

World Marriage Day

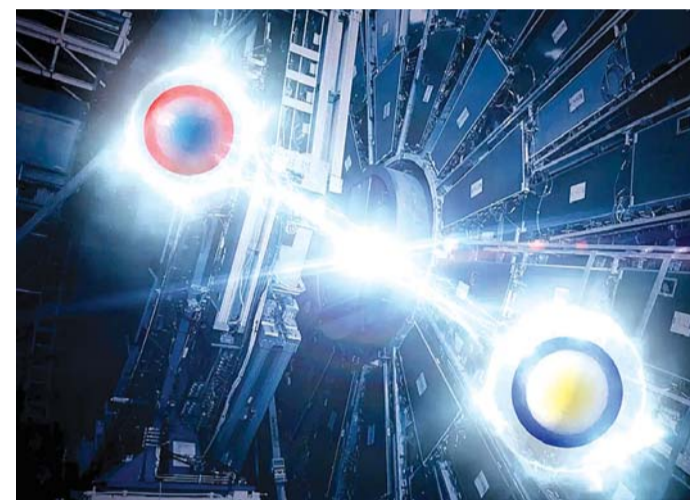
Finding your ultimate teammate in life, someone to laugh, love and share adventures with is like discovering the perfect hidden gem. Marriage is a hugely important institution in almost every part of the world and it symbolizes the formalization of a relationship between two people. World Marriage Day celebrates everything about marriage, and is a great day to propose to your partner, get hitched, or celebrate the one you are already married to! Married people still need to date each other! It is certainly important to take time to invest in each other and the marriage relationship.



#SCIENCE

Scientists Produced a Particle of Light That Simultaneously Accessed 37 Different Dimensions

It's got us beat by 34.



Classical and quantum mechanics don't really get along as the science of the subatomic can get, well, weird. Take, for instance, quantum entanglement, which says that the state of one particle can be determined by examining the state of its entangled pair, regardless of distance. This strange fact flies in the face of classical physics, and even led Albert Einstein to famously describe this quantum quirk as 'spooky action at a distance.'

This is what is known as 'quantum nonlocality' where objects are influenced across distances (seeming beyond the speed of light) whereas classical physics follows local theory, the idea that objects are influenced by their immediate surroundings. This is a pretty sharp divide as explained by the famous *no-go theorem* known as the Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger (GHZ) paradox, which essentially details how quantum theory cannot be described by local realistic description.

Named for the physicists who described the paradox in 1989, GHZ-type paradoxes show that when particles can only be influenced by proximity, they produce mathematical impossibilities. The paradox can even be expressed through a calculation where 1 equals -1. This paradox is useful in showing how quantum properties cannot be described using classical means, but a new paper published in the journal *Science Advances* decided to see just

how strange these paradoxes could get. Essentially, an international team of scientists wanted to see how classical particles of light could get, and the results were maybe stranger than the authors originally anticipated. This extremely technical experiment produced photons, or particles of light, that existed in 37 dimensions. Just as you and I exist in three dimension, plus an additional temporal dimension, these photons required 37 similar reference points.

