



# Navroz: Parsi New Year

## Why in News

Navroj was celebrated in India on **16<sup>th</sup> August 2020**.

- Globally [Navroz is celebrated on 21<sup>st</sup> March](#), however, **in India it is celebrated on 16<sup>th</sup> August** because of the **Shahenshahi calendar** that is followed by Parsis in India.
  - The Shahenshahi calendar **doesn't account for leap years**.

## Key Points

- Navroz is also known as **Parsi New Year**. In Persian, '**Nav**' stands for **new**, and '**Roz**' stands for **the day**, which literally translates to '**new day**'.
- It is celebrated **to mark the beginning of the Iranian (Persian) calendar**.
- The tradition is **observed by Iranians and the Parsi community around the world**.
- In India Navroz is also known as **Jamshed-i-Navroz**, after the Persian King, **Jamshed**. The king Jamshed is credited with having created the Shahenshahi calendar.
- Navroj is inscribed in the list of **UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of India**.

Traditional New Year Festivals in India	
Name	Features
<b>Chaitra Shukla Pratipada</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ It marks the beginning of the new year of the <b>Vikram Samvat</b> also known as the Vedic (Hindu) calendar.</li><li>▪ Vikram Samvat is based on the day when the emperor Vikramaditya defeated Sakas, invaded Ujjain and called for a new era.</li></ul>
<b>Gudi Padwa and Ugadi</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Celebrated in the month of <b>Chaitra Shukla Pratipada</b> as per the Hindu Lunar Calendar.</li><li>▪ Deccan region including <b>Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra</b>.</li></ul>
<b>Navreh</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ It is the lunar New Year that is celebrated in <b>Kashmir</b>. It falls on the very first day of the Chaitra Navratras.</li></ul>
<b>Sajibu Cheiraoba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ It is celebrated by <b>Meiteis (an ethnic group in Manipur)</b> which is observed on the first day of Manipur lunar month Shajibu, which falls in the month of <b>April every year</b>.</li></ul>

<b>Cheti Chand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is celebrated by <b>Sindhi community</b>. Chaitra month is called 'Chet' in Sindhi.</li> <li>▪ The day commemorates the birth anniversary of <b>Ishta Deva Uderolal/Jhulelal</b>, the patron saint of Sindhis.</li> </ul>
<b>Bihu</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is celebrated three times a year.</li> <li>▪ <b>Rongali or Bohag Bihu</b> is observed in April. Kongali or Kati Bihu observed in October and Bhogali or Magh Bihu observed in January.</li> <li>▪ Rongali or Bohag Bihu is the <b>Assamese new year</b> and spring festival.</li> <li>▪ The Rongali Bihu coincides with Sikh New Year- Baisakhi.</li> </ul>
<b>Baisakhi</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is celebrated as the Indian thanksgiving day by farmers.</li> <li>▪ It also has religious significance for the Sikhs community as the foundation of the <b>Khalsa Panth</b> was laid on this day by <b>Guru Gobind Singh</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Losoong</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Losoong also known as Namsoong is the <b>Sikkimese New Year</b>.</li> <li>▪ It is usually the time when the farmers rejoice and celebrate their harvest.</li> <li>▪ It is mostly celebrated in the month of <b>December every year</b> with traditional gaiety and colour both by the <b>Lepchas and Bhutias</b>.</li> </ul>

**Source: PIB**

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