

**Chapter 1 : Navratri Date, History, Significance of 9 Days in India**

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Why Navratri is celebrated for 9 days Navratri Why Navratri is celebrated for 9 days As Hindus celebrate the festival, they worship the particular deity which the day of the Navratri stands for and also makes it special by wearing the corresponding colour. Here we take a look at which avatar and which colour do each of the nine days represent. Sep 27, , The days fall on the nine auspicious days as per the lunar calendar of Hinduism. The festival is celebrated with an ardent fervour which is rare on any other festival of the country as it is a nine-day long celebratory mood during which people observe fasting. Each day during the nine-day festival is special, with significance that relates to the goddess Durga in her various incarnations. Ever wondered why the festival is celebrated for nine days? The nine nights nav ratri of the festival commemorate the nine avatars of Goddess Durga. The festival is a celebration of the victory of the goddess, the good, the positive over Mahishasura, an embodiment of the evil, the negative and egotism. Navratri is dedicated to all the distinct avatars of the goddess, with each day also standing for a particular colour. As Hindus celebrate the festival, they worship the particular deity which the day of the Navratri stands for and also makes it special by wearing the corresponding colour. Here we take a look at which avatar and which colour do each of the 9 days represent. She symbolises the characteristics of nature and purity and the colour which should be worn on day one of Navratri is red. She is the one who practices austerity and should be worshipped if you want to attain moksha, or emancipation of your deeds. She is the one who endows grace and prosperity. The colour which should be worn on day two is the subtle yet power-wielding royal blue. Like the colour yellow, she stands for grace, concord and tranquillity. Besides being symbolic of beauty, she is also symbolic of bravery. Hence, the colour of the day is yellow. She is the one who endowed the world with greenery and vegetation, the symbols of life, merely with a laughter. Hence, the colour of the day is green. Just like the colour grey, she can turn into thunderstorm whenever any harm comes near her child. Skanda mata is the mother of Karthikeya , also known as Skanda. She carried him in her womb when she was chosen as the commander by the gods in their fight against evil, the demons. It is believed that she was an avatar of goddess Durga. In the form of Kalratri, she is dark coloured, has a posture that bespeaks power and has three eyes. With her breath, she emanates fire like a powerful dragon. This is the fiercest form of the Maa Durga. However, the colour of her clothes is white. White represents her fight for peace. Hence, the colour of the day is white. The story goes that due to her austerities in the forests of the Himalayas , her complexion got very dark and she turned black. However, Shiva cleansed her body with the water of the Ganges and this is how her body restored its beauty and glow. The colour of the day is pink as pink denotes optimism and anticipation. Siddhidatri is a representative of mother figure and is endowed with healing powers. She is known to have blessed all the gods, goddesses and worshippers with bliss as pure as the blue sky. That is why the colour of the day is sky blue.

*Suspense, Shakespeare and non-stop action. "West is a wise woman with a knack for suspense." E-book of NINE DAYS TO EVIL by Nancy G. West, 5 stars on Amazon and B&N.*

