Message

Please accept my heartiest congratulations and best wishes for the first edition of the newsletter of INTACH Udaipur Chapter, scheduled for release in January 2020.

It is indeed praiseworthy of the office-bearers, steered by the convenor Dr. B.P. Bhatnagar, to be making different stakeholders aware and informed about heritage-related programmes.

This is commendable 'work in progress'; it has to be sustained year after year relentlessly.

On our part at the Maharana of Mewar Charitable Foundation, we continue to share the 'living heritage' of Mewar and Rajasthan with global and Indian audiences.

We look forward to meaningful and fruitful association with like minded organisations like INTACH Udaipur Chapter.

May the New Year be more productive, prosperous and healthier for all residents of our heritage-city of Udaipur.

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Inside Pages : Editorial • Down the Memorylane • Activities Round-up • Lesser Known Heritage • Uniqueness of Mewar
संपादकीय

आत्मकथा: बरसति पर्वों के कुछ अवसर पर भारतीय संस्कृति के विवरण के पास आये मैंने समय के साथ साथ समय की अनुश्रूति हो रही है।

इस उच्चारण के लिए मे संदर्भ के साथ संवादात्मक, संवाद साहित्य, संवादमार्गों तथा संवादमार्ग का इतिहास से आचारही ज़िंदगी का अंदाजा से हो जाता है।

भारतीय संस्कृति का निश्चित (INTACH) का गठन 1984 में राष्ट्रीय संवाद तथा विवरण की निश्चित कर उसका सुधारण तथा उनकी उदय रचना, संवाद साहित्य एवं संवाद रचना के साथ सामाजिक समूहों की शिक्षा तथा जागरूकता एवं सम्पादन का इतिहास ने आचारही ज़िंदगी का अंदाजा से हो जाता है।

चेतावनी: संवाद के माध्यम से संवादात्मक जानेवारी में संवाद समूहों की शिक्षा और समाज को ध्यान देनी चाहिए।

flipbook page content:

Down the Memory Lane

Initiation of Voluntarism: SK Verma, IFS (Retd)

Superannuated at 58 years on 28.2.1993, I decided to shift my residence to my home town Udaipur with a desire to do voluntary work for social and ecological development. It was at the initiation of the Chairman, INTACH that I assumed the charge of the Convener, INTACH Udaipur Chapter, on 1.3.1994. Then I sought consent of Shri Anind Singh Mewar, Chairman, MMCF, to be the Patron of the Chapter. Padam Bhushan Jagat S Mehta was approved to be the Chairman of the Executive Committee, INTACH Udaipur.

Visits of dignitaries at INTACH Udaipur Chapter with special reference to Natural and cultural Heritage of Mewar: Chairman INTACH Maj. Gen. L.K. Gupta AVSM, (Retd.), Member Secretary INTACH, State Convener: Maharaaja Gaj Singh, Councillor Cultural Affairs, US Embassy, New Delhi: visited to promote personal, professional, and institutional ties between private citizens and selected Non Governmental Organizations of India and in the United States and abroad. Ms. Minja Young Former Head of UNESCO and Mayor Chinon (France), Ms. Mt. Cheha Program Specialist Culture (UNESCO), Mr. Ed Kashi an acclaimed photo journalist (National Geographic USA): conducted training of photography of nature select groups viz. INTACH and ‘Sanjhi’ voluntary organisations at a tribal village near Kota and at Udaipur. Mr. Ed Kashi is also a dedicated educator and mentor to photographers around the world and lectures frequently on visual storytelling, human rights and the world of media. He has led to creative social media and printed projects for a range of clients including National Geographic, Open Society Foundations, NGO’s ‘Sanjhi’ and INTACH Udaipur organised one week’s Photography Camp near Jhadol in tribals area.

