

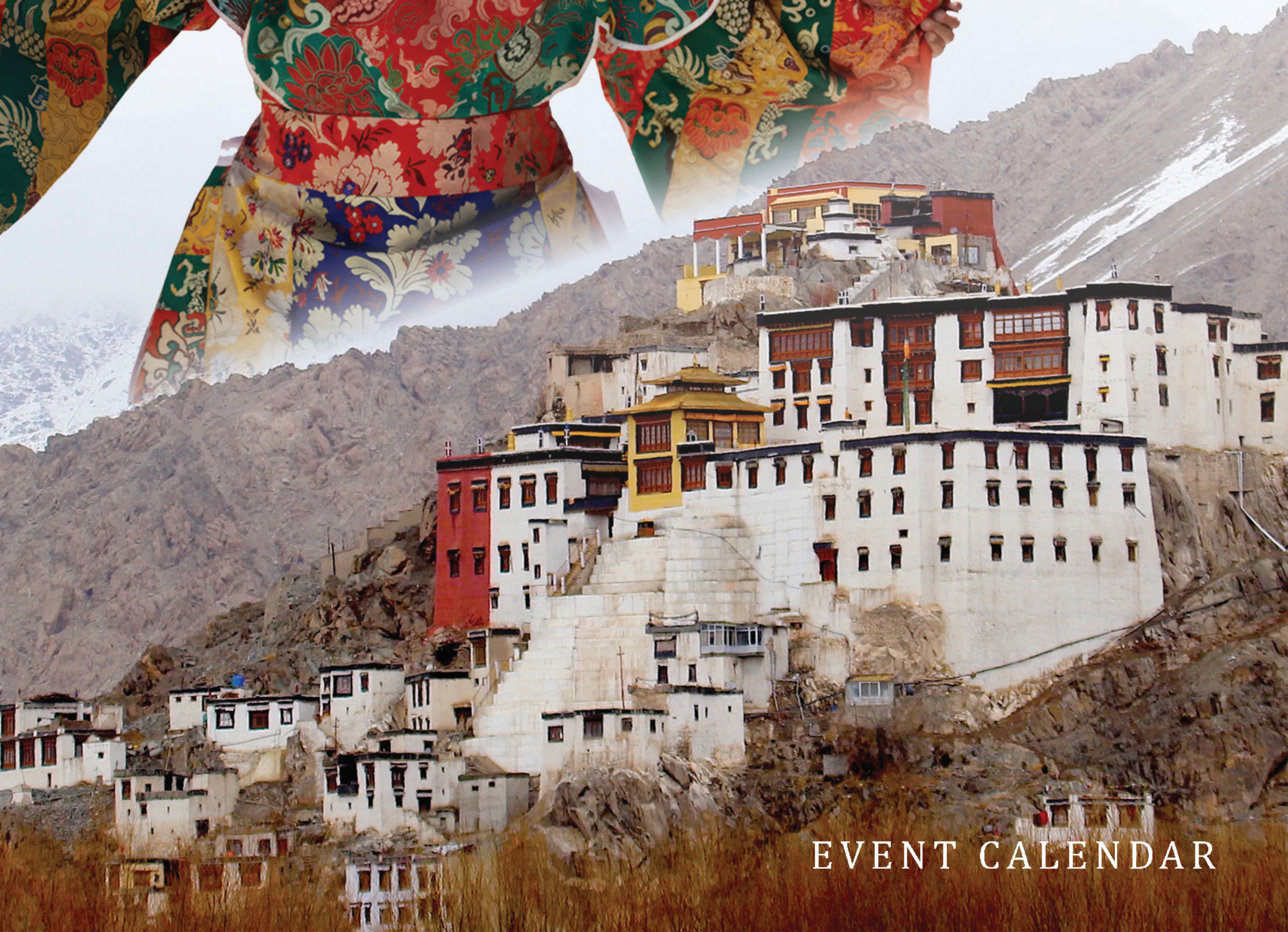


LADAKH



Ladakh's
**MONASTIC
FESTIVALS**

2026
2027-2028



EVENT CALENDAR

Ladakh's MONASTIC FESTIVALS

2026
2027-2028



Monastic festivals of Ladakh are vibrant cultural celebrations held in the ancient monasteries across the region. These festivals, marked by sacred mask dances (Cham), traditional music, and spiritual rituals, offer visitors a rare glimpse into Ladakh's rich Buddhist heritage. For tourists, attending these events is an unforgettable experience — a chance to witness living traditions, deep spirituality, and the timeless beauty of Ladakhi culture.






