

# Hindi

हम कोलकाता में दुर्गापूजा धूमधाम से मनाते हैं और ये दुर्गापूजा एक बंगाली सबके लिए एक बड़ा त्योहार है। बंगाल और कोलकाता में अनेक पांडाल बनाए जाते हैं और वो हर प्रकार के होते हैं और लोग उन्हें देखने के लिए लाइन लगाते हैं। पर मालवा या गुजराती दुर्गापूजा को नवरात्रि के रूप में मनाते हैं और ये पांडाल कोलकाता में अलग अलग तरीके के बनाए जाते हैं और उसमें एक दुर्गा मां होती है जो करीबन 9 से 8 फीट बड़ी होती है और इस 10 दिन के दौरान अलग अलग पूजाएं होती हैं। अलग अलग तरीके की अलग तरीके की पूजा करते हैं। लोग और इस दिन के बाद दुर्गा मां का विसर्जन किया जाता है और लोग उसे हुगली रिवर में जाके मां के आकार को पानी में आग और पानी में डाल देते हैं। इस तरीके से वो दुर्गा मां को अलविदा कहते हैं। आल इज वेल इस गेम दशमी के 10वें दिन पर होता है और ये अब हम इस विसर्जन के बाद दुर्गा पूजा का अंत माना जाता है।

# English

A very popular festival in Kolkata, specifically, that's actually known globally is Durga Puja. It's 10-day festival that takes place, and they essentially worship goddess Durga. And what they do to celebrate this is that there are pandals all around the city and you go pandal-hopping.

They're like exquisite pandals, and each pandal has its own theme. For example, once, we had a Harry Potter-style theme. This time, there was a COVID-19 pandal big style theme, and people just you know line up to watch these pandals. And there's also the tradition among some families, especially Bengalis, to you know buy new clothes. That's for the Bengali side of it.

But you know there's an ethnic group called Gujaratis and Marwaris. We actually celebrate something called Navratri at the same time as Durga Puja. And it's almost the same thing, but during this period, you do not eat non-veg. You do not you know add onions, garlic, and potatoes to your food. Stuff like that.

Pandal, P-A-N-D-A-L. Actually, I'm not sure if this is you know local word or it's actually an English word. I think you use it like when we you know when they write articles about these pandals in English too, it's called a pandal in English too. Essentially, they're these big structures. And it's like this small exhibition, you could say, with the goddess there. And it's sometimes her killing you know the demon.

There's a bunch of other stuff, sometimes of other... You know there are so many gods in Hindu mythology. They sometimes have that, too, present there. And it's just the themes, the way these pandals are structured and made differs. So sure sometimes, they're just made of paper, like all the decor has to do with paper. Sometimes, it's just made with mirror.

And it's actually quiet, you don't get to see this anywhere else in the world because this is a this is a tradition or art that is native to the villages around Kolkata. I mean, the craftsmen spend the the rest the

entire year making the pandals and the you know the idol for the Durga Puja the rest of the year, so it's a pretty big thing for them. Pretty, pretty big. They're like sometimes, they're 7 feet tall.

So you can't really, you have to go there to see them. You don't just go there to see them. Like I said, the entrance, the exit, they're all decorated. The inside of the pandal is decorated so that you have more to see, more to read. It's like this small popup exhibition, you could say. They're basically fixated.

A lot of ceremonies are performed during this period. And at the end of it, they take the idol and they take it to the river. And they sort of what we call it is Visarjan. They put it in water and let it go. It's like saying goodbye to the goddess after 10 days.