The Blue Moon

.....because your critic is your best friend

Vol.16 No. 166

15 Dec - 14 January 2025

2024 Reflections

Artists and Cultural Icons as

Rs.26/-



H.E. Mr Evagoras Vryonides High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus presenting his credentials to President Draupadi Murmu of India



H. E. Mr. Melaku Alebel Minister of Industry of Ethiopia



H.E. Mr. Viswas Vidu Sapkal Ambassador of India to Peru



H.E. Ms. Dillah Lucienne Chad Ambassador to India

Dr. Alena Remizova

H.E. Mr. Javier Paulinich Ambassador of Peru to India

2025



•HAPPY•NEW•YEAR•

Abhay Kumar



Mrs Anita Gopaul



Mr. Juan Carlos Paz Cárdenas

His Eminence **Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche**

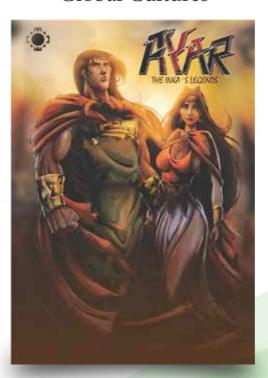


Discover our exclusive collection of books

from Country-Focused insights to Diplomatic Relations, Cuisine, Culture, Poems and our latest release,

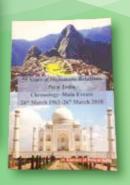
Ayar: The Inka Legend Vol 1"

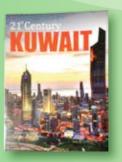
our Publication Celebrates the Rich Tapestry of Global Cultures















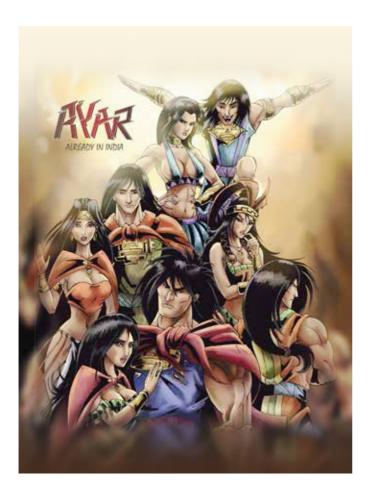
INDEX

Suave

A Year of Diplomacy
Reflections from 2024 Ambassadors and Key Figures

Culture

- Groundbreaking Launch of
 "AYAR, THE INKA'S LEGEND"
 Comic Book / Graphic Novel Series in New Delhi
- 17 Celebrating Heritage Foundation Day and 'Heritage Unlocked' at National Museum
- $10 \begin{array}{c} \text{TOFTigers Calls for India's Leadership in} \\ \text{Re-Wilding and Conservation through Nature Tourism} \\ \text{A Constructive Critique} \end{array}$
- 14 Reflecting on SIAL India 2024 Innovations, Gaps, and Future Prospects
- $16 \begin{array}{l} {\rm Highlights\ from\ 2024\ Delhi\ Comic\ Con} \\ {\rm Unleashing\ the\ Power\ of\ Imagination} \end{array}$



In Memory of Mr. Amit Mittal Co Founder, Visionary & Editor

Published & Printed by

The Blue Moon, Art Ppass Publisher (A Unit of JJ enterprises) Continuing the Legacy of Mr. Amit Mittal

Chief Editor

Jjuliaa Gangwani

Advisors

Ambassador Jorge Castaneda Former Ambassador of Peru to India

Kamal Sanghvi Rotary International Director (2019-21)

Reporter

Himali Chopra

Head of Sales & MarketingHina Khan

Graphic Designer Arjun Mehta

Head of SubscriptionsGagan Sharma

Advertising

for advertising rates and Editorial Content eh.bluemoon@gmail.com

Subscriptions

for annual subscriptions admin@thebluemoon2008.com

Feedback

admin@thebluemoon2008.com

All rights reserved.Reproduction of material from the magazine partially or wholly without the written consent of the Publisher is infringement of Copyright Act and attracts legal proceedings as per law.

Tel.No: +91- 9873633960 E-mail : admin@thebluemoon2008.com

- 🧐 #jjthebluemoon 🚹 #jjthebluemoon
 - www.thebluemoon2008.com
 - @TheBlueMoonmagazine

Embracing New Horizons with Reverence and Resolve

As I sit to pen this editorial, my heart is heavy yet resilient. This issue marks a bittersweet milestone in The Blue Moon's journey—the first edition under my stewardship as Chief Editor, following the loss of our beloved co-founder and editor, Mr. Amit Mittal.