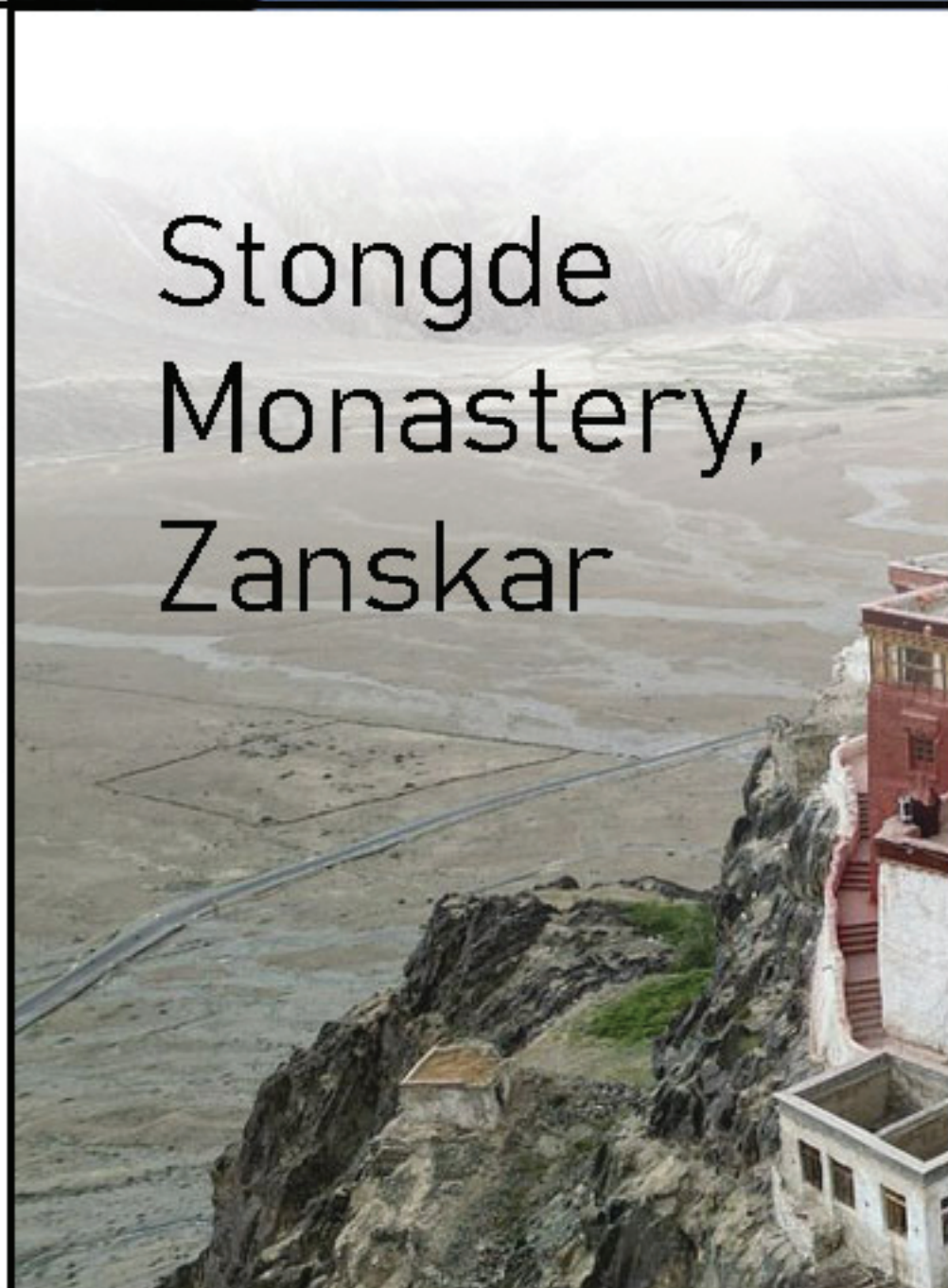

Monastic Festival Calendar of Ladakh – 2026-2027-2028

FESTIVAL NAME	LOCATION	(2026)	(2027)	(2028)
<p>Spituk Gustor</p> <p>Sacred monastic mask dances at Spituk mark the triumph of good over evil with vibrant rituals and chants.</p>	<p>Spituk Monastery</p> 	<p>16 – 17 Jan</p> 	<p>05 – 06 Jan</p> 	<p>24 – 25 Jan</p> 
<p>Dosmochey</p> <p>Leh's festival of purification where monks perform rituals to drive away evil spirits and usher in peace.</p>	<p>Leh, Likir, Diskit</p> 	<p>15 – 16 Feb</p> 	<p>04 – 05 Feb</p> 	<p>23 – 24 Feb</p> 
<p>Yargon Tungshak</p> <p>This Festival lights up Nubra Valley with Cham Dance, local cuisine, and monastery prayers, celebrating tradition in a lively two-day event.</p>	<p>Yarma Monastery</p> 	<p>03 – 04 Mar</p> 	<p>10 – 11 Feb</p> 	<p>28 – 29 Feb</p> 
<p>Stok Guru Tsechu</p> <p>Known for oracles, the festival at Stok Palace blends mystic prophecy with monastic celebration.</p>	<p>Stok Palace, Monastery</p> 	<p>08 – 09 Mar</p> 	<p>15 – 16 Feb</p> 	<p>09 – 10 Mar</p> 


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FESTIVAL NAME	LOCATION	(2026)	(2027)	(2028)
<p>Matho Nagrang</p> <p>Two oracles at Matho Monastery reveal divine visions amid colorful Chamdances and spiritual rituals.</p>	<p>Matho Monastery</p> 	<p>02 – 03 Mar</p>	<p>19 – 20 Feb</p>	<p>09 – 10 Mar</p>
