

Hashtag

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IA

APRIL 2023

**SAME-SEX
MARRIAGE**
IS INDIA READY?

**FOOD TRAIL:
BEST HALEEM
EATERIES
IN INDIA**

**DISCOVERING
INDIA'S BEST GI
PRODUCTS:**

**Ultimate
Shopping Guide**

From local to national:

THE RISE OF ACTOR

NANI

**AI
WEBSITES**
TO HELP YOU
WORK FASTER

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TRAVEL
FASHION
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From the **E**EDITOR

An action packed read...

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Welcome to the April issue of our magazine, which is packed with a diverse range of interesting topics. On the cover, we have the talented actor Nani, who has made a name for himself in the Telugu industry and is now making waves nationally. In an exclusive interview, Nani talks about his journey, the challenges he faced and his plans for the future. We are sure his inspiring story will resonate with our readers and give them a glimpse into the life of a successful actor.

In another article, we delve into the sensitive topic of same-sex marriage in India. While the world is moving towards inclusivity and acceptance, India still has a long way to go in legalizing same-sex marriage. Our article explores the current state of affairs, the challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community and the road ahead for India in terms of accepting and legalizing same-sex marriage.

As we move into the wedding season, our experts give us a glimpse of the latest wedding trends for 2023. From fashion and décor to food and entertainment, our experts have their fingers on the pulse of what's in and what's out in the wedding industry. Whether you are planning your own wedding or just enjoy keeping up with the latest trends, this article is a must-read.

With the onset of the holy month of Ramzan, we bring you an article on the best haleem places in India. Haleem, a delicious dish made from meat, lentils, and spices, is a Ramzan specialty and a must-try for foodies. Our article takes you on a mouth-watering journey to some of the best haleem places in India, from Hyderabad to Lucknow.

With summer just around the corner, we cannot forget our furry friends. Our pet care experts give us tips on how to keep our pets healthy and happy during the hot months. From proper hydration



to sun protection, we have you covered with all the necessary information to keep your pets cool and comfortable this summer.

Lastly, we bring you a feature on Brown Skin Beauty, a startup by Anusha Dandekar. The startup is dedicated to providing beauty products for people with brown skin tones, which are often neglected by the mainstream beauty industry. Anusha Dandekar, a well-known VJ and TV personality, shares her journey, her vision and the challenges she faced in setting up her own venture.

As you can see, our April issue is action-packed and has something for everyone. We hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed putting it together!

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Sinduri Vuppala



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INDIA'S FIRST INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE

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DELICIOUS
AND
CRUNCHY

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 2023

Behindwoods Gold Icons, Chennai

The famous Behindwoods Gold Icons' second grand edition of awards will be seen live by live spectators, and digital spectators as well. Enjoy the four-hour show full of entertainment and watch celebrities from Tollywood, Bollywood, and Kollywood gracing the event. Also watch beautiful actresses like Raashi Khanna, Mrunal Thakur, and Shriya Saran perform live on stage during the event.

Date: 1st April 2023 at 6 PM

Price: Rs 499/- onwards

Venue: EVP Film City, Chennai

1
April 2023



Yo Yo Honey Singh Live In Concert, Bengaluru



1
April 2023

Get ready to groove to Hip Hop songs and experience the star, the legend himself, Yo Yo Honey Singh. He is back with his Honeysingh 3.0 concerts across India. So what are you waiting for? Get your tickets right now and dance to amazing songs.

Date: 1st April 2023 at 8 PM

Price: Rs 899/- onwards

Venue: Bengaluru

Oh Hello! By Rahul Dua, Mumbai

Rahul Dua is one of the topmost stand-up comedians. He is also an actor, writer, and host for Shark Tank India. He has toured over 10 countries and has a solid community of 400K. He is coming up with his show 'Oh Hello' across India. Book your tickets right away and be a part of this special occasion.

Date: 8th April 2023, at 7:30 PM

Price: Rs 499/- onwards.

Venue: Rang Sharda, Mumbai

8
April 2023



RFC 9 Concert Ft Armaan Malik and Band Capricio, Hyderabad



8
April 2023

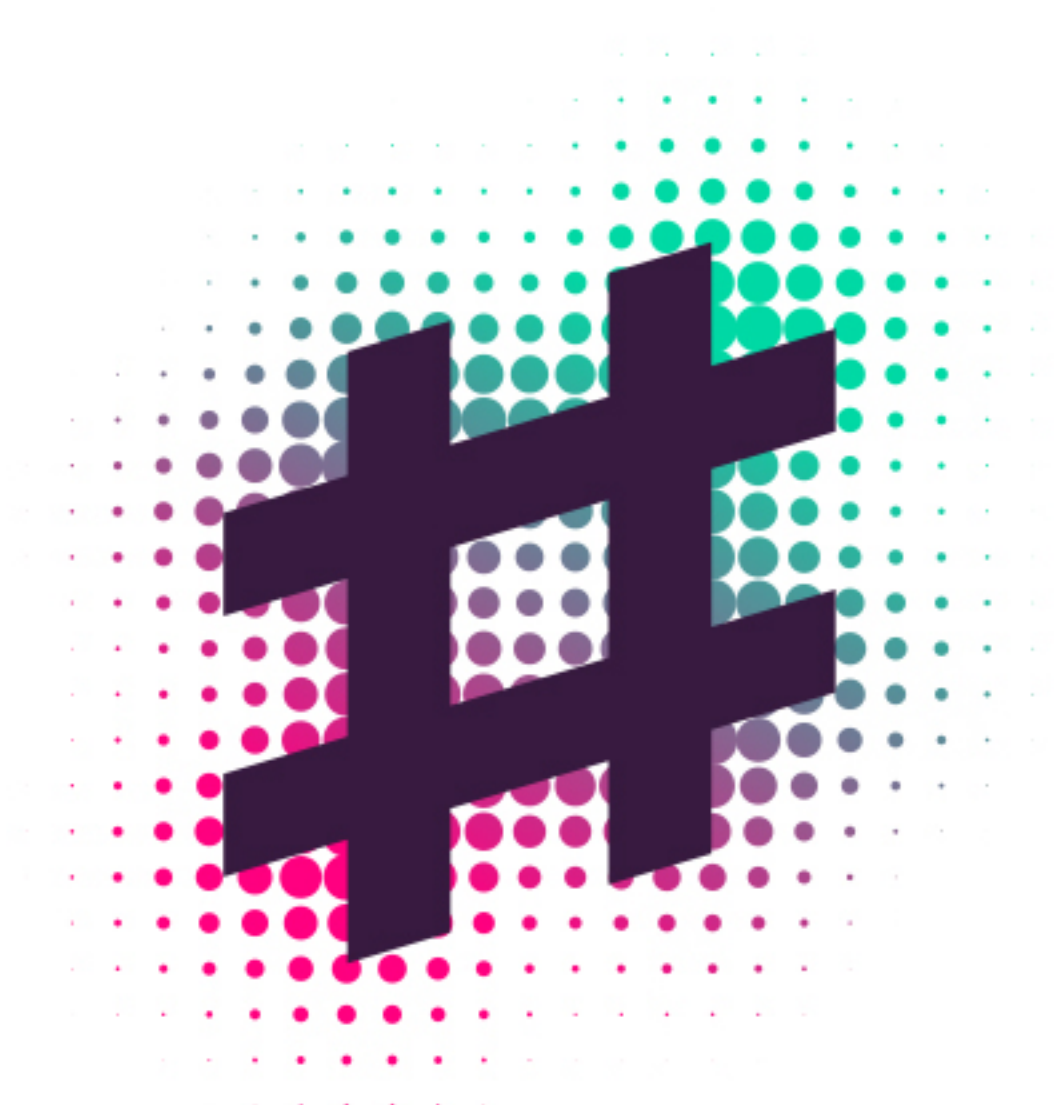
RFC 9 is a fundraising concert conducted by the largest student-run NGO in Hyderabad. Popular artists like Armaan Malik and Band Capricio are coming together to create a memorable musical night for all the music fans. Along with the music, there will be also food stalls with tasty food and drinks for the audience. So hurry up and get your tickets to experience the ultimate musical night in Hyderabad.

Date: 8th April 2023, at 6 PM

Venue: LB Stadium, Hyderabad

Price: Rs 450/- onwards.

To get your events featured mail us at contact@hashtagmagazine.in



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TRENDING NOW

FROM LOCAL TO NATIONAL:

THE RISE OF ACTOR

Nani

Nani starrer Telugu movie *Dasara* directed by Shrikanth Odela is set to be a pan - India release in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi languages. Nani is all set to spread his wings in the North. In conversation with **Lipika Varma**, he talks about how he doesn't yet consider himself a pan-India star, his new film and more.



Excerpts-

You are a pan-Indian star, does the responsibility increase?

I am not a Pan India star yet. I wish audiences across the country will watch *Dasara* in theatres, after that you can call me a Pan India star. My popularity is because people have watched the dubbed version of all my films till today on various platforms and on YouTube. Let *Dasara* film be a huge hit, only then I will consider myself a Pan Indian star.

How has the experience of promoting your film *Dasara* been, as it's your first pan India release?

The experience was very tiring, generally, people would say we had a great time. It was like a picnic. But I would say it was healing. [smiles] This film was a *tode bahut mushkil tha promotions karna*. But we are happy we have made a great film; we all have given our 100 percent.

How did you transform yourself into a coal mines labourer?

The script itself was inspiring. I had to take a four month break to grow my hair and beard. Once we got there into the coal mines area, we all became one, like the people from the mines. Once we wore those kinds of clothes, our body language also changed. In coal mines, people drink alcohol as it takes away the heat and they are able to take that dust. Drinking makes them work easier; they don't drink just for pleasure.



What do you have to say about the comparisons of *Dasara* with *Pushpa* and *KGF* films?

These are all rooted stories with a small village background. We don't wear jeans and T-shirts out there; we all wear *lungi* and *banyan*. So, if the attire is the same, what can I comment on comparisons with these two films. It's a different story, in *KGF* we witness a lot of dusty atmosphere and here it's a coal mine backdrop, so it's obvious that we will witness dust even in this story. If you see dust in *Dassara* and *KGF* – *Toh main bhi kuch nahi kar sakta hoon*, comparisons are baseless; it doesn't make the film in the same genre.

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If you see dust in *Dassara* and *KGF* - *Toh main bhi kuch nahi kar sakta hoon.*

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RRR has received accolades at the Oscars; it is a proud moment for all of us. But as per reports their team had to pay for their entry into the Oscars. What do you have to say about shelling out such a huge amount just to be at the Oscars?

I absolutely don't have any idea about it. When I got to know that we won the Oscars, I felt awesome about the news. Who told you about the RRR team buying tickets to be at the Oscars? Has someone from the RRR team said so? If it is coming from outside people, then we don't need to believe it.



When I got to know that we won the Oscars, I felt awesome about the news.



What do you have to say about the Tollywood success at the Oscars, Rajamouli sir didn't say it's an Indian film but said it's a Tollywood film? How would you justify this statement?

I have to put this right—If we made the film in Mumbai and if it is made for everyone, but if they ask where it is made, then we will have to specify the location—Mumbai. So, RRR is a Tollywood film because it is made in Tollywood. However, it is made for all of us to watch it. It is not only for Tollywood audience; it is made for India. There is a small difference—for e.g. I can't say —This was made for India but we only shot in Telugu, then it will sound stupid. What I will say, it is a Tollywood film but we are confident people across India will love it. When I am coming to promote here—Will I tell you guys don't own it, instead I will say—It's your own film, watch it.



Age's back South makers/actors looked upto Bollywood to be recognised on the global map, but now it's vice versa, Tollywood is bringing India onto the global map. What would you like to say?

I have watched *DDLJ*, *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai* and many other films from my childhood days. All south Indians would watch Hindi films. The south films are now being watched by everyone in the country, so now we are equals, we are like brothers. So now the competition will be about who makes a great film?

Do you believe in competition?

Competition is good as we are like siblings. Earlier there was unfair competition for e.g., before we all used to watch Hindi cinema. In the North, nobody used to get south releases, so we could never put them on the same pedestal. Now we can put them on the same pedestal. We will not fight about B.O. numbers and not fight about who is greater, but we are going to fight about who is going to make the next best film. This is the greatest benefit for the audiences as everybody will be competing to make a good film. Eventually, it has come down to the audience liking or disliking a film.



The south films are now being watched by everyone in the country, so now we are equals, we are like brothers. - *So now the competition will be about who makes a great film?*





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START UPS

BREAKING THE STIGMA WITH *Anusha Dandekar*

Introducing **BrownSkin Beauty**, a ground-breaking start-up founded by a renowned television host and former VJ **Anusha Dandekar**. With a passion for breaking barriers and promoting diversity, this innovative venture is dedicated to celebrating and uplifting women with dark skin tones. BrownSkin Beauty is inspiring women to embrace their unique beauty and celebrate their cultural heritage. **Hashtag Magazine** captures the journey...

From being a VJ, actress, television host, and judge on India's Next Top Model to now launching a beauty skincare brand with a message, tell us a little about your entrepreneurial journey.

It's been a completely new experience for me creatively, mentally and physically. It's incredible to create products and learn so much about ingredients and various formulas for the skin. You also learn to be patient because you want to get it perfect and I can't stop testing the products until I'm happy with every bit of the product from ingredients to the packaging to the way we advertise it. I think with being on camera, I had to just focus on that, whether it was hosting, acting, or singing, and I would shoot and leave. Here it's a million things happening at once and it never ends, even when you get home!

Why did you choose to launch a skincare brand specifically for brown skin women? Any personal experience or stigma?

I think for Indian skin and brown skin all over the world, it was important to change the narrative, be inclusive and also have representation for an entire colour that was more or less abandoned by the beauty industry. I have been a brown girl, who grew up

in Australia and I wanted to fit in with the kids all the time, so I would hide my culture a lot. I didn't have anyone representing me and making me feel a part of anything. As I got older, I had to build that path for myself and luckily I come from a family that never told me being brown is bad. So, I started this because I wanted everyone to feel empowered with products that are specifically designed for our skin type. After all, we have problems like hyperpigmentation, melasma etc., but being Brown is NOT and shouldn't be the problem!

”
**BEING
BROWN IS
NOT
AND
SHOULDN'T
BE THE
PROBLEM!**



Starting a brand that targets dark skin people in a country that's obsessed with fair skin can be quite a challenge, how has the project taken off so far?

It feels like a one-woman army sometimes and then once I hire girls for the company and educate them on the same, it feels great to see them understanding so much more in-depth how serious a problem and how brainwashed we are as a society, nation and world! We have customers ask if this will make you “browner” because they thought it might be the opposite effect to Fair and lovely which promises “Fairer skin”. I wish people knew there is no cream in the world that can make your skin lighter and that bleaches are very harmful. And BrownSkin beauty is not and doesn't want to change you, it wants to enhance you and make you feel proud to be brown and comfortable in your skin #filterfree. So, we are doing well, but believe me, we have a long, long way to go for it to make a massive impact.

Tell us a little more about your line, how different is it from what we have in the market?

We use safe chemicals and natural ingredients with the perfect blend; we really take into consideration our weather for each range. We think about the different skin types during different seasons. We focus on the majority of skin problems in our country and how we can help minimise them and still be for the majority of people to use. If you are completely new to skincare, we know how confusing and intimidating it can be, so we created sets for you and you get free merchandise with each set! So, it makes a great gift as well. We aren't time-consuming yet so effective.

Our products do not dry your skin out or make it greasy. Our sunscreen is also the best in the world and I vouch for that. So really just an honest brand doing honest things and also giving 5 percent of profit to help girls finish their education, our foundation is called Beyond Brown Skin... so not only do we want you to feel good about yourself but also feel good that you helped someone through your purchase. Also, we use glass packaging as much as we can to help the environment and overall, we genuinely want to see everyone see themselves differently in the best way possible and that's beautiful.

“
HELPING
CHANGE THE
NARRATIVE
HERE AND
ALL OVER
WOULD MAKE
ME FEEL SO
PROUD AND
HELP SO
MANY FEEL
INCLUDED
AND
CONFIDENT!

How do you see your beauty brand evolving in the future? What are your plans/ strategies going forward?

I want to take it worldwide! A “made in India” brand created by Indians would feel so incredible. Helping change the narrative here and all over would make me feel so proud and help so many feel included and confident! I also want to start BrownSkin Boy, BrownSkin Mumma, and BrownSkin Baby... but all in good time!

How different is being an entrepreneur from being an artist?

