



Lalitpur Metropolitan  
City



## January

### 15 Agnisal Mela

The fire temple of Agnisal is flocked with devotees who believe the visit will help them to avoid current and anticipated misfortunes because of the stars.

Place: Agnisal, Lalitpur, Ward no: 19

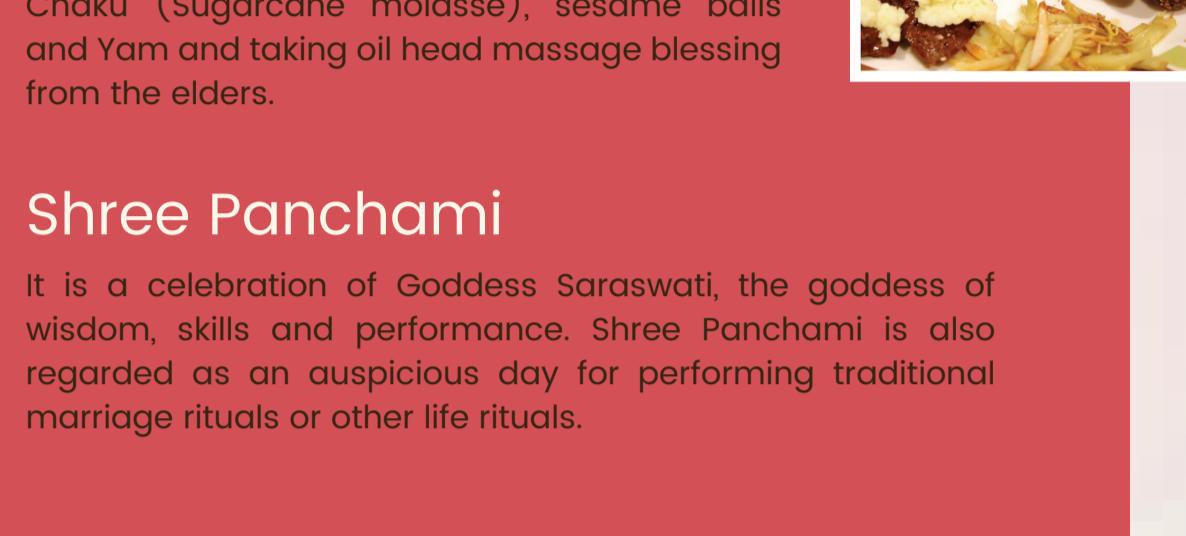
### 15 Gyo Chaku Sanlu or Maghe Sankranti

The day is celebrated as a day when the Sun begins its transit to Capricorn (Makar) by eating a meal with Ghee (Clarified butter), Chaku (Sugarcane molasses), sesame balls and Yam and taking oil head massage blessing from the elders.



### 29 Shree Panchami

It is a celebration of Goddess Saraswati, the goddess of wisdom, skills and performance. Shree Panchami is also regarded as an auspicious day for performing traditional marriage rituals or other life rituals.



## May

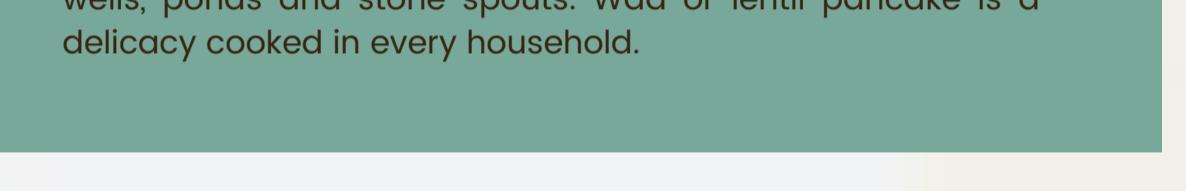
### 06 Buddha Jayanti

The celebration of the birthday of Lord Buddha is organised by various neighbourhoods in Patan, Bungamati or Sunakothi. It is celebrated with great enthusiasm in Patan as 40% of the population is Buddhist.



