



*From Pre-civilization*

## The Tenth Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture



*From Rakhigarhi*

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# 10<sup>TH</sup> PUPUL JAYAKAR MEMORIAL LECTURE

## 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2017

The *Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture* was instituted on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 to honour the memory of Pupul Jayakar, the key Founding Member of INTACH. The guest speaker this year was the eminent Professor Vasant Shinde, Vice Chancellor of Deccan College. He spoke at length on *'Relevance of the Study of Ancient Indian Heritage to Contemporary Society'*. The lecture covered Ancient India's contribution to basic sciences and technologies with reference to archaeological evidence from Harappan and some later period sites, and their continuity till modern times. Harappans, who flourished in the Indian subcontinent from 5000-1500 BCE, were responsible for the introduction of Indian Knowledge System and some of the basic technologies and sciences.



Chairman LK Gupta extended a warm welcome to Prof. Shinde on behalf of INTACH. Deccan College is one of the most influential and leading institutions of our country, and has the distinction of having one of the most extensive libraries on heritage and culture subjects in Asia. Chairman said it is in fact training a new generation of students in archaeology, Sanskrit and linguistics, drawing attention to the important relevance of Prof. Shinde's Lecture.

Professor Shinde thanked INTACH for this opportunity with characteristic modesty. The quintessence of his talk can be summarized as the relevance of ancient heritage study to contemporary modern society. There are very few who really think about this facet of ancient knowledge. He said *"I was invited to give the keynote address at the Shanghai Archaeology Forum which is a world archaeology body and there for the first time I spoke about the Indian knowledge system and its relevance to modern society, and it was highly appreciated. It was suggested that these revelations have to be made and people have to be really educated about the importance of cultural heritage of the country"*. The objective is to learn about the past so as to better understand the present and be prepared for the future. He cited two examples that illustrate the extent of ignorance among the common people. In 1965 Prof. HD Sankalia who established the Archaeology Department Deccan College in 1939, invited a prominent politician from Maharashtra to take a round of the premises and conveyed his future plans. But the disheartening response was that such





*People have begun to listen and learn*

departments had no use as they are not generating any revenue for the country! Prof. Shinde said quite humbly “*We don’t blame him because it is the failure of our community – archaeologists, and historians have not made sufficient efforts to convey the significance of the subject to the common people*”. Even late as 2011, a bureaucrat accompanying another VIP on a visit to an excavation site in Haryana murmured that it was such a waste of national wealth! Other interesting comments surmised that people come from a long distance to work in this village in the hope of excavating wealth. Yet another comment surmised that ‘these people’ as children did not get an opportunity to play in the dust so they are now playing at the site. This was the level of understanding archaeology that prevailed at that time.



Professor Shinde staunchly believes “*without archaeology we would have no understanding about the past 2 million years of history for which there is no written records*”. He said one of the important breakthrough in the history of human culture is the date of introduction of agriculture. In India there are two regions - the Indus and the Ganga plains -where one can map the origins of agriculture and evidence of different cultures and traditions coming gradually into existence. One of the most important sites is Mehrgarh now in Pakistan, where evidence of the origin

of basic science technology dates back to 7500 BC that ultimately culminated during the Harappan period. It belies the assumption made by European scholars that Harappan culture oriented because of people coming to India in olden days from western lands. There is enough local evidence that after housing and agriculture, people started producing crafts and ornamental objects. At burial sites of Mehrgarh there is evidence even of manufacturing activity indicating the gradual evolution of indigenous technology. By 3000-2600 BC basic technology had fully matured. From Harappan to modern times one can trace more than 5000 years of continuously evolving cultural tradition, with China being the only other country where such evidences exist. Harappans did not create pyramids and monumental sculptures which are part of Egyptian and Mesopotamian sites, so Harappan sites were less exciting for visitors and scholars. Besides India has very few archaeologists working on Harappan culture, while Egypt has at least 3000 archaeologists producing as many books. Nor did rich Harappans bury their wealth in tombs like the Pharaohs. Instead Harappan rulers used it for creating well





planned cities and amenities for their own people. They must have used all facets of science, mathematics and measures for laying down their perfectly planned cities. Unfortunately the Harappan script has not been deciphered to date and that would have unveiled their fuller history.

By 3000 BC one of the most important contributions of Harappan culture was well planned cities that one does not find in India of today, said Professor Shinde. For instance, we have not learnt from Harappans the network of the drainage pattern must have the outlet of the main drainage line outside the city wall. They did not allow dirty water to spread within human settlements and their cities were very clean. Professor Shinde talked about excavations done with colleagues at Farmana and Rakhigarhi where a number of human skeletal remains were unearthed with no evidences of any disease suffered by them. The on-going Rakhigarhi excavations have shown housing plans and roads identical to Harappan ones.



*Artist's depiction of city plan*

Professor Shinde described Harappans as great engineers. They introduced the most scientific construction method which is now called English Bond instead of being known as *Harappan Bond*! One line of brick is placed horizontal and the next line vertical – this is a very scientific method of laying bricks. They made thick walls so that inner environment remains congenial, warm in winter and cool in summer. It is unfortunate that most constructions in villages today have switched over from mud to concrete structures that are not ideal for Indian weather conditions.

The earliest evidence of a dockyard can be seen at the Lothal site. At first Western scholars thought it was a sweet water tank, but there was no need for a tank there, as a river was flowing by the side of this settlement. Without sharing this hypothesis ASI excavator SR Rao showed the structure to the Navy and they confirmed that this particular structure with a ramp is associated with a dockyard. This is possibly the earliest evidence of one and signifies another important presence of Harappans in navigational history of the world.

Dholavira is another important settlement of the Harappan age. It is an imposing settlement with magnificent architectural evidences. The Harappans chose this desert region despite the paucity of water perhaps only because it was located on the main trade route between Sindh and Saurashtra. They built dams over two small streams to catch flash floods and divert the water to the interiors of their settlement through underground channels, and built water tanks in different parts of the city. With only copper and bronze implements it was impossible to dig into solid rock, so they put wood pegs into rocks and kept pouring water till the drenched pegs



*Dholavira*

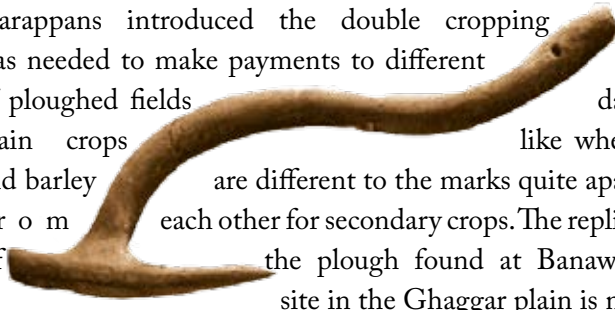




swelled and cracked the rocks . That is how they succeeded in moving large chunks of rocks. Ingenuous thinking!

There is much to learn from Harappans even today, though barely 4-5 settlements remain probably others disappeared due to dearth of water between Dholavira and Ropar. Prof. Shinde pointed out that these kind of projects do not require a large financial outlay or foreign collaboration, simple Harappan common sense would effectively yield a great deal of information!

Harappans introduced the double cropping system when they realized that large surplus food grains was needed to make payments to different classes within society, as grain was common currency. Evidence of ploughed fields date back to 3000 BC, and the furrow marks close together for main crops like wheat and barley are different to the marks quite apart from each other for secondary crops. The replica of the plough found at Banawali site in the Ghaggar plain is not very different to a modern plough. Harappans seem to have established 'economic relations' with neighbouring settlements to set up the flow of raw material from them, and in return supplied them finished goods. Prof. Shinde drew a parallel to Japan which started importing raw materials after it was almost destroyed in the Second World War, and began supplying produced goods to become a world economic power in a short span of 15 years and even hold the *Tokyo Olympics* in 1964.



The most important means of Harappan transport was the bullock cart, but they also built two kinds of ships. One type was made with flat bottomed wooden planks for long distance trade with Mesopotamia and Egypt, and the other was made of big grass and reed to ply the Indus waters. Many countries in South Asia are still dependent on this knowledge system. Pottery making was another important craft introduced in the Indian subcontinent in 6500 BC, with men making them and the women painting the outer surfaces artistically – a practice that prevails to this day in many parts of Asia.

The chicken *tandoor* also seems to have originated with Harappans, as portable ovens have been unearthed at a number of Harappan sites There is a great similarity between the ancient and recent pots and *tandoors* so popular in Punjab region. There are craftsmen in Khambat region who are still making beads and semi-precious stoned articles similar to Harappans. The earliest evidence of spinning cotton and spindle whirls to be discovered anywhere in the world date to 7500-7000 BC at Mehrgarh site. Printing technology was also developed, a sample of which may be seen



at the National Museum in Karachi. Two female figurines were found in Nausharo, Pakistan with vermillion in the head introduced by Harappans. The earliest evidence of silk may have come from China but there are evidences of domestic silk at a Harappan site. There are also some terracotta figurines showing different postures of yoga that we practice and promote to this day.





Harappan culture started moving away from the core area and got mixed up with the population of the periphery regions occupied by a more contemporary society, but they kept some of the Harappan traditions alive.

Professor Shinde described an interesting experience he had while excavating at Balathal in Mewar region of Rajasthan. He was enquiring whether there was any evidence of a writing system. One day a local named Bhat came along and started narrating the history of the last 800 years, such oral history must have been passed down through the ages. It was only at Nalanda University in Taxila that the teaching of Indian traditional knowledge system was first institutionalised. During its peak period 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> century nearly 10000 students from different parts of the world came to Nalanda to study knowledge systems, on subjects like philosophy, astronomy and mathematics. Hiuen Tsang mentioned its importance in his writings. Nalanda was destroyed around 12<sup>th</sup> century AD, and after that the University of Oxford gradually came into prominence.

Professor Shinde is currently involved in the excavation of Rakhigarhi site that has resulted in two important studies. One is a project to understand the history of the site and the evolution of Harappan culture and its transformation into a mature Harappan civilization. The other is to understand the composition of Harappan population and their relationship to contemporary population, and whether we are in fact descendants of the Harappans. The question can only be answered by extracting DNA from Harappan skeletal remains. It was attempted at the Farmana site and at another site 40 kms from Rakhigarhi but has failed to date. Perhaps the excavated remains were left in the open for almost a month. While working with Koreans the suggestion was made that documented evidence should be immediately packed and sent off to the laboratory. Professor Shinde happily announced that this was duly done and the skeletons excavated from Rakhigarhi site have indeed produced DNA, and the results will be

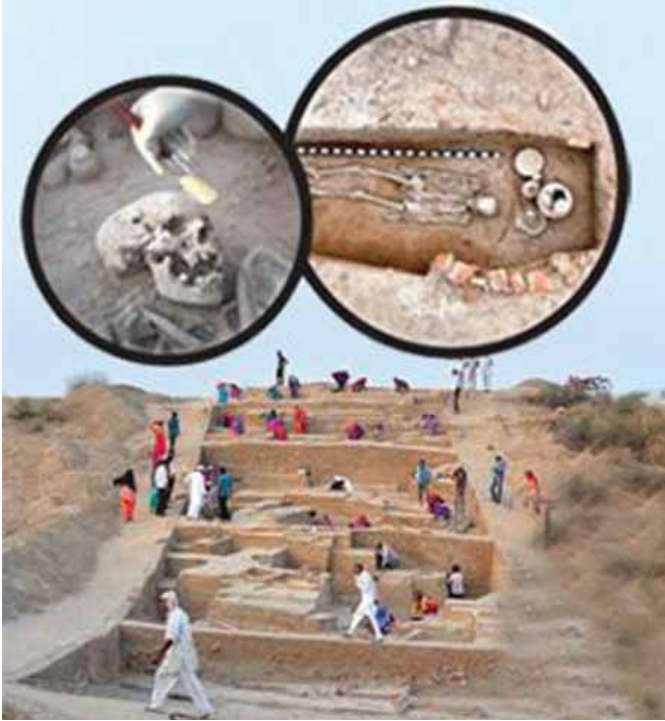
published later this year. Another collaboration is envisaged with State Government and agencies like INTACH to develop such sites



for tourism. People could then walk down Harappan streets and get a feel of their habitation. There could be a museum at site to showcase their contribution to civilisation and to the history of the world. The Archaeological Survey of India and State Governments have their own limitations considering the vast spread of such wealth across the country. Professor Shinde said they are trying to educate local people about the importance of these sites and encourage their participation, and a lecture series is also proposed to educate and sensitise the younger generation.

The Farmana site for example is located on a private land and the owner initially feared that the Government would take over the land and not give any compensation – but slowly he was convinced that it was important to dig out the history of his village, and for villagers to play an important role in these activities. After that the owner started coming every day to the site and telling the villagers the significance of the work and their participation. If concerted efforts are made to preserve and conserve such archaeological sites, and focus on the development of local tourism, the local population will also be economically benefited. India could become like Greece and Egypt where their economy thrives on tourism.





A number of interesting questions were posed after this erudite lecture. Is there any evidence of astronomical knowledge in Harappan people? Prof. Shinde said while some written records have not been deciphered to date, there is a hypothesis that structures on top of the mound at the Dholavira site were meant for astronomical observation. Is there any correlation between archaeological evidence at Harappan site and the one at Dwaraka undersea where carbon dating indicate remnants of more than 10,000 year civilisation? Prof. Shinde said that there is evidence that around 1800 BC the sea level had gone down and Dwaraka represents the late Harappan phase when a fortification was built by a civilisation that was already well developed.



With regard to the seamless transition to successive cultures Prof. Shinde explained that a number of cultures flourished in other parts of India contemporary to Harappan times like the *charcotic* people. Prof. Shinde did not intentionally mention Ghaggar as Saraswati River because of the controversy about the identification. The work in the Ghaggar basin clearly indicates that the dates of the Harappan culture are being pushed back to almost 5500BC from 5000 BC. They began life in small circular hubs like pit dwellings and gradually the size of the structure grew, while the development of planned cities happened around 3000 BC when well planned cities came into existence. The Harappan philosophy was different to that of Egyptians and Mesopotamians, they did not build pyramids and elaborate tombs but created amenities for the common people housed in well planned cities.

No concerted effort has been made to decipher inscriptions found in several places across the country. But there is enough evidence to indicate a definite continuity in Indian civilization. Methodic excavations at sites like Harappa, Rakhigarhi and Mohenjodaro will hopefully





Book release by the Natural Heritage, Heritage Education and Architectural Heritage Divisions

yield many more answers in times to come.

The lecture was preceded by release of publications from INTACH Divisions. The *Anirudh Bhargava – INTACH Environmental Award 2016* to Dr. RS Lal Mohan, Convener Nagercoil Chapter was announced.

INTACH Cultural Cell Coordinator Manisha Singh was thanked for a well coordinated gathering for this Pupul Jayakar Lecture.

### PROFESSOR VASANT SHINDE

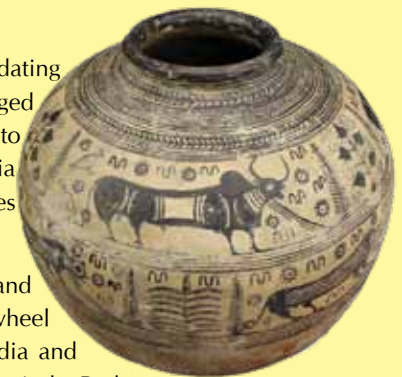


Professor Vasant Shinde has worked in more than 18 international museums around the world analyzing prehistoric to late medieval period material. He was honoured with scholarships and awards by various national and international bodies. He initiated several international collaborations around the world to bring Indian archaeology to a truly global level. He has analysed material ranging from pre-historic to the medieval periods. The World Education Congress recognized him as one of the 10 most note worthy Vice Chancellors.

Professor Shinde is currently guiding four major excavations, including the international research project at the largest Harappan site at Rakhigarhi in Haryana. He is also guiding over a dozen projects related to scientific heritage study.

### POTTERY IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

Pottery is the most tangible and iconic element of regional art in the Indian subcontinent dating from the Indus Valley civilization. It is believed that historically Hindu tradition discouraged eating off pottery earthenware. This explains perhaps the lack of a fine pottery in contrast to the artistic pottery that evolved in East Asia and Eurasia. Today pottery is a fine art in India and a wide range is to be seen ranging from potters market by waysides to exclusive pieces available in pottery boutiques.



The origin of pottery can be traced to the Neolithic period when coarse handmade bowls and vessels were made in various colours. The Harappan and Mohendaro period heralded wheel made pottery. During the first millennium BC grey pottery ware was found in North India and the Gangetic plain, with decorations to be seen during the Shunga, Kushan and Gupta periods. Red polished ones were found largely in Kathiawar , and other areas of Gujarat. Scholars considered pottery as a diagnostic marker of Indi-Roman trade and significant for the research on the Indian Ocean trade. Glazed pottery of Persian model with Indian designs found in Gujarat and Maharastra appeared around 12<sup>th</sup> century AD when Turkic Muslim rulers encouraged potters from Persia and Central Asia to settle in North India.

Over time India's simple style of moulding clay became common and one sees food cooked in black pots to his day in many villages and small towns. It is believed that this food even tastes better. Several local traditions of terracota folk sculpture also remain active such as the Bankura horse. Clay figurines are common to this day to propitiate the Gods and Goddesses during festivals. The murti during Ganesh Chaturthi and Durga Pooja are works of art. Contemporary pottery as fine art are both exhibited and fetch high prices in boutiques.



## NEWS FROM CENTRAL OFFICE

### MOU WITH INDIAN RAILWAYS INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

INTACH signed a MOU with the Indian Railways Institute of Civil Engineering (IRICEN), Pune on 28<sup>th</sup> June. IRICEN, located in a Green Building at Pune, is a centralised premier institute that imparts training to all Civil Engineers of the Railways. Indian Railways has the privilege of possessing many architectural and aesthetically constructed



heritage buildings, precincts and bridges that merit preservation. IRICEN is already nominated by the Railway Board as a nodal institute for creating a digital repository cum dossier of all Railway Heritage structures including bridges.

The MOU signed by IRICEN and INTACH serves the common cause of the two institutions i.e. promotion, documentation, research and management of Railway Heritage. The scope of collaboration and the terms and conditions for conducting the collaborative activities have been worked out in detail. The role and responsibilities of the two organizations under the MOU have been stipulated, and the two organizations will now prepare a mutually agreed work plan.

The MOU is valid for 5 years. It adds one more dimension to INTACH's outreach to protect and preserve our time honoured and valued heritage.

### CSR FAIR

Chairman LK Gupta was invited by Addl. Secretary Public Enterprises Dr. Madhukar Gupta to participate in the first CSR Fair organized by his Department on 6<sup>th</sup> May at Pragati Maidan. Over the years INTACH lobbied with the Corporate Affairs Ministry, and eventually heritage did become eligible to receive funds for its upkeep under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Act. It is only befitting that Corporates should contribute a small percentage of their profits to this national mission as mandated by Article 51A of the Indian Constitution that it is the duty of every citizen to conserve heritage.

Chairman availed the opportunity to profile INTACH, and how an army of volunteers in INTACH Chapters across India have succeeded in making people aware of their heritage. The Trust has experienced conservators in architectural, art and material and natural heritage heading its various Divisions, and a INTACH Heritage Academy imparting professional training to conservationists and PWD engineers. The focus is on the vast majority of heritage properties that lie unprotected by ASI, and are in dire need of attention and funds for their protection.

INTACH quarterly newsletter *Virasat* has been appealing for CSR funds for the last two years without much success. This CSR Fair will hopefully draw due attention of Corporate Sector that heritage deserves to be protected as a national wealth. Secretary Culture suggested that INTACH website should register cultural heritage properties that are in dire need financial assistance for their preservation, to catch the attention of Corporates. Readers may please take note of back cover of all issues of *Virasat* drawing attention to our heritage assets in need of support.

## INTACH VICE CHAIRMAN



Dr. Sarayu Doshi

INTACH extends a warm welcome to Padma Shri Dr. Sarayu Vinod Doshi who has long been associated with our Trust. She has always been an inveterate art enthusiast from her early years, with periodic stints as visiting Faculty at many American Universities and a Speaker at international forums. She was Founder Director of the National Gallery of Modern Art, and Chairman of the Lalit Kala Academy. She has curated many exhibitions held in India and overseas. She has also written extensively on topics like Jain Temples and Paintings, Manipuri Dance, Masterpieces of Indian Art, Tribal India, Symbols and Manifestations of Indian Art, to mention just a few covering a wide range of diverse art and cultural subjects that she pursued over many decades. And punctuated with travelling extensively in Europe, USA, UK, Asia and Africa as a keynote speaker, art scholar and historian.

Currently one of her major concerns is the *Vasant Doshi Theatre Festival*, which is held annually at Pune in memory of her husband. It embodies the lifelong passion and values cherished by Vinod and Sarayu Doshi that the mind is enriched through education and the spirit through art and culture. Sarayu Doshi's art and cultural pursuits have only multiplied over the years. The *Vinod and Sarayu Doshi Post Graduate Fellowships in Liberal Arts and Science* are awarded to financially challenged promising young Indian students who have been accepted for post graduate studies in overseas Universities and need financial support to pursue studies in Liberal Arts.

We will be enriched by her association with INTACH as Vice Chairman. She however firmly believes that “*work and not words should speak for INTACH Mission*”.

### INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

21<sup>st</sup> June, *International Yoga Day* has now been institutionalised as a landmark day in India. Daily practice sessions at Delhi in Nehru Park, Lodi Gardens, Talkatora Stadium, Vivekananda Yoga Ashram, and several other parks and gardens preceded the big day when hundreds of people gathered together for Yoga on Rajpath, with the Lt. Governor and Chief Minister of Delhi also participating. Early morning rains might have deterred many, unlike in Lucknow where yoga continued through the drizzle in the company of the Prime Minister.



Ack : Hindustan Times

The message is now spreading that Yoga is more than a physical exercise and it works at various levels – body, mind, emotion and energy. Medical studies have also discovered that yoga improves cognitive functions, working memory, spatial ability, sensorimotor, migraine, etc. and helps persons suffering from mental disorder.

More than 200 countries now celebrate the mystical spirit of India's ancient fitness regime in countries across the world with equal zeal at chosen locations – Great Wall of China, Times Square in New York, Dataran Merdeka in Kuala Lumpur, Changi Airport in Singapore, Scarborough Town Centre of Toronto, etc. A new song was released on Facebook and YouTube featuring a plethora of instruments like Chinese flute, Irish drum, Cowbell, Bodhran, Bagpipes, Dizi, all brought back from his travels by singer Shaan as well as *tabla* and Indian musical instruments.

21<sup>st</sup> June also happens to be Summer Solstice, the longest day in the year. It is also *World Music Day*.



Our Armed Forces on Yoga Day

## CONDOLENCES

### “MAPU”

One does not hesitate to call Padma Bhushan Martand Singh “Mapu”, as he was fondly known by his large circle of friends in India and even overseas. There were no pretensions about him despite his princely antecedents and connections in high circles. He sometimes helped a few of his friends to turn their forts and palaces into profitable hotels. But more often the white *kurta* he invariably donned proclaimed his first love – the revival of Indian textiles and designs that culminated in the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad. He was Director of Calico Museum of Textiles for many years, and served on the Board of Handicrafts and Handloom Export Corporation. He designed the landmark exhibition *Vishwakarma – Master Weavers* in 1982. In Pupul Jayakar he found a great patron, and by extension his association with INTACH commenced as one of its Founder Members. He was cultural advisor to Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, and for two decades remained the *tour de force* for textile art and designs including *khadi*. He set up the *Weaver’s Service Centre* and mentored textile weavers, and their exquisite products were exhibited in many foreign countries known for their aesthetics.



Martand Singh worked closely with fashion star editors for the New York Metropolitan Museum and the Smithsonian, he also worked closely with Issey Miyake and the Abrahan & Thakore designer label. But the Indian weaves and the sari were his most passionate subjects. In an interview Mapu once said “*You see, a lady is never dressed in India; she is in a constant state of undress is what it’s all about. There is no such thing as being actually ready*”, he said. Rather the wrapped clothing always seems “*in a state of becoming ready, getting dressed or getting undressed. The advantage of an unstitched cloth is that it is truly an expression of movement*” he said.

Martand Singh gave a special message for INTACH on the occasion of the 2009 All India Convenors Meet that this issue of *Virasat* reprints as a fond farewell to our Founder Member, and a reminder to ourselves :

*“The heartbeat of INTACH was, and is and always should be its Chapters. When INTACH was first discussed, we realized that if this organization was to be effective in any way, it is the Chapters which are the crucible in which the cultural manthan took place and the only real responsibility of the Central Office was to listen and respond well.....”*

*Let us prioritize together where INTACH and its Chapters can make a contribution or a difference to the future patterns of India..... Bharat has not changed much. The problems have increased in scale. Possibly the single most important tier in which it could make a contribution is cleanliness – Swachh Bharat. Clean India within and without. From turning off the tap to the cleaning of India’s great rivers, from not using plastic bags to dealing with the massive metropolitan waste disposal schemes, from reducing one’s reliance on paper to replanting the forests of India, from preventing oneself from giving that one iconic rupee to possibly some honorable but greedy public official to dealing with massive problems of corruption and intolerance that face every developing and developed country, from apathy to love. For the printed volumes, the single most important contribution that Chapters can make is to record what exists, for the purpose of archives and for use in urban planning process..... The vision of India is eternal. It came into being long before you began and will outlive each and everyone of us. I too have a dream.....” . .*

Martand Singh said all these things in 2009, and these very same things are still being talked of in 2017 - at a higher decibel. Will “*India’s tomorrow will be greater than her today*” as Mapu dreamed? He passed away on 25<sup>th</sup> April at New Delhi.

INTACH Central Office held a Condolence Meeting to pay homage to the departed soul at its Mulipurpose Hall attended by all Officers, Consultants and Staff Members some of whom have cherished memories of their association with him. Chairman LK Gupta recalled his early days at INTACH when Martand Singh paved the way for his successful stint with the *English Trust* and the mentoring of young Indian conservationists through the *Charles Wallace Foundation Scholarships*. Former INTACH Chairman SK Misra said one of Mapu’s great contribution was revival of cotton textile, design methodology and introduction of a *Janata sari* priced at Rs. 20 that ultimately became a popular collector’s item. Prof. AGK Menon recalled the distinguishing quality of Martand Singh, allowing dissent and promoting intellectual rigour in matters of heritage conservation. Governing Council Member Aneeta Singh fondly remembered her cousin Mapu as a fine gentleman devoted to his family. Perhaps the only sad part of a life well lived and much remembered was his departure after a prolonged illness.

## HERITAGE TOURISM DIVISION

### INTACH / HOLIDAY IQ TOURIST DESTINATION COMPETITION

It may be recalled INTACH and a major tourism portal Holiday IQ signed a MOU in 2016 as a Heritage Tourism Development Partnership. The objective was to identify at least one or more lesser known Indian heritage destinations, built or natural with public participation for choosing 'best destinations'. The main objective of the competition was to awaken interest and promote tourism amongst the youth via information thus gathered through this initiative. For executing of this competition a contest was conducted by Holiday IQ via the social media and on the internet through its travel portal. Holiday IQ portal has a wide reach.

The Quiz was conducted through the social media platforms of *Facebook, Twitter, Instagram* and also e-mailers, blogs, online media. Also by Direct Marketing outreach and through tourism boards, heritage lovers, history and art enthusiasts. The outreach was thus a multi-pronged and effective thrust. A total number of 2400 entries were received via web. Out of these 250 entries were shortlisted; and the final number of 28 adjudged as the most viable, interesting and potential tourism destinations where INTACH can initiate some meaningful interventions.

The chosen entries were further examined in detail by an internal INTACH Jury headed by Member Secretary. They were assessed from the perspective of culture, historical background, potential for interventions in conservation, and preservation of our heritage. After considerable deliberation the Jury selected the following sites for prizes which were awarded by Holiday IQ.

#### ***Chandravalli Subterranean Caves, Chitradurga District, Karnataka***

Archaeological finding at Chandravalli show that rulers of many dynasties like Chalukya, Hoysala and Kadamba used these caves for meditation and prayers. It was also home to Buddhist, Jain, Shaiva and Veershaiva monks.



*Photographs: Puri Jaganathan*

#### ***Unakoti, Tripura***

Unakoti is an ancient Shaivite place of worship with prehistoric rock reliefs and frescoes, located in a forest.

#### ***Neelkanth Temple, Kalinjar Fort, Banda, UP***

Neelkanth Temple is the place where Shiva is said to have



*Photographs: Sandeep Gupta*

consumed *visha* and held it in his throat during *Samundra Manthan*, till his throat turned blue and hence his name *Neelkanth*. The Fort was at its zenith during the Chandela dynasty in 1020 AD. It is also the place where Sher Shah Suri breathed his last.



Photographs: Abhishek Misra

***Nagakunda, Gadag District, Karnataka***

Nagakunda has a rare stone carved mountain. It was an important town during the Kalyani Chalukyas during 1000 AD. Coins were manufactured in this town as indicated in historical records. *Harishchandragad*.



Photographs: Rashmi S.

***Harshchandragad, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra***

Harshchandragad has great historic caves of medieval period. Its origin is said to date back to 6<sup>th</sup> century, during the rule of Kalchuri dynasty. The great sage Changdev credited for the epic *Tatvasaar* used to meditate in these caves in the 14<sup>th</sup> century.



Photographs: Ishan Kathane

**PUDUCHERRY FESTIVAL**

Heritage Tourism Division supported the *Puducherry Heritage Festival* that covered various aspects of its unique culture. The range of activities and events in collaboration with INTACH included the Heritage Conservation Workshop, printing of brochures, and the video projection and exhibition on Puducherry's heritage preservation.





### TOURISM – A PASSPORT TO PROSPERITY

Tourism Ministry proposes to aggressively promote 13 pilgrimage circuits, said Union Minister for Tourism & Culture. These will be Buddhist, Himalayan, Coastal, Wildlife, Spiritual, Ramayan, Krishna, Tribal, Rural and Eco Tourism to specific interest groups. Out of eight places of Buddhist significance, seven are in India and only one in Nepal. Nearly Rs. 1513 crore have been sanctioned for *Swadesh Darshan* and *PRASAD* (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation and Spiritual Augmentation Drive). Wellness tourism is already making an impact. Tourism sector showed a growth of 23-25% last year. Wellness Tourism has already made a mark on neighbouring countries due to our speciality doctors. India has jumped 12 places to rank 40<sup>th</sup> globally in the tourism competitive list. But Indians still prefer to go to Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore on budget holidays instead of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. With visa on arrival and e-visas already offered, the tourism industry can take a great leap forward by promoting the country’s multi-faceted cultural, tribal and natural resources at attractive prices. But as one of the candid speakers at the Tourism Summit held on 30<sup>th</sup> May said :*Tiger is a great poster boy for Indian heritage. If it were to be a movie hero, everyone would buy tickets to just see it!*

Eco-Tourism requires well thought out plans, in particular, and the industry does contribute to unavoidable greenhouse gases. But there should be limits. Otherwise it can become an ironic concept as Amitav Ghosh pointed out at the Tourism Summit. “*Look at Fukushima, Japan for instance. The Aneyosghi tablets or Tsunami stones near the coastline, have straightforward warnings telling people to seek higher ground and not build below this line. And what did the authorities do? They built a nuclear reactor there.*” Present and future danger?