They are quite different, both require incredible patience as things can change any minute, stamina as hours can be long, creativity because you are building a show or products, and passion because if you put your whole heart into it, your audience knows and can feel it! And I love both things I do so it never really feels like work unless there is paperwork! Yet still, they are very different because when I come home from a shoot, I switch off. BSB never ends.

How do you balance your career between work, business, and personal commitments?

I think a human has time to make for any of these things if they want to. And for me, work and business

have always been things I enjoy and can immerse myself into. I also believe personal commitments are important and you have to make time for them, I just also believe if you need some alone time to be with your own energy after long days, that's healthy also.

What next, any other interesting projects on the cards?

I have a Marathi film coming soon and another project in the pipeline that I can't talk about right now. But I am excited about different things this year!



Quick takes:

What's your daily skincare routine?

Thirst trap Face wash, Immortal face cream, and SunLit tinted sunscreen serum, all from my BrownSkin beauty range.

What are your top skin rules?

Always take make-up off and do a night time routine to relax and let your skin breathe. Stay away from sugar and dairy as much as possible. Exercise to release all toxins from your body and mind. Say kind words to yourself when you look in the mirror.

Must have in your beauty bag?

Lip gloss, studio fix by Mac, cream blush by Nars, my tinted sunscreen serum, Sunlit by BrownSkin beauty.

One mantra you swear by.

Love yourself or change till you do. And the kinder you are to yourself, the better your mind and body will feel and it will show, glow!



THE RISE OF **EDTECH** STARTUPS IN INDIA

In the past few years, the Indian education system has witnessed a major transformation, thanks to technology. With EdTech startups, traditional methods of teaching are slowly but surely making way for innovative techniques. These startups have created a lot of buzz in the education industry, and it is now easier and far more accessible for students to get quality education. **Dhanush Kumar** takes a closer look at how technology is transforming education in India.

What are EdTech Startups?

EdTech stands for Educational Technology, and some companies use technology to revolutionize the education industry. The main aim is to provide students with a more personalized and engaging learning experience while making education more accessible, easy, and affordable. These startups use a variety of tools like mobile apps, online courses, and e-learning platforms to achieve this major goal.

How is technology transforming education in India?

- One of the biggest advantages of technology in education is that it has made education more accessible. Right now, everybody has a smartphone and data. With the help of online courses and e-learning platforms, students can learn from anywhere in the world, and at any time. This is especially beneficial for students who are in remote areas and may not have access to get quality education.
- Another major benefit is that it allows for a more personalized learning experience. Students can learn at their own pace and focus on the topics on which they can

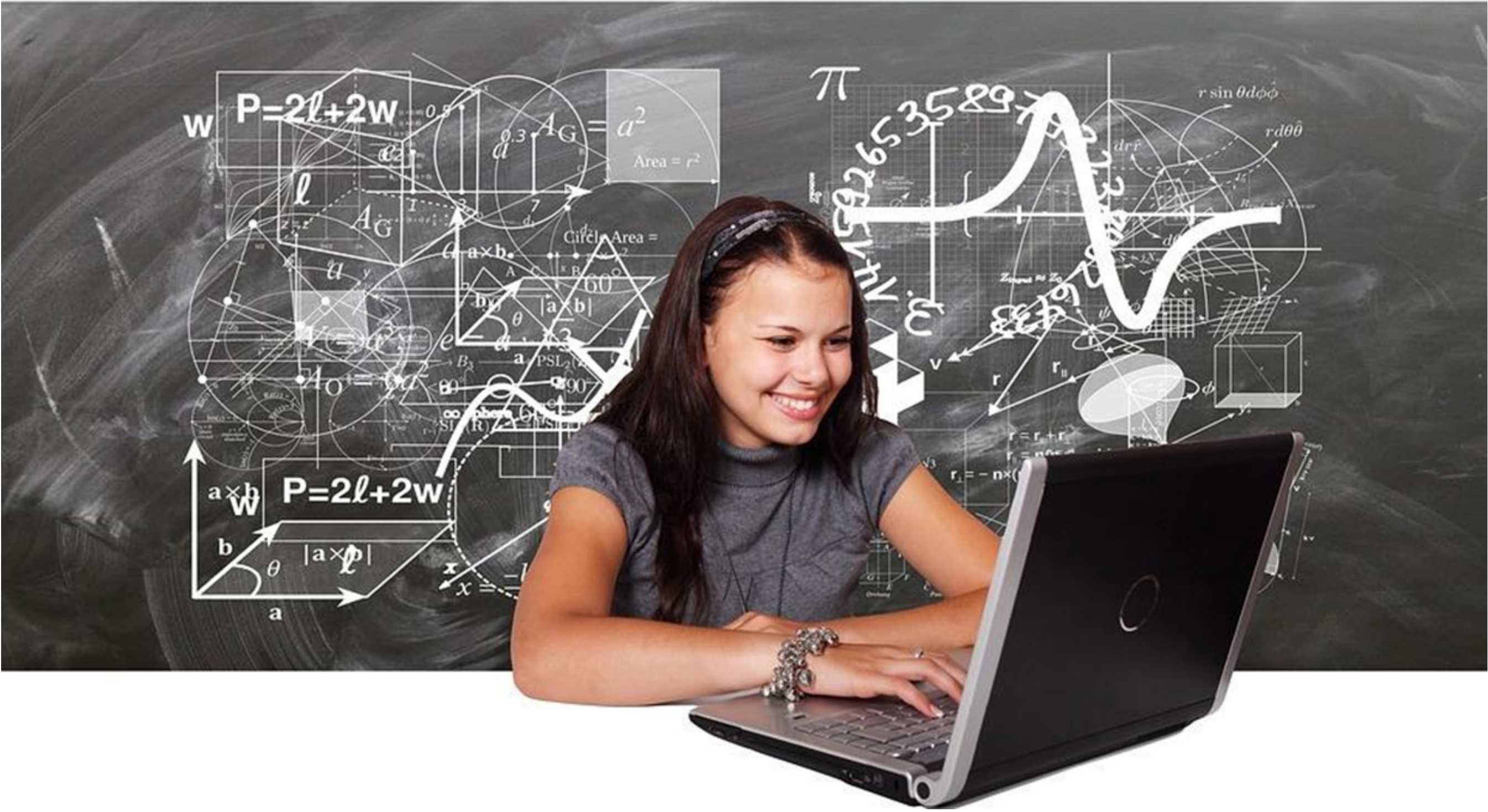


improve. This can significantly improve their learning outcomes and make education more fun and engaging.

- Technology has also made education more engaging, with the help of interactive tools like videos, simulations, quizzes, and more. This can help students have a better learning experience and make

learning easy and increase retention rates as well.

- Technology has also made education more affordable, with the help of online courses and e-learning platforms, quality education has become less expensive than traditional methods of learning. This makes education more accessible to a wider range of students.



EdTech Startups In India

- **BYJU's** is one of the most well-known EdTech startups in India. The company provides online courses for students from kindergarten to 12th grade, as well as tough competitive exams like UPSC and CAT.
- **Unacademy** is an online learning platform that provides live classes and online courses for students preparing for competitive exams such as UPSC, CAT, and JEE.
- **Vedantu** is an online tutoring platform that provides live classes for students in grades 1-12, and the platform also offers coaching for competitive exams such as JEE and NEET.



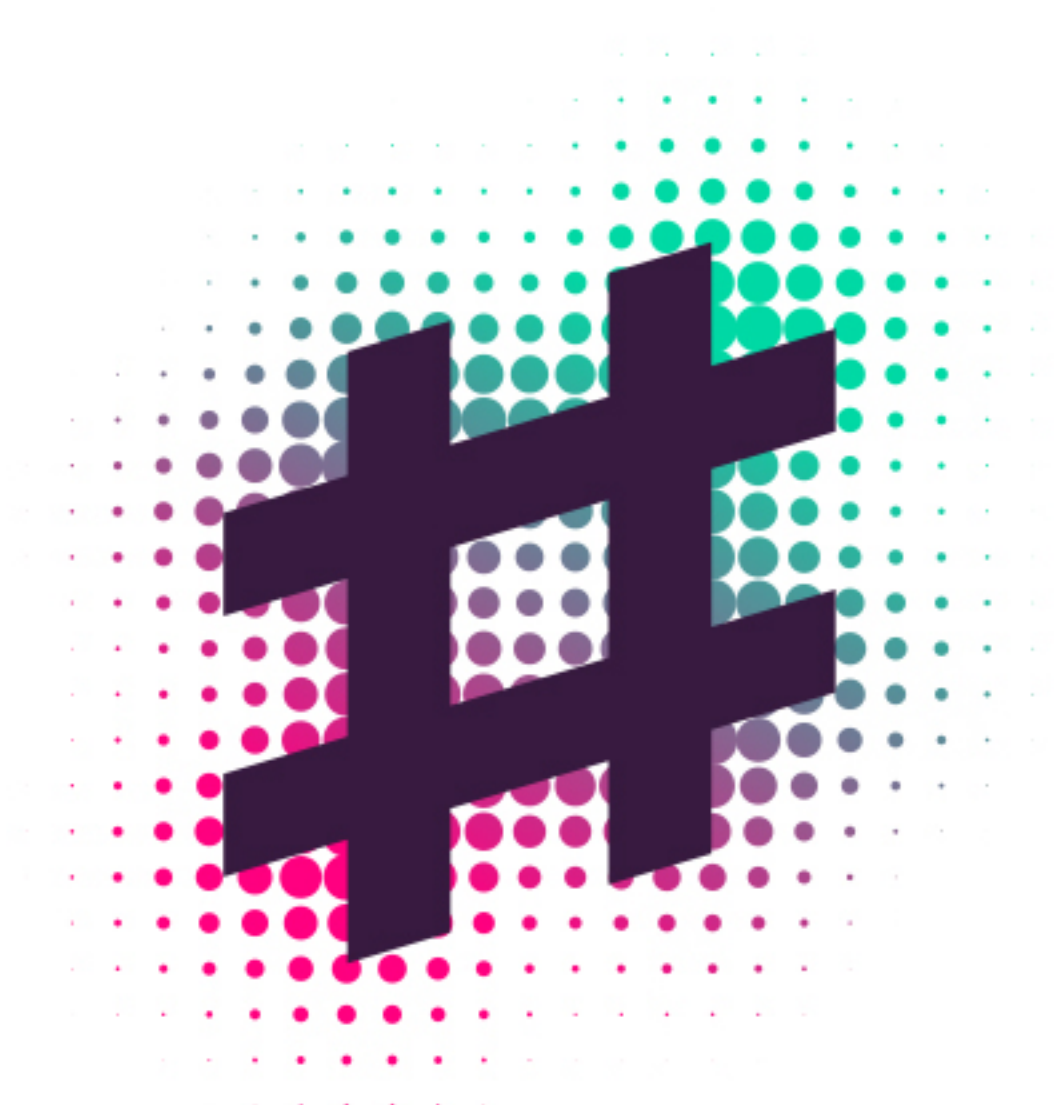
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FOR A CAUSE

LOVE **IS** LOVE:

The March Towards A Rainbow Future!



Mehak Walia in conversation with **Advocate Shubhankar Choudhary**, an esteemed lawyer who works at the Supreme Court of India and the High Court of Delhi. Along with this, she also spoke with some members of the LGBTQIA+ community and their allies.

The fight for an equal and respectable existence for the LGBTQIA+ community has been a long-running, testing and painful struggle that persists not only in India but globally. India began to take steps in the right direction in 2018 when the application of section 377 of the Indian Penal Code to private consensual sex between men was ruled unconstitutional by India's Supreme Court, effectively decriminalizing homosexual activity. Since that special day, many Indian same-sex couples have been struggling to celebrate their love by tying the knot.

It has been 5 years since that day and same-sex couples are still fighting for this basic human right. The government continues to argue that the "accepted view" of marriage is that of a male and female entering matrimony, describing it as a "holy union and a sacrament". Thereby, time and again insinuating that same-sex marriages are somehow not comparable to straight marriage. Thankfully, it seems like the justice system has had enough and they have finally heard these pleas and taken matters into their own hands. A five-judge panel of India's Supreme Court is to begin debating whether the country will finally legalize same-sex marriage. This panel will be hearing arguments on the issue from 18 April onwards.



Shubhankar Choudhary



This is a great move in the right direction because if the Supreme Court grants marriage equality for same-sex couples, it would be the biggest change that we have seen in a generation. It would be a step towards a world full of equality, happiness and love. While we're looking ahead and hoping for a bright and rainbow-laden future for the country, let's learn what the proceedings in the court are and where they are headed.



Shubhankar Choudhary, an esteemed lawyer who works at the Supreme Court of India and the High Court of Delhi who has worked for many Hon'ble judges explains that "First of all, It is important to keep in mind that since the decriminalization of same-sex relationships by the Supreme Court in 2018, different High Courts have been taking pro-LGBT decisions. The Kerala High Court and the Punjab High Court have said that same-sex couples are entitled to live together and that their families cannot be allowed to keep such couples apart. The Madras High Court has passed orders banning conversion therapies to which members of the LGBT community are often forcibly subjected. The Madras High Court has also directed that the medical curriculum must be reviewed and updated to ensure that it does perpetuate dated medical prejudices against the LGBT community."

He further added, "The litany relating to same-sex marriages have taken place at multiple High Courts. The earliest petition was filed before the High Court of Delhi by a well-known queer rights activist. Soon after, several other Petitions were preferred in other High Courts, and also before the High Court of Delhi. The High Court of Delhi had clubbed all the matters together, and it was requested by the Petitioners that the hearings should be telecast live. The Union of India opposed this request and long-drawn hearings on whether the Court should allow the request for live telecast. In the meantime, several Petitions came to be filed before the Supreme Court of India, which while issuing notice (that is when agreeing to hear the cases), also transferred all pending petitions before different High Courts to itself, to hear the matters together. This was a huge step in the right direction."

Talking specifically about the right to marry he explained, "The right to marry a person of one's own choice is considered as falling under the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution. Most recently, this was reiterated in the case of Shafin Jahan v Union of India. Therefore, the Petitioners cannot be denied their fundamental right on account of their sexual orientation. The Special Marriage Act 1954 states that a marriage may be solemnized between "any two persons". Therefore, the terminology is not gendered to say that it has to necessarily be between a man and a woman. Further, Section 4 states that "the male has completed the age of twenty-one years and the female the age of eighteen years". It does not necessarily, therefore, state that the male is to be married to a female."

This basic right to get married might seem like a small change but it can change lives and make people feel secure and respected. To get a closer view of its importance, I also spoke to some members of the LGBTQIA+

community and their allies who have put across some informative, emotional and fabulous points in anticipation of the upcoming hearings.

Kabir Rathor, a trans man who works as the operations officer in a visa processing company expressed, "In India, even if we wish to do something basic as declare someone a nominee in our provident funds or insurance documents, we are required to have a blood relation with that person or a legal and documented marriage. There are a lot of places, organizations and points in our lives where we have to prove the fact that our relationships are strong and most importantly, legal. For such proof, we require the ability to register our marriages. This right is extremely essential and it not only makes our relationships legally complete but also gets them the respect that they deserve. It is a very essential step."

Elaborating on a similar point, Ramit Dogra, an ally of the LGBTQIA+ community who is currently preparing for UPSC believes that, "The Government of India's argument opposing this is seriously flawed as they are claiming same-sex marriages are against our culture. It is flawed because they in their heads believe in the institution of marriage as depicted by Manusmriti but that book doesn't govern us. You see, Marriage is nothing but a legal recognition of the rights of a partner. This legal right and the subsequent perks of protection, partnership, alimony and maintenance are what people sign up for when they decide to get married. It has nothing to do with the romantic outlook shown in movies. Hence, providing this legal right not only benefits the society as it would only put more liquidity into the system and the market."



Meanwhile, Bela Sharma, the project manager at Mitr Trust Garima Grahmin and a social activist who has been fighting for the community for 8 years believes that “Marriage is very essential for everyone, especially in our society. When it comes to trans people, we tend to be separated from our families too, leaving us with no social connections. This is why we seek a partner to support us and stay with us through life. But there are a lot of risks that come along with this search including violence, fights, and arguments like any other relationship- This is what makes a legal union essential because that will make sure that we also have basic rights and security in these relationships. This will be a brilliant step forward for equality.”

Similarly, Sayesha Kapoor, a bisexual cisgender woman who works as a teacher strongly believes that “I have been with my girlfriend for about 5 years. Whenever I go to a wedding, I wish that my girlfriend and I could openly celebrate our love with all of these fun traditions and get an official marriage certificate to place on our walls with pictures from the wedding. It always bums me out that I cannot make her feel like a real bride and that sucks. Getting married is a basic right and a true celebration of love. Everyone deserves to have this right irrespective of their partners’ gender or sexuality. The community has been fighting for this basic right for far too long and it’s about time that we get what is rightfully ours.”



