Wishing all our Readers a very Happy Dussehra and Diwali
HERITAGE RESCUE INITIATIVE

INTACH has taken the initiative to undertake emergency repair works of the structures and cleaning of the Temple and Baradari along Dev Ghat, Gaya, to enable accessibility and proper documentation of the site followed by masonry consolidation of the vulnerable components. The site cleaning work is ongoing at present. It needs further assistance of funds to rescue and restore the heritage site.

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FRONT COVER:
Warangal: 1163 AD Thousand Pillar Temple, built during the period of the Kakatiya dynasty by Raja Rudrdeva.
Gaya: Earliest Mahabodhi Buddhist Temple, built entirely in brick, during the late Gupta period.
Hriday (Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana), an inspired concept devised by the Ministry of Urban Development, recaptures the idea of heritage cities. The focus of Hriday is currently on 12 cities chosen by the Government across the country - Ajmer, Amravathi, Amritsar, Badami, Dwarka, Gaya, Kanchiuram, Mathura, Puri, Varanasi, Velankanni and Warangal. It is an opportunity for these ancient townships to amalgamate heritage conservation with sustainable development, integrate skills with livelihoods, infrastructural development with accessibility, untapped potential with service delivery to its inhabitants. It will also promote tourism as a passport to economic prosperity for all its inhabitants.

Most importantly, Hriday is a 100% Government of India funded scheme. Its main objective is to preserve the basic character of age old heritage components of these cities, facilitating all encompassing heritage linked urban development. It explores additional avenues of funding including private sector and upcoming investment possibilities. It offers a great opportunity to rehabilitate the quintessential heart and soul of heritage cities.

Hriday thus signifies a paradigm shift in India’s approach to city development.

INTACH took the initiative to conduct a preliminary Capacity Building Workshop on Hriday on 26th-27th February earlier this year. It was inaugurated by its Mission Director, Ministry of Urban Development and presided by INTACH Member Secretary CT Misra. More than 50 members comprising officials from Municipal Corporations and National Project Monitoring Unit (PMU), heritage experts and concerned INTACH Chapters attended comprehensive sessions focused on heritage issues. It concluded with a Round Table discussion with heritage sensitive inputs and some concrete suggestions for infrastructural development presented by city officials specific to the cities selected under Hriday.

Director Ministry of Urban Development summed up the recommendations of the Workshop. City level thematic workshops, documentation, listing and notification are the basic starters. It was generally agreed that establishing a Heritage Resource Centre, Heritage Committees, capacity building of local bodies, community participation, applying JNNURM tool kit for heritage specific guidelines, and preparation of Heritage Management Plans were absolute preliminaries that needs to be taken up in each city.

INTACH has been appointed by the Ministry of Urban Development as the Heritage City Anchor to draw up a detailed City Hriday Plan for three of the heritage cities - Varanasi, Gaya and Warangal. The Architectural Heritage Division (AHD) will be drawing up the Vision Plan and heritage sensitive urban guidelines. The common problems in all heritage cities is over-crowding and unclear regulatory framework. It has resulted in inadequate infrastructure for meeting even basic needs like water, roads, sanitation, tourism activity and employment opportunities.

The INTACH design in general for all the three cities will therefore be on developing heritage sensitive civic infrastructure such as street paving, landscaping, public...
amenities, signages, street lights, information kiosks, access roads, storm water drainage, cultural corridors (Sanskritik Lehar), and cycling tracks on roads leading to major tourist destinations like Sarnath for instance.

The Hriday Plan for Varanasi is being drawn keeping in mind that it is an abode of rich tangible and intangible heritage, to enhance facets of what is known as a ‘sacred city’ the world over. The focus is on five “Priority Heritage” namely the 84 ghats on the Ganga riverfront, the ancient city areas of Varanasi, the Sankat Mochan and Durga Kund, and the weaving areas in Varanasi and Sarnath. The overall budget is Rs. 89.31 crore.

The Plan for Gaya will highlight the religious importance of Pinda-Dana ritual, an offering to one’s ancestors, at one of the 54 holy sites in the town. In view of the importance of this ritual and the influx of visitors during pitra-paksha, it is proposed to augment the spaces around the Vishnupad Temple and develop physical and social infrastructure. The hills are an important part of the natural heritage of the city, so plans will include afforestation schemes as Smriti Van by the citizens, with view points and walking trails. The proposals include cleaning and de-silting of Sarovars, installation of filtering tanks, boundary wall enclosures to prevent encroachments. AHD has identified five priority zones – the fortified old town of Gaya-Andar-Gaya; the colonial precinct on the Sree Krishna Path; the five hillocks surrounding Gaya, a group of Sarovars; a heritage trail from Mahabodhi Temple to Dungeshwari Hill; widening of the stretch of Gaya-Bodh Gaya road from Domuhum Chauraha to the Mahabodhi Temple; and the restoration and reuse of Ghamandi Gosai Math. The overall budget is Rs. 40.04 crore.

Warangal, from where the Kakatiya dynasty once ruled is now the capital city of the new Telangana State. It boasts of old Warangal Fort with its double fortification, the Thousand Pillar Temple and Bhadrakali Temple that portray the splendid architecture of Kakatiya era. The city is also known for its natural wealth of hillocks and lakes. AHD has identified five “Priority Heritage” – the Bhadrakali Temple and lake precincts; The Fort Warangal area; the Thousand Pillar Temple; Waddepally Lake; and the Kaizipet Dargah. The Hriday plan includes open green spaces; and a geo bio-diversity and cultural park in the heart of the city by integrating the ecological importance of the lake, hillocks and cultural assets. It is proposed to define the park boundaries and enhance tourist and pilgrimage infrastructure and public facilities. The design also includes nature and bird watching trails, cycle paths, etc. to make it enticingly accessible to people. The overall budget is Rs. 40.54 crore.

Each INTACH Plan will majorly target Civic Infrastructure Development around tangible heritage sites. An assessment will be made to plug basic physical shortcomings like approach roads, footpaths, street lights, tourist conveniences, leisure spaces, etc. as the preliminary step. It also entails a thorough study of history, physiography, biodiversity, demography and primary economic activities of each city. Locally applicable norms and bye laws will also be factored into the plans. AHD is presently reviewing existing Master Plans, City Development Plans, Zonal plans, etc. of the three cities assigned to INTACH. The final City Hriday Plans for Varanasi, Gaya and Warangal are receiving priority attention of INTACH.

Hriday thus differs from all previous city development schemes by making heritage the focal centre of urban development. The olde world and a modern city will be brought together to breathe new life into these cities for its citizens.
Guest Contribution

Prof. Edgar F. Ribeiro

Among INTACH’s success stories in its thirty years of existence, heritage listing and its mapping stands tall. An increasing number of committed professionals and enthusiasts are helping INTACH to nudge the States and Local Governments in ensuring that conservation of dwindling natural and man-made resources are integral to the accelerating built environment agendas of the nation.

The pioneering efforts of the late Shyam Chainani needs recognition for ensuring that the metropolis of Mumbai has a list of key precincts and edifices of heritage value, incorporated in statutory maps and supporting texts of relevant spatial plans under the Maharashtra Regional and Urban Development Act 1968. This epoch-making recognition propelled similar efforts in other metropoles of the State, notably Pune where the C.O.G of the Army Southern Command promoted listing under the Central Cantonments Act 1924 within his vast jurisdiction south of the Vindyas. The metropolitan agglomeration of Hyderabad gave a further boost to this exercise under the Hyderabad Urban Development Authority Act 1976. It has opened new avenues for replication in other cities like the now bifurcated State.

The high point of INTACH’s agenda was the comprehensive listing for the National Capital Region of Delhi, with its publication released by the then Prime Minister Shri A.B.Vajpayee. Subsequently it was largely incorporated in the Master Plan of Delhi-2021.

This promotional exercise however is being dented over time, primarily by protagonists of economically beneficial built space who ensured a negative image to conservation in fast tracking development. In the context of the 1992 Constitutional Amendments (73rd & 74th) that inter-alia supports down-top participatory interventions in India’s built heritage, it is the right time for INTACH to restate its heritage agenda in consonance with its stated principle that “Conservation is integral to the development process”.

The oft asked questions regarding current listing operations are: Why are lists so large with several privately owned properties getting limited built space benefits compared to adjoining non-heritage plots? Moreover TDRs (Transfer of Development Rights) are either administrative non-starters or are otherwise subject to misuse. If Indian courts recognize only spatial plans as the sole platform for determining land use and their serviceable quantum of built space, why are land uses emanating from other instruments not recognized by State laws dealing with spatial plans and their inbuilt public objections/suggestions process? Why has the current practice of grading heritage (Gr I,II,III) and related project details which delay listing processes not been transferred to the second phase of the project exercise?

Significantly, the 12th Five Year Plan recognises heritage promotion within Government’s substantial budgets for HRIDAY AMRUT and Smart Cities. Accordingly the upfront listing of heritage properties is more critical than ever before. The expanded holistic listing therefore encompasses both the man-made and natural environment, typically comprising “Sites, Remains, Ruins, Monuments, other Structures, Landscapes and Sanctuaries of Archaeological, Historical, Cultural/Religious, Architectural and Ecological Value”. It therefore requires listing in three distinct categories: First, National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries and areas identified under Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) laws for protection as also Buildings and Sites declared as protected National Monuments under Central laws on Archaeology for protection by ASI. Second, State protected areas or plots for preservation land uses through instruments supplemental to Central Laws on the subject. Third, areas, plots, structures to be conserved as (i) corridors and buffer zones around National Parks and Wildlife
Sanctuaries or CRZ areas identified under Central laws as also similar such areas through supplemental State laws; (ii) development prohibited areas within 100 meters of national monuments or a further 200 meters around such prohibited areas to be regulated by the National Monument Authority, as also similar such areas through supplemental State laws; (iii) simplified Heritage List to be processed through State TCP Acts or their equivalent.

The fact to be underlined is that with participatory down-top governance now being constitutionally stabilized, the Districts must provide the broad brush regional spatial prescriptions supported by their disaggregated Development Blocks as Sub-Regions. These plans are then to guide the spatial structure plans of Municipalities and Panchayats constituting the Development Blocks of the Districts. The detailed Local Area Plans (LAP) for each electoral ward can then provide the legal participatory spatial platform for the built environment. Within this framework, listing gets legal credence through supporting texts on settlement plans and through identifiable boundaries of precincts and plots on large scale LAPs.

A success story in this new format is already visible in the pilot LAPs of electoral wards of Municipal Corporations of NCT of Delhi where National and State Monuments with their buffer zones are being identified as part of a development process; with accountability of the Ward Councillor surfacing.

It is therefore an opportune time for INTACH to restructure its epoch making exercise towards legalizing heritage listing as an upfront integral component of development.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

INTACH Executive Committee met on 17th July at Central Office. Chairman LK Gupta heartily congratulated the newly elected/re-elected EC Members Ms. Anita Singh, Shri GM Kapur and Shri HB Maheshwari Jaisal. Chairman also placed on record the services of two outgoing members Dr. Sarayu V. Doshi and Ms. Tara Murali who have consistently rendered valuable advice to INTACH.

Chairman informed Members that Prof. Deepak Nayyar accepted INTACH’s invitation to be a EC Member as an expert advisor. As Vice Chancellor, Delhi University he has considerable experience of administrative, economic and financial matters. Earlier he was a Trustee of INTACH UK Trust, and contributed significantly to re-working the Trust finances that facilitated the transfer of UK Trust corpus funds to India.

Chairman updated Members on some of the recent developments at INTACH. As a follow-up on the MOU signed with UP Government, INTACH has been assigned the restoration of Sampurnanand University.

Chairman also drew the attention of the Executive Committee to numerous projects and activities of INTACH stymied due to space constraints. There is an acute shortage of work space even for the existing technical manpower at Central Office. INTACH needs more resource persons and facilities like laboratories. The Executive Committee approved of the decision to get a part of the first floor of INTACH currently leased to UNDP released for expansion of INTACH Office.

**GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING**

The 12th Meeting of the Governing Council was held on 1st September at Central Office. The Governing Council Members were updated on the major projects and programmes undertaken by INTACH Divisions and some Chapters. Some of the constraints like need for more experts in specific areas of conservation and research was also brought to the attention of the GC Members.

All Heads of Division made brief and succinct presentations of the work undertaken, which was a first time that such an exhaustive briefing was undertaken and highly appreciated by the Governing Council. It is proposed to make such
presentation to Governing Council on a regular basis covering new projects and developments of INTACH.

CHAIRMAN’S TOURS

Chairman LK Gupta updated himself with INTACH concerns in some of the States during August-September with visits to Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha and Haryana, that coincided with meetings of the Chapters.

**Pune:** He attended the *Maharashtra State Convenors Meet* on 9th-10th August at the Centre for Development Studies at the request of Mukund Bhogle, the newly appointed Maharashtra State Convenor. He was updated on the prospective plans for Maharashtra in general. The activities of Chapters were individually reviewed and future plans were formulated for each. Chairman appreciated the all round efforts, and emphasised in particular the need for documentation, with special attention to be given to the depleting biodiversity of urban and rural areas. Convenors must be the conscience keepers for INTACH, he said.

Chairman availed the opportunity of the Pune visit for a detailed discussion with the Vice Chancellor Deccan College Prof. Shinde for establishment of a INTACH-Deccan College Heritage Centre at their campus. Ms Arti Kirloskar, now the Pune Chapter Patron, suggested involvement of corporate/PSUs as there is a glaring need for a centre of excellence in this field.

The inaugural function of AEFS-INTACH Heritage Academy, on sustainable urbanization and heritage at the Symbiosis University, was another opportunity for Chairman to be updated on this two weeks prestigious international programme, the knowledge content for which had been drawn up by PD Navin Piplani, INTACH Heritage Academy.

**Varanasi:** Chairman interacted with all the Varanasi Chapter Members during his visit 21st-22nd August, and interacted with the new appointees Convenor Dr. OP Kejariwal and Co-Convenor Dr. Vedula Jaiswal. The outgoing Convenor Prof. Kalyan Krishna was lauded for his untiring services, and requested to continue mentoring the Chapter despite his many other commitments.

Chairman met the Divisional Commissioner Nitish Ramesh Gokaran and the District Magistrate. Their association is important for the HRIDAY project in Varanasi with INTACH being the lead anchor. Chairman was therefore accompanied by the Convenor as well as PD AHD Divya Gupta for this visit.

Chairman presided over the lecture on *James Prinsep: Varanasi and Indian History* delivered by Convenor Dr. O.P. Kejariwal on 22nd August.

**Haryana:** Chairman LK Gupta addressed the Haryana State Advisory Committee Meeting on 7th September held at INTACH Central Office. The meeting was attended by its Chairperson Komal Anand, State Convenor Dr. Shikha Jain and some of the Convenors from Haryana.

**Odisha:** During his visit to Odisha on 9th-12th September, Chairman inaugurated two new Chapters set up at Jajpur and Sonepur. State Convenor AB Tripathy and State Co-Convenor SKB Narayan were also present. Chairman visited the Bhubaneswar ICI Conservation Centre which is undertaking the restoration of Janakinath House at Puri under the 13th Finance Commission Award. Advisor Anant Mahaptra also joined him for this visit.

Chairman held meetings of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack Chapters where he met some of the Members who participated in the discussions.