Mr Mittal was not only my co-founder but my companion in thought, vision and passion for this magazine. His creativity, leadership and unwavering commitment to showcasing diverse dialogues and cultural narratives shaped The Blue Moon into the platform it is today. His presence will forever resonate within these pages, serving as a guiding light for all of us.

2024 has been a year of transformation and reflection for all of us. At The Blue Moon, we have not only embraced change but have also drawn inspiration from it. As we turn the page, our commitment to showcasing diverse stories and fostering meaningful conversations remains unwavering.

This issue is a celebration of creativity, cultural exchange and the indomitable spirit of progress—a vision that aligns seamlessly with what The Blue Moon stands for.

To our readers, I extend my deepest gratitude for your ongoing support and trust. It is your engagement and enthusiasm that keeps us inspired to push boundaries and present stories that matter. As we bid farewell to 2024, a year of reflection and transformation, we carry forward The Blue Moon's mission with renewed vigor—celebrating creativity, fostering meaningful conversations and illuminating untold stories.

Let us close this year in thoughtful reflection and begin the new one with energy, purpose and hope. May the pages of this edition bring light, wisdom and inspiration into your lives.

With humility and purpose

A Year of Diplomacy Reflections from 2024 Ambassadors and Key Figures

Exploring the Milestones and Challenges in Global Relations



H. E. Mr. Melaku Alebel Minister of Industry of Ethiopia

We bring you an exclusive interview with a visionary leader, H. E. Mr. Melaku Alebel, Minister of Industry of Ethiopia visited India recently. We delve into Ethiopia's industrial transformation, the role of Indian investments, and the challenges faced. Stay tuned for this enlightening journey

H.E. Mr Evagoras Vryonides
High Commissioner of the Republic of
Cyprus presenting his credentials to
President Draupadi Murmu of India

In an exclusive conversation with the High Commissioner H.E. Mr. Evagoras Vryonides of Cyprus to India, we delve into the dynamic and evolving relationship between Cyprus and India. This dialogue, titled 'Cyprus-India: Unfolding Synergies', explores the mutual growth and opportunities that have emerged from this bilateral relationship. As we navigate through this enlightening discussion, we uncover the shared history, cultural exchanges, economic collaborations, and future prospects that bind these two nations together.





H.E. Ms. Dillah Lucienne Chad Ambassador to India

The Blue Moon had the chance to interview the influential Ambassador Lucienne about women in diplomacy. She has actively participated in high-level meetings and international forums, making significant contributions to important conferences and advocating for good governance. Additionally, she has been involved in training programs, cultural exchange initiatives, and facilitating bilateral cooperation, as well as engaging in global collaborations.

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu accepted credentials from the Ambassadors of Ethiopia, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Romania and the High Commissioner of Grenada at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (November 25, 2024). Those who presented their credentials were:



H.E. Mr Fesseha Shawel Gebre Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



H.E. Mr Lee Seong HoAmbassador of the Republic of Korea



H.E. Mr Ono KeiichiAmbassador of Japan



H.E. Ms Sena Latif Ambassador of Romania

H.E. Mr Pasupuleti Gita Kishore Kumar High Commissioner of Grenada

ENVOYS OF SIX NATIONS PRESENT CREDENTIALS TO THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu accepted credentials from the Ambassadors/ High Commissioners of Switzerland, Jordan, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Myanmar and Egypt at a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (November 18, 2024). Those who presented their credentials were:



H.E. Mrs Maya Tissafi Ambassador of Switzerland



H.E. Mr Vincent Sumale High Commissioner of Papua New Guinea



H.E. Mr Zaw Oo Ambassador of the Republic of Union of Myanmar



H.E. Mr Yousef Mustafa Ali Abdel Ghani Ambassador of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



