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Akshaya Tritiya

[Akshyam - Inexhaustible, that which never deteriorates]

Timings on Akshaya Tritiya day

Sunrise	28-Apr-2017 05:59 AM
Sunset	28-Apr-2017 18:49 PM
Tritiya Tithi Start	28-Apr-2017 10:29 AM
Tritiya Tithi Ends	29-Apr-2017 06:55 AM

What to do on the day

It is advised to get up early morning before sunrise, light a lamp filled with ghee and place a picture of Lakshmi Narashimar on a kolam. Place a large plantain leaf covered in rice along with a vessel of water in front of the Lord.

Also make a Ganapathy or Ganesha as a small pyramid out of Turmeric powder and place it next to the vessel adorn it with kumkum and decorate it with flowers. Pray to Goddess Mahalakshmi with a shloka and offer payasam, or other dishes made with milk. This is said to bring prosperity to the family.

Taking a holy dip in Ganga or any flowing river near your home, taking bath in wells , paying respects to departed, offering food grains, salt, milk, curd, gold, land, hand fans, umbrella, Sandals as dhanam is said to bring puniya and prosperity. Puranas also say that people who gave away during this day were born kings and continued their greatness in contributing even in their rebirth.

It is said that what good deeds you do on this day has a 'multiplier effect' in bringing luck to the benefactor.

On this day of Akshaya Tritiya, as per Puranas

- Lord Brahma began creation
- Parvathi incarnated as Annapoorani, the goddess of nourishment
- Lord Vishnu is incarnated as Parasurama
- Goddess Lakshmi was granted the boon to adorn the Chest of lord Vishnu
- The Holy River Ganga descended from heaven to earth
- Kubera became the custodian of wealth and prosperity on this day of Akshaya Tritiya
- In Mahabharata while Pandavas were on exile, Yudhishtira received the Akshaya patra (the bowl that would never go empty and capable of producing unlimited food) from Lord Surya
- Mahabharata was written on this auspicious day of Akshaya Tritiya by Lord Ganesa as narrated by Veda Vyasa
- Adhi Sankara recited kankadara stotram on this day of Akshaya Tritiya and it rained as golden goose berries for a poor needy lady who put in one last goose berry she had in her vessel as Adisankara went to her door for biksha

The word 'Akshayam'

The well known story of Kusela and Lord Krishna also bares reference to Akashya Tritiya. Kusela and Lord Krishna who were childhood friends parted ways after they finished their study at the ashram. Lord Krishna later became the ruler of Dwaraka while Kusela led a hard life and struggled with poverty.

One day Kusela's wife suggested that he should go and meet his old friend Lord Krishna to seek help. Hesitant Kusela took what he could afford (a bag of puffed rice) and went to meet Lord Krishna. After much difficulty he convinced the guards and was able to meet the Lord who received and greeted Kusela with at most respect. Kusela however was very hesitant to give Lord Krishna the bag of puffed rice as he was too ashamed to offer that as a gift. The lord however noticed Kusela's bag and enjoyed every grain of rice and said "Akashyam".

That one magical word transformed his way of living and that he couldn't even recognize his family as he reached his home that had become a palace.

Draupadi appealed to Lord Krishna when she was being humiliated in the durbar of the Kauravas. Lord Krishna, then said "Akshyam" after which sarees unfolded in abundance.

