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## Commandos Pen

We all know that India is the land of Festivals. Generally, when we talk about festivals then Deepawali, Holi, Raksha Bandhan, etc. comes into our mind. I am sure everyone has a lot of memories connected with these festivals. Today, I am going to share one of my memory with Diwali. I still remember that day and whenever I recalled it, I can't stop laughing. On Diwali, I completed my Laxmi/ Ganesh pooja with my family then distributed the Prasad to our neighbour. I put my crackers in a bag then went out to my friends. We were bursting crackers on the road. Then suddenly one of our friends gave us an idea. Guess what that could be. He said let's burst the rocket on the road towards us. One of our friends placed the rocket on the road and set it on fire. The rocket went here and there. Everyone started bursting the rockets like we did. We all ran here and there to protect ourselves from the rocket. One of the rockets hit one of our friend's buttock, he shouted very loudly Mummyyy.... And others started laughing. It was a memorable day for me. I missed those days no tension no worries.

**-Sanjay Kumar**

Vijaya Dashami (Vijaya => Victory, Dashami => tenth day) also known as Dussehra is one of the important days of Durga Puja. Vijaya Dashami is the day when Goddess Durga who defeated the demon Mahishasura. In Andhra Pradesh Vijayadashami is celebrated for ten days which attracts a lot of travellers. Vijayawada, a district of Andhra Pradesh, there is an old temple on the shores of River Krishna known as the 'Durga Malleshwar Swami (Indrakeeladri Temple)' where Dasara is celebrated with vigour. Starting from the first day of Navratri various kind of offerings and puja are done. In addition, Alampur Jogulamba temple, one of the shaktipeeths among the eighteen celebrations are prominently seen." Bommala Koluva " meaning exhibition of dolls of animals and birds



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and also figurines depicting the rural life of Telugu community. Their modest village life, culture and tradition are represented in Koluvu. By having this we will be having an opportunity to show our next generations about our rich culture and tradition. We see this day as auspicious to new things/vehicles needed and books. On the day of Vijaya Dashami, we offer country chicken/sheep to Goddess Durga after completion of Ayudha puja (Ayudha puja-->Vehicles, Motor of the house and electric/iron instruments if any etc.). We pray Goddess Durga to give us good health and wealth and to give us the strength to fight that difficult moments in time.

**-Jagan.G**

## The Untold Story Behind the Festivals – Navratri

Here are my thoughts on Untold Story Behind the Festivals. If you think about the biggest festival in India, then obviously it's festival of lights-DIWALI. No matter where we live in this country and what religion we belong to, it connects us to each other. The major thing about Diwali is, it's the celebration of the victory of GOOD over EVIL. One of the untold stories on this auspicious day, Lord Krishna rescued Goddess Lakshmi as the Vaman-avtaara from the prisons of King Bali.

**-Harish Mopuri**

The festival of Deepawali, also known as the festival of lights. This festival is celebrated across India in different ways and for different reasons. The most popular legend prevalent across the country is that this day marks the triumphant return of supreme Lord Shree Ram and the mother of the Universe Sita to Ayodhya from their exile of 14 years after defeating the demon king Ravana.

- Remove Darkness
- Have patience
- Never give up
- Love your family
- Share to bring joy in everyone's life
- Listen to advice of your well-wishers
- If money is lost nothing is lost, if health is lost something is lost but if character is lost everything is lost
- Nothing is impossible
- Think always positive
- Make good friends

**-Shashikant Tiwari**

Navratri is one of the most significant festival of the Hindus celebrated across the world. This is also one of the most ancient festivals. The legend associated with Navratri speaks about the great battle that took place between the powerful demon Mahishasura and Goddess Durga. On each day of Navratri different avatars of Goddess Durga is worshipped. Navratri has been a historic tradition within Tamil Nadu, with Lakshmi, Saraswati and Durga Goddesses as the focus. The festival has been an occasion for performance arts, particularly Hindu temple dances such as Bharatanatyam and Mohiniyattam. Another notable Tamil tradition is a celebration of the festival with Golu dolls. The Navratri falls four times in a year. However, the ones observed during September- October (called Sharad) and March-April (Vasanta) are considered the most auspicious ones and are widely celebrated across the country. Navratri is a festival that is full of excitement and colour, a time for family and friends to come together and celebrate.

