

A NEWSLETTER OF THE
INDIAN NATIONAL TRUST FOR
ART & CULTURAL HERITAGE

INTACH Virasat



INTACH

Indian
National Trust
for Art and
Cultural Heritage

DEDICATED TO CONSERVATION



Cover: The image is from the Bhelwara village in Bishungarh block of Hazaribagh district. The artists, Parvati Devi and Kaushalya Devi of the Kurmi community, are painting a Sohrai mural on the wall of their mud house with natural red, white and black pigments.

Sohrai art is a traditional tribal art form from the Hazaribagh region of Jharkhand and has gained international recognition. Sohrai paintings are made with natural colors derived from clay and hematite found in the region. Motifs of Sohrai paintings feature animals, flowers, plants, geometric shapes amongst other depictions.

Photograph © Gustav Imam, INTACH Convenor, Hazaribagh Chapter



The INTACH Logo, based on the anthropomorphic copper figure from Shahabad, Uttar Pradesh, belonging to the enigmatic Copper Hoards of the Ganga Valley is the perceived brand image of INTACH. The classic simplicity and vitality of its lines makes it a striking example of primitive man's creative genius. (circa 1800–1700 BC)

INTACH's mission to conserve heritage is based on the belief that living in harmony with heritage enhances the quality of life, and it is the duty of every citizen of India as laid down in the Constitution of India.

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Registration no.: English: DEL Eng/2004/14304, Hindi: DEL Hin/2004/14144

THE INTACH MISSION

GOALS FOR HERITAGE:

- Sensitize the public about the pluralistic cultural legacy of India;
- Instill a sense of social responsibility towards preserving our common heritage;
- Protect and conserve our living, built & natural heritage by undertaking necessary actions and measures;
- Document unprotected buildings of archaeological, architectural, historical and aesthetic significance and cultural resources, as this is the first step towards formulating conservation plans;
- Develop heritage policy and regulation, and make legal interventions to protect our heritage when necessary;
- Provide expertise in the field of conservation, restoration and preservation of specific works of art; and encourage capacity building by developing skills through training programmes;
- Undertake emergency response measures during natural or man-made disasters, and support local administration wherever heritage is threatened;
- Foster collaboration, Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and partnerships with government and other national and international agencies; and
- Generate sponsorship for conservation and educational projects.



*Baradari in charbagh at Vasudev Ghat
(Qudsia Ghat), Yamuna, Delhi*

CHAIRMAN SPEAKS



Dear Members,

As we stand at the threshold of 2025, I reflect on our journey, and I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude for the accomplishments we have achieved together over the past 15 years and an unwavering confidence in the future of INTACH. During this period our aim has been to achieve a high standard of execution in our projects covering various disciplines of heritage conservation. I take great pride in highlighting a number of important projects and initiatives that reflect innovation, excellence, and our collective commitment to preserving and celebrating heritage. INTACH has now completed 40 years, fostering an ethos of dignity, tradition, and professionalism that unites our members with loyalty and shared purpose.

One of our prestigious projects which was completed recently, was the rejuvenation of a 1.5 km stretch on the right bank of the Yamuna river in Delhi. The historical Vasudev Ghat (*Qudsia Ghat*) which was extended to design a pleasing *Charbagh* in the medieval style included *baradari*, *chhatris*, a *ghat* supported by 600 stone piles, walkways, cycle tracks, solar lighting, an outstanding statue of Yamuna Devi, landscaping including bank protection with riparian grasses and several native trees. The area has now been opened to the public and is an example of how green river fronts can be transformed. As a Notified Expert Heritage Body (NEHB) to the National Monuments Authority (NMA), INTACH has been actively engaged in preparing Draft Heritage Byelaws (HBL) for Centrally Protected Monuments nationwide. The HECS Division which interacts and works across a host of Chapters in the field of education organized a National Heritage Quiz, the largest contest on a statewide level covering 130 Chapters. This was in 11 regional languages and English ensuring widespread participation from schools across the country and a unique achievement.

We have also successfully completed the Cultural Documentation Project of the Ganga (2019–2023), commissioned by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG). This initiative documented the Ganga's cultural and intangible heritage across 37 districts in five states, capturing traditions, festivals, crafts, and communities. Building on its success, the Ministry has now entrusted INTACH with the Cultural Documentation of the Yamuna, a similar initiative spanning 24 districts in five states and focusing on the Yamuna's tangible, intangible, and natural heritage. Furthermore, INTACH was recently honoured with the Mahatma Award 2024 in the Social Good Impact Category—the highest recognition for changemakers and social impact leaders.

The enduring success of any organization is defined by the quality and integrity of its people. For an institution like INTACH, with its distinguished role in heritage conservation, it is essential that we remain steadfast in our commitment to the core values that have shaped our mission. I urge all members, particularly those in leadership, to thoughtfully consider the long-term impact of their actions and decisions. It is crucial that we continue to uphold INTACH's legacy with the highest standards of professionalism, ensuring that our vital work endures for future generations. In conclusion, I wish you and your loved ones a happy and prosperous New Year.

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

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Pataudi Palace, Haryana

FEATURE ARTICLE

Historic Gardens of India

By
Architectural Heritage Division
INTACH

Historic gardens have long been emblematic of the cultural, social, and ecological values of their respective eras. From the sacred groves of ancient times to the grand palace gardens of the Mughal period, these landscapes offer profound insights into the interplay between human innovation, sustainable practices, and the natural environment. This article emphasizes the imperative of safeguarding these gardens as vital components of our cultural heritage, drawing attention to the critical need for their preservation amidst the pressures of urbanization and growing neglect.

These gardens have carried both secular and sacred meanings, providing a backdrop against which the social and cultural life of the people unfolded through various historical periods.

Human relationship with nature has been a fundamental expression across civilizations, reflecting the cultural values, traditions, and environmental interactions of different societies. In India, the garden has been one such expression, seamlessly integrating into urban, suburban, and rural landscapes. These gardens have carried both secular and sacred meanings, providing a backdrop against which the social and cultural life of the people unfolded through various historical periods. From sacred groves and botanical gardens to the courtyard gardens of *havelis*, palace gardens, fort gardens, and serene suburban retreats, many of these historic gardens have endured, standing as unique symbols of India's rich cultural heritage.

Today these historic gardens and landscapes form a very important part of our valuable heritage. However they are also perhaps the most vulnerable and the first to suffer destruction. While it takes effort, time and resources to demolish a heritage structure for





new development, a historic garden, seen by most merely as an open space, offers itself for new development almost instantly. It is also true that while in the recent past there has been a lot of concern expressed towards the preservation and restoration of historic buildings, it has unfortunately not been echoed in the case of historic gardens. Gardens have been generally treated as appendages to, and surroundings of historic sites, and not as important entities in their own right. Neglect, due to lack of finances or lack of understanding of their heritage significance, has led to the loss of many a historic garden. Because of lack of proper planning and improper perspectives on development, that have led to land speculation and unplanned building activity, these gardens continue to be destroyed. Subdivision of large garden estates resulting in fragmentation of the garden and multiple ownerships, as well as changes in land uses within and around, are all factors responsible for this loss. Often is the case when after centuries of existence outside or on the fringes of city boundaries, historic gardens are today surrounded by a population of several thousands, which subjects them to enormous pressure but at the same time offers an opportunity to bring these gardens to life.

The loss of historic gardens implies a loss at several levels. They are repositories of culture and in giving an account of a culture and a period, inform us about the patterns of living of that period. Through their associations with events, developments or cultural phases that have had a significant role in the human occupation of the region, they provide valuable insights into distinctive ways of life, custom, land use, function or design. Demonstrating a high degree of creative achievement at a particular period in history and through the study of design vocabularies adopted, they inform us today about the distinctive aesthetics of the time. Historic gardens are important in containing information on ecology and ecosystems and in harboring a biodiversity, often missing in the urban fabric within which they sit, they become



Gabhana Kothi, Uttar Pradesh

As knowledge systems these historic gardens also contain valuable lessons for contemporary design to learn from. In employing vocabularies of design that make for a more wholesome human existence, they have much to teach contemporary landscape practice.

extremely important in ecological terms. In urban settings they function as important green open spaces and become an essential part of our daily life support system. Where unplanned urbanization is devouring any available open space and where land is at a premium, these entities through their conservation, provide an opportunity to give back to the urban dweller, a vital and important green open space.

As knowledge systems these historic gardens also contain valuable lessons for contemporary design to learn from. In employing vocabularies of design that make for a more wholesome human existence, they have much to teach contemporary landscape practice. Many of them display technical innovations of the time pertaining to sustainable and eco-friendly irrigation patterns, planting techniques or garden maintenance practices which are not only worth continuing with but also worth emulating, in contemporary garden design. While traditionally gardens were also sources of revenue through practices such as auctioning of fruit trees, today as major tourist destinations they acquire a new economic value, with heritage tourism and heritage economics working in tandem.

The National Register of Historic Gardens initiative was launched in 2016 by INTACH as part of its Heritage Listing and Documentation programme. The aim of the register is to catalog and preserve India's historic gardens, which have long been overlooked in documentation compared to architectural buildings. Initially relying on secondary sources, INTACH quickly realized that gardens were rarely mentioned, prompting the need for a primary survey.



Azmatgarh Palace, Varanasi



Azmatgarh Palace Gardens, Varanasi

Volume I of the Register offers a meticulous catalog of historically important gardens from several states, showcasing diverse design typologies and reflecting the cultural and social evolution of their regions. Through this documentation, the initiative underscores the importance of preserving these landscapes for future generations.

Regions such as Delhi and Punjab predominantly feature gardens in the Mughal *char bagh* style, renowned for its symmetrical quadrilateral layout. These gardens, including imperial tomb gardens, residential spaces, and pleasure gardens, epitomize the grandeur of Mughal horticultural design. In contrast, Uttar Pradesh's gardens, particularly those in the Aligarh region, are influenced by the colonial period, incorporating composite *char bagh* designs. Noteworthy examples can be found in the institutional gardens of Aligarh Muslim University and the *zamindari* estates that surround the city. Haryana, similarly, retains gardens primarily designed in the late Mughal *char bagh* style, reflecting the region's enduring ties to Mughal aesthetic principles.

Despite their historical significance, many of these gardens now find themselves ensnared by the pressures of urbanization. As cities expand, their once serene green spaces are increasingly surrounded by dense urban development, altering the original context and threatening their preservation. A significant number of these gardens are now public spaces managed by local municipalities, yet a large proportion remain unprotected. This lack of legal safeguards has contributed to the degradation of their historical fabric, resulting in fragmentation, loss of archaeological elements, the use of non-authentic plant species, and a disruption of their original spatial configurations.

As urban spaces become more congested, historic gardens can play a critical role in providing open, accessible green areas for local communities, enhancing the quality



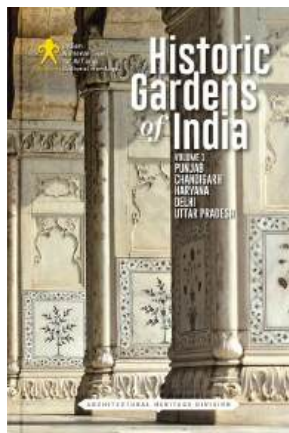
Jagatjit Palace, Kapurthala, Punjab



Ausanganj Palace, Uttar Pradesh

of life in increasingly dense environments. Notably, many gardens in Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are linked to water tanks and reservoirs, offering significant opportunities for the restoration of regional water systems and the rejuvenation of local ecosystems. Furthermore, with appropriate restoration efforts, these gardens could become key cultural and tourism assets, contributing to economic sustainability and promoting heritage tourism.

In conclusion, the need to safeguard historic gardens cannot be overstated and our contributions in terms of shining a light on them, will hopefully pave the way for interventions in preserving them.



Volume I of the Register offers a meticulous catalog of historically important gardens from several states, showcasing diverse design typologies and reflecting the cultural and social evolution of their regions. Through this documentation, the initiative underscores the importance of preserving these landscapes for future generations.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Kanchipuram to Kampuchea: South Indian Imprints on the Art and Culture of Cambodia



AUTHOR

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Convenor, INTACH

The interactions between South India and Cambodia date back to a few centuries before Christ. South Indian merchants came to Cambodia through diverse land and sea routes. Located on the maritime highway between India and China, Cambodia, from early times, emerged as a commercial hub in the far-flung trade network that linked China, South East Asia, Sri Lanka, India, Africa and Rome. Spices and gemstones from South East Asia reached the ports on India's east coast (Andhra Pradesh-Tamil Nadu), for onward trans shipment to the Red Sea ports of Africa, and from there were sent to Rome through the North African port of Alexandria. Not surprisingly, archaeologists have discovered ancient Roman objects including intaglios, coins, ceramics and lamps in the Thailand-Cambodia region. These Roman objects should doubtless have reached South East Asia through Mahabalipuram, Arikamedu, Kaveripattinam or any of the other ancient ports of Southeastern India. Interestingly, similar Roman objects have been discovered in these port sites.

There have even been finds of authentic South Indian objects in the Thailand-Cambodia region. Archaeological digs at Khuan Luk Pat in Thailand have revealed a coin of the Sangam Chola kings of Tamil Nadu, with the figure of the tiger – the dynastic emblem – on it (first century CE.). The region has also yielded a bronze figure betraying features of South India's Amaravati school of art (first-second century CE.).

(above) Brihadishwara Temple, Tanjavur



The most enduring contribution of the Pallavas to Cambodia is the cult of Ashtabhuja Vishnu (eight-armed Vishnu). In India, this form of Vishnu originated around the Mathura region in North India, and spread to Nagarjunakonda (Andhra) and subsequently, permeated further south to Kanchipuram. Many of the Pallava temples in Kanchipuram house sculptures of this form of Vishnu, with one temple (Ashtabhuja Perumal Temple) having the deity within the main sanctum



Ashtabhuja Vishnu, Angkor Wat

The South Indian influence on Cambodian art and culture was most vigorous during the rule of the Pallavas (third to ninth century) and the Medieval Cholas (ninth to thirteenth century) in South India. Many Pallava kings had the suffix *Varman* appended to their names. It is believed that the kings of Cambodia borrowed this practice from the Pallavas. The first Cambodian king to have this suffix was Bhadravarman (fourth century). Significantly, he was a scholar, well-versed in all the four Vedas.

While Sanskrit language spread to Cambodia from different parts of India, the ornate Grantha (also called Pallava Grantha) script, mostly used for writing in Sanskrit, travelled to Cambodia exclusively from the Pallava kingdom. Eventually, Cambodia's Khmer script evolved from the Grantha script. At the same time, some of the *birudas* (titles) of the Pallava kings including Mahendravarman I appear to be in the Khmer language – the language of Cambodia.

The most enduring contribution of the Pallavas to Cambodia is the cult of Ashtabhuja Vishnu (eight-armed Vishnu). In India, this form of Vishnu originated around the Mathura region in North India, and spread to Nagarjunakonda (Andhra) and subsequently, permeated further south to Kanchipuram. Many of the Pallava temples in Kanchipuram house sculptures of this form of Vishnu, with one temple (Ashtabhuja Perumal Temple) having the deity within the main sanctum. Initially, Angkor Wat was a Hindu shrine dedicated to this form of Vishnu installed in the sanctum in the uppermost tier of the temple. This huge monolithic



Samudramanthan sculpture, Pillar in Angkor Wat



Nataraja with Karaikal Ammaiyar (below to the left of the Nataraja), Gangaikondacholapuram

image, recently restored and now kept at the entrance of Angkor Wat, is almost identical, in stylistic features, to the image within the sanctum in the above temple of Kanchipuram.

The Pallavas were contemporaries and rivals of the Chalukyas of Badami (Vatapi) in present-day Karnataka. But political differences did not stand in the way of the exchange of art styles between these two kingdoms. Thus, one observes Chalukyan influence in the art of Kanchi and Pallava imprints in the art of Badami and Pattadakal in Karnataka. Again, not surprisingly, there are parallels between the art of Pattadakal and Angkor Wat. Among the bas-relief sculptures in Angkor Wat is the one portraying the episode of the Churning of the Cosmic Ocean by the Gods and the demons (*samudramanthan*). Miniature representations of this scene occur on the pillars within the Angkor Wat. Sculptures exhibiting this theme occur in many other Angkor temples including the Bayon. Although the episode is well-known throughout India, its representation in art is not very common in this country. The cave temples of Badami and the Virupaksha Temple and the Mallikarjuna Temple of Pattadakal possess sculptures featuring this episode. Stylistically, the Pattadakal sculptures are remarkably similar to those on the pillars in Angkor Wat.

Several medieval temples in Tamil Nadu feature the dancing Shiva (Nataraja) with Karaikal Ammaiyar, the frail female saint, playing cymbals for him. One such sculpture is in the Chola Gangaikondacholisvara Temple in Gangaikondacholapuram. Significantly, the temple of Banteay Srei, around 30km from Angkor Wat, has a similar sculpture above the doorway leading to the central sanctum.



Nataraja with Karaikal Ammaiyar (below to the left of the Nataraja), Banteay Srei



Vaikunta Perumal Temple, Kanchi



Angkor Wat

Beyond language, art and iconography, Cambodia's temple architecture displays remarkable South Indian elements. In particular, Angkor Wat shares many common features with both Pallava and Chola temples

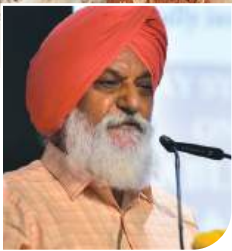
Beyond language, art and iconography, Cambodia's temple architecture displays remarkable South Indian elements. In particular, Angkor Wat shares many common features with both Pallava and Chola temples. Like the Vaikunta Perumal Temple (Kanchi) and the Sundara Varada Perumal Temple (Uthiramerur, near Kanchi) of the Pallavas, Angkor Wat consists of three levels or tiers, each of the upper tiers slightly smaller than the one below it, giving the structure the look of a pyramid. Again, like the Chola Brihadeshwara Temple of Tanjavur, Angkor Wat too was conceived to represent the sacred mount Meru in the Himalayas. Damodara Pandita, a scholar from Madhyadesa (Karnataka-Odisha region) in India was the chief priest of Suryavarman II, the builder of Angkor Wat. It is believed that the king built this temple according to the guidelines provided by the Indian priest.

When Kulottunga I, the Chola king, was constructing or enlarging the famous Nataraja Temple at Chidambaram (Tamil Nadu), Suryavarman II offered to send, all the way from Cambodia, a block of stone as a gift for the new construction. Kulottunga gratefully accepted the unusual gift, installed it in the temple and engraved an inscription informing that the stone was from Cambodia.

One is simply astounded by the diverse South Indian elements in the art and culture of distant Cambodia. Further research is bound to reveal many more facets of this complex cultural cross-fertilization.

FEATURE ARTICLE

Reflections Safeguarding 'Unprotected' Cultural Heritage and INTACH



AUTHOR

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Vice-Chairman, INTACH

India's vast diversity in population, topography, and climate is mirrored in its rich cultural heritage, making public participation crucial for its preservation. People, as primary stakeholders, must take ownership. Their involvement ensures cultural heritage remains relevant in daily life, integrating into social and economic activities. Additionally, it promotes cost-effective, sustainable conservation while encouraging local craftsmanship, drawing on India's diverse geographical, cultural, linguistic, and religious knowledge.

Considering this, its natural and human cultural heritage cannot be limited to that which is protected by the Central and State governments of India under the AMASR Act, 1958 (amended in 2010). Under the act, 100 or more-year-old structures and sites of monumental value are protected and preserved as remnants and ruins by the central and state governments. Most of these structures are owned by the government and are preserved as deserted structures. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) supervises the care and conservation of monuments, sites, and remains of national importance, while the State Departments of Archaeology and Museums look after the monuments of state (regional) importance. Entities other than structures, are regulated under the Antiquities and Art Treasure Act, 1972 (Rules 1973). The scope of these acts being limited and expensive, a colossal extent of cultural heritage is depleting under pressures other than natural decay and remains threatened and unprotected. Since the UNESCO 1972 World Heritage Convention, the understanding of cultural heritage has significantly changed to include a broader people-based approach, recognizing that cultural heritage is not only about grand monuments but also about common houses, shops, and other everyday structures, as well as the living traditions and environments defining the cultural fabric of communities and shaping their lives.

(above) Gateway of Vijay Vihar Ram Janaki Niwasi Mandir, Ayodhya

While protected monuments and archaeological sites must be conserved with minimal intervention as a true, pure, and perfect testimony of the past, other architectural structures and sites of significance may be preserved with flexible intervention, reclaiming their meaning, relevance, and role to act as denominators of the past in the present, where 'past' and 'present' are not the vertical binaries but a continuum from one point to the other on the same cline.



Heritage buildings

Not just structures as individual units, but as groups of structures constituting 'cultural landscapes' in the streets, markets, avenues, etc. in the old townships, constitute cultural heritage. This cultural legacy is as valuable as the legacy comprising monuments, yet it remains unprotected, i.e., not protected by any legal provisions, and under continued threat from the pressures of socio-economic conditions such as insensitive urbanization, modernization, and development policies. Some initiatives like listings of the sites, buildings, objects, and other intangible systems, record, research and aid conservation; heritage walks sensitize and relate people to theirs and others' cultural legacy; and the heritage regulations by the state governments and local bodies create some legal provisions for safeguarding unprotected cultural heritage. These are some of the ways to safeguard unprotected cultural heritage. Listings are the inventories for identification, advocacy, and preservation of 'unprotected' cultural heritage. Such inventories together can constitute a 'National Register of Historic Properties' for research and action on conservation policies and regulations. The listed buildings may be graded and classified as Grade A/B/C in descending order of importance, for decisions to engage in conservation. Further, as a part of modern cities, the old townships displaying their extant architecture can be notified as 'Cultural Landscapes' or 'Heritage Zones' requiring sensitive planning in the routine or comprehensive development initiatives, listing these landscapes in the Master Plans of these cities. To regulate development in such zones or landscapes, the state and local bodies' governments can pass heritage regulations controlling intervention in changing the 'unprotected' historical/old buildings and sites.

Further to relate people to the cultural heritage of sites, architectural structures, and living traditions, heritage walks can show the way forward. To popularize heritage walks, the civic amenities must be augmented, and the visual beauty must be uplifted by controlling the cacophony of advertisements and signage boards, electric, internet, and dish wire mesh. Heritage walks and conservation projects will help to boost the local economy and aid employment generation in craftsmanship and the service industry. Such a paradigm of 'living' heritage holds a mutualistic relationship with its architectural and natural environment. While protected monuments and archaeological sites must be conserved with minimal intervention as a true, pure, and perfect testimony of the past, other architectural structures and sites of significance may be preserved with flexible intervention, reclaiming their meaning, relevance, and role to act as denominators of the past in the present, where 'past' and 'present' are not the vertical binaries but a continuum from one point to the other on the same cline. Such a relationship models schematic paradigms of 'living heritage' in the form of heritage lanes, heritage trails, or zones of individual heritage structures.

The separation of cultural heritage from nature is both impractical and artificial. Human culture is deeply connected to nature, not only through the use of natural elements like sand, soil, metals, trees, and flowers, but also through systems, designs, and processes that transform and color materials and patterns. This understanding of cultural heritage highlights its ongoing relevance. Established in 1984, the Indian National Trust for Art & Cultural Heritage (INTACH) was created as a think tank and resource hub to safeguard 'unprotected' cultural heritage. INTACH engages citizens through membership, while also involving skilled professionals. The organization has been instrumental in listing buildings over 50 years old of architectural, historical, archaeological, or aesthetic significance, organizing heritage walks, and advocating for heritage protection regulations. Furthermore, INTACH works collaboratively with other organizations and individuals, fostering partnerships rather than competing with them.

Conservation



- ▶ **BUILT, MATERIAL & NATURAL HERITAGE**
This section reports the physical conservation/restoration/revival work undertaken by INTACH in the spectrum covering Built Heritage, Art and Material Heritage and Natural Heritage including listing, documentation and publication.

ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION

Raja Shankar Shah and Kunwar Raghunath Shah Museum, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

On 15 August 2016, the Honourable Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi announced the founding of the tribal freedom fighters museums across the country. As part of this scheme, the Raja Shankar Shah and Kunwar Raghunath Shah Museum was established in Jabalpur to honour two iconic figures of the 1857 uprising. Descendants of Gond King Nizam Shah, Raja Shankar Shah and Kunwar Raghunath Shah resisted British colonialism using their poetic talent to inspire the fight for freedom. Their dedication to the freedom struggle led to their arrest on 14 September and execution on 18 September, 1857.



Shri Rakesh Singh, Minister PWD, MP and Deepak Khandekar

To commemorate their bravery and sacrifice, the Tribal Welfare Department of Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India conceptualized and funded the museum-cum-memorial in the old Divisional Forest Office building, covering one acre of land on High Court Road, Civil Lines, Jabalpur. The building was first restored by INTACH, who also designed and curated the museum.

On 15 November 2024, on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, Honourable Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, inaugurated the museum through a virtual ceremony,



Tribal students at the site on the inauguration ceremony

as a celebration of the enduring legacy of the tribal freedom fighters. Shri Rakesh Singh, Minister PWD, Madhya Pradesh attended the program onsite as chief guest, along with other dignitaries.

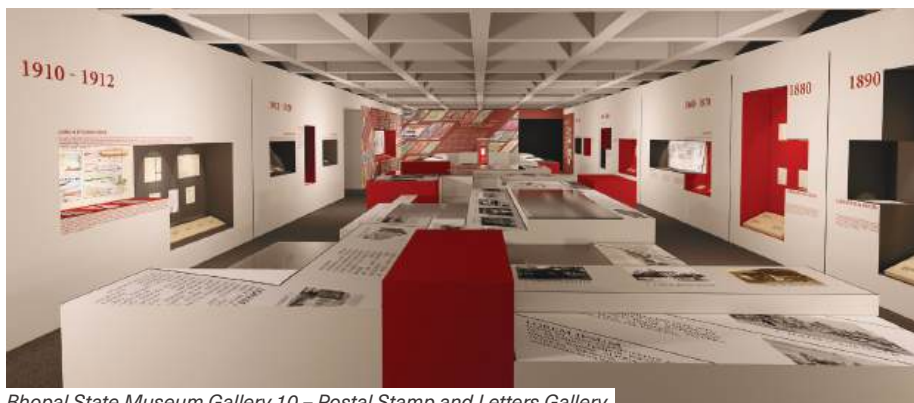
Following the inauguration, on 19 November 2024, the local Tribal department conducted a site visit of 900 students from surrounding schools and colleges to the museum.

State Museum Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh

The Department of Culture, Madhya Pradesh, approached INTACH to upgrade the design and curation of the State Museum in Bhopal. A team from the AH Division conducted an initial site inspection to assess the existing museum facilities and the current condition of the exhibits. Based on the assessment, a Detailed



Bhopal State Museum Gallery 16 – Royal Collection and Costume Gallery



Bhopal State Museum Gallery 10 – Postal Stamp and Letters Gallery



Project Report (DPR) was prepared and submitted to the department in September 2024, highlighting the reorganization of the galleries and enhancements to the museum's collections and presentation.

Restoration work at the Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC), New Delhi

The restoration of the stone canopy and metal statue of Lady Hardinge was highly appreciated by the medical college faculty as well as by students. The fire affected rooms of the Anatomy Block have also been restored. The restoration of the North facade of the Administration Block was also completed in 100 days, which included removal of layers of paint from the original exposed brick and sandstone facade, replacing the stone *chajja* over the bay window and the ground floor entrance. The work was appreciated and will be followed at the southern side façade as well. The terrace repairs and waterproofing of the Physiology Block (Heritage Building) will also commence soon.

Conservation of Gondhla Fort, Lahaul, Himachal Pradesh

The Department of Language and Culture, Himachal Pradesh entrusted INTACH with documentation and preparation of a detailed project report (DPR) for the conservation of Gondhla



(left) Gondhla fort site visit by the Director of the Language and Culture Department, Himachal Pradesh; (right) Wall paintings in one of the rooms of Gondhla fort

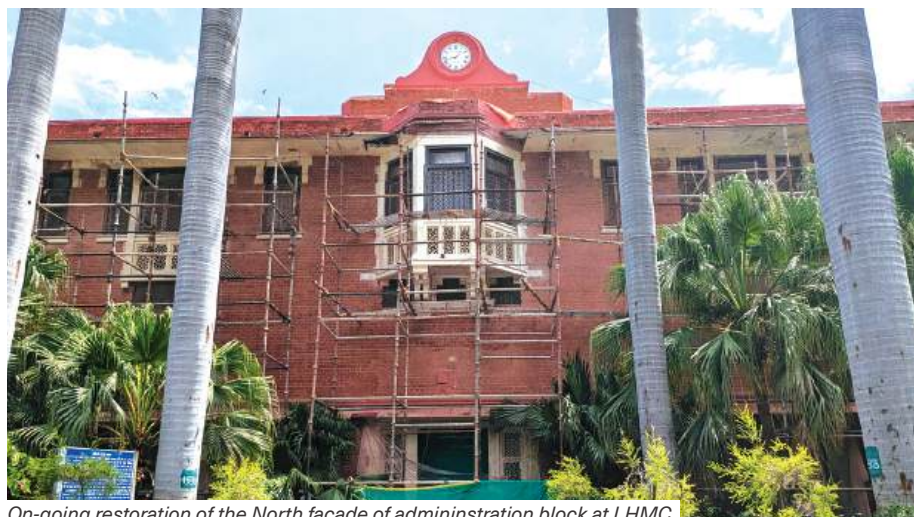


Fort, Lahaul. Conservation Architects Ms. Mitali Vij and Ms. Swapnil Gupta along with consultants Bhole and Associates, Mumbai visited Gondla village for survey. A detailed condition assessment of the 18th century fort structure and its surroundings was conducted along with an inventory of the artifacts and the Buddhist wall paintings within the fort. During the site visit a meeting was held with Deputy Commissioner of Lahaul and Spiti and Director, Language and Culture Department, Himachal Pradesh on 3 and 6 October 2024, respectively to further explore possibilities for the conservation and promotion of this heritage site.

The DPR ensuring the fort's preservation while respecting its historical and cultural significance is currently under preparation.

Restoration of General Post Office, Mumbai

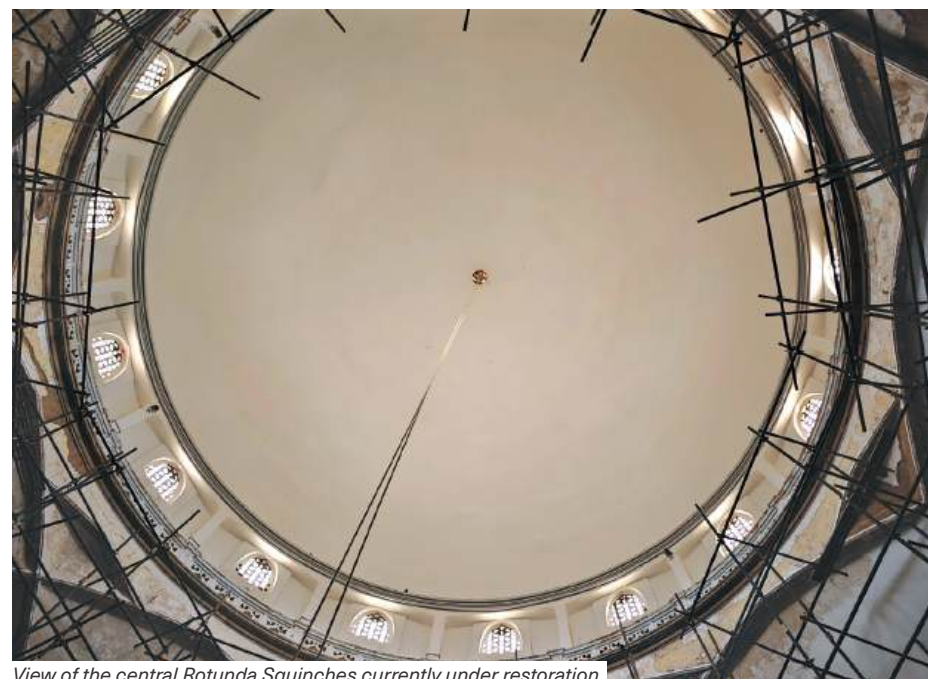
The conservation and restoration work at the GPO Mumbai is currently in its third phase which is due to be completed towards the end of 2024. During this phase, the major areas of the heritage building will be conserved and currently, the restoration of the interior of the rotunda is under execution. This phase will be followed by the fourth phase which will focus on the conservation of the Meghdoot building, other ancillary heritage structures, site development as well as survey of the tunnel on site which is said to connect the GPO with the Gateway of India. On 6 October, a featured article on the conservation of the GPO Mumbai was published in the Sunday Times, Mumbai. As part of outreach, a



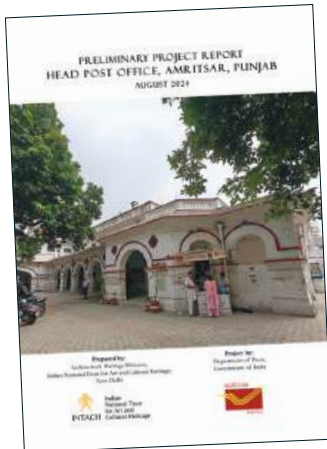
On-going restoration of the North façade of administration block at LHMC



Central Dome of GPO during restoration



heritage walk on 27 September 2024 was conducted showcasing the ongoing works in collaboration with the INTACH Greater Mumbai Chapter, the response to which has been very positive.



As part of the association with the Department of Post, Government of India the INTACH team visited the Head Post Office in Amritsar in July 2024. Located in the city centre of Amritsar, the HPO building was constructed in 1925 CE and showcases colonial architecture with regional influences. The Conservation Proposal Report for the same has been submitted in August 2024.



Conservation of Nagar Nigam Museum, Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh

Site visits by the AH team to Nagar Nigam Museum, Gwalior were conducted in August and October 2024 to review the on-going work on site which includes the plaster work of the main museum building and labour court building, facade restoration work, conservation of timber and G.I sheet roof over the balcony on the first floor and the terrace repair work. A meeting was also held with the documentation team regarding the inventory of artefacts of the Museum. The work on site has been delayed due to the partial handing over of the buildings.

Conservation of Historic Gateways of Bundi, Rajasthan

On the request from the office of the Collectorate, Bundi, the AH team conducted a reconnaissance survey on 1 October 2024 of the historic gateways and extended support by providing pro-bono technical assistance. An initial assessment report was submitted for 10 historic gateways, which focused on the conservation approach prioritizing the





Lanka Gateway, Bundi



Ginti ka Darwaza, Bundi



Chaugan Gateway, Bundi

structural integrity of these iconic historic gateways as well as the restoration of the valuable frescoes. Additionally, the objective is to propose heritage corridors, linking these important historic urban landmarks. This initiative will involve close collaboration with the local authorities and community, fostering a sense of shared responsibility towards the protection and promotion of Bundi's rich architectural heritage.



