

Happy New Year to all Readers

INTACH

Vikram  
Smt

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

SHARAD RITU

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2012

## GREETINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR

**Major General L.K.Gupta**  
Chairman INTACH

I take this opportunity to wish all INTACH Members a very Happy New Year 2013, and a very abundant Vikram Samvat 2069.



We can all look back with satisfaction that our conservation heritage mission and movement remains firm and steady, in step with the 1984 INTACH Memorandum and on the path envisaged by our Founder Members.

Our Government, both Central and State profess to value our culture and heritage but strong measures have not been adequately taken to put them on the national agenda as a priority concern. Conserving the plurality of our cultural legacy and protection of environment are the bedrock of future gross national well being, and the country's development and prosperity.

However, INTACH deeply appreciates the decision of the 13 Finance Commission led by Shri Vijay Kelkar, to allocate funds for the Conservation of Heritage to most States. Now it is up to the State Governments to wisely and properly utilize these funds to conserve both tangible and intangible, as well as natural heritage so as to make the required impact.

India's unique character is mirrored in its heritage, a layered mix of stories, mythologies, art,

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## HERITAGE WEEK

# A PANORAMA OF INDIAN CULTURE

19<sup>TH</sup> - 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2012

*"What we regard today as tradition is itself the product of a continuous evolution. Tradition is not static. It does not mean being caught up in the past. Tradition can also be movement...to be creatively alive."*

— Jawaharlal Nehru



INTACH celebrates Heritage Week 19th-25th November every year, to reiterate its commitment to preserve the nation's inheritance from the past, to enhance heritage awareness in the present, so that this wealth of the nation is preserved for the future. There can be no richer legacy to bequeath to the coming generations.

In a country as geo-culturally diverse as India, celebrating the myriad forms of heritage is integral to valuing them and enriching our lives. INTACH's effort is to sensitize people that heritage preservation is of the utmost importance, and to ensure that it is not bulldozed by monoculture in the name of progress and development. Heritage is everyman's legacy, and as continuously stressed by Chairman INTACH, it is the obligatory duty of each citizen to ensure

its continuance be it tangible, intangible or natural heritage.

Heritage Week was inaugurated on 19th November in the forecourt of the Central Office with a regal touch, its staff and officers gathered under the imposing sculpture of Maharaja Duleep Singh looking down upon the gathering. Coincidentally, the occasion marked the opening of an exhibition on the last Maharaja of Punjab and some replicas of the priceless artifacts of that era. Significantly, INTACH signed a MOU with Doordarshan for telecasting all the major events hosted by INTACH, and for showing films and documentaries on Indian culture and heritage produced by it. The monogram of the latest Pupul Jayakar Lecture was also released at this inaugural event.



India

(Contd. from page 1)

languages, religions, tribes, legacies of dynasties, outside settlers, adventurers and invaders that has resulted in an extraordinary and many-splendoured melting pot of modern India. We have stunning natural sites in the Himalayas, Vindhyas, Satpuras, Aravalies (the oldest mountain chain), Eastern and Western Ghats, Garo and Jaintia Hills, our rivers and islands with the surrounding seas along with the flora, fauna, animal, bird and aquatic kingdoms. These are the wealth of our country.

While we take pride in India as home to an ancient, rich, plural and multi-dimensional cultural heritage, we tend to overlook two significant aspects that are quintessential to perceive a more complete idea of our cultural heritage. The first is related to our literature and the other to the freedom struggle. India over the last three millennia produced a huge body of literature in several languages, apart from epics and classics whose writers are either unknown or mythological figures. Similarly, there is an impressive list of worthy sons and daughters of the soil who need to be venerated for their supreme sacrifices and suffering during the freedom struggle with more of their memories commemorated on public buildings, places, statues, trains and postage stamps.

Documentation and listing of our fast diminishing heritage remain our key focus, supplemented by publications and other thrusts on dissemination of information and creating awareness of all that is at stake. Also, INTACH Members must keep their eyes and ears open to take prompt action when confronted with desecration, encroachment, mindless development at the cost of heritage.

In order to create greater expertise and skills in the field for protection of our natural and cultural heritage, a Centre for Training and Capacity Building has been recently set up at INTACH to add to our efforts in promoting expertise that can manage our heritage more effectively. We are looking ahead by offering this opportunity to all persons in the field interested in honing their conservation skills. This will trigger job creation, community revitalization, and tourism activity, and will accelerate the pace of local economies. Conservation work also promotes environmental sustainability, adaption and reuse of existing historic buildings to serve socially useful purposes, preservation of all that is sacred and beautiful, ancient and precious.

Along with documentation and listing useful publications are being brought out to spread awareness of our cultural and natural heritage. I compliment all our Convenors, Co-Convenors and Chapter Members who are taking major initiatives in this regard. Many are now undertaking large and complex projects carefully guided by the new Financial Operating Procedures. They are also taking up various public issues to save heritage in their regions from thoughtless and willful destruction, often filing PILs whenever all other means are exhausted. INTACH today is a beehive of commendable activity because of its network of Chapters and Members.

Let us begin the New Year by re-dedicating ourselves to the cause of conservation, and honour the legacy of future generations and of our great and ancient civilisation.



Replicas of Antiques



There was collaboration with India International Centre (IIC) and the India Habitat Centre, with some of the week's events held at their venues to add vibrancy and a larger dimension to the celebrations in Delhi. INTACH acknowledges there is the added need today in the present scenario to strike a healthy balance between tradition and modernity. The week thus unfolded with an interesting event each day for an inclusive celebration with INTACH Staff, Members, Youth, and Guests.

The Theatre Workshop organized by HECS on 20th November for school students was conducted by well known theatre personality Faisal Alkazi. He is also a Television Director, educationist, counsellor, trainer and costume designer. He taught students some new techniques of theatre and components of acting, placing them into 5-6 different groups with the theme of "slavery during the early medieval age" to be enacted in a short skit. The students came



Faisal Alkazi interacts with students!



Theatre under the Tree



up with innovative ideas and were lauded by the audience. The workshop concluded with words of encouragement by Member Secretary Choden Misra as Chief Guest and certificates were awarded to the participants.

In collaboration with Delhi Tourism, the first ever Delhi Heritage Quiz was held for the older group in which 84 college students from 42 prestigious colleges and institutes participated. Interestingly outstation teams from Patiala and Hyderabad also participated. The Quiz, conducted by Kunal Savarkar of Quizcraft, began with a qualifying round of 25 preliminary questions to be answered in writing, from which 6 teams were selected for the finals. The successful teams were from School of Planning & Architecture; Jamia Milia Islamia; St. Stephen's; Bharatiya Vidyapeeth's College

of Engineering; Indian Institute of Foreign Trade; and the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali. Five rigorous rounds of quizzing followed, with the Jamia Milia Islamia team emerging victorious to win the cash prize worth Rs.10, 000, a trophy, books from Hachette India, and a travel coupon from GoCarz to visit the famous monuments of the capital. The second and third prize winners receiving Rs.6000 and Rs. 4000 respectively also received books. The Quiz was scheduled to be broadcast on DD Bharati.

Eminent speakers were invited to the Panel Discussion on *Preserving Heritage : the Socio-Economic Imperative* held on 22nd November.

Parliament Member Baijayant Panda spoke about the Intangible Heritage Bill which he proposes to table in Parliament at the first opportunity, copies of which were distributed to the gathering. He invited both panelists and guests to share their thoughts and offer suggestions for the framing and implementation of the proposed Bill.

Founding Member of *Dastakaari Haat Samiti*, Jaya Jaitly spoke extensively about craft forms and the need to liberate crafts people from the shackles of bureaucratic management.

Padmashri Geeta Chandran, renowned for her creative Bharatnatyam recitals, felt there is need to streamline government-run cultural institutions to ensure patronage for artists/artistes. She also said there should be emphasis on dance forms rather than patronage extended to favoured dancers.

Dr. Lotika Varadarajan, an expert in the field of indigenous knowledge system, highlighted how the valuable knowledge of our tribal communities could be safeguarded by adopting proper measures.

Prof. of Conservation Architecture, Dr. Priyaleen Singh elaborated on the need to use traditional architectural norms for conserving old buildings, and the need to involve local people in the process and its importance.



Panelists and Participants



Akaba Idena

INTACH IDC Consultant, Dr. Narayani Gupta summed up the ideas espoused by all her fellow panelists. The common denominator in all the ideas espoused was community development, and how this could be made possible considering both the social as well as economic factors.

The panelists were complimented by Member Secretary CT Misra for their meaningful discourses in her concluding remarks.



Harit Sankalp

The event on 23rd November *Harit Sankalp*, an essay writing cum painting competition, was organized specifically for school children. It attracted around 110 children from 35 prestigious schools of Delhi. Their buzz and excitement added a grand finale to the Heritage Week. This programme held at Delhi and other cities (See HECS News) was all about reaching out to people, especially the youth – our future stake holders.

INTACH hopes this annual event, in a perfect blend of intellectual discussions and interactive activities, will contribute to developing both an appreciation and a sense of responsibility towards our cultural wealth, and bring people together for the common cause of heritage conservation.

INTACH congratulates Director ICHD Neerupama Modwell on the success of World Heritage Week celebrations, with programmes that were engrossing for all and well detailed in content.

## NEWS FROM CENTRAL OFFICE

INTACH Executive Committee Meeting was held on 19th November.

The Governing Council Meeting took place on 3rd December.

The Election Bye Laws were approved. The next Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled to be held on Saturday, 16th March 2013. Notice has been issued to all Chapters and INTACH Members for this Annual General Body Meeting. It gives all details of the election rules, process, receipt of ballot papers, etc.

### INTACH Delegation Visits Poland



INTACH representatives Director ICI Bengaluru Madhu Rani KP; AHD Conservation Architect Ruknuddin Mirza; Conservation Architect and INTACH Associate Member from Jamnagar Chapter Sachin Vyas; and Co-Convenor Rajasthan State Chapter Dharmendar Kanwar visited Poland, under the MOU signed between INTACH and the International Cultural Centre Krakow. On the conclusion of this visit they felt “a bridge of mutual respect for culture as well as historical background has been established with both Poland and the cultural organizations of three other countries Slovakia, Hungary and Czech Republic who participated in the programme. These four European countries are in the process of putting a system of ‘licensed research’ in their respective communities linking the fields of Art History, Preservation, Restoration, etc.

The main objective of the interactions that took place at Krakow was to compare the Central European experiences with Indian achievements in the field, and to establish future collaborations in various related conservation activities be it painting, archaeology, landscaping, sculpture or management of heritage sites.

The delegates have some pertinent observations to offer that our cultural czars and officials may like to take note. To quote: “A sense of frustration seemed to take over at what seemed like the unfairness of UNESCO’s selection criteria.



China

Some of their monuments weren't a patch on what India has in terms of architectural and historical heritage. Why is it that we have to go to UNESCO repeatedly to get them to nominate some of our outstanding forts? Speaking of Rajasthan's efforts to get recognition for Five Hill Forts for the last two years, it seems quite strange that something as insignificant as the Spissky Hard (Slovakia) enjoys UNESCO World Heritage Site status while we struggle to get some truly exceptional forts recognized." They acknowledge it is partly because Poland and Slovakia have done a commendable job not only in pursuing UNESCO but also keeping the movement alive, and ensuring there is better maintenance and site management by well informed professionals - so unlike many of our 'gatekeepers'.

In the seminar with representatives of the Civic Committee for Restoration of Krakow Heritage, the delegation learned about the thought process behind decision making and the philosophy of heritage conservation in Poland. There is a fine admixture of politicians, managers, administrators, artists, journalists, conservators and other experts who man the committee taking decisions which result in action par excellence. "All the present activities seemed to be people centric. As they are almost done with the documentation, restoration and reconstruction, and now action going forward is 'how to care', or preservation".

The delegation toured various sites in Poland, and sincerely wished for more of the brain storming rather than sight-seeing. The importance of documentation, they feel, was their most important learning experience. They state "Why the scale of reconstruction of a span of history covering from 13th C to the 20th C approximately, has been made possible is due to one main reason, the presence of documentation, be it through early paintings, prints, later photographs to support, etc." Hopefully the INTACH delegates have come back to fulfill their own expressed desire to ponder upon issues of heritage, and also to bring forth some concrete ideas for resolution.

### Chairman's Visits

Chairman LK Gupta visited Kanpur during the month of October.

On a private visit to London, he held meetings with officials of the Charles Wallace Trust and INTACH UK Trust which were fruitful.

In December, Chairman visited Amritsar for a meeting of the Punjab State Chapter. The Convenors of Amritsar, Bhatinda, Faridkot, Malerkota and Patiala took part in the deliberations.

### INTACH Website/Facebook/Twitter



INTACH Website efficiently manned by Payal Joshi is regularly updated with latest news and photographs, information on various scholarships, awards, etc and Heritage Alerts. The numbers of registered members on the website for E-Newsletter is more than 1500 people to date.

The Facebook page - Indian Heritage (INTACH) opened in the month of March is likewise updated with INTACH News, Heritage Walks undertaken by Chapters, Restoration work undertaken by AHD, etc.

The Twitter account was opened on 14th December, and already has nearly 100 people following it. It is called INTACHIndia-<https://twitter.com/INTACHIndia>.

### Talk at IIC

Convenor NP Bhatt from Dharwad Chapter delivered a talk on *The Soopa Shastra of Mangarasa III*. The *Soopa Shastra*, written in verse, is a unique treatise originally written in Kannada on the culinary traditions of medieval Karnataka. Alas, none of the dishes could be tasted on the occasion unlike the time of the book's release in Dharwad when local ladies and hotel cooks joined hands to spread a buffet for the invited guests. Shri Bhatt however was able to spice up his talk with much of the little known history of Mangarasa III and his times. It was a fascinating story filled with anecdotal details. And of course he peppered it with so many details about Mangarasa's ways and means of turning cuisine into a way of a long and healthy life, delectably lived.

### Condolences

Smt. Manju Bharat Ram, Life Member of the Delhi Chapter since inception of INTACH in 1984, passed away after a prolonged illness on 13th December. She was a much loved person by all who came in contact with her during a lifetime association with The Shri Ram Schools, SRF Vidyalaya and Enhancing Early Education of which she was both Founder and Chairman.



She was a Founder Member of Charity Aid Foundation – India (CAF) and Pratham, and Trustee and Honorary General Secretary of the Blind Relief Association. She was also on the Board of Governors for Kendriya Vidyalaya, Bharati Foundation, Save the Children-India, and Lady Irwin College, New Delhi. A woman of many parts, Manju Bharat Ram will be long remembered by all her associates and friends.

