It was in 1985 that the first attempt was made by the Archaeological Survey of India to get just a few Hampi monuments put on the list of World Heritage Site. Those were early days of heritage awareness in India, and so there was no particular follow up with the rigorous exercise required to get the UNESCO nomination. INTACH was only one year old at that time. In 1998, Dr. Vasundhara Filliozat, a historian of art and an epigraphist, who had researched Vijayanagara from the time it was the capital of ‘Karnataka Samrajya’, took up the matter. “After ICOMOS and UNESCO decided at a meeting that the whole site of Hampi should be taken up, the Government of India was still not accepting it”, she said perhaps because national heritage awareness was at a nascent stage with a handful of patrons to espouse the cause. Dr. Vasundhara had to write to a friend from Hasan who happened to be an MP and a good friend of Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao, who immediately approved the proposal. The Speaker also warmly acknowledged the help extended by Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, who, at a critical juncture, had also interceded to facilitate the matter.

Dr. Vasundhara Filliozat narrated a number of little known historical facets of “Karnataka Empire” that once existed in and around Hampi, going back as far as 1325 CE. Centuries later, when the British were distributing various kingdoms to different rulers, the Marathas had an eye on Hampi. The Nizam of Hyderabad however interjected and claimed it pointing out that Anegundi was already in his dominion, and Hampi and Anegundi were twin cities, a fact established by more than 35 inscriptions to be found at Hampi, and thus a territory of the Nizam. It was Tipu Sultan of Mysore who interceded at that time and declared that historically, Hampi had always been the capital of the Karnataka Empire. The people of Karnataka should be thankful to Tipu, a Muslim ruler, now that Hampi is the greatest tourist attraction of Karnataka. Dr. Vasundhara Filliozat opines that forthcoming historians should take the correct name of Karnataka Empire instead of identifying it as a part of the Vijayanagara Empire as is published in history books to this date.
Riveting view of Hampi

Hampi-Malyavanta-Raghunathaswamy, Dwarapalaka

Chariot like Garuda shrine Vittala Temple

Fighting Animal and Soldiers

On the banks of Tungabhadra
The austere and grandiose monuments at Hampi are essentially the remnants of the so-called Vijayanagara/Karnataka Empire (14th-16th CE), the last Hindu kingdom of India. The royal sophistication of this spectacular spread is evident not only in the host of sacred complexes and shrines, but also by way of the defence check posts, stables, water systems, lofty towers, cloistered enclosures, memorial structures—and of course most importantly the unearthed remains, indicative of a highly prosperous and developed society that once lived there.

In 1998, Dr. Vasundhara visited Hampi with a group of friends and was shocked to see two bridges being built at the site for crossing over the river to Anegundi, which had become a centre for illegal activities to a great extent. Her letter to UNESCO to put Hampi on the endangered list resulted in removal of only one Bridge, as strong-headed local politicians interceded to safeguard their dubious commercial activities. In 2008, they even got UNESCO permission to complete one of the proposed bridges. On a gleeful note, Dr. Vasundhara said “God Virupaksha protected himself by collapsing the bridge” by natural forces, but many poor workers from Odisha and Andhra Pradesh villages who had migrated as workers, lost their lives at the site.

Dr. Vasundhara conceded that tourism is a very good industry which is economically beneficial to people, but on the other hand it can also be harmful to some precious sites like Hampi unless such destinations are strictly regulated. For instance, there was a plan to build a
cinema theatre right in front of the museum in Hampi. It entailed demolishing a small Vishnu Temple that had been funded by Queen Krishna Devaraya. Eventually the temple was demolished and in place of a theatre, a bigger hotel came up! A tale of many cities......... alas!

Some special corners of Hampi, however, have survived the ravages of man and time like the musical pillared hall in the 1554 Vittala Temple. It has gigantic pillars to stand the weight of double eaves, triple corbels and huge beams that can take the load of a huge hall and ceiling. Another unique feature is that architects and sculptors of those times found stones that emitted musical sounds when tapped, and used them to make a beautiful mandapa. To this day, if you tap your fingers on it, they emit musical notes. Traces of vegetable colours can still be seen on some fading paintings.

The Krishna Temple and Krishnapura was built when Krishna Devaraya, won the war against the Orissa king, brought back a statue of Krishna from Udaigiri and built this temple. In 1880, when Hampi was taken up for conservation by the Archaeological Survey of India set up by the British, they found an image of Krishna with just two hands, in the garbha griha, which is now placed in the museum. The two other missing hands must have been holding a sankha and a chakra as the coins of that era have images of Krishna with four hands. The Collector of Bellary used to invite British tourists to Hampi saying it was like Pompei.
Today we can take pride in Hampi as a World Heritage Site and a ‘living heritage’. Every year many devotees come for pujas and utsavas and to mark the betrothal of Pampa and Virupaksha that took place in ancient times. It is celebrated in the month of Chaitra (end March or beginning of April). Dr. Vasundhara shared many such interesting tidbits of lores and facts. There is now, for instance, a big street for cars in front of the Tiruvanalanathala Temple, that was once just a lane used strictly by courtesans. A person would use it to announce the name that such and such lady should come to the temple to render a particular service during pooja ceremonies. They probably rendered ‘other services’ too at other times as they became rich, they even made huge donations to the temple. It was the British who put a ban on such activities and presumably temple dancers became popular performers and dancing girls elsewhere in towns and cities.

Vijayanagara rulers built forts, fortified gateways and watchtowers to guard against repeated wars against their flourishing empire, vestiges of which can be seen at Hampi. In the 14th century, many Jain temples came up but today one sees that most of the idols are missing. Dr. Vasundhara narrated a number of little known facts about the Karnataka Samrajya - spreading
between a river and the rocky mountains, Hampi was naturally protected…… later the Muslim Bahmani kingdom established itself at Gulbarga. In 1510, Krishna Devaraya came to the throne and made many additions to the temples such as the open pillared halls – Kakshasanas. It was only in 1800 that Colonel Macenzie drew the first site map of Hampi. In 1980 excavations, aqueducts to carry water to tanks, drains and channels to remove overflow, square-stepped tanks to feed the aqueducts were discovered.

The Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority (HWHAMA), as part of its mandate, has prepared a Master Plan to protect cultural, natural heritage and regulate development in the Local Planning Area under the Town and Country Planning...

Anegundi is located across the river from Hampi. Crossing the river was free in olden times as the Karnataka kings gave grants to the boatmen. The Speaker pointed out that today motorboats have been introduced, causing both noise and harm to nature, in addition to unemployment of poor people. A number of hotels have also come up at Anegundi with the inexorable march of modern day lifestyles. She hopes that at least its old residents remain a part of the scenario and are not sent elsewhere to live in small blocks and hutments as is happening in some Indian cities in the name of urban development.

Dr. Vasundhara Filliozat reminds us that the Hampi ruins, spread over 4100 hectares, have been described by UNESCO as having “Outstanding Universal Value”. The sophistication of the ancient but varied urban, royal and sacred systems is evident everywhere from more than 1600 surviving remains of the site. One finds images and the Linga in particular, everywhere. It continues to be a sacred centre and a pilgrim place near Hospet that is growing into a modern city. Local

At a meeting chaired by Chief Secretary Karnataka, it was decided that INTACH will be a Member on the Board of the Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority (HWHAMA). It will facilitate INTACH in monitoring encroachments and undesirable developments in the heritage areas of Hampi. INTACH has proceeded to prepare the Koppal WHS Interventions Master Plan and is currently in the process of finalizing the details. INTACH’s primary goal is to work with the Karnataka Government.
people however are still happy to come and drag the temple *ratha* (chariot) during festivals. (Most Lingayats of Karnataka wear a mini Linga in a silver casket (*Gungadgi*) like a sacred thread concealed across their chest).

In one of the areas of Hampi, after climbing about 600 steps to the top of a hill, one gets a splendid bird’s eye view of entire Hampi. Dr. Vasundhara concluded by saying, Hampi is a great site with a lot more to tell. “I have condensed it and tried to put an elephant into a small pot”!

Dr. Vasundhara Kavali-Filliozat is a historian of art and an epigraphist. She works alternately in India to explore the archaeological and literary past of her country, and in France to encourage knowledge and appreciation of India in general and Karnataka in particular. She is the author of over 26 books and articles in Kannada, English and French including the Vijayanagara Chronicles from 1950-1880, published by the National Book Trust. It is a book prescribed by the University of Delhi for study of Medieval Indian History.

### DEVELOPMENT OF HAMPi AS AN ICONIC TOURISM DESTINATION

Karnataka Chief Secretary conducted a Meeting on 16th May to discuss issues on heritage regulations within bylaws with reference to the proposed *Hampi Master Plan* and setting up a city museum. A Final Development Report was sent to INTACH Karnataka Chapter for continuing the dialogue concerning Hampi as a destination as well as World Heritage Site.

Anegundi Chapter Convenor Shama Pawar reviewed the Report and has commented on key points with reference to existing projects and proposals as well as recommendations for the same.

Hampi is one of the most complex and layered sites in the 17 listed key tourist destinations of India identified by the Ministry of Tourism under the *Swadesh Darshan* Scheme for development of ‘Iconic Sites’. The sheer scale and diversity of both natural and human heritage, enriched by the exceptional convergence of culture, religion and mythology makes it a distinct tourist site. The Chapter points out that there is a marked contradiction between the intent and recommendations put forth in the introductory part of the Report and in the proposed interventions.

The first part of the Report has highlighted many aspects of the site that need to be considered for charting the way forward. There is focus on the cultural and natural integrity of the site ensuring low visual and ecological impact on Hampi’s breathtaking landscape while planning tourism infrastructure. It is the second part of the Report that dismayed the technical team of Anegundi Chapter which has commented: *The proposals demonstrate blatant disregard to built heritage, sacred landscapes, the local community and local culture, undermining years of work the Government of Karnataka, INTACH and the local community have put in to preserve the splendor of Hampi. For a start, it has commented on two interventions due to paucity of time but a detailed reaction will follow.*

Firstly, the built components and planning strategies proposed in the historical precincts and the Greenfield developments are heavy handed in architectural language and material tone. The imposing structures disrespect the scale of Hampi’s built heritage and contest its scenic sacred landscapes. The planning typology and built layout do not consider the hot dry climate of the region and will serve to heighten the discomfort of users. The inappropriate use of stone pillars in the architecture serve to further deteriorate the visual identity and cultural character of Hampi.
Secondly, the main point of discontent of the Chapter is the proposed development of water sporting activities. It is imperative to note that the Tungabhadra River ecology within the Hampi region is host to a plethora of flora and fauna. Thousands of species of birds and insects, several of which are endangered and rare, find their home here. It is an otter reserve and is crisscrossed by various wildlife corridors. The river itself is sacred and mythical and is part of the religious heritage of the region. In this light, proposing activities like parasailing, fishing, boating etc. are dangerous to the sanctity of the region. Moreover, the riverbed itself is unique with a boulder bed that makes it both sensitive and mysterious. The proposals entail activities which create noise and movement which will disrupt the serenity and ecological balance of the region. It will promote a tourism culture that is disconnected from the context and community.

The Report also draws attention to the importance of promoting pilgrimage tourism to Hampi in a sustainable manner, given its role in the mythological and religious history of India.

As Hampi is a World Heritage Site, it is mandated by the AMASR Act that any development or construction at site has to be subjected to a Heritage Impact Study by the National Monuments Authority.

The Chapter’s strong response is a bid to avoid the repetition of an earlier incident when UNESCO put Hampi on the endangered list, that was referred to by Dr. Vasundhara in the Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture on 18th April. It is both a hope and a prayer that proper corrective measures are taken and enforced, to protect and preserve Hampi as a treasured site.
MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN

I would like to draw the attention of all State Convenors, Convenors, Co-Convenors and Members to the Charter for Conservation of Unprotected Architectural Heritage and Sites in India that was drawn up during the INTACH National Convention held on 4th November, 2004. The Charter collated the experiences of INTACH and arrived at the Indian perspective on conservation strategies, rooted in indigenous knowledge systems and skills. The Charter was globally acknowledged by several authorities as an important contribution to understanding how traditional builders constructed monuments valued to this day, and how they are conserved by society.

INTACH has over the years contributed to several new initiatives to conserve the diverse nature of the country. I would like to reiterate that the concept of an evolving integrity accepts the introduction of new architectural elements, materials and technologies when local traditions are unavailable. The introduction of new elements reflect contemporary aesthetic ideals as modern additions to old buildings. I would like to reiterate that the patina of historic fabric due to age and natural decay should not compel preservation of ruins as it exists, frozen in time and space. Each society has its own distinctive culture rooted in traditions, beliefs, rituals and other practices that define the significance of architectural heritage and sites. In the final analysis it is the holistic coherence of heritage in terms of its urban design, architectural composition and its current significance for the local community that should determine the process of conservation work to be undertaken with artistic intent and minimal loss of fabric.

Chairman L.K. Gupta

The complete Charter is available on INTACH Website. It can be found by clicking the tab ‘About INTACH’, or accessing the weblink: www.intach.org/about-charter.php. In case any further information or clarification is required on any aspect of the Charter, please feel free to contact INTACH Heritage Academy for advice and assistance.

INTACH Executive Committee Meeting, 28th March 2019

Chairman LK Gupta welcomed the Executive Committee Members, while Vice Chairman Dr. Saryu Doshi mentioned that she was very impressed with all the excellent work being done by INTACH. Member Secretary CT Misra mentioned the MoU signed with the Aurangabad Municipal Corporation defining the roles and responsibilities of the two parties, with INTACH as conservation consultant for heritage structures within Aurangabad city.
The Executive Committee was updated on some of the recent developments. Two PILs had been filed by the Bengaluru Chapter against the demolition of Janta Bazar as a result of which an interim stay order was obtained. The second PIL was filed in the case of the Najafgarh Jheel in Haryana where the Contempt of Court was issued to Chief Secretaries of Haryana and Delhi by the NGT.

INTACH contacted Prof. Shinde of the Deccan College, Pune to examine a rare sandstone 5’6” diameter spherical sandstone ball, along with microlith era tools of an early settlement, that was found during excavation at the foothills of Kalinjar Fort.

**Governing Council Meeting, 29th April 2019**

Chairman welcomed Members of the Council mentioning newly appointed Dr. BK Sahay from National Museum and Pranav Khullar from the Ministry of Culture. He also congratulated the newly elected/re-elected INTACH Members.

Chairman informed the Committee of his visit to five Chapters, including State Chapter Meetings held at Karnataka and Haryana. The Restoration of Flora Fountain in Mumbai was a major work completed by the Delhi Conservation Centre, Delhi. He mentioned that one a private visit to Agra he noticed joints of the marble slabs of the Taj Mahal had opened which could become a major problem in the future. INTACH proposes to draw the attention of the Ministry of Culture and if invited will prepare a Material Conservation Report on the Taj on pro-bono basis. Members were also briefed on other highlights like the shifting of Hussein painting from WHO Building, Hudco Design Award 2018 to Puducherry Chapter, etc. that are covered under respective Chapters in this issue.

**Anirudh Bhargava–INTACH Environmental Awards**

The annual *Anirudh Bhargava–INTACH Environmental Awards* for the year 2018 and 2019 were announced on 18th April at the conclusion of the Pupul Jaykar Memorial Lecture. It has been instituted by INTACH for exemplary contribution to the protection of environmental / natural heritage through steps taken for halting environmental destruction and contributing to environmental regeneration.

**First Award**

Narayan Unni of Palakkad was adjudged the First Prize winner. He is a pioneering rice farmer whose work with the medicinal rice variety ‘Navara’ has re-generated an ‘heirloom gain’ and opened up possibilities of restoring financial sustainability to rice farming in the granary of Kerala.

**Second Prize**

The Second Prize will be shared by Sarang Yadwadkar of Pune, Maharashtra and Shyam Kumar M of Pallakad, Kerala.

Pune Chapter Member Sarang Vaman Yadwadkar was recognised for “his relentless efforts to save the rivers of Pune against encroachments” Sarang Yadwadkar moved the NGT in five cases for safeguarding the city’s rivers against encroachment, unauthorized constructions and metro alignment in the river bed over the last three years. The cases are now in the Supreme Court and there are great expectations of a positive judgement.

Pallakad Chapter Member Syam Kumar M, an auto rickshaw driver, will share the third prize for “Exemplary contribution to the protection of Environment/Natural Heritage through steps to stop environmental destruction or contributing to regeneration”. He planted over 23,000 trees in the village of Thenkurissi and its surroundings restoring traditional water bodies and creating micro-habitats for birds. (Details given in box item under Pallakad Chapter)
INTACH congratulates Principal Director NHD Manu Bhatnagar on his appointment as a Member of the Committee constituted by the National Mission for Clean Ganga. The Mission is supporting a study by National Institute of Hydrology on the environmental flow assessment for Yamuna River from the Hathnikund Barrage to the Okhla Barrage.

PD NHD Manu Bhatnagar has also been nominated as a Member of two other important committees – the Steering Board and Core Group Expert of UP Government’s Multi-Stakeholder Partnership for Hindon and the Ganga Tributary Management; and as Expert Member to the Wetland Authority of Delhi. Congratulations!

THE SMATER CITY

- Principal Director NHD Manu Bhatnagar

The question is whether Indian cities will metamorphose into butterflies or ugly moths?

India is urbanizing, not at a trot or a canter, but at a gallop. Urban populations are beginning to overtake rural populations in some States. In 1991 the number of urban settlements were 3768, whereas in 2001 the numbers had gone up to 4378, and that almost doubled to 7935 in the 2011 census. The dizzying urban explosion has overwhelmed natural and financial resources as well as the receding countryside. Weak Urban Departments are at their wits, and to come up with planning solutions. Feeble enforcement agencies are unable to prevent the distortion of elaborate Master Plans at the ground level and administrations are forever having to regularize the irregular.

Cities are increasingly vulnerable to climate change, dogged by pollution issues, subject to urban flooding, facing water insecurity, overwhelmed by housing and transport challenges, challenged by harsh environments and psychological aberrations.

The Sustainable Development Goals were adopted by the United Nations in September 2017 and Goal No. 11 is about making cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. While disjointed attempts are being made to address some of the aforementioned challenges, resilience and sustainability are falling through the cracks between single issue focused agencies and several layers of authority with divided sectional jurisdictions. The reliance on capital intensive engineering solutions is compounded by a reluctance to adopt nature based simpler economical solutions, weaving nature into the urban fabric.

What are the nature based solutions a city can adopt to become more resilient and sustainable? Can we build nature into the urban fabric? Let us look at a few possibilities.

Urban Forests : Presently our cities are bereft of forests. If lucky, the city may have large parks but these do not provide the benefits of forests.

- Forests moderate climate, provide a cooling effect, counter heat islands, attract precipitation, and help ground water recharge.
- It is well known that immersing oneself in forests has a healing effect on both psyche and physique. The Japanese...
have promoted the concept of ‘shinrin yoku’ or forest bathing to describe the practice of ‘getting into the woods for body and mind renewal to counter lifestyle related issues’.

Forests must be seen as a part of water, health and pollution control infrastructure. Therefore, green field developments must provide space for urban forests in land use plans. On the other hand already built settlements can consider building green buffers along large storm water nullahs, developing riverine forests, partially converting large parks into woodlands, creating woodlands in large campuses, terraces and vertical gardens.

Water: Presently, cities are surviving by depleting rivers and aquifers. As the water crisis intensifies there can no longer be business as usual. Efficiency in the use of water (i.e. performing a task with less water than before), recycling (treating used water and utilizing it for an appropriate purpose again and again) to reduce the freshwater footprint, creating local water sources is the way forward.

Several tasks can be performed with increasing efficiency. For instance, integrating dry toilets (at least in new developments) can eliminate flushing water, a particularly bad usage of freshwater. Similarly, the use of herbal soaps (such as reetha powder) can curtail washing machine water use by half whereas the use of spray guns/bottles can greatly reduce water utilized for car washing.

While protecting water bodies in and around urban areas, the same can be filled with recycled water from STPs. Usually, there is a stigma attached with the use of recycled water which prevents its popular usage. Also, the ideas regarding dual piping systems in households (owing to costs and breakages/repairs) as also reuse in public gardens (required for only some days over 6 months) are impractical. But once the treated water is recharged to the aquifer through the bed of a water body, the water recovered through tube wells is no longer stigmatized and is useful for all purposes in a decentralized way.

Just like the land use plan must reserve space for forests, so too the water plan must provide space for water bodies at sites in low lying areas as indicated in topography. Likewise, large campuses may develop water bodies in consonance with the drainage plan to gather their rainfall runoff as well as using the same to store wastewater treated in on campus decentralized treatment plants. The elaboration of such practices on a large scale would make a significant contribution to the resilience and sustainability of our cities while reducing their water footprint.

THE GANGA DOCUMENTATION PROJECT: THE RIVER AS A CULTURAL STREAM

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is steering the program for cleaning the National River. It is being realised that the Ganga is not an ordinary river nor can the exercise be merely confined to pollution control. The Ganga is a river with an aura radiating myth, religion, culture on a civilisational scale. The River has found mention on Greek maps as old as the 4th Century BCE. Historical allusions to it abound in the work of Megasthenes (Greek Ambassador to the court of Chandragupta Maurya), in Fa Hien’s narratives and in the works of Tavernier and several European travellers. Major James Renell, the first Surveyor General, came up with a fairly accurate map from the Bay of Bengal up to the Himalayan foothills as early as 1786 (see Bengal Atlas). The Ganga was also recorded in several watercolour paintings by artists such as the Daniels, Pandit Sitaram and others. In recent years there has been a veritable explosion of writings on the Ganga by Western authors in the form of travelogues as well as serious literature. And much scientific research regarding water quality, the Ganga’s special water quality, and its biodiversity is also being published. Yet, a district by district survey of architectural heritage, intangible cultural heritage, natural heritage along the main stream of River does not exist. The NMCG accords importance to build up the profile of the River in its various aspects for obtaining a fuller understanding and appreciation of it.

The Director General, NMCG, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Mishra has given this responsibility to INTACH, and NHD is working closely with support from NMCG staff. INTACH has also been tasked with listing, surveying, documenting the above-stated aspects in a 10 km. wide corridor around the River all the way from Gaumukh to Bay of Bengal. The work which commenced in December
2018 spans 48 Districts and 2500 km, and will extend for a little over 2 years.

Various INTACH Divisions are involved, coordinated by Principal Director Natural Heritage. A team headed by Dehradun Chapter Convenor Lokesh Ohri is covering various aspects from Gaumukh to Haridwar. The West Bengal Chapter has initiated work on the stretch from Malda to Ganga Sagar. Surveys have also been initiated in Allahabad, Varanasi and Mirzapur Districts.

The deliverables of the work consist of District-wise survey reports, audio-visual films, a bibliography of works on the Ganga (other than scientific works), a ready to print draft coffee table book, a report on the Kumbh Mela, and a survey of the Kumbh literature. Large scale maps will be prepared in GIS format to locate the findings and an overarching narrative will be prepared which will list out threats and recommendations.

Very elaborate formats for the surveys have been drawn up by each Division. District Gazetteers and literature on the subject is being accumulated and studied. For example, Francis Hamilton’s *An Account of the Fish in the Ganga and its Branches*, 1822 is being studied. High quality cameras and camcorders have been purchased for the field teams. The field teams will be using a software to fill formats in the field which will be directly transferred to an online server at Central Office.

