



# Yearly Review of Art & Culture 2017 - Current Affairs Capsule in PDF

## January 2017

- **Hyderabad Lit Fest**
  - Celebrating creativity in all its forms, the seventh edition of Hyderabad Literary Festival-HLF 2017 – will open at Hyderabad on Friday.
  - The three-day festival is being organised by Hyderabad Literary Trust at Hyderabad Public School in association with the Telangana government.
  - Philippines is the ‘Guest Nation’ at HLF 2017 and will showcase its literature, art and culture.
- **Himachal tableau to make a comeback**
  - After a gap of three years , the tableau of Himachal Pradesh will make a comeback on Republic Day parade in New Delhi.
  - The tableau will present the traditional art form of Himachal Pradesh – the Chamba Rumal.
  - Chamba Rumal is the finest specimen of pahari art form that flourished in Chamba town of Himachal Pradesh in the 18th century.

## February 2017

- **Liker & Leh Dosmochey festival begins**
  - The centuries old two-day long Liker and Leh Dosmochey festival started in Ladakh Region of Jammu and Kashmir
  - Dosmochey is the major monastic festival held annually in the Ladakh region during the winter season to mark the destruction of evil spirit.



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- The Liker Dosmochey is celebrated by the Liker Monastery in western Ladakh.
- **Khajuraho Dance Festival begins in MP**
  - In Madhya Pradesh, the world famous Khajuraho Dance Festival has begun.
  - Eminent Indian classical dancers will perform during the 7 day event.
  - This Dance Festival presents colourful and brilliant Indian dances in the backdrop of the famous Khajuraho temples.
  - Live performances of classical dances like Kathak, Kuchipudi, Odissi, Bharatnatyam, and Mohiniattam will be major attraction this time.
- **Maramon Convention to be held in Kerala**
  - In Kerala, the Pampa riverbed in Pathanamthitta district is all set for the century-old annual Christian religious congregation Maramon Convention beginning on Feb 12
  - The week-long event, considered as Asia's largest Christian religious retreat, is organised by the Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association, the missionary wing of the Malankara Mar Thomas Syrian Church of Malabar and Government agencies
- **International Coin fair from Feb 13**
  - More than 2500 coins from around 500 regions from different eras will be on display at the 3 day international Coin fair in Thiruvanthapuram, Kerala
  - It will also show collections of Justin Gilbert Lopez, who holds a Guinness world record for the largest coin collection.
  - The coin released by Subhash Chandra Bose during British rule ,Princess Diana tribute coins, etc. will be the major attractions.
- **Pattnaik creates Guinness World Record**
  - Sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik has created a Guinness World Record by creating a 48.8 feet tall sand castle at Puri beach in Odisha.



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- The record-breaking sculpture was built with a message of world peace, and featured sculptures of Mahatma Gandhi, Gautama Buddha and Patnaik achieved this rare feat in four days.
- **India's first riverfront global Fest**
  - A stellar line-up of Indian & international artistes will enthrall over 10000 spectators at the maiden Amaravati Global Music and Dance Festival.
  - It will be directed by globally acclaimed violin virtuoso L Subramaniam. It will be India's first music & dance festival.
- **12th century Vishnu sculptures unearthed**
  - Several ancient sculptures were unearthed from an archaeological site in Bijbehara area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district.
  - The treasure trove was found by the Department of Archives, Archaeology and Museums from Semthan village recently and included three fragmented sculptures of Lord Vishnu (without face, legs and arms) which date back to the 12th century C.E.
- **Prehistoric rock art found**
  - An important prehistoric rock art site has been spotted in the foothills of the Ambukuthi hills in Kerala.
  - The site has been discovered by independent researcher, writer & national award-winning filmmaker OK Johnny, whose efforts had earlier attracted leading historians & archaeologists to the Edakkal Caves.
  - The Stone Age carvings are rare & are the only known examples from south India.
- **Nagoba Jatara concludes**
  - The Nagoba Jatara concluded on February 1.
  - Nagoba Jatara is a tribal festival held in Keslapur village, Inderavelly Mandal Adilabad district, Telangana. It is the second biggest tribal carnival and celebrated by Mesaram clan of Gond tribes for 10 days.





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- Tribal people from Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Orissa & Madhya Pradesh belonging to the Mesram clan offer prayers at the festival.

## March 2017

- **'Namami Brahmaputra' festival**

- `Namami Brahmaputra`, the biggest ever river festival in India, was held in Assam on March 31.
- The festival had took place across 21 districts of Assam from March 31 to April 4.
- President Pranab Mukherjee had inaugurate the festival on the banks of the river, which is considered country`s only male river.

- **Inclusion of Cities in World Heritage**

- Five Indian cities have been included in the Tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, namely, Historic City of Ahmadabad, Delhi-A Heritage City, Jaipur City, Rajasthan, Ekamra Kshetra - The Temple City, Bhubaneswar and the Victorian & Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai.
- All the required information for tentative list proposals has already been submitted to UNESCO World Heritage Centre.