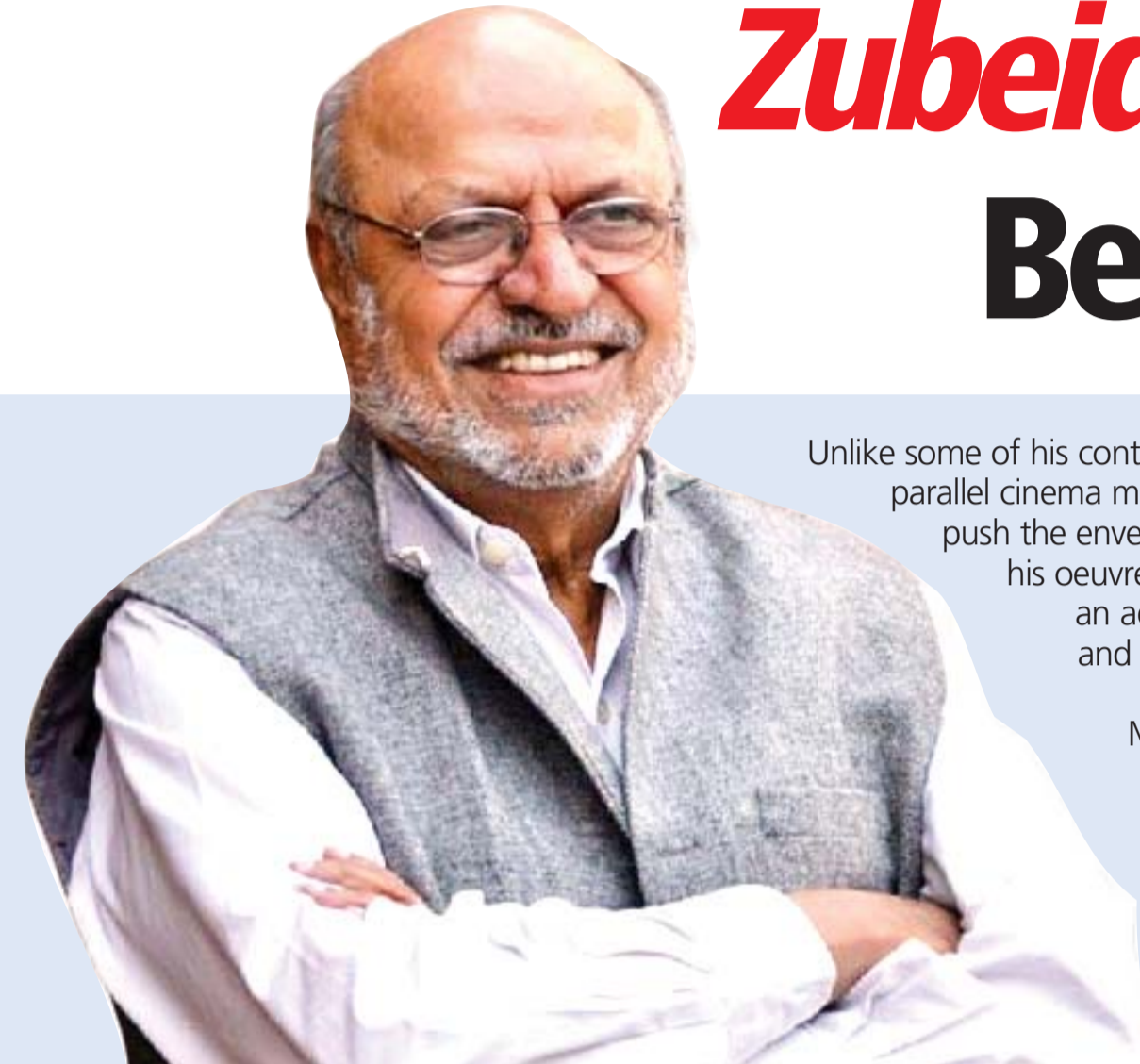
"This experiment shows that quantum physics is more nonclassical than many of us thought," says Technical University of Denmark's Zhenghao Liu, a co-author of the study. "It could be that 100 years after its discovery, we are still only seeing the tip of the iceberg."

Pulling this off is not an easy thing to do as Liu and his team needed to feed a version of the GHZ paradox into coherent light, even in color and wavelength, so that they could easily manipulate the photons. This essentially resulted in the most 'nonclassical' effects in the quantum world that's ever been created. "We believe that this work has opened several avenues for future research," the authors write. "We hope our findings can be used to build even stronger quantum advantages in high-dimensional systems."

In other words, if we've only discovered the tip of the iceberg, just imagine what quantum breakthroughs are lurking just below the surface.



