

A Grand Tapestry of Folk Traditions Marks Final Cultural Evening in Leh

Leh, May 13, 2026: The concluding evening of the cultural celebrations organised in connection with the Sacred Exposition of the Holy Relics of Lord Buddha brought Leh Main Market alive with a rich showcase of folk traditions, music and dance, marking the culmination of days of spiritual devotion and cultural festivities in Ladakh.

Organised by the Administration of the Union Territory of Ladakh in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and the North Zone Cultural Centre (NZCC), Patiala, the celebrations were held under the theme "Peace Beyond Borders" to commemorate the 2569th Vesak Purnima.

Hosts Paldan Wanla and Yountan Angmo highlighted the spiritual significance of the Holy Relics and the essence of the celebrations before the programme commenced with Lharna, an auspicious traditional musical offering performed in honour of deities.

Artists from Sindhu Sargam Society, Leh presented the graceful Shondol dance, reflecting the royal heritage and cultural richness of Ladakh, while students of SOS TCV Leh captivated the audience with an energetic Lion Dance performance symbolising courage, strength and Tibetan cultural traditions.

The evening also featured Mentok Stanmo, popularly known as the Flower Dance, traditionally performed during spring in the Bodh-Kharbu, Wakha and Mulbekh areas of Kargil district. Artists from Changthang presented the vibrant Jabro dance in traditional Kopong attire, showcasing the distinct cultural identity of the nomadic region.

The programme further featured folk performances by Sindhu Sargam Society and cultural presentations from Changthang, followed by a soulful ghazal performance by the Purgi Cultural Group.

Veteran folk artists including Tundup Dorjay Stakmo, Angchuk Dorjay Wanla, Tsering Dorjay, Chamba Chosphele, Sonam Gyalsen and Konchok Lobzang enthralled the audience with traditional folk melodies, while Tsewang Nurboo rendered Junglu, one of Ladakh's timeless folk songs.

The celebrations concluded on a high note with an electrifying performance by Ladakh's renowned Da-Shugs Band, drawing enthusiastic applause from the audience and bringing the cultural festivities to a memorable close.



