

Diwali 2025: Model Subiksha Shivakumar on festive fashion, family memories & finding home away from home

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For Mumbai-based model **Subiksha Shivakumar**, **Diwali is a tapestry woven with nostalgia, tradition, and quiet elegance**. The festival, rooted deeply in her childhood memories of Tamil Nadu, continues to shape her sense of style and identity today.

“The smell of ghee and sugar in the air as my mother prepared sweets, the laughter of relatives, the rustle of saris that carried stories of generations — that’s what Diwali means to me,” she recalls fondly. “Those simple rituals of home gave the festival its rhythm, and that warmth has never left me.”

As her career blossoms and she co-runs **Aacharam**, the food venture she founded with her sister, Subiksha finds herself blending tradition with modern sensibilities — both in her work and her festive wardrobe.

“When I was younger, Diwali was all about wearing new outfits chosen by my parents and waiting for my grandfather to take us shopping for fireworks,” she says. “Now, it’s about buying my own clothes, celebrating my independence, and cherishing the same joy — but in a different form. It’s a reminder of where I come from.”

Her Diwali style mirrors this evolution — timeless yet fresh. Subiksha gravitates towards **classic saris with contemporary drapes**, heirloom jewellery, and **handcrafted weaves** that honour the craftsmanship of her home state. “I love wearing pieces that tell a story — whether it’s my mother’s Kanchipuram silk or a handwoven cotton sari I picked up from a local artisan,” she shares.

For Subiksha, Diwali is not just a day of lights and sweets — it’s a bridge between her past and present. “These days, I celebrate with friends who have become family. We cook, decorate, and dress up together. It’s that same feeling of belonging, just in a new space. Diwali will always be about that — finding warmth and connection, wherever I am.”

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