

chapter नवशोहर

Issue 3 - July - Sept 2023



Capacity Building Workshop 2023

Chapters Division and IHA conducted the three-day Capacity Building Workshop at the INTACH Head Office. The Workshop had 67 participants across the country. The sessions were conducted by heads of the various divisions of INTACH and their representatives. The concept of heritage and its diverse forms was unpacked for the participants, along with presentation of the initiatives of INTACH to document, safeguard and manage heritage across the country and raise awareness among children and citizens. The participants were introduced to the heritage survey mobile application developed by the Architectural Heritage Division that was appreciated by the participants as an accessible and effective tool to map the heritage resources of India.

Dear Heritage Enthusiasts

I am delighted to introduce the first edition of our Chapter e-Newsletter, which serves as a platform for us to connect, appreciate, and celebrate the rich cultural tapestry of heritage activities undertaken by our chapters. Chapter Newsletter is introduced to make our members aware the large number of activities undertaken by them. As we delve into the pages of this publication, we embark on a journey exploring the regional programmes, their legacies, and the profound influence they have had on shaping our present.

Heritage, in all its varied forms, holds a special place within our hearts and minds. In this issue, you will find a wide range of articles, features, and chapter activities that delve into various aspects of heritage.

We celebrate the tireless efforts of Chapters and its members who work diligently to spread awareness and also to protect our cultural heritage. Their passion, dedication, and unwavering commitment serve as beacons of hope, ensuring that our cultural treasures remain intact for future generations to cherish. I encourage you to explore this newsletter eagerly and engage with its contents and also provide us your valuable suggestions to further improve the newsletter.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all the Conveners and INTACH members who have poured their passion into creating this edition. Their valuable contributions have brought this newsletter to life, reminding us of the profound importance of heritage in our lives.

May this newsletter ignite a flame within our hearts, inspiring us to continue our collective efforts in safeguarding and celebrating our heritage.

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

Chapters Division

71 Lodhi Estate New Delhi - 110003, Tel. : 24626256(D)
Website : www.intach.org, Email : chaptersdivision@gmail.com

Capacity Building Workshop 2023



In This Issue

S. No.	Descriptions	Page No.
1.	Appointments	04
2.	IHA Courses	05 - 06
3.	Chapter Activities (State Wise)	07 - 87
4.	<p>Articles: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Priceless Gifts from my Father ii. राजस्थान की समृद्ध लोकनाट्य परंपरा iii. Palaeolithic (Acheulean) Stone Tools from Astoli Ka Nala, District Bundi, Rajasthan. iv. ध्वनि तथा वाणी विज्ञान : सात सुर (Sound Engineering And Music) v. The Submerged Temples of Sambalpur vi. Festivals and Live Traditions vii. Heritage Perspective of Maharaja Ranjit Singh Fort, Phillaur (Punjab) viii. Role of Millets in Sustainable Development and Ecological Balance ix. Solutions to Plastic Problem 	88 - 126
5.	INTACH Chapters Publications (2021 - 2023)	127 - 132

Appointments

INTACH New Appointments (July to Sept, 2023)				
The INTACH warmly welcomes the newly appointed Conveners, Co-Conveners and Additional Co-Conveners of its Chapters.				
State	Chapters	Convenor	Co-Convenor	Adl. Co-Convenor
July, 2023				
Jharkhand	Ranchi		Shri Ajay Kumar	
Haryana	Sonipat		Prof Shailja Sikarwar	
Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh State	Maj Gen Swinder Pal Singh Sidhu		
Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior			Dr Kaushlendra Gupta
Uttarakhand	Dehradun		Ar Apurva A Gour	
Gujrat	Surat		Shri Prakash Hathi (2 nd Co-Convenor)	
Rajasthan	Ajmer		Shri Mahendra Singh Chouhan (2 nd Co-Convenor)	
West Bengal	West Bengal State	Shri Akhil Ranjan Sarkar		
Maharashtra	Amravati	Dr Jayant Sudhakar Wadatkhar	Shri Tusshar Varangaonkar	
August, 2023				
Delhi	Delhi State		Shri Praveen Kumar Tripathi	
September, 2023				
Uttarakhand	Mussoorie (Sub Chapter of Dehradun)		Ms Surbhi Agarwal	
Tripura	Tripura State		Shri Uma Sankar Debbarma	
Chhattisgarh	Rajnandgaon		Shri Dushyant Das	
Bihar	Nawada	Prof (Dr) Bachchan Kumar Pandey	Shri Shyamsunder Pandey	
Karnataka	Karnataka State	Dr Anup K Pujari		

INTACH RESEARCH PROGRAMME 2023-24

Proposed Themes for the INTACH Research Programme 2023-24:

- Nature-Culture Linkages
- Built Heritage Typologies
- Traditional Materials and Techniques
- Traditional or Indigenous Knowledge
- Influences Across Boundaries
- Heritage Tourism, Heritage Education
- Heritage Interpretation and Presentation
- Conserving, Safeguarding and Sustaining Heritage

Research Fellowship

(INR 8.5 lakhs)

The Fellowship will be awarded to only one individual in the respective research cycle. It is a full-time commitment for a period of one year during which the Fellow will contribute to the academic activities of the INTACH Heritage Academy, in addition to conducting the research.

Research Scholarship

(INR 3 to 5 lakhs each)

The Research Scholarship is a platform for young thinkers who are seeking opportunities to further their research interest in the field of heritage that align with the themes outlined in the Research Programme. The Scholarship is intended to support research that pushes the boundaries of existing knowledge on Indian heritage and explores new perspectives and methodologies. The term of the Scholarship is for a period of one year.

Capacity Building Research Scholarship

(INR 1.25 lakhs each)

The Capacity Building Research Scholarship is a platform for INTACH staff to develop their research abilities in the field of heritage. The proposals may build on work being conducted in the respective Division/ Chapter/ Centre of INTACH or stem from individual research interests that align with the themes outlined in the Research Programme. The term of the Scholarship is for a period of one year.



www.heritage.intach.org/intach-scholarship-2023



res1.ih@gmail.com / admn.ih@gmail.com



011-24627371

Upcoming Courses/Workshops of INTACH Heritage Academy

The following certificate courses will be offered in the online mode spread over three to six months from December 2023 to April 2024:

No. of Days	Name of Course	Tentative Dates
12 days	Research Methodology in context of Heritage	December 2023- April 2024
9 days	Heritage and Sustainability	January - April 2024
6 days	Heritage Economics and Livelihoods	January - April 2024
9 days	Cultural and Heritage Entrepreneurship	January - April 2024

The following short-term workshops will be conducted in October and November 2023:

No. of Days	Name of Course	Date/s	Mode of Teaching
1 day	Conservation Movement in India	17 th October	Online
1 day	Heritage Impact Assessment	20 th October	Online
2 days	Introduction to Digital Documentation for Built Heritage	25 th - 26 th October	Offline
1 day	Heritage, People, Law	28 th October	Online
8 days	INTACH Certificate in Introduction to Natural Heritage Conservation	30 th October- 8 th November	Offline
1 day	Environmental Impact Assessment	9 th November	Online
2 days	Community-led Conservation	20 th -22 nd November	Offline
3 days	Heritage Interpretation	28 th -30 th November	Offline

To get more information regarding our upcoming courses/workshops, please visit our website www.heritage.intach.org or write to us at ihaprogram@gmail.com

Chapters Activities

Andaman & Nicobar

1. INTACH Andaman and Nicobar Chapter celebrated a delayed World Music Day with some amazingly talented artists from the islands.

Children from MJ Music Academy presented classical renditions on Hindustani classical ragas. While many talented artists from all over the islands presented classical and folk dance. There was even a flute recital.

The chapter felicitated a few artists who are keeping alive art and culture and conduct classes on vocal, instrumental music and classical and folk dance.

The event was conducted at an art studio that belongs to Promotho Mazumder which is perhaps the most beautiful museum of sculpture and murals in the islands.

Ms. Rashifa Saheed who was declared regional winner of Khana Khazana competition by HECS was presented a trophy and certificate received from INTACH HQ.

The event was organised by Samhita Veda Acharya, Convener, with support from volunteers Ebi Mathew and Sibi Mathew.

2. INTACH Andaman and Nicobar Chapter celebrated the World Nature Conservation Day and International Tiger Day with 35 children at the Education 2.0. The chapter donated Books and crayons to the kids who had a lovely time coloring turtles, and crocodiles and star fishes and dugongs in the book 'Treasure Islands'. A ppt was shown on Tiger conservation that the chapter received from Sanctuary Asia. The interactive workshop was conducted by INTACH volunteer Ebi Mathew and Convenor Samhita Veda Acharya with support from Sajit Jana.

The chapter is grateful to Mr. Dev Kumar for his support. He is the founder of Education 2.0.



World Music Day with some amazingly talented artists from the islands

Andhra Pradesh

Guntur

INTACH Guntur Chapter had conducted a four days art exhibition on the occasion of Golden Jubilee celebrations from August 12th to 15th at Hindu college of engineering. More than sixty renowned artists from different parts of Andhra Pradesh have participated in the Art Exhibition. AP High court Justice Durga Prasad and former CBI Joint Director Sri VV. Lakshminarayana INTACH state Co-Convener and President Kalapeetam SVS Lakshminarayana presided the inauguration function.

Hundreds of students from different educational institutions, Art lovers visited the exhibition and praised the works of Artists.

Kalapeetam secretary S. Vijaykumar, Treasurer Ch. Ramakrishna, INTACH Guntur Chapter members A. Rajasekhar, A. Ravi Srinivas, P. Ramachandra Raju have coordinated the event. National print and electronic media have covered the event.



Art exhibition on the occasion of Golden Jubilee celebrations

Chhattisgarh

On August 7, INTACH Raipur Chapter organized Rabindra Sangeet in Vrindavan auditorium on the occasion of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore's death anniversary. Mr. Arvind Mishra, Convenor, INTACH was facilitator. Dr. Chittaranjan Kar, linguist and musician and Mrs. Kalpana Ruparela presented singing. Tabla was played by Mr. Rupendra. Convenor, Raipur Chapter Mr. Rajendra Chandak told about the activities of the organization. The main compositions of Gurudev were sung. Shri Arvind Mishra told about Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore's connection with Chhattisgarh and he also sang a song based on Rabindra Sangeet in a Hindi film. Good listeners of the state participated in this programme. Among them were former Chief Secretary Mr. Suyog Mishra, Additional Chief Secretary Mrs. Indira Mishra, Baldu Ramsahu K.P. Saxena, Dr. Anil Bhatpahari, Ramesh Kumar, Sheshnarayan, Sunil Baghel, Mr. Vishwakarma, Dwarika Prasad etc.

Mahasamund

DFO was the Chief Guest in the quiz competition organized by INTACH. Pankaj Rajput addressed the participating students.

In the National Heritage Quiz Competition, the team of students of Maharishi Vidyalaya secured the first position and won the competition.

National Heritage Quiz Competition-2023 was organized for school students by INTACH Heritage and Education Communication, New Delhi and Mahasamund Chapter under the guidance of State Convenor Arvind Mishra. This event was held on Sunday, 6th August, 2023, in the lecture hall of the Forest Guard Training Center, Forest School, located on the local Barondabazar Road, in which 100 students studying from class 7th to 10th from the 10 schools participated enthusiastically. The team of students Purvesh Vishal Harde and Aditya Sahu, under the inspiring guidance of local Maharishi Vidyalaya Principal RK Tiwari and teacher In-charge Varsha Soni, made it to the state level quiz as first winners in the midst of stiff competition and won their school and increased the pride of the city. The team of Aryan Grahacharya and Divya Chandrakar, students of Kendriya Vidyalaya stood second. The Chief Guest of this event was Divisional Forest Officer General Forest Division, Mahasamund, Shri Pankaj Rajput, I.F.S. Addressing the present students in a motivational, elegant and educative manner. Every parent aspires to do well with their children. For this, it is necessary to be capable, set a goal and achieve it, be disciplined, do good to everyone, take care of your family and neighborhood in happiness and sorrow, maintain social dialogue, and fulfill social responsibility. During his address, he asked many important questions to be good while involving the participating children. Everyone seemed happy with the correct answers of the children. Shri Rajput said that do not forget the soil and culture of your country. INTACH is doing good work for this. State Chapter Co-Convenor Rajendra Chandak presided over the function, gave important information related to INTACH and Quiz. Mahasamund Chapter Convenor, Daulal Chandakar gave the welcome speech. Yashwant Chowdhary, Convenor, Saraipali, and Rajeshwar Khare, the Co-Convenor conducted the competition. Before this, the Chief Guest was welcomed by offering a bunch of flowers and Aparna. On this occasion, Forest Range Officer Mr. Rakesh Parihar, Forest Guard Kishanlal Sahu and other staff from Forest School, In-charge teachers/teachers Rekhraj Chandrakar, Narayan Chandrakar, Shivkumar Kannauje Saraswati Vidyamandir, Ku. Damini Vaishnav, Ku. Sushma Sahu Vrindavan Vidyalaya, Seema Dhruv, Uma Diwan Shyam Vidyamandir, Murlidhar Patel Swami Atmanand Hindi Medium, Harsh Parmar, Ku. Manisha Kannauje, Swami Atmanand English Medium, T.R. Chandrakar, Jitendra Chandrakar, Smt. Hukeshwari Nishad Kendriya Vidyalaya, Deepak Thakur Chandrodaya Public School, Smt. Anita Sahu Govt. Aashibai Golchha Girls Higher Secondary School, INTACH's lifelong members Manaklal Chandrakar, Pramod Kannauje, Manak Namdev, Naresh Sahu, Disha Natyamanch, Uttam Dubey and parents were present in the Vidyalaya, Lokesh Sahu Dev Sanskriti Vidyalaya. In the end, INTACH officials and members honored the winning students and the teacher in-charge with bouquets. Co-convenor Rajeshwar Khare expressed heartfelt gratitude to all the direct and indirect partners in making this event of INTACH a success.

Raipur

INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2023 – City Round

INTACH, Raipur Chapter conducted the city round of INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2023 for School students on 04.08.2023 at Swami Atmanand Govt. Shaheed Smarak

Utkrishtha Vidyalaya, Moudahapara, Raipur. Total 138 students from 12 schools participated. The written test was conducted with the help of question paper consisting of 20 questions of State & National level. The four pairs of two students each were finally selected for the oral round. After over of oral round, the positions from 1 to 4 were decided. The winner of the competition was from The Radiant Way School, Raipur and the team of The Radiant Way School, Raipur stood in the second position. The winner team is qualified to participate in the State Round.

An inaugural session was also conducted. Dr. Swasti Sthapak, Professor, Department of Architecture, National Institute of Technology, Raipur was the Chief Guest. Ms. Sudha Joshi, President of Inner Wheel Club of Raipur presided over the session.

On this occasion Shri Rajendra Chandak, Convener, INTACH, Raipur Chapter & INTACH members were present.



National Heritage Quiz 2023 – City Round

Sarangarh – Raigarh

INTACH India Heritage Quiz Competition 2023- Indian Cultural Fund (INTAC) Sarangarh-Raigarh (Chhattisgarh) Chapter under the direction of Ms. Purnima Dutt, Principal Director, INTACH HECS Division and Chhattisgarh State Convenor Arvind Mishra, State Co-Convenor Dr. Debasish Sanyal, State Secretary under the joint guidance of Rajendra Chandak, INTACH India Heritage Quiz Competition 2023 (City Round) was organized free of cost at SEJS Saraipali under the leadership of Coordinator Yashwant Kumar Choudhary. In this competition, 62 teams from Class 7th to 10th from different schools registered and participated in the first written round. Out of these, four teams

were selected for the Oral Round on the basis of highest marks. These four teams include three teams from Gaurav Vidya Mandir Saraipali Middle School (team of Latika Deep & Som Panigrahi, team of Aditya Sahu & Roshni Singh, team of Bharti Choudhary & Tejashwani Dewan) and one team of SEJS Saraipali Middle School (Liza Pradhan & Swati Yadav's team) were included. The Oral Round was very important. There was an tie between the two teams. Hence, by answering the questions, the team of Lisa Pradhan and Swati Yadav of Class 7, studying in Swami Atmanand Government English Medium Excellent School, Saraipali, stood first and got selected for the state level competition. The team selected for the state level was presented by SEJS Principal P.K. Gwal a bouquet along with medal, trophy through the Convenor. In the Written Round, twenty questions were asked in the quiz which was related to heritage, history of India & Chhattisgarh and INTACH. 5 questions were asked in the oral round. This quiz competition was conducted with the cooperation of Govt. Model U.M.V. Principal Jagdish Prasad Patel, lecturers Jogilal Patel, Ghanshyam Deep, Senior teacher Vinod Kumar Choudhary etc. and lecturers Kusum Dewangan, PTI Jaimini Patel, K.G. Convent School teacher Radha Sharma, teacher Vinod Kumar Chaudhary etc. In the Oral Round, SEJS Granthapal Saket Rajwade, teacher Gajanand Pradhan and Hetkumar Patel, Teacher, Gaurav Vidya Mandir Saraipali. In conducting this Quiz, lecturer Mahesh Nayak, Pradeep Narayan Seth, Dinesh Kumar Kar, Moushumi Mathur, teacher Vinod Kumar Choudhary, teacher Rashmi Raja, Akshay Kumar Bhoi, Principal Gaurav Vidya Mandir Dinesh Satpathy, Head Reader Ramchandra Bail, Teacher Radha Sharma. Convenors, co-convenors and life members of INTACH along with Bhrtiya Rameshwar Chauhan, Ghasiyaram Chauhan, Keshavprasad Chauhan contributed.



INTACH India Heritage Quiz Competition 2023

Delhi

Projects :

Conservation & Restoration of Façade of Connaught Place, New Delhi

The project was undertaken in collaboration with NDMC and is funded by SBI. The work began in the month of May 2023 and completed in July 2023 at Connaught Place. It included the façade of blocks A, B, C, D, E, F (inner circle) and G, H, K, L, M, N, P, Regal (outer circle). All the following objectives were carried out:

- a) cleaning and scrapping of the even-out surfaces;
- b) repair work of walls, moldings and pillars; and
- c) painting of walls, windows, railings, parapet, moldings and pillars at all level of building on exterior surfaces and galleries.

2. St. James Church, Kashmere Gate

The conservation work on the Project started in October 2021 but had to face several interruptions because of the ban on construction during the winter months due to high pollution. The construction work completed in June 2023. The Church celebrated the completion of the Conservation Project and its rededication on 6 August 2023. Our Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor Delhi, Shri V.K. Saxena inaugurated the St. James Church and reopened it for the public.

Conservation and Restoration work undertaken at St. James' Church

- 1) Stabilization/Restoration of Foundation and Plinth of the Foundation of Church Building.
- 2) Emergency Conservation of Terrace and its waterproofing.
- 3) Integrated Conservation of the Super-structure of the Church:
 - a. Re-plastering of old/decayed/defective previous repairs by using traditional building material and methods- Lime Plaster
 - b. Providing a Compatible Superficial coat of Lime Punning/Lime Finish.
 - c. Repair and Restoration of all the Ornamental Plaster work.
 - d. Repair of the Parapet and the dome with the traditional material.
 - e. Arresting the water ingress from the terrace level as per the requirement and appropriate method.
 - f. Re-laying of decayed/damaged flooring with the same material.
 - g. Re-finishing of decayed/damaged wood work.
 - h. Re-done of old damaged electrical works and Illumination the Heritage building.

Heritage Walks :

The Delhi Chapter organized regular heritage walks in the months of July, August & September 2023.

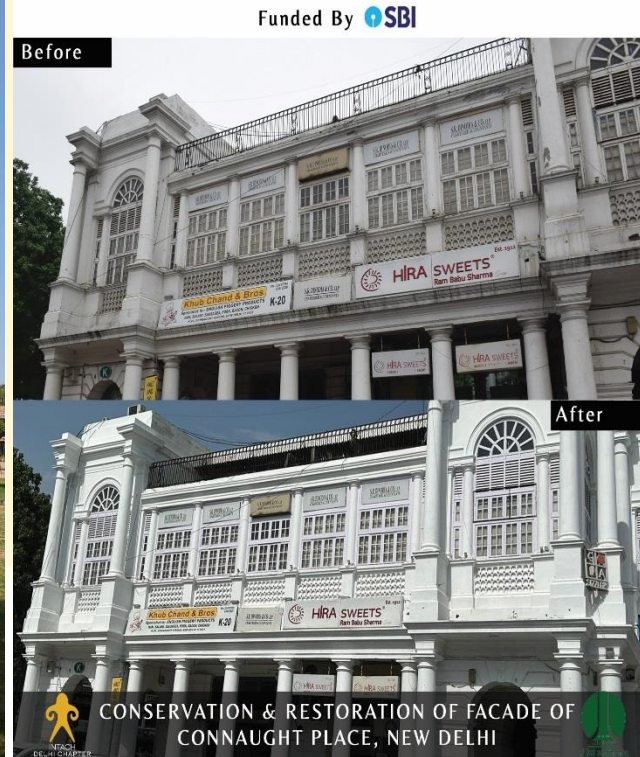
Heritage walk led by Mr. Ratnendu Ray on 3rd June 2023 at Qutub Complex.



Before & After Conservation of St. James' Church at Kashmir Gate



Heritage walk at Qutub Complex



Before & After Photograph of K block, Connaught Place

Gujarat

Rajkot

Rajkot Chapter has successfully done 2 activities in April and May this year for Heritage Awareness. Chapter initiated discussions and processes for collaborations with Rajkot District Administration and Rajkot Municipal Corporation on the Heritage of Rajkot District and City. All the members share equal enthusiasm and are happy to contribute as per their experience and expertise. Chapter will be sharing a planner; with everyone at the earliest, to keep themselves free during finalized events and for them give their suggestions for the activities in reference to Days that Matter.

Upcoming event planned is the National Heritage Quiz under the initiatives of INTACH HECS. Chapter received a phenomenal participation of around 300+ students from around 15+ schools.



National Heritage Quiz

Haryana

Ambala

1. CONDUCTS MEGA NATIONAL HERITAGE QUIZ - 20 JULY 23

Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) Ambala Chapter, under the aegis of HECS, conducted a National Heritage Quiz for the school children on 20 July 23 in the KV 2, Ambala Cantt. It saw a good participation by 64 children from 16 schools, and a large number of INTACH members, and dignitaries. Lt Gen Ram Pratap, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd) was the Chief Guest, while Principal Harinder Singh and Shri Om Banmali were the Guests of Honor. .

First there was a written quiz, which was both in Hindi and English. It was conducted as per the guidelines HECS. Based on the written test, four best teams were selected for the oral round. Mrs Madhu Singh, a senior and experienced teacher from the DAV Riverside School, was the Quiz Master. There were five rounds. The children took keen interest in the contest, and enjoyed the wide spectrum of heritage related questions from India, Haryana, Ambala, and INTACH.

The final results, after the written and oral rounds were:

First: KV 2.

Second: DAV Riverside Public School.

Third: Bhartiya Public School.

It was heartening to note that a specially abled child (in a wheel chair), Namita, Class 8, of KV 2, was part of the winning team. She is bright and focused, always smiling.

The winning team (KV2) will now go for the state round in October/ November 23. Colonel R D Singh, Convenor INTACH, briefed the audience on various INTACH activities carried out during the last one year, and also showed them the film ' Helping Hands '. He highlighted the Young INTACH magazine, and motivated the students to actively participate in the Young INTACH activities and contests. Some students also recited poems and spoke on heritage topics. They all were given prizes.

The chief guest, Lt Gen Ram Pratap, gave away prizes to the winners, and exhorted the students to be good human beings. Om Banmali, Vinay Malhotra, Principal Harinder Singh addressed the students and motivated them towards building good character and being responsible citizens. Mrs Rachna Banmali also gave prizes to the winning heritage clubs. All the participants will be given certificates. Colonel R D Singh gave a vote of thanks to all present, and complimented the KV 2, and its dynamic Principal Harinder Singh, for excellent arrangements and hospitality. He also thanked HECS INTACH for their support and guidance. The children departed very happy after a an educative and fruitful event.

2. Col. RD Singh, Convener INTACH attended DAV, Naraingarh and Prime Steps, Shahzadpur: 01 August 2023

DAV, Naraingarh and Prime Steps International School, Shahzadpur are enthusiastically associated with Ambala Chapter. Colonel RD Singh visited these schools to interact with teachers and children. This visit was very exciting.

After meeting the principals of both the schools, Col RD Singh took a lecture on communication skills in both the schools. Along with this he also threw light on the importance of discipline and time management in life.

The children participated enthusiastically and seeing their enthusiasm, they were also rewarded.

After the lecture, we also saw the activities of Heritage Club in both the schools and were also informed about the contests of Young INTACH.

Mr. RP Rathi, Principal, DAV, Naraingarh and Mrs. Sheetal Sharma, Principal, Prime Steps International School, Shahzadpur are well-known educationists. Col RD Singh also met BEO, Mrs Kiran Sabharwal at Prime Steps International School. She is a positive and high-minded woman. Col. remarked that he was happy to meet her.

The Col. expressed his gratitude towards both the principals and wished that their school should make a lot of progress.

They will keep in touch with the children of these schools who have promised to write letters to them which is an integral part of communication skill.



Mega National Heritage Quiz

2. Endangered Art & Craft Workshop: 21 -22 August 23

Introduction. INTACH Ambala conducted a successful ' Endangered Art & Craft Workshop ' for two days on 21 – 22 August in the CB School Parade, Ambala Cantt. It was attended by about 100 children, and four teachers, including the Convener Colonel R D Singh, and Co – Convener Ms Reena.

Resource Person . Ms Asha Verma, a skilled artist with 34 years experience, was the resource person. She is an expert teacher in Art & Craft, employed with Fevicryl Company since 2009. She conducts workshops in schools and colleges, as also in the Empowerment Centres of Army, to explore the creativity and nurture artistic abilities of children. She is proficient in a wide range of art and craft mediums , having knowledge of our rich art and history.

Art and Crafts taught to Children.

Rakhi Making . This was done on the 1st day on 21 August . Children were taught how to make rakhis themselves at home. This was important and inviting in view of the Rakhi festival falling on 30th August. Children were provided with all the material for the activity. Asha Verma conducted the activity with the following materials :

1. Fevicryl acrylic colour
2. Mouldit
3. Fabric Glue
4. Thread

Lippen Art . The famous lippen Art, sometimes also known as ' Mud and Mirror Work', is a traditional mural craft of Kutch, Gujarat. As a child, I have myself seen Lippen Art being used in our kacha houses in our village in Haryana, though one did not know it's name then. Mud and mirror work was done directly on walls of the house using millet husk, mica and clay. Today, the work is done on clay – plastered wooden planks. Children were seen fully engrossed in learning and doing this craft. The resource person used the following materials to teach children the endangered art :

1. Acrylic colour
2. Mouldit
3. Fabric Glue
4. Pearl metallic golden colour
5. Old CDs as base.

Outcome. It turned out to be a highly educative and interesting workshop. The children loved the activity as it tickled their creativity. It was heartening to see them coming and showing their finished product with pride and a smile. The standard was good. We appreciated and gave them prizes.

First three Prizes: These were as under (photos with their arts are attached) :

First - Rishi – Class 8th

Second - Sakshi – Class 7 A

Third - Divya – Class 7

Conclusion - It was a well conducted workshop which we all enjoyed, and learnt from. The children found it very interesting and took keen interest. The workshop helped in making children aware about our endangered art, and the need to save it. They all departed happy, carrying their creations home.



Endangered Art & Craft Workshop

Hisar

Please note that in order to engage maximum number of women chapter converted an old canteen into a craft workshop in Hisar too. This will provide easy access of a workshop space for women in the city. The Center in Dabra will cater to women in the villages around that area. Chapter is grateful to the chairman, Ms. Manchanda and the team at HCCD for supporting crafts initiatives.

1. The Craft space in Hisar and women at work



2. Products made - Durries, crochet toys, doilies, tablecloths, Rakhi's, knitted blankets and Moonj baskets.



Rohtak

Brief Report of Formal Inauguration of INTACH Rohtak

Formal Inauguration of INTACH Rohtak Chapter successfully held on Wednesday, 09th August 2023 at the Department of Planning and Architecture, Dada Lakhmi Chand State University of Performing and Visual Arts, Rohtak in the gracious presence of Maj. Gen L.K Gupta, Chairman, INTACH and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of DLCSUPVA Shri Gajendra Chauhan.

The Inaugural Event was well coordinated by the student members of the Rohtak chapter. A report on the documentation of the vernacular architecture of Rumsu village situated at Kullu district, Himachal Pradesh was presented to the Chairman, INTACH by the Chapter Convener Dr. Ajay Kaushik. After the event, exhibition of the student's works was also visited by Maj. Gen L.K Gupta, Chairman, INTACH and Director, Chapters Division Gp Capt Arvind Shukla (Retd).

Department of Planning and Architecture, Dada Lakhmi Chand State University of Performing and Visual Arts, Rohtak became the institutional member of INTACH in 2021. Presently it has twenty-seven (27) active members including Seventeen (17) Life members and ten (10) Student members. Most of the members are faculty and students of the department itself.

Dr. Ajay Kaushik, the current dean of academic affairs at DLCSUPVA, is also the convener of the Rohtak chapter and an Associate Professor in the Department of Planning and Architecture. Ms. Supri Maheshwari, who is an Architect Planner and a full-time assistant professor in the department of planning and architecture at DLCSUPVA, is the co-convener of the Chapter.



Formal Inauguration of INTACH Rohtak Chapter

Himachal Pradesh

Dharamshala

1. Twenty-fourth Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated today the 26th of July, at War Memorial, Dharamshala to pay a tribute to The Heros and Martyrs of Kargil. The function was presided over by Brig M S Bains representing GOC 9 Cor.

A large number of serving and retired defence personnel were present on the occasion. Worthy DC Kangra, ADC, SSP, ASP, SDM and a large number of state govt. Officers and other employees, NCC cadets, NGOs, members of Rotary club and Lions club were also the part of the function. The Convenor Dr. Narendra Awasthi, Co-convenor Mr. Sangram Guleria and all the members of Dharamshala Chapter of INTACH viz. Col YS Jasrotia, Vijay Jaikara, Dr. TS Jaikara, SC Dhiman, Tej Singh, Hari Singh, Som Jaikara, Suresh Chin, Subhash Sharma, Ajay Rana etc. actively participated in the event and paid a floral tribute to war heroes and the martyrs. The presence of Dharamshala Chapter of INTACH was highly appreciated by one and all. The first ever Param Vir Chakra was awarded to Major Somnath Sharma followed by another PVC awarded posthumously to Capt. Vikram

Batra who belonged to this part of the country, while no. of other award winners' martyrs were also the pride of District Kangra known as Virbhumi (Devbhumi).

2. INTACH NATIONAL HERITAGE QUIZ 2023 was organised on 12th September, 2023 in the auditorium of Aadhunik Public School, Sidhbari, Dharamshala in which 30 teams consisting of 60 eligible students from classes 7th to 10th of different schools of Tehsil Dharamshala and Tehsil Nagrota Bagwan, participated. This quiz was divided into two parts – the first was a written round to short list the top teams for the oral round. Top six teams were called for an oral round. The oral round was categorized in different sub-rounds viz., Natural Heritage, Living Heritage, Material Heritage, Built Heritage of local, state and national levels. All the teams, including those who could not get a place in top six and the audience took active part in the quiz as passed on questions were thrown open for the audience who were also winning chocolates etc. as an incentive for the correct answer. Saint Mary's Public School Sidhpur was the winner while Army Public School Yol Cantt was the runner-up. Each team member of both the teams were given winner and runner-up certificates duly signed by the Chairman, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, New Delhi and were also presented mementoes.

Mr Dharmesh Ramotra SDM Dharamshala was the Chief Guest of the event who gave away the participation certificates to all the participants, winner and runner-up certificates and mementoes to the 1st and 2nd teams. He motivated the students to be aware of our rich heritage and participate in such type of extra-curricular activities for the holistic development. The convenor Dr. Narendra Awasthi, while welcoming the Chief Guest and the Guest of Honour Mr. Ravi Verma Deputy Director HP Public Relations Department apprised the audience the working and relevance of INTACH in the awareness about and the preservation of our art and cultural heritage. He also highlighted the various important projects undertaken and completed by INTACH. He also informed about various divisions of INTACH and restoration works undertaken by INTACH at its New Delhi Headquarters. The convenor of Dharamshala Chapter Dr. Narendra Awasthi, Past convenors Sh. Devender Singh and Sh. Ashwani Kaul, Co-convenor Sh. Sangram Guleria and all other life members of Dharamshala Chapter of INTACH including Ms. Sneha Sharma, Sh. Subhash Sharma, Col. Yashpal Singh Jasrotia, Sh. Vijay Jaikaria, Sh. Som Singh Jaikaria, Er. Tej Singh, Sh. Hari Singh etc., and Ms. Anjali Dodra, the Principal and teachers of the organising school, teachers of other schools escorting the participating students remained present during the event. Mr. Amit Sharma acted as the quiz Master. The event ended with a vote of thanks to all those who were associated with and remained present in the event. Members of Dharamshala Chapter also extended their gratitude towards the management of the school particularly the Director Er. Sanjay Sharotri and the Manager Ms. Neelam Sharotri.



Kargil Vijay Diwas was celebrated INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2023

Jammu & Kashmir

Jammu

Rakshabandhan Celebrations with BSF Jawans at Bop Suchetgarh

Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (**INTACH**), Jammu Chapter in association with Jodhamal Public School, organized Rakshabandhan Celebrations at International Border BSF post Suchetgarh where the students of Jodhamal Public School celebrated the Raksha Bandhan by tying Rakhis to the soldiers.

It was an experience of its kind, and the JMPS students felt deep empathy, love and respect for the first line of defence of our country. As a part of the celebration, the students also distributed sweets and handed over a box full of Rakhis and boxes of chocolates to the Asstt Commandant, BSF for further distributing to the soldiers positioned on the forward posts.

40 students of Classes 5 and 6, brimming with emotions for the nation and its protectors, escorted by the the Principal, Administrative Officer and staff members of the shool namely Ms Deepali Puri, CCA Coordinator (Junior School), Ms Shveta Manga, Ms Amanpreet Kour, Ms Hemu Jaggi and Ms Sonika Chalotra, Art and Craft Teachers of Jodhamal Public School.