<p>Shey Doo Lhoo</p> <p>Marks the beginning of the sowing season; monks and villagers gather to pray for a good harvest.</p>	<p>Shey Monastery</p> 	<p>18 Mar</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>Saka Dawa</p> <p>The holiest Buddhist month, celebrating Buddha's birth, enlightenment, and Parinirvana with prayers and offerings.</p>	<p>All over Ladakh</p> 	<p>31 May</p>	<p>18 Jun</p>	<p>07 Jun</p>
<p>Yuru Kabgyat</p> <p>Two-day mask dance festival at Lamayuru Monastery, dedicated to peace and the destruction of evil.</p>	<p>Lamayuru Monastery</p> 	<p>13 – 14 Jun</p>	<p>01 – 02 Jul</p>	<p>19 – 20 Jun</p>

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FESTIVAL NAME	LOCATION	(2026)	(2027)	(2028)
<p>Hemis Tsechu</p> <p>Ladakh's grandest monastic festival honoring Guru Padmasambhava through majestic mask dances and rituals.</p>	<p>Hemis Monastery</p> 	<p>24 – 25 Jun</p> 	<p>13 – 14 Jul</p> 	<p>01 – 02 Jul</p> 
<p>Shachukul Kabgyat</p> <p>Traditional Cham dances at Shachukul Monastery celebrate Buddhist teachings and monastic unity.</p>	<p>Shachukul Monastery</p> 	<p>02 – 03 Jul</p> 	<p>20 – 21 Jul</p> 	<p>08 – 09 Jul</p> 
<p>Stongde Gustor</p> <p>Zanskar's vibrant festival at Stongde Monastery showcasing ritual dances and spiritual devotion.</p>	<p>Stongde Monastery, Zanskar</p> 	<p>02 – 03 Jul</p> 	<p>21 – 22 Jul</p> 	<p>09 – 10 Jul</p> 