Weird Navaratri Navaratri is a Hindu holiday which occurs over a nine-day period in either September or October on the Gregorian calendar. This holiday is observed all throughout India and it commemorates the slaying of the demon Mahishasura by the goddess Durga, a battle that took nine days and nights. However, in some parts of India, this period of time is also used to commemorate all female deities. At its essence, Navaratri celebrates the triumph of good conquering evil and is also a way to give thanks for a good harvest. While it is celebrated in different ways in different parts of the world, most celebrations feature colorful clothing and fasting followed by elaborate feasts. History of Navaratri In different parts of India, different legends account for the history of the festival of Navaratri. In Northern India, there is one legend, in Eastern India a completely separate legend and yet another one for all of the rest of India. However, while all of these stories seem to be different, they are all interconnected, complement each other and represent different aspects of the holiday. Eastern India According to the story, as told in Eastern India, it all begins with Daksha – the king of the Himalayas. This king had a very beautiful and virtuous daughter whom he named Uma. His daughter had been a devout follower of Lord Shiva her entire life and wanted nothing more than to marry him. She worshiped him devoutly and eventually, he called on her to marry him. However, this displeased her father Daksha, so he ended his relationship with his daughter and her husband Lord Shiva. Eventually, Daksha organized a ritual offering known as a yagna but did not bother to invite Lord Shiva to it. This demon worshiped Lord Shiva until he was granted the power of eternity. After he obtained this massive power, he then began to not only harass and kill innocent people all over India but also set out to win the three Lokas: Eventually, the gods of swargaloka pleaded with Lord Shiva to give them a way to dispose of the demon. The Trinity of Brahma, Shiva and Vishnu united all of their powers and created Goddess Durga – a divine female warrior. She then set out to defeat the demon. When Mahishasura laid his eyes upon Goddess Durga, he was instantly mesmerized and fell in love with her. He then approached her for her hand in marriage. Goddess Durga accepted his proposal but gave him one condition: He agreed and for the next nine days and nights they battled. Eventually, she defeated and beheaded the demon. Ever since then, the nine nights have been known as Navaratri. The day following this holiday, the tenth day, then became known as Vijayadashmi and is a celebration of the triumph of good over the forces of evil. Other Parts of India In yet another story, the Lord Rama is said to have worshiped the Goddess Durga for nine days in order to gain the strength to kill Ravana – the demon king of Lanka. Lord Rama wanted to release Sita – the daughter of King Janaka of Videha who had been kidnapped by Ravana – and free her from his clutches. Those nine nights he worshiped Goddess Durga would then later become known as Navratri. The day following these nine days, the tenth day, was the day in which Lord Rama slew Ravana and this day became known as Dusshera. As with the other legends, the tenth day represents the triumph of good over evil. In Bengal, there are usually parades featuring large idols and these parades can be quite elaborate and very, very colorful. In some parts of India, earthen pots are painted and filled with either water or a lamp and these pots symbolize the power of Goddess Durga. In other parts, plates are decorated in honor of the mother goddess. This period of time is seen as one of great auspiciousness, which is why many women buy new clothes, jewelry and kitchenware. In most areas of the country, women will wear their most colorful clothing throughout the nine days. Fasting is also observed during this time. While some people will not eat any food whatsoever during parts of Navaratri, other people will simply abstain from some foods. The foods which are abstained from are usually corn, cornstarch, onions, garlic, lentils, legumes, rice, alcohol, coffee and refined oils. However, this is not a comprehensive list and some practitioners will abstain from other types of food as well during this nine-day holiday period.

### Chapter 3 : Navratri Dates & Durga Puja Muhurat

*For a suspenseful mystery that keeps the reader glued to the page, look no further than Nancy West's Nine Days to Evil. 6 people found this helpful. Helpful.*

Observed for nine days, the Navaratri festival celebrates and glorifies the power of a woman. It worships Maa Shakti and her three incarnations – Durga, Laxmi and Saraswati and three forms of each incarnation. According to the Hindu calendar, the festival is celebrated in the month of Ashvin that falls in September or October. Each of the nine days is dedicated to the worship of different forms of the Goddess Durga. This year it will commence from 10 October and will conclude on 19 October. A combination of two words, nava means nine and ratri referring to night, the festival is the manifestation of the triumph of good over evil and erases negativities, purify the soul, blesses people with power, prosperity and knowledge. Navaratri- Looking Back At History Legend has it that there was a buffalo demon called Mahishasura who had put all the three worlds trembling in terror. He had received a special boon that he could not be killed by any god, human or demon except the feminine energy. He thought that a woman would be not capable enough to vanquish him. In order to save the world, Mother Durga assumed a powerful form and initiated a war against him for nine continuous days, killing him on the tenth day. Navaratri is celebrated five times a year for nine days each. The three main Navaratri are: The ninth day is also known as the Ayudha pooja which is held to be the time when the Pandavas in Mahabharata retrieved their weapons during the last year of their year exile. Consequently, all the machines, work tools, appliances and vehicles that contribute to the prosperity of mankind are worshipped on this day. Following this victory, Lord Rama and his companions travelled back to Ayodhya. Diwali is celebrated 20 days after Navaratri to mark this day. A Celebration Of Wisdom, Prosperity, And Success The Three Incarnations The first three days of Navaratri invoke the Goddess Durga, a warrior incarnation, as the divine power within humans that helps in destroying the underlying animalistic tendencies like the buffalo demon. Source- Pixabay On each day, three different forms Kumari, Parvati and Kali of Durga are worshipped, signifying the three stages of womanhood. The next three days are devoted to the Goddess Laxmi who represents wealth. Goddess Saraswati is worshipped on the final three days, symbolizing the power of knowledge. Thus, wealth and wisdom go together. Significance Of The Nine Incarnations During the nine days, each day, the Goddess takes a new character, attire and responsibility. On the first day, daughter of Himalayas, Shailaputri, who is the consort of Lord Shiva, is worshipped. She represents the collective powers of Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh. Mounting upon a bull, she holds a lotus and a trident. The second day is dedicated to Brahmacharini, filled with knowledge and wisdom. She embodies loyalty, love and shows the way to emancipation. Chandraghanta personifies beauty and bravery, possessing ten hands and three eyes. On the fourth day, Kushmanda is worshipped. Mounted on a tiger, she is believed to be the creator of the entire universe, vegetation and laughter. Katyayani seated on a lion with four hands and three eyes, exhibits immense courage but is dressed like a sage in orange colour. Kaalratri meaning the dark black night is invoked on the seventh day of Navaratri. Mounting on a donkey, it is the fiercest form with flames emanating from her breadth. She holds a cleaver and a torch, signifying protection and sacrifice. On the eighth day, Maha Gauri radiating in a white saree is worshipped. Riding on a bull, she depicts tranquility and displays wisdom. The last day is devoted to Siddhidatri consisting of all the eight Siddhis, who resides on lotus flower. Once the puja is over, they are welcomed into homes, their feet are washed and sweet is offered along with clothes, gifts and money.