Sh. Hemant Sharma (I.A.S Retd.) was the chief guest on the occasion whereas Mr. S.M Sahni (K.A.S Retd.) Convenor INTACH Jammu Chapter presided over the celebrations. The Assistant Commandant B.S.F BOP Suchetgarh along with Officers and Jawans of the Border Security Force joined the celebrations with zeal and enthusiasm. It was a revelation of sorts to all the students and teachers that all soldiers sacrifice the comfort of their family and city life to ensure that we remain safe and protected.

Amidst the chanting of Jai Hind, Vande Matram and Bharat Mata Ki Jay, these young students tied the Rakhis on the wrists of the soldiers, and thanked them for their valour and protection of the nation. The students were also escorted to the Flag Post of Indian side and shown the International Border from where Sialkot, the Pakistani province is

merely 11 kms. The 100-year-old Banyan Tree which is half on the Indian side and half on the Pakistani side was the main attraction.

These Rakhis were made by the students of Jodhamal School in their Art & Craft activity with a lot of warmth and love for the soldiers. They were not pieces of threads, paper or glitters, they contained a lot of emotion for our country and its soldiers. These 40 children carried with them the love and blessings of all Jodhamal School family and expressed their feelings for the soldiers in front of them.

While complimenting the efforts of INTACH Jammu Chapter and the students of Jodhamal Public School for their good work, the Trustee of the School, Mr Nandan Kuthiala said that such activities instil a sense of patriotism and empathy in our children. Mrs Arati Kuthiala, Director of the School also congratulated and appreciated the efforts of the students, teachers and the team of INTACH Jammu Chapter for organising this event with the Jawans at the border outpost.



Rakshabandhan Celebrations with BSF Jawans

Kashmir

Workshop on Endangered Art & Craft of Kashmir: Willow Wicker Craft (04.08.2023)

Willow Wicker Weaving in Kashmir

Willow wicker basket weaving was one of the most important village industries practiced in Kashmir. Each village had its own group of artisans who used to make products for agricultural and household uses, to transport goods like fruits, vegetables, etc from villages to towns.

Products locally known as *Kanger*, *Phutij*, *Manzul*, *Kajaab*, *Sarposh*, *Dail Pheij*, *Kranjul*, *Thool Dail*, *Panj*, *Longin*, *Agphut*, *Wai Phut*, *Tanker*, *Laing*, *Chir*, *Thool Phut*, *Yeit* etc have been a

vital part of everyday life of Kashmiris for centuries. These products are made of wild willow wicker found abundantly in forests. It is also grown in villages of Kashmir where suitable land for cultivation of willow is available.

In 1914-1916, Maharaja Pratap Singh established the first technical Institute at Srinagar with Mr. F. H. Andrews as its Principal. He introduced English willow wicker in and around the marshes of Bagh-i-Dilawar Khan. The Institute imparted training in a variety of arts and crafts including English wicker weaving under an expert from The Britain, Mr. A. E. Abbey. The training included imparting better weaving techniques and raw material processing methods.

A number of artisans were trained in using English willow wicker and in making products like furniture, boxes, picnic baskets, flower baskets, wall hangings, lamp shades, bottle carriers and tiffin carriers, made according to western requirements and tastes. This training led to the setting up of present willow wicker weaving industry in Kashmir.

About the workshop

To create awareness on endangered crafts of Kashmir among students, a workshop was organized by INTACH Kashmir Chapter in collaboration with HECS division of INTACH on 'Willow Wicker Craft'. The workshop was held in Govt. Boys Higher Secondary Institute, Soura. It was a part of Pan-India program of HECS Division to disseminate knowledge on endangered arts and crafts of India with the purpose of creating awareness among school children by organizing different workshops and engaging students in art & craft-related activities. A group of around 60 students from class 7th - 10th participated in the workshop. The Chapter invited a master craftsman of willow wicker, Mr. Abdul Gani from Srinagar, to demonstrate the craft activities and give an onsite experience to the participants about the process involved in making the final product ready for the market. There was a great excitement among students to have such a rare practical session in their classroom. The cooperation of the Principal and the teachers of the Institute made this workshop a success and most rewarding for the students.

In the introductory session, Mr. Altaf Hussain, Convener INTACH Kashmir Chapter, briefly explained the historical background of Willow Wicker craft in Kashmir. It was followed by the main session of craft demonstration by Mr. Gani. The participants were then divided into four groups and were given the task to try their hands on willow wicker under the guidance of master craftsman. This was to encourage students to understand the craft process better and enhance their creative skills with practical knowledge. Among the four groups formed, the group comprising of students from Boys Middle School Soura and Boys Middle School Zakura submitted the best entries.



Group comprising students from BMS Soura and Best entries submitted by the group.



A group photo with participants and the staff of GBHS School at the end of the workshop.

Karnataka

Dharwad

Minutes of the Annual GB Meeting

Activities undertaken by the chapter were read by the co convenor,

Audited accounts were presented by Co convenor Shri Dharwadkar proposed and Prof Kulkarni seconded the passing of the accounts Members appreciated the presentation of accounts

Appointment of Auditors

Convenor suggested that the present auditors should continue

Convenor informed the house about the suggested activities by INTACH for the second quarter, or crafts workshop and quiz competition. Convenor requested members to suggest activities and also take part.

The house was informed about migration of associate life members to associate and life member category, the associate life members were given the new membership forms for earlier completion and submission. Some members suggested that meeting should be called every month.

Convenor informed the house that executive committee meeting was held every month so G B Meeting could be held once in two months.

There being no other point the meeting was closed with the vote of thanks.

Mangalore

Vocal Concert By Pt. Ravikiran Held

Times News Network

Mangaluru: The Indian National Trust for Arts & Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Mangaluru chapter, in association with Art Kanara Trust and Chiranthana Charitable Trust, Surathkal, organized 'A morning with Pandit Ravikiran Manipal', a Hindustani vocal music concert, at Kodial Guthu Centre for Arts & Culture here on Sunday. Pandit Ravikiran was accompanied by Bharavi Deraje on tabla, Shashikiran Manipal on harmonium, and Damodar Hegde on tanpura and for vocal support.

The Baithak proved to be a continuous shower of morning ragas. It started off with a beautiful rendition of Nat Bhairavi (three compositions), and ended with the soothing Tumri in raag Pilu. This is the fifth Baithak at Kodialguthu conducted under the musical heritage of Karnataka series organized by INTACH, Mangaluru chapter. The intimate setting of a heritage house provided the perfect ambience for a classical musical experience.

Ravikiran is an A grade vocalist of All India Radio, Mangaluru. He had his initial training under Pandit Madhava Bhat, Udupi, a well-known guru of the Agra Gwalior Gharana. He later received his tutelage under Pandit Narayana Pandit. He obtained 'Sangeet Alankar' from his Akhil Bhartiya Gandharv Maha Vidyalaya and 'Vidwat' from the Karnataka Secondary Education Board. He has performed at many music festivals in India and toured Gulf countries, Malaysia and Singapore.

Subhas Chandra Basu, Convener of INTACH, Mangaluru chapter, welcomed the gathering and initiated the Baithak. The programme is supported by the department of Kannada and culture.

Madhya Pradesh

Bhopal

INTACH Bhopal Chapter conducts a 7-days Certificate course on 'Ancient Indian Scripts'

The Department of Archaeology, in collaboration with the INTACH Bhopal chapter, convened a comprehensive 7-day certificate course aimed at reigniting the scholarly interest in historical and related disciplines concerning ancient Indian scripts such as Brahmi, Kharosthi, Sharada, and others. The workshop drew more than 65 participants, encompassing researchers, scholars, historians, and archaeologists, all eager to acquire knowledge of these ancient languages and their associated scripts.

The workshop, conducted in a hands-on format, was overseen by the distinguished resource person, Professor Dr. T.S. Ravi Shankar, whose extensive expertise in epigraphy spans over 35 years, garnered during his tenure with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), where he held the position of Director of Epigraphy at ASI, Mysore, prior to his retirement.

As conveyed by Shri Madan Mohan Upadhyay, the convener of the Bhopal chapter and co-host, this collaborative endeavor attracted participants from across the nation, particularly historians and history enthusiasts. Upon successful completion of the workshop, attendees received certificates, with a registration fee of Rs 700 required from each participant.

This 7-day workshop, commencing on August 12, 2023, was held at MPT Palash Residency and encompassed an exhaustive curriculum spanning seven days and five hours, dedicated to elucidating the evolution of ancient languages and their scripts.

Until the year 1838, the Brahmi script remained largely unknown in India, having faded into obscurity for over a millennium. The cultural transformations of preceding centuries had eroded the knowledge and comprehension of our invaluable ancient scripts, including Brahmi, the script in which all the Rock Edicts of the Ashokan period and subsequent dynasties were composed.

The revival of Brahmi in 1838, spearheaded by Captain James Princep, who served at the Calcutta mint and edited the journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, was a momentous turning point in history. Captain Princep embarked on deciphering the previously enigmatic Rock Edicts and stone inscriptions, revealing insights that reshaped historical narratives. These inscriptions, distributed across the Indian subcontinent and the former Mauryan Empire, were inscribed at the behest of the revered Emperor Ashok the Great, addressed therein as Priyadarshi.

The rediscovery of Brahmi by James Princep heralded a renaissance in research, with scholars delving into similar inscriptions that had persisted for centuries. The Bharhut and Sanchi monuments of the Buddhist era, adorned with Brahmi inscriptions, were among the initial subjects of Captain Princep's interpretative work.

This Bhopal workshop, spanning seven days, marked a pioneering initiative, offering participants a rich and enlightening experience to share. Shrimati Urmila Shukla, Commissioner of Archaeology and Museums, inaugurated the workshop on August 12 and later distributed certificates on August 19 at the State Archaeology Museum. During the workshop, participants had the opportunity to visit Sanchi, gaining hands-on experience in interpreting and comprehending Brahmi script and Ashokan period inscriptions in a field setting.

The workshop drew a diverse cohort of 65 participants from various corners of the country, with one attendee traveling from Chennai and others from cities like Vadodara

and Jaipur, all at their own expense, to partake in this unique educational opportunity in Bhopal. Notable highlights of the workshop included a field visit to Sanchi for practical exposure to Brahmi inscriptions on monuments, instruction in Estampage techniques at the State Museum in Bhopal using authentic ancient stone inscriptions, and daily practice sessions.

By the conclusion of the second day, all participants had successfully written their names in the Brahmi script, leaving them immensely gratified by this newfound skill, which equips them to decipher ancient stone inscriptions and manuscripts from the Sunga, Maurya, Kushan, and other related dynasties that thrived approximately two millennia ago.

The seven-day workshop has established a proficient team in Madhya Pradesh capable of facilitating further research in this field. Notably, the Harappan script remains undeciphered to date, posing an enduring challenge to scholars and linguists.



Bhopal Chapter conducts a 7-days Certificate course on 'Ancient Indian Scripts'

Datia

1. Successful organization of Madhukar ceremony - 12 special persons bestowed with Madhukar Sammans.

Anil Jangid fascinated audience with his flute.

Madhukar Vani and Datia Dham Vrindavan were released.

Datia - Madhukar Samaroh was organized in the Gahoi Vatika Sita Sagar auditorium on the 13th death anniversary of famous litterateur and musician Pandit Mahesh Mishra Madhukar, in which 12 people of the country were bestowed with Madhukar awards. This year's National Madhukar Award was given to Shri Atul Dwivedi, Director, Uttar Pradesh Folk & Tribal Culture Institute. Madhukar Archaeological Conservation Award was given to Shri Rupesh Upadhyay Additional Collector Datia, Sur Madhukar Award to Dr. Asmita Mishra Hyderabad, Nritya Madhukar Award to Dr. Lalita Kundu, dancer, New Delhi, Vadya (instrument) Madhukar Award to Ms. Ritu Tiwari, Agra, Sitar player. Besides, other honors include Narayandas Sharma, Chitra Ratna Samman Bandana Shivhare Shivpuri, Ustad Dhunnulal Samman Hitesh Mishra Datia, Instrumental Vineet Samman Tabla player Hariom Mahor, Agra, Instrumental Vineet Samman Shri Anil Jangid, flute player, Jaipur, Poet Madhup Samman Shivangi Purohit Gwalior, Swar Archana Samman Divitya Tiwari was awarded to young singer Bhandar. After the award

ceremony, an All India Music Conference was organized in which renowned artists of the country gave their performances. Chief Guest of Madhukar program was Mr. Atul Dwivedi, Lucknow, program was presided over by Mr. Pankaj Shukla, former Municipality President, Special Guest was Rupesh Upadhyay, Additional Collector, Datia and Dr. Atsi Mishra, ODC dancer, New Delhi were present in the program. The program started with the worship of Maa Saraswati which was presented by the students of Sangeet Gurukul. After this, hospitality was done by Pawan Sharma, Manoj Mishra, Santosh Mishra Sharma, Sanjay Bhatt. Maa Pitambara Ki Satithi composed by Madhukar Mishra, Tanvi Arjariya presented Akanksha Bhole Le with her melodious voice. In his address on this occasion, Shri Rupesh Upadhyay said that Madhukar Mishra will always be remembered for preserving the tradition and culture of education. Chief Guest Shri Atul Trivedi said that we have a very old relationship with Pandit Mahesh Kumar Mishra. The creative work done by him towards the culture of Bundelkhand will be known as invaluable heritage in the field of culture. In his speech, Mr. Pankaj Shukla said that respected Madhukar Mishra was rich in all-round talent. His disciples are doing excellent work in their respective fields today. The outline and welcome speech of the program was presented by Vinod Mishra and coordinated by Anoop Goswami. On this occasion, the book Datia Dham Vrindaban written by Smrika Madhukar Vani and Vinod Mishra was released. The award ceremony was followed by an all-India musical program in which bhajans by Divitya Tiwari and renditions by Asmita Mishra presented the typical circumstances of Shastriya Sangeet. When Dr. Asmita Mishra presented Thumri and Dadra and Jhula songs from Banaras, the audience in the auditorium mesmerized. In the next episode of the program, Agra's Ritu Tiwari attracted the audience by her typical presentation of Gat, Jhala and Taan with her sitar playing. On the other hand, Hitesh Mishra, Manoj Mishra and Hariom Mahore enthralled the audience with tabla playing. In the last phase of the program, the flute playing of Anil Jangid of Jaipur resounded in the auditorium and the program ended with the tune of Mahatma Gandhi's song Vaishna Jan To Tene Kahiye, which people will remember for a long time. Ravi Bhushan Khare coordinated the program and Rishiraj Mishra expressed gratitude. Madhukar Research Institute, INTUC Datia Immigrain Pioneer New Delhi's members and workers had special cooperation in the event.

In Madhukar function - Release of Datia Dham Vrindavan

Datia - The book Datia Dham Vrindavan, focused on the history and archeology of Datia, was released at the Madhukar Samaroh 2023 organized by INTACH Datia. Written by Vinod Mishra Surmani, Convenor, INTACH Datia Chapter, this book contains a collection of articles focused on culture, archeology and art. The book was released by Chief Guest Mr. Atul Dwivedi, Director, Uttar Pradesh Folk & Tribal Culture Institute, Additional Collector & Nodal Officer, District Archeology & Culture Council, Datia, Mr. Rupesh Upadhyay, former municipality president and Chairman of the program Mr. Pankaj Shukla, Odissi dancer Dr. Atsi. Mishra, Pawan Sharma, Deputy Convenor of the Madhukar ceremony, Director of Lines Publications, Gwalior. Kashak Purohit, Manoj Mishra.

On this occasion, the author of the preface of the book, Raj Narayan Bohare gave information about the book.

INTACH Datia showed Datia Museum to girl students

Datia- INTACH Datia Chapter took some selected girl students participating in the Khana Khazana competition to visit the Datia Museum and informed them about the ancient heritage of Datia. Earlier, some girl students selected in Khana Khazana organized by Datia Chapter were shown the museum established by Datia District Archeology & Tourism Culture Council and INTACH Datia, in which the students were happy to see the ancient sculptures, coins, weapons etc. They gather information about ancient objects from INTACH Convenor, Vinod Mishra. On this occasion, lecturer Rajni Arjariya Umacharan Sharma, Ajay Pabaya Ashwani Thakur from Radha Ballabh Mishra Museum etc. were present.

Competitions like Khana Khazana preserve our traditional dishes - Shantanu Agarwal
Datia - The Khana Khazana competition organized by INTACH Datia Chapter last month preserves the cuisines prevalent in the culture of Bundelkhand. It also inspires our students to know them because traditional dishes are our heritage and are beneficial for our health. Today I congratulate the participants who were awarded in this competition and hope that they will participate enthusiastically in such traditional and cultural competitions. Mr. Shantanu Agarwal Chief Trustee Rawatpura College Datia expressed the above views as Chief Guest. He was speaking at the prize distribution function of Khana Khazana organized by INTACH Datia. He said that the INTACH is an organization working for tradition, culture and archaeology, which along with awareness, introduces its culture to school children through art. He said that Datia is a place of Bundelkhand which has its own identity in archeology and culture as well as in its customs, cuisine, dress etc. That's why we should ensure our participation in such competitions. The program was organized in the auditorium of Bachpan Academic School, in which the program was presided over by Principal Mrs. Trupti Khare and Mr. Shantanu Agarwal was present as the Chief Guest. First of all, the Coordinator of the Khana Khazana competition, Uma Charan Sharma, Mrs. Kiran Singh etc. welcomed the guests present. The outline of the program was presented by Vinod Mishra, Convenor, Datia INTACH and invited member of Archaeological Tourism & Culture Council, Datia. On this occasion, the contestants of the Khana Khazana competition organized last month were rewarded. It should be known that 9000 students from all over India had sent their pictures and essays to Delhi. Out of that, Kumari Tamanna Bharti, a student of Holy Cross Ashram, Datia, was awarded for standing 27th. Along with this, participation certificates were given to the students of other schools.

Jitendra Jaiswal Academic Director, Radhavallabh Mishra School staff were present in the program. The program was conducted by Manas scholar and Manager of the school Mr. Anoop Goswami Mayur.



Khana Khazana competition

2. Anshika won in painting and the students of Maa Saraswati Gyan Mandir won in the quiz.

The culture and heritage of Bundelkhand is the heritage of the nation - Hargobind Kushwaha."

Datia. Today, remembering Dr. Madhu Srivastava, we all are remembering his art practice and INTACH Datia Chapter is feeling proud to do this work. Commemorating his memory with a painting competition is a consolation and true tribute to him. The above views were expressed by Hargovind Kushwaha, Scholar, folk culture who has the status of Minister of State, and Vice President of the Buddhist Research Institute, Uttar Pradesh. He said that competitions advance our intellectual and cultural development; hence we must participate in such competitions. Shri Kushwaha was speaking as the Chief Guest of National Heritage Quiz and folk artist Dr. Madhu Srivastava Smriti Painting Competition organised by INTACH Datia. He honored Datia's folk artist Meera Bulkiya and motivational expert Sita Panigrahi Gwalior and rewarded the students who participated in the quiz and painting competition. This competition was held in the auditorium of Bachpan Academic School which was presided over by the Director of the school, Jitesh Khare. Sita Panigrahi was present as a Special Guest. A detailed introduction was given by Rajni Arjariya on the personality of Dr. Madhu Srivastava. In her speech, Special Guest Sita Panigrahi told the students that we should participate in such competitions to move ahead so that we can become responsible citizens and preserve our arts. The judges of the painting competition were Dr. Pramendra Sharma, Seema Upadhyay and Kiran Kushwaha. The role of Rishi Raj Mishra, Dharmendra Agarwal, Satyendra Khare was important in the quiz competition. The program was started by worshipping Mother Saraswati and garlanding the portrait of Dr. Madhu Srivastava. The guests were welcomed by INTACH members Dr. Anita Bundela, Vinod Tiwari, Deepak Kumar Srivastava, Raghavendra Mishra. The outline of the program was presented by District Coordinator Vinod Mishra. On this occasion, the entire jury and Manager Anoop Goswami were also honored by the guests. As a reward, Shield and Certificate were given to the students and a certificate of Rs. 750/- was given to Maa Saraswati Gyan Mandir as first prize in the quiz competition. The second prize was given to Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Bharatgarh and the third prize was given to Holy Cross School. In the painting competition, first place was given to Kumari Janushk Srivastava,

Holy Cross School, second place to Rishika Balkia, third place to Jaishi Mudgal School student, along with this, five consolation prizes were also given. The students present and participating in the program were given certificates, newsletters and dot pens as gifts.



Quiz and painting competition

Dhar

1. Heritage Quiz was organized by INTACH Dhar Chapter on 3rd September 2023. 81 students and teachers from seven schools participated in the quiz. Correct heritage knowledge won a prize, for a wrong answer zero marks. Vikas Jaiswal and Devendra of the excellent school team Jahaz Mahal, secured the first position. Garvita Yadav and Duranjay Singh of Hindola Mahal Dhar Public School team stood second. Harshvardhan Patidar and Pramit Jain of Rani Roopmati team got the third position. The participating children also won prizes by giving attractive and correct answers to the winning teams. Convenor Dr. Dipendra Sharma said that the winning team will participate in the state level quiz. In the interval of written quiz and oral quiz, the children also took a heritage walk to the fort. The children were given certificates and winners received attractive books, prizes and certificates.

2. Heritage knowledge fetches prizes, wrong answers get laddu (zero)

INTACH Heritage Quiz Jahazmahal team won

Heritage Quiz was organized by INTACH Dhar Chapter on 3rd September 2023. Our heritage is famous in the world, it is necessary that we also know our heritage. Students play an important role in knowing and preserving their heritage. In this series, HECS Division of INTACH Central Office, Delhi also organized Heritage Quiz at Dhar. 81 students and teachers from seven schools participated in the quiz. Correct heritage knowledge won a prize, for a wrong answer laddoos i.e. zero marks. Vikas Jaiswal and Devendra etc of the excellent school team Jahaz Mahal, secured the first position.

Garvita Yadav and Duranjay Singh of Hindola Mahal Dhar Public School team stood second.

Harshvardhan Patidar and Pramit Jain of Rani Roopmati team got the third position. The participating children also won prizes by giving attractive and correct answers to the winning teams. INTACH Dhar Chapter's Convenor Dr. Dipendra Sharma said that the winning team will participate in the state level quiz. In the interval of written quiz and oral quiz, the children also took a heritage walk to the fort. The children were given certificates and winners get attractive books, prizes and certificates.

Mrs. Hansa Guner as Quiz Scorer; Mrs. Jyoti Rathore in the role of timer; Shikha Sharma, Priyanka Jain, Suresh Muvel, Manoj Jangde, Durgesh Nagar, Harihardutt Shukla remained in the role of observers. The names of the winners were announced by the Quiz Convenor Mrs. Meenakshi Lahre. This information was given by Media in-charge Raki Makkar.



INTACH Heritage Quiz Jahazmahal team won

Katni

With the establishment of Katni INTACH Chapter, various efforts are being made to promote and popularize the history, archeology and culture of the district. Last year, a decision was taken with the district administration to publish a book on Katni. In this regard, a Working Committee was formed, relevant material was collected and its compilation was prepared by editing. When the material was presented before the district administration, Katni Collector Mr. Avi Prasad proposed to organize a daily Quiz Competition based on it. Moreover, Katni Red Cross Society was given the responsibility of giving daily cash prizes to the participants.

In the Katni ko Jaane Competition, questions based on history of Katni district, archaeology, geography, natural wealth, language, dialect, culture, folklore, resident water resources, wells, rivers, drains, reservoirs, migratory birds, famous personalities of Katni district, fairs of the district, markets, railways, Manohar Village Karaundi, the geographical center point of India, theater institutions, sports, food, literature and

litterateurs, education, Venkat Library, historical forts, Ashoka's inscription, various temples, mosques, churches and gurudwaras, business and economic aspects, district administration etc. were asked.

The entire competition was organized by INTACH Katni Chapter Convenor, Mohan Nagwani, Co-Convenor Rajendra Singh Thakur and Senior Member Dr. Chitra Prabhat. Coordination was done by Nodal Officer Shri Vivek Dubey on behalf of the district administration. The online competition was conducted by District Information Officer Shri Prafulla Srivastava.

INTACH Katni Chapter collected material from many sources for various information about Katni district, including the book "Katni's contribution in the national freedom movement" (1857-1947) published by INTACH Katni and written by INTACH Katni's founder member Dr. Amit Sahu, the book Katni Ka Itihas written by Dr. RN Srivastava, Co-Convenor, Jabalpur INTACH Chapter, "Chalain Katni ki Sair Par" published by the District Public Relations Department (Edited by Shri Sunil Verma) and the book Katni Atit Darshan written by Shri Rajendra Prasad Aggarwal were prominent. Apart from this, material was also made available by Jabalpur's storytellers Shri Dinesh Chaudhary, Shri Nishant Rai, litterateur Devendra Kumar Pathak, Dr. Jitendra Bhargava etc.

Under the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav "Katni ko Jaane" and on the occasion of International Red Cross Day on every working day from 8th May to 14th August 2023, 2-3 pages of information related to Katni district and 10 questions based on it were asked online on the Katni district site of the National Information Centre. More than 14000 participants took part in this competition which lasted for a total of 69 days, in which first prize of Rs. 1000/-, second prize of Rs. 500/-, third prize of Rs. 300/- and fourth prize of Rs. 200/- were selected at random by computer. The certificate was given by the Collector, Katni, Shri Avi Prasad. Thus 276 participants were awarded an amount of Rs. 1,38,000/-. The participants in the competition were from all over India.

The successful participants of the Katni Ko Jaane competition were invited to the main program organized by the district administration on 15th August 2023 and Vivek Dubey, Mohan Nagwani, Dr. Chitra Prabhat, Rajendra Singh Thakur, Rajendra Prasad Aggarwal were honored with certificates.



Katni ko Jaane competition

Mandla

1. Activities

- Narmada Parikrama-cum-Heritage Yatra 25, 26 and 27 August 2023
- Study, observation and cataloging of heritage sites.
- Meeting with the primitive tribe Baiga in their village Chadha and study & observation of their rural environment.
- After that, under their painting program, a study will be conducted on Gond Chitrakari painting and its present prevalence in village Patan Garh.
- Present scenario of primitive human cave at village Sakka.
- Purva Mukhi Garhi (Chandwara) where the sun casts its first ray on the pagoda.
- Three-day parikrama of life-giving Mother Narmada (starting from Rapta Ghat Mandla to Sangamghat, Maharajpur Mandla)
- Selection and marking of places for putting signage board that will provide prior information to the pilgrims about the shelter places on their way to Amarkantak Narmada Parikrama and back.

2. Freedom struggle Mandla-Dindori book released in Aadi Utsav

The Guest said that the new generation will get significant information after seeing the pictorial and poignant description of rare historical facts in the work of late Girijashankar Aggarwal. Goa Assembly Speaker Ramesh Tawadkar, Union Minister Vishweshwar Tuddu and Faggan Singh Kulaste released the book in Jabalpur. The book Freedom Struggle Mandla-Dindori, written by historian late Girijashankar Agarwal was released in the Aadi Utsav ceremony organized at Ramnagar in Mandla district, which has gained national fame. Among the guests present on the stage, Goa State Assembly Speaker Ramesh Tawadkar, Union Minister Vishweshwar Tuddu and Mandla MP and Union Minister Faggan Singh Kulaste, while releasing the book said that late Girijashankar Aggarwal has in this book written about the country's first freedom struggle from 1857 to 1947 in Mandla, the freedom fighters and revolutionaries of Dindori. In this, he has also mentioned many rare materials as an author. The subject matter of this book mainly includes when and what feats did these freedom fighters did in the struggle with the British Government, what sacrifices they made and what difficulties they faced, except going to jail. Poignant pictorial depiction of the tortures they faced etc. has been described and published. Referring to this, the guests said that Late Shri Girijashankar Aggarwal ji had spent a long time to collect this rare material and brought this book to its final form. Due to this, today the new generation is able to become familiar with this history. The order related to the case conducted by the British Government against Gond Raja Shankarshah and Kunwar Raghunath Shah has also been published in the book. The horoscope of the great freedom fighter Veer Udaychandra ji and Mahatma Gandhi who came to Mandla in 1933 have also been illustrated and published. It was told in the program that this book has been published by Mandla Chapter in collaboration with INTACH Delhi. Late Girijashankar Aggarwal wrote this book on the special request of Swaraj Sansthan Directorate, Bhopal, for which he collected material related to the history of freedom struggle scattered in Mandla-Dindori district. Everyone including Arun Agarwal, son of late Girijashankar Agarwal, Jyotiprakash Agarwal, INTACH Convenor Vijay Agarwal and State Coordinator of BJP Traders Cell Sharad Agarwal were present

in the function. On this occasion, along with the biography of Late Girijashankar Agarwal, his personality and works were also highlighted.



Release of book 'Freedom struggle Mandla-Dindori' in Aadi Utsav

Sagar

Buddha statues and stupas found in Budho village of Sagar district. Sagar district can boast of the presence of an official Buddhist site. Although the credit for discovering this Buddhist site goes to IAS Mr. Manoj Srivastava, but because of him this place remained extinct for almost 30 years. During his posting in Sagar district in 1992, he brought four beautiful idols of Lord Buddha from this place and handed them over to the District Archaeological Museum. During that time the documentation of these idols was not done properly. No record is found when asked in the museum. These idols displayed in the gallery mention a place called 'Bundi' in the receipt site. There is no village of this name in Sagar district. A few years back, I went to the Archaeological Museum and discussed with the then guide Dr. Rakesh Mishra about the location of the place where these idols were found. He had told that possibly Sagar Manoj, the then Additional Collector from Rahatgarh block Srivastava had brought them. When I could not find a village called Bundi in Rahatgarh block, I had stopped the search. But as of now, to my knowledge, this is the only Buddhist archaeological site in Sagar district which has been rediscovered in a way.

Along with the pillar and statue remains, the site of receipt of Buddha statues of the museum was also discovered. The fact is that these idols were brought from Budho Gram. According to explorer Atul Jain, this village is situated near Kanera Gaur on Jaruakheda to Pithoria road. Atul found the remains of a Buddhist stupa and Buddha statue on a hill here. After discussing with the villagers of Budho, they came to know that Mr. Manoj Srivastava had taken four idols from here. Those four idols were placed around the stupa. The stone pillar which is visible in the picture was in the center of the stupa. Treasure hunters destroyed 40 percent of this stupa in an attempt to open it. Then this pillar fell which the villagers have erected near the stupa. Harmika etc. must have been attached to this pillar at some point of time.

The name of Budho village itself indicates Buddha. The names of the surrounding villages also indicate that this entire region must have been associated with Buddhism. The names of these villages are Jamudeep (Jambudeep), Pali, Dharmapuri, Budhaun etc. The nearest Buddhist sites are at Gyaraspur, about 45 km away in Vidisha district, or at Udayagiri, 70 km away. Geographically Budho village is in Khurai assembly constituency. Looking at the size of the stupa, it seems that it is similar to the medium sized stupas found around Sanchi. In the article on the plaques of the District Archaeological Museum, these idols have been told to be from eighth to tenth century. It is beyond understanding on what basis the period was determined. Determining the chronological order on the basis of the craft of Buddha statues is a complex task. In the stupas of Sanchi, Buddha is not carved in human form, but large figures like swastika are made on the pillar. Availability of nearby records is also possible. IAS Manoj Srivastava has become a busier and bigger officer after retirement. Could not talk to him in two attempts. Wanted to know from him whether any records were found during that time? Srivastava has become a busier and bigger officer after retirement. Could not talk to him in two attempts. Wanted to know from him whether any records were found during that time? Srivastava has become a busier and bigger officer after retirement. Could not talk to him in two attempts. Wanted to know from him whether any records were found during that time?

However, after a few months, when the weather is favorable and the vegetation is less, Budho will further investigate the area around the stupa in the village. Till then, if any government organization does this work, it is welcome. Even more important is that there is a need for conservation and development of Buddhas, which have registered the name of Sagar district on the map of Buddhist archaeological sites.



Site visit of Buddha statues and stupas found in Budho village

Maharashtra

Nagpur

1. INTACH'S HERITAGE CLUB INSTALLATION

INTACH Nagpur Chapter recently established its 'Heritage Club' at Essence International School, Nagpur. The installation ceremony was a momentous occasion with 70 students as club members. The clubs are established to instill a sense of pride, responsibility, and cultural sensibility among these enthusiastic young children.

Dr. Madhura Rathod, Convenor along with Mr. Manoj Jain, Co-Convenor of INTACH Nagpur Chapter had graced the occasion. Dr. Madhura spoke about the significance of the Heritage Club and how it could serve as a platform for the students to explore and appreciate the diverse traditions, customs, and historical landmarks of India. 'The need of the time is to awaken these children to pay attention towards climate change, water crises and other alarming aspects that could help our future generations to preserve and cherish the rich heritage of India' - said Dr. Madhura.

Children's enthusiasm was reflected in enthralling cultural performances including traditional dances, and melodious welcome songs. The ceremony concluded with the distribution of INTACH badges, passports, and an INTACH Heritage Club pledge, symbolizing their journey toward heritage explorations and experiences. The vote of thanks was in Hindi appreciating the efforts of the school Principal Mrs. Beena Menon, the heritage club in charge-Mrs. Vandana Shaw and other teaching and non-teaching staff.

2. Our Heritage: Our Pride - REPORT

With a view to reinforcing heritage education, INTACH Nagpur Chapter has established the INTACH Heritage Club at Aspire International School, Nagpur.

The Installation Ceremony was graced by the assembly of Chief Guests comprised of the esteemed Dr. Madhura Rathod, Convener, INTACH Nagpur Chapter, Dr. Avishkar Rathod - Assistant Professor at VNIT, Nagpur, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering, and Mr. Atul Kotecha - Editor of Vidarbha Ki Baat News Paper.

The event was initiated with the lighting of the lamp. The dignitaries were then felicitated with gifts. This was ensued by their uplifting speeches. Dr. Madhura emphasized the need to conserve and protect our heritage. Dr. Avishkar Rathod's interaction with the students was one of the outstanding features of the occasion, highlighting the role of materials, their significance in heritage, and the need to be alert to their utilization. A splendid group song and a scintillating solo dance marked the celebrations.

