TECHNO INDIA GROUP

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Festive Special

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FAITH, FESTIVITY & FOREVER MEMORIES

Techno India Group celebrates the spirit of Bengal through its festivals, cultural traditions and the bonds that bring people together

MOU ER DURGABARI IS A REAFFIRMATION OF THE FAMILY'S TIMELESS BOND WITH GODDESS DURGA
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Mou-er Durgabari

WHERE A THREE-CENTURY-OLD LEGACY OF DEVOTION FOUND A NEW HOME

The ancestral roots trace back nearly three centuries to Gurbari village in Hooghly, West Bengal

OUR CORRESPONDENT

Some traditions transcend time, surviving not merely in memory but in the hearts of generations. Mou-er Durgabari at GD-279 of Sector 3 in Salt Lake, Kolkata is one such story. It is a deeply personal journey of faith, remembrance and the revival of a three-centuries-old family tradition of worshipping Maa Durga. This year marked the second year of Durga Puja at Mou-er Durgabari, carrying forward the spiritual legacy of the Roychowdhury family, whose ancestral roots trace back nearly three centuries to Gurbari village in Hooghly district in West Bengal. Once the heart of a grand family celebration, the ancestral Durga dalan echoed with the resonant beats of the dhaak, the reverberation of conch shells and the joyous ululation of devotees. The festivities brought together generations in an atmosphere of devotion, elaborate rituals and heartfelt hospitality.

This year's Durga Puja was celebrated with exceptional warmth and splendour, graced by the presence of eminent personalities, celebrated artistes, and dear friends and family. Mou-er Durgabari has garnered several prestigious Sharad Samman accolades, a testament to the beauty and grandeur of its celebrations and the enduring spirit of devotion, tradition and Bengal's rich cultural heritage.









The family's history is intertwined with the worship of Radha Gobinda Jiu and Lakshminarayan Jiu, whose idols were established by its forefathers, Ramnarayan Roychowdhury and Indranarayan Roychowdhury. According to family lore, a divine dream guided Ramnarayan Roychowdhury to a sacred stone near Jagannath Ghat on the banks of the Ganga in Kolkata. The stone was brought home with reverence, and artisans from Benaras were commissioned to carve the idol of Lord Krishna. An Ashtadhatu idol of Radharani was subsequently created, becoming an enduring symbol of the family's spiritual heritage. The ancestral Durga Puja eventually ceased nearly two and a half centuries ago, following the establishment of the Radha Gobinda Jiu idol. The revival of the Pujo by renowned educationist Satyam Roychowdhury at Mou-er Durgabari is, therefore, more than the continuation of a festival; it is the rekindling of a sacred connection that time could never entirely extinguish. Built in memory of Mou Roychowdhury, wife of Satyam Roychowdhury, Mou-er Durgabari represents a heartfelt homecoming for a tradition cherished across generations.

AT THE SALT LAKE RESIDENCE OF RENOWNED EDUCATIONIST SATYAM ROYCHOWDHURY, MOU-ER DURGABARI CONTINUES TO REVIVE A THREE-CENTURY-OLD FAMILY LEGACY, CREATING A MEANINGFUL BRIDGE BETWEEN ANCESTRAL HERITAGE AND CONTEMPORARY CELEBRATIONS

As the fragrance of incense drifts from the Durgabari into the autumn breeze, the festivities may have ended, but the spirit of the Pujo lives on in every heart. And as cherished memories turn into longing, preparations will soon begin to welcome the Divine Mother home once again next year, continuing a legacy of faith, devotion and love that transcends generations.



Gurbari, the ancestral home of the Roychowdhurys



Gurbari



SATYAM ROYCHOWDHURY FOUNDATION BRINGS FESTIVE CHEER TO 216 KIDS










OUR CORRESPONDENT

Embodying the spirit of compassion, inclusion and community service, Satyam Roychowdhury Foundation organised a Durga Puja Community Outreach Initiative on Panchami i,e. October 15, 2026, reaching out to 216 children across five beneficiary organisations in Kolkata and adjoining areas. Supported by Axis Bank as part of this CSR initiative, the programme sought to bring festive cheer to children in vulnerable circumstances while extending meaningful support towards their everyday needs and education.

The initiative reached children associated with Universal Smile in Anandapur, Alokendu Bodh Niketan Residential in Kankurgachi, Umar Swapno in Sovabazar, and Naba Sopan and Aradhana Cottage Home in Hridaypur, Barasat. The organisations collectively serve children from disadvantaged backgrounds, children with intellectual disabilities, children of sex workers, and those requiring residential care and protection.

As part of the outreach, the Foundation distributed new clothes, essential personal-care items such as soap, shampoo and oil, food packets, and educational materials, including exercise books, pencils and pens. The initiative brought together the joy of festive giving with practical assistance, ensuring that the celebrations also became an occasion to nurture dignity, well-being and the promise of continued learning.

By partnering with organisations working at the grassroots, the Foundation extended its reach across diverse communities, acknowledging the importance of collective action in addressing the needs of children. The programme reflected its enduring commitment to child welfare, educational empowerment and inclusive community development.

The initiative partnered with five organisations dedicated to supporting vulnerable children across Kolkata and adjoining areas. Universal Smile, established in 2009, located in Anandapur, champions child welfare, education and women's empowerment. Alokendu Bodh Niketan Residential, founded in 1977 in Kankurgachi, provides care and support to children with intellectual disabilities. Umar Swapno, established in 2023 by social activist Namita Bhattacharya in Sovabazar, works to safeguard and educate children of sex workers. Naba Sopan in Hridaypur, Barasat, with approximately 31 years of service, supports disadvantaged and neglected children through education, nutrition and skill development. Aradhana Cottage Home in Hridaypur, Barasat, managed by Aradhana Social & Development Organisation, provides residential care, education and holistic development opportunities for destitute children.

Through this thoughtful initiative, Satyam Roychowdhury Foundation reaffirmed its belief that every child deserves care, opportunity and the freedom to dream of a brighter future. The outreach served as a meaningful expression of the true spirit of Durga Puja, one that transcends celebration to embrace humanity, generosity and shared responsibility.



SPREADING SMILES, SHARING FESTIVE JOY

YES BANK, in association with the Satyam Roychowdhury Foundation and Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan East, celebrated the 4th edition of Sobar Pujo Durga Pujo, promoting joy and inclusivity during Durga Puja. Students from all Techno India Group of Schools collectively contributed 3,100 new dresses for children, reflecting the group's commitment to social responsibility and community welfare.

TELEGRAPH SCHOOL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE



The 31st Telegraph School Awards for Excellence 2026 powered by Sister Nivedita University concluded its main ceremony at the Dhono Dhanyo Auditorium in Kolkata on August 29. This year, Satyam Roychowdhury Foundation conferred 12 Merit Scholarships upon exceptional students from North and South Bengal, and Sister Nivedita University presented the Award for eco-friendly initiatives to schools.

THE NOSTALGIA OF DURGA PUJA IN THE 1990S

DR MONIKINKINI BASU

For anyone who grew up in Kolkata during the 1990s would know that Durga Puja was not merely a festival; it was an emotion wrapped in anticipation, simplicity, and pure magic. Long before algorithm-driven feeds and hyper-commercialized themed pandals took over, the 90s offered an authentic, slow-cooked festive joy that lingered long after Dashami.

The countdown began weeks in advance, punctuated by the crisp autumn breeze, the blooming of kaash flowers, and the mesmerizing pre-dawn chimes of Birendra Krishna Bhadra's Mahishasuramardini on Mahalaya radio broadcasts. Wealth was measured not by designer labels, but by the number of new clothes proudly stacked in wardrobes.



Catalogues from iconic stores like Bhojraj and Khadim's dictated the season's fashion, and children eagerly counted down the days until they could debut their festive wardrobes.

Pandal hopping in the 90s was a test of endurance and camaraderie. Families walked miles together under neon light arches, queuing patiently outside traditional barowari (community) pandals. There were no GPS trackers or real-time crowd updates; meeting up meant agreeing on a specific spot under a neighborhood landmark. The air smelled of incense, fresh night-blooming jasmine (shiuli), and the intoxicating aroma of roadside egg rolls, chowmein, and phuchkas. Entertainment was equally unpretentious. Pujabarshiki —special festival bumper editions of magazines like Anandamela and Shuktara — provided endless hours of reading delight. Neighborhood cultural programs featuring amateur musical performances, local drama recitals, and dhunuchi naach built tight-knit community bonds.

As Bijoya Dashami arrived, tears flowed freely at the immersion Ghats. Yet, sweet boxes were exchanged with genuine warmth, and elders blessed the youth with heart-felt affection. Durga Puja in the 90s was defined by warmth, human connection, and unhurried contentment—a timeless melody that still resonates in our hearts.

Associate Professor, Dept. of English, Sister Nivedita University

THE CREATIVE CORNER

Sriya Chattopadhyay
Executive (Global Affairs) SNU - Where festive lights meet quiet evenings, and home feels a little warmer, cherishing the magic of family, togetherness, and moments that glow beyond the season



Technology & Puja nostalgia



PROF (DR) DHRUBAJYOTI CHATTOPADHYAY

Durga Puja has been an integral part of our culture and has remained an identity of Bengali community. This festival has a history of capturing our cultural extravaganza across the decades. The festival is also a subject of research for the scholars who wants to study our culture and its evolution. Durga Puja primarily belonged to zamindars of West Bengal or the ruling dynasties of Bengal. With the passage of time community format of Durga Puja became popular and later it translated to club sponsored Pujas.

Kolkata had always been a pioneer in this transformation and as a major metropolitan expressed this form in the various pandal designs and idol creation. The evolution became so strong that a major portion of the workforce especially from the art and culture departments became synonymously known by this festival. We are now at an era where technology is converging at an incredible rate and somewhere we are also accelerating to a more digital lifestyle. As Durga Puja is an integral part of our culture, the festival is also witnessing that wave. Different Puja pandals are embracing AI pandal art instead of contemporary art. Various drone shots and live streaming equipment are constantly streaming the Puja celebrations over IoT and AI analytics constantly monitoring traffic and keeping a count of visitors both physical and virtual and suggesting ways to increase them. Nostalgia sweeps in when various generations meet in this Puja celebrations. This nostalgia sometimes becomes painful and sometimes it takes a form of joy as we all take a trip down the memory lane and recreate the memories and golden times which we have spent and are sure will never return again.

> DIFFERENT PUJA PANDALS ARE EMBRACING AI PANDAL ART INSTEAD OF CONTEMPORARY ART

Pro Chancellor,
TIG Universities & Central Academic Leader, Techno India Group

IS TECH CHANGING THE WAY WE CELEBRATE PUJA?

PROF (DR) AMAL K GHOSH



Festivals are not merely dates marked on a calendar; they are emotions woven into the fabric of our lives. They are the fragrance of freshly prepared sweets, the laughter of families, the warmth of an embrace, and the joy of being together. But today, has technology changed the way we celebrate? Earlier, we would eagerly wait to meet our loved ones, decorate our homes together, and share happiness face to face. Today, a festival greeting often arrives as a WhatsApp message, a hug becomes an emoji, and precious moments are sometimes spent behind mobile screens rather than in each other's company. Yes, technology has brought distant hearts closer, but sadly, it sometimes keeps nearby hearts apart.

Yet, technology itself is not our enemy. A video call can bring a smile to a lonely face, and a digital message can carry love across oceans. The real question is whether we are using technology to strengthen our relationships or allowing it to replace them. Let us use technology to connect hearts, not disconnect souls. Let our celebrations be filled not merely with lights on our screens, but with love in our hearts, smiles on our faces, and togetherness in our lives. After all, the true beauty of a festival lies not in how brightly we illuminate our homes, but in how warmly we illuminate one another's lives.

Principal, Netaji Subhash Engineering College (NSEC)

THE CREATIVE CORNER

Srinjoy Ghosh
BTech, ECE, NSEC





Sucheta Mondal
BTech, CSE(E), 2nd year, NSEC

STUDENT CORNER



DIWALI AWAY FROM HOME

Diwali has always been a special festival for me, but some of my most memorable Diwali experiences took place far away from my hometown. After completing my Class 10 board examinations, I moved to Kota, Rajasthan, to prepare for the NEET examination. I spent two years there, and during that time, Diwali became an entirely different experience. Fortunately, my mother and siblings were with me, so I never felt completely alone. But the friends I made in Kota made those celebrations truly special. One of my favourite memories was making Rangoli for the first time. I also wore a traditional Rajasthani lehenga choli, tasted local sweets, learned about their customs, and even picked up a few words from Hadoti.

Another unforgettable experience was celebrating Diwali on a rooftop, watching the sky light up with fireworks while the neighbourhood seemed to celebrate as one large family. Those two Diwalis taught me that home is not always a place. Sometimes, it is created through friendship, shared traditions, new experiences, and a sense of belonging.