### UNIQUE INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION

Illulissat in far away Greenland is a unique tourism destination, barely known and little visited. A few small towns like this one around Greenland are home to the *Intuits* and the *Danes* who arrived 5000 years ago. After centuries of intermingling they now call themselves Greenlanders. The country has its own flag. Some older people still speak the native tongue *Kallalli*. Some Inuit names survive on Greenland maps like *Qannaq*, *Sisimiut* and *Ittoqqortoormiit*. The most prominent Inuit words that have crept into the general lexicon and well known to the world are *igloo*, *kayak* and *anorak*. But if you land on the Greenland icecap via a chopper to see deep fissures, rivulets and vast expanse of ancient ice, it is very much like landing on another planet. You hear the sound of fizzing, popping and thunder cracking ice. The people however are very friendly. Many have distinct facial features and a natural ability to weather extreme cold, wield dogsleds and extract mammal from the sea. Inuit traditions are alive and a celebrated element of the country. For visitors lessons in kayaking are in full swing at Kayak Clubs.



## NATURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (NHD)

### WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

Principal Director NHD Manu Bhatnagar delivered an erudite talk at INTACH Central Office on *Water – Past, Present and Future* to mark *World Environment Day*, 5<sup>th</sup> June.

The word “water” conjures up images of rivers, lakes, rain, seas and oceans, pipelines and taps and bottled water. It also recalls floods and droughts and many other associations. But in a rapidly changing world it is a no brainer to say that water scarcity, manmade or climate induced is one of the grimmest challenges facing the

planet. Hence, understanding the manifold facets of water can lead to informed pressure from a discerning public on decision makers and policy pundits. Manu’s Talk illustrated several important facets on the subject of Water.

### EVOLUTION OF THE WATER SCENARIO FROM PAST TO PRESENT – A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The *Vedas*, *Puranas*, *Brahmanas*, *Mahabharata* – indeed the entire gamut of the pre-historical literature contains



several references to the understanding that our ancestors had of the hydrological cycle. Their knowledge was echoed in recent years by landscape architect Ian Mcharg who stated :

*“The sun powers evaporation from the oceans and transports water vapour which is precipitated on the earth, moving from higher to lower elevation, the water moving once again to its base level but in the process performing numerous life giving works. A single drop of water in the uplands of a watershed may appear and reappear as cloud, precipitation, surface water in rivers and lakes, or groundwater. It can participate in metabolism, transpiration, condensation, decomposition, combustion, respiration and evaporation. The same drop of water may appear in considerations of climate and microclimate, water supply, flood, drought, erosion control, industry, commerce, agriculture, forestry, recreation, scenic beauty, in cloud, snow, stream, river and sea. We conclude that nature is a single interactive system and that changes to any part will affect the whole.”*

Sages such as Manu Smriti, in his code laid out stringent rules for the use of water. The rulers were thus obligated to develop water works and the State was to have a water administrator for regulating use or administering fines for pollution and stealing. Polymath politico administrators such as Chankya and many early historical administrators laid down rules for the use of water – all water belonged to the king/state, rain was to be measured in different parts of the country (a precursor of the modern rain gauge system), what crops were to be sown, the state had to take the lead in creating water tanks, canals, irrigation works, impose regulatory duties, and enable water transport. The users were to pay a water cess. New tanks or cleaned tanks were exempt from tax. All this and more was codified in elaborate detail.

Polymath scientist sages such as Varahamira laid out specific methods of reading bio-indicators such as termites for locating groundwater, for deciphering clouds and forecasting rain, for treatment of polluted waters.

Ancient civilizations were all river valley based. Indus Valley civilization thus flourished along the Indus and was co-terminus with the Saraswati civilization. Major settlements like Varanasi and Prayag or Patliputra

sprung up along the Ganges or other major centres such as Ujjain and other major settlements along the Cauvery and Godavari. Great water engineering works were carried out. Readily recalled are the great bath at Mohenjodaro (in all likelihood used for ritual bathing) and the elaborate water systems at Harappa, the Grand Anicut of the Cholas on the Cauvery, the Tughlaq Canal to Delhi and the Burhanpur Qanat system (groundwater infiltration gallery), the last three are still working.

Great artificial lakes were made which sustained prominent historical towns and still do for eg. – Mansagar at Jaipur, Hussainsagar at Hyderabad, Upper Bhoj Wetland at Bhopal. In contrast an architectural gem like Fatehpur Sikri was abandoned on account of water scarcity.

To store the monsoon benediction for use in the lean season various regions developed their own water harvesting structures and irrigation systems to compliment their natural resource endowments. Management of water became a community based affair with the communities adept at managing water through ponds and artificial lakes, check dams and ingenious wells.

The colonial interlude led to centralized control of water resources and corresponding decline in community management. Decentralized methods and traditional systems were given short shrift. Echoing the canal building spree in England several dams and canals were constructed basically to boost agriculture for revenue and raw material production for English industry. Engineers like Arthur Cotton (Cauvery Delta) and Probyn Cautley (Upper Ganga Canal) carried out massive hydraulic works. The irrigation network in Punjab that was basic to its prosperity is a major achievement of colonial engineering. The Ganga Canal system raised the agriculture prosperity of Western United Provinces (UP) and Roorkee became the highest per capita income district in the country. To support the working of the irrigation systems a water bureaucracy was instituted. Water sharing systems such as *warabandi* set up under Todar Mall were continued or adapted. The official entrusted with the working of the irrigation system was





held in awe by the farmers and referred to as the *Naib-Kbudā* (deputy of god). Discerning British engineers and administrators saw merit in the native wisdom of decentralized management.

The Post independence scenario has been a continuation of the concepts ingrained under the British. Dams like Tehri and Sardar Sarovar were conceived in the 1940s. Now we have over 4000 large dams in the country of which 50% were made between 1970 – 2000 and even today some 360 dams are under construction. Groundwater extraction has supplemented surface water extraction, Urbanization has been sustained on milking distant basins, like Delhi drawing from both Indus basin as well as Ganga basin apart from mining its groundwater. A recent report states that Gurugram is just two years away from exhausting its ground water. At all stages, the authorities have sought to augment supplies. The entire management system is manned by the ‘hydrocracy’ who can think only in terms of dams and canals. Of late it is being realized that surface and groundwater are interconnected and thus Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) is being given some prominence but always under the more powerful Central Water Commission (CWC).

A plethora of institutions under the Ministry of Water Resources and Ganga Rejuvenation form an all embracing ‘hydrocracy’ especially the CWC and the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. Several policies and laws hold legal sway over our rivers. Thus, we have the Constitution of India (water is in Entry 17 of the State List but is also subject Entry 56 of the Union List for handling issues of interstate rivers) – Article 21 which provides human right to life, National Water Policy (2012), National Water Mission, Water Act (1974), EPA (1986), Indian Easement Act 1882 – groundwater ownership – Northern India Canals Act 1883, Inland Vessels Act 1917, River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016 and others.

## WATER AND CULTURE

Water is integral to culture and religious texts prescribe the use of water in various rituals. All rivers are deified as mother Goddess and worshipped. Our various festivals

or cultural events are held on river banks and observed based on the planetary positions and with ritual bathing. The life giving rains, which are the source of all water, are welcomed with several monsoon festivals.

- *Varuna Devta* is the water god (Suiten in Japanese Buddhism) later replaced by *Indradev*.

- Etymology of the word Hindu also denotes water... Hind is the Persian name for the Indus River, first encountered in the Old Persian word Hindu (hindu), corresponding to Vedic Sanskrit *Sindhu*, the Indus River.

- River origins are generally sacred spots like *Gomukh* and *Yamunotri* or *Mansarovar* - Images of Ganga on a crocodile and Yamuna on a tortoise flanked the doorways of early temples.

- *Kumbha*: When Jupiter enters into Aquarius sign of zodiac this festival is celebrated in Haridwar, Prayag and Nashik every 12 years.

- *Simhastha* is the great bathing festival celebrated every 12 years on river Kshipra at Ujjain (Central India) when Jupiter enters the sign of Leo in Zodiac

- *Chhat* festival is celebrated in eastern India on 6th day after full moon in November with tributes to the Sun God for providing the necessities of life on Earth.

- Ganga Water from Himalaya is to be found in many homes – it is supposed to have special anti-bacterial qualities.

- Temple Tanks are an essential part of every large Hindu temple. Every village/town/city has a temple with a sizable water tank. Conventional beliefs hold that the water of a temple tank is holy and has cleansing properties. It is an unwritten rule to take a dip in the temple tank before offering prayers to the presiding deities, thereby purifying oneself. In actuality, the tanks serve as a useful reservoir to help communities tide over water scarcity.

- Water was essential for spiritual purification in religious ceremonies. For example, water is essential as a cleaning agent, cleaning vessels used for the *poojas* (rituals), and for *Abhisheka* or bathing of deities in *kalash*,



*tarpan*, *acchaman*, and for sprinkling of water - *jalanjali*, *jalsthapanam*, *jalasi*, *jaljapam*, etc.

- *Meghdoot* - A poem of 111 stanzas is one of Kālidāsa's most famous works. It recounts how a *yaksha*, a subject of King Kubera (the god of wealth), after being exiled for a year to Central India for neglecting his duties, convinces a passing cloud to take a message to his wife on Mount Kailāsa in the Himālaya mountains. The *yaksha* accomplishes this by describing the many beautiful sights the cloud will see on its northward course to the city of Alakā, where his wife awaits his return.

- The culture of the *Marubhumi* (Rajasthan desert) revolves around water. Late Gandhian Anupam Mishra lovingly describes the *riti* of partnership with nature – lack of rain does not translate into scarcity – *trikut rishi uttung* – not volume but drops

- Traditional weather forecasting was prevalent throughout the country – the *Bhadli Purana* described some 40 different clouds.

- Historical monuments have been elevated with striking waterscapes and stepwells (*baolis*) have transcended their utilitarian functions as works of art and step wells

- The *Kanwarias* walk hundreds of miles to fetch Ganga water to their homes in the month of *Shrawan* in order to purify the water bodies and wells in their area.

**Water as a Force of Nature** – shapes landscapes and landforms through soil erosion, weathering of rocks, carving of river valleys, transporting of fertile sediment, littoral drift of sand along coastlines. Rivers can change courses altering local geographies. Thus the Kosi causes much sorrow and the Yamuna in Delhi is known to have flowed west of the Ridge as a tributary of the Saraswati [lower soil horizons there show the deposition of Yamuna sand]. Absence of rains causes drought and migration and in extreme cases abandonment of settlements. The Indus valley civilization is surmised to have disappeared along with the decrease of rainfall. Fatehpur Sikri was abandoned for a lack of water resources. The cloudburst at Kedarnath came within a whisker of destroying the

ancient Kedarnath shrine and the tsunami of 2000 actually shifted some of the Andaman islands. In another perspective water greatly influences the urban fabric positively – cities on river banks and lakes (Bhopal, Hyderabad) provide their citizens with communion with nature. A city like Delhi which has turned its back on the Yamuna (one can hardly feel the presence of the river) is much the worse for it.

## EVOLUTION OF THE COMING CRISIS AND HOT ISSUES IN THE WATER SECTOR : INDIA FACES A TURBULENT WATER FUTURE

- We are at the crossroads stepping into an era when the landscape is becoming human dominated. Urbanization and infrastructure are the order of the day with a projected 600 million urban dwellers in India by 2030. Already urban India is dispersed in 8000 towns of which 53 have over 1 million population

- Annual per capita availability has gone down from 5500 cu. m. (1947) to around 1500 cu. m. as on date

- Cities like Gurugram and Tirupur are on the verge of exhausting their groundwater. Most of urban India and entire rural India and 60% of irrigation relies upon groundwater which is a depleting resource

- We have 14 major rivers, 42 medium rivers, 55 minor rivers with thousands of seasonal rivulets – these are intercepted by 4839 large dams and several thousand smaller ones. Our rivers are in crisis with perennial ones becoming seasonal and seasonal ones becoming ephemeral. Water abstraction is making rivers anaemic.

- The dams, canals, tubewells are now a legacy whose cost is coming to haunt us. Fertile sediments are trapped in dams. The effect of dams has resulted in disruption of lateral/longitudinal/vertical connectivity. 31 more dams are proposed on the Narmada and its tributaries. Sediment transport now accumulates behind dams and rivers are increasingly not reaching estuaries. This has a negative effect on estuarine biodiversity as well as climate patterns.

- Global warming and receding glaciers are set to increase



evaporative losses, loss of agriculture productivity, decreasing flow in Himalayan rivers. The monsoon is increasingly erratic with rising numbers of extreme events. The IPCC forecast predicts decline in rains in north India.

- Lakes and wetlands, which are the repositories of surface water and aquatic biodiversity, are on the decline. The National Wetland Inventory Assessment notes a severe loss of water bodies in the 10 year period between 1999-2010. Ramsar sites such as Sambhar salt lake are shrinking rapidly and most cities (Ahmedabad and Bangalore being prime examples) have lost their sustaining wetlands by the hundreds. Thus, Ramgarh Jamwa (Jaipur), a lake on which the yachting events of Asiad 1972 were held, is no more. The horseshoe *Bhalaswa Jheel* (Delhi), twice the size of Nainital Lake, is only half the original size with its northern arm now under a landfill site. *Najafgarh Jheel* in Gurugram and Delhi has all but disappeared under the indifferent attitude of decision makers and greed of builders.

- Urban pollution has made river waters unfit for bathing and for survival of biodiversity. Many river stretches have no dissolved oxygen (hence no biota) as a result of industrial effluents and domestic sewage discharge.

- River health is myopically gauged by testing a few water samples for physico-chemical parameters and that too on major rivers. A holistic approach for assessing river health in terms of flow, quality, biodiversity is missing leading to poor decision making

- Rivers are manipulated in isolation. Even today a basin approach is lacking in river management.

- Intervention of hydraulic structures, water abstraction has severely affected populations of *mahseer*, *hilsa* fish and the Gangetic Dolphin, our *National Aquatic Animal* (in numbers as well as size of specimens)

- Another distracting and destructive controversy of our own making is the program on interlinking of rivers or basin transfer. Thus, the 'hydrocracy' is unable to justify the reason why Betwa, a larger river, is to receive water from Ken, a smaller river, and that too by lifting the

waters over an elevation of 70' by much expenditure of energy, or the destruction of pristine forest in the Panna Tiger Reserve. Nor can they justify the *Polavaram* project in Andhra which will submerge 700 sq. km. including wildlife sanctuary, farmlands, archaeology, and coal deposits.

- The effect of the National Waterways transport on river sediments (continuous dredging required to maintain navigable channel) and biodiversity (effect on Varanasi Turtles, Bhagalpur Dolphins who have first right of movement in the river) are notable.

- Construction mafia are destroying free flowing rivers by voracious sand mining of river beds

- Conflict between upper and downstream riparians is on the rise with at least 8 unresolved disputes being adjudicated by the Interstate Rivers Disputes Tribunal. They are intractable and long drawn, with States openly defying the Supreme Court (Punjab-Haryana, Karnataka-Tamil Nadu)

- Floods are increasingly taking a heavy toll in damages and losses (Mithi-Mumbai, Chennai, Jhelum-Srinagar). Greed for land is resulting in building in disaster zones and capture of the floodplains, thereby narrowing the space for the river.

- 80% of our water is going for irrigation – it takes a 1000 tons of water to grow one ton of wheat, 8000 tons of water to grow a ton of rice, much more for sugarcane. With our very low agriculture productivity of water when we export food we are virtually exporting water.

- Our cropping pattern is market based and not resourced based. Can Rajasthan, for example, afford to grow *basmati* in Bundi? Can Gujarat devote 4.8 million gallons of water to grow *alfa alfa* to produce 2400 gallons of milk i. e. 2000 gallons of water per gallon of milk

- Overall our groundwater exploitation is unsustainable and more and more blocks in the country are becoming critical. The emptying of coastal aquifers is rendering saline intrusion of the sea far inland.



## TOWARDS MITIGATION, RESOLUTION AND ADJUSTMENT

Every crisis spurs its own resolution. Water is a dynamic sector – despite all stresses there is adequate availability but there is a need for wise management. Through the centuries we have moved from decentralized management to centralization, and now the pendulum needs to swing back some of the way. At the macro level India needs to :

- Have a basin management approach with optimization of the basin's water resources including recycled water resource. Any water import/export can only be considered once the optimization has attained its limits
- Address the agriculture sector to conserve water – cropping patterns should be based on the area's resource endowments, flood irrigation must give way to efficient irrigation for which chemical fertilizers must make way for organic inputs.
- To seriously conserve rivers, move to *aviral dhara*, decommission some dams like Farakka, Tehri (which do not produce the projected amount of electricity), specifically hydro-electricity projects. Cumulative environmental impact assessment must replace segregated environmental impact assessments.
- Place the policy for interlinking of rivers on the back burner.
- Promote sustainable use of aquifers.
- Decentralize water conservation through lakes, ponds, check dams and empower communities.
- Ratchet up efficiency and conservation in urban areas (water efficient devices, use of herbal extracts such as *reetha/hingot* instead of detergents, introduce dry WCs, water atomizing devices in baths and taps), recycling treated sewage for recharge and non-potable water use.
- Improve industrial efficiency, for eg. Tata Steels has reduced water/ton of steel from 14 tons to 5 tons
- Enhance green cover and degraded forests to improve

precipitation (afforestation of southern ridge in Delhi has measurably increased rainfall in that area).

INTACH has carried out several pilot projects on water as follows :

- Revival of *Hauz Khas Lake* using treated sewage augmented the water table and created an aquatic bird life habitat in the heart of Delhi
- Sustainable Agriculture project emphasizing soil health, organic inputs, appropriate crop rotation demonstrated water conservation by 40%.
- PILs filed in NGT have resulted in favourable orders for protecting *Najafgarh Jheel* and rural water bodies at *Korna* (Barmer).
- *CGPL, Mundhra* – creation of green belt using pitcher irrigation for 50,000 trees.
- *Assi Nala, Varanasi* – effective bioremediation treatment for water quality in storm water drains out-falling in rivers at very economic costs to reduce river pollution
- Creating watering holes for *chinkaras* (gazelles) in the desert.
- Campus level water management plans such as 42 sq. km. of Delhi Cantonment. .

INTACH has also drawn up official water policy for Delhi of which the salient features are

- Changing the focus from supply to demand management.
- Promoting a culture of conservation.
- Laying targets for promoting recycled water use.
- Reducing freshwater footprint and abstraction from river Yamuna, enhancing river water flow.
- Targeting progressive reduction in per capita water usage norm through efficiency.
- Implementing an aquifer management strategy.



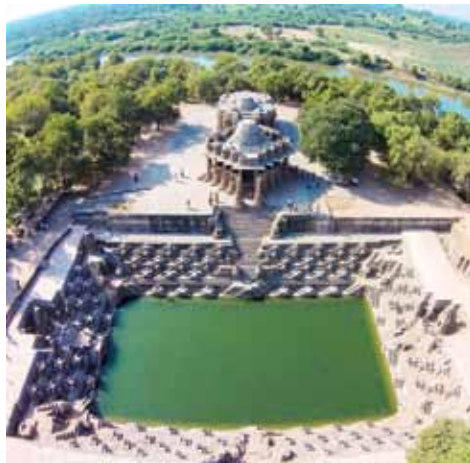
- Promoting conservation of decentralized water resources.

## JAPANESE EXPERIMENTS WITH SNOW CRYSTAL FORMATION FROM VARIOUS WATER RESOURCES

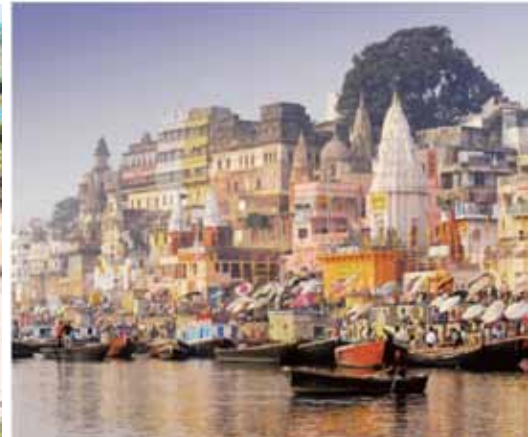
The experiments showed perfect crystals from unpolluted river waters or in the presence of classical music or positive sentiments and distorted crystals in the reverse cases. Thus, human bodies being 70% water, human beings also need to carefully control their thoughts and the environments to which they expose themselves.



*Water an Integral part of spiritual tradition*



*Sun temple Modhera – Ablution tanks add serenity to temples*



*Holy cities established on river banks*



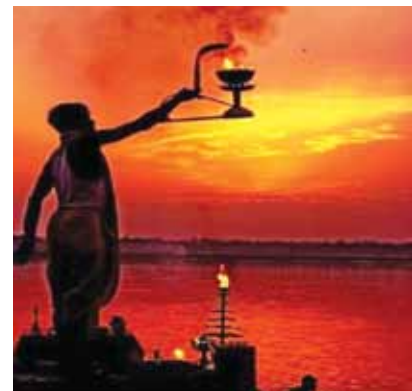
*Gomukh – River origins are almost always sacred spots*



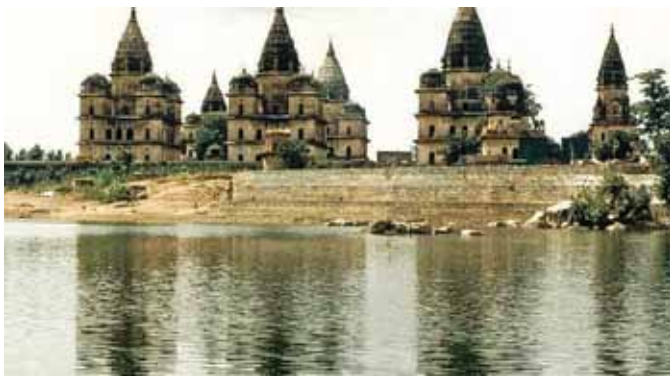
*Abaneri – Water inspires architecture*



*Statue of 30 ft. Vishnu, Bandhavgarh National Park*



*Ganga Aarti (Ack: 'Indica' by Pranay Lal)*



*Orchha – Water enhances majesty of temples*



*Athirapally Waterfalls – force of nature*



*Lotus Temple, Delhi – Incomplete without water*



*Uttarakhand – In path of water inviting destruction*



*Teej and other festivals welcome Monsoon*



*Pollution is the bane of rivers – Yamuna at Okhla Barrage, Delhi*



*Snake Boat Race, Kerala*



*Water shapes landscapes and landforms*



### WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

World Environment Day was first declared in 1973 with the slogan *Only One Earth*, when realization dawned that a green environment was critical for the future of a rapidly developing world. Many slogans followed in the same stream of thought during the last 44 years - *Your Planet Needs You, Plan for the Planet, Give Earth a Chance, For Life on Earth*, etc, etc. And we are still far short of fulfilling all these pious hopes, and currently faced with ‘trumped’ aspirations. This year’s slogan is *Go Wild for Life* – to raise voices against wildlife crime and dangers caused by taking preventive action against illegal trade – but wildlife commerce continues to hoodwink stringent laws. We continue to put at risk the biodiversity of our planet.

### PADMA HEROES

This year three hitherto unsung green heroes were recognized with the *Padma Awards* for their selfless service to society.

**Baba Balbir Singh Seechewal**, a 55 years old water warrior will now be permanently remembered for infusing life into *Kali Bein*, a 160 km. rivulet associated with Guru Nanak. It was a 16 year mammoth exercise by him to develop a cost effective underground sewerage system into clean water fit for irrigation. Seechewal is now appealing to people to vote for candidates who consider environmental reforms an election issue.

**Bipin Ganatra**, a 59 year old member of the fire brigade, has battled more than a 100 fires and saved several lives with his relentless spirit. He modestly acknowledges that the *Padma Shri* honour only increases his responsibilities, and that he will “ensure that a *Padma Shri* never gets tarnished due to lack of effort on my part”.

**Daripalliramaiah**, a 70 years old environment activist, has carried saplings and seeds on his bicycle from his humble home in Reddipalle Village to wherever he found a barren patch of land. Then he would dismount and plant saplings or sow seeds. This outstanding routine added to well over 10 million trees that amounts to one tree every third resident of Telengana! Even if one sapling died he felt a part of his life was lost.

*Ack : Srinivasa Rao Apparasu, Hyderabad, HT January '17*

### SPLENDOURS OF NATURE

22<sup>nd</sup> April is celebrated globally as Earth Day, a movement that started in 1970 in USA. Even artists cannot always fully capture nature’s bounty. These are mere photographs that are breathtaking because of the natural spectacular beauty that have been clicked. They are from a collection of entries to the recent *National Geographic Travel Photographer Contest*.



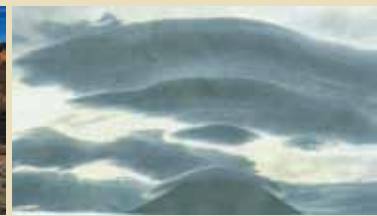
Mirror Lake Yogo, Nagahama, Japan



Picturesque Fall colours, New Hampshire, USA



Death Valley Park, near Nevada, USA



Air Currents over Mount Honshu, Japan

### TIPESHWAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARY & NAVEGAON NATIONAL PARK

The *Tipeshwar Wildlife Sanctuary* in Yavatmal District of south Maharashtra (170 kms. from Nagpur) has remarkable avi-faunal diversity. Over 800 species of birds including green bee-eater, black drongo, crested serpent eagle and sparrow hawk habit the sanctuary. One can find tigers, panthers, black buck, sambar, bear, hyena, chital, wild boar and wolves in its 148 sq. km. stretch. It is known for its abundance of greenery on hilly terrain, and for its aromatic and medicinal plants. It is like an outdoor museum to explore nature.

The *Navegaon National Park* is 150 kms. from Nagpur and has a picturesque lake for boat rides. It is a place for jungle safari, and has the *Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary*. The Vidarbha region of east Maharashtra is known for its scenic beauty. It has a Watch Tower that offers panoramic views of the forested park area.

### THE ANIMAL KINGDOM

The Natural History Museum in London hosted an exhibition of 100 photographs from last year's competition, and after public vote chose 25 of the exceptional images that reveal an astonishing diversity of life in the animal world, our world. Here are a few heartwarming pictures.



One heart warming and two heart breaking

### GREEN OSCAR

Purnima Barman from Assam was awarded the coveted Whitley Award, also known as the Green Oscar, for protecting the greater adjutant stork (*Leptoptilos Dubius*) and the wetlands it inhabits. In Assam it is known as *Hargila* – the word is also used to describe lanky people in local parlance. She was selected from a list of 166 researchers across 66 countries. She mobilized a *Hargila Army*, an all female team of conservationist, offering them sustainable livelihood. With training and education opportunities and thus helped them to change the local perceptions. Princess Anne presented the award worth £ 35,000 at the London Geographical Society. Purnima will use the money for protection of the wetland habitation of the largest nesting colony of greater adjutants.



Purnima Barman with Princess Anne

Another Indian recipient was Sanjay Gubbi who was awarded for his efforts at curbing deforestation in Karnataka's tiger corridors.

### DO NOT ERECT A MONUMENT.....

The late Union Environment Minister Anil Madhavan Dave who passed away on 18<sup>th</sup> May wrote in his will "*Do not erect a monument when I die, but plant a tree if you loved and respected me*". Between 1880-2013 India lost about 40% of its forest coverage, but during the last 5 years it has grown over 5000 sq. km. but despite increasing green cover India continues to lose forests, that takes more than a public campaign to plant trees, due to over exploitation as per the assessment of the Forest Research Institute in Dehra Dun. One must remember that more than half the population on the periphery of forests are still heavily dependent on forests for fodder, firewood or sale of forest products like *tendu* leaves, broomsticks, honey, gum, etc. But unfortunately many of them have been booked under the First Rights Act and penalized for collecting produce that sustain them while on the other hand illegal logging, timber trade and diversion of forest area for industrial purposes continue unabated and unpunished. Is only might right?

## ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (AHD)

### GOVIND NIWAS PALACE, DATIA, MADHYA PRADESH

*Govind Niwas Palace*, on the outskirts of Datia, is a historically significant building associated with the Maharaja Ju Dev Singh of Bundelkhand. The palace lies within a complex of approximately 21 acres, major sections of which have been donated to various family members leaving a marginal 8 acres of land with the current descendants of the royal family who desired that this building, which symbolized their royal staunch and

power, should be conserved and reused as a heritage hotel. INTACH was approached for the preparation of a Project Report.

AHD prepared a comprehensive conservation plan which aims to enhance the aesthetic and spatial value of the building while retaining its historicity and architectural integrity. The Palace exhibits varying architectural styles which have been incorporated to enhance the new proposal. The conservation and reuse proposal is divided into three phases: building restoration, interior of the



hotel and landscaping of the picturesque site facing the lake. In the initial intervention, the central atrium and one wing will be taken up while the other wing presently resided by the family will be retained as residence. A total of 21 rooms have been accommodated with 12 rooms on the ground floor and 9 rooms (inclusive of 3 suites) on the first floor, along with a museum, restaurant, café, spa, board games, etc.



*Berry White Medical School, Dibrugarh, Assam*

### ***Berry White Medical School, Dibrugarh***

On the request of the District Magistrate, Dibrugarh, Architectural Heritage Division prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for restoration of *Berry White Medical School Building* in Dibrugarh. The estimated project cost of Rs. 2 crores is being funded by Oil India Limited. INTACH was requested to execute this project, and MoU will be signed between INTACH and State Government for executing this work.

In 1900, British Philanthropist Sir John Berry White, a retired Brigadier of British army and later the civil



*Existing view*



*Proposed view after building restoration*

surgeon of the erstwhile Lakhimpur District, contributed the savings of his entire lifetime of Rs. 50,000 (its present day valuation is more than Rs. 50 million) to establish the Medical School. On 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. 1947 the School was upgraded to the full-fledged *Assam Medical College* and was inaugurated by the first Chief Minister of Assam, the late Lokopriya Gopinath Bordoloi.

## **HRIDAY**

### ***At Varanasi***

Under the *HRIDAY* scheme of MoUD Govt. of India, Varanasi has a maximum outlay of Rs. 80 crore. The following projects at Varanasi are targeted for completion by March 2018:

- Development and beautification of 34 heritage roads including bitumen road, KC drain, walkway, median, street lights, and art work
- Development of tourist infrastructure at 81 significant heritage sites
- Development of *Dashawamedh Godowlia Cultural Quarter*
- Development of Town Hall as a *Heritage Centre for Visitors and Pilgrims*
- Development of *Durgakund – Assi Ghat Heritage Precinct*
- Development of heritage walk around *Kabir Chaura* and *Piplani Katra*
- Implementation of Heritage Sensitive Infrastructure for LED Street Lighting at *Old Kashi Zone*, Varanasi.



Ongoing work at Town Hall



Street Development between Anandbagh and Durgakund

## AT WARANGAL

### ***Bhadrakali Lake Foreshore Development***

The *Bhadrakali Lake Foreshore Development* is an integral part of the proposed *Geo-Bio Diversity Cultural Park* around the Bhadrakali Lake, included in the City *HRIDAY* Plan. It is proposed to develop a Bund Road along the lake for an initial stretch of 1.9 kms. under *HRIDAY*, with subsequent development to be taken up by local authorities (*KUDA*). It is proposed to create a continuous unrestricted publicly accessible riverfront by developing public places such as lakefront areas and promenades with landscaping and illumination.

In the 1<sup>st</sup> Phase as on date, the earthwork and pitching has been completed on site for a stretch of 1.1 km.

Other *HRIDAY* projects in Warangal are the development of *Fort Warangal*, *Padmakshi Temple*, *Jain Site*, *Thousand Pillared Temple*, *Kazipet Dargah*, etc.

