

Hindi transcript:

आप जानते होंगे, हिन्दुओं में चार वर्ण हैं – ब्राह्मण, क्षत्रीय, शूद्र और वश्य। तब कुछ त्यहार ऐसे हैं कि उनकी महत्ता किसी एक वर्ण में ज्यादा है। जैसे कि रक्षाबन्धन की महत्ता ब्राह्मणों में ज्यादा है। तब हमलगा वश्य हैं। हमलगाओं के लिए सबसे बड़ा त्यहार दीवाली है। सवत्सर... हिन्दी कलेंडर के सन् कब चलते हैं सवत्सर। इसका आठवाँ महीना है। कार्तिक का। कार्तिक की अमावस्या – अमावस्या... new moons... new moon day – उस दिन दीवाली का नाम... दीवाली, दीपावाली के नाम से चला जाता है। उसका यह सबसे बड़ा त्यहार है। और यह ऐसा है कि यह एक दिन का त्यहार नहीं है। यह पाँच दिन त्यहार चलता है। उसमें कुछ कुछ कुछ कुछ होता रहता है। धनतेरस, यानी दस दिन पहले धनतेरस है – thirteenth। उसका... इस दिन जो हलगा कुंभ की पूजा करते हैं, जो कि धन के देवता हैं। और इस दिन धन्वन्तरी जयन्ती मानी जाती है। धन्वन्तरी वह है... lord of medicine। आयुर्वेद... अपना जो आयुर्वेद है उसके वे देवता हैं... धन्वन्तरी। वह वद्य के पास जाते हैं, उनकी पूजा करते हैं। कुंभ की पूजा करते हैं, धन की। फिर next day है चतुर्दशी – fourteenth day। उस दिन कुछ लगा हनुमान जयन्ती मानते हैं। कुछ लगा यम चतुर्दशी चलते हैं उसका – यमराज की पूजा करते हैं। तब फिर जो हलीच में आता है दीवाली। दस का उसका जो त्यहार है। एकम् – next day, परिवा चलते हैं उसका। तब उसके भी अगले दिन भष्मा-दूज। तब दीपावली जो है वह अपने आप में नहीं है। वह, पाँच दिन का function सब लगा मानते हैं।

English translation:

You would know that there are four castes among the Hindus – Brahmin, Kshatriya, Shudra and Vaishya. So, some festivals are such that their importance is greater for members of a certain caste. For instance, Rakshabandhan has greater importance for Brahmins. So, we are Vaishyas. For us, the biggest festival is Diwali. A *samvatsar* ... a year of the Hindi calendar is called a *samvatsar*. The eighth month of [a *samvatsar*] is that of *Kartik* (October-November). The *amavasya* of *Kartik* – new moons... the new moon day [of the month of *Kartik*] – that has the name Diwali ... it is called by the name 'Diwali' or 'Deepavali'. This is the biggest festival. This festival goes on for five days (wrong word order in original), during which something or the other continues to happen.

Dhanteras ... meaning, two days before¹ is *Dhanteras* – the thirteenth. That [day]... on this day, people worship Kuber, who is the god of wealth. And this is also observed as the birthday of *Dhanvantari*. *Dhanvantari* is the... [god] of medicine. *Dhanvantari* is the god (i.e., god-cum-master) of Ayurveda... our [system of medicine], Ayurveda. [People] go to the *Vaidya* (practitioner of Ayurveda), and worship him.² They worship Kuber; [they worship] wealth. Then the next day is *Chaturdashi* – the fourteenth day [of the waning phase of the Kartik moon]. Some people observe it as the birthday of [the god] Hanuman. Some people call it *Yama Chaturdashi* – they worship *Yamaraj*³ [on that day]. And then, in the middle [of the five-day period] comes Diwali. The festivities after that ... on *Ekam* or the next day (the first day of the waxing phase) – it (the day) is called the *Pariva*. So the day after that [is] *Bhaiyya Dooj*. So Diwali ... it doesn't stand on its own; people engage in functions over five days [during Diwali].

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¹ That is, two days before the fifteenth of the month (or new moon day). The word तेरस is a degenerate or corrupt form of तेरह.

² 'Him' here is ambiguous. It is not clear whether 'him' refers to the individual *Vaidya* (quite unlikely, but the speaker does say वह वद्य के पास जाते हैं), the god *Dhanvantari*, or Kuber, the god of wealth.

³ *Yama* is the personification of death, also the ultimate judge of right and wrong actions.