

# INTACH UTTARAKHAND



## UTTARAKHAND CHAPTER

# ANNUAL MEETING : 29 APRIL 2023

## INTACH, UTTARAKHAND CHAPTER

Location: VOW Café, Dehradun. The Uttarakhand state Chapter organised a hybrid meeting for members. The film on 40 years of INTACH was screened and an agenda for the year discussed. Chapter form Mussoorie, Pauri and Nainital also joined the meeting.



## UTTARAKHAND CHAPTER

# EK KHAAS CHEEZ WEBINAR

11 SEPTEMBER 2024

"EK KHAAS CHEEZ" a webinar was hosted by INTACH Uttarakhand Chapter on 11th September 2024, which offered an interactive session featuring insights from 10 prominent museums of Uttarakhand.

This online event aimed to showcase the region's rich cultural heritage and history. It was a learning experience for museums to show and talk of only 'one' thing of their museum and get to know about each others collection.

Please join us for  
**“EK KHAAS  
CHEEZ”**

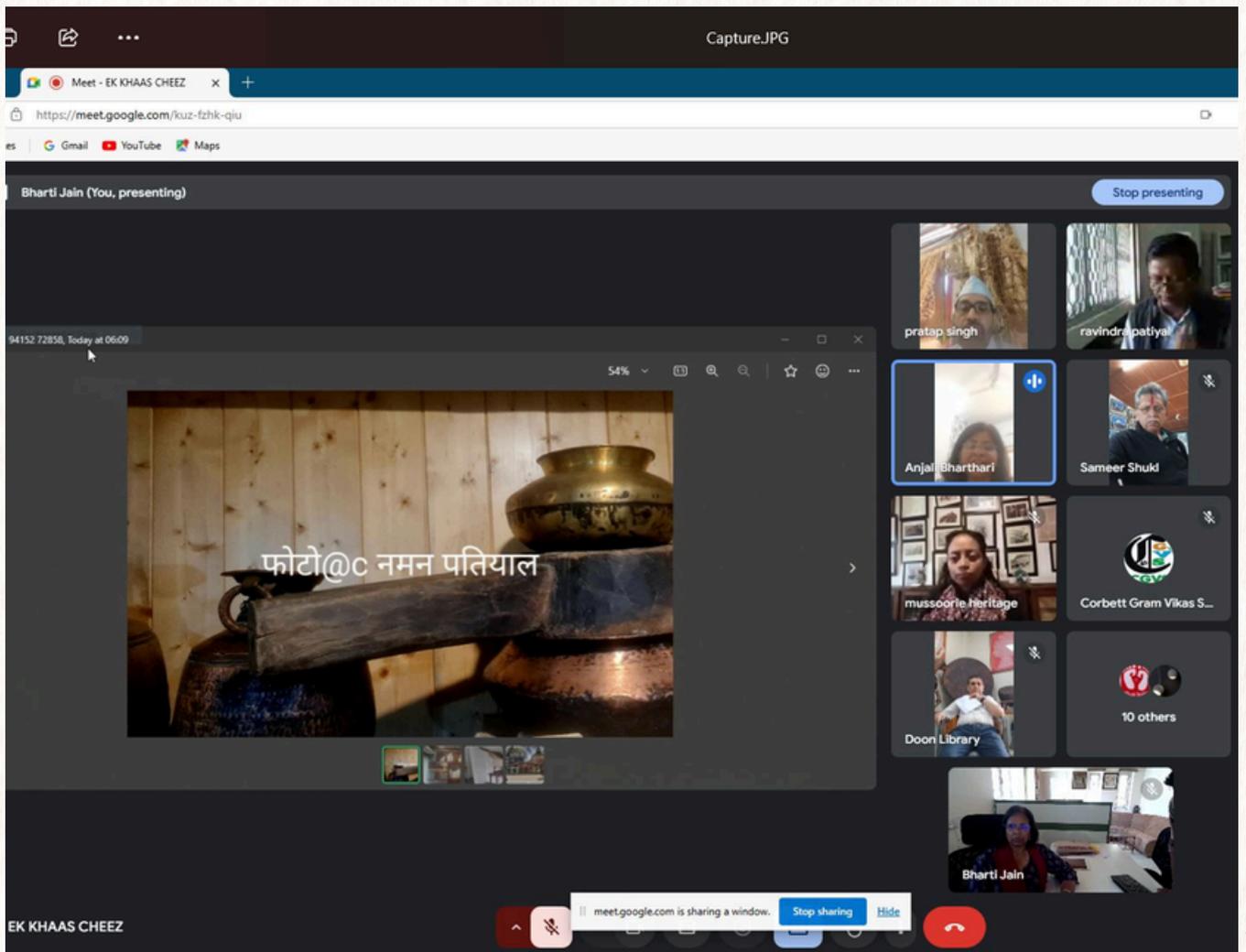
From 10 museums of Uttarakhand  
to delve into the rich cultural  
heritage of Uttarakhand

**Time: 11am to 12pm**  
**Date: 11 Sept, Wednesday**



For more details please contact:  
Anjali Bharthari, Co Convenor- Uttarakhand State Chapter 7761894219  
Bharti Jain, Convenor- Dehradun Chapter 9997774301  
Apurva Gour, Co Convenor- Dehradun Chapter 9373317278  
Surbhi Agarwal, Co Convenor- Mussoorie Chapter 9068804682

**UTTARAKHAND STATE CHAPTER**  
Dehradun Chapter Mussoorie Chapter



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Meet - EK KHAAS CHEEZ

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Bharti Jain (You, presenting)