GIFT FROM SANSKRITI

INTACH Documentation Centre received a prized contribution from our Hazaribagh Convenor Bulu Imam. He is transferring visuals of *Khovar* and *Sohrai* art found in Hazaribagh villages and its environs to INTACH Documentation Centre. This was his labour of love that he meticulously recorded during the period 1993-2002 and filled the archives of his organization *Sanskriti*. The vast collection also includes 35 mm colour negatives. INTACH Digital Archive will receive nearly 10,000 images in installments. In addition Bulu Imam will be sending photographs of different fields of research and also several hundred research papers that have been digitalized by *Sanskriti*.

INTACH will be considerably enriched by this handsome gift from Convenor Bulu Imam, which is greatly appreciated. It is a valuable addition to our Documentation Centre.
INTACH Tourism Division (HTD) sanctioned the publication of booklets and brochures for the *Godavari Maha Pushkarams* held 14<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> July. An estimated 4 crore pilgrims bathed in the Godavari River and surrounding bathing ghats. Member Secretary stated “this booklet is brought out for the benefit of the pilgrims who come for the Godavari Maha Pushkarams, and to encourage heritage tourism. It is part of INTACH’s initiative to protect and conserve natural heritage”.

Chairman LK Gupta further endorsed this endeavour as also a part of Swatch Bharat programme. “INTACH takes the initiative to protect our holy river Godavari from pollution during the Maha Pushkarams by creating awareness amongst the pilgrims to keep the bathing ghats clean.”

Convenor East Godavari L. Shesh Kumari informs the brochures and booklets were brought out after procuring data on heritage sites and temples within a 50 kms radius around Rajamundry. Specifically they identified 24 ancient temples which are visited by pilgrims and devotees and 14 significant spots. The brochures were released by INTACH Patron, the District Collector H.Arun Kumar at the Dameria Art Gallery.

Rajamundry and Godavari railway stations, bus depots, bathing ghats and the airport eliciting much interest and several telephonic enquiries. It elicited many queries from distant places like Anantpur, Vijayawada, Chittoor, Bhimavaram, and Kovur, many inspired enough to seek INTACH membership.

The booklets and brochures are now being widely appreciated. The Advisor to AP Govt. Parakala Prabhakar Rao lauded INTACH for rendering this valuable public service, and requested 500 booklets be sent for his office. The Chief Minister had a thanksgiving function on 26<sup>th</sup> July where INTACH Chapter received a memento in appreciation of this public service. The event was attended by Govt. officials, NGOs and the Press which widely covered the event.

**VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAMME**

The Heritage Tourism Division is encouraging regular *Volunteer Training Programmes* for youth, to broaden the base of heritage awareness. The main objective for a start is to build a team of professional young volunteers who can conduct Heritage Walks for the general public as an extracurricular activity. It is a way of inspiring community service among youth to boost a national effort at creating
A series of ‘Walk Leader Training’ programmes were held on 4th, 5th, 11th and 12th July in collaboration with the Delhi Chapter. Its team members Co-Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle and Director Programme Ajay Kumar gave the introductory talks, followed by a session on cities and settlement of Delhi in particular. The Walk at Hauz Khas Village was conducted by Aradhana Sinha. Sarmistha Chatterjee gave a talk on the Evolution of Architecture from Sultanate to Mughal periods; and another on Evolution of Architecture from Colonial to Modern India. Dr. Neeru Misra spoke on Gardens and Decorative Features of Delhi. Ms. Samina Misra enlightened the young people about the Old City and her own growing up years in a Heritage City.

Delhi Convenor Prof. AGK Menon talked about a cause he has passionately espoused for several years, to get Delhi enlisted as a World Heritage City. Delhi Co-Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle enriched it with little known anecdotes of Delhi which was most interesting for a new generation of young people. The concluding session Creating a Signature Walk by Arshiya Sethi concluded the walkathon.

The experience was akin to some of the feelings expressed by Rudyard Kipling cited by Director Programmes of Virasat Arts & Heritage Festival:

*The last puff of the day—wind brought from the unseen villages, the scent of damp wood—smoke, hot cakes, dipping undergrowth, and rotting pine—cones. That is the true smell of the Himalayas, and if once it creeps into the blood of a man, that man will at last, forgetting all else, return to the hills to die*. Not necessarily to die but come back again and again for some more Heritage Walks to be conducted by INTACH!

A two-day module of training Heritage Walk Leaders was also conducted by the Dehra Dun Chapter scheduling two heritage walks. More than 70 people accompanied by 17 Volunteers participated in the Colonial & Afghan Links Heritage Walk and the Landour Infinity Walk. There were many eminent persons who shared experiences with the walkers like heritage interpreter Anjali Bhartari; the Dean of DIT University School of Architecture Anubha Kakroo; INTACH Uttarakhand Co-Convenor Lokesh Ohri; theatre personality from NSD Theatre Education Company Rajnish Bisht; and Reenu Paul from Rajpur Community Initiative. Ms. Payal Suyal represented the INTACH Heritage Division, Delhi.

MUSEUMS TURNS MUSES

In Delhi the National Rail Museum currently under major renovation, the Shankar’s Doll Museum, the National Crafts Museum, the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, apart from the National Museum are not just ‘walk-abouts’ anymore but ‘turn-arounds’ of great interest and activity. The National Crafts Museum for example, replete with a life-size village construction, has tribal arts and handloom weavers on display by turns, regular workshops and exhibitions. The National Rail Museum attracts many visitors to the 250 exhibits of different eras— the Morris Fire Engine, the world’s oldest working steam locomotive; Fairy Queen; and one of India’s first generation Electric Locomotive; and a joy ride on the Rail Neer. Shankar’s Doll Museum with a vast collection of 6500 dolls from all over the world is one of the most loved museums for young ones. The National Museum is a must see on most tourist itineraries as it is a veritable treasure trove of pan-India art collections, with interactive play time sessions for the young, and hi-tech shows and screenings on subject specials for all. And they are all under revamping to become major tourist attractions of the capital city.
The INTACH Conservation Institute has designed a series of workshops to address laymen on preventive conservation of paper and archival materials. These workshops are responsible for generating records like the Revenue Department, Prisons Department, Municipal Corporations, Judiciary, historical societies, private collections including libraries. They aim to sensitize their staff on proper maintenance of records, filing, storage and for attending to damages caused by handling. It will result in better archives in future.

ICI has also incorporated a special interactive session on 'general introduction on conservation for Home Managers' when a half-day is given to general public on maintenance of historical photographs, letters, costumes etc. The faculty discusses problems of conservation found in day-to-day life and remedial solutions are provided using household articles. To date they have been conducted at Shimla, Vrindavan, Azamgarh, Allahabad and Kanpur with over 500 people trained. Workshops are scheduled at Aligarh, Gorakhpur and Benaras Hindu University in the coming months. In due course a national movement to safeguard paper manuscripts and scriptures will be created through such workshops.

ICI DELHI

Chemday Monastery, Ladakh

Chemday Monastery (also called Chemrey Gompa) is almost 365 years old belonging to Drukpa sect of Tibetan Buddhism in India. Situated on a high hill in the enchanting locales of Ladakh, it was founded in 1644 AD by Lama Tagsang Raschen who also founded Hemis Monastery under the patronage of King Sengge Namgyal. The complex comprises a number of shrines, the Du-khang (assembly hall) and Lama Lha-khang (Lama temple) are the oldest part of the complex. All the walls have paintings on Buddhism executed at different times.

Lama Lha-khang (Lama Temple)

The ICI Delhi was entrusted with the conservation of the oldest wall paintings housed in the Lama Lha-khang of the Chemday monastery in 2013. The walls are a treasure house of Tibetan style art executed on earthen plaster support using bright natural pigments. The beauty of the paintings was hidden under a thick veil of dust, dirt, soot, grease and oil; also mud plaster drips harming the artwork and in some areas pulverised due to unscientific interventions.

The first step was a detailed documentation of condition of the walls to assess the required conservation treatment. Documentation included photographic as well as manual documentation. Emergency stabilization of the fragile areas, of loosely bound portions as well as areas with flaking paint layer was undertaken to prevent further loss.
Scientific testing with test patches were undertaken for determining appropriate conservation and levels of cleaning. Locally available clay samples and fillers were tested to make the aggregates for filling and grouting; and consolidating with mud plaster. The final filling was burnished properly to make it fine, even and smooth.

Cleaning of the surface for the removal of various accretions was the most important aspect of conservation treatment. Cleaning of the wall painting started after the complete stabilization of wall painting layers using *Wishab* dry cleaning.
sponges or using different solvents depending on the type of accretions.

The Monastery is situated in a region that experiences extreme environmental changes through the year. For logging seasonal variation, monitors have been installed to record environmental conditions within the monastery (microclimate) as well as outside the monastery.

**ICI JODHPUR**

The cloth *Janam Kundli* of erstwhile Maharaja Umaid Singh from Umaid Bhawan, measuring 177x21.5 cms using traditional ink, is starched in order that it take both writing and illustrations. It was restored by ICI Jodhpur.

**Other Works**

An 'Early Bengal' oil painting on canvas, portraying a figure of Kali Ma standing on Lord Shiva, was scientifically restored at the centre.
ICI LUCKNOW

ICI, Lucknow with the support of ICI New Delhi organized three days workshop on Preventive Conservation of Handwritten Documents and Library Materials at Circuit House, at Allahabad 28th June - 3rd July. The objective was to spread knowledge about various aspects of preventive conservation of library materials and handwritten documents which are neglected due to improper display, storage and environmental factors. The 80 participants were from different Government organizations, libraries, universities, archives, Board of Revenue, Collectorate, High Court, Nagar Nigam, Jail Department of Pratapgarh and Naini Block, Panchayat; Tehsils of Kaushambi, Fatehpur, Pratapgarh, Karchane, Saurav and Kaurav.

ICI, Lucknow with the support of ICI, New Delhi and INTACH Kanpur Chapter also organized three days workshop on Preventive Conservation of Handwritten Documents and Library Materials at UPSIDC Sabhagar, Kanpur from 26th-28th August. The objective was to spread knowledge on various aspects of preventive conservation of library materials that are neglected due to improper display, storage and environmental factors. Commissioner, Kanpur Mohammad Iftikharuddin inaugurated the workshop. Addl. Commissioner Atma Ram Sagar, ADM. Administration Shatrughan Singh, C.D.O Etawah Dr. Ashok Chandra, and CDO Kanpur Dehat Raj Kumar Srivastava were also present at the inauguration. There were 183 participants from offices of the Commissioner and D.M. office, Nagar Panchayat, Nagar Nigam, Lok Nirman; Electricity, Tourism, Police and Jail Departments; Libraries and Universities, etc. and tourism officers from Etawah, Farukkhabad, Kannauj, Kanpur Dehat and Kanpur.

ICI BENGALURU

“Parichay”, the public interaction program to create awareness on preserving/conserving the artworks, conducted by Bengaluru Chapter was held on 25th July at the ICI-Bengaluru Centre. Director Madhu Rani addressed the participants on INTACH, its role, achievements and various services offered by the ICI Centre. The conservators at the Centre elaborated on different types of artworks and material, with main focal point being preventive conservation and factors leading to deterioration of artworks. A few participants brought their personal collections for examination and consultation.

IIID Bengaluru

The Institute of Indian Interior Designers (IIID) hosted a lecture on ‘Heritage and Conservation’ and ‘Art Space and Garden Space’ at Taj West End on 17th July, as part of their “Masters Series Lecture”. ICI Director KP Madhu Rani addressed the gathering of over two hundred audience on the various services offered in the field of art conservation.
**Interaction Program**

Around 50 students of Achieve School, Basavanagudi visited ICI Bengaluru as part of their academic studies for interactions with conservators of the Centre. Conservator Amrutha delivered a small talk on *Introduction to organization, art works and its preservation and conservation.*

**Fatima Begum’s Jewelry Box**

A jewelry box belonging to Ms. Fatima Begum, one of the early superstars of Indian cinema and India’s first female film director, was restored by the Centre. Made of metal, lacquer coated on the cover with floral designs, it had beautiful fitted interiors and compartments including a locking devise with a key and heart escutcheon. The plaque was marked: Allibhoy Vallijee & Sons/Patentees & Manufacturers/ Alvi Works India/Multan Cantt.

The main problems were corrosion of metal body with the textile stuck to the box due to biological growth and moisture. The box was consolidated and restored with new fabric and archival quality boards, and a thin protective coating given.

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**COSMOLOGY TO CARTOGRAPHY**

Seventy maps are currently on display at the National Museum, Delhi at the exhibition titled *Cosmology to Cartography*. They belong to Prashant Lahoti, ‘an accidental collector’ when he chanced upon a antique store in Edinburgh 14 years ago – all because his train was late! He got deeply interested in maps thereafter and to date is the proud possessor of 3000 maps. The oldest dated 1482 was printed 16 years before Vasco de Gama came to India. The 70 on display, along with some shared by the Museum are in three segments, the first deals with the Jain abstract cosmic maps; the second comprises pilgrimage maps that are semi abstract; and the third are cartographic maps drawn after proper surveys. Prashat says “Around the 1700s, many maps were not
Google Cultural Institute

The Google Cultural Institute, which opened in 2012 jointly with the National Museum and the National Gallery of Modern Art in Delhi as initial partners, has now added material from 10 other partner organisations. They include the Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad, Victoria Memorial Hall in Kolkata, Dastkari Haat Samiti, Devi Art Foundations, Kiran Nader Museum of Art, Academy of Fine Arts and Literature, Kalakriti Archives, Heritage Transport Museum, Sivananda Yoga Vedanta Centres and Ashrams, and the Ramani Iyengar Memorial Yoga Institute.

Tourism and Culture Minister Mahesh Dharma said “Technology will play a crucial role in transforming and building a truly Digital India, and getting Indian cultural and heritage online will play an important role in making the vision a reality”. The new additions have taken the content count to over 2000 new images and 70 virtual exhibits. The collection also includes 26 new virtual tours of famous sites captured using Google’s Street View technique. It has also brought many of India’s iconic collections online.
Nirmand

Nirmand is a small village located in the Kullu district of Himachal Pradesh at an altitude of 1450m above sea level in the Sutlej valley. The village is considered to be a sacred place where Lord Parshuram is believed to have settled the Brahmins in a bid to eliminate the Kshatriyas. Nirmand has also been referred to as a ‘Harappan survivor’ by many historians. Some of the facts that ascertain this are the presence of grid lines that form the village, the primary temple of Parashuram as the citadel and the role of many fresh water springs in the village. The village also has beautiful wooden and stone houses with intricate carvings on facades and doorways complementing the traditional lifestyle of the villagers.

INTACH has taken the initiative to prepare an integrated and holistic sustainable development plan for Nirmand before it is threatened by development pressure as already witnessed in the peripheral areas. Sustainable tourism, along with conservation and protection of built heritage is the major goal of this initiative. Enhancing prospects of tourism will not only help provide an alternative income for the villagers, but would also be an incentive for the villagers to preserve their heritage and traditions. Along with the unique built heritage, steps need to be taken to revive traditional arts and crafts like wood carving, stone carving, etc. which have become almost extinct. It is imperative to protect this beautiful Himalayan abode and make it accessible for people to experience history in its living form.

Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan

Redevelopment of the Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan, an initiative of the Bihar Department of Industries aims to conserve this heritage building as well as the upgradation and extension of the workspaces according to current needs. The new extension of the institute has been designed by AHD as a space that inspires art enthusiasts and veterans to work together. The spaces are modular in arrangement, extending to open courtyards and ancillary spaces where the workspace spreads out to greens and not restricted to indoors. The Plan with open courts and shaded structures allows
flexibility according to the needs of a particular workshop and the number of people working. The new blocks are designed to have exposed brick masonry and use vernacular elements and material like ropes in tensile structures for tying and dying of textiles.

The technical sanction for this project is in the final stages, and the foundation stone laying ceremony by the Chief Minister of Bihar has already taken place. INTACH is hopeful that the Phase I of the project will commence shortly.

**Scindia School, Gwalior**

The Scindia School at Gwalior Fort is a residential school for boys founded in 1897 by the late Maharaja Madhavrao Jayaji Rao Scindia. The architecture of the School is contemporary to the British Barracks of the colonial era. The work entails the restoration and conservation of the façade and the corridors of the main school building. There are many heritage buildings in the school campus but AHD started work on a proposal for restoring the work assigned on the Main School Building. The semi-circular arches of the façade are typical of the colonial style which protect the classrooms from the heat and the rains. Due to several interventions over the past few years, the rear and side corridors of the building were covered and converted into classrooms. In the corridors, the traditional lime plaster was found to be replaced with cement plaster. On the façade, blackening of stone has been a major concern and a some stones elements were found to be broken and missing.

The work on site commenced in July this year. The closed corridors are being opened up and re-plastered with lime mortar, to regain the original architecture of the building. Simultaneously, work on cleaning of front façade has also started. AHD aims to bring the building back to its original beauty.

**State of Built Heritage of India**

This is a pan-India initiative launched by AHD to collect information on the state and issues pertaining to unprotected built heritage, to be collated from a variety of resources The wide vision of this effort calls for systematically phasing the various aspects delineated so as to cover as much expanse as possible within the constraints. Thirteen primary studies have been finalised through several stages of standardisation. The regional as well as thematic studies have analysed findings from field surveys and recommended a way forward. A number of INTACH Chapters have contributed with State overviews. The compilation includes articles from diverse works undertaken by AHD as well as secondary sources for gap areas. Many a co-professional voluntarily responded with the crux of their experience from the field, which has enriched this volume.

The planned next phase of this project is to gather evidence for an actionable course, to be chartered for positive change in the plight of unprotected built heritage. A roadmap is being
drafted at this stage, along with finalising the State of Built Heritage of India (SoBHI) Report. Highlighting such Heritage at Risk as is being done also in *Virasat* publications to publicise pilot projects, inviting public support for conserving them.

**Audrey House**

Audrey House, one of the oldest buildings in Ranchi, is now a part of the Governor’s Residence. This 160 years old building was built in 1854 by Captain Hannyington, Deputy Commissioner of Chotanagpur (1850-1856). Before the Raj Bhawan came into existence, this building was an extension of the Governor’s secretariats during the time when Ranchi was the summer capital of undivided Bihar.

This historical building is a heritage property of the Government and needs restoration work to make it re-functional. The site has been chosen for work under the Jharkhand 13th Finance Commission Conservation & Restoration Projects along with 23 other sites.

A large section of the building remained locked up for years. The campus is filled with trees and wild vegetation. The old wall was made of sun dried bricks by laying it with horizontal bamboo frames and mud-lime mortar, and presently not in good condition. Work actually started in 2011 after a Detailed Project Report was drawn up by INTACH. Structural strengthening is one of the major works that has been done. A part of the wooden floor was also restored. The old tiles on the roof were replaced with new one and old wooden purlins and rafters were consolidated. Parapet railings got exchanged. There was a total overhauling of services and landscape work. The electrical, air conditioning has been done anew, and landscaping of the surrounding open area was carried out with cobbled pathways, lawns, open air amphitheatres, etc. The restored building will shortly be inaugurated by the Governor of Jharkhand.

**Arches**

Ms. Annabel Enriquez, a data specialist from the Getty Conservation Institute, Los Angeles made a presentation on the use of *Arches* on 4th September at INTACH Conference Hall. *Arches* is a web-based system that combines state-of-the-art software development with the insights and perspectives of heritage professionals from around the world. Institutions that deploy *Arches* can create digital inventories that describe types, locations, extent, cultural periods, materials and conditions of heritage resources. It can also establish the numerous and complex relationships between those resources.

*Arches* is user friendly. It can be customised for use in any language or multiple languages, and configurable to any geographical location. It is freely available for downloading from internet. Users require minimal training. The *Arches* community provides support in installation and use of *Arches*. It is an innovative new method for conducting research and analysis, monitoring and risk mapping, conservation management and research, and raising awareness among public and authorities. It invites people to visit its website: archesproject.org

The above presentation by data specialist Annabel Enriquez has triggered considerable interest at INTACH.
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Can a city sustain more development that its finite natural resources allow? Cities the world over are going vertical and becoming dense at the centre to save resources. Going to suburbs entails more highways for mass transit and people travelling longer distances with more vehicles adding to pollution. On the other hand vertical growth means densification and extra consumption of power and water for the numerous common facilities required. Power demand and garbage generation is already increasing by 10% per year in most big cities. Vertical growth for example in Delhi has squeezed many villages, and turned them into urban slums. Even Lal Dora villages in the capital exempted from municipal bye-laws for example have not only lost their rural character but have become civic and architectural eyesores. It is a “Catch - 22” situation.

It is therefore imperative that cities where the move is on to redraw skylines should follow some good examples of other cities in the world where due importance has been given to green construction. Neighbouring Singapore for instance has adopted an environment design strategy by improving natural lighting and ventilation in its public housing, providing waste chutes to collect recyclables and building separate network of pipes for non-potable water used for greening public spaces. While earlier apartment blocks had no balconies, all new flats are designed with sufficient space for green planters at all levels.

Many Indian cities are already running on reserve – and need to act ‘smart’ especially as a 100 cities have been enlisted for the “Smart City” project being taken up by the Government.

CAL EARTH’S SUPERADOBE

Khalili, an Iranian born architect living in USA since 1971 built a cluster of domed houses on the sun baked fringe of an arid California desert resembling a lunar landscape. To him “it’s obvious to use earth as a building block”. Perhaps this is nothing new as villages in India were once completely dotted with thatched mud houses. Except now it is Khalili’s California Institute of Earth Art and Architecture (CalEarth) that is attracting more and more architecture students wanting to learn how to build a kiln-fired home from little more than soil stuffed into sacks – which are literally dirt cheap and built within a space of a few days! Khalili’s work has been recognized by the UN and he is regularly invited by NASA to give presentations about the possibility of his designs being used for lunar colonies!

Khalili’s design incorporates only elemental materials like earth, water and fire, and relies on basic forms like arches and domes. The construction entails digging up ground, sacks full of earth fixed in places, once secured kiln-firing the interiors, then sealing with a thick crust of terracotta. He says “the traditional shape of square house with vertical walls is almost designed to fall over one day. With an arch nothing collapses”. The strategic placement of opening in the walls also provides some natural air conditioning!

Mini-domes based on Khalili’s designs were built to house homeless people after the devastating earthquakes in Iran in 2003 and Pakistan in 2005. The technique has since attracted serious attention of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme.

BAALSHAMIN TEMPLE

In contrast to innovative architecture of our times is the destruction of time honoured built heritage. There were shocking images on the social media showing barrels of explosives laid inside a heritage structure and smaller wired cans around the walls of the ancient Baal Shamin Temple located 210 miles from Damascus, Syria. This UNESCO-listed structure of “outstanding universal value” was fronted by six towering columns dedicated to a God of Storm and Rain. And it all went up in flames! It was once part of a sprawling Roman era complex with many smaller temples to Semitic gods and goddesses gracing the ancient caravan city of Palmyra in central Syria. The name of the temple means “Lord of the Heavens”, but even He could not save the wanton wrath of men bent on mindless destruction of their own national heritage wealth.

Ack : AFP, Gulf News
The Black Pottery of Nizamabad

The Community, Craft and Heritage Division (CCHD) has brought out a craft documentary on the Black Pottery of Nizamabad, its process as well as the creativity. CCHD design interventions led to the development of black clay tiles which can be used as accent pieces or on the entire wall.

It has received much appreciation from a number of quarters. DICRC, CEPT, Ahemdabad, Jay Thakkar writes “Thank you for sharing this. Its done beautifully. I have shared this with people who may also be interested in this”. Vikas says “I don’t think anything more could have been packed in this well thought out short film that covers various issues. Congratulations to your entire team! This film was more than a documentary to me – it revealed to me so many aspects around this pottery”.

Kabir Vajpeyi, Vinyas Centre for Architectural Research & Design states “I don’t think anything more could have been packed in this well thought out short film that covers various issues. Congratulations to your entire team!

The film has been widely seen and appreciated as can be seen from the comments it has garnered : “I loved the movie!” - Dvendra Contractor, Devendra Narayan Contractor Architects.

“I would like to thank you for bringing up the story of such an area and art which would soon probably be considered lost”. - Sarmistha Chatterjee, Conservation Architect.

“Great work! Nicely made film. I enjoyed watching it. I hope this continues”. –Sneha Gokhale, Architect

“How I just saw the documentary and I would like to thank you for making this treasure trove available to commoners like me. I am so inspired by it that now I have a strong desire to experience this in person”. –Sanal Nair, Co-Founder at Bagelwala, Mumbai.

Skill Enhancing & Product Development Workshop

The Skill Enhancing and Product Development Workshop was held at Gurgaon, Harayana on 9th July in collaboration with Vishwas (Vision for Health, Welfare and Special Needs) for differently abled women and young adults. It is a continuous project to be carried out till September.

The Workshops focused on providing opportunities for self employment and income generation to the beneficiaries. It helped to develop and upgrade their craft skills. Above all it inculcated in them pride in their heritage and confidence in their skills.

In pursuance of this workshop, a bag production unit is
being set up for training and income generation for the participants and their families. The Project is formally named as “Bags of Hope”.

Listing Workshop, Jaipur

INTACH Heritage Academy conducted a Listing Workshop at the Manipal Institute of Technology (MIT), at Jaipur in collaboration with the Listing Cell of the local Chapter. Conservation architect Nimmy Namrata in her introductory presentation explained the importance of listing and its process through a software/mobile application. Architect Shefali Nayak from INTACH Listing Cell illustrated the latter with an example of a finished listing sample through a power point presentation for better comprehension of the process. Conservation architect Neha Saxena presented a specific case study on the listing of Jaipur. Students were provided with kits and a sample proforma for listing. A practice session ensued at a nearby site within the campus which was useful, but the participants would have preferred a proper “site visit” to an actual heritage building or place in the city but that could not be scheduled due to time constraints.

The Workshop was attended by the Dean of Jaipur MIT NK Garg, Head of the Architecture & Planning Department Prof. Madhura Yadav and ten of his faculty members; and three professors from the University of Rajasthan History Department with sixteen of their students. INTACH was represented by Convenor Dharmender Kanwar; with Principal Director IHA Navin Piplan and Director Listing A. Vijaya from Central Office in attendance.

INTACH Journal of Heritage Studies

The INTACH Journal of Heritage Studies (IJHS) is a renewed initiative to augment in-depth research and understanding of heritage issues in India. Its objective is to encourage critical thinking and trigger debates in order to build upon INTACH knowledge and experience garnered over the last 30 years. As stated by Chairman LK Gupta “it furthers INTACH’s mission of sensitizing the public about the pluralistic cultural legacy of India”.

The Journal fulfils an urgent need for a research based compilation for students, academicians and practitioners. The IJHS will address diverse subjects and issues related to politics of heritage, conservation engineering, sustainability, community participation, risk preparedness, documentation and archives, history of archeological legislation in India, apart from cultural heritage, architectural and archaeological subjects.

The inaugural issue has a paper by Dr. Vasudha Gokhale that
examines the risks and threats to heritage from seismic activities and offers solutions to mitigate the damages. One of many subjects covered is the recent discussion at Kyushu University, Japan on the notion of *Authenticity in World Heritage*. Reviews of books related to heritage subjects will be a regular feature. The Journal has an Editorial Advisory Board comprising many specialists in the field and INTACH research assistants.

**Heritage Awards 2015**

*Heritage Awards for Excellence in Documentation* were announced on 26th August at a function held at India Habitat Centre, with Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan specially invited as the Chief Guest on the occasion. It may be recalled INTACH joined hands with the Council of Architecture (COA) last year for launching this first of its kind programme in the field of cultural heritage conservation, with awards offered at a national level. The scheme not only encourages awareness and a unique way of learning for students, but develops a fund of excellent resource material for dissemination of heritage knowledge. It is also a great learning aid for all students and conservationists. INTACH/IHA will further disseminate this knowledge and documentation material through publications, events, exhibitions and workshops.

**2015 Awardees**

- **Award of Excellence**
  (Rs.75,000, book and certificate)
  Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture and Environment Studies, Mumbai.

- **Award of Merit, North Zone**
  (Rs.25,000, book, certificate)
  School of Planning & Architecture, New Delhi.

- **Award of Merit, Central Zone**
  (Rs.25,000, book, certificate)
  Smt. Manorambai Mundle College of Architecture, Nagpur.

- **Award of Merit, South Zone**
  (Rs.25,000, book, certificate)
  Deptt. of Architecture, College of Engineering, Trivandrum.

- **Commendation Award**
  Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture and Environment Studies, Mumbai.

- **Commendation Award**

  **Central Zone**
  Sri Venkateshwara College of Architecture, Hyderabad.

**Sustainable Urbanisation in Heritage Cities**

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) runs an annual two-week project to foster cross-cultural networks among youth from Asia-Europe. It offers a platform for students and young professionals to analyse and exchange best practices, and to collaboratively develop proposals and solutions to contemporary challenges encountered in their countries. One visible challenge is the widely burgeoning population across both Asia and Europe. Cities have become home to more than 50% of the world’s population and are facing a plethora of problems like congestion, pollution, poor governance, social inequality. This is compounded in heritage cities where the major challenge is to strike a synergy between economic development and heritage conservation in order to ensure sustainable urbanization.

The 19th ASEF Summer University programme on *Sustainable Urbanisation in Heritage Cities* this year was inaugurated by INTACH Chairman LK Gupta at the Symbiosis International University, Pune from 9th-21st August. The core objective of this meeting was to evolve a solution-centred platform for intercultural collaboration, and to deliver concrete proposals with focus on deliverables on urbanization and cultural heritage protection subjects in particular. A number of eminent heads of organizations from Europe and India led the discussions on a wide spectrum of related subjects. INTACH was represented by Principal Director Navin Piplan who led some of the dialogue.

The solutions presented during the concluding session of the workshop addressed some of the key issues and challenges related to heritage conservation, protection and management
for sustainable urbanization in Pune city. These were developed using offline tools and framework. The Chapter can both adopt and adapt all or a few of these solutions. They would need to work on them further as per the specificity of their own situation, need, limitations and resources. In the rapidly changing physical, economic, technological and social scenario of today - it is imperative to explore these potential solutions and assess their relevance and applicability for sustainable future and management of heritage cities.

Principal Director Nerupama Modwel spoke on Oral Heritage. Pune Chapter organized a Heritage Walk for the participants to exploring the “local gems” of Pune city with its fund of oral history.