The dignitaries then pinned the badges to the students who vowed to conserve, preserve and safeguard the heritage. The event was a success and culminated with a vote of thanks under the guidance of the in-charge Ms. Ramkumari Karnahke.

3. The establishment of the Heritage Club at Delhi Public School, Lava, Nagpur, by the INTACH Nagpur Chapter. The initiative was successfully organized and executed on 11-

08-2023 by the Convenor of INTACH Nagpur Chapter, with the school Principal, Mrs. Anupama Sagdeo, extending her valuable support to the event.

The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolizing the commencement of a new journey in heritage preservation. This traditional practice was carried out with reverence and was attended by the participants, including the school Principal, teaching staff, students, and the admin staff.

A captivating street play was performed by the students, focusing on various aspects of heritage conservation and the importance of preserving cultural and historical sites. The play engaged the audience and effectively conveyed the message of heritage awareness. Dr. Madhura Rathod delivered an insightful speech, highlighting the significance of heritage preservation and the role of the Heritage Club in fostering a sense of responsibility towards our cultural legacy.

To symbolize the affiliation of the students with the Heritage Club, badges were distributed to them. Additionally, heritage passports were given to each member, encouraging them to explore, learn and document about heritage. The program included a moment where all the participants, including students, and teachers, took a solemn heritage pledge to actively participate in the preservation and promotion of our rich heritage.

The school Principal, Mrs. Anupama Sagdeo, expressed gratitude to the Convenor and INTACH for their efforts in establishing the Heritage Club. The event concluded with a vote of thanks extended by the Heritage Club In-Charges, Mrs. Smrittee Pradhan and Vishakha Chauhan.

4. The students of Smt. Manoramabai Mundle College of Architecture embarked on a captivating journey through history and culture as they participated in a Heritage Walk to the Kalyaneshwar Shiv Temple, guided by the renowned heritage enthusiast, Dr. Madhura Rathod, Convenor of INTACH Nagpur Chapter. This excursion was organized to provide the students with an opportunity to explore and appreciate the rich architectural, cultural, and historical significance of this ancient temple.

The primary objective of the heritage walk was to educate students about the architectural and historical heritage of Kalyaneshwar Shiv Temple.

Dr. Madhura Rathod provided insightful commentary and historical context along with a brief introduction to the significance of heritage preservation. At the temple, she highlighted the temple's architecture, sculptures, inscriptions, and its religious and historical importance. She provided insights into the history and legends associated with the Kalyaneshwar Shiv Temple, connecting it to Nagpur's past.

Students had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussions with Dr. Rathod about various aspects of heritage preservation, architecture, and history.

The heritage walk to the Kalyaneshwar Shiv Temple was an enlightening and enriching experience for the students of Smt. Manoramabai Mundle College of Architecture. It allowed them to connect their academic knowledge with the real-world application and instilled in them a sense of responsibility towards preserving our cultural heritage.

5. Dr. Madhura Rathod, Convenor of INTACH Nagpur Chapter and Governing Council Member, INTACH New Delhi, delivered an exciting and encouraging presentation on

September 07th, 2023, at the Rotary Mid-town 3030 chapter on the important work undertaken by the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH). Her presentation highlighted the significant contributions of INTACH in preserving India's rich cultural heritage.

She began her presentation by explaining INTACH's mission to protect, preserve, and promote India's diverse cultural heritage. 'The organization's vision is to safeguard this heritage for future generations and INTACH Nagpur Chapter will strive at its best potential', said Dr. Rathod.

She explained how INTACH collaborates with communities to raise awareness, encourage pride in cultural heritage, and create a sense of ownership and explicitly explained some of INTACH's noteworthy heritage conservation projects across India and Nepal.

She provided historical context, emphasizing that Nagpur city is home to a plethora of tangible and intangible cultural assets, including historic buildings, art, manuscripts, and traditional crafts. Many of these assets are under threat due to urbanization and neglect.

INTACH's educational programs were discussed, which aim to educate the public, especially students, about the importance of preserving cultural heritage. These programs include heritage walks, Heritage Club establishments, workshops, and outreach events.

The presentation also touched upon the challenges faced by the INTACH Nagpur Chapter, such as limited resources and the need for broader public support. She discussed the organization's future goals, including expanding its reach and impact.

This presentation provided a comprehensive overview of INTACH's invaluable work in conserving India's cultural heritage and called for greater community involvement and support in achieving this noble goal.

Dr. Rathod concluded her presentation by encouraging the Rotary Mid-town 3030 members to get involved in heritage conservation efforts, emphasizing that preserving India's cultural heritage is a collective responsibility.



Ceremony for students as club members



Our Heritage: Our Pride

6. I am delighted to provide you with a comprehensive report on the successful execution of the INTACH Inter-School Heritage Quiz 2023, Nagpur City-level Round. This event was conducted in association with the Rotary Club of Nagpur Mihan Town. The event took place on Friday, September 15th, 2023 at Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Nagpur Circle building.

The planning and coordination efforts taken by INTACH Nagpur Chapter, Rotary Club of Nagpur Mihan Town, and ASI, Nagpur Circle, were executed seamlessly.

All logistical arrangements, including venue setup, registration, and audio-visual equipment, were efficiently managed by INTACH Nagpur Chapter. A total of 97 students, representing 11 different schools from Nagpur, participated in the city-level round. The enthusiasm and eagerness displayed by the students were remarkable and reflected their keen interest in heritage conservation.

The guest for the event were Mr. Arun Malik, Superintending Archaeologist, ASI, Nagpur. The Guest of Honour was Mr. Abhijit Pophale, President, Rotary Club, Mihan Town, Nagpur. The program started with lighting the lamp and the brief introduction to the works under taken by INTACH.

The Quiz master Mr. Anup Manchalwar planned the rounds very effectively. Our panel of esteemed judges and experienced quizmaster ensured fair and unbiased conduct of the quiz. The quiz questions were well-researched and balanced, covering various aspects of heritage, including history, culture, personalities, art, and architecture. The quiz rounds, including multiple-choice questions, audio-visual rounds, and rapid-fire rounds, kept the participants engaged and challenged their knowledge.

The six top-performing teams were recognized and awarded prizes to encourage and appreciate their efforts. Prizes included certificates, books on heritage, trophies to the Schools, medals to the students, and other educational materials. The list of winners is given below in the table:

WINNERS	NAME OF THE SCHOOL	NAME OF THE STUDENTS

FIRST	Bhartiya Vidhya Mandir, Trimurti Nagar, Nagpur	Ashay Chaudhari (Standard-X)	Madhur Chandak (Standard-X)
SECOND	Bhartiya Vidhya Mandir, Trimurti Nagar, Nagpur	Samyak Dange (Standard-X)	Dhruv Korde (Standard-X)
THIRD	Delhi Public School, Mihan, Nagpur	Swesthika.S. (Standard-VII)	Adarsh Tiwari (Standard-VIII)
FOURTH	Narayana Vidhyalayam, Chinchbhavan, Nagpur	Anshita Dudhe (Standard-VIII)	Shlok Lonarkar (Standard-IX)
FIFTH	Bhartiya Vidhya Mandir, Trimurti Nagar, Nagpur	Indrani Kaduskar (Standard-IX)	--
SIXTH	Delhi Public School, Mihan, Nagpur	Arin Ghosh (Standard-X)	Varad Sane (Standard-VII)

The event drew an enthusiastic audience, including parents, teachers, and heritage enthusiasts, who actively supported and cheered for the participants. The collaborative efforts of INTACH, Rotary Club of Nagpur Mihan Town, and ASI were instrumental in the event's success. Such partnerships promote awareness of heritage conservation and educational initiatives in our community.

This event tested the knowledge of young participants and showed their inclination and appreciation for our rich cultural heritage. The event demonstrated the potential for educational and community organizations to work together in promoting heritage conservation.



INTACH Inter-School Heritage Quiz 2023

7. The INTACH Heritage Club Installation Ceremony at Dinanath School, Nagpur, held on 21st September 2023, was a remarkable event that marked the official establishment of the school's INTACH Heritage Club. The ceremony was graced by the presence of

INTACH Nagpur Chapter's Convenor, Dr. Madhura Rathod, Assistant Head-Mistress of the school, Mrs. Dipanwita Ganguly, and the Supervisor- Mrs. Anju Seth. The program was hosted by the Heritage Club in charge, Mr. Giridhar Kuware.

The students, dressed in traditional attire, put on a captivating cultural performance that showcased various forms of Indian art, dance, and music. These performances served as a reminder of the incredible richness of our heritage, captivating the audience and reinforcing the need for its preservation.

Dr. Madhura Rathod addressed the gathering, highlighting the significance of heritage preservation in today's world. She emphasized how heritage clubs play a vital role in educating the younger generation about their roots and the importance of preserving our cultural treasures for future generations. Dr. Rathod also commended Dinanath School for taking this initiative and expressed her commitment to supporting the club's activities in the future.

The school representatives on the dias shared their vision for the club. They all spoke passionately about the activities planned for the students and how the club would be a platform for students to explore and appreciate the heritage of Nagpur and India as a whole. They thanked the INTACH Nagpur Chapter for their guidance and support in making this club a reality.

The installation ceremony concluded with the official unveiling of the INTACH Heritage Club, and the distribution of the Heritage Club Passports and Badges.



INTACH Nagpur Chapter's Heritage Club Installation at Dinanath School

Orissa

Balasore

The following activities have been conducted during August and September 2023. A brief write-up with photographs are given below:

1. All India Heritage Quiz: All India Heritage Quiz 2023 was organized on 20th August 2023 at Balasore Law College. 58 participants from 10 schools participated. The Oral Rounds were conducted by quiz master V.Uday Kumar. One team comprising Aryashree Das Adhikari and Dibyajyoti Das of St. Thomas Convent School have qualified for the Regional Rounds to be held at Bhubaneswar.

2. Endangered Art & Crafts Workshop : The two day workshop was held on 26 & 27 August 2023 at Balasore Art & Crafts College. The theme of the workshop was "Tribal Arts". 49 participants from 10 schools were imparted training by two eminent Artists Akash Balmiki and Aryapragyan Basabaddutta. Three best performers in the workshop were awarded prizes on Chapter Foundation Day. All participants were handed over with participation certificates. The programme was inaugurated by Shri Madhusudan Das, Chief Officer, The Samaja (Newspaper) and Shri Uday Ranjan Das, Convener.

3. Chapter Foundation Day: Chapter Foundation Day was celebrated on 5th September 2023 at Udyog Bhawan, Balasore. Three eminent heritage and wild life experts were guests on the day they were Dr. Lalatendu Dasmohapatra, Director Judicial Archives, High Court of Orissa, Cuttack, Dr. Biswajit Mohanty, Chairman, Green Peace, South Asia and Shri Anil Dhir, Convener, INTACH, Bhubaneswar Chapter. The meeting was presided by Shri Uday Ranjan Das, Convener and the chapter activity report was presented by Shri Sangram Kumar Das, Co-Convener. Chapter bulletin "Parampara" was released, Two eminent teachers Shri Narendra Kumar Mohanty of Saraswati Sishu Vidya Mandir, Balia and Shri Ajay Kumar Singha, Social Science Teacher of St. Thomas' Convent School were awarded with "Sikhsak Gaurav Samman". Prize winners of various competitions held by the chapter were awarded with prizes.



Chapter Foundation Day



Endangered Art & Crafts Workshop

Bhadrak

Release of the Book Itihasa Kathakahe (History speaks) by the INTACH Chapter, Bhadrak

A special session of the INTACH Chapter of Bhadrak was held in DIVYAM Conference hall at Januganj in Bhadrak. Sri Digambar Mohanty (IAS Retd.), the Convener of the Chapter presided over the meeting Prof. Dr. Braja Mohan Mishra, the man of literature and Prof. Somarani Chandm a historian and a man of Literature attended the meeting as the Chief Guest and Chief Speaker respectively. Sri Goswami Golam Debata, (IAS Retd.) attended the meeting as the Hon'ble Speaker and Profe. Raimohan Mohapatra, another Historian acted as the analyst of the book. At the very beginning of the meeting the author Dr. Bhagabat Tripahty an Art Historian and an hon'ble member of the INTACH introduced about the Book which mainly deals with the Heritage of Odisha. The meeting

was over with vote of thanks by out hon'ble member Pravakar Mallick. Most the Articles in the Book are mentioned below.

Saiva Art in Odisha

Odishan Temple Art and Architecture

Mahisamarhini in Odishan art

Erptoc Fogires om Temple Art

Buddhism in North Odishan Art

Jainism in North Odishan Art

Contribution of Mayurbhanj to Odishan Art and Arhitecture

Saura Religion in the Archaeology of Bhadrak

Bhusandesvar, the Biggest Siva Linga of Odisha etc.



Release of the Book Itihasa Kathakahe (History speaks) by the INTACH Chapter, Bhadrak

Jajpur

1. Report on the observation of 77th Independence Day by INTACH Jajpur Chapter, on 15th August 2023

The glorious 77th Independence Day of India was observed by the INTACH Jajpur Chapter, on 15th August 2023 in the premises of INTACH Jajpur Chapter office at Kalimegha. On that day at 7:30am the National Flag of India was hoisted by Mr. Anil Kumar Mohanty, Convener of the Chapter. All the members were present and participated in the celebration. In the afternoon a plantation programme was held at Biraja Iol Mill Campus, Jajpur Town, in collaboration with the said Club.

2. Report of the observation of International Yoga Dibasa by INTACH Jajpur Chapter, on 21 June, 2023.

The International Yoga Dibasa was observed by the INTACH Jajpur Chapter, in collaboration with Yoga Prachara Samiti, Jajpur Town Jajpur on 21 june 2023 in the premises of Goutam Budha Sanskruti Bhawan. The ADM of Jajpur Sri Budkhabandhu Nayak inaugurated the function lighting the lamp. The Sub collector Mr. Gopinath Kuanr and other dignitaries were present as guests. The guests spoke about the importance of Yoga for a healthy living. The senior member of INTACH Prof. Udaya Nath Parida, Balaram Mohanty, Binod Chandra Nayak were also present.

Sambalpur

Two major renovation works are going on at Sambalpur. One is Bezbaruah House, built in 1924 and another is Victoria Town Hall, built in 1902-04. Bezbaruah House is belonged to Sahityarathi Lakhminath Bezbaruah, the doyen of Assamese literature, was permanently staying at Sambalpur of Odisha.

From the two houses of Bezbaruah, conservation work at the *Sadhana Griha* is completed and is handed over to the Culture Department of Govt of Odisha. But District level Culture Department is not able to take care of it due to shortage of staff. INTACH is helping visitors from outside state, mostly from Assam in visiting the heritage. Work in the next building, known as *Basagriha*, means Living House is going on. Members of INTACH, Sambalpur chapter are helping out in maintaining and providing all help to the technical team of INTACH.

Apart from the funds allocated to INTACH by Govt. of Odisha and Assam for renovation, Assam Government has pleased to allocate additional fund for a full fledged statue of Bezbaruah. The fund money is given to Sahityarathi Lakhminath Bezbaruah Smriti Rakhya Committee of Assam for the same. *Bhoomi Pujan* was conducted at Bezbaruah house on 18.7.2013 in which Tourism and Culture ministers of both Odisha and Assam participated. Dipak Kumar Panda, Co- convenor of INTACH, Sambalpur chapter struggled to save the houses from demolition, is the Advisor of the committee. Mr. Tarini Prasad Panda, Convenor and other members of INTACH, Sambalpur chapter joined the function.

Victoria Town Hall is renamed as Veer Surendra Sai Hall. Work at V. S. S. Hall is near completion. A museum is proposed for the building. Members of INTACH are working on collection of exhibits.

Members of INTACH, Sambalpur chapter are continued to visit abandoned temples and other heritage sites to conduct survey. They are also meeting members of temple trusts, discussing with them, about proper conservation method. Often important sculptures in the centuries old temples are found painted with colours, surface is tiled and paver blocks. A *ghat* built in bricks of fifth century, collected from ruins is now covered with plates.

Members also visited Bausen, a village submerged in Hirakud dam. Part of the old village is out of water and an abandoned temple is there at the nun- submerged area. Branches of a tree has taken the temple into its grip, caused many big cracks. There is a scope for conservation. People of nearby villages are advised to give a proposal to the local Government; Panchayat Samiti.

A quiz was conducted among the College students making them aware of local history and creating interest in them towards our responsibility towards heritage.

Members of INTACH, Sambalpur chapter are helping Government agencies in providing information related to history and records, helping in birth anniversaries and death anniversaries of great personalities, helping in creations of memorials and museum. A complete proposal for opening of a Freedom Fighter's Museum at Sambalpur is provided. Dipak Kumar Panda has provided subject, sequence and write up for Veer Surendra Sai Museum at Bara- Bakhra in Bargarh District. Few valuable documents

related to Sambalpur history, collected by us, is presented to Regional Archives of Sambalpur,

A meeting of the members was held to review the activities of the chapter. It was decided to have a listing of Intangible Cultural Heritage. Dipak Kumar Panda is asked to prepare it. It was also decided to prepare and submit a new proposal for conservation of Raja Bakhri (King's Palace) at Sambalpur. It was further decided to look to the possibilities of to have the listing of Tangible Heritage of nearby District of Deogarh.



Victoria Town Hall



Odisha and Assam Culture and Tourism Ministers visiting Bezbaruah House at Sambalpur

Pondicherry

INTACH Pondicherry Activities

1. Visit by students from different Colleges of Architecture to INTACH, Pondicherry to learn about the unique architectural heritage of Pondicherry.

1.1. Students from Dayananda Sagar Academy of Technology and Management (DSATM) - 06.04.2023

2. Tourists visiting INTACH office (11th April 2023)

3. Tourists visiting INTACH Pondicherry to see the History panel exhibition (03rd May 2023).

3.1 Tourists from Bangalore visiting INTACH office (11th May 2023)

4. HUDCO Design Awards 2022-23 (16.05.2023):

INTACH Pondicherry has won the Second Prize under Category 3- Conservation of Heritage of HUDCO Design Awards 2022-23 for the project of "Restoration and Renovation of Matriniketan" (earlier known as Academy House).

5. Visit by students from different Colleges of Architecture to INTACH, Pondicherry to learn about the unique architectural heritage of Pondicherry.

5.1. Mr. A. K. Das Convenor, discussed about civil works to the civil engineering students from Pondicherry Technological University. (01.06.2023)

5.2. Mr. Ashok Panda explained about Conservation of Pondicherry's Architectural heritage to the students of Master of Mass Communication,

Pondicherry University. They have taken a video coverage of the same (20.06.2023).

6. INTACH Pondicherry Workshop: INTACH Pondicherry has hosted the program "A Craft by the Courtyard (Workshop Series)" organized by Craft Council of Pondicherry, for the topic of Macrame Workshop on 01st July 2023 at INTACH Pondicherry Office.

7. Architectural Guidelines:

7.1. Mr. Ashok Panda (Co-convenor) explained about the "Architecture and Urban Development of Pondicherry" to students came from Creative School, Bangalore on 10th July 2023.

7.2. Mr. Ashok Panda (Co-convenor) explained about Pondicherry's history" to students from Bhopal on 31st July 2023.

8. Providing Information to Tourist: Mr. Vasantha Kumar (Junior Architect) explained about Heritage Buildings to the Tourists from France. (11.07.2023)

9. Pondicherry Heritage Walk: INTACH Pondicherry guide Mr. Venkata Subramanian conducted the French & Tamil town heritage walk for the Tourists coming from United States on 20th July 2023.

10. INTACH Pondicherry Exhibition: Tourists from Bangalore visiting INTACH Pondicherry exhibition on 29.07.2023.



HUDCO Design Awards 2022-23



Conservation of Pondicherry's Architectural heritage

Punjab

Amritsar

1. Amritsar as an INTACH convener at the first "Rangla Punjab" tourism conference/summit, Organized by the Punjab government.

The program was held in Hall No. 1 of Amity University, Mohali, with Mrs. Rakhi Gupta Bhandari ji (Principal Secretary Tourism and Cultural Department) as the soul of this program. S. Manjit Singh Gill, the world's Renowned name in culinary arts, Mr. Himanshu Ratan Singh ji from KPMG, and S. Manjit Singh from IATO, also graced the occasion and shared their views on Punjab-Punjabi-Punjabiyat.

It left a lasting impression on me and intensified the urge to work more towards conservation of Art and Cultural Heritage.



The first "Rangla Punjab" tourism conference/summit, Organized by the Punjab government

2. INTACH Chapter Amritsar organised the Heritage Quiz Competition 2023 at Spring Dale Senior School in Amritsar.

We got a huge response from all schools, but due to space problems, we reduced the number of schools to 19.

150 students from 19 schools participated in the first written round.

Four teams were selected for the oral competition: Springdale Senior School, DAV International School, and two teams from SL Bhavan School.

Miss Sumandeep Kaur, play the role of quiz master; Mrs. Sukhdeep Kaur and Mrs. Harjeet Kaur, play the roles of officials.

Gagan Singh Virk, convener of Amritsar, Mr. Rajiv Kumar Sharma, principal of Springdale, Gunit Arora, vice principal and INTACH Asr. officials start the programme by lighting the lamp ceremony.

Quiz master Miss Sumandeep Kaur did a wonderful job and got special appreciation.

Spring Dale Senior School got the first position and was chosen for state-level competition.

All three teams got certificates from intach Delhi as well as special Trophies from intact Amritsar.

All the representatives of participating schools were also awarded a special participating certificate along with a portrait of Maharaj Ranjit Singh ji.

At the end of the programme, Gagan Singh Virk honoured the principal and vice principal with a specially designed traditional badge of honour.

Principal Rajiv Kumar Sharma also honoured Gagan Singh Virk.

Patiala

Report of Patiala Chapter – Seminar and Quiz 2023

A National Heritage Quiz 2023 was organized at Senior Secondary Model School Punjabi University Patiala on 8th September, 2023 on the initiative of Heritage Education and Communication Service of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage. 68 participants from 5 schools participated in the event. In the First(written) Round there was competition among the teams of Guru Nanak Foundation School, Ryan International School, British Coed High school, Shivalik public school and Senior Secondary Model School Punjabi University Patiala. After completion of the 2nd (oral) Round the team of Punjabi University School stood first and team of British Coed High school stood second.

A Seminar was also organized prior to Heritage Quiz to sensitize the students from the rich heritage, history and culture of India, in which Dr. Bhim Inder Singh Professor and Head, Department of Punjabi Studies, Punjabi University Patiala; Dr Bal Krishan, Professor of Physics, Punjabi University Patiala; Parmveer Singh Advocate, President Punjab Eco Friendly Foundation Patiala; Mrs Balwinder Kaur, Senior Teacher Social activist; and Sarbjit Singh Virk Advocate Convenor INTACH Patiala Chapter spoke on the topic of Preservation and protection of our heritage. After the quiz Certificates to all participants and books to the winners were given by the organizers of the Quiz. Jatinder Singh Sarao Advocate thanked the school administration and the participants. The program was concluded with the refreshment to all guests and participants.



Seminar and National Heritage Quiz 2023

Rajasthan

Ajmer

Ajmer Chapter organized the National Heritage Quiz Competition 2023 on 3rd September-23rd at All Saints Senior Secondary School, Beawar Road, Ajmer. 120 students i.e. 60 teams from 21 schools participated in the competition. First the written round was conducted, out of which 7 teams were selected for the oral round and in the oral round, Namit Sharma and Pawan Dhakad, students of All Saints Senior Secondary

School, Beawar Road, Ajmer, were the winners. After the competition, we provided refreshments to all the students, teachers and parents. Pics and newspaper cutting of the Competition are attached below.



National Heritage Quiz Competition 2023

Alwar

1. Under "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" flagging of tricolor at heritage and a Heritage Walk
On 10.08.2022, INTACH Alwar Chapter organized flagging of a tricolor at heritage and a Heritage Walk program under the "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav". In the program, from 8:30 am, the girl students of Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Devi Ji Ki Gali, Munshi Bagh Alwar, took out a tricolor procession from the school to the historic heritage Musi Maharani Ki Chhatri. After that, a Quiz Competition was organized in the honour and importance of the national flag at Musi Maharani after visiting the heritage site. INTACH Convenor Sunita Mittal inspired the girls for heritage conservation and told them about the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. Along with this, Co-Convenor Bijendra Singh Naruka and Members Geeta Sadhwani, Suman Yadav organized a Quiz and questions were asked on the importance of the tricolor, which were answered correctly by the girls. At the end, Convenor Sunita Mittal expressed thanks to all the girls and teachers for participating in the Tiranga Yatra, and on behalf of the INTACH girls were encouraged.

2. On International Day of Yoga, an effort was made to spread the importance of ancient Vedic Yoga culture to the masses.

A 11-day free Yoga Sadhana Camp was organized by INTACH Alwar Chapter from 11.06.2022 to 21.06.2022 which concluded on the 8th International Yoga Day. On the occasion of International Yoga Day, INTACH Alwar Chapter practiced yoga with local people with full enthusiasm at Ram Vatika Park, Arya Nagar which included Skandha Asana, Katichkrasana, Vrikshasana, Bhujang Asana as well as Pranayama, Kapalbhati, Bhramari asana. City Council Chairman Ghanshyam Gurjar, Chief Guest, former Councilor Ramjilal Sharma, Councilor Shalini Sharma along with Dr. Prem Mittal, Satish Sharma, Raju Sharma, Surendra Saxena and INTACH members Asha Kalra, Hema Goyal, Satish Chand Chaudhary, Raj Kumar Saini etc. were present in the programme. Keynote speaker Asha Kalra explained in detail about yoga that positive energy is transmitted

through yoga practice. Convener Sunita Mittal thanked all the participants and urged them to include yoga in their daily life and resolve to keep the ancient yoga culture alive. The Chief Guest termed INTACH's effort as a commendable step and asked to organize such awareness programs from time to time.

3. "Light the lamp of culture, let us celebrate the Nav Sanvtsar (New Year)."

On 02.04.2022, on the auspicious occasion of Indian New Year 2079, "Light the lamp of culture, let us celebrate Nav Sanvtsar" program was organized by INTACH Alwar Chapter at Ram Vatika Scheme No. 1, Arya Nagar, Alwar. The program was attended by local dignitaries and members of the INTACH family.

4. "Folk Culture Renaissance"

On 06.05.2022, for the preservation and revival of folk art and culture, the "Folk Culture Renaissance" program was organized by INTACH Alwar Chapter at village Satana, Teh Malakheda, Alwar. Folk songs along with traditional musical instruments were presented by local folk artists Ramswaroop Jogi, Pappu Jogi and colleagues on the music evening. Guest Municipal Council Chairman Ghanshyam Gurjar, Thakur Sahib Tej Singh Naruka, Dr. Prem Mittal, Col. Surendra Singh, Hem Kanwar, Dr. Dilip Singh Naruka, Pushp Kanwar, Rakesh Singh, Dushyant Naruka, Anushree Naruka, Prakash Kanwar, Savita Naruka and INTACH Convenor Sunita Mittal, Member Rajkumar Saini and villagers were present. The objective of the program was to promote public awareness in the rural community towards folk art, so that our vanishing art and culture could be kept alive.

In an effort to revive folk instruments and folk songs, the matter was discussed with the public and senior dignitaries and a resolution was taken. Folk artists were welcomed by Guest Thakur Saheb Tej Singh Naruka and local community by garlanding them. At the conclusion of the program, the folk artists were encouraged and thanked by the Convenor, INTACH Alwar Chapter.



International Day of Yoga



Tiranga Yatra

Barmer

1. Chapter successfully organized a quiz competition in which 10 schools participated. Convenor Rawal Kishan Singh Jasol, Co-Convenor Sanjay Ramavat, Naveen Singhal ,

Purushottam Khatri, Yashovardhan Sharma, Members and many eminent citizens, educationists of the city participated. In this competition, students from the 11 schools participated. Team of St. Paul Higher Secondary School, Barmer stood first and the students of Mayur Noble Academy Higher Secondary School stood Runner-up, while the team of MBC Government Higher Secondary School, Gandhi Chowk, Barmer stood third.

Convenor, INTACH Chapter Rawal Kishan Singh Jasol said that it is the collective responsibility of all of us to preserve the heritage. Winners were given trophies while certificates, mementos were given to all the participating schools.

2. It is our responsibility to preserve heritage – Jasol

National Heritage Quiz was organized by the INTACH Chapter at the local Mahatma Gandhi Government Higher Secondary School, Station Road, Barmer. The Chief Guest of the program was Rawal Kishan Singh Jasol. On this occasion, Chief Guest and Convenor, INTACH Barmer Chapter, Rawal Kishan Singh Jasol said that it is the collective responsibility of all of us to preserve the heritage. Art, culture, traditions etc. heritage are present all around us. There is need to recognize these heritages and we ourselves conserve the heritages that are disappearing. In the race for modern lifestyle, we are forgetting our traditions. Instead of promoting art culture, we are promoting modernity and this is threatening our heritage. Congratulating the winning quiz winning teams, Rawal said that this new generation will come forward and play an important role in preserving the heritage.

On this occasion, Chapter Co-Convenor and Quiz Coordinator Om Joshi, while highlighting the objectives of establishing INTACH, said that we should adopt folk traditions and local culture in our lives so that heritage can be conserved and art tourism can also be promoted. He said that our culture has many dimensions through which we can play an important role in preserving our heritage by taking forward our art and cultural traditions. While presenting the report on this occasion, Joshi said that one hundred students from 10 schools of the city participated in this quiz and showed excellent talent. Joshi said that in the quiz, students of St. Paul's School stood first, Mayur Nobles Academy School stood second and students of MBC Government Higher Secondary School, Gandhi Chowk stood third.

Principal Motilal Jangid said that No Bag Day is celebrated every Saturday in government schools in which children showcase their talents related to art and culture and talented children also get a platform. He said that the school administration and the education department are trying to develop creative activities among the students through art education and No Bag Day while preserving the heritage.

Expressing his gratitude, Sanjay Ramawat, Co-Convenor of the Chapter, said that in the coming days, more activities will be organized by the INTACH Chapter for the preservation of heritage, which includes teachers' dialogue, craft fair, heritage walk and other activities. Before this, prizes were distributed to the winners by the guests. On this occasion, many distinguished citizens, teachers and students including Purushottam Khatri, Naveen Singhal, Tarachand Jatol, Yashovardhan Sharma, Rajendra Bindal, Satyadev Soni, Dilip Tiwari, Prakash Sharma were present.

3. INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2023

Barmer 26.08.2023

A Report

As soon as the Barmer Chapter received the letter dated 14 July, 2023 from INTACH Central Office, Delhi, it was decided to organize National Heritage Quiz 2023 with enthusiasm in the district. For this INTACH Co-Convenor Om Joshi was appointed as the Coordinator. Joshi started preparations with his entire team and requested District Education Officer, Barmer to get students of 10 schools included in this Quiz. Immediate action was taken by District Education Officer and issued Order No. 206 dated 22 August 2023, in which various schools were directed to participate in the INTACH National Heritage Quiz. Barmer Chapter started preparations to organize this Quiz on 26 August, 2023 at the local Mahatma Gandhi Government Higher Secondary School, Station Road, Barmer. For this, the publicity of the Quiz was done through various newspapers, local TV channels and WhatsApp group, Facebook page. To make the quiz transparent and attractive, the services of experts were taken to prepare the question paper for the quiz. For this, work was done in a confidential manner so that the question paper does not get leaked anywhere. After preparing the question paper those questions were discussed and the question paper was approved under the leadership of Coordinator Om Joshi. Thereafter, on 26 August, 2023, the INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2023 was successfully organized. In which Chapter Convenor Rawal Kishan Singh Jasol, Co-Convenor Sanjay Ramavat, Naveen Single, Purushottam Khatri, Yashovardhan Sharma, Members and many eminent citizens & educationists of the city participated. In this competition, students from the following 10 schools participated -

1. Mahatma Gandhi Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Station Road, Barmer
2. TT Tynus Hr. Sec. School, Barmer
3. Future Link Secondary School, Barmer
4. St. Paul's Higher Secondary School, Barmer
5. Antri Devi Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School, Barmer
6. Daisy Days Higher Secondary School, Barmer
7. Adarsh Vidya Mandir Higher Secondary School, Barmer
8. MBC Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Gandhi Chowk, Barmer
9. Govt. Girls Hr. Sec. School, Goods Warehouse Road, Barmer
10. Siddharth Vidya Mandir Hr. Sec. School, Barmer
11. Mayur Noble Academy Hr. Sec. School, Barmer

Students of these 11 schools participated in this Quiz. In which the team of St. Paul Higher Secondary School, Barmer stood first and the students of Mayur Noble Academy Higher Secondary School stood Runner-up, while the team of MBC Government Higher Secondary School, Gandhi Chowk, Barmer stood third.

National Heritage Quiz was organized by INTACH Chapter at the local Mahatma Gandhi Government Higher Secondary School, Station Road, Barmer with Rawal Kishan Singh Jasol as the Chief Guest. On this occasion, Chief Guest and Convenor, INTACH Chapter Rawal Kishan Singh Jasol said that it is the collective responsibility of all of us to preserve the heritage. There are heritages like art, culture, traditions etc. all around us. It is necessary that we recognize these heritages and we ourselves conserve the heritages that are disappearing. In the race for modern lifestyle, we are forgetting our traditions.

Instead of promoting art culture, we are promoting modernity, this is threatening our heritage. Congratulating the winning quiz winning teams, Rawal said that this new generation can come forward and play an important role in preserving the heritage.

On this occasion, Chapter Co-Convenor and Quiz Coordinator Om Joshi, while highlighting the objectives of establishing INTACH, said that we should adopt folk traditions and local culture in our lives so that heritage can be conserved and art tourism can also be promoted. He said that our culture has many dimensions through which we can play an important role in preserving our heritage by taking forward our art and culture traditions. While presenting the report on this occasion, Joshi said that 110 students from 11 schools of the city participated in this quiz and showed excellent talent. Joshi said that in the quiz, students of St. Paul's School stood first, Mayur Nobles Academy School stood second and students of MBC Government Higher Secondary School, Gandhi Chowk stood third.

