

Research Unit

Press Information Bureau Government of India

Journey to the Heart of Sanatan Dharma: Maha Kumbh 2025

A Divine Odyssey of Faith and Legacy

Ministry of Culture

January 2, 2025

"May the nectar of faith and devotion purify our souls as we gather under the celestial canopy of Maha Kumbh."

Amidst the spiritual fervor, the Central Hospital in Maha Kumbh Nagar heralds a new chapter of hope and

vitality. The birth of a **baby girl**, named '**Ganga**,' just before the beginning of the Maha Kumbh festival, symbolizes purity and the essence of the sacred rivers. With another newborn, a **baby boy** named '**Kumbh**,' these births encapsulate the circle of life and the blessings of the festival of Maha Kumbh. The hospital, operational before the official commencement of Maha Kumbh, stands as a testament to the meticulous preparations by the Uttar Pradesh government. Equipped with modern facilities, it ensures that the sanctity of the Maha Kumbh is mirrored by a commitment to human welfare, blending tradition with progress.





The Maha Kumbh, a festival revered as the pinnacle of Sanatan Dharma, will unfold its grandeur in **Prayagraj** in 2025. Known as the "**King of Pilgrimages**" or **Tirthraj**, Prayagraj is a city where mythology, spirituality, and history converge, making it a timeless embodiment of Sanatan culture. This sacred land, where the **Ganga**, **Yamuna**, and the mystical **Saraswati** rivers **unite**, serves as a **spiritual magnet** for millions seeking divine blessings and salvation. Here, the Maha Kumbh transforms into a celestial journey - a '**triveni**' of devotion, meditation, and spirituality.



Among the spiritual gems of Prayagraj stands the revered **Baba Loknath Mahadev temple** in the bustling **Loknath** locality. Revered as a 'pratiroop' (reflection) of Kashi's Baba Vishwanath, Baba Loknath's temple is steeped in the echoes of timeless devotion. References to this self-manifested **Shiva Linga** can be found in the Skanda Purana and Mahabharata, underscoring its ancient roots. Pilgrims believe that seeking Baba Loknath's blessings can

alleviate worldly struggles, and during the grand Maha Kumbh, thousands will gather at this sacred site to experience the divine. The temple's cultural legacy is further enriched by its association with luminaries like **Madan Mohan Malviya**. Its iconic **Shiv Barat procession on Shivratri** and vibrant **Holi** celebrations add to the vibrant tapestry of Prayagraj's spiritual fervor. As the city prepares for Maha Kumbh, Baba Loknath's temple will undoubtedly become a focal point for devotees from across the globe.



The **Akhara sector** of Maha Kumbh's spiritual city pulsates with devotion as **Naga** ascetics and saints congregate to perform rituals, meditate, and share wisdom. Among them, the stories of **Mahant Shravan Giri** and **Mahant Tara Giri** resonate with a

unique charm. Their profound love for their **pets**— Lali and Soma, respectively—highlights the compassionate essence of Sanatan Dharma, where every living being is considered divine. These saints, who have renounced worldly ties, find familial



bonds with their pets, embodying the principle of ahimsa (non-violence) and unconditional love. Such narratives humanize the austere lives of ascetics and underscore the Maha Kumbh's spirit of inclusivity, drawing parallels between spirituality and the simple joys of existence.

The Maharishi Durvasa Ashram, located in the tranquil Jhunsi region, adds another layer to Prayagraj's spiritual allure. This ancient site, associated with the legendary sage Maharishi Durvasa, holds tales of divine penance and redemption. It is said that Maharishi Durvasa's intense meditation appeased Lord Shiva, who granted him protection from the wrath of Lord Vishnu's Sudarshan Chakra. The Shivling established by the sage continues to be a beacon of hope for devotees seeking 'abhaydaan' (freedom from fear). In preparation for Maha Kumbh, the ashram has undergone significant restoration, with its red sandstone gates and enhanced facilities inviting pilgrims to immerse themselves in its sanctity. It serves as a reminder of the eternal bond between mythology and spirituality that defines Prayagraj.

Kumbh is described as a **four-dimensional celebration**—a **spiritual journey**, a **logistical marvel**, an **economic phenomenon**, and a **testament to global unity**. The concept of **Kalpvas**, where individuals disconnect from the transient digital world to embrace the eternal truths of life, epitomizes the Maha Kumbh's transformative power. The Maha Kumbh is not merely an event; **it is a way of life**, a festival governed by the divine constitution. Its soul lies in the satsang of saints and sages, where dharma intertwines with commerce, upholding the values of **Sanatan Vedic Hinduism**.



As the sacred sands of Sangam await millions of devotees in 2025, the **Maha Kumbh promises to be a spiritual odyssey like no other**. It is an invitation to reconnect with one's roots, experience the timeless wisdom of Sanatan Dharma, and partake in a celebration that transcends the mundane. From the divine blessings of Baba Loknath to the mythological legacy of Maharishi Durvasa, from the humane bonds of ascetics to the miracles of life itself, the Maha Kumbh is a tapestry of faith, devotion, and transcendence.

References https://kumbh.gov.in/ Department of Information & Public Relations (DPIR), Government of Uttar Pradesh
Santosh Kumar/ Sarla Meena/ Rishita Aggarwal