IN THIS ISSUE

Post Graduate Diploma in Heritage Studies 3
News from Central Office 7
Heritage Tourism Division / Publications Cell 9
Natural Heritage Division (NHD) 9
A & MH Division / ICI 16
Architectural Heritage Division (AHD) 25
Heritage Craft and Community Division (HCCD) 31
Intangible Cultural Heritage Division (ICHD) 33
Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) 40
Chapters 57
News from Here & There 99
POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN HERITAGE STUDIES

Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) established in 1984, has been exploring and examining several new fields related to the natural and cultural assets of India over the last 34 years. Today INTACH has over 200 Chapters in India and 3 overseas, with a voluntary membership of nearly 9000 people of diverse backgrounds, such as: administrators, policy-makers, architects, archaeologists, entrepreneurs, historians, conservators, researchers, students, and the general public. INTACH has 10 specialised Divisions located at its Central Office in New Delhi, each dedicated to a specific aspect of heritage conservation. Having built unparalleled expertise, accumulated extensive knowledge and gathered vast experience, INTACH decided to establish an INTACH Academic Division (IHA) at Central Office to disseminate existing knowledge and enhance heritage conservation, understanding, practice, awareness, advocacy and research - and to impart new knowledge and advancements in the field. The INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA) was established on 18th April 2012 on the occasion of the Pupul Jayakar Memorial Day. This day also marks the celebration of the ICOMOS International Day for Monuments and Sites. Its establishment was approved by the 22nd UNESCO General Conference in 1983 and is popularly known as the World Heritage Day.

On 13th August 2018, the INTACH Heritage Academy took a major leap forward by inaugurating the Post Graduate Diploma in Heritage Studies with the presence of Chairman LK Gupta, Vice Chairman Dr. Saryu Doshi and Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra and Member of the Executive Committee Anita Singh.

Where does IHA go from here? What are the higher academic aspirations for any institution? IHA Principal Director Navin Piplani says the answers lie in reflecting upon the vision, mission and activities of the Academy and the progress trajectory.

Since its inception, the Academy was engaged with three main tasks: training, research and capacity building. It designed and delivered several training courses and capacity building workshops in different parts of the country. It also supported a considerable body of path-breaking research on multi-disciplinary themes related to tangible, intangible and living heritage. Every year a milestone was achieved in terms of sharing the existing knowledge, developing new skills and conceiving unique programmes, such as open short courses that are on-going, training of PWD engineers, setting up an international network of sustainable creative economies, accreditation of traditional craftsmen, INTACH cities for culture, INTACH research scholarships, INTACH award for excellence in documentation of unprotected
IHA started with a vision of developing a centre of excellence for training and capacity building in the conservation and management of natural and cultural heritage in India. Its mission was to encourage capacity building by developing skills through training programmes, formulate guidelines for conservation training at various levels, promote and undertake research and documentation of traditional knowledge systems, build craft skills, offer special courses on conservation and management of cultural heritage places, and connect the training and capacity building needs and potentials across the Divisions and Chapters of INTACH. The training imparted by the Academy strengthened the implementation of INTACH mission and objectives across the sub-continent and in the wider international context.

Having achieved its objectives during the first five years, IHA also realized that there was a serious demand for a full-time higher education programme in the domain of heritage studies. There were only a handful of formal postgraduate courses in India and mostly limited to architecture students. There was thus an urgent need to establish a multidisciplinary course that brings together participants from heritage and allied disciplines and practices. INTACH therefore announced the one year full-time *Diploma in Heritage Studies* in April 2018. The course was developed upon the accumulated intellectual and empirical wealth of INTACH. According to IHA, there are two main disconnects in the heritage conservation context: first - the gap between eastern and western conservation approaches; and second - the lack of continuity between the traditional and modern conservation practices. This new course is therefore designed to address both these concerns in the indigenous Indian and a wider international context. It is envisioned as a first-of-its-kind course in the country. It includes and integrates significant aspects of archaeology, conservation and management. The course is progressive in nature, with specific focus on understanding the philosophy and practice of cultural heritage conservation and management. The course is progressive in nature, with specific focus on understanding the philosophy and practice of cultural heritage conservation and management in India and worldwide. An important aspect of the course is that it conforms to the *Guidelines for Education and Training in Conservation* drafted by the late Sir Bernard Feilden, and adopted by ICOMOS in 1993.

The course structure comprises of five distinct, yet overlapping, strands of teaching and learning: Theory, Practical, Skills, Master Class and Continuing Professional Development (CPD). They will be taught in combination of lectures, hands-on working sessions, workshops, focused discussions, seminars and tutorials. All modules and classes are mandatory for students registered for the course. There will be certain modules, master classes and CPD courses that will be open to the external participants at a nominal charge.

The course comprises of four terms or trimesters: Monsoon term (August – October), Winter term (November – January), Spring term (February – April) and Summer term (May – July). The teaching component of the course will be covered during the first three trimesters starting in August every year. These components are categorized into theory, practice and skills, and together they will cover the history, evolution, philosophy and practice of the conservation of historic environment – built and natural. The fourth trimester is assigned to undertake and complete individual research or project of a student’s own interest and passion.

The course announcement received an immediate and overwhelming response through mail, social media, phone calls and in-person enquiries. The responses came not only from within India, but also overseas with queries. What is the duration of the course? Will it be available in the distance learning mode or online? Can we attend the course over weekdays or in the evenings? Am I eligible for the course? What is the scope for employment at the end of this course? These were the nature of questions that were posed at IHA. They were also promptly informed that the one year long course required attendance of lectures and working sessions almost daily. The course is not offered online, for it is essential to have first hand and personal interaction for a course of this nature. Particularly as there will be considerable
emphasis on the practical hands-on aspect that can only be achieved by working at site along with fellow students and traditional master craftsmen. A few lectures may be shared via web screening but not the entire course. IHA emphasis is on the value and benefit of personal interaction, the use of INTACH Knowledge Centre, exposure to technical divisions and material conservation laboratories, and peer learning. There will be informal encounters at tea/coffee/lunch sessions that lead to delivery of the course at INTACH Central Office in New Delhi. Broadly speaking, the course will cover everything that is essential for a great career as a ‘heritage professional’.

Initially there was some skepticism about the benefits and scope of this course – and the quality of knowledge and experience gained. INTACH is the largest and most widespread heritage organization in India. The opportunities for getting involved in the activities of INTACH are innumerable in terms of employability. One of the key and most convincing arguments was that there are very limited jobs in the public sector; the entire Archaeological Survey of India for example employs only one full-time conservation architect (or conservation professional). There are just a handful of conservation professionals who are engaged on contract basis. Much of the scope for employment is therefore in the private sector. This course prepares the students with a knowledge base, critical thinking, informed perspective, specialized expertise, wider experience and practical skills that will serve as tools with which to address any problem, situation or complexity. The strength of the course lies in its multi-disciplinary approach, inclusive nature and progressive thinking.

The first cohort of students belongs to diverse education and geographical backgrounds: law, economics, literature,
history, museum studies, engineering and architecture, coming from Delhi, Chennai, Coimbatore, Hyderabad, Hisar, Dehradun and Thimpu (Bhutan). The age profile varies from a fresh graduate from Delhi University to a senior Central Government official (who has taken voluntary retirement). The major thrust of the course will be on critical thinking and learner-centric pedagogy. The students will be urged to develop a wider and inclusive understanding of 'Heritage' in all its forms, scale and complexity. They will gain an informed perspective on the protection, preservation and continuity of the significant aspects of culture and its expression. Opportunities will also be designed for students to build connections with heritage experts, cultural practitioners and research organizations. Hopefully they will become part of a wider conservation community – and future saviors of our environment.

**STUDENT’S COMMENTS**

*As a legal professional with an interest in heritage studies I am glad that INTACH has introduced this multidisciplinary diploma program in Heritage Studies for the first time in India.* - Bindu K

*Opening up the course to professionals from varied fields and external participants has resulted in encouraging informed interactions amongst us.* - Ashmitha E Athreya

*The first of its kind professional course gives exposure and platform to interact and share knowledge with experts from this field and others, very different from any other courses offered by universities.* – Sruthy Boopathy

*As a student just passed out from architecture college it is a great course to start a profession in heritage conservation. Also it is helping a lot as a base for my higher studies.* - Ankita Karotkar

*As an ex-civil servant with interest in conservation of India’s natural and cultural heritage, INTACH’s one-year course on Heritage Studies has given me an opportunity to explore the area in an interactive, multi-disciplinary setting and hopefully develop some skills that would enable me to contribute to the field in some manner.*

  - Pankaj Tripathi

*Being an architect and having interest in old buildings and monuments I always wanted to understand the core of heritage and conservation. So I decided to take up this course which I think will provide what I am looking for.*

  - Chandan Kathpal
Message from Chairman

Dear Members,

I would like to recapitulate the steps taken to strengthen the role and involvement of Members in INTACH activities. Starting with the Convenors/Co-Convenor’s orientation programme in 2010, Membership Capacity Building course was commenced in 2015. These courses were instituted so that Members become aware of the type of roles we can play depending on our interest and capability in protecting our heritage. Two such courses are being organized every year i.e. October and April. I do implore you to volunteer in attending these courses. These courses are fully funded i.e. travel, boarding and lodging at Delhi by the Central Office. This refresher will add to not only to your personality but also provide an opening to you to becoming a community leader.

Another INTACH initiative has been the institution of research scholarships to encourage research in discovering of our heritage. It is meant to strengthen seeking of knowledge of our heritage, ourselves. Applications for these scholarships should be made as per the formats provided by INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA) on INTACH Website. PhD. students and research students can also apply for these scholarships.

I also wish to highlight the potential of Institutional Members. Every Chapter has Institutional Members. I recommend that more heritage awareness programmes be held in collaboration with these institutions, so that students studying in institutions, both local and from outside become aware of the heritage around the Institutions in which they were studying. This will also encourage students when they go back to their homes to look for similar stories about heritage around the places of their residence and strengthen the cause of heritage in the country.

Further, we need to constantly update ourselves on knowledge of our heritage. In this regard, we have re-organized our library and the knowledge that we have acquired within INTACH over the last 34 years centred at INTACH Knowledge Centre (IKC) at 71, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi. It is important that whatever knowledge you have acquired through your various programmes, tours or studies regarding our heritage be shared with INTACH Knowledge Centre so that all of us benefit from your endeavour.

Lastly, I have been visiting, meeting the Members, Convenors, Co-Convenors and State Convenors practically every month. I am indeed proud of your initiatives despite the severe limitation of resources. Chapters have been the life blood of INTACH in creating awareness of our heritage, participating enthusiastically in the programmes being organized by the Heritage Education and Communications Services (HECS) interacting more and more with specialized Divisions of INTACH (A.H., M.H., N.H., ICH). Please keep up in this endeavour and remain on constant vigil regarding any dangers being posed towards our heritage.

With best wishes,

Major General LK Gupta (Retd.). AVSM
**Chairman’s Tours**

Chairman LK Gupta visited Vishakhapatnam on 25th-26th July, followed by a Press Conference. Subsequently, there was an interactive session with Members of the Buddhist Monuments and the geological site **Red Sand Dames**.

Chairman chaired the Andhra Pradesh States Chapter Meeting at Guntur, followed by a visit to the Amravati Museum. During his brief stay he had the opportunity to attend a meeting held to honour **Param Veer Chakra** awardee Subedar Major Yogendra Singh Yadav who captured Tiger Hill during the Kargil war. At Vijayawada he also met officials of the State Government headed by its Principal Secretary arranged by AP State Convenor M Gopalakrishna. He also visited Machilipatnam for interaction with Chapter Members.