Principal Motilal Jangid said that No Bag Day is celebrated every Saturday in government schools in which children showcase their talents related to art and culture and talented children also get a platform. He said that the school administration and the education department are trying to develop creative activities among the students through art education and No Bag Day while preserving the heritage.

Chapter Convenor, Sanjay Ramawat thanked and said that in the coming days, more activities will be organized by the INTACH Chapter for the protection of heritage, including teacher dialogue, craft fair, heritage walk and other activities. Before this, prizes were distributed to the winners by the guests. Along with certificates, mementos were given to all the participating schools and trophies to the winners. Refreshments were served to all the participants, guests, teachers and INTACH members present. On this occasion, Purushottam Khatri, Naveen Singhal, Tarachand Jatol, Yashovardhan Sharma, Rajendra Bindal, Satyadev Soni, Dilip Tiwari, Prakash Sharma and many eminent civil teachers and students were present.

Bundi

Under the joint programme with the District Administration, the 782 Foundation Day of Bundi was celebrated with joy and happiness. The programs started at 6:00 am with melodies tunes of Shehnai at the historic Nagar Sagar Kund.

The forest department distributed saplings and citizens promise to protect them. District Collector Dr. Ravindra Goswami and other people planted saplings in Beti Gaurav Udyan. Later, a quiz competition was organized in Maharani School under the joint aegis of INTACH and District Administration. The entire programme was organized and coordinated by Bundi Chapter Convener, Shri Raj Kumar Dadhich and Co-Convener, Shri Rajendra Bhardwaj.

Karauli

Like every year, this year too INTACH Karauli Chapter organized National Quiz Competition, in which 76 students from eight schools of the district participated. Education Officer Mr. Sarvesh Aggarwal and Chairman of the program Col. Kripal Singh started the program by lighting the lamp and giving a succinct address to the students in the context of heritage.

The programme was successfully organized yesterday by the active cooperation of all the members of the Chapter.

Life member of the Chapter, Shri Vivaswat Pal Saheb, former royal family of Karauli, took out time from his busy schedule to distribute prizes and give away trophies & certificates to the winners and participants, which definitely encouraged not only the winners and participants but also all the other students. Such programmes enhances awareness about heritage conservation among the general public. Mr. Govind Singh Sengar, Secretary, INTACH Karauli Chapter was instrumental in the successful conduct of the program, and Mr. Rajendra Diwan ji for his significant contribution in preparing the quiz question paper till the final Oral Round, Congratulations to all of them for successfully conducting the quiz. Special gratitude was also expressed to Dr. Shri PN Sharma, Shri Kesar Singh Naruka, Col. Kripal Singh, Shri Pushpendra Bansal, Shri Prakash Sharma, Shri Moti Lal Shakyawar, Shri Chetram Meena and Shri Kishan Pal for the direct cooperation of other members in the program. On this occasion, I would also like to mention the principals of all the participating schools of Karauli district and the in-charges of the heritage clubs running in them, with whose enthusiastic cooperation this program could reach its best level.

The winning team at the district level was Kumari Medhavi Sharma and Swati Pachauri of Shri Kaila Devi Mandir Trust Senior Secondary School, hearty congratulations to them and to the Heritage Club in-charge of the school, Mrs. Kiran Chauhan for preparing the girls by giving them intensive training. Best wishes were given to them for their bright future..

Like every year, this year also, the most special thing in the program was the participation of Ekat Bodhgram Deaf School and the team of Kumari Anjali Yadav and Kumari Pinky Mali being the runner up in the competition, they were also given many congratulations and best wishes. His special achievement shows that the disabled are as talented as the common people, all they need is the right guidance and training which was given by the teachers of Ekat Bodhgram. All the participating boys and girls were given certificates and served refreshments. The winning and runner-up teams and heritage club in-charges of the participating schools were honored with separate trophies on behalf of the Chapter.

In the end, all the journalist brothers were congratulated and thanked for the effective coverage by the local media of Karauli.



National Quiz Competition

Marwar/Jodhpur

ON THE 100th BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF H.L.H. MAHARAJA HANWANT SINGHJI SAHIB AND AMRIT MAHOTSAV (75TH) OF INDPENDENCE

INTACH JODHPUR CHAPTER ORGANISED GENERAL BODY MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF INTACH

MINUTES OF MEETING

The event and meeting was scheduled on 9th July, 2023 at Hotel Chandra Inn, Panch Batti Circle, Ratanada, Jodhpur. The event was mainly divided into three sessions.



The **first session** lasted for an hour from 10.30 AM to 11.30 AM. It was initiated by **Dr Mahendra Singh Tanwar, Convener INTACH Jodhpur Chapter** who welcomed all the members and summarized the work of INTACH from the past few years. He began by sharing 2017's successful conference held in Jodhpur on the issue of Oran land, where they discussed the major issues and possible solutions to protect, preserve and conserve the Orans, based on the documentation of Jodhpur, Nagaur and

Jaisalmer Oran lands. He then talked about the successful "**Oran Yatra**" campaign and appreciated the efforts of **Devi Singh Ji Bhati** (Bikaner Ex. MLA) in protecting as well as spreading awareness amongst people to pressure the system to save Oran from getting exploited in Bikaner. Additionally, Dr Tanwar informed everyone about the approach of 'Brut India' to make a documentary on the renovation of water bodies by INTACH for the Chinkara's. This film received around 500k views within 24 hours of its upload. He then shared a small instance where a local water body called Sari Nadi got completely dry which made it difficult for the native turtles to survive. As a result of this, the turtles spread across the village and gradually got killed by dogs or in some road accidents and so on. It was Bhanwar Lal Bishnoi, the INTACH volunteer, who informed the team about this event and soon the team planned to restore the Sari Nadi. Simultaneously, with the help of villagers, they gathered all the turtles in nearby farmland and made a Kund (water body) which served as a temporary home for them. Soon, the restoration of Nadi was

finished and it is now a source of life for turtles as well as other local animals. This gave a glimpse into the working of INTACH.

He concluded by sharing his thoughts and requests with fellow members of INTACH. Firstly, he requested all the members to summarize the activities of INTACH from the past three-four years and share this with others in order to increase the reach of the organization. Secondly, he asked all the members that if they feel the need to have a meeting every month, he will be happy to organize one each month. Thirdly, he laid stress on the need to increase the number of life members as well as members in other categories of INTACH like educational, institutional and so on. Lastly, he spoke briefly about the women's wing of INTACH.



Bhagirath Ji Vaishnav highlighted the case of Chopasni cenotaphs which they saved from getting destroyed and then talked about a few more projects and the people working behind the scenes in them. He ended by requesting three-four members to remain a life member of INTACH.

Pradeep Ji Soni stressed on the involvement of youth with INTACH as they are the future of our heritage and nation. To engage the youth as well as inform them

about the work of INTACH, they are regularly organizing competitions.

Smt. Kalpana Ji Champawat introduced everyone to the women's wing of the Jodhpur Chapter. She said that the need for making an exclusive women-oriented wing was based on the fact that women have a greater role to play in the preservation and passing on the community practices and customs to the next generation orally. The very first activity the wing organized was a heritage walk of the old city, with around 250 women, which the women never got time to explore due to their daily schedule. The outcome of this walk was a request for another walk by the women for their kids, which too became a successful event.

Moreover, she shared other activities and participation done by the women's wing. A Ghoomar workshop was organized in Chokelao Palace where girls were taught Ghoomar steps with the help of professional local musicians. Secondly, a Ghoomar was performed at the G-20 Summit in front of International people. Thirdly, a textile workshop was conducted in which the conservator shared the knowledge of conserving cloth and jewelry with the local women so that they can avoid damaging such old products at home.

She further revealed two future proposals for the women's wing. One is to preserve the tradition of Ratijoga geet. These songs were sung by the women of the household but with the coming of technology and media like YouTube, Spotify and so on, people are now relying more on them rather than learning and passing on these songs to their future generations. Even the number of generational singers are reducing. She requested the members to ask those women who possess knowledge on this subject to come in touch with the INTACH team. The second proposal is to introduce as well as inspire children to play the old days indoor as well as outdoor games like kho-kho, kabaddi, Santolia, Kanche (marbles), Chopad, and so on. This will not only improve their physical health

but also help them to stay away from smartphone games that they become addicted to, leading to a detrimental effect on their health.



The **second session** lasted from 12 PM to 1.45 PM. It started once His Highness entered the venue. He was greeted by everyone, followed by lighting the lamp of the Late HH Hanwant Singh Ji by him. After this, Dr M.S. Tanwar welcomed some more guests. He firstly welcomed His Highness Maharaja Gaj Singh Ji Sahib who is a strong supporter of INTACH. Secondly, he welcomed Manu Ji Bhatnagar who is the principal director of the nature wing. Manu Ji has always thought about and contributed towards the cause of the flora and fauna. Thirdly, he welcomed Shrimati Renu Ji Brij who is the founder of Brij Foundation and has successfully conducted activities within and outside of India. She has been a great helping hand in the Chinkara Project as well as has already given funds for the renovation and construction of 40 water bodies. Lastly, he welcomed and thanked Rawal Kishan Ji Jasol for developing and saving the bird sanctuary and J. M. Boob for his constant support and involvement with INTACH.

This was followed by the presentation of a documentary made by **Brut India** on the **Chinkara Project**. It was in 2017 that they contacted INTACH through their Lunavpura social media handle to make a documentary on this. Pia Chatterjee was the journalist and Benjamin Cesari was the editor of the film. The film showcased that Chinkara are pretty shy animals and stay away from humans. The area where they reside had no water as the water bodies were drying and in 2017, INTACH took over this project which went on for three months. INTACH employed the locals to construct the Lunavpura water body whose measurements were: 40 feet wide, 200 feet long and 15 to 20 feet deep. In 2020, INTACH and Brij Foundation collaborated to renovate two lakes during 2021 (covid) and planned to plant trees to protect the environment.



The next keynote speaker of the session was **Manu Ji Bhatnagar** who addressed three main issues. The first is the environmental changes that everyone needs to pay attention to. For instance, he highlighted the heavy rain that is becoming a recurring event for the past four-five years in the Thar Desert. The Biparjoy cyclone is a recent example of unexpected heavy rains that entered Rajasthan from the western side. Secondly, the Aravalli range is getting affected due to an increased urbanization that is leading to shrinkage in vegetation as well as its overall size. Moreover, the people who celebrate Van Mahotsav are constantly asking to plant trees in the western areas of Aravalli. Manu Ji said that planting more trees will affect the low and high-pressure areas that are the main reason for attracting monsoons towards western India. Such events require deep thinking and analysis before taking any action. Lastly, he discussed the issue of mapping Oran, the issues of their encroachments as well as the efforts of INTACH towards legalizing them.

The second issue he shared was towards their efforts to pressurize the administration as well as filing a PIL (public litigation interest) to stop illegal activities. In addition to this he shared that with the help of villagers, a land was dedicated to building a sanctuary.

The third issue he raised was concerning the preservation of local things like the local seeds that are well suited for this region should be utilized more rather than planting the commercial seeds. In addition to this, preservation of local historical evidence is also important which includes the small-sized forts that are undocumented and are standing abandoned. Documenting them will be the first step towards their preservation. Moreover, he highlighted the non-inclusion of local history in textbooks as a major issue. For example, a record of 1857 is available that shows the presence of Tatyia Tope's army in Ganeriwala Village but this information is not known to the public. He insisted on finding more such information and publishing them in textbooks.

Just after this, certificates and mementoes of appreciation were given to different individuals for their contributions. The recipients were: **Shri Durga Ram (Dudi Nagar), Shri Pratap Singh Tanwar and Jait Singh (Bhawad village), Shri Surendra Singh Tanwar Kelawa, Shri Sharwan Patel and Shri Babu Lal (Melba-Dhawa village), Shri Bhanwar Lal (Savi Ki Dhani, Mandawas village), Shri Mahendra Singh Champawat, Shri Parth Jagaani and Shri Amitabh Baloch (Jaisalmer), Shri Kesar Singh (Jaisalmer) and ERDS Foundation.** Besides, **Shri Prasan Puri Ji Goswami and Shri Ram Ji Vyas** were given the *INTACH JODHPUR CHAPTER LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD*. Moreover, **Shristi Hiranandani (DPS) and Abhinna Das (DPS)** were honoured by His Highness for winning National level and State level rankings of the Khana Khazana: My Food Heritage Poster Making Competition. Lastly, His Highness gave a souvenir to **Shri Manu Ji Bhatnagar, Shri Yashowardhan Ji Sharma.**

After this, **HH Maharaja Gaj Singh Ji Sahib** gave his speech where he firstly expressed his contentment with the work of INTACH as well as thanked each and every member associated with it. Furthermore, he emphasized feeling proud towards one's own culture and identity as people these days are not expressing their pride in being a Marwari or Rajasthani and are getting more inclined towards Western ideology. Besides, he showed his concern towards the old heritage buildings and water sources (baori, jhalra, etc.) in the old city. He mentioned that there are around 400 such water sources present in the old city and they supplied water till the time the canal system was not a part of Jodhpur.

As a result of this, the old water sources are being neglected. He advised that these sources must be used side by side with the canal system else they will get gradually destroyed and if in future there will be an increased water crisis which will affect the disruption of water availability from the Indira Gandhi Canal System.

Additionally, he advised that due to an increase in the overall population, people are constantly making houses on Fort Road. This should be discouraged. He shared that he even went to the court but there has been no serious action taken on this.

Lastly, he shared with everyone that due to a rise in the tourism sector by the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, a significant amount of funding came in. This has been utilized in developing the Mandore area and he expects more such development to take place for other historical sites of Jodhpur.



The **last session** began at 2.30 PM and lasted till 4.20 PM. This was an open session for all the members so that they can give their views and suggestions. Some of them came forward to share their views.

Shrawan Patel urged the INTACH team members to work on the cleaning of River Jojari as it has been polluted to a greater extent. As a result, animals and trees are dying at a rapid scale. Even some five to seven species of the region have become extinct in the past few years.

Colonel Abhimanyu Singh Rathore suggested preparing booklets that would inform the younger generation about the city and its different areas. This will help in developing consciousness in them to save our heritage.

INTACH Member Lal Singh suggested that INTACH should make a heritage park where parts of the destroyed haveli and other monuments can be fixed for the general

public. Within the park, a museum can be opened up which can display the old generational materials which the people of the city can donate to the museum for display.

Another Member Shakti Singh Khakharki brought everyone's attention towards the building activities of bhakti saint Meera Bai. She had a palace named after her which is now on the verge of encroachment. He shared that despite several requests they could not receive any help to challenge the encroachers. Even her idol in the temple she had constructed in Dwarka, with her own money, is in a very bad condition.

Another Member Architect Sanjay Mehta He gave a presentation on the ways in which 'Heritage Property' is evaluated, preserved and conserved. He shared that he looks at different reasons like light humidity, temperature, environment etc before initiating any work. He concluded by sharing two three case studies of forts that he worked upon.

Another Member Rajendra Kumar Shah made some suggestions which are as follows: A meeting shall be organized two times a year; put efforts to bring an end to the encroachment at the Ship House area; cleaning the Govind Baori; cleaning the cenotaphs of Kaaga and so on.

Dr Mahendra Singh Tanwar responded to his suggestions that the team is trying to get legal help to declare the cenotaphs at Kaaga as "Protected Monuments." Additionally, the property of Ship House has been sold to different individuals and despite their efforts, it is impractical to protest against construction activities there throughout the year. He strongly suggested that he visit all these structures, have a look at the work that they are already doing and then a healthy discussion can be done on these issues.



After this Dr Tanwar discussed the seven Agendas of the meeting in a concise manner. They were:

- 1). Environmental Awareness
- 2) Protection of Old City Heritage
- 3) Coordination with Local Administration for Adopting City Bylaws
- 4) Preservation of Old City Heritage and Hathai Tradition
- 5) Awareness about Old City through Heritage Walk
- 6) Awareness and Protection of Illegal Encroachments near Heritage Sites
- 7) Revival as well as making of some new committees like:
 - i) Environment Committee

- ii) Old City Heritage Committee
- iii) Liaising with Government Department Committee
- iv) PRO Committee
- v) Senior Citizen Heritage Club Committee
- vi) Encroachment Protection Committee
- vii) Heritage Walk Committee
- viii) School Heritage Club Committee

He then made two important announcements. Firstly, there is a plan to convert both the sides of the Rao Jodha Marg into a protected area and plant various trees and herbs so that in future the land on both the sides is not prone to encroachment. This has been proposed by him even in front of the government. And secondly, the government has decided to open up food courts in the city by looking at the rise in the tourism sector. For this, INTACH has already prepared a layout of a food court at Public Park as well as a plan for the clock tower area. The main intention behind this is to construct food courts around heritage sites in order to increase awareness about them.

He further shared and appreciated the efforts of **Captain Arihant Singh Bundi** who started a WhatsApp Group named 'Save Our Heritage Foundation' which is an independent team and has connected most of the corners of Rajasthan. The volunteers have documented more than five thousand cenotaphs by locating the cenotaphs, clicking their pictures as well as of their inscriptions and then sharing them on the WhatsApp group. This is then followed by a discussion by all the members. Dr Tanwar requested the WhatsApp group members not to share these pictures with anyone.

He concluded the event by mentioning that in the past five years, INTACH JODHPUR CHAPTER has **won six awards** and the annual report of the chapter consists of 100 pages in total. The sheer passion and efforts of the team is visible because such an elaborate report is not made by any other chapter in India. The Jodhpur Chapter also organizes more than 25 events annually. He thanked each and every one present at the event and requested the constant support of all.

2. INTACH National Heritage Quiz Competition 2023

Niharika Hooda and Udhav Singh Parihar of Sardar Doon School became the winners of Jodhpur Chapter.

104 students from 8 schools participated

Students participated enthusiastically in the first phase of "INTACH National Heritage Quiz Competition 2023" organized by the 'INTACH'. 104 students from 08 schools participated in this competition. Niharika Hooda and Udhav Singh of Sardar Doon School became the winners of Jodhpur Chapter by securing first position. Soumya Agarwal and Adhiya Mathur of Delhi Public School stood second while Kaushik Singh and Kartikey Ramdev of Mayur Chapasani School stood third.

"INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2023" was organized under the auspices of INTACH with the aim of increasing the general knowledge about local heritage among the school children from class 7 to 10 at the school level and to increase awareness about our glorious nation and historical heritage. The event was held on 9th September, 2023 at Konark Senior Secondary School, Pratap Nagar. On this occasion, as the Chief Guest, Sharad Bissa, Senior officer, Sardar Museum (Archaeology & Museum Department), while

addressing the students, provided information regarding the heritages and made them aware of their importance.

In this competition, students were given 20 questions related to general knowledge to solve in forty minutes. The questions were related to history, art, culture and heritage of Jodhpur, Rajasthan and India, in which children participated very enthusiastically. The competition was very close among the schools, out of which the best 13 teams were selected for the oral competition. Subsequently, winners were selected in three rounds of the competition. The students who stood first, second and third were awarded prizes by INTACH.

The students coming first will represent Jodhpur Chapter in the quiz competition to be organized at the state level in the second phase of this competition. In this competition, certificates were awarded to all the students of Naveen Shishu Niketan School, Delhi Public School, Sardar Doon Public School, Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls Public School, Konark Senior Secondary School, Mayur Chapasani School, Lucky Bal Niketan C.Secondary School, Arabic Pathshala.

On this occasion, Pukhraj, Director, Ramavat Konark C. Secondary School, INTACH Co-Convenor Pradeep Soni, Jairaj Singh Rathod, Bannaram, Pukhraj Gaur, Dalpatsingh Padihar, along with teachers of the schools and members of INTACH were present. Smt. Kalpana Champawat played the role of quiz master in the competition.

3. INTACH India Heritage Quiz Competition 02.09.2022

Students participated enthusiastically in the first phase of INTACH India Heritage Quiz Competition 2022 organized by INTACH. 160 students from 12 schools participated in this competition. Monika Chowdhary and Himanshi Dhanka of Central Academy School (Kudi Bhagatasani) became the winners of the Jodhpur Chapter by securing the first position. Sara Khan & Priyanshu Dwivedi of Central Academy School (Kent) stood second, while Manushree Bhardwaj, Kartikeya Tapadiya of Mayur Chaupasni School, Harshit Solanki of Central Academy School (Kudi Bhagatasani), Dhruv Rawal and Niranjana Singh & Manish Singh of Chaupasni Senior Secondary School jointly stood third. 'INTACH India Heritage Quiz 2022' was organized under the auspices of INTACH with the aim of increasing general knowledge about local heritage and increasing awareness about our glorious national and historical heritage among the children of classes 7 to 10 at the school level Konark Senior Secondary School, Pratapnagar. In this competition, students were given 20 questions related to general knowledge to solve in forty minutes, in which there were questions related to the history, art, cultural heritage of Jodhpur, Rajasthan and India, in which the children participated very enthusiastically and in all the schools the competition was very close, from which the best 7 teams were selected for the oral competition. Then the winners were selected from the oral competition. Students coming in first, second and third place will be awarded by INTACH. The students coming first will represent the Jodhpur Chapter in the quiz competition to be organized at the state level in the second phase of this competition. Schools participating in this competition are Central Academy School (Chaupasni Housing Board), Central Academy School (Kent), Naveen Shishu Niketan School, Brig Jabbarsingh C. Secondary School, Delhi Public School, Sardar Doon Public School, Rajmata Krishna Kumari Girls Public School, Central Academy School (Kudi Bhagtasni), Kornak Sr. Sec. School. All students will be awarded certificates.

4. Seminar on importance of Geo-Heritage and Brain Storming Session - 02.10.2022

Under the joint auspices of INTACH Jodhpur Chapter and Mehrangarh Museum Trust, a Seminar & Brain Storming Session on the importance of Geo-Heritage tourism was organized at Chowklav Mahal, Mehrangarh Fort under the chairmanship of Maharaja Shri Gaj Singh ji. In his address, he said that Mehrangarh and its surrounding areas are very important as Geo Heritage sites. It is a matter of great pride for Jodhpur that if this area is preserved in the category of world heritage, then undoubtedly Jodhpur will prove to be a milestone in terms of tourism and scientific research.

In this seminar, six lectures were given by the experts invited to learn about geo-heritage tourism and geo-parks in the first event of World Geo-Diversity Day (6 October). Former Head of Department of Geology, Jai Narayan University, Jodhpur, Prof. S.C. Mathur explained the characteristics of Mehrangarh Hills in the context of geo-heritage, tourism and international importance of Geopark and showed the vision of India's first Geopark in Jodhpur. Former Chairman of RPSC, Ajmer, Dr. Shivsingh Rathore, while explaining the importance of ground water heritage in the hills of Mehrangarh and the geo-monuments created from the heritage stone resource (Jodhpur Sand Stone), have included them in the Geopark as historical and cultural sites along with geo-heritage. Explaining the importance of the geo-heritage along with the historical and cultural sites in the Geopark, former Chairman of Geology of Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, Prof. PS Ranwat highlighted the importance of various land heritages of Mewar and the Geopark. Prof. M.G. Thakkar, Head of Geology of Kutch University, explained the importance of Geopark in Kutch while throwing detailed light on the various geo-heritage of Gujarat. Associate Professor of Geology, Kutchi University, Gaurav Chauhan displayed various geo products highlighting the importance of business in the geopark. Dr. Saurabh Mathur of Gestat Faculty Jai Narayan Vyas University highlighted the various aspects of Geoparks in foreign countries while throwing light on the subject of education and tourism in Geoparks.

5. World Geo-diversity Day Special

Geo-diversity of national and international importance on Mehrangarh Hills

Mehrangarh Hills is the only region in India where the Government has declared two National Geological Monuments because here world famous, rare thematic formations and unique geo-heritage tourism elements are found in volcanic and sedimentary rocks 680 to 745 million years old. The volcanic rocks here are the largest area of Malani igneous rocks in the world, whose expansion is 51000 sq. km. in the world. Areas such as Western Rajasthan, Pakistan, Sesalsav, Madagascar, East Africa and Oman were part of the Earth's oldest supercontinent 'Rhodania'. Recent evidence has shown that the volcanoes that were formed as a result of the disintegration of the Rodania continent by the Pan African orogeny are preserved as unique geo-heritage tourism on the Mehrangarh hills. The sedimentary rocks on the Malani rocks and the heterogeneity found between them is the meeting place of the two periods of the earth (Cryonicium and Indiakara) and volcanic and oceanic rocks. Such configurations are found only in two places in India, Vindhyaachal and Himachal. The wealth of formations in the sedimentary rocks here and Indian fossils indicate that in time the extension of the Manwar Sea was in the form of geo-heritage. Due to all these features being on Mehrangarh Hills, its place has become very important in the world and over time, the extension of Marwar Sea on the Geopark

map of the world, geo-heritage tourism had spread to Mehrangarh Hills. Due to its location on Mehrangarh Hill, its place has become very important in the world and for the sake of the world and its conservation, a Geopark is expected in Jodhpur and Mehrangarh Hill is the most appropriate place.

6. State level INTACH India Heritage Quiz Competition - 30.11.2022

In the 'State Level INTACH India Heritage Quiz Competition 2022' organized by INTACH Rajasthan Chapter, Janil Jain and Vaidehi Ranaut of St. Anthony's School, Udaipur Chapter became the winners of Rajasthan Chapter. State Women's INTACH India Heritage Quiz competition was organized from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm at Chaukelao Palace of Mehrangarh Fort. Regional winners from Jaipur, Udaypur, Bikaner, Alwar, Ajmer, Bhilwara, Sawai Madhopur and Jodhpur districts participated in this competition. In this competition organized in five sessions, history, art, culture and general knowledge of Rajasthan along with many general knowledge questions were asked. After three sessions, Jaipur, Udaipur and Jodhpur made it to the last three. Then the final round took place between Udaipur and Jodhpur Chapters. In the final round, Janil Jain and Vaidehi Ranaut of St. Anthony's School, Udaipur Chapter were declared the winners of Rajasthan Chapter. Monika Choudhary and Hamanshi Dhanka of Central Academy School (KUDI), Jodhpur Chapter stood second while Yashasvi Bhardwaj and Dhartiya of Cambridge Court High School, Jaipur Choudhary stood third. The participants who got first, second and third positions were given certificates and mementoes by the Chief Guest, famous painter Lalsingh Rajpurohit. On this occasion, Lal Singh Rajpurohit in his address inspired the children to understand the nuances of painting as well as their culture and heritage so that our future generations can preserve their heritage. He expressed happiness to the children present to participate in such competitions organized by INTACH.

Before this, Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar, Convenor, INTACH Jodhpur Chapter welcomed all the participants and the Heads and Convenors present with them and expressed his gratitude and informed everyone about the work done by INTACH. In the program, Manager, Mehrangarh Museum Trust, Sanskriti Dharmashu Bohra gave information about the location of Mehrangarh Fort. INTACH Convenor Bhagirath Vaishnev presented the above mentioned works of Jodhpur INTACH Chapter to the audience. At the end of the program, program in-charge Mrs. Kalpakna Champawat expressed her gratitude and also conducted the competition very interestingly. All the children, parents and teachers participating in the competition were taken on tour to Maharangarh Museum, Rao Jodhapurak, Jaswantthada, Chaukelao Bagh and were provided information about the history, literature and cultural places.

7. Khana Khazana – My Food Heritage Poster Making Competition 14.02.2023

Under the aegis of Heritage Education and Communication Department of INTACH and Jodhpur Chaptkar, the students of class 7 to 9 got the knowledge about traditional food, its ancient history and different types of dishes of different states and the history of food heritage and popular stories related to them, how to prepare food. With the objective of increasing interest and knowledge towards methods etc., 'Khana Khazana-My Food Heritage' Poster Competition was organized on 14 February 2023 at Kornak Senior Secondary School, Kamla Nehru Nagar Pratap Nagar, Jodhpur.

For the competition, information was sent to more than 30 schools through e-mail, and information was also sent to many schools over phone. Due to the busy schedule of preparations for the annual examinations held recently, 55 students from four schools participated in this competition with great enthusiasm. In the competition, children presented the famous dishes of Marwar (Jodhpur region), Dal-Bati Churma, Kadi-Sogra, Mawa ki Kachori, traditional food Ker-Sangri, Kumthiya, Amchoor, Pyaaj ki Kachori, Chai-Samosa, Jodhpur's famous Mirchi Bada. Besides, the traditional scene of the village was made in the pictures, along with this, Pav-Bhaji, Idli Sambhar, different types of sweets, traditional utensils as well as various food items of South India have been made through the pictures and wrote history and culture of these dishes in the essay.

On this occasion, Jodhpur's famous tourist guide Dr. ShaktiSingh Khakharki provided interesting information about the traditional dishes of Marwar to the children and told how hotels, restaurants were built 20-25 years ago. Preference was given to more traditional and home-made dishes. Nowadays the young generation should learn about traditional dishes from their mothers and grandmothers. On this occasion, a poem written by Dr. ShaktiSingh on 'Roti' was recited to the children. INTACH Convenor Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar provided information to the children about the traditional dishes of Jodhpur and Marwar and said that such an event will enhance the creative talents of the children and they will be able to connect with the ancient and traditional food of Marwar.

Students of four schools of Jodhpur, Mayur Chaupasani School, Delhi Public School, Kornark Senior Secondary School and Central Academy Kudi participated in the Poster Making Competition. On this occasion, refreshments were arranged by INTACH Jodhpur Chapter for all the students, their parents and teachers.

On this occasion, INTACH Convenor Pradeep Soni and Bhagirath Vaishnav, Virendrasingh, Inderjit Sharma, Pramod Bhati, members of INTACH Jodhpur Chapter as well as teachers of schools were present in INTACH Jodhpur Chapter. At the end of the program, mementoes were given to Guest Dr. Shaktisingh Khadki and Pukhraj Ramawat, Director of Kornak C. Sankeuri School, on behalf of INTACH.

In the end, Co-Convenor Mr. Bhagirath Vaishnav expressed his gratitude to the teachers, parents and students of all the schools for participating in this competition and to the Director of Kornak Senior Secondary School, Mr. Pukhraj Ramawat for providing the venue for the competition.



Nagaur

1. 20 January 2023. On the Cattle fare of Nagaur City, a special heritage walk was organized by the INTACH Nagaur Chapter to commemorate the rich cultural heritage of the city. The walk aimed to educate and create awareness among the participants about the historical significance of Nagaur Fort and the efforts made to restore and preserve its heritage.

Nagaur City, located in the state of Rajasthan, India, has a glorious past dating back to several centuries. The Nagaur Fort stands as a testimony to this history, with its magnificent architecture and intricate design. The fort, believed to have been built in the 12th century, has witnessed the rise and fall of many dynasties and has played a crucial role in shaping the region's history.

Led by knowledgeable guides, the heritage walk started from the main entrance of the fort. Participants were greeted with the sight of massive walls, adorned with beautiful carvings and intricate patterns. As they walked through the fort's various sections, the guides shared interesting anecdotes and stories about the rulers who once inhabited the fort and the events that took place within its walls.

The walk showcased the architectural brilliance of Nagaur Fort, with its stunning palaces, intricately carved pillars, and sprawling courtyards. The participants were able to witness firsthand the grandeur of the fort and appreciate the efforts made to restore its former glory. The guides explained the conservation techniques employed by INTACH Nagaur Chapter to preserve the fort's heritage, including the careful restoration of crumbling structures and the documentation of historical artifacts.

Throughout the walk, the participants were encouraged to ask questions and engage in discussions about the significance of heritage preservation. The guides emphasized the importance of understanding and respecting the cultural heritage of the city, not just for the present generation but also for future ones.

The heritage walk on the foundation day of Nagaur City served as a reminder of the rich history and cultural legacy that the city possesses. It highlighted the efforts made by INTACH Nagaur Chapter to restore and preserve the Nagaur Fort, ensuring that its heritage remains intact for generations to come. By organizing such events, the chapter continues to create awareness and appreciation for the city's heritage, fostering a sense of pride and responsibility among the local community.

2. Rajasthan Tourism Department's Heritage Certificate:

In the month of February 2023, the village of Chhapra District Nagaur, experienced a significant influx of tourists who were captivated by the allure of its heritage sites. Visitors from far and wide flocked to witness the grandeur of these historical marvels and immerse themselves in the vibrant tapestry of Rajasthan's cultural heritage.

The villagers warmly welcomed these tourists, showcasing the traditional hospitality for which Rajasthan is renowned. The locals graciously shared stories of their ancestors, their customs, and the significance of each heritage property. These interactions allowed

visitors to gain a deeper understanding of the rich heritage that permeates every nook and cranny of this village.

The presence of these tourists not only brought economic prosperity to the village but also served as a reminder of the importance of preserving our heritage for future generations. It reinforced the responsibility we hold in safeguarding these precious cultural treasures and passing them down to posterity.

As we celebrate the influx of tourists and the attention it has brought to our village, we express our gratitude to all those who have contributed to the preservation and promotion of our heritage properties. We acknowledge the efforts of the local community, the government authorities, and the archaeological departments for their unwavering commitment to conserving these invaluable assets.

This heritage certificate serves as a testament to the village of [Village Name]'s dedication to preserving and promoting its rich cultural heritage. It is a symbol of pride and recognition for all those who have worked tirelessly to maintain the authenticity and allure of this historical sites.



Cattle fair of Nagaur City, a special heritage walk

Tamil Nadu

Chennai

CHENNAI CHAPTER invites you to a talk on 'LINESIDE: Vintage photographs of trains around Madras' by S. Venkataraman (Poochi Venkat) on Thursday, 21st September 2023 at 6:30 pm at Ashvita's 4, 2nd Street, Dr Radhakrishnan Salai, Near Seethapathy EVK Clinic, Mylapore, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600004.

About the Talk

Spotting trains along the tracks is an irresistible urge whatever be the age! Hence the term "Line Side".

Vintage photographs speak of a quaint Madras more than half-a-century ago, with its simple yet distinct cityscape, traversed by unique steam and electric trains.

Photographs by Ian Manning, an Australian were shot originally on 35mm monochrome negatives between 1965 and 1969 in the then Madras State, when Manning taught Economics at Madras Christian College.

