

The Senses Behind Lenses

Dedicated to the photographers who travel the diverse lengths of India to capture moments that enrapture them.

Along the way, their sense and sensibilities mix with India's culture and geography. A testament of what was felt behind the camera right before clicking what was in front. Presenting a collection of a selected few from the 'MyIncredibleIndia' Photography Contest conducted by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

अतुल्य! भारत
Incredible India
CALENDAR 2019

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A place with a face

I have read about wonderlands and fantasies but the light on the Nandi made it so surreal, I knew if I stared long enough, the scene would stare back at me.

Radha Swami

HAMPI, KARNATAKA

JAN '19
01

T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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Immerse in the universe

I was simply spellbound when I saw this pilgrim in a stillness surrounded by the gleaming water, as if the cosmos was visibly moving around him.

Sai Kiran Kotakonda

UJJAIN SIMHASTHA, MADHYA PRADESH

FEB '19
02

F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T							
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Pouncing on the opportunity

As the tiger leaped and the shutter clicked, I knew this majestic striped creature had added yet another stripe to my collection.

Arpan Bhattacharya

RANTHAMBORE NATIONAL PARK, RAJASTHAN

MAR '19
03

F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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Beauty has no bounds

It's rare to see things that are so magnificent that the stormy weather only adds to their splendour and scale.

Taarak Parasher

GREAT LAKES TREK, JAMMU AND KASHMIR

APR '19
04

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30



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Where faith is set in stone

The carvings made me think of how faith has surpassed time and driven humans to leave behind signs of their beliefs and existence. I find hope in that.

Abhishek Saha

UNAKOTI, TRIPURA

MAY '19
05

W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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150
YEARS OF
CELEBRATING
THE PAST
THE FUTURE

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The height of humility and gratitude

*At a high altitude, being stared at by a mammoth storm waiting to rain on us,
when we saw our porters ascending and the clouds descending,
we knew we were saved and that made for the best picture of the trek.*

Nitish Walia

MAYALI PASS, UTTARAKHAND

JUN '19
06

S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S							
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Picking fights that click

The first day I saw Kalaripayattu, my camera failed to keep up with the fighters, so the next day, I reached early to redeem the moment I had missed.

Mohan Dravid

KALARIPAYATTU PERFORMANCE, KERALA

JUL '19
07

M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W							
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The abundant bright in the barren fight

The need to stand out has never been more important than in matters of courtship and after competing with the cotton clouds and rocky platform- our hero surfaced.

Soumabrata Moulick

SARADA SUPERBA IN SATARA, MAHARASHTRA

AUG '19
08

T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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The fountain of eternal glory

As I looked on at his tomb, I was convinced that Humayun comes alive here with every light that dusks and sleeps with every light that dawns.

Ankush Biswas

HUMAYUN'S TOMB, DELHI

SEP '19
09

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M							
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A reflection rooted in the past

I loved how the beautiful reflection reminded me that just like its past, its allure still reflects in our eyes.

Soumyajit Saha

VICTORIA MEMORIAL, WEST BENGAL

OCT '19	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T							
10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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The only take is the service you give

*As I walked along the sarovar, I saw the temple emanating peace,
which is precisely what everyone had found here and was serving*