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Bharti Jain

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EK KHAAS CHEEZ

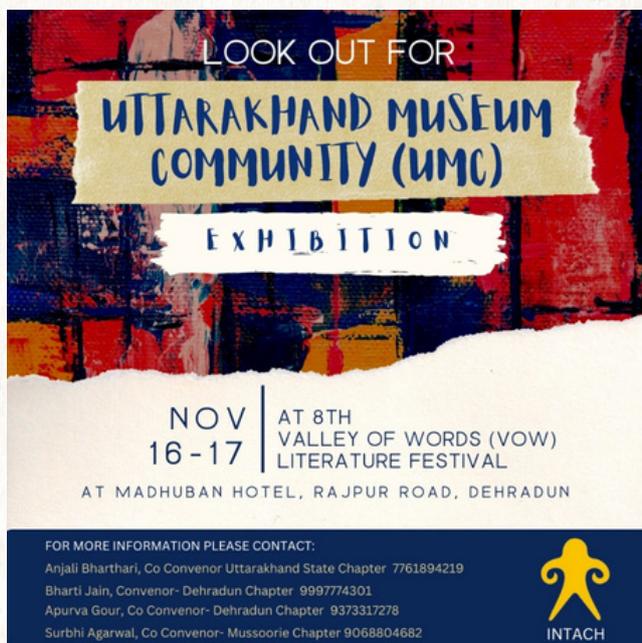
## UTTARAKHAND CHAPTER

# EXHIBITION AT VALLEY OF WORDS

**16-17 NOVEMBER 2024**

The Uttarakhand Museum Community (UmC)'s Exhibition, was organized by INTACH Uttarakhand Chapter from 16-17 November 2024 at hotel Madhuban, Dehradun. This exhibition showcased 12 museums from across Uttarakhand, under the collective Uttarakhand Museum Community, (UmC) at the VOW Literature and Arts Festival 2024.

This collaborative exhibition celebrated the region's diverse cultural heritage and artistic traditions. This was the first time that museums from across the state exhibited at Dehradun under one banner. The exhibition was very well received and the visitors got to know about the culture of the region through the exhibits.



## UTTARAKHAND CHAPTER

# PARTICIPATION AT VALLEY OF WORDS

**16-17 NOVEMBER 2024**

INTACH participated in two sessions at the festival. Lady Kishwar Desai, Founder Director , Partition Museum, Delhi & Amritsar delivered a talk in conversation with Anjali Bharthari, Co-convenor Uttarakhand on challenges in setting up Private museums. This was the first time that such a talk had been delivered to an audience in Dehradun on museums.

We also had Col Suden, in Conversation with Mr. Manoj Saxena, Supredentant Archeologist, Archeological Survey of India talk of art and antiquity. This talk was very well received by the audience who was not aware of the modalities of possessing art and antiquities.

There were also session on preservation of exhibits at the musesum and a talk on funding support by the ministry of Culture, Gol.



# SAFEGUARDING HERITAGE: BUILDING A CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY WITH DEVELOPMENT

4-5 APRIL 2025

The INTACH Uttarakhand Chapter, organized a two-day seminar on April 4-5, 2025, titled “Safeguarding Heritage: Building a Culture of Sustainability with Development.” It was held in collaboration with INTACH’s Natural Heritage Division, to mark the 25 years of Uttarakhand’s statehood and focused on balancing development with the preservation of the state’s cultural and natural heritage. Sessions were divided into two main themes—natural heritage and urban development in Dehradun—and featured panel discussions with experts and local stakeholders. SETU Aayog’s involvement added policy relevance, while key speakers addressed diverse topics such as forest valuation, rural employment, sustainable tourism, and Uttarakhand’s place in the broader Central Asian context.

On the second day, discussions shifted to water, mobility, sustainable urban planning, and vernacular architecture. Speakers from SARRA, WRI India, and other organizations shared insights on “SMART” planning, sustainable towns and preserving traditional architectural design. The seminar also showcased projects by students from Doon University and previewed a documentary on Pandav Nritya by Pahadiwood. These efforts highlighted the importance of community engagement and creative expression in heritage conservation. The seminar encouraged dialogue on integrating sustainability into development strategies, reinforcing INTACH’s commitment to protecting Uttarakhand’s unique cultural and environmental legacy.

**UTTARAKHAND STATE CHAPTER**  
**INTACH**

In Collaboration with: **DOON LIBRARY RESEARCH CENTRE**

Knowledge Partners: **CEDAR CENTRE FOR ECOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH**, **IRALE**

Fostering a dialogue between academics, practitioners and civil society to reflect on the evolving practices of conservation, focusing on the unique challenges and opportunities

**SAFEGUARDING HERITAGE:  
BUILDING A CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY WITH DEVELOPMENT**

**4TH & 5TH APRIL 2025**  
**FRIDAY & SATURDAY**  
9:30AM TO 5:00PM  
**DOON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTER, DEHRADUN**

**SESSIONS**

Session : 1 (10:00 AM - 11:10 AM)  
Telling Mountain Tales: Linking Himalayan Histories with Heritage

Session : 2 (11:30 AM -12:40 PM)  
Economic Valuation of Forest Capital of Uttarakhand: a tool for seeking conservation and environmental finance

Session: 3 (2:20 PM - 3:40 PM)  
Rural Smart Village Centres: addressing migration

Session: 4 (3:40 PM- 4:40 PM)  
Sustainable Tourism

Session : 5 (9:35 AM -10:35 AM)  
Water Resource Conservation and Management in Uttarakhand

Session: 6 (10:35AM-11:40AM)  
Smart Green Planning and Sustainable Towns

Session: 7 (11:40 AM-1:00 PM)  
Mobility in Developing Towns and Good Practices

Session: 8 (2:00 PM- 4:00 PM)  
Vernacular Architecture of Uttarakhand

Anjali Bhanarthi, Co Convener Uttarakhand State Chapter 7761894219 | Bharti Jain, Convener- Dehradun Chapter 999774301  
Aparna Gour, Co Convener- Dehradun Chapter 9373317278 | Surbhi Agarwal, Co Convener- Mussoorie Chapter 9068804682

**UTTARAKHAND STATE CHAPTER**  
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**SAFEGUARDING HERITAGE: BUILDING A CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY WITH DEVELOPMENT**

**DAY 1**

Welcome and Introduction:  
Ms. Surbhi Agarwal, Coconvener, Mussoorie Chapter  
Ms. Aparna Gour, Coconvener, Dehradun Chapter

Session 1: Telling Mountain Tales: Linking Himalayan Histories with Heritage (10:00 AM - 11:10 AM)  
Dr. Vasudha Pande, Historian & Associate Professor, Delhi University  
In Chair: Dr. B K Joshi, Founder Member, Doon Library and Research Centre  
On the Panel:  
Mrs. Vibha Puri Das, Secretary, GoI, Rtd.  
Mr. Indu Kumar Pande, Chief Secretary, Rtd.  
Mr. Manoj Saxena, Superintendent Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India

