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Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House (Photo/ANI)

Bodhipath Film Festival: Tibet House director highlights good cinema as channel for mass education

ANI | Updated: Mar 12, 2025 02:03 IST

New Delhi [India], March 12 (ANI): Drawing a comparison of art and paintings commissioned by the Lord Buddha (/topic/buddha), 2,500 years ago, with the medium of cinema, Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House (/topic/tibet-house) highlighted that "visual art had always been a channel for education and information to the masses."

He was speaking at the inauguration of the Bodhipath Film Festival on Tuesday, organised by the International Buddhist confederation, the Director of Tibet House (/topic/tibet-house) explained that cinema was an extremely powerful tool to influence the public.

"However, cinema also depicts the level of thinking of the public. Films will be made in accordance with the current thinking in society", he added.



According to an official statement from the film (/topic/film) festival, Ven Geshe Damdul mentioned during the Buddha (/topic/buddha)'s times, paintings were commissioned by Sakyamuni that showed his teachings and educated the public.

The five senses in a person play an important role in absorbing the message. He further said that if the visuals are of 'low level', society will be absorbing these, and therefore, we see a lot of crime, including cyber-crime prevalent these days. Similarly, conflicts, wars, climate disasters and mistrust will be the order of the day, he noted.



Padma Shri awardee, Professor Robert AF Thurman, an American Buddhist author and academic also attended the festival. He has written, edited, and translated several books on Tibetan Buddhism. He is on a brief visit to Delhi and shared insights into his latest book on Manjushri, a work in progress.

"In Mahayana Buddhism, Manjushri is a bodhisattva who represents great wisdom and enlightenment," the Professor mentioned.

Hollywood actor and practising Buddhist, Richard Gere, who was also just passing through Delhi, recorded a message for the festival. He expressed that the Buddhist Film Festival was the best way to spread the teachings of the Buddha (/topic/buddha). He said that the festival provided "An exciting moment. It is a great opportunity to follow the path to Buddhism." He conveyed his best wishes for the festival.



The Guest of Honour, Chittaranjan Tripathy, Director, National School of Drama informed that in India the tradition of Natya Shastra went back more than 3,000 years. Buddhism had deep connections with Natya Shastra and the story telling format.

Providing examples from various elements of theatre, Tripathy explained that the entire world was a theatre, a role-play was going on with costumes, and moods; with the backdrop of a huge montage.

"The theatre too tells a story in their own way, in front of an audience, the difference is that in cinema it is played out on the screen," he explained, adding further, "With so much strife being played out on the world stage, Buddhist thoughts can lead us to a better world."

In his special address, singer Mohit Chauhan explained how he practised compassion and Ahimsa in his personal life. Hailing from Himachal Pradesh, "Buddhism held a special influence in my life," he said according to the official statement.

Chauhan runs a home for stray animals and has over 400 of them under his care. He brought out his contribution as Mongolia's cultural Ambassador towards enabling a deep cultural and spiritual connect between India and Mongolia.

Gagan Malik, a prominent TV actor, who played the lead role in the Sri Lankan film (/topic/film), 'Sri Siddhartha Gautam' enthralled the audience with his personal experiences in shooting for the epic, according to the statement. He is also well known for his roles as Lord Ram and Lord Shiv, and has a great fan following in a number of Buddhist nations, including Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.



Another famous star, Adil Hussain, of national and international fame, known for his film (/topic/film)s 'Life of Pi' and 'The Reluctant Fundamentalists' spoke passionately about cinema and how it had the power not only to shape the views of the audience, but the roles that he played as an actor had even impacted his own life, changing his perspective about the world.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Shartse Khensur JangchupChoeden Rinpoche, Secretary General of IBC, while blessing the festival with invocation, reflected that film (/topic/film)s were a powerful medium for diffusing information, ideology and widening horizons.

The Director General of IBC, Abhijit Halder explained the concept of the festival and the range of film (/topic/film)s that were screened. These included a collection of classical film (/topic/film)s for the younger generation to catch up on and some from modern directors of India. To name a few The Cup, Geshe Ma is Born, the Kung Fu Nuns, Path of Compassion, Guru Padmasambhava. He mentioned that the

legendary film (/topic/film) on His Holiness the Dalai Lama, 'Until Space Remains' was also screened as this year commemorates the landmark birthday of the spiritual leader.

The International Buddhist Confederation's first edition of 'The Bodhipath Film Festival' on 10-11 March 2025 also included four-panel discussions involving personalities from varying backgrounds- from academicians to film (/topic/film) producers and Directors to social media influencers and actors. The discussions revolved around various aspects of film (/topic/film)making, including challenges faced in producing Buddhist film (/topic/film)s and mindful communication.

"The festival received overwhelming response from the young and old with large number of Monks and Nuns from different Buddhist institutions as well as students from the Indian Institute of Mass Communications and the Gautam Buddha (/topic/buddha) University attending the event," the statement read. (ANI)





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Bodhipath Film Festival in New Delhi Explores Buddhism Through Cinema

By Justin Whitaker | March 11, 2025













From tribuneindia.com

The International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) and the Dalai Lama's Foundation for Universal Responsibility are hosting the Bodhipath Film Festival in New Delhi, bringing together cinema and spirituality in a unique convergence of artistic expression and Buddhist teachings. The festival began on 10 March and has a second day today.