- **Ugadi Festival**

- Ugadi is the New Year's Day for the people of the Telugu and Kannada communities in India.
- It falls on a different day every year because the Hindu calendar is a lunisolar calendar.
- This holiday is one of the most auspicious days for Telugus and Kannadigas.
- The Saka calendar begins with the month of Chaitra (March–April) and Ugadi marks the first day of the new year.

- **Pawan Hans to launch its "Delhi Darshan"**



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- National chopper operator Pawan Hans is set to launch its "Delhi Darshan" rides from 1st April.
- At the inauguration of its first helipad in North Delhi's Rohini area, company announced the roll out of Delhi Darshan rides.
- Through this ride the visitors can experience the breathtaking beauty through aerial view of Pritampura Tower, Majnu Ka Tila, Red Fort, Rajghat, Akshardham Temple.
- **Reviving Assam's ancient ink**
  - By unravelling the science behind Assam's ancient herbal ink 'mahi', researchers are planning to recreate the lost techniques of manuscript writing.
  - The technique involves extracting 'mahi' using cow urine from a cocktail of fruit pulp and tree bark such as haritaki, amla etc -often infused with the blood of eels or catfish.
  - Rust from iron tools or nails was added for an intense black hue.
- **World heritage status for Sankaram**
  - The Buddhist Heritage sites at Salihundam (Srikakulam) and Sankaram near Anakapalle in Visakhapatnam, in addition to Lepakshi (Anantapur) and the Nagarjunakonda International Museum (Guntur) are likely to find a place in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
  - ASI, New Delhi, sought a proposal from its Hyderabad unit, for sending it to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre for tentative listing.
- **Cultural festival 'India by the Nile'**
  - In Egypt, the mega cultural festival 'India by the Nile' got off to a colourful start at the foot of the Pyramids in Cairo, showcasing joint handicraft exhibition of India and Egypt.
  - The event is a special moment as this year India celebrate 70 years of independence and also 70 years of its diplomatic relations with Egypt.





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- The Handicraft Exhibition which runs from 8-14 March.
- **Bharatnatyam dance performance at UN**
  - Classical danseuse and United Nations Goodwill Ambassador, Aishwarya R Dhanush, will give a Bharatanatyam performance at the UN on International Women's Day.
  - The invitees include those from the 190-member countries and top Indian diplomats.
  - Aishwarya, also a filmmaker, said her hour-long performance at the UN headquarters in New York was scheduled on March 8.
- **Kurukh, an endangered tribal language**
  - Kurukh, an endangered tribal language of the Dravidian family, is set to get a new lease of life in West Bengal.
  - It is spoken by the Oraon tribal community.
  - Government taking steps for the recognition of the Kurukh language of the
  - Jharkhand has recognised Kurukh as a language, and students can write their school final examination in its script.
- **UK-India Year of Culture 2017 launched**
  - The UK-India Year of Culture 2017 was launched on 27 February 2017 at Buckingham Palace to mark a year-long celebration of the strong relationship shared between the UK & India.
  - Queen Elizabeth II hosted a gala event to mark the launch.
  - Indian celebrities such as Anoushka Shankar, Gurinder Chadha & Shiamak Davar arrived.
  - There was an Indian dance performance entitled 'Ekam' in the reception

## April 2017

- **10 heritage sites to be developed**
  - The government announced 10 new iconic places which would be developed as cleanliness role models under the "Swachh Bharat Mission".



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- The decision to choose new places was taken at the second quarterly review meeting of the swachh iconic places, an initiative of the ministry of drinking water and sanitation under Swachh Bharat Mission.
- **India's first micro-drama festival held**
  - With the longest play running for not more than 10 minutes to the shortest one ending in 42 seconds, India's first ever micro-drama festival was held in New Delhi.
  - Named after Thespis of Icaria, believed to be the first actor in Greek drama (6th century BC), the day-long event 'Thespis' saw screening of 28 independent plays at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Art.
- **Tibetan medi system for Unesco honour**
  - INDIA has nominated the Tibetan medicine system of Sowa-Rigpa for inclusion on Unesco's Intangible Cultural Heritage list.
  - The dossier was submitted in late March and India's bid will be considered during Unesco's session in 2018.
  - Sowa-Rigpa, commonly known as the Amchi system of medicine, is among the oldest documented medical traditions in the world
- **Padayani Dance**
  - Padayani festival was recently celebrated in Kerala.
  - Padayani is a traditional folk dance and a ritual art from the central portion of the Indian state of Kerala. A ceremonial dance involving masks, it is an ancient ritual performed in Bhagavati temples.
  - Padayani was performed by magico-medicine men of Kerala to heal the illnesses not amenable to medical modalities of intervention.