**INTACH-IIC Research Lecture Series**

INTACH and India International Centre joined hands to host a series of lectures as a part of INTACH Scholarships 2014-15. The aim of this lecture series is to share research methodology and preliminary outcomes of our scholars with a wider audience, students and researchers.

The first lecture Understanding Incised Plaster Works of Monuments of Delhi by Sangeeta Bais was held on 23 September. Professor Nalini Thakur from the Department of Architectural Conservation, Delhi School of Planning and Architecture chaired the session and moderated the discussion. The speaker gave an overview of the evolution of techniques and designs of the incised plaster works done on the monuments of Delhi, and also threw light on their present state of conservation and future challenges. Over 100 people attended this highly interactive session. It helped Sangeeta Bais to shape her ongoing research and incorporate relevant suggestions and feedback received from the audience.

Lectures on subjects as varied as Historic Gardens, Geo-
Scientific Exploration of the Saraswati River Civilisation, and Survey of the historic Lakhori brick are scheduled for the next quarter

Ms. Ritika Khanna from IHA was selected from 95 Indian applicants to participate in the Young Experts Forum organized by the German Commission for UNESCO. Prior to the 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee, it was held in cooperation with the Federal Foreign Office and the State of Rhineland Palatinate at the World Heritage Site in Upper Middle Rhine Valley and in the former German capital Bonn.

It brought together 32 young heritage experts from different countries to exchange ideas and experiences on the theme Towards a Sustainable Management of World Heritage Sites. The aim of the forum was not only to tap fresh new ideas on the subject but also to prepare ‘young experts’ to take on the mantle of future guardians of sustainable management of their respective countries. Apart from discussion and inputs from heritage enthusiasts across the world, there was a simulation game based on World Heritage Convention and its Rules of Procedure. The young participants also gained a perspective on the political interests and positions of different state parties by playing the role of a delegate of an assigned country. The entire training and multilateral discussions during the Forum ended with a Young Experts Declaration to be presented to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

It was a great opportunity for Ritika Khanna to participate in such wide ranging discussions, practical hands-on sessions and guided tours to various German world heritage sites. She says “it not only taught me that sustainable heritage management is the key strategy to ensure continuous recognition and appreciation of the common treasures of the world but also gave me an ideal platform to enhance my skills as a heritage professional”.

INTACH Heritage Academy brought out a Folio compiling some of the details of the Asia–Europe Network of Urban Heritage for Sustainable Economies proceedings. In the Forward note, Chairman LK Gupta draws attention to the opportunity provided to INTACH through interactions to move ahead from heritage inventories to an integrated approach to heritage conservation.

He states that “A creative economy is not just about community prosperity through promotion of tourism, arts and crafts, and heritage conservation. It demands drawing up of integrated master plans for our cities, with heritage re-use as only one of its components. It entails leveraging a cross section of partnerships. It must instill a sense of identity and belonging in its residents, embracing both stakeholders as well as the disadvantaged sections of society. Most importantly, the Asia–Europe Network recognizes that Creative Sustainable Economy is a shared responsibility”.

This is food for thought as well as action for INTACH and its Chapters. It complements the Hriday projects launched by the Government of India, covered in this issue of Virasat.
MUSEUM DAY SEMINAR

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Division (ICHD) hosted a Museum Day Seminar on “Museums as Civic Spaces” on 8th August at Delhi. It was a component of the Eighth International Conference on the Inclusive Museum. It was organized with the collaboration and support of the Ministry of Culture; and organizations like National Museum, National Science Centre, National Gallery of Modern Art, Sanskriti Pratishthan, Aga Khan Trust, ICOM, the Australian High Commission and the British Council.

The theme of the Seminar was ‘Museums as Sites for Safeguarding Intangible Heritage’. The objective was to interrogate the role of museums as sites for safeguarding intangible heritage, and come up with a set of six relevant recommendations for the future role of museums.

The Seminar was attended by several international participants and experts from various institutes, organisations and universities like College of Charleston, USA; National Science and Technology Museum, Taiwan; Tokyo National Museum, Japan; Isik University, Turkey; and others. Indian Representatives from Anthropological Survey of India, National Museum, Parliament Museum, IGNCA, Sahapedia, Ambedkar University, Delhi; Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda; NMNH and Don Bosco Centre for Indigenous Cultures, also attend. It was a very successful seminar with approximately 45-50 guests and participants coming together to discuss and deliberate a set of relevant recommendations for the future role of museums in safeguarding Intangible Heritage of India.

ICH EXHIBITION

ICHD also organized a Photographic Exhibition during the Museum Day Seminar. The Exhibition brought awareness of the myriad tribal communities and their rich intangible heritage through photographic frames. The Exhibition, installed in the INTACH foyer, showcases the research work of the Division that is documenting elements of intangible cultural heritage of communities across the country. The panels comprise details about the Andhra tribes - Kodhu, Porja, Konda Dora and Bagata; four tribes from Assam - Dimasa, Hrangkhol, Hmar, Zeme Naga; Baiga of Madhya Pradesh, Bhil of Gujarat, Kinnaura of...
Himachal, Warli of Dahanu, the ICH elements of Diu, Daman and Dadra Nagar Haveli, and a panel on the theatre-dance ritual, Theyyam.

**ICH PROJECTS**

ICHD has undertaken several projects covering tribal areas that are underway, details of which will be covered in *Virasat* on their completion. The pictures below give you a bird’s eye view of the Santhal community project currently under completion.

**The Thatheras**

History traces the origin of the Thathera community in Punjab to the reign of Maharaja Ranjit Singh 200 years back. He encouraged skilled metal workers from Kashmir, primarily Muslims, to come and settle in his kingdom. In 1947 the metal workers of Kujranwala crossed the border to also settle here. For generations until recently its artisans, the Thatheras, have made daily household utensils like the thali, katori and gagar. Also large cooking vessels like the degh, pateela, gagar (pots for milk and water) and kadahi for community kitchens, weddings and places of worship. Today with manufacturing of cheap aluminum and plastic kitchen ware their craftsmanship is severely threatened. A small number of Thatheras are carrying on this work with hand held tools and wood fired ovens to make large vessels for mostly temples and gurudwaras located even in UK and Canada.

This unique craft is included in the inventories of the Sangeet Natak Akademi that has 2.5 lakh photos and video recordings, and also that of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). It made it to the UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) List 2014, alongside Japanese hand-made paper called Washi and the Turkish art of marbling.
DOCUMENTATION OF RUDRAKSH TREE

The culturally significant seeds of Eleocarpus ganitrus commonly known as the Rudraksha seed are an integral part of Hindu culture. It is widely used in various rituals and customs, and as a japmala (rosary) for prayers. Owing to its sparse distribution it is mainly found in Nepal, India and Indonesia, Nepal being the chief producer of the seed. The population of Rudraksh in all these regions is declining at an alarming rate due to deforestation. Nuts are collected in huge quantities from the forest floor due to their ethnic importance causing depletion of its seed bank. Poor germination coupled with prolonged dormancy owing to the hardness of the endocarp (nut coat) cause significant reduction in the regeneration of this species. Today the very existence of the species is severely threatened. Keeping in view the conservation efforts required for its survival, the Natural Heritage Division is looking into a more detailed study of the species including distribution, threat analysis and hopes to enhance propagation of the species. The project will also seek the possibilities of promoting the species in sacred groves.

GEOHERITAGE

Geological Survey of India identified 26 National Geological Monuments that are an expression of human development and history of the Earth through the ages. NHD is carrying out a detailed survey of these vulnerable sites in an endeavour to conserve this natural heritage. The focus is on assessing the present status and identifying the threats to the site. Out of a total of 26 sites, 23 sites have been surveyed. The insights of the surveyed area will be compiled in a monograph which aims to influence policy makers. Hopefully it will also encourage tourists to respect such landscapes in India by increasing awareness of their importance, both geologically and culturally.

SOLAR ENERGY: TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

INTACH Central Office, Delhi installed solar panels in order to achieve sustainability. They capture solar radiations
and convert them into electrical energy. The installed solar panels generate about 30-60 KW of electricity depending on the intensity of sunlight. Solar energy as touted is indeed a green, clean and cost effective alternate to energy needs. The amount of electricity generated at INTACH Delhi is currently sufficient to sustain the energy demands of two newly constructed porta cabins, including the air conditioning of the cabins.

**DELHI BIODIVERSITY**

The National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi is becoming increasingly urban and correspondingly hostile to flora and fauna, as manifested in the disappearance of habitats, reduction in the richness of species and their population size. With 750 sq. kms already urbanized, another 450 sq. kms likely to be urbanised by 2021, the ongoing re-densification of existing urban areas is happening. The urbanisation thrust is compounded by a rapid accretion of paved surfaces driven by a glass and steel juggernaut of buildings. Receding countryside and natural features has paralleled this enlarging footprint for a projected population of 25 million by 2021.

There is an impression perhaps amongst planners and administrators that it is an impractical idea to think of cities as eco-systems. That it is a romantic concept, which often stands in the way of gross measurable progress.

The *Convention on Biological Diversity* (CBD) mandates all nations to draw up national biodiversity strategies and action plans. India, too, has drawn one up which is inclusive of the plans of several States. Delhi, however, is not amongst them. Furthermore, under the guidelines of the *Urban Environmental Accord*, urban nature (Parks/Habitat Restoration/Wildlife) is a key issue in rating urban performance. The time has come to evolve from a 'gardens in cities approach' to a 'cities in the lap of nature approach'.

Creative stewardship of existing green spaces, be it in public or private domain, can generate additional space for habitats and foliage. Substantial areas of large parks can thus be converted to woodlands, thereby reducing the demand for resources. Similarly, large campus areas need not have cultivated greens. Since hedges and creepers provide small habitat, and very often a much higher density of foliage and leaf surface area as compared to trees, it is imperative to bring about a change in vegetation assembly that increases the foliage surface also.

A major lacuna is the fragmented and isolated nature of urban greens, which prevents gene flows through lack of corridor connectivity thereby resulting in vulnerable disease prone populations of flora and fauna. The NCT Delhi offers a wide variety of green spaces. INTACH has mapped many of these to show the wide variety of habitats available in the urbanscape and how they can be networked.

Recently, MHD prepared a plan with the aim of enhancing urban biodiversity and habitats (*Naturalizing Delhi*) for Delhi NCT. The plan focuses on enhancing the ecological services from unexploited natural green areas. It also stresses upon creating connectivity for biodiversity movement through ecological corridors. The augmentation of naturalized habitats within city limits would result in increased biodiversity and overall eco-system services.

The integration of the proposal in Delhi Master Plan 2021 would be a way forward in conserving the existing biodiversity.

**SAWAI MADHOPUR PROJECT**

A Village Environment Plan for Sawai Madhopur conceptualizes an approach to understanding the capacity of the village. It would be implemented for preservation of the identity of the area, and the conservation of the natural resources that co-exist. The capacity analysis of the village, with the help of community participation, would help in policy making. It provides an insight in determining what to conserve and how to conserve. This approach thus focuses on environmental planning from a community point of view.
Sawai Madhopur District of Rajasthan was selected for the project as it is a major region starting with the Dumoda Village in this District. It was selected on the basis of different criteria which were required for the project. The project expansion would depend on how successful it becomes within this village.

The current status of this start-up project for the accomplishment of the goal has been defined through different objectives. The collection of the secondary sources of information relating to natural resources, the map defining revenue boundary and the socio-economics of the area is in process. It will be followed by the Participatory Rural Appraisal to gain insight on ground level issues and accordingly design the plan.

**SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION & WATER REGIME**

The crux of the sustainable agriculture and water management project is undertaken on three different levels:

*Documentation* of the traditional agricultural practices and water management along with the importance of linking the nature-culture dimension that existed, and the changes experienced, and the reason behind it. *Preparation* of the seed bank with the varieties indigenous to the region. *Implementation* on the basis of the documented knowledge, focusing on “conservation agriculture” that would not only help in restoring the identity of the region but also work towards conservation of soil and water.

The project has completed the documentation and has embarked on the implementation phase. The preliminary preparation of seed bank has been completed, but it is a continuous process.

**INSIGHTS**

Two coffee table books by former diplomat Abasar Beuria and an artist Basudeb Pal Majumdar, both of whom are Members of INTACH Bhubhaneswar Chapter, were received at INTACH Central Office, and will enrich its Library. INTACH is proud of the authors. Such initiatives are indeed remarkable. They set a benchmark to motivate others to understand conservation issues in depth.

**CHILIKA - THE CELESTIAL LAKE**

The book captures the essence of Chilika Lake – the largest brackish water lagoon in Asia. It gives a picturesque view of the vibrant flora and fauna of the area. The author has succeeded in capturing its enchanting avifauna. He points out that “Chilka is the largest wintering ground for migratory birds in the Asatic subcontinent”. It provides a variety of suitable feed for them and a safe habitat for nearly one million avian guests on our land.

**BHITARKANIKA - THE MESMERISING MANGROVE**

The book unfolds the beauty of Bhitarkanika – the second largest mangrove in Odisha. Due to increased anthropogenic pressures this dynamic ecosystem is now facing a threat to its survival. Once, “in the struggle between nature and man, in Bhitarkanika more often than not nature triumphed” says the author. But now? It is only after his retirement from diplomatic service, that the author Abasar Beuria had the time to contemplate nature in his homeland. The book seeks to capture public attention in order to preserve this unique natural heritage.
TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS

HECS Teachers Training Project is an ongoing project for the last 12 years. It is an important work of 'training the trainers' to inculcate the importance of heritage protection and preservation among young people who are our future trustees of national heritage. Principal Director HECS Purnima Dutt has been holding these workshops across the country, highlighting the critical role of teachers in heritage education. The coverage of this quarter is indicative of the tremendous work done through the years.

Kodaikanal, 24th – 25th June: 19 teachers from 10 schools participated in the workshop held at Stonycroft Hotel with the support of Kodaikanal Chapter, with Veera Raghavan as the Special Guest. The focus was on the natural heritage of Kodaikanal, especially the Shola Forests, and encouraging heritage education for schools. There was a heritage tour of Kodaikanal, highlighting old houses and churches, and teachers were also taken around the Kodaikanal Lake.

Kadapa, 10th – 11th July: There were 48 teachers from 30 schools at the workshop held at C.P. Brown Library Conference Hall with the support of Kadapa Chapter. INTACH Convenor S. Elias Reddy spoke on the rich heritage of the city in terms of its forts at Siddhout, Gandikota, Buddhist Stupas, temples of Pushpagiri, Vontimitta, among many other heritage sites. The workshop was conducted in English and Telugu, stressing on the importance of heritage club activities. A heritage walk to Siddhout Fort was also conducted.

Varkala, 18th – 19th September: Jointly with the Trivandrum Chapter the teacher training workshop in Varkala, Trivandrum was attended by 12 schools and 18 teachers at Jawahar Public School. The workshop was conducted in English and Malayalam; followed by a site visit to Fort Angelo.

MADHAVARAM: A WEAVING CENTRE

The weavers of Madhavaram near Kadapa produce the Petu sarees for brides. They use “Modugu Puvu” brought from nearby forests to give reddish color border, which is unique to this fabric.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING WORKSHOP

This is a recent project undertaken by HECS, as heritage conservation also needs an army of volunteers to propagate the heritage message contributing their spare time.