INTACH extends its heartfelt condolences to all members of her family. With our good wishes.



Colombia

## NEWS FROM CHAPTERS

### Andhra Pradesh

INTACH AP State participated in the *World Telugu Maha Sabhalu* in Tiruapathi from 18th of December. All the Districts in the State conducted cultural and literary programmes during the *Maha Sabhalu* concluding on 24th December. As part of AP State Chapter's contribution to the District Programmes, a role play depicting the Pithapuram Maharani's *Kala Durbar* was recorded and the DVD released by INTACH Chief Patron and District Collector & Magistrate, East Godavari District, Smt. Neetu Prasad.

Pithapuram is a small town adjacent to Kakinada where the erstwhile Maharaja's benevolence and charity knew no bounds. He was a great scholar, philanthropist and a social reformer. His queen Chinnamamba was equally well read and well versed in the literary arts. One of INTACH Members, retired College Principal Dr.M.V. Bharatha Lakshmi took the lead in bringing out this DVD and role playing by ladies made it an original and interesting programme. The Chief Patron congratulated INTACH on its proactive participation and honoured the participants with fruits and flowers along with a copy of the DVD at the District Cultural Open Air Vediaka specially put up for the programme.



INTACH Participation in World Telugu Maha Sabhalu



### Kurnool



Celebrating World Heritage Week, Kurnool



World Heritage Week was celebrated on 19th November with a Plantation Programme at the site of the ancient rock paintings at Kethavaram village, Orvakal with the participation of many INTACH Members and local villagers. The Vice Chancellor of Rayala Seema University Prof. K Krishna Naik was the Chief Guest at this event attended also by the Press. Prof. R. Chandra Sekhara Reddy, the Dean of Potti Sri Ramulu Telugu University, Srisailam was the Guest of Honour.

The concluding event on 25th November was also held at the same site of the Rock Paintings. The Vice Chancellor of Rayalaseema University and the Dean of Pottisriramulu Telugu University participated with INTACH Members and local villagers in the programme, which concluded with several colourful folk dances and local food.





## Hyderabad

Convenor Anuradha Reddy, as member of the technical committee and inspection team visited some of the 42 protected structures listed by the AP Department of Archaeology. A small temple abutting the four minarets of the 420 year old Charminar recently resulted in violent protests and shut down in the city. It is a mere reflection of the continuing apathy of authorities that selectively allow shopping complex and concrete structures to come up in heritage areas despite building regulations. The Convenor points to Malkajgiri Fort as a classic example of State apathy. "This ancient structure has been leased to a brewery company. Not only have they added many new buildings inside, even public access has been blocked". This is the case even at centrally protected Golconda Fort, which along with the Charminar is vying for World Heritage Site status.

## Srikakulam



*Hindustani classical music recital, Srikakulam*

A North Indian classical musical concert of Gayathri Kaundinya was hosted by the Chapter to honour the great maestro Padmabhushan Sangeetha Kalanidhi Dr. Sreepada Pinakapani on the occasion of his birth centenary celebrations. Born on 19th August 1912, he is a living legend from a small village Priyagraharam in Srikakulam District. The Chapter organized the function in association with Sunadavinodini, a music organization whose artistes



*Lt. to Rt. Founder Sunadavinodini MK Prasad, DPRO Ramesh, Sponsor Dr. MV Ramana Rao, guest of honour Dr. K Ammannaidu, Principal Dr. Pulakhandam, Convenor Dharmarao Dust*

presented a scintillating concert on the occasion to a standing ovation. It was presided by Dr. MV Ramanarao, a former student of the maestro and also a retired superintendent of Headquarters Hospital.

Convenor Dharmarao Dusi says that classical music in Andhra Pradesh is gradually fading out for many reasons, the main being the technicalities of a concert. Guests of Honour Dr. K. Ammannaidu and Dr. Srinivasrao also spoke on the subject of classical music.

## Warangal



*Superintendent of Police Rajesh Kumar addressing the gathering. Counselor Prof. M. Pandu Ranga on his right*

Gandhi Jayanti, 2nd October was marked with a Cycle Rally and a Seminar on *Irrigation Technology of Kakatiyas*. The Chapters' objective was both to educate youth about irrigation technologies of early times as well as to inculcate the spirit of togetherness and adventure.

INTACH Patron Collector Raaul Bojja garlanded Mahatma Gandhi's statue, and addressed the gathering which included participants from the Municipal Corporation, stressing on the importance of sustaining irrigation and drinking water supplies for the people of Telangana. Joint Collector Sri Pradumna flagged off the cycle race, reiterating the need for conserving water resources for future generations. Superintendants of Police Rajesh Kumar



*Cycle rally flagged by Joint Collector Shri Pradumna, 2<sup>nd</sup> October*



India

and Shyam Sundar, and Municipal Commissioner Vivek Yadav participated in the cycle rally along with students and employees of the Corporation with a campaign to *Make Warangal City Clean and Green*. Nearly 350 students from about 30 schools with several faculty members participated in the cycle rally.

On reaching Warangal Fort, Convenor Prof. M. Pandu Ranga Rao inaugurated the Seminar at the Kush Mahal. His talk highlighted the role people can play in management of recharging sub surface water, rain water harvesting and improved storage of water. The students were then taken on a visit to monuments and a monolithic hill. At the concluding of the day's functions, prizes were awarded to winners of the essay, quiz and painting competitions that had been held earlier in the closing week of September.

## Chattisgarh

### Raipur

Minister for Culture, Tourism & School Education Brijmohan Agrawal was the Chief Guest at the two-day *History & Heritage Workshop for School Teachers* organised by the Chapter. Co-Convenor Rajendra Chandak informs that State Convenor Lalit Surjan, Chapter Convenor Prof. RG Bhave and retired HOD of Ancient History from Pt.Ravishanar Shukla University LS Nigam participated in the deliberations. A heritage site visit and awards to prize winning students were also scheduled on the occasion.

### Shaivite Centre

Chhattisgarh brings immediately to mind Bastar art, Chitrakot waterfalls, Kanger Valley National Park, and stalactite cave in Kutumsar. Not much is known about the two ruined 5th-6th century temples of Devrani and Jethani built by Sarabhpuriya queens. It was JD Wangler, an associate of the first ASI Director General Cunningham, who stumbled upon these ruins at Tala on the banks of the Maniyari river 30 kms from Bilaspur. During excavations in 1987-88, a unique sculpture named Rudra Shiva was unearthed around the Devrani Temple, ingeniously chiseled through images of animals like crocodiles, lizards, fish, crabs, peacocks, tortoise, snake, two lion faces and seven human faces! It shows Tala was a major Shaivite centre, with occasional Tantric leaning. Sadly, *"Mutilated statues, broken limbs, defaced doorways, wrecked pillars, rocks strewn in reckless abandon"* is the picture reported by a recent visitor who found all temples dedicated to Shiva and bearing striking resemblances. He also says *"we had to listen to the banter of a local person who pretended to be an authority on the place as there was no ASI guide and even its signboard stood defaced."*

### Oldest Tree Fossil

One of the greatest geo-botanical discoveries is the oldest and largest tree fossil dating back to 250 million years Triassic (geologic) period. It lay scattered over 700 hectares of land across several villages on the northern fringe of Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary. At first glance the fossils seem like large rocks, so abundant that villagers have been using them as plinths for their houses or to erect fences. Director, State Forest Research and Training Institute believe it is to date the thickest and largest fossil found anywhere in India. SFRTI has commenced extensive mapping of the entire area for developing a geo-heritage site of global significance.

## Delhi

The Delhi Chapter Fellowship was announced on 19th November at the inauguration of Heritage Week. Its objective is to facilitate structured research and analysis of some of the key issues and complexities related to conservation management of India's cultural heritage. It will facilitate identification and analysis of issues and themes that lie in the core of cultural heritage conservation; development of a structured methodology to conduct thematic studies on both philosophical and practical issues; and support the capacity building programmes launched by the INTACH Centre for Conservation Training and Capacity Building. Candidates with first degree in architecture/archaeology with a minimum of one year professional experience or post-graduation in Heritage Conservation/Management are eligible to apply. They must have demonstrable experience in use of traditional building materials and techniques, and good verbal and written communication skills.

### Delhi : 1707-1857

The book *Princes and Painters in Mughal Delhi* by historian William Dalrymple and Yuthika Sharma, after a 5 year collaboration, brings to the fore the final days of that empire which produced the best literary works of both historical and artistic value. Its backdrop of paintings are from public and private collections from all over the world. The period 1707-1857 which saw the decline of the Mughals and the rise of the British Raj, also witnessed a plethora of beautiful artistic expressions by way of paintings, portraits, miniatures, panoramas, etc. commissioned by both Princes and Europeans. At the book release Dalrymple gave glimpses into art that flourished under Akbar and Jehangir and peaked during the reign of Shah Jehan. There was also the Company School paintings produced for British officials like James Skinner. Yuthika conveyed in her message (as she was laid up with a plastered leg) that some of these paintings were masterpieces by Ghulam Murtaza Khan, Ghulam Ali Khan, Mazhar Ali Khan and Nidha Mal among others, and they documented a neglected period of Indian history.



Netherlands

### Nizamuddin Basti

The Nizamuddin Basti, one of the oldest human cluster in Delhi, recently celebrated seven centuries of its living culture with a Mela organised by the Aga Khan Development Network under its urban renewal initiative. The Basti continues to attract pilgrims from across India and the world to this day. The always jam-packed lanes were spruced up keeping in mind Sufi teachings of Nizamuddin Auliya who espoused tolerance, pluralism and cleanliness. Residents guided visitors through the labyrinth of lanes displaying a variety of old craft products like *sanji*, *miswak*, etc., traditional embroidery, Mughal glazed tiles, calligraphy, *ittars*, etc. Local master chefs whipped up delicacies like *korma* and *sheer mal*, children performed *qawwali*, and the Niazi brothers performed *Sufiana Kalaam* in the forecourt of Chaunsath Khambha next to the tomb of Mirza Ghalib. The Mela was supported by multiple authorities - the Ministry of Culture, ASI, MCD and the DDA - which shows how heritage is kept alive when people and powers come together.



Heritage Walk, 1<sup>st</sup> October



**For more information and other details enquiries may be addressed to Shri Navin Piplani at** [ctcb.intach@gmail.com](mailto:ctcb.intach@gmail.com) or visit <http://www.intach.org/idivctacb.asp>

Researchers will receive a stipend of Rs.40,000 per month for a three month period (1st March-31<sup>st</sup> May 2013). Last date for submission of completed applications is 31st January 2013.

### Gujarat

#### Mehsana

Convenor Javahar Mehta informs that before the full moon *Purnima* in the *Bhadrapad* month of October, every year pilgrims on foot go for a *darshan* to Ambaji. This year approximately 24 lakh pilgrims visited Ambaji, with a few passing through Mehsana. Some Chapter Members also undertook the pilgrimage. As in previous years, the Chapter displayed banners on the road appealing to the public for preservation of environment, heritage, tree plantation and removal of pollution along the route in Banas-Kantha District.



INTACH Banners on route of Ambaji

A Heritage Walk was organized at Patan on 1st October by train, similar to the one held a week earlier at Vadnagar. The Vadnagar group visited Shri Hatkeshwar Tempe, Nagiol and Arjunnbari Gates and reached Toran. The second group of 100 students visited Rajgadhi, Sahastraling lake, Raniki Vav, Fort, Fati Pole and Aghar Gate. Convenor Javahar Mehta accompanied the group and personally explained many details about man-made cultural heritage.

Hands on Heritage published in Gujarati was distributed at a Seminar of Principals of Higher Secondary Schools of Mehsana District organized by the District Education Officer. Convenor delivered a lecture on the profile and activities of INTACH. Shri Swamiji of Ram Krishna Mission also attended this event.



Convenor Javahar Mehta in discussion with Director SS Schools TT Programme



Indonesia

### Hi-Tech Conservation

Whale sharks along the western coast of Gujarat are the world's largest fish. They are listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Act. The Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), under the Rapid Action Project of the State Forest Department, and in coordination with the David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, UK, developed a procedure for their conservation. Fishermen were made aware and trained to use water proof cameras that carry out self-documentation while rescuing this endangered species caught in their fishing nets. The sharks are RAM ventilator and need to be in constant motion to take in water for respiration, otherwise they get seriously stressed. Fishermen are now getting adept at catching and releasing them. Earlier the sharks were hunted for their liver oil and for meat export.

## Haryana

### Faridabad & Palwal

Convenor Anand Mehta appealed to the Dy. Commissioner Balraj Singh, Faridabad to intervene in saving the *Chhatri* at Chandavali village. This heritage structure built by Raja Ballu in the 19th century is under threat of demolition to make way for a proposed Industrial Model Township spreading over 1832 acres. This *Chhatri* is identical to the *Rani ki Chhatri* inside the AIIMS rural health complex in Ballabgarh which was restored by INTACH, coincidentally under the same Dy. Commissioner and in coordination with the Ballabgarh Beautification & Development Authority. It is therefore hoped that INTACH protest in the case of the *Chandavali Chhatri* will receive a positive attention of the authorities. Heritage structures wherever encountered should be incorporated in landscaping of new development plans which will only add to the beautification of the environment.

### Gurgaon

The Chapter organized a Heritage Run at Leisure Valley on 23rd November with the participation of 1059 children from 14 local schools, accompanied by their teachers. Chief Guest INTACH Chairman LK Gupta flagged off the runners. Twenty participants from the public also registered to take part in the Run. The event was sponsored by Hindustan Times, DLF Pvt Ltd, Geodis Overseas Pvt Ltd, Balmer Laurie Ltd, Fortis Memorial Research Institute and Rama Tent House – with many of their representatives gracing the occasion. The assistance of local DCP Maheswar Dayal, Haryana Police in providing a patrol van and team of policemen for smoothly conducting the run is greatly appreciated by INTACH. The Chapter also thanks the Chairman of the

Organising Committee Vishnu Sahai and its Members for the success of this marathon event.

Fund Raising forms a very significant part of the Chapter's programmes, with donations received for restoration and awareness projects. An art exhibition organized in New Delhi was well attended and many art works were sold. *Meera*, a performance held on 11th December, was sponsored by DLF Ltd, Rico Auto Industries Ltd, The 3C Company, Power Grid Corporation of India, Sweta Constructions Pvt. Ltd and Chevrolet Marketing Pvt Ltd. It was the fund raiser for the current year.

