

**Vishwaguru Mahamandaleshwar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda sends  
Good Wishes & Blessings to all on the occasion of Holi**

Dear Bhaktas,

On the occasion of Holi  
I convey to you good wishes  
and the blessings of Bhagwan  
Shree Deep Narayan  
Mahaprabhuji.

The holy festivals of India are to  
be remembered as these hold  
much significance. They reveal  
India's rich culture and ancient  
teachings, which can be shared  
with the whole world.

Like holy festivals in all  
religions, the festival of Holi is a symbolic celebration of victory over evil. You definitely  
know the mythical background of Holi:

Holika was the sister of the demon king Hiranyakashyapu and she possessed the *siddhi* that  
fire could not burn her. King Hiranyakashyapu, was the father of a very pious son, Prahlad.  
One day the king who desired to be rid of his son, forced Holika  
to take Prahlad onto her lap and sit with him in the midst of a burning pyre. However,  
Holika herself burned to ash leaving bhakta Prahlad completely untouched by the fire.  
Such is the case when someone turns against the cosmic principles – their siddhis  
disappear.

So it is on the eve of Holi, that it is traditional to burn a tree in symbolic remembrance of  
Holika and the following day to celebrate the victory of goodness that was personified in  
bhakta Prahlad.

In the legend of Holi, King Hiranyakashyapu represents all the negative qualities within  
humans. Holika represents the fire of jealousy, anger and hate. Prahlad represents  
confidence, love, understanding, faith and justice. The festival of Holi shall remind us to  
purify our *Antahkarana* and awake and cultivate positive, spiritual and merciful thoughts.

On this auspicious occasion I pray for you, your families and friends, for good health, long  
life and divine protection.

God bless you all !

*Vishwaguru Mahamandaleshwar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda*  
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