The festival showcases films that encapsulate the essence of the Buddhadharma, offering audiences a reflective experience on the relevance of Buddhist philosophy in contemporary life. Through visual storytelling, the event is aimed at deepening understandings of spirituality while emphasizing the continued relevance of the Buddhist teachings in an ever-changing world.

The director of Tibet House, Ven. Geshe Dorji Damdul, underscored the educational value of cinema, noting its ability to engage audiences through both sight and sound: "People should be educated, and that education can be delivered visually and auditorily, primarily through these two mediums. Cinema, in particular, plays a great role because, while it is entertaining on the surface, it conveys a deeper message." (The Tribune)





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The festival extended beyond film screenings to include panel discussions featuring prominent scholars, filmmakers, and practitioners. These discussions explored the intersection of the Buddhist teachings and modern cinema, emphasizing the role of storytelling in promoting mindfulness, peace, and the connection between tradition and contemporary filmmaking.

Actor Gagan Malik highlighted the importance of meditation in achieving mindfulness, stating that it can enhance inner strength and awareness. "To achieve mindfulness, meditation is essential. It provides inner strength and enhances awareness of the mind," he said. "Regardless of whether you are an artist or belong to any other profession, meditation plays a significant role in making you a better human being." (*The Tribune*)

Renowned singer Mohit Chauhan spoke about the intrinsic relationship between music and spirituality: "Many things are expressed through sound, and music is a prime example. It can be vocal or instrumental. A lot of Indian spiritual music shares similar symbolism and expression with Buddhist music. Although spirituality remains the same in both cultures, Buddhism originated in India, which is why they have many similarities." (*The Tribune*)

The festival further emphasized the evolution of communication in the transmission of the Buddhist teachings. IBC Director General Abhijit Halder reflected on how the Buddha's message has been shared over the years:

The Buddha firmly believed that the message of his enlightenment should be passed on to people. During his time, the only way to share messages was verbally, as there were no written scripts. However, the system of communication has evolved over the ages. Today, we have numerous platforms, including OTT services and various social media channels. Over time, communication mediums have expanded significantly, and we are utilizing every possible channel to spread his message to a larger audience. The Bodhipath Film Festival is a part of this effort. (The Tribune)

Films screened at the festival include: *The Cup* (2011), directed by Khyentse Norbu; *Geshe Ma is Born* (2019), directed by Malati Rao; and *Nalanda – A Journey Through Time* (2024), directed by Surinder Talwar.





Good Cinema a channel for Mass Education: Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul

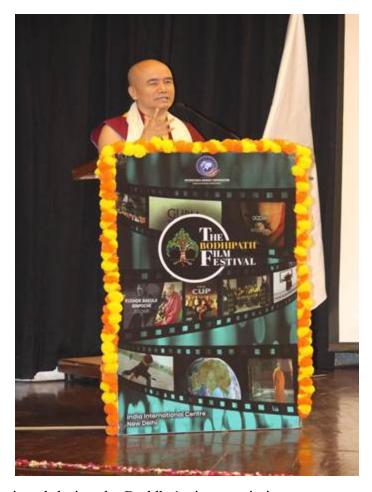
International Buddhist Confederation organized a two day BODHIPATH Film Festival

Posted On: 12 MAR 2025 11:26AM by PIB Delhi

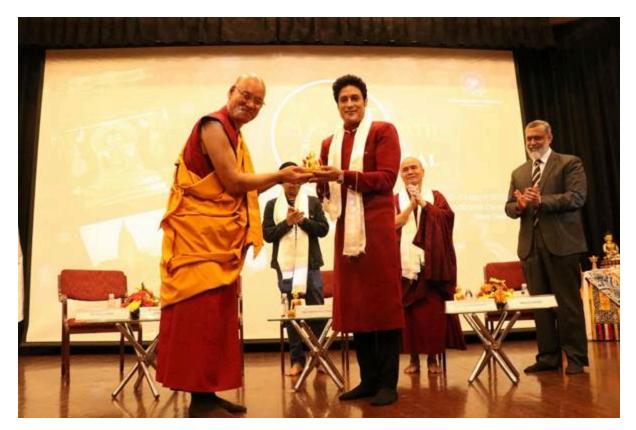
Drawing a comparison of art and paintings commissioned by the Buddha- 2,500 years ago with the medium of cinema, Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House said on the opening ceremony of the BODHIPATH Film Festival that visual art had always been a channel for education and information to the masses.



Speaking at the inauguration of a two-day festival, organised by the International Buddhist confederation in New Delhi the Venerable, a Special Guest, explained that cinema was an extremely powerful tool to influence the public. "However, cinema also depicts the level of thinking of the public. Films will be made in accordance with the current thinking in society", he added.



Ven Geshe Damdul mentioned during the Buddha's times, paintings were commissioned by Sakyamuni that showed his teachings and educated the public. The five senses in a person play an important role in absorbing the message. He further said that if the visuals are of 'low level', the society will be absorbing these, and therefore, we see a lot of crime, including cyber-crime prevalent these days. Similarly, conflicts, wars, climate disaster and mistrust will be the order of the day, he noted.



