



# केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

## CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



CBSE/ACAD/DS(MS)/2024

Date: 12.01.2024

Circular No: Acad-05/2024

All the Heads of Schools Affiliated to CBSE

Subject: Celebration of *Makar Sankranti* on 14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – reg.

Reference: Ministry of Education, Govt. of India D.O. Letter No.1-10/2024-CBSE dated 11.01.2024

Dear Principal

As we approach the festive season celebrating the cultural diversity and heritage of our nation, it becomes imperative for our general public and specially the school children to imbibe the significance of festivals like *Makar Sankranti*. This festival marks the transition of the sun into the zodiac sign of Capricorn (*Makara*) and is celebrated across nation under various names. Understanding this festival necessitates acknowledging the pivotal role of the sun in our lives-the provider of light, warmth, and life itself. Understanding the Sun is, therefore, crucial as it influences Earth's climate, sustains life, and impacts technological systems, making it vital for various aspects of our existence and advancements.

Success of Aadiya mission serves as a testament to our nation's commitment to exploring the depths of our solar system's core, aiming for the advancement and benefit of humanity at large. The insights gleaned from this mission hold significant practical implications in forecasting space weather, improving satellite communications, and propelling technological advancements forward. The success of the Aadiya mission can also spark inspiration among the next generation of scientists and space enthusiasts, igniting an innate passion for the realms of solar science and space exploration.

*Makar Sankranti* is an apt occasion to enlighten our young generation about India's diversity, cultural heritage and solar science. *Makar Sankranti* celebration correlates with scientific insights into the sun's movement, energy, and its agricultural implications, mirroring the Aadiya mission's study of the Sun's corona and its impact on Earth's climate and technology.

Considering the significance of *Makar Sankranti*, the schools are advised to organize various educational activities on 14<sup>th</sup>–15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 within the schools to elucidate the cultural importance of *Makar Sankranti* while highlighting their intricate connections with solar science. A brief write-up on the importance of *Makar Sankranti* and Aditya Mission is attached.

The schools should upload a brief report of celebration of *Makar Sankranti* at the following link before 17.01.2024:

<https://forms.gle/GMEHocJNraohPy5LA>

With Best Wishes,

Dr. Joseph Emmanuel  
Director (Academics)



'शिक्षा सदन', 17 राऊज़ एवेन्यू, इंस्टीटूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली –110002  
'Shiksha Sadan', 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110002





# केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

## CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



**Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organizations and Institutions as indicated below with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:**

1. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18 Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-16
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector-62, Institutional Area, Noida-201309
3. The Secretary, Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
4. The Secretary, Sainik Schools Society, Room No. 101, D-1 Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
5. The Chairman, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan, N-1/9, Near Doordarshan Kendra, PO Sainik School Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751005
6. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110 054
7. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh-160017
8. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim –737101
9. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar –791 111
10. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair – 744101
11. The Director of School Education, Ladakh, Room No.101-102, Ground Floor, Council Secretariat, Kurbathang, Kargil - Ladakh
12. The Director of School Education, Andhra Pradesh, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, B block, Anjaneya Towers, VTPS Rd, Bhimaraju Gutta, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh – 521 456
13. The Director, Central Tibetan School Administration, ESSESS Plaza, Community Centre, Sector -3, Rohini, Delhi
14. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A –Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi-110001
15. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRC Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
16. DS to Chairperson, CBSE
17. Secretary/ Controller of Examinations/ All Directors, CBSE
18. All Regional Directors/ Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions
19. All Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary/ Under Secretary/ Assistant Secretary, CBSE
20. All Head(s)/ In-Charge(s), Centre of Excellence, CBSE
21. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this Circular on the CBSE Academic Website
22. In-Charge, Library
23. Record File

**Director (Academics)**



‘शिक्षा सदन’ ,17 राऊज़ एवेन्यू ,इंस्टीटूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली –110002

‘Shiksha Sadan’, 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110002





# केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

## CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



### Makar Sankranti

Makar Sankranti is a festival that marks the transition of the sun into the zodiac sign of Makara (Capricorn) on its celestial path, and it usually falls on January 14th or 15th. Astronomically, Makar Sankranti marks the gradual increase in the length of daylight hours in the northern hemisphere, following the winter solstice.

#### Astronomical and Scientific Significance

The astronomical aspect of Makar Sankranti aligns with the seasonal changes, emphasizing the cyclical nature of time and the interconnectedness of celestial events with agricultural cycles, which is deeply rooted in the cultural fabric of India. The ending of the winter solstice holds scientific importance due to its role in the Earth's axial tilt and its relationship with the length of daylight hours in different hemispheres.

As the Earth orbits the sun, the tilt of its axis causes the changing seasons. The end of the winter solstice signifies a turning point when the Northern Hemisphere starts tilting back towards the sun. This gradual shift results in an increase in daylight hours and a decrease in nighttime hours in the Northern Hemisphere.

