

JANUARY 30-31 & FEBRUARY 1, 2026
TAJ GANGES, VARANASI

Supported by



@BanarasLitFest



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Theme for BLF 2026



BANARAS -FROM SIGHT TO INSIGHT

YOUTH SHAPING NATION IN AN AI POWERED WORLD

This city is not merely a place to see - it is a space to experience. What begins as a view transforms slowly into a worldview. Here, the silence of the lanes, the chime of temple bells, the rhythm of the river - all whisper to your soul.

Time in Banaras doesn't rush - it flows deep, allowing thought to mature and feeling to rise. Banaras holds within it the silence of Buddha, the fire of Kabir, the equality of Raidas, and the devotion of Tulsidas.

Banaras Lit Fest, an initiative of Nav Bharat Nirman Samiti, is a cultural pilgrimage that preserves the spirit of this sacred city through words, music, and expression. It is not just a literary event - it is a celebration of consciousness, born from the soul of Banaras and extended to the heart of India. This festival leads us from mere looking to true understanding - from sight to insight.

Banaras: Where every view becomes a vision!



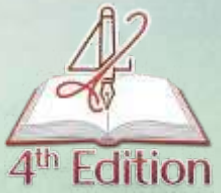
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OBJECTIVE OF BANARAS LIT FEST



- Engage with national literary traditions and foster mutual learning
- Create a platform for emerging literary genres
- Inspire and train young authors
- Encourage dialogue with policymakers, activists, & artists Highlight the rich legacy of Indian languages and cultural heritage
- Promote interaction among local, national, and foreign languages and cultures



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TAJ
GANGES
VARANASI

Like the city it stands in, Taj Ganges welcomes you with grace, warmth, and quiet grandeur. Its peaceful ambience and cultural spirit make it an ideal backdrop for stories, art, music, and meaningful creative connections.



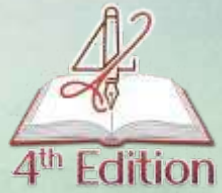
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OUR FESTIVAL UNFOLDS ACROSS SIX UNIQUELY DESIGNED STAGES, EACH DEDICATED TO A DISTINCT CREATIVE EXPERIENCE.

Gyan Ganga Stage

The knowledge hub of BLF - hosting panel discussions, debates, and literary dialogues.

Sur Pravah Stage

A musical journey where classical, folk, and contemporary artists create unforgettable soundscapes.

Sarswat Manch

The poetic heart of the festival - for recitations, ghazals, and spoken word.

The Kashi Stage

Home to author talks, book launches, and storytelling sessions rooted in culture and creativity.

Triveni Stage (Art, Photography & Environment)

A creative arena dedicated to art exhibitions, live painting, and visual storytelling.

Shakti Se Saundarya Tak (Pink Booth)

A youth-centric performance space celebrating courage, expression, and individuality.



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Highlights

- **200+ Speakers**, poets, artists, and performers
- **45+ Panel** discussions, debates and conversations
- **50+ International** and National Award winners
- Representation of over **10 languages**
- Launch of more than **100 books**
- Participation of more than **150 organisations**
- Book Fair through National & International Publishing Houses
- Book Awards in **11 Categories**
- Art Festival and Open Mic
- **Over 1 million** audiences offline and online

Cultural / Musical



Star Personalities



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WHAT TO EXPECT AT BLF?



Art Exhibition



Book Fair



Book Launch



Open Mic



Poetry Recital



Musical Performances



Fashion Show



Dance Performances



panel Discussions



Awards Ceremony



Storytelling Sessions



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OPEN MIC & PINK BOOTH

A vibrant space for young performers to express themselves through stand-up, poetry, storytelling, or music. This stage celebrates bold voices and fearless creativity. Step up, speak out, and own the spotlight.



ART CAMP & EXHIBITION

A curated showcase of paintings, photographs, and visual artworks inspired by Banaras, culture, and contemporary expression. Experience creativity that blends tradition with modern imagination.