Session 2: Economic Valuation of Forest Capital of Uttarakhand: A tool for seeking conservation and environmental finance (11:30 AM - 12:40 AM)  
Prof. Madhu Varma, Senior Economic Adviser & Chief Environmental Economist, IORA  
Moderator: Dr. Vishal Singh, Executive Director, CEDAR  
On the Panel:  
Dr. Dhyanraj Mahan, PCDF, (HDF) Uttarakhand Forest Department  
Prof. Saransh Singh, Former Dean, IIRS  
Dr. Justus Joshua, Director, Green Future Foundation

Preview of short film on Pandav Nritya  
Presentation on Dabholi Satsang

Session 3 : Rural Smart Village Centres: addressing migration (2:20 PM - 3:40 PM)  
Dr. Kavita Tiwari, RSVC, Advisor, Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor, Govt  
Moderator: Ms. Shweta Bhatnagar, Independent Consultant  
On the Panel:  
Dr. Bhavna Shinde, Advisor, SETU Aayog  
Mr. Akhilesh Kumar, CHRIAD  
Mr. Debashish Sen, Director, People Science Institute.  
Mr. Ripu Daman Singh, Manager Monitoring & Evaluation

Session 4 : Sustainable Tourism (3:40 PM - 4:40 PM)  
Mr. Rakesh Mathur, Founding Member & Honorary President, Responsible Tourism Society of India  
In Chair: Maj Gen. Anand Singh Rawat, (Retd) VSM, SM, VSM Ex Chairman, Uttarakhand Public Service Commission  
On the Panel:  
Mr. Prabhoo Agarwal, Co-Convener, CE Panel on Tourism, Himant Kochhar, Chairman PHDCO, Uttarakhand  
Mr. P K Patra, CCF, Eco-Tourism & MD, Eco-Tourism corporation

**DAY 2**

Session : 5 Water Resource Conservation and Management in Uttarakhand (9:35 AM - 10:35 AM)  
Ms. Neema Grewal, PCDF & ACEO, Spring And River Rejuvenation Authority (SARRA)  
Moderator: Dr. Praveen Malik, Head, UNCR State office  
On the Panel:  
Dr. C D Singh, Dy Director General, Geological Survey of India  
Mr. Sashi Bhushan Urayal, Team Leader, HIMOTTAN  
Mr. D S Menon, Conservator Forest, Bhagirathi Circle, Forest Department  
Mr. Debashish Sen, Director, People Science Institute

Session 6 : Smart Green Planning and Sustainable Towns (10:35 AM - 11:40 AM)  
Ms. Prema Vijay Kumar Melia, Associate Director - Urban Development, WRI India  
Moderator: Mr. Anoop Nauryal, Founder, Social Development for Communities (SDC)  
On the Panel:  
Dr. Vineet Gahlot, Director, Madia Institute of Himalayan Geology  
Mr. S M Srivastava, Chief Town Planner, Dehradun  
Mr. Sanjay Bhargava, HUDCO  
Dr. K.Ramesh, Scientist-F & Professor, WII & IRALE.

Session 7: Mobility in Developing Towns and Good Practices (11:40 AM - 1:00 PM)  
Mr. Amit Singh Bagel, Vernacular Consultancy, Transport Planner  
Moderator: Mr. Tarun Sharma, Member, INTACH, Director Nagrika  
On the Panel:  
Mr. Sandeep Sharma, Pro Vice Chancellor, Dev Bhoomi Uttarakhand University  
Dr. Akhilesh Jaiswal, HOD, Planning Dept. DIT  
Mr. Shailesh Tiwari, ITO, Dehradun

Session 8: Vernacular Architecture of Uttarakhand (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)  
Mr. Tapas Chakravarty, Prof. & Senior Architect  
Moderator: Ms Bharti Jain, Convener, INTACH Dehradun  
On the Panel:  
Mr. Anu Goyal, Consultancy Architect  
Mr. Karanika Tamoglia, SCAP, DIT  
Mr. Madhushree Mishra, Conservation Architect  
Closing Presentation:  
Dr. Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division, INTACH, New Delhi  
Ms. Anjali Bhanarthi, Co-convener, Uttarakhand State Chapter

Anjali Bhanarthi, Co Convener Uttarakhand State Chapter 7761894219 | Bharti Jain, Convener- Dehradun Chapter 999774301  
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# INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY STORYTELLING, WATER & CULTURE

18 MAY 2025

A very informative online session was held on International Museum Day, exploring water security and cultural heritage. INTACH collaborated with the Living Water Museum and CEDAR to reach out to a varied audience. Sara Ahmed: Living Water Museum, Radhika Mulay: the Centre for Water Research, IISER-Pune, Tilak Tewari & Artisya, CEDAR Dr. Vasudha Pande: Delhi University, Sameer Shukla: Soham Himalayan Centre, Mussoorie shared insights of water and it's interconnectedness with culture and water.



JOIN US ON  
INTERNATIONAL  
MUSEUM DAY TO  
EXPLORE

Storytelling, Water and Culture in Mountain Landscapes

Discussing the role of museums and storytelling in conserving the hydro ecologies and socio-cultural landscapes of the Himalayas in the Year of Glaciers' Preservation (UN Water).

Link in Bio

18 MAY  
2025



2:30 PM  
IST



UTTARAKHAND CHAPTER

# CELEBRATION OF WORLD BEE DAY

20 MAY 2025

INTACH, in collaboration with the Forest Department, celebrated World Bee Day with the local community at village Rikhali. This unique initiative aimed to promote indigenous knowledge and efforts toward biodiversity conservation in the village, highlighting the importance of community participation in sustaining local ecosystems.

    Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage

# WORLD BEE DAY

20TH MAY 2025

-  Talk on Indigenous Asian honey bee "*Apis cerana*" & Beekeeping
-  Honey Tasting Session
-  Hike to Nag Temple
-  Talk on Paragliding
-  Local Snacks & Delights
-  Cottage Industry Display