## AT GAYA

As part of *HRIDAY*, tenders have been floated by the Gaya Municipal Corporation for the “development of *Akshayvat Temple* complex” and “Development of *Baitarni* and *Brahmsat Sarovar*”. Tenders for two other projects “Development of *Vishnupad Temple* complex and *Ghats*” and “Development of connecting pathway from *Dungeshwari Hill* to *Mahabodhi Temple*” are in progress. The total budget for these projects is Rs. 40 Crs.

### ***Heritage Impact Assessment for proposed development in the regulated areas of ASI protected monuments***

As per the *AMASR Act 2010*, for major projects or public works (construction / reconstruction) in the regulated areas of any ASI protected monuments, it is mandatory to prepare a *Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)* in order to examine the impact of the proposed development with reference to the safety, security, preservation, visual and archaeological values and access to the monument. As *INTACH* is mentioned in the Act as the expert body to be engaged in preparation of Heritage Bye Laws and other such policy documents, the National Monuments Authority (*NMA*) directs the project proponents to get the *HIA* prepared by *INTACH*.



Sample Zone-Bhadrakali Lake Foreshore Development

To date, about eight such documents have been prepared. Some of the recently completed ones are: *Residential Complex (UP Awas Vikas Parishad)* at 226 metres from the Itibari Khan Mosque and Akbar's Horse (*Patthar ka Ghoda*) in Agra; Residential Apartment at a distance of 155 metres from the *Mahachaitya Stupa* in Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh; Residential



*Proposed view after building restoration*

Apartment at a distance of 103 metres from *Masjid Moth*, Delhi; Multilevel Basement Parking (Lucknow Development Authority) at 104 metres from Imambara Asaf Ud Daula, Lucknow. For all these projects, a detailed assessment as per the NMA and ICOMOS format have been prepared including archaeological investigation of the sites and adequate mitigation measures at both the design and the implementation stages have been recommended.

#### **SETTING AN EXAMPLE**

Indian Oil Corporation's non-profit trust *Indian Oil Foundation (IOF)* set aside Rs.40 crore for on-going and new projects to preserve and promote heritage sites such as the Konarak Sun Temple in Odisha (estimated cost Rs.45 crore). It will work with ASI and the National Cultural Fund (NCF) of the Government on such projects. Adoption of the Harappan site at Dholavira at the Rann of Kutch (10 crore), Gujarat is next on their list, followed by the World Heritage Site of Chittorgarh Fort in Rajasthan (Rs.9.5 crore); and the Khajuraho Group of Temples (32 crore). Will it set an example to also loosen the purse strings of some of our wealthiest Corporations. And why not the business community?

#### **CAN WE HAVE COOLER PAVEMENTS?**

It is reported Architects prefer brick and mortar but that can turn cities into heated cauldrons. It is further aggravated by air conditioners, generators, air purifiers, et al. The most recent analysis of 1692 cities published in *Nature Climate Change* showed that the total cost of overheating cities in this century could well be 2.6 times higher and add 2 degrees to global warming by the most populated cities by 2050. Another study released 6 years ago by the *Centre for Atmospheric Sciences* of IIT-Delhi concluded there has been a consistent rise in night temperatures in the national capital. Both blamed modification of land surfaces as one of the main reasons for prolonged hot summers in mega cities. A cool roof does to the house what light clothing does to the human body. What about traditional blinds made of *khus* that cooled houses and even Government offices once upon a time, and reflective paints and tiles? What about minimizing use of asphalt and concrete, and using permeable material for pavements so that storm water and rain water enters the ground. A cost benefit analysis will prove that installation and maintenance charges would be 20% less and temperature reduction by at least 0.8 degrees. Is it time to add such basic information to the syllabus of architecture studies, and provide solutions to make cities actually "smart"?

#### **NECROPOLIS : NILE VALLEY**

Egyptian archaeologist continue to discover their ancient civilization in the Nile Valley. Recently 17 more Mummies were dug out of a necropolis in the village of Tuna el-Gabal, a vast archaeological site 220 kms from Cairo on the edge of its western desert. They are believed to date to the Greco-Roman period, a roughly 600-year span that followed the country's conquest by Alexander the Great in 322 BC, according to the archaeologist dean of Cairo University. A slew of relics that include a nobleman's tombs and cemeteries dating to about 3500 years and a giant colossus believed to be that of King Psammetich who ruled from 644-610 BC have been discovered. Egypt is hoping that these recent discoveries will revive interest among travellers who once flocked to its iconic Pharaonic temples and pyramids that has markedly declined since its 2011 political uprising.

#### **SELF DESTRUCT**

The famous 12<sup>th</sup> century *al-Nuri Mosque* (Mosul's Great Mosque) with its iconic al-Hadba minaret, that leaned like the Tower of Pisa, was detonated by IS militants. That too in the midst of celebrating *Laylat al Qadr*, Islam's holiest night of the year - the night when Prophet Muhammad is supposed to have revealed the *Quran* during Ramzan. The act was falsely attributed by the militants to a US airstrike as the Arab world would not have forgiven such a blasphemous act committed during their Holy Month. Heritage has become a war casualty in our times.

## AHD Listing Cell

In addition to the ongoing listings, the following new listings have been undertaken by respective Chapters:

- *Nashik Chapter* : Nashik District, Maharashtra has several old hill forts, Anglo-Maratha War sites and other built heritage. The listing proposes a comprehensive understanding and documentation of the region, including identification of built, natural, material and intangible heritage. The survey will be undertaken phase-wise in 15 *Talukas* with the first phase comprising Yeola, Igatpuri, Sinner and Peth *Talukas*.
- *Jalandhar Chapter*: Jalandhar District, Punjab has 300 sites proposed to be surveyed based on the old 1995 listing as a part of the Grant Trunk Road listing. In ancient times, the region comprised the whole of the Upper Doabas from Ravi River to Sutlej River and the State of Punjab with present area of Jalandhar District. They were all a part of the Indus Valley Civilization.
- *Bhubaneswar Chapter* : The Prachi Valley of Odisha once cradled a rich and diverse civilization. Prachi River is considered as the holiest river of Odisha. A survey in the ancient Prachi Valley reveals an incredible and splendid existence of diverse monuments of different sects like - *Shaivism, Vaishnavism, Sakta, Buddhist* and *Jain*. Most of the monuments constructed during 7<sup>th</sup> century to 15 century AD are in various stages of decay. Almost 200 sites have been proposed to be listed along the length of the river.

*The Listing Cell* proposes to undertake the listing of heritage resources along the *Kaveri, Godavari, Krishna* and *Mahanadi Rivers* of India.

- *Kaveri River*, running a span of 765 km. through Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, has supported irrigated agriculture for centuries and served as the livelihood of ancient kingdoms and modern cities of South India.
- *Godavari River*, running a span of 1,465 km. through Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, and Odisha, has been revered in Hindu scriptures since many millennia and continues to harbour and nourish rich cultural heritage.

- *Krishna River*, running a span of 1,300 km. through Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, is revered by Hindus as sacred. The delta of this river was home to ancient Sun Dynasty kings, and continues to be one of the most fertile regions in India.
- *Mahanadi River*, running a span of 858 km. through Chhattisgarh and Odisha, has a religious significance as there are many temples nestling either on its bank or situated in the nearby areas.

The respective State Chapters have been asked by Director Listing A Vijaya to send proposals for the above mentioned listings being coordinated by her.

### WORKSHOPS

The Listing Cell held two workshops during this quarter. The Listing Cell gave a presentation on the *Importance of Listing* at the Chapters Conveners' Meet held from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April. A field survey was conducted at Lodhi Garden for the participants. A Vijaya also gave a presentation on the *Importance of Listing* at the *Heritage Management of Architectural Monuments Workshop* held for CPWD architects on 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May.



*Jagannath Temple, Tamluk, Odisha*



*Rajmahal Palace, Rajgarh*

## HERITAGE CRAFT AND COMMUNITY DIVISION (HCCD)

### HERITAGE VILLAGES

Director HCCD Bindu Manchanda visited two heritage craft villages, Kagazipura and Paithan, in Aurangabad District in April. Kagazipura near Dulatabad is a small village community that manufactures handmade paper following a 700 years old tradition. Paithan is famous for its traditional saris, the beautiful silk *Paithani* saris with intricate weaves. The site



*Making Handmade paper- Kagazipura*



*Weaving Paithani saree*



*Paithani saree*

visit was undertaken at the behest of the INTACH Aurangabad Chapter to understand the issues that the community faces and try to revive and provide opportunities for sustainable development for the communities along with the Chapter.



*Artisan at work, Hoshiarpur*



During the visit, INTACH film and the HCC Division work was presented to the Chapter Members and students of architecture.

Director Bindu Manchanda travelled to Punjab the following month in May to identify villages that have heritage rural tourism and sustainable craft development. The crafts women need help for enhancing their skills and their livelihood. During the visit she met with craftspeople who work on inlay on wood craft in Hoshiarpur.

### MUSEUM OUTREACH

Director Bindu Manchanda participated in a panel discussion on the “*Expanding Vision for Best Practices in Museums*” at the National Museum, Delhi celebrating *International Museum Day*. The session on “*Museum Outreach*” also had Dr. Shobita Punja and Maureen Liebl who are actively involved with museums participating in the discussions.



The focus was on the role of museums contributing to the benefit of society, and become hubs for promoting good relationships between people. The interactions highlighted how the acceptance of a contested history is the first step in envisioning a shared future through reconciliation.

During the panel discussion Bindu Manchanda shared her experience of INTACH projects on setting up museums in various heritage buildings in many places in India. She also drew attention to INTACH exhibitions displayed at the Delhi Metro Stations of Jor Bagh and Green Park for creating public awareness about India's rich culture and heritage in their neighbourhood amongst the general public.



*Museum Outreach*

### **EARTHLY CREATIONS**

*Earthy Creations* founded by Harpreet Ahluwalia began as a home venture as far back as the 80s. Her vision is "to create a platform of excellence for traditional Indian arts and help families of potters by creating opportunities for them". Today the brand sells handmade terracotta garden decorations made in 5 States pan India and employs 50% women potters who make bird houses and



feeders, wall pots and decorative artefacts, and a plethora of handcrafted objects, animal and bird shaped pots, etc. creating economic opportunities for women given her own earlier marketing and professional experience.

There are many other such entrepreneurs who want women to discover their identities and capacity. The *Human Touch Foundation* set up by writer and academician Dr. Upasana Singh also provides women in rural and peri-urban areas opportunities to discover their full potential in comfort and with dignity.

### **THREADS OF GOLD**

*Zardozi* is a special type of embroidery once popularized by Rajas and Nawabs who attired themselves with robes embroidered with richly gilded thread. The craft has been carried over the centuries through highly skilled craftsmen even to this day in small pockets, but to a minuscule extent. The name of this ancient art finds mention even in the *Rig Veda* when it probably had another name. Actually *Zardozi* is a portmanteau of two Persian words – *zar* meaning gold and *dozi* meaning embroidery. During Mughal times even precious stones and tensile metals were studded into the design to fuse Mughal art and Indian sensibilities. Few countries can boast of such products connecting several cultures as one sees in the art and craft works of India.



## INTACH CONSERVATION INSTITUTES (ICI/A&MHD)

### ICI DELHI

#### *Documentation of Art and Antiquities in Rashtrapati Bhavan*

The documentation of art and antiquities in *Rashtrapati Bhavan*, conducted by A&MH Division was successfully completed by 30th May. The survey assessed collections of 180 rooms and storehouses, in addition to the objects and antiquities displayed in corridors. A total of 2003 art objects, furniture and furnishings have been documented, and a detailed summary of costs entailed in conservation was prepared.

Certain novel techniques were used in this project, in addition to traditional textual and photographic documentation. Firstly, high resolution photographic stitching was used to generate high resolution composites, especially in case of large paintings in Ashoka Hall, and the painted maps in the Cabinet Room. These composites were used to prepare condition assessments for inaccessible objects such as painted roofs, etc.

The principle of photographic stitching is simple in theory, but complicated in practice. In this process, multiple overlapping photographs are taken and joined together to yield a larger image. Most panoramas, unless taken with specialized cameras, are stitched composites. In terms of conservation documentation, multiple overlapping photographs with a long lens stitched together, can give an image that looks deceptively wide angle. In reality, it is extremely high resolution, allowing close examination of the surface.

The average camera gives photos in *Megapixels*, but stitched composites have *Gigapixel* resolution, or in laymen terms, a stitched photograph can have resolution a thousand times that of a normal camera.

The Ashok Hall picture is an un-cropped and un-corrected high resolution photographic stitch of the painted roof and the *Qajar painting* in Ashoka Hall. The rectilinear projection, or straight lines are restored, and perspective distortions are eliminated. An image was made by carefully joining 75 overlapping photos of the entire Hall shot with a wide angle lens. The image was actually not used in the documentation process, as the resolution was found lacking, and in later iterations each panel was individually photographed using the same technique, that yielded an extremely high resolution composite image. The rectilinear projection, or straight lines are restored, and perspective distortions are eliminated.

In addition to the 3D Models were also prepared of certain objects such as the *Rampurva Bull*, which were deemed to have a special significance. 3D modelling using *photogrammetry* is a recent advancement in conservation documentation. Rather than using a specialized 3D scanner to generate a 3D model



*'Regular Photograph' of Ashok Hall*



*Dimensional measurements for textual damage assessments*



of an object, multiple photographs from different angles are taken of the object. These photographs were then fed into specialized algorithms that extrapolate depth and position allowing the creation of 3D models from multiple 2D images.

***Photography of the Rampurva Bull from all orientations***

The surface is outlined in individual points. The more the points, the more the resolution. These points are then joined to generate a mesh, which gives the 3D model from multiple images.

In the final 3D Model from the mesh, the colour information is draped on the mesh to generate a colour accurate 3D model that can be studied off site.

3D models offer a flexibility that is unprecedented. With just a photographer with a computer on site, multiple specialists can study the object and see whether they are in the vicinity or in a separate continent, because the 3D model allows for immersive analysis. In addition, a 3D model on file is always useful in case of later damage and deterioration.

Reconstructions of damaged monuments from Palmyra have already been created in London using this technique. In addition, having a 3D model makes restoration a simpler task. Fillers in an area of loss can be 3D printed with a click of a button using rapid prototyping techniques now available in Delhi.



*3D model in Mesh*



*Final 3D model*

These Hi-Tech solutions to real world problems allow for a more exhaustive and in depth conservation treatment, and a more extensive documentation of our cultural heritage. This is the mandate that INTACH ICI Units will fulfil at all their Centres.

***Flora Fountain***

One of the most well known sites in Mumbai is *Flora Fountain*, located at the southern end of the historic *Dadabhai Naoroji Road*, often referred to as the *Mile Long Road*, next to *Hutatma Chowk* (Martyr's Square) in the heart of South Mumbai's Fort business district. The 1864 built *Flora Fountain* is a fusion of architecture, sculpture and waterfall depicting the Roman goddess *Flora*.

*Conservation Report of Flora Fountain Project, Mumbai*





The Fountain was originally intended for the Victoria Gardens at *Byculla* but in 1908, the grass plot and the palm trees that camouflaged the fountain were cleared for pedestrians and horse-traffic, traffic between the tram lines and the kerb of the fountain.

The *Flora Fountain* history is traced to the time when the *Old Mumbai Fort* was demolished in 1860 as part of Bombay Presidency as part of Governor Sir Bartle Frère's efforts to improve civic sanitation (municipal improvements) and the urban space requirements of the growing city.

Prior to this, a Fort had been built here between 1686-1743 by the British East India Company with three gates (*Apollo Gate*, *Church Gate* and *Bazaar Gate*), with a moat, esplanade, level open spaces on its western fringe (to control fires) and residences. A small road called the *Hornby Road*, named after the then Governor of Bombay (Mumbai) between 1771-1784, also existed at the old Fort area. Consequent to the demolitions, the *Hornby Road* was widened into a broad avenue and on its western side plots were developed to build new commercial buildings in Neo Classical and Gothic Revival designs. The *Hornby Road*, now named *Dadabhai Naoroji Road* (D. N. Road), is a veritable sight of colonial splendour with Crawford Market linked to the Victoria Terminus (now the *Chhaptrapati Shivaji Station*)) anchoring the northern end, with the *Flora Fountain* at the southern end of the Mile Long Road. The *Flora Fountain* was erected at the exact place where the Church Gate named after St. Thomas Cathedral stood (now Churchgate Station), before its demolition along with the Mumbai Fort. It was constructed by the Agri-Horticultural Society of Western India, out of a donation of Rs. 20,000 by Cursetjee Fardoonjee Parekh. Designed by Richard Norman Shaw, it was sculpted in imported Portland stone by James Forsythe. A white coat of oil paint has to some extent marred the antiquity of the structure. The fountain was originally to be named after Sir Bartle Frère, the Governor of Bombay at the time, whose progressive policy had resulted in many of the great public buildings of Mumbai. The name changed before the fountain was unveiled and renamed after *Flora*, a Roman Goddess of flowers and the season of spring (in mythology); with her majestic and pretty Portland stone statue adorning the top of the fountain. The four corners of the fountain are decorated with mythological figures.

On behalf of the INTACH Greater Mumbai Chapter, ICI Delhi took up the conservation treatment of the fountain structure in April. The dedicated team removed almost 15 layers of paints including lime wash, enamel paints, cement and other unwanted layers from the surface of the sculpture. Conservators found the neck of the sculpture damaged and



*Conservator working with micro electric chisel remove hard incrustations from the surface of Flora*



*Detail of sculpture after removal of all paint layers and previous restorations*

repairs done earlier. Head of the sculpture was so unstable that it would have fallen off even if a heavy bird sat on it. The conservators decided to adopt the dowelling method to stabilize the head of the sculpture that is now in sound condition. It is an ongoing project.

**Conservation of Shabi Mosque, Lucknow**

The fourth Nawab of Awadh Amjad Ali Shah (1842-1847) built a series of places forming a huge complex. The *Begum Kotli*, also known as *Kotli-Sultan-Inayat*, was gifted to his wife Malka Ahad. The palace complex spreads over a major portion of *Hazaratganj*, extending from *Shabi Mosque* on Vidhan Sabha Marg to the boundaries of *Imambara Sibtainabad-Mubarak*. The royal campus has its own Mosque, *Imambara* and residences for the *Nawabi* descendants. It is a three storied palace built in European style, with the whole area enclosed by high walls and



*Shabi Mosque except for front façade, repaired in cement*



*Detail of plaster loss and repairs with cement*



*Conservation work in progress*

a well-guarded gate. A narrow entry passage remains that goes to Shabi Mosque.

The *Shabi Mosque* is rectangular in shape standing on a raised platform 23 meters from the Ashok Road. The plinth platform is 2.9 meters above the road level with 8 small chambers, each on the front and backside. The main mosque is divided into 6 smaller chambers each having a false dome. The *Qibla* wall has three *Mehrab*s along the three chambers for offering prayers. The front façade also has three arched openings; two nearly 15 meters high minarets punctuate the elevation of the structure. The mosque is under protection by the Hussainabad and Allied Trust that has been maintaining it with restoration undertaken from time to time. However in the absence of expertise to deal with heritage structures, a few undesirable interventions are clearly visible.

AHD prepared the *Initial Assessment Report and Documentation* by conservation architects end 2012 which was approved by the District Magistrate, Chairman of the Hussainabad and allied Trust in March last year. The Art & Material Heritage Division started the restoration work in July, 2016. Selected samples from different places of structure were taken for scientific analysis at the INTACH Lime Testing

*Conservation work nearing completion*



Centre, Lucknow to know the composition of materials used in *Shahi Masjid*. Similar composition is now being used in the restoration. Integration of colour where required is on-going at present. Approximately 90% work has been completed.

***Lime Based Plaster and Mortars - Scientific Study and Application, Lucknow***

A five days workshop was held at *ICI Lime Testing Centre, Lucknow* for their staff to introduce materials used for preparation of lime based mortars and plasters, with scientific testing of lime using simple methods and tools. It covered the theoretical and scientific aspects while the practical aspects were scheduled at the ongoing project site of *Shahi Masjid*. The participants gained knowledge of lime and lime-based products - the material, use, chemistry, behaviour and also identification of the material composition used in historical structures. Practical sessions included preparation of lime in traditional

Conservator ICI- Lime Testing Centre Pankaj Pandey.

***Lime Testing Centre, March-May 2017***

*Study of Capillary Action of Water* (sometimes capillarity, capillary motion, or wicking) is the ability of a liquid to flow in narrow spaces without the assistance of, or even in opposition to, external forces like gravity. When a dry porous medium, such as a lime plaster, brick or a wick, comes into contact with a liquid, it starts absorbing the liquid at a rate which decreases over time. During evaporation, liquid penetration will reach a limit dependent on parameters of temperature humidity and permeability. Damage from water penetration and damage from water penetration can lead to cracks due to swelling and shrinkage, impairment of the thermal insulation property, salt damage, rust stains, dirt, fungi, moss, lichen, algae and destruction of concrete due to the corrosion of reinforcement.

***Water absorption by total immersion***

Plaster samples were dried at 55° C in hot air oven to get a constant weight. After cooling the sample in desiccators, they were immersed in de-ionised water and the weight of samples were taken at regular time intervals till five days. Ingredients used in preparation of plaster sample include *Multani mitti* (Fuller's earth). Study on evaporation of water is being done at the *Lime Testing Centre* currently to understand the rate at which water is evaporated along with loss of weight and volume.

***For testing the application of lime***

First layer: slaked lime (sieved), coarse sand without sieving, and pozzolanes (without sieved) and natural organic additives as *urad ki daal*, *methi*, *beal* (wood apple) fruit pulp juice and molasses.



*Participants working on project site on dummy wall*



*Participants at lime testing centre*

manner, its application on dummy walls, starting from coarse plaster to fine plaster and lime punning.

Workshop participants were felicitated by Senior Conservator Ashok Kumar Pandey, and Assistant



*Application of plaster using trowel*

*Levelling of applied layer*

Second layer: slaked lime (finely sieved), coarse sand (sieved), and *pozzolanes* (sieved) and natural organic additives.

Third layer: slaked lime (finely sieved), marble dust 1/6 part of lime and pozzolanes (finely sieved) and natural organic additives.

### ***Study of effect of salt crystallisation – Sodium Chloride***

Water-soluble salts can originate from the soil, air or from materials themselves and are transported inside materials by capillarity. When water evaporates, the dissolved salt migrates towards the surface of the material and crystallizes, with breaking and scaling on the plaster.



*Sample on left shows full rise of the solution while the right side sample shows partial raise; this is due hydrophobic behaviour of Linseed oil present in the sample*

*Sample showing salt deposited on the surface as hard incrustations after completion of the experiment*

### ***Wall Painting Directory***

During this quarter the ICI teams have continued to document wall paintings sites in different States, with more than 3.15 sq. ft. of painted area recorded to date.

In Uttar Pradesh, 31 wall painting were found mostly in



*Shivalaya, Amethi*



*Shiv Mandir, Kamlapur, Kanpur Nagar*

temples located in rural areas and near river-banks; their neglected state leading to severe deterioration.

The wall painting sites are embellished with depictions of mythological tales, human figures and floral motifs. Use of indigo, red earth (*Geru*), charcoal and mustard pigments is another striking feature of these wall paintings found during this survey.



*Bholebaba Mandir, Ghatampur, Kanpur Nagar*

### ***Conservation of Mica Paintings***

ICI Delhi recently completed the conservation of 11 Mica Paintings received from a private collector. Mica paintings were introduced in India in late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century. They were very popular with colonial tourists and East India Company employees because they looked

like paintings on glass, so popular in Europe at that point of time. Most of the mica paintings were created as souvenir postcards with Hindu God and Goddess, religious events, trades people, and flora and fauna of the sub-continent.

Mica is a transparent mineral composed of complex mixtures of potassium silicates. The variety of mica most frequently used by these Indian artists is known as Muscovite ( $H_2KAl_3SiO_4$ )<sup>3</sup>, which is found widely throughout south India, formed between strata of granite and the transparency of the material resulting from heat and pressure created between the layers of rock during formation.



*Before conservation*



*After conservation*

Eleven mica paintings with considerable damage due to poor storage and bad mounting were received for conservation. The adhesive used to adhere the painting with its original mount had turned yellow and was ruining the aesthetic appearance of the paintings.

### ICI KOLKATA

Oil Painting measuring 36x26 inches by artist Shahabuddin depicting Gandhiji was restored by ICI Kolkata. The losses were filled with inert filler and leveled mechanically, after which reintegration of lost areas with reversible medium colours was done and a protective coating given.



*Before and after conservation*

### Tagore Library, Lucknow University

To date a total of 451 artefacts of the Library have been restored at the Institute over



*Painting before conservation*



*After conservation*



a period of 1 year and the project has been completed successfully.



*Before conservation*



*After conservation*

***Maharani Lal Kunwari Post Graduate Library, Balrampur, U. P.***

This is an ongoing ICI project. During this quarter 235 rare printed books with 25726 folios were scientifically conserved at the Institute. The books had loss of areas, stuck folios, damage by micro organisms, acidity and yellowing of pages.



*Rare printed book*



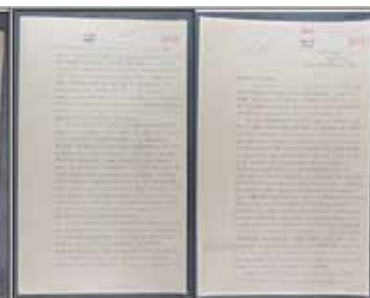
*Same after conservation*

***Conservation of Rare Books of National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad***

This is another ongoing project, with 150 rare printed books conserved during this quarter.



*Rare book with loss of areas*



*Same after conservation*

***Conservation of files of Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad***

This is also an ongoing project with a further 39 files received for conservation. The treatment involved documentation, fumigation, dry cleaning, de-acidification, repair of tears and holes, spine and strip lining.



*With tears, creases and holes*



*Same after conservation*

***Conservation of Excavated Idols at Kushinagar, UP***

When an artefact is buried, the environment around it is differs from the one in which it was created. When it reaches chemical equilibrium in the new environment, it undergoes significant deterioration or even total loss. These factors are not limited to water, temperature, oxygen, micro-organisms, pH and most importantly soluble salts. Upon excavation, the environment is once again disrupted and the object again undergoes further changes as it reaches



*Conservationists working at site*

equilibrium with the new conditions that can be particularly damaging. The agents of decay in the new environment include visible light, ultraviolet (UV) radiation, temperature, relative humidity, pollutants, insects, and handling for processing, conservation, study and exhibit. The first step therefore is to provide storage that minimizes the degrading effects of the artefact's environment and to stabilise the freshly excavated artefacts.

4 sculptures of *Navgrah*, *Kartikeya*, *Agni* and *Brahma* were excavated at Kushinagar near Gorakhpur, UP on *World Heritage Day*; believed to be from the 7<sup>th</sup> Century CE. Harshavardhana period. Gorakhpur Chapter Convenor MP Kandoi brought this to the notice of the Head Office and a team from ICI Lucknow was deputed to conserve the excavated idols at Chhau Village, Kushinagar. They displayed severe deterioration; with details lost, the stones were powdery, with mechanical strength completely lost. Moreover the local community had started to worship the fragile idols leading to further damages.



*The local team with Sr. Conservator (standing). They were trained on ways to preserve these sculptures (Preventive Conservation).*



*Navgrah before and after conservation*



*Kartikeya before and after conservation*



*Agni before and after conservation*



*Brahma before and after conservation*

Careful conservation treatment with minimum approach was designed to enhance the structural strength of the stone idols and cleaning of surface deposits in situ work started on 9th May and was completed within a week.

## ICI BHUBANESWAR

The Centre took up conservation of old *Pattachitra*, that literally means cloth painting in Sanskrit; 'pata' (cloth),



*Before conservation*



*After conservation*



*Before conservation*



*After conservation*

and 'chitra' (painting), was conceptualized in Orissa dating back to the 5<sup>th</sup> century. According to historical evidence *Pattachitra* art first originated in the village of Puri where it still survives. Its artists are known as *Mohapatras* or *Maharanas*. The astounding temples and architecture of Orissa inspired their creativity, with craftsmen narrating pictorial stories through their paintings and detailed work.

***Documentation and Conservation of Old Maps of pre-independence period, belonging to the Royal Palace of Kanika***

The ICI Centre took up conservation work of more than 300 old land maps on paper and cloth. The documentation work is under progress.



*Conservation Work of Odiya Bhashakosh (6 volumes) underway at the centre*



*Pre-Independence maps before conservation*



*After conservation*

***Conservation and Restoration of old British Building at Hukitola, Kendrapada***

Odisha ICI Centre-AHD jointly carried out conservation and restoration work of an old 1866 British building at Hukitola, supported by the World Bank under *ICZM Project* in collaboration with *Wildlife Odisha*. The building was once used by British engineers for food and water reservoir during the famine period in Odisha.



*Deteriorated condition of the building ceiling*



*Approach to Hukitola is only by river*





*Staircase - Before and After*



*Hukitola building: after restoration*

The restoration work includes stabilisation of roof, walls, waterproofing, flooring, restoration of staircase, doors and windows of colonial style.

### ***Renovation work of Entrance Hall, Odisha State Museum, Bhubneswar***



*Before renovation*



*After renovation*

The Centre carried out renovation work of the entrance lobby of the *Odisha State Museum* and transformed it into an Interpretation Centre showcasing *Odisha Through Ages*.

### **ICI JODHPUR**

A decorative Chinese porcelain was received from *Umaid Bhawan* at ICI Jodhpur. It has human figures and flowers painted around it, with loss of painted surface, and the lid broken into pieces. A micro grinder was used to smoothen the in-filled areas, and lost painted surface were retouched.



*Decorartive Chinese Porcelain before conservation*



*After conservation*

An oil painting on canvas measuring 50 x 60 cms was received from the Umaid Bhawan Palace in a severely damaged condition. After scientific documentation the paint loss areas were consolidated; and a full lining was given to impart structural strength to the painted areas.



*Painting before and after conservation*

## ICI MUMBAI

The Centre conserved a late 19<sup>th</sup> century ivory inlay pair of cards from the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad City Museum's showcase. They were designed in both geometrical and floral motif pasted on thin brown colour piece of cloth on a wooden base.



*Ivory inlay card before, during and after conservation*

The main problems were deposition of hard dirt and detachment of decorative elements (ivory, tin, silver, ebony, wood tiny pieces) from its wooden base. Ivory is very sensitive to solvents and can stain easily; so the conservation treatment was carefully devised and a protective coating was given.

## JAN JATIYA SANGRAHALAY

This new museum at Bhopal, *Jan Jatiya Sangrahalay* has transformed the oral narrative of seven major tribes of Madhya Pradesh – *Gond, Bhil, Baiga, Kol, Korku Sahariya* and *Bhariya* – into huge paintings and narratives by a core team of tribal scholars and contemporary artists. Instead of monotonous display of classified artefacts they have also captured some of the spirit rooted in tribal imagination. With grants from both the Central and State Governments thousands of tribal artists arrived in batches from every part of the State to recast myth and life into amazing visuals. The exhibits are made out of traditional materials like wood, clay, straw, jute as well as modern usage of acrylic paints, glass, wood. The central banyan tree will eventually touch ceiling and walls to indicate tribal affinities transcending geopolitical boundaries. In its *Devlok Gallery* there is a tribal deity for every problem be it recovering lost cattle to curing a stomach ache. Lit up spots at different heights suggest day and night, making visitors feel they are wandering in many planes be it *devlok* (higher world) or *pataal* (lower world often considered to be hell)!