On site documentation work, Vasudev Temple, Charkhari



AH Team along with the team of Tourism Department U.P and the Local Community at Vasudev Temple, Charkhari

Conservation and Revitalization of the Temple Circuit of Charkhari, Mahoba, U.P

On the request of the Department of Tourism, Uttar Pradesh, the Architectural Heritage (AH) team conducted a site visit to Charkhari in Mahoba district, Uttar Pradesh, from 11 to 14 November 2024. The visit included a reconnaissance survey of 39 temples, among which the Guman Bihari

Temple Complex and the Vasudev Temple were documented as pilot projects. The report is under preparation.

The AH team also visited Datia to inspect the ongoing work at the Awadh Vihari temple.

Draft Heritage Byelaws for Centrally Protected Monuments

Being a Notified Expert Heritage Body (NEHB) to the National Monuments Authority (NMA), INTACH AH Division has been engaged in preparing the Draft Heritage Byelaws (HBL) for Centrally Protected Monuments across the country. Till date, the division has prepared HBLs for 13 monuments out of which the HBLs for Shahjahan ki Baoli (Meham, Haryana), Buddhist Remains in a Mound (Ghantasala, Andhra Pradesh) and Bhimesvara Temple (Samalkot, Andhra Pradesh) were recently submitted.



Buddhist Remains in a Mound, Ghantasala, Andhra Pradesh

Awards

Ms A. Vijaya, Principal Director, AH Division was awarded the **Sawai Jaipur Awards 2024** for the category H.H. Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh Award (Excellence in the Preservation of Heritage and Architecture). The event was held in the City Palace, Jaipur on 28 November 2024. The Sawai Jaipur Awards was established in 2000 by the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum Trust which honours individuals and organizations from a variety of disciplines.



MoUs were signed with the Allahabad University for restoration of Senate Hall on 22 August 2024 and with the Mubarak Mandi Heritage Society Jammu on 14 November 2024

INTACH LISTING CELL

Ongoing Listings

Listing of Meham, Haryana:

Located in the northwestern part of Rohtak district, along the ancient trade route between Taxila and Mathura, Meham is a small yet historically significant town in Haryana. Although an integral part of the Harappan Civilization, the town flourished during the Mughal period, marked by the construction of numerous tombs, mosques, dargahs, sarais, wells, stepswells and other public/semi-public buildings. In the later Mughal period, many Marwadi traders and *seths* also settled in Meham, constructing beautiful havelis adorned



Frescoed façade of a haveli in Meham

with frescoed facades many of which still stand in Kagla Mohalla. The primary survey was undertaken by the in-house listing team in August 2024 and a total of 103 heritage properties were listed in the town.

Listing of Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh:

The existing listing of Jabalpur city (2003), including 367 heritage properties, is currently being updated. The listing needed improvement in terms of descriptive content, geo-tagging and photographs and thus, a fresh primary survey was undertaken to fill up the gaps. During the survey, 46 more heritage buildings have been discovered in the city while 22 heritage buildings from the earlier listing are found to be demolished/collapsed. The listing is currently under compilation.



Jabalpur High Court, built in the late 19th century



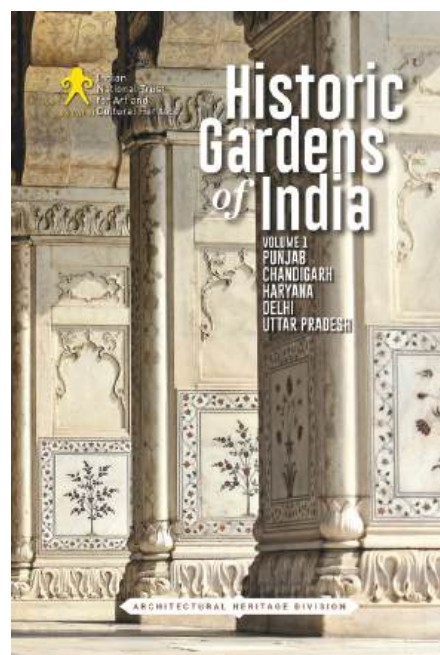
The 19th century City Kotwali of Jabalpur

Other ongoing listings include Listing of Burhanpur (Madhya Pradesh), Kandi Subdivision, Kalna and Santipur (West Bengal), Nagpur, Nashik and Godavari River Documentation (Maharashtra), Rajpipla and Rajkot (Gujarat).

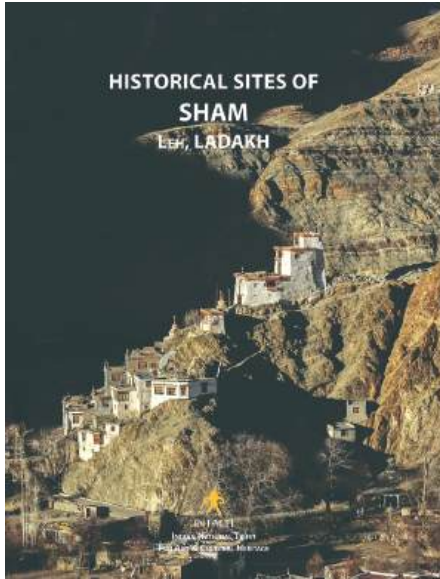
Publications

Historic Gardens of India (Volume 1):

The first volume of the publication has recently been released. It contains information on the historic gardens identified and listed in Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh, based on an extensive field survey undertaken from 2017 to 2019. The book is available with the Listing Cell.



Abandoned tombs in Shamshan Ghat, Kheri Road, Meham



Historical Sites of Sham, Leh, Ladakh and Historical Sites of Purig, Kargil, Ladakh (2nd edition):

The fifth volume of *Historical Sites of Sham* in the Ladakh series was released on 29 August during the INTACH Awards Ceremony along with the 2nd Edition of the *Historical Sites of Purig*. The listing of Sham Valley includes about 495 heritage buildings/sites out of which 275 heritage sites were not known in the existing literature. The second edition of the *Historical Sites of Purig* has richer illustrations and includes new sites documented since the release of the first edition. Both listings are available with Listing Cell which may be contacted through intachcrafts@gmail.com or intachlistingcell@gmail.com for further queries.

Heritage Citations

Brindavan House, Coimbatore:

The Listing Cell was approached by Convenor, Coimbatore Chapter seeking assistance in listing the historic residence of R K Kandaswamy Chettiar, one of the founding fathers of Coimbatore. The residence was built in 1932-33 and is a fine specimen of the craftsmanship of the early 20th Century in Coimbatore. The original architectural elements including handcrafted wooden staircase and doors, concrete jalis, iron grills and brackets, and intricate mosaic tiles add to the architectural significance of the building. A detailed heritage citation has been prepared for the heritage house and shared with the owner. A heritage plaque has also been designed and shared to be put up on the front facade of the house.



Front façade of the heritage house, Brindavan, Coimbatore



Athangudi tiles flooring inside the heritage house

Radha Ramanji Temple, Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh:

Similar to the above, a heritage citation was also reviewed for the 19th Century heritage temple in Pilibhit, Radha Ramanji Temple. Built in 1896 CE, the temple exhibits features of both traditional and European styles of architecture like courtyard, verandahs, *otla*, *chhajjas* supported by intricately carved stone brackets, semi-circular arches, dentils under hood mouldings, fanlights above doors, etc. Extensive use of decorative plasterwork and glass inlay work also add to the aesthetic character of the heritage temple.



Radha Ramanji Temple, Pilibhit, Uttar Pradesh

Capacity Building Workshop for new INTACH Members

The Listing Cell team participated in the Capacity Building Workshop for new INTACH members on 22 and 23 October and trained the participants in using the mobile application *Survey 123* for spot listing of heritage properties. Divided into four groups, the participants conducted a practical field exercise at Lodhi Garden to apply the app in a real-world setting. The data collected during the field visit was compiled into a Quick Heritage Database and reviewed the following day. Common errors were discussed, and participants were encouraged to continue using the app and share it with their peers to facilitate the notification of unprotected built heritage across different regions of the country.



Participants and Listing Cell team during the field visit to Lodhi garden during the CBW

ART & MATERIAL HERITAGE/INTACH CONSERVATION INSTITUTES (ICI)

Directory of Wall Paintings (WPD) Programme

Documentation of wall paintings of Buxar District, Bihar:

In September 2024, the documentation project of WPD Patna concentrated on the Buxar district. Over eleven days, the team visited 111 historic sites and discovered two structures featuring wall paintings: Bihari Ji Ka Mandir and Ram Janki Mandir.

Bihari Ji Ka Mandir in Rajgarh, Dumraon is a 150-year-old monument made of *lakhauri* bricks and was built under the patronage of Maharaja Kamal Singh's ancestors. The team discovered a dilapidated painted surface area of 650 square feet. The tempera-style wall paintings vividly depict Hindu deities, mainly as royal figures being honoured by devotees holding *chhatris*. For example, the murals portray Shiva and Parvati seated on a moving Nandi, Goddess Saraswati positioned on a throne, Lord Brahma riding a moving swan, Lord Vishnu in a standing posture, Surya *Devta* on his chariot pulled by seven horses, a beheaded figure of Goddess Kali, and Goddess Lakshmi seated on a *Makara*. Additionally, there appears to be a depiction of Varuna *Devta* on his *vahan*, the *Makara*. Floral ornamentation further enhances the striking features of these paintings.

Ram Janki Mandir in Bagicha, Dumraon is a 150-year-old monument built with stone and is under the care of the Mandir Trust.

The WPD team found 750 square feet of painted surface that is experiencing various forms of deterioration. The murals on the structure beautifully combine stories from Hindu mythologies, including the Ramayana, *Krishna Leela* and Vishnu Purana. In addition, intricate floral and faunal motifs richly decorate the walls of the structure.

Both structures lack protection and urgently need conservation to protect Buxar's rich heritage.

Workshop on Conservation & Preservation of Historic Monuments

The Lime Research & Testing Centre is working in the field of analysis and research of lime and lime mortar for historic building. Beside this LRTC is continuously involved in spreading awareness about the importance of conservation and preservation of our historic monuments and materials used in it. INTACH, LRTC in collaboration with the State Archaeology Department, Lucknow organized a workshop on Conservation & Preservation of Historic Monuments from 25 July to 5 August 2024. The program was for two hours daily, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The program started with a warm welcome of the participants by Mr. Dharmendra Misra (Director, INTACH ICI). B. Architecture students of Government Girls Polytechnic



Workshop to guide new generations to prepare new lime mortar compactable to old lime mortar

and Government Polytechnic, B. Tech Civil students of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU) and Goel Institute of Technology and Management (GITM) participated in this workshop.

The objective of this workshop was to spread awareness about the importance of conservation of heritage buildings among the new generation and to guide them on how to prepare new lime mortar which is compactable to old lime mortar. The workshop was divided into two parts, first PPT presentation and then practical session.

The program started with a presentation about the Lime Research and Testing Centre by Dharmendra Misra. Anshika Verma (Research Officer), LRTC showed the INTACH film to showcase the organization's journey in the field of conservation. The session continued with a presentation



Bihari Ji ka Mandir, Buxar



on sampling techniques from heritage buildings. The session was followed by a presentation on Visual Examination of lime by Pankaj Pandey (Conservator). Anshika Verma and Pankaj Pandey both taught theoretical and practical sessions.

On the last day of the workshop all the participants gathered at Chattar Manzil, State Archaeological Office Hall, Qaisar Bagh. The day started with a warm welcome of all the participants by Mr. Rajiv Trivedi. The session continued with a speech by the Chief Guest, Mr. Alok Tripathi (D.G., NRLC) and Jayant Krishna (INTACH State Convener of U.P.), this was followed by distribution of certificates to the participants by Jayant Krishna (INTACH State Convener of U.P.) and Alok Tripathi (D. G., NRLC).

After that Mrs. Renu Dwivedi (Director, State Archaeology and Lucknow) appreciated the participants who attended the workshop and expressed her gratitude to all the members involved in the workshop.

❖ ICI DELHI

Conservation and Restoration of Oil Paintings

Indian oil painting is the expression of the thoughts, consciousness and imagination of Indian artists in oil colours. From inspirational or religious to abstract and secular the themes and images of oil paintings display a great variety. The art of oil painting, which originated in ancient Greece, was brought to India by the European colonizers. Oil painting in India is known to be one of the oldest painting techniques that include mixing of oil or drying oil with pigments creating a beautiful art piece. In India by the 15th century oil paintings started becoming popular.

An oil painting was received for restoration at INTACH Conservation Institutes, New Delhi. The painting is a portrait of a royal figure from central India and is attributed to an Italian artist, Antonio Debai (Italy) (Roma/1944) based on the signature present on its lower left corner. The surface of the painting was covered with layers of

dust, dirt and grime. The dirt had not only accumulated on the paint layers' surface, but it had also seeped into the ground layer through numerous cracks. Bulges creases, uneven aged varnish, stains, and tears were also present all over the painting. Among the issues with this artwork were numerous abrasion marks, the use of cello tapes to patch tears, and significant flaking and powdering of the paint layer.

An oil painting depicting the deity *Jhulelal* was also received at The INTACH Conservation Institute for restoration and conservation. In Hinduism, *Jhulelal* is often regarded as an incarnation of Varuna, the Vedic deity of water. *Jhulelal*, the patron saint and deity of Sindhi Hindus, holds a unique and revered position within the Hindu pantheon. He is celebrated as a symbol of faith, unity, and resilience among the Sindhi community. *Jhulelal* is typically depicted as an elderly man with a white beard, seated on a fish or a lotus flower. He is often shown holding a book and a rosary, symbolizing wisdom and spirituality. In some depictions, he is accompanied by a fish, which is considered to be his *vahana* (vehicle) and a symbol of his connection to water.



After conservation

The painting was framed with a wooden frame and was stretched on a strainer. The painting had bulges, waviness and faulty repairs on it. A patch of cloth was pasted at the back to conceal a major tear on the canvas. There were drying cracks on the painting, many tears and extensive losses. The paint layer of the object was actively flaking and there were stains on the front and back of the object.

Local consolidation of the paint layer was done to arrest the flaking. The object was removed from its strainer for treatment. Mechanical cleaning as well was done to remove dust and dirt followed by solvent cleaning to minimize stains and to remove previous interventions. Full consolidation of the painting was done to stabilize the paint layer and the tears were mending and patched. A full lining was given to the canvas to provide additional strength to the fragile canvas. Filling was done with an inert material in the required areas, where there was loss of ground layer and also reintegration of colors. A protective coating was applied on the painting. The object was reframed in the same frame after restoration.



Cleaning and patch mending



Re-integration of colour

Conservation of Silver Sheet Embossing

Embossing is the technique of creating an impression of some design or patterns on



During conservation (cleaning)



After conservation

the surface like paper, cloth, or metal. Silver is the second most precious metal used widely for making ornaments, utility objects and silverwares. Silver sheet embossing is one of the crafts mainly practiced in Southern India for making figures of deities. Pure silver is extremely soft and hence becomes difficult to maneuver, hence 7.5% copper is added to 92.5% of silver to increase its strength and rigidity.

A silver sheet embossing depicting *Ram Darbar*, mounted on a backboard was received in INTACH Conservation Institute, New Delhi for conservation and restoration. The back board has a black cloth pasted on it and the wooden support had warped. There was much wear and tear on the cloth and it had faded with time. There were many tears on the silver sheet and the object had shifted from its original position and was misaligned.

The treatment of the object included separation of the embossing from the backboard. Mechanical cleaning and

solvent cleaning were done to remove tarnishing. The embossed part was re-aligned and all the tears on the silver sheet were mended. The silver sheet was fixed to the backboard after restoring the cloth at the back. The object was reframed in the same frame after restoration.

• ICI LUCKNOW

Conservation of Water Colour Paintings of Sukhvir Sanghal Art Gallery, Lucknow

Three water colour paintings titled *Chak Puja* (76x119 cms), *Khoriya* (108x147 cms), *Reception of the Bride* (167x140 cms) from the art gallery of famous artist Sukhvir Sanghal were received for conservation. All the paintings had dust and dirt accumulation, warping, presence of holes all over due to insect attack, darkened areas, cracks, loss of support at the edges due to insect attack, scratch marks and separation of wooden support.

The treatment given was fumigation of the paintings, documentation, removal from the frame, dry cleaning, flattening,



Presence of holes all over the painting due to insect attack



Water colour painting depicting 'Chak Puja' after conservation

solvent cleaning, holes filling & mending, recreation of lost support, re-integration of filling areas, providing support from the back, cleaning of the frame and finally re-framing of the paintings.

Conservation of Water Colour Painting

A water colour painting on silk measuring 89 x 59 cm was received for conservation from a private collector. The painting had dust and dirt accumulation on the surface, warping, stains, presence of holes, loss of paint, vandalism, a broken wooden mount and rusted nails.

Conservation of Oil Painting

A beautiful oil painting on cloth pasted on board measuring 95 x 48.5 inches was received for conservation from a private collector. The painting is titled *Radha Krishna* and was made in 1976 by the famous artist and painter *Kanhai*. The problems noted were dust and dirt accumulation, presence of fungus on the paint layer, scratch mark and abrasions on some areas of the painting. The glass decorations had become blackish and loss of paint and darkening was visible.

The treatment carried out was documentation, removal of the painting from the frame and strainer, mechanical cleaning, removal of fungus and stains, cleaning of decorative glass work, consolidation of the painting, filling of lost areas, re-integration of filling areas, application of protective coating on the painting, restoration of frame, recreation of lost decoration, finishing and finally re-framing of the painting.

Conservation of Oil Painting of Raja Ayodhya

An oil painting on canvas measuring 111.2 x 85.7 cm was received for conservation from the collection of Raja Ayodhya. The painting had dust and dirt accumulation, visible yellowish varnish, waviness of support, tears at the upper right area, hole at the upper middle area, loss of paint at some places, flaking of the paint layer, visible cracks, fragile canvas and water stains.

The treatment given was documentation, removal of the painting from frame and strainer, flattening of the painting, consolidation of paint layer, dry cleaning,



removal of varnish and stains, providing facing, full lining, filling of lost area, re-integration of filling area, application of protective coating, re-stretching and finally re-framing of the painting.

Another oil painting treated in Lucknow Centre.

Conservation of Bronze Statue

Two bronze statues titled *Kartique* (Tibetan Buddhist Maya Devi mother of Shakyamuni Buddha) and *Padmapani Bodhisattva* were received from a private collector for conservation. The problems noticed were dust and dirt accumulation, presence of bronze disease at maximum areas and scratch marks. The right hand was missing of the *Kartique* statue.

The treatment given was first of all documentation, mechanical and chemical cleaning, stabilization of bronze object, solvent cleaning, deposition cleaning, mending of loss areas and finally application of protective coating.



Before and after

Conservation of statue of Padmapani Bodhisattva

Conservation of Holy Quran of private collector

A *Holy Quran* measuring 35 x 52 cm was received from a private collector for conservation. The problems noted were dust and dirt deposition, brittleness of the paper, presence of acidity, previous restoration by cello tape, termite attack, loss of areas along with text and eaten by termites. The paper was weak due to loss of sizing material, step stitching and the binding cover was highly damaged.

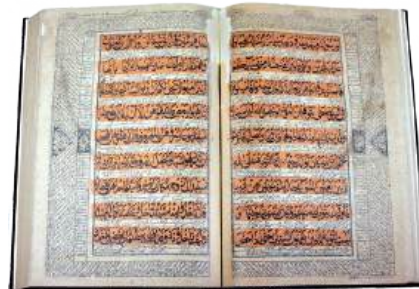
The treatment given was first of all fumigation of the object, documentation, dry cleaning, removal of previous restoration, neutralization of each folio, filling of major losses, mending of torn pages, making new sections, providing both side lining, new section stitching and finally full cloth binding.

Conservation of Rare Proceedings of Motilal Memorial Society, Lucknow

Rare proceedings for the period 1954 to 1972 were received from Motilal Memorial Society, Lucknow for conservation. The problems noted were dust, dirt deposition, previous restoration, fungus stains, charring effect, abrasion, brittle and torn pages, loss of areas, discolouration on the pages, broken stitching and a damaged binding cover.



Quran with termite damage and previous restoration



After conservation



Fumigation of paintings in process

Introduction of Cocoon Bag

INTACH Conservation Institute, Lucknow has recently introduced in August 2024 a Cocoon Bag with its accessories for fumigation of artifacts using CO₂ gas or Nitrogen. This non chemical method is used in pest management of artifacts which is safe for objects as well as human beings. The basic principle of the cocoon bag is to create an oxygen free environment inside the bag with the help of CO₂ or Nitrogen gas for 21 days to kill the complete life cycle of pests. This is a purely non-chemical-based practice with no adverse effect to organic objects.

ICI BANGALORE

Conservation and Restoration of two Miniature Paintings

Two miniature paintings (water based colour on paper) were received at the Centre for conservation and restoration. The first painting, depicting Lord Krishna in Nathdwara style, was covered with fine dust and deposits. Water stains were present all along the left portion of the artwork and the large tears and holes required conservation.

The second artwork depicts Krishna milking a cow, accompanied by Yashoda and Nanda. It contained major losses and stains, losses in the paint layer and accumulated deposits of dirt. A portion of the painting had detached from the artwork completely.

The work began by carefully cleaning the artworks to remove loose dust and dirt deposits from the front and back.

The stains were then reduced from both artworks to the extent possible. Significant results were achieved, particularly from the back of the artwork, and the acidic content present in the artwork was simultaneously reduced during this process.

The next stage in the conservation process involved mending of tears and holes and integrating detached parts into the artwork. Acid free paper inserts were added in loss areas.

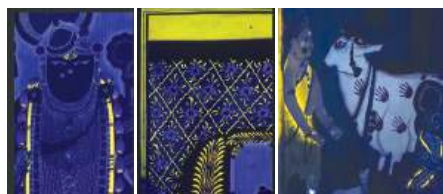
Ultraviolet Fluorescence imaging for the artworks was carried out which revealed thrilling results due to the presence of Indian Yellow pigment. This pigment which was banned in the early 20th century, is said to have been obtained from the urine of cows exclusively fed on mango leaves. This pigment produces an intense luminescence under UV light owing to its natural chemical properties. The next step in the conservation of the artwork involved retouching loss areas. Finally, the conserved artworks were mounted onto acid free boards and window mounts were provided for their display.



Cleaning of loose dust with a soft brush



Cleaning with eraser powder



Portions of the two artworks as seen under UV light showing magnesium euxanthate or Indian yellow (yellow highlights)

• ICI KOLKATA

Conservation of Oil Painting

An Oil Painting was received from a private collector for restoration. The size of the painting was 59.5 cm x 44.5 cm. The painting suffered extreme flaking, cracks, loss of paint layer, warping, stains, dust and dirt etc. The conservation treatment involved consolidation of the paint layer, followed by surface cleaning, and the lining was given for strengthening the painting. It was re-stretched and re-integrated whenever required. Finally, a protective coat was applied. Some oil paintings infested with fungus were received for restoration.



Before conservation



During conservation

Paper Collage on Canvas

An abstract paper collage on canvas by Muzaffar Ali was received in four parts. The painting posed various conservation problems ranging from the collage papers detaching from the canvas, cracks, losses and splitting of the canvas. Thick layers of darkened varnish was also present.

Conservation treatment involved consolidation of split areas, surface cleaning and removal of varnish. Reintegration on losses was done wherever required. Finally, a protective coat was applied.

Conservation of Register of Park Nursing Home

573 pages from 1953 to 1966 containing patients information in a register of Park Nursing Home was received for conservation. These pages were extremely fragile and fungal affected, tears, losses, previously torn pages repaired with cello-tapes, dust and dirt etc. were the common problems. Conservation treatment involved fumigation, dry brushing, de-acidification, full lining with tissue paper and re-binding.

Conservation of Oleograph: This oleograph titled Swarna Mirga in Bengali script depicted the story-line of the Golden deer from Ramayana.

Conservation of Newspaper: published by The Times of India on 27 November 1969.

• INTACH ODISHA ART CONSERVATION CENTRE, BHUBANESWAR

Establishment of the interior of Exhibition Halls for Judicial Archives of High Court of Orissa, Cuttack

The High Court of Orissa undertook an ambitious project to digitize its records, both legacy and present, in 2011. While reorganizing record rooms of the High Court and the four District Courts, certain very old records including judgments, dating back to more than two centuries were found. While some of such records were found to be in a fairly good condition, most of the others had been rendered extremely fragile. This necessitated urgent conservation of such records. This also provided solid material for research into the workings of the judicial system in the state.

The High Court also took a decision in 2020 to come out with a publication depicting the history of the judicial system of the state. The work was entrusted to some judicial officers who researched on the available historical texts, papers and other materials and prepared a draft. But the discovery of old records and judgments in the year 2021 changed the whole perspective in as much as it was felt that the publication ought



to be based upon actual research on the said materials along with other available historical texts.

A decision was also taken to refurbish the Museum of Justice. Thus, was born the Project for Centre for Judicial Archives, Judicial History and Museum of Justice.

The High Court of Orissa, Cuttack requested to INTACH Odisha to submit the DPR for establishment of Exhibition hall, a Conservation Laboratory and a Quarantine Hall. In July 2024 INTACH Odisha submitted the DPR and after approval of the DPR by the High Court of Odisha an MoU was signed between Registrar (Judicial), High Court of Orissa and Director, INTACH OACC on 13 September.

The Centre is assigned with setting up of a state-of-the-art exhibition hall displaying all the important events related to establishment of the High Court of Orissa inside the Judicial Archives Building of High Court of Orissa. In addition to this, the centre is also entrusted with establishment of an Archival Quarantine Room, Fumigation section, and record conservation laboratories inside the Judicial Archives Building of High Court of Orissa.



Wall paneling work is under progress at site



Proposed view of the exhibition hall of Centre for Judicial Archives, High Court of Orissa, Cuttack



Chief Justice of Orissa High Court with other judicial officers visited the work site during conservation of records

Conservation of brittle records of Record Room of Orissa High Court, Cuttack (Phase-II)

The collection of the record room of High Court of Odisha comprises of printed/ typed text on machine made paper (legal and judicial records) with signatures and seal in colored ink. The records belonging to early 19th century till independence are found to be extensively deteriorated, fragile and brittle. After successful completion of 65000 sheets of brittle records in the phase-I project from June 2022 to June 2024, the second phase work has started from July 2024 with a target of 75000 sheets.



Conservation work of rare and pre-independence period judgement records under progress at Conservation Laboratory of RRDC, Cuttack set up by ICI Bhubaneswar

The second session was conducted on 17 November. The practical use of instruments to track temperature, light, and relative humidity was highlighted throughout the program. The usage of a lux meter to measure the amount of light in a space or on a specific work surface, as well as the application of a whirling hygrometer for accurate humidity level detection, were covered. The participants were instructed how to employ suggestive silica gels and how their blue to pink colouration indicates moisture absorption. The attendees were also given an explanation of acid-free boxes and how they are used to store art items.

Workshop at Dehradun in collaboration with Uttarakhand Chapter

Merrin Anil ICI, Delhi Centre Coordinator, led a two-day training on art object conservation in Dehradun. In partnership with the Uttarakhand Chapter, this session aimed to educate local private museum owners about the deteriorating factors affecting their collections.



Session conducted about Preventive conservation on the first day

The first session was conducted on 16 November. There was a presentation that showed the negative impacts of deterioration agents such as light, pollution, humidity, and natural vices. The exhibitors/ collectors were shown case studies that demonstrated the level of harm that agents may inflict on an object and how to cure it to extend its lifespan.



Demonstration of monitoring tools on the second day

▼ NATURAL HERITAGE

Yamuna Cultural Documentation

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), under the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, has tasked INTACH with documenting the Cultural Heritage along the River Yamuna from Yamunotri to Triveni Sangam. This project involves identifying and cataloguing both tangible and intangible cultural heritage within a 5 km radius on either side of the Yamuna River. The river traverses thirty-one districts on its journey to Triveni Sangam, reflecting diverse geographical, topographical, and cultural characteristics. The documentation is categorized into three areas: Natural Heritage, Architectural Heritage, and Intangible Heritage. To address these, three dedicated teams have been assigned specific responsibilities.

The Natural Heritage Division of INTACH is focused on documenting the underappreciated yet stunning natural heritage elements including but not limited to heritage trees, natural springs and wetlands, riverine islands, key biodiversity, agricultural techniques and lifestyle of riparian communities.

Documentation of the Water Heritage Sites of India

Traditional water harvesting and supply structures have always been an integral part of the Indian landscape. Their significance and majestic splendor not only lie in the fact that they demonstrate a deep understanding of hydrological engineering, hydrogeology and grasp of topography but also because, often, spectacular architectural aesthetics ornate these structures. Initially, at INTACH's initiative, the recognition of 3 sites was recommended as national water heritages, namely, the 2000 years old Grand Anicut on the Cauvery, Sringaverapura Water Harvesting site [1st Century BCE] and Khuni Bhandara, Burhanpur, an infiltration gallery of medieval vintage.



Yamuna River entering Sirmaur District, Himachal Pradesh

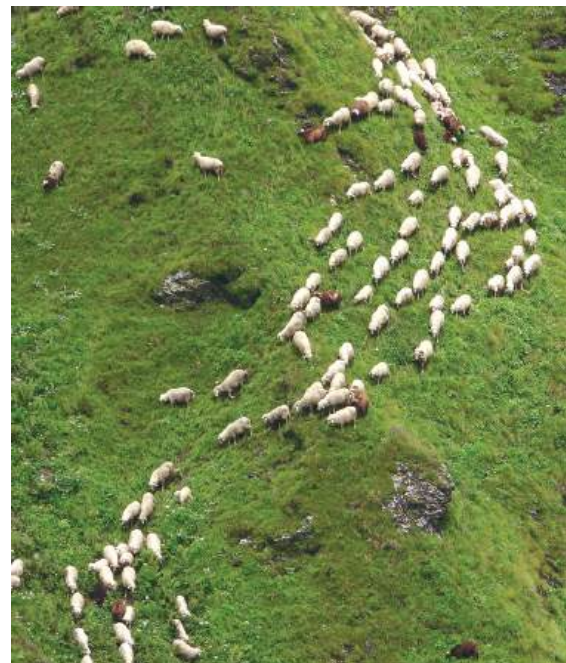
The Ministry of Jal Shakti envisioned the diverse techniques and structural uniqueness of various sites scattered across the nation and suggested a more ambitious coverage of 75 sites in consonance with 75 years of Independence. The Natural Heritage Division undertook a rigorous yet an erudite exercise to document these 75 Water Heritage Sites and bring forth the profound knowledge of hydrogeology and topography possessed by our ancestors, in an era devoid of sophisticated, modern and technological advancements. Through this monograph it is hoped to promote a culture of local, decentralized water resource augmentation rooted in our traditional wisdom.



Sringaverapura water harvesting site, 1st century BCE, Uttar Pradesh

Policy Documentation for Bugyals (Alpine Meadows) in Uttarakhand

Bugyals or Alpine Meadows are one of the most fragile ecosystems, that have been sustained and maintained through human influences and vice versa. Major pastoral communities like the Bhotiyas, Van Gujjars and Gaddis have since long had a symbiotic relationship with the *bugyals*, which serve as grazing ground for their herds during the summers. In return, certain policies, rules and even practices incorporated by these communities have helped in the sustenance of the *bugyals*, preventing over exploitation, and upholding the sacredness.



Herds of the pastoral communities are sustained by *Bugyals* during the summer months



Local communities and Government authorities coming together to plant Bhojpatra saplings at Mana-Badrinath, Uttarakhand, as part of Landscape Conservation Project, a CSR Project with HCL Foundation

Over time, *bugyals* have emerged as a resource which have supported the thriving tourism and medicinal plant and wild produce industries. Lack of a policy that imparts responsibilities and benefits to the various stakeholders has led to *bugyals* facing land degradation, shrinkage, soil erosion, invasive species and biodiversity loss due to various anthropogenic and geographical factors.

The project aims to research, document and formulate a policy by including the aspect of Natural Heritage, nature-culture interlinkages and present a new approach to conserve and preserve the natural aspects while keeping the associated human influence as an integral part of the heritage.

Landscape Conservation and Habitat Restoration in Middle Himalayas – CSR Project with HCL Foundation

Over the last 5 years, Natural Heritage Division of INTACH in collaboration with the HCL Foundation has contributed in conserving the pristine Himalayan landscape through plantation of endangered native species of Rudraksh (*Elaeocarpus ganitrus*) and Bhojpatra (*Betula utilis*) in Chamoli and Almora Districts of Uttarakhand. With over 25000 saplings of Rudraksh and Bhojpatra along with their

associated species planted till now, a cumulative area spanning over 25 Ha has been brought under the green cover which supports more than 175 fauna species documented by NHD.

The plantation in the middle Himalayas as a project, over time, has now become a conduit between the local communities and INTACH, with the communities not only aiding in the plantation, maintenance and protection of the sites but also providing useful information pertaining to the sightings of fauna species along with

incorporating the afforested land within their cultural practices.

Rejuvenation of Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden Howrah – CSR Project with HSBC

Acharya Jagdish Chandra Bose Indian Botanic Garden (AJCIBIG), located in Howrah, stands as the preeminent botanic garden in South-East Asia, spanning an expansive area of 273 acres. Located along the Hooghly River near Calcutta, the Indian Botanical Garden (IBG) embodies a blend of colonial ambition, scientific exploration, and environmental stewardship. Originally established to grow plants for potential food security, the Garden transformed under Nathaniel Wallich's guidance into a significant botanical repository and a peaceful retreat for the growing European community in British India.

HSBC, under its CSR program, approached INTACH to develop and implement a plan for rejuvenation of IBG over a period of 3 years. The plan involved building a database through surveys and tests, neutralize the wastewater discharges from neighbouring areas, stabilize the river bank through mangrove plantation, establish further rare species including a



Landscape Plan of Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah



The 260 years old Great Banyan Tree at Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah, with a canopy area of 20 sq Km (approx.)

bamboo conservatory, improve the water quality of the degraded lakes and create an interpretation plan.

The interpretation plan is designed to enhance visitor experiences by bridging the gap between the garden’s rich resources and public engagement. It aims to raise awareness about the garden’s ecological and historical significance, influencing how visitors perceive and interact with their environment. By catering to diverse visitor categories—local residents seeking recreation, organized groups for educational purposes, and tourists interested in sightseeing—the plan will offer tailored, engaging content and interactive experiences. It will improve communication through well-placed signage and educational programs, support learning, and foster a sense of conservation awareness.

The proposal outlines a comprehensive plan focused on thematic exploration, interactive engagement, and educational enrichment. By introducing thematic zones, educational trails, and interactive elements, the garden aims to significantly elevate its educational value, visitor interaction, and overall satisfaction.

