# Title: Festivals – Hinduism and Diwali

**Key Questions:** What events in history have shaped how the world is today? Can we always be proud of the past? What can followers of T\* learn from events from the history of their tradition? What events associated with the history of T\* need to be avoided in the future? What things in life make us joyful? What things in life make us happy or joyful? How do followers of T\* express joy? What do t\* teach about the difference between happiness and joy? Why is it a good idea to express joy? Why is it a good idea to express happiness and joy? Is joy a feeling or a choice? Are there times when I choose to be joyful even if I don’t feel happy?

**Key Concepts:** The origins and meaning of sacred festivals

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| **Learning objectives** | **Activities** | **Resources** |
| To understand the significance of Diwali celebrations. | Starter  Think, See and Wonder  Think- students to think about what the image is about or demonstrates.  See- students to list all that they can see  Wonder- students to write all the things that this image makes them wonder, this can be a list of questions.  OR  Write down 10 words to describe this picture.  Diwali- the name derived from the Sanskrit term *dipavali,* meaning “**row of lights**.”  With this in mind, what do you think Diwali celebrations may look like?  Students to watch clip on celebrating Diwali and answer a set of questions.  Read information on Diwali and create a report/newspaper article on Diwali.  Students to focus on the following areas-  1) When is Diwali celebrated and what does it commemorate?  2) List the gods/goddesses associated with this festival.  3) Explain the significance of light.  4) How are new beginnings marked during Diwali celebrations?  5) How do believers prepare for this festival?  What impact does celebrating Diwali have on the life of a believer?    Highlight some of the key teachings within Diwali and how these are incorporated in the celebrations.  Key teachings from Diwali.  New beginnings  Good triumphing Evil  Dispelling ignorance  Ahimsa- minimal violence  How might applying one of the key teachings above help/affect the life of a believer on a daily basis?  Plenary  ‘Such elaborate celebrations are just a waste of money and time’  Do you agree with this statement? Show that you have thought about more than one point of view. Include religious evidence or examples to support what you write.  Think about benefits and drawbacks of celebrating Diwali in the UK today. | Images can be obtained from google image search.  True tube  <https://www.truetube.co.uk/resource/festival-of-light-diwali/>  Information on Diwali can be obtained from a variety of different web sites.  <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z4rkxnb/revision/1>  Articles for students to enhance their knowledge/independent study  <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/travel/festivals-and-events/2021/11/04/diwali-2021-celebrate-festival-lights-uk/> |