The Chapter is in dialogue with the Haryana Government for restoration of the *Sheesh Mahal* at Faruknagar and its inclusion on the tourist circuit. Meanwhile there is follow up on various issues related to the restoration of the Delhi Gate. The erosion of the base due to a sewage drain and ugly encroachment by shopkeepers are major stumbling blocks delaying progress. INTACH proposal for restoration of the *Najafgar Jheel* which would solve the water problem of Gurgaon is with the Planning Department, and is also being brought to the attention of the public through media coverage. The setting up of the *Gurgaon Haat* will receive a fillip after the visit of Principal Secretary, Haryana who supported the proposal.

The Chapter has started a Young INTACH Scholar scheme for deserving children from economically handicapped background, to cover their school fees and books for the academic year.

### Kurukshetra

Prof. (Dr.) A.R. Chaudhri is appointed the Convenor of the Chapter. Dr. Mahavir Ror is also newly appointed as the Co-Convenor.

## Karnataka

### Bijapur

Governing Council Member, Convenor Dr. Krishna Kolharkulkarni gave a power point presentation at INTACH Central Office on Drinking Water Supply during the Adilshahi Period in Bijapur City. Its founder Yusuf Khan declared independence from Vijaynagar empire in 1489 AD. He and his successors Ibrahim (1580-1626) and Muhammad Adilshah (1626-56) set up some ingenious systems of water supply. One of their *bavadis* has stately 35 feet arches, and is the second largest in the subcontinent after Barakuvan in Gujarat. Another scheme at the Begum Talab, brought water to the palaces through earthen water pipes. There were as many as 70 distribution pipes carrying water to different parts of the palace. In order to create cool interiors, water pipes were inserted underground in the core of walls and between double ceilings, as can be



seen even today in Faruk Mahal, Sat Manzil, Mubarakkhan Mahal, Summer Palace at Kumatgi. In the Mubarakkhan Mahal there were peacock heads oozing water in every storey Water gushed forth in channels of different shapes and designs, and pools were full of fish. For the Sultans and Sardars of Bijapur water was both a common necessity and a sports indulgence. To this day there are many large wells in Bijapur, especially the Chand and Taj *bavadis* which are a tourist attraction. In 1885 Capt. Syke camping in Bijapur discovered 700 stepped wells with 300 drawing water wells within the Fort. 200 of these unique structures have survived till today, with 20 of them in use.

Convenor Kolharkulkarni has conceived and scripted a beautifully photographed book *My Tale*, giving a bird's eye view of Chini Mahal 2, an Adilshahi monument of the 17th century, and residence of the SP Bijapur since 1885 to this day, enlisting names of all its occupants.

### **Dharwad**

A violin recital by the well known duo Pt. BS Math and Vidushi Akkamahadevi welcomed the invitees of the Chapter to a two day conference on the *Kalyani Chalukas*, who ruled over a large part of Karnataka during the 10th-12th centuries. It was inaugurated at Dharwad by the Commissioner of Kannada Culture, Museums and Heritage Shri KR Ramakrishna.

The Director of the Conference Prof. Shrinivas Ritti highlighted the need for a relook at the *Kalyani Chaluka* period, since the last seminar on the subject was held in 1983. During the last 30 years there has been considerable research and discovery of new inscriptions pertaining to this dynastic period. Dr. KV Ramesh in his keynote address further pointed out that their rule brought about a "sea change in the fields of culture, language, religion and art which was fostered further by the successors like the Rashtrakutas".

Convenor NP Bhat elaborated on how this conference inter-connected with another held last year on the *Badami*



Lt. to Rt. Convenor N.P. Bhat, Shri Ramesh, Prof. Ritti, Shri Rama Krishna, Shri Gokak, Coinvenor SG Bhagwat



A view of the audience

*Chalaukyas*. In the ensuing Technical Sessions, a number of eminent scholars and academicians presented papers on the politics, religion, economy, art, architecture, literature and other facets of that time. In the valedictory session Karnataka State Convenor G. Ashwathanarayana reiterated

### **Season of Dolls**

October-November is the season of festivals. The tryst with the famed *Mysore Dassera-Navratri* is unique, its origin is perhaps in the humble Belavatha village located between Mysore and Serangapatna where live a family of doll makers. Its chief artisan Murugesh Jayaram was always fascinated by monuments, and his house is full of models of Mysore Palace, Lalit Mahal Palace, St. Philomena's Church all carved in wood among other pieces of doll art. He is one of many artisans commissioned by RG Singh who developed the concept of *Gombe Mane* (house of dolls) which has become an annual feature of Dassera celebration at Mysore. Murugesh's palaces stand in the centre with soldiers guarding the gates. There were more than 5000 dolls on display this year made by artisans across the country, one even displaying the fury of Chamundeshwari. In the Jumbo Savari there were 2000 dolls carefully recreated from old photographs and post cards!

### **Kannada Rajyothsava**

The famed *Halmidi Inscription* or Dharwad's *Sadhanakeri* is an integral narrative of Karnataka history. These jaded inscriptions are to be found along with 'hero stones' scattered near neglected temples and under trees in the small village of Halmadi near Belur. It is believed to be the oldest record of an ancient Kannada language called *Purvada Halagannada* used in administrative communication dating to around 450 AD, according to historians. Though some historians claim that there are other inscriptions even older to be found, Halmadi has a distinctive place in the linguistic history of the State.



Argentina

the importance of holding such Conferences, and assured further support for such activities. Karnataka Co-Convenor Anil Gokak and Dharwad Co-Convenor Brigadier SG Bhagwat lent their support and presence to ensure the success of the conference.

### Kerala

#### Calicut

Convenor K. Mohan who is a Travel Consultant with YARHRA writes about two university level students who visited Calicut in November on an exchange programme. They were interested in studying the way houses are built in the city as per *Vastu Shastra* and how it is applied in the modern day architectural context. They also showed a keen interest in the natural environment of Calicut.



Convenor K. Mohan with foreign students Ranata and Ola

#### Jewish Cemetery

This ancient cemetery of the Jewish community at Mala in Thrissur District dates back to at least two millennia. The majority of the once flourishing Jewish community have long migrated to Israel, encroachment and neglect have befallen these historical premises over the years. Now they face further threat with plans afoot to build a stadium and a museum gallery on the grounds in spite of many opposing voices. Thrissur is in the process of establishing a INTACH Chapter. Meanwhile the Kerala Chapter needs to step in and strongly oppose the takeover or any misuse of this historic site. Moreover, there are 40 Jewish families with at least 300 members still living in Mala whose sentiments must be respected. INTACH Member KV Abdul Azeez from Thrissur has brought the matter to the attention of INTACH and Kerala State Chapter needs to follow and give due attention to this pressing matter.

### Madhya Pradesh

#### Bhopal

The Governor of Madhya Pradesh released the book titled *Splendours of the Betwa Valley*, authored by Convenor Dr. Pukhraj Maroo. This was the second book written by the



Dr. Pukhraj Maroo's book released by MP Governor

Convenor on river valley heritage, the first being *Chambal Valley : A Heritage Treasure* released in 2009 by the former President Pratibha Patil. INTACH congratulates him on his works.

Dr. Pukhraj Maroo informs that a film on Bhopal is under planning to showcase the monuments and history of this capital city, stressing on the importance of their conservation. Listing is also being compiled, and discussions on the major viewing point Baradari, conservation of Fatehgarh Palace and Fort were held with a view to develop these historic places.



Convenor Pukhraj Maroo with Chapter Members

#### Burhanpur

The Chapter marked World Tourism Day, with Members visiting places of tourist interest. They discussed how



Meeting on World Tourism Day



best to exploit their full potential. Convenor Dr. Major MK Gupta drew particular attention to the importance of historic paintings and sculpture in heritage promotion. Nearly forty auto and tempo drivers were invited to participate and learn more about various tourist sites and their importance, estimating the cost and time involved for conducting visitors intelligently, as there is a paucity of guides in the city.

**Gwalior**



*Inauguration of Virasat 2012 Exhibition*

The Chapter organized Virasat 2012 Exhibition from 2nd-4th October showcasing rare numismatic and philatelic collections, including a rare collection of Gandhi's photographs and autographs belonging to Chapter Members. It has become an annual event of the Chapter, and this year it was inaugurated by the Mayor Sameeksha Gupta. Collector P. Narhari convened the facilitation ceremony where all participants were presented a certificate of appreciation.



*Presentation of Certificate*

MP State Convenor Dr. HB Maheshwari writes about a painting competition organized on the theme Heritage Monument of World with the participation of more than 200 students. It may be mentioned that earlier on 30th August ACWHM held a meeting organized by the Madhya Pradesh Government authorities with Ms. Shika Jain and Ms. Aruna Bagchi to identify a tentative list of World Heritage Sites in the State. They identified Chanderi and Orcha as Heritage Cities, Mandu as Heritage Site, Sanchi Extension and Bhedaghat in Jabalpur, with the invited speakers elaborating on their finer aspects.

**Mandla**

Convenor Girija Shankar Agarwal organized a Quiz Programme to commemorate *Heritage Week* and spread awareness among school students. On 27th November nearly 400 students of Middle School gathered along with INTACH Members and local citizens on the occasion of the essay competition titled *Hamari Prachin Parampara avam Virasat* (our traditional heritage), chaired by Commandant Nagar Sena Santosh Jat. The alternative choice for essay writing was *Hamari Prachin Jal Vevyastha* (traditional management of water).



*Celebrating Heritage Week, Mandla*



**Maharashtra**

**Chandrapur**

Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur writes about people greatly appreciating the different programmes that the Chapter has been organizing. A leaflet with information on the historical, archeological and tourist places in the district was released by noted historian Shivshahir Babasaheb Purandare.



Bhutan

Chandrapur District has a rich history, with a number of sites dating back to thousands of years like the Mahajkali, Anchaleshwar, Bhadrnag, and Jain temples; the Vinjasan and Mana caves; and other religious and ancient places. The Tadoba Tiger Reserve is visited by lakhs of tourists. There was a paucity of tourist literature giving practical information about places which is now covered by this leaflet.

**Mumbai**

The Chapter organized a series of weekend Lectures: 6<sup>th</sup> October : *Traditional Expressions in Contemporary Art* by art historian Annapurna Garimella on issues of conflicting/ collaborative relationship between art forms and inherent diversity of the vernacular art sphere.

13<sup>th</sup> October: *Place for People in the Indian Museum* by JNU Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kavita Singh drawing on her cross-cultural research on South Asian Museums.

3<sup>rd</sup> Nov.: *The Tradition of the Documentary Photograph* by renowned photographer Ram Rehman on social documentary language and photography and its contemporary relevance.

24<sup>th</sup> Nov: *Legacies of the Arts and Crafts Movement in India – Modernism and Swadeshi* by JNU Associate Prof. Naman Ahuja that has most impacted philosophies of India, China and Japan while looking beyond the Euro-American Sphere.

Several Exhibitions were also held by the Chapter :

22<sup>nd</sup> Sept: *Social Fabric* and the impact of global textile trade and movement



of fabrics across continents on local communities, a presentation in collaboration with Inviva and Max Muller, Mumbai featuring the works of many artistes.

23<sup>rd</sup> Oct: An Educational Workshop was held with students from Al-Jamiatul-Fikria Islamic International School based on the *Social Fabric* exhibition.

1<sup>st</sup> December: *High Tide for a Blue Moon*, by Ranjani Shettar as part of the Museum’s series *Engaging Traditions* for exhibiting kinetic art interfacing art and science.

INTACH Vice-Chairman Tasneem Mehta was invited to join the International Council of the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and attended its Board of Directors meeting in New York on 16<sup>th</sup> October. She was also invited by British Council to represent India at the Annual Conference of UK Museums Association, held at Edinburg on 6<sup>th</sup> November. She made another presentation at a Panel Discussion on “*The Museum*” on 29<sup>th</sup> November at the India Art Festival held at Mumbai.

**Solapur**

Convenor Seemantini Chaphalkar, Co-Convenor Shveta Kothavale and Member Hrishikesh Joshi visited the Palasdev Temple at village Palsdev on a study visit. The temple was under Ujani Dam backwater since 1985, emerging to view 11 years later due to delayed rains. The temple, approachable after a boat ride, is still sufficiently intact for a structure under water for so many years. Across the river was another temple of Rama which is unique in terms of it’s planning and sculpture. The trio visited the Kugaon Fort which too appeared from below Ujani backwaters; and a well preserved water well on private land which is still the main source of water for the farmlands.

The documentation and restoration/relocation of these structures are being explored by the Chapter.

INTACH Members, HOD Dept of Archaeology of Solapur University Dr. Maya Patil, along with Seemantini Chaphalkar, Shveta S. Kothavale, Hrishikesh Joshi and students of





Brazil

Archaeology visited the temples at Hattarsang Kudal at the invitation of the Temple Trust. One of the group Harihara Temple dates to later Chalukyan period, a beautiful example of architecture and



sculpture in local basalt, is in a dilapidated condition. There is also the medieval Sangameshwar Temple. The Trust Members were advised to clear a yard around the structure, fence the premises and then sort out the stones around the site with expert guidance from archaeology department. The team proposes to follow up on the reconstruction and restoration of the temple.

The Chapter has taken up the cause of the Old Municipal Building, currently SMC Primary School Board, to ensure that a right approach is adopted in its repair and renovation. The structure is of great heritage value as the Solapur Municipal Council was the first to hoist the national flag on this building in 1930 by senior freedom fighter from Pune Anasaheb Bhopatkar, in the spirit of *Dandi March* of Mahatma Gandhi. This was the first and unique incidence of its kind throughout the country which irritated the British rulers and compelled them to declare martial law and arrest many leaders and innocent citizens on trumped up charges. The freedom fighters Shri. Mallappa Dhanshetti, Shri. Kurban Hussain, Shri. Jagannath Shinde and Shri. Kisan Sarda were arrested on charges of killing two policemen. The High Court confirmed the decision of the lower court and these four freedom fighters were hanged to death on 12 January 1931. This structure of great local importance must be given its due with a plaque stating all the historical details for public awareness. The building also houses paintings of freedom fighters of local and national stature as well as furniture of the period. Measured drawings and plans are underway to prepare a project report.



Dr. Kotnis Memorial Hall



Rippon Hall

Kotnis Memorial Hall is the birthplace of Dr. Kotnis, an Indian doctor who went to China with a medical delegation in 1938 and died in 1942 while working on the front. He is a revered martyr in both countries, and a symbol of peace and international friendship and humanity. The structure was recently restored and made into a memorial to Dr. Kotnis; with a committee set up by SMC Commissioner at the Kotnis Memorial Hall to overlook its smooth and independent functioning; with INTACH Solapur Convener nominated as one of its members.

Member Smt. Chaphalkar raised the issue of protection wall for Rippon Hall, another heritage structure where a city museum is proposed to be set up. The DC Mavare has given instructions for taking up this work on priority basis for which a meeting was held to form a committee for drawing up a project proposal for material collection, display works and layout of the Rippon Hall City Museum. The Solapur Chapter will provide design assistance and content input about the city's architectural history.

