

ONE MAGAZINE
MANY THOUGHTS



www.yuktimagazine.com

VOL. 01
JULY 2026

YUKTI MAGAZINE

Nidhi Sharma



FROM MD & CEO



MS. NIDHI SHARMA

Dear Readers,

Greetings.

It is with immense pride, gratitude, and excitement that I welcome you to the inaugural volume of YUKTI Magazine.

The launch of this first edition marks the realization of a vision inspired by countless individuals whose encouragement, guidance, and belief made this journey possible. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who motivated and supported me in transforming this dream into reality.

YUKTI has been created as a platform for ideas, experiences, creativity, and inspiration. What makes this publication truly special is the contribution of remarkable individuals who generously shared their experiences, achievements, insights, and stories. Their willingness to contribute has enriched these pages and given meaningful voice to this magazine.

I am deeply grateful to every contributor, supporter, well-wisher, and reader who has become a part of this journey. Your trust and encouragement have been the driving force behind the successful launch of this first volume.

As you turn these pages, I hope you find inspiration, knowledge, and perspectives that encourage positive thought and meaningful action. May YUKTI continue to grow as a platform that celebrates talent, innovation, culture, and human achievement.

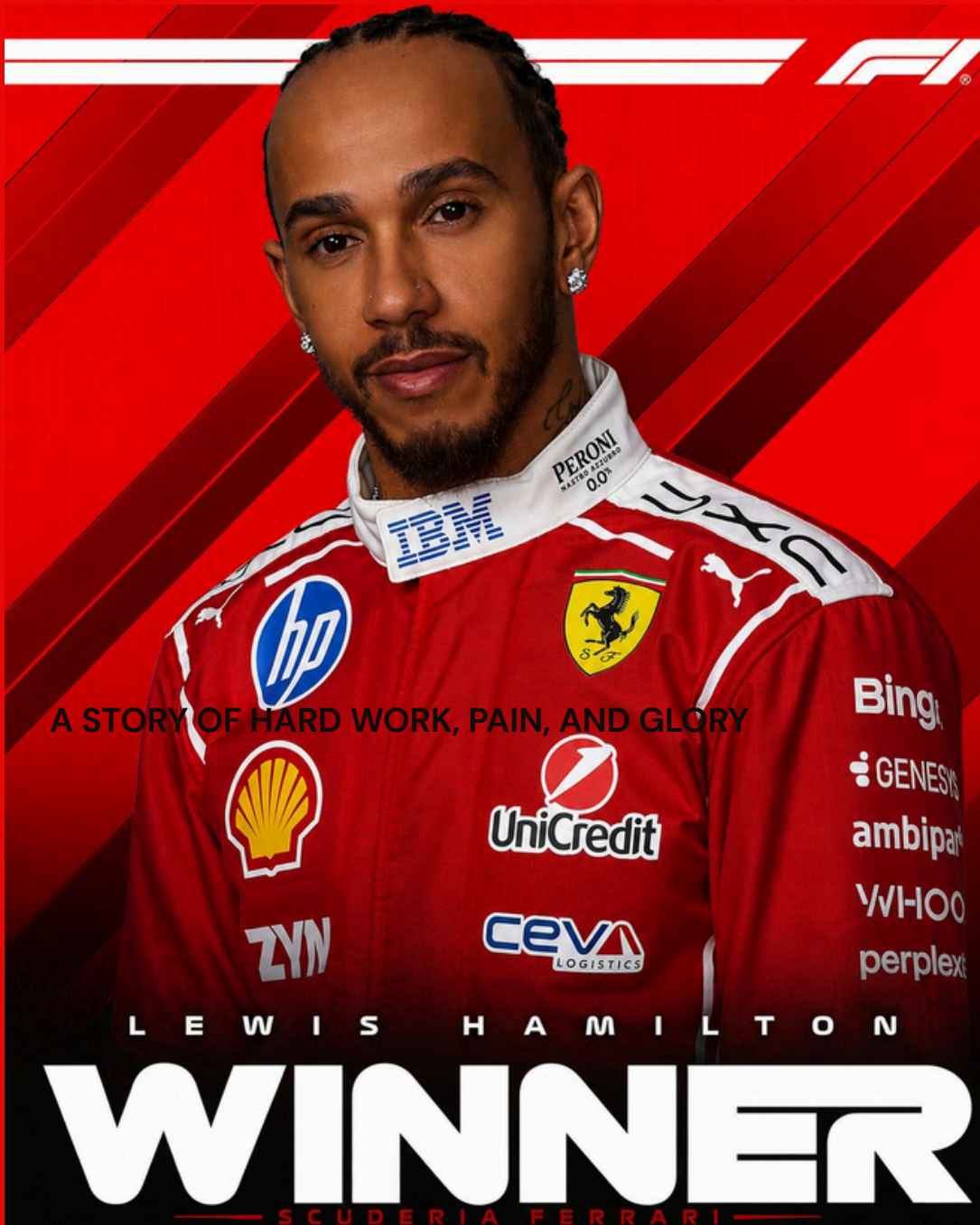
Thank you for being a part of this beginning. Your support means more than words can express.

With sincere gratitude,

Nidhi Sharma
Managing Director & CEO
YUKTI Magazine

Ferrari Victory

LEWIS HAMILTON'S



A STORY OF HARD WORK, PAIN, AND GLORY

L E W I S H A M I L T O N

WINNER

— SCUDERIA FERRARI —



The latest Formula One race was the 2026 Barcelona-Catalunya Grand Prix held in Barcelona, Spain on 14 June 2026. The winner was none other than Lewis Hamilton driving for Scuderia Ferrari. It was Hamilton's first Grand Prix victory with Ferrari and his 106th career Formula One win.

For many fans, this was not just another race victory. It was an emotional moment that showed the world why Lewis Hamilton is considered one of the greatest drivers in Formula One history.

The Race That Touched Millions

The Barcelona race was intense from the beginning. Hamilton started near the front and fought with incredible focus throughout the race. Ferrari used a risky three-stop strategy, and Hamilton delivered perfect laps under pressure. Lap after lap, he pushed harder, proving that experience and determination can still defeat younger rivals.

When the chequered flag waved, Hamilton crossed the finish line in first place. The crowd erupted. Ferrari celebrated wildly in the pit lane. After years of waiting, criticism, and self-doubt, Lewis Hamilton finally won for Ferrari.

At 41 years old, many people believed his best years were over. Some critics said he should retire. Others believed he could never adapt to Ferrari. But Hamilton answered every doubt in the most powerful way possible — with victory.



Lewis Hamilton's Difficult Childhood

Lewis Hamilton's story is not only about racing cars. It is a story of struggle, sacrifice, and belief.

He was born on 7 January 1985 in Stevenage, England. His family was not rich. His father, Anthony Hamilton, worked multiple jobs just to support Lewis's racing dream. Sometimes they struggled financially, but his father never stopped believing in him.

Lewis faced racism and discrimination during his childhood and early racing career. Many people doubted him because of his background. But instead of giving up, he used every insult and every challenge as motivation.

From a young age, Hamilton worked harder than everyone around him. While other children played freely, he spent countless hours practicing racing, improving his focus, fitness, and discipline.

That hard work slowly transformed a young boy with a dream into a world champion.



The Teams Lewis Hamilton Raced For

Lewis Hamilton has raced for three Formula One teams during his legendary career:

McLaren

Hamilton began his Formula One career with McLaren in 2007. He shocked the world immediately with incredible speed and confidence. In 2008, he became the youngest Formula One World Champion at that time.

Mercedes

In 2013, Hamilton moved to Mercedes. Many people criticized this decision, but it became one of the greatest choices in Formula One history. With Mercedes, he dominated the sport and won multiple world championships, breaking record after record. Scuderia Ferrari

In 2025, Hamilton joined Ferrari

the most iconic team in Formula One history. Fans dreamed of seeing Hamilton win in Ferrari red, but the beginning was difficult. The car was inconsistent, critics attacked him, and victories did not come easily. But he never stopped believing. And finally, in Barcelona 2026, the dream became reality.



LEWIS HAMILTON BECOMES THE FIRST F1 DRIVER TO WIN WITH MCLAREN MERCEDES & FERRARI



Why This Victory Was So Emotional

This victory was emotional because it represented more than speed. It represented patience, resilience, and faith.

Hamilton had gone 41 races without a win before Barcelona. Many younger drivers were dominating the sport. People questioned whether he still had the hunger to fight.

But champions are different.

Even during difficult times, Hamilton continued training, improving, and believing in himself. Behind the cameras, he worked endlessly with Ferrari engineers, studied race data, maintained strict fitness routines, and stayed mentally strong.

When he finally won, emotions poured out. Hamilton admitted that there were moments when he doubted himself. But he kept pushing forward.