H.E. Prof Anil Sooklal High Commissioner of the Republic of South Africa



H.E. Mr Kamel Zayed Kamel Galal Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Groundbreaking Launch of "AYAR, THE INKA'S LEGEND" Comic Book / Graphic Novel Series in New Delhi

by the Correspondent

New Delhi, India – November 27th, 2024 – In a landmark event at the National Museum of India, Art Pass Publisher, a division of JJ Enterprises, launched the much-anticipated Peruvian cultural comic book / Grapgic Novel series "AYAR, THE INKA'S LEGEND." The event, organized in collaboration with the National Museum of India, the Embassy of Peru, The Blue Moon and Estudios TAWA, received an enthusiastic response from over



(L-R) H.E. Mr. Juan Angulo, Ambassador of Chile to India; H.E. Mr. Fleming Duarte, Ambassador of Paraguay to India, Ambassador Jorge Castaneda, Former Ambassador of Peru to India, Dr. B.R. Mani, Director General, National Museum of New Delhi, H.E. Mr. Guillermo Rubio Funes, Ambassador of the Republic of El Salvador, Mr Jimmy, 2nd Secretary, Embassy of Peru to India, Prof. Shyama Prasad Ganguly, Ms Juliaa Gangwani, Co-Founder of JJ Enterprises and Publisher of Art Pass.

120 attendees, including diplomats, scholars, distributors, children and comic and Graphic Novel enthusiasts.

Exploring the Inka Civilization

The Inka civilization, one of the most sophisticated and powerful pre-Columbian empires, flourished in the Andes region of South America. Known for their impressive architectural feats, advanced agricultural techniques and rich mythology, the Inkas left a lasting legacy that continues to captivate historians and cultural enthusiasts. "AYAR, THE INKA'S LEGEND" brings this fascinating world to life through the lens of graphic storytelling.







TOFTigers Calls for India's Leadership in Re-Wilding and Conservation through Nature Tourism A Constructive Critique

by the Correspondent



New Delhi - As the world grapples with an unprecedented loss of wilderness, TOFTigers (Travel Operators For Tigers India Wildlife Association) marks its 20th anniversary with a bold vision: to transform India into a global leader in re-wilding and conservation through responsible nature tourism.

Since its inception, TOFTigers has fervently championed the role of responsible tourism in wildlife restoration, emphasizing the importance of ecosystem protection. An estimated tenth of Earth's wilderness has been lost in the last quarter-century, making their mission more urgent than ever.

Well-managed nature tourism presents a powerful dual solution, providing essential ecosystem services like clean air, water, flood prevention and soil fertility, while yielding significant economic benefits. This holistic approach underscores the imperative of integrating sustainable tourism



practices into national conservation strategies.

TOFTigers' PUG (Practices Under Guidelines) certification has set stringent sustainability benchmarks for eco-friendly tourism operators. While promising, the consistent implementation and rigorous monitoring of these standards are vital for achieving long-term impact.

In recognition of exemplary dedication to conservation, TOFTigers recently held its 7th Wildlife Tourism Awards at Bikaner House, Delhi, honoring individuals and organizations that have shown unwavering commitment to sustainable tourism. These accolades foster a united community of conservation-minded stakeholders.

Vishal Singh, Co-founder & Director of TOFTigers, envisions a future where nature

Continued on page 20



Continued from page 5



Ambassador Gonzalo GutiérrezSecretary General of the Andean Community

Ambassador Gonzalo Gutiérrez: A Trailblazer in Diplomacy. In an exclusive interview, Ambassador Gonzalo Gutiérrez, Secretary General of the Andean Community, reveals insights into their strategic agenda. With extensive experience as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for Peru, he now champions collaboration, bridging continents and shaping a brighter future. Key areas of focus include institutional capacity, digital initiatives, environmental priorities, and security coordination.

Dr. Alena Remizova Head of the Representation and Director of the Russian House in New Delhi

In an exclusive interview with The Blue Moon magazine, Dr. Alena Remizova, Head of the Representation and Director of the Russian House in New Delhi, shares her insights and experiences in promoting cultural diplomacy between India and Russia. Born in St. Petersburg, the cultural capital of Russia, Dr. Remizova has a deep-rooted connection with Indian culture that began in her childhood. With a rich background in cultural exchange and a passion for fostering international relations, she discusses her plans to enhance cultural collaboration, empower women and engage the youth in both countries. Join us as we delve into her journey, challenges and vision for the future of India-Russia cultural ties.



