MEANING
• “Full moon.”
• Festival dedicated to the birth of the Siddhartha Gautama, who later became Gautama Buddha, the founder of Buddhism.

GREETINGS
• “Happy Buddha Purnima.”

WHEN
• Buddha’s birth is celebrated as part of a festival week called Vesak, where three key moments of his life are recognized: his birth, enlightenment and death.
• The date of the celebration takes place on a full moon day in the month of Vaisakh.

COMMON PRACTICES
• Many begin their day by cleaning their homes, bathing and spreading Gangajal around their house.
• Lighting candles and decorating homes with flowers.
• Donating food and clothing to those in need.
• Visiting viharas, temples or monasteries and taking part in prayer and meditation.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?
Email: inclusion@msu.edu

Buddha Purnima
Sanskrit
Boo·duh Por·nee·muh

• In some areas of the world, people get the day off from work or school. Some people may choose to take the day off to participate in celebrations.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:
provost.msu.edu

Type of Calendar:
Buddhist (lunisolar)