While discussing the process of the hearings that will commence on the 18th of April, it is clear that the consideration of a matter before a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court is a lengthy and multilayered exercise which is bound to take substantial time. Day-to-day hearing of the matter could expedite the process. So, it is expected that the Court will initially deal with some housekeeping issues, where it will decide who will make submissions before the Court when and how much time each of them would be given. It is expected that the Petitioners shall begin their submissions, which may go on for multiple days. After that, the Union of India and others opposing the Petitioners would be permitted to make their submissions.

The entire hearing will possibly continue for multiple days and therefore, it is important to keep in mind that the decision will not come right away. After the conclusion of arguments, the Court shall reserve judgement, and the Judges will take a few weeks to write their judgements. Therefore, it is destined to be a months-long testing process which is to be expected because after all, the battle has been the same, hasn't it? All we can do as members and allies of the LGBTQIA+ community is spread the right message to create a well-informed society, wait patiently, hold onto our hopes, and of course, keep fighting the battle towards a beautiful rainbow-laden tomorrow.

Tackling Food Waste In India:

How These Organizations are making a difference



Food waste is one of the major issues in India. It is estimated that 67 million tons of food are wasted every year. It is almost equal to 40% of the country's total food production. But the good news came in the form of organizations in India that are working towards reducing food waste by recovering surplus food and redistributing it to those in desperate need. **Dhanush Kumar** lists down some of the organizations and their amazing work.

1. Akshaya Patra Foundation



The Akshaya Patra Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides mid-day meals to school children across the country. The organization operates in almost 19 locations across 12 states in India and serves more than 1.8 million children every day. The meals are prepared in kitchens and transported to schools in vehicles. The foundation recovers surplus food from various sources and uses it to prepare meals.

Phone Number: 040 4003 1456

2. Feeding India



Feeding India is an NGO that works towards eradicating hunger and reducing food waste in the country. The organization has a wide network of over 23,000 volunteers who collect surplus food from various restaurants, corporate offices, and weddings and distribute it to those in need. The organization also runs community kitchens and food banks in various cities across the country.

Phone Number: 98711 78810

3. Robin Hood Army



The Robin Hood Army is a volunteer-based organization that works towards eliminating hunger and food waste in India. The organization has a presence in over 200 cities and a wide network of over 50K volunteers. The volunteers call themselves "Robins" and they collect surplus food from restaurants and distribute it to those in need. It also runs community kitchens in various cities.

Phone Number: 89719 66164
(WhatsApp Only)

4. No Food Waste



No Food Waste is one of the most popular NGOs out there and it works towards reducing food waste in India. The organization has an ambitious network of volunteers who collect food from weddings, parties, and other events and distribute it to those in need. The organization also runs community fridges in various cities across the country, where people can donate and collect food.

Phone Number: 98660 06269

5. Shuddhi NGO



Shuddhi is one of the most popular NGOs in India. They are partnered with the National Geographic channel, the Government Of India, and others. The NGO works to support poor children living on the streets who do not have food, shelter, and education.

Phone Number: 96548 15105

6. The Annakshetra foundation



The Annakshetra Foundation is an NGO that works towards reducing food waste and providing meals to communities in India. The organization collects surplus food from various sources and distributes it to orphanages, and other charitable organizations. They are not only reducing hunger but they are also addressing the issue of food waste.

Phone Number: 90012 95293



h a s h t a g

DUSK TO DAWN



A GUIDE TO STAYING SAFE, WHILE ENJOYING *Nightlife*

Nightlife offers everything from live music and dancing to street food and cultural festivals. To guarantee your safety while taking in the nightlife, it's crucial to be aware of the risks and take preventative measures. With a bit of preparation and common sense, you can have a fun night out. **Dhanush Kumar** shares some tips and advice on how to navigate the nightlife scene and stay safe while having a great time.

1) *Learn Basic Self-Defense Techniques*

Learning basic self-defence techniques can be helpful in case of any unforeseen incidents. Consider taking a self-defence class or research online for basic moves that can help you defend yourself in case of an attack. However, remember that the best strategy is always to avoid dangerous situations altogether.



2) *Keep Emergency Numbers Handy*

Keep a list of emergency numbers handy in case of any unfortunate incidents. This includes the number for the local police and ambulance. It is also a good idea to have any person (known friend) who can help you in case of an emergency.



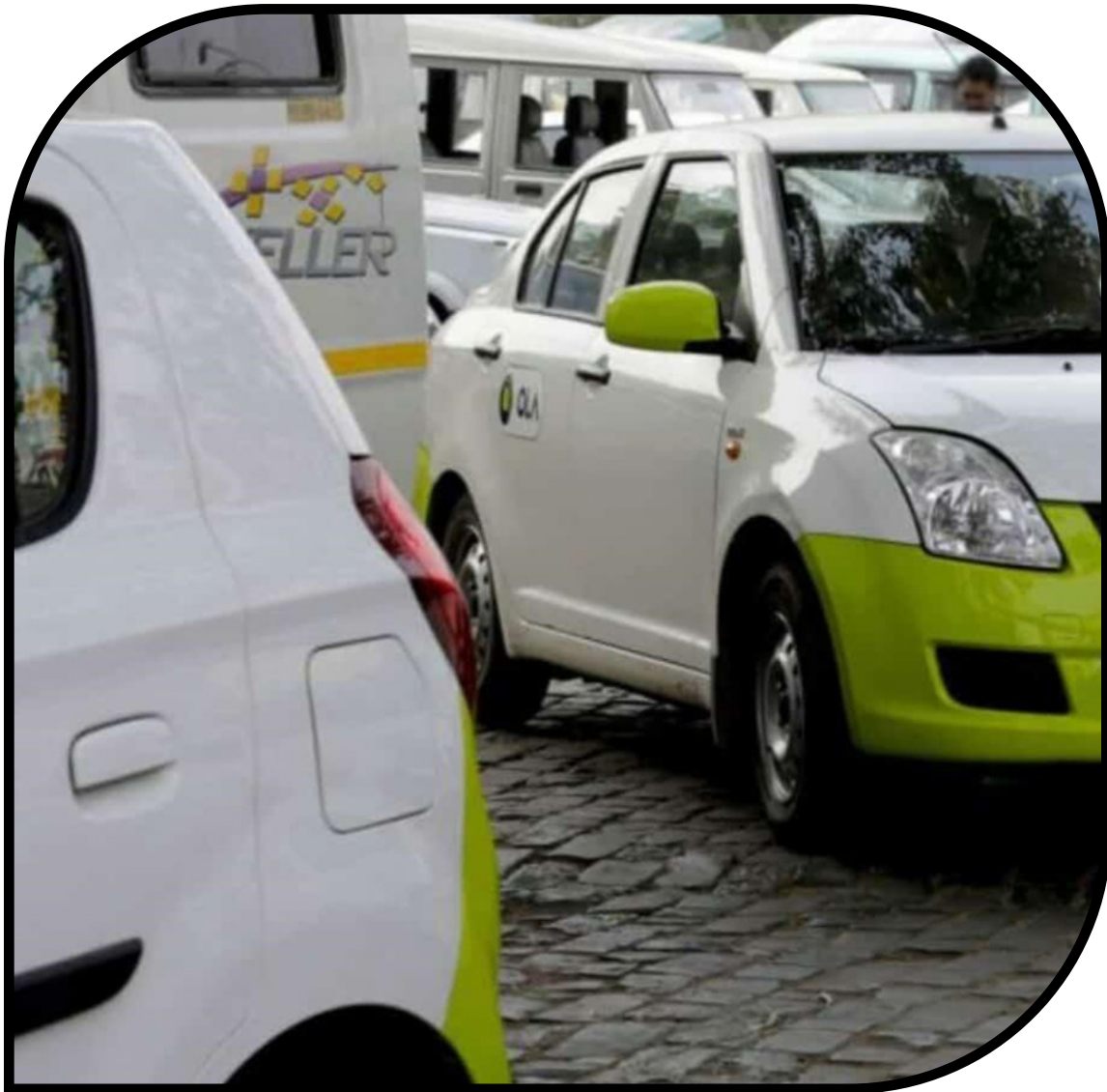
3) Plan Your Night Out

Before you head out for the night, take some time to plan your journey. Decide where you want to go and what time you want to be there. If you are going out with friends, make sure you have a meeting spot, and decide on a plan for getting home on time. If you are going alone, let someone know where you are going and what time you expect to be back.



4) Use Safe Transportation

When travelling at night, it is important to use safe transportation. Avoid taking public transportation if possible, especially if you are alone. Opt for reputable taxi services or ride-sharing apps like Uber or Ola. Make sure the driver's details match what you see on the app before getting in the car. Always sit in the back seat and avoid sharing rides with strangers. If you have no choice but to use public transportation, then try to travel in groups.



5) Be Mindful Of Your Alcohol Consumption

Drinking alcohol is common when enjoying the nightlife, but it's important to be mindful of your consumption. Drinking too much can make you vulnerable to danger. If you drink, do so in moderation and alternate with non-alcoholic beverages. Never leave your drink unattended or accept any type of drink from strangers. Always keep an eye on your glass.



6) Stay Alert

Staying alert is vital when going out at night. Be mindful of your environment and those around you. Keep your phone handy and be prepared to call for help if you need it. If someone makes you feel unsafe, trust your instincts and leave the area immediately. Remember to keep your eyes and ears open and stay focused.



7) Stick together

If you are going out with your friends, always stick together. Stay within sight of each other and keep in constant touch. Make sure that the group knows where everyone else is. If someone gets separated, have a plan in place for reuniting.



8) Carry Essentials

Carrying essentials like a mobile phone, some cash, and identification is crucial when going out at night. Keep these items safe and close to you at all times. If possible, avoid carrying large bags that are difficult to carry or that might attract thieves, instead consider carrying a small bag.



9) Avoid Confrontation

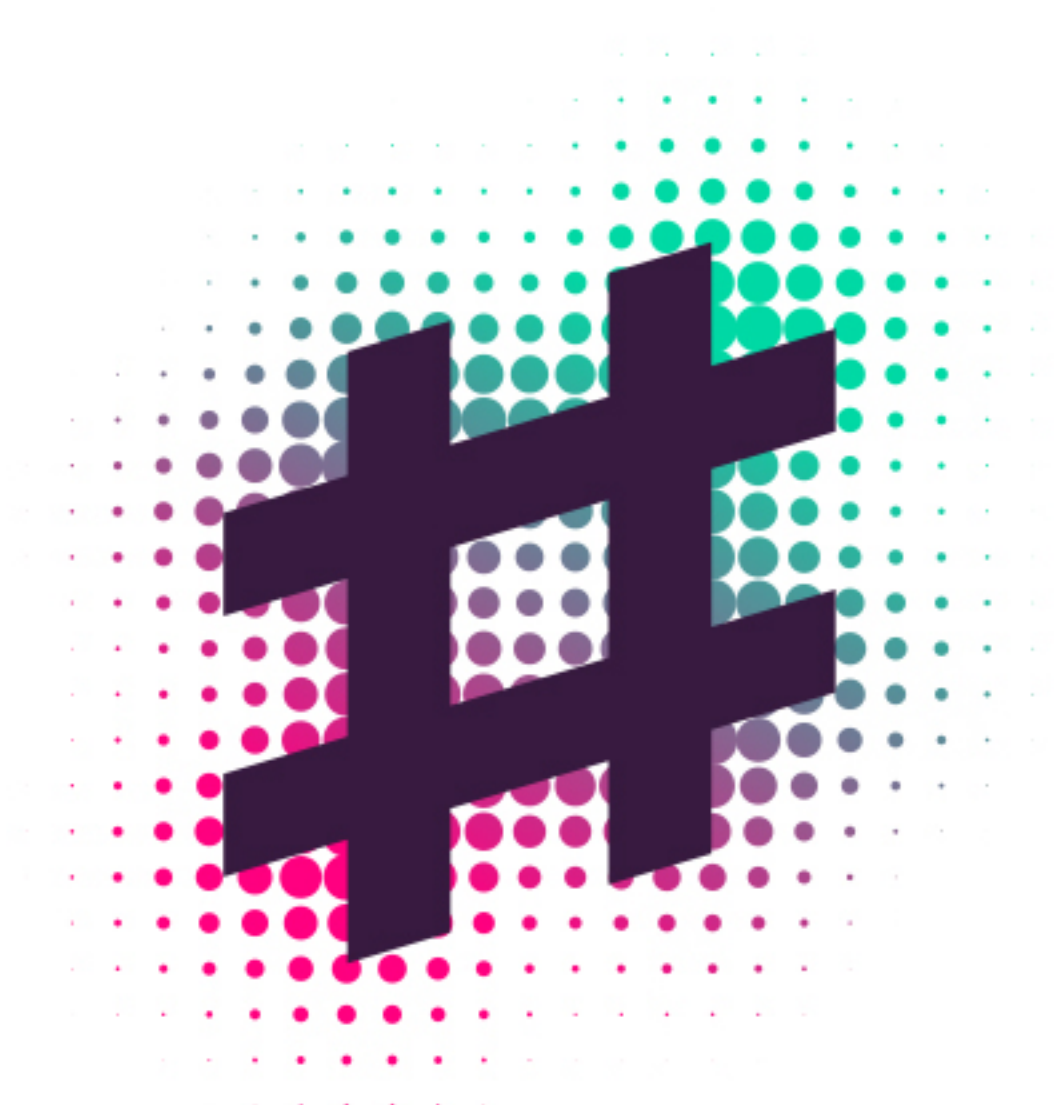
One of the major tips is avoiding confrontation at all costs. If someone tries to start a fight or an argument, just walk away. Some aggressive or hostile people's main aim is to engage. So do not provoke them. Remember that your safety is more important than winning an argument.



10) Trust your Gut

Lastly, always trust your gut. If something feels wrong, it probably is. If you feel uneasy, leave the area immediately. Remember that it's better to be safe than sorry. If you ever feel in danger, call the local police immediately.





h a s h t a g

RETAIL THERAPY



Rooted in tradition, India is a country that has survived cultures and crafts. The beauty of the country is personified in many of its cultural heritages and crafts enhancing the ambience and aesthetics of both the man and the locale. Be it the smooth shawls of Kashmir or the lovingly embroidered Gujarat Kutch work, there is love, skill and essence of the nation in every work of art it produces. The best preservers of memory of India are recognized by the World through the Geographical Indicators (GI) of the country's multi-diverse states and territories.

GI OF INDIA WITH THE BEST SOUVENIRS

Kerala's Coconut Shell Crafts

Originating in the Land known as God's own country, the coconut shell craft is a technique of crafting technically skilful and aesthetically beautiful brass embroidered objects from coconut shells. Centred in the regions of Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode Districts, this craft moulded the abundantly available coconut shells of the region into exquisite artifacts that bring the ambience of the coast into your living and drawing rooms.

Transforming the coconut shells into cups, flower vases, snuff boxes, nut bowls, powder boxes and intricate jewellery, this craft is an exclusive expertise of Kerala. Borrowing the techniques of woodcraft and the convenience of modern tools, the coconut shell craft modifies the naturally available coconut shells into beautiful handiworks of artisans that stand as an epitome of skill and allure. To the connoisseurs of art, coconut shell crafts are worthy collectables and a great mantlepiece to the common man.



Image credit: cultureandheritage.org



Image credit: worldartcommunity.com

Rajasthan's Blue Pottery

Draped in stunningly cobalt blue colours, Jaipur in Rajasthan is home to skilful pottery and artistry. This elegant art can be traced back to the 14th century to the period of the Mughals. Known for its distinctive blue and white glaze, blue pottery is an art that unquestionably stands out from any connoisseur's collection.

The unique glaze of the pottery is achieved through a remarkable production process, made from a mixture of powdered glass, borax, and cobalt oxide and with a touch of the artist's own hand through hand-painted elaborate and beautiful designs using natural colours.

Influenced by Persian designs and motifs, Jaipur pottery is made from ceramic materials and holds a delicate and royal ambience around the art of pottery. Apart from elegant pottery, several decorative items like tiles, door knobs, pots, vases and plates are also made in this royal category for the consumers to enjoy.

Andhra's Leather Craft

Popularly made for the vanishing craft of *Tholu Bommalaata* from the Deccan region of India–Andhra Pradesh, the leather puppets have transformed into traditional and exotic house decorations. Traditional craft that has been practised from times immemorial, the leather craft has the technique of the artisan and the perfection achieved from the tools of stamps, knives, and punches. The culture, dating back to the 12th century, originated by depicting the epics of Mahabharata and Ramayana through leather puppets. The tradition slowly evolved from leather puppets to make its mark on the modern materials like lamps, wall hangings and more.

