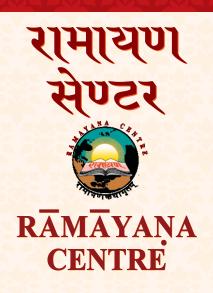
# 2021

Women Characters in Ramayana





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#### **CONTACT US FOR**

Ram Katha, Pooja, Anushthan, 'Namkaran' of new born babies, Counselling, Various Courses, Discourses, Workshops, Literature on Ramayana and Indian Philosophy and Hall for various activities

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# Women Characters in Ramayana रामायण सेण्टर 🧟 RĀMĀYAŅA CENTRE



### रामायण में नारी पात्र

Dear Devotees, प्रिय राम भक्तो

Jai Shri Ram, जय श्री राम

Happy New Year, नववर्ष अभिनंदन

We are pleased to inform you that the year 2021 is very special for the Ramayana Centre as we will be completing 20 years of its existence. To mark the 20th anniversary, we are dedicating our annual calendar to the women characters who have important roles in the Ramayana and who have helped, in one way or the other, in moulding the great character of Shri Ram and in establishing the Ram Rajya, the most ideal "Rajya" to which Man aspires. Even Gandhiji's dream was to implement Ram Rajya in India.

However, to achieve this supreme state, Shri Ram had to undergo innumerable challenges and hardships, which played a pivotal role in shaping his character.

Just like pure gold is recognised when burnt, similarly if Shri Ram had not experienced struggles and sacrifices during his penance of 14 years' exile, he probably would not have become an exemplary king that demarcated him from others.

When King Dashratha decided to crown Shri Ram as King of Ayodhya, Manthara's instigation forced Queen Kaikeyi to bring a negative twist in the story by asking the King a 14 year exile for Shri Ram.

Shri Ram humbly accepted the command with full respect to his parents, hence setting an example that although we face adverse situations in life, we can still deal with them in an optimistic manner and change them into opportunities.

The calendar for this year presents a few verses from Ramcharitmanas to illustrate the women characters namely, Manthara, Kaikeyi, Kausalya, Sita Mata, Sumitra, Sunayana, Ansuya Devi, Shoorpanakha, Shabri, Tara, and Mandodari. We present them in the sequence they have been depicted in the epic, starting with the most important incident, which is Shri Ram's exile.

Kaikeyi and Manthara play significant roles in the plot development of the Ramayana. Despite being a learned woman, Kaikeyi, who initially was immersed in motherly love for Shri Ram, allows her maid Manthara to poison her mind against him.

Kausalya, being the Chief Queen and the mother of Shri Ram, could have used her veto power to stop him from going to the forest; but as a wise and value-oriented person, she advises Ramji to obey the command of his father and mother, Kaikeyi, because a father and a mother together have more right on a child, than merely just a mother alone.

Sita ji, being the most ideal and devoted wife, convinces Shri Ram that she needs to be by his side when he is in a difficult situation and gives him the logic behind her decision.

When Lakshman decides to accompany his brother in his adversity, his mother, Sumitra does not only grant him permission to go, but also expresses her satisfaction and appreciation for Lakshman's right decision, and preaches to him about his duty towards Shri Ram and Sita ii.

The role of Sunayana, Sita's mother, though brief, is not least important. She incarnates the image of a devoted wife, an amicable mother and a sensible woman. We find a glimpse of her character in Chitrakoot when Bharat comes to plea for Shri Ram to be coronated, instead of himself, as King of Ayodhya. Sunayana together with her husband King Janak come to meet everybody in Chitrakoot. Kausalya is very much worried and distraught about the decision that will be taken by Shri Ram and Bharat. Sunayana, though herself in the same mental state, consoles Kausalya very wisely.

Ansuya Devi boosts the morale of Sita Mata by appreciating her decision and by narrating to her the grandeur and importance of 'pativrat' dharma.

Shoorpanakha, the sister of Rayan, is instrumental in the abduction of Sita ii; she sows the seed of discord between Shri Ram and Ravan and urges her brother to seek revenge for her insult and preaches 'Rajneeti' to him.