## May 2017

- **Personal Character emoji for Tubelight.**





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- Salman Khan's upcoming film "Tubelight" has become Bollywood's first film ever to have its personal character emoji.
- The emoji appears when the users tweet with #TubelightKiEid, which is a mini caricature of Salman standing in attention and saluting with his brown shoes hanging around his neck.
- Kabir Khan is the director of Tubelight.
- **Baahubali first to gross 1000 crores**
  - 'Baahubali 2: The Conclusion' has become the first Indian movie to earn Rs 1000 crore worldwide.
  - Going by the latest figures, the film has minted Rs 800 crore at the Indian box office and Rs 200 crore at the overseas market.
  - The movie collected \$13.1 million in US and beat previous record-holder 'Dangal's \$12.4 million total haul in the territory.

**June 2017**

- **Vidya Balan becomes ambassador**
  - Vidya Balan has been named as the ambassador to the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne for the second time.
  - Festival will run from August 10 to August 22, Over 60 films from India, indie films and short films in 20 different languages will be screened.
  - Theme for this year is diversity.
  - IFFM is one of the largest Indian film festivals outside India which is supported by Victorian government.
- **European Union Film Festival kicks off**
  - 22nd European Union Film Festival kicked off in New Delhi with an aim to improve cultural ties between India and European countries.
  - The film festival will screen 22 films from 22 European countries to serve the purpose of knowing and understanding each other better.



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- Beginning in Delhi, the festival will also travel to Pune, Mumbai, Goa, Kolkata, Ranchi, Coimbatore and Puducherry.
- **Modi fest begins in Andhra Pradesh**
  - Making of Developed India (MODI), a 3 day festival has been launched in Andhra Pradesh.
  - It is being celebrated to mark the successful completion of three-year rule by NDA govt. under the leadership of PM Modi.
  - It will have Jan ki Baat voice of the people stall and a survey on Nammo App, with an exhaustive list of questions.
  - It will also have an exhibition of all schemes launched by PM Modi.

## October 2017

- **Dialogue of Civilizations IV begins**
  - 4th Dialogue of Civilizations is being jointly organized by the Archaeological Survey of India, Ministry of Culture and National Geographic in New Delhi from 8th to 15th October, 2017.
  - It will be inaugurated by the Minister of State (Independent charge) for Culture Dr. Mahesh Sharma on 8th October, 2017 (Sunday).
  - The theme of the Conference is "Technology and Civilization".

## November 2017

- **World's First 3D Sanskrit Film Anurakthi**
  - World's first Sanskrit 3D film 'Anurakthi was among the main attraction in 3D category at the International Film Festival of India in Panaji in Goa.
  - The motto of making the film is to make the Sanskrit language relevant even for today.





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- The movie directed by Asokan PK revolves around the traditional art form of Kerala, Koodiyattam.
- **Assam to celebrate ‘Lachit Divas’**
  - Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal said the Assam government would celebrate ‘Lachit Divas’ at various state capitals in India from next year.
  - ‘Lachit Divas’ is celebrated to promote the ideals of Lachit Borphukan – the legendary general of Assam’s history.
  - Sarbananda Sonowal took part in the Lachit Divas celebration at the statue of Lachit Borphukan at Brahmaputra riverfront.
- **Parab Fest takes off in Koraput, Odisha**
  - ‘Parab-2017’, the annual cultural festival of Odisha’s Koraput district, showcasing the tribal art and culture, started.
  - Parab 2017 started from the shrine of goddess Sankulai Devi of B Singhpur under Borigumma block, with a tribal dance.
  - The objective of this festival is to protect & promote the region’s rich cultural heritage.
  - A 5-day Pallishree Mela will be organised on 21 December 2017
- **Balijatra Festival Begins In Cuttack**
  - The annual ‘Balijatra’ festival was inaugurated by Health and Law Minister Pratap Jena at Gadagadia ghat in Odisha on the banks of river Mahanadi.
  - The week-long famous fair on an area of 30 acres on the river bank will continue till November 10.
  - It got the nod from east zone bench of National Green Tribunal for the second time this year.
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- **Cultural programme held at Kathmandu**
  - Indian Ambassador to Nepal Manjeev Singh Puri inaugurated cultural programme "Colours of the Northern and Southern States of India" at Kathmandu on April 12.
  - The two day event is organised by Indian Cultural Centre (ICC), Embassy of India on the occasion of Baisakhi and Nepali New Year 2074.
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  - Sowa-Rigpa, commonly known as the Amchi system of medicine, is among the oldest documented medical traditions in the world
- **Exhibition on 100 yrs of Champaran**
  - Champaran Satyagraha was a historic mass movement led by Mahatma Gandhi and its impact was phenomenal.
  - PM Modi will inaugurate an exhibition titled 'Swachhagraha - Babu Ko Karyanjali' to mark 100 years of the historic Champaran Satyagraha in New Delhi.
  - The exhibition will showcase Champaran Satyagraha and it will connect essential principles of Satyagraha with Swachhagraha.
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