

Celebrate any festive occasion with Colorful Celebrations, a new stamp issuance from the U.S. Postal Service. This booklet of 20 First-Class Mail Â® Forever stamps includes 10 digitally created designs with eye-popping patterns that showcase geometric shapes, flowers, and birds. The stamp designs.

Tradition Ancient Tradition In India, Holi announces the arrival of spring and the passing of winter. The festival breathes an atmosphere of social merriment. People bury their hatchets with a warm embrace and throw their worries to the wind. Every nook and corner presents a colorful sight. Young and old alike are covered with colors red, green, yellow, blue, black and silver. People in small groups are seen singing, dancing and throwing colors on each other. Dry is better for photographs as well. Modern Adaptation Holi has long traditional links with several legends. According to one popular legend, the word Holi is derived from the demoness, Holika. She was the sister of Hiranya Kashipu the name meaning love of gold and a soft bed , a demon king, who having defeated the gods, proclaimed his supremacy over everyone else in the Universe. He takes the help of his sister, Holika, who is immune to any damage from fire. Holika carries the small boy Prahlad into the fire but a divine intervention destroys her and saves Prahlad from getting burned. Thus Holi is celebrated to mark the burning of the evil Holika. Her effigy is consumed in the fire! Holi is celebrated with special importance in the North of India. It solemnizes the love of Radha and Krishna. The spraying of colored powders recalls the love sport of Lord Krishna and His devotees. The color, noise and entertainment that accompanies the celebration of Holi bears witness to a feeling of oneness and sense of brotherhood. The festival brings home the lesson of spiritual and social harmony!! An unforgettable way to usher in the spring season. Even first time comers swing into the spirit of the event, as white and dark skin colors quickly disappear under layers of green, red, purple, and blue powders.

Chapter 2 : Carnival - Wikipedia

Colorful Celebrations is being issued as a First-Class Mail® Forever® booklet of These Forever stamps will always be equal in value to the current First-Class Mail one-ounce price. This entry was posted in US by VSC.

People coming together from all walks of life to sing, dance and splash their friends and family with colored powder and water. Brands such as Sony and Canon have used the vibrant festival to showcase their products. British Airways recently joined in the fun with cabin crew members celebrating in cities across India. Even Chris Martin of the band Coldplay, though he irked some in the process, got involved in Holi traditions in the music video for "Hymn for the Weekend. And why do Indians celebrate it? Hindu devotees play with color during Holi celebrations at the Banke Bihari temple on March 27, in Vrindavan, India. The beginning of spring

Read More Holi is a Hindu festival that marks the start of spring. It was even described in detail in a 7th century Sanskrit play called "Ratnavali," written by the Indian emperor Harsha. Everything is colored yellowish red and rendered dusty by the heaps of scented powder blown all over," wrote Harsha. Indian students smear colored powder during an event to celebrate the Hindu festival of Holi in Kolkata on February 26, How it looks today Although a Hindu festival, Holi is celebrated by Indians across the country and is a great equalizer. Children can douse elders with water, women splash men with color and the rules of caste and creed are briefly forgotten with everyone taking part. The evenings are spent visiting friends and family. A national holiday, it takes place on the last full moon day of the Hindu lunisolar calendar month, which is usually March. The festival takes place a day earlier in the eastern states of West Bengal and Odisha. In some parts of northern Uttar Pradesh state, the festivities take place over a week. An Indian artist dressed as Hindu god Lord Shiva takes part in a procession ahead of the Holi festival in Amritsar on February 26, Mythological roots The roots of the festival lie in the Hindu legend of Holika, a female demon, and the sister of the demon, King Hiranyakashayap. Hiranyakashayap believed he was the ruler of the universe and superior to all the gods. But his son, Prahlad, followed the god Vishnu, the preserver and protector of the universe. He hatched a plot with Holika to kill him. It was a seemingly foolproof plan; Holika would take Prahlad onto her lap and straight into a bonfire. Holika would survive because she had an enchanted shawl that would protect her from the flames. But the plan failed. Prahlad was saved by Vishnu and it was Holika who died as she was only immune to fire if she was alone. Soon after, Vishnu killed Hiranyakashayap and Prahlad became king. The moral of the story is that good always triumphs over evil. Indian Hindu devotees throw colored powder during celebration of Holi Festival at Sriji temple in Barsana in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh on February 23, Some Hindus collect the ashes and smear them on their bodies as an act of purification Rangwali Holi takes place the next day and is an all-day affair where people throw and smear colored powder on each other. Indian college girls throw colored powder to one another during Holi festival celebrations in Bhopal on February 28, The tradition of throwing colored powder and water is believed to originate from the mythological love story of Radha and Krishna.

