



# BIDDING DURGA FAREWELL

**D**URGA Puja, the largest religious festival of the Hindus, ended with the celebrations of Bijaya Dashami on Tuesday. Thousands of devotees around the country wait all year for their grandest festival as they welcome the blessings of Goddess Durga. According to Hindu mythology, this Puja celebrates the Durga's victory over the demon king Mahishasura. Like every year, during Bijaya Dashami, Hindus bid the deity farewell amid loud chants and drumbeats, as her idols, carried in huge processions, are immersed in rivers. Meanwhile, the devotees begin their year-long wait for her return.



Photo: RASHED SIMON