Mrs Anita GopaulSpouse of the High Commissioner of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to India

Art has the unique power to transcend borders, and this is beautifully exemplified by Anita Gopaul, the spouse of the High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago. The Blue Moon had the privilege of speaking with Mrs. Gopaul for our special edition of Women in Diplomacy and Business, in the section "ART INSIDE." Born and raised in Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies, Anita Gopaul is an emerging artist who has been working with both acrylics and oil since 2017. As she travels with her husband, she expresses her views and experiences through her art, capturing the beauty of her homeland and beyond on canvas with a striking sense of realism. A self-taught artist, she is passionate about educating and inspiring others through her work. In addition to her artistic pursuits, Ms. Gopaul is a published author of four books, a skilled pianist, and a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA).





Reflecting on SIAL India 2024 Innovations, Gaps, and Future Prospects

The recent SIAL India exhibition held in Delhi aimed to position itself as a prominent player in the food and beverage trade shows. While the effort deserves commendation, there were several areas where the event fell short, along with noteworthy achievements that provide a foundation for future improvement.



Attendance and Participation: A Missed Opportunity

One of the most glaring issues was the sparse number of stalls and a noticeably thin audience. The event did not manage to draw in the crowd or the volume of exhibitors one would expect from an international food exhibition. Several companies and countries that attended in 2023 were conspicuously absent this year. This dip in participation might be reflective of underlying challenges that need to be addressed, such as better marketing and outreach strategies to boost both exhibitor and visitor numbers.

Fresh Faces and Products: A Silver Lining

Despite these setbacks, the exhibition did bring new

countries and products into the spotlight. This infusion of fresh perspectives and innovative food products indicates a promising potential for the event to grow. Leveraging these new entries can help SIAL India differentiate itself from other international food exhibitions, by showcasing unique and novel products that aren't available elsewhere.

Comparison with Other Exhibitions: Room for Growth

India hosts relatively few food exhibitions compared to the international scene, but the ones that do exist—such as government-backed events—often succeed in drawing large crowds and diverse exhibitors. SIAL India can take inspiration from these successful events by incorporating similar strategies such as strategic partnerships, comprehensive promotional campaigns, and enhanced engagement with industry stakeholders.

Recommendations for Future Success

To ensure the success of future

editions of SIAL India, several steps could be implemented:

by the Correspondent

Enhanced Marketing Campaigns: Implementing robust marketing and outreach efforts to attract both exhibitors and visitors.

Strategic Partnerships: Forming alliances with key industry players, trade associations, and government bodies to enhance credibility and draw a larger audience.

Diverse Exhibitor Base: Proactively seeking participation from a wider range of countries and companies to ensure a diverse and comprehensive showcase.

Feedback Mechanism: Establishing a structured feedback mechanism to gather insights from participants, which can be used to make targeted improvements for future events.

In conclusion, while SIAL India has taken a step in the right direction, addressing these areas of improvement can help it to evolve into a premier event on the global food exhibition calendar.



H.E. Mr. Javier Paulinich Ambassador of Peru to India

As the Ambassador of Peru to India, H.E. Mr. Javier Paulinich is serving his second term, marking a unique milestone in diplomatic relations. Under his leadership, the bilateral ties between Peru and India have grown substantially. In this exclusive interview, Ambassador Paulinich shares his insights, achievements and future visions for enhancing the partnership between the two nations.





H.E. Mr. Viswas Vidu Sapkal Ambassador of India to Peru

In an exclusive interview with Blue Moon Magazine, His Excellency, Mr. Viswas Vidu Sapkal, Ambassador of India to Peru, shares his insights on the evolving relationship between India and Peru. As he completes nearly a year in Peru, Ambassador Sapkal discusses the notable achievements, ongoing initiatives and prospects that are shaping the bilateral ties between these two vibrant nations.

H.E. Mr. Alberto A. Guani Ambassador of Uruguay to India & GRULAC Coordinator in India

Join us as we delve into a captivating conversation with the Ambassador of Uruguay, exploring the vibrant cultural exchanges, the influence of the Indian community in Uruguay, and the exciting plans to strengthen ties between India and Latin America. From trade and diplomacy to renewable energy and cultural exchange, this interview offers a unique glimpse into the dynamic relationship between these two diverse nations.



Highlights from 2024 Delhi Comic Con Unleashing the Power of Imagination

by the Correspondent

The 2024 Delhi Comic Con concluded with an explosion of creativity, enthusiasm and unforgettable experiences. As always, this annual celebration of pop culture brought together fans, creators and industry experts from around the globe. Here's a professional roundup of the event's most exciting moments.

