

MEANING

- Sankranti translates to “transfer.”
- Makar translates to “crocodile,” which is the symbol of the Capricorn.
- Celebration of the transferring of the sun into the Makara Rashi (“Capricorn”) zodiac in the Hindu calendar.
- Dedicated to the Hindu sun god Surya.

GREETINGS

- “Happy Sankranti.”

WHEN

- The festival is usually observed on January 15, the only Hindu festival that is based on the solar calendar rather than the lunar.

COMMON PRACTICES

- Social festivities including decorating, children going house to house and asking for treats, dances, feasts, bonfires and kite flying.
- Dressing in transitional clothing including dhoti, gamosa and saadar mekhela.
- Singing traditional folk songs.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

Email: inclusion@msu.edu



Makar Sankranti/ Pongal

Tamil

[Maa-kaar San-kran-tee](#)
[/Paang-gaal](#)



- Many Hindus will participate in avoiding non-vegetarian food, alcohol, tobacco, gutka and other intoxicants.
- Observers are encouraged not to turn away panhandlers, the impoverished or people in need.

Type of Calendar:

Hindu (solar)



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