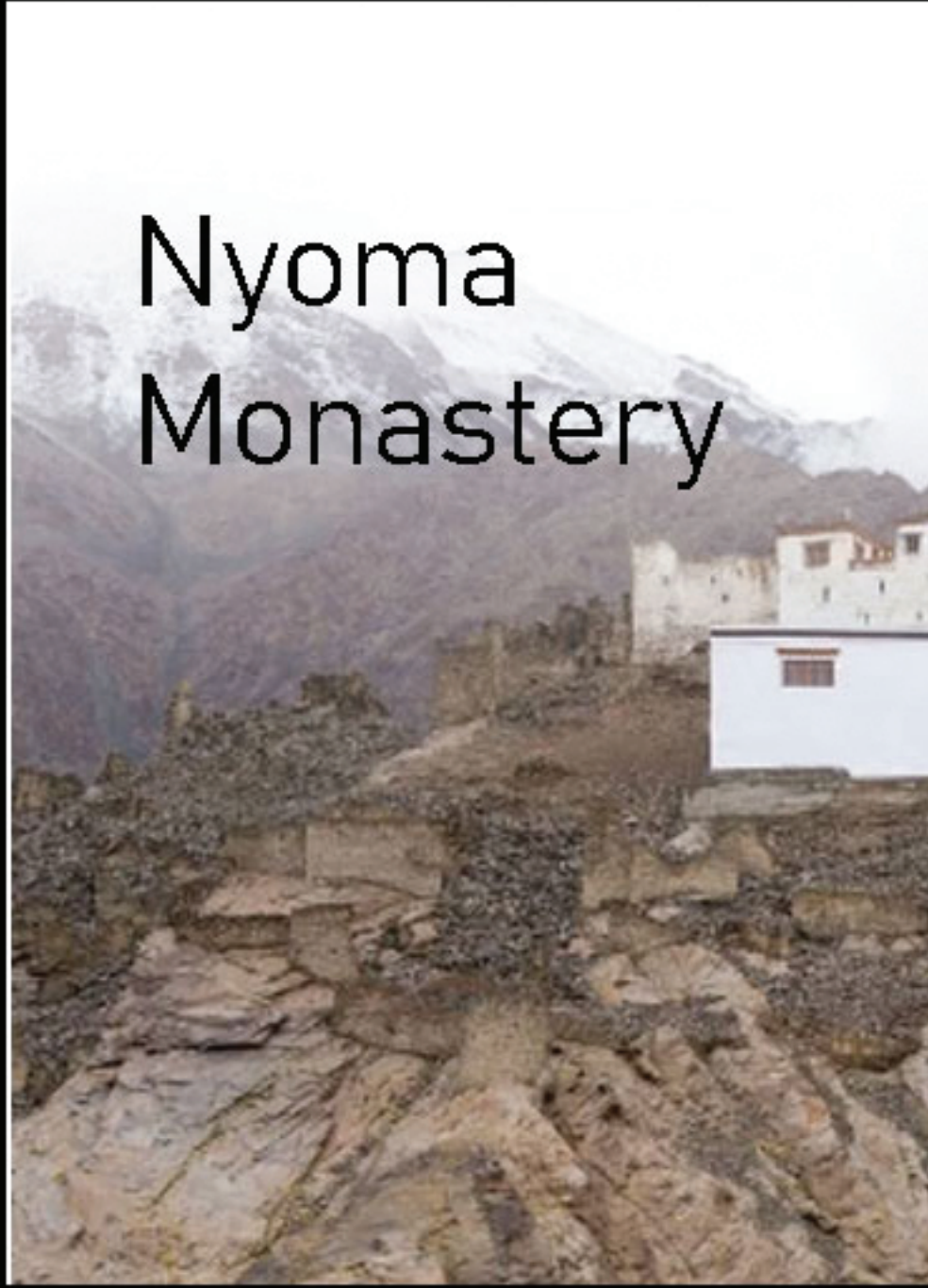

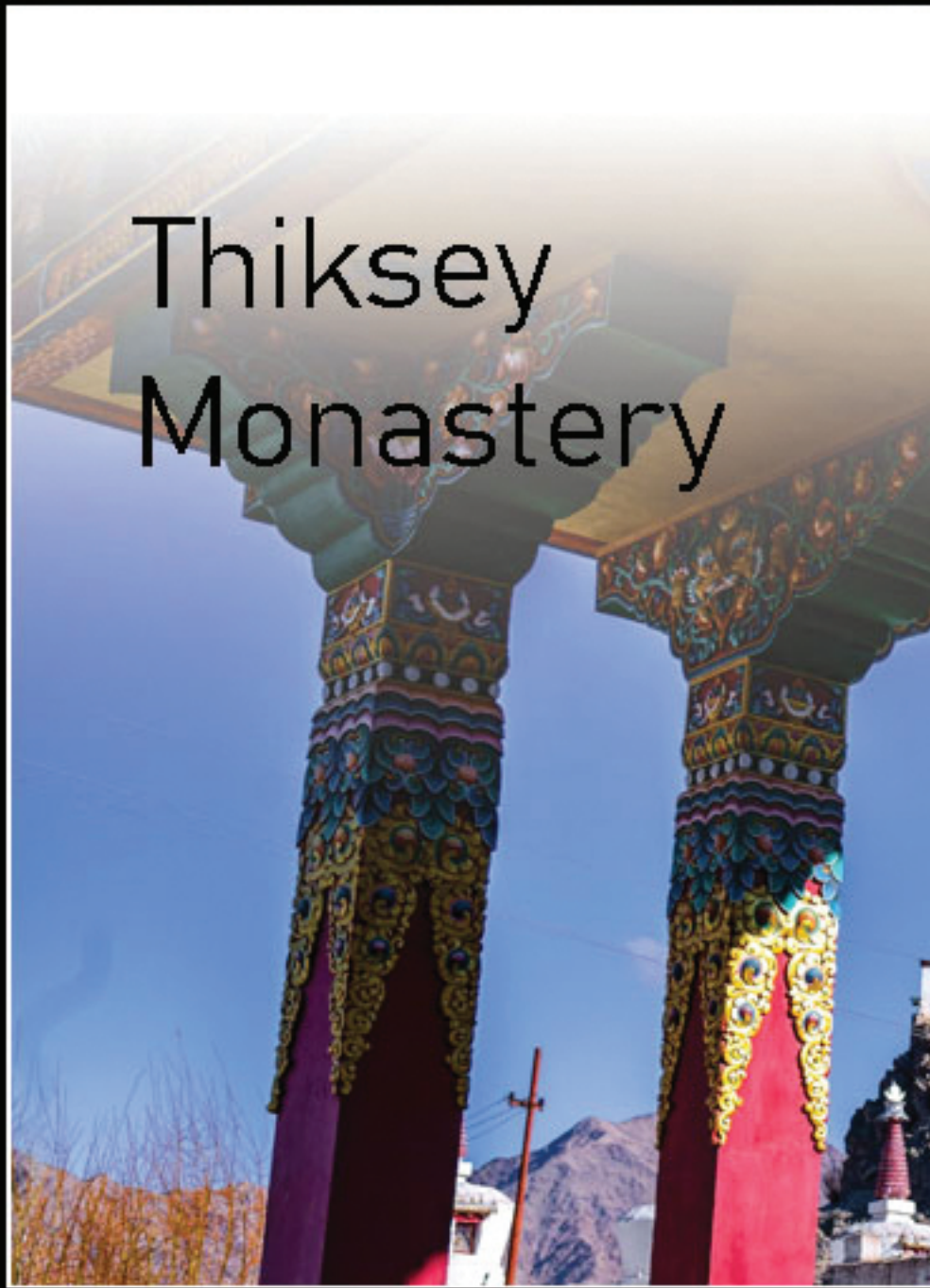


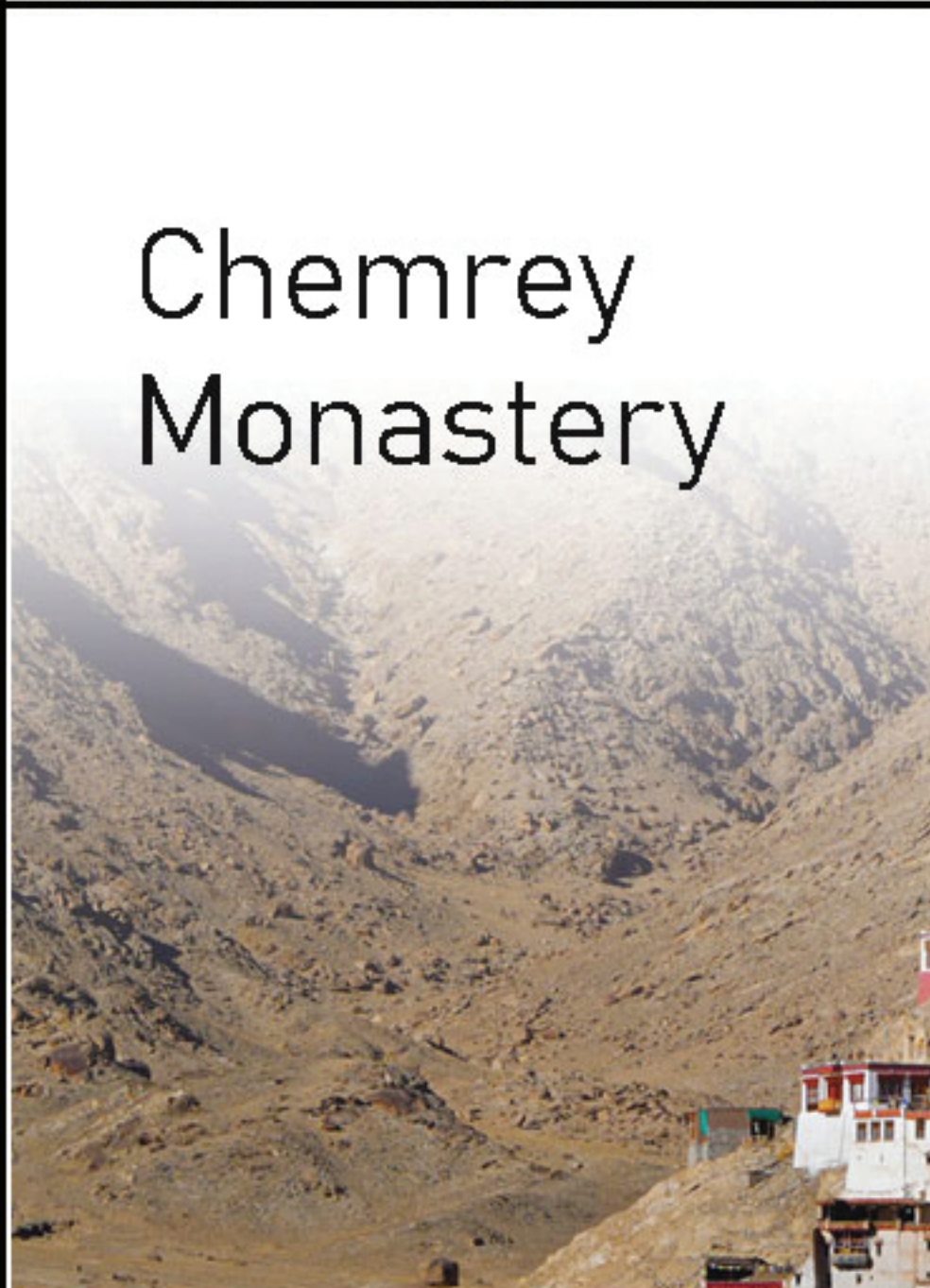


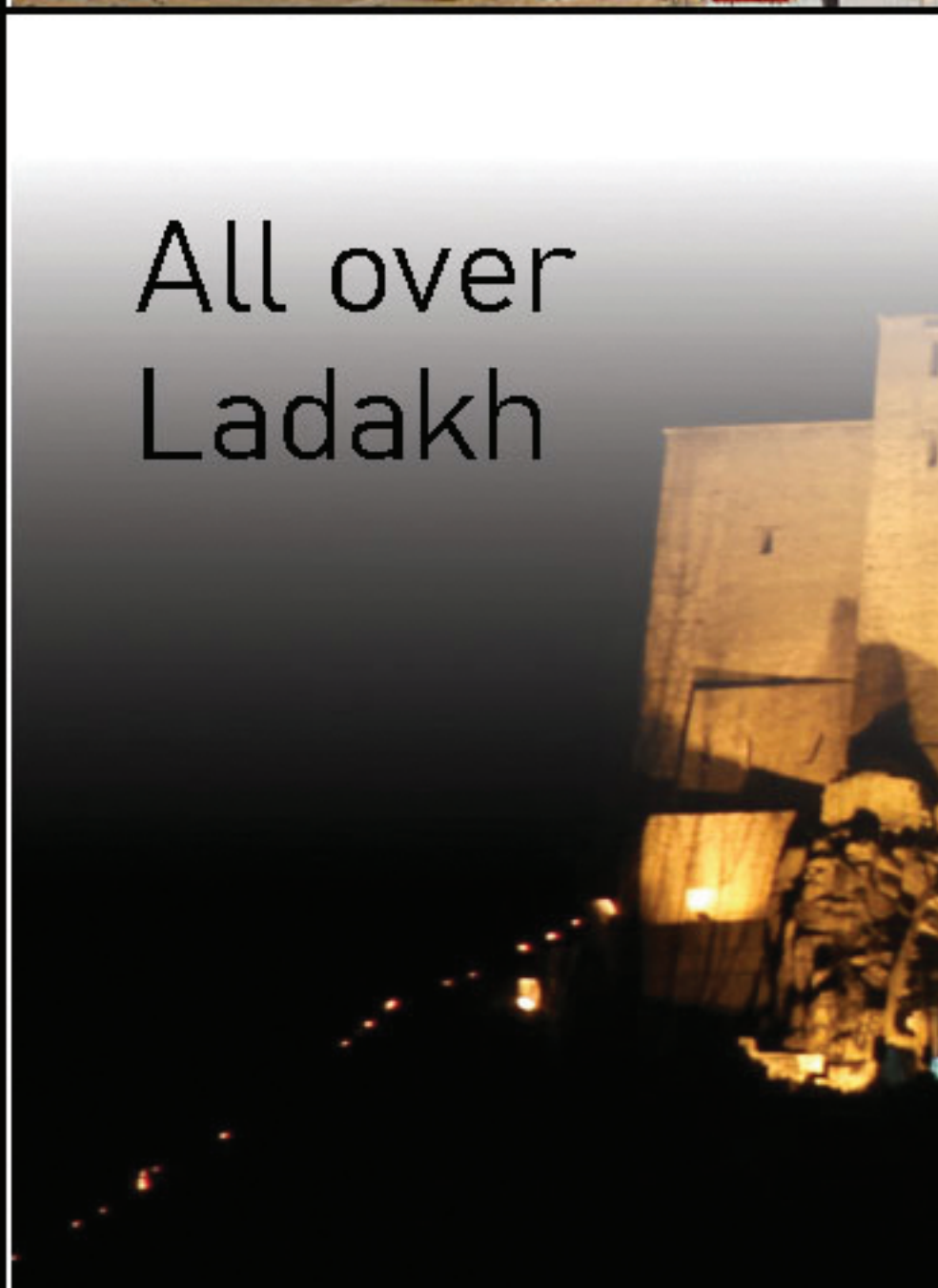


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FESTIVAL NAME	LOCATION	(2026)	(2027)	(2028)
<p>Phyang Tserup</p> <p>Phyang's annual mask dance festival brings together monks and villagers for prayers and blessings.</p>	<p>Phyang Monastery</p> 	<p>12 – 13 Jul</p>	<p>30 – 31 Jul</p>	<p>19 – 20 Jul</p>
