



INTACH BHAVNAGAR CHAPTER

Bi-annual newsletter 2023

Heritage Of Bhavnagar



The Bhavnagar State's first library, reflects the state's emphasis on education. The library was initially constructed in 1860 but was later expanded and renamed Barton Library in 1882. Designed by Proctor Simms, the library features Burmese wood construction, ample natural light, and a spiral staircase leading to a panoramic view of the city. Today, the library has 70,000 books and welcomes both annual and life members.

Activities

Glass painting workshop :

INTACH Bhavnagar in collaboration with Kshitij Art Centre organised a glass painting workshop at Nilambag Palace. The workshop was led by artist and Kshitij Art Centre owner Ajay Chauhan. The workshop allowed participants from all age groups to try their hand at glass painting



Heritage walk:

Heritage walk organised by INTACH Bhavnagar and led by Anisha Sama for Young Indians Bhavnagar and for Shantilal Shah Engineering College (G20 Cell).



Women's Day Celebrations :

On Women's Day, three organisations, INTACH Bhavnagar, Kalasangh and Nari Shakti came together to celebrate the women artists of Bhavnagar at Nilambag Palace. The three institutions honoured over sixty established female artists from a mixed age group.



Open Yoga Championship :

INTACH Bhavnagar, Atman Charitable Trust, Navyug Association Yoga and Cultural, Arya Veerangana Dal Bhavnagar organised an Open Yog Asana Championship hosted by Nilambag Palace Bhavnagar. The all day championship was attended by leading Yoga Champions and instructors, Bhavnagar royal family members and Bhavnagar Mayor Kirtiben.



Celebration of World Heritage Day & Bhavnagar's 300 years

INTACH Bhavnagar in collaboration with various organisations in the city arranged a range of heritage programmes to celebrate World Heritage Day and Bhavnagar's 300th birthday.



INTACH BHAVNAGAR CHAPTER & BHAVNAGAR HERITAGE
INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE
BHAVNAGAR'S 300TH BIRTHDAY & WORLD HERITAGE DAY

22/04/2023

4 to 5.30PM , Nilambag Palace

Basic Patchwork & Quilting Workshop (Registration is compulsory)

22/04/2023

4 to 5.30PM , Nilambag Palace

Basic Embroidery Workshop (Registration is compulsory)

22/04/2023

6 PM , Nilambag Palace

Heritage trees of Bhavnagar (Open for all)

23/04/2023

7 AM , Treasure hunt (Registration is compulsory)

23/04/2023

10 AM onwards , Khodiyar Mandir, Rajpara

Blood Donation Camp

For more details contact intachbhavnagar@gmail.com

Supporting Partners



Basic patchwork & Quilting Workshop :

Participants in our Hand embroidery and Quilting workshop were introduced to new skills using thread and fabric. Led by Antarang founder and INTACH Bhavnagar Co-Convenor, Bhagyashreeben Mehta, the workshop offered participants the chance to unlock a new creative side to them. As part of World Heritage Day and Bhavnagar's 300 year celebrations.



Heritage Trees of Bhavnagar :

After months of research, Heritage trees of Bhavnagar was inaugurated in the presence of INTACH members and Bhavnagar's leading institution heads. An education and engagement driven project on Bhavnagars natural heritage under the guidance of Dr. Indra Gadhvi. We created signages with QR codes to provide people with detailed information on the trees.



Treasure Hunt :

A fun adventure to discover the hidden treasures and stories that make Bhavnagar a true 'Kala Nagri'. Participants included Bhavnagars leading education institutes as well as clubs and organisations such as Scout Guides.



Blood donation camp :

Blood donation camp organised in collaboration with Yi Bhavnagar and Red Cross. Thirty people contributed to the blood bank, which helps save countless lives and give back to Bhavnagar on its 300 years. The camp was hosted by Shri Khodiyar Mandir Trust and Khodiyar Mandir, an important place of worship and a heritage site.

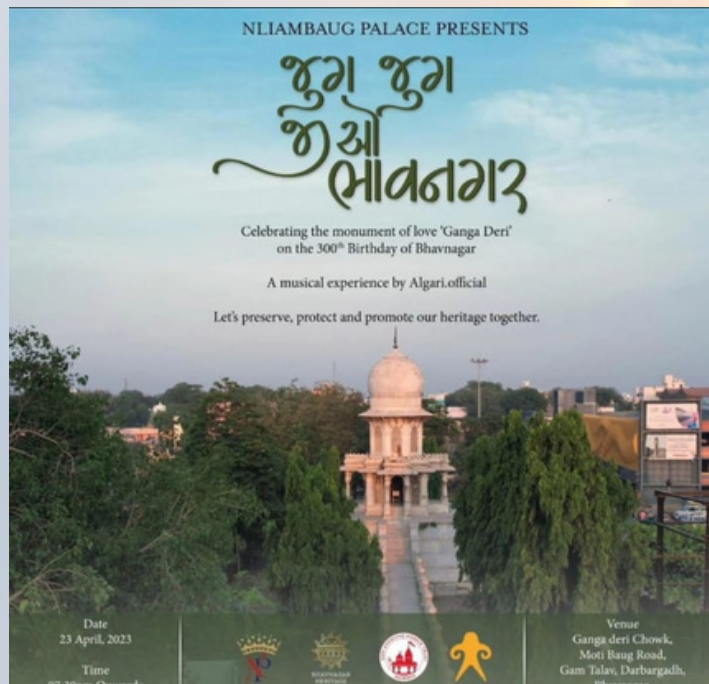


Jug jug jeeyo Bhavnagar

A musical evening was organised by INTACH Bhavnagar at the State Protected Monument, Ganga Deri in order to highlight the heritage structure.

