



# OUR STATES

4



# CONTENTS

(states in alphabetical order)

Andhra Pradesh (AP)	3
Karnataka (KA)	5
Kerala (KL)	6
Madhya Pradesh (MP)	8
Maharashtra (MH)	9
North-Eastern Region (NE)	10
Tamil Nadu (TN)	11
Telangana (TS)	13
My Favourite Festivals	14
My State	15

## Photo Credits

**FRONT COVER:** background image (freepik.com); kathakali (www.imagesbazaar.com); Naga man (imagelibrary/EPA); Onam sadya (with permission from individuals concerned); Gaarudi gombe (Wikimedia Commons, Pavanaja/CC by SA 4.0); Pung cholom (flickr.com, Matsukin/CC by 2.0); bisi bele bhath (Wikimedia Commons, Munegowda/CC by SA 4.0)  
© RATNA SAGAR P. LTD

**BACK COVER:** background image (freepik.com); dancer (www.imagesbazaar.com); Kalamkari (flickr.com, Anuradha Sengupta/CC by 2.0); Hussain Sagar Lake (Wikimedia Commons, Nikhilb239/CC by SA 4.0); Mekhla chador (Wikimedia Commons, Satnath/CC by SA 3.0); Manipuri dance (Wikimedia Commons, Abhishekjoshi/CC by 2.0) © RATNA SAGAR P. LTD

**SHUTTERSTOCK.COM:** **Page 6** ANILKUMART (ONAM SADYA); **Page 7** AJP (VISHU KANI), SANTHOSH VARGHESE (CHRISTMAS); **Page 9** STOCKIMAGEFACTORY.COM (GANESH CHATURTHI), SURBHI S (MODAKS), STOCKIMAGEFACTORY.COM (GUDI PADWA PUJA), ANANT JADAV (GUDI); **Page 10** DIGANTA TALUKDAR (BIHU), PLATSLLEE (EASTER EGGS); **Page 11** SREELEKHAS (BOMMAI GOLU); **Page 12** INDIAN CREATIONS (VADAI), SANTHOSH VARGHESE (PAYASAM); **Page 13** SONY HERDIANA (EID PRAYER)

**WIKIMEDIA COMMONS:** (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0>) **Page 3** bommala koluvu (Ksiva21); **Page 5** modaks (Dharmadhyaksha); **Page 8** Karma puja (Pankaj076), Karma dance (Lijo Baby CMI), Ujjain Simhastha (Suyash Dwivedi); **Page 10** The Hornbill Festival (Vikramjit Kakati); **Page 11** Sweet pongal (VSharmilee); **Page 13** folk art performance—Bonalu (Pranayraj1985) (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0>) **Page 11** Pongal preparation (Thamizhparathi Maari) (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>) **Page 4** Ugadi pachadi (Kalyan Kanuri) (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>) **Page 4** Diwali (zobacz zasady)

**WITH PERMISSION FROM INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED:** **Page 5** Kannada flag (Ramalakshmi, flickr.com); **Page 6** pokkkalam; **Page 12** kolam

## Vijayadashami or Dussehra



Pan-India

*bommala koluvu* (doll arrangement)  
displayed during the festival

Vijayadashami or Dussehra is usually celebrated all over India in September or October at the end of Navaratri festivities. It stands for the victory of good over evil. People wear traditional clothes and offer prayers to Goddess Durga and in some cases, Goddess Saraswati. In northern India, people celebrate Lord Rama's victory over Ravana.

## Ugadi



the *Ugadi pachadi* combines sweet, sour, salty and bitter flavours

Ugadi is celebrated as the beginning of the new year by the people of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka (where it is called Yugadi). *Muggulu* (a colourful pattern) is drawn on the floor, gifts are exchanged and donations are made to charities.

## Deepavali



a festive arrangement of diyas

Pan-India

Deepavali or Diwali is usually celebrated in October or November in many parts of the country. It is known as the *Festival of Lights* since diyas (oil lamps) and candles are used to light up homes. People wear festive clothes and exchange sweets.

### Rajyotsava Day



colours of the Kannada flag

This is Karnataka Formation Day, also called Kannada Rajyotsava. It is celebrated on 1 November. The state has a festive look and people wear traditional clothes. The Rajyotsava Awards are announced and the Chief Minister and Governor of the state address the people.

### Gowri Habba and Vinayaka Chaturthi

These festivals are usually celebrated in August or September. Gowri Habba is observed a day before Vinayaka Chaturthi. People celebrate motherhood and family by worshipping Goddess Gowri, the mother of Ganesha. The female members of the family make an idol of the goddess with turmeric, install it at home on a plate of grains and offer prayers.

On Vinayaka Chaturthi, idols of Lord Ganesha/ Vinayaka are installed at home and in public places. This festival is also celebrated in states such as Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat.