The interesting part about Manning's photographs are the occasional buildings and structures which form a significant yet subtle element in his compositions.

Ian Manning's remarkable, extraordinary association with India and Indian trains led him to join IRFCA (Indian Railways Fan Club) which is an online group of enthusiasts of Indian Railways from all over the World.

Along with collections from the India leg of his world tour in 1959, Prof. Ian Manning's photographs are now a priceless treasure of memories talking to us of an eragone by.

Poochi Venkat will share anecdotes connected with the images that he curated and restored out of 3,000 frames from Manning's collection. He will also present some exclusive videos of Indian Railways.

About the Speaker

Venkat's interest in visual arts began 51 years ago after being gifted his uncle R.K. Laxman's cartoons. Venkat hails from a family of playwrights, editors, artists, and writers, notably R.K. Narayan and R.K. Laxman.

While in Sishya school in 8th grade, he was a member of the Photography Club. Later, Venkat's focus shifted to Sound and Electronics, which became his main profession till 1991. His true calling lay in visual arts and he returned to photography full-time, combined with print design.

In 1998, during a photo-research assignment in Chennai's Guindy National Park, the forest officials admiringly called him "Poochi Venkat" to mark his dedication in documenting creepy-crawlies! In 2017, he released his first book, 'Insects - Guardians Of Nature', published by Kalamkriya, which is a compilation of 25 years of his nature macro photographs.

Venkat's deep concern for heritage and conservation has led him to document tribal groups in Madhya Pradesh, Rice Varieties of TamilNadu, micro-fauna of Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, restoration and preservation of photographs and prints, as well as designing museums and interpretation-centres.

Poochi Venkat's latest venture is creating abstract expressionist art, based on the hues of the natural world. Working with traditional media as well as with digital platforms, he has held three solo exhibitions where photography and art have melded to create a unique perspective on the world of macro photography.

Madurai

1. Heritage Walk Historic Melavalavu - Keelavalavu Heritage Circuit, Madurai District Tamilnadu 8 th July 2023 - Saturday

DHAN Foundation, one of the Founder member and Institutional Member of INTACH Madurai Chapter is organizing Heritage walk every month from 2008 in various Historical and Archaeological sites to promote Heritage Literacy among the various stakeholders in Collaboration with INTACH and various stakeholders.

The Melavalavu and Keelavalavu, are the historic villages of Madurai District, Tamil Nadu. Melavalavu which exists in the traditional trade route and famous for its Somagiri hills and 2000 year old Heritage Tank (namely Parambukanmai) with the stone

inscriptions of later Pandia (13th Century) and Vijayanagara (16 the century) Periods. Keelavalavu ,the Archaeological Survey of India Monument with Tamil Brahmi inscription dated back Second Century B.C with Jain Beds.

DHAN Foundation organized the July 2023 Heritage walk in collaboration with INTACH Madurai Chapter , Travel Club Madurai and Melur Vattara Kalanjiam, Marutham Vattara Kalanjiam, Kottampatti Kalanjiam Vayalaga Vattaram which are doing the gross root Development in these Historic Villages with the active Participation of of Local Panchayat Leaders. The resource lecture was delivered by Dr.G.Sethuraman Art Historian and Dr.V.Vedachalam Archaeologist. More than 80 participants participated in this Heritage Walk. The Heritage brochure on Keelavalavu and Melavalavu was released and distributed to the participants and Public.



Heritage Walk Historic Melavalavu - Keelavalavu Heritage Circuit

2. Trek to Puli Malai Rock Art

Rock Art is a global phenomenon, found in culturally diverse regions of the world. It reveals the aesthetic qualities inherent in early man. Referred also as parietal art denoting the outcome of processing sensory information from the outside world. The perception context can be many. The preliterate expression continues until that culture develops writing or other methods of record keeping. It was to one such natural cave, once a dwelling of prehistoric men recently discovered by Devi Arivu Selvam belonging to Madurai Natural & Cultural Group our chapter conducted a trek led by her.

3. RISE To The Ceiling

The Secretariat of the eight-member Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) comprising China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India and Pakistan is located in the diplomatic area of Beijing, China. External Affairs Minister Jaishankar on June 27, 2023 virtually inaugurated an exquisitely designed 'New Delhi Hall' representing India at the Secretariat, which he said depicts a “mini-India” and will foster a better understanding of the country's culture. In his address, Ambassador Pradeep Kumar Rawat said, “Architecturally, the inspiration for this Hall is from the southern part of India. The ceiling, columns, doors, as well as the layered pattern of

woodwork, were derived from the architectural motifs of heritage structures in the Southern cities “.

The hall is designed by Chennai architect Prabhu Sugumar, who specialises in urban architecture and cultural identity projects. The ceiling motif of the hall was decided from repeated pattern on the ceiling of the processional corridor in Thirumalai Nayakkar Mahal, Madurai. Historian Vani C Chenguttuwan hailing from the renowned old city was consulted to identify the motif and understand its relevance.

The New Delhi Hall stands as a symbol of India’s rich cultural tapestry, highlighting the unity and beauty of its diverse traditions. It is a multi-functional space to suit various purposes like meetings, video conferences, movie screenings and classes of yoga, dance and music.



Trek to Puli Malai Rock Art



RISE to The Ceiling

Nagercoil

International Year of Millets-2023 - INTACH Nagercoil Chapter organized a seminar on ‘Importance of Traditional Millets’ on 15th of September, 2023 at Kasthuriba Mathar Sangam. A competition was held on for the students of a tailoring unit and members of INTACH, Nagercoil Chapter on ‘Traditional Snacks made of Millets’.

To Commemorate ‘International Year of Millets 2023’

INTACH Nagercoil Chapter conducted a Competition on ‘Healthy Food made of Millets to students and members . There were 22 varieties of food entries. Best three were adjudged and prizes were given. Mr. Kumarapandian, Kanyakumari District Food Safety Officer was the Chief Guest. He was one of the two judges who judged the best entries.

Mr. Kumarapandian spoke on the Importance of Millets –

Economically & nutritionally. He also spoke on how millets were used by our forefathers for generations and the importance of reviving the usage of millets which are proven scientifically as medicines for diseases like diabetics, blood pressure etc.

Mr.Chenthee Natarajan, Mr.G.Nagendran, Mr.Abraham Lincoln, Mr.Pasumai Shahul, M.R.Rajan, Mr.Chandra Mohan, Mr.Rajanayagam, Mr.Jainesh, Mr.Sam Pradeep, Mrs. Latha Ramaswamy, Mrs. Nageswari Janarthanan, Mrs.Shyamla Padmesh, Mrs.N.Neela Bai attended the meeting.



Competition on 'Healthy Food made of Millets to students and members

Telangana

Warangal

INTACH – Warangal Chapter was organized INTACH National Heritage Quiz -2023 on Indian Culture and Heritage at the office of Kakatiya Heritage Trust, Hanamkonda on 29th August 2023. A total number of 51 teams from Bhavishya High School (10 Teams), Thushara High School (6 Teams), Navayuga High School (5 teams), Srinivasa Gurukul High School (7 teams), Daffodils High School (5 Teams), Raman High School (5 Teams) and Social Welfare Residential School (13 teams). A total number of 102 students participated in Quiz -2023. Members of INTACH Warangal Chapter and School Teachers addressed the students and briefed about India Heritage Quiz -2023 and guidelines. V. Vyshnavi and Nafees Sultana (one team) of Thushara School were the winners of Quiz 2023. Participant Certificates to all the students participated in quiz and prizes the winning team were distributed.



National Heritage Quiz -2023

Tripura

1. 115th Birth Anniversary and Photo Exhibition of Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya and Memorial Lecture cum Cultural Programme by INTACH Tripura jointly with Triveg Society, MBB College, on 19.8.2023

INTACH Tripura in collaboration with Triveg, a history society, have organized a few programmes at Agartala that have created awareness about history and culture in the State.

A Photo Exhibition on the occasion of the 115th Birth Anniversary of Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya of Tripura, was held at Agartala, in MBB (Maharaja Bir Bikram), College- a historic Institute which was established by the late Maharaja.

On display were copies of rare photographs, historic information and documents from 1908 to 1949 showcasing important events during his lifetime and the pre – Independence era.

After the opening of the exhibition, an educative, insightful Memorial Lecture was given by the Guest Speaker, Dr. Vikram Sampath, an acclaimed historian and author of several books at the MBB Auditorium, where both faculty members, invitees and students were present.

In the evening, a Cultural programme, ‘Sangeet Manjari’ was held for the guests. Talented Indian Classical musicians and singers from Tripura and an upcoming Sitarist, Sayan Ghosh from Kolkata, enthralled the audience and ended the evening on a dignified note.

2. World Environment Day Programme

INTACH Tripura, in collaboration with Mungliabari Higher Secondary School, successfully organized a dynamic World Environment Day Programme aimed at raising awareness about environmental conservation among school children and local community members. The event included a Drawing Competition and a Sapling Plantation activity, fostering a deeper connection with nature and promoting sustainable practices.

Drawing Competition:

The day commenced with an engaging Drawing Competition, which saw active participation from 80 school children. INTACH Tripura provided drawing materials and refreshments, creating a conducive atmosphere for the participants. The students' creative artworks served as a testament to their concern for the environment. The competition was categorized into three class groups, and cash prizes were awarded to winners in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th positions.

Programme Highlights:

A significant highlight of the event was the program held in the school hall, where esteemed dignitaries graced the occasion. Sri Bikash Debbarma, the Local MLA and Minister of Tribal Welfare, Handloom, Handicrafts and Sericulture, as the Chief Guest, lent credibility to the event. The Guest of Honour, Shri Jeya Ragul Gesan B., IFS, District Forest Officer of Khowai District Forest Department, added an authoritative perspective to the discussions. The presence of local officials and eminent personalities added depth to the program.

Sapling Plantation:

Following the drawing competition, the focus shifted to practical action with a Sapling Plantation activity. Students actively participated, guided by the Forest Minister and the DFO. Native tree species were carefully selected for planting, enhancing the local

ecosystem and reinforcing the significance of afforestation. The practical experience of planting trees served as a hands-on lesson in environmental stewardship.

Community Engagement:

The event garnered enthusiastic participation from the local community, teachers, students, and members of INTACH Tripura. The collective effort demonstrated the collaborative approach required for effective environmental conservation. The presence of government officials and environmental experts underscored the event's significance and underscored the commitment of various stakeholders towards a greener future.

In conclusion, the World Environment Day Programme at Mungiabari Higher Secondary School was a success owing to the support of esteemed dignitaries like Chief Guest Sri Bikash Debbarma and Special Guest DFO Shri Jeya Ragul Gesan B., IFS. Through the drawing competition and sapling planting, the event effectively promoted environmental awareness and instilled a sense of responsibility for the planet's well-being among the youth. The collaborative efforts of INTACH Tripura, Mungiabari Higher Secondary School, and the distinguished guests marked a significant step toward fostering a sustainable and environmentally conscious community.



115th Birth Anniversary and Photo Exhibition



World Environment Day Programme

Uttar Pradesh

Gorakhpur

In compliance to Central Office letter dated 1st June 23 and 26 June 23, Gorakhpur chapter conducted a workshop on endangered craft of this area. The report is as hereunder.

There is one local product in area adjoining Gorakhpur SARPAT from which string is obtained and is called MOONJ.

Various household products were prepared from this Moonj, such as small and big baskets, brooms and other decorative and useful items. There is an caste MUSHAR which are totally illiterate and poor and landless, who used to make these products from moonj , and the items were in great demands in rural area for domestic works in marriage

seasons. With the increasing use of plastics, the demand for these items become negligible and the art was on the extinction.

Gorakhpur chapter decided to organize an workshop for students of this art. Beside organising the workshop we decided to organise an seminar and exhibition on this craft.

Since this craft is endangered chapter made an vigorous search for crafts man who are still practicing this art. Finally, we came to know about some artisan living about 60kms from Gorakhpur. M. P. Kandoi convenor and Achintya Lahiri co-convenor met them and made them ready to come to Gorakhpur.

The proposed event was organized on 24th September 2023.venue was Ss academy gas Godam gali Gorakhpur

The workshop was started at 10A.M..Six craftsman were present.88students from 7 schools were present in workshop. The children were divided in groups of 15 and one craftsman took charge to train them. All the material was brought by craftsman. Every group of students were first told about the intricacies of craft and told how to carry out the crafts. Then students were given the material and they worked for 4 hrs and made the craft objects under the guidance of craftsman.

After the completion of workshop the seminar was organized. Convener M.P.Kandoi welcomed all. Co convener Achintya Lahiri explained students about INTACH and purpose of this workshop. Life member Sri Shivendra Vikram Singh that this is a time consuming craft, but does not require continuous working , but our old generation used to do in spare time ,which they always had after their regular work. He said that INTACH will provide MOONJ to school children free of cost. Prof Rajwant Rao told students that it is a very old heritage, and explained it's religious and domestic significance. Prof Mrs Kumud Singh an expert of local art and craft explained the intricacies of art.

Students were given participation certificate, and refreshments.



Workshop on endangered art and craft

Lalitpur

Uttar Pradesh Labor & Employment Minister Manohar Lal, Sadar MLA Ramratan Kushwaha, District Panchayat President Kailash Niranjana, other members of District Panchayat participated in the Seminar organized by INTACH Lalitpur Chapter at Bajaj Club on environmental protection and the felicitation ceremony organized to honor who cooperated in 1 lakh 11000 tree plantation campaign. Many members of INTACH, dignitaries and members were present on the birthday of INTACH Convener Santosh Kumar Sharma. All the present guests bestowed their good wishes and blessings to him. After the program, everyone enjoyed food prepared from Bundeli cuisine.

Mahoba

On 03.09. 2023, the famous historical Kajali fair of Mahoba district, which is about 842 years old, and is situated on the banks of Kirat Sagar. On this occasion, INTACH Mahoba Chapter organized a public fair lecture on this day, in front of a large gathering.

Meerut

Tribute to Martyr Major Manoj Talwar: INTACH, Meerut Chapter

Meerut, 26 July. INTACH, Meerut Chapter paid homage to the statue of Martyr Major Manoj Talwar located at Meerut Commissionerate Square on Kargil Vijay Diwas. Wreaths were offered paying homage to all the martyrs. The members present narrated the memories of the time of Kargil war. Shri G.C. Sharma, Mr. Shilvardhan paid tribute with their views. A.K. Johri, Co-Convener recited the poem of the occasion. The program was presided over by Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar Convener/Retired Divisional Commissioner. On this occasion, Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, Anand Kumar Johri, Sandeep Raizada, G.C. Sharma, Shilvardhan, K.P. Pradhan, Lt. Colonel A.D. Tyagi, A.K. Gandhi was prominently present.

Honor to Kargil war hero Deepchand ji

Meerut, 18 August. Kargil war warrior hero Deepchand ji was honored at Yodha Military Academy, NH-58 under the aegis of INTACH, Meerut Chapter.

He was honored by presenting memento, garland and shawl on behalf of the organization. Program was presided over by Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, retired, Divisional Commissioner/Convener. The program was conducted by A.K. Johri, Co-Convener. Lt. Col. A.D. Tyagi was the coordinator of the program. On this occasion, poems of bravery were recited by A.K. Johri. Prominent persons present in the program were Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, A.K. Johari, A.D. Tyagi, A.K. Gandhi, G.C. Sharma, Sandeep Raizada and students of Yodha Military Academy.

Program organized by INTACH Meerut Chapter on Yoga Day

Meerut, 21 June. In association with Senior Member, INTACH Mr. Rajneesh Prakash Tyagi and Manager, Shri Ram Sahay, Inter College, Garh Road, Meerut, a Yoga Day Program was organized from 08:00 am to 09:30 am, in which students and teachers participated. There was full participation of INTACH, Meerut Chapter. Principal Shri

Sukh Nandan Tyagi thanked INTACH, Meerut Chapter. On behalf of Meerut Chapter along with members A.K. Johri, Co-Convenor was present in the programme.



Meerut Chapter on Yoga Day

Salute to Azad and Bal Gangadhar Tilak

Meerut, 22 July. The birth anniversary of two great freedom fighters Shri Chandra Shekhar Azad and Shri Bal Gangadhar Tilak was celebrated by the INTACH, Meerut Chapter at Yodha Military Academy, Opposite Subharti, NH 58. Lt. Col. A.D. Tyagi told that the great freedom fighter Chandra Shekhar Azad was born in 1906 in Bhabra, Madhya Pradesh. He joined the non-cooperation movement at the age of 15. Later the revolutionary organization became a part of Hindustan Republican Association. Kakori was involved in many revolutionary activities including train robbery, assembly bomb incident, murder of British officer John Saunders. He shot himself in an encounter with the police on 27th February, 1931.

Shri Anil Yadav, while narrating about the life and books of Bal Gangadhar Tilak, repeated his famous slogan "Swarajya is my birthright and I shall have it". On this occasion A.K. Gandhi and Rajesh Bharti also expressed their views. Dr. RK Bhatnagar, Convenor/ Retired Divisional Commissioner thanked everyone. The programme was conducted by A.K. Johri, Co-Convenor.

Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut, organized a program in the Prem Chand Auditorium of the Urdu Department on the eve of the birth anniversary of the famous lyricist Bharat Bhushan.

On this occasion, the guests Dr. Ram Gopal Bhartiya's prose novel *Chhabbis January* and Brijraj Kishore Rahgir's song collection *Peer Ko Apnapan Do* were also released. Journalist critic Shahid A. Chaudhary discussed the novel *Chhabbis January* while lyricist Yashpal Koutsayan expressed his views on *Peer Ko Apnapan Do*.

The meeting was addressed by Shri V.K. Saxena, former Justice, Shri Rajesh Chandra, Co-Convenor, INTACH, Meerut Chapter, Anand Johri, Prof. Naveen Chandra Lohani, Prof. Vikas Sharma, Prof. Aslam Jamshedpuri, Adarshini Srivastava, Meera Shalabh, Sahitya Bhushan, Shri Kishan Swaroop etc.

In the second session very melodies compositions were presented by the lyricists, in this sequence the songs of Prashant Dixit, Nitish Rajput, Kavita Kusumakar, Mukta Sharma, Irshad Betaab received big applause from the audience. Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, Convenor presided over the session and said that such events are necessary to keep our literary and cultural heritage alive.

In making the program successful, Dr. Gambhir, Dr. Aashavadi, Satyapal Satyam, Sumanesh Suman, G.C. Sharma, K.P. Singh, A.K. Gandhi along with a number of people gave special contributions. The program was conducted by Dr. Ram Gopal Bhartiya and concluded by Chandra Shekhar Mayur.

Press Release of four programs of INTACH, Meerut Chapter

1. 15 August 2023: - Cultural Evening

Keeping in view the preservation of cultural heritage, a cultural evening was organized on Independence Day under the chairmanship of Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, retired, Divisional Commissioner/Convener.

2. 3 September 2023: - Free medical camp

A free Medical Camp was organized by INTACH, Meerut Chapter in collaboration with Mamta Goswami Trust.

3. 5 September 2023: - Teacher's Day

Teacher felicitation program was organized by INTACH, Meerut Chapter at The Aryans Public School on Teacher's Day.

4. 16 September 2023: - Executive Meeting

11 members participated in the Executive Meeting of INTACH, Meerut Chapter. The meeting was presided over by Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, Convener and conducted by A.K. Johri, Co-Convener. The proceedings of the last meeting were read out and confirmed. The members suggested organizing a program in memory of the martyrs. Lecture programs on cultural heritage in schools were planned. A request was made to the members present to increase membership. The idea of showing the new Parliament building in the heritage tour came to the fore. The result of the Khana-Khazana Competition was informed and thanks were given to all.

INTACH Symposium: Quit India Movement

Meerut, 9 August. A symposium on "Quit India Movement" was organized by the INTACH, Meerut Chapter with the students studying at Amatya Institute, Western Kachari Road, Meerut. The program was presided over by Dr. RK Bhatnagar, Divisional Commissioner (Retd.)/Convener, INTACH. Among the speakers were Dr. K.C. Gupta, Rajesh Bharti, Director Amatya. AK Johri, Co-Convenor, INTACH conducted the programme and highlighted that the Quit India Movement was truly a people's movement, in which lakhs of common Indians were involved. This movement attracted youth in large numbers. He left his college and took the path of jail. Whose goal was to eliminate the British Empire from India. Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar ji also presented his views.



Cultural evening was organized on Independence Day



Free medical camp

Noida, Greater Noida

As scheduled, the programme was conducted on 17.08.2023 at Jaypee Public School, Sector 128, Noid wherein more than 50 students of the school from different classes had participated. The Principal of School Mrs Mallik along with the teachers, administration staff also participated. From Intach Noida Gr Noida Chapter Convener Mr Vidya Bhushan Kumar along with Co-Convener Mr Ashok Kumar, members Mr Amit Sahai, Mr Sanjay Kumar Singh, Mrs Ragini Sharma, Ms Neeta had attended. The total attendance was around 100.

The programme started with planting of a sapling by the Principal Ms Anjali Mallik, followed by planting by the students, teachers and other staff. During the programme, the students were briefed about INTACH and various initiatives the students can undertake with respect to their school neighbourhood and around their place of residence. The saplings were provided by the Forest Department of Delhi with the help of our Convener Mr Vidya Bhushan Kumar.

The participants were provided a Cap with the INTACH logo as well as light refreshment.

The programme ended with thanks to the Principal Ms Malick for her support and with a hope to conducting many more programmes in future initiating young students to the concept of Heritage preservation and protection.



Van Mahotsav

Varanasi

1. Varanasi Chapter organized Heritage Walk on Sunday, July 16, 2023 in Varanasi Cantonment Area.

We started with visit to Lal Girja which is appx 150 yrs old and recently restored by the Church of North India with community's help. Mr Vijaya Dayal, Secretary of the Church briefed the participants and explained about old churches of Varanasi, Christian community in the city and the prayer style of Protestants and Roman Catholic. This is a Protestant church. Next stop was India Tourism Varanasi office which is a heritage building recently restored. Mr Amit Gupta, Asst Director, India Tourism welcomed all the participants. Specially made caps and T shirts were given as gift to all participants by India Tourism. Caps and T Shirts are having both logos- INTACH and Incredible India (tag line of India Tourism). Mr Jainendra Rai briefed the participants and explained the history. Ashok Kapoor Convener felicitated Asst Director India Tourism. Third stop was 125 yrs old Hotel De Paris which is also partially restored and further restoration is going on. Mr Akhilesh Kumar briefed the participants at Hotel De Paris. Last stop was St Mary's English Church which is more than 200 years old but in a bad condition. Outer walls are intact and some beautiful painted glass panels are in good condition. Rest of the building is in shambles. INTACH had prepared restoration plan for this church appx 8 years back but finances were not available so work could not start.

Briefing was done by Mr Wells here.

The Walk was planned by Life Members Mr Akhilesh Kumar and Mr Jainendra Rai who are Senior Govt of India approved guides.

Appx 55 members and their guests participated. Delicious local cuisine was provided as breakfast at Urban Food Court which was also a heritage building but now restored.

2. Mr Santosh Singh, newly elected President of Varanasi Tourism Guild with his new team felicitated Ashok Kapoor, Convener, Varanasi Chapter at India Tourism Varanasi Office. They proposed many tourism related activities to be jointly organized with INTACH. Convener assured them full support. Varanasi Tourism Guild (VTG) is the

largest and one of the oldest organizations in Varanasi having Hotels like Taj, other star hotels, all travel agents and tour operators as their members.

INTACH Varanasi Chapter has nearly 12 Life Members who are associated with Tourism and Travel Trade.

3. Varanasi Chapter in association with Tourist Guide Association Varanasi organised VIRASAT DARSHAN Lecture series at IGNCA Hall. Prof Maruti Nandan Prasad Tiwari, eminent Art Historian, Tagore Fellow and President of Indian Art History Congress Gauhati spoke on KASHI KEE DEV MOORTIYAAN AUR PRAACHEEN DEVAALAYA. Prof Tiwari is also INTACH Life member and authored many books. This was second lecture in the series started by Varanasi Chapter and TGA to sensitize Tourism Fraternity and create awareness amongst members. INTACH members, research scholars, tourist guides and students numbering appx 70 attended the lecture. A recent book on the same topic has been authored by Prof Tiwari and recently published.

Prof Tiwari highlighted the ancient temples like Kardmeshwar which is the last surviving temple.

This lecture series is becoming very popular amongst members and tourism fraternity. The lecture series will have lectures by experts every alternate month. Interestingly, we are getting enquiries from tourism fraternity to join as INTACH member.

3. INTACH Institutional member Sunbeam School and Hostel, Suncity inaugurated Yuva Tourism Club. This is Hon'ble Prime Ministers Dream project being executed by India Tourism. In Varanasi, India Tourism collaborated with INTACH VARANASI for executing the project. Convener Varanasi Chapter was Chief Guest on this occasion. Mr Akhilesh Kumar and Mr Jainendra Rai, INTACH life members and senior govt of India approved Tourist guides are coordinators for this project on behalf of INTACH VARANASI. They all were present. Yuva Tourism Club members of the school were given pins by Convener. Pledge was taken by all members of the Club. Ashok Kapoor Convener explained the importance of the club formation and role of INTACH VARANASI. Coordinators also briefed the students. Principal of the school Mrs Archana Singh welcomed the group and assured regular activity in school.

4. VARANASI Chapter organized visit of students of its Institutional member Sant Atulanand Residential Academy to Bharat Mata Mandir, the only place in India known as Bharat Mata Mandir. This was a part of Independence Day activity. Mr Akhilesh Kumar ji and Mr Jainendra Rai, INTACH Life members and senior Govt of India approved Tourist Guides briefed the students. There were appx 200 students from different classes.

5. Varanasi Chapter organized heritage walk for its members and family on Sunday, August 13, 2023. A specially curated walk programme for Purushottam Maas was organized in the month of SHRAVAN. Purushottam Maas is one additional month from the Hindu calendar which falls every 3 years. Mr Anil Kesari ji, Addl Co Convener coordinated and briefed the participants about importance of Rameshwar Temple and nearby sites. Rameshwar Area is the 3rd night halt for Panchkoshi yatra, which has a special importance in Purushottam / Adhik Maas. Members visited the ancient temple of Rameshwar Mahadev, which is situated on the bank of river varuna. There are two

main temples on this site. A private NGO manages a Gaushala also in the area. Rescued cows are brought here and are cured. Members visited gaushala too.

6. INTACH VARANASI CHAPTER with support from India Tourism Varanasi organized the Photo walk at two heritage sites for students of Institutional member Little Flower House on the occasion of World Photography Day, August 19, 2023. Appx 60 students with accompanying teachers participated. Ms Aditi Gulati, Dy Director of Little Flower house and Coordinator of Heritage Education Cell of the Chapter joined too. Mr Vineet Sharma, an eminent photo artist and INTACH Life member briefed the students and also explained the technique of taking photos at Heritage sites. Vineet Sharma has been conducting Photo Walk for students every year for INTACH VARANASI.

Ashok Kapoor Convener was present throughout and also explained the importance of visit to Heritage sites. Light Refreshments was provided to all participants.

7. SPARDHA 2023 has been organized on Aug 24 and 25, 2023 at Sunbeam School Varuna in collaboration with India Tourism Varanasi and Sunbeam School Varuna. 21 schools (14 INTACH MEMBER SCHOOLS) participated in 6 different competitions. Group Song, Group Dance, Theatre, Photo frame making, Clay Pot decoration and build your own castle. Appx 600 students participated in different competitions. Judges were selected by INTACH VARANASI. Refreshment was arranged by India Tourism on both days. Hon'ble Shri G. Kishan Reddy, Minister of Tourism and Culture Govt of India, was Chief Guest on the concluding day. He emphasized that such cultural activities will encourage students to take up creative skills. He praised the role of INTACH and Sunbeam School for promoting Yuva Tourism Club which is a dream project of Hon'ble Prime Minister.

India Tourism Varanasi assured to support this annually as they have been doing for last 2 years.

8. INTACH VARANASI and India Tourism Varanasi organized visit of school students to Sarnath, a UNESCO Heritage Site on August 29, 2023. ASI Varanasi helped by not charging any entrance fee for students. Mr Jainendra Rai, INTACH Life Member and Govt of India approved tourist guide briefed the students. India Tourism Varanasi arranged refreshments for appx 30 students and accompanying teachers.





Heritage Walk in Varanasi Cantonment Area



Inaugurated Yuva Tourism Club

9. Sensitization programme for Tourism Fraternity

INTACH VARANASI CHAPTER in association with Tourist Guide Association Varanasi and Association of Domestic Tour Operators of India ,UP Chapter with support from India Tourism Varanasi organized one full day programme for Tourism Fraternity of Banaras.

58 Participants registered for the programme while some INTACH members, India Tourism officials and journalists attended too.

The programme was inaugurated by lighting lamp. Mahant Prof V. N. Mishra, Amitabh Bhattacharya, Amit Gupta, Ashok Kapoor, S. K. Singh and Dr Ms Anuradha Raturi lighted the lamp.

Ashok Kapoor Convener gave an outline of the programme and relevance of organizing in present situation when more and more domestic tourists are coming to Varanasi. While welcoming all resource persons and experts, Ashok Kapoor mentioned the support of INTACH Heritage Tourism Division and India Tourism Varanasi without whom , this would not be possible.

Mahant Prof V. N. Mishra ji is President, Sankat Mochan Foundation which is engaged in checking the pollution level in Ganga at different points on Banaras ghats. He gave figures of pre pandemic and post pandemic pollution level in Ganga and emphasized that faulty government policy is responsible for continued pollution. Ganga, no doubt is the biggest tourist attraction in Banaras but we need to keep it pollution free to enable domestic tourism to survive.

Next session on Banaras Classical music Gharana was conducted by scholar Dr Ms Anuradha Raturi who has done extensive research on history and present situation of Classical music, which attracts large number of foreign students to the city. She gave examples of how legends came to Varanasi, learnt music and settled elsewhere but they don't recognise the gharana's contribution. Her emphasis was on establishing the fact that Banaras Music Tradition should get it's due recognition and guides should not only explain the music tradition but also the contribution of Banaras.

Third session was short but very topical. Mr S. K. Singh, President of UP Chapter of ADTOI gave some tips to Travel Agents and Guides to deal with domestic tourists as less and less foreign tourists are coming to Varanasi, while domestic Tourism is rising manifold. He highlighted the gaps and pointed out laxity on the part of Tourist trade in

dealing with domestic tourists, who will be bread and butter for Varanasi tourism in future. The last pre-lunch session was most interesting, informative and educative about short history of city, the Kashi Raj, lifestyle of people in Banaras, the pleasure of being citizen of Banaras. He quoted many examples of conversation in the city with common people. He being a senior journalist and a scholar on Banaras and its temples, participants were given an overview of the city's profile.

After 45 mints of lunch break, Ashok Verma , a leading Tourist Guide and INTACH Life member presented his paper on Tourism and Green Investment, which is the theme of this year's World Tourism Day.

He gave examples of Solar panels for hotels and also other investments to preserve environment and work according to Nature. The last session was one of the most liked and sought after and more of a technical detail than a presentation. Mr Binay Rawal, an eminent photographer and honorary professor first showed some slides of prominent Heritage sites whose photographs he took during his tours and his photographic journey. He later explained the techniques of travel photography and gave tips on how to use mobile camera and capture good shots even without professional camera. Binay Rawal frequently conducts workshops for students in INTACH member schools too.

Mr Amit Gupta, Asst Director India Tourism proposed vote of thanks. A pledge was also taken by Travel and Tourism Fraternity.

Certificates were distributed to all participants. High Tea was served at the end when participants were also given opportunity to interact with resource persons in informal way.



Programme for Tourism Fraternity of Banaras

West Bengal

Kolkata

World Environment Day

5th June 2023

Today is World Bicycle Day. Partnered with the NKDA and Bengal Chamber in a Cyclothon this morning. We also commemorated World Environment Day which is on the 5th June with an Awareness Campaign to the East Kolkata Wetlands an UNESCO designated RAMSAR site to commemorate World Environment Day.

The objective is to promote cycling as the clean and green mobility solution which is also a boon for good health and fitness.

World Heritage Day: Geo Heritage Tourism: World Heritage Day is celebrated on April 18th every year to raise awareness about the importance of cultural heritage and its preservation. However, on this occasion, it's also essential to acknowledge the significance of Geoheritage and its contribution to the understanding and appreciation of our natural heritage.

Geo heritage sites are an integral part of our natural heritage and are often overlooked. These sites are unique geological features, landscapes, and landforms that have scientific, educational, cultural, or aesthetic value and should be preserved for future generations. Geo heritage sites offer a wealth of information on natural history, climate change, and biodiversity.

World Heritage Day is an excellent opportunity to recognize and appreciate the importance of geo heritage and its contribution to our natural heritage. We should work towards the preservation and sustainable use of these sites to ensure that they continue to contribute to our understanding and appreciation of the earth's geological history. There is no better way to promote Geo heritage than through inviting tourists to visit them and popularize them.

For this purpose, a Seminar was held at the Amity University along with the Department of Tourism Studies which was well attended by students, faculty and other guests. Convener G.M. Kapur was the Chief Guest, Murshidabad Convener, Sri Balak Nath Bhattacharya and Sri S. Guha, Dy Director General, (Retd.) Geological Survey of India spoke on the occasion. Sri Guha also conducted a quiz which was enjoyed by the students especially.

World Museum Day: World Museum Day is commemorated on or around 18th May every year. The objective is to raise awareness about the fact that museums are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among peoples.

On 27th May, the Chapter visited the Rabindra Bharati Museum which is located within Jorasanko Thakur Bari in Jorasanko, North Kolkata, West Bengal, India, which is the ancestral home of the Tagore family. It is the birthplace of poet Rabindranath Tagore and the host to the Rabindra Bharati University campus. The visit was followed by a sound and light show.