### 28 Sithi Nakha

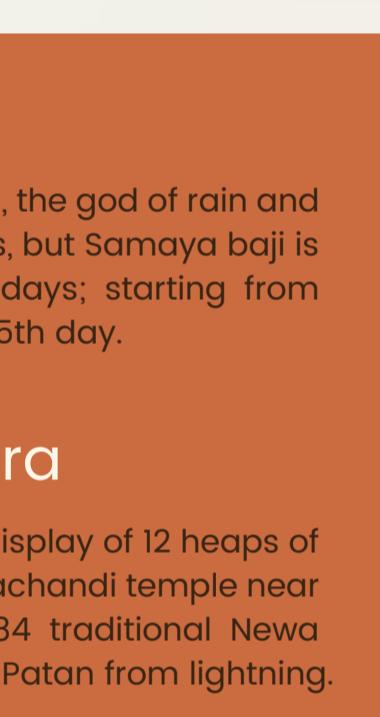
This festival marks the end of yearly offerings to lineage deity given by all the Newa families by welcoming Kumar ('elder son of Lord Shiva') and cleaning the nearby water sources like wells, ponds and stone spouts. Wada or lentil pancake is a delicacy cooked in every household.



## September

### 01 Indra Jatra

Indra Jatra is the celebration of God Indra, the god of rain and good harvest. It is celebrated for five days, but Samaya baji is offered at specific places on specific days, starting from Ekhachhen on 1st day to Purnachandi on 5th day.



### 05 Purnachandi Bhuja Jatra

This festival is marked for a spectacular display of 12 heaps of decorated rice, as an offering to the Purnachandi temple near Gabahal. The heap is decorated with 84 traditional Newa dishes. The offering is believed to protect Patan from lightning.

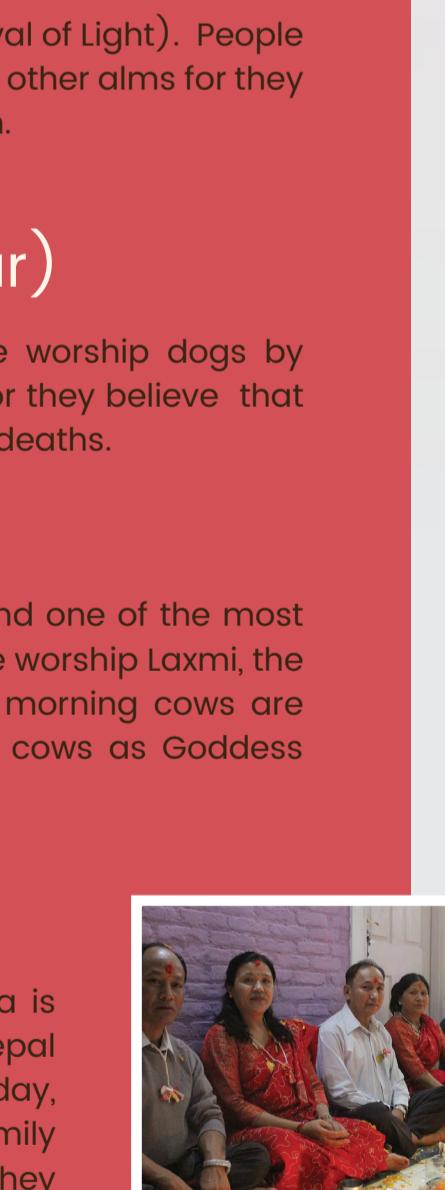
Ward no: 20



## November

### 13 Ko Puja (Kaag Tihar)

It marks the first day of Sunti ('Tihar or Festival of Light'). People worship crows by offering them sweets and other alms for they believe crows are the messengers of death.



### 14 Khicha Puja (Kukur Tihar)

It marks the second day of Tihar. People worship dogs by offering them good food and other alms for they believe that dogs show their way to heaven upon their deaths.



### 14 Laxmi Puja

It is celebrated on the third day of Sunti and one of the most important days of Sunti. On this day, people worship Laxmi, the goddess of wealth and prosperity. In the morning cows are offered special alms as people resemble cows as Goddess Laxmi herself.



### 15 Mha Puja

Fourth day of Sunti (or Tihar) or Mha Puja is also celebrated as a new year for Nepal Sambat or Newar Calendar. On this day, people worship their own body in a family ritual, after cleansing their body, where they offer themselves a puja and treat themselves with Newar feast.

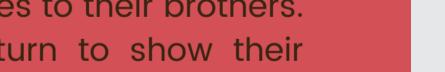
It is celebrated throughout the country.



### 16 Kija Puja

Last day of Sunti. It is the day where sisters meet their brothers and offer a ritual to wish long and good lives to their brothers. Brothers offer gifts to their sisters in return to show their affection.