Rejuvenation of Satpula Lake

Satpula is a small lake [2 acres] which formed downstream of the 13th Century Satpula Dam in south Delhi. The Rotary Club sponsored INTACH to revive this

dry lake. The only water source was the wastewater flow in the adjacent Chirag Delhi drain. The wastewater could only be put into the lake after treatment and hence a soil bio-technology plant was constructed along the east embankment of the lake. The waste water was treated in this system and after gradually saturating the aquifer the surface spread has formed. Fish [Indian carps] were introduced as a dynamic element in the lake ecology. Ducks such as spot bills and lesser whistling ducks have started visiting the lake. The project would serve as a demonstrator to be replicated on other lakes.

Preserving Paradise: A Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Ecology of the Braj Region

Braj, synonymous with Vraj, Vraja, Brij, or Brijbhumi, region is a cultural and spiritual epicenter steeped in mythology, history, and tradition. Rapid urbanization, industrialization, and environmental degradation pose significant challenges to the region’s ecological integrity and cultural heritage. This dual onslaught of environmental degradation and unsustainable tourism practices has exacerbated ecological imbalances and threatened the delicate equilibrium of Braj’s natural ecosystems. Therefore, urgent intervention is needed to reverse these trends and implement measures aimed at conserving biodiversity, restoring degraded habitats, and promoting responsible tourism practices to ensure the longterm



The Revived Satpula Lake



Bansivat at Bhadravan, Braj Region



Boats on the Bank of Yamuna, Mathura

sustainability of Braj’s ecological and cultural heritage.

The conservation plan for the ecology of Braj emphasizes six main components: Climate Change Adaptation, Biodiversity Preservation, Sustainable Agriculture, Water Resource Management, Culture Heritage Conservation, and Landscape Ecology. Each element is carefully aligned with the 10 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations (SDG 4, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17). Through targeted mitigation strategies and the development of green infrastructure,



we aim to enhance the ecological integrity of Braj's landscapes, promote sustainable land use practices, and advance the SDGs.

Documentation of Wooden Boat Making

Wooden boats have been a cornerstone of India's riverine and maritime transport for centuries, serving as vital vessels for trade and travel. While the introduction of iron and steel steamers in the mid-19th century marked a shift in the country's shipping industry, traditional wooden crafts have continued to play an important role, especially in inland waterways and coastal regions. However, the transition to mechanized, industrially designed vessels has led to a decline in traditional boat-building practices. In regions such as Punjab and Kerala, the craft of wooden boat-making is rapidly disappearing, with mechanization taking over.

This shift threatens not only the skills and livelihoods of boat-making communities but also the cultural heritage embedded in these practices. Documenting and preserving India's wooden boat-building traditions—encompassing both river crafts and sea-going vessels—has become crucial. Such efforts can help safeguard traditional knowledge, promote sustainable practices and offer insights into the historical and cultural significance of these vessels.



A wooden boat under construction

Yamuna River Front Development

As a part of the agreement between Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and INTACH to develop Qudsia Ghat near Kashmere Gate, New Delhi, into a spot where people can interact with the river Yamuna, a statue of Goddess Yamuna is being prepared by INTACH which will adorn the river front.

The river front will be embellished by elements taken from the glorious architectural heritage of Delhi and include various *chhatris*, a *baradari* and a *char-bagh*. NHD has designed [along with our AH Division] a stretch of 1.5 km. of Yamuna river front near Kashmiri Gate, Delhi. The implementation of the work was entrusted by Delhi Development Authority to INTACH. Commencing in 2022 the extremely challenging work has neared completion and is a pioneer example of garden river fronts. The river bank has been planted with riparian grasses to resist erosion during floods while also providing a habitat for amphibians.



The Ghats on Yamuna River, Qudsia Ghat

Documentation of Salt Lakes of Rajasthan and Ladakh

Salt lakes, a unique yet underexplored wetland sub-category, represent an essential part of the natural hydrological cycle. With salinity levels ranging from 3 to 300 ppt, these saline wetlands thrive in semi-arid regions, characterized by endorheic basins and a delicate balance between water inflow and evaporation. Despite their ecological significance as hosts for migratory birds along the Central Asian Flyway, these ecosystems remain poorly studied and lack proper management plans.

The project aims to bridge this knowledge gap by conducting a rapid ecological assessment of 12 selected salt lakes across Rajasthan and Ladakh. This initiative seeks to generate baseline data on their physico-chemical properties, biodiversity, socio-cultural values, and climate vulnerabilities.

The project employs advanced tools such as GIS-based spatio-temporal analyses and frameworks like the Ramsar vulner-



Tso Kar, a Salt Lake in Ladakh

ability assessment to evaluate eco-system resilience and identify necessary conservation strategies. Expected outcomes include a comprehensive database on salt lakes, threat assessments, and actionable recommendations for sustainable management. By documenting and analyzing these neglected ecosystems, the study not only highlights their ecological and socio-economic importance but also sets the stage for future research and conservation efforts across India.

Conservation Plan for Choti Ganga, Jammu

The Choti Ganga in Jammu, an important watercourse, faces significant environmental pressures due to pollution, encroachment, and urban expansion. This conservation plan aims to restore its ecological health, focusing on improving water quality, protecting biodiversity, and ensuring sustainable water management. Key actions include protecting riparian zones through afforestation and erosion control. A vital component of the plan is community engagement. Local communities, stake-holders, and policymakers will be involved in promoting awareness and education on sustainable water use, pollution control, and conservation practices.

River Training Course for Civil Society Organizations

Rivers in India are in dire straits. The declining flow and drying up of rivers is a

grave issue needing redressal. This issue requires political will, social engineering, scientific and technological interventions on a wide scale. Official agencies, such as CWC, NWDA, State Irrigation Departments, NHPC and the like, monitor and maintain databases on major rivers mainly. However, several medium and minor rivers as well as thousands of smaller streams are not monitored and data for many of them is non-existent. The health of these unaddressed tributary water courses cumulatively contributes to the health of higher order streams.

Natural Heritage Division in collaboration with the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is working on devising an online course which aims to disseminate knowledge and training in understanding river structure, river components, their interaction and river dynamics.

Other Projects

- In Western Rajasthan the Division continued to work with the Chapters in making watering holes for wildlife with the support of the Brij Foundation. A total of 16 watering holes and check dams had been created.
- With Kolkatta Chapter NHD undertook a pilot project of planting 20,000 saplings of mangroves to create mangrove walls and conserve the natural heritage of the Sundarbans.
- Progress has also been made in the Documentation of the sacred hills of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

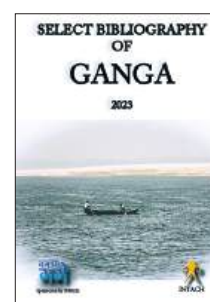
- With the Bhopal Chapter two heritage lakes from the Gond period were documented and conservation plans prepared. Further, a world level geo-heritage columnar basalt dyke site at Potla, District Dewas was documented and conservation plan prepared and published.

Outreach

- For revival and protection of Najafgarh Jheel, INTACH had filed an execution application in the NGT as a follow up on the slack attitude of the concerned state governments. As a result, Delhi Government has prepared its environmental management plan and Haryana is in the process of doing so. It is hoped to have an area of 50 sq.km. notified as the Najafgarh Jheel and buffer zone as an interstate wetland in the coming year.
- Our application to protect the Ganga floodplains in Patna in conformity with the Ganga Authorities Notification of 2016 is progressing in the Supreme Court. Over 200 encroaching structures have been removed so far. This is a first of its kind case whose successful outcome will be felt in many urban area floodplains and will set a precedent.

Publications

1. Select Bibliography of Ganga
2. A Monograph on the Earth Pillars of Spiti Valley, Himachal Pradesh
3. Water Policy for Delhi



Waterbody Created at Bakhtpura, Alwar

Community Knowledge

- ▶ A cogent system of inherited learning passed down from generation to generation, forming an integral part of the identity construct of a group of people and which is reflected in their everyday lives is defined as community knowledge. Oral traditions, performing arts, awareness related to religious and social practices or the skill sets inherited to produce traditional crafts are all constituents of community knowledge. Recognizing the value of the above in conserving the heritage of India the Trust has divisions dedicated exclusively to intangible heritage conservation.

▼ INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE (ICH)

The Division is involved in research, documentation and revitalization of intangible cultural heritage of the country. Currently, the ongoing projects include –

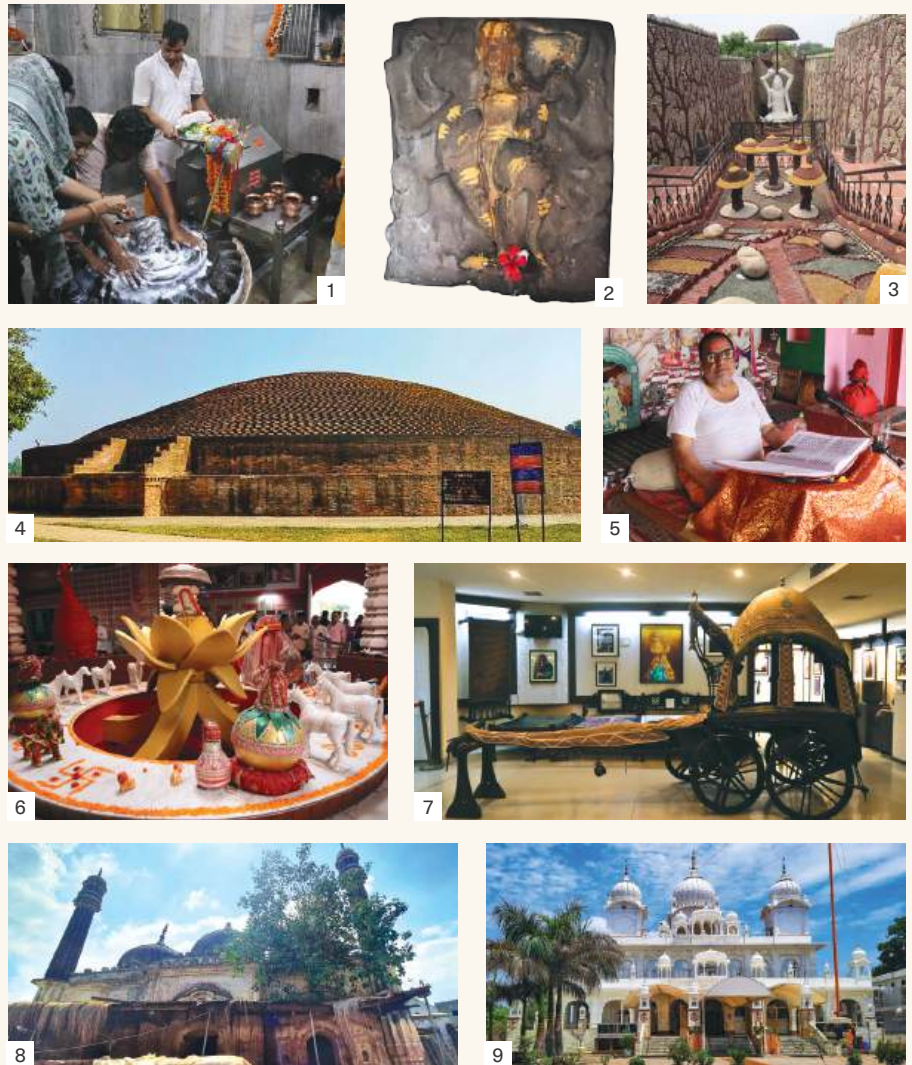
Yamuna Cultural Documentation Project

Commissioned by the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India, the ICH (Intangible Cultural Heritage) Division is documenting the culture and history of regions in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi-NCR, and Uttar Pradesh through which the Yamuna River flows.

The project involves the ICH team conducting field visits across northern India, engaging with communities whose lives are intertwined with the river. They are documenting sacred sites, historical landmarks, folklore, folk songs, folk dances, and traditional fairs and festivals, preserving these intangible cultural elements for future generations. This initiative is the first comprehensive effort to document the cultural heritage of the Yamuna, aiming to bolster its identity from its origin to its confluence with the Ganga at Prayagraj.

The documentation so far has uncovered invaluable insights into lesser-known cultural practices, such as the Yamuna Sharad Mahotsav in Sirmour, Himachal Pradesh, a festival dedicated to the welfare of the river; *Chaitra Chaudas*, where people perform ancestral rites and take ceremonial dips in the Yamuna; and *Akshay Tritiya*, when the Char Dham temples, including Yamunotri Dham, are opened to the public before being closed on *Yam Dwitiya* (post-Diwali). To date, the team has completed documentation in Uttarkashi, Sirmour, Dehradun, Tehri Garhwal, Yamunanagar, and Karnal, with ongoing reports for Panipat, Sonapat, Shamli, and Baghpat. Preparations are underway to continue work in the remaining districts of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi.

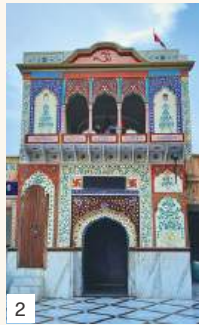
Yamunanagar, Karnal and Kurukshetra



- 1 Devotees anointing the Pindi Swayambhu Shiv Linga, Kaleshar Mahadev Temple, Yamunanagar, Haryana. Lord Shiva is said to have blessed this place with this Pindi Shiv Linga; locals hold the belief that visiting this temple removes dissent and impurities.
- 2 Stone-carved idol of Natrajan at Kalesar Mahadev Temple, Yamunanagar, Haryana. This idol was excavated from the temple premises and is placed in front of the Maa Bhagwati temple.
- 3 Baoli at Pataleshwar Mahadev Temple premises, Dayalgarh, Yamunanagar, Haryana. This Baoli is considered sacred, with a local belief that filling it with water during droughts brings rainfall soon after.
- 4 Channeti Buddhist Stupa, Yamunanagar, Haryana. It is one of the stupas built by Emperor Ashoka in the 3rd century BCE. A protected monument in Haryana, it is frequently visited by Buddhist tourists from around the world.
- 5 Priest reciting Ramcharitmanas, Surya Kund, Yamunanagar, Haryana. A notable feature of the Surya Kund temple is the continuous recitation of the Ramcharitmanas, a tradition that has been upheld for over 20 years.
- 6 Devikupa (The Sacred Well), Shri Devikupa (Bhadrakali) Temple, Kurukshetra, Haryana. The temple is one of the 52 Shakti Peeths in India. Legend says that Sati's right ankle fell into the well, now called 'Devikupa.' It is also believed that the Pandavas began the tradition of offering terracotta or metal horse figures at the temple.
- 7 Dharohar Museum uniquely showcases Haryana's cultural heritage, highlighting traditional artifacts that have faded in many parts of the state. It features materials and items once commonly used in Haryana, from utensils to traditional home furnishings.
- 8 Kunjpura Masjid, Kunjpura, Karnal, Haryana. Locals believe that Kunjpura is named after the 'Kunja' bird, which once frequented the fort built by Najabat Khan, the Nawab and founder of the region. Over time, the fort has deteriorated, leaving only a small segment of the wall and the mosque as remnants. According to local tradition, this mosque was reserved for the Nawab's family, while five other mosques were built around the fort for the public.
- 9 Sis Ganj Gurudwara Sahib, Taraori, Karnal, Haryana. This Gurudwara is one of the key sites where Bhai Jaita took refuge during his journey. It holds great significance in Sikh history, as Bhai Jaita passed through here while carrying Guru Teg Bahadur's head.



Panipat and Sonipat



• 1 Shakti Temple, Panipat, Haryana. Shadashivrao Bhuu of the Maratha Army constructed this temple while staying at this site before the third battle of Panipat. • 2 Ornate doorway, Shakti Temple, Panipat, Haryana. The doorway connects the temple with the adjacent Kund. It remains closed as the Kund has long since dried. • 3 Pyari Bai (L) and Asha (R), traditional basket-makers, Tanda Village, Sonipat, Haryana. Asha, a second-generation basket-maker, moved from Multan to Sonipat after the partition. She learned the craft from her mother-in-law, Pyari Bai, who still teaches it to young enthusiasts in the village. • 4 Traditional basket samples, Tanda Village, Sonipat, Haryana. The baskets are crafted using Palm leaves (dyed in various colours); these baskets are traditionally used in marriage ceremonies to carry gifts, sweets and other items.

The *Baithak* on 25 October, moderated by Nerupama Y. Modwel (Principal Director, ICH Division, INTACH) and facilitated by Gunjan Joshi (UNESCO ICH Facilitator), featured discussions with notable Gurus and cultural leaders:

- Padma Shri Dr. Shovana Narayan, Kathak Guru
- Padma Shri Shashadhar Acharya, Chhau Guru
- Padma Shri Madhavi Mudgal, Odissi Guru
- Smt. Rama Vaidyanathan, Bharatanatyam Guru
- Gurukkal Shinto Mathew, Kalaripayattu Guru
- Pandit Arnab Chakrabarty, Sarod Guru
- Dr. Jyolsana Menon, HOD Dance Dept., Kalakshetra Foundation
- Prof. (Dr.) B. Ananthakrishnan, Vice Chancellor, Kerala Kalamandalam
- Shri Dhruv Sangari, Naadvistar Foundation
- Shri Rahul Kumar, CCRT
- Shri Radha Mohan Tiwari, SPIC MACAY

The *Baithak* was divided into three sessions:

- **Perspectives:** Gurus shared insights on the guru-shishya tradition and the role of organizations in preserving it.
- **Transitions, Transformations, and Challenges:** This session explored the challenges faced by the tradition in the modern context.
- **Way Forward:** Panelists discussed strategies to ensure the continuity of the tradition while maintaining its essence.

Baithak on the Guru Shishya Parampara

The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and its Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) Division, in collaboration with the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA), organized a symposium on the Guru Shishya Parampara in Folk Arts, held on 25 to 26 October 2024 at KNMA Saket, New Delhi.

Titled *Learning and Dissemination of Knowledge in Arts: A Critical Focus on Guru Shishya Parampara Through the Ages* the symposium brought together practitioners, scholars, and experts from various art forms to discuss the Guru Shishya Parampara. The partnership with KNMA aimed to include a wide range of artistic disciplines, from Classical and Folk Performing Arts to Modern Visual Arts.



Discussion of renowned Gurus and institutions in the field of performing arts facilitated by INTACH ICH division & KNMA



Foods of India: Sacred & Ordinary

The 'Foods of India' project explores the country's culinary diversity, highlighting how food reflects its cultural, social, and spiritual heritage. Currently in the data analysis and report-writing phase, the project synthesizes fieldwork findings to understand food's role in regional identities, beliefs, and practices. This phase deepens insights into key staples central to Indian culture, providing a foundation for future studies. The preliminary findings on the significance of foods like rice, fish, coconut, milk, and chicken, and their historical influence on regional culinary traditions is presented below:

Rice: A Staple with Cultural and Spiritual Significance

Rice holds an unparalleled position as a staple grain across India and is deeply integrated into the cultural and spiritual fabric of various regions. The project has identified that rice is not merely a dietary staple but also a medium through which knowledge, practices, and traditions are passed down through generations. For example, in West Bengal, rice cultivation has profoundly influenced the landscape and shaped social structures.

In Tamil Nadu, the role of rice extends beyond sustenance, playing a central part in regional traditions, festivals, and rituals. The project highlights that rice is integral to various rituals, including wedding ceremonies and harvest festivals, where it symbolizes prosperity and life.

Fish: Culinary and Cultural Importance in Water-Rich Regions

Fish represents both a culinary staple and a cultural symbol in regions of India with abundant water resources. In West Bengal, fish is central to life-cycle rituals, from birth to death, with ceremonies involving newborns and funerals often featuring fish. This highlights its spiritual significance in Bengali society, exemplified by the saying, 'a Bengali's meal is incomplete without fish.'

In Assam, another region rich in aquatic resources, fish plays a central role in communal celebrations, especially during harvest festivals. Community fishing and fish feasts strengthen social bonds and celebrate local abundance. In Manipur, fish is a key component of the diet, featured in traditional dishes.

Coconut: Essential to Tamil Cuisine and Rituals

The Coconut is a prominent ingredient in Tamil Nadu, valued for both its culinary versatility and ritual significance. The project highlights the coconut's extensive use in Tamil cuisine. Beyond its culinary uses, the coconut also holds symbolic value in religious ceremonies. It is often offered in rituals, symbolizing wholeness and prosperity, making it a crucial element in Tamil spiritual practices.

Milk: Sacred and Nutritionally Valued in Gujarat and Hindu Traditions

The project's analysis highlights the cultural and religious importance of milk in Gujarat and its role within Hinduism. Milk is regarded as a sacred substance, valued for its purifying and nourishing properties. This reverence for milk is reflected in Gujarati proverbs, which encourage the consumption of whole milk and dissuade practices like selling milk fat, emphasizing the belief in milk's complete nutritional value. In Hindu rituals, milk is commonly used in offerings and is believed to purify and elevate both the mind and body.

Chicken: Evolving Cultural Perspectives on Meat Consumption

The cultural attitudes towards chicken vary widely across Indian regions, reflecting both traditional beliefs and evolving dietary practices. In Assam, certain tribes view

chicken as a delicacy, and its consumption is central to several festivals, such as Bihu, where chicken is often sacrificed and consumed as part of the celebrations. This illustrates the chicken's role in the socio-religious fabric of these communities, where it serves both as a staple food and as an offering in festive and spiritual contexts.

In Bengal, there has been a noticeable shift in attitudes toward chicken consumption. Traditionally, chicken was considered a restricted food, and its consumption was limited among certain communities. However, it has since gained popularity and is now a common ingredient in Bengali households. This change reflects broader shifts in societal norms and dietary practices, showcasing how food traditions can evolve in response to changing cultural and economic conditions.

Historical and Cultural Influences on Regional Cuisines

The project also examines historical influences on regional cuisines across India. For example, the migration of Parsis from Persia to Gujarat introduced Persian culinary elements, blending with Gujarati, British, and Bohra influences to shape Parsi cuisine. This fusion illustrates how migration and cultural exchange have enriched Indian cuisine, creating unique regional identities.

In Rampur, the local cuisine evolved from the communal food culture of the Rohilla Pathans to a refined style influenced by the Nawabs of Awadh and Persianate traditions. Rampuri cuisine became known for its delicate flavors and intricate preparations, distinguishing it within India's culinary heritage.

The 'Foods of India' project reveals a deep connection between food, culture, spirituality, and social structures. Each staple – whether rice, fish, coconut, milk, or chicken – offers insights into regional values and traditions. This phase of data analysis has provided a nuanced understanding of these foods, identifying key themes and regional specifics. As the project progresses, it will deepen its



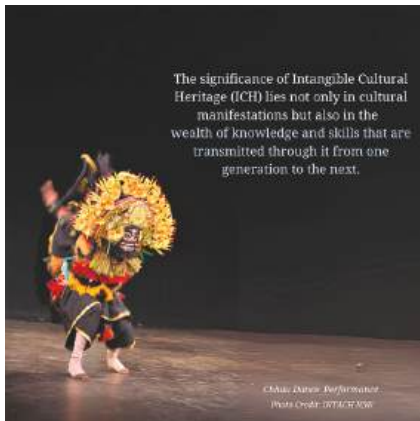
exploration of how food shapes and reflects Indian life.

Project Updates on the website

Projects undertaken by the ICH division are regularly uploaded to the website as report summaries, showcasing key concepts and visual documentation. The site currently features cultural documentation along the Ganga River, covering studies from 38 districts as part of the Namami Gange Project by the Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India. Additionally, projects commissioned to various INTACH Chapters, including those in Lucknow, Kodaikanal, Arunachal Pradesh, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, are also highlighted. These include Cultural Mapping and Research and Documentation of ICH elements. Deliverables such as reports, publications, monographs, and manuscripts are summarized and uploaded to both the website and the INTACH ICH Archives.



Cover page of Ballia district studied under the Namami Gange Project

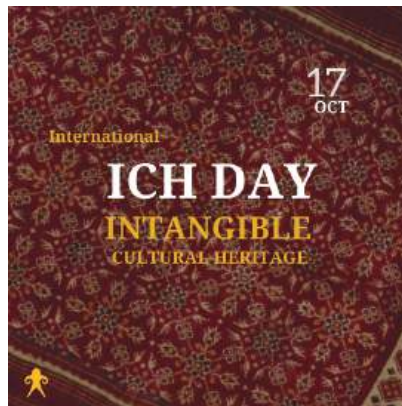


Part of the ICH Instagram post

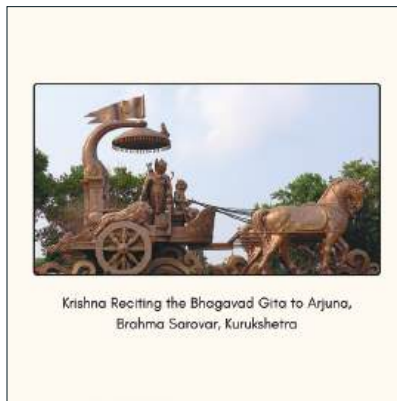
Social Media Engagement and Outreach

To commemorate the inaugural International Intangible Cultural Heritage Day on 17 October the ICH division promoted the concept of ICH and its importance via Instagram. This first observance, established at UNESCO's 42nd General Conference in November 2023, recognized 17 October as International ICH Day, providing an opportunity to reflect on the history and research projects of the division.

Additionally, the ICH division regularly updates its Instagram with information on initiatives like the Yamuna Cultural Documentation Project, raising public awareness. It also shares posts on the ICH aspects of festivals, highlighting the rich diversity of celebrations across India.



Instagram Post made on ICH Day



Post made as part of Yamuna Conservation Project

Post made on Diwali



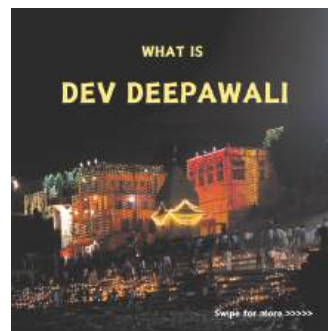
Principal Director, ICH Division, Nerupama Y. Modwel, facilitating the panel discussion



Padma Shri Madhavi Mudgal addressing the Panellists

Audio-Visual Documentation of the ICH-KNMA event, Baithak

The two-day symposium titled *Learning and Dissemination of Knowledge in Arts: A Critical Focus on Guru Shishya Parampara Through the Ages* jointly organised by the ICH division and the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art (KNMA), gathered artists, gurus, scholars, and experts to discuss the Guru Shishya Parampara, an ancient tradition of knowledge transfer in the arts. The ICH division recorded the event audio-visually for documentation and social media use. The complete video, including the panel discussion, has been uploaded to the ICH division's YouTube channel for public viewing. Photographs featuring the panelists have also been shared on social media, receiving positive recognition from the audience.



✓ HERITAGE CRAFT AND COMMUNITY

INTACH has been consistently working with a diverse range of craft communities across India with the objective of reviving craft traditions to generate livelihood opportunities while retaining the cultural values. 'Design and Skill Development Workshops' are regularly conducted towards this objective.

Release of the Book on the Documentation of the NEHHDC Collection

A visit to the *North East Handicraft and Handloom Development Corporation* (NEHHDC) campus in Guwahati, Assam, marked the release of the long-awaited book *Documentation of the NEHHDC Collection*. The event was attended by Vandana Bindu Manchanda, Head, HCCD, Brig. Rajiv Kumar Singh (MD, NEHHDC), Shiela Bora (Convenor, Assam State Chapter), and Radhika Malhotra (Project Associate, HCCD). The collection, which includes baskets, fishing tools, hats, rain shields, headgear, metal objects, musical instruments, ornaments, pottery, swords/dao, and textiles, has been categorized for better understanding and display.

Additionally, the Division presented the initial concept for the upcoming NEHHDC Crafts Museum and Shop, which will



The release of the book, 'Documentation of the NEHHDC Collection' at the NEHHDC Campus



Team HCCD and NEHHDC discussing the museum concept

be located on NEHHDC premises. The proposal included plans for interior redesign, display installations, and other necessary adjustments to safely showcase the documented collection.

The Head, HCCD was also invited by NEHHDC to commemorate the 10th National Handloom Day on 7 August 2024. Sharing the stage with Padma Shree awardee Ms. Neihunuo Sorhie, she highlighted the vital role of the handloom industry in India's economy and the lasting legacy of artisans.



Brig. Rajiv Kumar Singh, Padma Shree, Neihunuo Sorhie and Vandana Bindu Manchanda gracing the stage at the celebration of the 10th National Handloom Day

Display of INTACH Exhibition – '40 Varsh ki INTACH Yatra' at Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav at Rashtrapati Nilayam, Hyderabad

The Division participated in the Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav, organized by NEHHDC at Rashtrapati Nilayam, Hyderabad, from 28 September to 6 October. The event highlighted the rich cultural heritage of Northeast India, focusing on its diverse craftsmanship. Representing INTACH, HCCD showcased the organization's contributions to crafts, communities, and culture in the region through the *40 Years of INTACH* exhibition.

The Head, HCCD attended the inauguration, which was graced by Hon'ble President Smt. Droupadi Murmu on 28 September and also interacted with artisans and tribal representatives from the 8 North Eastern states. A key moment was her conversation with an artisan skilled in transforming lotus stems into lustrous silk threads, a unique craft of the region. The exhibition drew a diverse audience, including school children, heritage professionals, and other visitors, all keen to learn about INTACH's impact and contributions in the Northeast.



Head, HCCD in conversation with the artisan about lotus silk



Inquisitive groups of school children viewing the INTACH Exhibition



Head, HCCD and Convenor, Hampi Chapter with the artisans at the site

Visit to Anegundi Village, Koppal District for the Revival of the Craft of Chape – in collaboration with the Hampi Chapter

The Head, HCCD visited Anegundi Village to oversee INTACH's initiative to revive the *Chape* craft, a traditional grass mat handloom weaving technique. Led by Convenor, Hampi Chapter, the project



Women artisans crafting products at the site



Final products made with banana fibre

focuses on using banana fiber to create sustainable, biodegradable products such as mats and pouches. The initiative has successfully preserved the craft while empowering local women by providing a sustainable livelihood.

Revival of Puneri Saree Weaving Project at Guledgudda village, Bagalkot District – in collaboration with the Hampi and Pune Chapter

The *Revival of Puneri Saree Weaving Project* has been launched in Guledgudda village, Bagalkot District. The initiative focuses on documenting, reviving, protecting, and promoting the Puneri saree, a historically significant garment with roots dating back to the Maratha and Peshwa eras. The saree is a symbol closely tied to the identity of Pune and Maharashtra.

The craft faces challenges due to the rise of power looms, the use of synthetic fibers, and declining wages for laborers. In response, the project was initiated with the support of Ramesh Ayodi, the last remaining weaver practicing this traditional technique.



Head, HCCD, Shama Pawar (Convenor, Hampi Chapter) and Jui Twade (Co-convenor, Pune Chapter) in conversation with the weaver, Ramesh



Weavers in action at the site



Head, HCCD addressing the INTACH members

Capacity Building Workshop at USI Campus, New Delhi

The INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA) and the INTACH Chapter Division organized the 15th Capacity Building Workshop at the USI Campus, Delhi. Head HCCD, addressed the attending INTACH members, highlighting the division's initiatives and projects with various craft communities and artisans since its inception. The session was followed by an engaging Q&A with the attendees.

Article featuring the Documentation of Art and Craft Communities in the Bhuleshwar-Kalbadevi area – in collaboration with the Greater Mumbai Chapter

The Division is supporting the INTACH Greater Mumbai Chapter in documenting the art and craft communities of the Bhuleshwar-Kalbadevi area. An article in *The Free Press Journal* on 27 October featured insights from Head, HCCD and Katyayani Agarwal (Convenor, INTACH Greater Mumbai Chapter), highlighting the significance and challenges faced by these communities.

The Bhuleshwar-Kalbadevi area, known for its handmade gold and silver jewellery, zari embroidery, lace, brassware, and other traditional crafts, attracts visitors

Mumbai: INTACH To Document 'Art And Craft' Hub Of Bhuleshwar-Kalbadevi

A project by the Greater Mumbai chapter of the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage will document the arts and the area's craft communities for posterity.

Manoj Ramakrishnan | Updated: Sunday, October 27, 2024, 11:52 PM IST



Snippets from the article published by Free Press Journal

from across the city. However, rapid changes in the area are threatening the survival of these crafts and the artisan communities that have been practicing them for generations.

This project aims to document the artisans, their crafts, and the cultural heritage of the area, creating a comprehensive database for researchers, scholars, and students. The documentation will serve as a valuable resource, especially if any crafts face the risk of being lost.

Filming the work of the handmade paper artisans at Kagazipura, Aurangabad

Südwestrundfunk (SWR), a German broadcasting company, visited Kagazipura, Aurangabad, to document the centuries-old handmade paper-making legacy, revived through the efforts of HCCD, Convenor, Maharashtra State Chapter, and the Cosmo Foundation. The promotional tourism documentary highlights the lives of the artisans, their craft, and the process of making handmade paper, aiming to bring it to an international audience.

The documentary also features Head HCCD, who discusses the division's initiatives to revive the nearly lost craft. She emphasizes the design intervention

workshops that have produced a diverse range of products, catering to the needs of the commercial market.

Visit to Hisar Craft Centre, Dabra village, Hisar

Head HCCD visited the Hisar Craft Centre to discuss and plan strategies for expanding the center's productivity, alongside the Convenor, Hisar Chapter. The center trains local rural women in crochet and rug-making, creating a diverse range of products with design inputs provided by the HCCD Division.

Head, HCCD nominated to evaluate a PhD thesis by the Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda

The Vice-Chancellor of The Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda, nominated the Head, HCCD as an expert member on the panel for evaluating a Ph.D. thesis submitted by a research scholar. She provided valuable suggestions and feedback on the thesis titled *Study of Indian Textiles: Study of the Textiles of Munshi Aziz Bhat Museum of Central Asia and Kargil Trade Artifacts, Ladakh*.



