

CHAPTERS नवबोर्टर

Issue 1 - Jan - March 2024



Orientation Workshop 2024

INTACH Chapter Division has successfully conducted Orientation Workshop on 14th to 16th March, 2024. A total of 27 participants participated in the workshop, and were familiarized with the various technical divisions of INTACH and also interacted with the heads of the divisions.

Encouraging feedback and suggestions were received from the participants.

Chairman in his concluding remarks encouraged members to undertake the heritage related activities with the help of the central office.

Continued to page no. 8.....



Dear Heritage Enthusiasts

It is really heartening to present the third edition of Chapters E-Newsletter, which is an outcome of continuous support of Chapters. INTACH further broadened Chapter's Network by establishing two new chapters in last three months; Nevada in Bihar and Ferozepur in Punjab.

Chapters Guidelines 2024 have been revised and published. Three new Chapters have been introduced to the guidelines pertaining to Geo Heritage, Numismatic Heritage and Fortification & Military Heritage in India, to cover the entire spectrum of heritage. New financial Regulations have also been introduced for undertaking projects under Corporate Social responsibility. Guidelines are available at www.intach.org.

INTACH Nandyal Chapter had sincerely strived hard in the selection of Ahobilam as a spiritual destination under Swadeshi Darshan 2.0 scheme as a Challenge based Tourism Destination Development as a part of which Rs 25 Cr fund will be utilized for the development of this ancient spiritual center.

Newsletter is the outcome of determined efforts of Chapters and its members who work diligently with passion to spread awareness and also to protect our cultural heritage. I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all the Conveners and INTACH members who have immensely contributed to bring this newsletter into life. I request readers to provide feedback, share their thoughts, and contribute articles or ideas for future editions.

*Gp. Capt. Arvind Shukla (Retd.)
Director (Chapters Division)*

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Appointments

INTACH New Appointments (January to March, 2024)				
The INTACH warmly welcomes the newly appointed Conveners, Co-Conveners and Additional Co-Conveners of its Chapters.				
State	Chapters	Convener	Co-Convener	Addl. Co-Convener
January, 2024				
Karnataka	Anegundi Hampi	-	Shri Indrajeet Ghorpade	-
Chhattisgarh	Rajnandgaon	Dr Anand A Varghese	Shri Dushyant Das	-
February, 2024				
Punjab	Firozpur	Dr Anirudh Gupta	Shri Vikram Ditya Sharma	-
Kerala	Kerala	Shri Jose Dominic	-	-
Rajasthan	Chittorgarh	-	Shri Manish Maliwal	-
Karnataka	Belagavi	Shri Vinod Surendra Doddanavar	Mrs Swatee Jog	-
Haryana	Yamuna Nagar	Shri Vaibhav Garg	Shri Gurvinder Singh	-
Odisha	Baudh	Shri Bisweshwar Prusty	Shri Dibya Ranjan Pattnaik	-
Chhattisgarh	Raipur	Dr Rakesh Kumar Tiwari	-	-
March, 2024				
Jharkhand	Jharkhand State	Mrs Sushma Singh	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh State	Shri Deepak Khandekar	-	-
Gujarat	Rajpipla	Shri Manvendra Singh Gohil	-	-



Chapters Division

1. State Conveners Workshop 2024

State Conveners Workshop in physical mode was conducted after a gap of 3 years, from 29th to 30th Jan 2024 at INTACH, Multipurpose Hall. 22 State Conveners participated in the event. Workshop reviewed the progress made during the year by various State Chapters and necessary structural changes initiated to overcome procedural hindrances. During this meet State Conveners discussed and provided solutions to some of the important topics close to chapters and also had a brainstorming session with the restructuring of Governing Council.



State Conveners Workshop 2024 - Group photo

3. **Inauguration of Nawada Chapter(Bihar)**:- Maj. Gen. (Retd.) L.K. Gupta, (AVSM), Chairman, INTACH and Director Chapters Gp Capt. Arvind Shukla(Retd) visited Nawada, Bihar to inaugurate the Chapter on 04th January, 2024. The Chief Guest of the ceremony was Maj Gen LK Gupta, Chairman INTACH. Inaugural programme was organized and attended by State Convener, Shri Prem Sharan and Chapter Conveners, Prof (Dr) Bachchan Kumar Pandey and other dignitaries.





Inauguration of Nawada Chapter(Bihar)

4. **INTACH starts a new chapter in Ferozpur, Punjab to boost tourism** - The Indian National Trust for Arts And Cultural heritage-has started a new chapter in Ferozepur by taking a historic step to promote art, culture and heritage in India, under which many efforts will be made to promote tourism and protect the historical and tourism places of Ferozepur said Educationist and Historian Dr. Anirudh Gupta who has been nominated as the Convener INTACH Ferozepur Chapter, on release of a poster of the event.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Dhiman participated in the function as the chief guests, while Punjab convener Retd Major General Balwinder Singh, Chapters Director was Group Captain Arvind Shukla (Retd) from New Delhi also present at this event.

DC Rajesh Dhiman said that the efforts made by INTACH to promote the historical places here by launching the Ferozepur chapter in the border district are commendable. He said that whatever work will be done by INTACH about tourism, the district administration will extend full support.

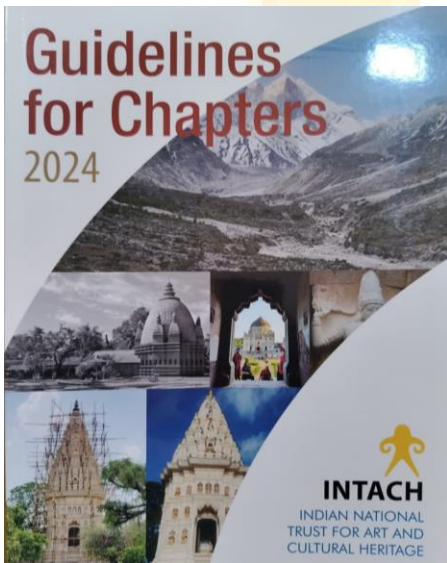
During his presentation, Dr. Anirudh Gupta said that of course Ferozepur is industrially backward, but the district's heritage is very rich in historical places. He said that if the district is boosted in tourism, many people from the country and abroad will come here daily apart from increasing the means of trade in the district.



Firozpur Chapter Inauguration

5. **State Wise Online Workshops with State Chapters** have commenced since 14 Dec 2023. States and Union Territories are being covered during this workshop. Till 31st March 2024, 22 States and 120 Chapters have been covered so far. Online meetings with the remaining states and chapters are in progress. All these workshops are attended by Chairman and Member Secretary along with the Conveners of all the Chapters of a particular State.

6. **Chapters Guidelines:** Chapter Division published Chapters Guidelines 2024 after five years. Three new Chapters have been introduced to the guidelines pertaining to Geo Heritage, Numismatic Heritage and Fortification & Military Heritage in India, to cover the entire spectrum of heritage. New financial Regulations have also been introduced for undertaking projects under Corporate Social responsibility. These guidelines serve as a reference for understanding and implementing best practices, standards, and procedures in a field of restoration, conservation, and protection of the heritage. They provide Standardization to establish uniformity and consistency, common set of principles and procedures that can be followed by all across the INTACH.



Chapters Guidelines - Cover Page

8. **Newly Appointed Conveners/ Co-Conveners / Addl Co-Conveners Orientation Workshop 13th -16th Mar 2024**

With a view to familiarize the newly appointed Conveners/Co-Conveners/Addl. Co-Conveners with INTACH's mission, program, and activities, an orientation workshop

was conducted from 13th - 16th Mar 2024 by Chapters Division at the INTACH Multipurpose Hall, 71 Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. The workshop is conducted every year in the month of March and is combined with the AGM, so that newly appointed Conveners and Co- Conveners get a first-hand experience of AGM.

The aim of the workshop is to familiarize the newly appointed Conveners/Co-Conveners/Addl. Co-Conveners with INTACH's mission, programme and activities, and also to give them an insight of the basic administrative frame work and laid down financial guidelines to be followed for effective functioning of the chapter. Conveners learnt the scope of their work and professional capabilities of INTACH Central Office, which they might seek for enlarging and enriching their voluntary work in their own chapter. In three days scheduled workshop conveners interacted with Head of the Professional Divisions and learnt through them the large number of projects, activities being undertaken by them and the linkages of their works with the Chapters. Workshop was well attended by 26 participants from chapters across the country.



Workshop commenced with the welcome address by the Director Chapters, Gp Capt Arvind Shukla (Retd), in which he emphasized the enlarged participation of Chapters with the INTACH professional Divisions and also the new financial Regulations for effective functioning of the Chapters. Thereafter, while addressing the participants the Chairman Major General L. K. Gupta AVSM (Retd) stated that there should be a strong connect between

Chapters and Head office. INTACH has provided experts in field of Art and Heritage and the focus is to conserve heritage on ourselves rather than depending upon government. We should try to mobilize local community. He insisted that Chapters must prepare a Chapter profile. Member Secretary Dr. (Mrs.) Chuden Tshering Misra, emphasized to make a heritage profile which may be showcased to government. There is a need to induct a greater number of young members to enthuse energy towards the work.

Thereafter, brief presentations by the Divisional Heads, on Conservation Training and Capacity Building were given by Dr Parul Munjal, Chapters Guidelines by Director Chapters, Architectural Heritage & Listing and Documentation by Ms A Vijaya, Heritage Education and Communications by Ms Purnima Dutta, Intangible Cultural Heritage by Shri Harish Benjwal, Art and Material Heritage by Ms Merrin Anil, Natural Heritage by

Dr Ritu Singh, Heritage Craft by Ms Vandana Manchanda and Cultural Affairs by Ms Manisha Singh. During the outdoor activities Conveners were exposed to Listing working session at Lodhi Garden.

On the final day of workshop, participants presented number of Activities and Projects undertaken by respective chapters and discussed the strategies adopted by them to spread heritage awareness in their region.

Chairman in his concluding remarks requested chapters to connect with hinterland/rural land in their region and strive to update district gazetteer. Three important points to follow are Awareness, fighting for the public cause and revive some craft/art or conserve, out of your passion. Encouraging feedback and suggestions were received.



Chapters Activities

Andhra Pradesh

Anantapur

1. INTACH Anantapur district chapter Andhra Pradesh started second Heritage II Sarada Municipal corporation Girls High school Anantapur. Mementos and certificates distributed to the students who won in drawing poem recitation competition. INTACH Anantapur chapter convener Rama Kumar presided the function. INTACH members Krishna Murthy, Suryanarayana Reddy Riazuddin, Sreenidhi Raghu, Kamaduru Nabhi Rasool Sreenivasa Reddy, School Head mistress Ramadevi, Nagaratnamma other teachers and students participated in the function.

2. INTACH Anantapur district chapter along with Heritage club Rotary School conducted on 27-01-2024 in Rotary club meeting hall. Dr P. Ramesh Narayana State Sahitya Academy awardee of State of Andhra Pradesh is the chief guest of the function, INTACH former convener AG Venugopal Reddy is the guest of honour. INTACH members school Head mistress teachers' students participated in the program.



Anantapur Chapter started a Heritage Club

3. Chairman INTACH Maj. Gen (Retd) LK Gupta AVSM visited Anantapur district Chapter on 8th February 2024

Former Convener Dr. CA AG Venugopal Reddy and members received chairman and his wife 3.30 pm on National Highway 44 after departure from Bangalore airport proceeded to Lepakshi temple 16 KM from NH44.

At Lepakshi local Heritage Association President Ramprasad secretary Ramanjaneyulu received chairman took them to guest house.

After short break for tea proceeded to Lepakshi temple. Chairman and his wife was received by Dr. V. Rajita Assistant Director Archaeology and Museums Government of Andhra Pradesh, ASI assistant Ramu temple priests with temple honours.

Chairman went round the temple built in 16 th century,observed the unique ness of the temple built without any foundation. He also learnt about 70 pillar Natya Mandir is connected to Hanging pillar. He keenly saw seeling paintings, enquired about cleaning

process of pillars and paintings from ASI assistant. After hearing that chemicals are used in cleaning process, he felt unhappy. He offered that INTACH will send a team if opportunity is given to clean the paintings, pillars etc without any chemicals with Indian methods.

After having darshan at Lepakshi temple and World's biggest monolithic Nandi Chairman INTACH and team INTACH Anantapur left Lepakshi reached Anantapur City at 7.45pm. Chairman attended Anantapur district Chapter meeting held discussion with members. A public meeting is organised by the Anantapur Chapter. Chairman promised to send Mr. KK . Mohammad to assess damage in the Lepakshi temple and prepare a report for conservation of temple at Lepakshi.

Afterwards Anantapur district chapter felicitated chairman. Public of Anantapur also honoured chairman and his wife.

Anantapur Chapter organised a dinner meeting on the visit of Chairman INTACH to Anantapur. Concluded the meeting at 9.30pm. After breakfast on 9 February 2024 10.00 am left Anantapur City to travel to Hasan in Karnataka State.

Convener Rama Kumar, Co- Convener Chandrahas Reddy, member Krishna Murthy attended Chairman expressed their thanks for the visit to Anantapur Chapter.



INTACH, Chairman, Maj. Gen (Retd) LK Gupta, AVSM visited Anantapur Chapter

East Godavari

1. INTACH Foundation Day on 27 January 2024 and Meeting with Dr. Rajendra Singh, the Water Man of India in Kakinada

INTACH Foundation Day on 27 January 2024



The INTACH Foundation day was celebrated in a light manner in the 76th Anniversary of Sankranti Music and Dance Festival scheduled from 19 January, in which the Indian classical Music and Dance programs are performed for 10 days by the Sangita Vidvath Sabha in Surya Kalamandiram auditorium in Kakinada. Sri V. Ramakrishna, Co-Convener of the INTACH Chapter is the Secretary of the Sangita Vidvath Sabha. Sri VVLN Murthy, Convener of the INTACH Chapter has spoken on the day and the elite, who were present on the day, were informed about the INTACH and its activities and the need of protecting the valuable Intangible heritage of India.



Sri VVLN Murthy, Convener speaking on the occasion and Sri V. Ramakrishna, Co-Convener lighting the Lamp in the presence of the Dance Artist Smt. Parvathi Ravi Ghanatsala.

2. Meeting with Dr. Rajendra Singh, the Water Man of India:

Documentation and awareness programs and the initiatives taken by the INTACH, East Godavari Chapter were explained in the meeting conducted by People's World Commission on Drought and Flood (PWCDF) on 1 February 2024, for which the Convener and Co-Convener of INTACH, East Godavari Chapter were invited and while speaking in the meeting, the elite were informed about the INTACH and its activities as well as the documentation done by the INTACH, East Godavari Chapter and the copy of the book Kakinada Foot Prints... was given to Dr. Rajendra Singh, who expressed his satisfaction on bringing the Table book with complete information on the History and Heritage of Kakinada. Protection of the Built Heritage in Kakinada and the Natural Heritage site of Koringa Mangrove forest near Kakinada were insisted by the experts in the meeting. PWCDF wants to work with INTACH in its conservation programs. This was widely published in the local news papers.



Sri VVLN Murthy, Convener presenting the book of Kakinada Foot Prints to Dr. Rajendra Singh

Kadapa

Kadapa Chapter are conducted a meeting on 10/02/2024 at INTACH office

Kadapa Chapter planning to prepare “Kadapa district Darsini ” book, web and YouTube. we involved all INTACH members.



Kadapa Chapter are conducted a meeting – Kadapa Chapter

Nandyal

The INTACH Nandyal Chapter had taken three projects in the fields of Cultural and Natural Heritage Conservation-

1. Ahobilam Paruveta Utsavam
2. Srisailam Pagaalankarana
3. Mahanandi Koneru

Ahobilam Paruveta Utsavam is a Grand unique temple festival in the country as a part of which the principal deities were taken in procession to 32 villages around Ahobilam Village, Nandyal district Andhra Pradesh. It is a festival of Communal harmony in which people take part irrespective of their Social and economic status. INTACH Nandyal chapter under the mentorship of Sri M.V.Siva Kumar Reddy, Convenor and Sri K.B.Sethu Raman, Additional Co Convenor had prepared and submitted a detailed research report on Ahobilam Paruveta Utsavam to Government of Andhra Pradesh. Based on the report, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had declared Ahobilam Paruveta Utsavam as the State festival of Andhra Pradesh.

INTACH Nandyal Chapter along with Ahobilam Devasthanam was also successful in getting Telangana Government to offer Pattuvastrams in Rudravaram Village as a Part of Paruveta Utsavam as a mark of historical connection between the village and the Rulers of Kakatiya Dynasty.

INTACH Nandyal chapter had sincerely strived hard in the selection of Ahobilam as a spiritual destination under Swadeshi Darshan 2.0 scheme as a Challenge based Tourism Destination Development as a part of which Rs 25 Cr fund will be utilized for the development of this ancient spiritual center



In middle Sri Rajat Bhargava, IAS, Spl. Chief Secretary to Government, Revenue & YAT&C (Tourism, Culture, Museum & Archaeology) in the Government of Andhra Pradesh Convenor Shri M.V. Sivakumar Reddy and Addl Co-convenor - Shri K B Sethuraman.

Based on Office Memorandum(SD-8/25/2023-SD) dated 21.02.2024, Proceedings of the 5th Meeting of Mission Directorate regarding Challenge Based Destination Development(CBDD) Scheme under SD 2.0 held on 19.02.2024 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Tourism. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has declared Ahobilam Paruveta Utsavam as the State festival of Andhra Pradesh and Ahobilam Paruveta Utsavam is the spiritual destination of Andhra Pradesh.



The Best Rural Tourism Village award for Ahobilam from Smt Roja, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Culture and Youth Empowerment, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Visakhapatnam

1. The Indian National Trust for Art and Culture Heritage (INTACH), Visakhapatnam Chapter conducted an all India 'My Monument Search' poster competition for classes 7 to 9 students on 10th February 2024 at Hawa Mahal, the Heritage building of the city. This event is being organised nationally under the initiative of INTACH Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) Division, New Delhi.

About 120 students from 15 schools across the Vizag city participated in the competition which involved painting a heritage structure and writing an essay on the structure to

describe the painting. This would help us enlighten the children who will be the torch bearers of our nation. At the same time it will help us with our prestigious global mission aimed at promoting the spirit of appreciation, exploration and cultural education.

INTACH Vizag Convener Dr D Rajasekhar Reddy, Co- Convener Dr B Surendra Kumar, Program Coordinator Sandhya Godey, senior members Sri Edward Paul, Smt Mayank Kumari Deo, Smt Asha Jain, Smt Jayashree Hattangadi, Sri Mahesh Rao, Ravikumar and others ensured the smooth conduct of the event.



All India 'My Monument Search' poster competition –Visakhapatnam Chapter

2. Association of INTACH Visakhapatnam Chapter With Indian Navy's Milan 2024

The Indian Navy in collaboration with the State Administration planned to take all the foreign ships' crew, participating in the Milan, to the tourist sites in Visakhapatnam for a visit. They mainly focused on three sites, namely ancient Buddhist site at Thotlakonda, Visakha Museum and Kailasagiri.

For conducting the tour to Thotlakonda, a Buddhist site the local State Archaeological department and Navy personnel contacted our Intach members Sri. Edward Paul and Sri. Venkat Ram Reddy and requested for their help to explain about the ancient Buddhist Monastery to the foreign visitors.

The visits took place on 21st, 22nd and 23rd of Feb 2024. About 150 to 200 foreign Navy personnel visited on each day. Sri. Edward Paul and Sri. Venkat Ram Reddy along with Sri. Vishveswar Rao working in State Archaeological department (who incidentally also a member of Intach Visakhapatnam Chapter) took the visitors along the ancient structures explaining their history.

Bihar Bettiah

1. A poetry and shayari recital evening organised by INTACH Bettiah Chapter at Bettiah, West Champaran, Bihar on 18.02.2024 participated by 12 eminent writers and poets namely, Dr. Gorakh Prasad 'Mastana', Dr. Nikhilesher Prasad Verma, Dr. Zakir Husain , Dr. Zafar Inam Zafar, Dr. Jagmohan Kumar, Dr. Naushad Ahmad Karimi, Sh. Nawal Prasad Shrivastav , Mrs. Khushbu Mishra, Sh. Arun Gopal, Sh. Anil Anal, Sh. Jaikishor Jai and Sh. Aslam Chishti.
2. An interactive session on 24.02.2024 with the students of Sun Flower Children Academy, Pathkhauli, Bagaha, West Champaran, Bihar raising awareness and sensitivity towards conservation and management of our heritage addressed by Sh. Arun Kumar Srivastva, Convener, INTACH Bettiah Chapter .
3. A Meeting with members of INTACH Bettiah Chapter on 25.02.2024 presided over by Sh. Arun Kumar Srivastva, Convener, INTACH Bettiah Chapter at Shree Kot Maharani Mandir Parisar, Mangalpur, Bagaha , West Champaran, Bihar discussing about listing, conservation and restoration of local heritage monuments and water bodies.



An interactive session with the students of Sun Flower Children Academy

Gaya !!Unknown legacies!!

Shri Lakshman Temple of Gaya Ji

Dr.Rakesh Kumar Sinha'Ravi'

Temples dedicated solely to Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram's devoted brother, Lakshman ji, are quite rare across the country. While some of these temples dedicated to Lakshman ji still flourish, others have been reduced to mere names, gradually fading into the annals of time. Among these, the Shri Lakshman Temple in Gaya Ji, a place renowned for its rich tapestry of art, history, and archaeology, stands out. Currently, it exists only as a dilapidated structure, silently awaiting a benefactor to restore its former glory.

Today in India, Lakshman Temples can be found in various locations such as Ayodhya, Orchha, Bharatpur, Shirdi, Laxmangarh, Naimisharanya, Guwahati, Khajuraho, Nashik, Varanasi, Lucknow, Haridwar, Rameshwaram, and others. However, in Gaya, across the Falgu River and adjacent to the Sitakund Tirtha, the temple now exists in name only. The idols that once graced the temple are no longer there. The flooring is completely shattered, and the bricks wedged between the upper structures are visibly deteriorating. All the plaster has peeled off, leaving the temple in a state of severe disrepair.

The origins of who built this temple are subject to differing opinions. However, based on the temple's current state and information gathered from the elders, it is believed that the temple was constructed by a Marwari family from Rajasthan in the latter half of the 17th century, in memory of their ancestors. Before this, the temple was modest and in a state of disrepair, and at that time, the entire area was part of the Gayapal Nakafola Estate. During the tenure of Babu Govind Lal Nakfola, the temple gained nationwide fame. Festivals such as Ram Navami, Jhulan Mahotsav, Sita Navami, and Shivratri saw the organization of fairs here, drawing devotees from far and wide. At that time, the inner sanctum housed a two and a half foot tall statue of Lakshman ji, crafted from black stone and set upon a high square base, with Ram positioned in a niche on the opposite side. Hanuman ji's place was in a niche on the other wall, directly facing Lakshman and Janaki. Outside the sanctum sanctorum, a Shivalinga and Nandi were reportedly placed on a platform. The small doorway, framed with stone blocks, measures 3.9 feet in height and 2.75 feet in width.

At the peak of its grandeur, this temple was a hive of activity throughout the year. It attracted both locals and visitors coming to Gaya Dham in equal measure. However, over time, the temple began to fall under a pall of neglect. Initially, protracted legal disputes among the successors connected to the temple marred its beauty. The situation worsened with the 1934 earthquake, which significantly damaged the temple. The earthquake caused a crack in the upper part of the temple, and the dome weakened and eventually collapsed. Worship services continued for a few years despite the damage, but the temple's structure gradually deteriorated further because the foundational damage caused by the earthquake was never repaired. Sangeetacharya (music teacher) Pandit Mahesh Lal Hal comments that the Lakshman Temple was once among Gaya's most beautiful temples but has gradually been neglected, leading to its current dilapidated state.

Manoj Lal Nakfola, one of the current members of Nakfola Estate, reflects on the neglect of the Laxman Temple, attributing its abandonment to a policy of 'neither doing nor allowing others to do'. He shares that after the earthquake, his grandfather, Govind Lal Nakfola, undertook significant efforts to rebuild and refurbish the temple. Despite his attempts to garner support from the local Brahmin community, his efforts were met with disappointment, leading to his distress. Govind Lal Nakfola passed away in 1980, his aspirations for the temple unfulfilled. Manoj Lal Nakfola emphasizes that he would

wholeheartedly support any initiative to restore the temple's beauty, as it would contribute to the sacred act of salvation. Currently, the situation has deteriorated to the point where people are encroaching on the temple's surrounding land to build their homes, further neglecting this historic site. An ancient structure, located right in front of the temple, now also suffers from complete neglect.

At the peak of its grandeur, the temple is believed to have stood over 55 feet tall, with its spire reaching approximately 30-32 feet. The spherical dome at the pinnacle and the remnants resembling an inverted lotus flower can still be seen. Inside the prayer hall, niches are said to house idols of Ganesha and Uma Maheshwar. Some influence of Rajasthani artwork is still visible on the exterior pillars of this masterpiece of Nagar style. The construction of the temple's spire involved bricks of at least three different sizes. A thorough examination and study reveal that this temple once enjoyed widespread popularity in the entire Magadha region, including Gaya. Archaeologists regard this temple, situated near the Sitakund Tirtha, as a masterpiece of the medieval period.

About 12 years ago, during a survey conducted by the Kashi Prasad Jaiswal Research Institute, Patna, which focused on exploring historical sites, citadels, mounds, forts, antiquities, and temples in Gaya, special mention was made of this temple. However, this endeavor did not yield significant results. Last year, the heritage tour organized by the INTACH Gaya Chapter placed a major emphasis on the Lakshman Temple. The participants of the tour conducted a detailed inspection of the site. Dr. Manish Sinha, Convenor, Gaya Chapter stated that the Lakshman Temple constitutes an important part of Gaya's religious history. He emphasized that a collective effort is necessary for its restoration.

The Puranas explicitly state that renovating an old temple accrues tenfold more virtue than constructing a new one. Today, the need of the hour is to reestablish the Lakshman Temple on the religious landscape and give it a new life. While this will preserve a religious place of Ramayana period in Gaya, the ancient historical place of Laxman Temple will also be saved. This restoration would reemphasize the importance of Gaya as a pivotal spiritual and historical site



Sri Lakshman Temple of Gaya – Gaya Chapter

Nawada

Inauguration of INTACH Nawada Chapter

Maj.Gen. L.K. Gupta, Chairman, INTACH, officially inaugurated the Nawada Chapter of INTACH, highlighting the significance of preserving Nawada's unique heritage, notably the ancient rock paintings on Kohbarwa mountain. Speaking to INTACH members and heritage enthusiasts gathered at the Buddha Residency Auditorium in Nawada, Maj.Gen. Gupta emphasized the societal duty to safeguard Nawada's rich cultural legacy, encouraging local efforts with INTACH's support.

During a visit to the Narada Museum prior to the event, Major General Gupta committed to conserving select items from the museum's collection. He also called for various activities to raise public awareness about heritage preservation. He introduced the newly appointed Convener of the INTACH Nawada Chapter, Prof. Bachchan Kumar Pandey, and Co-Convener Shyam Sundar Pandey, urging community collaboration in heritage conservation. The ceremony was presided over by Mr. Prem Sharan, Convener, INTACH Bihar State Chapter, who lauded women's contributions to heritage preservation and encouraged female attendees to spread heritage awareness.

Group Captain (Retd.) Arvind Shukla, Director, INTACH Chapter Division, as the Chief Guest, outlined INTACH's establishment, history, and activities. Bhairav Lal Das, Convener, INTACH Patna Chapter, discussed ongoing efforts to conserve and promote Bihar's heritage.

Prof. Bachchan Kumar Pandey commenced the event by welcoming guests and sharing Nawada's significant heritage, committing to preservation efforts. He mentioned that the Save Heritage Campaign, initiated in 2023, would continue into 2024 with a focus on cataloging and conserving Nawada's heritage, including rock paintings of Kohbarwa mountain, ancient sculptures, and old wells, alongside public awareness initiatives.

Dr. Shiv Kumar Mishra, a life member of INTACH, called for the preservation of ancient artifacts viz. statues, mounds, rivers, wells, ponds, rock paintings and remains of their ancestors and stressed the importance of awareness campaigns in educational and rural settings. Representatives from other INTACH Chapters viz. Convener, INTACH Darbhanga Chapter, Prof. Naveen Kumar Agarwal, Dr. Kavita Dalmia, Co-Convener of Bhagalpur Chapter Prof. Vibhu Kumar Rai, Co-Convener of Gaya Chapter Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sinha 'Ravi' and Umesh Raj shared their activities, highlighting the collective effort in heritage conservation across Bihar.

Educationists Veena Mishra and Krishna Kumar Prabhakar presented the glorious heritage of Nawada. President of Senior Citizens Association and member of INTACH, Dr. Vimal Prasad Singh thanked the guests and pledged to save the heritage of Nawada.

The event also featured a photo exhibition inaugurated by the INTACH Chairman, showcasing Nawada's cultural and natural heritage, which included the Varaha statue of Apsad, Buddha of Parvati mountain, ancient sculptures of the museum, rock paintings of Kohbarwa, Shekhodevara Ashram of Jayprakash Narayan along with many other things. Pictures related to cultural and natural heritage were prominent.

Artists of Srishti Art presented a welcome song to welcome the incoming guests in which Sonali, Preeti, Archana, Khushboo, Deepa, Neha, Lakshmi, Swati etc. participated. Along with the members of INTACH, hundreds of heritage lovers participated in the program, including Madhuri Sharma, Sundar Prasad, Surendra Kumar, Binduji, Dr. Ashok Kumar, Lalit Kishore Sharma, Ravindra Singh, Arjun Yadav, Ramakant Pandey, Balkrishna Yadav, Umashankar Rajak, Shivendra Narayan Singh, Pyare Lal, Chandan Pandey, Piyush Pandey, Dr. Ashok Priyadarshi, Dr. Ramanuj Prasad, Akhilesh Singh, Mahendra Prasad Singh, Vipin Singh, Dr. Eklavya Bhagat, Dinesh Sharma, Shyam Sundar Dubey, Dr. Kesharnath, Pradeep Kumar, Bhadaniji were prominent.



Inauguration of INTACH Nawada Chapter

Patna

INTACH Patna chapter

Natural Colour Workshop,

House of Variety, Regent Cinema Campus, Patna

2nd March 2024, 11.00 AM to 6.00 PM

INTACH Heritage Crafts & Community Division (HCCD) & Craft Revival Centre

In collaboration with INTACH Patna Chapter and supported by NIFT Patna, organized a one-day Natural Color Workshop on the 2nd of March 2024 at the House of Variety, Regent Cinema campus, Gandhi Maidan, Patna. Knowledge of natural color-making processes traditionally used for making Mithila Paintings, Manjusha and Bhojpur style of Paintings, applications of natural colors on textiles, Handmade papers and eco-printing methods was imparted to the workshop participants, mainly consisting of Mithila Painting artisans and practitioners.

In the inaugural session, Colonel Rahul Sharma, Director NIFT Patna graced the occasion with his presence. He congratulated all the participants and encouraged them to adopt more sustainable natural Colors in their work. Colonel Sharma, appreciated the organizers' and resource persons' efforts in disseminating information on the long-forgotten age-old practice of obtaining natural colors from our surroundings. He also shared how natural material choices was widely discussed in the recently concluded Bharat Tex at New Delhi. INTACH Bihar Chapter Convener Sri Prem Sharan emphasized conserving and preserving our cultural heritage. Sri Subhash Chandra, Life Member of INTACH also congratulated for organizing such seminars for the benefit of all. Sri Suman Sinha, owner, House of Variety, Regent Cinema was delighted to host the workshop and assured his full support for all arts and cultural activities. Convener, INTACH Patna Chapter, Sri Bhairab Lal Das compered the inaugural session and coordinated the overall workshop. Vote of thanks was given by Prof Jayant Kumar from NIFT Patna.

In the morning session, Smt. Bimla Dutt, a senior Mithila Painting artist, addressed the workshop participants and shared information about how she used to make Mithila paintings during the 1960s and how various colors can be obtained from natural sources like leaves, flowers, shoots, etc. She mentioned the change in the choice of colors by the artisans over the period and emphasized the advantages of using natural colors over synthetic ones. A documentary on the works of Ms Bimla Dutt was also showcased.

In the afternoon session, Prof. Dr. Pitnu Pandit, Prof. Rajni Srivastava and Prof. Rashmi Thakur from NIFT Patna, presented and demonstrated the techniques of natural color preparation and various methods of applying natural colors on textile materials. NIFT Patna students- Ms Anushka Dutta, Ms Shubhangini Hazarika, Ms Annesha Mahanta and Ms Anushka Jaiswal actively volunteered during the workshop presentation and demonstration.

The workshop participant clarified many doubts and tried their hands on making a Mithila paintings and application of natural colors on textile materials. Sri Atul Priyadarshi, Smt Nupur, Smt. Chandana Dutta, Smt. Nibha Labh, Smt. Nutan, Sri B K Karna, Ms Rashmi, Ms Alka Das, Ms Sangita Kumari, Ms Anjana, Ms Mamta and likes attended the workshop. INTACH Natural Color workshop concluded successfully achieving the overall objectives envisaged.



Natural Colour Workshop – Patna Chapter

Patna Chapter Activities

1. On March 2, 2024, the INTACH Patna Chapter organized a workshop on Natural Colors at the House of Variety Auditorium in Patna. The workshop provided insights into the ancient practice of using natural materials such as flowers, leaves, soil, stone, vermilion, cow dung, cow urine, tea, coffee, and indigo as primary sources of color. Attendees were educated on traditional methods of color preparation and its application. The resource person for the event was Smt. Bimla Dutt, a senior Madhubani painting artist, NIFT, Patna, Prof. Pintu Pandit, Prof. Rajni Srivastava, Prof. Jayant Kumar, and Prof. Rashmi Thakur, who shared practical knowledge on making natural colors more

durable and vivid. The workshop also addressed the environmental impact of chemical colors used in the commercialization of painting and discussed strategies to promote the use of natural, cost-effective colors.

2. As part of the heritage tour organized by the Patna Chapter on March 10, 2024, over 50 enthusiasts from various walks of life, including members of 'Your Heritage' and 'Arunoday', visited notable sites such as Kaunhara Ghat, the Nepali Cantonment Temple, Kabir Ashram, the Navgraha Well, Pathar Ki Masjid, Chowpatty, and Hariharnath Temple. This temple was built about 250 years ago by Nepali Army Commander Matabar Singh Thapa at the confluence of Ganga-Gandak river. It served as a strategic outpost for the Nepalese monarchy. Following the monarchy's dissolution in Nepal, this temple-cum-cantonment was designated as a protected monument by the Government of Bihar. However, due to neglect, its structure has significantly deteriorated. The temple is often referred to as the 'Khajuraho of the North' for its unique Newari architecture and the intricate, lifelike wood sculptures depicting Dasdikpal and erotic themes (Kamashilpa), underscoring its artistic and historical significance.

3. As part of the 'Know Your Heritage' initiative, jointly organized by INTACH, Patna Chapter, and 'Kilkari, Patna', on 10 March, 2024, students from 7th to 9th grade from various schools made paintings and write articles about their heritage. Before starting the program, Kilkari's Director Dr. Jyoti Parihar, Program head Dr. Anita Thakur, and Painting Instructor Mr. Rupesh Kumar informed the children about their heritage. Experts in the field of heritage, Dr. B.K. Karna, Mrs. Mamta Kumari, and Mr. Sumit, offered detailed information on the vital role children can play in heritage conservation.

4. Under the joint aegis of INTACH, Bihar, and the Begusarai Museum, a national seminar on the tradition of Sun worship in Bihar was held on 9 March, 2024, which was presided over by Dr. Umesh Chandran Dwivedi, former Chairman, Directorate of Museums. The seminar featured distinguished speakers, including renowned American art historian Prof. Rob Linroth, Dr. Phuleshwalar Singh, Dr. Umesh Kumar Singh from the Archaeological Survey of India (A.S.I.), Dr. Jalaj Kumar Tiwari, Dr. Shivkumar Mishra, Bhairav Lal Das, Dr. Sushante Kumar, Prof. Ellora Trivedi from Nalanda University, Dr. Ranjana Kumari, Dr. Amiya Krishnau, and Dr. Sushmita Nandan. The scholars discussed various aspects of sun worship, highlighting its significance in agriculture, healthcare, light and nature. They unanimously said that efforts should be made to include the Chhath Puja tradition of Bihar in the heritage list of UNESCO. Given the rich heritage in the Begusarai area and INTACH's commitment to its preservation and promotion, there was also a call for establishing a local branch in the region.

Chhattisgarh

Raipur

1. A Five days in-house training workshop on the subject Endangered/Folk/Traditional/Special Craft/Art

INTACH, Raipur Chapter organized a five days in-house training workshop on the subject Endangered/Folk/Traditional/Special Craft/ Art from 12th to 16th February 2024. A total No. of 70 students from different schools participated.

Shri Arun Haldhar, Artist from Jagdalpur (Bastar) presented his expertise art by painting on the mat from Bamboo. He diligently devoted 2 to 3 hours on daily basis to train the students. He showed his talent by explaining the intrinsic designs of the art.

The students benefitted from the training workshop and showed their willingness to participate in similar workshops if held in future.

2. Painting & Essay Competition on the theme MY MONUMENT SEARCH

INTACH, Raipur Chapter in accordance with the guidelines of HECS, INTACH, New Delhi organized an All-India National painting & essay competition on the theme MY MONUMENT SEARCH for school students from classes VII to IX on 18th January 2024. Total 103 students from 14 schools participated in the competition.

3. Nagar Darshan

INTACH, Raipur Chapter organized a Nagar Darshan Programme two times for the Students of Vidysagar English School, Raipur on 11th January & 3rd February 2024. A total number of 70 students and 4 teachers each participated in the tour programme. All infrastructure arrangements like Mini Bus, snacks, literature & Guide were provided by the Chapter.

