

# Furkan Khan's Vision Brings 'Ritu Vasant' Festival to Life

**Udaipur:** The recently concluded three-day 'Ritu Vasant' festival at Shilpgram was a grand celebration of India's rich classical music and dance heritage. The event, organized by the West Zone Cultural Centre (WZCC) under the leadership of Director Furkan Khan, captivated audiences with mesmerizing performances from renowned artists across the country.

Authenticity of India's cultural traditions. From soulful Hindustani classical vocal renditions to dynamic Bharatanatyam and Kathak performances, every aspect of the festival reflected his commitment to excellence. The festival opened with a powerful performance by Bollywood and classical vocalist Ronkini Gupta, setting the tone for the three-day celebration. Each evening, audiences were treated to a blend of instrumental and vocal masterpieces, carefully selected by Furkan Khan to highlight the diversity of Indian classical arts. The jugabandi of Pandit



Rajkumar Mazumdar, Ustad Asgar Hussain, and Ustad Akhtar Hasan on violin and santoor enthralled the audience, while the concluding sarod and sitar duet by Pandit Marmukut Kedia and Pandit Manoj Kedia left a lasting

impression. One of the standout performances was by Mohammad Aman Khan, whose soul-stirring rendition of Raga Maru Bihag brought the essence of spring alive through melody. Kanak Sudhakar's troupe delivered a spellbinding Bharatanatyam presentation, 'Anand Natyam,' embodying the vibrancy of the season. Kathak maestro Vidha Lal stunned the audience with her intricate footwork and graceful expressions, while Sanchita Roy's Odissi performance paid a divine tribute to the changing seasons. Instrumental performances added further depth to the festival. The sitar recital by Subrata De was an immersive journey into the world of raagas, and the mesmerizing tabla solo by Pandit Ashish Sengupta left the audience in awe. The fusion of flute and veena by

Jayaprada Ramamurthy and Rajat Prasanna blended tradition with contemporary appeal, adding to the festival's charm. Beyond the stage, Furkan Khan's leadership ensured the seamless execution of the event. His dedication to providing a platform for both established and emerging artists reaffirmed Shilpgram's status as a hub of cultural excellence. Under his guidance, 'Ritu Vasant' was not merely an event but a testament to the timeless beauty of India's performing arts, leaving art lovers eagerly anticipating future editions.

# Festival of Languages and Culture Celebrated in Udaipur

The Department of English, Manikyalal Verma Shramjeevi College, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University, Udaipur, organized a Creative Session in collaboration with Anjuman Taraqui Association under the banner of Tagore Stage on February 13, 2025.



The keynote speaker, Dr. Aparna Sharma, Professor of English, Bhupal Nobles University, Udaipur, shared insights on "Love and Wisdom in Our Life." She illustrated how love and wisdom are intertwined, drawing examples from English literature. In the Author Talk session, young poet Anubhuti Jain from Udaipur discussed how universal love inspired her poetry. She also recited some of her compositions. The session's chairperson, Prof. Rekha Tiwari, Techno NJR Engineering College, Udaipur, highlighted the importance of poetry reading, storytelling, and the humanitarian aspects of love and wisdom in contemporary times.

The technical session, titled "Creative Saplings: Poetry Reading, Storytelling," featured creative works from students and participants, including Naman Daxesh, Bhanupriya Sharma, Navdha Jai Kumar, Natasha Paneri, Parilakshita Khandelwal, Swati Jain, Twisha Tiwari, Anubhuti Jain, and Dr. Rinku Hiran. The session was chaired by Dr. Sharada V. Bhatt, former Associate Professor of English, M.V. Shramjeevi College, with Prof. Aparna Sharma as the chief guest. The event was convened by Dr. Arti Jain, who also delivered the vote of thanks. Dr. Chitra Dashora compered the session, while Dr. Rinku Hiran acted as the rapporteur.

On February 14, 2025, the Department of English hosted a one-day national seminar under the patronage of Shri Bhanwar Lal Gujjar, Chancellor, and Col. Prof. Shiv Singh Sarangdevot, Vice-Chancellor, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth Deemed to Be University, Udaipur.