Professor Robert A.F. Thurman, an American Buddhist author and academic who is a Padma Shri and has written, edited, and translated several books on Tibetan Buddhism, on a brief visit to Delhi, took time off to speak at the festival. He shared insights into his latest book on Manjushri, a work in progress. In Mahayana Buddhism, Manjushri is a bodhisattva who represents great wisdom and enlightenment, the Professor mentioned. He enthralled the audience with some interesting anecdotes and some personal experiences.

The world-renowned film personality from Hollywood and a practicing Buddhist, Richard Gere, who was also just passing through Delhi, recorded a message for the festival. He expressed that the Buddhist Film Festival was the best way to spread the teachings of the Buddha. He said that the festival provided "An exciting moment. It is a great opportunity to follow the path to Buddhism." He conveyed his best wishes for the festival.

The Guest of Honour, Mr Chittaranjan Tripathy, Director, National School of Drama informed that in India the tradition of Natya Shastra went back more than 3,000 years. Buddhism had deep connections with Natya Shastra and the story telling format.

Providing examples from various elements of theatre, Mr Tripathy explained that the entire world was a theatre, a role -play was going on with costumes, and moods; with the backdrop of a huge montage. "The theatre too tells a story in their own way, in front of an audience, the difference is that in cinema it is played out on the screen," he explained. With so much strife being played out on the world stage, Buddhist thoughts can lead us to a better world, he added.



In his Special Address, Mr Mohit Chauhan, the eminent playback singer explained how he practised compassion and Ahimsa in his personal life. Hailing from Himachal Pradesh, Buddhism held a special influence in his life, he said. He runs a home for stray animals and has over 400 of them under his care. He brought out his contribution as Mongolia's cultural Ambassador towards enabling a deep cultural and spiritual connect between India and Mongolia.

Mr Gagan Malik, a prominent TV actor, who played the lead role in the Sri Lankan film, Sri Siddhartha Gautam enthralled the audience with his personal experiences in shooting for the epic. He is also well known for his roles as Lord Ram and Lord Shiv, and has a great fan following in a number of Buddhist nations, including Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

Another famous star, Mr Adil Hussain, of national and international fame for his films Life of Pi and The Reluctant Fundamentalists spoke passionately about cinema and how it had the power not only to shape the views of the audience, but the roles that he played as an actor had even impacted his own life, changing his perspective about the world.

Earlier, in his welcome address, Shartse Khensur Jangchup Choeden Rinpoche, Secretary General of IBC while blessing the festival with invocation, reflected that films were a powerful medium for diffusing information, ideology and widening horizons.

The Director General of IBC, Mr. Abhijit Halder explained the concept of the festival and the range of films that were screened. These included a collection of classical films for the younger generation to catch up on and some from modern directors of India. To name a few The Cup, Geshe Ma is Born, the Kung Fu Nuns, Path of Compassion, Guru Padmasambhava. He mentioned that the legendary film on His Holiness the Dalai Lama, 'Until Space Remains' was also screened as this year commemorates the landmark birthday of His Holiness.

The International Buddhist Confederation's first edition of 'The Bodhipath Film Festival' on 10-11 March 2025 also included four panel discussions involving personalities from varying backgrounds-from academicians to film producers and Directors to social media influencers and actors. The discussions revolved around various aspects of film making, including challenges faced in producing Buddhist films and mindful communications.

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Home Videos Bodhipath Film Festival 2025 Illuminates Buddhist Teachings



Bodhipath Film Festival 2025 Illuminates Buddhist Teachings

▶ 4:17 Published On: March 10, 2025

Cinema View





The Bodhipath Film Festival 2025, hosted by the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) and The Foundation for Universal Responsibility of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, blended cinema and spirituality in New Delhi. Showcasing films inspired by Buddha Dhamma, the festival illuminated Buddhist wisdom through storytelling. Panel discussions featuring scholars, filmmakers, and practitioners explored how Buddhist narratives foster peace, mindfulness, and tradition in modern cinema.



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World

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ANI 10 March, 2025 08:02 pm IST

ThePrint



Bodhipath Film Festival 2025 (Photo/ANI)

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The festival showcased films that encapsulated the essence of Buddha Dhamma, inspiring audiences with profound insights into Buddhist teachings and their relevance in contemporary life.

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The event leveraged the power of film to convey meaningful storytelling, aiming to foster a deeper understanding of spirituality. The festival's screenings highlighted how Buddhist philosophy continues to offer solace and wisdom in an ever-changing world.



Ven. Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House, emphasized the educational impact of cinema. "People should be educated, and that education can be delivered visually and auditorily, primarily through these two mediums. Cinema, in particular, plays a great role because, while it is entertaining on the surface, it conveys a deeper message," he said.

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platform for dialogue, delving into the integration of Buddhist teachings in modern cinema. Discussions underscored how storytelling can promote peace, mindfulness, and the bridge between tradition and contemporary filmmaking.