As scholar Vasant Nirgune states "*The essence of tribal lore is a deep knowledge of the surroundings, nature, seasons, spirituality, where individual consciousness melds with the collective, and humans are not central, but only part of life on earth*". To capture this intuitive knowledge is the real challenge for this ambitious museum. The Museum's Director Tiwari says that the installations being of perishable material would require a great deal of maintenance and constant vigil and hopefully this museum will receive tender loving care to become a great tourist destination.

**Ack : The Hindu, 2013**

### WARLI PAINTERS AND UK ARTISTS

The Mumbai based association *Paramparik Karigar* promotes Indian traditional crafts. UK based creative producers Jeremy Theophilus and Barnet Hare Duke travelled to the coastal town of Dahanu to meet *Warli* painters in 2006, and initiated a series of projects between Indian and UK artists. Until the 70s only cow dung and mud washed paintings were done on walls by women. Now 10 years later UK artists, film makers and musicians have come together with *Warli* painters for an exhibition themed *Heart Beat* that will travel to the *British Ceramics Biennale* (BCB) later this year. The BCB Manchester Metropolitan University and the Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), Ahmedabad will partner this exhibition to show the great potential of this art form. Ramesh Hangadi who has been associated with the *Warli* project for over a decade says *Warli painting is not about drawing an animal or a human figure. There is a deeper context and meaning. Warli paintings have always been about stories of forests, and gods in relation with man and nature. What was once painted during village weddings has now become a universally recognized art form that is full of symbolism - be it the way the feet are directed in a dance or the crown on the gods.*



### FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT SEE

In March last year the Prado Museum in Madrid, Spain mounted a unique specially designed 3D Exhibition for the visually impaired. They could touch and feel the paintings recreated in the form of 3D models of Leonardo da Vinci's famous Mona Lisa and several 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century works of several masters.

While the Spanish exhibition was being put together, experts at the National Museum in Delhi were brainstorming with UNESCO representative and NGO volunteers to create a permanent showcase for the visually impaired art lovers in India. Almost a year in the making *Anubhav: A Tactile Experience* opened last December to mark the 55<sup>th</sup> year of the Museum. It has replicas of 22 rare exhibits besides an audio guide with details of each art work labelled in Braille. The 3D replicas have been created with special emphasis on dimensions eg. a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century coin from Awadh region has been recreated in 23-inch diameter and 2-inch thickness to offer a detailed sensory experience. Among the exhibits are a 1634 Malwa painting of Lord Ram with a golden deer, the famous Sarnath Buddha statue, shields, busts, etc. Museum visits will be a multi-sensory experience also for the visually impaired now. There are guided walking tours for visitors and group bookings.



### EARLIEST MANUSCRIPT OF QURAN

During this quarter, *Id* was celebrated on 25<sup>th</sup> June which brings to mind the history of the *Quran*. For centuries the earliest copy of this holy book was lost inside a dark loft in the great mosque of Sana'a, one of Islam's greatest religious sites – though unseen it was illuminated with light from a single window – as if waiting to be discovered. It was in 1965, when the Director Husain bin Ahmed al-Sayaghy of the Yemen National Museum ordered inspection of the decrepit building that workers found hundreds of pages of parchment stuffed into sacks. They lay assaulted by mould, insects and mice. Years passed before it was identified by chance through radiocarbon that these papers were dated between 578CE-668CE: the era of the Prophet of Islam Muhammad bin Abdullah. Probably they were written within a short span after his death by someone who had heard the revelation from the Prophets's lips. In 2015 when Saudi Arabia bombed Yemen, the manuscript's caretaker locked the manuscript. Research Director at the Corpus Coranicum, perhaps the largest repository of its kind to examine ancient Islamic manuscripts are now getting ready to decipher the full text of the Sana'a manuscript. Its Director says "*The Quran did not arise in a vacuum...it has history. Part of that history lies in Christian and Rabbinic traditions*". But ever since Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*, a shroud has been drawn over all discussions over the Quran.



Ack : Praveen Swami, *Hindustan Times*, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (ICHD)

### AUDIO VISUAL DOCUMENTATION OF THE RICE CULTURES OF NORTHEAST INDIA

The documentation of the rice cultures of Northeast India was undertaken by the ICH Division. The objective of this Audio Visual Study is to track continuity and changes seen in the intangible culture of paddy cultivation in the varied terrains of the Northeast. The geographical spread for the paddy cultivation study includes



*Rice farmer from Porba Village in Nagaland*



*Varieties of rice in Assomiya Gaon, Tingaria, Tinsukia*

the States of Assam for *Valley Cultivation*, Meghalaya for *Terrace Farming* and Nagaland for *Jhum Cultivation*. Each of these different terrains, and the particular methods and tools used for cultivation have been explored, along with unique cultural elements associated with them. A detailed expanded script of this AV documentation with photographs is now under preparation.

### RESEARCH & DOCUMENTATION OF A RICH HERITAGE : KHASI CUISINE

The Documentation project on *Khasi Cuisine* has been undertaken by ICH Division in collaboration with Lady Keane College, Shillong. The book will present *Khasi Cuisine* which is cooked to this day in many homes, but seems to be at odds with today's lifestyle. This cuisine and all its intricacies associated with the Khasi way of life is a fast dying tradition. The central focus of this book will be to provide the modern Khasi and their other links to the cultural significance of some of the traditions related to food cultures of the region. The objective is to preserve not only *Khasi Cuisine* but also the rich traditional culture that is at the edge of the perilous crossroads of time, and could be lost and forgotten forever.



*Dohsyiar Khleh (Jowai style chicken based dish)*



*Dai Nei Long (Black sesame dal)*



*Patharw Sdieh (Pumpkin curry and smoked pork)*

### JAYATU SIMHASTH – UJJAIN KUMBH MELA 2016

A detailed audio-visual documentation project on the Ujjain Kumbh Mela – 'Jayatu Simhastha' (one of the four *Kumbhs* of the country) was taken up last year by the INTACH Dhar Chapter with the support of ICH Division. The objective is to make a documentary film on the why, what and how of the *Kumbh Mela* that is celebrated at Ujjain every 12 years



when the celestial signs are in a particular combination for scheduling it. Amazingly it has been attracting pilgrims from across the country for hundreds of years. The film is a detailed documentation of this sacred festival/fair which is usually attended by lakhs of devotees as in 2016.

The film showcases the *Kumbha Mela* as one of India's largest spiritual gatherings on the banks of river Kshipra. It originated during the reign of Maratha Ruler Ranoji Shinde in the 19th century. It is now held every 12 years in Ujjain. The age-old tradition of taking a holy dip in river Kshipra has its own spiritual and cultural sentiments.



Through a number of interviews, the film highlights the varied experiences of this event by scholars, spiritual gurus and by general devotees.

The sacred groups, represented by the *Hindu Sanatan Dharm Akhada* in saffron robes, or the *Naga sadhus*, other religious sects and the general public, all converge at the banks of the Kshipra River with their deep beliefs. This amalgamation of spiritual culture, age old religion and sacred rituals together makes the Kshipra Ghat - in their belief - a place of heaven on earth. The short film is an excellent effort by the Dhar Chapter for exhibiting an in-depth documentation of this event. Further dissemination to the public will be initiated through screenings of this film at the State level so people can understand the

significance of this event.

A special screening of the movie was organized by PD ICH Division Nirupama Modwell at the INTACH multipurpose hall, attended by Chairman LK Gupta, Member Secretary CT Misra, Dhar Convenor Dr. Deependra Sharma, and INTACH staff.



## LISTING OF ICH LUCKNOW

INTACH Lucknow Chapter undertook the *Listing of Intangible Heritage of Lucknow* with the support of the ICH Division. A detailed report has been received that captures myriad intangible aspects of Lucknow. It covers details of its historical background, variations in style, material and aesthetics, gender differences, rituals, dance, music, costume and cuisine among other facets. The documentation provides intricate details about the clothing of Nawabs such as *Chogas*, *Angarkha*, *White Dastar*, *Pagri*, *Shaluka* which were worn by men. *Chunnis*, *Sidhapajarnas*, *Latbor ka lehanaga*, brocade work and



*zardozi*, *odhni* worn by women are well documented. *Chikankaari*, *Zardozi*, *Kamdani*, *Ittar*, *Chandi varq*, ivory and bone carving among other traditions specific to the city have been described in detail.

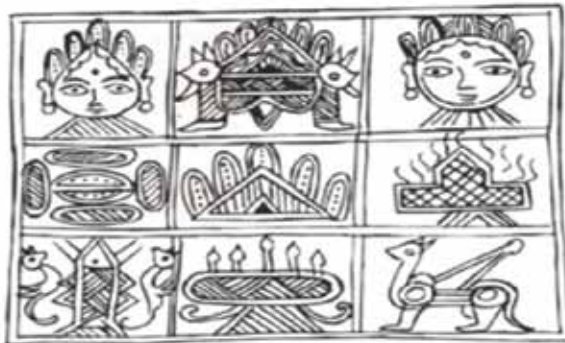
The project covers the unique rituals of Lucknow,

including *Muharram* with its history, beliefs and evolution; differences between the *Shia* and *Sunni* sects. The uniqueness of this cultural tradition and the evolution of the *Imambaras*, the *matams* during *Muharram* and the procession of *Juloos-e-Mehndi* have been described in detail. *Daastaangoi*, a story telling art form of Lucknow which faded away only to be revived in the present times, has also been touched upon. Unique traditions like kite flying, bird flying, cock fights and bird fights that were very common in *Nawabi* Lucknow, and which are now lost or banned, also find mention. A large part of the work includes commentary on the special cuisine of the region with a good number of Awadhi recipes given. Some well known dishes described are the *Moti Pullao*, *Annanas Paratha*, *Roghan Josh*, *Uzbeki Gosht*, *Laab-i-Mashooq*, *Korma*, *Salan*, *Galawati kabab*, *Kakori Kababs* and the very famous *Tunday Kababs*.



*Tazias of Muharram*

The project details the folk art of Awadh and the art of tattooing or *Godna*. A study has been presented on the famous Lucknow *gharana* of *Kathak* dance, with its evolution and transformation from the times of the *katha vaachakas* and the courts of the Nawabs to the 20th century classical form. Costumes, jewelery and details about maestros like Lachhu Maharaj, Shambhu Maharaj and Birju Maharaj are given. Music has also been covered with details of *Gharanas*; *Qarawal Bachcha Gharana*, *Tabla Gharana*, *Sitar* tradition, *Qarwali Gharana* of Lucknow. Folk music which includes tribal and folk music and musical instruments like *ektar*, *dotar*, *rabab* also feature in the documentation.



*Awadh Folk Art*



*Jewellery worn in Kathak*



*Dastangoi Performance*

### KABUI NAGA DANCE

*Kabui Naga Dance* has various forms like the *Ngai Laam* performed during festivals, *Poumei Laam* when a community utility is created, the *Ballu Laam* that takes on several classical movements and postures. The unique feature about all Naga dance forms is the presentation. It involves participation of both male and female dancers continuing all night, while the *Zeihsung Laam* is performed only by male dancers, and the *Zouhmon Patmei Laam* involves only female dancers. The *Banjai Laam* has both men and women dancing together. There are a several other such *Laams* with classical movements and postures. With the rise of tourism in the Northeast, social media has been active in promoting indigenous dances of the State, and these colourful spectacles are now slowly getting the attention they richly deserve.



### UNIQUE WEAVES – PATOLA AND POCHAMPALLI

India has a great heritage of unique weaving peculiar to a region, and their products are now fashionable wear across the country like the *Patola* and *Pochampally* sarees to mention just two of them.

*Patola* Sarees made from the highest quality of pure silk dates back to 11<sup>th</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. King Kumarpal is known to have dressed the gods with a new saree every day in the 12<sup>th</sup> century when the Solanki kings were at the peak of power. For producing such large quantities even craftsmen were brought from Maharashtra. *Patola* was a symbol of status, pride and royalty.

*Patola* is synonymous with Patan where a few families continue to weave this traditional art but now only three Salvi families are said to be practicing this intricate weaving tradition that has 20 stages of laborious work. Both sides of the saree can be worn because of the uniqueness and dying of both the wefts and warps of the threads. The designs are also unique and meaningful, with traditional motifs like flowers, birds, animals and humans using intricate patterns like *narikunj*, *phulwadi* and *navaratna* using plant based dyes like turmeric, onion skin, marigold, pomegranate bark, etc. There is a Gujarati song which translated means the saree may get old but the colour of the *Patola* will never fade. A *Patola* saree was once an investment, the value of which appreciated with time. But nowadays chemical and other easy dyes are replacing vegetable colours!



In the ancient village of Pochampalli, 45 kms from Hyderabad, hundreds of weavers continue to ply their looms to create sarees and materials with complex designs through warp and weft. They use water from borewells and it is believed the chemicals used in making the yarn is causing considerable pollution of its borewells, while borewells in neighbouring villages are not polluted. So a welcome development has been the Punjab Durrie Weavers Association (PDWA) that implemented the *Promotion of Natural Dyes in the Textile Industry* project and chose Pochampalli as one of its targets. It is only a first step. Some natural dyed sarees produced at Pochampalli were featured in a fashion show in Mumbai. Hopefully pollution-free Pochampalli village sarees will be patronized by many more people. It has led to similar efforts being made with saree weavers of *Kanchipuram* and of *Sambalpur* in Orissa using natural dyes.



### BAGHELI FOLK ART

Dahiya, a post master who retired in 2007, was passionate about documenting *Bagheli* folk literature, especially the songs and tales mentioning traditional crops, especially *kargi rice*. He documented *Bagheli* oral folk literature for the MP Adivasi Lok Kala Academy. He even published two *Bagheli* poetic collections. He noticed local crop varieties had longer stalks and held moisture and needed less water. He collected over a hundred rice varieties, one of which has small protective spikes. So there is a local humorous saying that if you grow that particular rice, it is eaten neither by the wild boar or the family of the son-in-law!

## INTACH Cultural Cell

### Lecture-Indian Mapping –Indian Tradition or Western Influence, 27<sup>th</sup> April

The Cultural Cell headed by Manisha Singh invited Susan Gole, one of the most celebrated cartographers in the world, and an authority on the traditional Indian Mapping System. Her talk at INTACH captured the interest of the surprisingly large audience at INTACH Multipurpose Hall. Susan Gole's illustrated talk on *Indian Mapping : Local Tradition or Foreign Influence* explained how contrary to popular belief, Indians had a prolific mapmaking tradition. It dated long before any foreign influences arrived in the subcontinent. Aided by the map collection of the City Palace Jaipur, she elaborated on the cartographic traditions of India to be seen in cloth maps of Kashmir, Surat and Nashik. The lecture was both a study of Indian map making and a call for the preservation of these maps.



Coordinator Cultural Cell :  
Manisha Singh

Susan Gole has spent many years in India surprisingly purely in pursuit of ancient Indian maps. On her return to UK she joined the *International Map Collectors Society*, and later became its Chairman for nine years and thereafter editor of its journal for sixteen years. Her erudite lecture was the sum total of many experiences during her long years devoted to this passion project.



### CULTURAL AFFAIRS

There is a noticeably increased interest being taken by the general public in events related to Culture, Heritage, Art Talks and the Documentaries hosted at INTACH which is open to the Public. The recently set up *INTACH Cultural Affairs Cell* was conceived as a platform to promote talks on a wide range of subjects, to enhance INTACH's mandate of spreading heritage awareness. The events cover a wide panorama of subjects ranging from material, architectural, intangible, natural and other facets of our national heritage.

Events, lectures and exhibitions are now scheduled at INTACH Multipurpose Hall and regularly posted on its website. All are invited.

## INTACH HERITAGE ACADEMY (IHA)

### TRAINING PROGRAMMES

The IHA course on *Understanding Outstanding Universal Value "OUV" of World Heritage Sites in India* was organized 17th – 21<sup>st</sup> April in collaboration with UNESCO, New Delhi; Archaeological Survey of India; UNESCO Centre for Natural Heritage and Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun. The training was to develop an in-depth understanding of the concept and significance of 'Outstanding Universal Value' (OUV) in the context of World Heritage properties in India. Fifteen participants - Conservation Architects, Professors, Anthropologist, Archaeologist and students from Shantiniketan, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Delhi NCR, Jammu, Dehradun and ASI, New Delhi - attended the course.



*Classroom session of the course in progress*

### CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

A 3-day *Workshop on Capacity Building-IV* was organized in collaboration with the Chapters Division for INTACH Members and for the first time for Institutional Members also. Thirty seven participants attended of which twenty two were Chapters Members from Kashmir, Darbhanga,



*Question/Answer session of the workshop*



Rajpipla, Kangra, Yamuna Nagar, Nashik, Udaipur, Hyderabad, Bilaspur and Delhi; and fifteen participants were faculty of Institutions - *Anna University*, Chennai; *Sathyabama University*, Chennai; *Manipal University*, Jaipur; *Lovely Professional University*, Phagwara; *Tribal Cultural Society*, Jamshedpur; *Career Point World School*, Bilaspur; *Bal Bharati Public School*, Bilaspur; *Smt. Manoramabai Mundle College of Architecture*, Nagpur.

## WORKSHOP ON ESTABLISHING CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

A workshop on 'Establishing Conservation and Management Plan for Karikop Cemetery, Nagapatnam' was organized on 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May in Chennai, jointly with Ministry of Culture and the Netherlands, with IHA as the Knowledge Partner.

Fifteen participants (architects, professors, students) attended the Workshop. A special field visit was also organized for the Dutch experts.

It provided a consultative forum for *Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed* (RCE), INTACH

Tamil Nadu Chapter and representatives of the *Karikop Cemetery* in Nagapatnam to enhance the sustainability of the cemetery as a cultural heritage property in future. Conservation Plan, Management Plan and a framework for the Execution Plan was prepared for the *Dutch Cemetery*.



*INTACH Chairman with participants*

## COURSE ON HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

The course on *Heritage Management of Architectural Monuments* was organized on 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May for newly recruited Assistant Architects and Deputy Architects of National CPWD Academy, Ghaziabad. It introduced them to the principles of conservation and practice of managing a Heritage Site, the issues and complexities related to architectural and structural engineering for the conservation of historic buildings. Thirty participants from



*Director IHA Navin Piplani addressing participants in class*



*On the premises of Rashtrapati Bhawan*

Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala, Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh attended the course. A special field visit was organized to the *Rashtrapati Bhawan* with the support of INTACH Delhi Chapter

## INTACH SCHOLARSHIPS

In the current cycle of scholarships, 69 applications were received out of which 25 were selected for the final award of scholarships under the following categories:

UK Scholarships	3
Research Scholarships	19
Capacity Building support	3

### ***Training Project for Capacity Building of Traditional Craftspeople***

IHA in collaboration with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) aims to train and enhance capacity of traditional craftspeople working in the heritage sector. It is specifically targeted to assess quality and accreditation standards. It includes development of *Qualification Pack* (QP) which is a set of Operational Standards (OS), educational qualifications, training and other skills required to perform the job role. This partnership also aims to act as a catalyst in skill development by providing training on and recognition of traditional craft skills involved in conservation of built heritage in India.

### ***Training Course Ministry of Culture Officials, Royal Government of Bhutan***

Two staff members - Kelzang Jamtsho and Shacha Gyeltshen - from the Royal Government of Bhutan visited INTACH from 8<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May. IHA in collaboration with other INTACH Divisions organized the training programme to enhance their knowledge and their capacities for addressing various aspects of heritage conservation. They were exposed to both theoretical and practical issues related to the understanding, awareness, conservation and protection of architectural, material, natural and intangible heritage. Special visits to heritage sites and INTACH Conservation Laboratory were also organized for hands-on knowledge and experience. The sessions were interactive where their Indian counterparts also shared and learned from the Bhutanese delegates.

### ***2<sup>nd</sup> UCLG Summit on Culture: Commitments and Actions for Culture in Sustainable Cities, Jeju, Republic of Korea, 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May***

PD, IHA Navin Piplani was invited as a speaker and

panelist at the above-mentioned Culture Summit representing INTACH. He shared the vision, objectives and activities of INTACH. The broad aim of the Summit was to develop and reinforce messages on the role of culture in sustainable development, with a particular emphasis on the importance of cities and local spaces. No Indian city was represented at the Summit except INTACH, but with its network of over 190 Chapters in cities across India Navin Piplani was in a position to make an impactful contribution to the discussions at this major international gathering.

The Summit provided a global forum for knowledge-sharing, peer-learning and networking among cities and local governments. There were about 200 participants from all regions of the world.

It was a learning experience about initiatives adopted by major international organisations :

- *UCLG Agenda 21* for Culture (adopted in 2015)
- *UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development* (adopted in September 2015)
- *New Urban Agenda* (adopted by the Habitat III Conference in Quito, October 2016)
- Statement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments

Under UCLG Agenda 21 for Culture, there are nine commitments or aspects which cities need to evaluate and work :

- Cultural Rights • Heritage, Diversity, and Creativity • Culture and Education • Culture and Environment • Culture and Economy • Culture, Equality, and social inclusion • Culture, Urban Planning, and Public Space • Culture, Information, and Knowledge • Governance of Culture.

Some of these concepts can be adapted and applied to the Indian heritage cities. In order to keep abreast with the international discourse on heritage conservation and sustainable development, it is essential to understand these documents and contribute to global discussion and policy-making.

### NEW YORK CITY'S PRESERVATION COMMISSION

IHA hosted a lecture earlier this year by Meenakshi Srinivasan, on *New York City's Landmarks Preservation Commission – Role and Issues* of which she is the Chair since 2014. It is the largest municipal preservation agency in the United States. She has spearheaded several initiatives to increase efficiency and transparency in the regulatory processes and reforms that addressed the 50-year old agency backlog of properties. They were landmarked in a short span of 18 months, and complemented the implementation of the Greater East Midtown Area of New York City.

Meenakshi Srinivasan was born in Delhi, graduated from its School of Architecture and Planning, and later did her Masters at the University of Pennsylvania. During her career she has had a successful tenure in various assignments in the Department of City Planning, the Board of Standards and Appeals, Rezoning of the Theatre District, Midtown and Central Harlem. She supervised the development and expansion of Manhattan and the creation of a special District for Hudson Yards in West Manhattan to allow critical expansion of the city's Business District.

It was interesting for INTACH to know her views on the rezoning and urban development of Delhi, Old and New.

## HERITAGE EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICE (HECS)

### MY CITY MY HERITAGE (MCMH)

The Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) INTACH has been organising various national programmes for middle school children, in order to enhance heritage awareness in the younger generation. One of its most popular programmes is *My City My Heritage* bringing into focus the importance of the local neighbourhoods of their city. MCMH competitions required them to write a 750 word essay on any unique facet of their city's/town's heritage supported with a painting.

About 100 INTACH Chapters organised the competition including Delhi since its inception last year. HECS received around 12,000 entries, including entries in 12 major regional languages *Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Oriya, Marathi, Gujarati, Urdu, Bengali, Nepalese, Hindi* and *Punjabi*. Certificates have been awarded to each participating entry as per the rules of the competition. After careful evaluation 100 regional winner entries were

selected and 15 national winners were selected.

The Regional Winners Trophies along with Certificates have been sent to the respective Chapters. The National Winners are invited to New Delhi for an educational trip from the 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> July.

*Virasat* brings to its readers' attention the following two of several essays written by school children as part of their Heritage Club activities. Children always come up with imaginative ideas when they are made to look at their surroundings with a refreshing new eye. Especially after being taught to appreciate them as part of the valuable assets rooted in the history of their town by generations of creative people who inhabited it long before them. *Virasat* will be publishing two essays penned by our budding young authors, with pictures drawn by them, as part of the activities of their HECS Heritage Club in forthcoming issues of *Virasat*.

HECS thanks the following Chapters for their commitment to this programme and have awarded them for their excellent work on this programme.

Gorakhpur, Meerut, Ajmer, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Thanjavur, Madurai, Yamuna Nagar, Kadapa, Dharwad, Rajpipla, Mayurbhanj, Marwar-Jodhpur, Barmer.



## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

*"Church is a hospital for sinners, not a museum for saints".*

It is not the honour that you take with you, but the heritage you leave behind.

Introducing myself, I am the St. Paul's Church. Today, I



am going to take you through the expedition of my life. I was built in 1857 beautifully, stunningly and marvelously designed by Lord Bishop Daniel of Calcutta. There is a beautiful cathedral located in me which can hold one thousand people at once. I am built in Gothic Style. I was established on 4<sup>th</sup> January 1857. I was surrounded by lush green forests and grass. I am one of the eldest historical monuments of Ambala. I am a rich heritage of Ambala preserved and protected by its people I am also called the bombed church. I was injured during the Indo-Pakistan war in 1965. The bombing by Pakistani aircraft considerably destroyed the beautiful and magnificent church and today only the tower remains. I have sustained extensive damage due to the bombing. Since then, only the front parsonage is used for praying. Previously, the church compound spread over 21 acres of land and today a large part has been acquired by the Air Force authorities for school and other purposes. It is amazing to know that the aircraft which bombed the church missed the nearby air-field and hit the church. This area is now within the Air Force School Complex.

The work on the St. Paul's Church cathedral began in 1855. The building work was carried out by the British Army, who first built a modern model of the church during the First War of Independence in 1857; the British took refuge in this church. The construction of the church started in 1852 by Captain Alkinson who was the architect of the church. The church was initially affiliated to the Church of England. The church has been declared as a national monument and taken up by ASI (Archaeological Survey of India). The church bell that was made in England was shifted to the nearby church house. The architecture of the

building is majestic and reflects the rich culture of that time. The Air Force authorities have proposed to convert the church into a war memorial. Considering the area's security, the bombed church was not constructed again as army aircrafts continuously land and take off from the neighbouring places.

Wow, my history is too fabulous and amazing. I am the past of the Air Force authorities. I brighten the heritage of Ambala. The people of Ambala should keep my surroundings clean and tidy. The importance of heritage is that it helps people connect with others who have similar backgrounds and provides a sense of unity. It connects many social groups and acts as a tourist attraction. Some places are also known by the name of their heritage sites. Cultural heritage also provides a link to tradition that might otherwise be lost. Heritage can incorporate both the tangible and intangible. It is present in many forms, spaces, views and the stories associated with them. The heritage sites are protected by a number of ways like chemical preservations, structural conservation and contemporary awareness programme.

We, as the students of Convent of Jesus and Mary, Ambala Cantt do not scribble on the walls of the monuments and do not let the visitors do the same. We participate in regular cleanliness drives, a part of 'adopt a heritage initiative' spreading awareness about protecting those monuments and their importance.

We should preserve monuments and showcase them for the next generation as the contributions or achievements of our ancestors. A little effort from our end can make drastic changes that will make the past, the present and the future generations of the country and the world proud of India.

*Navdeep Gill, IX-A, Convent of Jesus and Mary, Ambala Cantt.*

## GRANDEURS OF THE SILVER STREET: THE FATEHPURI MOSQUE -

An imagination of the centuries old Shahjahanabad its heart and the lesser known Fatehpuri mosque:

“If there is a paradise on earth, it is this, it is this, it is this...”

June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1854 AD

Life here in Delhi is good. As an English businessman, it is a strange pleasure to see the natives glance at you in a remarkably adoring way. I was advised by the vizier of Bahadur Shah, to take a trip to the main street of Delhi, “*Chandni Chowk*” as he called it. But other Europeans



prefer to call it the “*Silver Street*.” I set out early in the morning. A palanquin had been prepared for me, with rich red curtains drawn on the broader sides of the “*palki*.” I climbed in. It had sufficient space for two people to sit at one time. The markets will open early, I thought! I felt a sudden jerk, indicating that the *palki* had been lifted. A soothing breeze greeted me as the palanquin carriers drove me away from the rose-red walls of the emperor’s fort, the *Lal Quila*. We passed by the *Labori Gate*. In front of us, I noticed as I pulled the curtain, was an aqueduct. “This is *Faiz Nahar*.” I looked startled, on the left side of the *palki*. A woman sat there, richly clad in gold-embroidered clothing and shiny jewelry. By her pensive expression, I figured out she spoke a decent amount of English. “*Don’t worry, I can speak Urdu*.” I told her, obviously in Urdu. She smiled. “We are entering the *Abbarabadi*, or the *Azizunnisa Bazaar*, also known as the *Faiz Bazaar* because of the *Nahar* (canal). She told me that the canal was fed by the Yamuna River and supplied the whole city.

You have come out from the cloud capped towers, out from the royal palaces - and here lies the Silver Street. Every shop is stocked with wares that would certainly impress a European. They are filled with rich spices, cloth, perfumes, pietra-dura, sculptures, pots, etc. It is a pity that such beautiful materials of India are being overshadowed by the ‘superior’ cheapness of the East India Company. You can hear the blacksmiths beating upon their anvils, bending, carving both swords and utensils. One realizes

that one has entered such a squalour, that is also India. Avenues of *peepal* and *neem* trees line the *Nahar*. Stall-like shops lining both the sides. Your eyes go a little bit up to see a line of balconies and colonnades of the handsome dwellings (or ‘*havelis*’, as the locals call it in Urdu) of rich merchants, whose touts are the scourge of Delhi. They scream the praises of their shops and materials, and in the very same breath, the nastiest slanders of their opponents. Their *havelis* are a delight to look at. Nawabjan (the tour guide) told me that some of the famous are those of Bawani Shankar, Begum Sombre (Samru) and Haider Quli. These buildings line the Silver Street, the main artery of Delhi.

The day gets hotter. The crowd gets denser. You can see all sorts of people here: Bengali, Maratha, Lucknowi, French, Afghan and even the Turks. Then there’s the local population. The traders make a fabulous show of their wares. The rich lattice work delights the eye. There’s an astrologer inviting me to get an insight into my future. His caged parrot is being teased by a squirrel. The dyers work quietly in their small workshops. It is remarkable that they possess the ability to stay calm in a room scarcely two arms length. The jewelers rarely make a display. But if you express a desire to purchase, they spread out the most bewildering artefacts adorned with gems. There are broaches, golden hair pins, *Haiderabadi* (Hyderabad) caskets, gorgeous earrings and still more gorgeous *payals*. We pass through numerous bazaars, people throng at the sight of an “*Angrezi Bhaisahab*,” giving us way at the same time. Beautifully chaotic this place is, the Silver Street. Ahead you see a rich aristocrat with his “*ghulam*” shadowing him with an umbrella, while at the other side you see a beggar, his clothes dirty and torn. At one step you smell incense, at the other, garbage. There are narrow gateways leading into *harchas* and *katras* of Shahjahanabad. This city is the tabernacle of the eastern universe.

At one point, you’ll notice, that all the religious places are in a line here. “The *Gaurishankar Temple*, the *Jain Temple* and the *Fatehpuri Mosque* are all in a line”, explained Nawabjan. The temple bells and the Mosque’s *adhan* sound as if one. The church is not far away from here too. This secular tradition is uniquely Indian. And Delhi is its witness. You can see a *hijab*-clad woman and a Marathi woman laughing together. The temples and mosques of



Shahjahanabad embrace each other. The street comes to an end, with the *Fatehpuri Mosque* in front of us. It stands on a platform, and was constructed in 1650 by one of Shahjahan's wives, Fathehpuri Begum. She was a simple woman, she knew that Shahjahan's love for Mumtaz was more than it was for her. She was buried in Agra, beside the *Taj*. The bulbous dome of the mosque is one of its kind. Patterns decorate the main entrance to the mosque, surrounded by three heavy tower like and arched entrances. The minarets are higher, at about 80ft. I swooped down from the palanquin and entered the '*masjid*'. I still could not fathom the fact as to how the Hindus and the Muslims lived their lives in such unity. I wish it always remains the same. But if the Company in the East is able to break this strong backbone, only then can they conquer India. India's strength lies in its unity. These mosques and temples will one day become monuments, and the *havelis* and even the gateways too, which will symbolize this city's rich heritage. I wish that the future generations preserve them.

