

chapter newsletter

Issue 4 - Oct - Dec 2023



Inauguration of INTACH Arunachal Pradesh Chapter

INTACH was able to further extend its network in the northeast of India and commenced a Chapter in Arunachal Pradesh. The Arunachal Chapter was formed on 07 Sep 2022 and was formally inaugurated by the State Education & Cultural Affairs Minister Er. Taba Tedir, on 02 Dec 2023, in a special function at the State Museum in Itanagar. Dir Chapter, PD ICH and Convener Arunachal Pradesh were present during the function.

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Dear Heritage Enthusiasts

Continuing with our efforts to connect, appreciate and encourage Chapters to undertake the heritage activities the second edition of Chapter e-Newsletter, is shared herewith. INTACH is now able to establish a chapter in Itanagar at Arunachal Pradesh, the only state in the country where INTACH did not have its presence. Chapter was inaugurated by State Education & Cultural Affairs Minister Er. Taba Tedir at Itanagar. Heartwarming response received from people of Arunachal as well with the Govt departments.

We Congratulate, Nandyal Chapter Convener, who received the Best Rural Tourism Project Award from the Hon'ble minister of Tourism and Empowerment, A.P State Smt. Roja Selvamani on the occasion of World Tourism Day. As we delve into the pages of this newsletter, we embark on a journey exploring the regional programmes, articles, and chapter activities that traverses through into various aspects of heritage.

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

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

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Message



Dear Conveners, Co-Conveners and Members

I am delighted to see the growing interest of Members for Contributing to Chapters Newsletter through wide range of events, programmes and Articles covering the entire spectrum of heritage activities. Recently Palakkad Convener organized a unique Story telling session on Independence Day “Chapters of a Shared History” in which thirteen freedom stories from 13 Chapters were narrated in an online event. Chapters are encouraged to adopt such measures to develop intra-chapter interaction, synergy and Co-operation.

With our vast and ever-growing network of chapters across the country we are slowly but surely making our presence felt in different states and in this context, INTACH has crossed the final hurdle by opening a Chapter in Arunachal Pradesh.

With the promulgation of revised finance Act, charitable trusts registered under section 12AB of Income Tax Act, 1961 have to be very vigilant while managing their accounts. Further since all chapters are using INTACH, PAN no. it is necessary that: -

All receipts by the chapters whether from donor agencies or state Govt. are sent to the Central Office, to avoid any mismatch of income while submitting our income tax return.

The money so received in the Central office will be remitted back to chapters immediately as per the revised chapter 8 Annexure 1 of the chapter guidelines (since circulated to all the conveners).

Cash transactions by chapters should be bare minimum and should not exceed RBI guidelines.

All payments should be made by either cheque or direct bank transfer (NEFT).

As we reflect on our collective achievements, it is essential to recognize the challenges that lie ahead. The ever-evolving landscape of heritage conservation demands continued innovation, collaboration, and adaptability. I am confident that with your commitment, INTACH will navigate these challenges successfully and continue to be a beacon of excellence in the field.

In closing: -

We need to recognize the fundamental values of our organization i.e. selfless service to spread the Awareness of our culture and heritage.

Important to provide and enable an inclusive environment to bring awareness of our heritage and understanding the chapter member's intent. It should be the corner stone to our awareness campaigns, requiring enduring efforts and a wider understanding of the local diversity and heritage.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Warm regards,

*Maj. Gen. (Retd.) L.K. Gupta, AVSM
Chairman, INTACH*



Dear Conveners and Members,

You are well aware that INTACH is a voluntary organization which enrolls members across the country through its chapters. While enrolling members, it's essential to consider individuals, who possess proper qualities and attributes to contribute effectively to the organizational goals. As a voluntary organization, the reputational capital of INTACH is the most important asset. Therefore, the members of INTACH need to be of integrity and high moral values and should be an example to others in their functioning and conduct. Persons with genuine passion for the conservation of India's rich cultural heritage and the desire to promote and engage the local communities in the conservation of the heritage would be ideal members of INTACH.

Adhering to ethical standards, respecting cultural sensitivities and promoting responsible and sustainable conservation practices are the required qualities. Members with a willingness to contribute their time and skills voluntarily can significantly enhance the organization's capacity and expand its reach. A diverse group of members brings different perspectives and approaches to problem-solving. This diversity fosters innovation and adaptability, allowing INTACH to respond creatively to evolving challenges in the field of cultural heritage conservation.

Therefore, I would like to draw the attention of our Conveners to ensure that they enroll the right quality of members, as it is fundamental to INTACH's sustenance and future success. This will ensure that the organization has the expertise, commitment and diversity needed to effectively carry on its mission forward.

I wish all our Chapter Members a Very Happy, healthy and successful 2024.

*Dr (Mrs) Chuden T. Misra
Member Secretary*

Appointments

INTACH New Appointments (October to December, 2023)				
The INTACH warmly welcomes the newly appointed Conveners, Co-Conveners and Additional Co-Conveners of its Chapters.				
State	Chapters	Convener	Co-Convener	Adl. Co-Convener
October, 2023				
Uttarakhand	Uttarakhand State	Shri S Ramaswamy		
Chhattisgarh	Saraipali	Shri Yashwant Kumar Choudhary	Shri Radheshyam Choudhary	
November, 2023				
Haryana	Gurgaon	Ms Tapasya Samal		
December, 2023				
Odisha	Cuttack		Shri Deepak Kumar Naik	
Odisha	Cuttack		Shri Dipak Samantrai	
Odisha	Cuttack		Ms Kabita Pattnaik	

Chapters Activities

Andaman & Nicobar

Discussion on Scope of instituting a Geo Park in Andaman and Nicobar Islands by a team of Geologists.

IP&T Conference Hall – 12th December 2023

INTACH Andaman and Nicobar Chapter with support from Directorate of Information, Publicity and Tourism organized a discussion on "The scope of A Geopark in Andaman and Nicobar Islands".

A team of eminent Geologists (retired from the Geological Survey of India) made a presentation on the geological marvels that Andaman and Nicobar Islands hold and that although countries like China, Indonesia, Korea and Japan have Geoparks, India doesn't have one yet. They also mentioned that though the guidelines mentioned by UNESCO are difficult to follow yet India could perhaps start thinking of declaring one geopark. And that our islands would be a good place to begin with.

The team of geologists were lead by Dr. Ajit Kumar Mahendra, Retired Director General of Geological Survey of India. The other members of the team were Dr. Satyabrata Guha, Dr. S. V. Satyanarayana, Dr. P.V. Sesharao and Dr. V. Ravikumar.

The discussion was attended by Dr. Jatinder Sohal, Director, IP & T, Dr. N. Somorjit Singh, Head of Office, Anthropological Survey of India, Shri. Sukumar Das, Assistant Conservator of Forests, Forest Department, Shri. Arun Singh, Nature Enthusiast and Founding member of Andaman Avians Club and Shri. Udhay Bhaskar, Star-gazer from Whistling woods Andaman. The vote of thanks was given by Samhita Veda Acharya, Convener, INTACH A & N Chapter.



Discussion on Scope of instituting a Geo Park in Andaman and Nicobar Islands by a team of Geologists

Andhra Pradesh

Anantapur

INTACH Anantapur district chapter organized world heritage week celebrations from 20-11-2023 to 26-11-2023. First day on 20-11- 2023 "Heritage Walk" is organized.

Department of tourism district officer Mr. G. Nageswara Reddy, department of Archaeology and Museums Assistant Director Smt. Rajita, district vocational education officer Mr. M. Venkataramana Naik, Regional inspecting officer Board of Intermediate education Mr. Suresh, former INTACH Anantapur district chapter convener AG Venugopal Reddy, INTACH Anantapur district chapter members, more than 1000 students from various educational institutions participated in the Program. All the participants took oath for protection of rich heritage.

As part of second day world heritage week celebrations Anantapur district chapter organised coin & stamps exhibition for students and public on 21/11/23 in Rotary English medium school Anantapur. Smt. Rajitha Assistant director Archaeology and Museums department attended as chief guest inaugurated the exhibition and gave message. Former INTACH Anantapur district convener Dr. A. G Venugopal Reddy, Retired Deputy collector D. Govinda Rajulu, Rotary English medium high school correspondent Sasikala Devi gave short message to students. About 250 students and public attended the exhibition.

As part of World Heritage Week Celebrations third day organised Telugu language poem recitation competition for High school students. About 60 students from eleven various High schools of Anantapur city participated. Famous Industrialist and Chairman Chamber of Commerce and Industries Sree P. Seshanjaneyulu attended as chief guest of the day. O. Ramalinga Reddy Telugu language poet, Dr. N Rasool lecturer in Degree college, Dr. C. Ramnjaneyulu Telugu poet, Pujari Eeranna research scholar and writer acted as judges. INTACH Anantapur district chapter convener Rama Kumar presided the program. INTACH member Shaik Riazuddin invited the dignitaries on the Dias. Pidatala Krishnamurthy organized the students. Jutur Shariff proposed vote of thanks.

As part of World Heritage celebrations 4th day conducted poem recitation competition for the degree college students at Anantapur city on 23-11-2023. Head of the Telugu department Dr. Vijay Kumar presided over the program. Anke Sreenivasulu, Madan Mohan Telugu lecturers Nagabhushanam history lecturer organised the students. Sudhama Vamsi Sanskrit lecturer, Ramalingareddy poetry writer, Nabhi Rasool poet acted as judges for the competition. INTACH Anantapur district chapter convener Rama Kumar gave message to the students. INTACH Anantapur district chapter members Krishnamurthy, Suryanarayanareddy, Sreenivas Reddy Giridhar Prasad , Shaikh Riazuddin and more than 200 students attended the program. With National anthem program concluded.

As part of World Heritage week 5th day celebrations INTACH Anantapur district chapter conducted Poster accompanied by write-up of lesser known built heritage of our region. This competition is part of HECS program included in World Heritage week celebrations. This program is organised with the cooperation of department of Archaeology and Museums department and also District Tourism department of Anantapur by the. INTACH Anantapur district chapter. Lanka Venkata Ramana renowned artists attended as chief guest. District tourism officer and Assistant director Archaeology & Museums Graced the event. 103 students from various schools participated in the competition. INTACH Anantapur district chapter members attended the program. Chief guest Lanka Venkatraman artist and District Tourism officer G. Nageswara Reddy are felicitated by the INTACH Anantapur district chapter. Finally the program concluded with the National anthem.

On 25th November World Heritage Week 6th day celebrations conducted at GOOTY town in Anantapur district. Gooty town is well connected with road and rail. Situated on NH-44 road and Mumbai - Chennai railway line. Nearest Airport is Kurnool 90Km. GOOTY FORT with 19 Km FORT Wall 918 acres area. A big rally was conducted at GOOTY TOWN by involving about 500 students from various schools and engineering College. The rally started with slogan SAVE GOOTY FORT from Gullapalem Hampanna who was killed by British soldiers while safe guard women memorial pillar at 11-00 Am reached GOOTY FORT by 12-00 Pm. District Tourism officer G. Nageswr Reddy, Archeology and Museums department Assistant Director Smt. Dr. V.Rajita INTACH Anantapur district chapter convener GATEs Engineering College correspondent VK Padma local municipal Chairman Peera Vice chairman Varalakshmi local leaders Virupakshreddy and others spoke on the occasion. In the evening at 7.00 Pm organised a Poets debate on culture and heritage. 18 poets participated. Program concluded at 9.00 Pm with National anthem.

26-11-2023 is the 7th day of World Heritage Week 2023. On our invitation Dr. Chigicherla Krishna Reddy retired Professor from Telugu University Hyderabad attended as chief guest of concluding day program. He spoke on how folk songs intertwined with village life and how they enjoyed life with different types of folk dances. INTACH Anantapur chapter felicitated the Chief guest.

Smt. Dr. V.Rajita Assistant director Archaeology and Museums Graced the event. She gave message to the students who participated in the competitions.

INTACH Anantapur district chapter felicitated her on this occasion. Another guest G. Nageswara Reddy District Tourism officer sponsored prizes to students who participated the competitions. INTACH Anantapur district chapter Honored 19 poets that participated in poetic debate on 25-11-2023 evening on 6th day of World Heritage Week 2023. Students who participated the competitions are given participation certificates. Winners are awarded with certificate Memento and with a gift. Program concluded with National anthem.



World Heritage Week Celebrations

Guntur

1. We are happy to share that INTACH Guntur Chapter has conducted International Sanskrit Day (Sanskrit Divas) celebrations in Vignan college at Vadlamudi on 31-08-2023. Elocution competition in Sanskrit was conducted and prizes were given to the participants. Two Sanskrit pandits Sri Dr. D. N. Deekshit and Sri Kurmanath addressed the gathering of 1400 students. Dr Dikshit insisted the need and importance of Sanskrit in protecting the culture and heritage. The entire ancient literature of this country is in Sanskrit. Even the Buddhistic and Jain literature were translated into Sanskrit and preserved. Sanskrit is the most scientific and most suitable for computer language, he added. Convener SVS Lakshminarayana presided the function. Co Convener A. Ravi Srinivas proposed vote of thanks.



Sanskrit Day (Sanskrit Divas) celebrations in Vignan college at Vadlamudi

2. We are happy to share that National Heritage Quiz program has been conducted on 29th October in Sri Venkateswara Balakuteer 36 teams from 28 Schools participated in the program. Teachers and parents also accompanied their children.

i. Written round was conducted ii. Six teams were shortlisted for final.

Because of the tough tie we have given two second prizes.

Mementos, Cash prize of Rs 1000 and Rs 600/- and Rs 600/- along with books awarded to winners.

All participants were given young INTACH books. Co Convener A. Ravi Srinivas conducted the program as quiz master. All the participants were provided with snacks and lunch.



National Heritage Quiz program

Kadapa

Kadapa Chapter conducting a three day CBW – 2023 and providing opportunity for our representatives, i.e Dr. Gunisetty Srinivasulu & Mr. Bogala Konda Reddy. Kadapa conducted INTACH orientation for our INTACH family members here by the above said trainers and the key points were shared.

Nandyal

1. The continues efforts of Sri Sethuraman, Additional Co-Convener & Communication Officer of Ahobilam and me (M.V. Sivakumarreddy, Convener of INTACH, Nandyal Chapter) given result and received the Best Rural Tourism Project Award from the Hon'ble minister of Tourism, A.P state Smt. Roja Selvamani on 27th September on the occasion of World Tourism day.

2. Nandyal Chapter taken an initiation in conducting a Workshop on Indian Heritage and Role of Nandyal district and invited Sri K.K. Muhammad Retd Regional Director of Archeology Survey of India and Sri M. Pandurang Rao Retd. Professor NIT WARANGAL, Telangana state and Sri SVS. Laxminarayana Garu Co- Convener of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states and conducted on 8th October, Sunday at Nandyal in Which all the members of Nandyal Chapter and History teachers of various schools and Colleges attended the Workshop.

3. With the divine blessings of Ahobila Narasimha and HH 46thPeethadhipathi of Sri Ahobila Math Today I had received the Best Rural Tourism Village award for Ahobilam(only village selected) from Smt Roja, Hon'ble Minister for Tourism, Culture and Youth empowerment, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. My sincere thanks to Shri Kanna babu IAS Garu , Smt Nishanthi IAS , Shri . Mal Reddy Garu, Shri Satyanarayana DTO, Sri Gopal Asst. Tourism officer. I also pay my sincere Thanks to Sri M.V.Siva Kumar Reddy, INTACH Nandyal Convener.

We both presented the potential of AHOBILAM to Tourism authorities on 28th June at Vijayawada and met the CEO. As a result, out of 72 villages identified the AHOBILAM as a Best Rural Tourism Village by state government. Along with Sethu Raman going to receive award in Vijayawada.



Best Rural Tourism Project Award



Workshop on Indian Heritage and Role

Arunachal Pradesh

Inauguration of INTACH Arunachal Pradesh Chapter

INTACH was able to further extend its network in the northeast of India and commence a Chapter in Arunachal Pradesh, a land of diverse tribes and oral cultures. The communities here have unique and distinct traditions manifested in numerous indigenous knowledge systems, dance forms, arts and crafts, food and traditional agricultural systems, and festivals. To document and preserve this diversity is a great challenge for INTACH, as it is mostly undocumented and unprotected. The Arunachal Chapter was formed on 07 Sep 2022 and was formally inaugurated by the State Education & Cultural Affairs Minister Er. Taba Tedir, on 02 Dec 2023, in a special function at the State Museum in Itanagar. In his inaugural address, the Hon'ble Minister stated that the State Government is keen to work towards the preservation, promotion and documentation of the rich cultural heritage of various tribes of the state and to develop a comprehensive cultural policy towards achieving this goal.

While expressing his happiness at the inauguration of the INTACH Arunachal Chapter, the Minister said the government is taking numerous steps to undertake comprehensive documentation of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of its major tribes. He informed that in order to preserve the local dialects, the government has introduced dialects of twelve tribes as the third language in schools up to class 8, and urged the INTACH to take steps to help preserve those dialects which are on the verge of extinction.

Shri Tedir also mentioned that all necessary support has been provided to include the Thembang village in West Kameng district and Apatani Cultural Landscape, Ziro, in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites inscription. He added that many more sites including Bhalukpong Fort, Tameshwari Temple at Paya and Bhismak Nagar are in the offing to get enlisted in the World Heritage Sites list.

The Director Chapters, Gp Capt Arvind Shukla (Retd), in his opening remarks, informed that the INTACH was set up in 1984 as India's premier heritage conservation organization, dedicated to conserve the environment, to revitalize India's tangible and intangible heritage, besides fostering awareness and appreciation of its vast multifaceted cultural heritage.

He expressed the need to strengthen the chapter inaugurated in the State through collaboration with various stakeholders for comprehensive documentation of oral traditions, cultural motifs and art forms, culturally significant sites, raising awareness among people on cultural conservation through outreach programmes, and for promotion of the state's diverse cultural heritage.

Giving an overview of INTACH activities specifically in the northeast, Ms Nerupama Y. Modwel, Principal Director, Intangible Cultural Heritage, highlighted the works and projects taken up in the last decade in research, mapping and promotion of the intangible and tangible heritage of the region.

While introducing the INTACH's objectives, she divulged the organization's plans to work in the State of Arunachal Pradesh through a comprehensive roadmap to take up viable projects to conserve the state's diverse cultural heritage. These could include helping the state to create people's museums and community spaces, undertake comprehensive cultural mapping and nurturing of community knowledge through documentation of oral traditions, arts & crafts, rituals, customs, food-ways and traditional agricultural knowledge, in order to create an ongoing archive of community knowledge, besides creating a resource for educational purposes.

The INTACH State Convener, Shri Oken Tayeng, said that since culture is the foundation of every society, the Arunachal Chapter would work as a bridge between the State and INTACH towards preserving and promoting the state's heritage.

Among others, the inaugural programme was attended by Padamshree YD Thongchi, Padamshree Dr Mamang Dai, Dr Sarit Chaudhuri, Dean, Social Sciences, Rajiv Gandhi University, Shri Kanggo Tayeng, Director, Research, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Shri Onyok Pertin, Director, IPR, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, and other officials from the state's Research department.



From Left to Right: Shri Kanggo Tayeng, Shri Oken Tayeng, Chief Guest Er. Taba Tedir, Ms Nerupama Y. Modwel, Gp Capt Arvind Shukla(Retd)



Shri Oken Tayeng lights the lamp while the Chief Guest, Er. Taba Tedir, looks on



From Left to Right: Dr Sarit Chaudhuri, Gp Capt Arvind Shukla, Ms Nerupama Y. Modwel, Shri Oken Tayeng

Assam

Kamrup

A program was organized to celebrate the World Tourism Day on 27th September 2023 by the Yuva Tourism Club, Office of the Director of Students' Welfare, and Department of Archaeology, Cotton University in association with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, Kamrup Chapter at the Conference Hall 311, MCB Building, Cotton University. The program was inaugurated by Honorable Vice Chancellor of Cotton University Professor Ramesh Chandra Deka. The program was attended by the Registrar of Cotton University Dr. Arindam Garg; Director, Student's Welfare Dr. Prasant Sarma; Professor Shiela Bora, Adjunct Professor of the Department of Archaeology, Cotton University; Adviser to the Department of History, The Assam Royal Global University and Former HoD, Department of History, Dibrugarh University and Convener, Assam Chapter of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage; Dr. Jonali Devi, Former Dean (i/c), Faculty of Human and Social Sciences and former Head, Department of Anthropology, Cotton University and Co-Convener, Kamrup Chapter of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage; Dr. Narayan Sarma, Department of Environment Biology and Wildlife Sciences and HoDs and faculty members of various departments and students.

Coordinated by Dr. Manjil Hazarika of Yuva Tourism Club and HoD (i/c), Department of Archaeology of Cotton University and Convener, Kamrup Chapter of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, the program was organized as part of the mission of United Nations World Tourism Organisation to raise awareness on the role of tourism within the international community and to demonstrate how it affects social, cultural, political and economic values worldwide. The prime objective of the theme for this year “Tourism and Green Investments” has been to highlight the need for more and better-targeted investments for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

One of the major agendas of this year’s theme is to invest in education and skills in the tourism sector. This is also a basic feature of the New Education Policy 2020 to have skills in the education and curriculum. The tourism and hospitality sector is one of the leading industries for countries like India where thousands of skilled human resources are required for a steady economic growth. Considering the theme of “Tourism and Green Investments”, two eminent speakers who are involved in many important initiatives linking nature, ecology, culture, heritage and tourism were invited to speak at the event, namely Prof. Shiela Bora and Dr. Narayan Sarma.

The event ended with a screening of the National Award-winning filmmaker Kripal Kalita's latest documentary film *Hati Bondhu* (Friends of Elephants).



Celebration of World Tourism Day 2023

Bihar

Nawada

Nawada Chapter was established on 29th Sept. 2023.

INTACH Nawada Chapter organized Virasat Bachao Yatra:- Virasat Bachao Yatra organized jointly by INTACH Nawada Chapter and Narada Museum, Nawada, on the 26 November 2023 at 9:00 am. Commencing from Narada Museum, Nawada, and culminating at Digambar Jain Temple, this event witnessed active participation from INTACH members, local citizens, and school children.



Virasat Bachao Yatra

presented by Dr. Shiv Kumar Mishra, Museum Head of Narada Museum. In the next phase, awareness programs to save natural and cultural heritage will be organized in ancient sites like Apsadh, Parvati Pahad, Devangarh, Sitamarhi as well as in various educational institutions.

During the inauguration, Mr. Bachchan Kumar Pandey, Convener, Nawada INTACH Chapter emphasized the urgent need to preserve Nawada's rich heritage. He underscored the significance of safeguarding heritage elements such as ancient wells, ponds, rivers, temples, trees, and traditions. Preserving these elements ensures that future generations can envision and appreciate our historical legacy.

Addressing the Virasat Yatra, the detailed outline of the Save Heritage Program was

Purnea



INTACH Purnea Chapter organized the City Level Round of INTACH India Heritage Quiz 2023 on 23rd September (Saturday) between 2:00-7:00 PM at Ravibansh Narayan Mishra Memorial Auditorium, Vidya Vihar Residential School (VVRS), Parora, Purnea. Before that the chapter conducted School Level Preliminary Test at different schools of Purnea involving hundreds of students. The event was advertised widely. INTACH Purnea Chapter team tried to reach out to schools personally as far as possible. The famous quiz master and motivational speaker Arindam Bhattacharya was

hired to conduct the quiz and give a national level exposure to children in Purnea city. Altogether 89 teams participated representing sixteen schools of Purnea. All the participants were seated in auditorium. The programme began by lighting the lamp and a welcome speech by Dr Raman Kumar Soni (Addl. Co-Convener, INTACH Purnea Chapter). Thereafter, a video on INTACH and PPT on INTACH Purnea Chapter were shown to the participants. First of all a written test was held. The question paper consisted of 20 questions involving questions on national, state and local heritage as well as on INTACH. The six best performing teams were given entry for stage round. These were Team Ganga, Team Kosi, Team Saura, Team Kamla, Bagmati and Team Mahananda.



A National Level Heritage Quiz

The Stage Round involved several rounds of intense quizzing. The Team Mahananda representing Vidya Vihar Residential School, Parora, Purnea and consisting of Navneet Prakash and Shahil Ranjan stood first and was declared the Purnea City Level Round champion. They will represent Purnea at Bihar State Level Round of INTACH India Heritage Quiz. The list of teams according to the position secured is given below.



State Level Round of INTACH India Heritage Quiz

List of winning teams in sequence of position secured

SL NO	STUDENT NAME	TEAM NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL
1.	Navneet Prakash	Mahananda	1	Vidya Vihar Residential School, Parora
	Shahil Ranjan	Mahananda	1	Vidya Vihar Residential School, Parora
2.	Nikhil Raj	Kamla	2	Vidya Vihar Residential School, Parora
	Pushkar Priyam	Kamla	2	Vidya Vihar Residential School, Parora
3.	Sahitya Mishra	Ganga	3	S. R. D.A.V Public School, Purnea
	Yashraj Singh	Ganga	3	S. R. D.A.V Public School, Purnea
4.	Aliya Shaikh	Kosi	4	DAPS, Purnea
	Fahim Akhtar	Kosi	4	DAPS, Purnea
5.	Priyadarshini Kumari	Bagmati	5	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Gadhbaneli
	Shipy Kumari	Bagmati	5	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Gadhbaneli
6.	Utkrisht Kumar Verma	Saura	6	S. R. D.A.V Public School, Purnea
	Sushant Kumar	Saura	6	S. R. D.A.V Public School, Purnea



All the six teams were awarded trophies and medals. The participants and guests were served refreshments in between. The quiz master, dignitaries and guests were felicitated. The whole quiz exercise was organized successfully under the guidance of INTACH head office; HECS and Chapters Divisions; Patron of INTACH Purnea Chapter, Shri Ramesh Chandra Mishra; Convener and Co-Convener of INTACH Purnea Chapter, Er. Rajesh Chandra Mishra and Amit Kumar Jha respectively. Dr. Raman (Addl. Co-Convener, INTACH Purnea Chapter) was the event coordinator. He managed the event and gave vote of thanks at the end. The help and cooperation from management and staff members of Vidya Vihar Residential School was praiseworthy.

The participants learnt a lot out of the event. Everybody vowed to prepare better for the next year quiz event and also work for the preservation and conservation of their heritage. They were happy at getting good exposure at city level round. The winning team (VVRS, Parora, Purnea) vowed to do well at Bihar State Level Round of INTACH India Heritage Quiz 2023 as well. They gave the credit to their quiz trainer Mr. Bishal for their success. The heads of different school and teacher coordinators expressed happiness at the awareness the whole exercise created about the heritage. They also thanked for the very warm hospitality received.

Chhattisgarh

1. A Painting & Drawing Workshop on endangered artefacts of Bastar was organized for school students in Rajnandgaon Chapter, Chhattisgarh on 14th and 15th December in which 40 students from different schools participated. The instructor of this workshop, Mr. Arun Halder, a renowned artist, explained the nuances of painting to the children. There was special support from the Lions Club. Shri Anand Varghese Convener, Rajnandgaon and Co-Convener Shri Dushyant Das invited the distinguished citizens of the area. On this occasion, Senior Advocate Mr. Amalendu Hazra informed about the activities of Shivnath Development Committee for the development & conservation of Shivnath River in this area and drew the attention of INTACH for this heritage. Chief Guest of the program Mr. Arvind Mishra described the activities of INTACH in detail. He appealed to the citizens for the wide possibilities of development of heritage of Rajnandgaon.

Expressed gratitude for the interest of teachers, students, and citizens towards endangered artifacts in the event. The program was graced by the presence of Mr. Khandelwal, the President of the Lions Club, who presided over the event. Vote of thanks was expressed by convener Shri Anand Varghese.



A Painting & Drawing Workshop on endangered artefacts of Bastar

2. Under the able guidance of Shri Arvind Mishra, State Convener, INTACH Chhattisgarh Chapter, a "Heritage Walk" to *Shishupal* Mountain was organized by INTACH Sarangarh-Raigarh Chapter in collaboration with the Chhattisgarh State Chapter on Sunday, 8th October, 2023. Under the leadership of Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, 30 teachers from the area enthusiastically participated in this heritage walk to *Shishupal* Mountain. This event not only allowed the teachers to experience the picturesque beauty of nature but also enlightened them about the historical significance of *Shishupal* Mountain.

Shishupal Mountain holds a special place for those who appreciate natural beauty, adventure, and trekking, and it also has a compelling historical story associated with self-respect. This majestic mountain is situated in the eastern direction, approx. 157 km from the capital city, Raipur, and about 28 km from the Saraipali block headquarters in Mahasamund district.

Our guide, Vinod shared the history of this mountain, revealing that it was once home to the palace of King *Shishupala* atop this 1200-foot-high mountain of great historical importance. When the king found himself surrounded by the British from all sides, he blindfolded his horse and made a daring leap from the mountain, an event known as *Ghoradhar*. At the summit of this mountain lies a vast plain and the ancient *Suryamukhi* Shiva Temple, a center of public faith. Notably, grand fairs are organized here during *Makar Sankranti* and *Mahashivratri*. At the foothills of the mountain, there is also a temple dedicated to *Mahamaya Mata*, which all the teachers visited and paid their respects.

During this heritage trip, the teachers had the opportunity to observe numerous herbs and plants with valuable medicinal properties, including *asparagus* and *ashwagandha*. A seasonal waterfall, *Ghoradhar* falls, cascades from a height of approx. 300 meters during rainy days, provided everyone with the chance to take a refreshing bath and enjoy this natural wonder. To preserve the beauty of nature, a collective cleanliness campaign was conducted, with the removal of polythene, bottles, wrappers, and other waste.

The participants also relished a trek through this captivating hill range and gained a deeper appreciation for its heritage. *Shishupal* Mountain is also locally known as *Budha Dongar*, with "*Dongar*" signifying "mountain" in Chhattisgarhi. The mountain spans an area of around 10 km and its highest peak, *Kshemakhuti*, looks like a silver crown from a distance. The challenging climb and scattered rocks at some points added an adventurous element to the trip.

King *Shishupal*, who once ruled this region, had two queens, each with her own lake that still exists today. The ruins of the King's Court, where he used to meet his people, are still visible. There is also a long tunnel, though it is now blocked by river sand. Local residents believe that the King's weapons are still stored in the armory within the tunnel. The mountain boasts a remarkably spacious cave where hundreds of people can gather, as well as a *Panchmukhi Hanuman* temple.

All the participants of this heritage tour learned and shared their experiences, with the event receiving high praise for its unforgettable nature. In the end, Convener, Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary expressed gratitude to everyone who supported and contributed to the success of this program. Notable mentions go to life member of INTACH Vishwajit Gupta, Pushpanjali Choudhary, Keshav Sahu, Co-convener Radheshyam Choudhary, and others who played key roles in making this program a success.



INTACH Chhattisgarh Chapter, a "Heritage Walk" to Shishupal Mountain was organized by INTACH Sarangarh-Raigarh Chapter in collaboration with the Chhattisgarh State Chapter

Saraipali

To commemorate World Heritage Week, INTACH Saraipali Chapter organized a lecture titled "Architecture of Temples in Chhattisgarh" at the Lakshminarayan Mandir (Satsang Bhawan) in Saraipali. This event held significant importance as it marked the first time a program focusing on temple conservation was conducted, drawing people's commitment to preserving temples through informative lectures held at a prominent temple site.

Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary, Convener, INTACH Saraipali Chapter, highlighted the program's significance, acknowledging the invaluable support and coordination from Vishwajit Gupta, a lifelong member of INTACH and a dedicated social worker. The main speaker at this special lecture was Mrs. Shivi Joshi, a renowned architect, heritage conservation expert, and president of the Heritage Conservation Committee in Raipur. Mrs. Joshi provided comprehensive insights into the architectural styles of temples not only in Chhattisgarh but also across other states. Arvind Mishra, Convener, INTACH Chhattisgarh State Chapter, who presided over the event, was impressed by Saraipali citizens' awareness and deliberated on the extensive possibilities for INTACH's initiatives in the region.

The inauguration saw the presence of Jayanarayan Gupta, a senior social worker, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He presented a self-authored short Ramayana book and a memento to the guests. Daulal Chandrakar, Convener, INTACH Mahasamund Chapter and a special guest, emphasized the collective effort required for heritage conservation and the urgency to protect vanishing arts. He underscored the significance of preserving heritage to elevate the region's glory and pledged support to serve Saraipali, commending the event.

In addition, special guests, including senior litterateur Bagbahra and proficient stage operator Rupesh Tiwari presented a beautiful recital of a Chhattisgarhi song, "*Aye Ga Jawaiya Sun Tor Taharav Kahan Hai, Shahriya Chakachaundh Ma Tor Gaon Kahan Hai.*" This poignant poetry added charm to the event. Rajeshwar Khare, a senior litterateur and Convener, INTACH Mahasamund Chapter, along with Sunil Baghel, a retired joint director (Industry), graced the occasion as special guests, enhancing the program's stature.

The event aimed to acquaint attendees with the rich cultural heritage associated with temples. Saraipali Chapter Convenor Yashwant Kumar Choudhary conducted the program, while Sanjay Sharma, a passionate advocate for heritage conservation, delivered the welcome address. Yashwant Kumar Choudhary expressed vote of thanks on behalf of INTACH for everyone's participation.

The program garnered the attendance of enlightened city dwellers who were welcomed with towels (Gamchha) by the INTACH Chapter. All guests were honored with Bell Metal mementos, reflecting Bastar Art.

Among the attendees were Chapter Co-Convener Radheshyam Choudhary, social worker/businessman Sanjay Sharma, social worker Kamta Patel, educationist/lecturer Dr. Anil Kumar Pradhan, journalist Saurabh Goyal, INTACH life member Pushpanjali Choudhary, social activist Vivek Sharma, businessman Rajesh Mittal, teacher Radha Sharma, CAC Girdhari Lal Patel, lecturer Prakash Kumar Thethwar, teacher Jyoti Kumar Thethwar, Vinod Kumar Chaudhary, teachers Neetu Panigrahi, Seena Sahu, Vandita Bohidar, Minati Panigrahi, Durgesh Sahu, Aryan Chaudhary, Ayansh Chaudhary, Rashmi Raja, Vishikesh Nairoji, Shyamsundar Das, Mahesh Nayak, Pradeep Narayan Seth, Vandana Panwa, Girdhari Panwa, etc.

Participants availed themselves of the opportunity to explore the Lakshminarayan Temple, located at the city's heart, and were delighted to learn about its unique attributes. The program enlightened heritage enthusiasts about the Nagar, Dravida, and Besar architectural styles employed in temple construction. Detailed insights into the significance of elements such as Shikhar, sanctum sanctorum, Kalash, Gopuram, Rath, Urushringa, Mandap, Jagati, Shuknas, etc., were provided, enhancing awareness about temple architecture. Attendees expressed a transformed attitude towards temples and pledged wholehearted contributions to temple conservation efforts."



Hosted a lecture titled "Architecture of Temples in Chhattisgarh" at the Shri Lakshmi Narayan Temple premises

Cleanliness drive was conducted by INTACH team under *Swachhta Hi Seva*.

On 01/10/2023, the INTACH Sarangarh Raigarh Chapter, in collaboration with its members, school children, NCC cadets, and the general public, organized a "Shramdaan" program as part of the "Swachhta Hi Seva" drive.

This program aimed to promote cleanliness and community service through a collective effort. The INTACH team actively participated in this nationwide cleanliness campaign by volunteering their time and efforts in cleaning the Adarsh Seges School campus and the surrounding areas of the NPP in Saraipali. The program was led by Convener Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary, and it was an honor to have Shri Pradeep Gupta, representing the Education Department and MLA, as the Chief Guest. During his address, Pradeep Gupta emphasized the importance of everyone's participation in the cleanliness campaign. He stressed the need to instill cleanliness in our daily lives, starting with individual hygiene and extending to the cleanliness of community areas. He commended the large number of people who enthusiastically contributed to this cleanliness drive, describing it as exemplary. Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary called upon everyone to actively engage in creating a clean, green, and eco-friendly environment within their ward. Lata Sahu delivered a message on the significance of cleanliness, highlighting the importance of taking the first step towards a cleaner environment. In various wards, an awareness campaign was conducted, with community members using brooms, shovels, buckets, and dustbins. Students also participated by carrying cleanliness slogans and placards, creating an atmosphere of awareness and emphasizing the importance of cleanliness. The Chief Guest administered a cleanliness oath to all, encouraging a collective commitment to cleanliness. Outstanding cleanliness ambassadors were recognized and motivated for their exceptional efforts in promoting cleanliness. The program was efficiently conducted and concluded with a vote of thanks by Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary.





Cleanliness drive was conducted by INTACH team under Swachhta Hi Seva

Organizing of Rangoli Competition on the theme "Significance of Trees and Plants in Chhattisgarhi Folk Culture" in the Saraipali region.

INTACH Sarangarh Raigarh Chapter, under the able guidance of Chhattisgarh State Convener Mr. Arvind Mishra and State Secretary Mr. Rajendra Chandak, organized a Rangoli Competition on the theme "Importance of trees/plants in Chhattisgarhi folk culture" in the Saraipali region. The event took place at the Government Higher Secondary School, Birkol located adjacent to the Gomarda Sanctuary within the Saraipali development block, on the 09.10. 2023. The competition was held under the leadership of Chapter Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, with 76 students participating. During various activities, including *Tulsi Puja*, *Amla Puja*, *Vat Savitri*, and *Sugarcane Puja*, the students highlighted the cultural significance of trees and plants in Chhattisgarh's heritage. They also educated people about nature conservation and promotion through Rangoli art. Through discussions with their parents, elders, and resource persons, the students made a meaningful effort to enhance the cultural values associated with their region. The success of the program was greatly supported by the school's head, teachers, Co-Convener and life members of INTACH. Chapter Convener Yashwant Kumar Choudhary acknowledged the top ten talented Rangoli artists, encouraging them to continue preserving and promoting Chhattisgarh's folk culture. The program was managed by Co-Convener Radheshyam Choudhary, and the vote of thanks was presented by Mrs. Pushpanjali Choudhary, a life member of INTACH.



Rangoli Competition on the theme "Significance of Trees and Plants in Chhattisgarhi Folk Culture" in the Saraipali region

Lecture organized on World Tourism Day

On the occasion of World Tourism Day on the 27.09.2023, the INTACH Sarangarh-Raigarh Chapter organized a lecture in Saraipali. The lecture featured Shri K.R. Choudhary, a well-known educator and environmental enthusiast in the area, who provided comprehensive information about tourist destinations and their significance while emphasizing the role of tourism in personal development. Approximately 250 students and teachers benefited from this program. Similarly, Shri Sankarshan Patel, an eco-tourism enthusiast, highlighted the various types of trees and plants and their importance in the realm of tourism. INTACH Sarangarh Raigarh Chapter Convener, Yashwant Kumar Chaudhary shed light on tourism by discussing the available tourist destinations and possibilities under the Chapter's purview. He also emphasized the development of tourism and its impact on cultural and ethical values. The lecture was effectively conducted by Pushpanjali Chaudhary, a Life Member of INTACH, and the vote of thanks was presented by the Life Member Keshav Prasad Sah.

Yashwant Kumar Choudhary, Convener, INTACH Sarangarh-Raigarh Chapter, along with Co-Convener Mr. Radheshyam Choudhary, life member Mrs. Pushpanjali Choudhary, Mr. Keshavprasad Sahu, and college students Lata, Usha, and Kamesh, joined by nature conservation enthusiasts, experienced the Baster Dussehra festival. The team embarked on a journey to witness various cultural and natural landmarks.

They visited the Ganesh idol in Barsoor, explored the uncle-nephew temple, took a boat ride at Chitrakote waterfall, bathed in the river, and learned about its significance. The team also had the opportunity to visit and pay homage at Danteshwari Mata temple in Dantewada, participating in rituals, offering prayers, contributing to water distribution, maintaining queues, and engaging in cleanliness activities. They witnessed the ritualistic departure of Mata Mavli's palanquin from Mata Darbar Danteshwari in Dantewada to Jagdalpur.

The team encountered the natural wonders of Tirathgarh falls, admiring the breathtaking waterfall while descending the stairs. They explored Kanger Valley National Park, including Kotamsar Cave, Kailash Cave, Dalpat Sagar in Jagdalpur, Tamra Ghoomar Falls, Keshkal Valley, Rajmahal in Jagdalpur, Danteshwari Temple in Jagdalpur, Gangrel Dam in Dhamtari, Angarmoti Temple, learning about their historical significance, heritage, and spending quality time to appreciate their beauty.

Local guide Ganesh Tiwari provided valuable information about these heritage sites. The team also raised awareness about INTACH's activities among prominent individuals, urging them to consider joining the organization. Overall, this trip was a significant learning experience for both the team and myself, providing valuable insights that will guide our future activities.

Mahasamund



Hosted a lecture titled "Pond Our Heritage."

Mahasamund Chapter hosted a lecture titled "Pond Our Heritage." What made this program unique was the stage set up on the pond's bank. Renowned heritage conservation expert, Mrs. Shivi Joshi, provided detailed insights into pond conservation and water preservation. Convener Shri Daulal Chandrakar with his hard work beautified the ponds and elaborated them. State Convener Mr. Arvind Mishra shed light on the ancient traditions associated with the ponds. Co-convener Mr. Rajeshwar Khare rallied citizens for this cause. The Chief Executive Officer of the District Panchayat discussed government initiatives, and the Chief Guest was Shri Magaluram Dhivar, President of the Matsya Sangh. The event was led by Mr. Arun Tiwari and witnessed a significant turnout of students and local residents.

Raipur

1. Shri Rajendra Chandak, Convener, INTACH Raipur Chapter met Shri Bhupesh Baghel Hon. Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh. He presented him a book under the title Bhoramdeo Kshetra and summary publication of Jhenjhari. On this occasion Shri Ravi Shrivastava, Life member of INTACH was also present.

2. On Gandhiji's call, many women came out of their homes and participated in the freedom movement.

Recently, a lecture program was organized by INTACH, Raipur Chapter in collaboration with Mayaram Surjan Foundation. Senior journalist and thinker Arvind Mohan, resident of New Delhi, gave a lecture on the topic 'Mahatma's Women Power'. The program was presided over by Ishwar Singh Dost, President, Sahitya Akademi, Chhattisgarh Culture Council. Senior poet, litterateur and satirist of the region Ravi Srivastava conducted the program.

Arvind Mohan, in his concise address on this occasion, underlined the context of Gandhi and women with many incidents and examples. He said that Gandhiji worked among farmers and women in Champaran and also invited his wife Kasturba Gandhi. He also made a significant effort to bring women out of their homes. The effect of this was that today 50 percent of the panchayats in Bihar are women. Women win in large numbers even on general seats. According to him, in the Congress conference of 1922, men and women used to sit separately and there was a curtain between them. To remove this practice, he inspired women to protest. Twenty-five thousand women were jailed in the Salt Satyagraha of 1931. Women took active part in the freedom movement and became more vocal. On Gandhiji's call, thousands of women left their veils and stepped out of their homes. In his statement he hoped that women would come forward for the betterment of the country and society.

Ishwar Singh Dost, who presided over the program, said in his address that Gandhi is no longer a picture but a symbol of ideas. Today Gandhi is a movement. On this occasion, before the program, Deepak Gunwant Vyas and Pradeep Chaubey presented Nirgun Bhajan.

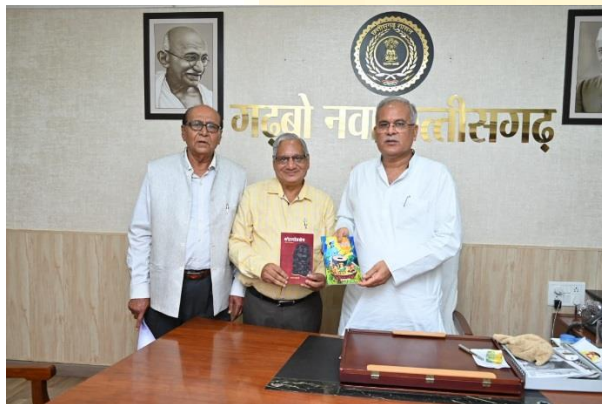
3. Sarva Dharma Sarva Bhasha Bhajan Sandhya

INTACH, Raipur Chapter along with Bhatkhande Lalit Kala Shiksha Samiti organized Sarva Dharma Sarva Bhasha Bhajan Sandhya on Gandhi Jayanti 02 October. The objective of this program was to bring all religions and languages on one platform in accordance with the principles of Gandhiji. Innerwheel Club of Raipur supported the program.

In the program, under the guidance of INTACH life member Sandhya Dubey and Kumud Lad, students of Lakshminarayan Kanya Uma Vidyalaya and musicians of Kamala Devi Music College performed. The Chief Guest of the program was life member of INTACH and senior poet and litterateur Ravi Srivastava. In his address, he said that in today's time, the presentations given by these artists are very important. Such events are rarely seen. This program will help in spreading Gandhiji's message to the people. He congratulated to the event organizer and artists.

The list of artists who performed in the Bhajan evening is attached. The accompanists were Dr. Shriram Murthy and Prabha Sindhu Son on harmonium, Ullas Thakur & B Sharad on tabla and Karthik on violin. The program started with Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram and ended with Vaishnav Jan To Tene Kahiye. Certificates were given to all the participants.