The Natural Heritage formats cover themes like river islands, floodplain lakes, sacred trees, boats, riparian vegetation, cropping pattern, tributary confluences, impacts of barrages, changes in the riparian and in-stream fauna over a longish period. The Intangible Cultural Heritage formats include songs, poems, languages, rituals, cuisine, crafts, festivals and fairs.

INTACH hopes to compile a holistic picture of the Ganga on completion of the work by exposing lesser known elements to light.
A recently conducted survey established that solely planting trees is not adequate to save Earth and Man from global warming. It has now been established that young trees absorb carbon dioxide better than established rainforests through photosynthesis. But there is no space on Earth to plant enough trees to make a dent on carbon emissions. According to Business Insider, it has been calculated that 1.7 billion acres of trees (equivalent to the size of USA) could remove 3 billion tons of atmospheric carbon at the cost of half the land used to farm crops worldwide. Then there is also the land needed for farming to feed a growing world population? It is a Catch 22 situation for which we urgently need to catch a 22nd Century solution!
ENCOUNTER WITH A DJINN

Personal Experience of Manu Bhatnagar

Adventures while travelling in the line of duty for INTACH often results in unusual experiences. Sometimes these experiences can be unworldly, and sometimes one such tale merits recalling and sharing with colleagues.

In 2006, I was implementing the Garden of Thailand on behalf of INTACH - a prestigious job to be carried out for the Ministry of External Affairs in furtherance of India’s Look East Policy. The time was extremely short, the budget modest, there were language issues, and the transport of carved stone elements from Bikaner to Chiang Mai in Thailand was not easy. Most of all was our lack of experience in overseas implementation.

The site work started in June 2006, and had to be completed by mid-October. Bureaucratic hurdles in the issue of passports to the skilled stone craftsmen were causing endless tension, as were the monsoon related difficulties in Thailand. And our carved stone material ending up in Singapore instead of Thailand!!! I truly wished I was some place else.

It was then that the chief stone carver Akhilak Khalji suggested that we take the help of a djinn who was in the control of a maulvi in Bikaner. I was given to understand that the Djinn is a person neither alive nor dead but who has certain magical powers. By this time I was ready to take help from any quarter!

On a Thursday evening in August we landed up at the Maulvi’s place and were taken to a room on the first floor. Here we sat in front of a door which opened into a tiny room in which there was no other opening. The Maulvi recited some summoning prayers and a thudding noise indicated the arrival of the djinn in that tiny room. We sat on the ground with our heads bowed. The djinn stood in the doorway. Half looking up I could make out that he was a very tall man and his entire body and hands were wrapped in bandage. Akhilak addressed him as ‘djinn baba’ and explained our difficulties. The djinn extended his hands and kept them on our heads. Thereafter, he withdrew with a thudding noise and was gone. Later I examined the tiny room again but could not make out any kind of opening from where anyone could have entered or left.

Sure enough our fortunes changed, all hurdles disappeared as if by magic. The work was completed in time and brought kudos to INTACH.

ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION

Delegates from 130 countries met in Paris on 29th April to debate on the 44 page Summary for Policy Makers distilled from 1800 paged UN Assessment of scientific literature on the state of nature. Scientists estimate that the Earth is home to some 8 million distinct species. One million of them face extinction due to the ways we humans utilise and consume the earth’s resources - depleting faster than regenerating them. A quarter of all catalogued animal and plant resources are being crowded out, or eaten or poisoned out of existence. Added to this is the loss of clean air, portable water, CO2 absorbing forests, pollinating insects, protein rich fish and storm blocking mangroves, to name a few of the accelerated loss of services rendered by Nature. Added to loss of biodiversity is global warming. A study has proved that countries with emissions between 10-100 tons of CVO2 per capita suffered a 24% negative impact on the economy. It remains to be seen how nations engaged in a constant race to be armed to the teeth, and racing to other planets in the cosmos, will act on the concerns of the Earth beneath their feet. Meanwhile many experts think a so-called “mass extinction event” – only the sixth in the last half billion years-is already under way!

Ack : Agence France Presse
Currently a 8-man team is cleaning the slopes of Mount Everest at 6400 meters height. In just two weeks 3 tonnes of rubbish littered by discarded gear, plastic ware, empty bottles and some lost corpses were recovered – during a cleaning operation mounted jointly by Nepal and China on both sides of Mount Everest. Smaller teams of three will be spending 15 days at Camp 4 at 7, 950 metres for 15 days subsequently. Sporadic cleanup operations have been going on for several years but only half the climbers bother to come back with some of the discards littered by them. Unless and until it is made mandatory for climbing teams to bring down what they use, periodic cleaning is not an assured solution to a perennial problem.

Small glaciers pose a larger threat by raising sea level more than what scientists earlier believed. A mere 10 inch rise in sea level, in addition to the 20-40 inch increase due to melting of glaciers in Greenland and Antartica, means even small glaciers could play a bigger role in rise of sea level than previously estimated by scientists. Indian cities will eventually face extreme flooding if sea levels rise, according to a 2018 study published in the Geophysical Research Letters.
ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (AHD)

Restoration & Maintenance of General Post Office Heritage Building (GPO) Mumbai, Maharashtra

The Grade I General Post Office, located in the Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus area in Mumbai, is a heritage building designed by John Begg in early 20th century. Built in local grey Kurla basalt with dressings of yellow stone from Malad and white stone from Dhrangadhara, the building spans over nearly 4300 square meters area. The architecture of the building is primarily Indo-Saracenic style adopted by the British in India, and reflects a strong influence of Islamic architecture in its skyline dominated by domes and minarets. It has a large central hall, rising to the full height of the building to the dome. This central dome is said to have been inspired by the proportions and architecture of the Gol Gumbaz at Bijapur.

Recently INTACH submitted a Detailed Project Report (PPR) for Phase-I of the Restoration and Maintenance of the GPO Heritage Building to Department of Telecommunication, Ministry of Communications, Government of India.

Conservation of Radha Gopal Temple, Mathura, Uttar Pradesh

The Radha Gopal Temple on Gopeshwar Road, also known as Brahmchari Temple or Gwalior temple by pilgrims and visitors, is one of the largest and oldest temples in the historic town of Vrindavan. The complex comprises a courtyard temple and an adjoining school that was originally a horse stable. Built in the late 19th century by Jayaji Rao Scindia,
the building is a beautiful example of amalgamation of local, Mughal and Colonial architecture. It is the main temple of Nimbark Sampraday in the region and receives large number of tourist and pilgrim footfall throughout the year.

INTACH prepared the Preliminary Project Report (PPR) for the Conservation of the temple, for the Jyotiraditya Charitable Trust (Scindias).

**Thematic Development of Artistic Work at 10 Roads, Varanasi, HRIDAY, MoHUA**

The HRIDAY project in Varanasi was awarded to INTACH. A one pilot road (Gurudham Road) was conducted between January-April 2018 that was highly appreciated by the Ministry and the local community. Work on the remaining 9 roads commenced in September 2018. These are internal routes connecting the major roads and mostly serve the residential neighbourhoods. At first the residents were apprehensive and not supportive but as the work progressed and they saw the quality of work, there was full cooperation from each household. It also resulted in major cleaning, removal of garbage and graffiti etc. and upgrading by way of plastering, painting murals on selected walls, uniform shop signage, directional signs, enclosures around transformers, street furniture, etc. The mural locations were carefully selected and instead of figurative work the existing street character was enhanced by highlighting building style and local art. In spite of several issues like diverse communities, permissions, vandalism, disputed properties, traffic, narrow lanes, limited workspace, garbage issues, uncounted fairs and festivals, the work has now been completed. The community has greatly benefitted and have appreciated INTACH’s work.

**Pre-Feasibility and Impact Assessment—Restoration and Rejuvenation of flood plains of River Yamuna**

Delhi Development Authority (DDA) initiated a proposal for rejuvenation of flood plains of River Yamuna. A survey conducted by NGT (National Green Tribunal) recommended that various cultural activities, spaces as well as settlements be identified along the river Yamuna. DDA approached INTACH to undertake the impact study for also conducting a pre-feasibility and impact assessment of the DDA’s proposal on the Yamuna (stretching between Wazirabad barrage and the old iron bridge).
On the basis of on-ground study various pressure points, eco-sensitive zones and archaeologically rich zones have been identified and mitigation measures along with the conceptual proposal for the entire stretch was presented to NGT and DDA on 6th June 2019. The impact assessment report is being finalized presently.

**Restoration of Ancient Well and Shiv Temple, Mora Village, Surat**

As part of CSR initiative, Reliance Industries Ltd. has offered help for conservation of the ancient well Jatakruva, associated with a Shiv Temple called Nageswar Mahadev Temple in Mora village of Surat. The well finds mention in the holy book of Tapi Mahapuran, making it 4000 years old in mythology. According to legend, the ritual Pind Daan, if performed at the well, ensures salvation for the deceased. A large number of regional tourists (approximately 50000) come to Mora in the month of December for the Pitru Shradh fair which is held at the open grounds near the well.

Although the well and the temple are of historical and religious significance at regional level, they are
Vegetation growing at the corners of Shiv Temple, Mora Village, Surat

Development of cracks in squinches and dome

Mud houses in Leh, Jammu and Kashmir
Source:www.flickr.com/photos/91401835@N00/2070901491

presently in poor condition due to lack of maintenance. The temple is under threat of structural collapse due to the excessive vegetation growth. INTACH prepared and submitted the Detailed Project Report to the Reliance Industries in Sept. 2018, that was approved in Feb. 2019, with the first instalment of funds. The on-site work of the project is expected to be completed by May 2020.

Architectural Styles of India

The study on Architectural Elements of Indian Styles is to produce an inventory of styles of Indian Architecture. One of the objectives of the study is categorisation of buildings in different geo-climatic zones of India according to perceptual or visual characteristics. The study will show that generally there are distinct differences in the architectural style across climatic zones with some exceptions. A preliminary framework was set up by identifying the broad determinants of style i.e. Nature, Culture and Ideology that may contribute to the formation of styles within each zone with selected case examples to substantiate the framework. A sample secondary research was conducted, and a report was prepared on the ‘Dwellings’ type in mountain climatic zone under the Culture determinant with a detailed report. Another research work on Ideology determinant with focus on the Colonial influence on Indian architecture has been started. Reports will then be prepared for each building types which will be used as reference to conduct primary research.

Examples of Dwellings in Mountain Climatic Zone

Timber-brick house (Dhatji Dewari) in Srinagar, Kashmir
Source:www.shehjar.com/content/2563/1.html
AN EXAMPLE: MICRO LEVEL DESIGN SENSIBILITY

Referring to Bengaluru’s KR Market, Swati Ramanathan remarked that the distance between fork and farm or more aptly between khana and kheti grows as cities expand – and the counter movement to shrink the food mile is gaining ground across the world. The KR Market with its majestic entrance stands on the site of the epic Anglo-Mysore battle with a majestic entrance built by the Mysore Maharaja in 1921, sprawling over 14 acres in the heart of the city. The market is the largest wholesale supplier of vegetable, fruit, fish and meat and wholesalers today - catering to a 100,000 customer footfalls a day. As transactions grew the market organised itself into an ecosystem for each section to meet voluminous wholesale trading and delivery to increase functioning efficiency. The writer points out that “even as the need for thoughtful urban planning at a macro level is gaining visibility, the absence of micro-level design sensibility continues to be a blind spot in urban projects, subsumed entirely by an engineering view of public infrastructure”. Surely Urban Design should be a subject of increasing importance for India’s cities if we are to create community spaces that are vibrant and valuable, she states.

ACK: Hindustan Times, 7th May 2019

12TH CENTURY NOTRE DAME – WORLD HEADLINE NEWS

According to the Economist, there are only a handful of globally recognised cultural symbols - Mona Lisa, Michaelangelo’s David, Taj Mahal, Great Pyramid and the Notre Dame. INTACH believes there are many others that remain to be explored for inclusion. In the past, the historic Notre Dame has witnessed many upheavals like the ransacking by Protestant Huguenots in 16th century, anti-Catholic violence during the French Revolution and a close brush to being demolished but saved in 1804 by Napoleon. It has a three volume novel commemorating its glory – The Hunchback of Note Dame by Victor Hugo. It survived through 850 years and has witnessed war, revolution and even Nazi occupation. The recent visuals of the Cathedral consumed by fire captured worldwide attention thanks to added social media and condolence messages pouring in from Heads of State. Only the spire has gone, but the towers seem to be standing in defiance of miscreants. And within 24 hours, millions of dollars poured in from across the world for restoration of the Notre Dame (Our lady) and crowd funding is on-going. As Victor Hugo wrote “Great edifice, like great mountains, are the work of centuries.......Time is the architect, the nation is the builder”. The survival of the Notre Dame’s golden cross and altar has caused wonder among the faithful – like a burning message of immortality!
Archeologists have discovered two new tombs at the Giza Pyramids. They have been dated 2563-2423 BC belonging to two high ranking priests during the reign of King Khafre. He was known as Khefren or Chephren to the ancient Greeks, and built the second of the three famous pyramids of Giza as well as the Sphinx near the south western side of the capital of Egypt, Cairo. Artifacts were also discovered in the unearthed burial shaft. Renowned Egyptologist Zahi Hawass said the whole world is watching this great discovery that dates back to the fifth dynasty”.

Ack: Mail Today, 6th May 2019

LISTING CELL

Listing of Hissar District heritage sites undertaken by the Haryana State Chapter was completed. It comprises 64 heritage properties in Hissar and 31 in Hansi Division.

Currently the ongoing listings are at Neyyattinkara by Trivandrum Chapter; the area from Maihar to Panna by Maihar Satna Chapter; Vellore town by Tamil Nadu State Chapter; Basadis of Moodabidri and Karkala by Mangalore Chapter; Zanskar Region by Laddakh Chapter; and Sonbhadra District by Varanasi Chapter.

Thematic listing are ongoing for Prachi Valley by Bhubaneswar Chapter; Chambal Valley by Madhya Pradesh State Chapter; Kota and Agra Chapters; Mahanadi River by Odisha State and Raipur Chapters; and Hoogly River (from Farakka to Nabadwip) by West Bengal State Chapter.

The Register of Historic Gardens for Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in the first phase covering total number of 245 gardens is complete.

NEEDS LISTING?

The 1550 AD Qutab Khan ki Masjid stands tall in a non descript village in Sohna, Haryana - but practically blocked from view by constructions and houses around it and often mistaken for the Lal & Kala Gumbad in the interiors. To reach this mosque one has to traverse through a labyrinth of narrow cobbled lanes flanked by houses plastered with cow dung cakes. Made of granite and quartz stones, and a beautiful combination of black and white stones, it has a dome resting on an octangular base. To get a clear view one has to climb its high steps to appreciate the grandeur of...
the structure. Remnants of conflict remain in the word “Mandir” written in Devanagiri on its dome as the locals wanted to convert it into a temple while the Muslims said it is obviously a mosque. A Panel said it should be used as a community space and now 10-12 marriages have taken place here, untouched by prejudice. The monument is under protection of the Haryana State to be used as neither mandir nor masjid – but has a good tourism potential.

HERITAGE CRAFT AND COMMUNITY DIVISION (HCCD)

MARTAND SINGH MEMORIAL AWARD

The Martand Singh Memorial Award, instituted by INTACH to honour his memory and long association with INTACH, is a tribute to his outstanding contributions in the field of crafts and textiles.

Throughout his career, he endeavoured to promote and preserve the techniques and superb skills of India’s craftsmen and weavers. The awards recognize exceptional skills of the artisans engaged in producing traditional textiles, arts and crafts, and will encourage innovation to ensure the continuity of Indian craft traditions.

The award ceremony for the Martand Singh Memorial Award 2019 was held on 18th April, 2019 on the occasion of World Heritage Day marked by INTACH with the annual Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture.

The Martand Singh Memorial Award in the craft category for the first time was awarded to Shamim Ansari, also from Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. He is today the world’s only draw loom weaver of patterned silk velvet and has impeccably reproduced several period textiles of the 16th and 17th centuries.

The Martand Singh Memorial Award in the weaving category was awarded to:

Ajit Kumar Jha of Madhubani, Bihar for excellence in Mithila Painting. Ajit Kumar Jha paints a masterly range of subjects from traditional folklore to contemporary social and secular issues in his artwork.

Guidelines and Application for the Martand Singh Memorial Award 2020 are available on http://intach.org/award-martand.php
IDOL MAKING CRAFT TRADITIONS OF INDIA

India has a vast and varied craft tradition of making idols using diverse materials that is widely sculpted across all geographical regions. The Heritage Craft and Community Division initiated the first-ever comprehensive documentation on *Idol Making Craft Traditions of India*. Its aim is to document various styles and techniques of Idol Making across India. Initial research has been completed identifying the major idol making centres in the country.

The primary research started from North Zone covering the States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and some centres of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. It is being followed up by West Zone, South Zone, East Zone and North-East Zone in the order mentioned.

Contributions from individuals and INTACH Members towards this documentation will be highly appreciated. Please contact INTACH on intachcrafts@gmail.com

Publication: Directory of Traditional Building Crafts of India, Building with Bricks: Punjab and Haryana

INTACH mandate enjoins the documentation, protection and preservation of India’s unique cultural, architectural and natural heritage. INTACH Heritage Craft and Community Division was set up with one of its main objectives being research, documentation, revival and promotion of endangered crafts with special focus on *Traditional Building Crafts* of the country. India has a vast treasure of spectacular heritage craft techniques. Unfortunately, some of these skills are being lost over time. There is a great need to document and conserve this repository of traditional and vernacular skills and knowledge available with craftsmen, masons, artisans and other skilled labourers.

The Division started documenting numerous building crafts all over India in the year 2014. The traditional building crafts cover an enormous range of skills - woodwork, stone work, lime plaster, *Aranish*, thatching, roof laying and its various forms and techniques, tile work both in flooring and roofing, decorative building crafts such as inlay, shell windows, cast iron, wrought iron and other metal work, glass castings and windows, surface decorations
such as mirror work, painting and frescoes, art of pillars and brackets, to name a few.

‘Building with Bricks’ is the second volume in the series and documents the traditional knowledge of brick making in Haryana and Punjab where there is a large concentration of brick structures using various types of bricks. A listing of artisans and craftsmen still engaged in this craft form with relevant details and contact details is included in the book. Its contents also bring forth the challenges of working with brick, lack of continuity of craftsmen and craftsmanship, which pose a major threat to conservation of traditional buildings made with bricks.

Women Economic Forum invited Division Head Bindu Manchanda to receive an award for the category “Exceptional Women of Excellence”. INTACH heartily congratulates her for this recognition of her work. She made a presentation on INTACH’s initiatives that involves working with communities for craft restoration and community upliftment.

‘SAFED’ PANEL DISCUSSION ON POLICIES AND INTERVENTIONS TO PROMOTE THE CRAFT SECTOR

An independent culture publication called Cocoa & Jasmine invited Bindu Manchanda for a discussion at the Indira Gandhi National Centre of Arts.

SACRED WASTE

INTACH is actively involved in developing community based enterprise to benefit communities by executing conservation projects. INTACH has complemented efforts to conserve and promote the cultural heritage of communities living in heritage precincts by helping to develop and upgrade their craft skills and inculcate a sense of pride in their heritage and augment confidence in their skills. It also endeavours to improve living conditions and generate self-employment opportunities and income generation, while working with craft clusters and developing community based enterprise. This has helped revive and promote dying skills and assist artisan groups to find lucrative outlets for their products with marketing linkages and platforms.

Flowers are a major element in all ceremonies and festivals (across religions) celebrated in India. In daily rituals, huge quantities of flowers are offered at religious sites and mostly these flowers end up being thrown as garbage polluting rivers and hazardous to animals. Temple flowers not only adversely impact the environment, their disposal is a problem for most temples. A unique way of solving this problem could be to convert flower waste into organic aromatic incense sticks and incense cones. It generates employment and helps make waste handling a cyclic process. Chapters or temple authorities interested in participating in pan India programme can write to INTACH at intachcrafts@gmail.com.

The HCC Division promoted group work by way of a working session to discuss matters related to: How do you see your past? What are the issues or challenges for heritage conservation? What is the future of heritage? With the help of practical exercises conducted by Listing Cell, Natural Heritage and Intangible Heritage, the participants gained hands-on exposure to Listing and Documentation of heritage.
The participants were exposed to the works carried out by Central Office INTACH Divisions, and how as Members they also could get involved in similar activities at their respective Chapters, thereby strengthening the scope of INTACH Chapters.

WEAVING HISTORY

The first ever fashion show celebrating the textile heritage of India was held at the Sawan Pavilion of the newly refurbished Red Fort, Delhi. Thirteen Padma Shri and Sant Kabir awardees were honoured at the Artisan Speak, an event held to showcase Indian textiles and honour the people behind the loom. Former Union Minister Textiles Smriti Irani presented Special Recognition Awards to 13 master artisans for their work in the handloom industry. The event is significant as it marks an outreach programme by the Ministry to link artisans with the verticals of big garment manufacturers. Fashion Design Council of India President Sunil Sethi described it as an evening of firsts in many ways - the location of event, the tribute to master weavers and craftsmen and bringing fashion designers and crafts people on a common platform.

THREADS OF GOLD

Zardozi, a portmanteau of two Persian words zar (gold) and dozi (embroidery) is a richly gilded heritage legacy in the form of gold embroidery, often interweaving precious stones and tensile metals in the embroidery. Zardozi is mentioned even in the pages of the Rig Veda. In historic times it invariably adorned the attires of monarchs and queens. It has survived through a pantheon of skilled craftsmen to this day on a smaller scale.

CRAFTS MUSEUM, DELHI

The Ministry of Textiles in charge of the Crafts Museum in Delhi has added a new modern Textile Gallery adjacent to the existing galleries. Senior Director Sohan Jha explained that due to constraints of space only half of 400 items will be on display and likely to be changed periodically. Some of its prized collections include a 300 year old Boota collection from Karnataka, rare Kashmiri 300 years old Dushalas, unique embroidery from Chamba, Baluchari saris, Mundu and Vehti from Kerala, Phulkari from Punjab, Chanderis from Madhya Pradesh, etc. Ikkat, Kantha, Phulkari Tana-Bana, etc. will also feature in displays. A Hastakala Academy is proposed to be set up in 2019 for the promotion of handloom and handicraft sectors.
Every Indian State produces a special kind of fabric uniquely its own

*Picture contributed by Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra*
DIRECTORY OF WALL PAINTINGS (WPD)

The WPD teams covered remote areas of the country making it one of the most gigantic outreach programs undertaken during which more than 9,88,887.33 sq ft painted surface areas were recorded in the survey.

After considerable wait, the first Directory, the “Wall Painting Sites of Delhi” has been published. It will spread awareness about the wall paintings across the country, help scholars from different fields to further research the subject. The book is available for purchase at INTACH Central Office.

LIME TESTING UNIT

The A&MH Division has been conducting a series of tests as an ongoing process to hone their conservation skills.

- **Artificial weathering test**: In situ experimentation is being carried out using sodium sulphate 14% to study the sustainability of plaster prepared using different admixture. It will identify which admixture has the longest sustainability to be used for building conservation.

- **Natural weathering test**: This continuous test is for understanding the effect of seasons on plaster samples with varying admixture. The effect of dissolution of plasters / mortar admixture with rain and growth of algae is the major component studied.

- **Water vapour permeability test**: This test is carried out to understand the evaporation or breathing behaviour which is one of the important factors in the use Lime plaster.