Block wise listing of heritage structures of Solapur has been taken up by the Chapter, and about half the *Bazaar Peth* area has been covered during the last three months.

The Chapter has also taken up designing a brochure on the critically endangered species of the Great Indian Bustard to increase awareness about the bird which is endemic to Nannaj 25 kms from Solapur.

### Nagaland

The Chapter organized a two day national level seminar on *Recovering the Oral Histories of the Northeast India*, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Advance Study, (IIAS) Shimla on 31st Oct. – 1st November. Twenty-Five resource persons from the eight North-East States participated in the deliberations, together with representatives from *Sahapedia*, an interactive online encyclopedia. The discussions explored how to involve new media in the documentation and dissemination of oral histories encompassing the arts, cultures and histories of the region. The Seminar addressed various issues relating to oral traditions, and explored a well coordinated approach towards understanding, documenting and safeguarding



these rare treasures of our national heritage. In the North East it is the verbal arts and oral traditions which constitute the majority of cultural expressions, and which shape the collective memory and perception amongst its indigenous communities. It is indeed oral knowledge that has guided the destinies and lifestyle of social groups, be it folklore, belief systems, life and death rituals, agricultural practices, dance and music, theatre or folklore, etc.

State Convenor Sentila Yanger writes *"Inherent in this knowledge are genealogical accounts of clan groups – their origin myths, migration stories, and cosmologies, all of which vary from community to community, but also determine the inter-community interactions and wider historical development of the North East Region"*. In the absence of structured written histories in the modern sense, oral history continues to be the main window to understand the past and the present - especially when rapid urbanization is fast shrinking this vast cultural space due to the paraphernalia of modern development and economic changes. Urgently required is a special effort to protect age-old oral knowledge from being marginalized and perhaps eroded altogether. Convenor Sentila Yanger adds *"It is also important to recognize and engage with the politics that can underline changes in the discourse related to knowledge"*.

The papers on the various issues and concerns covered by the five thematic sessions is on the anvil for publication by IIAS, Shimla.

### Odisha

#### Bhadrak

A public meeting was held under the chairmanship of Convenor D. Mohanty with former Principal of BNMM College, Paliabindha Kamalakanta Swain as the Chief Guest. Co-Convenor SM Farooque and a number of eminent invitees including social activist and President of the State



4th November Rally, Mayurbhanj

Cocoon Board addressed the large congregation. The oldest potter Ghanashyam Sahu was felicitated on the occasion for his lifetime contribution as a rural artisan. Essay competition on the *Role of Students in Conservation & Protection of our Heritage* had many young participants, with prizes awarded to the best competitors. The Chapter has succeeded in creating a very strong heritage awareness among students and teachers with Quiz Competitions held at various schools which augurs well for the future.



Awareness Programme in session

A Students Rally was organized on 4th November with many Chapter Members also joining in the procession through main thoroughfares of the city with banners proclaiming the heritage message. They visited the 1930 District Museum followed by a social get together at Government Pensioners' Hall to chalk out future programmes of the Chapter.



Quiz Test underway



## Sambalpur



Sambalpuri Dance

Convenor Dr. B B Mishra was the Chief Guest at the Social Science Exhibition on Cultural Heritage of India organized by the Kendriya Viadyalaya, Northern Division Odisha on 1st October. It concluded with a dance performance.

The following month on 4th November, a meeting was held in the premises of the Gopalji Temple to discuss the Religious Heritage of Odisha with special reference to 'Jaganath Culture'. Chief Guest KK Supakar, a Founding Member of the Chapter, released a book in Oriya by Bhakta Bashala Panda on Jaganath, and reviewed by Member Dr. Surubabu Meher. The Convenor as Guest of Honour spoke on the Religious Heritage of Sambalpur. Another event of the month was the founding day celebration of *Hirakhanda Nagrik Parisad* where Dr. Mishra presented a paper on the cultural heritage of Hirakhanda which is the medieval name for present day West Odisha. Chapter Advisor Dr. DK Mishra, formerly State Election Commissioner was the Chief Guest on this occasion. The third event of the month was the commemoration of Heritage Week, with Chapter Executive Committee Member Dr. DK Padhi as the Chief Speaker with the focus on Intangible Heritage of India, along with many eminent speakers from the academic field. The month ended with an inter-school elocution and visual art competition on Natural Heritage held in collaboration with the Kendriya Vidyalaya.



From Lt. to Rt. NK Patnaik, Dr. DK Padhi, Shri Panigrahi, Dr. BB Mishra, Upendra Pradhan



Heritage Week

The Chapter now hopes to embark on an ambitious programme to extend its operations to neighbouring districts to spread the conservation message.

## Punjab

### Amritsar

A three day festival *Care for Nature* comprising competitions in essay writing and folk songs was organized by the Chapter from 4th-6th December at Shri Ram Ashram Public School and S.L. Bhawan's School. Shri Parabhdyal Singh Randhawa made a power point presentation on Air Pollution, and the need to create checks on rising pollution which has serious negative impact on both health and environment. He referred to the study already conducted on the impact of pollution on policemen posted at the heavily trafficked Bhandari Bridge in Amritsar. INTACH Coordinator Heritage Clubs invited people and social organization to play a pro active role to make environmental and cultural preservation a people's movement.



State Convenor with Students and other Guests





Turkey

State Convenor Dr. Sukhdev Singh highlighted the role of students in all such movements, particularly students of professional courses and science stream in schools who could actively participate in programmes which make for a holistic development of their personality. He said the Amritsar Chapter will give new direction to such activities and to train them as guides for heritage walks. These are what he termed “beyond the classroom education” which helps to develop soft skills and analytical skills among young people. The programme ended with prizes distribution to students of many schools who had participated in the various competitions held by the Chapter.

**Chandigarh**

The Chapter celebrated the 125th birth anniversary of Le Corbusier, the French architect of the capital city famous for its urban design. Advisor KK Sharma flagged off the heritage walk in which nearly 150 leading citizens, residents of the city and Chapter Members participated. The event was widely covered by the Media.



Heritage Walk and Events celebrating 125th Anniversary of Le Corbusier



**Patiala**

The Chapter organized lectures on *Science in India : Heritage and Future* in the Model Secondary School, Punjabi University on 17th November. Welcoming the audience, Principal Nirmal Goel highlighted the need to educate the new generation with the science heritage of India. Dr Kuldip Singh Dhir, a prominent science fiction writer and former Head of Punjabi Department,



Chapter Members, Patiala

Punjabi University, delivered the keynote address. Dr Dhir, a post Graduate from Thapar Engineering College, gave a brief history of all eminent Indian scientists who contributed to research and inventions and got world recognition. He talked in Punjabi, the mother tongue of students and audience so that everyone could appreciate the subject.

Dr Manjit Singh, Professor and former Registrar, Punjabi University, Patiala, spoke on *Heritage and Future of Science in India* and the highlights of research and inventions by Indian scientists. Convenor Sarabjit Singh Virk, Advocate spoke on the imperatives and role of the Trust in preserving heritage in all its manifestations, and sensitizing citizens, particularly the students and youth. Co-Convenor Ranjit Singh Bhinder urged students to aspire and become future pioneers of research in science and growth of Applied Science in India. Shri Jaspal Singh Toor, Advocate Ashok Kumar Mittal, Social Activist Harbans Singh, Environmentalist and Advocate B S Mohi and Advocate Jatinder Singh Sarao also interacted with students and shared with them their interest in Science. S. Laljit Singh delivered the vote of thanks.

The Lectures were much applauded by the audience which included the prominent members of the Patiala Chapter, teachers of Model Secondary School, besides the students from Model Secondary School; Auro Mirra Centre of Education; Budha Dal Public School; Guru Nanak Foundation School; and the Government Multipurpose Secondary School, Patiala.

The students of all the above mentioned schools, who had participated in the All India Competition in “*Essay and Paintings on Tagore*” were given certificates and their schools received trophies. The students/participants were served refreshments.



Student presenting a paper



Turkey

## Rajasthan

### Ajmer



Presentation of old terra-cotta art object to state museum

Convenor Mahendra Vikram Singh represented INTACH at a meeting held on 19th October to mark the 104th year of the establishment of the State Museum. He presented an old terracotta art object found near Dudu to the Museum. Shri Om Prakash Sharma, the chief speaker said that this Museum was set up in 1908 by Lord Curzon and its collection has grown significantly over the years.

As mentioned in the last quarterly, bird watching has been a subject of special interest to the Chapter. Spotted during this migratory season were woodpecker, green bee-eater, kingfisher, drogo, spotted owl, etc.



A flock of bird watchers

### Pushkar Festival

The ancient city of Pushkar, located in Ajmer district, plays host to the biggest camel fair every year after Diwali. This year from 20th-28th November, as usual, herdsman and farmers decked up in local finery gathered to buy and sell camels, horses and cattle – the men in colourful turbans and well kept moustache, with gold and silver rings in their ears; and the women dressed in vibrant *gagra cholis odni* and armful of bangles and other chunky jewelry. It begins with a camel race. On full moon night, clay lamps on leaf boats are set afloat on the lake, with pilgrims taking the auspicious dip. The *Pushkar Festival* is now a major tourist attraction flocked by visitors from all over the world. They take part in unique competitions like the *matka pod*, longest moustache, bridal competition, and now even cricket is included with the local Pushkar Club playing against a random team of foreign tourists.

## Jaipur



Convenor Dharmendra Kanwar honoured

Convenor Dharmendra Kanwar was honoured with the *Maharaja Vishan Singh Award 2012 for Excellence in the field of Travel and Tourism*. Awarded by the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum Trust, special reference was made to her invaluable contribution to travel literature, and wishing her “an even more glorious future”. The Convenor attributed her success to INTACH in a big way, and also thanked all those who had been part of this journey. INTACH warmly congratulates Dharmendra Kanwar on her achievements and success.

Convenor Kanwar has been associated with heritage concerns of Jaipur since 1970s. She has travelled widely to countries like France, Slovakia, Britain, Australia, Poland, etc. to comprehend various facets of conservation management. She proudly rates Jaipur among one of the richest heritages of the world; but laments the fact that in conservation management the country as a whole lags way behind. She welcomes the growing interest in preserving heritage that is now slowly garnering greater attention.



Dr. Subhash Purohit with Mr. Phillip Mulligan Executive Director, UNA-UK

INTACH Life Member Dr. Subhash Purohit, a former Member of the State Consumer Protection Commission and of the Indian Federation of United Nations Association (IFUNA), was felicitated by the United Nations Association, UK at a lunch given in his honour.



Kazakhstan

### Heritage Dilemma

It is reported that centuries old heritage buildings in the old city of Jaipur “are dying a slow death”. Most are privately owned or pending court order due to disputed multiple ownership. The Government cannot fund repair of private buildings. Periodically the Jaipur Municipal Corporation declared some old buildings as “dilapidated” and liable to cause casualties. Conservation related NGOs are concerned that architecturally significant edifices are thus being demolished. ASI Suptd, Jaipur Circle states that “Recently, Amber Development & Management Authority have started work to facelift heritage and to maintain uniformity in markets of Johari Bazaar and Chaura Rasta. These are private buildings and shops which are being renovated with government funds.” Tourism organisations feel that laws should be framed for a joint effort to preserve old building in the Walled City with private participation, to ensure many more heritage buildings of architectural/historical significance survive.

### Royal Treasure

It is a different scenario when it comes to a royal virasat, especially that of Shriji Arvind Singh Mewar, 76th custodian of the oldest surviving erstwhile House of Mewar. For him it is a living heritage and “continuity in every field—education, music, cuisine, architecture, festivals, rituals, even our marriages” and thus dynamic. He is building an empire through educational institutions, channelizing revenue from heritage properties into charitable work, even funding historical research. When Privy Purse was abolished he converted his properties into resorts that paid for their heavy maintenance and generated capital for developmental work, an outstanding example of public work. He believes all living heritage “if you fashion it in a way it remains current, and an important part of daily life, then people will start relating to it even today”.

### Kota

The Chapter has raised serious concerns about the antique Natraj stolen from the 9th-10th century Badoli Temple. Convenor Hari Singh Palkiya prepared a report with the help of Member Dr. Sushma Ahuja who heads the History Deptt. at the local JDB College. The report has been forwarded to Rajasthan Member of Parliament, and Minister of Culture Smt. Chandresh Kumari Katoch.

Badoli is known for its famous group of 9 temple in Rawatbhata, about 45 kms from Kota. The carved stone idol of Natraj was smuggled out of India, and a police case registered as far back as 1998. The Rajasthan Police carried out an ‘Operation Black Hole’, and the statue was located in London with a private collector but remains unrecovered to date. Whether efforts after such a long a lapse of time will succeed is a moot question.



Original Natraj, Badoli Temple



The Replica in possession of ASI

Convenor K. Hari Singh reports that the local Civil Society put up a strong fight against the Joy-Ride Train in the historic Gardens of Kota. The High Court ordered that some alternative like an electrified engine, etc. should be deployed by the Urban Improvement Trust and the Garden authorities instead of the highly polluting diesel engine.

### Pali

Shri Rakesh Rawal is the newly appointed Convenor of the Chapter.

### Udaipur

World Heritage Week 19th-25th November was marked by two programmes with Members and ‘Subject Matter Specialists’ specially invited to the occasions. A Regional Seminar “Mewar’s Undocumented Heritage Sites and their Records” was held on 22nd November at the Raj Bagh, Hotel Ram Pratap, Fateh Sagar. Renowned Historian Prof. K.S.Gupta gave the key note address. Members of INTACH, architects and historians of Udaipur participated in the discussions.



Conference on World Living Heritage, Udaipur



Yemen

It was followed on 27th November by a *National Conference on World Living Heritage Festival* on 27th - 28th November at Durbar Hall City Palace Complex, held in collaboration with UNESCO India and the Maharana of Mewar Charitable Foundation at the City Palace Udaipur.

Patron of Udaipur Chapter and the Chairman and Managing Trustee of the Maharana Mewar Charitable Foundation (MMCF) Arvind Singh Mewar; Programme Specialist for Culture UNESCO India, Ms Moe Chiba; President ICOMOS Australia Marilyn C Truscott attended the inaugural session. The *Kartik Poornima* celebration on 28th November was held at Jag Mandir Island Palace with Sufi Kathak '*Radha Raas*' dance recital by Manjari Chaturvedi and Sufi *kavvallis* from Avadh and classical musicians from Delhi.