This program was coordinated by the city's senior musician Deepak Gunwant Vyas. Arvind Mishra, Convener, INTACH, Chhattisgarh Chapter, expressed his gratitude.



Shri Rajendra Chandak, Convener met Shri Bhupesh Baghel Hon. Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Sarva Dharma Sarva Bhasha Bhajan Sandhya

Delhi

Heritage Walks : The Delhi Chapter organized regular heritage walks in the months of October, November & December 2023.

Screenshots of our walk poster reels:



A workshop organised by Delhi Chapter for HECS at St. James' Church which is recently Conserved by the Delhi Chapter and inaugurated.

Gujarat

Bhavnagar

The historic Darbari Kothar, had garbage strewn everywhere and was in a terrible state. INTACH Bhavnagar has done efforts to clean it and afterwards Kothar has been cleaned and a regular maintenance plan is being devised. This is the first step before making this a public friendly and accessible monument. We thank Jila Panchayat Pramukh, Bharat Sinh, for being cooperative, efficient and taking responsibility.

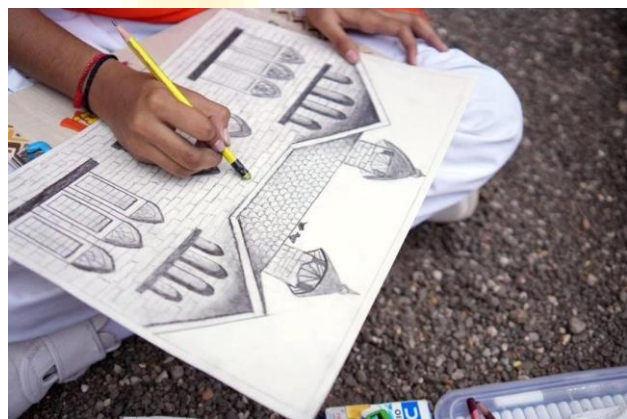


The historic Darbari Kothar

INTACH Bhavnagar organised a beach walk, led by Dr. Indra Gadhvi at Gopnath Beach. The immersive seashore walk included studying the biodiversity and marine life of the region and learning about the region's natural heritage

INTACH Bhavnagar celebrated National Handloom Day and Independence Day by leading an awareness walk celebrating India's rich and diverse cultural legacy.

The essay writing competition and drawing competition is a component of #beautifybarton, a project uniting diverse institutions in Bhavnagar. Our goal is to cultivate a community that cherishes its historical foundation while embracing aspirations for the future.



The essay writing competition and drawing competition



Short talk on a heritage walk

INTACH Bhavnagar, in collaboration with ParZor, hosted a short talk followed by a heritage walk. The discussion on Bhavnagar's Pari heritage took place at Nilambag Palace, followed by a visit to Parsiwada, where participants explored the old Dharamshala and the Agyari (fire temple) compound. The evening's explorations and discussions on the Parsi Heritage of Bhavnagar were a success. A special thanks to Kersi Debooji, Vice Chairperson of the National Minority Commission, for joining us, and INTACH Navsari Co-convenor Ruzbeh Umrigarji for orchestrating the event with the support of the ParZor Foundation.

INTACH Bhavnagar organised a guided heritage site tour to the Bhavnagar Railway Museum. The walkthrough was exclusively designed for INTACH school students to educate and engage the youngsters with the region's railway heritage.



Heritage site tour to the Bhavnagar Railway Museum

Bhavnagar chapter celebrated the 69th World Wildlife Week at Nilambag Palace with the theme "Partnerships for wildlife conservation." Students from different schools and Scout Guides Bhavnagar collaborated to raise awareness and commemorate the region's natural heritage.

The #beautify barton cleaning drive engaged diverse institutions and organisations that dedicated their time to maintain Barton Library. Volunteers diligently cleaned shelves and books, revitalizing dusty cabinets for a refreshed appearance.

INTACH Bhavnagar conducted a discourse on the necessity of preservation and methods for restoring monuments. Rajkumari Brijeshwari Kumari Gohil, the convener of the chapter, led this discussion. As part of the conversation, students were briefed on the Raj samadhi, and the ongoing retrofitting work at the site was elucidated.

INTACH Bhavnagar organised a celebration for World Heritage Week. Multiple engaging programs were scheduled for the weekend, and they were open to everyone at no cost.

-In celebration of World Heritage Week, INTACH Bhavnagar organized a temple walk led by Tirth Undaviya, exploring Bhavnagar's temples, their historic significance, architecture and engineering.

On 26/11/2023, INTACH Bhavnagar extended its tree signage initiative at Raj Samadhi, where Commissioner of Bhavnagar Upadhyay Sir, Princess Brijeshwari Kumari Gohil, Dr. Tejas Doshi, and Dr. Indra Gadhvi affixed two signages to heritage trees. These signages feature QR codes for anyone to scan and access information about the trees.



World Heritage Week



INTACH Bhavnagar extended its tree signage initiative at Raj Samadhi

The orchestra maestros from Bhavnagar delivered a performance at the historic monument Gangaderi.

Kalpan Salot, an architect and member of INTACH, has dedicated her efforts to the restoration of heritage homes. In the current year, she successfully completed the restoration project for a old residence in Bhavnagar, which boasts a rich heritage spanning over 80 years.

Rajkot

1. Rajkot Chapter is INTACH has organize the a Folk -musical sat ray vachan by Shabnam Virmani accompanied by Sreeparna Mitra on 29th Nov, 2023 at Acrolawns, kalawad Raod Rajkot Gujarat.

2. Heritage PhotoWalk in Rajkot: World Photography Day

On the occasion of World Photography Day; INTACH Rajkot Chapter and The Kala Collective group organized a unique heritage photo walk in the old city of Rajkot. The aim of Kala Collective Group is to develop a vibrant and thriving art and design community in the city of Rajkot.

The program was taken positively by the residents of Rajkot and around 75 heritage and photography enthusiasts from Rajkot and surrounding cities participated. Volunteers from INTACH Rajkot and the Kala Collective explored the city's old buildings, hidden alleys and stunning public art, capturing many amazing photos of Rajkot city's glorious history. The route of Heritage Walk started from Jubilee garden in Rajkot to Bedi Naka Tower near Aji River. Heritage places in this like Watson Museum, Connaught Hall, Lang Library, Navagraha Temple, Bandstand, Dharmendrasinhji Cloth Market, Lakhajiraj Vegetable Market, Danapith and its bird feeder, Junagadh no Utaro, Mochi Bazar, Raiya Naka Tower, Old Hunnar School, Soni Bazar, Durbargarh's Haveli and Bedi Naka Tower were included. Houses as old as 200 years were identified and its architecture was appreciated by the participants.

INTACH Rajkot Chapter members Bhavya Baldev, Nainesh Vaghela, Vedanshi Dholriya and Kala Collective members Manthan Sinroja, Smit Mehta, Naitik Trivedi, Samarth Mandaviya and Rutvik Faldu have contributed significantly to the organization of this program. An exhibition of photographs from this event will be held in the near future.

According to INTACH Rajkot Chapter Convener architect Riddhi Shah, 'This Heritage PhotoWalk is a small attempt to keep alive the cultural heritage of Rajkot'. Finally, an appeal is also made to the people of Rajkot from all the participants that 'This heritage is a living entity and we are its custodians. The responsibility of cleanliness and maintenance is ours as much of the government'.



Heritage PhotoWalk in Rajkot

3. 'Framing Our Roots' Heritage Photography Exhibition Unveiled at JamTower
INTACH Rajkot and The Kala Collectives' attempt to revive heritage precinct

As a unique step towards bringing awareness about the heritage in Rajkot City; Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural heritage (INTACH) Rajkot Chapter and The Kala Collective organized "Framing Our Roots"; a Heritage Photography Exhibition at the State protected Monument precinct of Jam Tower in Rajkot. While Jam Tower is getting ready for its restoration under the aegis of State Archaeology Department and recommendations by Shri Prabhav Joshi, the Collector and DM of Rajkot; this exhibition, titled 'Framing Our Roots' was planned as an example of revival of the heritage places in and around the city.

The heritage photography exhibition at Jam Tower was inaugurated by H.H. Thakore Saheb Shri Mandhattasinhji Jadeja from Rajkot Royal Family, Shri Dharmendra Mehta - the Director of Genius Group of Educational Institutions, and Shri Vikram Jain - the Director of Vikram Valves Pvt. Ltd. The dignitaries appreciated the efforts of the organizers and assured of the positive impact of the same on society.

The exhibition showcased a captivating collection of photographs that explored the essence of our cultural heritage and the beauty of Rajkot. This exhibition was the best example of the collaboration between INTACH Rajkot Chapter, The Kala Collective, Government of Gujarat's Directorate of Archaeology and Museums Rajkot Circle, Rajkot District Administration, Rajkot Municipal Corporation, and Sanatan Group of Developers based in Rajkot.

"Framing Our Roots" was a visual journey that celebrated the rich tapestry of cultures, traditions, buildings, and landscapes. This exhibition featured the works of amateur as well as talented photographers who had skillfully captured moments that connected human life to their heritage. The exhibition was an opportunity for art enthusiasts to engage with the artists and gain insights into their creative process. This three day exhibition was highly commended by all the dignitaries and visitors.



INTACH Rajkot's Collaboration with Rajkot Municipal Corporation

4. INTACH Rajkot's Collaboration with Rajkot Municipal Corporation

Protecting the heritage of the city

INTACH Rajkot Chapter members meet Rajkot Municipal Commissioner Shri. Anand Patel and Deputy Municipal Commissioner Shri Chetan Nandani and discuss the possibilities of collaboration for preserving the heritage of Rajkot City and developing a comprehensive heritage management plan. One of most important step discussed was to commence the restoration of Kishoresinhji School; a school where Mahatma Gandhi studied.

5. Sat Re Vachan: Songs of Kabir and other Mystics

Shabnam Virmani and Shreeparna Mitra

INTACH Rajkot Chapter successfully conducted a folk-musical 'Sat Re Vachan' by Shabnam Virmani and Shreeparna Mitra. The members of chapter were able to talk about INTACH'S initiatives about preserving heritage across the country, appreciate our intangible heritage of poetry, show Rajkot chapters work by an exhibition and launch Souvenirs on Rajkot Heritage. The event was attended by around 1500 people from and around Rajkot.

6. Preliminary Project Report on Restoration of Historic Bridges Submitted by INTACH Rajkot to Gondal Nagarpalika

We were invited to give our inputs/suggestions on the Restoration/Conservation of Historic Bridges at Gondal by Gondal Nagarpalika.

The chapter under the leadership of INTACH Member and Conservation Architect Ar. Rupesh Patel and Chapter Convener as well as Co-convener Ar. Riddhi Shah and Ar. Divyesh Parsana submitted a report containing the preliminary report containing

- archival research on the significance of these bridges
- need of systematic restoration and conservation
- architectural documentation of both bridges
- suggestive conditional analysis
- Recommendations on next steps and qualitative assessments needed

Documentation and Drawing preparation Team:

Dhruvit R., Dushyant P., Owais D., Parth K., Pranav D., Shivam L.

Vadodara

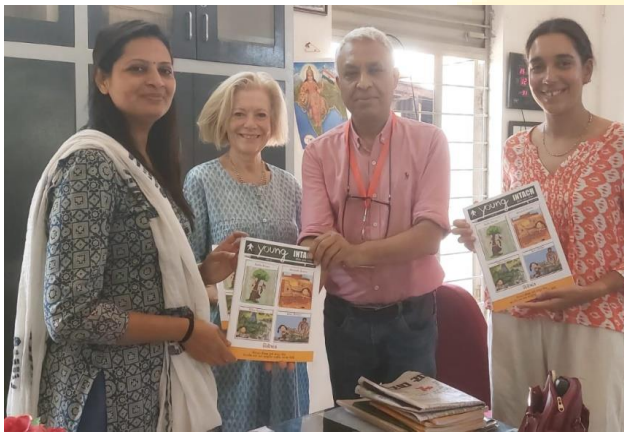
This quarter was more related to discussions and help to various institutions regarding built and Natural heritage. The quarter started with the State round of INTACH Indian national heritage quiz and it ended with the Thematic info map making initiative of INTACH Vadodara.

i. INTACH India Heritage Quiz State round

INTACH India Heritage Quiz Gujarat round was organized on at Vadodara for the first time. This was hosted by Bright Day School and 5 winning schools of various chapters of Vadodara participated with great energy. The quiz was conducted by co-convener Vadodara chapter Ms. Tarisha Desai. The winning team from Bright Day School CBSE Vasna Unit Vadodara; Dibyendu Sarkar & Ayush Kapoor will represent Vadodara for the National round and schools that stood on second and third position were respectively Global international School Ahmedabad and Sarvodaya School Rajkot. PadmaShri Subroto Das was the Chief Guest.



State round Finals



Handing over of Young INTACH at Asarma primary School

ii. Distribution of Young INTACH Book

INTACH Vadodara every year provides young INTACH books to all different city schools, surrounding rural are schools and try to distribute the same at such places so that we can create more awareness and inculcate interest of growing generations towards the Heritage. As part of it this year we handed over the book to Asarma Primary School.

iii. Visit to NAIR- NAIR - National

Academy of Indian Railways had invited Convener Vadodara chapter Shri Sanjeev Joshi to make a presentation on Urban Heritage of Vadodara. Which was successfully presented and was concluded with very enthusiastic and fruitful discussions regarding the issues related to Urban Heritage.



Visit for presentation at NAIR



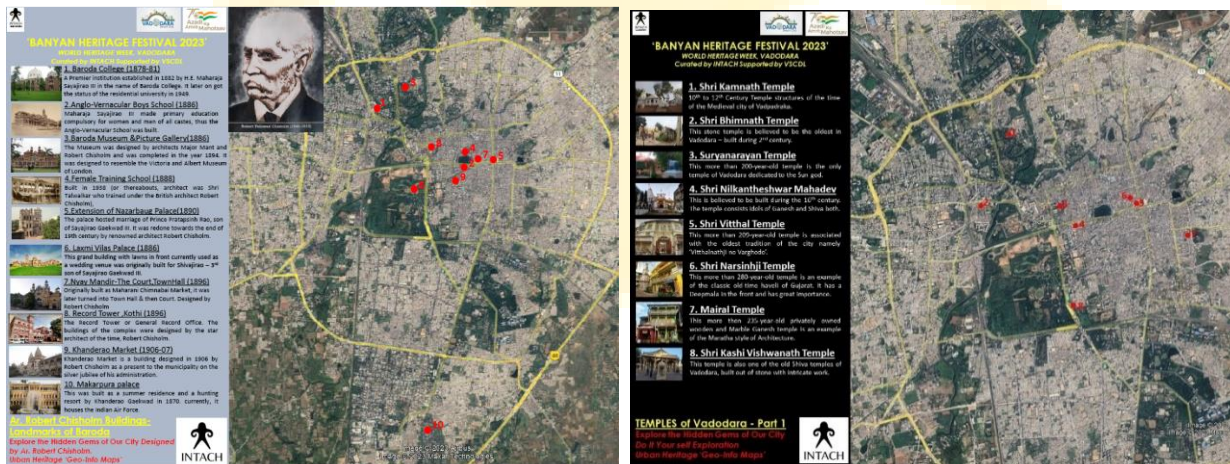
Round Table discussion at CSC Vadodara

iv. Discussion on River Vishwamitri

Community Science center of Vadodara had organized a national level round table discussion on Eco-sensitivity and holistic development of river Vishwamitri under the Vaho Vishwamitri campaign. Convener Vadodara chapter Shri Sanjeev Joshi was invited as a panelist for the discussion.

v. Infographic Map of Vadodara Initiative

Team INTACH Vadodara consistently try to create a platform where information related to the heritage of the city is easily available to the citizens. As part of this idea, during the heritage week in month of November team released various theme-based infographic maps which can help people to identify the heritage spots within the city and citizens can go and explore these places on their own.



Infographic Maps of Vadodara

Haryana

Ambala

'My Monument Search' - National Painting competition

INTACH Ambala Chapter conducted a mega National Painting Competition on 07 December 23 in the Arya Girls College. Dr Deshbandhu, a renowned educationist and social worker, as also President of the Punjab and Haryana SD Sabha, was the Chief Guest. Principal Anupama Arya was the guest of honour. The occasion was also graced by Dr Bharti Bandhu, Sister Shaily BK, sister Alka, noted artist Dr HS Purewal, Rotarian Prem Mahindru and his wife Seema, Principal Ritu Ghai, architect and INTACH member Ashok Sharma, Anita Godara, over 20 teachers, and our Co-Covenor Ms Reena.

The contest saw a record response – 117 children from 20 schools. The function started with a sweet gesture – with a girl student presenting a bouquet to the chief guest.

The children took keen interest in painting on the theme of 'My Monument Search'. They were required to make a poster, accompanied by 200 words write-up, on a lesser-known built heritage of their region. The guests went around and keenly watching the children making their posters. One could see them drawing Rani Ka Talab, Ambika Devi Mandir, Manji Sahib Gurdawara, Holy Redeemer Church, St Paul Church and many other heritage sites of Ambala and around. The children supported their paintings with a 200 words write-up on the same topic. The children were free to write in the language of their choice.

After the painting competition, Mrs Madhu Singh, member INTACH and a senior teacher from the DAV Riverside School, conducted a short on the spot quiz on the famous food joints and lesser-known heritage sites of our region. She made it very interesting and children enjoyed it. Even the teachers and guests participated enthusiastically. Chocolates were given to the winners.

Prizes were also presented to the teachers in-charge of active heritage clubs. These included Chaman Vatika Gurukul, GMN School, Army School, and the Air Force School.

Colonel R D Singh, Convener, briefed the audience on various heritage activities conducted by the Ambala Chapter, and thanked his INTACH team. Sister Shaily BK delivered a talk on importance of being a good human being first. A number of other speakers also shared their views. The Chief Guest complimented all the participants and their teachers. He also congratulated the Ambala Chapter for winning the Best Chapter award, consecutively for the last five years. At the end, the Convener gave a vote of thanks, and children along with their teachers were served refreshments. Every one departed happy and motivated.



'My Monument Search' - National Painting competition

Yamuna Nagar



*Dy. Director Dr. Banoni
Bhattacharya, Haryana state
Archaeology department
inspecting the ancient pottery
remains from Topra Kalan*

After the G-20 summit, New Delhi held on 8th - 9th September 2023 in which Hon. Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi in His opening address of summit had the words drawn from edicts on Ashoka pillar at Ferozeshah Kotla ground of Delhi. This pillar was formerly installed in village Topra Kalan of Block Radaur in District Yamunanagar (Haryana) 2300 years ago by Emperor Ashoka with his edicts over it.

After this event the villagers were very excited and along with Co-Convener Sidhartha Gauri they started collecting the ancient pottery remains and artifacts. A small trench was also dug to get more into history. In which pieces of painted grey ware were found. After these findings on 14th October

2023, Dr. Binani Bhattacharya, Deputy Director of the Haryana State Archaeology Department, Panchkula visited the village to investigate the ancient mound in the village.

She concluded that ancient pottery belongs to the late Harppan era.

Here she along with her team surveyed the entire village and found greater possibilities of early periods of human settlement.

INTACH, Head Office, New Delhi wrote the letter to the Director, Haryana State Archaeological department, Panchkula to conduct a Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey and Aerial Drone Survey of the entire village for new discovery of remains.

After the survey reports the location will be selected for the trenches for the excavations.

Himachal Pradesh

Kangra

NEWS OF KANGRA CHAPTER FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2023

1. Kangra Chapter continued its activities during the quarter October to December 2023. Plantation was done by the members of the Chapter.

2. The Convener Mr. L.N. Aggarwal gave a talk on "Geodiversity-new avenues in tourism." in the International Conference organised by Him Science Congress Himachal Pradesh at Banikhet, district Chamba on 14th October. Mr. Aggarwal was honoured by the organisers and was also presented a memento.



Convener planting a sapling



A memento was presented to Mr. Aggarwal for the talk on Geodiversity.

3. Rangoli making competition was organised in the Govt. High School Sidhbari Dharamshala. More than fifty students participated in the Diwali Festivities and were divided in different groups. Dr. Janmajay Singh Guleria, Principal of the school honoured the convener and an American research scholar who were invited in the school as judges.



Rangoli made by the students in the school by one of the groups

4. A meeting of the members of the Chapter was held to discuss various activities undertaken by the chapter and proposed future activities in the schools for the awareness on heritage. It was also proposed to take the students on heritage walk and educate them about the heritage monuments.

5. The convener attended the zoom meeting and interacted with the Chairman and the Director of the Chapter Division on various activities undertaken by the chapter on the 7th December 2023.

Mandi



Tree Plantation Programme

school students.

1. INTACH Mandi Chapter organized a tree plantation programme at Government Senior Secondary School for Girls during which 25 trees including Deodars and fruit bearing trees of Jamun and Amla were planted. The State Forest Department provided full cooperation by supplying plants and guidance at the time of plantation. School students showed a lot of interest and enthusiasm in the tree plantation programme and assured that they would take care of plants for their survival. Mandi Chapter Convener Naresh Malhotra said that more such programmes could be organized to involve

2. Mandi Chapter of INTACH has signed Memorandum of Understanding with Department of History, Sardar Patel University, Mandi to promote and support cultural and architectural heritage of this region. On behalf of Mandi Chapter the MOU was signed by Maalvika Pathania State Convener INTACH, Naresh Malhotra Mandi Convener and Anil Sharma Co-Convener. Pro- Vice Chancellor of Sardar Patel University, a Government University Prof. Anupama Singh, Head of History Department Dr. Rakesh Sharma and Dean Students Welfare Dr. Rajesh Sharma signed the MOU on behalf of the University. The MOU also envisages joint activities between the two organizations through participation at different levels and organization of joint events like seminars, workshops besides conducting cultural heritage research programmes.

Speaking on the occasion, Pro Vice Chancellor, Prof. Anupama Singh expressed confidence that the MOU would strengthen efforts of the two organizations in conserving the rich cultural heritage of this area. State Convener Maalvika Pathania welcomed the MOU and said it would help in speeding up the pace of conservation activities of Mandi region. Mandi Chapter Convener Naresh Malhotra said the Deptt. Of History of the university was always cooperative towards INTACH and this MOU will officially formalize our relationship and joint activities with the university.



Mandi Chapter of INTACH has signed MoU with Department of History, Sardar Patel University

Jammu & Kashmir

Jammu

Gandhian Centre organizes Rural Heritage Workshop at Udhampur Campus of JU

1. Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Jammu, organized a one-day Rural Heritage Workshop on 'Connecting with the Roots: Gandhian Vision.' The event was organized in collaboration with Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, Jammu Chapter and Udhampur Campus, University of Jammu. Indu Kanwal Chib, Director, Rural Livelihood Mission J&K was the chief guest for the inaugural session. In her address, she asked students to introspect as to what constitutes Gandhi and why it's important to embrace Gandhian vision in building sustainable societies. She also stressed upon the role of right kind of parenting in nurturing children. Retired IAS Hemant Sharma was the chief guest for the valedictory session. Stressing on the need to preserve our heritage, he shared his familiarity with unique rich cultural heritage of Udhampur from where he began his career. Earlier, the workshop began with welcome address by Prof Yash Pal Sharma, Rector Udhampur Campus. Dr Seema Rohmetra, Director Incharge, Gandhian Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies threw light on the need to go back to Gandhian vision in strengthening the villages, thereby making them self sufficient and self reliant in the present context.

S M Sahni, former Director Tourism, J&K and Convener INTACH, gave an overview of the aims and objectives of INTACH. In the technical session, three presentations were made.

Dr Lalit Gupta, former Faculty, Music & Fine Arts, shared his thoughts on 'Rural Heritage: Nature and Significance.' Kripal Singh, Life Member INTACH and an expert in Heritage Walks and Rural Intangible Heritage, spoke on 'Lifestyle of Rural Jammu: Intangible Heritage.'

Padamshri Shiv Nirmohi, succinctly shared about his writings with the students. Sharing about his first meeting with Mahatma Gandhi at the tender age of ten, he recalled what indelible mark it left on him. Anil Paba, Archaeologist and Additional Co-convenor INTACH, Sub Chapter Udhampur, led the students to Heritage Exhibition set up at Udhampur campus during the workshop and thus introducing them to the varied components of tangible heritage of Dogra culture including its dresses, weapons, paintings and other artifacts’.

Dr Sapna Sangra, former Chairperson SPIC MACAY J&K Chapter and faculty Sociology, JU, presented the detailed report of the workshop while Dr Taruna Dubey presented the formal vote of thanks. Dr Jyoti Sinha presented the welcome address in the valedictory session. Nearly hundred participants attended the workshop, who included students from the Udhampur Campus, GDC Boys, Bhartiya College of Education, Udhampur, Govt High School and Middle School, Garnai, women from Self Help Groups, Garani and other members from the community.

2. GDC Ramgarh holds workshop on heritage food, craft

INTACH, Jammu Chapter in collaboration with Government Degree College Ramgarh organized a one day workshop on heritage food and craft of Ramgarh, Samba in the college premises today. The event was organized under the guidance of Prof.(Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, Principal of the College. All the faculty members and a large number of students of the College participated in the event, the students of Government HSS Gho Brahmana and Government HS Swankha also participated in the workshop. At the outset, Prof. Risha Kumari, convener, College Cultural Committee, welcomed the team from INTACH and made the students aware about the purpose of the workshop. Prof.(Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, in her address said that the workshop is an initiative to mark awareness and importance of heritage food and craft of Ramgarh, Samba among the various stakeholders. Further she added that, there is a dire need to preserve our cultural ethos and heritage which represents the true essence of community.

The workshop was focused on local heritage food and crafts which involved sharing good practices and practical demonstrations by Kaarkhandar unit, Nanke Chak, Samba and Craft and Community Cell, INTACH. The students who participated from schools and college were given hand on training regarding making of straw items and Calico Printing, which was enthusiastically learnt. A group of students were mentored in preparing the recipe booklet of heritage foods of Ramgarh by Dr. Aditi Khajuria and Dr. Sandeep Kumari.

Dr. CM Seth, Chief Conservator Forests (retd) briefed the students about the role and importance of such cultural events, as they not only showcase the culture and heritage of the region but also contribute to safeguarding it for future generations.

He further stressed upon the broader relevance of such events, stating that they provide a forum for the preservation and dissemination of cultural traditions and inspire innovation and leadership among youth.

SM Sahni, convener, INTACH, Jammu Chapter highlighted the diversity of local Dogra cuisine and its importance in promoting tourism in the Jammu region. The vote of thanks was proposed by Arvind Kotwal, co-ordinator Heritage Tourism, Jammu Chapter.



GDC Ramgarh holds workshop on heritage food, craft

3. INTACH Jammu Chapter holds art workshop at KC public School

The Jammu Chapter of INTACH (Indian National Trusts for Arts & Cultural Heritage) organised an interactive workshop named “Discover Your Living Heritage” in the activity hall of KCPS on Tuesday. The workshop was attended by a large number of enthusiastic students of the school.

The distinguished members of INTACH Jammu Chapter, namely, Chief Guest Arvind Kotwal, JKAS (Retd.), SM Sahni, JKAS (Retd.), Convener, INTACH Jammu Chapter, Kripal Singh, Parola Art Expert (Former Art Curator, Dogra Art Museum, and Shivani Khajuria, miniature Painting Expert, were present on occasion.

The workshop commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp followed by an extremely erudite speech on Parola painting style of J&K by Kripal Singh, in which he brought forth salient features of the heritage of Jammu & Kashmir, especially in variegated arts forms such as miniature painting tradition of the Basohli School of Pahari Art.

He understood the need for and relevance of not only discovering the art heritage of J&K but also to sustain it by imbibing and putting into practice the entire range of its special techniques, forms and unique features.

Shivani Khajuria conducted the workshop for students by illustrating the styles of painting traditionally practiced in Jammu & Kashmir. She used a large white board to draw a sample of the Basohli School of miniature painting and punctuated it with comments on the special features of this school.

The workshop concluded with presentation of mementos to all the INTACH members present. In his thanks giving speech, Principal AK Mishra expressed his gratitude to the Jammu Chapter of the INTACH for conducting such for KCPS and hoped that similar workshop would become regular features of the interaction between INTACH and KC Public School.

Jharkhand

1. State Level Heritage Quiz Competition 2023

State level INTACH heritage quiz competition was concluded in In Delhi Public School, Ranchi on 22.11.2023. A total of four teams, winners of the city round **of Jharkhand's Jamshedpur Chapter, Ramgarh Chapter, Hazaribagh Chapter and Ranchi Chapter, participated in this competition.** The details are as follows-

S. No.	Name of School	Name of Students	Chapter	Remarks
1.	Jusco School kadma Address :Road no. 23, Farm Area, Kadma, Jamshedpur, 831005 Mail ID juscoschoolkadma@yahoo.com Mob : 6206429935	Abhinav kumar Pathak (M) abhinavkumarpathak.8c.roll2@gmail.com Mob:8235398797 Shaswat Bhushan(M) Shaswat357a@gmail.com 7903809738	Jamshedpur	Winner State level Quiz 2023 Jharkhand
2.	Sarla Birla public School , Ranchi	Nischay Ratan(M) Vaishnava Kashyap(M)	Ranchi	
3.	DAV Public School ,CCL NTS Barkakana	Mayank Dubey(M) Ashwini Kumar (M)	Ramgarh	
4.	DAV Public School, Hazaribagh	Shafali Haidar (F) Firdoush Shahin (F)	Hazaribagh	

While addressing the students present, Shri Amitava Ghosh told about what is heritage and also gave information about its conservation. He elaborated on How does INTACH work, What is Heritage Club, why Quiz, Poster exhibitions are held etc.

He also advised the children to spend time with their elders their memories, their customs, practices, cuisines because it is the elders who protect the heritage and pass it on to their generation. Children were also encouraged to write blogs and do podcasts based on their heritage. Along with providing information about natural, built, cultural, literary and other intangible and tangible heritage, they were also motivated to conserve that heritage. The students and the visiting school teachers were also greatly impressed by his words. Schools were advised to open Heritage Club in their schools so that heritage related information can be provided to the students in a more accurate and effective manner.

The competition was conducted by Mr. Amitava Ghosh, Co-Convener of INTACH Jharkhand Chapter. He explained the rules of the quiz to the students. The five rounds were of question and answer and in the sixth to eighth round students were shown pictures of Jharkhand's heritage and asked questions. On the basis of the scores of these rounds, Mr. Abhinav kumar Pathak and Mr. Shaswat Bhushan of Jusco School Kadma, Jamshedpur was declared winners. They were advised to book tickets to Delhi to participate in the national level competition to be held on 14th & 15th December '23.



State Level Heritage Quiz Competition 2023

Hazaribagh

1857 British cemetery in Chhatra.

We are thankful to the District Administration Chatra for very nicely renovating the Martyr's memorial graveyard in Chatra 80 miles from Hazaribagh for which the last British action took place in the winter on 1857 and Victoria Crosses were awarded for gallantry. INTACH Hazaribagh Chapter had been involved in seeking protection for the Monument.



*Before restoration
Chatra, British Graves*



After restoration

Jamshedpur

4 filmmakers of India-Bengal won Hrithik Medal

Four filmmakers from India and Bangladesh won the eleventh Hrithik Film Festival and Honor Medals.

On Saturday (4th November) Bengali filmmaker Hrithik Kumar Ghatak was honored on the occasion of 98th birth anniversary.

Hrithik Ghatak Film Society Rajshahi organizes a three-day festival this year (4-6 November) just like every year. Through this festival, the curtain of the Eleventh Hritik Honor Medal and Film Festival 2023 has been raised.

The three-day festival started with the Hritik Honor Medal and Hritik discussion at the premises of Pitra-Vita (Rajshahi Homeopathy Medical College and Hospital) in Miyaparaastha, Rajshahi city.

Hrithik Ghatak Film Society-Rajshahi has awarded the Hrithik Honor Medal to film and cultural personalities for special contribution in film and cultural arena since 2011. Filmmaker Tareq Masood (Post Posthumous), filmmaker Zaheer Rayhan (Posthumous), subcontinent's renowned fiction writer Hassan Azizul Haque, along with filmmaker Buddhadev Dasgupta (India) was awarded the 'Hritik Sammanana Medal' to 32 respected personalities from country and abroad.



India-Bengal won Hrithik Medal

Hrithik received Honor Medal-2020 this year at the festival, Bangladeshi film director, cinematographer, teacher and organizer Rakibul Hasan, film director and teacher Shamim Akhtar, Indian film activist Amitabh Ghosh and filmmaker, critic, activist, documentary filmmaker Madhu Janardan. Dr. President of Hrithik Ghatak Film Society Rajshahi. FMA Zahid presided over as chief guest, poet and educator Professor Ruhul Amin Pramanik.

Speakers said, the name of a rare talent in the Bengali film field is 'Hrithik Kumar Ghatak'. She is a bright star. He composed poems, essays, stories, songs and drama. Acted and directed the play. This talented film was screened in the field in 1950s. Her first movie 'Citizen'.

They said, this internationally famous Bengali filmmaker was born in Dhaka on 4 November 1925. Studied in Rajshahi Collegiate School and Rajshahi College. He lived permanently in Rajshahi along with his family. Rajshahi's Alupatti, Kumarpara, Ghoramara, Padma banks were the place of disaster.

While speaking about the Pitavita of Miyaparasth Hritik, the speakers said that no one of the Panchakabi has existed in the same way. That doesn't mean the river has faded into the womb. The womb has faded away from the human beings. Only Hrithik Kumar Ghatak's father Vita or Basat Vitatuku was left. What to save means saving the childhood memories of the famous filmmaker of this subcontinent Hrithik Kumar.

Ministry of Culture has informed the then district administrator to preserve the settlement of Hrithik Ghatak. Self Culture Minister & Director of Shilpakala Academy visited Hrithik's Basat Vita. Yet, the speakers demanded to take effective steps to preserve the father of Hrithik Kumar Ghatak as Basatvitatuku as heritage immediately, stating that no effective steps have been taken in conservation of Hrithik Ghatak's father.

Earlier, the wrap of the Eleventh Hritik Honor Medal and Film Festival 2023 commemorative was unveiled.

On 5th November the nominated film 'Eleventh Hrithik Honor Medal and Film Festival 2023' at Lalanshah Muktmanch near Pathanpara area of the city's Padma, the 'Sabuj Kritdas' of Kamruzaman, 'Power of Women' by AH Rajeev, Supin Barman's 'Power of Women', Fahim Islam' Lelin's 'Ghran' movie was released.

Layek Ahmed Pawan's '2 X2', Fuaduzaman Fuad's nominated film 'Eleventh Hritik Honor Medal and Film Festival 2023' at Lalanshah Muktmanch near the city's Padma from 6 pm to 8 pm, Lalanshah Muktmanch, '2 X2' of Fuaduzaman Fuad's 'But is escape good? ', 'Class Friend' of Iftat Wasima, 'Namplate' of Jeevan Shahadat, 'Dam' of Nannu Mahmud, 'Shikol Breaking Song' by Seemanta Sajal, 'Miracle in Heaven' by Ghulam Rabbani and 'Parbasi' by Labni Ashrafi will be screened.

Ramgarh (Sub Chapter - Jamshedpur)

On 07.11.2023 a City level heritage quiz competition was organized by Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage Ramgarh Sub Chapter and Zarina Khatoon Museum cum Research Center at Zarina Khatoon Museum, Chitrapur.

A total of 30 children from

1. DAV Public School NTS Barkakana,
2. Apex Public School Marang Mircha,
3. MACOS Public School Chitarpur
4. Girls Urdu High School Chitarpur
5. Angel Public School Chitarpur

participated in the competition. This competition was conducted for classes VII to X. The competition was conducted in two phases. The first phase written examination started from 10.00 am in which 6 groups were selected for the Final phase, out of which three groups were from DAV Barkakana, Divyansh Singh Aryan Soni, Mayank Dubey, Ashwani Kumar, Aditya Shri, and Kashyap Rahat, Girls Urdu. Sania Jahangir Resham Islam from High School, Osmania Alam, Khushi Zahid from Macos Public School, Jishan Raza and Anshu Kumar from Apex Public School were selected.

A total of 6 rounds there in final round including audiovisual. In the Final Round, Mayank Dubey and Ashwani Kumar of DAV Barkakana got first position and Aditi Shri, Kashyap Rahat got second position. Both these groups have been selected for the state level competition.

Mr. Wasim Hassan, Mrs. Gilapsa Khatoon and Mr. Sanaullah were the coordinators of the program. The quiz competition was conducted by Mr. Qamar Siddiq.

Convener of the chapter, Mr. Faiyaz Ahmed said that INTACH wants to bring awareness among the children about their heritage. This is the reason why INTACH organizes such programs all over India. Through this quiz, we included national, state and regional tangible and intangible heritage in the question paper. Mr. Tauqeer Hasan Khan, Mrs. Veena Singh, Mr. Mohammad Ibrahim, Mrs. Atika Praveen, Mr. Kamlesh Kumar etc. were included in the program.



City level Heritage Quiz Competition

Karnataka

Bengaluru

On 18th September, 2023, the Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysals became India's newest World Heritage Site. This was culmination of about 3 years of hard work by the INTACH Bengaluru Chapter team, which had prepared the Nomination Dossier for this UNESCO nomination.

In 2019, the Karnataka government's Department of Archaeology, Museums and Heritage (DAMH) tasked the Bengaluru Chapter with preparing the nomination dossier to have the Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysalas added to UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites.

Over three years, a team comprising conservation architect Pankaj Modi, Chapter Convener Meera Iyer, architects Swathy Subramanian and Bindushree R, art historian Sarada Natarajan, and others did a deep dive into the architecture, history, art and culture of the Hoysalas. The team spoke to historians, art historians, urban planners, architects, archaeologists, geologists and sculptors; and, interacted with local stakeholders, bureaucrats and officials from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and DAMH.

A serial nomination with Belur's Channakeshava Temple, Halebidu's Hoysaleswara Temple and Somanathapura's Keshava Temple was submitted to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre in January 2022. The 500-page, multi-volume dossier included site management plans that delineated buffer zones, management structures and so on. It identified the Outstanding Universal Values of the temples, and the attributes through which these were expressed. It provided a justification for positing that the temples are masterpieces of creative human genius and the outcomes of an interchange of human values.



The 500-page, multi-volume dossier



A team comprising conservation architect

Kalaburagi /Gulbarga

On the Eve of World Heritage Week 2023 Dept of Archeological Heritage Museum kalaburgi and INTACH kalaburgi chapter jointly organised Malkhed Fort Darshan and special lecture on History and Heritage of Rashtrakutas at Malkhed Fort, kalaburgi District.



Celebrated World Heritage Week 2023

Mangalore



Organised third edition of "Exploring Namma Mangaluru"

1. The Mangaluru Chapter of Indian National Trust For arts And Cultural Heritage (INTACH) organised third edition of "Exploring Namma Mangaluru," a series for sketching the heritage sites of Mangaluru recently. It involved the sketching of various notable monuments in the city by artist Wilson Souza.

The sketching journey began to Old DC office and proceeded to iconic landmarks, including the Kutchi Memon Mosque, St. Paul Church, and Rosario Cathedral recently. It continued on Sunday, from Ramakrishna Mutt to the light

House, St. Aloysius Chapel, and the CSI Shanthi Cathedral in Balmatta. Along with Mr. Souza, Syed Asif Ali, an artist and professor at Mahalasa College of Visual Art, also sketched specific sites. William Pais, Director, Gallery Orchid, an author of "The Land Called South Kanara", and "Echoes of the Corridors". Was the chief guest during the commencement of the event at the premises of the Old DC Office, Fort Road on Saturday.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Pais emphasized the valuable heritage left by ancestors. "INTACH and Art Kanara Trust have rendered silent efforts in preserving and promoting both the tangible and intangible heritage of our region. The remarkable sketches of our heritage sites by Mr. Souza will serve as enduring documentation," he said. Mangaluru INTACH convener Shubhas Chandra Basu informed that this is a part of the Mangalore Art and Archival Projects by INTACH and Art Kanara Trust aimed at documenting the important natural locations and built heritage of Mangaluru.

Two sketching sessions were conducted earlier with artists Syed Asif Ali and Jeevan Salián. The series will conclude with an exhibition of the sketches and photographs at the Kodial Guthu Centre for Art and Culture. A monograph dedicated to the citizens of Mangaluru will also be released. Various artists and INTACH members participated.

2. MEDIA RELEASE - INTACH's exhibition to mark 'World Heritage Week' inaugurated The Mangaluru Chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) launched its World Heritage Week with the inauguration of the exhibition "Udupi Sub-Jail that Survived Demolition Verdict" by B. T. Obalesh Appa, Superintendent of the District Prison, Mangaluru, on Sunday, November 19, at 10:30 a.m. at the Kodialguthu Centre for Arts and Culture, Kodial Guthu West, Mangaluru. The exhibition is open to the public from November 19th to 25th, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Subhas Chandra Basu, convener of the INTACH Mangaluru Chapter, introduced the programme, highlighting that the documentation of the Udupi Sub-Jail began after the demolition tender was approved. "Our aim is not only to document the Udupi sub-jail but also to propose adaptive reuse methods for its restoration to contemporary use," he stated.

Architect Sharvani Bhat, sharing the experience of documenting the Udupi sub-jail, said, "We started the documentation in late June, completing it in a week with a team of four from Udupi. Our goal is to sensitize the public to the existence of such buildings and demonstrate ways to preserve and revitalize them."

Chief Guest B. T. Obleshappa expressed the importance of such documentation in changing the negative public opinion towards jail buildings. "We should preserve such beautiful old buildings and restore them to create spaces where awareness programmes for students and youngsters can be conducted," he said.

During World Heritage Week, chapter conducted daily talks at 5:30 p.m. as follows: "Exploring Mangaluru's street and place names through time" by Niren Jain, architect, on November 20; "The heterogeneous layered urbanism of the Old Port of Mangaluru" by Caroline D'souza, architect, on November 21; "Kattes in Mangaluru City" by Sindhushree and Sitara, architects, on November 22; "Traditional temples and houses in Tulunadu" by Subrahmanya Bhat, Vastu Vidhwan, on November 23; "Zamindar Bari at Raipur" by Subhas Basu, architect and convener of INTACH Mangaluru Chapter, on November 24; and "Heritage as collective memory" by William Pais, author, on November 25.



INTACH's exhibition to mark 'World Heritage Week' inaugurated

3. INTACH Mangaluru Chapter - World Heritage Week

Unveiling Mangalore's Heritage: Time Travel through Streets

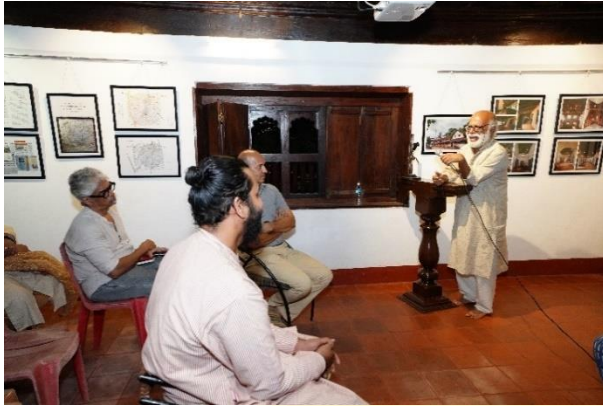
As part of World Heritage Week, the INTACH Mangaluru Chapter hosted an illuminating talk titled 'Exploring Mangaluru's Streets & Place Names through Time' at the Kodialguthu Centre for Art and Culture. Presented by Niren Jain, Architect and Co-convenor of INTACH Mangaluru Chapter, the talk on November 20th unveiled Mangalore's history using ancient maps, including a French map from 1778 and an undated German map juxtaposed with a current Google Map.

Jain, an avid cyclist, discussed his Smart City project, outlining a cycle route that retraced historical roads and by lanes. Uncovering layers of Mangalore's past, Jain explored ruins, rebuilt structures, and heritage sites, revealing a city shaped by Portuguese and British influences 300 years ago. He linked present-day names to historical events, providing a rich tapestry of Mangalore's history.

Beginning in Bunder, Mangalore's oldest district, Jain highlighted the Persian origin of the term 'Bunder,' emphasizing the city's historical exchange of influences with the West. Notable discoveries included the Kandaka, once a moat around a fort where the current DC office stands, and prominent axis leading to the Jain Basadi and the main town center, now Car Street. Jain's talk offered a concise yet captivating exploration of Mangalore's evolution, showcasing its rich historical legacy and intricate connections between past and present.

On November 21st, the talk by Caroline D'souza focused on "The heterogeneous layered urbanism of the Old Port of Mangaluru". The Cultural Landscape of Tulunadu, part of the Konkan Coast, is home to historic ports shaped by unique ecology. Mangaluru, a key port in Karnataka, has facilitated trade for centuries, evolving into a diverse urban center. Influenced by continuous trade, Western Seafarers, and local Tulu communities, the city's port area reflects a complex history. Today, as part of the Smart Cities Mission, preserving its urban heritage and ecological balance through thoughtful policies is crucial," she said.