**Rajasthan State Chapters Meet**

Chairman LK Gupta presided the Rajasthan State Chapter Meeting held on 4th August at Jaipur. He had the opportunity to interact with 21 Convenors for a brainstorming session. He advised them to induct more persons as ‘INTACH Friends’, and encourage Institutional Members to be more participative in the context of “Smart City” projects. He suggested that at least 2 Members must attend the *Capacity Building Workshop* periodically held at Central Office. Chairman requested an update on incomplete projects. Chairman will consider financial help requested by Karauli Chapter for documentation of rare folk songs of the region. He suggested that the listing of Pushkar and Ajmer heritage be expedited. Chairman directed that all Rajasthan Chapters Convenor to send a complete listing of Sacred Groves in their region within a month. All project proposals of new Chapters must be sent to Chairman for consideration.

Availing the opportunity of this visit he paid a visit to the Pushkar Sub Chapter and held a meeting with the Ajmer Chapter Members on 5th-6th August. The last stop was the meeting with Members of the Karauli Chapter on 7th August, where he also visited a few sites to see the on-going work undertaken at heritage sites by the local PWD.

On 10th September the Tamil Nadu Chapter Meeting was held at Coimbatore attended by Chairman. He proceeded to Kodaikanal for the inauguration of the *Pop Museum* showcasing both tangible and intangible heritage.

On 24th September Chairman visited the Pune Chapter for the inauguration of an exhibition on *Indian Scripts & Crafts* at the Balgandhava Rangmanic. It coincided with the 98 years old PEN (Poets, Essayists, Novelist) organization which held its International Congress this year at Pune from 25th-29th September. Chairman was invited to the gathering on 25th September “from Lunch to Dinner” where participants from nearly 80 countries gathered at the Hyatt Regency. Chairman inaugurated their exhibition on Indian Scripts and Craft put up by the *Dastakari Haat Samiti* at the Balgandharva Rangmandir Gallery. It was an extraordinary exhibition for its imaginative quality. He addressed a small group welcoming PEN Centres and gifted them copies of Mahatma Gandhi’s *My Experiments with Truth*.
An Information Display Board at Khonoma Village was proposed by Convenor of Nagaland State Chapter. This is a premier village destination of Nagaland, frequented by a large number of visitors and tourists. The budget of Rs. 1.45 lakh was approved and the project will be executed from the allocated funds of the Division in support of work wherever necessary to be undertaken by the Architecture Division. The information about the village will showcase Khonoma and its historical places, intangible cultural heritage and community socio-cultural signatures.

A proposal for production of a travel guide on the Konkan Region, encompassing the west coast of India, has also been approved at a budgeted development cost of Rs. 4 lakhs. The Guide will be published by the Division in collaboration with Eicher Goodearth Pvt. Ltd. This region of India has some of the most pristine areas which are still untouched and unspoilt by tourism. They are prime areas for niche eco-tourism activities. The book will cover both the tangible and intangible aspects of the areas, which are rich in literature, crafts, traditions, music and other heritage facets.

The content of the Guide will include an introduction to the geography, mythology and history of the region. It will cover the three States of Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka. There will also be a section on flora, fauna and national parks and also another section on the people of Konkan region.

The book titled *Omkaresvar-Mandhata: History and Archaeology of a Paramara Town in the Narmada Valley* is being produced and published in collaboration with Aryan Books International. A comprehensive survey of the extant historic monuments was undertaken at this well known island town, which is also an important place of pilgrimage in the Narmada Valley. The author Jurgen Neuss studied Indology at Berlin and Allahabad, and has worked on the cultural history of the Narmada Valley for almost two decades. The book will be a continuation of the earlier work on the Narmada Valley by Professor RK Sharma and would contribute to recording the rich culture of this unique region.

**Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division**

At a recent brain storming meet for rejuvenation of Paleontology in India the work of NH Division on Geoheritage was noted. Principal Director NHD Manu Bhatnagar spoke on preservation issues associated with Geoheritage sites. Along with Geoheritage, associated landforms and fossils are also currently facing destruction. At the end of the meet NHD submitted the following recommendations which should be considered by concerned Chapters in their respective areas.

The development juggernaut for example is rapidly devouring precious landscapes, landforms, geoheritage and paleontological heritage. It stems from the fact that these forms of heritage are very low on the priority of decision makers and law makers as well, partially out of lack of sensitization and mostly out of pressures on land acquisition for infrastructure, projects, real estate, and urbanization.
By raising popular interest and awareness in the general public regarding the importance of this heritage, a voluntary corps of finders could be created who can be tapped to populate the map of India with sites categorized into different levels of significance. Moreover, it can help build up pressure for their protection in legal forums and decision makers as well as create the required political traction.

At another level it could ensure appreciation of this heritage amongst law makers and decision makers such as Parliamentarians, Legislators, field Administrators and Policy Makers.

**Raising Awareness and Increasing Participation amongst the Public**

Several practical measures can be taken and outlined:

- Regular photography competitions at national and state level or around themes (all photos to be geo tagged).
- Engage eminent photographers to shoot spectacular sites and organize exhibitions of the same.
- Quiz competitions based around various themes.
- Organize walks to specific sites of interest, similar to heritage walks, where experts demystify the significance of the sites in an engaging manner and simple language.
- Bring out well produced popular literature in reader friendly publications (an entire series need to be planned and authors commissioned).
- Short articles by known authors with spectacular images for in flight magazines and travel magazines.
- Organize a travelling exhibition perhaps aboard a train in the manner of similar exhibitions by MoEF.
- Produce a GIS map with existing information and supplement the information with a vast mass of secondary inputs from enthusiasts, duly verified by experts and prepare a comprehensive all India map. Existing GSI maps are of a highly technical nature beyond the ken of the lay public. The existence of such maps can help locate projects with least disturbance to the heritage.
- Involve National Geographic and Discovery Channels to project some of the more spectacular sites into public consciousness.
- With all the above inputs, a campaign can be launched with necessary buzz akin to what we have for biodiversity, environment and built heritage. The question is who can and will take ownership of such a campaign, and also lead it, for without leadership these will surely remain just good ideas.
- Organize a website where works, progress, research, documentation can be highlighted and inputs from specialists and amateur enthusiasts be incorporated.
- Organize a reward and recognition system for significant findings.

**Raising Awareness Amongst Law Makers and Decision Makers**

Several practical measures can be taken as outlined:

- Engage with tourism industry and Tourism Departments to highlight potential employment and revenue gains especially with spectacular sites to start with.
- Introductory courses to be imparted at IAS Academy and Indian Forest Service Academy on the lines of Built Heritage courses (currently introduced at IAS Academy) to sensitize the emerging lot of decision makers.
- Engage with serving administrators through literature, workshops, whereby they are alerted to the specific heritage in their areas.
- Engage with policy makers through NITI Aayog.
- Ask Ministries to organize domain specific parliamentary committee and legislative committees.
- Examine the draft law and effect amendments from Acts in other fields such as AMASR, Antiquities Act, Wild Life Act, Biodiversity Act (the last named provides for biodiversity management committees at village level and peoples, biodiversity registers with some financial aid from the Government).
- Persuade the Ministry to include Geo Impact Assessment (GIA) as a major feature of EIA on
the lines of the recently introduced cultural impact assessment (CIA).

There is no dearth of laws for protection and regulation of the protected areas. Yet, a large part of natural heritage remains outside the pale of legal protection. These include smaller ecosystems engulfed in or on the fringes of urban areas, in inhospitable terrains in rural areas, in large historical precincts, several smaller wetlands (a draft wetland regulation is under process), several man-made forests such as those which are a part of large campuses (for eg. green belts within large industrial campuses), forests on private lands and sacred groves and sacred tanks. These smaller eco-systems are important as they provide localized eco-system services, connectivity points between larger eco-systems, and have a collective cumulative beneficial impact larger than several individual impacts.

At the same time these smaller and oft created ecosystems often develop out of neglect (deliberate lack of human intervention in the face of constrained resources such as water or finances or unviable cost of development). Once there is a requirement for expansion and land, these smaller eco-systems are the prime candidates for eradication as they do not enjoy any protection.

While the large protected areas enjoy statutory protection under the various relevant Acts of constitutional provisions, but when moved down the scale in terms of size and biodiversity richness, the status of protection becomes nebulous and non-existent. This legal lacuna renders these smaller scale, fragmented and scattered eco-systems vulnerable to uninhibited plunder and destruction. Should we only protect those areas which are large in acreage, which contain threatened species, which are exemplary examples of natural communities, or have some outstanding geological feature or unusual species, or have some highly significant ecological phenomena? Or is it time to include those natural zones that are smaller in acreage, have few outstanding features, and are often cheek by jowl with human activity, but still contributory as carbon sinks, as links in connectivity corridors, as refuge of minor fauna, as providers of minor forest produce, as hydrological recharge areas, as modifiers of local climate and trappers of aerosols, and act as reducers of the physical, visual and psychological stress of urbanisms, albeit with lesser species significance?

In my view, with changing times and with greater awareness amongst communities and individuals of the importance of conserving nature and the ecosystem services provided by smaller natural areas, there is need for legal provisions that can be used to gain protection for natural areas which to date have not merited attention of the professional conservationists and the wildlife establishment.

The word \textit{Natural Heritage} finds little or no mention in India’s Statutory Laws. It is only recently that the Indian Parliament used the word in an Act. (\textit{Ritwick Dutta, Sept., 2008, unpublished paper of National Workshop on Natural Heritage, INTACH}) A perusal of the judgments of the Supreme Court also reveal that ‘Natural Heritage’ as a concept has hardly been applied in judgements of the Courts. The word has been applied to some extent in Policies, yet little attempt has been made to implement the policy directives. Natural Heritage of the country thus remains an undefined, largely unprotected and unrecognized natural inheritance.’

It is imperative that a law be devised, based on Indian Constitution provisions, which extends the ambit of protection to natural areas lacking in outstanding significance such as:

\begin{center}
\textbf{PROPOSED LAW FOR PROTECTION OF UNPROTECTED MINOR ECOSYSTEMS}
\end{center}

- \textit{Manu Bhatnagar, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division}
- wilderness areas within large campuses of over 10 ha area
- wilderness areas within urbanscapes over 1 acre area
- unprotected riverine wetlands, coastal wetlands, wetlands recognized under IUCN definitions
- sacred groves or community protected natural areas
- temporary migratory habitats of significance defined by some minimum size of migratory population
- manmade forests including those in sprawling industrial campuses
- greenbelts of industrial estates and SEZs over 1 sq.km. in area
- glacier catchments and snout areas
- wilderness areas in historic precincts

The issues could be in terms of difficulties in the extension of existing law to smaller habitats which may lie on private land, or in definitions, or creating a workable regime where human intervention is already prominent. Before any legal provisions can be developed the targeted ecosystems need to be clearly defined. The scientific aspects of definition would need to be taken into account. The status of existing laws as well as constitutional provisions would have to be re-examined to see what legal provision can be evolved for this purpose. Stakeholder interests would also have to be considered in the light of existing and future interests.

Countless examples of unprotected habitats, so far deemed unworthy of the status of protected areas, are encountered. A few are given below and would recall to mind similar environs in the jurisdiction of INTACH Chapters:

- **Kheechan**: This village in Jodhpur Distt. plays host to large migratory populations of the Demoiselle Crane. The people believe in the concept of ‘Vasudeva Kutumbakam’ i.e all species living on earth are part of one family.
- **Shantiniketan, Kolkata**: A PIL was filed in connection with the proposed construction of residential and urban complexes in Shantiniketan, Kolkata. The petitioner contended that the construction activities would destroy natural pondages which constitute irreversible damage. The Supreme Court accepted that the construction would materially alter the natural and cultural heritage of Shantiniketan and stopped construction on grounds that the ecology of the campus could not be destroyed.

**Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi**

A major example of campus level ecosystem is this central university sited in a sprawling area of 3 sq.km. The buildings are scattered over this area set in the Aravali Ridge amidst ravines, waterbodies, xerophytic vegetation and grass. These vast areas under wilderness would consume a fortune if landscaped. On the other hand without consuming resources they liberally provide ecological benefits and habitats to a large number of species which are threatened by the growing concretization of the city.

