

Proclamation

City of Montclair

DIWALI 2022

WHEREAS, the two billion Hindu diaspora worldwide anticipate the festival of Deepavali or Diwali, also known as the Hindu 'Festival of Lights'. Deepavali is the day for awakening the light of consciousness within, signifying the eradication of darkness, and bringing the new light of completion towards a brighter future.

WHEREAS, Diwali is one of the most celebrated festivals of great significance to Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists; and

WHEREAS, Deepavali is the day when Lord Rama, King of Ayodhya, returned to Ayodhya after being in exile for 14 years. Shaivites celebrate Deepavali as the day Lord Subramanya was conceived. Vaishnavites celebrate Deepavali as Naraka Chaturdashi when Narakasura (the King of Asuras) was liberated by Lord Krishna. The Shakta Sampradaya celebrates this day when Goddess Mahakali appeared, making herself available to the whole universe. This day is a day of victory over evil and of immense auspiciousness.

WHEREAS, Diwali falls on Monday, October 24 this year in accordance with the lunar calendar, and brings together families, friends, and communities here in the U.S. and around the globe in goodwill, peace, and a shared sense of renewal; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress officially passed unanimous resolutions since 2007 recognizing the religious and historical significance of Diwali; and

WHEREAS, centuries of persecution and the fall of Hindu nations have greatly impacted peace and progress in the world; and

WHEREAS, on this day in 2003, the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam, revived KAILASA in Los Angeles by inaugurating KAILASA Los Angeles as the headquarters of KAILASA. On this day many other spiritual embassies of KAILASA (or SHRIKAILASA) around the globe were inaugurated by the SPH Nithyananda Paramashivam; and

WHEREAS, SHRIKAILASA is reviving ancient treatises that accounted to the goodness and success of ancient times — ensuring no one is left hungry, no child is left without education, no one is left in poverty and without the best holistic medical care, no one struggles with mental illness, no one is homeless, treatises that ensures women are respected, empowered and placed in leadership positions, and that all are given equal opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Javier John Dutrey, Mayor of the City of Montclair, jointly with the members of the City Council, recognize the religious and historical significance of Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and Diwali's message of tolerance, compassion, and the victory of good over evil which resonates with the American spirit.

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the City of Montclair proudly expresses its deepest respect for Indian Americans and South Asian Americans throughout the world and here in the community, and all those who celebrate the Festival of Diwali on October 24, 2022 and likewise encourages all the people of Montclair, California to join us in recognizing the contributions of all Hindu, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists active in all aspects of our vibrant economy and civic society.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Montclair to be affixed this 24th day of October, 2022.



Javier John Dutrey
Mayor of the City of Montclair