Pune, 2nd September: A Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop was held in Pune for undergraduate students, with the participation of 40 students and 5 lecturers from four institutions of Pune, the
SMEF BRICK Group of Institutes, Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce, KHS and BNCA. The students were from diverse educational backgrounds, ranging from Architecture/Interior Designing to Advertising.

Solapur, 16th August: A workshop on the Subhra style of painting, as a part of the endangered skill workshop was held at Solapur involving 82 students from 29 schools. This style of painting is unique to Solapur as it draws upon the work of Saint Subhray Maharaj, who originally came from Andhra but settled in this city. The students were briefed about the style of painting by the resource persons Deepak Patil and Minaxi Rampure.

Pune Chapter Co-Convenor Sharvey Ramesh Dhongde introduced the students to the concept of volunteerism and the role INTACH has played over the decades in conserving heritage. PD HECS made them aware of the four types of heritage – built, natural, material and intangible heritage. A INTACH Film illustrated its work undertaken in each of these areas. Supriya Mahabaleshwarkar and Jui Cawade conducted an eye-opening session on Pune; followed by Tanya Bharat Verma’s presentation, giving students suggestions on initiatives they could take to safeguard, promote and spread awareness about heritage in their institutions.

ENDANGERED ART AND CRAFT WORKSHOPS

To raise awareness regarding endangered art and crafts, this year HECS has extended grants to INTACH Chapters of the north and the west, requiring them to take up an art or craft form particular to their area and work with school children so as to encourage them to be aware and learn about the arts and crafts of their own region.

Kashmir, 1st August: A crafts workshop on Papier Mache and Willow Work was held under HECS developed Endangered Skill Programme. Around 80 children from two different Middle Schools participated. A resource person engaged the children and involved them in an activity related to the craft.

Dehradun, 29th -30th August: The workshop at Dehradun raised awareness of the Garhwal School of Mural painting. A two – day workshop involving 120 children from seven schools was conducted to make them aware of a theoretical understanding of that School. A heritage walk was also undertaken to important places connected to that school of painting. The focus was on exploring the Garhwal School of Art in terms of puppet making under the guidance of a master puppeteer Ram Lal Bhatt.

FILMIT INDIA WORKSHOPS

Filmit India project in the second year of its 5th Phase, is another ongoing HECS project. It has been held in Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai, Chandigarh, and Jaipur. The latest addition is Ahmedabad. Everywhere it has captured the special interest of young people.

Delhi, 24th & 30th July: Filmit project on 24th July at Delhi had 31 Public and Government Schools participating in the event. Eminent theatre personality and educationist Feisal Alkazi
conducted the content part of the workshop. He asked the students and teachers alike to be vigilant about their surroundings and observe local history.

The technical workshop on 30th July was conducted by Ankit Pogula and Shreya Kakria of Tuning Fork Films. They made the students and teachers familiar with film making techniques, camera angles, story board and editing.

**Kolkata, 3rd August**: The second year Filmit Workshop at Sri Sri Academy School had 11 schools including two new ones joining. INTACH State Convenor G.M. Kapur welcomed the participants with encouraging words. Technical experts Ankit Pogula and Shreya Kakria conducted the technical aspects of film making as a great medium of expressing one’s views and an exciting channel of communication.

**Mumbai, 6th August**: The Filmit Workshop was organized at Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum. Gargi Mashruwala of INTACH Greater Mumbai Chapter welcomed the participants from 11 schools. The content cum technical workshop was held by Sachi Maniar of Tuning Fork Films. It made students think about heritage of their immediate surroundings, and relate to ideas, practices, and objects in their homes as a part of their family heritage.

**Goa, 7th August**: It was also organized at Sharda Mandir School, with 85 students and 13 teachers from 12 schools actively participating. Speaker Vinod Sreedhar motivated the students, telling them that film making is a very special skill and that even a 30 seconds film can be a very effective story.

**Ahmedabad, 11th August**: Filmit Workshop was inaugurated by Ahmedabad Chapter Convenor Abhay Mangaldas. He acquainted the audience with the unique heritage sites of Ahmedabad and projects that INTACH is doing for heritage awareness in the city. The technical aspects were dealt by Ankit Pogula and Shreya Kakria, explaining different types of shots, camera angles and editing. They were also given a hands-on experience of film shooting on their school premises to get a practical idea on how to make a movie.

**Hyderabad, 13th August**: The Filmit Technical Workshop was conducted at Meridian School, Banjara Hills for 9 schools. Convenor Anuradha Reddy welcomed the students. Vinod
Sreedhar and Shreya Kakria of Tuning Fork Films discussed the technical aspects of film making with details like camera angles and editing of movies.

**Chennai, 14th August:** The Filmit Workshop was organized at Sri Sankara Vidyashramam School, with State Convenor Dr. S. Suresh, welcoming all the participating students from 9 schools. Vinod Sreedhar and Shreya Kakria of Tuning Fork Films conducted the technical session.

**Jaipur, 18th August:** HECS New Delhi organized a Technical Workshop at Maharani Gayatri Devi Girl's School with 19 teachers and 79 students from 11 schools in attendance. It was conducted by Anshul Uniyal and Shreya Kakria of Tuning Fork Films. They emphasized that film making becomes easy if the topic is kept simple and if one has a unique concept.

**Chandigarh, 18th August:** The FilmIt content cum technical workshop for teachers and student was held in collaboration with INTACH Chandigarh Chapter at St. John's School. The technical session was conducted by Anshul Uniyal and Shreya Kakria of Tuning Fork Films. Students and resource persons discussed the various components of film editing process.

HECS along with Xpressminds India organized the largest ever School Quiz in India. Last year the all India Quiz had been held across India in 105 cities; covering all States and Union Territories and was a resounding success. On the same guidelines the INTACH India Heritage Quiz 2015 is being organized. The outreach is expected to be more than 75 INTACH Chapters across the country with their support to equal the success of last year.

**Srikakulam, 7th July:** Schools from Municipal, Zilla Parishad, State Government, Central Government and Public Schools were identified and circulars sent to depute 8 students from each school. The chosen venue was the Government High School where participants from 13 schools gathered for the competition.

**Thrissur, 7th July:** The Quiz saw 73 students from Class 7th-10th from 10 schools participatining in the contest held at Hari Sri Vidya Nidhi School, Punkunnam. Bhartiya Vidhya Bhavan won.

**Vizagapatnam, 8th July:** The Quiz was conducted at Vizag Public Library. The Navy Children School, Nausena Bagh won the round, amidst a great deal of enthusiasm shown by all participants.

**Coimbatore, 9th July:** INTACH Coimbatore Chapter conducted the Quiz at Vivekalya Matriculation School. 204 students eagerly participated in the quiz, with the team from Vidhya Niketan Public School winning the written round.

**Dharwad, 10th July:** The Heritage Quiz round was conducted at Presentation Girl's High School, with the participation of 176 students from 23 schools. K.E. Board's High School qualified for the zonal final held at Bengaluru.

**Warangal, 14th July:** INTACH Warangal Chapter organized Know India Quiz for High School Students at the New Science Degree College. The District Educational Officer informed all Government Schools and sponsored students from rural areas to encourage maximum participation. It attracted 37 teams even though Telangana State was celebrating a unique festival from 14th-25th July which comes once in 144 years, known as Godavari Maha Pushkaralu. Green Wood High School, Hanamkonda won the first place.

**Aurangabad, 15th July:** INTACH Aurangabad Chapter organized the Written Quiz Competition at Bhunudas Chava. Hall, the Institution of Engineers, Osmanpura. Around 13 schools participated; with the team from Dr. Y.S. Khedkar School declared winners.

**Salem, 15th July:** INTACH Salem Chapter conducted the Quiz at Sri Vidhya Mandir Hr. Sec. School, with the participation of 48 teams from nine schools.

**Rajpipla, 17th July:** Ten schools participated in the Heritage Quiz. Ayushi Gupta and Naushin Shaikh from GSL School were declared the winners. The event was covered by the local media.
Jamnagar, 18th July: The Heritage Quiz was held at the Mirza Parsi Agiari. Commodore S S Tyagi VM (Retd.) gave a brief talk to the participants regarding the history of the Parsi Agiari which is a heritage site to 215 students present from 6 schools in Jamnagar. Shree Satya Sai Vidyalaya won the competition.

Udaipur, 23rd July: Twenty-five educational institutions participated in the Quiz held at Maharana Mewar Public School (MMPS), City Palace Complex. INTACH Convenor and 8 senior Life Members of the Chapter supervised the event.

Chandrapur, 24th July: Hundred students comprising 50 teams from seven schools participated in the competition of the city. Hindi City High School, Chhotubhai Patel High School, City Kanya Vidyalay, F.E.S. Girls High School, City Higher Secondary School, Lokmanya Tilak Kanya Vidyalay and City Madhyamik Vidyalay.

Gwalior, 30th July: INTACH Gwalior Chapter conducted the city round with seven schools participating. Oxford Public School won the city round.

Mayurbhanj, 2nd August: The Heritage Quiz was conducted at the Maharshi Public School, Baripada with 150 students participating. St.Xaviers High School, Baripada, won the final round and proceeded to the Zonal Final at Bhubaneshwar.

Patna, 5th August: The Heritage Quiz was held at the St. Xaviers School, commencing with a welcome address by Principal Fr. Jacob, followed by Convnor J.K. Lall who briefed them about INTACH missions. Quiz Master Deep Thakkar of Express Minds Edutainment conducted the quiz. The team from St. Michael’s High School were declared winners.

Noida/GreaterNoida, 6th/19th August: The Heritage Quiz was organized in association with Xpress Minds Edutainment Pvt. Due to the tremendous response it was conducted in two groups, one for Greater Noida schools and the other for Noida schools. Vishwa Bharti School from Noida and Somerville School from Greater Noida won their respective rounds. The participants were addressed as “heritage warriors”, and were extremely enthusiastic about the proceedings.

Amritsar, 6th August: The city round of the Heritage Quiz was conducted at Alpine Public School, Amritsar. Spring Dale Senior School won the city round.

Mandi, 8th August: The Heritage Quiz was organized by Mandi Chapter at Saraswati Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School, with the participation of 100 students from 11 schools. The teams from DAV Centenary Senior Secondary School, Jawahar Nagar were declared winners of the written round.

Hazaribag, 8th August: INTACH Hazaribagh Chapter organized the Quiz at Tourist Information Centre T.I.C), Herangunj. It was conducted by its Life Members Justin and Gustav Imam.

Bilaspur, 11th August: The Bilaspur round of the Quiz was conducted by Dr. Manju Mitra. It was very well attended with 58 teams from 15 schools competing. Balbharti Public School, NTPC Seepa was the winner.
ZONAL FINALS held at various cities

- Bengaluru, 30th July
- Jaipur, 11th August
- Bhubaneshwar, 11th August
- Ranchi, 13th August
- Chandigarh, 21st August
- Bhopal, 24th August
- Varanasi, 19th August
- Varanasi, 19th August
- Guwahati, 7th September
- Kolkata, 10th September
- Hyderabad, 21st July
- Trivandrum, 29th July
- Chennai, 1st August
- Ahmedabad, 4th August
- Mumbai, 3rd August
**Chapters**

**FOR ATTENTION OF CHAPTERS**

Chapters to date have undertaken a wide spectrum of activities ranging from listing and documentation, awareness programmes, conservation projects as well as Public Interest Litigations to good effect. They have contributed significantly to a wealth of heritage related information. INTACH now has at its disposal innumerable DPRs, reports, project studies, seminars, publications, newsletters, etc. but in a dispersed manner. The compilation and circulation of this data, through publications and e-platforms, would go a long way in not only publicizing INTACH work over the last 30 years, but also in garnering the support of informed citizens who are sensitive to our heritage cause.

The planned on-going up-gradation of INTACH Documentation Centre is equipping INTACH with in-house capacity for digitization and e-preservation. It is therefore proposed to compile and publish a Compendium of all major projects and landmark events/activities conducted by our Chapters since inception, and digitize the available information for greater dissemination of information and awareness.

A format for compilation of available data with Chapters will be shortly circulated. Chapters are requested to strictly adhere to the format in compilation of this data. It may please be dispatched to INTACH Central Office at the earliest.

*Thank You*

**INVITATION : CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP**

INTACH Central Office will be hosting a *Capacity Building Workshop* for Chapter Members to be scheduled sometime later in October. Convenors are kindly requested to nominate two members, committed to a long term association with their respective Chapters, to attend this Workshop. Dates will be communicated shortly. Please expedite the nominations from your Chapter at the earliest.

**Andhra Pradesh**

**East Godavari**

The Chapter brought out booklets and brochures for the Godavari *Maba Pushkaram* at the behest of Heritage Tourism Division. The literature containing information about temples/heritage sites in Rajahmundry and nearby areas in both Telugu and English was released by the District Magistrate. According to the State Government estimate around 4 crore pilgrims were expected to visit the area. The booklets were found to be very useful and distributed to the pilgrims from strategic locations.

**Srikakulam**

In association with the Vidyyadhari Degree College under the District Collegiate Education Department & Review Committee (DCEDRC), the Chapter celebrated *Jayanthi* Festival of Mahakavi, the greatest poet in Telugu Gurajada. They remembered his services to revive the language that was at the point of extinction. The DCEDRC Founder Jami Bheemasankaram presided over the function attended by MP K. Rammohannaidu and MLA G. Lakhsmidevi and SC Leader Ramana Madiga; with Convenor Dharma

*Book release on occasion of Jayanthi Festival Celebrations*
Rao delivering the keynote address. A book *Annee Vedam Lone Vunnayish* penned by scholar cum academician Smt. Paththithi Sumanthi was released.

Convenor Dharma Rao in his lecture clarified that Telugu does not originate from Sanskrit unlike many other Indian languages, though it has sister languages in Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada spoken in the South. It has its roots in Dravidian language which is now extinct, and a recent UNESCO survey puts Telugu at risk but surely not to the point of extinction.

**Bhagalpur**

Dr. K.D. Prabhat is appointed the new Convenor of the Bhagalpur Chapter. He will be assisted by Co-Convenor Dr. Basil Michael Quadros and Additional Co-Convenor Dr. Wibhu Kumar Roy. We welcome the three scholars to the INTACH family. We have great expectations from such a formidable team at the head of the Chapter.

**Vaishali**

Shri Manoj Kumar is appointed Convenor of the recently formed Vaishali Chapter. Vinor Kumar is the Co-Convenor who will assist him in the challenging responsibilities of setting up the Chapter activities and enhancing its membership.

**CHANDIGARH**

‘An Evening with Yoga’—‘Swasth Bharat’ was organized by the Chapter in which about 250 school students participated. A team of yoga experts from Lonavla and Maharashtra were called for participating in this much appreciated event.

**BIHAR**

The State Chapter has decided to extend the date for inauguration of Vikramshila, Nalanda, and Magadh Chapters due to the upcoming Assembly elections. Convenor J.K. Lal and Co Convenor D.K. Baxi organized a tour of the Patna Museum for INTACH Members, guided by the Director of the Museum. An Executive Committee meeting is scheduled on 3rd October to discuss the World Heritage Status for Takhta Harimandir Saheb, Vaishali Stupa, Vikramshila University, Mausoleum of Shershah, and perhaps focus on one as a possibility.
**CHHATTISGARH**

**Sarguja**

On Independence Day the Chapter reached out to students of Holy Cross Educational Institution with a message of conservation and preservation. Convenor O.P. Agarwal administered the oath for Heritage Conservation and active participation in protection of the environment to about 3000 students of the institution. Co-Convenor Dr. Sachin Madikar was present on the occasion along with several INTACH Members.