Sometimes Victory is Not Just About Crossing the Finish Line First.

A Legacy That Will Never Be Forgotten

Lewis Hamilton's Ferrari victory in Barcelona will remain one of the most memorable moments in modern Formula One.

After all the criticism, pressure, and waiting, he proved once again why legends never give up.

The little boy who once dreamed of racing became:

A seven-time world champion

A record-breaking Formula One driver

A global inspiration

And finally, a Ferrari race winner

Sometimes victory is not just about crossing the finish line first.

Sometimes victory is about surviving every difficult moment before reaching that finish line.



**“Sometimes victory is
about surviving every
difficult moment before
reaching that finish line”**



THE ALFA ROMEO

"THE ALFA ROMEO 158, ONE OF THE FIRST FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP-WINNING CARS, DOMINATED THE INAUGURAL 1950 F1 SEASON AND LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR MODERN GRAND PRIX RACING.

Words : Nidhi Sharma



Formula One

The Fastest Story Ever Told



There is something magical about the moment when five red lights go out and twenty of the world's fastest drivers launch into the first corner. The roar of the engines, the precision of the teams, and the thrill of wheel-to-wheel racing make Formula One much more than a sport—it is a celebration of innovation, passion, and human ambition.

As someone who loves exploring stories that inspire people to dream bigger, I have always found Formula One fascinating. Behind the glamour and speed lies a world driven by discipline, teamwork, and an unrelenting pursuit of perfection.

Officially launched in 1950, Formula One (F1) began as a European championship with just seven races. The first Formula One World Championship race was held at Silverstone Circuit in the United Kingdom, marking the beginning of a new era in motorsport.

What started as a niche racing competition has evolved into one of the world's most popular sporting spectacles, attracting millions of fans across continents. Today, Formula One hosts races in iconic destinations such as Monaco, Monza, Singapore, Abu Dhabi, and Las Vegas.

Over the decades, Formula One has transformed into a global innovation hub. Many technologies developed for F1 cars have influenced everyday vehicles, including advanced aerodynamics, carbon-fibre construction, hybrid power units, and enhanced safety systems.

The sport has produced legendary champions whose stories continue to inspire generations. Icons like Juan Manuel Fangio, Ayrton Senna, Michael Schumacher, and Lewis Hamilton have pushed the limits of what is possible, proving that greatness is built on resilience, courage, and consistency.



MY PERSPECTIVE

FOR ME, WHAT IS F1?

Speed. Precision. Passion. Teamwork. For me, Formula One is not just a sport—it's a way of life. It's where human potential meets the limits of technology, and every millisecond tells a story of thousands of dreams working together as one.

By **NIDHI SHARMA**

FOR ME, WHAT IS F1?

F1 is the perfect blend of art and science. It's the beauty of a perfectly taken corner and the brilliance of engineering behind it.

It teaches me that success is never individual—it's built in the garage, refined in the data centre, and delivered on the track.

F1 is the heartbeat of innovation, the persistence to keep pushing limits, and the belief that improvement is always possible.

Above all, F1 is emotion. The highs of victory, the lessons of defeat, and the unbreakable bond it creates with fans like me.

“ F1 isn't just something I watch. It's something I feel, I learn from, and I live for.

A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME

- **1950**
The first Formula One World Championship season begins.
- **1970s–1980s**
A golden era of innovation and legendary rivalries.
- **1990s–2000s**
Global expansion and the rise of modern champions.
- **2010s–PRESENT**
New technologies, new fans, and a sustainable future.



SPEED

The thrill of unmatched speed, where courage meets control.



TECHNOLOGY

A rolling laboratory of innovation that shapes the future of mobility.



TEAMWORK

Hundreds of minds, one goal. Because in F1, no one wins alone.



PRECISION

Every decision, every pit stop, every lap—perfectly calculated.



GLOBAL IMPACT

Uniting millions of fans across continents through one shared passion.

For me, Formula One is more than racing. It's a constant reminder that passion, dedication, and teamwork can turn dreams into reality.

That's what F1 is.

That's what it will always be.

What fascinates me most about Formula One is that success is never achieved by the driver alone. Behind every race victory stands an entire team of engineers, mechanics, strategists, and data analysts working tirelessly behind the scenes. In Formula One, every millisecond matters, and every decision can change the outcome of a race.

Safety has also become a defining feature of the modern era. Continuous advancements in technology and strict regulations have made Formula One safer than ever before while preserving the excitement that fans love.

Today, Formula One is governed by the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), while its commercial operations are managed by Formula One Group. The sport has embraced the digital age, reaching new audiences through social media and documentaries such as Drive to Survive.

As Formula One moves toward a more sustainable future with hybrid technology and the development of sustainable fuels, it continues to demonstrate that speed and responsibility can coexist.

For me, Formula One is more than a race—it is a reminder that innovation never stands still. It teaches us that success comes from pushing boundaries, embracing challenges, and constantly striving to improve.

In a world where every second counts, Formula One proves that excellence is achieved not by chance, but by relentless dedication.

And perhaps that is why Formula One continues to captivate millions around the world—because it is not just about who finishes first; it is about the journey, the passion, and the pursuit of greatness.

— Nidhi Sharma

Founder, Deventure India



Chander K Baljee

THE POWER OF STAYING THE COURSE:
THE JOURNEY OF CHANDER K. BALJEE

Words : Nidhi Sharma

THE ART OF THE LONG GAME: HOW CHANDER K. BALJEE WEATHERED 35 YEARS OF STORMS TO BUILD A HOSPITALITY EMPIRE



There is a quiet, almost startling calm to Chander K. Baljee. When the Chairman and Managing Director of Royal Orchid Hotels narrates his life story, he speaks in a detached, third-person tone—as if recounting the adventures and misadventures of someone else entirely.

But look closer, and you realize this isn't detachment; it is the ultimate business superpower. It is the hard-won stoicism of a man who spent 50 grueling years in the trenches of the Indian hospitality industry, facing every conceivable crisis, only to emerge at the helm of a ₹900-crore hotel empire spanning 120+ hotels and 7,600+ keys.

In an era of instant gratification and overnight tech unicorns, Mr. Baljee's journey is a powerful, inspiring reminder of a forgotten truth: the greatest empires are built on the slow-burning fire of pure resilience.

STEPPING OUT OF THE COMFORT ZONE

To understand Chander Baljee, you have to understand where he came from. Anyone who has ever travelled to the mist-covered hills of Shimla has likely eaten at Baljee's, the hill station's most iconic and celebrated restaurant and hotel. His own entrepreneurial streak showed early: directly above Baljee's on Mall Road, Mr. Baljee started Fascination, which he grew into one of Shimla's most beloved culinary landmarks and a legendary social hub through its golden age in the 1970s.

Born and brought up in this comfortable cocoon, Mr. Baljee went on to earn a B.Com in Delhi and a coveted MBA from IIM Ahmedabad.

He had a golden ticket. He could have easily stepped into the family business and lived a life of predictable luxury. But within months of joining, the young graduate felt crowded. With his father and brother already managing the show, he realized that true growth lay in carving his own path.

Taking a leap of faith, he packed his bags and moved from the cool mountains of the north to the Deccan plateau down south. The year was 1973. The destination was Bangalore—not yet the roaring Silicon Valley of India, but a sleepy "pensioner's paradise" populated mostly by public sector undertakings and very few business travellers.

With a ₹5 lakh lease deposit funded by his family, he took over a struggling property, refurbished it, and launched his first hotel: The Harsha.



BUILDING A LEGACY

WHEN BAD **LUCK** COMES IN WAVES

If business plans were written on paper, Mr. Baljee's spreadsheet would have predicted smooth sailing. But reality had other ideas. For the next two decades, the universe tested his resolve not once, not twice, but repeatedly.

In 1985, just as he was about to file a prospectus for an Initial Public Offering (IPO) to fund massive expansion plans, the stock market crashed. The IPO was instantly frozen.

Then came the late '80s a period that would have broken most entrepreneurs. Due to lease disputes, his profitable side-restaurants closed down. In 1987, his hotel staff went on strike, bringing daily operations to a grinding halt. Facing a brutal cash crunch, he was forced to sell off his beloved bakery unit just to stay afloat. A year later, the lease on The Harsha expired, leaving him with a stark choice: buy the property by taking on massive bank debt, or walk away from everything he had built. He chose to fight.



The Billion-Dollar Lesson in Credibility

Between 1987 and 1999, Mr. Baljee's life became a masterclass in financial survival. He found himself locked in a grueling, seven-year legal battle over a prime piece of land near the Bangalore airport. When construction finally began in 1999, it was an ambitious project funded almost entirely by borrowing.