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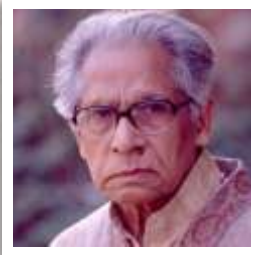


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PANEL DISCUSSION

Interactive sessions with authors, thinkers, creators, and industry experts. These discussions open fresh perspectives on literature, culture, society, and the changing creative landscape.



MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

A fusion of classical, folk, indie, and modern music presented by rising and renowned musicians. Feel the rhythm of Kashi as music flows through every corner of the fest.



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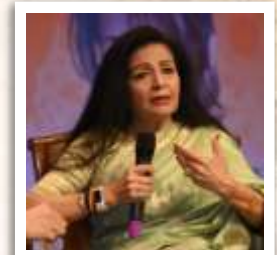
POETRY SESSIONS & KAVYA MANCH

A dedicated space for poets to share verses that resonate with youth and reflect modern emotions. From ghazals to free verse - discover voices that speak to the soul.



BOOK READINGS & AUTHOR CONVERSATIONS

Engaging conversations with celebrated authors and storytellers. Dive into their journeys, inspirations, and the stories behind their stories.



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BLF BOOK AWARDS

Honouring outstanding literary works across ten categories. A prestigious recognition celebrating creativity, originality, and impactful writing.



GOMATI DEVI EMINENCE AWARDS

A tribute to extraordinary contributors across seven cultural and creative fields. These awards celebrate excellence, leadership, and cultural impact.



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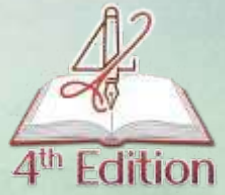


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NAV BHARAT SARJAK SAMMAN

A spotlight on exceptional emerging talent. This award recognizes young creators who have shown extraordinary promise in their field.



HUNAR KE SARTAJ AWARD

A spotlight on exceptional emerging talent. This award recognizes young creators who have shown extraordinary promise in their field.



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FASHION SHOW



DANCE PERFORMANCES



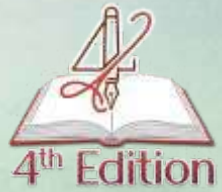
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BLF AT A GLANCE

Celebrating Literature in Varanasi



200+ Speakers
& artists



45+ Panel
discussions



50+ Award
winners



150+ Associated
organisations



100+ Book
launches



10+ Languages
representation



1M+ Audience
(online + offline)



30+ Institutions



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Famous Personalities BLF 2026



THE SPOTLIGHT LINEUP



Padma Vibhushan Anupam Kher
Iconic actor and global inspirational voice admired across generations.



Padma Shri Niranjan Goswami
Renowned artist-musician celebrated for his soulful contributions to Indian arts.



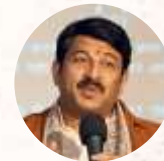
Pullela Gopichand
India's foremost badminton coach and mentor to world champions.



Piyush Mishra's Band +12
A powerhouse musical group blending poetry, performance, and electrifying sound.



Malini Awasthi
Queen of folk music whose powerful voice celebrates India's cultural roots.



Manoj Tiwari
Popular performer and cultural figure with a strong connection to folk art.



Dr. Prashanna (Basuri)
Master flutist known for soulful performances that blend tradition and innovation.



Himanshu Bajpei
Celebrated Dastango known for his captivating storytelling rooted in tradition.



Pratham Mittal
Innovator and entrepreneur actively shaping the future of education and tech.



Dr. Suborno Bose
Entrepreneur and leader in hospitality education with a global influence.



Suborno Isaac Bari
Young mathematics prodigy inspiring youth with his extraordinary talent.



Sophia Patthai
A rising musical talent known for her unique voice and modern appeal.



Vivek Agarwal
Currently serving as the Country Director for India at the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change.



Amit Tandon
A Stand-up Artist from India, trying to tell stories & make observations. Love to perform live shows across the globe.