**Chapter 4 : 9 Navratri Colours And Foods For All Days Of Sharad Navratri**

*Nine Days to Evil has 4 ratings and 0 reviews. A call from her husband propels graduate student Meredith Laughlin through nine horrendous days and into a.*

Navratri festival is an occasion of classical and folk dance performances at Hindu temples. In picture the Ambaji Temple of Gujarat. According to some Hindu texts such as the Shakta and Vaishnava Puranas, Navratri theoretically falls twice or four times a year. Of these, the Sharada Navratri near autumn equinox September-October is the most celebrated and the Vasanta Navratri near spring equinox March-April is next most significant to the culture of Indian subcontinent. In all cases, Navratri falls in the bright half of the Hindu luni-solar months. The celebrations vary by region, leaving much to the creativity and preferences of the Hindu. It is observed the lunar month of Ashvin post-monsoon, September-October. In many regions the festival falls after autumn harvest, and in others during harvest. It is observed the lunar month of Chaitra post-winter, March-April. In many regions the festival falls after spring harvest, and in others during harvest. The fifth day of this festival is often independently observed as Vasant Panchami or Basant Panchami, the official start of spring in the Hindu tradition wherein goddess Saraswati is revered through arts, music, writing, kite flying. In some regions, the Hindu god of love, Kama is revered. The Sharada Navratri commences on the first day pratipada of the bright fortnight of the lunar month of Ashvini. The festival is celebrated for nine nights once every year during this month, which typically falls in the Gregorian months of September and October. The exact dates of the festival are determined according to the Hindu luni-solar calendar, and sometimes the festival may be held for a day more or a day less depending on the adjustments for sun and moon movements and the leap year. Various other goddesses such as Saraswati and Lakshmi, gods such as Ganesha, Kartikeya, Shiva and Krishna are regionally revered. For example, a notable pan-Hindu tradition during Navratri is the adoration of Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of knowledge, learning, music and arts through Ayudha Puja. Warriors thank, decorate and worship their weapons, offering prayers to Saraswati. Farmers, carpenters, smiths, pottery makers, shopkeepers and all sorts of trades people similarly decorate and worship their equipment, machinery and tools of trade. Students visit their teachers, express respect and seek their blessings. Shailaputri Arya [ edit ] Known as Pratipada, this day is associated to Shailaputri literally "Daughter of Mountain" , an incarnation of Parvati. It is in this form that the Goddess is worshiped as the consort of Shiva; she is depicted as riding the bull, Nandi , with a trishula in her right hand and lotus in her left. Shailaputri is considered to be the direct incarnation of Mahakali. The color of the day is red , which depicts action and vigor. Brahmacharini[ edit ] On Dwitiya, Goddess Brahmacharini , another incarnation of Saraswati , she is the goddess of peace and knowledge. Chandraghanta[ edit ] Tiritiya commemorates the worship of Chandraghanta - the name derived from the fact Lakshmi being the sister of Chandra adorned him on her head. Kushmanda[ edit ] Goddess Kushmanda is worshiped on Chaturthi. Believed to be the creative power of universe, Kushmanda associated to the endowment of vegetation on earth and hence, the color of the day is Green. She is depicted as having eight arms and sits on a Tiger. Skandmata[ edit ] Skandamata , the goddess worshiped on Panchami, is the mother of Skanda or Kartikeya. The color Grey is symbolic of the transforming strength of a mother when her child is confronted with danger. She is depicted riding a ferocious lion , having four arms and holding her baby. Known as the warrior goddess, she is considered one of the most violent forms of Goddess Lakshmi. Kalaratri[ edit ] Considered the most ferocious form of Goddess Durga, Kalaratri is revered on Saptami. It is believed that Parvati removed her fair skin to kill the demons Sumbha and Nisumbha. The color of the day is White. On Saptami, the Goddess appears in a white colour attire with a lot of rage in her fiery eyes, her skin turns black. The white colour portrays prayer and peace, and ensures the devotees that the Goddess will protect them from harm. Mahagauri[ edit ] Mahagauri symbolizes intelligence and peace. The color associated to this day is Pink which depicts optimism. She has extremely fair complexion and therefore Maa is compared with the conch, the moon and the white flower of Kunda. Radiant and compassionate, Maa Maugauri is usually depicted in a white or green saari and riding a bull. She is also known as Shwetambardhara. Maa Mahagauri purifies the souls of Her devotees and removes all their sins. She

