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Diwali might not be its usual boisterous self this year, but it surely brings with it a feeling of hope, positivity and happiness.

We went into the lockdown, collectively! We were isolated and secluded from not just the tangible things of life, we were isolated from the very feeling of normalcy. But in the strangest possible manner, the lockdown brought us together. Everyone was in it together.

Empathy, that's what we learnt in these past few months. And empathy is what we should celebrate this Diwali.

We found ways and means to stay connected, stay together, and perhaps we are more together than we ever were!

This year, Diwali is all about intimate celebrations, small, cosy soirces at home. Avril gives us a glimpse of how the design fraternity is celebrating Diwali this year.

And don't forget...tame down the crackers this year. The virus is still around, and people are still suffering, the fumes and smoke might cause them a lot of discomfort.

So spread the cheer, but keep it quiet and subtle.



Seema Sreedharan Editor





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THE COVER
FEATURE AVRIL NOEL D'SOUZA
PROJECT BY ADHWA ARCHITECTURE INTERIORS
PHOTOGRAPH ISHITA SITWALA

Ceveryone's invited... into the homes of India's leading designers to

experience how they celebrate Diwali

AVRIL NOEL D'SOUZA PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY *THE DESIGNER'S FEATURED



FOR ME, THE FESTIVITIES
MEAN ENJOYING MOMENTS
WITH MY LOVED ONES. I
EAGERLY WAIT FOR THIS
TIME OF THE YEAR, AS IT'S
AN AMALGAMATION OF
EVERYTHING GOOD.

AJAY ARYA

Founder & Interior Designer, Ochre at Home

Family Times

For Ajay Arya, the festive tenor is about celebrating family. He looks forward to spending quality time with loved ones. His home resonates of this excitement. From lights, flowers, yummy treats, gifts and gratitude, it basks in the afterglow of all things good.