**Mysore**: On the road between Mysore and Bengaluru is a famous village where large numbers of painted storks dwell in close proximity to villagers to the extent of roosting on their thatched roofs. Urban trends and concrete buildings are beginning to take a toll on this happy picture.

**Etawah**: Under the UP Sodic Lands Project, saline lands in Etawah district were remediated with gypsum application. In view of the rising productivity of lands many wild grass and reed zones were cleared thereby eradicating the habitat of the Sarus crane in this area.

**Constitutional Provisions in Support of Proposed Law**

Over the years the Indian Constitution has become more explicit on environmental issues often in response to changing environmental conditions at home and to the evolution in environmental law internationally.

The duty of the State is enshrined in the Directive Principles of State Policy. Article 48A of Part IV states – ‘The State shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country’.

‘It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes,
rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures.'

The 73rd and 74th amendments (1992) give constitutional status to Municipality and Panchayats and authorises state legislatures to empower these institutions of local self-government. Thus the third tier of government has the power to deal with environmental issues as recorded in the following paragraphs.

The 11th Schedule of 73rd amendment deals with environmental issues like agriculture, soil conservation, water management, watershed development, fisheries, social forestry, farm forestry, minor forest produce, drinking water, health, sanitation, maintenance of community assets.

12th Schedule of 74th amendment deals with urban planning, regulation of land use, water supply, public health, sanitation, conservancy, solid waste management, urban forestry, promotion of environment and ecological aspects.

In *MC Mehta V. Kamal Nath* (AIR 1997 SCC, p. 413) the Supreme Court held that “the State is a trustee of all natural resources which are by nature meant for public use and enjoyment. The public at large is a beneficiary of the seashore, running waters, air, forests and ecologically fragile lands.

Thus, it is clear that the GoI would support extension of legal protection to the present unprotected areas which do not appear to have individual outstanding significance. The new legal provisions proposed under this paper would empower concerned individuals, communities and local governments to accord recognition and extend protection to minor ecosystems under their jurisdiction.

**Community Reserves & Conservation Reserves**

The idea of developing ‘community reserves’ was to protect wildlife on private or community owned land or trees in a village area. While the ‘community reserve’ deals with conservation of wildlife on private or community land, the ‘conservation reserve’ will help to protect birds and animals living in trees or forests close to villages. The `community reserve’ is to be managed by land owners with the guidance of Forest Department officials. These two categories provide a greater role for local communities, stakeholders and civil society as well as the opportunity to protect many areas of conservation value that cannot be designated under the strict categories of wildlife sanctuaries or national parks.’

**National Wildlife Action Plan 2002-2016**

The plan includes restoration of degraded habitats outside protected areas as a key objective.

**National Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan - Relevant sections:**

- The strategic approach should address land and water use planning, earmarking areas critical for ecological and livelihood security, keeping these off-limits for large-scale developmental and commercial processes.
- Need to adopt an overall landscape/ecosystem approach, integrating conservation and livelihoods across large landscapes and seascapes.
- Conservation in community lands, and outside PAs across landscape, including agro-biodiversity-rich areas.

**Issues, Stakeholders & Interests**

As a consequence of the economic juggernaut, in recent times land has become a very sensitive and prickly issue. This is mainly because the accelerated pace of economic activity has witnessed a growing hunger for land driving land prices sharply upwards. Private owners of land bristle at the idea of surrendering or losing their rights to dispose off the property commercially or to carry out commercial activity in it. This attitude of profit making has also percolated into the public sector, Government Departments and public institutions which have begun to look upon their lands as commercial assets. Thus there is a conflict between the competing uses of land which may have to be resolved in many cases prioritizing ecological values.

The areas so selected would assume sanctity from a cut off date. They would have to be integrated in all development
planning and proposed developments would have to be around these areas rather than decimate them.

Local bodies would be empowered to notify these areas and any change of land use would not be permitted especially with regards to wetlands. Areas meeting the dictionary definition of forests could be subject to change in land use as per FCA.

To encourage private owners to retain and enrich the ecological values of these lands the economic value of ecological services from these designated ‘ecological services areas’ would have to be ascertained to be paid for by the local authority less the value of NTFP (non-timber forest produce).

The authorities could provide conservation plan for all such ecological service areas. The areas could be opened to regulated public entry. In addition the owners could be permitted to put up light structures in limited areas and camping sites, for limited and regulated movement.

The sale of such lands would not be prohibited but would be regulated to the extent that the change of ownership would not mean a change of landuse.

The above actions would require to be given legal cover by amending WPA to cover the ecological services areas defined earlier. Another possibility is to detail the provisions of Biodiversity Act and need to be given practical shape to make them implementable. A third possibility is to make a fresh notification under EPA specifically for the ecological services areas. A fourth possibility is to make a fresh law borrowing provisions from WPA, Biodiversity Act, IFA adding definitions, designating and empowering authorities, laying down penalties, compensatory provisions, defining role of owners.

**NATURE THROUGH THE LENS OF CULTURE**

- Manu Bhatnagar

Kalidas’s poem *Meghdootam (Cloud Messenger)* of the 4th century vividly describes the landscape to direct the cloud as it sails over it. Centuries later in the 19th century Wordsworth’s famous poem *Daffodils* begins with “I wandered lonely as a cloud”…..ending with …“and then my heart with pleasure fills and dances with the daffodils”. In fact many cultural expressions are inspired by or originate in Nature. Until recent times, people respected Nature which nurtured them, taught them and inspired them. The several classical dance forms, the building blocks of classical music (raags), paintings like *Madhubani* and the use of natural dyes, architectural forms and designs based on local material, festivals celebrating seasons, etc. drew upon Nature. Even State symbols are often inspired by Nature in many countries like our emblem of *Ashoka lions*, the Laburnum (*Amaltas*) is the royal tree of Thailand, or the bald eagle chosen by USA in 1782 because of its long life and then believed to exist only in America.

Many sub-cultures flourish within larger cultures reflecting the bio-geographic diversity of the sub-regions. For example the cultural expressions in Rajasthan are distinct from those of Meghalaya or Kerala, etc. and reflect the differences in natural roots. It would be interesting to overlay a map of cultures over a map of bio-geographic regions and see the striking coincidence in the boundaries of both layers.

In recent times Mankind has learnt to dominate Nature through technology and thus lost respect for it. Vast tracts have thus become bereft of wilderness and our daily lives do not reflect the rhythms of nature. This has led to culturally impoverished lives and diminishing of cultural expression. Barren cities standing as islands in a bald landscape result in culturally anaemic and sterile society.

The equation is clear – culture flourishes if nature does. Thus, cultural enrichment requires re-establishing natural characteristics in sub-regions. There is a rationale for protecting, strengthening and enhancing natural features in order to nurture and enrich our culture – and a justification for the Ministry of Culture to have an Environmental Policy.
**COLLATERAL DAMAGE**

The development juggernaut with its insatiable requirement of sand, aggregate and cement leaves in its wake flattened hill sides and gouged out floodplains and river channels. Travel in the Aravalis reveals vanishing hillocks with stone crushers feasting on them. A survey of the Himalayan foothills reveals hundred of tractors crawling adjacent to anaemic streams and loading up boulders and sand. And at the floodplains of the rivers, sand mafias are busy gouging the channel for sand.

The proposed and projected developments, given our reliance on cement, will kill many environmental assets and disrupt the workings of eco-systems which sustain us with free eco-system services.

We urgently need to revisit building with earth as the locally available material. Scientists need to come up with alternate building technologies if we are to retain our environmental assets and their integrity. Rammed earth constructions for example, to be seen in isolated places like Puducherry need to be widely adopted in future for constructions in new townships for a burgeoning population.

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**RUN OUT OF RESOURCES**

The *Global Footprint Network*, an international think tank that calculates the earth overshoot day at the current rate of consumption, announced 1st August this year was the day when Man’s annual demand for natural resources exceeded what the Planet’s ecosystem provides for the year! Calculated by taking into account biologically productive land and sea area, it included forest and grazing lands, cropland, fishing grounds and built up land and compared them with population demands for plant based food and fibre products, timber, urban infrastructure, and forest products that absorb carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels. The date seems to have arrived 2 days earlier than last year, and may come increasingly earlier with each passing year! The day was marked as *Earth Overshoot Day* highlighting that all of humanity is consuming resources such as carbon, food, water and wood far in excess of nature’s capacity to regenerate. WWF-India Conservation Director Dr. Sejal Worah warned “each day this date moves up is a stark reminder of the fact that we are running out of time to reverse the trend”.

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**CATCH-22**

The Monsoon is attracted over India consequent to the heating of the Indian landmass during summers which generates a low pressure zone over the sub-continent. The differential of temperature between the ocean surface (the source of moisture) and the earth is a critical factor in on-land movement of clouds. The Thar Desert for example has a very significant role as the low pressure generated by the rising air forces rain bearing clouds westwards.

In recent times well intentioned folks are keen to afforest the desert as tree planting is assumed to be an environmentally friendly activity. The example of Israel greening its Negev Desert is always cited. However, nature in its wisdom kept the Thar sparsely vegetated. With tree planting in bulk here, the thermal gradient will become a gentle incline leading to decline in temperature difference between the ocean and land surfaces – and thereby weakening the monsoon advance and perhaps intensity.

The low pressure generated by the Thar is thus an important climate regulating service which must not be frittered away by good intentions. Greening of the Thar must be restricted to reviving and maintaining of the *Orans* (sacred groves) and nothing more.
**SMALL RIVERS ARE DEAD OR DYING**

According to the *Composite Water Management Index* brought out by no other than *Niti Ayog*, as many as 600 million Indians are facing extreme water stress. What is even more shocking according to their report, India ranks 120th among 122 countries in water quality index. Enough to be drowned in alarm for the future!

The MGNREGA failed to create water assets as expected and funds were diverted to building roads and toilets in most States. The *Jalyukt Shivar* programme in Maharashtra on the other hand however did a good job of rejuvenating small rivers under this programme, with Telengana and Karnataka being the other two exceptions making full use of this river literacy movement. It is vital to ensure that rural areas get adequate water supply otherwise there will be mass migration to cities and more impoverished living. Community driven decentralised water conservation and harvesting involving people and not contractors is the only imminent solution to adopt as there is a major crisis staring us in the face.

**WORLD’S MOST AMBITIOUS OCEAN CLEAN UP**

A 16 years old boy Boyan Slat from Netherlands once went diving in the sea off Greece, and what he saw was more plastic than fish. It changed him forever. For 8 years thereafter and by the time he was 24 years old, he had figured how to rid the ocean of its plastic waste. At 18, he established *Ocean Cleanup*, a non-profit mission in his hometown Delft. On 8th September Slat embarked on his dream project of ridding the ocean of plastic waste through a drifting system that will collect the waste from sinking into the ocean.

According to UN estimates there are 5 trillion pieces of plastic mess floating under the sea surface that is slowly killing marine life and causes an estimated loss of $13 billion annually.

**DIRECTORY OF WALL PAINTINGS**

**Rock Art of Virat Nagar**

Anthropologists and Archaeologists define Rock Art as images carved, drawn or painted onto immovable rock surfaces. They are of two kinds—*petroglyphs* that are images carved or engraved on the rock surface, and *pictographs* that are images made with coloring material or other pigments. Some rock arts using a combination of both are called painted *petroglyphs*. Rock Art is considered as one of the oldest material forms of human expression throughout the world. Pre-historic people created many different kinds of images, some simple and some complex, the most common themes being human figures, animals, geometrical patterns, etc.