Shabri, the great devotee of Shri Ram, advises Shri Ram to go to Pampa Lake and befriend Sugriva, who will help him in finding Sita Mata.

Tara is a wise lady. She advises her husband Vali to avoid any encounter with Sugriva who is no longer a meek and weak person as he has gathered confidence and strength after making an alliance with the mighty Shri Ram.

Mandodari, although wife to the evil Rayan, is a dignified woman; she makes a plea to Ravan to return Sita ji to Shri Ram, and ceaselessly tells him that his act of abducting Sita ji is immoral. She urges Ravan to change his course and to follow the path of dharma.

Finally, we want to say that, as always, the calendar has been prepared with lots of love and dedication; we hope that it will be appreciated.

We dedicate it to the devotees of Shri Ram. Any suggestions for future calendars are most welcome.

# रामायण सेण्टर 🕼 RAMAYANA CENTRE

#### HINDU DHARMA KE VRAT PARVA 2021 VIKRAM SAMVAAT 2077/2078

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Vasant Panchami	16 Fe	b Tue	Vyas Guru	urnima	24 Jul	Sat	Shri Dur	ga Nawmi	14 Oct	Thu	Jan	9	Sat
Maha Shivratri	11 Ma	ır Thu	Shravan Ma				Vijaya D	ashmi	15 Oct	Fri	Jan	24	Sun
Holashtak Arambh	21 Ma		Mass Paray		25Jul-22Aug		Valmiki J		20 Oct	Wed	Feb	7	Sun
Holika Dahan	28 Ma		Naag Pancl		13 Aug		Karwa C		24 Oct	Sun			
Holi Phagotsav	29 Ma		Tulsidas Ja		15 Aug			ayodashi/			Feb	23	Tue
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Nav Varsh Arambh	13 Ap	r Tue	Sanskrit Div					haturdashi	3 Nov	Wed	Mar	25	Thu
Shri Ram Nawmi/			Gaytree Jay		22 Aug	Sun	Deepaw		4 Nov	Thu	Apr	7	Wed
Shri Durga Nawmi	21 Ap		Shri Krishna				Govardh		5 Nov	Fri	Apr	23	Fri
Shri Hanuman Jayanti	27 Ap		Janmasthar		30 Aug			itiya/Bhai Dooj	6 Nov	Sat	May	7	Fri
Shri Parsuram Jayanti	14 Ma	,	Shri Ganes	,	10 Sep		,	nasti Vrat	8-10 Nov Mo		May	22	Sat
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14.01.2022

Friday



# **EDUCATIONAL & SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Classes	
Bal Sanskar	Sat	13 00 – 14 30 hrs
Ramayana Class	Sat	$13\ 00 - 14\ 00\ hrs$
Adult Hindi Course	Sat	$14\ 00 - 15\ 00\ hrs$
Basic course in Hindu Dharma		
(3 months) Hindi/Eng Medium	Sat	$11\ 00 - 12\ 00\ hrs$
Basic Course in Sanskrit (I Year)	Tue/Thur	$16\ 00 - 17\ 00\ hrs$
Philosophy of Ramayana	Sun	$10\ 00 - 11\ 00\ hrs$
Computer Class (Three months)	Wed	15 30 – 17 00 hrs
	Sat	$10\ 30 - 12\ 00\ hrs$
Music Class	Sat	$13\ 00 - 14\ 00\ hrs$
Yoga Class	Sun	$07\ 30 - 08\ 30\ hrs$

Workshops, Seminars, Conferences, Competitions and courses for children during school vacations.

#### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Blood donation, Sweets distribution on Diwali, Distribution of Ramayana Literature

#### **PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

I						
I	Fri	1 Jan	New Year	Sat	1 May	Labour Day
I	Sat	2 Jan	New Year	Fri	14 May	Eid-Ul-Fitr * depends on
I	Thur	28 Jan	Thaipoosam Cavadee			the visibility of the moon
I	Mon		Abolition of Slavery	Sat	11 Sep	Ganesh Chaturthi
I	Fri	12 Feb	Chinese Spring Festival	Mon	1 Nov	All Saints' Day
I			Maha Shivratri	Tue	2 Nov	Arrival of Indentured
I	Thur	12 Mar	Independence and			Labourers
I			Republic Day	Thur	4 Nov	Deepawli
I	Tue	13 Apr	Ugaadi	Sat	25 Dec	Christmas

# **RELIGIOUS/CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

TO I	11 7	
Thu	14 Jan	Makar Sankranti
Tue	16 Feb	Vasant Panchami
Fri-Thu	5 - 11 Mar	Maha Shivratri
Thu	11 Mar	Chaar Pahar Pooja
Sun	28 Mar	Holi Utsav
Tue	13 Apr	Vasantik Navratri Arambh
Wed	21 Apr	Shri Ram Navmi
Tue	27 Apr	Hanuman Jayanti
Thu	20 May	Sita Jayanti
Wed	30 Jun	Sthapna Diwas
Sat	24 Jul	Vyas Guru Poornima
Sun-Sun	25Jul-22Aug	Shravan Mass Shiv Maha Abhishek
Mon – Sat	9 – 14 Aug	Ramayana Saptaah
Sun	15 Aug	Tulsidas Jayanti
Mon	30 Aug	Shri Krishna Janmashthami
Fri	10 Sep	Shri Ganesh Jayanti
Thu-Thu	7–14 Oct	Sharadiya Navratri
Fri	15 Oct	Vijaya Dashmi
Wed	20 Oct	Valmiki Jayanti
Tue	2 Nov	Dhanteras
Thu	4 Nov	Deepawali
Wed	8 Dec	Sita-Ram Vivaah
Tue	14 Dec	Gita Jayanti
Sat	18 Dec	Bhajan Sandhya & Sunder Kanda

#### **WEEKLY/MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**

Monday	Shiv Abhishek	17:00 - 18:30  hrs
Saturday	Ramayana Satsang	15:00 – 16:30 hrs
	Masik Shivratri and	Masik Poornima

# रामायण सेण्टर 🕝 RAMAYANA CENTRE

Rāmrājya-A reign of complete happiness



# दैहिक दैविक भौतिक तापा। राम राज नहिं काहुहि ब्यापा॥ सब नर करहिं परस्पर प्रीती। चलहिं स्वधर्म निरत श्रुति नीती॥

Daihika daivika bhautika tāpā, Rāma rāja nahi kāhuhi byāpā Saba nara karahi paraspara priti, Calahi svadharma nirata śruti niti

In the whole of Śrī Rām's kingdom there was none who suffered from affliction of any kind whether of the body, or proceeding from divine or supernatural powers or that caused by another living being. All men loved one another; each followed one's prescribed duty, conforming to the precepts of the Vedas. ||7-20-1,2||

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Masik Shivratri - 11 • Ekadashi - 9, 24 • Poornima - 28

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Public Holidays
<ul> <li>New Year</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Thaipoosam Cavade</li> </ul>

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aipoosam Cavadee	2

**Yearly Activities** Makar Sankranti

January

Mantharā instigating Kaikeyī



## दुइ बरदान भूप सन थाती। मागहू आजु जुड़ावहु छाती॥ सुतहि राजु रामहि बनवासू। देहु लेहु सब सवति हुलासू॥

Dui baradāna bhūpa sana thātī, Māgahu āju jurāvahu chātī Sutahi rāju rāmahi banabāsū, Dehu lehu saba savati hulāsū

You have in reserve with the king two boons that he once promised you. Ask for them today and soothe your heart. Bestow sovereignty on your son and banishment to the forest on  $R\bar{a}m$ , and thus take all the pleasures of your co-wife.  $\|2-21-5,6\|$ 

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Masik Shivratri - 10 • Ekadashi - 7, 23 • Poornima - 27

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Public Holidays
<ul> <li>Abolition of Slavery</li> </ul>
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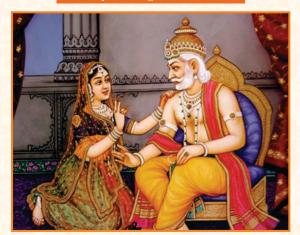
Chinese Spring Festival