Activities:

• Listing and documentation of Sacred Groves, Heritage Trees and Nature Precincts of Banswara and Udaipur District Projects, Seminar, HECS Awareness Programs at AIR and HECS Projects, Talks and Participatory Discussions in schools • Survey and documentation of City Heritage Buildings, Heritage Mapping of Udaipur City • Supervision of repairs of City walls • Conveners of Rajasthan with State Convener, Member Secretary and Chapter Convener at Anand Bhawan • Regular Meetings of Executive Committee and General Body • Promotional Activities on Heritage Education and Communication Service • Teacher’s Training Programmes at Alok School, Established 17 Heritage Clubs in reputed educational Intutions, Conducted all activities afielded by HECS, Study Tours to Heritage Sites and Museums, Heritage Walks, Nature Interpretation Tours with Nature and Wildlife Experts Talk on Conservation of Nature and Mewar’s Architectural Heritage, Awareness workshops with renowned artists of classical and folk music and dance forms and ‘Learn a craft, Workshop on Sculpture’.

Few Significant Workshops and Conferences:


2. Other activities were Workshop on Living Heritage with artisans, local experts and Director Projects AH Ms. Bindu Manchanda INTACH New Delhi during 33 March to 14th May 2012. Meeting of National Advisory Committee on Natural Heritage with Chairperson, members of the Committee on 25th March 2012, Workshop with Team of Strasburg France, Udaipur Municipal Corporation and Udaipur Chapter. 13.11.2012, International Conference on Living Heritage by UNESCO Team led by Ms. Marilyn Cruscott, President International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage and ICOMOS-Australia, MMCF, INTACH Chairman and INTACH Udaipur Chapter. INTACH Udaipur presented the case studies of Terracotta of Mehola and Fabric Block Printing of Akola Villages. Workshop of local artisans for upgrading their skills, craftsmen on use of traditional building materials for Built Heritage. Also conducted a two days Seminar and field visit on Geohistorical Publications: Six books/reports/folders/etc., March 1994 to April 2018

Dr. B. P. Mahanagar

11.4.2018

Our First Convenor

I had the privilege of being the first Convenor of INTACH some time starting in 1985. At that time Mardan Singh was the Secretary of INTACH. Under his leadership the movement for heritage conservation spread rapidly all over the country.

Udaipur chapter commissioned the first Conservation Plan, for any city in the country, under the guidance of late Nirmal Patel a well known Architect. Udaipur Chapter played a key role in advising Narendranath Singhji Bhatti, then Tourism Minister of Rajasthan, to locate the office of the West Zone Cultural Centre in Bagor Ki Havell. Udaipur owes him a big debt for his bold decision.

There were many other initiatives taken by the Udaipur Chapter. One of them was to protect the lakes of Udaipur from having Welds built on their edges. These efforts were not successful.

I gave up being Convenor in 1993 and was succeeded by Shri Verma. Under his leadership, the chapter became more active and effective.

It is indeed wonderful to know that there has been another fissionary change.

Under Dr Bhanawat’s watch, I have no doubt INTACH Udaipur will flourish.

My very best wishes.

Ajay Singh Mehta
President, Vidhya Bhawan Society


Our First Convenor


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INTEGRATED NATIONAL TRUST FOR ART AND CULTURAL HERITAGE (INTACH)
NEW DELHI-110003

Blessings

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

My dear Prof. Bhattachary.

I am pleased to know that the INTACH Udaipur Chapter is going to inaugurate a Web Site as well as publish a Quarterly Newsletter in January 2020.

Both the Quarterly News Letter and Web Site are excellent communication tools as well as convey various activities of INTACH Udaipur Chapter.

Sincere wishes and congratulations on your efforts. Soon after the project was launched in April 2018, several multi-focussed activities were initiated to further strengthen and function of the chapter.

Thank you for all your efforts, and those of your members of the chapter.

Sincerely,

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

Member Secretary
Dr. C.T. Misra, IAS (Retd.)