This year's panels were a standout feature, offering attendees a unique opportunity to hear from some of the industry's leading voices. Insightful discussions covered a range of topics, from upcoming projects to behind-the-scenes glimpses into the creative process. These panels not only provided valuable knowledge but also set the stage for the future of comics, films, and games.

The vibrancy of the cosplay community was on full display at the 2024 Delhi Comic Con. Enthusiasts showcased their dedication and craftsmanship, transforming

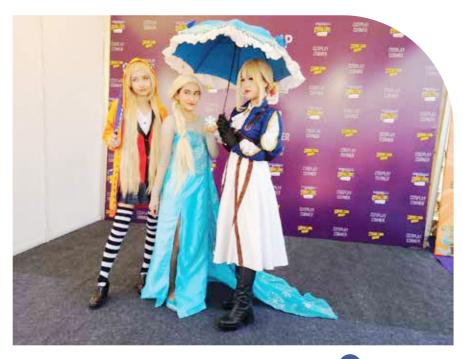


into beloved characters with impressive accuracy and flair. The array of costumes was a testament to the fans' passion and the ever-evolving art of cosplay.

Gamers were in for a treat at the PlayStation booth, where the latest releases and demos took center stage. Attendees had the chance to immerse themselves in cutting-edge games, experiencing the thrills of new adventures and beloved franchises. This area of the convention was a haven for both casual players and hardcore enthusiasts.

The exhibitors' stalls buzzed with activity, offering a plethora of rare collectibles and the newest merchandise. From limited-edition comics to exclusive figurines, there was something for every fan to discover. The dynamic atmosphere and diverse offerings made the exhibitors' area a highlight of the convention.

The 2024 Delhi Comic Con was a resounding success, celebrating the richness and diversity of pop culture. From engaging panels to stunning cosplays and from interactive gaming experiences to a bustling marketplace, this year's event truly unleashed the power of imagination.



Celebrating Heritage Foundation Day and 'Heritage Unlocked' at National Museum

by the Correspondent

he National Museum proudly celebrates its 64th Foundation Day with the launch of a groundbreaking exhibition titled "Heritage Unlocked: An Interactive and Educational Experience." This pioneering initiative, inaugurated by Joint Secretary of Museums, Shri Sanjay Kaul, alongside Prof. B.R. Mani, Director General of the National Museum and Shri Ashish Goyal, Additional Director General of the National Museum, aims to engage school students in discovering and preserving India's rich heritage.

In his speech, Prof. B.R. Mani reflected on the museum's storied history, tracing its origins to the Maurice Gwyer

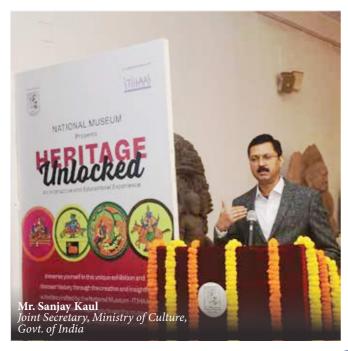


Committee's vision in 1946 and the inaugural Indian art exhibition in London in 1947-48. He emphasized the museum's role as a custodian of India's cultural legacy and a space for scholarly inquiry and artistic appreciation.

Prof. Mani elaborated on the

significance of the "Heritage Unlocked" exhibition, noting that it is the first of its kind in a traditional museum setting where the contributions of school interns play a central role. This unique initiative encourages students to observe, connect and interpret the cultural narratives that have shaped our nation, fostering a new generation of heritage custodians.

"The museum has steadfastly fulfilled its role as one of the foremost custodians of India's cultural heritage," said Prof. Mani. "By involving school students in the creation of this exhibition, we are not only celebrating our collection but also empowering young minds to become active participants in



preserving our heritage."

The exhibition, segmented into eight distinct sections, offers hands-on activities designed by NM-ITIHAAS interns and the museum's Education Department. Visitors can engage in creative learning modules focusing on the Harappan Civilization, Archaeology and Excavation, Decorative Arts, Gandhara Art, Miniature Paintings and the indigenous art and lifestyle of North-East India. Activities include excavation simulations, replica-making sessions, audio guides and interactive explorations of various art forms.

