



# Gangaur Festival

## Why in News?

In Rajasthan, **Gangaur Festival** is celebrated every year on **the Tithi of Shukla Paksha of Chaitra month**. This time Gangaur Festival was celebrated on **31 March 2025**.

## Key Points

### ▪ About the Festival:

- Gangaur is a major festival celebrated in different forms in Rajasthan, celebrated every year in the **month of [Chaitra \(first month of Hindu calendar\)](#)**.
  - "Gan" refers to Lord Shiva and "Gauri" or "Gaur" refers to Goddess Parvati.
- This festival is mainly celebrated by women, in which they **worship Goddess Gauri and Lord Shiva to attain a happy married life**, unbroken good fortune and the happiness of children.
- This festival reflects **Rajasthani culture and the devotion of women towards their husbands**.

### ▪ Gangaur Dance:

- This is a famous **folk dance** of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, in which girls hold each other's hands and move around in a circular circle, praying to Goddess Gauri for the long life of their husbands.
- The songs of this dance glorify and praise Shiva-Parvati, Brahma-Savitri and Vishnu-Lakshmi.

## Hindu Solar Calendar (Shaka Samvat)

- The **zero year of Shaka Samvat is 78 AD**.
- It was **started by the Shaka rulers to mark their victory over the Kushans**.
  - It is a solar calendar, with its **date system based on the time it takes the Earth to complete one revolution around the Sun**, a seasonal year of approximately **365 1/4 days**.
- It was **adopted as the official calendar by the Government of India in 1957**.
- It has **365 days every year**.