Fakir

a blackletter

WITH A HOLY KISS
There are freaks around Indian swamis gurus & fakirs hold sway over tourists creating miracles that leave people mind-twisted
Fakirs lie on a bed of nails, walk on burning coals or have a truck driven over their chests. Some pierce their tongues with a spear ‘without suffering’. It is likely they want to show off for the blue-eyed crowds how spiritually developed they are. As amazing as they are, we believe that true fakirs can’t be found under the spotlight, but among the normal people.

A true fakir for us is someone who gives everything as though it were life and death, who’s fully convinced of his/her doings and doesn’t mind making every effort to reach a goal.
These stories
...are told not only by Indian folks, but also by others who had stories of people tackling their lives with a stubborn, heroic attitude some being fakirs, some freaks, farmers and fathers. So read these examples, reflect upon them, and get your life going!

This example combines all 5 fonts of the Fakir text package.
Fakir font overview

**FAKIR TEXT**

- 01 Regular
- 02 Italic
- 03 SMALL CAPS
- 04 Black
- 05 Black Italic

**FAKIR DISPLAY**

- 06 Regular
- 07 Regular Condensed
- 08 Black
- 09 Black Condensed
- 10 SMALL CAPS

**EXTRA’S**

- 11 Ornaments

The typeface FAKIR is a set of edgy text and display fonts, ranging from tight and heavy to light and wide. It has 11 fonts.
Fakir ships in 4 different font packages:

- **Fakir hobby package** contains just 2 professional display fonts to start with.
  - Fonts: 06 08

- **Fakir text package** contains 5 text fonts, all what you'll need for text size settings.
  - Fonts: 01 02 03 04 05

- **Fakir display package** contains 5 display fonts for hungry headlines and titles.
  - Fonts: 06 07 08 09 10

- **Fakir complete package** contains 5 text & 5 display fonts + ornaments (only available in this package).
  - Fonts: 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11
Extraordinary strength carry one hundred kgs of rice on top of their head and knit socks simultaneously.
Sadhus, saints, fakirs, wandering ascetics – whatever their name and how ash smeared their body is, they all cheat you. Way down...
A few months ago we guys were lucky to meet Hira Ratan Manek in the Kinnaur valley of the Kinnaur valley of the
Back in Tibet, my parents used to drink three liter pots of Tibetan butter tea in a day, just like an average...
If consumed at once, can cause sudden death. He just had to test it, with various results.
They sing a mantra, nairasatt
I'm convinced the magical powers such nanners surly
swamis
ly gurus
and sad
pretending
a holy way
desires or
SPIRIT
GHOST
DEMON
Fakir Ornaments keyboard table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fakir Ornaments</th>
<th>keyboard table</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q W E R T Y U I O P</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A S D F G H &gt; &lt; J K ?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Z X C V B N ( ) L M !</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q w e r t y u i o p a</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s d j g h i [ ] { }</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z x c v b n m k l =</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fakir Ornaments is an extra set of fleurons, hands, banners and more. All arranged for an easy access on standard qwerty-keyboards. Apply for both text and display.

Fakir Ornaments are only available in Fakir complete package.
A couple of examples
Imagine the roads in the Himalaya: they are bumpy, narrow and mostly unpaved, without railings. Monsoon time makes the landmasses pregnant, ready to burst themselves down on the necks of innocent passengers. So I don’t need to tell you how many car accidents happen here.

In Kinnaur, which is one small part of HIMACHAL PRADISH (Indian part of Himalayas), four buses fell off the road last year. The most unlucky bus drove 48 people to their heavenly home in a couple of seconds. No one knows the reason for the misery.

Sometimes these stories bear tragicomic elements. In March 2003 a Bihari man (BIHAR is the poorest state in India) was in a bus full of government employees and loads of tax money. The bus fell off the cliff, many passengers died, but the Bihari man survived, although he got seriously injured. Seeing his opportunity, he poured the cash into his pockets and pants. Eventually he became so laden down with dough that he couldn’t walk fast enough to rescue himself – and so his corpse was found on the side of the road. Poor man, maybe he had a happy end, at least he was rich as a maharaja.

DORJEE (38), A COOK, TIBETAN DISH RESTAURANT, TABO, HIMACHAL PRADISH, INDIA

THIS EXAMPLE COMBINES fonts from the FAKIR text package, including Fakir Italic, Fakir Small Caps and Fakir Black Italic.
How NASA discovers new sources of energy

Living on sunlight

A few months ago we were lucky to meet Hira Ratan Manek (64) in the Kinnaur valley of the Indian Himalaya’s. He was busy packing the necessities for a trip to the USA, where NASA had invited him. Why? Well, he’s been living eight years on sunlight and some liquids. Sun baths for breakfast and sun baths for dinner. NASA was enthusiastic to investigate how he manages, as they would not like to pack space shuttles full of cans of tuna.

