

Hartalika Teej, 2024

Why in News?

Hartalika Teej Vrat is celebrated on the Tritiya of <u>Shukla Paksha</u> in the Bhadrapada month. In 2024, the observance falls on September 6.

Key Points

- Meaning of "Hartalika": Derived from two Sanskrit words: "Harat" (abduction) and "Aalika" (female friend).
- **Background**: Goddess Parvati, devoted to Lord Shiva, was abducted by her friends to avoid her marriage to Lord Vishnu, as per her father's wish.
 - Parvati worshiped a clay idol of Lord Shiva, pleasing him, and they eventually married.
 - Women observe Swarna Gowri Vratha to seek blessings from Goddess Gowri for a happy married life.
- **Prominent in North Indian states**: Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and Iharkhand.
 - Known as Gowri Habba in South Indian states: Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.
- **Teej Festivals:**One of three main Teej festivals, along with Hariyali Teej and Kajari Teej, celebrated in the Sawan and Bhadrapada months.