Zubeidaa's Shyam Benegal Gone



Unlike some of his contemporaries, whose career took a backseat when the parallel cinema movement lost its steam, Shyam Benegal continued to push the envelope and tell the stories he believed in. He expanded his oeuvre in the '90s to direct *Suraj Ka Satvan Ghoda* (1993), an adaptation of the famous novel by Dharmavir Bharati, and biopics such as *The Making of the Mahatma* (1996). He directed a much-acclaimed trilogy about female Muslim protagonists, *Mammo* (1994), *Sardari Begum* (1994) and *Zubeidaa* (2001). In later years, he made *Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose: The Forgotten Hero* (2005), *Welcome to Sajjanpur* (2008), and *Well Done Abba* (2010). A tireless master, Benegal, at the age of 87, helmed a prestigious India-Bangladesh co-production, *Mujib: The Making of a Nation*, his last movie.

jeweler family, who provided both, was inundated with calls when the movie was released. Sudhir Kasliwal recounts that Benegal's daughter, Pia, herself came down to go through the collection, for the right pieces. Since the jewelry was all real, a responsible man from the unit collected it and returned it. Sadly, Sudhir recalls, Rekha requested him to do a photo shoot for her, but he had declined, saying that he did not photo film artists. Though, as an unearned consolation, he got an autographed painting from Rekha as a gift. But, going back to Shyam, just when mainstream Hindi cinema stepped into an exciting new phase, with the rise of the 'Angry Young Man' in the '70s, Shyam Benegal made a stunning debut as the writer and director of *Ankur* (The Seedling, 1974), propelling the parallel cinema movement in India.

A refreshingly original movie, *Ankur* was a searing criticism of the caste system and rural feudalism in India and received widespread national and international acclaim. This ensured a phenomenal start to his film career as the then 40-year-old Benegal became a 'disruptor,' with his powerful storytelling and touch of social realism, established himself as a modern master and a visionary in the years that followed.

Shyam Benegal, who turned 90, passed away in Wockhardt hospital in Mumbai. Unlike art house filmmakers before him, including Satyajit Ray and Ritwik Ghatak, Shyam Benegal found a pan-Indian audience and international distributors. That widened the reach of his work. Yet, the writer-director didn't limit himself to making movies. His impressive body of

#JAIPUR'S CONNECTION



This picture is of one of the cars that was used for the film *Zubeidaa* by Shyam Benegal. The film was shot in Jaipur in the year 1999. Besides, he also borrowed authentic jewellery for the film shoot. Her daughter, Pia Benegal, assisted in selection of jewellery. Shyam Benegal himself came to see and select the cars with his daughter, Pia Benegal. If I remember correctly, the shooting in Jaipur was at Ramgarh, Polo Ground, Narain Niwas Hotel, besides other places.

work includes a host of landmark television shows and documentaries, including landmark series such as *Yatra* (1986) and *Bharat Ek Khoj* (1988). The 53-episode *Bharat Ek Khoj*, based on Jawaharlal Nehru's book *Discovery of India*, was an ambitious project that familiarised the audience with India's 5,000-year history, myths and ethos through an engaging narrative. In March 2014, Rajya Sabha TV started tele-casting *Samvidhaan*, a 10-part

series, directed by Benegal that focused on the making of the Constitution of India. Shyam Benegal's *Manthan*, to be screened at Cannes, was one of the earliest examples of crowd-funded films. Shyam Benegal's movies and aesthetics played a major role in the parallel cinema movement of the 70s and 80s. As Benegal directed some of his best movies, *Ankur*, *Nishant* (1975), *Manthan* (1976), *Bhumika* (1977), and

Junoon (1979), he emerged as a strong cinematic voice and a force to reckon with. Tirelessly, the director continued to push his boundaries. In the 80s, he made critically acclaimed movies such as *Kalyug* (1981), *Arohan* (1982), *Mandi* (1983), *Trikaal* (1985), and *Susman* (1987), apart from diving into the world of television.

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Mujib: The Making of a Nation movie review: A bland, by-the-numbers biopic of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Blessed with boundless creative energy, he reinvented himself as a director at different stages of his career. He also experimented with different themes, subjects, and formats and made over 20 feature films, 70 documentaries and short films. What was remarkable is that most of his work stood the test of time and remains relevant even today. Benegal's women have been assertive, independent, and feisty. They have driven the narrative in movies such as *Ankur*, *Nishant*, *Bhumika*, *Mandi*, *Mammo*, *Sardari Begum*, *Zubeidaa*, and *Hari Bhari*. They were flawed but came with their individuality.