It may be noted that Nagar Darshan has been a regular programme of the Chapter and this is being conducted for the last 20 years. This programme is organised for school students of the age group of 12 to 15 years. A 5 hour tour of Raipur city is conducted. The main purpose for organising this tour is to create awareness and provide education for the local heritage sites. Nearby 30 sites are shown to the students. They are also asked to write the reports and share their experiences with their friends and family members.

4. Visit to the residence of Sona Bai – A well-known Clay Artist

Shri Rajendra Chandak, Convener, INTACH, Raipur Chapter visited the village Pushputra the residence of Sona Bai. Puhputra is situated some 30 Kms. away from the district headquarter Ambibakur of Sarguja.

Smt Sona Bai had been a famous and well recognized the only clay artist of Chhattisgarh. All her life she used to decorate her house with various designs made from clay. Each wall, court yard, boundaries of doors & windows and other such places are nicely decorated with clay art and colors. Her work is being preserved by her family members. The art work done by Sonai Bai is also being carried forward by her daughter in-law.

It may be noted that Sona Bai had received many awards and recognition from State Govt. and other bodies during her life. The foreigners also visit this place to witness her clay art. A museum has also been constructed in her memory by the local authorities.

The State level questions concerning Sona Bai are also included in the Quiz competition for school students.

5. Khula Manch - Preservation of Heritage & Cultural Identity of Raipur

The Indian Institute of Architect, Chhattisgarh Chapter organized a Khula Manch – Preservation of Heritage & Cultural Identity of Raipur on 12th January 2024. Shri Rajendra Chandak, Convener, INTACH, Raipur Chapter was invited as speaker on the occasion.



Nagar Darshan



Painting & Essay Competition

Saraipali

1. 27 December 2023 - Role of mothers in honoring food heritage for good nutrition, better health and well-being - INTACH Saraipali Chapter in honor of mothers in relation to understanding and utility of food heritage for good nutrition, better health and well-being. In honor of food heritage, a program was organized on the topic 'Role of Mothers' in Saraipali, in which aware and active mothers of the society were invited and they were inspired to work as ambassadors. The food expert team taught the attendees how to achieve better health with food heritage and good nutrition. The vote of thanks in this program was expressed by Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary.

2. 15 December 2023 - Broom making workshop organized for 40 students - Under the able guidance of INTACH Saraipali Chapter Convener Mr. Yashwant Kumar Choudhary and under the able guidance of State Convener Mr. Arvind Mishra and Rajendra Chandak, the students of remote areas in village Kusmistrar, learned new things by making local brooms from the grass growing nearby to increase their seriousness about their environment and their passion for local heritage and for cleanliness. A group of local mothers made their presence felt by demonstrating the technique of broom-making, guiding everyone in a hands-on workshop. The bamboo used is notably softer, more flexible, and more durable compared to regular brooms, which are valued between Rs 30-50 in the market. By acquiring skills from this workshop, students have the opportunity to enhance their financial well-being by crafting brooms in their spare time.

3. 16 December 2023- Vijay Diwas Jai Stambh Chowk Saraipali - On the occasion of Vijay Diwas, retired soldier Shri Dharmendra Choudhary and NCC cadets at local Jaistambh

Chowk Saraipali. Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, Convener, INTACH Saraipali chapter and life members of INTACH, Pushpanjali Choudhary, Vishwajeet Gupta, Radheshyam Choudhary etc. participated in the victory day program along with scouts, guides and local people and participated in the Candle March. And silent prayers were offered remembering the immortal martyrs and the events of this special day were highlighted and the people present raised a lot of slogans regarding national unity.

4. 17 December 2023- Heritage Yatra of 75 students {Mahamaya Temple with ancient architectural city style, Fort, Shiv Temple Ratanpur, Achanakmar Tiger Reserve, Kanan Pendari Zoo} - Under the dynamic leadership of Mr. Yashwant Kumar, the active Convenor of the INTACH Saraipali Chapter, and with the expert guidance of Choudhary Ji, along with the skilled direction of State Coordinators Mr. Arvind Mishra and Mr. Rajendra Chandak, significant strides have been made in raising awareness and fostering interest in architecture among students. Besides, initiatives have been launched to promote animal welfare, including a one-day educational excursion focused on plant conservation knowledge. This effort culminated in a heritage tour that benefited 75 students. During a visit to Kanan Pendari Zoo, the guide meticulously introduced the students to various animals, discussing their habitats, diets, and distinctive traits. By conducting an intensive tour of the Achanakmar Tiger Reserve area, information was given about the plants and trees located there and the understanding about the Tiger Reserve and Sanctuary was clarified and its challenges were also shared. It was a unique moment to see the amazing heritage of Ratanpur, with numerous temples and ponds, where the Mahamaya temple with ancient architectural Nagar style, the fort, the Shiv temple and the surrounding fort area, river etc. were visited and the guide explained the architecture and its history and the Kalchuri dynasty. Everything was explained in detail regarding Kantideval Temple, Ram Panchayat Temple, Kalbhairav Temple, Satti Chaura, carved gates, King Prithvidev II and Ratnadev. Through this initiative under the banner of INTACH, students gained valuable insights into heritage conservation and history. The heritage excursion received high praise from all students, who emphasized the importance of organizing such events.

5. 13-19 December 2023 – Practice-cum-training in weaving cotton clothes with the help of local weavers - INTACH Saraipali Chapter provided regular Oriya cotton clothes to the students of the area for a week in village Kasdol with the help of local skilled weavers. Trained in the art of (Saree) weaving in which 25 students were benefited. With the far-sighted thinking and dedication of Saraipali Chapter Convenor Mr. Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, a joint effort has been made to upgrade the skills of the students by motivating them towards self-employment, which is quite beneficial. Through this learning, children will get a source of income for economic development and the art of weaving will be preserved, this art is being transferred to the new generation.

6. 05 December 2023 - Discussion with the farmers on World Soil Day - Discussion program - On World Soil Day, the INTACH Saraipali Chapter organized an event in the remote village of Birkol, inviting local farmers to engage in discussions about soil conservation and sustainable farming practices. The conversation emphasized the importance of using organic fertilizers, reducing pesticide use, planting trees along field borders, and adopting crop rotation to enhance soil fertility. Additionally, the need for wells or ponds in larger farms was highlighted, advocating for initiatives to improve irrigation and water harvesting through pond construction. Three farmers, recognized for their consistent high yields and commitment to organic farming, were honored. The event also promoted tree planting on unused land. A total of 24 farmers participated in this meaningful discussion.

7. 02 December 2023 - Tribute program on the third death anniversary of Late Shri Lalit Surjan - INTACH Saraipali Chapter paid humble tribute/regards on the third death anniversary of Chhattisgarh State Convenor, senior journalist, litterateur, editor of Deshbandhu, justice-loving, Late Shri Lalit Surjan Ji. During this event, INTACH's Convener, Co-convener, life members, and notable members of the city/village community were present. Information regarding Lalit Ji's life and his contributions were shared, highlighting his significant impact. He has given a new direction to the community and inspired it towards positive development.

8. 26 November 2023 - Essay writing program on Constitution Day and discussion on the importance of the Indian Constitution - The Government of India has decided to celebrate Constitution Day on 26 November every year on the auspicious occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Dr. Ambedkar was the Chairman of the drafting committee of the Indian Constitution. The Indian Constitution was adopted, enacted, and given assent by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949. The Preamble of the Constitution of India was read by Principal Manoj Patel. Subject experts emphasized the significance of the Constitution. To mark Constitution Day in Saraipali, the INTACH Saraipali Chapter held an essay writing contest for school students on fundamental rights, duties, and the importance of the Constitution in India, aiming to enhance legal awareness. The essay competition was judged by a three-member panel of expert educators: Convener Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary, Lecturer Moushumi Mathu, and Librarian Saket Rajwade, who reviewed the submissions and announced the results. At the high/higher secondary level, Chandni Sahu from 12th grade Science, writing on 'Fundamental Rights,' secured the first position. Tamanna Patel from the 10th grade, discussing the 'Importance of the Constitution in India,' achieved second place. The third position was shared by Niharika Mirdha from 12th grade Science, also writing on

'Fundamental Rights,' and Bharti Patel from the 10th grade, exploring the 'Importance of the Constitution in India.'

At the middle school level, students also enthusiastically wrote essays in which Tanushka Nayak stood first, Ishith Seth stood second and Shekhar Varge stood third. On this occasion, life members of INTACH Pushpanjali Choudhary, Radheshyam Choudhary, Keshav Prasad Sahu, Principal Manoj Patel, Senior Lecturer K.K. Panigrahi, Harishankar Tripathi, Anand Bhoi, Gajendra Arille, Jogilal Patel, Lecturer Prakash Kumar Thethwar, Ghanshyam Deep, Kusum Dewangan, Tilottama Sahu, Moushmi Mathur, Librarian Saket Rajwade, Mohitesh Nayak, Rameshwar Chauhan and participating students etc. were present. Vote of thanks was presented by Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary.

9. 19 to 25 November under World Heritage Week - 25 November 2023 Evening - Lecture on the topic Architecture of Temples of Chhattisgarh - On the occasion of World Heritage Week by INTACH Saraipali Chapter on the topic "Architecture of Temples in Chhattisgarh". The lecture was organized at Lakshminarayan Temple (Satsang Bhawan) Saraipali. The significance of the program was further heightened when it was organized for the first time, with attendees pledging their commitment to temple preservation during lectures held in a renowned temple. The event was held under the guidance of INTACH Saraipali Chapter Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, with the special support and coordination of INTACH lifetime member and social activist Vishwajit Gupta. At this special lecture session, the keynote speaker, Mrs. Shivi Joshi, a heritage conservation expert and president of the Heritage Conservation Committee in Raipur, and a celebrated architect, delivered an extensive overview on temple architecture. She provided fascinating insights into the construction styles of temples in Chhattisgarh and beyond. Arvind Mishra, the Chhattisgarh INTACH State Chapter Convener while presiding over the event, lauded the awareness among Saraipali's citizens and explored the broad potential for INTACH's initiatives in the area. The program's Chief Guest, senior social worker Jayanarayan Gupta inaugurated the event, presenting a self-authored short Ramayana book and a memento to the guests. Daulal Chandrakar, Convener, INTACH Mahasamund Chapter and Special Guest emphasized the collective effort required for heritage conservation and the need to preserve endangered arts. He expressed his eagerness to contribute to the Saraipali region's heritage conservation efforts and commended the organization of the event. Another Special Guest, Rupesh Tiwari, a senior writer and esteemed stage director from Bagbahra, captivated the audience with a recitation of a beautiful Chhattisgarhi song. Distinguished guests also included senior writer and INTACH Mahasamund Chapter Co-Convener Rajeshwar Khare, and Sunil Baghel, Retd. Joint Director (Industry). The event aimed to deepen the understanding and appreciation of the rich cultural and heritage significance related to temples. The program was adeptly managed by Saraipali Chapter Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, with the welcome address given by heritage conservation enthusiast

Sanjay Sharma, and gratitude expressed by INTACH Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary. Esteemed citizens of the city participated, with guests being honored with a towel and a Bell Metal (Bastar Art) memento, symbolizing the event's dedication to cultural heritage.

In this program, Chapter Co-Convener Radheshyam Choudhary, social worker/businessman Sanjay Sharma and Social Worker Kamta Patel, INTACH life member Vishwajit Gupta, educationist/lecturer Dr. Anil Kumar Pradhan, journalist Saurabh Goyal, INTACH life member Pushpanjali Choudhary, Social Activist Vivek Sharma, Businessman Rajesh Mittal, Teacher Radha Sharma, CAC Girdharilal Patel, Lecturer Prakash Kumar Thethwar, Teacher Jyoti Kumar Thethwar, Vinod Kumar Chaudhary, Teacher Neetu Panigrahi, Seena Sahu, Vandita Bohidar, Minati Panigrahi, Durgesh Sahu, Aryan Chaudhary, Ayansh Chaudhary, Rashmi Raja, Vishikeshan Naoraji. Shyamsunderdas, Mahesh Nayak, Pradeep Narayan Seth, Vandana Panwa, Girdhari Panwa etc. were especially present. All the attendees took advantage of the darshan of the Lakshminarayan Temple situated at the heart of the city and were happy to know about its special features. Through the programme, heritage lovers became aware of the Nagara, Dravida and Besar styles used in the construction of temples and became aware of the importance of Shikhara, Garbhagriha, Kalash, Gopuram, Rath, Urushringa, Mandap, Jagati, Shuknas etc. in the architecture of the temples in detail.

10. INTACH Saraipali Chapter organized a one-day heritage conservation awareness tour on 14th January, 2024, engaging 108 school children and 8 teachers with great enthusiasm. The tour aimed to highlight the importance of heritage conservation from an early age and to explore the diversity of heritages. Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary, Convener, INTACH Saraipali Chapter, mentioned that the well-planned heritage tour focused on educating the children about various heritages preserved at the Mahant Ghasidas Memorial Museum in Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh. A guide provided detailed explanations about these heritages, and the children also learned about the INTACH logo.

To foster awareness and sensitivity towards animals, their habitats, diets, and the necessity of conservation, the students visited the Jungle Safari Zoo and gained knowledge about medicinal plants at Botanical Garden in Naya Raipur through a science teacher. The Jungle Safari Zoo offered the students an exciting opportunity to closely observe tigers, peacocks, and various wild creatures. Besides, the students explored the unique heritage of Chhattisgarh at Purkhauti Mukangan.

The visit to the Dhara Chandrakhuri Kaushalya Mata temple enriched everyone's understanding of spiritual knowledge, along with the dignity and history of Lord Shri Ramchandra. The Chhattisgarh Science Center and Park tour clarified scientific concepts, with trainers easily explained about various scientific phenomena. An evening aarti at

the Shri Ram Temple on VIP Road in Raipur allowed participants to experience the grandeur of the temple, enjoy Anna Prasad, and learn about social values.

The Ghasidas Museum, covering approximately two hectares, is an archaeological museum established by Raja Mahant Ghasidas in 1875. It houses ancient coins, old weapons, carvings, sculptures, tribal art, and more, showcasing over 17,000 objects for educational viewing. The Chhattisgarh Science Center is notable for its interactive learning approach, featuring attractions like the Kutusar Cave, Infinite Well, lazy coin, ring illusion, head on a plate, magical water tap, floating ball, mirror maze etc. Here the children enjoyed the 3D show and the planetarium show and understood the mystery of the universe. Outside the boundary walls of the Science Centre, a pleasant and lush green Science Garden is spread. Where models were installed on simple machines, sound, light science, oscillators etc. which everyone took advantage of. With the help of Science Center Scientific Officer Pragya Kadam, the children visited the Gallery of Resources of Chhattisgarh, Measurement Gallery, Entertaining Science Gallery, 3rd Auditorium Gallery etc.

At Chandkhuri, the maternal birthplace of Lord Shri Ram, stands a temple dedicated to Mata Kaushalya, built by the Somvanshi kings in the 10th century. The area, also known as Chandrapuri, features a 51 feet tall grand statue of Lord Shri Ram, part of the Ram Vanagaman Path, a unique cultural heritage of Chhattisgarh.

Purkhauti Mukangan in Naya Raipur provided an immersive experience into the rich culture of Chhattisgarh, showcasing the dwellings, artifacts, folk dances, and food habits of the state's tribes, along with information about their crafts and art.

Thus, the one-day heritage awareness tour offered a comprehensive and enriching experience, beautifully encapsulating the start and end of a meaningful journey.

11. On "World Wetlands Day," 2nd February, 2024, the INTACH Saraipali Chapter, under the leadership of Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, organized an event themed "Wetlands and Human Wellbeing." This engaging program featured lectures, as well as competitions in painting, speech, and slogan creation, drawing participation from both school and college students. Participants showcased their creativity through vibrant paintings, delivered insightful speeches on wetlands and biodiversity, and also created slogans. On the second day, top-performing students were taken to an excursion tour to the Kodar Dam Reservoir, the Forest Awareness Center, and the Archaeological City of Sirpur. During this outing, students engaged in water activities and boat rides, focusing on the conservation of biodiversity. At the Van Chetna Kendra, they explored concepts related to camping and tourism, while a visit to Sirpur provided them with a firsthand experience of its archaeological treasures and a deep appreciation for ancient Indian heritage. The program also featured informative sessions by Forest Department officials, who shared valuable information on wetlands and the Ramsar Convention. The primary aim of the event was to foster environmental awareness and advocacy among students and the general public, highlighting the significance of wetlands in achieving the United

Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Convener Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary emphasized the critical role of wetlands in supporting a rich diversity of life and providing essential services such as food and water supply, groundwater recharge, water purification, flood control, storm protection, soil erosion prevention, carbon storage, and climate regulation. He pointed out that wetlands offer a wealth of biological resources and perform vital ecological functions, making their conservation crucial for a sustainable future. The program succeeded in imparting valuable knowledge on water conservation and wetland preservation to the children. A total of 75 students, 5 teachers, and 5 members of INTACH benefited from the event. Program Convener Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary extended his gratitude to all participants for their involvement and contributions to the success of the program.



Wetland Day Celebration-Saraipali

Haryana

Ambala

1. History and Heritage of Ambala

“People are interested in the historic environment and heritage buildings. They want to learn about it. They want to take part. The historic environment has the potential to strengthen the sense of community and provide a solid basis for neighbourhood renewal.”

The Ambala district proudly stakes the claim of being one of the historically famous Districts of Haryana State. Bounded by Yamunanagar, Kurukshetra, Patiala, Ropar and Union Territory of Chandigarh. It lies on the foothills of the magnificent and lofty Shivaliks, and nourished by the rivers Tangri, Ghaggar and Markanda. Ambala is steeped in rich history of valour and fortitude.

The origin of Ambala is shrouded in antiquity. It is surmised that Ambala distt. was founded by AMBA RAJPUT during the 14th century AD. Another version is that the name is corruption of Amba (mango) wala ---- the fruit growing in abundance along the

Shivalik foothills. Still another version is that the District has taken its name after goddess BHAWANNI AMBA whose temple still exists in Ambala city.

During medieval ages the region of Ambala witnessed intense political activities and turmoil. Ibrahim Lodhi's defeat at the hands of Babar paved the way for Mughal Empire in India. The advent of British rule marked the growth of Sikh power in this region and the consequent destruction by British in 1805. During the second Anglo–Sikh war, troops were sent from Ambala Garrison and a fierce battle was fought between the Sikhs and British at Chillianwala.

The British suffered a rare defeat at the hands of the Sikh and on return to Ambala a Chillianwala Memorial was established by the British. The Ambala district also played a significant role in the famous uprising of 1857. Ambala was a military depot of great importance then.

Grand Trunk road was laid out by Sher Shah Suri much before the arrival of British. This 'Road of Hindustan' passed through Ambala which grew up in prominence as a key junction on this route.

Construction of permanent barracks in cantonment commenced in 1843. Ambala Air Force Station is the oldest airbase of the country. The airbase is of the strategic importance and the history of Ambala airbase is intertwined with the history of the Indian Air Force. In 1920 Headquarters of the RAF India Command was established at Ambala. Appropriately the IAF first went into action from Ambala when Spitfires from the Advanced Flying School were flown to Srinagar on 30 Oct 1947. The crowning glory came in 1971 when Gnats from 18 Squadron at Ambala flying detachments at Srinagar earned the IAF's first and only one PVC in Flying Officer Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon.

St. John's Church also called St. Paul's Church at Ambala was designed by Capt Atkinson and consecrated in 1857. The all brick structure was bombed out, along with a part of the Sirhind Club, by the Pak Airforce on 18 Sep 1965 while attacking the Ambala Air field. Damage to the Club has since been fully restored.

The bungalows constructed by the British still survive in Ambala, predominantly on the Mall Road. The MES Inspection Bungalow constructed in 1871, is perhaps one of the few bungalows which has remained unaltered and served its original purpose to date. The Kharga House, the official residence of the GOC Corps, was constructed in 1909, is a heritage house. The house is a fine blend of contemporary and traditional architecture.

Some of other important heritage sites in Ambala Cantt are the Holy Redeemer Church, Patel Park, Rani Ka Talab, Panjokhara Sahib Gurdwara, British Cemetery, Hathi Khana Mandir, and the Engineering marvel – Handesara Water works which worked on the gravity system. In Ambala city, we have the famous and well maintained Guru Gobind Singh library which is fully utilized by the public, Navrang Rai Sarover where Vaman mela is held every year, ASI protected Kos Minar, Ambika Devi Mandir, Manji Sahib Gurdawara and more.

Ambala, known for its social fabric and harmony, is full of valuable heritage sites and has the potential of attracting more tourists. Proud of our heritage and history, let us pledge not only to maintain our historic buildings, but also make Ambala a mirror of our rich past and abode of peace and serenity.

“WHAT YOU CANNOT MAKE YOU SHOULD NOT BREAK”

2. Ambala School children win 5 prizes in the Young INTACH ' World Radio Day Contest ' - Army Public School Ambala Cantt children have won five prizes in the Young INTACH ' World Radio Day Contest' . I think it is a record, atleast for Ambala to bag so many prizes. It is thanks to keen interest being taken by our teachers and their students in the Young INTACH interesting and informative contests. Motivation by the INTACH team Ambala propels our schools to make full use of these invigorating contests which build our children and spread heritage awareness.



Ambala School children win 5 prizes in the Young INTACH ' World Radio Day Contest'

Himachal Pradesh

The North Zone quiz finals were held at Montessori Cambridge Public school raja ka bagh between three schools of J&k and Himachal Pradesh. Jodhamal school Jammu were the finalists for the National Finals at Delhi. Chief guest Col (Retd.) Bhupinder Singh , an eminent painter, writer and researcher was the Chief guest.

Maalvika Pathania presided over the functions and urged the children to take the quiz on, as a passion to learn history of the country and be young ambassadors of cultural change.

The quiz was attended by over 90 senior students of the school with their teachers. Meghna Mahajan the principal of the school thanked INTACH State chapter for choosing their school for the event and bringing a final session to their school. The event ended with lunch served for all.



North zone quiz programme at MCS Raja ka Bagh



Signing of The MOU With Sardar Patel University at Mandi

Dharamsala

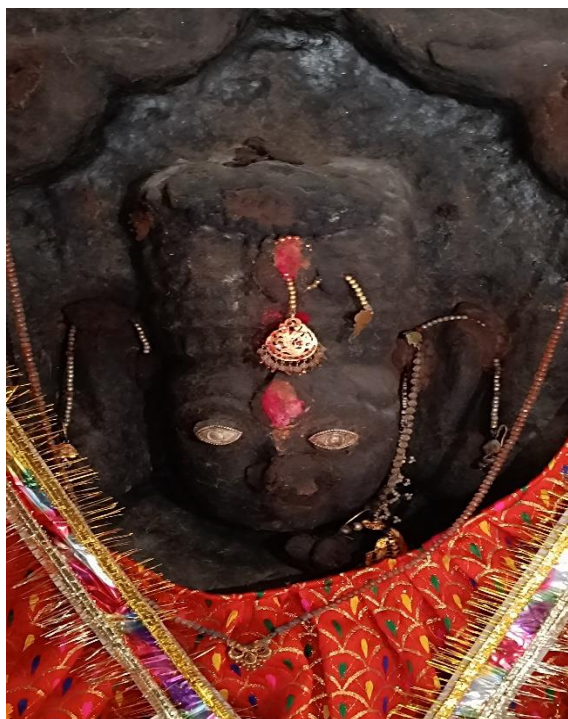
Members of Dharamshala chapter met the recently transferred Deputy Commissioner Mr. Hemraj Berwa IAS and after welcoming him and pinning up the lapel pin of INTACH, interacted with him and discussed about the ongoing and up coming (proposed) projects of the chapter. He promised extend a helping hand and to allot an accommodation for the chapter's office. He also desired to induct the nominated members of the chapter in the trust of the Shaktipeeths managed by the HP Govt.

With the initiative of the chapter, a District Cultural Council under the chairmanship of DC has already been constituted which consists of 6 govt. officers and about 8 non-official members mainly from the INTACH with District Language Officer as the Member Secretary. This DCC is entrusted with the job of publishing a quarterly magazine entitled "Dhauladhar Suman" that will publish the articles related to the art and cultural heritage of this part of the country. A quarterly "धौलाधार कला उत्सव" will also be organised to patronise folk artists and the traditional art and culture.

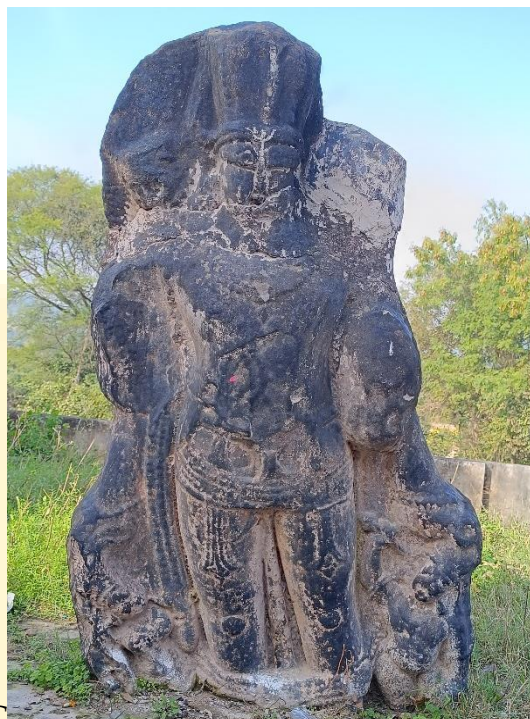
Jammu & Kashmir

Jammu

1. Heritage preservation in Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir



Durga Mata



Lord Vishnu

2. Bani Mandir Taloor- Samba -J&K

As a part of World Heritage Week celebration, INTACH Jammu chapter organised a visit on 25-11-2023 to Heritage Temple Bani Mandir Taloor, Tehsil and District Samba to explore the ways and means of its restoration and conservation and development with basic infrastructure .

Core team comprising of

1. Sh. S.M Sahini (JKAS Retired), Convener INTACH Jammu Chapter
2. Dr. Rajesh Sharma, Member INTACH Jammu Chapter
3. Arch. Amit Bhat, Member INTACH Jammu Chapter
4. Sh. Subash Sharma, Training Officer Handicraft Department and members of the Mandir Nirman Foundation Trust(Regd.) Bani Mandir Taloor Samba
1. Sh. Jinsi Singh (Chief Patron)
2. Sh. Satya Paul Sharma (Co -Chief Patron)
3. Dr Ajay Kumar Taloor (President)
4. Bhanu Partap Singh (Gen. secretary)
5. Ram Paul (Treasurer)
6. Jagdish Raj (Member)
7. Sushil Singh (Member)

Sh. Jinsi Singh (Chief Patron) explained the historical background of the approx. 1700 (Seventeen hundred) years old Durg Mata Mandir at Bani Mandir Taloor Samba having Durga Mata Sculpture sitting on the lion inside the temple and a sculpture of Lord Vishnu With three heads of a lion (right) and a boar (left) flanking a human head. He is also identifiable in this form by the epithet Para-Vasudeva, "The Highest God." The lion and boar represent Vishnu's Varaha and Narasimha avatars.

The local population have also established a Lord Shiva temple in the vicinity where Panchayat Ghar and medical health Centre has also been established by the administration. Besides this, at a distance of about 500meters an ancient well was also existing presently in the depleted/ ruin form.

After discussion and deliberations, it was unanimously decided by the trust members that guidance and advise along with skilled manpower to the process of conversation restoration of the temple and sculptures shall be sought from INTACH Conservation experts specially for pointing works on stone masonry. The landscaping / arboriculture and the required basic infrastructure shall also be got prepared with the help of INTACH Jammu chapter.

The team also visited the Bamboo craft centre at Jalapur – Sumb Road which is a revival of traditional crafts of the area.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/ZpUyMweCNiikmXow7>



Bani Mandir Taloor- Samba –J&K Chapter

3. To celebrate the 40th Foundation Day of INTACH – Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage a Get-together was organised by INTACH Jammu Chapter in the lap of city forest area – bypass road NH – 44 in the Grand Hill view / Restaurant. PRESENT:

1. Sh. Saleem Beg – Convenor J&K UT Chapter 2. Sh. S.M. Sahni – Convenor Jammu Chapter 3. Dr. C.M. Seth – Co-Convenor J&K UT 4. Sh. Kuldeep Wahi – Co-Convenor Jammu Chapter 5. Sh. Arvind Kotwal – Co-ordinator Heritage Tourism 6. Prof. Anita Baloria – Former Co-Convenor Jammu Chapter 7. Ms. Resham Kashyap – Member 8. Sh. Ajay Gandotra – Life Member 9. Sh. A.K. Kapur – Life Member 10. Sh. Rajesh Sharma – Member 11. Architect Kushagra Anand – Member 12. Ms. Kamakshi Singh – Special

Invitee At the outset Convenor Jammu Chapter S.M. Sahni While welcoming the members briefed the importance of the day and explained the activities of INTACH Jammu Chapter & requested the UT Convener Sh. Saleem Beg to brief the house about the INTACH Foundation Day and the background of the INTACH its formation & expansions from time to time, its mandate and activities across the country through 250 Chapters. Sh. Saleem Beg accordingly explained the history of the rich cultural heritage of the nation and formation of an organisation like INTACH for awareness at the grass root level, conservation – preservation – restoration of heritage properties. The tangible and intangible heritage moment was also launched by INTACH through its Chapters. Members exchanged their views and after thread bare discussions two resolutions were passed:

A. Mass Awareness Programmes be organised to aware the citizens specially the younger generation about the rich Cultural Heritage of J&K.

B. To approach the authorities for introduction of Cultural Heritage subject in the Academic Curriculum with outdoor programmes.

Get-together meet ended with vote of thanks to all the participants.

Udhampur (Subchapter-Jammu)

1. Indian National Trust for Art, Culture and Heritage (INTACH), sub- chapter Udhampur of Jammu Chapter organised a workshop on the world famous Basohli School of Paintings in SIKS Boys Model Higher Secondary School, Udhampur. On this occasion, Smt. Renu Kotwal Officiating Principal of the school was the Chief Guest. Smt. Anu Kumari Lecturer History threw light on the history and main features of the Basohli School of Painting. Eminent artist of Basohli Painting Sh. Surinder Singh Blowria was the resource person on this occasion. About 30 students of the 9th class took part in the workshop in which the students were taught the basic techniques of Basohli paintings and imparted them training with regard to the drawing of sketch and use of colors while drawing Basohli Paintings, using natural pigments and traditional Indian painting techniques. Speaking on the occasion, well known archaeologist and heritage warrior, Anil Paba co-Convener of Udhampur Chapter said that the main aim of the workshop is to preserve the art of world famous Basohli Paintings which are an integral part of our rich cultural heritage. Smt. Neeru Sarswat Lecturer Education thanked the guests for sparing their valuable time and exhorted the students to appreciate, preserve and transmit our rich culture & heritage. On this occasion, writer and cultural warrior, Ashok Sharma, was also present. Sh. Bharat Bhushan Lecturer Hindi conducted the proceedings of the programme.



Udhampur Sub Chapter organised a workshop on the world famous Basohli School of Paintings

Jharkhand Hazaribagh

Obituary of JUSTIN IMAM - Life Member, INTACH
(04.04.1974- 13.01.2024)

Justin Imam, the eldest son of Shri Bulu Imam, Convener, INTACH Hazaribagh Chapter passed away in a sudden cardiac arrest in the early hours of 13th January in his home in Hazaribagh. He was a Life Member of INTACH and did much to promote the Sohrai and Khovar village art of Jharkhand brought to light by his father in 1993. Justin curated and exhibited the Sohrai and Khovar art widely across India and got it the GI Tag in 2019 through his Virasat Trust. He organized over one dozen major international exhibitions in important venues in Japan and Paris, including the major cities of India. Further he and his wife Alka and their children Adam and Eva helped promote a representation of the art in the Hazaribagh through a unique project supported by Femme du Hazaribagh. He several times organized the national Republic Day Float Tableau in the theme of Sohrai mural painting. In 1997 he too the Sohrai art to Sydney, Australia. He was also responsible for bringing this art to attention of the United Nations in Geneva. He was also regularly promoting the art at the national level and deeply involved in its documentation. He also organized village art tourism and was endeared to the Sohrai village artists and other crafts-people and organization across Jharkhand. Only 49 years old he left us early and will be hugely missed by all.



SHRI JUSTIN IMAM-(04.04.1974- 13.01.2024)

Jamshedpur

Poster Making Competition 2023 - My monument Search

Poster Making Competition 2023 was conducted by Jamshedpur chapter in Kalamandir Premises, Jamshedpur on 19.12.2023. A total of 20 students from five schools participated in this competition. The details are as follows-

Serial No.	Name of School	Name of Students	Class
1.	Jusco School kadma Address :Road no. 23, Farm Area, Kadma, Jamshedpur, 831005	Shreya Sharma	7 A
		Khushbu Kumari	8 C
		Adiba Rahman	8 B
		Chandni Parween	9 C
2.	Little Flower School, Ullaramman Kovil Street, Telco Colony, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand 831004	Steven Swamy Nathan	7 A
		Vinayak Kumar Sharma	7 C
		Debraj Banerjee	8 A
		Shyantika Chatterjee	9 A
3.	Chinmaya Vidyalay, South Park , Bistupur, Jamshedpur, 831001	Prabhat Kumar Saket	7 B
		Prince Kumar Mishra	7 B
		Naman Nanda	7 A
		Anushka Nandi	7 A
4.	Motilal Nehru Public School, Pipe Line Road, Northern Town, Sakchi, Jamshedpur, 831001	Hrishika	7 C
		Susmita Mahanty	7 C
		Tanushree Dey	9 C
		Shivam Layek	9 B
5.	Narbheram Hansraj English School, Kharkai Link Road, Bistupur, Jamshedpur, 831001	Ahana Mandal	9 A
		Sohitri Samanta	8 A
		Ishan Kumar	8 A
		Raksha Kumari	8 A

While addressing the students present, Ms. Devla Murmu , a member of INTACH told about what is heritage and also gave information about its conservation. She elaborated on How does INTACH work, What is Heritage Club, why Quiz , Poster exhibitions are held etc. She also advised the children to spend time with their elders their memories, their customs, practices, cuisines because it is the elders who protect the heritage and pass it on to their generation. Children were also encouraged to write blogs and do podcasts based on their heritage. Along with providing information about natural, built, cultural, literary and other intangible and tangible heritage, they were also motivated to conserve that heritage. The students and the visiting school teachers were also greatly impressed by her words. Schools were advised to open Heritage Club in their schools so that heritage related information can be provided to the students in a more accurate and effective manner.



Poster Making Competition 2023 - My monument Search- Jamshedpur

Karnataka

Belagavi

INTACH Belagavi chapter hosts 'Music for a Goddess' program

INTACH Belagavi Chapter presented a very special program 'Music for a Goddess' - screening of a DVD of the same title by Prof. Amy Catlin Jairazbhoy from University of California and a scholar on Indian and Western Classical music for the past 30 years. Virtuoso performances by women and men practitioners (Jogtis and Jogappas, including transgenders) are featured in ensembles in the film with the Chaundke, a one-stringed variable-tension 'plucked drum' (Chordophone) believed to have first been fashioned by Parasuram from a demon's skull. The event was followed by a hearty discussion with Prof. Amy Catlin Jairazbhoy on the mythological tales of Goddess Yallamma of Saundatti in Belagavi district, the many forms of the musical instrument, its new variations, the dying art form and the plight of the Jogtis and Jogappas - women and men who are dedicated to the Goddess. Maj. Gen. K.N. Mirji (Retd.) welcomed Prof. Amy Catlin Jairazbhoy. INTACH Belagavi co-convener Vinod Doddanavar, who is also the Secretary of Bharatesh Education Trust- promised to take up initiatives to preserve the rich heritage of the songs and the music played on the Chaundke, including the Kannada and Marathi songs in praise of the Goddess as also speaking about the plight and the lament of the kids of the Devadasis.

Amy visits India every winter quarters and studies its rich heritage. This film is on the music of the Jogtis and Jogappas of Yellamma Saundatti played on the single strong musical instrument Chaudke. She also unraveled amazing facets of the music and the traditions of the artists who play this. The film is an extension of the Bake Restudy 1984 by Nazir Ali Jairazbhoy who was a student and later colleague and natural successor of Dr. Arnold Bake, the Dutch ethnomusicologist. It comprised of footage by Dr. Bake from 1938 when he extensively travelled across India to document its rich musical heritage. Dr. Prakash Patil (and his wife) and Mr. Nandan Herlekar, who helped Prof. Nazir Ali and Amy Catlin Jairazbhoy to translate the original Kannada songs into English were also invited for this event. INTACH Belagavi member Swatee Jog coordinated the event. Enthusiastic attendees had plenty of questions to Prof. Amy who patiently answered and clarified doubts.

About Prof. Amy Catlin Jairazbhoy- Prof. Catlin Jairazbhoy holds Ph.D. from Brown University; Masters in Music from Yale University; B.A. from Vassar College. For over 30

years Catlin- Jairazbhoy has studied classical and folk music in India, where she continues to perform Western classical and Indian-influenced contemporary music in concerts, oratorios, schools and orphanages, and on All India Radio. Her career is dedicated full-time to music scholarship, field research and documentation, community advocacy, and performance, integrating her Western classical vocal training with non-classical, non-Western music.

She has worked extensively with the Siddi tribals of Gujarat. She conducts field research in India during winter quarters, continuing to work with the Siddi Literacy Project in Gujarat, and to restudy Arnold Bake's 1938 documentation, most recently with Mappila Muslims of Malabar. In 2018 she received the honorary title of Bake-Jairazbhoy Chair Professor, Indian Ocean Studies from PSMO College, an affiliate of Calicut University, Kerala. Her work with the late Nazir Ali Jairazbhoy during their Bake Restudy Project in 1984 has been recognized as a rich collection worthy of digitization and publication by the UCLA Digital Library Project.

INTACH Belagavi Chapter members, a large number of History and Music students, music aficionados and culture enthusiasts attended this program held on 24th January at Bharatesh campus in Belagavi-Karnataka.