Kakinada and Nirmala Kunta are currently the centres of this artform keeping the art, tradition and the artisans alive. Embracing the nativity and presenting both epic and contemporary scenarios and characters, these exquisite decorations are one of the most sought after crafts of India.



Image credit: shop.gaatha.com



Image credit: shop.gaatha.com

West Bengal's Madukarthi

Practised in the Sundarbans of West Bengal, the home to the world's largest mangrove forest, this is the traditional art of West Bengal defined by the distinctive honeycomb or beehive-shaped structures using dried leaves. The art form that enjoyed the royal patronage of the Persians as well as the Muslim rulers, evolved itself to include mats weaved from fine silk.

In the present times, weaved from a reed local to the Indian State of West Bengal, Madur Kottir–Madukarti mats are a famous utility in most Indian households that make an intimate cultural connection. Also widely used for religious purposes, this craft has diversified into many products that include bags, purses, curtains, table runners, jackets and pen holders.

Karnataka’s Chanapatna Wood Craft

An authentic and thoughtful wood crafting technique unique to the Chanapatna region of Karnataka, this craft has influences of Persian and Japanese apart from Indian, introduced by Tipu Sultan. This century’s old craft with many layers and several stages, which include woodturning, lacquering, and painting, is especially famous for child-friendly wooden toys, though the craft’s utility extends to home decors and household utilities.

The techniques most prominently used to make toys, have now evolved to make more utilities like jars, wooden horses, abacus and more. Made with great thought towards safety using organic colours and blunt & smooth surfaces, Chanapatna woodcraft has carved its way into the hearts of art enthusiasts.



Image credit: cdn.shopify.com



Image credit: cdn.shopify.com

Varanasi Stone Jali Work

Keeping the craft alive from centuries ago, the Varanasi Stone Jali work craft involves the creation of intricate lattice or perforated screens made from stone, which include marble, sandstone, and granite. Using chisels, hammers and other tools, the artists specialize in carving out decorative and complicated yet beautiful designs out of stone. Floral motifs, geometric patterns and other traditional symbols are created by the magical and expert hands of the artisans producing awe-inspiring works of art. The objects that have the fortune to showcase the art include tabletops, boxes, coasters, trays, lampstands, small bowls, jaalis, and candle stands, though the most popular item remains the under-carved elephant.



Kashmir walnut wood carving

Designed on Walnut wood, abundantly available in the valleys of Kashmir, the craft has been a symbolic heritage of Kashmir. Inspired and designed using floral patterns, geometric designs and intricate motifs, the wood turns into a beautiful art piece in the hands of Kashmiri’s traditional and talented artisans to adorn tables, walls and even exquisite jewellery.

A delicate and ornamental craft infused with the culture and tradition of Kashmir, with hints of Persian and Indian artistry, the Walnut wood carving technique is a craft authentic and pride of the jewel of India - Jammu and Kashmir. With rich motifs of rose, lotus, iris, grapes and pears carved on the walnut wood, beautiful architecture and objects are the outcome of this technique. Own a part of these heritage tables, jewellery boxes, trays and more.



Image credit: gaatha.com



Image credit: lbb.in

West Bengal’s Baluchari

Baluchari craft is famously weaved as sarees for and by the women of West Bengal and Bangladesh. Mythological stories are fondly weaved on the pallu of the silk sarees. Enhanced by vibrant colours obtained from natural dyes, the royalty of the silk fabric is a perfect foundation for the designs and skills of the art technicians.

With modern & changing times, this craft has shifted terrain to multiple fashion items of jackets, dresses, shoes, bags, wallets, and belts. The elaborate designs and the grandness of the sarees have delegated to other utility objects that are desired and wondered by the connoisseurs worldwide.



Telangana Ikkhat

Originating from the Malay-Indonesian word "mengikat," Ikkhat stands for ‘to bind or tie’. Unique patterns that are achieved by tying or binding yarns before weaving is the pièce de résistance of this handiwork of the artisans of Southern India, mainly the region of Telangana. Orissa also has a unique dyeing and tying technique that stands apart from the Telangana Ikkhat. Nevertheless, Ikkhat has become symbolic of expertise and prestige owing to the intricacy of manufacturing and the beauty it inculcates into the fabric.

A distinctive technique of dyeing transferred expertly to fabric, Ikkhat is a display of patterns boisterous and delicate at the same time. Popular with the garments, Ikkhat has also found its medium of showcase in the form of beautiful purses, jackets, bedsheets, curtains, carpets and more. The whimsical part of this technique is that an optimum blurriness to pattern is symbolic to the skill of the craftsman.



Image credit: directcreate.com



Image credit: upload.wikimedia.org

Assam’s Muga Silk

Produced by the silkworm *Antheraea assamensis*, found only in Assam, the Muga silk refers to the natural golden hue of the silk yarn derived from these silk worms. Known as the Golden Silk of Assam, the Muga silk is a delicately extracted silk which is very rare in the world and a characteristic of the well-preserved nature of Assam. Following an exhausting routine, the muga silk is delicately extracted from the silk worms to adorn the shape of its wearer or bearer.

With the characteristic golden threads weaved into exquisite fabrics with skilfully added motifs of contrasting colour adds great value to these silk which lasts longer than its weaver often becoming heirlooms of the natives. Apart from finding its utility in the traditional mekhela chadors, sarees, and dhotis, the garments from this silk are rapidly becoming symbolic of the high-end fashion from the Assamese region.



For your endless
CULINARY CREATIONS



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Custard Powder



Icing Sugar



Corn Flour



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Drinking Chocolate



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h a s h t a g

FASHION FORWARD

EXQUISITE WEDDINGS
MADE EFFORTLESS:

INDIA'S FINEST WEDDING PLANNERS

Indian weddings are known for their grandeur. However, behind the celebrations and laughter, a whirlpool of emotions simmers beneath the multiple rituals that a wedding demands. As the wedding date approaches, the bride and groom's families are under high pressure. Family members don't always healthily deal with stress. They can become argumentative and antagonistic, so the planner's job is to mediate stressful scenarios before they get out of hand. **Surabhi Goel** in an interview with experts behind India's most memorable wedding planners.



After 14 to 15 years in the wedding planning industry, Neha Mehrotra, founder of foreign wedding planners, believes that "The desire for destination weddings has grown in recent years, and wedding planners have been able to capitalize on this trend by offering their services in a variety of locations. We bring a fresh perspective and approach to weddings in different locations which is a significant advantage. We offer clients new ideas and unique touches that might not be as readily available to local planners."

Neha Chawla and Manoj Chawla, founders of Mansa Wedding planners, think that "It's a slow and steady walk from conceptualization of tasks & requirements to planning and detailing each task to executing seamlessly – If conceptualization and planning are strong, execution in all probability will be a cakewalk."



Manoj Chawla & Neha Chawla
founder of Mansa Weddings Planners



Jitendra Kejriwal founder of Arika Events

Jitendra Kejriwal (Pintuji), the founder of Arika events, which organizes spectacular Indian weddings in India & Overseas, says, "Wedding Planning is a full-time job and requires a lot of patience. It is not as easy as it sounds, but the overall experience is quite adventurous. I would say, every event is a new event, new couple, new family, new requirements, meeting new people, overall, a superb but tiring experience."



Neha Mehrotra founder of FWP

Matching with the couple's

Indian couples have a broader and more open perspective in making their wedding memorable and intimate. According to Mansa wedding, "It is a matter of assimilating thoughts & ideas, building on them, and moving towards executions. However, it gets difficult in cases where the bride and groom are a little confused or are influenced by family and friends. In this scenario, it is the onus of the planner to encourage continuous communication, visually exhibit creativity via social media inspirations, and expose the couple to options available across wedding tasks so they can shortlist their tastes and preferences."

According to Neha of FWP, "To understand the psyche of the couple and families is a lengthy process. We must balance the younger generation's needs, older people's expectations, and budget. But we balance the expectation, the reality, and the practicality of it all."

According to Pintuji, "A couple's vision is significant as it is the biggest day of their life, we wish to fulfil their requests as much as possible, but sometimes we have to deny looking at all practical possibilities and making the couple understand."



Budget constraint weddings

By speaking directly to the couple and understanding their expectations and requirements, wedding planners can provide a more accurate estimate of expenses and help the couple stay within budget.

From Neha's point of view, "it's important to ensure that we are not consistently over-extending ourselves or our resources. It's important to set clear boundaries with clients and to manage expectations to avoid misunderstandings or unrealistic demands. Sourcing items from flea markets, vintage markets, and old markets can be a great way to save costs while still creating a unique and personalised wedding. It's also great to use your network and negotiation skills to find cost-effective vendors and suppliers."

Hilariously, Mansa Weddings says, "Not an ideal situation to be in—but I

think here it's the judgment, exposure, experience, and relationship management of the planner that helps maintain the pocket."

Arika Events, with their experience, states, "As we have so much experience, we know where the costing will land, and we explain the same to the client before confirming the event, and then we can plan the wedding in the given budget."



Keeping abreast with the latest wedding trends

By staying updated with the latest wedding trends, wedding planners can offer their clients high service and help create unique and timeless weddings.

The foreign wedding planner makes a great point about the importance of social media in staying up-to-date with the latest wedding trends. Social media platforms like Pinterest, Instagram, and Facebook can provide a wealth of inspiration and ideas for wedding planners, allowing them to stay ahead of the curve and provide fresh and innovative concepts to their clients. Also, by regularly reading wedding portals and blogs, wedding planners can keep themselves informed about the latest trends in the industry. It can help them stay ahead of the competition and give their clients unique and memorable wedding experiences.

According to Mansa Wedding Planner, "Today, the reading and researching bit is the same but much more simplified – Social media and digital platforms are just a click away and lend a lot of ease to visually understanding and further disseminating fashion and wedding trends."



Unique and challenging weddings

As a wedding planner, there are many unique and challenging aspects. First and foremost, every wedding is different, and each couple has their vision for their special day. It means that the wedding planner must be adaptable and able to cater to each couple's specific needs and desires.

For FWP, the most challenging wedding was on a cruise ship. The unique constraints and restrictions that come with planning a wedding on a moving vessel, artificial flowers replacing the actual flowers, fire-resistant weddings, limited labourers to shift things, limited storage space, and counting and measuring the dimensions of the cartons were very exhausting. Also, being meticulous and detail-oriented in accounting for every item brought on board. "That was a very challenging event because, in the end, we ended up doing and using only about 40% of the stuff we got on board which was as it is significantly cut down."

For Mansa Weddings, a wedding aboard the Star Cruise Vessel cruising from Singapore to Malaysia and back was the most challenging wedding. "It was a 'Wow Factor' wedding with the challenge that the ship did not allow phere around the fire while on board. The solution was to make all the 250 guests disembark at Langkawi to do a ground wedding while simultaneously managing flawless logistics and travel, keeping in view guest comfort and convenience."

For Arika Events, the most promising wedding was, "We planned a wedding in the outdoors for December, and rains were not expected. But, just as the baraat was about to reach, it started raining and we had to move the pheras indoors, but we had a great setup team who were able to manage the same."

Food Talk

Caterers are one of the essential pillars of any wedding. As a result, hiring a caterer has increased significantly over the last few years, as it has become a necessity rather than just a luxury.

According to Sandeep Sreedharan, chef and founder of Mahe in Goa and Curry Tales in Mumbai, who has collaborated with 3-4 wedding planners states, “I do customize as per the wedding themes, but mostly it would be a multicourse service, that's what I specialize in. Every wedding will have sleeves from or cuisines from coastal cuisines and I kind of represent mostly the South Western region of India.”

He adds that sustainability and health consciousness in the food industry is expected to continue. Catering companies also reduce waste by using reusable or compostable materials for their plates, utensils, and packaging. Also, interactive food stations have become popular because they allow guests to customize their meals and try new foods. “I specialize in straightforward heirloom recipes made very well-balanced to take them more progressive.”



Chef Sandeep



Quick Takes

Neha Mehrotra- FWP

Spotting the biggest wedding trends in 2023-

The trend towards intimate and small weddings reflects changing attitudes towards marriage and celebrations. Pastel colours are also popular, as they are more subdued and less attention-grabbing than brighter colours. The use of lavender, pista green, and pastel colours in weddings reflects the trend toward a more understated and subdued aesthetic. Regarding décor, couples are increasingly looking for ways to make their weddings unique and individual. White decor is also becoming more popular, despite being considered taboo in some cultures. Customized décor allows them to express their personalities and create a memorable experience for themselves and their guests.

Innovating wedding themes-

Regarding themes, Boho weddings are very much in vogue these days. English boho, rustic boho, and desi boho are variations on this theme, each with a unique style and aesthetic. Jute rugs and trendy furniture are also becoming more popular in wedding decor, as they add texture and warmth to the overall look and feel of the wedding.

Popular Locations in India and abroad-

The trend towards non-commercial and exclusive wedding destinations is becoming increasingly popular in India. Hill stations such as Darjeeling, Sikkim, Assam, Nainital, and Mashobra are becoming popular for couples wanting a more intimate and personalized wedding experience. Heritage properties are also in high demand, as they offer a sense of history and tradition that many couples find appealing.

Turkey, Malaysia, Bali, and Croatia are all popular destinations for destination weddings. Cruise weddings are also becoming more popular, offering a unique and memorable experience for couples and their guests.

Bahrain and Fujairah are emerging as popular wedding destinations in the Middle East.

Eco-friendly weddings-

The trend towards zero wastage of food and reducing carbon footprints in weddings reflect changing attitudes towards sustainability and the environment. One way they do this

is by donating leftover food to NGOs such as Robinhood in Mumbai, which helps reduce food waste and feed those in need. Even the flowers used for decoration are sent to people who make incense sticks from them.

Another way that couples are reducing their carbon footprint is by recycling products such as props and artefacts used in their wedding decor. These items can be reused and repurposed, reducing the need to purchase new items and ultimately reducing waste. Couples use these recycled items in their wedding decor by imbining them as a lifestyle product.

Wedding gifts-

Personalized silverware and monogrammed items are becoming increasingly popular in weddings as couples look for ways to add a personal touch to their special day. Customised items such as monogrammed towels, nightwear, and shoes are all popular choices, as they allow couples to incorporate their initials or particular messages into their wedding decor and accessories.



Arika Events

Spotting the biggest wedding trends in 2023-

Couples seek unique and intimate experiences that reflect their personalities and preferences. This may involve incorporating different elements from different themes or creating an entirely new theme. Pastel colour decorations are in vogue and are a popular choice among couples.

Innovating wedding themes-

Ramayan themes are trending these days. People opt for Sita's samovar and tales from the holy book Ramayan at their weddings.

Popular Locations in India and abroad-

In India – Rajasthan and Kerela
In abroad- Turkey, Bahrain, Dubai, Thailand

Wedding gifts-

Dry fruits and chocolates. The packaging of dry fruit boxes and chocolate boxes can be customized to match the overall theme and decor of the wedding or event. However, the cost of the packaging is higher than the cost of the dry fruits or chocolates themselves.

Mansa Wedding planners

Spotting the biggest wedding trends in 2023-

The trends in weddings and events have been shifting towards innovative and grand celebrations, focusing on customization and exclusivity. Couples and event planners seek ways to create a unique and unforgettable experience for their guests with personalized touches that reflect their styles and tastes.

Innovating wedding themes-

Contemporary is ruling design statements, and different pastels like Sage Green, Lilac and shades of grey are catching on.

Popular Locations in India and abroad-

In India - Rajasthan and Goa, on the whole, are forever green, and Kochi has picked up in a big way.

International destinations - Turkey, Bahrain, Vietnam

Eco-friendly weddings-

Jute is a natural fibre that is sustainable, eco-friendly, and biodegradable. It adds a rustic, earthy charm to the decor while being versatile and adaptable to various themes and styles. The focus is on reusability with glamour and bling.





