



Ancient Vedic Mantras and Rituals





Sarva Pitru Amavasya 2025 | सर्वपितृ अमावस्या श्राद्ध महत्व, तिथि, विधि और लाभ | PDF

In Sanatan Dharma, honoring and remembering the ancestors is considered as important as worshiping the deities. The scriptures say –

“**Pitru Devo Bhava**” meaning, just as parents are regarded as deities, in the same way, after their demise, it is our duty to express gratitude towards them.

Every year, from **Bhadrapada Purnima to Ashwin Amavasya**, the period is observed as **Pitru Paksha** or **Shraddha Paksha**. During these sixteen days, Shraddha, Tarpan, and Pind Daan are performed for the departed ancestors.

The last day of Pitru Paksha is known as **Sarva Pitru Amavasya**. It is also called **Mahalaya Amavasya** and **Pitru Visarjani Amavasya**. This day is dedicated to all those ancestors whose Shraddha could not be performed on specific dates or whose death anniversary is not known.



What is Sarva Pitru Amavasya?

- This Amavasya is the final day of Pitru Paksha.
- On this day, a collective Shraddha and Tarpan are performed for all ancestors.
- It is also called *Sarva Pitru Moksha Amavasya*, because performing Shraddha on this day grants peace and liberation to all the ancestors.
- If, for some reason, Shraddha could not be performed on the actual tithi of the ancestors during Pitru Paksha, it must be done on this day.

Scriptural and Mythological Importance

- According to the **Garuda Purana** – without satisfying the ancestors, even the gods do not become pleased.
- In the **Mahabharata**, it is mentioned that performing Shraddha for ancestors brings happiness and prosperity in the lives of their descendants.
- It is believed that during Pitru Paksha, the souls of ancestors come down to the earth. They expect water, food, and offerings (Tarpan) from their descendants.
- On Amavasya, the ancestors return to their abode. Therefore, by performing Shraddha and Tarpan on the last day, they become pleased and bestow blessings.



Why is Sarva Pitru Amavasya Observed?

- This day is for those ancestors whose death anniversary dates are unknown.
- It is also for those ancestors whose Shraddha could not be performed during Pitru Paksha for any reason.
- Performing Shraddha on Pitru Amavasya grants peace and liberation to the souls of ancestors.
- Ancestors, when pleased, bless their descendants with longevity, health, and prosperity.

What is Done on This Day?

1. Morning Bath and Sankalpa

- Take a holy bath in the Brahma Muhurta.
- Perform Achaman with sesame, kush (sacred grass), and water.
- Take a vow (sankalpa) to offer Shraddha and Tarpan to the ancestors.

2. Tarpan Ritual

- Sit on a seat made of kush grass to perform Tarpan.
- Water, sesame seeds, and kush grass are used.
- Water is offered while chanting **“Om Pitribhyaḥ Swadhā”**.



3. Pind Daan

- Pindas (rice balls) are prepared with boiled rice, sesame seeds, ghee, honey, and curd.
- These are placed on kush grass and offered to the ancestors.
- Later, they are consigned to Brahmins, cows, or a sacred place.

4. Feeding Brahmins and the Poor

- Feeding Brahmins and giving donations is essential for the satisfaction of ancestors.
- Offering food to crows, dogs, ants, cows, and calves is also customary.

5. Charity and Donations

- Donations of food, clothes, sesame seeds, gold, cows, and land are considered most auspicious on Pitru Amavasya.

Benefits of Sarva Pitru Amavasya

- Ancestors attain peace and liberation.
- Pitru Dosha gets removed.
- Brings happiness, peace, and prosperity in the family.
- Bestows children, wealth, and good health.
- Increases the longevity and good fortune of descendants.



Do's and Don'ts

Do's:

- Perform Shraddha, Tarpan, and Pind Daan.
- Feed Brahmins, the poor, and the needy.
- Remember ancestors and pray for their peace.

Don'ts:

- Do not consume meat, liquor, or tamasic food.
- Avoid quarrels, loud noises, and impure activities at home.
- Auspicious ceremonies like marriages and housewarmings are prohibited on Pitru Amavasya.

Regional Beliefs

- In North India, bathing and Tarpan in the Ganga and other holy rivers are of great significance.
- In South India, it is called **Mahalaya Amavasya**, and the worship of Goddess Durga begins on this day.
- In Maharashtra and Gujarat, people also perform Pind Daan on riverbanks.

Pitru Dosha Remedies

According to astrology, those who have *Pitru Dosha* in their horoscope must perform special worship, donations, and Tarpan on Sarva Pitru Amavasya. This reduces the malefic effects of Pitru Dosha and removes obstacles in life.



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