



**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**Office of Marketing and Communications**  
**Press Release**  
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## **Ramapo College Celebrates Diwali, Festival of Lights**

MAHWAH, N.J. – Students, faculty and staff celebrated Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights, at Ramapo College of New Jersey on Thursday, October 18. All enjoyed a delicious luncheon of traditional Indian and Nepali dishes, including paratha (flatbread), lentil and vegetable curries, samosa (potato-filled pastry), chicken kebob, saag paneer (spinach and cheese dish), chicken curry and sweet desserts (mithai).

The festival of lights celebrates the victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance. Also known as Deepavali, a Sanskrit word meaning “rows of lighted lamps,” it is one of the most popular Hindu festivals celebrated across South Asia. Diwali is typically held in autumn, either in October or November depending on the Hindu lunar calendar.

This year’s Diwali celebration was one of the largest Diwali event held at Ramapo.

“The beauty of such an event is to bring cultures and community together,” said Rajesh Adhikari, Director of International Student & Scholar Services. “We would like to thank everyone for making this event a huge success and wish you all a very Happy Diwali glowing with peace, joy and prosperity.”

The event was sponsored by International Student & Scholar Services of the Roukema Center for International Education and the Center for Student Involvement at Ramapo College.