Maj. Gen. KN Mirji felicitating Prof. Amy Bijapur



Members of INTACH Belagavi Chapter

1. After receiving drawing and essay competition on lesser known monuments for 7-9 students, in anticipation of support from the Head Quarter, Members of INTACH Bijapur Chapter and Co-Conveners took decision to print and publish calendar-2024 on the subject. Since Bijapur is being historical city and having hundreds of monuments only few like Gol-Gumbaj, Ibrahim rouza etc few monuments are very much popular. But there are some monuments which are worth to see. Hence decision was taken 12 monuments were selected accordingly.

2. Heritage Calender-2024 released on 09-01-24 by Dr VG Sangam Principal of Dr PG Halakatti Engineering College and Dr Aravind Patil Principal of Shri BM Patil Medical College and research centre Bijapur, Inaugurated the fuction. While addressing only few are popular. We should make efforts to make them also popular. Dr Sangam lauded the efforts of INTACH Bijapur Chapter and pressed the people and student of Bijapur take aware of this a popular other monument also. Dr Krishna Kolharkulkarni gave introductory talk about INTACH programs. Dr VD Aiholli Co-convenor conducted the

function and Ar VP Tanksali Co-convenor welcomes the gathering. Program ended with vote of thanks by Prof AB Budihal. VIPs of the city and students of Engineering Colleges were attended the function. Media and VIPs appreciated the efforts of INTACH Chapter. Tea and snacks were arranged for the gathering. Few photographs of the function and media reports are enclosed here with.

Dharwad

INTACH Dharwad Chapter

G B Meeting was held on 03 February 2024

Shri Timmapur,co Convenor informed the house about the progress made in respect of Malkambh workshop

A group of five members was constituted to visit one or two Gram Panchayat offices to make them aware of the "Hero Stones" and their preservation

Members were informed about the Zoom meeting that was conducted in which Chairman,Member Secretary, Director Chapter Division,and Convenors/ Co Convenors of Karnataka participated

Expenditure incurred for poster making competition "Lesser known monuments" was tabled for information of the members

There being no other points meeting was concluded with vote of thanks

Madhya Pradesh

Bhopal

1. INTACH Bhopal chapter organised a heritage walk for its members in the nearby ratapani wildlife sanctuary where the chapter has been very actively engaged in conserving the Gond period ginnaurgarh fortification complex. The Fort is a 15th century complex located in thick reserve forest about 60 km from Bhopal. This complex has been extensively documented by Bhopal INTACH- and all the signage in this area have been installed by the chapter.

The water bodies in this deep forestation are also cleaned by Bhopal chapter as part of its normal activities. This area is now a Tiger Sanctuary. Sunday was a very pleasant weather and all the members of INTACH-MP enjoyed the walk and learned about the rich heritage of this region.

2. While cleaning the old portion of a building of the state period INTACH Bhopal team came across the baked bricks with engravings in Persian on it.

The engraving reads as 'Tameerat Imaarat', meaning the construction of a building.

These markings were found in large number of bricks and the local enquiry revealed that during the period of Bhopal state several public buildings were constructed. It was a common practice in the buildings constructed by the government to put such markings on the bricks.

The bricks used in such buildings were marked with this impression. The building which is more than 200 years old has very significant architectural features and the finding of

these bricks with different dimensions and marking is an important aspect of construction of public buildings.

Apart from these imprints on the bricks the sizes of the bricks are also observed to be different for different type of ornamentation and places of usage in the building.

The Bhopal chapter of INTACH is studying these and other bricks found in similar period in other parts of Bhopal division to find any similarity of dimensions and other features.

Datia

1 The work done by INTACH for archaeological conservation is important- Dr Ranjana Bundela

Whenever we come to Datia, we definitely visit its architectural, archeological, tourism and cultural heritage because Datia has its own identity in the entire Bundelkhand. Here is the famous temple of Maa Pitambara and the ancient palace of Maharaj Veer Singh Dev. Today the new generation needs to know about all these monuments. This work was done by INTACH Datia Chapter through a Painting Competition. Today, the paintings drawn by students of about 11-12 schools will become examples of the cultural and archaeological heritage of Datia.

The above views were expressed by Dr. Ranjana Bundela, Chairman, Lancer Public School. He said that today the students have also seen the architecture and painting of Veer Hanuman Temple and this is the biggest task that we all have come to an archaeological site today to make paintings.

Dr. Ranjana was speaking as the Chief Guest at the Poster Competition and Seminar organized by Datia Chapter. On this occasion, he observed and appreciated the paintings made by the students. The program was organized by HECS Department of INTACH New Delhi at Datia and coordinated by Datia Chapter. The program was presided over by former Principal Dyad Shri AM Saxena. Lecturer Jyoti Pateria and journalist Jagat Sharma were especially present. Ravi Thakur, historian and journalist was present to provide guidance as the keynote speaker. Jagat Sharma said that today it will be necessary for us to list the heritage to preserve it so that the coming generations can understand it. Historian Ravi Thakur emphasized that Datia's rich history is encapsulated in landmarks such as the palace of Veer Singh Dev, alongside numerous archaeological and cultural heritage sites scattered throughout the area. He advocated for the preservation of these monuments as a means of forging a distinct identity. Addressing the students, Thakur encouraged them to actively engage with their heritage, whether they hail from villages or cities. He urged them to observe, document, and seek to understand the historical and cultural significance of their local heritage, thereby fostering a deeper connection with their roots.

The outline of the program was presented by Vinod Mishra and moderated by Ravi Bhushan Khare. Dr. Ranjana Bundela and Ravi Thakur were honored on this occasion. In the program, about hundred students painted the heritage temple, stepwell, fort, palace and other monuments of Datia. These pictures will be sent for the national competition held in Delhi. Jhansi's child painter Divya Agarwal was honored in the programme. In the program, members of Datia Chapter welcomed the guests with flower garlands which included Radhavallabh Mishra (coordinator competition) Uma Charan Sharma, Dr. Lakhan Lal Soni, Kalpana Mishra, Sanjay Bhatt, Arun Siddh, Dr. Anita Bundela, Arvind Pachauri Kiran CP Kushwaha Ashok Yadav, Dr. Raj Goswami Maniram Sharma, Geeta Aggarwal, Dharmendra Aggarwal Nidhi Rawat, Ramshree Mishra, Radhavallabh Mishra are the prominent ones. On this occasion Mridul Saxena Seema Yadav Uma Pathak Reena Tiwari Nidhi Dubey Mahesh Kumar, Mahan Singh, Alok Aggarwal, Vandana Makija, Naina Vishwakarma, Mrs. Reena Sahu, Roshan Pal, Nishant Goswami Mahant, Afzal Hussain, Mohit Kankaria, Ankit Rajput, Milind Mishra. There was important cooperation.

2. Chateaur painting of Datia was presented as gift to ADM Upadhyay ji.

Datia. Vinod Mishra, Convenor, INTACH Datia Chapter, honored Mr. Rupesh Upadhyay, the Additional Collector of Datia, with Chateaur folk painting of Bundelkhand. This tribute was in recognition of Mr. Upadhyay's dedication to the conservation of archaeological, cultural, and historical heritage. Following his transfer from Datia to Sagar, Madhya Pradesh, Mr. Upadhyay's significant contributions as the ADM of Datia and the nodal officer of the District Archaeological Tourism and Culture Council were celebrated. He has been instrumental in enhancing the district's archeological, cultural, musical, and historical landscape. During his commendation ceremony, Mr. Mishra extolled Mr. Upadhyay's efforts in archaeological preservation and highlighted his role in promoting Datia's tourism through the impactful documentary film, "*Gale Ka Haar Datia*". His work received appreciation from the Datia Dreams Platform members as well. The event saw the participation of notable individuals including Shantanu Aggarwal, President of the Rawatpura College Institute, along with Kamalkant Sharma, Dr. Raj Goswami, Principal Rajni Arzaria, Manoj Dubey, Uma Charan Sharma, Jitendra Goswami, and various officials and artists. The program was organized by the Council, with Ashwani Thakur, Pankaj Samadhiya, Hareram Sahu, Ajay Pawaiya, and Lakhan Singh making notable contributions.



Chateaur painting of Datia

Dhar

1. * Learned to create tattoos inspired by primitive man and won prizes for their creation.
16 December, 2023 - Vanishing Tattoo Arts Workshop

Tattooing is a civilization and art of primitive man. It is an indelible mark of human expression. Wordless is a continuous story. Man first mixed his life with the marks made by striking a stone, then in his enthusiasm he experimented with colors which are in front of us in the form of tattooing. Tattooing Nature symbols are made on the body with indelible ink using natural colors. Along with tattooing, there is also an aspect related to regional identity and health. This art is becoming endangered. It is getting a long life due to the efforts of INTACH. These views were expressed by the main speaker and artist Dr. Sadhna Chauhan and tribal art artist Anoop Srivastava. The workshop organized under the guidance of Purnima Dutt, Director, HECS Department, was introduced by Dr. Deependra Sharma, Convenor, INTACH, Dhar. In Vichar Prakatya, educationists Jayant Joshi, Shri Shyam Sharma, Shri Harihardatt Shukla, Naveen Bhanwar introduced many new facts about tattooing. The guests were welcomed by Reena Thakur, Yoga Guru Ram Kishore Pandey. In tattoo painting, first place was won by Rajkumar Alava of Utkrishta Vidyalaya, second place was went to Himesh Parmar and third place was won by Kashish Chauhan of Bhaskar Vidyapeeth. Prisha Bhandari received the incentive award. The guests gave attractive prizes to the winning children. 52 children and teachers from five schools participated in the workshop.

Children get passports

In the workshop, passports and logo pins were given to the children of Excellent Heritage Club of Utkrisht Vidyalaya, Balbhaskar Heritage Club of Bhaskar Vidyapeeth and Maa Narmada Heritage Club of Tagore Public School. Workshop Coordinator Bharti Karale presented vote of thanks.

2. Music and Talk - Dhar's heritage is of global importance but the world is unaware
The music captivated the audience, while the talk gratified their discerning tastes.
8 December 2023

Dhar's heritage is also of global importance but not only the state but the world is unaware of it. Every city has its own unique archaeological identity. Dhar has many heritage sites like Bhojshala, Vijay Mandir, Mandu, Jalmahal Sadalpur, Bagh caves, Oriya

style temple of Badnawar, Amkajhamka temple. We know some things but most of them are unknown to the country and the world. We will have to come together to know and understand our heritage and make everyone aware of their specialties. This is the responsibility of the society as well as the government. The activities of INTACH organization in heritage conservation and education are noteworthy. These thoughts were shared by historian Mr. Abhyudaya Kelkar Bhopal, Dr. BL Chauhan, former principal Indore, Mr. Nandkishore Prajapat Kanvan, educationist Mr. Harihardatt Shukla Dhar, Mr. Shyam Sharma Tirla and Director of Bhoj Research Institute, Dr. Deependra Sharma in the Talk organized on the topic Dhar's Heritage today & tomorrow. At the start of the event, singer Vijay Dubey enchanted everyone with his vocal performance during the bhajan evening. He started his singing with Ganesh Vandana. Everyone was mesmerized with Sufi singing, bhajans, film songs and classical bands. Tabla accompaniment was Shivam Malviya, Sachin Bairagi on banjo and Yogi Panwar on Octoped. The artists were honored by famous comedian Sandeep Sharma. Chapter Advisory Committee member Mr. Devendra Runwal and Speaker guests honored the new member educationist and astrologer Ramgopal Sharma, engineer Jayesh Jain, Abhyudaya Kelkar and provided membership material by putting a batch of INTACH logo. The event was conducted by Parag Bhosle. Gunjali Gangwal expressed gratitude. During the communal feast, a special meal featuring whole grains, including corn, bread, and gram flour, left everyone content. Bhavani Joshi, the program coordinator, demonstrated commendable organizational skills.



Tattoo Arts Workshop- Dhar Chapter



Music and Talk - Dhar Chapter

Food Nutrition Workshop

A workshop focusing on over ten nutritious meals that can be quickly prepared using household ingredients, with an emphasis on millet, was organized by the INTACH Dhar Chapter under the Food and Nutrition Division. The unique value of homemade food items stems from their freshness, purity, authentic flavors, cost-effectiveness, and affinity. For the elderly, nutritious and easily digestible meals are particularly important. INTACH has consistently been at the forefront of preserving traditional foods and recipes.

At a workshop organized by the INTACH Dhar Chapter's Food and Nutrition Division, dishes were prepared using coarse grains. Mrs. Harsha Runwal, Convenor, INTACH Dhar Chapter, along with Dr. Deependra Sharma, the keynote speaker, highlighted the importance of these meals. A team of skilled trainers efficiently prepared over 10 dishes, notable among them were cooked rice, dahi ka karba, buttermilk rice sour churi, *fariyali khichdi* made with raw banana and peanuts, *suji satvik* cake, milk wheat khichda, idli, moong dal soup, and a vegetable dish made from ripe bananas and jam. The workshop's Chief Instructor, Harsha Runwal, was warmly received by elder Puranchand Saxena, Meenakshi Lahare's Nidhi Gavshinde, and YouTube channel operator Durga Merwani, with Rani Panwar extending welcomes on behalf of the Shraddhalay Old Age Home Management. The "World of Taste" food nutrition workshop, hosted for the first time in an old age home, was met with considerable enthusiasm from the elderly participants. The quickly prepared dishes were served with love to the elders. Mr. Jayant Joshi, the Hospitality Officer, expressed his appreciation for the event's success.



Food & Nutrition Workshop-Dhar

Khandwa

1. INTACH Khandwa Chapter had organized Endangered Arts/ Crafts Awareness Workshop among the students of Utkrasht Vidyalaya, Khandwa (M.P.). The theme we chose for the workshop was "Nimar Region Folk Art Stone Painting" - JIROTI. Jiroti is a folk art of Nimar Region, it is a wall painting and is painted on the occasion of Hariyali Amavasya. Smt. Bharti Parashar and Smt. Anjali Shinde were invited as a resource person. Prior to the workshop, Life member Ankita Sharma briefed the participants about the programme. Smt Bharti Parashar aware the participants about Jiroti Art and its importance. She said "Hariyali Amavasya of Sawan is celebrated as Nimar traditional festival Jiroti. Mural paintings of Jiroti Mata are made by people by painting with ochre on both sides outside the doors of the houses. However, with time this festival has changed. In urban areas, instead of making the figure of Jiroti Mata with ochre, most of the people put the printed figure of Mata outside their houses. Even today in rural areas, this festival is celebrated with enthusiasm by the people. Hariyali Amavasya is celebrated as a day of happy families. In rural areas, there is a tradition of making a beautiful Mandana of Maa Jiroti a week before the festival. In ancient times the walls were made of cow dung. The colors dried slowly and were natural. In the picture of Jiroti Mata, 3 sons are made with 3 women in the cradle or on the throne in the middle. Moon and sun

are celebrated in both the upper corners, nose ring, earrings and other figures are celebrated in the middle. Nag on one side of the cradle and Tulsi Vrindavan on the other side, kitchen on one side and maternity room on the other side. In the middle, a picture of Ganga Mata, a fan and a scorpion are made. On the day of Amavasya, the eyes of the pupils are opened with sandalwood and a cotton pony's phulera is applied on them and aarti-puja is performed. These paintings tell the story of our times. In ancient times, when man was satisfied with all his desires, he used to carve pictures out of stone in his free time in caves and caves, which told the story of his time. Along with civilization, when villages were settled, colors started being used in them. Many legends and stories of Jiroti are related to Jarasandha during the Mahabharata period. The mural painting of Jiroti is a symbol of a happy family."

After the briefing session, Smt. Anjali Shinde folk art trainer taught the participants Jiroti on Stone. Around 55 students participated in the programme. Post workshop refreshments were served and certificates were distributed.





Endangered Arts/ Crafts Awareness Workshop- Khandwa Chapter

Mandla

During the 40th anniversary celebration of INTACH's establishment, Mr. AK Shukla, a senior INTACH member, addressed the students of the Government School of Excellence, Bija Dadhi, emphasizing the importance of preserving Indian traditions, customs, dialects, attire, and culinary heritage handed down by our ancestors. He expressed concern that western culture and the proliferation of mobile and television media are eroding these valuable customs and ideals. Mr. Shukla urged the students to adopt the respectful practices of their elders, including their manner of dressing and addressing them, noting the invaluable life experiences older generations offer, which can guide the youth towards progress.

Mr. Arun Aggarwal, Convenor, INTACH detailed the organization's mission to the students, highlighting that temples, ashrams, and other century-old edifices are part of India's cultural legacy, underscoring our collective responsibility to safeguard them. Mr. Vijay Aggarwal, Co-Convenor advised students to ensure ancient treasures in their vicinity are preserved in government museums for future generations.

Environmental advocate and senior INTACH member, RK Kshatriya informed students about the importance of water conservation in their homes and communities, including efforts to clean and protect local water bodies from pollution, thereby contributing to regional development. He suggested that promoting these sites to tourists visiting Kanha National Park could foster local employment opportunities, aiming to eradicate unemployment in the district.

The event, facilitated by Mr. Sanjay Singor, Sub Co-Convenor, provided an overview of INTACH activities and encouraged student participation in district-level programs. He commended the school for its commitment to cleanliness and environmental stewardship, extending gratitude to the principal, staff, and particularly lauding the sports officer, SR Parate, for his significant contribution to the event.

Shivpuri

1. Under Khelo M.P programme, the Torch representing the Youth Games passed through 17 districts of the state and reached Happy Days School Shivpuri on 27th September which was welcomed by Happy Days School Principal Mrs. Anju Sharma, teachers and all the students.

On this occasion, officials associated with Sports Department Mr. Kamal Batham, Mr. Prakash Rathor and Mr. Taufeeq Khan was present to witness the programme.

Birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the architect of national integration of Independent India " Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) was celebrated on 31st October 2023.

On this occasion Run for Unity programme was organised by the management of Happy Days School Shivpuri. Students of classes 10 and 12 participated in this run. This programme was organised to create awareness about Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's contribution to the building of modern India.

To celebrate the Constitution Day INTACH with collaboration of Shivpuri youth forum organised a quiz on the topic " Know your government, state and Its machinery on 26th November 2023.

The students of Happy Days School Shivpuri participated in this quiz and secured second position. Through this quiz students understood the need and importance of the Constitution of India.



Khelo Madya Pradesh Programme at Happy Days School - Shivpuri

Maharashtra Amravati

1. On the occasion of the completion of 350 years of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's coronation, the All Maharashtra Mountaineering Federation organized a tricolor flag and saffron flag hoisting & climbing program at 350 forts in the state. Among these, this

activity was completed today at four forts in Amravati district. The event was jointly organized by Amravati Climbing Association and INTACH Amravati Chapter. The program was concluded on January 26, at 9.30 am at the Ambagate of Amravati, the Bhuikot Fort. In this program Convener, INTACH Dr. Jayant Wadtkar in his foreword read out the Shiva-Pledge giving information about the "resolve to hoist the flag on 350 forts on Republic Day". In this program, the officials of climbing association Prof. Dr. Mr. Manda Nandurkar, INTACH. Kiran More, Mr. Ankush Gawande, Mr. Saurabh Javanjal as well as more than 30 citizens from Ambaget area were present. For this program Mr. Manoj Bhele and Shri. Saurabh Yaul provided invaluable assistance. This activity was also organized at Gavilgarh, Amner and Achalpur forts in the district.

2. Chatri lake cleaning and bird watching program held at Amravati on the occasion of World Wetlands Day.

Amravati: 2nd February is celebrated worldwide as World Wetlands Day every year. In order to conserve wetlands and create public awareness about them, various programs are organized every year by announcing a central topic and keeping that concept at the center. This year the central theme of this day is "Wetlands and human wellbeing". On this day, February 2, Wildlife and Environment Conservation Society (WECS) Amravati in association with Maharashtra Pakshimitra and Intake Chapter (INTACH) organized a lake cleaning campaign and bird watching program at Chhatri Lake near Amravati. There is a lake established from British era nearby and earlier this lake used to supply water to the Amravati city. The lake is a major habitat of the district for migratory as well as local species of birds and wild animals of Pohra forest also depend on this lake. But recently, due to the various constructions taking place in this place as well as the immersion of idols and garbage in the city, the lake has been polluted by a large amount of plastic and other objects, so the number of bird species here is decreasing day by day. The said program was organized to create public awareness about this and to clean the place. In this activity from Amravati, Around 200 students from Shivaji Science College, Bharatiya College and Narsamma College participated.

On this occasion, Prof. Dr. Gajanan Wagh explained & informed the audience about the information about World Wetlands Day and the purpose behind it. Dr. Jayant Wadtkar, Convener of Intake Chapter and Honorary Wildlife Conservator, explain & informed the audience about the bird biodiversity of Chhatri Lake and the biodiversity that has been destroyed in the lake due to the development work being done at this place and the apathy of the public. This time as a guide Mr. Kiran More, Mr. Manoj Bind, Mr. Prashant Nikam, Mr. Saurabh Javanjal, Prof. Safal Patil, Dr. Pawan Rathod, Sanket Rajurkar, Sumit Ambulkar, Pvt. Zainab Ali informed all the students about bird watching. After that everyone donated labor and collected plastic waste, pieces of thermocol, glass and water bottles along with broken idols and garbage from the bank of the lake. Convener of Intake

for the said program, Dr. Jayant Wadtkar, Prof. Dr. Gajanan Wagh, Mr. Kiran More, Mr. Ankush Gawande, Mr. Sumit Ambulkar and Mr. Satej Keche were present.



A tricolor flag and saffron flag hoisting & climbing program – Amravati Chapter

Chandrapur

On occasion of 67th National ATHLETES Tournament 2023-24 at Ballarpur, Chandrapur, Chandrapur Gazetteer volume 1 & 2 has been released by the hand of Hon. Shri Eknath ji Shinde, chief minister, Hon. Shri. Devendra ji Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister, Hon. Shri. Sudhir ji Mungantiwar, Minister of Culture Affairs, Hon. Shri. Sanjay ji Bansode, minister of sports, Hon. Shri. Vikas ji Kharge Principal Secretary of CM and Department of Culture Affairs, with presence of Dr Dilip Balsekar, Executive Editor and Secretary Gazetteers department, Shri. Ashok Singh Thakur. Member of editorial committee in the opening ceremony on 27 December 2023



Released Chandrapur Gazetteer volume 1 & 2

Greater Mumbai

INTACH Greater Mumbai Chapter in collaboration with Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sanghralaya (CSMVS) Mumbai organised one of its kind 'Craft Film Festival' on 25th and 26th November 2023 targeted towards the next generation and our youth to educate and sensitise them about our rich cultural heritage.

6 Short films from the rich archives of INTACH made by the Heritage Crafts and Community Division (HCCD) were selected for screening to show case the rich crafts tradition of our country, their history, the materials and techniques.

The films selected were - Jaisalmer lime and stone craft, Chanderi textile weaving , Lac bangle from Rajasthan, craft of black pottery from Nizamabad, Sanjhi art of Vrindavan, Handmade paper craft of Kagzipura, Aurangabad and craft of block printing from Rajasthan.

Practitioners of some of the crafts screened were invited for live demonstrations and workshops to give the students a hands on experience for a better and deeper understanding of each of the crafts. The participants got an opportunity to make their own objects, like lac bangles, sheets of paper, to print their own handkerchief and so on. To add another dimension to the entire festival was a talk by Mrs. Bindu Manchanda, Director, HCCD on 'Crafts Revival and its Impact' She spoke about how INTACH's craft revival initiatives has led to economic well-being of craftsmen, which has resulted in the resurgence of regions like Jaisalmer etc.

The film festival received an overwhelming response and over the course of two days we had more than 1500 participants from several educational schools, which included private schools, BMC schools and several NGOs and walk in visitors. We also received enquiries from several educational institutions interested in organising a similar festival. The event was also graced by senior INTACH members, Dr. Saryu Doshi, Vice Chairperson INTACH and Founder Member Mrs. Asha Sheth amongst many other members from the chapter.

Walk

Join us for a Taste of Dadar with Neil Khopkar - A Food and Music Walking Tour.

Mumbai is a culturally diverse city, with Dadar at its heart. Initially a quiet part of one of the city's first planned neighborhoods, Dadar has transformed into one of its busiest suburbs. Now, poised for redevelopment, it's an opportune moment to explore this area through its food, history, and music.

About Neil Khopkar - He co-founded Sarkhel Restaurant in Alibaug where he has merged his culinary curiosities and business know-how, refined at Le Cordon Bleu in New Zealand. He is also passionate about music and receives training under Vidushi Neela Bhagwat in the Gwalior style. He has also adapted the Appalachian Dulcimer into the Indian classical style.

With his love for food, music, and Mumbai, Neil will take us on an interesting journey through time, space, and tastes.



Taste of Dadar with Neil Khopkar - A Food and Music Walking Tour **Nagpur**

On the occasion of INTACH's 40th Foundation Day, the children of Essence International School, Nagpur embarked on an enlightening visit to the historic Chitnavis Wada in Nagpur, immersing themselves in the rich cultural heritage of the region.

As they stepped into the Chitnavis Wada, the students were captivated by the architectural grandeur of this ancestral home, marveling at its intricately carved wooden doorways and the timeless beauty of its courtyards.

The visit was an educational journey, where the children learned about the significance of preserving historical sites and understanding the stories and traditions that have shaped our past.

Guided by Dr. Madhura Rathod from INTACH, the students explored the various sections of the Wada, each corner telling a tale of the lifestyle, art, and social history of Nagpur's bygone era.

The children were particularly fascinated by the traditional Marathi artifacts displayed within the Wada, offering them a glimpse into the daily life and cultural practices of its former inhabitants.

Interactive sessions with the experts helped the students appreciate the meticulous efforts required to maintain and restore such heritage structures, highlighting the importance of INTACH's mission.

Through sketches and notes, the young visitors documented their observations, keen to share the knowledge gained about architectural conservation and heritage awareness with their peers.

As the day came to an end, the students gathered in the Wada's main courtyard, reflecting on the importance of heritage sites in connecting us to our history and the collective responsibility of their preservation.

This memorable visit to Chitnavis Wada not only enriched the students of Essence International School with a deeper understanding of India's cultural heritage but also inspired them to be proactive guardians of our historical legacy, marking a fitting tribute to INTACH's 40 years of dedicated service.



INTACH Nagpur Chapter's Heritage Site visit 2024 – Nagpur Chapter

Pune

1. Discover Pune

The 20th edition of INTACH Pune's city wide annual heritage treasure hunt was held on 7th Jan 2024. This year's theme was astrology – Rashichakra and the movement of the teams was based on the constellations and the zodiac signs. There were total 12 heritage sites that were locations for the treasure hunt. Teams were then asked to solve a questionnaire based on information on the heritage sites. A total of 45 teams involving

150 participants participated. Prizes worth Rs.25,000/- cash award and trophies were given to winning teams. The event was well- received by participants. The event is conceptualized and executed by INTACH Pune Executive Committee member, Madhur Barve along with other INTACH Pune EC members and volunteers. The prize distribution ceremony was presided by Dr Satish Desai, of Punyabhushan foundation and who is former Deputy Mayor of Pune. The prizes were given away by Dr Satish Desai and Prof Dr Sharvey Dhongde, Convenor, INTACH Pune. Since this was 20th year, a specially designed customized trophy with Pune city map on it was presented to the winner. A survey was conducted among the participants regarding Pune city and a paper was presented in State Level architectural assembly on the topic - Importance of heritage-based game to increase the Awareness about city's heritage. The event was supported by sponsorship from Siddhesh Developers. Heritage sites covered this year included Modern High School, Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Museum, Shivajinagar Railway Station, Jaykar Bungalow (National Film Archive of India), Tilak Smarak Ram Mandir, Murlidhar Mandir, Tombs of European Soldiers, Jageshwar Mahadev Mandir, Church of Holy Angels, Trimbakeshwar Mandir, Ranade Institute and Kedarnath Mandir.

2. Rights of Rivers, My responsibility campaign launch

INTACH Pune joined hands with Pune River Revival group for launch of the campaign on Rights of Rivers on 26, 27 and 28 January 2024. The group is a consortium of like-minded NGOs including Jeevitnadi and citizens in Pune who have come together for the cause of Pune rivers. A part of the two-day celebrations and awareness programmes, that involved dance performances, singing, talks and panel discussions on Pune rivers. INTACH Pune organized a Powada on Pune Rivers sung by Shahir Sureshrao Suryavanshi and troupe. The event was curated by Co-convenor Supriya Goturkar. The programme also remembered Gangaputra Professor GD Agrawal who fasted for 111 days, to save River Ganga and commemorated 700th day of chain fasting by Pune citizens for Pune rivers. Waterman of India Shri Rajendra Singh ji gave an address on 28th January of Rights of Rivers.

3. Heritage Walks

INTACH Pune has revived its monthly open heritage walks programme. A heritage walk of Bohri aali in the old city Pune led by INTACH Pune's Executive Committee member Dr Shubhada Kamalapurkar. The walk covered the historic by lanes of one of the oldest commercial markets in Pune city. The participants also visited the historic Saifee Masjid and one of the traditional houses of the Bohri community. The February walk was a visit to St. Mary's Church, Pune Cantonment. Built in the early 1820s, it is the oldest church in the region and thus is regarded as the mother church of the Deccan. The Church was built for the purpose of worship for British military officers. The heritage walk was led by INTACH Life member Dr Pushkar Sohoni, who is Associate Professor and Chair, Humanities and Social Sciences at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune. Both the walks were well attended.

A number of heritage walks were customized on request, based on various themes. These include core city food walk and core city walk for Rotary Club NIBM that were designed and conducted by our Co Convenor Jui Tawade. Heritage walks based on theme of

education reform movement in Pune for Sociology department, Savitribai Phule Pune University and heritage walk on Pune's music heritage for actress and German bandoneon player Helena Ruegg, a core city walk for Forbes Marshall Foundation team and their corporate guests; were curated and conducted by our co-convenor Supriya Goturkar. The chapter received a number of requests for core city heritage walks especially for foreign-national guests visiting Pune. The walks were conducted by INTACH life members Manish Kelkar and Ruchita Belapurkar.

4. Heritage Talks

INTACH Pune Chapter organized a lecture jointly with MKSSS's Dr. B. N. College of Architecture on 'Sacred Landscapes of Ayodhya' by Dr. Amita Sinha on 22nd January 2024. The lecture focused on the allegorical landscape of Ayodhya and the roles of myth and history. The birth place of Lord Rama is part of the network of sacred sites where the Ramayana narrative is grounded through imagery and place-making. It entails connecting the site within the larger sacred landscape of Ayodhya and symbolically representing other places of the Ramakatha circuit in the Indic tradition of place-making. The event was coordinated by INTACH Pune EC member Dr Shubhada Kamalapurkar. The talk is available online on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zO8M40FQVMk>

5. Re-Exploration of Lime Workshop

INTACH Pune Chapter organized a one-day hands-on workshop 'Re-Exploration of Lime' in association with INTACH Kolhapur Chapter, MKSSS's Dr. B. N. College of Architecture, Nayantara Foundation along with the Purandare Family of Saswad on 4th February 2024. It was held at the historic Purandare wada in Saswad in Pune District. The event was coordinated by INTACH EC member Dr Vaishali Latkar with INTACH Life member Ar Sonal Karanjikar along with a team of experts and volunteers. INTACH Kolhapur Chapter convenor Amarja Nimbalkar and Co-convenor Tejaswini Mirajkar, INTACH Pune Co-convenors Supriya Goturkar and Jui Tawade were also present along with members of Purandare family. The workshop was well-received. Participants were given the book 'What are Lime Mortars' book by Gurmeet Rai and Paromita Desarkar, published by INTACH as part of the resource material.

6. Workshop showcasing the restoration work of St. Crispin's Church

INTACH Pune, Architects, Engineers & Surveyors Association (AESAs) Pune and Nasadeeya in association with Directorate of Archaeology and Museum, Government of Maharashtra organized a workshop led by INTACH Life member Ar Archana Deshmukh showcasing the restoration work of St. Crispin's Church, Erandwane, Pune on 17th February 2024. St Crispin's Church was built in 1907 is built in a later Gothic style of architecture, defined by its fort-like look with pinnacles on the roof. The workshop covered hands-on demonstration of cleaning methods of historic stone walls, lime pointing works and a demonstration by the drone visual survey team. Assistant Director, State Archaeology Maharashtra, Dr Vilas Wahane also addressed the audience regarding initiatives of the State Archaeology department towards restoration and conservation of important heritage sites in Maharashtra. The workshop was coordinated by INTACH EC member Mahesh Bangad.

7. INTACH Pune showcased books on Pune heritage at the Pune Book Festival organized by the National Book Trust, at Ferguson College, Pune from 16th to 24th of December 2023. The display and sale of books at the Book Festival helped in reaching out many book lovers.



Discover Pune Team



A heritage walk of Bohri aali in the old city Pune

Solapur

1. WORKSHOP ON ENDANGERED FOLK AND TRADITIONAL ART OR CRAFT- TRADITIONAL GAMES AND SONGS

INTACH Solapur Chapter conducted "WORKSHOP ON TRADITIONAL GAMES AND SONGS on Tuesday, December 12th, 2023. Mrs. Gargi Kale, Mrs. Sumedha Bhuskute and their associates- Trupti Pande, Suman Pande and Archana Satalgavkar trained the students in traditional games. Mrs. Kale composed songs with relevant social and environmental messages for the workshop.

Traditional games are played on festive occasions. These were traditionally played by ladies during Shravan month of the Hindu calendar. Overtime, people invite troupes and ladies themselves are not actively involved in the games. Also, men do not take part in the games. To create awareness about the games and their positive effect on health, INTACH

Solapur Chapter endeavored to introduce the games to students- both boys and girls with social and environmental awareness messages set to traditional beats instead of traditional songs with limited scope.

Mrs. Gargi Kale composed songs on importance of cleanliness, tree plantation, education of the girl child and other such issues. She had earlier conducted Workshop on Bharud and Gavlan- traditional folk songs composition and recital.

Co- Convener Ar. Pushpanjali Katikar designed poster, registration form and certificates for the participants of the workshop.

In all 55 students from 11 schools along with 1 teacher registered for the workshop. The workshop was arranged at Mule Hall, Haribhai Deokaran Prashala. On the day of the registration students started coming by 8.30 am. By 9.00am registrations were completed. The workshop started with an introductory note by Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar on the traditional games, their importance to build fitness and a sense of belonging within

the community. She also emphasised on looking at these games as gender neutral as is any other sport or games. Mrs. Gargi talked about the uniqueness of these games, developed through the ages, played using house hold items with friends and family. The trainers were felicitated with potted plants.

The participants were divided into 5 groups of 10-11 students named after the months of the Hindu calendar; each group was to collaborate with participants of other schools as one of the aims of these games is to develop community belonging. Mrs Kale led the training with instructions which were taught by the other trainers. The trainers would first show the way which were then emulated by the students. Different types of Phugdi, Jhimma, Agota- Pagota, Dhanushya using pots, suup, rolling pins etc were demonstrated. Each type was practiced to perfection. The students especially girls were truly excited and were enjoying every bit. The boys were given special attention so that they too could join and enjoy the games which they eventually did. The energy, ingenuity and uniqueness of the games were to be seen and felt to be believed. The teachers too joined in the enjoyment.

The students enjoyed a hot meal during the lunch break and then it was back to play. The groups were asked to perform the games in compositions. The groups practiced for an hour and then performed in front of the experts. Mrs. Kale graded them as per their performances. Apart from finesse in performance she graded them for groups which involved participants from more than one school to encourage the spirit of togetherness. For the closing ceremony, the adjudged teams were felicitated. All participants were given certificates of participation. The experts were thanked for their time, effort and enthusiasm in conducting the workshop. Volunteers were also felicitated with thank you letters.

Co- Conveners Ar. Shveta Kothavale and Ar. Pushpanjali Katikar, Volunteers Geetanjali Diddi and Anuja, teachers and the staff of Haribhai Devkaran Prashala helped make the workshop a success. The workshop was widely reported in the media.

Many schools incorporated the traditional games in their School Annual Day performances. One such school- Butterfly English Medium School reported thus; Butterfly English Medium school, Ujani Colony, Solapur has attended this workshop. Participating students have enjoyed a lot and learnt many traditional games and songs as it was beautifully planned.

Using the same theme, our school has readily included a song related to Zimma and Mangalagaur Traditional Maharashtrian Dance Form in its Annual Gathering Function Butterfly Festival 2023.

B. M. Pulli Kanyaprashala school also reported on the performance of the games at their school.

All participants, students and parents have enjoyed the performance. The school has made a successful attempt of forwarding the heritage of knowledge and information gathered/ collected from the workshop."

2. Heritage Walk- Development of Solapur as an Urban Centre over the centuries

INTACH Solapur Chapter Co- Convener Ar. Shveta Kothavale conducted a heritage walk for students of Sinhgad College of Architecture, Pune on 4th January, 2024. The students were accompanied by faculty Ar. Chaitrali Deshpande and Ar. Akshay Pipada.

The walk covered Ganapati Ghat, First Church, Datta Mandir, Ram Mandir, Navi Peth, Old Municipal Building, Mechonochie Chowk and Bhagwat theatres which gave a slice of development of Solapur through the centuries from a cluster of hamlets to a sprawling urban center.

Fort walk was conducted by Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar on 26th February for students of 7th Standard of V. M. Mehta Primary School. The students were keen in understanding the history of the fort.

Teachers Mrs. Sheetal Kortikar, Mr. Adalinge and Mrs. Mrunal Kulkarni accompanied the students.

Presentation at the Third State level Marathi Architecture Conference

Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar presented a research paper on 'Shri Siddharameshwar- a visionary planner of Solapur in the 12th century' at the third state level conference on Marathi Architecture conference.

INTACH Solapur Chapter Annual meeting

INTACH Solapur Chapter meeting was conducted on Monday, 4th March at Ghaylod Hall, Sevasadan Highschool. The notice and agenda of the meeting was circulated a week earlier. In all, 20 members attended the meeting.



Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar briefed the members of the activities of the Chapter till date. Membership development, increase in public engagement, identification of a passion project of the Chapter, creating awareness about the Heritage grades and scope of heritage structures, bringing out of brochures and publications were the various matters discussed.

An Annual lecture series in the name of noted epigraphist Late Shri. Anand Kumbhar was proposed to be held on World Heritage Day.