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#### **Yearly Activities**

Vasant Panchami

Kaikayī asking for two boons



सुनहु प्रानिप्रय भावत जी का। देहु एक बर भरतिह टीका॥ मागउँ दूसर बर कर जोरी। पुरवहु नाथ मनोरथ मोरी॥ तापस बेष बिसेषि उदासी। चौदह बरिस रामु बनबासी॥

Sunahu prānapriya bhāvata jī kā, Dehu eka bara bharatahi tīkā Māgaŭ dūsara bara kara jori, Puravahu nātha manoratha mori Tāpasa beşa biseşi udāsī, Caudaha barisa rāmu banabāsī

Hear, my beloved lord, that which pleases my heart; vouchsafe to me for one boon the installation of Bharat as the prince-regent of Ayodhyā. And for the second boon, I ask with folded hands—pray accomplish my desire, my lord: let Ram dwell in the woods for fourteen years in the garb of a hermit and wholly detached from the world. ||2-28-1,2,3||

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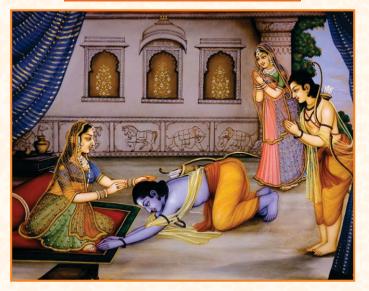
Public Holidays
<ul> <li>Maha Shivratri</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Independence &amp; Republic Day</li> </ul>

Holi Utsav

Yearly Activities	
<ul> <li>Maha Shivratri</li> </ul>	5-1
· Chaar Pahar Pooia	1

# रामायण सेण्टर 🔵 RAMAYANA CENTRE

Mother Kausalyā's consent to Śrī Rām



### जौं केवल पितु आयसु ताता। तौ जनि जाहू जानि बड़ि माता॥ जौं पितु मातु कहेउ बन जाना। तौं कानन सत अवध समाना॥

Jaŭ kevala pitu āyasu tātā, Tau jani jāhu jāni bari mātā Jaŭ pitu mātu kaheu bana jānā, Tau kānana sata avadha samānā

In any case, if it be your father's command alone, my boy, then go not, remembering that a mother ranks higher than one's father. If, on the other hand, both father and mother have asked you to proceed to the woods, then, of course, the forest will be equal to hundreds of Ayodhy $\bar{a}$ s.  $\|2-55-1,2\|$ 

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Masik Shivratri - 10 • Ekadashi - 7, 23 • Poornima - 27

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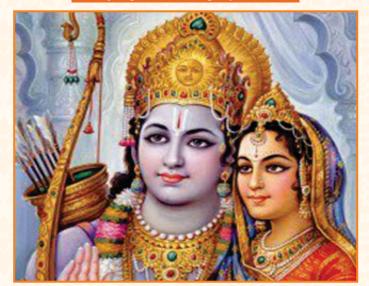
Yearly Activities

• Navratri 13-20

• Shri Ram Navmi 21

• Hanuman Jayanti 27

Sītā jī's plea to accompany Śrī Rām



# जिय बिनु देह नदी बिनु बारी। तैसिअ नाथ पुरुष बिनु नारी॥ नाथ सकल सुख साथ तुम्हारें। सरद बिमल बिधु बदनु निहारें॥

Jiya binu deha nadi binu bari, Taisia natha purusa binu nari Nātha sakala sukha sātha tumhārĕ, Sarada bimala bidhu badanu nihārĕ

As the body without a soul, and a river without water, even so, my lord, is a woman without her husband. In your company, my lord, I shall be happy in every way so long as I behold your countenance resembling the moon of an autumnal cloudless night. ||2-64-7,8||

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Masik Shivratri - 9 · Ekadashi - 7, 22 · Poornima - 26