"Children and adults alike can partake in excavation activities, replica-making sessions, listen to audio guides developed by interns and

Continued on page 22







Continued from page 10

tourism galvanizes support for wildlife conservation and rural communities. "India has the perfect opportunity to lead by example, showcasing how responsible tourism can protect natural landscapes and benefit local economies," he asserts.

Collaboration is at the heart of TOFTigers' mission, evidenced by partnerships with state tourism boards like those of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. These efforts aim to harmonize conservation with community and private sector engagement, setting new standards for innovative, sustainable tourism practices.

However, challenges remain. Ensuring the consistent enforcement of PUG guidelines, bridging gaps in community engagement and monitoring the environmental impacts of tourism activities are critical areas that demand attention. Additionally, educating and raising awareness among tourists about sustainable practices is crucial for long-term success.

TOFTigers' unwavering commitment to a future where wildlife thrives is pivotal. Focused on destination management and empowering local communities through skill development and employment

opportunities, the organization ensures tourism benefits both the environment and the people who live in it.

As TOFTigers continues to set high standards, foster collaboration and seek continuous improvement, it stands poised to drive a new era of re-wilding and conservation, leaving a lasting legacy for generations to come.





Mr. Juan Carlos Paz CárdenasPresident of the Board of the National Port Authority (APN)

Peru is on the brink of a major transformation, poised to become the port hub of the South American Pacific coast. With the expansion of the northern dock of the Port of Callao and the imminent inauguration of the Port of Chancay, Peru is set to play a pivotal role in regional and international trade. In an exclusive interview, Juan Carlos Paz Cárdenas, President of the Board of the National Port Authority, shares insights into the strategic developments that are positioning Peru as a key player in the global shipping industry.

Abhay K

From Moscow to Madagascar, explore the intersection of diplomacy and creativity through the work of poet and artist Abhay K. highlighting his contributions and insights as he connects different worlds and crafts narratives that resonate globally.





His Eminence Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche

As part of our special edition, "Tibet: A Journey of Resilience and Hope," we are honored to present an exclusive interview with His Eminence Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche, a distinguished spiritual leader and guardian of Tibetan culture. This interview delves deep into the historical and contemporary challenges faced by Tibet, highlighting the indomitable spirit and resilience of its people.

Continued from page 17









explore the art of Gandhara and Mathura," Prof. Mani highlighted. "This exhibition is a trailblazer, representing the collaborative efforts of school interns, their mentors at ITIHAAS and the dedicated teams at the National Museum."

The exhibition will run until January 20th, 2025, offering visitors a unique opportunity to engage with India's cultural heritage in an innovative and educational manner.

"We celebrate this milestone with a renewed commitment to fostering a deeper appreciation for the arts and heritage that define us as a people," Prof. Mani concluded. "The National Museum continues to bridge the past and present, offering a window into the artistic and cultural achievements that have shaped our collective identity."

Events and Fairs - Jan - March 2025



Dates: 8-10 Jan, 2025 Location: India Expo Centre and Mart, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh



Dates: 1-9 Feb, 2025 Location: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

heimtextil

Dates: 14-17 Jan, 2025 Location: Frankfurt, Germany



Dates: 5-7 Feb, 2025



Dates: 23-26 Jan, 2025 Location: Jodhpur, India



Dates: 6-9 Feb. 2025 Location: Messe Berlin, Berlin Location: NSIC Exhibition Grounds, Location: Bharat Mandapam, Okhla, New Delhi



Dates: 30 Jan- 3 Feb, 2025 Location: Hotel Diggi Palace, Jaipur, Rajasthan



Dates: 14-16 Feb, 2025 New Delhi



Dates: 4-8 March, 2025 Location: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

The Blue Moon Community

Immerse yourself in captivating stories, exclusive interviews and stunning visuals.

By subscribing to The Blue Moon Magazine, you'll gain access to



- In-Depth Features: Explore thought-provoking articles on culture, travel and global events.
- Exclusive Interviews: Get insights from prominent figures and industry leaders.
- Beautiful Photography: Enjoy breathtaking images from around the world.
- Special Editions: Receive exclusive content and themed issues throughout the year.
- Engaging Discussions: Join our vibrant community and connect with fellow readers.

Subscribe Today and Be Part of
The Blue Moon Journey!



www.thebluemoon2008.com

@TheBlueMoonmagazine