I am happy to know that the Udaipur Chapter is releasing its first edition of the quarterly newsletter on the heritage of ‘Mewar’ and the various activities which the chapter is taking up for the conservation of its heritage. This initiative will go a long way in creating awareness among the Chapter members and the larger community about the precious heritage of the Mewar Region and about INTACH.

I warmly look forward to reading the newsletter and wish the Chapter members, its Convener and Co-Conveners the very best in their endeavors.

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

Director Chapters
Gr. Capt. (Retd.) Arvind Shukla

INTACH is a mission to promote, preserve and conserve the tangible, intangible and natural heritage of the country. INTACH Udaipur Chapter of Rajasthan State, one of the oldest chapters was established on December 1, 1985. The chapter has been flourishing and conducts the entire spectrum of heritage activities, throughout the year with an enterprise team of members.

Since its inception, chapter has registered a remarkable growth and conducted exceptional activities like Listing and Documentation, Seminars to create awareness on heritage, revival of Gunni Parmpara and promotion of traditional games, involving school children. Chapter is also planning to launch it’s own website, seminar on heritage food and skill development to enhance employment opportunities through heritage-related activities. All these activities reflect the immense involvement of the members of the chapter in the true spirit of INTACH.

I feel overwhelmed and delighted as the chapter is publishing its first edition of News Letter on Heritage efforts. I extend my heartiest congratulations to the INTACH Udaipur Chapter and its Convener, Dr B P Bhattachar for compiling this issue on the heritage and historic sketch of the chapter, including all its magnificent activities and for their efforts towards the INTACH mission of heritage awareness in such an enthusiastic way.

Gp Capt Arvind Shukla (Retd)
Director Chapters

State Co-Convenor
Hari Singh Palkiya

* In the year 1984 a group of eminent, concerned and awakened citizens of India established INTACH as a voluntary organisation which soon became a nationwide movement. All Indian citizens, governments, army, businessmen, industrialists, teachers, students, artists, historians, poets, scholars, media all together share this common platform of INTACH in order to protect, preserve, conserve and do research on our rich, glorious cultural heritage, ancient traditions and environment.

In Rajasthan, there are now 22 active INTACH chapters with Udaipur as the most well-organised and active chapter. We all congratulate Udaipur chapter for bringing out this quarterly newsletter which will set an example to be followed by other INTACH chapters.

Best wishes

HARI SINGH PALKIYA

Udaipur has been one of the most active chapters in Rajasthan and they have been doing commendable work in many areas be it natural heritage, built heritage or intangible heritage. I am very happy to know that the Udaipur Chapter is bringing out its own newsletter and would like to convey my good wishes to the Chapter and all its members for this stellar effort. I am sure the newsletter will serve as a handy record of the various activities that the Chapter undertakes on a regular basis and it will also encourage a lot of people to lend their support to INTACH and perhaps even join the fast-growing membership base.

Keep up the good work and my good wishes again.

DHARMENDAR KANWAR

Principal Advisor, NH
SK Verma, IFS (Retd)

After handing over charge of INTACH Udaipur on 11th April 2018, several multi-focused activities were initiated such as to invite reputed persons like educationists, social activists and artists to join INTACH Udaipur.

Chapter as Life Member and Institutional Members from several organisations for further strengthening and functioning of the organizational works. Besides a large number of creative activities are regularly conducted by our Heritage Clubs of all schools. Your suggestion to organize a Seminar on ‘Heritage Food of Mewar’ in February 2020 and a two-day seminar on ‘Skill Development for Enhancing Employment Opportunities Through Heritage Related Activities’ will be useful.

I am happy to know that the INTACH Udaipur Chapter is going to inaugurate a Web Site as well as to publish a Quarterly Newsletter in January 2020. I convey my best wishes for your both activities. Please go ahead as a learned Convener of the INTACH Udaipur Chapter (a volunteer organisation). I wish you excellent success for such multifarious well-planned events to protect and preserve living, built, and natural heritage. • Your efforts to establish linkages with several universities, Udaipur Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Anthropological Survey of India, etc. are valuable. These efforts on your part will lead to increased volunteer retention and set goals focused on clear objectives, which are attainable, time-bound, relevant and measurable.