Bichitra Bhavan: Bichitra Bhavan, built in 1897, is located on the west of Maharshi Bhavan and was built by Rabindranath himself in the early 20th century colonial style. It is a red brick building, partly plastered and painted in white. The south side is almost screened with some well-grown existing trees. It houses the museum and archives on the first floor. **Museum Collections:** The Museum comprises galleries on many intellectual galaxies of 19th Century Renaissance Bengal like Dwarkanath, Debendranath, Rabindranath, Abanindranath, Gaganendranath, etc. There are two galleries on Art, displaying paintings of Bengal School and the portrait paintings of Tagore house drawn mainly by the Anglo Indian School (western art gallery). Apart from these there are galleries displaying life and activities of Rabindranath Tagore. The museum also has the Japan

Gallery, China Gallery, the US Gallery and the Hungary Gallery that explore Rabindranath's visit and relation with these countries.

Mangrove Plantation: Raimangal River Bank, Hingaljan Sundarbans

Saplings we had planted are growing rapidly, branches and breathing roots appearing. Plantation is of 7-8 months old now, but growth is unexpectedly high. Local people are happy; this plantation work provides them an earning opportunity; they are cooperating and waiting for the next Years Bon Bibi and Dakshin Ray Festival.

World Environment Day: INTACH supported Bengal Home Industries efforts to promote green products with artisans and craftsperson who work for empowering women, providing them with a source extra income, promoting sustainable practices, reducing carbon footprints to provide products from farm to fiber to fashion. Earth Day International, All India Women's Conference, Nari Seva Sangh were other organizations which participated in the programme.



World Environment Day



Bichitra Bhavan

Intach National Heritage Quiz : Intach National Heritage Quiz 2023 was organised by INTACH Calcutta Regional Chapter at Shri Shikshayatan School, Kolkata on Thursday, 10th August, 2023. In this competition 42 students from 6 schools of Kolkata participated (Schools' names - Shri Shikshayatan School, Apeejay School- Park Street, Apeejay School- Salt Lake, Garden High School, Modern High School for Girls, Calcutta Public School- Bidhan Park).

The programme was inaugurated with a welcome address by Mr. G. M. Kapur, Convener, Calcutta Chapter.

The quiz competition was conducted by the quiz masters Mr. Asif Ali and Mr. Sidharth Sarkar, members of INTACH, Calcutta Chapter over 3 rounds. 7 members of INTACH Calcutta Regional Chapter were present in this programme.

Launch of rejuvenation programme of the ajc Bose Indian botanical garden, Shibpur:

On the 13th of the September, the rejuvenation programme of the Indian Botanical Gardens was inaugurated in the presence of the Director of Botanical Survey of India, Dr A. A. Mao and his team for IBG, Mr Romit Sen and Mr Philip and the team from HSBC,

sponsors of the project and Principal Director, NHD, Intach, Mr Manu Bhatnagar and his team who are implementing the project. INTACH Calcutta Chapter was present in strength.

GM Kapur, Convener welcomed the guests and spoke briefly on the project. Dr Mao spoke in detail about the Garden and its history over the years and the plans for the future. Mr Sen spoke of the HSBCs commitment to sustainability because of which such projects are supported by them. Mr Manu Bhatnagar and Dr Ritu Singh gave a presentation on the plan of action for the project.

Dr Mao led the guests for a walk around the garden followed by a sumptuous lunch.



Rejuvenation Programme



INTACH National Heritage Quiz

Nomination of representative of INTACH for consultation and advice to CLW Heritage Committee.

Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), the premier Locomotive manufacturing facility of Indian Railways, is doing dedicated work in preserving its rich Heritage over the years. In order to deal with Heritage related functions, CLW has a dedicated 6 member Heritage Committee, which is led by PCME & Chairman Heritage Committee.

As per Standing Agenda for Zonal Level Heritage Committee Meetings circulated by Railway Board, "Co-opting of Indian National Trust for Art and Culture Heritage (INTACH) representative/external experts as considered necessary for consultation and advice"

In this regard, the consultation with Heritage Committee of CLW would like to have consultation/advice from the representatives/experts from Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage.

Articles

Ambala Chapter

Priceless Gifts from my Father

In 2002, I was ready to step out of Ambala for the national capital city of Delhi. As I packed my bags to begin the new phase of my life at Lady Shri Ram College for Women, my father gave me two gifts. The first was his pocket-size Oxford English Dictionary that had been his companion since his student days at the Military School in Belgaum. He taught himself new words from it every day. There was a time when he knew every single word in that dictionary! He learnt it all because he realized early on that a good vocabulary was an asset, and you must acquire one if you can. And that's exactly what he did.

He passed on this lovely rendition of the English language to me on the occasion of my new life as an independent woman, away from the warm snuggle of my parents' cocoon. On Sundays, as I lay on my bed in my hostel room on the campus reading non-fiction works, I easily looked up words in the pocket dictionary beside me. Slightly tattered and yellowing, its pages aroused a warm and musty fragrance, ever welcoming and tender. I was surprised to find there most of the words that I looked up. Whenever I didn't, I had to reluctantly abandon my comfortable position, lift the heavy Merriam Webster's dictionary on my side table and flip through its crisp white pages, rather soulless and cold.

Even today, the pocket dictionary holds pride of place in my writing nook. It symbolizes my father's will to learn, to grow, and his relentless capacity to work hard on becoming the best version of himself, right from his adolescent days. It inspires me to keep alive the humming bird in my soul and actively sharpen my interests and skills.

The second gift was his good old transistor radio. Black and bulky with a thick handle at the top, this old but sturdy and fully functional device gave grandfatherly vibes, warm and reliable. I often placed it atop my wooden foldable table in the center of my room, tuned into an FM channel, and worked on my course assignments while listening to melodies and storytelling of a bygone era. On some days, the transistor played a therapeutic role too! Whenever I came to my room annoyed about something, silly stuff mostly, I looked at it and imagined it telling me, "Be stable and sincere beta, and everything will fall into place." In today's times when one company has launched an easy-to-carry transistor with pre-recorded songs, one can only imagine the beauty of the original black one, of authentic yesteryear vintage. When I look back, I recollect that there were so many other gifts and things that my parents gave me during my shift to the hostel. For instance, on the day of my admission, they took me window-shopping and picked up a stylish red top from a high-end showroom. I liked it a lot and wore it frequently.

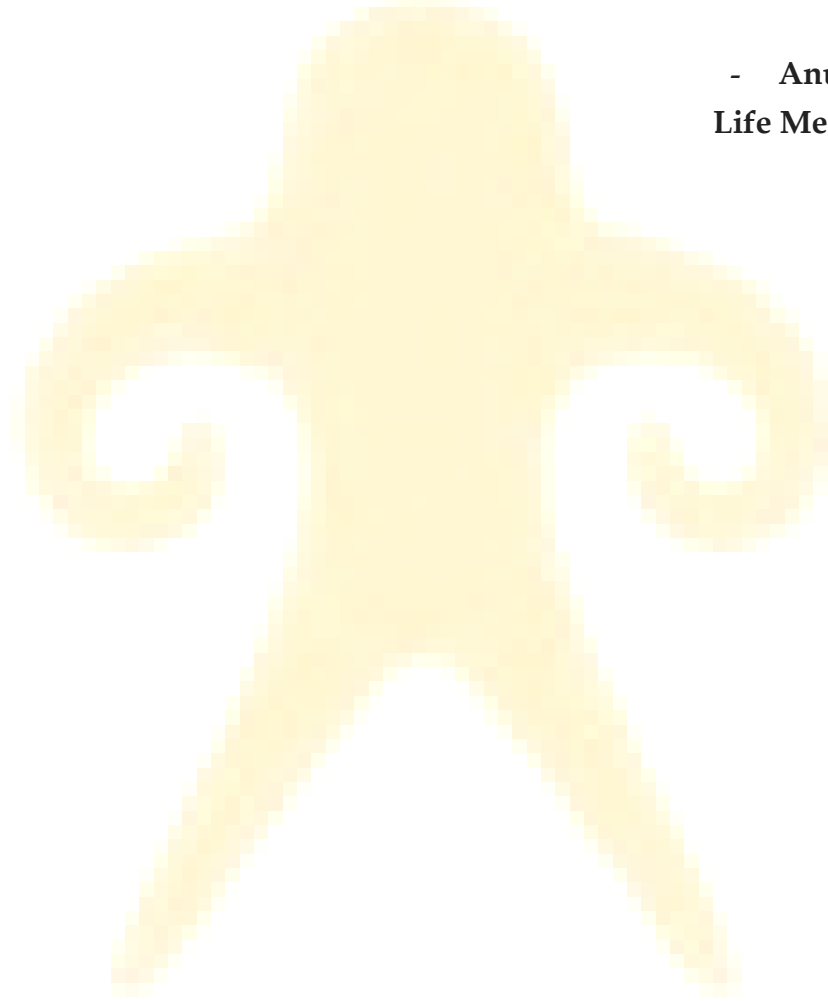
Similarly, there were other such things. But when I think of them today almost two decades later, there is nothing that I really carry with me, physically or emotionally. Despite being 'valuable,' they turned out to be eminently forgettable and ephemeral. Just

as many other materialistic things in life are. Seemingly important then, they invoke negligible joy years later.

But when it comes to the pocket dictionary and the transistor, they are living organisms. They are invaluable. Things whose worth cannot be measured, despite the price that the market calculates, despite the worth that other people attach to it. Things that have a life of their own. Things whose goodness is perennial. The literary and the symbolic. I believe that's what makes those two gifts my most prized possessions of all.

Thank you, father, for giving me 'wealth' that is so meaningful and thoughtful. I hold them in my heart and in my mind today, and always will.

- **Anusha Singh**
Life Member, INTACH



Rajasthan Chapter

राजस्थान की समृद्ध लोकनाट्य परंपरा

--उमेश कुमार चौरसिया, साहित्यकार एवं संस्कृति चिन्तक, सह संयोजक इंटेक अजमेर अध्याय

राजस्थान में वात परंपरा अति प्राचीन और रोचक अभिव्यक्ति की लोकप्रिय विधा रही है। इसी में प्रेम, सौन्दर्य, शौर्य, पौराणिक कथानक, वीराख्यान और जीवन के अनेक पक्षों को उजागर करने वाली लोकगाथाओं, लोकवार्ताओं तथा आख्यान की भी समृद्ध परंपरा भी दिखाई पड़ती है। इन्हीं लोकगाथाओं का अभिव्यक्त स्वरूप हैं राजस्थान की लोमहर्षक लोकनाट्य शैलियाँ। बगड़ावत (देवनारायण) की महागाथा, पाबूजी, गोगाजी, तेजाजी, ढोला-मारु सैणी बीजानन्द, रामू चनणा, जेठवा ऊजली, मूमल महेन्द्र, बाघो भारमली और दुरपदावतार इत्यादि ऐसी अनेक गाथाओं का इतिहास सोहलवीं सदी से भी पुराना है, नाट्यों में "तुरा कलंगी" लगभग 500 वर्ष पुराना है। बीकानेर की लोकप्रिय लोकनाट्य विधा "रम्मत" और "कुचामानी ख्याल" भी इतने ही पुराने माने जाते हैं।

राजस्थान के आदिवासी भीलों की संस्कृति ने लोककलाओं तथा लोक नाट्यों की परम्परा के विकास व संरक्षण एवं संवर्धन में बहुत योगदान दिया है। उन्होंने अपने रीति-रिवाजों के माध्यम से रंगमंच के लोक नाट्यों रूपों को भी निरन्तर जीवित रखा है। असाधारण व्यवहारिक बुद्धि की धरोहर लिए सर्वसाधारण, लोकजन की सार्वजनिक चेतना में दैनन्दिनी जीवन को दुविधाओं से उबारने वाले प्रेरक विचारों का जो रूप उभरता है, उसे यह प्राणवान लोक व आदिम संस्कृति सहज ही ग्रहण करके आत्मसात् कर लेती है। राजस्थान के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में प्रचलित लोक नाट्यों और उन्हें सम्पन्न करने वाली लोक मंडलियों की यही शक्ति है।

राजस्थान को लोक नाट्यों की विविध रूपों की दृष्टि से पर्वतीय क्षेत्र, रेगिस्तानी क्षेत्र और पूर्वांचल शेखावटी आदि क्षेत्र तीन क्षेत्रों में बांटा जा सकता है। सामुदायिक मनोरंजन की दृष्टि से पहाड़ी इलाके बहुत अधिक समृद्ध हैं, क्योंकि इनके भीतर भीलों, मीणों, वनराजों, सहरियों और गिरासियों की रंगमय संस्कृति बिखरी बड़ी है। मरुस्थलीय क्षेत्रों में जनसंख्या बहुत कम है और वहां की साधारण जनता को अपनी जीविका निर्वाह के लिए कठिन परिश्रम करना पड़ता है। इन क्षेत्रों में मनोरंजन का कार्य सरगड़ा, नट, निरासी, भाट व भाण्ड नामक पेशेवर जनजातियों के लोग करते हैं। ये लोग स्वांग, लोक नाट्य को जमाने की नयी जरूरतों के मुताबिक ढाल कर लोगों का मनोरंजन करने में निपुण होते हैं। शेखावटी का इलाका ख्याल की परम्परागत लोक नाट्य शैली के लिए विख्यात है। ख्याल राजस्थान के लोक नाट्य की सबसे लोकप्रिय विधा है। यहाँ बसी हुई अनेक प्रजातियाँ कठपुतली, भाट, कामड़ घोड़ी, नर्तक व भोपे आदि लोक नाट्यों के विविध रूपों को नियमित रूप से आज जनता से समक्ष प्रस्तुत कर अपनी जीविका चला रहे हैं। इसके अलावा सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में प्रचलित रासलीला, रामलीला, रसिया, ख्याल एवं नौटंकी आदि लोक नाट्यों पर स्पष्टतः ब्रजभूमि की संस्कृति का प्रभाव स्पष्ट झलकता है।

इस प्रकार राजस्थान के प्रमुख लोक लोकनाट्यों की व्याख्या निम्नानुसार की जा सकती है-

1- ख्याल :-

18वीं शताब्दी के प्रारम्भ से ही राजस्थान में ख्याल लोक नाट्य के नियमित प्रदर्शन के प्रमाण मिलते हैं। इन ख्यालों की विषय-वस्तु पौराणिक या किसी पुराख्यान से जुड़ी होती है अथवा इनमें ऐतिहासिक तथा लोकप्रिय वीराख्यान आदि भी होते हैं। भौगोलिक अन्तर के कारण इन ख्यालों ने भी अलग-अलग रूप ले लिए जैसे कुचामनी ख्याल, शेखावटी ख्याल, माँची ख्याल तथा हाथरसी ख्याल। ये सभी ख्याल बोलियों में ही अलग नहीं हैं। बल्कि इनमें शैलीगत भिन्नता भी है। लोकगीतों एवं शास्त्रीय संगीत का अंतर भी ख्याल को गाने वाले नाट्यकार पर ही निर्भर होता है। प्रायः हारमोनियम, सारंगी, शहनाई, बाँसुरी, नक्कारा तथा ढोलक का प्रयोग करते हैं। कुचामनी ख्याल का रूप आपेरा जैसा है। इसमें लोकगीतों, नृत्य और सामाजिक व्यंग्य पर आधारित कथावस्तु की प्रधानता है। सी चरित्र का अभिनय पुरुष पात्र ही करते हैं। इसके प्रवर्तक लच्छीराम खुद एक अच्छे नर्तक और लेखक थे। उन्होंने १० ख्यालों की रचना की, जिनमें चाँदी नीलगिरी, राव रिड़मल तथा मीरा मंगल मुख्य हैं। शेखावटी ख्याल के मुख्य खिलाड़ी नानूराम रहे हैं। उनके द्वारा रचित ख्यालों में हीरराझाँ, हरिश्चंद्र, भर्तृहरि, जयदेव कलाली, ढोला मरवड़ और आल्हादेव प्रमुख हैं। जयपुरी ख्याल में सी पात्रों की भूमिका भी स्त्रियाँ निभाती हैं। इसकी शैली रुढ़ि नहीं, मुक्त तथा लचीली है। इसमें अखबारी समाचारों, कविता, संगीत, नृत्य तथा गान व अभिनय का सुंदर समानुपातिक समावेश है। गुणजन ख्याल के कलाकार जयपुरी ख्यालों में हिस्सा लिया करते थे। जोगी जोगन, कान-गूजरी, मियाँ-बीबू, पठान, और रसीली तम्बोलन इस शैली के लोकप्रिय ख्याल हैं। तुरा कलंगी ख्याल बहुत लोकप्रिय हुआ है और यह सम्पूर्ण राजस्थान में खेला जाता है। इसका विस्तार मध्यप्रदेश तक भी है। इसमें रंगमंच की भरपूर सजावट की जाती है। नृत्य की कदम ताल और काव्यमय लयात्सम गायन इसकी विशेषता है। मेवाड़ के शाह अली और तुकनगीर नाम के दो संत पीरों ने 400 वर्ष पहले इसकी रचना की और इसे यह नाम दिया। तुरा को महादेव "शिव" और "कलंगी" को "पार्वती" का प्रतीक माना जाता है। घोसूण्डा, चित्तौड़, निम्बाहेड़ा तथा नीमच (मध्य प्रदेश) इन स्थानों में "तुरा कलंगी" के सर्वश्रेष्ठ कलाकार दिए हैं, जैसे चेताराम, घोसूण्डा का हमीद बेग एवं संवादों, जब पायल ताराचन्द तथा ठाकुर ओंकार सिंह आदि। इन तुराकलंगी खिलाड़ियों में "सोनी जयदयाल" बहुत ही विख्यात एवं प्रतिभाशाली था। उसके ख्याल आज भी लोकप्रिय हैं। इनके अतिरिक्त अली-बक्शी ख्याल, किशनगढ़ी ख्याल, नौटंकी ख्याल, माँची ख्याल तथा हाथरसी ख्याल भी हैं।

2- रम्मत

रम्मत का उद्भव लगभग 140 वर्ष पूर्व बीकानेर क्षेत्र में होली एवं सावन आदि के अवसर पर होने वाली लोक काव्य-प्रतियोगिताओं से हुआ है। मनीराम व्यास, तुलसी राम, फागू महाराज, सूआ महाराज, तेज कवि जैसलमेरी आदि रचयिताओं की कुछ रम्मतें लोक एवं धार्मिक लोक चरित्रों पर रची गयीं। रंगमंच के प्रसिद्ध कलाकार सन् 1934 में जन्मे तेज कवि जैसलमेरी ने रम्मत का अखाड़ा श्रीकृष्ण कम्पनी के नाम से चालू किया। सन् १९४३ में उन्होंने "स्वतंत्र बावनी" की रचना की और उसे महात्मा गाँधी को भेंट कर दी। ब्रिटिश सरकार ने इसके लिए उनकी गिरफ्तारी का

वारण्ट जारी कर दिया था । जब तेज कवि को वारण्ट की सूचना मिली, वह पुलिस कमिश्नर के घर गये और अपनी ओजस्वी वाणी में कहा - “कमिश्नर खोल दरवाजा, हमें भी जेल जाना है, हिन्द तेरा है न तेरे बाप का, हमारी मातृभूमि पर लगाया बन्दीखाना है।”

रम्मत शुरू होने से पहले रम्मत के मुख्य कलाकार मंच पर ही आकर बैठ जाते हैं, ताकि हरेक दर्शक उन्हें अपनी वेशभूषा और मेक-अप में देख सके। इस संगीत नाट्य को खेलने वाले पात्र खेलार कहलाते हैं। संवाद मंच पर बैठे गायकों द्वारा गाए जाते हैं और पात्र उन गायकों द्वारा गाये जाने वाले संवादों को नृत्य और अभिनय करते हुए स्वयं भी बोलते जाते हैं। रम्मत में मुख्य वाद्य नगाड़ा व ढोलक होते हैं। रम्मत के शुरू होने से पूर्व रामदेव जी का भजन गाया जाता है तथा मुख्य गीतों में चौमासा, लावणी, गणपति वंदना, गणपति वन्दना आदि प्रमुख हैं। रामगोपाल जी मेहता, साईं सेवग, गंगादास सेवग, सूरज काना सेनग, जीतमल और गीड़ोजी रम्मत के प्रसिद्ध कलाकार रहे हैं। बीकानेर के अलावा रम्मतें पोंकरण, फलौदी, जैसलमेर और आस-पड़ोस के क्षेत्र में खेली जाती हैं। रम्मत पूरन भक्त की, मोरहवज की, डूंगजी जवाहर जी की, राजा हरिश्चन्द्र और गोपीचन्द भरथरी की ने बहुत लोक ख्याति अर्जित की है।

3- तमाशा :-

जयपुर में तमाशा की गौरवशाली परम्परा है। यह लोकनाट्य 19वीं शती के पूर्व मध्यकाल में महाराज प्रतापसिंह के काल में शुरू हुआ। 250 वर्ष पुरानी इस तमाशा परंपरा के मुखिया पं. बंशीधर भट्ट थे। इन्हें जयपुर राजघराने का भी संरक्षण मिला। फूल जी भट्ट द्वारा स्थापित हुई उस्ताद परंपरा में गोपीकृष्ण भट्ट "गोपीजी" और अब वासुदेव भट्ट हैं। इसमें भट्ट परिवार के लोगों ने ही तमाशा थियेटर के रूप में जयपुर ख्याल और ध्रुवपद गायकी का समावेश किया। यह परिवार आज भी प्रतिवर्ष परम्परागत विधि से तमाशा की प्रस्तुति करता है। गोपीचन्द तथा हीर रांझा इनके द्वारा खेले जाने वाले मुख्य "तमाशा" हैं। इसमें संवाद काव्यमय तथा राग-रागिनियों में निबद्ध करके प्रस्तुत कए जाते हैं। खुले मंच पर होता है, जिसे 'अखाड़ा' कहा जाता है।

4- स्वांग :-

लोकनाट्य रूपों में एक परम्परा "स्वांग" की भी है। इसमें किसी विशेष, ऐतिहासिक, पौराणिक, लोक प्रसिद्ध या समाज में विख्यात किसी एक चरित्र या देवी देवता की हुबहू नकल जैसी रूपसज्जा (मेकअप) करना व वेशभूषा पहनकर उसी अनुरूप अभिनय करते हैं, नृत्य और संवाद का समावेश भी होता है। कुछ जनजाति के लोग तो स्वांग करने का पेशा अपनाए हुए हैं। वर्तमान आधुनिक समय में लोकनाट्य का यह रूप कुछ गाँवों और शादी-ब्याह, त्यौहार अथवा पारंपरिक उत्सवों के अवसर पर ही दिखाई देते हैं। स्वांग करने वालों को बहुरूपिये भी कहा जाता है।

5- फड़ :-

फड़ भोपों द्वारा खेली जाती है। ये भोपें जल्दी-जल्दी एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान तक चले जाते हैं। चित्रित फड़ को दर्शकों के सामने खड़ा तान दिया जाता है। भोपा गायक की पत्नी या सहयोगिनी,

लालटेन लेकर फड़ को दिखाते हुए उसके पास नाचती-गाती हैं और वह फड़ पर प्रदर्शित जिस अंश का गायन करती हैं, भोपा अपने प्रिय वाद्य "रावण हत्था" को बजाता हुआ उसी अनुरूप नाचता-गाता रहता है। यह नृत्य गान समूह के रूप में होता है। दर्शकगण फड़ के दृश्यों से एवं सहवर्ती अभिनय से बहुत प्रभावित होते हैं, फड़ को देखना शुभ भी मन जाता है। फड़ से सम्बन्धित दो लोकप्रिय चित्र गीत कथाएँ पाबूजी व देवनारायण जी की फड़े ही हैं।

लगभग 700 वर्ष पूर्व पाबूजी राठौड़ जाति के महान लोक नायक हुए हैं इनको कुटुम्ब के देवता के रूप में पूजा जाता है और उनकी वीरता के गीत चारण और भाटों द्वारा गाए जाते हैं। मारवाड़ के भोपाँ द्वारा पाबूजी की शौर्यगाथा आज भी लोक समाज में गायी जाती है। पाबूजी की फड़ लगभग 30 फीट लम्बी तथा 5 फीट चौड़ी होती है। इसमें दैवीशक्ति के प्रतिक पाबूजी के जीवन चरित्र शैली के चित्रों में अनुपात रंगों एवं फलक संयोजन के जरिए प्रस्तुत करता है। इस फड़ को एक बांस में लपेट कर रखा जाता है, यह भोपा जाति की धरोहर तथा जिविका साधन के रूप में भी प्रचलित है। सोलंकी राजपूतों के वीर नायक भगवान् विष्णु के अवतार माने जाने वाले लोक देवता "देवनारायण जी की फड़" के गीत गुर्जर जाति के भोपाँ द्वारा गाए जाते हैं। "जन्तर" नामक प्रसिद्ध लोकवाद्य पर भोपा इस फड़ की धुन बजाते हैं। कहीं "रावण हत्था" का प्रयोग भी करते हैं। भोपे पेशेवर पुजारी होते हैं। उनका मुख्य पेशा किसी मन्दिर में देवता के आगे नाचना-गाना होता है या फिर ये भोपे अपने संरक्षकों (धाताओं) के दरवाजे पर जाकर भी अपना पेशेवर गाना व नृत्य दिखाते हैं। लोकनाट्य बगडावत (देवनारायण) की महागाथा को राजस्थान का महाभारत कहा गया है। शृंगार और वीररस से ओतप्रोत यह एक विशाल लोक महाकाव्य है। इस कथा महाकाव्य की मुख्य नायिका जेल (जयमति) है। उसी के कारण महाभारत के युद्ध की यह लघु पुनरावृत्ति हुई। इस लोक गाथा में चौबीस बगडावत बंधुओं की वीरता, दान्यता एवं ऐश्वर्य का वर्णन है।

6- गवरी :-

हिन्दू पुराण गाथाओं के सम्मिश्रण से बना गवरी मेवाड़ में भीलो का यह सामुदायिक गीत नाट्य अत्यन्त चित्ताकर्षक एवं पारम्परिक रीति-रिवाज से युक्त परंपरा है। गवरी का संचालन व नियंत्रण संगीत द्वारा होता है। यह सांस्कृतिक, कलात्मक एवं रंगमंचीय अभिनय तीनों ही दृष्टि से अत्यन्त समृद्ध लोक नाट्यशैली है। रक्षाबन्धन के दूसरे दिन भील व भोपा जाति के लोग मंदिर में इकट्ठे होकर देवी "गवरी" का आह्वान करते हैं, धान्य बीज प्रतिमा पर चढ़ाते हैं। यदि ये प्रतिमा के दाहिनी ओर गिरते हैं तो इसे माता गवरी की स्वीकृति माना जाता है, बांयी ओर गिरने पर अस्वीकृति मानी जाती है। स्वीकृति होने पर व्यापक स्तर पर साजो-सामान, जवाहरात, वेशभूषा तथा रंगमंच की सामग्री सभी समारोह के लिए एकत्र कर 'बुढिया देन' की पूजा के रूप में गवरी खेला जाता है। मन्दिर के सामने समारोह के निष्पादन के लिए बांस गाढ़ दिया जाता है यही गवरी का आधार बिन्दु होता है। गवरी की कथा में कथानक युद्ध, पराजय, मृत्यु तथा अन्ततः जीवात्मा के पुनर्जीवित हो उठने से सम्बद्ध होते हैं। यह पुनर्जीवन देवी की कृपा से मिलता हुआ दिखाया जाता है। भील अपना घर छोड़कर "गवरी" में भाग लेने आते हैं और 40 दिनों तक लगातार वहीं

रहते हैं। सुबह से शाम तक प्रतिदिन चलता रहता है। देवी अम्बड़, बादशाह की सवारी, मिन्यावड़, बनजारा, खाड़लिया भूत थात शेर सूअर की लड़ाई आदि गवरी के कुछ प्रमुख प्रसंग हैं।

7- नौटंकी :-

भरतपुर तथा धौलपुर में नत्थाराम की मण्डली द्वारा नौटंकी का खेल दिखाया जाता है। इसके अलावा अन्य अखाड़े भी हैं। ये अखाड़े अपनी-अपनी कम्पनियों के निजी नाम से जाने जाते हैं। नौटंकी के नाटकों के रूप में बहुत ही लोकप्रिय है और प्रायः ब्याह, शादी, सामाजिक समारोह, मेलों तथा लोकोत्सवों के मौके पर भरतपुर, करौली, धौलपुर, अलवर और गंगापुर क्षेत्र में प्रायः नौटंकी का खेल करवाया जाता है। इसमें मुख्यतया नक्कारे तथा सारंगी, ढोलक, शहनाई का भी प्रयोग होता है। नौटंकी के कथानकों में रूप बसन्त, नकाबपोश, सत्यवादी हरिश्चन्द्र, राजा भरथरी, लैला-मजनूं तथा भक्त पूरणमल प्रसिद्ध हैं।

8- भवाई :-

भवाई के जन्मदाता बाघाजी थे। इसमें ढोलक, झांझ, सारंगी, के साथ मशाल का भी प्रयोग होता है। राजस्थान में गुजरात की सीमा से सटे क्षेत्रों में भवाई नाटिका सगोजी और सगीजी के रूप में भोपा-भोपी द्वारा प्रस्तुत की जाती है। भवाई करने वाले अपने यजमानों या संरक्षकों के पास प्रतिवर्ष जाते हैं, वहाँ उनका हार्दिक स्वागत होता है। इस लोकनाट्य शैली पर शान्ता गाँधी द्वारा लिखा गया प्रमुख नाटक 'जस्मा ओडन' प्रसिद्ध है, इसकी कथा आम आदमी के संघर्ष से सम्बन्धित है यह उच्च व निम्न वर्ग के वर्ग संघर्ष को बताता है।

9- लीला :-

लीला की कथा पुराणों या पुराख्यानो से ली जाता है। इन्हें "रासधारी" और "गरासियों" की श्रेणियों में बांटा जा सकता है। इन लीलाओं में धर्म और लोकाचार की प्रधानता होती है। आज के जमाने में इस लोकनाट्य को करने वाले दल मण्डल बहुत सीमित संख्या में रह गये हैं, जो बचे-खुचे दल या मण्डलियां हैं वे रामलीला या सिर्फ 'रासलीलाएँ' ही करते हैं। वह व्यक्ति जो रासलीला करते हैं उनको रासधारी कहते हैं, यह भगवान कृष्ण के जीवन चरित्र पर आधारित होती है। इसी तरह भगवान् श्रीराम के जीवन चरित्र पर केन्द्रित रामलीलाएं भी बहुत प्रचलित हैं। अब इनका स्वरूप आधुनिक संसाधनों से युक्त भी होने लगा है किन्तु अजस्थान के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में अभी भी स्थानीय बाशा में ही रासलीलाएं और रामलीलाएं होती हैं।

इनके अतिरिक्त राजस्थान में गंधर्व नाट्य, सवारी नाट्य आदि अन्य लोकनाटक भी कहीं कहीं प्रचलित हैं। गंधर्व पेशेवर नृत्यकार हैं। ये मारवाड़ के निवासी हैं। इनके द्वारा संगीत नाट्य अंजन सुंदरी और मैना सुंदरी का प्रदर्शन किया जाता है। इनके विषय जैन धर्म से संबंधित होते हैं। सवारी नाट्य का प्रदर्शन धार्मिक व पौराणिक कथाओं पर आधारित होता है। इनमें काला गोरा, देव सांगोद का न्हाण, नृसिंह अवतार अत्यधिक प्रसिद्ध हैं।

उमे"ा कुमर चौरसिया प्रयोगधर्मी नाट्य लेखक व निर्दे"ाक, शक्षिक व बाल रंगमंच वि"ीषज्ञ, लघु फिल्म निर्दे"ीक, आलोचक, कवि-गीतकार, लघुकथा-आलेख-बाल साहित्य व स्तंभ लेखक, संपादक और स्वतंत्र पत्रकार। हिन्दी व राजस्थानी में समान लेखन। 45 पुस्तकें प्रका"ित जिनमें एक बाल नाटक 'मेधावी नरेन्द्र' राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक न्यास 'एनबीटी' से तथा एक बालकथा संग्रह 'सबसे न्यारा गोलू' भारत सरकार के प्रका"ित विभाग से प्रका"ित। तीन कृतियां राजस्थानी भाषा में हैं। राजस्थान साहित्य अकादमी से "'भूदयाल सक्सेना बाल साहित्य पुरस्कार-2012' व 'देवीलाल सामर नाट्यविधा पुरस्कार-2018' तथा भाउराव देवरस .न्यास लखनऊ द्वारा अखिल भारतीय युवा साहित्यकार सम्मान 2005, हिन्दी बालसाहित्य शोध संस्थान बनौली, बिहार द्वारा 'राष्ट्रीय आचार्य रामलोचन शरण बाल साहित्य "ाखर सम्मान-2022' से पुरस्कृत। 2019 में राजस्थान साहित्य अकादमी से मोनोग्राफ प्रका"ित तथा 2022 में भगवन्त वि"वविद्यालय में 'राजस्थान की नाट्य परम्परा और उमे"ा कुमर चौरसिया के नाटकों में मूल्य बोध' विषय पर भाोधप्रबन्ध। दो लघु फिल्म व पाँच शैक्षिक नाट्य ऑडियो एनसीईआरटी द्वारा राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर तथा सात नाटक राज्य स्तर पर पुरस्कृत।



General Article

Palaeolithic (Acheulean) Stone Tools from Astoli Ka Nala, District Bundi, Rajasthan

Dr Lalit Pandey, Retired Professor (Archeology) and Convener of INTACH Chapter, Udaipur
Dr Vinod Agrawal, Retired Professor (Geology) and Life Member of INTACH Chapter, Udaipur

Dr Hemant Sen, Project Fellow, Department of Geology, M.L. Sukhadia University, Udaipur
Mr Om Prakash Sharma "Kukki", Bundi, Rajasthan

Tools in Stone Age:

Stone tools are the oldest surviving type of tool made by humans and our ancestors to meet their needs. Stone tools are the only preserved archaeological remains of prehistoric man. The Stone Age indicates the large swathe of time during which stone was widely used to make implements. So far, the first stone tools have been dated to roughly 2.6 million years ago. The Stone Age is conceived to consist of:

- The Palaeolithic (or Old Stone Age)
- The Mesolithic (or Middle Stone Age)
- The Neolithic (or New Stone Age)

The Early Palaeolithic begins with the first evidence of stone (also known as lithic) technology, which has so far been dated to around 2.6 million years ago and stems from sites in Ethiopia. Two industries (style) are recognised in this period, namely the Oldowan and the Acheulean. The earliest stone tools in the era of the genus *Homo* which represents from termed the **Oldowan Industry**, are named after the type of site found in Olduvai Gorge, Tanzania, where they were discovered in large quantities. These early tools were simple, usually made with one or a few flakes chipped off with another stone and a simple core. Oldowan tools (Figure 1) were used during the Lower Paleolithic period, 2.6 million years ago up until at least 1.7 million years ago, by ancient Hominins (early humans). This technological industry was followed by the more sophisticated **Acheulean Industry**. Acheulean (c. 1.7 million years ago to c. 250,000 years ago and named after St. Acheul in France), tools were produced during the Lower Palaeolithic era across Africa and much of West Asia, South Asia, East Asia and Europe, and are typically found in *Homo erectus* remains. It is characterized by the development of tools into new shapes i.e. large bifaces like hand axes, picks, cleavers and knives. These bifaces (two working surfaces on two sides) were made from large flakes that were struck from boulder cores or larger cobbles and nodules (Figure 2).