The German crew documenting the artisans at the Kagzipura paper making centre



Mr. Mukund Bhogale (Convenor, Maharashtra State Chapter), Head, HCCD and the Kagzipura artisans with the SWR crew



Crochet dolls being knitted at the centre



The handmade packaging for the products

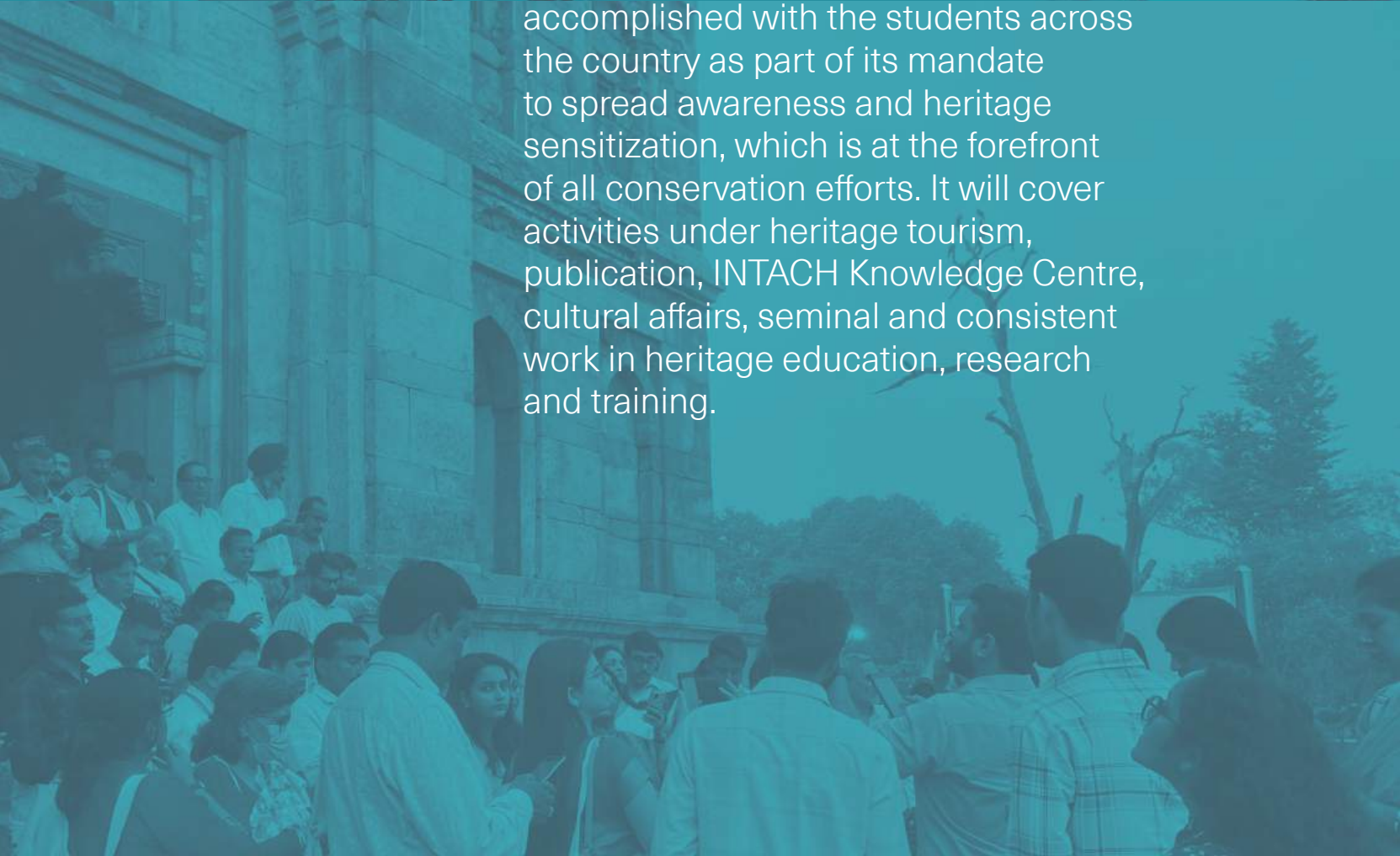


Sumita Tayal (Convenor, Hisar Chapter) and Head, HCCD at the Hisar Craft Centre



Education, Training & Outreach

▶ This section will summarily look at the vast and varied body of work accomplished with the students across the country as part of its mandate to spread awareness and heritage sensitization, which is at the forefront of all conservation efforts. It will cover activities under heritage tourism, publication, INTACH Knowledge Centre, cultural affairs, seminal and consistent work in heritage education, research and training.



✓ HERITAGE EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES

The dedicated members of Heritage Education and Communication team, with the unwavering support of various chapters reach out to the remotest areas of the country to build heritage awareness and sensitization using innovative activities, tools and initiatives which are age appropriate, interesting and resonate with the students.



Teachers Training Workshop, East Godavari



Teachers Training Workshop, Tarn Taran



Teachers Training Workshop, Hyderabad

Teacher Training Workshops

EAST GODAVARI

30-31 AUGUST, 62 TEACHERS, 60 SCHOOLS

HECS, in collaboration with the East Godavari Chapter, held a two-day Teacher Training Workshop at the Rotary Club in Kakinada, with 50 teachers from 28 schools. Mr. Vedula VLN Murthy and Mr. Vakkalanka Ramakrishna, along with other members, were present. The workshop started with a welcome address by Mr. Murthy and words of encouragement from S N. Sessa Reddy, Chairman of Aditya Educational Institutions. Mr. Murthy introduced Kakinada's heritage and INTACH's work, while the HECS team discussed the importance of heritage education in schools. On the second day, participants presented group activities on Kakinada's heritage, followed by a felicitation ceremony.

TARN TARAN

3-4 SEPTEMBER, 42 TEACHERS, 24 REGIONAL SCHOOLS

HECS, in association with the newly formed Tarn Taran Chapter, hosted their first Teacher Training Workshop. Chief guests included General Balwinder Singh, Punjab State Convenor, Principal Sawant Singh of Shri Guru Harkrishan Public School, and Dr. Baljit Kaur, INTACH Convenor. The workshop began with a felicitation ceremony and remarks from Dr. Kaur and General Singh. General Singh emphasized preserving Punjab's heritage and involving youth, while Dr. Kaur highlighted the region's diverse heritage. HECS Coordinators Ms. Nanki Kaur and Ms. Smriti Malhotra discussed heritage concepts. On Day 2, participants explored HECS resources and took a heritage walk to an old age home, learning about Tarn Taran's heritage. The event concluded with group presentations, certificate distribution, and closing remarks.

Wisdom of Golden Years!

During the workshop, the group embarked on a heritage walk around Bhai Vir Singh BiradGhar Taran Taran, an old age home established in 1959. The home was the first of its kind in Tarn Taran, offering free refuge to elderly people from across Punjab. The teachers marveled at both the built heritage structure and the living heritage they were made aware of through the stories of the elderly.



HYDERABAD

26-27 SEPTEMBER, 45 PARTICIPANTS, 24 SCHOOLS

HECS, in collaboration with the INTACH Hyderabad Chapter, organized a two-day Teacher Training Workshop at Gitanjali Devshala, Secunderabad. The sessions focused on Telangana's textile heritage, led by Sudha Rani Mullapudi, Principal Director HECS, and Anuradha Reddy. They discussed local handlooms, cultural influences, and the global impact of Indian textiles. The HECS team shared insights on heritage education and resources. Day 2 featured a presentation on Telangana handlooms by Ramanadham Ramesh, followed by Ms. Reddy's talk on cultural amalgamation in the Deccan region. The session also covered textile education and Heritage Clubs in schools. The workshop concluded with a group activity, teacher felicitation, and closing remarks.

Unique Family Heritage

During the Textile workshop, Ms. Anuradha Reddy shared stories about old sarees from her mother's and grandmother's trousseaus. The most memorable moment of the workshop was when Ms. Reddy displayed her great-grandmother Rani Chillam Janaki Bai's 9 yard Benarasi saree, which dates back to the late 19th century.





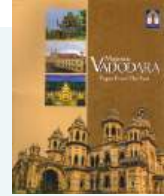
Teachers Training Workshop, Vadodara

VADODARA
7-8 OCTOBER, 60 PARTICIPANTS, 26 SCHOOLS

A 2-day Teacher Training Workshop was held at New Era Senior Secondary School, Nizampura, with support from the INTACH Vadodara Chapter and online participation from the INTACH HECS Team in Delhi. Key sessions included the Chapter Convenor discussing Vadodara’s heritage layers, HECS Principal Director on the concept of heritage and its importance in education, and Rajendra Shah on Vadodara’s cultural legacy. The activities included a heritage walk to Sevasi Stepwell, Kothi, and Aurobindo Ashram, along with interactive sessions and group activities. The teachers presented role plays and songs highlighting the city’s heritage. The workshop concluded with participant felicitation and a group photograph.

Vadodara Janyu Chata Ajanyu

Rajendra Shah, OSD Heritage at VSCDL, discussed the book ‘Vadodara-Janyu Chata Ajanyu’, now translated into English as ‘Majestic Vadodara’, published by VMC. The book was distributed to all schools.



Flood Rescue

The Teacher Training workshop in Vadodara was initially organised on 27 and 28 August which could not take place due to flooding in the city. Principal Director and Programme Coordinator, HECS were marooned in the hotel for two days and were rescued by the NDRF team. With the support of INTACH Headquarters, INTACH Vadodara Chapter and hotel management Ms Datt and Ms Singh were able to reach Delhi safely.



AMRAVATI
17-18 OCTOBER, 65 PARTICIPANTS, 19 SCHOOLS, 11 COLLEGES

The HECS Teacher Training Workshop, in collaboration with the INTACH Amravati Chapter, was held at the Government Vidarbha Institute of Science & Humanities. Dr. Satish Malode, Director of G.I.S.H. Amravati, and other guests attended. The workshop featured sessions by Prof. Sanjay Deshmukh on Amravati’s built heritage, and the HECS team on heritage and its educational importance. Day 2 included a heritage walk to Amravati Fort, guided by Dr. Wadkar and Mr. Varangaonkar, followed by interactive sessions and group activities. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks and the distribution of certificates and resources.



Teachers Training Workshop, Amravati

Heritage College Venue

The workshop took place in a historic college founded in 1923, one of the country’s oldest academic institutions. Its main building, completed in 1917 and originally called King Edward College, is a striking example of Gothic architecture. A unique feature of the building is the ‘whispering pillar,’ where whispers spoken at opposite corners can be heard clearly, adding an acoustic charm to this heritage site.

College Heritage Volunteer Workshop

KATHUA
14 NOVEMBER, 120 PARTICIPANTS, 5 COLLEGES

A College Volunteer Workshop was organized by the INTACH Jammu Chapter and HECS at the University of Jammu, Kathua Campus. Convenor Mr. SM Sahni welcomed the participants. HECS Principal Director discussed India’s diverse heritage and the role of students in protecting local heritage. Dr. Rohini, Assistant Director of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Department, spoke on regional crafts preservation. Mr. Arvind Kotwal highlighted key heritage sites in Kathua and Jammu, while Dr. Sonia Jasrotia covered local intangible heritage and ethnic foods. HECS Programme Coordinator led a session on student volunteering. The workshop concluded with interactive heritage activities and a lunch featuring local dishes.



Participants of College Volunteer Workshop

Sri Raghunath Sanskrit Vidyalaya

The HECS team visited Sanskrit Vidyalaya in Birpur. The visit was an enlightening one, wherein the students enthusiastically engaged with the team. SM Sahni, Convenor Jammu chapter spoke about the school premises and the importance of Sanskrit education. Ms Datt spoke about their current newsletter on the Sanskrit language. The students shared their experiences studying in this unique institution devoted to a major classical language.



Participants of the session

Specialised Activity

St. Columba's School, New Delhi

On 22 August, 25 members of the Culture and Heritage Society of St. Columba's School attended a session with INTACH, gaining a new perspective on India's culture and heritage. The HECS team helped to establish a heritage club and deepen their understanding of local cultural heritage. The session covered the concept of heritage, potential club activities, and how INTACH can provide support.



Heritage Walk and In-House Sessions on Heritage and AI

On 8 November, 35 students and 4 teachers from Air Force Bal Bharati School, Public School, and Bal Raksha Bharat NGO came to Alliance Française New Delhi's RISE Event and visited INTACH as well. The group took a heritage walk at Lodhi Gardens, led by the HECS team exploring Indo-Islamic architecture, conservation practices, and the role of technology and AI in heritage preservation. HECS Principal Director later discussed heritage conservation and technology. The students also toured INTACH's Conservation Lab. The session concluded with a heritage quiz, and the distribution of Young INTACH Newsletters and handouts.



Participants of Heritage Walk and Session

Heritage Walk to Mehrauli Archaeological Park

On 14 November 2024, an enriching heritage walk was organized for 80 students and three teachers from Convent of Jesus & Mary School at Mehrauli Archaeological Park. The participants visited three historical sites: Balban's Tomb, the Mosque of Jamali and Kamali, and Rajon Ki Baoli by INTACH walk leaders, who provided insightful commentary on the architectural and cultural significance of each site. The walk offered a hands-on learning experience.



Participants of the Heritage Walk

Discover your Living Heritage-Endangered Art & Craft Workshops in Collaboration with Chapters



Bohada mask making in Nashik



Clay modelling workshop in Ayodhya



Folk dance performance in Jalandhar

**DISCOVER YOUR LIVING HERITAGE-ENDANGERED ART & CRAFT WORKSHOPS IN COLLABORATION WITH CHAPTERS**

CHAPTER	HIGHLIGHTS
PATNA 1st - 7th July St Xavier's School, Patel Nagar	60 STUDENTS, 10 SCHOOLS A seven-day long workshop was conducted on the endangered art form Patna Kalam by Tripurari Sharan, Kavita Kanan, Kadambini Sinha, Aradhana Tiwari where they guided the students on the importance of revival of Patna Kalam.
NASHIK 6th August MET's School of Architecture and Interior Design	40 STUDENTS, 3 SCHOOLS A workshop was conducted on Bohada Mask Making by renowned sculptor Mayur More to revive the endangered tribal art form of Bohada masks from the Nashik and Thane regions.
AMRITSAR 14th August Springdale Senior School	105 STUDENTS A workshop was conducted on endangered instruments – Algoze and Tumbi by folk artisans S. Sulakhan Singh and S. Nirmal Singh Bobawala who demonstrated the importance and significance of these instruments in traditional folk music.
KASHMIR 17th August Govt. Boys Higher Secondary Institute, Soura	51 STUDENTS, 7 SCHOOLS Master craftsman, Akhter Hussain from Alamgari Bazaar, Srinagar, was invited to demonstrate the papier mache craft activities and give an onsite experience to the participants.
BALASORE 17th - 18th August Balasore Art & Craft College	53 STUDENTS, 13 SCHOOLS A two-day workshop was conducted on Pattachitra painting by Aryapragyan Basabodutta who trained and guided the students.
AMBALA 23rd - 24th August CB High School	100 STUDENTS A two-day workshop was conducted on crown making. The workshop focused on teaching students to create crown paintings and wall hangings for Janmashtami.
UDAIPUR 31st August Arts College Auditorium	100 STUDENTS, 15 SCHOOLS A one-day workshop was conducted on Sanjhi Craft by Rekha Purohit, a trained Sanjhi expert with nine years experience who trained the children in the art.
ASSAM 2nd-6th September	72 STUDENTS, 6 SCHOOLS A four-day workshop was conducted on Manuscript Painting and Pottery Making. The workshop provided students with training on Manuscript Painting by Mridu Moucham Bora and Simanta Gogoi and on Pottery Making by Deepen Hira, Makoni Hira and Dinesh Hira.
BHAGALPUR 4th September Bhagalpur School of Art	110 STUDENTS, 14 SCHOOLS A one day workshop was conducted on Madhubani painting. Dr. Rajendra Yadav emphasized heritage conservation and the significance of Madhubani painting in the region and across the world.
DHARAMSHALA 7th September Adarsh Public School, Sidhbari	60 STUDENTS A one-day workshop on Kangra Miniature Painting was conducted by esteemed resource persons, Dhani Ram and Mukesh Dhiman who also paid tribute to the legacy of renowned Kangra artists Nainsukh and Manku.
AYODHYA 6th - 10th September JB Academy Auditorium	100 STUDENTS, 15 SCHOOLS The workshop was conducted on Clay Modelling by trainer Ashok Singh who taught students how to work with sun-dried clay as the workshop sought to rekindle the local tradition of idol making.
VARANASI 21st November Little Flower House, Kakarmatta	50 STUDENTS Renowned Sarangi artist of Banaras Gharana Pt Kanhaiya Lal Mishra and his disciple Shri Om Sahaya conducted the workshop on endangered instrument Sarangi
JAMNAGAR 19th September Summair Sports Club	50 STUDENTS, 5 SCHOOLS The workshop was conducted by Geeta Rathod and Dharmista Rathod specializing in Lippan and Mud art.

CHAPTER	HIGHLIGHTS
THRISSUR 23rd September Kulapati Munshi Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Pottore	60 STUDENTS A one-day workshop was conducted on Bamboo craft. Under the guidance of artisans Ajitha Sundaran and Unnimaya from Kuttichira, students crafted baskets, pen stands, and decorative items.
SANTINIKETAN 25th-26th September Satyanarayan Shiksha Niketan Girls' High School, Labpur	36 STUDENTS, 4 SCHOOLS The two-day craft workshop focused on Nakshi- Kantha where students were introduced to the heritage value and practical utility of Nakshi Kantha by crafts persons Aditi Nayak, and Sampa Rana.
PORBANDAR 28th-29th September Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya	95 STUDENTS A two-day workshop was conducted on Bela block printing by Purva Buch, designer who trained students about different block printing styles.
JAMSHEDPUR 3rd October Kalamandir Campus	120 STUDENTS, 10 SCHOOLS The renowned artist Vijay Chitrakar guided students about Paitkar paintings and well-known clay artist Khagendra Nath Mahato demonstrated the traditional method of wheel pottery.
JUNAGADH 5th October Matushree MG Bhuva Kanya Vidhya Mandir, Joshipura	106 STUDENTS, 9 SCHOOLS A one-day workshop was conducted on Moti work, Paper work and Glass Painting by renowned artisans JulibenKharod and Hetalba Vala.
BARMER 14th October Banks of Luni River	92 STUDENTS Traditional block printing and woollen thread mat making was demonstrated to the students by crafts persons Yusuf Yaseen and Jaruparam respectively.
NAGPUR 18th September Essence International School	Under the expert guidance of Jasbir Kaur, Jayshri Shastri, Mallika Nandi, Sheetal Shekpath, and Rameshwari Nair, the participants learned about Floor Art painting <i>Alpana</i> and <i>Kolam</i> and Tie and Dye through hands-on experience.
PUNJAB STATE 23rd October Police DAV Public School Jalandhar	Under the guidance of resource persons, students learned about the dying art forms of <i>Algoja</i> , <i>Nakaal</i> folk theatre and Ludi tribal dance.
NAGALAND 8th November Nagaland bamboo Research centre (NBRC), Sovima	Bamboo mat weaving was taught to the students under the expert guidance from the representatives of NBRC
JAMMU 5th November GLDM Degree College, Kathua	21 STUDENTS, 3 SCHOOLS A one-day workshop on <i>Rangoli</i> floor art in Dogra culture was conducted where students beautifully portrayed Dogra culture through <i>Rangoli</i> .



Alpana and Kolam making in Nagpur



Lippan art workshop in Jammagar



Bamboo craft workshop in Thrissur



Woollen thread chatai making in Barmer



Bamboo mat weaving in Nagaland



Manuscript painting in Assam



FilmIt India

FilmIt India marked its 17th year in 2024-2025. HECS teams conducted the content workshops, while the team from Tuning Fork Films handled the technical aspects of film-making. As part of the project, FilmIt India Workshops were organized in the following cities:



Varanasi

CHAPTER	ATTENDANCE	CONTENT HIGHLIGHTS AND SUPPORT
JAIPUR 29th July 2024 Neerja Modi School	160 students and teachers from 17 schools	Students were introduced to the themes and received training in filmmaking. Jaipur Chapter Convenor, and Principal Ms. Indu Dubey were also present in the workshop.
UDAIPUR 30th July 2024 Modern School, Seedling Pratapura	60 students and teachers from 6 schools	The FilmIt India Programme was introduced in Udaipur this year and students received training in film-making. INTACH Udaipur Convenor, late Mr. Lalit Pandey and Co-convenor Mr. Gaurav Singhvi were also present
AHMEDABAD 31st July 2024 Shreyas Foundation	57 students and teachers from 9 schools.	Students were introduced to the themes and received training in film-making. Chapter Convenor Ms. Utpala Desai along with some INTACH members was also present.
VADODARA 1st August 2024 Navrachana International School	100 students and teachers from 10 schools	A tribute to the iconic film <i>Manthan</i> was presented by Mr. Sanjiv Joshi, Chapter Convenor and students of the host school. Students brainstormed on the themes and film-making. Co-convenor Ms. Tanisha, and Principals Ms. Kashmiria Jaiswal and Mr. Theophane D'Souza also attended.
KOLKATA 5th August Apeejay School, Park Street 6th August at Sunbeam School, Lahartara	84 students and from 16 schools 135 students and teachers from 12 schools from Varanasi and 4 schools from Ayodhya	Students learnt about film-making and the stories associated with it. The principal appreciated FilmIt and lauded INTACH. Prof. Suresh Nair, Prof. BHU was invited as a Special Guest for the programme. Varanasi Chapter convenor Mr. Ashok Kapoor, additional co-convenor Mr. Anil Keshari and Mr. Nirmal Joshi were also present. Students enjoyed learning about ways in which they could share heritage using the camera.
GOA 8th August Sharada Mandir School, Miramar	102 students and teachers from 12 schools	Students were introduced to the themes and received training in film-making. INTACH Goa Chapter Convenor Ms. Fatima Gracias was also present.
MUMBAI 9th August 2024 R.N Podar School	From 10 schools	Students in the Film City of Mumbai looked at their city and its heritage as a platform for learning about heritage. Anita Yewale from INTACH was present. The principal Avnita Bir was present too.
AMRITSAR 12th August Spring Dale Senior School	97 students and teachers from 5 schools of Amritsar and 7 schools from other cities (Beas, Kapurthala, Tarn Taran, Ferozepur, Hoshiarpur and Jalandhar)	The FilmIt India Programme was introduced in Amritsar this year. Students received training in film-making. Gen. Balwinder Singh, Convenor of the Punjab State Chapter, Mr. Rajiv Kumar Sharma, Principal of Spring Dale Senior School, Mr. Gagandeep Singh Virk, Convenor of INTACH Amritsar Chapter were present.
HYDERABAD 12th August Gitanjali Devashray, Secunderabad	116 students and teachers from 22 schools	Students were introduced to the themes and received training in film-making. Chapter Convenor Ms. Anuradha Reddy and Principal Mrs. Kasturi Chatterjee were also present.
CHANDIGARH & AMBALA 13th August St. Stephen's School	72 students and teachers from 8 schools	Col. R.D. Singh (Convenor of INTACH Ambala Chapter), Ms. Deepika Gandhi (team Member of INTACH Chandigarh Chapter), Mr. John Xavier (Vice Principal), and the coordinators from the school were present.
CHENNAI 13th August Sri Sankara Sr. Sec. School, Adyar	75 students and teachers from 11 schools	Students of Chennai engaged in the process of making films with the resource persons. They looked at their beautiful city as a cultural hub to learn from.
KOCHI 14th August Kerala Museum, Edappally	67 students and teachers from 10 schools	Students were introduced to the themes and received training in film-making. Mr. Babu C Rajeev, Kochi Chapter Convenor and Mr. Biley Menon, Co-Convenor of the Kochi Chapter, was also present.



Chennai



Hyderabad



Jaipur



Udaipur



Kolkata

Publications and Website

Young INTACH Newsletters Sanskrit – The Source Language (October-December 2024)

This newsletter on Sanskrit delves into the history and spread of the language, as well as its influence on Indian culture and languages. Through activities, fun facts, illustrations and relevant information, this newsletter aims to create awareness about the role of Sanskrit on our intangible heritage. It has been printed and distributed in English and Hindi.

Young INTACH Regional Language Newsletters

The Young INTACH Regional Language Newsletters Translation in Telugu and Odia has been done with the help of the regional INTACH Chapters. The newsletters have been printed and distributed to the relevant chapters. This is a compilation of the newsletters of 2022 and 2023.

My Quote Diary

A Quote Diary has been printed to make students aware of the important quotes of historical personalities and to help record them. This publication is a useful award item for best heritage club students as well.

HECS Brochure

The brochure typically outlines HECS's various initiatives and programmes aimed at promoting heritage education, creating awareness about India's diverse cultural heritage and the publications produced by the division.



Reprints

- Heritage at Risk booklet
- Hands on Heritage (English)

Ongoing

- Book on Adopt A Performing Arts
- Anniversary Issue Newsletter on Built Heritage for 20 years of the Young INTACH Newsletter
- Chimi in the Magical Land of Kanchendzonga – Know Sikkim – A Story cum Colouring Book in the Lepcha Script

Young INTACH Website

The young INTACH webpage (www.youngintach.org) has been updated with more educational resource material. These included worksheets on Mapping of crafts, Ganjifa Cards, Monthly E-Newsletter and weekly heritage news alerts which are published regularly. All newsletters English and Hindi are put up in an interesting readable format on the website.

E-Newsletter

The monthly Young INTACH E-Newsletter features the latest updates of the website and social media, highlights of monthly events and list of publications available for readers. The newsletter also features the important details of upcoming events, newsletter details and HECS activity updates.

Social Media

Challenges taken up in the month of August - November

MONTH	CHALLENGE
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Handloom Day Challenge • My India, My Dream Challenge • National Sports Day Challenge
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value of Vulture Challenge • Poem for Peace Challenge • Gandhi Jayanti Challenge
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife Detective Challenge • Superfoods Challenge
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Education Day Challenge



National Heritage Quiz 2024 – City Rounds

Since 2014, the Heritage Education and Communication Service have organized the INTACH National Heritage Quiz, the largest quiz on Indian heritage for students in classes 7-10. Covering India's built, natural, material, and living heritage, the multilingual quiz is conducted in 11 regional languages and English, ensuring widespread participation from schools across the country. It aspires to foster awareness, volunteerism, and activism among students while promoting regional languages as part of India's heritage. This year, 130 INTACH chapters nationwide have participated.



NATIONAL HERITAGE QUIZ 2024

Chapter/Date	Venue/No. of Students/School	Details
Ambala 20 July	DAV High School 88 students/22 schools	DAV Riverside School won the quiz rounds followed by Kendriya Vidyalaya 2
Gurgaon 22 Aug	CCA School 142 students/16 schools	Ryan International School Sohna Road emerging as the clear winner
Faridabad 29 Aug & 10 Sept	K L Mehta Dayanand Public School 106 students/14 schools	Written round (29th Aug) & Oral round (10th Sept). K L Mehta Dayanand Public School bagged the first position
Hisar 1 Oct	Palladium School 78 students/10 schools	The winning team was OP Jindal Modern School - Mannat Kaushik and Khushi Tayal. Runner up team was DPS - Prisha and Saksham Malik
Chandigarh 9 Oct	Strawberry Fields High School 120 students/17 schools	The quiz was won by Learning Paths School followed by Stepping Stones School and St. Kabir Public School in third position
Delhi/NCR 3 Oct	India International Centre 296 students/72 schools	The team from Delhi Public School, Greater Noida came first
Malerkotla 31 Aug	Oasis Public School 46 students	The winner team from Oasis Public School participated in the state level competition
Amritsar 13 Aug	Khalsa College Senior Secondary School 120 students/15 schools	The team of Mudit Tyal and Sargun Kaur from Spring Dales Senior School won the quiz
Ferozpur 31 Aug	DC Model International School 60 students/6 schools	The team from Dass & Brown World School, consisting of Kriday Gaba and Arnav Mittal won 1st place
Sangrur 30 Sept	Gen Gurnam Singh Public School 170 students/13 schools	After 7 oral rounds, the first position was attained by the team of Gyansh Global School followed by Gen Gurnam Singh Public School
Bathinda	8 schools	Silver Oak School stood first and Lord Rama Public School, the host team, stood second
Kapurthala 5 Oct	MGN Public School 86 students/9 schools	The first place was secured by MGN Public School, Kapurthala
Jalandhar 30 Sept	Sant Swami Dass Public School, Phagwara 7 schools	Sant Swami Dass Public School was declared victorious
Patiala 27 July	Government Multipurpose Senior Secondary School Patiala 8 schools	The team of Our Lady of Fatima Convent School (Diya Bhalla & Bhavik Singh) stood first
Tarn Taran 19 Oct	Majha Public School 82 students	Mehakdeep Kaur and Gurleen Kaur from Baba Deep Singh School, Pahuwind won the quiz
Faridkot	96 students/7 schools	The DCM International School, Kotkapura team Manmeet Kaur and Manmeet Singh won the first position
Varanasi 9 Aug	Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur 156 students/17 schools	The quiz was won by Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur. The event was organized with Sunbeam Group Chairperson Ms. Bharti Madhok as the Guest of Honour and Mr. Nirmal Joshi as the quiz master
Ayodhya 25 Aug	JB Academy, Faizabad 150 students/15 schools	Indirapuram School emerged as the winner of the quiz
Lucknow 26 Oct	La Martiniere's Girls College 212 students/30 schools	The winner of the quiz was Army Public School, Nehru Road
Gorakhpur 8 Sept	Mahatma Gandhi Inter College 98 students/9 schools	The team from H.P. Children's Academy qualified for the state round
Lalitpur 13 Sept	GGIC Hall 90 students/9 schools	Ms. Poonam Malik, principal of the host school congratulated the team of Lalitpur Chapter headed by Mr. Santosh Sharma
Mahoba 3 & 11 Sept	Gyansthali Public School and Saraswati Balika Inter College 100 students	Written round (3 Sept) and Oral round (11 Sept). The students from Gyansthali emerged as the winners
Allahabad/ Prayagraj 19 Sept	Patanjali Rishikul School 110 students	Anvita and Anwesha Tiwari from Patanjali Rishikul emerged victorious, qualifying for the State Level
Kanpur 27 Sept	United Public School 5 schools	United Public School remained at the third position while the two teams of Swaraj India Public School achieved the first and second positions
Dharwad 12 Aug	K E Board High School 110 students/11 schools	J S English Medium High School Dharwad secured the first position
Vijaypur 31 Aug	DR P G Halakatti Research Centre 74 students/13 schools	Shri BM Patil Public School stood first followed by St. Joseph School
Gulbarga 6 Sept	Sri Swami Vivekanand School, Sedam 120 students/11 schools	The first prize went to Anaveer C. Ujja and Sumeda from Vasavadatta Vidya Vihara School
Bengaluru 15 Nov	Greenwood High International School	The INTACH heritage quiz was conducted successfully with the team from Presidency RT Nagar that moved further to the State rounds
Belagavi 24 Aug	Bharatesh Global Business School 64 students/7 schools	Atharva Shetye and Anirudh Kamath from St. Mary's High School emerged as the winners of the Quiz
Rajkot 5 Aug	Genius School 300 students/15 schools	The team from T. N. Rao School, comprising Saanvi Pansuriya and Parisha Chauhan (Grade 7), emerged as the champions
Jamnagar 19 Aug	Summair Sports Club 60 students/6 schools	The winners were from Shree Satya Sai Vidyalaya CBSE. The quiz was supported by participating schools
Vadodara 17 Aug	Bright Day CBSE School, Vasana 82 students/21 schools	The winning team of the Quiz from Bright Day CBSE School, Vasna Unit, was comprised of Dutt Patel and Jwalin Vyas
Ahmedabad 23 Oct	Shreyas Foundation 160 students	The Ahmedabad round of the Quiz 2024 was held on 23rd
Solapur 5 Aug	SPM English School 68 students/17 schools	V. M. Mehta High School's team, consisting of Ms. Anushka Amol Gaikwad and Master Sujay Mohan Hajare, emerged as winners
Wai-Panchgani 10 Aug	Kalpataru Mangal Karyalya 70 students/7 schools	Miss Avani Nilesh Gaikwad and Miss Shreya Shirish Ghaisas qualified for the state level competition
Chandrapur 10 Sept	Chanda Shikshan Mandal 66 students/6 schools	The team of Chhotu Bhai Patel High School (Ku. Rahat Riyaz Khan and Divyanshu Surendra Meshram) secured first place

