



# Akshaya Vata Sandesh

## Mahalaya Paksha

*Saturday, September 10 – Sunday, September 25, 2022*

Our ancestors leave their abode and come down to the world of mortals and occupy the houses of their descendants. They are visiting us. Hindus follow the prescribed rites, the sraddha and other appropriate pitru kaarya during this important period. We firmly believe that the offerings reach the departed souls immediately and directly, as ordained by Lord Yama.

Mahalaya Paksha is a 16- lunar day “period of remembrance” when we pay homage to our ancestors (Pitru). It is indeed a special period dedicated to making an offering to express our gratitude to all the previous generations of people who have contributed to our life.

This period is known many names including but not limited to Pitru Paksha, Pitri Pokkho, Solah Sraadha, Kanagat, Jitiya, and Aparaksha. It starts on Prathama (Saturday, September 10, 2022) and ends on Amavasya (Sunday, September 25, 2022)

We have taken all the things that we have today for granted. But without the generations that came before us, firstly we would not exist; secondly, without their contribution we would not have all the things that we have today. So, as Sanatani, during this important period we express our gratitude to all of them. It is done not only for our departed parents, but for all our ancestors as an expression of gratitude.

Rites performed for each of the 15 days of the fortnight are considered important and considered equal to that being performed in holy places like Gaya.

SSVT is blessed to have our knowledgeable acharyas, Parichaaraka and other administrative staff who can help us to perform these required rituals and seek blessings of our ancestors and forefathers during the period of Mahalaya Paksha.

According to our scriptures and directions from elders, adhering to prescribed observations and performing the sraddha during Mahalaya Paksha would provide cordial & harmonious relationship; relief from physical & mental challenges; provide stability & peace of mind and relief from other malefic effects of Pitru Dosha.