

## MEANING

- “Onam” is originated form the Sanskrit word ”Shravanam,” which refers to one of the 27 Nakshatras (constellations).
- A 10-day harvesting festival that symbolizes the annual coming of the demon king Mahabali.
- Celebrated across India and the world, honoring King Mahabali who is thought to return to Kerala during the festival.

## GREETINGS

- “Happy Onam.”

## WHEN

- Begins on the day known as Atham and ends on the 10th day known as Thiru Onam or Thiruvonam.

## COMMON PRACTICES

- Boat races called Vallam Kali, tiger dances called Pulikali, dance rituals and other forms of worship.
- The traditional feast (sadya) is nine courses and has 26 dishes.
- Several cultural actives are held in temples and religious spaces, especially on the 10th day.
- Elephants are decorated with ornaments and displayed in most spaces.
- Grand processions are held.

## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

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Type of Calendar:

Hindu (lunisolar)



# Onam

Hindi

Ow·nam



- Onam is a major holiday of the people of Kerala, India. It is their state festival.
- Many schools in this area have time off for up to two weeks, but working professionals typically have one or two days off.

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