<p>Karsha Gustor</p> <p>Zanskar's largest monastery festival at Karsha celebrates victory of virtue with colorful mask dances.</p>	<p>Karsha Monastery Zanskar</p> 	<p>12 – 13 Jul</p>	<p>31 Jul – 01 Aug</p>	<p>20 – 21 Jul</p>
<p>Korzok Gustor</p> <p>High-altitude festival at Korzok on Tso Moriri Lake marked by sacred Cham dances and nomadic joy.</p>	<p>Korzok Monastery</p> 	<p>17– 18 Jul</p>	<p>05 – 06 Aug</p>	<p>24 – 25 Jul</p>
<p>Takthok Tsechu</p> <p>Held in the cave monastery of Takthok, it honors Guru Padmasambhava with sacred mask performances.</p>	<p>Takthok Monastery</p> 	<p>24 – 25 Jul</p>	<p>11 – 12 Aug</p>	<p>31 Jul – 01 Aug</p>

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FESTIVAL NAME	LOCATION	(2026)	(2027)	(2028)
<p>Sani Naro Nasjal</p> <p>Ancient Zaskar festival at Sani Monastery featuring traditional dances and communal celebrations.</p>	<p>Sani Monastery, Zaskar</p> 	<p>28 – 29 Jul</p>	<p>16 – 17 Aug</p>	<p>04 – 05 Aug</p>
<p>Tingang Tserkarmo</p> <p>The Tukpey Cho-Nga Festival at Tserkarmo Monastery is celebrated annually on the full moon day of the 6th month of the Tibetan calendar.</p>	<p>Tserkarmo Monastery, Tingmosgang</p> 	<p>–</p>	<p>17 Aug</p>	<p>05 Aug</p>
<p>Diskit Gustor</p> <p>Nubra's signature monastery festival at Diskit, known for Cham dances and prayers for world peace.</p>	<p>Diskit Monastery</p> 	<p>08 – 09 Oct</p>	<p>27 – 28 Oct</p>	<p>16 – 17 Oct</p>

