<HTML>

<head>

<title> DEEPAVALI </title>

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<body background="Deepavali 1.jpg">

<h1 align="center">DEEPAVALI</h1>

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<li><a href="./RAKSHA BANDHAN.html"><span>RAKSHA BANDHAN</span></a></li>

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<img src="Deepavali 2.jpg" hight="354" width="400">

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<u><h3 align="center">DEEPAVALI</h3></U>

<i><blockquote>DEEPAVALI or Diwali means “a row of lights”.It falls on the last two

days of the dark half of Kartik (October-November). For some

it is a three-day festival. It commences with the Dhan-Teras,

on the 13th day of the dark half of Kartik, followed the next

commemoratesthatblesseddayonwhichthetriumphantLord

RamareturnedtoAyodhyaafter defeating Ravana. On this day also

Sri Krishna killed the demon Narakasura.

In South India people take an oil bath in the morning and wear new

clothes. They partake of sweetmeats. They light fireworks which are

regarded as theeffigies of Narakasura who was killed on this day.

They greet one another, asking, “Have you had your Ganges bath?”

which actually refers to the oil bath that morning as it is regarded as

purifying as a bath in the holy Ganges. </blockquote>

<blockquote> Everyone forgets and forgives the wrongs done by others.

There is an air of freedom, festivity and friendliness everywhere. This

festivalbrings about unity. It instils charity in the hearts of people.

instituted this custom must have cherished the hope that their

descendents would realise its benefits and make it a regular habit in

their lives. </blockquote>

<blockquote> In a happy mood of great rejoicing village folk move about

freely, mixing with one another without any reserve, all enmity being

forgotten. People embrace one another with love. Deepavali is a great

unifying force. Those with keen inner spiritual ears will clearly hear

the voice of the sages, “OChildrenofGod!unite,andloveall”.The

vibrationsproduced by the greetings of love which fill the atmosphere

are powerful enough to bring about a change of heart in every man

and woman in the world. Alas! That heart has considerably hardened,

and only a continuous celebration of Deepavali in our homes can

rekindle in us the urgentneed of turning away from the ruinous path

of hatred.On this day Hindu merchants in North India open their new

account books and pray for success and prosperity during the coming

year. The homes are cleaned and decorated by day. </blockquote>

<blockquote> O Ram! The light of lights, the self-luminous inner light of the

Self is ever shining steadily in the chamber of your heart. Sit quietly.

Close your eyes. Withdraw the senses. Fix the mind on this supreme light

and enjoy the real Deepavali, by attaining illumination of the soul.He

who Himself sees all but whom no one beholds, who illumines the

intellect, the sun, the moon and the stars and the whole universe but

whom they cannot illumine, He indeed is Brahman, He is the

inner Self. Celebrate the real Deepavali by living in Brahman,

of ignorance. O man! wake up from the slumber of ignorance. Realise

the constant and eternal light of the Soul which neither rises nor sets,

through meditation and deep enquiry. </blockquote>

<blockquote> May you all attain full inner illumination! May the supreme

light of lights enlighten your understanding! May you all attain the

inexhaustible spiritual wealth of the Self! May you all prosper

gloriously on the material as well as spiritual planes! </blockquote>

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<li>

<a href="./Deepavali Gallery.html"><span>Deepavali Photo Gallery</span></a>

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