

## Alwar's Living Legacy: Princess Janaki Kumari

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In an exclusive cover story for **HELLO! India**, **Princess Janaki Kumari of Alwar** emerges as a captivating blend of **royal heritage, youthful vision, and civic dedication**. At just 27 years old, the descendant of nine generations of Alwar royalty is turning her passion for art, history, and community into a determined mission: to restore heritage sites and put **Alwar and Bundi** firmly on India's cultural and tourism map. [Hello Magazine](#)

### Rooted in Legacy, Focused on the Future

At her ancestral residence, **Phool Bagh Palace** in central Alwar, Janaki welcomed HELLO! India for her first-ever magazine photoshoot. Dressed in family heirlooms — including her great-grandmother's pastel tissue saree — she spoke warmly of her legacy and the responsibility it inspires. "This drape belonged to my great-grandmother, Rani Usha Devi... It's a trip down memory lane," she shared with pride. Though raised between **Delhi and Alwar**, Janaki's path led her away from the legal world of metropolitan courts and back to her roots. A **political science graduate with a law degree from Lady Shri Ram College**, she chose purpose over prestige — foregoing a conventional career to **champion heritage preservation, tourism, and community welfare** in her home region.

### Vision for Alwar and Bundi

Princess Janaki's priorities are anchored in **two iconic Rajasthani destinations**:

#### Reviving Alwar's Tourism Appeal

"Alwar is currently just a transit city," Janaki explained, underlining a common perception that she intends to change. With plans to boost the city's visibility — both domestically and internationally — she aims to transform it into a meaningful cultural destination.

#### Restoration of Bundi's Artistic Treasures

An avid admirer of artistic heritage, she is deeply involved in the **restoration of Bundi's Garh Palace**, renowned for its centuries-old frescoes and rare paintings. These works, dating back to the 1600s and 1700s, have seen varying degrees of neglect — and Janaki wants that to change. She envisions a **museum equipped with audio guides, armoury displays, and educational content** that celebrates Bundi's artistic richness while inviting wider public engagement.

Her familial ties to Bundi are personal: her grandmother was a princess of Bundi, and her father is a trustee of the **Kuldevi Ashapura Mataji trust**, which works toward preserving heritage structures in the region.

### Blending Tradition with Youthful Dynamism

Janaki's daily life defies stereotypical images of royalty. In **formal pants and a crisp shirt**, she exudes both **regal charisma and the grounded spirit of Gen Z**. She described growing up moving between courtrooms in Delhi and

palace corridors in Alwar, with neither world feeling unnatural: “Everything was normalised... but what’s different from others is the sense of responsibility we take on for ourselves.”

Her engaging recounting of childhood tales — including one about a **pet lioness that roamed the palace grounds** — underscores a deep connection to the land and its stories, blending personal memory with collective heritage.

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