Beauty Debnath,
BA English (5th Semester), Dept. of English, School of Humanities & Social Sciences, TIUT



WHAT DIWALI MEANS TO ME

Diwali, for me, goes far beyond firecrackers. It is a festival of lights, reminding us that even in darkness, there is always a possibility of light - we only have to take the first step. It is also a time for new beginnings, fresh hopes, and positivity. Diwali is a festival of happiness and togetherness, when families come together to share joy. As a Bengali, I celebrate the night by worshipping Goddess Kali and seeking her blessings for strength, courage, and prosperity. But celebration also calls for awareness and responsibility. The smoke and noise from firecrackers contribute to air and noise pollution, affecting children, the elderly, people with respiratory problems, and animals. We can choose diyas, rangoli, and decorative lights over excessive crackers and celebrate with greater care.

To me, Diwali is therefore not just about lighting lamps. It is about light, hope, unity, compassion, and responsibility.

Aishik Deb, B.Sc. Biotechnology 3rd Semester Dept. of Microbiology & Biotechnology, School of Health Science & Translation Research, TIUT

Let technology bring people closer

PROF (DR) RATAN KUMAR SAHA

Not very long ago, the festive season announced itself through the beat of the dhaak, the scent of shiuli at dawn and handwritten greetings that took days to arrive. Today, it often begins with a phone notification. Technology has undoubtedly changed how we celebrate. We find pandals through maps, watch the aarti on live streams, shop online, and send blessings in seconds. For families scattered across cities and continents, a video call can place a grandmother's lit diya in the same room as her grandchildren.

Yet, I sometimes wonder whether we watch a festival through the screen when we should be living it. A moment photographed is not always a moment felt. Technology changes the means of our celebration, not its meaning, which still lives in the shared meal, the blessings of elders, the laughter of children and kindness towards those less fortunate. My wish for our students this festive season is simple: let technology bring people closer, then put the phone down and be fully present. Wishing every reader a joyous and light-filled festival.

Vice Chancellor, Techno India University, Tripura (TIUT)

TEACHER CONNECT

MAHALAYA ON BLACK & WHITE SCREEN

ANIMESH CHOWDHURY

In my childhood, when the kaash flowers bloomed, we knew Durga Puja was near, and Mahalaya was the day when the festive anticipation truly began. Back then, our village had only one or two houses with a black-and-white television. On Mahalaya morning, we woke long before sunrise, rubbing the sleep from our eyes. Wrapped in the gentle chill of dawn, we walked through dew-covered grass to those neighbours' homes. The courtyard would already be full, with everyone sitting quietly around the small, flickering screen.

Then the chanting began - deep, solemn, and resonant – floating through the still morning air. In those moments, the spirit of Puja arrived in our hearts long before it reached the pandals. Today, technology has made everything easier. Mahisasurmardini is just a click away, available on our phones at any hour. Yet no screen can recreate the warmth of that crowded courtyard or the magic of that grainy black-and-white picture. Some memories are not meant to be replaced; they are meant to be treasured forever.

Assistant Professor, School of Agriculture, Techno India University, Tripura

THE DAWN THAT TAUGHT ME TO WAIT

DR JAYEETA DEBNATH MUNSHI

For Puja memories, I would go back to a Mahalaya dawn. I was brought up in a joint family with eight cousins, all boys. A room still dark. A wooden radio with a small red eye that took its time to warm. We sat on the floor, one blanket for all, elbows touching, not speaking. The hum settled. Then the voice arrived: "Ashwiner sharad prate beje utheche alokmanjir, Dharanir bahir akashe antarahito meghmala…"

I did not know the meaning then. I knew only the feeling—that something vast had just opened its eyes. Then the rest comes in flashes, as childhood does. I would go back not merely for the spectacle, the smell of new clothes, or kaashphul waving in the breeze, but for that first lesson Puja taught me: the sacred is not brought; it is waited for, cherished, and shared. And togetherness is the true celebration.

Associate Professor, School of Commerce, Management & Economics, Techno India University, Tripura

THE CREATIVE CORNER



Moushumi Sharma
5th Sem BA LLB, School of Law - TIUT



Diganta Das
5th Semester B.Tech CSE School of Engineering and Architecture - TIUT



Diganta Das 5th Semester B.Tech CSE School of Engineering and Architecture - TIUT



As engineering students, our lives are packed with studies and preparations. The onset of this holiday season comes as a much-needed break from it all. The Pujas also make me nostalgic for my childhood. As the years pass, we accumulate things which we regret or feel we could've done differently. The Pujas take me back to that time where such worries or thoughts never existed. I would go a decade back, come close just a little towards feeling what I felt when I was a young kid.

Shreyan Karmakar, 3rd Year (EE), NSEC



Some memories don't hurt because they were sad; they hurt because, for a little while, life was beautiful, and we were too young to realise it. My favourite Durga Puja memory is of an evening when my entire family went pandal hopping together. My mother kept reminding us to eat, dad pretended he wasn't tired, and we argued over the smallest things. Back then, these moments felt ordinary. I never imagined I'd grow up and miss them this much. Maybe growing up is simply learning to smile at a memory while secretly wishing you could live it one more time.

Aditya Kumar Gupta, 3rd Year (IT), NSEC

BEYOND THE FESTIVE LIGHTS

Beyond the beautifully decorated pandals, artistic idols, and dazzling lights lies a deeper message: the strength to overcome challenges and stand against injustice. Goddess Durga symbolizes the power that exists within us to face difficulties with determination and righteousness.

The festival also brings people closer, transcending differences in age, background, and beliefs. Family gatherings, the warmth of familiar faces, and the joy of sharing moments with others create memories that remain long after the celebrations end..

Srinjoy Ghosh, BTech (ECE), NSEC



REMEMBERING 80s ASHTAMI



MANASH CHANDA

If I could return to one moment, it would be Ashtami morning in the early 1980s. I was eight, wearing a stiff new kurta that smells of the shop, standing barefoot on the cold floor of our neighbourhood pandal. My father held my hand. Then, the priest's chant rises over the dhaak. The conch sounds, the crowd falls silent, and my father whispers, "Now, say it to me." I did not understand a word of the mantra, yet I felt that something larger than myself was listening. Afterwards came the khichuri, eaten from a paper plate on a jute mat, and a hot jalebi bought with a coin pressed into my fist. I have attended many Pujas since, but never again have I stood so completely in the present. That small hand inside my father's is what I would travel back for.

THE LAMP AND THE LENS

In 1980, there was one radio, one voice of the iconic Birendra Krishna Bhadra, one shared silence. Today the same recitation streams on phones, plays through smart speakers and trends as clips, and many of us still wake up to hear it. Technology has not replaced the festival. It has widened its doorway.

A festival is built on presence: the press of the crowd, the thunder of the dhaak, the smell of dhunuchi smoke, the shared bhog on a paper plate. These cannot be streamed. Neither can the quiet pride of an elder showing a child where the old family Puja used to be held. Our students are digital natives, and I do not ask them to turn away from technology. I ask them to be its masters, not its audience. Use it to document, to connect, to include those who cannot be here, and to preserve the craft of our artisans. But take the photograph, then put the phone away and look up. The Goddess is not a backdrop. She is a presence, and so are the people beside you.

Principal, Meghnad Saha Institute of Technology (MSIT)

TEACHER CONNECT

ANJALI IN THE MIST

HRISHIKESH ROY

As the autumn chill of the approaching Himalayan winter swept into our remote village, the magic of Panchami always arrived wrapped in mist. Fresh from an early morning bath into clean clothes, we stepped out as flickering lamps pierced the mist to spell the magic of "Anjali". Our village puja was small, yet it held the universe. The modest protima was funded entirely by our own humble chanda. Without gadgets or modern distractions, our hearts were tethered to simplicity.

The beating heart of it all was the live dhaki, whose rhythmic pulse coaxed children, youth, and elders alike into a joyous, uninhibited union of souls. Those golden days lacked every comfort we crave today, yet they overflowed with a profound togetherness we can never quite recapture.

Asst Professor (English), Siliguri Institute of Technology

THE FESTIVAL OF REAWAKENING TO REACH SERENITY

RIMNI CHAKRAVARTY

Like others, I too get notified from nature that Goddess Durga along with her family is coming soon. It is time to connect with mother earth, and the idol of Goddess Durga becomes the embodiment of grandeur, divinity, beauty, compassion. It is the time to watch people from all strata of life beaming with enthusiasm, hope to rebuild their life with peace, prosperity and happiness. The beating of dhaak, the chanting of shlokas by the priest, the dhunuchi dance during shandyha aarti and Rabindrasangeet fills my heart with joy. I perceive we are not alone, but connected to divine energy. Durga Puja for me is re awakening and reaching the stage of serenity.

Asst Professor (Humanities), Siliguri Institute of Technology

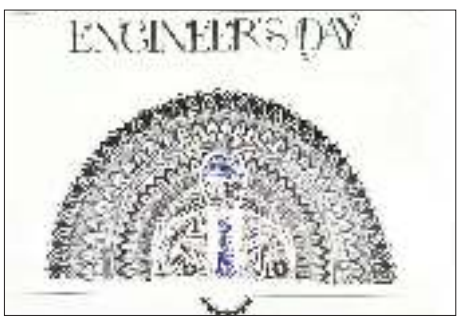
THE CREATIVE CORNER



Student, MSIT



Student, MSIT



Debarati Ojha, AI ML-A, MSIT



Shreosi Kundu, ECE, MSIT



WHEN DURGA PUJA FEELS LIKE HOME

During Durga Puja, what I cherish most is the simple happiness of being with my family. Getting ready together, visiting the Puja pandals, sharing food and returning home with countless little memories make the festival special. Durga Puja reminds me that happiness does not always come from grand moments. Sometimes, it lives in a shared meal, a familiar smile, or a quiet walk home with the people we love.

Sneha Roy, BCA 2nd Year, SIT

A MEMORY WRITTEN IN DOOARS

Growing up amidst the tea gardens of the Dooars, Durga Puja was never just a festival, it was the season when the entire landscape seemed to celebrate. Today, as a BCA student, my world revolves around codes, algorithms, screens and digital memories. Yet, my favourite Puja memory is one that exists nowhere digitally. I remember standing beneath the Puja lights, watching the Dooars turn magical for a few hours. Perhaps, technology can store a picture, but only the heart can store the atmosphere of a place we call home.

Anannya Phukan, BCA 2nd Year, SIT

OF NEPALI CULTURE & PUJA FEELS

In Nepali culture, Durga Puja and Diwali are celebrated as Dasai and Tihar, and they are much more than holidays. Dasai is the time when families come together, receive tika and blessings from elders, visit relatives, and celebrate with cousins. Tihar brings its own beautiful traditions, from Kukur Tihar, when dogs are honoured as members of the family, to Laxmi Puja, when girls sing Bhailo and boys sing Deusi the following day. What I remember most is the sense of togetherness. Family photographs, red tika, laughter, songs, and gatherings become memories that remain for years. For me, these festivals represent not only celebration, but also family, culture, and traditions passed from one generation to another.

Sagarika Chettri, BCA 2nd Year, Siliguri Institute of Technology

Embrace change but never forget the roots

DR ASHOK KUMAR NASKAR

The rich cultural heritage inherited by us in India has been the prime source of inspiration for our scientists, technicians, industrialists and in general the common population for thousands of years. However, both sides have influenced each other over the entire history of civilization. Especially, festivals have evolved significantly in association with social, cultural and technical developments. As mentioned, these festivals have also embraced changes and rigorous modification over the years. At Techno International Batanagar, we celebrate a special pre-festival cultural event titled "Agomoni" every year during this time.

The most distinct changes observed nowadays are contributed by technology. All of us have already noticed banners and posters of our traditional 'Durgotsav' and other autumn events grossly influenced by AI. The lightings and other decorations of the festive season have emerged close to perfect by application of modern AI-related tools. Even the deity and her family can often be seen in digitized robotic looks in theme-based pandals.

However, we still wish for an underlying touch of heart and soul in every component of festivals. Yes, MP3 players with ultra-high-definition sound are available to us, but we still prefer the voice of an elderly priest while listening to the sacred hymns of the pujas. We have social platforms to chat with, but no one can avoid the evening 'adda' with old friends at the pandals. We have Zomato and Swiggy at our fingertips, but we still prefer cooking 'khichuri' in a picnic mood as the "yog" or festival lunch. We have embraced technical changes but did not forget our traditional roots.

Principle-In-Charge,
Techno International Batanagar (TIB)

THE CREATIVE CORNER

Manjima Ghosh
CSE 3rd Year SIT





Ananya Phukan
BCA 2nd Year SIT



Shreyashree Das
Goswami BCA 2nd Year SIT

TEACHER CONNECT

THE LAST EVENING

TANUSHREE GANGULY

My chosen memory is not the grand Ashtami but the sad, sweet evening of Dashami. I was ten, in a red-bordered saree borrowed from my mother's trunk and pinned to fit, standing in a queue of women in the courtyard of our old North Kolkata para. My grandmother pulled me into the crowd, pressed vermilion onto my forehead and said, "Next year, you will be taller, and she will return." Then the idol was lifted onto a lorry, the dhak played its slow farewell beat, and we shouted "Asche bochhor abar hobe", meaning it will happen again next year. What I would return for is that mixture of grief and promise. Childhood taught me that every ending can carry a date for returning, and I have waited for that sentence every year since.

