The significance of

Deepavali (or DIWALI)

The Indian Festival of Lights

Diwali is the celebration of triumph of truth over untruth.

One of the most important stories is based on the great epic *Ramayana.* Ravana, an evil demon with magical powers became a menace to society. He harassed and killed sages, teachers and terrorized the society at large. Responding to the prayers of suffering humanity, God incarnated on earth in the form of Prince Sri Rama of Ayodhya. Sri Rama was banished to live in the forests away from Ayodhya. His good and pious wife Sita and devoted younger brother Lakshmana accompanied Sri Rama to live in the forests. Ravana came in the disguise of a sage and kidnapped Sita. Eventually Sri Rama goes to war and kills Ravana. Upon their return, Ayodhya received Sri Rama and Sita by lighting up the entire city with lamps, and fireworks. Diwali is observed as the anniversary of that day of triumph of Sri Rama over the evil Ravana.

Another story connected with Diwali is where Sri Krishna with the help of Satyabhama killed another evil demon called Narakasura. Diwali.