



Evince Events & Promos

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Indian wedding

India is known worldwide for its diversity and richness in culture. It is one of the very few countries where modernity and tradition form a perfect blend. In fact, these paradoxes attached to this land have only added to its beauty and splendour. The essence of Indian culture can be felt in almost everything in the country. Other than festivals and cuisines, a very appropriate illustration of Indian culture is the wedding in India. The importance of wedding in India lies in the fact that Indians have a strong belief in the institution of marriage. So wedding, here is one of the most significant and celebrated occasions.

Another factor that makes Indian weddings so fascinating is the variety that is witnessed in the weddings of different regions and religions of the country. It is a true representation of the diverse nature of the land. People in different places celebrate this auspicious occasion according to their own rituals and customs. In fact, there are so many ways in which the weddings in India can be classified that it is actually difficult to clearly categorize them.

Being home to a large number of religions, the first way in which Indian weddings can be differentiated is by the difference in customs of the various religions. For eg. We have the Hindu wedding, The Muslim wedding or Nikah, the Christian wedding, the Jain wedding, and so many others. Also people in different states have their own customs for marriage like south Indian wedding is different from a wedding in northern India or a Gujarati wedding can be different from the Oriya wedding.

Along with the difference in the customs and the proceedings, variety can be witnessed in the Indian bridal wedding dress, which can be anything from the wedding sari to a traditional lehenga. Also, the wedding decoration may vary to suit the diverse requirements and desires of different people. The decoration also depends on the wedding venues in India and venue being such an important factor, there is no dearth of exotic venues in India. One can choose anything from a royal palace wedding to an exotic beach wedding. Also, there is a long list of top wedding hotels, five star luxury venues, etc.

Despite all these differences, there are a couple of things, which are common to every Indian wedding and these little things, which form a very essential ingredient of every Indian wedding are the wedding invitations and wedding cards which are lately given a lot of importance. Like many other cultures the Indian wedding ring holds a very important place and because rings are generally exchanged at the time of engagement, it is often called the engagement ring.

So, weddings in India are a very important occasion and are characterised by exuberance and splendour. Other than the above-mentioned classifications, people in India have the freedom to follow any customs and rituals in their weddings and no body is bound under any obligations, thus representing the true character of the country.

Even foreigners can come and marry in India in any of the different styles. This can be done just



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through certain formalities, for which Gets India can provide complete assistance. We, at exotic Indian wedding, have a complete understanding not only of the customs and rituals of Indian weddings but also of the complexity and variety in which they are performed. Our wedding planners are capable of creatively managing the different aspects of any wedding in India, right from the varied wedding venues to the arrangement of different cuisines to suit the style of the wedding. If required, we can also find out the finest details regarding the costumes and jewellery

Hindu wedding

Hindu marriages connote customs, rituals and elaborate celebrations. A conventional Hindu wedding ceremony mostly lasts for four to five days. The function is divided into three parts pre wedding ceremony, main day ceremony and post wedding ceremony. If you are planning to have a traditional Hindu wedding in India, then the best way to organize is through GeTS Holidays. We offer you the quality services at a pittance of what you would be required to pay in the west.

Pre-Wedding Rituals

Barni Bandhwana: This ritual is done fifteen days before the actual wedding, on an auspicious day. The pandit performs a puja to Lord Ganesh during which a thread is tied to the hands of the groom and his parents. This puja is performed to request Lord Ganesh that the ceremony culminates without obstacles. After that day, the family performs puja to Lord Ganesh regularly until after the wedding is over.

Byaha Haath: This ceremony signifies the purifying of the mind, body and soul of bride and groom. This daytime ceremony prepares both of them for the nuptials. 'Uptan' is a mixed paste of sandalwood, turmeric and rose water which is applied by unmarried seven female members of the families and to the faces, hands and feet of the bride and groom. After this ceremony the bride and the groom are not allowed to step outside the house before the actual wedding.

Mayara: This is a vital ceremony, common to both the bride and the groom's families. This ceremony is performed by the maternal uncle of the groom/bride, who, along with his wife and family, is received by the bride/groom's mother with the traditional welcome. The clothes given by uncle are then worn by the family during the wedding.

