

Introduction to Ganesh Chaturthi: Celebrating Lord Ganesha

Ganesh Chaturthi, also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi, is a Hindu festival celebrating the birth of Lord Ganesha. It is observed in Bhadrapada, per the Hindu calendar. The festival lasts 10 days, ending on Anant Chaturdashi.

On this day, the **idol** is immersed in water.

Hindu Symbol

Historical Roots and Evolution of Ganesh Chaturthi

- **2nd Century BCE**
Satavahana Dynasty
Celebrated since the Satavahana dynasty.
- **17th-19th Centuries**
Maratha Empire
Gained prominence during the Maratha Empire.
- **1893**
Lokmanya Tilak
Lokmanya Tilak transformed it into a public festival.

Key Rituals and Practices of Ganesh Chaturthi

- **Idols** Ganesha idols installed in homes and public pandals.
- **Worship** Involves Vedic hymns, prayers, and offerings.
- **Devotees** Fast and participate in religious ceremonies.
- **Celebrations** Public celebrations include cultural performances.
- **Immersion** Idol immersion in water marks culmination.

Ritual Icon