VIRTUAL DARSHAN

In 1980-1990, if you were not in Kolkata for the Pujas, you simply missed them. By 2020, when the pandemic closed crowds out, we discovered that darshan could be streamed, aarti could be live and even anjali could be offered through a screen. Social media has turned the festival into a shared global photo album, and with it into a competition for attention. I would ask my students to see both sides. Technology can preserve and share our heritage, but it can also reduce a sacred occasion to content.

Dept. of ECE, MSIT

THE MAKING OF IT ALL

SUDIPTA GHOSH

I was nine, perched on a wall near our lane, watching bamboo poles rise into a skeleton of a pandal. Nobody handed the workers a drawing. Each evening, I ran back from school to see what had grown. A bare frame became a roof, then a cloth-draped hall, and finally a glowing palace. I asked how the structure stayed up in the monsoon wind, and the master laughed. "The bamboo bends so that it does not break, beta." I did not know it then, but that was my first lesson in structural engineering: flexibility is strength. I would go back to that wall and watch again, this time with a notebook. Long before I studied load paths, a bamboo-tier taught me how things stand.

Assistant Professor, Dept. of ECE, MSIT



THE STRENGTH WITHIN US

Goddess Durga dwells in all beings as Shakti. She is the strength within us. At Mahalaya, the dawn trembles with the chant of Mahishasuramardini, and the scent of shiuli drifts through the morning mist like a homecoming. Then come five luminous days. The dhaak beats like a heartbeat I have known forever. Shakti is not fury but resilience, the tender courage to face my inner demons.

Prosedika Ganguly, CSE 3rd year, TIB



HAPPY FEELINGS

Beyond the celebrations, Puja teaches us the beauty of togetherness. Families reunite, friends meet after long intervals, and even strangers exchange smiles amidst the crowds. It reminds us that happiness becomes truly meaningful when it is shared.

Goddess Durga, with her strength and grace, inspires us to face life's challenges with courage. Her victory over evil reminds us that hope, goodness, and determination can overcome darkness. Perhaps that is why Durga Puja remains so special.

Arpita Roy, CSE, Cyber Security 3rd Year, TIB



THE SMELL OF NEW CLOTHES & STREET FOOD

My favourite Durga Puja memory is from my childhood, when the festival felt like the most magical time of the year. I remember getting ready in new clothes, meeting friends, and visiting different Puja pandals with my family. The streets were beautifully decorated, filled with lights, music, and the smell of delicious street food. What I remember most is the excitement of going pandal-hopping at night. Every year, the festival reminds me of childhood, happiness, togetherness, and the joy of creating memories with the people I love.

Sachin Kumar Yadav, CSE 3rd Year, TIB

TEACHER CONNECT

THE PANDAL-HOPPING GANG OF 1989

SK HASIM

I would return to the Saptami night of 1989, when eight cousins squeezed into a rickety tram and set out to see every pandal in South Kolkata. We had no map, no phone and no plan, only a hand-drawn route on the back of a calendar and an uncle's warning to be home by midnight. We got lost twice, argued about which pandal was best, and shared one plate of phuchka among all eight of us. Somewhere past ten, we discovered a tiny lane Puja with no crowd, where an old man gave us prasad. We reached home at 1 am, got thoroughly scolded and completely happy. I now build software that finds the shortest route between two points. Yet, the best evening of my childhood was a route nobody optimised. If I could go back, I would leave the calendar map in my pocket and get lost again.

THE SCIENCE OF CROWD

A Durga Puja pandal is one of the most remarkable temporary structures in the world, and its engineering has quietly transformed. In 1980, artisans relied on inherited skills: bamboo, rope, cloth and instinct. Today, many large pandals begin with structural drawings, load calculations and fire-safety audits, using scaffolding, steel frames and even 3D design software to realise towering, themed replicas.

Crowd management has changed too. CCTV, control rooms, drone surveillance and one-way pedestrian route now help manage the lakhs of visitors. This is the lesson I want students to carry: modern tools should serve, not erase, the wisdom of those who built before us.

Associate Professor & HOD, Dept. of CE, MSIT

LET THERE BE LIGHT

INDRAJIT DAS

In Kolkata, Diwali is Kali Puja night, and in 1980 it meant earthen diyas, mustard oil and a skyful of crackers. Over four decades, technology has changed the light itself. Fairy lights gave way to LEDs and programmable strings, cutting power use and fire risk. Air-quality apps now show us what the smoke does, and that data has fuelled the move towards green crackers and legal time limits. Many families now blend both, with fewer crackers, more lights and video calls to relatives in distant cities. The lesson for our students is that technology is neutral. It can amplify noise or reduce it. A diya lit beside a smartwatch's air-quality alert is not a contradiction. It is a festival learning to be responsible.

Assistant Professor, Dept. of IT, MSIT

PANDAL-HOPPING IN AGE OF MAPS

SWAPNADIP DE

My childhood Pujas of the early 1980-1990 meant walking, asking directions and getting lost in lanes I still remember. Today, an app plots our route, shows queue times and tells us which theme pandal is trending. The gains are real. Elderly relatives can book cabs, families abroad join the aarti live, and small clubs raise funds through digital payments. But the algorithm now decides what is "worth seeing", and the quiet neighbourhood Puja can go unvisited. Spontaneity, the joy of the unplanned adda, has thinned. Technology has made the festival more accessible and more performed. We now celebrate for the eye of the camera as much as for the Goddess. The question is not whether to use it, but whether it still serves devotion.

Associate Professor, Dept. of ECE, MSIT

TEACHER CONNECT



CHANGING PUJA IN CHANGING TIMES

SAYANTI PAUL

We now not just live in a traditional Puja experience; now we live stream and capture the artistic and extraordinary Durga idols and pandals. While the clay idol remains traditional, the way we celebrate and express our feelings on Durga Puja is entirely relied on technology. From pandal hopping to munch on the famous street foods, everything has gone to technological devices like smartphones, QR-Code scanner and GPS Tracker.

Earlier, we had to wait in a massive, winding queue for hours but now, we can book VIP passes online, QR code entries and viewing crowd density map. Puja is no longer a sense of friendship and relationships. We can see Durga pandals on YouTube broadcasts. So, yes, tech has changed Puja.

Technical Assistant (EE Department), TIB

THE CREATIVE CORNER



Tanisha Mandal
(CSE 2nd Year) TIB



Saikat Gorai
(CSE 3rd year) TIB



Salini Bose
(Assistant Professor ECE) TIB



Riddhika Pramanick
(ECE 3rd Year) TIB



Chaitali Pramanick
(CSE 2nd Year) TIB

STUDENT CORNER



PUJA & HOMESICKNESS

Durga Puja begins when the bamboo skeleton of a pandal appears at the corner of a familiar road. When the neighbourhood smells faintly of new clothes and incense. Now, Puja feels like a strange kind of homesickness. I miss things I never thought I would miss. Perhaps that is what Puja means to me beyond the holidays. It is not the five days I wait for. It is the reminder that somewhere between growing up and moving away, home became something I could no longer take for granted.

Debangan Roy, Computer Science & Engineering, 5th Sem, SIT

TOWARDS ECO-FRIENDLY DIWALI

To me, Diwali has never been just about a day off, new clothes or fireworks. I choose not to light fireworks or release sky lanterns because I don't want a celebration to come at the expense of the air, environment or animals around us. That has never made Diwali joyful. If anything, it has made me notice what makes it special: lights, the sound of Deusi-Bhailo, freshly made Sel Roti, and being surrounded by people who normally have a hundred things to do, but somehow find time to sit together.

Choden Tamang, B.Tech. (Computer Science & Engineering) 5th Semester, SIT

MORE THAN A FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Diwali is a festival that reminds us of the importance of light, hope, and togetherness. The tradition of lighting diyas symbolises the victory of light over darkness and good over evil. In our busy daily routines, we often forget to connect with the people around us. Diwali gives us a beautiful reason to come together and appreciate these little moments.

Sahil Oraon, B.Tech. (Computer Science & Engineering) 5th Semester, SIT

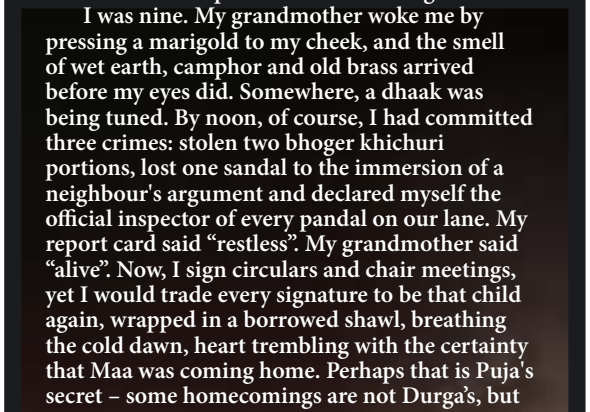
THE DHUNUCHI HOUR

DR AYAN CHAKRABORTY

If I could return to one Puja memory, I would skip the pandal, the new clothes, even the bhog. I would choose a single, unremarkable minute: Saptami, before dawn, when Kolkata slept and Maa's footsteps seemed close enough to hear.

I was nine. My grandmother woke me by pressing a marigold to my cheek, and the smell of wet earth, camphor and old brass arrived before my eyes did. Somewhere, a dhaak was being tuned. By noon, of course, I had committed three crimes: stolen two bhoger khichuri portions, lost one sandal to the immersion of a neighbour's argument and declared myself the official inspector of every pandal on our lane. My report card said "restless". My grandmother said "alive". Now, I sign circulars and chair meetings, yet I would trade every signature to be that child again, wrapped in a borrowed shawl, breathing the cold dawn, heart trembling with the certainty that Maa was coming home. Perhaps that is Puja's secret – some homecomings are not Durga's, but ours. Every autumn, I still wake before dawn. The marigold is gone. The cheek remembers. Hope you all had a great Puja!

Principal, Techno International New Town (TINT)



TEACHER CONNECT

DEVOTION OVER DISTANCE

DR SOMA CHATTERJEE

There is no doubt about the way technology has changed festive dynamics. A college alumni sitting across continents can see the live streaming of Sondhi Puja or send festive sweets through quick e-commerce application instantly. But whereas digital platforms have brought smooth connection, they can never substitute the magic of festivities like smell of dhuno, beats of dhaak or togetherness in dhunuchi naach. The way technology has changed over time is not just a facilitator but a powerful tool which has not only increased our reach but also empowered us in our own traditions.

Deputy Registrar & Head Dept. of Computer applications, Techno International New Town (TINT)

THE LAST HANDWRITTEN WISH

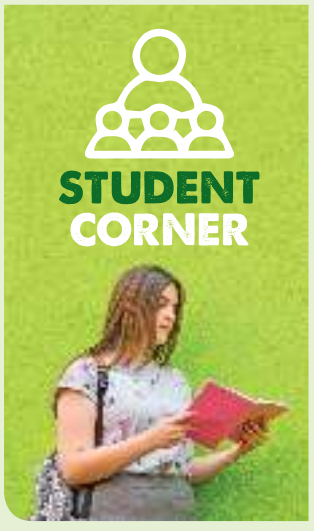
DR SWAGATA PAUL

I teach machines to think. Yet every Bijoya, I am reminded how much they have taught us to forget. When I was a boy, Dashami meant a ritual of ink. We wrote Bijoya letters in Bengali, sought blessings from elders.

Today, my phone buzzes with 400 "Shubho Bijoya" messages before breakfast. Back then, we raced to the sweet shop, argued over rosogolla and sandesh, and hugged until our new kurtas wrinkled. Today, we send a heart emoji and call it a hug. Technology has not killed the festival. It has simply made distance optional and effort invisible. This Bijoya, I wrote a letter, with errors uncorrected.

Academic Co-ordinator & Head, Dept. of Computer Science Engineering, TINT

STUDENT CORNER



HER PRESENCE, MY STRENGTH

As a child, Durga Puja meant new clothes, holidays and visiting pandals. But as I grew older, it became a source of strength. On stressful days, simply remembering that Puja was coming could make me feel lighter. Maa Durga inspires me as a woman; her strength reminds me that I, too, can face challenges. When I stand before Maa Durga and look into her eyes, I feel at home, alive, and ready to begin again.

Sneha Halder, BCA 2nd Year, SIT

PUJA & MEMORIES OF GRANDMA

Every Durga Puja is special, but one year it showed me how happiness and sorrow can be intertwined. That year, my grandmother was suffering and was, too, weak to join the celebrations. On Saptami, my grandmother called me, gave me a small red thread and said, "Keep this safe," with a smile. She also said, "You will understand it someday." The next day, she was no more. I could not celebrate Puja for a long time. After a long time, I found a small piece of paper in her prayer book that she had hidden. The note said "Festivals are not about having everyone forever. It is about loving them while they are." Since then, I feel her love every Durga Puja.

Subhankar Rakshit
BCA 2nd Year, Siliguri Institute of Technology

NOT THE SAME DIWALI

Growing up in a joint family, festivals have always meant homecoming of all the relatives across the globe. During Durga Puja and Diwali, home feels different, smells different. For me, the true essence of festivals lies in the togetherness that follows.