has a calming effect on the lives of Her devotees and she also helps them improve their knowledge. Siddhidatri[ edit ] On the last day of the festival also known as Navami, people pray to Siddhidhatri. Sitting on a lotus, she is believed to possess and bestows all type of Siddhis. Here she has four hands. Also known as Mahalakshmi Devi. Regional Practices[ edit ] Navaratri is celebrated in different ways throughout India. Some revere the same Mother Goddess but different aspects of her, while others revere avatars of Vishnu , particularly of Rama. For most contemporary Hindus, it is the Navaratri around the autumn equinox that is the major festival and the one observed. To Bengali Hindus and to Shakta Hindus outside of eastern and northeastern states of India, the term Navaratri implies Durga Puja in the warrior goddess aspect of Devi. In other traditions of Hinduism, the term Navaratri implies something else or the celebration of Hindu goddess but in her more peaceful forms such as Saraswati – the Hindu goddess of knowledge, learning, music and other arts. It is the most important annual festival to Bengali Hindus and a major social and public event in eastern and northeastern states of India, where it dominates the religious life. It is also observed by some Shakta Hindus as a private, home-based festival. The festival begins with Mahalaya, a day where Shakta Hindus remember the loved ones who have died, as well the advent of warrior goddess Durga. On the seventh day Saptami , eighth Ashtami and ninth Navami , Durga along with Lakshmi, Saraswati, Ganesha and Kartikeya are revered and these days mark the main Puja worship with recitation of the scriptures, the legends of Durga in Devi Mahatmya and social visits by families to elaborately decorated and lighted up temples and pandals theatre like stages. Many mark their faces with vermilion sindooram or dress in something red. It is an emotional day for some devotees, and the congregation sings emotional goodbye songs. In North India, Navaratri is marked by the numerous Ramlila events, where episodes from the story of Rama and Ravana are enacted by teams of artists in rural and urban centers, inside temples or in temporarily constructed stages. In many parts, the audience and villagers join in and participate spontaneously, some helping the artists, others helping with stage set up, create make-up, effigies and lights. Hundreds of thousands of devotees pay their attendance at Katra for the festival. Navaratri has historically been a prominent ritual festival for kings and military of a kingdom. A pot is installed ghatasthapana at a sanctified place at home. A lamp is kept lit in the pot for nine days. The pot symbolises the universe. The uninterrupted lit lamp symbolizes the Adishakti, i. In other parts, such near Sitamarhi close to Nepal border, the spring Navratri attracts a large Ramanavami fair which marks the birth of Lord Rama as well as a reverence for his wife Sita who legends place was born at Sitamarhi. It is the largest cattle trading fair, and attracts a large handicrafts market in pottery, kitchen and house ware, as well as traditional clothing. Festive performance arts and celebrations are held at the local Hindu temple dedicated to Sita, Hanuman, Durga, and Ganesha. The traditional method includes fasting for a day, or partially every of the nine days such as by not eating grains or just taking liquid foods, in remembrance of one of nine aspects of Shakti goddess. The prayers are dedicated to a symbolic clay pot called garbo, as a remembrance of womb of the family and universe. The clay pot is lit, and this is believed to represent the one Atman soul, self. In Gujarat and nearby Hindu communities such as in Malwa, the garbo significance is celebrated through performance arts on all nine days. It is a folk dance, where people of different background and skills join and form concentric circles. The circles can grow or shrink, reaching sizes of s, sometimes s of people, dancing and clapping in circular moves, in their traditional costumes, at the same time. The garba dance sometimes deploys dandiyas sticks , coordinated movements and striking of sticks between the dancers, and teasing between the genders. In the temples of Goa , on the first day of the Hindu month of Ashwin, in temples and some households , a copper pitcher is installed surrounded by clay in which nine varieties of food grains are placed inside the sanctum sanctorum of Devi and Krishna temples. The nine nights are celebrated by presenting devotional songs, and through religious discourses. Artists arrive to perform folk musical instruments. Celebrations include placing the goddess image in a specially-decorated colourful silver swing, known as Makhar in Konkani language and for each of the nine nights, she is swung to the tune of temple music called as ranavadya and devotees singing kirtan and waving lamps. This is locally called Makharotsav. It is locally called the makhar arati. It is locally called Dasara and it is the state festival Nadahabba of Karnataka. Of the many celebrations, the Mysuru Dasara is a major one and is popular for its festivities. On the ninth day of Dasara, called Mahanavami, [52] the royal sword is worshipped and is taken on a procession