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

 RIKHOLI VILLAGE

Scan for location



INTACH UTTARAKHAND

# **DOCUMENTARY ON PANDAV NRITYA**

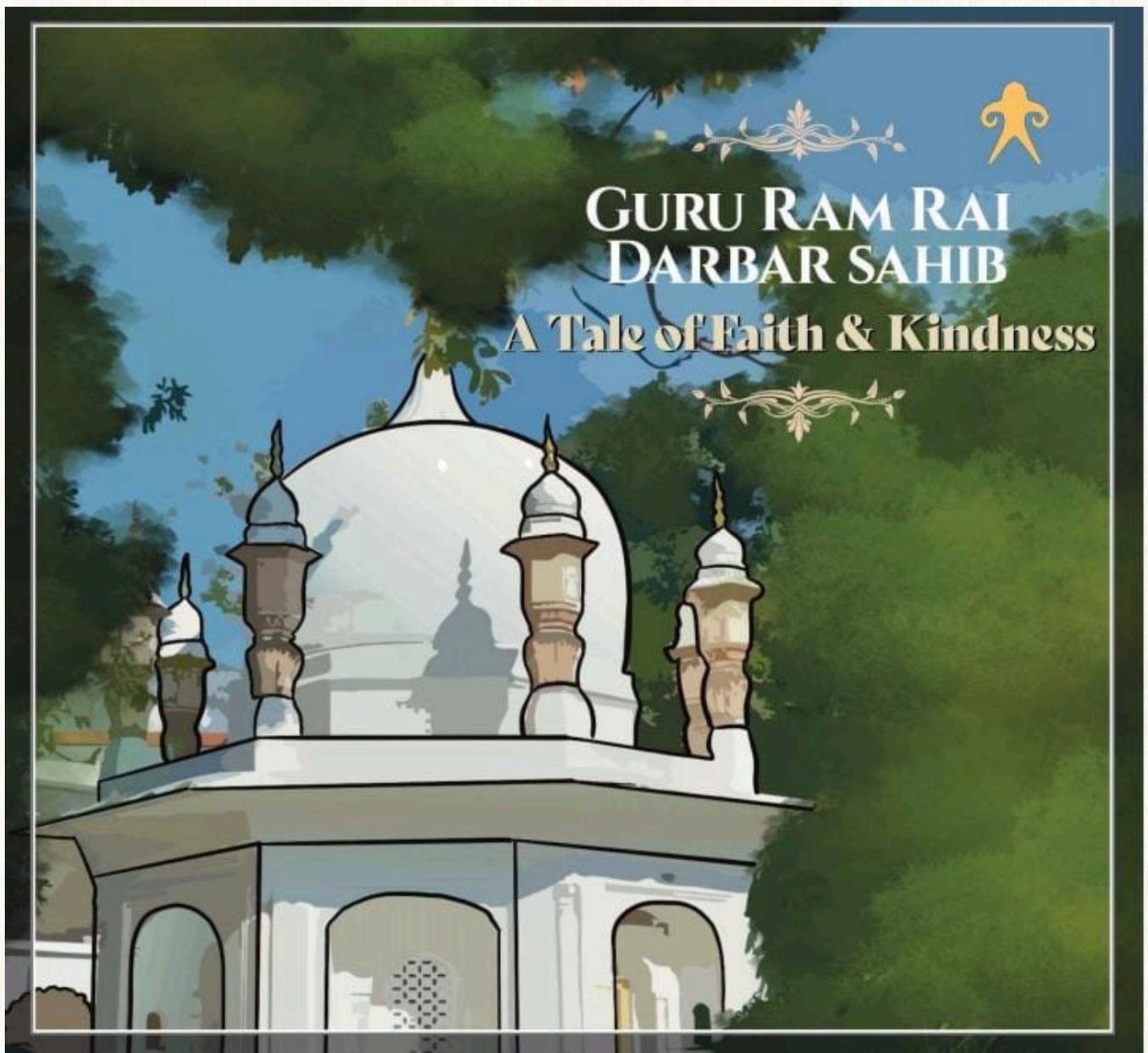
Pandav Nritya is a unique traditional folk dance of Uttarakhand. A grand celebration of the Pandav Nritya is held every 8 to 10 years in Ghimatoli village of Rudraprayag district. In this event, the entire village community participates collectively, and the celebration is carried out continuously for about 1 to 2 months, both during the day and at night.

The Pandav Nritya is performed in the village's Panchayati courtyard. INTACH funded a documentary of this unique art form through its Intangible Heritage Division, New Delhi



