

## THE STORY OF HOLI

A story to read

There was once a very cruel king called Hirnakashyah who had a son called Prahlad. Prahlad was very good and always prayed to the god Vishnu, which made his father very angry. The King tried very hard to make his son give up his belief in Vishnu.

So the King ordered his sister Holika to take Prahlad in her arms and for both of them to walk into the burning fire. The plan was that Prahlad would die and Holika would be saved because she was protected by the gods of flames. What the King did not know was that the gods' charm over Holika didn't work for one hour during the day. The hour chosen for lighting the fire just happened to be that very hour. When the flames leapt up, Holika died and Prahlad was saved by Vishnu.

Prahlad was so sorry for Holika that he promised to name a festival after her. So now we have the festival of Holi.

This story symbolizes four things; faith in God, forgiveness, getting rid of bad feelings and thoughts like selfishness, greed, lust, hatred, and the triumph of good over evil.

Can you explain the reasons why this story symbolizes these four things?



Symbol	Reason
faith in God	
forgiveness	
getting rid of bad feelings and thoughts like selfishness, greed, lust, hatred,	
the triumph of good over evil	