The seminar began with introductory remarks by Dr. Sharada V. Bhatt on the theme "Reflections on Love and Spirituality in English Literature." The keynote speaker, Dr. Jyoti Tripathi, Assistant Professor of English, used a PowerPoint presentation to explore various aspects of love and spirituality in English literature. The guest of honor, Dr. Digvijay Pandya, Professor and Dean, Parul Institute of Liberal Arts, Vadodara, Gujarat, discussed the real significance of love in the lives of today's youth, supporting his arguments with real-life examples.

The chief guest, Dr. Paritosh Chandra Dugar, former Professor of English and Principal of a government postgraduate college in Rajasthan, reflected on the seminar's theme. He emphasized the blend of love and spirituality in the works of mystic poet-saints such as Jaideva, Meera Bai, Akka Mahadevi, Lal Ded, and Andal, whose poetry has been translated into English and recognized globally. The session's chairperson, Dr. Monika Anand, Professor of English and Deputy Dean, Sir Padampat Singhania University, Udaipur, elaborated on how love and spirituality are depicted in English literature and provided a critique of the presented research papers for young scholars. The valedictory session took place in the presence of Prof. Malay Paneri, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, MVSC, JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth University, and Dr. Hemendra Choudhary, Academic Director, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, MVSC. Dr. Chitra Dashora and Dr. Gyaneshwari Rathore compered the concluding ceremony. The Convener and Organizing Secretary of the seminar, Dr. Arti Jain, presented a vote of thanks. She informed that 30 research papers were received on the seminar theme. These papers dealt with the writings of Toru Dutt, Shakespeare, Khalid Hosseini, Wordsworth, Kamla Das, Meera Bai, and some authors of tribal literature.

## "Peace of mind"

Searching for serenity?  
Will you be able to find?  
Be calm, day dream  
and hold on with peace.  
Love yourself  
Mingle within.  
Feel the song  
to shine along.  
Love nature and be tender.  
Be charming  
"Take it easy  
to make it easy"  
so as to attain harmony.  
Therefore, all is the Peace of mind.

## "Power of Positivity"

Positivity is a great blessing  
that I cherish.  
Keep close to my heart and soul.  
Discovering the inner happiness  
and leave behind the adverse.  
Seek within and embark on a new start.

**-Pooja Bhandari**

# The Unspoken Truth: Beyond Blame

**A**nimal attacks are increasing and animal haters always put the blame on animals which is half-truth. There is always two sides of a coin. To deal with stray animal attacks, it's essential to understand animal psychology. If you understand the complete story of both sides then it will be easy to solve the problem which is bothering half of the Nation.

You may be able to hit an animal once, but if it's in a pack, it may attack you. Children pull their tails and set off firecrackers, and in such situations, the animal pack may attack anyone they think is the same child. Animals only recognize people by their appearance and physique. They see many people on the road, so they can't recognize you by your smell.

Animals patiently. Animals sense that a patient person is not a threat.

**Animals have Rights too.** We are grabbing their land and not ready to accept their presence in our environment. It's our moral responsibility to treat animals with kindness and compassion. It's our responsibility to provide stray animals with food and water. Avoid teasing or provoking stray animals. Teach children to treat animals with kindness and compassion.

Violence against animals is a crime. It's our responsibility to follow laws that prevent animal cruelty. Those found guilty must face legal consequences. Rape cases with dogs and cats are increasing. I have seen brutal rape cases with friendly animals. Why do we not come forward

to protect them? The media is not ready to show the cruelty. They only show the aggression of animals. If you are deprived of food and water and people will throw stones and hot water or even acid on you, how would you react?

An animal can not cook or buy food for himself. Have you ever thought about it even once in your life? In old times it was taught to us that we should feed cows, cats and dogs so that we could make a safe environment and live peacefully with each other.

Animals have a family too and like us, they need necessities. It is not good to treat them as unwanted creatures. They are voiceless if they could raise their voices against us, the whole world would be filled with their cries and complaints against us.