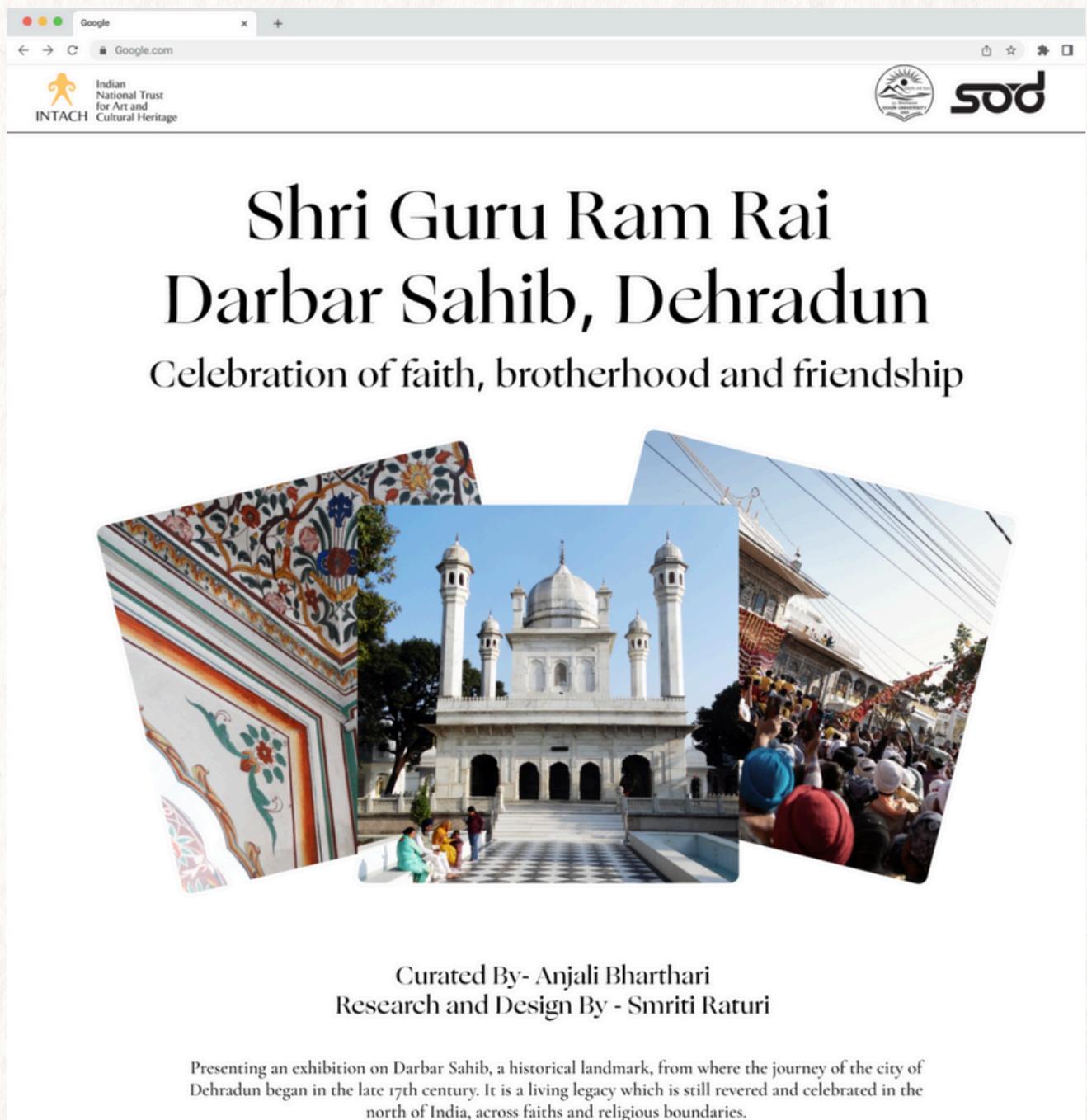
# CHILDREN'S STORYBOOK ON SHRI GURU RAM RAI DARBAR SAHIB

This project focuses on introducing young readers to the history and cultural significance of Shri Guru Ram Rai Darbar Sahib through an illustrated children's storybook. The aim was to simplify complex historical narratives into engaging, age-appropriate content that is both educational and visually appealing. Extensive research and storytelling techniques were used to make the narrative relatable, while vibrant illustrations were employed to hold the attention of young readers. The project demonstrates how visual storytelling can be a powerful tool to foster early cultural awareness and heritage appreciation among children.



# DIGITAL EXHIBITION ON SHRI GURU RAM RAI DARBAR SAHIB

This project involved designing an online exhibition to digitally preserve and showcase the cultural and historical significance of Shri Guru Ram Rai Darbar Sahib in Dehradun. Through primary research, site visits, and visual documentation the exhibition presents verified historical content using curated visuals and a user-centered design approach. A clean monochrome design was adopted to ensure accessibility and focus aligning with the project's goal of engaging users in a formal yet interactive experience. The outcome highlighted how digital platforms can effectively support cultural preservation and public education.



## Shri Guru Ram Rai Darbar Sahib, Dehradun

Celebration of faith, brotherhood and friendship



Curated By- Anjali Bharthari  
Research and Design By - Smriti Raturi

Presenting an exhibition on Darbar Sahib, a historical landmark, from where the journey of the city of Dehradun began in the late 17th century. It is a living legacy which is still revered and celebrated in the north of India, across faiths and religious boundaries.

# RESTORATION PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE

**Cemetery :** We received a request for a report on the restoration of a cemetery. A detailed survey of the site was conducted by a conservation architect from the Delhi office, along with the Convenor-in-Charge, Uttarakhand. A thorough site inspection was carried out at site to prepare a assesmnet report of the restoration plan to Dehradun.

**Shore's Well:** Loacted near the district collectrate office in the heart of Dehradun is a 1823 well dung by Mr. Shore, who was the Jt Magistrate and Revenue Suprintendent He dug 29 such well around Dehradun to meet the demand of potable water. Only one of them survives. INTACH prepared an assessment report to be submitted to the administration for its conservation. The site is not just a heritage landmark, but also serves as an important reminder of water conservation.



# Dehradun Chapter

 @intach\_dehradun



# WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2024: ONLINE QUIZ COMPETITION

5 JUNE 2025

The **INTACH Dehradun Chapter** organized a remarkable event to mark World Environment Day, with the primary objective of engaging participants in meaningful discussions and actions related to environmental sustainability. Through this initiative, the chapter aimed to inspire individuals to reflect on their role in protecting the environment while fostering a sense of responsibility toward future generations. In a world increasingly affected by environmental challenges, the event utilized digital platforms to amplify its reach and effectiveness, demonstrating how technology can serve as a powerful tool for education and awareness. By providing a virtual space for people to come together, the event not only highlighted the importance of World Environment Day but also sparked action toward positive change.

All participants were recognized for their efforts with e-certificates, celebrating their commitment to environmental education. This event has laid the foundation for future initiatives aimed at deepening the understanding of sustainability and inspiring more people to take action for a greener planet.



**World  
Environment  
Day 2024**

Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage



**DEHRADUN CHAPTER**  
is organizing  
**ONLINE QUIZ- 2024**

**Celebrate World  
Environment Day with  
our online quiz!**

Test your knowledge on World Environment Day.  
Join us on June 5th! #WorldEnvironmentDay #QuizTime

Our actions today shape the world of tomorrow.

## Winners of the Event:

- **1st Position:**  
Aayushi Mishra,  
The Green Valley Public School
- **2nd Position:**  
Tarun Thami,  
Dev Bhoomi Uttarakhand University
- **1st Runner Up:**  
Anjali Kumari,  
The Green Valley Public School
- **2nd Runner Up:**  
Roshan Kumar,  
The Green Valley Public School

## DEHRADUN CHAPTER

# HERITAGE QUIZ

1 OCTOBER 2024

**Location:** RIMC, Dehradun

A quiz was organized for the schools of Dehradun and Mussoorie for heritage education and cultural appreciation among youth by INTACH Uttarakhand. 40 schools participated with great enthusiasm. Oak Grove school from Mussoorie bagged the first prize. It generated a lot of interest in heritage of the state and country.



A colorful poster for the 'INTACH NATIONAL HERITAGE QUIZ 2024'. The poster features the INTACH logo at the top, a lightbulb icon, and the text 'INTACH INTER-SCHOOL QUIZ COMPETITION BASED ON INDIAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE'. It specifies the location as 'Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC)' and the date as 'TUESDAY, 1st OCTOBER 9.00 AM Onwards'. The poster also mentions 'CERTIFICATE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS', 'TOP TEAM QUALIFIES FOR NATIONAL LEVEL, NEW DELHI', and 'REGISTRATION THROUGH SCHOOLS ONLY'. At the bottom, it lists the names and contact numbers of the co-convenors: Anjali Bharthari, Dharti Jain, Purva Gour, and Arun Aggarwal.