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The festival also underscored the evolution of communication in spreading Buddhist teachings. Abhijit Halder, Director General of IBC, reflected on how Buddha's message has been shared across generations. "The Buddha firmly believed that the message of his enlightenment should be passed on to people. During his time, the only way to share messages was verbally, as there were no written scripts. However, the system of communication has evolved over the ages. Today, we have numerous platforms, including OTT services and various social media channels. Over time, communication mediums have expanded significantly, and we are utilizing every possible channel to spread his message to a larger audience. The Bodhipath Film Festival is a part of this effort," he stated.

With its compelling film line-up and insightful discussions, the Bodhipath Film Festival 2025 emerged as a landmark event, bringing together the global Buddhist community and cinema enthusiasts in a shared pursuit of wisdom, mindfulness, and artistic expression. (ANI)

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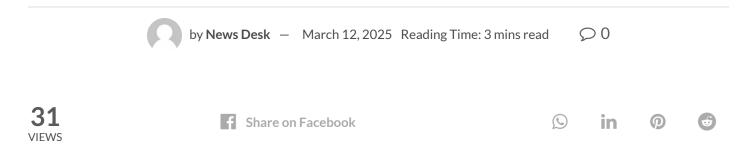
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EDITORIAL HEALTH TECH OPINION SPORTS



Good Cinema a channel for Mass Education



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Film Fest Highlights Buddha's Message and Tibet's Cause

By **Anukriti**; - Mar 13 2025, 14:39

The Strat Global



In a world increasingly marked by strife and uncertainty, the principles of Buddhism—compassion, impermanence, and mindfulness—are resonating more than ever.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement, "What the world needs today is 'Buddh, not Yuddh (War),'" encapsulates the growing appeal of Buddhist teachings as a means to foster peace and understanding.

This sentiment was at the heart of the two-day Bodhipath Film Festival, organized by the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) held on March 10-11 in New Delhi. The event brought together filmmakers, scholars, and artists to explore Buddhism's enduring relevance through cinema.

The festival drew an eclectic mix of attendees, including noted figures from the Indian film industry, monks, diplomats, and students. Among the prominent guests were actors Gagan Malik, Adil Hussain, and Chitranjan Tripathy, as well as playback singer Mohit Chauhan and acclaimed filmmaker Benoy K Behl.

Significantly, the festival's opening day coincided with Tibet Uprising Day, adding deeper historical cance to the discussions. Ven. Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House, u le of cinema in not only entertaining audiences but also amplifying social causes.

The Director General of IBC, Mr. Abhijit Halder highlighted the importance of revisiting Buddhist teachings in contemporary times, especially as the Dalai Lama approaches his 90th birthday. He also pointed out how the Tibetan cause remains a crucial subject of discussion.

Over the course of two days, the festival screened 10 carefully curated films and documentaries, each shedding light on different aspects of Buddhism including Buddhist philosophy, history, and contemporary issues.

They included *Dissemination of Buddha Dhamma in Asia, Geshe Ma Is Born, Kushok Bakula Rinpoche, Nalanda – A Journey Through Time*, and *The Cup*. These films explored topics such as the evolution of Buddhist practices, the journey of Buddhist nuns earning the prestigious Geshe degree, and the legacy of Nalanda University. Among them, *The Cup*, a film about Tibetan refugees' love for football, garnered the most attention and appreciation from the audience and speakers alike.

The festival also featured engaging panel discussions on the relevance of Buddhist films, the challenges of spiritual filmmaking, mindful communication, and the influence of artificial intelligence in storytelling. Special guest talks provided further insight into the complexities and possibilities of depicting Buddhist themes in cinema.

More than just a film festival, the Bodhipath event served as a platform for meaningful dialogue, connecting filmmakers, scholars, and audiences in an effort to preserve and share Buddhist heritage. By using cinema as a tool to engage and educate, the festival reaffirmed the power of storytelling in keeping Buddhist teachings alive for future generations.



The Main Land Post

By Mainland Post - March 11, 2025



Listen

In the heart of New Delhi, at the esteemed India International Centre, the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) unfurls the inaugural 'Bodhipath Film Festival' on March 10 – 11, 2025. This gathering of cinematic artistry showcases ten meticulously curated films from Germany, the US, Nepal, Bhutan, and beyond, each reflecting the profound teachings of the Buddha and the timeless values of compassion, mindfulness, and impermanence.

challenges in spiritual filmmaking.

The concept of art in Buddha Dhamma. Mindful communication.

These dialogues aim to explore the intricate relationship between cinema and spirituality, emphasizing the meticulous progression inherent in Buddha Dhamma.

This festival unfolds against a backdrop of profound significance. As His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama approaches his 90th birthday on July 6, 2025, the Tibetan community and followers worldwide anticipate his guidance on the matter of his reincarnation – a topic he has addressed with clarity and foresight. In a 2011 statement, His Holiness emphasized that the process of recognizing his successor must adhere to Tibetan Buddhist traditions, free from political interference, particularly from the People's Republic of China. The convergence of the Bodhipath Film Festival with the commemoration of Tibetan Uprising Day on March 10 adds layers of reflection and resolve. This day marks the 66th anniversary of the 1959 Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule, a poignant reminder of the enduring spirit of the Tibetan people and their unwavering quest for cultural and spiritual preservation.