JALA THEERTHA DEEPOTSAV AT SAKHARPETH VIHIR on the occasion of MAHASHIVRATRI

On March 8th, on the occasion of Mahashiratri, Jala Teertha Deepotsav was celebrated at the Sakhar Peth well. The Deepotsav is being celebrated by the Chapter since three years.

The well was built in 1683 by a small time trader Mahatarmal, son of Mulchand, grandson of Daulatchand of Kshatriya community in Aurangzeb's army, when the emperor had

camped in the vicinity of Solapur for almost 4 years. Mahatramal was from Kulu - Kangda valley and accompanied the army to earn his living. It is said that since the water of the well is very sweet it was named Sakhar Bawali (Sugar well). Later the area also began to be known as Sakhar Peth. The well provides water to the surrounding community even today. Presently a commercial complex has been built over the well by the city corporation.



Mr. Hariprasad Bandi, teacher with two of his students, Convener Dr. Chaphalkar, Co Conveners Pushpanjali Katikar and Shweta Kothavale along with devotees were present on the occasion.

Orissa Bhadrak

1. On 10-12-23, 40 members of Bhadrak Chapter under the guidance of Digambar Mohanty, Convener set out a trip along with their family at attend a family Get-Together at Hadgarh (Keonjhar District) which is 60 kms. Far from the Bhadrak. For this purpose one bus was reserved, HADGARH, Majore Irrigation Project irrigates the majore portion of land in Bhadrak District, Balasore Distriict and Keonjhar District. On the way to the project, the members visited some amazing Heritage sites like Bhairabi Temple, Jagannath Temple at BANCHO, Chakratirha, surrounded by mountains and natural streams, GADCHANDI, Sundarapal. The picknickers were stonished to see such fabulous natural heritage sites. It may be mentioned that beautiful Hadagarh dam is built on the river at Salandi with a view to not only to supply irrigation to land but also to save Bhadrak District from devastating flood which earlier days caused havac to people and property.

This reservoir was the contribution of Utkal Keshari Dr. Harekrushna Mahatab, the legendary bero of Odisha. The family Get-Together was mostly organized at dam site by Sri Ajit Kumar Das, life member of Bhadrak Chapter whom gratitudes were extended from the picknickers.

The trip was a memorable one since it contributed a lot towards promoting team spirit, good will, fraternity and the spirit of co-operation among the members of the Chapter. All the participants expressed their utmost satisfication over the safe and successful competition of the journey.

2. 14th Annual Function of INTACH, Bhadrak Chapter held on 25.02.2024

The 14th Annual Function of this chapter was held on 25th February, 2024 at Nityananda Bhaban, Samabesh Kendra of Bhadrak District Retired Govt. Employees' Association, Kunas presided over by Sri Diganbar mohanty Convener of the chapter. Sri Amiya Bhusan Tripathy, I.P.S. Retd. D.G. Police as well as Odisha State Convener inaugurated the function. Sir Baikuntha Natha Panigrahi, Retd. Director Television and a social worker graced the function as Chief Guest and Researcher on Jagannath Culture Dr Krishnakshaba Sarangi acted as Chief speaker. S.M. Farooque, Co-convener & Pravakar Mallick, Addl. Co-convener coordinated the programme of the function. The inaugurator spoke on new normal heritage citing rules from British rule till date and opined that our heritage is now at stake. The Chief Guest spoke at length on the modern culture of the youth in different fields of life. The chief speaker spoke about the heritage of Goddess Bhadrakali, God Akhandalamni and the literary greatness of Bhadrak citing the lines of poet Kanta Kabi Laxmikanta Mohapatra, Kabibar Radhanath Roy and Kabi Shekhar Chintamani Mohanty who called Upendra Bhanja, 'Kabi Samarat' in his poem- "Ghumusara". Rabindra Nath Barik and his party presented the 'Deshakathia' which is the old cultural heritage of Bhadrak. Biswambar Rout was felicitated by the Inaugurator for his continuous effort and initiative for preservation of ancient idols exhumed by him at Solampur and earthen pots, idols he discovered from the river bed of Baitarani, the sacred river of the state. Prof. Bhagabat Tripathy, specialist in archaeology and history of Odisha threw light on the left out heritage sites like Water reservoirs and so many untouched heritage sites of Bhadrak. Members attended and enjoyed the function.

Cuttack

1. Activities of INTACH Cuttack Chapter

Er Gopal Krishna Behera, Convenor Cuttack Chapter convened a meeting held on 07.02.24 at the Board Room of Cuttack club, Cuttack. The convenor welcomes all the members along with newly appointed Co-convenors Sri Deepak Nayak and Sri Dipak Samantrai in place of Sri Tushar Kanta Gosh and Sri Prasant Kumar Rout. The Convenor invited proposals to enliven the chapter and to make it an effective wing in the State. Government of Odisha, Higher Education Department has been placed to declare the preservation of buildings of various colleges and universities established before the independence of India for Heritage purpose. The Buildings identified in Cuttack district are Ravenshaw University, Shailabala Women's college, Stewart Science (Degree) College, Christ (Degree) College and Radhanath Institute of Advanced Study in Education. These buildings have been identified for preservation as heritage sites with the funds allotted in Rs 2 crores for the university and Rs 1 crore for each College. Action has already been taken by Intach Cuttack Chapter for discussion with the agencies for the works to be executed and accordingly give a request letter for preparation of DPR and submission thereof for further action.

It was unanimously agreed for listing and numbering of Heritage Eateries which are Fifty years old and more of millennium Cuttack city.

2. Alodum Dahibara Divasa

Aloodum Dahibara Divasa was celebrated on 01.03.24 near Killa Fort of Cuttack. Every city worth its name has a signature dish associated with it especially in our country and Cuttack is no exception. It has a mouth watering delicacy Aloodum Dahibara tagged to its name, is a famous street food. In 2017 and 2020 Dahibara Aloodum received first prize at the street Food Fairs at New Delhi. Since 2019, 1st March is being observed as Dahibara Aloodum Divasa throughout the state and elsewhere. INTACH Cuttack Chapter which takes care of the Intangible Heritage as per the mandate celebrated the Day for public awareness by felicitating some sellers of the Millanum city and honoured them for providing this Tasty and healthy food throughout the year. Convenor Er Gopal Krishna Behera, Co-convenor Dr Dipak Samantrai including members Sm Kabita Pattnaik, Sri Hitesh Seth, Sm Indira Nayak, Sm Dipa Samantrai, NAD Sri Suman Swain and others joined the celebration.

Punjab

1. INTACH MONTHLY MEETING

Maj Gen Jatinder Dip Singh Bedi, a direct descendant of Guru Nanak Dev Ji, gave a talk on the Guru's life and times. He gave out the historical perspective as to the situation obtaining in Punjab at that time. The great Guru spread his message of peaceful coexistence in those turbulent times. He discussed that Guru Nanak's was possessed of incredible vision from the very childhood. He was a missionary who attempted to eradicate the evils that had crept into society. He espoused that there was One God, and there were no Hindus and Musalmans. He briefly touched upon His UDASIS, and his discussions with moulvies and Pandits in an effort to see the divine light. He also brought out the linkages between the Baani music and verse. Finally, he shared evidence about his lineage from Guru Nanak and beyond.

2. CELEBRATION OF "WETLAND DAY" ON 2ND Feb at "HARIKE PATAN"

Celebrated World Wetland Day at Harike, a haven for migratory birds. Joined by environmental organizations and many volunteers. Emphasized wetland preservation and addressed pollution concerns at Sutlej-Beas confluence. Expert saxophonist from France, Mr. Nichole brought unity with nature. Afternoon festivities included river boating and discussions on local pollution. The day concluded with a collective INTACH oath led by Maj Gen Balwinder Singh, Punjab state convener.

3. LAUNCHING OF FEROZPUR CHAPTER

It is a proud privilege to inform that Ferozpur Chapter, Punjab has been launched on 7th Feb 2024. All the eminent personalities including DC Ferozpur were present.

4. SKILL DEVELOPEMENT WORKSHOP HOSHAIRPUR

One day skill development workshop has been conducted by INTACH PUNJAB on "Turning trash to Treasure" at Vidya Mandir school of Hoshiarpur on the 19th Feb 2024. This is organised under the Aegis of professor Manjeet Paintal. She is associated with the INTACH and advisor in the Indian Council of Social welfare, Punjab Branch. She was

also Chairperson of Department of community education and disability studies in the Punjab University . 50 girls from around villages in the Hoshiarpur District participated. Art and craft expert Preeti Sangvi , world Record Holder in "Turning trash to Treasure " conducted the workshop.

5. KHALSA COLLEGE SAHIT UTSAV 2024

Punjab State convener attended Literature festival and exclusive Session on Punjab Virsa and role of INTACH ; as a Chief Guest at Khalsa College Amritsar was organized . Kapurthala Convener Mr Sarbjit and Amritsar Convener , Mr Gaganpreet also spoke during the event .

6. VISIT TO GURDASPUR

State Convener , met DC Gurdaspur on 01 Mar 2024 to discuss to start a new chapter in the district. On the return , decided to look at the ground realities of famous small town Sri Hargobindpur at odd 40 Kms from Gurdaspur.



Launching of Ferozpur Chapter



Celebration of "Wetland Day" at "Harike Patan" Khalsa College Sahit Utsav 2024

Faridkot

Glimpse of INTACH “MY MONUMENT SEARCH” organized by Faridkot Chapter at Ashoka Model school and British International school, Kotakpura.



“MY MONUMENT SEARCH” organized by Faridkot Chapter

Ferozepur

The India National Trust for Arts And Cultural heritage- INTACH-has started a new chapter in Ferozepur by taking a historic step to promote art, culture and heritage in India, under which many efforts will be made to promote tourism and protect the historical and tourism places of Ferozepur said Educationist and Historian Dr. Anirudh Gupta who has been nominated as the Convener INTACH Ferozepur Chapter, on release of a poster of the event.

Deputy Commissioner Rajesh Dhiman participated in the function as the chief guests, while Punjab convener Retd Major General Balwinder Singh, National Director Retd Group Captain Arvind Shukla from New Delhi and Archana Tyagi were also present at this event.

DC Rajesh Dhiman said that the efforts made by INTACH to promote the historical places here by launching the Ferozepur chapter in the border district are commendable. He said that whatever work will be done by INTACH about tourism, the district administration will extend full support.

During his presentation, Dr. Anirudh Gupta said that of course Ferozepur is industrially backward, but the district’s heritage is very rich in historical places. He said that if the district is boosted in tourism, many people from the country and abroad will come here daily apart from increasing the means of trade in the district. At the end of the program, Co- convener and INTACH member Vikramaditya Sharma thanked everyone.



Inauguration of Ferozepur Chapter

Knowing Ferozepur: A Heritage Walk The Students of DCM Sr Secondary School Ferozepur Cantt and DCM International School Ferozepur City took an early morning walk to the historic Mall Road and got to delve deep into the war memorials erected on the way.

The students participated in an on the spot drawing activity and shared observations in a free candid fashion. In today's times when we are too occupied with accumulating materials and spending time indoors, immersed in gadgets, the idea of a Heritage Walk came as a whiff of fresh air to DCMites. The students enjoyed the activity organized under INTACH : Know your Monuments initiative. Dr Anirudh Gupta Convener lauded the efforts of the teachers and students



Knowing Ferozepur: A Heritage Walk

Kapurthala

It is my proud privilege to share that the Kapurthala Chapter Convenor, Dr Sarabjit Mann has translated a book on Human Relationship , core values in the family ,society and Human relationship with Nature/existence from English to Punjabi under the AICTE translation project for implementation throughout Punjab in colleges .

National poster competition by INTACH KAPURTHALA CHAPTER ON “MY MONUMENT SEARCH IN YOUR CHAPTER “in M.G.N School Kapurthala.



National poster competition by INTACH KAPURTHALA CHAPTER

Malerkotla

1. INTACH Malerkotla Chapter arranged and organized various activities in the previous months. Some of the major activities undertaken by the chapter were cleanliness drive around Mubarak Manzil Palace and motivational cleanliness drive in schools respectively. Intach team members wipe out the surrounding area of the Palace, collected the all used polythene bags, empty bottles, broken brick pieces and dried up vegetation and dumped away the whole material. A meeting with Begum Sahiba conducted and talked about the deteriorating condition of the palace.

Apart from various activities like poster making, essay writing as well as heritage quiz competition all conducted under the guidance by HECS of INTACH Headquarter. Chapter Members paid visit to all the monuments of the city to watch their present condition along with local writers, journalists and architects etc. Similarly, chapter expertise suggestions brought fruitful outcome when a deserted as well as neglected Canopy (Gumbaz) of the Talab (only one remaining out of four) renovated by Municipal Committee. The proper use of Nanakshahi Bricks, Brick Powder and Lime makes the Canopy a fine specimen as well.



Memorable Photograph of Chapter Members with Begum Munawar-un-Nisa – Malerkotla Chapter



Canopy Before Repair



Canopy after Helping Hands

Rajasthan

Ajmer

Rich folk theater tradition of Rajasthan - Umesh Kumar Chaurasia, litterateur and cultural thinker, Co-Convener INTACH Ajmer Chapter

Vaat tradition has been a very ancient and interesting popular form of expression in Rajasthan, characterized by a rich heritage of folk tales, dialogues, and narratives that

illuminate themes of love, beauty, valor, mythological tales, heroism, and various life aspects. These folk tales are vividly brought to life through the captivating folk theater styles of Rajasthan. Histories of epics such as Bagdawat (the great saga of Devnarayan), Pabuji, Gogaji, Tejaji, Dhola-Maru, Saini Bijanand, Ramu Chanana, Jethwa Ujali, Mumal Mahendra, Bagho Bharmali, and Durpadavatar date back to before the 16th century. Among these, the play "Turra Kalangi" is nearly 500 years old. Similarly, Bikaner's popular folk theater forms, "Rammat" and "Kuchamani Khayal," are also considered to be equally ancient.

The tribal Bhils of Rajasthan have played a significant role in nurturing, preserving, and promoting the tradition of folk arts and theater. Their customs and traditions have been instrumental in keeping the folk drama forms alive. This vibrant and primitive culture is open and receptive to innovative ideas that resonate with the collective consciousness of ordinary people. It carries a legacy of remarkable practical wisdom that enables individuals to overcome the complexities of everyday life. This is the essence of the folk theaters found across various regions of Rajasthan and the folk troupes that bring these performances to life.

From the perspective of various forms of folk theatre, Rajasthan can be divided into three distinct regions: the mountainous region, the desert region, and the Purvanchal Shekhawati region. The hilly areas are culturally vibrant, enriched by the traditions of the Bhils, Meenas, Vanrajs, Saharis, and Girisas. These communities contribute to a rich tapestry of community entertainment. In contrast, the desert areas have a sparse population where daily life demands hard labor from its inhabitants. Here, entertainment is provided by professional tribes such as the Sargada, Nat, Nirasi, Bhat, and Bhand. These groups excel in engaging audiences by tailoring farce and folk theater to contemporary needs and tastes. The Shekhawati region is renowned for its traditional folk theater style known as Khayal, which stands as Rajasthan's most celebrated form of folk theater. In this region, various communities sustain their livelihood by showcasing different forms of folk theater, including puppet shows, bhat, Kamad Ghodi, dance performances, and Bhope, etc. Furthermore, the cultural influence of Brajbhoomi is prominently seen in the folk theater traditions such as Rasleela, Ramleela, Rasiya, Khayal, and Nautanki, especially in the border areas. These performances reflect a deep integration of local traditions with the broader cultural influences of the region.

Thus, the major folk theaters of Rajasthan can be explained as follows-

1. Khayal:-

Evidence indicates that the tradition of Khayal folk theater in Rajasthan has been thriving since the early 18th century. These performances typically draw upon mythological tales, ancient stories, historical events, and popular heroic narratives. Due to geographical variations, Khayal has evolved into distinct styles, such as Kuchamani Khayal, Shekhawati Khayal, Manchi Khayal, and Hathrasi Khayal. These variations are characterized not only by dialectical differences but also by distinct stylistic elements.

The choice between folk songs and classical music in a Khayal performance often depends on the playwright. Instruments commonly used include the harmonium, sarangi, shehnai, flute, nakkara, and dholak. Kuchamani Khayal resembles an opera and is rich in folk songs, dance, and social satire. Female characters are played by male characters only. Lachchiram, its founder, was a talented dancer and writer who composed 10 Khayals, with "Chandi Nilgiri," "Rao Ridmal," and "Meera Mangal" being among the most notable. Nanuram, a prominent figure in Shekhawati Khayal, authored several works, including Hirrajhan, Harishchandra, Bhartrihari, Jaidev Kalali, Dhola Marwad and Aalhadev. Women also play the roles of female characters in Jaipuri Khayal. Its style is not rigid, but free and flexible. It skillfully blends news, poetry, music, dance, singing, and acting. Artists of Gunjan Khayal used to participate in Jaipuri Khayal. Jogi Jogan, Kan-Gujri, Miyan-Bibu, Pathan, and the melodious Tambolan are popular khayals of this genre. Turra Kalangi Khayal has become very popular and is played all over Rajasthan. It also extends to Madhya Pradesh. It is known for its elaborate theatrical decorations, dance choreography, and lyrical singing. It was devised 400 years ago by two saintly figures, Shah Ali and Tukangir of Mewar, who named it. Turra is considered a symbol of Mahadev "Shiva" and "Kalangi" is considered a symbol of "Parvati". Ghosunda, Chittor, Nimbahera and Neemuch (Madhya Pradesh) have given the best artists of "Turra Kalangi" like Chetram, Hameed Beg of Ghosunda and Samvadon, Jab Payal Tarachand and Thakur Omkar Singh etc. Soni Jaidayal, a distinguished Turra Kalangi performer, remains celebrated for his enduringly popular Khayals. Other notable styles include Ali-Bakshi Khayal, Kishangarhi Khayal, Nautanki Khayal, Manchi Khayal, and Hathrasi Khayal.



Gavari-Ajmer Chapter

Alwar

1. "One step towards heritage" - One day Workshop on Heritage Conservation & Promotion- A one-day district level workshop titled "One Step Towards Heritage" on the conservation and promotion of heritage was organized by the INTACH Alwar Chapter.

The event took place in the auditorium of the Rajasthan State Bharat Scouts & Guides Training Institute in District Alwar on 9th December, 2023. The distinguished attendees included Chief Guest Ghanshyam Gurjar, Mayor, Municipal Corporation of Alwar, CO Scout Kalpana Sharma, Convener Sunita Mittal, and Co-Convener Bijendra Singh Naruka, who inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp.

The workshop saw active participation from 91 Scout Guides (prospective teachers), trainee girl students, and officers of Scout Guides studying in STC colleges from the district. The key focus areas of the workshop revolved around understanding historical heritage, exploring tourism and heritage in Alwar, and emphasizing the necessity of its conservation. A significant segment of the discussion centered on natural heritage, highlighting aspects such as water, land, forests, and wildlife conservation.

Eminent Alwar scholar and historian Harishankar Goyal delivered essential insights into the historical heritage of Alwar, including details on the lineage of kings, the *Bhim Bhetka* of Virat Nagar from the Mahabharata period, the Jain temple of Pandupol, Tijara, and more. Sunita Mittal, Convener, Alwar Chapter elaborated on various facets of heritage, covering architectural, natural, living and material heritage, providing comprehensive information to the trainee volunteers.

Niranjan Singh Rajput shed light on the renowned Sariska Sanctuary, discussing the diverse species of animals in the Sariska Tiger Project. Rajput expressed concerns about the extinction of vultures and migratory birds, addressing their conservation, underlying causes, and preventive measures during the workshop. Camp officials including Ramphal Saini, Chandrabhan Chaudhary, Asha Kalra, Satish Chand Chaudhary, Rajkumar Saini, Rishabha Jain, and Pintu from INTACH were also present and actively participated in the discussions.

Concluding the workshop, Kalpana Sharma, CEO of Scouts & Guides, extended her gratitude to all the participants. She emphasized the continuation of similar training programs to explore innovative methods for heritage protection.

Baran

1. A three-day festival was organized by the INTACH Varah Nagari Baran Chapter, featuring the participation of scouts in a campaign aimed at raising public awareness about the neglected ancient treasures, archaeological heritage, and historically significant sites within the district.

On the first day, a scout rally marched to the Manihara Mahadev Temple, and upon arrival, participants cleaned the park, collecting and disposing of single-use plastic waste. T-shirt bottle kits were distributed to about 50 member team.

The program was presided over by District Organization Commissioner Pradeep Chittaura and Guide Circle Organizer Sunita Meena.

INTACH Convener Jitendra Kumar Sharma discussed the topic of archeology with everyone. INTACH member Dr. Manoj Kumar Singhoria told the participants about nature and its different types of resources.

Rover leader Mukesh Sen, Rover Kamlesh Meena, Hemant Kumar Suman, Scouter Dinesh Kumar Nagar cooperated in the program. Poster competition, essay competition and adventure games were organized here.

After visiting Manihara Mahadev Temple, everyone returned in the form of a rally.

On the second day of the programme, the "Baran to Nagdeshwar Mahadev" Heritage Yatra was flagged off by the leading bank General Manager Ram Gopal Meghwal from Baran.

On reaching Anta town, the heritage travelers asked the community present through street plays at the bus stand to stop using single use plastic bags and everyone was counseled.

Upon arrival at Nagdeshwar Mahadev in Nagda, located along the sacred banks of the Kalisindh River, everyone was delighted by its splendid sight. Here, the heritage enthusiasts also undertook a cleanliness drive, tidying up the temple premises. After having dinner, everyone returned.

On the third day, the winners were honored with prizes under the chief hospitality of MLA Ramprasad Bairwa.

Throughout the event, distinguished guests such as District Organization Commissioner Piyush Kumar Sharma, Chairman of the INTACH Advisory Committee, and philanthropist Vishnu Kumar Sabu, along with Anta Mangrol MLA Kanwar Lal Meena, graced the program with their presence.



A three-day festival was organized by the INTACH Varah Nagari Baran Chapter

2. Possibility of uncovering 2 000 to 2500 years old civilization from the ancient mound of Kunjed.

INTACH Baran chapter

Baran, "This campaign by the Indian national trust for art and cultural heritage Varah Nagari Baran Chapter to draw the attention of common people towards the neglected heritage of the district and make them familiar with their history, culture and archaeology, is an impressive effort, it has been praised as much as possible. The less it goes, the less it will be." These views were expressed by Radheshyam Bairwa, MLA from Baran Atru assembly constituency, while flagging off the "Baran to Kunjed"

heritage trip organized by INACH

INTACH Advisory Committee Chairman Vishnu Sabu said, "The morale of the members of the organization has increased due to the encouragement by the MLA. There is a possibility of exposing a new civilization and culture from Kunjed. INTACH will continue to complete this effort.

Prashant Patni, associated with environmental protection, said in the annual meeting of Intach organized after the garden tour that "Encroachment on 200 bighas of land has been removed and 25,000 green fruit trees, flowering plants and oxygen-giving trees have been planted here, due to which oxygen is added to the surrounding environment. The percentage is huge."

Presiding over the annual meeting, Vishnu Sabu said, "Bio Botanical Garden holds an important place in the Hadoti region. It has all the elements of environment, biodiversity and its importance."

After visiting the Panch Phal Bio-Botanical Garden, the 25-member heritage tour reached the ancient archaeological sites and mounds of historical importance located near the river bed on the banks of the village and excavated some places from there and collected ancient earthen pots which That was an important task in itself.

Intach convener Jitendra Sharma said, "These ancient earthen vessels made of clay will be sent to the Intach central office from where carbon dating will be done to find out their age. On the basis of the results obtained from carbon dating, it will depend on how old this ancient wealth is." It is a year old and only then further steps will be taken."



Campaign by the INTACH Varah Nagari Baran Chapter

Barmer

INTACH Chapter Barmer - One Day Art & Craft Workshop

8th December 2023

In compliance with the letter issued by INTACH Central Office, Delhi, a one-day Art & Craft workshop was organized by Barmer Chapter on 8th December 2023. After discussion with the local members of the Chapter, it was decided that it would be appropriate to organize this workshop at the Government Girls Hr. Secondary School, Mall Godown Road, Barmer, located at the Barmer district headquarters. In this regard,

permission was taken from the school principal, Mrs. Kailash Kanwar Bhati and after that the preparations were started.

After discussion with various craftsmen and artists, Mr. Bhuraram, Mr. Kevalaram, Mrs. Zarina and Mr. Zameen Khan were selected to teach traditional crafts to the students in the workshop. In connection with this, the General Manager, District Industries Center, Shri Sahiram Vishnoi was also requested to come to the workshop and guide the students for small scale industries and skills. He immediately gave his consent. After complete preparation, information about the workshop was given in all newspapers and social media on 8th December. The news of INTACH Chapter Craft Workshop was published prominently in these newspapers. After that, on Friday, 8th December, at 9.30 am, the workshop was inaugurated by the Principal of the school, Mrs. Kailash Kanwar Bhati by lighting the lamp. On this occasion, the objectives of the workshop were highlighted by workshop Convener Om Joshi. The craft experts who came to teach the students in the workshop were welcomed with garlands. After that the total attendance of 70 participants was divided into four groups. All four groups were given training in their respective skills by different craft experts. In group number one, Shri Bhura Ram got ropes and fibers prepared from the hair of goat, sheep and camel. Due to which later various items were made from it, among which carpets, belts, camel belts, etc. are prominent. The students learned this traditional art with great interest.

In group two, applique cut work was taught by craft expert Shri Kewal Ram. In this, small pieces of cloth were taught to work on a larger cloth with the help of a thread and needle. Students took special interest in this work. Because students like sewing, cutting and embroidery work very traditionally.

In the third group, expert Mr. Jamin Khan was taught how to make jewelery by soaking raw clay. Various forms of jewelery were shaped from wet clay and then painted. Jewelry was made ready to wear by stringing it. Crowds gathered to see these jewels. At present such cheap and artistic jewelry is an example in itself.

In the fourth group, cloth mukka work was taught by Mrs. Zarina Bano. In this, students were taught how to make different types of designs on cloth using silk threads, glass work and saw work. The mukka work looked very attractive when ready. In this workshop which lasted for the whole day, the students learned the work of small scale industries and skills with great eagerness. In this workshop, 10 students of Multanmal Bhikchand Chhajed Government Hr. Secondary School, Gandhi Chowk and 60 students of Government Girls Hr. Secondary School, Mall Godown Road, Barmer participated and learned various arts.

After that the closing ceremony was held at around 4.00 pm. In the closing ceremony the material prepared by the students was displayed and certificates were distributed by INTACH to the participants. Besides, refreshments were served to the divisional guests and other visiting art lovers. Representatives of various media groups were also invited on this occasion.

Closing Ceremony

INTACH Chapter has an important contribution in promoting the hidden traditional craft art of the district. This statement was expressed by District Industries Center General

Manager Sahiram as the Chief Guest at the closing ceremony of the one-day Art & Craft workshop organized by INTACH.

He said that there are many artisans in the district whose skills will end with their lives, we need to keep their art & craft art alive and hand it over to the new generation. The General Manager said that such workshops will help in improving the life of the people in the district. Endangered arts can be preserved. While distributing certificates to the craft artists and participants who came to the workshop, he stressed on organizing more such craft workshops in future.

On this occasion, workshop Convener Om Joshi, while highlighting the objective of the craft workshop, said that INTACH has been doing the work of conservation and promotion of endangered traditions, arts, heritages and buildings for a long time. He said that in this workshop, about 70 students were taught the extinct applique work, mukka work, making clay ornaments and making threads and strips from sheep and camel by craftsman Bhuraram Kevalaram Zarina Bano and Zameen Khan.

Joshi said that in the coming days, such workshops will be conducted with teachers in which various teachers of the district will participate. Presiding over the closing ceremony of the workshop, Principal Kailash Kanwar Bhati praised the craft items made by the students in a short time and said that such skill competency based workshops develop the spirit of creativity in students. During adolescence, many creative and artistic abilities can be enhanced with a little guidance. Bhati said that definitely this effort of INTACH will prove to be a boon for the students. On this occasion, handicraft expert Purushottam Khatri, while narrating the history of carpet work, dyeing and printing work, wood work, glass and corn work in the district, said that in olden times all these works were done by women in their homes. But with time these traditions became extinct and now these arts are seen developing only in business and big cities. There is a need to motivate parents to teach traditional arts to their children. Khatri said that women should teach small household tasks to their children in their free time so that such craft arts can progress. In the end Sanjay Ramawat, Co-Convener of INTACH Chapter, expressed his gratitude. On this occasion, former Convener of INTACH Yashovardhan Sharma, Aruna Solanki, Naveen Singhal and many art lovers were present. In the workshop, 4 trainers trained 70 participants.

Bhilwara

101 students from 10 schools participated in INTACH Merry Memorial Search Competition.

Young generation should come forward in preserving the heritage

Under the auspices of INTACH, My Monument Search Competition was organized in the Rajendramarg school, in which 101 students from ten schools participated and depicted the monuments of Bhilwara on posters.

INTACH Convener Babulal Jaju, while addressing the participants in the beginning, appealed to come forward to save the ancient heritage, art and culture. Guman Singh

Pipada, the school competition coordinator, informed that during the quiz, participants crafted posters showcasing Bhilwara's monuments and elaborated on their unique features. INTACH will award certificates to all students who took part in the competition. The competition received backing from several dignitaries and institutions, including Dr. Bhagchand Somani of Rajendra Marg, Virendra Sharma of Pratap Nagar, Mrs. Geeta Mathur from Maheshwari Public School, Anjana Sharma from Residential Autun School, Bhagyashree Jain of Mayur International, Chanda Bangad of Girls School Gulmandi, Manju Kumari Sharma of Subhash Nagar, and Lalit Kumar from DPS School. The winning team of the competition will be sent to Jaipur to participate in the state level quiz competition. Principal Shyamlal Khatik supported the competition.

The work being done by INTACH for the conservation of heritage is amazing - Kothari

Bhilwara. Bhilwara MLA Ashok Kothari lauded the efforts of the INTACH Bhilwara Chapter in preserving heritage, terming their work as outstanding. He honored individuals contributing to heritage conservation by presenting them with mementos and shawls.

Bhilwara Chapter Convener Babulal Jaju said that on the occasion of the inauguration of INTACH Snehmilan and workers' felicitation program organized at Hotel Nandini, Kothari was honored with a shawl and a memento. In a meeting prior to the event, plans were made to organize the upcoming 'Meri Smarak Khoj' competition by INTACH members in January, a Heritage Yatra in February, and to publish a booklet summarizing INTACH's 10 years of efforts. MLA Kothari recognized the exceptional contributions to heritage conservation by Gumansingh Pipada, CA Dilip Goyal, Gaurav Soni, and Suresh Surana, honoring them with shawls and mementos. In the function, former Trust President Lakshminarayan Dad, cow devotee Sunil Jagetia, Shyamsundar Joshi also praised the work of INTACH. Mementos were presented to R.L. Dargad, O.P. Heingad, Abbas Ali Bohra, Mukesh Ajmera, Dinesh Arora, Vidyasagar Surana, Rakesh Bamb, Rajeev Dadhich, Rajkumar Bulia, Bhagwan Singh, Gopal Naraniwal, and Anugrah Lohia for their contributions to the organization. Asha Dargad, Sunita Surana, Neetu Goyal, Sushila Jaju, Suman Dad, Kavita Sankhala, Pushpa Surana, Manju Ajmera, Rajshree Arora, Monica Bamb, Sushila Joshi, Sunita Naraniwal, Seema Jain were present on this occasion.

INTACH's Ozone Day Poster Competition concluded

Awards were presented to the winners.

Bhilwara. On World Ozone Layer Preservation Day, INTACH Bhilwara Chapter hosted a poster competition at Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Rabaa Vidyalaya, Attun, in which 51 girl students participated.

During the poster competition organized on World Ozone Layer Preservation Day, INTACH Convener Babulal Jaju educated the students about the importance of

protecting the ozone layer. He highlighted how ultraviolet rays contribute to numerous incurable diseases, including skin cancer and other skin-related diseases. Jaju advised adopting a lifestyle more in harmony with nature, suggesting a reduction in the use of air conditioners and refrigerators and advocating for increased tree planting. In the poster competition, Muskan Meena clinched the first place, followed by Saroj Bhil in second and Palak Khatik in third, within the senior category. In the junior category, Komal Bhil won first place, Akanksha Lakhara came in second, and Sonakshi Kumhar secured third. The winners were awarded certificates and mementos by Babulal Jaju, Convener, INTACH Bhilwara Chapter. Certificates were given to the participating students. The competition was supported by school principal Manju Kothari, Bharti Jha, INTACH program in-charge Suresh Surana, Gaurav Soni, school teachers Mukesh Ajmera, Asha Didwaniya, Dayashankar Khoiwal, Manisha Meena, Sumanlata Sukhwal.



*My Monument-Bhilwara
Bikaner*



World Ozone Layer Conservation Day-Bhilwara

INTACH Bikaner chapter participate camel festival as Heritage walk “ Rampuriya Haveli to Raw Bikaji Takery.

On 27 January 2024, Bikaner Chapter celebrated the INTACH Heritage Day, at Sabha Bhavan in Rotary Club Bikaner.



*Camel festival and Heritage walk
Bundi*



Celebrated the INTACH Heritage Day

Bundi. On behalf of INTACH Bundi Chapter, students of USMS Kamala Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture & Environmental Studies, Mumbai were taken on a sightseeing tour of Bundi and a workshop was organized at the Lakshmi Nath Temple of historical importance.

INTACH Chapter Convenor Rajkumar Dadhich, while introducing INTACH told about the history and heritage of Bundi. He highlighted the efforts undertaken by the Chapter in Bundi. The event was graced by the presence of Co-convenor Rajendra Bhardwaj, Manish Sisodia, and faculty members Anubhav, Sonal Sundarajan, Aishwarya Padmanabhan, and Shantanu Khandkar from Mumbai, with a special moment presented by the Chapter.



The students of Mumbai were taken on a tour of the tourist places of Bundi. And a workshop was organized at Lakshmi Nath Temple of historical importance

Chittorgarh

1. Today, members of the Chittorgarh INTACH Chapter visited the area historically known as the Shivi district during the Buddha-Maurya era. Spanning from the sixth to the fourth century BC, it was recognized as one of the 16 major districts of ancient India. The Chittorgarh INTACH team aims to undertake preservation efforts for the ancient relics located in this area.

2. **Poster competition held as part of the "My Memorial Search" initiative.**

The poster competition was organized by the HECS, the educational arm of the "Meri Memorial Khoj" initiative, under the auspices of the Chittor INTACH Chapter. Manish Maliwal, the District Co-Convener, INTACH Chapter, informed that INTACH plays a crucial role in preserving India's heritage through various means such as forts, palaces, temples, mosques, churches, gurudwaras, community halls, educational institutions, and places of worship. The event took place in the auditorium of Major Natwar Shaktawat Government Higher Secondary School, attracting participation from over 100 secondary school students across 10 schools, including Central Academy School Santi, Government Higher Secondary School Bhoi Kheda, Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Prem Nagar, Vidya Niketan Girls Higher Secondary School Sangam Marg, Government Higher

Primary School Kumbha Nagar, St. Paul Senior Secondary School, Government Higher Secondary School Senti, Sanskar The School Chittauri Kheda, and Major Natwar Shaktawat Government High School. Program coordinator Leela Agal said that participants in the poster competition were given one hour and 30 minutes to create their posters, and an additional 30 minutes to write an article on the poster's subject. At the conclusion of the event, Dr. Gopal Salvi, a member of the History Department, led an oath-taking ceremony for all students, committing to heritage preservation. The posters depicted various heritage sites such as the India Gate, Chittor Fort, Vijay Stambh, Fateh Prakash Palace, Lotus Temple, Ram Mandir, Red Fort, Taj Mahal, and Qutub Minar, showcasing them in vibrant colors. Winners of the poster competition and the history writing contest will advance to a national level competition, where they will be awarded with trophy and certificates. Members of the Chittor INTACH Chapter, including Rakesh Mantri, Vandana Vazirani, Shantilal Bharadiya, Professor Kundan Jain, Banwari Soni, Bharat Maheshwari, Dinesh Bharadiya, Ankit Maheshwari, and others, were present at the event.



City tour conducted by Members of the Chittorgarh INTACH Chapter



A poster competition was held as part of the "My Memorial Search" initiative

Jaipur

OBSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE WEEK BY INTACH JAIPUR CHAPTER, JAIPUR ON 22ND NOVEMBER 2023

The World Heritage Week, the glorious week of INTACH Chapter was observed by Intach Jaipur Chapter, Jaipur on 22nd November 2023, in the premises of Regional Collage Rambag, Jaipur. The guest Lecturers like Mr. Jaladhar Nanda, Mrs. Mamata Mishra, Mrs. Manjushree Mohanty, Mr. Prafulla Kumar Panda, Mrs. Annapurna Dash

attended the meeting and discussed about the rich cultural heritage of India as well as Odisha. They also stressed on the observation of this week from 19th Nov to 25th Nov every year which will recognize our culture and it will attract the eyes of general people towards places having historical, metaphysical and cultural importance. The Ex-Convenor Prof. Ashok Kumar Dash and all other members were present in the meeting. Students more than fifty were also present in that meeting. Lastly the convener Prof. Anil Kumar Mohanty gave his valuable speech regarding conservation of historical sites and thanked all for success of the meeting.

Nagaur



1. INTACH Poster Making Competition was a learning experience for the students as well as for us being the convener. Initially the students were provided with a brief about what INTACH is? Then it continued with the words of our Chief Guest Mr. Prem Singh Bugasara who spoke about the importance of ART & Cultural in India. He mentioned various cultural heritage of Nagaur and told the

students to treat this competition as an opportunity to get Nagaur recognized on national level. It definitely created awareness about Art & culture as the escorts from each school who came with the students had a healthy discussion about the heritage places of Nagaur and appreciated the event & theme. Students being the stars of the event created amazing posters and displayed their art of poster making to the fullest. Also, they put their hearts out in the write up. In order to bring recognition and fame to their city. The event was concluded with a thanks giving by the Nagaur convener Mr. Himmat Singh Rathore. A gift hamper containing refreshment was provided to each individual who participated and to the escort teachers as well.