Figure 1: Oldowan Tool

In the Middle Palaeolithic time, humans became more advanced and were extra careful in the preparation of the tools (**Levallois technique**). During this time sharp-edged flake tools from a block of stone (core) were produced (Figure 3). In the Late Palaeolithic time, huge creation occurs and blade tools of stone were created. Further, there was a shift from stone to artefacts made from materials such as bone, antler and ivory. Needles and points were made out of this non-lithic stuff (Figure 4).



Figure 3: Middle Palaeolithic Tool



Figure 2: Acheulean Hand axe



Figure 4: Upper Palaeolithic Tools

From the Mesolithic age, we get Microliths. These are very small tools (1 cm to 8 cm) made from flint or chert and are often geometrical in shape like a trapezoid, lunate, microlith points, microlith blades, scraper, choppers etc. (Figure 5). From the Neolithic age, we get remarkable polished tools, arrows and spearheads, blades, polished stone axe, adze, hammers and chisels etc. (Figure 6).



Figure 5: Microliths



Figure 6: Neolithic Tools

Stone Age Tools from Hadoti Region

Rajasthan state is having a large number of archaeological sites about the Palaeolithic to Chalcolithic culture and civilization. These include human settlements, pictographs, petroglyphs, stone tools, megaliths etc. Dr V. N. Mishra stands first and extensively explored the Western and Southern Rajasthan on the banks of Luni, Sukri, Berach-Banas and its tributaries like Gambhiri, Kadmili, Kothari and Vakali etc. Mishra's work established the potential of the region from the Prehistoric point of view. The important sites investigated by him were Didwana in Nagaur and Bagor in the Bhilwara districts. Didwana is the most prominent site because it has provided evidence of all three phases of Palaeolithic culture and Bagor is the foremost site of the Mesolithic culture because of the presence of human skeletons.

Though Stone Age tools are found all across India and scattered over the mountain valleys and various geographical locations. Among them, Attirampakkam (Tamil Nadu) and Bhilwara and Bundi districts (Rajasthan) are the two places in India where the oldest stone tools have been reported.

Archaeologists have reported a large number of late Acheulian, Middle Palaeolithic and Microlithic tools from different sites in the Hadoti region covering the Bhilwara and Bundi districts. The Stone Age tools are generally found within the terrace of the valleys and dried-up beds of streams (*Nalas*). In most cases, the use of locally available compact sandstone has been used in making the Stone Age implements. In our recent field visit, we recovered tools from the Astoli Ka Nala site.

Ascoli Ka Nala (25°25'44" N: 75°34'27" E)

This site is located 7 km west of Bundi city, near the village Astoli. This site is considered the most gifted site for the availability of Stone Age tools in the region. Here the Stone Age tools have been recovered associated with the unconsolidated gravels and pebbles, lying within the terraces and dried-up beds (Figures 7 to 11) of first-order streams (*Nalas*). During the traverses, a total of 21 Stone Age tools of different types were recovered from this site (Figure 12).



Figure 7: GPS location of Stone Age tools site at Astoli ka Nala

Figure 8: Nala terrace with an unconsolidated gravel bed, promising site for Stone Age tools at Astoli ka Nala



Figure 9: Searching for tools in gravel and pebbles bed



Figure 10: Searching for tools in a stream bed full of gravel and pebbles



Figure 11: Searching for tools in the dry stream bed at Astoli Ka Nala



Figure 12: Assemblage of Stone Age tools recovered from Astoli Ka Nala

(a) Hand axes:

A hand axe is a stone tool of the Lower (early) and Middle Paleolithic Stone Age. It was bifacial (with two wide sides or faces) and held in the hand, not with a handle like a modern axe (Figures 13 and 14). It is made from stone that has been "reduced" and shaped from a larger piece by knapping, or hitting against another stone. Hand axe tools were possibly used to butcher animals, dig for tubers and water, chop wood and remove tree bark, throw at prey etc.



Figure 13: Early Man using Hand Tools Figure 14: Using Hand axe tool

At the Astoli Ka Nala site, we found hand axes of various sizes and shapes. The collected tools, however, did not show natural sharp edges and are also slightly worn because these tools have been affected by weathering and rolling. The following types of hand axes have been recovered from the site.

1. Naviform Hand axe (Figures 15 and 16)
2. An ovate Hand axe (Figure 17)
3. An elliptical Hand axe (Figures 18 and 19)
4. A semi-rhombic Hand axe (Figure 20)
5. A discoid hand axe (Figure 21)
6. A spatulate hand axe (Figure 22)



Figure 15: Naviform Hand axe made up of brown coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 15 cm x 11 cm x 4 cm)



Figure 16: Naviform Hand axe made up of brown coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 10.5 cm x 7 cm x 3 cm)



Figure 17: Ovate Hand axe made up of brown coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 14 cm x 10 cm x 3.5 cm)



Figure 18: Elliptical Hand axe made up of brown coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 13.5 cm x 11.5 cm x 2.5 cm)



Figure 19: Elliptical Hand axe made up of yellowish brown coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 15 cm x 12 cm x 4.5 cm)



Figure 20: Semi-rhombic Hand axe made up of light brown coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 13 cm x 9 cm x 4 cm)



Figure 21: Discoid Hand axe made up of greyish white coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 17.5 cm x 13 cm x 6 cm)



Figure 22: Spatulate Hand axe made up of greyish white coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 10 cm x 9 cm x 3.5 cm)

(b) Core:

A core is a stone from which one or more flakes have been removed from them to create a sharpened edge that could be used for cutting, chopping or scraping. At the Astoli Ka Nala site, we also found core tools of various sizes and shapes (Figures 23 and 24).



Figure 23: Core of brown coloured compact brown sandstone (Dimension: 9 cm x 8 cm x 5 cm)



Figure 24: Core of brown-coloured compact sandstone (Dimension: 11 cm x 6.5 cm x 3 cm)

Concluding Remarks:

It has been observed that the recovered tools were made from the locally available compact sandstone which geologically belongs to the Bundi Hill Sandstone Formation of the Upper Vindhyan Supergroup (Neoproterozoic). These tools (especially hand axes) are showing early Acheulian characters, thus indicating that the early men flourished for a very long time (for at least more than 2,00,000 years) in this region.

It is worth mentioning here that this particular archaeological heritage site is unknown to the local people. They are generally using boulders and gravels (comprising the tools also) in making ballast and in construction work. The local administration and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) are not providing any protection at this site, causing the diminution of this valuable heritage.

ध्वनि तथा वाणी विज्ञान : सात सुर

(SOUND ENGINEERING AND MUSIC)

By Gaurav Singhvi
- (Co-Convener)

INTACH Udaipur Chapter

सृष्टि की उत्पत्ति की प्रक्रिया नाद के साथ हुई। जब प्रथम महास्फोट (बिग बैंग) हुआ, तब आदि नाद उत्पन्न हुआ। उस मूल ध्वनि को जिसका प्रतीक 'ॐ' है, नादब्रह्म कहा जाता है। पातंजलि योगसूत्र में पातंजलि मुनि ने इसका वर्णन 'तस्य वाचक प्रणवः' की अभिव्यक्ति ॐ के रूप में है, ऐसा कहा है। माण्डूक्योपनिषद् में कहा है-

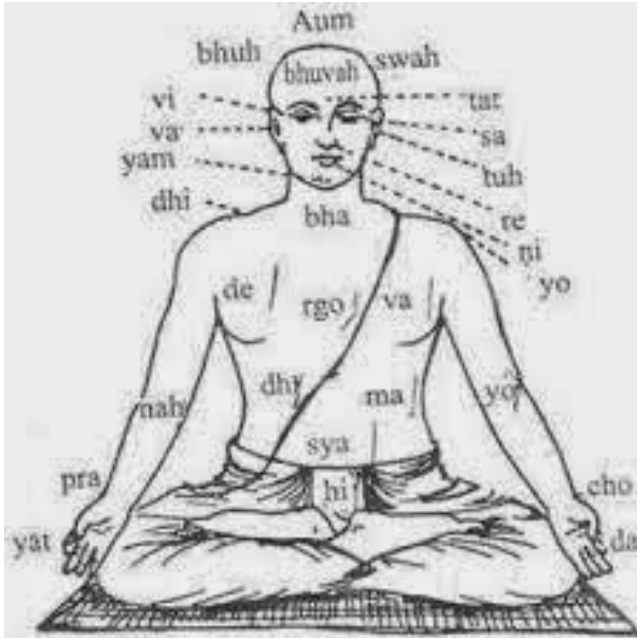
ओमित्येतदक्षरमिदम् सर्वं तस्योपव्याख्यानं

भूतं भवद्भविष्यदिपि सर्वमोङ्कार एवं

यच्चान्यत् त्रिकालातीतं तदप्योङ्कार एव॥

माण्डूक्योपनिषद्-१॥

अर्थात् ॐ अक्षर अविनाशी स्वरूप है। यह सम्पूर्ण जगत का ही उपव्याख्यान है। जो हो चुका है, जो है तथा जो होने वाला है, यह सबका सब जगत ओंकार ही है तथा जो ऊपर कहे हुए तीनों कालों से अतीत अन्य तत्त्व है, वह भी ओंकार ही है।



वाणी का स्वरूप

हमारे यहां वाणी विज्ञान का बहुत गहराई से विचार किया गया। ऋग्वेद में एक ऋचा आती है-



चत्वारि वाक् परिमिता पदानि
तानि विदुर्ब्राह्मणा ये मनीषिणः
गुहा त्रीणि निहिता नेङ्गयन्ति
तुरीयं वाचो मनुष्या वदन्ति॥
ऋग्वेद १-१६४-४५

अर्थात् वाणी के चार पाद होते हैं, जिन्हें विद्वान् मनीषी जानते हैं। इनमें से तीन शरीर के अंदर होने से गुप्त हैं परन्तु चौथे को अनुभव कर सकते हैं। इसकी विस्तृत व्याख्या करते हुए पाणिनी कहते हैं, वाणी के चार पाद या रूप हैं-

१. परा, २. पश्यन्ती, ३. मध्यमा, ४. वैखरी

वाणी की उत्पत्ति

वाणी कहां से उत्पन्न होती है, इसकी गहराई में जाकर अनुभूति की गई है। इस आधार पर पाणिनी कहते हैं, आत्मा वह मूल आधार है जहां से ध्वनि उत्पन्न होती है। वह इसका पहला रूप है। यह अनुभूति का विषय है। किसी यंत्र के द्वारा सुनाई नहीं देती। ध्वनि के इस रूप को परा कहा गया।

आगे जब आत्मा, बुद्धि तथा अर्थ की सहायता से मनः पटल पर कर्ता, कर्म या क्रिया का चित्र देखता है, वाणी का यह रूप पश्यन्ती कहलाता है, जिसे आजकल घट्टघट्टदृढदृढत्थ् कहते हैं। हम जो कुछ बोलते हैं, पहले उसका चित्र हमारे मन में बनता है। इस कारण दूसरा चरण पश्यन्ती है।

इसके आगे मन व शरीर की ऊर्जा को प्रेरित कर न सुनाई देने वाला ध्वनि का बुद्धुत् उत्पन्न करता है। वह बुद्धुत् ऊपर उठता है तथा छाती से निःश्वास की सहायता से कंठ तक आता है। वाणी के इस रूप को मध्यमा कहा जाता है। ये तीनों रूप सुनाई नहीं देते हैं। इसके आगे यह बुद्धुत् कंठ के ऊपर पांच स्पर्श स्थानों की सहायता से सर्वस्वर, व्यंजन, युष्माक्षर और मात्रा द्वारा भिन्न-भिन्न रूप में वाणी के रूप में अभिव्यक्त होता है। यही सुनाई देने वाली वाणी वैखरी कहलाती है और इस वैखरी वाणी से ही सम्पूर्ण ज्ञान, विज्ञान, जीवन व्यवहार तथा बोलचाल की अभिव्यक्ति संभव है।

वाणी की अभिव्यक्ति

यहां हम देखते हैं कि कितनी सूक्ष्मता से उन्होंने मुख से निकलने वाली वाणी का निरीक्षण किया तथा क से ज्ञ तक वर्ण किस अंग की सहायता से निकलते हैं, इसका उन्होंने जो विश्लेषण किया वह इतना विज्ञान सम्मत है कि उसके अतिरिक्त अन्य ढंग से आप वह ध्वनि निकाल ही नहीं सकते हैं।

क, ख, ग, घ, ङ- कंठव्य कहे गए, क्योंकि इनके उच्चारण के समय ध्वनि कंठ से निकलती है।

च, छ, ज, झ, ञ- तालव्य कहे गए, क्योंकि इनके उच्चारण के समय जीभ लालू से लगती है।

ट, ठ, ड, ढ, ण- मूर्धन्य कहे गए, क्योंकि इनका उच्चारण जीभ के मूर्धा से लगने पर ही सम्भव है।

त, थ, द, ध, न- दंतीय कहे गए, क्योंकि इनके उच्चारण के समय जीभ दांतों से लगती है।

प, फ, ब, भ, म,- ओष्ठ्य कहे गए, क्योंकि इनका उच्चारण ओठों के मिलने पर ही होता है।

स्वर विज्ञान

सभी वर्ण, संयुक्ताक्षर, मात्रा आदि के उच्चारण का मूल 'स्वर' हैं। अतः उसका भी गहराई से अध्ययन तथा अनुभव किया गया। इसके निष्कर्ष के रूप में प्रतिपादित किया गया कि स्वर तीन प्रकार के हैं।

उदात्त-उच्च स्वर

अनुदात्त-नीचे का स्वर

स्वरित- मध्यम स्वर

इनका और सूक्ष्म विश्लेषण किया गया, जो संगीत शास्त्र का आधार बना। संगीत शास्त्र में सात स्वर माने गए जिन्हें सा रे ग म प ध नि के प्रतीक चिन्हों से जाना जाता है। इन सात स्वरों का मूल तीन स्वरों में विभाजन किया गया।

उच्चैर्निषाद, गांधारौ नीचै ऋषभधैवतौ।

शेषास्तु स्वरिता ज्ञेयाः, षड्ज मध्यमपंचमाः॥

अर्थात् निषाद तथा गांधार (नि ग) स्वर उदात्त हैं। ऋषभ और धैवत (रे, ध) अनुदात्त। षड्ज, मध्यम और पंचम (सा, म, प) ये स्वरित हैं।

इन सातों स्वरों के विभिन्न प्रकार के समायोजन से विभिन्न रागों के रूप बने और उन रागों के गायन में उत्पन्न विभिन्न ध्वनि तरंगों का परिणाम मानव, पशु प्रकृति सब पर पड़ता है। इसका भी बहुत सूक्ष्म निरीक्षण हमारे यहां किया गया है।

विशिष्ट मंत्रों के विशिष्ट ढंग से उच्चारण से वायुमण्डल में विशेष प्रकार के कंपन उत्पन्न होते हैं, जिनका विशेष परिणाम होता है। यह मंत्रविज्ञान का आधार है। इसकी अनुभूति वेद मंत्रों के श्रवण या मंदिर के गुंबज के नीचे मंत्रपाठ के समय अनुभव में आती है।

हमारे यहां विभिन्न रागों के गायन व परिणाम के अनेक उल्लेख प्राचीनकाल से मिलते हैं। सुबह, शाम, हर्ष, शोक, उत्साह, करुणा-भिन्न-भिन्न प्रसंगों के भिन्न-भिन्न राग हैं। दीपक से दीपक जलना और मेघ मल्हार से वर्षा होना आदि उल्लेख मिलते हैं। वर्तमान में भी कुछ उदाहरण मिलते हैं।

कुछ अनुभव

(१) प्रसिद्ध संगीतज्ञ पं. ओंकार नाथ ठाकुर १९३३ में फ्लोरेन्स (इटली) में आयोजित अखिल विश्व संगीत सम्मेलन में भाग लेने गए। उस समय मुसोलिनी वहां का तानाशाह था। उस प्रवास में मुसोलिनी से मुलाकात के समय पंडित जी ने भारतीय रागों के महत्व के बारे में बताया। इस पर मुसोलिनी ने कहा, मुझे कुछ दिनों से नींद नहीं आ रही है। यदि आपके संगीत में कुछ विशेषता हो, तो बताइये। इस पर पं. ओंकार नाथ ठाकुर ने तानपूरा लिया और राग 'पूरिया' (कोमल धैवत का) गाने लगे। कुछ समय के अंदर मुसोलिनी को प्रगाढ़ निद्रा आ गई। बाद में उसने भारतीय संगीत की भूरि-भूरि प्रशंसा की तथा रॉयल एकेडमी ऑफ म्यूजिक के प्राचार्य को पंडित जी के संगीत के स्वर एवं लिपि को रिकार्ड करने का आदेश दिया।

२. आजकल पाश्चात्य जीवन मूल्य, आचार तथा व्यवहार का प्रभाव पड़ने के साथ युवा पीढ़ी में पाश्चात्य पॉप म्यूजिक का भी आकर्षण बढ़ रहा है। पॉप म्यूजिक आन्तरिक व्यक्तित्व को कुंठित और निम्न भावनाओं को बढ़ाने का कारण बनता है, जबकि भारतीय संगीत जीवन में संतुलन तथा उदात्त भावनाओं को विकसित करने का माध्यम है। इसे निम्न अनुभव प्रयोग स्पष्ट कर सकते हैं।

पांडिचैरी स्थित श्री अरविंद आश्रम में श्रीमां ने एक प्रयोग किया। एक मैदान में दो स्थानों पर एक ही प्रकार के बीज बोये गये तथा उनमें से एक के आगे पॉप म्यूजिक बजाया गया तथा दूसरे के आगे भारतीय संगीत। समय के साथ अंकुर फूटा और पौधा बढ़ने लगा। परन्तु आश्चर्य यह था कि जहां पॉप म्यूजिक बजता था, वह पौधा असंतुलित तथा उसके पत्ते कटे-फटे थे। जहां भारतीय संगीत बजता था, वह पौधा संतुलित तथा उसके पत्ते पूर्ण आकार के और विकसित थे। यह देखकर श्रीमां ने कहा, दोनों संगीतों का प्रभाव मानव के आन्तरिक व्यक्तित्व पर भी उसी प्रकार पड़ता है जिस प्रकार इन पौधों पर पड़ा दिखाई देता है।

(३) हम लोग संगीत सुनते हैं तो एक बात का सूक्ष्मता से निरीक्षण करें, इससे पाश्चात्य तथा भारतीय संगीत की प्रकृति तथा परिणाम का सूक्ष्मता से ज्ञान हो सकता है। जब कभी किसी संगीत सभा में पं. भीमसेन जोशी, पं. जसराज या अन्य किसी का गायन होता है और उस शास्त्रीय गायन में जब श्रोता उससे एकाकार हो जाते हैं तो उनका मन उसमें मस्त हो जाता है, तब प्राप्त आनन्द की अनुभूति में वे सिर हिलाते हैं। दूसरी ओर जब पाश्चात्य संगीत बजता है, कोई माइकेल जैक्सन, मैडोना का चीखते-चिल्लाते स्वरों के आरोह-अवरोह चालू होते हैं तो उसके साथ ही श्रोता के पैर थिरकने लगते हैं। अतः ध्यान में आता है कि भारतीय संगीत मानव की नाभि के ऊपर की भावनाएं विकसित करता है और पाश्चात्य पॉप म्यूजिक नाभि के नीचे की भावनाएं बढ़ाता है जो मानव के

ध्वनि कम्पन (चूद्वदड्ड जटड्डुधतृद) किसी घंटी पर प्रहार करते हैं तो उसकी ध्वनि देर तक सुनाई देती है। इसकी प्रक्रिया क्या है? इसकी व्याख्या में वात्स्यायन तथा उद्योतकर कहते हैं कि आघात में कुछ ध्वनि परमाणु अपनी जगह छोड़कर और संस्कार जिसे कम्प संतान-संस्कार कहते हैं, से एक प्रकार का कम्पन पैदा होता है और वायु के सहारे वह आगे बढ़ता है तथा मन्द तथा मन्दतर इस रूप में अविच्छिन्न रूप से सुनाई देता है। इसकी उत्पत्ति का कारण स्पन्दन है।

रूपवत्त्वं च न सामान्य तः प्रतिबिम्ब प्रयोजकं
शब्दास्यापि प्रतिध्वनि रूप प्रतिबिम्ब दर्शनात्॥
विज्ञान भिक्षु, प्रवचन भाष्य अ. १ सूत्र-४७

वाचस्पति, जैमिनी, उदयन आदि आचार्यों ने बहुत विस्तारपूर्वक अपने ग्रंथों में ध्वनि की उत्पत्ति, कम्पन, प्रतिध्वनि, उसकी तीव्रता, मन्दता, उनके परिणाम आदि का हजारों वर्ष पूर्व किया जो विश्लेषण है, वह आज भी चमत्कृत करता है।

Sambalpur Chapter

THE SUBMERGED TEMPLES OF SAMBALPUR

Odisha was accustomed to floods and droughts. It was a regular phenomenon. So it was suggested to construct a multipurpose dam on river Mahanadi at Sambalpur way back in 1858. Though foundation laying ceremony for construction of Hirakud Dam was held in 1946, such a function was held for the second time on 12th April 1948 after India got independence, by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India. After completion, the dam was inaugurated by Panditji on 13th January 1957.

The mighty dam is of 15,748 feet in length. Out of it 3768 feet is concrete and 11,980 feet is earthen; is one of the longest earthen dam of the world. Length of right dyke is 35,500 feet while left dyke is of 32, 275 feet in length. Height of the dam is 642 feet. It has 98 gates; 64 are sluice gates and 34 are crest gates. Each sluice gate can discharge 16,440 cusecs of water when the reservoir level is at 630 ft. Each crest gate can discharge 16,238 cusecs of water. Hirakud Dam has the reservoir area of 746 sq. kms.

The mighty dam and large reservoir area has resulted in submergence of more than 300 villages, agriculture land and forest. Seventeen thousand eight hundred fifty seven families lost their home and land, were resettled at various other places. Many more families had to suffer because of partial submergence. With this, many known and unknown heritage sites also submerged under water for all time to come. This includes the age old Diamond mines, active since 1st Century C.E. Ptolemy has described that Rome was supplied with diamond from Sambalpur mines since 2nd century C.E. Many famous diamonds including Taj- E- Mah, Daria- E-Noor, Nur- Ul- Iain (Tehran, Iran) , Sansi (France), Florentine (Austria) are collected and taken from Sambalpur. Collection of diamond at Sambalpur gradually became less during first half of nineteen century C.E as record from 1804 to 1818 shows one or two small diamonds were found per year.

Trace of Sambhal, belonged to King Indrabhuti and his adopted son Maha-Padmasambhava, the second Buddha also submerged under Hirakud water. Many heritage sites of pre historic era and of medieval period also went under water.

The 300 plus villages which were submerged; had temples, some had one and some had up to five numbers of temples. The vast areas which went under deep water are never to resurface again. Some of the areas of the shore rarely gets flooded while other few areas becomes dry during summer, when the water recedes and the level comes down. This is the time when many submerged temples pips out and are to be seen from close or from a distance.

INTACH, Sambalpur chapter did the most daring job by entering into the reservoir from different site, reached one after another submerged temple, and could take photographs. Water level does not come down in every summer, it happens very rarely and the year in which it comes down the time frame is 15 to 30 days at the verge of entering the monsoon season. One has to walk into the reservoir for kilometres to reach at one submerged temple under bright sunshine and intense heat as temperature goes up to 48 degree Celsius. One temple may take one day or if you are lucky and the ex village had five temples then you can reach up to those five temples in a day. Sambalpur chapter could reach at 27 submerged temples in three years. Sixty years have passed by, many temples

have perished and many are still standing though in miserable condition, falling part by part to become extinct.

The team could explore Govindpur , Tilgi, Padmapur group of temples (3 temples), Mahadevpali (near Padmapur), Jogini, Malda, Mura, Sagarpali, Rampaluga, Ramela, Gambharipali, Tahud, Pitapali, Kurla, Rampella group of temples(3 temples),Adhapara, Salad, Mahadevpali (2 temples/near Rengali) Khinda, Bausen, Larbhanga, Tihura- in undivided district of Sambalpur and also Shiv temple at Rebo, now in Chhattisgarh.

The temple at Mahadevpali, near Kanaktora and Padmapur was collapsed much before it submerged. Many sculptures were lying on and near the Mandapa or platform on which the temple was standing before. A new temple was constructed near it by using stone slabs of the ruined temple. When the time of submergence came, people of five villages came with Bullock Carts and carried number of sculptures they could carry and kept at various places. Many sculptures are found lying in the prayer hall of a temple at Pujaripali while other major chunk is fitted in two temples at village Palsada. These sculptures are belonged to eighth century. Interestingly there is another village little far from the other bank of river Mahanadi called Pujaripali. Though it was a part of Sambalpur State and Hirakhand Empire, now it is in Chhattisgarh. Sculptures found in Pujaripali ruins have similarity with the sculptures of Mahadevpali in Odisha. These are of eighth century as recorded in an inscription.

Padmasini temple at Padmapur near Mahadevpali was rebuilt many years before construction of Hirakud Dam. Though it was re-built in an unskilled manner it has some interesting aspects. The sculpture on the top of the door jamb suggests the temple was built by the Somavamshi rulers. The prayer hall is having old pillars intact but additional pillars were erected during re building of the temple to save it from destruction. A pair of footprint carved on a rock and other few sculptures are shifted to Pujaripali where a small temple of Padmasini is built. When INTACH team was making a survey as two broken pieces of a sculpture was put together it found to be a Buddhist sculpture 'Dakini Simhamukha'.

Padmapur was a very old place where the eminent Sanskrit poet Bhavabhuti of 7th century was born. About his birth place he writes 'Dakhina pathe Padmapuram naama nagaram'. 'Uttara Ramacharita', 'Malati Madhavam', 'Mahavira Charitam'etc have placed him at the top Sanskrit poet's list. Padmapur has other three temples; temple of Samleswari, the presiding deity of Hirakhand Empire, Hanuman and Jagannath.

Sagarpali is another place where few sculptures were discovered from river bank and were kept at a temple which submerged in Hirakud dam water. The sculptures are shifted to a new built temple.

Two submerged temples of village Malda and Mura are situated at a straight line but few kilometres away from each other. To reach at Mura temple we had to travel by vehicle, had to walk, crossed a stream by a damaged boat, had to cross a pool of ankle deep mud and again had to walk on bumpy hard soil. Interestingly, this temple of goddess Maheswari had no idol, rather a Yantra created at the surface of the sanctum used to be worshiped. The Iron Gate at the entrance to the sanctum is still there. Half of Rampaluga temple emerges during summer can be seen by going near it by a boat.

From all the villages submerged in Hirakud Dam, Rampella was the biggest. A new 2.5 km long bridge is built here to cross the submerged area. While crossing the bridge Hari-Hara temple of Rampella is visible from very close.

Near Paschimeswar Shiv temple at the submerged village of Adhapara, few sculptures, mostly eroded are found while part of the Sikhara Kalash and many stone blocks are visible half buried. INTACH team has intimated about this finding to the History Department of Gangadhar Meher University and they have initiated for excavations.

It is quite a satisfactory and happy job to be successful in reaching to the submerged temples of Hirakud Dam and able to document them before it gets extinct.



Dakini Simmamukha sculpture



Mahadevpali sculptures



Mura



Malda

Submerged temples of Sambalpur during summer

- Dipak Kumar Panda
Co-convener, Sambalpur Chapter

Festivals and Live Traditions

The recent flamboyant archeological excavations in numerous parts of India, reveal the ancient artifacts used by our ancestors. Especially the excavated items of Keeladi in Madurai, Tamilnadu has revealed the ritualistic objects, burial sites antiques and jewelry. These objects have surpassed the limits of our knowledge. These are ancient and we have to make a mental travel to visualize the ambience of those times in which it existed. But on the contrary, we could observe directly and live the sacred practices being followed by people to depict the age-old customs in the form of festivals. These festivals are the representations of our 'little tradition' (local tradition) as a part of the Great tradition. They are highly sacred and religious, making the whole festival a grand "Godliness".

The experience of the DIVINE is explicable in many parts of Tamilnadu. The highest peak of its holiness is social cohesion and familial reunion could be observed in a festival called PANGUNI PONGAL in Virudhunagar. Virudhunagar is a small town near Madurai, Tamilnadu. It was a village earlier times and developed as a city with its trading activities. A large number of traders of various business enterprises like pulses, oil and textiles contribute for the growth.

The term Panguni indicates the Tamil month corresponding to the middle of March and middle of April. Pongal refers to the sweet rice prepared on good occasions. It is not that easy to explain the term Pongal because more than sweet rice-it is an event, packed fully with divinity, emotional bond, sacred activities and social fervor and personal requests to God attached to it. The whole city starts throbbing with happiness and expectations for 21 days. The commencement of the festival is announced officially by the local community leaders. The flag indicates to the people of the town and other nearby places the commencement of the festival. People who ardently follow the traditional practices avoid leaving the town till the end of the festival. They are expected to remain in the Amman territory. (Attending death ceremony is also avoided.) The people start preparing for the festival. They fast regularly, go to temple, offer what they have promised to the Mother Goddess, AMMAN. This amman is worshiped as Mariamman, a powerful deity. They trust that Amman will bequeath whatever they want to have and will cure their ailments.

This sacred festival starts on the first Sunday of Tamil month Panguni evening around 8 pm, the community elders of the town gather, decide and announce the commencement of the festival to all the areas of the town saying that "Our city Panguni Pongal has Started. People may fast. Those who have promised offering may dedicate it." On this announcement people tie neem leave on the entrance of their houses. Many who take to fasting tie sacred thread in their wrist to indicate to others that they are on holy rites now. Women visit Mariamman temple every day and pour holi water on the sacred Amman to cool Her. On the fifteenth day after the announcement, a sacred yellow flag with Goddess image and a lion, her vehicle, is hoisted on the Mariamman temple.

The major aspects of Panguni Pongal are the offerings they dedicate to the Goddess pleading to fulfill or thanking Her for already fulfilled wishes. Each offering has a specific meaning and mental devotion to the Goddess. The important offerings are: -

Carrying pot filled with fire. This is a mark of endurance of pain both psychological and physical. (Photo -1)



Photo 1

Piercing certain parts of the body with big needle and pulling carts of different sizes and kind like birds kavadi which is also endurance of pain under any circumstance with Goddess in mind. These acts evince the mental strength of the people who undertake it. (Photo -2)



Photo 2

Offering to Goddess the miniature forms of body parts made out of silver as thanking for curing the diseases of those parts they were suffering from. This offering is a sort of thanking Amman for curing or restoring that particular part without any damage. (Photo-3)



Photo-3

Painting their body with black and white dots is another expression of their belief. Many individuals are seen walking to the temple with black and white dots on their body people watching them. Normally we feel shameful to walk in a crowd with black and white dots as people may star at us and make fun of us. But no such feelings are in their mind. They show their humility. (Photo-4)



Photo-4

Tonsuring, rolling on the temple floor and mavalakku (lighting on a special kind of rice dough) are other kinds of promises to Goddess. Tonsuring is symbolic of disowning something we valued. Rolling on the temple floor is also a penance. (Photo 5)



Photo 5

Children piercing thread on tongue or cheeks. This is forbearing the pain for the sake of the belief they possess on Amman (Photo6)



Photo 6

Throughout the performing of rituals, devotees keep shouting “AAho. Aiyahoo” slogan. Aaho” referring to Thirupugal Swamigal and “Aiya hoo” calling the Aiyavu Siddar. They are the two sages who lived their last life in Virudhunagar for a long time and attained samathi. Shouting these slogans adds strength to them. (Photo 7)



Photo 7

8. Carrying sugarcane cradles is also a sacred practice. This is one request made to Amman for a child by childless couples or to save their child from a dangerous ailment. (Photo 8)



Photo 8

Offering miniature human body parts like hands, legs made out of mud to the Goddess as a gratitude for curing some ailments. (Photo 9)



photo 9

10. Apart from these, devotees fast and abstain from eating meat.

On the 7th day after flag hoisting, the devotees end their fasting. A few more celebrations like gathering of different groups of native people, like those living in Madurai or in Chennai at present, in a particular place to revive their unity and affinity. They feast on good food items they relish. The city gets back to normal busy schedule after the 21 days with reinforced unity and stability. Celebrating this worship of Goddess Amman with great ecstasy is a way of perpetuating the unique culture of this region's Little Culture. The whole three-week celebration reinstates the devotees to a positive vibration in their trade, family and social activities. The completion of the festivity provides peace and satisfaction to all. The festive occasion renews and revives the familial bond since the entire network of kith and kin gather together and reciprocate their prestation. The celebration promotes physical and psychological wellbeing of the people.