Every year, I would eagerly look forward to visiting my maternal uncle's place during Diwali. My grandma, who passed away this year, would bribe her choto didun with puffed rice balls. Those little moments, never-ending conversations, outings, endless fun, shared meals and the warmth of everyone under the same roof make the festivals truly special. Perhaps, Diwali will never be quite the same for me ever again.

Sriranjani Ray, ECE 4th Year, TINT

DIWALI LESSON IN RESPONSIBILITY

Diwali has always meant more than just crackers, diyas to me. Perhaps because I'm a Bihari, Diwali has never felt like the end of celebrations, it has always felt like a renewal of faith, family and familiar traditions, a quiet return to what makes home feel like home. Growing up in a business family, Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, has always had a special place in our home. My father, a businessman by choice, has always been my mentor. One of his core principles has stayed with me: 'wealth is respected not simply because of what it can buy, but because of the work, responsibility and uncertainty that comes with earning it.' I started helping him in Class 6, and even today, I genuinely love it. Years ago, he sold firecrackers during Diwali; I loved selling them more than bursting them. I've perhaps always been a better giver than receiver.

Abhishek Kumar, CSE (DS), 2nd Year, TINT



NEW-AGE GRANDEUR OF DURGA PUJA

ROZY SINGH

Technology has changed Durga Puja significantly, while many of its core traditions remain intact. Modern design software, 3D modelling, and lighting systems allow organisers to create elaborate themes. People who cannot attend in person, including those living abroad, can watch rituals and celebrations remotely.

QR codes and mobile banking have made donations, purchases and many Puja-related transactions easier. CCTV, digital communication, GPS-based navigation and sometimes apps or websites help organisers and visitors manage large crowds. But at the same time, technology has not replaced the cultural heart of the festival: the rituals, dhaak, anjali, sindoor khela, community gatherings and the emotional significance of Maa Durga remain important.

Principal, TIGPS Gangarampur

TEACHER CONNECT

PUJA IN THE DIGITAL ERA

TANMAY SAHA

Technological innovations have transformed the very canvas of the Durga Puja celebration. From elaborate thematic pandals and mesmerising illumination to intricately sculpted idols and sophisticated sound arrangements, the festival has become an extraordinary showcase of human creativity and technical ingenuity. Yet, amid this ever-growing grandeur, the true spirit of Durga Puja remains untouched. For Bengalis, the festival is far more than an annual spectacle; it is an emotional homecoming, deeply rooted in cultural heritage and collective consciousness.

Technology has undoubtedly transformed the experience of Durga Puja, making it more spectacular and imaginative. However, it has neither replaced its emotional significance nor altered the sentiments that bind generations together. Perhaps, this is the most beautiful aspect of Durga Puja. The splendour may belong to the present, but its emotions are timeless.

PGT English, TIGPS Alipurduar

IF I COULD BE EIGHT AGAIN

MINAKSHYE SAH

If I could return to a Durga Puja, then I would want to be eight again. For us, Puja was not just those four days, it started one week before. There was light testing in all pandals. We used to quickly finish our homework in the evening and then run with my friends and cousins just to see the lights. On Sashti, my father used to buy new dresses and I couldn't sleep looking at it. The sound of dhak and smell of dhunuchi made everything magical. Now I don't get that same feeling. Life was simple then.

Assistant Teacher, TIGPS Alipurduar

ALPONA & MEMORIES OF FAMILY PUJA

PRIYANKA DEY

If I could go back to just one Durga Puja, it would be the year 2002 when I was in Class XII. We cousins were incredibly close, and our family gatherings were always full of life. That year, our youngest aunt decided to host the Puja at her home and we were absolutely thrilled. The preparations turned into a massive team effort. The elders handled the heavy lifting, like setting up the pandal and organizing the catering. My cousins and I took charge of choosing the idol and designing the decorations. The night before Puja was unforgettable. We completely forgot about sleep, staying up to decorate the pandal with fresh flowers and draw intricate alpona. It wasn't until three in the night, after a gentle scolding from my aunt and uncle that we finally went to bed. The pure warmth and togetherness of that family Puja make it one of my most cherished memories from those years.

Assistant Teacher, TIGPS Gangarampur

THE CREATIVE CORNER



Pritha Das
Class V, TIGPS Gangarampur



Riju Das
Class XI Laureates, TIGPS Alipurduar



Tanishka Pandit
Class XI, Nucleons, TIGPS Alipurduar

OPEN SPACE

MAA DURGA

Every year, Maa Durga comes to home,
Spreading happiness and prosperity.
She is the daughter of the world
And the mother of every living being.
She is the wife of Shiv Shakti.
She is the divine feminine energy
She is the source of empowerment
She not only destroys Mahishasura,
But also all the asuras present in every
Human beings!

Adrika Singha,
Class VII, TIGPS Gangarampur

DURGA PUJA

The rhythmic sound of dhaak fills the air,

Beautiful pandals are built everywhere.

Ma Durga arrives with her daughters and sons,

Bringing pure joy to all of us.

She rides her strong lion with a grace,

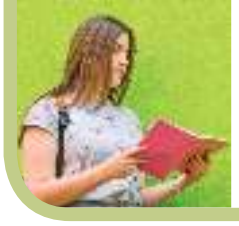
And a peaceful smile shines bright on her face.

We wear new clothes and visit friends every day,

While eating sweets along the way.

Debarghya Sarkar,
Class V, TIGPS Gangarampur

STUDENT CORNER



PUJA OF COLOURS

When I think of Durga Puja, I think of colours. One year there was a puja that depicted Durga as an incarnation of nature. The pandal was green, not for the fabric, but rows of plants arranged from floor to ceiling. I also think of the Chinese paper lanterns hung above the streets, and the gaudy electric lighting boards posted at intervals, showing cartoon characters and scenes from folktales. Most of all, I think about the colours of humanity. Once a year, the Pujo brings everyone together to celebrate, regardless of their belief, status, and religion.

Rohini Roy, Class XI, TIGPS Alipurduar

FAVOURITE PUJA MEMORY

I wait for whole year for Puja but one memory remains especially close to my heart... last year's Ashtami. On that evening, I went for pandal-hopping with my family. While admiring a beautiful pandal, I suddenly realised that I had lost them. I was confused, but I tried to remain calm and looked for a volunteer. Just then, I noticed a little girl crying along in a corner. I had assumed that she had lost her family too. I decided to help her first and soon she was reunited with her family. I found mine too. It felt as Durga Puja is not only about celebration, it is about kindness, togetherness and the memories we carry home.

Adrian Paul, Class VI, TIGPS Gangarampur

A REMINDER OF CULTURE & POWER

Maa Durga is worshipped as a symbol of strength, courage and the victory of good over evil. Her story also makes me think about the strength of women in our society. Durga Puja also teaches us to remain connected to our cultural roots. Therefore, for me, Durga Puja is not simply about holidays and celebrations. It is a reminder of faith, culture, family, respect and the inner power and strength of every woman.

Kaushani Sarkar, Class VIII, TIGPS Gangarampur

DURGA PUJA & TECH EVOLUTION

APARNA NANDI BHATTACHARYA

Durga Puja is a celebration of faith, culture, togetherness, and joy. Over the years, technology has changed how we experience this cherished festival, making it more accessible and connected than ever. Today, information about pandals, cultural programmes, and traffic updates is available instantly through mobile apps and social media. Families and friends living far away can join in the festivities through video calls, live streaming, and digital greetings.

However, while we embrace these advancements, we must remember the true essence of Durga Puja. The festival is not just about innovation and convenience; it is also about devotion, community bonding, and spending meaningful time with loved ones. The warmth of personal interactions, shared celebrations, and collective prayers remains irreplaceable. Technology has enriched Puja, but its heart continues to lie in human relationships, cultural traditions, and the joy of coming together to celebrate the triumph of good over evil.

Principal, TIGPS Krishnanagar

TEACHER CONNECT

FOR LOVE OF TAGORE & PUJA

PRIYANKA SAHA

If I could return to one Durga Puja, it would be the autumn of 2010, when I was nine and played Prakriti in our para's staging of Tagore's Chandalika. For weeks, we rehearsed in a cramped clubroom that smelt of chalk and stale tea, forgetting lines, giggling and starting again. On Saptami evening, with the dhaak still echoing from the pandal next door, I stood under the stage lights, hands trembling, and offered Ananda a drink of water. I remember my mother pinning my hair, the hush before my first line, and the applause that followed. At nine, I only knew my dialogues. Today, I understand the story. Prakriti is shunned for her birth, yet Ananda's simple acceptance of water from her teaches that dignity belongs to everyone. As a teacher, I still see children quietly judged by their background, language or circumstances, and this message feels more necessary than ever. I would go back not for the applause, but to hear that lesson for the first time. That Puja gave me a stage; Tagore gave me a conscience and I ensure that I carry along the conscience in and outside the classroom.

Assistant Teacher, TIGPS Kancharapara

AI-POWERED PUJA

RINITA PAL

Ya Technology Sarvabhuteshu Shaktirupena Samsthita, Namatasyai Namastasyai Namas tasyai Namo Namah. Ironically, this sacred verse is deeply etched in the minds of the populace, truly reflecting and affirming the notion that technology has had a monumental impact on Durga Puja. In the last few years, AI has laid a magnanimous grasp on Bengal's predominantly biggest festival Durga Puja.

Firstly ChatGPT, Gemini, Perplexity- these AI tools have become a relying source for the artisans and sculptors who are making the optimal use of these to conceptualize the structure of deities and the entire décor of the pandals. To accord with the Durga Puja Pandal Hopper App, an application which can be downloaded free of cost has enhanced the grandeur of this festivity by allowing us to navigate to the key pandals of Kolkata. Although tradition has converged with technology, the timelessness of this festival is still seeded at the core whereby the sound of dhaak and other age-old rituals continue to serve as an invisible string connecting us to our rich heritage with technology seamlessly merging with this ethnic festival and serving as a robust reminder of how profoundly Durga Puja has evolved over time.

Teacher In-Charge, TIGPS Kanchrapara

THE CREATIVE CORNER

DIVINE GRACE OF SHAKTI



Debopriya Ghosh
Class XI TIGPS
Krishnanagar

TIMELESS TRADITION OF DURGA PUJA



Anwesha Halder
Class IX TIGPS
Krishnanagar

OPEN SPACE

THE FESTIVAL OF NEW HOPES

Out in the autumn when every breeze blows,
Excitement of waiting all it grows
Colours of choices and all the voices,
Echo happiness to all the lives with noises.
All around in the market crowded people bargains,
Arrival of her also begins with brightness
Destroying all the evil strengths,
Visiting her own home with greatness.
Holding her four kids in her own breath,
Oh! who is she upholding all the dharmas,
Well! She is Maa Durga in all her karmas.

Aradhya Halder,
Class V, TIGPS Krishnanagar

STUDENT CORNER



MY LOVE FOR DURGA PUJA

Durga Puja is an emotion for me. Even though I am not a Bengali, Durga Puja is my favourite festival. For me, it is a time of pure joy and happiness. During these nine days, people worship Maa Durga with great devotion. I love visiting different pandals and enjoying the food stalls. Some people put up stalls where they sell sweets and delicious food, while others organise cultural programmes and performances. Watching people dance and perform on stage makes the celebrations feel even more special. In Bengal, Maa Durga is lovingly welcomed as a daughter returning to her home. I simply love these nine days. Durga Puja is not just a festival for me; it is a beautiful part of the year filled with happiness, joy and emotions.

Ananya Singh, Class VI, TIGPS Kanchrapara

THE FEELING OF ONENESS

Durga Puja festival brings peace, happiness and prosperity to lives. For me, Durga Puja is not only about holidays. It is also about spending time with family, friends and making happy memories, especially like the sound of the dhaak. During these days, people forget differences. For me, Durga Puja is about family, happiness, togetherness and making memories that stay with me even after the holidays are over. It teaches us the true value of love and peace in society.

Sanket De, Class IX, TIGPS Kanchrapara

ECHOES OF OCTOBER: WHAT DOES DURGA PUJA MEAN BEYOND HOLIDAYS?

For me, Durga Puja is much more than just holidays and a break from school, an event filled with joy, culture and pure happiness. Durga Puja brings a unique magic that starts even before the festival begins. While holidays are always welcome, they can't match the festivity and excitement that Durga Puja brings to our lives. The bright blue sky, the fragrance of the shiuli flower, and the heraldic beats of a dhak remarks the carnival of Durga Puja and makes everything feel festive and special. It is time when families come together, let go of daily stress and celebrate unity. Dressing up in bright new clothes, visiting pandals, offering morning Anjali and enjoying hot bhog with loved ones are the traditions I cherish the most. Beyond the fun, Durga Puja teaches us about the victory of good over evil and fills our hearts with joy and positive energy that stays within us even after the festival ends. Deep down, the festival is not just a celebration on the calendar, but a living emotion that stays in our hearts all year long.

Adrija Das, Class V, TIGPS Krishnanagar

EMBRACING COURAGE

GOBIND MOORJANI

It's been a few days Durga Puja is over, but I extend my warmest greetings and best wishes to you and your family. The divine blessings of Maa Durga will always bring peace, prosperity, good health and happiness into your lives. This sacred festival reminds us of the triumph of good over evil and inspires us to embrace courage, compassion, integrity and righteousness in all that we do. Durga Puja strengthens the bonds of family and community, and fill our homes and hearts with hope, harmony and positivity.