INTACH Poster Making Competition – Nagaur Chapter

2. Heritage Walk at Nagaur Fort: A Cultural Journey on 17 February 2024

As you wander through the ancient walls and majestic courtyards of Nagaur Fort, let the stories of the past come alive. The guests discovered the architectural marvels, intricate carvings, and hidden treasures that have stood the test of time. Our knowledgeable

guides will regale you with tales of valor, romance, and intrigue that have shaped this historic landmark.

This Heritage Walk at the Nagaur Cattle fare, a vibrant and bustling event where farmers and traders come together to buy and sell livestock. The Heritage walk was a celebration of Nagaur's heritage and a tribute to its enduring legacy. Whether they were foreigner seeking to unravel the mysteries of Rajasthan or an Indian visitor eager to reconnect with your roots, this experience promises to be a memorable one.



Heritage Walk at Nagaur Fort: A Cultural Journey

3. WORKSHOP TO RESTORE THE MONUMENTS OF KHATU ON 30 JANUARY 2024

The INTACH NAGAU Chapter organized a meeting to discuss the preservation and restoration of the historical monuments in the village of Khatu. The meeting involved local authorities, historians, architects, and concerned citizens. The objectives of the meeting were to identify the key monuments in need of attention, assess their current condition, and propose strategies for their long-term conservation. The meeting highlighted the historical significance of the Khatu Shyam Temple, Khatu Fort, and various havelis in the village. Architects and conservation experts provided assessments of the monuments' condition, emphasizing the need for immediate action. Restoration strategies discussed included architectural conservation, community engagement, and sustainable tourism. The meeting stressed the importance of involving the local community and raising awareness about Khatu's heritage. Sustainable tourism was explored as a means to generate funds for the restoration efforts. Overall, the meeting set a strong foundation for future action and collaboration between the community and local authorities to preserve and restore Khatu's monuments.

4. INTACH POSTER MAKING COMPETITION 30 JANUARY 2024



The Poster Making Competition was a learning experience for the students as well as for us. Initially the students were provided with a brief about what INTACH is? Then it continued with the words of our Chief Guest Mr. Prem Singh Bugasara who spoke about the importance of ART & CULTURE in INDIA. He mentioned various cultural heritage of Nagaur and told the students to treat this competition as an opportunity to get NAGOUR recognized on national level. It definitely created awareness about art & culture as the escorts from each school who came with the students had

a healthy discussion about the heritage places of Nagaur and appreciated the event & theme. Students being the stars of the event created amazing posters and displayed their art of poster making to the fullest. Also they put their hearts out in the write up, in order to bring recognition and fame to their city. The event was concluded with a thanks giving by the Nagaur convener Mr. Himmat Singh Rathore. A gift hamper containing refreshment was provided to each individual who participated and to the escort teachers as well.

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Sirohi

AJIT VIDYA MANDIR SIROHI - YOUNG INTACH 2023-24

1. Organizing of Heritage tour and Workshop

On the occasion of World Heritage Day, a heritage tour and workshop was organized by the Young INTACH Unit located at Ajit Vidya Mandir. In the first phase of the program, a trip to the Luv-Kush Vatika located at Bari Bata was organized for the students of Class 3 to Class 6 to motivate them to connect with nature. The students were told about the role and importance of forests and environment in human life through the tour. Similarly, in the next phase, a workshop was organized in the school. Addressing the students in the workshop organized in the second phase, Mr. Ashutosh Patni, Convenor, INTACH

District Sirohi Chapter, said that this day, described as the asset of mankind, is a wonderful reminder of our rich cultural past and our responsibility not only for us but also for the future generations. It is also about preserving our heritage for future generations. Undoubtedly, heritage sites should be looked after and preserved as they are invaluable assets to mankind. Similarly, Principal Mr. Rohit Jani, while highlighting the importance of values, said that it is our responsibility to preserve the values inherited from our ancestors. On this occasion, staff members Mrs. Rakhi Rathore, Mrs. Khushboo Shrimali, Mr. Mukesh Kumar and Ms. Mahima Jain were present. The program was conducted by Young INTACH In-charge Ajit Singh Gohil.

2. Organization of World Dance Program

World Dance Day was celebrated at Shri Ajit Vidya Mandari under the aegis of INTACH, Sirohi Chapter in which students presented various styles of dance. Under the dance programs, students of Class 6 to 12 viz. Sulakshi, Krutika Mewada, Charvi, Harshita Anamika, Shiksha, Srishti Mali etc. performed beautifully on Punjabi Bhangra, Marathi Pinga, Kashmiri Bumro Bumro, Komola Bengali Rajasthani Ghoomar, Gujarati Garba, Kathak etc. presented beautiful dance. The teacher in-charge of the program was Ms. Jyoti Vatwani. Addressing the students on this occasion, Ashutoshji Patni, Convener, INTACH Sirohi Chapter, said that the purpose of celebrating International Dance Day all over the world was to tell the importance of dance among the common people. Similarly, Young INTACH In-charge Ajit Singh Gohil, while providing brief information about various dances, told the students that the International Dance Council wanted to develop all the dance forms around the world, and for this purpose it was announced to celebrate this day as dance day which started in 1982. In the end Co-In-charge Gyashree Jairaj Rawal thanked everyone.

3. Saplings planted in school on World Environment Day

On the occasion of World Environment Day, saplings were planted in the Ajit Vidya Mandir premises. INTACH District Convener Shri Ashutosh Patni planted saplings in the school. He told that this year in 2023 the theme of World Environment Day is "Solution to plastic pollution". This theme focuses on devising solutions to combat plastic pollution. Given the urgent need to address the issue of plastic pollution, it is imperative to accelerate efforts to safeguard our planet from the adverse effects of plastic waste. On this occasion, school administrator Mr. Surendra Singh, Principal Mr. Rohat Jani, Young INTACH in-charge Ajit Singh Gohil and other INTACH members were present.

4. World Nature Conservation Day Program

Under the weekly program of World Nature Conservation Day, saplings were planted by the students and staff members in the school premises by the Young INTACH Unit working in Shri Ajit Vidya Mandir Vidyalaya, while a Poster & Painting Competition was organized for the students. On this occasion, District Convenor, INTACH Sirohi Chapter Mr. Ashutosh Patni emphasized that it is our responsibility to protect the environment. He urged that we should proactively work towards maintaining cleanliness and safety in

our surroundings. By commemorating this day, we can foster positive environmental changes. Principal Mr. Rohit Kumar Jani highlighted that a key goal of Nature Conservation Day is to raise awareness about the importance of dedicating efforts towards the conservation of natural resources, ensuring the future well-being of our planet. School Young INTACH Convener, Ajit Singh Gohil, remarked that nature offers its respect to humankind in numerous ways. On this occasion, staff members like Anita Paliwal, Mamta Bhati, Kiran Parmar, Jyoti Wadhwani, Surendra Singh Dabi etc. were present.

5. International Millet Year Activity

On Saturday, Young INTACH Unit organized a Grain Painting Competition for the students at Shri Ajit Vidya Mandir to make them aware about the usefulness of millets. Young INTACH In-charge Ajit Singh Gohil said that 50 students from class 6 to class 9 participated in this competition. In this, students made different types of shapes on paper and filled them with different types of grains in place of colors. On this occasion, Convenor, INTACH Sirohi Chapter, Mr. Ashutosh Patni said that today's youth do not know much about millets, many youth may not have even seen them. Traditional grains are very nutritious and beneficial. Many diseases can be avoided by including them in the diet. Apart from this, their cultivation can be profitable for farmers. Through the International Year of Millets, we want to strengthen our agro-based economy by promoting our traditional agriculture and create a better healthy culture and society. He said that awareness about coarse grains will increase and he will include more of them in his diet. Similarly, School Principal Shri Rohit Jani, while appreciating all the participants, said that they have presented an excellent example of their understanding and curiosity towards coarse grains and other types of grains through painting. On this occasion, Convener Anita Paliwal along with Kiran Parmar, Nikita Mali, Mahima Jain, Harshita, Chanchal Pawar, Jairaj Rawal, Anup Singh etc. staff members were present.

6. Exhibition of Arts & Crafts

An exhibition of Art & Craft based items was organized by the Young INTACH Unit located at Ajit Vidya Mandir on Saturday. On this occasion, Convenor, INTACH District Sirohi Chapter, Mr. Ashutosh Patni said that there can be no life without art and we create art and craft with our creativity and imagination. This is the art that nourishes the human soul. There are artistic impulses hidden within all of us. Arts and crafts help us to bring out these talents and make the best use of them.

Principal Mr. Rohit Jani said that almost all the schools offer a special Art & Craft session where children can showcase their creativity. It has been observed that students who have latent skills often reveal them in arts and crafts classes. While some children are seen making very good drawings, other children are seen making incredibly beautiful sculptures. Similarly, he said that arts and crafts are given importance all over the world. Therefore, he told the students to hone their talent more because sooner or later their talent will also be given importance. All the staff members were present on this occasion.

7. Organization of Forest Tour

More than 60 students of Class 7th & 8th of Young INTACH Unit of INTACH Sirohi Chapter in Ajit Vidya Mandir School, visited 'Jedra Veer Forest' located at New Sanwada with the help of Forest Department, Sirohi. During the forest tour, Jitendra Singh, Block Incharge of the Forest Department and Forest Guard Hitesh Kumar informed the students about the rules of the forest and made them aware about the precautions to be taken during the forest tour and the safety of the forests. According to the forest in-charge, entry of common humans is prohibited in this forest area, he also said that there are various sources of water for the wild animals in this forest area and among the wild animals, mainly black deer, neelgai and bear etc. are found. In this forest visit, school teacher Mukesh Sudhar shared with the children the importance of forests and their usefulness in human life. If there are forests, there is life, and it is through these forests that human life can remain safe and healthy. Numerous fascinating insights were shared with the children.

8. Organization of Heritage Tour by Young INTACH Unit

In order to provide information about water conservation to the students, the Young INTACH unit of INTACH Sirohi Chapter situated at Ajit Vidya Mandir took the students on a tour to the natural beauty of Arbuda Mataji Temple situated at Pahau and natural water logging sites. In which students were also made aware of the usefulness of natural water and the importance of its properties. The significance of the ancient Sri Arbuda Mataji temple, nestled in the Aravalli mountains, along with the nearby thousand-year-old banyan tree, was highlighted. The students were also informed about the natural water sources, springs, and ponds located on the hill. On this occasion, INTACH Convener Jairaj Rawal conveyed to the students the imperative to preserve and protect our natural and cultural heritage through every means possible, emphasizing the responsibility we all share in its conservation.

Awareness competition of traditional dishes made from coarse grains

A program was organized by Young INTACH Club at Ajit Vidya Mandir to provide information regarding preparation of dishes made from coarse grains consumed in winter season and their health benefits. Twenty students from class six to class ten participated. Coarse grains, known for their health and nutritional benefits, contribute to physical strength and mental vitality throughout the year.

During the event, students were introduced to a variety of dishes prepared from coarse grains. In the culinary competition, the first prize was awarded to Navya Maurya and her team from class 6 for their *Bajra Khichdi*; the second prize went to Manvendra and his team from class 7 for their laddu made of dal jaggery and millet raab; and the third prize was secured by Janvi and her team from class 8 for their *Malpua* and maize raab. The dishes presented were not only nutritious but also delicious. Additionally, the event

featured an exhibition on coarse grains, alongside a display of posters highlighting these valuable crops and their benefits.

International Mother Language Day organized

International Mother Language Day was celebrated at Ajit Vidya Mandir School, under the aegis of the INTACH Sirohi Chapter. Jairaj Rawal, the Young INTACH in-charge, highlighted the significance of one's mother tongue and its crucial role in a child's development to the students on this occasion. The students showcased various performances including speeches, poetry, and songs in the local language.

Principal Rohit Kumar Jani emphasized the importance of communication and expression in our mother tongue and local language for personality development. Teacher Praveen Kumar noted that literature flourishes on the foundation of language and encouraged students to perform collective folk songs in their mother tongue. Following this, students from grade 3 to 9 presented singing performances of folk and Rajasthani songs, common in the Devanagari Sirohi region.

The event underscored the efforts towards educational development of children and the preservation and promotion of languages through mother tongues, in line with the new education policy.



Mother Language Day-Sirohi Chapter



Food Grain Festival-Sirohi Chapter

Udaipur

1.Endangered Art & Craft Workshop – Held at St. Anthony Sr. Sec School, Goverdhan Vilas, Udaipur, on 13th Jan 2024:

A workshop was organised on Bhil Art under the annual scheme of the Heritage Education and Communication Division. The sole purpose of it was to educate the students with the rich cultural heritage of the Southeastern Rajasthan in which a total of 55 students from 14 Schools participated.

The Chapter had invited Sri Yashpal Barandi to deliver a lecture to educate the students and to inform them about the intricacies of the Bhili Art. Therefore, he presented his lecture through PPT. Sri Barandi himself belongs to the Bhil community and also a nationally acclaimed artist made the event interesting and useful.

After the lecture of Sri Barandi, the students prepared their posters on the various kinds of activities.

1st Dhruv Ahari – Vivekananda Kendriya Vidyalaya, Rishabdev Class- 7th 2nd Chestha Harkawat - Seedling Modern Public School, Class 7D 3rd Bhavini Bhavsar, St Anthony's School, Class 8 B

2. Visited the Surya temple, Mandesar and Baijnath temple, Sisarma on 15th and 16th January, 2024 :

At the request of MS Priya Goren, Associate Creative Strategist of an NGO "On Purpose" the Chapter contacted Vijaya, Director, of the Architecture Division, therefore, she sent Sri Chandresh and Ayush to do the needful to take further action. In continuation of it they visited the temples of Mandesar and Baijnath and did what was necessary.

"On Purpose," an international organization dedicated to fostering social change and development in India, was recently engaged by the Udaipur branch through Ms. Priya Goren, their Associate Creative Strategist. Ms. Goren reached out online to share information aimed at conserving temples near the city, focusing on the Mandesar Sun Temple and Baijnath Mahadev Temple in Sisarma. The Udaipur chapter provided her with photographs and short videos of these temples, followed by an hour-long online discussion.

Subsequent discussions with Ms. Goren, guided by the Director of the Architecture Division at INTACH Central Office, Delhi led to the decision to send detailed information to her.

Accordingly, two technical experts, Mr. Chandresh and Mr. Ayush, sent by INTACH's Central Office, are scheduled to arrive in Udaipur at 4 a.m. tomorrow. Their mission is to prepare technical reports and estimates for the restoration of both temples, with plans to complete this task by January 16th. Mr. Gaurav Sighvi and I will be facilitating their visit to the sites in our vehicle.

On January 15th and 16th, 2024, upon the Chapter's request, Mr. Chandresh Kumar and Mr. Ayush Ranjan, experts from the Architecture Division in Delhi, conducted a survey to formulate restoration and conservation estimates for the Mandesar and Baijnath Mahadev Temples. This survey was documented in photographs for the esteemed lifetime members of the Chapter to review.

An advance notice regarding these activities was shared on 14th January, 2024.

3. On the occasion of the Prana-Pratishtha of Lord Rama at the newly constructed temple at Varanasi, the life members of the Chapter also kindled the lamps in one ancient temple of Shiva and expressed their feelings with the entire Nation.

On 22nd January, 2024, members of the INTACH Udaipur wing, including Lalit Pandey, Gaurav Singhvi, Prof. Maheep Bhatnagar, Mahesh Sharma, Deependra Singh, Jagdish Paliwal, Mrs. Neelkamal, and Mrs. Deependra, gathered at Gangodabhavgund in Ahar. This site, a mythological location in the ancient settlement of Udaipur and the capital of Mewar, was the setting for a vibrant celebration marking the consecration of Lord Shri Ram's idol in Ayodhya. The event saw enthusiastic participation from local youths and girls, who lit lamps and distributed Prasad.



Endangered Art and Craft Workshop-Udaipur Chapter Painting Competition- Udaipur Chapter

Tamil Nadu Chennai

1. INTACH talk by J. Ramanan & Vrinda on 'The Monsoon Mountains: Southern Western Ghats'

ABOUT THE TALK: The Monsoon Mountains: Southern Western Ghats

The destiny of our country is dependent on two most important mountain ranges, the snow clad Himalayas, stretching across from the North-East to the North-West for 2600kms, and the Western Ghats that extended along the Western Coast of India from the southern tip of Tamil Nadu to Gujarat, for a length of 160kms. This mountain chain, the Western Ghats, is older than the Himalayas. It has been declared by UNESCO as a critical biodiversity hotspot on planet earth.

The talk will explore the life-giving rivers, the unique monsoon, native flora and fauna as well as mysterious legends surrounding these hills, forests and rolling grasslands. The presentation will also focus upon the importance of conserving this beautiful landscape that plays a vital role in influencing the weather patterns of the country.

About the speaker: J.Ramanan and Vrinda Ramanan

J. Ramanan is an architect, while his wife Vrinda, is an accomplished Bharatnatyam dancer. Ramanan is a passionate landscape photographer whose exhibitions have been inaugurated by stalwarts like Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary.

Both Vrinda and Ramanan are mountaineers, trained at The Nehru Institute of Mountaineering, Uttarkashi, in the 70s. They have been trekking and climbing in the forests of the Western Ghats and the Himalayas, for the past forty years and have introduced over 300 children to trekking and climbing through 'The Science and Adventure Club', founded by them and affiliated to 'The Indian Mountaineering Foundation', New Delhi.

They are also founders of the institution 'Bala Kala Vidhanam', Academy of Indian classical Arts, that concludes classes in Bharatnatyam, Carnatic Vocal and Instrumental Music, Yoga, Classes on Indian Culture, Advaita Vedanta and Sanskritam.

Together they have authored and brought out many coffee table books- The Joy of the Himalaya, Srirangam, Bhooloka Vaikuntam, Tirumala Kaliyuga Vaikuntam, The Art and Architecture of Srirangam, Surrealism and Photography, The Mountains of our Destiny, The Indian Himalayas.

2. INTACH TAMIL NADU CONVENOR'S CONFERENCE

Chairman, Major General Gupta and Member Secretary, Ms. Chuden Mishra met Chapter Convenors from the state of Tamil Nadu in an online meeting on January 6, 2024. As Chennai Chapter Convenor, Sujatha Shankar presented chapter activities:-

Continuous engagement and support of Shadow Puppetry performances.

75th year of India's Independence was commemorated with both a talk on the relevance of Gandhi and a special edition of recordings on living memories and recollections of elders of the period and the day of Independence in 1947. These can be viewed on YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29qK58KhluQ>.

- Three programs in a single day were held on MADRAS DAY.
- Spoke on All India Radio program on Chennai the Vibrant City of Heritage.
- Heritage walks including Tamil Nadu Police Museum, cycling tour, exhibition of photos and book discussions were conducted.
- Many talks to create heritage awareness have been held by expert speakers and the topics have spanned a variety of fields.
- Our past talks can be viewed on the Chennai Chapter YouTube channel.

3. "SHADOW PUPPETRY" performances were held by Kalaimamani Muthuchandran Rao on January 9, 2024 at two schools Guntur Subbiah Pillai, Girls Hr. Sec, School, and The Theagaraya School, T. Nagar.

4. "SHADOW PUPPETRY" Talk & performance on January 10, 2024 by Kalaimamani Muthuchandran Rao at Alliance Francaise of Madras, Chennai.

Chennai Chapter continued its consistent support of Shadow Puppetry, a traditional performing art prevalent in the state of Tamil Nadu. Kalaimamani Muthuchandran Rao performed “Sundara Kandam” from Ramayanam at the Alliance Francaise of Madras, Nungambakkam and enthralled the audience through the medium of ‘Thol Paavai’.

Shadow Puppeteers are hailed as the original filmmakers - they have been telling stories through moving images, manipulating puppets in front of a light source, much before the advent of film making or cinema as we know it today. The puppeteers led a nomadic lifestyle, travelling, camping, setting up screens and performing the story of Ramayana, adapting local languages and flavors. Coming South with the foot soldiers from Maharashtra, diverse forms have evolved in the four southern states as, Tholubommalaatta in Andhra, Thol paavaikoothu and bommalaattam in TN and Kerala, togalugombeyaataa in Karnataka. The art form exists also in Orissa and Maharashtra. In Kerala, it is part of the temple ritual and is said that even in pouring rain and no audience, the performance goes on as a temple vazhipadu.



“SHADOW PUPPETRY” Talk & performance on January 10, 2024 by Kalaimamani Muthuchandran Rao at Alliance Francaise of Madras, Chennai.

5. MY MONUMENT SEARCH - NATIONAL POSTER COMPETITION

Young Intach, Chennai Chapter successfully conducted the annual all-India painting & essay competition “MY MONUMENT SEARCH” on Saturday, 3rd February at Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai. Totally 155 students of Std.7 to 9 from 25 schools participated in this program conceptualized by The Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) division of INTACH.

The poster competition was on any lesser-known built heritage which could be either a fort, palace, place of worship, civic building, educational institution, etc. This was accompanied with a write-up on the same selected built heritage describing its history, myths and stories, architecture, condition today and three steps for its protection and promotion.

After a short welcome address by Ms. Shashirekha, Principal of Sri Sankara School, the convenor of Intach, Chennai Chapter- Sujatha Shankar and senior member Susha Natraj, gave a brief talk on Intach and its activities and thanked the Principal of the school for

graciously accepting to host Intach activities. In appreciation a book on the history of South India for children was presented to the school library.

The event started with a fabulous and fascinating presentation on lesser known monuments in South India by MrJ Ramanan and his wife, Vrinda Ramanan. Ramanan, an architect, avid mountaineer and a passionate landscape photographer, who has held many exhibitions which have been inaugurated by stalwarts like Tenzing Norgay and Sir Edmund Hillary.

After this, the students commenced drawing, painting and writing about the monuments in our region in the allotted 2.5 hours. It was indeed amazing to see the skill of the children who showcased their versatility and creativity. All these 155 entries which included one from a special child, were forwarded to HECS, Delhi for evaluation.

Excellent work was done by the Young Intach Chennai team headed by Dipika Anand, Shama Prasanna, Sushila Natraj, Diwakar, Gita Chandru & Aryamba Sriram, in coordinating this entire program.



My Monument Search on 3, February 2024 at Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Thiruvannamiyur, Chennai

Kodaikanal

Mr. M. S. Viraraghavan obituary

Mr. M.S. 'Viru' Viraraghavan, a world renowned and highly respected rosarian, and the senior-most member of the INTACH Kodaikanal Chapter, passed away on the 20th of December 2023, leaving a big void in Kodaikanal and in the world of roses. Viru's passion for roses began in his teens and at the age of 40 he quit the IAS and moved to Kodaikanal to hybridise and create roses suitable for warm climates. He was a major contributor to INTACH Kodaikanal's heritage book and also restored a 100-year-old sunken rose garden at St John's (Belgian) Convent in Kodaikanal. He was a wonderful friend and mentor with a keen sense of humour. Viru, you are missed!

Salem

Salem Chapter is conducting Kolam Competition and Flower braiding training workshop for girls.

Kolam is a traditional art form in South India. It involves drawing a line looped around a collection of dots (pullis) placed on a plane such that three mandatory rules are followed:

all line orbits should be closed, all dots are encircled and no two lines can overlap over a finite length. The origin of this beautiful art form can be traced back to the Sangam Literature from 300 BCE, where it was mentioned in various places .

Likewise, flower braiding is an intricate artform of garland making and decorating with flowers. Girls usually learn it from their mothers and now it is difficult to find or most of them don't know.

Telangana

Warangal

The following activities were conducted by Warangal Chapter during January 2024 - March 2024

A field trip was organised on 27th January 2024 to high school students of ZPHS Orugonda, Hanamkonda District to a stepped well located in Orugonda village. This field trip is planned to create awareness among the students on their role on the importance of preservation, conservation of our heritage and monuments for future generations. The students and teachers are participated in cleaning of the stepped well which was fully covered with bushes and shrubs. Dr Racharla Ganapathi, Member INTACH addressed the students and impressed upon them the significant contribution by Kakatiya rulers to this region by constructing large number of major water bodies which include Ramappa, Laknavaram and Pakhal Lakes besides numerous small water tanks to provide water supply for drinking and irrigation purpose. He impressed upon them on the importance of conservation of the heritage structures and monuments of our heritage for future generation. He also advised the local students to actively participate in propagating the role of people to preserve and maintain the cleanliness surroundings of the monuments.

INTACH Wrangal Chapter organized an all India poster making competition My Monument Search for school students of 7- 9 classes on 9th February 2024 at Vagdevi High School, Hanamkonda. A total number of 102 students from seven (07) schools of this region were participated in the competition. Prof Deva Pratap, Mr. Sridhar Rao, co-conveners addressed the students on the role of INTACH in preservation and conservation of natural, built and intangible heritage. He informed all the student to spread the message on the importance of conservation of our heritage and monuments of this region. Members of INTACH Warangal Chapter and School Teachers addressed the students and briefed about the My Monument Search competition and guidelines.

A field trip was conducted to the engineering graduate students to Ghanpur temples known as Kotagullu, Ramappa and Thousand Pillar Temple. Prof Deva Pratap, Co-convenor and explained them the construction technology and methods adopted by the Kakatiya rulers in constructing these monuments and irrigation tanks.

Prof M. Pandu Ranga Rao, convener, Warangal Chapter was coordinator of a research project entitled Geotechnical Appraisal and Evaluation of Kakatiya Monuments, sanctioned by ASI in 1984. After detailed investigations a technical report was submitted in the year 1987 for reconstruction and restoration of distressed monuments. Subsequently a National Seminar was organised during February 1991, where in the then Director General Dr M C Joshi was the chief guest. We took him round the Kakatiya monuments and he suggested the complete removal and restoration of thousand temple. Accordingly, based on the report submitted by REC Warangal, ASI initiated the restoration work of Kalyana Mantapam of Thousand Pillar Temple in the year 2005. Prof M. Pandu Ranga Rao was the coordinator of this project and advising continuously in removal and restoration with ASI officials and technical advice from NIT Warangal. INTACH Warangal chapter was continuously monitoring the execution process. The foundations of kalyana mantapam using sand box technology with granular piles was completed on which the present super structure erected following the principles of agama sastra and anastylosis. On 8th Feb 2024, newly renovated Kalyana Mantapam of Thousand Pillar Temple, was inaugurated by Sri G Kishan Reddy, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern Region of India. Prof M Pandu Ranga Rao was felicitated by Sri G Kishan Reddy for his contributions for restoration of Kalyana Mantapam. It's the proud privilege for INTACH Warangal chapter being associated with ASI in executing this marvelous project without using cement, iron and concrete. The restored kalyana mantapam will sustain for next 1000 years.



Prof M Pandu Ranga Rao explaining the restoration of Nandi at Thousand Pillar Temple and felicitation to Prof Pandu Ranga Rao on the eve of Commemoration of Kalyana Mantapa, Thousand Pillar Temple

Uttar Pradesh

Ayodhya

Foundation Day '24

It's wonderful to hear about the celebration of INTACH Ayodhya Chapter's foundation day! The plantation drive at Bani Khanam ka Maqbara is a commendable initiative, helping preserve and enhance the heritage of the city. The active participation of 30

members in planting 50 trees reflects a strong commitment to environmental conservation.

The My Monument Search event, involving 95 students on 28/01/24, was an engaging and educational activity. It's crucial to instill a sense of appreciation for historical monuments among the younger generation.

Additionally, the Awadh Kala Utsav featuring a performance by a famous band from Ayodhya is a great way to celebrate the rich cultural heritage of the region. Such events not only contribute to cultural preservation but also foster a sense of community and pride among the residents.

Overall, these activities showcase the diverse efforts of INTACH Ayodhya Chapter in promoting environmental awareness, historical education, and cultural vibrancy in the community.



The celebration of INTACH Ayodhya Chapter's foundation day

Gorakhpur

A delegation of INTACH Gorakhpur chapter member led by convener Er. Mahabir Prasad Kandoi met Vice chancellor of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gorakhpur University prof. Madhu Tandon.

The team gave vice chancellor brief detail of our organization, its objectives and work done by Gorakhpur chapter. The team also thanked vice chancellor for the support it received from its various faculty member for carrying out various heritage related activities in and out university campus and requested that the cooperation should continue for Heritage related programme, for which VC assured. Prof Rajvant Rao former head of department of ancient history was present.

Then chapter discussed about transfer of various artefacts found in various excavations done by university, which are at present lying in a closed room in department to the Purvanchal Museums of University. The chapter convener told that Gorakhpur and adjoining area excavations has the proof of oldest agrarian civilization of worlds, and display of these artefact will be beneficial for students and academians, the VC Assured to take Suitable Action.

On the request of chapter Vice chancellor gave permission to carryout Heritage volunteer course.

The meeting ended with commitment from both sides to carry out heritage related programmes regularly.



A delegation of INTACH Gorakhpur Chapter Members

Jhansi

राष्ट्रीय पर्यटन दिवस एवम बुन्देलखण्ड गौरव यात्रा आयोजन के अवसर पर इंटैक झांसी चैप्टर की ओर से हैरिटेज वाॅक का आयोजन किया गया।



झांसी फोर्ट में हैरिटेज वाॅक करते इंटैक सदस्य गण



Lakhimpur Kheri

Activity Report 2023

1. Currently the Chapter has 6 active members. These include Mr. Manuraj Singh (Convener), Mr. Ashok Nigam (Co Convener), Mr. Iqbal Ahmed Khan, Mr. Naved Alam Khan, Mr. Vikram Bhalla and Dr. Amit Trivedi. We have also started the process for induction in Life Member category of 2 new members, Mr. Anirudh Singh from Oel and Dr. Pradeep Tandon from Lakhimpur.
2. Yearly annual meeting was held in November, 2023 at the residence of Life Member, Mr. Vikram Bhalla and attended by Mr. Manuraj Chauhan along with Mr. Naved Alam Khan.
3. Points discussed in the meeting included new membership drives to be initiated, focusing on institutions like schools, colleges, government bodies and prominent members of the district.
4. Regular attending of online workshops organised by head office for chapter members, to enhance their knowledge and expertise in field of conservation.

Projects:

1. INTACH Lakhimpur Kheri has managed to put heritage monuments in Singahi, also known as Paris of Kheri, prominently on the tourist map of the district by organising a fair on the 1 st of January every year in the palace complex, known as Rajmahal Mela which is now attracting thousands of people and has become a major calendar event of the district.

2. In close coordination with Dr. Dharmendra Mishra of INTACH Conservation Institute, Lucknow, INTACH Lakhimpur Kheri has set up a museum in the Darbar Hall section of Surath Bhawan Palace, Singahi. INTACH Conservation Institute is helping in the restoration of artefacts being displayed here. This is the first museum of its kind in the entire district and is visited by many school students as part of heritage tours.

3. INTACH Kheri has opened social media account on Instagram platform to increase its public outreach. Total number of followers is around 600 people currently.

4. Instagram – @intachkheri

5. Site visit in September, 2023 of Raja Lone Singh's fort in Mitauli. Raja Lone Singh was a prominent freedom fighter of the district who fought against the British in 1857. The fort has only small wall fragments left and the open area is in danger of being usurped by government authorities for other purposes. Locals want the remains to be preserved and the surrounding area to be converted into a park in Raja Lone Singh's honour. Detailed report being prepared to be taken up with District Magistrate, Lakhimpur Kheri.

6. We are in the process of organising a cultural festival featuring the indigenous Tharu tribes who live along the Indo – Nepal border. The 2 days yearly event will showcase the various dance forms of the Tharus, their art including painting, jewellery etc. Also included in the program will be local music/ craft artisans from the district providing them with a durable platform to market and showcase their traditional products.



Site visit of Raja Lone Singh's fort in Mitauli

Lalitpur

1. The two-day national seminar titled "Jain and Buddhist Art in Bundelkhand and Adjacent Areas" was inaugurated in Devgarh under the joint auspices of the Uttar Pradesh State Archaeology Department, INTACH Lalitpur Chapter, and the

Bundelkhand History, Archaeology & Culture Research Institute. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Hargobind Kushwaha, Minister of State, Government of Uttar Pradesh, and Dr. B.R. Mani, Director General, National Museum, New Delhi. The seminar featured prominent historians and archaeologists from across the country who presented their research papers and displayed photographs. Distinguished attendees included Dr. Renu Dubey, Director of the State Archaeology Department; Santosh Kumar Sharma, Convenor, INTACH Lalitpur Chapter; Dr. S.K. Dubey, former Regional Archaeology Officer; Dr. Manoj Kumar Yadav, Regional Archaeology Officer; among other notable figures.

On the second day of the two-day national seminar titled "Jain and Buddhist Art in Bundelkhand and Adjacent Areas," held in Devgarh under the joint auspices of the Uttar Pradesh State Archaeology Department, INTACH Lalitpur Chapter, and the Bundelkhand History, Archaeology & Culture Research Institute, nine research presentations were delivered across two sessions. Scholars presented their research papers on various archaeological sites. The seminar was successfully concluded by Shri Manohar Lal Panth, Minister of State for Labor and Planning, Government of Uttar Pradesh.



This event marked the inauguration of the two-day national seminar on "Jain and Buddhist Art in Bundelkhand and Surrounding Areas."

Mahoba

INTACH Mahoba Chapter took 60 students of Rahelia School accompanied by their teachers to Surya Mandir Mahoba, which is a historical heritage of the 9th century, and conducted a heritage walk and tour to the temple. A Cleanliness Drive was also conducted by INTACH. There was tremendous enthusiasm observed among the children. On this occasion, the school's Principal Mr. Omprakash Tiwari along with the assistant principals and INTACH members including Mrs. Leenaav, Mr. Ashwani Paliwal as volunteer were also present. All the students were educated about the historical significance of the temple, and afterwards, refreshments were provided to all attendees.

Meerut

1. Executive meeting dated 16th December, Meerut Chapter

Meerut, 16 December. The Executive Meeting of the INTACH Meerut Chapter took place as scheduled at the Wheeler Club, Meerut. The meeting commenced with an introduction by A.K. Johari, the Co-Convener, and was chaired by Dr. RK Bhatnagar, the retired Divisional Commissioner and Convener. The attendees were appointed as executive members for the next session.

The agenda for the upcoming session focused on organizing various programs. Key topics included culture and values, women's empowerment, adapting to change, reflective discussions, Geeta Gyan Yagya, a World Heritage Tour, celebrations for Hindi Day, a painting competition, and commemorations for Netaji Jayanti, etc.

It was announced that the next quarterly executive meeting would take place at the Kinauni Sugar Mill. Col. A.D. Tyagi concluded the meeting with a vote of thanks, followed by refreshments.

2. INTACH Program on World Hindi Day

Meerut, 10th January. On World Hindi Day, a program was organized by INTACH, Meerut Chapter at Anandam Ashram Auditorium, Shraddhapuri, Meerut. The program was presided over by Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, Retd. Divisional Commissioner and the Chief Guest was Dr. Ishwar Chand Gambhir, a renowned poet. Shri K.P. Singh, GM, Kinauni, Chilli Mill were present as special guest. The program was conducted by A.K. Johri, Co-Convener, INTACH. Guests along with new Hindi poets were honored with patkas and mementos. Prominent poets Sanjay Jain, Sardhana, Saroj Dubey, Komal Chauhan, Shaan Pathan, Anand Johri, Ram Bhajan Patel, Nimish Pandey and Uttam Jat etc. were present. The audience enjoyed the poems, understanding the importance of Hindi language. Shri Sanjay Jain played major role along with the poets.

3. Seminar on “Continuing relevance of Ramayana” by INTACH, Meerut Chapter.

Meerut, 21 January. INTACH, Meerut Chapter on 19, 20 and 21st January organized a Seminar on the topic “Continuing Relevance of Ramayana” at R.G. (P.G.) Girls College, Meerut, Yodha Military Academy, Meerut and R.G. Girls Inter College, Meerut. It threw light on the topic of continuous relevance along with the meaningful thoughts of eminent scholars/ INTACH members and social persons & teachers. All three institutions operated A.K. Johari, Co-Convenor and the presidential address was given by Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, Retd. Divisional Commissioner/ Convener, throwing light on the importance of Ramcharitra Manas. Apart from the audience/students, Shri G.C. Sharma, Lt. Col. A.D. Tyagi, Mrs. Rekha Johari, Prof. Deepshikha Sharma, Prof. Poonam Lakhaniwal, Executive Principal Prof. Parul Singh, Prof. Sonika Chaudhary, Prof. Anjula Rajvanshi, Prof. Deeksha Chaturvedi, Prof. Dr. Anju Rastogi, Dr. Shail Verma, Dr. Upasana Singh, Dr. Sangeeta and Principal Mrs. Rajni Rani Shankadhar and many teachers helped in making this programme a great success.

Prasad was distributed in the afternoon on Ram Lala Pran Pratishtha Day by INTACH, Meerut Chapter on 22 January 2024.

4. Heritage Tour: Parliament House, New Delhi (Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha)

Meerut, 11 December. In conjunction with Shri Rajneesh Prakash Tyagi, Senior Member, INTACH, Meerut Chapter, I got the opportunity to visit the new buildings of Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha in New Delhi and listen and watch the proceedings sitting in the audience gallery. Got an opportunity to see and understand the proceedings of Rajya Sabha & Lok Sabha by Dr. Laxmikant Vajpayee ji, Rajya Sabha MP and Shri Rajendra Aggarwal ji, MP. Separate pictures were also clicked with both the MPs. This journey and darshan was enjoyed by about 42 people. The program was finalized by Shri Goyal ji, Treasurer, INTACH, Meerut Chapter and AK Johri, Co-Convenor, Meerut Chapter.



