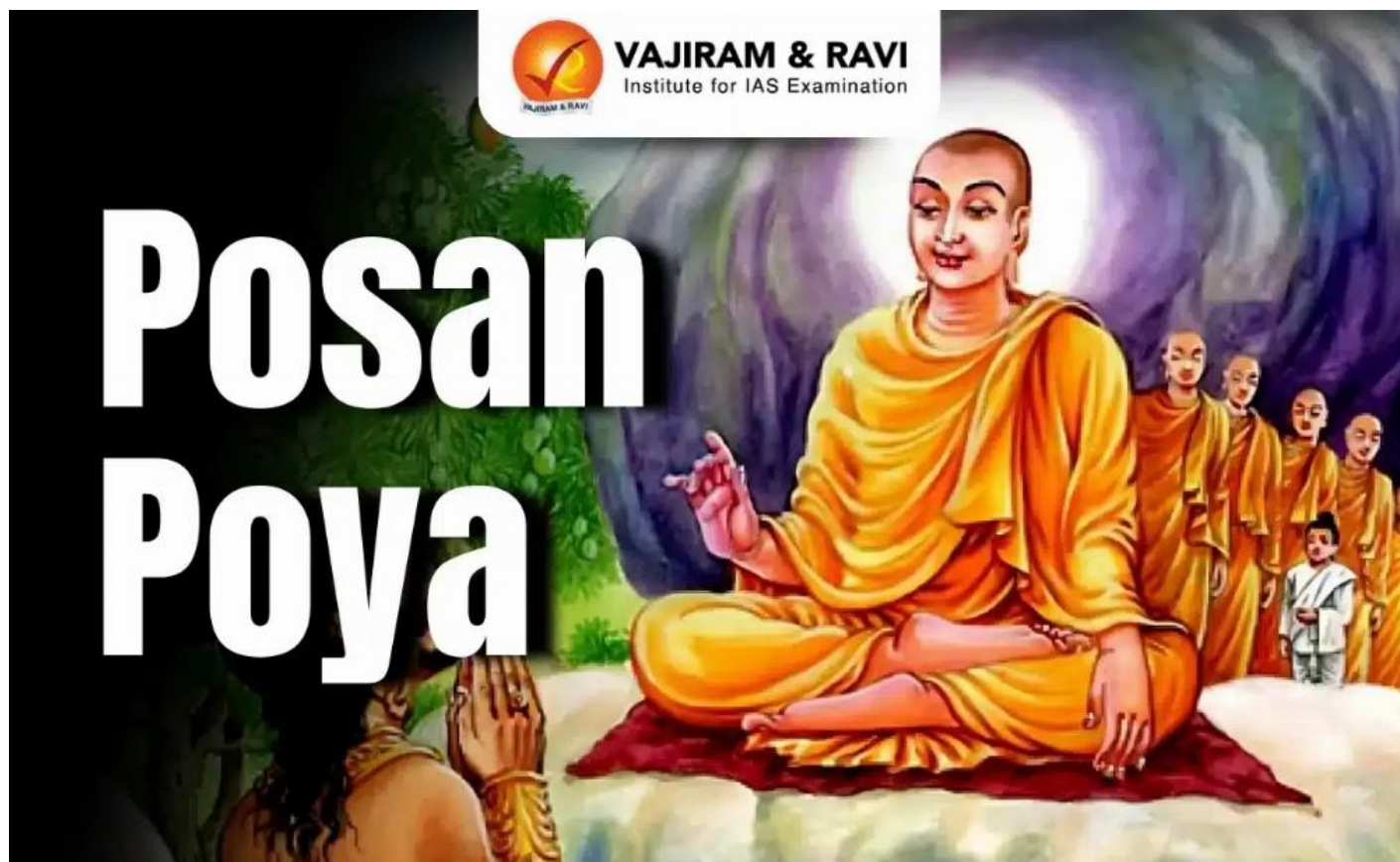


Poson Poya

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Poson Poya Latest News

Sri Lanka celebrated Poson Poya on June 10-11, 2025, marking over 2,000 years since the arrival of Buddhism on the island.

About Poson Poya

- Poson Poya is an annual **Buddhist festival** celebrated on the full moon day of June, second only in importance to Vesak in Sri Lanka.
- It marks the introduction of Buddhism to Sri Lanka in the 3rd century BCE by Arahata Mahinda, son of Emperor Ashoka of India, who preached to King Devanampiyatissa at Mihintale.
- This event is considered a turning point in Sri Lankan history, leading to significant religious, cultural, and social transformations.
- The festival is celebrated throughout Sri Lanka, but the main ceremonies are held at Mihintale and Anuradhapura, attracting thousands of pilgrims.

- Devotees dress in white, make offerings at temples, meditate, and participate in community activities such as dansals (free food stalls), lantern displays, and religious pageants.
- The festival promotes values such as non-violence (ahimsa), kindness, and unity.

Buddhism in Sri Lanka

- Buddhism is a spiritual tradition founded by Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha) in the 6th century BCE in India.
- It emphasizes the path to enlightenment (nirvana) through ethical living, meditation, and wisdom.
- Core teachings include the Four Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path, guiding individuals to overcome suffering (dukkha).
- Buddhism arrived in Sri Lanka over 2,300 years ago during the reign of King Devanampiyatissa, marking a profound spiritual and cultural transformation.
- It was introduced by Arahata Mahinda, the son of Indian Emperor Ashoka, in 236 BCE on Poson Poya day at Mihintale.
- The king embraced Buddhism, leading to its widespread acceptance across the island. Temples, stupas, and monastic traditions flourished, making Sri Lanka a major center of Theravāda Buddhism.

Poson Poya FAQs

Q1. What is special about Poson Poya Day?

Ans: It marks the arrival of Buddhism in Sri Lanka, celebrated with temple visits, lanterns, and acts of kindness.

Q2. What is the date of Poson?

Ans: Poson Poya falls on the June full moon; in 2025, it was on June 10.

Q3. What is the history of Poson?

Ans: It commemorates Arahata Mahinda bringing Buddhism to Sri Lanka and converting King Devanampiyatissa in 236 BC.

Q4. Is Vesak Poya an international holiday?

Ans: Yes, Vesak is recognised as an international holiday by the United Nations.

Source: [News on AIR](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/poson-poya/>

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