of decorated elephants and horses. The day after Navratri, on the Vijayadashami day, the traditional Dasara procession is held on the streets of Mysore. An image of the Goddess Chamundeshwari is placed on a golden saddle hauda on the back of a decorated elephant and taken on a procession, accompanied by tableaux, dance groups, music bands, decorated elephants, horses and camels.

**Chapter 5 : Navaratri in / - When, Where, Why, How is Celebrated?**

*Nine Days to Evil. by Nancy G. West. Thanks for Sharing! You submitted the following rating and review. We'll publish them on our site once we've reviewed them. 1.*

Michael by Clyo Beck St. Michael in Triumph Disclaimer: How do I know it was St. Michael who saved me in each instance. Michael a shrine in Tarpon Springs, Florida. Michael wants you to build his shrine. If you are ever in the vicinity, stop by. Light a candle, and settle into stillness. See if you can feel the singing vibration that lives there. I fall into it so deeply that I can sit there for fifty minutes in meditation despite Florida heat and only overhead fans going and the time flies. However, you need not go to Tarpon Springs for it to be effective. You can visit your own place of worship, light a candle and follow the directions there, since God and St. So wherever you are, and whatever you offer of yourself, is enough. Michael, I resort to your protection and, in my faith, offer this light which shall burn every Tuesday. Comfort me in my difficulties and though lodging in the house of our savior, intercede for me and my family that we will be able to hold God close to our hearts and be provided for in all of our necessities. I beseech you to have infinite pity in regard to the favours I ask of you name them , that I may be able to overcome all difficulties as you did the dragon at your feet. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb â€” Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, World without End. This prayer is to be said for nine 9 Tuesdays in succession, and each Tuesday a candle shall be lighted and a copy of this prayer left in the church to help another soul in distress and support the devotion to St. This miraculous Saint grants everything, no matter how difficult, and before the termination of the nine 9 weeks of Wednesdays.

**Chapter 6 : Novena | Catholic Answers**

*Each day is devoted to different forms of Goddess Durga and is ascribed 9 different colours. Special foods are prepared through the nine days according to the colours to celebrate Navratri.*

