

On the occasion of

WORLD

HERITAGE DAY

Document heritage as a
LIVING SYSTEM



PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



Last Date of Submission

18th April 2026



SCAN TO
REGISTER



Event Name	World Heritage Day – Photography Competition
Date	18 April 2026
Venue	Chitkara University, Punjab
Organizer	Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture in collaboration with Centre of Excellence for Sustainability (CUCES)
Resource Person	Mr. Mohit Kumar
Total number of Participations	30+
SDGs Covered	11, 13, 17
Duration	4 Days

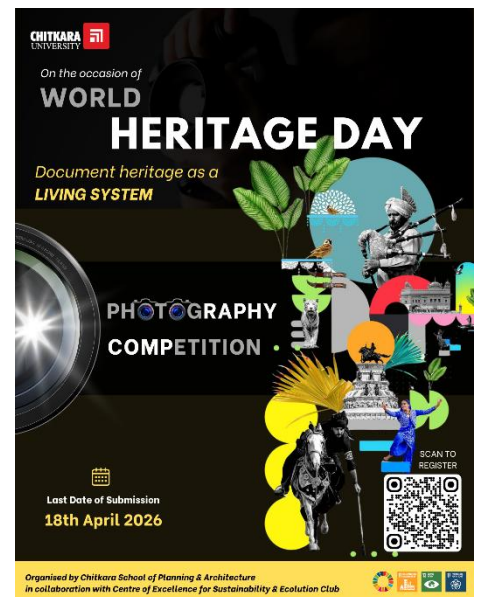
Objective

To celebrate **World Heritage Day** by encouraging students to explore, document, and appreciate cultural, natural, and architectural heritage through photography. The competition aimed to create awareness about the importance of preserving heritage as a living system connected with sustainability, culture, biodiversity, and community identity.

Description

On the occasion of World Heritage Day, the Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture, in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence for Sustainability (CUCES) and, organized an **Online Photography Competition** based on the theme **“Document Heritage as a Living System.”**

The competition invited participants to capture the essence of heritage through creative and meaningful photographs reflecting cultural traditions, monuments, local practices, biodiversity, architecture, folk art, and sustainable living systems. Students enthusiastically participated and submitted photographs showcasing the rich heritage and diversity of India. The event aimed to encourage participants to observe heritage not merely as historical monuments but as living ecosystems deeply connected with communities, environment, traditions, and identity. Through their lenses, participants highlighted stories of conservation, culture, traditional knowledge, and harmony between people and nature. Participants were



allowed to take part in the competition both individually as well as in groups.

The photography entries demonstrated creativity, artistic expression, and awareness regarding the preservation of cultural and natural heritage. The competition also provided a platform for students to develop visual storytelling skills while promoting sustainable values and appreciation for heritage conservation.

Participants submitted their entries through the registration portal before the submission deadline of **18th April 2026**. The entries were evaluated on the basis of originality, relevance to the theme, composition, storytelling, and overall impact.

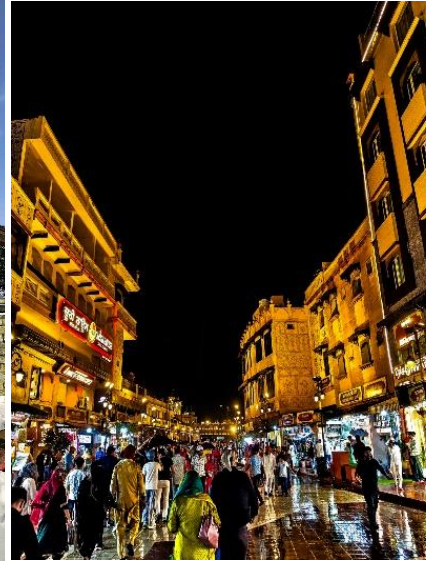
Outcomes

- Enhanced awareness regarding cultural and natural heritage conservation
- Encouraged students to document heritage through creative expression
- Promoted appreciation for sustainable cultural practices and traditions
- Developed photography and visual storytelling skills among participants
- Inspired youth participation in preserving heritage and community identity
- Strengthened interdisciplinary collaboration between sustainability and design initiatives

Conclusion

The World Heritage Day Photography Competition successfully inspired participants to explore and document heritage from a sustainability perspective. The event promoted creativity, awareness, and appreciation for the preservation of cultural and natural assets as living systems. Through impactful visual narratives, participants highlighted the importance of safeguarding heritage for future generations while fostering a deeper connection between culture, community, and sustainability.

Winners				
S.No	Name	Roll No	Department	Position
1	Rittam Dutta	2550981063	CCP	First
2	Gurleen Singh	2410990300	CSE	Second
3	Arsh Sharma	2550981304	CCP	Third



"Golden Veins of the Holy City"

This vibrant night shot captures the soul of Amritsar's Heritage Street, where the glow of traditional architecture meets the timeless energy of Punjab. The gleaming, rain-kissed cobblestones mirror the bustling life of a people defined by their resilience and warmth. Adorned in colorful turbans and traditional attire, the crowd reflects a harmonious blend of modernity and deep-rooted faith. Every intricate facade and warm light invites the viewer into a sensory journey through the heart of Sikh heritage. It is a powerful testament to the enduring spirit of the Punjabi community, standing bright against the night.