Subhas Basu, INTACH Convener, introduced the speakers and conducted the programme. As a part of World Heritage Week INTACH is hosting an ongoing exhibition on "Udupi Sub-Jail that Survived Demolition Verdict" at the Kodialguthu Centre for Arts and Culture, Kodial Guthu West, Mangaluru. The exhibition is open to the public till November 25th, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



Hosted an illuminating talk titled 'Exploring Mangaluru's Streets & Place Names through Time' at the Kodialguthu Centre for Art and Culture.

Kerala

Palakkad

OLDER BUILDINGS AND MODERN LIVES

The Palakkad Chapter of INTACH and Chittur Tathamangalam Municipality jointly hosted a two day event involving one of India's foremost architectural conservation experts, Dr. Benny Kuriakose, as a part of World Heritage Day celebrations.

On the morning of 16th April, we opened a unique exhibition at the 100+ years old Municipality office, of a series of photo-panels, comprising nearly 300 pictures shot by Dr. Benny Kuriakose over three and a half decades covering Kerala's traditional buildings, ways of life, and landscape. These are part of a vast bank of images he has photographed over his career, and offered an engrossing and thought provoking glimpse of Kerala's rapid transformation. The exhibition was inaugurated by the renowned writer and former Chairman of the Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Shri Vaisakhan.

On 18th evening 5.00 pm, Dr. Benny Kuriakose made a presentation of his views and insights on the critical need to conserve our region's vernacular architecture and its crafts at a time of heightened ecological stresses.

His presentation was followed by a panel discussion in which he was joined by conservation practitioners Ar. Vinod Kumar MM (Convener, INTACH Thrissur Chapter) and Narayanan Namboodirippad (Director, Poomulli Ayurvedic Resorts) to talk about the practical issues of restoring and reusing older buildings in a new era. The conversations were made livelier through thoughts and questions from the audience. The event took place at the P Leela Amphitheater adjacent to the offices of the Chittur Tattamangalam Municipality.

Chapters of A Shared History

On the eve of Independence Day, we joined hands with thirteen other Chapters of INTACH from across the country to host a unique storytelling event to honor the heritage of our national movement through personalities, events and sites from each region.

From the well-known to the lesser known, the event featured stories that should be known to every Indian. This became an opportunity to engage with the ideas and inspirations of a generation that dedicated their todays for a brighter tomorrow for all of us.

Supported by HECS and Chapters Divisions of INTACH, the event featured presentations by volunteer-members from Palakkad, Anadamans, Delhi, Gaya, Hooghly, Madurai, Mussoorie, Pune, Punjab, Rajkot, Surat, Tripura and Uttarakhand.

INTACH HERITAGE QUIZ - PALAKKAD ROUND

On Sept. 15th, we hosted a lively group of 98 young quizzers from 12 schools across Palakkad at this year's edition of INTACH's National Heritage Quiz event.

The venue was the OV Vijayan Memorial at Thasrak, a premises that was filled with so many reminders of the Master's life, be it from his literary works or his cartooning. These directly prompted many of the questions at the quiz.

The event followed a two stage format. A written qualifying round comprising 20 carefully-chosen questions on the heritage of Palakkad, Kerala and India, to be answered in 20 minutes, came first.

The questions challenged the participants' curiosity in a fascinating world outside their textbooks.

The four top scorers contested the second half of the event with 8 innovative rounds that included audio, visual and puzzle cues.

The team from Chinmaya Vidyalaya Tattamangalam (Jubin and Sarang) emerged as the winners. It was a happy outcome for the school, whose Principal, Ms. Deepa Menon was our Chief Guest.





INTACH Heritage Quiz - Palakkad Round

THE NILA WEAVING TOUR

On 28th October, the Palakkad Chapter and Thrissur Chapters of INTACH jointly organized a unique day-long coach tour to explore some of the historic hand-weaving traditions of the Nila region in the company of a wonderful group of like-minded culture lovers.

We explored the three villages: Pazhayannur, Kuthampulli and Killimangalam; each with a unique weaving legacy; from bamboo and grass to cotton.

We traveled in the company of experienced Textile Educator and Revitalist Saumya Pande, which helped us to understand the history, the practices and challenges of the fascinating world of hand weaving, in an interactive setting.

To add to the liveliness of the day, we also had a number of fun hands-on activities and sights.





Hand-weaving traditions of the Nila region

ONCE UPON A TOWN

As a part of World Heritage Week 2023, on 19th November, the Palakkad Chapter of INTACH conducted our first heritage walk.

We had a lovely morning in the company of twenty-five participants who joined us at the Palakkad Fort early in the morning.

Through the next few hours, we talked about some of the stories, people and places that shaped our town. We walked through the Fort Maidanam, visiting the sites and buildings that formed part of this narrative.

Many of our participants had anecdotes and thoughts to share that enriched the conversation. We were also gratified that many participants had thoughts on how to document and conserve the town's heritage.

The walk was conducted in coordination with India Walk Fest, an initiative of Goa Heritage, that brings together a diversity of local history and conservation groups from around the country to celebrate the power of heritage walks.

Madhya Pradesh

Bhopal

A NEW DISCOVERY OF GLOBAL IMPORTANCE AT UDAYPUR ON THE DEVNAGARI VARNMALA BY BHOPAL CHAPTER

11th Century Devnagari alphabets discovered in Neelkantheshwar temple Udaipur-A discovery of Global significance. Udaipur near Ganjbasoda is world famous for the NeelKanteshwar Temple and its intricate iconography. Udaipur is also famous for the largest Natraj sculpture in the world found on Hilltop of this village. Explorer team of Indian National trust for art and cultural heritage Bhopal has discovered an 11th century Sanskrit school in the Neelkantheshwar Mahadev temple of Udaipur.

Madan Mohan Upadhyay convener of INTACH Bhopal told that the trust is conducting investigations and other conservation measures in Udaipur and surrounding areas and it was during these research on inscriptions of Udaipur that this 11th century Sanskrit alphabet written on the temple wall has been discovered.

The wall has complete Systematic alphabet of Devnagari engraved on the stone wall in the same order as we read it today. He told that it is only in Madhya Pradesh that Raja Bhoj had the most expressive work on architecture, art and literature and this finding is going to lead to more research into the evolution of Devnagari script in Central India. This Nagari alphabet is in the same order of writing as it is taught to students today showing that the script and its grammar has

Ka kha ga gha

Cha chha ja jha na.

And the complete chronology of alphabet engraved on the red sandstone wall. The vowel and the consonants have been and engraved separately into the huge body of a Cobra snake or Nag as it is commonly understood.

Nag has a special place in Indian Mythology and the presentation of varna Mala in the creative design on the body of Naga snake is unique to Raja Bhoj period.

The hood of the cobra has boxes in which the 10th century words have been written along with some figures. It must have had some symbolic meaning 1000 years ago. Below the body is 20 boxes designed in 5 rows and each of it has individual alphabet written in them.

This makes it very clear about the historical trend of evolution of these words in Devnagari lipi which is among the oldest scripts in the world and also said to be the most scientific script. All the words of the script have a scientific way of pronunciation and their presentation. Below the 20 letters is it Triangle which has some other words of Devnagari.

The long tail of the cobra Naag has boxes and each of these 27 boxes has one or two word written inside. The tail has been designed like a Kirpan, a weapon.

The complete figure of Cobra Naag and in the body of Devnagari alphabet is one of the most creative presentations of the evolution of Sanskrit Devnagari script. Devnagri and Sanskrit also happened to be along the oldest in the world and most of the languages have grown out of Sanskrit.

The words and combination indicated in the tale of the snake is a method to explain the Sanskrit grammar of 10th century. By that time Sanskrit had evolved and it was at its matured stage. There are some lines also written by the side of the large Naag snake body but the word has eroded over Thousand Years and difficult to make out.

Writing the complete alphabet on stone shows that education played a very significant role and this place must have been a Sanskrit grammar Pathshala of the 11th century. It is significant to mention that this temple was constructed in the year 1059 and this Temple is the peak period of Temple design in Madhya Pradesh.

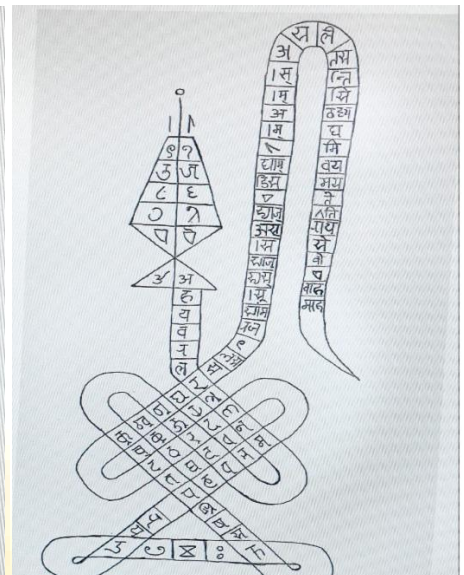
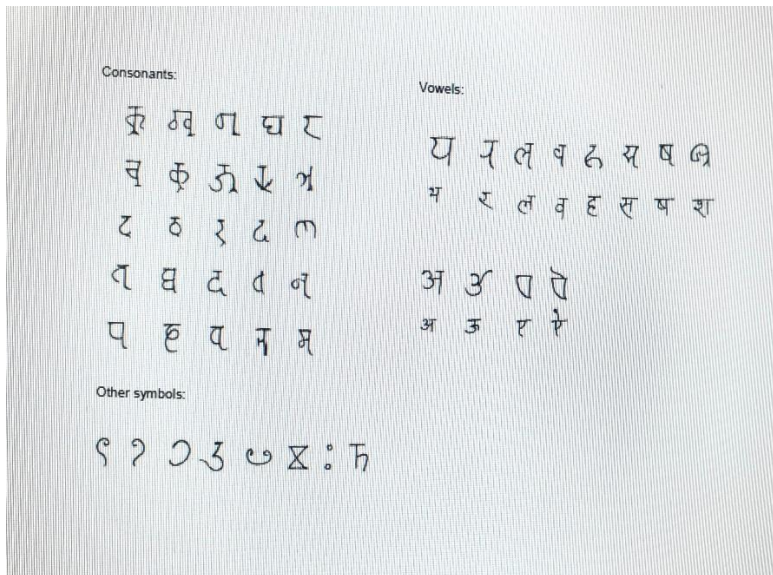
It is believed that writing this complete alphabet on the walls in hard stone was a way to propagate the literacy campaign among the common public who happened to visit the temple where Sanskrit was taught.

The stone inscription being in public place was accessible to every citizen of Raja Bhoj and his descendants for that day. People were attracted to the creative snake Naag Cobra figure carved out of the stone and will try to understand and learn the Devnagri alphabet.

Nowhere else in the world is the evolution of their scripts and the alphabets is displayed in this manner which makes this find a very unique one for Sanskrit and grammars Scholars of the country. It will lead to initiation of new studies of how education was propagated and how learning was given such a high value by those king.

The inscription clearly differentiates the consonants and the vowels and elements of Sanskrit grammar making it very unique. Devnagri and Sanskrit was commonly used in other parts of the country like Rajasthan ,Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Bihar but no other state except Madhya Pradesh has presented the evolutionary and descriptive order of the devnagri alphabet. The period of Raja Bhoj was high point in development of Creative arts temple architecture and urban planning and such centers of learning using creative techniques must have been very instrumental to the citizens of that time. The body of Naag or King Cobra has been used to make the people educate about devnagri lipi because Naga in the Indian culture enjoy is a very high and unique position and has been an ornament of Lord Shiva. One sanskrit word"" paty palytu gama" can be read in the text meaning that learning should protect the society. This show the high standards of education and the position it was placed in the society and community at large.

Madan Mohan Upadhyay of the Indian national trust for art and culture heritage INTACH, has plans to propagate this unique find among citizens and researchers so that more could be understood about the evolution of Devnagri and Sanskrit grammar.



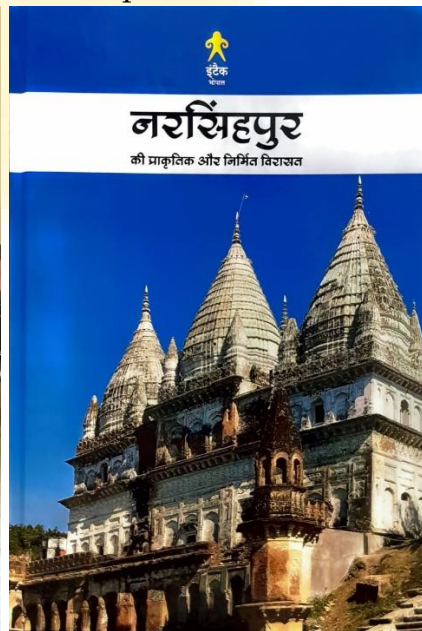
Varnmaala k kha ga

Image outlines

The Bhopal chapter organized the annual Inter School INTACH Heritage quiz competition in which more than 14 schools participated. All participants were given Certificate and the winners were given away the Certificate by the principal of the host Higher Secondary School. the students of class 7th to 10th very actively participated and are looking forward to similar events happening in near future. The young INTACH magazine was also distributed to the participating teachers or carrying forward the message of Heritage conservation in their respective schools.



The annual Inter School INTACH Heritage quiz competition



INTACH BHOPAL has brought out the 1st documentation of the built and natural heritage of Narsinghpur revealing so many unknown aspects of the history of this District on Narmada River.

Datia

1. Seminar held on World Tourism Day- "We have to preserve Bundeli heritage"- GS Ranjan 1. On World Tourism Day, we all need to make a commitment that our local heritage is as important as history and archaeology because from a cultural perspective, the entire Bundelkhand region is rich. Here, our language, customs, and traditions are all vital aspects of our lives. To preserve our identity, we must protect our local culture and heritage because tourists want to see not only archaeological remnants but also glimpses of our culture. During the conference held on the occasion of World Tourism Day organized by the INTACH, Datia Chapter, the Director & playwright of "Bundeli Jhalak" from Mumbai, Mr. GS Ranjan stated that in today's interconnected world, we need to showcase our traditions not only nationally but also globally using social media platforms. Only then can we reach our Bundelkhand heritage to people. The program was held at Sen Sabha Ghar, with Acharya Ram Ratan Sharma as the Chairperson. First of all, Vinod Mishra, Convener, Datia, honored Mr. GS Ranjan for his services to Bundeli heritage. Subsequently, prominent literary figures and INTACH members from Datia expressed their views in the conference. Among these scholars, Dr. Raj Goswami, Puran Chand Sharma, Maniram Sharma, Dr. Harikrishna Hari Sundar Lal Srivastava, and Hariram Sahu were prominent. The program was conducted by Arun Siddh and vote of thanks was presented by INTACH member Radhavallabh Mishra. Arvind Sen, the District President, Sen Community and Chandra Prakash Sen, Temple Manager were also present at the event.

2. "INTACH Datia Chapter organized an exhibition of postage stamps on World Post Day. Datia. Today, on the occasion of World Post Day, the entire postal department was honored by observing postage stamps collected by Pandit Shri Radhaballabh Mishra. This rare task, which can only be performed by a few, has increased the respect for the entire postal department, with Datia's Radhaballabh Mishra being at the forefront. Today, we are all proud and honored by the program organized by INTACH Datia Chapter. In this regard, Shri Pankaj Rao Mishra, Chief Postmaster of Datia Main Post Office, said on the occasion of World Post Day during the exhibition program that it is our fortune that INTACH Datia Chapter has organized a program in this office today, and they have also showcased Shri Mishra's rare collection, which has benefited the entire staff by witnessing ancient domestic and foreign postage stamps. On this occasion, Shri Radhaballabh Mishra and retired senior postman Shri Zaheer Khan were also honored. In the program, Vinod Mishra, Convener, INTACH Chapter Datia provided an overview of today's program and gave information about Shri Radhaballabh Mishra and Zaheer Khan. The program featured a glimpse of stamp collection by the main post office's entire staff and the public present at the post office, discussing its antiquity with Shri Radhaballabh Mishra. In the event, Sanjeev Kumar Verma, Hari Kishan Prajapati, Narendra Lodhi, Prabhu Kumar Gupta, Dilip Rawat, Lalji Lal Pandey, Aarti Kushwaha, and Sister Sushri Swati Pathak from the Agriculture Department were present."

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Seminar held on World Tourism Day



An exhibition of postage stamps on World Post Day

4. District Dhar wins National Heritage Quiz in Madhya Pradesh

Datia. INTACH organized the Madhya Pradesh State Heritage Quiz in Datia on 22nd November, held at Shri Rawatpura College. Ten selected students from Madhya Pradesh participated in the event. The Dhar Chapter emerged as the winner, scoring 65 points and securing the first position. The Katni team stood at second place, Datia at third, Bhopal at fourth, and Morena at fifth. The winning team from Dhar will advance to participate in the National Heritage Quiz in Delhi.

The event, hosted by the INTACH Datia Chapter, was conducted by Quiz Master Shailendra Khare, Dr. Harsha Agarwal, and Dharmendra Agarwal. Special guests at the event included Shantanu Agarwal from Rawatpura College, Ashok Sharma from District Archeology Morena, Neeraj Jain Vardhaman Chanderi, and Dr. Deependra Sharma from Dhar, Madhya Pradesh. The program was introduced by historian coordinator Vinod Mishra.

During the quiz, questions were posed in five rounds, covering topics related to national, Madhya Pradesh state, and INTACH-related themes. At the program's conclusion, prizes were distributed, and Additional Collector and District Chief Executive Officer of District Panchayat Datia, Mr. Kamlesh Bhargava, along with Rawatpura College Chairman Mr. Ramesh Aggarwal honored the students and representatives from various districts of Madhya Pradesh. Furthermore, recognition was extended to individuals like Neeraj Jain Vardhaman, Ashok Sharma, Dr. Deependra Sharma, Shri Ravi Thakur for their contributions to archaeological conservation.

Mr. Kamlesh Bhargava emphasized the significance of heritage in shaping identity and praised events like quizzes for enhancing students' intellectual capacities. Mr. Ramesh Aggarwal expressed the institution's continuous support for educational and cultural programs, hoping for more such events at Rawatpura College. All attending students were honored with mementos at the program's end, and the event concluded with entertaining poems by Arun Siddh.



Madhya Pradesh State Heritage Quiz in Datia

5. Singers honored during World Heritage Week Datia.

An ancient tradition in Bundelkhand involves women observing the Kartik Snan fast, embodying the form of Sakhi, and searching for their Thakur Ji Harju by travelling to temples, forests, and groves.

During this tradition, village cowherds, disguised as Lord Krishna, playfully block their path, asking for butter prasad and dakshina. When those Sakhis insist to go, the cowherd says that I am putting a question before you, if you answer it correctly then they will let you go, otherwise you will have to give them butter and sugar candy. This cultural ritual, known as Sakhi teasing, showcases maturity in the rural women's responses through question-answer interactions, leading to butter and sugar candy offerings by the participants. In the end, only those who win or lose give Dakshina. This is a very beautiful experiment of traditional literature in which there is abundance of Chhand Saviya Kavita Gari Kartik Rola, Lavani and Rasiya verses. All this is very important in the preservation of literature. Sukhai Kevat and singer Vimla, who maintained the tradition of teasing Sakhi in village Ganghari Dera, were honored by INTACH Datia Chapter Convener Vinod Mishra, Radhavallabh Mishra and Arun Siddh. This honor was given for the preservation of folk tradition under the World Heritage Week run by INTACH Datia.



An ancient tradition in Bundelkhand involves women observing the Kartik Snan fast

6. The book written by Vinod Mishra Surmani, Convener, Datia Chapter provides a captivating insight into the legacy of the renowned Kings of Datia State within the realms of folk culture, archaeology, and heritage. This literary work eloquently portrays the vibrant spectrum of Datia's folk culture, akin to the diverse colors of a rainbow, presented in an engaging and entertaining manner. Amidst discussions about the ancient grandeur, the book strives to comprehensively incorporate the historical transformations that have occurred and continue to evolve to this day.

The preface written by renowned storyteller Shri Raj Narayan Bohare highlights the subject matter of this book and describes it as "Cultural History of Datia", which underlines the importance of this book.

In this book, traditions of Datia and special festivals celebrated in Datia have been given. The various arts of Datia, painting, music etc. have been discussed along with historical references, artists old & new and people working in the field today have also been discussed.

Along with the discussion of various traditions famous in Datia like Dol Gyaras Ramnavmi Ram Vivah etc., the extinct traditions like Sanjhi and Party Puja have also been talked about and in this context the author has also expressed his concern. Ram Navami and Ram Janam Utsav are prevalent everywhere but about Ram's Shakti Sita, Manas Goswami Tulsidas ji has written -

*Jasu Ans Upjahn Gunkhani. Agnit Lachchi Uma Brahmani,
Bhrikuti Bilas Jaasu Jag Hoi. Ram Bam Desi Sita Soi.*

(जिनके अंश से गुणों की खान अगणित लक्ष्मी, पार्वती और ब्रह्माणी (त्रिदेवों की शक्तियाँ) उत्पन्न होती हैं तथा जिनकी भौंह के इशारे से ही जगत की रचना हो जाती है, वही (भगवान की स्वरूपा शक्ति) श्री सीताजी श्री रामचन्द्रजी की बाईं ओर स्थित हैं)

(who stood to the left of Sri Rama, was the same from a fragment of whose being emanate countless Laksmi, Umas and Brahmanis (Sarasvatis), all mines of virtues, and just by raising of whose eyebrows bring the cosmos into existence)

The birth festival of the same Jag Janani Janaki is celebrated in very few places. Along with the description of those important places where this festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm and preparation, this book also discusses those families of Datia who have celebrated this festival for generations. This is a matter of pride for Datia.

The writer and the writer's family also have an important role in the musical traditions of Datia, hence this discussion has become quite detailed and in-depth, Datia Gharana and Led Gayan have also been talked about. The latest updates of Music Education Center of Datia have been discussed.

The Chateaur murals in Datia offer intricate descriptions. I have also obtained a collection titled "Domestic Popular Teachings," which were commonly prevalent within Datia families during that era. These teachings might have been articulated differently in various locations but have relevance in contemporary contexts albeit with some modifications. This book provides comprehensive details about significant sites such as Unav Pitambara Peeth, among others.

In terms of historical significance, it's crucial to discuss Datia's role in both India's initial and subsequent freedom struggles. The Gugoriya Dharamshala in Datia, formerly the residence of Thakur Nahar Singh, holds historical importance as it housed Chandrashekhar Azad for a period of time. While this fact is familiar to Datia's older generation, it remains a newfound revelation for the younger generation. Additionally, the contributions of Basai and Khaniyadhana in this context have been explored. By delving into the forts, this discussion offers glimpses into Datia's history during its period as a princely state.

The intricate details about the temples hold immense significance. They shed light on the construction dates of the Ram and Krishna temples, intriguingly contextualized with their historical backgrounds.

This book serves as a gateway to diverse dimensions of Datia's art, history, folk traditions, and culture. Its language is simple and easily comprehensible, employing simple colloquial terms. Additionally, the book's compact size, attractive cover and abundant captivating illustrations make it visually appealing.

Jabalpur

Newly appointed State Convener of INTACH and Life Member, INTACH Jabalpur Chapter Major General Shri SPS Sidhu (decorated with Vishisht Seva Medal) (Army Chief Commander of Central India) requested Dr. Sanjay Mehrotra, Convener, INTACH Jabalpur Chapter to organize the meeting at Datt's Jabalpur Sports Club.



Meeting with Hon'ble Shri Deepak Khandekar Sir (IAS), former PS of India and former Jabalpur Tax Commissioner

The Chief Guest of the meeting was Hon'ble Shri Deepak Khandekar Sir (IAS), former PS of India and former Jabalpur Tax Commissioner.

Major General Sidhu was the Chairman of the program.

Yomesh Agrawal, Judge Industrial Court, Indore was present on the special guest stage. Mr. Yomesh Aggarwal is a life member of INTACH Jabalpur Chapter.

Dr. Shivkumar Tiwari was on the advisory board of INTACH Jabalpur.

Dr. Anupam Sinha was present on the stage as a Special Guest. Dr. Anupam Sinha is the most senior member of

INTACH whose membership was given by INTACH about 30 years ago. Dr. Sinha is a biotechnologist and has long been associated with the history of Jabalpur.

Khandwa



World Tourism Day

WORLD TOURISM DAY

On World Tourism Day, INTACH Khandwa Chapter members visited an ancient temple situated on the island of Abna River in Khandwa District. The temple is surrounded by water from all sides. There is no paved road to reach the temple. There is greenery all around the temple.

It is said that during the time of Mahabharata, Pandavas had reached this place. At the time of Agyatvas, Bhima had established Shivalinga by doing penance here.

Mandla

1. The region of Patangarh, famous for its folk art and culture, is contributing to development and employment through art and skills. Patangarh is a rural area where artists have gained popularity both nationally and internationally through Gond art and traditional crafts. Local artists here are sustaining their families through these arts. To reach these arts to the general public, an INTACH study group embarked on a journey of exploration and study.

During the expedition, led by Dr. Vijay Chourasia, a historian and heritage expert, ancient artifacts were discovered during farming in the fields 7 km from Bajag Road, Gara Sarai village. This three-day tour was conducted by INTACH Chapter Mandal which ended after worshipping Maa Narmada Aarti at Sangam Ghat on the south bank of Maa Narmada in Mandla.



Study of Sangam Ghat on the south bank of Maa Narmada

There is a need to conserve the relics found in this region and conduct further archaeological excavations to bring to light any hidden civilizations beneath the earth's surface. This will also aid in the widespread dissemination of the rich heritage of the region. Determining the exact time period of these relics, whether they belong to the Gond era, Gupta era, or Kalchuri era, will require the expertise of a specialist.

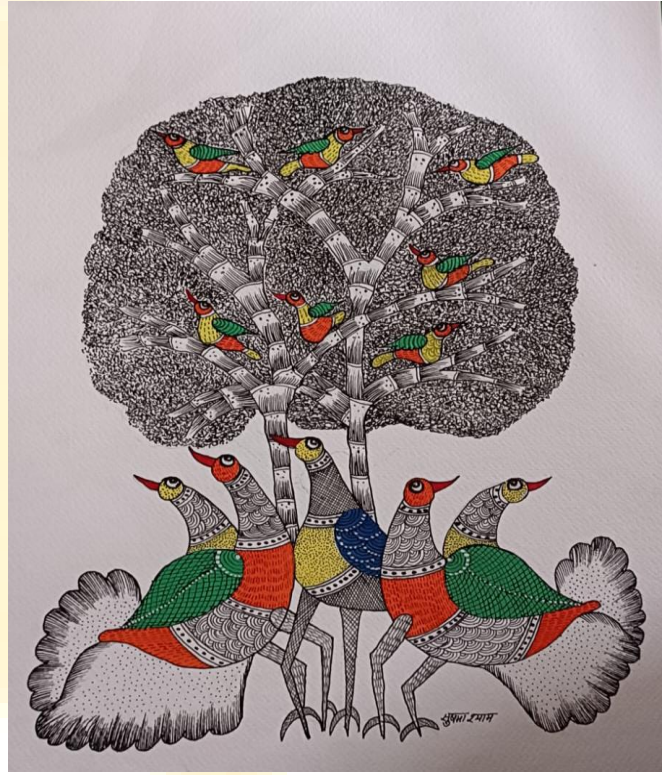
In the heritage study expedition, Dr. Vijay Chourasia explained that the Dindori district has three distinctive features in terms of heritage. Firstly, it showcases events dating back nearly 60 million years. Secondly, it is home to the indigenous Baiga tribe. And thirdly, it boasts rich archaeological heritage. The district has a significant presence of archaeological remains in other areas as well.

The team of the heritage study expedition reached the Dhanoli village in Gara, Sarai, from Gara Sarai on 27 August, 2023. During their excavation, they discovered relics of Shiva Lingas, Vishnu idols, and artifacts from palaces or temples. Upon initial inspection, it appears that these are valuable archaeological remains. However, the determination of their historical significance can only be made through the examination of a qualified archaeologist.

It is only after scientific investigation that we can convey this information to future generations.



Discovered relics of Vishnu idols



Gond art and traditional crafts



Gond art and traditional crafts

Maharashtra

Chandrapur

1. CHANDRAPUR (Oct 02, 2023): On account of the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lalbahadur Shastri and the 16th Foundation Day of Chandrapur Chapter INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage), a Cleanliness Drive was conducted at the Gond King Veersah's Samadhi premises under the aegis of Chandrapur Chapter. NCC cadets of City Higher Secondary School, Chandrapur rallied towards the historical place and then collected the garbage scattered here and there in the premise and cleaned the area. Senior Life Member of INTACH Shri A. N. Pullawar explained the message- 'Significance of Cleanliness' conveyed by the Father of Nation Mahatma Gandhi and guided the cadets regarding the importance of the conservation of historical monuments. The event concluded after the distribution of fruits and water to the cadets. Shri Pravin Nikhare, Convener, Chandrapur Chapter and Co-Convener Shri Vijaykumar Dhande and other INTACH members took efforts for the success of the event.



The 16th Foundation Day of Chandrapur Chapter INTACH

2. As a part of the Heritage Week held between November 19 to 25, a Heritage Walk was held for the students of City Higher Secondary School, Chandrapur under the aegis of Indian National Trust For Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) Chandrapur Chapter. Earlier, the students rallied towards the about 300 years old Murlidhar Temple in the city along with Shri Pravin Nikhare, Convener, Chandrapur Chapter, Shri Vijaykumar Dhande, Co-Convener, and Shri Pradeep Patrange.

On reaching the spot, Convener Shri Pravin Nikhare provided the students with the history of the Murlidhar Temple and explained the minute sculpture carved on the temple walls. He also asked the students to observe how keenly the sculptures were carved. He further explained the significance of heritage and asked the students to work in the direction to conserve and protect our heritage.

Later the event concluded after the distribution of snacks and fruits to the students.



Heritage Week

Greater Mumbai

Since the revival of the Greater Mumbai Chapter, the chapter has been organising almost 2 walks a month. All the walks have received very good response and are sold out even before they can be offered to the general public.

We have had 'Heritage Walks' on various subjects, History of Banking and Finance, History of water, a visit to the Naval Dockyard, the UNESCO Heritage Building of CSMT, the Bombay Municipal Corporation building etc with constant enquires and requests for more.

The CSMT tour took us through the history of the city, history of the railways and history of the edifice itself, ending at the magnificent Star Chamber Gallery overlooking the booking windows and the station. Mumbai city never ceases to surprise even the most seasoned Mumbaikars. It was indeed an absolute treat to the eyes, mind and soul. Most of us have passed this magnificent edifice umpteen number of times, admiring and acknowledging its beauty from afar. Today, it was time to get up front and close with this monument. It's only when you get an opportunity for a tete a tete with it, that you realise that it is rightly crowned as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

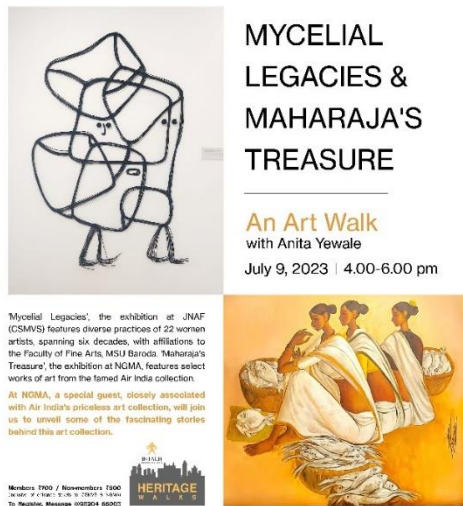
While on a tour of this architectural marvel of our city this morning, every one of us was



in constant awe and had our jaws dropping literally at every nook and corner of this monument. A monument that's one of the finest railway stations in the world, one of the most photographed monuments in India and one of the busiest stations in the country as well. A busy monument in terms of its ornamentation also, but a classy one at that, it incorporates a lot of local flora & fauna, bas relief portraits and architectural elements seamlessly and aesthetically in its Victorian Gothic repertoire. The CSMT, is truly a Jewel in the Crown of Mumbai, which manifests all

that Mumbai is and was envisioned to be.

We collaborated with Raconteur tours on this. They hold the contract for CSMT tours. There was a double treat for art lovers who joined INTACH's Art walk on Sunday, July 9th. Our group assembled at the Jehangir Nicholson Art Foundation Gallery at CSMVS for the show 'Mycelial Legacies II'. This exhibition brings together the paintings, sculptures, photographs and installations by a group of women artists affiliated with the Baroda School, to highlight their contribution to the legacy of this school of art, explained our guide, Anita Yewale. Her walkthrough highlighted several of the works with fascinating interpretations of the media used, messages the artists convey and the philosophy and style of the Baroda school. From CSMVS, our group walked across the

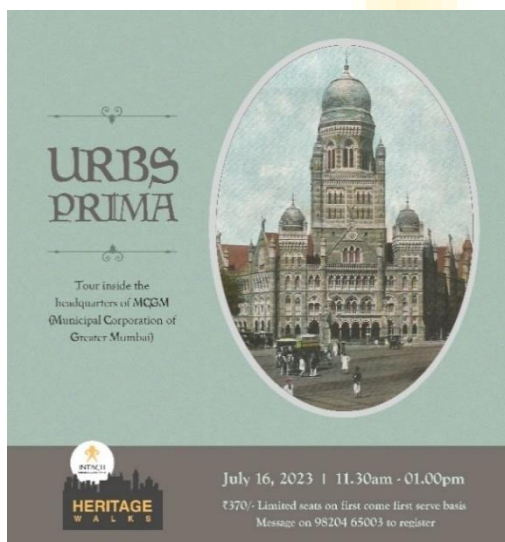


road, on a thankfully dry evening, to the beautiful National Gallery of Modern Art which is currently hosting a show with about 200 pieces from the impressive and massive Air India collection of art in an exhibition called the 'Maharaja's Treasure'. And a treasure of art it is indeed!

Here a treat awaited us. Uttara Parikh, who was with Air India's publicity department and personally responsible for curating and acquiring many of the works in the collection was there to recount some wonderful tales behind its making. She truly wowed the group with her amazing stories, about the first works

being acquired for a mere Rs. 87.50, or of how a baby elephant was sent to Spain as a payment for an artwork specially created for Air India by a renowned artist, Uttara has been part of it all! The group was riveted by her account.

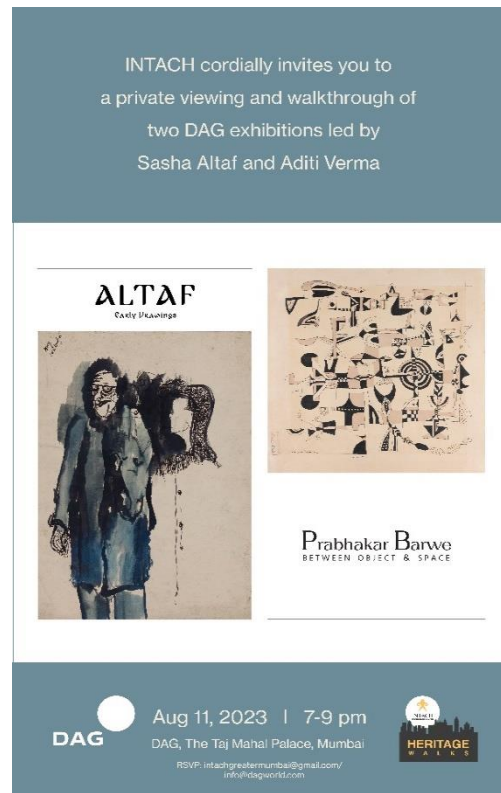
This Urbs Prima (BMC - headquarters of the MCGM) Tour was hosted by @khaki.tours for @intachmumbai. Standing tall in a V shape, towering over the



adjacent equally magnificent CSMT building, it is the supreme civic governing body of the city. At 158 years, the MCGM is the largest, richest and the oldest Municipal body not only in India but also in Asia.

The imposing bronze statue of Sir Pheroz Shah Mehta, the Lion of Bombay and nicknamed Ferocious Mehta; the statue of Urbs Prima In India holding a ship in her right hand atop a gable on the front facade and the Coat of Arms of Bombay, are some of the outstanding and prominent features of the MCGM building which set the tone for the tour inside the building.

From the moment you set your foot on the premises of this edifice, no matter which direction you look in, for the next 1.5 hours that you will meander through the endless corridors, well-manicured backyard, beautiful wooden stairways that lead up to the

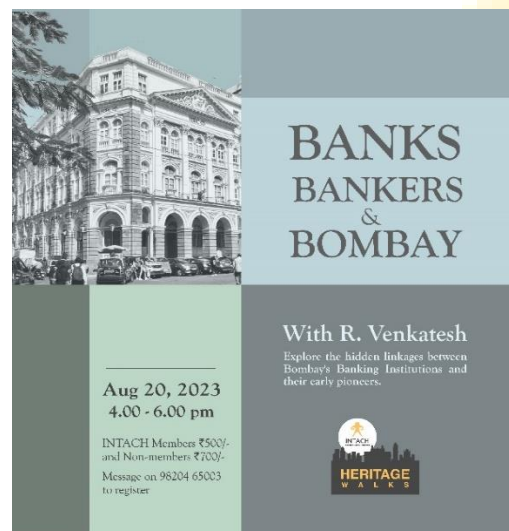


various internal office spaces, it is a non-stop visual delight and a real treat to the eyes.

Look down and you are setting your foot on the rich Minton tiled flooring. Look up and you will see the gorgeous chandeliers, portraits, busts of people of Bombay, beautiful stained-glass windows, Gothic arches and the intricately adorned kaleidoscopic central dome gilded with gold. Look to your sides and all around you will find intricately carved curious creatures from local flora and fauna peering down at you innocently. The large mythical winged lion sculptures laden with symbolism of colonial supremacy perched at vantage points can't be missed either.

The breath-taking vistas that every window, arch, door or the gallery of this building offers on a Sunday morning are certainly way different from the everyday vistas. Nonetheless the Sunday vistas allow you that much required time to stand, stare,

soak, absorb and appreciate all the beauty of this grand heritage edifice of our city.



INTACH Mumbai's members and friends had the privilege of attending a very special private art walk in collaboration with DAG at their gallery at the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel on Friday, August 11th. The artists on display were Altaf and Prabhakar Barve. The highlight of the evening was an extremely special walkthrough of Altaf's work by his daughter Sasha Altaf, an art curator and art historian herself. The group were riveted by Sasha's insights from the perspective of an art expert, but more so, her sharing of some beautiful personal stories of her father the person, not just Altaf the artist. It added a rich and deep dimension

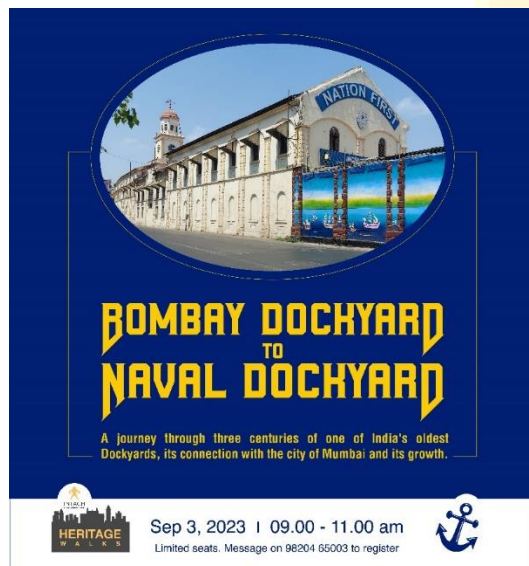
to the gallery visit.

This was followed by an excellent insight into the life and work of Prabhakar Barve, one of the foremost artists of our times by Aditi Varma of DAG.

From the Bank of Bombay of the Raj Period established in 1720 by the EIC to the Banker's Bank- the Reserve Bank, the banking history of Bombay has come a long way.

Bank, Bankers & Bombay, a specially curated walk by one of INTACH Mumbai's life members R Venkatesh, on a pleasant overcast Sunday evening, was an extremely well researched narrative replete with stories of mergers, acquisitions, failures, frauds, politics, pioneers of banking institutions & the unacknowledged contributions of Indians to the banking business, their histories and their connections with businesses across the globe. The walk also paid respects to some of Bombay's banking heroes such as Sir Sorab Pochkhanawala, Sir C.D.Deshmukh, Sir Thomas Sutherland, Sir Osborne Smith and many more.

The Walk which started at Kalaghoda taking us through Flora Fountain & Horniman Circle, the original banking district of Bombay, ended on the steps of Asiatic library against the backdrop of the Reserve Bank briefly highlighting the architectural nuances of banking Institutions such as SCB, HSBC, Oriental Bank, Central Bank, Imperial Bank & Allahabad Bank.



Roughly covering 150 years of banking history of Bombay through the typology of institutions like the Presidency Bank, Exchange Bank, Swadeshi Bank, State Bank & Reserve Bank, R Venkatesh disseminated a plethora of information on banking, most definitely a treat to Banker's & lay persons as well.

A peek into Bombay's origins and it's journey from Bombay to Mumbai

It's not until you listen to those fascinating maritime stories hidden behind those tall walls of the Naval Dockyard, standing right beside the sea, which is so abundantly rich in history, that

you see truth in why we say Mumbai is a city by the sea and a city born out of the sea.

Sunday morning saw some of those fascinating stories unfold probably for the first time for many.

Bombay castle to INS Angre; Bombay's fate bartered at the hands of the Portuguese & British in the marriage treaty to Urbs Prima; the Oak & Teak war to a century of glorious shipbuilding at the Bombay dockyard; seven generations of Wadia master Shipbuilders to Trincomalee, Minden & Cornwallis; cotton, opium to ice trade; men in uniform who lost their lives on Khukhri to Nelson, Clive & Wellesley who passed under the gates of Bombay Dockyard; and last but not the least, the journey of Bombay Dockyard from a marine yard to Naval Dockyard; stories that engaged, enriched & educated our visitors about Mumbai's rich maritime history that not only shaped the city's history but also nation's history as the Gateway to India or Gateway to the East.

Nagpur

1. Recently the B.Arch. VII-semester students of Priyadarshini Institute of Advanced Design Studies (PIADS) in Nagpur held a Heritage Workshop organized under the aegis of INTACH Nagpur Chapter. The workshop aimed to provide students with a deeper understanding of the importance of conserving historical monuments and the role of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in this endeavor.

The workshop commenced with a captivating presentation delivered by Mrs. Shilpa Rangari, Assistant Archaeologist, ASI, Nagpur Circle who spoke on the significant role played by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in preserving and protecting historical monuments across the country. She emphasized the importance of heritage conservation in maintaining our cultural identity and preserving our nation's history.

Mrs. Rangari discussed the various initiatives and projects undertaken by ASI, the challenges faced in heritage conservation, and the collaborative efforts required from architects and conservationists to ensure the longevity of these invaluable structures. Her presentation provided valuable insights into the methods, technologies, and ethical considerations involved in heritage preservation.

Following the informative presentation, the students embarked on a site visit to the Old High Court Building located in Civil Lines, Nagpur. This historical monument provided an excellent practical context for the theoretical knowledge imparted during the presentation.

During the site visit, students had the opportunity to observe firsthand the architectural intricacies, construction materials, and preservation efforts carried out at the Old High Court Building. Dr. Madhura Rathod, leading the workshop, provided expert guidance and insights, facilitating a deeper understanding of the challenges and techniques involved in heritage conservation.



The workshop also included interactive discussions between the students, Mrs. Shilpa Rangari, and Dr. Madhura Rathod. Students were encouraged to ask questions and engage in meaningful dialogues, fostering a dynamic learning environment. These discussions allowed students to explore the practical aspects of heritage conservation and the unique challenges associated with it.

Heritage Workshop organized under the aegis of INTACH Nagpur Chapter

The workshop not only enriched the students' academic knowledge but also inspired a sense of responsibility towards preserving our rich cultural heritage. It encouraged students to consider the significance of heritage conservation in their future architectural endeavors and reinforced the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration between architects, conservationists, and historians. Such initiatives contribute significantly to the education and professional development of aspiring architects and conservationists, ensuring that our nation's historical monuments are protected for future generations.

2. Exploring the Unique Art and Craft of Vidarbha and the Significance of Cowdung in Sustainable Living

The INTACH Nagpur Chapter organized an insightful program on October 19, 2023. This event aimed to explore the unique art and craft of Vidarbha and educate participants about the significance of cow dung in sustainable living. This program was conducted at Aspire International School, Nagpur. The event featured a hands-on activity where children prepared various items using cow dung, making the experience both educational and exciting.

The primary objectives of the program were:

- i. To promote and preserve the traditional art and craft of Vidarbha, celebrating the rich cultural heritage of the region.
- ii. To raise awareness about the benefits of using cow dung as an eco-friendly and sustainable resource.
- iii. To engage children in a hands-on activity that would foster creativity and appreciation for traditional crafts and sustainable living.

Participants were given an informative presentation on the various uses of cow dung in daily life, including its role as a natural fertilizer, fuel, and in the creation of artistic items. The children participated in a workshop where they were taught how to prepare various items out of cow dung. They learned about the importance of recycling and reusing materials, making the experience not only fun but also educational.

Participants gained a deeper understanding of the cultural significance of traditional crafts in Vidarbha and the role cow dung plays in sustainable living.

Children developed new skills in crafting items from cow dung, encouraging creativity and a sense of accomplishment.

The program encouraged a more eco-conscious mindset among the participants, emphasizing the importance of using natural resources responsibly.