The scientific significance lies in the gradual lengthening of daylight hours following the winter solstice. As the days become longer, the amount of sunlight reaching various regions increases, initiating changes in temperature and weather patterns. This change in sunlight exposure plays a crucial role in various natural processes.

Increased sunlight post-solstice gradually raises temperatures, initiating the thaw of snow and ice, heralding the arrival of spring. Longer daylight hours trigger transformations in both flora and fauna, influencing activities like flowering, migration, and breeding cycles. In agricultural regions, this transition marks the preparation for harvesting seasons, leveraging abundant sunlight for crop growth. Moreover, the extended daylight post-solstice can impact human well-being, affecting mood, energy levels, and daily routines due to heightened exposure to sunlight.

#### Cultural Significance

The festival holds significance because it heralds the arrival of spring, which traditionally symbolizes new beginnings, prosperity, and the onset of the harvest season. It's considered an auspicious time for spiritual practices and rituals, especially bathing in holy rivers like the Ganges, as it's believed to cleanse one's sins and bring blessings.

Makar Sankranti is primarily a harvest festival. It is a time when farmers express gratitude for a good harvest and pray for prosperity in the coming months. The festival holds cultural significance in various states of India, and it is celebrated with different names and customs. Kite flying is a popular activity during this time, particularly in states like Gujarat and Rajasthan, where colourful kites fill the sky, symbolizing joy and the arrival of spring. Lighting a bonfire is a central part of Lohri celebrations in Punjab which is similar to Sankranti. People gather around the bonfire, offer prayers, sing traditional songs, and perform folk dances like Bhangra and Giddha. It's a time for communities to come together, share sweets like rewari, gajak, and popcorn, and exchange good wishes. Lohri transcends religious and social barriers, fostering unity among people. It's a festival that brings together families, friends,



‘शिक्षा सदन’ ,17 राऊज़ एवेन्यू ,इंस्टीटूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली –110002  
‘Shiksha Sadan’, 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110002





# केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

## CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



and neighbours to celebrate the collective joy of the harvest season. Lohri transcends religious and social barriers, fostering unity among people. It's a festival that brings together families, friends, and neighbours to celebrate the collective joy of the harvest season.

Pongal in Tamil Nadu is a four-day long thanksgiving festival dedicated to the sun and cattle, thanking them for their contribution to a successful harvest. The first day, Bhogi Pongal, involves cleaning homes and discarding old items to signify a new beginning. The second day, Surya Pongal, involves boiling freshly harvested rice with milk and jaggery, symbolizing abundance and prosperity. The festival emphasizes unity and the renewal of relationships. Families and friends come together to celebrate, exchange gifts, and share traditional foods. It's also a time for cultural performances, music, and dance, strengthening community bonds.

### India's Radiant Triumph in Solar Endeavours

India's Solar Mission Aditya, named after the Sun, exemplifies the nation's dedication to harnessing solar energy as a pivotal component of its energy strategy. Aditya is an ambitious initiative that aligns with India's broader goal of promoting renewable energy sources, particularly solar power. The Aditya Solar Mission aims to further enhance the deployment of solar technologies in the country. The mission focuses on advancing research and development in solar energy, emphasizing innovations to increase efficiency and reduce costs.

### Fusion of Makar Sankranti and Solar Science for Educational Purposes

Leveraging Makar Sankranti as an educational platform can enlighten students about solar science and the Earth-Sun relationship, fostering curiosity about India's solar exploration endeavours through discussions tied to the Aditya mission. Makar Sankranti's celebration correlates with scientific insights into the sun's movement, energy, and its agricultural implications, mirroring the Aditya mission's study of the Sun's corona and its impact on Earth's climate and technology. Suggested activities that may be undertaken in school:

- **Workshops and Seminars:** Conduct workshops elucidating the astronomical significance of these festivals, elucidating the solar science behind these celebrations. Invite scholars and experts to engage students in discussions and presentations.
- **Cultural Programs:** Organize cultural programs where students can actively participate by showcasing traditional dances, songs, and plays associated with these festivals, incorporating the scientific aspect wherever feasible.
- **Art and Craft Activities:** Encourage art and craft sessions where students can create traditional crafts related to these festivals, accompanied by discussions on their significance in relation to solar movements.
- **Essay Writing Competitions:** Encourage students to participate in essay writing themed around the Sun, Makar Sankranti, and the achievements of the Aditya mission. This encourages creativity while reinforcing their understanding of these concepts.

\*\*\*\*\*



‘शिक्षा सदन’ ,17 राऊज़ एवेन्यू ,इंस्टीटूशनल एरिया, नई दिल्ली –110002  
‘Shiksha Sadan’, 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110002