NATIONAL HERITAGE QUIZ 2024

Chapter/Date	Venue/No. of Students/School	Details
Amravati 12 Sept	Government Vidarbha Institute 63 students/6 schools	Tasmay Shingane and Atharva Giri of Podar International School won first place
Nagpur 14 Sept	Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) Nagpur Circle 70 students/8 schools	Organized in collaboration with ASI and the Rotary Club of Nagpur Mihan Town. Bhavan's Bhagwandas Purohit Vidya Mandir, Trimurti Nagar, secured the first position
Nashik 4 Oct	Govardhan School 125 students/10 schools	The team from SKD International School from Deola was declared winner. The runner up team was also from the same school
Mumbai 18 Nov	Khadi Gramudyog 44 students/11 schools	The team from Children's Academy, Kandivali won the city round
Santiniketan 20 Sept	SNSN Girls' School, Labhpur 20 students/5 schools	SNSN Girls' High School emerged as the champion with Shubhasree Guin and Nandita Mondal leading the winning team
Kolkata 20 Sept	Sri Sri Academy 46 students/6 schools	The quiz competition was hosted by the quiz masters Ms. Smita Mehta and Calcutta Chapter over 5 rounds
Murshidabad 6 Sept	Berhampore 300 students/16 schools	Sargachhi Ramakrishna Mission High School secured the first place, followed by Gokarna N G Girls High School, Ramnagar High School
Darjeeling 20 Sept	Kurseong 50 students/5 schools	St Alphonsus Higher Secondary school was declared winner of the quiz
Kangra 12 Sept	DAV Sr. Sec. Public School, Dehra 64 students/6 schools	The quiz was inaugurated by Chief Guest Shilpi Beakta, SDM of Dehra. The team from Delhi Convent School won the quiz
Mandi 18 Aug		The quiz was won by the team from Swami Vivekanand Sr. Sec. School
Jammu 13 Oct	Jodhamal Public School 144 students/22 schools	The team from KC Public school emerged as winner
Srinagar 17 Aug	Govt. Boys Higher Secondary Institute, Soura 94 students/10 schools	The team of Ms. Syed Aabroo Hamdani and Ms. Areeba Tariq from Govt. High School, Malbagh, emerged as the winners
Port Blair 23-25 Aug	Model Sr. Sec. School 100 students/9 schools	The quiz involved multiple schools including GSSS Lambaline, GSS South Point, GMS Dignabad, Govt. Model Demonstration Multipurpose School and GSSS Junglighat
Guwahati 20 Aug	Royal Global School 160 students	The team from Maharishi Vidya Mandir was awarded as the best team
Aizawl-Mizoram 28 Aug	Directorate of School Education 100 students/13 schools	The students from Mount Carmel school emerged as the winners after a very hard-fought competition
Gangtok 27 Sept	38 students/6 schools	Charisma K. Lepcha, Convener of Chapter, hosted the event, with Madam Bina Sharma as quizmaster, assisted by Dr. James Haokip
Nagaland 15 Oct	Don Bosco Institute, Dimapur 24 teams/6 schools	Nitish Kumar Das and Rohan Das from Ram Janaki Hr. Sec. School emerged as winners
Mussorie 25 Sept	CJM Hampton Court	Oak Grove School bagged the first title followed by Wynberg Allen as first runner up and St. Georges College as second runner up
Dehradun 1 Oct	RIMC, Doon International School 150 students/22 schools	The Quiz was conducted in Dehradun by Uttarakhand Chapter
Bhilwara 28 Aug	Govt. Sr. Sec. School 88 students/9 schools	The written round was followed by the oral round which was won by the students of Maheshwari Public School
Jhalawar 24 Aug	Immanuel Sr. Sec. School 59 students/6 schools	The quiz was won by Devangi Goyal and Charvi Jain of Roopnagar Public School
Jodhpur 6 Sept	Konark Sr Sec School, Pratap Nagar, Jodhpur 124 students/8 schools	Students from Mayoor Chopasini School - Raghavendra Singh, and Garima Singh won the competition
Barmer 11 Sept	100 students/10 schools	The quiz was won by Mahatma Gandhi Rajkiya Vidyalaya, Kalyanpur. Dr. Poonam Singh was the quizmaster
Sirohi 31 Aug	Ajit Vidya Mandir, Sirohi 36 students/10 schools	The first place in the competition was secured by Komal Kunwar and Ranjan Kunwar of Adarsh Vidya Mandir (girls)
Udaipur 18 Sept	Rockwood High School 80 students/10 schools	The quiz was won by the team from St. Anthony School. All participants received certificates
Beawar 14 Sept	Adarsh Vidya Mandir 496 students/31 schools	The team from Central Academy won the quiz
Jaipur 4 Oct	136 students/34 schools	Quiz master Aman Choudhary led the final rounds, with Cambridge Court High School securing first place, Neerja Modi School second
Ajmer 29 Sept	Turning Point School 104 students/18 schools	In the oral round, the team of St. Stephen's School stood first. The winning students were Shreyansh Singh Khichi & Swapnil Goyal
Bikaner 27 Sept	Seth Tularam Bafna Academy 54 students/6 schools	The team from Maharani Kishori Devi Girls School won the quiz
Alwar 23 July	Sri Agarwal Mahatma Parisar 75 students/7 schools	The first position was secured by Bal Bhartiya Higher Secondary School
Mandla 10 Aug	100 students/10 schools	The quiz was done in two phases; in the first part 10 schools took part. Four schools qualified for the second round
Dhar 8 Sept	Utkrasht Vidhyalaya Campus 90 students/7 schools	The quiz was won by the duo of Devendra and Hansika from Utkrisht Vidhyalaya
Khandwa 2 Oct	INTACH Khandwa Chapter HQ 70 students/5 schools	Bhuvi Tejwani and Bhagyashree Sethi from Poddar International School won the city round
Katni 14 Sept	Wisdom World English Medium School 72 students/6 schools	The competition, conducted in two rounds—written and oral—Chicago Public School securing first place, followed by Anamika Academy in second
Burhanpur 25 Aug	Patidar Samajwadi 106 students/11 schools	The quiz was won by Aishwarya Salve and Akshada from Imperial Academy
Chanderi	414 students/10 schools	Chanderi Public School won the quiz and will represent the district at the state level
Datia 22 Sept	Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Bundela Colony	The team of Saraswati Vidya Mandir Bundela Nagar has secured the first position and has made its place for the state level quiz
Morena 31 Aug	Amar Shaheed Pt. Ram Prasad Bismil Museum Morena 100 students/10 schools	Ajay and Yashveer Kushwaha of Govt. Model School, Morena won the quiz
Raipur 9 Sept	Laxminarayan Kanya Hr. Sec. School, Gurukul Complex 24 students/12 schools	Harsh Mishra and Mayank Sahu from Swami Atmanand Shahid Smarak School secured the first position
Durg Bhilai 14 Sept	Shri Shankaracharya Vidyalaya, Hudco Bhilai 76 students	First place went to Yash Kumar Kashyap and Riyansh Kumar

NATIONAL HERITAGE QUIZ 2024

Chapter/Date	Venue/No. of Students/School	Details
Kawardha	13 teams	The first prize was awarded to Vivekanand Sonkar and Dhanajay Manikpuri from Swami Atmanand Hindi Medium Higher Secondary School
Bilaspur 22-30 Aug	Pt. Deokinandan Girls Hr. Sec. School, Bilaspur 145 students/16 schools	The written round on 22nd Aug. and the oral round on 30th Aug. were held for 27 selected students from seven schools
Mahasamund 14 Sept	Forest Department, Baronda Bazar 68 students	Alok Aman Yadav and Sameer Sahu of Vrindavan Vidyalaya won the first prize
Saraipali 18 Oct	SAGES, Saraipali 196 students/24 schools	The team from SAGES Saraipali stood first
Rajnandgaon 18 Oct	Gayatri Public School 106 students/10 schools	The quiz consisted of a written round was topped by the students of Wesleyan Hindi Med. Hr. Sec. School
Patna 29 Sept	57 students and 22 schools	Don Bosco Academy won of the Quiz and second prize went to St. Karens
Purnea 26 Sept	Ravibansh Narayan Mishra Memorial Auditorium in Parora, Purnea	The INTACH Purnea Chapter conducted preliminary rounds across various schools in Purnea by Somnath Chanda, a renowned national-level quizzier
Bhagalpur 3 Sept	St Paul's School, Karngarh 80 participants	St Paul's school emerged as a winner post the oral round
Gaya 24 Sept	38 students	The 1st prize went to the team from Jai Hind Public School
Mahabubnagar 20-28 Aug	504 students/81 schools	The Quiz covered government high schools and upper primary schools across 17 mandals. The winners were Sanjay J. and Praveen from Mahabubnagar (Urban), with the runner-up team from Rajapur
Chennai 31 Aug	Sri Sankara Vidyashramam, Thiruvanmiyur 216 students/26 schools	For the final round, the winners were Aadhyansh A and Anirudh P from PSBB School, Gerugambakkam
Coimbatore 31 Aug	Vivekalaya's Vichara World School 226 students/17 schools	Ms. Aishwarya Rao, Director of Vivekalaya Group, supported the event. Vivekalaya's Vichara World School emerged as the winner
Salem 30 Aug	Sri Vidya Mandir HSS, Anandasrama, Salem	Two students of Sri Vidya Bharathi Matric HSS were qualified for the State rounds
Thanjavur 31 Aug	Little Scholars Mat. HSS, Thanjavur 190 students/5 schools	Winners were Rithesh and Keerthivarman from Little Scholars Matric Hr. Sec. School
Madurai 29 Aug	Vallaba Vidyalaya School 94 students/12 schools	Winners for the final oral quiz, were Sivaani H. and Mahathi R. from Mahatma CBSE School
Kodaikanal 28 Aug	Zion school, Kodaikanal 96 students/9 schools	In the oral/visual round, Adwait and Nithilan from Bhavan's claimed first place, followed by two PCK teams in second and third
Calicut/Kozhikode 22 Aug	Sri Gujarati Vidyalaya, Kozhikode 90 students/11 schools	The first place was awarded to the team from Vedavyasa Vidyalayam
Kochi 14 Aug	Kerala Museum 16 schools/80 students	Sivendu Pai and Karthik Bejoy from Bhavans Vidyamandir Elamakkara emerged as the winners
Kasargod 5 Aug & 28 Sept	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya/Latheefiya Senior Secondary English School 100 students	The winners were Adithya Ramesh and Neha P. from Latheefiya Senior Secondary School
Palakkad 31 July	Sarada Krishna Iyer Memorial Library Hall, Palakkad 156 students/14 schools	Jubin and Sarang from Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Tattamangalam, emerged as winners
Thrissur 24 Aug	Museum & Zoo department at the State Museum of Kerala 70 students/12 schools	The event was coordinated by quiz master Salabha T.G., and Anil Sir (Superintendent of the Museum & Zoo), Nandakishore K. S. and Sreehari C. Nair from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's Irinjalakuda, emerged as the champions
Trivandrum 7 Sept		10th Standard students from St. Shanthals High School were the winners in the Trivandrum round
Anantapur 1 Sept	Rotary English Medium School 42 students/5 schools	Amrutha and Supraja from Rotary English Medium School secured first place in the quiz competition.
East Godavari 28 July	Sri Ramakrishna School, Kakinada 174 students/14 schools	G. Krishna Samhita and K. Bhargava Sanmukha Srinivas from Ashram Public School, Kakinada, secured first place
Guntur 21 Aug	Sri Bommidala Srikrishna Murthy Auditorium, Bharatiya Vidyabhavan 13+ schools	KLP Public School won the first prize, showcasing exceptional knowledge of cultural heritage
Kadapa 20 Aug	Arts College for Men, Kadapa 9 students/9 schools	The winners of the Quiz were T. Padeep Kumar & G. Y. Brunda Sree
Visakhapatnam 9 Aug	Alwardas Public School, MVP Colony 21 students/190 students	Students of Navy Children School, Nausena Baugh emerged as winners. The Convenor Dr. D. Rajasekhar Reddy highlighted the organization's activities
Srikakulam 30 Aug		Winners advancing to the state-level rounds after the quiz competition. The Chapter highlighted the importance of such events
Machlipatnam		The winners were from class 9th, Sri Balaji Vidyalayam, Machlipatnam
Nandyal 8 Sept	Sri Guru Raja School 56 students	Sri Guru Raja School emerged as the winner, followed by Kesavareddy School in second place and Good Shepherd School in third. Kumari V. Satwika and S. Amulya from Sri Guru Raja English Medium School, Nandyal, were selected for their outstanding performance
Sambalpur 25 Aug	Jyoti Hall, near Regional Archives, Hirakud Colony, Sambalpur 28 students/14 schools	Students from Vikash Higher Secondary School emerged as the winners
Balasore 25 Aug	Balasore Law College, Balasore 10 schools/76 students	Students from Siddhi Vinayak Public School emerged as the winners
Bhubhaneswar	MBS Public School 6 schools/120 students	Students of MBS Public School emerged as the winners of the preliminary rounds of the quiz competition
Balangir 24 Aug	67 students/7 schools	The Quiz was conducted in the region by the chapter
Mayurbhanj 1 & 10 Sept	MPK govt girls' high school 114 students/11 schools	The participants of the winning team were from O.A.V, Ranibhol, Baripada, Mayurbhanj
Ranchi 30 Sept	JVM Shyamli	The quiz competition was conducted in Ranchi at JVM Shyamli
Jamshedpur 22 Oct	Centre of Excellence 42 students/7 schools	The quiz was conducted in four phases, Somanshu Manna and Om Kumar from Kerala Public School, Kadma secured the first position

▼ INTACH HERITAGE ACADEMY

INTACH Heritage Academy is the first-of-its-kind in the country, running programmes for training, research and capacity building in all aspects of heritage understanding, documentation, conservation and management. The academy aims to further research to develop a critical understanding of complexities and issues related to heritage.

Training

Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage, 23-27 September

A workshop on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage was held in collaboration with INTACH Intangible Cultural Heritage Division. This five-day course introduced Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) and its significance in our cultural context. It gave the participants the necessary orientation to be able to identify, document and safeguard ICH. The participants were given the skills to conduct identification, listing and mapping, and recording of ICH as well as creating strategies for its safeguarding. A range of approaches and methods that are used for documentation and safeguarding of ICH were demonstrated. The course included a site visit to Shahjahanabad and hands-on sessions on documenting ICH. The course was attended by four participants.



Session on ICH & Communities by Dr. Madhura Dutta, Cultural and Development Consultant

Liberal Edge Courses at Kumaraguru College of Liberal Arts and Science, 29 July-3 August

INTACH Heritage Academy was invited to conduct two in-person courses based around cultural heritage at Kumaraguru College of Liberal Arts and Science (KCLAS), Coimbatore, titled 'Exploring the Heritage of Coimbatore' and 'Culture and Community'. These five-day programmes were held from 29 July to 3 August, at the KCLAS campus, complemented by site visits to various locations across Coimbatore. The courses were designed for second-year undergraduate students from diverse disciplines, including Management, Commerce, Psychology, Visual Communication, Creative Tamil, Data Science and others.

Through these programmes, students were introduced to fundamental concepts of heritage and community, gaining insights into the significance of heritage and its



Students on a site visit to Perur Temple with conservation architect Sakthi Murugan



Site Visit conducted by Rajesh Govindarajulu at the local bamboo market

role in society. The courses helped foster a deeper understanding of what heritage represents and why it is essential to preserve it.

The resource persons included architects and historians from Coimbatore, along with experts from INTACH's Natural Heritage (NH), Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) and Architectural Heritage (AH) divisions.

Capacity Building Workshop on Conserving and Managing Built Heritage, Rajkot, 23-24 September

INTACH Heritage Academy organized a Capacity Building Workshop in Rajkot on 23 and 24 September at the Mahatma Gandhi Museum, in collaboration with INTACH Rajkot. The workshop brought together 55 participants from the Saurashtra region, including engineers and architects from the State Archaeology Department, Government of Gujarat, as well as professionals from Rajkot Municipal Corporation (RMC), RnB (City and State), and Gujarat Energy Transmission Corporation Limited (GETCO), along with members from the INTACH Rajkot Chapter.

The workshop aimed to familiarize participants with conservation processes. The



Group photo with Prof. Surajit Sarkar, Independent Researcher & Curator and Dr. Parul Munjal, Director, IHA Division, INTACH



Ms. Riddhi Shah, Convenor, INTACH Rajkot Chapter delivering her lecture on 'Glimpses of the Built Heritage of Saurashtra'



Retd. Major Gen. LK Gupta, Chairman, INTACH, addressing INTACH members in the opening session of the XVth Capacity Building Workshop at Niryat Bhawan



Team IHA with the resource persons and participants in front of the Bandstand in Jubilee Garden, Rajkot



AH representatives conducted a listing and documentation working session at Lodhi Garden monuments



Field visit to Hauz Khas Lake for Listing and Documentation of natural heritage conducted by Dr. Ritu Singh on Day 2 of Capacity Building Workshop

resource experts included Dr. Parul Munjal, Director IHA; Ms. Riddhi Shah, Convenor, INTACH Rajkot; Ms. Gurmeet Rai, renowned conservation architect from Delhi and Ms. Sheetal Gandhi from Mumbai, who has served as conservation architect across many projects over two decades.

The participants gained valuable insights into heritage conservation through sessions by Sheetal Gandhi on 'Process of Conservation' and 'Causes of Decay in Historic Buildings.' The workshop included site visits to local historic structures, allowing participants to observe, document, and discuss heritage issues and opportunities. Gurmeet Rai's sessions on 'Conservation Techniques' and 'Adaptive Reuse of Heritage Buildings' explored various intervention levels and practical challenges in preserving historic buildings. Her case studies provided a comprehensive understanding of conservation and adaptive reuse.

Active discussions, both on-site and in the classroom, focused on the visited structures and participants' ongoing or future projects, enhancing their understanding of conservation challenges and best practices in the Saurashtra region.

15th Capacity Building Workshop for INTACH Members

The Workshop for INTACH Members was conducted from 21 to 24 October at Niryat Bhawan and United Service Institution, Shankar Vihar Rao Tula Ram Marg. A total of 58 participants from 33 INTACH Chapters across India attended the workshop organized by INTACH Heritage Academy and Chapters Division, INTACH. The workshop was designed to introduce aspects related to understanding, listing, documenting and conserving different kinds of heritage; natural, architectural, material and intangible. Sessions were conducted by heads of the various divisions of INTACH and their representatives to orient the members about INTACH's undertakings and initiatives and raise awareness among them about heritage.

Field visits to Lodhi Gardens and Hauz Khas Lake were organized for introduction to the process of listing and documentation of heritage. For architectural heritage listing, participants were introduced to the heritage survey mobile application-'Survey123' developed by the Architectural Heritage (AH) Division, followed by the

field exercise. Listing and documentation of natural heritage was conducted at Hauz Khas Lake with Dr. Ritu Singh, where participants identified and learnt the proper way to select and list heritage trees and natural heritage sites.

New additions to the workshop were made by the IHA team such as an interactive application-based heritage quiz and a group discussion. The quiz created a positive engagement and received appreciation from the participants. Through the group discussion, the participants were able to highlight the local heritage resources in their respective regions and bring out the threats and issues to these resources. They also deliberated on the potential action that can be taken to mitigate the threats and safeguard their heritage.

The Chairman, INTACH encouraged the members to become active contributors as heritage guardians. The workshop provided a dynamic platform for skill-building and knowledge-sharing, enhancing the overall learning experience for the participating INTACH Members.

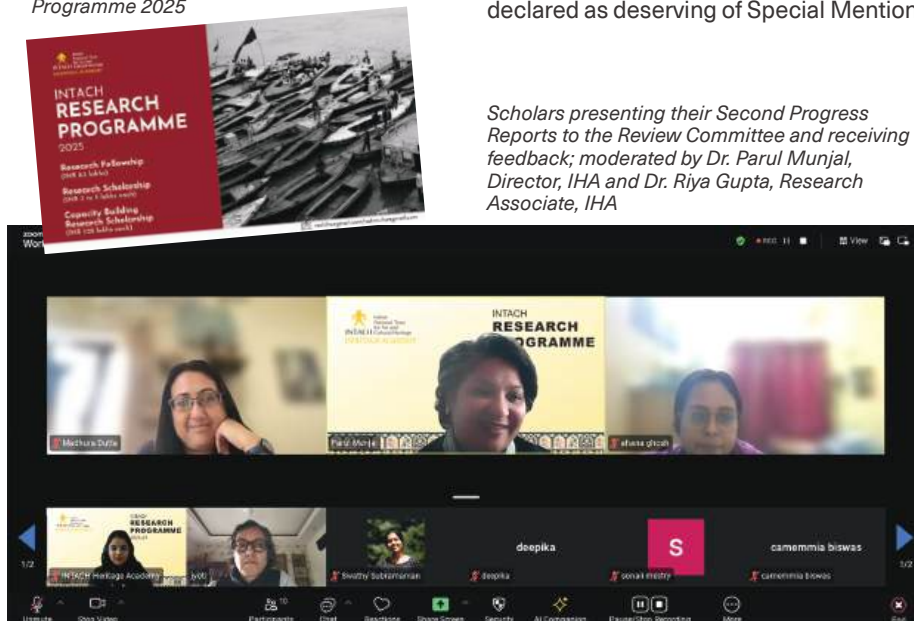
Research

INTACH Research Programme 2023-24

Support has been extended to seven proposals in the Research Scholarship category and two in the Capacity Building Research Scholarship. The awardees have been paid the first installment to initiate their research work. Additionally, on 27 April, an online meet-and-greet was organized to help the awardees chart the course for their study. As part of the meet-and-greet they were also acquainted with various stages of the review process and expected deliverables at all those stages.

The First Review Committee Meeting to evaluate the progress of the research work was held on 13 July. The awardees presented their First Progress Reports and received constructive feedback from our esteemed Review Committee members: Dr. Suresh Sethuraman, Tamil Nadu State Convener, INTACH, Chennai; Dr. Jyoti P Sharma, Professor, Faculty of Architecture, School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi and Dr. Madhura Dutta, Culture and Development Specialist. Discussion was encouraged, orienting the researchers towards substantial contributions to the field of heritage studies. Similarly, the Second Review Committee Meeting was held on 23 November.

Announcement of INTACH Research Programme 2025

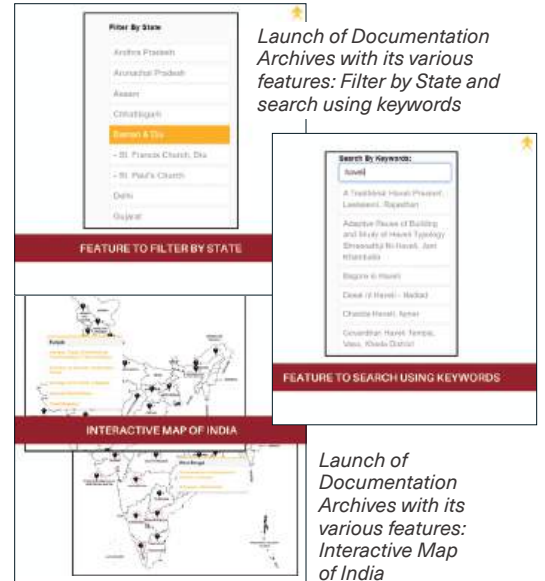


INTACH Awards Announcement 2024

INTACH Awards for Interdisciplinary Heritage Documentation 2024

The Awards programme was moved to an online mode, with the launch of an online registration-cum-submission portal. A YouTube resource was created to help participants with the process of documentation and submission. The last date for submission of entries was 5 July. A total of 53 entries were received. The online Jury for the evaluation of the entries was held on 25-26 July. Finally, the winners in all three categories—Award of Excellence, Award of Merit and Commendation Award—were declared on 30 July. Besides, four entries were also declared as deserving of Special Mention.

Scholars presenting their Second Progress Reports to the Review Committee and receiving feedback; moderated by Dr. Parul Munjal, Director, IHA and Dr. Riya Gupta, Research Associate, IHA



Launch of Documentation Archives with its various features: Filter by State and search using keywords

Launch of Documentation Archives with its various features: Interactive Map of India

Web-portal for Documentation Archives

Since 2015, IHA has been involved in heritage documentation awareness, encouraging its practice among undergraduate students through its INTACH Awards for Interdisciplinary Heritage Documentation programme. From 2015 to 2022 a total of 207 sites have been documented. To make the documentation work more accessible and increase its visibility through our website, an online Documentation Archive was developed.

INTACH Journal of Heritage Studies

Volume 6, Issue 1 of IJHS is being compiled and edited on the theme 'Culture and Communities'. It is scheduled to be released in December 2024. The issue comprises opinion editorials, papers from INTACH Research Programme 2022



Call for Papers for INTACH Journal, Volume 6, Issue 2



cycle, photo essays, book reviews as well as a review of INTACH Publications on the theme. For the next issue (Volume 6, Issue 2) a call for papers was announced on the theme 'Conserving Significant Places in India', inviting academics as well as practitioners to submit papers reflecting on the evolving practices of heritage conservation, focusing on the unique challenges and opportunities in India. A total of 125 abstracts were received, out of which 48 have been shortlisted for presentation during a two-day symposium being conducted on 6-7 December. The selected papers will be considered for publication in IJHS upon further peer-review.

Events

Convocation and Awards Ceremony, 29 August

The convocation ceremony for the PG Diploma in Heritage Studies Batches of 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 and Awards ceremony for the 2024 cycle of INTACH Awards for Interdisciplinary Heritage Documentation was held on 29 August. Prof. (Dr.) Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University and former Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi, graced the occasion with his presence as the Chief Guest, accompanied by Maj. Gen. L K Gupta, Chairman, INTACH, Dr. (Mrs.) Chuden Misra, former Member Secretary, INTACH. The event was attended by HoDs of INTACH, members of the Academic Council of IHA, students receiving the Awards and Diploma and their family members.



Group photograph of students who received the Diploma with the Chief Guest Dr. Deepak Nayyar, Dr. Chuden Mishra, Maj. Gen. L K Gupta, Dr. Parul Munjal and Ms. Anshika Jain



Students receiving awards for their winning entries



The guests at the event included Ms. Anita Singh, HoDs of INTACH and Academic Council members of IHA, namely Prof. Surajit Sarkar, Dr. Madhura Dutta and Dr. Neha Midha

The event included the following activities:

- Five students from the batch of 2022-23 and eight students from the batch of 2023-24 were awarded the Postgraduate Diploma in Heritage Studies, out of which a total of five students attended the convocation.
- Winning entries of the three categories of awards – Award of Excellence, Award of Merit and Commendation Award – were exhibited at INTACH Headquarters. The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Deepak Nayyar. Representatives from all the winning entries traveled from various parts of the country to receive their awards.
- Launch of Documentation Archives from 2015-2022
- Announcement of INTACH Research Programme 2025

Celebrating 100 years of Announcement of Harappan Culture

On 20 September, IHA commemorated the centenary of the announcement of the Harappan Culture's discovery, first revealed in *The Illustrated London News* in 1924. This was carried out under the guidance of the late Convener-INTACH Udaipur Chapter, Dr. Lalit Pandey, an eminent archaeologist and former Dean, FSSH BN University, Udaipur.

The initiative included a series of engaging photos, informative captions, and interactive quizzes on social media platforms. Our campaign engaged audiences with a series of photos and quizzes, all aimed at celebrating the rich heritage of the Harappan Civilization and Culture. Through the hashtags #HarappanHistory100, #Archaeology and #HarappanHistory, archival images were shared that highlighted the groundbreaking excavations at Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro done in the 1920s, revealing their remarkable town planning and drainage systems. IHA also hosted an online quiz, 'Unveiling Harappan History – A Quiz Through Time', inviting social media users to test their knowledge of this ancient civilization's marvels. This campaign facilitated discussions about the significance of Harappan culture and served as an awareness campaign enriching understanding of our shared history.

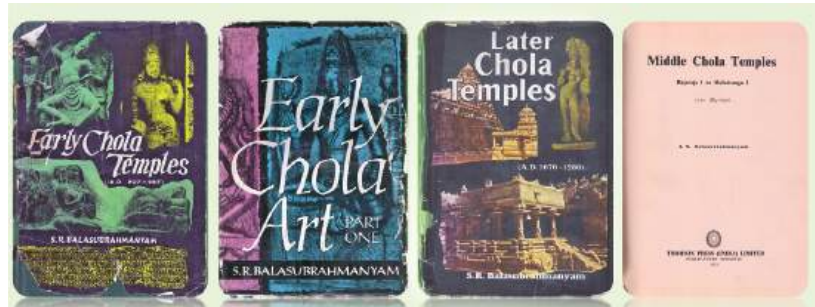


Inauguration of INTACH Awards Exhibition by Dr. Deepak Nayyar

INTACH KNOWLEDGE CENTRE

Donation of Old Books by Shri Kamala Ratnam

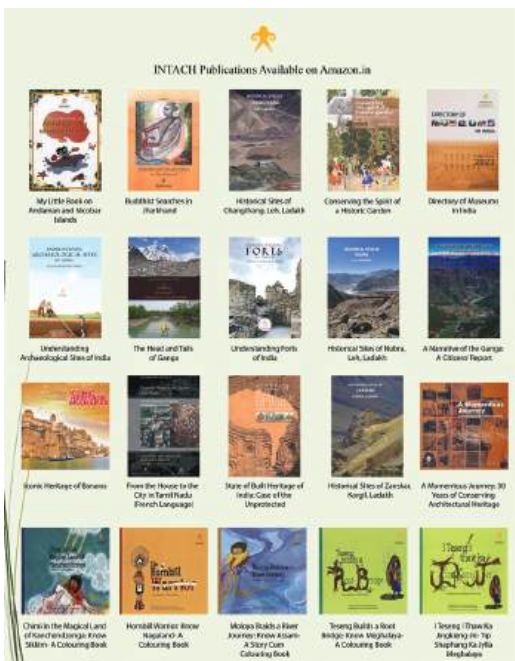
IKC had received a donation of a four volume set of old books on Chola Temples and Art authored by S. R. Balasubrahmanyam from Kamala Ratnam. The precious four volume set covers the artistic and religious history of South India's Chola period temples and art with illustrations, historical maps and plates of temple sculptures. The set has been included in the IKC collection of books to fulfill the informational requirements of users.



Set of four books on Chola Temples and Art

Distribution of INTACH Publications via. Amazon.in Website

To disseminate INTACH Publications globally, IKC has been uploading details of INTACH Publications at Amazon.in website. Currently, twenty publications are available at the Amazon site. The work of uploading information of one more INTACH book entitled 'Wall Painting Sites of Himachal Pradesh' by INTACH M&AH division is in the pipeline.



Details of Publications distributed during August-November 2024

S. No.	Title	Author Name	ISBN	No of Units Distributed
1.	Iconic Heritage of Banaras	Architectural Heritage Division, INTACH	9789382343325	10
2.	Understanding Archaeological Sites of India	Dr. S. B. Darsana	9788196771768	4
3.	Understanding Forts of India	Architectural Heritage Division, INTACH	9788195473168	10
4.	Historical Sites of Changthang Leh, Ladakh	Dr. Quentin Devers	9789382343349	1
5.	A Narrative of the Ganga: a Citizen's Report	Dr. Ravi Chopra, Manoj Kumar Misra, Manu Bhatnagar	9788195901999	1
6.	My Little book on Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Roohani Sawhney, Samhita Veda Acharya	9789382343387	1
7.	Historical Sites of Zanskar, Kargil, Ladakh	Dr. Quentin Devers	9788195703913	1
8.	Directory of Museums in India	INTACH	9788195901968	2
9.	State of Built Heritage of India: Case of the Unprotected	INTACH Architectural Heritage Division	9789382343165	1
10.	A Momentous Journey: 30 years of conserving architectural heritage	INTACH Architectural Heritage Division	9789382343127	2
11.	Historical Sites of Nubra, Leh, Ladkh	Dr. Quentin Devers	9788195703906	1
12.	From the house to the city in Tamil Nadu	Dr. Jacques Gaucher	9788196397975	1
13.	Buddhist Searches in Jharkhand	Bulu Imam	9788195901982	1
14.	Chimi in the Magical Land of Kanchendzonga – Know Sikkim	Prachi Desai	9788195473182	2
15.	The Hornbill Warrior – Know Nagaland – A Colouring Book	Prachi Joshi	9789382343264	2
16.	Teseng Builds a Root Bridge – Know Meghalaya – A Story cum Colouring Book	Prachi Joshi	9789382343370	2
17.	Moloya Braids a River Journey – Know Assam	Prachi Joshi	9788196771775	1
18.	The Heads and Tails of Ganga	Vijay Paranjpye, Radhika Mulay, Chaitrali Kulkarni	9788196397968	1
19.	Conserving the Spirit of a Historic Garden	Priyaleen Singh	9788195473113	4
Total				48



HERITAGE TOURISM DIVISION

Training Programmes

A one-day Sensitization Programme for the Tourism Fraternity was organized in collaboration with the Tourist Guide Association (TGA), Varanasi, on 2 October at the Urban Food Court Hall Cantt. The programme was conducted for 60 participants – guides and tourism officials with support of the Division. The theme of the programme was Sustainable Tourism – Focus on Crowd Management at Tourist Sites as Varanasi is a major heritage tourism hub and tourism practices need to be sustainable.



Lighting of lamp by Prof. Pradosh Mishra (BHU), Mr. Ashok Kapoor, INTACH Varanasi Convenor and resource persons for the programme

The subjects covered were on sustainable tourism practices, cultural heritage of Varanasi and museums as cultural heritage sites. The programme focused on the tourism and hospitality sectors of Varanasi.

A 4-day workshop on Skill Development for heritage and tourist Guides was organized from 5 to 8 November by the INTACH Dharamshala Chapter with support of the Division. The workshop was inaugurated by Dr. Rajeev Bhardwaj, Member of Parliament, at 10:30 a.m. at CII-MCM Trust Skill Development Institute, Khamiyaja, Dharamshala.



Briefing on the programme by the Convenor



Keynote Address by Prof. Pradosh Mishra



Dr Subhash Yadav delivering a lecture



Presentation on galleries of Bharat Kala Bhawan Museum by Mr Deepak Bharathan

Ms. Malvika Pathania HP State Convenor was the Guest of Honour. Mr. Hemraj Bairwa IAS, DC Kangra at Dharamshala was the Chief Guest of the Valedictory Function and gave away the Certificates of Participation sponsored by the Department of Tourism, HP Government.



Attending participants of the programme



Local press reporting

The sessions covered were on preservation of folk art and cultural heritage, UNESCO Heritage Sites in India and Himachal Pradesh, heritage tourism and sustainable community development, historical, art and cultural legacy in Kangra, and heritage tourism sites in Kangra and Chamba.



DC Kangra at Dharamshala along with resource persons observing the in-house session of the programme

Site visits were made to Kangra Fort, Raja Sansar Chand Museum, oldest Shwetamber Jain Temple and Devi Temple by Prashant Dogra, Junior Engineer, Archaeological Survey of India, Camp Office Kangra Fort.

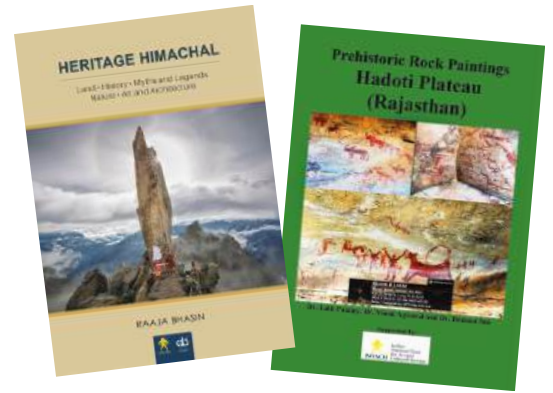


Participants at Kangra Fort with the resource person Mr. Dogra

Heritage Walks

The Jammu Heritage walk (Part-1) was organized on the theme titled 'Cultural Resource Mapping' by the Convenor of the Jammu Chapter with support of the Division. Participants for the walk included 35 students, 10 faculty members of the Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Degree College, Hiranagar (Kathua District of Jammu), 5 resource persons, 12 volunteers and members of the Jammu Chapter and the Sub-Chapter Kathua.

The walk was made to sensitize the participants of the heritage in the block i.e. built heritage, historic temples, traditional crafts centre such as Dak Bunglow, Hiranagar Fort, Jandi Temple of Lord Shiva, Historic Sumwan Temple (its unique features and wall painting), Housing Bamboo Training Centre, Sallan.



Participants for the walk from Girdhari Lal Dogra Memorial Degree College and heritage enthusiasts along with members of the Chapter

Heritage walk to the built heritage sites:



Jandi Temple of Lord Shiva



Murals of oldest Sumwan Temple



Participants at Dak Bunglow



Hiranagar Fort of Raja Hira Singh

Publications

The **Heritage Himachal** Guide has been published by INTACH in collaboration with Aryan Books International with support of the Division. Mr. Raja Bhasin, Co-Convenor of Himachal Pradesh State Chapter, is author of the guide. The publication is exhaustively researched, profusely illustrated and written in the author's distinctive and enjoyable style.

The publication titled **Prehistoric Rock Paintings of Hadoti Plateau Region, Rajasthan** is under print. The study has been researched and authored by Late Professor Lalit Pandey, Convenor, Udaipur Chapter and Professor Vinod Agrawal. Dr Hemant Sen and Sri Om Prakash Kukki local amateur archaeologist assisted the authors in production of the book. The exploration covered 13 villages and sites in the Bundi-Bhilwara region. The rock paintings cover the Upper Palaeolithic Period to the Early Historic Period i.e. roughly between 40000 BCE to 3000 CE. The present monograph is an attempt to draw attention to the prehistoric treasures of the Hadoti Plateau region of Rajasthan, present in the form of 'Rock Paintings'.

Gangaikondacholapuram-Darasuram – A Guide to Built Heritage: The Tamil Nadu Chapter Convenor, Dr Suresh, has initiated research for production of this guide. Both the sites belong to the Chola dynasty's (a period of mid-11th & 12th centuries) historical places and temples including UNESCO World Heritage Darasuram Airavatesvara Temple and the archaeological ruins. These two sites are not as easily accessible as other eminent temples at Tanjavur and Mahabalipuram.