It was year 1995 when Hira Ratan made his pilgrimage to the Himalaya’s — and decided to stop eating. His wife Vimla said that Hira Ratan gazes at the sun mostly in the evenings for half an hour. That’s is enough to fill his stomach, though occasionally he might take a cup of coffee, tea or some other fluid. But just occasionally.

They don’t believe me. Why? What I tell is the truth.

‘As long as they are only going to technically measure my body, they will never find out the true source of my energy. NASA is lacking the spiritual knowledge, which, if they are open, I’m willing share with them,’ said Hira Ratan as his farewell words for us.

The astronauts may have their word to say about this diet, though, but we’re sure curious to know if NASA starts to install sundecks for the shuttles!

Indian taking a sun bath every morning and evening

A few years passed, and to my
A ghat walk

by

Martin Tiefenthaler

Translated from German by WOLFGANG OERTL
A ghat walk

While staying in Varanasi/Benares for a couple of months, every morning before sunrise I used to visit the “Ghats”, the sacred and ritually used banks of the Ganges, to meet a fakir and learn from him. Although Varanasi is not really quiet at night, there is a tangled web of hidden alleys where you can walk on your own. These were the paths I preferred to take, the better to be able to prepare for what I intended to encounter. The Spirit over India habitually offers people what they have been anticipating for a long time, and so one morning, in an alley devoid of people, I came across two dogs. Well, meeting dogs has never been one of the more relaxing moments of my life, and nothing in India had helped dispel my basic scepticism to the least degree. Basically I had been taught during my travels up to Varanasi that dogs in India were either stick dogs or stone dogs. To raise an arm as if swinging a stick, or to stoop as if picking up a stone to throw at them are the only actions that, performed at regular
A ghat walk

and strategically correct intervals, allow for a short peace from hordes of dogs rushing, drooling and barking at the unwary traveller. It is very important to know whether a place is a region of stick dogs or of stone dogs, because a confusion of the locally valid sign code provokes a highly unpleasant misunderstanding on the part of the dogs. In spite of all arm-swinging or stooping it is advisable to walk on unconcerned, leaving the current quantity of dogs behind, stoically facing the next. Basically, in India two dogs are a ridiculous number and this may have been the reason why I pointlessly chose to enter a power struggle with those two. Instead of ignoring them while still raising my arm (Varanasi is home to stick dogs), I shouted at them, gesticulating wildly, moving hectically. The two accepted my invitation, circled around me, and in due consequence one of them bit me into the back of my right thigh. Upon this all three of us were startled and scattered apart. Knowing that, apart from poi...
sonorous animals, only
the bite of a monkey
surpasses the dangers
of infection posed by
the bite of an Indian
dog, I hurried back to
my room on the roof of
a hotel, widened the
bite and washed it with
"Schwedenbitter", an
alcoholic herbal extract,
the main element of my
first-aid kit. I can still
see the gaping wound
before my eyes, and in
retrospect I can't really
comprehend my relaxed
equanimitiy in the face
of this wound barely
cleansed with alcohol.
The Spirit of India is of-
ten used to touching
people wandering with
in it with a phlegm of
its own, imbuing them
with it at the slightest
sign of openness.

I used the remainder of
the day to mend my only
pair of trousers, now
frayed, and otherwise
spent the day as I had all
the others. This inclu-
ded visiting friends at a
music school in the early
evening, enjoying the
musical action and talk-
ing to the musicians.
In one of these conver-
sations I told a teacher
of my experience in the
morning. He was not
worried but concerned
A ghat walk

and asked me to follow him. He led me out into the street, made me sit on a wooden cart in the market and disappeared. A short time later he came back with a man uncharacteristically tall for an Indian, a statuesque character dressed in the yellow fabrics of a Saddhu, hung with bright Malas and amulets all over, the never-cut black hair piled up on his head, artfully matted. Without a word he was handed a heavy metal bowl about 60 centimetres in diameter, gestured I should bare my torso and stepped behind me. My friend could just explain that the Saddhu would press the bowl onto my upright back. If it fell down, everything would be all right and the bite of the dog would not have any bad consequences. Should it stick to my back, though, his friend would have “to undertake” something. Anxiously waiting for a person unknown to me, with my torso bared on a vendor’s cart intently watched by a crowd of people, in all my tense expectation I experienced a moment of unexpected relaxation.
This monster of a metallic bowl is never going to stick to my upright back, however sweaty it may be. I will be able to get up and go away.