"I had no choice but to borrow, borrow, and borrow more," Mr. Baljee muses with a smile.

How does an entrepreneur under that much financial pressure sleep at night? For Mr. Baljee, the answer was rooted in an unshakeable moral compass.

"One thing I have always believed is that whatever you do, you do in a very honest manner," he says. "I never ever defaulted on any financial institution payment or salaries to employees."

This flawless integrity became his greatest asset. Because the banking sector knew that Chander K. Baljee's word was gold, they backed him. He raised ₹17–18 crores in debt at low interest rates based on nothing but his impeccable reputation.

"This Too Shall Pass"

In 2001, the crowning jewel of his career, the Royal Orchid Hotel, finally opened its doors. It was supposed to be a moment of triumph. Instead, weeks later, the world changed forever.

The September 11 terrorist attacks shook global aviation, followed shortly by the SARS outbreak. Global business travel plummeted to zero. Occupancy rates crashed. With two sons studying abroad and massive corporate debts to pay, Mr. Baljee was in the eye of the storm.

Where others would have succumbed to panic or bitterness, Mr. Baljee leaned into his signature optimism. "When you are in a soup, you have to continue to be in a bigger soup... you can't do anything more," he chuckles. He trimmed costs, managed money with laser precision, and waited. He knew the golden rule of the universe: This too shall pass.

And pass it did.



The Sweet Taste of Triumph

By 2003, the tide finally turned. The Indian economy boomed, and Bangalore transformed into a global tech hub. Suddenly, Royal Orchid was the hottest property in town.

In a beautiful poetic twist, the legendary Hotel Metropole—the exact property that had originally lured him from Shimla to Karnataka thirty years prior—came up for lease again. This time, a triumphant and established Chander Baljee won the contract.

By 2006, the IPO that had been put on ice in 1985 finally became a reality. Royal Orchid raised ₹130 crores, expanding aggressively to Jaipur, Hyderabad, and Pune using a smart, asset-light leasing strategy. They successfully went head-to-head with legendary hospitality giants like the Taj Group by offering a genius value proposition: 5-star luxury at value-for-money prices.

By March 2007, revenues skyrocketed to ₹125 crores, with a staggering profit after tax of ₹35 crores.



Passing the Torch

Today, Royal Orchid is a thoroughly professionalized national chain. And true to his pragmatic nature, Mr. Baljee is already planning the future for his two brilliant sons, Arjun (a Cornell hotel graduate) and Keshav (a Wharton and ISB alumnus).

Ever the realist, he acknowledges that family businesses often face internal friction. His solution? To separate ownership from daily operations, letting professional corporate executives run the core brand, while giving his sons the runway to build their own independent dreams—such as Arjun's new budget hotel chain, Peppermint.

The Ultimate Takeaway

The tastefully furnished, bustling lobby of the Royal Orchid in Bangalore stands today as a monument to one man's patience. It took Chander K. Baljee 35 years to become an "overnight success."

His story is a beautiful blueprint for anyone building a dream today. It tells us that real success isn't about avoiding the market crashes, the strikes, or the global crises. It is about having the financial discipline to keep your honor intact, the humility to laugh when you're in the "soup," and the sheer psychological grit to just keep standing until the storm runs out of rain.

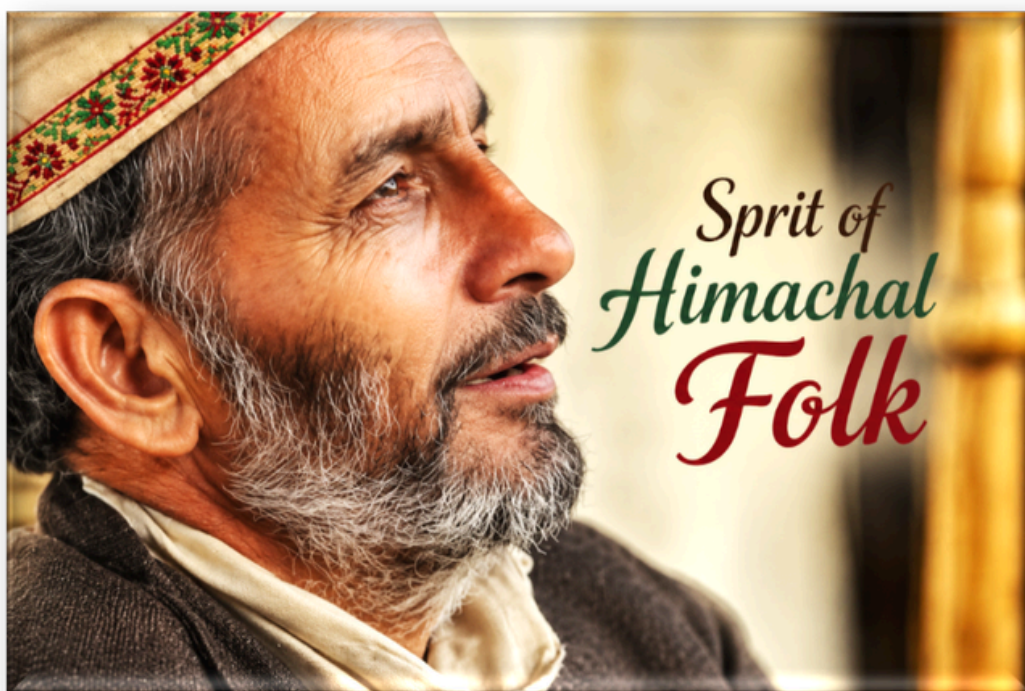
the spirit of folk



HIMACHAL PRADESH CULTURE BRAND AMBASSADOR

MR. JIYA LAL THAKUR, A RENOWNED FOLK SINGER FROM HIMACHAL PRADESH AND A RECIPIENT OF RECOGNITION FROM THE LATE PRESIDENT DR. A. P. J. ABDUL KALAM, IS DEDICATED TO PRESERVING AND PROMOTING INDIA'S RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE.

Words : Nidhi Sharma



On 7 August 2006, he presented the National Anthem Jana Gana Mana, the National Song Vande Mataram, and the patriotic song Sare Jahan Se Achha, enriched with the fundamental elements of Vedic arts, before the then President Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.

His contribution reflects a unique blend of traditional Vedic artistry and Indian national spirit, making him a distinguished ambassador of Himachal Pradesh's folk culture.

achievements

FOLK SINGER, HARMONIUM ARTIST, CULTURAL RESEARCHER & PRESERVER OF HIMACHALI FOLK HERITAGE



1995

Represented Himachal Pradesh at the National Youth Festival, Bhopal (12–16 January 1995), organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India, and performed the ancient Vedic martial folk sport Thoda, traditionally believed to have originated during the Treta Yuga. Secured First Position in Harmonium Solo Performance at district-level cultural competitions organized by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Himachal Pradesh.

Received certificates through Sargam Kala Manch, Solan in Harmonium Solo, Folk Song, and Folk Dance competitions held in Solan from 9–10 December 1995.

1998

Awarded Second Position in Harmonium Solo Performance at the National Youth Festival, Chennai, held from 12–16 January 1998, organized by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India.

1994

Awarded First Position in Harmonium Solo Performance in cultural competitions organized by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Himachal Pradesh. Participated in cultural competitions organized by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Himachal Pradesh, following the staging of traditional LokRangmanchKariyala performances.

Commenced music direction and playback singing for Himachali music albums produced by T-Series and other music companies, a contribution that continues to promote Himachali folk music.

2003

Received a Certificate of Appreciation for presenting the folk culture of Himachal Pradesh at ParabUtsav 2003, held at Koraput, Odisha, on 21 November 2003, through Sargam Kala Manch, Solan.

"He Dreamed of Heritage, He Dedicated His Life to Preserve It"

2005

Served as a Resource Person in the Refresher Course organized by the Department of Music, Panjab University, Chandigarh, from 14 September to 4 October 2005, delivering lectures and demonstrations on the authentic folk culture of Himachal Pradesh.

Received a Certificate of Appreciation for providing harmonium accompaniment during a Classical Music Conference organized by Shyam SangeetSammelanSamiti, Kullu, at Hotel Vaishali, Kullu, on 7 February 2005.

2006

On 7 August 2006, presented the National Anthem "Jana Gana Mana," the National Song "Vande Mataram," and the patriotic composition "Sare Jahan Se Achha", enriched with the fundamental elements of Vedic arts, before the then President of India, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. The presentation was subsequently broadcast on Sansad TV.

2009

Received a Certificate of Appreciation from Himachal Pradesh Sirmaur Kala Sangam, BayriDadahu, on 7 June 2009, for contributions to cultural preservation.