The traditional art and craft of Vidarbha

3. A recent FORT-MAKING COMPETITION was held under the banner of INTACH Nagpur Chapter and Architectural Sankul in collaboration with Aspire International School, bringing together enthusiastic participants of all ages. The event featured a wide range of creative and innovative fort designs, showcasing the participants' talent and imagination. Many school children along with their teachers had gathered for the Cultural Fiesta where the results were declared and prizes in the form of cash, momentos, and certificates were distributed. It created a vibrant and festive atmosphere. 'The competition served as a delightful and memorable occasion for all, strengthening bonds and sparking imaginative architectural achievements', said Dr. Madhura Rathod, Convener, INTACH Nagpur Chapter.



Fort-Making Competition

Pune

INTACH Heritage Quiz – Pune and Maharashtra Rounds

The Pune round and the Maharashtra of INTACH India Heritage Quiz, the pan India quiz competition initiated by HECS (Heritage Education Communication Services) INTACH, was conducted by INTACH Pune Chapter on 20th Oct 2023. 292 students from 11 schools participated. The team from SES Gurukul was the winner of the city round and qualified for the State final. The State round was conducted among 5 winning teams from 5 different city rounds - Nashik, Nagpur, Wai, Solapur and Pune. The winning team was from Horizon International Academy, Nashik. MKSSS Dr. Bhanuben Nanavati College of Architecture was venue partner for the event. A welcome note and brief introduction regarding heritage and the objective of the quiz was given by Dr Sharvey Dhongde (Convener, INTACH Pune & Co-Convener, INTACH Maharashtra). Madhur Barve, Executive Committee member; followed by Mahesh Bangad, Executive Committee member, who conducted the final city round. The State round was conducted by Madhur Barve. The questions were also asked in Marathi wherever necessary. Co-Convener, Jui Tawade was the score keeper for both the final rounds. The questions were designed by INTACH EC members. The quiz masters also interacted with the audience with additional interesting information regarding the ongoing topic in the quiz and a few audiences round questions. Snacks and lunch were provided to all participants and accompanying parents and teachers at the venue. A team of INTACH members and college student volunteers were available for any queries and help needed by the students and accompanying parents and teachers.

INTACH Pune received the Best Chapter award for INTACH Quiz 2022.

India River Week (25-26 Nov 2023)

INTACH is a part of the organizing committee of India Rivers Forum. Indian Rivers Week is an annual event organized by the India Rivers Forum. The program focuses on important issues related to rivers in the country. India Rivers Forum is an informal association of organizations and individuals working for the protection and rejuvenation of rivers. This was the tenth year and the India Rivers Week 2023 took place in Pune. The theme for this year was River Front Development. Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division, INTACH who is also part of the Steering Committee of India Rivers Forum, gave the welcome address and a presentation on overview of River Front Development projects in India. Co-convener Supriya Mahabaleshwar Kar and EC member Mukul Mahabaleshwar Kar represented INTACH Pune. The Heads and Tails of Ganga project report, an output from INTACH's recent project coordinated by INTACH Pune and supported by INTACH NHD - on Heads and Tails of Ganga by Prof Vijay Paranjape was also launched on occasion of IRW at the hands of Prof Madhav Gadgil.

An overview of India Rivers Week (IRW) events:

- Remembering Shri Manoj Misra: One of the founders of India Rivers Week and subsequently India Rivers Forum, Shri Manoj Misra passed away in June 2023. IRW celebrated his memory, and launched an archive of his work.
- Presentations Commemorating a Decade of India Rivers Week and experience sharing by past awardees and participants.
- Panel Discussions - Panel discussions featured representatives from various sectors, including government, law-judiciary, civil society, media, academy-science, and user groups.
- Newer Concepts: River hood and River Commons were explored through valuable insights from experts at Wageningen University as they introduced groundbreaking concepts of River hood and River Commons.
- Book launch: The inaugural day of India Rivers Week programme saw launch of two books on Ganga at the hands of Prof Madhav Gadgil - one on A Narrative on the Ganga - a Citizen's Report (This Report is published by INTACH is an output from the deliberations held at the earlier India Rivers Week) and The Heads and Tails of Ganga (An output from INTACH's recent project on Heads and Tails of Ganga by Prof Vijay Paranjpye).
- Award Ceremony for Bhagirath Prayas Samman Award & Anupam Mishra Memorial Medal

Honoring the work of unsung heroes working towards the conservation and protection of India's rivers.

1. Bhanu Tatak and Dibang Resistance, Arunachal Pradesh presented with the Bhagirath Prayas Samman (For outstanding and sustained efforts towards protection and conservation of rivers.)

2. Anupam Mishra Medal presented to Senior Journalist Swapan Bhowmik from Nadia District, West Bengal (For an exceptional body of credible work on various aspects of rivers)

- Adoption of Statement on Pune River Front Development Project by the Conference (Attached)

The closing day focused on the theme of River Front Development during which participants visited two sites along the Pune rivers including the present PMC proposed model of river front and experts from across India, including Shri Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director of INTACH Natural Heritage Division, deliberated on the theme with their experiences from all over India.

Webinar Series on Water Conservation: On occasion of World Water Week 2023, INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) Pune Chapter, Maharashtra Vriksh Samvardhini (MVS) and Vanarai Trust organised a series of online talks on the theme Water Conservation from 20-26 August 2023. The focus was on studying water conservation related issues and success stories in the form of diverse case studies from Maharashtra. The following experts spoke at the webinar and audience got a chance to interact with experts after the talks: Dr P S Kulkarni, Geo Forum, Aurangabad, Dr Narayanpethkar from Art of Living, Shri Mangesh Kale from Vanrai, Shri Pramod Kale, retired executive engineer, Water Resources Department, Pune, Dr Umesh Mundlye, Dr S K Wadagbalkar and Smt Kalpana Salunke from Pani Panchayat, Gram Gaurav Pratishthan. Audience joined from different parts of Maharashtra – researchers, students, village representatives, grassroot organisations among others. The proceedings were conducted in Marathi so as to reach out to local communities and grass root communities. INTACH Pune Co-Convener Supriya Mahabaleshwarkar curated the webinar series along with Dr Ajit Vartak of MVS and Shri Amit Wadekar from Vanarai. The proceedings were streamed online and recorded so as to be made available as online YouTube lectures later as well. The proceedings were published as a special issue on Water Conservation as part of the Vanarai magazine initiative.

Bhondla : Bhondla is a traditional musical game played by young girls and women in Maharashtra in the Hindu month of Ashwin. Starting from the evening of *Ghatasthapana* (first day of Navratra) women come together to celebrate the entry of Surya (Sun) in the Hasta Nakshatra, pray for a good spell of rain (*Hastacha paus*) and sing songs in praise of the deities and on other themes close to their heart. A bhondla event was organized by the chapter during which the importance of the tradition and the songs was explained. Omkareshwar temple, a heritage site located centrally in Pune was chosen as venue. A booklet and an online YouTube compilation comprising of the compiled songs were published as an outcome of the event. EC member Manjusha Ukidve led the event along with other INTACH members. Participants experienced first hand merriment of Bhondla event in traditional attire. The event was followed by snacks. Shreyaswa events and more was events partner and Shri Omkareshwar Devasthan Trust was venue partner.

Heritage walks : A number of heritage walks were conducted for corporate guests, delegates from Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), student groups from institutes in Pune including Savitribai Phule Pune University's department of Sociology and exchange programme students from Europe, NICMAR University, faculty from UWC Mahindra College also known as the National Institute of Construction Management and Research, and family guests from abroad. Heritage walks were conducted by INTACH Pune members Supriya Mahabaleshwar Kar, Jui Tawade, Madhur Barve, Mahesh Bangad, Dr Shubhada Kamalapurkar, Sourabh Marathe, Shruti Joshi and Sayali Kulkarni.

Photothon competition: A photothon was announced on occasion of Heritage week 19-23 Nov 2023. Participants were to send a high-resolution photo they have clicked of a UNESCO World Heritage Monument in India along with a caption (English, Marathi, or Hindi). Selected entries will be featured with special mention on INTACH Pune's social media handles.

Nadishtha event: INTACH Pune was a collaborating organization for the event Nadishtha along with Jeevitnadi and other like-minded NGOs in Pune. It was held on 19th November 2023 along the banks of the river Mutha next to the heritage Vitthal temple in Pune. The programme was a book reading session by author Mr. Manoj Borgaonkar. The author walked us through his experiences of writing his highly acclaimed book Nadishtha.

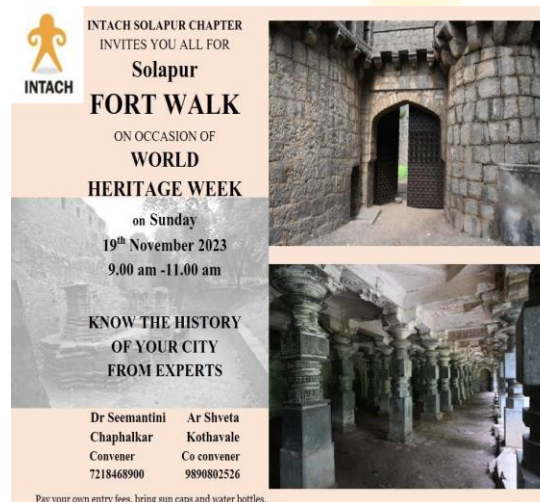
Sacred groves publications: As part of the ongoing research and awareness activities on sacred groves in Pune district, scientific papers were published by INTACH Pune members Mukul Mahabaleshwarkar and Supriya Goturkar – Mahabaleshwarkar in reputed scientific journals. The papers presented ecological diversity and importance of sacred groves from natural and cultural heritage aspects; select case studies highlighting the conservation value and community efforts for the cause.

Solapur

Fort Walk on Occasion of World Heritage Week 2023

On the occasion of World Heritage Week 2023, INTACH Solapur Chapter conducted Fort Walk on Sunday, 19th November. Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar and Co-Convener Ar. Shveta Kothavale conducted the walk.

Initially Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar explained the detailed history of Solapur since 1000 CE up to the fall of the Fort into British hands in 1818 CE. Then the participants were taken to the fort ramparts, moat, Gateways, Wells, Kapilasiddha Mallikarjun Mandir, Battis Khambi Masjid, stone inscriptions and sculptures. The walk ended at the Hanuman Burz. The walk was an exhilarating experience for the participants.



Poster



Participants of the Fort Walk

PRESENTATION OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS OF SOLAPUR CITY- LISTING DOCUMENTATION TO SOLAPUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

On 21st Nov, 2023 INTACH Solapur Chapter presented Heritage Buildings of Solapur City- Listing Documentation to Solapur Municipal Corporation.

INTACH Solapur Chapter was requested the task of preparing Listing Documentation of heritage buildings published in the draft list released in 2019 by the Solapur Municipal Corporation in November 2021. Listing Documentation of a total of 168 buildings and precincts was prepared as per proforma of Unified Development Control and Promotion Regulations for Maharashtra State.



Co- Convener Ar. Shveta Kothavale presenting the documentation to Asst. Dir of Town Planning, SMC

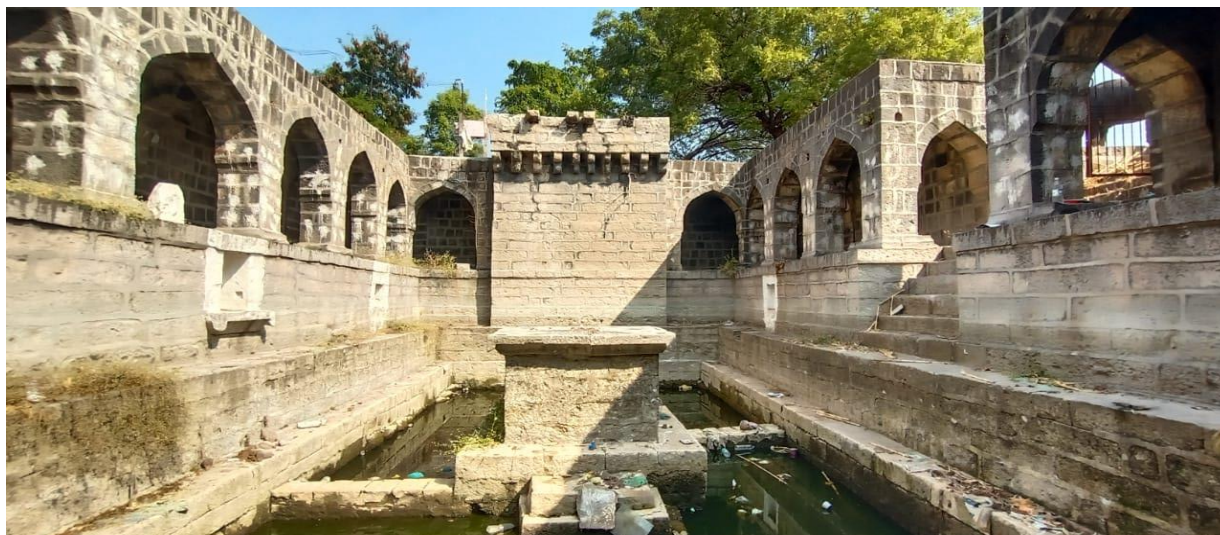
The preliminary digital draft was submitted to Solapur Municipal Corporation on 22nd March 2023, while the final draft in book form was recently completed by Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar, Co- Conveners Ar. Shveta Kothavale and Ar. Pushpanjali Katikar and handed over to Mr. Kamble, Assistant Director of Town Planning, Solapur Municipal Corporation.

DOCUMENTATION OF STEPWELL AT KHARGADOH, MOHOL

On Dec 2nd, INTACH Solapur Chapter undertook the documentation of stepwell at Khargadoh near Mohol about 37kms from Solapur city. The documentation was undertaken as part of Maharashtra Stepwell Campaign. Heritage enthusiast Ashish More, Co- Convener Ar. Shveta Kothavale and Convener Dr. Seemantini Chaphalkar conducted the documentation.



Stepwell at Khargadoh



Stepwell at Khargadoh

The trio also visited Vadaval Nagnath Mandir and the Nagnath mandir at Khargadoh.

Manipur

World Bamboo Day Observation

“Bamboo, Our Natural Heritage for Sustainable Future”

Amidst the violent crisis that has been affecting Manipur since 3rd of May 2023, the Indian National Trust on Arts and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Manipur Chapter in collaboration with CSIR-NEIST Laboratory Branch, Lamphelpat, Imphal & Apunba Imagi Machasing (AIMS), Manipur observed the World Bamboo Day on Monday, the 18th of September, 2023 at 09:00 AM at the premise of CSIR- NEIST, Lamphelpat, Manipur. Select invitees attended the programme.

Prof. Dr. H. Birkumar Singh, Chief Scientist, CSIR-NEIST, Manipur, Government of India graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Guests of Honour included Prof. Ng. Iboyaima Singh, Dean, College of Food Technology, Central Agricultural University (CAU), Shri Manasij Chakrabarti, AGM, Punjab National Bank, Imphal Branch; Dr. S. Manikanta Singh, Former Addl. Director, Manipur Health Services and Dr. RK Chingkhel, Faculty, Department of Forest and Environment, Manipur University. Dr. Homen Thangjam, Convener, INTACH- Manipur Chapter presided the session.

Plantation of bamboo saplings by the dignitaries in the campus of CSIR-NEIST preceded the formal programme.



Figure 1: Bamboo Plantation by Homen Thangjam (in blue cap)



Figure 2: Bamboo Plantation by the Chief Guest

During the formal session, Dr. Atom Sunil Singh, Director of AIMS, extended a warm welcome to the select invitees. Following this, the Keynote Address was delivered by Prof. Dr. H. Birkumar Singh. He commenced by expressing his shock and dismay at the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Manipur since May 3rd. Prof. Singh highlighted that the senseless violence has not only impacted the people of Manipur but has also significantly affected the state's biodiversity, as the conflicting parties are resorting to burning down forests and other sites as part of their violent pursuits.

Manipur holds global recognition as a crucial biodiversity hotspot. Prof. Singh stressed that this designation is not permanent and requires concerted efforts from the people to conserve it. Bamboo, he emphasized, plays a crucial role in this conservation effort. Given that the formation of soil in Northeast India is younger than in the western part of the Himalayan ranges, frequent landslides occur. Bamboo, acting as a soil binder, plays a significant role in preventing such occurrences.

He added that more than 50 species of bamboos are available in Manipur. Bamboo plays a vital role in the life of Manipuris in their day-to-day requirements like coconut in some other parts of India. In fact, it is a natural heritage of this state carrying immense economic value, thereby receiving the tag of “Green Gold”. He also added that a specific Manipuri bamboo variety, known as Saneibi, can even replace steel in the construction of buildings. Prof. Singh underscored the economic potential of bamboo, stating that it can generate substantial revenue through its sale as a raw material, in the form of crafts, or as a bamboo-based food product. This emphasis on bamboo's importance not only ties into biodiversity conservation but also points to its economic viability and potential for sustainable development in the region.

Prof. Ng. Iboyaima Singh expressed gratitude to INTACH Manipur Chapter for undertaking the initiative to organize the observation. He highlighted the diverse uses of bamboo, including its applications as a toothbrush, bamboo charcoal, and various food products. The utilization of bamboo products, he emphasized, promotes both personal health and environmental well-being. Bamboo is nutrient-rich, low in fat, and high in fiber, making it an ideal food choice in the current era.

Providing an update on bamboo diversity in Manipur, Prof. Singh noted the existence of 56 bamboo species in the region. He underlined the emergence of innovative bamboo products such as bamboo organic fertilizer, bamboo pellets for poultry and cattle feeds, and bamboo leaf tea, which will soon be available in the market. Prof. Singh commended NGOs like AIMS for their successful efforts in promoting mass bamboo plantation in the state.



Figure 3: Attentive delegates

In conclusion, he stressed the importance of increasing bamboo plantation due to the growing demand that surpasses current bamboo production levels. This underlines the need for sustained efforts in bamboo cultivation to meet the rising demand and harness the manifold benefits of this versatile resource.

Shri Manasij Chakrabarti conveyed his joy at participating in the World Bamboo Day observation. He highlighted that Punjab National Bank has provided financial support to numerous bamboo growers and craftsmen engaged in bamboo-based activities. He underscored the collective responsibility to conserve our diverse natural heritage and advocate for the sustainable development of bamboo resources.

Dr. S. Manikanta Singh emphasized the integral role of bamboo in the lives of the Manipuris that is deeply intertwined with tradition and the societal fabric. Historically, bamboo has been crucial in crafting essential tools, including scientific measuring scales like sangbai and meruk. Despite its significance, there is a noticeable decline in bamboo production. Asia stands as the largest bamboo-producing continent, contributing approximately 80% of the world's production, with Northeast India being a major hub.

Addressing concerns about environmental degradation resulting from poppy plantations, Dr. Singh proposed bamboo as a sustainable alternative. Bamboo not only offers a solution for environmental conservation but also holds potential for generating revenue, presenting a holistic approach to addressing both ecological and economic challenges.

Dr. RK Chingkhel highlighted the role of bamboo in mitigating climate change. He emphasized that bamboo, although often mistaken for a plant, is, in fact, a type of grass. Notably, bamboo exhibits rapid growth, outpacing many other plants. Beyond its environmental benefits, bamboo plays a pivotal role in livelihoods and sustainability, particularly in controlling soil erosion. Dr. Chingkhel also pointed out the diverse utilities of bamboo, ranging from its medicinal applications to its use in crafting musical instruments and tools.



Figure 4: Dr Thangjam addressing the small gathering

In his presidential address, Dr. Homen Thangjam expressed great pleasure at INTACH Manipur Chapter leading the organization for the World Bamboo Day Observation in Manipur held under the theme “Bamboo, Our Natural Heritage for Sustainable Future”. He emphasized, “Bamboo, often overlooked, is a testament to nature's resilience and versatility”.

In its simplicity, bamboo holds profound significance. It intertwines with traditions, provides a source of livelihood, and emerges as a sustainable solution for a greener tomorrow. As the vital role of bamboo in our lives is observed, acknowledgment of the challenges it faces, including declining production and environmental threats, becomes imperative.

The duty is clear: to preserve and propagate bamboo as a natural heritage. By doing so, not only is the well-being of the environment ensured, but the path for sustainable development is also paved. Today's gathering serves as a platform to exchange ideas, share innovations, and collectively work towards securing a future where bamboo thrives and continues to contribute to our lives.

Dr. Thangjam requested everyone to commit to this cause, recognizing that the preservation of bamboo holds the key to a more sustainable and resilient future for generations to come.

Finally, he illustrated the role of INTACH, stating how INTACH Manipur is committed to the preservation of bamboo as a valuable natural heritage of Manipur.

Orissa

Balasore

CELEBRATION OF WORLD HERITAGE WEEK

AT HERITAGE CLUB OF DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL, BALASORE:

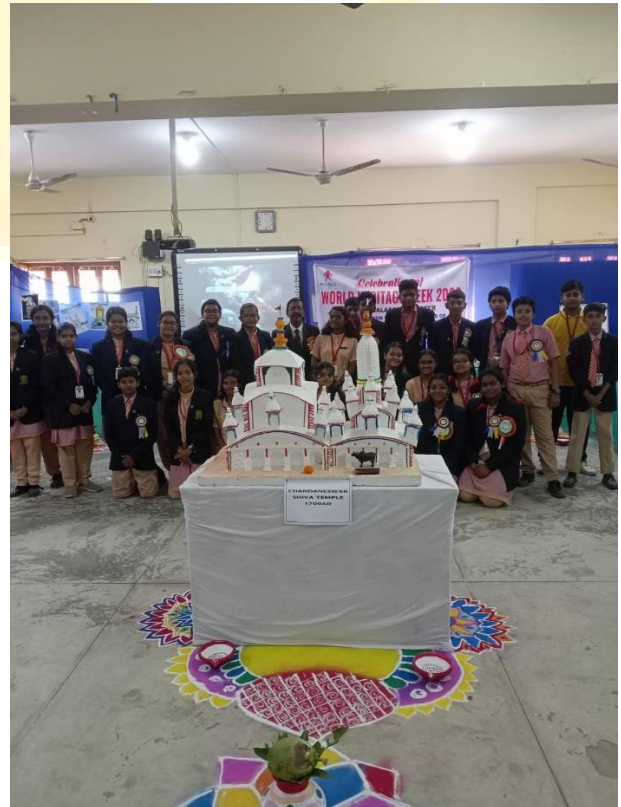
World Heritage Week was celebrated at Heritage Club of DAV Public School, Balasore by arranging an elocution competition and Odishi Dance performance by the members of the Heritage Club of the school. The programme coincided with the annual day celebration of the school. Shri Naba Kishore Pradhan, Principal DAV Public School presided the meeting. Shri Satya Narayan Nanda and Salim Soobasha, members of INTACH, Balasore Chapter enlightened the students about the importance of the World Heritage Week. Winners of the competition were awarded with prizes and certificates. The programme was coordinated by Ms. Maya Paul, Teacher-in- Charge of the Heritage Club.

AT HERITAGE CLUB OF ST. THOMAS' CONVENT SCHOOL, BALASORE:

The members of the Heritage Club of St. Thomas 'Convent School, Balasore organized an exhibition by displaying the paintings of some built heritages of Balasore district and models of some forgotten home equipment/means of transport. Shri Satya Narayan Nanda and Salim Soobasha, members of INTACH, Balasore Chapter were present at the opening ceremony and encouraged the members for their effort which was guided by Shri Ajay Kumar Singha, Teacher-in-charge of the Heritage Club of the School.



Members of Heritage Club with Members of INTACH, Principal & Teacher-In-Charge



Exhibition by Heritage Club of st. Thomas' Convent School

Mayurbhanj



Dr. Shirish Chandra Parida

still popular among readers.

He started his career as a veterinary surgeon and retired as Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Odisha. During the early stage of his career he devoted most of his time giving training to the youth mass for nation building. INTACH Mayurbhanj Chapter expresses deepest condolences on the sad demise of Dr. Parida which is irreparable loss for the chapter as well as for the state. May his soul rest in peace.

Condolence - Dr. Shirish Chandra Parida, a dedicated member of INTACH, Mayurbhanj Chapter left for the world of no return on 15th November 2023 at the age of 85 at his Baripada residence.

A multi talented person, he was the author of a research article titled “ Manab sabhyataku Matchhaya deshara dan” justifying contribution of Mayurbhanj, the Matchhaya Desh of Mahabharat period of human civilization.

He is a man of literature who wrote many popular articles. He remained as the president of Mayurbhanj Sahitya Parisad. His poem collection “Preetipurna” is

Punjab

1. Talwandi Harappan Heritage Site

State Convener visited Mana Talwandi Village which is located 20 kms from Jalandhar wherein various potteries articles have been found and may be possibly a Harappan Site. ASI has already visited the place and likely to visit again for further investigation. If our claims proved right after ASI investigations, it will be a big breakthrough in Punjab.



Talwandi Harappan Heritage Site



Meeting : Shaheed- E- Azam Sardar Bhagat Singh 's nephew Prof. Jagmohan Singh

2. Meeting : Shaheed- E- Azam Sardar Bhagat Singh 's nephew Prof. Jagmohan Singh
INTACH Punjab state convener's had a very constructive discussion on various issues of Punjab's culture and heritage with Prof Jagmohan Singh and planning to open a chapter in Ludhiana district under his stewardship.

3. INTACH Punjab organised a talk on partition by Air Commodore S Kaushik. All the INTACH members of Jalandhar and Kapurthala along with their spouses attended and also discussed various issues to conserve our culture and heritage. During Air Commodore interaction with the INTACH

members, he recounted heart wrenching stories that highlighted the grim realities faced by those who were forced to migrate to India during partition.



Talk on Partition by Air Commodore S S Kaushik , AVSM (Retd)



4. Hoshiarpur Visit: Wood crafts

On 23rd Aug 2023, we visited Hoshiarpur to see the actual condition of craftsperson engaged in famous wood inlay art fighting several odds to keep it alive. The dislocation of artisans and industrialisation have impacted the craft negatively, yet the craftsmen have kept the tradition alive and the standards high with their dedication and hard work. Artefacts from Hoshiarpur have found a place in Rashtra Pati Bhavan .



Hoshiarpur Visit: Wood crafts



Ancient scriptures and manuscripts

5. INTACH Punjab state convener also visited Vishveshvaranand Vishva Bandhu Institute of Sanskrit and Indological studies. Met the chairperson of institute Mrs Ritu Bala. A letter to a Vice Chancellor Ms Renu Vig of Punjab University, in letter he urged the Punjab University to take immediate and concrete steps to preserve these rare ancient scriptures and manuscripts.

6. Encouraging Rural Sports Kabbadi

To encourage Rural sports Kabbadi a competition was organised by INTACH Punjab State Chapter . 25 villages participated.



Encouraging Rural Sports Kabbadi

7. 1st Tourism Summit and Travel Mart 2023 Rangla Punjab

It was Held on 11th -13th Sept ,2023 at Amity University Mohali, Punjab . Punjab Govt invited Maj Gen Balwinder Singh, State Convener to speak on Heritage tourism and suggest strategy to boost tourism in Punjab .



1st Tourism Summit and Travel Mart 2023 Rangla Punjab

8. INTACH Army Heritage quiz 2023

INTACH Army heritage quiz 2023 was held at Army Public School, Jalandhar cant. on 13th Sep wherein students from different APS schools of Punjab participated. APS Beas won INTACH quiz contest and qualified to participate at the State level.



INTACH Army Heritage quiz 2023

9. Meeting with Mrs. Preeti Sangvi “ Harvard World record holder, Turning trash to treasures “



Harvard World record holder, Turning trash to treasures



World food day

10. Attended on World food day 16 Oct “Agriculture –a – living tradition “has been organised by Punjab agriculture University, Ludhiana, International association of agricultural museums and INTACH first time in Asia.

11. State Level Heritage Quiz 2023

INTACH Punjab State Chapter has organised State Level Quiz 2023 at Army Public School, Beas. Out of 9 Schools from respective district chapters and one from Army school. Spring Dale school from Amritsar stood first. Second Army Public School Beas, Third place Guru Teg Bahadur School Sangrur. DC Kapurthala graced the occasion. DD

Punjabi has covered the quiz.



State Level Heritage Quiz 2023

12. Attended “AAJ DI GALL” programme on DD National Jalandhar - INTACH Punjab State Convener Maj Gen Balwinder Singh was one of the speakers invited on the DD National “Ajj Di Gall” programme on topic Our culture, Historic Monuments, ASI. It was broadcast on DD National Channel live.

Amritsar

1. INTACH Chapter Amritsar organised the Heritage Quiz Competition 2023 at Spring Dale Senior School in Amritsar. 150 students from 19 schools participated : Springdale Senior School, DAV International School, and two teams from SL Bhavan School.

After the Oral round , Spring Dale Senior School got the first position and was chosen for state-level competition. 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, Gagandeep Singh Virk, Amritsar Chapter Convener, honoured the Principal and Vice Principal with a specially designed traditional badge of honour.



INTACH Amritsar Chapter organised the Heritage Quiz Competition 2023

2. Amritsar: Hinterland and Culinary Tourism Session

Amritsar chapter Convener participated in the “ Hinterland and Culinary Tourism Session” of our 1st Punjab Tourism Summit and Travel Mart held at Mohali from , 11-13th Sep 2023, .The first session was on promoting Amritsar as a comprehensive and holistic wedding destination , in addition to its current status as a hub for religious tourism . Convener of INTACH Amritsar chapter Gagandeep Singh Virk asserted to include millets in the diets.



Amritsar : Hinterland and Culinary Tourism Session

Faridkot



Heritage Quiz 2023

INTACH Faridkot Chapter Convener Prof. Baltej Singh Brar and co-convener Er. Raj Kumar Aggarwal organised a Heritage Quiz on 31st August 2023 . out of 10 invited schools 58 teams, 116 students participated in the competition . DCM International school , Kotakpura stood first in the competition. Winner Teams of oral quiz after written test were honoured at school campus. Now the team will compete in Punjab State Quiz competition.

Kapurthala

HERITAGE TOUR OF SCHOOL TO JANG-E AZADI MUSEUM BY KAPURTHALA CHAPTER - Heritage tour of school children of Kapurthala to Jung -e-Azadi Museum near Jalandhar.



Heritage Tour of School to Jang-E Azadi Museum

Malerkotla

Intach Malerkotla chapter organised Heritage quiz 2023 on 29th August 2023 in Alflah public Sen sec school. In this Quiz 9 schools of Malerkotla and adjoining rural area schools participated with great enthusiasm. The overall winner team of this Quiz is from Islamia public Sen. Sec. School Sherwani.



Heritage quiz 2023

Patiala



1. Seminar on Heritage and Culture

Seminar was organized at Senior secondary model school Punjabi University Patiala on 8th September, 2023 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, Mrs Balwinder Kaur, Senior Teacher of the

school and Sarbjit Singh Virk Adv. Convener INTACH Patiala Chapter spoke on the topic of Preservation and protection of our heritage. .

2. Heritage 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 Co ed High school stood second.



A National Heritage Quiz 2023



"Workshop on Endangered Arts and Crafts"

3. The Patiala Chapter of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) organised a "Workshop on Endangered Arts and Crafts" in the premises of Senior Secondary Model School, Punjabi University, Patiala, on 5th November, 2023. The school principal, Dr. Bal Krishan while welcomed the artisans, students, teachers and other participants said that there is great need to protect the endangered arts, crafts and skills for the benefits of the people and development of the society. He said that the age-old handicrafts are

our valuable heritage and the new generation should take the initiative to save these crafts from extinction. Sarbjit Singh Virk, Advocate Convener INTACH Patiala Chapter said in his address that the Punjab has rich heritage and people in huge number earn their livelihood from the crafts/works which were inherited by them from their forefathers. He said with the industrialisation and globalisation trends many of these crafts were going to extinct because of heavy costs of their inputs, labour and raw-materials. He said that the scenario is now changing day by day because the computer has come in the hands of new generation who is eager to utilize this device for transforming the old techniques and doing something new. He said that with the improvement in designing works with the help of computer and artificial intelligence the endangered arts and crafts have become the source of employment again. Dr. Subhash Chand, Assistant Professor Government College for Girls Patiala and a cartoonist gave the knowledge to the participants how the art of cartoon could become the source of income with some extra efforts in drawing works. He asked the participants to become self-employed persons by choosing traditional crafts as their profession with applying modern skills to make them profitable. He gave his own example that when he started cartooning for news papers and magazines very few people appreciated him but now many people want to adopt this artistic profession. In the workshop Sh. Parminder Singh Artist said that he is earning a handsome income from the tattoo work and sketch work. He displayed his work skills before the audience and asked the students to learn about this traditional art which is now very popular in youth. Deepjot, a sixth class student presented how he makes the beautiful and impressive clay toys which have big demand in the market. Madam Gaffooran, a 70 years' lady from village Akali Majri near Patiala gave the presentation of making earthen lamps and hutries of different designs. She said that for a safer and pollution free diwali it is the need of the hour to use the things which are harmless and provide employment to the artisans. Mr Sadhu Ram told about the art of making Sandookhs, Peties and other articles of Ispat/iron used in the kitchens. Ms Lovleen gave the presentation of phulkari making art in the program. Mr Jatinder Singh Sarao spoke on the importance and role of INTACH in preserving the Heritage in all its

manifestations. At the end Mr Laljit Singh Sidhu, former Industry officer thanked the Intach Patiala Chapter and the School Management for the successful Program.



Workshop on Endangered Arts and Crafts

Sangrur

Sangrur Chapter heritage quiz 2023

INTACH Sangrur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz Competition 2023 on 04 Sep 23. It was hosted and organised by Gen Gurnam Singh Public School. A total of 104 students from 9 schools participated in the first written round. Four teams were selected for the oral round:-

The oral round was conducted by the Student Quiz Master and Scorers under the careful supervision of the teachers. After 7 oral rounds the first position was attained by the team of Guru Teg Bahadur Public School. The School Principal, Teacher Coordinator and the support staff and students were of immense help in organising the event .



Heritage quiz 2023

Rajasthan

Alwar

1. Brainstorming and discussion on the topic of folk musical instruments, origin of folk songs and how they can be promoted and conserved.

On 10.10.2023, at 8:00 pm, the Rambihari Palace hosted an event organized by the INTACH Alwar Chapter, dedicated to the conservation and promotion of endangered folk art. The spotlight was on local folk artist Ramswaroop Jogi, a Poongi (Mashak Bean) player, along with his Companions, and folk instrumentalist Neejar Khan, who specializes in the Algauja.

The evening featured captivating folk songs performed by these artists on stage. Neejar Khan also delivered an enthralling presentation on the endangered folk instrument, the Algauja. The United Kingdom musician, Peter George Rao, and 25 members of his Glorious Adventure Group, who were touring India to explore its culture and enjoy its tourism offerings were present in the program. They showered praise on the local artists for their remarkable musical performances and expressed their gratitude. They appreciated the initiative taken by the INTACH Alwar Chapter for providing a platform for these talented folk artists. In addition, the Adventure Group engaged in a discussion with Sunita Mittal, the Convener, INTACH Alwar Chapter to further understand the event and its purpose.

At the conclusion of the program, the INTACH Alwar Chapter contributed Rs. 6,100 to support and encourage the folk artists, showcasing their commitment to preserving and promoting this endangered folk art.



The conservation and promotion of endangered folk art

Discussion & Concert on folk instruments, their origin in folklore and how to promote and save them?

On October 10, 2023, an open discussion session was arranged on local folk instruments and folklore, featuring musician Peter George Ra and 25 members of the Glorious Adventure Group from the United Kingdom. The focus was on folk musical instruments, their origin in folklore, and strategies for their promotion and preservation.

The INTACH Alwar Chapter shared extensive insights into various local folk instruments and music, which were unique for the Glorious Adventure Group members. To foster the preservation of these traditions, the stage was graced by local folk artists Ramswaroop Jogi, a Poongi (Mashak Bean) player, and his companions, as well as Algauja player Neejar Kha. The artists presented folk songs on stage, with Neejar Kha delivering a captivating presentation on the extinct folk instrument Algauja. UK musician Peter George Rav and the Adventure Group expressed appreciation for the local artists' performances and commended the initiative of the INTACH Alwar Chapter for providing such a platform. They engaged in discussions with Sunita Mittal, Convener, INTACH Alwar Chapter. The program concluded with INTACH Alwar Chapter contributing Rs. 6,100/- to encourage the folk artists.

Seminar on Hemu Vikramaditya's 522nd Birth Anniversary

In an endeavour to conserve cultural and historical heritage, INTACH Alwar Chapter organized a Seminar commemorating the 522nd birth anniversary of the great Hindu emperor Hemu Vikramaditya. Participants included INTACH members, teachers, and volunteers. D.C. Chaube, Professor & Head of the Department, Greater India and Area Studies, Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, Ministry of Culture, Delhi, served as the main speaker. Asha Kalra, a special speaker, discussed the glorious past of Hemu Vikramaditya, emphasizing his distinction as the only Hindu emperor to win 22 wars during his lifetime. Hemu, born in Machadi village of Rajgarh tehsil in the Alwar region, demonstrated remarkable bravery, strategic acumen, and political foresight. INTACH Convener Sunita Mittal urged the younger generation to learn from Alwar's glorious past and follow in Hemu's footsteps, deeming it a true tribute to the emperor. The program was moderated by Rishabh Jain and Sanchita Mathur.

"Let's move to ancient culture"

Acting based on Ramayana characters

On 25th October, 2023, Alwar Chapter organized a dialogue acting competition based on Ramayana characters, aiming to preserve ancient culture and instill awareness among young children. Students from Mahatma Gandhi Government English Medium School, Nayabas, prepared masks portraying characters such as Shri Ram, Sita, Ravana, Hanuman, and Garuda, delivering captivating performances with dialogues. Thirteen children participated in the competition. INTACH members Asha Kalra and Rajkumar Saini, along with Principal Pushpa Kundnani, teacher Shagun Gupta, and school staff, graced the event. INTACH Convener Sunita Mittal highlighted the competition's objective: to acquaint the younger generation with mythological culture, enabling them to draw inspiration from the past. Participants received encouragement and praise from the Convener and principal.

Let's keep our cultural traditions alive

"Let's make a Gharaunda (home)."

The initiative taken by the INTACH Alwar Chapter on the auspicious occasion of Diwali, through the 'Let's make a Gharaunda (home)' competition, reverberated the essence of our age-old customs. This event aimed to revive and uphold the fading tradition of crafting homes, a practice steeped in history but now dwindling in prevalence across rural areas.

The primary objective behind such endeavors is to rekindle the flame of our disappearing cultural heritage. INTACH strives to communicate this crucial message to communities, emphasizing that our culture is our identity and pride. Through events like the 'Let's make Gharaunda' competition, women from Village Bahali (Rajgadiya Ka Bas), Rajgarh Block participated enthusiastically, constructing mud houses as a part of the 'Srijan Mati Ka' program. This engagement helped them recognize the profound significance of this tradition.

Around 60 women participated, showcasing their skills in constructing mud houses. INTACH acknowledged the top five Gharaunda with mementos, while others received consolation prizes. Discussions during the event delved into the reasons behind crafting Gharaunda (home) during Diwali, enlightening women about the life of Lord Shri Ram and emphasizing the sanctity of soil, tradition, and culture.



'Let's make a Gharaunda (home)' competition

World Heritage Week (19 November 2023 to 25 November 2023)

Discussion and Heritage Tour

Jaisamand Dam needs conservation, how should it be conserved?

INTACH's D.C. Chaube, Professor and Head of the Department, Greater India and Area Studies, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Ministry of Culture, Delhi, told that there was a time when the dam was completely full. But due to lack of awareness, people have blocked water ways at many places and ignorance towards the environment is also one of the main reasons for this. Student member Dwiyanshi said in her suggestion that young students should be involved in the conservation work of local heritage so that the conservation work can be done in a better way. In the same context, in the discussion by Convener INTACH, Alwar Chapter Sunita Mittal, while expressing her concerns on the natural heritage water source of Alwar, she said that out of the total 22 dams of Alwar, the largest and most beautiful Jaisamand Dam is in a bad condition today. If the general public and administration pay attention to this, then this dam can supply sufficient water for more than 5 lakh people. Due to lack of awareness, obstructions and encroachments are seen in the inward path of water.

How to conserve and promote Jaisamand Dam? This was the main topic of the discussion; All the scholars and speakers of related subjects gave suggestions and brainstormed ideas. All the members present in the discussion shared positive suggestions on the issues of conservation of the dam, and also a Jaisamand Dam Heritage Tour was conducted with the aim of conserving our natural heritage and enhancing the water resources.



Discussion and Heritage Tour of Jaisamand Dam needs conservation

World Heritage Week (19 November 2023 to 25 November 2023)

Appeal for conservation of our heritage, our monuments

"Slogan Writing Competition"

On 23.11.2023, a "Slogan Writing" competition was organized for heritage conservation, promotion and public awareness on the occasion of World Heritage Week by INTACH Alwar Chapter. In this context, an open dialogue was held with the children of Mahatma Gandhi English Medium School, Nayabaas. In which a resolution was taken to preserve our forts, our forts, monuments and the heritage inherited from our ancestors. Also, ideal slogans were written by the children which would influence and inspire the people. Presented slogans with beautiful rhymes

1 "Understand the value of water, land and forest."

This is our precious heritage.

2 This echoes the plight of the 52 forts in Alwar,
urging for renewed awareness and attention.

In the competition, children expressed their feelings towards heritage. Students from classes 9 to 12 participated in the competition. Students securing first, second and third positions in the competition were felicitated by INTACH Alwar Chapter.



"Slogan Writing Competition"

"One step towards heritage"

Organization of district level one day workshop

Rajasthan State Bharat Scout Guide

95 Scout Guide trainee teachers and students participated in the workshop in the auditorium.

There was in-depth discussion on heritage conservation and promotion by scholars, historians, wild life experts, natural heritage experts, Sariska Tiger Project etc.

The seminar was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Mayor Municipal Corporation Alwar, Senior historian Shri Harishankar Goyal,

Wildlife specialist Niranjana Singh Rajput (Natural Heritage)

Smt. Asha Kalra Alwar Tourism

Ms Rishabha Jain Heritage Quiz

Shri Satish Chaudhary INTACH Introduction & Work

Shri Bijendra Singh Naruka Co-Convener

Mr. Rajkumar Seni

(Program Coordinator)

Members of INTACH Alwar Chapter and officials of Scout Guide were present. All the participants were given a pledge that the young generation should take responsibility for the conservation and preservation of public places and our heritage.

The Seminar concluded with heritage folk song.

9. "One step towards heritage"

One day Workshop on Heritage Conservation & Promotion

A one-day district level workshop titled "One Step Towards Heritage" on the conservation and promotion of heritage was organized by the INTACH Alwar Chapter. The event took place in the auditorium of the Rajasthan State Bharat Scouts & Guides Training Institute in District Alwar on 9th December, 2023. The distinguished attendees included Chief Guest Ghanshyam Gurjar, Mayor, Municipal Corporation of Alwar, CO Scout Kalpana Sharma, Convener Sunita Mittal, and Co-Convener Bijendra Singh Naruka, who inaugurated the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp.

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

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

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

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



One day Workshop on Heritage Conservation & Promotion

10. Organization of Heritage Tour and Talk under Heritage Week on behalf of INTACH Alwar Chapter –

The Jaisamand Dam, located in the Alwar district, is indeed a significant heritage site constructed by Raja Jai Singh in 1910. This dam holds prominence as the largest among the 22 dams within the district and serves as a vital source of water supply for approximately five lakh people. The inward path of water at Jaisamand Dam faces challenges due to lack of awareness. Obstructions, and encroachments obstruct the smooth flow of water into the dam.

Conserving and promoting Jaisamand Dam, which was once abundant with water but now faces a scarcity, was the focal point of discussions among scholars and experts. They brainstormed deeply and offered valuable suggestions. The dam, which held abundant water in the past, now echoes a sense of desolation, even the picturesque ghat umbrella seems to mourn its current state. Notably, the legendary Hindi cinema actress Waheeda Rehman filmed a song for the movie "Neelkamal" on the dam's banks, showcasing its former glory in 1968 when it was teeming with water and surrounded by lush greenery. Today, it longs for restoration and safeguarding. To address this, the team members devised a comprehensive plan outlining forthcoming efforts. They emphasized the necessity for collective action involving both the public and administration. Furthermore, highlighting this site for tourism promotion was considered crucial.

Keynote speakers D.C. Choubey, Professor and HoD, Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi, Mrs. Sheela, Rishabha Jain, Divyanshi, Satish Choudhary, Rajkumar Seni, Archana Daga, Neerja highlighted the main points.

Baran

1. As the second step of the public awakening campaign run by the Indian national trust for art and cultural heritage Varah Nagari Baran Chapter, to acquaint the people of the district with the complete wealth and heritage of historical importance, under the joint auspices of Rajasthan State Bharat Scout Guide Headquarters, Baran, on 6th December, "From Baran" "Ramgarh" Heritage Yatra was organised. Which was flagged off by District Collector Shri Narendra Gupta, INTACH Advisory Committee Chairman Bhamashah Shri Vishnu Sabu, Chief District Education Officer Shri Piyush Kumar Sharma.