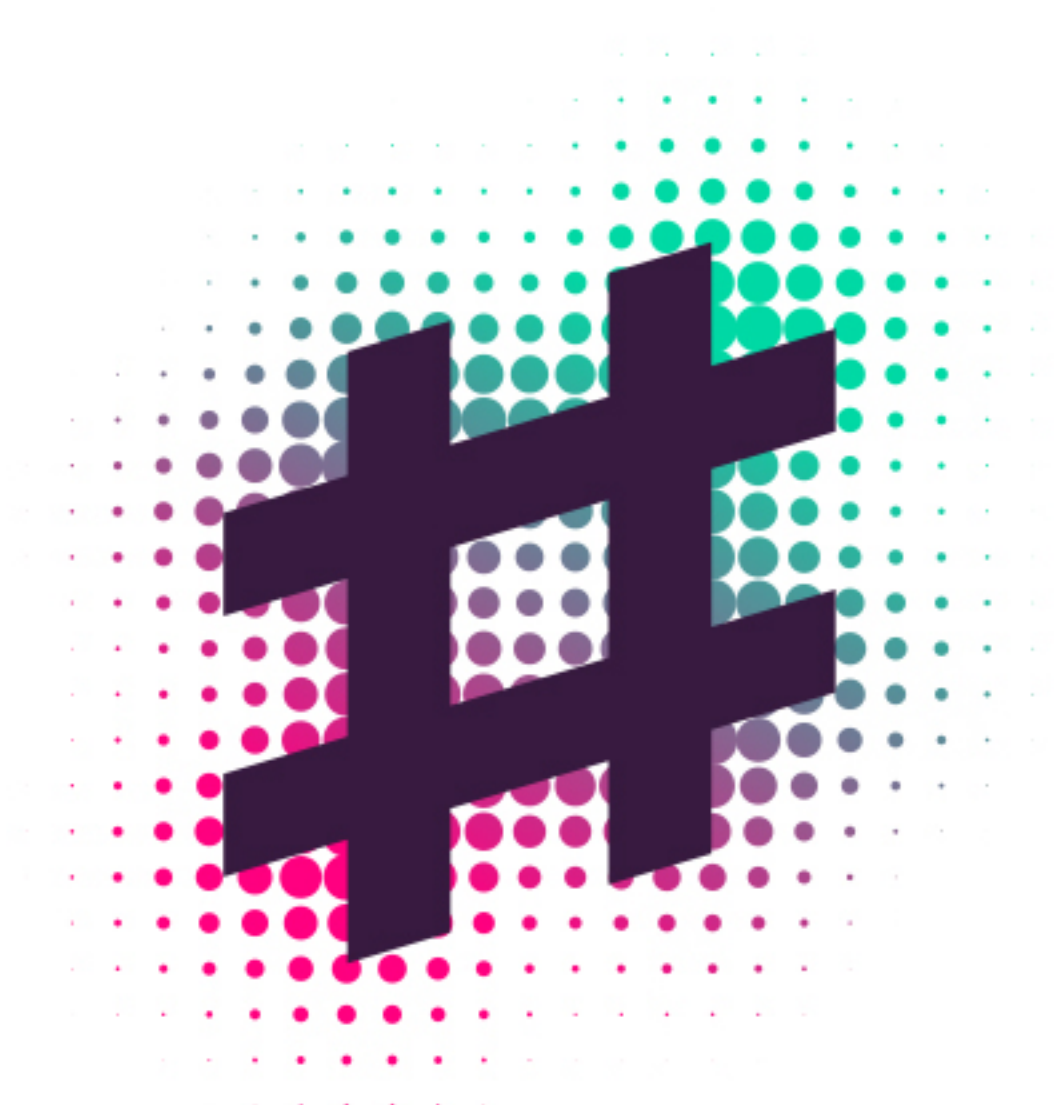
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h a s h t a g

HEALTH & WELLNESS

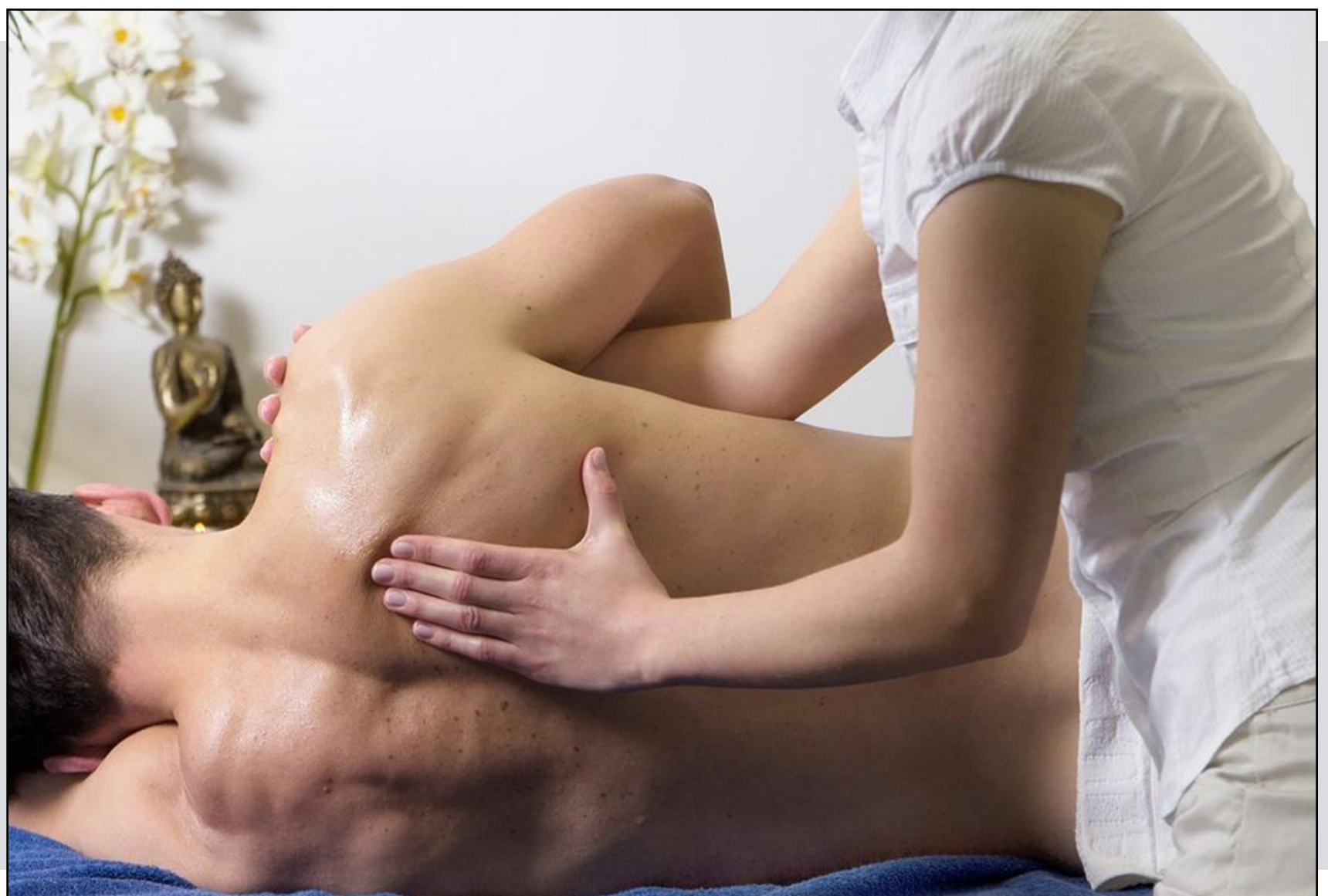


Acupuncture is an ancient Chinese medical practice that has been used for thousands of years to treat various health conditions. It involves inserting thin needles into specific points on the body, stimulating the body's natural healing process. In the past few years, it has gained a lot of popularity in the western world as a therapy for normal medical treatments. **Dhanush Kumar** lists down some of the benefits of acupuncture and how it can improve overall health.

ANCIENT HEALING, MODERN BENEFITS: **ACUPUNCTURE**

Relieves Pain and Inflammation

Acupuncture is known for its power to relieve pain. Stimulating specific points in the body can help to reduce inflammation and increases blood flow. This can be useful for people who suffer from chronic pain conditions like arthritis, and back pain. Headaches and migraines can be treated as well.



Reduces Stress and Anxiety

In the past few years, stress and anxiety have become common problems. With the help of acupuncture, it is proven to be effective in treating anxiety and depression. It helps you to relax by stimulating the body's natural relaxation response. It can help lower blood pressure and slow down the heart rate.



Improves Sleep

One of the major problems we are facing these days is poor sleep quality. Sleep affects overall health. It is important to have a good sleep of a minimum of 6-8 hours daily. Acupuncture can help improve sleep quality by promoting relaxation. Research has shown that acupuncture can be effective in treating insomnia and other sleep disorders. It also promotes deeper, and better sleep.



Boosts Immunity

Acupuncture can help boost your immune system, making you less vulnerable to illness and disease. By stimulating some points in the body, acupuncture can increase the white blood cell production that is responsible for fighting the disease. It is effective in major disorders such as arthritis and sclerosis.

The Future Of Acupuncture

More people are showing interest in alternative therapies, and the future of acupuncture looks very bright. In the past few years, it has gained acceptance in mainstream medicine. Even doctors are recommending acupuncture as a therapy.

With the help of technology, acupuncturists are now offering virtual consultations, allowing people to receive treatment from their own homes.

Acupuncture is also being used in combination with other therapies like massage, and chiropractic, to provide a better approach to healthcare. This can help to improve overall health and reduces the need for medication and other costly treatments



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h a s h t a g

FOOD INC'



Haleem is a delicious stew that is popular across India, especially during the holy month of Ramadan. Made with a combination of lentils, meat, and spices, haleem is slow-cooked for several hours to create a rich dish that is enjoyed by people of all ages. From street vendors to fine-dining restaurants, haleem can be found in several places across the country. **Dhanush Kumar** explores some of the top haleem eateries in India.

Top **Haleem** Eateries In India

1 **Pista House, Hyderabad**

Pista House is a household name in Hyderabad, known for its delicious haleem that attracts thousands of customers every year. This iconic eatery has been serving haleem for over 50 years and has earned a reputation for its authentic ingredients. The haleem at Pista House is made with tender mutton, lentils, and spices, and is slow-cooked for several hours to achieve a rich texture.



2 **Panch Mohalla, Old Delhi**



If you are in Delhi and looking for a great place to try some tasty haleem, Panch Mohalla in Old Delhi is worth a visit. This iconic eatery has been serving haleem for over 40 years and has earned a reputation for its rich dish. The haleem at Panch Mohalla is made with a unique blend of spices, lentils, and tender meat, and is slow-cooked for several hours to achieve a thick consistency.

3 **Lucky Restaurant, Mumbai**

Lucky Restaurant is a small eatery located in the Nagpada area of Mumbai that is known for its delicious haleem. The restaurant serves a variety of other Mughlai dishes as well, but haleem is the star of the restaurant here. It has been serving haleem for over 40 years.



4

Café 555, Hyderabad

Café 555 is a popular eatery in Hyderabad that serves a variety of dishes including haleem. Most of the customers have praised this restaurant for its unique flavours and delicious haleem. The restaurant is open all year round, and it is made with high-quality ingredients which gives it a rich and flavourful taste. The restaurant has a loyal customer base and is a popular spot among locals and tourists.



6

Sufia Restaurant, Kolkata



Sufia Restaurant is a popular eatery located in the New Market area of Kolkata that serves a variety of Mughlai and Bengali dishes. The restaurant is known for its delicious haleem, which is slow-cooked for several hours and is made with high-quality ingredients. Sufia Restaurant has been around for over 50 years and is a popular spot among locals and tourists alike.

5

Al Jawahar, Delhi

Al Jawahar is a legendary restaurant located in the Matia Mahal area of Delhi, near Jama Masjid. The restaurant has been around for over 70 years and is known for its delicious haleem and other Mughlai dishes. Al Jawahar's haleem is slow-cooked for several hours and is made with high-quality ingredients which gives it a rich and flavourful taste.



7

Shah Ghouse Café, Hyd



Another popular haleem destination in Hyderabad is Shah Ghouse Café and Restaurant. This eatery is famous for its mouth-watering haleem, which is made with a unique blend of spices and is slow-cooked to perfection. The haleem at Shah Ghouse Café and Restaurant is known for its rich and creamy texture and is served with crispy fried onions, fresh coriander leaves, and a squeeze of lemon juice.

8

Paradise Restaurant, Hyd

Paradise Restaurant is a popular eatery in Hyderabad that is known for its delicious biryanis, but it also serves some of the best haleem in the city. The restaurant serves haleem made with tender mutton, lentils, and a blend of spices that sets it apart from other haleem dishes. The restaurant is a must-visit for anyone looking to try some authentic haleem in Hyderabad.



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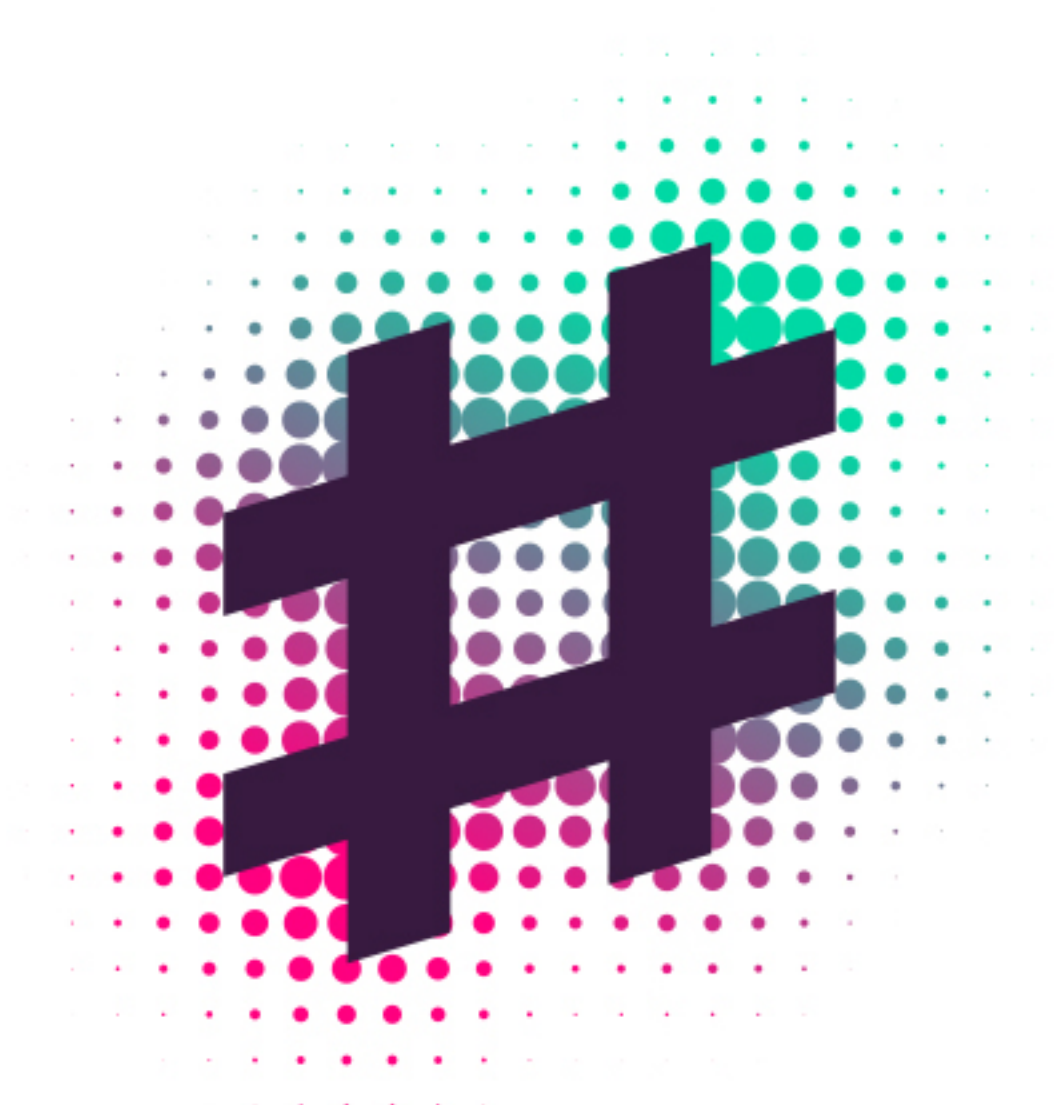
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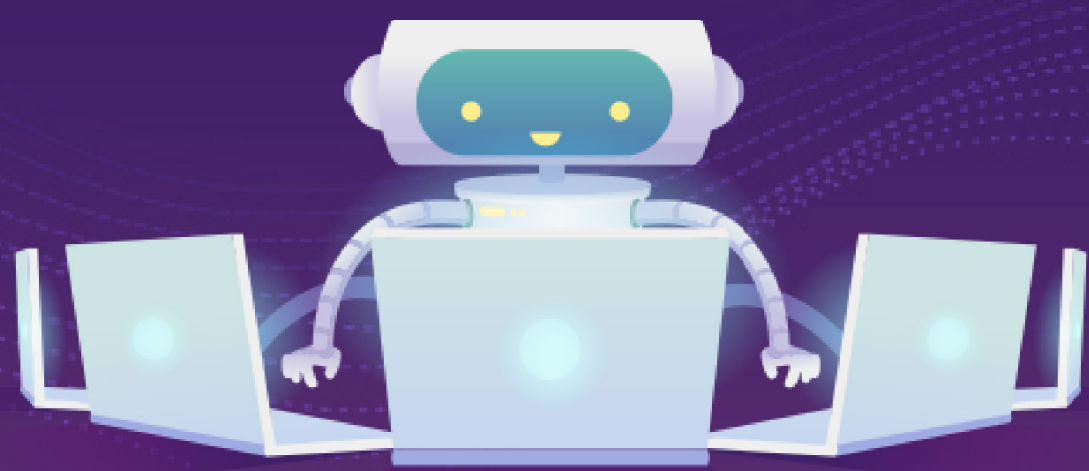
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AUTO & TECH

REVOLUTIONIZE YOUR PRODUCTIVITY WITH AI WEBSITES!