- **Preparation of Plaster**: For studying the effect of two types of cement *viz* Grey and White, when mixed with lime plaster, a new series of plaster was prepared like an admixture without any natural additives, admixture with natural additives like *urad daal*, *methi*, molasses and *beal* (wood apple), and an admixture with natural

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**Water Vapor Permeability Tests**

**Natural weathering**

**Artificial weathering**

**Water vapour permeability test**
additives by adding grey and white cement in ratio compared with lime 1/6 parts.

A series of experiments were started with samples prepared in 2016 using Lime, Sand, Surkhi (Indian pozzolane) in 1:1:1 ratio and natural organic additives in 25 % of slaked lime.

**IFIC DELHI**

*Flora Fountain*, Mumbai at Hutatma Chowk (Martyr’s Square) is an exquisitely sculpted architectural heritage statue located in the heart of South Mumbai. It depicts the Roman goddess *Flora* in a fusion of water, architecture and sculpture. A 1864 Grade 1 heritage structure commissioned by the Agri-Horticulture Society of Western India, it was built in imported Portland stone by James Forsyth. It looked so white that it was generally believed to be made in marble, but in fact there were about 25 layers of white paint, lime wash, cement and plaster making it look like marble. Over the years deposits of grime, dust and algal growth due to previous botched to cover flaws took a toll on its beauty. The various decorative elements and sculptures of the Flora Fountain also deteriorated over time.

The *Flora Fountain* restoration project was awarded to the Mumbai Chapter by the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM.) The cleaning and restoration of the *Flora Fountain* structure with the four sculptures and other elements was entrusted to the ICI Delhi. A team led by Subrata Sen cleaned the entire fountain structure over a period of 15 months, removing multiple stubborn layers of lime wash, paint including biological/algal deposits and previous unscientific cement plaster repairs and fillings, that revealed the original Portland limestone structure. Using mainly steam (water and no chemicals),

*Erecting the scaffolding*

*During conservation treatments using micro chisel and steam cleaning*

*Refixing broken neck*

*Fixing and restoration of a broken arm from the sculpture*
stubborn areas of previous repairs with cement were broken down at micro level with the help of ultrasonic chisels and cleaned with steam. The work involved refitting several damaged and broken pieces and recreating lost areas. The INTACH team also refixed the neck and reconstructed *Flora’s* nose. Finally, after the consolidation of the original stone material and restoring all her features a coat of algaecide was given to prevent algal growth.

The Mumbai weather with hot and sultry summers and heavy monsoon rains did not deter the INTACH team from spending hours, working non-stop with a scaffolding, and a steam machine spouting hot steam in temperatures above 100 degrees celcius! INTACH warmly congratulates the ICI team for this labour of love. INTACH has been entrusted with its care and maintenance measures in future.

**Conservation and Relocation of Art Works at WHO Building, New Delhi**

The World Health Organization (WHO) South - East Asia Regional Office, Delhi is being demolished to construct a new building at the site. It houses a large number of eclectic art works. There are two large wall murals in the Conference Hall (each wall 60 x 10 feet) depicting the history of medicine, painted by one of India’s best-known artists late M F Husain, gifted by India. The two walls (each 10 x 10 ft. approx.) are also adorned by famous Azulejos tiles gifted by Portugal before liberation of Goa. ICI Delhi was entrusted with the dismantling and transferring them from the site.
Right wall murals by Husain

Left wall murals by Husain

Exterior and interior of Conference Hall bearing murals

Documentation of murals

for storage in a safe environment and reinstalling when the new building is ready at site. This was one of its kind relocation project to be undertaken by INTACH Conservation Institutes. The first phase has been completed successfully. The determination of WHO to incorporate these wall paintings within the architecture of their new building has led to the preservation of M F Husain wall paintings and tile panels that are important cultural, historical and visual links to the past of the WHO building.

A detailed condition assessment and documentation of wall paintings (textual report, photographic records as well as videography) was the first step. The paintings and the tiles were cleaned and covered with protective layers for stabilization in preparation for cutting and dismantling. The dismantling and moving the
walls bearing Husain’s 10 paintings needed careful planning as art works executed mostly on brick walls were not very stable. The paintings had to be moved en bloc in large sections still attached to the wall under the supervision of structural engineers. Relocation projects are usually a team effort where each part of process is carried out by qualified experts equipped with the right kind of machinery. INTACH partnered with specialists in diamond saw cutting, and heavy lifting of the walls was assigned to professionals in the field. In addition, made-to-size MS cradle frames were designed and fabricated for each wall section so that the pieces remain safely cradled for safe storage until relocation. The fixing back at the new building will be an equally challenging work for Delhi ICI Division.

Conservation of Tanjore Painting

A Tanjore painting was received at ICI Delhi with severe brittle cracks, loss of gold foil in various portions, and plaster fragments of the frame stuck between the glass in the centre. The back wooden support was split with textile lost in places. After cleaning and consolidation of the paint layer, filling of cracks, losses and reintegration, a separator was placed between the treated object and the glass to avoid direct contact before re-framing in the original frame.
ICI LUCKNOW

Conservation of Books and Papers of Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad

Over sixty objects including books and papers were received from Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad in a deteriorated state. After proper documentation in graphic and photographic form, step wise conservation treatment followed with disinfection, soft dry brushing, neutralizing acidity, re-sizing, removing stains, mending torn areas and losses, lining with Nepalese and lens tissue paper, finally new sections were stitched and bound.

Conservation of rare printed books of Meherjirana Library, Navsari, Gujarat

The ICI team completed conservation work at the Meherjirana Library, Navsari, Gujarat during March-May 2019. Printed Books - Parsee Prakash Vols. I-X belonging to the period 1860-1962 have been restored. The problems in the books were brittleness, discolouration, weakened paper, torn pages, etc. with loss of text matter, insect attack and warping. There are a total of 3613 folios in the books containing events of Parsi religion. The conservation followed international norms.

Conservation of Jail Order Book 1887-1894 of Dr. Sampurnanand Karagar Mukhyalaya Lucknow
Preventive conservation of manuscripts is being carried out at *Akhil Bhartiya Sanskrit Parishad*, Lucknow by a team from Manuscript Conservation Centre, Lucknow. The *Parishad* has a vast collection with some illustrations as well. The manuscripts were documented, then dry cleaned with soft brush, given support of handmade acid free mount board from both side, and wrapped in red cotton cloth (*vesthan*). Accession numbers and bundle numbers were written over them for reference. Preventive conservation on 283 manuscripts having 7441 folios have been completed to date.

**Training programme on Remedial Conservation of Manuscripts, Lucknow**

One month training programme on “Remedial Conservation of Manuscripts” was organized from 15th April - 14th May jointly by the National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi and the Manuscript Conservation Centre, at ICI, Lucknow. It was inaugurated by an eminent trio Dr. Yogesh Praveen, Dr. Surya Prasad Dixit and Dr. Ashok Kalia. Fifteen participants from Madhya Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Jalgaon, Bihar, Assam, Chennai, Odisha, Rajasthan, Varanasi and Noida attended the programme. Lecture on various topics along with practical sessions were conducted. Lucknow District Magistrate Kaushal Raj Sharma was the Chief Guest at the Valedictory Session.
ICI BUBANESWAR

Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts of Dakhinapat Satra, Majuli, Assam

The Centre provided expertise in preventive conservation of manuscripts of Dakhinapat Satra, Majuli, Assam, a project taken up by the Assam Chapter and supported by Prince Claus and Whitening Fund, Netherlands.

A total of 631 manuscripts comprising 20718 folios were conserved in the project. Storage of all the rare and valuable Sanchi Patta (Birchbark) and paper manuscripts were upgraded after proper preventive conservation.

Mallika Mitra, Director, INTACH Conservation Institute, Bhubaneswar provided her expertise in Manuscript Conservation for the successful completion of restoring these valuable Manuscripts of Dakhinapat Satra.
ICI MUMBAI

**Paper Conservation work at KR Cama Oriental Institute, Mumbai**

A black and white photograph was conserved and mounted for framing after conservation.

Large size maps and scrolls of the Institute, folded and having multiple creases, had suffered extensive physical and chemical deterioration.

**Conservation of Rare Books of J.N. PETIT Library, Mumbai**

Old and valuable books of JN Petit Library, Mumbai are under conservation of the Mumbai Centre

**Conservation of Pattachitra**

Two old and valuable *Pattachitra* having rare and unique *vesha* of Lord Jagannath were conserved at the conservation laboratory of ICI Bhubaneshwar.
ICI BENGALURU

Painting before, during and after treatment

The Centre restored an oil on canvas painting titled “Landscape” by artist Akbar Padamsee, a contemporary Indian artist who has experimented in several media. This painting executed in impasto technique was folded and stored for many years resulting in severe damage to paint layer. It was cracked and flaked along the folded edges with paint loss in major areas. The artwork was treated with emergency consolidation as there was risk of further losses during conservation work. After dry and solvent cleaning, consolidation of cracks in the paint layer was followed by reintegration of the losses with pigments and conservation grade binder. The artwork was then mounted on a new stretcher.

ICI KOLKATA

Restoration of Litho Prints

Two Lithographs, print on paper were received from Kolkata Port Trust sized 50 cm x 37 cm and 61 cm x 46 cm. The paintings were afflicted by fungus, stains, warping, dirt, etc. and had been previously restored with several paper stripes, and one was pasted on Masonite board. Conservation treatments included fumigation to eradicate fungus, removal of previous restorations, de-acidification and lining on a tissue wasli. The loss areas were filled with tissue pulp and the areas reintegrated with water colour, and finally mounted on an acid free board.

Miniature painting of 17cms x 12 cms was also conserved at the ICI Kolkata Centre
Thanjavur paintings are unique and rich expressions of South Indian art that originated in the 16th century under the Chola reign in the regions of Tanjore/Thanjavurin, Tamil Nadu. It is a distinct art form with majestic relief artwork embellished with vibrant colours, gold leaf, cut-glass pieces, semi-precious stones and pearls on cloth backed by a wooden plank, using tamarind seed paste as an adhesive. The figures are drawn before relief work is done in gesso and decorated with gold foil and stones. One such 70 cm x 54 cm painting received at the Kolkata Centre had all the usual problems of fungus, loss of paint layer, dust and dirt, etc. and was beautifully restored.

**PICHWAI ART**

The exhibition *Pichwai – Tradition & Beyond Intervention* held at Bikaner House, New Delhi from 27th April-5th May drew a large number of art lovers every day of the week. *Pichwai*, a Rajasthani art form is over 400 years old, comprising devotional paintings portraying Lord Krishna and tales from his life. The paintings originated in the holy town of Nathdwara near Udaipur. Other popular themes were cows and the map of the Nathdwara Temple. In the 16th century artists started painting pictorial illustrations on cloth to hang on temple walls and *pooja* rooms. In the 20th century they have become highly priced and prized art works that adorn drawing rooms. And very much a collector’s delight.
ARTISTS TO KNOW

There was a time when artist Thota Vaikuntam had no money and often not much to eat either. But he had a good wife Sugunamma who anchored him and somehow made ends meet, making space for his works and their three children in a small house. There was also a time when he couldn’t manage to draw even a tree right! He thanks artist Laxma Goud for bringing a change in his life. Today even the men and women he paints silently hold our complete attention. The artist has several thousand artworks and many eager buyers to his credit.

Another new artist who exhibited his works in Delhi recently is Sukanta Das. He showcases an emotional extravaganza of love. Art critic Aditya Dogra says “His lady love is defined by four distinct features – “Abhilasha, Swapnadarshan, Smriti and Chintan”- an amlagamation of longing dreams, cherished memories and lovelorn thoughts. The artist says he was inspired by Indian miniature paintings.

HISTORY OF THE WORLD IN INDIA

A proposal to set up an Indian Museum of Earth was finally endorsed in January this year by the Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council and is awaiting land allotment. A meeting was held by Palaeonet Indica, a non-profit network of palaeontologists, science writers, museologists, biologists with the Indian National Science Academy and Delhi University, supported by the Government, to discuss how the proposed Museum of Earth should depict India’s story. Historically, in a journey that took 38 million years, an entire landscape including plants and mammals broke away 88 million years ago and became the Indian subcontinent. To date science museums have not focussed on earth’s processes, and exhibit only dinosaurs. The origin of whales for instance is a classic example of micro-evolution according to one of India’s leading palaeontologist Sahni. Preserving unknown fossils is a challenge facing experts. There are so many new discoveries around mammals and rock formations that should be studied and properly housed. It was recently discovered for example that dinosaurs ate grass and rice. This does not sound like the enormous rampaging monsters depicted in Hollywood movies! But does one really know? Pranay Lal, author of Indica : A Deep Natural History of India, Subcontinent says “India is an important part of the jigsaw of world history, and few things can be explained without us”.

Ack : Hindustan Times, 21st April 2019
A twenty-half-day ‘Capacity Building Heritage Tourism Workshop’ was organized from 5th April–2nd May at Dakshinachitra Museum in Mahabalipuram for local guides and tourism-related professionals by Tamil Nadu State Chapter in collaboration with Dakshinachitra Museum and Friends of Heritage Sites, Chennai.

The workshop covered the history, art, architecture of the Satavahanas, Pallavas, Chalukyas, Cholas and Nayaks, archaeological excavations in Tamil Nadu, tourism-related problems and challenges – for a better understanding of the artistic traditions during 5th–7th centuries AD. The workshop comprised academic and technical sessions, formal and informal discussions with resource persons/experts (doctorates). The Faculty comprised internationally renowned scholars, academicians and grass root level professionals.

In addition to classroom lectures and group discussions, field visits to Dakshinachitra Campus, monuments and museums in and around Mahabalipuram and Saluvankuppam, and to stone carving units in Mahabalipuram were scheduled. Participants thus had the opportunity to directly interact with the sculptors.

Eighteen local tour guides and other tourism related professionals participated in the workshop. A few others attending were representatives from the travel trade and local tour companies in the capacity of observers. Officials from local Archaeology Department also attended some of the sessions. The programme was very well designed...
and successful.

Varanasi Convenor Ashok Kapoor supported the Tourism Division in organising the "Tourist Guide Orientation Programme on Banaras Arts and Crafts" at Hotel Amaya and Hotel Meadows from 7th-9th June. It was conducted in collaboration with India Tourism Ministry and Tourism Welfare Association, Varanasi for local regional guides, travel industry professionals and students of Tourism Management, and was inaugurated by Varanasi Commissioner Deepak Agrawal. He emphasized the need to promote lesser known sites along with established tourist circuits and cultural traditions to encourage repeat tourism to lesser known places. Regional Archaeological Officer Dr. Subhash Yada gave the key note address on the "Hidden Heritage of Varanasi" at this well received programme.

The Speakers were eminent local resource persons and experts in the field. A host of diverse topics were covered in the programme:

- Varanasi handicrafts and handloom products (GI Certified products), their places of production and marketing
- Lesser known Ghats of Varanasi
- Varanasi Cuisine
- Classical Music Traditions of Varanasi and its role in promoting tourism (Dhrupad programme)
- Jamdaani
- Importance of Yoga in daily life
- Highlights of Heritage Walks in Varanasi

**INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (ICHD)**

**DOCUMENTATION OF INTANGIBLE HERITAGE ASPECTS OF SACRED GROVES AND DEITIES IN NORTH WESTERN GHATS OF MAHARASHTRA**

In coordination with ICH Division, the report undertaken by INTACH Pune Chapter documented the intangible heritage of sacred groves, customs, beliefs, folklore, rituals and the changes observed in the region of the North Western Ghats. The focus was on the environs in and around Pune.

Pune was once a tiny agricultural settlement called "Punnaka" or "Punnyavishay" in the 8th century AD. It was only in the mid-18th century that Pune became the seat of the Peshwas and grew into a flourishing town. When the last Peshwa Baji Rao was vanquished and exiled to Bitur UP by the British, it became the Poona Municipality under British rule and the city started to grow exponentially. Today Pune Metropolitan Region is spread over 1600 sq.km.

The city harbours a rich biodiversity, recognized and protected by the Government at various sites. It has natural...
heritage sites traditionally marked, worshipped, looked after and managed by local communities. Nature worship, an ancient Indian tradition that considers all forms of life as sacred, is also practiced at some rich natural heritage sites. Sacred Groves, known to natives as “Deerai”, are forest patches conserved by communities in the name of a specific deity since prehistoric times. These groves are mostly the last patches of original vegetation housing a rich endemic biodiversity. They are also repositories of rich oral traditions, customs and traditions, with related myths and stories centred around a “presiding deity” at most groves. A number of such sites like Durgabai-Ahupe, Bhimshankar, Morachi-Chincholi, Ajeebali-Chikhalkaon, Bhuleshwar, Ghol, Padsthal, Jejuri, Nageshwar, and Mandharadevi were surveyed by INTACH teams.

The report is a basic overview of the history of these sites and how they evolved over a period of time to date. It gives details of traditions, beliefs, folklore and rituals associated with each of these places. It is a starting point for the study of community based heritage which is getting neglected and over exploited due to resource extraction.

CULTURAL MAPPING OF THE KHIAMNUINGAN NAGAS

INTACH Nagaland Chapter prepared an exhaustive report on the Khiamniungan Nagas for the ICH Division. It documents the heritage, traditions and living culture of the tribe, focusing on their daily activities, customs, marriage systems, birth rituals, folklores, ornaments, performing arts, religion, tattoo traditions, crafts, textiles and other such facets. The Khiamniungan Nagas are one of sixteen tribes of Nagaland, who inhabit the sub-divisional headquarter of Noklak in Tuensang District of Nagaland.

An enduring signature of the cultural heritage of the Khiamniungan is the log drum. An intrinsic symbol in every village khel, it is in its possession for generations till it needs to be replaced if damaged. Some of the tribal festivals documented were Yahpong and Khaolsaose-Hoke among others. The folklores, myths and superstitions of the tribe also feature in this study.

ICH DOCUMENTATION ARCHIVES

This project initiated by ICH Division to create a virtual archive is available via Internet and other digital medium. The objective is to compile a physical archive so that varied Intangible Culture material is safeguarded digitally. It also serves other objectives like providing access to research material in a more concrete way, and its usage for further dissemination.

The preservation of these materials is complicated, due to issues like intellectual property rights. Some questions that can be raised are ownership of the data collected; Who has the right to distribute/share it? And who is authorized to publish it? Changes in technology also raise questions about long term storage, preservation of quality, and web distribution systems.

Some short term goals have been outlined:

- Important audio visual documented data in the field of intangible cultural heritage and cultural mapping of
tribes, cities etc. collected over a period of time in the form of photographs, documentary film or audio-visual recordings /data will be properly archived to date, and this archive can be very useful in safeguarding them.

- Material to be accessible to the user/ researcher for the purpose of study, research and further dissemination.
- Research Scholars working in this field are often left with inadequate film/video samples to make comparative judgments. Project will explore ways to use the Internet as a tool to access the film/video footage and provide authorized access to the data.

Categories will be created on ICH Archives Home Page to archive work that is on-going, with an access platform chosen to create online pages of open-source collections, management and presentation software designed for museums, archives and special collections. Easily customized, it can be used by libraries, non-profit private collectors, artist studios, performing arts organizations and other groups around the world. The ICH Division will create and use Online Digital Archives for all projects. To date about seven projects in different categories like ICH Research and Documentation, Outreach Activities, Cultural Mapping, Publication, Documentaries and Films have been uploaded. A new section / category named My Heritage was created which allows everyone to share their own heritage or any valuable heritage of interest, to disseminate the regional heritage.

**KABUI NAGA DANCERS**

The Kabui Naga dance form is unique in its way of presentation, and the Kabuis consider it a blessing to take part in these dances. Banjai Laam involves participation of both female and male dancers. The Zeihsung Laam is performed by only male dancers while Zouhmon Patmei Laam has only female dancers. The dance performances continue through the night till the morning. The Nagaland Government and the social media is now playing a major role in promoting indigenous dance forms as a tourist attraction.
**ANIMAL WORSHIP**

Till recently most villages and communities had a *Brahmdeva* – a god or goddess who looked after their area and had a temple in their name frequented by the villagers. For example there was *Bhramari*, the goddess of bees and wasps who cling to her body, who was the *avatar* of Durga and finds mention in the *Devi Bhagvata Purana*. Her temples are in Trisrota, Jalpaiguri and Nashik.

Scorpions were worshipped from time immemorial; seals with scorpion images have been discovered in Indus Valley. In Tamil heaven is called scorpion world (*Puth Thel Ulaku*). In Urvasi or Peacock Island in the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati, a scorpion represents the Devi in *Umananda Temple*. *Chelamma* is also a Scorpion goddess of southern Karnataka and praying to her saves one from her bite. At the *Kolaramma Temple* in Karnataka her followers believe they are forever protected from scorpion bites. There is also a *hundi* carved into the ground where people have been putting coins for the last 1000 years!

*Nagpanchmi* is celebrated all over Karnataka, even in humble homes by making clay models of the *Naga* and offering milk, etc. Then there is *Gogaji* also known as *Jahar Veer Gogga*, a folk warrior-hero deity venerated as a snake god worshipped in the villages of Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana and Jammu and has some Muslim followers too. His symbol is a black snake and at fairs in Gogamedi it is not surprising to see people with snakes wrapped around their necks. According to folklore even a stick picked up from his birthplace Dadrewa turns into a snake.

*Mansa Devi* is depicted as a woman covered in snakes sitting on a lotus or a snake. *Brahma* made her the presiding deity of snakes and reptiles. Myths glorified her like Shiva being saved by drinking her poison. Mansa is worshipped with an earthen urn made by hand otherwise she has no image. Even a branch or a tree might represent her. In North Bengal her shrine is found in the courtyard of almost all agrarian homes and also in temple courtyards across India.

In centuries to come, if some of these places are ever dug up, what will the future robot like generations interpret about this civilisation gone by – it is an interesting thought!

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**RARE FOLK SONG GENRE**

A frail more than 100 year old Phulti Barman from Cooch Behar, in a northern district of West Bengal, still belts out her popular numbers when she gets into the mood and groove of singing. She laments that no one has the patience anymore or even inclination to learn a song or two from her. Her grand daughter vouches that she still does all her chores herself.

*Shaitol Bishohori* was once popular in the *Rajbanshi* society of Bengal. Though such rituals are not celebrated with the same fervour today, they continue to hold significance in some parts of the State. *Geedali* songs which are in native Rajbanshi language of Cooch Behar signify various facets of married life, and there is one that even speaks of the misery of a childless woman. She was recently awarded the *Banga Samman* by Chief Minister Mamtta Banerjee. In her inimitable way she says *Bayos ki jani na….jatodin pran tatodin gaan……I don’t know what age means……I will keep on singing till I live……………….*
**CULTURAL AFFAIRS CELL**

**LECTURE SERIES**

*Sanskrit Manuscripts and Inscriptions from China with Special Focus on Central Asia, 23rd May, 2019*

Special invitee Prof. Shashibala spoke on *Sanskrit Buddhist Texts* that played a key role in transmitting knowledge from India to China and to other Asian countries. From 1st century onwards, hundreds of monks travelling via silk and marine routes carried copied texts from monastaries and translations back to their country. The no man's land of Central Asia became the most important cultural repository by the close of the 19th century. The discovery of the manuscripts and other cultural relics sustained the spread of Buddhism. The relics comprise cloth, paper, palm-leaf or birch bark manuscripts, wooden tablets and inscriptions. The texts are on *Vinaya, Abhidharma, Jatakas, Avadanas, Stotras, Agamas, Sutras*, and also on subjects like grammar, medicine, yoga, and other sciences. They were discovered and preserved by the Germans, French, Japanese, Russians, British and Indians. Today a number of these preserved collections can also be seen in places across the world acquired by museums and private collectors.