Recently Wall Painting Directory team of Jaipur surveyed and documented rock art sites in the Jaipur District of Rajasthan. During the survey the team found a few rock art sites in Viratnagar region of Jaipur. Viratnagar is situated at a distance of 66 kms. north of Jaipur city in the valley of Aravali hills. There are more than two hundred rock art shelters of which *Bhim Dungri*, *Bijak ki Pahari*, *Ganesh Dungri* are the most known. *Bijak ki Pahari* is well known for the ancient Buddhist relics found here. The ancient Buddhist remains on this
hill are the remaining two of eight Buddhist monasteries which were in existence at the time of Hiuen Tsang’s visit to *Viratnagar*, in late 634 A.D. nearly nine hundred years after the first visit of Emperor Asoka. The ruins of the Buddhist Chaitya found here are the oldest free-standing Buddhist structures in India. The cave shelters are a testimony to pre-historic communities. On top of the hill, there is a cannon shaped cave, which is divided into two parts with one part

*Rock Art Shelter at Kali Kangri Pahari, Virat Nagar*

having a temple dedicated to Lord Hanumana, and the other cave on the top of the hill used by early man and later by Buddhist monks.

**Lime Testing Unit**

- **Analysis of lime plaster:** from Shiv Temple and an ancient well, Village More, District-Surat, Gujarat.

- **Artificial weathering test:** This experiment illustrates how soluble salts damage porous materials like lime plaster/ mortar and sand stone. These salts, in crystallized form cause breaking and scaling on the surface of the sample.

- **Preparation of plaster sample in Laboratory:** The plaster samples using slaked lime, *Surkhi* (baked crushed brick powder), coarse sand (Felespharic) in 1:1:1 ratio along with organic natural additives (*Urad ki Daal, Methi, Beal*- wood apple pulp, Molasses) in 25% of lime. In this 25% grey cement was also used to study the effect on physical property of plaster like water absorption, effect of salt, weathering effect, breathing property.

- **Testing of Mangalore tiles for Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi:** Mangalore Tile is being used during conservation of historic building of Sampuranand Sanskrit University, Varanasi.

The following tests were carried out to evaluate the physical properties of the tile.

*Water absorption test using Karston tube*  
*Artificial weathering*  
*Shiv Temple and an ancient well, Surat: Lime plaster sample*

**Studies in South Indian Traditional Paintings: Mysore and Thanjavur**

During the course of the study, some pigments used in these paintings were obtained from practicing artists. The
analytical studies reveal their chemical composition and help in their identification. This data is useful not only to conservators who formulate conservation strategy based on this information, but would help in creating a database of pigments used in these paintings. The samples were analysed using optical microscopy, Fourier-Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FT-IR), Raman Spectroscopy and X-ray Diffraction (XRD).

ICI DELHI

Post Graduate Diploma Course in Preventive Conservation

INTACH Conservation Institutes (ICI) in collaboration with IGNCA have been conducting a one-year part-time training Post Graduate Diploma programme on ‘Preventive Conservation’ sponsored by the Ministry of Culture. The course is directed towards training and capacity building of professionals in various aspects of preventive conservation, and in risk management approach to conservation of collections. The curriculum comprises of 90 classes in one semester with the addition of practical exercises, visiting guest lectures and workshops. The students undertaking the course are from varied academic and professional background interested in safeguarding the cultural heritage of the nation. The first year of the course was very successful and the first batch of students received certificates in September 2018.

The second year of the programme (2018-19) commenced in August 2018. The practical sessions for the second batch of students were undertaken at the ICI Conservation Laboratory, Delhi.

Museum of Christian Art Goa Collection

Museum of Christian Art, Convent of Santa Monica, Goa, was founded under the guidance of Calouste, Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon and Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, New Delhi and INTACH Convenor of the Goa Chapter. This museum was inaugurated by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma on January 23, 1994 during the 7th International Seminar on Indo-Portuguese History and houses some rare Indo-Portuguese artefacts.

In 2014, INTACH undertook the condition assessment of the objects of Museum collection and prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR), which was submitted by
the Museum authorities to the Ministry of Culture for a grant. The museum received funds from the Ministry, following which an MOU was signed between INTACH and MOCA for conservation of the collection. A team of conservators from ICI Delhi commenced the conservation project earlier this year in June 2018.

The first phase included setting up the lab space and building up the team with the support of MOCA. Interviews were conducted and two local conservation trainees were selected who are working under the guidance of INTACH team. Ivory objects were the first to be taken up and studied in detail. They were documented, both graphical and photographically prior to conservation. Forty ivory objects from the collection have been conserved and now the team has started conservation treatment for metal objects in the collection.

Temporary lab set-up at the site. Conservation material, tools and other equipment were procured locally.

Cleaning of the ivory objects

Turn tables, table stands and adjustable wooden cradles were designed and made for the lab

Temporary work space inside Santa Monica Church

Ivory object (before and after conservation)

Detached piece along with the artwork

Waviness and tears

Paintings by noted artist Ram Kumar

ICI Delhi has been restoring artworks for the noted artist Ram Kumar and his family for many years. This great artist modern, abstract painter and above all a wonderful human being passed away in April this year. He was associated with the Progressive Artists' Group comprising MF Husain, FN Souza, HA Gade, SH Raza and others. He gave a new direction to Indian art by introducing a fresh idiom. After his demise, a collection of his artworks on paper and canvas were received at the ICI Delhi Centre for conservation.

The paintings, on varied themes including his famous abstract landscapes, are executed in different media; oil on paper, watercolour on paper or mixed media on paper, oil on canvas, etc. The paintings were from the artist's studio and had various problems like accumulation of
dust and dirt, flaking of paint layer, weakening and artworks stuck together. The conservation work is in progress.

A fire in the Times of India Building in Delhi in February 2017 resulted in damage to the art collection housed within. The collection included valuable paintings by many eminent artists like Jamini Roy, Jogen Chowdhury, Ram Kumar, Swaminathan and others as well some traditional Indian paintings. Fire, smoke, soot, heat or other fire-related residue can cause serious damage to works of art. Also, the fire-fighting methods and water are detrimental but most damages can often be reversed with the right treatment and expertise. ICI Delhi team was called in for preventive and emergency conservation.

**Times of India Collection**

Most fire-related damages included deposition of soot on paintings, blisters in paint layer due to extreme heat and damage due to prolonged exposure to moisture as water used for fire-fighting caused considerable damage to the collection, with the paper paintings worse affected. Water transferred acidity of the backboard on to the paintings resulting in brown patches of water stains. The paper support had also become wavy. High humidity had resulted in mold growth.
paper paintings were removed from their mount boards and frames and given anti-fungal treatment. the damaged works were brought to the ICI Delhi Centre for conservation treatment with a total of forty-six paintings received in three lots from May 2017 for conservation treatment. They included works by eminent artists such as Jayashree Chakravart, Arpna Caur, J Swaminathan, Ram Kumar, Bikash Bhattacharya, Janini Roy, Jogen Chowdhury, Jaideep Mehrotra and Thomas Easley. The collection also had traditional Indian paintings including miniatures, Tanjore paintings, Pichwais and Mysore art, which were restored and sent to Times of India in August 2018.

ICI LUCKNOW

Conservation of Diploma Documents of National Institute of Design, Ahmadabad

43 diploma records were received for conservation in a highly damaged condition requiring conservation along with digitization and binding. They were fumigated and each folio of diploma records was de-acidified and stains removed. Tears and holes were repaired, spine guarded, lined, samples of pieces and photographs were pasted in the previous format. Re-stitching with archival binding with butter sheet inserted for separation of sample and photographs was done. Original binding was restored and pasted on binding board as a cover.

Conservation of black and white photograph of Kamla Retreat, Kanpur

A black and white photograph measuring 40x32 cms was received from Kamla Retreat. It was directly framed with glass, and brown stains were present with silvering effect. The treatment included mechanical removal of photograph from the acidic board, cleaning of brown coloured adhesive from the back of photograph, as well as cleaning on front, full lining of photograph with acid free hand-made paper, re-toning of missing areas and finally window cut mounting and framing of photograph.

Conservation of two rare oil paintings of Tagore Library, Lucknow University
Preventive conservation of manuscripts under National Mission of Manuscripts, New Delhi

Preventive conservation of manuscripts is being carried out at Akhil Bhartiya Sanskrit Parishad, Lucknow by the team of Manuscript Conservation Centre under NMM. Akhil Bhartiya Sanskrit Parishad has a vast and precious collection of 13,000 manuscripts, both illustrated and non-illustrated. From July 2018 to date, preventive conservation on 2771 manuscripts having 42700 folios has been done.

ICI BANGALORE

Conservation of artworks from the collection Prashanthi Nilayam, Puttaparthi

ICI Bangalore recently completed the conservation treatment of artworks from the collection of Prashanthi Nilayam, Puttaparthi, the abode of Sri Sathya Sai and given to him by his devotees. The collection is an interesting mix of landscapes by European artists from the 19th century, Chinese paintings on silk, and Mysore traditional paintings on various themes. The conservation treatment was taken up in three phases from 2015. In Phase-I, the focus was on Mysore traditional paintings that are mostly depictions of gods and goddesses. After minimal intervention, using conservation grade materials where required, they were reframed. The next phase involved conservation of mostly oil paintings. Majority of the artworks showed signs of deterioration due to aging and general wear and tear. The paint layer in European landscapes had started to crack, the varnish layer had darkened, casting a yellow tint to the original colors. There were signs of earlier interventions which had discoloured with time.

During the last phase, several Chinese and Indian artworks on silk were conserved. The extremely arid climate of Puttaparthi had resulted in loss of flexibility in silk artworks making the artworks on fabric very brittle and fragile. There were also traces of unscientific interventions with industrial quality tape used to paste the fabric to the frames probably to save the remaining artwork. After retrieving as much as possible and stabilising their condition, the artworks were conserved and reframed.
ICI BHUBANESWAR

Conservation of Records of National Archives

Blue prints and maps of National Archives of India, Eastern Zone, Record Section at Bhubaneswar are being conserved under the technical supervision of experienced technical staff of National Archives of India, New Delhi. Documentation and curative conservation in all respects. The project is being carried out by INTACH Assam Chapter under the guidance and supervision of Director, INTACH Conservation Institute, Bhubaneshwar. The local monks of the Satra are being trained on how to take basic care of these manuscripts so that they can protect their precious collection in future.

The centre conducted a month long training course on curative conservation of manuscripts under the National Mission for Manuscripts from 7th August – 10th September. Caretakers and custodians of manuscripts of various libraries, archives and manuscript repositories of the country were given hands on training by empanelled faculties of the Centre.

ICI KOLKATA

Two oil paintings of 50.5 cm X 40.5 cm and 30.5 cm X 40.5 cm were conserved at the Kolkata Centre. The major conservation problems were fungal attack, before restoration.

Conservation of Sanchi Pat Manuscripts of Dakhinapat Satra, Majuli, Assam

Important and valuable Sanchi Pat manuscripts belonging to the Dakhinapat Satra are under process of systematic conservation. Before restoration.

Training on conservation of manuscripts at INTACH, Bhubaneshwar Manuscripts

Before Restoration

After Restoration

Before Restoration

After Restoration
stains, flaking of paint layer, cracks, dust and dirt etc. After proper fumigation the flaked paint layers were consolidated and surface cleaned. Reintegration of colour on lost areas was done before applying a layer of protective coat.

ICI MUMBAI

Conservation of a Clay Indoor Game Museum Display

The BDL Museum has exquisite collection of late 19th–early 20th century Half Baked Terracotta Clay Models with beautifully hand painted figures categorized in different occupation, community, god and goddess avatar, indoor and outdoor games, sadhu, yoga, soldiers and army models etc. It has large display of traditional games played by women, both indoor and some outdoor games. One game represents the movement of a cock, named Kombda, and is played by hopping on one leg and chasing the opponent. The game is performed in a group and with music.

Conservation issues were mostly dust and dirt, flaking of paint layer, brown stains and figure loose from the base. The treatment involved cleaning, consolidation of the paint layer, removal of stains, fixing of loose base and re-integration of lost areas with appropriate pigments.