I sense the soft pressure with which the Saddhu applies the small foot of the bowl, a strange magnetic interaction builds up and with wide-eyed wonder my back realises how the bowl attempts to remain in its physically impossible position, weightily and yet very lightly, easily. Out of the corner of my eye I see the Saddhu stick a piece of some dark stuff into the end of a banana, break it off and stick it into my mouth, regardless of my briefly rising resistance. His hand-language leaves no doubt that I have to swallow, whatever it may be. Then I hear him murmur a mantra. After a very long time, considering a vertically hanging metal bowl, I feel the foot of the bowl very deliberately detach from the skin of my back and some kilos of shaped metal crash onto the wooden platform and on to the ground. I stay, flabbergasted, time passes in a way that I
A ghāt walk

don't really see the Sadhu disappear, the pulsating surroundings of the market square return to my awareness in a strange forward and backward movement. The Spirit of India habitually integrates seemingly unpremeditated processes into everyday life without effort or transition. My friend explains that the bite would have had bad consequences for me, but due to the intervention of the holy Sadhu I would be safe now. In a reflex I just ask what I have to pay. Moderately terrified my friend replies that the Saddhu would lose his special ability to neutralise dog bites if he allowed to be paid for it. Instead I should buy food, look for the dogs and feed them. We went back to the music school.

The next morning I looked for the dogs in the same alley, but among the many creatures there I only found a grumpy dog owner, obviously used to worries, who took my food, slightly taken aback, and assured me to put it to the required use. I was relieved.
Everything is poison if the dose overtakes the human body’s limits. One monk in our monastery didn’t believe when he heard that one spoonfull of salt, if consumed at once, can cause sudden death. He just had to test it – with very serious results.

NIMA (52), A THANKA-PAINTER MONK, INDIA
Back in Tibet

my parents used to drink five three liter pots (15 l) of tibetan butter tea in a day, just like a normal, average tibetan family did*.

* A tea, mixed together with a barley flour, tsampa, is a main dish for the Tibetans.

We may have been a nation with no stress, but the butter tea, which contain also salt, tends to get the blood pressure high.

PADMA SHERANG (34), A TIBETAN REFUGEE, DHARAMSALA, INDIA.

That’s the reason why here in India my parents drink two cups a day. Yak butter was healthier than the cow butter that they’re now consuming.
Saddhus & Saints & Fakirs & Wandering Ascetics; whatever their name and how ashes smeared their body is, they'll all cheat you, pretending to be holy, without any worldly desires or craving they do their best to chase a woman to their bed.

A story by Dr. Vinod Singh (46), set in Fakir Display Black Small Caps. Told for Underware during a camel festival in Bikaner, Rajasthan, India.
When an innocent, typically uneducated woman asks for saddhu’s vision of her future, there’s only one story: the woman is captured by an evil demon. To summon this spirit away a saddhu asks the woman to come at twelve o’clock at the night to ‘a special treatment’.
A SADDHU COMMANDS HER TO BRING A GINGER, A LEMON AND A BROKEN BRACELET. WHEN THE WOMAN ARRIVES A SADDHU SPRAYS THE ROOM SLOWLY WITH PARALYZING DOPE CLAIMING THAT THERE'S 'THE SMELL OF EVIL DEMON' IN THE AIR - AND SO THE WOMAN COLLAPSES TO THE FLOOR.
AND YOU KNOW THE REST.

Guide your woman. Avoid the danger. Today.
Fakir is first shown in
Is Not take-away #1
the huge poster magazine in take-away size

Is Not take-away #1 is the first portable issue of Is Not Magazine. It is also the new, comprehensive type sampler from Underware, showing their fonts both in use and indexed. Is Not take-away #1 started its life as Is Not Magazine Issue 4. The themes are Young and Free. There are articles about everything from the misconceptions of youth, to free music downloading. Among numerous true stories and drawings, Is Not take-away includes one article written by a teenage schoolgirl, a field guide to local Australian bird life and, of course, a treasure map.

Is Not Magazine has been published bi-monthly as a 2m x 1.5m bill poster which is pasted to the streets, lane-ways, cafés and bars of Melbourne, Australia since April 2005. Is Not’s format invites interaction with the city and the city’s inhabitants. It asks people to be curious, enthusiastic. Is Not is an experiment in publishing, designing and reading. Each issue features fiction and non-fiction articles, reviews, pictures, diagrams and a story that ends in another location. There are two themes per issue, as well as stories that readers can store on their camera phones. Is Not Magazine publishes writers and artists from all over the world and only uses Underware typefaces.