Khayal

SRI HARMANDIR SAHIB, PUNJAB

NOV '19
11

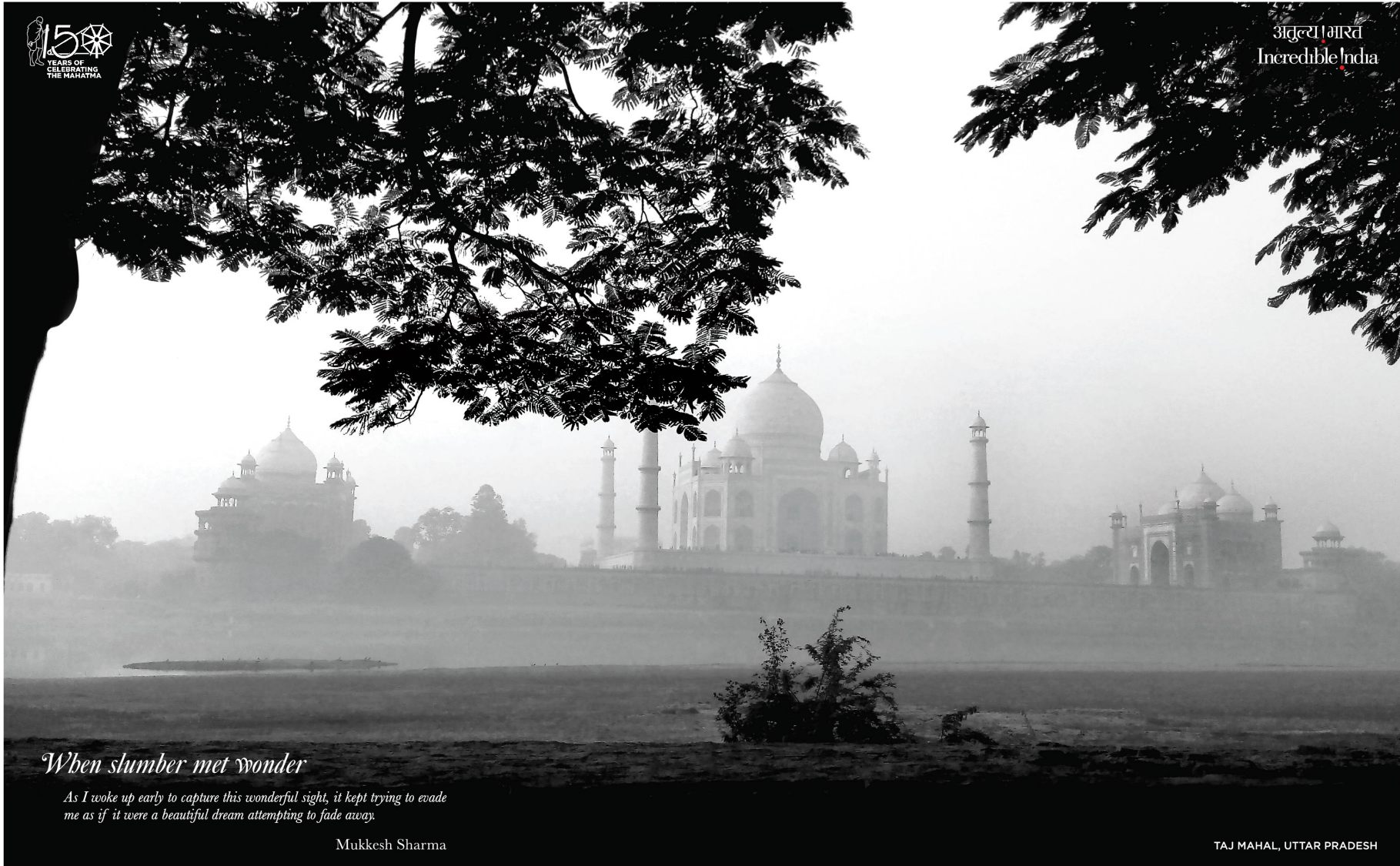
F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S							
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When slumber met wonder

As I woke up early to capture this wonderful sight, it kept trying to evade me as if it were a beautiful dream attempting to fade away.

Mukkes Sharma

TAJ MAHAL, UTTAR PRADESH

DEC '19
12

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31



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Hampi, Karnataka

The group of monuments in Hampi, Karnataka is classified as one of the UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India. The grandeur of what was once considered one of the world's richest cities, can still be seen in the remnants of the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire. The Vitala Temple here is an exquisite structure and is seen as the culmination of Vijayanagara temple architecture.



Ujjain Simhashta, Madhya Pradesh

Legend has it that Ujjain is one of the saptaपुरis, or the seven holy cities of India that grant moksha or liberation from the cycle of birth and death. The world's largest religious gathering, Kumbha Mela, is held here on the banks of the Shipra River once in every 12 years.