In these times of contemplation and celebration, the Bodhipath Film Festival serves as a luminous beacon, illuminating the path of wisdom and compassion through the art of cinema. It invites all to partake in a journey of introspection, dialogue, and unity, honoring the rich tapestry of Buddhist heritage and the enduring legacy of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

DD News

बोधिपथ फिल्म महोत्सव २०२५ : गेशे दोरजी दामदुल ने कहा-लोक शिक्षण का माध्यम है अच्छा सिनेमा



अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बौद्ध परिसंघ (आईबीसी) और दलाई लामा की सार्वभौमिक जिम्मेदारी के लिए फाउंडेशन ने हाल ही में नई दिल्ली में बोधिपथ फिल्म महोत्सव की मेजबानी की, जो सिनेमा और आध्यात्मिकता का एक अनूठा संगम है। इस महोत्सव में बुद्ध धम्म के सार को समेटे हुए फिल्में दिखाई गईं, जो दर्शकों को बोद्ध शिक्षाओं और समकालीन जीवन में उनकी प्रासंगिकता के बारे में गहन अंतदृष्टि से प्रेरित करती हैं।

वहीं, उद्घाटन समारोह में अपने संबोधन में तिब्बत हाउस के निदेशक गेशे दोरजी दामदुल ने भगवान बुद्ध की ओर से मान्यता प्राप्त 2500 वर्ष पूर्व की कला और चित्रों को की तुलना सिनेमा के माध्यम से की। उन्होंने कहा कि दृश्य कला हमेशा से ही आम जनता के लिए शिक्षा और सूचना का माध्यम रही है, हालांकि, सिनेमा जनता की सोच के स्तर को भी दर्शाता है। तो समाज में मौजूदा सोच के अनुसार ही फिल्मों का निर्माण हो।

वेन गेशे दामदुल ने यह भी उल्लेख किया कि भगवान बुद्ध के समय में शाक्यमुनि की शिक्षाओं को दर्शाने वाली और लोगों को शिक्षित करने वाली पेंटिंग्स बनायी गयी थीं। उन्होंने कहा कि व्यक्ति की पांचों इंद्रियां संदेश को आत्मसात करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाती हैं।

उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि यदि दृश्य 'निम्न स्तर' के हैं, तो समाज उन्हें आत्मसात कर लेगा, और इसीलिए हम इन दिनों साइबर अपराध सहित बहुत सारे अपराधों को देखते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि इसी तरह, संघर्ष, युद्ध, जलवायु संबंधी आपदा और अविश्वास को देखा जाने लगेगा।

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बौद्ध परिसंघ की ओर से 10-11 मार्च 2025 को आयोजित 'बोधिपथ फिल्म महोत्सव' के पहले संस्करण में चार पैनल चर्चाएं भी हुईं, जिसमें विभिन्न पृष्ठभूमि के लोगों ने भाग लिया। उनमें शिक्षाविदों से लेकर फिल्म निर्माता और निर्देशकों से लेकर सोशल मीडिया के प्रभावशाली व्यक्तित्व और अभिनेता तक शामिल हुए। ये चर्चाएं फिल्म निर्माण के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर केंद्रित थीं, जिसमें बौद्ध फिल्मों के निर्माण में आने वाली चुनौतियों और विचारशील संचार के संबंध में भी बात हुई।

वहीं, हॉलीवुड की फिल्मों के विश्व प्रसिद्ध कलाकार और बौद्ध धर्म के अनुयायी रिचर्ड गेरे ने इस महोत्सव के लिए एक संदेश रिकॉर्ड किया। उन्होंने कहा कि बौद्ध फिल्म महोत्सव बुद्ध की शिक्षाओं के प्रसार का सबसे अच्छा तरीका है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि यह महोत्सव "एक रोमांचक क्षण है। यह बौद्ध धर्म के मार्ग पर चलने का एक शानदार अवसर है।"

इस महोत्सव को युवाओं और बुजुर्गों ने काफी पसंद किया और सराहा। विभिन्न बौद्ध संस्थानों से बड़ी संख्या में आए भिक्षुओं और भिक्षुणियों के साथ-साथ भारतीय जनसंचार संस्थान और गौतम बुद्ध विश्वविद्यालय के छात्रों ने भी इस फिल्मोत्सव में भाग लिया।