Chapter 3 : Find Face Painting Â» Blog Archive Â» Colorful Events

Colorful Celebrations 10 Stamp Designs Celebrate any festive occasion with Colorful Celebrations, a new stamp issuance from the U.S. Postal Service. The booklet of 20 stamps includes 10 vivid, digitally created designs featuring eye-popping patterns that showcase geometric shapes, flowers, and birds.

Vishnu legend[edit] There is a symbolic legend to explain why Holi is celebrated as a festival of colours in the honour of Hindu god Vishnu and his follower Prahlada. King Hiranyakashipu, according to a legend found in chapter 7 of Bhagavata Purana , [22] [23] was the king of demonic Asuras , and had earned a boon that gave him five special powers: Hiranyakashipu grew arrogant, thought he was God, and demanded that everyone worship only him. He was and remained devoted to Vishnu. He subjected Prahlada to cruel punishments, none of which affected the boy or his resolve to do what he thought was right. As the fire roared, the cloak flew from Holika and encased Prahlada, [18] who survived while Holika burned. Vishnu, the god who appears as an avatar to restore Dharma in Hindu beliefs, took the form of Narasimha - half human and half lion, at dusk when it was neither day nor night , took Hiranyakashyapu at a doorstep which was neither indoors nor outdoors , placed him on his lap which was neither land, water nor air , and then eviscerated and killed the king with his lion claws which were neither a handheld weapon nor a launched weapon. The festivities officially usher in spring, with Holi celebrated as a festival of love. As a baby, Krishna developed his characteristic dark skin colour because the she-demon Putana poisoned him with her breast milk. His mother, tired of the desperation, asks him to approach Radha and colour her face in any colour he wanted. This he does, and Radha and Krishna became a couple. The love god shoots arrows at Shiva, the yogi opens his third eye and burns Kama to ashes. Rati performs her own meditative asceticism for forty days, upon which Shiva understands, forgives out of compassion and restores the god of love. This return of the god of love, is celebrated on the 40th day after Vasant Panchami festival as Holi. It is the festive day to end and rid oneself of past errors, to end conflicts by meeting others, a day to forget and forgive. People pay or forgive debts, as well as deal anew with those in their lives. Holi also marks the start of spring, for many the start of the new year, an occasion for people to enjoy the changing seasons and make new friends. The extension started the day after the Holi festival in Anandpur Sahib , where Sikh soldiers would train in mock battles, compete in horsemanship, athletics, archery and military exercises. According to a report by Tribune India, Sikh court records state that mounds of colours were used in by Ranjit Singh and his officials in Lahore. Ranjit Singh would celebrate Holi with others in the Bilawal gardens, where decorative tents were set up. After the death of Ranjit Singh, his Sikh sons and others continued to play Holi every year with colours and lavish festivities. The colonial British officials joined these celebrations. To many Hindus and some non-Hindus, it is a playful cultural event and an excuse to throw coloured water at friends or strangers in jest. It is also observed broadly in the Indian subcontinent. Holi is celebrated at the end of winter, on the last full moon day of the Hindu luni-solar calendar month marking the spring, making the date vary with the lunar cycle. Gujia a stuffed wrap , Right: Thandai almonds-based chilled drink to which sometimes intoxicating "bhang" is added. In 17th century literature, it was identified as a festival that celebrated agriculture, commemorated good spring harvests and the fertile land. To many Hindus, Holi festivities mark the beginning of the new year as well as an occasion to reset and renew ruptured relationships, end conflicts and rid themselves of accumulated emotional impurities from the past. People gather near fires, sing and dance. The festival of colours in these parts is called Rangapanchami, and occurs on the fifth day after Poornima full moon. Various old editions of Oxford English Dictionary mention it, but with varying, phonetically derived spellings: Houly , Hooly , Huli , Hohlee , Hoolee , and Holi in editions published after Holika Dahan Shops start selling colours for Holi in the days and weeks beforehand Days before the festival people start gathering wood and combustible materials for the bonfire in parks, community centers, near temples and other open spaces. On top of the pyre is an effigy to signify Holika who tricked Prahalad into the fire. Inside homes, people stock up on pigments, food, party drinks and festive seasonal foods such as gujiya , mathri , malpuas and other regional delicacies. Holika dahan On the eve of Holi, typically at or after sunset, the pyre is lit, signifying Holika Dahan. The ritual symbolises

