



51st Khajuraho Dance Festival

Why in News?

The **51st Khajuraho Dance Festival** was organised in Khajuraho, Chhatarpur district of Madhya Pradesh from 20 to 26 February 2025 .

Key Points

- **About Khajuraho Dance Festival:**
 - It was organised by **the Culture Department and Tourism Department of Madhya Pradesh.**
 - The festival was held against the backdrop of **the historic temples of Khajuraho , which are on [the UNESCO World Heritage List](#).**
- **Initiation:**
 - Khajuraho Dance Festival was **started in 1975** and since then it is being organised by **Ustad Alauddin Khan Music and Arts Academy** under the Culture Department of Madhya Pradesh Government.
- **Objective of the celebration :**
 - Various Indian classical dance forms like **[Bharatnatyam](#), [Kathak](#), [Odissi](#), [Kuchipudi](#), [Manipuri](#), [Mohiniyattam](#), [Kathakali](#), Yakshagana**, etc. are showcased through this festival.
 - Along with traditional dance, **new experiments in dance and rich forms of choreography are encouraged.**
 - Through this festival, the **historical and cultural heritage of Khajuraho is promoted** at the global level.
 - The festival **provides a platform to various artisans and handicraft artists** to showcase their art and crafts.
- **Major activities of the festival :**
 - **Classical Dance Marathon (Relay)**
 - 139 artists created a **[Guinness World Record](#)** by performing classical dance for 24 hours 9 minutes 26 seconds.
 - **Grand classical dance performances :**
 - Dance forms like Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, Mohiniyattam, Kathakali, Yakshagana etc. were performed.
 - **Hunar Mela - Handicrafts and Art Exhibition :**
 - An **exhibition of traditional handicrafts, paintings, jewellery and artefacts** of Madhya Pradesh was organised.
 - **Live Exhibition :**
 - **Exhibition of terracotta art, Bundeli paintings, bead jewellery** and other local arts.

Khajuraho Temple

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▪ **Introduction:**

- Built by the Chandela dynasty in the 10th and 11th centuries, these temple groups present a unique example of architecture and sculpture .
- The number of temples built in Nagar style has now reduced to only 20, among which the temple of Kandariya Mahadev is especially famous.
- The temples here belong to two religions – Jain and Hindu .

▪ **World Heritage Site :**

- It was included in the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the year 1986 .

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