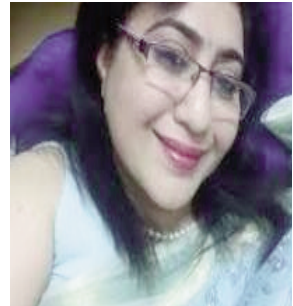
Remember, this earth

belongs to all living beings. If we restrict animal habitats, they will be forced to venture into human settlements, leading to conflicts.

It's essential to understand animal psychology to address this issue effectively.

In our locality in Mumbai, we take care of stray animals by providing them with food, sterilization, and medical treatment. As a result, stray animals in our area rarely attack humans. Nancy, Ramesh, Smita and Devang are good examples among us who are always ready to help these babies on the roads. Cuffe Parade is a posh area and it is known for its wealth and class but these few people are great examples for the rest of the country.

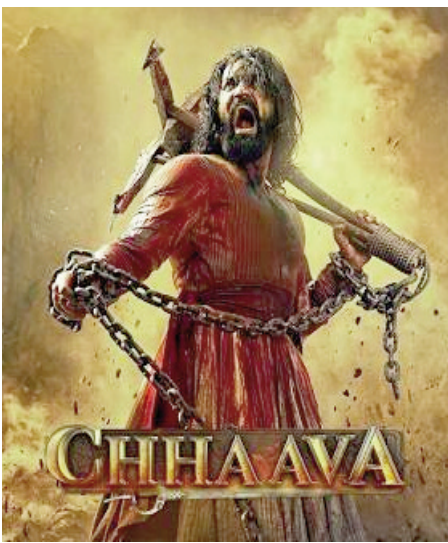
I have seen people behaving weirdly when they see pets inside lifts. They scream or yell at pet owners. This way they only make the poor ani-



mal more nervous. Despite screaming and shouting, they must learn how to behave normally in front of the pets. Pets may also not like your aura. It is not always correct to blame them. If you want to make a peaceful society, you must learn to live peacefully with others. Fighting and quarrelling may give you mental pleasure but it will give you unpleasant memories too.

**Ritu Sodhi**  
Assistant Director  
Information and Public  
Relations Department  
Mumbai

# Chaava – A Film on the Clash of Falling Rules



Historic narratives, especially those that are attached close to people's sentiments and faith bear their own credit and challenges when they are presented in the form of entertainment medium. Chaava, tale of the gallant warrior king, Sambhaji Raje (formally, Sambhaji Bhosle, who is called with other local names, such as, Shambhu Rajee and 'Chaava') that is made as a film by Director Laxman Utekar has already achieved its impressive score in terms of the box office collection.

The movie is released under the banner of Maddock Films and running in the theatres all over the country from February 14, 2025. With no doubt, it is a big venture for both the director and producer to pick a subject as this as a production. Both, being known to make middle-budget entertaining pieces, this movie needed effort and much more groundwork where the director has proved his capacity.

Made with a compromised budget slot of INR 130 - 140 crore, its profit count has surpassed two other blockbuster historic films, Tanhaji (2020 release) and Bajirao Mastani (2015 release), where both were made on the heroic accounts of Maratha power that rose during 18th century India as the strongest combatant for the declining Mughal rule. While choosing Sambhaji's life as a subject, Chaava takes us to the core of the rivalries between the ever-clashing non-submitting imperial thrones.

If we come to talk on that point and review this movie, there are a few parts that needs mention in particular. Firstly, the conflict of personalities and their vulnerabilities. The movie made based on the novel of author Shivaji Sawant presents the scenario of these two dynasties as an overview. Both Sambhaji and Aurangzeb were shown suffering from psychological trauma, but, the cause remains unclear to some parts.

Protagonists, Vicky Kaushal gave his natural performance that touches the heart, while Akshay Khanna was much bound with the stereotyped dramatic avatar of Alamgir, frustrated, jealous and brutal. The vulnerability and absence of realization of his loss needed sensitive attention to add reality to the plot. The movie is particularly male dominated movie with female leads, Rashmika Mandanna (played Yasubai, wife of Sambhaji) and Diana Ponty (played Zinat-un-Nissa, daughter of Aurangzeb) could not put any more ingredients other than remaining as a support to the male artists.

