

Vishu festival

April 17, 2023

In news– Vishu, the Malayalam New Year, is a festival that is celebrated with great fervour and enthusiasm in the southern Indian state of Kerala.

About the festival-

- One of the most celebrated and popular spring festivals celebrated in southern India is **Vishu or Vishu Kani or Bisu or Chingam** , which marks new beginnings for **Keralites**.
- It is also celebrated by Malayali Hindus in the adjacent areas of Tamil Nadu & Karnataka.
- Vishu day **marks the Sun's transit to the Mesha Rashi** as per the Indian Astrological calculations.
- **It falls on the first day of the Malayalam month of Medam**, which usually falls in the month of April as per the Gregorian calendar.
- The festival is marked by family time, preparing colourful auspicious items and viewing these as the first thing on the Vishu day.
- The festival has a rich history steeped in mythology and folklore.
- **According to legend, Lord Krishna killed Narakasura the demon** on this day while another says that it was the day when the Surya Dev returned.
- It is said that demon king Ravana did not allow the Sun God to rise from the east and Vishu marks the day after Ravana's death when the sun could finally rise from the east.

Note:

- **In India this day is celebrated in different regions with different names** such as Poila Baisakh in Bengal, Baisakhi in Punjab, Bohag Bihu in Assam.
- The purpose of celebrating this festival is same but the

names and rituals are different according to their place.

- The whole country is going to celebrate this festival of new year with great grandeur and enthusiasm.

Calendar	Date	Festival name	Religion / Regions
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Ugadi	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Bihu	Jharkhand
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Pratipada	Uttar Pradesh
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Bikhu	Uttarakhand
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Gudhi Padwa / Samsaar Padwo	Maharashtra, Goa, Konkan
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Cheiraoba ^[2]	Manipur
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Navreh	Kashmir
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Navratra	Jammu
Lunar	varies, Mar/Apr	Cheti Chand	Sindh
Solar	fixed, April 13/14/15	Vaisakhi	Punjab
Solar	fixed, April 13/14/15	Rongali Bihu	Assam
Solar	fixed, April 13/14/15	Tamil puthandu	Tamil Nadu
Solar	fixed, April 13/14/15	Vishu	Kerala
Solar	fixed, April 13/14/15	Bishuva Sankranti	Odisha
Solar	fixed, April 13/14/15	Poila Boishakh	Bengal
Solar	fixed, April 13/14/15	Jud Sheetal	Mithila, part of Bihar
Lunar	varies, Oct/Nov	Nav Varas	Gujarat