It is also considered the biggest Navratri because on the last day ie the 10th day falls the Vijay Dashmi Dussehra which marks the victory of good over evil. The auspicious occasion of Durga Ashtami also falls on this day and this year it will fall on the 19th October. The Navratri in India is celebrated for nine consecutive days and all the nine forms of Goddess Durga are worshiped. The Navratri in March which falls after Holi is also called the Chaitra Navratri and the one which falls in the month of October is called the Shardiya Navratri. The Shardiya Navratri is made with full pomp and show and this event marks the official beginning of the month of numerous festivals. Other than being a lit festival, the Navratri also has lot of significance attached to it. History of Navratri So, why is Navratri celebrated on the first place. The importance of the festival of Navratri is really high and that is because it is attached to the story of Goddess Durga and the devil Mahishasur. The battle that went on for 9 days between the two marks the days of Navratri. So, the name of Mahishasur simply means the buffalo headed, the devil had attained unbelievable powers and also boon of being immortal. He had also defeated Indra and other Devas in the Devlok. Since, humanity was in danger, all the devas gathered their energies and powers and created goddess Durga who then defeated Mahishasur. Navratri Celebration The Navratri celebration is quite colorful everywhere. It is celebrated in different ways in different states of India. The Puja is the most important part of the festival and thus should be done according to the Vedic scriptures. The puja starts from the first day when Goddess Durga is first made to wear beautiful Lehanga and accessories. People fast during these days and end their fast by holding a feast for the 9 little girls Kanjaks as nine forms of Durga. Navratri wale Chane, Halwa and Puri is served. Many Pandals are made and Jagrans are done all night long. People do the Garba dance and pray to Goddess Durga for happiness and prosperity. These 9 days are thus dedicated to Goddess Durga and her nine forms in which she had incarnated. Below is the list of the nine avatars of Goddess Durga with their names and meanings. Each day of Navratri has their own significance and the history of fasting on Navratra is also related to each form of Goddess Durga. Significance of each day of Navratri Goddess Shailaputri: She is worshipped on the very first day of Navratri and is considered the essence of all resources such as sea, mountains, water and all the earthly existence. She is a form of Parvati wife of Lord Shiva. The second form of goddess Durga depicts calm and bliss. She has 8 arms and her carrier is a lion. She is considered as the warrior. This form of Goddess Durga is carrier of optimism. It is believed that she has all kinds of siddhis. Happy Navratri all of you.

**Chapter 7 : Navaratri - Wikipedia**

*After nine days of Navratri, the festival culminates with the immersion of the idol of Durga. This was also the day King Rama, an avatar of Vishnu, killed Ravana, the headed demon. To celebrate the legend huge effigies of Ravana are burned and with it burns all evil.*

Kesar kheer or halwa- yellow The first day is dedicated to Shailputri, who is known to be Goddess Parvati, the daughter of mighty Himalaya. While there are many yellow colour foods that you can have during this day, nothing can go wrong with some sweet. Prepare some kesar ki kheer or kesar ka halwa to commemorate the day. Kacche kele ki barfi- green The second day is dedicated to Goddess Brahmacharini , who was Goddess Parvati when she was unmarried. Kuttu ki puri- grey The third day is dedicated to Goddess Chandraghanta. This name was derived when Goddess Parvati started adorning half Chandra moon on her forehead after getting married to Lord Shiva. If you are fasting on this day, you could prepare some kuttu ki sabji or kuttu ki puri. The third day is dedicated to Goddess Chandraghanta 4. Motichoor laddoo- orange The fourth day is dedicated to Devi Kushmanda, who is also known as the creator of the universe. She is also known as the deity who has the power and capability to reside inside the sun. Motichoor laddoo can be one of the orange sweets you could have on this day and offer it to the deity. Makhane ki kheer- white Goddess Skandamata is worshipped on the fifth day. Skandamata or mother of skanda, also known as Lord Kartikeya, is said to ride a lion along with the baby in one of her hands. You could prepare makhane ki kheer for this special Navratri day. Beetroot and carrot juice- red Goddess Katyayini, the warrior goddess, is worshipped on the sixth day. On this day, red is denoted as an important colour. While there is no specific re-coloured food, you could prepare a healthy beetroot and carrot juice. Blueberries and prunes- blue The seventh day is dedicated to Devi Kalaratri, who killed the two demons Shumbha and Nishumbha. Blue makes an important part of the day. While there is no specific blue-coloured food, blueberries and prunes could be a great pick for you. If you are fasting, fruits and dry fruits make an important part. If you are fasting, fruits and dry fruits make an important part 8. Celebrate Ashtami with pink colour. Prepare some rose petal kulfi or ice-cream on this day. Anjeer- purple Last but not least, the ninth and final day is dedicated to Devi Siddhidaatri, who is believed to possess all knowledge and wisdom. This day is denoted by the colour purple, so you could have a handful of anjeer or figs that are easily available in this season.

