



Masaan Holi

Why in News?

Recently, Masaan Holi, a **special two-day event** was celebrated in **Varanasi**. During which **devotees put ashes from funeral fires and a pink powder (gulal) on each other**. This event is also seen as a **way to celebrate death**.

Key Points

- The ritual of Masaan Holi Varanasi is believed to celebrate the **Holika-Prahalad mythological event with the pyre ashes**.
- The **use of pyre ashes** in Masaan Holi Varanasi **symbolises the shortness of life and the cyclical nature of a person's existence** in this materialistic world.
- It is believed that the ashes used in Masan Holi possess **purifying properties that cleanse the body, mind, and soul of impurities**.
- By smearing each other with ash during Holi, people seek **spiritual rejuvenation and internal purification**.

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