachan Singh said that Gurunak Devji preached that Humanity is one community, therefore we should divide it on the basis of community, creed, rich, poor, upper class, lower class and create discrimination. He said the All Religion Parliament on the occasion of Guru Govind Singh Prakashotsav is historic. On the occasion Shri Kuldeep Singh Bhogal and Paramjeet Singh Chandok were also present. Maulana Hazi Abdul Rehman expressed his views on the occasion. H.H. Dalai Lama welcomed all the religious gurus and representatives with shawl. Swami Chidanand Ji presented Peepal plant to H.H. Dalai Lama. Sadhvi Bhagwati informed about Global Interfaith Wash Alliance and thanked everybody.

Agri & Food Processor's Conclave From Tuesday

Udaipur: "AGRI & FOOD PROCESSOR'S CONCLAVE: Finance, Technology, & Market" which is being organized by ASSOCHAM in association with Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology and Udaipur Chamber of Commerce & Industry (UCCI). Will begun on Tuesday at Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan. The Chief Guest will be Shri Gulab Chand Kataria, Hon'ble Minister of Home and Justice, Home Guard & Civil Defense, Prison, Disaster Management and Relief while Guest of Honor will be Shri Prabhu Lal Saini, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture (Including Agricultural Marketing), Horticulture, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries, Gaupalan, Government of Rajasthan in addition to them

Confirmed Speakers includes, Shri Arjunlal Meena, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Dr. U. S. Sharma, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Shri L.C. Jain, Director, State Food Processing Mission, Rajasthan, Shri V P Rathi, President, Udaipur Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Dr. (Mrs.) Anila Doshi, Dean of Faculty of Agriculture, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Shri Ajay Kumar Gupta, Director, Greentech Mega Food Park Ltd., Dr. L. K. Murdia, Dean of Faculty of Dairy and Food Technology, MPUAT, Shri Panchu Lal Meena, Deputy Director's Horticulture, Shri Vijendra Singh, Deputy General Manager, NABARD, Shri Vinit Kumar, Dy. General Manager, SBBJ & Dr. S.S. Budrak, Director of Research, MPUAT.