Some of the Indian screen's most talented artists, including Naseeruddin Shah, Shabana Azmi, Smriti Patil, Amrish Puri,

and Kerala's backwaters, the country also boasts a treasure trove of lesser-known destinations. These hidden gems offer unique experiences, away from the usual crowds. Here are some underrated Indian destinations to explore in 2025.

Born on December 14, 1934, in Trimulgherry, Secunderabad, British India (now part of Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, India), Benegal's father was a professional photographer, originally from Karnataka, and, as a result, Benegal grew up speaking mostly Konkani and English, and with an appreciation of the visual arts. He was a cousin of filmmaker, Guru Dutt, and an early admirer of Bengali filmmaker, Satyajit Ray. Benegal graduated with a degree in economics from Nizam College, a constituent college of Osmania University in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh (now in Telangana), India, where he started a film society. He began his professional life in Bombay (now Mumbai) working for an advertising agency. He started as a copywriter and soon advanced to filmmaker. In that position, he made more than 900 commercials and advertising films and 11 corporate films as well as a number of documentaries. He taught at and twice (1980-83, 1989-92) served as chair of the Film Institute of India (now the Film and Television Institute of India) in Pune.

Shyam Benegal will be missed sadly but remembered. He can't be forgotten, his work won't let people forget him. His movies had people, authentic people.

Some of the Indian screen's most talented artists, including Naseeruddin Shah, Shabana Azmi, Smriti Patil, Amrish Puri,

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#INCREDIBLE INDIA

Travel Goals 2025

Step off the beaten path and discover these underrated destinations to experience a side of India, that's both refreshing and unforgettable.

As the New Year has already taken its course, it's time to update your travel bucket list. While India is renowned for its iconic landmarks like the Taj Mahal, Jaipur's palaces,

and Kerala's backwaters, the country also boasts a treasure trove of lesser-known destinations. These hidden gems offer unique experiences, away from the usual crowds. Here are some underrated Indian destinations to explore in 2025.



1. Mawlynnong, Meghalaya

Nestled in the East Khasi Hills, Mawlynnong is celebrated for its pristine beauty and eco-friendly practices. Known as the 'Cleanest Village in Asia', it offers a glimpse of sustainable living. Stroll through picturesque streets, marvel at the Living Root Bridge, and soak in the breathtaking views from the Sky View Tower.



2. Bhedaghat, MP

Located near Jabalpur, Bhedaghat is famous for its towering marble cliffs along the Narmada River. Take a boat ride during moonlit nights to witness the cliffs' surreal beauty. Don't miss the Dhuanadhar Falls, where the river plunges with thunderous force, creating a misty spectacle.



3. Majuli, Assam

Majuli, the world's largest river island on the Brahmaputra River, is a serene escape. It's known for its vibrant culture, ancient monasteries (Satras), and stunning landscapes. Visit during the Raas festival to witness traditional Assamese dances and performances.



4. Kalimpong, West Bengal

Often overshadowed by Darjeeling, Kalimpong is a tranquil hill station, offering breathtaking views of the Himalayas. Explore its colonial architecture, vibrant flower markets, and Buddhist monasteries like Zang Dhok Palri Phodang. Don't miss the cactus nursery for its rare collection.



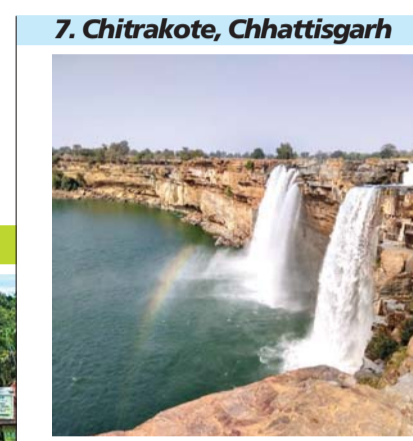
5. Tawang, AP

A Hidden Himalayan Gem Perched at 10,000 feet, Tawang is a paradise for nature lovers and spiritual seekers. Home to the Tawang Monastery, one of the largest in India, it's surrounded by snow-capped peaks, high-altitude lakes, and lush valleys. The Sela Pass is a must-visit en route.



