

# Mahakumbh 2025: Churning of Poison and Nectar

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## Abstract

The Mahakumbh-2025 is poised to be a landmark event in India's cultural and religious landscape, aligning with the broader vision of India's Amritkal as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Under the leadership of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, meticulous planning and strategic execution have transformed the Mahakumbh into an unparalleled spectacle of faith, administration, and tradition. Rooted in the Sanatan Dharma, the Kumbh Mela symbolizes spiritual purification and the quest for divine nectar, echoing the mythological churning of the ocean. The event unites millions of devotees across geographical and cultural boundaries, reinforcing the strength of Sanatan values and traditions. With an expected participation of over 50 crore people, Mahakumbh-2025 exemplifies exceptional organizational capabilities in crowd management, security, and technological integration. Moreover, the Kumbh Mela serves as a forum for religious discourse, enabling Dharma Sansads to address contemporary challenges and foster religious revitalization. Beyond faith, the event strengthens India's social and cultural unity, providing a platform for self-discipline and collective spiritual enrichment. As a confluence of devotion, tradition, and modern governance, Mahakumbh-2025 stands as a testament to India's enduring heritage and administrative excellence.

**Keywords:** Mahakumbh-2025, Sanatan Dharma, Kumbh Mela, Spiritual Unity, Religious Tradition.

## Introduction

On August 15, 2022, India's Honorable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced the concept of Amritkal on India's 75th Independence Day, outlining a vision for India by 2047. As Shri Modi called upon Indians to contribute to creating a glorious and powerful future for Bharat Mata with the 'Panch Pran', Uttar Pradesh's Honorable Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Ji had already begun preparations for the unique Mahakumbh-2025, which would occur after 144 years. Yogi Adityanath Ji was drafting a well-planned, thoughtful, and long-term strategy to make Mahakumbh-2025 the 'Amrit Ghata' of India's unique development journey.

## Historical and Mythological Context

Like the churning of the ocean in Mahakumbh-2025, where 'poison' emerged and 'nectar' was distributed for public welfare and national interest, a sannyasi-yogi, who is a carrier of the Sanatan tradition, set out to establish the flag of Sanatan in the world. This is evident to the world. Mahakumbh-2025 has already seen the sacred dips of nearly 44 crore devotees, with updated estimates suggesting it will surpass 50 crore, making it the largest event in the world. Mahakumbh-2025 will be remembered forever due to Yogi Adityanath Ji's ascetic plans, cleanliness, security, technology, and organization. The divine, new, and grand Mahakumbh has become a symbol of the glorious tradition of Sanatan culture. However, Mahakumbh-2025 will be remembered not only for its divinity and grandeur but also for the throat and tears of Uttar Pradesh's successful and ascetic Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Ji. The world witnessed the tears of this sannyasi-yogi during the Amrit Snan on Mauni

Amavasya, as he momentarily experienced an unforeseen event like poison.

At the core of Kumbh is the churning, the churning of the ocean by gods and demons, primarily done to obtain nectar. Both poison and nectar emerged. Lord Shiva drank the poison and became Neelkanth. The struggle for the nectar pot began between both sides. Indra's son Jayant was running away with the nectar, and the demons were trying to snatch it. In the chaos, it was natural for the nectar to spill from the pot. It spilled at four places, and today, the Kumbh Snan festivals are held at these locations. The search for nectar is what the gods yearned for; why shouldn't humans seek it? Therefore, followers of Sanatan Dharma gather in large numbers at these occasions and bathe and drink the water, symbolizing nectar.

In the north, Haridwar; in the south, Nashik; in the center, Ujjain; and in Prayagraj, Kumbh Melas connect the entire Aryavarta into a single thread. A fifth Kumbh is also held every twelve years in Kumbhakonam in the far south. Devotees from across Aryavarta connect physically or mentally with these places during this time.

Humans cannot replicate the power of ocean churning, but the churning of the Kumbh, or the pot, can certainly be done. In our homes, we churn curd in a pot or vessel to extract butter. Attempting to churn the Kumbh festivals through the churning of the mind to extract nectar, along with other gems, is the basis of the progress of the Sanatan tradition.

Religion is based not only on eternal laws but also on time and place. Changes are necessary according to time and place. If there is a discrepancy in eternal laws over time, it must be rectified. In Kumbh Melas, a Dharma Sansad is organized where religious leaders discuss challenges facing religion and provide

guidance to followers after thorough deliberation. This self-purification is essential for any religion. Sanatan understood this from the beginning, so our sages and religious leaders have always purified and refined religion, and they continue to do so. The ancient Dharma Sabha organized by Shounak Rishi in Naimisharanya and the current Dharma Sansads in Kumbh are important for religious revival and organization.

Every religion needs to correct the malpractices that arise over time and place. Change is a natural law that cannot be ignored. Today, we cannot travel on camels alone, nor can we restrict sea travel in the age of a global village. Therefore, if there are such rules, they need to be amended.

Aryavarta spans a vast geographical area, and Sanatan Dharma is its core soul. Religious scriptures are the carriers of Sanatan Dharma and culture. Devotees learn about various places and pilgrimages across this vast land through these scriptures, increasing their curiosity to see and understand them. Kumbh Melas provide an opportunity to know the country geographically and culturally. In the current Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj, people have come from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, from Aizawl to Dwarka, including religious leaders from all regions and abroad. Everyone here represents Sanatan Dharma from every corner. People from all areas are renewing their faith and knowledge of religion and experiencing and studying the geographical, religious, cultural, and social diversity of the nation.

Kumbh Melas test not only the faith but also the patience and self-control of those who attend. Where an immense crowd, larger than the population of countries

like Italy on a single day, gathers in a limited area to perform rituals like bathing, meditation, and worship within a short span, skilled crowd management is essential. This efficient organization and disaster management ensured that major casualties were avoided in the recent Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj.

The churning is not over yet; the nectar is yet to emerge. However, let us collect the gems that have surfaced so far. From Kumbh, we have obtained the strengthening of Sanatan Dharma's geographical and cultural unity, the conveyance of religious uniformity and purification, the administrative capacity for hospitality and security of a vast crowd, and the extraordinary power of patience and self-control of this large group. In this churning, only nectar will emerge from Kumbh. The poison has been contained by the yogi in the form of Mahadev, so there is no possibility of it emerging.

## Conclusion

Mahakumbh-2025 is not just a religious congregation but a transformative event that reinforces the cultural and spiritual unity of Sanatan Dharma. With historical significance, seamless organization, and deep-rooted faith, it represents the perfect confluence of devotion, governance, and tradition. Yogi Adityanath's visionary leadership has elevated this sacred gathering to global prominence, ensuring its place in history as a symbol of India's spiritual resilience and cultural grandeur. The event underscores the necessity of preserving Sanatan values while adapting to modern needs, marking an important milestone in India's journey toward a culturally enriched future.

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