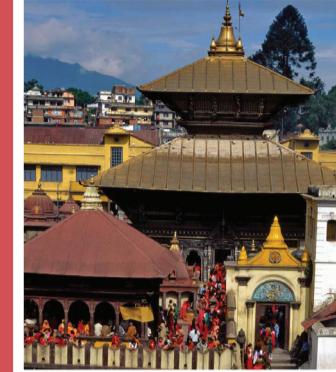
It is celebrated throughout the country.



## February

### 21 Mahashivaratri

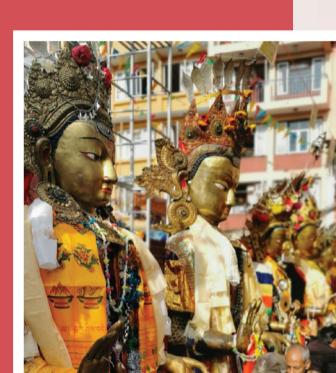
It is a Hindu festival celebrated before the arrival of spring that marks the Great Night of Shiva, a Hindu deity. Don't be surprised if you are stopped by kids in the alleys who are busy collecting alms for their bonfire on the Shivaratri night.



09

26-27 Samyak Mahadan

It is a night and day carnival where Dipankara Buddha of the Golden Temple in Patan invites all the other Dipankars and Avolokiteshvaras from all the Buddhist monasteries and temples of the Kathmandu Valley and Kavre to offer Mahadan.



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It is celebrated at Nagbahal, Lalitpur, Ward no: 16

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## June

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### Bhoto Jatra

This is the final event of the month long Chariot Festival of Bungdyo. On this day, before the chariot is dismantled and Bhugdyo idol is carried to Bungamati village, an event to display a lost and found vest, which is believed to be found by a farmer in his field in ancient times.

Jawalakhel Ground, Ward no: 4



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## October

17

### Sikali Jatra/Khokana Jatra

Sikali Jatra or Khokana Jatra is celebrated during the first five days of the Mohini festival (Dashain festival) in Khokana.

Khokana, Lalitpur, Ward no: 21

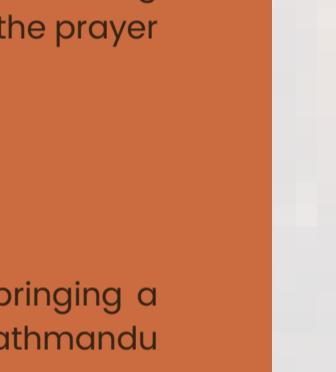


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### Nalaswanegu Din or Ghatasthapana

It marks the beginning of Mohanni (or Dashain in Nepali), the biggest festival of Nepal, celebrated by Hindus and Buddhists. People initiate a kalash, (holy water vessel) symbolizing Goddess Durga and plant Nalaswa (or Jamara) in the prayer (pooja) room.

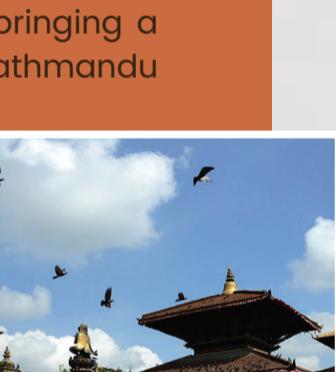


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### Phoolpati

Fifth day of Mohani is celebrated in Phoolpati by bringing a vessel with flowers all the way from Gorika to Kathmandu Valley.



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### Ashtami

The eighth day of Vijayadashami is called Maha Ashtami. Durga Bhawani and Kali Mata (different names and incarnations) are worshipped with very high dedication. People sacrifice animals to Goddesses.

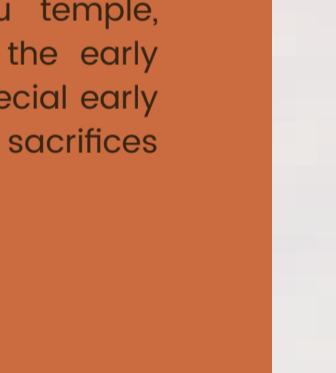


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### Mahanavami

Ninety day of Sunti is marked by worshipping Durga or Taleju Bhawani. At Patan Durbar Square, Taleju temple, sacrificial rituals of 21 buffaloes are offered at the early morning of Mahanavami. At Subahal, there is a special early morning ritual where people believe that human sacrifices used to be made in ancient times on Mahanavami.



