



Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the
Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities.

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EDITOR/REPORTER

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**MEDIA STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE CRL RIGHTS COMMISSION IN SUPPORT OF
THE HINDU FESTIVAL OF DIWALI**

On the 17 October 2019 the CRL Rights Commission whose mandate is to promote and protect the cultural, religious and linguistic rights of all communities in collaboration with the eThekweni Municipality hosted a dialogue with a number of stakeholders to engage, address and find amicable solutions to various issues and concerns impacting on the religious rights of communities. This dialogue was organized in line with the CRL Rights Commission's objects to foster peace, friendliness amongst the diverse communities.

In particular, the dialogue considered a number of concerns experienced by the Hindu community whenever they are observing the Diwali festivals. In a significant way, all participants were in support of the outcomes and they expressed their respective acknowledgement that these outcomes would go a long way to promote coexistence and social cohesion.

Comprehensively, the outcome of the dialogue was a direct demonstration of the essence and the spirit of Diwali, especially as an occasion that celebrates victory of good over evil, of knowledge and wisdom over ignorance as well as triumph of light over darkness.

The CRL Rights Commission would like to extend good wishes to all the Hindu communities in South Africa and all over the world during the forthcoming Diwali festivals that start on 27 October 2019 and end on 28 October 2019.

The Commission joins you as a community in your prayers for the divine light to bless you with peace, prosperity, happiness, success and fulfillment during these celebrations

The Chairperson of the CRL Rights Commission urges all South Africans to observe this special occasion by promoting harmony, unity and social cohesion in a country that has such a rich cultural and religious diversity.

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