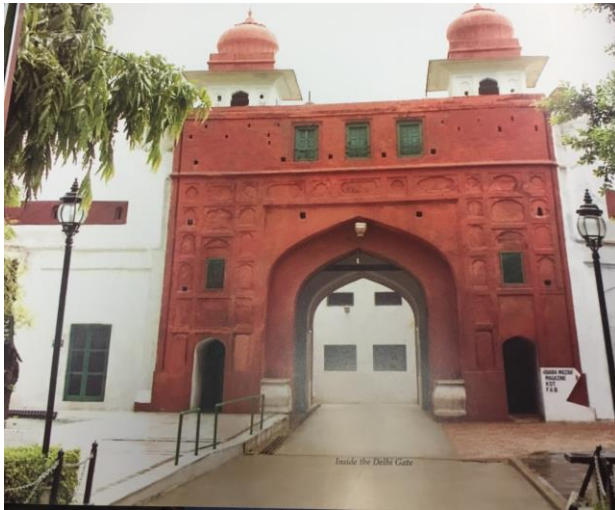
Ms. Bala Nalini
Member
(Madurai Chapter)

Punjab Chapter

HERITAGE PERSPECTIVE OF MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH FORT, PHILLAUR (PUNJAB)

By: Kulbir Singh I.G.P.(Retd)

The Phillaur Fort near Ludhiana is situated on the banks of river Satluj. It is symbol of potent heritage of Panjab. The Fort was constructed in 1809 by Maharaja Ranjit Singh who ruled the powerful Sikh empire from 1799 to 1839.



(Dilli Darwaza)

The heritage of Phillaur Fort is much more than what meets the eye. Its existence goes back to the 15th Century. So much was the geographical significance of location of Phillaur that through the ages it saw flags of Mughals, Rajputs, Sikhs, and British fluttering above its walls. The site where the Fort stands today was not a vacant piece of land but here stood a Mughal Carvan Sarai which also served as camp for Mughal Army. The Architectural style of gateways of sarai indicates its erection during regime of Shah Jehan (1628-1658). The year 1809 was however significant in the Indian sub continent when an alliance took place between British and Sikh empire in the form of "Treaty of Lahore" on 25th April 1809. C.T. Metcafe represented the British and Maharaja Ranjit Singh the Sikh Empire. This treaty cemented a border between the two Governments with the river Satluj as the demarcating feature. Thereafter Ranjit Singh recognized Phillaur as a frontier town of his kingdom commanding the most frequent ferry of Satluj. The Maharaja initially sent Dewan Mohkam Chand to Phillaur to take possession of Imperial Sarai and got Thana(Police Station) of Lahore Darbar established here for administrative control.

The Mughal , Agra- Lahore highway entered the present Panjab near Shambu . Then passing through Rajpura, Sarai Banjara ,Sirhind ,Khanna, Sarai Lashkar Khan, Doraha, Ludhiana it reached Phillaur. From here the highway proceeded to Lahore via Nurmahal , Nakodar, Mahlian Kalan , Sultanpur Lodhi and Amritsar. Considering the strategic importance of this site , Maharaja Ranjit Singh decided to convert the Sarai into a formidable Fort . He sent his Italian General Ventura and French General Allard and Avitabile for this task. The Fort was constructed on the European architectural style. The fort has two imposing gateways named after two Mughal cities i.e Delhi gate and Lahori

gate .The gateway is a majestic structure 13.35 mtrs. broad and almost equally deep..The entrance is high and broad archway measuring 3.7 mtrs. There are watch towers on the two gateways and high wall around the Fort. The front parapet has Baradari like dome structures. The brick work in layers of lime is exceptionally fine. Red sandstone has also been used in the gateway. The channels were dug along the boundary wall of the Fort as a part of defensive plan . Four strategic citadels were constructed on four corners for the stay of troops. Its outer wall are inclined inward so as to deflect cannon balls. All these features made the Fort a very strong defensive position for Sikh Empire to match the threat from British, who had built a Fort at Ludhiana.



(An aerial view of Maharaja Ranjit Singh Fort Phillaur, presently housing Panjab Police Academy.)

Maharaja Ranjit Singh expired on 27th June 1839 and thereafter fall of Sikh Empire started because of infighting and weak successions, In the First Anglo-Sikh war i.e Battle of Aliwal in 1846, the Sikh troops were defeated by Britishers and Phillaur Fort came under the control of British. It was made a cantonment with strong Artillery arsenal and magazine by British. Later on, in 1891 the Fort was handed over to Police Department. Police Training School was established in the Fort on 1st Jan 1892. Later the P.T.S was upgraded to Police Training College in 1967 and as Maharaja Ranjit Singh Panjab Police Academy in 1995 by Punjab Government..

The Fort at Phillaur with remnants of Imperial Sarai is a 400 year old Heritage legacy which we need not only to preserve, but also hand it over to the posterity in a healthy form so that golden chapter of our history is not lost.

Current challenges in this world not only make man aware and alert, but also force him to review his past Blind race of unsustainable development has brought the world in a phase of transition where discussions have started on the issue that whether the life on earth will sustain or not. The relationship between man and environment has taken a dangerous turn. Environmentalists are also predicting that we have only one decade of time left to improve the relationship between man and environment. After this we would have no chance to correct our mistakes. We have to become eco-friendly and follow the norms of sustainable development. Prehistoric man was a product of natural selection, after winning the struggle for existence. Along with humans many plant varieties were also selected by nature for co-existence. According to theory of natural selection (Darwinism), survival of fittest takes place. This race for survival was ultimately won by humans and the contemporary species of the flora and fauna, due to their ability of mutual coexistence. All of them were part of various ecosystems present at that time and they were putting their effort to maintain the balance of their corresponding ecosystems. Our Geographical, physical and biological conditions were among the best throughout the world. The flora and fauna along with the vegetation kept on developing in those conditions. The prehistoric man who was essentially a practical man of basic needs gradually evolved to become a social being and ultimately ended up being a technologically genius person “a man of greed”. The Industrial revolution around the 1860’s strained the relationship between man and his environment. Thereafter man who was eco-friendly by nature began harming his environment in the race of technological supremacy. The technological advancement and development that man yearned for was not a sustainable development, rather it had a devastating effect on the environment. In the field of agriculture, the uninterrupted use of tubewells has led to the depletion of the water table. Moreover the use of chemical fertilizers has led to the overall decline in fertility of the soil. The excessive use of the pesticides has reduced the population of harmful pest but also reduced the number of soil friendly insects, worms and microbes. Agriculturist man who evolved from the food gatherer ancestors had a natural understanding and traditional concepts regarding agricultural methods. His ways were very much friendly to regional ecosystem. They were able to understand the silent wills of Mother Nature (natural selection) and they had a tradition of respecting the natural selection. Our ancestors were fully aware about the crops to be best suitable to grow in a particular ecosystem. They knew the natural adaptability of a particular crop which demanded minimum from soil resource or ground water resource, air or light. In response Mother Nature provided an ambient biodiversity which was maintained by the collective effort of human, then existing flora-fauna and nature itself.

Millets are different species of grass family (Gramineae) and which is full of nutrition. It is an immunity booster and overall it developed naturally requires very less from natural resources. Therefore in current situation where sustainable development is a necessity, it is very relevant to grow millets as our staple food. It can be grown with the help of natural fertility of soil, without using insecticides or pesticides or chemical fertilizers. Familiar grains such as wheat, rice and corn are grown repeatedly in the soil, using chemical fertilizers, pesticides and Insecticides. Groundwater resources are excessively used for their irrigation. Millets may be less in production as compared to wheat, rice or corn, but these grains cost higher than millets. Collectively their demand of natural resources or costly chemical fertilizers, pesticides and Insecticides makes them harmful for environment and capital intensive. We are blindly neglecting our environment. Now the negative effect of the green revolution has reached up to a disastrous level. Such effect would certainly come before us that were already predicted by famous agricultural Scientist Swaminathan in 1968 in Science congress held in Varanasi.

Relationship between millets and man is more than 10000 years old. Millets have been found in Mesolithic sites. It was the period when man was a hunter or food gatherer for his survival. Thus we can say these grains were collected not cultivated by him for his food, because till then man was unaware about agricultural techniques. He was familiar to the edible grains obtained from the naturally grown vegetations. Millets are considered to be ancestral to modern grains. Chopni Mandu a site situated in Belan valley is considered to be a transition site where we can observe the transformation of a food gatherer and hunter to a food / cultivator or farmer. Millets, other wild variety of grains and berries are found from Ancient Mesolithic sites. Prehistoric rock paintings also indicate that millets and wild grains were Included in the life of Mesolithic man.¹

A Neolithic site Senuar, Jhansi, Tokwa from where wild and cultivated species of millets along with other wild grains obtained. We found Tangun (Fox tail), Jwar (Jowar), Ragi (Finger millet), Sanwa (Barnyard) millets from Senuar.² Horse gram, Artemis, Flat sedge Foxtail and goosefoot etc. are obtained from Lahuradewa site in Sant Kabir Nagar district. The grains found here are from such a layer of earth which is considered to be 7000 years old through carbon dating.³

It is also considerable that in Koldihwa and Mahgada the Neolithic colonies, we obtain small millet remains in both wild and cultivated species from the initial stages of site.⁴ Same way Tokwa, Jhusi, Panchoh, Indari, Kunghun, Imlideeh, Lahuradewa, Chirand and Senuar are also the sites from where remains of millets are obtained. Same way we can observe the proofs of agriculture from the primary levels of Neolithic sites from middle north Indian subcontinent to Vindhya ranges and mid- gangetic plains. We can observe the remains of millets were included with wild and cultivated grains from these Neolithic sites.

Initiation of agricultural process was started from Mesolithic period but Mesolithic man gathered millets along with other wild grains. This is also important that from Chopni Mandu and other Mesolithic sites Quern, Muller and Anvil were found. All these tools would be used to grind these millets. Quern, Muller and Anvil were also found in Mahgada, Koldihwa and Tokwa also.

From Ancient Harappan sites remains of small millets and Ragi were obtained, even in Rigveda our most ancient text refers the occurrence of Barley and Dhanya. Dhanya here is meant to all the cereals. Later Vedic texts Atharvaveda, Shatpath Brahmin and Bajasaney Samhita also refer different types of cereals. The Bajasaney Samhita provides for increasing the produce of Dhanya by performing yajna. In this context Rice, Barley, lentils, gram, tangun (Foxtail), kangni, gram, sanva, Kodo, wheat etc. are also described. Sanva (Barnyard) and Kodo are referred both as wild as well as cultivable (Bajasaney Samhita 18.12), (Taittiriya Samhita 5.1, 7.3, 7.2, 10.2). In Yajurveda also Priyangu (Barnyard) and Shyamak were also referred (Yajurveda 18.12). In Jataka Texts Kangu and Bajra is described.

In this way we observe that millets are associated to our life since prehistoric era. Millets are Heritage grains. We have neglected our ancestral Heritage grain due to greed of excessive production of grains and wealth. We started growing wheat, rice and corn potentially. We forgot the values like coexistence and Environment friendliness. We did researches to grow more wheat at the cost of our environmental balance and soil fertility or groundwater resource. We left our responsibility towards maintaining biodiversity, conservation of soil fertility and groundwater resource. Now this is high time, a time to renew our traditional methods of agriculture and adapt them up to a reasonable extent. We should start growing millets which are full of nutrients, fibres and very healthy for the human gut. It will not only keep us healthy but also protect our soil fertility, our water resources from depletion and pollution, Our air from pollution. Pt. Nehru said in his book „Discovery of India“- Ancient Indian tradition is just like a mirror laden with dirt and dust of centuries. Our duty is to clean the dirt and dust and see our face in clear mirror rather than throw away the mirror.

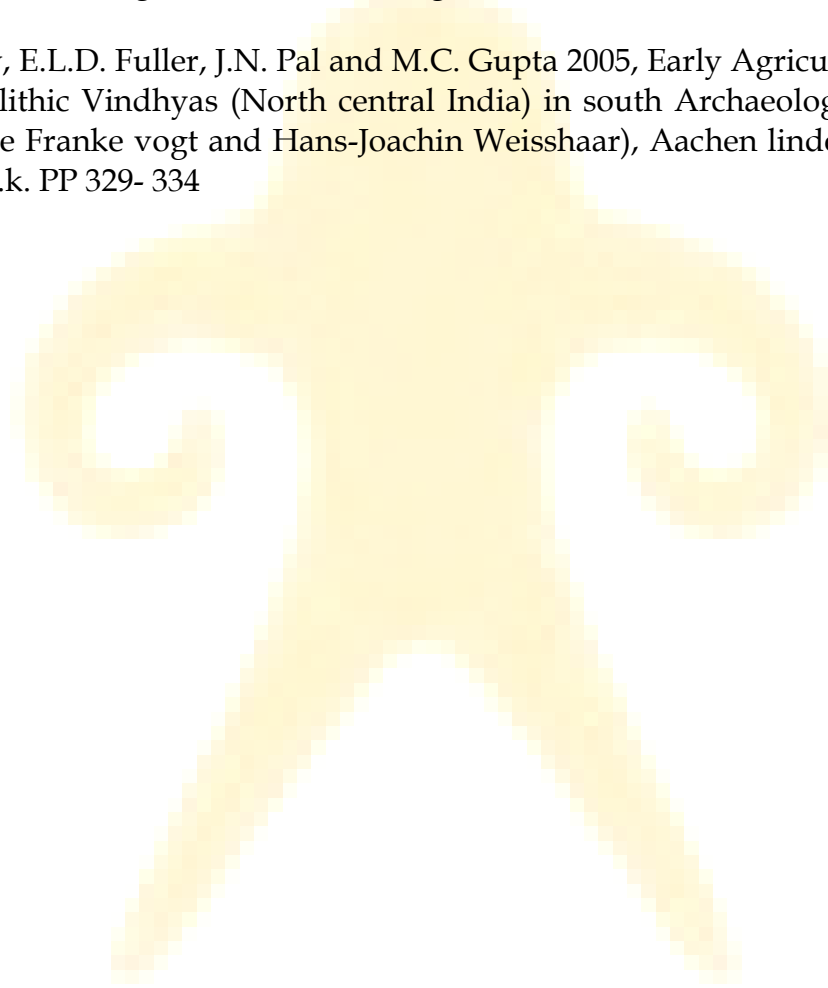
Famous agriculture scientist Swaminathan also said that Science should support the farmers and they should work on two objectives-

- 1- Transformation of most marginalized farmers through the blending of traditional and frontier technologies in socially equitable economically viable and environmentally suitable eco-technology.
- 2- Production of more food from diminishing resource base requiring new agricultural technologies and management system, focussing research on neglected crops such as minor millets, gram, legumes, pulses and oil seeds.

I would like to conclude the discussion with my humble request to our future generation to not repeat our mistakes and pay attention on sustainable development and to include millets in our agricultural activities because this Heritage grain will protect the natural fertility of our soil. At last I would like to refer the Ravindranath Tagore's version of free India which can be achieved only by happy combination of tradition and modernity.

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THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS INDIA GORAKHPUR LOCAL CENTER
LECTURE ON THEME NOTE OF WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 5 JUNE 2023

Theme: - SOLUTIONS TO PLASTIC PROBLEM

By Er. M.P.Kandoi

B.Sc, B.E.(Mech), F.I.E (Mech)

Convener, Intach Gorakhpur Chapter

Plastic pollution is one of the most pressing issues the world faces today. As most of the plastics we use do not breakdown and dissolve easily, it is slowly filling up our oceans, which will take centuries to disintegrate, posing tremendous issues for aquatic life, human health and marine ecosystem. Studies have estimated that by 2050, there will be more plastics in the sea than fish. The world's rivers, oceans and seas have been acting as convenient transport vectors as well as dumping sites for the plastic produced by human activity. The pollution comes at a huge cost, from clean-up and repair efforts and loss of revenue for tourism and societal price of polluted and degraded environments. Around 300 million tons of plastics is produced worldwide annually and only half of this can be recycled.

But before further proceeding ahead on the first I want to give a short account on the basis of historical perspective, why human created this colossal problem for themselves. Plastic is a word that originally meant "pliable and easily shaped". It only recently becomes a name for category of polymers. The word polymer means of "many parts". Previously some natural polymers were known, like cellulose that make up the cell wall of plants is very natural polymer. Over the last 150 years humans have learned to make synthetic polymers. Synthetic polymers made up of long chain of atoms, arranged in repeating units, often much longer than those found in nature it is the length of these chains and patterns in which they are arranged that makes polymers strong, light weight and flexible. It is what make them so plastic. These properties make synthetic polymers very useful and since we have learned how to create and manipulate them, polymers have become an essential part of our lives, especially over the last 50 years have saturated our world and changed the way we live. First synthetic polymer was invented by John Wesley Hyatt in an effort to replace billiard ball, which at that time made from ivory by slaughter of elephants. The discovery was revolutionary, First time human manufacture was not constrained by the limits of nature and it was assumed that plastics could protect the natural world from destructive forces of human greed. In 1907 Bakelite was invented. Bakelite was only a good insulator but it was also durable, heat resistant and unlike celluloid ideal for mechanical mass production and marketed as MATERIAL FOR THOUSAND USE. Hyatt and Bakelite success led major companies to invest in research and development of new polymers. Further the need to preserve scarce natural resources made the production of synthetic alternatives a priority. Invention of Nylon by Wallace Carothers in 1935 and Plexiglas and its multifarious use in 2nd world war made them popular and production of U.S increased 300% in the war period. But even after the war there was surge in plastic production According to author SUSAN FRIENKAL "In product after product, plastics challenged traditional materials. and won taking the place of steel

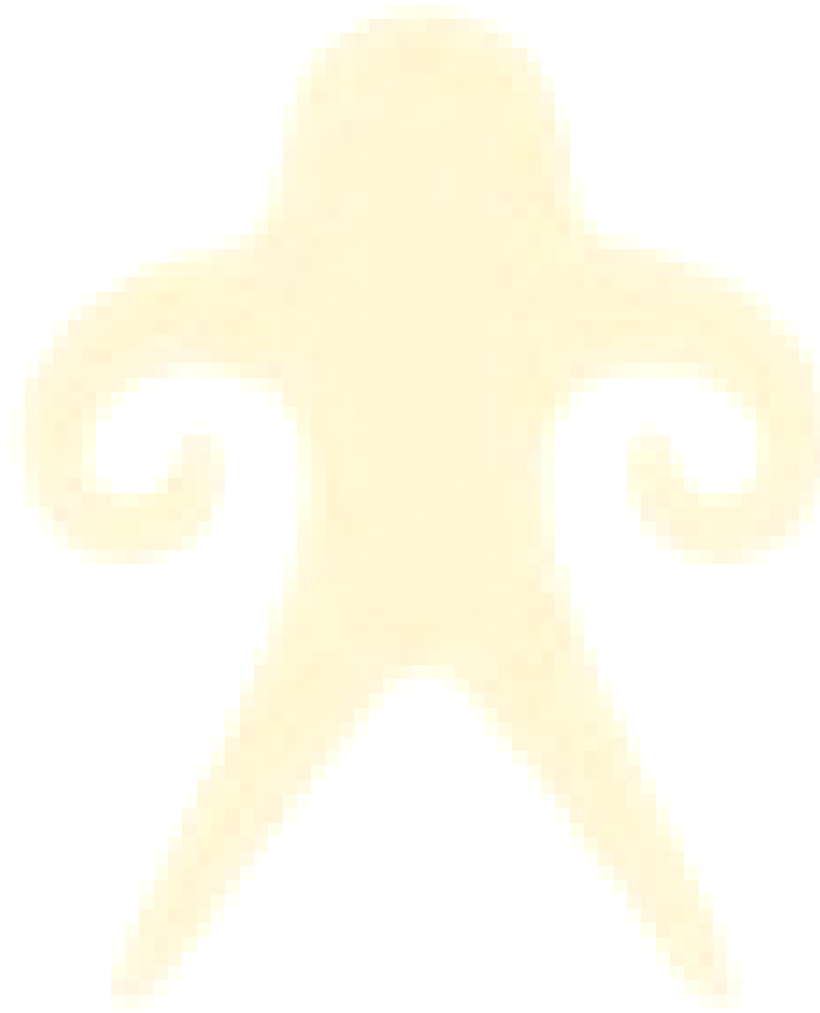
in cars, papers and glass, packaging and wood in furniture. The possibilities of plastics gave an almost utopian vision of future with abundant material wealth thanks to an inexpensive, safe substance that could be shaped by human to every requirement ABOVE IN SHORT IS SAGA OF SUCCESS AND UTILITY THAT MAKE PLASTIC INDISPENSABLE PART OF OUR DAY TO DAY IN EVERY WALKS OF OUR LIFE.

The increased use of plastics, its detrimental hazards to human life and ecosystem, the unblemished optimism about plastics did not last, plastic debris first observed in 1960. As awareness about environmental issues spread, the persistence of plastic waste began. Plastic also gradually become award used to describe that which was cheap, flimsy or fake plastics. Plastic reputation fell further in 1970 and 1980's as anxiety about waste is increased. The reputation of plastic has suffered thanks to a growing concern about the potential threat they pose to humankind. Certain additives added in manufacture of plastics spread much toxicity. Plastic save fossil fuel used in heating and for transportation. Perhaps most. Some scientists and members of public are concerned about evidence that these chemicals leach out plastics in our food, water, in bodies In very high doses these chemicals chemical can disrupt the endocrine or hormonal system.

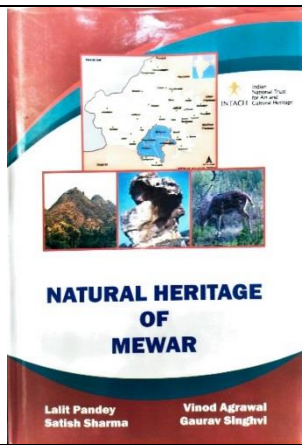
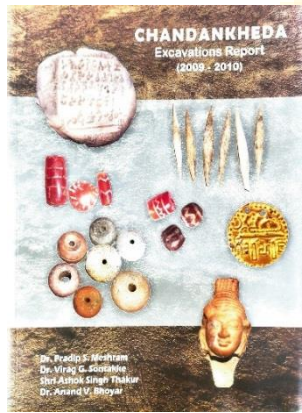
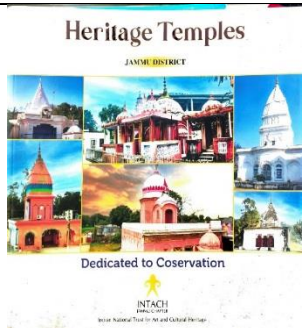
Looking in the future perspective, Despite growing mistrust, Plastics are critical to modern life, plastics made possible to development of computer, cell phones and most of the lifesaving advances of modern medicines. Light weight and good for insulation. Perhaps most important is inexpensive plastics raised the standard of living and made material abundance more readily available. Without plastics many possessions that we take granted might be out of reach for all. Replacing natural materials with plastics has made many of our possessions cheaper, lighter safer and stronger.

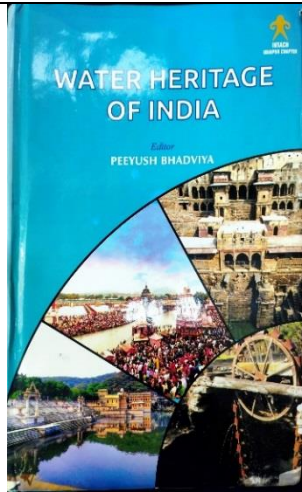

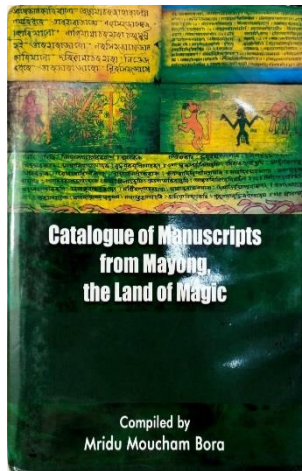
From the above it is clear that we have to live with plastics, and found the way to deal with hazardous effect. At present most solutions to problem of plastic pollution, therefore, focus on preventing improper disposal or even on limiting the use of certain items in the first place. Fines for littering have proved default to enforce, but various fees or outright bans on food containers and plasting shopping bags are now common. So called extended proper responsibilities schemes make the manufacture of some items for creating an infrastructure to take back and recycle the products they produce. BUT ALL THESE ARE NON SCIENTIFIC AND ARE MOSTLY BEING ADOPTED BY MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS <GOVERNMENT< N>G>O> WHO CREATE AWARENESS PROGRAMME, We scientists and engineers are working on other alternatives by research. Leaving the details for learned speakers I mention some attempts Scientists and engineers are attempting to make plastics safer and more sustainable, Some innovators are developing bio plastics which are made from plant crops instead of fossil fuels, create substances that are more ecofriendly than conventional plastics, others are working to make plastics that are truly biodegradable. Some innovators are searching to make recycling more efficient and even hope to convert plastics in fossil fuels from which they were derived., For cleaning of ocean ocean cleanup is going,, NASA satellite technology is being used. Plastic eating mushroom are being developed, magnetic coils are used to target micro plastics in ocean, use of plastics in road are also being explored. ALL RECOGNIZE THAT PLASTICS ARE NOT PERFECT BUT THEY ARE IMPORTANT AND NECESSARY PART OF OUR FUTURE.

I have just introduced the subject, rest I leave for learned speakers. The problem is colossal and a multi-pronged approach is necessary. Let the government agencies do their work of enforcement of rule and regulation, NGO should do the work of awareness, And Engineers should work for technical solution keeping away from Government and N.G.O work.

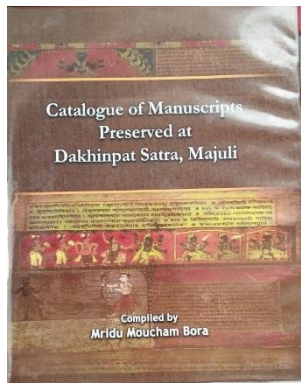


INTACH Chapters Publications (2021 - 2023)

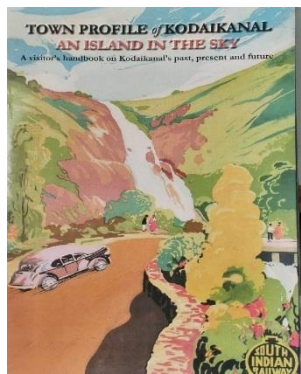
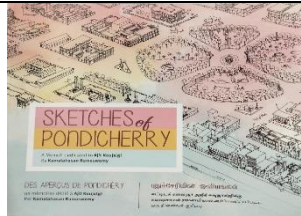
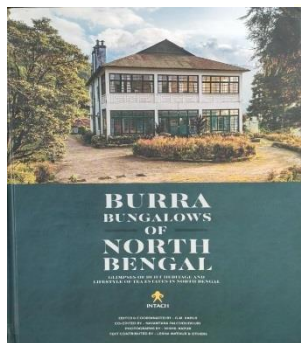
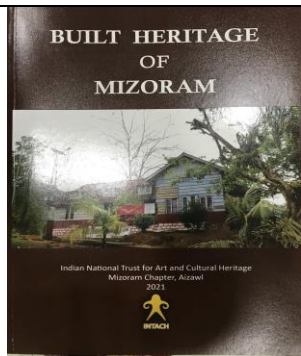
S. No	Image of front Cover page of Book	Title of Book and ISBN	Description
1		Natural Heritage of Mewar ISBN: 978-93-94954-68-7	The present volume is an attempt to highlight the "Natural Heritage" components of the Mewar. The book includes articles on various natural heritage characteristics of the region which have been prepared by Archaeology and famous historian has covered the historical aspects of Mewar and its physical features.
2		Chandankheda Excavations Report (2009-2010)	The site was discovered by Convener of INTACH Chandrapur Chapter and Governing Council Member Shri Ashok Singh Thakur and Co-convener Shri Surendra Gautam. Owing to its archaeological importance, the site at Chandankheda was taken up for excavations which were jointly conducted by the Department of AIHC and Archaeology, Rashtrasant Tukdoju Maharaj, Nagpur and Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Chandrapur Chapter during 2009-10
3		Heritage Temples - Jammu District - Dedicated to Conservation	

4		Water Heritage of India ISBN: 978-93-92779-20-6	Water Heritage of India is a collection of research papers, presented and discussed in the National Virtual Conference on "Water Heritage of India", organised by the Department of History, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, in association with the INTACH, Udaipur Chapter, on 27th and 28th August, 2021. The present volume brings out the historical, cultural, religious, social and other aspects of water heritage of India.
5		Trees of Thekkinkadu	Tree mapping is an initiative By INTACH Thrissur, to enumerate the existing trees in the Maidan (Vadakkunnathan Devaswom maidan). This activity was majorly intended to familiarise the public to the varieties of trees that the madian holds, through interactive sessions such as tree walks. It was also to bring a basic awareness of the number of trees and the species to which they belong.
6		Catalogue of Manuscripts from Mayong, the Land of Magic	The idea of publishing a catalogue of the documented manuscripts of the Mayong region in Assam entitled. "Catalogue of manuscripts from Mayong, the land of Magic," was conceived after the completion of a project entitled, Restoration, Conservation and Documentation of the manuscripts, artefacts and photographs in the Museums and Research Centre at Mayong, Assam, India, by INTACH Assam State Chapter, supported by Gerda Henkel Stiftung, Germany. The Museum finally completed in March 2021, is now a showcase of the nearly lost Mayong civilization, and can boast of containing a total of 211 manuscripts written on sanchi pat (alow wood) and tula pat (cotton) which ad bee conserved, listed and documented during the course of the project.

7		Temples of Kerala Guidelines for Conservation	<p>The ancient texts elaborate the concept of sacred built form as a coalescence of prakriti and purusha. A building is considered to be the progeny resulting from fertilization of a seed planted by the male force Vastupurusha into the female force Boomi or the earth, thus emerging out as Prasada-Vastu or superstructure. Accordingly, the built structure like human body can be understood as an assemblage of Panchabhutas -space, air, fire, water and the earth which animates the spirit in its scared realm. Jeernodharana is the process of bringing back life to a decayed built form thereby reviving the divine spirit embedded in it. The Indian concept of built heritage conservation is strongly rooted in its spiritual setting and explores the ancient building sustens. Hence the conservation interventions should ideally be based on continuity building traditions and rituals.</p>
8		ये धरोहर हैं हमारी काव्य संग्रह	<p>मेरठ अध्याय द्वारा डॉ. ईश्वर चंद गंभीर के द्वारा पश्चिमांचल में स्थित “ये धरोहर हैं हमारी”, दर्शनीय स्थलों एवं ज्वलंत सामाजिक समस्याओं पर अपनी स्वरचित रचनाओं को काव्य रूप में संकलित कर पुस्तक प्रस्तुत की गई है।</p>
9		राष्ट्रीय स्वतंत्रता आंदोलन में कटनी का योगदान	(सन १८५७-१९४७)

10		Kakinada Footprints....	
11		Catalogue of Manuscripts preserved at Dakhinpat Satra, Majuli	The idea of publishing a "Catalogue of Manuscripts preserved at Dakhinpat Satra, Majuli," was conceived following the successful completion of a project undertaken by the Assam State Chapter of the Indian National trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) for listing, documenting and conserving the valuable manuscripts at Dakhinpat Satra in Majuli. The project was funded by the Prince Claus Emergency Fund for Art and Cultural Heritage and the Whiting Foundation, Netherlands.
12		Discovering Bengaluru History Neighborhoods Walks	This book walks you through a past that is still present in Bengaluru. Packed with archival maps and photographs, the book is part history and part walking-guide. It tells the stories of the streets where people lived, where battles were fought, and where little marvels of architecture, culture or nature are still found around almost every corner. Whether you are a visitor to Bengaluru or a resident, this book is essential reading for you to discover and understand the city!

13		<p>Food Heritage of Rajasthan</p> <p>ISBN : 978-81-7906-891-5</p>	<p>Food Heritage of Rajasthan' is a collection of research papers presented and discussed in the national Seminar on 'Food Heritage of Rajasthan with Special Reference to Mewar' that was organized by the Department of History, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, on February 15, 2020, in collaboration with MMCF and INTACH. The present volume brings out the historical aspects of the food of Rajasthan, especially Mewar.</p>
14		<p>Urbanscapes of Meghalaya Jowai Unfolded...</p> <p>ISBN: 978-81-951116-8-8</p>	<p>It is a great pleasure to see such writings about our city, Jowai. The culmination of pictures and description of the indigenous practices and tools used by the people of Jaintia Hills is a joy to read. The presentation of the old practices and modern way of life in the city will hopefully appeal to people from all sections of life.</p>
15		<p>Urbanscapes of Meghalaya This is Tura</p> <p>ISBN : 978-81-951116-9-5</p>	<p>Ramoma M. Sangma is an Associate Professor in the Department of English., NEHU, Tura and is also Co-convenor, INTACH (Meghalaya Chapter). She has published books and articles with special focus on the Garos- their material culture, traditions and beliefs. She is at present involved in the preservation and documentation of heritage in the Garo Hills, besides teaching Literature, which is her primary profession. Her interest also lies in other forms of creative art, such as indigenous crafts and traditional knowledge.</p>
16		<p>Urbanscapes of Meghalaya Shillong as it is.....</p> <p>ISBN: 978-81-981116-7-1</p>	<p>This is a gem of a book on Shillong, a visual treat that captures the essence of a beautiful, bustling, quirky and uniquely individual city that could sadly be on its way to losing its old charm if major steps to halt this are not taken.</p>

17		Town Profile of Kodaikanal An island in the Sky A Visitor's handbook on Kodaikanal's past, present and future	Through this booklet, the Kodaikanal Chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and the Rotary Club of Kodaikanal have tried to give the visitor to Kodaikanal more than just a 'been there done that' focus of a casual traveller.
18		Sketches of Pondicherry A Memoir dedicated to Ajit Koujalgi By Kamalahasan Ramaswamy	
19		Burra Bungalows of North Bengal Glimpses of Built Heritage and Lifestyle of Tea Estates in North Bengal ISBN : 978-93-82343-44-8	Originating in India in the late 17th Century, from the Hindi Word BANGALA, meaning 'belonging to Bengal', to depict a house built in the architectural form that originated in the countryside. "Burra Sahib" was the colloquial title given to a garden manager since the erstwhile British owners established these estates. and his residence was the "Burra Bungalow".
20		Built Heritage of Mizoram ISBN 978-81-949227-9-7 (soft back) ISBN 978-81-949227-0-4 (hard back)	This is the revised and enlarged edition of the built heritage of Mizoram (first published in 2014). The book contains a brief description with pictures of the few remaining heritage buildings, both private and government, as they exist in the different districts of Mizoram today.