2012

Received a Certificate of Appreciation from SangeetNatakAkademi, Chandigarh, for harmonium accompaniment with Padma BhushanUstad Abdul Rashid Khan during a Classical Music Conference held at PGI Auditorium, Chandigarh, on 19–20 August 2012.

2013

Honoured by Sanskar Bharati (North Zone) on 4 September 2013 for enriching the National Anthem, National Song, and patriotic compositions through the incorporation of fundamental elements of Vedic arts.

2015

Awarded the prestigious Himachal Shri Samman by Himotkarsh Sahitya, SanskritiEvam Jan Kalyan Parishad, District Sirmaur, on 3 August 2015, for the preservation and promotion of folk music. Received an Excellence Award from the Divya Himachal Group in recognition of contributions to cultural heritage.

**Passed the All India
Radio (Akashvani)
Shimla Folk Music
Voice Test with B-High
Grade on 12 June 2016.**

Provided harmonium accompaniment for SugamSangeet presentations by Dr. Y.S. Parmar University, Nauni, Solan, at the National Agri Fest, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, on 4 February 2016.

Delivered lectures and demonstrations on the authenticity of Vedic Talas (Rhythms) during a seminar jointly organized by the Language & Culture Department, Solan, and Sargam Kala Manch, Solan, on 25 December 2016.

Trained students in traditional folk musical instruments under the Guru-ShishyaParampara Scheme sponsored by NZCC Patiala from 2016 to 2019.

2018

Received an Excellence Award from Chaudhary Charan Singh University and the Uttar Pradesh Language Institute for lectures and presentations on Vedic Music and Vedic Rhythms during the seminar on "Indian Culture and World Welfare", held on 29–30 March 2018.

Served as a Judge in cultural competitions organized by Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, at Dharamshala from 26–29 September 2018.

Provided harmonium accompaniment during the 35th Youth Festival organized by the Department of Youth Services & Sports, Himachal Pradesh



**A Legacy Built
on Music,
Culture, and
Commitment.**

2020

Provided harmonium accompaniment in the Classical Music Competition during the 23rd National Youth Festival, Lucknow, from 12–16 January 2020.

2023

Delivered lectures and demonstrations on authentic heritage culture based on Shiva Sutras, Chhanda Shastra, and the fundamental principles of Vedic arts at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi, on 27–28 April 2023, under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

Served as a Judge in the State-Level Folk Song and Folk Dance Competitions organized by the Education Department, Himachal Pradesh, from 23–26 March 2023.

Presented the folk culture of Himachal Pradesh during Vasantotsav, held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat, from 11–20 March 2023.

Conducted lectures and training programs for 110 music students under a special educational initiative jointly organized by the Department of Music, Government Post Graduate College Solan, and the Language & Culture Department, Solan, from 28 August to 4 September 2023.



2024

Received a Certificate of Appreciation from Dr. Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture & Forestry, Nauni, Solan, for training students in Solo, Duet, and Group Sugam Sangeet on 13 January 2024.

Received recognition from the Deputy Director of Education, Solan, for providing folk culture training to approximately 15,000 students across 52 schools, certificate issued on 15 July 2024.

Organized a 15-Day Pure Folk Music Training Workshop at Shoolini University under the sponsorship of NZCC Patiala, from 1–15 August 2024, through Sargam Kala Manch, Solan.



2025–2026

Received an Excellence Award and Certificate of Appreciation for presenting Himachali Nati Dance at the Dhanuyatra Mahotsav, Bargarh, Odisha, held from 24 December 2025 to 3 January 2026.

SANGLA VALLEY

BANJARA CAMPS

"Most people retire from their profession; Captain Ajay Sud retired into his passion. Banjara Camp is not merely a destination—it is the story of a dream built stone by stone in the heart of the Himalayas."

Words : Nidhi Sharma, Founder, Deventure
India Travel Company



"I TRAVELLED TO SANGLA VALLEY TO DISCOVER A DESTINATION I HAD MISSED FOR YEARS. I RETURNED WITH SOMETHING EVEN MORE VALUABLE—THE INSPIRING STORY OF CAPTAIN AJAY SUD, THE MAN WHO TRANSFORMED A HIMALAYAN DREAM INTO REALITY." — NIDHI SHARMA

For nearly two decades, the Himalayas have been a part of my life. Since 2008, during the days of **Raid De Himalaya**, I have travelled extensively through Spiti, Kinnaur, and Ladakh. Year after year, I crossed Kinnaur on my way to Spiti and Leh, passing through Kalpa countless times. Yet, strangely, one of the region's most beautiful destinations—Sangla Valley—always remained unexplored.

In May 2026, I finally decided it was time.

From 17th to 22nd May, I embarked on a journey that I had unknowingly postponed for years. As the founder of Deventure India Travel Company, I had sent hundreds of travellers to Sangla Valley, recommended its hotels, planned itineraries, and listened to guests return with glowing reviews. Yet I had never experienced the valley myself.

This trip was meant to change that.



Our journey into Sangla was adventurous from the very beginning. We reached the valley around 9:30 in the evening after navigating rough mountain roads. For most travellers, the road conditions might have seemed challenging, but for someone connected to the world of rallying and off-road driving, the route itself was part of the excitement.

A salute to Captain Ajay Sud—a soldier, a dreamer, a trekker, and a creator whose legacy is etched into every corner of Banjara Camp.

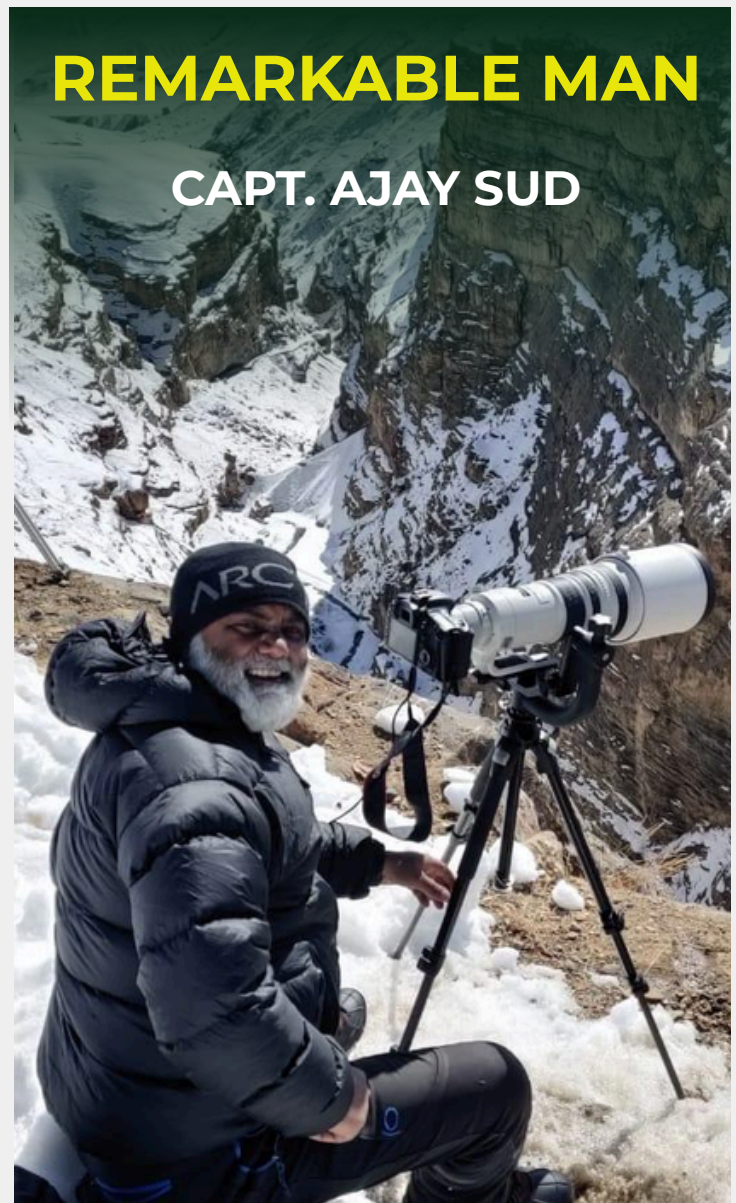
For the next two nights, I stayed at the famous Banjara Camp & Retreat in Batseri Village. Nestled beside the crystal-clear Baspa River and surrounded by snow-capped peaks, dense forests, and apple orchards, the property immediately felt special. The beauty of the location was beyond anything I had imagined.

However, what made the stay unforgettable was not just the breathtaking landscape—it was meeting the man behind it all.

That evening, during dinner, I met **Captain Ajay Sud**, a retired Indian Army officer and the founder of Banjara Camp. What began as a casual conversation soon turned into hours of stories, experiences, and inspiration. Like many retired officers, **Captain Sud** could have chosen a peaceful retirement. Instead, he chose to pursue a dream. Driven by his love for nature, trekking, and the mountains, he envisioned creating a retreat that would allow visitors to experience the true spirit of Sangla Valley.

