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RI Dist. 3120

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December 2024- Disease Prevention and Treatment Month



Rtn. Stephanie A. Urchick
(RI President 2024-25)



Rtn. Paritosh Bajaj
(DG 2024-25)



Rtn. Radha Saxena
(President 2024-25)



Rtn. Neeruj Chugh
(Secretary 2024-25)



Rtn. Swati Kharbanda
(Editor 2024-25)

Community Services- December 2024

Project 1- Holistic Healing

Dated- 6th December 2024

Rotary Allahabad Midtown organized a talk on holistic healing by Parinita Maheshwari on Friday 6th December at Hotel Kasba. Mrs. Parinita Maheshwari, sharing her thoughts on the subject, said that holistic healing not only balances the body but also the mind and soul. It is a comprehensive approach that integrates physical, mental, and emotional health, leading a person to true health and happiness. She also explained how natural healing methods, yoga, meditation, and Ayurveda—ancient sciences—can help improve the quality of our lives. She shared her experiences and research, stating that many people today struggle with health issues for which conventional medicine provides no relief. In such cases, holistic healing could be a ray of hope, addressing not just the symptoms of the problem but also its root causes. She emphasized the importance of dedication, self-care, and mental peace and encouraged the audience to turn to holistic healing to bring balance and wholeness into their lives.



Project 2- Matri Shakti

Dated- 9th December 2024

Rotary Allahabad Midtown organized a menstrual hygiene awareness talk at Composite School, Harwara on Monday December 9th. The club also donated sanitary pad vending machine for the girl students at school.



Project 3- Palak

Dated- 14th December 2024

Rotary Allahabad Midtown donated hearing aid to old age home inmate on Saturday, 14th Decemder. Mr. Pyare Lal lost his power to hear during Diwali because of firecrackers. The hearing aid was sponsored by Rtn. Vikas Agarwal.



Project 4- Palak

Dated- 17th December 2024

Rotary Allahabad Midtown sought assistance for autistic children from SBI Main Branch on Tuesday, 17th December. Responding to the club's appeal, SBI main branch utilized its CSR funds to donate essential items at Centre for special education.



Project 5- Aatma Raksha

Dated- 26th December 2024

Rotary Allahabad Midtown, in collaboration with Red Belt Academy, organized a self-defense camp at Mook Badhir Vidyalyaya on Thursday, December 26th.



Kumbh Mela: The Spiritual Extravaganza of India

The Kumbh Mela, one of the largest and most sacred gatherings in the world, is an ancient Hindu festival held every four years at four different locations in India: Allahabad (Prayagraj), Haridwar, Ujjain, and Nashik. This grand religious event draws millions of pilgrims who converge to bathe in the holy rivers, believed to cleanse them of their sins and bring spiritual liberation.

Historical Significance

The origins of the Kumbh Mela are tied to a mythological story from Hindu mythology known as the "Samudra Manthan" or "Churning of the Ocean." According to legend, the gods and demons churned the ocean to obtain the nectar of immortality, or amrit. During this process, four drops of the nectar spilled at four locations: Prayagraj, Haridwar, Nashik, and Ujjain. These places are now known as the Kumbh Mela sites, and they are considered sacred.

The name "Kumbh" itself refers to the pot (Kumbh) that held the nectar, while "Mela" means a fair or gathering. Thus, Kumbh Mela symbolizes the gathering of spiritual seekers to these locations to take a holy dip in the rivers and purify themselves.

The Festival Cycle

The Kumbh Mela follows a unique cycle, occurring once every four years at each of the four locations. The festival rotates between these sites, with each location hosting the event once every 12 years, depending on the alignment of the planets. The most significant and grandest of the Kumbh Melas is held at Prayagraj (formerly known as Allahabad) every 12 years, which witnesses the largest influx of pilgrims.

The Kumbh Mela is divided into different phases, with the most important ones being the Shahi Snan (royal bath), where prominent saints and sadhus take a dip in the holy river. The Shahi Snan signifies the high point of the event and is a display of spiritual fervor and devotion.

