

# Implications of Navratri

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Symbolic meaning of Navaratri is in the triumph of truth over falsehood. Triumph of truth is the overcoming of stubbornness, darkness of ignorance, laziness, stagnancy, old ways, anger, hatred, bitterness, jealousy, envy, greed, false ambitions, selfishness, and nine nights are contemplating Goddess Maa Maha Maya Durga who removes our gross evil tendencies and gross selfish ways. She is the Mahisa-Asuri Nashini meaning she destroys the buffalo ridden demon with her lion.

During Navaratri ("nine nights"), Mother Goddess is worshipped in Her various forms as Maha\_Durga, Maha-Lakshmi and Maha-Saraswati. Though the Goddess is one, She is represented and worshipped in three different aspects. On the first three nights of the festival, Durga is worshipped; On the following three, Lakshmi and then Saraswati Devi on the last three nights.

The tenth day is called 'Vijaya-dasami' - "victory/ triumph of good over evil", the victory over our own minds that can come only when we have worshipped these three: Durga, Lakshmi, and Saraswati innately. Rejoicing the nightingale, lighting the "Garbo", for our Maa, we ignite our inner flame of "jagrutti", and onwards we lead our hearts to caper to the altruism of divinity. Divinity in the context of awakening should bring awareness, contemplation, and conscious thoughts.

Consciously we invoke our inner most divine faculties to the intellectual type reasoning to appreciate everything philosophically. Therefore, philosophy or spiritual truth is demonstrated visually in some ritualistic form. As we can see, the theme of the entire *Vedas* is reflected in the *Navaratri* festival: Purify the mind and remove all negativities; cultivate positive virtues; gain spiritual knowledge and transcend limitations. This is the real victory - the dance of joy - ritualistically performed at night. The message is: even at night, our divine faculties are connected to the Deva-Devi Lokas and our divine sub-consciousness can make immense impact upon our children. Implication of the Maa Bhavani Divine Durga brings to us a beautiful divine gift of light of knowledge in dance, music, communion, exchange of visions, and expressions.

Our culture is verily a culture full of colour, vibrantly motivated and enthused to do good and to develop our self-consciousness. Our Maa means our birth soul, our divine glow of the spirit that keeps us lit like divine beings, tells us to give love, compassion and solace to the less fortunate ones, to those who are broken and torn apart by sudden misfortunes and to reach out to those lonely and frightened out on a limb. Maa protects her children from all catastrophes, adversities and epiphany. Maa protects her children from every kind of batter and hurt. Maa protects her children from any kind of abuse. Maa protects her children from gross evil of ignorance, dull dreary mundane obsession of false control and falsity. Maa is light, guide, and Guru. Maa is our divine Hope. No one can take the place of MAA divine. Implication of Durga is shakti that gives us spiritual strength. Without spiritual strength we are nothing. **Jaya Ambe Jaya Bhavani Jaya Maha Bhagavati Jaya Bhauneshvari Mata Jaya Nava Durgey**

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