

8-98

Key Concepts

- Different types of festivals
- National festivals
- Religious festivals

We celebrate birthdays and weddings. We also celebrate some special occasions with our family and friends. These are called festivals.

We celebrate many festivals. Let us read about some of them.

DIWALI

Diwali is the festival of lights. We decorate our houses with lights and flowers. We pray to goddess Lakshmi.

We wear new clothes and exchange sweets and gifts with friends and family. Some people burst firecrackers.

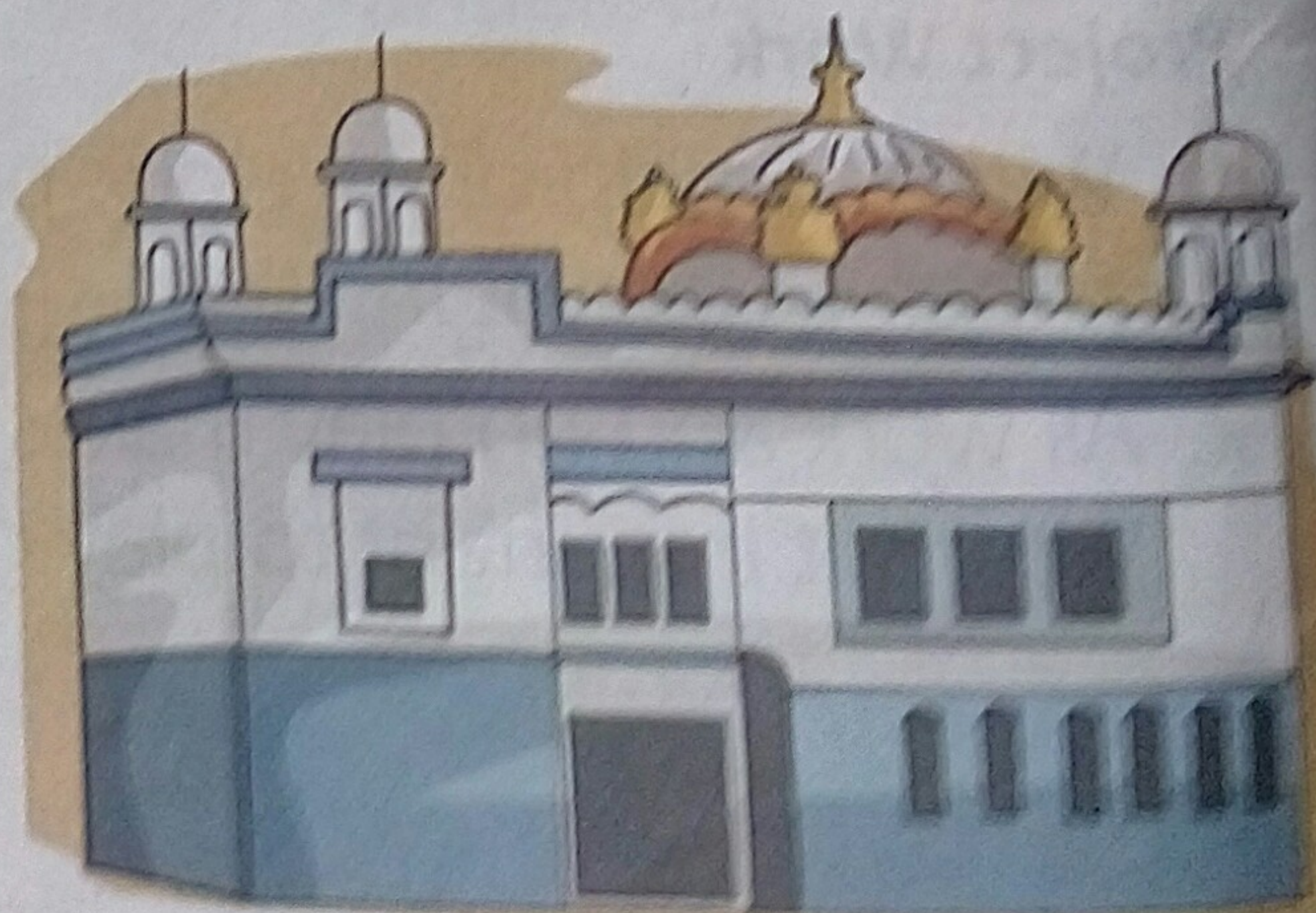


GURUPURAB

Gurupurab is celebrated to remember the ten Sikh gurus. We go to a gurudwara to pray. People have food at the *langar* held at the gurudwara.

Good to know!

Langar means common kitchen where food is served in a gurudwara to all visitors.