Spiritual Importance

At its core, the Kumbh Mela is a deeply spiritual event that serves as a means for devotees to cleanse their sins, seek blessings, and attain moksha (liberation). The act of bathing in the sacred rivers, such as the Ganga in Haridwar or the Yamuna in Prayagraj, is believed to absolve individuals from their past sins and grant them peace of mind and soul.

The event also serves as an opportunity for spiritual learning. Renowned saints, gurus, and spiritual leaders conduct discourses, lectures, and satsangs (spiritual gatherings) on various aspects of life, spirituality, and religion. The Kumbh Mela also showcases the diverse religious and cultural traditions of India.

The Spectacle of Kumbh Mela

The Kumbh Mela is a massive event in terms of its size and scale. It is often described as a "city of tents," as thousands of temporary camps and ashrams (spiritual retreats) are set up to accommodate pilgrims. Food, water, and basic necessities are provided to millions of visitors, and the entire event is designed to facilitate their spiritual journey.

A key feature of the Kumbh Mela is the procession of Naga Babas—ascetic monks who walk naked or in minimal clothing. They are known for their extreme forms of penance and meditation. These sadhus lead the procession to the bathing ghats, where they perform rituals before taking the holy dip. Their presence adds an element of mysticism and awe to the Mela.

Security and Management

Given the sheer number of people that attend the Kumbh Mela, security and management are a critical aspect of the event. The Indian government deploys massive resources to ensure the safety and smooth functioning of the festival. The infrastructure includes temporary bridges, water pumps, medical camps, and sanitation facilities. Advanced surveillance systems, including drones and CCTV cameras, are used to monitor the crowds and ensure order.

Kumbh Mela: A Global Phenomenon

While Kumbh Mela is rooted in Hindu tradition, it attracts people from around the world. Devotees from different countries, including Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka, come to take part in the festival. The Kumbh Mela has also drawn the attention of tourists, photographers, and filmmakers, making it an international event.

In recent years, the Indian government has promoted the festival globally, recognizing its cultural and spiritual significance. In 2019, the Kumbh Mela was declared a UNESCO intangible cultural heritage of humanity, further cementing its place as one of the most extraordinary cultural events in the world.

Conclusion

The Kumbh Mela is a celebration of spirituality, faith, and human unity. It is a reminder of the deep connection that people have with the divine, with nature, and with each other. Beyond its religious significance, the festival also exemplifies the immense organizational prowess required to host such a colossal event. As it continues to draw millions from all over the world, the Kumbh Mela remains a testament to the enduring power of faith and the richness of India's spiritual traditions.

Happy Birthday

2nd Jan- Gaurav Mohan
2nd Jan - Harpreet Singh Bhatia
5th Jan - Saurabh Arora
6th Jan - Suyansh Agarwal
6th Jan - Nikhilendra Kesarwani
8th Jan - Dr. Sanjeev Agarwal
8th Jan - Rohit Agarwal
14th Jan - Vinayak Tandon
14th Jan - Md. Farhanulla
15th Jan- Swati Kharbanda
24th Jan- Dr. Anoop Chauhan
26th Jan- Dr. Shobhit Rastogi
28th - CA Vinay Goel

Happy Anniversary

17th Jan- Manoj & Nidhi Agrahari
18th Jan- Abhishek & Vandana Agarwal
22nd Jan- Rajeev & Shakun Maheshwari
22nd Jan- Pradeep & Devpriya Mukherjee
25th Jan- Divya & Sanjeev Kapoor Paridhan
25th Jan- Radha & Manu Saxena
25th Jan- Varun & Radhika Sood
26th Jan- Aman & Shippi Luthra
27th Jan- Arun & Ragini Bagga
29th Jan- Amit & Geetika Agarwal
29th Jan- Abhishek & Nidhi Ranjan Agarwal
30th Jan- Pankaj & Sharmili Jain

Thanks
Compiled By
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