

VICE-CHANCELLOR'S *Deepawali* MESSAGE

20 October, 2025



Namaste,

As we come together to celebrate Deepawali, the Festival of Lights, I extend warm greetings to all members of our university family. This special occasion embodies the universal themes of joy, unity, and reflection, reminding us of the enduring triumph of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance. It is a time that encourages us to appreciate the rich cultural tapestry that makes our university a vibrant and inclusive community.

At the Fiji National University (FNU), we take immense pride in our diversity, which is a cornerstone of our strength and resilience. Deepawali serves as a beautiful reminder of the importance of embracing different cultures, beliefs, and traditions. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on the values that bind us as a community, understanding, respect, and mutual appreciation. As we illuminate our homes and hearts during this festive season, let us also illuminate our minds with the wisdom and compassion that foster harmony and collaboration within our university.

Our theme for this celebration, **“Celebrating Cultures, Creating Memories and Crafting Futures,”** encapsulates our ongoing commitment to fostering inclusiveness and understanding. It reflects our dedication to nurturing an environment where every individual feels valued and empowered to contribute to our collective success. In recognising the diverse backgrounds of our students, staff, and partners, we affirm our belief that diversity is not only a strength but also an essential ingredient for innovation and growth.

Deepawali also inspires us to look forward with hope and purpose. As we celebrate the triumph of light, let us renew our commitment to building a future filled with opportunity, unity, and shared prosperity. Whether through our academic pursuits, community engagement, or personal connections, each of us plays a vital role in creating a positive and inspiring environment that embodies the spirit of this festival.

On behalf of FNU, I extend my heartfelt wishes for a joyful, safe, and meaningful Deepawali. May this festival bring light, happiness, and prosperity into your lives and strengthen the bonds that unite us as one university family. Let us continue to celebrate our diversity, create lasting memories, and craft a future that reflects the values we cherish.

May all of us that call Fiji home be blessed with a very Happy Deepawali and may FNU always remain in service to Fiji and the world in the pursuit of Knowledge, Light and Peace.

To allow our staff and students time to travel and help their families prepare for the Festival of Lights, the University will close at 1pm today, Monday 20 October, 2025.

Happy Deepawali to you all!

Professor Unaisi Nabobo-Baba
Vice-Chancellor
Fiji National University

