

REEL COMPETITION FAQs

1. What is Bhishma Film Festival?

Bhishma Film Festival is an international platform celebrating **Bharatiya Gyan Parampara (Indian Knowledge Systems)** through contemporary visual storytelling. The first edition focuses on the powerful and evolving format of **Reels**.

2. What is the theme of the festival?

The festival explores **Bharatiya Gyan Parampara** through the theme **“Ancient Wisdom. Modern Lenses.”** Creators are invited to reinterpret India's knowledge, traditions and cultural heritage through contemporary storytelling.

3. Who can participate?

The festival is open to **participants of all ages** from **India and abroad**, including filmmakers, Reel creators, students, independent creators, artists and storytellers. Both emerging and established creators are welcome to participate.

4. What kind of Reels can be submitted?

Reels should creatively engage with themes related to **Bharatiya Gyan Parampara**, including Vedic literature, ancient Indian knowledge, philosophy, science, arts, culture, traditions, ecology, spirituality and their contemporary relevance.

5. Can creators from outside India participate?

Yes. The festival welcomes **international participation** and encourages creators from around the world to explore and interpret Bharatiya knowledge traditions through their own creative perspectives.

6. What languages are accepted?

Reels may be submitted in Hindi, English, or any other language with **English subtitles**.

7. What are the awards and prizes?

The International Reels Competition offers **₹1,00,000 for First Prize, ₹75,000 for Second Prize and ₹50,000 for Third Prize**. It also includes **five Critics' Awards of ₹25,000 each** and **ten Noteworthy Awards of ₹10,000 each**.

8. How will the entries be evaluated?

A professional jury will evaluate entries based on originality, storytelling, creativity, cinematic expression, technical quality, relevance to Bharatiya Gyan Parampara, and contemporary impact. The jury's decision will be **final and binding**.

9. Will selected Reels be screened at the festival?

Yes. **Selected works** will be presented as part of the **festival's curated programme**, allowing creators to showcase their work to an audience of filmmakers, artists, students, academics and cultural enthusiasts.

10. When and where will the festival take place?

The first edition of Bhishma Film Festival will be held from **29–31 January 2027** at **Fergusson College, Shivajinagar, Pune, India.**

11. What is the submission format?

Participants must submit an original Reel **in vertical 9:16 format** with a **maximum duration of 180 seconds**. The high-quality video must be uploaded to **Google Drive with viewing access** enabled. Enter the shareable Google Drive link in the official submission form together with the required participant and Reel details.

12. What is the entry fee?

The entry fee is **₹500 per Reel** for participants in India and **USD 10 per Reel** for international participants. A separate entry fee applies to each Reel and must be paid through the official festival submission platform. Entry fees are **non-refundable**.

13. Can I submit more than one Reel?

Yes. Participants may submit **more than one Reel**. Each Reel must be **submitted separately** and requires **its own entry fee**.

14. What is the submission deadline?

The final deadline for Reel submissions is **20 November 2026**. All entries must be submitted through the official festival submission platform by this date.

15. What supporting materials must be submitted?

Participants must submit a **poster in JPEG format** and a **Reel synopsis with a detailed credit list in PDF format**, along with the Reel submission.

16. Must the Reel be original?

Yes. All submissions **must be original**. Animation, live action and mixed-media Reels are welcome. Participants are responsible for securing all necessary **copyright permissions** for music, footage, images and other material used in their Reel.

17. Who can I contact for submission-related questions?

Contact the Bhishma Film Festival team at **+91 8605302010** or **+91 9156001596**, or email bff@bhishmaiks.org.