Principal, TIGPS Raiganj

TECHNOLOGY SHOULD ACT AS BRIDGE BETWEEN TRADITION & MODERNITY

MRINMOYEE BISWAS

Durga Puja is not just a festival; it is an emotion that connects us with our roots, traditions, family, and community. Over the years, technology has certainly changed the way we celebrate this beautiful festival. Today, with digital invitations, online shopping, social media, and virtual darshan, celebrating Puja has become easier and more convenient. We can explore pandals, admire their themes, and share our festive moments with loved ones, even from a distance.

However, as an educator, I believe that while technology has changed the way we celebrate, it should not change the true spirit of Durga Puja. The joy of getting ready with family, walking through crowded streets, enjoying the sound of the dhaak, and seeking blessings together cannot be replaced by a screen. Technology should be a bridge between tradition and modernity, not a substitute for human connection. As we welcome Maa Durga every year, let us embrace progress while preserving the values of togetherness, compassion, and cultural heritage that make our Puja truly special.

Vice Principal, TIGPS Sodepur

OPEN SPACE

THE JOURNEY OF LIFE AND DIVINITY

"Sailed to the unknown sea,
Light houses were obscure mirage,
Planted by thee.
Though, not rusty did get my body
Nor salted my blood;
Life is like mangrove -
Grows in flood.
Time heals all sorrow
To welcome a good morrow
I had sailed to the unknown sea-
Eyes were at the aim
To re-unite with Thee."

Anamitra Bhattacharjee, *TGT English, TIGPS Raiganj*

MY DEAR OLD GRANDMOTHER

My dear old grandmother,
that was the last day I saw you.
Tears were rolling down,
hands were shaking,
trembling lips-
like a rainbow without hue.
My dear old grandmother,
that was the last day I touched you,
hugging me tightly,
kissing my forehead,
giving me blessings
like a painful ocean blue.
My dear old grandmother,
that was the last day I felt you,
with a false promise of return,
with all my joy and happiness,
with all my peaceful dreams,
towards the old-age home
you were going to.

Ajanta Sanyal, *PRT Teacher, TIGPS Raiganj*

I DIDN'T LET SPRING ENTER

I didn't let spring enter
For the fear of autumn.
I can't see my garden
All green and ample,
And next moment,
Dried leaves in shambles.
I didn't let spring enter,
For the fear of autumn.
They come to my life,
Knocking at the door
With mirth and delight.
Then they leave for the world,
Leaving me out of sight.
I didn't let spring enter,
For the fear of autumn.
They caress my soul,
Provide me peace.
The distance of despair
Gives me a jolt,
Pulls me out of ease.
I didn't let spring enter,
For the fear of autumn.
I plunge into the depths,
Only to get knocked down
By all that is beautiful,
Only to rise up with
Smile as the mask,
Pain as the crown.
I didn't let spring enter,
For the fear of autumn.
I wish to let spring
Fill my garden lush green,
I can go moon and back
For all that is love,
For all that's serene.

Tanushree Paul, *Assistant Teacher, English, TIGPS Raiganj*

THE SILENT PAIN

Once my papa stood so strong,
working hard his whole life long,
Now his steps are slow and weak,
yet no complaint he will ever speak.
The world that praised him yesterday,
slowly seems to fade away,
behind his smile, I often find,
a silent pain he leaves behind.
Not because of his paralysed body and age,
but from feeling helpless in life's cage.
Bhagwat Gita gently says the truth:
The world stays close when strength remains.
When dependence comes, 'NO!' everybody says,
yet to me, your love and courage still shines bright,
for me you are my guiding star, only light.

Monalisha Roy Paul, *TGT English, TIGPS Raiganj*

GROWING TOGETHER

The little moments every day,
A smile, a lesson, work and play,
Together help our dreams take flight,
And guide us gently toward the light.
With curious minds and hearts so kind,
A brighter future we will find.

Sourav Roy, *Assistant Teacher, Biology, TIGPS Raiganj*

THE CREATIVE CORNER



Rahini Mondal
Class IX TIGPS Sodepur



Debasmita Datta
Assistant Teacher (Science) TIGPS Raiganj



Debasmita Datta
Assistant Teacher (Science) TIGPS Raiganj



Debasmita Datta
Assistant Teacher (Science) TIGPS Raiganj



Debasmita Datta
Assistant Teacher (Science) TIGPS Raiganj



Priyanka Das
Assistant Teacher (SST) TIGPS Raiganj



Rituparna Chakraborty
Assistant Teacher – Science TIGPS Raiganj



Rituparna Chakraborty
Assistant Teacher – Science TIGPS Raiganj



Sanjana Chatterjee
Assistant Teacher (Music) - TIGPS Raiganj

TEACHER CONNECT

KINDNESS ABOVE ALL

SHALINI GOSWAMI SANYAL

If I could go back to one Durga Puja from my childhood, I would choose the Puja when I was old enough to notice something beyond the lights, new clothes and celebrations. I remember visiting a neighborhood pandal with my family one evening. The place was beautifully decorated and everyone around us was dressed in their best clothes. While returning, I noticed an elderly woman sitting quietly outside the pandal, watching people walk past. She had nothing in her hands except a small bag. My parents bought her some food and quietly sat beside her for a while. I was young then and I remember wondering why such a small gesture seemed to make her so happy. That evening taught me something I understood much better as I grew older: the spirit of Durga Puja is not only in worshipping Maa Durga, but also in recognizing the people around us who may need a little kindness. It taught me that happiness becomes more meaningful when it is shared.

Coordinator, TIGPS Sodepur

A TRIP DOWN THE 80S LANE

ANIRBAN ROY

Sweet Cottage, Karandi, 1981. If time granted me one return, I would step off at Jamshedpur station in the autumn of 1981 or was it 82? and walk down Mahua Road to Karandi, where Dadu's Sweet Cottage stood, the grandest compound among the Bengali homes, strung with fairy lights. On Sashthi, the dhaak woke the sky at Vivekananda Milan Sangha, where Dadu presided, and at the market field by the railway crossing. Five cousin brothers in crisp new clothes each day, we roamed free. The adults had their world; we had ours.

On Bijoya Dashami, under a load-shedding dark, we made lantern-lit visits to every house, whether we knew the family or not. We touched elders' feet, received blessings, and were fed ghugni, nimki, narkel naru and mishti. The whole family was under one roof.

There was no hype and there were no hoardings, only Puja in its purest essence. "Bolo Dugga Mai ki, Joy! Asche bochor abar hobe!" we chanted. How I wish it would.

Principal, Techno India Group Public School, Midnapore

MEMORIES THAT REFUSE TO LEAVE

SUMAN CHATTERJEE

For Bengalis, Durga Puja is not merely a festival; it is an emotion, a tradition and a celebration of togetherness. Whenever Puja arrives, my mind goes back to the golden days of my childhood in the eighties and nineties. We lived in a railway colony at Bhilai (BMY), where Durga Puja was celebrated by everyone, irrespective of community. The five days were filled with joy, laughter, delicious food and endless excitement. We spent our evenings at the Puja pandal, meeting friends, enjoying cultural programs and sharing wonderful moments together.

The late evenings were made memorable by Jatra performances by renowned groups. The most spectacular event was Ravana Dahan, accompanied by magnificent fireworks. I had never witnessed such a dazzling celebration elsewhere. Even after immersion, the festive spirit continued until Lakshmi Puja. We visited elders, sought their blessings and enjoyed homemade sweets, especially coconut laddoos. Today, those simple yet beautiful moments remain etched in my heart. Those were truly my golden days — gone forever, yet alive in my memories.

Principal, TIGPS Kolaghat

TEACHER CONNECT

OF DEVOTION & JOY

SULAGNA ROY

Technology has changed the way we celebrate Durga Puja. Earlier, people depended mainly on newspapers, posters and word of mouth to know about Puja pandals and programmes. Today, smartphones and social media help us get information instantly. We can see pictures and videos of beautiful pandals, check puja schedules and even watch rituals online. However, excessive use of mobile phones can sometimes distract us from enjoying the festival with family and friends. We should, therefore, use technology wisely. Technology has certainly made Durga Puja more convenient, colourful and connected, but the true spirit of the festival—togetherness, devotion and joy—should always remain at the heart of our celebrations.

Co-ordinator (PG-II), Techno India Group Public School, Midnapore



MAGIC IN THE AIR

The homecoming of Goddess Durga just doesn't signify the beginning of a festival. It's an emotion and it starts on Mahalaya with the baritone of Birendra Krishna Bhadra on the radio. For five days, the whole of Bengal lights up. Pandals become palaces of art, dhaak beats make our heart dance. My city Medinipur gets into the celebratory mode. We have tears on Bijoya Dashami but we know that she never leaves.

Adrita Maiti, Class V, TIGPS Midnapore

SOCIALLY AWARE



The year 2025 has been the most memorable Puja for me. I saw 32 idols and pandals. Among all of them, the one I liked most was the Puja pandal of Rabindranagar, Paschim Medinipur. The theme was "Ebar bhabte hobe". The pandal showed how water saves our life and how the aquatic animals lived there. Life is not possible without water. The craftmanship of the entire pandal including the idol was created based on underwater environment. I will remember this Puja for the rest of my life.

Ainesh Mandal, Class III, TIGPS Midnapore

THE ART OF WAITING

Durga Puja is not just an annual festival for Bengalis. It marks a profound homecoming of culture, faith, memory and joy, breathing life into those autumn days. For me, Puja means more than a simple escape from academics. It is a time when life slows down along with the sound of dhaak, glow of neons, and sights of towering pandals. There is a peculiar beauty in waiting for something one truly cherishes. Durga Puja perhaps embodies this art of waiting more profoundly than any other occasion. The days of the puja carry a distinct enchantment. Shops are crowded, homes are cleaned, new clothes bought, the old ones sent to those in need bring a glimmering smile to their faces. And this cycle shall remain infinite in the hearts of Bengal and worldwide.

Sampurna Chattopadhyay, Class X, TIGPS Kolaghat

THE CREATIVE CORNER



Soumit Bisoi
Class IV, TIGPS Midnapore



Sagnik Pakhira
TIGPS Kolaghat



Srijan Sengupta
Class IV, TIGPS Midnapore



Mekhla Sautya
TIGPS Kolaghat



Susnata Ghosh
Class IV, TIGPS Midnapore

HAS TECH CHANGED OUR DURGA PUJA?

DEBAYAN DUTTA

Durga Puja is no longer just a celebration of traditional clay and bamboo craft; it has transformed into a stunning showcase of modern technology, digital media, and immersive engineering. In recent years, however, technology has woven itself into the very fabric of the festival. What used to rely purely on manual labour and analog methods now embraces cutting-edge engineering, turning temporary pandals (temporary stages) into futuristic art installations.

As technology becomes an integral part of our daily lives, we can draw meaningful parallels between the philosophies of Durga Puja and how we approach technological innovation. From the importance of adaptability to the consequences of our actions—embodied by the concept of karma—these ancient lessons offer profound insights that can shape a more humane and balanced approach to technology. This intersection of technology and Durga Puja proves that heritage and innovation can coexist harmoniously. While technology expands the festival's reach and visual grandeur, the human emotion, devotion, and timeless artistry continue to give the celebration its true meaning.

Principal, TIGPS Hooghly

DURGA PUJA THAT I LONG TO GO BACK TO

KRITTIKA GHOSH

I grew up in Dhanbad, away from Bengal, but somehow the calendar ticks always followed the same rhythm as every Bengali child back home. As September arrived and the sky began filling with those soft, cotton-like clouds, something stirred in me. To the little girl I was, they were a gentle reminder—it was almost time to go to mamabari. For me, Durga Puja meant visiting mamabari.

It meant waking up to the distant beats of the dhak, cotton clouds floating lazily across the autumn sky, and a house suddenly overflowing with cousins, laughter, noise and the delicious chaos of being together. I still remember the glitter in my eyes when I opened an Anandamela on the train while travelling to Kolkata. The journey home itself was part of the celebration—the rhythmic sound of the train, the pages of the magazine turning in my hands, the anticipation of reaching home, and that inexplicable happiness that only childhood could hold. And then there was the excitement of the Puja-special gaan. Every year, the release of a new song felt almost ceremonial. We would listen, learn the steps, and wait for the perfect evening to dance together—without caring whether anyone was watching or whether we knew the steps properly. That was the magic of Puja. Luchi and aloo dum on Puja mornings, served hot and eaten with the kind of appetite that only childhood and holidays could create. Hot rosogollas waiting in the kitchen, disappearing one after another. Fun fact was, nobody was counting! Maybe that is what we miss most as we grow older—not merely the Puja, but the feeling of coming home to a world that once felt entirely ours.

Principal, TIGPS Jalpaiguri

TEACHER CONNECT

CELEBRATING TRADITION IN TECH WORLD

ANINDITA CHOWDHURY

I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interactions. The world will have a generation of idiots." - Albert Einstein. While Durga Puja, evoking strong emotion among Bengalis, is a true embodiment of culture, community, and human connection, Einstein's words somehow reflect the worry about using technology during festival instead of living the moment. Today, it is unequivocal that technology has made Durga Puja more convenient and accessible; the way of celebrating has also changed.