# TEACHERS' TRAINING WORKSHOP

2-3 DECEMBER 2024

The Dehradun Chapter of INTACH, in collaboration with the Forest Department of Uttarakhand, organised a two-day teachers' training workshop to promote awareness and education on the importance of heritage. The event, held on 2nd and 3rd December 2024, brought together educators, forest department staff, and heritage experts for an engaging series of presentations, discussions, and interactive activities. 20 schools participated with two teachers each.



# INTACH MUSSOORIE



# QUEENS OF MUSSOORIE

10 APRIL- 29 MAY 2024

INTACH Mussoorie Chapter collaborated with a Mussoorie based Art Gallery VR Art Space for an art exhibition titled 'Queens of Mussoorie' by artist Harshada Kerkar. The exhibition was held from 10th April to 29th May. This exhibition was an attempt to narrate the simplistic and beautiful life of Mussoorie, through a series of portraits of the Women and children of the rag picker and labor communities living in the Happy Valley region. The artist used several mediums like pastels on paper, acrylic on canvas, charcoal on Paper etc to depict the beauty of these girls and women. Harshada Kerkar and Surbhi Agarwal together curated this exhibition and very aptly gave it the title 'Queens of Mussoorie'. The exhibition was appreciated by National and International audience.

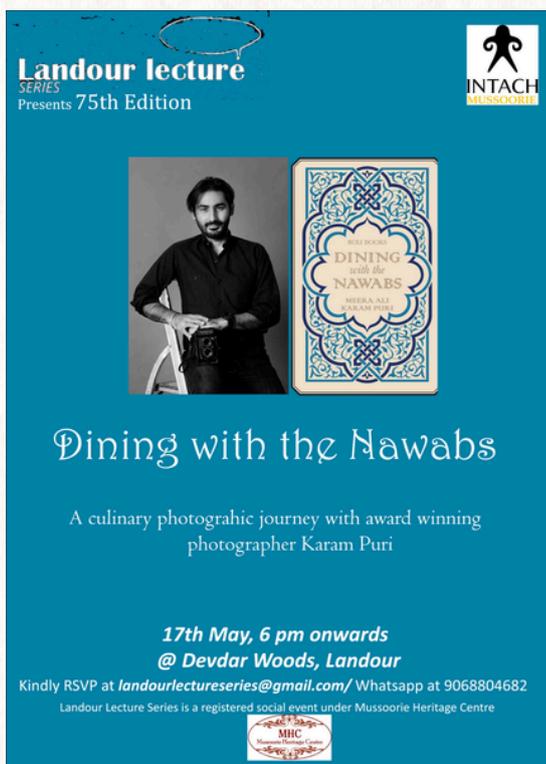
The chapter in collaboration with Madogiri and HimSurbhi Fragrance and Flavours Institute, organized a mud plaster workshop conducted by Architect Stuti Panwar. It was titled 'Gharonda e Mitti ki Sugandh'. Dr.Jyoti Marwah also gave a lecture on this occasion.



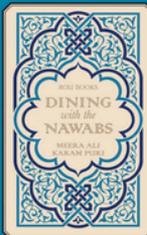
# DINING WITH NAWABS

17 MAY 2024

INTACH Mussoorie chapter collaborated with Landour Lecture Series which is a community platform registered under Mussoorie Heritage Centre, for two events in May. The first was a talk on the book 'Dining with the Nawabs' by award winning photographer Karam Puri, who took the audience through a culinary photographic journey of the Nawabs of India. This book is published by Roli books. It was an engaging and intriguing journey through the private and public dining of the Nawabs, and was attended by a large number of local residents and visitors alike.



**Landour lecture**  
SERIES  
Presents 75th Edition



**Dining with the Nawabs**

A culinary photographic journey with award winning photographer Karam Puri

17th May, 6 pm onwards  
@ Devdar Woods, Landour

Kindly RSVP at [landourlectureseries@gmail.com](mailto:landourlectureseries@gmail.com) / Whatsapp at 9068804682

Landour Lecture Series is a registered social event under Mussoorie Heritage Centre



# PUTTING THE ARTISAN FIRST

31 MAY 2024

The chapter organised a short film premier, in collaboration with Landour Lecture Series and Mussoorie Heritage Centre. It was held on 31st May at Devdar Woods in Landour, in which it hosted a talk by Anthropologist Haana Kim titled 'Putting the Artisan first'. Hanna Kim, is a professor of anthropology and co-editor of the volume, *Small-scale Activism: Community Transformations Through Grass-roots Project*. She shared her recent fieldwork on United Artisans of Kutch and its founder and artisans. The talk asked the question: can the dominant model of tourism, connected to leisure and consumption, be changed by looking at the lives of individual artisans who want to participate in tourism but are doing so on a different scale? She also spoke about how several artisans are benefitting by INTACH recognition and honorarium.

This session also featured the Indian premier of the film 'Chola Dora aur Sui' by designer Lokesh Ghai and filmmaker Jaymin. This film is a celebration of Chola-Dora, an identity clothing of the Gaddi community of Himalayas, and honors tailoring as a heritage craft. Located in the unique setting of the fragile Indian mountain ecosystem facing erosion of culture and climate change, this film illustrates how clothing, and the process of making it, is central to material and cultural sustainability. What lessons might 'Chola-Dora and the sewing needle' have for us as we struggle to re-imagine an alternative, pro-environmental model for fashion? The audience was enthralled by the film which took them through an experience of sustainable living where craft blended with nature. Each person left a positive feedback about the film and the talk.

  
**Landour lecture**  
SERIES  
Presents **76th Edition**



## Putting the Artisan First

a talk by

**Anthropologist Hanna Kim & Artist Lokesh Ghai**



चोला-डोरा  
और सुई

A glimpse into the craft of tailoring from the Himalayas.

A film by Jaymin & Lokesh

Sound Design: Pallav Baruah

© Jaymin & Lokesh 2024

**Chola-Dora Aur Sui**  
a film by Lokesh & Jaymin

**31st May, 6.30 pm onwards @ Devdar Woods, Landour**

Kindly RSVP at [landourlectureseries@gmail.com](mailto:landourlectureseries@gmail.com) / Whatsapp at 9068804682

Landour Lecture Series is a registered social event under Mussoorie Heritage Centre

# MUSSOORIE CHAPTER MEMBERS MEETING

The chapter held a meeting of its members in July, where we played the film, INTACH A Journey of 40 years (1984 – 2024) and discussed several issues and made plans for our upcoming events etc.