Sundeep Sharma
A Stand-up comedian, a voice-over artist & an actor from the Bollywood movie LUDO.



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Famous Personalities BLF 2026



HINDI AUTHORS



Ashok Vajpeyi

A leading Hindi poet and critic whose deep, reflective writing has shaped contemporary literature.



Anamika

Award-winning poet and novelist whose feminist voice is powerful, lyrical, and progressive.



Udayan Vajpeyi

Poet, thinker, and translator known for his philosophical depth and artistic sensitivity.



Mamta Kalia

One of Hindi literature's strongest voices, known for bold themes and relatable storytelling.



Gagan Gill

Celebrated for her introspective and emotionally rich poetry that resonates across generations.



Neeraja Madhav (VNS)

An award-winning author known for her socially committed literary works.



Arun Kamal

A distinguished poet known for blending social consciousness with creative expression.



Badri Narayan

Historian, poet, and cultural commentator known for insightful reflections on society.



Urmila Shirish

Noted writer whose stories explore complex emotions with subtlety and strength.



Purushottam Aggarwal

He is an Indian writer and former member of the Union Public Service Commission board. Purushottam Aggarwal's literary contributions span a wide range of topics, including Bhakti poetry, indigenous modernity, non-violence.



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Famous Personalities BLF 2026



POETS



**Padma Shri Sheen
Kaaf Nizam**



Rajesh Reddy



Vishnu Saxena



Madan Mohan Danish



Iqbal Ashhar



Nilotpall Mrinal



Ankita Singh



Shlesh Gautam



Dr. Ruchi Chaturvedi



Renu Hussain



Aslam Hasan



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Famous Personalities BLF 2026



ENGLISH AUTHORS



Damodar Mauzo

Sahitya Akademi-winning writer known for powerful short stories with universal appeal.



Pavan K. Verma

Acclaimed diplomat and writer exploring Indian culture, identity, and society.



Radhika Iyenger

Author known for emotionally rich, compelling narratives.



Ranjit Hoskote

Poet, cultural theorist, and curator with a distinctive global voice.



Bhavika Govil

A fresh, dynamic author known for her youthful perspective and engaging storytelling.



Ashwin Sanghi

One of India's bestselling authors blending mythology, history, and thrillers.



Abhay K. Naland

Poet-diplomat known for global literary collaborations and lyrical verse.



Namita Devidayal

Bestselling author exploring music, culture, and human stories with depth.



Srinivasan Ramani

Senior journalist and editor known for insightful political and economic analysis.



Shashi Tharoor

He is an Indian politician, public intellectual, former diplomat and bureaucrat.



Subroto Bagchi

He is an Indian entrepreneur who is the co-founder of Mindtree, an Indian technology MNC.



Ravi Venkatesan

He is an Indian business executive and venture capitalist who has been the chairman of Microsoft India.



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Famous Personalities BLF 2026



AUTHORS OF DIFFERENT LANGUAGES



HH Yaduveer Wadiyar

Cultural ambassador of the Mysore royal family, blending history with modern leadership.



Padma Shri Sheen Kaaf Nizam

A legendary Urdu poet celebrated for his soulful ghazals and timeless literary mastery.



Rumi Laskar Bora

Poet whose expressive and modern approach appeals deeply to young readers.



Uday Prakash

He is a highly influential Hindi poet, short story writer, scholar, journalist, and filmmaker.



Dr. Kamal Mohan Chunnu - Maithili

He is an Indian author, poet, critic, dramatist, translator and editor.



Mahadev Tappo - Santhali

He is an eminent Adivasi writer, poet, and actor primarily known for his works in Hindi and his mother tongue, Kurukh.



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ORGANISING COMMITTEE



Our Patrons



Advisory Board



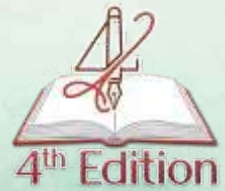
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WHY PARTNER WITH BLF 2026?

