**ME and MY Diwali**

Diwali, the most important annual festival not only of Hindus but for every indian. There are lot of religious and cultural beliefs behind celebrating it. The great cultural belief behind celebrating it, is to commemorate the returning of Lord Rama to his home after 14 years of exile after defeating Ravan. It is also celebrated as the symbol of arrival of the winter season after the rainy season. It indicates the starting of new annual account for the businessmen. It is also celebrated by the Sikhs to commemorate the release of their 6th Guru, Shri Hargobind Ji, from the Gwalior jail by the Mughal Emperor Jahangir and it is marked as the “Bandi Chhor Divas” by lighting up the Golden Temple. It is also believed that Goddess Lakshmi was born after churning the ocean by the gods and demons. It also indicates the start of a new Hindu year in the west and some northern parts of India. It is celebrated by Jains to mark the Nirvana attained by the Mahavira. That’s why Diwali is celebrated as a symbol of victory of goodness over the badness. Diwali is a time where we meet the unmet friends and in fact people plan the meet ups and get-together and recall all the happy moments.

Even I have enjoyed all the Diwali festivals so much that some of the ridiculous incidents that happened in past Diwali are still fresh in my memories

This happened when I was in 7th standard, We had a foreigner in our society during Diwali who was very curious to know about Diwali and the way it is celebrated. I along with my friends and siblings thought of playing a prank on him. When he asked us how to wish the people for Diwali then we said, “say Holi Mubarak to all”. The innocent guy did exactly the same and every one was surprised and amused.

During the same Diwali one of my irritating aunt came from Pune for Diwali. I decided to do something very mischievous. I dipped the sweets meant for her in “Karela Juice” but unfortunately due to confusion they landed into my plate instead and I had to payback for my mischief by forcefully enjoying them. Then I understood the meaning of the saying when you dig a hole for others you fall into it.

Once I and My friends lit a bomb under a bench in the garden, but the bomb didn't go off and we thought it a defective bomb and we ignored it and got busy firing other crackers. After sometime we were tired and we sat on the same bench and to our surprise air started flowing speedily and it lit the bomb which we kept below the bench and it burst of so loudly that we didn't knew whether to laugh or cry. But today we laugh at that incident and we find it extremely funny.

During Diwali celebrations there is indirect increase in the environmental pollution because of the bursting of various firecrackers which release harmful pollutants like SO2, Co2, CO and many other which get mixed into the air and causes diseases like hypertension, asthma, bronchitis etc. It affects the people of all age groups. Along with the human beings, it also affects the lives of animals, birds and other living beings due to air and noise pollution.

Now-a-days, Different Organizations and Schools start various demonstrations prior to the celebration to educate and create awareness among people for pollution free Diwali.

Diwali is the most favorite festival for all as it brings a lot of blessings and happiness. It indicates the victory of good over the evil power that is why people celebrate it whole heartedly .

From

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