

Millions Gather for the Grand Kumbh Mela

Kumbh Mela is one of the largest religious gatherings in the world, attracting millions of people from India and abroad. This event happens every few years, rotating around four cities in India. The festival has deep connections to Hindu beliefs, especially the idea that bathing in holy rivers during the event can purify the soul and wash away sins.

Kumbh Mela honors the mythological story of the gods churning the ocean to find a special nectar. Four drops of this nectar are said to have fallen at the locations where the festival takes place, making these areas holy. Pilgrims believe that by bathing in the rivers during the festival, they can free themselves from the cycle of rebirth and move closer to spiritual freedom.

The event usually lasts for about 45 days, with various religious ceremonies and activities happening throughout. This year, Kumbh Mela began on January 13 and concluded on February 26. The main event is the “royal bath,” where large groups of people gather to bathe in the river. Holy men, some of whom cover themselves in ash to show their



rejection of material life, lead these rituals.

Kumbh Mela is not just about religious rituals; it is also a cultural event. There are many spiritual discussions, prayers, and even performances to enjoy. Temporary camps are set up to provide food and shelter for those who attend. Organizers manage such large crowds by setting up facilities like hospitals, sanitation systems, and transportation networks.

The scale of Kumbh Mela is incredible, with millions of people attending. It is a place to learn more about Hindu traditions and experience their culture. Kumbh Mela is truly a unique event that celebrates faith and the power of community.

Reading Comprehension

- () 1. What is the passage mainly about? (main idea)
- (A) The religious and cultural significance of Kumbh Mela.
 - (B) The history of Hinduism and its origins in ancient Indian traditions.
 - (C) The religious texts that explain the mythological story behind Kumbh Mela.
 - (D) The challenges faced by organizers in managing large crowds during Kumbh Mela.
- () 2. From (A) to (F) below, choose the **ONES** that are true according to this passage. (多選題)
- (supporting details)
- (A) The Kumbh Mela also takes place in cities outside India.
 - (B) Holy men demonstrate their athletic skills during Kumbh Mela.
 - (C) The event lasts longer than one month and includes various ceremonies.
 - (D) The main activity during Kumbh Mela is a large gathering for a ceremonial meal.
 - (E) Bathing in rivers during Kumbh Mela is believed to help people escape the cycle of rebirth.
 - (F) The locations of Kumbh Mela are connected to a mythological battle between gods and humans.
3. Which word in the fourth paragraph means “a building or area designed to offer protection from bad weather or danger”? (填充) (words in context)
- _____
4. 請根據文章內容，從文章中找出最適當的單詞 (word) 填入下列句子空格中，並視句型結構需要做適當的字形變化，使句子語意完整、語法正確，並符合全文文意。每格限填一個單詞 (word)。
- (填充) (words in context)

The Kumbh Mela is one of the largest religious gatherings in the world, _____ (A) _____ for several weeks at a holy river every few years.

(A) _____

Vocabulary and Phrases

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Kumbh Mela <i>n.</i> 大壺節 | 4. purify <i>v.</i> 使淨化 | 7. nectar <i>n.</i> 瓊漿玉液 |
| 2. rotate <i>v.</i> 輪流 | 5. mythological <i>adj.</i> 神話的 | 8. pilgrim <i>n.</i> 朝聖者 |
| 3. Hindu <i>n.</i> 印度教教徒 | 6. churn <i>v.</i> 翻攪 | 9. sanitation <i>n.</i> 衛生設備 |

How Beer Waste is Changing the Future of Food and Fashion

The beer industry produces a large amount of waste, mainly in the form of brewers’ spent grain. This wet, sticky by-product is produced in huge quantities—about 37 million tons—globally each year. Normally, this grain is either used as animal feed or is dumped in landfills, where it rots and creates methane. But now, scientists and companies are finding 1 ways to reuse this waste product.

Brewers’ spent grain is rich in protein and fiber, making it a valuable 2. Some companies have started using it to make vegan barley milk, which is similar to oat milk but with less sugar. In fact, some major brewers have created their own barley milk products using this grain. These innovative products help reduce waste while offering a more sustainable milk alternative.

Other companies have found a way to use brewers’ spent grain to make leather-like materials. These materials can be used in the fashion industry as alternatives to animal leather. Depending on the type of beer used, the color of this “vegan leather” can range from brown to black. This new material is



strong, flexible, and much better for the environment than 3 leather.

Researchers are also exploring how this grain can be used in food products like baked goods and coffee. Since brewers’ spent grain is full of nutrients, it could help address the 4 demand for plant-based protein. In the future, it might even be used to create eco-friendly packaging or construction materials.

