



Tihar Festival

The Festival of Lights

13 November 2020.

What kind of Festival is Tihar?

- ❖ the second biggest Nepalese festival after Dashain
- ❖ it shows contribution to not just the humans and the gods, but also to the animals



also known as the
festival of lights

- ▶ all the houses are adorned by long chain of artificial and
- ▶ traditional deeya



Deeya

Kaag (crow) Tihar *[1st Day]*

- ▶ offer first meal of the day to crows.

Why crows?

- crow signifies as the messenger of bad news
- . So on this day, people worship crow and offers grains and rice to make them happy
- So that in the coming days, these creature will not bring any bad news.



Kukur (dog) Tihar[Day 2]



- ▶ worship dogs since it protects their houses from thieves
- ▶ dogs guide the souls of the dead reach heaven.

Gai Tihar and Laxmi Puja [Day3]

At morning,

they worship Cow ⇐ **Gai Tihar**

❖ *Cows ⇒ incarnation of goddess of Laxmi*





Who is Goddess
“Laxmi”?

▶ *the goddess of wealth.*

Laxmi Puja [On the evening of the same day]

- the goddess of Laxmi is thanked for all the benefits that were bestowed

on the families

- make patterns on the floor of living rooms or courtyards using

materials ⇒ colored rice, dry flour, colored sand or flower petals ⇒ Rangoli

- Rangoli ⇒ a sacred welcoming area for the Goddess of Laxmi



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← Rangoli



From the third day onward Tihar is celebrated with Deusi and Bhailo with light and fireworks.

- ❖ go to nearby homes, sing and dance with a team.

What is Deusi ?

- ❖ is balladic and tells the story of the festival
- ❖ with one person narrating and the rest as the chorus
- ❖ In return, the home owners give them money, fruit and selroti



Selroti ⇒ a Nepali roundel made of rice flour and sugar

Govardhan (Ox) Puja [Day 4]

worship oxes, since oxes are used in the cultivating fields.



Bhai Tika [Day 5]

▶ It is The fifth and last day of Tihar. Sisters worship their brothers and exchange gifts.

▶ It is observed by sisters applying *tilaka* or *tika* to the foreheads of their brothers to ensure long life and thank them for the protection they provide.