The mosque has a tank inside it and a huge yard. This *masjid* is of great repute. I ended my journey hearing Nawabjan say, "*Galiyon- Dalaano he Dilshad nazare Tabzib hi ye Jannat hai Jamuna ke kinare*"

*Farhan Bakht Ahmed, VII A,  
Modern School, Barakhamba*

## HECS TEACHERS TRAINING WORKSHOPS (TTW)

**Port Blair, 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> April**  
**50 Teachers/25 Schools**

The TTW was organised by the Andaman and Nicobar Chapter with HECS at the Government Model Senior Secondary School in Port Blair. Convenor Samhita Veda Acharya gave the introductory talk. Life Member Abhijit Aggarwal and PD HECS shared a comprehensive overview of the heritage of the islands, explaining its varied dimensions. The emphasis was on an inter-disciplinary approach through innovative lesson planning, practical exercises using flash cards, role-play, and object identification that was demonstrated. The heritage walk at the War Memorial, the Andaman Club and a local street



with religious sites (gurudwara, temple, mosques) was conducted.

The *Cellular Jail* was built by the British to house prisoners in Port Blair. Briefly taken over by the Japanese during WW II, today, the Jail has been transformed into a national monument with a memorial.

**Tumkur, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> April**  
**40 Teachers/38 Schools**

The Teacher Training Workshop was held at Vidya Niketan Primary School, Tumkur. The workshop was also attended by 12 members of the India Literacy Project as observers, and held in both English and Kannada language to acquaint teachers with the various aspects of



*Dr. S Suresh with Teachers*

India's heritage, and familiarize them with the importance and need of incorporating heritage education as an active feature of school curriculum. They were provided necessary resource material in the Kannada language. Tamil Nadu State Convenor Dr. S Suresh conducted a museum walk at the city museum, with a comprehensive presentation on



the local heritage of this region.

Tumkur was the seat of the Ganga Rulers in the early medieval period. It derives its name from "Tumbeooru" which is a mutation of the name "Tumbe huuvu" a kind of flower. In Kannada, *Tumkur* is known as the city of education, as there are numerous prestigious engineering institutions located here.

**Varanasi, 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> May**  
**37 Teachers/19 Schools**

The workshop was organised with the support of the Varanasi Chapter at the Little Flower House, Nagwa. Varanasi Chapter Convenor Ashok Kumar Kapoor welcomed everyone and encouraged them to understand heritage and spread the message amongst their fellow teachers and students. Regional Archaeological Survey Officer Dr. Subhash Yadav gave a presentation on the built heritage of Varanasi. Director HECS Purnima Datt explained types of heritage, and importance of integrating heritage education in the mainstream school curriculum. A heritage walk was conducted at *Gurudham Temple*.



Varanasi has been a cultural centre and pilgrimage site for centuries. *Gurudham Temple* is one of several temples built by Jaya Narayan Ghoshal of Kolkata in 1814. It has a unique octagonal shape with eight entrances. It is being restored by ASI.

**Jalandhar, 20<sup>th</sup> May**  
**109 Teachers/11 Schools**

The TTW workshop was held at Jalandhar Height Club Hall. Jalandhar Convenor Maj. Gen. Balwinder Singh,



VSM (Retd.) welcomed the participants and inculcated appreciation of the heritage of Jalandhar city. The interactive session was conducted by a committed heritage volunteer Anjali Bharthari.

**Nashik, 23<sup>rd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> June**  
**341 Teachers/16 Schools**

The workshop was organised jointly with the Nashik Chapter and Espalier-Experimental School. Convenor Shailesh Ramesh Devi, Member Krushna Rathi and Coordinator Heritage Walk gave a brief introduction to



the work undertaken by the Chapter over the years, and how it is mapping the tangible and intangible heritage of the city. The participants were familiarised with the unique facets of typology of Indian heritage. A session on Heritage Education and its myriad activities were explained by HECS officers Abhishek Das and Bashobi Banerjee with the help of Power Point Presentation and resource material. Teachers later gave their respective group presentations on the topics assigned to them. The workshop concluded with distribution of certificates, HECS passports and badges.

**Gurugram, 28<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> June**  
**27 Teachers/14 Schools**

The Workshop was conducted at the GD Goenka



Public School, Gurugram in collaboration with the Gurugram Chapter. Convenor Atul Dev in his welcome address shared the activities undertaken by the Chapter in spreading heritage awareness amongst schools. PD HECS Purnima Datt conducted the interactive session explaining what makes India's landscape, culture, customs, traditions and its communities unique to India. The teachers demonstrated how innovative lessons could be included and planned in heritage education within the curriculum. A visit to the American Institute of Indian Studies, Gurugram was organized for the teachers.

### COLLEGE HERITAGE VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME (CHVP)

The College Heritage Volunteer Programmes are conducted to sensitise college students to protect heritage, and encourage them to become part of a nationwide-youth movement to protect India's heritage.

#### **Gangtok, 17<sup>th</sup> May** **54 Students/5 Colleges/8 Faculty Members**

The CHVP was organised by the Sikkim Chapter in collaboration with HECS at Sikkim University Conference Hall, Tadong. It was a platform to discuss heritage-conservation and management in Sikkim



with special reference to heritage based sustainable development. Resource persons Dr. Sunita Kharel (historian) highlighted different aspects of heritage; Product Designer, Cultural Development Sonam Gyaltzen spoke on the significance and need to care for heritage; and Heritage Conservationist Joana Wongden elaborated on 'restoration and revival of a heritage site (case study)' through the Singhik Heritage Conservation Project and restoration of monasteries in the aftermath of the earthquake; and 'Conservation and Restoration of *Thangka* Paintings'.

*Thangka* Paintings are Tibetan religious cloth paintings dating back to 11<sup>th</sup> century. Traditionally, *thangka* paintings were used as aids in meditational practices and as teaching tools to convey the lives of masters.

#### **Shillong, 8<sup>th</sup> June** **12 Faculty Members/50 Students/3 Colleges**

The CHVP was organised by the Varanasi Chapter in collaboration with HECS at Seng Khasi College; Mawlai Presbyterian College; Seng Khasi College and Synod College who participated. Director HECS conducted an intensive session on heritage that was appreciated. Heritage conservation and management, with special reference to the Wah Umkhrah River, was the focus of the remaining sessions, with presentations on its Water Quality Assessment by Dr. D Tariang; Government interventions on waste management by FB Chyne; and Waste Management Rules by WR Kharkhang. In the final segment, Heritage Volunteerism and ways to contribute through HECS's 'College Heritage Volunteer Programme' was described by its National Coordinator Shivaa Rawat.





*Wah Umkbrah* is one of the rivers running through Shillong. From a pristine water body about 60 years back, its current state is unbelievably polluted. Immediate attention with emphasis on cleanliness, waste and sewage management as well as community involvement can alone save it was emphatically stated by all the speakers.

## COLLEGE HERITAGE VOLUNTEER WORKSHOP IN WAI

The *College Heritage Volunteer Workshop* (CHVW) was held in Wai on 27 June at the *Kisan Veer Mahavidyalaya*



*College*, attended by 68 students and 25 Faculty members. It highlighted heritage resources of Wai through discussions encouraged by Convenor Vinita Jadhav, Co-Convenor Nitin Kadam along with senior INTACH Member Jadhav. A film on Wai encapsulated the vast and unique array of heritage embedded in the city - its temples, lakes, *ghats*, flora, fauna and more. Students expressed an interest in being a part of the initiative and in safeguarding their heritage.

This CHVW was held in collaboration with Wai Chapter. It was also open to all young and enthusiastic leaders who wished to take up heritage conservation as a general practice and work towards the promotion of heritage awareness in their city.

## HERITAGE AND CITIZENSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP (H & CTW)

HECS had earlier launched the Heritage and Citizenship Programme - *JAGO* for promoting heritage awareness and conservation as good citizenship values. Following the *Heritage and Good Citizenship Training Workshop* organised with the support of the local Chapter at Jaipur last December, participants from 19 INTACH Western Zone Chapters were required to conduct similar workshops at their respective locations. Two such Chapter-level programmes/workshops were held in the last financial year (Bhilwara (19 February 2017) and Mumbai (21 March 2017). During the current quarter, the workshops were held in Delhi (5 May) and Pune (28 June).

### *Delhi, 5<sup>th</sup> May* *44 Teachers/40 Schools*

The H&CTW workshop highlighted '*Heritage-sensitive urban development, in the context of Delhi and good citizenship practices*' by resource persons INTACH Founder Member and Conservation Consultant Prof. AGK Menon. Other talks were '*Heritage of Delhi and the Role of the Government and its Citizens (specially the youth)*' by historian Dr. Narayani Gupta; '*Development Alternatives (DA) - Clean India Campaign*' by Senior Advisor; Development Alternatives Usha Srinivasan; Senior Programme Director Communication Bijoy Basant Patro and Programme Manager Communication



for Development, Shivani Sharma. The sessions were enriching and informative, making participants think about their city's heritage, as well as actions that could be taken to protect it. The HECS sessions



were conducted by its officers PD Purnima Datt and Shivaa Rawat outlining the inter-linkages between heritage and good citizenship practices. The importance of safeguarding heritage and citizens' role was highlighted in all the presentations by the participants also. The emphasis was on the need to involve students to protect their heritage, and valuable contribution that teachers can make to spread heritage awareness in their respective educational institutions.

## WORKSHOPS

Among the follow-up Chapter-level-programmes, the *Heritage and Citizenship Workshop* organised by the Pune Chapter on 28<sup>th</sup> June was attended by a cross section of 93 participants comprising representatives from 20 colleges with their students and faculty, institutions, a NGO, a school, and professionals from varied backgrounds like architecture and environment.



Resource persons highlighted various dimensions of heritage. Including, initiatives undertaken by the Heritage Department of the Pune Municipal Corporation by Shyam Dhavale; Built Heritage - preservation and heritage-sensitive practices by Prof. Vaishali Latkar; Natural Heritage – Biodiversity Management by Dr. Rahul Mungikar; Community Initiatives undertaken for heritage preservation by Vivek Velankar. The programme concluded with presentations made by participants on ways they could protect their city's heritage. Participants were felicitated with certificates by the Co-Convenor Pune Chapter Sharvey Ramesh Dhongde. It was one of the best H&C Workshops held by a Chapter.

## ***INTACH India Heritage Quiz 2017***

For the current year INTACH HECS is organising the Heritage Quiz in collaboration with *Xpressminds Edutainment* to be conducted in around 100 INTACH Chapters and also in another 25 cities that do not have an INTACH Chapter that will be coordinated by *Xpressminds*.

In order to enhance the outreach of the Quiz, it will also be conducted for the first time in all the 8 North – Eastern States, in collaboration with their respective INTACH Convenors. As is the practice, the City rounds of the Quiz will be followed by the State round, and the National round of the Quiz will terminate at Delhi subsequently. The Quiz will be conducted in the local languages, as well as Hindi and English as required.

## FILMIT INDIA

### *Chandigarh, 11<sup>th</sup> April*

The *Film-It* Festival at Bhavan Vidyalaya, Chandigarh successfully culminated year 1, phase 6 of the *Film-It* programme. The project aims at engaging children in making short films on various facets of heritage.

62 students and 9 teachers from 7 schools of the city participated in the programme at Chandigarh. The Chief Guest was Indian Administrative Officer Smita Mishra, posted with the Archaeological Department of the Haryana Government. She expressed her pleasure at



being part of this special event and said it was a good start to her day. In her view the films made by children were simple yet telling.

## PUBLICATIONS

### *Young INTACH Newsletter*

Read HECS Newsletter in *English* and *Hindi*. The current newsletter is *Amazing Archaeology* (July–September 2017)

### ***“ELEMENTS” – AN EXHIBITION FOR CHILDREN AT NATIONAL MUSEUM***

*Elements* was an interactive exhibition that ended on 5<sup>th</sup> July. It was designed mainly for urban children who are more tuned into their P3 sets or the television for endless hours. Instead this exhibition involved them in an exercise that snatched them away from the clutter of gadgets and electronics and instead made them interact with objects that stimulated their five senses.

It began simply with a painting and moulding space in the art room. Here children were encouraged to create sculptures out of cardboard and shreds of coloured paper, thread, wool, paint, etc. The various components made them actively do things without which they could not move forward to the next part, a 45-minute journey which had five sections of a tunnel riddled with walkways and specially lit attics. Once they crossed the tunnel, a cupboard with a jigsaw puzzle, a maze, a music room and a texture walk awaited them before they reached a feedback space that had papers to sketch and write about their experience. The last was the most sought out experience as children could walk on different materials barefoot such as a mat, cotton, sand, pebbles, foam, saw dust and coloured powder - each a sensory experience. What a lovely change from Father Google!



### ***THANK YOU FROM STUDENTS OF THE BRITISH SCHOOL***

I would like to thank the entire HECS Department for allowing myself and colleagues the opportunity to work in your environment, and gain some knowledgeable and insight on the work done at INTACH. It allowed me to be introspective and consider my future plans, as well as consider the importance and significance of cultural heritage and its conservation. I have learned much this past week; from technical terminology such as stretcher or strainer of oil painting, to abstract and changing concepts such as the meaning of ‘intangible heritage’. There were several opportunities for learning, and conversations that were had with employees that were of intrinsic value. I would like to thank each division which showed us their department, as well as Ms. Poornima Datt and Ms. Shiva, whose coordination and attention allowed for us to see all aspects of INTACH.

*Kindest regards and thank you once again, Eunice Ferreira*

## CHAPTERS

**Note :** Only Convenors of State/Local Chapters are authorized to establish, maintain and operate the Website/Facebook and Twitter accounts in respect of their Chapters. INTACH name and logo can be used only on these platforms. Prior approval of Chapters Division should however be obtained before launching these accounts in respect of Chapter. Individual Members are not permitted to use INTACH name and logo for their own Websites, Facebook and Twitter accounts. Non-compliance with this policy may result in revocation of individual or Chapter's rights to participate in INTACH related social media platforms; removal of posts or social media accounts; or corrective/disciplinary action as per existing laws.

Inappropriate use of social media poses risks to proprietary information and reputation, and may create ill-will or social disharmony. This guideline has been formulated to avoid untoward mistakes and to encourage responsible use of social media.

**Note :** Ordinary Members are requested to renew their Membership Subscriptions for the year 2017-18, if the needful has not been done to date. Preferably the subscription should be deposited with their local Chapter or in case of any constraints, it may be sent by post to Central Office.

**Note:** Chapter Division announces the 5<sup>th</sup> Capacity Building Workshop for Chapter/Institutional Members (other than Convenors / Co-Convenors) to be held from 28<sup>th</sup> October-1<sup>st</sup> November 2017. For further information, lodging and transport arrangements, etc. please contact Director Chapters Division Gp.Capt. Rahul Pathak (Retd.) well in time as bookings are problematic during the peak season.

**Note :** Please note this Final Reminder to all Chapters. Kindly ensure that material for the quarterly *Virasat* reaches Central Office by 20<sup>th</sup> of the closing date of that quarter i.e. 20<sup>th</sup> of March, June, September and December – unless any activity is scheduled only in the last week of the quarter in which case it will be sent to the Press. Material arriving after the due date often cannot be accommodated in the *Virasat* for timely release. Please treat this as one more reminder. Late news causes disruptions and delays in the publication of *Virasat*.

**Note :** All Chapter are kindly requested to henceforward send their Reports to Director Chapter, to centralize and monitor Chapter News and expedite coverage in *Virasat*. Mail sent to Sr. Coordinator Manisha Singh who is in charge of Cultural Cell is duplication of work. All Chapter mail is in any case is subsequently forwarded to her for inclusion in the INTACH Annual Report compiled by her.

Chapters should desist sending press clippings of photographs as they do not print clearly, but proper photographs will enhance coverage and improve quality of their Chapter's news.

## INTACH EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO NEWLY APPOINTED

We extend heartiest congratulations to our new family members, and wish them every success in the onerous responsibilities they have taken up in the worthy cause of heritage conservation. Our good wishes are with you for every success in conserving the rich heritage of your region – and our country.

### Convenors/Co-Convenors

**KVJ Radha Prasad:** Acting Convenor, Srikakulam Chapter, Andhra Pradesh.

**Swapnanil Barua:** Co-Convenor, Assam Chapter.

**Barnabas Milton Queah:** Co-Convenor, Kamrup Chapter, Assam.

**Dr. J Mohan:** Convenor, Khairagarh Chapter, (New Chapter), Chhattisgarh

**Subodh Pandey:** Co-Convenor, Khairagarh Chapter, Chhattisgarh.

**Col. RD Singh (Retd):** Convenor, Ambala Chapter, Haryana.

**C Babu Rajeev:** Convenor, Cochin Chapter, Kerala.

**Dr. Om Prakash Misra:** Co-Convenor, Bhopal Chapter, Madhya Pradesh.

## 4<sup>TH</sup> CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> April, 2017

Chapter Division in coordination with INTACH Heritage Academy launched regular programmes for capacity building for Chapter Members, other than their Convenors and Co-Convenors. Intimation to Chapters will be sent well in advance. The last Capacity Building Workshop was held from 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> April at Central Office. The workshops are designed to familiarize our Members with different facets of heritage conservation including material and intangible elements. It is an introduction to the importance of listing and documentation as critical embryonic factors for all heritage conservation activities. Candidates must be recommended by their respective Chapter Convenors. The Workshops are hosted by Central Office with necessary arrangement for travel and stay at Delhi.

The UNDP was the forerunner in drawing attention to the importance of Community Capacity Building. It was defined as a process *“by which people, organizations and society systematically stimulate and develop their capacity over time to achieve social and economic goals, including through improvement of knowledge, skills, systems and institutions—with a wider social and cultural enabling environment”*. The objective of these series of INTACH Capacity Building Workshops is to use in-house resources to equip our Members at all Chapters to meet environmental challenges inevitable in a developing economy, and effectively tackle INTACH’s defined conservation objectives.

## CHAPTERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING 2017-18

The first *Chapters Advisory Committee* for the current year was held on 24<sup>th</sup> May at Central Office chaired by Chairman LK Gupta. It was attended by Chhattisgarh State Convenor Lalit Surjan as its Chairman, and by other Members : Kerala State Convenor KJ Sohan; Rajasthan State Co-Convenor Dharmendar Kanwar; Jamnagar Convenor Air Cmde. SS Tyagi (Retd.); and Director Chapters Air Cmde. Rahul Pathak (Retd).

The Committee called for a vigorous membership drive

if the base INTACH Membership target of 10,000 nos. by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 is to be achieved, as reiterated by Chairman.

The Committee was informed that a simple format has been formalized for Members who seek change of Chapter or their address that will be circulated to all Chapter. The Guidelines for Social Media would also be brought to the attention of Chapters.

Chairman stated that the option of hiring an expert for website/social media platform would be taken up with the Executive Committee Members.

Currently there are approximately 100 Institutional Members amongst various INTACH Chapters, generally from educational institutions, museums and Trusts, etc. There is a need to actively connect with these Members to synergise each others capabilities and effectively achieve INTACH Mission. At Central Office the process was initiated by inviting Members to participate in *Capacity Building Workshops*; and 15 representatives from 8 institutions participated in the Workshop held in April this year.

The Committee was briefed on the administrative support to Chapters that is under review, and all efforts are made to meet their requirement for project based requests. However Chapters are also urged to explore generating local resources and become self-sufficient. They must draw up an Annual Activity Plan, that must be shared with their respective State Chapters and with Chapter Division at Central Office. This will ensure unity of direction and mobilization of resources from the onset of the ensuing financial year. The Annual Plan of Pune Chapter is cited as a good example.

The Chapters Committee was unanimous in suggesting that membership of Associate Members whose subscription is Rs.1000 should be limited to 5 years. They must be motivated by all Chapters to become Life Members during this time period if they have not done so to date.

The Committee was briefed on major Chapter events like the successful results of the PIL filed through collaborative efforts of Rajasthan State, Barmer and Udaipur Chapters

with major inputs of NH Division to save the *Gochaland* (common grazing ground) from acquisition by a power station at Korna Village. Another laudable achievement was the publication of a well documented book on *Lucknow Heritage Walks* covering the entire historic city that was released by the Uttar Pradesh Governor on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

A paper is being worked out by UP State Convenor Jayant Krishna on the e-voting. It will thereafter be examined by the Executive Committee and Governing Council. Discussions are also underway on a pilot project of exchange programmes between Chapters.

Principal Director IHA made a brief presentation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> *UCLG Summit on Culture : Commitments and Actions for Culture in Sustainable Cities*, held at Jeju, Republic of Korea on 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> May. (Covered in detail under *IHA News*).

## ANDAMAN & NICOBAR

On *World Heritage Day* 5<sup>th</sup> June, *Club Handumaan* was started by students of *Naach Academy of Performing Arts* under the guidance of Chapter Members and *Naach* Managers. Children painted pictures depicting their immediate surroundings, and the impact of urbanization on their environment.

It is not surprising that children living on islands decided to mark *World Ocean Day* on 8<sup>th</sup> June. In the coming months plans are afoot to celebrate *World Indigenous Day and Forest Week* under guidance of their Heritage Clubs.



*Heritage Club Handumaan*

## ANDHRA PRADESH

### *Anantpur*



*Convenor AG Venugopal Reddy*

A Walk on *World Heritage Day* 18<sup>th</sup> April organized by the Chapter was flagged off by the local MLA Prabhakar Chowdary. District officials from Tourism Department and the Anantpur Museum Centre were among the participants along with Degree Students of the Government Arts College. Several Chapter Members accompanied the enthusiastic walkers that was well covered by the local Press.



*Anantpur Chapter Members*

### *East Godavari*

Convenor Lakkaraju Sesha Kumari informs that the Chapter participated in the *Ugadi Cultural Festival* hosted by the District Administration this year. The *Zilla Parishad* Chairman Shrin Rambabu awarded the *Ugadi Puriskar* to Dr. M Narayana Rao of Tuni for his dedication as a teacher. INTACH Chief Patron Collector H Arun Kumar, the local MLA V Venkateswara and MLC Ramachandra Rao graced the occasion.



Dr. M Narayana Rao awarded

## Srikakulam

### CONDOLENCES

Convenor Shri Dusi Dharma Rao, our INTACH Convenor since 2005, has suddenly gone from our midst. Tragedy struck



without warning, while he sat on a parapet wall at Beach Road with family members on 30<sup>th</sup> April for a happy Sunday morning outing. Most tragically they were hit by a school bus whose driver lost control or the brake failed. Ironically the bus was en route to pick up students awarded for their contribution to heritage conservation. Shri Dharma Rao died on the spot, and his grievously injured grandson also passed away a few days later. A most tragic news. By God's grace his son who is Suptd. of Police and grand daughter survived.

Dharmarao was the recipient of many heritage awards during his lifetime. Most recently on 9<sup>th</sup> April. the Delhi Telugu Academy had conferred on him the *Vishwabharath Visstha Pratibha Puraskar* by the Speaker of the AP Assembly Dr. Kodela Sivaprasad Rao at a function held at the Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, Hyderabad.

INTACH Members were deeply shocked to receive the tragic news of this freak accident. We extend our deepest condolences to his bereft family at this grievous time. Our hearts go out to his family for the loss of two dear lives. We wish them strength and solace to come to terms with a capricious fate and the sudden absence of beloved members from their midst. The INTACH

family also mourns the loss of a very dear Member of our organization.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May at the Meeting of the Chapters Advisory Committee, Chairman personally paid rich tributes to Dharma Rao's exemplary devotion to the cause of heritage, and his remarkable ability to influence civil society in Srikakulam and Andhra Pradesh. His sincerity, devotion and truthful commitment to serve the heritage cause was remembered with a 2 minute silence as a mark of respect to the departed soul. It is indeed a great loss to INTACH.

The Chapter conducted a programme proclaimed as *Happy Sunday, Happy Srikakulam* on 28<sup>th</sup> May at the exhibition grounds. It was a cooperative event held jointly with the Municipal Corporation, Rotary Central Club and Tourism Department. It caught public attention as all their respective senior officials participated. Commissioner Srikakulam Corporation sponsored prizes for the dance performers. Other special guests were District Tourism Officer Narayan Rao, President Rotary Club N Mohan, and officials of the Corporation Harikrishna and Santosh who are in charge *Smart City Wing*.

Newly appointed Convenor KVJ Radha Prasad has indeed established a good network of official contacts that is laudable. He has sent messages to a 100 people reminding them to "*Keep one flat bowl water outside to Save Birds from Hot Summer*", that we should all emulate.

INTACH Patron Collector Dr. P Lakshmi Narasimhan has funded a book on the documentation of the city's heritage sites to be released shortly.

Was it a strange premonition that *Virasat* received many reports from Dusi Dharmarao for this quarter well in advance of his sudden and tragic disappearance from our midst? He had just added another feather to his crowded cap, having authored a historical play *Kalinga Sanraat Chodaganga Deva* who had extended his kingdom up to the Ganges and Bihar in the north and Godavari in the south, from the Bay of Bengal eastwards to Central India during his reign from 1078-1150. The play based on the history of *Kalingadesa* traces its antiquity to the days of *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata*. A few years ago the Chapter had produced a book *Nene Srikakulam* with

1000 questions on the history and culture of the region. They will be everlasting 'souvenirs' from Dusi Dharmarao.

One of the last events organized by the late Convenor Dharmarao was *World Heritage Day, 18<sup>th</sup> April* with a meeting chaired by the Joint Collector P Rajanikantharao and attended by District Officials of Tourism, Public Relations, Sports Development Authority and the Walkers Club. Earlier in the day the Joint Collector with Chairperson *Zilla Parishad C Dhanalakshmi* flagged off



800 students assembled at the Jagjivan Ram statue. The four teams were guided by Youth Welfare Officer Murthy and led by district officials. One team visited the ancient 7<sup>th</sup> century temple of the *Sun God* at Arasavalli, the only temple where rituals to the Sun takes place daily. The idol, carved in a rare ancient stone *Aruna Sila*, is near the sacred *Indrapushkarini Tank*. Other teams visited the 18<sup>th</sup> century colonial Dutch building under restoration initiated by INTACH for a proposed District Museum; the 1636 *Jamia Mosque* built by the first Subedar of Nizam rule Shermahamad Khan. Chairman of the *Waqf Board* Khan explained its Parsi architecture. The fourth team visited the ancient temple of *Umarudra Koteswara* with Convenor Dharmarao explaining the antiquity of this Kalingan

structure and its *panchayathan* features. The teams ended their walk by congregating at the *Bapuji Kalamandir* for a breakfast hosted by Collector Dr. P Lakshminarasimham.

This is a good prototype for bringing together officials, non-officials and youth on a common platform – to promote heritage awareness – formulated by the late Dharmarao that other Chapters might like to consider.

### *Visakhapatnam*

Convenor PV Prasad invited the District Magistrate and INTACH Patron Pravin Kumar for the presentation of Heritage Awards held on 30<sup>th</sup> April at the Gateway Hotel. Smt. Rani Sarma delivered the keynote address.



*INTACH Patron and District Collector Pravin Kumar speaking on the occasion*

The recipients of the Heritage Awards:

- *Best Heritage Club*: Sravanthi of Sri Prakash Vidyaniketan School.



*Prakash Vidyaniketan receiving The Best Heritage Club Award*

- *Prakrutimitra Award*: Sri Murthy Kanthimohanti for extraordinary devotion to studying and protecting wildlife heritage





*Vishakha Vally School choir singing*

- *News Reporter Award:* Sri Solagna Mehta of Times of India for tireless dedication to reporting on matters of heritage conservation.
- *Kalamitra Award:* Sri Venkateswara Burrakatha Kala Brundam for tenaciously keeping alive the rare art *Burra Katha*.
- *Life Time Achievement Award:* Sri Indrakanti Venkata Lakshmana Sastry, for promoting and preserving Classical Carnatic Music through his organization *Kulapati of Sangeetha Janakulam*.



*Vekateswara Burra Katha Kala Brindam performing after receiving the 'KALAMITRA' Award*



*Children from Sri Vidyaniketan performing Thappeta Gullu, a folk dance of the region*

### WHERE THREE RELIGIONS MEET

Visakhapatnam has three shrines built in three centuries, each of a different religion, and a different story to tell. Perhaps no other port of the world offered such a spiritual assurance of safe journey in the past. At present it is an idyllic symbol of what secularism could and must become.

In 1797 a Dutch ship was caught in a cyclone in the middle of a dark night. One of the Hindu sailors on board asked his fellowmen to pray to Lord Venkateshwaran. The ship emerged from the storm even though its keel was struck by a rock. The sailors were asked by the city head Bujja Rao to raise the money (in thanksgiving?) and the temple was built. It is now strongly believed that the temple protects sailors venturing out to sea,

Just above the temple stands the 800 years old tomb of Sufi saint Kadak Bijlee Shah Aulia. Dargah Committee joint secretary Mohammed Aslam recounts how two persons had attempted suicide at the shrine but were miraculously saved. A young girl too is supposed to have jumped from the same spot but her frock opened like a parachute and saved her from death. Now people from different faiths come to offer prayers for their personal wishes.

A missionary, Bishop Joseph Tissot always wanted to build a shrine to Virgin Mary facing the sea, something resembling the Notre Dame de la Garde at Marseilles, France. He bought a house for Rs.700 and left instructions while he left for Europe.

## ASSAM

### Dibrugarh

One of the biggest river festivals to be held in India is the *Namami Brahmaputra* held at the Kachari Ghat, Dibrugarh from 31<sup>st</sup> March-4<sup>th</sup> April. The event showcased the culture and heritage of Assam State



in general and Dibrugarh in particular. During such events seminars, cultural programmes, sports, display of handlooms and handicrafts, and an ethnic food festival are organized. It attracts both domestic and foreign tourists. INTACH Chapter provided a large collection of heritage photographs of the city for the *Heritage Dibrugarh Corner*. It elicited a letter of appreciation from the Deputy Commissioner.

### TOASTING TEA

The 'cuppa that cheers' most people first thing in the morning was brought to India by silk caravans that travelled from China to Europe centuries ago. The American Baptist Missionaries discovered it in the Singpho area and worked closely with the British in 1840. The enterprising Assamese nobleman Maniram Dewan foresaw the potential of tea as a beverage and wanted the world to know about the existence of tea plants in Assam. It was Robert Bruce who took the initiative of collecting some plants and leaves and sending them to the Botanical Adviser of the East India Company, and it was his brother Charles who was the discoverer of Assam tea.

Manoj Jalan, owner of the Jalannagar Tea Estate Private Limited, Dibrugarh, along with like-minded individuals wanted a *Tea Museum* to come up at Dibrugarh to showcase this economic and cultural heritage and the colourful traditions of its workers who have migrated from different parts of the country. Jalan donated eight *bighas* of land and the construction alongside NH 37 is expected to be complete next year. The Museum is an initiative of the Assam Government. INTACH is designing and supervising the project. Assam's tea industry is a huge part of the colonial history of India.

INTACH Convenor Dr. Shiela Bora writes that the "museum will exhibit huge pictures of tea bungalows, artifacts of tea bungalows, small models of tea gardens and books on how tea was discovered, tested and developed, and of course stories about its entrepreneurs".

## BIHAR

### *Bhagalpur*

The Chapter organised a *Heritage Awareness Programme* on the eve of *World Earth Day* on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, in association



with the *Global Environmental Organisation (GEO)* at the MS College.