Regarding the circumstance, it is a very straightforward movie that showed the military planning, treachery, brutality and the gruesome end of Sambhaji in a procedural way. They are said as a kind of protocol. However, they needed touches of human feeling that would have made the movie more reliable as the account of our past time. The movie would have given more focus on the fragility of India's political system at both ends, such as, the gap of ideals, disunity and selfishness that ultimately ended an era and let the rule be replaced.

**- Arkaprava Das**



## She Circle India's Women's Felicitation Ceremony Concludes Successfully

The Women's Felicitation Ceremony, organized by She Circle India in collaboration with Geetanjali Hospital, honored selected women entrepreneurs, various women's organizations, and renowned female personalities of Udaipur.

Founder Tarika Bhanupratap shared that the event was graced by the presence of Chief Guests Mrs. Deepti Maheshwari (MLA, Rajsamand), Smt. Nivritti Kumari Ji Mewar of Udaipur, and Mrs. Rajni Rawat. The program witnessed the participation of several empowered women from Udaipur. Many women's groups excelling in their respective fields were also recognized and felicitated.

Tarika Bhanupratap emphasized that the purpose of this event was to acknowledge and encourage women who successfully balance their family responsibilities while making sig-

nificant contributions to their businesses and society. Such awards provide them with renewed energy and motivation to move forward. Additionally, all the women's groups present at the event were awarded certificates of appreciation, further inspiring them to excel in their respective domains. The event featured a fashion walk by NIFD students, a Ganesh Vandana performance by students of Shruti Music School, and a song presentation by Marisha Dixit.

The ceremony was attended by esteemed dignitaries, including Dr. Anjana Verma, Dr. Renu Mishra, Dr. Sangeeta Gupta, Dr. Jyoti Kundu, Dr. Nalini Sharma, and Dr. Majinder Kaur from Geetanjali Hospital, along with Marketing Head Kalpesh Rajbhar. Other notable attendees included Dr. Sweetie Chhabra from Rotary Dristhi, Rahul Jain from Dhani Tours, Sakshi Mehta from NIFD, Dr. Sonu Jain from Swam Silver, Narayan Choudhary from Aadhar Foundation, Himmat Singh from Just Health & Wellness, Mayur Vyas from Care Health, and Aditi Singh from Krishna The Designer.

Prominent personalities such as Baldeep Kaur, Preeti Sogani, Madhu Sareen, Reena Rathore, Seema Pareek, Pinky Mandawat, Anju Giri, Poonam Agarwal, Pamil Modi, Guneet Monga, Poonam Rathore, Vijaylakshmi Glundia,

Rashmi Pagaria, Sharad Rathore, Nutan Kavitar, and Shanu Lodha were also present, along with all the members of She Circle India.

## Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar Honors 78 Students at Maharana Mewar Foundation's 41st Annual Awards Ceremony

**Udaipur:** The 41st Annual Awards Ceremony of the Maharana Mewar Foundation took place at the historic Janana Mahal in the City Palace, Udaipur, at Lakshmi Chowk. Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar, the Managing Trustee of the Foundation and Maharaj Kumar Sahib, commenced the event by offering floral tributes to Lord Eklingnath and lighting the ceremonial lamp.

Following the prayers, students of Maharana Mewar Public School presented the 'Shree Ram

Stuti.' The master of ceremonies then invited 15 students to receive the Bhama Shah Award, 17 students for the Maharana Raj Singh Award, and 46 students for the Maharana Fateh Singh Award. Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar honored them with certificates, a cash reward of ₹11,001, and medals, recognizing their excellence in various fields. In alignment with Dr. Lakshyaraj Singh Mewar's vision, the event was conducted using eco-friendly materials. Notably, the certificates awarded to students were made from paper produced using cow dung, promoting sustainability. This initiative not only helps save millions of trees but also supports gaushalas (cow shelters), contributing to their self-sufficiency.

During the ceremony, Mohalashika Kumari Mewar, a student of Maharana Mewar Vidya Mandir, expressed gratitude to the esteemed guests and extended best wishes to the awardees for their outstanding achievements in academics, sports, and other fields. The event was conducted by the master of ceremonies, Gopal Soni.