*modakas* (sweet dumplings) made during the festival

## Onam



People prepare a special feast called the *Onam sadya*.

Onam is the harvest festival of Kerala. It is celebrated for ten days. People wear traditional clothes during Onam.

People decorate their houses with flower designs called *pookalam*.



## Vishu



*Vishukani* is an arrangement of auspicious things such as fruits, yellow flowers called *konna* and so on. They are usually placed before an idol of Lord Krishna.

Vishu marks the beginning of the new year for the people of Kerala. It is celebrated in mid-April. People wake up to the *Vishukani* on Vishu day.

## Christmas



a child celebrating Christmas

Christmas is celebrated on 25 December every year as the birthday of Jesus Christ. Christmas carols are sung and prayer services are held in churches. People make special cakes and set up decorated Christmas trees at home. Gifts are exchanged. It is also celebrated in Goa, the North-Eastern states and other parts of India.

## Karma or Karam

Pan-India



people worshipping with branches of the Karma tree

It is also celebrated in Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.

Karma or Karam is a harvest festival celebrated in Madhya Pradesh by tribal communities. This festival takes place during the monsoon (August–September).



tribes performing the *Karma* dance

## Ujjain Simhastha or Ujjain Kumbh Mela



*Ujjain Kumbh Mela* gathering – River Shipra

The Kumbh Mela is the largest religious gathering in which people from all over the world participate and bathe in the holy river. It is held every three years in one of these four cities – Haridwar, Prayagraj, Nasik and Ujjain. The last Ujjain Kumbh Mela was held in 2016.



### Ganesh Chaturthi



▶ a family celebrating *Ganesh Chaturthi*



▶ A sweet dish called *modak* is the main *prasad* (offering) of the festival.

Pan-India

Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated on a grand scale throughout the state. Large painted clay idols of Ganesha are kept in *pandals* for ten days. On the eleventh day, the idols are taken out in a procession and immersed in the sea or a river.

### Gudi Padwa



▶ *Gudi Padwa* puja



▶ *Gudi* is the arrangement of a pot, flowers, leaves and cloth on a stick.

Gudi Padwa marks the beginning of the new year for the people of Maharashtra. It is a harvest festival. People worship the gudi on this day. Gudi symbolizes good luck and prosperity.

## NORTH-EASTERN REGION

### The Hornbill Festival

The Hornbill Festival is held annually in the first week of December near Kohima, Nagaland. The state government organizes the festival to encourage inter-tribal ties and to preserve and celebrate the rich heritage of the Naga people.



tribal performers rehearsing their routine for the festival

### Bihu

Assam celebrates Bihu in spring, before harvest and after harvest. Magh Bihu is celebrated in January or February. There is community feasting and distribution of rice cakes. People sing Bihu songs and play the *dhol*.



Bihu dance

### Easter

Easter is celebrated in many parts of the North-Eastern states, Goa and Kerala. There are candlelight processions and prayer services in churches at sunrise. Greetings and good wishes are exchanged. Some churches arrange thanksgiving feasts for the community.



Painted *Easter eggs* are a common sight during Easter.

## Pongal



A sweet dish called *pongol* is prepared during this festival.

Pongal is the harvest festival of Tamil Nadu. It is celebrated on the first day of the Tamil month called *Thai*, around mid-January.

## Navaratri



Navaratri is celebrated over a period of nine nights. During this festival, Goddess Shakti is worshipped. A variety of special snacks called *sundal* is made during this festival. It is also celebrated in Telangana, Karnataka, Maharashtra and West Bengal.

People set up *bommai* (doll) *golu* for *Navaratri* – the artistic display of dolls on steps.

## Tamil New Year

Tamil New Year, also called Tamil *Puthandu*, is celebrated on the first day of the Tamil month *Chitirai*, around mid-April. People wear new clothes and offer prayers.



On Tamil New Year day, the entrance of the houses is decorated with *kolams* (patterns drawn on the floor using rice powder).



*vadai*



*payasam*

Dishes such as vadai and payasam are prepared during this festival.

## Eid

believers  
gathered for  
*Eid* prayer



Pan-India

Eid ul-Fitr marks the end of the Ramadan month of fasting. People offer special prayers, exchange gifts, organize community feasts and support charity on this day. It is also celebrated in parts of neighbouring Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