▼ PUBLICATIONS

A **Docket of the folders** of eight Divisions has been published comprising of the activities, projects and programmes of the AH, A&MH, NH, ICH HECS, HCCD, IHA and IKC + Publications. The docket provides comprehensive information for the technical and non-technical divisions. The same was designed and printed by the division. The Chapters, Cultural Affairs and Heritage Tourism are to be taken up also.

The National Library of India: INTACH Publications have been posted to the National Library of India, Kolkata. The latest INTACH Publications were sent to them as follows:

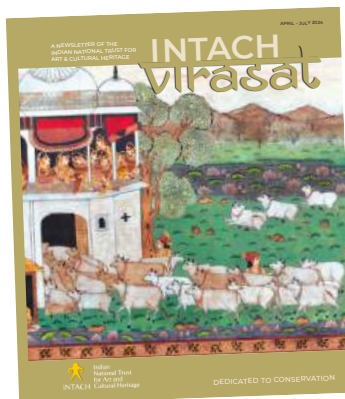
- Historic Gardens of India (Volume 1 – Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Delhi and UP)
- Historical sites of SHAM, Leh, Ladakh

An **INTACH brochure/leaflet** in English and Hindi for the upcoming Kumbh Mela 2025 is being produced.

The **INTACH Virasat Newsletter** has transitioned from a quarterly to a triannual publication, beginning with the April – July 2024 issue. The division has introduced a new 'Book Review' section from the last edition to feature recent acquisitions in our library. We have added one more new section 'Heritage Information' in the current edition for our readers.

The Division has generated digital ISBN for INTACH publications from June – October 2024 for the following books:

S.No.	Title of the book	ISBN	Author/Editor	Publication month
1	Water Policy For Delhi	978-81-978206-1-8	Manu Bhatnagar	20/11/2024
2	INTACH Lecture Series 2023-24	978-81-978206-4-9	Manisha Singh	29/10/2024
3	Historical Sites of Sham: Leh, Ladakh	978-81-967717-1-3	A. Vijaya	21/08/2024
4	Historical Sites of Purig: Kargil, Ladakh	978-81-978206-8-7	A. Vijaya	21/08/2024
5	Fourteenth Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture – Imagining The Future of The Golden Bird's 'Warp And Woof'	978-81-967717-3-7	Dr. Darlie Oommen Koshy	26/07/2024



▼ CULTURAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

Events

The book launch and discussion of 'The Battle for Consciousness Theory: A Response to Ken Wilber's Appropriation of Sri Aurobindo's Work and Other Indian Thought' was held on 21 August 2024 at the Auditorium, Alliance Francaise, 72, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. The event was graced by Dr Karan Singh as the Chief Guest and Prof. Kapil Kapoor as the Guest of Honour.

Authored by Rajiv Malhotra, Manogna Sastry and Prof. Kundan Singh the book is a compelling and meticulous account of the subversion of the work of one of India's greatest sages – Sri Aurobindo. Based on extensive research spanning a quarter century, the book provides deep insights into the developments that shaped (and distorted) the Aurobindonian discourse in recent decades. It discusses the ramifications of the enhancement of Western Universalism at the expense of Vedic and other Indian traditions while analysing certain limitations in Wilber's work.

The event spanning more than two hours attracted a packed auditorium. It was streamed live on YouTube and archived on the link:

<https://youtube.com/live/INj0YlxiJhk?feature=share>



Director, Cultural Affairs introducing the guests and the authors



Introduction to the book by Rajiv Malhotra



Lighting of Lamp before the event



Dr Karan Singh giving his remarks and observations at the event



Prof. Kapil Kapoor speaking about the book



The book release, (inset) creative for the event



A packed auditorium during the discussion



Publications

The following publications have been produced by the Division.

INTACH Special Corpus Fund – Programmes, Projects and Activities 2019-2023:

The report for the Ministry of Culture has been published on the utilization of the above-mentioned funds from 2019 to 2023. This is the second volume and a continuation of the earlier report that covers the utilization of the funds from 2013- 2019. It carries a detailed report on all the activities and programmes undertaken by all the divisions, using the Special Corpus Fund and also the details of income on account of interest generated on investment of Corpus Fund and Expenditure on various activities.

The 14th Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture – Imagining the Future of The Golden Bird’s Warp and Woof!!

This was the 14th year of the memorial lecture and was delivered by Dr Darlie Koshy. Dr. Koshy was the Director of the National Institute of Design (NID), Ahmedabad for over a decade and has a dis-tinguished career in the handloom and textile sector for over 45 years.

The lecture covered. Pupul Jayakar's role in trying to resurrect the lost glory of the Indian textile industry and the arduous task to which she was drawn for nearly five decades, since the early 1950s. It further expounded on the unprecedented strategic opportunity, emerging for Indian Textile and Fashion to move into a new orbit of ‘Sustainability’ for the wellbeing of the planet and people, in line with SDG goals. To achieve this, Dr Koshy presented a re-imagined future of the textile-ecosystem for regaining India’s leadership in the sector. The lecture has since been printed.

INTACH Lecture Series: 2023-24

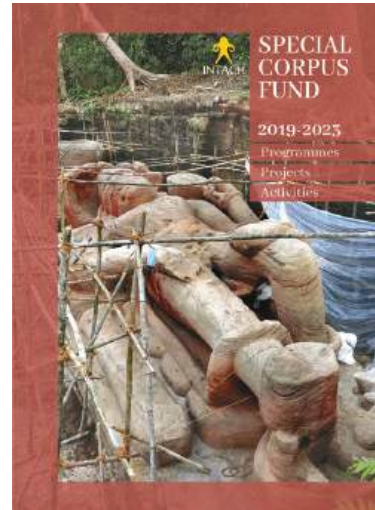
The publication has been printed on the series of the lectures and discussions held in the year mentioned. The series aims to further heritage awareness.

The publication under consideration contains a book discussion on the ‘British Takeover of India: Modus Operandi’ authored by Dr. K. P. Agarwal. It digs into an array of treaties, made available in the book’s annexure, and traces the British takeover of India, state by state over a hundred-year period starting in 1750. Many of the facts in the book were not well known in the public domain previously.

The illustrated talk on ‘Trika Śaivism of Kashmir; The Non-Dual Tantric Spiritual Tradition with Well-Developed Meta-physics’ explores the non-dual school of Indian philosophy and spiritual tradition. The talk on ‘Women Saints of India and the Roots of Their Spiritual Audacity’ analyzes the reasons for this audacity and delves into the roots of their heightened sense of freedom and emancipation and its significance in contemporary gender issues. An illustrated lecture on ‘Multi-Cultural Worlds in Indian Court Paintings’ by Dr. Vishakha N. Desai, illustrates how the multicultural worlds of Rajput, Mughal, and Deccani courts interacted with one another, created partnerships and negotiated their differences. Lastly, a talk and book discussion on ‘Science in Sanskrit Scriptures’ by Dr Yash Gupta, presented the author’s decade long study and research of Sanskrit Scriptures which contain the scientific descriptions of Astronomy, Medicine and Surgery, Atoms, Mathematics and Theoretical Physics described within their vast narratives.

INTACH Annual Report 2023-24

The draft Annual Report has been edited and is at the designing stage.



SPECIAL FROM THE Central Office

➤ The Headquarters at New Delhi functions as the mothership for ideating, visioning and incubating ideas. It also serves as the first port of call for international visitors and other dignitaries interested in learning about INTACH's conservation activities.



On dais, INTACH Principal Director (NH, AH and HECS) and Director HDCC received the award from Dr. Kiran Bedi

Mahatma Award 2024

INTACH received the prestigious Mahatma Award 2024 for Social Good Impact Category. The award is the highest honour for social impact leaders and changemakers, an initiative by the Mahatma Foundation and was organized at the India International Centre (IIC) on 1 October 2024. As part of the award, a citation and a Mahatma statue was received. Some other award winners this year were Ms. Sudha Murty, Dr. Prathap C. Reddy, Mr Jatinder Das, Mr William Benedict Hamilton-Dalrymple, Ms. Kiran Nadar.

One-day Symposium on Sustainable Heritage – Protecting and Safeguarding



Professor Sukhdev Singh, Vice Chairman, the Guest of Honour to the Symposium



The National Symposium on 'Sustainable Heritage: Protection & Safeguarding' was held on 5 September at IGNC, New Delhi. Keynote addresses by Ms. Junhi Han from UNESCO and Mr. Chawla from the Ministry of Culture emphasized the pivotal role of community engagement in heritage conservation. Professor Sukhdev Singh, Vice Chairman, INTACH, highlighted the urgent need for safeguarding unprotected cultural heritage. The symposium featured insightful presentations on sustainable practices and governance, with contributions from heritage professionals, INTACH members, and students.



AT THE **Grassroots**

▶ INTACH has evolved as a people's movement over the years, with civil society's involvement in preserving Indian Heritage. The vast Chapters network was set up as a resource for the regional and local arms of INTACH. Based on volunteerism, the network has spread far and wide in the country and is led by the Convenors and Co-convenors under the guidance of the Central Office.



✓ CHAPTERS



Participants for XV Capacity Building Workshop for INTACH Members

The XV Capacity Building Workshop for INTACH members took place from 21 to 24 October 2024, at Niryat Bhawan and United Service Institution, Shankar Vihar, with 58 participants from 33 INTACH chapters. Organized by the INTACH Heritage Academy and Chapters Division, the workshop focused on heritage conservation across natural, architectural, material, and intangible domains.



Heritage Walk to the historical Buddhist monuments – Guntur Chapter

Andaman & Nicobar

On 27 August, INTACH A and N Chapter organized a Heritage Quiz at Government Model Senior Secondary School, with 100 students from various schools, including GSSS Lamba Line, GSS South Point, GMS Dignabad, and others. Certificates were awarded to all participants, and the Chapter provided stationery and refreshments.

Andhra Pradesh

✓ EAST GODAVARI

The East Godavari Chapter, in collaboration with INTACH's HECS, organized a two-day workshop on 30-31 August 2024, at the Rotary Club, Kakinada, with 52 teachers from 29 schools. The workshop was covered in local newspapers.

Sri Vedula VLN Murthy, Convenor of the INTACH East Godavari Chapter, has

authored a comprehensive book on INTACH's vision, mission, objectives, and its role in heritage and culture. The book explores key topics such as heritage, citizenship, and the structure of INTACH's divisions in New Delhi. It also details the East Godavari Chapter's activities, achievements, and publications, providing a succinct record of its contributions, complemented by inspirational quotes.

✓ GUNTUR

On 26 July the Guntur Chapter organized a Heritage Walk to the Buddhist monuments at Amaravati. 55 BA History students and faculty from Hindu College explored the ruins, learning about the historical and cultural significance of the site. The group also visited the local museum and Amaralingeswara Swamy Temple, an example of ancient Indian architecture. INTACH members participated, contributing their expertise to the event. The INTACH District Level Heritage Quiz was held on 21 August at Sri Bommidala

Srikrishna Murthy Auditorium, Bharatiya Vidyabhavan with the students engaged in learning about our cultural legacy.

The Chapter successfully organized the State Level Heritage Quiz on 4 November. Led by Sri SVS Lakshmi Narayana, the event featured 8 schools whose students had qualified at the district level. Augustine Ashram Public School, Kakinada, emerged as the winners, while Rotary English Medium School, Anantapur, secured the runner-up position.

✓ NANDYAL

The Convenor, Chapter expressed gratitude for the opportunity to conduct a quiz for students in Nandyal district. Schools were informed through the education department, and teams of 8th-10th graders participated in a written test on 8 September. The winning team is recommended for the State quiz competition in Andhra Pradesh.



World Tourism Award received from Central Government – Nandyal Chapter

INTACH Nandyal's nomination of Ahobilam village for the Spiritual and Wellness Destination was shortlisted by the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department and forwarded to the central government. Out of 88 nominations, Ahobilam was one of 5 selected at the national level. The awards were presented at Vigyan Bhavan, Delhi, on 27 September, during World Tourism Day.

The Nandyal Chapter celebrated the International Day of Intangible Cultural Heritage at SDR School, Nandyal, raising awareness among high school students about intangible cultural heritage and Nandyal's role in it. A total of 315 students participated, with the Convenor leading the session.

✓ SRIKAKULAM

The Chapter organized quizzes, essays, and oratory competitions at Anuraga Nilayam, Srikakulam, to promote creativity among students. The 30 August quiz competitions allowed local winners to advance to state-level competitions, offering broader exposure.



Honorable Minister of Civil Aviation attending the heritage issues addressed by the members and the Convenor – Srikakulam Chapter

On 2 October, the Union Minister of Civil Aviation, Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu, presented awards to the state-level winners at a ceremony in Srikakulam Dutch Bhavan. He praised the students' efforts and encouraged them to continue excelling, citing last year's national prize winner, Kumari Kavya. Prominent officials also attended and congratulated the students on their achievements.

The Chapter began a project to restore the Tejomurthy idols along Kim's Road. The team, led by the Convenor, cleaned the statues, removing overgrowth, rust, and debris over a three-day period. They also addressed issues like posters and graffiti on the monuments. Additionally, they repainted the Kodi Ramamurthy Naidu statue on College Road. The team urges the public to preserve and respect these historic sites.

The Chapter is working to preserve the tree planted by Mahatma Gandhi on 6 April 1942, at Dusi Railway Station, symbolizing India's independence struggle. The tree, now a large 'mahavriksha,' will be part of a proposed memorial. INTACH has submitted a petition to the District Collector for recognition of the site as a 'Quit India Memorial.' Plans are also underway to request approval from the Railway Divisional Manager for a memorial at the site, aiming to preserve its historical significance and honor Gandhi's legacy.

On National Handloom Day, the Chapter, with the Handloom Department, hosted an event at Bapuji Kalamandir. The celebration included a tribute to Gandhi, a rally showcasing local textiles, and an exhibition of Srikakulam's handloom crafts. Collector Swapnil Dinakar Pundkar emphasized handloom's socio-economic role, while Macha Srinivasa Rao, a differently-abled weaver, was honored. A 15% discount on yarn purchases was also launched to support weavers. On 24 August, the Chapter organized a seminar at the Skill Development Center to raise awareness about preserving local arts like Tappetagulla and the Peacock dance. Attendees called for more government support and skill development to safeguard these traditions.

✓ VISAKHAPATNAM

On 19 June 2024, a team including GSI's Mrs. Koyel Bhatta, Shri Naidu, and Dr. D. Rajasekhar Reddy visited key geological sites along the Visakhapatnam-Bheemili coast in preparation for the Vizag Urban Geopark workshop in November. On 20 June, they explored more sites like the Shivalingapuram Batholith and volcanic ash layers in Araku Valley.

On 30 June, the Chapter organized a Heritage Trees Walk led by Dr. Kameswar Rao, attracting public interest and media coverage. INTACH plans to continue documenting and raising awareness about heritage trees. The INTACH Heritage Quiz 2024 was successfully conducted on 9 August at Alwardas Public School, with a record 190 students from 21 schools participating. The quiz was organized by the Chapter members, including Dr. M. Renuka Rani and Smt. Mayank Kumari Deo, with Smt. Sandhya Godey as the quizmaster.

The Chapter identified the destruction of Erra Matti Dibbalu (EMD) by a real estate project on 15 July prompting immediate action with government agencies halting the work and initiating an investigation. On 17 July, Dr. D. Rajasekhar Reddy and the GSI team assessed the damage at the site.



INTACH Members with the winning students of the Quiz competition – Visakhapatnam Chapter



Dr. D. Rajasekhar Reddy with GSI team at Erra Matti Dibbalu, National Geoheritage Site – Visakhapatnam Chapter

The following day, the Chapter discussed the issue with MP Bharat Garu, and later with District Collector Harendhira Prasad Garu, exploring solutions for the site and related heritage projects.

On 25 July, INTACH visited Mudusaralova, EMD, and Chillapeta Tank in Bhimili with Dr. Rajendra Singh and environmentalist Bolisetty Satyanarayana. A team led by S.N. Mahapatro, Deputy Director General of GSI, along with state government officials and Dr. D. Rajasekhar Reddy, visited Erra Matti Dibbalu on 27 July for a scientific evaluation. The visit aimed to assess the damage and explore ways to conserve and develop the remaining portions of this National Geoheritage site.

Dr. D. Rajasekhar Reddy participated in the First Capacity Building Training cum Workshop on UNESCO Global Geoparks from 23 to 26 September, where he delivered a talk on grassroots geopark initiatives in India. Dr. Reddy, Adviser Geoheritage, INTACH, presented on *Geosites for Geoparks* at the CTBM 2024 seminar at Andhra University. On 4 October, he delivered a talk on 'Vizag Urban Geopark' for International Geodiversity Day 2024, attended by faculty and students. He also participated in an online talk on Global Geoparks on 6 October. On 9 October, INTACH, with GITAM University, organized a heritage walk for International Geodiversity Day.

During the Naval Fleet Exercise Malabar 2024, INTACH hosted fleet commanders for a visit to Thotlakonda. Dr. Reddy met with Tourism Minister Shri K. Durgesh on 25 October and again with both the Tourism and Civil Supplies Ministers on 6 November to discuss the Vizag UNESCO Global Geopark, receiving strong support.

Assam

✓ KAMRUP

The North East Mega Finals of the INTACH Heritage Quiz 2024 took place on 16 November in Guwahati, organized by INTACH Assam and Kamrup Chapters with Cotton University. Five teams competed,



INTACH Heritage Quiz – Gaya Chapter

with Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Silpukhuri winning first place and Ram Janaki School, Dimapur taking second. Both teams will participate in the National Finals in New Delhi on 17 December. The event concluded with a visit to Cotton University's Archaeological Gallery.

The Charaideo Moidams, a 700-year-old burial system of the Ahom dynasty in Assam, were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List on 17 November 2024. This makes them the first cultural site from Northeast India to gain recognition. The Moidams, similar to pyramids, are burial mounds for Ahom royalty and a key historical and cultural landmark.

On 25 September, Dr. Shiela Bora, noted historian and Advisor at Royal Global University, donated two historic maps to the Assam State Museum. These maps, dating back to 1864, were created by Francis Jenkins, the former Commissioner of Assam. They depict Jenkins' land holdings in Guwahati and are written in Persian, Assamese, Bengali, and Sanskrit. The maps were originally presented to Dr. Bora by Dr. S.K. Bose, a numismatist, on 17 May.

Bihar

✓ BHAGALPUR

The INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 took place at St. Paul's School, Bhagalpur on 3 September and was successfully conducted by the School staff. The Endangered Art and Craft Workshop 2024, held on 4 September at Sri Marwari Kanya Pathshala, Bhagalpur, involved 110 students. The workshop focused on the Manjusha art of Bhagalpur, with

insights shared by a local craftsman. The event concluded with the selection of top candidates, and plans for a Manjusha training camp were announced.

✓ GAYA

The Chapter organized a Virasat Yatra to Akshyavat, the ancient Banyan tree where Sita is believed to have offered Pind Daan for King Dashrath. A 5th-century inscription authenticates the site's antiquity, and it is revered as the place for the final Pind Daan offering. The event, marked as 'Tree Protection Day,' saw INTACH members vow to protect the tree. The team from Jai Hind School won the Gaya City Round of the INTACH Heritage Quiz on 24 September at DAV Cantonment School, Gaya. They later participated in the State Round in Patna on 27 October, where they were declared winners.

✓ PURNEA

On 26 September 2024, INTACH Purnea Chapter organized the City Level Round of the INTACH Heritage Quiz at Vidya Vihar Residential School, Purnea. Vidya Vihar Residential School emerged as the winner, followed by S.R.D.A.V. Public School and Saraswati Balika Vidya Mandir. The winning team will represent Purnea at the Bihar State Level Round.

Chhattisgarh

The Indian Cultural Fund Chhattisgarh Chapter, in collaboration with Dr. C.V. Ram University and INTACH organized a special lecture on the cultural heritage of Bilaspur. Arvind Tiwari, Registrar of the university, highlighted the region's history,



Annual Conference of INTACH Members and Special lecture on 'Cultural Heritage of Bilaspur' – Chhattisgarh Chapter

arts, and conservation efforts. The event included a visit to the Sanjohi Heritage Center and discussions on Vastu Shastra, technology in heritage preservation, and the importance of academic-community collaboration. Chief Guest Ravi Prakash Dubey emphasized institutional roles in heritage conservation. The conference fostered strong ties between Dr. C.V. Raman University and INTACH, reinforcing the commitment to preserving Bilaspur's cultural legacy.

The Chhattisgarh State Level Quiz Competition held on 5 November at Vrindavan Hall, Raipur, featured 16 participants from 8 INTACH Chapters. The team from Manendragarh Korea secured first place.

✓ DURG-BHILAI

On 15 July, the Chapter organized an essay competition at Swami Shri Swaroopanand Saraswati College, Bhilai, with 42 students participating. The event focused on yoga's importance, with topics like 'Yoga for Self



Essay competition on the topic 'World famous yoga: India's priceless heritage' – Durg-Bhilai Chapter

and Society' and 'World Famous Yoga: India's Priceless Heritage.' The essays highlighted yoga's global impact and its role in promoting health and well-being.

The Chapter, in collaboration with Swami Shri Swaroopanand Saraswati Mahavidyalaya, organized a discussion and poster competition on 'Goswami Tulsidas's work is a timeless heritage' for Goswami Tulsidas Jayanti. On World Tourism Day, the Chapter organized a program 'Tourism is our cultural heritage and celebration of diversity' at Swami Shri Swaroopanand Saraswati College, Bhilai. The event featured competitions such as the Tourism Booth, Traditional Food Stall, Dance, and Ramp Walk, highlighting India's rich cultural diversity.

✓ MAHASAMUND

The Chapter organized a National Heritage Quiz Competition on 14 September at the Forest Guard Training Center, with 68 students from 7 schools participating. The Vrindavan School team won the competition and will proceed to the state level. The Chief Guest, S. Alok, District Panchayat Chief Executive Officer, encouraged students to value their heritage and strive for continuous growth.

✓ RAIPUR

A one-day workshop on 'Ponds are our heritage and the civilization of the river valley of Chhattisgarh' was held on 16 April at Pt. Ravishankar University, Raipur, with around 100 students participating. The Chief Guest was Prof. S.K. Pandey, former Vice Chancellor, and Prof. S.N. Shukla, Vice Chancellor, presided.

The Heritage Quiz Competition 2024 was held on 9 September at Laxmibai Kanya U.M. School, Raipur, with students and 54 heritage enthusiasts. The event featured Prof. Chandra Sen as the Chief Guest, with Dr. Shivi Joshi as the Special Guest.

The Chapter organized a one-day workshop on 'Chhattisgarhi Folk Theatre – 'Nacha-Gammat': Our Heritage' at Vrindavan Hall, Raipur. The event included a two-hour lecture on the cultural significance of

Nacha-Gammat, followed by a captivating performance of 'Sultana Daku' by Padmashree Domar Singh Kunwar and his 16-member troupe, 'Mayaru Mor Latabod' from Balod.

✓ SARAIPALI

The INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 took place on 18 October at SEZES Saraipali, organized by the Chapter. A total of 196 students from 24 schools participated, with the first place awarded to a team from SEZES Saraipali. The event, designed to promote heritage preservation, encouraged students and teachers to become 'Heritage Messengers.'

Delhi

INTACH is involved in several significant conservation projects. For the Presidents Estate, efforts focus on landscaping and ensuring universal accessibility, adhering to heritage guidelines. In Connaught Place, INTACH is preparing a Detailed Project Reports (DPR) for three key buildings: C33, a 1928 structure suffering from damage due to structural overloading which is being restored for future rehabilitation with a focus on adaptive reuse while maintaining its historical integrity; and Scindia House, where the restoration of distressed overhangs and individual rooms is being planned based on archival research. These initiatives aim to preserve and adapt the heritage sites for modern use while safeguarding their historical value.

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



Heritage walk at Mehrauli for French Ambassador – Delhi Chapter

Gujarat

✓ AHMEDABAD

The Chapter, in collaboration with Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Museum, hosted a talk by food historian Dr. Pushpesh Pant on 'Origins and Evolution of Jain Cuisines.' Dr. Pant explored the influence of Jain philosophy on dietary practices, regional variations in Jain cuisine, and its alignment with sustainability and veganism. The session, attended by scholars, students, and food enthusiasts, also addressed the impact of globalization and Jain contributions to international culinary traditions.



A talk by eminent scholar, food historian and critic Dr. Pushpesh Pant – Ahmedabad Chapter



Zaverchand Meghani Tribute and Walk – Bhavnagar Chapter

✓ BHAVNAGAR

INTACH Bhavnagar, in collaboration with Sparsh Foundation, launched the 'Baithak at Barton' series, bringing together literary figures from Bhavnagar. The inaugural event featured esteemed poet Vinod Joshi, whose presence at Barton Library set a profound tone, highlighting the city's rich literary heritage and fostering cultural exchange.

INTACH Bhavnagar observed World Youth Skills Day on 15 July, with a discussion on 'Navigating the Digital World Safely'

at the Bhavnagar Railway Museum, focusing on cyber safety for youth. The event also highlighted the museum's role in showcasing India's railway heritage. On 19 July, INTACH Bhavnagar celebrated Palace Day, offering students a chance to explore the architectural beauty of Nilambag Palace, a blend of traditional and colonial styles, fostering appreciation for local heritage. On 10 August, the Chapter hosted 'Visrayelo Swarag' at Barton Library, featuring Professor Giriraj Jaydev Bhojak, a renowned Dhrupad-Ghamar vocalist. The event aimed to preserve the library's cultural heritage through community involvement.

In honor of Zaverchand Meghani's birth anniversary, the Chapter, in collaboration with M.K. Bhavnagar University, organized a tribute and city walk led by Professor Mahendrasinh Parmar, celebrating Meghani's literary legacy. In September 2024, the Chapter held a Ganesh Chaturthi workshop for women from Konnect and Inner Wheel Bhavnagar, where participants crafted Ganpati idols with guidance from Kshitij Arts experts.

The Chapter, in collaboration with Sparsh Foundation, hosted the city round of the INTACH National Quiz. Over 80 teams competed, testing their knowledge of heritage. The winning team advances to the state competition and a chance to represent Bhavnagar in the national finals. In September 2024, Dr. Indra Gadhvi led a successful Monsoon Nature Walk at Victoria Park, where participants explored the monsoon flora and fauna.

✓ RAJKOT

The INTACH National Heritage Quiz 3.0, held in Rajkot on 12 August, saw over 250 students from 18 schools compete. T.N. Rao School won, with Vision School as runners-up. The quiz, focused on national and regional heritage, included MCQs and an audio-visual round. Finalists received certificates, heritage postcards, and free memberships to Rotary Midtown Library. The event took place at the historically significant Rashtriya Shala Hall, adding cultural value to the competition.



INTACH Heritage Quiz 2024 – Vadodara Chapter

✓ VADODARA

The INTACH Heritage Quiz city round in Vadodara took place on 21 August at Bright Day CBSE School, with 41 teams from 21 schools, including one from Anand. The quiz featured a written MCQ round followed by an oral round. The team from Bright Day School, emerged as winners followed by St. Kabir School (15), Delhi Public School (12), and Ambe School (11). All participants received certificates, while the winners were awarded books.

Haryana

✓ AMBALA

Ambala Chapter, in collaboration with HECS, organized a National Heritage Quiz on 20 July 2024 at DAV High School, Ambala Cantonment, with 100 students from 22 schools. Dr. Deshbandhu was the Chief Guest, and Brig. MS Tomar (Retd.) and Dr. Sonika Sethi were Guests of Honour.

On Geodiversity Day, the Convenor of the Chapter briefed teachers and students, sparking interest. A visit to Boh and Nagla villages highlighted the importance of village ponds, once maintained for drinking water and livestock. Discussions on tree plantation and cleanliness followed. Villagers were pleased when a 'pipani' made from a peepal leaf was played at



A Mega National Heritage Quiz – Ambala Chapter



Boh pond. It was encouraging to see some ponds still maintained and filling during the rainy season.

The Geodiversity Day was celebrated at DAV Riverside School, Ambala Cantonment, on 27 September. An engaging talk on Geo diversity was followed by an interactive session and poster-making activity. The event was both educational and impactful. Army School Ambala Cantonment celebrated Geodiversity Day on 9 October and the Convenor, highlighted the day's importance, while the Vice Principal emphasized the role of youth in preserving the environment. Students created posters on geodiversity, guided by INTACH member Ms. Pooja Anand. The event concluded with a pledge to preserve the earth.

✓ FARIDABAD

Under the guidance of HECS, the National Round of the Inter-School Quiz Competition was held at KL Mehta Dayanand Womens College, with 53 teams from 14 CBSE schools participating.

✓ GURGAON (GURUGRAM)

The Chapter held its Annual General Body Meeting in September 2024, featuring an online discussion on the natural heritage of Gurgaon, led by Vijay Dhasmana and Anita Mani. The conversation highlighted the region's ecologically sensitive zones and biodiversity. The meeting also included reports on activities and finances, introduction of new members, and a preview of future initiatives, including a Heritage Walk in the Biodiversity Park. Members were encouraged to connect via social media and email.

The National Heritage Quiz, organized by INTACH Gurgaon, began with a lamp lighting ceremony and a Kathak dance performance by CCA School students. INTACH member Ms. Tulika Rana and Convenor highlighted the importance of India's cultural heritage. The event concluded with prize distribution and a vote of thanks, recognizing CCA School's staff and volunteers for their efforts.



A lecture on the religious and cultural heritage of the erstwhile Jalandhar Peeth (Trigart) – Dharmashala Chapter

Himachal Pradesh

✓ DHARAMSHALA

The Chapter organized an extension lecture on the religious and cultural heritage of the erstwhile Jalandhar Peeth (Trigart) and the present-day Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh at Gunjan Community Radio Station. Dr. Ved Prakash Agni, a distinguished scholar and philanthropist, was the key speaker. The lecture was followed by a regular Chapter meeting where Dr. Narendra Awasthi reviewed the activities accomplished over the past year and ongoing initiatives.

A delegation from INTACH Dharamshala Chapter met the Governor of Himachal Pradesh to brief him on the Chapter's activities. The Chapter hosted a four-day workshop from 5 to 8 November training 30 participants as heritage and tourism guides. Inaugurated by Dr. Rajiv Bhardwaj, MP, with special guest Malvika Pathania, the event included sessions on heritage and tourism. Dr. Bhardwaj announced a 2 lakh grant from his MP fund to support INTACH's work. The sessions, led by experts, focused on Kangra's religious sites and their significance.

The INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 was held on 2 September, at Modern Public School, Sidhbari, Dharamshala, with 11 teams participating. After the written round, G.D. Goenka Public School secured first place. G.D. Goenka Public School will represent the region at the national level.

On 21 August, the INTACH Dharamshala Chapter, led by the Convenor, met District

Magistrate E. Hemraj Berwa to discuss the preservation and promotion of Kangra's cultural heritage. The Chapter presented suggestions for conserving heritage sites and offered voluntary support for their restoration. The District Magistrate appreciated the initiative and assured full support for the projects. Members including Colonel Yashpal Singh Kanwar and Dr. Ashwani Kaul contributed to the discussion, reinforcing commitment to heritage conservation.

✓ KANGRA

The Chapter celebrated Raksha Bandhan by tying 'Rakhis' (sacred threads) to trees, promoting the message of environmental conservation. The National Quiz Competition 2024 was held on 12 September at D.A.V. Model Senior Secondary School, Dehra, Dharamshala. The Sub Divisional Magistrate of Dehra, Ms. Shilpi Beakta, attended as Chief Guest. The principal and Kangra Chapter members honored the Chief Guest with an INTACH memento and Himachali cap.

The Convenor, Chapter, participated in a UNESCO Global Geoparks training and



Group photo of students, staff and Kangra chapter members – Kangra Chapter

workshop from 23 to 26 September at UNESCO House, New Delhi, organized by UNESCO and the Geological Survey of India, Ministry of Mines, Government of India. International Geodiversity Day was celebrated on 6 October, at Government High School Bhagsu Nag. The Chapter Convenor and Dr. Vishal Nehria educated students and staff on the importance of geodiversity. Several geoheritage sites were highlighted, and a geodiversity Park proposal was discussed to promote tourism and scientific education in Dharamshala.

On 5 November, a Geotechnical meeting was held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra for the restoration of Dal Lake in Dharamshala, which has dried up due to water leakage. The meeting included officials from various departments like the lake expert Mr. Anand Malligavad, and other related professionals, to discuss the lake's revival.

Jammu & Kashmir

✓ JAMMU

The Chapter, in collaboration with the Kathua Sub Chapter, organized a one-day Endangered Art Workshop on Rangoli at GLDM Degree College, Hiranagar, Kathua, on 5 November. Under the guidance of the Convenor of the Chapter, the event highlighted the significance of Rangoli in Dogra culture. Chief Guest Prof. Pragya Khanna, Principal of GLDM College, and Guest of Honor Mr. K.K. Sharma attended the event. Students creatively depicted Dogra heritage through Rangoli designs.

✓ KASHMIR

On 17 August, the Chapter, in collaboration with the HECS division, organized a workshop on the endangered Papier-mâché craft at Government Boys Higher Secondary Institute, Soura. Aimed at raising awareness among students, the workshop featured a demonstration by master craftsman Mr. Akhter Hussain from Srinagar, who guided 51 students from seven schools in creating their own Papier-mâché pieces. The event also included a historical overview by the



Endangered Art Workshop (Rangoli) – Jammu Chapter



Poster making competition on intangible heritage – Kashmir Chapter

Convenor of the Chapter. The workshop was successfully conducted with support from the school's principal and staff. On 29 October, the Chapter organized a poster-making competition on 'Celebrating India' at Government Boys Higher Secondary School, Soura, Srinagar. Supported by the HECS Division, INTACH, the event aimed to foster cultural appreciation among students. Participants from classes 7 to 9 created posters showcasing Kashmir's intangible heritage, including festivals, customs, and rituals, with accompanying write-ups. The best entries will be submitted

to INTACH's HECS Division for regional and national recognition.

Jharkhand

✓ HAZARIBAGH

After 37 years of service, Padma Shri Bulu Imam resigned as Convenor of INTACH Hazaribagh Chapter. His son, Mr. Gustav Imam, took over the role in September 2024. Mr. Imam, a Museum Anthropology expert, is committed to continuing the preservation of Hazaribagh's cultural heritage, including the Khovar and Sohrai art projects. The Chapter is also seeking grants to promote rural tourism and livelihood through art.

During the Sohrai Festival in November, INTACH Hazaribagh showcased Sohrai art, which has gained international recognition. A felicitation ceremony for artist Manikchand, honored by the President of India, was held at the Sanskriti Museum & Art



Convenor, Gustav Imam with the Sanskriti Museum & Art Gallery – Hazaribagh Chapter



Sohrai artist Manikchand with Smt. Droupadi Murmu, President of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi – Hazaribagh Chapter



Gallery. The event, attended by French guests, highlighted the cultural importance of Sohrai art, with tours to painted villages.