Bhavnagar band Algari performed on the occasion with the support of the Bhavnagar Royal Family. The special part of the evening was the finale.

A theatrical performance where the band intertwined the history of Bhavnagar with folk songs of the region. The conservation of the monument is now in the midst of being taken up as a private public partnership with the efforts of INTACH and the support of the royal family.





Gratitude to INTACH Volunteers :

An evening to celebrate the dedication of the INTACH volunteers was organised at Nilambag Palace.



In anticipation of International Yoga Day, INTACH organised a digital campaign to raise awareness on Bhavnagar's heritage sites and on the practice of ancient yoga. The city's leading yoga instructors and students volunteered to be photographed for this.



Celebration of International Yoga Day :

INTACH Bhavnagar celebrated International Yoga Day. A yoga workshop led by Hetasvi Somani, a World Champion, Miss Yogini Universe, and esteemed tutor was organised at Nilambag Palace. The workshop included over 100 participants including school students

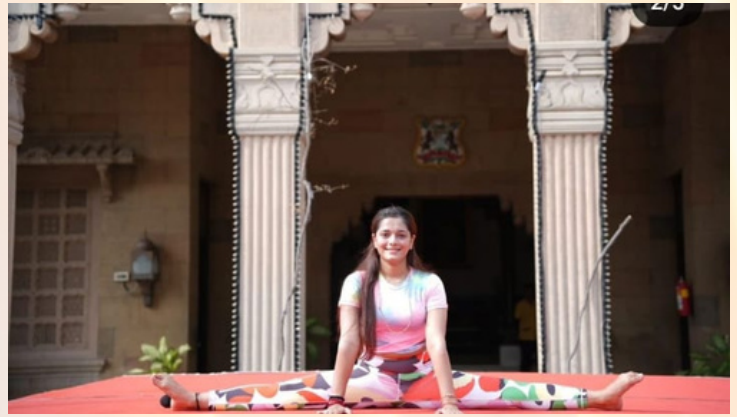
Book Relaunch at Prestigious Barton Library :

INTACH Bhavnagar Chapter is aiming to revive the historic Barton Library. To start, educators and social groups of the city organised the re-launch of the book "ખીલતી કળીને વહાલ" . The relaunch included a book review by Bhavnagar University Gujarati department head Mahendra Sir and a tour of the library.

Documenting Heritage Recipes of Gujarat :

INTACH Bhavnagar organised a cooking competition to promote the lost recipes of the region. The competition included over fifty participants and was judged by Maharani Samyukta Kumari, Ex Mayor Rinaben Shah, Dietician Saloniben Chauhan.

Glimpses of Events :





Stakeholders Meeting :

A meeting was held at Nilambaug Palace with Gujarat Archaeology State Protected Department, Bhavnagar Collector office and INTACH Bhavnagar members came together to brainstorm ways in which the regions historic monuments can be preserved.



Heritage Tale :

Maharani Saheb Nandkunvarba emerged as one of the trailblazing women in Bhavnagar. She challenged the social norms and customs imposed on women by abolishing the pardah system, granting them freedom.

Maharani Nandkunvarba Saheb demonstrated her compassion and concern for the welfare of children by establishing Balashram, an orphanage that provided shelter, nourishment, education, healthcare, and a sense of belonging to countless children in need.

Furthermore, she took significant strides towards empowering Rajput girls by establishing a boarding school exclusively for them. This institution, which remains operational, offers educational opportunities to girls from diverse backgrounds, including those from reserved and conservative households.

Maharani Nandkunvarba Saheb's dedication to the well-being of the nation's soldiers during World War I is evident through her pioneering initiative of a magazine titled "British and Hindi Vikaram." This publication served as a tribute to the sacrifices made by soldiers and honored their service to the country.

In recognition of her exceptional leadership, grace, and unwavering dedication, Maharani Saheb Nandkunvarba was bestowed with the highest honor by the British Monarchy—the Order of the Crown of India. Her remarkable legacy and visionary mindset continue to inspire others even today.

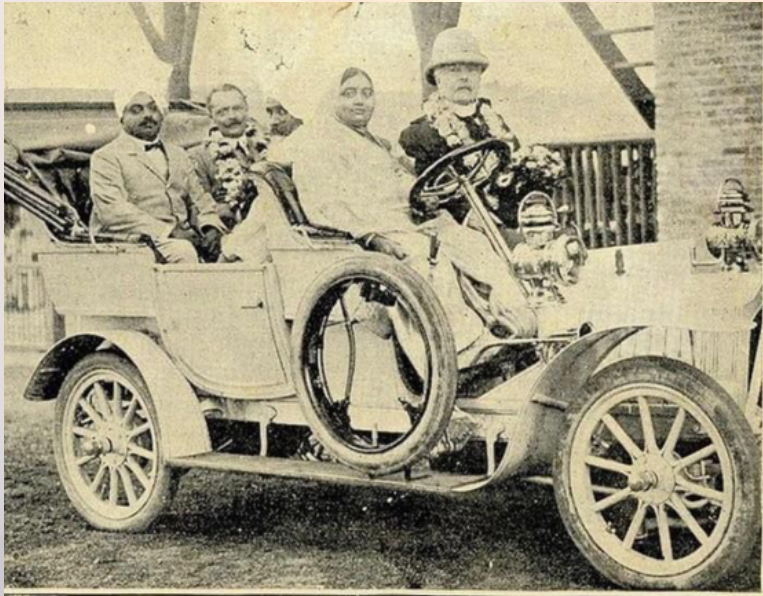


PHOTO BY B. BURNE AND SHEPHERD.
H. E. the Governor of Bombay at Bhavnagar.
 His Highness the Maharajah is seen seated at the back of the car, which was driven
 by Her Highness the Maharani.





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