**-Bhuvaneshwari R**

## Untold Story - Samvatsari (a Jain community festival)

Let me start my untold story with a question – What is the most difficult thing on this earth? The question is very subjective right and also depends from person to person. For some, it may be scoring in academics, for some getting a job etc. How about forgiving & apologizing to one and all.

Do you think forgiving & apologizing is easy? No, it's not. Let us understand via an example. A man is walking on the street and suddenly a robber comes on the bike and snatches his mobile. There is no doubt that the man will have a feeling of revenge and will wish to catch the thief no matter what. Forgiveness has the power to change anything, and we have seen in really life too. If the man is able to catch the thief and instead of punishing him if he forgives him, I think he will do a better deed than punishing him. Even from the viewpoint of the thief, he will think ten times before repeating his actions again. This is where it makes a difference.

Any actions good or bad should have a favorable reaction. Forgiving & Apologizing makes us feel big. We get a feeling of satisfaction and inner peace. This is what good deeds are all about. No other materialistic thing on earth can give us the happiness that forgiveness or apologizing can provide. In every religion, these 2 words - Forgiving and apologizing - makes a huge IMPACT. Bhagwan Mahavir (24th Jain Tirthankara) also emphasized the importance of forgiveness & apologizing. So, lets us take a vow that we will try to forgive as much as we can and try to let go of things. We will surely be benefited by this and there is no doubt that this cannot harm us in any way.

This is the secret behind an important & holy day known as Samvatsari. Many of you may not be aware as its mainly celebrated by Jain community. So thought to share with my Aapna family too. Hope you find worth reading.

**-Yogesh Jain**

Why there is a gap of 20 days between the 2 Hindu festivals

- Dussehra and Diwali?

Dussehra (Friday),

15 October to 31 October 2021 (16 Days)

Diwali 2021 (Thursday),

4 November 2021 (4 Days)

Total 20 Days

493/24 Hours = approx. 20 days

Mahalaya, the homecoming of Maa Durga – From Radio to YouTube!

Mahalaya marks as the first day of Durgapuja or as the start of Durga Puja. To most people in Bengal, it brings the sweet smell of festivities, family gatherings and holidays of course. But, whenever I think about Mahalaya, the first thing that I'm always reminded of is of my grandfather. A day before the puja, he always search for his ages old radio set in the almirah and send me to the market to buy batteries so that it can run Mahalaya program in the early morning without any fear of electricity failure. It used to be an iconic day for me and my cousins as well. We used to gather at our village and have a sleepover the previous night so that we could listen to the radio program together with our grandparents at 4 AM in the morning. The program, voiced by Birendra Krishna Bhadra was recorded in 1931 and it is still as fresh as it was at that time, a voice that heralds Durgapur. From listening Mahalaya on a battery radio to YouTube we have grown a long way but it's a habit which will not change in next 2000 years also.

Mahalaya marks the beginning of turning Bongs into true-blue Bengali's—no matter of their age and location.

**-Sukhamay Mukherjee**



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And Diwali is the celebration of Lord Ram's arrival at Ayodhya. Walking distance between Sri Lanka and Ayodhya is 20 days. You can Google it. Being a great leader, Lord Ram decided to wait for the Sena to be a part of celebration. Till today people remember Lord Ram and respect him.

**-Sachin Shah**

Dussehra celebrates the Hindu God Rama's victory over the demon king Ravana and the triumph of good over evil. The epic Ramayana tells the story of the Lord Rama who wins the Goddess Sita as his wife, only to have her carried off by Ravana, the demon king of Lanka.

Ravana plays an important role in the Ramayana. Ravana had a sister known as Shoorpanakha. She fell in love with the brothers Rama and Lakshman and wanted to marry one of them. Lakshman refused to marry her and Rama could not as he was already married to Sita.

Shoorpanakha threatened to kill Sita, so that she could marry Rama. This angered Lakshman who cut off Shoorpanakha's nose and ears. Ravana then kidnapped Sita to avenge his sister's injuries. Rama and Lakshman later fought a battle to rescue Sita. God Hanuman and the huge army of monkeys helped them.

The Mahabharata is another series of Hindu stories that play a role in the Dussehra festival. The Pandavas were five brothers who fought evil forces with a set of distinctive weapons. They abandoned their weapons and went into exile for one year. They hid their weapons in a Shami tree and found them at the same place when they returned from exile. They then worshipped the tree before going to a battle, which they won. This epic is also commemorated during Dussehra.