Karnataka

✓ DHARWAD

On 15 October, the Chapter organized a heritage tour for 15 members, led by historian Mrs. Googi. The tour covered Gadag and Lakshmeshwar, including the 10th-century Trikuteshwar Temple, Saraswati Temple, and the 9th-century Someshwar Temple. Members gained insights into the preservation efforts of ASI for these heritage sites.



Heritage tour – Dharwad Chapter

✓ MANGALORE

The Chapter marked World Snake Day on 16 July with a talk on 'Extinction and Preservation of Nagabanas of Tulunadu' at the Kodialguthu Centre. Dr. Tukaram Poojary highlighted the ecological and cultural significance of Nagabanas, sacred groves that help maintain the region's water table. The event included a discussion on Naga worship and its importance, moderated by Subhas Chandra Basu.

On 26 October the Chapter hosted a photo-talk by renowned photo journalist Vishwanath Suvarna at the Kodialguthu Center for Art and Culture. The talk, titled 'Photographing Historical Monuments,' featured Suvarna's captivating images of Karnataka's forts and monuments, highlighting their historical significance and the challenges of preservation. He expressed concerns over the neglect and illegal occupation of these sites and discussed the lack of public interest in



Talk on 'Saving Wildlife in Changing India' by Dr. Ullas Karanth – Mangalore Chapter



World Snake Day with a talk on Nagabanas of Tulunadu – Mangalore Chapter

heritage studies. Concluding with an inspiring message, Suvarna urged young photographers to actively engage in preserving heritage through their work. The session was moderated by Subhash Chandra Basu, convener of the Mangaluru Chapter.

On August 7, the Chapter hosted a talk by Dr. K. Ullas Karanth on 'Saving Wildlife in Changing India.' Dr. Karanth discussed India's biodiversity and the success of conservation efforts like Project Tiger. He highlighted his pioneering work using camera traps and radio collars to study tigers and stressed the ongoing threats of wildlife trade and human population growth. The talk concluded with a call for sustainable energy solutions to support wildlife conservation.

Kerala

✓ KASARAGOD

The Chapter organized a Heritage Quiz Competition to raise awareness of India's cultural heritage. The first phase, with 60 students, was held on 5 August, at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Kasaragod. The second phase took place on 28

September at Latheefiya Senior Secondary School, Payyanur, with 40 participants. The quiz also focused on the importance of preserving heritage.

✓ THRISSUR

The Chapter collaborated with Urban Sketchers (USK) Thrissur for the Pooram Sketch Gala from 14 to 17 April 2024, during the Thrissur Pooram festival. The event featured a sketch walk through heritage sites, guided by INTACH convenor Ar Vinod Kumar M. M. and other experts, with participants from across India and abroad. On 18 May, Dr. C.G. Madhusoodhanan, Co-founder of Equinoct, delivered a talk on 'Changing Climate: What Changed & What Is in Store,' stressing the need for urgent action to combat climate change. The discussion, moderated by Dr P.S. Easa, focused on the importance of international cooperation and bold measures to address environmental challenges.

On 5 June, the Chapter, in collaboration with Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Pottore, celebrated World Environment Day with a tree planting ceremony and a talk on 'Biodiversity of Kerala' by Dr. N. Sasidharan. The event focused on the need to protect ecosystems amid climate change and biodiversity loss. On 24 August, the Chapter hosted the district-level Heritage Quiz at the State Museum of Kerala, with over 70 students from 12 schools participating. The winners were from Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Irinjalakuda.



Artists with their sketches gathered in front of East Gateway Sakthan Thampuran Palace – Thrissur – Thrissur Chapter



Heritage Walk for a small Group from Germany – Thrissur Chapter

The Chapter organized a Bamboo Craft Workshop on 23 September, at Kulapati Munshi Bhavan in Pottore. The workshop, attended by 50-60 students, focused on traditional bamboo crafting techniques, where students created items like baskets and pen stands under the guidance of skilled artisans.

An informal discussion was held at Vanchikulam with Prof. K.T. Ravindran and Prof. Janaki Nair, experts on climate change and heritage. The session, attended by 25-30 participants, allowed for a candid exchange of ideas on urban policy and heritage preservation.

The Chapter hosted a Heritage Walk exclusively for a small group of German tourists. The walk, led by Conservation Architect Gopika, explored the historic areas of Thrissur, offering participant's insights into the city's heritage and traditional settlements. The INTACH National Heritage Quiz state final was held on 2 November at the Museum & Zoo Auditorium in Thrissur. The event saw winners from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya and Periyar. A talk by historian Sri P.J. Cherian on Pattanam was also part of the event.

Madhya Pradesh

✓ BHOPAL

The INTACH Bhopal Chapter convened its Executive Committee meeting on 21 September. Key points discussed include:

- Introduction of New Members: New members who joined after the last meeting in April were introduced.
- Contact Information Update: All members were asked to update their email and phone numbers for easier communication.
- Completed and Ongoing Projects: Updates were shared on the completed projects of the 2023-2024 financial year and ongoing projects, highlighting the growing scope of work for the Chapter, including conservation and documentation efforts.
- Project Books: Members were briefed on the published project-wise books outlining the status of various initiatives.
- New Potential Projects: New projects under consideration were discussed, such as the conservation of Rajgarh gates, Natraj Udaipur landscaping, and the Baz Bahadur and Rani Roopmati memorials.

Member Discussions: Several points were raised, including:

- The need for documentation on 32 stepwells at Ginnaurgarh fort.
- Acquisition of letters related to the Italian prisoner of war camp.
- Efforts to include Satpura Sanctuary in the World Heritage Site list.
- Conservation of ruins at the Delawadi Prisoner of War Camp.
- Chemical pollution and encroachment issues in Bhopal's Bada Talab area.
- Suggestions for increasing the authority for project funding.
- Enhancements to the Nataraja statue in Udaipur to attract tourists.

Additional Discussions: Topics like the Neelkanth Mahadev temple book, Raja Shankar Shah Kunwar Raghunath Shah Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum in Jabalpur, Chowki Garh fort documentation, and the completion of the Hanuman Tal book were also addressed.

✓ BURHANPUR

The INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 was held on 25 August in Burhanpur, with 106 students from 11 schools participating. Six individuals were honored for their contributions to Burhanpur's heritage. The event concluded with certificates for participants and was praised for its success, thanks to the efforts of INTACH and the Patidar community.



Dr. Kamini was awarded National Madhukar Samman – Datia Chapter



Vinod Mishra was honoured by Ramayana Kendra Bhopal – Datia Chapter

✓ DATIA

The Convenor, Chapter received the Ramayana Shodh Mitra Samman 2024 at Ramayana Kendra's annual awards ceremony in Bhopal on 15 September. The event, presided over by Dr. Rajesh Srivastava, honored him for his contributions to culture and literature, alongside other notable figures.

The 13th Madhukar Samaroh celebrated Shakti Aradhana on 23 August, honoring women in music, literature, and painting. The event includes the All India Conference of Women Writers, release of the Shakti Aradhana Granth, and National Madhukar Awards. Organized by the Chapter and others, it pays tribute to Pandit Mahesh Kumar Mishra Madhukar's legacy.

The 14th Madhukar Samaroh, held in memory of Pandit Madhukar Mishra, celebrated Shakti Aradhana, honoring women's empowerment. Dr. Kamini received the National Madhukar Samman, with various other awards presented to individuals in literature, music, and arts. The event featured discussions on Shakti worship, cultural performances, and the release of books. Shakti Aradhana honors were given to distinguished women from across the country. The ceremony was organized by the Madhukar Research Institute, INTACH Datia Chapter, and other collaborators.



The INTACH Data Heritage Competition, held on 22 September at Saraswati Vidya Mandir, included a quiz and painting contest. The winning quiz team advanced to the state level. Dr. S.K. Dubey highlighted the importance of archaeology, while historian Ravi Thakur emphasized the region's heritage. The Lok Vid Dr. Madhu Srivastava Smriti Painting Competition awarded prizes in both senior and junior categories.

✓ **KATNI**

On Basant Panchami, 14 February, the Chapter inaugurated a library at Dr. Yashwant Verma's building in Purani Basti, offering books on art, culture, and history. The library also aims to preserve old books from local seniors and authors. The event was attended by Dr. Sunita Verma, Dr. Yashwant Verma, Director, Chapters and others.

✓ **KHANDWA**

On World Heritage Day, the Chapter organized a training workshop for volunteers from both urban and rural areas. Around 45-50 women and girls participated, learning about INTACH's work and upcoming activities. The volunteers were motivated to spread awareness about heritage preservation in their localities.

On World Day for Cultural Development, a Rangoli competition was held at the Jain Temple, with the theme 'Nimar's Rich

Culture.' Participants showcased the region's traditional art, as Rangoli-making is an important cultural practice in Nimar during festivals and special occasions. On World Tourism Day, the Chapter visited Ganesh Dham Temple, a lesser-known heritage site in Khandwa. The temple is located near Rameshwar Kund and houses a unique black idol of Lord Ganesha. This initiative aimed to promote and preserve the local temple's cultural significance.

The Chapter hosted the Heritage Quiz on 2 October. 70 students from local schools participated in the quiz, which included a written and oral round. The event concluded with awards for the top teams, and all participants received certificates.

✓ **MANDLA**

On 10 August, the Chapter organized a Heritage Quiz for students of selected schools. Students from classes 7-10 participated in a one-hour exam on topics like environment, culture, art, archaeology, and tourism. The top students will have the chance to compete at state and national levels.

✓ **SHIVPURI**

On 9 May, a training session on sacred waste management was held, where experts demonstrated how to make incense sticks from temple flowers. The session focused on preserving cultural heritage and conserving the environment. An



Participants for Shivpuri Archaeological Museum heritage walk – Shivpuri Chapter



Participants for a training session on the sacred waste management – Shivpuri Chapter

Inter-House Quiz competition took place on 20 July, covering topics like national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves. Five teams participated in four rounds: general knowledge, multimedia, current affairs, and game changers.

Students went on a heritage walk to the Shivpuri Archaeological Museum on 27 July, where they explored exhibits like coins, paintings, and antique items. They also participated in a drawing activity focused on India's freedom fighters, creating portraits of figures like Bhagat Singh and Mahatma Gandhi. A drawing activity on 'Sanskrit, the source language' was held and encouraged students to learn about the ancient language and express their understanding through art.

On 27 July, International Tiger Day was celebrated at Van Vidyalaya, where students performed a *Nukkad Natak* on 'Save Tiger' and participated in a debate on 'Environment vs. Development,' securing top positions in both events. On 6 August, students studied Colonel Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon, an officer of the Indian National Army, and drew sketches about his role in India's freedom struggle, learning about his life from his autobiography *From My Bones* and the slogan *Lal Kile Se Aayi*



Celebrating World Tourism Day – Khandwa Chapter

Awaz that symbolized national unity during his trial. On 14 September, the Chapter organized a drawing activity focused on Indian festivals, encouraging students to explore the cultural significance of various celebrations. Additionally, students visited Dhala Village to observe the Dhala Crater, Asia's largest impact structure, gaining insights into its geological significance and environmental impact.

Maharashtra

✓ CHANDRAPUR

The Heritage Paintings Exhibition by Pravin Kaveri, organized by the Chapter and MH34 *Hamara Chanda* was held at the Lata Mangeshkar Art Gallery, Priyadarshini Indira Gandhi Cultural Auditorium, from 15-17 August. It was inaugurated by Sudhir Mungantiwar, Cabinet Minister for Forests, Cultural Affairs, and Fisheries (Maharashtra), who also unveiled two new paintings of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. Ashok Singh Thakur, INTACH Governing Council member, highlighted the exhibition's goal to promote heritage conservation. Students of Hindi City Junior College visited the exhibition, engaging with the paintings and learning from the artist. They also explored a Coin Exhibition donated by Shri Thakur, with Co-Convenor providing insights on the historical coins.



An exhibition of heritage paintings by Pravin Kaveri – Chandrapur Chapter



Nature Walk at Gorewada Park unites enthusiasts – Nagpur Chapter

✓ GREATER MUMBAI

Project Heritage Bhuleshwar-Kalbadevi, in collaboration with INTACH Crafts and Community Division, aims to document the fading traditional crafts of these historic Mumbai areas. The project will create awareness and preserve this heritage through research and an illustrated booklet detailing the history, techniques, and practitioners of local crafts.

✓ NAGPUR

On 27 July, the Chapter, in collaboration with Architectural Sankul, hosted a nature walk at Gorewada Park with 72 participants. Led by environmentalist Mrs. Prachi Mahurkar, the walk highlighted the park's biodiversity and ecological importance. The event fostered community engagement and raised awareness about conservation. The INTACH Inter-School Heritage Quiz 2024, held on 14 September in Nagpur, featured 70 students from 8 schools. The event,

organized with ASI and Rotary Club of Nagpur Mihan Town, focused on heritage conservation and featured a documentary on INTACH's work.

On 13 September, SMMCA INTACH Heritage Club organized a visit for 30 architecture students to the Old High Court Building in Nagpur. The visit, coordinated by Dr. Madhura Rathod, focused on the conservation efforts by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and provided insights into colonial architecture and heritage preservation techniques.

Smt. Manoramabai Mundle College of Architecture and Priyadarshini Institute of Architecture and Design Studies (PIADS), participated in the INTACH Heritage Awards 2024 with their entry Documentation of Parsi Bungalow, Nagpur.

On 18 September, the INTACH Heritage Club hosted a Tie and Dye Workshop, showcasing vibrant, creative designs. Participants learned the traditional art of Tie and Dye, producing unique and beautiful works. The workshop was supported by the school administration, reinforcing the club's commitment to preserving and promoting heritage arts. The INTACH Nagpur Chapter's Heritage Club at Essence International School hosted a workshop on the traditional Indian art forms *Alpana* and *Kolam*. These designs, made with rice paste and chalk, are part of India's cultural and spiritual heritage.



Workshop on Alpana and Kolam – Nagpur Chapter



Dr. Madhura Rathod was felicitated at the 'One Day Symposium on Sustainable Heritage: Protection & Safeguarding,' held on 5 September at Samvet Bhawan, IGNC, New Delhi. The event, organized by the National Culture Fund and Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, recognized her contribution to heritage conservation.

Resource persons guided participants in creating intricate patterns, while cultural performances, including Dhunachi Naach and Thiruvathira Dance, enhanced the event. The workshop celebrated India's rich traditions and fostered cultural appreciation.

✓ NASHIK

The Chapter held a General Body meeting following the appointment of Convenor Ritu Sharma. The theme, *A Decade of Revival*, celebrated the chapter's 10-year journey, with a special focus on its achievements leading up to its anniversary in December 2024.

In celebration of World Landscape Architecture Month, an exhibition titled *Nature-Culture Link* was held at Anjaneri. This event was organized in collaboration with the Coin Museum and SEED Forum, with support from Papaya Nursery and IIID Nashik. The exhibition was inaugurated by renowned landscape architect Aniket Bhagwat.

The INTACH Maharashtra State Conveners Symposium, held on 24-25 August in Nashik, was the first such event in the city, co-hosted by MET's School of Architecture and Interior Design and the Directorate of Archaeology and Museum, Maharashtra. The symposium, themed *Exploring Identity, Expanding Dimensions*, focused on cultural heritage and fostering dialogue on preserving collective identity. Key speakers included Maj. Gen. L.K. Gupta (retd.), INTACH Chairman, and local dignitaries. The event was followed by a visit to Holkar's Rang Mahal in Chandwad. Ritu Sharma, Convenor, INTACH, Nashik, was also appointed to the Mahavarsa Samiti, a newly formed district-level heritage committee.

✓ PUNE

The Chapter, known for its active participation in preserving cultural heritage, organized several significant events in 2024. The Ganesh Festival Heritage Walks, led by Co-convenors, offered a unique cultural experience, guiding participants through Pune's historic Ganesh pandals, starting from Kasba Ganapati to Mahatma Phule Mandai. These walks highlighted the festival's cultural, culinary, and social importance.

As part of the regular heritage walk series, the Laxmi Road Heritage Walk, conducted by EC member Manjusha Ukidve, explored the rich history and architecture of Laxmi

Road. Other notable walks included the Pune Core Heritage Walk by EC member Mahesh Bangad and the Lost Heritage of Pune Walk, conducted by the Convenor.

In September, Co-convenors were invited to speak at Dr. D. Y. Patil College of Architecture on the role of INTACH in heritage conservation and how students and faculty can contribute to the cause. The Chapter hosted a Nauratri heritage event on 11 October, focusing on traditional celebrations such as *Dandiya*, *Garba*, and *Bhondla*. The event, held in association with Shreyaswa Events, also featured a session on the significance of the Bhondla tradition in Maharashtra.

The INTACH Pune Chapter was honored with the Best Chapter Award 2023 for its successful organization of the Heritage Quiz for school students, which included both the Pune city round and the Maharashtra state round.

During World Water Week 2024, the INTACH Pune Chapter, in collaboration with MVS, Vanarai, and Savitribai Phule Pune University, organized a week-long webinar series on river conservation, *Pravah*. With over 750 participants, the series featured expert talks on topics like citizen involvement in conservation and river basin management, culminating with a session by Manu Bhatnagar. The event was curated by the Co-convenor

In August, Co-convenors of the Chapter attended the INTACH Maharashtra Conveners Symposium in Nashik, focusing on chapter updates and the theme 'Exploring Identity, Expanding Dimensions'. The event featured key participants including Chairman Maj Gen L.K. Gupta and Maharashtra Convenor.

The Chapter launched the Pune Saree Revival Project, aimed at reviving the traditional Pune saree weave. Supported by INTACH's Heritage Craft and Community Division, the project is being executed in collaboration with the Anegundi Hampi Chapter, with involvement from Arti Kirloskar and Co-convenor Jui Tawade.



INTACH Chairman with participants and resource persons attended the symposium – Nashik Chapter

▼ SOLAPUR

The INTACH Heritage Quiz, held on 5 August at S.P.M. English School, Solapur, involved 17 schools with 68 students. After the first round, the top four teams were shortlisted, with the winners from V.M. Mehta High School. The Chapter organized a heritage visit to Mohol Taluka on 18 August, for 40 participants. The tour covered historic sites including Mahadev Mandir, Raja Pandhare's Wadas, Kharga Teertha stepwell, and several temples. Discussions on heritage preservation were held during the visit.

Convenor and Co-Convenor attended the INTACH Maharashtra State Conveners' Meet in Nashik on 23-24 August. The event provided an enriching platform for sharing event details and exchanging ideas. On 25 August, the Chapter organized a fort walk for the 1974 batch of Haribhai Devkaran High School at the request of Ms. Savita Lalit, Sunil Pendse, and Sagar Bhomaj. Participants from Mumbai, Pune, and other places attended.

The Chapter was awarded the Best Chapter Award by INTACH for its successful efforts in conducting the My Monument Search competition.

Odisha

▼ CUTTACK

In August, the Chapter documented three copper plate grants: one from Gop village, Puri district (6th century CE), and two from

Kharod and Tulasipur villages, Cuttack district (17th and 18th centuries CE). These inscriptions were studied and deciphered by the Co-convenor. On 7 September, a rare *Naga* image, resembling 2nd Century CE figures from Sundarapada, was found in Mahajanapur village, Cuttack. The Convenor has requested its conservation.

During Sharada Kaleena Durga Puja in October, 34 Chandi Medhas, crafted by local artisans with gold-silver filigree, were displayed. Members Suman Prakash Swain and Bikash Prasad Das documented the creation process for future publication.

▼ GANJAM

On 18 July, the Chapter, in collaboration with Rushikulya Surakhya Parishad and local villagers, launched a plantation program at the Rushikulya river mouth to combat erosion. The event, led by the Convenors, saw the planting of the first Banyan tree and was attended by 50 people. This initiative aims to protect the riverbanks from annual sea erosion.

▼ JAJPUR

The Chapter observed World Environment Day on 5 June, with a plantation drive at a public garden near Barahatta. The event was attended by numerous members who participated in planting trees along the roadside and within the garden premises to promote environmental awareness and contribute to green cover.

Jajpur Chapter observed World Tourism Day on 27 September, at Regional College,

Rambag, with over 150 attendees, including students, staff, and INTACH members. The event, chaired by Dr. Raj Kishore Panda, Eye Specialist and President of the Global Peace Foundation, Odisha, emphasized tourism's educational and economic value, highlighting local sites like Puri, Konark, and Chilika.

MAYURBHANJ

On 27 September, the Chapter marked World Tourism Day with a Heritage Awareness Programme at Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya, Morada. A virtual tour of India's World Heritage Sites was conducted, followed by a quiz on local heritage sites. The quiz engaged participants in learning about India's rich cultural and historical landmarks.

Pondicherry (Puducherry)

The restoration of the 149-year-old Calve College in Puducherry is almost complete. The 4.75 crore project, initiated in 2021, focuses on preserving the building's heritage, including repairing madras tile roofing and replacing weak rafters. Set for completion shortly, it also restored the compound wall. Damaged by Cyclone Thane in 2011, the college still offers French education to a small group of students.



Ashok Panda (Co-convenor) explaining the Pondicherry French and Tamil Town streetscape to a students' group from Rajalakshmi School of Architecture – Pondicherry Chapter



The Calve College, a legacy of the French – Pondicherry Chapter



Cuttack INTACH members with gop copper plates



Engraved Naga image – Cuttack Chapter



Punjab

The Chapter visited Sham Singh Attariwala’s House and Samadh to honor his legacy. Sham Singh Attariwala (1790–1846), a General under Maharaja Ranjit Singh, died at the Battle of Sabraon on 10 February 1846, while leading his troops during the First Anglo-Sikh War. He was cremated near his village, where a Samadhi was built in his memory, and his sacrifice is annually commemorated on 12 February. Apeejay College of Fine Arts, in collaboration with INTACH, hosted a three-day workshop on Sainchi Phulkari, a traditional embroidery from East Punjab. Dr. Sudhakar Sharma and Dr. Manmeet Kaur led the event, highlighting the cultural importance of Sainchi Phulkari. The event also honored World Skills Competition awardee Jahnvi Mehta.

Punjab’s cultural heritage, shaped by history and Sikh influence, is deteriorating due to neglect, threatening its identity and tourism potential. Balancing modernization with conservation is key, requiring policies like zoning laws, restoration incentives, and adaptive reuse of buildings. Raising awareness, especially among youth, is crucial to foster pride in Punjab’s legacy. By combining tradition with innovation these cultural treasures can be protected for future generations. Maj Gen Balwinder Singh (Retd) revitalized the Government Primary and Middle School in Pandori Arian, his alma mater, with modern infrastructure. He emphasized that small acts of giving back can create lasting community impact and brighten the future for the next generation.

The Chapter met with the Punjab Tourism Secretary and ‘Niti Commission’ Director to discuss potential collaborations between INTACH and the Punjab Government on cultural and tourism projects.

✓ AMRITSAR

The Chapter and Amritsar Foundation organized a heritage walk for Global Institute students to promote heritage tourism. The Convenor highlighted the need to raise awareness about local heritage and its tourism potential. The

walk, led by Gurinder Singh Johal, covered key landmarks including the Motilal Nehru Library, Gurdwara Saragarhi, Jalebi Wala, and ended at Ghantaghar in Golden Plaza.

The Chapter, with the Amritsar Administration, organized a heritage walk for local students, covering landmarks like fresco paintings, Katra Ahluvalia, Jallianwala Bagh, and Sri Harmandir Sahib. Gagandeep Singh Virk honored M. Gursimranjit Kaur, ADC Amritsar, and guide Gurinder Singh Johal. The walk ended at Maharaja Ranjit Singh’s Summer Palace, with historian Surinder Kochhar sharing insights. The event aimed to inspire youth to preserve Amritsar’s cultural heritage.

Amritsar Chapter commemorated Maharaja Ranjit Singh’s 244th birth anniversary at the Shahi Baradari in Dinanagar, highlighting

his legacy. The event featured essay competitions, *kirtan* performances, and heritage songs by Nirmal Singh Nimma Bobanwala’s troupe. Gurbhajan Gill praised INTACH’s efforts, and Major General Balwinder Singh’s research on the Baradari was discussed. Gagandeep Singh Virk urged visits to heritage sites to raise awareness. INTACH also presented a booklet by historians Surinder Kochhar and Inderjit Singh Harpura.

✓ BATHINDA

On 27 September, the Chapter members, along with the Convenor and Co-convenor, celebrated World Tourism Day by touring prominent historical sites in Bathinda City. The group, traveling by bicycles, had an engaging experience, interacting with locals and exploring the city’s rich heritage.



Participants for heritage walk – Amritsar Chapter



Participants for 244th birth Anniversary celebration of Maharaja Ranjit Singh – Amritsar Chapter

✓ FIROZPUR

DCM Group of Schools in Firozpur celebrated National Handloom Day, highlighting the importance of preserving India's handloom heritage. The Chapter successfully completed the City Round of Heritage Quiz 2024. Dass and Brown World School qualified for the state level, with students Kariday Gaba and Arnav Mittal (both in 8th grade) representing the school.

To celebrate World Tourism Day, students from D.C. Model International School visited the Saragarhi Gurdwara and Museum. The tour focused on the heroic Battle of Saragarhi, where 21 Sikh soldiers defended their post with remarkable bravery. The visit instilled pride in Sikh history and values of courage, loyalty, and perseverance.

On the 117th birth anniversary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Dass & Brown World School honored the martyr at Hussainiwala Border. The school community paid tribute with prayers and a two-minute silence, reflecting on Bhagat Singh's sacrifice and inspiring students with his values of bravery and patriotism.

✓ JALANDHAR

Jalandhar Chapter held the Heritage Quiz Competition 2024 on 30 September, at DRV DAV Centenary School, Phillaur, with 68 students from 8 schools. Swami Sant Dass Public School, Phagwara, won first place, followed by the Jalandhar team.

During Heritage Week, the Chapter organized a seminar for APS Beas students (classes 9-12), focusing on the importance

of preserving Indian culture and history. Experts and short films emphasized how traditions shape modern life, inspiring students to take pride in and protect their heritage.

✓ KAPURTHALA

The Chapter held a 'Trash to Treasure' workshop at Cambridge International School, Kapurthala, led by Harvard World Record holder Mrs. Preeti Sangvi. The workshop focused on eco-sustainability through fabric and bottle painting, encouraging students to turn waste materials into art.

✓ PATIALA

The Patiala Chapter organized a seminar on 27 July, at Government Multipurpose Senior Secondary School, focusing on the importance of preserving heritage. The Principal of the school highlighted the need to protect culture and language in a globalized world. The Convenor urged students to become guardians of heritage for progress and prosperity.

The Chapter organized the INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 at Government Multipurpose Senior Secondary School, with schools from Patiala participating. Our Lady of Fatima Convent School won, while British Co-ed High School and two teams from Shivalik Public School were runners-up. Consolation prizes were awarded to Gurbax International School and Modern Senior Secondary School.

On 26 July, Shri Guru Hargobind Sahib Khalsa College, Karhali Sahib, hosted a lecture by Sarbjit Singh Virk on 'Preserving

Heritage,' stressing on the importance of protecting heritage and nature. The Punjab Eco-Friendly Club donated 100 plants to the college, which were planted on campus, and students received plants to take home. Principal Mrs. Ramanjit Kaur thanked all participants.

✓ SANGRUR

The INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 City Round was held on 30 September, at Gen Gurnam Singh Public School, Sangrur, with 170 students from 13 schools participating. The event included a written and oral round, with Gyansh Global School securing first place and qualifying for the state-level quiz. Certificates and book prizes were awarded to the top teams.

✓ TARN TARAN

The INTACH State Convenor visited the Gen Gulab Singh Fort at Pahuwind Tarn Taran, a 200-year-old architectural marvel dating back to Maharaja Ranjit Singh's era. Built by General Gulab Singh Pahuwindia, the fort features unique elements like a well and dungeons, and is historically significant as the birthplace of Shaheed Baba Deep Singh Ji. The visit aimed to highlight the fort's importance and its rich cultural heritage.

The Convenor also paid tribute to the Saragarhi Memorial, honoring Naik Lal Singh, a hero from the historic Saragarhi battle. A donation of Rs 11,000 was made to the Saragarhi Foundation to support its efforts. The Chapter also organized a tribute event for Naik Lal Singh, which included a Guard of Honor from the Indian Army and media coverage by DD Punjabi.



Participants for National Heritage Quiz – Patiala Chapter



Participants for the Oral Round of the Quiz – Sangrur Chapter



As part of preserving local heritage, the Chapter, planted 250 trees in collaboration with the Gram Sabha members of Margind-pura, contributing to environmental sustainability and community engagement.

Rajasthan

✓ AJMER

The Ajmer Chapter held a National Heritage Quiz on 29 September, at Turning Point School, with 104 students from 18 schools. St. Stephen's School team emerged as winners and will represent Ajmer at the state level.

✓ ALWAR

On 23 July, the Chapter organized the city round of the National Heritage Quiz, with 75 students from 7 schools. Bal Bharti Secondary School won first place, followed by Bal Bharti Higher Secondary School and Alwar Public School. The event aimed to raise awareness about heritage conservation.

Alwar Chapter organized a three-day workshop in Bahali Rajgarh village, where 100 students learned the art of clay modeling. They created various artworks, including statues, traditional items, and decorative pieces. On the third day, an exhibition showcased the students' creations, and 15 outstanding pieces were awarded. The workshop concluded with a discussion on the importance of natural heritage and its conservation.



A three-day workshop 'Mati Tere Rop Anek' – Alwar Chapter

✓ BARAN

The Chapter organized a 40-day Art Skills and Interest Training Camp from 17 May to 26 June, at Bhimganj Ward School, in collaboration with the Rajasthan State Bharat Scout and Guide Association. The camp trained 289 participants in various skills, including a special Mandna Art Workshop. The program culminated in an award ceremony with prizes for the top performers.

✓ BARMER

On World Camel Day, the Convenor, stressed the urgent need for camel conservation to protect the desert ecosystem. He called for camel shelters, support for herders, and initiatives to promote camel health and crafts. Environment Secretary Yashovardhan Sharma emphasized the importance of camels in India's socio-economic development. Local leaders also supported the call for urgent conservation efforts.

✓ BHILWARA

88 students from 9 schools participated in the INTACH Heritage Quiz at Rajendra Marg School. The team from Maheshwari Public School won first place. The winning team will advance to the state-level competition.

The Convenor, met Governor Haribhau Bagde to present an 11-point proposal for forest and wildlife conservation in Rajasthan. The suggestions focused on protecting heritage sites, improving plantation efforts, combating illegal mining,



A group of participants attended the plantation programme – Bundi Chapter

and addressing pollution. Governor Bagde assured Jaju of government action and pledged to direct relevant authorities to address these issues.

✓ BIKANER

On 27 August, INTACH and Rotary Club Supremos organized a seminar at the Rotary Club Library to celebrate Chandra Singh Birkali's birth anniversary. Scholars praised Birkali's contributions to Rajasthani literature, especially his nature-themed works like *Baadli* and *Loo*. Former Governor Arun Prakash Gupta and Dr. Sudha Acharya highlighted his impact on Rajasthani language and culture. The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks by Prithviraj Ratanu.

✓ BUNDI

On Hariyali Amavasya, the Chapter organized a tree plantation drive near the Dadhimati Temple on Bundi Bypass, Jaipur Road. Saplings of Jamun, Neem, Peepal, and other trees were planted. The event was attended by Chapter Convenor, Co-Convenor, local dignitaries, and community members. On World Tourism Day, the Chapter held a seminar at Lakshminath Temple on 'Our Heritage and Tourism Possibilities' and 'Tourism and Peace.' The Convenor highlighted the need to preserve Bundi's heritage and connect traditional crafts with tourism. The Co-Convenor emphasized media promotion. Bundi Gaurav Samman was awarded to Narayan Mandovara, Piyush Pachak, and Pankaj Joshi for their contributions to promoting Bundi's tourism.

The Chapter celebrated the birth anniversary of poet Suryamal Mishran from 13 to 19 October, with various events. The Convenor emphasized heritage preservation, inspired by Mishran's legacy. Activities included a tree plantation at Kasturba Gandhi Mahavidyalaya (51 saplings), a quiz and lecture at Vikas Nagar School, a painting competition at Mishran's mansion, a debate at Vishwa Bharti School, a cultural evening with 5,000 lamps at Naval Sagar Lake, and a heritage tour ending at Mishran's mansion. Participants included local intellectuals, school heads, and INTACH members.

✓ JAIPUR

The Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum Trust in Jaipur organizes the *Sawai Jaipur Awards* to honor exceptional individuals and organizations for their contributions. Established in 2000, the awards commemorate Maharaja Sawai Bhawani Singh's birth anniversary. This year, the Maharaja Sawai Padmanabh Singh Award was presented for excellence in heritage and architecture preservation.

✓ JHALAWAR

The Jhalawar Chapter celebrated the *Meri Smarak Khoj* National Poster & Writing Competition on 8 August. The regional winner was announced, with the top three local positions also recognized. The prize distribution ceremony, attended by students, teachers, and INTACH members, featured speeches from the Convenor and Dr. Madhusudan Acharya, guest speaker. On 15 August, the Jhalawar Chapter was recognized by the District Collector for its significant contributions to heritage preservation and social service. During the Independence Day ceremony, the Chapter Convenor was presented with a certificate and trophy in acknowledgment of the chapter's efforts.

On 24 August, the Heritage Quiz Competition at Emmanuel Mission School saw 59 students from 6 schools participate. Devangi Goyal and Charbi Jain from Rupnagar Public School won first place and will represent at the state level. Sanjil and Harshit Kumar from Anasuya



Honoured to the Jhalawar Chapter by the District Collector during Independence Day – Jhalawar Chapter

Singhania Academy placed second. The event was organized by Dr. Rajvini with support from local members.

✓ KARAU LI

The Chapter celebrated the city's 676th foundation day at Kalyanrai temple, with prayers for cultural development. Rajyacharya Pandit Prakash Jati led the worship ceremony, followed by Aarti and prasad distribution. A seminar highlighted Karauli's founding in 1348 AD by Arjun Dev. Kishan Pal Singh Jadoun emphasized preserving the city's heritage.

✓ MARWAR/JODHPUR

The winners of the State Level INTACH Heritage Quiz Competition 2024 were from Bikaner, with the runners-up from Barmer. The quiz, held at Mehrangarh Fort, focused on India's history and culture. The top team will represent Rajasthan at the national level.

✓ NAGAU R

The Chapter celebrated the Green Revolution by planting 100 saplings at Daniel Mayo Senior Secondary School.