Technology has made Puja more innovative, connected and convenient while also creating new challenges. The true essence and vitality of Durga Puja lie in devotion, joy, and togetherness.

Assistant Teacher, TIGPS Jalpaiguri



GOING BACK TO 2017

SNEHA MAITRA

If I could return to one Puja, it would be in the year 2007. I was in grade 7. In 2007, I visited a restaurant with friends for the very first time. Today, that may sound ordinary. Back then, it was an event. You had to ask permission, negotiate the timing, promise to be home on time, and then, finally, step out with your favourite bunch of friends and order your favourite cuisine. I don't know if Gen Z and Gen Alpha can relate, but that little slice of freedom felt enormous. I would go love to go back. Not for the food or the clothes, but for the feeling of being naive, trusted and completely, ordinarily happy.

Faculty, TIGPS Jalpaiguri

HAS AI TRANSFORMED DURGA PUJA?

SWATI SIL

Over the years, technology has brought several changes to the way we celebrate Durga Puja. At the same time, the traditional spirit of Durga Puja remains important. Technology has certainly changed the way we experience Durga Puja, making celebrations more connected, convenient and creative. However, technology should complement tradition rather than replace it. The true essence of Durga Puja lies in devotion, community participation, joy and togetherness.

Faculty, TIGPS Hooghly

OPEN SPACE



HER STRENGTH LIVES ON

We search for her in painted clay,
In crimson, gold, and flame.
We fold our hands before her throne
And softly speak her name.
But maybe she walks close to us,
Where ordinary lives unfold.
In women who withstand the storm,
In girls who dare be bold.
She lives in hands that never rest,
In hearts that stand the rain.
In those who fall, yet rise once more,
And walk through every pain.
Each autumn, we gather once again,
Beneath the festive light.
We celebrate the strength she bears,
And find our hearts burning bright.
And maybe what we seek each year
Was never far away.
Perhaps she walks beside us still,
In someone we pass each day.

Adrita Sen
Class XII, TIGPS Hooghly

STROKES OF SHAKTI — THE CREATIVE CORNER — CANVAS OF DEVOTION



Suchintan Roy
Class XII (Science) TIGPS Hooghly



Suchintan Roy
Class XII (Science) TIGPS Hooghly



Hrishikesh Das,
Class X, TIGPS Jalpaiguri



Suvra Mondal,
Class VII TIGPS Jalpaiguri

DURGA PUJA: WHERE TRADITION MEETS TECHNOLOGY

NILOY MONDAL

Durga Puja is much more than a festival; it is an emotion deeply woven into the cultural fabric of Bengal. Over the years, technology has certainly changed the way we experience and celebrate this cherished festival. Today, technology has made Puja more accessible, convenient and interactive. We can virtually explore magnificent pandals, watch cultural programs and share the festive spirit with friends and family, even when they are far away.

However, while technology has added comfort and connectivity, the essence of Durga Puja remains unchanged. The joy of pandal hopping with family, the sound of the dhaak, the fragrance of shiuli, the excitement of new clothes and, above all, the warmth of togetherness cannot be replaced by a screen. As educators, we must encourage our children to use technology wisely — embracing its benefits while preserving our traditions and values. Technology may have changed the way we celebrate Durga Puja, but it need not change what Durga Puja means to us.

Principal, TIGPS Falakata

ARE WE MISSING OUT ON SIMPLE JOYS IN TECH AGE?

PARAMITA KUMAR

Technology may change the way we celebrate, but the spirit of Durga Puja remains timeless. Over the years, technology has brought many changes to the way we experience the festival. Social media allows us to share Puja photographs, videos and greetings instantly. Navigation apps help us discover new pandals and plan our routes, while digital payments have made shopping and donations easier. Technology has also added a new dimension to pandal decorations through creative lighting, digital displays and impressive sound effects.

However, too much dependence on technology can sometimes make us forget the simple joy of spending time together. Constantly using mobile phones may distract us from the people and moments around us. Technology has certainly made Durga Puja more convenient and exciting, but the essence of the festival still lies in togetherness, tradition, devotion and shared happiness.

Vice Principal, Nandlal Jalan Shiksha Sadan (TIGPS Raniganj)

IF I COULD RELIVE ONE DURGA PUJA

ANINDITA BASAK

If I could go back to one Durga Puja from my childhood, I would find it difficult to choose just one. Hailing from a defence background, Durga Puja for us was never confined to one place. With every transfer, the festival brought a new city, new traditions, new friends and yet the same warmth of Maa Durga.

Every Puja had its own charm, and every place left behind a beautiful memory. From eagerly dressing up in new clothes to meeting friends, enjoying the festive food and being a part of cultural functions, Durga Puja was always a celebration of togetherness. Perhaps, I would not go back to just one Puja. I would go back to those carefree years when happiness was found in the simplest things—a new dress, a crowded pandal, a cultural program, laughter with friends and the reassuring warmth of holding my father's hand. Those memories remain my most cherished Puja gifts.



Headmistress, TIGPS Falakata

STUDENT CORNER



MY UNFORGETTABLE DURGA PUJA

My favourite Durga Puja memory is pandal hopping with my family and friends. The city looks beautiful with all streets lit up. The beats of dhaak, the smell of bhog, and the view of Maa Durga made my evening really enjoyable. The different themes of Durga Puja pandal are made with creativity and uniqueness. Every theme is unique and best on their own. For me, Durga Puja is not just a festival, it is about family, friends, and togetherness.

Nikunj Gupta, Class XII (Science), Nandlal Jalan Shiksha Sadan (TIGPS Raniganj)

WHAT DURGA PUJA MEANS TO ME

For me, Durga Puja is much more than a festival or a few days of holidays. Beyond the celebrations, Durga Puja reminds me of the values that Goddess Durga represents—strength, courage and the triumph of good over evil. It teaches us to face difficulties with confidence and to stand up for what is right. Durga Puja also brings people together. It is a time when differences seem to fade and the spirit of community becomes stronger. Most importantly, Durga Puja reminds me to carry its message beyond the festival—to be kind, courageous, helpful and respectful throughout the year.

Nupur Kora, Class XII (Science), Nandlal Jalan Shiksha Sadan (TIGPS Raniganj)

HOMECOMING, HEART & HERITAGE

To me, Durga Puja is not just a welcome break from daily routine, but it is a profound emotional homecoming of goddess "Durga". The festival represents the "Victory of good over evil". Ma Durga is widely worshipped in West Bengal. In these days, my city Falakata really becomes very vibrant and cheerful. Everyone seems to enjoy themselves during these four days. Even the air carries the scent of shiuli flowers, the rhythmic sound of the dhaak. It is the time when people come together, old friends get reconnected and strangers become companions. The streets in Falakata are full of people going to see the creative pandals, which reflect people's hard work in creating them beautifully. Durga Puja Days really gives me traditional vibes and represents our cultural heritage. The enjoyment we get is phenomenal and most importantly it honours the homecoming of a daughter which symbolizes warmth, comfort and ultimate triumph of light over darkness.

Ishani Baraik, Class IX, TIGPS Falakata

OPEN SPACE

THE HOMECOMING

The autumn sky turns clear and blue,
The kaash flowers sway in morning dew.
A sacred whisper fills the air,
The Mother comes to end despair.
From distant Kailash, high and white,
She brings her children to the light.
To fill the earth with warmth and mirth,
And bless the land that gave her birth.
Wise Ganesha leads the way,
While handsome Kartik joins the play.
Bright Laxmi brings her golden grace,
And Saraswati tunes the space.
Ten arms adorned with power and might,
She shields the world and slays the night.
Her gentle eyes look down to give
New hope and strength to all who live.
The rhythmic sound of dhak resounds,
As incense fills the festive towns.
In every home, in every street,
The joy of homecoming is complete.
And though four short days quickly flee,
And tears will mark her return sea,
Her blessings linger in the soul
Until next autumn makes us whole.
A Still Spectator.

Aishiki Das, *Class X (Titan), TIGPS FALAKATA*

THE CREATIVE CORNER

Rishika Shaw
Class IX Nandlal Jalan Shiksha Sadan (TIGPS Raniganj)



TEACHER CONNECT

THE FIVE DAYS I WOULD BORROW FROM PAST

SUDESHNA KARMAKAR

If I could go back to one Durga Puja from my childhood, I would choose the Puja I celebrated when I was eight years old, when my grandmother was still alive. It was perhaps the most memorable Puja our entire family celebrated together. Little did we know that it would be one of our last such celebrations with her. From the following year onwards, we could feel the vacant space she had left behind. I would return to that year, when relatives kept arriving with smiles, stories and laughter. All my cousins would come together, and we would enjoy every moment to the fullest, playing, teasing one another, wandering around freely, going pandal hopping, admiring the beautiful idols and decorations, and creating memories that seemed ordinary then but feel priceless today. I would return to the kitchen where my grandmother prepared one dish after another, as though feeding the family was her way of expressing love. No matter how many restaurants we visit nowadays, no dish can overshadow the taste of those homemade delicacies. She was the soul of the family, the invisible thread that lovingly held everyone together.

At eight, I did not know that such togetherness would one day become a memory. Today, as an adult, I understand that childhood does not merely disappear; it quietly becomes a part of who we are.

Assistant teacher (English), Nandlal Jalan Shiksha Sadan (TIGPS Raniganj)

TEACHER CONNECT

DURGA PUJA I WOULD LIKE TO GO BACK

CHAKITA MITRA

If I were given the chance to step back into one Durga Puja from my childhood, I would not hesitate to choose those unforgettable days when every pandal felt like an adventure. I can still picture myself in a new dress, holding my father's hand as we wandered from one pandal to another. The powerful beats of the dhak, the swirling dancers with smoking dhunuchis, dazzling lights, music, and festive crowds created a world that seemed magical. Today, I realise I would return not for the grandeur, but for those little moments — the laughter, my father's hand, and the innocence of being a child. Those days are gone, but their warmth remains.

Assistant Teacher, TIGPS Coochbehar

INSTANT UPDATE VS CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

MONIDEEPA THAKUR

There was no greater thrill for us in our childhood than awaiting the Durga Puja festivities. No theme-pandals, no itinerary, no fixed plans, nothing. Who knows when did posting snaps from the integral Puja days become so relevant? It's interesting to watch foreign countries and NRIs celebrating Durga Puja overseas with a far greater fervour than in India. Perhaps, technology with its multifaceted dimensions, has become the metaphor for 'God' whom we are hailing instead of the Dashabhuja we worshipped since time immemorial.

Faculty of English, TIGPS Durgapur

A SYMPHONY OF TOGETHERNESS

INDRAYUDH PAUL

For a Bengali, Durga Puja is an emotion and a cherished memory. Now the question arises — "Does technology change the fervour of Durga Puja?" Perhaps it does, but not by diminishing it, rather by transforming its expression. Where once we waited for a letter or a photograph, now a video call brings home closer. Where once only those present could feel the beat of the dhaak, now live streams carry its rhythm across oceans. Social media may have turned pandal-hopping into photo-sharing, yet it also allows a Bengali far from Bengal to still feel the light of his para. Technology has not replaced emotion; it has only given nostalgia new wings.

Assistant Teacher, TIGPS Coochbehar



STUDENT CORNER

THE SILENCE AFTERWARDS

What remains when the last dhaak falls silent, and the Goddess returns to her heavenly abode? For me, Durga Puja is found in that very silence… in the memories we cannot leave behind. Beyond the glittering holidays, Durga Puja whispers to our souls through the fragrance of shiuli and the melancholy of the dhaak. Somewhere between the tears of Bisorjon and the promise of "Abar Esho Maa", we realise that some presences are too sacred to be measured by time.

Niharika Bhowmick, Class IX, TIGPS Coochbehar

RESET BUTTON OF LIFE

To me, the festival signifies a deep homecoming feeling. It is the sensory comfort of hearing the deafening, eardrum beats of the dhaak, breathing in the fragrance of shiuli mixed with the grease of egg rolls and phuchkas and testing the limits of human endurance while sweating to death through new clothes in the overcrowded sea of people, just to witness the stunning artistic expression inside creative community pandals. More importantly, it is a powerful reminder of resilience and empowerment. Ultimately, this sacred time serves as an 'emotional reset button'.

Simran Alam, Class X-Beta, TIGPS Coochbehar

GOING BACK TO THE ROOTS

Durga Puja is a festival of togetherness and reunion. During Durga Puja, the weather feels magical, a festive vibe appears as fluffy white clouds float in the clear blue sky, warm cozy sun rays come. Goddess Durga is the inspiration of most of the women. She represents strength, power to fight against evil, which brings courage to stand against what is wrong and protect the good. Most importantly, it reminds me of the beauty of my Dharma. It teaches me to value my roots and traditions. Therefore, to me, beyond the holidays, Durga Puja means to reconnect with nature, loved ones and celebrate our culture.

