

Hartalika Teej Story In English

Hartalika Teej is an important festival for Hindu women, especially those who are married. It is celebrated on the third day of the bright half of the month of Bhadrapada. The name "Hartalika" comes from two words: "Harat," meaning "abduction," and "Aalika," meaning "female friend." The story behind this festival is about the deep love and devotion of Goddess Parvati for Lord Shiva.

The Story

Long ago, Goddess Parvati, who was the daughter of King Himavan, wanted to marry Lord Shiva. But her father had already promised her marriage to Lord Vishnu. Parvati was very upset because she only wanted to marry Shiva. Seeing her sadness, Parvati's close friend took her away to a dense forest to help her avoid the unwanted marriage.

In the forest, Parvati started a strict penance, praying and fasting without food or water to win Lord Shiva's heart. Her devotion was so strong that Lord Shiva was finally moved by her prayers and agreed to marry her. The day Parvati was taken to the forest by her friend became known as "Hartalika," representing the act of being taken away for a good cause.

On Hartalika Teej, married women fast and pray for the well-being of their husbands and a happy married life. The fast is very strict, often observed without even drinking water. Women dress up in beautiful clothes, apply henna on their hands, and join in group prayers.

This story of Hartalika Teej teaches us about the power of true love, dedication, and the importance of a faithful marriage in Hindu culture.