Executive meeting - Meerut Chapter

5. Heritage Tour:- Bada Village, District Baghpat, Meerut Chapter

Meerut, 9th March. During a heritage tour organized by the INTACH Meerut Chapter, a visit to "Raavan alias Bada Gaon" in the Baghpat district was led by Dr. RK Bhatnagar, a retired Divisional Commissioner and the Chapter's Convener. This location is renowned for its famous Jain temple. In 1922, the Jain community welcomed Ailok Anant Kirti Maharaj to their Bada village. The Maharaj was told about the legendary mound of Parsva Baba, located 8 km from Bada village. It is believed that upon meditating on this mound, Ailok Anant Kirti Maharaj envisioned the idol of 1008 Lord Parshva Nath. Following this revelation, he directed the Jain community to excavate the mound. After excavating approximately 12 feet, the idol of 1008 Lord Parshva Nath was discovered. Subsequently, a temple featuring a 101-foot-tall spire was constructed. The idol of 1008 Lord Parshva Nath was enshrined within this temple. Nearby the mound, there was a mango orchard. Thirty-five years later, four idols were discovered underground: those of 1008 Lord Adinath, 1008 Lord Vimalnath, 1008 Lord Parshwanath, and 1008 Lord Mahavir. Altars were constructed at the four corners surrounding the site to enshrine these idols. With this, the Trilok Teerth Dham in Bada village was revitalized. Notably, the Trilok Teerth Dham is designed in the form of a Jain symbol. This temple is 317 feet high. Of this, 100 feet is below ground and 217 feet is above ground. Legend has it that Lankapati Ravana worshiped the goddess in Bada Gaon alias Ravana. Presently there is a temple of Mansa

Devi on the mound. Ancient things are found around this mound. Special worship is performed at Mansa Devi Siddha Peeth on Navratri. Historian K.K. Sharma says that the idol here belongs to the seventh century. Its establishment is considered to be in Satyayuga. Apart from this, there are ancient pillars in the temple. The idol built on it is like Ajnata Alora. This is the Shakti Peetha established by Lankapati Shri Ravana. The ancient sanctum sanctorum of the temple is closed nowadays. The temple has been declared as an archaeological site. Being a village inhabited by Ravana, effigy of Ravana is not burnt in this village on Dussehra. Historians believe that Bada village has a deep connection with Mahabharata and Ramayana period. Directive No. 28.874970g, 77.3289910m.



Heritage Tour:- Bada Village, District Baghpat, Meerut Chapter

6. Emphasizing culture and values, the INTACH Meerut Chapter organized a Holi Festival, bringing together elders and artists from Vrindavan.

Meerut, 14th March. Holi Mahotsav was organized by INTACH Meerut Chapter at Abha Manav Mandir, Senior Citizen Seva Sadan. On this special occasion, the artists from Vrindavan, brimming with devotion, showcased a vibrant array of cultural performances. A grand Holi Mahotsav program was organized by INTACH organization with the elders. The program was inaugurated by INTACH Convener, Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, Retd., IAS by lighting the lamp. Co-Convenor A.K. Johri welcomed everyone by explaining about the organization's broad scope, objectives and activities in detail and requested them to join the organization. The program was organized by Shri Shamsher Singh and conducted by Shri Vijay Bhola. The artists received much applause for their performances of devotional songs and the Shiva Tandav. The sight of the magnificent tableau of Lord Vishnu filled everyone with a deep sense of devotion. In concluding the event, Dr. Bhatnagar, while expressing his gratitude to all present, highlighted the importance of cultural reverence and respect for elders. On this occasion Ashwani Gupta,

Rekha Johri, Anupama Bhatnagar, A.K. Goyal, G.C. Sharma, A.K. Saxena, Jagesh, Sudhir Mittal, Rajiv Pratap Singh etc. were present.



Holi Mahotsav program was organized by Meerut Chapter

Prayagraj

1. *Inspection of Jaichand Fort by INTACH*

Officials from the INTACH Prayagraj Chapter visited the fort of Raja Jaichand in Kada (Kaushambi) to assess its deteriorating condition. Adjacent to the fort stands a stupa, the stairs of which are in disrepair; the first two footsteps are severely damaged, with remnants of their destruction still visible.

The state of the fort, situated along the banks of the Ganga River, is deplorable. The lack of public awareness has led to the defacement of its walls with scratchings and indecent graffiti.

INTACH Prayagraj Chapter Convener Shambhu Chopra and Co-Convener Anupam Parihar have said in their joint statement that 'INTACH Prayagraj Chapter will try its level best to save this heritage. Soon this information will be sent to INTACH Central Office, Delhi and further action will be taken.

The members of the Chapter later visited Sant Malukdas site and Shitala Dham temple and also inspected these heritages.

In this campaign, the officials of INTACH included Head of the English Department of Allahabad University Prof. Sanjay Saxena, Dr. Ekta Shukla, Nilesh Narayan, Gunjan Verma, Arvind Srivastava, Anupam Kumar, Rishi Kumar and Adarsh Malviya were present.

2. Title: "Spirituality & Religion: A Scientist's Perspective"

INTACH Prayagraj chapter on 4th February, 2024 hosted Dr. Ajay Kumar Sonker, a renowned Cell Biologist, expert in Life Sciences, with his work ranging from discovery of a technique to create nucleated pearls, DNA biology, nutrition, cancer, diabetes, and heart diseases establishing him as a prominent Scientist. Awarded with Padm Shri in the year 2022 in the field of Science and Engineering, he has a vast experience and knowledge.

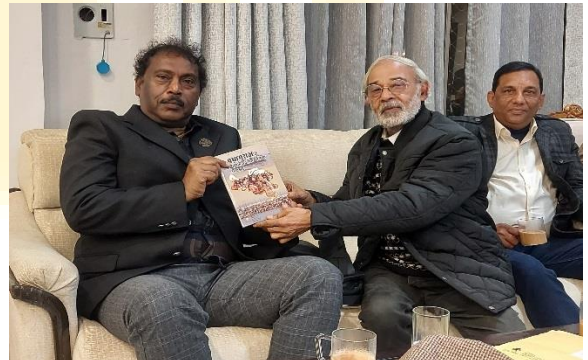
Dr. Ajay Kumar Sonker was invited to give a discourse on a very interesting and burning topic; "Spirituality & Religion: A Scientist's Perspective". The meeting began with Mr. Shambhu Chopra, Convener and Mr. Anupam Parihar, Co-convener welcoming Dr.

Sonker to the venue and after a brief introduction of Dr. Sonker they requested him to initiate the discourse. Dr. Ajay Kumar Sonker started by addressing the big gathering, asking them the question – What is Adhyatm...? He mentioned that during a long interview with a team of

ISKCON he was put in the dilemma of answering the same question. Explaining the Creation of Earth (Big Bang Theory), the birth of the first single celled organism to the evolution of humans and other species he elucidated Adhyatm from a scientist's perspective. Leading the discourse further, he added that, Humans have existed much before the times of Moses, Jesus, Bhagwat Geeta or even Ramayan. So...!!! Religion was never even known during that period; it was the Spirituality which guided people to do the right thing. It was only when humans became social, they needed rules, regulations, and guidance to do what is right and then...

Religion Evolved. He further delved on how mental negativity effects the human body. He gave out the Scientists' perspective on how this negativity effect the human body. The discourse culminated with

the audience asking questions and receiving the responses from Dr. Sonker and presentation of the Book "Prayagraj ki Dharmik evam Aadhyatmik Virasat" authored by Mr. Anupam Parihar to him. The complete gathering felt enriched and honoured by his benign presence. Overall, it was a wonderful experience for the members of INTACH Chapter Prayagraj.



Title: "Spirituality & Religion: A Scientist's Perspective" – Prayagraj Chapter

Varanasi

1. On 21 December 2023, we screened the introductory film. 44 students from 11 schools participated in 11 teams. We have also announced the next mega event to be held on INTACH Foundation Day. We have been able to create awareness amongst school students.



Screened the introductory film- Varanasi Chapter

2. INTACH VARANASI CHAPTER in collaboration with Tourist Guides Association Varanasi and India Tourism Varanasi organised 4th lecture under VIRASAT DARSHAN lecture series on December 20, 2023 at Lal Girja Cantt. Rev Sanjay Dan spoke on CHRISTIANITY. He explained about Roman Catholic and Protestants Christian's. According to him, Jesus Christ was a jew and Christianity is a way of life. Next speaker Mr Vijaya Dayal, Former Secretary of Lal Girja spoke at length about the organisation Church of North India. Appx 3000 churches, hospitals and educational institutions are under CNI. This was founded in 1970 after amalgamation of different churches and hospitals all over India except in South India.

While Ashok Kapoor Convener welcomed the speakers and participants. He explained about this lecture series mainly for Approved Tourist guides to apprise them about heritage of Varanasi. Mr. Amit Gupta Asst Director India Tourism felicitated the speakers.



Ashok Kapoor Convener explaining about Virasat DARSHAN series and introducing the subject- Varanasi Chapter

Amit Gupta Asst. Director, India Tourism felicitating the speaker- Varanasi Chapter

3. INTACH VARANASI CHAPTER organised GANGA KATHA FILM BASED SPEECH COMPETITION on December 21 at Institutional member Sunbeam English School

Bhagwanpur. The film based on Natural Heritage was screened this time. This was third in the series as earlier films based on Architectural Heritage and Intangible Culture Heritage were screened in October and November 2023. 4 students each from 12 schools participated as a team. First, the film was screened for participating students. Then time of 30 mnts was given to them to prepare their presentation. Thereafter, each team was given 4 mnts each to deliver speech or make presentations. Some very interesting and educative presentations were made. Dr Nagendra Pathak, a senior journalist and Dr Ms Anuradha Raturi, Dhrupad Vocalist and a young scholar were judges for the competition. After assessment, results were announced on the spot. Prizes in the form of books sent by NH DIVISION were given to 3 best awarded and 2 special prizes. Ashok Kapoor Convener explained about 3 films made by INTACH for National Mission for Clean Ganga and the Ganga documentation project. Mr Nirmal Joshi Addl Co Convener had initially explained about rules of the competition. Mrs Prerna Sharma Principal of the school welcomed the participants and accompanying teachers. She specially thanked INTACH VARANASI for organising such educative sessions for students. Both the judges spoke about their observations and highlighted the judgement criteria.

Ashok Kapoor Convener announced that winners of three different competitions will be invited for a mega event to be held after a month where all films will be screened and a competition based on that will be organised.

The participating schools appreciated this unique opportunity given to students and to apprise them about different Heritage around 8 important cities along GANGA river from Gangotri to Ganga Sagar.



Principal Sunbeam School Bhagwanpur felicitating Ashok Kapoor Convener-Varanasi Chapter



Group Photo of participants with teachers, Convener, Addl Co Convener and judges-Varanasi Chapter

4. Varanasi Chapter organised it's much awaited interactive Music programme titled AALAP in collaboration with Hotel Ganges View Assi whose owner Shri Shashank Singh is very senior INTACH Life member and coordinator for ICH Cell of Varanasi Chapter. The artist of the evening Dr Mrs Shrawani Biswas is a renowned artist and

senior disciple of one of the best Sitar player Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan. Dr Mrs Biswas presented Raag Vachaspati which is a rare Raaga for instruments. She was accompanied on Tabla with Shri Hindol Mazumdar of Kolkata. While welcoming the audience and artists, Shashank Singh ji explained the concept of AALAP programme. The artists explain about their lineage, music , raag and about their taalim from Guru. Then after presentation, audience ask questions on various aspects which are related to music and teachings. Dr Ms Anuradha Raturi conducted the programme. She is a renowned scholar too. She also replied to queries from audience. Large number of scholars, musicians, senior students and INTACH members were present. Ashok Kapoor Convener proposed vote of thanks and thanks to Shashank Singh ji who hosted the event.

5. A tribal Art competition was organised by Varanasi Chapter at Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum BHU for member school students during Heritage week. 45 students from 12 schools had participated. The paintings were based on Warli and Gond style. An exhibition of those 45 art work was organised by Varanasi Chapter and Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum BHU from December 27 onwards for 2 weeks. A separate gallery was provided for those paintings. It is a great honour for school students that their paintings were displayed in one of the most renowned Museum of the country which is known for one of the largest collection of miniature paintings in India. Exhibition was inaugurated by Dean of Students BHU alongwith Chapter Convener and Addl Co Convener. Thereafter prizes were announced for 3 best paintings and 2 special jury awards. Prizes were distributed on the exhibition inaugural day. Ashok Kapoor Convener proposed vote of thanks. Specially thanked Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum BHU for collaborating with INTACH Varanasi in many programmes during the year. Museum Incharge Dr Ms Jasmininder Kaur, Dy Director is also an INTACH Life member.

6. INTACH South Indian heritage in Varanasi - Heritage Walk

INTACH, Varanasi Chapter, organized a wonderful visit to the historical sites in hanuman ghat area, in Varanasi, on Sunday, 28th January '24. Under the guidance of Mr. Ashok Kapoor, Convenor of INTACH, Varanasi chapter, assisted by Mr. Anil Kesari, Co-convenor and Ganeshanji, Forty INTACH Varanasi members participated in this informative and excellent trip. Hanuman ghat area represents the south- indian heritage muths and temples. The sites visited were Kashi kamakoti Panchayatan temple (built in the 1900s), Kanchi Shankar muth, bade hanumanji muth and many more ..

The heritage walk started from the Kashi kamakotji panchayatan temple is dedicated to Adi Shankaracharya who is considered the father of the revival of Hinduism.. it's a beautiful South Indian styled temple and the freezes, carvings , statues mostly represent the life of Sri Adi Shankaracharya. The temple was a gem of South Indian architecture and style.

7. INTACH 40th foundation day was celebrated with full zeal at Little Flower House Nagwa on January 27th, 2024, where teachers were contesting to grab the prize in debate competition on the topic ' Development of Ghats and Heritage'. Programme started with

lamp lighting ceremony with our esteemed judges Mr. SK Agarwal and Mr. Dharendra Mani Tripathi, both are engineers by profession and are running a few esteemed institutions of Varanasi. Mr. Ashok Kapoor, Convener, Mr. Nalin Gulati, Co-Convener and Mr. Nirmal Joshi additional Co convener were also present for the programme. Total 9 member schools participated in the event and 27 teachers presented their ideas on Ganga ghats development and heritage through various modes like powerpoint presentation, Dance, Nukkad Natak etc. Sunbeam Bhagwanpur bagged the first prize in the event.



INTACH 40th foundation day was celebrated – Varanasi Chapter

8. On 15th February 24, the students of classes 6 to 9 from Little Flower House, an INTACH institutional member, embarked on field visits to Heritage sites and museums to the historic *Man Mahal Virtual Museum & Observatory* in Varanasi. The trip aimed to provide students with hands-on learning experiences beyond the classroom and enhance their understanding of astronomy and historical architecture.

The visit provided students with a unique opportunity to witness the architectural grandeur of the Man Mahal Observatory, and the virtual museum reflecting the scientific advancements and cultural heritage of the region. The intricate designs and craftsmanship of the observatory and the amalgamation of heritage with technology left a lasting impression on the students, inspiring awe and curiosity about India's ancient scientific achievements.

The program was coordinated by Ms. Aditi Gulati from Heritage Education Cell of Varanasi chapter.

In conclusion, the trip to the Man Mahal Observatory and the virtual museum was a memorable and enriching experience for the students. It not only expanded their knowledge of astronomy and history but also instilled in them a sense of curiosity and wonder. Such educational outings play a vital role in shaping well-rounded individuals and fostering a lifelong love for learning.

INTACH VARANASI CHAPTER organised Heritage Walk and Field Visit for 4th year students of SJB School of Planning and Architecture, Bangalore on February 21, 2024. 26 students of 4th year and 2 Professors participated in the Walk programme. Ashok Kapoor

Convener Varanasi Chapter accompanied them. Mr Akhilesh Kumar, INTACH Life member and senior Govt of India approved Tourist Guide briefed them about the sites and temples. The group went via old lanes of Varanasi and reached 5 century old Gopal Mandir which is part of Pushti Marg Vaishnavites. They were then taken to Panchganga Ghat. On the way, they saw the 3/4 century old buildings where residents are still residing. Panchganga ghat is one of the most important site in Varanasi. The Bindu Madhav Temple (Vishnu), Telang Swami Temple, Sant Ramanand Temple, Mahaprabhu Ballabhacharya Baithak and Gokarn Mutt are located here. It is on the stairs of Panchganga Ghat that Sant Kabir found his Guru at 3 am in the morning when Ramanand was going down the step to river Ganga to have daily bath. In the dark, he did not see Kabir lying on the step and touched him by his feet. Immediately Kabir got up and greeted him and with respect said that he is overwhelmed to receive his blessings. Ramanand could not refuse and accepted him as his disciple. The students then visited Alamgir Mosque which was built by Aurangzeb after demolishing Grand Bindu Madhav temple. The deity of Lord Vishnu was later shifted to a nearby building which is presently Bindu Madhav temple. Panchganga Ghat is also believed to be the place where 5 rivers meet. Ganga, Yamuna, Saraswati, Kirna and Dhooptapa. On the way back , students were taken to residence of Bhartendu Harishchandra , the renowned poet and hindi author who not only wrote many poems but large number of books and BANDISHES for music too. The house is very well maintained by ancestors and old palanquin is still intact.

The walk lasted for more than 2.30 hrs. Professors were very appreciative of INTACH'S efforts in creating awareness about city's heritage. Students made notes about old buildings and all sites.

INTACH VARANASI CHAPTER organised its Annual Meet on March 2, 2024 alongwith Vasant Utsav. The meeting was attended by appx 85 members/ spouses.

Ashok Kapoor Convener while welcoming the members gave a brief description of programmes/events/workshops etc held during the year. Mr Jeremy Oltmann, Life Member explained about Heritage Walk programme of the Chapter. Being a senior member, he also compared pre and post 2016 activities.

Mr Akhilesh Kumar explained about VIRASAT DARSHAN lecture series and emphasised that such lectures are important to know about our heritage as experts and scholars are speakers. This series of lecture is not only for travel and tourism trade but for all INTACH members. Ashok Kapoor Convener then invited Mr Pulkit Garg, IAS, Vice Chairman Varanasi Development Authority to address the audience. Mr Garg was invited to interact with members. He invited INTACH VARANASI to collaborate with Varanasi Development Authority in different projects relating to Heritage. He asked us to identify sites which are connected to Icons of the city and help in development.

He praised the projects of VDA supervised by INTACH , specially the KUNDS.

A Pakhawaj and Sarangi duet music programme was organised on this occasion. Both the instruments are part of intangible Heritage. Next was KISSAGOI- Ancient Art of Story telling by Mrs Ritu Kapur who is from our Institutional member. She involved the audience too.

Mr Nirmal Joshi and Mr Anurag Chandra- both Addl Co Conveners explained about other activities specially Heritage Education Cell activities. Mr Anil Kesari Addl Co Convener explained about Lesser Known Religious sites of the city. Some senior members exchanged ideas and gave suggestions.

High Tea/refreshment was served after Vote of Thanks. Mr Ravi Agrawal and Mrs Anjila Agrawal provided the venue. The entire programme was sponsored by Convener, Co Convener and Addl Co Conveners besides Mr and Mrs Ravi Agrawal and Mrs Manju Singh, a Life Member.

Sharing some photos for VIRASAT and e- newsletter.



Uttarakhand

Mussoorie

Mussoorie Heritage Walk Festival

INTACH Mussoorie chapter organized Mussoorie Heritage Walk Festival on 27th December.

Birding with Jabarkhet Nature Reserve team on Camels back road. A cold but beautiful morning, where all Nature enthusiasts thoroughly enjoyed the session led by Sejal Worah. We spotted the following birds- Great Barbet, Laughing Thrush, Buffbard Warbler, Syria Warbler, Parakeets, Hill Partridge, Blue capped rock Thrush, Himalayan Bulbul, Black Bulbul, Blue Laughing Thrush...

Landour Bazar Heritage walk led by Surbhi Agarwal from Mussoorie Heritage Centre. This Bazar is wealthiest in terms of Architectural Heritage, Cultural Heritage and diversity, Art and craft Heritage. Several old Colonial buildings, native style buildings, along with the Bazar buzzes. The various specialized shops, tailors, shoemaker, Antique stores, jewellers, ironsmiths and so forth. The walk culminated at Mussoorie Heritage Centre where the History of Mussoorie is displayed and VR Art Space where the current exhibition 'Call of the Garhwal Himalaya' is on display.



INTACH Mussoorie chapter organized Mussoorie Heritage Walk Festival

Pauri Garhwal Vanishing Heritage

From the Himalayas to the Ganga valley, Uttarakhand is a state of heritage, whether it is man-made or natural, whether it is religious or cultural. Today, however, much of this heritage is at risk of vanishing. Among these, one element integral to our culture faces a dire threat of extinction, the traditional musical instruments of Uttarakhand, specifically the *Dhol Damau*.

This musical instrument (Dhol Damau) is played in almost all the auspicious and religious functions of Uttarakhand, whether it is the worship of Gods and Goddesses, whether there are fairs in Uttarakhand, or marriages, whether there are fairs in Uttarakhand. Be it marriage or wedding, this musical instrument is played by a special community in Uttarakhand which is known as *Auji*. Being an urban migrant, the youth of this community find themselves hesitant to embrace this instrument (Dhol Damau), because earlier the livelihood of this caste was earned by playing these musical instruments. In modern times, people use DJ, band etc. more in weddings, due to which this community does not get much importance. Consequently, members of this community often express a reluctance to continue the tradition, leaving the *Dhol Damau* to silently gather dust, a poignant symbol of a fading heritage.

Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) Activities

MURSHIDABAD CHAPTER

Teacher Training Workshop

The Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS), INTACH in collaboration with INTACH Murshidabad Chapter conducted a two day Teacher Training Workshop at Murshidabad District Journalists' Association, Berhampore on 9th and 10th January, 2024. 37 teachers from 19 schools participated in the workshop.

The workshop began with an introduction by Dr. Jaydev Biswas, Journalist and Member, INTACH Murshidabad Chapter followed by the welcome address by Mr. Balaknath Bhattacharyya, Convenor INTACH Murshidabad Chapter. He spoke about the objective of the workshop and gave a brief about Murshidabad Chapter. Bouquets were then presented to the guests and resource persons. The first session was conducted by Dr. Mausumi Bannerjee, Curator, Murshidabad District Museum. She discussed heritage and history of Murshidabad from the point of view of archaeological evidences preserved in the Murshidabad District Museum. She showed images of various artefacts showcased in the museum and spoke about them. At the end of her lecture, she invited the schools to visit the museum to learn about the history of their own city.

Post this, the INTACH film was screened. The next session was on the 'Types of Heritage: An Overview' conducted by Mr. Abhishek Das, INTACH HECS. He asked the teachers what they understood by heritage and what it meant to them. The session offered a detailed description focusing on the four aspects of India's heritage. The session also highlighted the fundamental duties and their emphasis on preserving heritage. Post lunch, the presentation focused on heritage education and the importance and need of incorporating heritage education as an active part of school curriculum so that children can learn heritage values and imbibe them in their day to day life. In the last session, the participants were divided into four groups (natural, built, material and living) to discuss for the next day's group activity.

On the second day of the workshop, a heritage walk was carried out at the world famous Hazarduari Palace. The group visited the palace complex and museum. The walk was guided by Mr. Balaknath Bhattacharyya who took the participants around the area. After the walk, the group returned to the venue of the workshop and setting up of heritage club and list of HECS' publications, *Youngintach* website, National Programmes and social media were discussed by Ms. Christina Shangne, INTACH HECS. The teachers were given time to prepare for their presentations. The teachers presented some interesting group activities highlighting the heritage of Murshidabad.

The workshop ended with distribution of resource materials and certificates to participants.



My Monument Search

The National Poster Competition, organized by Murshidabad Chapter and sponsored by HECS, was held at Berhampore on 11th January 2024. 51 students from 16 schools participated in the competition. The competition comprised of painting/drawing of historical monuments of the district. Three judges were engaged for ranking the paintings. Students wrote in Bangla.



HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE CHAPTER (HAMIRPUR) College Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop

The College Volunteer Workshop was conducted by HECS INTACH in collaboration with INTACH Himachal Pradesh State Chapter and NIT Hamirpur on 29th February- 4th March 2024 and was attended by 35 students and teachers of NIT Hamirpur.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Archana Santosh, the Registrar of NITH, Mr. Anoop Kumar, the Dean of Faculty Welfare, Dr. Bhanu M. Marwaha, Head of the Architecture Department, Ms. Maalvika Pathania, Convenor INTACH Himachal Pradesh State Chapter, Ms. Purnima Datt, Principal Director, HECS INTACH and the faculty of the university. Ms. Maalvika Pathania started her presentation on the heritage of Himachal Pradesh. Ms. Purnima Datt spoke next about India's vast natural, built heritage, material heritage, and living heritage. After lunch, Ms. Purnima Datt and Ms.

Nanki Kaur from HECS started their session on the kinds of architecture found in India. This was followed by a session on Volunteerism where students were informed of the ways they could create awareness about heritage. In the interactive group activity the students presented well-designed activities on the local Kodiyala handloom community, the revival of local crafts, the culture and crafts of various states, and the Gaddi culture.

On Day 2, the first session was held by Mr. TS Randhawa, Consultant, INTACH Knowledge Centre on the Vernacular Heritage of the Himalayas. He spoke of the diversity of Indian vernacular heritage and focused on hill architecture. Following this, the students were taken on a site visit to study the local settlement of Jhaniari in Hamirpur.

Day 3 started with a session on Colonial Architecture of Shimla by Mr. Raaja Bhasin, Co Convenor of INTACH Himachal Pradesh State Chapter. He spoke about the historical significance and architectural style of the colonial structures. Day 4 entailed of the students continuing their work on their chosen sites and study topics. On the last day of the workshop, the students presented their projects to the professors and Ms. Maalvika Pathania. The workshop concluded with valedictory ceremony, where all the participants were felicitated by INTACH.



MIZORAM CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was held on 29th January 2024, at the Directorate of School Education, Govt. of Mizoram. 33 students from 5 schools took part in the competition. The competition started with a welcome address by Mr. Lalram Thanga. Dr. Lalbiakmawia Ngente, Fellow of Indian Institute of Architects and treasurer of state chapter gave a talk on built heritage. Formal inauguration was done by Ms. NG Fanchun, Deputy Director, Directorate of Education. The event was well covered by the local media.



AMRITSAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The venue for My Monument Search competition was a lesser known keeping in mind the theme of the competition at “BHAI VEER SINGH JI NIWAS, AMRITSAR. It was held on 13th February and four schools participated. Every student did their fabulous job through the painting of less-known built heritage, and they deeply felt the vibes of great thinkers, scholars, poets, and social workers. Retired, well-known professor and Deputy Director of the Bhai Veer Singh Niwas Asthan, Mrs. Parminder Kaur Hundal, addressed students about many less-known places and showed them how they are preserving the great built heritage of Punjab. Then the students and teachers took a tour of Bhai Veer Singh Ji's house, thoroughly observing the museum and the books written by him. Concluding the event, Intach Chapter Amritsar Convenor, Mr. Gagandeep Singh Virk, honored every participant with specially designed certificates along with “best suited titles (related to nature) dedicated to each student on the award-winning book of Bhai Veer Singh ji.



JALANDHAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

"My Monument Search" competition was held at R.D. Khosla DAV Model Sen. Sec. School, Batala on 13th February 2024. 59 students from 8 schools participated. The students from RD Khosla DAV Model Sen. Sec. School Batala, G.S. International Sen. Sec. Public School Bhagwanpur Gurdaspur, Divine Will Public School, Woodstock Public School, Excelsior Public School, Army Public School Beas, St Soldier Modern Public School and Guru Har Rai Intelligent Treasure School Panjgarain participated.



MALERKOTLA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

Seven schools of Malerkotla participated in the Poster Making competition. 80 students participated in total. The competition was held in each school separately. Some of the entries received prizes in the form of books, cash and mementos. Dr. Salim Mohd., Convenor, thanked all the participants and congratulated the winners and talked about INTACH. Other INTACH members were also present.



PATIALA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

Patiala Chapter organized the Poster Making and Writing of the Lesser-Known Built Heritage of Patiala and its surroundings at Aurobindo International School, Patiala. 34 students from five schools participated. The participants searched and painted the monuments namely Mai ji Ki Sarai, Old PWD Rest House, Rajindra Kothi, Sheesh Mahal, Qila Bahadurgarh, Shahi Samadhan, Heritage Street, Kaur ji ki Haveli and other buildings of historical and heritage importance. The participants also highlighted the need to protect and preserve such important monuments by suggesting certain steps to revive their glory. Mr. Sarbjit Singh Virk Advocate, Convenor, thanked the participants, teachers and the Heads of schools and INTACH's team members- Jatinder Singh Sarao, Laljit Singh Sidhu, Satvir Singh and Ms. Amoljit Kaur to make the programme a success.



BATHINDA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

Bathinda Chapter organized My Monument Search for 90 students from 10 schools. All participating children and guests were served refreshment. For smooth conduct the activity Advo. Bakhtawar Singh, Sh. Rupinder Singh Sidhu, Sh. Gurdit Singh, and Principals of these schools Prof B S Brar Punjab State Co-convener, Er. Ravipal Garg Co-convener Bathinda and many teachers from these schools devoted their precious time to make this competition a success.



FARIDKOT CHAPTER

My Monument Search

Faridkot Chapter organized My Monument Search competition for 96 students in 11 schools. All participating children and guests were served refreshments. For smooth conduct of the activity Er. Raj Kr Aggarwal, Co-convener, Intach Members: Sh. Ashok Chawla, Mrs. Jaspreet Kaur Brar, Principal Sewa Singh Chawla, L / Member Shivinder Kochhar, Sh. Baljit Singh, Principal Rakesh Ashoka, Er. Ankush Ashoka, Sh. Pawan Mittal, Sh. Shaminder Singh Dhillon, Sh. Boota Singh, Smt. Swarnjit Kaur, Maninder Singh Dhillon and Principal Kumar Jagdev Brar, Principal Meenakshi Sharma, Sh. Kulwinder Singh or many teachers from these schools devoted their precious time to make this competition a success.



VARANASI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The INTACH Varanasi Chapter with the support from HECS organized "My Monument Search" poster and painting competition at Sunbeam Suncity (School and Hostel). Around 112 students from 14 schools of the city participated in the competition. Dr. Subhash Yadav, Regional Archaeological Officer, Varanasi, Govt of UP was the Guest

Speaker. He spoke about the importance of monuments and the concept behind those monuments. He requested participating schools to adopt at least one monument or site and ensure its maintenance. Mr. Ashok Kapoor Convener explained the rules and also spoke about this competition which is held every year but with different themes. Mrs. Sarita Rao, Vice Principal gave the vote of thanks.



Clay Pottery and Toy - Making Workshop

INTACH Varanasi Chapter organised Clay Pottery and Toys Making Workshop on Monday November 20, 2023 at Gurudham Temple Complex. This is a project to save endangered craft of the Region, supported by INTACH HECS DIVISION. 67 students from different schools participated. The project aims to create awareness amongst students to be environment friendly by using Clay products and avoid plastic. It also encourages Potters to spread the craft amongst students. SanjuPrajapati and his son was the resource person of the workshop. While Electric potter wheel was used by them for Pottery making, handmade clay toy making was also taught by Potters.

Ashok Kapoor, Convener Varanasi Chapter, Ms Aditi Gulati, Dy Director Little Flower House Group of schools and Coordinator INTACH VARANASI Heritage Education Cell started the workshop by trying her hand on potter wheel and encouraged students.





FilmIt India Festival

On 29th January 2024, 97 students and 23 teachers from 17 schools of Varanasi and 3 schools of Ayodhya participated in the FilmIt Festival in Varanasi hosted at W.H. Smith Memorial School, Sigra. Mr. Ashok Kapoor, Convenor Varanasi Chapter, Mr. Nirmal Joshi INTACH member and Ms. Vaishnavi, HECS were also present at the festival. The Chief Guest was Ms. Anita Pauline Dey, the principal of W.H. Smith Memorial School. Students from each school presented their FilmIt experiences. The festival also featured screenings of the best films from Varanasi and Ayodhya and the Overall Best Films from different participating cities. Each school was awarded certificates and books.



AYODHYA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 28th January, the Monument Search Competition was organised at J B Academy for 11 schools. This event was integrated into INTACH's Foundation Day celebration. The proficient coordination of the event was overseen by Ms. Anuja Srivastava. The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Mr. Dharmendra Mishra,

Director, Material Heritage Division followed by Ms. Manjula Jhunjhunwala, Ayodhya convener, watering a plant symbolizing growth and sustainability. Mr. Mishra, provided valuable insights into lesser-known heritage sites in Ayodhya. Following the enlightening talk, students dispersed to their assigned classrooms to participate in the poster-making and write-up activities.



MAHOBA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The National poster competition was a huge success which witnessed participation by 189 students in total. It was held on 25th November, 2023. Saraswati Balika Inter College Principal, Shri Nigam ji graced the occasion. The event was also attended by Ms. Punita Tiwari, Principal, Gyansthali Public School, Abhishek Paliwal, Shivkumar Goswami, Sharad Tiwari and Leena Paliwal.



BIJAPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

'Lesser known Monuments' competition was held in association with BLDEAs DR P G Halakatti Research Centre on 21st January at DR P G Halakatti Research Centre. 65

students from 9 schools participated. M S Madbhavi Secretary DR P G Halakatti research centre Vijaypur inaugurated the function. While addressseing the students, he told that, Vijaypur has a number of historical monements but only few are popular. Dr Krishna Kolhar Kulkarni gave a talk about INTACH programmes. Electronic and print media persons reported in various news papers.

DHARWAD CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The Monument Search competition was held on 20th January at Government Arts Gallery. 84 students from 10 schools participated. Dr Basavaraj Kuri i/c Government Arts Gallery addressed the students and gave important information regarding art and poster making. Shri Halbhavi, member INTACH Dharwad Chapter and a connoisseur of art spoke about heritage and art. Convenor INTACH Dharwad Chapter, Col. Mohan Math explained about the competition INTACH publications were kept on display for the information of the participants, parents and teachers. At the conclusion of the event, participants, parents and teachers were taken for a tour of the Art Gallery.



MANGALORE CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The national competition was held on 24th February at Canara High School. 29 students from seven schools took part. The programme started with the address by Headmistress of the host school. Chapter convenor explained the details of the event. Competition commenced with 29 students from seven students. Event went on well and ended well in time with some refreshments.



CHANDRAPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 10th February 2024, 62 students participated in the Poster Drawing and Essay Writing Competition on the topic 'My Monument Search' which was held under the aegis of HECS. Shri Pravin Nikhare, Convener, Chandrapur Chapter explained the objectives of the competition. Shri A N Pullawar, Life Member of INTACH and erstwhile Principal of Hindi City Higher Secondary School, in his address, said that there are several monuments in the surroundings and narrated the glorious history and stressed that it is our responsibility to protect these monuments. Smt Ishwari Kannake, Shri Kiran Katrojwar, Shri Sudarshan Barapatre, and Shri Kartik Charde extended support for the success of the event. Vijay Kumar Dhande, Co-Convener proposed vote of thanks.



NASHIK CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 25th November, 60 students from eight schools participated in the yearly poster making competition organized by INTACH in collaboration with State Archeology and MET School of Architecture at the historic Sarkarwada of Nashik.

An interactive presentation was given by senior INTACH member Mr. Ramesh Kabra about the lesser-known heritage places in India. Children made interesting posters on heritage places of Nashik and surrounding and also from other regions of India. Four prizes were given away at the local level. Young INTACH co-convenor Anita Joshi, Young INTACH Coordinator Pallavi Pathak and members Ritu Sharma, Swarada Pol, Yogesh Kasarpatil, Samruddha Mogal and Mayur More presided over the event.



SOLAPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 2nd January, at Annappa Kadadi High School, 132 students from 15 schools participated in My Monument Search competition. Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar welcomed the expert, guests, students, teachers and parents gathered for the event. The students gathered at the Saptarishi hall of the school. Subject expert and Life member Nitin Anvekar, Head- Master Mr. Anil Patil and Mr. Vijay Kadadi were also present at the dais. The dignitaries were felicitated with potted plants. Smt. Sindhutai Kadadi, Trustee presided over the function. Mr. Nitin Anvekar addressed the students about the history of Solapur. He brought to their notice how names of certain chowks in the present city correspond to the gates- Bali Ves, KumbharVes, TuljapurVes, BijapurVes etc. of the erstwhile city walls. Co- Conveners Ar. Pushpanjali Katikar and Ar. Shveta Kothavale helped organize and conduct the event. The event was widely reported in the newspapers.



Paramparik Khel VaGani Workshop

INTACH Solapur Chapter conducted workshop on Traditional Games and Songs on December 12th, 2023. In all, 55 students and 11 teachers from 11 schools attended the workshop. The workshop was arranged at Mule Hall, Haribhai Deokaran Prashala. The workshop started with an introductory note by Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar on the traditional games, their importance to build fitness and a sense of belonging within the community. Mrs. Gargi talked about the uniqueness of these games, developed through the ages, played using household items with friends and family. The trainers were felicitated with potted plants.

Mrs. Gargi Kale, Mrs. Sumedha Bhuskute and their associates- Trupti Pande, Suman Pande and Archana Satalgavkar trained the students in traditional games. Mrs. Kale composed songs with relevant social and environmental messages for the workshop.

Traditional games are played on festive occasions. These were traditionally played by ladies during Shravan month of the Hindu calendar. Overtime, people invite troupes and ladies themselves are not actively involved in the games. Also, men do not take part in the games. To create awareness about the games and their positive effect on health, INTACH Solapur Chapter endeavored to introduce the games to students- both boys and girls with social and environmental awareness messages set to traditional beats instead of traditional songs with limited scope.

The participants were divided into 5 groups of 10-11 students named after the months of the Hindu calendar; each group was to collaborate with participants of other schools as one of the aims of these games is to develop community belonging. Mrs Kale led the training with instructions which were taught by the other trainers. Different types of Phugdi, Jhimma, Agota-Pagota, Dhanushya using pots, *suup*, rolling pins etc. were demonstrated. The energy, ingenuity and uniqueness of the games were to be seen and felt to be believed.

For the closing ceremony, the adjudged teams were felicitated. All participants were given certificates of participation. The experts were thanked for their time, effort and enthusiasm in conducting the workshop. Co- Conveners Ar. Shveta Kothavale and Ar. Pushpanjali Katikar, Volunteers Geetanjali Diddi and Anuja, teachers and the staff of Haribhai Devkaran Prashala helped make the workshop a success.