Life Member Prof. Raman Sinha gave a power point presentation on *World Heritage Day* to a gathering of students.



*Life Member Prof. Raman Sinha giving a power point presentation*

He said a French national Buchaner had surveyed Bhagalpur heritage sites as far back as 1810-11, but ever since only superficial surveys have been conducted. The excavations currently undertaken on the borders of Bhagalpur-Munger hills of Dhol, Sultanganj Shahgarh, Sabaur and Gauradih areas have discovered a wealth of

cultural heritage that are now being excavated and will be a testimony to the rich culture of past times.

Convenor Dr. KD Prabhat and Vice President GEO Prabhash Chandra Gupta flagged off the *Heritage and Environmental Protection Rally* from the TNB Collegiate School Gate, Sarai Chowk to MS College. Students of several schools – St. Paul School, Lotus Public School, Swami Vivekanand Public School and DPS Bhagalpur participated in the rally carrying placards with heritage protection messages.

Convenor Dr. Prabhat launched the second part of the programme with the lighting of a lamp at the Seminar on *Heritage and Environmental Protection*. Also present were Additional INTACH Co-Convenor cum Secretary GEO Dr. Wibhu Kumar Roy; Principal of Lotus Public School Raj Kishore Jha; and Dr. Faroque Ali who heads the Zoology Dept. at TNB College. The large gathering was thronged by NCC, NSS, Scouts and Guides along



Arvind Sinha Rai of Archaeology Dept. of Bihar Govt.

with several school students and teachers, and social activists who had earlier participated in the rally.

Convenor Dr. Prabhat in his presidential address highlighted irresponsible behavior towards Earth, Space, Sky and Sea by Man that has given rise to environmental problems we are facing today. He mentioned the non-existent Saraswati River and the threat to the future of the Ganga River, besides the clear and future danger to humanity with diminishing water sources. Co-Convenor Dr. Roy stressed on the co-relation between Earth-Environment-Heritage. The students of several colleges also shared their views. NSS Programme Officer Dr.



Welcome song by the students of St. Paul School

Balbir Kumar Singh gave the vote of thanks.

World Heritage Day was celebrated earlier on 18<sup>th</sup> April at St. Paul's School with Dr. Basil Quadros addressing the students. The Chief Speaker was Professor Raman Sinha from the History Department of SM College.

### VIKRAMSHILA

Neither a rundown railway station nor the over-crowded lanes of Bhagalpur give a hint of the internationally acclaimed university *Vikramshila Mahavihar* that once upon a time existed 40 kms away. It got its name according to Tibetan scholar Taranath as a *yaksha* called *Vikramshil* lies buried here. It was founded by Dharamapala, ruler of the Pala dynasty of Bengal, to become one of the three best temples of education along with *Nalanda* and *Takshila* educational institutions. Spread over 100 acres, there was constant exchange of students and scholars between *Vikramshila* and *Nalanda* till it was destroyed by Muslim invaders and abandoned to remain hidden for centuries. It was discovered by Lakshmikant Mishra when he found a mound at Anitichak village, and debris collected was sent to the Patna University. Two major projects undertaken by ASI between 1969-1982 intermittently discovered a huge square monastery with cruciform stupa, a library, and a plethora of Hindu and Buddhist temple sculptures that were unearthed. A trip to *Vikramshila* would be incomplete without a visit to the Archaeological Museum set up in 2004 with its priceless religious statues and figurines, arrowheads, utensils, inscriptions, etc. to see and ruminate over a glorious past forgotten by the residents of Bhagalpur.



### Patna

Convenor JK Lall organized *World Heritage Day* on 14<sup>th</sup> April at Shoshit Samadhan Kendra in Anand where 450 students from extremely backward strata of society are receiving education in the English medium. He gave an exhaustive account of the development of Patna city from as far back as 1650 BC, and dwelt on its geographical configurations and the history of different ruling dynasties including Ajatshatru, Ashoka, Chandragupta Maurya and

Sher Shah Suri. The event was graphically reported in a local daily as "*Heritage nurture lessons for State*".

Students were told about the history of various monuments of the city and their historical significance, and about the *Raj Bhawan* built in Renaissance style. Patna Museum is also a storehouse of Bihar history dating from 1916. Director *KP Jaiswal Research Institute* Vijay Kumar Chaudhary, Patna in his lecture highlighted the potential of heritage sites as tourist destinations. Bihar State has



*Raj Bhavan, Patna*



*Museum at Patna*

countless gems like Golghar and Nalanda, but many other sites still lie buried underground. Director KP Jaiswal and his colleague Dr. Vijay Kumar dwelt on historic changes and geographic configurations as well as key developments under different dynasties who ruled the land including Ajatshatru, Ashoka, Chandragupta Mauraya and Sher Shah Suri. Bihar Convenor Prem Sharan briefly described INTACH work, and about the new Chapters inaugurated at Bhagalpur, Vaishali and Darbhanga. Co-Convenor DK Baxi administered the INTACH oath to the students to protect their heritage. Patna Executive Committee Member gave the vote of thanks.

## CHANDIGARH

The Chapter organized a seminar on *Urban Issues and Preservation of Heritage* in association with a NGO *Survichar*. Former Army Chief General VP Malik was invited as the Chief Guest. The Strawberry High School also participated in this INTACH event structured to make children active and aware participants in environmental issues.



*Seminar on Urban Issues*



## DELHI

Conservation Projects undertaken at the President's Estate and *Rashtrapati Bhavan* have been widely covered in the earlier issues of *Virasat*. Equally prestigious is the restoration undertaken to consolidate the conservation work on St. James Church. It is the oldest church of Delhi, and a fine example of Colonial classical architecture with precise Revival Renaissance Architecture style of the early 19th century. Delhi Chapter prepared a Detailed Project Report and started conservation to strengthen and consolidate the foundation of the Church. Presently the first phase of the work is ongoing at site and will be completed by June end.



*St. James Church, Kashmir Gate*



### *Awareness Campaign : Heritage Walks*

Delhi Chapter has been organising and conducting heritage walks regularly. Last quarter for example there was a two part Heritage Walk conducted at *Northern Ridge* and at *Kashmere Gate* area.



*At Northern Ridge and Kashmere Gate*



This quarter two more special walk were conducted with enthusiastic participants by Dr. Swapna Liddle at St. James Church in morning, and at Mehrauli in the evening



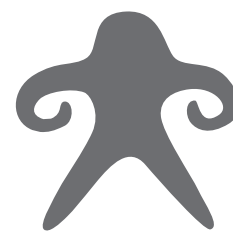
*With Convenor Swapna Liddle*



*With historian Rana Safvi*

with historian and writer Ms. Rana Safvi.

INTACH Life Member Neel Kumar Dogra took participants on a visit to the National Museum on 21<sup>st</sup> May. The focus was on the Harappan Civilization. It was a great learning experience and much appreciated by the participants.



*Origin of INTACH Logo*



*At National Museum*

The participants took particular interest in the *Museum of Everyday Art*, *Museum of Indian Terracotta* and *Museum of Indian Textiles* conducted by a professional guide.

A visit to *Kiran Nadar Museum of Art* was also organized on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. The current exhibition '*Stretched Terrains*:'



*Walk through Kiran Nadar Museum of Art*



*A String of Exhibition* is based on the work of famous contemporary artists Hussain, Souza and Raza; and a pictorial exhibition of *Post-Independence Architecture of Delhi* clicked by Madan Mahatta.

### **Cycle Tours**

Cycle Tours is a relatively new initiative of the Delhi Chapter as a part of its *Eco-Friendly Initiative* introduced in April to Mehrauli and New Delhi area.



*Cycle Tour at New Delhi*

### **HALL OF NATIONS, PRAGATI MAIDAN**

For decades the *Hall of Nations* and *Hall of Industries* on the grounds of Pragati Maidan were associated with innumerable exhibitions flocked by Delhites, with participation of many other nations exhibiting their products. They were built by architect Raj Rewal and engineer Mahendra Raj in 1972 to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> year of India's Independence and hosted the *Asia 72 Trade Fair*. Since then the Halls became familiar destinations for the International Trade Fairs and the annual International Book Fair held regularly – both with a record number of daily visitors. In fact these exhibitions were the major highlights of the winter months.



The two Halls have been demolished to make way for a proposed 'world class' Convention Centre at the cost of Rs.2,254 crore – much to the regret of many heritage lovers of the city who felt that "*Delhi lost a part of its identity*" when they were razed to the ground in the 70<sup>th</sup> year of Independence. Hopefully this has not set a precedent for bulldozing other contemporary heritage? When something similar happened in 1962 to the old Pennsylvania Station in USA, prominent citizens like former first lady Eleanor Roosevelt and writer Norman Mailer fought vigorously against the move though they did not succeed, but later the Grand Central terminus was saved when the matter went all the way to the US Supreme Court.

As one commentator wrote "*Had the Mughals demolished Turkish structures or the British razed Shahjahanabad, Delhi we would have none of its famed layers of built history to flaunt today*". Perhaps it is time to put greater value on past heritage and save what is left and is unique to the capital city. For example the *Guggenheim Museum* in New York is only 31 years old but it is already a designated landmark of the city.

### **RESTORING OLD DELHI**

Trams are set to return to the Walled City. They were first introduced in 1908 plying between the Red Fort and Fatehpuri Mosque but stopped in 1960 due to congestion. Delhi Government proposes to re-start a tramline connecting *Red Fort, Jama Masjid, Digamber Jain Mandir, Gurudwara Sheesh Ganj, Old Delhi Railway Station* and *New Delhi Railway Station* – along with several developmental projects under the *Shahjahan Redevelopment Corporation* (SRC). It will be a great cultural heritage challenge given the present state of these most congested areas of the city. MLA Alka Lamba is on the board of SRC and hopes to make this a model for people to enjoy the cultural and historical legacy of yesteryears.



## LAL DARWAZA

Another proposed project that has actually taken off is the restoration of *Lal Darwaza* that partly collapsed due to the heavy rains of 2012. The delay of 5 years has resulted in more cracks on the façade. Located on Mathura Road opposite *Purana Qila*, it was built by Sher Shah who conquered Delhi after defeating Humayun in 1540. Let us hope nothing more collapses this monsoon.



## DHARAMPURA HAVELI – REMARKABLE RESTORATION STORY

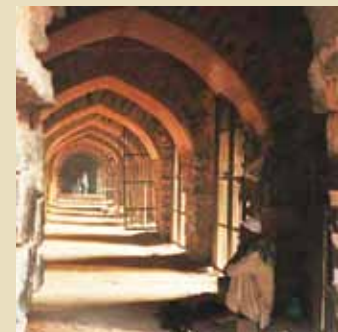


The restoration of a 140 year old three-storeyed *Dharampura Haveli* in Chandni Chowk however gives much hope. It proves that past splendours need not become footnotes of history. Spearheaded by MP Vijay Goel, President of *Heritage India Foundation* and his son Siddhant, the work was executed by architect Kapil Agarwal. It was no mean task as it had multiple owners and was inhabited by 20 families! That is another story. However it has set an example for many others that are crumbling away. The beauty of it is that everything has been restored from a *chhajja*, balcony and arches to *tehkhanas* without changing the basic structure. It will open to the public not for just viewing but as a performance space, with a museum, library, viewing gallery from where most of *Chandni Chowk* would be visible, and a heritage centre will be added where students can learn about conservation.

## CALL OF THE DJINNS

Delhi has all the scope to launch a *Tour of Haunted Monuments*—with a little imagination, preceded by some restoration work of course. In the last 100 years, more than thousand monuments have disappeared from those mentioned in two books published during mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to 1916 when Maulvi Zafar Hasan authored a comprehensive 3000 buildings and remains *Monuments of Delhi*. Some heritage pieces have even moved like Nicholson statue to Coronation Park. Misrepresented ones have been properly identified like *Kos Minar* shown as *Babarpur-Bazipur* (now Kaka Nagar) was actually located inside what is now Delhi Zoo. Or the *Lal Bangla* at Babarpur (Kaka Nagar) was actually located inside Delhi Golf Club.

The decision of the Delhi Government to promote historical sites with a reputation of being haunted is to be welcomed. Some of the prime locations could be the *Ferozeshah Kotla* and the *Jamali Kamali* mosque, presumed to be abodes of polyglot djinns where shrieking souls exercise vocal chords past midnight? Or the story of a headless horseman who is believed to come tearing down towards Daryaganj, where he was shot by hired assassins? Or the ghosts who are supposed to frequent *Khooni Darwaza* or the women in white who passes through walls on moonlit nights near the old district jail. Visitors may not actually encounter them, but they make fascinating tales for visitors. Delhi based historian Sohail Hashmi writes that there are a number of such haunted structures in the ruins of the seven Delhis and there are haunted homes and streets like *Gali Bhoot Waali Nangloior*, the *Chor Minar* or the ruins of *Siri*. The potential of the 'tourism of fear' is immense, he says.



### **MONKEY BUSINESS**

Till 1978, India was the world's largest exporter of monkeys for bio-medical research – till the ban was imposed to protect our 'hanumans'. Thanks to an old ritual of feeding monkeys on Tuesdays and Saturdays they flourished. These monkeys know nothing about jungle craft, so dumping city bred monkeys into forests is only a politically correct way of killing them without blood on our hands. Today they often invade residential colonies and some monkey bites are reported. Occasionally *langurs* are paraded by their keepers to frighten them away, but they return to their 'home area' sooner or later. Civic authorities randomly pick up these highly social animals and break up closely knit family groups that results in estranged mothers, aggressive fathers or troubled adolescents who can get nasty in their disoriented grief. Is sterilization the only effective method? The Court suggested that Forest Department should feed monkeys in sanctuaries with the food offered at temples and create a sanctuary with a lot of fruit bearing trees. This kind of *monkey-rakshaks* roaming the streets is a good idea for a change.

## **GUJARAT**

### **Jamnagar**

#### **CONDOLENCES**

INTACH has lost another of its stalwarts Life Member Shri Umesh Kumar Bahri who passed away in the first week of May. He was actively associated with the Chapter for nearly a decade. We send our condolences to his bereaved family for comfort and forbearance at this time of grief, with our good wishes for their future well being.

#### **KHIRSARA OF HARAPPAN ERA, GUJARAT**

Khirsara was identified as a major industrial hub dating to the latter Harappan period that flourished for 400 years from 2565-2235 BC. Four excavations carried out since 2011 yielded exciting results like 26 disc shaped beads, micro beads and rings all made in solid gold and steatite. Khirsara seems to have been a mature Harappan site with systematic town planning, factory complex, habitation annexes, warehouses and drainage system, and massive double fortification walls. The citadel complex for the ruling elite had verandas, interconnected rooms, floors paved with multi-coloured bricks and a rock-cut well. All structures in the city were built of sandstone blocks set in mud mortar. Excavations have yielded several seals in different shapes, carvings of unicorn and hump-less bulls, pottery and scripts.

#### **BUILT WITH LOVE**

The 1555 *Adalji Vav* in this obscure village is a piece of architectural brilliance, with walls inscribed with stories in Sanskrit and Pali. The 5 storey vav with octangular landings, exquisite niches and strategically placed pillars is thus naturally air conditioned. Legend has it that Rani Roopba commissioned it but in the meantime her husband was vanquished by Muslim ruler Mohammed Begda. He was so enamoured by her beauty that he proposed to her. She played for time by accepting on condition that he must first complete construction of the vav as a proof of his devotion. It took many years, but when it was completed the proposal was renewed. The dejected queen still in mourning chose the same vav for her watery grave next day.



The combination of Hindu and Muslim architecture reveals the influence of the earlier Solanki rulers. The vav is a superb example of a water conservation structure, and of public spiritedness that served both utilitarian needs of water and a restful retreat for travellers of all communities.



## HARYANA

### Ambala

The Chapter celebrated *World Heritage Day*, 18th April with much fanfare and presence of over a hundred children with their teachers from 16 schools. Lt. Gen. Ranjit Singh (retd.) was the Chief Guest, while former Principal of SD College Dr. Deshbandhu and erstwhile



Convenor Brig. GS Lamba (retd.) attended the event. A number of INTACH Members took part in the *Heritage Awareness Rally* personally led by Chapter Convenor Col. RD Singh. They raised slogans like *Let's Make Ambala a Heritage Tourist Spot; Raja ka Talab, aur Rani ke Talab Me Hamesha Pani Rakho, aur Boating Shuru Karo; Navrang Sarovar ko Bachaoh; British Cemetery is our Heritage Site – Let's Maintain It*, etc. Passers-by were greatly impressed by the enthusiasm of the children and their cameras were clicking all the time. Presumably such reports will get back to the local administration to good effect.

A teacher of the Army School Ambala Cantt. Madhu Singh also conducted a heritage walk to the heritage site of *Holy Redeemer Church*. She made it a fun trip for children with recitals, prizes and a talk on heritage. A class 8 student Kavita even recited an inspiring poem on women's empowerment. The way to go!

### Faridabad

Convenor Anand Mehta organized a *Young Heritage Declamation* on 6<sup>th</sup> April at Aggarwal College, Ballabgarh.



35 Young INTACH Members participated, speaking in Hindi and English mostly on the Heritage Monuments of their city.

### Gurugram

The Chapter organized the Annual Heritage Quiz 2017 for Corporates with 40 honchos participating at the Hotel Hyatt Place on 12<sup>th</sup> May for a third time. This indeed is a new feature as such Quiz have to date been organized only for youth. Chairman INTACH Major Gen. LK Gupta made it a point to attend this event.

Photographer Aditya Arya has collected more than 700 cameras over a period of 40 years that will soon find a place in *The Museo Camera* coming up in Chakkarpur Village, Gurugram. His treasures include cameras of various sizes manufactured between 1880 to 1990 with original patent, and some are donated. He travelled a lot to understand how the camera evolved.



Commissioner MCG Vivek Kalia says "*The museum will showcase cameras picked by Aditya Arya. We will also conduct photography classes, weekly exhibitions and competitions to promote photographic art among youth*". It might well become the largest museum of its kind with a photograph gallery, dark room and workshop areas as planned.

## HIMACHAL PRADESH

### *Kangra*

Members Vaibhav Aggarwal and Vivek Sharma attended the *Capacity Building Workshop* from 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> April at Central Office. This learning exercise enhanced their understanding of listing, documentation and about various heritage conservation activities that can be taken up by their Chapter. Convenor LN Aggarwal proposes



*Dir. Chapters Rahul Pathak distributing certificates*

to deploy them to create heritage consciousness among students and the general public through a series of workshops and seminars held locally.

### *Mandi*

A unique initiative of the Chapter was the poetry recital *Maniali* held on 11<sup>th</sup> April, in collaboration with the local organisation *Mere Apne* that is engaged in preserving dialects. Convenor Naresh Malhotra writes that as many as fifteen poets who are still writing in the endangered local dialect that has been a part of local culture for hundreds of years, participated. The crowded audience was greatly enthused and appreciative of the recitation in *Manddiali* dialect. It was a concerted effort to promote oral traditions of the region.

The Chapter celebrated *World Heritage Day* on 18<sup>th</sup> April at Govt. Senior Secondary School for Boys, apprising students from 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> Standard on heritage properties and places around Mandi, and essential steps needed to preserve them.



*World Environment Day* on 5<sup>th</sup> June was marked with a rally for Class 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> standard students. They carried placards proclaiming slogans on environment as they wended their way through prominent places of the city. A declamation contest, painting and slogan writing competition on the protection of environment were also organized on that day.



On 13<sup>th</sup> June the *Seminar on Food Practices of Mandi - Historic and Ayurvedic Perspective* was held in collaboration with the *Regional Ayurvedic Research Institute*, Ministry of Ayush presided by President of Municipal Corporation Neelam Sharma. Seven of their scientists presented papers on different aspects of traditional medicine, also co-relating values of traditional foods to present eating habits, the harmful effects of unhealthy cooking methods, adulteration, etc. Many senior citizens and prominent persons attended.

## JAMMU & KASHMIR

### *Jammu*

PWD Minister (R&B) Naeem Akhtar chaired a Meeting held on the possibilities of developing the space under



the *Jehangir Chowk-Rambagh* flyover that is under construction. J&K Convenor Saleem Baig informs the final beautification plan will be in harmony with local architecture and the needs of the community. INTACH Chapter was invited to give technical inputs for adding social, commercial and aesthetics to the space under the flyover. It made a detailed presentation drawing inspiration from various flyovers in India and Mexico, and how space could be utilized without hindering traffic flow.

The Chapter also completed a detailed listing of natural heritage, with a presentation on natural and built heritage sites of Jindrah Village, Jammu. It covered surroundings that are of aesthetic, spiritual and ecological value. It touched on traditional activities, practices and languages. It traced the cultural identity of communities and the connecting links with social values, beliefs and religion that can foster civic responsibility and good citizenship. Utilising revitalized heritage places also boosts local economies through tourism. The in-depth understanding of such factors contributes to everyone's quality of life.

The Chapter held a seminar on *Heritage of Jammu and Kashmir : Challenges and Prospect* at the Gandhi Memorial Science College at Jammu. Principal Dr. Ajeet welcomed the gathering attended by prominent academicians, researchers and conservationists. Convenor Salim Beg

gave the keynote address. Jammu Convenor SM Sahni and eminent researcher and scholar Prof. BL Bhardwaj also addressed the gathering. Convenor of UGC Heritage Project Dr. CK Khajuria dwelled on the basic theme of the seminar, the challenges and prospects for the future. Papers on diverse facets of heritage, culture, religion and literary legacy were presented by academicians in the ensuing technical sessions chaired by Prof. RP Sharma from the University of Jammu and former DDG, GSI Sewa Das. The venue was the erstwhile Prince of Wales College, the first institution of higher education set up in the State in 1905, and a significant heritage that is also in need of conservation.

*Jammu Special* features in the latest magazine brought out by the J&K Chapter. It has detailed coverage on all the events held by the Jammu Chapter with extensive photographic coverage.



Jammu Convenor SM Sahni along with In-charge *Dogra Art Museum* Kirpal Singh who is also a Life Member of INTACH, and Members of *Mubarak Mandi Jammu Heritage Society* conducted the Heritage Walk for 120 delegates of International Conference titled *Theory of Architectural Design : Global Practices Amid Local Milieu* organized by Department of Architecture & Landscape Design, Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra on 15<sup>th</sup> April at *Mubarak Mandi Complex*, Jammu. The delegates were explained the history of Dogra Rulers, their contributions in creating infrastructure that is the heritage of present times. They visited the *Dogra Art Museum* where the heritage artefacts are displayed, and subsequently toured Mahals/Palaces in the *Mubarak Mandi Complex* identifying characteristics of local built heritage.

**Bagalkot**

A special lecture and heritage walk was held at Ahihole, the historical capital of the Chalukyas of Badami who ruled during 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> centuries. Ahihole has been described as the 'baby cart' of Indian architecture for the magnificent architecture that adorn 120 temples in and around Ahihole. The Chief Guest cum tour guide was History Professor Parushram Godi who elaborated on many details about the history and architecture of the temples in the city. He said the previous name of Ahihole was *Aryapura* indicating many scholars resided here. Another special invitee Vijayarao Kulkarni spoke on its ancient history, the importance of monuments in the context of the past as well as their conservation for the future.



A Heritage Walk was conducted for History PG students of SRN Arts and MBS Commerce colleges during which villagers also gathered information about conserving monuments. Convenor Dr. DG Kulkarni, Co-Convenor Prof. MF Kuri and INTACH Chapter Members accompanied the students and villagers on this Heritage Walk.

**VIJAYNATH SHENOY**

The well known Vijaynath ShenoY passed away in March this year. He was a heritage conservationist par excellence, famous for conceptualising and setting up of the *Hasta Shilpa* in Manipal.

The *India Post* will be bringing out a limited edition of a special postal cover on him in a rare branding exercise with a private party. The limited number of such special commemorative covers and stamps cancellation cards have philatelic value according to the All India Philatelic Bureau.

It is an apt choice as Addl. Postal Suptd. Jayram Shetty says the theme for *World Heritage Day 2017* is *Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism*. The cover has his image and four structures of the heritage village set up by him, one of his best known projects in Karnataka. INTACH Knowledge Centre Consultant TS Randhawa commented on the amazing work of restoration of old traditional houses in this *Hasta Shilpa*.

**Belagavi**

The Chapter marked *International Museum Day* on 18<sup>th</sup> May. This year's theme is *Museums and Contested Histories: Saying the Unspeakable in Museums*. Chapter Members visited the Geology Museum at Govindram Seksaria Science College which has one of the oldest department on the subject. It has been active in Coastal research of Uttara Kannada and Southern Maharashtra coast. Dr. Pramod T Hanamgond undertook major research projects funded by DST, UGC and MoES, with his articles in national and international publications. Its alumni are now working all over India. It is particularly active in coastal research of Uttara Kannada and Southern Maharashtra Coast undertaken by Dr. Pramod T Hanamgond through major research projects.

The Geological Museum boasts of a vast collection of 1500 specimen of minerals, metamorphic rocks, fossil specimen and models of various geological processes, many collected by staff and students on study tours. It also has a collection of rock samples from Antarctica. The Department has a collection of beautiful Zeolites, rare and expensive minerals, corals, metamorphic rocks and fossils,

some of which were donated by a geology promoter MF Makki, Pune.



The Museum has been renamed after Bharat Ratna *Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Geology Museum* during its Golden Jubilee celebrations.

### **Bengaluru**

The Chapter marked *World Heritage Day* on 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April with an exhibition, featuring unique architecture, history and culture of areas like the *Cantonment, Fraser Town, Cooke Town* and *Richards Town*. It was based on the Chapter's comprehensive listing of built heritage in these neighbourhoods, featuring both old and new photographs, and a Memory Wall. It had bilingual texts giving interesting details. A parallel series of events comprised story telling sessions, recipe collecting, heritage walks, photography and mapping workshops. This amazing range of activities culminated with a *Music in the Park*, with two singers belting out English and Hindi songs.

A short course on archaeology was also started in April in collaboration with the *National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)* to be held every Saturday for 12 weeks, and conducted by one of NIAS Professor of Archaeology.

In May a heritage walk was organised at the *SL Bhatia Museum of History of Science* at St. John's Medical College, led by Prof. Mario Vaz, Director of the Museum and Professor of Physiology. It aptly marked *International*



*Museum Day*, at this is a one of its kind museum in India.

Chapter Members have attended several meetings with Government officials, especially with the State Tourism Department. A Detailed Project report on the *Jayalakshmi Vilas Mansion* in the University of Mysore and on the second phase of *Jnanipath* award winner Shivram Karanth's house in Puttur near Mangaluru, are under preparation.

### **Dharwad**

The musical programme being held at Varanasi in collaboration by both Chapters has been a great success, with performances held for an appreciative audience. Varanasi now proposes to continue with such programmes thanks to the enthusiasm and support of Convenor NP Bhat.

## CHALUKYA UTSAV

The *Chalukya Utsav 2007* held last quarter unfolded divine stories and statues of Badami, Aihole and Pattadakal, sculpted with only a mallet and a chisel by master craftsmen of yore. The significance of these 6<sup>th</sup> century complexes is a strong fusion between emergent Nagara (northern) and Dravidian (southern) styles built in red sandstone. Pattadakal is a World Heritage Site, with 10 major temples representing early Chalukian architecture. One unique carving in Pattadakal is designed to look like an elephant from one side and a buffalo from the other side. It has 10 major temples the largest being the *Virupaksha Temple*. In Badami one can see ancient caves hewn out of sand stone atop a flight of steps. The ochre coloured shrines of Aihole give one a feeling of euphoria after travelling through rocky hills and valleys beyond the Malaprabha River.

The Chalukya period is reknown for the finest temple carvings to be seen in India today. From generation to generation they seem to have been ruled by devoted rulers whose energies seem to be enshrined in images of dynamic beauty and communication with their Gods. There are many more such temples and shrines to be explored.

The ASI Dharwad is in charge of beautifying the monuments in all these heritage places, and hopefully they will keep receiving all due attention.

## Kerala

On *World Environment Day*, Convenor MP Surendran and Co-Convenors Prem Manasvi and Vinod Kumar joined hands with Chapter Members to remind people that it is the collective responsibility of all citizens to respect Art.15 A of the Constitution to protect natural environment. Essentially it is a struggle against 'unsustainable' development. The severe draught of last year was an eye opener for the people as well, when water had to be brought by the railways from Aluva to meet their daily needs. The well was identified as an important part of the history of the railway station during a heritage walk conducted by INTACH last year. The Minister for Agriculture Sunil Kumar allocated Rs.21 lakhs for its conservation. On 6<sup>th</sup> June, *World Environment Day 2017*

the Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu was invited to visit this rejuvenated old colonial well. He offered flowers as a mark of respect for the rebirth of this 115 year old well and his appreciation.



Old colonial well rejuvenated



## MADHYA PRADESH

### Burhanpur



*Convenor Hoshang Havaladar with Members*

The Chapter held a two-day *Guide Training Programme* on 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> April at Hotel Ambar & Holiday Resort. The faculty and representatives of many schools and colleges participated in guiding the students on the Heritage Walk accompanied by some citizens.



*Guiding training session*

The *Burhanpur Simhawlokan & Shodh Sangoshti* (symposium) was held under the guidance of the MP



*Burhanpur Simhawlokan & Shodh Sangoshti*

*Mahila evam Bal Vikas* Minister Archana Chitnis on 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> April at Hotel Utsav. The District Collector Deepak Singh and other distinguished guests were present. A *Heritage Exhibition* put up by Chapter Members was held at the location. Dr. Major MK Gupta and Convenor Hoshang Havaladar addressed the gathering.

### Datia



*On World Environment Day*

The Chapter celebrated *World Environment Day*. It proposes to undertake the listing of all trees that are over a 100 years old.

Convenor Vinod Mishra organised the *World Heritage Day* programme on the theme *Clean Heritage – Clean India* at the Chattri Campus. BJP District-in-Charge Vikram Singh Bundela addressed the audience asking them to join him in taking an oath to make sustained efforts to conserve heritage. Journalist Jagat Sharma was among the audience along with INTACH Members, as well as special invitees Rajendra Patwa, journalist Dr. Anurag Soni Goswami, Dr. Puran Chandra Sharma, and Omprakash Shrivastav. With broom in hand they swept the *Maharaja Parchhat Tomb* and collected the garbage for disposal with the help of the Municipal Corporation. It was coordinated by Sanjay Rawat and his team from the Sports Department.

There are some paintings of Datiya Kalam at the Tomb that the guests appreciated seeing in clean premises. Media

person Rajendra Patwah who regularly features in *Samay-Datiya ki Dharohar* on local TV channel was thanked for his sustained coverage of heritage related matters. The event received wide media coverage. It concluded with a lunch and distribution of *Virasat* to the special guests.

### Dhar

Convenor Deependra Sharma held a research discussion on *Culture in Coins* made from gold, silver, copper to metal coins of our times. It was chaired by a member of the local royal family Shriman Karan Singh Pawar and the *Vikram Gyan Temple Trust*. Convenor Sharma is a coin expert and historian. He explained the history of various coins on display, and pointed out that gold coins originated from India, and were called *Dinar*. Emperor Sher Shah Suri in the 15<sup>th</sup> century renamed *Dinar* as *Rupa* from which the word *Rupee* seems to have been coined.



Among the participants were coin collectors, youth students and INTACH Members at the event. Through these coins it can be gauged that an old relationship existed between Dhar and Chandrapur. Chandrapur Convenor, Ashok Singh Thakur is also a well known expert on coins who conducted the discussions and presented his own collection of old Dhar and Parmar coins.

The first researched film on *Simbasth Festival* was produced jointly by the Chapter and ICH Division.



