



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
Only IAS Academy by Grandson of "Perunthalsivam Kamarajar"

# Yaoshang festival

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**Why is in news?** Yaoshang festival begins in Manipur

The festival of Yaoshang is considered one of the **major festivals of Manipur**. People from different communities come together to take part in the celebrations.

The festival is celebrated by the **Meetei** who are predominantly Hindu and it is celebrated at the same time as Holi.

A five-day event celebrated on the full moon day of the month of Lamta (February-March), the festival is generally **celebrated at the same time as holi**. But unlike Holi, the celebrations go far beyond just colours.

The festival is celebrated with singing, dancing and many other traditional performances.

It is celebrated with high spirits by the young and the old, irrespective of their gender and age.

This festival represents the **celebration of love amongst children, adults and people of all ages**.

The highlight of the festival is the **ThabalChongba, a traditional Manipuri folk dance** where boys and girls hold hands and sing and dance in a circle. The literal meaning of ThabalChongba is '**moonlight dance**' and is performed during night time.

Married women also organize their Thabal Chongba event during Yaoshang. This is called '**MouThabal**'.

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