**-Gaurav Amar Singh**

“Hi, I am Sukhamay from Durgapur, West Bengal. I have completed my graduation from Burdwan University. My father was in Army, so we used to shift a lot during my childhood days. I have completed my schooling from Army School Jhansi & Army School Dehradun.

I am a person with a positive attitude and smart work, also quite an emotional person with a good sense of humour. One can always look up to me in need for help. I will always try my best to help them with whatever I can. In my leisure time I love playing and watching cricket and travelling.

My first company was AAPNA only. I have joined AAPNA after 4 years and things here have changed tremendously. I am excited about the beginning of my journey with AAPNA and look forward to work with everyone.”



☀️ TEAM SPOT LIGHT



*"A Reel to the Virtual World..."*







Ramasai of narasaropeta from Andhra Pradesh, having graduated in 2015, he henceforth aligned as “Azure Devops Engineer” and acquired 3 years of experience for the same. He attributes himself as a quick learner, hard-working, enthusiastically open to take up new challenges, and Jovial as to what his friends describes. He joined AAPNA at 25th October 2021.



Avanish of Deoria from Uttar Pradesh, having graduated in BA(Hons) from BHU, he henceforth aligned as “HR Professional” and acquired 5 years of experience for the same. him describes. He aligned with AAPNA at 25th October 2021 to enhance the AAPNA HR Tribe.



Indranil of Ahmedabad from Gujarat, now in Pune. having graduated in BCA from Gujarat university, he henceforth aligned as “HR Professional” and acquired 2+ years of experience for the same. He attributes himself as a little imphish to be jovial yet matured, as to what people around him has to say. He aligned with AAPNA at 25th October 2021 to enhance the AAPNA HR Tribe.

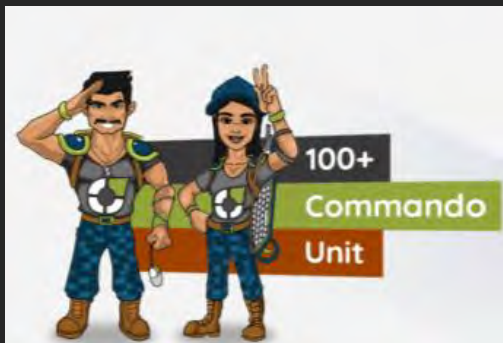


Priyanka, A Senior HR professional, in our AAPNA Tribe, has accrued 9 years of experience of aforesaid field, she attributes herself as adaptable and flexible open to welcome every challenging possibility, as to what people too around her has got to say. She aligned with AAPNA on 25th October 2021 to enhance the AAPNA HR Tribe.



Ajeej based at Lucknow, holds certification into B-Level DOAECC, an IGNOU Graduate and acquired 12+ years of experience for the same, and now aligned our Commando tribe as into Senior DotNet profile. He attributes himself as emotional, and has a “never to give up personality” He joined AAPNA at 18th October 2021.

Festivals in AAPNA is all about having fun, gaiety and jollification. Miles apart but we AAPNAites maintain the same festive spirit even working from our homes. Decorating the office desk and distribute sweets and gifts to the team, conducting ethnic day, festive-themed activities, rangolis, a feast and what not. A sense of build before it arrives. Still maintaining the feel of festival by sending "Diwali Gifts" to the team with a little personalized thank you note from our CEO Mr. Abhijit Roy. As an organization, we all are looking forward to growing more and more and to achieve more milestones. As it has been rightly said 'Commandos who stays together...Grows together'...



## Birthday Scouts

Arnab Das	01 Oct
Ankit Katiyar	07 Oct
Nitin Rawal	14 Oct
Aasif Ansari	12 Oct
Anuj Mathur	19 Oct
Prince Kumar	20 Oct
Kartikay Kaushik	21 Oct
Simran Gupta	21 Oct
Harish Raghav	23 Oct
Nisha Saroha	23 Oct
Menu Gupta	24 Oct
Sadanand Pandey	24 Oct



## Upcoming Events

- **Session on Courage - 25 November, 4:00 p.m.**
- **Town Hall - 26 November, 4:00 p.m.**  
The reward and recognition time for all the hard work, team connect and few surprises.

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