WAI PANCHGANI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The competition was held among 56 students from 7 Schools at Kalpataru Mangal Karyalay, Wai on 20th January. The participating schools were T. L. Joshi Vidyalaya, Vision English Medium, Kanya Shala, Ramesh Garware School, Maharshi Shinde Vidyamandir School, Dravid High School and Disha Public School Wai. The competition organized by INTACH concluded in a successful manner.



NAGPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

In an inspiring showcase of creativity and historical awareness, DPS Kamptee, and Aspire International School, recently contributed to the educational event 'My MONUMENT SEARCH'. 15 students from 3 schools participated. This initiative, masterfully guided by the school in-charge teachers and Dr. Madhura Rathod, Convenor of the INTACH Nagpur Chapter, was designed to deepen students' connection with and understanding of local historical monuments through the expressive mediums of poster making and essay writing. The entries showcased a broad spectrum of Nagpur's monumental heritage, from well-known marvels to lesser-known treasures, each accompanied by narratives as enlightening as they were engaging. Dr. Madhura Rathod and the guiding teachers from both schools, Mrs. Sucharita Chakrabarti and Mrs. Ramkumari played a pivotal role in mentoring the students, enriching their research with insightful feedback, and fostering an environment of enthusiastic inquiry and artistic freedom.



MUMBAI CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

On 9th February 2024, the 16th FilmIt India Festival, Mumbai was held at Khadi Gramodyog. 35 students and 12 teachers from 8 Schools attended. Distinguished guests, including Ms. Katyayani Agarwal, Ms. Anita Yewale, Mr. Sandeep Sethi, and Ms. Purnima Datt, Principal Director, HECS, INTACH graced the event. The Chief Guest was Mr. Shivendra Singh Dungarpur, founder Director of Film Heritage Foundation. Students also enthusiastically recounted their experiences with the FILMIT program, and on their filmmaking journey. The festival also showcased films created by Mumbai students as well as the overall best films.



GURGAON CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 6th February 2024, My Monument Search competition was held at GD Goenka Public School, Sec - 48. 88 students from 15 schools participated. The competition commenced with the lighting of lamp followed with a rendition of patriotic songs by the school choir and band. Participants and attendees joined in singing and humming along the songs resonating with the spirit of the nation. A mesmerizing classical dance performance by one of the students, enthralled the audience, showcasing the grace and beauty of Indian classical dance as the performer adorned in vibrant attire brought to life the essence of Indian culture through her captivating movements and expressions. Ms. Ruchi Rai, Gurugram Chapter explained the modalities and rules & regulations of the competition. Convener Ms. Tapasya Samal shared insights into the organization's mission and ongoing initiatives in heritage conservation. The School Principal, Ms. Anuradha Handa addressed the audience, highlighting the importance of cultural education in shaping well-rounded individuals. She expressed gratitude to INTACH Gurgaon Chapter for collaborating with the school. Chief Guest, Ms. Shikha Gupta, artist and Director of Kalagram, delivered an inspiring speech, emphasizing the significance of preserving and promoting India's cultural heritage. She also engaged the participants in an impromptu quiz about the heritage of Haryana.



HISAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was organized on 19th January at Vidya Devi Jindal School. 49 students from nine schools participated in the competition. Mrs. Rupal encouraged the children to explore their nearby towns and villages and list all the old

houses, buildings monuments etc. Schools were requested to hold inter school heritage club competition for the same.



YAMUNANAGAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The national poster and essay competition, My Monument Search was held on 27th December 2023 at Saraswati Public School. 102 students from 10 schools participated. An informative talk was given by Dr. Virender Dhillon, Associate Professor, Maharaja Agrasain College on the material remains of Yamunanagar district. The event was well covered by the local media.



CHANDIGARH AND AMBALA CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

The 16th FilmIt India Festival Chandigarh and Ambala was held at St Stephen's School 29th January 2024. 52 students and teachers from 6 schools of Chandigarh and 4 schools

of Ambala participated. INTACH Chandigarh Convenor Mr. V.K Kapoor, Ambala Chapter Convenor Col R.D. Singh, Ms. Nanki Kaur and Ms. Smriti Malhotra from HECS were also present at the festival. Chief guests Ms. Sumit Kaur, an esteemed architect, and Ms. Ashima Raizada, an artist, added grace to the occasion. The event included film screenings, with students showcasing their creative endeavors. In subsequent sessions, overall best films from the FILMIT India project 2023-24 were lauded, followed by inspiring speeches from the chief guests.



JAMMU CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH Jammu Chapter organized My Monument Search at K.C. Public School. 62 Students from 6 schools participated. Jammu chapter Convenor Mr. S.M Sahni and J & K Co-convenor Mr. C.M. Seth (IAS Retd) welcomed and gave a brief about the programme. Mr. Arvind Kotwal was coordinating the event. Chief Guest Mrs. Bharat Sambhayal, Director, North Zone Accountancy Institute appreciated the efforts of HECS and Jammu Chapter. Mr. Mishra Principal, K.C. Public school also spoke on the occasion.



JAMNAGAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The competition was held on 28th December 2023 at Summair Sports Club. 89 students participated on the competition. The event was attended by Imran Maketi, Principal Taheri English Medium School and Janab Moiz Electricwala, Head of the Institutional Member School. They interacted with the students and came up with ideas to protect tangible heritage.



VADODARA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 12th January, My Monument Search competition was held at Nalanda International School, Mahapura. 35 students from 3 schools participated. Vidya Mishra, Principal, Middle wing, Nalanda International School welcomed everyone. A talk & presentation was given by INTACH Vadodara Convener Sanjeev Joshi on Monuments as 'Markers' in Time & History & in Evolution of Civilizations/ Cities / Communities/ People. Post his talk, the students were given time to make their posters and write ups followed by refreshments.



FilmIt India Festival

On 7th February 2024, 100 students and teachers from 9 schools attended the Vadodara FilmIt India Festival held at Navrachana International School, CBSE. Mr. Sanjeev Joshi (Convenor INTACH Vadodara Chapter), Ms. Tarisha Desai (Co-Convenor INTACH Vadodara Chapter), Ms. Christina Shangne (Sr. Programme Coordinator, HECS INTACH), Ms. Nanki Kaur (programme Coordinator, HECS INTACH), and Mr. Theophane D'Souza (Principal, NISV) also graced the occasion. The Chief Guest was Dr. Arjun Singh Mehta, Founder-Managing Director of Gujarat Life Sciences (P.) Ltd (GLS). The event featured students sharing about their learning experiences from the films, screening of the Best Films of the city and the Overall best films. Each school was presented with certificates and books.



NAVSARI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was held on 15th February at Shri V.V. Purna Pradesh Vidyalaya. 61 students from five schools participated. The school principal of Shri V.V. Purna Pradesh Vidyalaya" School, Dr. Uday Naik made a beautiful speech on the importance of local heritage and why the locals should know their history and their roots. Under the able guidance of Navsari's INTACH Convenor Advocate Sudhir Sule, the programme was conducted by Co-convenor Mr. Ruzbeh Umrigar, who concluded the event with a promise of organising free heritage walks in Navsari for the Navsari schools.



PORBANDAR CHAPTER

Moti Bharat Workshop II

The INTACH Chapter of Porbandar had conducted a workshop on Moti Bharat on 28.07.2023 as part of "Awareness on endangered crafts of the region" initiative by HECS

Delhi. The Chapter had received numerous requests to conduct the workshop again for those who missed it due to limitation on entrees.

In the second round of workshops conducted between 4th – 27th December, 50 girl students from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV, Khapat) were the participants. These girls either come from economically weaker families or are orphans who avail the boarding facility of the school. The Chapter hired two crafts persons to conduct the workshop. They were assisted by a team member and with this arrangement; a 16 session workshop to be conducted over a period of 1 month was designed.

The students' response was overwhelming. These were children from Grade 5-8. They could not get enough of the learning and would request the teachers to stay longer. Girls performed extremely well and a couple of girls were outstanding with the quality of work they produced.

The Porbandar Chapter proposes to introduce this craft as a part of school curriculum which not only highlights this heritage craft but also helps in the overall development of a child. The Chapter also proposes to hold such workshops at regular intervals and further to promote those students who excel in it.



RAJKOT CHAPTER

Hand Block Printing Craft

As a step ahead in preserving and promoting traditional arts & crafts; INTACH Rajkot Chapter engaged 120 students from Jay International School & Genius English Medium School in learning Hand Block Printing Technique on 26th February 2024. Vandita Bhatt, PhD Scholar and Expert in Textile Printing was the eminent resource person of the day. She informed the students about the printing technique and history of hand block printing. This technique of printing has been practiced in various places for a long but has faced various challenges of Industrialization, technological advances, changing consumer preferences as well as lack of awareness and education in today's time.

Block printing was once a thriving practice in Jetpur; a small town in the Rajkot District of Gujarat. Since independence, screen printing presses were set up in Jetpur, and the traditional block printing technique was replaced by machines. Today, the printing industry is facing various challenges and losing its existence in Jetpur.

This workshop was the first of its kind and the chapter plans to have many such workshops in future. Students were able to learn about the techniques of traditional block print, natural pigments and and they tried their hands on making different designs on the Jholas. INTACH Rajkot Members; Riddhi (Convener), Divyesh (Co-convenor), Mitesh, Hemangi, Nisarg, Akshesh, Charmy, Aditya, Meet, Hemang, and Azad successfully contributed in conducting this workshop. The overall coordination of the event was done by teacher from Genius School Mrs. Bhakti Ganatra and Mr. Mahipalsinh Rana from Jay International School.





AHMEDABAD CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

On 6th February 2024, 47 students and teachers from 7 Schools took part in the the 16th FilmIt India Festival in Ahmedabad held at Shreyas Foundation. Mr. Pavan Bakeri, former Convenor of INTACH Ahmedabad Chapter, Ms. Utpala Desai, Convenor of INTACH Ahmedabad Chapter, Ms. Pratiba Ben, Principal of Shreyas Foundation, Ms. Nanki Kaur and Ms. Christina Shangne from HECS INTACH were also present at the festival. Distinguished guests included Mr. Manuel M DeLas Hera (an accomplished architect from ETSAM, Madrid, Spain), Ms. Sanskruti Panchal (Co-Founder of LxS and Founder of Drsyata Consultancy), and Ms. Fanny Servolle (French Interior designer). The festival featured student's presentations on film-making experiences, screening and of the best films from the city and the overall FILMIT India project 2023-2024. The event concluded with the distribution of award certificates and books to all participating schools.



KANGRA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The national poster making competition was held in Dharamshala on 4th January, 2024 at Govt. Boys Sr. Sec. School, Dharamshala. 75 students from 10 schools participated. Dr. Janmajay Singh Guleria was invited as the speaker and he addressed the students on the built heritage of Kangra. Convenor, Mr. LN Aggarwal apprised the students about INTACH activities and honoured the host principal by presenting a framed photograph of Bhadrakali Temple which was restored by the Kangra Chapter.



MANDI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search was held on 17th December 2023 at Bijai Govt. Sr. Sec. School. 114 students from 13 schools participated. Mr. Rajesh Kumar, a well known artist of Himachal Pradesh who has helped in reviving Pahadi miniature paintings was invited as the Chief Guest. He blessed the students and asked them to continue to make efforts

for preserving heritage. Mr. Naresh Malhotra, convenor said that INTACH is particularly focusing on organizing programmes in the region to create awareness among students.



CALCUTTA REGIONAL CHAPTER

My Monument Search

The Monument Search competition was held on 20th December at the Calcutta Regional Chapter Office. 25 students from five schools took part. The programme started with the inauguration speech by Mr. Akhil Sarkar, State Convenor, West Bengal and Ms. Kanchana Mukhopadhyay, Co-convenor, INTACH Calcutta regional chapter.



FilmIt India Festival

On 31st January 2024, 50 students and teachers from 14 schools of Kolkata took part in the FilmIt India Festival at Birla High School. The Chief Guest for the event was Mr. Ashoke Vishwanathan, renowned national award winning film director. Mr. GM Kapur, Convenor, Calcutta Chapter, Ms. Kanchana Mukhopadhyay, Co-convenor, Calcutta Chapter and Mr. Abhishek Das, HECS also graced the event. The festival also featured

screening of the films of the city, the Overall Best Films and students sharing their film making experience.



SANTINIKETAN CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH Santiniketan Chapter organised "My Monument Search", in two phases. First part held at Labhpur Satyanarayan Siksha Niketan. Students from five schools participated there. The Headmistress, teachers and employees heartily supported the event. In second phase, students of Patha Bhavana, Visva Bharati participated.



KASHMIR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH Kashmir Chapter organized a one-day poster competition on the theme of 'My Monument Search' for school children on 21st November 2023 at Green Valley Educational Institute. About 64 students from 4 schools took part in the competition. Eminent heritage expert, Mr. M Saleem Beg, Convener of INTACH J&K Chapter, was invited to address the students, emphasizing the significance of preserving and

understanding Kashmir's rich built heritage. Mr. Altaf Hussain, Convener, INTACH, Kashmir Chapter highlighted the importance of such events to create awareness among children about our heritage. The event successfully raised awareness among students about the importance of heritage conservation and instilled a sense of responsibility towards preserving the cultural legacy of Kashmir.



NAGALAND CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH Nagaland Chapter held the national poster and essay competition for schools on the theme-“My Monument Search” on 6th March at Don Bosco Institute of Development and Learning (DBIDL), Riverbelt Colony, Dimapur. 72 students from 9 schools took part in the competition. Invitations had been sent out to 15 schools but the schools following the CBSE stream were unable to participate due to the board exams. In a first, the Chapter allowed 10 students from Amazing School to attend as “observers” to the request of the Teacher in Charge to get an understanding of the competition. The institution was also participating for the first time. The State Convener Sentila T. Yanger welcomed all the schools and informed the competitors on the rules and procedures and to caption their entry with a slogan. A power point on India’s rich architectural heritage, forts, palaces and places of worship dating from antiquity and the protection, conservation and restoration of built heritage for future generation was presented by her. INTACH Nagaland Chapter would like to thank all the school principals, teachers and students for the co-operation, support and participation in the national competition.



JAMSHEDPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 19th December 2023, at the Kalamandir Premises, 20 Students from five Schools participated in the national poster and essay competition, My Monument Search. Ms. Devla Murmu, a member of INTACH told about what is heritage and also gave information about its conservation. Schools were advised to open Heritage Club in their schools so that heritage related information can be provided to the students in a more accurate and effective manner.

MAHABUBNAGAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 8th February, 2024, across Mandals of Mahabubnagar 16 Mandals, 378 students from 70 schools participated in My Monument Search competition. Mr. Venkat Swamy, Mr. Chakravarthy, Ms. Sunitha Ms. Snigdha and Ms. Navyasri, judged the posters and declared the Mandal winners.

Smt. Chandrakala, Smt. Swati, Mr. Ashok, Mr. Raja Reddy, Mr. M. Satyam, Mr. GVR Reddy and Mr. T Sridhar volunteered to conduct the event. Sarvasri Dr. T. Nagender Swamy, V.S.R.K. Prasad, T.K.S. Sarma, P. Ramesh Chander conducted the competition and a special word of appreciation to Shri.P. Srinivas Rao, Dr. T.Nagender Swamy, VSRK Prasad (2 Mandals each) and Shri.Jaipal Saluke (1 Mandal) who readily came forward to contribute the prize money.

HYDERABAD CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

On 13th February 2024, 88 students and teachers from 15 schools attended the FilmIt Festival at Gitanjali Devashray, Secunderabad. Ms. Sujatha Ashwin, Teacher Coordinator, Gitanjali Devashray welcomed all the schools and INTACH officials. Mrs. Kasturi Chatterjee, Principal, Mrs. Anjali Sharma, Head Mistress, Gitanjali Devashray, Ms. Anuradha Reddy, Convenor, Hyderabad Chapter and Mr. Abhishek Das, HECS,

INTACH were also present. The Chief Guest was Mr. Pranav Pingle Reddy, Award-winning Producer and Director. Few students also shared their experiences. Hyderabad schools' films and the overall films selection were also screened.



COIMBATORE CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 24th February 2024, the 'My Monument Search' competition was organized at Prakriya International School, Rukmani Nagar, Ramanathapuram. 86 students from 13 schools participated. A Special address was given by Coimbatore Historian CR Illangovan on the importance of heritage to children. The event was successful.



MADURAI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search was organized on 12th February 2024, Jain Vidyalaya School, 137 students from 13 schools participated. The INTACH Madurai Convenor Vani C Chenguttuwan and Co-Convenor Shanthi invited the Guest Speaker Mr. Rathina Baskar, the renowned cartographer and mural recreator to interact with the students. The

Education Committee members Hema Arun, Pr. Nalini, Nithan Chandrasekaran organised the event successfully.



SALEM CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH Salem chapter organized national poster and essay competition on 13th February 2024. 63 students from nine schools participated. Salem Co-convenor, Mr. S Sharavanan gave an introductory talk about the importance of heritage and heritage sites in Salem. It was observed that the students did really well according to their understanding. The event was covered by and telecast by Doordarshan as well as All India Radio.

THANJAVUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

Little Scholars Matric Hr. Sec. School was the venue for My Monument Search competition. It was organized on 1st February. 200 Students from six schools took part. Shri S. Babaji Rajah Bhonsle, Chapter Convenor presided over the competition. Rtn. Er.N.T.Balasundaram, Former State Secretary, Federation of All Civil Engineers Association of Tamil Nadu and Pondicherry was the speaker of the programme. Dr. A.V. Natanasigamani, Correspondent, Little Scholars Matric Hr. Sec. School gave the welcome address.



KODAIKANAL CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search was organized at Zion Esther Memorial Hall. 104 students from nine schools participated. The students had come prepared to draw their local unusual, unheard of monument for the national competition. There was an interactive talk with Ecologist and wildlife biologist, Kamini Gopal on Climate change. She pointedly explained how climate change factors in the environment could harm monuments. She also handed over a book with activities on Climate change to each school. Members present were Zarreen Babu, Banu Hameed and Sunayana Choudhry.



TAMIL NADU STATE CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

The Chennai FilmIt India Film Festival was held at KSN Secondary School, Thiruvannamipur on 12th February 2024. 70 students and teachers from 11 schools attended. Ms. Sharmila Ganesan, Co-convenor, INTACH Tamil Nadu State Chapter, Ms. Prabha, Vice Principal, KSN Sec. School and Mr. Abhishek Das, INTACH were also present at the festival. The Chief Guest for the event was Ms. Usha Kris, renowned

photographer and INTACH member. The event featured student's experiences of film making and screening of the Chennai films and the Overall best films were screened. The schools were also awarded certificates and books.



CALICUT CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 27th February 2024, My Monument Search competition was organized at Sri Gujarati Vidyalaya. 50 students from nine schools participated. Vimala Jayaraj, Principal, Sri Gujarati Vidyalaya welcomed the participants. Guest speaker Rajeesh Raghavan, a heritage enthusiast & walker, interacted with the children and motivated them.

KASARGOD CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH Kasargod Chapter has organized the poster competition in two phases, one on 24th January 2024 and the other on 18th February 2024 at Malom, Kasaba and G.V.H.S.S Kandankali for the students from three different schools to make them aware of the Historical Monuments of India. Around 59 students participated in the competition.

THRISSUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was organized on 10th February 2024 at CMS School. 26 students from eight schools participated. Shri Simon V.K (Author, Historian and Social Workers) delivered a keynote speech on 'Heritage importance in Cities'. INTACH Thrissur Chapter Convenor Vinod Kumar MM chaired the programme and Executive Members Dr. P.S Easa, Co-ordinator Ar. Athira attended the function.



TRIVANDRUM CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 17th February at Sai Trivandrum Golf Club, My Monument Search competition was held. 50 students from 10 schools took part in it. Reghuchandran Nair, Secretary, Trivandrum Golf Club was the Guest of Honour. There was excellent co-operation from students, teachers and parents in making the event success.

KOCHI CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

The FilmIt Festival at Kochi was held at The Kerala Museum on 14th February 2024. 62 students and teachers from 11 schools attended. Mr. Biley Menon, Co-convenor, Kochi Chapter, Mr. K J Sohan, Convenor, Kerala State Chapter, Ms. Aditi Nayar, Director, Kerala Museum and Mr. Abhishek Das, HECS, INTACH were also part of the programme. The Chief Guest for the event was Ms. Sajitha Rasheed, Founder and Chief Mentor of Mind Mojo. The festival also featured student's experiences and screening of some of the best films from Kochi and the Overall best films from across the FilmItschools. Certificates, books and prizes were also distributed at the end of the festival.



ANANTAPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

This programme was organised with the cooperation of department of Archaeology and Museums department and also District Tourism department of Anantapur by the INTACH Anantapur chapter on 24th November 2023. 103 students took part. Lanka Venkata Ramana, renowned artist attended as Chief Guest. District tourism officer and Assistant Director Archaeology & Museums graced the event. Anantapur chapter members attended the programme. Lanka Venkatraman and District Tourism officer G.Nageswara Reddy were felicitated by the INTACH Anantapur district chapter. The programme concluded with the National anthem.



EAST GODAVARI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH East Godavari Convenor organized My Monument Search competition on 17th December 2023 at Sriramakrishna School. Mr. Naga Narsimha Rao, Commissioner, Kakinada Municipal Corporation and Mr. M.S. Saikumar, Superintendant Engineer, Department of Water Resources were invited as the Chief Guests.

GUNTUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH Guntur Chapter organized Poster making competition for classes 7-9th. 3rd February 2024 Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan. 87 students from nine schools participated. Students were provided Lunch at the venue.

KADAPA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search was organized on 9th February 2024 at Govt. College for Men. 105 students from 11 schools participated. INTACH Kadapa Convenor K.Chinnapa Reddy and Co-Convenor P.V.Subba Reddy invited Camp Chairman Bogala Konda Reddy and Co-Chairman Raghavendra Varma for the competition.



VISAKHAPATNAM CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 10th February 2024, My Monument Search competition was organised at Hawa Mahal. 120 students from 15 schools took part in it. INTACH Visakhapatnam Convenor Dr D Rajasekhar Reddy, Co- Convenor Dr B Surendra Kumar, Programme Coordinator Sandhya Godey, senior members Sri Edward Paul, Smt Mayank Kumari Deo, Smt Asha Jain, Smt Jayashree Hattangadi, Sri Mahesh Rao, Ravikumar and others ensured the smooth conduct of the event.



SRIKAKULAM CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 15th February 2024, My Monument Search was held at New Central School - Srikakulam and Tapaswi School - Palasa in Srikakulam. 101 students participated in total. Sri.P. Jagan Mohan Rao-Vice-Chairperson-Andhra Pradesh Red Cross Society; Sri. KVJ Radha Prasad - Member INTACH; Sri. N. Mohan-Co-Convenor; Sri.P. Srikanth Principal - NCS and Sri.N. Sanyasi Rao Rao- Convenor participated in the Programme. Sri.P. Jagan Mohan Rao addressed the children by explaining the importance of monuments in the District. Sri. N. Sanyasi Rao Rao addressed the children and honoured the school teachers and also guests by facilitating the programme.



AJMER CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was held on 25th February 2024 at H.K.H. School. 85 students from 15 schools participated. Convenor Mr. Rajesh Garg and Co-convenor Umesh Chaurasiya spoke about the heritage of India.

Mr. Somratan Acharya coordinated the programme. Other INTACH members were also presented at the venue.



ALWAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 8th February 2024 at Shri Agarwal Dharamshala, My Monument Search competition was organised. 100 students from 10 schools participated. Chief Guest of the programme was Mr. Amit Goyal, President Mr. Aggarwal Mahasabha Alwar, special guest Mrs. Pushpa Yadav, and Mr. Chandrashekhar, Artist. Mr. Amit Goyal praised the paintings and spoke about conservation of heritage. INTACH member Rishabh Jain thanked everyone.



BEAWAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH's national poster competition, My Monument Search was organized on 10th February 2024 at Kanya P.G. University. 200 students from 22 schools took part in it. Mr. Ramprasad Kumawat, Beawar Convenor gave instructions to the participating students.

Students used pencils, sketch pens and water colours to illustrate various historical buildings of the region. Dr. M.L. Sharma, Dr. Mukesh Maurya and Mr. Ramesh Sharma were invited as Chief Guests for the programme.



BHILWARA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 2nd February 2024 at Rajendra Marg Vidyalaya, My Monument Search was held. 101 students from 10 schools participated. Mr. Babulal Jajoo, Bhilwara Convenor spoke about preservation of ancient heritage and culture. INTACH members were present at the event.



JODHPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 30th January 2024 at Sursagar Mahal, INTACH HECS's Monument Search competition was organised. 53 students from seven schools participated. Students enthusiastically participated in the competition and made posters on historical buildings of Jodhpur. Chief Guest Mr. Sailesh Mathur from Mehrangarh Museum Trust gave a speech on

importance of conservation of heritage. Special guest Mr. Pukhraj Kumawat also spoke on awareness building.



SAWAI MADHOPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 7th February 2024 at Maan Town Sr. Sec. School, My Monument Search competition was organised. 100 students from 10 schools participated. Students from government and private schools participated in the competition. Sawai Madhopur Convenor Mr. Padam Khatri, Co-convenor Mr. Hanuman Sharma and other INTACH members were present.

UDAIPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 7th February 2024 at Maharana Mewar Public School My Monument Search was organised. 95 students from 17 schools participated. Students sketched the monuments which represents their talent and their bent of mind to understand their psychology. During the competition hours the in-charge teachers and the Convenor, Co-convenor, Ms Priyanka Vaishnava and Puja were present and made the programme a great success.



Bhil Tribal Art

Under the national level drive of the Heritage Education and Communication Division INTACH The Udaipur Chapter conducted a “Workshop On Endangered Art and Craft” on 13th January, 2024 on “Tribal Art of the Southeast Rajasthan” in which 55 students of 13 schools participated. The workshop was organised at St. Anthony Higher Secondary School, Govardhan Vilas campus, Udaipur. In beginning Convener Lalit Pandey addressed the students and explained them the purpose of learning tribal art.

The invited expert of Bhil Tribal art was Dr Yashpal Baranda was the eminent resource person of the day. He is the recipient of highly commended Certificate Award by Indian Academy of Fine Art. In the beginning of the workshop he delivered a lecture through audio-visual aids about the several aspects of Tribal Art and emphasized on its salient features. He elaborated the depth of endangered Bhil Tribal art in one of the most interesting ways with the help of his handmade paintings. He himself interacted with the students and explained to them each minute detail of the paintings made by them.

Thereafter, he himself drawn the pictures and later he invited students to perform on board. These were very pleasant moments when a good number of students willingly participated.

After this long duration workshop, the students draw themselves the pictures of several aspects with colors. Different art forms such as Gond art Manjusha art Madhubani, Thooli art and Tikuli art Warli, Kalamkari Alpana etc. The workshop was attended by Mr Gaurav Singhvi, the co- convener of NTACH Udaipur chapter and the Principal, Mr William D'Souza gave the vote of thanks. The Moto of the workshop was to make the participating students known to the endangered Bheel art to be the ambassadors of this art form to their respective schools for making it spread to a larger extent.

During the workshop the Principal of School, concerning teachers, and the administrative staff was also there to help etc.

The workshop was attended by MrGauravSinghvi, the co-convener of INTACH Udaipur chapter and the Principal; Mr William D'Souza gave the vote of thanks. The Moto of the workshop was to make the participating students known to the endangered Bheel art to be the ambassadors of this art form to their respective schools for making it spread to a larger extent.





JHALAWAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search National poster and essay competition was organized on 20th January 2024 at Immanuel Sr. Sec. School. 68 students from seven schools participated. Convenor Mr. Rajyapal Sharma and Co-Convenor jointly conducted the competition. Dr. Sajjan Poswal and Dr. Madhusudan Acharya were invited as Chief Guest for the event.



NAGAUER CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search was held on 30th January 2024 at Danial Mayo Sr. Sec. School. 93 students from seven schools took part. Students were briefed about INTACH by Mr. Himmat Singh Rathore, Convenor. Chief Guest Mr. Prem Singh Bugasara spoke about importance of art and culture in India. Refreshment boxes were provided to participants.



KARAULI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search national poster and essay competition for school students was held from 15th-17th February 2024 at various schools. 12 schools took part in total. This competition was conducted for the students of special deaf and dumb school which was the highlight of the programme. Chapter Convenor HH Krishnachandra Pal Singh and Co- convenor Mr. Rao Shivrupal gave brief to students about the competition.



BARMER CHAPTER

Rope Making, Applique making, Clay Jewellery making and Mukka Work

INTACH Barmer chapter in collaboration with HECS organised an endangered craft workshop at a regional school on 8th December 2023. In attendance were the principal of the school, Ms Kalaisha Kanwar Bhati, Mr OP Joshi, Chapter Convenor, and Shri Sahiram Bishnoi, the esteemed chief guest of the workshop along with the artisans (resource persons) Each artisan taught the students a unique art form.

The workshop was attended by 70 students, 10 students from Multanmal Bhik Chand Chajer Senior secondary school, Gandhi chowk and 50 students from Rajkiye Girls Senior Secondary School, Mal Godam Road. The students were divided into 4 groups and each

group was taught a different craft such as making ropes and belts using sheep wool and camel hair, clay jewellery making, appliqué and mukka work. Different designs and techniques were showcased to the students and they enjoyed the entire process of working on it tremendously. At the end of the workshop, all their creations were displayed and exhibited proudly to showcase their skill sets.

The Chief Guest Mr Bishnoi encouraged the students and people present to continue working on these endangered crafts so as to keep them from vanishing. He also applauded the work done by INTACH in the country and region and urged the regional chapter to continue organising more such workshops in the future. Ms Bhati, Principal shared her happiness overseeing the creations of the students and how programmes such as these encourage the students to hone their creative flair and praised the chapter and INTACH for their efforts. Lastly, Mr OP Joshi thanked everybody for their attendance and elaborated on the efforts and work done by INTACH in the area of restoration and preservation of built structures and material heritage. He stated that this is one of the many workshops that is conducted in the region and future workshops shall include a larger audience and even teachers. The workshop concluded with the students speaking about their experiences doing the crafts, they shared how these crafts have evolved from simply being homely/household practices to now being practiced in cities. They elaborated on continuing the tradition of working on these crafts as these are our rich cultural heritage, and showcased great fervour to continue their journey on honing the skills they have learned at the workshop.



JAIPUR CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

The 16th FilmIt India Festival in Jaipur was held at The Palace School on 6th February 2024. 95 students and teachers from 15 schools attended. Mrs. Urvashi Warman, Principal of The Palace School, Ms. Swati Deora and Ms. Vaishnavi Singh from HECS INTACH attended the festival. The Chief Guest for the festival was Dr. Rima Hooja, Director at the MSMS II Museum City Palace Jaipur, and Ms. Rama Datt, Executive Trustee, MSMS II Museum City Palace Jaipur. The event showcased the best films from Jaipur city and some overall best films from across the country, leaving the audience in awe. Through eloquent speeches and poetry, students shared their joy of filmmaking and FilmIt experiences. The students received certificates and books.



KATNI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

This competition was conducted in three phases. First phase was conducted on 16th November 2023 at Jagriti Park. 74 students from eight schools participated in total. The first phase was on 'memorial of Katni', the second phase was on 'Heritage of India' and the third phase was on the spot drawing at Tilak Rashtriya School. Best entries were awarded by the Katni Chapter.

BALANGIR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 21st January 2024, 39 students from six schools took part in My Monument Search competition. Convener Dr. Siba Prasad Nanda gave certificates and trophies to three best entries of KV-2 Adrijja Mishra, Ishika Bali and Reshma Meher of SSVM.



BALASORE CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 28th January 2024, My Monument Search was at Balasore Art & Crafts College. 62 students from 10 schools took part. The event was presided by Convenor Mr. Uday Ranjan Das. Dr. Kanika Gupta, Art Historian and Dr. Akash Sahoo, HOD- History addressed the participants during the event.



BURHANPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was held on 28th January 2024 at Hotel Amber and Holiday Resorts. 89 students from 10 schools took part. Convenor, Co-convenor and other INTACH members from Burhanpur were present at the event. S.P Mr. Devendra Patidar and S.I. Vipul Meshram were the Chief guests for the programme.



DATIA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 18th February 2024, 100 students from 12 schools participated in Monument Search competition. The competition was conducted at Veer Hanuman Mandir which was restored by INTACH. Chief guests Dr. Ranjana Bundela, Dr. A.M. Saxena, Mr. Jagat Sharma and Mr. Ravi Thakur appreciated the efforts of Intach and chapters.



DHAR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was held on 21st January at School of Excellence, Dhar. 40 students from six schools participated. Mrs. Sanskriti Pawar spoke on INTACH's effort to restore and revive Indian heritage. Well known artists Mr. Pranaya Sharma and Mr. Harihardat Shukla were impressed by the paintings of students. Trophies were presented to three best entries.



MORENA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

INTACH HECS's national competition My Monument Search was held on 3rd February at Ramprasad Bismil Museum on 3rd February. 72 students from six schools took part in it. Convenor Mr. Ashok Sharma gave detailed instructions to the participating students. During the event INTACH members, school teachers and other coordinating members were present.



DARBHANGA CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search poster making competition was held for 100 students from 10 schools on 12th January. Ramashrey Baleshwar University was the venue. Programme started with lighting of lamp by the Chief Guest Dr. Navin Kumar Agarwal and the Convenor. Dr. Pratibha Patel coordinated the programme with Dr. Sunil Kumar.

BHAGALPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search competition was held at St. Paul's School on 22nd February 2024. 80 students from six schools took part in it. Programme was organized as per the guidelines by Convenor Mr. K.D. Prabhat and Co-convenor Mr. Wibhu Kumar Roy of Bhagalpur. Students who performed well were presented with prizes.

GAYA CHAPTER

Soft Wood Sculpting Workshop

INTACH Gaya Chapter in association with DAV School Cantt. Area, Gaya organized an Endangered Craft Workshop on 15 February 24 at DAV School Cantt. Area, Gaya. Mr. Subodh Ravidas, renowned sculptor was the eminent resource person of the day. He gave a demonstration of wood sculpting to the students of class 7-9. In the beginning the Principal of the school highlighted the importance and significance of heritage crafts for the society and our culture. Prof. Manish Sinha, the Convener of Intach Gaya Chapter said that Gaya region has a very rich legacy of heritage crafts like bamboo craft, stone sculpting, wood sculpting, etc. Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sinha, the Co Convener of Gaya chapter threw light on the various heritage crafts of Gaya and the importance of their conservation and preservation. A total of seventy students participated in the event. The sculptor, Subodh Ravidas demonstrated before the students the technique and intricacies of wood sculpting. He made a statue of a sleeping Buddha. The students also tried their hands on wood sculpting, which was a most enjoyable and enriching time for them. Some craft entries were selected as the best ones. Dr Sachin Kumar Mandilwar was the anchor

of the event. All the participants were awarded certificates.





SARANGARH CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 12th January 2024, Sages Saraipalli organized My Monument Search competition for 195 students of 17 schools. Convenor Mr. Yashwant Kumar Choudhary organized the competition. Students made posters on various temples and ancient monuments of the region. State Convenor Mr. Arvind Mishra, Mr. Rajendra Chandak and other INTACH members were present.

RAIPUR CHAPTER

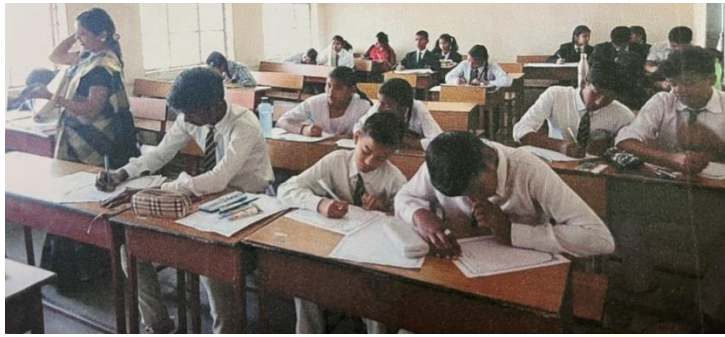
My Monument Search

Gurukul Complex, Kalibadi was the venue for My Monument Search Competition which was held on 18th January. 103 students from 14 schools took part in it. Mr. Rajendra Chandak, Raipur Convenor conducted National painting and essay competition.

DURG BHILAI CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 9th February 2024, at Swami Swaroopanand Mahavidyalaya, 36 students from five schools took part in the Monument Search competition. Convenor Dr. Hansa Shukla gave instructions to the students about the competition. Chief Guest was Mr. Virendra Satpati and Dr. Jyoti Dharkar. They appreciated the efforts of INTACH and the team for providing students such opportunity.



BILASPUR CHAPTER

My Monument Search

My Monument Search poster making competition was held on 4th January 2024 at Deokinandan Girls Hr Sec. School. 89 students from 13 schools participate. Schools participated enthusiastically in My Monument Search Competition. Programme was organized by Bilaspur Convenor Mrs. Manju Mitra.

MAHASAMUND CHAPTER

My Monument Search

On 27th January 2024, at Saraswati Shishu Mandir, 43 students of six schools took part in My Monument Search competition. The competition was successfully organized by the Convenor and support of other INTACH members. Chief Guest, popular Gazal singer Mr. Ashok Sharma encouraged the students to work in the field of art. Ms. Rajshree Thakur, Principal, Saraswati Shishu Mandir also interacted with students.

DELHI

The Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) of INTACH in collaboration with India International Centre, IIC, New Delhi, organised the 16th FilmIt India Festival at the India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi 1st February 2024. 155 students and teachers from 30 schools of Delhi attended. The Chief Guests for the event were Ms. Rintu Thomas (an eminent film maker) and Guests of Honour were Ms. Himanshi Saini (film maker and video producer), Ms. Parul Munjal (head of INTACH Heritage Academy) and Ms. Bhadra Sinha (senior journalist and classical dancer). The festival featured screening of the best city film and the Overall Best Films from different participating cities. The students shared the joys of filming and their FilmIt experience.