The team of INTACH members along with Scout District Organization Commissioner Mr. Pradeep Chittaura and Secretary Head Quarter Commissioner Mr. Bhairulal Bhaskar, Guide Circle Organizer Mrs. Sunita Meena reached Ramgarh Impact Crater.

Everyone was welcomed with garlands by INTACH Mangrol in-charge Mr. Ramdas Sharma, Secretary Mr. Bharat Chaurasia and other INTACH members at the "Surli" memorial of historical importance in Mangrol town.

Ramgarh: Many sites including Impact Crater, Mini Khajuraho Bhanddevra Temple of Rajasthan, the penance place of Kelagiri Maharaj, Pushkar Sarovar, Annapurna Devi Maa and Krishnai Devi Maa Temple, Brahma Kund, Jain Civilization were visited.

Around a hundred members, including those from the basic course, formed a human chain and demanded from the government for the renovation of Bhanddevra. They also took oath for the renovation of Bhanddevra with historical and archaeological slogans.

INTACH member Chandraprakash Goswami gave detailed information about all the places.

In the end, after the Rajasthani traditional feast, everyone expressed thanks for the efforts of INTACH. Jitendra Kumar Sharma Convener intach Baran chapter

2. Baran, 30 October. "The historical and archaeological heritage located in Baran district is of great importance. Especially the world-famous crater is also present here. All these heritages will make Baran emerge as a big tourism hub in the future. That day is not far away when the domestic and foreign tourists here will come in large number." These thoughts were expressed by Shri Piyush Kumar Sharma, Chief District Education Officer, as the Chief Guest in a one-day Seminar organized at Shri Gauraji Dham in Mangrol. The campaign was initiated by INTACH Varah Nagari Baran Chapter to bring the neglected ancient heritages in front of the general public.

Special Guest Shyam Singh Rajawat said, "If the youth of Mangrol continue to receive the guidance of INTACH like this, then we will be successful in bringing every heritage of this area in front of all the people of the district."

While presiding, Mr. Pradeep Kumar Chittora, Circle Organizer of Baran District of Scouts, said, "In a diverse event organized by INTACH members, it was wonderful to see so many youths showing interest in their ancient heritage, buildings of historical importance and intangible heritages." It is a good sign for the times to come. I am involved in every such campaign along with the Scouts & Guides across the district."

While speaking on the historical and archaeological importance of Shri Gauraji Dham in the seminar organized by INTACH, INTACH member Shri Ramdas Sharma said that various types of archaeological remains are scattered at this place which do not have any owner. The history here goes back thousands of years in terms of folk deities and the beliefs & traditions prevalent since ancient times still persist. The finding of wood idols here is not only ancient but is also a subject of research."

The seminar was started by worshiping Goddess Saraswati and lighting the lamp, after which Gauraji Maharaj was worshiped.

Member Bharat Chaurasia presented the welcome speech by garlanding the idols.

The seminar was conducted by Shri Ramdas Sharma. The seminar ended with vote of thanks.

Barmer

INTACH Art and Craft one day workshop organized

INTACH plays an important role in taking forward the traditional craft art - General Manager

INTACH Chapter has an important contribution in promoting the hidden traditional craft art of the district. This statement was expressed by District Industries Center General Manager Sahiram as the Chief Guest in the one-day Art & Craft workshop organized by INTACH at the local girls school on Friday.

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

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

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



INTACH Art and Craft one day workshop



Bundi

1. Brief Report on the Field Visit of the Rock Paintings within the Hadoti Region of Bhilwara and Bundi Districts, Rajasthan

Paintings on natural surfaces of caves, shelters, and boulders are a global phenomenon and one of the earliest human artistic manifestations. The study of such paintings throws light on the lifeways of prehistoric people and provides information on their thoughts and beliefs, society, religion and rituals, and their material culture. The Hadoti region, especially the “Hadoti Plateau” of Rajasthan and its nearby areas like Bijoliya, has treasures of rock shelters and rock paintings of which many have been discovered and many remain unexplored. These paintings depict that the region around the Hadoti Plateau was one of the favourable regions because of its topography which provides them with water, food and shelter.

The Udaipur Chapter of INTACH initiated the project of the documentation of the rock paintings of the Hadoti region in April 2023. It could be possible for the Chapter because of taking the personal initiative of the President of INTACH and he provided all kinds of support for this.

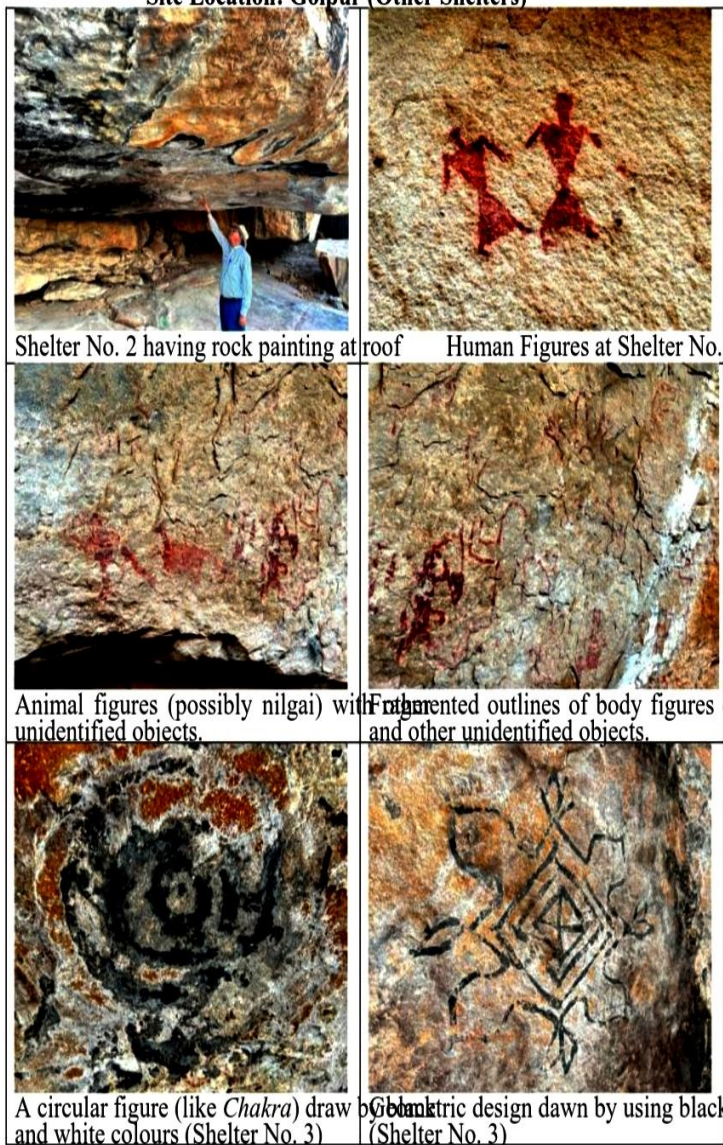
First Field Visit:

On 9th, 10th, and 11 April 2023, a field visit was organised to study the Rock Paintings of the said region. It was accompanied by Om Prakash Sharma alias Kukki, a local amateur archaeologist, because he understands the region and he made it easy for the team to reach the proper destination and could take necessary photographs and other required information of the surroundings. It will be worth mentioning here that Om Prakash alias Kukki claims that he discovered them and because of it the region became popular in the history of the prehistoric period. During the discussion, Kukki claimed that there are more than 30 rock paintings in the Hadoti Plateau region. During the survey, it was noticed that each site has 1 to 12 rock shelters and each shelter has 1 to nearly 100 figures i.e. rock paintings.

After observing the region, the following rock painting sites for the documentation on their merit:

1 Akoda - Ka-nada, 2 Banka, 3 Banganga, 4 Bhairupal, 5 Bhimlat, 6 Cable Nagar, 7 Bijoliya (Hathi Tol), 8 Chamalia Nala, 9 Chapriya, 10 Bhadkiya, 11 Chattaneshwar, 12 Dharwa, 13 Dolamari - Ka-Tol, 14 Gardia, 15 Golpur, 16 Gopichand - Ka- Chhajja, 17 Hai- Ki - Dhar

Site Location: Golpur (Other Shelters)



A circular figure (like *Chakra*) drawn in black and white colours (Shelter No. 3)

Geometric design drawn by using black (Shelter No. 3)

In the first field visit the Golpura was identified as the richest site. The Shelter of Golpura has varied kind of shapes and designs in animal figures, geometric designs, hunting scenes, and plants. The main feature of these paintings is that it contains a full-body figure of Nilgai, Wild boar, Wild ass, Humped bulls, Monkey, Archer, Hunting man, Bison, Turtle, Wild Bear, Dog, Cow, Flowerpot, Tree, and also Human figures. Besides, Gararda was also identified as an important site. At Gararda Shelter 1 was the largest Shelter. The full body figure of Bison and a few unidentified animals were also depicted. The overlapping of the figures was found here in abundance. This superimposition of paintings indicates that it was the most favourable Shelter of the human groups of different periods. Even today its amicable surroundings confirm the reason for the overlapping of the paintings. The hand impressions of man were also noticed at the Bijoliya-Hathitol. It also makes it unique. The hand impression gives the impression that the size of the hand resembles

our hand.

During the visit, it was noticed that the maximum sites are in remote areas and in many cases they are near the edge of cliffs. Therefore, it becomes difficult to reach the site normally.

In one site Astoli- ka- nala a good number of Achulian tools were also found. It confirms that in the Palaeolithic age i.e. 2, 00,000 ago early men resided there

Second Field Visit:

The second visit was conducted on 3rd and 4th August, 2023. Likewise the first visit this time also Om Prakash alias Kukki was with the team and with his valuable assistance the team covered the following sites Dharwan Rock Shelter, 2 Palka Rock Shelter, 3 Sui Ka Naka Rock Shelter, 4 Lorda Rock Shelter, 5 Bewariya Rock Shelter, and 5 Kewariya Rock Shelter.

The subject matter was also similar in the above-mentioned sites. Interestingly in a few cases, the script was also noticed here. It gives the impression that these should be historic periods. Besides the full-coloured bodies of women and men, the outline of the human bodies is also noticed which shows that the site should be of the earliest period. In a few Shelters, the lion elephant, horse, and snake figures were also drawn. It seems these are comparatively younger and must be of the Mesolithic period i.e. around 10,000 years old. The archaeological research has already confirmed that the Bhilwara region is also known as the centre of Mesolithic and Copper Age Culture. The remains of five human skeletons were also recovered at Bagor which is located at Bhilwara. The circumstantial evidence also confirms that these Mesolithic people had a belief in the concept of "Life after Death". During the survey, a kind of Megaliths which are called "Menhirs" were also noticed in many places. These were installed on the memory of the dead. Essentially the Megalithic Culture begins in peninsular India. The Megalithic Culture flourished around 1000 BCE and they had developed an advanced technology to make iron tools.

Approximately 400 rock paintings have been photographed and all the required information to write the complete report has been collected it is our view that after sorting all of them, about 300 paintings can be presented in book form.

Besides the Convener, Lalit Pandey, Professor Vinod Agrawal, Dr Hemant Sen, Om Prakash Kukki, and G Gaurav Singhvi were the members of the field visit.

2. On the occasion of the Aazadi ka Amrit mahotsav, INTACH Bundi Chapter organized Mahakavi Suryamal Mishran Jayanti Week and organized many events from 17th October to 23rd October.

The programs were started on 17th October from Govt. Hr. Secondary School Chaugan Gate, in which the lecture series was addressed by many speakers including Sarvesh Tiwari and Dr. RN Soni and Chapter Convener Raj Kumar Dadhich. A lecture series was organized at Govt. Maharani Hr. Sec. School, Bundi on 18th October. And on October 19, the birth anniversary of the great hero of independence, Suryamal, a ceremonial wreath was laid on the statue of the great poet situated in Suryamal Chowk located in Raniji's stepwell and a heritage tour was taken out from Raniji stepwell to the mansion. On the same day, at 7.30 pm, at the Garh Palace, an ideological poetry seminar was organized on the Bulbul platform below in which famous poets and writers participated. Convener Raj Kumar Dadhich said that on this occasion a Quiz was organized in educational institutions and the winners were rewarded.

In which students were asked questions related to Suryamal Mishran and heritage. Under the week, save heritage public awareness was also organized in Visva-Bharati. Saplings were planted near Lanka Gate and the week ended in Harna village, the birthplace of Suryamal Mishran. Co-Convener Rajendra Bhardwaj, great grandson of the great poet Khuman Singh Harna, members Nand Prakash Nanji, Piyush Pachak, JP Tripathi, Ashok Sharma, Mahavir Sharma, Rituraj Dadhich, historians, poets, common people and students participated enthusiastically.



Mahakavi Suryamal Mishran Jayanti Week

Jaipur

Project Nila is a creative development initiative for conserving, promoting, and strengthening traditional artisan communities in India.

Nila House provides a physical, creative, and intellectual space for artisans, young designers, and other like-minded individuals through its various facilities and programs. The renovation project began in January 2018 by Studio Mumbai whose founder, Bijoy Jain, is known for his body of work that continues to reference aspects of both Indian and Western cultures. The skills and traditions celebrated in the architectural restoration of Nila House represent a brilliant combination of tradition and modernity and mirror those that will be revived within the centre itself. Craft-focused workshops and seminars take place throughout the year, led by masters in their fields including block printing and shibori dyeing, hand weaving, hand spinning, embroidery, and ceramics.

Located in the posh, upmarket C Scheme area, where most of the old bungalows have been converted into multi-storied buildings and some have given way to commercial activities, Nila House managed to retain its original structure with minimum changes. Nila House opened to the public in 2019, encompassing a series of open studios, retail showrooms, an archive, a research library, an art gallery, a textiles vault and an artists-in-residence wing.

While there is much to admire in how Nila House has been restored, what is equally commendable is the way it is being reused - it is truly representative of a historic past. Nila House is doing a great job in promoting indigo as well as local crafts. What is important is that it's bringing people back to their rich and, sometimes, forgotten crafts.

It was many of these concerns – combined with a longstanding passion for India and natural dyes – that led to the launch of Nila House: a cultural centre of excellence, spearheaded by the Lady Bamford Foundation, and dedicated to honouring, preserving, and promoting the natural dye and handloom traditions of India. The necessity to keep the integrity and authenticity of this craft and the hard work of these artisans intact and growing is what makes this project a very crucial step towards sustaining and expanding these crafts further. This centre is a medium to translate this vision into reality.

INTACH Jaipur Chapter has been closely associated with the Lady Bamford Foundation in their CSR initiatives and has done two restoration projects in Jaipur and the documentation of Nila House was also done by the Jaipur Chapter.

Jhalawar

1. Buddhist Prayers on Kartik Poornima at Ellora of Rajasthan

Rock-cut Buddhist caves of Kolvi group are Ellora of Rajasthan, situated at the southern end of Jhalawar district. These caves are scattered across tabletop low hills in laterite formations in Koliv, Binayaga, Gunai, and Hathiyagod villages. These caves remained in oblivion until 1851 when Dr. E. Impey, resident surgeon of Indore, explored and reported them in the Journal of Bombay Branch of Royal Asiatic Society in 1857. In 1864, General Alexander Cunningham, first Director General of Archaeological Survey of India, also mentioned Kolvi group of caves in his reports.

In all probability, these sites served as short resting sites for Buddhist monks on pilgrimages to famous sites like Sanchi in Madhya Pradesh and Ajanta and Ellora in Maharashtra. King Ashoka, was the commander of Maurya Empire at Ujjaini (now Ujjain) before assuming the throne. Ashoka and his grandson ,Dasrath, provided royal patronage to such sites between 185-72 B.C.

In the fifth century A.D., Buddhist king of Dashpur (Mandsour, M.P.), a contemporary of Gupta period kings (318-550 A.D.), constructed Chaityas, Stupas, and Viharas in the Malwa region, which is in proximity to Aulikar kings, nobles of Gargratpuram (Gangdhar in Jhalawar district), who may have initiated Kolvi group of caves. Therefore, the Kolvi group of caves likely dates back to 5th to 8th century in the historical timeline. Apart from Jhalawar district, Buddhist sites have also been reported in Bairath (Alwar), Bhandarej (Dausa), and Ramgaon (Tonk) villages. These sites form a trail followed by Buddhist monks on pilgrimage. However, little attention and publicity have been given to Buddhist heritage sites, leading to negligence. Dr. Sampoorina Nand, Governor of Rajasthan (1962-67), visited Kolvi sites and instructed Archaeological Survey of India and Rajasthan Department of Tourism to develop and maintain these cave sites. Remote location of these sites, over 90 kilometers from the district headquarters and outside the typical tourist circuit of Rajasthan, has contributed to their lack of tourist attraction. Weathering due to rain and lack of regular upkeep and maintenance have led these sites to fall into ruin, with abundance of wild plants evident in the complex.

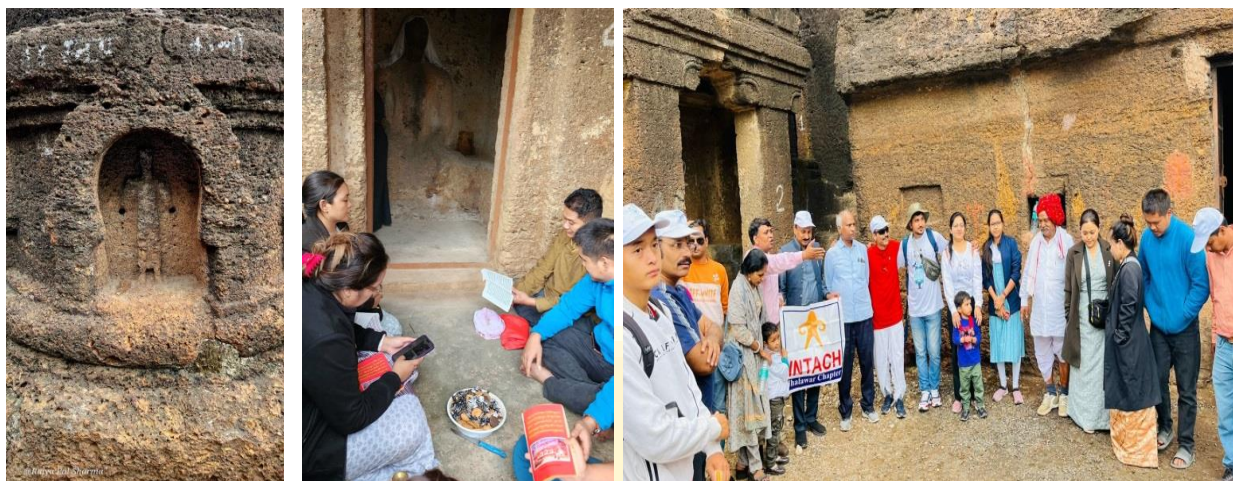
Members of Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), Jhalawar have visited Kolvi sites multiple times and have been concerned about the poor publicity and maintenance of this unique Buddhist heritage site in Rajasthan. A pilgrimage tour of Buddhists from Ladakh, Mizoram, Karnataka, and Sikkim was organized on the auspicious day of Kartik Pournima (27th November 2023) by INTACH in collaboration with 'Dekho Rajasthan' tourist travel agency of Jhalawar.

Shri Alok Ranjan ,District Collector of Jhalawar flagged off the tourist bus. Prayers were offered at the entrance chaitya at Kolvi site, where Lord Buddha is engraved in a seated meditation posture. Readings from religious books, chanting of mantras, and lighting of incense sticks were part of the Vajrayana (Mahayana sect) pooja tradition. Another chaitya features a standing Buddha statue (12 ft. high) with left hand placed at his chest in the Dhyan Mudra. Incense sticks were placed in the stupa opposite the chaitya, and prayers were offered by the group. Tourists also visited nearby caves, Chaityagrahas, and viharas at Binayaga. Some visitors expressed religious and historical sites and wondered as to why these sites have not gained prominence in the past.

Visit of Columnar Basaltic Rock Site (GEO Heritage Site) :-

En route, tourists were taken to 65 million-year-old basaltic columnar joints site at Mishroli village, a geological formation unique to Rajasthan. Witnessing the solid hexagonal columns was an amazing experience for the tourists. INTACH Jhalawar is taking initiatives and efforts are made towards getting this site recognised as Geopark. Satisfied and content after the visit participants returned to Jhalawar in the evening.





Glimpses of Kolvi and Binayaga Buddhist Caves



Visit of Columnar Basaltic Rock

2. INTACH JHALAWAR LAUNCHES MILLET MAHOTSAVA

On the eve of World Food Day, 16th Oct. 2023, Intach, Jhalawar chapter organised millet festival at Farmer's Training Centre, Punjab National Bank, Jhalrapatan. This was the first Mahatsava in the series as a collaborative initiative in partnership with Senior Citizen's Samiti, Jhalawar, Farmer's Training Centre and Intach. Though millets (bajra and others) were cultivated in Sindhu Valley Civilization and were part of traditional food system about 7000 years ago in Asia and Sub-Saharan region of Africa, with advent of Green-Revolution they were abandoned as orphaned grains. This revolution created heavy dependence on three major crops viz, wheat, rice and maize on people's daily diet. These crops consume lion's share of resources like water, land, energy and money. Despite food surplus, U.N. estimate puts global hunger affecting about 828 million people in 2021. Frequent droughts, floods and other natural calamities on account of climate-change, are threats to world food security.

India's proposal in 2021 to the General Assembly of United Nations was accepted with declaration of International Year of Millets (IYM) in 2023. It is hoped that issues relating to awareness, policy formation and implementation by various countries of the world will be focused.

India has established an initiative, MIRA (Millet International Initiative for Research and Awareness) with its Secretariat at New Delhi during G-20 Nations meetings in Feb. 2023. India is at the top in production and export of millets in the world and Rajasthan state is number one in the country in this regard. Recognizing the facts that millets are gluten free, powerhouses of nutrition with low carbon foot-prints and are helpful in reduction of modern age diseases like type-II diabetes, anaemia in women and children, Intach Jhalawar has launched Millet Mahotsavas in the district. This full one day activity consisted of exposure of participants through short video on millets as healthy food with supporting literature, recipes preparation, group discussion and field visit. A team of Dr. Madhu Sudan Acharya, Lead Resource Person; Mrs. Reeta Sharma, Mrs. Suneeta Sen, Mrs. Shadma Khan and Mrs. Prachi Chourasia, assisted in preparation of various millet recipes. Recipes from positive millets (foxtail, little millet, brown top, kodon and barnyard) and neutral millets (ragi-finger millet and proso) were prepared. Little millet (kutaki) soup, proso (chena) pulav, kodon kheer and kodon haluva and ragi, laddoos were served to participants for sensory evaluation and taste. Dr. Acharya emphasised that inclusion of millets in dietary schedule for a period of three months in any form of recipe, will result in healthy human beings. Two millet users on regular and long term basis, Dr. Gokul Nagar and Mrs. Reeta Sharma cleared doubts of participants regarding after-effects of reduction of wheat and rice in their regular diet schedule. Sh. S.C. Gupta, President of Senior Citizen's Samiti and Sh. Ambalal Sen, veteran senior citizen, expressed utility of millets and urged participants for adoption of millets in dietary schedule. There were forty keen participants in this Mahotsav and they expressed hope that INTACH will take up Millet Mahotsav as to larger population and will form this initiative continued endeavour.



Glimpses of Millet Mahotsava - INTACH Chapter Jhalawar

Marwar/Jodhpur

1. World Geo-diversity Day Special

Geo-heritage, ranging from Rasolai Pond at Mehrangarh Hills to the National Geological Monument, has gained recognition. Due to the rapid growth of geo-tourism worldwide, UNESCO has designated 6th October each year as International Geo-diversity Day. In order to identify and preserve our land and groundwater heritage and culture, a Geo Heritage Walk was organized on Friday with the collaborative efforts of the Jodhpur Geo-Heritage Group, INTACH Jodhpur Chapter, and the Mehrangarh Museum Trust. The walk was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor of JNVU, Prof. K.L. Srivastava.

During this event, Prof. Srivastava highlighted the geo-morphology, igneous, and sedimentary structures of Mehrangarh Hills and emphasized their conservation to the participants. Former Chairman of the JNVU Geology Department, Prof. Suresh Mathur informed that the walk traversed six different geological sites, culminating at Mehrangarh parking, where he discussed the geo-diversity and unique rock formations of international significance found on Mehrangarh Hill. The Group's Vice President, a groundwater scientist and former president of RPSC, Dr. Shiv Singh, provided insights into the hydrology and history of Rasolai Pond and Devkund located at Mehrangarh.

Dr. Mahendra Singh, INTACH Convener delved into the history of Jodhpur, shedding light on Mehrangarh Fort, its boundary wall, and various historical and cultural heritages. Prof. S.R. Jakhar, Chairman of the JNVU Geology Department furnished detailed information about the two National Geological Monuments designated by the Government of India.

Environmental activist Prasannapuri Goswami apprised the participants about the Herbal Park located in Mehrangarh and its biodiversity.

Dr. Saurabh Mathur, Group Secretary, offered in-depth insights into the unique volcanic rocks situated in Rao Jodha Rock Park, the rare formations found within them, and the geological museum located in the park.

After the tour, participants expressed their appreciation for the protected geological sites on Mehrangarh Hills and considered them as valuable educational resources and prime destinations for geo-tourism.



World Geo-diversity Day Special

2. On 4th & 5th October, 2023, a two-day national workshop focusing on the "Traditions of Water Conservation and Promotion with Special Reference to Luni River" took place in Jodhpur. The event was organized jointly by the Deendayal Research Institute New Delhi, Mehrangarh Museum Trust, INTACH Jodhpur Chapter, and the Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts to commemorate the birth centenary year of His Highness Maharaja Hanwant Singhji (1923-2023). The workshop organized at the Chaikalav Palace, Mehrangarh Fort. The inauguration of the workshop commenced on 4 October, 2023 at 11:00 am. Eminent subject experts from various places, including Delhi, Gujarat, Alwar, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Barmer, Pali, Nagaur etc. actively participated in the two-day event.

Day 1: Inauguration Ceremony - 4 October, 2023: The Chief Guest for the inauguration ceremony was Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Minister for Jal Shakti, Government of India. In his address, he emphasized the pressing challenge of water conservation and the need to ensure the availability of water. He said that exploitation of nature should be stopped. He called for the preservation of natural elements, such as gochar (grazing land), ponds, orans (forest groves), angors (community spaces), rivers etc. He stressed the importance of preventing encroachments in rivers and ensuring that no polluted water enters them. He urged everyone to prioritize the purity and sanctity of rivers and work collectively to safeguard ancient water sources. In today's era, there is a strong need for their maintenance. Water is invaluable, and it is essential for life, making its conservation a top priority. Shri Shekhawat also underscored the importance of preserving underground water and making water conservation a people's movement through workshops like this. The inauguration ceremony was presided over by Maharaja Shri Gajsinghji, Convener, INTACH Rajasthan Chapter. In his presidential address, he emphasized the need to raise awareness about water conservation, preserve ancient water sources, and use water efficiently. He highlighted the potential of the Luni River to fulfill water requirements if it is properly maintained. When it rains, the river water can recharge wells and support successful crop irrigation. Water holds significant cultural importance in Marwar. The keynote address at the inauguration ceremony was delivered by Mr. Atul Jain, General Secretary, Deendayal Research Institute. He provided an overview of water culture throughout the country and stressed the importance of society's active participation in water conservation. He highlighted the value of traditional knowledge, including folk songs and folk tails, which described communal efforts in cleaning rivers before the rainy season. Villagers used to work together and have food collectively. All these things have been described in folk songs. Such information needs to be collected at present. In the present times, protection of water, forests, land and animals is very important. INTACH Barmer Chapter Convener Rawal, Shri Kishan Singh Jasol in his address said that in 2012, a workshop was held on Luni River under Jal Bhagirathi and in 2022 also under INTACH Chapter, discussions were held regarding saving and conservation of Luni River. In this context, a two-day workshop is being held today, which is very important from the point of view of water conservation of Luni River. Scholars coming from outside will present their views in this regard and those views will definitely yield meaningful results. Luni river is still in existence, positive and collective effort is needed to bring it into full existence. Make all citizens aware of this. Regarding water conservation, Maharaja Umedsinghji and Maharaja Hanwantsinghji had important participation and Maharaja Shri Gajsinghji also has an important contribution through Jal Bhagirathi. Mahamandaleshwar Sainacharya Shri Achalanandgiriji attended the inauguration ceremony. In his address, he said that the maintenance of all the ancient water sources is very important. It is necessary to keep the rivers clean. Dirty water should not be allowed to enter them. These ancient water sources should be developed in the coming times because these sources can prove to be

very useful in times of water crisis. Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar, Convener, INTACH Jodhpur Chapter in his welcome address said that for the last many years, efforts are being made by the common people and distinguished people for the conservation and promotion of the ancient and historical Luni River. Under this, a two-day workshop is being organized in Mehrangarh. He expressed gratitude to all the scholars and guests for attending this workshop. Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar, Convener, INTACH Jodhpur Chapter, extended a warm welcome to all the scholars and guests, expressing gratitude for their participation in the workshop. The inauguration ceremony began with the lighting of lamps and the offering of flowers before the idol of Mother Saraswati and a picture of Maharaja Hanwant Singhji. Subsequently, the guests on the stage were greeted with bouquet.

Release of books – During the inauguration ceremony, Maharaja Shri Gajsinghji had the Honor of inaugurating two significant books: "Rashtriya Itihas Mein Rathore," which was edited by Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar and Dr. Vimlesh Rathod, and "Oran (Sacred Land) Conservation of the Community, Conserved Area (ICCAS)," also edited by Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar. This auspicious event was graced by the presence of Shri Gajendra Singh ji and several other distinguished guests on the stage. Dr. Meena Jangid from the Deendayal Research Institute delivered the vote of thanks as a mark of appreciation for everyone's participation.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of several distinguished individuals, including Brigadier Shaktisingh, Justice Raghuvendra Singh Rathore, Jagat Singh Rathore, Brigadier M.S., Jodha, Bhagirath Vaishnav, Prasannapuri Goswami, Ramji Vyas, Colonel Manohar Singh Korna, Dr. Vikram Singh Gundoj, M.L. Jangid, Dr. Saddiq Mohammad, Yashovardhan Sharma, C.P. Deval, Dr. Devi Lal Panwar, Jaisalmer Convener Bhopal Singh Bhati, Dr. Jitendra Singh Bhati, Dr. Shaktisingh Khakharki, Dr. Vimlesh Rathore, Ranjit Singh Jyani, Shailesh Mathur, Gharmanshu Bohra, Sunil Laghate, Sunil Kalla, Samarth Sharma, Sawai Panwar, Mehak Chaudhary, and many other distinguished citizens. Following the inauguration ceremony, a luncheon was arranged to show appreciation for all the guests. Technical Session – After lunch, two technical sessions took place. In the first session, three scholars presented their views through PowerPoint presentations. The first speaker, Aman Singh, the founder of the Institute of Agriculture & Ecology pointed out that while there has been significant conservation work on rivers in India and around the world, the Luni River has not received the attention it deserves. He provided a historical perspective on the challenges faced by the Luni River, drawing from a two-year study and insights from people living along its banks. He discussed how pastoral communities once depended on the river for their livelihoods, including farming. However, this is no longer the case due to the stagnation of the river's water flow.

A study was conducted to analyze the river's condition from 1950 to 1980, 1980 to 2000, and 2000 to 2020, leading to several conclusions. The second speaker, Prof. N.S. Rathod from the Department of Geography, Mohanlal Sukhadia University highlighted various geographical aspects of the Luni River and its drainage area. He discussed the historical sources of water, ranging from the pre-Vedic period to modern times. The third speaker, a former Principal Scientist, ICAR delivered a presentation on the topic of 'The Flora of Luni Basin.' He emphasized the importance of preserving all vegetation in and around the rivers without interfering with nature. He also listed the names of various trees and grasses found in the rivers that prove beneficial to people. The session was chaired by Shri Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division, INTACH, New Delhi. In the second session, three speakers shared their insights on the current state of the Luni River. First, Gajendrapal Singh Ji Posana, Convener, INTACH Jalore Chapter emphasized that the workshop provided an excellent opportunity to preserve the river's heritage. He called for collective efforts from all participants to achieve this goal. He also highlighted the historical significance of the Luni region for Marwari horses, which have thrived due to the quality of fodder, climate, and water. Additionally, he pointed out the religious importance of the various places around the Luni River. He provided detailed information on the harm being inflicted upon the river. The second speaker of this session, Col. Mohansinghji Babra said that we should not tamper with nature. Don't cut trees. Do not throw dirty things in the river. He recommended involving local communities, understanding their needs, and proceeding with river conservation in accordance with their insights. He also underscored the revival of religious beliefs regarding water. The third speaker, Omsinghji Rajpurohit, Bureau Chief of Rajasthan Patrika in Pune, discussed the historical context of the Pichiyak Dam, where nine rivers and ninety-nine drains used to converge. He mentioned that in 1889, Maharaja Jaswant Singhji II constructed the Jaswant Sagar Dam, which provided livelihoods to thousands of people. However, since 1989, the inflow of water into this dam has ceased, resulting in a decline in water levels. Villagers living near the dam had to relocate. Currently, the dam receives minimal water, and the land remains unirrigated. Rajpurohit stressed the significance of recharging the dams, as they are essential to the livelihoods of thousands of people. Filling the dams will ensure water flows into the rivers, making the region lush green, and farmers prosperous. Therefore, preserving the water heritage is vital to prevent its destruction. Professor N.S. Rathod from the Department of Geography, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, chaired this session.

Day 2: 5th October, 2023 - Technical session and Closing Ceremony – On the second day, on 5th October, 2023, three technical sessions were organized, followed by the closing ceremony in the evening. In the first session of the second day, Dr. Pooja Prasad from I.I.T. Delhi provided a detailed explanation of the hydro system of the Luni River. She emphasized that rivers are the most crucial source of water and presented a comprehensive report based on her survey of Kenya's rivers, illustrating how the Luni River has changed over the past 40 years.

She stressed that the Luni River is akin to a heritage site and discussed its policy and potential for ecosystem development. The second speaker, Shri Rajendra Singh Sodha, stated that to revive the Luni River, the acacia trees should be uprooted. Furthermore, he recommended halting gravel mining and preventing contaminated water from industries from flowing into the river, asserting that these actions are essential for conservation. He expressed confidence that the Luni River can indeed be cleaned. Dr. Vimlesh Rathod, while presenting his research paper, referred to the Luni River as the Ganga of the Marudhar region. He delved into the literature and cultural significance of the Luni River, emphasizing how various elements of nature are revered in Indian culture and Sanatan Dharma. Ancient water sources like rivers are connected with people's life. The importance of water has been depicted in many genres of Rajasthani. Shri Vikram Singh Taparwada said that the exotic acacia in the river reduces the mining of gravel. It should not be cut again and again. He said that Luni river originates from Nag Pahad which has been the area of Bagwats. This area of Luni river was Sarasabd area. Now the entire area has been ruined due to mining. Animal husbandry has decreased. People of Kir caste living in the villages near the river used to do farming but they have now migrated. Deforestation has also caused destruction. If work is done on this, positive results can be achieved. Engineering student Neha Rai discussed water pollution in the Luni River, emphasizing how industrial waste has contaminated the river, leading to poor water quality. She stressed the need to address water pollution and its impact. The next speaker, Mr. Vasant Pandey, Treasurer, Deendayal Research Institute proposed the recharge of Jaswant Sagar to promote recharge farming, benefiting thousands of farmers. He also suggested diverting water from another river to the Luni. Shri Aman Singh presided over this session. In the second session of the second day, the first speaker, Advocate Shailendra Pal Singh highlighted the importance of water by referencing verses from the Shanti Parva of the Rigveda and the Mahabharata, emphasizing that water donation is considered a noble act. He stressed the significance of water through Sanskrit verses and highlighted the constitutional decisions related to rivers. Recognizing Luni River as a national heritage, he argued, can lead to its improvement, given that it is the largest river in Western Rajasthan. The second speaker, Advocate Digvijsingh Jasol, discussed policy and law in the context of the Luni River, pointing out that contaminated water from textile industries in Pali and Balotra is polluting the river. He advocated for the development of a policy for river maintenance and conservation to benefit a larger population. Without a clear policy, he argued, the Luni River's condition will not improve. He also emphasized the need for research on the groundwater of the Luni River and called for collaborative efforts between institutions and policy makers. Former Justice Raghuvendrasinh ji presided over this session and provided detailed information on all the legal decisions related to water rights. He mentioned the absence of specific laws regarding water ownership rights and explained that people can use water as per their needs. Dr. S.C. Mathur coordinated this session.

In the third session of the second day, former Head of the Department of Geology, Dr. S.C. Mathur, highlighted the vast expanse of the Luni River basin and emphasized the potential for developing geo-heritage around the river. He stressed the need to enhance geo-heritage for future generations. To this end, he suggested the creation of geo-parks with cultural and historical significance. He pointed out that the Mehrangarh hills also offer diversity and great potential for geo-tourism. The second speaker in this session was former R.P.S.C. Chairman Dr. Shivsingh Rathod, who underlined the significance of water as the essence of life. He discussed how water was once revered and celebrated in folk songs, traditions that have waned over time. Dr. Rathod stressed the urgent need to rekindle these traditions and emphasized that the Luni River, often referred to as the Ganga of Marwar, must be safeguarded. He suggested converting traditional water sources into geo-tourism destinations, which would boost tourism and improve the economic situation. He also pointed out that references to Nag Pahad in the Mahabharata indicate the ancient nature of the Luni River. The third speaker, Prof. S.R. Jakhar, Head of the Department of Geology, Jai Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur advocated linking the Luni River to geo-tourism. He mentioned that Pachpadra was once the confluence of five rivers, an area that should be restored to greenery. By planting trees, it is possible to increase rainfall, subsequently benefiting agriculture. The fourth speaker, Dr. Saurabh Mathur, emphasized the development of geo-heritage around the Jojri River. He suggested that the rocks around Mehrangarh could be developed as geoheritage sites. The session was presided over by Padmashree Laxmansinghji Lapodia, who discussed his work on the Masi River near Dudu, where trees, plants, and grass have flourished. The collective efforts have rectified encroachments, improved ponds, and facilitated rainwater harvesting for minor irrigation. Closing Ceremony - The two-day national workshop concluded at 4:30 pm. The Chief Guest at the Closing Ceremony was Padmashree Laxmansinghji Lapodia. In his address, he acknowledged that the ideas shared by scholars during the two-day workshop had led to the generation of numerous solutions for preserving the Luni River. He emphasized the potential benefits that could be reaped by safeguarding such traditional water sources, including crops, grasslands, and the protection of wildlife. He encouraged everyone to move forward and actively engage in this endeavour. The Closing Ceremony was presided over by former Justice of India, Shri Raghuvendrasinhji Rathore, who commended the dedication and heartfelt connection of each speaker to the cause of the Luni River. He expressed gratitude for the successful formulation of the Jodhpur Declaration of Luni River. Atul Jain, General Secretary, Deendayal Research Institute read out the "Jodhpur Declaration of Luni River" and suggested that future workshops should also address topics of public interest. In the declaration, it was proposed to rename the Luni River as Maruganga. Special Guest Mr. Amansinghji advised that to save the Luni River, it is crucial to engage with the people in nearby villages and consider their input. Efforts should be based on their suggestions. During the closing ceremony, Dr. Shaktisingh Khakharki, a senior guide, writer, and poet from Mehrangarh, presented a poem about the Luni River and called for its preservation.

In the closing ceremony, the guests-initiated proceedings by lighting a lamp and offering floral tributes to the idol of Mother Saraswati and the picture of Maharaja Hanwant Singhji. Following this, Jagat Singh Rathore, General Manager, Mehrangarh Museum Trust, expressed his gratitude to the scholars who had come from outside the region and the local scholars for their contributions to the workshop's success. Finally, Rawal Kishansinghji Jasol, Convener, INTACH Barmer Chapter expressed vote of thanks and credited Maharaja Shri Gaj Singh ji for the workshop on the Luni River. He stressed the importance of not relying solely on the government to save traditional water sources and encouraged public participation in this effort. The opening and closing ceremonies were conducted by Mrs. Kalpana Champawat.

The two-day workshop shed light on many positive aspects, paving the way for future collective efforts to preserve this historic river. It also led to a proposal to name this ancient and historical river "Maruganga" in the future.



Two Day (4th – 5th October, 2023) National Workshop on Traditions of Water Conservation and Promotion With Special Reference to Luni River Chokelao Mahal, Mehrangarh Fort, Jodhpur (Raj.)

Nagaur

1. The INTACH NAGAUUR CHAPTER recently hosted an exhilarating elocution competition that brought together four esteemed schools from the region. This highly anticipated event showcased the exceptional oratory skills of the participating students and provided a platform for them to express their thoughts and ideas on a variety of topics.

The competition was a testament to the commitment and dedication of the students, who had spent weeks preparing their speeches and honing their delivery. Each participant brought their unique style and perspective, making the event a captivating display of talent and intellect.

The panel of judges consisted of renowned public speakers, educators, and professionals from various fields. Their expertise and discerning eye ensured a fair and unbiased evaluation of the performances. The judges were impressed by the confidence, clarity, and eloquence displayed by all the participants.

After a series of intense rounds, the winners were finally announced amidst an atmosphere of anticipation and excitement. The first prize was awarded to a student from the host school, Danial Mayo School, for his exceptional oratory skills and thought-provoking speech on the importance of education in shaping the future.

The second prize was awarded to a student from Gurukul school an another prestigious school, whose impassioned speech on environmental conservation left a lasting impact on the audience. The third prize went to a student from a local government school Chenar who delivered a powerful speech on the significance of unity and diversity in a multicultural society.

In addition to the top three winners, several participants received special recognition for their outstanding performances. The event concluded with a heartfelt congratulatory speech by the principal of Danial Mayo School, commending all the participants for their hard work and dedication.

The elocution competition not only provided a platform for students to showcase their public speaking skills but also fostered a spirit of healthy competition and camaraderie among the participating schools. It served as a reminder of the immense talent and potential that exists within the youth of Nagaur.

The winning students were awarded prizes, including trophies, certificates, and books, as a token of appreciation for their exceptional performances. The event was not only a celebration of their achievements but also a testament to the power of effective communication and the importance of nurturing the art of public speaking.

As the curtains closed on this memorable event, the participants left with a sense of accomplishment, having showcased their talent on a grand stage. The elocution competition at Danial Mayo School Nagaur will be remembered as a remarkable event that brought together the brightest minds and celebrated the power of words.



An exhilarating elocution competition

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



A meeting to discuss the preservation and restoration of the historical monuments in the village of Khatu

Udaipur



A felicitation program was organised at UGC Centre For Women Studies, MLSU, Udaipur

1. On Monday 16th October, 2023) a felicitation program was organised at UGC Centre For Women Studies, MLSU, Udaipur in collaboration with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) Udaipur Chapter.

The competition "Share your millet recipe" took place in march. It was organised to celebrate the announcement of this year as the INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS.

The event began with the welcoming of Prof Maheep Bhatnagar, former Dean

Faculty of Science, MLSU, Rahul Bhatnagar, Former Chief Conservator Forest, Satish Srimali Former Additional Chief Town Planner, Govt Rajasthan, Sanjeev Bhardwaj, Former Senior Manager Punjab and Sindha Bank Gaurav Singhvi Interior designer, Co - Convener, Prof. Lalit Pandey Convener of INTACH by Prof. Sudha Choudhary, Prof Pratibha and Prof. Digvijay Bhatnagar.

Prof. Sudha Choudhary, Director of the UGC Centre for Women Studies, MLSU, Udaipur gave welcome address after that Prof. Lalit Pandey highlighted about INTACH and today's event. The key note address was given by Dr Renu Mogra, Professor and Ex-Head, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, College of community and Applied Sciences MPUAT Udaipur. The session was interactive with Q and A after the lecture.

Tanushree Vijay, Manisha Lodha, Neha Rani were the 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners respectively who were felicitated by the dais with certificates and cheques. They shared and described their 'Millet Recipes'.

Gaurav Singhvi, Interior Designer and Co- Convener gave Vote of Thanks and congratulated the winners.

Several students were present in the session to learn about INTACH and to witness the event.

2. Teachers Training of Heritage Club In charge Teachers of The Vision Academy School – 01th September 2023 – Co-Convener Gaurav Singhvi was invited at The Vision Academy by the principle & Heritage Club In charge Teacher to understand the working of Newly made INTACH Heritage Club. He guided the teaches, how to successfully run the club. He was also made to interact the students. Where he talked about the various departments of INTACH, what all activities they can do themselves & in group. They were also told about the preparation of the new school.



Teachers Training of Heritage Club

3. INTACH HERITAGE CLUB OF MAHARANA MEWAR PUBLIC SCHOOL celebrated NUTRITION month – 6th September 2023 Talk by an Expert : Prof. Vishakha Singh from College of HOMESCIENCE was invited to deliver a talk on the topic "INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS 2023".She highlighted the importance of MILLETS in daily diet & different simple recipes made out of local MILLETS.



Deliver a talk on the topic "INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS 2023"

4. MMPS INTERHOUSE QUIZ on the topic international year of MILLETS 8th Sep 2023: An interhouse quiz on MILLETS was conducted in order to generate awareness among students regarding this superfood. It contained various rounds like fastest finger first, Puzzle round, picture round etc. It was conducted by Sarrah Alam Shah.