Ranthambore National Park, Rajasthan

Once a private game reserve of the royal family of Jaipur, Ranthambore National Park and Tiger Reserve is now one of the world's best-known wilderness areas. Located 155 kms. away from Jaipur, it sits at the junction of the Aravallis and the Vindhyas. Ranthambore offers some of the finest opportunities for sighting the magnificent Bengal Tiger in the wild.



Great Lakes Trek, Jammu and Kashmir

The Kashmir Great Lakes Trek offers the experience of a lifetime. The trek spans a period of 7-9 days and people are advised to train for it beforehand. The distance covered is approximately 63 kms. One learns a lot on this trek, not just physically but also emotionally and mentally.



Unakoti, Tripura

Located at a distance of 178 kms. from Agartala is Unakoti, a Shakti pilgrimage site that dates back to 7th- 9th centuries. Unakoti in Bengali literally means one less than a crane, which is also the number of rock cut carvings available here. It is said that Shiva spent a night here and turned all his companions into stone when they failed to wake up before the sunrise in order to head to Kashi.



Mayali Pass, Uttarakhand

Situated at a height of 5,000 m. above sea level, Mayali Pass is a hidden gem in the Himalayas. The adventure gothic comprising Juddha's col, Khaling glacier and Mayali Pass is regarded as the toughest trek in Garhwal, Uttarakhand and is rarely challenged by trekkers. Nevertheless, the Mayali Pass boasts of an unparalleled natural beauty.



Kalaripayattu Performance, Kerala

Kalaripayattu, also known as the mother of all martial arts is a 3000-year-old art form that originated in ancient South India. Drawing inspiration from the raw power and sinuous strength of the majestic animal forms - Lion, Tiger, Elephant, Wild Boar, Snake, and Crocodile, Kalaripayattu laid down the combat code of the Cholas, the Cheras and the Pandyas. It was shrouded in mystery and mist of secrecy for a very long time.



Sarada Superba, Maharashtra

The Sarada Superba, a species of agamid lizard found in Maharashtra, is endemic to the northern, drier parts of the Western Ghats. Before the mating season, the dewlaps of the male lizard, starts developing bright blue, black and orange coloured patches, which have earned this lizard its name.



Humayun's Tomb, Delhi

Built in 1570, Humayun's Tomb is the first ever garden-tomb in the magnificent Charbagh style constructed in the Indian subcontinent. It was built by the emperor's wife, Haji Begum in fond memory of her husband and is also the first tomb built on the orders of a woman. Its design is seen as a precedent for the Taj Mahal's.



Victoria Memorial, West Bengal

The Victoria Memorial, one of Kolkata's biggest attractions, is a white-marble building that was built in memory of Queen Victoria. The building, while blending the best of British and Mughal architecture, is today a museum housing an assortment of Victoria memorabilia, British Raj paintings and other artefacts.



Sri Harmandir Sahib, Punjab

Famous as the Golden Temple, Sri Harmandir Sahib, one of the most revered sites of Sikh pilgrimage, is located in Amritsar, in the state of Punjab. The top structure of the temple is covered with pure gold leaf. The langar or community kitchen in the temple serves free food to thousands of devotees every day, irrespective of their faith, belief or religion.



Taj Mahal, Uttar Pradesh

Standing majestically on the banks of the Yamuna River, the Taj Mahal, built by Emperor Shah Jahan, is the pinnacle of Mughal architecture. Shah Jahan was heartbroken when his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal passed away, which served as the inspiration behind its construction.

Government Holidays

January

26 Republic Day

March

04 Maha Shivaratri

21 Holi

April

17 Mahavir Jayanti

19 Good Friday

May

18 Buddha Purnima

June

05 Id-ul-Fitr

August

12 Id-ul-Zuha

15 Independence Day

24 Janmashtami

September

10 Muharram

October

02 Mahatma Gandhi's

Birthday

08 Dussehra

27 Diwali (Deepavali)

November

10 Id-e-Milad

12 Guru Nanak's

Birthday

December

25 Christmas Day