

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Inaugurate Exposition of Sacred Piprahwa Relics on 3rd January 2026

**“The Light & the Lotus: Relics of the Awakened One” will
showcase repatriated relics and relevant antiquities**

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The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, is organizing a landmark cultural exposition titled “The Light & the Lotus: Relics of the Awakened One”, showcasing the revered Sacred Piprahwa Relics along with significant associated antiquities. The exposition underscores India’s enduring civilizational connection with the teachings of the Buddha and its commitment to preserving and presenting its rich spiritual heritage.

The prestigious exposition will be inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on Saturday, 3rd January 2026 at Rai Pithora Cultural Complex, New Delhi. The event marks an important moment in India’s cultural and diplomatic history, as the relics on display include repatriated sacred relics of immense historical, archaeological, and spiritual significance, revered by Buddhist communities across the world.



The Piprahwa Relics, discovered in the late 19th century, are widely believed to be associated with the mortal remains of Gautama Buddha, enshrined by the Shakya clan. Their repatriation and public display reflect India’s continued efforts to protect its cultural patrimony and promote the universal values of

peace, compassion, and enlightenment embodied in the Buddha's teachings.

The exposition will feature:

- Sacred Piprahwa Relics and related antiquities
- Curated displays highlighting their historical, spiritual, and archaeological context
- Interpretive narratives emphasizing India's role as the cradle of Buddhism
- A thoughtfully designed exhibition experience aimed at scholars, devotees, and the general public alike

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