Prof. Dr. Shashibala, Dean of the Delhi Centre for Indology, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, specializes in Buddhist arts and cross cultural connections among Asian countries.

*Anita Singh, Dr. Kapila Vatsayayan, Dr. Romila Thapar*

**Nada Yoga: Vibrational Yogic Science - 21st June 2019**

*Nada* is the body of vibrations, waves, frequencies and harmonies within everything that exists. It is experienced by us and influences us at all times, often unknown to us. *Nada Yoga* has been used in almost every Indic spiritual and wellness practice through time. It offers powerful *Nada* (vibrational) techniques and remedies. The experiential talk and lec-dem on *Nada Yoga* on *International Yoga Day* by Dr. Shruti Poddar highlighted and taught the audience some tools for self-healing and enlightened the audience on the subject.

The Cultural Affairs Division released two publications of permanent interest. The *INTACH Lecture Series 2018-2019* is a compilation of all lectures held during the course of the year. The second, *Heritage Perspective* comprises a collection of the *Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lectures* held annually on 18th April, World Heritage Day.
INTACH HERITAGE ACADEMY (IHA)

Understanding Indian Railway Heritage, 11-12 April 2019, IRICEN Pune

INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA) conducted a 2-Day workshop on ‘Understanding Indian Railways Heritage’ at the Indian Railways Institute of Civil Engineering (IRICEN), Pune on 11th-12th April. It is the second in series and was conducted in collaboration with IRICEN as per the MoU between INTACH and IRICEN.

The workshop objectives were to create awareness and understanding about Indian Railways Heritage – imparting significance of conservation to heritage railways and zonal heritage committee officers. It comprised technical lectures, discussions with experts, as well as a site visit to the old historic IRICEN building to understand significance of the site. The participants analyzed probable reasons for deterioration and conservation solutions for the sustainable restoration of the historic building on site.

CRICKET MANIA

On Yoga Day, students however had Cricket on their mind even while exercising and meditating – to wish the Indian Team that they win and bring the World Cup for India hopefully.

Perhaps no other sport in India creates as much buzz as the Indian team playing cricket to win this particular international glory in sports.

Dean of Studies, Director (IRICEN), Executive Director (Heritage) Railways, IHA Principal Director and IHA Programme Associate

Group photograph of all the participants and resource persons
**Heritage Awards for Excellence in Documentation of Unprotected Heritage**

The distribution of INTACH Heritage Awards for Excellence in Documentation of Unprotected Heritage was organized on World Heritage Day, 18th April. The event coincided with the Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture organized annually by INTACH. Faculty and students from the award winning colleges attended the ceremony and received prize money with a book and certificate from the Chief Guest Dr. Vasundhara Filliozat, Chairman INTACH L K Gupta and Member Secretary CT Misra.

The recipients were Chitkara School of Planning and Architecture, Chandigarh (North Zone), Srinivas Institute of Technology, Mangaluru (South Zone), Vadodara Design Academy – School of Architecture, Vadodara, Gujarat (Central Zone), IES College of Architecture, Mumbai (Central Zone).
**Academic Brainstorming Session – Monday, 6th May 2019**

IHA organised a brainstorming session on 6th May to discuss and deliberate upon key aspects and planning of the Post-Graduate Diploma in Heritage Studies. The participating domain experts were Prof Arun Menon (Conservation Practices and Management), Prof AGK Menon (Conservation Philosophy), Benny Kuriakose (Material Conservation), Vertika Sharma (Heritage Policy and Legislation), N’Taher (Buildings Archaeology), Shahul Ameen (Research Methodology) and Tanaji Chakarvorty (Heritage Economics).

**Capacity Building Workshop**

Capacity Building Workshop VIII was held at INTACH from 13th –16th May, and attended by 43 participants nominated by their respective Convenors/ Co-Convenors. The Chapters represented were Palakkad, Khandwa, Nagpur, Nagercoil, Yamunanagar, Vadodara, Santiniketan, East Godavari, Kamrup, Udaipur, Gorakhpur, Barmer, Varanasi, Mangaluru, Calcutta, Belgavi, Tripura, Allahabad, Sambalpur, Mumbai, Dharamsala, Visakhapatnam, Pune, Jalandhar and Khajuraho.

**Working Session – Group Presentation**

Special working sessions were designed to interact with fellow participants. They were expected to share their views on three main questions: how do you see your past?, what are the issues or challenges for heritage conservation? and what is the future of heritage? The participants were divided into four groups for brainstorming on these questions, and to present their views and arguments on the fourth day of the workshop.

Group 1, for example, emphasized on intangible heritage of the past and discussed concepts such as hierarchy, values, relations, etc. There were discussions on ‘Roti - Beti’ where ‘roti’ is about the community and ‘beti’ is about...
the girl child, depicting the continuity of customs and the unity of diversity and belonging. They emphasised on the tangible aspects of heritage prevailing in the present in comparison to the intangible. Later, one of the group members expressed his views about heritage and its past in form of a poetry:

पहले जैसी बात नहीं, अब गाँव की चीपाल में,
फागुन की वह बात नहीं, अब गाँव की चीपाल में।

For future of heritage, participants suggested an approach where they unlearn from the past and then relearn for the future, that would help in protecting the heritage in contemporary and coming years. For example while documenting the old, one should use newer technologies that would be available in the future, and would be easier to connect with for the future generations. They concluded their presentation with a thought provoking quote: Every person is one’s own ancestor and every person is one’s own heir. They devise their own future and they inherit their own past”.

Group 3 began their presentation with a small skit, where two generations put forward their contradicting views on past. On one side the younger generation was against the encroachment because of which heritage is not given utmost importance, not identified and is under threat. They specified the threats and prospects for the future of heritage. They questioned the high maintenance costs, mass produced products, easy availability of resources, etc. and how these could be dealt with respect to heritage. Towards the end of their presentation they showed the brighter side of the future of heritage. Adaptive reuse, tourism, merger of the old and new, interactions with the community would be some such prospects.

The second Group discussed the past by raising simple questions such as “how we feel, what we see and what memories we have of what we did in the past?” and related these questions to the larger picture of intangible and tangible heritage. They argued about issues and challenges that are faced at present. Some of the challenges they pointed out were: lack of awareness and interest, unscientific methods for protecting the heritage, accidents and natural calamities for which our heritage is not yet prepared. They further mentioned other man-made issues such as human greed, globalization, liberalization and
idea of understanding and romancing the past, while the older generation emphasized the importance of heritage and how the past is a continuity of the present. The debate concluded with emphasising that the “Past Is Trending”

The group also discussed the challenges of the past, some of which were identification, negligence and ignorance, high maintenance, technology, development, lack of support from Government and other authorities, dying languages, craftsmanship, ritual and Gurukul systems, etc. As for the future, they believed that it is ‘getting brighter by the day’. In order to ensure a bright future for heritage one need to address basic issues like lack of expertise, awareness among locals and empower communities.

They concluded their presentation with a quote “Proceed Forward to the Rear”.

Group 4 discussed various examples of heritage in the past such as puppet shows, melas, dadi ki kabaniya, monkey shows, circuses, book reading, sparrows, water sellers, traditional food and clothes, ear cleaners, importance of nukkads, etc. Their emphasis was more on the intangible aspects of heritage in the past and how these have been disappearing slow because of new developments and other fancy options. For the present of Heritage they mentioned the need “to understand the difference between the price and value”. They also discussed issues related to responsibility, awareness, education, funding, self-destruction of heritage, debates related to heritage value and land value, heritage regulations and other inter, intra departmental conflicts. As for future, they listed points that would help in dealing with the present situation of heritage, which included interdisciplinary approach, inclusion of heritage in academics and finally a paradigm shift from the ‘tourism based’ approach to living heritage communities. They concluded their presentation with another quote:

“Life is a journey between birth and death... Beauty lies in the journey about when and how we fill it with memories”.

HERITAGE EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICE (HECS)

TEACHERS TRAINING WORKSHOPS (TTW)

Delhi, 16th April 2019
50 Teachers/45 Schools

On 18th April Heritage Day celebrations HECS in collaboration with Mapin Publishing, organised a one-day Training Workshop on India’s multi-faceted heritage, Delhi’s heritage, as well as the capital’s World Heritage Sites. It focussed on ways by which teachers can engage and acquaint students with the various dimensions of heritage. The resource persons were Delhi Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle. Director, Mapin India Bipin Shah, Historian Dr. Narayani Gupta, Illustrator and Cartoonist Shashi Shetty, Journalist Sopan Joshi. Academic and Documentary Film-Maker Sohail Hashmi. PD HECS Purnima Datt made a presentation on India Unlimited – HECS City Travel Journal. Resource
material and certificates were distributed by INTACH Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra.

**IRON PILLAR OF CHANDRAGUPTA II**

The Iron Pillar erected near the Qutub Minar in Delhi is a scientific marvel. The total height of the pillar is 7.2 meters of which 93 cm is underground. The high amount of phosphorus in the iron formed a layer of ‘misamite’, which has protected the Iron Pillar from rusting. Sir Robert Hadfield’s chemical analysis of the Iron Pillar disclosed the following elements- Carbon - 0.080%, Silicon - 0.046%, Phosphorous - 0.114%, Iron - 99.720%.

_Dastangoi or Qissagoi_ is the art of storytelling from the 13th century. It is said that when Nizamuddin Auliya fell ill, his disciple Amir Khusrau told him a series of tales called the ‘Qissae-Chahar Dervish’ (The Tale of Four Dervishes). Auliya recovered, and this tradition continued. _Dastangoi_ stories were about magic, djinns and prophecies, surrounding the character of Hamza – who was believed to be the Uncle of Prophet Mohammed. He was the powerful and daring Chief Minister of the King of Persia.

**Port Blair, 24th – 25th April 2019**

**50 Teachers/28 Schools**

The TTW workshop organised by Andaman and Nicobar State Chapter in collaboration with HECS was held at the Government Model Sr. Sec. School, Port Blair. It was inaugurated by Chief Guest DC Forest Nabanita Ganguly, and resource persons Convenor Samhita Veda Acharya, Sheikh Farooq Alam, and Principal Sharad Chandran. PD HECS Purnima Datt gave an introduction followed by the screening of a short film on INTACH. The highlight of the second day was a heritage walk to _Gandhi Bagh_ earlier known as the _Dilthaman Tank_ established by former Lt. Governor Vakkom Purushothammam. The small Japanese temple and a Japanese bunker that INTACH recently restored were covered during the walk. There were presentations of group activities by participants and distribution of the workshop resource material.

**Japanese Bunkers**

During the Second World War, the islands were occupied by the Japanese who constructed the bunkers at various sites around Gandhi Bagh. The students visited a historic one recently restored by INTACH.

**Varanasi, 2nd – 3rd May 2019**

**49 Teachers/24 Schools**

The TTW was organised by the Varanasi Chapter in collaboration with HECS at the Little Flower House School. Prof. Pradosh Kumar Mishra focussed on Bharat Kala Bhawan,
The 1920 University Museum was housed in the Benaras Hindu University campus, and has a vast collection of artefacts, paintings, textiles, costumes, decorative art and archival materials. It is best known for its collection of paintings. There are several interesting galleries, including, Mahamana Malaviya Gallery; Textile Gallery, Nicholas Roerich Gallery, Chhavi (painting gallery), Central Hall (temporary exhibition), Sculpture Gallery, Nidhi (treasures) Gallery, Fred Pinn Gallery, Terracotta Gallery, Numismatic Gallery, among others.

Nagrota, 8th – 9th May 2019
30 Teachers/19 Schools

The Jammu Chapter inaugurated the TTW at the Army Public School, Nagrota with an introduction by Jammu Convenor SM Sahni. Chief Guest, Maj. Gen. (Retd.) GS Jamwal, AVSM gave the inaugural address. The detailed session on understanding Heritage was presented by PD HECS Purnima Datt. On the second day a site visit to Kol Kandoli Temple was conducted by Kumar Anand Pal from the State Archealogy, Varanasi.

The temple complex houses a botanical garden, water catchment and natural water storage tank. It is a site of traditional knowledge embedded in aspects of ecological sustainability, alongside religious narratives.

KOL KANDOLI TEMPLE

Pilgrims first pay a visit to the Kol Kandoli Temple and then proceeded on the journey to Vaishno Devi. According to legend, it is believed the temple was originally constructed by the Pandavas, during their exile. The complex houses a pindi of Mata and a brass idol of Ashish Bhoja riding on a lion.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Six students of 11-12 Grade from The British School did a week-long internship at HECS from 6th – 10th May as part
Dear INTACH Team,

I would like to show my appreciation by sending you my sincere thanks for having me at INTACH. It was a privilege to be taught so much about conservation and heritage. To you and the INTACH staff, all my gratitude.

Esta Lenoir, Class 12-D, The British School

College Heritage Volunteer Programme (CHVP)

The CHV Programme sensitises college students to protect heritage and become part of a nationwide youth movement for heritage conservation.

Udhampur, 3rd April 2019
120 College Students/ 60 Faculty Members

The CHVP Workshop organised by the Jammu Chapter in collaboration with HECS was held at the Government Degree College (GDC), Udhampur. The Chief Guest was former bureaucrat Hemant Sharma; and resource persons were Convenor SM Sahni (INTACH Jammu), Co-Convenor Kuldeep Wahi, Principal, Udhampur GDC (Boys) Dr. Nutan Restura. Shiv Nirmohi, Prakash Premi, Jammu and Kashmir State Co-Convenor Dr. CM Seth, Additional Commissioner, KAS Ashok Kumar, Prof. Sudhir Singh and Jammu Co-Convenor Kuldeep Wahi. The workshop’s objectives were highlighted by HECS Representatives Shiva Rawat supported by Abhishek Das. The sessions by the resource persons were enriching and informative.

Krimchi Temple Complex in Udhampur District houses seven ancient temples that are ascribed to the 8th – 9th century AD. According to legends, Raja Kichak was the creator of the historic town of Krimchi. It is believed that Pandavas lived here during their exile. The architecture of the temple has a distinct Greek influence.

HECS DELHI – COLLEGE SUMMER INTERNS

As a part of the College Heritage Volunteer programme, six undergraduate college students are interning with HECS to contribute to ongoing activities and deepen their understanding of heritage. It is hoped that the students will undertake heritage activities within their respective educational institutions during the current academic session.

HERITAGE AND CITIZENSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP (H&CTW)

Srikakulam, 19th June 2019

90 participants

The CHVP Workshop was organised by the Chapter at the Youth Training Centre (YTC), Government College (Men) Campus. Convenor KVJ Radha Prasad welcomed all the guests. It was inaugurated by District Collector and Chief Patron J Nivas. The keynote address was delivered by Project Officer L Siva Sankar, ITDA, Seethampeta. The special guests were Architect and President, District
Engineer’s Association KSNV Prasad and Joint Collector P Rajanikant Rao. The valedictory session was convened by V Jagannadha Naidu with Chief Guests Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. K Ramji, Dr. BR Ambedkar University, Etcherla. The workshop concluded with a summing up by INTACH Member V J Naidu and a vote of thanks by Additional Convenor N Sanyasi Rao.

**FILMIT INDIA**

HECS in collaboration with the Helen Hamlyn Trust, United Kingdom is a part of Open Futures Film India programme that encourages students to make films on heritage and culture. Since inception, over 10,000 students have trained in content development and technical aspects of film-making through the *FilmIt India* project from 2008 -2018.

Since its launch in Delhi in 2008, 11 cities became a part of this exciting multicultural film making project- Ahmedabad, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Mumbai, Varanasi- a Hriday City, and Kochi. To date over 3, 500 short 2-3 minutes films have been shot by Indian students and some of them received awards at the *International Children’s Film Festival* held in Hyderabad in 2013 and 2015. A film by Nigam Pratibha Chaukhandi, *’Phoolwati Amma’* was awarded the second best film by little directors across the world in 2015, while 19 films were shown in the non-competitive category. In 2017 three were selected as the best films to be made by Little Directors to be shown at the SICFFY 2017. In 2018, the films were also showcased at the *Tel Aviv Children’s Film Festival*.

**Chandigarh, 10th April**

68 students/10 teachers/8 schools

Chandigarh Chapter organised the *FilmIt Chandigarh* Festival at St. Kabir Public School. Retd. High Court Judge Vinod Sharma and Sessions Judge Mahavir Singh were the Chief Guests. The programme was attended by Chandigarh Convenor and Members supported by HECS representatives with Teresa Walter highlighting the multicultural objectives of *FilmIt* and it’s collaboration with the Helen Hamlyn Trust.

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**Heritage Quiz**

The old track to Vaishno Devi temple is being developed as an alternative route with INTACH’s technical support. Answer to questions posed :

*Kol Kandoli Temple* is the first temple which comes on this route in Nagrota.

The Capitol Complex in Chandigarh was declared a World Heritage Site in 2016.

The Palace of Assembly (Legislative Assembly), the Secretariat and the High Court are the three major structures that are part of the capital complex.

There are other sites in Andaman Islands like the *Ross Island*, *Mayabunder*, *Corbyn’s Cave* where one finds Japanese bunkers.

Water heritage sites are key to Varanasi. The three wells or *kunds* to be found in Varanasi are the *Gyanvapi Well* (inside the premises of Gyanvapi Mosque), *Lolark Kund* (built in 11th-12th century), and *Gauri Kund* (Kedar Ghat).
UK. The best films from FilmIt across the country were screened, followed by the best films made by Chandigarh students. The Festival ended with participation certificates and a vote of thanks by Deepika Gandhi from INTACH Chandigarh.

**NATIONAL PROGRAMMES**

*My Water Heritage – Paani ki Kabani – National Winners trip to Ahmedabad*

This year’s national competition saw the participation of 108 INTACH Chapters across the country and more than 14000 entries were received by HECS in all major regional languages from the Chapters and INTACH Heritage Clubs. All participating students received a certificate of participation. The individual entry comprised a painting supported by an essay. After initial screening, over 300 entries were shortlisted with experts carefully reading and evaluating the essays and the illustrations. They were judged on the basis of content creativity, presentation and relevance to the theme. Similarly paintings were evaluated on the basis of originality, interpretation of the theme and imagination.

The regional winners received a trophy and a certificate commending their efforts. The 10 national winners will be taken on an educational excursion to Ahmedabad from 3rd– 5th July. They will visit the old city of Ahmedabad that was recently declared a UNESCO World Heritage City as well as the famous Adalaj ki Vav stepwell, Sabarmati Ashram and the Calico Museum of Textiles. Another important highlight will be a half day visit to Centre for Environment Education (CEE) to better understand environmental issues and sustainable development. The winners will be felicitated on the last day at Shreyas Foundation.

**Chapters awarded for conducting the competitions**

**INTACH Heritage Quiz 2018**

Yamuna Nagar, Gorakhpur, Sikkim, Solapur, Warangal, Thanjavur, Jodhpur, Bilaspur, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Tamilnadu.

**Paani ki Kabani – My Water Heritage**

Mahabubnagar, Chennai, Raipur, Ambala, Jalandhar, Varanasi, Pune and Dibrugarh.
Coringa River - The coastal waters of Kakinada

“Kakinada” known as “Coringa town” named after the Coringa River, is the main source of drinking water in Kakinada. There are a number of mangroves forest converted into Coringa wildlife sanctuary preserving 24 species, 120 bird species and fishing cats (Macha). These fishing cats were threatened due to destruction of forests. The sedimentation of sand led to the formation of a small island called “Hope Island”, which protects the city of Kakinada from natural calamities and serves as a breeding spot for Olive Ridley Turtles. Coringa River is a lifeline to several flora and fauna, which should be conserved for future.

Extracts from Paani ki Kahani – My Water Heritage and National Painting Competition

Tuirihiau Waterfall

This waterfall is located near Buangpui village in Mizoram. An intriguing feature of this waterfall is the thudding sound of water as it falls down. Listeners are amazed by this sound. According to a local folklore a spirit is said to dwell in the Tuirihiau waterfall.

Earlier, not many people knew of this place due to poor accessibility, but now that there is a road from Aizawl to Lunglei through Buangpui, it has made this site easily accessible. The Tuirihiau waterfall is an important natural heritage site and must be protected.

- By R. Vansangkimi 9C, Govt. Chaltlang High School, Aizawl

Pamba River: Flowing Treasures of Sanctity & Lifeline of My City

Pamba river is the third longest river in Kerala. It originates in the Pulachimalai hills of the Western Ghats. The river is a major source of irrigation for paddy cultivation.

Pamba river holds cultural and historical significance. The sacred Sabarimala Temple is situated on the banks of the river and is dedicated to the Hindu deity, Lord Ayyapam. The ancient boat race of Kerala, Uthrittathi Aranmula Vallamkali is conducted on Pamba and The Christian Conference, the Cherukolpuzha Convention is also held on the banks of this river.

Presently, the river has withered due to droughts and lack of conservation. The floods of 2018 altered the course of the river and eroded its shores. The Kerala Government has taken initiatives for its conservation. I am proud to be a part of the Pamba river cleaning campaign.
River Kuye

River Kuye emerges as a confluence of two rivers Kopai and Bakreswar in the eastern part of Labpur, in Birbhum, West Bengal.

This river was the main means of water transport and many cargo boats passed through it as Labpur was an important centre for commercial activities.

As Labpur is situated in the middle of Katwa, Baharampur, it has turned into a market town. At present two bridges have been built on the river, a street and railroad bridge. Along the side of the river from Laghata to the southern front one can reach the famous town of Tarkashankar’s literary masterpiece “Hansuli Banker” based on this river.

Pritiha Singha, 9, SNSN Girls’ High School, Labpur

Story of Yamuna

The river Yamuna originates in the Kalindi mountains of the Himalayas, hence it is also called Kalindi. The river originates from Yamunotri and flows across many cities to reach the holy city of Prayag. Here the river merges with the Ganga and the Saraswati. This merger of 3 holy rivers is called Sangam or the Triveni Sangam.

Like the Ganga, the Yamuna is also a holy river. It is widely believed that on the day of Kartik Amavasya one is freed from the agony of death if one bathes in this river.

This river once had clean blue water, but due to rampant pollution the quality of water has degraded and harmful industrial effluents and urban sewage are threats to the life of this river.

- Lakshita Chandrakar, 9E, Delhi Public School, Bhilai

HECS PUBLICATIONS

Young INTACH Newsletter – India’s Educational Marvels (Apr-June ’19)

The newsletter draws attention to educational marvels developed in ancient/medieval and the modern universities founded before the 1950’s, and the role they played in history and heritage in India. It highlights unique facilities like library, study hall, classrooms, etc. The newsletter also carries interesting little known facts, stories, activities and colourful contributions from school children.

Young INTACH Regional Language Issue- 2018 –19

In an effort to widen INTACH’S outreach across the country, HECS in collaboration with INTACH Chapters translated a compilation of selected pages of its quarterly newsletter with a 52-page document covering issues from 2016-18. The translation is being undertaken in 7 languages - Gujarati, Marathi, Kannada, Telugu, Tamil, Odia and Punjabi. The translated copies are being sent to the Chapters.
ANDHRA PRADESH

East Godavari

East Godavari Chapter celebrated World Heritage Day on 18th April with great fervour. Performances of folk art dances of East Godavari District like Tappeta Gullu, Veeranatyam, Garagalu, Pagati Veshalu and Dappu Vayidyam (drum beats), in danger of disappearing were held. The event was a great encouragement to the few artistes who are still practicing these arts and created awareness of old traditional arts among the people. The programme held at a natural, green, airy, open environment of an amphitheater in the heart of the city at Vivekananda Park attracted over 300 viewers with the elite, doctors, lawyers, educationists and Principals of local Colleges among the audience.

