

Name: _____ Date: _____



Akshaya Tritiya

Akshaya Tritiya is considered to be the most auspicious day in the Vedic calendar. It falls on the third day of the bright half of Vaishakh, and is considered to be a sacred day. It is a day bereft of all inauspiciousness. So even checking muhurthas is considered unnecessary. The word Akshaya means, that which never diminishes. Hence beginnings made or valuables bought on this day are considered auspicious enough to bring luck and success. Whatever services are offered to the supreme lord Krishna or his devotees on this day receives manifold eternal benefits.

Candana yatra starts on this day. This day is also celebrated as the day on which Treta Yuga began. Barley, one of the main ingredients for homa, which is the yuga dharma of Treta Yuga, was also created on this day. Ganga devi also descended to earth on this day. Many common people have special puja on this day. One should bathe in a sacred river, give charity, perform japa and offer barley in a sacred fire, and offer barley preparations to the deity.

There is a story of a brahmana who had a very good wife and was poor. Whatever little money he earned would get spent somehow. Also he did not have children. So under the strong request of his wife he went to Vasishta Muni to know the reason for his suffering. Vasishta Muni told him that in his previous life he was very rich and also had many children. But he was very stingy; he was not even spending for his own children. This is the reason for his being poor without children. Then that brahmana asked Vasishta muni why he got a good wife. So that Muni replied that somehow with omereason, he observed the vrata of Vaishaka month for the last 5 days. So he got a good wife and also the brahmana birth. Then the Muni advised him to follow at least the last 7 days left of Vaishaka month, with

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare



devotion to Lord Krishna.

The brahmana observed the vrata of Vaishaka month for the remaining seven days. He got sons, he became rich and ultimately he got the love of Godhead and went back to the spiritual world!

It is important to hear such a story as this, so that at least by hearing this, we engage ourselves in the service of Guru, the devotees and Krishna.

Akshaya Tertiya is also the day of the incarnation of Lord Vishnu as Parashurama.

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