**Chapter 8 : Never Failing Prayer To St. Michael | Prayerforce Org Prayer Blog**

*The nine forms of Durga, all attributed to Goddess Parvati are worshipped on the nine days. The Hindu festival is celebrated across the country in various ways. There are four Navratri, two being the most significant ones - Chaitra Navratri post-winter in March-April and Sharada Navratri post-monsoon in September-October.*

File Image Navratri is starting today on October One of the most awaited festival which brings devotion and joy together is here. Now when we are almost done with our preparations to invoke Goddess Durga in our hearts and households. Now Sharad Navaratri falling post monsoon is considered Maha Navratri as it witnesses several major festivals and celebrations. One such traditional custom followed in states of Gujarat and Maharashtra is wearing nine different colours on nine days of the festival. One popular tradition followed during Navaratri is following a dress code based on nine colours for each day of nine-day celebrations. India venerates Goddess Durga and her nine manifestations on the nine days of the festival. Navratri is the nine-day long festival when devotees worship the divine feminine, Maa Durga. The nine forms of Durga, all attributed to Goddess Parvati are worshipped on the nine days. The Hindu festival is celebrated across the country in various ways. The other two are Magha Navaratri and Ashada Navaratri. The tradition of wearing nine different coloured dresses is followed during Sharad Navratri that too in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat. What are the nine forms of Goddess Durga worshipped during Navratri? What are the nine colours of Navratri? Be it college girls, working professionals or homemakers and even few enthusiastic men religiously follow the coloured-dress code religiously on the nine days of the bright and colourful festival. Why colours of nine days in Navratri changes every year? How is it decided for the year? The nine-day dress code changes every year, and it is decided on what day of the week the festival starts. After that, it follows a fixed cycle based on which people will dress in a different colour each day of Navratri. In simpler terms, devotees check which day Ghatasthapana on Pratipada, which is Day 1 of Navratri festival falls and after that stick to the fixed cycle. What are Navratri colours and its significance? This year Pratipada falls on Wednesday, and hence the colour is Royal Blue. Each colour has its own importance and significance. On all the nine days, one form of Maa Durga will be worshipped. Here you have all the details on the upcoming Navratri colours. Blue colour is the significance of tranquillity, wisdom, strength and intelligence. Yellow colour stands for vivaciousness, positivity, optimism, clarity and happiness. Now, colour green stands for life, renewal and harmony. It is traditionally associated with finance and the economy. The colour grey is closely associated with the manifestation of Maa Durga worshipped on the day. Now the grey colour represents a vulnerable mother who can take up a powerful form to protect her child. On this day, people must wear orange coloured clothes and accessories. Orange depicts the energy of red and the happiness of yellow. This shade is associated with perfection, light, peace, goodness, innocence, purity, and virginity. Coming back to the Navratri colour of the day, Sky Blue signifies sincerity, loyalty, wisdom and depth. Yes, how lovely is it to conclude the fun colour-cycle of the festival with this pretty colour. Watch Video of Navratri Colours for Nine Days So that was the nine-day colour cycle of Navratri , which one must follow this time around. Apart from dresses, one must also choose accessories to complement their outfits. Despite a difference in celebrations, customs and rituals, Navratri brings us all together for the legend and its significance remains one - the victory of good over evil. When the cruelty and tyranny of demon king, Mahishasur increased and no god could put an end to his evil ways, Maa Parvati took the form of Maa Durga and killed him to save us all. This Navratri , apart from the fun and festivities, do think about bringing an end to the evils of society and turn it into a better place to live in.

**Chapter 9 : Nine Days to Evil by Nancy G. West**

*Navratri Colours - Nine days of Navratri is a celebration of the nine avatars of Maa Durga, the Shakti. She is revered in her various forms. And to pay respect to each goddess.*