Sangeet Sandhya: This is an evening of musical entertainment. The groom's family puts on a show for the groom and bride. It is through this event the bride is introduced with the family members of the groom.

Tilak Ceremony: It is an auspicious mark on forehead using Kumkum, a red turmeric powder. This symbolizes auspiciousness. The male members of the bride's family like her father, brother, uncles tilak the groom's forehead. This is followed by giving some gifts to the groom and the groom's family members requesting them to take care of the bride later.



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Mehendi: Applying Mehendi is a symbol of good luck. Normally it is the custom for the bride whose hand and legs are beautifully decorated with mehendi paste. It is believed that more dark the colour of mehendi comes on the hand of bride, luckier she is. This ceremony is held on the eve of the main wedding.

Barat: Here on the Wedding day, groom starts for the bride's house on a decorated horse or a car. This is a royal ceremony where the groom is dressed in sherwani and churidar. On his head is the turban with floral veil covering his face. Before he starts Tilak is applied on his forehead and his sisters feed the horse with sweetened grains. Welcome songs are sung on his arrival at the bride's place. Then the groom knocks the door with his sword and enters.

Wedding Rituals

Var Mala: Here the groom is taken to a scaffold where he is barraged by the bride with flowers. The Groom's family member saves him with a shield. The bride does this while circling the groom four times. Soon after this, the groom and bride exchange garlands or "var mala" signifying their acceptance of each other as husband and wife. Then groom's mother-in-law puts kajal and does Arti to ward off evil spirits.

Havan: The custom denotes the original main wedding ceremony. The priest ties the end of the groom's dhoti or the kurta; with that of the bride's saree, the knot connotes the sacred wedlock. The groom and the bride then take seven circles called "phere", taking seven vows to be fulfilled in the married life, after which they are considered to be 'married' to each other.

Phere: The Bride and the groom takes seven circles of the havan taking seven vows, which are:

- » "With God as our guide, let us take the first step to live with honour and respect. Let us walk together so we get food."
- » "Let us be happy and enjoy life. Let us walk together so we grow together in strength."
- » "Let us share joys and pains together. Let us walk together so we get wealth."
- » "Let us not forget parents and elders. Let us walk together so we get happiness by sharing our joys and sorrows."
- » "Let us observe all acts of charity. Let us walk together so we have family."
- » "Let us live a long and peaceful life. Let us walk together so we have joy."
- » "Let us be friends with love and sacrifice. Let us walk together so we have friendship."

After the seventh step, the bride and the groom are pronounced husband and wife.

Kanya Daan: This ritual is basically performed by the bride's father in presence of a large gathering. The father delivers his daughter to the bridegroom. The groom recites Vedic hymns to Kama, the god of love, for pure love and blessings.

Vidaai: It is the most emotional ritual in the whole wedding as the bride leaves her parent's house and goes to her husband's house. The family and friends gives her a tearful farewell. All the elders



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shower blessing on the newly wedded couple.

Post-Wedding Rituals

Griha Pravesh: the bride's mother-in-law welcomes her on arrival at her new home in a traditional Aarti. She puts her right foot onto a tray of vermilion powder mixed in water or milk, representing the arrival of good fortune and purity then she kicks over a vessel filled with rice and coins to symbolize the arrival of fertility and wealth in her marital home.

Dwar-Rokai: This is a very interesting ritual where the bride is stopped at the door by her sister-in-laws. An earthen vessel is kept where the sister/aunt uses a mixture of salt and water to get rid off evil spirits from the groom. After this, the pot is thrown on the ground and destroyed. Then the couple enter the house.

Mooh Dikhai: The family now starts a series of games and post-wedding rituals, amidst much laughter to make the new member feel comfortable. One such ritual is the Mooh dikhai where the bride gets to know the family members.

