

Why are Fireworks Colourful?



Fireworks are used on various occasions of national, religious and social festivals in almost all the countries of the world. It is estimated that every year a sum of #1 Billion is spent all over the world on fireworks of about 300 varieties. When they are ignited, they explode and present a riot of Colors. Do you know why they are so Colorful?

Fireworks are prepared by a mixture of potassium nitrate, sulphur, coal and salts of certain metals. The color is provided by salts of metals like strontium, barium, magnesium and sodium. They are mixed with potassium chlorate. Barium salts give out green color, while strontium sulphate produces light sky blue Color. Strontium carbonate produces yellow color whereas strontium nitrate produces red, salts of sodium impart yellow Color, those of Copper impart blue Color. Aluminium powder in the fireworks produces the silvery rain. When fireworks explode these salts burn in fireworks, various colors come out and present a spectacular sight.

China was the first country to manufacture fireworks. Hundreds of years later, Europe, Arabia and Greece also manufactured them.