



**Shining brightly in Red,
symbolizing wealth and
abundance, filled with Mother's
love and divinity. 🌸
Happy Fifth Day of Navaratri 🙏**



Introduction

As our festival journey continues, it shines brightly with beautiful energy. Today is dedicated to Shree Mahalakshmi Devi, who is the very embodiment of wealth, prosperity, and abundance. After we faced our inner fears on the 4th day, Mahalakshmi Devi arrived to fill our lives with blessings. She reminds us that true prosperity isn't just about physical comforts, but also about spiritual richness.

In North India, this same day is dedicated to Devi Skandamata, the mother of Kartikeya, who holds her child in her hands and radiates immense power and peace. These different forms together teach us about the divinity of motherhood, a force that nourishes, protects, and uplifts all of creation.



Sri Mahalakshmi Devi

(Navratri fifth day)



South indian tradition:

The story of Goddess Mahalaxmi's origin is one of divine beauty and cosmic consequence. According to legend, she was born from the churning of the cosmic ocean, an event known as "Samudra Manthanam." All the gods and demons were working together to find the nectar of immortality, but before it appeared, a series of treasures emerged from the ocean's depths. Among them, bathed in a celestial glow and seated on a lotus flower, was the beautiful Goddess Mahalaxmi. She chose Lord Vishnu as her consort and became the source of all fortune and wealth. Her appearance brought balance to the universe, establishing her as the giver of all kinds of prosperity.

Practices on This Day:

On this auspicious day, devotees honor Goddess Mahalaxmi with heartfelt devotion. The goddess is adorned in a vibrant red saree, a color that symbolizes power, passion, and fortune. The main offerings, known as Naivedyam, are prepared with care and are especially sweet today. The offerings include Rava Kesari (a delicious semolina pudding) and Chekkara Pongali (sweet rice with jaggery). These sweet treats are a way of expressing gratitude and welcoming the sweetness of prosperity into our lives.

Importance of the fifth day



The worship of Goddess Mahalaxmi on the fifth day is profoundly significant. This day is not just about praying for money; it's about invoking the spirit of true abundance. It's a time to reflect on the blessings we already have—be it good health, loving relationships, or a peaceful mind. By honoring her, we seek to attract not just material wealth, but also the prosperity of a generous heart, a clear mind, and a joyful spirit.

Sri mahalaxmi devi Symbolism

Every detail of Goddess Mahalaxmi's form holds deep meaning. The red sari symbolizes active prosperity and the powerful energy of creation. She is often depicted seated on a lotus, which represents purity and spiritual growth even in the midst of worldly affairs. Her four arms symbolize the four goals of human life: Dharma (righteousness), Artha (wealth), Kama (desire), and Moksha (liberation). The gold coins flowing from her hands signify that she is the source of endless abundance.

Lesson for Life



Lesson for Life

Goddess Mahalaxmi teaches us a crucial life lesson: true wealth lies in generosity and gratitude. It's not about how much we have, but how much we give. Her story encourages us to be grateful for what we have and to use our resources—whether they are material or spiritual—to help others. By being kind, compassionate, and sharing our blessings, we open ourselves up to receive even more.



Reflection for Readers:

Take a moment today to truly think about your own abundance.

Think about all the riches in your life—your family, your health, your friends.

Now, close your eyes and feel thankful for all these blessings. This day reminds us that true wealth isn't just found in our bank accounts; it's hidden in the priceless bonds and enormous joy in our lives that money simply can't measure.





Skandamata devi (Navratri fifth day)



North indian tradition:

On the fifth day of Navratri, North Indian devotees worship Maa Skandamata, the mother of Lord Skanda (Kartikanya), the commander of the divine armies. She is depicted seated on a lion, carrying her child Skanda on her lap, and holding lotuses in her hands. Her form radiates both maternal love and protective strength. According to legends, she became the source of Skanda's strength, supporting him in his battle against demons. She is worshipped as the goddess of motherly love, protection, and courage.

Practices on This Day:

Devotees chant “ॐ देवी स्कन्दमातायै नमः”, offer yellow flowers, and prepare satvik food. Fasting is observed, and prayers for children's health and family harmony are emphasized. Many meditate on her image, seeing themselves as her children embraced in her loving care.

Importance of the fifth day in North India



Devi Skandamata represents motherhood as the highest form of divinity and sacred power. Her love doesn't just offer nurturing care, but also stands as a fierce protection for her children. This clearly shows the dual role of a mother: gentle provider and strong protector.

It is strongly believed that worshipping this Goddess brings devotees prosperity, excellent health, and protection from all harm. That is why mothers, especially those who seek the well-being and secure future of their children, worship Skandamata with the utmost devotion and respect.

The Symbolism of Devi Skandamata

Every element of Devi Skandamata's form carries a deep significance: The Lion she rides symbolizes courage and strength, while her calm face radiates peace and serenity. The Lotus Flowers she holds represent purity and spiritual awakening. The presence of the child Skanda in her lap signifies her vital role as the nurturer of divine power. Finally, her light blue or yellow clothing symbolizes tranquility and compassion, completing the picture of the powerful yet gentle Divine Mother.



Devi Skandamata teaches us that motherhood isn't just about gentle care; it's also about strength and courage. For children, she symbolizes unconditional love. For adults, her form highlights the essential need to balance nurturing (caring for others) with bravery. Her very presence reminds us that protecting others and helping them rise in life are among our greatest duties.

A Thought for Our Readers

Her worship encourages us to ask ourselves:

- Am I treating others with love and patience?
- Am I bravely protecting those who depend on me?
- Have I shown gratitude to the people who have been a "mother figure" to me in any way?

Closing reflection



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On this Fifth Day of Navaratri, I sincerely wish the abundant blessings of the Divine Mother pour down upon you. May Mahalakshmi Devi (as worshipped in South India) fill your life with prosperity, joy, and spiritual abundance. And as Skandamata (worshipped in North India), may she fill your heart with motherly love, protection, and courage, giving you the strength to achieve all your goals. With the blessings of these two powerful forms, I hope you become a source of light and generosity to everyone around you, and that your life is always full of happiness and contentment.