# MUSHROOM WALK

28 JULY 2024

On 28th July, the chapter in collaboration with Jabarkhet Nature Reserve organized a 'Mushroom Walk' at the Jabarkhet Nature Reserve. The walk was led by well known environmentalist, conservationist, INTACH member Sejal Worah who is the program director of WWF India and spearheads the Jabarkhet Nature Reserve. Several people joined the walk and were in awe of the variety of wild mushrooms that grow in and around Mussoorie.



# THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE IN MUSSOORIE

11 AUGUST 2024

The organised 'The Freedom Struggle in Mussoorie'. in collaboration with Mussoorie Heritage Centre ,marking the Indian Independence Day. It first led a Heritage walk by the Mussoorie chapter co convenor Surbhi Agarwal, through Landour Bazar. She talked about how the locals came together, in a primarily British town, against the ruling British. She walked them through the oldest Hindu temple in town which was opened to all castes by Mahatma Gandhi. She also stopped by to interact with families whose grandparents had participated in the movement. The walk ended at the historical Tilak Memorial Library, where renowned local author and historian Jaiprakash Uttarakhandi further spoke on the subject and gave us more details about the Freedom Struggle in Mussoorie. The event was covered by local press and media.



# VALUE OF VULTURE CHALLENGE AUGUST 2024

25TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

INTACH Mussoorie participated in the HECS Value of Vulture Challenge in which a student from Sanatan Dharm Inter College, Mussoorie, namely Samiksha Shahi got special mention award certificate. On 25th September, 2024, the city round of INTACH'S Inter-school Heritage Quiz took place at CJM Hampton Court. The initial round of the quiz involved the participation of 60+ students from different schools of the town. Out of them, 18 students got selected for the final round of the Oral quiz. Oak Grove School, Mussoorie bagged the first prize. Wynberg Allen School and St. George's College got second and third prize respectively. The chief guest of the day was retired Brigadier Ravi Dimri. The chief guest congratulated the students and encouraged them to focus on heritage and culture. It was a day of diving deep into the realms of Indian knowledge, culture, heritage, art and traditions. The co-convenor of INTACH, Mussoorie Chapter, Surbhi Agarwal reiterated the need to develop the understanding and concern for heritage and its conservation.



**Value of Vulture Challenge**

International Vulture Awareness Day highlights the importance of vultures, often a misunderstood creature.

In this challenge, make a Poster highlighting the value of vultures in our world. Give the poster a catchy title, with an illustration of an endangered vulture and a write-up of 20-30 words explaining its value.

**Send us the entries by 6th September, 9pm on socialmedia.youngintach@gmail.com**

Please write your Full name, class, school and city in the entry.

## Quiz Time

• **Sanjay Tamta**  
National Heritage Quiz, an initiative by INTACH Uttarakhand State Chapter, organised by Surbhi Agarwal, founder of Mussoorie Heritage Centre and co-convenor INTACH Mussoorie Chapter at the prestigious CJM Hampton Court School Mussoorie on the noon of 25th September 2024. The initial round of the quiz involved the participation of over 60 students from different schools of the town. Out of them, 18 students got selected for the final round of the quiz. Oak Grove School Mussoorie bagged the first prize whereas Wynberg Allen School and St. George's College got second and third prize respectively. The chief guest of the day was Brigadier Ravi Dimri. The chief guest congratulated the students and encouraged them to focus on heritage and culture. It was a day of diving deep into the realms of knowledge on Indian culture, heritage,



art, craft and traditions. Surbhi Agarwal reiterated the need to develop the understanding and concern for heritage and its conservation. She added that the participation from schools of the town can constructively drive the awareness campaign towards

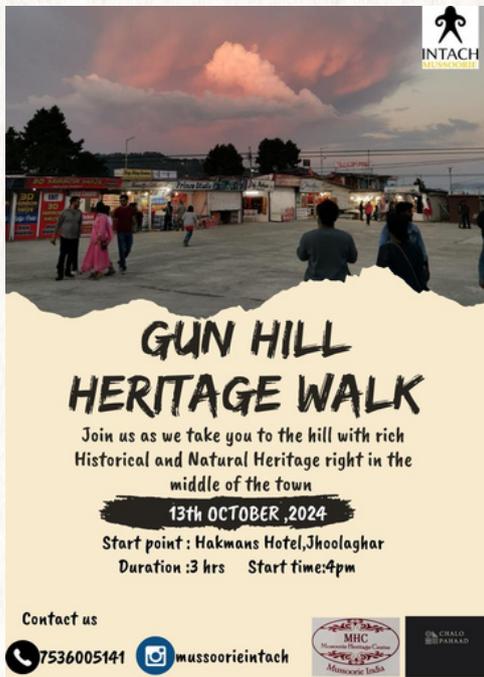
from each school came forth for the competition. Six questions were asked from each of the five rounds. The participant schools were Mussoorie Girls Inter College, R.N. Bhargava Inter College, Nirmala School, Sanatan Dharma Inter College, Mahatma Yogeshwar Saraswati Vidhya Mandir

Inter College, CJM Hampton Court College, Oak Grove School, Wynberg Allen School and St. Georges College. The winner from the Mussoorie round would be participating in the state level competition in Dehradun on the 1st of October 2024 and from there onwards, the winner would be participating in the national level completion to be held in New Delhi. It was an event filled with utmost energy and enthusiasm, Gracing the occasion were sister superior and the principal of CJM Hampton Court Mussoorie, Ms Harshada Wohra, Sandeep Sahni and Shailendra Karanwal. The core team consisted of Ms Neeta Rawat, Dipankar Tripathi, Kriti Wadhwa, Sanjay Tamta, Kush Verma, Raj Bijalwan, Nidhi Bahuguna, Preeti Goyal and Rakhi Goel. Sanjay Tamta is a freelance writer/photographer/documentary filmmaker based in Mussoorie. [sanjaytamta@gmail.com](mailto:sanjaytamta@gmail.com)

# HERITAGE WALKS

In October the chapter organized several Heritage walks and talks. 'Benog Hill' Heritage walk on 6th October was led by our member Dipankar Tripathi, and was attended by participants from different parts of the country.

'Gunhill' Heritage walk was led by Coconvenor Surbhi Agarwal and Dipankar Tripathi, and was attended by mostly local citizens and children.