Abhipsa Das, Class IX, TIGPS Durgapur

FAVOURITE PUJA MEMORY

My best memory of Durga Puja goes back to 2020, the year when the world was fighting against Covid-19. It seemed like the celebrations would be ruined by the lockdown. But perhaps, destiny had other plans. It was Ashtami evening. I was sitting on my bed in my ordinary clothes, when suddenly, the familiar beats of the dhaak reached my ears. I jumped out of bed as my mother called me outside. To my surprise, all my neighbours were smiling. A big-wheeled cart, pulled by a few people, arrived with the idol of Maa Durga and her four children. I joined my hands and smiled, still trying to believe that this was real. The whole evening felt like a beloved family member had finally returned home.

Swastika Banerjee, Class IX, TIGPS Durgapur

THE CREATIVE CORNER



Aariv Sarkar
Class KG - TIGPS Durgapur



Pratibha Sarkar
Class X TIGPS
Durgapur



Bhaswati Lodh
Class XI (Humanities)
TIGPS Durgapur



Sandip Kr Chanda
Class XI TIGPS
Coochbehar



Sandipan Saha
Class X TIGPS
Coochbehar



Nayanika Das
Class XII
(Commerce)
TIGPS Durgapur

OPEN SPACE



A QUIET LONGING

I look out of my window,
the green meadow now dotted with
white plumes of kaash.
Oh, what could I do?
Clip a lotus onto my hair
And look out of my window again-
The sky echoed with the sound of dhak
Which hammered against my ribs
With hushed anticipation.
I look out of my window yet again –
At the gleaming lights,
And heard the kaash soughing
A quiet mantra.
I touched the lotus behind my ear
And wondered,
If Uma will notice
This quiet longing in my heart
When she steps down
From the soft veils of heaven again.

Jayetree Paul
Class X, TIGPS Coochbehar

THE FAREWELL MEAL

Karali, the Hamal horomo Dhaki-bou
swallows her own fresh tears
Staring at the fermented rice, her utmost wish
To offer Durga Mai as Her farewell meal,
The ultimate possible offering from her end
on Vijaya Dashami.
But how can she offer a handful of leftovers
without a pinch of salt.
Her Jaway is madly beating the barrel of his
Cylindrical irreparable dhak in a distant
city pandal.
Karali's heart and his dhak, both throbbing in
same rhythm;
Waiting for the two to become three in a better world.
Durga Mai will leave tomorrow; Dhaki will
touch the metal after long,
Kailash and Karali yearning for their Juri to
come and light the oil lamp.
Karali finally adds her rolling down salt to the
leftover, now it's complete!
The picture of Durga Mai is offered the last
meal soaked in Karali's raw emotions.
On Vijaya Dashami she's clinging to her Durga
Mai, in whom
She infused life through her tears every night.
Mai must not leave Karali in the same dark!
Dhaki is rushing home; his blistered fingers
busy counting metals.
Mai has left little Lachhmi to light the oil
lamp for the two.

Ushashi Khan
Class VIII, TIGPS Coochbehar

DURGA PUJA IS HERE

Durga Puja is here so bright,
The city glows with golden light.
The drums go dum-dum with sweet sound,
And happy pandals all around.
Maa Durga comes with a smile so kind,
The loveliest Maa we ever find.
We wear new clothes and sweets we eat,
With luchi, mishti and tasty treats.
We pray to Maa both day and night,
To keep our world so safe and bright.
We love this time full of cheer,
Durga Puja is the best time of the year!

Arushi Mandal
Class IV, TIGPS Durgapur

THE ETERNAL MAGIC OF AGOMANI

DR SUKANYA GHOSH BISWAS

When golden sunlight kisses fields of white,
And kaash grass sways in autumn's gentle light,
The rhythmic 'dhak' echoes through the morning breeze,
Awakening joy across the earth and seas.

As autumn unfolds her golden canopy over Bolpur, painting our skies in radiant azure and scattering the delicate fragrance of shiuli blossoms across the morning dew, our hearts bloom with the timeless song of Agaomani. Durga Puja is not merely a date on the calendar; it is a sacred emotion, a homecoming of the soul, and a celebration of light over darkness.

Principal, TIGPS Bolpur



HAS TECH CHANGED DURGA PUJA?

There was a time when Puja arrived quietly, with the fragrance of shiuli in the dawn air, kaash swaying beside the roads, and the distant, familiar call of the dhaak. Today, Puja arrives through notifications. We make plans on WhatsApp, constantly click selfies during pandal hopping and carry the whole celebration inside a little glowing screen. Yet, somewhere beneath all this technology, the old Puja still lives. Technology may have changed how we see Durga Puja but it can't change what Puja means to us. No screen can capture the warmth of bodhon, no photograph can hold the sound of the dhaak at dusk, and no notification can ever say what those four days once whispered to us: "The Goddess has arrived."

Riti Mandal, Class XII – Humanities, TIGPS Bolpur

THE CALL OF HOME

Durga Puja is not just about new clothes and pandal hopping. It is the feeling of waiting the whole year for Goddess Durga to come home, just like a daughter returns to her father's house. For me, Durga Puja is emotion. It is when the whole neighbourhood becomes one family. It is when my grandmother's eyes is filled with tears during sindoor khela, and when all our busy lives pause to just feel together. The Goddess is the 'Shakti' inside every woman. She teaches me to be soft yet strong, kind yet fearless.

Reeshika Mondal , Class XII, TIGPS Bolpur

SPORTS & ATHLETIC TRIUMPHS

TIGPS swimmers delivered a phenomenal performance at the Visva-Bharati Swimming Competition 2026, securing top podium finishes led by gold medalists Ishayu Ghosh, Ida Chakraborty, Aadya Thander, and Vedant Khetmalish. Demonstrating equal grit on the mat, Ritojit achieved a commendable 4th rank at the National Champion's Trophy 2026 (Kyokushin Karate).



Techno India Group Public School, Bolpur continues to empower young minds through a strong blend of experiential learning, sports achievements, and community engagement

STARS OF SUCCESS



Experiential & digital literacy

Class XI students bridged classroom concepts with real-world finance during a Financial Literacy Workshop at Yes Bank. Meanwhile, young learners enhanced their communication and creative skills using interactive smartboards under the Techno Gram Sewa CSR initiative.



Key events & campus leadership

TIGPS Bolpur celebrated the 3rd National Space Day 2026 at Bangladesh Bhavana, featuring ISRO scientists and interactive space exhibits. The campus also inducted its new Student Council during the Investiture Ceremony 2026-27 and organized a free eye & health check-up camp with Shantiniketan Medical Centre.

From driving societal awareness via the Nashamukti Bharat campaign to honoring teachers on Dr S Radhakrishnan's birth anniversary, TIGPS Bolpur remains committed to holistic excellence.



THE CREATIVE CORNER



THE DESTROYER OF EVIL & AN EPITOME OF LOVE
Shreya Ghosh Class IX TIGPS Bolpur



SARBA MANGALI MANGALYE
Subarna Das Choudhury
Class VI TIGPS Bolpur



WHERE ART MEETS ADI SHAKTI
Subhangi Dey
Class IV TIGPS Bolpur



IN EVERY STROKE I FOUND HER BLESSINGS
Arushi Mondal Class IV TIGPS Bolpur

OPEN SPACE

THE RETURN OF MAA

Pujo was always a homecoming.
Return to new clothes
And familiar streets,
To late-night walks
Under an autumn moon,
To crowded pandals
Years change us.
Homes become quieter.
People move away.
Some names become memories,
Some memories become photographs,
And some photographs become
The only places we can return to.
Yet autumn remembers.
Every year,
When the dhak begins to rise
Through the evening air,
Something within us knocks
The door of our hearts, we thought
We had forgotten.
And perhaps that is why
We wait for her return.
Because when Ma comes home,
For a little while,
So do we.

Ayindrilla Das, *Asst. Teacher, TIGPS Bolpur*

AN AUTUMN TO REVISIT

DR S CHAKRABORTY

If I could relive one Durga Puja of my childhood, I would return to Kurseong, my beloved hill town. There were few pandals then, yet their charm was immeasurable. I fondly remember visiting the Ramakrishna Mission and Raj Rajeshwari Hall with my parents and my two younger brothers.

Dressed in our new Puja clothes, we shared the innocent excitement of childhood. Our greatest delight was the humble, heartwarming khichdi prasad.

Today, these memories return with profound tenderness and an ache that words can scarcely express. With my parents no longer beside us, their absence has left a void that nothing can fill. Those cherished celebrations now belong to a distant world I can revisit only through memory. If granted one wish, I would ask for one more autumn morning in Kurseong, surrounded once again by the warmth of those irreplaceable days.

Principal-in-Charge, TIGPS, Siliguri



TIGPS, Siliguri participated in the CBSE Athletic Meet Cluster-II 2026, organized by KIIT International School, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Dhrubojyoti Roy of Class XI-A (Humanities) secured the bronze medal in the 400 metres event. Prateeti Paul also competed in the U-19 Girls Individual category and emerged as the runner-up, adding another remarkable achievement to the school's success. She will represent the school at the CBSE National Table Tennis Tournament, which will be held at Podar World School, Sherkhi, Vadodara.

Meanwhile, Angel Barman and Freya Alam have qualified for the CBSE National Yogasana meet after securing the gold medal in the Artistic Yogasana Pair event. Debagnik Modak of Class VI achieved the fifth rank in U/11 category at the West Bengal State U-15 Open and Girls Fide Rated Chess Championship 2026 held in Siliguri. Chess champion Naiyayike Biswas of Class VIII has under him some major achievements like Peak: FIDE Ratings (2026) Classical: 1864, Rapid: 1910, Blitz: 1759. He is a crowned champion in the Open category at the IIAS Chess Championship 2026, conducted by the IIAS School of Management. He is also the second runner-up — FIDE Rapid Rating Tournament.



FOUR CENTURIES OF GRACE

For 400 years, Durga Puja has never been just a holiday or a festival to us; it is our ultimate family reunion and the beating heart of our identity. Our roots trace back to Raj Shahi in Bangladesh, where our ancestors first welcomed the Goddess. Though Partition uprooted our lives and brought us to Raiganj in North Bengal, it could never sever our spirit. We brought Maa Durga in our hearts, keeping her worship alive with the exact same reverence on new soil. Watching my family work tirelessly from dawn to dusk—never tiring, fuelled only by devotion—fills me with quiet wonder and gratitude.

Praket Sen, Class VII, TIGPS Siliguri

PUJA, AS I SEE IT

Do you know why Durga Puja is one of the favourite times of the year? I was born in Indore and since my family shifted through many cities, I have experienced many cultures. After my family shifted to West Bengal, I have embraced the Bengali culture. Goddess Durga is the epitome of bravery, strength, and fearlessness; which is also the meaning of my name. Here's a festival, which equalises one and all.

Durga Puja teaches us bravery, strength, creativity, respect for culture, community spirit, and the importance of staying connected to your roots. Also to truly enjoy and celebrate the festival, it is very important to celebrate respectfully and without looking down on other cultures or religions.

Abhik Biswas, Class VIII, TIGPS Siliguri

A SOULFUL EMOTION BEYOND HOLIDAYS

Durga Maa is welcomed not just as a deity, but as a beloved daughter Uma returning home with her children. The arrival of Maa is a magical moment. It's a feeling – one that brings along the beats of dhaak, melodies, memories which is the long-awaited anticipation of the Puja. The festival is also living canvas of art and creativity. Sculptors, light designers and artists work untiringly with utmost devotion to turn entire festival into open-air art galleries. Ultimately, this festival is a soulful emotion that instils hope, fosters love and brings entire communities together.

Adrita Saha, Class VIII, TIGPS Siliguri

MORE THAN JUST A FESTIVAL

For me, Durga Puja is much more than a holiday. It is a feeling of homecoming. It is often the only time of the year when the whole family comes together, sharing food, stories, laughter and memories. For me, Durga Puja is therefore not simply about pandals, new clothes or holidays. It is about returning to our roots, reconnecting with loved ones and creating memories.

Saptak Sarkar, Class: VIII, TIGPS Siliguri

TIES THAT BIND

For me, the real beauty of Puja lies in the emotion it creates. Families come together, old friends meet after a long time, and neighbourhood work together to organise celebrations. The sound of the dhaak, the fragrance of incense, beautifully decorated pandals and the sight of the Goddess create an atmosphere that feels special and unforgettable. Beyond holidays, Durga Puja teaches me to values of togetherness, respect to our traditions and face difficulties with courage.

Madhushree Paul, Class VIII, TIGPS Siliguri

ROOTED IN TRADITION

People often believe that Durga Puja is merely a holiday period. But we should never judge a religious celebration as a time of relief. Instead, it is a time when people come together to feel the joy of Goddess Durga's arrival. Folklores say the landlords, or zamindar, of Dinajpur and Malda initiated the first Durga Puja in Bengal. The barowari puja in 1790 was origin of the large-scale spread of Puja among rich and poor in our nation. Knowing the origin of the Durga Puja enables us get a better understanding of the age-old tradition and its importance so that we can preserve it.

Arka Sen, Class IX C, TIGPS Siliguri

OF HERITAGE & HOPE

Beyond the dazzling lights and pandal-hopping, the festival embodies a timeless spirit of resilience and community. The arrival of Maa Durga serves as a poignant reminder that light triumphs over darkness, and strength resides in unity and togetherness. It is a time when differences blur and a quiet sense of hope fill the air.