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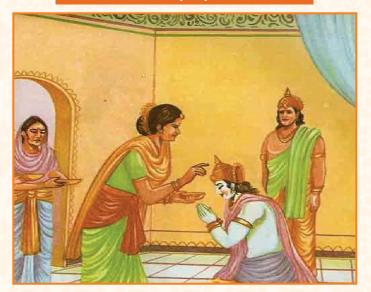
 Labour Day Eid-UI-Fitr\*

(Depends on the visibility of the moon)

#### **Yearly Activities**

Sita Jayanti

Sumitrā blesses Laksmaņa for his decision



### तात तुम्हारि मातु बैदेही। पिता रामु सब भाँति सनेही॥ अवध तहाँ जहँ राम निवासू। तहुँई दिवसु जहँ भानु प्रकासू॥

Tāta tumhāri mātu baidehī, Pitā ramu sabă bhati sanehī Avadha tahă jahă rāma nivāsū, Tahăi divasu jahă bhānu prakāsū

My dear son, Jānāki is your mother while Rām, who loves you in every way, is your father. Ayodhyā is there where Rām dwells; there alone is the day where there is sunlight. ||2-73-2,3||

जूल			<b>202</b> 1			June
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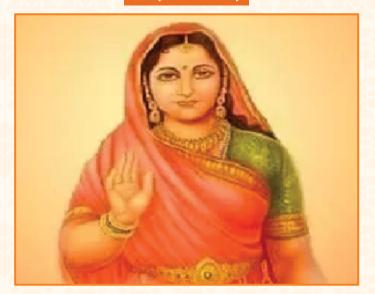
Masik Shivratri - 8 • Ekadashi - 5, 21 • Poornima - 24

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**Public Holidays** 

Yearly Activities
• Sthapna Diwas

Sunayanā's humility



### रउरे अंग जोगु जग को है। दीप सहाय की दिनकर सोहै॥ राम् जाइ बनु करि सुर काजु। अचल अवधपुर करिहहिं राजु॥

Raure amga jogu jaga ko hai, Dipa sahāya ki dinakara sohai Rāmu jāi banu kari sura kājū, Acala avadhapura karihahi rājū

Who on this earth is worthy of serving as your auxiliary? Can an ordinary lamp ever pose with any grace as a helper of the sun? After serving the term of his exile in the woods and accomplishing the objects of the gods, Śrī Rām will reign peacefully and uninterruptedly at Ayodhyā. ||2-284-5,6||

ગુભાફ			4U <i>4</i>			July
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Masik Shivratri - 8 • Ekadashi - 5, 20 • Poornima - 24

23 30

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**Public Holidays** 

#### **Yearly Activities**

- Vyas Guru Poornima
- · Shrawan Mass Shiv Maha Abhishek

25 Jul- 22 Aug

Tulky

Anasūyā Devī appreciating Sītā jī



#### अनुसुइया के पद गहि सीता। मिली बहोरि सुसील बिनीता॥ रिषिपतिनी मन सुख अधिकाई। आसिष देइ निकट बैठाई॥

Anasuiyā ke pada gahi sitā, Mili bahori susila binitā Riṣipatini mana sukha adhikai, Āsiṣa dei nikaṭa baiṭhāi

Then  $S\bar{i}t\bar{a}$ , who was so good natured and modest, met Anas $\bar{u}y\bar{a}$  (Sage Atri's wife) and clasped her feet. The sage's wife felt extremely gratified at heart; she blessed Her and seated Her by her side.  $\|3-4-1,2\|$ 

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रवि S	सोम M	मंगल T	बुध W	गुरु T	शुक्र F	शनि S
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Masik Shivratri - 6 • Ekadashi - 4, 18 • Poornima - 22

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Sep 2021 सितंबर 2021								
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Public Holidays

