

## Durga Puja Begins with Mahashashthhi

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Babul Debnath, general secretary of Mahanagar Sarbajanin Puja Committee told bdnews24.com: "The rituals started with Shashthyadi Kalparambha in the morning at Dhakeshwari National Temple. In the evening the temple will perform Bodhon, Amantran and Adhibas. It will also arrange for religious anthem."

Mangal Chandra Ghosh, general secretary of Bangladesh Puja Udjapan Parishad, the council responsible for organising celebrations of the Hindu community, told bdnews24.com: "This year the Hindu community is observing the Puja in about 27,000 temples and pavilions throughout the country, among which the capital alone possesses 191."

He added that this year the capital has 19 more temples and pavilions than the previous year.

Scriptures say this year the goddess will arrive riding on a palanquin and will depart riding on an elephant. Though the consequence of arriving on palanquin is rough weather, the departure on elephant indicates a good harvest.

The main priest of Dhakeshwari National Temple Pradip Kumar Charaborty told bdnews24.com, "Durga is the symbol of truth which annihilates Mahishashura, representative of devil."

Every day the illuminated temples and pavilions will see Anjali, Prasad giving and Bhog-Arati. Besides, they will also arrange for a number of programmes including Arati competition, voluntary blood donation, cultural programmes and discussion sessions.

Source: bdnews24.com