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New Delhi: अंतर्राष्ट्रीय बौद्ध परिसंघ (आईबीसी) और दलाई लामा की सार्वभौमिक जिम्मेदारी के लिए फाउंडेशन ने हाल ही में नई दिल्ली में बोधिपथ फिल्म महोत्सव की मेजबानी की, जो सिनेमा और आध्यात्मिकता का एक अनूठा संगम है। इस महोत्सव में बुद्ध धम्म के सार को समेटे हुए फिल्में दिखाई गईं, जो दर्शकों को बौद्ध शिक्षाओं और समकालीन जीवन में उनकी प्रासंगिकता के बारे में गहन अंतर्दिष्टि से प्रेरित करती हैं। इस कार्यक्रम ने आध्यात्मिकता की गहरी समझ को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से सार्थक कहानी कहने के लिए फिल्म की शक्ति का लाभ उठाया। महोत्सव की स्क्रीनिंग ने इस बात पर प्रकाश डाला कि कैसे बौद्ध दर्शन लगातार बदलती दुनिया में सांत्वना और ज्ञान प्रदान करना जारी रखता है। तिब्बत हाउस के निदेशक वेने। गेशे दोरजी दामदुल ने सिनेमा के शैक्षिक प्रभाव पर जोर दिया। "लोगों को शिक्षित किया जाना चाहिए, और यह शिक्षा मुख्य रूप से इन दो माध्यमों के माध्यम से दृश्य और श्रवण द्वारा दी जा सकती है। सिनेमा, विशेष रूप से, एक महान भूमिका निभाता है क्योंकि, जबिक यह सतह पर मनोरंजक है, यह एक गहरा संदेश देता है, "उन्होंने कहा। फिल्म स्क्रीनिंग से परे, इस महोत्सव में प्रसिद्ध विद्वानों, फिल्म निर्माताओं और चिकित्सकों की पैनल चर्चाएँ आयोजित की गईं।

इन संवादात्मक सत्रों ने आधुनिक सिनेमा में बौद्ध शिक्षाओं के एकीकरण पर गहन चर्चा करते हुए संवाद के लिए एक मंच प्रदान किया। चर्चाओं ने रेखांकित किया कि किस तरह कहानी सुनाना शांति, मन की शांति और परंपरा और समकालीन फिल्म निर्माण के बीच पुल को बढ़ावा दे सकता है। अभिनेता गगन मलिक ने मन की शांति प्राप्त करने में ध्यान के महत्व पर जोर दिया। "मन की शांति प्राप्त करने के लिए, ध्यान आवश्यक है। यह आंतरिक शक्ति प्रदान करता है और मन की जागरूकता को बढ़ाता है। चाहे आप कलाकार हों या किसी अन्य पेशे से हों, ध्यान आपको एक बेहतर इंसान बनाने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभ्कि उन्होंने कहा। प्रसिद्ध गायक मोहित चौहान ने संगीत और आध्यात्मिकता के बीच गहरे संबंध पर प्रकाश डाला। "ध्वनि के माध्यम से कई चीजें व्यक्त की जाती हैं, और संगीत इसका प्रमुख उदाहरण है। यह गायन या वाद्य हो सकता है। बहुत सारे भारतीय आध्यात्मिक संगीत बौद्ध संगीत के साथ समान प्रतीकवाद और अभिव्यक्ति साझा करते हैं। हालाँकि दोनों संस्कृतियों में आध्यात्मिकता समान है, लेकिन बौद्ध धर्म की उत्पत्ति भारत में हुई है, यही वजह है कि उनमें कई समानताएँ हैं," उन्होंने समझाया। महोत्सव ने बौद्ध धर्म के प्रसार में संचार के विकास को भी रेखांकित किया।

शिक्षाएँ। IBC के महानिदेशक अभिजीत हलदर ने इस बात पर विचार किया कि बुद्ध का संदेश किस तरह पीढ़ियों तक साझा किया गया है। "बुद्ध का दृढ़ विश्वास था कि उनके ज्ञान का संदेश लोगों तक पहुँचाया जाना चाहिए। उनके समय में, संदेशों को साझा करने का एकमात्र तरीका मौखिक रूप से था, क्योंकि कोई लिखित स्क्रिप्ट नहीं थी। हालाँकि, समय के साथ संचार की प्रणाली विकसित हुई है। आज, हमारे पास ОТТ सेवाओं और विभिन्न सोशल मीडिया चैनलों सिहत कई प्लेटफ़ॉर्म हैं। समय के साथ, संचार माध्यमों का काफी विस्तार हुआ है, और हम उनके संदेश को बड़े दर्शकों तक पहुँचाने के लिए हर संभव चैनल का उपयोग कर रहे हैं। बोधिपथ फ़िल्म महोत्सव इसी प्रयास का एक हिस्सा है," उन्होंने कहा। अपनी आकर्षक फ़िल्म लाइन-अप और व्यावहारिक चर्चाओं के साथ, बोधिपथ फ़िल्म महोत्सव 2025 एक ऐतिहासिक आयोजन के रूप में उभरा, जिसने वैश्विक बौद्ध समुदाय और सिनेमा के प्रति उत्साही लोगों को ज्ञान, ध्यान और कलात्मक अभिव्यक्ति की साझा खोज में एक साथ लाया। (एएनआई)

Observer Voice



C Q

BODHIPATH Film Festival Highlights Cinema's Power



The inaugural BODHIPATH Film Festival kicked off in New Delhi, showcasing the profound connection between visual arts and education. Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House, emphasized cinema's role as a powerful medium for societal influence during the festival's opening ceremony. The event, organized by the International Buddhist Confederation, featured prominent speakers and a diverse range of films aimed at promoting Buddhist teachings.