Artificial intelligence(AI) has transformed the way we work and boosted our productivity in many ways. We can finish the work in just a few minutes, from automation tools to AI-powered assistants, there are many AI websites available to revolutionize your productivity. **Dhanush Kumar** lists the top AI websites that can make your work faster and more efficient.



1) Zapier

Zapier is a popular automation tool that connects different apps and other web series to automate your work. It can integrate over 3,000 different apps, and it is completely AI-powered. With AI features, it can automate some tasks like sending emails, updating spreadsheets, and many more. You can save time on repetitive tasks and focus on other work.



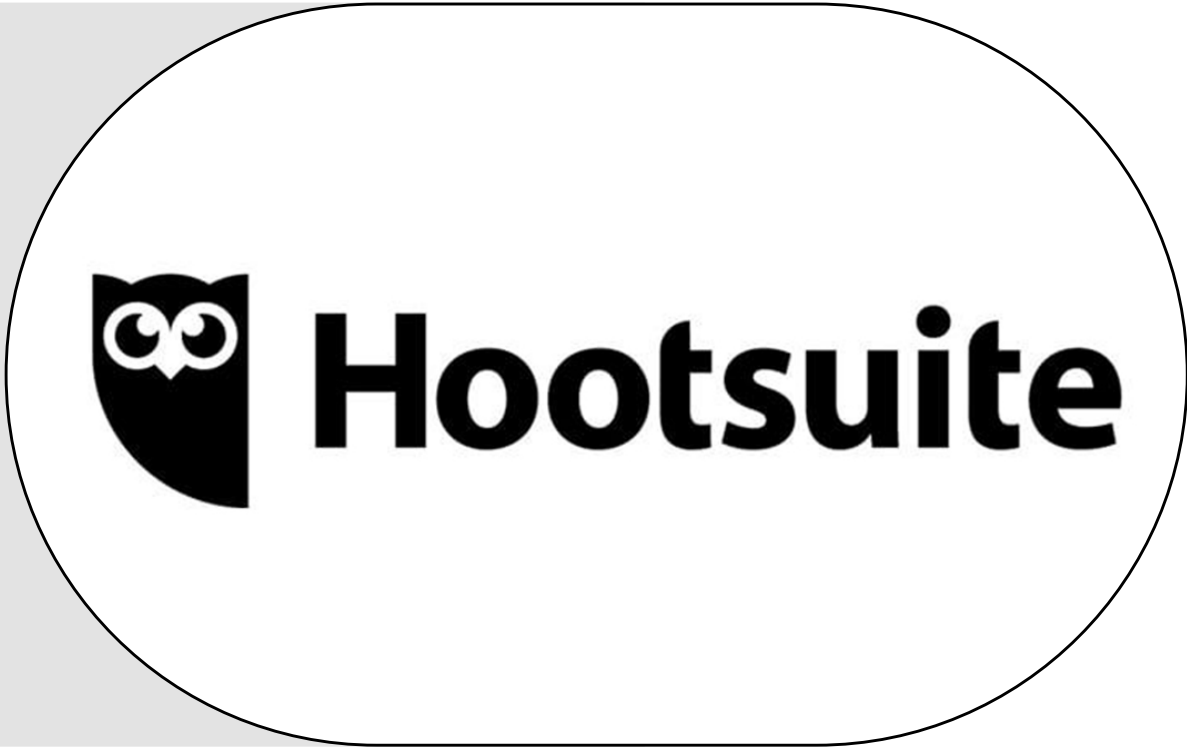
2) Trello

Trello is a project management tool that uses AI to help you stay organized. It uses machine learning algorithms to predict the completion time of the tasks and provides various recommendations for task prioritizations. With this tool, you can create boards, cards, and lists to organize all your day-to-day projects and track your progress.



3) Hootsuite

Hootsuite is a social media management platform that uses AI to help you manage your social media accounts and pages more efficiently. It helps in automating social media posts, monitoring social media mentions, and providing various analyses to help you improve your social media strategy and get good growth on the platforms.

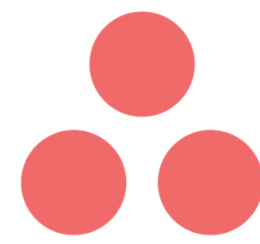




IFTTT

4) IFTTT

IFTTT(If This Then That) is a popular automation tool, that connects various web services and automates your tasks. It can integrate 600 different applications and web services. Just like Zapier, IFTTT automates some tasks like sending emails, spreadsheets, and other activities.



asana

5) Asana

Asana is a project management tool that helps you stay on top of your tasks. Asana uses AI to provide various task recommendations, project prioritization, and team workload optimization. With the help of this amazing tool, you can create tasks, assign them to team members and also track progress on the projects assigned.



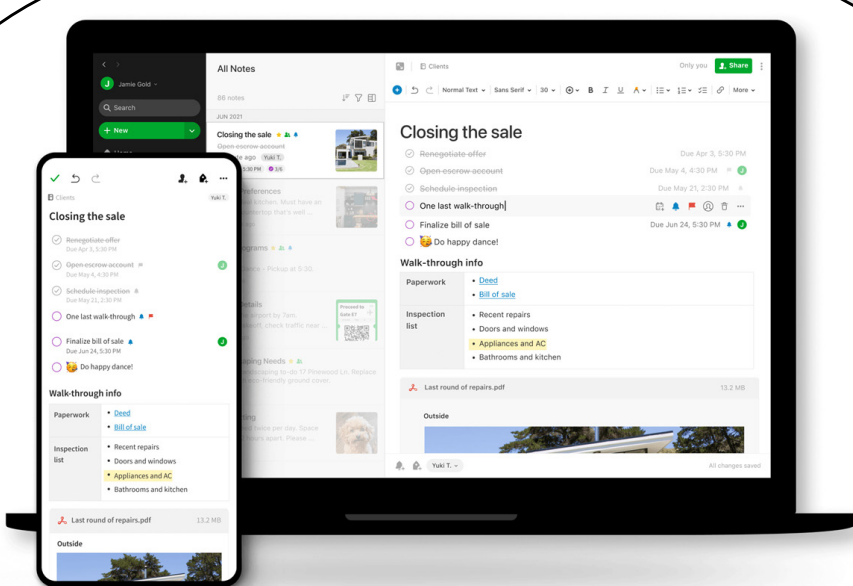
7) Slack

Slack is a popular messaging app that improves team communication and collaboration. It uses AI to provide personalized notifications, message suggestions, and even emoji suggestions. With Slack, you can reduce email clutter and streamline your team communication.



6) Canva

Canva is an amazing AI designing tool that helps you create professional-looking designs in a matter of minutes. On this website, you will find pre-designed templates for everything. It can provide design suggestions, image cropping, and even colour recommendations. With the help of Canva, you can save time and money by creating your designs without the need for a professional designer.



8) Evernote

Evernote is a note-taking app that helps you organize your ideas and notes. The platform allows you to create notebooks, tags, and reminders and also offers a range of tools for capturing content from the web, including PDF annotation, and handwriting recognition.



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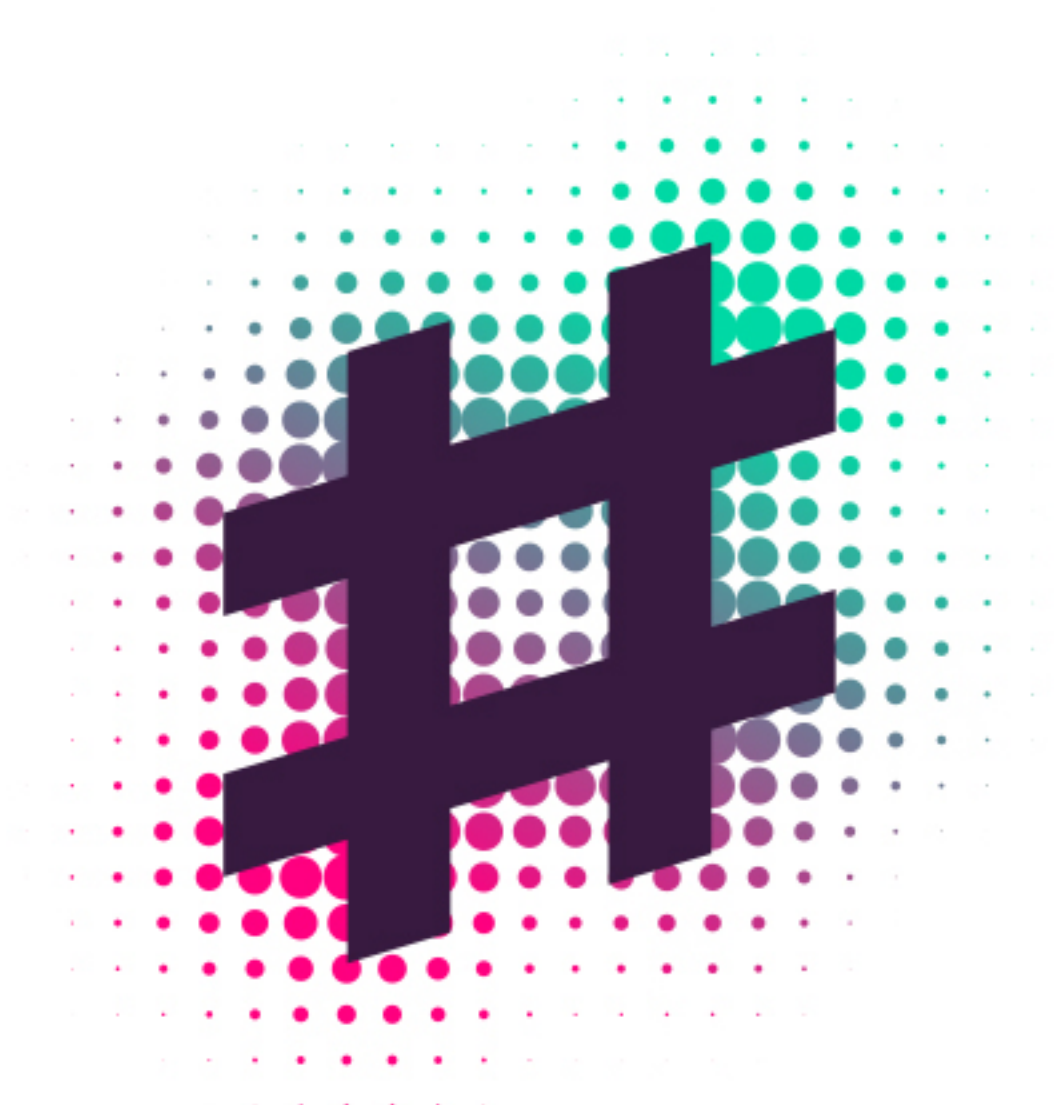


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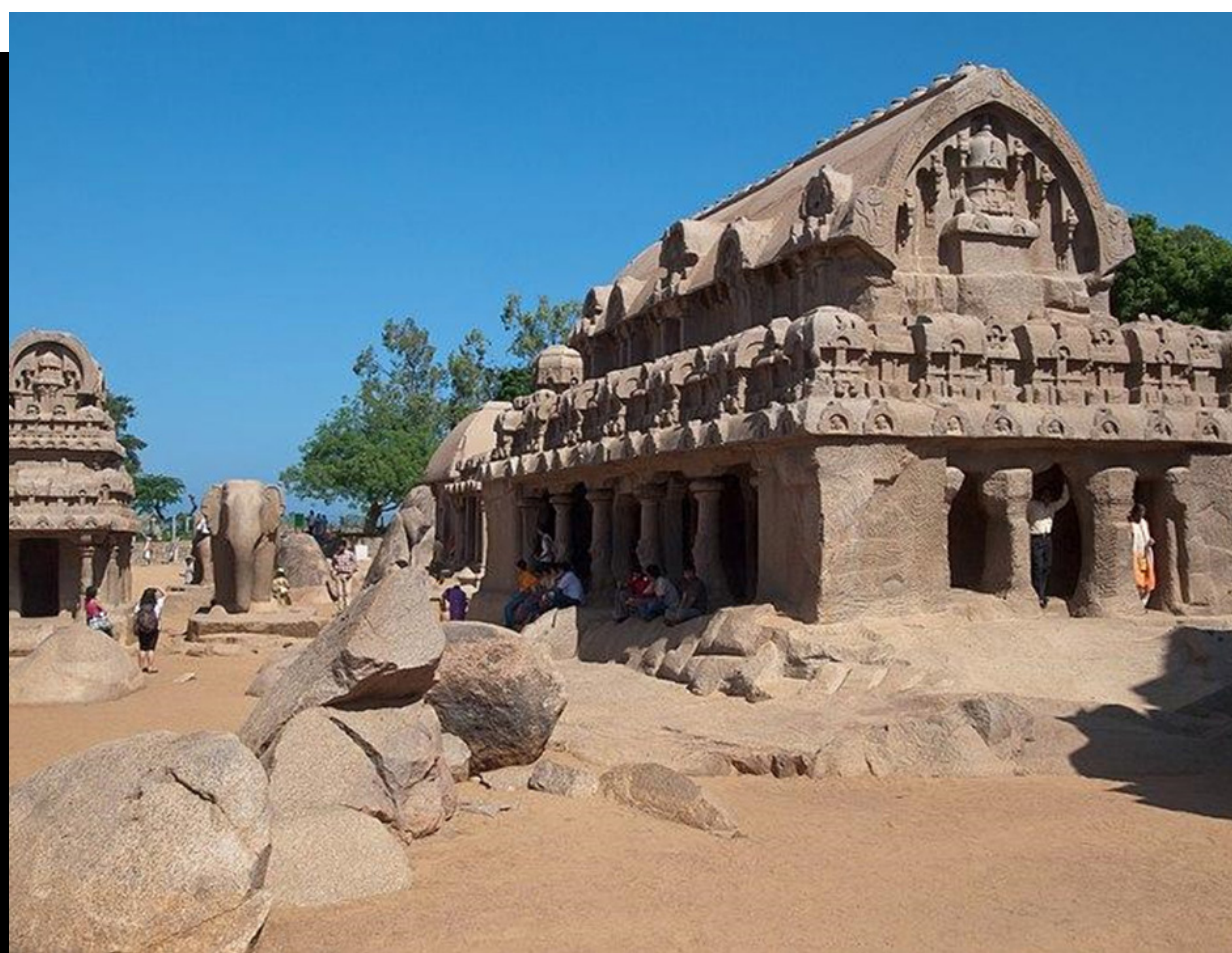
h a s h t a g

ARTS AND THEATRE



Mahabalipuram, located on the coast of the Bay Of Bengal, is home to an impressive collection of ancient stone sculptures. The art dated back to the 7th and 8th centuries CE and was created by the Pallava dynasty. They are considered some of the most exceptional examples of Indian rock-cut architecture. **Dhanush Kumar** will help you to explore the stunning stone sculptures of Mahabalipuram and their significance in Indian art and culture.