The Chief Patron former bureaucrat Kartikeya Misra, Kakinada Municipal Corporation Commissioner K Ramesh, Commissioner Municipal Corporation Sumeet Kumar and Raja Mahendravaram were present despite their hectic schedules and were seen squatting on the steps alongside the crowd. Lighting and sound system were arranged by SETRAJ General, Municipal Corporation, Kakinada.

Co-Convenor L Seshakumari of Andhra Pradesh Chapter, East Godavari Convenor VVLN Murthy and its Co-Convenor V Ramakrishna, and INTACH Members participated in the programme.
Convenor East Godavari Chapter Vedula VLN Murthy recently published a book titled Éducation and Human Values. VLN Murthy shares a vast repertoire of knowledge and experience of ethics, life, spirituality, family systems and education in the context of India’s ancient heritage inventions. He has delved into insights, parenting values, strengthening skills, career facets, character building and aspects of education in great depth. These values are very relevant in today’s requirement of multiple skills. India also needs to take care of its huge vital population as well as its highly valued spiritual philosophy. The style of writing is lucid and simple. It is a must read book for all who are interested in the quintessential facets of education.

Srikakulam

The Systematic Voters’ Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) organised by the Chapter was an unusual departure from usual INTACH activities. Held at various places of the District, it attracted large audiences with participation of officials and street plays for audiences. The Babu Jagjivanram Jayanti at Peddapeta Village garlanding his statue was held on 5th April, followed by Dr. BR Ambedkar Jayanti on 14th April attended by Convenor Radhaprasad, Co-Convenor N Sanyasi Rao, Addl. Co-Convenor Prof. Dr. Srilatha and staff of the Voluntary Organisation. World Heritage Day, 18th April was also celebrated with several INTACH Members addressing the Public and prizes awarded to young competitors of programmes conducted by the Chapter.

The Chapter observed Red Cross Day on 8th May at the Bapuji Kalamandir, attended by the District Collector KVN Chakradharanbabu, Red Cross Chairman KVJ Radhaprasad and their officials and INTACH Members. A Blood Donation Camp was set up at site.

On 13th May Convenor Radhaprasad visited a 16th century stepwell at Nizamabad Village accompanied by ST Reddy from the District Tourism Board. The well with steps leading on three sides has sufficient water even in midsummer. But one side has collapsed and was brought to the attention of the District Collector.

On 18th May, International Museum Day was marked at the art gallery of I J Sanyasi Rao of Arasavilli. World Cultural...
Day was observed on 21st May with a programme staged at Children’s Laughing Club. Kuchipudi Dance Director Dr. T Neeraja, singer Bharathi Ramesh, painter Sri Prasad were invited as special guests and honoured by INTACH in the presence of several invited dignitaries. 150 children also participated with their art exhibitions and awarded prizes.

The month of June was equally packed with events like World Environment Day on 6th June, an HECS Programme on 19th June, and International Yoga Day on 21st June.

Visakhapatnam

The Chapter celebrated World Heritage Day involving school children in collecting antique and heritage related items from their own homes and curated them at Visakha Museum. Innumerable and unique stories related to their family heritage items emerged. They also narrated stories about the history of musical instruments, different dance forms and monuments. The day long programme was widely covered by print and electronic media. ‘Certificates of Participation’ were given to 26 participating children from 3 schools.

The Chapter proposes to mount a photo exhibition on Rail Heritage to mark the 25th year of the Chapter. Prof. Gaurab Das Mahapatra initiated his staff and students to document the British period Bungalows and Buildings of Railways. Reporters from the Hindu were taken on a visit to the 100 years old Railway Bungalows. Life Member Edward Paul narrated their history and contribution to the city development of Visakhapatnam. The Chapter’s project hopes to impress the Government and local administration about the importance of documenting heritage buildings of the city.

ASSAM

Dibrugarh

Convenor Dr. Aradhana Kataki writes on the sustained efforts made for the importance of heritage conservation by the Chapter. It is giving special attention to the restoration and renovation of Dr. John Berry White heritage site ensuring high standards of conservation. The Chapter was assigned the restoration and beautification of the heritage pond within this complex by PD NHD Manu Bhatnagar who visited the site. A preliminary project report was submitted to Oil India Ltd, Duliajan with a request for funding. The Convenor met the Resident Chief Executive and has secured a verbal approval.
The Chapter activated the proposal to renovate and restore the old Post Office building which was once the Administrative Building of the Berry White Medical School. The General Manager of North Eastern Coal Fields, Coal India Ltd, Margherita was approached for funding and it is in the process of being approved.

The Chapter actively participated in all the competitions held by HECS Division to date, especially Paani ki Kahani when 130 students were addressed by eminent conservationist Soumyadeep Dutta. In February Director Chapters Gr. Capt. Arvind Shukla with State Convenor Prof. Sheila Bora and Convenor Dr. Aradhana Kataki reviewed the future plans of the Chapter. A meeting was also held with the Deputy Commissioner and various issues were discussed to take forward the conservation activities and restoration of local historical sites.

**BIHAR**

**Bettiah**

Shri Arun Kumar Srivastava is appointed Convenor of the newly established Bettiah Chapter. The doors have opened for many new initiatives for furthering the cause of heritage conservation. We wish him every success in the challenging work ahead.

Ms. Bina Kumari is appointed as the Co-Convenor of Bettiah Chapter. We wish her every success in the onerous responsibilities she has accepted in setting up this new Chapter and extend good wishes for the challenges ahead.

**Darbhanga**

Darbhanga Chapter celebrated World Heritage Day on 18th April. Vice Chancellor Prof. SK Singh of Lalit Narayan Mithila Vishwavidyalaya spoke on the possibilities of preserving cultural and natural heritage, and announced the formation of University Heritage Cell to advance the effort. Also speaking on the occasion Prof. Jaigopal expressed concern for heritage preservation. Col. Nishith Kumar Rai announced the regeneration of lighting and sound systems of the historical building that would be the first of many initiatives taken to enhance heritage efforts.

Convenor Prof. N K Agrawal explained the significance as dedicated to heritage day. The main speaker, member and technical coordinator of the programme Chandra Prakash and Maharaja Laxmishwar Singh of Darbhanga Museum gave a presentation on ‘Natural Heritage of Darbhanga District and Its Culture’. It covered rivers, ponds, precious plants, trees, animals and birds of Darbhanga District. They explained the natural, social and cultural importance of the District and urged participant to continue their own efforts to conserve heritage for future generations.

**CHANDIGARH**

A painting competition for 60 children of Snehalaya, an abode for abandoned children, was organised on 22nd June followed by a musical programme. Mahavir Singh, Member Secretary State Legal Services Authority was the Chief Guest. The presence of a large number of dignitaries
The Delhi Chapter has persistently encouraged people to discover places and monuments of historic and architectural importance through its regularly organised heritage walks that have captured public attention and patronage. Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle often accompanies the walkers to explain the history and the conservation process making these walks not only a bracing but also an educative experience. The Bara Lao ka Gumbad of the Lodi period was conserved in collaboration with the Delhi Dept. of Archaeology. It is now a favoured place for the Basant Lok and Vasant Vihar communities.

CHHATTISGARH

The Environment Ministry has given clearance for the opening of cast coal mining in Parsa in the densely forested Hassdeo Arand of Chhattisgarh – a decision that will have far reaching consequences on forest cover conservation in India. This region is one of the largest continuous stretches of dense forests in Central India and spans 170,000 hectares of which 841 hectares would be diverted for the proposed mine. Two other cases are already pending in the Supreme Court – a petition seeking de-allocation of Rajasthan Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd. (RVUNL) which has sought relaxation of the National Green Tribunal restrictions, and the other for cancellation of the joint venture agreement and coal delivery agreement with Adani Enterprises.

The grant for approval of open cast mining in Parsa goes completely against all precautionary measures to protect forest areas and prevent human-wildlife conflict, said a researcher at the Centre for Policy Research in Delhi. Assurances received of being responsible are never enough, laws must be implemented with no exceptions – if we must be serious about environmental protection that impacts the lives of our children and of future generations.

Heritage Walks

Delhi Chapter conducts heritage walks every weekend. Some of the most popular walks in the month of March, April and May were:

Walk at ‘Drishyakala’, a museum by DAG in collaboration with Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) located inside the Red Fort was conducted by Dr. Swapna Liddle on 13th April.
On World Heritage Day walkers were conducted to the Mehrauli Archaeological Park by Jaya Basera. She introduced them to every era of Delhi’s history, assisted by Project Coordinator Kanika Dawar giving several insights on the history of the place.

On 12th May the Chapter organised a walk for the employees of the Election Commission and the local community at Mehrauli Village. Earlier that week another group led by several walk leaders had conducted a similar tour for 150 participants. They covered historical gems like the Adham Khan Tomb, Gandhak ki Baoli, Zafar Mahal complex, Jharna, Jabaz Mahal Hauz-e-Shamsi.

**Less frequented site of Delhi**

Delhi Chapter was specially invited to be associated with the inauguration ceremony of the Basant Lok Community Centre & District Park, Vasant Vihar, organized by Delhi Development Authority on 5th March. Inaugurated by Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in the presence of Anil Baijal, Lt. Governor of Delhi and Meenakshi Lekhi, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha). Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle shared her insights on the Conservation of the Bara Lao ka Gumbad located in the same park.

**DISCOVERY OF DELHI - Forever Something Old, Something New**

A number of historic sites in Delhi escape the eye of motorists and pedestrians due to the heavy traffic in the city. The ‘Discovery of Delhi’ seems to be a never ending walk through historic times – and sudden discoveries. From time to time one comes across reports of little written about places in Delhi. Today soon becomes tomorrow’s history. The medieval era Jamaat Khana Masjid tucked away inside the famous shrine of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya in central Delhi has finely calligraphed inscriptions in the higher reaches of the walls, and is the only one from 14th century still used for prayers. Its aesthetic appeal has caught the attention of the Aga Khan Trust. “A truly moving perspective is gained by viewing the monument in early evening from an easily accessible roof near the Sufi shrine’s entrance. Here, its white dome appears like a piece of meteoroid drifting in the darkening sky. More than just a bit unworldly”.

*Ack: Hindustan Times, 3rd May ’19*
INTACH team had collaborated with Department of Archaeology, Govt. of NCT of Delhi for the conservation work that began in 2018. The tomb is a Lodi period structure and has arched entrances with a mihrab on its west side. Some remains/remnants were found during excavation at the time of the conservation work in front of the Mosque inside the complex.

On the occasion of ‘International Museum Day’ a two-day walk programme at the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art was held on 18th May and to National Museum on 19th May. The walk at Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, Saket focussed on the work of artist Arpita Singh, an exhibition curated by Roobina Karode. On 19th May, a themed walk - Discovering the Harappan Civilization at National Museum was conducted by walk leader Jaya Basera.

A heritage walk was organized at Purana Qila: the Tale of Dinpanah conducted by Aradhana Sinha on 11th May.

A heritage walk was held at Jantar Mantar 26th May conducted by Drona Vatsyayan.

A heritage walk was also conducted by Jaya Basera at Sultan Ghari on 5th May.

Participants with walk leader at Purana Qila

Participants at Jantar Mantar walk

Heritage walk at Sultan Ghari

Mughal era Gateways Hindu Rao Hospital (1351-1388)
PRAVASI BHARATIYA KENDRA, CHANAKYAPURI, 2019

Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra, a three floor ‘living museum’ was recently inaugurated by former Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj at Chanakyapuri, New Delhi. It has extensive art works narrating stories of those who live abroad but find their roots in India. The works are an expression of unity in diversity. Masoomi Rizvi, with 22 years of experience in museology, interior design and art curation, has created a space where people see India’s evolution and can perhaps trace their roots on a journey from mythology to digital art. The open area is dedicated to Yoga, with a globe covered by figures practicing yoga. On entry there are the Navgrahas (nine planets that govern our fate and fortune (as per traditional Indian beliefs) comprising a set of nine bronze works each weighing 180 kgs. The corridors are dotted with photographs of the initial Indian migrants taken from their passports. The Tree of Life in Kalamkari has birds perched on its branches, symbolising migrants. The museum showcases many art pieces from every corner of India, covering India’s journey from mythology to digital art. It is planned to further develop it as a Centre for Diaspora Studies with a Library.

GUJARAT

Vadodara

Vadodara Chapter and the Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) jointly organised a seminar cum workshop on capacity building and heritage awareness Insights into your City on 27th-28th June at the Sayaji Pavilion Sayaji Gardens, Vadodara. A series of interesting lectures were presented. The first track covered The Multicultural Histories and Contemporary Legacies with Sanjeev Joshi talking about 2000 years of Multi-cultural Regimes and Legacies and The Makings of a Contemporary Cosmopolitan City. Dr. Jayaram Poduval presented a paper on Mirror in the Corner Modern Indian Art & Baroda; Sachin Kaluskar shared the Unfolding the Success Story of Raja Ravi Varma. Multiple Facets of the Legacies of the Gaekwads was presented by Chandrashekhar Patil. The second track dealt with the City Heritage: Natural Heritage and Bio- Diversity conducted over three sessions by Avi Sabavala, Dr. Jitendra Gavali and Prof. Shishir Raval. Track 3 went on a trip Down the Memory Lane – The City in History, Integral to its Present; and Track 4 was largely on Multiple Facets, Tangible & Intangible Dimensions by Prof. Aditya Saxena on Urban Fabric of Medieval Baroda, Dr. Sweta Prajapati on the Vatapadrakas and Avani Varia on Documenting Ahmedabad.

HARYANA

The State Chapter in association with Chitkara University, Rajpura, ASI Chandigarh Circle; Deccan College Pune, and Kurukshetra University, held a trialogue Interpretation of the Sindhu-Saraswati Landscape in Haryana on 2nd
April at the Chitkara University campus. The Chapter is studying the convergence of research with reference to archaeology, geology, mythology and scientific techniques to determine the components and extent of this ancient cultural landscape along with present alignments. A presentation on researched facets through interdisciplinary approach to mythology, archaeology and geological studies has been made.

Jagdish Gandhi delivered the keynote address on *Saraswati River* with a video documentary while Dr. Tejas Garge traced its continuity in later settlements. Prof. Shinde explained various scientific techniques used in excavations in a village recently, providing facilities and scope for involving the community. Kurukshetra Convenor Prof. AR Chaudhri, associated with the Department of Geology of Kurukshetra University, presented his research on the lost *Saraswati*. Rewari Convenor Sudhir Bhargava, Prof. Dr. Garima Kaushik from ASI, Chandigarh Circle expressed some views on problems of encroachment and solutions that could be effected at Rakhigarhi.

Vice Chancellor Dr. Madhu Chitkara, Chitkara University, Punjab released a brochure *Reviving Rakhigarhi*. Haryana Advisory Committee Member Komal Anand, Director of Maharashtra Directorate of Archaeology and Museums Dr. Tejas Garge, Renu Hooda from Haryana Directorate of Archaeology & Museums Department, Dr. Garima Kaushik ASI Chandigarh Circle, Haryana Convenor Dr. Shikha Jain, former sarpanch of Rakhigarhi Dinesh Sheraon and Director, Chitkara School of Planning & Architecture Dr. Ambuj Kumar participated in the discussions INTACH Chapters Director Gp. Capt. Arvind Shukla also attended the meeting.

Prof. Vasant Shinde chaired a panel for crafting a vision for Rakhigarhi to bring all stakeholders on board a *Vision Committee for Rakigarhi* to promote it as an Open Air Museum and Cultural Landscape.

A walk brochure gives glimpses of the ancient Harappan town of Rakhigarhi where historic layers in three different style 18th-19th century *bavelis*, early 20th century Indo-Saracenic houses, and Art-Deco inspired residences exist. A 2.5 km heritage walk provides a preview of archaeological mounds along with the living heritage of *bavelis*, *chaupals* and local crafts. The Chapter supported by the ASI conducted second heritage walk with 40 students of Architecture from Chitkara University along with the local villagers.
Ambala

Ambala Convenor Col R D Singh, Co-Convenor Reena and students carried out the heritage walk from Indira Chowk to the Arya Girls College, displaying school banners and heritage posters, raising slogans on heritage with people waving to them. In celebration of World Heritage Day, 18th April, nearly 100 children from 14 schools participated. Chief Guest Brigadier DK Khullar (Rtd.), a recipient of both the Padam Shri and Arjuna Award, is a renowned mountaineer who led a team of men and women to Mount Everest in 1984. Children displayed banners at Indra Chowk and greeted the special guests, academicians, HOD Hindi Deptt. of SD College Vijay Sharma, Principal of Arya Girls College Anupama Arya, renowned painter HS Purewal, Advocate Prem Mahindru, Col. BS Kaundal, Subedar Major Malkiat Singh among others. Not surprisingly the large gathering caught the attention of MP Kumari Selja, who happened to be passing by but stopped to encourage the children. Seeing children standing up for a cause even in this hot summer, people saluted and clicked snapshots while driving past cheering them.

A short and interesting on-the-spot Heritage Quiz on Ambala heritage was conducted and prizes awarded. Some children recited poems and spoke on Ambala history.

Convenor Colonel RD Singh highlighted the number of INTACH awards won by Chapter Members for participating in events during the last year. Chief Guest Brig DK Khullar talked to the children about his interesting experiences of mountaineering and the highlights of his army life. Prizes were awarded to motivated teachers. The Chapter received an impressive press coverage of the event in seven papers, including Punjabi Tribune Chandigarh.

Chapter Members had the opportunity to attend a beautiful Kathak ballet – an adaptation of Kalidasa’s Abhigyan Shakuntalam.

Faridabad

An Inter College (Girls) Heritage Declamation and on the spot painting competition was held at the KL Mehta Dayanand College for Women in Faridabad, and also at the Aggarwal College for Women, Ballabhgarh.

At Indira Chowk with Convener Col. RD Singh

Prize winners of Inter College Heritage Declamation and on the spot painting competition
Hisar

Haryana and Hisar Chapters jointly conducted a walk on 9th April to Rakhigarhi for the students of Chitkara University. Chapter Members, the GOC Hisar Cantonment and other senior officers took a keen interest, and shared valuable inputs on garbage management with the Sarpanch and Khap heads. Swachh Bharat was mobilized with the help of the City Magistrate to clean up Rakhigarhi and educate womenfolk on the importance of hygiene and village waste disposal. In collaboration with a Mumbai based fashion brand Vedika, scrap material will be provided to the local women to make durries as an extension of their living traditional skills.

The Chapter hosted 130 boys from Welhams Boys School Dehradun on 10th April for a heritage walk on the Rakhigarhi, Kunal and Agroha circuit.

Karnal

Dr. Piush Kumar is appointed Convenor of the Karnal Chapter - another new Chapter of Haryana. Given the range of activities in the state we wish you every success in your assignment and a long association with INTACH.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Kangra

Kangra Chapter, Northern Region Cultural Centre and Ministry of Culture Patiala organised a book release of folk songs of Himachal Pradesh Lok Bhav Swaranjali written by Kangra Chapter Member Jannmajay Singh Guleria and Chander Rekha Dadhwalon. Convenor LN Aggarwal briefed the gathering on INTACH activities. New Member Thupten Lama Guruji, in charge of a Tibetan Monastery at MacLeod Ganj, was warmly welcomed.

Chapter observed World Environment Day on June 5 with a tree plantation programme Grow More Trees.

Mandi

The Chapter marked World Heritage Day at the District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) with 50 students studying for a Diploma in Elementary Education and a painting competition. They drew pictures relating to preservation of heritage buildings and rural landscapes. Convenor Naresh Malhotra hopes this will motivate them to create heritage awareness in different schools where they hope to be enlisted shortly, adding to the collective effort that alone ensures and impacts heritage conservation. DIET’s media in-charge Minakshi Kapur, Principal Balbir Bhardwaj and Chapter Co-Convenor Anil Sharma and Members were present.
World Environment Day was celebrated at the Government Girls Senior Secondary School, Mandi with seventy students of Classes 8-10 and teachers. They took an oath to work against air pollution and participated in a Declamation Contest on Dangers of Air Pollution. Col K K Malhotra, a veteran social reformer, distributed prizes to the winners.

Convenor Naresh Malhotra said World Environment Day was an occasion to reach people from all walks of life, and make them aware about the threat of increasing air pollution to mankind. INTACH student member Sadhika Behl shared her experiences on a cleanliness project in a village near Mandi. She spoke highly of the cooperation extended by the Municipal administration and Village Pradhan that helped overcome the non-cooperation from locals.

Shimla

The Himalayan Forest Research Institute (HFRI) marked World Earth Day, 22nd April at the Western Himalayan Temperate Arboretum, near Summer Hill. Chief Guest Himalayan Forest Research Institute Director Dr. VP Tewari accompanied by its Head Scientist Dr. Vaneet Jishtu attended the event, along with students of the HP University. State Co-Convenor cum Shimla Convenor Raaja Bhasin gave the keynote address. He highlighted humankind as only a part of the wider chain of life on earth and the importance of comprehending sustainable living to protect our environment.

Convenor Raaja Bhasin conducted a special heritage walk for the Chief of the Army Staff General Bipin Rawat on 11th May. General Rawat was deeply interested in the history and heritage of Shimla and of Himachal. He was accompanied by his wife Madhulika Rawat and other officers and their spouses. He was very appreciative of
INTACH’s efforts to preserve Himachal heritage as he has a childhood association with Shimla.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Jammu

Jammu Chapter in collaboration with the Centre for History & Culture, University of Jammu, organized an interactive meet on ‘Military Heritage of Jammu Cantonment’ on 29th May as part of documentation and listing of built heritage of Jammu. Major General GS Jamwal (Retd.) Military Advisor to Jammu Chapter (Former Military Advisor to President of India) was the Chief Guest. He lauded the initiatives taken for holding this meet and stressed on conscious efforts such as these to preserve heritage.

In collaboration with Govt. Gandhi Memorial Science College ((Erstwhile Prince of Wales College) Jammu Chapter organised an interactive session to commemorate International Museum Day on 18th May to highlight the College Geology Museum, which is one of the oldest museums of India. Chief Guest Maj. Gen. (Retd.) G S Jamwal AVSM impressed upon the authorities present to save heritage areas of significant historical value like Wadia Geology Museum of GGM Science College, Jammu.

Professor Jigar Mohammed, former Dean Research Studies University of Jammu was the Guest of Honour. A galaxy of retired Army Officers, Academicians, INTACH Members, scholars and students were also present. Prof. Sham Lal Narayan, Head of Department of History and Director Centre for History & Culture of Jammu & Ladakh Region were grateful to Jammu Chapter for initiating this significant maiden project. Former Jammu Convenor SM Sahni explained the salient features of the project and its importance with a presentation on built heritage components of the military heritage of Jammu Cantonment listed by the Chapter. Vipul Magotra, Representative of J&K Ex-Servicemen League focussed on Topi Bungalow, Cantonment Railway Station, Training Centre, Telegraph office, Satwari House, Military Hospital, War Memorial etc. Jammu Co-Convenor Kuldeep Wahi proposed the vote of thanks. Member Prof. Sudhir Singh conducted the proceedings of this programme.
college and the campus with respect to development and compared it with how it was five decades ago.

Prof. CK Khajuria, HOD Geology Department gave a presentation on the rich and unique collections of the museum since its inception, and its importance at the international level, as scholars from other countries like USA and UK visit for specific research.

