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Darbar of the mystics

Shanaya Lalkaka

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Maharaj Gaj Singh has requested for an annual Sufi festival in Nagaur

Earlier this year in February, Sufi Darbar, a two-day Sufi music festival that was put together by Mahesh Babu and his Banyan Tree Events with the support of many others, received rave reviews. The festival brought together acclaimed Sufi singers from across the country and names like Latif Bolat and Sheikh Yassin El-Tohami and group from Turkey and Egypt respectively to the majestic backdrop of the Nagaur Fort.



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A file photo of Sheikh Yassin El-Tohami and his group in a performance

"Nagaur," Mahesh Babu tells us, "is a city of great significance in the history of Sufism, so the festival was highly appreciated by our audience. We received such a great response that Maharaja Gaj Singh has requested us to make this festival an annual event."

The festival which will focus solely on Sufi music is scheduled to take place in Nagaur on the January 31 and February 1 2009. Besides several artists from across the country, next year, artists from Pakistan, Iran and Sudan are expected too.

l_shanay@dnaindia.net