



Shubh Diwali!

Diwali is one of the major religious festivals celebrated by both Hindus and Sikhs.

The festival is held at the Hindu New Year, which falls sometime between October and November. The exact date varies each year as the Hindu calendar is based on the Moon.

This year, Diwali is on **Thursday 4 November**.



The festival symbolises the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance."

For many people this five-day festival honours **Lakshmi**, the goddess of wealth, fortune, power, beauty and prosperity.

The word Diwali means 'rows of lighted lamps' and is known as the 'festival of lights' because homes, shops and public places are decorated with small oil lamps called 'diyas' to help Lakshmi find her way into people's homes.

Diwali is celebrated with the cleaning of homes, wearing of new clothes, exchanging of gifts (often sweets and dried fruits), preparation of festive meals, decoration of buildings with decorative lights and huge fireworks displays.



During Diwali, people also make geometric patterns called Rangoli from colourful materials like powders and pastes.

To all our colleagues, clients and friends celebrating this year, may you have a blessed,
healthy and prosperous Diwali

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