

Krishna's Dev Diwali Pastimes (Prabodhini)

From the Dev Diwali Prabodhini collection



Before We Begin



Shri Vallabh

This story is inspired by the kirtans in Dev Diwali Prabodhini from pushtikirtan.com. These kirtans express the divine experiences of Pushtimargiya poets. The pictures are based on their descriptions. This little book is for younger children who cannot yet read or understand the kirtans, so they may experience a little of their beauty and divinity.

This story is an adaptation inspired by the kirtans. We do not claim that it is an authentic account. Please forgive any mistakes.



Maiya was caring for her two dear boys, Krishna and his brother Balaram. With delight, she rubbed them with ubtan, a paste used before a bath. Then she bathed both brothers, tending to them with a mother's love.



Now Maiya adorned the brothers. Gold necklaces and curved neck ornaments rested upon their chests, along with double necklaces and forest-flower garlands. Her dear Krishna was precious to her. With a loving gesture, she wished every harm away from Him.



It was Dev Diwali, a special festival day. Krishna looked lovely in His yellow satin garment. Upon His head He wore a white cap. How beautiful He was in His festival dress!



The celebration held worship, too. Bavanand awakened the Lord and worshipped Tulsi, the sacred plant. There was a wedding celebration, and a vigil through the night. Worship and celebration belonged together on this special day of Dev Diwali.



After the wedding celebration and the night vigil, gifts were given to the Brahmins. These gifts are called dakshina. The Brahmins received this offering of respect as part of the celebration.



Maiya spoke to the young women about the vigil. Tonight, she told them, they would stay awake together. Krishna heard her words. He wanted to join them, too. “Maiya,” He said, “I too shall stay awake tonight.”

Kirtans Used

Dev Diwali Prabodhini collection

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Lalko Singar Karavat

First line: laalako singaar karaavat maiyaa

Poet: Paramananddas

Narrative pages 3–4 (story pages 1–2).

[Read the original kirtan and English meaning](#)

Aaj Parav Din

First line: aaj parav din dev divaaree

Signature: Dwarikesh

Narrative pages 5–8 (story pages 3–6).

[Read the original kirtan and English meaning](#)

Source: pushtikirtan.com. First lines are transliterated for identification. The English story is an original adaptation; the kirtans remain the source for its devotional scenes.