The next day, as I explored the property and spent time with him, I began to understand the magnitude of his achievement.

Building a world-class retreat in a remote Himalayan valley was no easy task. Every stone, every wooden structure, every pathway, and every orchard represents years of hard work, determination, and unwavering commitment. The challenges of terrain, weather, transportation, and construction in such a remote location would have discouraged many people. Yet Captain Sud persisted.



REMARKABLE MAN

CAPT. AJAY SUD

What impressed me most was his continued involvement. Even today, he personally looks after the orchards and remains deeply connected to the property he created. Banjara Camp is not simply a business venture for him, it is a reflection of his life's passion.

That evening, we gathered around a bonfire beside the Baspa River. The sound of flowing water mixed with the cool mountain breeze created the perfect atmosphere. As Pink Floyd played softly in the background, Me and Nidhi Bhalla enjoyed drinks, paneer tikka, and long conversations under the Himalayan sky.

EXPLORE

BANJARA CAMPS

Listening to Captain Sud speak about the early days of the project, the obstacles he faced, and the determination required to bring his vision to life was inspiring. Every corner of the property seemed to tell a story. The orchards spoke of patience. The stone walls spoke of perseverance. The entire retreat stood as a testament to one man's belief that dreams are worth pursuing at any age.

During my stay, I realized that Banjara Camp is much more than a beautiful destination. It is the embodiment of a dream built through passion, courage, and relentless effort.

Our journey later took us to Chitkul, the last inhabited village near the Indo-Tibetan border. Towering snow-covered mountains, pristine landscapes, and untouched natural beauty made for an unforgettable experience. We concluded our Sangla adventure with a stay at Sattva Pine Resort before continuing our travels.

Yet when I look back on this journey, what remains strongest in my memory is not just the scenery—it is the people.

Sangla Valley gave me exactly what I was searching for and much more. It introduced me to a destination I should have visited years ago, and it introduced me to a man whose story deserves to be told.

After visiting countless destinations across the Himalayas, I have learned that great places are often created by great people. Banjara Camp stands today because Captain Ajay Sud dared to dream beyond retirement and transformed that dream into reality.

Many travellers will visit Sangla Valley and remember its mountains, rivers, and landscapes. I will remember those things too. But I will also remember the evening conversations beside the Baspa River, the stories behind every orchard and stone wall, and the inspiring journey of a man who proved that passion has no retirement age. Some journeys introduce us to new destinations. The best journeys introduce us to extraordinary people. Sangla Valley gave me both.



THE APATANI TRIBE

Guardians of Ziro Valley



Ziro Valley, Arunachal Pradesh, the Apatani tribe has lived in harmony with nature for generations. Their deep understanding of the environment and commitment to sustainable living have earned them the title "Guardians of Ziro Valley."

Words : Nidhi Sharma

yaping hullo

The large wooden nose plugs worn by some older Apatani women are called yaping hullo. They are not nose pins in the modern sense but traditional nose plugs inserted into enlarged nostrils.

There are several explanations for this practice, and historians note that much of the information comes from oral traditions rather than written records.

The most widely shared explanation is that Apatani women were considered exceptionally beautiful by neighboring tribes. According to community folklore, facial tattoos and nose plugs were introduced to make women less likely to be abducted or kidnapped for marriage during periods of intertribal conflict.

Other researchers and Apatani elders suggest the practice also became an important marker of cultural identity, helping distinguish Apatani women from neighboring communities and symbolizing belonging within the tribe.

Traditionally, girls received the nose plugs and facial tattoos during adolescence. The plugs were made from wood or bamboo and gradually increased in size over time.

Today, these practices have almost entirely disappeared. Younger generations of Apatani women generally do not wear nose plugs or receive traditional facial tattoos. Following social change, increased education, and government restrictions on tattooing and body modification practices, the custom ended in the 1970s.

Many older women who still wear yaping hullo are regarded as living custodians of Apatani heritage in Ziro Valley.

It is important to remember that the story of preventing abduction is based largely on oral history and is not universally accepted as the sole reason. Cultural practices often have multiple meanings that evolve over time, combining ideas of identity, beauty, social status, and community tradition.



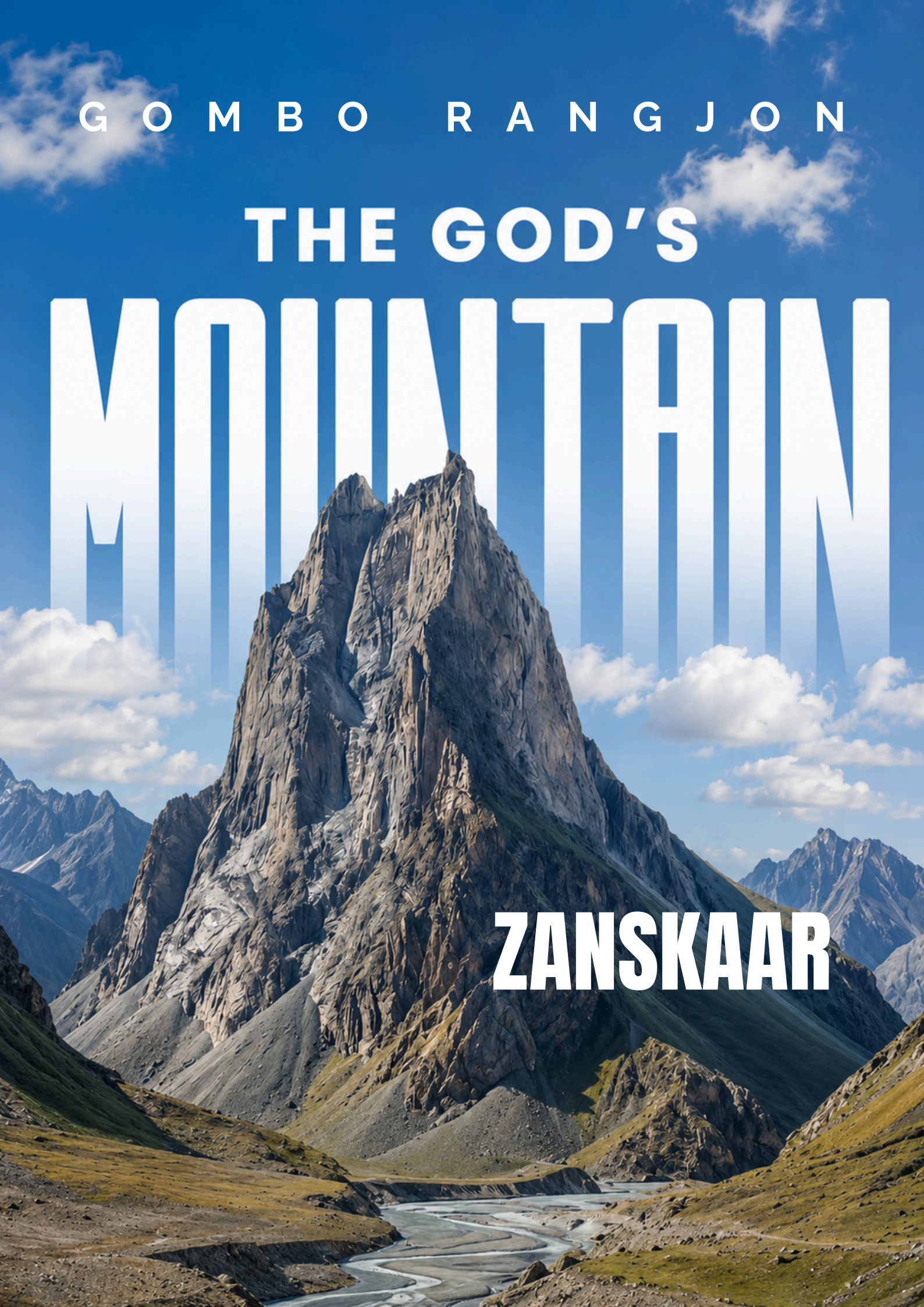
words : Yuman

G O M B O R A N G J O N

THE GOD'S

MOUNTAIN

ZANSKAAR



Gonbo Rangjon

Where Silence Speaks to the Mountains

By Nidhi Sharma

There are some places you visit, and then there are places that stay with you forever. For me, Zaskar Valley is one of those places.

As someone who has spent years exploring the Himalayas, I had heard countless stories about Gonbo Rangjon—the mysterious mountain that rises alone from the barren landscape of Zaskar like a guardian watching over the valley.

Locals call it the "God Mountain."