The Ancient Stone Sculptures Of Mahabalipuram

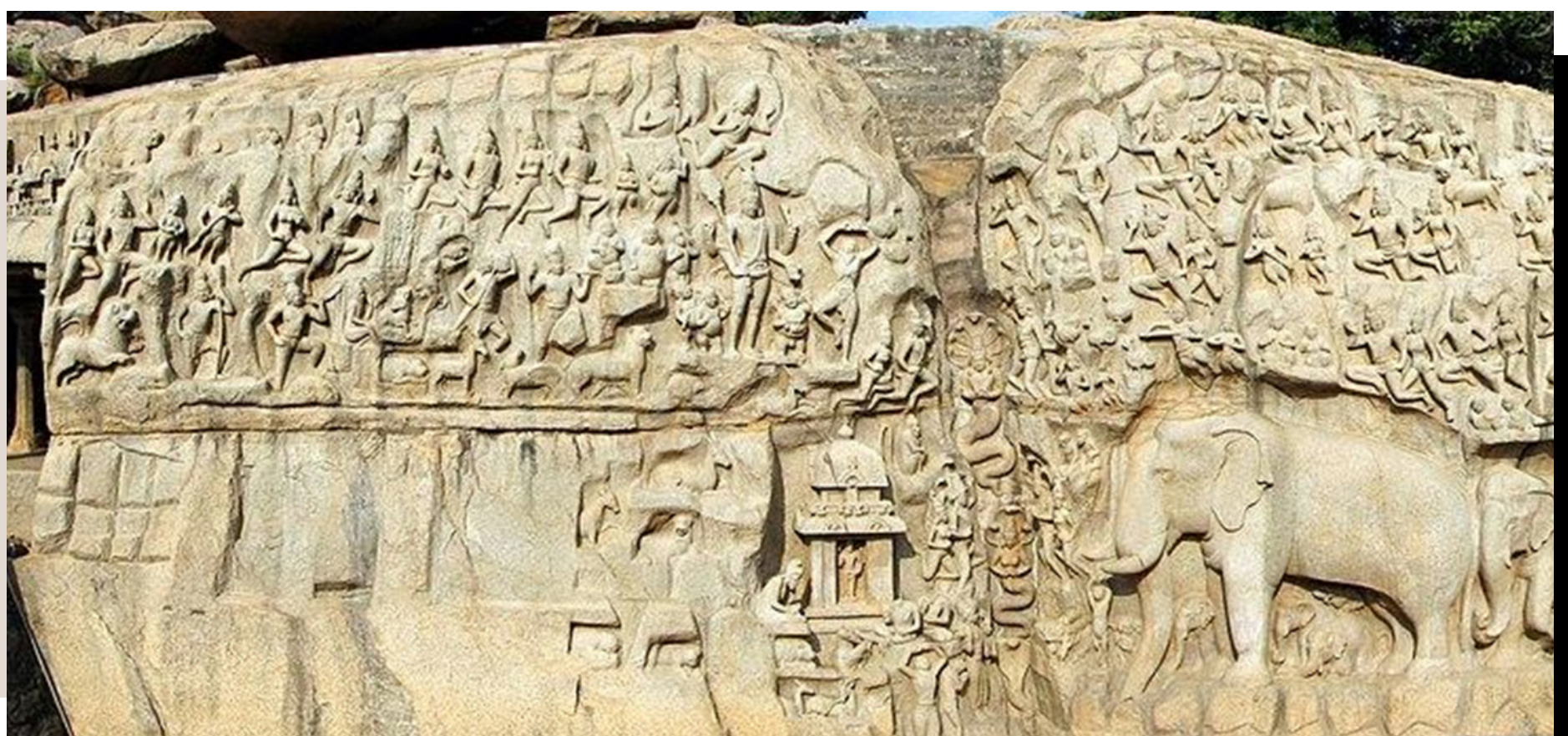


The Pancha Rathas

The Pancha Rathas, or 'Five Chariots' are a group of monolithic rock-cut temples located on the edge of Mahabalipuram. They are named after the five Pandava brothers. They are carved out of granite and are believed to be constructed in the 7th century CE. Each ratha here is unique in design, and the entire complex is a stunning example of Pallava architecture. They are decorated with carvings of deities and mythological figures.

The Descent of the Ganges

The Descent of the Ganges is a massive bas-relief located near Arjuna's penance. The carving is 29 meters long and 16 meters high, depicting Lord Shiva bringing the river Ganges down to earth. The carving is a masterpiece of Indian art, created in the 7th century CE.





The Mahishasuramardini Cave

The Mahishasuramardini cave is a rock-cut temple dedicated to the Hindu goddess Durga. The temple is located on a hill and is believed to have been constructed during the 7th Century by the Pallava dynasty. The temple is famous for its intricate carvings of various deities, including Durga, Vishnu, Shiva, and Brahma. The cave is divided into three parts, the central part has a Durga sculpture, the left side has a Vishnu carving, and the right side has a Shiva carving.

Krishna's Butterball

Krishna's Butterball is a massive, naturally occurring boulder estimated to weigh around 250 tons and perched on a sloping hillside. The boulder is named after the Hindu deity Krishna, and the locals here believe that the boulder has been in its current position for over 1,200 years, and now it has become a popular tourist attraction.

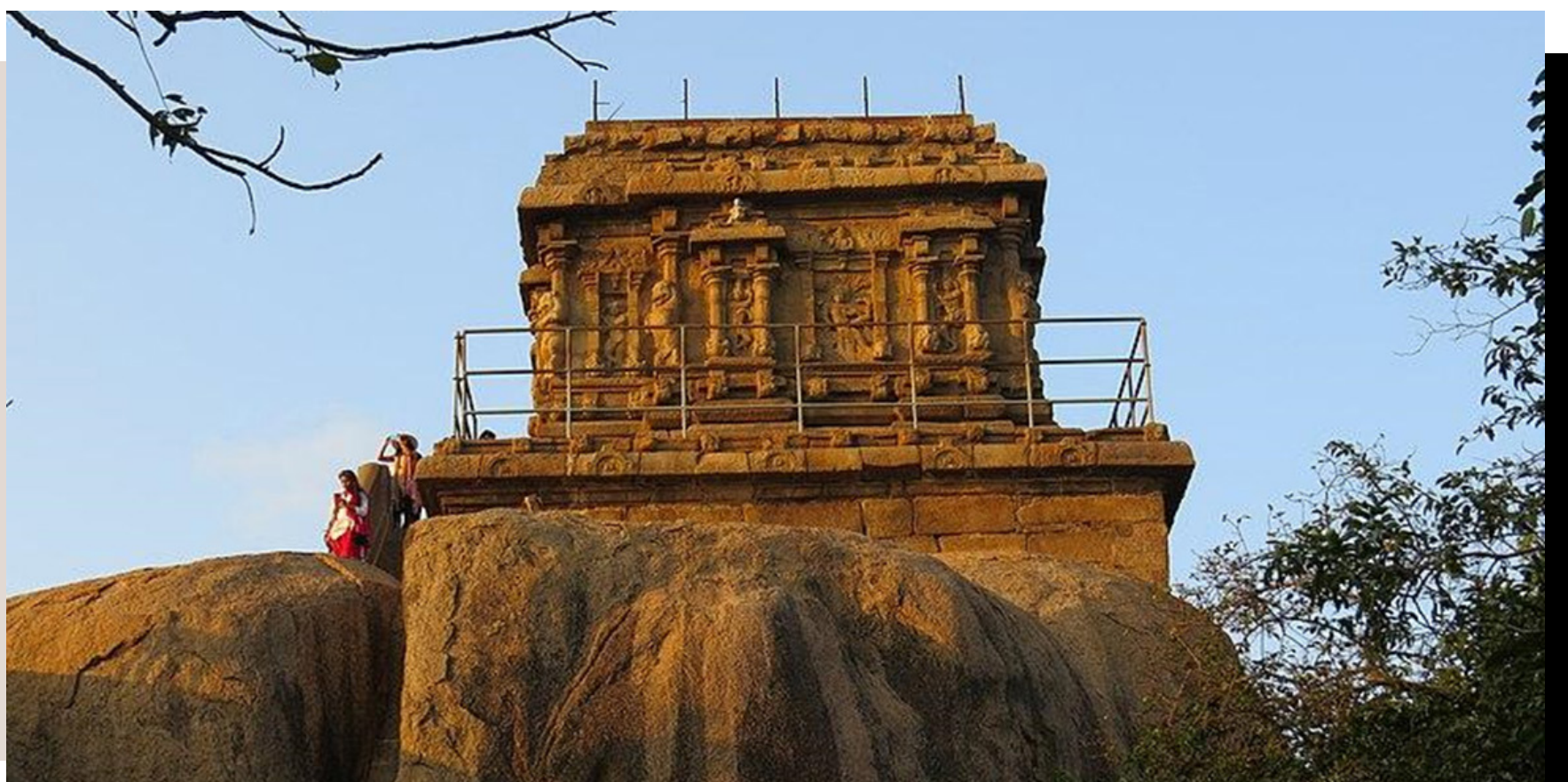


Varaha Cave Temple

The Varaha cave temple is another rock-cut temple dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu. The temple gets its name from the giant sculpture of Varaha, Vishnu's boar incarnation, located inside the temple. The temple features several other sculptures, and carvings including Shiva, Durga, and Brahma. The temple is famous for its carvings of animals, including elephants, lions, and horses.

Olakkanesvara Temple

Olakkanesvara Temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and was built during the 8th Century AD. The temple is made of granite and is notable for its carvings depicting various Hindu deities and mythological scenes. The most notable feature of the temple is its ornate gopuram, which also features a small balcony from which visitors can enjoy a panoramic view of the area.





h a s h t a g

TRAVEL

Over the past few years, travelling was restricted due to government restrictions. The pandemic fully closed many national and international borders, which had an impact on the tourism sector. The borders have been opened, things have calmed down, and people are eager to travel and discover new locations. Here are some of the top travel trends in 2023.

POPULAR TRAVEL TRENDS IN 2023

1) Off-Grid Travel

Off-grid experiences are one of the latest travel trends in 2023. Off-grid travel means not using any public services like water supply, phone signal, gas, and electric power. The majority of people want to reconnect with nature and disconnect from their distractions, demanding jobs, and busy lives. Hiking, camping, and eco-tours will continue to grow in popularity in 2023, and it is also promoted as a sustainable way of avoiding crowds and connecting with ourselves.



2) Nostalgic Travels

Nostalgic travel is about revisiting the good old days. Visiting places like where one grew up, and other places that were frequently visited with the family as a child. For many years, International travels were quite popular, and domestic vacations became boring. But the mindset has changed drastically and right now, the interest rate for small towns and coastal towns are gaining popularity.

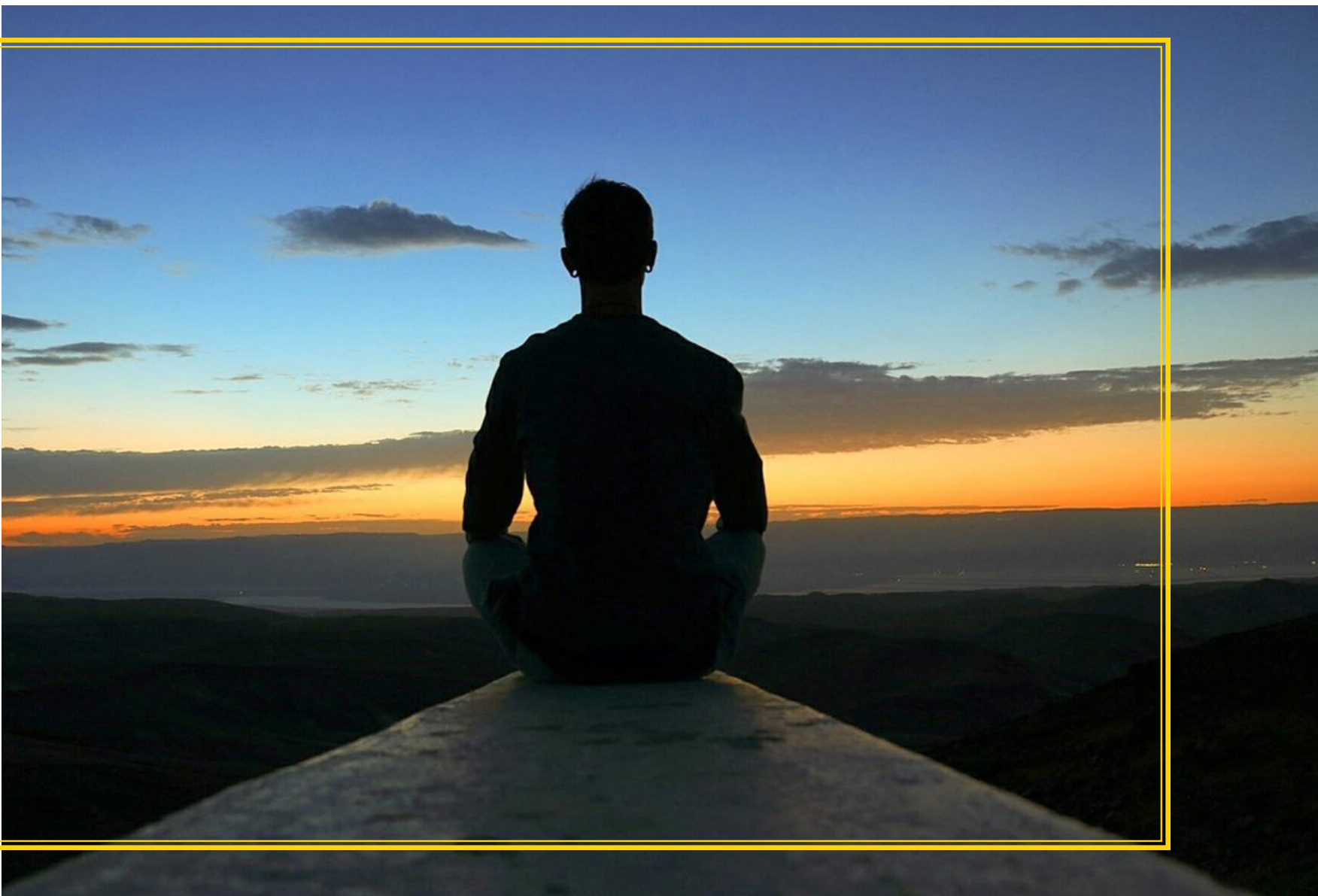


3) Cultural Experiences

There are more than 3,800 cultures in the world. Over the past few years, social media has helped us show various cultures and their unique traditions that got the attention of travellers. Many travellers are showing interest in experiencing new cultures, and traditions and they want to be pushed out of their comfort zone.

4) Wellness Travels

Whenever we travel to some destination, it is quite common that we come back home extremely tired, but wellness retreats allow you to come home feeling more refreshed and relaxed. The popularity of meditation, mindfulness, health, and spirituality has grown. Wellness retreats across the world are offering various methods like ancient healing treatments, and methods to be a better version of yourself.



5) Bucket-List Trips

We all have dream destinations that we want to visit someday and make our dream a reality. Since the international borders have been opened, many tourists are preparing to visit new locations that are on their bucket lists and cross off items like eating local cuisine and taking part in other unusual traditions.

6) Streaming Service-Inspired Trips

In many movies, and TV shows we have seen some breath-taking places. Many people are inspired to visit the destinations that were shown in movies or series. Because of this new trend, many places in Himachal Pradesh, Ladakh, and Rajasthan, and countries like Greece, Macedonia, Turkey, and London are experiencing a huge rise in the tourism industry.



7) Hidden Gems

Most of the time we visit some popular tourist spots in a city. But some hidden gems are extremely outstanding and not many people may know about them. That is why in the year 2023, there will be rapid growth to explore the hidden gems in a particular place. By exploring hidden gems, the places will also get recognition and we must cherish all types of travel.





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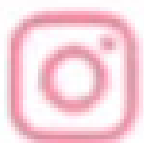
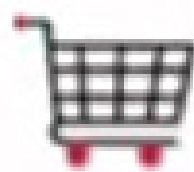
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INTERIORS



ELEVATE YOUR HOME WITH INDIA'S FINEST NATURAL FLOORS

India has a rich cultural heritage of using natural materials for building construction and home décor. In the flooring aspect, there is a wide range of materials available that reflect the country's artistic and cultural traditions. From elegant marble to rustic terracotta, the flooring options are vast and diverse. **Dhanush Kumar** provides an overview of the best natural flooring options with Indian origins.

1) Marble

Marble is one of the most popular flooring options in India, and it is very valuable for its durability. Indian marble is known for its distinctive patterns, and it is available in a wide range of colours and textures. Marble is used in living rooms, bedrooms, and bathrooms. Makrana marble is one of the most famous marble types in India because it was used in the construction of the Taj Mahal.