Jammu Convenor S M Sahni highlighted the importance of how the museum can be projected on Tourism Map of Jammu. He shared his ideas about the clay surfaced tennis court of the historic GGM Science College, which was one of the famous Tennis Courts of Northern India where interstate matches were played. The tributaries of Ranbir Canal used to irrigate the playgrounds of the campus. The conservation plans in the form of DPRs was furnished to the authorities in 2017-18 for restoration/conservation of the heritage buildings of GGM Science College.

Vice Principal presented the vote of thanks and appreciated the efforts of Jammu Chapter for assisting the college in highlighting the importance of Wadia Museum of Geology. Faculty members of the college, students, INTACH Members, Press and media fraternity were present. The event was well coordinated by SS Rissam.

*World Environment Day* celebrations in collaboration with Department of Environmental Sciences (E.V.S) Jammu University, included an awareness meet on “Beat Air Pollution” on 7th June at the Conference Hall of Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Jammu. It sensitized supervisors, sanitary inspectors and other staff members of JMC, JDA and University of Jammu regarding burning solid waste that causes air pollution. Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu Prof. Manoj Dhar was the Chief Guest, and Vice Chairman Jammu Development Authority Vikas Sharma was the Guest of Honour. The Chief Guest highlighted the role of every individual and reminded that a time has come for concrete action by all citizens in their individual capacity rather than merely holding seminars and workshops. Prof. Dhar said it is the responsibility of every individual to contribute to protecting environment by planting at least one plant each, and emphasized that there should be no burning of any kind of solid waste that cause air pollution.

Guest of Honour Vice Chairman JDA Vikas Sharma appreciated the aim of the awareness meet and suggested such programmes should be carried out at school level to inculcate solid wastes management at household level. All Departments should educate employees about the non-burning of solid waste.

Environmentalist and State Co-Convenor Dr. CM Seth and Prof. Anil K Raina, Environmental Science Deptt. University of Jammu presented major aspects of protecting the environment while briefing participants about urbanization of cities with modern techniques to prevent air pollution. Sr. Scientist, J&K Pollution Control Board Dr. Yash Paul outlined the parameters of air pollution, their remedies and enforcement regulations.

Dr. Zaffer Iqbal, Solid Waste Management Jammu Municipal Cooperation and master trainer solid waste management S. Jorawar Singh explained the steps taken by JMC for disposal of solid waste for conversion into manure. Prof. Raj Kumar Rampal, Head of Dept. Environmental Sciences suggested awareness at the supervisory level of JMC / JDA against burning of solid wastes can play an important role in solving the problem to a great extent.

Convenor Jammu Chapter S M Sahini proposed the vote of thanks. He hoped the supervisory staff of JMC through
their respective karamcharis will send the message across Jammu city households.

Kashmir Chapter in association with Sahapedia organised Chabal Qadmi to mark World Heritage Day with a ‘Sketch Walk’ on 13th April at Naqshband Sahib Shrine Khawaja Bazaar, Nowhatta-Srinagar. Eighteen students from School of Architecture - Bemina Degree College Srinagar and School of Interior Design- SSM

JHARKHAND

The Chapter organised a Paitkar painting workshop on 10th April at Motilal Nehru Public School, Sakchi. Artist Vijay Chitrakar explained the art of using natural colours and its sources to two student groups in a comprehensible manner. The Principal and teachers appreciated the paintings and they will be exhibited after the summer vacations. On 14th April a workshop was also organised to promote this art at Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Bistupur for students.

College of Engineering &Technology joined in walking around the precinct of Naqshband Sahib Shrine, the site chosen for the sketch competition. Cash prizes of Rs. 3,000, 2000,1000 and 500 were awarded to Tayyiba Mir, Tashbiya Shah and Zahra Binti Javed respectively with a Consolation Prize to Fatima Masnoon Siddiqi. Guest Speaker Sameer, a senior architect of Kashmir Chapter, gave a talk on the Sufi architecture of Kashmir.

The Chapter organised a Kharsawan Chhau Dance Workshop on 13th April at Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Bistupur.

The International Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute of UNESCO established Dance Day on 29th April 1982 in memory of a great reformer Jean George Navere’s birthday. It hopes to enhance the importance of dance globally and ensure its place in all systems of education. In 2005 Dance Day was promoted as a primary education, while the year 2007 was dedicated to Dance, but to date it does not figure as a formal subject in any curriculum. Jharkhand Chapter celebrated Dance Day with a live Baba performance organised by the Jamshedpur Chinmaya Vidyalaya at their premises jointly with St. Mary’s English High School of Bistupur and the
Jharkhand Chapter. Artistes from the Beda Village of Dhalbhumgarh performed Baba - the traditional Santhali folk dance in which the women decorate their hair with Shaal flowers while the men in Dhotis played Mandar and Nagada – dancing in celebration of Basanta Baha festival of the Santhals.

The Chapter also organised the Kharsawan Chhau programme at their own premises with a gathering of 600 students and teachers from Heritage Clubs. Co-Convenor Amitava Ghosh spoke on endangered dance traditions that need to be protected and enrich our lives.

**Jamshedpur**

Dr. Ratan Hembram is appointed Co-Convenor of the Jamshedpur Chapter, INTACH extends many good wishes for this new assignment and in fulfilling the responsibilities entrusted to you.

On 18\(^{th}\) April, *World Heritage Day* an interactive session on Paitkar Paintings was held by Jharkhand Chapter in collaboration with Jusco High School and Kadma Heritage Club at Jamshedpur. This unique art comprises paintings in the form of scrolls famously known as Pat which is on the brink of extinction in Manbhum. Renowned artist Vijay Chitrakar of Amadoobi village was invited to promote this art form. Principal Jhumjhumi Nandi invited 60 students of Jusco High School South Park and Kashidih High School to acquaint them with this art form through Heritage Club activities.

A similar programme was also held on the *World Heritage Day* with another young artist Kishor Gayan from the same village at Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Bistupur.

The Chapter organised a *Mysterious World of Natural Colours* workshop on 19\(^{th}\) April at the Kalamandir campus on *World Heritage Day*. Renowned Paitkar artists Vijay Chitrakar and Kishor Gayan from Amadubi Village, Dhalbhumgarh demonstrated Paitkar art form in which pictured stories are drawn on handmade paper in natural colours. Tie & Dye artist Jayshri Chaudhary from Kolkata demonstrated how to use natural colours to create the dye and the art of tying the fabrics. She then elaborated on utilising existing ingredients in our homes like tea leaves, turmeric, fruits and their peels, and flowers to prepare dyes and kitchen utensils to boil the colours. Other traditional
be employed for plantation and solid waste management of the site. The Chapter will be involved in all phases of the project.

Ms. Nisha Mary Pouluse is appointed Additional Co-Convenor of the Anegundi-Hampi Chapter. It is a world heritage site with infinite possibilities for taking new initiatives. INTACH extends you our best wishes for every success.

Bengaluru

The new office of Bengaluru Chapter is located close to 4th block of Jayanagar, a convenient half kilometre from the Jayanagar Metro Station. We wish Members all the best at their spacious new location in a popular city area that is always buzzing with activities.

KARNATAKA

Anegundi Hampi

Convenor Shama Pawar held a meeting with Krishnadevaraya, Sidarshan Verma and Raja Devaraya with regard to the proposed plans at Pampa Sarovara and Anjandari. The team represented the local community/stake holders given the issues of land ownership, revenue from facilities and legal matters that need to be worked out before executing any plans.

The intervention was necessitated due to increasing footfall of both community and pilgrims. It is proposed to plant indigenous shade giving and fruit bearing trees in an assortment of short, middle and long term variety to ensure a shaded area parking. There will also be a designated place for Yagyashala or community gatherings shaded with trees. It is proposed to form a committee this year with local stake holders as members, involving the DC Koppal to work out legal matters and ensure the project moves forward to accommodate what is a pressing need.

The maintenance of an appropriate infrastructure includes a drainage plan for grey water from kitchen, toilets and washing areas, and treatment before it flows into the river. In fact a robust waste management plan is needed to ensure there is proper disposal of discarded food, material, etc. and remains stench free. The local community would

Dharwad

The Chapter marked International Museum Day at the Karnataka Vidya Vardhaka Sangha with great elan enhanced by the presence of Padmashree Dr. Sudha Murthy. It began with a prayer, lighting of the sacred lamp and a welcome address by Convenor NP Bhat. If it is Dharwad it has to be a musical inauguration. It was graced
Initial attempts to popularise museums were made by the League of Nations in 1904 and it was only in 1950 when experts from some 16 countries collaborated to establish ICOM (International Council of Museums). Since 1977, 18th May has come to be celebrated as Museum Day - a multidimensional concept and has evolved into a new discipline viz. Museology.

Padmashree Dr. Ganesh Devy, a linguist of international repute, lamented the general apathy of Indian public to museums. He mentioned how Dr. Anand Kumar Swami wanted to set up a museum in Banaras more than a 100 years ago but due to lack of enthusiastic public support it was shifted to Boston where it thrives after a long history of 100 years! Co-Convenor Karnataka State Chapter Anil Gokak, a former IAS Officer stressed that both "Central and State Governments need to fund Museums as they serve humanity in innumerable ways".

That is also why the efforts of our Convenor NP Bhat struggling with phenomenal energy to run the Dr. Sudha Murthy INTACH Heritage Museum at Dharwad single-handedly is an exemplary milestone for INTACH.

Gulbarga

On 18th April Gulbarga Chapter in association with the local ASI and NSS Units of Govt. College Kalaburagi celebrated 'World Heritage Day' and 'Swachhata Pakhwada' at Kalaburagi Fort. Inaugurating the programme Chapter President said such events highlighted the importance of heritage sites in preserving cultural traditions. Convenor Dr. Shambhuling Wani said they go a long way in creating awareness of historical sites. Shri Vinayak from ASI Kalaburagi called on everyone to contribute to speak about Swachhata Pakhwada and cleanliness of the heritage...
sites. Volunteers of College NSS units later undertook a cleanliness drive in earmarked areas of Kalaburagi Fort. Co-Convenor Dr. MS Kumbar, Additional Co-Convenor Dr. Shashishekhar Reddy, NSS officers Dr. Basawantrao Patil and Rahiman Sab participated in the programme.

Mangaluru

On 10th June, Mangaluru Chapter organised a talk in Tulu language “Tuluvere Appe Katt’ by renowned poet and scholar Dr. Sayeegeetha Hegde. She is regarded the first person to submit a doctoral thesis in Tulu language, and is presently the Assistant Professor in Linguistics at the Department of Humanities at KS Hegde Medical Academy, Mangaluru.

In association with Srinivas School of Architecture, the Chapter organised an exhibition on Historical and Architectural Significance of the Rosario Cathedral on 8th June to commemorate the 500th year of its inception. Parish Priest Fr J B Crasta was the guest of honour. The first chapel Nossa Senora de Rosario was established in 1568 by the Portugese in Mangaluru, Located along the estuary of the rivers Gurpura and Netravati, the Chapel located at Bolar has undergone many renovations over the centuries.
Chairman inaugurated the new Mysore Chapter on 28th June. Earlier it had been a vibrant Chapter for nearly thirty years, under the dynamic Convenor Krishna Vattam, a very senior journalist and writer. With his sudden demise a few years ago, it had closed down. TN State Convenor Dr. S’ Suresh helped in its revival, as he had been the main link between the two Chapters having obtained his second doctorate degree from the Department of Ancient History and Archaeology from the University of Mysore and had retained strong academic contacts in Mysuru area. Dr. Suresh enlisted over 25 new Members including top businessmen, civil engineers, professors and research scholars, Prof. AV Narasimha Murthy, Retired Professor of Mysore University and currently Chairman, Bharatiya Vidyabhavan, Mysuru.

Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar from the erstwhile royal family of Mysore graced the occasion and lit the traditional lamp to mark the revival of the Chapter. Deputy Commissioner Abhiram G Shankar, Commissioner, Mysuru City Corporation Shilpa Nag and TN State Convenor Dr. Suresh participated in the event. Chairman stressed the important role INTACH can play in a heritage-rich city like Mysuru, and suggested various activities that the Chapter can take up in the near future. There was a lively Question-Answer session with Members.

Chairman thanked Dr. Suresh in particular for all his year-long efforts in coordinating and facilitating the revival of the Mysuru Chapter.

The pioneering work of the Pallakad Chapter is commendable given the range of new programmes it has launched this quarter. An online photography contest based on the city’s “Rural Landscapes” on 18th April held for the first time is unique. It was inspired by ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) theme to propagate protection of rural landscapes under UNESCO aegis. The contest, open to all who wished to share as many photographs as they liked, engaged a maximum number of people in a thought provoking way and drew attention to the various challenges faced.

The unique centuries old cultural landscape of Palakkad has remained relatively unchanged but is increasingly threatened due to factors ranging from farm conversions to climatic change. This contest drew attention to the value of conserving critical facets of natural heritage. The 300 qualifying entries were judged by popular award winning filmmaker Shyamaprasad. Godan Tharangad won the first prize, with Ranjith Rajendran and Sasikiran Vals awarded the second and third prizes respectively. It
created awareness of the beauty and diversity of Palakkad geography, and a buzz on Instagram and Facebook.

The Chapter regularly organises Heritage Tours. Illustrated postcards were published as souveniers based on the theme of the heritage tours. Regular stories on local heritage keeps its social media outreach active with many followers.

Ms. Priya Krishnadas is the newly appointed Co-Convenor of Pallakad Chapter known for its multifarious activities and initiatives. We send many good wishes for your many assignments ahead.

PAAKAM: CUISINE AND CULTURE

Palakkad is also renowned for its distinctive culinary traditions. They are a blend of diverse flavours and food philosophies – of both indigenous communities and of those who have migrated to the city. A workshop held last year by Manjusha Pisharody highlighted the myriad facets of culture related to this cuisine, documenting old recipes and techniques and introducing them to a new generation of food lovers. A range of heirloom recipes, ingredients, techniques and stories were shared. The workshop also discussed challenges facing local grains, and the benefits of using natural ingredients describing cookware and dining etiquette, in a series of sessions. One of the events took place in a magnificent stretch of paddy fields where a local folklorist spoke on the transforming fields and sang ballads.

SYAM KUMAR – ENVIRONMENT CRUSADE

Occasionally one comes across an inspiring story that touches the heart – and mind. An auto rickshaw driver Syam Kumar M of Palakkad planted over 23000 trees and set up close to 50 birdbaths during one summer month within the radius of 15 km. in his village Thenkurissi and its surroundings. He did all this during his free time ferrying passengers in the course of his work. He also learnt the importance of creating micro-habitats for birds and the need to restore water bodies. He began to carry water in throwaway PET bottles converting them to mini drip irrigation units and placed them at the base of young trees and saplings.

Syam Kumar soon realised the importance of getting more people involved in greening the surroundings. So he began conducting regular awareness sessions on local ecology for villagers and school children. The visible results of his ‘crusade’ prove what just one exemplary man can achieve at a local level to bring about tangible change in the environment of a whole community. Many congratulations to him! He deserves an INTACH Award?

MADHYA PRADESH

Datia

“Preserving heritage is a matter of great sentiment” said international religious traveller Matangnath on the occasion of World Heritage Day annual celebrations when he unexpectedly visited the Datia Chapter. He said tradition and
cultural heritage are precious treasures of a city. He visited the conopies of Datia Kings and appreciated INTACH work in this religious place. The main speakers of the programme were historian Ravi Thakur and Vinod Mishra who highlighted the archaeology of Datia.

A discussion session and a cleaning campaign was part of the programme. INTACH Members cleaned the premises, and some inspected the Chatevar Art work of the conopies. The programme and discussions were followed by a pledge taken to preserve heritage and execute one's duty to vote in the 2019 Election.

Datia Chapter and District Museum jointly organized a discussion session on 18th May International Museum Day at the INTACH office room. Famous folk writer and historian Umashankar Khare said each house in this city was a mini museum in itself. He suggested statues, stone manuscripts and related ancient heritages of the area be collected and showcased at a public museum. The programme was chaired by Hariram Sahu, the pioneer of the Datia Museum that is pending formal inauguration. The programme was coordinated by Ravibhushan Khare who warmly thanked Co-Convenor Vinod Tiwari. In the discussion, Convenor Vinod Mishra, Chapter Members actively participated in discussions on ancient heritage of Datia to be housed in the museum.

Convenor Vinod Kumar Mishra came up with a novel idea. On 6th June, World Environment Day, the Chapter decided to establish a Smriti Ban to counter increasing temperatures in coordination with the Forest Department. It hopes to involve the citizens of the District to come and plant a tree at the Smriti Ban in memory of an ancestor. It was launched with prayers offered to a hundred year old banyan tree at Pakaudia Mahdev. State Bank Manager B P Sen and Ward Council Member Anup Tiwari worshipped an old tree, while Arun Siddh Guru read a motivational poem. Several Members and supporters took the pledge to plant a tree in memory of their ancestors.

Dhar

The Chapter celebrated World Heritage Day 18th April with a Dance Evening at Kharbuja Palace, the birthplace of Peshva Bajirao II at Shish Palace. A flag was hoisted by environmentalists and historians Shaym Sharma, Bhavani Joshi, Ashish Agrawal and Pradip Joshi. Chief Guest Bharti Dangi from Women and Child Development Department applauded the event and performances and awarded certificates to the artists. To promote the concept of heritage, the Chapter did away with stage lighting systems and relied entirely on natural lighting for the performance.
Chapter Convenor Deependra Sharma gave certificates and membership badges to new Members writer Mahesh Sharma and educationist Om Prakash Trivedi

Khandwa

Convenor Madhuri Sharma was awarded by the State Tourist Friendly Pilgrimage for suggestions proposed by the Chapter to activate their tourism plans. INTACH congratulates her for taking this initiative which will inspire many colleagues to trigger promotional tourism concepts at heritage places.

Maihar-Satna

The first meeting of the recently founded Maihar-Satna Chapter was held early May. The Chapter launched the cleaning and restoring of the ancient baoli near Sharda Devi Temple as its passion project.

A bamboo workshop along with a film and documentation of the process was also organised by the Chapter.

Shivpuri

Shivpuri Chapter released the Bhartiya Sikkon Ka Itihas in Hindi language at Birla Auditorium. Its authors are Chapter Convenor and the Editor of Paryatan Today Dr. Neelkamal Maheshwari. MP State Chapter Convenor
Dr. H B Maheshwari had suggested the subject of the book. It details the history of Indian coins and their importance in learning about the rulers, economy, tradition, culture and life style of those bygone eras.

The book was formally launched by famous coin expert Dilip Raj Gaur, Chandrapur Chapter Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur and Prakash Kothari, a coin collector. The National Coins Council Chairman Girish Sharma, State Convenor Dr. HB Maheshwari and coin collectors from many areas graced the occasion.

**MAHARASHTRA**

**Chandrapur**

Co-Convenor Pravin V. Nikhare gave a power point presentation on Heritage Awareness to mark *World Heritage Day* held at Hindi City High School and Junior College, presided by its Principal Renu Jeswani. Senior INTACH Member Murlidhar Choudhury spoke to the children on the importance of protecting the natural, built and living heritage of their city. Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur and Co-Convenor Vijaykumar Dhande ensured the event was a great success.

**Nagpur**

The Chapter compiled a *Sonegaon Heritage Zone Report* for the Nagpur Municipal Corporation. The precinct spread over 60 acres was developed by Sena Saheb Subha Shrimant Raje Raghuji II, known as the architect of Bhonsale Nagpur in 1786-1788. This lush green patch once served as the royal retreat of Nagpur kingdom with *Murli Mandir, Chhattris, Naach Bangala, Pushkarni* irrigated by a well on the lines of the *Mughal Char Bagh*. Adjacent to it is a sanctuary inhabited by deers, antelopes, elephants, peacocks and many other wild animals. It was converted to a cantonment by Raghuji Raje III in 1830. Today development has taken a heavy toll on this idyllic spot and one mostly hears speeding vehicles and piercing horns, as reported.

Recently two NMC heritage listed plinths which served as a base for the *Chhattris* were damaged for road widening and even trees were cut down on the lake side. The Chapter along with the Bhonsales and *Walkers Nagrik* took up the matter with the Nagpur Municipal Corporation Heritage Committee to inquire about tree chopping and destroying natural heritage. Alas, this is a tale of many cities. Until and unless there is a strong people’s movement to stop mindless developments with no regard for the future of our habitation – there is little hope!
Dr. Khwaja delivered an illustrated talk on Persian inscriptions from Vidarbha at the Vidarbha Samshodhan Mandal, Nagpur. It was attended by Dr. Chandrashekhar Gupta, former Convenor of the Nagpur Chapter.

Pune

Chapter Member Sarang Yadwadkar moved the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to draw attention to five cases for safeguarding Pune rivers against encroachment, unauthorized construction and metro alignment in river bed during the last three years. The cases are currently in the Supreme Court.

The Chapter’s newsletter Pune Patrika is a popular mouth piece for publicising its activities. It covers a wide range of topics like heritage walks and talks, architecture of the city, its cultural roots, Alankar (jewellery), even some Maharashtrian recipes, etc. The recent issue described Kudi, a very popular ear stud unique to Maharashtra studded with pearls and gem stones, and the four pearl Kudi called Chaufula. The typical Marathi hairdo Khopa is adorned with a golden Agraphool. Not to forget the Nath, a nose ornament unique to Maharashtra and Karnataka.

The January-March Patrika e-newsletter also featured articles by experts, heritage enthusiasts and historians from Maharashtra. ‘On the shoulder of Giants’, an article on traditional Maharashtrian jewellery featured in the section ‘Alankar’, and also traditional food recipes. The Patrika started a new section ‘Vachan Vaibhav – to feature interesting publications in the field of heritage.

Chapter Member Manjusha Limaye-Ukidve participated in the Capacity Building Workshop conducted by

COPPER GETS NEW SHINE

Copper utensils were once the favoured metal for utensils used by royalty and people alike especially in Maharashtra. During Shivaji’s time armours and coins were also made of copper. It is widely acknowledged to this day that drinking water from copper containers has health values. Traditional coppersmiths however are losing their trade in present age of plastics and easy to maintain steel utensils. Former INTACH Pune Convenor Arti Kirloskar intervened to get it registered as a local craft 15 years ago and created greater awareness about this craft. She organised heritage walks to Tambat Ali (tamba: Marathi word for copper) located near Kasba Peth in Pune. Thereafter it was registered as a craft with the District Industries Commission, which meant that artisans could showcase their products and avail of workshops organised by the authorities to augment sales and their earnings. The Chapter also participated in training them introducing more contemporary designs.

It led to the industrial house of Forbes Marshal setting up Studio Coppre. Some of their products are on sale at INTACH Heritage Shop in Pune.
INTACH heritage Academy held on 13th-16th at Delhi. She commented “When people come together with a shared passion for heritage and the enthusiasm to do their bit for it, a lot is achieved. INTACH Capacity Building workshop provided a great platform for Members across the country to meet, learn explore and share. A very positive, enriching experience!”

Waraa – The Heritage Shop, an INTACH Pune initiative to promote local crafts and heritage publications completed 15 years. The anniversary was celebrated with a heritage walk for INTACH Members and heritage enthusiasts at Shaniwar Wada conducted by Chetan Sahasrabudhe, Sourabh Marathe and Vaishali Latkar.

The Chapter welcomes its new Executive Committee comprising following Members: Chetan Sahasrabudhe, Madhur Barve, Mahesh Bangad, Manjusha Limaye-Ukidve, Mukul Mahabaleshwarkar, Shubhada Kamalapurkar, Sourabh Marathe and Vaishali Latkar. They have long been associated with and contributed to Chapter projects. Convenor Sharvey Dhongde and Co-Convenors Supriya Goturkar and Jui Tawade appreciated their contribution to date.

