



Bihar Tableau at Republic Day

Why in News?

Bihar's tableau at [the Republic Day](#) parade showcased the rich cultural heritage of the region, symbolically representing [the revered Bodhi Tree](#) and the legendary [Nalanda University](#).

- The display highlighted **Bihar's historical identity as the 'land of Buddha'** and a **center of ancient wisdom**.



Key Points

- **Bihar's Tableau:**
 - Bihar's tableau **made its presence at the 76th Republic Day Parade on Kartavya Path after a gap of eight years**.
 - The tableau was aligned with **the central theme 'Swarnim Bharat: Virasat Aur Vikas'** and stood out with the ruins of **the ancient Nalanda University** as the dominant element.
 - The tableau featured an installation of a **Lord Buddha statue in a meditative Dharmachakra Mudra**, symbolising peace and harmony. The statue's original location is at **the Ghora Katora reservoir in Rajgir**.
 - Bihar's tableau **highlighted the state's tradition of knowledge and peace**, emphasizing its historical identity as a **land of knowledge, salvation, and peace**.
- **Depictions of Historical and Cultural Landmarks:**
 - The tableau included representations of the **sacred Bodhi Tree from Bodh Gaya**, where **Lord Buddha attained enlightenment**, and the **ancient ruins of Nalanda University, established in 427 CE by Emperor Kumaragupta**.
 - The tableau emphasized Nalanda University's role as the **world's first residential university**, which was a **global hub for knowledge, attracting scholars from China, Korea, Japan, Tibet, and beyond**.

▪ **Murals and Modern Innovations:**

- Murals on the tableau's side panels depicted the **contributions of Chanakya**, who mentored **Chandragupta Maurya**, and scenes from ancient Vedic assemblies, showcasing democratic governance and judicial systems.
- Another mural **highlighted the 'Guru-Shishya' tradition and Aryabhata's contributions to mathematics.**
- An LED screen displayed the **newly constructed Nalanda International University campus**, designed with carbon-neutral and net-zero sustainability goals, reflecting modern educational progress.

GAUTAM BUDDHA

Believed to be 9th of the 10 incarnations of Lord Vishnu (Dashavatar)

BIRTH

- Born as Siddhartha (563 BC)
- Birthplace - **Lumbini** (Nepal) near **Kapilavastu**

PARENTS

- Father - elected ruler of Kapilvastu; headed **Shakya republican clan**
- Mother - princess from **Koshalan dynasty**

IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Buddha's Birth
- The Great Departure (Mahabhinishkramana)
- Enlightenment (Nirvana)
- First Sermon (Dhammachakraparivartan)
- Death (Mahaparinirvana)

Buddha referred to himself as **Tathagata** (one who has thus come/gone) and has been addressed as **Bhagavat** (in Buddhist texts)

CONTEMPORARIES

- Vardhaman Mahavira
- Bimbisara
- Ajatshatru

OTHER IMPORTANT PLACES ASSOCIATED WITH BUDDHA

- **Bodh Gaya** (Enlightenment) (named Buddha after attaining enlightenment)
- **Sarnath** (first sermon)
- **Vaishali** (last sermon)
- **Kushinagara** (death place (483 BC))

Drishti IAS

The Vision