the victory of good over evil. People gather around the fire to sing and dance. There is no tradition of holding puja prayer, and the day is for partying and pure enjoyment. Children and young people form groups armed with dry colours, coloured solution and water guns pichkaris, water balloons filled with coloured water, and other creative means to colour their targets. This ritual is called Lath Mar Holi. All colours are used. People throw colours and get their targets completely coloured up. It is like a water fight, but with coloured water. People take delight in spraying coloured water on each other. By late morning, everyone looks like a canvas of colours. This is why Holi is given the name "Festival of Colours". Groups sing and dance, some playing drums and dholak. After each stop of fun and play with colours, people offer gujiya, mathri, malpuas and other traditional delicacies. Other variations Friends form groups on Holi, play drums and music, sing and dance, as they move from one stop to another. In the Braj region around Mathura, in north India, the festivities may last more than a week. The rituals go beyond playing with colours, and include a day where men go around with shields and women have the right to playfully beat them on their shields with sticks. The after party After a day of play with colours, people clean up, wash and bathe, sober up and dress up in the evening and greet friends and relatives by visiting them and exchanging sweets. Holi is also a festival of forgiveness and new starts, which ritually aims to generate harmony in the society. The customs and celebrations vary between regions of India. Basanto Utsav at Jorasanko Thakurbari Holi is of particular significance in the Braj region, which includes locations traditionally associated with the Lord Krishna: The Holi rituals and customs outside South Asia also vary with local adaptations. This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. On the evening of the first day people light the bonfire. People offer raw coconut and corn to the fire. The second day is the festival of colour or "Dhuleti", celebrated by sprinkling coloured water and applying colours to each other. Dwarka, a coastal city of Gujarat, celebrates Holi at the Dwarkadheesh temple and with citywide comedy and music festivities. In Ahmedabad in Gujarat, in western India, a pot of buttermilk is hung high over the streets and young boys try to reach it and break it by making human pyramids. The girls try to stop them by throwing coloured water on them to commemorate the pranks of Krishna and the cowherd boys to steal butter and "gopis" while trying to stop the girls. The boy who finally manages to break the pot is crowned the Holi King. In some places there is a custom in undivided Hindu families that the woman beats her brother-in-law with a sari rolled up into a rope in a mock rage and tries to drench him with colours, and in turn, the brother-in-law brings sweets Indian desserts to her in the evening. Thousands gather to witness the Lath Mar Holi when women beat up men with sticks as those on the sidelines become hysterical, sing Holi songs and shout "Sri Radhey" or "Sri Krishna". The Holi songs of Braj mandal are sung in pure Braj, the local language. Holi celebrated at Barsana is unique in the sense that here women chase men away with sticks. Males also sing provocative songs in a bid to invite the attention of women. Women then go on the offensive and use long staves called lathis to beat the men, who protect themselves with shields. In Vrindavan this day is celebrated with special puja and the traditional custom of worshipping Lord Krishna; here the festival lasts for sixteen days. A play of colours then a dance at a Hindu temple near Mathura, at Holi. A traditional celebration includes Matki Phod, similar to Dahi Handi in Maharashtra and Gujarat during Krishna Janmashtami, both in the memory of god Krishna who is also called makhani chor literally, butter thief. This is a historic tradition of the Braj region as well as the western region of India. On the last day, a grand fair called Ganga Mela or the Holi Mela is celebrated. This Mela fair was started by freedom fighters who fought British rule in the First Indian War of Independence in under the leadership of Nana Saheb. The Mela is held at various ghats along the banks of the River Ganga in Kanpur, to celebrate the Hindus and Muslims who together resisted the British forces in the city in 1857. On the eve of Ganga Mela, all government offices, shops, and courts generally remain closed. This day, called "Holi Milan", is considered to be the most colourful day of the year, promoting brotherhood among the people. People visit every house and sing Holi songs and express their gratitude by applying coloured powder Abeer.