Conservation of the Rare printed Book from BDL Museum Library

This handbook of the Jeypore Museum by Thomas Holbein Hendley was published by Calcutta Central Press Company Ltd. in 1895. It lists objects and their descriptions along with illustrations and maps of the Museum.

GARLI – HERITAGE HAMLET

Saur in Uttarakhand was once considered to be a ghost village. It was Project FUEL that documented life stories of its people, life, wisdom, etc. that transformed this yester year ghost village into almost a walk through art gallery. It got muralists, typographers, painters and volunteers to paint the village in varied hues of life. In order to ensure a livelihood for the families that still live there they started the annual Ghost Village Fest. All it took was a little imagination to turn Garli into a thriving heritage hamlet!
**MICA PAINTING**

A long forgotten artwork are miniature mica paintings that were produced for the colonial tourist market in mid 19th century. These post card size paintings were in gouache over a thin sheets of paper with images of gods and goddesses, religious events, and flora and fauna. They were produced by professional artists mostly in Murshidabad, Patna, Banaras and Trichinopoly. Only a few thousand may be existing with dealers in Singapore, Europe and the UK. In India Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development Maneka Gandhi is a known collector and is keen on reviving this art form. Exhibited earlier this year at the *Indian Art Fair*, the prices ranged from an affordable Rs.35,000 to 1.5 lakhs for museum quality paintings.

**ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (AHD)**

**PROPOSAL FOR CONSERVATION OF MOTI MAHAL AND IQBAL MAIDAN UP TO TAJUL MOSQUE AND CONSERVATION OF GATES OF BHOPAL**

*Iqbal Maidan* is the royal precinct of Old Bhopal dating to the 1700s of Begums’ reign. It comprises of diverse building typologies of great importance such as *Gauhar Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Shaukat Mahal, Moti Masjid, Sadar Manzil, Hamid Manzil, Humayun Manzil* among others. There are three major gates *Bab-e-Sikandari, Bab-e-Sultani* and the *Sadar*
Darwaza. A design proposal for the precinct up to Taj-ul-Masjid including Moti Mahal was submitted for approval for development of Bhopal Smart City.

The gateway was built under the reign of Begums of Bhopal. There are 14 such gates in Bhopal that need repair and conservation. The conservation plan for the gates has also been submitted to the Bhopal Smart City authorities.

UPENDRA MAHARATHI SHILP ANUSANDHAN SANSTHAN, PATNA

On the request of the Director *Upendra Maharathi Shilp Anusandhan Sansthan*, a Detailed Project Report for restoration and expansion of the craft centre was submitted by INTACH. The work is currently on going at site. AHD proposed a museum to display the local craft in the existing Heritage Block, and 6 new blocks for the proposed workshops are modular in an arrangement extending to open court and ancillary spaces with the work space extending to greens areas. The open plan allows flexibility according to the needs of a workshop by providing shaded open courts for comfortable working spaces. INTACH's main objective is to retain the heritage character and significance of the heritage building.

GUARD ROOM AND GALLOWS, VIPER ISLAND, ANDAMAN

The Department of Culture, Andaman & Nicobar Island requested INTACH to undertake conservation work of the Guard Room and Gallows of Viper Island in Andaman. A DPR was prepared and work is ongoing since February this year. Viper Island derives its name from a Survey Ship called “Viper” owned by Lt. Archibald Blair. The first jail and gallows were constructed here during 1864-67 and built 40 years before the Cellular Jail Island. Both the structures were in a dilapidated condition with significant parts having collapsed. Conservation of the two structures is being carried out by AHD while
the site development work will be done by Andaman PWD.

**RESTORATION OF ANCIENT WELL AND SHIV TEMPLE AT MORA VILLAGE, SURAT**

As part of the CSR Initiative, Reliance Industries Ltd. approached INTACH to prepare a Detailed Project Report for the conservation of an ancient well locally and the Shiv Temple known as Nageswar Mahadev Temple, Jatakruva, at Mora village in Surat. The well finds mention in the holy book of *Tapi Mahapuran*, and according to legend the ritual of *Pind Daan* ensures salvation for the deceased if performed at this well. A large number of regional tourists (approximately 50000) come to Mora in the month of December for the *Pitru Shradh Fair* held at the open grounds near the well.

Both the well and the temple are in a bad state of conservation due to negligence. The Temple is under threat of structural collapse with excessive vegetation growth and cracks on the walls of the well due to inefficient repair.

The well and the temple were documented along with condition assessment for preparing the Detailed Project Report. The on-site investigations with background research helped in analysing the original form and aesthetics of the structures. The completed DPR has been submitted to Reliance.

**BHULI BHATIYARI KA MAHAL, DELHI**

*Bhuli Bhatiyari ka Mahal* built by Firoz Shah Tughlaq in the 14th century as a *Shikargah* or hunting lodge is located in the central ridge of Delhi. It is a part of three hunting lodges along with *Pir Ghaib* and *Malcha Mahal* built during his rule after the fall of the Tughlaqs. The structure declined with time. Presently the monument is under-utilized and neglected although some repair work has been carried out by the State Archaeological Department recently.

A private entrepreneur (consultants) from Delhi approached INTACH to assist in preparing a vision document under the *Adopt a Heritage Scheme* of Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

**CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF TEMPLES OF MADHYA PRADESH**

The Religious Trust and Endowments Department, MP has taken the initiative to conserve the Temples of Madhya
Pradesh in collaboration with INTACH. The Department has nearly twenty-five thousand religious structures on its preliminary list. INTACH is currently short listing the temples to undertake work and has submitted Detailed Project Reports for some temples such as Bhelsi Wali Mata Mandir in Gwalior, Banganga Temple in Shivpuri and Temples at Qila Chowk in Datia etc.

**AHMEDABAD : INDIA’S FIRST WORLD HERITAGE CITY**

The prosperous mega city of Ahmedabad was declared India’s first World Heritage City by UNESCO. It is described as a city where architecture and poetry blend into one with stunning finesse and the intricacy of its structures, maintaining the grace and beauty of the era when there was a confluence of Hindu-Islamic-Jain architecture. For this designation it is imperative to have one or more of the Outstanding Universal Values (OUVs) defined as of “cultural and/or natural significance and which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and be of common importance for all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole”. The UNESCO tag came after two decades of initiatives taken - a testimony to the fact that Ahmedabad and its monuments stand for multicultural and centuries old co-existence of citizens belonging to different faiths. The dossier was first sent by then Chief Minister Narendra Modi. Now as Prime Minister he will hopefully also revive the dossier on New Delhi that lies completed but put to rest, perhaps because revitalisation of Shahjehanabad is in limbo?
The ASI has stepped up its work to conserve a 17th century hunting lodge built by Mughal Emperor Shahjahan. It is located at Junati Village in outer Delhi. A feasible plan to restore this 370 year old structure is under finalisation. A more complicated problem would be the relocation of nearly 70 families who have been living around this royal forest lodge for decades. This village shot into limelight in 1964 when it was chosen by Dr. MS Swaminathan for a high-yielding seed development programme. Three years later the Jawahar Jaunti Seed Cooperative was inaugurated by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Delhi Tourism Department is also working out a plan to make the village a tourism attraction.

PH AH, Divay Gupta was invited by Doordarshan National on 3rd September to discuss the benefits and challenges of HRIDAY scheme (Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojna) initiated by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. Shri Jagan Shah, Director NIUA and Prof. Saumya Gupta, JDM College, Delhi University were other members on the Panel.

The artefacts include a wide range of objects like elephant tusk, water clock, bell, flowerpot, bowl, tub, etc.

• **Kargil District Listing and Publication**
  200 copies of the Kargil listing titled ‘Historic Sites of Purig, Kargil, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir’ were published in July 2018.

• **Listing of Dakhinpat Satra Artefacts**
  The listing and documentation of the artefacts stored in Borbhoval of the Dakhinpat Satra is on-going by the Assam Chapter under guidance of A & MH Division.

• **Listing of Mysore Town**
  About 300 buildings have been covered in Mysore town. Around 100 buildings are of residential typology. The other major typologies are Institutional, Religious, Commercial, Administrative, Landmark, Cinema Hall, Club House, etc. The listing has been undertaken in collaboration with Mysore School of Architecture-Research Cell.
• **Listing of Rewa District**
  About 65 buildings have been covered in Rewa District. Around 15 buildings are of Institutional typology. The other major typologies are Residential, Memorial, Museum, Religious, Gateways, Step Well, Defence/Strong Hold Structures, etc. The listing has been undertaken by Shivpuri Chapter of Madhya Pradesh.

• **Listing of Historic Gardens of India– Addition to Phase-I**
  The survey includes historic gardens in Uttar Pradesh. Cities covered till date are Lucknow, Varanasi, Agra, Allahabad, Meerut, Sardhana, Aligarh, Rampur, Saharanpur, Ayodhya, Faizabad, Sadabad, Tundla, Eitmadpur, Fatehabad, etc. comprising typologies ranging from Mughal gardens, gardens of Nawabs in Lucknow and Faizabad as well as residences of Nawabs in and around Aligarh to Colonial Period gardens. The first draft of the list is prepared from secondary sources and archival research. Approximately 90 gardens have been listed to date.

• **On-going Listings**
  On-going listings include Vellore town by Tamil Nadu State Chapter, Zanskar Region in Kargil by Ladakh Chapter, Cultural Mapping of Chambal Valley by Madhya Pradesh, Kota Chapter, Listing of Murshidabad (Cultural and Natural Heritage) by West Bengal Chapter, etc.

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**PUBLICATIONS**

- **Historic Sites of Purig, J&K**
- **Baiju Dharamshala, Rewa District, Madhya Pradesh**
- **Chamundeshwari Temple, Mysuru, Karnataka**

- **Gulab Badi, Tomb Garden Complex in Faizabad**
- **Artifacts in Borbhoral, Dakhinpat Satra, Assam**
HERITAGE CRAFT AND COMMUNITY DIVISION (HCCD)

SKILL ENHANCING WORKSHOP FOR RAFUGARI (DARNING), SRINAGAR (J&K), 17TH TO 22ND SEPTEMBER

Skill Enhancing Workshop

The workshop was organized in collaboration with INTACH Kashmir Chapter and supported by the SPS Museum, Lal Mandi, Srinagar. Darning Stitch is a traditional technique of the region used for embellishing and joining shawls, wraps and throws. This needs to be revived by introducing more artisans to use this technique with requisite expertise. The main purpose of ‘Rafugari’ workshop was to impart training to craftsmen and provide a chance to earn their livelihood and pave the way for conservation and promotion of this age-old skill in the Kashmir valley.

Experts from Najibabad, Uttar Pradesh interacted and imparted Rafugari skills to about 30 craftsmen trained at this workshop. The workshop was also attended by students of NIFT and Craft Institute in Srinagar. It enhanced the skills of the artisans and students while introducing them to a wider application of the stitch. It was very well received and appreciated.

SKILL ENHANCEMENT AND NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP - (HAND BLOCK PRINTING), JAMMU FROM 4TH -17TH SEPTEMBER

Another workshop on Skill Enhancement and New Product Development of Block Printing (Calico Printing), commonly known as Samba Prints, was organized by Jammu Chapter with the support of Heritage Crafts & Community Division, New Delhi in collaboration with Centre for Women's Studies and Centre for History & Culture of Jammu & Ladakh Regions, University of Jammu, and Department of Handicrafts, J&K Government, Jammu.

The objective of this workshop was revival and preservation of traditional and dying heritage crafts by training crafts people in New Product Development, keeping in view the changing market trends and creating a livelihood for them. Twenty participants were trained
during the two week workshop at the Seminar Hall of Centre for Women's Studies. Sajid Mohammad Udaipuri, with his two associates, conducted the workshop in which traditional techniques of organic colouring with blocks on different types of cloths were practiced. New techniques with chemical colours along with different types for diversification of products such as linen items for hospitality sector, various types of dress materials, ground sheets with traditional designs, etc. were also taught.