For generations, the people of Zaskar have believed that this sacred peak is the earthly abode of Mahakala, the fierce protector deity in Tibetan Buddhism. The name "Gonbo Rangjon" roughly translates to "the self-manifested throne of Gonbo."

Long before adventure motorcycles, social media reels, and road-trip hashtags brought travellers here, pilgrims and traders crossed these rugged landscapes on foot. The ancient trail connecting Lahaul and Zaskar was not just a route—it was a lifeline.

Today, the newly opened road over Shinku La Pass has transformed the journey, making this remote region more accessible than ever. Yet, despite the changing times, Gonbo Rangjon remains untouched by modern noise.

I still remember the first moment I saw it.

The road curved gently beyond Kargyak, and suddenly there it was—standing in complete solitude against an endless canvas of brown mountains and blue skies.

No photograph had prepared me for its presence.

The mountain did not seem like a part of the landscape; it felt like the landscape existed because of it.

As the evening sun painted its rugged face in shades of gold and crimson, I understood why locals believe the mountain is alive.

The wind carried the distant sound of prayer flags fluttering near small chortens. The Kargyak River flowed quietly below, while the silence of the valley spoke louder than any words ever could.

For a moment, time slowed down.

I imagined the generations of Zaskari families who had looked upon this same mountain with reverence. I thought about the traders, monks, shepherds, and explorers who had crossed these valleys long before roads existed.

The Himalayas teach us many things, but perhaps their greatest lesson is humility.

Standing before Gonbo Rangjon, I realised that some places are not meant to be conquered; they are meant to be respected.

Today, travellers come here seeking adventure, photographers chase the perfect frame, and bikers celebrate reaching another destination on their map.

But Gonbo Rangjon offers something far greater than a checkpoint.

In a world that moves too fast, this sacred mountain reminds us to pause, listen, and reconnect with nature.

As I packed my camera and prepared to continue my journey through Zaskar, I looked back one last time.

The mountain stood exactly as it had for centuries—silent, powerful, and timeless.

And somewhere between the old stories of the valley and the new roads leading to it, I found my own story.

Perhaps that is the magic of Gonbo Rangjon.

You don't just visit it.

You carry it home with you forever.

The Dark Side of Mountain

Real Estate



The dream of owning a home in the mountains has never been more appealing. With breathtaking landscapes, growing tourism, and the promise of high returns from holiday rentals and hospitality ventures, Himachal Pradesh has become a magnet for real estate investors from across India.

However, behind glossy brochures, drone videos, and social media campaigns lies a growing concern: real estate fraud.

Over the past few years, experts and legal professionals have observed a rise in cases where investors have been lured by attractive marketing promises only to discover that the land they invested in was either legally disputed, lacked necessary approvals, or was not owned by the seller.

How Investors Are Being Misled in Himachal Pradesh

THE POWER OF ATTRACTIVE MARKETING

BEAUTIFUL PROMISES, HARSH REALITY

THE PROMISE

What They Show You



VS

THE REALITY

What You Get



- ✗ INCOMPLETE PROJECT
- ✗ NO AMENITIES
- ✗ DIRTY & UNCLEAN SURROUNDINGS
- ✗ NO RETURNS
- ✗ UNCERTAIN FUTURE
- ✗ FALSE PROMISES

Selling What Is Not Owned

One of the most alarming practices involves marketing land that is not legally owned by the developer or agent.

In some cases:

The land belongs to another individual. Ownership documents are incomplete or disputed.

The same parcel of land is promised to multiple buyers.

Investors are assured that ownership issues will be resolved after payment.

Such practices can result in years of litigation and significant financial losses.

Misleading Investors About Local Land Laws

Many investors are unaware that land transactions in Himachal Pradesh are governed by specific regulations.

Unscrupulous intermediaries may downplay these restrictions by offering informal arrangements, verbal assurances, or complex ownership structures.

Buyers are often told that permissions can be obtained later or that documentation is merely a formality.

In reality, failure to comply with applicable laws can jeopardize the entire investment.

The Hidden Risks Behind "Guaranteed Returns"

Words : Nidhi Sharma

Promises of fixed monthly income, assured rental yields, or rapid appreciation are commonly used to attract investors.

While tourism in Himachal Pradesh continues to grow, no real estate investment is risk-free.

Factors such as seasonal demand, infrastructure limitations, changing regulations, environmental restrictions, and market fluctuations can affect returns.

Any claim of guaranteed profits should be treated with caution.



Will This Project Ever Be Completed? A Buyer's Checklist Before Investing

1. Verify Land Ownership

Ask for copies of: Title deeds

Jamabandi records Mutation entries,
Khasra numbers, Site maps.

Ensure the land is legally owned by the developer or that the developer has a valid development agreement with the owner.

If the seller says, "The land is in someone else's name, but don't worry," consider it a major warning sign.

Buying property in a hill state can be an exciting opportunity, but investors often focus on brochures, sample villas, and promised returns instead of asking the most important question:

Can this project actually be completed?

Before paying a booking amount, every buyer should conduct thorough due diligence.





2. Check All Government Approvals

A project cannot move forward without required approvals.

Verify: Land-use permissions, Building plan sanctions, Environmental clearances, Access road approvals, Water and electricity connections, Fire safety approvals, where applicable.

Never relay on verbal assurances that approvals are "under process."

3. Understand Local Land Laws

Many hill states have specific regulations governing land purchases.

Ensure: The project complies with local laws.

Required permissions have been obtained.

You are legally eligible to purchase the property.

Consult an independent lawyer rather than relying solely on the developer's legal team.

4. Study the Developer's Track Record

Research the developer carefully.

Ask: How many projects have they completed?

Were previous projects delivered on time?

Are there pending legal disputes?

Are existing buyers satisfied?

A strong history of completed projects is often a good indicator of future performance.

5. Visit the Site Personally

Do not rely only on digital marketing material.

Visit the location and check:

Actual construction progress

Availability of machinery and workers

Site accessibility

Existing infrastructure

A project with little or no activity despite active marketing should raise concerns.

6. Examine the Payment Schedule

Avoid projects demanding large upfront payments.

Prefer payment plans linked to construction milestones, such as: Completion of foundation work Structural completion Roofing Finishing stages Your payments should match actual progress.

7. Read the Agreement Carefully

Before signing any document, verify that it clearly mentions: Project completion timeline

Penalty for delays, Refund policy, Exit clauses

Possession date, Specifications and amenities

Never sign incomplete or blank documents.

8. Beware of Guaranteed Returns

Claims such as:

"Assured monthly income"

"Guaranteed appreciation"

"Double your money in two years"

are warning signs.

Real estate markets fluctuate, and no investment is risk-free.

9. Verify Project Registration

Where applicable, check whether the project is registered with the relevant regulatory authority.

Review: Registration details, Approved plans, Project timelines.

Quarterly progress updates, Independent verification is essential.

10. Trust Facts, Not Pressure

Be cautious if you hear statements like:

"Offer valid only today."

"Prices will double next week."

"Only two units are left."

"Book now, documents later."

High-pressure sales tactics often discourage proper due diligence.



HOW TO SAFEGUARD YOURSELF AGAINST REAL ESTATE FRAUDS



The Golden Rule of Property Investment

Before investing, ask yourself one simple question:

If construction stops tomorrow, do I have enough legal protection to recover my investment?

If the answer is unclear, take a step back and reassess.

Real estate decisions should be based on verified facts—not promises, assumptions, or urgency.

A beautiful location may capture your imagination, but a successful investment depends on transparency, legal compliance, and careful planning.

In property investment, informed buyers are protected buyers.



What is 118 ?

Under Section 118, a person who is not an agriculturist cannot purchase agricultural land in Himachal Pradesh without prior permission from the State Government.

- Protect agricultural land
- Prevent uncontrolled land acquisition by outsiders
- Safeguard the interests of local farmers
- Preserve the state's ecological and cultural balance

Words : Nidhi Sharma



Can Non-Himachalis Buy Property in Himachal ?

Yes...

but with conditions.

Yes—but with conditions.

Non-agriculturists, including people from outside Himachal Pradesh, may purchase certain types of property only after obtaining the required permissions or if the purchase falls under specific exemptions provided by law.

Examples include:

Flats or built-up properties developed by approved authorities

Land purchased for approved industrial, commercial, tourism, or public-interest projects

Property purchased with prior government approval under Section 118

Common Misconceptions

✗ "Non-Himachalis cannot buy any property in Himachal."

Not true. The restriction mainly applies to the transfer of agricultural land.

✗ "Buying land in a local person's name is allowed."

Using another person's name, benami arrangements, or powers of attorney to bypass Section 118 can lead to serious legal consequences. The law specifically addresses such attempts.

✗ "Approvals can be arranged later."

Purchasing land first and seeking approval later can create legal problems and put your investment at risk.