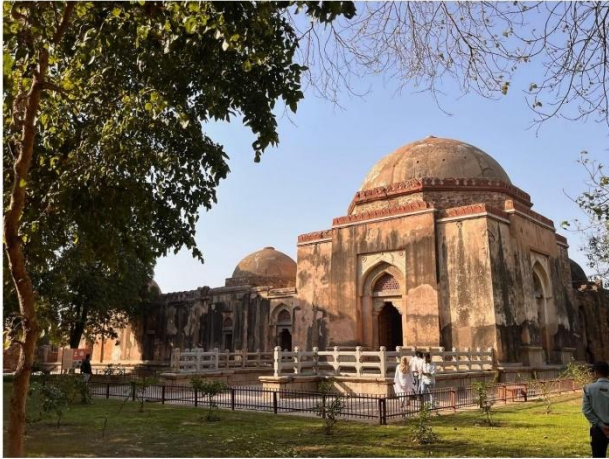
Location : Amritsar
Date : 14 April, 2026
Context : A vibrant night at Amritsar's Heritage Street, where centuries of Sikh tradition and architectural splendor reflect off rain-washed paths leading to the Golden Temple.



"Sovereignty in Motion"

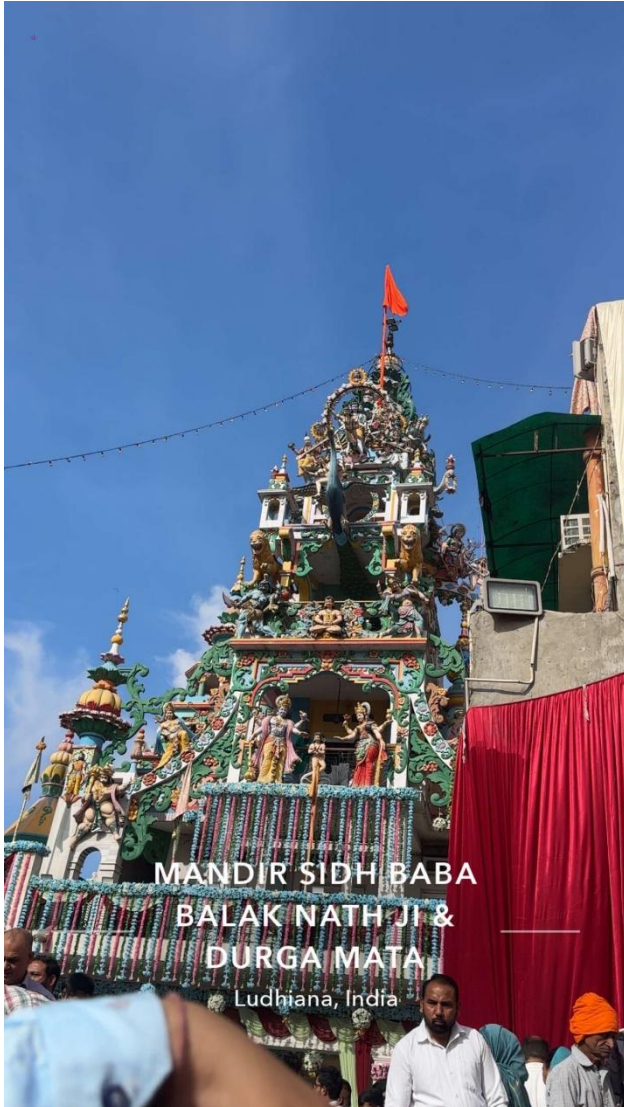
This evocative image captures the ethereal beauty of the "Harmandir Sahib at night", where the golden temple stands as a radiant beacon of spiritual equality. The shimmering reflections in the "Amrit Sarovar" mirror the divine tranquility that has drawn millions to this sanctuary for centuries. In the foreground, the "Nishan Sahib" and the solemn procession of the Sangat represent the living pulse of Sikh heritage and selfless devotion. The contrast between the brilliant architectural gold and the deep night sky highlights a legacy of resilience and inner peace. It is a profound visual tribute to the heart of Punjab—a place where history, faith, and humanity converge in a single, timeless moment.

Location : Amritsar
Date : 14 April, 2026
Context : The majestic Harmandir Sahib stands as a golden sanctuary of universal peace, where the reflection of the Amrit Sarovar and the devotion of the Sangat embody the core Sikh principles of equality and spiritual light.