Contribution to Green Revolution – Nagaur Chapter



Meera Mahotsav – Nagaur Chapter

The students planted a variety of fruit, flower, and shade trees, pledging to care for them. INTACH Nagaur Director, Himmat Singh Rathore, commended the students' enthusiasm for the initiative. The 17th foundation day of the Bhakt Shiromani Meerabai Panorama in Merta City was celebrated on 4-5 October. A two-day Meera Mahotsav was organized, sponsored by the Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, the Department of Tourism, Government of Rajasthan, Rajasthan Heritage Authority, and INTACH Nagaur Chapter.

On 3 November, the Chapter, Grameen Prayan Vikas Samity, and local tourist guides organized a seminar at Hotel Hari Palace, Degana to promote village heritage and tourism in Nagaur. The event, chaired by Onkar Singh Lakhawat, focused on enhancing tourism infrastructure and



Celebrated the foundation day of Karauli city at Kalyanrai temple – Karauli Chapter



creating a tourist map highlighting local cultural assets. The seminar brought together local officials, tourism experts, and community members to discuss sustainable tourism. Special thanks were given to Prem Singh for his support in hosting the event.

✓ UDAIPUR

On 30 July, a Filmit workshop was held at The Seedling Public School, with participation from several schools. The workshop, focused on filmmaking, aimed to help students create short films about their cultural and social surroundings. It was led by the INTACH HECS team. On 6 August, the Investiture Ceremony for the Young INTACH Club took place, attended by Co-Convenors of the Chapter. The event featured an oath-taking, performances by students, and the presentation of the Best Young INTACH Club prize, along with certificates and prizes.

On 14 August, the closing function of the Plantation Program was held by the school administration. The school's beautiful landscape, enhanced by the current plantation drive, primarily features indigenous species. As the school is residential, proper care of the plants is ensured.

In 2024, the Chapter organized a Sanjhi Art workshop for 112 students from 14 schools at Mohan Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur. The workshop, in collaboration with the Department of Fashion Technology, taught students the traditional art form, which is practiced during the Shradha Paksha to honor ancestors. The workshop aimed to preserve and promote this cultural craft.

The Chapter is documenting the Gavari Dance-Drama and Fad tradition of Mewar as intangible heritage. The Gavari, a month-long festival performed by the Bhili tribe, depicts stories of Lord Shiva and Parvati, while Fad narrates the tales of great saints. The project, supported by financial assistance, is led by Co-Convenor Dr. Manish Shrimali and life member Priyanka Vaishnav, with expert Rohit Menaria and Ph.D. scholars involved. The project is

supervised by the Chapter Convenor to preserve these unique cultural traditions.

Tamil Nadu

✓ CHENNAI

As part of the 2024 Madras Day celebrations, Sujatha Shankar, Convenor, screened her film *'The Story of Madras... Chennai: The First City of Modern India'*, narrated by Mr. S. Muthiah, at three venues. The screenings – one for the public and two for school children – highlighted the city's rich history and built heritage, aiming to foster awareness about Madras's contributions to India's cultural landscape. The screenings took place at Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram School (31 July), Tamil Nadu Government Music College (6 August), and Sishya OMR School (13 August).

Young INTACH hosted the Annual Inter-School Quiz on 31 August, at Sri Sankara Vidyashramam, with 26 schools and 216 students. Guest speakers Miraya Dadabhoj, Mira Sacheti, and Arhan Reddy presented the *Sunflower City Project*, aimed at making Chennai more yellow. The event saw winners from PSBB Gerugambakkam, Sri Sankara Vidyalaya, and Sri Sankara School, Adyar. The Convenor also attended the *Media Conference* for Madras Day Celebrations on 12 August.

On 24 July Haresha Anand Raja gave a talk titled *Glittering through Time: History of Indian Gems and Jewellery* where he explored the origins and evolution of Indian jewellery, from the Indus Valley to India's pioneering role in diamond mining. On 31 August Ganesh V. Shivaswamy spoke on *Moving Beyond the Religious Image* discussing how Raja Ravi Varma's artwork influenced both religious and social iconography in India.

Dr. Saryu Doshi, Former Vice Chairperson, INTACH in collaboration with Prakriti Foundation, gave two lectures: *Spiritual Splendour: The Dharana Vihara Temple at Ranakpur* on 1 October focusing on the restoration of the 15th-century Jain temple, and *A Painted Legend: The Pancha-*



Dr. Saryu Doshi with Convenor, INTACH Chennai Chapter and Ranvir Shah, Prakriti Foundation with students of Mohamed Sathak A.J. Academy of Architecture at Alliance Francaise of Madras – Chennai Chapter

Kalyanaka of Rishaba on 2 October examining a 17th-century Jain scroll depicting key events in the life of Tirthankara Rishaba.

✓ COIMBATORE

The Chapter hosted the *National Heritage Quiz 2024* on 31 August, at Vivekalaya's Vichara World School, with 226 students from 17 schools. Vivekalaya's Vichara World School emerged victorious, winning first place and securing a nomination for the state-level quiz in Chennai. The event fostered a deeper appreciation for India's cultural legacy among the students.

✓ KODAIKANAL

The Chapter launched a series of talks on the town's local history, heritage, and iconic institutions. On 30 September members had a thrilling night visit to the 128-year-old Solar Observatory, where they viewed Saturn and its moon Titan, through the original telescope. On 23 October nine members enjoyed a 2-hour Colonial Heritage tour of buildings dating back



Heritage tour and visit to the Solar observatory – Kodaikanal Chapter

to 1845. Part 2 of the series, *Stories of Kodaikanal*, will be held on 15 November.

✓ NAGERCOIL

Nagercoil Chapter hosted a seminar on the *Diversity and Economic Importance of Bryophytes* on 10 September, alongside celebrations for World Bamboo Day and Teachers' Day. Dr. A.E. Dulips Daniels, Vice Principal at Scott Christian College, spoke about the ecological and economic significance of bryophytes, simple plants that thrive in diverse habitats. The Chapter honored 24 teachers, both past and present, who shared memorable anecdotes from their teaching careers.

The Nagercoil Chapter commemorated the 15th World Bamboo Day on 18 September, with a seminar on the *Importance of Bamboo*. The event focused on bamboo's ecological and economic benefits, such as carbon sequestration, water and soil conservation, and its role in combating climate change. Bamboo is fast-growing, requires no chemicals, and provides renewable resources. It has diverse applications in construction, furniture, paper, and more.

Nagercoil Chapter members, led by the Convenor, visited two pottery villages in Kanyakumari District: Chungankadai and Thaalakulam. Chungankadai is a well-known pottery hub with traditional craftsmanship passed down through generations. The group also explored Cheramanagalam, where 1000-year-old rock inscriptions from the reign of Raja Raja Chola were rediscovered. The inscriptions,



The Chapter honoured a teacher during the event organized on Teachers' Day – Nagercoil Chapter

in the ancient 'Vattazhuyhu' Tamil script, offer important historical insights.

On 27 July, the Chapter visited the 14th-century Azhagar Perumal Temple in Thalakulam, where ancient Tamil inscriptions on the southern wall were discovered. These inscriptions were interpreted by epigraphist Mr. Chenthee Natarajan. The Chapter also toured the Velu Thambi Dalavai Memorial House, or Valiaveedu, in Thalakulam. Velu Thambi, born in 1765, led a successful rebellion against unjust taxes, resulting in the dismissal of the ruling Ministry. His subsequent resistance to British forces led to defeat, and he was later assassinated. The memorial house was built by his family in his honor.

The *Van Mahotsav 2024* was celebrated with the planting of 100 traditional tree saplings at Ringaltoube Higher Secondary School, Mylaudy. Over 300 students participated in the event, with each student adopting a sapling. The Chapter has partnered with the Government Horticulture Department of Kanyakumari District to plant Palmyra seeds and seedlings. On 28 October the Chapter plans to plant 1,000 seeds at a college campus.

On 29 October, the Chapter, led by the Convenor, successfully organized a Palmyra Seed Planting drive at Scott Christian College. Inaugurated by Mayor Thiru R. Mahesh, who planted the first seed, the event aimed to create a Palmyra forest, highlighting the tree's historical economic importance to a local community, that has since flourished.



The Heritage Quiz 2024 – Salem Chapter

✓ SALEM

The Salem Chapter's Heritage Quiz 2024, held at Sri Vidya Mandir HSS, Anandasrama, saw 11 schools and 51 teams participating. After a qualifying round, four teams advanced to the oral rounds. Following intense competition, the winning team was declared, and certificates, shields, and mementos were awarded to winners, runners-up, and semifinalists. The participants also received newsletters and other INTACH publications.

Telangana

✓ WARANGAL

An old coin exhibition for high school students was held on 9 July, at Zilla Parishat High School, Oorugonda, Hanamkonda district. Dr. Racharla Ganapati, senior member of the Warangal Chapter, conducted the event, emphasizing the educational value of ancient coin collections. Ragi Venkata Chari discussed the evolution of coins over time. The exhibition was attended by the school headmaster, teachers, and students.

On 12 October, a heritage education tour to Kota Gullu, Ramappa, and Laknavaram Lake was organized by the Chapter. Dr. Racharla Ganapati led the tour, educating students on the Kakatiya kings' contributions and the importance of preserving heritage sites. Teachers and students participated in the tour.

Tripura

The Tripura Chapter, in collaboration with the Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC), celebrated the 116th birth anniversary of Maharaja Bir Bikram from 17 to 19 August. The event featured a photographic exhibition of the Maharaja's life, along with traditional crafts, food, and souvenir stalls. Dignitaries including the Chief Minister, royal scion Pradyot Kishore Manikya Deb Barman, and MP Kriti Devi attended, honoring the Maharaja's legacy and contributions to Tripura's cultural heritage.



Uttar Pradesh

✓ AYODHYA

The INTACH Heritage Quiz '24, held on 25 August, at JB Academy, Faizabad, saw 150 students from 15 schools participate. Indrapuram School won the quiz, with JB Academy as runner-up. The event highlighted heritage preservation, concluding with awards to encourage collaboration and awareness.

The Chapter organized a two-day workshop, 'Discover Your Living Heritage,' on 6 and 10 September, at JB Academy. 84 students from six schools participated, learning to make eco-friendly clay idols for Diwali. The workshop highlighted Ayodhya's local arts, sustainable practices, and the significance of these idols.

On 22 September, INTACH Faizabad Chapter organized a heritage walk, covering 25 historic sites like Sri Ramdev Smriti Bhawan, Galla Mandi, Faizabad's first cinema hall (1935), and the 500-year-old Gushalkhana Masjid. Expert speakers, Mr. Anil Agarwal and Dr. Vishal Srivastav, provided valuable insights, making the event a success.



A two-day workshop titled 'Discover Your Living Heritage' – Ayodhya Chapter



General meeting of Gorakhpur Chapter



Signing of MoU – Gorakhpur Chapter

✓ GORAKHPUR

The Gorakhpur Chapter convened on 5 September to discuss the responsibilities of the Chapter Advisory Committee, finalize preparations for the Heritage Quiz on 8 September, and plan a workshop on endangered arts. During the meeting, members were assigned specific tasks for the quiz, and deliberations were held to select the art forms to be featured in the workshop. Additionally, the chapter recognized and felicitated Prof. Rajvant Rao on his recent promotion to Dean of the Faculty of Arts at DDU Gorakhpur University.

On 18 October, an M.O.U. was signed between Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gorakhpur University and INTACH to promote heritage awareness, digitize archaeological artifacts, and conduct teacher training. Prof. Poonam Tandon, Vice Chancellor of DDU Gorakhpur, and M.P. Kandoi, Convenor, signed the agreement. The event was attended by INTACH members and university faculty, with both parties committing to collaborate on heritage-related initiatives.

✓ LALITPUR

The Heritage Quiz 2024, organized by Lalitpur Chapter, saw the participation of 90 students from 9 colleges at the Government Girls Inter College Auditorium. The students displayed great enthusiasm for the competition and their heritage. The Chief Guest was Mrs. Poonam Malik, Principal of GGIC, while the Chapter Convener presided over the event.

✓ MAHOBA

The Mahoba Chapter celebrated the 843rd Mahoba Kajli Mahotsav at Kirat Sagar,

honoring the legendary victory of Alha and Udal. On 23 August, the Chapter organized a vibrant Alha singing performance by renowned artists, followed by a public lecture on heritage preservation. The event, attended by thousands, focused on raising awareness about safeguarding India's cultural heritage for future generations.

✓ MEERUT

On 26 July, the Chapter celebrated Kargil Vijay Diwas, with Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar presiding. The event featured talks by Kargil war veteran Lt. Col. A.D. Tyagi and other dignitaries, along with poetic tributes by Ram Lakhan Patel, A.K. Johri, and Dr. Ishwar Chandra Gambhir. Lt. Col. Tyagi was felicitated for his service, and the occasion was attended by several prominent individuals.

On 28 July, the Chapter marked World Nature Day at Sadbhavana Park. The Convenor, led the event with talks on environmental protection. Poets Dr. Ishwar Chandra Gambhir and Shri Ram Lakhan Patel spoke on conservation themes. Dr. Kiran Singh delivered a lecture, and Dr. Bhatnagar urged collective efforts to preserve nature. The event was attended by local dignitaries and participants.

On 10 August, the occasion of Tulsidas Goswami's birth anniversary, the Chapter, in collaboration with the Akhil Bharatiya Sahitya Parishad, organized a program at Anandam Ashram. The Co-Convenor, discussed the relevance of the *Ramcharitmanas*, while Neeraj and Anand Johri highlighted how the text elevates Shri Ram's life to a divine level. The event, which featured prominent figures, concluded with an insightful discussion.

The Meerut Chapter organized a seminar on 29 August, at Chaudhary Charan Singh University, focusing on inspiring the youth to engage in heritage preservation. The event was chaired by Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, with speakers including Dr. Vignesh Tyagi, Dr. Gambhir, and several historians, who emphasized the importance of conserving heritage for future generations.

A Teachers' Honors Program at Aryans

Public School was hosted on 4 September, where five teachers were honored for their contributions. The event was led by Dr. R.K. Bhatnagar, IAS (Retd.), the Convenor, and included speeches by students, with a focus on INTACH's objectives.

The Meerut Chapter held an Executive Meeting on 7 September, where they reviewed 15 programs conducted since April 2024. The meeting also focused on upcoming events, including Sardar Bhagat Singh Jayanti, International Girl Child Day, and World Heritage Week. A committee was formed to oversee the restoration of heritage buildings, and preparations for future workshops were discussed.

The Chapter organized the Munshi Premchand Memorial Essay/Story Writing Competition on 20 September, at Sri Sanatan Dharma Inter College and Koi Smile Girls National Inter College. The Convenor, presented certificates to the participants, and mementos were awarded to the winners in three categories. The Chapter commemorated the 117th birth anniversary of Bhagat Singh on 28 September at Shri Ram Sahai Inter College. Students paid tribute to the martyr, while scholars shared valuable insights into his life. Poet Dr. I.C. Gambhir honored the



Celebration of Shaheed Bhagat Singh Jayanti – Meerut Chapter



The annual Munshi Premchand Memorial Essay/Story Writing Competition – Meerut Chapter



Participants and resource persons at a seminar organized by the Prayagraj Chapter

bravery of the martyrs with his powerful verses.

✓ PRAYAGRAJ

In August 2024, the Chapter organized a seminar featuring Professor Archana Singh, who shed light on the plight of indentured laborers, particularly women from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, who migrated to Fiji and New Zealand. She emphasized their efforts in preserving cultural aspects such as language and food traditions. The session concluded with an engaging Q&A. On 1 September, the Chapter hosted a session with Ms. Anita Chowdhry, a visual artist, who gave a presentation on Mughal art and its influence. She discussed topics such as 'Emperor Akbar's Experiment in Art' and 'Mughal Flowers.' The session ended with a Q&A and the presentation of a memento.

The Chapter held its Annual Heritage Quiz on 19 September, at Patanjali Rishikul School, with 55 teams participating. The event highlighted the significance of heritage education and featured discussions on heritage conservation. The winning team will proceed to the State Level.



Participants with a resource person, Anita Chowdhry during a seminar about preservation of cultural aspects – Prayagraj Chapter

✓ VARANASI

On 14 July, the Varanasi Chapter organized a Heritage Walk in Ramnagar, exploring its rich history and heritage. The walk included visits to the Ramnagar Fort, home to the Maharajas of Kashi, and the Janakpur Temple, known for housing the deities of the Ramayana's four brothers and their wives. Dr. Ratnaker Pandey briefed participants on its unique rituals. The group also visited the Sumeru Temple (Durga Temple), renowned for its unique architecture, and the Vyas Temple at the fort, where Shivlingas were worshipped by Ved Vyas. The walk concluded at another temple where the royal family continues their worship traditions. Shri Anant Narain Singh, the current Maharaja, is an INTACH Life Member.

On 28 July the Chapter organized a Heritage Walk to Kardameshwar Temple, one of Kashi's oldest temples, led by the Convenor and an expert guide. The temple, a key stop on the Panchkosi pilgrimage, features idols of Shiva, Ganesh, Parvati, and Hanuman. Notable sculptures and the



Heritage Walk to Kardameshwar Temple – Varanasi Chapter



Uma Maheshwar pose on the southern wall were highlighted. The Kardam Kupa, a holy well, and the Assi River's origin, renovated by Queen Rani Bhavani, were explored. The walk concluded with a visit to an old sugarcane crushing site and a discussion.

On 7 August, the Varanasi Chapter celebrated National Handloom Day at Sunbeam School Lahartara. The event featured a film on the revival of Himroo, presented by the Community Crafts Heritage Division of INTACH Delhi. Padmashree S. Supakar, renowned textile designer and INTACH Life member, was the Chief Guest, while Mr. Deepak Madhok, Chairman of Sunbeam Educational Group, was the Guest of Honour. The Convenor encouraged attendees to pledge to use handloom products at least once a month.

The 7th lecture in the *Virasat Darshan Vyakhyanmala* series, delivered by archaeologist Mr. Ajay Srivastava, covered key archaeological sites in Varanasi, including Sarnath and Rajghat. Over 100 participants gained valuable insights into the region's ancient history. On 25 August, the Chapter organized a heritage walk in the Durga Kund area, exploring historic sites such as Anand Bagh and Bankati Hanumanji Temple. The participants gained insights into Saint Bhaskaranand's meditation practices and visited several temples. The Bengalitola heritage walk on 8 September focused on temples like Tarabadi, Lahiri Mahashay Ashram, and Shiva Kali Temple, providing participants with an immersive experience of Varanasi's religious heritage.



Celebrated National Handloom Day – Varanasi Chapter

On 22 September the Chapter organized a heritage walk to explore the birthplaces of two Jain Tirthankars, Chandraprabhu Swamy and Shreyanshnath, located in Chandravati and Singhpuri. The walk was led by experts and priests who shared valuable insights into the history and teachings of Jainism. A heritage walk was organized on 27 October, covering the Shwetambar Jain Temple and Baba Kinaram Ashram. The participants explored sacred sites and gained insights into Jain and Aghor traditions. Ms. Laura, an Italian scholar, shared valuable information about the life of Baba Kinaram during the walk.

From 23 to 25 September, the Varanasi Chapter organized a series of talks on career opportunities in tourism across three INTACH member colleges. The events began on 23 September at Sunbeam College for Women, where experts such as Prof. Mahesh Vikram Singh, Mr. Sandeep Patial, and Dr. Ajai Singh spoke about careers in tourism. On 24 September, Vasanta College hosted a session on the lesser-known temples of Varanasi, followed by a career discussion with Mr. Nilesh Sinha. The series concluded on 25 September at Sunbeam Bhagwanpur College with a discussion on art and tourism, featuring Prof. Suresh Nair and American artist Mr. Chowky Frenn.

On 2 October, INTACH Varanasi organized a World Tourism Day event with speakers discussing sustainable tourism, the importance of peace, and Varanasi's cultural heritage. Dr. Subhash Yadav highlighted the potential of fairs and



Sanskritik Virasat Spardha - 2024 – Varanasi Chapter

festivals to attract more tourists. The event concluded with certificates and refreshments.

A talk on Bengali culinary traditions was organized by INTACH in collaboration with Diamond Hotel on 14 October. Mr. Saurabh Chakraborty discussed traditional Bengali recipes, followed by a Bengali cuisine dinner. The event was attended by 20 INTACH members and guests.

U.S. Ambassador Mr. Eric Garcetti and his family visited Sarnath, where they were given a guided tour by INTACH guide Mr. Jainendra Rai. The tour, which took place on 16 October, provided the Ambassador and his family a deeper understanding of the historical and cultural significance of the site.

The 3rd edition of the *Sanskritik Virasat Spardha* was held on 9 November at Sunbeam School Varuna, with participation from over 300 students across 19 schools. The competitions included dramatics, group dance, song, and painting, all centered around the theme of the Ramayana. Prizes were awarded in various



A group photo of participants and speakers during an event of World Tourism Day – Varanasi Chapter

categories, and the event was supervised by school officials and INTACH members.

West Bengal

✓ DARJEELING

The Quiz competition, initially planned for July-August 2024 in Kalimpong, was rescheduled to 20 September in Kurseong. 5 schools participated with 50 students. After three stages, St. Alphonsus Higher Secondary School won, followed by the Mahanadi High School in second and Pankhabari H.S. School in third place. Certificates were given to all participants, and tea and lunch were provided to students and teachers.

✓ KOLKATA

On 10 May, the INTACH Blue Plaque was unveiled at the Oberoi Grand Hotel, Kolkata, in the presence of Mr. Vikram Oberoi, recognizing its heritage. On 24 May, the INTACH Calcutta Regional Chapter held a meeting at Bingsha Shatabdi. INTACH Kolkata members attended a talk on 13 June at Tollygunge Club by Australian adventurers Lang and Bev Kidby, retracing the 1927 drive from England to Australia. On 22-23 June, INTACH unveiled Heritage

Culinary Blue Plaques at several locations, including Sen Mahasay (Shyambazar), Laxmi Narayan Shaw (Hatibagan), Anand Restaurant (South Indian), and Amber Restaurant (North Indian/Multi-cuisine). The INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 (City Level) was held on 20 September, at Sri Sri Academy, Kolkata, with 46 students from 6 schools participating. The event was inaugurated by Ms. Reeta Dasgupta. Winners received certificates and gifts. On 5 October, Dr. Sudeshna Chatterjee, Secretary General of the Sea Explorers Institute, gave a presentation on the history of the institute and shared a gripping film about an adventurous voyage from Kolkata to the Andaman Islands. She also discussed the proposed 'Boat Show' to showcase Bengal's maritime heritage near Prinsep Ghat and invited INTACH to partner in the event.

The INTACH Heritage Culinary Recognition Blue Plaque was unveiled on 22 October, at Aminia Restaurant, Esplanade, Kolkata, with the participation of the Convenor, and member Siddharth Sarkar, alongside the restaurant owners. Established in 1929, Aminia is an iconic Mughlai eatery. On 21 October, the Blue Plaque was also unveiled at Balwant Singh Dhaba, a legendary Kolkata eatery established in 1926, with Mr. G.M. Kapur, Siddharth Sarkar, and Smita

Mehta attending the event along with the dhaba's owners.

On 4 November, INTACH Calcutta Regional Chapter hosted the INTACH National Heritage Quiz 2024 (State Level) in Kolkata. 8 students from 4 different chapters (Darjeeling, Santiniketan, Murshidabad, and Kolkata) participated. The event was inaugurated by Mr. G.M. Kapur and Ms. Kanchana Mukhopadhyay. The winners were awarded certificates and gifts.

✓ MURSHIDABAD

The Murshidabad Chapter established 18 Heritage Clubs across high and higher secondary schools in the district, following a teachers' training program. The clubs aim to raise awareness about heritage preservation and restoration. The Convenor, Co-Convenor and members participated in the inaugurations, where speeches highlighted the clubs' objectives. During 'Forest Week,' INTACH donated five fruit plants to each club, which were planted by students and teachers. The program involved prominent schools throughout the district.



INTACH Blue Plaque presented to the Oberoi Grand Hotel – Kolkata Chapter



Gokarna Girls High School's Heritage Club inauguration – Murshidabad Chapter



Sargachhi R K Mission plant donation – Murshidabad Chapter



The INTACH Quiz Contest 2024, organized by the Chapter and sponsored by HECS INTACH, saw participation from 16 schools and over 300 students. Held in two stages, the city round took place on 6 September, at Berhampore, with teams competing on five heritage themes: district, state, country, personalities, and INTACH.

Sargachhi Ramakrishna Mission School won first place, followed by Gokarna NG Girls High School, Ramnagar High School, and Lalbag Singi High School. Prizes and certificates were awarded to the winners, while all participants received certificates. The event concluded with speeches from INTACH members and a vote of thanks.

✓ SANTINIKETAN

The Santiniketan Chapter hosted its Annual Palash Programme with speeches, recitations, and songs, featuring Ms. Bokul Roy as the chief guest. A Heritage Quiz at Labpur SNSN Girls' High School saw five schools compete, with the winning team advancing to the State-level contest. Prizes were awarded to winners of the My Monument Contest at Patha Bhavana, Visva Bharati, and a 'Nakshi Kantha' Heritage Workshop had strong participation from girl students.



Heritage Workshop for students – Santiniketan Chapter

Obituary

Andhra Pradesh

VISHAKHAPATANAM

Shri S.V.S. Ravikumar, a distinguished Life Member of INTACH and a celebrated photographer in the city, passed away peacefully on 2 September 2024. He was born on 10 July 1959.



Late S.V.S. Ravikumar

Rajasthan

BIKANER

Shri Dalip Singh, a longstanding Life Member of INTACH passed away after years of dedicated service. He was not only an esteemed member but also served for many years as the Co-Convenor of the INTACH Bikaner Chapter.



Late Shri Dalip Singh

Mr. Dinesh Saxena, a distinguished journalist, social worker, and public figure, passed away. Known for his jovial nature and quick wit, he was a beloved personality in Bikaner. He made significant contributions to journalism, serving as an announcer and later in the Rajasthan State Public Relations Service. He was deeply involved in the local community, both as a member of INTACH and through his active participation in Rotary Club programs. His legacy of friendship, mentorship, and service will forever be remembered.



Late Shri Dinesh Saxena

UDAIPUR

Shri Lalit Pandey Convenor of the INTACH Udaipur Chapter from 14 June 2021 to 29 September 2024, passed away. A renowned archaeologist, he was recognized for his significant excavations at Balathal and other nearby sites. Shri Pandey was a dedicated and inspiring leader, fostering close bonds with members and encouraging active participation. Under his leadership, events like endangered craft workshops and heritage quizzes became prominent highlights. His passion for heritage and his commitment to preserving it will be remembered by all who had the honor of working with him.



Late Shri Lalit Pandey

Tamil Nadu

NAGERCOIL

Dr. Sumithra Raghuvaran, a renowned Gynecologist with DRCOG (Lond), MRCOG (Lond), and FRCOG (Lond), passed away peacefully on 5 October 2024. With a career spanning six decades, she made a lasting impact on countless lives through her compassionate care. Dr. Sumithra served as Co-Convenor of the INTACH Nagercoil Chapter from 2004 to 2021, alongside Dr. R.S. Lalmohan. A true pioneer in women's health, her legacy will continue to inspire. INTACH Nagercoil Chapter extends its deepest condolences to her family.



Late Dr. Sumithra Raghuvaran

West Bengal

DARJEELING

With deep sorrow, the Chapter announces the passing of **Mr. Haren Allay**, its senior-most member, on 28 October 2024 at the age of 84. A distinguished Nepali literary figure and retired Darjeeling District Library Officer, Mr. Allay authored over 15 books, including poetry, novels, and criticism, and edited several monthly magazines. He was a dedicated advocate for heritage conservation, protection, and environmental awareness, and played an active role in the Chapter's activities. His untimely death is an immense loss to both the literary community and society at large.



Mr. Haren Allay

▼ HERITAGE INFORMATION

India's Classical Languages



Ancient Tamil Script, Thanjavur Brihadeeswara Temple
(Source: Wikimedia Commons)

In an effort to preserve our rich heritage of languages the Government has undertaken to create a category of languages called “Classical Languages” that is measured on the basis of the ancient literature/texts of high antiquity and recorded history over a period of 1500–2000 years. Their epigraphic and inscriptional evidence are also included in the selection criteria. In 2004 Tamil became the first Indian language to receive “classical” status due to its antiquity and rich literary tradition. Sanskrit was also declared a classical language in the same year. Subsequently, Telugu and Kannada in 2008, Malayalam and Odia in 2013 and 2014 respectively, were also declared in the category. Currently Marathi, Pali, Prakrit, Assamese and Bengali have been enlisted as classical languages.

Modern Marathi descends from Maharashtri Prakrit, a Prakrit dialect used in western India. The origin of Bengali and Assamese languages is in the Magadhi Prakrit the official language of the Magadha court. Prakrit and Pali emerged in the first millennium BCE. Prakrit is still used in religious ritual practices. Pali was the language of the Theravada Buddhist Canon the *Tipitakas*, considered the language of the Buddha himself.

The designation ‘classical’ broadly impacts culture and academics nationally and internationally. It helps in greater knowledge sharing and research in these languages. Manuscripts in these languages will also be digitized for greater access to scholars.

Reviving Lothal A Landmark Study and the Vision for India's Maritime Heritage



Dockyard at Lothal
(Source: Open website)

A pioneering study led by IIT Gandhinagar is transforming our understanding of Lothal, one of the most significant Harappan sites in India. By employing advanced technologies, and sophisticated analytical platforms, the study provides fresh insights into the region's ancient maritime activities. This research reaffirms Lothal's pivotal role in the trade networks of the Harappan civilization and also supports the long-debated dockyard theory—confirming the existence of a large, ancient dockyard that facilitated maritime trade.

This groundbreaking research supports the vision for the upcoming National Maritime Heritage Complex, a monumental project that will showcase India's 4,500-year-old maritime legacy. The complex, located in Lothal, Gujarat, will celebrate the country's ancient seafaring history and provide a world-class platform for education and cultural exchange. Spearheaded by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Government of India, the project is poised to become a global hub for maritime history. Lothal itself, situated approximately 30 kilometers from the Gulf of Khambhat, was one of the southernmost sites of the Indus Valley Civilization and is believed to have housed the world's earliest known dock. When completed, the National Maritime Heritage Complex will offer a dynamic and interactive experience for visitors.

Lothal's inclusion as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2014 underscores its global significance. Once the National Maritime Heritage Complex is fully developed, it will serve as a major landmark in India's ongoing efforts to preserve and promote its rich maritime history, ensuring Lothal's legacy endures for generations to come.

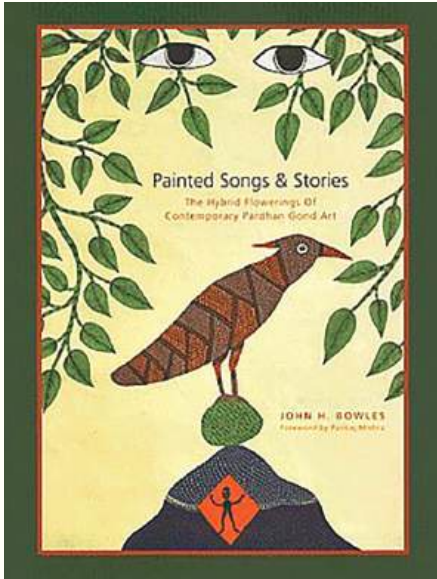


FROM THE INTACH LIBRARY: BOOK REVIEWS

Painted Songs and Stories: The Hybrid Flowerings of Contemporary 'Pardhan Gond Art'

AUTHORS

John H. Bowles and INTACH Bhopal Chapter



This book under review is a catalogue of the first American exhibition showing the evolution of contemporary Pradhan Gond Art. The Pradhan Gond tribe/clan of central India were recognized as great storytellers with their intriguing tales. They served their people for centuries as itinerant professional bards, priests, genealogists and oral historians.

The tribe has since moved to the city of Bhopal and developed a hybrid art style combining traditional subject matter with modern media – ranging from ink and acrylics on paper or canvas to silkscreen prints and animated films. In 1981, from the chance discovery of a young artist Jangarh Singh Shyam, the art form was propelled into an internationally recognized contemporary tribal art movement that continues to flourish. In its development, the prejudices and challenges of modernity faced by contemporary tribals, and their resilience is reflected. Their capacity for masterful innovation, and adapting themselves within a globalizing India connect people with their culture and livelihoods.

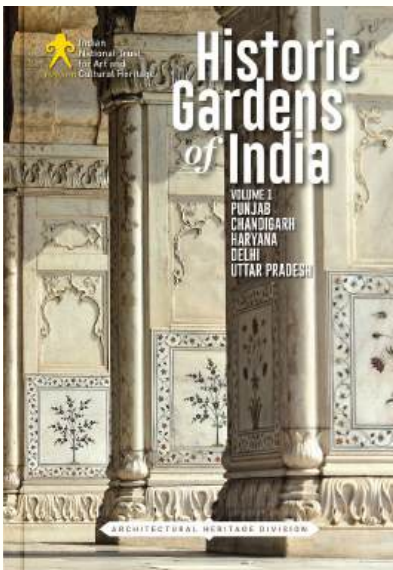
The book familiarizes readers with the extraordinary liveliness and mythological worlds of these unique artists.

ISBN 978-81-7304-867-8
Year 2009

Historic Gardens of India (Volume 1) Punjab, Chandigarh, Haryana, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh

AUTHOR

Architectural Heritage Division, INTACH



The National Register of Historic Gardens initiative was launched in 2016 by INTACH as part of the Heritage Listing and Documentation programme. Initially, it was planned to base the document mainly on secondary sources such as the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), State Departments of Archaeology, and INTACH records but soon it was realised that the gardens primarily did not find any mention in those records and it was typically the buildings that were listed and documented. This meant a primary survey was needed to compile the Register. Since it was a mammoth task, it was decided to start with Delhi and the neighboring states including Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Chandigarh. The survey was completed in 2018, and the inventories were compiled into an exhaustive document available at the INTACH Knowledge Centre. For wider dissemination of this unique documentation, a publication based on the inventories was planned and brought out. As we achieve this milestone, we plan to extend the documentation to the remaining states in subsequent volumes.

ISBN 978-81-967717-2-0
Year 2024
Price Rs 1599

OBJECTIVES OF INTACH

- To create and stimulate an awareness among the public for the preservation of the cultural and natural heritage of India.
- To undertake measures for the preservation and conservation of natural resources and cultural properties.
- To undertake measures for the preservation of not only historic buildings but also of historic quarters and towns, domestic architecture displaying artistic and skilled craftsmanship.
- To undertake the documentation of cultural and natural heritage.
- To undertake pilot conservation projects.
- To promote the preservation of traditional arts and crafts.
- To create a suitable forum for the exchange of ideas and techniques to facilitate study, courses, workshops, conferences, etc.
- To undertake the publications of journals, books, newsletter posters in furtherance of the objectives of the Society.
- To set up and maintain libraries and information centers to facilitate the study of cultural and natural heritage.
- To constitute chapters in India to promote the objectives of the Society.