## Tamilnadu

State Convenor Dr. Suresh Sethuraman with a group of scholars from Tamil Nadu had visited Cambodia three years ago to discover India's imprints on this neighbouring country. The cultural impact on South East Asia is generally mentioned but no in-depth study had been undertaken. Subsequent to his visit, Dr. Suresh mapped the influences of Tamil Nadu in particular on Cambodia and on its neighbouring countries like Thailand. It was the subject of his talk at the India International Centre when he visited Delhi recently, titled *From Kanchipuram to Kampuchea: Two Thousand Years of Trade and Cultural Exchange between Tamil Nadu and Cambodia* on which he has done extensive mapping since his visit. He traced influences in trade, diplomatic relations, religion, legends, superstitions, iconography, names and languages. He mentioned recent archaeological findings that establish solid evidence of Roman coins dating to the 2nd-3rd. Century AD which could have only reached Cambodia through the Tamil ports of Arikamedu and Kaveripoompattinam. He pointed out "There were also inscriptions of Khmer ruler Jayavarman 1 which mentions a 'Kanchipura' or a priest who was the disciple of Shankara. Whether this is Adi Shankara is not known". His research revealed three major iconographic influences : *Ashtabhuj Vishnu*, the story of *Samudra Manthan* and the depictions of *Bhishma* on a bed of arrows, the latter two given prominent space on walls of Angkor Wat whose top storey sanctum once held the idol of *Ashtabhuj* similar to the Perumal Temple during the Pallava period in South India. Apart from these iconographic representations, the three tier structures of South Indian temples and similarity of names establish the fact of close contacts between Cambodia and Tamil Nadu.

Dr. Suresh's research is supported by the TAG Foundation, and will be published as a book very shortly.

## Nagercoil

Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan drew the attention of the Secretary, Chief Ministers Cell, Chennai to the Supreme Court order of 8th October against illegal layouts and buildings to be found in Tamilnadu. He is of the view that the Department of Town & Country Planning and Housing & Urban Development should take serious action against the prevailing lawless state of affairs. He cites the example of Parasakthi Garden, Vadasery and Agatheeswaram villages, Putheri Panchayat as typical examples of unapproved layouts, conversion of paddy fields without permission, and owners subjected to threats if sales are not executed to land mafia who are illegally fencing paddy fields and blocking irrigation canals with impunity. It was reported to the District Collector but no prompt action was forthcoming, hence the Convenor has now brought the matter to the attention of the Chief Minister's Office.

The Nagercoil Chapter organized a Training Programme on Ancient Tamil Scripts like *Vattezhuthu*, *Grantham* and *Brahmi* from 25th-26th and 29th-31st October at the Scott Christian College in coordination with its Principal Dr. M. Jezer Jebanesan. President of the All India Progressive Writers Association Shri Ponnellan presided over the meeting. He said while the Government is spending millions on growth of Tamil, as Tamil education at the primary level is in a poor state. There has been a mushroom growth of English Primary Schools that has overtaken local language medium schools. It was highlighted that many eminent persons like missile scientists Sivathanupillai and Nambi Narayanan were products of early Tamil education. Shri Dr. Lal Mohan says there are many ancient scripts dating to the 250 BC to 1700 AD period waiting to be discovered in various parts of the Kanyakumari District. The five day programme gave teachers and students training in reading, writing and interpreting ancient scripts, with some field trips as well.

## Nilgiris

Convenor Geetha Srinivasan is a member of the Ooty Lake Management Committee, constituted by the District Collector, for the restoration of the Ooty Lake and Kodappamund Channel. Funds have been sanctioned under the Tamil Nadu Environment Protection and Renewable Energy Development Fund for their maintenance, sewage treatment plant and beautifying them with tourism related facilities. In the case of the Lake steps have to be taken to provide sewage connections to 6745 households to prevent its inflow into the lake. The Channel needs de-silting and sustained annual maintenance by the PWD.

The Nilgiris Library in Ooty witnessed lively discussion on a monograph *Merchants of Tamilakam*, chronicling the fascinating story of how Tamil merchants influenced the



Spain

political and economic landscape of South India during the Sangam period and thereafter. Convenor Srinivasan introduced this chronicle series by Mukund who along with its editor the well known Gurcharan Das were both present when the book was formally released by Collector Archana Patnaik. It is a historic fact that India with its long coastline, especially in the south, has contributed to world trade since ancient times.

Salem

Salem Municipality was constituted on 1st November 1866. It has been a long standing tradition to celebrate that date as Salem Day. However Convenor Sharavanan informs this year the Chapter joined with Taruunam, a local NGO for celebrating Salem Day three days later on Sunday 4th November to make it convenient for the maximum number of participants. A traditional food fest was organized. INTACH Heritage Clubs put up a display on Salem Heritage; and cultural programmes comprised talented shows, folk lore, visual presentations and documentaries.



Celebrating Salem Day



Thanjavur

Elanthair 2012 hosted by the South Zone Cultural Centre from 21st-25th November was widely publicized by the Chapter. The special attractions this year comprised a series of classical and folk dance and



music performances, heritage lectures, heritage walks and workshops, traditional games, and various competitions in essay writing, painting, drawing, short films, photography, and slogans.

Uttar Pradesh

State Co-Convenor RN Bhargava wrote about a major programme "Our Heritage-Our Children" organized at La Martinere Girs College, Lucknow on 5th December. Project in Charge Ms. Kanak Chauhan made the introduction followed by an 'ice-breaking' session. Students felt encouraged to participate in a slogan writing competition on Culture & Heritage, for which prizes were awarded at the conclusion of the day's programme. The film Green School Initiatives by RN Bhargava was exhibited. There was also a multi-media show on the city of Lucknow by Shamim Aarzo. The Quiz conducted by Atif Hanif was an interactive session with many students actively participating with much enthusiasm.

Lakhimpur Kheri

Iqbal Ahmad Khan is the newly appointed Convenor of the Chapter.

Orai

An exhibition of craft paintings on Ganesha was held at the Arya Kanya Vidyalaya in the last week of September to coincide with Ganesh Chaturthi. A week later the Chapter held discussions at the Bundelkhand Museum on copper artifacts and utensils belonging to the Bronze Age. Such discoveries have established Orai as a site dating back to ancient times. On 2nd October, an exhibition was held at D.V.College on Milye Mahatma Gandhi Se coinciding with his birth anniversary, inaugurated by senior advocate Inderjit Singh Yadav who lauded the moral strength of the Mahatma which even British might could not withstand, and won India its Independence.





Guatemala

## Varanasi

Chapter organised a number of programs to mark Heritage Week at the Gurudham Temple complex like discussion on 'Kashi Heritage', an exhibition of old manuscripts and paintings, and slide shows.

## West Bengal

### Kolkata

INTACH Member Prosenjit Das Gupta authored the book "Burra Bungalows & All That", documenting the tea gardens of Assam that date back to the 1830s, and the built heritage of the tea story. The book was launched on 13th November at the Palladian Lounge and well attended. Speaking on the occasion State Convenor GM Kapur stated "unless we have a document and a list of what we have, how will someone know what we have. That is what we have precisely tried to do in this book".

INTACH acknowledges the approval and cooperation extended by the Tea Board of India. An expert committee was formed with the help of members from the Indian Tea Association (ITA) and included the tea planters. A list of 450 tea gardens was initially drawn up and later short listed to 150 for enlisting in the book. GM Kapur and Secretary General ITA Monojit Dasgupta chose the photographs for this unique documentation funded jointly by ITA and INTACH.

Co-Convenor Nayantara Palchoudhuri says that this book will go a long way in promoting heritage tourism to the tea garden areas of Assam.

The Consular Corps of diplomats and the tea fraternity attended the function in large numbers. A retired planter's wife Asha Chopra regaled the audience with her performance of *Chai Bagan*, an autobiographical journey of a 'Chhoti Mem' to becoming a 'Burra Mem'. Another special attraction of the evening was a Flamenco performance by Anna Louise Paul dancing to the beat of a lively music.

The Chapter received an interesting visitor in James Keir, son of William Ingram Keir who built the lesser known Lascar War Memorial. He was accompanied by an Indian Navy representative Commodore BK Mohanti (Retd.) who had restored the monument earlier when posted in Kolkata. The Chapter took this opportunity to organize a programme with the help of the Naval Officer-in-Charge INS Netaji Subash who made all the arrangements for this event.

World Heritage Week was marked with a Photographic Exhibition on *Monumental Heritage of India and West*



Book Release : "Burra Bungalows & All That"



Bengal organised by the Archaeological Survey of India in collaboration with the Chapter. Prof. DR Das, retired from AIHC Deptt. of the University of Calcutta, presided over the inaugural function on 19th November held at the Dr. Debala Mitra Memorial Hall.

Standing next to the Kalighat tram depot is an old Greek church built by its prosperous mercantile community in days gone by, with a smart whitewashed façade supported by Doric columns, with plaques of Greek

### Lascar War Memorial

The little known Lascar War Memorial in Hastings in Kolkata is dedicated to 896 Lascars – seamen on merchant ships – who died during world War 1 between 1914-18. Commander R.Ahluwalia of the Indian Navy noticed fragments of a pattern beneath its painted floor when he attend a INTACH function. Coincidentally, on that day James Keir, son of William Ingram Keir who had designed the Memorial, had met Commodore BK Mohanti. Cdr. Ahluwalia got in touch with Convenor GM Kapur. A INTACH team led by Subhas Barai got into immediate action, and within 3 days a green coloured cement floor emerged with red inlay work. Next, the worthy Commodore hopes to get the names of the Lascars to whom the Memorial is dedicated, and get their names etched forever.



Palestinian Territory

### **Rajbaris of West Bengal**

*Rajbaris*, meaning mansions of the Rajas but mostly of the *zamindars* of Bengal, flourished from 1757-1947. Many vignettes of the past are to be found in them like sepia printed photographs, Vedic translations signed by Max Mueller, letters exchanged with Queen Victoria, signatures of the rich and famous, Burma teak furniture, huge pillared edifices, ornate articles, etc. Some families like the Burdwans also ruled over vast territories the size of Nagaland or the Rajshahis who commanded an area almost as big as Kerala. Lately some of the scions of such families have begun to repair their mansions and convert them into hotels. The scion of the Cosimbazar Choto Rajbari in Murshidabad is refurbishing his palatial place in an effort to showcase history and accommodate tourists. And another scion of the Itachuna Rajbari returned after spending 30 years in the USA to give back to the village the home of his forefathers who lived there 200 years. These examples have inspired many others to follow the Rajasthani model to promote heritage home stays in palatial mansions. With the help of INTACH and West Bengal Government, the Hetampur Raj family is trying to convert parts of their palace near Dubrajpur in Birbhum district into a heritage hotel. The Baruipur Rajbari with its Gothic edifice, the Lahabari Rajbari at Bidhan Sarani in central Kolkata, Sovabazar and Khannan Rajbaris at Behala have explored other ways to survive by lending out premises to film shoots.



Palash Planting



inscriptions on its walls. The Greeks originally from Chios island migrated to India after the Ottoman and Turkish invasions. Today the Greek contribution to Kolkata is remembered by the pioneering social work of its Orthodox Church, and the Panioty Fountain in the maidan named after the personal secretary of Lord Ripon, Demtrius Panioty. Perhaps the most famous Greek of that time was a gifted violinist Marie Nicachi who in 1910 embarked on a European journey playing at the courts of Franz Josef of Austria and Tsar Nicholas II of Russia, and returned to her home land.

### **Santiniketan**

Ms. Susmita Guha Roy is appointed the Convenor of the Chapter. She will be assisted by Shri Aimesh Khan as the newly appointed Co-Convenor.

It was once again the *Palash Planting* time for the Chapter which brought together many enthusiastic Members for the yearly ritual. The ensuing *Durga Puja* time being a particularly hectic time in West Bengal, the meeting of the new Executive Committee of the Chapter was postponed.

### **FINANCIAL OPERATING PROCEDURES**

***The Financial Operating Procedures, under INTACH's mandate enshrined in its Memorandum of Association and Rules & Regulations, have already been circulated to all Chapter. It was approved by the INTACH Executive Committee and has been included as an annexure to the Administration and Management of Chapters in the Revised Guidelines for Chapter which will be circulated anew shortly.***

***Many Chapters are now taking up large and complex projects/works which require services of professionals/specialists/consultants, they therefore need to be fully conversant with the existing laws of the land in consonance with the objectives of INTACH. Convenors are requested to disseminate the Financial Operating Procedures to their Members as well.***



## NEWS FROM ICI

### News from ICI

It was been quite an interesting quarterly period for Indian Conservation Institutes (ICI), the Material Heritage Division (MHD) of INTACH. Representatives of the Getty Conservation Institute who visited INTACH to understand the Indian conservation scenario were impressed by the range of ICI activities. MHD is now exploring possibilities of a joint collaboration in developing specific need-based conservation training programmes. Another high point was developing project proposals for the Sir Dorabji TATA Trust, with possibility of funds for training and capacity building; and also towards creating data base of wall paintings in India. With the support from Shenyō-En, Japan and INTACH U.K, this quarter also saw training, capacity building, and execution of wall painting conservation at the prestigious 12th century Mangyu Monastery, Ladakh. Trust. ICI staff members were also given specific training involving the Courtauld Institute of Art, London.

Following a very successful three months training in paintings conservation imparted to two restorers from the Lahore Museum, a request for training two more personnel for a period of three months has been received from Pakistan. The Lahore Museum has beautiful mural paintings executed by their national artist Sadequain which adorn the large ceiling of the Lahore Museum. The conservation of these paintings will be executed under the aegis of INTACH.

### ACI - Delhi

The restoration of Bhootnath Temple at Mandi, one of the most historic medieval temples, entrusted to the Delhi Art Conservation Institute, commenced in October this year. Over the years the magnificent façade and stone masonry have deteriorated and the application of cement plaster and layers of jarring bright coloured chemical paint has led to major losses and taken away the aesthetic integrity of this beautifully carved stone building. The work entails removal of all later additions and recapturing the beauty of the stone carved walls.

Mandi town on the banks of river Beas (referred as *Vipasha* in historical texts) in Himachal Pradesh has immense mythological and historical significance. It is referred to as *Chhota Kashi* for its 84 ancient stone Shiva temples. Its Chohatta Bazaar located in the heart of the town reminds one of the streets of Varanasi packed with glittering shops. The Temple was built by Raja Ajber Sen (Abarsen) in 1526 AD. It is a 'Shikar' style temple and a Grade A heritage building (INTACH Listing) of high architectural value. The

main idol in the sanctum sanctorum is a *Shivalinga* and a *jalhari*, with a large *Nandi* statue facing the main temple. The temple has great cultural significance to Himachal, the land of *Shaivaites*. A number of fairs are celebrated throughout the State, with the weeklong *Shivaratri* fair at Mandi perhaps the best known with the visit of over 250 local deities, *Devatas* and each one greeted according to rank and status. Devotees carry the 'Rath' (chariot) with the *Devta* on their shoulders amidst melodious folk music.