The chapter organized a talk and book reading, in collaboration with Landour Lecture Series and Mussoorie Heritage Centre, by famous author Stephen Alter about his book 'The Cobra's Gaze'. The author delved deep into the practice of Nag worship throughout the country with special emphasis on Uttarakhand state. He also talked about the different species of snakes and its depiction in Indian Art and Architecture.



# HERITAGE WALKS AS PART OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> UTTARAKHAND BIRD FESTIVAL

Mussoorie Chapter team headed by its Coconvenor Surbhi Agarwal and Dipankar Tripathi member, conducted Heritage Walks during the 8th Uttarakhand Bird Festival. The Festival was held at Mussoorie Wildlife Sanctuary in Benog division. Over 100 students and individuals were taken on Heritage Walks during the 3 day event. INTACH team briefed the children about the Natural and Historical Heritage of the Benog region. At the same time the team laid emphasis on the need to conserve the ecology of the region and how Nature and Humans should coexist in harmony. The rich mixed Forest of the Benog region comprising of Oaks, Deodar, Pine, etc were also shown. The Schools that participated in the Heritage Walks were Himalayan International School, The Tons Bridge School, Doon Boys School, Mahatma Yogeshwar Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir etc.





The month started with our 'Jodi Gaon' Heritage walk, in collaboration with Mussoorie Heritage Centre, which was attended by a large number of people from around the country and some International citizens as well. This walk was led by the Coconvenor Surbhi Agarwal and member Dipankar Tripathi. It was a beautiful walk through thick Oak forest followed by an immersive village experience.



The following Sunday we had the 'Club Hill' Heritage walk, in collaboration with Mussoorie Heritage Centre, which was led by the Coconvenor Surbhi Agarwal. The walk was attended by several people and the enriching experience of visiting one of the oldest Clubs in Mussoorie, followed by the old Catholic Church along with the spectacular natural spectacle of the Winterline, left the participants with a lifetime experience.



Our last Heritage walk for the month, in collaboration with Mussoorie Heritage Centre, was 'The Royals in Mussoorie –series 1' which was led by the Mussoorie chapter Coconvenor Surbhi Agarwal. A special one of its kind curated walk generated high interest and left the participants asking for more such experiences. We visited the Royal house of Plaisance where we saw several British era rare artifacts and artworks. This was followed by a visit to the Royal castle of the Katesar royal family. This castle has a small museum of Katesar Family's trophies etc, and an old Radha Krishna temple.



**INTACH MUSSOORIE**

**The Royals in Mussoorie - Series 1**

24th November  
contact 9068804682

Starting point:  
Library parking,  
opposite  
Dwaper Hotel  
Start time: 9 am

*Mussoorie was once the hub of the Indian Royals . Join us as we explore their stories and abodes*

Private museum entry and breakfast : Rs.500

MHC  
Mussoorie Heritage Centre  
Mussoorie India

CHALO PAHAAD



2024 culminated with our Heritage Walk 'Bala Hissar', in collaboration with Mussoorie Heritage Centre, this walk was led by Mussoorie Coconvenor Surbhi Agarwal. In this walk we elaborated on the history of the Afghan's in Mussoorie during the 19th century and the history of the Wynberg Allen School.

An online member meet was also organized in December. The main objective of this meeting was to be able to chalk out the events from March 2025.



**INTACH MUSSOORIE**

MHC  
Mussoorie Heritage Centre

**15TH DECEMBER**

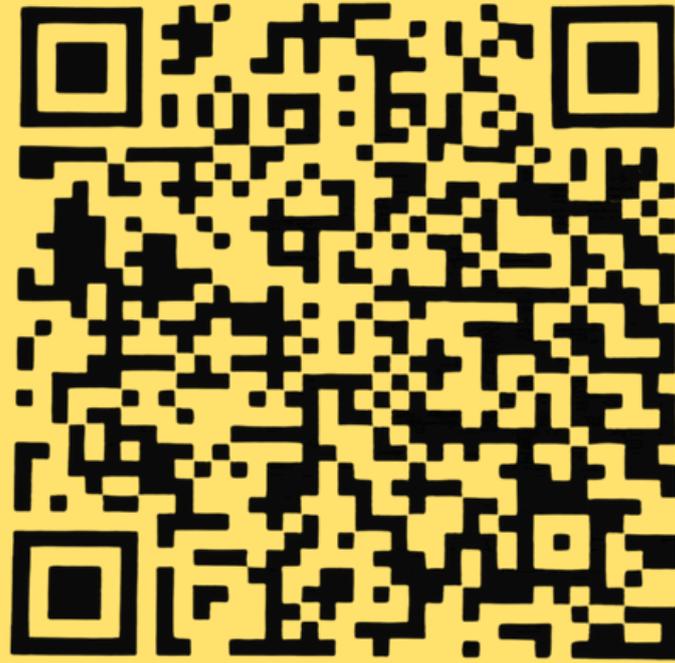
**BALA HISSAR HERITAGE WALK**

Delve into the stories of the Mussoorie  
Bala Hissar hill

meeting point - Clock Tower. Duration - 2.5 hrs  
Whatsapp - 9068804682

In March 2025 INTACH Uttarakhand collaborated with Geological Survey of India's scientists to recce Mussoorie and Dehradun for Geotourism trails. As a part of this event a group of Earth scientists from Indian Geoparks visited the region from March 14th – 19th 2025. They were accompanied by alumni and both active and retired geologists from GSI, ONGC, DBS college and WIHG. Senior scientist Shri Ravi Kumar Vundavalli, former Director of the Geological Survey of India Training Institute, Hyderabad, and a Life member of INTACH, gave us an insight as to how Earth's oldest living fossil is in Mussoorie's Gunhill region. Further Mussoorie Coconvenor led the group of scientists, their families and some INTACH members on a heritage walk through Mussoorie Mall road and Gunhill area. The Scientists pointed out the existing old fossils like Trilobites, Stromatolites etc present in Mussoorie.





Please scan for  
**INTACH**  
membership form

**Anjali Bharthari** : Uttarakhand Chapter in-charge

**Bharti P Jain** : Convener Dehradun Chapter

**Apurva Gaur** : Co-convener Dehradun Chapter

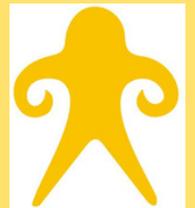
**Surbhi Aggarwal** : Co-convener Dehradun Chapter

 **77618 94219**

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