



Mandir
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Shrine
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Murti
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Puja
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Holi
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Prior Knowledge

Hindus believe in one supreme being called **Brahman**. They believe that there are different parts to Brahman, shown in different gods and goddesses, or deities.

Hindus believe that **Brahman** is everywhere and there is a part of **Brahman** in all living things.

What is Diwali and how is it celebrated?

Diwali is an Autumn festival, sometimes called the festival of **lights**.

During Diwali, Hindus retell the story of **Rama** and **Sita**. The story of **Rama** is one where **Vishnu** comes to save the world by helping good win over evil.

Houses, shops and public places are decorated with small oil lamps called **divas**. People enjoy fireworks and sweets. Food is made and gifts are given.



New Knowledge

Where do Hindus worship?

Hindu worship is called **puja**.

Hindus can perform puja at home or in a Hindu Temple called a **mandir**.

Many Hindus have a **shrine** in their home where they perform puja. A shrine is a holy space for worshipping.

What is an arti lamp?

In Hindu services, a lit arti lamp is waved in front of a statue of a god or goddess. These statues are called **murtis**.

How is the puja tray used in worship?

Bell – To signal the beginning of worship and wake the deity.

Incense – To create a sweet smell and purify the air.

Diya lamp – To show God's presence.

Kum kum powder – used as a mark of respect to the deity.

Water – offered on a spoon to the murtis to show love and respect.



What is Holi and how is it celebrated?

Holi is a Hindu festival celebrated in Spring and is known as the festival of **colours**.

Hindus celebrate by building bonfires. Food offerings, like popcorn, are thrown onto the fire to thank God for the spring and the crops.

People throw coloured powders at each other and have lots of fun.

