



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

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MEDIA RELEASE

Divali Message 2020

Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts joins with the Hindu Community across Trinidad and Tobago in celebrating Divali, the Festival of Lights.

Hindus honour the return of Lord Rama and his wife Sita who were in exile for 14 years by lighting deyas to celebrate the triumph of good over evil and light over darkness.

This year we celebrate Divali in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, and our Hindu community has demonstrated an indomitable spirit to prevail in spite of the most daunting of circumstances.

Divali in 2020 takes on even greater significance because health protocols curtailed a key element of the festival: our social interactions. Yet our Hindu community innovated to find new ways to celebrate in spite of all of the challenges. It is heartening that the pandemic has not fundamentally affected the spirit of the festival, but instead propelled us to be hopeful even in uncertain times.

On behalf of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, let the message of Divali be the strength and inspiration we need to survive and conquer this pandemic. May the light of our deyas make us more determined and committed to remain illuminated and inspired in Trinidad and Tobago.

Shubh Divali!