The Chapter joined hands with Maharaja Shivachhatrapati Pratishthan to launch another series on heritage awareness Vedhi-Retrospection to create awareness of the built heritage, culture and art, and other facets of the city.

ODISHA

Balasore

Convenor Himanshu Das presided the World Heritage Day celebrations on 18th April held at the College of Arts & Crafts, Vice Chancellor Madhumita Das of Fakir Mohan University was the Chief Guest. INTACH Member Biswwanath Rana presented a paper on the historical development of Balasore with specific reference to its built heritage. A summary of various Chapter initiatives was presented by Member Bhabagrahi Mohanty, concluding with a vote of thanks by Co-Convenor Nikunja Bihari Das.

The prestigious Anirudh Bhargava – INTACH Environmental Award 2019 has been awarded to Member Sarang Vaman Yadwadkar of the Pune Chapter for “Exemplary contribution to the protection of Environment/Natural Heritage through steps to stop environmental destruction or contributing to regeneration”. He has been recognised for his relentless efforts to save the rivers of Pune against encroachments. Hearty congratulations to him in particular and to all the environmentalist of Pune for their untiring efforts.

INTACH Members may be inspired to see A Road to Nowhere at https://www.youtube.com/watch (Also available in Marathi:Haravvlela Rasta- https://www.youtube.com/watch, and in Hindi:Gumrah at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUJit_Fx60s)

A summer camp for 76 students was organised in association with Balasore College of Art & Crafts, Kalakhetra from 21st-28th April. The participants received training in glass painting, terracotta, collage and Pattachitra paintings, mehendi art, etc. which was much appreciated as in the previous year.

The Chapter undertook beautification of more than a hundred wall paintings with a small grant from Central Division. It is an ongoing effort, and was much appreciated by the local citizens and the District Administration.
World Environment Day, 5th June was marked by planting Bakul within the Industrial Estate campus. Convenor Himanshu Das said felling of trees has caused great variation of temperatures and water shortage, and emphasised the importance of greening the environment. The Chapter plans to undertake plantation of fruit and medicinal trees within the campus in a phased manner. A successful initiative like this would be an inspirational example for cities everywhere in India.

Bhadrapur

Bhadrapur Chapter marked its Annual Day function at Samabesha Kendra Nityananda Bhaban of Retired Govt. Employees Association under Chairmanship of INTACH Advisor Prof. Dr. Sanathan Mohanty. It was conducted by Convenor Digambar Mohanty, a former Commissioner cum Secretary to Odisha Government. State Convenor DG Police Amiya Bhushan Tripathy
Buddhism and Buddhist literature. Shri Mohanty shared his experiences and views on the subject with Members.

The Chapter inducted three eminent Members at this event – former bureaucrat Madan Mohan Panda, former Divisional Forest Officer Surendra Nath Nayak who is pursuing matters concerning natural heritage; and archivist Dr. Lalatendu Das Mohapatra who is currently Director of the National Archives, Records Centre, Bhubaneswar.

lighted the inaugural lamp. Students and lecturers of Bhadrak Music College joined in the inaugural song Bande Utkal Janani. Eminent social worker Sudhir Kumar Bijayendra Narayan was the Chief Guest. Manas Bhusan Pandit and Hrushikesh Rath were the chief Speakers on the occasion. Sushree Tapaswini Padhi was felicitated for her valuable work on Lord Jagannath.

This high profile function was attended by many eminent persons with media coverage in the leading papers of Odisha.

Bhubaneswar

**Shri Debasis Mahapatra** is appointed the Co-Convenor of the Bhubaneswar Chapter, also known for its conservation centre. Our best wishes are with you for every success in the responsibilities you have taken up.

Member Bimalendu Mohanty was felicitated by the Odisha State Convenor at an awareness programme. He was awarded the Mahabodhi International Award for Buddhist Literature in recognition of his contributions to the propagation and promotion of Buddhist studies on the occasion of the Second Global Conference on Women Liberation held at Bodhgaya, Bihar on 30th January. He has translated and written extensively about various aspects of Buddhism.

Dr. Lalatendu Das Mohapatra gave an interesting talk on Maritime Heritage of Odisha at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan.

A heritage walk on 14th April marked Odiya New Year which is observed all over the State. The Chapter conducted a heritage walk from the Old Town to Ekanra Vana, a garden set up by the Forest Department with plantation of rare and medicinal plants. The City Divisional Forest Officer Ashok Kumar Mishra explained their heritage value and application, some having thousands of years old historic value. Saplings were distributed to people to plant in their homes.
On 18th April, World Heritage Day Dr. KK Basa spoke on Heritage Matters and how relevant it is to also preserve the intangible heritage. It was an both an inspirational and educative talk on the migration of human civilisation.

Painting competition on Heritage and Smart City Bhubaneswar for junior and senior students

undertaken over 18 months. The book comprising a detailed documentation of this rich heritage site was released by Former Chief Justice of India Dipak Mishra. It is a comprehensive compendium comprising nearly 200 monuments including temples, mutts, ghats, ashrams and other edifices; with the Prachi river touching 940 villages of Khurda, Puri and Cuttack Districts. The documentation and listing was done simultaneously along with geographical mapping of the old river.

State Convenor A B Tripathy described the Prachi River Valley as a hidden gem of Odishian architecture and culture. There are seven protected ASI monuments and 16 temples which are under the State Archaeological Department. Convenor Baikuntha Panigrahi said the Chapter is aware of the neglected monuments of the Prachi valley and many reconnaissance trips have been undertaken by INTACH teams. It decided that a complete listing of the monuments and entire Prachi Valley should be undertaken. In fact the valley with its archaeological remains can be regarded as a veritable museum of Odisha’s glorious part. It holds immense potential for students and researchers for conducting further studies.

Report on Prachi Valley

The Chapter has compiled the Prachi Valley Report on 18th June written by Member Anil Dhir after a project
Mayurbhanj

Members, students and audience gathered together in numbers to celebrate World Heritage Day organised by Convenor Major Rabinndra Nath Parida at the local Hall of Retd. Government Employees Association. They were welcomed by Co-Convenor Raseswar Sahu. Life Member Jagdish Brahama, who is the Executive Engineer of Subarnarekha Project at Mayurbhanj, was the Chief Guest. He said Mayurbhanj is a storehouse of different heritage assets built by former rulers of Bhanja dynasty and must be preserved.

World Environment Day was also observed on 6th June at Kendua Village located near Similipal National Park. It was well attended by a sizeable number of local villagers. Co-Convenor Raseswar Sahu stressed on the importance of the day and said that it is the responsibility of every person to save environment from depletion or pollution to ensure a good and healthy life for their family.

Koibolya Mohapatra, Jatindra Nath Basa, Dr. Jagannath Prasad Nath and Makar Singh Retd. Agriculture Officer spoke about planting trees to combat air pollution and current fears of marked global warming. Convenor Dr. Rabindra Nath Parida in his vote of thanks reiterated the importance of maintaining a clean environment and adopting a healthy lifestyle. A sumptuous tiffin was shared with the villagers.

Sonepur

Ganjifa is a card game associated with Persia and India but stopped being played by the 20th century. India is the only country where Ganjifa cards are still being painted in Ganjappa, Odisha. Sonepur is another place where traditional Ganjifa cards are handmade and painted in diverse styles.

PUDUCHERRY

INTACH Pondicherry Heritage Centre received the Hudco Design Award, second prize for Conservation of Heritage at a function on 25th April, presided by Chairman & MD of Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO). INTACH heartily congratulates the Chapter.

PUNJAB

Amritsar

An exhibition on Punjabi culture and heritage was organized by Cambridge International School, Amritsar on 11th May. The Chief Guest Punjab State Convenor Dr. Sukhdev Singh, and Professor of Applied Linguistics of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar appreciated the efforts made by the school, lauding such events that connect children with their roots and develop their personalities. The exhibition provided glimpses of authentic rural Punjabi culture like Teej, Doli, Tootan Wala Khoob and Jago among other facets. Household utensils used in Punjabi cooking and other typical equipments of rural Punjab were on display. The students dressed...
The Chapter celebrated 18th April World Heritage Day with school children of DCM International School, Kotkapura. It held a brief discussion to draw facets of heritage importance to the attention of the young audience, and create greater awareness of their environment. The gathering was attended by Co-Convenor Raj Kumar, IFC Members, Ashok Chawla and the Principal Pawan Mittal among others.

Jalandhar

Jalandhar celebrated World Heritage Day in collaboration with Virsa Vihar at Apeejay College Jalandhar. Varinder Sharma Chairman Virsa Vihar and District Commissioner Jalandhar sent a congratulatory message to all and emphasised the urgency to protect heritage. Convenor Jalandhar Chapter and Governing Council Member Maj. Gen. Balwinder Singh addressed all present and shared in traditional ethnic attire proudly sang traditional folk songs like the Suhaag. Parents and guests participated in the folk dance ‘Giddha’ and applauded the endeavour of the school to revive forgotten culture of the region, exhibit talents and promote revival of Punjab traditions. Principal R K Vohra gave the vote of thanks along with School Directors Shveta and Vineet Aggarwal.
Individual performances on flute by Gurdeep Singh, *Algoze* by Naresh Kumar and *Sarangi* received accolades.

**RAJASTHAN**

**Barmer**

Shri Om Joshi is the newly appointed Co-Convenor of the Barmer Chapter. INTACH welcomes you with many good wishes for the responsibilities you have taken up. We wish you every success and a happy association with us.

The Chapter marked 18th April *World Heritage Day* at Bishala village celebrating mud ornaments. Jamin Khan and other artistes with their families were present and shared their ideas on preserving their craft. Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma and Member Deepika Chowdhry presented a cheque as honorarium to the artist. The Chapter hopes to revive this art along with documentation and publicity. The Convenor also proposes to start a small pilot project to revive other handicrafts of the region in Malani, Sindhkshetra, Rad Dhara, Bhatipa and Marwadi.

Chapter Convenor Yashwardhan Sharma attended a workshop ‘Hobby Training Camp’ organized jointly by Indian Development Council and Barmer Welfare Committee on 2nd June at Seva Sadan, Barmer. Camp In-charge Vandana Tapadia explained the various activities.

An exhibition titled *Sikhs: An Occidental Romance* was held at AIFACS Gallery, New Delhi in the second week of April featuring 80 replicas of 19th-20th century paintings. A world wide search over six years in 50 museums across USA, Japan, Pakistan, etc. yielded a selection of over 200 works. On display were portraits of Maharaja Gulab Singh Jamwal, founder of the Dogra dynasty painted by Charles Harding, son of the then Governor General of India for example. Others on display were a portrait of Maharaja Ranjit Singh by Emily Eden; a young Prince Duleep Singh painted by Franz Winterhalter commissioned by Queen Victoria; *Thugs of India* in a populated scene by August Schoefffirt who was the court painter of Maharaja Sher Singh (son of Ranjit Singh); portrayal of crowds by Charles William Bartlett, and other such rare little known paintings. The diversity of artists and styles is indicative of the special interest of western countries in the Sikh community.
taught by experts in Yoga, Meditation, Prayer, Mehendi, Dance and Hand-Writing. The winners of the dance and mehendi competition were awarded by the Convenor.

6th June, World Environment Day was celebrated by the Barmer Chapter jointly with Dr. Virendra Charitable Trust at Balaji Farm, Barmer, along with some students. Ancient plant species of the Thar region were planted and water bowls placed for the birds to quench their thirst during summer months. Chief Guest Convenor Yashovardhan Sharma spoke on the importance of natural heritage and encouraged all present to raise objections against prevailing pollution caused by vested commercial interests that is damaging the environment.

COUNTLESS HERITAGE OF INDIA

Perhaps no other country has as many natural interesting sculptures as India, but many of them are tucked away in places out of the tourism circuit in little known places. One encounters them to realise the rich heritage of our ancient land which has some priceless relics of lost civilisations. They need to be treasured and brought on to tourism circuits. Like this massive elephant known as Hathi Phata located at Sher Gaon, close to Kokar Village near Kota. It is carved out from a single rock and has been dated 1200 BC.
BISHNOIS OF JODHPUR

An art exhibition Rajasthan: Under the Desert Sky held at Delhi exhibited some rare examples of the way local communities like the Bishnois protect their flora and fauna. They live by the teachings of their Guru Jambheshwar, and are ready even to sacrifice their life to protect wildlife - especially the chinkara which holds a special significance for them. Veteran photographer Rajesh Bedi in one of his works on display captured a rare picture of a young Bishnoi woman suckling a young chinkara and her own child at the same time, capturing the complexity and charisma of the Bishnois who protect their flora and fauna at par with their own progeny. And they get anyone shooting them penalised!

Sawai Madhopur

Additional Co-Convenor Dr. Arti Singh Bhadauria is appointed a Member of Special Environmental Surveillance Task Force by the District authorities. The Chapter hopes it will facilitate resolving issues related to the Ranthambhore Tiger National Park, and encourage local people in protecting the natural heritage of the region.

Sikar, Churu, Jhunjhunu

Convenor Sikar, Churu, Jhunjhunu Chapter Shruti Poddar and Co-Convenor Katyayani Agarwal thanked Director Crafts & Community Division Bindu Manchanda and her assistant incharge of craft shop Anil Browne for setting up workshops like Chau mask making, lac bangle making, and projects like Rags to Rugs weaving that were successfully undertaken and popularised. The Chapter has now opened a centre in collaboration with Shruti Foundation, where more than 25 women are daily working on looms and producing lovely rugs for sale. Following a visit by a textile expert from Bengaluru to their Centre at Ramgarh, their craftsmanship further developed and now they are also designing laptop bags, table mats, coasters, etc. in addition to the rugs and other useful products. The Centre is thus nurturing traditional knowledge systems of the Shekhawati region and helping artisans, unemployed girls, single women and widows to earn a steady income.

Udaipur

Convenor Dr. BP Bhatnagar welcomed Members to the Executive Committee quarterly meeting held on 6th April. The annual report and action taken was approved, and discussed getting subject experts associated with INTACH Projects. He will request the Collector cum Divisional Commissioner to be Patron of the Chapter. The proposed names for various Working Committee Groups were approved for projects with reference to Nagda, Khuaman
Rawalka Deora, Zawar that have potential for being developed as heritage cum tourist centres. Co-Convenor Gaurav Singhvi gave the vote of thanks. The Chapter celebrated World Heritage Day and Earth Day with school children in coordination with HECS representatives.

INTACH congratulates Life Member Dr. Satish Kumar Sharma on receiving the Life Time Service Award for his outstanding contribution in promoting in-depth understanding of wildlife and plant life of Rajasthan and North-Western India. It was awarded by Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora at a special function held at India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. Members of Carl Zeiss AG based in Jena, Germany were present at this function.

Dr. Sharma, a Ph. D in both Zoology and Botany, has served in the Forest Department in various capacities for more than 36 years. A prolific writer, he has authored more than 600 research papers in scientific journals and has published several books on the flora and fauna of Rajasthan. He is now actively involved in academics and in the activities of natural heritage of Udaipur Chapter.

World Environment Day, 5th June was observed in association with Vigyan Samiti, with BH Bafna as Chief Guest. Keynote Speaker Dr. Dev Kothari focussed on the Environment of Mewar Region, quoting from the famous Sanskrit book Vishva Vallabha by Chakrapani Mishra. The author describes the art of agriculture with references to various aspects like ground water, reservoir, plantation, water management, etc.

The Chapter organised Our Western Aravali Mountain Range in Danger on 18th April, World Heritage Day at Udaipur. SPWD Regional Director Dr. Jagdish K Purohit...
also expressed concerns about the damages to Aravali Mountain Range.

Chapter Convenor Dr. B P Bhatnagar welcomed the chief speaker, while Co-Convenor Gaurav Singhvi explained the significance of Heritage Day. Prof. Lalit Pandey highlighted 35 years of remarkable work accomplished by Dr. Purohit. Central Public School Managing Director Dr. Alka Sharma also welcomed the guests and INTACH Advisor Natural Heritage Division felicitated Dr. Purohit with a shawl. He thanked Principal Dr. Poonam Rathore and programme coordinator Dr. Dheera Samar. The various colourful performances of the children were one of the highlights of the event.

INTACH Heritage Clubs of Maharana Mewar Public School and St. Anthony’s Senior Secondary School celebrated 18th April World Heritage Day on a large scale to create awareness of the nation’s varied heritage in young people. They displayed a tag board on ‘Our Heritage’, and a special assembly was held with speech, poetry and quiz contests. A drawing competition on rural heritage was conducted at St. Anthony’s Senior Secondary School.
The Chapter organised Earth Day on 22nd April jointly with Department of Geology, Faculty of Earth Sciences, Mohanlal Sukhadia University Udaipur at the Department of Geology, Aravalli Auditorium. The speakers Retd. Conservator of Forests Dr. GP Saxena, Prof. KC Tiwari from MS University of Baroda, and Prof. S R Jakhar from the Department of Geology addressed the gathering on issues related to the biodiversity crisis.

Chapter Convenor Dr. BP Bhatnagar presided the event and shared his thoughts on preservation of environment. Programme coordinator Dr. Vinod Agrawal expressed his views and presented souvenirs to guests. Chairman Dr. Harish Kapasya coordinated the function seamlessly.

GD Goenka International School Udaipur

GD Goenka International School celebrated Earth Day with a morning assembly conducted with 9th Class students. They learned the importance of the 3 Rs—Reduce Reuse Recycle. The highlight of the day was a face painting competition with children skilfully applying bright poster colours to each other’s faces using attractive messages about “Save Nature”

The Chapter conducted a heritage walk on 7th April, the auspicious day of Akshya Tritiya (Akha Teej) coinciding with the inauguration of the INTACH supported Project ‘Development Plan of Raampole’ at a trekking site. Principal Investigator Prof. Vinod Agrawal organized the heritage walk from Doodh Talai entry point to Raamploe. Convenor Dr. BP Bhatnagar extended a hearty welcome while Dr. PS Ranawat briefed the walkers on the historic importance of this trek with Dr. Agrawal explaining some key aspects. Conservator of Forests RK Khairwa and DCF Ajay Chittora appreciated the project theme and assured
full support of the Forest Department. A well known forester Dr. Satish Sharma talked about flora and fauna of the area. Besides display of posters, banners and material on display boards, multicoloured folders were distributed to participants. Convenor Gaurav Singhvi thanked all the walkers that included students, research scholars and visitors for their enthusiastic participation.

The 466th anniversary of Udaipur city on 6th May was marked at Venue Hotel Alka, Shastri Circle. Chapter Convenor spoke about the city’s priceless assets, and INTACH activities to conserve heritage.

The Chapter organized the International Museum Day jointly with the Anthropological Survey of India on 18th May at Udaipur. It was chaired by S.K. Verma and Dinesh Kothari. Additional Commissioner of Devsthan Department was invited as the Chief Guest at the programme. Convenor Dr. BP Bhatnagar said a museum provides unity in diversity and keeps heritage alive, and transfers knowledge from one generation to the next. The programme was attended by students, various library superintendents and directors like Mohanlal Shrimali (Haldighati), Dr. Tilak Bagchi (Museum of Anthropology), Dr. Hansmukh Seth (City Palace), Dr. Jyoti Mehta (Tribal Research Institute), Vilas Janve (West Zone Cultural Centre, Udaipur) historian Dr. Girish Mathur and Dr. PC Jain who shared views on the significance of museums.

The fourth volume of International Journal for Museum Studies and Culture was launched by Prof. Pradeep Trikha, Dr. Piyush Bhadviya, Dr. Mandot and Dr. Tilak Bagchi (Museum of Anthropology) It was chaired by S.K. Verma and Dinesh Kothari. Additional Commissioner of Devsthan Department was the Chief Guest at the programme. Programme coordinators Dr. Lalit Pandey and Chapter Co-Convenor Gaurav Singhvi ensured it was a very successful event.

The Chapter celebrated World Environment Day in association with Vigyan Samiti on 5th June. Agricultural scientist Dr. KL Kothari, Patron of Vigyan Samiti welcomed the guests. Dr. Talersa conducted the
programme. The keynote speaker historian Dr. Dev Kothari talked on the environment of Mewar region quoting a Sanskrit book *Vishva Vallabha* by a famous thinker and writer Chakrapani Mishra, under patronage of Maharana Pratap about 500 years ago. The book describes the art of agriculture in nine Chapters containing various aspects relating to ground water, water reservoirs, plantations, water management and irrigation, protection and scientific approach. This proves the importance given to conserving water and environment even in those long ago days.

Speaking on the occasion, industrialist Chief Guest B. H. Bafna narrated some nostalgic memories of his student life and recalled that people use to write slogans like "water is precious, don’t waste it" outside their residences.

Dr. Bhatnagar discussed the dangers facing the Aravali Hills due to illegal activities of felling trees that destroy hills. Pollution has converted the soil to dust. The only solution is to conserve water and make the earth green by planting trees. Renowned poet Madhav Darak recited poems of Maharana Pratap on protection of environment. Advocate Nagori proposed the Vote of thanks.

**Tamil Nadu**

**Chennai**

In commemoration of *World Heritage Day*, Chennai Chapter and the National Centre for Safety of Heritage Structures (NCSHS), Dept. of Civil Engineering, IIT Madras postponed the Annual Lecture on *Safety and Conservation of Heritage Structures* to 29th April due to constraints of time. The talk held at the IC&SR Auditorium was on *Post-Earthquake Reconstruction of Monuments in Kathmandu: Towards understanding traditional technology through scientific research* by Kai Weise, ICOMOS Nepal and University of Durham.

Kai Weise, a Nepali national of Swiss origin, studied Architecture at the ETH Zurich and has been working as a planner and architect in the Himalayan Region. He facilitated the establishment of management systems for World Heritage properties such as *Kathmandu Valley* and *Lumbini* in Nepal, *Samarkand* in Uzbekistan, *Mountain Railways of India* as well as *Bagan* and *Mrauk U* in Myanmar. He focused on understanding the *Gorkha Earthquake* that struck central Nepal on 25th April 2015 and caused enormous damage to monuments within the Kathmandu Valley. Reconstruction of these monuments is still going on, in many cases without sufficient documentation and little analysis of the causes of destruction. The process requires structural analysis and introducing strengthening measures. The reconstruction of *Kasthamandap* is being carried out with an agreement to use traditional technology and materials to restore them to their previous state. It is closely monitored by structural engineers, and a means of communication between the traditional artisan and the engineer has been developed.

**Nagercoil**

Convenor RS Lal Mohan drew attention of the Chief Minister’s Special Cell to a number of dilapidated but important historic forts in Kanyakumari District that urgently need restoration. They are severely threatened by the vagaries of nature and encroachment. The Public Works Department informed that they do not have funds allocated for maintenance of the Forts. Perhaps a special case needs to be made for historic forts like the *Aralvaimozhi* where a Travancore army led by Veluthambi Dhalawai once fought against the forces of British East
India Company in 1809. It has the potential for being developed as a tourist destination.

Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan drew attention to several important historic forts in Kanyakumari District such as Padmanabhapuram Fort, Udayagiri Fort, Marunthukottai, Matyakottai, Vattakottai, Aralvaimozhikottai in Travancore amongst others. He pointed out that except for Vattakottai and Udayagiri all the other forts are not properly maintained. The Aralvaimozhi fort for instance played an important role during the war between British East India Company and the Travancore State Army led by Veluthambi Dhalawai in 1809. This fort located inside the reserve forest of Kanyakumari is under the control of the Forest Department. It is in a dilapidated condition and may collapse any time due to the vagaries of nature and also encroachment.