Bhootnath Temple, Mandi, circa 1950 and now



Procession during Shivaratri



Thick layers of later additions



Interiors obscured by chemical paints



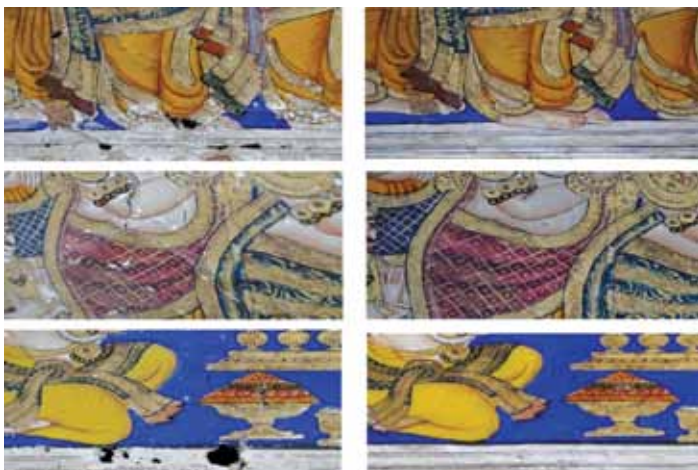
Damaged by thick plaster and paint



### ICKPAC - Bengaluru

The Bengaluru Centre undertook the conservation and restoration of a traditional Mysore painting *Girija Kalyanam* depicting the marriage ceremony of the divine couple Lord Shiva and his consort Parvathi Devi. Hindus believe that it is very auspicious and prosperous to have this image in their homes. *Girija Kalyanam* is celebrated the day after Shivaratri.

The painting is executed in water based colours on 95.5 x 121.5cms paper; and represents an important form of classical South Indian paintings of earlier times that never carried the artists' signatures and date.



Details of the painting - before conservation and after conservation

Lost areas of the painting were mended with similar paper and carefully filled with cellulose pulp. Adhering to the ethics of conservation, the reintegrated area was kept a shade lighter than the original tone, and the painting was then mounted on an archival acid free mount board for support.



Before and After Conservation



Before and After Conservation

### OACC - Bhubaneshwar

The galleries of Odisha State Maritime Museum, Jorba, Cuttack was set up through Orissa Art Conservation Centre at Bhubaneswar after the successful restoration of the colonial era British workshop. The project preparation kept in view all the characteristics related to the subject of the museum.



Boat under construction, Boat Building Gallery

The Museum now consists of 14 galleries, each depicting the various themes of the Museum. It has an *Introduction Gallery* displaying the condition of the building before execution, during and after completion of project. The *Maritime History Gallery* showcases the Maritime History of India with special reference to Kalinga (Odisha). The *Boat Building* in Odisha portrays the methodology of boat construction, the literary and historic references, present day usages, boat making centres with reference to various types of boats.



Jobra Reliefs displayed at the Maritime History Gallery



Glimpses of the Navigation Gallery

The pre-Independence period machineries installed in the Jobra Workshop for repair of boats, steamers, jetties, sluices, canal gates, etc. constitute the *Jobra Workshop Gallery* which displays their functions and usages. The rituals of Odisha connected to maritime activity are showcased separately in the *Maritime Rituals Gallery*, displaying the traditions of Orrisan rituals followed by ancient Kalinga sailors who undertook voyages to far off South East Asian countries like Java, Sumatra, Bali, Indonesia, etc for trade and commerce. The *Navigational Gallery* consists of equipments and tools used in navigation by sailors.

The monuments present on Orrisan coast are displayed in a separate gallery called *Monuments on Odisan Coast*. Efforts have been made to make the subjects interesting to the visitors with the help of 2 and 3 dimensional objects.

The Museum is equipped with other requisite facilities like a library, multimedia hall, temporary exhibition gallery, computer section, children activity room, cafeteria and souvenir shop. The landscape at front and back side of the Museum is another most attractive feature.

The formal inauguration of the Museum is awaited by the Chief Minister of Odisha, who visited and praised INTACH's work, before it is opened to the public.

### ICI Lucknow

The *First Dastoor Meherjirana Library* has been continuously serving the people of Navsari, as well as the Parsi and scholarly community, for more than 135 years. A wealthy Mumbai Parsi, named Navsariwala Seth Burjor Bamanji Padam, commissioned a building in 1872, to be erected on his own land known as Lakkad Falia, with a fund of Rs. 225. The library is named after him and figures significantly in the history of the Parsi community. He was born in Navsari into a priestly family from the Kaka Pahlan *pol* in 1534 AD, and given the name Mahyar, and later came to be known as Mahyar (Meherji) Rana. He was adopted into the priestly lineage of his paternal uncle (*kākā*) Vaccha Jesang, a man renowned for his piety and learning. According to a Persian biography in the library's possession, the *Māhyārnāma* (Manuscript F-81), Meherji Rana was chosen by the Mughal Governor at Surat to have an audience with the Emperor Akbar to explain the Zoroastrian religion, with the result all the priests accepted him as the head of the Navsari priests. The priestly lineage continues to the present day. On January 25, 2010, Kaikhushroo Navroze Dastoor was chosen as the seventeenth Dastoor Meherji Rana.

The library today is visited by international scholars interested in Zoroastrianism from earliest times, and its



Charring effect of Iron Gall Ink



Conservation work in progress



Insect eaten manuscript



Manuscript after conservation

guestbook is virtually a "Who's Who" of Zoroastrian scholars. In September 2009, a new annex building was constructed from funds donated by Sir Dorabji Tata Trust with various modern facilities incorporated like a new reading room, conference hall, apartments for visiting scholars, and a laboratory for the preservation of many rare books.

ICI Lucknow was entrusted with work of conserving the rare documents of the library, by a team of its experts in the year 2002. The first priority was to conserve the records. The large scale project was divided into phases, and currently after 10 years the 18th phase is under progress.

### ICI Jodhpur

The Jodhpur Centre did a magnificent job on an oil painting belonging to the Umaid Bhawan Palace, Jodhpur. The painting depicts 16 dogs chasing a hyena with flabbergasted Englishmen passing by in a horse drawn carriage watching the scene. The depiction of expressions, the charge of dogs and the entire scenery is mesmerizing in this oil painting titled



Before Conservation



After Conservation

Horse Cart and Dog measuring 18 x 28 inches. It was conserved by the Centre in a record time of 15 days.



Bolivia

### ICI - Kolkata

INTACH Art Conservation Centre, at Kolkata Regional Chapter has completed the inventory and documentation of all objects related to Sir J.C. Bose and his family present in the residential house of Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose, the father of Modern Physics. The house is being converted into a Science Heritage Museum. The conservation of objects has now commenced at the Centre. One of the works treated is an oil painting of Sir Jagadish Chandra Bose, a half bust portrait painted in 1922 with the name of the artist at the lower portion but not recognizable. This 66.5 cm X 53.5 cm. painting is in a decorated wooden frame. Owing to the vintage of the painting, it posed varied conservation problems requiring detailed and methodological interventions to bring back to its original glory.



Before Conservation



After Conservation

### Russian Impressions



King of Punjab and his retinue hunting



Young warrior from Akali sect.

Russian traveller Prince Alexei Soltikoff, a diplomat whom contemporaries called "The Indian", travelled across India in 1841-43 and again in 1845-46. The English translation of his peregrinations was recently released by the Russian Centre for Science & Research at Delhi, along with an exhibition of his paintings as part of the 65th anniversary of their diplomatic relations with India. His travelogue in the form of letters and water colour sketches give details of Indian life capturing the flow of life with faces often staring in awe at the foreigner, in the Himalayas, Punjab, on the banks of the Ganga, etc.



A courtier of the King of Lahore

### Tribal Treasures

A 19th century *Banam* was auctioned by Sotheby for Rs 870,000, the highest ever paid for a single string lute traditionally crafted by the Santhan tribals of Bihar and Bengal. Other valuable tribal artifacts like Rajbanshi masks, palanquin panels, ancient drums, hermaphrodite statues with bellicose breasts, etc. originating from remote tribal hamlets are in great demand and to be seen in the bazaars of Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Jodhpur. They are also smuggled out to Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan along the Indo-Himalayan tract. Impoverished tribals "living on rice farming and growing vegetable are now able to enjoy modern luxuries like meat, booze, shampoos and television in their homes", says an art dealer who like many others buys artifacts by the kilos! There is competition with sophisticated buyers paying with dollars. Market economics ensures that the most precious pieces get faked the most, since falsifying tribal artifacts is much easier than copying paintings or replicating sculptures of metal and stone!

## NEWS FROM AHD

### Phuktal Gompa, Ladakh

Through mountains, valleys, wobbly bridges across rivers, by car, horse or foot, and after three days of continuous journey on some of the bumpiest high roads in the country, one encounters a large monastic complex clinging to the mountain site, the Phuket Gompa. It is a spectacular composition of clear blue sky, puffy clouds floating, snow-clad mountains, and in its midst a cave with colourful prayer flags, bright *khataks*, tall *tarchens* and the faint hum



Setting of the Phuktal Gompa



Structures of the Phuktal Gompa

of Buddhist chants welcoming one into this enchanting Gompa high above the raging waters of Tsarap River across



Ornamental red parapet



Excited young monks

the Yugar village. A long row of chortens interspersed with mane walls lead to a Kagan Chorten, the entrance gateway to the complex, with the private quarters of the monks and other structures perched precariously on the steep rocks at the lower level.

The Gompa has been built using traditional techniques in random rubble or stone masonry, with a timber and mud roof. Mud has been extensively used on account of its easy availability and good insulation properties, with the exteriors whitewashed or colour-washed in deep ochre and orange.

The interiors of the Sakyamuni Lakhang, Tuphuk, Dukhang and Muldung are lavishly adorned with exquisite wall paintings and stucco images, complementing the exceptionally simple exteriors of the monastery.



Structures set within the cave



Paintings inside the Sakyamuni Lakhang

The cave within which the main structures are built is developing huge cracks and other problems due to uneven loading, moisture penetration, lack of maintenance, and inappropriate interventions. The restoration of the Gompa was initiated by the Zanskar Development Authority. INTACH aims to retain the authenticity and integrity of the Gompa by preserving the traditional fabric with minimum intervention, using traditional materials and techniques with the help of local craftsmen in a cost effective manner.

### Palamu and Shahpur Forts, Jharkhand

The group of Palamu Forts, one in Daltonganj and two in Betla National Park, is one of the 26 sites identified for



Palamu and Shahpur Forts



conservation/restoration by the State Government of Jharkhand, as they are in a state of negligence. A team of professional experts from INTACH visited the site, for an exhaustive site survey over five days. In addition a team of total station survey spent fifteen days at site for mapping the three forts. The Palamu Forts (the old and the new) lie in the picturesque setting inside the Betla Forests with the river Auranga on one side. Most of the structures inside the forts are in the state of ruin with only a few having some walls and roofs intact. The condition of the fort at Shahpur situated on the banks of the Koel River, within the periphery of the town is equally bad, besides most of the area has been encroached. Both restorations present a challenging task.



Beautiful Structures – in State of Slow Decay



United Kingdom

The state of ruin in all the three forts is due to major issues : wild growth of vegetation, growth of micro bio organisms, structural cracks and fallen structural components, decay in plaster and masonry, exposed flooring and fallen decorative elements.

The Palamu Forts are of great architectural, historical and associational value - a testimony to the erstwhile Chero rulers of the region. They contributed immensely to the intangible heritage of Jharkhand, as per the folklore of the land. The forts are a good example of Sultanate Architecture, and are also associated with one of the greatest Chero rulers, Medini Ray under whose rule the region was militarily powerful and economically prosperous.

INTACH has carried out an in-depth research on the history of the complex, analysed information to understand its implications on the adaptive reuse and conservation of these buildings. Measured drawings were prepared, appraising the physical condition of the fabric and structure, identifying and analyzing the distresses, monitoring and testing strength of materials and building elements to aid remedial actions and prevent further deterioration.

### Balaji Ghat, Varanasi

Balaji Ghat, Varanasi is listed as one of the 100 endangered heritage sites of the world by the World Monument Fund. WMF approved \$1,75,000 for the restoration of the top three floors of Balaji Ghat as part of its adaptive reuse as a Cultural Centre. Architectural Heritage Division (AHD) organized an event -WATCH DAY 2012 initiating the project with a morning puja and inaugurating an Exhibition of



**Thousand Pillared Madapams**  
Madapams (halls) with 1000 exquisitely carved pillars running along corridors abound in South India. They are a great architectural heritage of India – encountered at the Ramanathaswami temple in Rameswaram, the Jain Chaityalaya Basadi at Moodbadri, the Kakatiyan Veyyi Stambhala Gudi near the Hanamkonda-Warangal highway, the Aiyaram Kaal Mandapam at Madurai, the Rajya Sabha in the Shiva Nataraja temple at Chidamparam in Tamilnadu, the Vijaynagara period Ranganatha Swamy temple at Sri Rangam, are the better known many splendored gems of architectural wonder. They are so arranged that whichever angle one looks at them from within, the pillars look rows after rows. Strangely, the most famous in South India – the Balaji Temple at Tirupati – did not repair its 1000 pillar hall despite a revenue of 1700 crores per annum!

Old Photographs of Balaji Ghat collected from Scindia Devasthan Trust to make the public aware of their historic Ghat. AHD Posters showed the restoration measures to be undertaken in order to restore its beauty, authenticity and religious sanctity.

The event concluded with a Cultural Programme inaugurated by Ms.Amita Baig, followed by musical programmes of Shehnai, classical orchestra, flute etc. in memory of Bismillah Khan, Some of the artisans and weavers were present showing their art to the general public. The closing ceremony of the event was held with prayers to the local deity *Balaji*, much revered in local indigenous culture.



At Balaji Ghat, WATCH DAY 2012





Tunisia



## NEWS FROM NHD

The Natural Heritage Division (NHD) is extending its activities into several new areas while building new capacities, in keeping with the increasing importance being given to water conservation as a critical priority for the country. The areas in focus are urban lakes, urban biodiversity, pollution abatement of wastewater flowing in open drains in urban areas, irrigation efficiency to conserve water in agriculture, documentation of natural heritage in the headwaters region of Ganga and Yamuna rivers, and village environmental mapping.