GOA STATE CHAPTER

FilmIt India Festival

Sharada Mandir School hosted the 16th FilmIt India Festival on 8th February 2024. 65 teachers and students from 11 schools attended. Dignitaries who graced the occasion were Ms. Fatima Da Silva Gracias, Convenor Goa Chapter, Ms. Sharmila Umesh, Principal Sharada Mandir School and Ms. Purnima Datt, Principal Director, INTACH HECS. The Chief Guest for the festival was Mr. Srinivas Mangipudi. The event included students sharing their diverse experiences in exploring the art of filmmaking, followed by the screening of the best films from Goa and the overall best films from across India. Each participating school received awards and certificates.



HERITAGE CRAFT AND COMMUNITY DIVISION (HCCD) ACTIVITIES

HIMROO TEXTILE REVIVAL PROJECT

In collaboration with INTACH Aurangabad Chapter – Supported by SIDBI

Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), a national membership organization of India is dedicated to the conservation and protection of India's natural, cultural and living heritage. It has a network of over 210 chapters across the country. One of the primary objectives of INTACH, as stated in its Memorandum of Association is to protect and preserve India's living craft heritage by undertaking necessary actions and measures.

Heritage Crafts and Community Division (HCCD) has been actively striving to support and strengthen languishing craft traditions across India for the last two decades. The division with its holistic approach majorly includes, (1) providing communities with skill-enhancement and capacity-building workshops, (2) design innovation and infrastructural support, and (3) market linkages, to help communities sustain their traditional craft practices.

In continuation of these efforts, HCCD in the year 2020 started working with the only three remaining Himroo weavers of Aurangabad, to preserve the craft with its unique cultural significance and heritage associated with it.

Himroo was a luxurious handwoven fabric made of silk and cotton such that the two sides of the fabric had a different color. It was brought to Aurangabad in the reign of Mohammad bin Tughlaq when he shifted his capital from Delhi to Daulatabad (Aurangabad). The word originated from the Persian word Hum-ruh which means 'similar'.

Himroo was the uniquely “Deccani” interpretation of the Persian “kinkhwab” fabric. It was borne out of the interaction of the Persian weavers with the local weavers of Paithan. Himroo designs are traditionally ornate with paisleys, marigolds, vines and fruits being popular motifs

SIDBI is the funding partner for the Himroo Training Initiative.



Figure 1: Traditional Himroo pattern (1)



Figure 2: Traditional Himroo pattern (2)

THE NEED FOR REVIVAL:

Himroo is intrinsically linked to the glorious history of Aurangabad. It's one of the many jewels in Aurangabad's history. However, in the late 1930s, Himroo weavers suffered greatly due to the advent of cheap mill-made fabrics from Britain. So, sometime before independence, a group of enterprising Himroo weavers got together and created a fabric that was machine-made but incorporated the basic motifs of Himroo. As a result, much of the original beauty and grace of the product was lost.

While the "power loom Himroo" continues to thrive today, there is no trace to be found of the original product that would have a high demand in the luxury market (Similar to pashmina).

Gradually in decline, it appears to have died out completely in the last 10 years as the remaining weavers are few and mainly weaving for display purposes at popular tourist sites. Revival of this art can provide livelihoods to the poor weavers, set up a market, and make beautiful products available to the people. It keeps alive the tradition and handloom skills native to Aurangabad.

Heritage Crafts and Community Division (HCCD) identified the only three surviving traditional Himroo weavers of Aurangabad and worked with them to revive the languishing craft form. As part of INTACH's capacity-building program, Training 20-25 artisans involved in traditional Himroo weaving techniques. This initiative will not only enable them with skills to earn a dignified livelihood and financial independence but will also go a long way in continuing the legacy of the heritage craft of Himroo Weaving.

As part of INTACH's infrastructural support, one traditional loom was set up, in order to create rich fabric. The silk component was increased to a 75:25 ratio which was earlier a 50:50 silk and cotton ratio. With INTACH's support and design interventions, for the first time after, in the last two decades, pure silk has been woven by the Himroo weavers in Aurangabad. Two weavers have been trained in using 3-ply silk in the base shuttle along with the design shuttle. Heritage Crafts and Community Division (HCCD),

INTACH reintroduced the use of Silk yarn in the weave and weavers are being trained in this.



Figure 3: Introduction of Silk yarn in weaving by INTACH - HCCD

Community mobilization is the process of engaging and involving members of a community to collectively address social issues and achieve shared goals. One effective way to kick-start community mobilization is through the use of newspaper advertisements, which can help raise awareness and attract participants to training programs and initiatives. In June, a newspaper advertisement was created to promote a Himroo training program aimed at empowering and equipping community members with or without the skills of Himroo weaving. It emphasized the importance of participation and the positive outcomes that can be achieved when individuals unite to learn the Himroo weaving. As the advertisement was published in local newspapers, it reached a wide range of audience members. This broad exposure helped to generate interest and served as a catalyst for community mobilization. The newspaper advertisement successfully created buzz and ignited conversations among people through which 23 people took admission as Himroo Weaving trainees.



Figure 4: Oldest Himroo Centre in Aurangabad

Setting up of Training Centre:

To set up a pit loom for Himroo weaving, the following tools and materials were used:

1. Loom Frame: A sturdy wooden frame that can hold the warp threads in place. It is large enough to accommodate the desired width and length of the Himroo fabric.

2. Warp Threads: These are the vertical threads that are stretched on the loom frame. A strong and durable yarn is chosen. Traditionally, silk was used for Himroo weaving, the weavers used cotton or a blend of both.
3. Heddle Bar: This is a movable bar with eyelets or slots attached to the loom frame. The warp threads pass through these eyelets or slots, making it easier to create sheds (separations) for weaving.
4. Shuttle: A narrow, flat tool used to carry the weft yarn across the warp threads during weaving. The shuttle is passed through the shed, creating the woven fabric.
5. Weft Yarn: The horizontal threads that are woven across the warp threads to create the fabric. For Himroo, silk or fine yarn is commonly used.
6. Beat Stick or Reed: A sturdy stick or metal comb-like tool used to press the weft yarn tightly against the already woven fabric (the fell line). It helps in creating a uniform and compact weft.
7. Bobbins or Pirns: These are small cylindrical tools used to hold and distribute the weft yarn. Master weavers wind the weft yarn onto the bobbin or pirn for easy handling during the weaving process.
8. Scissors: Used for cutting yarns, trimming loose ends, and removing finished fabric from the loom.
9. Measuring Tape: An essential tool to determine the desired length and width of the Himroo fabric.

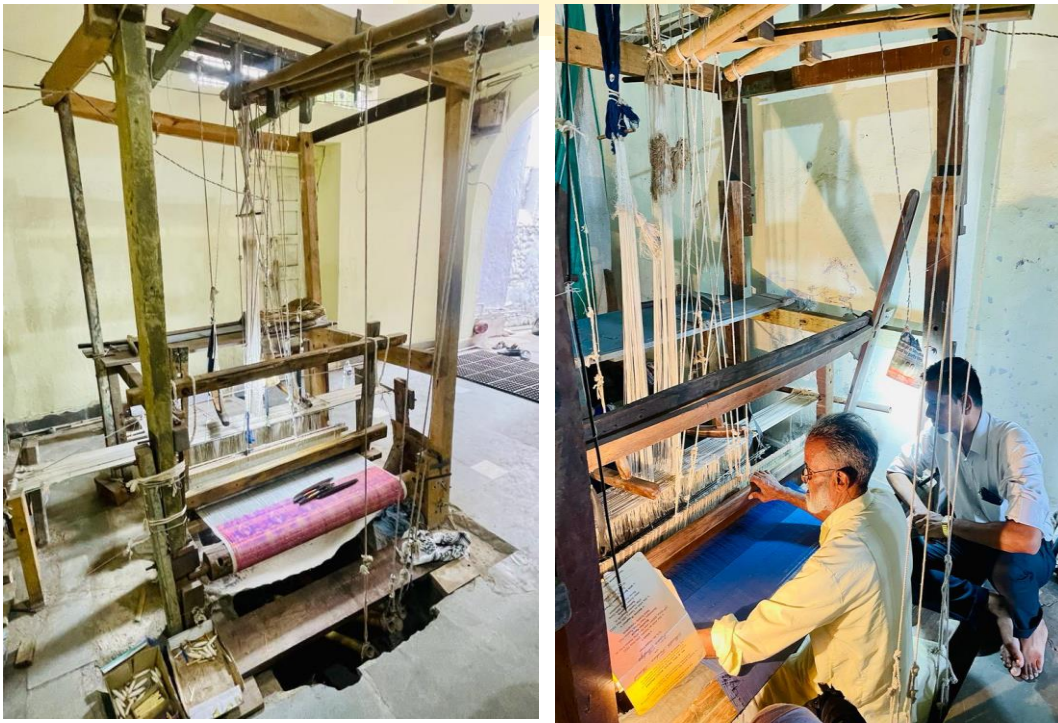


Figure 5: Pit Looms at the Himroo Centre

HIMROO TRAINING PROGRAM:

The training program commenced at Himroo Centre from 20th June 2023. The Himroo training program includes 23 new trainees and is being conducted by two experienced trainers.

1. Trainee Composition: The training program includes 23 new trainees who joined. These trainees come from diverse backgrounds. Each trainee was keen to enhance their abilities and contribute to the success of the Himroo Centre.
 2. Training Objectives: The primary objective of the training program was to provide the trainees with the comprehensive knowledge and skills of Himroo Textile.
 3. Training Methodology: The training sessions were conducted through a combination of theoretical learning and practical exercises. Our experienced trainers utilize a method of hands-on activities, to ensure maximum engagement and understanding.
 4. Training Topics Covered: Following an initial orientation phase, the training program has covered a wide range of topics, including: - Introduction to Himroo Centre and its goals - Familiarization with relevant policies and procedures - Development of essential communication skills - In-depth knowledge of the products and services offered - Understanding customer relationship management techniques - Effective time management and organizational skills - Techniques for resolving customer complaints - Demonstrating professionalism and maintaining high ethical standards.
- INTACH aims to complete the training as planned and ensure that each trainee fully grasps all the essential concepts and techniques of Himroo weaving.



Figure 6: Master Trainers during the Training Program

BASELINE SURVEY REPORT:

A Baseline Survey was conducted after the completion of training for two successful months.

The objective of the baseline survey is to understand the current status of the Himroo craft centre, including the general profile of the trainers and trainees, their skill sets, production processes, challenges, and opportunities. The baseline survey reveals that the Himroo craft centre will be an essential source of livelihood for women trainees and new weavers in the region. The findings from the baseline survey can help to develop targeted policies and programs to improve the sector's competitiveness and sustainability.

The survey was conducted through the primary data collection method. Primary data was collected through individual and group interviews with the trainees, and trainers. The primary methodology for a Himroo baseline survey typically involves collecting data at the beginning or pre-intervention stage of a project. This establishes a benchmark or baseline against which future progress or impacts can be measured.

The methodology of a baseline survey can vary depending on the specific objectives, context, and resources available. However, some common steps in the methodology may include:

1. Objective setting: Clearly defining the goals and objectives of the baseline survey, such as identifying the current situation, establishing targets for improvement, or understanding the needs and characteristics of the target population.
2. Data collection tools: Developing or adopting data collection tools, such as questionnaires, interviews, or observation forms, to gather the necessary information. These tools should be designed to capture baseline data related to the identified objectives.
3. Data collection: INTACH – HCCD and INTACH Aurangabad Chapter did fieldwork to collect data. This involved face-to-face interviews, discussions, and direct observations, of the trainers and trainees.
4. Reporting: The survey findings in a comprehensive scanned copy of the baseline survey format were shared with SIDBI. The Baseline survey report will also help to provide a clear comparison of the baseline data with future data to assess the impact or progress over time.

INTACH acknowledges the value and significance of historical designs and nakshas preserved by master trainers. As part of our commitment to product diversification, INTACH has undertaken an initiative to revitalize and repurpose these traditional designs with enhanced implementation techniques. By blending the old with the new, INTACH aimed to create a range of unique and innovative products for product diversification. The approach involves carefully studying and understanding the intricacies of these old designs. INTACH worked alongside master trainers to refine and adapt them to suit contemporary market demands. By reusing these designs, we

not only celebrate the rich cultural heritage but also promote sustainable practices. Each product showcases the skills and artistry of our master trainers and trainees while catering to a diverse customer base. In doing so, we hope to revive interest in traditional craftsmanship and support the livelihoods of artisans.

The training program has been made possible through a collaborative effort between INTACH - HCCD and SIDBI. During this training phase, trainees explore the deeper and intricate art of Himroo weaving.

Under the guidance of the two master craftsmen, trainees have advanced their skills and knowledge in various aspects of Himroo weaving. They have learned innovative weaving techniques, intricate pattern designs, color selection, and the use of specialized tools and equipment. Emphasis has been also placed on mastering the art of blending silk and cotton fibers to achieve the distinctive Himroo texture. Throughout the training, trainees were able to work closely with experienced artisans, observing their techniques and seeking guidance. This hands-on experience played a pivotal role in honing their skills and fostering a deep understanding of Himroo weaving. In addition to the practical training, participants also attended theoretical sessions where they studied the historical significance and cultural heritage associated with Himroo weaving. Ms. Vandana Bindu Manchanda, Head - HCCD provides insights into the evolution of this craft, its role in the local economy, and its contribution to the overall textile heritage of India.

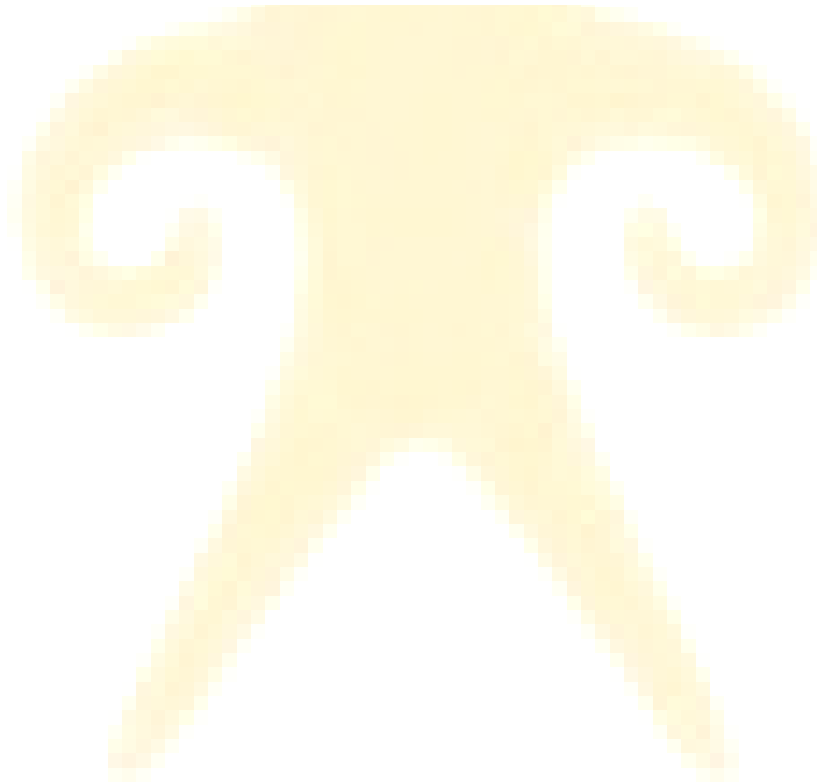


Figure 7: Head - HCCD, Ms Vandana Bindu Manchanda with Master trainer Mr. Imran Qureshi

All the weaving methods and skills like Spinning, knotting, Rach making, Phanni Bharna or (Reed), plain cloth making, and throwing shuttles which were taught by the Master Trainers in the previous month, were again taught to the trainees thoroughly and the trainees practiced these skills and methods well throughout the month.



Figure 8: Training program



Training Stages:

Name of Method & Skill	Process	Practical
Warping	The process of arranging yarns or threads lengthwise on a loom.	
Spinning:	The process of winding the threads on bobbin through Charkha.	
Binding	Vertical threads attached to the Paga.	

Paga Making	Making Paga from Dori and Naksha is attached to Paga.	
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Name of Method & Skill	Process	Practical
Knotting	Knotting is the process of re-joining the two ends	
Naaka Binding	in warping there is threads called Naaka that is vertical position and it is attached to Paga	
Naaka Bharna	For example, in a warp there are 2000 threads, it has to fill up each thread with the Naaka and that Naaka is attached to the Paga.	

Taar Lena	At the time of weaving, if warp threads get broken in between, it has to be taken Naaka from the reed till the start of weaving.	
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The learning outcome of the above training.

Learning outcome	Percentage of learning
Out of 23 trainees, 20 trainees are now able to weave patterns on cloth with colors.	85%

Improvements: We are satisfied with the progress that trainees have made in their Himroo weaving training. While there is always room for improvement, we are satisfied with their dedication and efforts in learning this intricate craft.

We are confident that trainees will further strengthen their capabilities and develop into skilled Himroo weavers. We applaud their determination and eagerness to learn.

PROCESS PERFORMED BY TRAINEES PRACTICALLY:

Name of Method & Skill	Process	Practical
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Naksha Takna	Bind with PAGA Dori	
Shuttle Throwing	The shuttle is thrown between the gaps of warp during the weaving of cloth.	
Rach Making	One of the parts in pit loom which is necessary at the time of weaving, the threads is pulled from the Rash till the starting. It is called Rash Making.	

Phanni Bharna:	Each thread is to be pulled from the reed for weaving purpose.	
Horizontal Naksha	Changed the old Naksha into New Naksha in Horizontal and Revive of old Naksha	
Vertical Naksha	Changed the old Naksha into new Naksha in vertical and revive of old Dora	

Weaving on Plain Cloth	After all processes, trainees are taught to weave on plain cloth.	
Weaving on Design Cloth	After weaving on plain cloth, the trainee is taught weaving on designed cloth.	

The achievement percentages represent an objective assessment of the trainee's performance during the program, indicating their level of competence and understanding of the art of Himroo

TRAINING TARGET V/S. TRAINING ACHIEVEMENT TRAINEES		
Trainees	Training Target %	Training Achievement%
Above 85% (3 Trainees)	100	87
85% (2 Trainees)	100	85
80% (7 Trainees)	100	80
75% (1 Trainee)	100	75
60% (8 Trainees)	100	60
Above 50% (2 Trainees)	100	55

DESIGN INPUT:

Trainees were given training in producing new naksha and jala designs for Himroo products, with the goal of increasing product diversification and showcasing innovative

and contemporary designs. Fragments of old fabric were discovered. Training will be provided to replicate these designs.



Figure 9: Discovery of Old fragments of Himroo Fabric

Also, to ensure that the new designs not only satisfy the higher levels of craftsmanship but also represent current market trends and customer preferences, the designer works closely with master artisans. Design input was used to revive existing designs with new involvement. The use of different varieties of silk yarns such as tussar twisted, tussar untwisted, and regular Chinese silk (mostly mulberry), used to add depth and richness to the design. Trainees were educated about the characteristics and qualities of each type of silk, and also to select the most suitable yarn for particular patterns or designs.



Figure 10: New Design inputs



Figure 11: Traditional Handloom Patterns



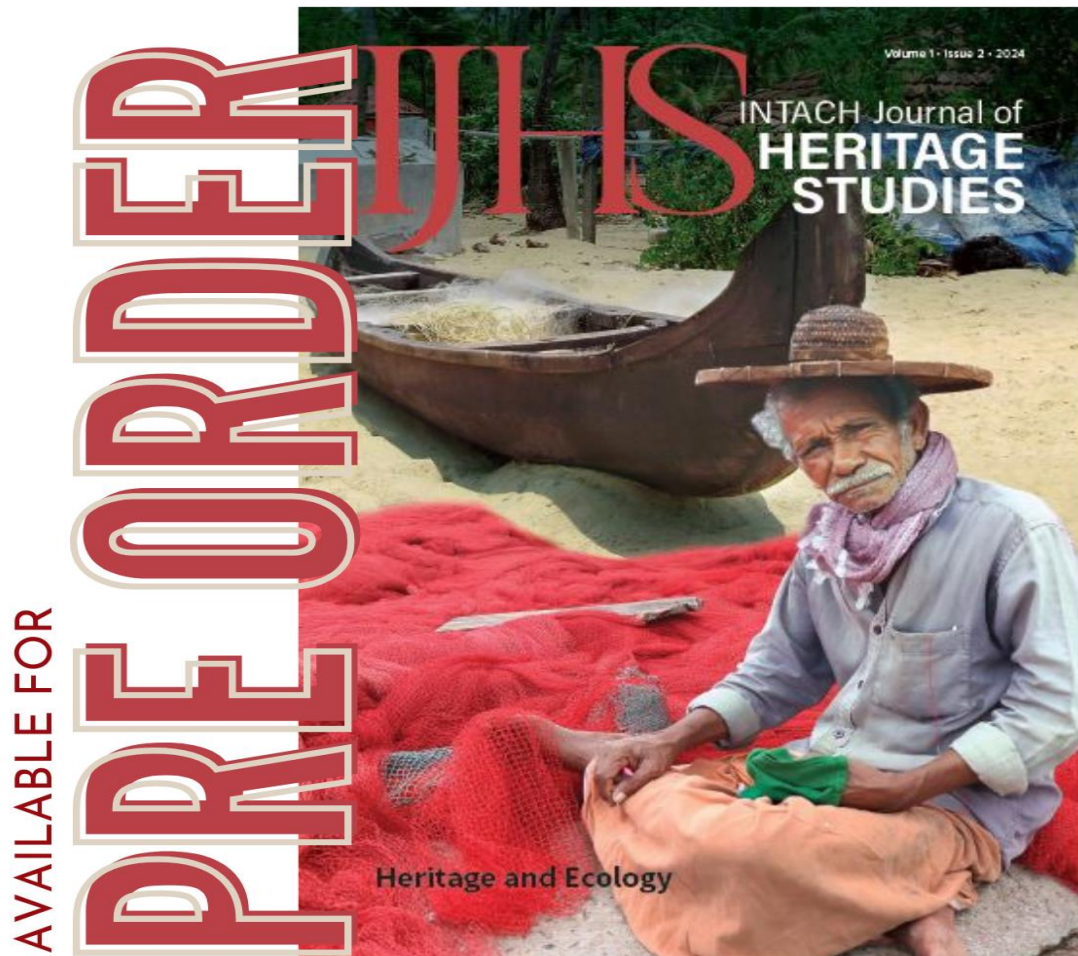
INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA)

IHA Courses



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A. Training

- 1. PG Diploma in Heritage studies 2023- 24 being run with 11 students. Courses opened for external participants**
 - I. Research Methodology in Context of Heritage, December 2023 to April 2024
 - II. Research Methods and Techniques: Data Collection, Interpretation and Analysis, 15-17 February 2024
 - III. Heritage Economics and Livelihoods, January to February 2024
 - IV. Heritage and Sustainability, January to March 2024
 - V. Cultural and Heritage Entrepreneurship, January to March 2024
- 2. Storytelling in Heritage Tourism, January-March 2024**

8-day online course on Storytelling in Heritage Tourism, January – March 2024 in collaboration with the organization ‘Make it Happen’. A total of 15 participants have enrolled for the course.
- 3. Visit of MIT School of Architecture, 12 January 2024**

IHA coordinated the visit of 38 students of the MIT School of Architecture, MIT-ADT University, Pune and two of their faculty members on 12 January 2024 to the INTACH Headquarters.
- 4. Visit of Charles Wallace India Trust (CWIT), 31 January 2024**

INTACH hosted Ms. Shreela Ghosh, Secretary, CWIT and the current Chair of CWIT, Mr. Charles Walker on 31st of January 2024.
- 5. Online workshop on ‘Heritage Documentation’, 16-17 March 2024**

2-day online workshop on Heritage Documentation for Under-graduate students on 16 and 17 March 2024 with 200 applications received till 07 March 2024.

B. RESEARCH

- 1. INTACH Research Programme 2023-24**

Nine scholarships being awarded as a part of INTACH Research Programme 2023 under Research Scholarship category (7) and Capacity Building Research Scholarship (2)
- 2. INTACH Awards for Interdisciplinary Heritage Documentation 2024**

The 2024 Awards programme was announced on 16 February 2024. Last date for submission of entries is 05 July 2024.

Articles

1. From the Temple to the Town in Tamil Nadu: Tantalizing Tale of a Translated Tome

Dr. S. Suresh, Consultant Archaeologist and Tamil Nadu State Convener, INTACH

It was a bright sunny day in the year 2018. And the place Cambodia's picturesque riverside town of Siem Reap, close to Angkor Wat and other historic monuments of the region. INTACH's Chairman Major General L.K. Gupta was here as INTACH was collaborating with the Government of Cambodia to help conserve that country's natural and cultural heritage. During this visit, he chanced to see a voluminous French book on the Temples and Temple Towns of Tamil Nadu authored by Jacques Gaucher, a French scholar settled in Cambodia. The rest, as they say, is history.

Guptaji instantaneously realized the need for the above book to be known and read by the people of India, more particularly, the people of Tamil Nadu. He suggested to Gaucher that INTACH could translate and publish the book in English. And Gaucher wholeheartedly accepted the suggestion.

Back home, the work of translating and publishing the book was entrusted to INTACH's Architectural Heritage (AH) Division. Efforts to find someone, preferably based in Delhi, to undertake this challenging translation work, were not successful. Finally, INTACH decided to do this translation in-house, with guidance and inputs from scholars within INTACH's far-flung family. Thus, a basic translation of the work, with help from online sources, was done by the Division.

By now, two years had gone by and it was 2020. Divay Gupta, the then Principal Director of the AH Division, during one of my visits to Delhi in the beginning of that year, invited me to his office and requested me to edit, peer-review and proofread the translated version, and also write an Epilogue summarizing the researches on and the physical changes in the temples and the towns after Gaucher's field investigations and surveys conducted in the late 1980s and early 1990s. The work naturally necessitated field visits to the major temples and towns covered in the book. Naturally, I wanted to read the French book and the English translation manuscript before making any commitment. Hence, Divay immediately arranged to send me soft and hard copies of both these works. Back in Chennai, in the next few weeks, I read the French book and the translation several times. I realized that large sections of the translation manuscript needed to be rewritten. Further, certain factual errors in the French book needed to be corrected in the translation. I explained all this to Divay on the phone. He readily accepted all my suggestions and requested me to go ahead with the work.

The pandemic and the resultant travel restrictions curtailed all my usual research, conference visits and tour-guiding assignments, as it did for many others throughout the world. But these restrictions turned out to be a blessing in disguise for the present translation work. Cocooned within the cool confines of my study room, I spent a several months editing the translated manuscript and rewriting large portions of it, after repeatedly consulting the original French publication and getting guidance, through email and WhatsApp, from my French-speaking friends in Pondicherry and Paris. This

was followed by my field visits to the towns and temples in the first half of 2021. The next few months saw the writing of the Epilogue, largely based on this field visit and my earlier visits to those sites. Finally a Supplemental Bibliography, mainly listing the published works that appeared after the publication of the original French book, was prepared. Finally, I submitted the edited and revised translation, complete with new high-resolution photographs, to the AH Division in December, 2021. Shortly later, the entire translation was sent to Gaucher for his approval. He appreciated the work but suggested a few minor changes that were diligently carried out by the AH Division. Finally, the translation was printed in September, 2023 and released by Guptaji at the INTACH Head Office on 8th December, 2023.

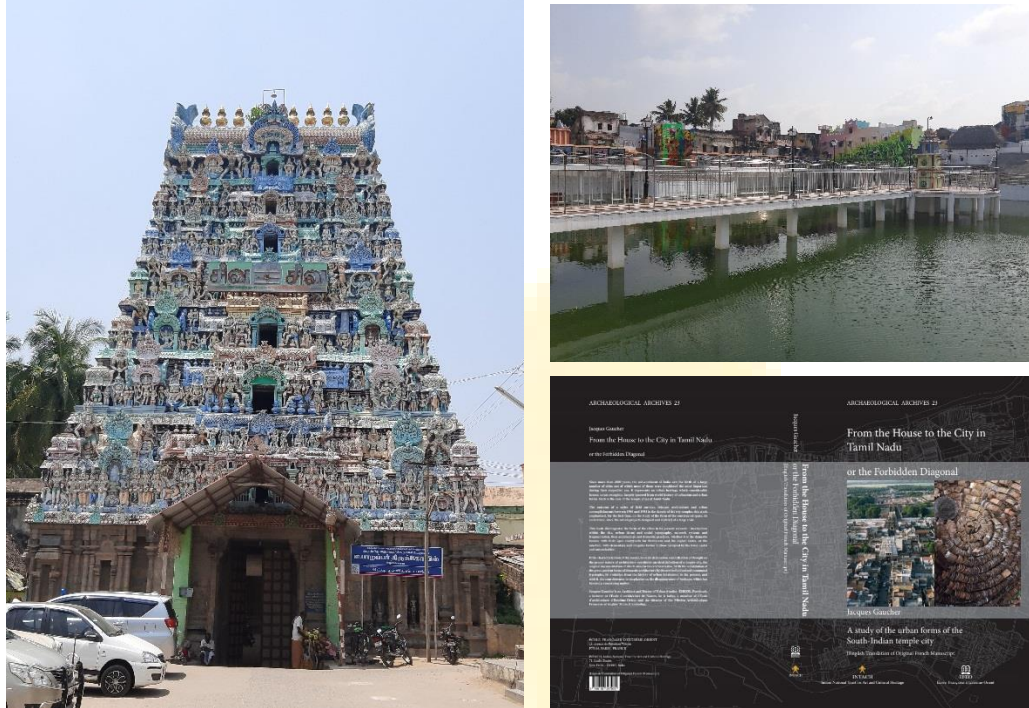
The translated work is a sumptuous hardbound tome, running to 530 pages. It contains over 250 photographs and over 160 maps and architectural drawings. Divided into five broad chapters, besides the Concluding Chapter and the newly-written Epilogue, the volume basically traces the subtle yet complex relationship, both physical and symbolic, between the temple and the residential areas around it. The book primarily covers the major temple-cities of Tamil Nadu, mainly Central Tamil Nadu. Of these, three places – Bhavani, Srirangam and Mayiladuturai – have been studied in greater depth. The choice of these cities has been governed by two main objectives: (i) to include different geographical zones and (ii) to provide a fairly representative coverage of the typical temple-cities of the region.

While there have been a series of earlier studies on some of the temples of Tamil Nadu, studies on the neighbouring houses and their relationship to the temples have never been attempted before or even after the initial publication of this book in French in 2007. The timeliness of the study can be easily gauged when one observes that several houses documented and analyzed during Gaucher's field investigations have since been substantially altered without following the traditional guidelines while many other houses have been totally demolished. And many more of these houses are presently in the process of being renovated or destroyed. Thus, as repeatedly indicated in the book, certain traditional architectural typologies and settlement patterns face the threat of extinction even before the scientific principles governing their very creation and layout are properly understood and documented.

The concluding part of the Epilogue provides certain recommendations and suggestions concerning the future of the various cities, localities, temples and residences discussed in the book. In particular, Srirangam deserves systematic archaeological investigations to fully comprehend its unique composite site-plan and its variegated religious and domestic architectural typologies some of which exhibit a rare phenomenon – religious buildings converted into residences, centuries ago! NTACH, with its network of Chapters, could play a pivotal role in conserving these sites and structures.

This present English translation of the work will undoubtedly make the book more accessible and useful to a much larger circle of scholars, researchers, students, town planners, policy makers and others, both in India and elsewhere. A result of the dedicated

work of the staff of the AH Division, the attractively-produced voluminous tome is itself a work of art, to be cherished forever.



From the Temple to the Town in Tamil Nadu: Tantalizing Tale of a Translated Tome

2. a. Building Capacities in Heritage

By Dr. Parul Munjal, Director, INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA)

1. Introduction

Heritage is a diverse field which intersects with multiple disciplines and various stakeholders. A key objective of INTACH Heritage Academy is to promote awareness and disseminate knowledge regarding heritage tools and conservation among both direct and indirect stakeholders. IHA has conducted capacity building workshops for three major stakeholders, INTACH Members, field professionals and teaching faculty across various themes such as conservation engineering, documentation and conservation of heritage sites, heritage management, amongst many others.

Since 2015, IHA has been committed to fostering awareness and expertise in heritage conservation through its annual Capacity Building Workshops for INTACH Members. Over the course of these workshops, participants have delved into the multifaceted role played by INTACH's various divisions and the imperative of preserving historic sites. Through a hands-on approach, the workshops provide valuable insights into heritage listing, emphasising practical experience gained from on-site visits. IHA has successfully organised 11 such workshops up till January 2023, training 549 Chapter Members in the process. The academy actively conducts capacity-building workshops, specifically

targeting field professionals such as engineers, architects, and conservators. Notably, the Academy has organised training sessions for international bureaucrats, civil servants, architects, engineers, and conservation practitioners, collaborating with public institutions and INTACH Chapters and has had a participation of more than 1000 professionals involved in heritage and allied fields. The Academy also reaches out to teaching faculty in schools, colleges, and universities involved in training the next generation of heritage guardians.

2. Capacity Building Initiatives of 2023

(a) Workshops on Conservation of Heritage Buildings: In the year 2023, the academy organised two workshops on 'Conservation of Heritage Buildings' in collaboration with INTACH Kolkata and Bhubaneswar chapters with the primary objective of introducing the processes related to conservation and restoration of heritage buildings and to sensitise the participants about built heritage. The first one was a day-long workshop at Kolkata for 16 engineers of Military Engineering Services, while the second one was a three-day workshop for engineers and architects associated with the Bhubaneswar Chapter, technical staff of State Archaeology and Odisha Tourism Development Corporation, architects and students of architecture.

Capacity Building Workshops for INTACH Chapter members: The 12th Capacity Building Workshop was organised at INTACH headquarters in January 2023, with 57 participants. A similar three-day workshop organised in September 2023 had 67 participants from diverse regions across the country, representing 34 Chapters of INTACH. The workshop served as a platform for unpacking the concept of heritage in all its diverse forms. Participants were introduced to INTACH's initiatives and ongoing projects.



Session on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage by Ms. Nerupama Y Modwel, Principal Director, ICH Division



Session on Conservation of Art and Material Heritage by Merrin Anil, Centre, Art and Material Heritage Division

Central to the workshop's interactive approach was a group exercise designed to encourage brainstorming and deliberation on the imminent threats to heritage and potential strategies to address these challenges. Participants, divided into eight groups, were tasked with identifying three heritage sites within their respective cities facing immediate risk. This exercise aimed to cultivate a nuanced understanding of the threats posed to cultural and natural assets, encouraging a comprehensive approach to their protection.

Tabulation of issues and strategies identified by the participants:

Groups	Identified heritage at risk and strategy
Ganga 1 The group had representation from seven chapters from four different states	The participants highlighted various heritage at risk, including geo-heritage, leather puppetry, folk paintings and temple clusters, and the issues and challenges faced in their protection and conservation. They proposed solutions such as reviving traditional crafts through financial assistance, conducting awareness workshops and organising training workshops for artisans. Additionally, there was a strong emphasis on documenting these cultural assets and recommending actions for governmental bodies to monitor and safeguard them.
Ganga 2 The group had representation from five chapters from three different states	The group identified tangible and intangible heritage like traditional cooking techniques, natural heritage sites, water bodies and temple structures that are vulnerable. The proposals included collaboration with governmental and local bodies, monitoring strategies and engagement for local communities to generate awareness.
Satluj 1 The group had representation from seven chapters from five different states	The group identifies an architectural, natural and intangible heritage at risk and proposed targeted strategies such as alternative funding sources, infrastructure requirements, local bodies that can be involved, formation of cooperatives and technological advancements that can be integrated for its protection.
Satluj 2 The group had representation from seven	The group focused on natural heritage, identifying the issues and challenges that endangered such heritage. The proposal suggested intervention at

chapters from four different states	multiple levels including governmental initiatives, public awareness and scientific research
Narmada 1 The group had representation from seven chapters from two different states	The participants extensively identified several natural and cultural sites in need for protection including Gangetic dolphins, Dhai Kadhi ki Ramleela and Chunar Fort. The strategies addressed the underlying issues faced during their conservation like lack of awareness and financial constraints. The group also highlighted the role of social media in raising awareness.
Narmada 2 The group had representation from six chapters from four different states	The participants identified several cultural practices and natural heritage sites. They outlined the case of <i>thimma marrimanu</i> which receives significant visitor footfall but is in need of protection. They proposed an awareness strategy that can involve organisations like INTACH to raise awareness and nominate such sites for UNESCO recognition.
Godavari 1 The group had representation from four chapters from one state	The group identified traditional and cultural practices that are vulnerable due to the changing times. They proposed funding and training opportunities that can be introduced to help revive these practices..
Godavari 2 The group had representation from seven chapters from five different states	The delegates identified several heritage sites at risk including built and natural heritage sites. Apart from documenting and outreach programmes the participants also suggested organising events and festivals that can generate awareness about the sites.



Participants presenting their work during the workshop



Participants deliberating during the working session



Participants' work identifying their regional heritage at risk and focusing on the issues and strategies for its protection and conservation

The outcomes of this exercise revealed numerous unprotected heritage sites faced vulnerability due to developmental pressures or a lack of public awareness. The participants demonstrated remarkable resilience and ingenuity by articulating innovative ideas and strategies for the safeguarding and protection of these endangered heritage assets. In essence, the Capacity Building Workshop underscored the importance

of collective action and informed strategies in the ongoing endeavour to preserve our rich cultural and natural heritage.

(b) Other opportunities for INTACH Chapter Members:

- Chapter Members received partial or full fee waiver for some of the open courses. The following number of members joined the courses

S. no.	Name of Course	Number of Chapter Members	Fee waiver
1.	Heritage, People and Law (March 2023)	39	100%
2.	Orientation to Heritage (August-October 2023)	1	50%
3.	Conservation Movement in India	1	100%
4.	Heritage, People and Law (October 2023)	2	100%

- In order to create well rounded professionals within the Chapter Members network the Chairman had announced two bursaries for the Post Graduate Diploma in Heritage Studies 2023-2024 to INTACH members. The selected candidates have shown keen interest and dedication to the preservation and protection of cultural Heritage in India and were awarded a 50% fee waiver.