LOCATION - HAUZ KHAS FORT COMPLEX

ABOUT - AT THE HAUZ KHAS FORT COMPLEX, TIME DOESN'T FEEL LINEAR. RUINS, WATER AND PEOPLE SOMEHOW EXIST IN THE SAME MOMENT. IT'S NOT PERFECT-AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHY IT WORKS. IT FEELS UNFINISHED IN THE BEST WAY



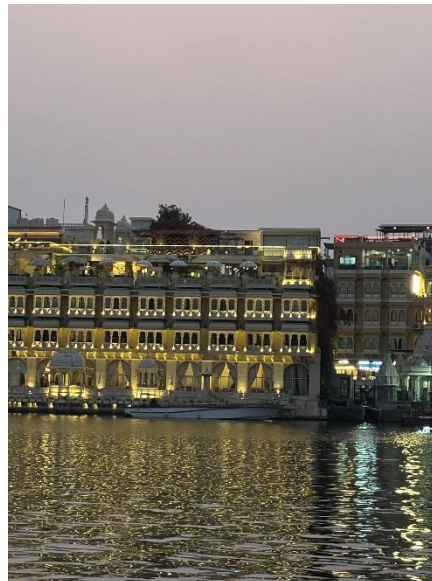
**MANDIR SIDH BABA
BALAK NATH JI &
DURGA MATA**
Ludhiana, India

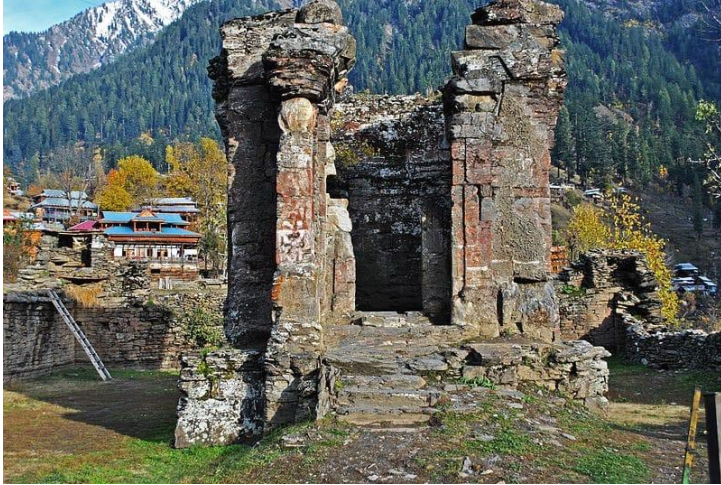
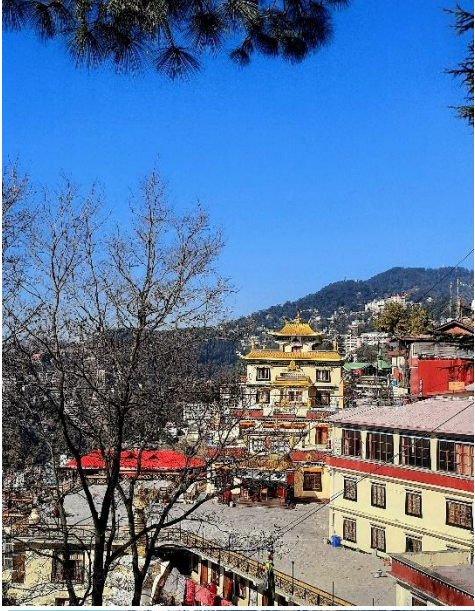
The Blueprint of Resilience: From Ancient Pillars to Green Building



Location: Krimchi Temple Complex, Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir
Date: 17 April, 2026
Context: Architectural Legacy of the Temple

The architectural genius of the Krimchi Temples extends far beyond their 9th-century origins, their influence can be seen in Babor Temples, Billawar and Basohli Shrines where the pillar designs and the way the entrance (mandapa) is structured. One of the most unique things about Krimchi is the Greek influence seen in the pillars and the pediments. This "Indo-Greek" style influenced the famous Martand Sun Temple and other stone temples in the Kashmir Valley. The clean lines and the way the pillars support heavy weight were revolutionary for 8th century. In the present day, the "Dry Masonry" also known as stone on stone technique of Krimchi is a major inspiration for Sustainable and Green Building. Which helps in understanding ec-architects study sites like Krimchi that how thick stone walls provide passive cooling keeping buildings cold in summer and warm in winter without electricity. The ancient internal drainage channels are still studied as early examples of Low-Impact Development (LID), showing how to manage rainwater without damaging the soil.





LOCATION-DIVEAGAR,MAHARASHTRA

ABOUT-

AT DIVEAGAR, I DIDN'T FRAME A SCENE—I CAUGHT A MOMENT.
A QUIET HOUSE, A WOMAN IN HER OWN WORLD,
NOTHING STAGED, NOTHING FORCED.
IT FELT LIKE LIFE UNFOLDING EXACTLY AS IT SHOULD.
NO FILTERS, NO EFFORT—JUST HONESTY IN ITS PUREST FORM.
THIS IS THE KIND OF BEAUTY YOU DON'T DESIGN, YOU NOTICE.
FOR ME, IT HOLDS THE REAL RHYTHM OF OUR EVERYDAY HERITAGE.