Vice Chancellor, University of Jammu, Prof. MK Dhar, Director, Heritage Crafts & Community Division, Bindu Manchanda, and Dean Research Studies Prof. Jigar Mohammad appreciated the initiatives taken by the Jammu Chapter and collaborating organizations.

During the two week workshop more than 40 State Government Officers and Academicians of University of Jammu visited the workshop. About 200 research scholars/students and non-teaching staff members were able to see the practical work as well as exhibits of the products made during the workshop.

INTACH as well as civil society of Jammu is indebted to the Director, Centre for Women's Studies Prof. Suman Jamwal, Director, Centre for History & Culture, University of Jammu Prof Anita Billawaria, and Joint Director, Jammu Department of Handicrafts Anju Gupta, for supporting this workshop. The core team from INTACH Chapter led by Convenor SM Sahni, Co-Convenor Kuldeep Wahi, Event Coordinator Sandeep Singh, Event Moderator SS Ressam, Rapporteur Abhimanyu Dev Singh Billawaria, and volunteers Sapna Sharma and Deepak Sharma worked day and night to ensure the successful conduct of the event.

**NOTE** : The ICC Division announces the forthcoming *Crafts Utsav* to be held in the New Year at INTACH Central Office premises, dates for which will be communicated to all by Chapters Divisions shortly. Chapters are welcome to contribute and participate in the following events:

- Classical Music & Dance
- Kumauni Ram Leela
- Seraikella Chhau
- Dastan Goi
- Sufi Qawwali
- Workshop for School Children
- Heritage Walks
- Traditional & Organic Food
- Exhibitions
- Pop Up Quiz
- Film Screening
- Visit to INTACH Conservation Lab
- Craft Utsav
**INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (ICHID)**

**RESEARCH & DOCUMENTATION**

*Sanskrit – Language of Expression*

Sanskrit – the mother of numerous languages is not just a language/Bhasha. Its historical presence and continuity, can be seen in myriad activities, like its usage in study, educational setup, in daily life, in ritual or sacred practices, etc. From birth to *Upayana Sanskara* and from marriage to death ritual …one follows or uses *Mantras* that have been written in Sanskrit by sages or our ancestors. It is thus important to understand the role of this language which has immense value, and through this medium the Vedic and Hindu literature was preserved.

Over a period of time, Sanskrit language lost importance and common usage due to factors like urbanization and globalization when young people became more enthusiastic to learn other languages which have now become the basic and dominant medium of communication. Only recently, as late as 2018-19, the need to appreciate Sanskrit language was recognized by the UNESCO Representation List of Endangered Elements.

ICH Division has now initiated a study based in-depth research-oriented project to identify intangible heritage which exists through an understanding of Sanskrit, as the first step for its wider preservation and revival. India being one of the most ancient civilisations and having a plethora of Indian sacred/religious literature, it is indeed imperative to discover the intangible heritage and values within the Sanskrit language. It is also a language that was commonly used in daily ritualistic life practices, scientific healing and therapeutic process. Ancient texts written in Sanskrit like *Ayurveda, Dhanurveda, Gandharvaveda* and *Arthashastra* were used and still exist. There is valuable meaning and wisdom encapsulated in them. The origin of *Vedas* goes back to ancient eras when most of Hindu Philosophy sages wrote such *Shastras* and other Hindu Vedic literature which were a source of helping civilization grow in an organically fruitful manner.

Some of the most priceless advice, stories and folk tales of India are in Sanskrit. The richness of the language had also impressed a clutch of Europeans. Among them was Sir William Jones (an English scholar in Sanskrit and founder of the Asian Society) who came to India in 1783, as a judge of the British Supreme Court of Judicature in Calcutta. He translated *Abhijnana Shakuntalam* and *Ritu Sambara* (which had been written by the Sanskrit poet Kalidasa) and *Gita Govinda* (written by the poet Jayadeva) into English. Jones also translated *Manusmriti* into English.

In 1785, another scholar named Sir Charles Wilkins translated the *Bhagavad Gita* into English. German philologist Max Muller translated the *Hitopadesha* (a collection of Indian fables) into German.

Over a period of time, however, Sanskrit along with several regional languages suffered considerably due to the emergence of factors like urbanization, globalization and advent of global and mighty languages like English, French, Spanish and so on which have been fascinating young minds, across the world.

The ICHD project is on-going and a number of persons, institutions, and communities have been documented. Personages like Dr. Shri Krishna Jugnu, Mithun Shah, Dr. Hanif Khan Shastri, Ravi Shankar, Dr. Pradnya Shireesh Anjal were contacted. *Mattur Sanskrit Grama* and *The Hemachandra Acharya Gurukulam* are also being consulted.

**Interview with Dr. Shri Krishna**

Dr. Shri Krishna is one of the well-known leading Indologist and Archivist of India. He is also believed to be one of the ten translators in Sanskrit available in India. He is fond of subjects like History, Archaeology, Sculpture, Philosophy, Astrology, *Vastu Shastra* and Culture. He has translated considerable literature belonging to these fields. He loves field exploration and is always busy editing and compiling something new at his residence. He has
published several serious works in the field of Sanskrit even without any financial assistance of concerned organisations. Since 1978 his works have been published in several well established newspapers and magazines.

He has a vast collection of Indian as well as foreign handicrafts, interviews of politicians and statesmen. He has done translations of several rock edicts, manuscripts, copper manuscripts and published them. He has been Editor of magazines like Rocket (children magazine), Ranggayan (folk culture trimester magazine) and several others. He has translated books like 'Rajasthan ka Lok Pehnawa' (a survey by Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Government of India), Bhalabbaai-Burabbaai (Rajasthani folk stories), folk dances of Mewar, Vivian Bandanawal (wedding folk songs of Mewar Tribes) and Folk Culture, etc. He was honoured for his dedication and work on editing and translating Sanskrit literature on Astrology and Vastu and is a recipient of Pandit Jagannath Samrat State Award by Rajasthan Sanskrit Academy, Jaipur in 2013. He was given a teachers award by the President of India in 2014 for his contribution to the field of education and society.

**Dr. Mohn. Hanif Khan Shastri**

Dr. Mohd. Hanif Khan Shastri is a learned Sanskrit scholar and MA in Sanskrit, Acharya in Purana and was awarded Ph.D for Mahamantra Gayatri aur Surah Fatiba ka Arth Prayog Evam Mahatmya ki Drishti Se Tulnatmak Addhayan in 1991. Dr. Shastri has at least eight books to his credit that have been authored by him. The most popular amongst these publications are Mohangita, Geeta Aur Quran mein Samajasya, Ved aur Quran se Mahamantra Gayatri aur Surah Fatiba, Vedi mein Manav Adhikar and Meljol. The publications are considered masterpieces by cross sections of academicians and scholars. Dr. Shastri has endeavoured to promote communal harmony by highlighting similarities between Hindu and Muslim religions through his unique literary works in Hindi and Sanskrit. His other activities include lectures, talks and TV shows on the theme of communal harmony. Some of the programmes have been relayed on the All India Radio and telecast by Doordarshan in the past. He has been honoured by the President of India and has received
a couple of other awards and appreciation letters for his contributions to literature with particular reference to communal harmony.

**Interview with Shri Ravi Shankar**

Director, *Punyakoti (Sanskrit Animated Film)*

*Punyakoti* is an upcoming film in Sanskrit language directed by Ravi Shankar and the first in animated Sanskrit movies that is likely to be completed this year. The movie is crowd funded and crowd sourced. It is an adaptation of a picture book for children written by Ravi Shankar.

The plot of *Punyakoti* is based on a famous folk song in Karnataka about a cow that speaks the truth at all times. The story depicts man-animal conflict in a form that is both entertaining and informative. It carries the message of honesty and living in harmony with nature. The story is set in Karunadu, a village along the banks of Kaveri. The original source of the folk-song is the eighteenth Chapter of *Srishtikhand* of *Padma Purana*.

**Mattur Sanskrit Gram**

Mattur is a small village in Karnataka’s Shimoga district where most of the residents from shopkeepers to children speak Sanskrit. As per an *Indian Express* report, 600 years ago, the *Sankethis* migrated from Kerala to Mattur and are its residents since then. The *Sankethis* speak Sanskrit and a rare dialect called *Sankethi*, which is a mixture of Sanskrit, Tamil, Kannada and Telugu. The *Sankethi* dialect has no written script and is read in the Devanagari script. Mattur is also popular for its Sanskrit graffiti. Quotes like “Maarge swachchataya virajate, grame sujanaha virajante” i.e. cleanliness is as important for a road as good people are for the village, are found in plenty across the street and on the walls of the houses.

In Mattur, students study in a *Paathshala* that focuses on Vedic texts and science. Its students collect old Sanskrit palm leaves and try to expand the script on computers, and often rewrite the damaged text in present-day Sanskrit to make it comprehensible to the common man. Mattur is home to over 30 Sanskrit professors teaching in Kuvempu, Bengaluru, Mysore, and Mangalore Universities.

We have heard of *Guru-Shishya Parampara* used umpteen times and during casual discussions. Some advocate it and some like Uttam Bhaai practice it at ground zero. The *Gurukulam* is already doing the round in discussions of intellect.
Acharya Hemachandra was a Jain scholar, poet and polymath who wrote on grammar, philosophy and contemporary history. This unique Gurukulam came into existence named after the poet. The Hemchandracarya Sanskrit Pathshala has 90 students and 150 teachers, and is managed by Uttam Bhaai who is also its Founding Member. He is an intelligent man sans degrees as per his testimony but is clear in his objective to safeguard and promote this Parampara of ancient times. He and his Gurukulam became the case of study for the ICH documentation. There is no set syllabus, nor any formal mode of modern education. Instead, it’s all about freedom to learn, to play and to grow; but this freedom has not created ruckus, but has created disciplined students who adhere to strict invisible norms and routines laid by the institution. Here 64 different arts are taught to the students with a ratio of more teachers per student! 

MITHUN SHAH, FOUNDER, ARYA SANSKRITI

World over, societies are struggling to search for means of ‘well-being’. We ‘Bhartiya’ are blessed to be born in a culture that claims to have been the well-being capital of the world. Human Well Being cannot be achieved through a specific activity, it can only be attained by approaching everyday life and activities with profoundness. ‘Arya Sanskriti’ is an attempt to be a bridge that takes you towards a profound, healthy and joyful life. It aims to provide well being to families by way of offering products that are Organic, Natural, Traditional, Environment-Friendly, Violence Free, Local, in Fair Trade, with low carbon foot print and mostly handmade through carefully made Arya Sanskriti products and services sourced from organic farmers and skilled artisans from across the region. They have environmental and social advantages that lead to the family well-being holistically.

Listing and Documentation of Endangered Traditional Cuisines of Jaisalmer Region

The documentation of endangered traditional cuisines of Jaisalmer region was undertaken by the Gwalior Chapter to document and digitize unique recipes to give life to many lost traditional cuisines. With time old ladies and
Jaisalmer homes though most of them have been modified now as per preferences of each household.

The survey is descriptive and exploratory whereby aspects of the available resources of the region and existing conditions are taken into consideration and the potential for preserving traditional recipes is explored. It is a study of what was and what is with no experimentation, to survey and document traditional cuisines of the Jaisalmer region as may be seen below in the flow chart.

Recipes are further divided:

Lost recipes are those which are not at all practiced in any kitchen of Jaisalmer. These are not of day to day cuisines but prepared during special occasions like the royal Dusshera procession now discontinued or the cuisines prepared during ceremonies, recipes for which are also extinct.

Living recipes are those which still find place in the kitchens of Jaisalmer, although modified a little as per the requirement.