Cinema as a Reflection of Society

During the festival's opening, Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul drew parallels between ancient Buddhist art and modern cinema, highlighting how both serve as educational tools. He noted that visual art has historically been a means to convey messages to the public. "Cinema is an extremely powerful tool to influence the public," he stated, adding that films often reflect the prevailing thoughts and attitudes of society. He warned that if the quality of visual content declines, society may absorb negative influences, leading to increased crime and conflict.

He further elaborated on the significance of the five senses in understanding messages conveyed through visual media. By referencing the teachings of the Buddha, he illustrated how commissioned paintings from 2,500 years ago were designed to educate the masses. The Venerable's insights underscored the

Insights from Renowned Speakers

The festival featured a range of distinguished speakers, including Professor Robert A.F. Thurman, a prominent American Buddhist scholar. Thurman shared insigned from his upcoming book on Manjushri, a bodhisattva symbolizing wisdom in Mahayana Buddhism. His engaging anecdotes captivated the audience, providing deeper understanding of Buddhist philosophy.

Hollywood actor Richard Gere, a practicing Buddhist, recorded a special message for the festival, expressing his belief that the BODHIPATH Film Festival is an excellent platform for disseminating Buddhist teachings. He described the event as an exciting opportunity to explore the path of Buddhism and wished the festival great success.

Theatre and Storytelling in Buddhism

Guest of Honour Mr. Chittaranjan Tripathy, Director of the National School of Drama, highlighted the ancient Indian tradition of Natya Shastra and its connections to Buddhism. He explained that storytelling, whether through theatre or cinema, plays a crucial role in conveying messages to audiences. "The entire world is a theatre," he remarked, emphasizing the importance of narratives in shaping perceptions and fostering understanding.

In his special address, playback singer Mohit Chauhan shared his personal experiences with Buddhism and compassion, illustrating how these principles guide his life. He also discussed his role as Mongolia's cultural ambassador, fostering cultural ties between India and Mongolia. Other notable figures, including TV actor Gagan Malik and acclaimed actor Adil Hussain, shared their experiences in the film industry and the transformative power of cinema.

A Diverse Range of Films and Discussions

The festival showcased a variety of films, including classic and contemporary works aimed at younger audiences. Notable screenings included "The Cup," "Geshe Ma is Born," and "Until Space Remains," a documentary on His Holiness the Dalai Lama, coinciding with his landmark birthday. The Director General of IBC, Mr. Abhijit Halder, explained the festival's concept and the importance of mindful communication in filmmaking.

The BODHIPATH Film Festival also featured panel discussions with filmmakers, academics, and social media influencers, focusing on the challenges of producing Buddhist films. The event attracted a diverse audience, including monks, nuns, and students from various institutions, highlighting the widespread interest in Buddhist teachings and cinema.

Overall, the festival successfully combined art, education, and spirituality, fostering a deeper understanding of Buddhism through the powerful medium of film.

The Tribune

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New Delhi [India], March 10 (ANI): The International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) and the Foundation for Universal Responsibility of the Dalai Lama recently hosted the Bodhipath Film Festival in New Delhi, a unique confluence of cinema and spirituality.

The festival showcased films that encapsulated the essence of Buddha Dhamma, inspiring audiences with profound insights into Buddhist teachings and their relevance in contemporary life.

The event leveraged the power of film to convey meaningful storytelling, aiming to foster a deeper understanding of spirituality. The festival's screenings highlighted how Buddhist philosophy continues to offer solace and wisdom in an ever-changing world.

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Ven. Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House, emphasized the educational impact of cinema. "People should be educated, and that education can be delivered visually and auditorily, primarily through these two mediums. Cinema. in particular, plays a great role because.

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while it is entertaining on the surface, it conveys a deeper message," he said.

Beyond the film screenings, the festival hosted panel discussions featuring renowned scholars, filmmakers, and practitioners. These interactive sessions provided a platform for dialogue, delving into the integration of Buddhist teachings in modern cinema. Discussions underscored how storytelling can promote peace, mindfulness, and the bridge between tradition and contemporary filmmaking.

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Actor Gagan Malik stressed the significance of meditation in achieving mindfulness. "To achieve mindfulness, meditation is essential. It provides inner strength and enhances awareness of the mind. Regardless of whether you are an artist or belong to any other profession, meditation plays a significant role in making you a better human being," he noted.

Renowned singer Mohit Chauhan highlighted the deep connection between music and spirituality. "Many things are expressed through sound, and music is a prime example. It can be vocal or instrumental. A lot of Indian spiritual music shares similar symbolism and expression with Buddhist music. Although spirituality remains the same in both cultures, Buddhism originated in India, which is why they have many similarities," he explained.

The festival also underscored the evolution of communication in spreading Buddhist teachings. Abhijit Halder, Director General of IBC, reflected on how Buddha's message has been shared across generations. "The Buddha firmly believed that the message of his enlightenment should be passed on to people. During his time, the only way to share messages was verbally, as there were no written scripts. However, the system of communication has evolved over the ages. Today, we have numerous platforms, including OTT services and various social media channels. Over time, communication mediums have expanded significantly, and we are utilizing every possible channel to spread his message to a larger audience. The Bodhipath Film Festival is a part of this effort," he stated.