Muslim wedding

Muslim culture has always held a character of uniqueness and traditionalism. Weddings in Muslim culture are held under a special Muslim Personal Law. The marriage in Muslims is contract based and the law strictly demands that none of the two people should be forced into a marriage. The wedding or Nikah, as it is called in the culture, thus takes place in presence of a Maulvi who reads verses from the Quran and asks for the proposal (from the side of groom) and acceptance (from the bride's side). This ceremony called Ijab-e-Qubul also involves the acceptance from the bride regarding the amount of dowry, which has been pre-decided. All this is done in front of two witnesses.

A typical Muslim wedding is celebrated with great grandeur over a period of five days and can be held at either the bride's or the groom's place or at some other place. There are a number of ceremonies held, which gives the families extensive time to entertain their guests.

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Pre-Wedding Rituals

Legan Chir: This ceremony takes place as soon as the wedding is fixed. In this ceremony, the groom's father sends some cash present to the bride's father.

Mangni or Engagement: This ceremony involves exchange of rings. According to muslim customs, the couple is not supposed to go out together after this ceremony until the time of marriage.



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Day 1 and day 2 ceremonies: On these days first the bride's relatives go the groom's place and then the groom's relatives go to the bride's place. Both the parties carry mehendi or henna paste in a plate. The children light candles before entering the houses. Then, the dinner is served to the guest and songs are sung teasing the couple.

Manjha Ceremony: This ceremony takes place on the third day and during this, haldi or turmeric paste is applied on the bride's body which is given by the groom's family. The bride here, wears yellow clothes. After this ceremony, a married friend of the bride spreads the haldi all over her body before she takes a bath and accompanies her everywhere. This ceremony involves a lot of celebration and singing

Mehndi Ceremony: This ritual takes place at the bride's home on the eve of the wedding day or some days before it. Here, mehndi is applied on the hands and the feet of the bride. It also involves a lot of singing and dancing. After this ceremony the girl is not supposed to step out of the house before marriage.

Arrival Of The Groom: The groom arrives on the venue with a procession of friends and relatives either on a horseback or in a car. Playing of music and beating of drums accompany the arrival. On his arrival, the groom exchanges a sharbet (a sweet drink) and money with the bride's brother. The bride's sisters welcome the barat by humorously hitting them with sticks wrapped with flowers.

Wedding Ceremony

Nikah: The traditional Muslim wedding takes place with the bride and the groom sitting in separate rooms or in the same room separated by a curtain though it is not in case of all the weddings. The elders decide the meher, which is a compulsory amount of money given by the groom's family to the bride's.

Then the Qazi reads verses from Quran and asks the bride for her agreement to accept the meher and the groom as her husband. Once she gives her consent, the Qazi reads this Nikah-nama or the marriage contract to the groom. After consent is received from the groom, the Nikah-nama has to be signed by the couple, the Walis or the witnesses and the Qazi.

After this, the groom goes to the women's section and offers gifts to the bride's sisters and receives blessings from the elder women. Then, the feast is served.

When the meal is over, the bride and the groom are made to sit together with a long scarf covering their heads and the priest makes them read prayers. They are then asked to see each other's reflections in a mirror and Holy Quran is kept between them. Dried dates, which are religiously significant, and sweet dish are then served to the guests.

Then, the groom is supposed to spend the night separate from the bride, in the bride's younger brother's room. On the next morning, the bride's parents give him money, gifts and clothes.



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Post Wedding Ceremony

Rukshat: This ceremony marks the departure of the bride from her house. The parents give her hand to the groom asking him to take care of their daughter.

Valimah: This is the reception ceremony, which takes place at the groom's place, which involves a grand feast and meeting of all the relatives and guests of both the families.

Chauthi: on the fourth day after the wedding, the bride is supposed to visit her parents' home.

Sikh weddings take place during the day and it is joyous and festive event, which is family orientated however not so ceremonious or elaborate. Conventional Sikh wedding is known as Anand Karaj which means 'Blissful Union". GeTS Holidays is an expert and experienced in transforming your wedding dreams into reality. We will arrange your wedding and try to fulfil your entire wish that you have dreamt all the time. We will arrange as per your choice at much lesser a price that you will have to incur in the west.