**DOCUMENTARY FILM ON THE HERITAGE OF LALITPUR**

An ICH Research & Documentation Project was started by Lalitpur Chapter with a "Documentary Film on the Heritage of Lalitpur" in 2017-18. The first draft of roughly 15mins audiovisual documentary was received by the ICH Division in August this year. It covers glimpses of the plethora of Intangible, Tangible and Natural Heritage sites/monuments in the Lalitpur District that has a rich
history, culture and heritage. In the north is Jhansi and South Sagar, the east has Tikamgarh, Chhattarpur and in the west are three important rivers Gunah Betua, Jamuni and Dhasan. The District is endowed with beautiful heritage buildings within and at nearby areas.

Lalitpur represents the cultural harmony of various faiths in form of Temples, Mosques, Gurudwaras and Churches. There are several archaeological sites near Lalitpur such as Deogarh which is renowned for art and craftsmanship. The site also has a number of 18th century built Jain and Vaishnava, Baudha and Saiva temples and monuments. There are 41 Jain temples, thousands of idols, several baolis and 18 stone pillars along with a number of archaeological remains from the Gupta period. Bandargudah, which is 30kms away from Lalitpur, has the first lift canal project of the District which is near Jaklon. The water from river Betua is lifted through several motorized pipes and dispersed in a radius of 30 kms.

Near Dudhai there are several archaeological remains of temples such as Badi Surang Mandir, Chhoti Surang Mandir and Lingdev Mandir. Bala Bihat is 45kms away from Lalitpur where the Marathas renovated the Gonda Fort that still exists though in a dilapidated condition. Lalitpur is also famous for its art and culture, especially its bamboo artwork and brass craftsmanship which is very popular. The agricultural production of Betel (Paan) is also very popular in the region.

Lalitpur also has some very old folk traditions such as Rai Nritya, Badhaai Nritya, Tesu, Navarta Paala Gayan Machua Geet.
CULTURAL AFFAIRS CELL

As part of the Heritage Awareness Series, a lecture on the Taj Mahal was organized to explore the many facets of this iconic monument. It is a world renown architectural marvel, a mausoleum, a tourist destination, a symbol of love - and widely valued as the heritage of the world. Various efforts for its conservation and preservation were discussed in the light of natural and man-made forces. The talk deconstructed the prevalent notions of ‘what the Taj is?’ and helped to re-imagine the authentic experience of the site, what it should and can be for India.

The guest speaker Navin Piplani is a Conservation Architect and a former Director of Studies and Hamlyn Feilden Fellow, Centre for Conservation Studies, University of York, UK. Currently he is the Principal Director of the INTACH Heritage Academy at Central Office in Delhi.

CHALLENGING CONSERVATION OF TEMPLES IN THE CHAMBAL VALLEY, 31ST AUGUST

Bateshwar group of temples consists of more than two hundred temples from the 8th - 11th centuries. Once free from dacoits and rampant mining, the ensuing vibrations struggled to revive the conserved temples. They are centuries old heritage located deep in the Chambal Valley.

Speaker Muhammed who spearheaded the project, shared the anguish and agony, joys and pleasures of reconstructing eighty temples from bits and pieces in his illustrated talk. These temples were in a highly ruinous condition, reduced to fragments and stones. The surrounding areas were infested with dreaded dacoits, where nothing could be done without their express permission. After protracted negotiations with the dacoits, the then Chief of Archaeological Survey of India in Madhya Pradesh KK Muhammed was able to piece together eighty temples with meticulous care and precision. Like the proverbial phoenix, a temple town came into life from its own ashes and debris. The remanants of hundred and twenty temples still remain buried, waiting to be excavated and restored. The former Regional Director North, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) KK Muhammed, an archaeologist by profession, has the distinction of conserving more than a hundred temples in various parts.
of the country, of which the eighty in Chambal valley were restored with active co-operation of dreaded dacoits of the area!

**HIGHER THAN MOUNT EVEREST - 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2018**

Ajeet Bajaj and his daughter Deeya became the first Indian father-daughter duo to scale Mount Everest on May 16th, 2018. In an illustrated talk, Ajeet Bajaj shared his Everest experience and unbelievable passion for adventure. The talk also focussed on scope for adventure tourism, best practices and the way forward and encouraging our daughters.

Ajeet Bajaj is a mountaineer, adventurer, explorer and entrepreneur par excellence. He is the first Indian to have completed the Polar Trilogy by skiing to the North Pole, the South Pole and across Greenland. With over 30 years of experience in adventure sports, he is the first Asian to have rafted and kayaked in some of the most challenging rivers of the world spanning six continents.

In a country where the girl child is often neglected, Ajeet and Deeya want to spread the message that any girl, given the right opportunities, can reach the highest of summits.

**INTACH KNOWLEDGE CENTRE (IKC)**

**Message from Chairman, INTACH**

Newly added Chapters News page under Chapters Division and the addition of Cultural Affairs Division to IKC website (http://www.intach.org/) are some of the important steps taken by INTACH Knowledge Centre (IKC) to introduce global audience to recent activities of INTACH. This service gives the latest information in any part of the world using internet and about various upcoming events of INTACH. In addition to this, around 42 INTACH videos of cultural programmes, workshops, documentary films and lectures are also uploaded on YouTube and INTACH website.

IKC has been regularly communicating News Alerts service by sending news links related to INTACH and other heritage and conservation related subjects to various Members of INTACH. IKC has also started including links of updated Chapters news and upcoming events on its regular News Alerts service. This will help in linking all the activities of INTACH Chapters for meeting the goals of INTACH.

**HERITAGE EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICE (HECS)**

**TEACHERS TRAINING WORKSHOPS (TTW)**

_Udaipur 18th – 19th September. 26 Teachers/14 Schools, 82 College Students /16 Faculty / 18 Colleges/Institutions_

The Teacher Training Workshop and College Volunteer Workshop was organised by Udaipur Chapter in collaboration with HECS at the Mohanlal Sukhadia University. Convenor Dr. BP Bhatnagar encouraged participants to become heritage ambassadors to safeguard the close relationship between heritage and one’s sense of identity. INTACH Principal Advisor, Natural Heritage SK Verma emphasised on the abundant heritage of the region that needed preservation. The sessions by the resource persons were enriching and informative. Senior Town Planner Dr. SK Shrimali shared information on Planning and Heritage of Udaipur; while historian Dr. Shrikrishna Jugnoo spoke on its glorious past. Professor of History and Archaeology Dr. Lalit Pande made a presentation on the Earliest Village Communities of Mewar, while Prof. Sanjay Mishra of the Department of Sociology, RVU drew attention to the role of Cultural Heritage in Development. PD HECS Purnima Datt
Udaipur, the historical capital of the kingdom of Mewar, is also known as the City of Lakes, with extraordinary inter-connected lake systems. It is also known as the “White City” for its scenic white palaces and built heritage contributing to its grandeur and magnificent landscapes. In most recent times it is the favourite venue for destination weddings!

Chennai, 6th – 7th September. 31 Teachers/18 Schools

The Teacher Training Workshop was organised by Chennai Chapter in collaboration with HECS at the Madras Christian College Higher Secondary School. Chapter Member Shama and Member Malvika after the welcome address introduced the Guest Speaker. The session on Understanding Heritage and Engaging with Heritage in Classrooms was taken by HECS National Coordinator Shivaa Rawat. The workshop emphasis was on inter-disciplinary approach through innovative lesson-planning and practical exercises. The session on engaging students with Built Heritage was by Tripura Sundari Sewel, reiterating how ‘heritage’ was an inclusive space.

Highlight of the second day was a session on Waste Management and Segregation by Priya Gopalan and Archana M. Waste-o-meter, bio-degrability experiment, waste segregation and compost-making was suggested. In another session Vinita Sidhartha presented traditional games as a tool to introduce heritage, academics and mathematical concepts. The workshop concluded with a site visit across MCC Hr. Sec. School by Shanty Ida. The teachers are looking forward to exploring heritage education in their classrooms and establishing heritage clubs.

The oldest buildings in Chennai dates back to 7th and 8th centuries CE, which include the Kapaleshwarar Temple in Mylapore and the Parthasarathy Temple in Triplicane built in Dravidian architecture style, show influences from the Pallavas, the Cholas, and the Vijayanagara Empires.

Vadodara, 29th – 30th August. 34 Teachers/18 Schools

The Teacher Training Workshop was organized by the Vadodara Chapter at Bright Days School. It was inaugurated by Convenor Sanjeev Joshi who welcomed the participants and experts along with Co-Convenor Avi Sabavala. The workshop commenced with a talk by Officer on Special Duty, Varanasi Municipal Corporation-Heritage Cell, Rajubhai Shah. It was followed by Sanjeev Joshi who made an informative presentation on the Heritage Layers of Baroda. The sessions enabled participants to examine the heritage of their city. There was a site visit as a follow-up activity on the following day. In the next segment, a presentation on Understanding Heritage and Its Various Dimensions

Udaipur Chapter Co-Convenor Gaurav Singhvi. The Workshop concluded with group presentations with participants expressing enthusiasm for Heritage Clubs in schools and colleges across the city.
A two-day Teacher Training Workshop was organized by the Cochin Chapter at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhawan with a formal introduction by Convenor C Babu Rajeev. Co-founder of Kochi Muziris Biennale, Riyas Komu made a short presentation stressing on how to preserve and secure heritage. Kerala State Convenor K J Sohan discussed INTACH’s role over the past years, and elaborated on the local heritage of Kochi and West Kochi where various ethnic settlements are housed. The detailed session on Understanding Heritage was undertaken by PD HECS Purnima Datt who spoke about the different types of heritage and also the geography and geology of the Indian subcontinent. On the second day a few previous year’s FilmIt films were screened. State Convenor Babu Rajeev gave a talk on the heritage of India and the dangers faced today like unchecked development, natural calamities, theft etc. A presentation on Heritage Education in Classrooms and HECS activities, as well as the Young INTACH website was made. A detailed talk on the local heritage of Kochi was given by the State Convenor that ended the workshop after distribution of resource material to the schools.

The Dutch Palace (Mattancherry Palace) was originally built by the Portuguese. Later in 17th century, it was modified by the Dutch and presented to the Raja of Kochi. Coronation of many Rajas of Kochi were held here. The palace has a fine collection of mural paintings depicting scenes from the Hindu epics Mahabharatha and Ramayana.

Sursagar Lake, formerly known as Chandan Talao, lies in the middle of the city of Vadodara. It was rebuilt with stone banks and masonry in the 18th century. A 120 ft tall statue of Lord Shiva was built by Vadodara Mahanagar Seva Sadan which stands in the middle of the lake. The statue of Lord Shiva is lit with lights on Mahashivratri.

Kochi, 19th – 20th July. 39 teachers/23 Schools

A two-day Teacher Training Workshop was undertaken by HECS representatives Shivaa Rawat and Christina Shangne with an interactive session and presentation of Heritage Education. The highlight for the next day was a heritage walk across the city conducted by Vadodara Convenor Sanjeev Joshi covering Akota, Kothik, Nyay Mandir, Sur-Sagar, Mandv Bhadra Kacheri and exposing participants to the layers of history and the rich heritage of their city. Presentations were made on HECS educational resources followed by group work and presentations, and concluded with a vote of thanks.

Ooty, 13th – 14th July. 41 Teachers/20 schools

A two-day Teacher Training Workshop was held at YWCA, Anandagiri, Ooty acquainting them with the various aspects of India’s heritage. Teachers were familiarized with the importance and need of incorporating heritage education as an active part of school curriculum so that children can imbibe heritage values in their day to day life. In the next segment, a presentation on Understanding Heritage and Its Various Dimensions was made by PD HECS Purnima Datt. Participants were given resource materials to form Heritage Clubs in their respective schools. Tamil Nadu State
Convenor Dr. S Suresh was also present and interacted with teachers explaining INTACH work. He led a heritage walk of Nilgiris and its colonial heritage.