6. Hampi, Karnataka

A Living Museum While not entirely unknown, Hampi often takes a backseat to popular destinations. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is a treasure trove of ancient ruins, temples, and bouldered landscapes. Explore the Virupaksha Temple, Vittala Temple, and the Hampi Bazaar to step back in time.



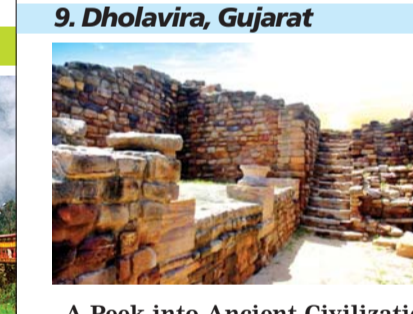
7. Chitrakote, Chhattisgarh

India's Niagara Falls Dubbed the 'Niagara of India,' Chitrakote Falls on the Indravati River is a spectacular sight, especially during the monsoon. Surrounded by dense forests, it's a haven for nature enthusiasts and photographers.

8. Gurez Valley, J&K

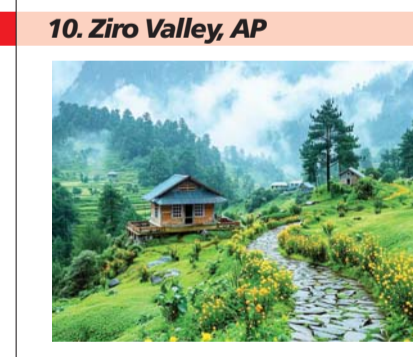


Untouched Beauty A hidden paradise in Kashmir, Gurez Valley offers untouched natural beauty, complete with lush meadows, wooden houses, and snow-capped mountains. It's an ideal destination for trekking, fishing, and soaking in serenity.



9. Dholavira, Gujarat

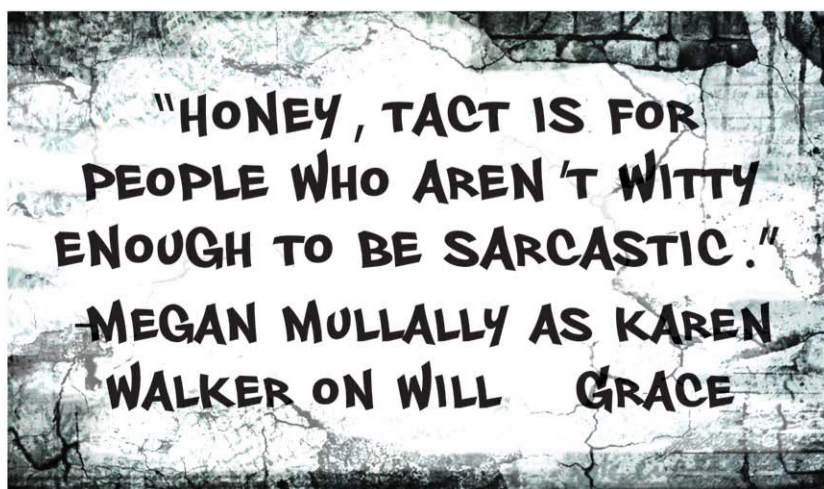
A Peek into Ancient Civilization or history buffs, Dholavira in Gujarat, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, provides a fascinating glimpse into the Indus Valley Civilization. Explore the well-preserved ruins and water conservation systems that date back thousands of years.



10. Ziro Valley, AP

A Music Lover's Haven Known for the Ziro Festival of Music, this tranquil valley is home to the Apatani tribe. With its rolling hills, lush paddy fields, and unique bamboo architecture, Ziro is a perfect retreat for cultural enthusiasts.

THE WALL



BABY BLUES



ZITS

