

Message of HIS HOLINESS MAHAMANDALESHWAR PARAMHANS SWAMI MAHESHWARANANDAJI on the occasion of RAKSHA BANDHAN

The full moon day in August - Raksha Bandhan - is the day of Honour, Dignity and Respect for Women. The Raksha Bandhan festival shall remind us on brotherhood, unity, ethic principles and spirituality. It is a joyful festival, like all festivals in Hinduism are joyful. Hinduism is known as the religion of joy. Festivals like Raksha Bandhan strengthen the family relations and create happy social interactions.

Only women are able to educate our future generation. The future of our country and of the whole world is lying in two hands: in the hands of women and teachers. Children are the culture of tomorrow. Children are the future of tomorrow. And this future lies in the hands of the mothers and teachers. Mothers can protect humanity against drugs, criminality, violence and wars. They can bring again moral and ethic values in our human society.

Tomorrow's peace and today's peace is in the hands of women. They shall educate their children in this sense. Don't buy any toy-weapons, don't let your children play games or see videos with guns and fighting. Your children don't need toys, they need your love. Your children don't need your money, they need your wisdom. If you give love and wisdom to your child, you give them the greatest wealth. To struggle for money and leave your children alone at home is a completely wrong concept. Be with your children now, and take care of them. Explain them what is good and what is not good. Children will learn from you and follow your example.

Therefore, we shall declare the day of Raksha Bandhan as a day for all women of the globe. Women are the symbol of mother. Mother means care, protection, love, giving birth. In the Upanishads it is said: *Matri devo bhavaha* – Mother is God. On the holy occasion of Raksha Bandhan we shall take a vow that all women of the world should be happy. If men would see in all women their own mothers and sisters, there would not be any violence against women in the world, even there would not be any fighting and wars any more. No mother should lose her children in wars and criminal actions. No sister should lose her brothers in the battlefield. No mother shall cry because her children became victims of war and killing.