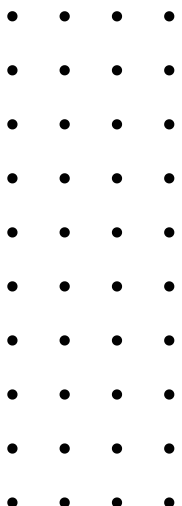
ASK QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ?

- Is the land agricultural or non-agricultural?
- Does the developer legally own the land?
- Has Section 118 approval been obtained, if required?
- Are all government permissions in place?
- Is the project registered with the relevant authorities?

If a developer says:

- "Don't worry about Section 118."
- "We'll manage the paperwork later."
- "Buy it in someone else's name."
- consider these major warning signs.



COMPANIONSHIP



**"TRUE COMPANIONSHIP IS NOT
JUST ABOUT BEING TOGETHER, BUT
ABOUT GROWING TOGETHER
THROUGH EVERY PHASE OF LIFE."**

Words : Nidhi Sharma

LOVE

HOW RELATIONSHIPS COMPLETE LIFE: THE IMPORTANCE OF LOVE, CAREER, AND MONEY

Life is a journey filled with dreams, struggles, achievements, and emotions. Every person wants happiness, success, peace, and a meaningful life. Some people believe money is the most important thing because it provides comfort and security. Others think that a successful career and a respected position in society are the keys to happiness. On the other hand, many people believe that true happiness comes from love and strong relationships. In reality, all these things – love, money, and career – play an important role in life. However, a good relationship with the right partner gives emotional satisfaction and completeness that material things alone cannot provide.

A healthy relationship can completely change a person's life. When someone has a loving and supportive partner, life becomes easier and more beautiful. A good partner is not only someone who stays during happy moments but also stands beside us during difficult times. In today's fast-moving world, people are busy chasing success, money, and social status, but many forget the importance of emotional connection and love. At the end of the day, people need someone with whom they can share their feelings, happiness, fears, and dreams.

Money is definitely important in life. Without money, it becomes difficult to fulfill basic needs such as food, education, healthcare, and shelter. Financial stability helps people live comfortably and reduce stress. In modern society, money also provides opportunities and freedom. People work hard to earn money so they can support their families and achieve their goals. However, money has its limits. It can buy luxury, expensive cars, beautiful houses, and vacations, but it cannot buy genuine love, loyalty, trust, or inner peace.

Many wealthy people still feel lonely and unhappy because they lack emotional support in their lives. A person may have millions of dollars, but if they have no one to share their life with, they may still feel empty inside. This shows that emotional happiness is just as important as financial success. Human beings are emotional by nature. We all need love, care, understanding, and connection to feel complete.

A good relationship gives emotional strength. When a person knows that someone truly cares about them, they feel more confident and motivated in life. A loving partner encourages us to become a better version of ourselves. During difficult times such as failure, stress, or disappointment, emotional support from a partner can help us stay strong. Sometimes a few comforting words from someone we love can reduce pain more than anything else.

TRUST IN REATIONSHIP

Trust is one of the most important parts of a healthy relationship. Without trust, love cannot survive for long. In a good relationship, both partners believe in each other, support each other's dreams, and respect each other's individuality. True love is not about controlling someone; it is about understanding, patience, and growing together. A strong relationship creates emotional security, which helps people face life's challenges with courage.

- Career and personal growth are also essential in life. A successful career gives people confidence, independence, and a sense of achievement. It allows individuals to use their talents and abilities to create a better future. A career also helps people gain respect in society and improve their lifestyle. Many people dedicate years of hard work and sacrifice to achieve professional success.

However, focusing only on career and ignoring relationships can create imbalance in life. Some people become so busy with work that they forget to spend time with their loved ones. Over time,

this can create emotional distance and loneliness.

Success feels more meaningful when there is someone

special to celebrate it with.

Achievements and awards may bring temporary happiness, but emotional connections create long-term satisfaction.

Trust ♡

is the
foundation
of every
strong
relationship.



When trust is built,
love becomes deeper,
respect grows stronger,
and the bond
lasts forever.





**"Companionship is
the silent promise
of never facing life
alone."**

The ideal life is not about choosing between love, money, or career. Instead, it is about creating balance among all these aspects. Love gives emotional happiness, money provides security, and career gives purpose and growth. When these three things are balanced properly, life becomes more fulfilling and meaningful.

A supportive partner can also help a person achieve career goals. In many successful relationships, partners motivate each other to grow and succeed. They celebrate each other's victories and stand together during failures. A loving relationship creates positive energy and mental peace, which helps individuals focus better on their ambitions and responsibilities.

Communication is another important factor in a good relationship. Honest communication helps partners understand each other's feelings and solve problems peacefully. Every relationship faces challenges, misunderstandings, and disagreements, but strong communication and mutual respect help people overcome difficulties together. Relationships become stronger when both people are willing to listen, compromise, and support each other.

Nowadays, social media and modern lifestyles have changed the way people view relationships. Many people focus more on appearance, money, or social status instead of emotional connection and compatibility. However, true relationships are built on trust, loyalty, honesty, and understanding rather than material things. Physical attraction and wealth may attract people temporarily, but emotional connection creates lasting bonds.

Another important thing is mental peace. A healthy relationship brings peace to the mind and heart. When someone feels loved and understood, they experience emotional stability. On the other hand, toxic relationships can negatively affect mental health and happiness. Therefore, choosing the right partner is very important. A good partner encourages positivity, supports dreams, and brings out the best in us.

Family life also becomes happier when there is a strong relationship between partners. Children who grow up in loving and supportive families often feel more secure and emotionally healthy. Love and respect between partners create a positive environment for the entire family.

In conclusion, love, money, and career are all important parts of life, but emotional connection and genuine relationships give life true meaning. Money and success can provide comfort and social respect, but they cannot replace the warmth of love and companionship. A good relationship gives emotional strength, peace, motivation, and happiness that no amount of money can buy.

At the same time, relationships need responsibility, stability, and mutual effort. Love alone is not enough without trust, respect, understanding, and financial balance. The best life is achieved when a person successfully balances career growth, financial security, and a loving relationship.

True happiness comes when we have someone who stands beside us during both good and bad times, someone who supports our dreams, understands our emotions, and makes life meaningful. In the end, success becomes more beautiful when it is shared with the people we love.