Finally, heartiest thanks to you and all members of the INTACH Udaipur Chapter for such efforts.

* North and West of Udaipur, the Aravallis have several bare tracts and ravines. The Chapter can undertake plantation program in the Aravallis with corporate support from tourism industry or Hindustan Zinc Ltd. This would be in keeping with the Sustainable Development Goals.

Manu Bhattachar, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division
Activities Round-Up

PAANI - KI - KAHANI
WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

03 New Institutional Members
15 New life Members
15 Friends of INTACH
Linkages with eminent Institutions
Projects:
Development Plan of Rampole
Inventory of Sootradhars

"Be a part of this Voluntary organization for the cause of Our Precious Heritage "

Executive Committee Meeting
Heritage Games
Protect Our Species
Intach Photo Exhibition
Painting on Water
I extend my heartiest congratulations to the INTACH Udaipur Chapter for compiling this issue on the heritage and historic sketch of the Chapter, including all its magnificent activities, school heritage club initiatives, together with an account of its lesser-known heritage. Udaipur is blessed with unique natural, cultural and living heritage. We commend the chapter for its efforts undertaken to promote heritage and putting together this valuable resource.

The Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) was set up in 1998 and has completed 20 years. It runs a network of over 4,000 heritage clubs, trains teachers and works on campaigns and activities with schools, as well as, colleges across the country. It has engaged in heritage awareness among the youth and runs heritage clubs with the support of its over 200 chapters. A variety of resource material and publications for schools and colleges have been brought out by the division. HECS’s initiative of spreading INTACH’s vision is further disseminated through the Young INTACH Newsletters on quarterly basis for its heritage clubs.

We are delighted to share that the INTACH Udaipur Chapter has been a very active and strong member of our heritage club network. The vibrancy of the chapter and its painstaking efforts at undertaking heritage initiatives for school and college students is indeed commendable.

We are also pleased to share that the INTACH Udaipur heritage clubs students have been regularly contributing to the newsletter and kept us abreast with their colourful heritage reports. In addition to, the hosting of HECS national programmes in which they have participated with much enthusiasm.

We take this opportunity to congratulate Dr B.P. Bhattacharjee, Convenor INTACH Udaipur and his team for carrying forward INTACH’s mission of heritage awareness with much enthusiasm and dedication. We also thank Mr. S.K. Verma, former Convenor INTACH Udaipur for his guidance in all the educational endeavours of the chapter.

I wish the chapter all the best for their efforts at promoting heritage education.

Principal Director, HECS
Ms Purnima Datt

OTHER PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS
- Alok School.
- Delhi Public School.
- Heritage Girls School.
- Rockwoods School
- Witty International
- Bhopal Nobles Public School.
- Girls School, RVU.
- Rayan International School
- Vidya Bhawan SS School
- Vidya Bhawan Public School

Nidhi Darpan, Udaipur
Lesser Known Heritage

A Marvel of Early Medieval Mewar

Professor Lalit Pandey

After the downfall of the empire of Pushyabhuti dynasty a number of provincial powers emerged in North India in which Guhilas were also an important royal family in erstwhile state of Mewar. The rulers of Mewar were one of the most prominent kings who fought against the foreign invaders and they saved the honour of India.

Besides their chivalry they were also the great builders of monuments and temples, during the period of Aparajita, who was an earlier ruler of this dynasty, a number of monuments were built. An inscription of Kundgram, which is located at a distance of about twenty kilometers from Udaipur, testifies it. The inscription is of 2nd November, 661ACE. Presently it is located at Udaipur museum. According to Mahamahopadhyaya G.H. Olha, he found the inscription in the premises of the temple. According to his observation, the temple belongs the era of Aparajita. It is a temple of Lord Shiva. The temple is made in Panchayatn Style.