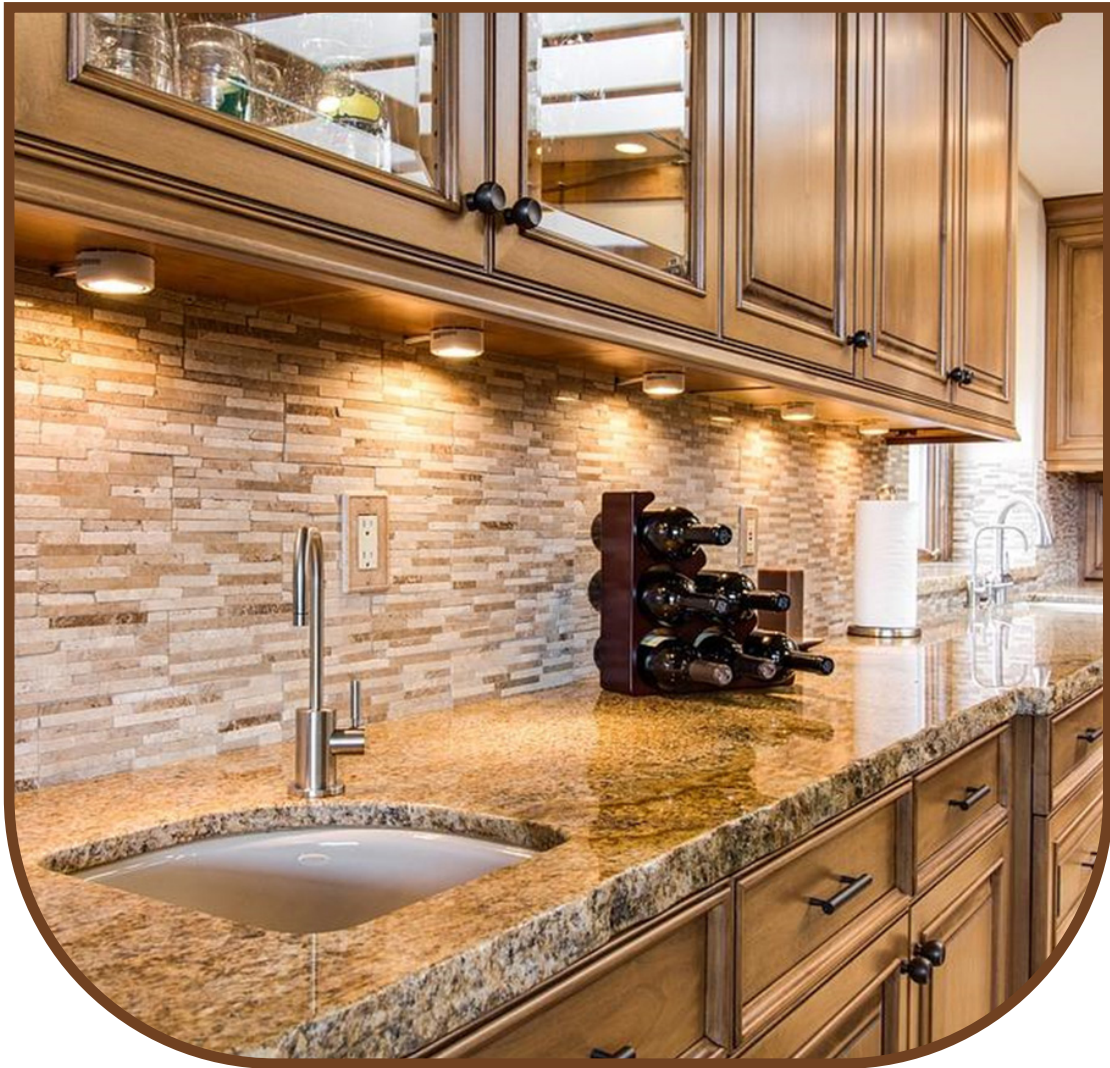


2) Terracotta

Terracotta is a popular flooring material that has been used in India for centuries. This naturally made clay material is baked in a kiln to create tiles that are durable, and easy to maintain. The terracotta tiles come in a wide range of earthy colours, and they are quite suitable for creating a warm ambience in any space. They are very popular in rural homes and farmhouses.

3) Granite

Granite is a highly durable material and it has a wide range of colours and textures. Granite is known for its resistance and it is an excellent choice for high-traffic areas. Indian granite is highly prized because of its unique patterns and colours and it is used mainly in commercial and residential spaces like malls, hotels, hallways, and others.



4) Teak

Teak is a hardwood and is native to India. Teak is valued for its durability, strength, and water resistance. Teak is most commonly used for outdoor flooring, which includes decks, patios, and swimming pool areas. Teak has a warm, and rich colour that gets better with its age, and it brings a touch of luxury to any outdoor space.



5) Mosaic

Mosaic flooring has some ancient roots that date back centuries. It involves arranging small pieces of coloured stone, glass, or ceramic to create amazing patterns and designs. Mosaic flooring is known for its durability, longevity, and also for its unique designs. The tiles are used in many spaces, including living rooms, bathrooms, and entryways. Mosaic flooring is mostly used in palaces, temples, and other historic buildings.





h a s h t a g

PETS



As temperatures rise during the summer months, pet owners need to take extra precautions to ensure their furry companions stay comfortable and healthy. From keeping your pet hydrated and protected from the sun to grooming them regularly and watching out for ticks and fleas, several essential tips can help your pet beat the heat. **Dhanush Kumar** will discuss some of the top summer pet care essentials to help you keep your pet cool and happy all summer long.

ESSENTIAL SUMMER TIPS FOR YOUR PET

1) Hydration is key.



It is crucial to ensure that your pets stay hydrated. Make sure that you always have a bowl of fresh, clean water available for your pet. Additionally, consider adding ice cubes to your pet's water bowl or investing in a pet fountain to encourage them to drink more water.

2) Protect your pet from the sun.

Just like humans, pets can also suffer from sunburn and heat stroke. To protect your pet from the sun's harmful rays, consider investing in a pet-friendly sunscreen. Apply sunscreen to your pet's ears, nose, and any other exposed skin before heading outdoors.



3) Keep your home cool.



During the summer, it is essential to keep your home cool to prevent your pet from overheating. Make sure that your pet has access to a cool, shady area in your home. You can also consider using fans or air conditioning to keep your home at a comfortable temperature.

4) Groom your pet regularly.



Regular grooming can help keep your pet's coat healthy and free from tangles, mats, and parasites. During the summer, it is especially important to keep your pet's fur trimmed to help them stay cool. Additionally, brushing your pet regularly can help distribute their natural oils, which can help keep their coat healthy and shiny.

5) Watch out for ticks and fleas.



Ticks and fleas are more active during the summer months, and they can cause a variety of health problems for your pets. To protect your pet from these parasites, make sure that they are on a regular flea and tick prevention regimen. Additionally, check your pet's coat regularly for any signs of ticks or fleas, and remove them promptly.

6) Avoid walking your pet during the hottest parts of the day.



When temperatures soar, it's best to avoid walking your pet during the hottest part of the day. Instead, try to take your pet for walks early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler. Additionally, make sure that your pet has access to a cool, shady area during outdoor playtime.

7) Provide your pet with a cooling bed.

The cooling bed is one of the best ways to help your pet beat the heat during the summer months. These beds are made from materials that absorb heat from your pet's body, helping them stay cool and comfortable. Additionally, you can also consider cooling mats or frozen water bottles wrapped in a towel to provide a cool surface for your pet to lie on.



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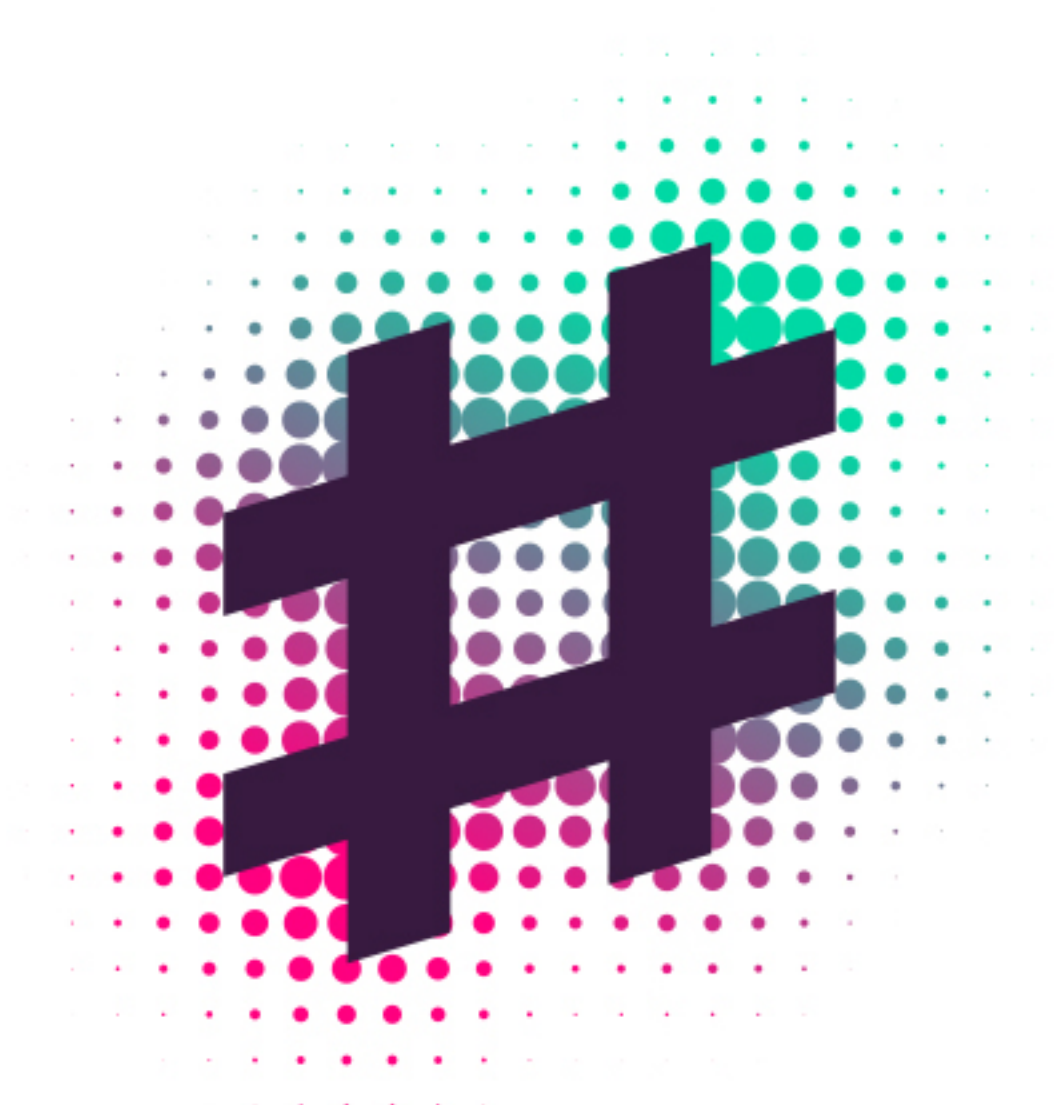


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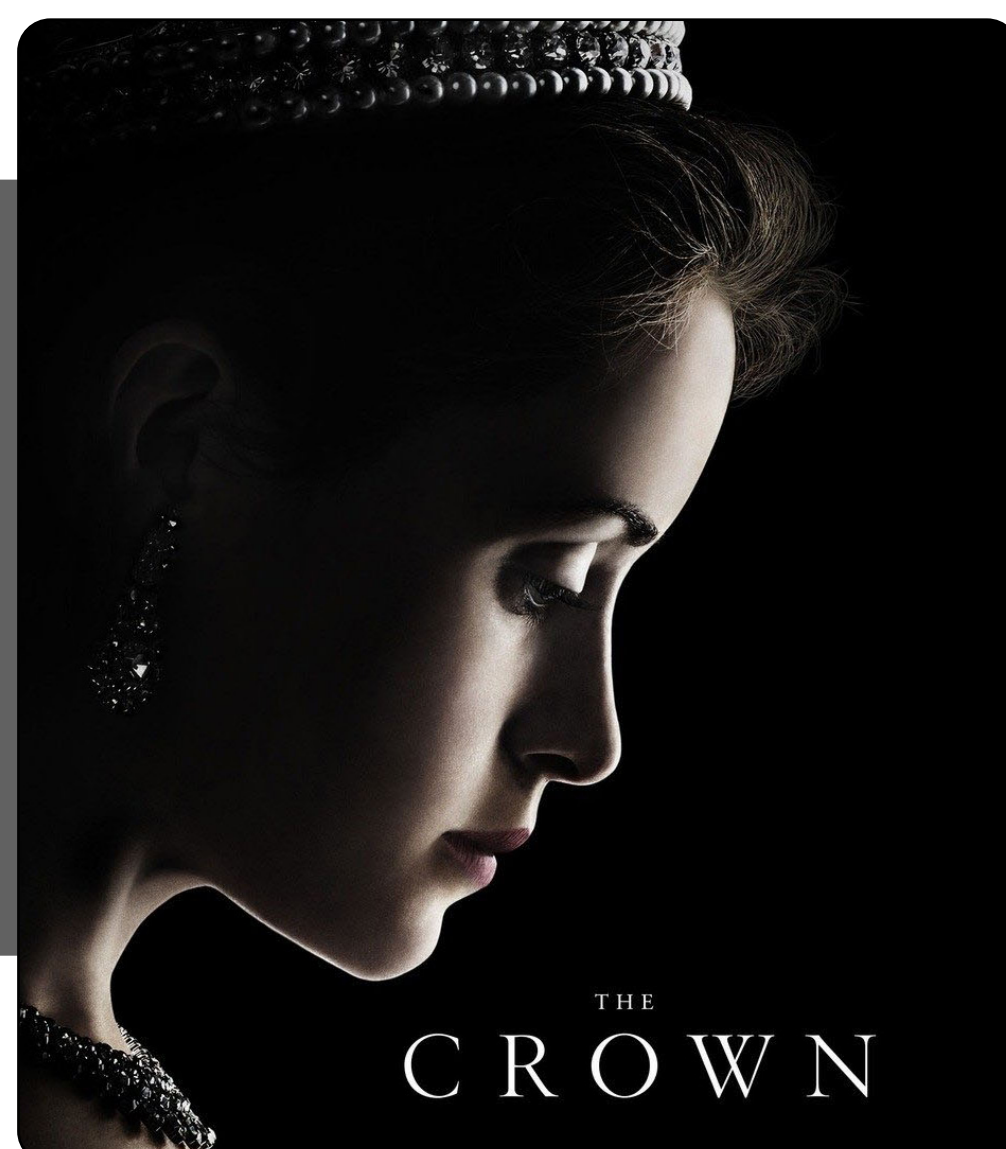


TOP-RATED OTT SHOWS WITH A-LIST TALENT

OTT (Over-The-Top) platforms have revolutionized the way we consume entertainment. One of the biggest attractions of these OTT shows is their star-studded cast, featuring some of the biggest names in the industry. **Dhanush Kumar** lists down some of the top shows on OTT with a big star cast.

1. The Crown

The Crown is a critically acclaimed Netflix series that has been praised for its stunning visuals, historical accuracy, and powerful performances. The show has an all-star cast, with Olivia Colman taking on the role of Queen Elizabeth II in the third and fourth seasons. Other cast members include Tobias Menzies as Prince Philip, and Helena Bonham Carter as Princess Margaret.



2. The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel

The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel is a comedy-drama series that has won Emmy Awards for its writing, direction, and performances. The show stars Rachel Brosnahan as the titular character, a housewife who discovers a talent for stand-up comedy. The supporting cast includes Tony Shalhoub as her father, Alex Borstein as her manager, and Michael Zegen as her ex-husband.

3. Stranger Things

The Crown is a critically acclaimed Netflix series that has been praised for its stunning visuals, historical accuracy, and powerful performances. The show has an all-star cast, with Olivia Colman taking on the role of Queen Elizabeth II in the third and fourth seasons. Other cast members include Tobias Menzies as Prince Philip, and Helena Bonham Carter as Princess Margaret.

STRANGER THINGS

4. Narcos

Narcos is a crime drama that explores the complex world of drug trafficking in Columbia. The show stars Wagner Moura as Pablo Escobar, the drug lord who becomes the richest man in the world before his death. The supporting cast includes Boyd Holbrook as DEA agent Steve Murphy, Pedro Pascal as DEA agent Javier Pena, and Joanna Christie as Connie Murphy.



5. Game Of Thrones

Game Of Thrones is a cultural phenomenon that has become one of the most popular shows in television history. The show is known for its amazing plotting, shocking twists, and expansive world-building. The cast includes Emilia Clarke as Daenerys Targaryen, Kit Harington as Jon Snow, Peter Dinklage as Tyrion Lannister, and Lena Headey as Cersei Lannister.

6. House Of Cards

House of Cards is a political thriller series that follows the schemes of Frank Underwood who is a ruthless politician who will stop at nothing to gain power. The show stars Kevin Spacey as Frank, Robin Wright as his wife, and Kate Mara as Zoe Barnes, a young reporter who becomes entangled in Frank's web of deceit.



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