



In Indian tradition, fasts (vrat) and festivals hold a special place. Each vrat and festival enriches our lives spiritually and culturally. Among these is the Chaturthi Vrat, dedicated to the worship of Lord Ganesha. Friday, January 3, 2025, marks not only the beginning of a new year but also an auspicious day for observing the Chaturthi Vrat. This day holds even greater importance as Fridays are considered sacred to Goddess Lakshmi, and when combined with the Chaturthi Vrat, its positive effects multiply.

Significance of Chaturthi Vrat in 2025

The Chaturthi Vrat on **January 3, 2025**, will be the first vrat of the year. This day is expected to bring auspiciousness for devotees, laying a foundation of prosperity and positivity for the entire year.

Introduction and Importance of Chaturthi Vrat

Chaturthi Vrat is dedicated to Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles and the symbol of wisdom and prosperity. This vrat is observed on the Chaturthi (fourth day) of each lunar month and is classified into two types:

1. **Sankashti Chaturthi:** Observed during the waning phase of the moon (Krishna Paksha).
2. **Vinayaka Chaturthi:** Observed during the waxing phase of the moon (Shukla Paksha).

The Chaturthi Vrat on January 3, 2025, will be Sankashti Chaturthi, known for its power to eliminate obstacles and difficulties. Worshipping Lord Ganesha on this day is believed to bring relief from all troubles and challenges.

[Shri Ganesh Ji Aarti](#)

[Shri Ganesh Stotra](#)

Special Significance of Friday

Fridays are considered the day of Goddess Lakshmi, the deity of wealth, happiness, and prosperity. When Chaturthi Vrat coincides with a Friday, it creates a rare and auspicious combination. Observing this vrat and performing rituals on this day can invoke the combined blessings of Lord Ganesha and Goddess Lakshmi, filling life with peace, happiness, and abundance.

How to Observe Chaturthi Vrat

Chaturthi Vrat is observed with devotion and adherence to traditional rituals.

1. Resolve for the Vrat

- Wake up early, bathe, and purify yourself.

- Meditate on Lord Ganesha.
- Commit to observing the vrat with sincerity.
- Pray for the well-being of yourself and your family.

2. Preparation for Puja

Gather the following items for the puja:

- An idol or picture of Lord Ganesha.
- A red cloth.
- Durva grass (sacred to Lord Ganesha).
- Modak or laddoos (sweet offerings).
- Fresh flowers (red flowers are considered particularly auspicious).
- A lamp (diya), incense sticks, sandalwood paste, vermilion (kumkum), and rice grains (akshat).

3. Puja Rituals

- Spread a red cloth at a clean place and place Lord Ganesha's idol or picture on it.
- Purify the idol with holy water (Gangajal).
- Apply sandalwood paste and vermilion to the idol.
- Offer Durva grass, flowers, and modaks to Lord Ganesha.
- Light a lamp and perform the aarti of Lord Ganesha.
- Chant Ganesha mantras, such as:

“Om Gan Ganapataye Namah”

“Om Vakratunda Mahakaya Surya Koti Samaprabha Nirvighnam Kurume Deva Sarva Karyeshu Sarvada”

Worshiping the Moon

On Chaturthi, offering prayers to the moon at night is considered essential. The vrat concludes only after sighting the moon and offering *arghya* (water).

The Legend of Chaturthi Vrat

Listening to the vrat katha (story) during the puja is highly auspicious. The story highlights the greatness of Lord Ganesha and his miraculous deeds.

The Vrat Katha

Once, the gods prayed to Lord Ganesha, seeking his blessings to overcome obstacles. Lord Ganesha assured them that those who observe the Chaturthi Vrat with devotion will have their troubles removed and their desires fulfilled.

This story inspires devotees to face life's challenges with patience and faith while trusting in the divine grace of Lord Ganesha.

Spiritual Benefits of the Friday-Chaturthi Combination

1. **Elimination of Obstacles:**

Lord Ganesha is the remover of obstacles. Observing this vrat removes all hindrances from life.

2. **Happiness and Prosperity:**

Fridays are sacred to Goddess Lakshmi. Observing the Chaturthi Vrat on a Friday invites wealth and prosperity into the household.

3. **Fulfillment of Wishes:**

Devotees who observe this vrat with faith and devotion find their wishes fulfilled.

4. **Inner Peace:**

Observing the vrat brings mental tranquility, helping individuals understand the purpose of their lives.

Tips for Observing the Vrat

- Practice non-violence and simplicity throughout the day.
- Consume only fruits or light food (phalahar), avoiding grains.
- Chant Ganesha hymns and mantras throughout the day.
- Offer food or charity to those in need.

Conclusion

Friday, January 3, 2025, marks a rare and auspicious occasion for devotees. Observing the Chaturthi Vrat on this day will bring divine blessings, removing obstacles and inviting peace and prosperity. This day is not only significant for spiritual upliftment but also radiates positivity for families and society as a whole.

Observe this vrat with full devotion and pray to Lord Ganesha to bless your life with happiness, prosperity, and success.

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