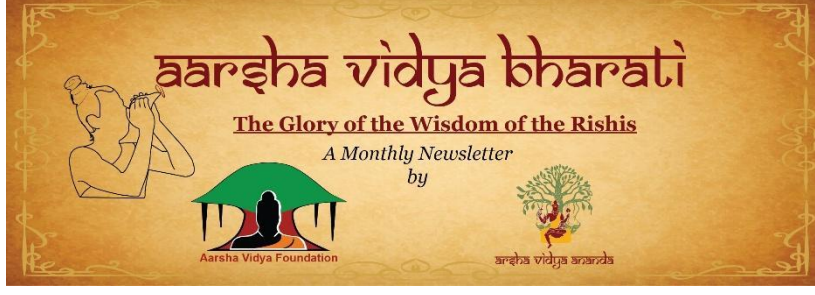# Aarsha Vidya Bharati - Apr 2024
## *Chaitra - Vaisakha 2081*
**A monthly newsletter that will bring you more happiness, more wisdom and more freedom**



This is one of many articles from our monthly newsletter. Access the apr 2024 issue or read any of the articles.
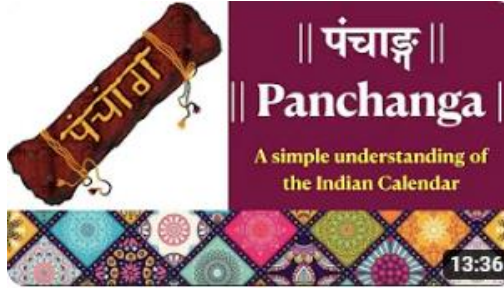
## Spotlight - Saṃvatsara



In the cyclical nature of time, **Saṃvatsara** (संवत्सर) is a Sanskrit term for a year in the Vedas. A *Saṃvatsara* is calculated as the time the planet *Bṛhaspati* (Jupiter) takes to transit from one sign of the Hindu zodiac (i.e. *rāśi*) to the next. According to *Sūrya Siddhānta*, an ancient text, this takes about 361 days, marginally short of a solar year.

Hence, one complete orbit of Jupiter through all the twelve signs of the zodiac will approximately equal twelve solar years.

Five such orbits of Jupiter (i.e. 12 times 5 = 60 *Saṃvatsara*) are referred to as a *Saṃvatsara cakra*.



Each *saṃvatsara* within this cycle has been given a name. Last year it was *Śobhakṛt* and this year it is *Krodhi*. Once all 60 *saṃvatsara* are over, the cycle starts over again.

How the months of the year are linked to our festivals is here in our video Panchanga – the Hindu calendar.