Screening of *Jayatu Simbastha*



### Khandwa

Convenor Madhuri Sharma informs that the Chapter marked *World Museum Day* with a visit to the *Khandwa Museum* along with Chapter Members. Students of Urdu



Higher Secondary School also joined the group on this visit.

### Sarguja

The Chapter celebrated *World Earth Day* on 22<sup>nd</sup> April with an exhibition of painting by children. Their drawings were on themes inspired by Central and District



Government schemes like water and environmental conservation. Another theme was *Save Girl Child* so the message *beti bachao, beti padao* seems to have gathered strength.

One of the largest 21,147 sq. ft. paintings that figured in the *Guinness Book of Records* was exhibited on the occasion.



*Celebrating World Earth Day on 22<sup>nd</sup> April...*



*... with many a budding artists*

### **JHANSI FORT - RANI MAHAL**

Raja Bir Singhji Deo of Bundelkhand dynasty constructed the Fort at Jhansi. The *Sher Darwaza* is a huge gate at its entrance. *Kadak Bijli*, a giant canon was placed at this gate, and when fired it is said to sound like the roar of lions.

Later the *Panch Mahal* was the royal residence of Raja Gangadhar Rao and Rani ki Jansi, and the Raja also built the *Ganesh* and *Shiv Mandirs* exclusively for members of his royal family. *Rani Mahal*, built in memory of the valiant Rani Lakshmbai of Jhansi, is now a museum open to the public. The Jhansi Fort stands mute witness to the bravery of Lakshmbai.

Who could have imagined that a young girl, daughter of a minor official Moropant Tambe, under the care of Peshwa Baji, later trained herself in martial arts and horse riding after marrying the widower Raja Gangadjar Rao and proudly ruled Jhansi after his demise. Before her husband died they adopted a child as legal heir to ensure the British would not annex their State which was blatantly violated.

She became one of the historic figures of India's first war of independence referred to as the *1857 Mutiny*. But *Haldi Ghat* where she died valiantly in battle against the British remains an everlasting memory to her courage and a historic landmark of women's empowerment.



## **MAHARASHTRA**

### ***Aurangabad***

Convenor Ajai Kulkarni recalls "*history lovers had fought for the formation of the Aurangabad Heritage Committee, for which we had knocked the doors of the Court*". The Committee never met for a long time, and the historic monuments and structures were left to their appalling fate. In contrast other heritage counterparts in historic cities like Pune held regular meetings and succeeded in conserving their glorious past.

Aurangabad Panel Members have now finally conducted a survey of the *Kile Ark* to decide on future course of

action by the local civic body. They must inspect the fortification wall of *Himayat Bagh*, sections of *Neber-e-Ambri* and *Neber-e-Panchakki*, *Kala Chabutara*, *Damdi Mahal*, *Fazil Pura Bridge*, *Dargah Bridge* and *Khas Gate* that have been damaged allegedly in a short spell of past one year. As one of the Heritage Panel Members Advocate Rupa Dakshini reminded her colleagues "*it is an official body empowered to protect the local heritage and should become more vocal for the cause for which it has been formed*". Hopefully the Committee will now strive to keep the historical identity of the city and its unique diversity of architectural typography dating back to 2<sup>nd</sup> Century AD intact, as hoped by INTACH Convenor.

Convenor Ajay Kulkarni sent a note on HCCD Director Bindu Manchanda's visit to Aurangabad to assess the state of Kagazipura art of paper making, and an effort will be jointly made to restore and bring them onto the regular tourist itinerary.

The Chapter Members and ASI team visited the World Heritage Sites of *Ellora* and *Daulatabad*, and an effort will be jointly made to restore and bring them onto the regular tourist itinerary.

On *World Heritage Day* a candle light march was held to protest against demolition of heritage structures like the *Damadi Mahal*, a unique blend of Rajasthan's Bundela and medieval Mughal style architecture built by Aiwaz Khan. There are others like *Kila-e-Arq*, *Gulshan Mahal*, *Baradari* (Tehsil office), *Gulshan Mahal* (Divisional Commissioner's house) that need to be protected against assault by development activities. INTACH has listed 144 monuments and hopes the Heritage Committee will not give its mandatory assent to demolition of such structures. They have been the pride of the city despite their negligence to date. The event covered by the Press will hopefully pressurize the bureaucracy to take necessary action at the earliest.

### DAMADI MAHAL

*Damadi Mahal*, a marvel of yester times, is a unique blend of Rajasthani Bundela and Medieval Mughal style architecture built by Aiwaz Khan. It was demolished by the AMC and was turned into the *Tehsil* office of the city. The core of Aurangabad heritage city and places like *Kila-e-Arq* (now Government College), *Gulshan Mahal* (now Commissioner's Residence) have lost their heritage value. The place was once known as *Fajilpura* literally meaning a precinct where literates and intellectuals lived. Despite negligence many historical



structures still survive. The Aurangabad Municipal Corporation has set up a Conservation Committee as per the directives of the Urban Development Department to preserve its remaining architectural legacy. INTACH Aurangabad in association with history lovers and citizens joined a candle march to protest demolitions of listed monuments of the city.

## Mumbai

### Flora Fountain Restoration Project



*Flora before conservation* *The sculpture after cleaning of treatment covered with layers of paint and algae*

Mumbai Chapter is working on the repair and restoration of Flora Fountain. The ground trough is clad with marble and in situ upper trays are completed. The small marble chips inlay look like pearls when water spills over. Conservators from Delhi assisted in cleaning the layers of paint and deposition of algae that is being removed (See ICI Reports).

### Wellington Fountain Marble Plaques

The restoration of marble plaques at *Wellington Fountain* was completed and the Fountain was recently inaugurated. It featured in newspaper reports that were highly



Before

After

appreciative of the effort.

The Prime Minister nominated *Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus* (CST) to become one of the ten *Swachh Bharat* monuments. The Chapter has submitted the fabric report for the station and looks forward to working on the project.



*Chhatrapati Shivaji Station*

### ***International Museum Day - 18<sup>th</sup> May***

The Chapter celebrated *International Museum Day* by hosting a on-the-spot sketching competition. There were pencil sketches and water colours of Museum’s ceilings, David Sassoon’s precincts, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert’s statues. The winners will be judged by Mumbai Convenor Tasneem Mehta shortly.

### ***For the Member. By the Member***

The Chapter held the second edition of the newly



initiated “*For the Member, By the Member*” program where INTACH Members are invited to present topics related to heritage and share them with fellow Members. Members Ramchandran Venkatesh and Kamalpreet Singh were among the first to share their love for heritage through their presentations. The Chapter will be hosting this programme regularly to bring their Members together for talks and short films on heritage structures, traditions and news about areas in the city as seen through their eyes.

### **Outreach!**

Mumbai now has a *Instagram* account with 150 followers already. The *Facebook* page of INTACH Mumbai has 1800 followers.

### **HERITAGE WALKS AT MUMBAI**

#### ***Parivartak Walk, 28<sup>th</sup> May***

Siddharth from *Awestich* led an intangible heritage walk jointly with the Chapter identifying individuals who launched social movements and persons who changed the landscape of ‘Bombay’ of their times through their efforts. The participants learned about India’s first practicing woman doctor, about people who challenged several unhealthy social practices, or played a role in building modern Indian Society, or about western Influence on Indian Social Reform, and about people like an Indian lady shipping magnate from 1930-40s, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel’s lesser known brother, and other such personages who thought beyond their day and age.



The walkers passed by the *karmabhoomi* (workplaces) associated with the social reformers of 19th and 20th century Mumbai and related to Maharashtra's role in the Indian Renaissance. Members were also acquainted with some lesser known yet important social revolutionaries of their city in earlier times.



*Christ Church Heritage Walk, 22nd April*

19<sup>th</sup> century *Christ Church* was restored by architect Vikas Dilawari. The Chapter held a heritage walk to the Church conducted by the Architect himself, with people from various backgrounds taking a lively interest. They saw the restoration process through an architect's viewfinder. The reinforcement work done was explained as he took everyone around. The sagging roof had been a challenge for the conservation team.

*Ballard Estate* is one of most charming yet hidden treasure of Mumbai. It is today what it is because of the impetus that shipping and ports gave to developing Ballard Estate in the Port Trust area. It is associated with oldest and significant phases of Bombay city growth and overall port areas. The walk commenced from *Ballard Estate Bundar Gate* and explored the history of *Hamilton Studios*, *Scindia House*, *Grand Hotel* and the new age story of a restaurant which was once like a take-away truck.

The Chapter took INTACH Members out of their urban vicinity on a Sunday morning for a different heritage walk to the 112 *Kanheri Caves* conducted by Sandhya Merchant. The *Darbar Cave* was where once upon a time university lectures were held. Another cave used to be a Buddhist centre, which also had a designated place to wash clothes. Cave number 34 has a Buddha painting from 6th century AD, and Cave 41 boasts the only 11 headed Buddha in the whole of India. Cave number 89 had a number of intricate sculptures on its low ceiling. Cave number 90 had Japanese script, and there were more than five hundred Buddhas carving in Cave number 67, a place for meditation to mention a few caves.

### **ESPLANADE HOUSE, MUMBAI**

The 128 years old *Esplanade House* in Fort, Mumbai was originally the residence of an industry tycoon Jamsetji Tata. It retains its look as a charming Parisian big villa, set in a sprawling lime wall compound with a huge porch and decorated urns. Architect Vikas Dilwara was entrusted with the renovation work, and it received



international recognition with a UNESCO award. In the 1980s the Fort walls came down, and with the opening of the Suez Canal prosperous traders started investing their wealth in construction projects in Bombay like the *Rajabai Tower* by Premchand Roycahand, and libraries and synagogues by David Sassoon. *Esplanade House* followed with its prime location facing open spaces all around including the Oval and Cooperage in the south much of which has now been built up. Esplanade still stands tall with its stained glass windows, Parisian awnings and Chinese ivory and brass adorning its windows. Though some parts of this large so called 'villa' are under property disputes!

### **ESA TAG**

The Western Ghats, with 60,000 sq.km. of the green belt that runs across 6 States has been declared an *Ecologically Sensitive Area* (ESA). All quarrying, mining and polluting industries in the zone are henceforth prohibited in these areas. The Western Ghats are divided into natural (no development) and cultural landscapes (agriculture, plantations, etc.).



## Pune

*Heritage and Us*, an exhibition to connect people to their roots held 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> May at the Raja Ravi Verma Gallery, Shivajinagar, was inaugurated by PMC Commissioner Kunat Kumar. Supported by INTACH grant, the Chapter now proposes to take this exhibition to various locations in the city, reaching out to the maximum number of people with the conservation message. It will receive the full support of the Pune Municipal Corporation.

Chapter believes that unless people see value in preserving heritage as an essential part of their own identity – and not as an alien or forced concept – heritage will only receive limited appeal and acceptance. People have to be first convinced that conservation and development are two faces of the same coin, and are therefore an essential part of their own identity in a more or less faceless world.

The Chapter not only conducted lectures and workshops at the exhibition venue, but added traditional games sessions like *Unnfolding the Saripat*, *Kahi Goshti Punekaranchya* (stories on prominent Pune citizens), imprinting heritage on paper, sessions on sketching and painting – all of which were undoubtedly a very imaginative approach adopted by the Chapter to involve citizens. It received a good response from students, citizens and professionals alike. The Chapter now proposes to take the exhibition to other cities and extend its message to people all over Maharashtra. (*Next issue of Virasat will carry illustrated details of this remarkable Exhibition*)

The Pune Chapter launched a Heritage Club to involve youth in attending non-technical sessions on diverse aspects of heritage at meetings held fortnightly. The Raja Dinkar Kelkar Museum Walk on 27<sup>th</sup> May conducted by Chetan Sahasrabudhe lived up to its expectations '*Heritage Appreciation – Aesthetics in Everyday Life*'. This Museum is a reminder of a way of life gone by that was richer, much more complete, and nudges us about the importance of design in our society.

The previous month there was an Interactive Talk *Panipat 1761 – An Authentic Account* by Dr. Uday Kulkarni hosted by Sardar Raste family. This quarter talks were on the traditional *Ganjifa* art from Sawantwadi on 15<sup>th</sup> April and

another on 13<sup>th</sup> June conducted by artist Raju Sutar.

## Solapur

The daily *Divya Marathi* published a special edition *Unseen Solapur* on its Foundation Day, 1<sup>st</sup> April. INTACH Members Nitin Anvekar and Prof. Narendra Katikar contributed articles on heritage structures and precincts in and around Solapur.



*Walks & Talks at heritage sites*



The Chapter organized a Fort Walk for the students of Rwandan Engineering College conducted by Members Nitin Anvekar and Prof. Narendra Katikar. Another walk was conducted as an introduction to *Shete Wada* with its owner. The group visited the *Bhadange Rukmini Vitthal Mandir* that has the *Adarsh Mahavidyalay* on its first floor on 18<sup>th</sup> April *World Heritage Day*. Such temples are like community centres with *kirtans* held during festivals.

## Wai – Panchgani

Convenor Vanita Jadhav thanks head of ICI Lucknow Mamta Mishra for organizing the demonstration of old manuscripts at the Tilak Library, Wai at short notice during Chairman's visit to the Chapter. Condition photograph of 150 books and about 600 manuscripts were



completed by ICI team of Trivedi and Singh who were felicitated after their presentation made to Members and to the Library staff. An INTACH grant was requested for their conservation.

## NAGALAND

Convenor Padmashree Sentila Yanger, accompanied by her husband Ao Chuba Yanger and Co-Convenor TL Merry who did the photography, went on a week-long field trip to Meluri. They documented Pochury traditions and customs, and did a cultural mapping of the Meluri area. District Art and Cultural Officer Nguvisie Pochury was the team guide and Tiange Konyak undertook the driving through vast hilly/mountainous tracts that have considerable tourism potential given their friendly inhabitants. Interaction with them was one of the



highlights of the tour, as were the meetings with hospitable village chiefs, and Church leaders. The area is also rich in minerals. The Documentation of Meluri is now underway.

## ODISHA

### Balasore

The meeting on *World Heritage Day* 18<sup>th</sup> April was presided by Convenor Himanshu Das at the Kalakhshetra, Balasore Arts & Crafts College. Members Bhabagarhi Mohanty and Ashish Mohapatra explained the importance of the day and also spoke about various activities to date undertaken by the Chapter. Member Archana Nandi talked about Intangible Heritage with particular reference to local traditions and customs. Chief Guest Prof. Dr. Prahallad Mohanty drew attention to the neglected *Mangalpur Garh* and Buddhist sites that need to be brought to the attention of local ASI and to the State PWD.



A 15 days *Summer Camp* was inaugurated by the Convenor and Co-Convenor Uday Ranjan Das for students of Classes I-VII from 1<sup>st</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May. Lecturers of the local Art & Crafts College imparted training to the campers, that concluded with an exhibition of their creations.



## Baripada

Senior most INTACH Member Dr. Premnath Bhuyan presided over the Chapter Meeting held to mark its Annual Day in the last week of March, organised by Co-Convenor PK Mohanty. The Chief Guest Vice Chancellor of North Odisha University Dr. Prafulla Mishra spoke on heritage and its conservation with some remarkable illustrations of monumental and natural heritage of *Similipal National Park*. Shreeram Chandra Vihar, Baripada and ADM Mayurbhanj Suratha Mallik were the Guests of Honour who spoke extensively on local heritage. The concluding cultural programme on *Jhumar* and *Karma* dances enchanted the audience.



Convenor Major Rabindra Nath Parida, who could not be present for the Annual Day due to health reasons, was back in the saddle to mark *World Heritage Day*, 18<sup>th</sup> April. It was announced as an exhibition-cum-competition at Town Hall, with Associate Life Member Archana Nandi coordinating the event at the Retd. Govt. Employees Association Baripada Mayurbhanj. Oldest Member Dr. Pramath Nath Bhuyan inaugurated it, with



senior journalist of the Odiya daily *Samaj* as the Chief Guest. Lady Members pitched into the celebrations with a heritage *Pitha* (cake), usually prepared during festivals with enticing presentations to the audience. The temptation of cash prizes for the best three entrees fetched 60 participants which is a sizable number! Four eminent ladies including a Professor of Home Science and a noted doctor judged the entries, while a large number of people were at hand to taste the delicacies. It attracted the presence of Addl. District Magistrate Manmath Kumar Pani and the Chairman of the Municipal Corporation Alok Kumar. Judges of the Shreema Mohila College of Baripada, Basanti Lata Hansda and Binapani Kalia selected the best three winners – Jotirmayee Basa, Bansantilata Mohapatra and Smruti Rekha Patnaik who received cash prizes. It exposed students to the traditional culture of Odiya families.

Convenor Himanshu Das writes that there was a time when Odisha was famous for dishing out a variety of wonderful *Pitha* (cake) during festivals, and these dishes were offered to the deities. It was also consumed at home with every meal on festival days. Nowadays alas most families prefer to eat out to celebrate, and the more laborious process of making *Pitha* is not so widely popular.

This event was a modest effort to revive an old festive practice as *Pitha* needs to be preserved as traditional culinary art.

### WILDLIFE THREATENED IN ODISHA

The Odisha Government has been pressured by the mining and industries lobbies to withdraw two proposals for elephant reserves that were pending notification. The earlier proposals were to reserve an area of 4216 sq.km. in Rayagada, Kandimal, Kalahandi and Baitarani Elephant Reserve comprising *Keojarh* and *Sundergarh* spread over 10,51s6 km. The State in fact has more than 90% of eastern India's elephant population (1862 nos.) that include a good number of breeding adult tuskers. Now, apart from imperiling the State's elephant population, there will be increasing man-elephant conflict due to ill-advised mining industries in their migratory pathways. Before the elephants run amuck, our policies are doing much the same.

## Ganjam

Convenor Dr. Sudhansu Pati invited historian Prof. Ashok Kumar Rath, and Founder Member PC Sahu as special guests for the function held on 16<sup>th</sup> April at Conference Hall of Hotel Moti, Berhampur. Also present on the dais were historian Prof. Ashik Kumar Rath and Anant Babu. They were welcomed with the presentation of *angavastra*. Chief Guest AB Tripathy and Guest of Honour Anant Mahapatra on the dais were felicitated for their contribution to the Chapter. A large gathering of about 75 persons attended this function. It was well covered by the local dailies *Sambad*, *Dharitri*, *Samay*, *Samaj* and the Indian Express.



## Jajpur

*World Museum Day*, 18<sup>th</sup> May was marked with a gathering at the DRDA Conference Hall with several dignitaries among the 65 invitees. Convenor Prof. Balaram Mohanty and Co-Convenor Dr. Binod Chandra Nayak welcomed the guests. It was presided by District Information and PR Officer Santosh Kumar Sethy who elaborated on



*Observation of World Museum Day*

the importance of museums at the meeting presided by Prafulla Chandra Samal. Life Member Dr. Rajkishore and Prof. Damodar Behera were also on the dais. Chief Speaker Dr. Ekadashi Padhi appealed to all the Members to participate in the listing and documentation of heritage sites of which 170 have been completed to date

Advocate Pramod Chandra Mohanty discussed his experience of Museums that he visited in USA. Other INTACH Members like Dr. Rajkishore Panda, Golak Bihari Patra, Prof. Damodar Behera enlightened the gathering on different facets of heritage conservation.

## Mayurbhanj

Co-Convenor Pratyus Mohanty writes about a unique celebrations hosted on *World Heritage Day* with Chapter Members and newspaper reporters. Senior most journalist of the daily *Damaj* was the Chief Guest.

The oldest member Dr. Pramatah Nath Bhuyan inaugurated the festival similar to the one held at Balasore. The lady members of the Chapter prepared *Heritage Pitha* (cake) that Odia families prepare for festivals. They were exhibited at the gathering with two judges of Shreema Mohila College Home Science Department, Baripada - Basanti Lata Hansda and Binapani Kalia - selecting three winners of the most appetizing display. Students appreciated the idea of tradition and culture exhibited in this unique manner.





### SOER – ELEPHANT RESERVE

The Centre had earlier approved proposals for *South Odisha Elephant Reserve (SOER)* and the *Baitarani Elephant Reserve (BER)*. Apparently under pressure from the mining and industries lobby, the pending notifications have been dropped – most unfortunately. Odisha has more than 90% of eastern India's elephant population. It has a sizeable proportion of breeding adult tuskers, and hence an important state for elephant conservation that is now threatened by this turn of events. Mega bauxite and iron ore mines and metal industries are proposed in these areas, guaranteed to result in greedy man-angry elephant conflict inevitably. Are we hell bent on destroying our environment and eventually ourselves?

## PUNJAB

Chapter Honorary Legal Advisor, and Senior Advocate of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Suneet Singh Deol has drawn attention of Members to the proposals for Heritage Regulations in Punjab State. He said INTACH has been engaging in dialogue with Government and various organizations and stake holders of cultural heritage. *“Recently we have prepared the heritage regulations for safeguarding unprotected built cultural heritage and submitted it to the Punjab Government for its approval”*. He pointed out that there is no legal provision for regulating heritage preservation/alteration of mostly old cities/towns. The staggering growth of cities has also resulted in both confusion and conflict with the old character of these cities. Commercial activities have resulted in demolition, alteration and defacement of age old buildings, with unplanned and insensitive changes in land use, confounded by traffic issues, etc. It's the tale of many cities! Hence an earnest appeal was made to the Punjab Government to adopt heritage regulation proposals, and seek clarifications at the earliest so that all parties can work closely together for the betterment of the State.

### Amritsar

The Chapter got together 250 students from many Senior Secondary Schools for the *World Heritage Day* celebrations

held at the Sarkaria Model School, Mudhal. They participated with dance recitals, sang folk songs and played traditional sports like *peecho/shtapoo*, *kotla shpaki*, *rassi tapna*, etc. that have been long forgotten in this hi-tech age when youngsters are mostly hooked to computer games. Teachers in charge of the schools appreciated the event organised by the Chapter, and expressed their solidarity with the INTACH cause of cultural heritage conservation. State Convenor Dr. Sukhdev Singh said heritage was *“their collective wealth”* that cannot be conserved by the Government alone but needed participation of people of all strata. He said *“Preserving the cultural heritage is not anti-development; it is development with a relation to the past....that does not break away from the past and create a situation of shock and emptiness; the development that is not founded on greed and consumerism but one that is based on the principle of betterment of everyone”*. He mentioned INTACH listing of historical buildings of Amritsar and Taran Taran Districts during the last two years. Currently the inventory of historical buildings in Pathankot District has been undertaken. Member Sawinder Singh added INTACH is a think tank for identification, advocacy and conservation of cultural heritage across the country.

### Patiala

Advocate Punjab and Haryana High Court Suneet Singh Deol, the honorary legal advisor for Punjab Chapter, congratulated the people for continuously seeking ways and means to save their cultural heritage. It has been an engaging dialogue with various stakeholders and organizations. The recently prepared Heritage Regulations for safeguarding unprotected built heritage are located mostly in old cities and towns that have seen unbridled growth. The Chapter has now submitted draft heritage regulations to regulate alterations and constructions for the approval of the State to safeguard heritage assets.

## RAJASTHAN

### Ajmer

State Co-Convenor Kunwar Hari S Palkiya Haveli announced the favourable Order that has finally come



90<sup>th</sup> Ajmer Sthapna Divas Celebration



My City My Heritage essay and painting competition prize winners



World Heritage Day Celebrations

through after 6 months of strategic exercises regarding the historic water bodies Gangawas and Korma in Barmer District. Local villagers and later the *Gram Panchayat* and even some bird watchers from Jodhpur became parties to the case due to the motivational efforts

of INTACH. The credit in particular goes to Barmer Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma and PD NHD Manu Bhatnagar. In the process the Chapter too garnered a lot of experience from this conservation thrust encapsulated below for the information all INTACH Chapters.

### SHARING A VALUABLE EXPERIENCE

The *Panchayat Raj Act* in Rajasthan empowers the *Sarpanch* to issue or deny a *No Objection Certificate* to any industrial/commercial organization within his area. A recent amendment has also empowered the District Collector to issue such a Certificate if the response from the *Sarpanch* is not forthcoming which happened in one particular case. An efficient Collector visited these villages, took *Gram Sabha* meetings, called *Ratri-Chaupal* meetings, warning the villagers that their private agriculture lands could be acquired.

Meanwhile INTACH Convenor brought the matter to the notice of Rajasthan State authorities. He was also advised by INTACH State Convenor to photograph the entire area of all ponds, and the Convenor went a step forward to acquire satellite images of the water bodies, mapped and documented as required for a PIL. The *Mehrangarh Trust* also brought out historic records that showed the *Gangawas Lake* did not dry up even during prolonged famine conditions of 1898-1901. In the past these water bodies had been restored and renovated by the *Jal Bhagirathi Foundation*, and the entire population of man and animal were dependent on them for drinking water that never dried up even in the

lean months of May-June.

The villagers mostly ignorant about court procedures could not contend against highly experienced counsels representing the State Government, the administration and involved companies all working together. Meanwhile State Co-Convenor Hari Singh Palkiya, Barmer Convenor and some bird watchers visited the water bodies to motivate the villagers. A final strategy was set in motion after visit of PD NHD Manu Bhatnagar. Favourable reports were obtained from the Divisional Forest Officer, the Zoological Survey of India, Desert Regional Centre at Jodhpur. Two tragic mishaps added grist to the case - the death of a *Great Indian Bustard* that had collided with a high voltage electric wire, and death of several *chinkaras* due to lack of water that were also brought to the attention of the Court. Finally the Court passed the Order on 16<sup>th</sup> May.

A massive multi-pronged thrust thus fructified INTACH Chapter's determination to save the water bodies of Barmer District. INTACH congratulates the crusader spirit of the Chapter, and Dr. MS Tanwar from Jodhpur, Co-Convenor Jaisalmer Virendra Singh and PD NHD Manu Bhatnagar. In particular Barmer Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma for his sustained and determined effort in this saga of conservation efforts.

Convenor Mahendra Vikram Singh is appointed Divisional Chief Commissioner of the Rajasthan State Bharat Scout and Guide of the District that include Nagaur, Tonk and Bhilwara. He now has the opportunity to involve young 'disciples' in heritage activities and plantation. INTACH congratulates the Convenor on this promising assignment.

The Convenor organized a Seminar on the occasion of the 90<sup>th</sup> *Ajmer Stapna Diwas*. Member Sanjay Seth decorated the premises of the *Mahendra Pratap Smarak* with a beautiful *rangoli*. INTACH brochures were distributed to the public. A book on the *Protected Monuments of Ajmer Division* has been released by the Chapter.

The Chapter has been actively taking part in all HECS programmes.

### **Baran**

The Chapter launched a unique programme to take families back to their roots by visiting places of their origin. In most cases some families and their children had never been to their home towns or place of origin after settling in the city. Co-Convenor Hari Mohan Bansal launched a programme which turned out to be an emotional experience for many who had never gone back to their roots. For example Satyanarayan Porwal of Khadila, Rajasthan visited his village for the first time and the journey became an emotional experience for his whole family. The younger generation had never before



*Mandana Workshop*



*Heritage Walk*

encountered a prestigious heritage and culture in a living environment. INTACH congratulates Hari Mohan for his novel initiative. This might inspire other Chapters?

Chapter organized a *Kathak* dance programme by the granddaughter of Pt. Biju Maharaj Maima Soni to present



one of India's old dance forms for students on 29<sup>th</sup> April. Culture comes through exposure minus computers!

The Chapter organized a heritage walk to Ramgarh village and 10<sup>th</sup> century *Bhand Devra Temple* on 14<sup>th</sup> June for INTACH Members, also inviting students, scouts and guides to accompany them. They visited the ancient *Annapurna Devi* and *Krishnai Mata* Temples. Convenor Jitendra Sharma led the walk with DEO Panchuram Saini explaining the historical background of these heritage sites.

**Barmer**

A Seminar was organized on *World Heritage Day* at Samdadi. Co-Convenor Rajendra Singh spoke on the old heritage of Barmer city to the students, teachers and rural people assembled at the gathering. Another workshop was simultaneously organized by Rajwest Power Limited at the Badresh Hall to which INTACH Co-Convenor was invited for interaction, especially on heritage assets in and around Barmer city.



*World Heritage Day*

The Chapter marked *World Museum Day* 18<sup>th</sup> May with social worker Om Prakash Mehta as the Chief Guest

The function was coordinated by Member Yashovardhan Shandilya Sharma. Member Rawat Tribhuvan Singh



urged the local authorities to revive the numerous museums that are lying neglected in the State.

*World Environment Day* 5<sup>th</sup> June was celebrated in Korna and Gangavas jointly with the Jodhpur Chapter, They appealed to the authorities (NGT) to conserve the natural heritage of their region. The enthusiastic support by the local villagers was greatly appreciated by the Chapter. PD NHD Manu Bhatnagar and Hari Singh Palkiya were thanked for the boost given to this effort.

Chapter Convenors Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar and Yashovardhan Sharma exhorted all the participants to plant more trees in areas surrounding their living spaces. Experts Dr. NS Rathore, former Jt. Director Zoological Survey of India and Dr. Shakti Singh shared their views on bio-diversity. They highlighted the poor state of their environment and the efforts needed to be made by the people. Barmer Chapter proposes to adopt Gangawas Village for conservation of natural heritage.

### **Jodhpur**

The *Marwar Lok Natya Mohotsav* was held on 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May. The Chapter extended its full support to Barmer Chapter in organising a tree plantation event at Korna Village in Barmer District, (covered under Barmer). It also marked *World Environment Day* function with a gathering at Jodhpur on 5<sup>th</sup> June.



Convenor Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar organized a *Heritage Walk by Women*, a first of its kind exclusively for women who enthusiastically participated as expected in a sizable number (120) as the two pictures below speak for themselves. It was flagged off by Yuvrani Gayatri Rajye Sahiba. Each group was led by an expert guide. There



were just as many curious onlookers as they went about their sight seeing at *Toor ji ka Jhalra, Killi Khana, Clock Tower, Katla Bazaar, Talhati Mahal, Navchokia, Ranisar, Padamsar*, with a historical commentary given by the guides. Co-Convenor Pradeep Soni also participated in the walk. In-charge Women Cell Kalpana Champawat thanked the Jaipur Chapter for this innovative idea that turned out to be a great success with the ladies. The Chapter has set up the *Women Cell* in association with the *Rajput Mother's Foundation*.

Convenor Dr. Mahendra Singh Tanwar organised several other programmes in and out of Jodhpur during May-June with noticeable participation despite the hot summer days. The *Manvar Lok Natya Mohotsav* was held on 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May.

### **Rajasmand**

Convenor Dr. Rachana Tailang organized the release of a heritage book and video of Rajasmand folk songs on 14<sup>th</sup> May at the auditorium of Municipal Corporation as part of the *Padharo Rajasmand Series*. Chief Guest MP Hari Om Singh Rathore is credited with the rail connection between Mavali Marwad and Nathwada Mandir. District Collector Prem Chand Bairwan was the other honoured guest.



*Book release of Padharo Rajasmand Virasat*



Since 14<sup>th</sup> May was *Mother's Day*, the Convenor's mother Sudha Devi Tailang, a noted a Sanskrit scholar and poet was honoured on the occasion. Others to be honoured were painter Shubh Sharma, mathematician Lakshya Goswami, video director Manoj Porwal, dance choreographer Jyoti Sanadhya, musician Kalpana Talang and social worker Bhagwat Sharma, and Dr. Vijay Kumar Khilnani.

### *Sawai Madhopur*

The film *Heritage City, Sawai Madhopur* was produced by the Chapter on the culture, art and history of the city. It projected the local handicrafts of the region to spread awareness of the city's heritage. Convenor Padam Khatri, Co-Convenor Javed Anwar and Members attended the screening along with Chapter Members.