Using brewers’ spent grain in these ways helps reduce waste and can be an important 5 toward more sustainable industries. What started as beer waste might just change the way we think about food, fashion, and even the environment.

Fill in the Blanks

(A) resource	(B) traditional	(C) step	(D) creative	(E) growing
--------------	-----------------	----------	--------------	-------------

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Vocabulary and Phrases

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. brewer <i>n.</i> 啤酒釀造商 | 4. methane <i>n.</i> 沼氣 | 7. oat <i>adj.</i> 燕麥的 |
| 2. by-product <i>n.</i> 副產品 | 5. vegan <i>adj.</i> 純素的 | 8. nutrient <i>n.</i> 養分 |
| 3. landfill <i>n.</i> 垃圾掩埋場 | 6. barley <i>n.</i> 大麥 | 9. packaging <i>n.</i> 包裝材料 |

譯

數百萬人為重大的大壺節齊聚一堂

大壺節是世界上最的宗教集會之一，吸引來自印度和世界各地的數百萬人參加。這個活動每隔幾年舉行一次，會在印度的四個城市輪換舉行。這個節日與印度教教徒的信念有著深厚的關聯性，尤其是認為活動期間在聖河中沐浴可以使靈魂得到淨化、並洗清罪孽這個概念。

大壺節紀念一則眾神翻攪海洋以尋找一種特殊的瓊漿玉液的神話故事。據說有四滴瓊漿玉液掉落在舉行大壺節的四個地點，使這些地區成為聖地。朝聖者相信，透過在活動期間在河中沐浴，他們可以擺脫輪迴，並更接近靈性的自由。

這個活動通常持續約 45 天，期間會舉行各種宗教儀式和活動。今年的大壺節於 1 月 13 日開始，並於 2 月 26 日結束。主要活動是「皇家沐浴」，就是當成群的人聚集在河中沐浴。聖人會領導這些儀式，且其中一些聖人會用灰燼覆蓋自己，以象徵他們對物質生活的排斥。

大壺節不僅是宗教儀式，它還是一個文化活動。此活動有許多靈性的討論、祈禱，甚至還有表演可以欣賞。臨時營地被設立，以提供食物和住宿處給參與者。主辦方會設置醫院、衛生設備以及交通網絡等設施來應對如此龐大的人群。

大壺節的規模令人難以置信，有數百萬人參加。這是一個更了解印度教傳統和體驗其文化的地方。大壺節真的是一個慶祝信仰與社群力量的獨特活動。

譯

啤酒廢料如何改變食品與時尚的未來

啤酒產業產生大量的廢料，這些廢料主要以啤酒釀造商的剩餘麥渣之形式出現。這種濕黏的副產品每年在全球被大量生產，產量達約 3700 萬公噸。通常，這些麥渣會用作動物飼料，或是被丟棄到垃圾掩埋場，並在此腐爛和產生沼氣。但是現在許多科學家和公司正找到創新的方式來重新利用這些廢料。

啤酒釀造商的剩餘麥渣富含蛋白質和纖維，這使它成為一個有價值的資源。有些公司已經開始將其用來製作純素的大麥牛奶，這類牛奶與燕麥奶相似，但含糖量較低。事實上，一些大型啤酒釀造商也已經利用這些麥渣創造自己的大麥牛奶產品。這些創新的產品有助於減少廢料，同時也提供更具永續性的牛奶替代品。

其它公司已經找到方法，將啤酒釀造商的剩餘麥渣製成類似皮革的材料。這些材料可以用在時尚產業中，作為動物皮革的替代品。根據所使用的啤酒種類，這種「純素皮革」的顏色範圍為從棕色到黑色。這種新材料強韌且有彈性，比傳統皮革對環境的影響更好。

研究人員也在探索如何將這些麥渣用於食品產品，例如烘焙食品和咖啡。由於啤酒釀造商的剩餘麥渣充滿了養分，它可能有助於應對對植物性蛋白質日益增長的需求。未來，它甚至可能被用來製作環保包裝材料或建築材料。

以這些方式使用啤酒釀造商的剩餘麥渣有助於減少廢料，並可能是邁向更多永續產業重要的一步。起初只是啤酒廢料的東西，或許會改變我們對食品、時尚或甚至是對環境的看法。

閱讀測驗解答： 1. A 2. CE 3. shelter 4. lasting

文意選填解答： 1. D 2. A 3. B 4. E 5. C

Acknowledgments

“Millions Gather for the Grand Kumbh Mela” by Catherine Ruth Harrington／審者：蘇文賢

“How Beer Waste is Changing the Future of Food and Fashion” by Catherine Ruth Harrington

Picture Credits

All pictures in this publication are authorized for use by Shutterstock.



三民新聞宅急通



三民東大英文
LINE