Banaras Lit Fest (BLF) is the India's very first, remarkably 'Soulful' and truly 'Community-driven' Festival!

- You will own India's Cultural Capital Advantage
- You will fetch Unmatched Visibility With High ROI
- You will get an Immersive & Experiential Brand Storytelling
- We ensure Regional Depth with National Media Reach
- You can have Customisable, Personalized, High-Impact Brand Activations
- We assure you Powerful Community Drive with proper CSR Alignment
- BLF is an Elite Thought-Leadership Showcase Platform
- You will get an Early-Mover Advantage, Sustainable Legacy & Long-Term Goodwill



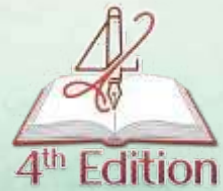
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BLF 2026 PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Title Partner
- Co Powering Partner
- Presenting Partner
- Associate Partner
- Knowledge Partner
- Youth Engagement Partner
- Cultural Collaborator
- Hospitality Partner
- Media and Broadcast Partner
- Digital and Social Partner
- Sustainability Partner
- Session and Stage Sponsorship
- Workshop and Experience Zone Sponsorship
- Branding at key festival touchpoints
- Custom partnership packages aligned to brand objectives



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BLF 2026 AUDIENCE PROFILE

**Urban, educated,
culturally engaged
audience**

**Strong
participation from
youth, families and
professionals**

**High interest in
literature, arts,
cinema, music,
history and
contemporary
issues**

**Attendance from
Varanasi, Eastern
UP and major
metros**

**Significant school
and college
participation**

**High social media
activity and
content sharing**

**Attracts authors,
artists, performers,
entrepreneurs and
thought leaders**



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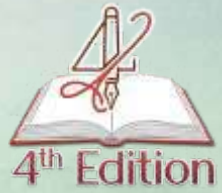


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Sponsors





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Hospitality Partner



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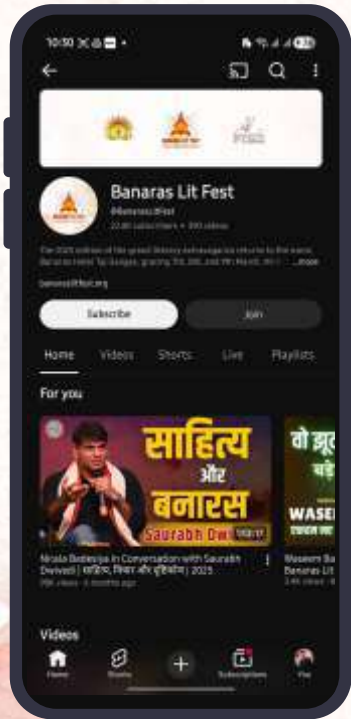
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OUR DIGITAL PRESENCE



Youtube
22,800+ Subscribers



Facebook
14,000+ Followers



Twitter
44+ Followers



LinkedIn
114+ Followers



Instagram
29,000+ Followers



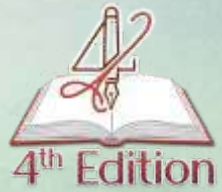
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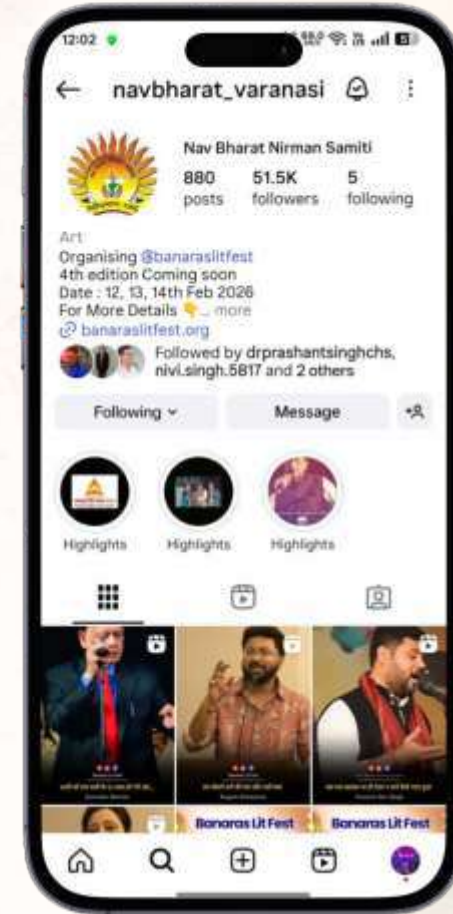
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Youtube
11,900+ Subscribers



