



Rakhi – The festival of India

Rakhi is an Indian festival to celebrate the relationship between brothers and sisters. It is also called Raksha Bandhan, which means “protection band”. Rakhi is celebrated on the full moon day in August every year.



On this day everybody in the family gets up early in the morning and get ready. The girls in the house pray to the god for her brother’s good health and longer life. After praying the girls bring the brother and put a red dot on the forehead, also called a tika. They tie a band around their wrist. This band is called Rakhi. The rakhi can be made out of gold, silver or beautiful materials. The sister will then feed the brother the sweets made at home then the brother promises to take care of the sister whenever she needs the help. As a token he will give her a gift or money to buy whatever she wants.

Sisters who live in a different city than her brother will travel to see her brother and tie the rakhi. Rakhi is also tied to all close relatives, friends and neighbors who they think are like the brothers. It is the time when all relatives gather together and wish each other well. They make a lot of sweet dishes and tasty food to eat. This festival makes people realize the relations, emotions and feelings. Now a days if the sister is living in a different country and is not able to come personally then they will send the rakhi in the mail and call the brother to wish them happiness. No sister or brother in India will stay without talking to each other on this day.

I celebrate rakhi in Canada. My sister Neha goes shopping for rakhi in Indian store. On the rakhi day she prays to sai baba for my happiness. She then puts Tika and ties Rakhi on my wrist. My mom makes gulab jamoon, a tasty sweet and we eat them. I usually give my sister all my money in the piggy bank. We hug each other and show our love to each other.