Pre-Wedding Rituals

Kurmai or Engagement: An engagement ceremony is not mandatory but sometimes performed a week before the wedding in the Gurdwara or at the home of the boy. Kurmai involves Ardas (the common Sikh prayer), Kirtan (hymns from Sri Guru Granth Sahib) and Langer (community meal) if performed in the Gurdwara. If performed at home, the bride's family visits the house of the groom and present kara, kirpan or sweets besides auspicious items like coconut, dry dates, sugar and money. The brides family are gifted with a traditional suit and sweets for the girl.

Maiya: It is a common ceremony in Sikh Wedding. It requires incarceration of the bride and groom for a few days before the marriage, where they are not allowed to change clothes and go out of their homes.

Gana: A propitious thread, which is red in colour, is tied to the right wrist of the groom and the left wrist of the bride. More prosperous items such as cowrie shells, an iron key chain, pearls and a small silken bunch containing sugar are suspended from the gana worn by the bride.

Vatna and Mehndi: Two days prior to the wedding, vatna, which is essentially a fragrant powder consisting of barley flour, turmeric and mustard oil is applied to the bodies of the bride and groom in their homes. This is to be followed by a sacramental bath. On the day before wedding, called mehndi ki raat, henna is applied on the hands and feet of the bride.



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Gharoli: At the groom's house in the morning of the wedding is marked by the gharoli ceremony. During this ceremony, the groom's sister-in law go together with other female relatives go to a nearby well or Gurudwara to fill an earthen pitcher with water which is later used to bathe the bridegroom.

Khare Charna: Here, the groom is asked to sit on a stool for his bath and four girls hold a cloth above his head.

Chooda Ceremony: For this ritual Bride's maternal uncle takes her for the Ceremony. She is made to wear a set of red and white ivory bangles dipped in buttermilk (if not ivory then plastic can be the other option). Kaleeren or golden metal danglers are tied to the bride's wrist by her close female relatives. The bride then dresses up for the main ceremony.

Ghodhi Chadhna and Milni Ceremony: At the groom's house, his sisters tie a sehera or traditional floral veil to the boy's forehead. Relatives prettify the groom's neck with garlands of currency notes. The bridegroom mounts a decorated mare while his sisters-in-law put collyrium in his eyes. On reaching the bride's house the Milni ceremony is held with the seniors of both families embracing each other. Shabads are sung and the ardaas performed as the procession enters the Gurudwara. Then Breakfast is served to the guests.

Wedding Rituals

A noticeable feature of the Sikh wedding is that it takes place in the Gurdwara. Besides, only four pheras take place in a Sikh wedding.

Lawan Pher: When this ceremony starts with the Sri Guru Granth Sahib Kirtan where the bride and the groom sit together to attend this. The bhajji of the Gurudwara narrates the first lavan or hymns from the Guru Granth Sahib, which are then sung and the bride and groom encircle the Guru Granth Sahib. The bridegroom walks in front of the bride with a sword in his hand. When one round is over, both take their place, bow and wait for the next lavan to start. During the fourth and the last lavan, the wedding is complete and the newly wedded couple is then showered with flowers. The hidaayats or their duties and responsibilities towards each other as man and wife and also towards their elders are recited to them. Relatives and friends garland the newly wedded couple and the marriage ceremony concludes with a grand feast.

Post-Wedding Rituals

Description of a Post-Wedding Rituals

Doli: The bride puts on new clothes, which are given by the groom's family. Then as she goes from her parent's house she throws back grains of rice which symbolizes her wishes of opulence for the family she leaves behind.



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Christian weddings

Wedding marks the union of love, kindness, affability and graciousness between two individuals. It is a ligature not only between two bodies but also between two souls. Rituals and customs are the main attire of all weddings. It is a divinity followed religiously across the globe.

Christian weddings too follow certain rituals and customs of the land of their birth into the main ceremonies rest is all the same. Christian weddings could be with or without a 'mass'. But preferably people opt for weddings in presence of holy mass for some extra blessings to their marriage.

The process may be anything but there are some Pre-Wedding, Wedding Day and Post-Wedding rituals to follow.