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FESTIVAL NAME	LOCATION	(2026)	(2027)	(2028)
<p>Nyoma Gustor</p> <p>Nyoma Gustor is an annual monastery festival in Nyoma, celebrating good's triumph over evil with prayers for peace and happiness.</p>	<p>Nyoma Monastery</p> 	<p>Soon to be Annouced</p>	<p>27 – 28 Oct</p> 	<p>16 – 17 Oct</p> 
<p>Thiksey Gustor</p> <p>Spectacular mask dances and rituals at Thiksey Monastery mark the victory of light over darkness.</p>	<p>Thiksey Monastery</p> 	<p>28 – 29 Oct</p>	<p>16 – 17 Nov</p> 	<p>05 – 06 Nov</p> 
<p>Chemrey Wangchok</p> <p>A grand religious gathering at Chemrey Monastery with prayers, chants, and colorful festivities.</p>	<p>Chemrey Monastery</p> 	<p>07 – 08 Nov</p>	<p>25 – 26 Nov</p> 	<p>14 – 15 Nov</p> 
<p>Galdan Namchot</p> <p>Marks the birth and enlightenment of Tsongkhapa, lighting lamps across Ladakh's homes and monasteries.</p>	<p>All over Ladakh</p> 	<p>03 Dec</p>	<p>22 Dec</p> 	<p>11 Dec</p> 

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FESTIVAL NAME	LOCATION	(2026)	(2027)	(2028)
<p>Ladakhi Losar (New Year)</p> <p>Ladakh's New Year celebration with rituals, feasts, dances, and offerings for prosperity.</p>	<p>All over Ladakh</p> 	<p>09 Dec</p> 	<p>28 Dec</p> 	<p>16 Dec</p> 

Do's and Dont's

DOS	DON'TS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dress Modestly: Ensure your shoulders and knees are covered when visiting monastic religious sites. Remove hats and sunglasses indoors. • Seek Permission for Photos: Always ask before taking photographs, especially in religious or private spaces. Respect any restrictions and avoid using flash indoors. • Participate Respectfully: When attending ceremonies or festivals, follow local customs and avoid interrupting private rituals. Feel free to ask questions respectfully about customs. • Prayer Flags: Admire prayer flags from a distance; do not touch or disturb them. • Prayer Walls: Walk clockwise around prayer walls and mani stones to show respect. • Prayer Wheels: Turn prayer wheels gently in a clockwise direction; avoid spinning them forcefully. • Religious Artifacts: Maintain a respectful distance from all religious items and do not touch them unless invited. • Avoid Touching Ancient Structures: Do not lean on or touch ancient artifacts to prevent damage. • Preserve Heritage Sites: Never mark, deface, or vandalize monastic religious sites. • Dispose of Trash Properly: Use designated bins for waste. • Adhere to Posted Rules: Follow any regulations at monastic religious sites to protect both visitors and the integrity of the site. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Don't Disrupt Local Traditions: Avoid interrupting or intruding on private rituals during ceremonies or festivals. 2. Don't Use Flash Photography: Flash can damage delicate artworks and historical sites; avoid using it indoors. 3. Don't Touch Sacred Items: Do not handle or disturb prayer flags, prayer wheels, or any religious artifacts. 4. Don't Vandalize Heritage Sites: Marking or defacing sites is illegal and disrespectful. 5. Don't Ignore Site Regulations: Disregarding posted guidelines can harm both the visitor experience and the preservation of the site. 6. Don't Climb on Monuments: Avoid climbing on Stupas, or any religious structures, as this is disrespectful and can cause damage. <p>*** The festival dates have been graciously provided by Shri Thupstan Janphan, a highly esteemed local astrologer of Ladakh. His expert insights and traditional astrological calculations greatly contribute to the accuracy of the festival calendar, ensuring the continued preservation of Ladakh's rich cultural and spiritual heritage.</p>



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Published by the Department of Tourism Union Territory of Ladakh



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