

FESTIVAL INFO

FESTIVAL.COM

VIJAYADASHAMI

Vijayadashami ([IAST](#): Vijayadaśamī) also known as **Dussehra**, **Dasara** or **Dashain**, is a major [Hindu](#) festival celebrated at the end of [Navaratri](#) every year. It is observed on the tenth day in the Hindu calendar month of [Ashvin](#), the seventh month of the [Hindu Luni-Solar Calendar](#), which typically falls in the Gregorian months of September and October.^{[5][6][7]}

Vijayadashami is observed for different reasons and celebrated differently in various parts of the [Indian subcontinent](#).^{[8][11][9][5]} In the southern, eastern, northeastern, and some northern states of [India](#), Vijayadashami marks the end of [Durga Puja](#), remembering goddess [Durga](#)'s victory over the buffalo demon [Mahishasura](#) to restore and protect [dharma](#).^{[5][10][11]} In the northern, central and

western states, the festival is synonymously called [Dussehra](#) (also spelled [Dasara](#), [Dashahara](#)). In these regions, it marks the end of [Ramlila](#) and remembers god [Rama](#)'s victory over the [Ravan](#). On the very same occasion, [Arjuna](#) alone decimated more than 1,000,000 soldiers and defeated all Kuru warriors including [Bhishma](#), [Drona](#), [Ashwatthama](#), [Karna](#) and [Kripa](#), a significant example of victory of good (Dharma) over evil (Adharma). Alternatively, it marks a reverence for one of the aspects of goddess [Devi](#), I such as [Durga](#) or [Saraswati](#).^{[11][6][7]}

Vijayadashami celebrations include processions to a river or ocean front that involve carrying clay statues of [Durga](#),^[12] [Lakshmi](#), [Saraswati](#), [Ganesha](#) and [Kartik](#), accompanied by music and chants, after which the images are immersed in the water for dissolution and farewell.

which respectively mean "victory"^[15] and "tenth,"^[16] connoting the festival on the tenth day celebrating the victory of good over evil.^{[11][9][17]} The same Hindu festival-related term, however, takes different forms in different regions of India and Nepal, as well as among Hindu minorities found elsewhere.^[18]

According to James Lochtefeld, the word *Dussehra* ([Devanagari](#): दशहरा) ([Kannada](#): ದಸರಾ ಹಬ್ಬ)

CONTENT

- ABOUT THIS EVENT
- ETYMOLOGY

Elsewhere, on [Dasara](#), towering effigies of [Ravan](#), symbolising evil, are burnt with fireworks, marking evil's destruction. The festival also starts the preparations for [Diwali](#), the important festival of lights, which is celebrated twenty days after Vijayadashami

ETYMOLOGY

Vijayadashami ([Devanagari](#): विजयदशमी) ([Telugu](#): విజయదశమి) ([Odia](#): ବିଜୟଦଶମୀ) ([Kannada](#): ವಿಜಯದಶಮಿ) ([Tamil](#): விஜயதசமி) (Malayalam: വിജയദശമി) (Bengali: বিজয়া দশমী) a composite of two words "Vijaya" (বিজয়) and "Dashami" (দশমী),

is a variant of *Dashahara* which is a compound Sanskrit word composed of "dasham"(दशम) and "ahar" (अहर), respectively meaning "10" and "day".