Pre-Wedding Rituals

Engagement: Following the Christian tradition, the groom and his family stopover at the bride's house. In presence of the priest and with his blessings the bride and the groom exchange the engagement rings. This ceremony signifies the beginning of a period during which the boy and girl get to know each other. If they decide to marry, it can happen in six months time.

Attending a Preparatory Course: The bride and groom attend a Marriage Preparatory Course. They can choose the course between one-day to three-days. To partake in this course the prospective bride and the groom are needed to fill a form affirming their personal details. Then they take an oath on the Holy Bible that they have not withheld any information. Besides, they should also produce their birth certificates. The priest announces the decision of the boy and the girl to marry after three successive Sundays in the church. In case one of the parties has concealed or distorted any information, anyone can make it public during this period. Soon after the course the bride and the groom are free to marry.

Bridal Shower: This is an informal party, which is hosted by the bride for bridesmaids, and close relatives. This is the bride's last party as a maiden. It is more of a girl's night out, where the bride's friends bring her gifts to be used in her new home. Games are played and the affair is generally a fun filled affair. The bride also gives away gifts to the bridesmaid and serves a pink cake with a thimble hidden inside. It is said that the girl, who gets the piece of cake with the thimble, will be the next to get married.

The Bachelor Party: The Bachelor Party is actually a stag party hosted by the groom on the eve of the wedding. Like Bridal Shower, Bachelor party too is the last party as a bachelor. It is habitual to raise a toast before the drinking begins in solemn.

Arrival at the Church: The bridegroom reaches the church first and waits for the bride to arrive. As the bride arrives at the church premises, the best man, from bridegroom's party welcomes her with a kiss and a wedding bouquet. The priest then escorts the couple into the Church. The choir welcomes the bride and the groom with a special song. In front of the altar two decorated chairs are placed for



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the bridal couple.

The Wedding Mass: With the wedding procession in tow the couple walks down the aisle. Then the ceremony begins. The Priest welcomes them into the Church and proffers them his good wishes. The wedding ceremony begins with song and selected readings from the Bible. The couple and their relative have to walk to the plinth and read some holy messages from the Bible. Later, the priest delivers the sermon, where he explains the sanctity of marriage.

Wedding Rituals

The Nuptials: During the nuptial the couple are asked few questions in the presence of two witnesses. Answers are expected in full honesty. The priest normally asks whether they are marrying in their own free will or not. The couple have to answer honestly and maintain the sanctity of the church.

The Solemn Promise: This is the time when the couple take vows with the guidance of the Priest. The couple are asked to join their right hand, which symbolises union. The individual repeat the following after the priest, " I, _____, take you, _____, to be my wedded wife. With deepest joy I receive you into my life that together we may be one. As is Christ to His body, the church, so I will be to you a loving and faithful husband."

Exchange of Rings: Holy Water given on the joined hands for blessing by the priest and also to the rings so that the couple that wears them will live happily ever after and should have faith in each other, do the Lord's will and always live together in peace, goodwill and love. Then the couple put them on each other's fingers with these words - 'With this ring I wed thee, in the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen'. At this point, the priest pronounces them man and wife and asks the groom to kiss the bride. The groom lifts the veil to do the honour.

Prayer Service: The mass proceeds with the prayers of the faithful, petitions for blessings on the couple and finally an offertory pageant. The couple brings gifts like a house made of thermocol, candles, and flowers, fruits, Bible and rosaries that are symbolic of a happy married life. The priest baptizes them. He then gives them sacred bread and wine which stand for the body and blood of Jesus Christ. The assembly jointly recites Our Father, a Biblical prayer and then congregation receives Holy empathy.

Nuptial Blessing and the Recessional: The empathy follows and the mass ends with the signing of the register, which provide as a valid legal document of marriage. The copy of this document is sent to the Registrar of Marriages. The couple pose for photo session at the altar with the bridal company and then walks down the aisle arm in arm to the 'The Wedding March'. A choir conveys nuptial masses, with a special solo at communion.