Gurudwara

EID

On Eid, we go to a mosque to pray. We wear new clothes and eat a special sweet called *sewaiyyan*.



CHRISTMAS

On Christmas, we celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ. Every year, we celebrate Christmas on 25 December. We decorate a Christmas tree. We go to a church to pray.

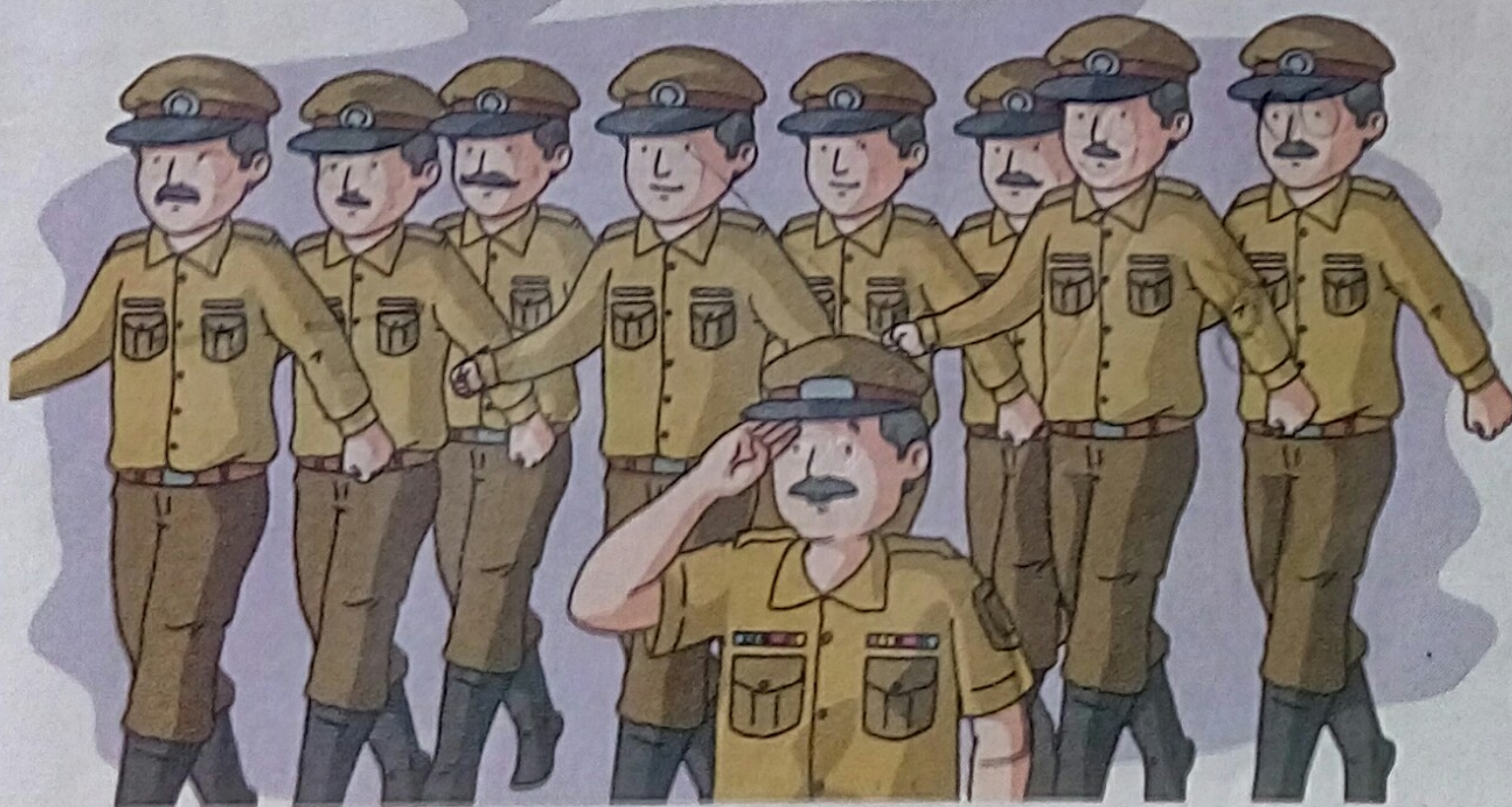
NATIONAL FESTIVALS

Independence Day, Republic Day and Gandhi Jayanti are our national festivals. We celebrate them all over our country.

We celebrate Independence Day on 15 August.

We hoist the national flag and sing patriotic songs.

We celebrate Republic Day on 26 January. On this day, a huge parade takes place at Rajpath, near India Gate in Delhi.

