Why Saraswati Puja?

When exams are near, the names on every student's mind are not of scientific terms or theorems, but of the Gods. Truly, even though a student is well prepared academically, the inner strength he needs to drive away his nervousness is given by none other than Mother Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of wisdom, art forms, peace, and knowledge.

The Saraswati Puja is performed by many households specially on the day of Vasant Panchami, the start of spring according to the Hindu calendar. And luckily for all students, be it school, university or even life, this puja invokes the blessings of the Mother of the Universe, right before their examinations.

The preparation of the entire year has to be presented in just three hours and for this feat, the retaining power and mental strength of the student has to be at its peak and to increase this hidden potential in every student, who comes to the rescue? Mother



Mother Saraswati is the patron of all sorts of arts and music apart from educational knowledge. With her unwavering stance she exudes peace, knowledge and love for her devotees too.

But why this Puja? It isn't like the goddess herself is granting good grades through the teacher, is she? The symbolism and importance of this puja is something worth understanding.

During the puja, Maa Saraswati is honoured as a guest – she is welcomed with love and an open heart, is bathed, dressed, adorned with ornaments and fed. And just as we do to any venerable visitor, we pray that all her qualities are incorporated within us and that we may become better human beings, the torchbearers of knowledge, spreading it to the rest of the world as it is only through knowledge that an individual can conquer himself and his fears, and eventually, the world.

Excerpts from Swami Avyayananda ji's talk @ Paramdham, Chinmaya Mission Ahmedabad (10th February, 2019) compiled by Chinmaya Balavihar Student Kshitija Desai