Facebook
42,000+ Followers



Instagram
51,500+ Followers



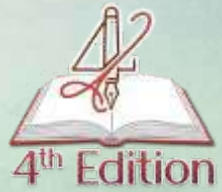
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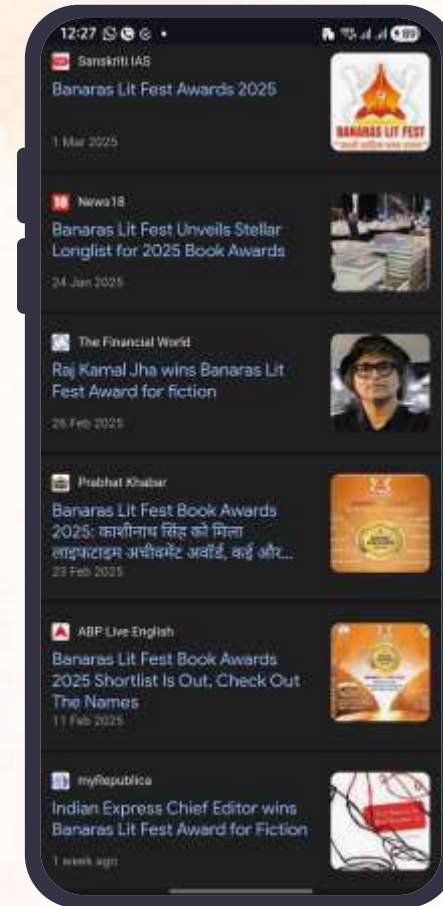
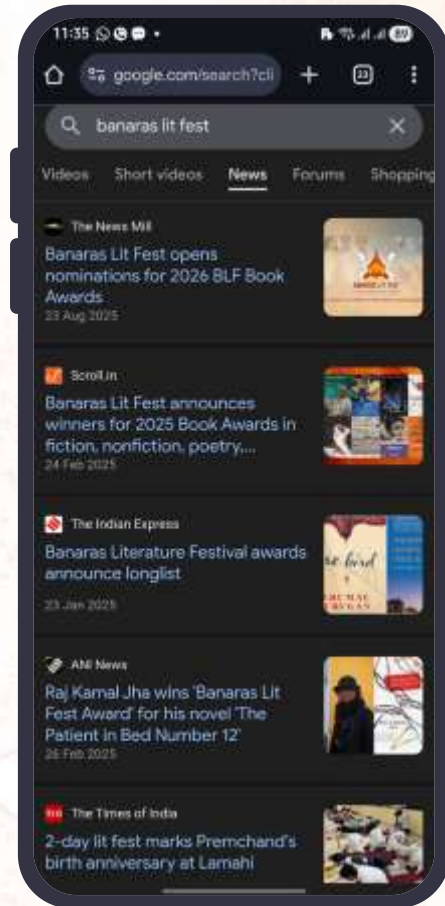
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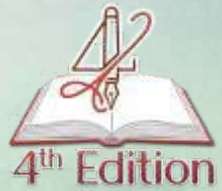
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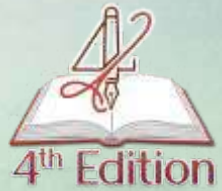


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MEDIA COVERAGES





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Support | Collaborate | Partner



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