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India-Japan : Many flavors and colors of the New Year celebrations

January 1st, First day of the New Year, also known as ‘the Solar Year’ or ‘the Gregorian Year’, celebrated around the world with religious, cultural, and social observances. It is usually marked by rites and ceremonies that symbolize casting off the old year and rejoicing in the new. Most of the world recognizes January 1 as the start of a new year because the Gregorian calendar, Yet in Certain Places apart from January 1st; traditional Calendar based new year is being celebrated.

In this Article let’s compare Japan and India’s New Year’s Celebrations difference and similarities in celebrations.

For people in Japan, the most important day time is the start of the New Year on January 1st. With its focus on family and tradition, many Japanese people take the first three days of the year off work to travel back to their hometowns and take part in festivities embedded in centuries of culture and meaning.

People in various parts of India celebrate New Year as per their traditional calendar [Marked by month or season]. One can see vibrant colors and distinctive features of these celebrations. January 1st is also celebrated throughout India; however, it is only a general official start day; but traditionally January 1st may not have any significance. Though on Jan 1st People exchange gifts, greetings, visit temples and youngsters tend to have reason for shopping and so on.

Irespective of the different kind and many flavors, celebration styles; the New Year represents the same meaning throughout world marking freshness, fresh start, it is celebrated quite energetically in all forms among all people.

Japanese people and Companies may find it difficult to keep note of India’s new year dates and holidays as India’s new year celebrations is so wide and different from Japan’s. Yet there are Cultural and celebrations similarities that represents the New Year. Many Indian people believe starting something new during New Year festive is luck, and in fact there are several contracts and business tie-ups are specially dated for New Year festivals and counter parts are invited to the festival celebrations. Recently Japanese companies and people have started enjoying, visiting and being part of the India’s traditional new year celebrations!!. Happy New Year.

Writer Profile: Junko Nirmala is a Tokyo resident with 16 years of experience in technology and business consulting services mainly focusing on India-Japan Market and cross border related services. Her diverse background even includes a short stint as a Venturepreneur. During the last few years she has helped several Japanese companies with their India market entry strategies. Writer can be reached at junkonirmala@gmail.com

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