5. MMPS MILLET RECIPE COMPETITION - 9th Sep 2023 : Interhouse Millet recipe competition was organised. Students made variety of dishes using foxtail millet, pearl millet, barnyard millet etc. The competition was judged by Prof. Vishakha Singh & chef Radheshyam ji.



Interhouse Millet Recipe Competition

6. Heritage Quiz- 11 Sep 2023 - INTACH Heritage Quiz for the year 2023-24 was held at Rockwood High School on 11th Sep 2023. 160 Students from 16 Schools have participated. 18 Quiz In charge teachers were also present along with the Chapter Members.



Heritage Quiz

7. CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP - XIII FOR INTACH MEMBERS 25-27th September 2023 – Student Member of Udaipur Chapter Ms. Purvy Mathur attend this 3 Days Workshop at Delhi INTACH Head Office.

8. 2nd Executive Meeting – 25 Sep 2023 – 2nd Executive meeting was held at the residence of the Life Member Sh. Vinod Agrawal Sb at 11 AM. 10 Members were present. BP Bhatnagar Sb, SK Shrimali, Rahul Bhatnagar, ML Nagda, Maheep Bhatnagar, Vinod Agrawal, Mahesh Sharma, Lalit Pandey, Gaurav Singhvi. Munish Goyal Sb was invited as special invitee.

9. INTACH Udaipur Chapter's Working Committee meeting News- The working committee meeting of INTACH Udaipur Chapter was held on Monday, 25 September 2023, in which various aspects were discussed to conserve the heritage of Udaipur city and spread awareness about it. Udaipur is an important centre of attraction not only in India but on the world heritage map and neglecting its heritage is tantamount to harming the common heritage of the world.

To take a bird's eye view of the proper conservation of this priceless heritage, it was decided by the Working Committee to form a comprehensive committee of life members of the Chapter and prepare a detailed report.

In the said committee, everyone was unanimous on including subject experts from among the life members for objective study of multiple aspects of heritage. Apart from this, a project is approved every year by the Delhi Office for the conservation and promotion of endangered woodwork skills, in which this year it was also decided a workshop on tribal painting style will be organized very soon for the students of the schools of the city who are members of INTACH Youth Heritage Club.

BP Bhatnagar, Munis Goyal, Maheep Bhatnagar, ML Nagda, Vinod Aggarwal, Satis Shrimali, Rahul Bhatnagar, Mahesh Sharma, Convener - Lalit Pandey and Co-Convener - Gaurav Singhvi were present in the working committee meeting.

10. National Sanitation Campaign Implementation News – 2 October 2023 - "On the auspicious occasion of the birth anniversary of the revered Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, the INTACH Udaipur Chapter organized a National Cleanliness Campaign in the gardens of the main Surajpol complex in the historical city of Udaipur on 1st October, 2023, commencing at 9:30 am. The event aimed to honor Gandhi's ideals and was attended by the Chapter's life members Vinod Aggarwal, Mahesh Sharma, Satish Shrimali, Sanjeev Bhardwaj, Co-Convener Gaurav Singhvi, and Convener Lalit Pandey, Municipal Council Ward No. 49 Councillor Jayshree Asnani and the Municipal Council team participated. With the active cooperation of Rajasthan Pollution Control Board employees, Smart City team and others including Kshitij, Udit and Akash Soni, a cleaning campaign was conducted for more than two hours and a huge amount of garbage collected from the garden including Suraj Pol complex was removed.

Upon witnessing the unexpectedly large pile of accumulated garbage, the cleaning team was surprised that such a significant amount of filth had gathered at a major intersection in the heart of the city. This entire process compelled us to reflect on our progress towards realizing Gandhi's vision for India. It reminded us of a country that, five thousand years ago, was the birthplace of the world's first urban civilization. Even today, India's historical expertise in technological advancements, particularly in sewage disposal, is awe-inspiring."





National Sanitation Campaign Implementation

11. INTERNATIONAL GEO DIVERSITY DAY CELEBRATION- Second International Geodiversity Day was celebrated on Friday, 6th October, 23, 10:00 AM -12:00 Noon by INTACH Heritage club of Maharana Mewar Public School, Udaipur. Guest for the Occasion were members of Green People Society and INTACH Udaipur Wing . Life member Rahul Bhatnagar, Life member Shyam N. Dave, Suhail Majboor, VS Rana, Pratap Singh, INTACH Convener Lalit Pandey, Co-Convener Gaurav Singhvi, Principal Mayank Trivedi, and Pratima Paliwal, Sunita Singh and Shaba Shaukat along with members of the Heritage Club participated. In his address, the keynote speaker of the seminar, Shyam Dave, with the help of power point, underlined the importance of many important aspects of land diversity in human's daily life and laid emphasis on its conservation and spreading awareness about it. He said that the main topic of consideration of this Second World Geodiversity Day has been fixed for everyone, which itself makes it clear that geodiversity has a very important contribution in our daily life.

The special guest of the Program Rahul Bhatnagar, gave a lecture on land diversity, biodiversity and the mutual relations between human life and the earth and their interdependent relationships.

Lalit Pandey, talked about the importance of the context of addressing the earth as Ratna Garbha in Indian philosophy, while Co-Convener Gaurav Singhvi, understanding the importance of today's day, talked about considering the earth as mother. In the beginning, School Principal Mayank Trivedi welcomed the guests and, in the end, President of School Youth Heritage Club, Ishan Bhatnagar expressed his vote of thanks. The entire program was conducted by Khushali Paliwal.



International Geo Diversity Day Celebration

12. Competition on Millets of India – Seedling Public School – 11 Oct 2023 – This is the theme of the International Year of Millets 2023. Millets: a sustainable, nutritious and delicious choice to raise awareness about the importance of millets and their health benefits, “Magic of Millets” competition was organized by the INTACH Club of Seedling Modern Pubic School with INTACH Udaipur Chapter organised the Competition on Magic of Millets on 11th ct 2023. 20 Students presented different varieties of recipes made of Millet including CHurma, Pizza, Kabak, Cakes, Cup Cakes, pulao, Biryani, Cutlets etc. The Chairman, Mr. Hardeep Bakshi congratulated all the winners. He also applauded the participating students for their efforts.

It was also an in-vesture ceremony for the new heritage club formed. Students gave a beautiful performance in the Rajasthani song, before the pledge taking ceremony.



Competition on Millets of India

13. UGC Centre for Women Studies, MLSU Prize Distribution Ceremony – 16th Oct 2023 – A felicitation program was organised at UGC Centre For Women Studies, MLSU, Udaipur in collaboration with the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) Udaipur Chapter.

The competition "Share your millet recipe" took place in march. It was organised to celebrate the announcement of this year as the INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF MILLETS.

The event began with the welcoming of Prof Maheep Bhatnagar, former Dean Faculty of Science, MLSU, Rahul Bhatnagar, Former Chief Conservator Forest, Satish Srimali Former Additional Chief Town Planner, Govt Rajasthan, Sanjeev Bhardwaj, Former Senior Manager Punjab and Sindha Bank Gaurav Singhvi Interior designer, Co - Convener, Prof. Lalit Pandey Convener of INTACH by Prof. Sudha Choudhary, Prof Pratibha and Prof. Digvijay Bhatnagar.

Prof. Sudha Choudhary, Director of the UGC Centre for Women Studies, MLSU, Udaipur gave welcome address after that Prof. Lalit Pandey highlighted about INTACH and today's event. The key note address was given by Dr Renu Mogra, Professor and Ex-Head, Department of Food Science and Nutrition, College of community and Applied Sciences MPUAT Udaipur. The session was interactive with Q and A after the lecture.

Tanushree Vijay, Manisha Lodha, Neha Rani were the 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners respectively who were felicitated by the dias with certificates and cheques. They shared and described their 'Millet Recipes'. Gaurav Singhvi, Interior Designer and Co-Convener gave Vote of Thanks and congratulated the winners.

Several students were present in the session to learn about INTACH and to witness the event.

Tanushree Vijay -1st position – INR Rs. 1500/-

Manisha lodha - 2nd position – INR Rs. 1000/-

Neha Kumari - 3rd – INR Rs. 750/-

Heritage Volunteers Workshop – History Department, MLSU – 26 Oct 2023:



Heritage Volunteers Workshop

14. 20 Nov 2023 – Participation in State Level Quiz held at Jodhpur. Students of St. Anthony School participated in the event.

22 Nov 2023 – MMPS – On the beginning of Heritage Week – INACH Udaipur Chapter organised a Talk on Intangible Heritage topic. The Guest Lecturer was Famous vilas Janve Sb, who spoke & Interacted with the students of MMPS, about the Theatre & Acting Skills. The guests including Prof Maheep Bhatnagar, Vilash Janve, Satish Shrimali, Sanjeev Bhardwaj, Gaurav Singhi and Lalit Pandey also judged the Wall Paintings which were prepared by the students



A Talk on Intangible Heritage topic

15. 24.11.2023 – During the Heritage Week, Heritage tour to Chittorgarh was conducted for the Students of Shishuvan School – Mumbai & Pune, 149 Students & 22 Teachers Participated in it. Tower of Victory - (Vijay Stambh), Tower of Fame - (Kirti Stambh), Padmini Palace, Meera Temple (Meera Mandir), Fateh Prakash Museum, Light and Sound Show with Dinner was planned. Co-Convener Gaurav Singhvi & New Life Member Ms. Priyanka Vaishnav were part of it & educated the students about the History, of Mewar & Chittorgarh.



Heritage tour to Chittorgarh was conducted for the Students

16. 25.11.2023 – Saturday - During the Heritage Week, Heritage tour for the Students of Shishuvan School was planned at Swaroop Sagar lake & Fathesagar Lake & Shilpgram. (Artisans demonstrate craft making, a bazaar sells handicrafts and Rajasthani textiles, and an amphitheatre hosts live music and folk dancing). At Fathesagar Pal, Gaurav Singhvi Explained all the 130 Students & 22 Teachers about the Water & Irrigation System of Udaipur, How Different Lakes are connected with each other, How the over flow is controlled & flood is controlled & avoided in case of heavy rains.

At Shilpgram, Students were made to sketch huts of different states & the folk dance program was also attended along with the shopping of handicrafts was done by teachers & students.

Fathesagar:



Shilpgram:





Heritage tour for the Students

17. 26.11.2023, Sunday - During the Heritage Week, Heritage tour for the Students of Shishuvan School was planned and City Heritage walk was conducted, in which Co-Convener - Gaurav Singhvi guided all the students & teachers and took them to City Palace & Museum + Bagor Ki Haveli & All the Ghats & Jagdish Temple to the Students of Shishuvan School. The walk started from Ambamata Mandir, crossing Ambamata Bridge to cross Amba Pole to enter the old fortified city area. Then the students were taken to Dhajji Ki Pulia, where after seeing

Chand Pole & Satta Pole Gates, Knowing about the connectivity of Pichola Lake with Amar Kund, Rang Sagar & Swaroop Sagar, they were taken to walk along the ghats to reach Gan gaur Ghat. From there they went to see Bagaur Ki Haveli - All its 10 Galleries & there only Q& A session was conducted with students. From there Jagdish Temple was seen & then the students went to see the City Palace.

18. 29.11.2023 - Wednesday - Visit Balathal Excavation site: There Prof. Lalit Pandey explained about the balatahl excavation times, its findings, etc.



Visit Balathal Excavation site

19. Intangible heritage is the carrier of nation and society's consciousness.

As part of the Heritage Week organized annually from November 19th to 25th, the INTACH Udaipur Chapter arranged a program focused on Intangible Heritage, featuring presentations by students from the Young Heritage Club of Maharana Mewar Public School, Udaipur. During this event, esteemed local theatre artist Vilas Janvi delivered a concise yet impactful lecture. He emphasized that our folk traditions, proverbs, idioms, dances, music, musical instruments, and religious customs, including the worship of animals, trees, and water, profoundly reflect the scientific essence embedded within our society.

Janvi expressed that it is our moral and social responsibility to consistently organize and preserve these traditions. He highlighted that these cultural elements have sustained our vibrant heritage for over five thousand years. Therefore, fostering a sense of pride at both the national and local levels is essential for their conservation. Janvi urged everyone to embrace this sentiment, encouraging all to proudly carry the legacy of belonging to Mewar, fostering a shared sense of identity and pride.

In addition to the school's students, the event was attended by Udaipur Chapter Convener Lalit Pandey, Co-Convener Gaurav Singhvi, and life members Maheep Bhatnagar, Satish Shrimali, Sanjeev Bhardwaj, along with the school Principal Mayank Trivedi and teachers Pratima Paliwal, Richa Gaur, Shaba, and Sunita Sisodia. At the end of the event, the wall paintings created by the students were evaluated and categorized by the members of the INTACH Chapter based on specific criteria.



The Heritage Week

Tamil Nadu

INTACH Tamil Nadu State Chapter – Report of Recent Activities

Heritage Desk Calendar for the year 2023:

As in the previous three years, the State Chapter has brought out a colourful desktop calendar for the year 2024. Each year's calendar showcases one of the several heritage theme-based educational tours that the Chapter regularly organizes for INTACH members and others. This year's unique calendar entitled 'Celebrating Pallava Heritage' showcases the art and culture of the Pallava Empire of South India (Figure -1).

From the late third century, for around six hundred years, the Pallavas were among the most dominant rulers of southern India. Originally hailing from the Andhra region, they ruled from Kanchipuram in northern Tamil Nadu as their main capital. Mahabalipuram, around 66km southwest of Kanchipuram, was their secondary capital and chief port.

The Pallava rulers were known for their well-organized administration and military conquests. Administrative efficiency, in turn, led to trade and economic development. The Pallavas traded with the Byzantine Empire, Sri Lanka, South East Asia and China.

If the Pallavas' military triumphs and economic prosperity are spectacular, their achievements in the realm of art and architecture are more mesmerizing. They introduced rock-cut architecture in southernmost India. The region's earliest extant temples belong to their reign. Their temples display innovative architectural features, stone sculptures and wall paintings. Their reign saw ground-breaking advancements in the fields of literature, music, dance and drama. The Pallava art impacted the art of several contemporary and later kingdoms of southern India, Sri Lanka and South East Asia.

This unique calendar, besides presenting facets of the exceptional accomplishments of the Pallavas, also marks out certain special dates when public events to celebrate these achievements could be organized. Some of the sites and objects, featured here, have never been photographed or published earlier. A few of these photographs offer very rare views of certain monuments.

As part of its Heritage Awareness Programs, the Tamil Nadu State Chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), based in Chennai, has been regularly conducting the Pallava Tour, taking scholars, students and serious tourists to Pallava sites and monuments. The tour includes stone sculpture-carving demonstrations, music and dance programs and a Pallava dinner with handpound rice, lentil chutney and ginger-flavoured buttermilk, all served on banana leaves, to the accompaniment of an anecdote-packed commentary on Pallava cuisine, with the commentator in Pallava period costumes.

Publication of a Guidebook on the Built Heritage of Thanjavur: On the suggestion of the INTACH Chairman and the INTACH Heritage Tourism Division, the Tamil Nadu State Chapter has recently brought out a guidebook on the architectural heritage of Thanjavur and its neighbourhood in Tamil Nadu. (Figure 2, 3, 4) The publication, authored by State Convener and Archaeologist Dr. Suresh is modelled on his earlier guidebook on the Nilgiris region, again an INTACH Tamil Nadu State Chapter publication. The present long-awaited book on Thanjavur is the latest, most comprehensive yet handy and reader-friendly guidebook on Thanjavur and its neighbouring places-equally useful to serious scholars, students, serious tourists and tour guides. It contains over 100 colour photographs, some of them rare views of monuments and artefacts, published for the first time ever.

A few photographs are from Archaeological Survey of India archives, published with their permission. The book contains hitherto unknown and unpublished information on Thanjavur's Built Heritage and Intangible Heritage, based on field research in Thanjavur and library and archival research in Thanjavur, Chennai, Delhi, London, Oxford, Paris, New York and Washington D.C.

Tamil Nadu State-level Heritage Quiz:

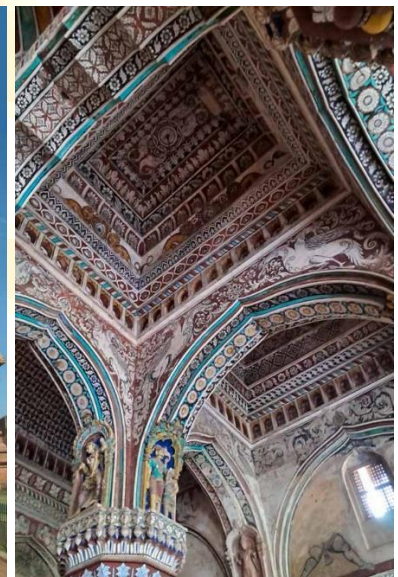
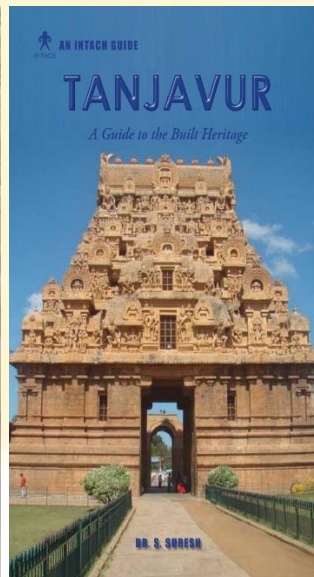
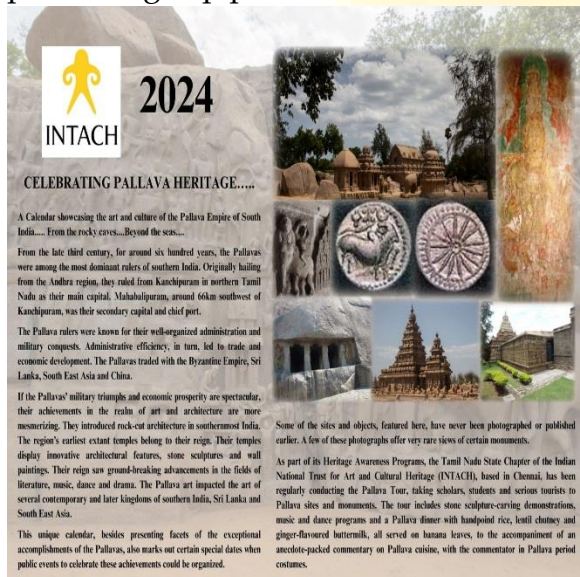
The Tamil Nadu State Chapter conducted the Annual INTACH State-level Heritage Quiz in the afternoon of 28th October, 2023 at K.S.N Secondary School, Tiruvanmiyur, Chennai. School student teams who had emerged as the winner of city-level or town-level INTACH Heritage Quiz came to Chennai to participate in this State-level Quiz. This year, we had teams from Thanjavur, Coimbatore, Salem, Madurai and Chennai participating in the State-level Quiz. The team from Salem qualified for the National-level Quiz to be held at New Delhi.

The Tamil Nadu State-level Quiz was conducted by Dr. Suresh, Tamil Nadu State Convener and well-known archaeologist and art historian who has earlier been a Quiz Master for several Quiz Programs of the Rotary International, United Nations Youth Organization, the U.S. Consulate in Chennai, and several schools and colleges in India and the U.S.A. As in earlier years, the present State-level quiz included several innovative features such as questions based on plant-life (with plant specimens brought to the Quiz venue), questions based on archaeology and numismatics (with archaeological specimens and coins brought to the quiz venue) and questions based on textiles (with sarees and other textiles brought to the quiz venue). Interestingly, most of the questions based on the sarees of South India were answered correctly by the boys' teams! Further investigation revealed that these boys often shop for sarees for their moms!!

English Translation of a French book on Temples and Temple Towns of Tamil Nadu

French scholar Jacques Gaucher's book *From the House to the City and its Perennial Axiality-A Study of the Urban Forms of the South Indian Temple Cities of Tamil Nadu*, is mainly based on the field investigations and surveys conducted in the late 1980s and the early 1990s. Published more than a decade later in French in 2007, the book enjoys the distinction of being one of the most monumental and comprehensive works on the subject. On the suggestion of INTACH's Architectural Heritage Division State Convener and Archaeologist Dr. Suresh undertook the onerous task of assisting in the translation of the book from French to English, including editing, proof-reading and peer-reviewing of the work and finally, writing an Epilogue for the translated volume. This English translation was released by INTACH Chairman Major General L.K. Gupta at the INTACH Executive Committee Meeting held at INTACH Central Office in New Delhi on 8th December, 2023.

This English translation will undoubtedly make the book more accessible and useful to a much larger circle of scholars, researchers, students, town planners, policy makers and others, both in India and elsewhere. The book details all the major Temple Towns of Tamil Nadu from Chennai to Kanyakumari and the relationship between the temple and the residential houses and markets and settlements near the temple in each town in Tamil Nadu. As it is authored by a renowned French architect, it contains over 1000 photographs and 500 line drawings and maps of temples, houses and residential colonies in each temple town. Dr. Suresh's Epilogue, studded with his new high-resolution colour photographs of the most recent views of the temples and the towns, succinctly summarize the researches and physical changes in the temples and the towns during the recent decades after the first publication of the French book. Like the original French book, the present translation is a sumptuous information-packed coffee table format volume. Appreciated by scholars and government officials, the book is indeed one of INTACH's prized flagship publications.



INTACH Tamil Nadu Chapter Desk Calendar, 2024 Guidebook on Tanjavur Front Cover Guidebook on Tanjavur Back Cover

Chennai

1. 'Raja Ravi Varma Art and its Engagement with Society'

Ganesh V. Shivaswamy, lawyer from Bengaluru, who has taken up the monumental task of structuring the artistic legacy of Raja Ravi Varma, has written a six-volume book series, 'Raja Ravi Varma: An Everlasting Imprint', the largest work on the artist by a single author.

Ganesh explored in his talk the impact of Ravi Varma's pictorial legacy and its deep impression on people in our ever changing and evolving society.



'Raja Ravi Varma Art and its Engagement with Society'

2. 'Tiruppudaimarudhur Murals: Story through strokes'

Madhusudhanan Kalaichelvan, an architect and recipient of several awards for his contribution to the field of heritage and culture spoke about the spectacular murals in the grand Nayaka period gopuram in Tiruppudaimarudur, a quiet village on the banks of Tambraparni River in Tirunelveli district.

The painting tradition in Tamil Nadu, starting from rich rock art, finds references in Sangam poetry and has evolved with culture across the régimes of the Pallavas, Pandyas and Cholas. Post 15th century CE, the Vijayanagara and Nayaka kings patronised temple mural arts like never before, when temple walls became spectacular art galleries, spread across floors, narrating many a fascinating story of the times.



'Tiruppudaimarudhur Murals: Story through strokes'

3. 'LINESIDE: Vintage Photographs of trains around Madras'

Poochi Venkat, photographer with deep interest in visual arts, took the audience through vintage photographs of the simple yet distinct cityscape of Madras, traversed by unique steam and electric trains, over fifty years ago. 'Lineside' is a journey through the collection of photographs taken by Ian Manning, an Australian, between 1965 and 1969, when he taught Economics at Madras Christian College as well as during his earlier India tour in 1959. Poochi Venkat shared anecdotes connected with the images that he curated and restored out of 3,000 frames from Manning's priceless collection, originally shot on 35mm monochrome negatives. He also presented some exclusive videos of Indian Railways.



Vintage Photographs of trains around Madras

4. 'Heritage walk at Marina'

A heritage walk of the Marina was held for Architects led by Sujatha Shankar, Convener. The Indo-Saracenic landmark structures covered were the Senate House, PWD, Presidency College and Chepauk Palace.



'Heritage walk at Marina'

5. 'World Heritage Day 2023' Tour de Architecture, Cycle Rally of Chennai

World Architecture Day was celebrated through a unique initiative by IIA (Indian Institute of Architects) Chennai Centre, 'Tour de Architecture', a cycle rally with participants cycling along the architectural marvels of the city.

Convener Sujatha Shankar explained the highlights of the structures at the planned stops along the looped route starting and ending at the historic Pantheon complex in Egmore.



World Heritage Day 2023 - Tour de Architecture, Cycle Rally of Chennai

6. 'Evolution of Calcutta & its environs' by G.M. Kapur

A talk 'Evolution of Calcutta & its Environs' by G.M. Kapur was organised by Intach Chennai Chapter in association with Chennai International Centre.



Chief guest of the evening, Padma Shri awardee Mr. M.K. Narayanan, former Governor of West Bengal & National Security Adviser of India, (far left) with Speaker G. M. Kapur from Calcutta, Sujatha Shankar, Convener and A.S. Diwakar, Co-Convener, Chennai Chapter

G.M. Kapur, very much an intrinsic part of the INTACH family, is a long-time resident of Kolkata. With education in Engineering and Management from IIT-BHU and IIM, Calcutta, he shifted gears from his business career to take the path of Heritage Conservation and Restoration, after he saw the decay which Kolkata, then Calcutta, was being subjected to.

He outlined how Calcutta came to be the second city of the British empire as well as how 'Europe on the Ganges' was formed by the Danish, Dutch, French and Portuguese settlements along the River Hooghly. In August 1690, Job Charnock, chief agent of the

East India Company for Bengal, set foot on the 'insalubrious mud flats' and led to the creation of Calcutta. Mr. Kapur highlighted the architectural marvels of Calcutta's built heritage.

Chief Guest Mr. M.K. Narayanan, former Governor of West Bengal graced the occasion and shared his experience of Calcutta, its people and culture.

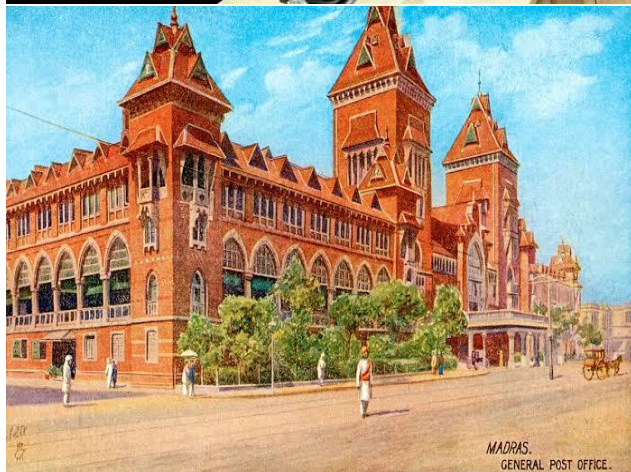
7. General Post Office, Madras.

Signing of MoU at GPO Head Office, Mount Road, Chennai.

The General Post Office, Madras is a historic landmark, designed by Robert Fellowes Chisholm and build in 1884. The Indo-Saracenic red brick building is characterised by a special tiled roof with towers capped by dormers, Chisholm's inspiration having been drawn from the timber buildings of Kerala.

The Department of Posts, Chennai City Region, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) on Friday, November 24, 2023.

The MoU was signed by R. Amudha, Chief Postmaster, Chennai GPO, and Sujatha Shankar, Convener, Chennai Chapter on behalf of INTACH.



Signing of MoU at GPO Head Office and General Post Office, Madras



Dr. M.S. Swaminathan

8. Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), 71, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi – 110 003, in a meeting of Executive Committee members held on 3rd October, 2023 passed a resolution expressing condolence on passing away of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, a Life member of INTACH since May 1987.

His association with INTACH for last 36 years was remembered fondly and his deep interest and contribution in the field of art and culture and agricultural heritage was appreciated by all the members.

Kodaikanal

October 2023 began on a very active note for the Kodaikanal Chapter. On the 3rd of October eight schools with about 80 students came together at Zion Matriculation and Higher Secondary school for the Annual National Quiz Competition for schools. We thank the school for yet again hosting INTACH in its activities. S.Akash and A.Rithick Rouhan of My School Satya Surabhi were declared the winners.

'Roses in the Fire of Spring' an autobiographical book on their passion for Roses by World renowned Rosarians and INTACH members M.S. 'Viru' Viraraghavan and Girija Viraraghavan was introduced to INTACH members and citizens of Kodaikanal on

into the beautiful scented world of Roses. The event was held at the KMU hall of the Kodai International school which always supports and engages in INTACH activities.

INTACH Kodaikanal has recently completed documentation and listings of about 90 Dolmen sites and Cave Art in the Palani hills. An archaeological team has been working on this project and we plan to take it forward.

October 4th. Our member Pippa Mukherjee led the conversation with the Viraraghavans. It was a most interesting morning with good audience participation and a great insight



'Roses in the Fire of Spring' an autobiographical book



The Annual National Quiz Competition for schools

Nagercoil

1. Vana Mahotasav Week - (Tree Planting Festival)

Convener of INTACH Nagercoil Chapter, Mrs.Anitha Natarajan and members of INTACH Nagercoil Chapter went to Sathavathany Sheiku Thambi Pavalar Government Higher Secondary School to plant Native Tree Saplings (in an initiative to promote Native Tree Planting at Kanyakumari by Intach Nagercoil Chapter) on 4th of July to commemorate - 'Van Mahotsav Week'.

2. British Era Prison At Sathavathany Sheiku Pavalar Thambi Government Higher Secondary School, Edalakudy.

Little do many in Kanyakumari District know about the existence of a Pre independence Jail or prison which has a resemblance of Cellular Jail in Andaman but in minuscule situated at a School premise - to put it in another way- a prison is being converted into a Higher Secondary School at Edalakudy.

We were astonished by the presence of a prison which is slightly dilapidated but standing strong, carrying with it the strong memories of Struggles and tortures freedom fighters and revolutionaries undergone. There stand gallows as a testament. All that was dreadful about pre-Independence Indian prisons - the iron bar doors, the gallows, the dim corridors that pass along 'cells', and the round thick limestone columns at the edges of the corridor - are intact.

There stands an age old berry tree - where 'Sahavu' (comrade) Krishnapillai who was a Communist imprisoned (for historic Morazha Agitation at Malabar) here used to sit underneath and write about communalism, the values of which he upheld at the cost of his freedom, to a woman named Thankamma with whom he passionately fell in love and lived with her after he was released till his untimely death. This real life story said to have inspired Vaikom Muhammed Basheer to write his celebrated book ' Mathilukal'.

The tree stands there till.

Century Old Trees at Sathavathany Sheiku Pavalar Thambi Government Higher Secondary School, Edalakudy

Members of INTACH Nagercoil Chapter witnessed the existence of 2 century old trees at the campus.(Photos attached) .

1. Peepal Tree
2. Berry Tree

Thanks to Mrs. Sheela John, Deputy Director of Government Department of Horticulture for her presence as Chief Guest, Mr. Joe Prakash SS(National Green Corps), Mr. Prem Dhas, Mr. Pasumai Sahul , Mr. Edwin Gladson, Mr. Rajan, Mrs. Rekha and Mr. Jainesh who participated.



Vana Mahotsav (Tree Planting Festival)





Witnessed the existence of 2 century old trees at the campus

3. Stone Inscription Reading at 2 Ancient Old Temples

i. Arulmigu Karumanickathalwar Sree Krishnan Thirukoil, Thippiramalai

Convener Mrs. Anitha Natarajan, INTACH_Nagercoil Chapter and the members went to visit a 1800 year old Krishna Temple -Karumanickathalwar Sree Krishnan Thirukoil to read the stone inscription on a tabernacle, belonging to 1800 years old.

a. Inscription on the front side of the tabernacle

These are the stone inscriptions found on the tabernacle situated at the front side of the temple. The meaning of the stone inscription says – chieftain of the village donated seven buffaloes to the temple for the incessant supply of ghee to the divas in the temple. The concept is that the temple should take care of the 7 buffaloes and the off string of these buffaloes could be used for any other purpose as income to the temple but seven buffaloes should be maintained continuously. This was the custom followed in many of the temples in South India.

The temple has a deity of Lord Krishna which is 13 feet tall which is the tallest idol of Lord Krishna in South India. It is the state in which Visvarupa. The temple is circular in shape and has a tiled vimana. The plane appears in the shape of a cone. An altar is also located in front of this temple. The temple is built in the Chera Style of Architecture .





Stone Inscription in Karumanickathalwar Temple, Thippiramalai

ii. Natalam Sankaranarayanan Shiva Temple

We visited Natalam Sankaranarayanan Shiva Temple which dates back to the 19th century. It is the 12th temple of the 12 Sivalaya Ootam (a ritual to visit 12 Shiva Temples on Mahasivaratri) . The main deity is in the form of Suyambu Linga.

Two stone inscriptions are found near the temple near 2 Dwarapalags. The stone inscription shows the names of influential people who donated to build the two stone sculptures and the steps. The names include "devaradiytar "too (devadasi are female artists who were dedicated to the worship and service of the a deity or a temple for the rest of their lives). This also shows how influential these devadasis were during those days - politically, socially and economically.

Our Member Mr. Chenthee Natarajan who is a qualified epigraphist read the inscriptions and transcribed.



Nattalam Shiva Temple

4. Visit to Devasakhayampillai Memorial , a martyr born in Natalam

The martyr Devasagayam Pillai was born in the Nair clan on April 23, 1712 in the village of Natalam in the present day district.



The name given to him by his parents was Neelakandan. Born Neelakandan, he was baptized as Devasakayam, the Tamil word for Lazarus. In his youth, he studied Sanskrit and learned about art. As he grew older, he studied archery, ritual arts, and methods of using weapons for war. After that he joined Marthanda Varma's palace as a treasury officer at Padmanabhapuram fort. After that, he got married to Bhargavi Ammal, who belonged to the Nair community of Kunju house near Ilandavilai in Kanyakumari district. Bhargavi Ammal got baptized with the name Gnanapoo and became a Catholic Christian. The economic losses at that time affected Neelakandan a lot mentally. It is believed that he was murdered because he had converted to Christianity in defiance of the then Travancore king's order that the Hindus, mostly belonging to upper castes, should not convert to Christianity. This house, where the priest Devasagayam Pillai lived, has been beautifully renovated and kept as a museum for public viewing in Nattalam.



Devasahayam Pillai Memorial, Nattalam

5. **International Year of Millets-2023**

INTACH Nagercoil Chapter organised a seminar on 'Importance of Traditional Millets' on 15th of September, 2023 at Kasthuriba Mathar Sangam to commemorate International Year of Millets -2023. A competition was held 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 to all the participants. 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.

The purpose of celebrating International Year of Millets is to unleash the potentiality of millets for the health and well- being of people and for the environment because of their resilience to climate change. Millets were used by our ancestors hundreds of years because of their high nutritional value and served as the alternate food during famine and drought and thus served as a means to prevent death due to hunger in certain belts of South India as recorded in stone inscriptions and literature.

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.



International Year of Millets

6. Visit to Vadasery Temple Jewellery Making Unit to commemorate World Heritage Week

As part of World Heritage week celebration , INTACH Nagercoil Chapter organised a visit to a sub town of Nagercoil, Vadasery, which has the privilege to preserve a type of jewellery that Royalty alone worn in yonder years during the reign of Travancore royalty.

Convener INTACH Nagercoil Chapter, Mrs. Anitha Natarajan organised a heritage tour on 14.11.2023 to Asarimar Street (Goldsmith's Street) in Vadasery, a sub town in Nagercoil to learn and document about Temple Jewelry , a tangible heritage, which has acquired GI tag from Government of India. We were fortunate enough to meet one Mr.Ramachandran and his son Swaminathan who are pursuing the family heritage of Temple Jewellery in the most traditional way- the craftsmanship of which their ancestors were doing - Sri.Chenbagaraman Asari, Sri. Lakshmanan Asari, Sri. Swami Asari, Sri. Ramachandran, Sri. Swaminathan. Sri. Chenbagaraman Asari was assigned by the Travancore royalty to do temple jewellery and the Travancore King even donated 40 acres of land at a village called Kadukarai and was given a title too –“Deva Senapathy Udhaya Marthandan”. His son Lakshmanan Asari also pursued the family tradition of temple jewel making and he was followed by his son Swamy Asari and then Ramachandran whom we met and his son Swaminathan. They have received accolades and Awards from Central and State Governments. We were fortunate enough to hear about five generation of craftsmanship by a single family. They explained and showed moulds which they acquired from their forefathers who used to make jewelry to the members of the Royal families. (Temple Jewelry).



Visit to Vadasery Temple Jewellery Making Unit to commemorate World Heritage Week

Antique Temple Jewelry is a unique artistic depiction in jewelry making. The unique craftsmanship could be seen in ancient mural paintings and other paintings of deities. It could be seen in many of Raja Ravi Varma's paintings too. They used to and still making jewelry for deities. (Photos of Kerala) They make jewelry out of silver these days and gold plate. They use precious and semi-precious stones like Kempu (amber),

ruby and emerald.

It was indeed a moment of pride for the members of INTACH, Nagercoil Chapter to witness a heritage culture which is still alive in spite of the difficulties the makers go through ages.

Now the jewelry is in great demand but they have challenges to get workmen to do this minute and intrinsic work.

7. INTACH Nagercoil Chapter and Kasthurba Matharnala Aluvalaha Sangam conducted a seminar on Kanyakumari Day on 1.11.2023

To commemorate the merger of Kanniya kumari District with the Madras State, Convener Mrs. Anitha Natarajan, INTACH Nagercoil Chapter conducted a seminar with the freedom fighter's (South Frontier struggle) family member, daughter in law of, Mr. Kunjan Nadar, Mrs. Stella Dhas at Kasthuriba Mathar Sangom on 1st of November, 2023. Mrs. Stella Dhas reminisced about her father in law's struggle, who had to face the oppression of the police (literally the police hunted the freedom strugglers) and how the family supported him. A book 'Vattiyurkavu Veeran Kunjan Nadar' was distributed to the members of INTACH, Nagercoil Chapter. Our member Mr. Abraham Lincoln, Rtd Teacher, Carmel Higher Secondary School spoke on the historical background and importance of South frontier struggle. Mr. Chenthee Natarajan spoke about Kunjan Nadar and a brief history of the South frontier struggle. Intach members Dr. Sarojini Devei, President of Kasthuriba Mathar Sanghom, Mr. Chandra Mohan, Mr. Edwin Gladson, Mr. Nagendran, Mrs. Latha Ramaswamy, Mr. Chellappa, Mr. Prem Kumar and many members attended the Meeting.

Kanniya Kumari District was part of the princely state of Travancore during the colonial times prior to India's Independence. Four of the eight tehsils of Thiruvananthapuram District were separated to form the new district of Kanniya kumari in 1956 following the demands of reunion made by the Tamil speaking majority (about 70% of the population) who felt that their feelings were suppressed by the erstwhile Travancore Kingdom which has Malayalam majority population. Between 1945 and 1956, especially after the Government of India announced plans to reorganize states along linguistic lines. The people of Tamil Majority Kanniyakumari campaigned for its inclusion in the Madras State (Later Tamil Nadu). In Tamil the campaign is also known as Therkku Ellai Porattam (South Front struggle)

Kunjan Nadar was a Freedom Fighter and also a "Regional Linguistic Border Struggle" Warrior. He had been selected as the "Dalapathy" for these Movements repeatedly. His martyrdom during the Tamil Ellai Por Movement, especially in 1954, when he was 'chiselled' with the Nair Police lathis, till hot blood was oozing out from his nostrils, ears and private parts and muscles. INTACH Nagercoil Chapter remembered his struggle sacrifice.





INTACH Nagercoil Chapter and Kasthurba Matharnala Aluvalaha Sangam conducted a seminar on Kanyakumari Day on 1.11.2023

Telangana

Warangal

World Heritage Volunteer (WHV) Camp 2023 - reg. INTACH Warangal Chapter co-sponsored and actively associated with the World Heritage Volunteer Camp 2023, which was organised by Kakatiya Heritage Trust, Warangal at Ramappa during October 02 - 13, 2023. World Heritage Centre (WHC) approved the proposal to conduct World Heritage Volunteer Camp 2023 at UNESCO inscribed World Heritage Monument Kakatiya Rudreshwara (Ramappa) Temple, Palampet, Mulug District.

A total number of 32 volunteers (from different states) belong to Architecture, Civil Engineering, Tourism, History, Archaeology and Geology were participated in the camp. Prof M. Pandu Ranga Rao, Convener Warangal Chapter and Trustee Kakatiya Heritage Trust and Mr. J. Sridhar Rao, co-convener, Warangal chapter and Trustee Kakatiya Heritage Trust were the coordinators of the WHV Camp 2023.

On 2nd October 2023, Gandhi Jayanthi Day, the camp was inaugurated by Chief Guest SriSri Gaush Alam, Superintendent of Police, Mulug inaugurated the WHV Camp. Prof M.Pandu Ranga Rao, Convener, Warangal Chapter and Trustee Kakatiya Heritage Trust(participated virtually) and Smt Doli Rajitha, Sarpanch, Palampet were the guest of honor. Sri B.V. Papa Rao, IAS (retired), Trustee, Kakatiya Heritage Trust presided over the function. Sri J. Sridhar Rao, convener, HEC, Warangal Chapter and Trustee, Kakatiya Heritage Trust, Members INTACH Warangal Chapter were present in proceedings of inaugural function. All the dignitaries addressed the volunteers about the importance of conservation and preservation of ancient monuments.

Mr J. Sridhar Rao briefed about the camp activities and volunteers are advised to actively participate in deliberations of the camp. During the 12 days camp, every day begin with yoga class from 6 am to 7 am. From 9am to 1 pm, 24 experts from ASI, INTACH, ICOMAS, Conservation Architects, Faculty from National Institute of Technology, Warangal Kakatiya University, Senior members of Warangal chapters interacted with volunteers and gave lectures on different aspects of heritage and monuments.

In the afternoon sessions of alternate days volunteers were taken to field visits to Ramappa Temple, Thousand Pillar Temple, Fort Warangal, Ghanpur group of Temples, Pandavula Gutta, Lakshnavaram Lake and Madaram Jathara. During the visit of monuments students showed enthusiasm and interacted with INTACH members and officials to know about the significance of monuments, the materials used in construction and history and archaeological aspects. The next day after the visit of the monuments, the volunteers gave presentation on their observations. In one of the afternoon session volunteers were participated in clearing the thick vegetation covered around a monument near the Ramappa Temple. Volunteers were also exposed to local cultural activities namely Perini Nruthyam, Kommu Dance etc. On 30th September, WHV Camp 2023 valedictory function was conducted at Ramappa Temple. Smt Shailaja Ramaiyer, IAS, Principal Secretary, Tourism and Culture, Govt of Telangana was the chief guest. Smt Ila Tripathi, IAS, Collector and District Magistrate, Mulug District, Sri Gaush Alam, Superintendent of Police, Mulug, Sri Ashok Kumar, IPS, Additional Superintendent of Police (Operations), Mulug, Prof M. Pandu Ranga Rao(participated virtually), as guest of honours. All the dignitaries addressed the volunteers and expressed their happiness on the successful completion of the camp. The chief guest distributed the participant certificates and mementos to all the volunteers. At the end Mr. J. Sridhar Rao, coordinator of the camp proposed the vote of thanks



World Heritage Volunteer (WHV) Camp 2023

Uttar Pradesh Ayodhya

15 October 2023, On Sunday morning at 6:45 am all the participants gathered at squadron leader Dhirendra Singh Jafa park. I- Card was distributed to all the participants. The Walk started with the glorious life history of Squadron leader Dhirendra Singh Jafa. After that, the group moved to old building, the ruins are of a chapel of 1850. During a Revolt of 1857 it was burnt and demolished. Building is constructed by lime mortar and Lakhori bricks. Clay drains are found in the ruins.

Then the group entered (DRC) Jammu gate to visit War memorial. From Jammu gate the group was received by Hawaldar Sanjeev Singh and he explained about War Memorial. In golden letters name of soldiers who sacrificed their lives since First World War, are mounted. All participants kept 2 minutes of silence to show grief, respect and gratitude. Then the group moved to Shankala Museum. Museum was explained by Subedar Robin. This museum has 16 galleries, beautifully designed. The Museum is named after Major Sandeep Shankala 'Ashok Chakra'. After museum, we moved for Quarter Guard. It's a place where military treasure is kept and it has cells used to punish soldiers. Now the group moved to its last destination, Babbar Block. This building is for training and administrative purpose. All the buildings visited are old buildings of British period. The heritage walk was completed with refreshment.



Brij Bhoomi

The INTACH Brij Bhoomi Regional Chapter organized a significant event on heritage preservation, focusing on the restoration of Daavanal Kund. The event took place in Mathura and featured prominent guests and speakers who shared valuable insights into heritage conservation.

Convener Brij Bhoomi Regional Chapter, Deepak Goel elaborated on the objectives of the program, setting the stage for the discussions and activities that followed. A documentary on "Sur Ki Sugandh" was screened, adding a cultural dimension to the event.

The program was skillfully conducted by Ritika Goel, ensuring its smooth execution. The event concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Abha Bhargave, expressing gratitude to all participants and attendees followed by dinner. The event witnessed the presence of about 80 esteemed individuals from various fields.

Gorakhpur

INTACH Gorakhpur chapter came to know that certain old handwritten books and manuscripts are kept in Gitagarden Gorakhpur.



