

9 Unique Raksha Bandhan celebrations across Bharat

This report has compiled 9 **unique Raksha Bandhan traditions** from different states of Bharat, showing how this festival of protection and affection is celebrated in diverse regional ways, each rooted in local culture and customs.

On August 9, 2025 (Shravan Purnima), Raksha Bandhan will be celebrated across Bharat **not just as a bond between siblings, but as a festival of protection for all nature, animals, and society**. From tying rakhis to trees and cows to honoring soldiers and rivers, it reflects a deeper commitment to harmony and care beyond family ties.

S. No	Traditions	Visuals & Source
1.	Celebrating Raksha Bandhan as Kajari Purnima in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar. State: Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand Raksha Bandhan known as: Kajari Purnima ✧ In parts of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, Raksha Bandhan is celebrated as Kajari Purnima and sisters tie rakhis and receive gifts. ✧ On the day of Kajari Purnima, women bring soil from the field in pots made of tree leaves. Barley is sown in it. These pots are kept in the dark. The place where these pots are kept is also painted with rice paste. <i>All the women take out a procession with these barley on their heads and immerse them in a nearby pond or river.</i> Women keep fast on this day and pray for the long life of their sons and brothers. ✧ The festival features folk songs like Kajri, dances, and storytelling, especially in places like Varanasi and Mathura, making it a unique cultural celebration.	 NDTV Panchjanya Prabhat Khabar
2.	Kerala and tamil nadu observe avani avittam on raksha bandhan State: Tamil Nadu, Kerala Raksha Bandhan known as: Avani Avittam ✧ On the day of Raksha Bandhan, while many parts of Bharat celebrate the bond between brothers and sisters, states like Kerala and Tamil Nadu observe a different but equally significant Raksha Bandhan known as Avani Avittam. ✧ This festival is dedicated to the male members of the family. As the full moon graces the month of Sawan, <i>people participate in a cleansing ritual by taking a dip in water, seeking forgiveness for their misdeeds. Afterwards, a sacred thread known as 'janeu' is adorned, replacing the old one.</i> This act symbolises renewal, accompanied by a promise to engage in virtuous deeds in the upcoming year. ✧ Avani Avittam is a sacred ritual mainly performed by Vedic Brahmins. Avani refers to a month in the Tamil calendar, and Avittam is one of the 27 Nakshatras (lunar constellations).	 NDTV News18 First Post Outlook

3.	Odisha celebrates raksha bandhan as gamha purnima State: Odisha Tradition: Gamha Purnima ✧ Raksha Bandhan, celebrated as 'Gamha Purnima' in Odisha, marks the bond between siblings and the birthday of Lord Balabhadra. Special rituals are observed at Jagannath Temple, and traditional games like Gamha Dian are played. Farming communities also celebrate with prayers to Lord Balabhadra ✧ Devi Subhadra, the sister of Lord Jagannath and Lord Balabhadra, tenderly ties rakhis on her brothers' arms, symbolizing her love and protection. Special rakhis are only made by a group of certain servitors known as 'Patara Bisoi'. The colours of these rakhis are red and yellow for Lord Jagannath while Lord Balabhadra is tied with blue and violet rakhis. ✧ The farming community in Odisha, who use Langala (wooden plough), the weapon of Lord Balabhadra, observe the day with a lot of enthusiasm and fervour.	 Odishatv.in Ommcom News Economic Times Odisha Bytes
4.	Lumba rakhi Raksha Bandhan honors bhabhi in raksha bandhan State: Rajasthan Raksha Bandhanknown as : Lumba Rakhi ✧ Lumba Rakhi is a unique Raksha Bandhanin Marwari and Rajasthani cultures, where sisters tie a rakhi not just to their brothers but also to their brothers' wives (bhabhis). Often crafted like decorative bangles, the Lumba Rakhi symbolizes the extension of the protective bond to the entire household. ✧ These rakhis are larger, often adorned with beads, mirrors, and embroidery, reflecting the state's rich handicraft heritage. The custom stems from the belief that the sister-in-law plays a vital role in the family's well-being.	 NDTV News18 DNA India Amar Ujala Prabhat Khabar
5.	Raksha bandhan in gujarat is marked by pavitropana rituals State: Gujarat Tradition: Pavitropana ✧ Pavitropana is Gujarat's unique version of Raksha Bandhan. While sisters tie rakhis to their brothers, the day is also marked by devotion to Lord Shiva. ✧ On this auspicious occasion, devotees offer water to the Shiva lingam and seek his blessings. It is widely believed that worshipping Lord Shiva on Pavitropana absolves one of all sins, adding a spiritual dimension to the celebration.	 TheEconomic Times Zee News DNA India India Times

6.	Raksha Bandhan with shrawani traditions in Uttarakhand State: Uttarakhand Tradition: Shravani Festival/ Jandhyam Purnima ✧ In Uttarakhand, Raksha Bandhan is celebrated with sisters tying rakhi to their brothers, along with the observance of Shrawani a ritual day marked by holy river baths, sage worship, and wearing a new sacred thread (yajnopaveet). Priests also tie raksha sutra to devotees and bless them.	 NDTV Times of India Organiser
7.	Jhulan Purnima and the spirit of Raksha Bandhan in eastern Bharat State: West Bengal, Odisha, and Bihar Tradition: Jhulan Purnima, ✧ In West Bengal, Odisha, and Bihar, Raksha Bandhan is celebrated as Jhulan Purnima honoring Lord Krishna and Radha. The swings, adorned with vibrant flowers and intricate design. ✧ <i>Rakhis are tied not only to brothers but also to friends and even trees, symbolizing love and protection.</i> The streets resonate with cultural performances and devotional songs, making Raksha Bandhan even more special.	 Free Press Journal News18
8.	Raksha Bandhan with Narali purnima traditions in Maharashtra State: Maharashtra Tradition: Narali Purnima ✧ In Maharashtra and Gujarat, Raksha Bandhan coincides with the festival of Narali Purnima, especially among the Koli (fishermen) community. <i>On this day, fishermen offer coconuts to the sea god to ensure safe fishing journeys.</i> Sisters tie rakhis to their brothers, and the celebration often includes sweets and traditional dishes like Puran Poli. ✧ Coconut is also considered a symbol of Tridev in Sanatan Dharma. <i>Its upper part is the form of Shiva, the middle part is the form of Vishnu and the juicy part is the form of Brahma.</i> This is the reason why it is considered very auspicious and fruitful in worship.	 India Times TV9 Hindi India Tv
9.	Colour, sweets, and sibling bonds in Punjab's Raksha Bandhan State: Punjab ✧ In Punjab, Raksha Bandhan is celebrated with characteristic exuberance, marked by vibrant decorations, music, and feasting. <i>Sisters tie elaborately designed Rakhis, often adorned with mirrors, beads, and embroidery, on their brothers' wrists,</i> accompanied by the application of tilak and the sharing of sweets like jalebi and laddoo. The festival is an occasion for families to come together, with homes decorated with rangoli and lights.	 Hindu Tone