

# **MAKAR-SANKRANTI CELEBRATIONS IN** **GANDHI SHIKSHAN BHAVAN**

Makar Sankranti an occasion to celebrate and welcome the arrival of spring and the commencement of harvest season. In order to pay tribute to this new transition our college Gandhi Shikshan Bhavan Smt. Surajba College of Education organized Makar Sankranti Celebration on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

The celebration commenced from 02.00 pm onwards with paper reading on 'Significance and Geographical concepts of Makar Sankranti'. A documentary was shown on 'Makar Sankranti' where people from different states within the same country celebrates this festival by having a unique name for it with a unique way of celebrating it. People from Gujarat celebrates it by the name of 'Uttarayan' by flying Kites on that occasion while the Punjabi community celebrates this festival on the name of 'Lohri' a harvest festival.

The college students portrayed different forms of culture, their style of celebrating this festival, the savories they relish on this day through various skits and dance. The girls of F.Y.B.Ed students presented 'BIHU' a dance form originated from Assam the zeal and the vigor shown in the dance performance was quite appreciable. Following that a Gujarati Skit was being enacted on them 'UTTARAYAN' – where the students in a humorous way highlighted the importance of this festival and why it is important to consume savories like 'TIL CHIKKI' & 'UNDHIYU' that helps to keep the human body warm and flexible. They also gave importance of safe kite playing that can avoid life threatening risks to human and animals. The skit was followed by dance as well. The S.Y.B.Ed students came up with Punjabi Skit and Dance performance depicting the importance of 'LOHRI' the major crop harvesting festival to pay tribute the land that offers not just food grains but also livelihood to many people residing in the land of Punjab. The North Indian community especially 'U.P. & Bihar' observe this day as 'KHICHDI'. Another group of S.Y.B.Ed Students represented this culture where the maternal family of the Daughter-in-law send a bowlful of Khichdi accompanied with gifts to their in law's house as a part of tradition.

Not just the north but the south (the Tamil community) enjoy this festival in the name of 'PONGAL' by thanking the Sun, mother nature and the various farm animals that help to contribute to a bountiful harvest. Few students addressed the Tamil culture of celebrating Pongal. Through their skit we came to know

that it's a 4 day festival. The first day is named as 'BHOGI PONGAL' – a day where cleaning and discarding of old belongings are carried out to signify a fresh start. Followed by 'SURYA PONGAL' where the sun god is honored. Each household cooks a pot of fresh rice with milk at auspicious timings. The milk boils freely over the pot family members shout out happily "PONGALO PONGAL". The third and the fourth day is revered as 'MAATU PONGAL' and 'KAANUM PONGAL' respectively. Where the cattle (maatu) are worshipped for their hard work and the last day where families gather together to enjoy a sumptuous meal.

The state of Maharashtra celebrates the festival in the name of 'MAKAR SANKRANTI' and also a practice of 'HALDI KUMKUM' is being followed. F.Y.B.Ed students presented how these days even unmarried woman, widows, women from different religious faith have also been included in Haldi Kumkum by dissolving the conventional orthodox practice. Later on a group of students sung some linguistic song on the occasion of the celebration.

The principal of our college Dr.Sunayna Kadle addressed the event by providing some important insights of the occasion as well as appreciated the collective efforts taken by the students for making the celebration a successful one. Later on Haldi KumKum celebration was also being celebrated with the distribution of TILGUL LADDU. This time even the boys were being part of the haldi kumkum celebration as a sign of Gender Inclusivity. Festival holds no bar of gender, religion, caste, race it holds only love and respect for each other.

The event later on concluded with the National anthem.

TILGUL GHYA AANI GOAD GOAD BOLA!

THANK YOU!

~KARAN BANE

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