The architecture of the major temple is Nagar, the temple has all the basic features of Nagar style though the features are not prominent. Unfortunately the plasters of outer and inner walls and floors have been renovated with modern mortar and marble without disturbing the basic structure. A very magnificent shivling is located in the sanctum of temple. The Sapindi- a circular structure in the middle of which Linga is installed is very prominent and extraordinary. A broad headed serpent is also present there which is an integral part of the Shiva idols. In addition of this temple, the inscription also has the description of a Vishnu temple which was made by Yashomati- the wife of the Army Chief. The inscription is in Sanskrit and it's script is Kulti. The inscription has been composed in literary Sanskrit which is also an important feature.

The ecology of the site of the temple is very congenial and pristine. The surroundings are lush green and a paved ghat is also there. A fresh natural water body attracts the attention of the visitors and the water is crystal clear, it's amazing.

Contributions on lesser known heritage sites, festivals, fairs, etc. of Mewar, are invited – 250 word only and one photo
soft copy in font Times New Roman & Krdvi Dev 010
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Animals are placed at high position in culture and religion of traditional societies in and around Mewar, south east region of Rajasthan. “Save nature: save species” has been practiced traditionally in this region thorough socio-cultural acceptance. Many of the animals are given sacred status because of their important role in culture and religion. In traditionally cow is worshiped but its excreta and urine are smeared on the floor areas or walls of the houses with a sacred belief that it sanctify the place. Traditionally a festival has been celebrated in Mewar during month of July or August when every women worship mother cow and her male bull calf or “Bachda” in hindi from which the name of the festival “Bachbaras” is derived, with belief that mother cow and the deity will keep safe the male children’s in the family. All male children’s of the family on this day given tilak, sweets and money with blessings by all women in the family. Interestingly family only eats those food items which is not cut with knives. Very interestingly there are several social taboos related to animals are also practiced. In Bheel community, killing of squirrel or common cat is prohibited and it is believed that someone who kills these animals will go to hell. Killing of Saras crane is a big taboo among Bheels, and Meena’s, believing that the handicapped child will be born in the family. Such taboos related to killing of animals may help in conserving the animals. From the ancient time, such activities of tribal people in this region have formed an integrated resource conservation method.

Indigenous, local tribal people in Mewar region have the belief that diseases originate due to supernatural forces and thus treatment is possible through magico-religious practices only. on the direction of Bhopas, the tribes offer prayers and sacrifices to appease the supernatural power, which may be responsible for the disease. These commonly used practices are being transferred from one generation to another. But the increase in awareness among tribes and also due to legal consequences, they are now conscious towards conserving the nature rather than destroying it.

**INTACH Udaipur Chapter**

Comprehensive Report of Activities

This is the example of regular digital brochures to be circulated within the chapter as suggested by chairman Intach. This is digital activities report by udaipur chapter, which was highly appreciate.

**Co-conveners:**

Bappa, the founder of the royal dynasty of Mewar i.e. Guhila, acquired regal fortune of Mewar by the favour of sage Harita Rashi of Lakulisha-Pashupata sect at Nagrha. Harita Rashi, who after performing the penance granted regal fortune to Bappa, in turn of his devotion, in 734 A.D. Therefore, the Rulers - Maharanas of Mewar declared them the njsevak of Eklingji - the personal servant of Eklingji. It is a very rare example of devotion and surrendering himself to supreme universal power where the Eklingaji is the de-jure ruler of Mewar and the Maharanas as Dewan. Thus, the temple of Eklingaji came into existence and the Maharana Raimal installed a four-faced idol of Eklingaji which actually has five faces - the fifth exists in central part of Idol. All these five faces represent the classical elements and cardinal directions and five divine aspects of Shiva.

Prof. Lalit Pandey