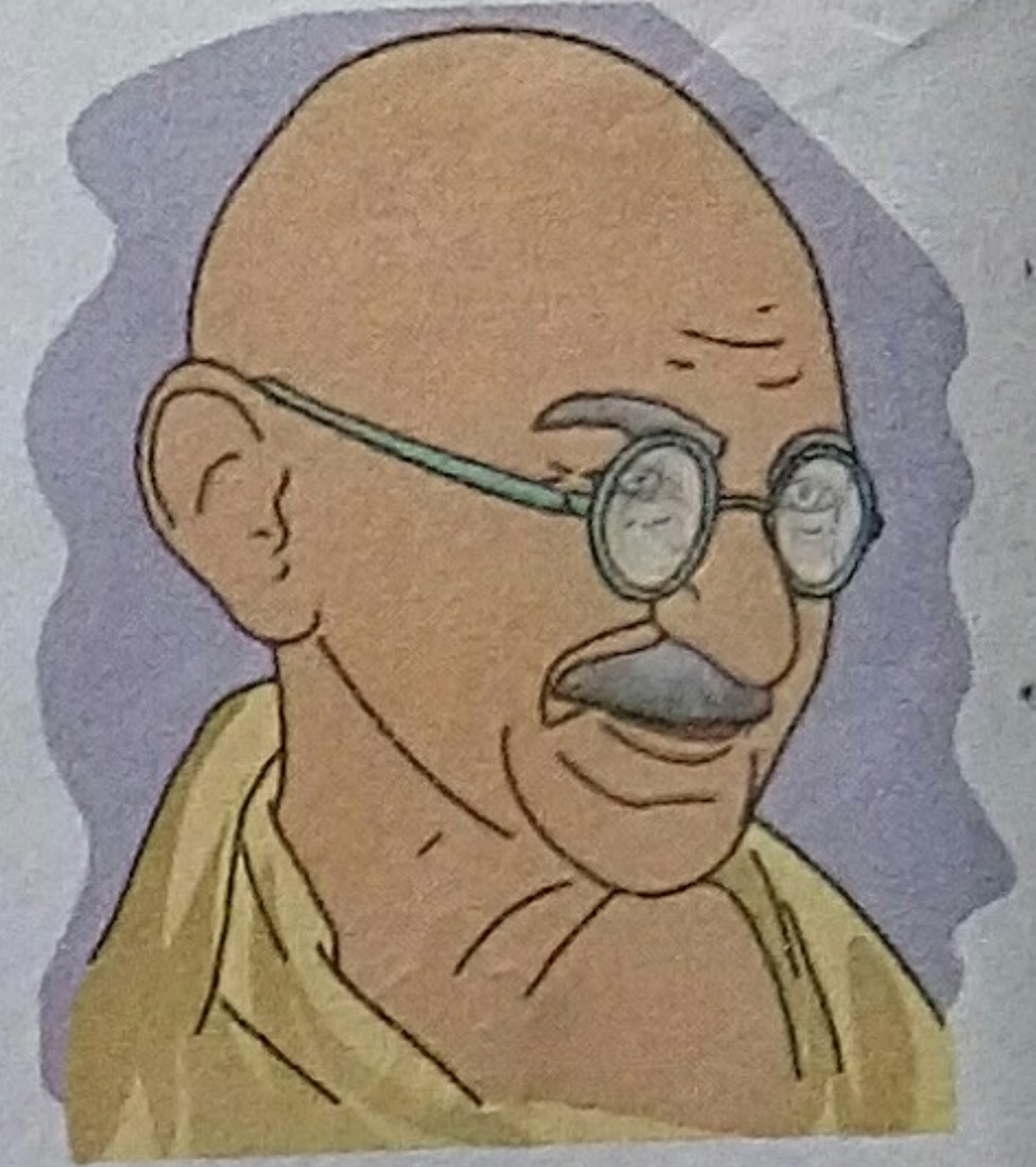


Stop to Answer

- Find out more information on the Republic Day parade.

Republic Day parade

We celebrate Gandhi Jayanti on 2 October. It marks the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi is known as the 'Father of the Nation'.



New Words

Decorate	:	make things or places look beautiful and clean
Sewaiyyan	:	a sweet dish of very thin noodles cooked in milk
Patriotic	:	to love one's own country
Hoist	:	to raise
Parade	:	march

Recap

- Festivals are special occasions that we celebrate with family and friends.
 - Diwali, Pongal, Eid, Gurupurab, Christmas are some important festivals.
 - Independence Day, Republic Day and Gandhi Jayanti are our national festivals.
- We celebrate the national festivals all over our country.