NHD is offering a 4 day training course on the Urban Lakes early next year in mid- January, as part of the curriculum of the courses offered by ICCTCB Academy. (see pg 37)

NHD will be treating the polluted waters of a lake at Trivandrum in collaboration with the local Chapter in the coming months. It is hoped that this would be a trendsetter and open the way for remediation of several temple tanks which are steadily deteriorating in many places.

Urban biodiversity is a layer of the urban map which has received scant attention. The authorities have focused their efforts on protected areas and enthusiasts on remote wildlife species. On the other hand with rapid urban expansion eco-systems and habitats are disintegrating as more lands are gobbled up for urbanization. The need for integrated planning of eco-systems, habitats and biodiversity requirements is not a sentimental one but a pragmatic one as eco-systems yield eco-system services such as carbon sinks and air quality up-gradation, play a role in the hydrological cycle and also moderate the local climate thus making for sustainability, quality of life and adjustment to climate change. In furtherance of this NHD is voluntarily working on the National Capital Territory of Delhi and also deputing a researcher to draw up an urban biodiversity strategy for Baroda. Also, an appreciative letter

was received from Lieutenant Governor Delhi Tejendra Khanna on the improved water quality of Hauz Khas Lake. He noticed the presence of fishes of different varieties, including catfish as a result of rejuvenation work undertaken by NHD.

In the absence of sewers, polluted flows take place through the natural storm water system in urban areas contaminating groundwater, emitting foul odour, discharging pollution load into the rivers. Unconventional treatments such as bacterial bio-remediation, water hyacinth zone, gravel filter reed beds, pisci-culture can improve water quality at low cost, without energy consumption and in a shorter time frame. Currently, NHD is working on the Palam Drain in Delhi which has a daily flow of 140 million litres, and two other major drains are under consideration of the State Government for assignment to INTACH.

It is estimated 80% of water consumption in the country's agricultural sector is due to wasteful practices. Irrigation efficiency can greatly reduce this wastage and increase availability for other sectors. Presently, it takes a 1000 tons of water to grow 1 ton of wheat; with the consumption even higher for cultivation of rice, cotton and soya bean. The Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary has declined due to water unavailability on account of growing irrigation demands in the vicinity. NHD has initiated a pilot project with a local farmer to show the potential for water conservation in a demonstration plot, using new cultivation and fertilizing techniques. In the same area, NHD is initiating, in partnership with a local NGO, environmental mapping of villages. The pilot project aims to capture watersheds, groundwater data, local forests and habitats, drainage courses, water bodies on a base map with the objective of improving environmental conservation and decision making in land use.



Mexico

NHD is undertaking documentation of natural heritage and aspects of cultural heritage in the Upper Ganga and Yamuna regions, supported by UK Trust and Ministry of Culture. While several groups have been active on Ganga little work has been done on the Yamuna and the Char Dhams region. While attention has been paid to the river valleys, NHD is looking at the traverse along the mountain range. Chapters are invited to make suggestions on what activities and projects can be undertaken in their respective areas.

### Red Alerts

An international Convention on Bio-Diversity held at Hyderabad in October 2012, kick started with the *Hyderabad Pledge* announced by the Indian Government with \$50 million committed to biodiversity conservation. There were parleys with many of the 108 countries represented at the Convention in order to get them on the same page. Namibia took the lead in demanding that the rich countries must fulfill the promises made in 2010 to pledge funds that have not been forthcoming. The developed countries demanded that a firm “baseline” be developed, indicating how much funds are already deployed and how much more are required. Smaller countries are miffed that the issue of a “robust baseline” was being used to defer commitments.

The developing countries are also generally wary about the *UN Framework Convention on Climate Change*, and attempts being made to slip in elements to the disadvantage of developing countries on issues like deforestation and geo-engineering.

The record retreat of the ice sheet covering the Arctic Ocean is a visible marker of the effect of climate change on our planet. It was confirmed by the US National Snow and Ice Data Centre. It appears people are too troubled about the immediate problems of financial meltdowns, to worry about the long term problems of global warming!

Most recently, *Sandy* and its wrath in USA were said to be influenced by climate change. It has made our oceans warmer, and warm water fuels hurricanes with extra energy, making them more violent. There is a lesson to be remembered from this experience. Without the participation of USA, climate talks will remain just that – talks without progress as happened recently at Doha. Developing countries will have to bear the brunt of short sighted rich nations. Till another *Sandy* strikes somewhere else.

### Nearer Home

It is estimated that Rs.2000 crore were spent under *Ganga Action Plan*, but this sacred iconic river remains one of the most polluted waterways. Believe it or not, it is reported that Ganga is a poisonous river today – so full of pollutants that those living along its banks in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal are prone to cancer. The Indian Council of Medical Research in its study found the waters thick with heavy metal and lethal chemicals.

Scientists of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have projected that we will experience 1.7-2 degrees Celsius rise in temperature (compared to previous industrial levels), with precipitation likely to increase by 4-5%. The *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* states “Warming of equal to or in excess to two degrees is considered dangerous”. India is a signatory to the Cancun Agreement to limit warming to less than 2 degrees, but if global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions continue unabated India will breach the threshold after 2030 and could reach up to 4.8 degrees by 2080 according to IISc. It is time to act fast and furiously – otherwise we would condemn the coming generations to live in an inferno!

### Animals have Rights

A writer from the National Board of Wildlife reports that a fifth of India’s forest - nearly 14 million hectares - is bamboo that support good wildlife, shelter for ground birds, cover for tigers, food for elephants and ungulates. Commercial exploitation of bamboo will devastate the ecology, and change the very nature of our forests. There is no rigorous scientific study to gauge the impact of indiscriminate extraction on biodiversity. It is no longer a subsistence exercise but catering to organized industries within India and abroad. Tendu leaf collection for which forest floors are burnt to clear the undergrowth is perhaps the single largest cause of forest fires in Central India. Nothing in the forest is waste.

Another sorry tale reported is about the rosy flamingos falling prey to electrocution due to high tension cables at their breeding ground in west Gujarat. Besides they face insufficient rains, inadequate water bodies and polluted lakes that makes them desperately roam the countryside in search of shallow waters filled with their favourite food. There are very few breeding grounds for them across the world, which calls for urgent attention of environmentalists.

### Food for Thought :

**“God loved the birds and invented trees. Man loved the birds and invented cages”.**

**– Jacques Deval**



## NEWS FROM HECS

On *World Monument Fund Watch Day*, the Heritage Education and Communications Services (HECS) Division in collaboration with AHD and Varanasi Chapter organized a one-day teacher training workshop for 44 teachers from 22 schools at the Vanita Public School with the support of Varanasi Convenor Kalyan Krishna. Principal of Rajghat Besant School, Atul Kumar Srivastava spoke about the importance of curriculum taught on the lines of Santiniketan ideals, and the need for an all round development of students' mind. He said Varanasi has always been a seat of ancient learning referring to the *Jataka* tales when the city was the centre of all the cultural exchanges of that time. HECS Director Purnima Datt made a presentation on what makes India unique on the objectives of Heritage Education programmes, as she does at every HECS Programme. It was followed by the Heritage Walk to the Ganga Mahal and Balaji Ghat which is dedicated to Lord Balaji.



*Inauguration of Darjeeling Workshop*

from 15th-16th October for 44 teachers at the Turnbull High School and Gurkha Library, Kurseong respectively. Shri Rai spoke about the history of Darjeeling-Kurseong, and its famous places like the Town Hall, Chowrasta, Mahakal Temple, Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Eagle's Crag etc. He asked the teachers representing 28 schools to set up heritage clubs and promote heritage related programs actively. The Chief Guest Dr. G.S. Yonzone spoke about the rich heritage of the city and the challenges faced by the people in restoring it. The workshop concluded with felicitations by Chairman, FOSEP and Advisor Haren Allay. President, Nepali Sahitya Sammelan Gopichand Pradhan gave away the prizes.



*On World Monument Fund Day , at Varanasi*

A Press Conference was held at site with Representative of World Monument Fund Amita Baig, Secretary Scindia Devasthan Trust Rana Karan Singh, INTACH officials Bindu Manchanda and Divay Gupta, Convenor Kalyan Krishna and Member Ajay Rattan Banerjee. The media coverage of this event highlighted the various aspects of the project to the public very effectively.

### **At Darjeeling-Kurseong**

HECS in collaboration with the Darjeeling Convenor Bharat Prakash Rai organized a two-day teacher training workshop



*Teachers Dance – Heritage Presentation*

### **At Srikakulam**

Jointly with Srikakulam Chapter HECS organized a two-day training workshop for professors and lecturers of 38 colleges from various disciplines on 5th-6th November at Government Degree College. The Chief Guest, Additional Joint Collector A. Rajakumar in his inaugural address urged



Madagascar



Convenor Dharma Rao Dusi

the lecturers to create better cultural ambience and develop heritage awareness among youth which ultimately teaches them patriotism, community service and values in life. He also congratulated Convenor Dharma Rao Dusi for the effective functioning of Heritage Clubs. Principal B. Polisu talked about preservation of monuments and heritage. Vishakapatnam Convenor P.V. Kumar also attended. There was a site visit to Salihundam in Srikakulam district. The workshop concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony. Heritage club badges and Adopt a Monument books were given to teachers.

HECS also organized a half-day workshop on 6th November for lecturers to train colleges to work on *Adopting a Monument* in their locality.



Heritage tour, Salihundam

### At Yamunanagar

HECS conducted a teacher training workshop at Yamunanagar, Haryana on the 7th-8th of December at Vishva Bharati College of Education. Convenor Major Rajinder Singh Bhatti (Retd.) welcoming the guests. Prof. Rajpal Singh gave a short presentation on the various heritage sites in and around Yamunanagar listed to date. The Chief Guest for the occasion Dr. B.L. Saini, MLA, Radaur asked the teachers to teach about the heritage of the country and the state of Haryana. INTACH Member Siddharth gave a short presentation on the Buddhist sites in Yamunanagar and a proposal made by his team for erecting replicas of Ashokan pillars and edicts. The schedule on the second



Heritage Tour to Rang Mahal

day was a visit to the Buddhist site Chaneti, Rang Mahal and Pataleshwar Mahadev temple complex which also houses some monuments from the Mughal period and a *baoli*. The workshop concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony; and Heritage Club badges, passports, *Hands on Heritage* and *Adopt a Monument* books given to teachers.



Convenor Bhatti and Director Purnima Dutt

### At Vishakapatnam

Programme Coordinator Abhishek Das and HECS Director Purnima Dutt held an informal meeting with Members of Vishakapatnam Chapter on 6th November. Convenor, Srikakulam Dharma Rao and Convenor Vishakapatnam P.V. Prasad were also present. Some films of the Filmit project created great interest in Members who want to participate in the next session.



Members with HECS team, Vishakapatnam



Macedoia

## Harit Sankalp Essay Competition

As many as 56 Chapters are interested in conducting the *Harit Sankalp: Care for Nature Essay Competition*. It is a pan India competition wherein INTACH Chapters conduct the essay competition among school students aimed at promoting the spirit of appreciation, exploration and conservation of India's natural heritage, promoted in collaboration with INTACH UK Trust.

The Srikakulam Chapter conducted the essay competition for secondary school students from classes 6th-9th at the Government Girls High School, on 20th November during the World Heritage Week with students from 8 schools attending. They supported it with creative material including posters, paintings, collages, films and even photographs. At the end Mementoes were given to guests.



Harit Sankalp, Srikakulam



Students at essay competition

In Delhi it was conducted on 23rd November for school students from 40 schools including both public and government. It was inaugurated with a welcome speech by Moby Sara Zachariah. Director, Intangible Heritage Division Nerupama Modwel spoke about the importance of preserving different facets of our heritage. Col. Bhatia spoke about Chapters Division which he heads and its activities, encouraging students to become members of INTACH.



My Harit Sankalp in words!



Inauguration of Harit Sankalp, Delhi

Heritage Club students wrote essays on any one natural heritage feature of Delhi with their suggestions to save it. They supported it with creative material including posters, paintings, collages, films and even photographs.

## At Amritsar

The Amritsar Chapter conducted the *Harit Sankalp* at Shri Ram Ashram Public School and S.L. Bhawan's School on 4th and 6th December as part of a three-day heritage festival (along with folk song competition). 46 students from five schools supported their writing with creative material including posters, paintings, collages, films and even photographs. Coordinator, INTACH Heritage Clubs Amrit Lal Mannan emphasized the need for Government response to rising pollution in the city and crumbling of heritage buildings. Punjab State Convenor Dr. Sukhdev Singh highlighted the role of students in the movement for cultural heritage. Heritage walks at Jallianwala Bagh, Akhara Sangalwala and Akhara Bala Nand were organised. The programme concluded with Prize distribution.

## Filmit India

Many schools across the country have start uploading their entries, as per this year's theme on saving water, trees, animals; adoption of site, 'heritage of my school' etc. Loreto Sealdah's *'Smiles and Tears of Kolkata'* leaves a huge impact on the city's homogeneous culture as does the short clip on *Sparrows* by Sardar Patel Vidyalaya, Delhi which deals with the gradual disappearance of the sparrows from the city.

## College Volunteers Training Programme

A Heritage Volunteer Training in Delhi Colleges is next on HECS agenda. Preliminary meetings and discussions were held with the identified institutions (College Lecturers/ in-charges). The Youth Volunteer Training Workshop was launched by HECS in November, supported and endorsed by the Ministry of Culture. It aims to sensitize youth to protect heritage, and train them to become pioneers in leading a nation-wide movement for heritage conservation and preservation.



## NEWS FROM ICHD

### MoU with Doordarshan

Director of Intangible Cultural Heritage Division (ICHD) Nerupama Y. Modwel met Director-General Doordarsha Tripurari Sharan, to discuss the telecast of events held during Heritage Week. A MoU was signed to this effect. It was also agreed that documentaries etc. from the INTACH archives would be telecast periodically through the coming months.

### Safeguarding Intangible Heritage

Shri Jay Panda, MP, has undertaken the task of introducing a Bill on safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage during the Budget Session of Parliament. He has invited suggestions on the Bill from INTACH, and distributed copies of the proposed Draft Bill during the Panel Discussion held on 22nd November as part of the Heritage Week activities. Some feedback on this has been given by ICHD to his office. Copies of the Bill have also been circulated among the Members of the Executive Committee and Governing Council as well as Conveners. Anyone desirous of a copy of the Bill or sending suggestions may contact INTACH Central Office.

### Manipur During World War II

INTACH appointed Project Co-ordinator Hemant Katoch's to work on World War II in Manipur. During the *Imphal Sangai Tourism Festival* from 21st-30th November, he set up a small exhibition on the *Battle of Imphal*. The stall displayed Angamba's personal remnants of war collection and both black-and-white and colour photographs, together with basic information sheets on the Battle. The B&W photographs were mainly from the Imperial War Museum, while the colour photographs had been commissioned to a local photographer. There was a good response from the local people.

