



# Rakshabandhan

## The Sacred Bond of Protection





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# Introduction to Rakshabandhan

- Rakshabandhan is a cherished Indian festival that celebrates the sacred bond between siblings.
- Observed in the holy month of Shravan (July/August), it holds deep cultural and emotional significance.
- During Rakshabandhan, a sister ties a sacred thread (Rakhi) on her brother's wrist, symbolizing love and protection.





# What is Rakshabandhan?

- "Bandhan" means bond, and "Raksha" means protection.
- On her brother's wrist, a sister fastens a Rakhi (holy thread).
- A brother promises to keep his sister safe and presents her with gifts.
- Prayers, treats, and family time are all part of the ritual.





# Meaning of the Word “Raksha” and “Bandhan”

- Raksha – protection, safeguard from harm
- Bandhan – tie, connection, or obligation
- Symbolic of the eternal vow of care and support
- Represents mutual respect and emotional closeness



# Mythological & Historical Origins

- Mahabharata: Draupadi ties Rakhi to Krishna
- Indra & Indrani: Indrani tied Rakhi to protect Indra in battle
- Queen Karnavati & Emperor Humayun: Political symbolism of Rakhi
- Rakhi has been a cultural emblem of unity and trust





# Traditional Rituals & Customs

- Sister applies tilak and ties Rakhi on brother's wrist
- Aarti (prayer) is performed
- Exchange of sweets and gifts
- Customary blessings and vows of protection



# Symbolism & Cultural Importance

- Celebrates the bond of affection between siblings
- Reflects values of responsibility, trust, and commitment
- Encourages social harmony, sometimes tied to friends, mentors, or soldiers
- Reinforces familial and community ties





# Rakshabandhan Across India

- “Narali Purnima” in Maharashtra (for fishermen)
- “Kajari Purnima” in MP, Chhattisgarh, Bihar
- Known as “Jhulan Yatra” in parts of Odisha
- Varies in customs but retains core values





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