Chapter 4 : Colorful Events Floral Designer Weddings in San Francisco Bay Area

Get birthday stickers for the price of 92! Brighten greeting cards, envelopes, notes, arts and crafts projects and more. Acid/lignin free. Largest is 1/2" x 1/2".

The traditional carnival of Acireale , Sicily The word Carnival is of Christian origin, [11] and in the Middle Ages, it referred to a period following Christmastide that reached its climax before midnight on Shrove Tuesday. In , a Shrovetide play spoke of Christians who painted their faces to celebrate the season: Hear you me, Jessica: Carnival can thus be regarded as a rite of passage from darkness to light, from winter to summer: Until spring produce was available, people were limited to the minimum necessary meals during this period. On what nowadays is called vastenavond the days before fasting , all the remaining winter stores of lard, butter, and meat which were left would be eaten, for these would otherwise soon start to rot and decay. The selected livestock had already been slaughtered in November and the meat would be no longer preservable. All the food that had survived the winter had to be eaten to assure that everyone was fed enough to survive until the coming spring would provide new food sources. The winter would be driven out, to make sure that fertility could return in spring. Ceterum nec cohibere parietibus deos neque in ullam humani oris speciem adsimulare ex magnitudine caelestium arbitrator "The Germans, however, do not consider it consistent with the grandeur of celestial beings to confine the gods within walls, or to liken them to the form of any human countenance. The writings show that processions with ship-like carts were held and lavish feasts were celebrated on the eve of Lent or the greeting of spring in the early Middle Ages. During Lent, no parties or celebrations were held, and people refrained from eating rich foods, such as meat, dairy, fat, and sugar. The first three classes were often totally unavailable during this period because of late winter shortages. In the Christian tradition, the fasting is to commemorate the 40 days that Jesus fasted in the desert , according to the New Testament , and also to reflect on Christian values. It was a time for catechumens those converting to Christianity to prepare for baptism at Easter. Carnival in the Middle Ages took not just a few days, but almost the entire period between Christmas and the beginning of Lent. In those two months, Christian populations used their several holidays as an outlet for their daily frustrations. Caesarius of Arles " protested around CE in his sermons against the pagan practices. Centuries later, his statements were adapted as the building blocks of the Indiculus superstitionum et paganiarum "small index of superstitious and pagan practices" , which was drafted by the Synod of Leptines in It condemned the Spurcalibus en februaryo. The whole Carnival event was set before the fasting, to set a clear division between celebrations and penitence. Many local Carnival customs are claimed to derive from local pre-Christian rituals, such as elaborate rites involving masked figures in the Swabian-Alemannic Fastnacht. However, evidence is insufficient to establish a direct origin from Saturnalia or other ancient festivals. No complete accounts of Saturnalia survive, and the shared features of feasting, role reversals, temporary social equality, masks, and permitted rule-breaking do not necessarily constitute a coherent festival or link these festivals. These similarities may represent a reservoir of cultural resources that can embody multiple meanings and functions. For example, Easter begins with the resurrection of Jesus , followed by a liminal period, and ends with rebirth. Carnival reverses this as King Carnival comes to life, and a liminal period follows before his death. Both feasts are calculated by the lunar calendar. Both Jesus and King Carnival may be seen as expiatory figures who make a gift to the people with their deaths. In the case of Jesus, the gift is eternal life in heaven , and in the case of King Carnival, the acknowledgement that death is a necessary part of the cycle of life. Holy Week processions in Spain include crowds who vociferously insult the figure of Jesus. Irreverence, parody, degradation, and laughter at a tragicomic effigy of God can be seen as intensifications of the sacred order. Jews were forced to race naked through the streets of the city of Rome. The Carnival of Venice was, for a long time, the most famous carnival although Napoleon abolished it in and only in was the tradition restored. In the early 19th century in the German Rhineland and Southern Netherlands , the weakened medieval tradition also revived. Continuously in the 18th and 19th centuries CE, as part of the annual Saturnalia abuse of the carnival in Rome, rabbis of the ghetto were forced to march through the city streets wearing foolish guise, jeered upon and pelted by a variety of missiles from the crowd.