Roshni Kumari , Class XII D (Science), TIGPS Siliguri

WARMTH OF TOGETHERNESS

For me Durga Puja specially means spending time with my family and the late-night pandal hopping. The celebration is defined by the warmth of togetherness. As Maa Durga returns home, she brings a quiet reminder that no matter how dark or overwhelming the struggles of life feel, inner strength and goodness will always triumph. Puja is not just a festival, it is a time to pause, breath and find courage to keep moving forward.

Anushka Kumari , TIGPS Siliguri

BEYOND THE HOLIDAYS

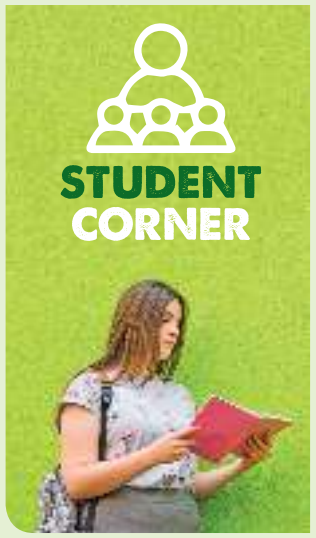
Durga Puja to me is all about 'kash phool', the reverberating beats of the dhaak, and how the entire city is lit up in fairy lights. It's the time of homecoming of Goddess Durga, and the celebration of the divine feminine energy. Of course, Puja also means hanging out with friends and family, new dresses and pandal hopping. It's my favourite time of the year.

Sayantini Sarkar, TIGPS Siliguri

BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

Durga Puja brings people together in a unique way. People from different religions, castes and communities participate in the celebrations, visit pandals, enjoy cultural programmes and share food and happiness. Beyond the celebrations, Durga Puja teaches me the importance of togetherness, respect and harmony. It shows that festivals can become bridges between communities rather than boundaries between them.

Arya Sikder, Class XII B (Science), TIGPS Siliguri



WHAT PUJA REALLY MEANS

Durga Puja acts as a social reset. Local paras become hub of collective effort where neighbors cook, organize and celebrate side by side. At a deep philosophical level Durga puja stands to me as a powerful act of revering womanhood, strength and divine feminine principle. She is simultaneously Maa and Mahisashurmardini representing the complete spectrum of feminine essence.

Dreeshan Chanda, Class XII
TIGPS Jalpaiguri

COMING BACK TO WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

Every year, we build a whole world for someone who already knows she will leave. Maybe that is what makes Puja so strange. In Jalpaiguri, I have grown up watching the town change for her. Familiar roads become crowded. We dress her, feed her, sing for her, stand before her for longer than we meant to…Then we carry her away. The lights come down. The pandal disappears. The road is just a road again. I used to think this was the sad part. Now I think it is the point. Maybe Durga Puja teaches us that loving something was never a promise that it would stay. Maybe it is simply a reason to come back before I become someone who doesn't.

Granthana Das,
Class XI Mendel, TIGPS Jalpaiguri

CELEBRATION OF CREATIVITY

Durga Puja brings families together, often reuniting those separated by distance. It transforms neighbourhoods into communities and streets into vibrant celebrations. It is also a celebration of creativity, with magnificent idols, artistic pandals and traditional music blending with modern ideas. As historically proven, it also acts as a medium to showcase ideas and messages. Most importantly, it connects various generations. Though the way we celebrate may change, the emotion remains unchanged.

Syamamtak Mondal, Class IX,
TIGPS Hooghly



OF HUMANITY & COMPASSION

Durga Puja is filled with countless memories, but one incident remains etched in my heart. At that time, I was eight-years-old. Amidst the crowd near the pandal, a young boy suddenly went missing. His parents searched frantically. Then, over the loudspeaker, the puja committee announced that they had found the boy. A collective sigh of relief swept across the crowd. Moments later, the child was reunited with his parents, who embraced him with tears of gratitude and overwhelming love. Watching that reunion was deeply moving—it reminded me that Durga Puja is not only about devotion and celebration, but also about humanity, compassion, and the strength of community.

Ripon Das, Class IX, TIGPS Hooghly

OPEN SPACE

THE AUTUMN SKIES

The autumn skies are bright and blue,
The kaash phool sways in silver hue.
The beating dhak announces loud
A joyful cheer sways through the crowd.
Maa Durga comes with strength and grace
To clear dark from every place
Ten hands equipped to heal and bless
She fills our homes with happiness.

Arunava Maji,
Class IV, TIGPS Midnapore

DURGA PUJA

Hail, Devi Durga - Mother of all,
So, at last you respond to our call.
Breese in there, catkin swings,
Clouds move slowly with their wings.
Green are paddies, brimming with joys.
Peasants are free now, putting their toys.
Children are waiting for new dress,
Jaba and Jui are blooming now fresh.
For you devi, decorating new Seat.
Covered in white, clean and neat.
We're waiting through the whole year,
with hope, excitement and joy.
Mother as you come make up feel.
To erase evil and selfishness to kill.
Bless us to worship you with devotion and care.

Tanishka Rani
Class V, TIGPS Midnapore

WHEN MOTHER COMES HOME

The dhaak wakes up the sleepy sky,
And shiuli dreams beneath the light.
The streets are red, the lamps all glow,
As if the moon has come low!
Laughter spills from every door,
Old stories find their way once more!
Friends sit quietly beside the cup of tea
While our Maa, Devi comes home to you and me.
Even autumn wind, so shy
Stops for a while to pass us by.
And time that thief, we always blame
For five days forget it's a little game.
Yet, She will leave when the last light fades,
Taking the autumn colours away she made!
How Strange! The Goddess we waited a year to see,
Leaves behind a little heaven quietly.
How goodbye wears the mask of rain
She leaves our street but blooms in us again.

Ariha Mandal
Class IX B, TIGPS Kolaghat

THE CREATIVE CORNER



ARYA SIKDER
Class XII (Science) TIGPS Siliguri



PARNIKA MAJUMDER
TIGPS Siliguri



Aishiki Kar
XI (Science TIGPS Siliguri



ANIRUDDHA PAUL
TIGPS Siliguri



ARYA SIKDER
Class XII (Science) TIGPS Siliguri



PAPARNIKA MAJUMDER
TIGPS Siliguri



SNIGDHA PAUL
Class XI (Humanities) TIGPS Siliguri



SUHANA BOSE
Class XII (Science) TIGPS Siliguri

INNOCENCE OF CHILDHOOD & NEW CASSETTES

DHRUBAJYOTI ADHIKARY

During my childhood, Durga Puja was an era of heartwarming simplicity, deep community bonds and the early whispers of corporate artistic transformation. Before it evolved into a hyper-commercialised mega-carnival of competitive global themes, Pujo was an intimate celebration rooted in the warmth of para (neighbourhood) culture.

My childhood Pujo was not about checking updates on smartphones; it was about buying new cassettes of Puja specials featuring Kumar Sanu, Asha Bhosle or Anjan Dutt, which would blare from neighbourhood loudspeakers alongside the hypnotic beats of the dhaak.

Our childhood fashion was defined by traditional dhoti panjabi. As a child, I proudly counted how many new dresses I got, saving my absolute best outfit for Ashtami morning. Jhalmuri, phuchka, Pepsi popsicles made childhood Pujo unforgettable. No Pujo was complete for me without buying a cap banduk (toy roll-cap pistol).

Visually, the pandals of my childhood occupied a sweet spot between tradition and modern experimentation. While most para pandals still worshipped the classic clay idols adorned in elegant, sparkling silver daaker saaj, my growing-up years also birthed the very first wave of the "themed" Pujo movement.

Principal, TIGPS Nabadwip



MORE THAN A SCHOOL VACATION

For me, Durga Puja means much more than a vacation from school, tuition, and exams. The true essence of the festival is rooted in its deep cultural values, timeless mythology, and the unique spirit of togetherness. At its core, the festival celebrates the victory of Goddess Durga, who saved the universe by killing the fierce buffalo demon, Mahishasura. This powerful story reminds us that good triumphs over evil. However, the festival also holds a deeply emotional meaning. It represents the welcoming of a beloved daughter, Durga, who comes to her maternal home from the Himalayas with her four children (Ganesha, Lakshmi, Saraswati, Kartikeya) for five days. This beautiful concept of viewing Durga both as a supreme protector and an intimate family member gives the festival its unique warmth.

Arunima Bandyopadhyay, Class IX, TIGPS Nabadwip

FESTIVAL CLOSE TO MY HEART

Durga Puja unites one and all. This isnt just a celebration but the Puja provides seasonal employment to hundreds of vendors and small-time shopkeepers. Our stress and sorrow take a backseat with the arrival of the Goddess. The festival also acts as a living bridge between the past and the future, the young and the old.

Lahama Debnath, Class X, TIGPS Nabadwip

OF RESILIENCE & TOGETHERNESS

Durga Puja is a celebration of faith, resilience, heritage, and togetherness, a time when our hearts seem to beat in harmony with the rhythmic echoes of the dhak. The arrival of Maa Durga fills the atmosphere with an indescribable sense of joy and anticipation. The festival brings families, friends, and communities together, dissolving differences and creating a sense of belonging. When the celebrations end and the lights gradually fade, the essence of puja remains within me. It inspires me to carry values into everyday life, to be courageous in difficulties, compassionate towards others, and unwavering in goodness.

Rachana Kumar, Class IX, TIGPS Nabadwip

THE JOY OF DURGA PUJA

The arrival of Goddess Durga fills the air with positivity. Even strangers smile back during Puja. Durga Puja also provides global platform to hundreds of artisans who toil hard to create awe-inspiring pandals, idols and themes. For me, Durga Puja is therefore not simply a break from school. It is a time to celebrate our culture, strengthen relationships, and spread happiness.

Parnika Sil, Class VIII, TIGPS Nabadwip

CELEBRATION OF HOPE

For my classmates and me, Durga Puja is definitely the most awaited time of the entire year because it means a long, relaxing break from heavy school bags, early morning alarms, coaching classes and homework. However, as I am growing up, I realize that this grand festival is much more than just a holiday. Beyond the days off from school, Puja means reconnecting with my family and traditions. It's a celebration of hope.

Rejuwan Sheikh, Class VIII, TIGPS Nabadwip

BE KIND AT HEART, STRONG IN ACTIONS

Durga Puja is the time to celebrate Bangaliana in all forms. From having bhog, adda to dhunuchi naach, Puja is that time of the year when we forget our past and embrace only happiness.

Looking at Goddess Durga makes me feel powerful. She teaches not only me, but every girl to be soft like a daughter and strong like a warrior. Her calm eyes are full of love for her children, but also full of fire to destroy evil! Her face glows with both softness and power. It teaches me to be kind at heart, but strong in actions.

Rupsa Saha, Class IX, TIGPS Nabadwip

PLATFORM FOR ARTISTIC COLLABORATION

Just as Goddess Durga returns to her earthly maternal home, the days represent a deep emotional homecoming for families and friends scattered across the world. Recognized as a pillar of global artistic collaboration and public inclusion, this festival is far more than just a holiday; it is a profound celebration of life, art, and human connection. It serves as a powerful reminder of triumph of righteousness over negativity, ultimately standing as a timeless symbol of cultural pride and unity, weaving spirituality and togetherness into a vibrant, living tradition.

Tanushka Chanda, Class VII, TIGPS Nabadwip



TIGPS Nabadwip has been bestowed with Anand Pal Memorial Award for Social Service – Certificate of Honour and the Sister Nivedita University Award for Excellence in Maintenance and Eco-Friendly Initiatives – Certificate of Excellence. Two teachers received the Shikshak Samman Award from the CBSE Sahodaya School Complex, West Bengal Chapter, recognising their valuable contribution to education.

Aishani Bhowmick secured first position in Artistic Single Under-17 Girls at the CBSE Zonal Yogasana Meet 2026. In the CBSE Class X exam, 31 students scored 90% and above, with the highest achievement being an outstanding 99.6%. The students also excelled in various competitive examinations, including Olympiads, Spell-a-Thon, Spell Bee, and Minerva Scholarship Examination, earning medals and certificates. The school hosted the Nadia District Chess Championship and for the third consecutive time served as the venue for Olympiad Level-2 Examinations.







THE WHISPERS OF AUTUMN

The blue sky wears its woolly white clouds,
The festive spirit chants out it loud,
The Kaash phool sways in the gentle breeze,
Bringing the busy world to its knees.
The rhythmic beat of Dhak is near,
Whispering secrets we long to hear.
'She is coming home', the children sing,
Oh, what pure joy the autumn winds bring.
From Sasthi's lights to Dashami's tears,
She wipes away our deepest fears.
Welcome home, O Divine Mother Sweet,
We lay our hearts right at your feet.

Dipayan Roy
Class IX, TIGPS Nabadwip



Deblakshmi Saha
TIGPS Nabadwip

Rupkatha Kundu
TIGPS Nabadwip

Srija Nag
TIGPS Nabadwip

Subhamita Pandit
TIGPS Nabadwip