Post-Wedding Ceremony

In a Christian wedding, the post wedding ceremony is the reception held to celebrate the wedding. Relatives, friends, and colleagues are invited to a grand gathering. They newly wedded couple cut



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wedding cake and feed each a bite of the first slice. In honour of the newly-weds the Toastmaster proposes a toast. The bride and groom get time for their 'first dance'. The bride and her father then groom or the bride's mother, the bride and the best man or the groom and the maid of honour, the bride and the groom's father or the groom and his mother follow their dance. After dinner is over, the couple leaves the reception. At this occasion the bride must throw her bouquet behind her. The girl who gets it will be the first to marry, according to the belief.

Jain culture believes in peaceful co-existence and mutual dependence and beneficence

through interaction between individuals. Jains have faith in forgiveness and friendship and marriage is considered to be a worldly affair and marriage is recommended so that the children born to the couple would also follow the same dharma. The typical Jain marriage consists of certain simple rituals and they criticize the practice of dowry. Marriage to the Jains is a declaration by the couple that they desire to be together for a lifetime. According to them, marriage should be grand but there shouldn't be any wastage of time or money.

Like many other communities, Jains also prefer to get their sons and daughters married within the community so that the children thus produced would follow the same dharma. So they look for a boy or a girl within their community through word-of-mouth or through newspaper matrimonial.

Though simple yet a Jain wedding has a number of pre-wedding, wedding and post wedding rituals.

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Pre-Wedding Rituals

Laghana Lekhan: It is the very first ritual of any Jain wedding and is held at the bride's house. This is where the marriage is fixed. In this ritual a pooja is performed by a priest at the girl's house and the muhurat or the time of the marriage is decided and accordingly it is sent to the boy's house.

Lagna Patrika Vachan: in this ceremony, the lagan patrika vachan is read out at the boy's house at some auspicious time. This might also happen at the time of engagement. The groom then performs a Vinayakyatra puja after which the priest reads the letter. Sagai: This ceremony, held at the groom's house, is also called the engagement ceremony. According to the rituals, the groom wears a traditional headgear, washes his hands and does Vinayakyatra puja. After this the brother of the bride is supposed to apply tilak on his forehead. The brother also gifts him a gold ring and chain, clothes some sweets and money. Then the priest reads the lagan patrika and the groom seeks blessings from the people present there.



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Mada Mandap: This ritual takes place at both the bride's and the groom's place a day or two before marriage. Here, the priest performs all the rituals.

Barati: This ritual takes place on the arrival of the groom's procession at the girl's place on the day of the wedding. Here, the bride's brother is supposed to apply tilak on the groom's forehead and give him clothes, sweets, coconut and money and then the groom also applies tilak on his brother-in-law's forehead and gives him a coconut.

Aarti: in this ritual the women at the bride's place welcome the groom by doing an aarti on him and sing the Mangala Geet.

Wedding Rituals

Phere: This ceremony is done on a pre-decided auspicious moment. Here, the bride and the groom are taken to the mandap where the girl is seated on the right of the boy and they take seven vows after which they exchange positions. This ceremony is an integral part of any wedding in India.

Kanyavaran: It is also known as Kanyapradan and this ceremony means presenting the bride to the groom by the bride's parents. While doing this, the parents or the uncle of the bride keeps one rupee and twenty-five paise and some rice on bride's right hand. And thus, the groom accepts the bride from her parents. During this, the priest pours water on the couple's hands and chants mantras thrice.

Havan: After phere, the priest chants mantras of the Peethika, Atha Gathu, Atha Nistarak, Atha Surendra, Atha Parmarajadi and Atha Paramesthi and offerings are also made. After these, the priest chants Shanti mantra nine times.

Granthi Bandhan: In this ceremony, a knot is tied of the bride's sari to the groom's shawl by a married woman. Then the couple takes four rounds of the havankund or the sacred fire and mantras are chanted by the priest. In the first round the bride leads and in the other three she follows the groom. The women sing mangal geet. After taking the seven vows, the bride sits on the left of the husband and is called Vamangi, which means being the left half of the body.

Post Wedding Rituals

After these ceremonies, the parents and the priest offer blessings to the couple. This is followed by a grand feast, which is strictly vegetarian in case of Jains. Then, the bride is bid farewell by the parents. The parents also give alms in the Jain Temples as thanksgiving for the successful marriage.....