



Buddha Smriti Park, also known as Buddha Memorial Park, is a prominent urban park located in Patna, Bihar. Spanning **22 acres**, the park is dedicated to the life and teachings of **Gautama Buddha** and serves as a significant site for both tourists and locals interested in Buddhist culture and history.

Historical Background

- **Inception:** The park was conceptualized by **Nitish Kumar**, the Chief Minister of Bihar, and was inaugurated on **May 27, 2010**, by the **14th Dalai Lama**. The opening coincided with the celebration of Buddha Purnima, marking the 2554th birth anniversary of Buddha.
- **Location:** The park is built on the site of the former **Bankipur Central Jail**, which was decommissioned after a new jail was constructed on the outskirts of Patna. This transformation from a historical prison to a serene park symbolizes a shift towards peace and spirituality.

Key Features

1. **Patliputra Karuna Stupa:** The central attraction of Buddha Smriti Park is the **Patliputra Karuna Stupa**, which stands at **200 feet** tall. This stupa enshrines the holy relics of Buddha, including a pot containing his ashes that were excavated from Vaishali. The stupa serves as a focal point for visitors and devotees.
2. **Meditation Center:** The park includes a meditation center designed to promote mindfulness and spiritual practice. It features air-conditioned meditation cells that offer tranquil views of the stupa.
3. **Museum:** A museum within the park showcases various Buddhist artifacts and relics from different countries, including Japan, Myanmar, South Korea, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The museum aims to educate visitors about Buddhism's history and its global influence.
4. **Landscaped Gardens:** The park boasts beautifully landscaped gardens with lush greenery, walking paths, and seating areas, making it an ideal place for relaxation and reflection.
5. **Cultural Events:** Buddha Smriti Park hosts various cultural events and programs throughout the year, including laser shows that depict the history of Bihar from ancient times to the present.

Accessibility

- **Location:** Situated near **Frazer Road**, close to Patna Junction railway station, Buddha Smriti Park is easily accessible for both locals and tourists.
- **Entry Fee:** The park charges an entry fee of approximately **₹20** for adults and children alike.

Conclusion

Buddha Smriti Park stands as a serene oasis in Patna, dedicated to promoting peace, spirituality, and cultural heritage associated with Buddhism. Its combination of historical significance, architectural beauty, and tranquil environment makes it a must-visit destination for anyone exploring Patna. Whether one seeks spiritual solace or simply wishes to enjoy nature, Buddha Smriti Park offers a unique experience that reflects the teachings of Gautama Buddha.