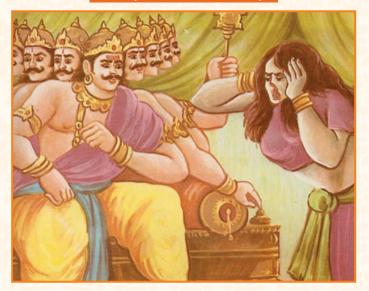
#### Yearly Activities

- Ramayana SaptaahTulsidas Jayanti
- Shri Krishna Janmashthami

9-14 15 30

Amonst

Śūrpaņakhā provokes Rāvaņa



#### रिपु रुज पावक पाप प्रभु अहि गनिअ न छोट करि। अस कहि बिबिध बिलाप करि लागी रोदन करन।।

Ripu ruja pāvaka pāpa prabhu ahi gania na chota kari Asa kahi bibidha bilāpa kari lāgī rodana karana

"An enemy, a malady, fire, sin, a master, and a serpent are never to be accounted trifles." So saying and with profuse laments, she (Śūrpanakhā) started crying. ||3-21(A)||

#### सितंबर September

रवि S	सोम M	मंगल T	बुध W	गुरु Τ	शुक्र F	श्रनि S
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Masik Shivratri - 5 • Ekadashi - 3, 17 • Poornima - 20

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**Public Holidays** Ganesh Chaturthi

**Yearly Activities** 

Shri Ganesh Jayanti

"Befriend Sugrīva," says Śabrī



### पंपा सरिह जाहु रघुराई। तहँ होइहि सुग्रीव मिताई॥ सो सब कहिहि देव रघुबीरा। जानतहूँ पूछहु मतिधीरा॥

Pampa sarahi jāhu raghurā i, Taha hoihi sugrīva mitā i So saba kahihi deva raghub irā, Jānatahu pūchahu matidh irā

Go to the Pampā Lake, O Raghunātha; there You will make friends with Sugrīva. He will tell You everything, my Lord, O Raghuvīra; You are steady of resolve and know everything; nevertheless, You have deigned to ask me! ||3-35-11,12||

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Masik Shivratri - 4 • Ekadashi - 2, 16 • Poornima - 20

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Public Holidays

# Yearly Activities Navratri

Vijaya DashmiValmiki Javanti

7-14 15

Oatobox

Tārā's advice to Vāli



# सुनत बालि क्रोधातुर धावा। गहि कर चरन नारि समुझावा॥ स्नु पित जिन्हिह मिलेंड स्ग्रीवा। ते द्वौ बंधु तेज बल सींवा॥

Sunata bāli krodhātura dhāvā, Gahi kara carana nāri samujhāvā Sunu pati jinhahi mileu Sugrīvā, Te dvau bamdhu teja bala sīmvā

On hearing his roar, Vali sallied forth frantic with fury. His wife, Tārā, however, clasped his feet with her hands and warned him thus: Listen, my lord, the two brothers with whom Sugrīva has concluded an alliance are of immense majesty and might. ||4-6-27,28||

odda4			4UZ]	november		
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Masik Shivratri - 3 • Ekadashi - 1, 14, 30 • Poornima - 19

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Pι	ıbl	ic	Hol	ida	ys
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<ul> <li>All Saints' Day</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Arrival of Indentured Labou</li> </ul>

urers

Novembor

Diwali

#### **Yearly Activities**

Dhanteras

Mandodari's plea to Rāvaņa



# रामहि सौंपि जानकी <mark>नाइ कमल पद माथ।</mark> सुत कहुँ राज समर्पि बन जाइ भजिअ रघुनाथ॥

Rāmahi saŭpi Jānakī nāi kamala pada mātha Suta kahŭ rāja samarpi bana jāi bhajia raghunātha

Bowing your head at Śrī Rām's lotus feet, restore Jānakī to Him; then, handing over the kingdom to your son and, retiring to the forest, worship Śrī Raghunātha. ||6-6||

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Masik Shivratri - 2 • Ekadashi - 14, 30 • Poornima - 19

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2022	Public Holiday
2022	<ul> <li>Christmas</li> </ul>
0 46 22	

<ul> <li>Christmas</li> </ul>			

25

Dogombox

#### **Yearly Activities**

- Sita-Ram Vivaah
- Gita Jayanti
- Bhajan Sandhya & Sunder Kanda