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### Ajya/Aji Manakamana Jatra

Bungamati is also the home abode of Goddess Manakamana. Bungamati observes Manakamana Jatra as the main festival of Bungamati during Navami, Dashami and Ekadashami of Dashain festival.

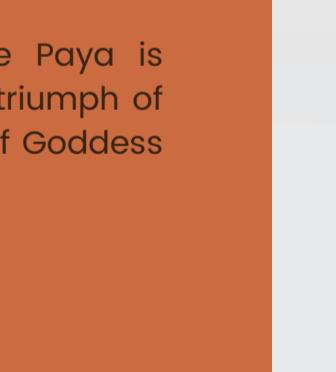
Bungamati, Lalitpur, Ward no: 22



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### Payaa Piha Woigu (Khadga Jatra)

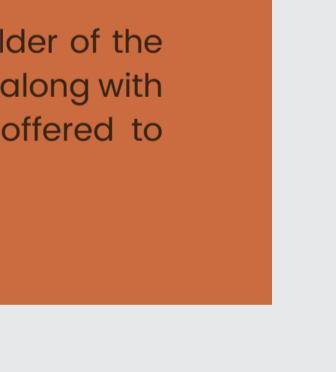
It is celebrated by the Newari Community. The Payaa is regarded as a victory procession, celebrating the triumph of good over evil following the legend of Goddess Durga over Mahishasura, the demon.



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### Vijaya Dashami

It marks the 10th day of Mohini festival, where the elder of the family offers the jarawa, which grows to decent size along with tika (rice grains mixed with crimson powder) is offered to his/her descendants and the relatives.



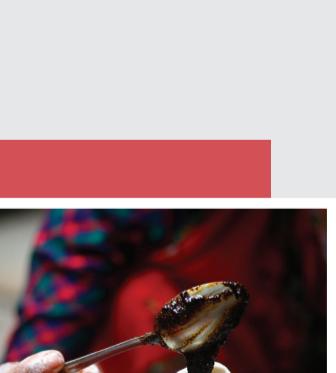
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### December

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### Yomari Punhi

Yomari Punhi is a Newari festival marking the end of the rice harvest. People of the Kathmandu Valley worship Annapurna, the Goddess of Grains, for the rice harvest on this full moon day. A delicacy it is celebrated as a jatra at Harisiddhi, Lalitpur, Ward no: 28 and 29.



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## March

### 09 Falgu Purnima

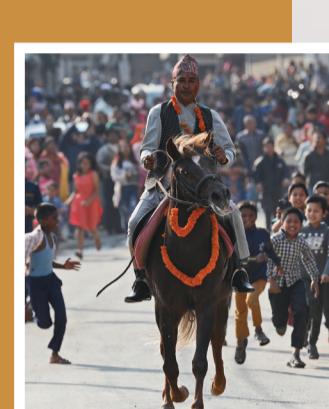
It is a Hindu festival of colours celebrated on the full moon day of the month of Falgun. People celebrate by painting each other's face with vermillion and other colours, and eating delicious food.



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### Paan Chare

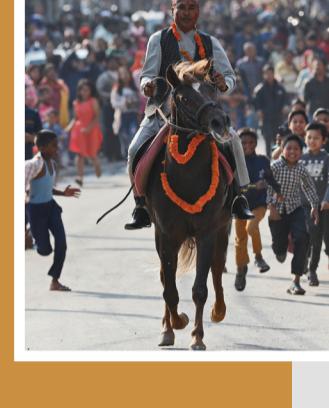
Paan Chare is the Newar festival when they invite their daughters and their families to share meals as the holy offerings after a puja to "Luku Mahadhyo". On this day, people vermilion and other colours, and eating delicious food.



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### Ghode Jatra

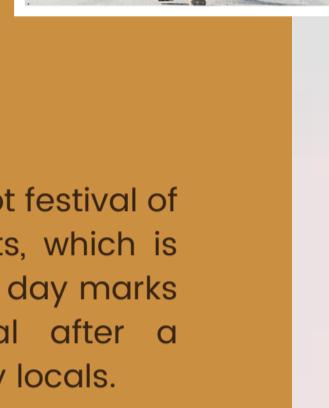
Ghode Jatra means horse parade, which is a fitting title given the day's events. A horse rider brings a horse all the way from Balkumari Guplat Damara to Patan Durbar Square after a ritual to mark the day.



