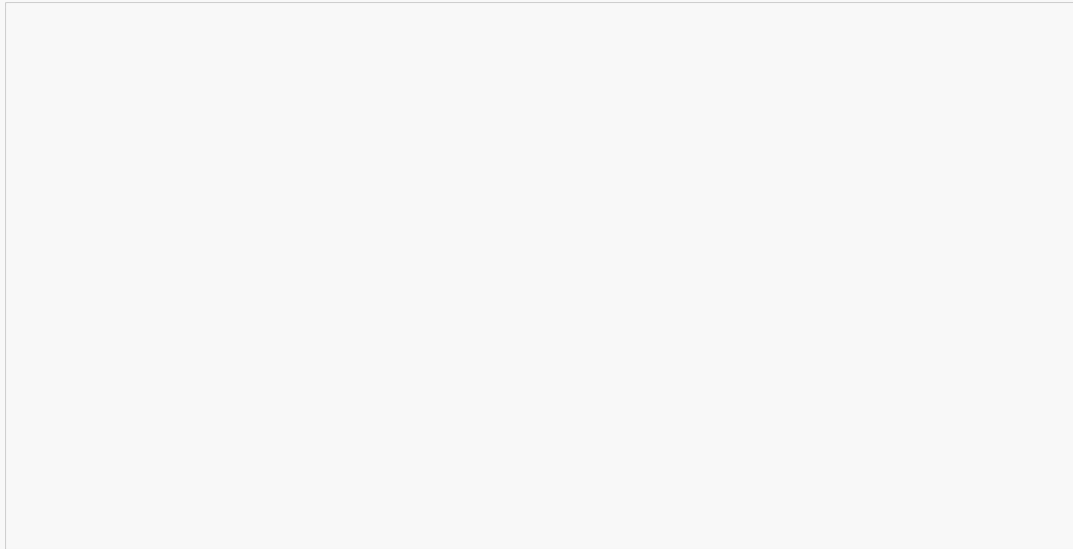


Uttarayan (Kite-Flying Festival)

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Uttarayan is a kite-flying festival and is one of the biggest festivals in India. It is also called Makar Sankranti. The dates vary according to the Hindu calendar - the next Uttarayan festival is January 14, 2022.

Meaning behind the name: In Sanskrit, “Uttara” means North, and “Ayana” means movement. Uttarayan indicates the northward movement of the Earth on the Celestial sphere. This festival is commonly referred to as *the day of new beginnings*.

People who fly the kites try to cut each other’s ropes, in fun competition. The kite-flying is usually done on rooftops while celebrating the start of summer. In India, this is a period of harvest; winter turning into summer. The festival marks the time when the sun is back, so it is said that is also why people fly kites; to get exposed to the sun’s rays. This is believed to clear skin infections from winter.

To learn more, click below!

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