Carnaval Fasching or Fastnacht in Germany mixed pagan traditions with Christian traditions. From the mid-th century until , spring carnival in Rome closed with a horse race. Other areas developed their own traditions. In the United Kingdom, West Indian immigrants brought with them the traditions of Caribbean Carnival ; however, the Carnivals now celebrated at Notting Hill , Leeds , Yorkshire, and other places became divorced from their religious origin and became secular events that take place in the summer months. It has imported various Brazilian Carnival traditions. Seychelles[edit] The Seychelles carnival began in It is held in the capital city of Victoria and takes place over three days. On Day 1, the grand opening is held in the city center near the clock tower. The second day is parade day. On Day 3, the closing ceremony is held, and a lottery winner is announced. Events include fashion and music shows. The climax is a street party featuring costumes and music.

Chapter 5 : Colorful Celebrations Forever Stamps for any festive occasion

Colorful Celebrations Forever Stamps Celebrate any festive occasion with Colorful Celebrations, a new stamp USPS. The booklet of 20 stamps includes 10 vivid, digitally created designs featuring eye-popping patterns.

Chapter 6 : RADKO CELEBRATIONS MINI COLORFUL GLITTER CUPCAKES (6 PACK) ORNAMENTS M

The feast of Corpus Christi, traditionally held on the eighth Thursday after Easter, is a festival where Catholics celebrate the presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The holiday is observed.

Chapter 7 : Holi - Festival Of Colors USA Celebration

NEW YORK CITY â€” A new booklet of Forever stamps entitled Colorful Celebrations was dedicated today at World Stamp Show-NY at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in New York City. The international stamp show will conclude tomorrow. The United States plays host to a sanctioned international.

Chapter 8 : Colorful Celebrations (U.S.) | www.nxgvision.com

Celebrate Fall at Colorful Events Across North Carolina. From first-time festivals to annual favorites, lively events fill the fall calendar in North Carolina. Show-stopping foliage, spirited music, and irresistible fare add color and texture to celebrations from the mountains to the coast.

Chapter 9 : Baby Birthday Party Decoration Infant Colorful Celebration Feast Balloon Decor | eBay

Spring is an optimistic season of new beginnings and new life. With the return of warm sunshine, budding flowers and singing birds, it seems as if the earth itself wants to celebrate.