**DELHI**

Convenor A.G.K. Menon aptly comments “If INTACH can be seen as a work in progress, the role of its Chapters spread across the country define the directions that the journey takes”. The Chapter’s efforts to get Lutyens Delhi and Shahjahanbad declared as a World Heritage Site have been delayed, but it has not dampened the Chapter’s drive for undertaking a number of other conservation projects in the capital. It approached the Delhi High Court with a PIL filed against illegal activities in heritage precincts that need to be brought under an efficient management plan. Another PIL was filed to maintain and preserve the Mehrauli Archaeological Park.

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai’s of India has engaged the Chapter's services to get the Lotus Temple, built after an international competition, nominated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Chapter will hold consultative sessions with all its stakeholders, and advise and assist with the preparation of the Site Management Plan.

The Chapter is involved with Jaunti Village in north-west Delhi adopted by MP Dr. Udit Raj. It has Shikargarh believed to have been built by Shahjehan, and his son Dara Shikoh's house. It is proposed to turn the Dara Shikoh Library into a City Museum, while the neighboring royal hunting grounds will be developed as a tourist destination. A number of other structural conservation and up-gradation projects are in hand like the Bengali Club and the Cathedral Church of Redemption, conservation and illumination of Delhi Monuments with signages.

**HARYANA**

**Ambala**

INTACH welcomes Colonel R.D. Singh (Retd.) as the newly appointed Co-Convenor of the Ambala Chapter. We warmly welcome him and wish every success in ‘war footing’ the activities of the Chapter.

**Faridabad**

The Chapter inducted 40 first year students into the’ Young Heritage Club ‘ at the Aggarwal Women’s College. To mark the occasion a painting competition was held and in all 7 prizes were given out.

**Mohinder Garh**

The Chapter celebrated Van Mahotsav with the planting of
students of class 6th-7th on the History of Panipat with the first, second and third prize awarded to the best entries, and certificates distributed to all participants.

**HIMACHAL PRADESH**

The Government of Himachal Pradesh and the Institute of Public Administration took the initiative to add a hands-on history-heritage component to the training of young officers of the State. Four IAS Probationers of the 2014 batch from the Himachal cadre were taken on a heritage walk by State Co-Convenor cum Shimla Convenor Raaja Bhasin.

**Palwal**

Shri Atma Ram Paliwal is the newly appointed Convenor of the Palwal Chapter. He will be assisted by Suresh Bhardwaj as the new Co-Convenor of the Chapter. We warmly welcome them to the INTACH fold with our good wishes for their success.

**Panipat**

The Chapter conducted a Heritage Awareness activity for students of S.D. Vidya Mandir School with the participation of about 120 students. There was a test conducted for a sapling, and highlighting the importance of protecting natural heritage.

**Kangra**

Chapter Members met on 2nd August and 13th September to discuss various Heritage Awareness Programmes to be scheduled in the next quarter.

Convenor L.N. Aggarwal was the Chief Guest at the inauguration of a one-day workshop on Kangra Miniature Paintings organized by the Kangra Art Museum, Dharamshala on 8th September. Students from Chimney Vikaas Sangatham, Sidhbari participated in the event, and their art was much appreciated by visitors to the Museum. Many were keen to purchase the paintings on view.

**Shimla**

Convenor Raaja Bhasin had a miraculous escape during the tour he was conducting on the UNESCO Heritage toy
train between Kalka and Shimla which met with a serious accident. It is usually a magnificent journey through 102 tunnels running through kaleidoscopic nature. Alas, two out of 36 members on the tour chartered by the York based Great Rail Journeys did not survive this accident. All the more tragic as the British love to revisit history, and many come for sentimental reasons as they belong to families who served in India during British times.

Raaja Bhasin was back on that train the following week guiding another group of travellers. Kudos for his passion for history and heritage. The Commission of Railway Safety under the Ministry of Civil Aviation will no doubt thoroughly investigate this accident. There is no excuse for negligence that costs precious lives. INTACH extends its deepest condolences to the families of Loraine Toner and Joan Nicholas for their grievous loss.

JAMMU & KASHMIR

Jammu

INTACH Heritage Club of Jodhamal Public School took the initiative to promote the local language Dogri. Students organized a cultural programme and different activities like speech, play, poetry, recitation, power point presentation were all delivered in the local language. It was followed by a dance programme. The Chief Guest for the event was Convenor S.M. Sahni. Local dignitaries also attended the program that was highly appreciated by the audience.

Minister for Culture reviewed the status of heritage complexes in Jammu. Convenor S.M. Sahni explained the state of heritage properties and suggested remedial measures for and their restoration and conservation in Jammu City.

Ladakh

Convenor Tsering Angchok writes about the launch of Prince Claus Fund, a project of emergency stabilization of Saspol Cave, Ladakh. It was attended by a large number of people from Saspol Village, likir Monastery and other local dignitaries. INTACH has now commenced the documentation work of the caves.

JHARKHAND

Hazaribagh

The book Antiquarian Remains of Jharkhand by Convenor
Bulu Imam, can be read at many levels. It has been reviewed by Felix Padel who is all praise for its vividly conjuring up past ages, and the lavish array of black and white photographs. What is immediately striking is how this area of India, seen as remote or marginal by so many people, turns out to be a cradle of civilization for Buddhist, Jain and Hindu culture. It is also a region of vital transformations during prehistoric times.

One part of the book has recordings of dozens of fabulous megalithic sites barely known within or outside India. Alongside the megaliths, there are amazing rock art shelters in whose discovery and protection Bulu Imam has played a prominent role with the help of a few experts. A prehistoric strand goes back to the Stone Age with evidence of stone tools, recording human settlement 50,000 years or more ago. Archeological remains from the Muslim and British periods are also well documented and in parts intriguing.

Jharkhand emerges as extraordinarily rich in Buddhist, Hindu and Jain sites, with important schools of art and architecture that developed in that time. Archeological remains from the Muslim and British periods are also well documented and in parts intriguing.

**KARNATAKA**

**Bengaluru**

The Chapter started the INTACH Lecture Series last year inviting inspiring speakers from the fields of conservation, history and heritage to share their experiences. Last quarter, Dr. Benny Kuriakose spoke on ‘The Muziris Heritage Project – Conservation in a Legendary Port City’. It is one of Kerala’s largest conservation projects. Another talk ‘The Inheritance of Rain’ was by Dilip da Cunha and Anuradha Mathur, both from faculties of University of Pennsylvania. They made a powerful case for ushering in different ways of thinking about water and its management in Bengaluru. It triggered a very interactive discussion between the speakers and the audience.

In July, the Chapter jointly with Bijapur Chapter was invited by the District Commissioner of Bijapur to prepare an Action Plan for development of heritage in Bijapur city, now called by its local name Vijayapura. INTACH surveyed the city and has now submitted an Action Plan with project prioritization.

The Chapter continued with the Parichay series – the monthly heritage walks held in different parts of Bengaluru. INTACH Chitrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre Director Madhu Rani, and the rest of her team conducted an eye-opening ‘Parichay to Art Conservation’ in July. In August Tree Parichay with S. Karthikeyan, Chief Naturalist at Jungle
Lodges & Resorts, walked a keen group of nature-lovers through the *Lalbagh* garden. He pointed out various trees and some of the many life-forms they support including ants, plant hoppers, spiders, etc. This group will never look at a tree in the same way again!

The Chapter continued its engagement with young people by conducting several heritage walks at Devanahalli Fort and the Bengaluru Fort and Palace for students of Classes 8 and 9 of Brigade School.

**Gulbarga**

The Chapter organized a drive under *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* at the historical Fort of Gulbarga with the help of ASI and Dept. of Tourism. Convenor Dr. S.S. Wani spoke about the fort and emphasised the importance of keeping the surroundings of historical monuments clean. The event was attended by several local officers and dignitaries.

**Kasargod**

The Chapter conducted a four days children’s camp at Edayilakkad village to promote Intangible Cultural Heritage amongst children. Experts in each field talked on various topics like handicrafts, folk games and puppetry. Convenor Dr. V. Jayarajam and Co-Convenor P.V. Harish along with Secretary Navodaya Libraries supervised the camp.

**Thrissur**

The Chapter organized a talk on *The Fame of Perumana,* a
village that is more a cultural entity than a geographical reality. It unites with a cultural multitude of people. It celebrates the ancient festival Peruvanam Pooram which is 1432 years old and involves around 1000 drummers. The 1200 years old classical theatre tradition Koodiyaattam originates from here.

The talk focused on the urgent need to document and record the cultural legacy of the land. It emphasized the need to generate books on the topic and take steps to spread awareness for preserving the rich cultural heritage of the village. Convenor M.P. Surendran made some final comments and gave the vote of thanks.

**MADHYA PRADESH**

**Bhopal**

Madan Mohan Upadhyay coordinated the Corporate Social responsibility Workshop held at Bhopal on 28th August. It was attended by about 120 people from the Industry, ASI, INTACH Members, and representatives from Archeological, Architectural and Urban bodies. Central Office was represented by AHD Director Bindu Manchanda.

**Dhar**

The newly established Dhar Chapter was formally inaugurated on 12th July. There was an interactive session with all Members to elicit their views on the way forward for the Chapter. It was also attended by Director Chapters Division, Group Captain Rahul Pathak. In his address he said the primary objective of INTACH is to bridge our past and the present for conservation of heritage. Convenor Dr. Sharma said the formation of the Chapter will lead to greater sensitivity to local heritage and hopefully attract

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**SREE VADAKKUNNATHAN TEMPLE**

Thrissur Chapter sent details of the restoration of the Sree Vadakkunnathan Temple. It represents a milestone achievement in reviving a living religious heritage site. A combination of indigenous knowledge of vernacular building techniques, strict adherence to elaborate ritual protocols and contemporary conservation practice, were adhered to in this exemplary work. After centuries of exposure to monsoon rains and inappropriate minor repairs, the project skillfully stabilized the wooden complex for use of local devotees, and restored significant decorative works including murals. Three hundred artisans worked for a decade, guided by the principles encoded in the vastu shastra, the Indian traditional science of architecture. Through this exemplary initiative of temple stakeholders, and the commendable support from relevant authorities and private sector, the project has preserved a significant archetype of Kerala temple architecture while safeguarding the continuity of age-old practices of veneration. The project was awarded UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation, a singular honour as there were 600 entries from 24 countries of the Asia-Pacific region.
memberships from all age groups and professions. A cultural programme attended by local dignitaries concluded the event on a positive note.

**Gwalior**

Shri Vikas Singh is appointed as the new Additional Co-Convenor of the Gwalior Chapter. INTACH welcomes him with many good wishes for executing his many responsibilities ahead.

A workshop on *Surveying, Documentation and Conservation of Wall Paintings of Gwalior* was organized by the State and Gwalior Chapter, attended by several Convenors, Co-Convenors and INTACH Members. It was inaugurated by Principal Director Nilabh Sinha and conducted by domain experts - Dharmendra Mishra and Rajiv Chaudhary. They shared some of the complexities of conservation knowledge with the art students of various institutions of Gwalior.

**CONDOLENCES**

The Gwalior Chapter announced with great grief the passing away of its Member Ram Singh Vashisht on 21st September. All the more sad as he had been suffering from his illness for a long period of time.

INTACH joins Chapter Members in extending our deepest condolences to his family. We hope they take comfort from the fact that he now rests in peace. We send good wishes for their good health and strength to bear this loss.

**Mandla**

In collaboration with the Mandla Tourism Promotion Council, the Chapter organised a two day festival in memory of Raja Hridhay Shah who built several palaces and temples in Ramnagar. Minister for Tribal Welfare Juel Oram hoisted the flag to inaugurate this festival. The aim to promote tourism in the district was well served with a presentation by 1400 tribals, and an estimated five lakh people gathered for the cultural programme. An interesting book on music was also released.

**Maharashtra**

The Chapter released *The Kailas at Ellora*, a book by an American architect Roger Vogler at an event widely attended by eminent personalities. The book explores the great Hindu temple from the perspective of an unknown *sthapati*, who designed it thirteen centuries ago. The author addresses some erroneous conclusions surrounding the monument and the
known locality in Girgaum that has a distinctive collection of 18th-19th centuries Portuguese style bungalows. It is a locality that often figures in the Mumbai Heritage Walks. Permission had earlier been given for the construction on the assumption that there was a 30 ft. wide road abutting the proposed site but in reality it was just 10 ft. The Municipal Corporation and the builder had completely ignored this fire safety requirement. Nor had they ensured the clearance of the Mumbai Heritage Conservation Committee.

The Supreme Court has dismissed the petition of the Mumbai based Deekay Builders challenging the restraining order of the High Court. Perhaps the real casualty are the flat owners who had taken possession of the seven out of eleven flats despite the fact that no occupation certificate had been issued to the building. A sad but familiar tale in Maximum City! But a great victory for Mumbai Chapter.

The Mumbai Chapter in collaboration with the Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum Trust organised several programmes during this quarter.

intent of the designer. The exquisite photography in the book is by fellow Indian architect Peeyushi Sekhsaria.

Chief Guest General Manager MTDC Chandrashekar Jaiswal stated the book would go a long way in creating a deeper understanding of history, architecture and culture of the region. Former head of history and ancient Indian culture at the Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University Dr. M.S. Morwanchikar spoke on the historical background of the Kailas Caves. State Convenor Mukund Bhogale highlighted the importance of Aurangabad as a destination. He appreciated the journey undertaken by the two authors Vogeler and Sekhsaria in compiling this fund of information and photographs, and thanked the sponsors – Endurance Technology, Endress & Hauser Flowtec. Endress & Hauser Automation – for supporting this endeavour. Many known industrialists, social activists, architects as well as Government officials attended the event. Co-Convenor Ajay Kulkarni gave the vote of thanks.

Mumbai

Senior Advocate for INTACH Shiraz Rustomjee had filed a petition in the Bombay High Court to restrain building of two multi-storeys in the heritage precinct of Khotachiwadi, a well

11th July: A guided tour for 25 enthusiastic Member participants to the recently restored heritage building of the Esplanade Mansion in Fort. Conservation Architect and Co-Convenor Vikas Dilawari introduced the detailed work that went behind restoring the beautiful colonial/baroque erstwhile residence of 1885 Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata, a project that had secured a UNESCO Asia Pacific Award.

3rd August: The Chapter hosted 120 students from 15 schools in Mumbai and 4 schools across Maharashtra for the second edition of India Heritage Quiz. St. John’s Universal School won the Mumbai Round while S.P.M. English School from Pune was the West Zone finalists who will participate in the Delhi Finals. Quizmaster Kunal Savarkar conducted
Chairman LK Gupta inaugurated the Maharashtra State Convenors Meet held at Pune on 9th August. State Convenor Mukund Bhogale and State Co-Convenor Sharvey Dhongde made the introductory remarks welcoming participants at First Round of the Quiz, aided by Gargi, Priyanka, Sanjay and Aparna from Mumbai Chapter.

6th August: Jointly with Young INTACH a film-making workshop was held to sensitize students about the city’s surroundings for 80 students from 10 different schools in Mumbai.

UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award
Co-Convenor and Conservation Architect Vikas Dilawari is congratulated on winning the 11th UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Award for Distinction in the Cultural Heritage Conservation category for the restoration of Jamshetjee Nessarwanjee Petit Institute and Library (JN Petit). Built in 1898 and extended in 1939, this building is a leading example of Neo-Gothic style in Mumbai; and houses over 1,50,000 books including a rare copy of the 11th century epic poem Shahnama and old manuscripts relating to Zoroastrian religion.

The restoration project is one among 12 winners selected by a panel of international conservation experts that met in June to review 36 entries from across the Asia-Pacific region. INTACH extends its heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Vikas Dilawari on this stellar distinction accorded to him.

Conferences attended by Vice Chairman
23rd June: Vice Chairman Tasneem Mehta delivered an introductory talk on the Preservation of Archives and Manuscripts in India, a part of the Mahindra Speaker Series ‘Many gods, many voices: Uncovering India’s Dazzling Literary History’ started by Dr. Rohan Narayana Murty, the Founder of Murty Classical Library of India (MCLI).

24th July: Vice Chairman INTACH Tasneem Mehta made a presentation on ‘Insurgent Acts’—about created exhibitions that are part of the Engaging Traditions programme at Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum.

MAGIC TOURS
Magic Tours of India, a company that created the first pan-India guided walks and tours, has presence in 25 cities as well. This year it launched three new tours in Mumbai, one being a Tree Walk in Parsi Colony, another the Dadara tour of a small village in Palghar countryside district of Maharashtra, and the third a birding tour in Mumbai which unbelievably offers fantastic birding opportunities. Apart from a variety of tours such as bazaar walks, Fort heritage district walk, art walk through Kala Ghoda, they offer tours for people wanting to experience life in the maximum city in famous local rains.

WOVEN WONDERS
The exhibition Woven Wonders of Varanasi curated by designer cum politician Shaina NC, organised by the Ministry of Culture and supported by Lakme India Fashion Week, was on view at the Bahu Daji Lad Museum from 22nd August. It is a new initiative to bring together exquisite woven saris by master craftsmen of Varanasi and famous fashion designers on a common platform. It provided a high profile opportunity to showcase the exquisite traditional weaves and contemporary designs from the eternal city. It also nudges the Make in India idea being promoted by the Government.

Pune
Chairman LK Gupta inaugurated the Maharashtra State Convenors Meet held at Pune on 9th August. State Convenor Mukund Bhogale and State Co-Convenor Sharvey Dhongde made the introductory remarks welcoming...
all the Convenors, each of whom were invited to introduce themselves.

There was a round of discussions on problems faced by each Chapter. It helped to identify some of the common issues and the solutions to be worked out with reference to local contexts. Director Chapters, Gr. Capt. Rahul Pathak also addressed the Convenors offering suggestions related to support available from Central Office for their activities. Governing Council Member Avantika Chitnavis participated in the discussion and also gave some useful suggestions.

Pune Chapter conducts a series of walks and workshops regularly every month covering off-beat heritage sites like the Garden Nature Trail by Dr. Kiran Randive; Heritage Walk in Old Poona by Jui Tawade; Ghost Stories connected with heritage monuments by Sharvey Dhogde. A very innovative idea!

Smt. Aarti Kirloskar is now the Patron of the Pune Chapter.

**Solapur**

The Chapter got a stay order against the demolition of a 19th century 240 feet tall chimney that was being demolished by builders. The Chapter is pushing hard for setting up of a Heritage Committee and notifying heritage structures. They are in discussion with local self help groups to revive Solapur sarees. A heritage walk to Dr. Kotnis Memorial and the General Post Office was conducted. Co-Convenor Shveta Kothavale presented Heritage of Solapur and Activities of INTACH at the Solapu Rotary Club.

The Chapter conducted a Shubhrai Style Painting Workshop as part of Endangered Art and Craft Workshops.

**MIZORAM**

**Aizwal**

The Culture & Heritage Club of Saihnuni Sailo Memorial School, Aizawl participated in the National Integration Camp for school children held at Kurukshetra, Haryana. They were judged the best team for showcasing traditional costumes, folk dances and music. INTACH specially congratulates them for their endeavour.

**ODISHA**

**Balasore**

On 16th August the Chapter undertook a heritage awareness programme through Essay& Art Competition on the subject Folk Arts of Balasore among Class VIII-X High School students in Odia language. Another topic given was Creating Awareness on Destruction/Vandalisation of Heritage Sites to be written in English. The winners of these competitions will be awarded on the Chapter Foundation Day. Art Competition
was also organized simultaneously in which 142 students participated, the topic given was *Nature/Village Scene* or the *Khirachora Temple* or *Chandipur Sea Beach*.

**Plantation Programme, 22nd August**

Chapter Members organized a plantation programme on 22nd August at KKS Government Women’s College, coordinated by Member Archana Nandi. Convenor Himanshu Das addressed the students highlighting issues relating to a deteriorating environment and the importance of greening the earth to improve their living environment. INTACH Members were joined by the college teaching staff and students in planting 50 fruit trees within the sprawling campus of the college. The saplings were donated by INTACH Member Choudhary Swapan Kumar Mohapatra.

**Bhubaneswar**

State Convenor AB Tripathi presided over the function held on 12th July for releasing the documentation of the famous *Jagannath Sadak*, released by the Chief Guest Odisha Minister for Tourism and Culture Ashok Pandey. Convenor H. Balakrishnan made the introductory remarks. The function was attended by Secretary Tourism Dr. Arbind Padhee, West Bengal State Convenor G.M. Kapur and Convenor Anant Mahapatra who presented an interesting visual on monuments.

The *Jagannath Sadak* runs from Kolkata to Puri, references to which are seen in a 18th century French map. The road touches Midnapore, Balasore, Niligiri, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Dharamshala, Chhatia, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar and Pipili. It took form in the 1700s and was the lifeline to the Lord’s abode in Puri. Pilgrims and travellers covered distances by bullock carts, hackneys, *palanquins*, horses, elephants, and many more trudged the distance on foot. There were choultries, *dhramshalas*, wells, culverts, bridges, temples, *ghats* and rest-sheds to ease their long journey. This road saw not only marauding Afghans, Mughals and Marathas, but also Chaitnaya, Guru Nanak and Kabir travelling to Puri. Later the British named it the *Orissa Trunk Road* but to the locals it remained the *Jagannath Sadak*. With the advent of the railways in 1892 the road fell into disuse surviving in a few isolated patches.

![Documentation of the Jagannath Sadak released](image1)

![Chapter Meeting](image2)
The launching of the *Jagannath Sadak Documentation* is thus a special occasion, and a historic piece of work. Co-Convenor SKB Narayan gave the vote of thanks on the occasion.

### NABAKALEBARA OF LORD JAGANNATH

*Nabakalebara*, a unique Hindu religious festival in many respects, is one of the grandiloquent events associated with the Jagannath Temple of Puri. *Nabakalebara* literally means - a new body; *naba* or new and *kalebara* or body. The new images take the place of old images while the old images are discarded to be buried underground. This is *Nabakalebara* for Jagannath, the Lord (*Natha*) of the Universe (*Jagata*). In conformity with the belief that Lord Jagannath is truly a ‘Living Deity’ with an astonishingly ingenuous human touch, it is believed he moves through the life cycle of death and birth. Hence the sequences of shedding his old body and getting into the new one in a remarkably unique and mystic ceremony.

*Nabakalebara* takes place during the *Adikamasa* (intercalary month) when two lunar months of *Ashadha* fall in one year, as per the Hindu almanac. Such a rare occasion usually occurs once in 12 years, but the gap may range from 8-19 years. In the 20th century, *Nabakalebara* was celebrated in 1912, 1931, 1950, 1969, 1977 and 1996. Elaborate rituals, numerous myths and several celestial incidents are attached to this auspicious fair sparking a great deal of religious fervour across Odisha.

The book by A.K. Pattanayak, lucidly written and well illustrated, is his “humble offering” to readers to know the significance of this festival in all its complexity, and enlightening to both specialists as well as lay readers.

### Jajpur

The Jajpur Chapter was inaugurated on 10th October by Chairman LK Gupta during his visit to Orissa covered under Central News.

Shri Balaram Mohanty is the newly appointed Chairman of the Chapter. He will be assisted by Co-Convenor Binoda Chandra Nayak. INTACH welcomes them into our fold with many good wishes for the success of this newly established Chapter.
effective teaching-learning methods. After a scintillating performance by the physically handicapped children, they were equally enthusiastic about planting 100 saplings on their premises.

A similar programme was held at R.K. New Govt. High School which is close to the Similipal Bio-diversity. An audio-visual presentation on the flora and fauna of Similipal was shown to the students which had a great impact on them. Programme concluded with young people planting 50 fruit bearing saplings.

**Sonepur**

Chairman inaugurated another Chapter, the Sonepur Chapter on 11th October, during his Odisha tour.

INTACH welcomes Shri Sarat Kumar Satapathy, the newly appointed Convenor of the Chapter. Shri Pradyumna Kumar Sahu will assist him as the appointed Co-Convenor of the Chapter. A warm welcome is extended to them with our good wishes for every success in the major responsibilities of setting up a new Chapter.

INTACH Central Office has already received a DVD from the Chapter on the visual work *IKAT: Poetry in Fine Thread*, on the tie and dye art of Odisha weavers.

**CONDOLENCES**

INTACH is much grieved to announce the sad demise of Convenor Ms. Sayekumari on 20th September after ailing for some time. She was an esteemed Convenor, and the news is all the more tragic as it comes so soon after the loss of her predecessor Convenor Ajit Koujalgi. Member Secretary CT Misra recalls “I had the occasion of meeting her last year during the workshop on Stone Carving in Puducherry, and was deeply impressed by her firm commitment to conservation and heritage. Inspite of her ill health and inability to move easily, she made the effort to come and visit the workshop and meet all the participants and visitors. INTACH will feel the loss of her benign presence, and we wish her family all strength to bear the loss of such a motherly figure”.

**PUNJAB**

In a statement to the press, State Convenor and Governing Council Member Dr. Sukhdev Singh heartily welcomed the inclusion of three Punjab cities in the list of *Smart Cities*. He emphasized the need for greater sensitivity, care and planning in the development of these cities. The various development projects would necessitate greater intervention by the Government, and care needed to be taken to ensure that new development do not adversely impact the old fabric and landscaping of these cities. There was an imperative need to expedite regulations so that old built and landscaped heritage is protected while new projects are implemented. He appealed to the State Government to expedite Heritage Regulations to ensure that new interventions are effected on the basis of well stated legal provisions.

**RAJASTHAN**

**Ajmer**

Rajasthan Co-Convenor Dharmendar Knwar informs that the Union Government has sanctioned Rs. 48 crore for the restoration and conservation works in the heritage city of Pushkar-Ajmer. She has been appointed Member of the Hriday City Ajmer Advisory Committee, one of the 12 cities short listed under the Centre’s scheme. A list of 33 consultants has been provided for utilization of funds, and the care needed to be taken to ensure that new developments do not adversely impact the old fabric and landscaping of this heritage area.

The Chapter marked World Museum Day with a two day exhibition at the State Museum inaugurated by the District
industry to acquaint them with the actual process of Azrak printing. Two of the promising participants were selected for a higher level heritage workshop to be held at Delhi.

Bikaner

The Chapter, in collaboration with the Rajasthan Janhit Pranyas, launched the translated version of “Asthā Re Mandakini” at the Town Hall. Chief Guest Dr. A.K. Gehlot, Vice Chancellor Veterinary University, Bikaner said the book is inspiring and portrays the ancient lifestyle and culture of the region. A book fare was also organized on the occasion,

Barmer

World Tourism Day visit to Junaptnasar

Chapter Members went on a Nature walk at the endangered forest area of Junaptnasar.

A Skill & Capacity Building Workshop was organized by the Chapter jointly with HECS for 20 students and their teachers on 17th September. They were taken to a small
attended by local dignitaries, guests and many INTACH Members.

Jaipur

Convenor Dharmender Kanwar delivered a lecture on the importance of heritage preservation to 35 students from the Department of Architecture and Planning, Manipal University, Jaipur.

Students at the Lecture Session

The Chapter filed a PIL against the damage caused to the City Wall as part of its conservation efforts. The Court took a firm view and ordered the Jaipur Nagar Nigam to address the encroachment issue at the earliest.

The Convenor laments the loss of so many havelis in Shekhavati, and the total lack of Heritage Regulations after 25 years of the Chapter’s effort to draw attention to this lacuna. She has succeeded however in getting the assurance of the Secretary concerned that the State Government will undertake the restoration of 28 baolis in the Ramgarah Mandawa area listed by INTACH Natural Heritage Division.

Jodhpur

CONDOLENCES

INTACH is saddened to learn about the demise of Dr. Mahendra Singh Naggar, an outstanding Convenor of Jodhpur Chapter. He also served as Director General, Mehrangarh Museum Trust. Dr. Naggar has to his credit considerable research works on Art, History and Culture, and many articles published in national and local papers. His work on Traditional Turbans and Headgears of Rajasthan is well known and well received. His name appears in the 2001 Limca Book of Records for collecting 150 different types of Rajasthani turbans.

Dr. Mahendra Singh Naggar was the recipient of many national and international awards for his work in the field of Art and Cultural Heritage. His absence will be greatly felt by INTACH. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his family with many good wishes for the future.

Kota

Shri Shyam Sunder Jha is the new Convenor of the Kota Chapter. He will be assisted by Shri Giriraj Nyati, the newly appointed Co-Convenor. Welcome to INTACH! In a city teeming with aspiring young students there is great scope for involving youth in heritage activities. INTACH wishes them every success in meeting this one of many challenging responsibilities.

Sirohi

The Chapter, as a part of heritage awareness programme conducted a competition based on “Famous Festivals and Traditions” of the district. The categories included essay, painting and poster making competitions open to all the schools of the district in which they participated enthusiastically. The winners were facilitated by the Chapter.
Chennai

The Chapter organized a series of events for the ‘Madras Week’. A documentary screening of India’s Disappearing Beaches - A Wake Up Call, in association with PondyCan and the Alliance Francaise, was held in August. Another film made by the Chapter The Story of Madras…. Chennai tracing the city’s history and highlighting it’s built heritage was screened on the Marina Beach. On this occasion a Heritage Map was also released.

As part of heritage awareness programme a INTACH Heritage Photo Contest was organised to discover the hidden heritage of the city. A shadow puppetry performance Arichandranin Kathai by D. Muthuchandran, a sixth generation puppeteer was also held.

The Chapter in association with Chennai Corporation put up pannels of heritage buildings with INTACH logo at various bus stops in the city.

The talk “Future of Ecological Areas of Chennai” by Dr. Jayshree Vencatesan on 11th September was organized by the Chapter jointly with Queen Mary’s College. The 400-year old history of Chennai’s evolution into a metropolis is well documented, but not its ecological history which is comparatively poor.

While a mosaic of habitats including wetlands and scrub characterize various habitats, a species that was common to all was the Palmyra palm dominated landscape. Through the years it has been lost or transformed into denser forest type vegetation in various parts of Chennai. Despite the onslaught of urbanization, Chennai continues to preserve its ecology in fragments. The talk took the audience through some of these fragments of the city and discussed what lies ahead.
**Coimbatore**

The Chapter held a Pupul Jaykar Lecture on 11th September to mark her centenary year, delivered by the eminent historian and epigraphist Dr. Y. Subbarayalu. He spoke about the history of South India between the 9th-13th centuries, with the inscriptions of that time being the only primary source of information to trace history, art and culture of the Chola period. The lecture attracted considerable attendance by professors and students of history from many local colleges.