### *Udaipur*

#### **CONDOLENCES**

Convenor SK Verma informed that senior Life Member Ravi S Bhandari left for his 'heavenly abode' on 7<sup>th</sup> April. The Chapter held a condolence meeting at the Vidya Bhavan Teachers Training College campus. He will be greatly missed by colleagues and his many friends. INTACH joins them in extending our heartfelt sympathies and condolences to his family at this grievous time. Our good wishes will always be with his family for their well being and the wherewithal to look ahead to the future at this time of bereavement.

The Chapter organized a gathering on 30<sup>th</sup> April for presentation of *Heritage Awards* at the Gateway Hotel.

Udaipur Chapter held its General Body Meeting on *World Environment Day* 5<sup>th</sup> June at the Conference Hall, Guest House of Indian Town Planning Institute near



*General Body Meeting, Udaipur*



Bhuwana. Life and Ordinary Members of the Chapter and Special Guests like researchers, specialists and invited media were present. Co-Convenor Sushil Kumar Dasora conducted the proceedings and invited the dignitaries to the dais, with Convenor SK Verma welcoming them and the invitees. Chief Guest Deputy Conservation of Forests Om Prakash Sharma was introduced by former bureaucrat Munish Goyal. He also welcomed the special guests former Prof Meena Gaur of MLS University and the Media representatives. The audience were updated on the Chapter and its activities.

The main speaker OP Sharma drew attention to heritage property issues that needed attention or notification at the earliest. Taking forward the call to protect the planet on *World Environment Day* (WED) he said it is better to follow the dictum "*Think globally, act locally*" and understand how intimately and unequivocally we depend on the survival of environment. Since the theme this year was *Connecting People to Nature*, he reminded the audience to take note of the changing attitude of the common man, and how valuable forest resources are for our economic subsistence, and there is a need for cooperative societies for marketing their products. Prof Meena Gaur stressed the rejoining of lost linkages with nature especially among the younger generation. Prof. Bhatnagar emphasized the need to revive Mewar cultural heritage to motivate the youth in appreciating the outdoors and nature's beauty.

Co-Convenor Sushil Kumar thanked the guests and the audience, in particular the Senior Town Planner for all the arrangements provided at the Indian Planning Institute for this Meeting.

## TAMIL NADU

### Chennai

State Convenor Dr. S Suresh delivered a keynote lecture at the prestigious world famous Louvre Museum of Paris on *Roman Coins and a Other Roman Imports to India : New Perspectives from Archaeology* on 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> June. It covered a vast range of subjects like Greco-Roman statuettes, kitchen vessels, wine imports to India, and a host of allied topics. His analysis clearly revealed the complex nature of the far-flung India-Rome commerce that involved scores of commodities in those times and their historical background. The paper merits reading in detail.

The Workshop was attended by scholars from France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany, Hungary, Romania, UK, USA and Egypt.

### Nagercoil

*World Heritage Day*, 18<sup>th</sup> April was celebrated by the Chapter with a grand function held at the *Kasthurba Matharnala Sangam* near the Collectorate. Participants were all praise for the Chapter for giving special attention to conservation of over a hundred temple tanks and sacred groves of the city. The Chapter has drawn public attention to the alarming rise in sea level that is a serious problem looming on the horizon. It was an occasion for people to felicitate their local conservation patron Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan for his yeoman service to multiple facets of heritage conservation. Local MLA N Suresh Rajan lauded him on his numerous publications and books, and in particular his legal activism.

INTACH recently bestowed on him the well deserved *Anirudh Bhargava Award* for his sustained and devoted services in the field of conservation.

The Kanyakumari District receives both the south west



*World Environment Day*



and the north east monsoons, that has blessed it with a verdant greenery and tall trees. There are a number of sacred groves some dating 400 years old. Their Naga idols indicate the influence of Jainism in the distant past. The Chapter has taken up the study of a 100 sacred groves and 8 heritage trees, both for preservation and for bringing this heritage to public attention. Convenor Dr. RS Mohan Lal has a dedicated team of INTACH Members who have been trekking through difficult terrain to unravel the little known facts about such groves. A book on the natural heritage of the region and its sacred groves will be published shortly.

### Nilgiris

The restoration of the *Nilgiri Library* up in the hills of Ootacamund, one of the oldest libraries in India, has been hailed by all conservationists as one of the most challenging works undertaken in the country. The main building is a grand Victorian style 19<sup>th</sup> century edifice designed by the famous British architect Robert Fellowes Chisholm who also designed many other public buildings of British India. The adjoining building was later annexed to the Library. The Nilgiris Chapter under Convenor Geetha Srinivasan had earlier restored the *Wardrop Room* and the main Reading Room. The



Library's Heritage Reference Section on the first floor had remained untouched since inception, and its solid woodwork had begun to show marked signs of deterioration. The long and painstaking process of technical conservation was taken up and completed after several months of arduous work. The leaky roof, structural repairs of exterior walls, and ensuring they are rid of fungus and termites was meticulously undertaken. All the books removed, had been carefully numbered and packed. They have now been returned to the shelves in exactly the same order.

The *Nilgiri Library* is now open to the public. It has been dedicated to the memory of Sir CP Ramaswamy Aiyar, Geetha's grandfather who was President of this Heritage Library from 1958-66. State Convenor Dr. S Suresh would no doubt call it a labour of love for heritage, and much hailed by the local Press.

**PEPPER BOAT AT NILGIRI SUMMER FESTIVAL**

A boat made of different coloured capsicums was the main attraction of the 9<sup>th</sup> *Vegetable Show* held in Nilgiris. The two day show is organized annually by the Horticulture Department since the last four years. It attracts thousands of visitors every year with imaginative new presentations.



**Puducherry**



*The Mairie: A lost Heritage*

It is reported that citizens of Puducherry's People Heritage (PPH) collectively spearheaded a campaign to compel the State authorities to notify more heritage buildings, and the proposed plans for the 1970-71 *Marie*. They petitioned the Lt. Governor Kiran Bedi on the go-slow of heritage conservation and the typical PWD appraisal of using RCC in the reconstruction. PPH believes reconstruction must adhere to the original design and original materials be used in the reconstruction of all heritage properties. Funds for this kind of reconstruction are available as a grant. Moreover the estimates prepared by the Government based on RCC had many loopholes; and the cost of a fake heritage look would have eventually been not less than an authentic reconstruction work. So what could be the excuse of PWD? An agreement was signed with World Bank for funds for reconstruction. A Financial Institution has also sanctioned Rs.15 crore for the work. Tenders have been floated. So why is the PWD pitching for reinforced cement concrete and cement mortar and plaster? Will the Lt. Governor known for her decisiveness step in and support the *People for Pondicherry* for saving one of its iconic buildings?

**PARIS TO PONDY**

Franco-Puducherians are a part of Puducherry's cosmopolitan demography. A number of Franco-Tamilian villas in the city proudly testify to their families' military heritage with the term "*Soldat*" inscribed on their front. Most of the hotels and



restaurants like *Le Club*, *Shanti Villa* and a booming tourism has opened opportunities for many Tamil-French people to come back and seek their fortune or retirement in India. Many French 'Pondicherians' in fact live a far more comfortable pensioner's life here, and like to only visit their children in France. Part of the attraction is also *Auroville* a few kilometers away, though politically it falls in Tamil Nadu, and is inhabited by an international population devoted to "Mother". So people feel they have the best of both worlds, and it is one place in India where this is probably true.

## TELENGANA

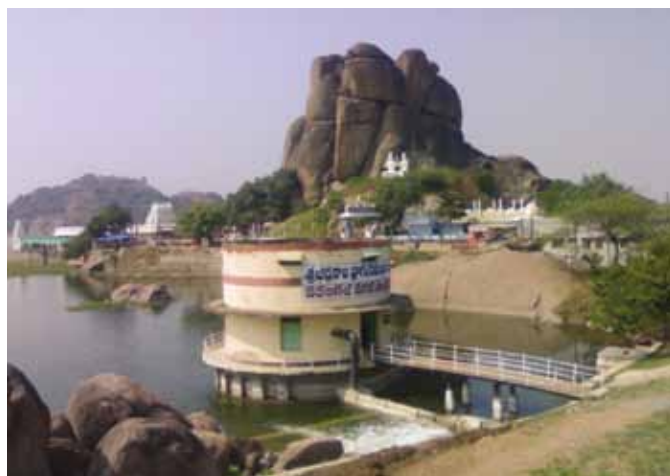
### Hyderabad

Convenor Anuradha Reddy addressed the students of the premier Delhi Public School, Secunderabad that has over 6500 students and an army of 400 teachers. The School achieved remarkable academic standing to match its impressive infrastructure. The Convenor spoke on *Varnalepana*, an aesthetic arcade that was conceptualised within the sylvan setting of the School *Nacharam*. It provides a platform for showcasing artistic talent through exhibitions, competitions and workshops for artists to carve a niche for their talent in the art world. This Art Gallery provides space for artists to unleash their creative imaginings through exhibitions of their work. It may even inspire students to become artists of tomorrow? The concept is the brainchild of the Chairman of the local Delhi Public School M Komaraiah. He is great connoisseur and patron of Art who believes in nurturing talent for preserving culture and tradition. His futuristic goal is to make this art gallery the perfect platform for aesthetic appreciation and promotion of art and culture.

The Chapter sent out invitations to commemorate the legendary musician and singer Ustad Bade Ghulam Ali Khan on his 115<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary. An internationally known artiste, the event was held at the *Daira Mir Nobin*, near Hyderabad's famous landmark *Char Minar*.

### Warangal

The focus of this year's *World Heritage Day* celebrations being heritage monuments, the event was held at the ancient *Sri Bhadrakali Temple* presided by Convenor Prof. M Pandu Ranga Rao. A great patron of *Kakatiya Heritage* and a prominent member of its Trust, BV Papa Rao was Guest of Honour. He updated the audience



on progress made to get the *Ramappa Temple* inscribed in World Heritage category. The Chief Guest Special Chief Secretary Planning, Telengana State BP Acharyap addressed the gathering. Faculty and students from Warangal Degree Colleges, and senior Chapter Members were conspicuously present at the event.

## UTTAR PRADESH

### Allahabad

Convenor Pragyana Mehrotra draws attention to newspaper reports regarding dismantling of the Curzan



Chapter has lent its support to the “*Save Curzan Bridge*” campaign that already has 250 signatories, and has offered to develop the precincts as a heritage structure.

The Convenor is a firm believer that heritage precincts can best be saved by “*People Centric Developments*”.

**Banda**

Co-Convenor Dr. Shabana Rafique writes that the Chapter will be approaching the State Government to make the *Kalinjar Durg* a tourist resort and revive the *shajar stone* jewelry that is seriously endangered as a living craft.



Bridge over Ganga as per the recommendations of the North Eastern Railways. It is a heritage railway line constructed in 1901-1903 connecting Allahabad to Pratapgarh. Until then only boats were the sole mode of transport to cross the Ganga River. Later extension of this railway towards Bareilly shortened the journey between Allahabad and Lucknow. There is both a physical and emotional connect to this bridge and its aesthetic design. This 100 years old Bridge merits a heritage status and needs to be developed as a heritage asset. The

Banda has a rich cultural heritage of the Chandela dynasty on which some of the students who made noteworthy presentations for the *My City My Heritage* HECS programme were awarded prizes. The *Kalinjar Durg*, *Bhuragarh Fort*, *Rangarh Fort*, *Jama Masjid*, *Nawab Tank*, *Bambveshwar Mandir*, *Khattari Pahar*, *Bethel Church* and *Maheshwari Mandir* are some of the notable cultural heritage sites of Banda dating to the Chandela period and some others to Nawab Banda and British times. Students of ACD Institute presented a regional dance *Rai* of Budelkhand guided by Rashmi Gupta. Convenor Haris Zaman thanked the staff and students for their wonderful presentations.



Co-Convenor Dr. Shabana Rafique has a poetic disposition. He has written an ode to the *Taj Mahal - The Temple of Love* and he lyrically describes it as a “*wonder in the lives of many pairs*”. Another poem in Hindi is titled *Khandharon ka Matritva*.



## Gorakhpur

Chapter Members marked *World Heritage Day* with a visit to a temple in Chhau District Kushinagar where many old idols were discovered during its renovation.



Convenor Mahavir Prasad Kandoi, Co-Convenor PK Lahiri and Life Member AK Asthana, Dr. Mumtaz Khan, Dr. KK Pandey, Dr. Maniranjan Sinha, Ajai Jaswal and LN Malviya did a preliminary survey of *Adarsh Prathmik Vidyalaya* at Rudwaliya Village in Kishinagar District. The team visited the Chhau Village where four ancient idols were recently excavated while extending a temple. The accompanying curator of ancient history Krishnanad Tripathi identified the idols as *Agri*, *Navgrah*, *Brahma* and *Kartikeya*. The villagers said that idols of *Sun*, *Shakti* and *Varahavtar* had been discovered here earlier along with a *Shivlinga* which was then installed in the local temple. INTACH team identified these sand stone idols as dating to 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> century. They learnt that more such idols are still being found from the seven mounds around the tank of the temple complex. The villagers assured they will construct a temple for the safety and security of these idols. The Chapter will be keeping a close watch on future developments, and intends to take up the matter with the Tourist Department to develop the area as a tourist site.

The visiting team also visited the *Sun Temple* at Turk Patti where idols of the Gupta period have been found from adjoining areas. The children of the area were briefed on the importance of their lost environment.

A run was organized on 5<sup>th</sup> June around the periphery of *Ramgarh Tal* flagged by the District Magistrate Rajeev Rautella, with many morning walkers participating.

Suptd. Archaeology, Sarnath with a team finally visited the *Talladib* site accompanied by Chapter Members after repeated requests and reminders from the Chapter. The ASI team was headed by Suptd. KC Srivasatava and his staff. The research thesis of INTACH Member Dr. Shivendra Singh provided them with considerable ready information, and answered their queries in greater detail. The Chapter will follow up on this matter. ASI team took special interest in *Barwan Morcha Fort*.

The Chapter held a festival of local folk dances like *Ahiraua*, *Faruwahi*, *Janghia*, *Laththa*, *Kabrua* that are on the verge of extinction. There are just two groups left headed by *Rammgyan Yadav* and *Chedi Lal Yadav* who





perform them to date with their respective groups. They gave a two hour presentation to a large gathering on 11<sup>th</sup> April that held them spell bound, and hopefully get due attention and promotion in future. The event received wide coverage by the Press.

This year's theme for *World Environment Day* is *Connecting People with Nature*. The Chapter marked it with a *Run for Ramgarh Tal* in association with other like-minded agencies like the *DDU Gorakhpur University, Environment Action Group* and *Mahanagar Paryavaram Manch* on 5<sup>th</sup> June. The Chief Guest was

MP Sheo Prasad Shukla. Many morning walkers also participated and at the end of the run took a pledge not to throw waste into the *Tal*, and to take other protective measures to save natural beauty. On the previous day a number of competitions were held for youth related to ecology and conservation, with prizes awarded to the winners.

### ***Lucknow***

*Lucknow, A City of Heritage and Culture* was released by UP Governor Ram Naik at the *Taj Vivanta* on 20<sup>th</sup> April. It takes one on "*a walk through history*". This coffee table book features not only the heritage and history of a fabled town, its Indo-Sarcenic architecture, its quintessential *nazaakat* and *nafaasat*, but also the aesthetics and spirit of Awadh people. It is full of photographs identifying a number of less visited heritage sites, with their history and a route map, for proposed heritage walks. It features places like *Kakori Shareef, Bakshi ka Talab, Sikanderbagh,*

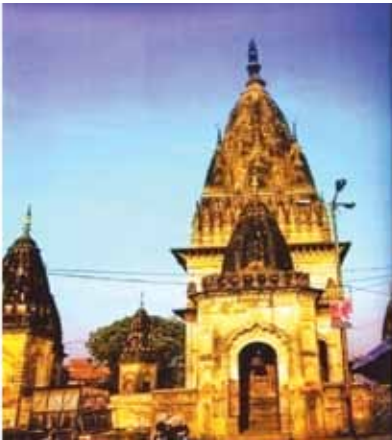




Charbagh and Lucknow temples of *Aliganj Hanuman*, *Sheetla Devi*, and *Mohanlalganj Shiv Temple* to mention a few. The authors are well aware that Lucknow is not only about its heritage buildings, but also the resonance of many other facets – like the chimes of temple bells, the call of the muezzin, and the delicate flavours of *Lucknowi* cuisine, etc. The authors INTACH Convenor Vipul Varshney and Ajaish Jaiswal have complemented the details of the heritage walks with exquisite panoramic photographs of the city’s heritage assets that



*Tehsin ki Masjid*



*Shiv Temple*



*Kakori Sharif*

will be forever treasured. As Convenor Vipul reminds us *“This book is an attempt to recapture the alluring tales of a splendid bygone era, and it is a tribute to the passions and aesthetics of the people who created a marvelous city!”*

Responding to Chairman LK Gupta’s observation that this city with thousands of years of rich history has only 30 protected monuments to date, while INTACH has identified many more unprotected monuments, the Governor assured he would take up this matter with the Chief Minister and propose the setting up a high level committee for their conservation.

Lucknow Chapter completed the documentation and listing of heritage buildings of Lucknow last year, and its intangible heritage elements this year. Condition photography was recently completed in May this year by Sanjeev Trivedi and Suresh Singh from ICI Delhi who sourced over 750 manuscripts and books. The report is currently under completion at ICI Lucknow. Readapting *Chhattar Manzil* into a cultural complex with a detailed project proposal has been submitted to the State Government. Hopefully Lucknow will forever remain a glorious dream city of *Laxmanawati* as legend has it.

**VIPUL B VARSHNEY**

INTACH Convenor Vipul Varshney, a practicing architect and professional urban planner, has been residing in Lucknow for the last 53 years. In addition to the above mentioned book *Lucknow – A City of Heritage and Culture*, he is the author of *Lucknow – A Treasure* published in 2009 co-authored with Jagran Prakashan. Another book *Shaam-e-Awadh* is under publication by Bloomsbury, that will recapture alluring tales of a splendid bygone era. He says it will be *“a tribute to the passions and aesthetics of the people who created a marvelous city”*. There will be many looking forward to reading it. It is great to have such a *‘Lucknophile’* as our Convenor!

INTACH Chairman's Foreword to the above mentioned book on Lucknow adds an interesting dimension to this walk through history. He writes : *The history of Lucknow does not begin in 1775, with the nawabs anymore than it ended with the First War of Independence in 1857. Mythology dates Lucknow back to the Satyug period of the Ramayana and the settlement of Lakshmanpur. Lucknow is one of those eternal cities of India that need not be bracketed between the extravaganza of the nawabs and the expediency of the Company Raj only. Those perhaps were the best of times when royal pleasure boats and exotic goods from other parts of the world sailed down the now deserted Gomti. But the heart and soul of the city thrives in the by-lanes of its chowks and bazaars, in its arts and crafts, in its historic monuments and relics, in its secular and religious institutions, not to forget the famous Awadh cuisine*".

Today Lucknow is a city in transition.....and all parts of the whole need to remain the same. The release of the book was extensively covered by the local Press.

### LAKHNAU

"Lucknow" is the anglicized spelling of the local pronunciation "Lakhnau". According to one legend the city is named after *Lakkshmana*, one of the major heroes who figure in the epic Ramayana. It is believed that *Lakshmana* had an estate in the area that was called in Sanskrit *Lakshmanapuri*. The Dalits believe the name originates from a Dalit ruler Lakkan Pasi who settled in this city. The settlement came to be known as *Lakhanpur* (or *Lachhmanpur*) by the 11<sup>th</sup> century. The name changed many times thereafter to *Lakhanavati* (meaning fortunate in Sanskrit), then *Lakhnauti* and finally to *Lakhnau*. Another theory persists that the name is connected to *Lakshmi*, the Hindu goddess of wealth. It appears to have undergone a slow etymologic metamorphosis to *Laksmnauti*, *Laksmnaut*, *Laksnaut*, *Lakhsnau* and finally *Lakhnau*. It is surprising that Lucknow has not been replaced by *Lakhnau* as is the case of Pune, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Chennai, etc. But as is the case in all these cities old habits die hard and in common parlance Lakhnau will remain Lucknow just as Bombay, Bangalore, Poona and Madras continue to be called in common parlance!

### Varanasi

Members of the Archaeological Survey of India along with Varanasi Chapter Life Members and Pilgrim Publishers attended the *Kashi Vimarsh Lecture* series. Professor Maruti Nandan Tiwari addressed the audience and subsequently interacted with them. As this event attracted a number of interested people and lively discussions, Convenor Ashok Kapoor now proposes to institute regular lecture series with the support of the UP State ASI.

Heritage Walks were organized on 16<sup>th</sup> April



Heritage Walk



and 26<sup>th</sup> May, that attracted participation of local people. The first concluded in an interesting interactive sessions with Prof. Vidula Jaisawal, Regional Director IGNCA Dr. VS Shukla and INTACH Life Member Manju Sundaram. Former Chapter Convenor Navneet Raman and Co-Convenor Alvaro Enterria also participated in the discussions. Three films on *Heritage Awareness* and *Heritage Sites* were screened on the following day at the Little Flower House.



*Assi Lohark Kshetre Dharohar Darshan Yatra*



Varanasi was always known as “Kashi” in ancient times. The second walk was on *Kashi Heritage* on 21<sup>st</sup> May starting from *Kabir Chawra* with visits to the homes of many *Kashi* artistes and the *Kabir Math*. Discussion on classical dance *Satriya* and different forms of *Kathak* and *Bharatnatyam* took place. Convenor Ashok Kapoor and Dr. Subhash Chandra Yadav felicitated the artistes.

A Photo Exhibition held on 18<sup>th</sup> April at the *Gurudham Temple*, in collaboration with ASI Uttar Pradesh was visited by many interested people.

The lecture cum demonstration by Pandit Vidyadhar Vyas, a renowned vocalist and musicologist was a great success. Chapter proposes to continue this unique initiative of an Exchange Programme with the Dharwad Chapter to host many more music festivals. Hopefully there will be reciprocal events held at Dharwad in due course given Convenor NP Bhat’s known love for music and the *Avani Rasikar Rang* he regularly hosts at his residence.

## WEST BENGAL

### Kolkata

Conservation Architect Anjan Mitra was engaged by INTACH for listing the Built Heritage of North Bengal after he completed Purulia District listing. West Dinajpur has also been taken up for listing with Members requested to give valuable inputs they might like to provide.



A request was received to restore the 300 years old *Raghunath Jew Temple* at Tamluk belonging to Chinmoy Das joint family. They still offer daily prayers here. The much needed restoration would take extraordinary capital, and INTACH has taken note of the request made by them.

Kolkata Chapter held a unique *Workshop on Ornaments* made out of leaves and bark trees by the *Santhal* tribals. Another novelty will be a workshop on Shellac Dolls that is under consideration.

The Chapter held a Seminar on local history, archaeology

and folklore in association with the Panchthupi HPGB College and the Venuban Education Society. The area located in Kandi subdivision of Murshidabad District is in the heart of 'Rarb' area. Its history dates back to pre-historic Chalcolithic period extending to the Mughal era, thus the region is rich in both folklore and history. Hiuen Tsang in his travelogue mentioned the 13 stupas in Karnasuvarna, one of which is located near the HPGB College. Excavations were undertaken in recent years headed by the famous archaeologist Amal Roy and the ASI. It was a region where Buddhism once flourished as did folk deities like *Mongol Chondi*, *Monosa*, *Brahmodaitya*. It still has a living heritage of folk dance and folk crafts. The Workshop was held here to make people aware of their past heritage, with Education Officer Sayan Bhattacharyya of Indian Museum talking about the history and culture of the region. The audience were greatly educated on their precious environment by the talks of the different presenters at this event.



In mid April State Convenor GM Kapur welcomed an important team of professionals and conservation experts from overseas - the Director and CEO of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY Tom Campbell; its Conservator in Charge Lisa Pelosi; Director SRAL Art Conservation and Research, Maastricht, Netherlands Director & CEO, at ICI Kolkata.

### *Santiniketan*

Convenor Susmita Guha Roy writes that the two day Workshop on traditional *Gobona* or *Goyna-bori* making was held at Patha Bhavan to observe *World Heritage Day*. This is an ancient food art of Midnapore District of





Release of *Paribesh*

Temple was built by Birbhum King Mallanath in 1192 AD. It is surrounded by 21 other temples, with a sacred tank on its eastern flank. The main attraction of these temples is their exquisite terracotta architectural designs that were greatly appreciated by the Members and students.



West Bengal. The delicious edible items, that are unique decorative art, have been appreciated by eminent people like Rabindranath Tagore and Nandlal Bose. Food after all must appeal to both the eye and the palate for the digestive juices to flow!

The 22<sup>nd</sup> issue of *Paribesh Patrika* of the Chapter was released by social worker and environmentalist Jayanata Das. Student Members were also present at this event. This year the cover had the painting of Founder Member, the late KG Subramanyam who was a famous artist. Members Subir Adhikari, Animesh Khan, Jayanta Gour and Neela Basu made some suggestions for the future issues of *Paribesh*.

The Chapter organized a Heritage Tour to Ganpur and Mallarpur in Birbhum District. The *Mallarpur Shiva*





*Chapter Members and Students at the magnificent Mallarapur Shiva Temple*

## NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

### WOMEN' LIB?



*Is this what women have been reduced to for personal safety in cities?*

### SURPRISING LITTLE VILLAGES

*Pansari Village, Gujarat* has all amenities of a city like WiFi-enabled schools, CCTV networked safety measures, and toilets for one and all.

*Kokrebellur Village, Karanataka* nurtures rare migratory birds like the spoy-billed Pelican at the cost of losing their valuable crops on which the birds feed without fear.

*Veliyamber Village, Kerala* has 300 families with each and every person having pledged to donate their organs.

*Raibidpura Village, Madhya Pradesh* has many 'trump' players since generations, and now even have a Bridge Club.

*Hiware Village, Maharashtra* has a per capita income that grew from Rs.830 in 1990 to Rs.30,000 in 2016. It is a case study for other villages.

*Tamnath Village, Maharashtra* is the cleanest village with no plastic bags due to the collaborative effort and support of its people.

*Piplantri Village, Rajasthan* plants 11 trees for every girl born in the village.

*Bisrakh Village, Uttar Pradesh* has 900 families believing their village is Ravana's birthplace. Every year they mourn his death during the *Dassera* festival.



Mohammadpur Umri Village, Uttar Pradesh has 33 pairs of twins out of a population of 600 people.

Ack : India Today

### A TALE OF TWO PRISONS

Can the best of salesmen hope to sell biscuits worth Rs.1.5 lakhs in a month? A prisoner convicted for shooting another man dead over a land dispute in Himachal Pradesh is managing to do just that. Like his other fellow inmates in Shimla, he was given employment under the *Open Jail Inmates* scheme for good conduct. He is now allowed to sell confectioneries prepared in the Jail's commercial ovens. INTACH recalls the initiative once taken by our West Bengal State Convenor for prisoners to be trained to look ahead to a better life.



### PIGEONS ON THE PILL

Barcelona City Council decided to put its pigeon population on the Pill, as thousands of them were pooping on heritage structures. Special dispensers with pills were installed in different districts, and a reduction of 70-80% of pigeon population is estimated at the end of 5 years. In fact use of pills on pigeons has been in operation for more than 15 years in other parts of Europe. Unlike culling it is not an 'unethical' solution. Could it be a solution for stray dogs and naughty monkeys on the loose in Indian cities?

### FLORES HOBBITS

For more than million years, a remote Indonesian island of Flores was home to Hobbit-sized humans. Till recently little was known about this mysterious 3 ft. metre tall species. Researchers finally traced their origin as the first out of Africa and as one of the earliest human species dating back to 1.75 million years ago. Scientists carried out a most comprehensive study of bones of the Flores people, analysed the characteristics of their skulls, jaws and teeth, of shoulders, arms and legs and compared them to another human like species. They came to the conclusion that they had most likely evolved at the same time as *Homo Habilis* who lived in Africa 2.1-1.5 million years ago.



### OLDEST ORANGUTAN

Perth Zoo has the oldest Sumatran orangutan in captivity, according to the Guinness Book of World Records. *Puan* was gifted in 1968 by the Sultan of Johor, in return for native Australian animals. If her breakfast does not come on time she stamps her foot in indignation. Last year's birthday she was served rambutans from her childhood home in Malaysia. This year it will be her 61<sup>st</sup> birthday in October, which is real old as female orangutans do not generally live past 50. Alas freedom may not be the best birthday gift given her old age.

## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ( CSR)

Ministry of Corporate Affairs notification effective April 2014 states Companies of Rs. 500 crore net worth or Rs. 10,000 crore or more turnover, or Rs. 5 crore net worth profit during any financial year, must constitute a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee to recommend to their Board the amount to be spent on social causes. At least 2% of the average net profits of the Company during the three immediately preceding years should be spent on activities like eradication of hunger or malnutrition; or enhancing vocational skills, education, safe drinking water etc. important to society.

CSR also covers socially vital activities like conservation of nature; environmental sustainability; protection of heritage properties, works of art, and intangible heritage. These

are specialised subjects of INTACH activities since its foundation 30 years ago. The Trust is recognized as an institute of national importance by the Government, and is executing many such projects in partnership with State Governments across the country and at the Centre. The Corporate sector can take up conservation activities through INTACH. It will enhance their public image.

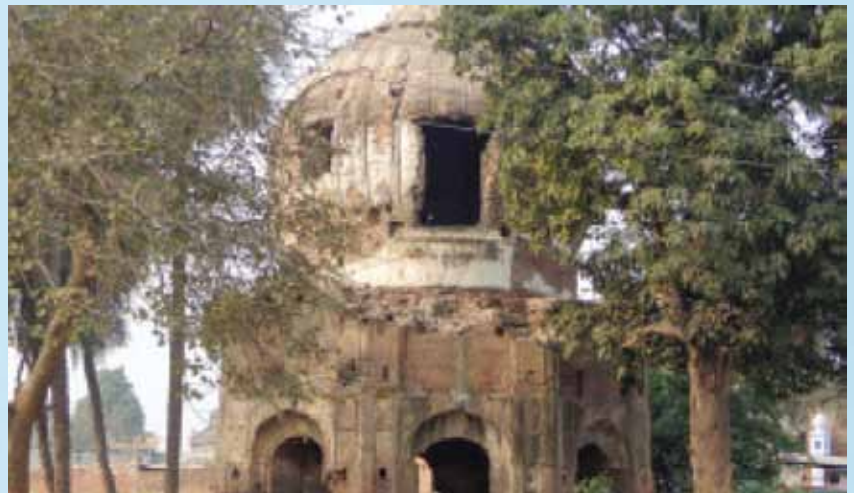
In this issue of INTACH newsletter *Virasat*, we bring to your notice two heritage properties at risk. They are in urgent need of financial support of Corporations who would like to preserve the country's heritage assets. It is what we need to bequeath to our children and to the generations to come so that they may take pride in our civilisational heritage and enrich their lives.



*Haveli of Nadir Ali*

The Haveli of Nadir Ali in Meerut (UP) of olden days, is currently being used as a civic building (the Regional Food Controller's Office). This 150 year old building is in an advanced state of decay.

This Mughal period Tomb in Mansabia Complex (City Railway Station Road), Meerut, UP is in danger of disappearance.



*Tomb in Mansabia Complex*

**Needed**

**Enlightened Corporates to preserve and protect our National Wealth !**