Old handwritten books and manuscripts are kept in Gitagarden Gorakhpur

On the information a team comprising of Convener M.P. Kandoi, Co-Convener Achintya Lahiri and life member Sri Surya Kumar Pandey visited the premises of Gita Garden. They meet joint secretary Sri Rasendu Fogla who shown them the library of Hanuman Prasad Poddar smarak samiti. He shows him the various manuscripts and books kept in almirah. On visual inspection the documents were not in good

condition. The library catalogue prepared indicated many handwritten and rare books.

The INTACH team persuaded them to get the help of INTACH in conserving them, after convincing him about capability of INTACH, he gave a request letter for preliminary survey which was sent to ICI conservation institute Lucknow.

The Lucknow office accepted the requested and asked for a amount for preliminary survey ,and after Samitis acceptance of proposal of Lucknow office specialist team is scheduled to visit on 16 th.

Gorakhpur chapter expects that the books and manuscripts in library will open a pandora box is rare books of Indian culture and religion

Lalitpur

1. World Heritage Week, organized by INTACH Lalitpur Chapter, Uttar Pradesh Archeology Department, Jhansi, and Bundelkhand History, Culture Research Committee, was inaugurated from 19 to 25 November in the summer vacation palace of valiant Lakshmi Bai, Barua Sagar, in the presence of foreign tourists, heritage lovers and a large number of people. Regional Archaeological Officer Manoj Kumar Yadav and INTACH Lalitpur Chapter Convener Santosh Kumar Sharma lit the lamp.

Foreign tourists were moved to tears upon learning about the history of Maharani Lakshmibai's bravery. They were overwhelmed by the rich heritage, tourist attractions, and artistic culture of Bundelkhand.

During this, valiant Laxmibai and former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi were remembered with reverence on their birth anniversary.

During this event, a photo exhibition and a painting competition involving students were organized. The enthusiasm among the attendees for their heritage was unprecedented.

2. On the second day of World Heritage Week, from 19 to 25 November, a Cleanliness Campaign was organized in the protected monument Lakshmi Temple Jhansi under the aegis of Uttar Pradesh Archeology Department Jhansi, INTACH Lalitpur Chapter and Bundelkhand History Culture Archeology Research Committee in conjunction with Regional Archeology Officer Dr. Manoj Kumar Yadav. Under the leadership of Harimohan Purwar, Convener, INTACH Orai Chapter, a heritage exhibition was organized, attracting numerous visitors. Contributions from Chairman, Sanskar Bharti Jalaun, Kumari Rasna Tiwari, Women Convener of Bharat Vikas Parishad Mrs. Usha Singh Niranjana, Sandhya Purwar, Priyanka Aggarwal, Poonam Gupta, Dr. Shweta, Pradeep Patkar Priya, Darsh Aggarwal, among others, were significant. They emphasized the importance of preserving heritage and urged all attendees to participate in this endeavor.

3. Today, on 21st November, 2023, a heritage-related quiz competition was organized at Maharani Laxmibai Inter College, Jhansi, under the joint auspices of the World Heritage Week (19 to 25 November, 2023), the Regional Archaeology Unit Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh Sanskrit Department), INTACH Lalitpur Chapter, Bundelkhand History Culture & Archaeology Research Committee, and Maharani Laxmibai Inter College Jhansi. The competition witnessed Sneha Singh securing third place, Vardaan securing second place, and Vedika Namdev securing the first place. Certificates and mementos were awarded to the winning participants, and all students who took part in the competition were honored with certificates. The program commenced with the school Principal, Manager, In-charge regional archaeology officer of the Jhansi unit, and all department employees and teachers of the school offering garlands and floral tributes to the photograph of Goddess Saraswati.

4. On the third day of the World Heritage Week, the INTACH Orai Chapter, in collaboration with the Uttar Pradesh Archaeology Department Jhansi, INTACH Lalitpur Chapter, and the Bundelkhand History Culture Archaeology Research Committee, organized an intriguing exhibition. The exhibition featured displays from 55 college students showcasing their collections of coins, notes, bangles, shells, etc. Dr. Taresh Bhatia, former Principal of D.V. Post Graduate Mahavitaran, enlightened the audience with insights into the ancient history of the country. Approximately 1700 children and teachers from the college had the opportunity to witness this exhibition.

5. Today, on 22 November 2023, under the World Heritage Week (19-25 November 2023), Regional Archeology Unit Jhansi (Uttar Pradesh Sanskrit Department), INTACH Lalitpur Chapter, Bundelkhand History, Culture and Archeology Research Committee and Government Mukund Lal Tiwari Inter College, Mahoba organized a quiz competition on heritage in which Nitin Verma got the third place, Prince got the second place and Harishankar got the first place. The winning participants were honored with mementos and certificates. All the participants who participated in the quiz competition were awarded certificates. Today, on this occasion of the program, Principal Devendra Kumar, all the teachers of the school, Dr. Manoj Kumar Yadav and Mukesh Kumar from Regional Archeology Unit Jhansi were present.



World Heritage Week



Quiz Competition on Heritage

Meerut

1. Foundation day of Azad Hind Government celebrated: INTACH, Meerut Chapter

Meerut, 21st October, 2023: The 81st Foundation Day of the Azad Hind Government was celebrated with a program organized by INTACH, Meerut Chapter at the Yodha Military Academy in Meerut. The event commenced with the lighting of a ceremonial lamp and the garlanding of a portrait of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Lt.Col. A.D. Tyagi, Director of the Academy extended a warm welcome to the distinguished guests and students, emphasizing the historical significance of the day. He highlighted that on this day, Netaji established the Azad Hind Government. The renowned historian A.K. Gandhi provided a comprehensive overview of Netaji's life and contributions. Mr. Anil Kumar Yadav and Mr. B.N. Parshar, Vice Presidents of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Committee delved into the detailed discussion of Netaji's accomplishments. Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, Chairman of the program and Convenor, INTACH paid a heartfelt tribute to Netaji and the brave martyrs and soldiers of the Azad Hind Fauj. He urged fellow countrymen to transcend the barriers of caste and religion, fostering a spirit of national unity and being ready to make sacrifices for the nation. The gathering concluded with resounding chants of "Jai Hind."



Foundation day of Azad Hind Government celebrated

Prayagraj



1. The report for Annual Heritage Quiz - 2023 of Prayagraj Chapter

To create awareness about preserving our rich, natural and cultural heritage, is the pioneering initiative of INTACH (The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage).

Spreading the message of heritage protection, INTACH -Prayag raj chapter

along with J.T. Golden Jubilee School conducted the Inter - School INTACH Heritage Quiz, Prayagraj Chapter- 2023 in its premises on 30th September, 2023. 128 students hailing from 14 different schools of Prayagraj participated in this quiz.

The event started with lighting of the lamp and Saraswati Vandana. This was followed by a welcome speech by the Principal-JTGJ School Mrs. Sushmita Kanungo and a gratitude note by our Convener Mr. Shambhu Chopra. Mr. Chopra highlighted the need for inculcating in youngsters and schoolchildren the need for appreciating the value and importance of India's vast and priceless heritage.

Based on both tangible and intangible cultural heritage of Prayagraj and India, the quiz comprised of six levels i.e. Round - 1(Written MCQ) , Round-2 (Oral & Buzzer Round) , Round -3 (Audio Visual) , Round-4 & 5 (MCQ Buzzer Round) , Round-6 (Final Round).

After a closely contested preliminary written round, 08 teams advanced to the final first round and at last 03 teams (LDC Public School Team-B, LDC Public School, Team-C, & Sanskar Public School) made their way into the final round.

Mr. Vaibhav Maini, our Joint Secretary, discussed the organization's activities and relevance of city's varied heritage, while the quiz was beautifully conducted by The Quiz Master Ms. Shruti Sharma, and Head of Campus Recruitment Training, United Institute of Technology.



INTACH Heritage Quiz, Prayagraj Chapter

After giving a neck to neck fight Shreyansh Tiwari and Suhani Mishra of LDC Public School secured the 1st Position, Apoorvava Agrawal & Anuradha Kesarwani of LDC Public School secured the second position whereas Samriddhi Jaiswal and Aditya Yadav of Sanskar Public School stood third.

Mrs. Pooja Gupta, our Program Coordinator, presented the vote of thanks and talked about the significance of such programmes with school students. Organizing team, consisting of Mr. Shambhu Chopra, Convener, Mrs. Pooja Gupta, Mrs. Gunjan Verma, Mr. Vaibhav Maini, Dr. Jamil Ahmed, Mr. Nilesh Narayan, worked tirelessly for making this event a success. Other dignitaries present included Mr. Anupam Parihar, Co-Convener - INTACH, Mr. Arvind Srivastav, senior member - INTACH, Mr. Arindam Ghosh and Mr. S. Chaterjee from the JTJG School executive committee.

The event was beautifully compered by Mrs. Madhruri Srivastava and Mrs. Sarita Dube.

The quiz contest successfully culminated with the National Anthem.



The Heritage week and meeting at Kasba restaurant, Thornhill Road, Allahabad

2. "INTACH Prayagraj chapter on the first day of the Heritage week held its meeting today at Kasba restaurant, Thornhill Road, Allahabad, where Mr. Sanjeev Sinha, Project Director, Prayagraj Smart City and his colleague Ms. Shomi Banerjee from the town planning department were invited for deliberations on how the architectural and cultural heritage is being amalgamated and harmonised with the Smart City initiative. The members had a fruitful discussion where various aspects for the joint collaboration by INTACH Prayagraj and various authorities like the PDA were explored. Prayagraj Smart City project is being

conducted under Mr. Sinha. Mr. Shambhu Chopra, Convener, introduced the speaker. Some of the noteworthy projects as discussed included:

1. The walls of Allahabad Fort / Akbar Fort is in a deplorable condition which needs immediate intervention. Mr. Sanjeev Sinha requested if some DPR could be prepared for the renovation of the same. It was explained that the current state of the walls would be shared by his team with the INTACH team, where the matter could be followed up through visits and study of the structure for the development of the DPR report.
2. The U.P. Government has come with a G.O. to enable the Commissioner for declaration of various Government and even private buildings as protected buildings to conserve the heritage of the city. INTACH team to identify around 100 such Buildings so that at least about 20 may get immediate protection. The Wheelers building was discussed as a case in the point.
3. Mr. Sanjeev Sinha explained that some projects have been taken up by the Smart City Project for renovation and restoration including Public Library, Shahid Wall, Cinema Centre, GGIC building to name a few but a push from the INTACH team would help in clearing the bottle necks, which are delaying some of the projects.
4. The restoration of Holland Hall may be initiated, where crowd funding from alumni could be explored.
5. It was pointed out that the ministry of culture is consulting Deloitte for development of heritage trails at Prayagraj, the details of which is available with PDA and it would be shared by Mr. Sinha to the INTACH team who are also working in that direction.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Shambhu Chopra, Convener, INTACH Prayagraj chapter and the meeting was attended by Mr. Anupam Parihar, Co -Convener, Mr. Vaibhav Maini, Secretary, Mr. Anupam Kumar, Mr. Nilesh Narayan, Ms. Gunjan Verma, life members and guests, Mr. N. D. Jaiswal, Ms. Mahima Jaiswal among others.

Varanasi



Man Mahal Virtual Museum

1. Students of INTACH Member school visited Man Mahal Virtual Museum. Varanasi Chapter arranged the visit to create awareness about INTACH contribution in the city. Also, to let students know about its Heritage.
2. INTACH VARANASI in collaboration with India Tourism Varanasi and INTACH Banda Chapter organised cleanliness drive at Kalinjer Fort Banda. 170 students from a renowned school attended the event. They took pledge as well as cleaned couple of monuments. Mr Haris Zaman, Convener, Banda Chapter arranged visit of students to this ASI protected monument. Four Life members of INTACH Varanasi Chapter visited Kalinjer Fort with Ashok Kapoor Convener Varanasi Chapter. Financial support was provided by India Tourism Varanasi office.



The cleanliness drive is the brainchild of our Hon'ble Prime Minister. It was organised on October 1, on the eve of Gandhi Jayanti

Two INTACH VARANASI Institutional members organised Cleanliness drive on October 1, 2023 at 10 am. Students and staff of Sunbeam School Sarnath and Sunbeam School Suncity participated in this drive which was announced by Hon'ble Prime Minister. In spite of being a holiday, students participated.

3. Ashok Kapoor Convener Varanasi Chapter was Chief Guest at a Classical Music programme organised in memory of Late Pt Jalpa Prasad Mishra, an eminent vocalist of Banaras Gharana. Disciples of Late Pt Jalpa Prasad Mishra felicitated the Convener. Ashok Kapoor Convener inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp. Convener presented memento to Ms Rashi Pant of Dehradun who was the main performer in the programme.. INTACH VARANASI Chapter is active in Varanasi city in classical music Fraternity as Convener is President of leading cultural organisation of Banaras.

4. On Friday, October 13, 2023 INTACH VARANASI organised Speech Competition based on GANGA KATHA FILM (ICH) at member school Sant Atulanand Convent School Koirajpur. We limited the participants to 10 schools with a team of 4 students each. The limitation was due to time constraint. All 10 schools are INTACH Institutional member. There are 3 films prepared by NH DIVISION INTACH DELHI for NMCG. We plan to organise the competition every month for 3 months where we plan to show one film every month. We will invite students of member schools to watch the film and thereafter make a presentation one by one or speech by individuals based on what they learnt from film. The ICH film was shown this month.

Our Institutional member Sant Atulanand Convent school Koirajpur hosted the event. Mr Ashok Kapoor Convener explained about the GANGA documentation project undertaken by NH DIVISION INTACH DELHI for NMCG and the films. Mr Nirmal Joshi, Addl Co Convener conducted the session. Mr Akhilesh Kumar ji and Mr Jainendra Rai were judges on behalf of INTACH. Team of Aryan International School was adjudged First while team of Sant Atulanand Convent school Koirajpur won the second prize. Dr Mrs Vandana Singh, Director of the School presented memento to Ashok Kapoor Convener and all the judges and appreciated the initiative being taken by INTACH Varanasi. Dr Mrs Neelam Singh, Principal of the school assured to collaborate every month to host this competition for next two months as well.



Speech Competition based on GANGA KATHA FILM

5. Varanasi Chapter organised a speech competition for member school students on October 13 based on GANGA KATHA FILM-ICH.

We limited number of participants to 10 member schools with a team of 4 students each as we had limited time slot.

The event was hosted by Sant Atulanand Convent School Koirajpur, an INTACH member school. Participants were shown 30 minutes film and then we allowed 15 minutes to them to discuss amongst their team members and prepare speech. Each team was given 4 to 5 minutes to give speech individually or make a joint presentation.

Two senior INTACH members were in judgement.

Aryan International school was adjudged 1st and Sant Atulanand Convent school Koirajpur were 2nd. Prizes were given by Chapter to winners. Certificate of participation were given to all.

This is first part of the monthly series we are planning. We will show films on AH and NH in next two months and similar competition will be held.

These films have been produced by NH Division for NMCG.

We will thus create awareness amongst students for Ganga Cleaning besides the project being undertaken by INTACH.



First Prize Winners from Aryan International school Speech & Joint Presentation

6. Varanasi Chapter organised Heritage site visit in collaboration with India Tourism for students of two member schools. The students visited Sarnath Excavation sites, Sri Lankan Temple where relics are stored and Dhammekh Stupa. Mr Akhilesh Kumar and Shri Jainendra Rai, senior Govt of India approved Tourist Guides and INTACH LIFE MEMBERS briefed the students and explained the history. Students of

Sunbeam School Moghulserai and Sunbeam School Sarnath visited on two different dates. Convener Varanasi Chapter Ashok Kapoor and Life member Mr Amit Gupta, Asst Director India Tourism Varanasi coordinated the two visits.

This is also part of Yuva Tourism Club and Heritage Club activity of INTACH member schools.

- Varanasi Chapter also organised visit to Rajghat Excavation site and Lal Khan kaa rauza for students of an INTACH MEMBER SCHOOL. Mr Akhilesh Kumar and Mr Jainendra Rai, INTACH Life members and senior Govt of India approved Tourist Guides briefed the students about the importance of the sites. As a matter of fact, Varanasi City was in this part only as can be proved by seeing the excavations. Later people started settling towards Chowk area and then to Bhadaini and Assi.
- Lal Khan was one of the most loyal officer of Kashi Raj. The ASI protected monument was initially built in his memory only. Varanasi's history is traced from here only. Varanasi was the capital while Kashi was a state. This removes confusion that Varanasi and Kashi are two names of the city. This fact was explained to students. Once again ASI was kind enough to exempt entry fee for them.



Heritage site visit in collaboration with India Tourism for students of two member schools

7. VARANASI CHAPTER organised a visit of students of an INTACH member school to Man Mahal Virtual Museum as part of site visit and know your heritage. Mr Amit Gupta, INTACH LIFE MEMBER and Asst Director India Tourism Varanasi specially arranged a senior tourist guide to brief the students. Ashok Kapoor Convener was personally present. ASI were kind enough to exempt entry fees for students as visit was jointly organised by two active organisations. Appx 70 students with 5 teachers including Mrs Ritu Kapur, INTACH coordinator saw the entire museum including much sought after GANGA AVATARAN Audio visual. INTACH Varanasi takes special interest in Visit to Man Mahal Virtual Museum as INTACH was knowledge Partner and consultant in the project. And the big 3D mural at the entrance was made under Chapters supervision. Later students saw Sun Dial too commonly known as Jantar Mantar.

8. This heritage walk was organized by Shri Ashok Kapur INTACH Coordinator Varanasi. We visited Army Museum and Pashpani Vinayak Temple, both located in cantonment area in Varanasi.

The Army Museum is rightly called 39GTC Motivational Hall. After reaching our group was welcomed by Army officers. First we went to see displays in the garden, we saw an army jeep which was in service few decades ago. It still looked rugged and reliable. We saw several artillery guns and other displays.

Subsequently we went inside and saw all the exhibits. We were well explained by Army officers. The exhibits were related to formation and origin of 39 GTC. There were exhibits giving us information where 39GTC saw action. We saw enemy flags, weapons seized by our army.

On one wall we saw pictures of soldiers who won various gallantry awards and soldiers who sacrificed their lives for our country. We are grateful to them because it is because of them that we are safe in our country today.

Our next destination was Pashpani Vinayak Temple. This temple is included in the Ashta Vinayak Yatra and is dedicated to Lord Ganesha in his Pash Pani Vinayak form. It is believed that by worshipping in this temple devotees can get rid of all sorts of difficulties. From the beautiful sculptures it was easy to see that this is an ancient temple. We were fortunate to meet pujariji who explained the significance of the temple and Darshan here. We next moved to very nice open cafe. We had a lovely birthday celebration of Ashok Kapurji. This was followed by a sumptuous Navratri breakfast of sabudana tikki and lassi. As always it was very delightful motivational and informative heritage walk



Visited Army museum and Pashpani Vinayak Temple

9. UP State Level Heritage Quiz was organised by Varanasi Chapter on November 1, 2023 at an INTACH Institutional Member Sunbeam Women's College, Varuna.

The college made excellent arrangements as can be seen in photographs. Mr Nirmal Joshi, Addl Co Convener INTACH Varanasi Chapter conducted the Quiz. Mr Joshi is a national level Quiz Master and conducts many quizzes at all India Level. Five Chapters sent their city level Quiz winners. Ayodhya, Kanpur, Allahabad, Gorakhpur and Varanasi. The team consisted of two students each. There were Five oral rounds and One Visual round. Out of five oral round, one was a hint round.

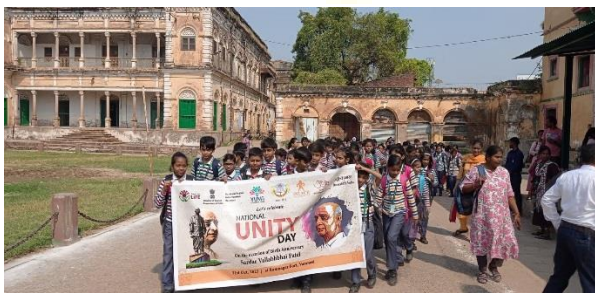
There was a close contest till the end. Swaraj India Public School, Kanpur were declared winners after all the rounds were completed. Sunbeam School Lahartara Varanasi were 2nd. The scoring was being done by three persons. There was a unique system evolved this time. Each team was given a plain sheet to write score themselves too. The scores were then tallied with them too. Prizes (books sent by HECS DIVISION INTACH DELHI) were given to 1st and 2nd winners by Convener, College Academic Head and Addl Co Convener. Consolation prizes of 2 books each were also given by Varanasi Chapter to remaining three teams. College Principal felicitated the Convener and Quiz Master. College Academic Head proposed vote of thanks. All participants and their accompanying teachers and parents were provided refreshments.

The outside teams were provided transport and accommodation which came early. Teams which arrived the same day were provided breakfast by Varanasi Chapter.



UP State Level Heritage Quiz was organised by Varanasi Chapter

10. Varanasi Chapter in collaboration with India Tourism Varanasi organised Heritage site visit to Ramnagar Fort and Museum on the occasion of National Unity Day, October 31, 2023. Students of Sunbeam School Moghulserai, an INTACH Institutional member visited the Fort and Museum. While briefing was done by a member of Varanasi Chapter, India Tourism organised other logistic arrangements. Since it is a private museum, entry fees could not be exempted.



Heritage site visit to Ramnagar Fort and Museum on the occasion of National Unity Day





Lecture series titled VIRASAT DARSHAN

11. Bi- monthly Lecture series titled VIRASAT DARSHAN was organised by Varanasi Chapter in collaboration with Tourist Guide Association Varanasi and ATGA at India Tourism Varanasi office premises.

The subject was DHAROHAR KAA SHAHAR BANARAS. Eminent speaker Shri Amitabh Bhattacharya spoke mainly on intangible heritage of Banaras. He mentioned that while Built Heritage can be visited and seen any time but life and daily routines of original inhabitants of Banaras can be felt only when you meet the people and interact with them. The Banaras Paanwaala , Cuisine vendors , artist and craftsmen have different life than usual. The uniqueness of the city is in it's original

residents.

The talk was specially arranged for Tourist guides but many INTACH members were present too. Amitabh Bhattacharya emphasised that guides should explain these uniqueness and intangible Heritage to tourists to let them understand the city.

This was third lecture in the series. India Tourism Varanasi provided its space this time.

Fortunately, President of Tourist Guide Association Varanasi Mr Jainendra Rai is INTACH life member and has enrolled some senior Guides as Life member recently.

This lecture series is getting popularity amongst Travel and Tourist Trade and INTACH Varanasi is now being invited by other Travel Trade related organisations to participate in activities. This is self-financed activity.

Speakers are being invited by INTACH while TGA and ATGA invite their members to attend. As stated earlier, many INTACH members attend it too.

12. Our heritage walk on 29th Oct was to Panch Pandava Temple, fourth stop of Panchkosi Yatra. This was organized by Shri Ashok Kapur INTACH Varanasi Coordinator. We were well explained on all facts by Akhilesh Kumarji.

It is believed that this temple was made by Pandavas during their forest exile. We saw 5 Shivlingas in decreasing size and at the end there were 5 Nandis in correspondingly decreasing size also. On the farther side of the wall we saw sculptures of Panch Pandavas and Draupadi. Each Pandav was bearing his weapon of choice. Yudhishtir was holding Dandapani, Bhim was holding gada (mace), Arjuna was carrying bow and Nakul Sahdev were carrying swords. Draupadi was beautifully bedecked with Chunari and dress.

After having Darshana we went to the other side of road to visit Draupadi Kund. This is a well and had a handpump also. We understand that pilgrims draw water from here and use it to pray in Panch Pandav Temple.

We walked a few steps further and turned left into a big area. This contained a lake, few Dharmashalas and several Devi temples. There was Asthabhuji temple which was grand in size more recently renovated. We had Darshanas in all these temples.

The Dharmasalas in this area were neat and clean and could accommodate hundreds of pilgrims on their halt during Panchkosi Yatra. We also saw stage furniture in this area and were informed that Ramlila was performed here and the last episode had just concluded.

In conclusion we really appreciate the efforts of local people who have put efforts to maintain this space for pilgrims and Ramlila performances.

Next we walked to Kabir Math. This area had dharmasalas and Kabir Temple. The Sadhus there explained that they hosted people who had come to study teachings of Kabir. This area was maintained well and could host large number of devotees too.

We concluded our tour with breakfast. It is here all participants discuss their thoughts on this tour discuss potential sites for our next tour.



Panch Pandava Temple, Panchkosi Yatra

13. INTACH VARANASI Chapter organised Heritage Week in collaboration with UP State Archaeology Dept Varanasi like every year from November 19 to 25, 2023. Padma Shri Awardee Prof Ritwik Sanyal, eminent Dhrupad Vocalist and Scholar inaugurated the Week at Gurudham Temple by lighting the lamp. Mr Nalin Gulati, Co Convener, Mr Anil Kesari, Addl Co Convener, Ms Aditi Gulati, Heritage Education Cell coordinator INTACH VARANASI, couple of members, guests, artists and students of two INTACH Member schools attended the inaugural ceremony. Prof Sanyal and other guests were shown the exhibition curated by UP State Archive Varanasi office at the same venue. There were large number of archival documents and photos displayed there.

Dr Subhash Yadav Regional Archaeological Officer Govt of UP welcomed the Chief Guest and guests. Mr Anil Kesari felicitated Chief Guest. Prof Sanyal spoke about importance of intangible Heritage and creating awareness amongst students.

Ashok Kapoor Convener proposed vote of thanks. The following programmes organised in Heritage week: -

- i. Varanasi Chapter organised Clay Pottery and Toys Making Workshop on Monday November 20, 2023 at Gurudham Temple Complex. This is a project to save endangered craft of the Region, supported by HECS DIVISION INTACH DELHI. 67 students from different schools participated. The project creates awareness amongst students to be environment friendly by using Clay products and avoid plastic. It also encourages Potters to spread the craft amongst students. Sanju Prajapati and his son conducted the workshop. While Electric potter wheel was used by them for Pottery making, hand made clay toy making was also taught by Potters. Ashok Kapoor Convener Varanasi Chapter initiated this project 5 years back. Ms Aditi Gulati, Dy Director Little Flower House Group of schools and Coordinator INTACH VARANASI Heritage Education Cell started the workshop by trying her hand on potter wheel and encouraged students.



Clay Pottery and Toys Making Workshop at Gurudham Temple Complex

- ii. Varanasi Chapter organised Face Mask Making Workshop on Monday, November 20, 2023 at Gurudham Temple Complex which is a Heritage Site. Ankit Prasad alongwith his two associates conducted the workshop in which 59 students from different schools took part. The face masks these days are being made out of artificial material while originally thick paper was used. In Varanasi, Face masks are still being used for Ramlila. Unfortunately, only two families are left who make face mask for Ramlila. Normally old masks are repainted and used. Varanasi Chapter had organised once 3 years back but that craftsman has left the work. Ankit Prasad is a 5th generation Banaras Traditional Miniature Painting Artist too and paints the face masks. We requested him to get mask makers and conduct the workshop.

These masks are made of papier mache and then painted. Students were explained about mask making as well as painting. Few masks from old collections were displayed there for students. Though Masks are made all over the world and in South India too but in Varanasi, mainly Ramlila Masks are made.

Many students from INTACH member schools participated in the workshop. It lasted for 3.30 hrs. The workshop was supported by HECS DIVISION INTACH DELHI under Endangered Craft Project. This was 5th workshop in this year under this project.



Face Mask Making Workshop at Gurudham Temple Complex, Varanasi

- iii. Painting Competition was organised for school and college students at Gurudham Temple. Nearly 260 students participated. The theme was OUR HERITAGE. This was organised in collaboration with UP State Archaeology Dept, Govt of UP, Varanasi.

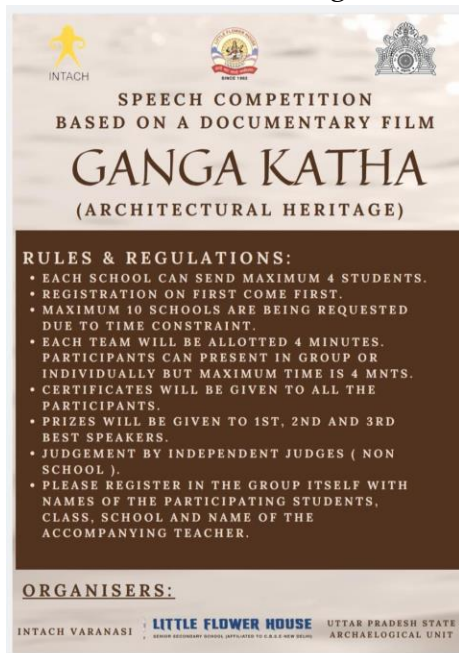
There were 3 categories of participants. Class 5 to 8, class 9 to 12 and college. 3 Winners and 2 consolation prizes from each category were selected by independent judges.

- iv. College Students Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop was organised by Varanasi Chapter supported by HECS Division INTACH Delhi at Sunbeam College for WOMEN Varuna, a member educational institution.
- v. Varanasi Chapter organised a speech competition for students of member schools at its Institutional member Little Flower House. 12 teams comprising of 4 students each from 12 different schools participated in the competition.

Students were first shown the FILM made by INTACH DELHI. GANGA KATHA - AH FILM was shown to them. Then they were given 20 mins to prepare speech or presentation. Each team was given 4 to 5 minutes each. There were 3 experts as judges. Fortunately, all are INTACH Life members. Ashok Kapoor Convener explained about the films prepared by INTACH for NMCG and the entire documentation project.

This was second film shown for competition. Last month ICH FILM was shown and competition was held at another member school.

Seth M R Jaipuria School Babatpur were adjudged first prize winners and Sant Atulanand Convent School Koirajpur were second prize winners. Books sent by NH and AH Divisions were given to winners as prizes. Two consolation prizes were also given besides 3rd prize too. They all were given books and Banaras maps. This competition is being liked and appreciated by all schools and there is a great enthusiasm amongst them.



Poster and Speech competition for students of member schools

- vi. Tribal Art Competition was organised by INTACH Varanasi and Bharat Kala Bhawan BHU on Saturday November 25, 2023 at Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum. Due to space constraint in Museum, we could accommodate only 50 students from 14 INTACH member schools with their teachers. Students were first explained about Tribal Art by Mrs Priyanka Chandra, Curator. Some sample drawings were also shown to students to understand the concept. They were provided drawing paper by organisers. One and a half hour was given to them for making the painting. Ashok Kapoor Convener Varanasi Chapter, Ms Jasminder Kaur , INTACH LIFE member and Dy Director Bharat Kala Bhawan and Ms Anuradha Raturi were present from Chapter side. Participation certificates were given to all participants. It was agreed by Museum authorities that paintings will be exhibited for one week in a gallery after 10 days. Winners will be announced then only. Prizes will be given by INTACH Varanasi to 1st, 2nd and 3rd best paintings. Consolation prizes will be given to 2 more participants.



Tribal Art Competition was organised by INTACH Varanasi and Bharat Kala Bhawan BHU
 Closing Function and Prize Distribution: - Padma Shri Awardee eminent Banaras Gharana Sitar Artist and Guru Pt Shivnath Mishra was Chief Guest. All prize winners of Painting Competition were present with teachers and parents to receive prizes. The ceremony was held at Gurudham Temple Complex. Ashok Kapoor Convener felicitated the Chief Guest. Dr Subhash Yadav welcomed the Chief Guest. Prizes were distributed by Chief Guest and Ashok Kapoor Convener. Ashok Kapoor Convener proposed vote of thanks.

14. Our heritage walk on 19 Nov 23 was in Karan Ghanta area. This walk was organized by Shri Ashok Kapur INTACH coordinator Varanasi as part of Heritage week. We parked our vehicles in Maidagin area. We then walked to our destination through the narrow lanes.

As we reached our first stop we saw few small temples in private houses. We visited Kantheshwar Mahadev and the walked to big pokhra (water body). This was reasonably maintained and had stairs all around. We took the stairs to walk down and visited two famous temples adjacent to each other Vyaseshwar Mahadev and Ghanta Karneshwar. Vyasehwar Mahadev was built by Rishi Vyasa. As per a popular Puranic story Rishi Vyasa may have begged for alms from Shiva and Parvati. It is believed that Shiva and Parvati also resided here in human form.

Ghanta Karna was sent by Shiva to Kashi for a survey but he did not report back angering Shiva. And so Ghanta Karna built a temple here to pray for forgiveness.

Adjacent to this area was a peepal tree. It is believed that Tulsidas sat here narrated Lord Rama stories. And it is here that Hanumanji came as a leper to listen to them. On a wall here we also saw a painting titled 'Adi kushtha roop Hanuman' of Hanumanji as a leper. Next we walked to Jyeshtha Gauri Temple which was housed in a private house. After having darshan here we walked to small complex of several temples. We got darshan at Maa Kashi Devi Temple, Shri Vyaghreshwar temple and Niwaseshwar Mahadev and other temples. It is believed that Shiva and Parvati resided here.

Towards the end we went to Bhoot Bhairav temple. We were fortunate to listen to aarti which was being done.

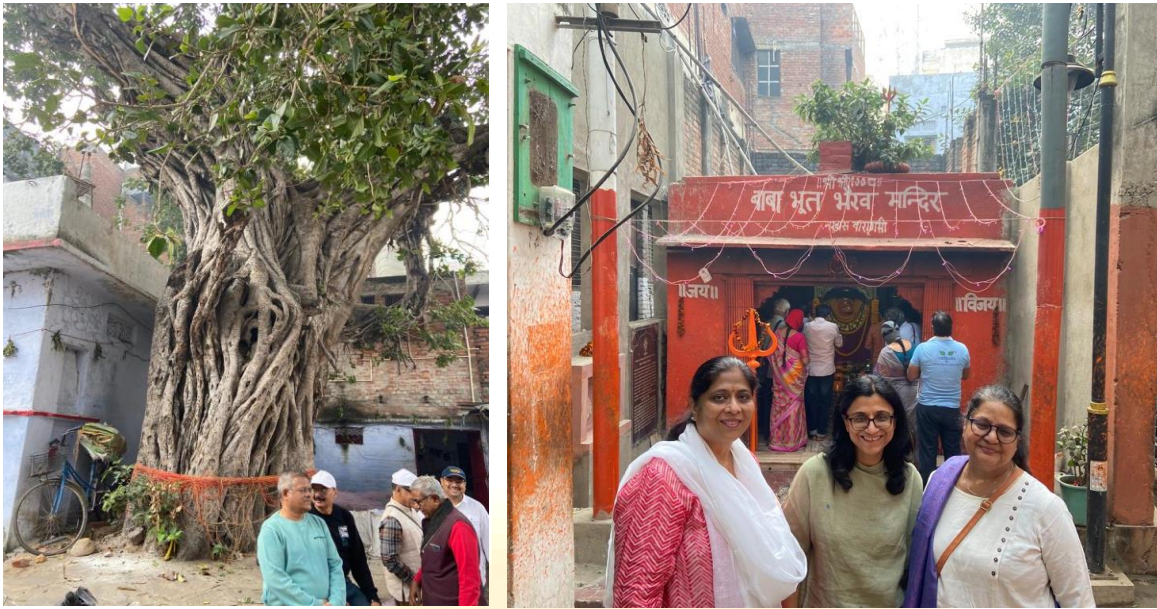
This area seemed to be of great significance but probably not well known. Most of the worshippers were locals , we met a group of ladies from Hyderabad who were residing in Kashi for the entire Kartik Maas.

This walk through this cute cluster of temples was amazing. We thank INTACH for taking us through this excellent cultural and spiritual journey.

INTACH has done consultancy work here under HRIDAY YOJNA to develop areas near BHOOT BHAIRAV.

We concluded our visit and walked to Ganesh Shishu Sadan. Here we were hosted by our member Manju Agrawal for a sumptuous breakfast. We are thankful to her and the school staff for excellent arrangements. We understand that this school has contributed heavily to education in this area. Many of our members have got their early education here.





Heritage walk in Karan Ghanta area

Uttarakhand

Dehradun

Chapter Activity Report: Inter-School Heritage Quiz

We are delighted to share the success of our recent endeavor, the Inter-School Heritage Quiz held on the 1st of September 2023 at Olympus High School, Dehradun. This event was a significant milestone for the INTACH Dehradun Chapter, contributing to our commitment to heritage education and awareness.

The quiz was a part of the esteemed National Heritage Quiz organized annually by HECS, INTACH. It saw enthusiastic participation from sixty students representing various schools in the region. The event commenced with an elimination round, a written segment challenging participants with questions centered around local and national heritage, culture, INTACH, and its invaluable initiatives.

Four schools emerged victorious from the elimination round, progressing to the final oral round. Conducted by the seasoned Quiz Master, Mr. Arindam, the final round witnessed an engaging battle of wits and knowledge. Ultimately, Tonsbridge School, Premnagar, Dehradun claimed victory, showcasing remarkable acumen in heritage and culture.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Olympus High School for their unwavering logistical support, led by the school's Principal, staff, and dedicated student volunteers. The presence Ms. Anjali Bhartari, Co-Convener, INTACH Uttarakhand State, alongside our chapter members, added immense value to the event.

Special thanks are due to Ms. Poornima Dutt and Mr. Abhishek from INTACH HECS, New Delhi, for their invaluable support and encouragement throughout the journey of organizing this event.



The Inter-School Heritage Quiz

The Inter-School Heritage Quiz stands as a testament to our collective commitment to fostering heritage education and nurturing a deeper appreciation for our rich cultural legacy. The success of the Inter-School Heritage Quiz underscores the commitment of INTACH Dehradun Chapter to fostering a deep appreciation for heritage and culture among the youth. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone involved, for their dedicated efforts in making this event a resounding success.

West Bengal

Hooghly

Report from INTACH Hooghly Chapter

As part of World Heritage Week, on 24 November 2023, Friday, INTACH - Hooghly Chapter organised at Gurudas College, Kolkata, the screening of two documentaries on Chandernagore's intangible cultural and environmental heritage to create awareness among the students about different perspectives of heritage.

Shri Akhil Ranjan Sarkar, State Convener, INTACH WB State Chapter, interacted with the students to explore the possibilities of greater youth involvement in spreading heritage awareness at a mass level.

Convener, INTACH Hooghly Chapter, spoke about the importance of the Intangible Cultural Heritage and how students can take small steps in documenting and nourishing such heritage.



World Heritage Week at Gurudas College, Kolkata



On 06 December 2023, Wednesday, INTACH - Hooghly Chapter organised a Heritage Tour of Chandernagore for more than 50 students along with their teachers from Gurudas College, Kolkata. The students visited several heritage sites in the town to experience domestic, architectural and cultural heritage.



Heritage Tour of Chandernagore

Kolkata

INTACH NATIONAL HERITAGE QUIZ 2023 (State Level) was organised by INTACH Calcutta Regional Chapter office premises, Kolkata on 10th November, 2023.

In this competition 16. of students from 4 city winners of West Bengal school were participated (School's name:

1.SHRI SHIKSHAYATAN SCHOOL- KOLKATA,

2. SRI AUROBINDO VIDYAMANDIR-HOOGHY
3. BERHAMPORE LIPIKA MEMORIAL GIRLS 'HIGH SCHOOL- MURSHIDABAD
4. MAHODARY HIGH SCHOOL, BIRBHUM

The programme was started the inauguration speech by Mr. G. M. Kapur, Convener, INTACH Chapter division, Mr. Akhil Sarkar, State Convener, West Bengal and Mr. Balaknath Bhattacharyya, Convener, Murshidabad Chapter.

The quiz competition was conducted by the quiz masters Mr. Asif Ali and Mr. Sidharth Sarkar, they are the member of INTACH, Kolkata, in 4 rounds. INTACH members, Teachers present in this programme.

1. Question & answer
2. Audio visual



National Heritage Quiz 2023

World Heritage Week, 2023:

18th November, 2023 - Curtain Raiser

Oberoi Grand 5pm to 7 pm Talk on Evolution of High Street Chowringhee



19th November 2023

Heritage Walk: 8.30 am The Journey of Calcutta Club



20 November 2023 :

Calcutta Rowing Club 5 pm The Heritage of Rowing:
Felicitation of London Rowing Club 100 year Partnership



21st November, 2023:

Numismatic Society of India ITPI Hall, Salt Lake City 5pm to 7 pm Talk on
"METAMORPHOSIS OF INDIAN COINAGE"



Murshidabad

Report regarding INTACH Quiz Contest 2023 conducted by Murshidabad Chapter

Quiz contest as sponsored by HECS INTACH was conducted by Mrshidabad chapter during September and October. Considering the location of the schools in distant places a slight modification in the prescribed procedure for quiz contest had to be made. The contest was conducted in two rounds. Firstly written round was conducted in individual schools. 9 (nine) schools participated. There were 10 groups in each school consisting of 2(two) students from class seven to ten, in each group. The assigned teachers of the school along with representative of Murshidabad Chapter conducted the quiz programmes. Thus, in first level 180 students participated. On the basis of the performance the groups were ranked first, second, third and so in each school. The best team was chosen for final city round oral quiz. Thus, we had 9 best teams from 9 schools consisting of 18 students in city round which was conducted. The schools participated are: 1) Krishnath College School, 2) Berhamore Maharani Kashishwari Girls High School. 3) Sargachhi Ramkrishna Mission High School, 4) Hatinagar Sarada Vidyapeeth, 5) Baharampur Lipika Memorial Girls High School 6) Seba Miloni High School. 7) Lalbagh Singhi High School, 8) Manikyahar S S High School 9) Saktipur K M C Institution The final city round was conducted on 22.09.2023 at Baharampur. Concerned teachers from all the schools along with some guardians attended the programme. Convener, Co Convener and other members along with some well wishers were present there. Five round of quiz was conducted by the quiz master. Five round quizzes were designed on five themes based on history and heritage and as prescribed by HECS - district, state, country, personality & INTACH. The final round was based on all the themes. The participants were very much enthusiastic and the contest was very lively. The participants were well prepared. There was keen contest amongst all the participants. No one was ready to leave any space to opponents. Consequently, there was tie among second third and fourth position. Quiz master had to conduct rapid fire round to break the tie. Considering fifth round and rapid fire round the students of Baharampur Lipika Memorial Girls High School ranked first, students of Manikyahar S S High School ranked second and students of Sargachhi Ramkrishna Mission High School ranked third. Apart from distribution of certificates to all the participants and prizes to first, second and third all other participants were awarded prizes to encourage their attempt and enthusiasm. Teachers of different schools, quiz master, co-convener, convener as well as other members of Murshidabad chapter delivered speeches detailing the INTACH activities and encouraging the participants. The programme ended with Vote of Thanks.





INTACH Quiz Contest 2023 conducted by Murshidabad Chapter

HECS Activities

Hyderabad

Heritage Education and Communication Service in collaboration with INTACH Hyderabad Chapter conducted a 2-day Teacher Training Workshop in Ganges Valley School, Nizampet on 4th – 5th October, 2023. 38 teachers from 23 schools participated in the workshop. Convener Anuradha Reddy spoke on the local heritage, highlighting the illustrious history and heritage of Hyderabad which is in state of danger because of urban development plans. Mrs. Purnima Datt, Principal Director HECS, INTACH in her session, laid emphasis on the diversity of flora and fauna, architectural remains and culture and tradition that India encompasses. Inputs were also added on by Ms. Sashi and Ms. Anuradha about the concepts of heritage. She also talked about the importance of Heritage Education. On the second day, a heritage walk was conducted at the Tomb of Abdul Qadir Amin Khan, Pattancherru, led by Ms Reddy. She gave glimpse of old town and the coming of industrial area and neglect from government led to its dilapidated condition. Post heritage walk, session on outreach of heritage clubs and HECS resources were discussed by Ms Purnima Datt and Ms Vaishnavi Singh. This was followed by the group activity where each team shared about the rich heritage of Hyderabad through role play, singing, dancing and presentation. The workshop ended with the distribution of the resource materials, felicitation of participants and a group photograph and felicitation of participants. Principal, Ganges Valley School, Ms. Suparna, new INTACH member Ms. Sashi Musunuri, teacher, Ms Chaitanya who efficiently organised the workshop were also present at the workshop.



The INTACH Heritage Quiz State round for Telangana was conducted at Hyderabad. 6 teams were part of the competition. The state round winners were Nischit Maniyarand Anusha Mundada from Gitanjali Devashree School, Hyderabad.



Udaipur

A College Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop was conducted by Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) in collaboration with INTACH Udaipur at Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur on 26th October 2023. 65 students and teachers participated in the workshop. A welcome address was given by Dr. Lalit Pandey, Convener- Udaipur chapter. Ms. Purnima Datt, Principal Director (HECS) explained the various programmes taken up by HECS to preserve heritage of India. The next session began with the guest speakers, Mr. Vilad Janve who shared about the intangible heritage of Udaipur including the art of turban tying and Gavari dance. Mr. Maheep Bhatnagar discussed landscape, flora, and fauna of the Udaipur region and Mr. Manish Shrimali gave presentations on the evolution of built heritage of Udaipur city and its surrounding area. Ms. Swati Deora, Programme Coordinator (HECS) discussed the various aspects of heritage volunteerism followed by a group activity where students were divided into 4 groups and each group was given one heritage to represent. All the participating students were given certificates, newsletter and the college booklet. Mr. Gaurav Singhvi, Co-Convener, Udaipur gave the vote of thanks and motivated students to be an active participant in various roles in the conservation of heritage.