Founder Convenor Shashi Ghulati recalled her personal interactions with Smt. Jayakar who has been the inspiration for heritage conservation and institution of INTACH.

**Madurai**

Convenor Uma Kannan states that the inaugural issue of the Madurai Chapter Newsletter was brought out “to create awareness of the need to promote, preserve and protect the uniqueness of Madurai”. It covers diverse subjects like traditional wisdom, medicines, recipes, book reviews, photography, quiz and puzzles; apart from articles by Chapter Members. There is a little bit of something for everyone!

Co-Convenor Rajesh Khanna coordinated a visit for Chapter Members to the excavation site at Silaiman near Madurai on 26th July, where the ASI has been working on a project for the last six months. The breakthrough finds include pottery, coins and remains dating back to Sangam Age (3rd BC–200 AD). ASI official explained the significance of the site and the rare finds. The Chapter offered to organize a display of these heritage objects at the end of the project.

The Chapter has also made a concerted effort to encourage youth to appreciate the many splendoured heritage of their city. It took charge of one session of a camp organized by the Rotary Club of Malligai on 15th August. About 50 students celebrated the Independence Day addressed by Dr. Venkataraman, and received caps from INTACH.

“*If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three key societal members who can make a difference. They are the father, the mother and the teacher*”. - APJ Abdul Kalam (Quote from Madurai Monthly Newsletter)

**Nagercoil**

Convenor Dr. R.S. Lal Mohan and Member T.S. Sundaram located a batch of roosting pelicans on the artificial island in the Parrakai Tank of Kanyakumari district. Pelicans are large fish eating wetland birds that have a pouch in their throat. The nesting session of these birds is said to be from November to April. Their nesting in July is special as it indicates an extension perhaps of the nesting period in Kanyakumari District?

Convenor Lal Mohan sent a report on the desilting of three irrigation tanks in Villukuri Panhayat, Kalkulam Taluk and the Kanyakumari District. The tanks at Villukari named Natchiyar Kulam, Kalakundi Kulam and the Ambalathadi Kulam were desilted during August–September period with the permission of the District Collector Shahjam Singh Chawan who attended the inauguration along with local
MLAs and officials. The biodiversity of these tanks are also being studied after various fish and tortoise were collected from them. This initiative created awareness of wetland protection, after being covered widely by the Press. A large number of students have now visited the tanks.

The Chapter deserves kudos for saving the sand dunes and turtle nesting sites in Rajakamangalam coast in Kanyakumari. With the help of local villagers, the Chapter managed to get a stay order from the National Green Tribunal in Chennai against the clearance given by local authorities to remove the sand dunes. Based on the information confirmed by a Committee, the Central Ministry of Environment and Forests sent a show cause notice to the Fishing Harbour Company that had acquired 40 acres from the State Government for their use, endangering the nesting sites and sand dunes.

**CONDOLENCES**

INTACH is grieved to announce the unexpected demise of Shri T.S. Sundaram, an active Member of the Nagercoil Chapter. He passed away on 23rd September after a fall. His mortal remains were cremated at his native place in Keezhoor, Thiruppathisaram.

INTACH sends condolences to all members of the Sundaram family with good wishes for strength and comfort to bear this sudden loss in their midst.

**Nilgiri**

Convenor Geetha Srinivasan’s interview published by *Eco Trial* about herself as an “Interpid Environmentalist” makes fascinating reading. She is a woman of many parts, and many interests. Her work in the conservation of the ‘Blue Mountains’ and its environment has been covered in Virasat periodically. Her interest in them span many years, going back to her school days and summer vacations at her grandfather’s sprawling bungalow in Ooty and trekking to *Doddabetta*. Years later her stints as Chairman WWF-India, and then Vice President of the Nilgiris Wildlife & Environment Association, gave her expertise on the Nilgiri biosphere. One of the highlights she nostalgically recalls in the interview was filming of *Man, the Endangered Species* along with Benoy Behl. Other landmarks of her life she recalls were fund raising for WWF-I through an exhibition of eminent artists in Mumbai; winning the Guinness award for planting indigenous trees with the help of 300 volunteers; the anti-plastic pollution campaign that won the Rajiv Gandhi Conservation Award. Recently she was invited by the Standing Committee of Parliamentarians on Science and Technology and Environment for a presentation on the Madhumalai Tiger Reserve and how it is being choked by parthenium and lantana.

She says, “Nature is the ultimate Guru”. She has even managed to convince her husband Dr. MS Srinivasan, a former Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, to become environmentally conscious and conservation oriented!

**Thanjavur**

The Thanjavur Chapter conducted the INTACH Heritage Quiz with the participation of 100 students from 13 schools. Kamala Subramaniam Matriculation Higher Secondary School won the written round.
UTTARAKHAND

Debra Dun

The State Chapter organized a fascinating art exhibition titled *Arna Aasthha – Melas and Bazaars along the Rivers of UP* by artist Pankaj Gupta. Jointly with the Tata Consultancy Services, it was inaugurated by UNICEF Head Niloufar Pourzand. State Convenor Jayant Krishna, eminent scientist Dr. Qamar Rahman, heritage enthusiast Raja Mehmoodabad, Secretary Kanak Rekha Chauhan of *Lucknow Expressions* and several art lovers graced the event.

The exhibition held over two days attracted many viewers fascinated by the traditional market fairs that are periodically held along the *Ganga* in Varanasi and Allahabad, the *Gomti* in Lucknow, the *Yamuna* in Mathura, and the *Saryu* in Ayodhya. No wonder it generated coverage in all the local papers and news channels.

Allahabad

The Chapter held a meeting of all its Members on 26th August, with former Convenor Shambhu Chopra giving an introduction to the early years of the Chapter. He mentioned two significant works that were completed by the Chapter - the listing of Allahabad identifying 87 historic buildings and the restoration of the fallen wall of Allahabad Fort. Issues and solutions to developing Allahabad as a heritage city were discussed over a power point presentation by the present Convenor Pragyana Mehrotra. The meeting was attended by INTACH Governing Council Member S.K. Verma, who assured funds for the launch of “Saraswati” and sustenance of the Chapter’s first four quarterly publications. Members discussed at length the various heritage awareness events/programmes that are in the pipeline to boost the objectives of the Chapter.

Pauri Garhwal

The Chapter organized events at local primary schools, as a heritage awareness drive. They learnt about the various heritage sites of the State, and took a solemn oath to plant at least one sapling to keep their environment clean and green.

Members with Convenor Pragyna Sharma

Convenor Lokesh Ohri informed that a two-day module for the training of potential walk leaders was conducted by the Chapter in Mussoorie. Two heritage walks - *The Colonial & Afghan Links Heritage Walk* and the *Landour Infinity Walk* were also part of this module. More than 70 people participated in these walks, while 17 volunteer walk leaders were initiated into conducting heritage walks that will be scheduled in future. A broad vision was also drawn up for them.

Children participating in the awareness event

Participants of Heritage Walk
Shri Anupam Parihar is the new Co-Convenor of the Allahabad Chapter. We extend our warm welcome and many good wishes for his success.

Gorakhpur

The Chapter published a handy Tourist Guide on the Heritage City Gorakhpur viewed through the “window of history”. It was released on 27th September, World Tourism Day. Perhaps no other country in the world has as many historic and heritage sites in every small town as in India.

Recently a brass statue of Buddha was found in the Ghagra River. The District Magistrate requested the Chapter to examine the statue. A team comprising of Convenor M.P.Kandoi, Co-Convenor P.K.Lahiri, Kumkum Lahiri and Life Member Ghasyam Kumar examined it. It appears to be about 200-250 years old, and has been referred to ICI Lucknow for an expert opinion so that the idol can be handed over to ASI.

World Tourism Day was celebrated by the Chapter jointly with the UP Tourism Department in Heritage Hotel Vivek at Gorakhpur. Commissioner Gorakhpur Division P. Guruprasad was Chief Guest and the programme was presided by retired Professor Dr. Jayamal Rai, a former Head of Department Deen Dayal Gorakhpur University.

Convenor MP Kandoi welcomed the guests which included Faculty of University, distinguished citizens, custodian of various heritage assets in the city and the media. Some of them were present for the release of the booklet Virasat Sabar Gorakhpur Itihas ke Jarokhe Se. Co-Convenor P.K Lahiri elaborated on the heritage places mentioned in book, narrating for example how the matter of Basant Sarai was quickly tackled and about the future avenues which INTACH intended to explore.

Commissioner Gorakhpur applauded the work carried out by INTACH. He offered to lead some of the heritage walks and suggested that the Administration will provide all facilities to develop the places as tourist centres. He asked the Chapter to assist in revision of Gazeteer and assist in restarting the Gorakhpur Mahotsava.

Dr. Jaimal Rai spoke on the ancient history of Gorakhpur. The proceedings were conducted by Life Member Dr. Mumtaz Khan.
**Lucknow**

The Chapter organized a musical evening with the famous folk artist Malini Awasthi enthralling the audience with traditional songs. She explained the meaning, significance and context of the songs which was highly appreciated by the gathering. It was another such programme in a series conducted by the Chapter to carry forward INTACH’s mission of conserving and promoting oral traditions and expressions.

Director AHD Divay Gupta and UP State Convenor Jayant Krishna made a detailed presentation on the Conservation and Re-use Plan of Chattar Manzil to Chief Secretary Alok Ranjan, Secretary Culture Anita Meshram and other senior officers of Uttar Pradesh Government. This project recommends adaptive reuse of Chattar Manzil complex, an architectural wonder of Lucknow’s built heritage wealth. It should be put to adaptive re-use as a cultural museum to be named “Shaan-e-Awadh”. It would provide a great opportunity for visitors to experience this historic city.

The Chief Secretary complimented INTACH for an excellent work done and said that Chattar Manzil has the potential to become a showcase project in heritage conservation for development of tourism in India. All newspapers in Lucknow published prominent stories on this suggested venture.

**Orai**

In collaboration with the Postal Ticket Club, the Chapter held a Coin Exhibition with displays from many private collections. Of special interest was part of the exhibition comprising coins depicting various elements, religious deities and coins from over 31 countries. The exhibition also gave an insight into Numismatics, and was widely reported in the local media.
Varanasi

Shri Ajay Ratan Banerjee is appointed the new Co-Convenor of the Chapter. There will be many opportunities for the Chapter to contribute to the HRIDAY project entrusted to INTACH. We wish him every success.

WEST BENGLA

Darjeeling

The Chapter opposed the decision of West Bengal Government to construct a Hawkers’ Market at Chowrasta-Mall area, which is sacred to the locals and often frequented by tourists. It organized a meeting of all the stakeholders at the local level and the construction of the proposed market complex was shelved.

The Chapter took up heritage awareness activities at various places, organizing as many as fifteen such events involving school students, teachers, local people, social organizations and political leaders. Two heritage walks in Darjeeling Municipality and Kurseong Municipality areas; and two tree plantations were also organized to create public awareness. The work of heritage listing is ongoing.

Santiniketan

The Chapter completed restoration work of Hetampur Rajbari brass chariot which contributed significantly to the enthusiasm for Rathajatra celebrations as the rath was mobilised after a long period.

Like every year, Palash Utsav was observed at Ballavpurdanga with the planting of palash and Chapter Members’ get-together.
Eating 50 degrees in northern parts of India and great water and food security stress, according to a new study released in London. The Council on Energy, Environment and Water is the Indian partner for the study funded by UK foreign office. Its Chief Executive Arunbha Ghosh endorses that climate change would cost India US $200 billion per annum if we fail to adopt adequate measures and reduce carbon emissions. High heat stress has other implications, including restrictions on outdoor work, sports and not getting sound sleep. Wake-Up India!

Terraforming Planets

If the climate drift continues, mankind might well be reduced to ‘terraforming’ other planets. US Defence scientists are already planning to use genetically engineered algae, bacteria and plants to transform the Mars climate radically, and turn it into a more friendly earth-like planet. Initially the Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) plans to use specifically engineered organisms to help repair environmental damage. In future it aims to thicken the Mars atmosphere by growing green photosynthesizing plants, bacteria and algae on its barren red planet. Its Deputy Director Alicia Jackson states “For the first time, we have the technological toolkit to transform not just hostile places here on Earth, but to go into the space not just to visit, but to stay”.

Before Columbus

Going back into time, could it be that Chinese discovered America 2800 years before Columbus? A research doctorate in Education John Ruskamp, Illinois claims to have spotted carvings above a walking path in the Petroglyph National Monument in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He says “the readable message was likely these petroglyphs were inscribed by a group of Chinese explorers thousands of years ago”. To date, Ruskamp has also identified over 82 petroglyphs matching the unique Chinese scripts also at other sites in Arizona, Utah, Ontario, Nevada, California and Oklahoma. The mixed styles of Chinese scripts indicate they date to a transitional period of Chinese writing not long after 1046 BC, the syntax and mix corresponding to what experts believe Chinese explorers would have used 2500 years ago! Columbus discovered America only in 1492, and the rest is history.
In the past, some scholars have indeed studied and published works on the mural tradition that once flourished in Kerala. Recently a dedicated group comprising ASI officials, archaeologists, librarian, conservation assistant, surveyor and photographer have collaborated to put together a detailed micro-level study of Kerala painting, describing and analyzing them in depth. Specially to be mentioned are Director General ASI Dr. Rakesh Tewari, Dr. M. Nambirajan, INTACH Tamil Nadu Convenor Dr. S. Suresh and Prof. MGS Narayanan. It is an exquisite publication and in-depth study bringing to light some rare themes unknown to mural or sculptural art anywhere in India. It is not just a valuable reference manual for academic specialists and art students, but for anyone who takes pride and values the enormous heritage legacy of India. It leaves you lingering over page after page of exquisite works of our ancestors.
Ministry of Corporate Affairs notification effective April 2014 states Companies of Rs. 500 crore net worth or Rs. 10,000 crore or more turnover, or Rs. 5 crore net worth profit during any financial year, must constitute a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Committee to recommend to their Board the amount to be spent on social causes. At least 2% of the average net profits of the Company during the three immediately preceding years should be spent on activities like eradication of hunger or malnutrition; or enhancing vocational skills, education, safe drinking water etc. important to society.

CSR also covers socially vital activities like conservation of nature; environmental sustainability; protection of heritage properties, works of art, and intangible heritage. These are specialised subjects of INTACH activities since its foundation 30 years ago. The Trust is recognized as an institute of national importance by the Government, and is executing many such projects in partnership with State Governments across the country and at the Centre. The Corporate sector can take up conservation activities through INTACH. It will enhance their public image, and enables them to avail of 2% tax exemption while executing corporate social responsibilities.

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

**TERRACOTTA TEMPLES OF MEDINAPUR, WEST BENGAL**
Radhabinod’s Shaterochura Rasmancha, a significant example of ‘baroque’ vase pinnacle turrets locally known as ‘behrisune’ is a religious structure located in Purbagopalpur Village, East Medinipur District, West Bengal.

**CALL FOR HELP!**
Enlightened Corporates to preserve and protect our National Wealth!