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1. International Yoga Day Celebrations

Syllabus: GS1, Indian Art and Culture - salient aspects of architecture

Prelims: Facts associated with the places/monuments

Context:

The 8th International Day of Yoga was celebrated in different parts of the country and the world. In India, the PM led the celebrations from the Mysore Palace Grounds, Mysuru.

Read more on the [International Day of Yoga](#) in the linked article.

In this article, the significance of some of the places where the celebrations were held is discussed.

Gwalior Fort:

- The Gwalior Fort was originally built in the fifth century CE or perhaps even earlier in present-day Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- It has been held by many dynasties like the Hunas, the Gurjara – Pratiharas, the Kachchhapaghatas, the Tomars, the Lodis and the Mughals.
- The Fort was also sieged by [Mahmud of Ghazni](#) for 4 days.
- Tomar ruler Maan Singh had commissioned many monuments within the Fort.
- Mughal Emperor Akbar had used this Fort as a prison for political prisoners.
- In 1780, the British captured the Fort from the Marathas.
- In 1844, the Maratha Scindias took control of the Fort as a protectorate of the British government.
- During the [Indian Revolt of 1857](#), 6500 sepoys who were stationed at the Gwalior Fort joined the rebels, which prompted the British to regain control of the Fort in 1858.
- After 1886, it was handed over to the Scindias as the Fort no longer held any significance for the British. The Scindias held it till independence.

Red Fort:

- The Red Fort was built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in 1648.
- It is made up of red sandstone and marble and reportedly took nine years to complete.
- It was also known as the Qila-i-Mubarak.

Modhera Sun Temple:

- The Sun Temple at Modhera in Gujarat's Mehsana district was built after 1026-27 CE during the reign of Bhima I of the Chaulukya dynasty.
- The temple, dedicated to the Sun God, is now a protected monument under the [Archaeological Survey of India](#).
- The temple is built in the Māru-Gurjara style (Chaulukya style).

Kangra Fort:

- Located in Kangra in Himachal Pradesh, it is one of the oldest forts in India.
- The fort's ownership changed hands many times and in the early 19th century, it came under the Sikh empire of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- After the Anglo-Sikh war of 1846, it was taken over by the British.

Nalanda Mahavihara:

- Nalanda Mahavihara was an ancient Indian university in Nalanda, Bihar that attracted students from all over and outside the country as well.
- It was built by Kumargupta I of the Gupta dynasty in the 5th century CE.
- It received the patronage of kings and rulers for about 800 years.
- It admitted students only after a rigorous selection process. The subjects taught were Buddhist studies, logic, science, philosophy, medicine, grammar, etc.
- Many texts composed at the university influenced the development of Mahayana and Vajrayana [Buddhism](#).
- The university was destroyed by the troops of Bakhtiyar Khilji in about 1200 CE. It was partly restored and continued to exist till about 1400 CE.
- In 2016, the remains of the Nalanda Mahavihara received the [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) recognition.

2. One Nation One Ration Card

Syllabus: GS2, Government Policies and Interventions for Development in various sectors and Issues arising out of their Design and Implementation.

Prelims: One nation one ration card scheme - provisions

Context:

Assam becomes the 36th State/UT to implement the One Nation One Ration Card.

With this, the ONORC plan is successfully implemented in all 36 states/UTs, making food security portable throughout the country.

Know more about the [One Nation One Ration Card](#) scheme in the link.

2. Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship

Syllabus: GS2, Government Policies and Interventions for Development in various sectors and Issues arising out of their Design and Implementation.

Prelims: Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship programme - Provisions

Context: Skill India organizes Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela in 10 districts of Odisha.

Details:

- The apprenticeship mela was organised by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) to improve job opportunities and provide practical training.
 - Opportunities for apprenticeship training in more than 500+ trades across 36 sectors were offered to the participants.
 - Over 100 companies participated in the fair.
 - This program aims to encourage employers to hire apprentices from these targeted districts as and assist them in identifying the right job roles while building their potential through robust skill training.
 - In addition, candidates will receive certificates recognized by the National Council for Vocational Education and Training (NCVET), ensuring increased employability, and giving them an opportunity to become entrepreneurs in their respective domains.
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