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### Beginning of Bunga Dyo Jatra

Bunga Dyo Jatra is the biggest and longest chariot festival of Nepal, celebrated both by Hindus and Buddhists, which is organised in Lalitpur for a period of a month. This day marks the official beginning of the chariot festival after a month-long preparation of building the chariot by locals.

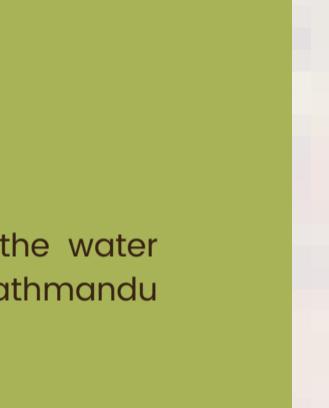


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## July

### 03 Janai Purnima

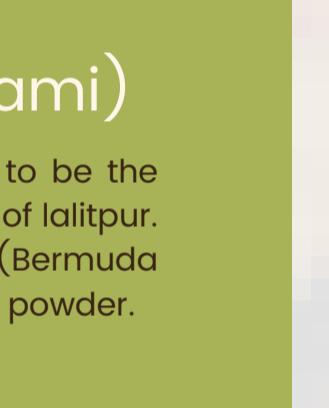
This celebration commands the expulsion of a legendary evil spirit, Gathamuga or Ghantakarna (Bell-ears) who, as per myth, threatened the Kathmandu valley inhabitants. Crossroads will be seen with burning hay man who resembles Gathamuga.



03

### Naag Panchami

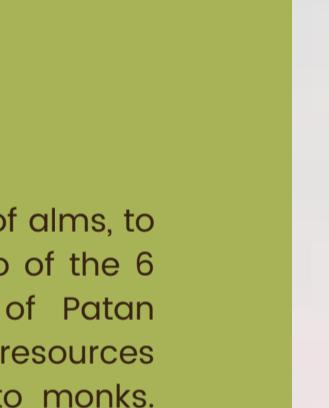
It is a festival to mark respect to serpents as the water guardians, and to ensure regular rainfall in the Kathmandu Valley.



04

### Nagdaha Mela (Nagpanchami)

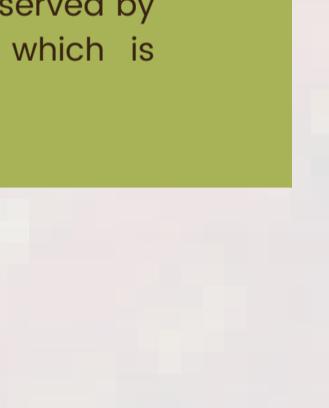
A huge mela is organized at Nagdaha, believed to be the dwelling of Champak Naag, situated in Dhapakhel of Lalitpur. People worship serpent god by offering dubo (Bermuda grass), milk, paste of rice grains and red vermillion powder.



04

### Pancha Daan

Pancha Daan is the festival of offering five types of alms, to remember and practise Buddha's dana shila two of the 6 moralities taught by Buddha. The Buddhists of Patan observe Pancha Daan by offering alms using the resources of family trust maintained for offering daana to monks. Usually a Dipankara or Avolokiteshvara idol is preserved by Buddhist families as a symbol of this trust, which is displayed at the courtyards on this day.

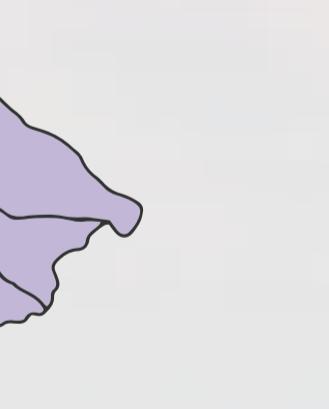


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## August

### 05 Gai Jatra

The festival of cows is one of the most popular festivals in Nepal. People with deceased family members parade cows in the memorial of the lost family member during the year. It is also common to see young boys decorated as cows taking part in the parade.



05

### Matya Jatra

Matya Jatra, literally the Festival of Light, is a typical Newar festival of Lalitpur. There is a custom that families with deceased members participate in a walk through every Buddhist stupas and other Hindu temples as a memorial. Light offered by many participants usually dressed