Shakar Chiktan Archery Festival

Kargil Festival

sacred statue of Naropa accompany this pilgrimage to Sani

Muharram in Kargil, marked by ritual processions and gatherings (called petroglyphs), survive till today at Bronze and Iron ages (3,300–200 BC). Ancient carvings etched on rocks Turkestan. The region's rich and often turbulent history dates back to the

Kargil was an important halt along the flourishing trade route that linked

alpine flowers in summer.

The majestic mountain ranges of Zanskar and Ladakh, running parallel to valleys include Drass, Darchiks Garkon, Shakar Chiktan and Wakha Mulbekh. Drass and Zanskar rivers – tributaries of the mighty Indus – water a network and pilgrim routes, in a tradition that finds echoes along the Karakoram rock-cut images of Bodhisattvas still cling to cliff-faces along the old trade region along the ancient trade routes that traversed the mountains. Colossal were the Dards, an ancient Indo-Iranian people who migrated from Central here while en route to Baltistan and Kashmir.

the renowned Shi'a scholar, Mir Shams-ud-din Iraqi, is said to have preached centuries later, Lotsawa Rinchen Zangpo, credited with the renaissance of rock sculptures.

at Fokar, built during the reign of Konchok Sherab Stan, and

Bardan

2,438 m–7,010 m (8,000–23,000 ft). It derives its name from Ladakh's

Rangdum Gonpa

built by Senge Namgyal, which featured 360 components. The main Leh-Srinagar highway runs through the town with

Kargil is a bustling district headquarters comprising several distinct

DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR.

CREDITS | Produced for DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, LADAKH AUTONOMOUS HILL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, KARGIL, GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR by INDIAN NATIONAL TRUST FOR ART AND CULTURAL HERITAGE |
The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) was founded in 1984 in New Delhi. Since its inception, INTACH has pioneered the conservation and preservation of not just our natural and man-made heritage but also tangible and intangible heritage. It operates through various divisions, namely: Architectural Heritage, Natural Heritage, Art and Material Heritage Division, Intangible Cultural Heritage, Heritage Education and Communication Services, Crafts, Community and Heritage, Chapters Division, INTACH Heritage Academy and Heritage Tourism Division.

In December 2005, the Heritage Tourism Division was set up to extend INTACH’s mandate beyond conservation to include a cogent system of sustaining conserved sites to facilitate people to have access to and understand heritage sites. Heritage has become the mainstay of Indian tourism and will only gain in strength in the future.

The Heritage Tourism Division engages in a wide range of activities that include:

1. Development of Heritage sites/circuits which have potential
   - Reuse of heritage property for various cultural purposes
   - Facilitating marketing and promotion of the heritage sites and destinations, identified by INTACH
   - Identifying unexplored heritage destinations and circuits for tourism
   - Identifying, developing and promoting ‘heritage villages’

2. Developing of heritage interpretation centres with signage

3. Detailing heritage tours and walks at identified places through the listings of INTACH and promoting them through INTACH Chapters

4. Developing training modules for guides of heritage sites

5. Providing advice on issues connected with heritage properties and hotels

6. Conducting tourism impact assessment studies to assess the impact of tourism on heritage sites considering socio-economic political and economic aspects and tourist surveys

7. Providing inputs to Central/State Governments on heritage tourism policies

CURRENT PROJECTS

The Heritage Tourism Division implements its projects through its technical divisions and the Chapters as these projects require multidisciplinary inputs and expertise.

CULTURAL HERITAGE MAPPING, UTTAR PRADESH

Agra-Braj Corridor

The towns identified for survey in the Braj Corridor are Agra, Mathura, Vrindavan, Nandgaon, Barsana, Govardhan, Gokul, Mahavan and Baldeo. These are highly significant due to their association with the legends of Lord Krishna and his life.

Buddhist Circuit

Known as the ‘Cradle of Buddhism’, the Buddhist Circuit is dotted with monuments, relics, and Jataka tales and so has been a major centre for rich architectural and cultural heritage for centuries. The destinations identified for detailed study include Sarnath, where Buddha delivered his first sermon, Sravasti, where he retreated every monsoon for more than 25 years and Kushinagar where Buddha attained Mahaparinirvana.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN BIHAR

INTACH has been entrusted by the Government of Bihar with the following projects:

- Master Plan and Infrastructure Development Plan for areas of heritage tourism potential in Bihar
- Preparation of micro area planning and infrastructure development plan for enhancing tourism potential for Patna Sahib zone

OLD KEDARNATH ROUTE

The old walking route to Kedarnath is also being studied for revival as part of a study of natural and cultural elements near Bhiri village, Rudraprayag.

NIRMAND, a representative village in Himachal Pradesh was surveyed to develop it as a Heritage village. It has living cultural traditions manifested through festivals and religious practices. The village has a large number of heritage structures like houses, temples and baolis which are of architectural significance. An initial survey has been carried out and a detailed report is being prepared.

For further information visit: www.intach.org

INTACHIndia

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