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► INDIA NEWS

Unique Buddha Film Festival organised in India

STORY HIGHLIGHTS

The event featured screenings of 10 carefully selected films, chosen to reflect Buddhist practices and values such as compassion, mindfulness, and impermanence, offering insights into the relevance of Buddhist teachings in contemporary life.



Authored by: Sidhant Sibal

i 12 Mar 2025 21:20 IST



A moment from The Bodhipath Film Festival organised in New Delhi

New Delhi: The International Buddhist Confederation (IBC), a global Buddhist umbrella organization headquartered in Delhi organised a unique Buddha film festival "The Bodhipath Film Festival" earlier this week, from 10th to 11th March, in the Indian National capital.

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The event featured screenings of 10 carefully selected films from around the world over two days. These films were chosen to reflect Buddhist practices and values such as compassion, mindfulness, and impermanence, offering insights into the relevance of Buddhist teachings in contemporary life.

The Director General of IBC, Abhijit Halder, explained the concept of the festival and the range of films that were screened. He said, "The list included a collection of classical films for the younger generation to catch up on and some from modern directors of India. Notable films included classics like The Cup and modern works such as Geshe Ma is Born, Kung Fu Nuns, Path of Compassion, and Guru Padmasambhava."

"Until Space Remains", a film that explores the remarkable relationship between the Dalai Lama, the Tibetan community, and India, was also screened at the festival. In fact, the film festival took place on a day when the Tibetan community in Delhi was marking "Tibet Uprising Day". This year also marks the 90th birthday of the Dalai Lama, and many films linked to him were also shown.

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The director of the Tibet House was the special guest at the inauguration, explaining that cinema was an extremely powerful tool to influence the public. "Cinema depicts the level of thinking of the public. Films will be made in accordance with the current thinking in society," he said. Hollywood actor and a practicing Buddhist, Richard Gere, said in a video message at the Buddhist Film Festival that it is one of the ways to spread the teachings of the Buddha. "The festival provided an exciting moment. It is a great opportunity to follow the path to Buddhism," he added.

The film festival screened 10 global films with addresses by well-known film actor Adil Hussain, best known for his work in Life of Pi and the voice behind "Dooba Dooba" and "Tum Se Hi" Mohit Chauhan. In his address, playback singer Mohit Chauhan explained how he practised compassion and Ahimsa in his personal life, while Adil Hussain talked about the larger role of cinema in shaping views.

IBC Secretary General Shartse Khensur Rinpoche Jangchup Choeden, while blessing the festival with invocation, reflected that films were a powerful medium for diffusing information and widening horizons.

film festival



Richard Gere's message for the BODHIPATH Film Festival reflects the power of cinema in spreading Buddhist wisdom. "An exciting moment" and "a great opportunity" to walk the path of enlightenment through film! #Bodhipath #CinemaWithPurpose
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1:35 PM · Mar 12, 2025 · 78 Views



The Bodhipath Film Festival & Dalai Lama Reincarnation Announcement: A Crucial Moment for Tibet ${}_{\triangle\!\!\!\!\!A}$

Today, on #March10, we commemorate the Tibetan Uprising Day, a symbol of resistance against China's occupation of #Tibet. As Tibetans continue their struggle for freedom, two key events unfold this year that hold deep significance. #TibetanUprisingDay #FreeTibet

The Bodhipath Film Festival, organized by IBS in New Delhi, celebrates Buddhist teachings through cinema. In an era where Tibetan culture faces Sinicization, this festival becomes a powerful tool to amplify Tibet's spiritual and cultural legacy. #BodhipathFilmFestival









☑ ETPrime

Lord Buddha comes alive through cinema

By Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury, ET Bureau - Last Updated: Mar 12, 2025, 10:33:00 PM IST



Synopsis

The BODHIPATH Film Festival showcased the power of cinema in sharing Buddhist teachings. With insights from prominent figures like Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul and Richard Gere, the event emphasized how films reflect and influence societal thinking. Various films and discussions were held, attracting monks, nuns, and students, promoting the values of Buddhism to a diverse audience.



Drawing a comparison of art and paintings commissioned by the Buddha- 2,500 years ago with the medium of cinema, Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul, Director of Tibet House said on the opening of the **BODHIPATH** Film Festival that visual art had always been a channel for education and information to the masses.





Good Cinema a channel for Mass Education: Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul

International Buddhist Confederation organized a two day BODHIPATH Film Festival

More details:pib.gov.in/PressReleasePa...







Good Cinema a channel for Mass Education: Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul

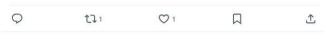
▶ International Buddhist Confederation organized a two day BODHIPATH Film Festiva

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☑Good Cinema a channel for Mass Education: Ven Geshe Dorji Damdul

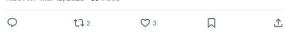
✓International Buddhist Confederation organized a two day BODHIPATH Film Festival

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Ministry of Culture and PIB Culture

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The first edition of the Bodhipath Film Festival organised by the International Buddhist Confederation in collaboration with The Vivekananda International Foundation.

The festival was held at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

@Mohammed11Saleh brings you this report



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