

The Story of Navratri

Narrator: Long ago there was born a demon called Mahishasur who a buffalo demon. He was born with magical powers and strength that would make even the gods tremble.

begin a fighting scene with the gods vs the asuras

Narrator: One day Mahishasur and his army was fighting against the Gods and the gods were winning. Hearing this he said.

Mahishasur: Father Rambha, why do we always have to lose against the gods, they have began to think they are too strong and are getting a very big ego. If only I had the power to stand upto them.

Father Rambha: You will one day my son, however, to do that you will have to do tapasya to please Lord brahma

Narrator: After hearing this, Mahishasur started intense tapasya where he stood under a tree on one leg for years and years.

Narrator: Until Lord brahma finally was pleased with his tapasya and came before him.

Lord Brahma: I am very impressed by your long and devoted tapasya, you have fasted for years and years and prayed for me that whole time, how could I not come. Ask for a boon my child, ask for anything you desire.

Mahishasur: All I ask for is immortality

Narrator: Brahma smiled and shook his head

Brahma: My son, what you ask for is not possible, due to the cycle of life and death, all that is born is set to die. Think of another boon and I will happily grant it to you.

Mahishasur: There has to be a way, My lord, if you cant make me immortal grant me the boon that I will not die by the hands of a man or by a dev and instead a woman should kill me.

Narrator: Being a gigantic demon, Mahishasur was confident that no woman would be strong enough to even touch him let alone kill him.

Brahma: I accept your wish and I grant you the boon that you shall neither die by the hands of a man or by a dev.

Narrator: The moment Brahma departed, Mahishasur yelled with triumph and waved his trident in the air.

Mahishasur: Now I will show these weakling gods who the true ruler of the three worlds is! No one can harm even a hair on my head, hahahaha!

Narrator: His terrible laughter rang through the earth. And Mahishasur lost no time in unleashing a reign of terror. He gathered a huge army of fellow asuras and began to torment the inhabitants of the earth. They beat up travellers and robbed them of their belongings.

Narrator: They broke into people's houses and took what they wanted. If people fought back or tried to stop them, they killed them without a second thought. Soon, all the people of earth were living in fear of the demons.

Narrator: The news spread everywhere that Mahishasur was invincible and no one could harm him.

Narrator: After suppressing all the mortals, Mahishasur decided to challenge the gods. He called all his generals for a meeting.

Mahishasur: The gods have always tried to keep us down, But it's a different story now. I have Brahma's boon. No man or god can harm me. Get ready for a battle, friends. Tomorrow we will attack Amravati, Indra's capital.

Narrator: the army of asuras stormed Amravati, confident that they would win. The gods had heard about the coming attack and were quite worried. Mahishasur had taken the form of a huge buffalo and was leading the demons.

Narrator: And to their horror, all the divine weapons of the gods proved useless before his strength. Vishnu hit him with his powerful mace. The demon was stunned but rose again, taking the form of a lion. Then Vishnu threw his chakra to cut off his head but it bounced back, unable to make even a slight cut on him. In revenge, Mahishasur headbutted the god and knocked Vishnu down.

Narrator: As a last resort, Indra hurled his thunderbolt vajra at the demon. But he was shocked to see that Mahishasur still stood there, laughing! Indra's mighty thunderbolt passed over him like a gentle breeze. Mahishasur now took the form of a giant buffalo again and redoubled his attack.

Narrator: The war continued for a long time. they decided to consult the trinity, Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma to come up with a way to destroy the demon. Vishnu said

Vishnu: Not a single woman living in all three worlds is strong enough to destroy this evil creature. Let us use our combined powers to create one.

Narrator: The gods all closed their eyes and began concentrating to create a devi that is strong enough to destroy the demon. Shiva created her face, Vishnu gave her arms, and Brahma provided her with legs. The god of the oceans of milk gave her a red sari. Vishwakarma presented her with earrings, bracelets and other jewellery he had made himself.

Narrator: Once she was beautifully dressed, Vishnu said

Vishnu: Let us arm her with our special strengths along with invincible weapons

Narrator: He began by handing her a chakra like his own. Shiva gave her a trident and Brahma a kamandal full of the holy Ganga water. Varun gave her a gift of ever-blooming lotus flowers and a mighty conch. Vayu provided her with a bow and a quiver holding an endless supply of arrows. Indra gave her a thunderbolt similar to his own. Vishwakarma armed her with an axe, Yama with a staff and Surya presented her with his blinding rays.

Narrator: Once the devi had all the weapons she needed to kill the demon Mahishasur, the gods came together and decided to name her Durga, goddess of Strength

Narrator: Durga then went on to Mahishasur's palace and yelled

Durga: Mahishasur, come out from hiding. I have come to kill you and save everyone

Narrator: Mahishasur was enraged he rushed out

Mahishasur: Who are you lady and why do you have a death wish

Durga: I am Devi Durga and I was created by the very gods you defeated. I am here to kill you so prepare for my attack

Narrator: Both durga and Mahishasur fought for 9 days until finally the Devi Durga killed Mahishasur with a trident in his chest.

Narrator: due to the 9 days of continuous battle of Mahishasur and Devi durga. We honour devi durgas victory for 9 days and we call this Navratri.

Sadhan- chuni, laathi with trishul, lion mask, demon wig, water bottle, chakra, flower, conch , red sari.