Maa Siddhidatri Among 5 Navratris, one is Sharad Navratri, which is celebrated with great pomp and show by all Hindus. However, rest 4 has regional relevance. After Sharad Navratri, Chaitra Navratri is celebrated quite significantly in some areas. Religious events are conducted to mark the occasion and celebrate the festivity. On the other hand, social gatherings and fairs are conducted around Shakti Peethas and sacred buildings during Chaitra Navratri. These are celebrated by very few people and are known for different occult practices. Among these Gupt Navratri, very few people are familiar with Paush Navaratri. Importance of Navratri Navratri is an amalgamation of two words: This festival is celebrated throughout India with lots of excitement and joy. It is a prevalent festival observed on major parts of Gujarat, West Bengal and Delhi. Devotees express their gratitude towards Maa Durga, carry out Durga puja and pray for good health, life and mind. After ninth day, tenth day is celebrated as Dussehra, also known as Vijaydashmi, which marks the victory of Lord Ram over King Ravana. The festival of Navratri holds a great significance in Hinduism as it marks the triumph of good over evil. These nine days are considered sacred and pious, and consumption of alcohol, meat, onion and garlic is strictly prohibited. People avoid carrying out any unlawful activity and perform ceremonies, rituals, yagnas and much more. How is Navratri Celebrated? In India, Navratri is celebrated with zeal and enthusiasm. It occurs in the month of Ashvin as per Hindu Calendar. The idol of Maa Durga is worshipped for nine days straight in different forms and on the tenth day, it is immersed in water. People wish for a good life, healthy mind and body, and pray for spiritual, emotional and physical well-being. The puja rituals are observed for nine days straight, with each day signifying the importance of one avatar or incarnation of Goddess Durga. Here described is the importance of each day and the goddess associated: Goddess Shailputri , an incarnation of Maa Parvati, is worshipped on this day. In this form, she can be seen sitting on Nandi the bull with a Trishul in her right hand and Lotus flower in her left one. Color of the day remains Red, which represents courage, vigor and action. On second day of Navratri, Goddess Brahmacharini is worshipped. She is said to be one of the many incarnations of Maa Parvati who became Sati, the pure one. One worships the Goddess to attain moksha or salvation and peace. Color of the day remains Blue, which depicts calmness and positive energy. In this form, she can be seen holding a kamandalu and japmala in her hands while walking bare-feet. Goddess Chandraghanta is worshipped on the third day of Navratri. The name was derived after Maa Parvati got married to Lord Shiva and adorned a half-moon on her forehead. Yellow, the color of the day, depicts bravery. Goddess Kushmanda is worshipped on the fourth day of Navratri. She can be seen sitting on a Lion with eight hands. She is said to be the one endowing vegetation and greenery on Earth, which is why color of the day remains Green. She can be seen having four arms, holding her small baby and riding a fierce lion. She depicts the mutating power of a mother when she realizes her child is in danger. Color of the day remains Grey. She represents courage and is seen having four hands and riding a lion. Color of the day remains Orange. Maa Kalratri is known to be the ferocious form of Goddess Durga and worshipped on Saptami. Color of the day remains White. Maa Mahagauri is worshipped on the eighth day of Navratri, and symbolizes peace and intellect. Color of the day remains Pink, which represents positivity. The ninth day is known to be Navami, and Maa Siddhidatri , also called as Ardhanareeswara, is worshipped. She is said to possess all kinds of Siddhis. She can be seen sitting on a Lotus and has four hands. Mythological Story Behind Navratri There are numerous stories related to this festival, but two of them are very popular and prevalent. The first one is about the demon Mahishasura and how he met his end through the hands of Goddess Durga. A demon named Mahishasura was a big worshipper of Lord Shiva. He started terrorizing the natives, attacked their homes and created problems for everyone. After destroying Earth, he targeted Heaven and scared the gods too. After a vigorous game of hide-and-seek, Maa Durga finally found the demon and killed her. This remarked the victory of good over evil. The second story goes as follows: Lord Rama was a huge worshipper of Devi Bhagwati, the ultimate superpower. He devoted himself into her worship for nine days straight so as to gain victory against

Ravana. On the ninth day, Devi Bhagwati appeared in front of him and granted her blessings, and on the tenth day, Lord Rama killed Dashanana. Since then, different forms of Devi Bhagwati are venerated for nine days straight and Vijaya Dashami is then observed on the tenth day. Pandals are made and streets are decorated. Different forms of Goddess Durga are installed in pandals and worshipped by thousands of devotees. On the tenth day, her statue is carried with a great procession and immersed. In the state of Gujarat, devotees fast for nine days, worship different incarnations of Goddess Durga and perform Garba. This is a very famous dance form played with sticks between two people. Both men and women wear colorful clothes and play Dandiya. Big stages are set up for the show, which are known to be grand and spectacular. For nine days, Ramlila concludes all aspects of Ramayana and on the tenth day or Dashami, effigies of Ravana are burnt all around the city and country. In Bihar, local temples hold celebrations and pujas, and a local fair in Sitamarhi is arranged. Pottery, handicrafts, kitchenware and houseware are displayed on a large scale.