The site on this project is now live. For further details log on to [www.battleofimphal.com](http://www.battleofimphal.com)

ICHD has brought out three very interesting booklets jointly with the *Indigenous Lepcha Tribal Association*, Kalimpong.



They are printed with both the Lepcha manuscript and its English translation. One is *Chhyoten Munlaom* on prayers and prophecies; the second is titled *Nyaolik Nyaosaong Mun, Zaor Boogthing and Origin of Chyee*, the Lepchas' Fermented Beer (which is sacred); and the third *Kumya Kumsyee Chhyo* is a manuscript on Morals and Ethics. The Lepcha manuscripts *Naamtho-Naamthar* is divided into two categories, one based on purely original Lepcha topics and issues; the other is based on translations from Tibetan Buddhist text books. The earliest printed book in Lepcha, of which not a single copy is to be found today, is St Mathew's Gospel published in 1845.

The Lepchas have a unique language and a distinct cultural identity – and their heritage when endangered must be preserved.



### Saudagiri Textile

India lost one of its master craftsmen when Maneklal Gajjar, Saudagiri block printing guru passed away earlier this year. His blocks are on display at the Calico and other museums in Ahmedabad. Another master craftsman of this craft in Gujarat is Yasin Svaijiwala who is keeping alive this complex process of bleaching, block printing with natural dyes, and fixing with a pomegranate rind mixture. An entire community of masons of Pethapur (40 kms from Ahmedabad) transposed into teak wood-carving artisans supply painstakingly designed blocks needed for printing to local craftsmen of this vanishing art.



Haiti

### Baluchari Sarees

Only one weaver was able to reproduce the Baluchari saree pieces on the traditional *jala* loom when a persistent lady Prabha Shah along with Pupul Jayyakar was instrumental in showing sample pieces to the *Naqshabandi* of Benares. Today the weaver's grandson Naseem Ahmad, National Award winner, is using the same *jala* tying expertise of his family to weave traditional Baluchari sarees. What sets it apart is the fine detailing, the *Ambi* (stylized paisley) motifs are worked with fine colours akin to painting. The making of the *jala* for such a piece translating the pattern on to the *machan* might take more than four months. Once made these sarees are supposed to last a 100 years. This craft is distinct from the Baluchari sarees of West Bengal with their beautiful borders and *pallus* depicting scenes from mythology which are today's version but woven on jacquard looms.

## NEWS FROM ICCTB



INTACH Centre for Conservation Training and Capacity Building (ICCTB) is envisioned as a 'centre of excellence' for training and capacity building in the conservation and management of cultural heritage in India. The Centre aims to strengthen the implementation of the mission and objectives of INTACH across the sub-continent, and in the wider international context. It is the first of its kind in the country, running programmes covering all aspects of heritage conservation and management through well designed courses.. The Centre is based at the Central Office in Delhi, and complements the initiatives and activities taken up by other Divisions and Centres of INTACH.

Piplani and taught by INTACH experts and its experienced officials including Delhi Chapter Convenor Prof AGK Menon, Ms A Vijaya (AHD), Shri Nilabh Sinha (NHD), Shri Manu Bhatnagar (NHD), Ms Nerupama Modwel (ICHD) and Ms Purnima Datt (HECS).

The ICCTCB courses are headed by its Director Navin

The ICCTB has planned several courses that will be held during 2013 on all aspects of heritage conservation and management. The first course to be organized '*Heritage Understanding*' was organized during 6th- 8th September this year, and it ran fully booked. It was inaugurated by Maj Gen (Retd) L K Gupta, Chairman INTACH and attended by thirty-five participants from diverse background. It included mid-career professionals; students of history, art





and architecture; faculty of architecture; school teachers; researchers; and INTACH Members and employees.

Key issues were explored - what is heritage, why does it matter, how do we value the past, what is of significance in this value system, who are the stakeholders in the field of heritage conservation, and what roles various people and organisations perform within it. The discussion illustrated the notions of 'value' and 'significance' associated with historic fabric, and the ways in which this can define the approaches to conservation. Concepts of tangible, intangible and living heritage and debate about the future of the past were also discussed. The all-day field visit was specially designed on the final day in order to illustrate this broader understanding and conservation of heritage.

Following the success of this course, ICCTB received a request to re-organise the same course specially for the students of Lady Shri Ram College, New Delhi. This was

organized during 13th-14th October, and attended by forty under-graduate students of History in the first, second and third year of the college. The all day guided tour of Delhi's heritage sites was conducted by Ms Swapana Liddle from the Delhi Chapter.

A crucial and most enjoyable aspect of all ICCTB courses are the field visits from students' perspective. The objective of a site visit is to understand, interpret and experience various aspects of cultural and natural heritage on the ground in actuality. It enables participants to relate the theoretical aspects of the course with practical on-site understanding. The visits to date have included World Heritage Sites of Qutab Minar and Red Fort, the Hauz Khas monuments and lake, Lodhi Gardens, Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin, Khair-ul-Manazil and Sher Shah Gate and a drive through Lutyens New Delhi.

The feedback received to date on the two courses conducted this year has been very good and encouraging. As may be seen from the few comments received :

"All lectures were useful, interesting and informative including field visit.

"We learnt a lot during the course and enjoyed it as well.

"The course was very enriching, interesting and knowledgeable, and opened our mind to many avenues of which we were not aware.

The ICCTB is now planning courses for the conservation of Natural Heritage and the understanding of structural engineering aspects of historic buildings to be scheduled in early 2013. The details of these courses are available on the INTACH website.

## NEWS FROM LEGAL CELL

The draft heritage bye laws prepared by INTACH have been vetted under the AMASR Act in the case of Vrindavan, Farrukhabad, Sarkkhej Roza, Dwaradheesh, Patambi Siva Temple, Old Goa, and Melkote. The Cell proposes to send a note to the Ministry of Culture after all 13 sample bye laws are accepted by the NMA as there are many facets

with regard to ground realities for enacting legislation for built heritage, emerging from each set of bye laws.

The Cell extends advice on general issues regarding service tax, property tax, application of existing town planning and Panchayat Acts, etc. which may be availed of by Chapters if necessary.

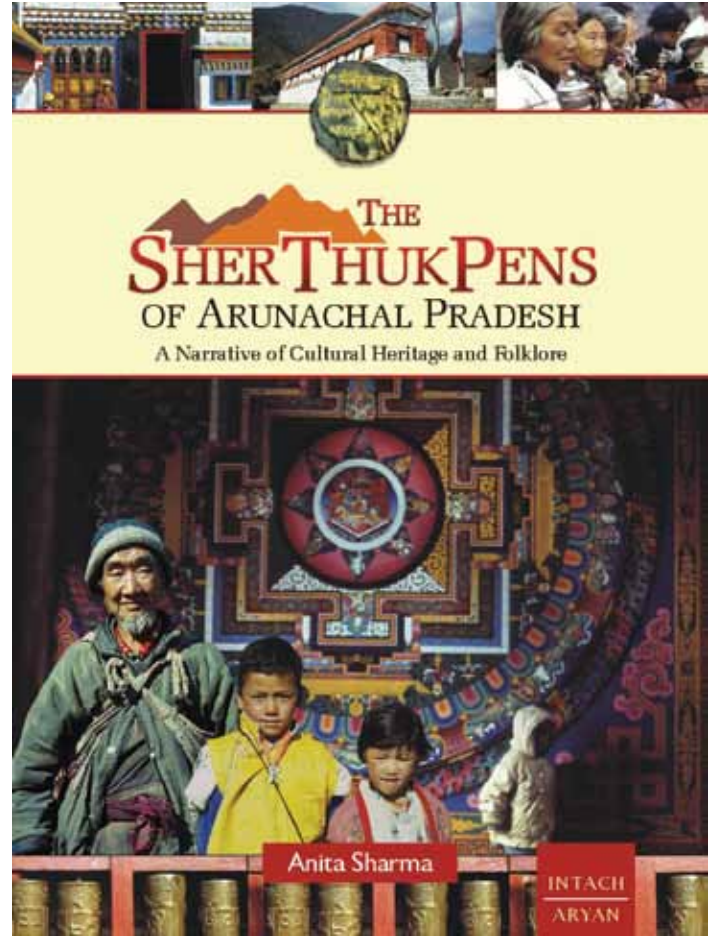
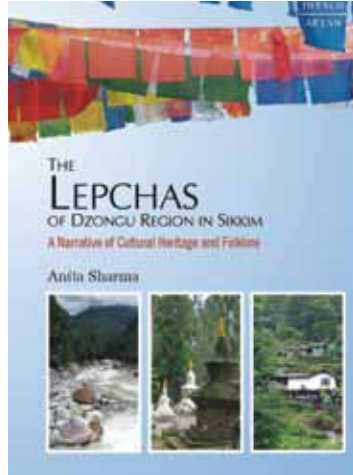
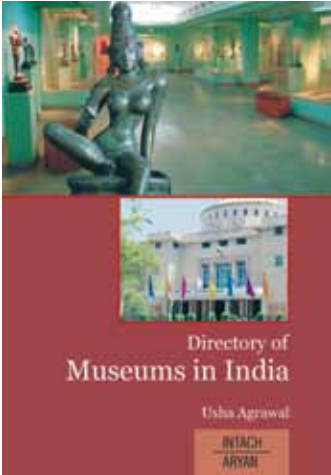
## PUBLICATIONS CELL

Three new books were published by INTACH Delhi in the month of December, under the existing co-publishing agreement with Aryan Books International. The first two titles, both hardbacks with jackets, and priced uniformly at Rs.1,500/- are: *The Sherthukpens of Arunachal Pradesh* and *The Lepchas of Dzongu Region in Sikkim*. The author, Anita Sharma, undertook a study of these two societies

in the course of her association with INTACH. The author has attempted to analyse the traditional societies of the *Sherthukpens* and the *Lepchas*, and estimate the likely loss of indigenous knowledge and socio-cultural patterns in both societies as a result of their encounter with modernity. The author has noted that while the *Sherthukpen* society as a whole has been the subject of study, in the case of



Greece



the *Lepchas* an attempt was made to give a greater voice to the *Lepcha* individual and step back somewhat from the anthropological trend of studying societies at the cost of individuals. Both societies have suffered because of the scarce attention given to them by scholars. The addition of photographs in colour enhances the studies.

The third published title a *Directory of Museums in India* is authored by Usha Agrawal. This is the fourth edition of the *Directory* and is updated till 2010. Earlier editions of the *Directory* were published privately, but henceforward it will be published by INTACH Delhi with periodic updates.

## NEWS FROM HERE & THERE

### Reluctant Rebel

7th November was Bahadur Shah Zafar’s 50th death anniversary. He is the reluctant hero of 1857, an ailing octogenarian taunted as “Buddha” by the very rebels who made him the figure head of their revolt. While his wife Zeenat Mahal opened the gates of the Red Fort, he sat with his hands on his ears feebly murmuring “*Ye kya napak awazain hain*” (what unholy voices are these)? He paid a grievous price of that revolt. His two older sons and grandson were shot dead at what is still known as the *Khooni Darwaza* and left to rot. Instead of sending him to Rangoon, the British should have taken the suggestion of Sir Charles Napier that he be allowed to spend his last days at Fatehpur Sikri, or sent to Mecca as Zafar wanted. Instead he was sent to the alien environment of Rangoon to die five years later in misery and a hurriedly dug up unmarked grave. Now Zafar is venerated as a *Pir* in Myanmar, with people visiting his *mazar* praying for favours denied to him. Zeenat survived him 24 years, their descendants perhaps find solace in an alien land.

**Ack : RV Smith/ Reported in Hindu**

### Varthema’s Travelogue

An Italian, Ludovico de Varthema reached Diu in 1504 and travelled through the western coast – Khambat, Chaul, Goa, Managalore, Kozhikode and Kochi. His adventures *Itinerario de Ludoucio de Varthema Bolognese* was published in Rome 1510, making it one of the earliest European travelogue of his Indian experiences over 8 years. The printed book and pictorial manuscript were recently on view at the National Archives, Delhi in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Centre. Its Director Eugenio Lo Sardo said “It is a very rare book since printing had just begun only a few years before it was published. It was an immensely successful travel book of love, princesses, sex and conversions in India. Now, the book has 47 editions in 20 different languages”. Varthema witnessed



King of Cambay who laid siege of Diu fortress and was captured



Cayman Island



Kannada folks sacrificing themselves under wheels of a carriage

the Battle of Diu between Portuguese and Turks (1509), noted how women were forced into *sati*, wrote about Malabar Jews, Christians, and pagans (Nairs), spices,

elephants, gods, weddings, caste and social systems. It seems very little escaped his searching eyes and ears. He also describes unheard of sacrifices such as Brahmins cutting off their own heads as sacrifice or pagans throwing themselves off a peak in a Pagoda called Tremel.

### Christiya Vanakam

The oldest surviving Indian printed book is *Christiya Vanakkam* published in 1578 from Quilon, a Tamil edition of the original St. Francis Xavier's *Doctrina Christa* in Portuguese. Till printed books were brought out, India had illuminated palm leaf documents many of which survived 13 centuries in the safe keeping of Calcutta's Asiatic Society. Actually the world's oldest known printed book is said to be the 808 AD *Diamond Sutra*, a 7 seven-page scroll printed with wood blocks on paper in China, which is a treasured Buddhist literature.

### Star Gazing

The National Mathematical Year 2012 has drawn to a close. INTACH must pay tribute to the genius mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan who died prematurely at just 32 years of age, but whose work places him along side others like Isaac Newton, Euclid and Archimedes. Three hundred years ago Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah was exasperated when astronomers at the court could not agree on the most favourable position of the planets for undertaking a critical journey when he faced the threat of attacks by the Marathas in the South and the Persians from the North. It was the Rajput Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh, well versed in mathematics, architecture and astronomy who suggested "building the largest astronomical observatory in the world". Thus the Jantar Mantar observatories came up in Jaipur and Delhi during the period 1724-34, with a truly international collaboration of mathematicians. Sawai Jai Singh consulted Islamic astronomers, read about observatories in Babylon and China, spoke to European Jesuits, delved into Greek astronomy, as well as Ptolemy and Euclid, and studied calendars to pool knowledge together. "And so the royal astronomers finally reached a consensus on which planetary position was most favourable for their Emperor. It is another matter however that in 1739, Muhammed Shah was defeated by the Persian Emperor Nadir Shah. Well, at least, mathematics marched on, undefeated!"

**Ack : Veena Prasad, The Hindu.**

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