The Chapter conducted an awareness programme for school children on the Wetland Heritage of the District. It held a drawing competition with the participation of 90 students from eight selected schools. The Alpha Matric School of Nagercoil was declared as the regional winner. Pavithra from IX Std and all participants were felicitated.

**Nilgiris**

Chapter Member 2019 Padmashri awardee Dr. Sharada Srinivasan was felicitated by the Rotary Club of Nilgiris West in the presence of several NGOs at Taj Savoy, Ooty. Dr. Sharada, Professor at Bengaluru National Institute of Advanced Studies is the daughter of Padma Vibhushan Dr. MR Srinivasan and Convenor Geetha Srinivasan. Dr. Sharada has to her credit some pioneering contributions to study of archaeology and history of art from the perspective of engineering applications in these disciplines. She delivered an audio visual presentation on ancient metallurgical skills of the Nilgiris which was greatly appreciated as it added a new dimension to the subject.

Ancient rock paintings identified in the Nilgiris are being destroyed by unregulated visitors and vandalism.
unfortunately. The Chapter made a representation to the District Collector about the Rock Art at Parivari in the forest area near Karikaiyur village in Kilkotagiri. It should be brought under the under the Protected Monuments Act and supervision of the State Archaeology Department. Convenor Geetha Srinivasan made a representation to the Collector J. Innocent Divya who appraised the State Archaeology Department on conserving this ancient site. A team from ASI visited the Rock Art site at Kari Kiyoor to make an assessment for suitable action. It will be opened only for research scholars to save this valuable site. Meanwhile the Forest Department has put up fences and warning boards to prevent illegal entries.

On 1st June the Nilgiri Library invited a well known literary figure Indu Mallah to launch her three books Flyaway Paloma, Tell me a Story, Mrs. Trishna and poems. Former Ambassador Ranganathan introduced her as a well known literary figure. Mini Krishnan Editor Translations Oxford University Press felicitated the author. The event was sponsored by the Nilgiris Chapter and was well attended.

**TELANGANA**

**Hyderabad**

State Convenor Andhra Pradesh and Telangana M Gopalakrishna was conferred the *Member of the Year Award* for 2018-19 on 8th June. It was presented to him by the Vice President of India during the Hyderabad Management Association’s annual award function held at the HICC Convention Centre. In his message referring to the book *Education and Human Value* by VVML Murthy, M Gopalakrishna said Education or “Vid” is to “know” while “Vikas” or progress is a function of deploying education to achieve sustainable progress and sustain human values……. “*The mind has to conceive, the heart has to feel and the hand has to deliver*”. INTACH extends its hearty congratulations to M Gopalakrishna for this honour.

An Executive Committee Meeting was held on 8th June at Hawa Mahal to discuss the forthcoming activities of the Chapter. A General Meeting was also held on 15th June. Convenor Mayank Kumari Deo with Sharda Reddy attended a *Better Citizenship Workshop* on 13th July, with the participation of a cross section of teachers and professionals.

Chapter Members Bheemesh and Prof. Gaurab Das attended the *Capacity Building Workshop* at Delhi on 21st July. Plans for field visits have been temporarily shelved till the summer is over.

**PROPOSED NEW SECRETARIAT, SECUNDERABAD**

The blue print for the proposed new Secretariat of Telangana was released. Designed by architect Hafeez Contract, after a marathon exercise, it will be constructed at the existing site near Hussain Sagar. It will house more than a 100 Government offices presently scattered in private buildings all over the city, and often not easily accessible to the Public.

**Warangal**

*World Heritage Day* was celebrated at Nainpaka Temple, Chityal Mulug District to enhance awareness of heritage and need to conserve monuments of the region. Chief Guest MLA G Venkata Ramana Reddy, Bhopalpally constituency, spoke about restoration of the Nainpaka Temple thanking the villagers especially for protecting this monument. Convenor Prof. M Pandu Ranga Rao presided the function. Warangal Chapter Convenor J Sridhar Raj spoke on the important role of local people in conservation and restoration of monuments. Local
village women performed the Kolatam, a living heritage dance and an integral part of the intangible heritage of this region at the conclusion of the event.

Co-Convenor Prof. Deva Pratap drew attention to the dilapidated condition of the Nainpaka Temple, an ancient monument of the post Kakatiya period belonging to the Vaishanavite sect with an in-situ rock carved on all four cardinal directions with carvings of Yoga Narasimha Swamy, Kaleeya Venugopala Swamy, Srirama and Balarama. The temple was built in phases and later a gopuram was added with brick and lime mortar. It is now in a very poor condition due to the growth of vegetation and needs immediate restoration.

TRIPURA

The English Department, Tripura University, Agartala jointly with the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrabalaya (IGRMS), Bhopal organised a National Seminar on Cultural Heritage of Tripura earlier this year. Several eminent speakers attended from Tripura and from outside the State. Tripura Convenor M K Pragya Deb Burman presented a paper on The Role of Museums in Preservation of Cultural Heritage and Tourism in Tripura. She highlighted the rich history of the State and the difficulties in preservation of historical data, monuments, intangible and tangible heritage of Tripura. She said museums could help in documentation and preservation of the cultural heritage of Tripura, and emphasized the role and development of eco-tourism and heritage tourism for promoting Tripura’s heritage. For too long, museums have been seen as buildings used to conserve a collection of artefacts and objects of historical, cultural, educational value. According to ICOM (International Council of Museums) she highlighted museums as a non-profit permanent institution in the service of society for purposes of education, enjoyment, and as material evidence of its people, history and past. She said a cross-cultural perspective is of the utmost importance within the field of museology, with tourism playing an important role since it embraces almost all aspects of society and is an economic generator. “Together they play a balancing role and help each other to grow”, she said citing the example of the restored Ujjayanta Palace at Agartala.

The Chapter and IMASI Foundation jointly organised a digital archiving workshop from 10th-12th June at the IGNCA, Delhi. The workshop facilitates documenting of oral traditions which greatly benefit scholars and learning centres world-wide.

UTTAR PRADESH

Allahabad

On 18th April, World Heritage Day the Chapter organised a commemorative event and presented a memento to the Kumbh Mela Adhikari Vijay Karan Anand, for the remarkably efficient manner in which he organised the Kumbh Mela 2019 at Prayagraj (Allahabad) this year. Justice Arun Tandon presided the function and awarded prizes to winners of the heritage painting competition organised by INTACH for school children. The well attended function received wide coverage in the local Press.

Gorakhpur

Convenor MP Kandoi gave an interview to Dainik Jagran, one of the most circulated local newspapers, on World Heritage Day elaborating on INTACH work. A thousand leaflets were distributed through newspaper.
hawksers in select localities on the significance of heritage assets. Co-Convenor Achintya Lahiri gave a talk on Radio FM 91.9. The Chapter recommended getting the idols of Lord Vishnu of the Gupta period (330AD-550AD) lying in the open at Hui Park to be covered with toughened glass for their protection. It was subsequently done with the permission of the ASI Uttar Pradesh. This is a commendable achievement.

Lakhimpur

Convenor Iqbal Ahmad Khan chaired a Chapter Meeting on 20th June. There were discussions on the study and preservation of the historical and cultural heritage of the District, and their financial implications. It was decided to organise a seminar on the subject at Singahi Town in the near future. A study of some heritage sites like the Mendhak, Oyal and Bhoobilhulaiya Temples will be made. A Committee headed by the Convenor and comprising Members Ashok Nigam, Manuraj Singh Chauhan and Dr. Era Shrivastava will make an assessment of the conservation work.

Lalitpur

The World Heritage Day and Election Awareness Seminar was organised under the chairmanship of District Magistrate/ District Election Officer Manvendra Singh of Lalitpur District. Convenor Santosh Sharma said that this day is celebrated in the world to preserve national heritage. In order to make Gevagadh a tourism centre, the temples of Devgarh need to be extensively publicised and basic facilities developed. Additional District Officer Anil Kumar Mishra said that it is the duty of all citizens to preserve national heritage.

The Chapter organised a painting competition on 6th June to celebrate World Environment Day. Chief Guest UP State Minister Manohar Lal Panth expressed concern about the environment and spoke about our duties to protect it. He said environment can best be saved through more and more plantation, saving water and banning polythene, etc.
**Lucknow**

Lucknow Chapter held the *Talk of the Town* on 6th April at Hotel Radisson Blu, centered on the intangible and tangible heritage of the city in present day context. Convenor Vipul Varshney discussed several facets of heritage encompassing architecture, interior design, education, mindsets, urban planning, lifestyles - highlighting how Lucknow known for ancient heritage and culture is now imbibing modernity. The emphasis was on evaluating and contemplating how changes befall over time, and where they might lead to and how to balance the day and seasons, and shared works of world renowned photographers. He announced selected students would accompany Binay Rawal and INTACH Members for a photo walk on *World Heritage Day*.

The two facets. He questioned if the city is able to hold on to local sensibilities and its intangible heritage while embracing the global environment!

**Varanasi**

Convenor Ashok Kapoor welcomed renowned photographer Binay Rawal for an interactive session with students of Sunbeam College, Bhagwanpur. He explained photographic techniques at different times of year. The Chapter organised a *Clay Pottery Making Workshop* at Sunbeam College for Women, Bhagwanpur under its *Creative Workshop Project* supported by HECS Division. Sanju Prajapati, a traditional potter, gave
technical training to the students to make pots that can replace harmful plastic ware. Mahatma Gandhi was one of the best patrons of clay pottery, so it was a good way to mark his 150th birth anniversary. Clay pottery has beneficial effect for some ailments that needs to be scientifically examined.

Life Member Prof. Maruti Nandan Tiwari, former Head of History Department at Banaras Hindu University, made an audio-visual presentation on the Cultural Heritage of Varanasi, as well as the city’s intangible heritage.

World Heritage Day was inaugurated by Co-Convenor Nalin Gulati on 18th April with an exhibition on heritage sites of Uttar Pradesh. Archaeological Officer Dr. Subhash Yadav welcomed the guests that included the great mountaineer Padmashree S Yadav. The programme at the Gurudham Temple was held at both Little Flower House, Nagwa and Sunbeam College for Women, Bhagwanpur.

An exhibition of heritage sites of Uttar Pradesh was attended by Co-Convenor Nalin Gulati, Addl. Co-Convenor Nirmal Joshi, Head of INTACH Spiritual Heritage Cell Anil Kesari, and other INTACH Life Members. Padamshree S Yadav, who has the distinction of climbing the highest peak of the world Mount Everest twice in the span of one year, gave an account of her expeditions.

On 21st April the Chapter conducted a visit to the Kashi Vishwanath Temple corridor for 42 Members led by Convenor Ashok Kapoor. They were impressed by the sight of the historical Gyanvapi Mosque from the main road and many houses now visible after surrounding walls had been demolished. It has created large open spaces around the Kashivishwanath Temple and saves pilgrims from navigating narrow lanes. Some of the 15th century stone temples with spectacular carvings are clearly seen for the first time, giving a breathtaking sight of the Kumbha Mahadev Temple, Chintamani Mahadev Temple
and the Jauvinyak Temple in particular. There are almost 40 temples in the area with many illegally occupied as personal property or enclosed within homes. At a later date a heritage walk also covered Pauranik Kashi, Gaighat and Brahma Ghat that are the untouched areas of the city.

Public Relations Officer Dhawan talked of the corridor under construction. The historical Gyanvapi Mosque was observed, some places between Manikarnika Ghat, Lalitha Ghat and Jalaasen Ghat were visited. There are breathtaking scenes from the entire Shiv Darbaar, Samudra Manthan and other deities to be seen. The lotus features predominantly in many carvings and the top spire has a beautifully carved niche to hold the holy flag. The walk ended in the by lanes of the chowk.

An audio visual presentation on Cultural Heritage of Varanasi by Life Member Prof. Maruti Nandan Tiwari, a former Head of History of Art Dept., Banaras Hindu University was made to 300 students of Class X at Sunbeam Schools Bhagwanpur. Rare slides of sites and monuments were shown to them.

The 25th session of the hugely popular Kashi Vimarsh Lectures on James Princep and Kashi was conducted by Dr. O P Kejriwal in collaboration with UP State Archaeological Unit and Pilgrim Publishers. He has authored many books and the most talked about is on James Princep who spent nearly a decade in Varanasi in charge of the Government Mint. During this time Princep not only prepared a map of Varanasi, but voluntarily assisted in making a bridge, a drain and a market that still exist. He prepared several sketches and drawings on Varanasi ghats and sites that are available in prints today.

On 28th April, the Chapter’s Spiritual Cell headed by Life Members Anil Kesari and Sharad Upadhyaya visited the Vajra Vidya Institute, Sarnath that was consecrated by the Dalai Lama in 1999 who still visits it frequently. It is a great place for meditation for Tibetans, apart from a large number of students staying there. All the figures in the inner hall are in plated gold or silver.

In May a Heritage Photo Walk was led by Life Member Amitabh Agarwal, coordinated by Life Member Binay Rawal with three eminent national level photographers—Anil Risal Singh from Lucknow, Gurudas Dua from Indore, and BK Agrawal from Vishakhapatnam, who were visiting Lucknow. The group saw some rare photographs of Banaras by great masters and learnt a great deal about
the art and techniques of a superior level of photography.

Another significant heritage walk was to the Pauranik Kashi, Gaighat and Brahma Ghat area, combined with a visit to the newly opened Kashi Dham Museum established at Boondi Ghat by a lawyer and philanthropist Kini from Mumbai. Life Member Sharad Upadhyaya explained the importance of the historic Shitala Temple followed by a visit to Ek Chakchu Hanuman Temple established by Goswami Tulsidas, the Vishwanath Temple established in the year 1768 by Boondi State, concluding with the Kashi Dham Museum. The group also visited the Kapil Sankhya Yog Ashram nearby established by Swami Hariharanand and heard some recordings, followed by a meditation session.

Life Member Anil Kesari who heads the Chapter’s Spiritual Heritage Cell coordinated the programme.

Former Head of Ancient History & Archaeology Department, Banaras Hindu University Prof. Sitaram Dubey gave a talk on Kasbi aur Baudhā Parampara on 26th May. He is an authority on Buddhist studies and has authored many books and papers presented at international conferences. He delved into the history of Buddhism including Buddha’s arrival in Sarnath and why he chose Banaras for his teachings.

Varanasi Chapter organised a Tourist Guide Orientation programme on 7th-9th June with support from India Tourism and the local Tourism Welfare Association. The programme inaugurated by Varanasi Division Commissioner Deepak Agrawal emphasised that lesser known sites as well as cultural traditions attract repeat tourism. Regional Archaeological Officer Dr. Subhash Yadav spoke on
There were six technical sessions. Chairman Banaras Beads Ltd. gave an account of Handicrafts of Varanasi highlighting that it is the only city in India with 10 GI certified products giving details of products and places of production, supported with publication of a booklet on all GI products to be placed at tourist spots. The second session conducted by Prof. Rana P B Singh was on lesser known ghats of Varanasi; and the third session was conducted by Sonali Jaiswal on Banaras Cuisine. Ms Anuradha and Ashish Jaisawal spoke on Classical Music Traditions of Varanasi and its role in promoting tourism, and sang some short pieces on request. The 5th session was conducted by Padmashree S. Supakar who displayed some exclusive Jamdani pieces giving the history of such exclusive Banarasi textiles. The last session by Yogacharya Nirbhay Mishra and Yogacharya Sanat Mishra was on the importance of yoga in day to day life and how foreigners visit for months to learn yoga. They showed yoga exercises and the Pranayam for different ailments, and also Hath Yoga like breaking coconut at a drop of hand, lying down on broken glass pieces with three participants sitting on top of his body.

The last day session was conducted by Prof. Maruti Nandan Tiwari on lesser known religious sites of Varanasi with some rare visuals. All the participants were Govt. of India recognised Regional Level Guides, some with more than 40 years in the field.

Members with their family visited the Man Mahal Virtual Museum on Varanasi on 16th June where the murals, crafts and musical instruments are on display.

The airconditioned Man Mandir Museum was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Built by Raja Savai Man Singh of Rajasthan in the late 1500 it has now been converted into a modern museum showcasing the heritage and history of Varanasi with an amazing collection of informative audio visuals. A walk through begins with the first hall giving an introduction to Kashi through audiovisuals, continuing to the next hall for a 3D documentary on Varanasi, a showcase on the fine Kundan
jewellery, and later the textiles and other crafts. Other areas display stories of renowned personalities of Kashi, history of ancient medicine and a film on the holy Ganga and other interesting milestones. The interactive layout of musical playing instruments was very exciting for the younger generation. The roof area showcased the ancient observatory with the sundial and other instruments used for astronomical calculations. The museum updated one with an exhaustive knowledge of Benaras in the shortest possible time and concluded at a nearby café.

Convenor Ashok Kapoor led a walk to the Kashi Vishwanath corridor on 18th June facilitated by Kashi Vishwanath Trust, escorted by the PRO Dhawanji. The corridor connects the Vishwanath Temple to the holy Ganga and is convenient for pilgrims. Several temples like Kumbha Mahadeva, Brahmeshwar Mahadev, Chandra Gupta Mahadeva (a replica of Kashi Vishwanath temple), Adivishweshwar can be seen en route, Kumbh Mahadev particularly, which has intricate carvings, one of which depicts the Samundramanthan episode.

A mesmerising tabla performance by renowned Tabla Maestro Pandit Ram Kumar Mishra accompanied by his son Rahul Mishra was attended by Padmabhushan Pandit Sajan Mishra, renowned Sarangi Maestro Pandit Kanhaiya Lal Mishra and some senior classical musicians of the city.

Vidushi Dr. Kamla Shanker is the only female artiste who plays a slide guitar in classical music. She is
a Doordarshan artiste who performs in India and many places abroad. She presented *Rag Shaym Kalyan* and concluded with *Purab ang Kajri*.

**WEST BENGALE**

West Bengal and Kolkata Chapter in association with Oberoi Grand organised an event where Gopal Biswas, an art collector, delivered a presentation on the history of the existing magnificent heritage hotels and restaurants of

**MAG DHOG BUDDHIST MONASTARY AT ALOOBARI, DARJEELING**

The 100 years old *Mag Dhog Buddhist Monastery* at Aloobari in Darjeeling is run by Yolmowa Buddhist Association (YBA). It is headed by priest Sangay Laa who hailed from Helambu (land of the Yolmos) in Nepal. Nestling between pine trees above and tea gardens below, it feels like an ideal place for meditation and prayer. Its construction coincided with the onset of World War 1. *Mag Dhog* literally means warding off the war. It is dedicated to world peace. It has survived several earthquakes during 1934, 1986 and 2011 and has suffered loss of several 19th century manuscripts over the years.

State Convenor GM Kapur says that there are several items of spiritual value at this Monastery. An INTACH team has restored manuscripts written in gold like the *Gyetongba*, and the *Kagyur (tripitika)* which are Buddhist oral teachings. In the second phase some *Thankas*, murals, musical instruments and some relics have been restored. The Chapter is however facing difficulty in finding experts to restore the interior murals.

**NEWS FROM HERE & THERE**

**Earth Day, 22nd April**

One of the best and meaningful way to mark *Earth Day* is to remember animals of India and of our earth on the brink of extinction, especially the world of the speechless creatures. It needs an urgent call for a concerted universal effort to save some of these dwindling species.
**Primates, best friends**

Endangered animals survive if they receive TLC – tender loving care. The best example is found in a country seldom mentioned in newspapers - the Democratic Republic of Congo. There is an elite unit of 600 dedicated anti-poaching rangers’ combat trackers in the country. One of them was snapped with a gorilla that can weigh up to 400 lbs. This one also happens to be a very possessive friend.

**Unique Capability of Ants**

From waging wars and enslaving, inventing medicines to farming, Ants are as good as humans – believe it or not! Ants live in ‘nests’ and throw out wastes, using only one corner as a common toilet and the rest heaped outside as building materials or manure for their crops. They kill their pupa if it has any fungal infection as a preventive health measure - according to research of the Institute of Science & Technology, Austria.

**Asiatic Wild Dog (Dhole)**

1000-2200 only surviving

*Dhole* seen in the Western Ghats of India is a key predator and its declining numbers impacts the balance of prey population. They are indicators of a healthy forest ecosystem.

**Gangetic River Dolphin/ only 1260 remain**

The Dolphin is indicator species of the ecosystem of the Ganges, Brahmaputra and their tributaries. Listed as endangered by ICUN, it is vulnerable to changes in water quality.

**Great Indian Bustard**

50-100 remain

The Great Indian Bustard thrives in arid, semi arid and moist grasslands. There is urgent need to mitigate power line caused deaths and for their conservation breeding.

**Snow Leopard/Only 600 remain**

A flagship species for high altitude Himalayas, its habitat in Himachal, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Arunachal is threatened by habitat degradation, climate change, infrastructure projects, etc. The snow leopards alone will not pay the price of progress.

**Red Panda/Only 2000 left**

The Red Panda was classified as endangered in IUCN Red List since 2008. Its diet is 98% vegetarian, but its food intake has been affected by habitat fragmentation in the Himalayas. Its population has been decreasing each year.
**Khajuraho Temples, Madhya Pradesh, 950-1050**
The Khajuraho group of temples built during the Chandela dynasty are left with 20 existing Hindu and Jain temples, and are among the greatest masterpieces of Indian art.

**Fatehpur Sikri [16th Century]**
Built by Emperor Akbar, Fatehpur Sikri - City of Victory was the capital of the Mughal Empire for nearly 10 years. The complex of monuments and temples, houses one of the largest mosques in India, the *Jama Masjid*.

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**UNESCO Listed World Heritage Sites in India**

**Ellora Caves [600-1000 AD]**
These 34 monasteries and temples extending over 2 kms, are dug in the walls of a high basalt cliff near Aurangabad, Maharastra. They illustrate the spirit of tolerance, characteristic of ancient India, with sanctuaries devoted to Buddhism, Hinduism and Jainism.

**Buddhist Ajanta Caves**
[2nd-1st century BC / 5th-6th century AD Gupta period]
Located near Aurangabad, Maharashtra, the paintings and sculptures in the wall of a high basalt cliff contributing to Buddhist religious art had considerable artistic influence.

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**Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu [7th-8th Century]**
Founded by Pallava kings, temples in the forms of chariots, etc. are carved out of rock, and open air reliefs such as descent of the Ganges.

**Sun Temple, Konark, Odisha.** Built in 13th century, the Sun Temple of Konark on the shores of Bay of Bengal, is a monumental representation of the Sun God Surya’s chariot, with 24 wheels in symbolic designs, led by a team of six horses.

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**Monuments at Pattadakal, Karnataka [740 AD]**
Among 9 Hindu Temples, along with a Jain sanctuary, Chalukyan era Temple of Virupaksha by Queen Lokamahā commemorates her husband’s victory.

**Historic City of Ahmedabad, Gujarat.** The walled city of Ahmedabad, founded by Sultan Ahmad Shah(15th century), on the eastern bank of the Sabarmati river. The urban fabric is made up of densely-packed traditional houses (pols) in gated traditional streets (puras), continuing to flourish as the capital of Gujarat through the last six centuries.

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**Mountain Railways of India**
The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway was the first of three Indian railways, opened in 1881. The 46kms long metre-gauge single-track railway in Tamil Nadu, Nilgiri Mountain Railway, was laid in 1908. The Kalka Shimla Railway, a 96-km long, single track was built in the mid-19th century. These railway tracks scaling great heights represented the latest technology of the time.