UTTAR PRADESH

Varanasi

1. HECS conducted a College Heritage Volunteer Workshop at the Sunbeam Women's College Varuna in Varanasi in collaboration with INTACH Varanasi Chapter on 22nd November 2023. 78 students and teachers from 7 colleges participated in the workshop. The 7 colleges that attended the workshop were- AryaMahila PG College, Vasanta College for Women - Archaeology, Vasanta College for Women - History, Sunbeam Women's College Varuna, Sunbeam College for Women Bhagwanpur, ShriAgrasenKanya PG College, and SMS College. Mr. Ashok Kapoor, Convener of the Varanasi Chapter gave his welcome speech after which the INTACH film was screened. Then, Ms. Purnima Datt, Principal Director, spoke at length about the complex geographical diversity of the country, and India's vast built heritage, material heritage, and living heritage. Ms. Datt also suggested ways in which the students can safeguard and raise awareness. Mr. Jainendra Kumar Rai and Mr. Akhilesh Kumar, who work with the tourism department as guides and researchers urged students to go out and explore their city. Mr. Anil Kumar Keshari of the Varanasi chapter spoke at length about the lesser-known heritage structures, mainly the temples of Varanasi. After the lunch break a film made on World Rivers Day made by the Varanasi chapter and students was screened. Dr. Ashish Kumar Jaiswal, then shared about the intangible heritage of Varanasi focusing in details on Sangeet. He then sung a few songs to explain the uniqueness of Banarsi music. The last session was held by Ms. Nanki Kaur, Programme Coordinator, HECS where students were informed of the ways they could volunteer at INTACH or work on programmes within their institutions to create awareness about heritage and help protect it. The upcoming national programme for colleges was then explained in detail by Ms. Purnima Datt. In the interactive group activity the students presented various innovative ideas on River Ganga, the Kardameshwar Mahadev Mandir, miniature paintings, and the Panchkoshi Yatra. The workshop ended with the felicitation ceremony and a group photograph.



2. The INTACH Heritage Quiz state round for Uttar Pradesh was conducted by Mr. Nirmal Joshi, Addl Co Convener INTACH Varanasi Chapter conducted the Quiz. Mr. Joshi is a national level Quiz Master and conducts many quizzes at all India Level. There was a unique system evolved this time. Each team was given a plain sheet to write the scores themselves too. The scores were then tallied with them too. The students from Swaraj India Public School, Kanpur won the state quiz competition.



Ayodhya

Sarpat Workshop was organized under HECS Endangered Art and Craft Workshop at JBNSS Head Office, Ayodhya at the beginning of World Heritage Week celebrated from 19 to 25 November. Starting the workshop, Ayodhya Chapter's co-Convener Mrs. AnujaSrivastava informed about the importance of Heritage Week and our heritage. More than 50 students from different schools of Ayodhya like Takshashila, Udaya Public School, YashVidyaMandir, Bhavadiya Public School and J.B. Academy participated.

The workshop was organized in order to revive the extinct handicrafts. Under the direction of Smt. SaritaTripathi, along with Ms. Jahan, Rajshree, Neelam Gaur, Sarita, Rinki, Mayawati as trainers were present to promote Sarpat products, where the children took the initiative to make attractive and effective objects. The products were created by making different shapes in three hand feathers and equipping them with the use of clippings and bamboo. Mrs. ManjulaJhunhunwala, ConvenerAyodhya Chapter congratulated all the members and participating schools for the successful coordination of this program.

Workshop Photographs



Karnataka Bangalore

The state finals of the INTACH India Heritage Quiz were held online on 10th November 2023. It was organized by Bangalore Chapter. City winners of Vijaypur, Bangalore, Gulbarga and Dharwad participated in it. The quiz was won by Sri Kumaran ICSE School, Bangalore.

Dharwad

A two day workshop on Kasuti Embroidery was organised by INTACH Dharwad Chapter on 10th and 11th October. 70 students from 8 schools of HubliDharwad participated in the workshop. Convener welcomed the participants, resource persons, teachers, parents and members of the chapter. Ms. RekhaShettar, member of Dharwad Chapter gave a brief introduction about Kasuti. The participants were explained about Kasuti making, thereafter the participants created kasuti designs with the help of the resource person. Students were enthusiastic to learn about the traditional needle based craft of Karnataka. They were told about the different kind of stitches and are four basic designs, gavanti, murgi, menthe andnegiwere explained to them.

The participants were divided in groups of 5 or 6 with one resource person to teach and guide. Each participant was provided with

1. One Embroidery ring
2. Two Coloured threads and needle
3. Fabric (printed)

Workshop Photographs



Chhattisgarh

Raipur

1. INTACH, Raipur Chapter organized a workshop on Endangered/Folk/Traditional/Special Craft/Art for School Students on 10th& 11th October 2023, at Gurukul Hall, Gurukul Complex, Kalibadi, Raipur. The workshop was attended by 64 students from 10 schools. The theme of the workshop was Bastar face art and graffiti (bhitichitra) which is an endangered art of Bastar. Shri Arun Halder, senior artist expert in drawing painting on bamboo mat and wood was the resource person of the event. An inaugural session was also conducted. Shri Naval Shukla, President, Tribal Folk Art Academy, Chhattisgarh Govt. was the Chief Guest. Shri Rajendra Ojha, Litterateur & Social worker presided over the session.
2. INTACH Raipur Chapter conducted the State finals of INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2023. Teams from Bilaspur, Saraipali, Mahasamund, Raipur, Durg-Bhilai & Rajnandgaon participated. The team from Durg Bhilai - Delhi Public School, Bhilai comprising of Abhinav Singh and Akshat Gupta won the quiz.

Durg-Bhilai

A two-day painting workshop was organized by INTACH Durg - Bhilai Chapter for school students at Swami Shri Swaroopanand Saraswati Mahavidyalaya, Bhilai on 12th and 13th October 2023. The workshop was on Bastar art and wall painting. Dr. Hansa Shukla, convener of Durg-Bhilai chapter, said that forty-six students of classes VII to X from eight schools participated enthusiastically in the two-day painting workshop. The chief guest of the workshop was Dr. Aarti Diwan, HOD Home Science, Indira Gandhi Government Post Graduate College, Vaishali Nagar Bhilai. In her hospitality address, she said that students have natural art skills and they can be improved through such workshops. Training in Bastar art was given in the workshop. The workshop was a very commendable step, as this will help the students become familiar with the art of their state.

Bastar's famous painter Arun Kumar Halder attended the workshop for training in Bastar art and wall painting. On the first day of the workshop, he trained the students in Bastar Art and taught to make the sketch of the shape and then showed the technique of coloring it. On the second day, Mr. Haldhar trained the participants in making murals. While explaining the intricacies of painting, he explained to the students that whenever you make a picture, there must be a base in the background and explained through a sketch how the hands and legs from below the knees are shown moving in the dance posture.

Workshop Photographs



Northeast Assam

A two days Craft Workshop on “Traditional String Puppet” was organised jointly by the Assam State Chapter and the Kamrup Chapter on October 11-12, 2023. The aim of the Workshop was to train students to make various versions of traditional string puppets with recycled materials like old clothes and newspapers along with other easily available materials.

Puppetry is one of the popular art forms of Assam. Though the actual time of the existence of the tradition of puppetry in Assam is not clear, the reference of puppetry in the Kalikapurana is a proof of the existence of this art form in Assam even before the 9th century. These performances, known as putolanaach, were performed in rural communities during religious festivals and usually involved enacting mythological and folk tales. Unfortunately, at present there are very few shadow puppet groups in Assam. A total of 116 students from four schools participated in the Workshop. The Founder Director, Ms. DrishanaKalita, of the NGO called Puppet People Assam and her husband ManashKalita, were the resource persons. At the end of two days before the close of the workshop each team presented their self-composed skits with the puppets they made in the form of a puppet show.

Workshop Photographs



Guwahati

The INTACH Heritage Quiz state round for the Northeastern states was conducted at the Royal Global University, Betkuchi, Guwahati on 25th November 2023. 2 teams from Nagaland and Meghalaya were part of the competition. Dr. RandhirGogoi from the Faculty of History, The Royal Global University, Guwahati was the quiz master who conducted five rounds of oral questions, including a Rapid Fire Round. PaavniTiwari and MithraArun of the Army Public School, Shillong, Meghalaya were the winners.



BIHAR

Bhagalpur

INTACH Bhagalpur Chapter conducted a workshop on art and craft on 13th October in DAV Public School, Bhagalpur. The event was attended by 150 students of 7 schools. The workshop was graced by Dr. K. D. Prabhat, Convener, Dr. Wibhu Kumar Roy, addl co-Convener Bhagalpur Chapter, principal and dignitaries from various educational institutions. Mr. Manoj Kumar Pandit, Majoosha guru was the resource person for the event. Dr. K. D. Prabhat mentioned about how old heritage and culture is the only identification of the region which needs to be protected and revived. Dr. Wibhu Kumar Roy delivered the keynote address and greeted the students as they are the torch bearers of society.

Mr. Manoj Kumar Pandit, Manjoosha expert, guided the students about the importance of craft and culture and why we must focus on reviving them as they are being on the verge of extinction. The programme concluded with selecting best entries of students and a display of the art and craft made.

Workshop Photographs





Patna

1. The INTACH National Heritage Quiz Bihar State final was organized in collaboration with Sanjay Gandhi Patna Zoo and INTACH Bihar Chapter at the Zoo Education Hall. St. Karen's School Patna won the Quiz followed by VidyaVihar Residential School, Purnea. Patna Convener, Mr. BL Das spoke to the students about Bihar's heritage. The quiz master for the event was Mr. AtulPriyadarshi. The Guests of Honour for the event were Mr. Vidyabhushan Kumar and former museum Director Mr. Umesh Chandra Dwivedi. Five teams participated in the quiz from Patna, Bhagalpur, Gaya, Darbhanga and Purnea.



2. A one day workshop was conducted on revival of endangered Patna Kalam by INTACH Patna Chapter in collaboration with HECS division. Dr AK Pandey, RakheeKumari, Pradeep Jain and Puja Kumar from the Patna Arts College were the resource persons for the event. It was mentioned that because of less funding and less popularity patnakalam had lost its ground. But efforts are being made and younger generation is being encouraged to learn and appreciated about this magnificent art.



MAHARASHTRA

Nagpur

The INTACH Nagpur Chapter organized an insightful workshop on the use of cow dung on October 19, 2023. This event aimed to explore the unique art and craft of Vidarbha and educate participants about the significance of cow dung in sustainable living. This program was conducted at Aspire International School, Nagpur. The event featured a hands-on activity where children prepared various items using cow dung, making the experience both educational and exciting. It aimed to engage children in a hands-on activity that would foster creativity and appreciation for traditional crafts and sustainable living. Participants were given an informative presentation on the various uses of cow dung in daily life, including its role as a natural fertilizer, fuel, and in the creation of artistic items. The children participated in a workshop where they were taught how to prepare various items out of cow dung. They learned about the importance of recycling and reusing materials, making the experience not only fun but also educational. Through this workshop, the participants gained a deeper understanding of the cultural significance of traditional crafts in Vidarbha and the role cow dung plays in sustainable living.

Workshop Photographs



Pune

The INTACH Heritage Quiz city round were conducted at Dr. B.N. College of Architecture for Women, New BNCA Campus, Maharshi Karve Stree Shikshan Samstha, Kavenagar, Pune. The preliminary round was conducted on 17th October 2023 through an online mode; the Semi-final round on 20th October 2023 in person and the final Pune round on 20th October 2023. A total of 292 students (146 teams) from 11 schools participated in the quiz competition. The chapter introduced couple of new rounds this year for the City Final and some new formats as well - life line and Challenge card. Life lines are just like what we see in the famous Kaun Banega Crorepati. We had 3 lifelines for the teams - 50 - 50, Double Dip, and ask the Teacher. The winners were from SES Gurukul.

The Maharashtra State round of INTACH Heritage Quiz was conducted at Dr. B.N. College of Architecture for Women, New BNCA Campus, Maharshi Karve Stree Shikshan Samstha, Kavenagar, Pune on 20th October 2023. 7 teams - Nashik, Nagpur, Mumbai, Chandrapur, Wai, Solapur and Pune were part of the competition.

The quiz was conducted by Madhur Barve. Co-Convener and Jui Tawade was the score keeper for both the final rounds. 4 rounds were there - Rumble in the Jumble Round (this round tested the contestants for their speed, quickness, imagination and anagrammatic skills of brain), The Light and Sound Show (This was an Audio Visual round), Up and Above Round (this round tested teams speed as well concentration), and Aar ya Paar Round (tested how strong the knowledge base of teams is in this round). Designed an automated XLS format sheets for both City and State round. The winners were from Nashik team (Jihan Bhavesh Bhatt and Darshil Sandeep Patil of - Horizon International Academy, Nashik).

TAMIL NADU

Thanjavur



INTACH Thanjavur Chapter in collaboration with HECS conducted a clay modeling workshop at the Little Scholars Matric Hr. Sec. School on 21st October 2023. The workshop was attended by 127 students from 12 schools of Thanjavur. Shri S.Babaji Rajah Bhonsle, Convener Thanjavur, inaugurated the workshop and greeted the participants. The workshop was conducted by Prof. P

Dhanaseelan, from Govt. College at Fine Arts, Kumbakonam. He guided the students about different aspects of clay modeling, painting, sculpture and its history. Students tried to make sculptures in their own style and enjoyed the process. The formal vote of thanks was given by Mr. K.Swaminathan.

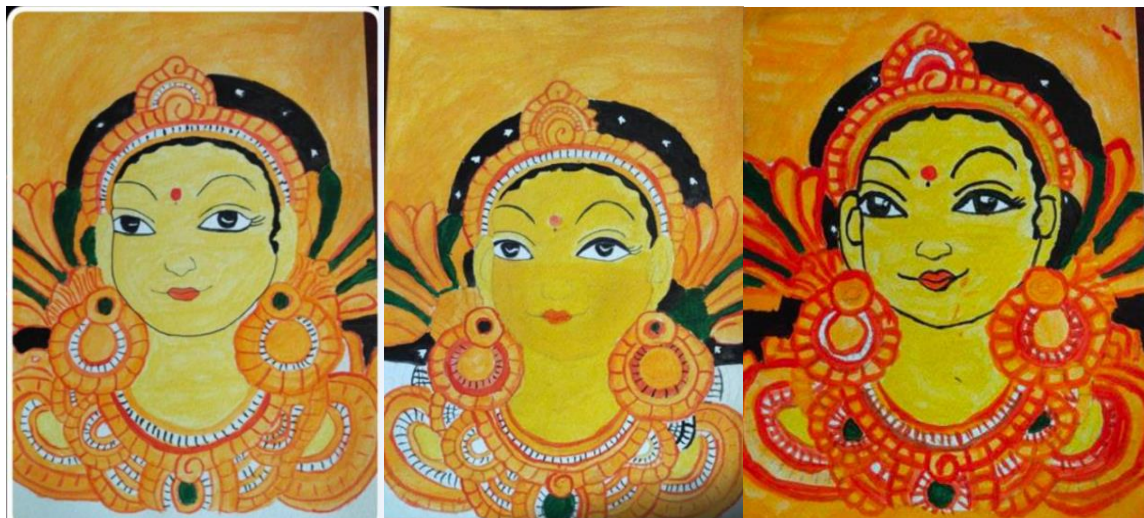
Workshop Photographs



Coimbatore

INTACH Coimbatore Chapter in collaboration with Heritage Education and Communication Service division conducted an Art and Craft Workshop on Kerala mural painting and Tanjore art for the students of NISE Institutions. The workshop was held at NISE Institution under the guidance of eminent resource persons who guided the students about the history, origin and significance of these art.

Workshop Photographs



Kodaikanal

The INTACH Heritage Quiz city round was conducted on 3rd October with the support from the Kodaikanal Chapter. The winner of the quiz was from SatyaSurabhi School.

PUNJAB

Patiala

Patiala Chapter organised a “Workshop on Endangered Arts and Crafts” in the premises of Senior Secondary Model School, Punjabi University, Patiala, on 5th November, 2023 in collaboration with HECS division of INTACH. The school principal, Dr. BalKrishan welcomed the artisans, students, teachers and other participants said that there is great need to protect the endangered arts, crafts and skills for the benefits of the people and development of the society. He said that the age old handicrafts are our valuable heritage and the new generation should take the initiative to save these crafts from extinction. Sarbjit Singh Virk, Advocate Convener INTACH Patiala Chapter mentioned that Punjab has rich heritage and people in huge number earns their livelihood from the crafts/works which were inherited by them from their forefathers.

In the workshop Sh. Parminder Singh Artist said that he is earning a handsome income from the tattoo work and sketch work. He displayed his work skills before the audience and asked the students to learn about this traditional art which now very popular in youth. Deepjot, student of Class 6th presented impressive clay toys which have big demand in the market. Madam Gaffooran, a 70 years' lady from village AkaliMajri near Patiala gave the presentation of making earthen lamps and *hutries* of different designs. She said that for a safer and pollution free *deewali* it is the need of the hour to use the things which are harmless and provide employment to the artisans. Mr. Sadhu Ram told about the art of making *Sandookhs*, *Peties* and other articles of Ispat/iron used in the kitchens. Ms. Lovleen gave the presentation of phulkari making art in the program. Mr. Jatinder Singh Saraospoke on the importance and role of INTACH in preserving the Heritage in all its manifestations. At the end Mr. Laljit Singh Sidhu, former Industry officer thanked the INTACH Patiala Chapter and the School Management for the successful Program.

Workshop Photographs



Amritsar

INTACH Amritsar Chapter arranged a workshop on 'Embroidery' in collaboration with HECS on 22nd November 2023. The motive behind this workshop was to teach the basics of stitching and embroidery to the students, so that they can build the interest and make themselves able to flaunt this heritage craft skills in the form of paintings, designed stitching and different kinds of embroidery.

The steps in this workshop included learning of:-

1. Simple knots formation.
2. Criss-Cross knots formation.
3. Measuring techniques and stitching patterns.
4. Embroidery patterns with different kinds of threads like simple, silk, double and khadi.

Students, under the guidance of craftsperson Ms. Paramjeet Kaur, learned how to make their own carry bags (Jholas) which will have a better impact on the environment by using sustainable products.

Workshop Photograph



Jalandhar



The INTACH Heritage Quiz state round for Punjab was conducted at Army Public School, Beas. Teams from 9 schools were part of the competition. The event was graced by the Chief Guest, Col. Singh, DC of Kapurthala District. In his speech, he mentioned that events like this will help the youth become more aware of their local and national heritage, which will further motivate them to protect it. He mentioned

that Quizzes are an interesting and unique platform to carry out awareness. Gen. Balwinder Singh, Convener of Punjab INTACH Chapter relayed a similar message of awareness and protection in his closing remarks as well. The state round winners were from Springdales Public School, Amritsar.

Chandigarh

The quiz city round was organised by HECS in collaboration with the INTACH Chandigarh Chapter at Saupin's School, Mohali on 9th October. 62 students from 8 schools were part of the quiz competition. Ms. Deepika Gandhi from Chandigarh Chapter addressed the students. Mr. Arindam Bhattacharya, Quizmaster from Cradle Solutions addressed the students. The team of Prateik and Japji from Saupin's School stood first, followed by BhavanVidyalaya who came second. St. Kabir's School came third. Ms. GurujyotiKapany, Headmistress of Saupin's Mohali addressed the students and congratulated everyone.



Jammu

Government Degree College Ramgarh in collaboration with INTACH, Jammu Chapter with HECS organized a one day workshop on heritage food and craft of Ramgarh on 9th November 2023. The event was organized under the guidance of Prof.(Dr.) Geetanjali Andotra, Principal of the College. Students of Government HSS GhoBrahmana and Government HS Swankha also participated in the workshop.

The workshop was focused on local heritage food and crafts which involved sharing good practices and practical demonstrations by Kaarkhandar unit, Nanke Chak, Samba and Craft and Community Cell, INTACH. The students who participated from schools and college were given hand on training regarding making of straw items and Calico Printing, which was enthusiastically learnt. A group of students were mentored in preparing the recipe booklet of heritage foods of Ramgarh by Dr. AditiKhajuria and Dr. Sandeep Kumari.

Dr. CM Seth, Chief Conservator Forests (retd.) briefed the students about the role and importance of such cultural events, as they not only showcase the culture and heritage of the region but also contribute to safeguarding it for future generations. SM Sahni, convener, INTACH, Jammu Chapter highlighted the diversity of local Dogra cuisine and its importance in promoting tourism in the Jammu region. The vote of thanks was proposed by Arvind Kotwal, coordinator Heritage Tourism, Jammu Chapter.

Workshop Photographs



INTACH Jammu Chapter holds art workshop at KC Public School



for and relevance of not only discovering the art heritage of J&K but also to sustain it by nibbling and putting into practice the entire range of its special techniques, forms and unique features.

Shivani Khatri conducted the workshop for students by illustrating the styles of painting traditionally practiced in Jammu and Kashmir. She used a large white board to draw a sample of the hand-drawn school of miniature painting and presented it with comments on the special features of this school.

The workshop concluded with presentation of mementoes to all the INTACH members present. In his thanks giving speech, Principal AK Malik expressed his gratitude to the Jammu Chapter of the INTACH for conducting such a valuable art workshop for the students for RUPIS and hoped that similar workshops would become a regular feature of the interaction between INTACH and KC Public School.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Jammu Chapter of INTACH (Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) organized an interactive workshop named 'Discover Your Living Heritage' in the activity hall of RUPIS on Thursday. The workshop was attended by a large number of enthusiastic students of the school.

The distinguished members of INTACH Jammu Chapter, namely, Chief Guest Arvind Retwal, JKAS (Retd), JIR, Jammu, JKAS (Retd), Convenor, INTACH Jammu Chapter, Kirpal Singh, Parda, Art Expert (Former Art Curator, Dogra Art Museum, and Shivani Khatri, Miniature Painting Expert, were present on the occasion. Principal AK Malik was present as the guest of honour.

The workshop commenced with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp followed by an extremely erudite speech on Parda painting style of J&K by Kirpal Singh, in which he brought forth salient features of the heritage of Jammu and Kashmir especially its variegated art forms such as miniature painting tradition of the Hundal School of Dhar Art.

He underscored the need

Madhya Pradesh

Datia

The MP state round of the INTACH National Heritage Quiz was held on Thursday, 23rd November at Rawatpura College, Datia. Teams from Datia, Katni, Morena, Dhar and Bhopal participated. The quiz was won by ShaskiyaUtkrishtVidyalaya, Dhar, followed by Katni, Datia, Bhopal and Morena. Mr. ShailendraKhare was the Quiz Master. Mr. Ravi Thakur talked about the heritage of Bundelkhand. The quiz was attended by DharConvenor, Mr. Deependra Sharma, Mr. Vinod Mishra, DatiaConvenor and Mr. Neeraj Jain, ChanderiConvenor.

Dhar

The Godna Art workshop organized under the guidance of Heritage Education and Communication Department in collaboration with Dhar Chapter on 16th December 2023. The introduction to the workshop was given by Dr. Deependra Sharma, Convenor of INTACH Dhar. 52 children and teachers from five schools participated in the tattoo workshop. Dr. SadhnaChauhan and tribal art artist AnoopSrivastavawere the resource persons of the day who guided the students about the traditional godna art. Tattooing: Nature symbols are made on the body with indelible ink using natural colors. Along with tattooing, there is also an aspect related to regional identity and health. This art is becoming endangered. It is getting a long life due to the efforts of INTACH.In VicharPrakatya, educationists Jayant Joshi, ShriShyam Sharma, ShriHarihardattShukla, Naveen Bhanwar introduced many new facts about tattooing. The guests were welcomed by Reena Thakur, Yoga Guru Ram Kishore Pandey.

The guests gave attractive prizes to the winning children. In the workshop, passports and insignia pins were given to the children of Excellent Heritage Club of UtkrishtVidyalaya, Balbhaskar Heritage Club of BhaskarVidyapeeth and Maa Narmada Heritage Club of Tagore Public School. Workshop coordinator BhartiKarale delivered the vote of thanks.

Workshop Photographs



Jharkhand

Jamshedpur

The city level INTACH Heritage Quiz was organized at Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 27th October 2023 in support with the Jamshedpur chapter. 24 students from 4 city school participated in the quiz competition. Saumyadeep Mishra and Aditya Pandey, class x students of RajendraVidyalaya won the city level of INTACH Heritage Quiz and Abhinav Kumar Pathak and Shashwat Bhushan students of Class 10 of Jusco School Kadma were the runners up. The quiz comprised of six rounds – visual, rapid fire, monumental heritage, intangible heritage, city and Indian culture. The rapid fire round was where students had to answer 4 questions in 30 seconds.



Ramgarh

The INTACH Heritage Quiz city round was organized at ZarinaKhatoon Museum cum Research Center at ZarinaKhatoon Museum, Chitrapur on 7th November 2023. 30 children were part of the competition. A total of 6 rounds were there in final round including audiovisual. In the Final Round, MayankDubey and Ashwani Kumar of DAV Barkakana got first position and AditiShri, KashyapRahat got second position. Both these groups have been selected for the state level competition. Mr. Wasim Hassan, Mrs. GilapsaKhatoon and Mr. Sanaullah were the coordinators of the program. The quiz competition was conducted by Mr. QamarSiddiq.

Ranchi

The INTACH Heritage Quiz state round for Jharkhand was conducted at Delhi Public School, Ranchi on 22nd November 2023. 4 teams from Jamshedpur, Ranchi, Ramgarh and Hazaribagh were part of the competition. The competition was conducted by Mr. AmitavaGhosh, Co-Convener of INTACH Jharkhand Chapter. He explained the rules of the quiz to the students. The five rounds were of question and answer and in the sixth to eighth round students were shown pictures of Jharkhand's heritage and asked questions. The winners were Mr. AbhinavkumarPathak and Mr. ShaswatBhushan of Jusco School Kadma, Jamshedpur

West Bengal

Kolkata

The INTACH Heritage Quiz state round for West Bengal was conducted at INTACH Calcutta Regional Chapter office premises, Kolkata on 10th November 2023. 4 teams were part of the competition. The programme was started the inauguration speech by Mr. G. M. Kapur, Convener, INTACH Chapter division, Mr. Akhil Sarkar, State Convener, West Bengal and Mr. Balaknath Bhattacharyya, Convener, Murshidabad Chapter. The winners were Swastika Mondal and Disha Chakravarty of Shri Shikshayatan School, Kolkata.



Haryana Ambala

The INTACH Heritage Quiz state round for Haryana was conducted at GMN School, Ambala Cantt. on 6th November 2023. 8 teams were part of the competition. Mr. Abhishek Das from HECS, and the Quiz Master Arindam, from Delhi were there to help conduct and oversee the quiz competition. Mrs. Madhu Singh, an active member of INTACH Ambala and teacher at the DAV Riverside School, along with Charu Soni from the GMN, maintained the score board. Colonel R D Singh, Convener INTACH Ambala, gave a vote of thanks. He particularly lauded the GMN Principal Ms Ritu Ghai Ma'am, and her good school, for making excellent arrangements for the successful conduct of a prestigious event. The winner of the competition was from DPS Yamunanagar.



GUJARAT

Vadodara

The INTACH Heritage Quiz for the Gujarat state round was conducted at Bright DAY School CBSE UNIT Vasna Road, Vadodara on 12th October 2023. 3 teams were part of the competition. The winners were from Bright Day School, Vadodara - Dibyendu Sarkar and Ayush Kapoor.



Jamnagar

INTACH Jamnagar Chapter organised 'art and craft awareness workshop' in collaboration with HECS in Bhavans A K DoshiVidyalaya on 22nd October 2023. The event was graced by 65 participants from English and Gujarati Mediums. The students were very enthusiastic and showcased their artistry in all the crafts. The crafts persons for the day were Ms. Sakina, Ms. Vandana Tank and Ms. Varsha Tank who taught the art of Stained Glass, Fabric Painting, Thread Stitches and Coaster making from waste. The event was also graced by the principal and teachers and INTACH Jamnagar Chapter members.

Workshop Photographs



Andhra Pradesh

INTACH State Co- Convener S.V.S. Lakshmi Narayana emphasized the organization's commitment to preserving Indian heritage during the inauguration of a state-level quiz competition at Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan in Guntur. He highlighted INTACH's role in rescuing and safeguarding historical and heritage buildings from deterioration, ensuring



their preservation for future generations. Guntur District Co-Convener A. Ravi Srinivas underscored the importance of initiatives like heritage quizzes and essay writing in fostering awareness among young students about their cultural heritage. Awards were presented to winners by INTACH team members A. VenuGopal

and K.V. Brahmam, while D.A.R. Subramanyam and Sita Ramesh, organization members, actively participated in the event alongside students from various schools. The winners were Naithik Pawar and Venkatasai Keerthanya from Little Angels school Visakhapatnam.

Himachal Pradesh



The state/zonal finals of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir INTACH National Heritage Quiz were organized by INTACH Himachal Pradesh State Chapter at Montessori Cambridge School, Raja-Ka-bagh, Nurpur, District Kangra on 22nd November. Teams from Jammu.Dharamsala and Mandi participated in it. The quiz was won by Jodhamal Public School Jammu. It was attended by Jammu Convener, Mr. SM Sahni

and organized by Ms. MalvikaPathania, HP State Convener.

Mandi

The INTACH Heritage Quiz city round was conducted on 2nd October 2023 at Sardar Patel Vishwavidyalaya. 110



students from 11 schools participated in the competition. Mr. Om Kant Thakur IAS presided over the event and appreciated the efforts made by the INTACH to conserve the valuable heritage of the region. The Convener of the Mandi chapter too spoke the quiz and its importance as it helps sensitizing the future generations about the different cultural aspects of heritage. The winners were

Abhinav Sharma and Divyansh Yadav from Indus Global School.

Trivandrum

The INTACH Heritage Quiz city round at Trivandrum was conducted 29th October at Sri Venkateswara Balakuteer. 36 teams from 28 Schools participated in the competition. Co Convener A. Ravi Srinivas conducted the program as quiz master.

Delhi

A heritage walk at the St. James' Church, Kashmiri Gate on 1st December 2023 was organised for 40 students and 3 teachers from Sardar Patal Vidyalaya and Army Public School, Shankar Vihar, New Delhi. A brief history of the church was shared by Mrs. Purnima Datt (principal Director, HECS), followed by a detail outline of the history of the church by the church member Mr. Kamal Baluja (Chairman, Conservation Committee). Mr. Baluja shared the story of how the church was built by James Skinner, a Colonel in the British Army. Mr. Baluja mentioned that the church is one of the oldest churches in Delhi and has also faced severe damages during the revolt of 1857. St. James' Church was once the official church of the British Viceroy of India in Delhi, and during the period Viceroy of India attended the services held in this Church. Queen Elizabeth and the Archbishop of Canterbury also visited the church in 1961 and 1995 respectively. The team from INTACH Delhi Chapter explained the architecture and conservation works INTACH has done. They took the students around the church complex, while explaining the unique architecture of the church, the parish hall behind the church and also the Skinner's family grave. The heritage walk ended with a group photograph and refreshments.



On 19th December 2023, a group of 114 students and 8 teachers from Infinity School, Noida were taken on a Heritage Walk to Humayun's Tomb complex by Ms. Vaishnavi, Ms. Nanki Kaur and Ms. Andrea Mathews from HECS and Ms. Deepanshi Tandon from Delhi Chapter. The walk started with an introduction to the city of Delhi and a general introduction to the Mughal Dynasty. The students were shown and explained Isa Khan's Tomb, Bu Halima's Tomb, Arab Serai Gateway, and Humayun's Tomb. The heritage walk ended with a group photograph.



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Articles

Andhra Pradesh, East Godavari Chapter

Prabhala Theertham in Konaseema district, Andhra Pradesh State

Vedula VLN Murthy

INTACH

Convener, East Godavari Chapter

Prabhala Theertham is a 450-year old historical annual ritual and tradition and festival celebrated on the Kanuma festival day, which is the 3rd day of the Makara Sankranthi festival in the Konaseema district in Andhra Pradesh state. The Prabha (Tall Totem) is a bamboo arch chariot, decorated with colour clothes and flowers carrying the imagery of god Shiva and goddess Durga Devi. It is a ritual, in which the god Shiva is taken out on a procession through the rich paddy fields, where one can find the waters of Godavari River, sumptuous green fields, coconut plants, banana, paddy and vegetable fields. The surrounding villagers participate in the ritual festival and bring their own Prabha through the paddy fields to the designated site called the Jaggannathota, a hamlet in Mosalapalli village of Ambajipeta Mandal in Konaseema district, where the Prabhas will be put on for final display to mark their participation in the festival.

Teak logs and planks and bamboos are tied in a systematic manner to make the frame and is covered and decorated by new colour clothes and flowers. The height of the Prabha varies between 50 to 55 feet. A huge procession and scores of people witness the grandeur of the festival. Though the festival is celebrated in about 250 villages, the seven acre field between Mosalapalli and Irusumanda villages, which is called Jagganna Thota, a coconut garden is the highlight of it all.

The nearby villagers and visitors from other places gather to see the grandeur of the Prabhas. The festival is an integral part of the culture of the villagers. The main aim behind celebrating this festival is to bring unity among the people and to have prosperity.

Konaseema is a home for Ekadasa Rudras (11 forms of the God Shiva), as mentioned in the Puranas of the yore. Sri Bhogeeswara Swamy, the deity of the Mosalapalli village invites the Rudras for a meaningful exchange of views for Loka Kalyanam, as is believed. It is this meeting of the prowess at this place that brings the spiritual touch to the Prabhala Teertham. The front face of the Prabha is called Jeevatma and the one behind the Paramatma. The devotees chant the names of Govinda and Shiva during the festival.

The Prabhas are considered as the replicas of Ekadasa Rudras and the one from Vyaghreswaram is considered as the Chief and the Prabha from Mosalapalli is considered as the host. All the Ekadasa Rudras turn up at this place. The following are the replicas of Ekadasa Rudras.



Sri Vyaghreswara Swamy, Vyagreswaram
Sri Menakeswara Swamy, K. Pedapudi
Sri Ananda Rameswara Swamy, Irusumanda
Sri Visweswara Swamy, Vakkalanka
Sri Chenna Malleswara Swamy, Nedunuru
Sri Raghaveswara Swamy, Mukkamala
Sri Bhogeswara Swamy, Mosalapalli
Sri Chenna Malleswara Swamy, Palagummi
Sri Veereswara Swamy, Gangalakurru Agraharam
Sri Chenna Malleswara Swamy, Gangalakurru
Sri Abhinava Vyaghreswara Swamy, Pulletikurru

The Prabhas will be immersed in the Godavari waters after completion of the festival. The Tableau (Shakatam) of the Prabahala Theertham had rolled down on the Kartavya Path on the Republic day in the year 2023 in New Delhi.

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF INCREDIBLE JHARKHAND

By Shikha Bhatnagar

Jharkhand is an amazingly picturesque land with hilly landscape and remarkable forest cover. Abundantly rich in flora and fauna, it boasts of excellent road network. Its natural beauty makes it unique in its own way. The beautiful tourist destinations are as pristine, as they still remain unexploited.



As the name suggests - 'Jhar' in local terminology means forest or trees, and 'Khand' means land - that is, the land of forests. In the great Hindu epic 'Mahabharata', this place has been referred to as 'Kark Khand' due to its proximity to the Tropic of Cancer. But in the medieval age, the forest land from Baidhnath dham to Puri was known as Jharkhand. Even in Akbarnama, Panchet in the east to Ratanpur in the west, Rohtasgarh to the north and the frontier of Odisha to the south finds a reference as Jharkhand.

The name is first found on a 13th-century copper plate in Kendrapada in present day Odisha, during the reign of Narasimha Deva II of Eastern Ganga dynasty. Eastern Ganga dynasty was a medieval era Indian royal Hindu dynasty, which reigned over entire modern-day Odisha, as well as major parts of north Andhra Pradesh and parts of Chhattisgarh, from Kalinga, from 5th century to mid-20th century CE.

An incredibly beautiful state with a dramatic landscape of magnificent hills, natural waterfalls and priceless forest cover, also holds a rich heritage of temples and religious sites like Baidyanath Dham, a Jyotirling in Deoghar and Dewri Mandir, a 700 year old temple of Goddess Durga, Kali, in Tamar near Ranchi, to name a few. A hot water spring, Tattapani, is located 8 km away from Latehar. The hot water, springs out from different places on the Sukari river bed. Being rich in sulphur, this water is supposed to have medicinal properties, and is excellent in curing many skin diseases.

Jharkhand is surrounded by the states of West Bengal in the east, Chhattisgarh in the west, Uttar Pradesh to the northwest, Bihar to the north and Odisha to the south.

Although Hindi is the official language of the state, it is home to many other languages such as, Nagpuri, Khortha, Kurmali, Magahi, Bhojpuri, Angika, Bengali, Odia, Ho, Santhali, Kharia, Kurukh, Maithili, Mundari and Urdu.

Being a mineral rich state, several natural valuable resources like coal, iron ore, copper ore, mica, bauxite, manganese, limestone, china clay, fire clay, graphite, kainite, chromite, asbestos, thorium, sillimanite, uranium, gold, silver and several other minerals are found in abundance here. However, this place seems to be suffering from the paradox of plenty, i.e. despite being immensely rich in minerals and natural resources, the progress and development of the state remains much to be desired.

Several ancient stone tools and cave paintings in Hazaribagh district, suggest that the place had been inhabited since the Mesolithic-Chalcolithic period (9000 – 5000 BCE). During 2nd millennium BCE, the use of Copper tools spread in Chota Nagpur Plateau. According to carbon dating age, several iron slags, microliths, and potsherds have been discovered from Singhbhum district that are from 1400 BCE.

During the ancient period, i.e. Before the Common Era (BCE), this region has been a witness to many empires and dynasties including Nanda, Maurya and Gupta. During the medieval period, i.e. the Common Era (CE), the region was governed by Nagvanshi, Pala, Khayaravala, Ramgarh Raj and Chero rulers. A Buddhist monastery has been found in Hazaribagh, which was built during the Pala period in the 10th century CE.

Mughal influence reached Palamu only during the reign of Emperor Akbar in 1574, when it was first invaded and conquered by Rajput Raja Mansingh, who was among the nine gems of Akbar's court. Several conquests took place thereafter in this region.

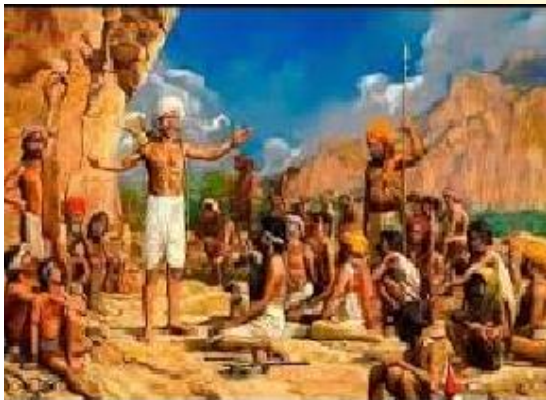
Later, during the 18th century, regions under the Kings of the Chero dynasty, Nagvanshi dynasty, Ramgarh and Kharagdiha became parts of territories of East India Company. But subjugation, colonization and imposition of taxes by the British East India Company, led to spontaneous resistance from the local people. The first revolt from this region, Chuar revolt against British East India Company, was led by the tribals of Ghatsila, East Singhbhum in 1766.

Chuar revolt, also known as Jungle Mahal movement, was a series of peasant movements between 1767 and 1833, by the tribal inhabitants of the countryside, known as Bhumijas, surrounding the Jungle Mahals settlements.

Jungle Mahal was a district formed by British conquered areas and some independent chiefdom around Birbhum, Bankura, Midnapore and the hilly country of Chota Nagpur which is presently in West Bengal. The main occupation of Bhumijas was hunting of animals and birds as well as forest agriculture. When the East India Company started collecting revenue for the first time in 1765 AD in the Jangal Mahal district of Bengal, the Britishers' ploy of water, forest, and land grab activities were first opposed by the people of Bhumij tribe and revolted against the British rulers in 1769 AD. When the Britishers asked who these people were, their unscrupulous landlords addressed them as 'Chuar' (meaning rude or wicked in Bengali) out of hatred and contempt, after which the name of that rebellion was 'Chuar Rebellion'.

Jharkhand's history is incomplete without the mention of laudable contribution of Sido Murmu and Kanho Murmu who were the leaders of Santhal rebellion (1855–1856), against both the British colonial authority and the corrupt zamindari system.

Santhal tribe lived in and depended on forests. In 1832, the British identified the Damin-i-koh region, which was the name given to the forested hilly areas of Rajmahal hills, presently Sahebganj, Pakur and Godda districts. The Britishers invited Santhals to settle in the region and promised them land and economic amenities. A large number of Santhals came to settle from Cuttack, Dhalbhum, Manbhum, Hazaribagh, Midnapore etc. But gradually, mahajans and zamindars deployed by British for tax collection, started corrupt money lending practices. Santhals were lent money at exorbitant rates, and when they failed to repay, their lands were forcibly taken, and they were forced into bonded labour. This sparked the Santal rebellion led by Sido Murmu and Kanhu Murmu, who were supposedly related as brothers.



In 1895 emerged Birsa Munda, the saviour of Jharkhand. He proclaimed himself as prophet, who had come to recover the lost kingdom of his people. He was an Indian tribal independence activist of Munda tribe, who spearheaded a tribal religious millenarian movement that arose in the Bengal Presidency (now Jharkhand) in the late 19th century, during the British Raj. The cause of the Munda revolt was firstly, the unfair land grabbing practices by colonial

and local authorities that annihilated the tribal conventional land system; and secondly, British political expansion against forceful conversions of indigenous people into Christianity. Birsa is credited for reviving the traditional tribal culture which was almost completely ruined by British Christian missionary works.

To overpower the rising tensions, the British ordered aggressive search for Birsa Munda and brutally attacked the Dombari Hills, murdering a minimum of 400 of the Munda warriors who had congregated there. Although akin to the Jallianwallah Bagh massacre, this received much less attention. Today the hills are known as "Topped Buru" - the mound of the dead. Birsa was ultimately captured in the Jamkopai forest in Singhbhum, and shot by the British in jail in 1900.

India regained freedom on 15 August 1947 and Jharkhand was a part of Bihar post-independence.

Despite being rich in minerals, Indian independence brought relatively little socio-economic benefit to the tribal people of Jharkhand, which led to their discontentment with the Bihar administration.

The journey for statehood began in 1912, when it was first proposed by a student of St. Columbia College, in Hazaribagh. Then in 1928, a separate state was demanded by Unnati Samaj, the political wing of the Christian Tribals Association, which submitted a memorandum to the Simon Commission to constitute a tribal state in eastern India.

In 1955, the Jharkhand Party, led by Jaipal Singh Munda, submitted a memorandum to the States Reorganization Commission, (constituted by the Union Government of India in December 1953, to recommend the reorganization of state boundaries), for a separate state comprising the tribal area of South Bihar. But it was rejected on the following grounds; first, that there were many languages, and no link language in the region; second, tribals were in the minority; third, Hindi was the most commonly used language; and fourth, carving a separate state risked adverse effects on the economy of Bihar.

Later, the natives of various caste or non-tribal groups also joined the movement for a separate state. In 1972, Binod Bihari Mahato, Shibu Soren and A. K. Roy founded Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM). Nirmal Mahto founded the All Jharkhand Students Union (AJSU). They led the movement for a separate state of Jharkhand. The Jharkhand coordination committee (JCC), led by Congress General Secretary Ram Ratan Ram, tried to coordinate between different parties, and urged the then Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi to pay attention to the issue.

In July 1988, the Bharatiya Janata party led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Lal Krishna Advani, and Murli Manohar Joshi decided to demand a separate state, Vanachal, comprising the forest region of South Bihar in Jamshedpur. Several rallies were organized to form a separate state.

Later, a committee was formed in 1989 by the Union Government on Jharkhand matter, which never materialized due to differences in JMM and AJSU. Jharkhand Mukti Morcha wanted more representation and the All Jharkhand Students Union was against it.

Then in 1998, the Union government decided to send the bill concerning the formation of the state of Jharkhand, to the Bihar Legislative Assembly, which was vehemently opposed by Rashtriya Janta Dal (RJD) supremo, Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, the then Chief Minister of Bihar.

In 1999, the Bharatiya Janata party made it a political agenda and promised to form a separate Vanachal state, if they won the state election with a majority of votes. Since the previous Assembly election in the state resulted in a hung assembly, RJD was dependent on the Congress for support, which agreed to extend it on the condition that RJD would not oppose the passage of the Bihar Reorganization Bill. Finally, with the support from both RJD and Congress, the ruling coalition at the Centre led by the Bharatiya Janata Party, cleared the Bihar Reorganization Bill. Thus, Vanachal state was carved out of Bihar on 15 November 2000, the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, which was later named Jharkhand.

Jharkhand is a melting pot of diverse culture, tradition and languages. Here tribal festivals are celebrated with equal zest and vigour as any other major festivals like Durga Puja, Ganesh Puja, Holi and Diwali. The natural beauty of the place remains pristine, as the tourism industry is still in its nascent stage. There are several attractions like natural waterfalls, religious places and temples, and wildlife sanctuaries like Dalma wildlife sanctuary and Betla National Park.