## Bonalu

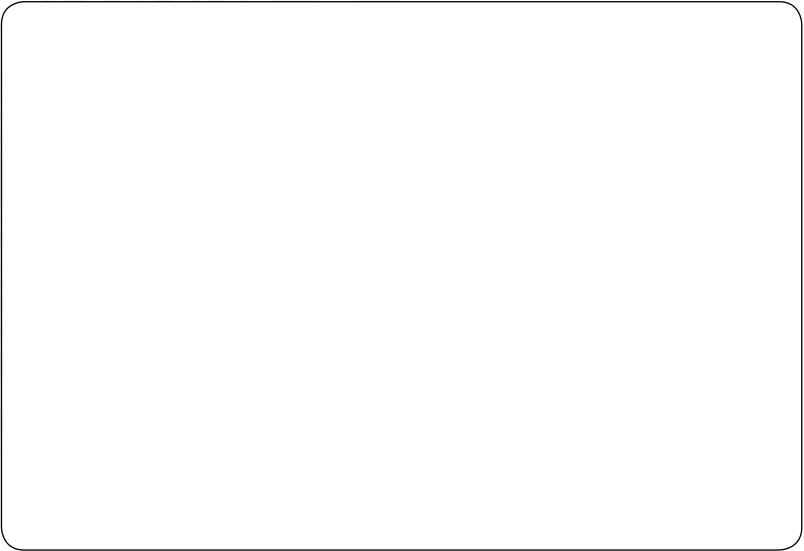
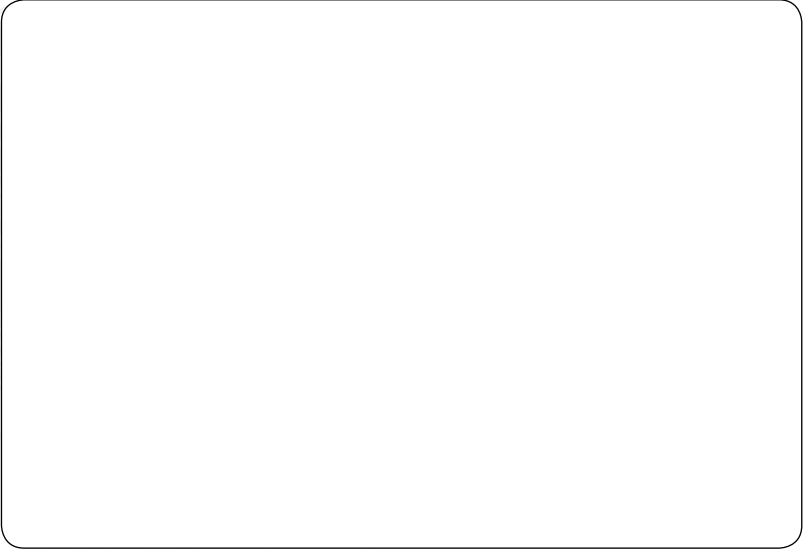


a folk art  
performance  
during *Bonalu*

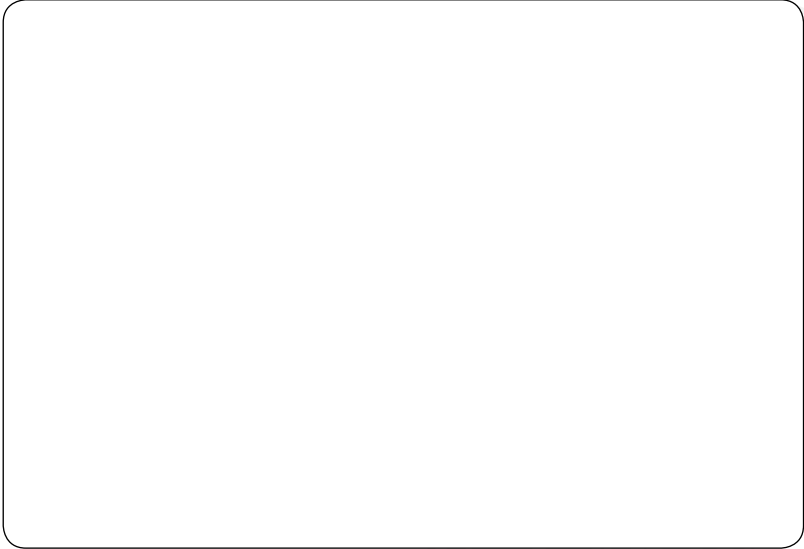
The Bonalu festival is celebrated in July or August. Special prayers are offered to Goddess Kali. Rice is cooked with milk and jaggery in a pot adorned with neem leaves, turmeric and vermillion.

# My Favourite Festivals

Paste pictures of any two of your favourite festivals.



Paste pictures of any two popular festivals celebrated in your state\*.



\*If you live in a Union Territory, paste suitable pictures.



**Ratna Sagar P. Ltd.**

Education, Our Mission!

an ISO 9001:2015 and 14001:2015 company

**VIRAT BHAVAN, COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, MUKHERJEE NAGAR, DELHI 110009**

**PHONE: (011) 47038000 ♦ FAX: (011) 47038099**

**rsagar@ratnasagar.com ♦ ratnasagar.com ♦ ratnasagar.co.in**