SHOOLINI

National Fair

2026



Words : Nidhi Sharma

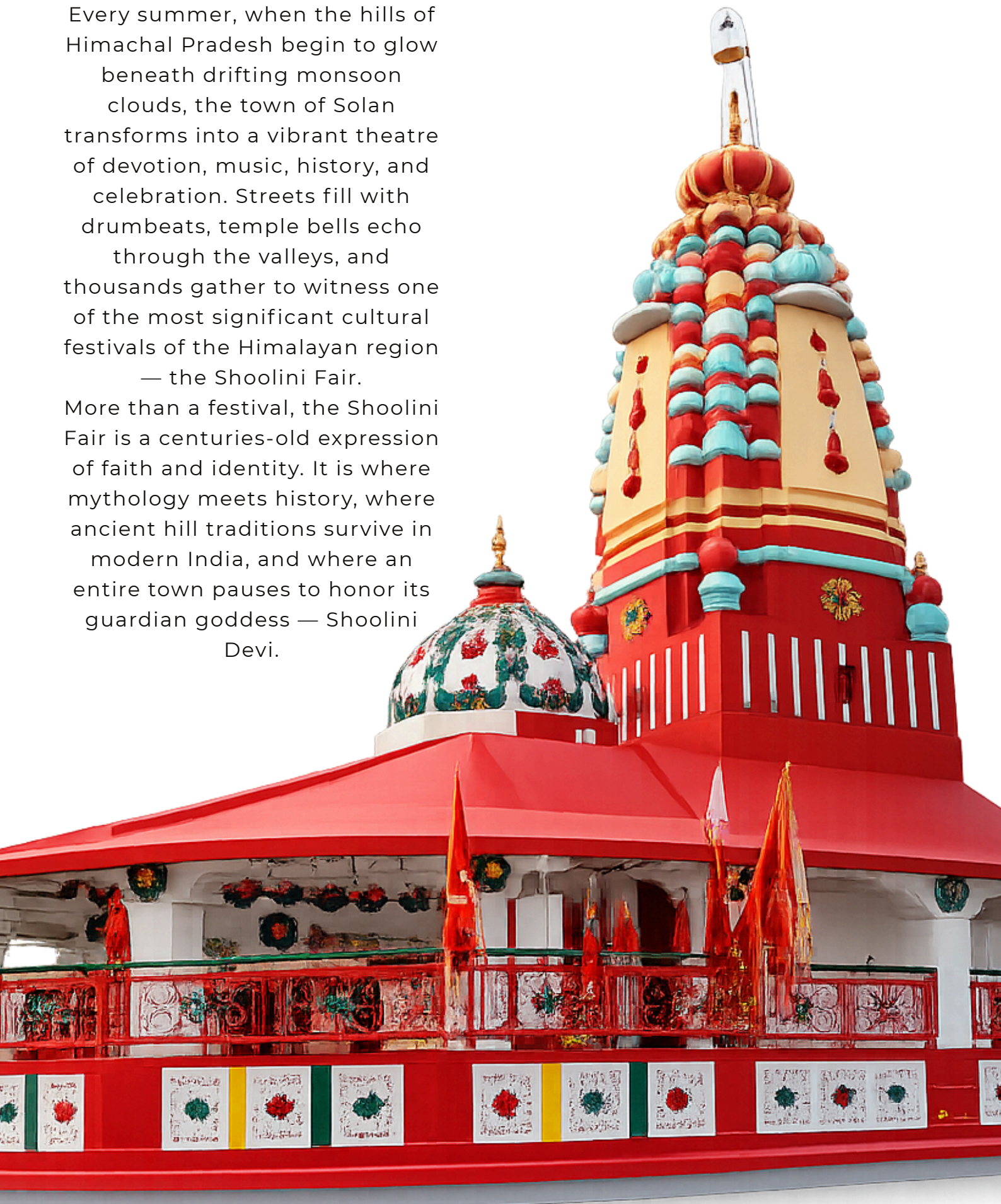


The Goddess Who
Gave Solan Its Name

GAURDIAN GODESS

Every summer, when the hills of Himachal Pradesh begin to glow beneath drifting monsoon clouds, the town of Solan transforms into a vibrant theatre of devotion, music, history, and celebration. Streets fill with drumbeats, temple bells echo through the valleys, and thousands gather to witness one of the most significant cultural festivals of the Himalayan region — the Shoolini Fair.

More than a festival, the Shoolini Fair is a centuries-old expression of faith and identity. It is where mythology meets history, where ancient hill traditions survive in modern India, and where an entire town pauses to honor its guardian goddess — Shoolini Devi.



THE GODDESS WHO GAVE SOLAN ITS NAME

The story of the Shoolini Fair begins with Goddess Shoolini Devi, the presiding deity of Solan. According to local belief, Solan itself derives its name from "Shoolini," the powerful form of Goddess Durga worshipped in the region for generations.

The word "Shoolini" comes from the Sanskrit word shool, meaning spear or trident. The goddess is therefore seen as:

- the destroyer of evil,
- protector of the people,
- and guardian of the hills.

In Himachali spiritual traditions, local deities are not distant mythological figures. They are treated as living rulers of the land protectors who guide agriculture, weather, prosperity, and social harmony.

For the people of Solan, Shoolini Devi is not merely worshipped. She is deeply woven into the emotional and cultural life of the town.



ROOTS IN THE ANCIENT HILL KINGDOMS

Long before Himachal Pradesh became a modern Indian state, the Solan region was part of the Baghat princely state, one of the many hill kingdoms of the western Himalayas.

Historians believe the formal structure of the Shoolini Fair emerged during the rule of the Baghat kings around the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. However, oral traditions suggest the worship of the goddess is much older.

The rulers of Baghat encouraged the fair for several reasons:

- religious unity,
- strengthening loyalty among villages,
- trade and commerce,
- and cultural gatherings.

Like many Himalayan fairs, Shoolini Mela was both sacred and practical. Farmers, artisans, traders, shepherds, and performers gathered from distant valleys, turning Solan into an economic and social center for several days.

In the mountain societies of the past, fairs were not just entertainment — they were lifelines of communication and culture.



FAITH TESTED: THE 2008 IDOL THEFT

One of the most painful moments in the modern history of the Shoolini Fair came in 2008, when two ancient metallic idols of Goddess Shoolini and several sacred crowns were stolen from the temple.

The incident shocked devotees across Himachal Pradesh and deeply affected the spiritual atmosphere of the festival. For generations, three sacred idols traditionally accompanied the grand procession of the goddess during the fair. After the theft, only one idol remained in ceremonial use.

Police investigations suggested the involvement of an organized idol-theft network, and search efforts reportedly extended beyond Himachal Pradesh. However, no widely confirmed public recovery of the stolen idols was reported.

For many residents of Solan, the loss was not merely religious theft — it was the loss of a part of their cultural memory and heritage.

Even today, older devotees remember 2008 as one of the saddest chapters in the history of the Shoolini Fair

The Tribune

FRIDAY, 18 APRIL 2008

Idols stolen from Shoolini temple

Two ancient idols, seven crowns missing

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SOLAN, APRIL 17

The popular Shoolini temple in Solan was found empty this morning when the priest arrived to open its doors.

Two ancient metallic idols of goddess Shoolini and seven crowns, including two gold-plated crowns, have been stolen.

The theft came to light when the priest, Ram Swaroop Sharma, reached the temple around 5.30 am.

He went inside the sanctum sanctorum and found the idols missing from their abodes.

The priest immediately informed the police.

Police suspect that a professional gang of idol lifters has carried out the theft. Teams have been formed to nab the culprits.



Shoolini Mata Temple, Solan.

WHAT WAS STOLEN

- Two ancient metallic idols
- Seven crowns, including two gold-plated crowns
- Other ornamentation items



Stolen idols dampen appeal of Himachal religious fair

Only one idol could be carried in the Shoolini Fair procession

IAN S

JUNE 20, 2008

SOLAN: The theft of two ancient idols of goddess Shoolini from her temple in Solan has dampened the appeal of the famous Shoolini Fair this year.

During the traditional procession, only one idol could be carried instead of the customary three.

The idols were stolen in April this year.

Devotees expressed sorrow over the incident.



Only one idol carried in Shoolini Fair procession.

Century-old religious fair begins in Himachal

IAN S
JUNE 20, 2008

SOLAN: The century-old Shoolini Fair began today in Solan.

The traditional procession was taken out amid tight security arrangements.

However, the fair lost its traditional charm as the two main idols of goddess Shoolini, stolen in April, could not be taken out.

Police teams have been sent to Nepal to trace the suspects involved in the idol theft.



मंदिर का टूटा ताला.



खाली पड़ा गर्भगृह.

शूलिनी माता मंदिर से मूर्तियाँ चोरी

दो प्राचीन मूर्तियाँ व सात मुकुट ले गए चोर

- सुबह पूजा के लिए पुजारी पहुंचे तो मंदिर का ताला टूटा मिला
- माता की दो मूर्तियाँ और सात मुकुट चोरी
- पुलिस ने पेशेवर गिरोह की आशंका जताई, जाँच शुरू



सोलन, 17 अप्रैल (सं.)

यहाँ खेस हेली मोस्टिन मूल शूलिनी माता मंदिर से दो स्त्री, सतलुमी पुनवे वक मयन स वने मुली मल्लिरी से वर उस सन, स चतमने, नवे सचीन मुल्लि वे और सात मुकुट व योग सने, वो-मरीए, दो मुकुटल्लिरे, (दो सोने के मुकुट वर ही से सने) की वीरवे, पुलिस टीमो दोने ने नंग नो किया गया है।

शूलिनी मेले में इस बार नहीं दिखी रौनक

- दो मूर्तियों की चोरी से परंपरा हुई प्रभावित
- केवल एक मूर्ति के साथ निकली शोभायात्रा
- श्रद्धालुओं में रोष



चोरी हुई धरोहर

- दो प्राचीन धातु की मूर्तियाँ
- सात मुकुट (दो स्वर्ण मंडित मुकुट सहित)
- अन्य आभूषण व सजावट का सामान



नेपाल तक पहुँची जाँच की टीमें
पुलिस ने कहा- जल्द होगा खुलासा



शूलिनी माता मंदिर का इतिहास
यह मंदिर सोलन शहर का सबसे प्राचीन और प्रसिद्ध धार्मिक स्थल है। शूलिनी माता को हिमाचल की कुलदेवी माना जाता है।

2008 की वो घटना
जिसने सोलन को झकझोर दिया



Shoolini Fair in Modern India

TODAY, THE GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH RECOGNIZES THE SHOOLINI FAIR AS A MAJOR NATIONAL-LEVEL FESTIVAL.



A Festival That Carries Memory

The Shoolini Fair is not simply about celebration.

It is about memory.

It remembers the old hill kingdoms.

It remembers forgotten trade routes.

It remembers generations who walked beside the goddess through narrow mountain roads.

It remembers a time when festivals connected isolated communities across the Himalayas.

And every year, when the drums begin again in Solan, history returns to the streets.

The goddess travels once more.

And the town remembers who it is.





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