_**Ooty Botanical Garden,** spread over a huge area of 22 hectares with more than 650 species of flowers and trees, is a horticulturist’s delight. The main attraction of the garden is a fossil tree that is believed to be 20 million years old._

**Bathinda 27th – 28th September, 28 Schools/37 Teachers**

Punjab Convenor Prof. Sukhdev Singh welcomed the teachers, outlining the objectives of INTACH and the purpose of Teachers’ Workshops. Historian Labh Singh Sandh spoke to them about the cultural and literary history of Punjabi. There was a group discussion where the teachers asked to look at the challenges faced by heritage, and how awareness could be created. Principal of Police DAV Sen. Sec. Public School Monika Singh addressed the teachers on their important role in imparting heritage values and touched on other important issues like plagiarism. PD HECS drew attention to the different kinds of heritage and newer ways of getting students to think, speculate, and understand this theme. On the second day, there was a role playing session ending with a group activity. The students were also taken on a site visit to the Bathinda Fort where Convenor Kanwar Bhim Singh enlisted the support of the schools for creating greater public awareness and protecting Bathinda’s heritage.

**Varanasi, 24th September 2018. 63 College Students and 7 Faculty Members from 6 Colleges/Institutions**

The CHVP was organised by Varanasi Chapter in collaboration with HECS at the Sunbeam Women’s College, Varuna. The inaugural address by Varanasi Convenor Ashok Kapoor welcomed the participants and key note Speakers Prof. Pradosh Kumar Mishra and Ms Mudita Agarwal Kapoor. The college was represented...
by the presence of Dr. Rajeev Singh, Dr. Shalini and the College Principal. Co-Convenor Nalin Gulati and HECS In-charge Nirmal Joshi represented INTACH Chapter. The session by Prof. Mishra highlighted the living heritage of Varanasi through a detailed and interactive presentation. The session on the Architectural Heritage of Varanasi was presented by Mudita Agarwal Kapoor. The presentation on understanding Heritage and ways in which students could contribute as heritage volunteers was elaborated by HECS representative Shivaa Rawat. The workshop concluded with participants sharing their presentations and concluded with a commemorative group photograph.

Varanasi or Kasi, referred to as “the luminous” in the Rigveda, is among the oldest living city and has multiple layers of religion, culture, art forms, nature, profiles and individualities. It has numerous religious monuments (4000 temples, 300 mosques) and is also well known as a centre of music, arts, crafts, education and learning.

Delhi, 26th September 2018. 143 College Students and 8 Faculty Members

A College Heritage Volunteer Session was organised at Mata Sundari College. In an introductory talk students were briefed on the heritage activities in general undertaken by INTACH. A detailed session on Heritage followed, explaining its many facets with an overview of its varied dimensions (natural, built, material and living) by PD HECS Purnima Datt. The interactions will encourage participants to explore the rich heritage of their own institution. The session also covered ways to contribute as a heritage volunteer and the HECS pledge by students to involve themselves in a movement to protect heritage.

**HERITAGE AND CITIZENSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME (H&CTP)**

**Gwalior, 11th July. 50 Participants**

Heritage and Good Citizenship Training Workshop (H&CTP) was organised by the Gwalior Chapter in collaboration with HECS at the Pragati Vidya Peeth. The participants were welcomed by INTACH Co-Convenor Vikas Singh. The inaugural address was delivered by INTACH Governing Council Member Dr. Kamakshi Maheshwari who stressed on the importance of valuing heritage and need for good citizenship initiatives.

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Prakash stressed on the importance of cultural heritage and the need to preserve and safeguard it for the future generations. Architect Saurabh Srivastava made a powerpoint presentation on the various types of heritage. The workshop concluded on a positive note with participants expressing enthusiasm to undertake the Heritage Good Citizenship initiatives in Gwalior.

**Lalitpur, 11th September. 63 Participants**

The H&CTP workshop was inaugurated with the lighting of the lamp and address by Lalitpur Chapter Convenor Santosh Kumar Sharma. HECS Senior Programme Coordinator Abhishek Das explained the types of heritage and duties of a citizen in protecting heritage explaining the objectives of *JAGO-Heritage and Good Citizenship Training* initiative. The Chief Guest Manvendra Singh stressed that Lalitpur needs to be connected to the tourist map along with other tourist places in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh. He informed that 22 areas had been selected for development and a DPR (detailed project report) had been drawn up. State Minister Kushwaha said Lalitpur has a very old history. He described the Bundelkhand region as culturally very rich apart from being an archaeological treasure as well. In the next session, Archaeologist, State Archaeology Department, Jhansi Dr. SK Dube gave a presentation on the archaeological sites of Lalitpur and Bundelkhand. Dr. Pankaj Sharma from Nehru College spoke about the heritage of Lalitpur. Former Principal, Inter College Mahoba, Shiv Kishore Goswami spoke on Indian culture and archaeological places in Mahoba. Legal cultural expert Ram Dutt Tiwari took the next session detailing various laws related to archaeology and how they have been amended over the years. Mahoba Convenor Pramod Paliwal talked about the history of Mahoba District since the last 5000 years mentioning sites like Raheliya Sun Temple, Kirat Sagar, etc. In the next session Archaeologist, State Archaeology Department, Jhansi, Dr. S K Dubey, gave a presentation on the archaeological sites of Mahoba and Bundelkhand.

**Jabalpur, 28th September. More than 100 participants**

The H&CTP Workshop organised by Jabalpur Chapter in collaboration with HECS was held on 28 September at Mankuwar Bai College. It was attended by over 100 participants from different fields and professional backgrounds. The welcome address was by Convenor Dr. RK Sharma and the key note address by the Chief Guest, Mayor Jabalpur. Thereafter the objectives and background of the *Jago – Heritage Good Citizenship* programme was elaborated by Shivaa Rawat followed by a session on understanding the inter-linkage between heritage and
citizenship, and the role of citizens. Participants were encouraged to examine the city’s heritage and promote good citizenship endeavours within their respective institutions. Group presentations were made by them on the theme of Jabalpur’s heritage and ways to safeguard it. The workshop concluded with participants expressing their commitment to protect the city’s heritage.

The shore of the river Narbada is famous for its Marble Rocks, a unique formation where the entire river flows for nearly 2 kms between varied coloured and tinted marble rocks with a deep waterfall – a sight to behold!

FILMIT WORKSHOPS

Delhi Content Workshop, 24th July. 30 Schools

FilmIt content workshop for school children and teachers was conducted at INTACH Central Office, Delhi. It aims to provide a brief understanding about the content of films to be made under this training programme. The workshop commenced with screening of a HECS film giving the students and teachers an outline on HECS work. PD HECS Purnima Datt introduced the five themes of the current year, and the elements that make a film interesting, how to turn their ideas into a one line summary statement, highlighting the importance of effective visuals in a film and a few ways to achieve them.

Delhi Technical Workshop, 25th July. 34 Teachers/ 103 Students/ 34 Schools

The Technical Workshop was attended by 34 schools. Resource persons and Founders of Tuning Folk Films Ankit Pogula and Shreya Kakria stressed on techniques and tips for making a perfect film like planning, research, topics to cover and also how to handle a camera, all of which were explained to the students with short movies and hands on demonstration. FilmIt DVDs of year 2017-18 were also distributed to the participants.

Varanasi Workshop, 26th July. 8 Schools/ 90 Students/ 15 Teachers

The workshop was held at Little Flower House, Kakarmata. An introductory address by Varanasi HECS Incharge Nirmal Joshi was followed by a welcome by Varanasi INTACH Co-Convenor Gulati. INTACH Convenor Ashok Kapoor encouraged the students to carry forward the legacy in current academic year through the ongoing HECS initiatives. HECS resource person Shivaa Rawat had an interactive session with discussions on the themes as well as ways on how to make an interesting, compelling and meaningful film. Independent Film-maker Tuning Fork Films and Video Trainer Ankit Pogula and Shreya Karla explained the technical aspects of film-making. Good visuals, camera shots, and audio quality with focus on innovative and creative film presentation were discussed with the students.

Kolkata Workshop, 27th July

The workshop was held at Sri Sri Academy with the participation of 15 schools and one new addition of Vidyanjali International School joining the project. The welcome address by Principal Sri Sri Academy Suvina Sunglu encouraged all schools to tap the creativity of young minds and bring out the value of caring. State Convenor
GM Kapur spoke on how important it is to document the heritage of Kolkata. A brainstorming session was held by PD HECS Purnima Datt. Ankit Pogula said film making is an experience and one has to carefully show the right content with a sense of responsibility. Short films were screened to discuss some of the practical points like eye level, low angle, side angle, front angle and top angle to bring out depth of film and sound control.

**Chandigarh Workshop, 2nd August. 81 students/14 Teacher/9 Schools**

The workshop was held at Strawberry Fields High School. PD HECS Purnima said the Filmit project has completed 11 years in India, and thanked the teachers for their constant support and perseverance. The Tuning Fork team Ankit and Sumit addressed queries of the students regarding technicalities of film making and introduced them to the video editing software *Windows Movie Maker.*

**Goa Workshop, 10th August. 13 Schools/96 Students/21 Teachers**

The Goa Chapter in collaboration with HECS conducted the workshop at the Sharda Mandir School. The workshop was inaugurated with a welcome address by Convenor, Goa Fatima Da Silva Gracias and supported by Co-Convenor, Ian Karl Araujo Alvares. HECS resource persons Shivaa Rawat and Abhishek Das spoke on the content and themes of the current year. The Technical Resource Person Vinod Sreedhar from Tuning Fork Films gave details of technical aspects of film making and use of a camera. The students expressed enthusiasm to capture footage and apply the knowledge acquired during the workshop.

**Ahmedabad Workshop, 13th August. 6 Schools**

The Workshop was held at Shreyas Foundation School. Principal of Shreyas Foundation Arti Venkatesh welcomed them. Abhishek Das from HECS gave an introduction to the FilmIt project and discussed various types of heritage, why it is important to protect heritage and also elaborated the themes. The technical session was conducted by Shreya Kakaria and Sumit with hands-on demonstration on how to use the camera and to edit the film software. INTACH Co-Convenor Pavan Bakeri spoke to students about the importance of heritage and wished them luck in shooting their films.

**Jaipur Workshop, 14th August. 10 Shools/80 Students/17 Teachers**

The workshop was organised by INTACH Jaipur Chapter in collaboration with HECS at Maharani Gayatri Devi Girls (MGD) School. It began with a warm welcome by a school student, followed by an introduction to the FilmIt Project by HECS resource person Shivaa Rawat. The technical session was conducted by filmmakers Shreya Kakaria and Sumit Sisodia from Tuning Fork Films. They covered aspects like film shooting, and an introduction to editing through Windows movie maker. Students also spoke about unique family heirloom items and several other ideas for film making.

**Mumbai Workshop, 14th August. 70 Studentns/9 Schools**

The FilmIt Workshop at the Bhau Daji Lad Museum was attended by students along with their teachers (Government as well as private schools) attending. PD HECS Purnima Datt welcomed the students and elaborated on the FilmIt themes. Vinod Sreedhar from Tuning Fork films pointed out the similarities between making a film and learning a language, stressing on the importance of being familiar and learning the basics in both cases. The workshop ended with the distribution of DVDs of films.

**Chennai Workshop, 16th August**

The workshop was held at Sri Sankara Vidyashramam
Matriculation
Hr. Sec. School,
Thiruvanmiyur
with participation of schools from across the city.
State Convenor

Dr. Suresh formally welcomed the participants and resource persons. Resource person Abhishek Das gave a presentation on the current year’s themes. The technical session was conducted by Vinod Sreedhar and Sumit Sisodia discussing key areas in making a film. An ice breaker game was played wherein the students were asked to imagine how they would make their directorial venture so that they would open up and interact more freely. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Suresh.

Hyderabad Workshop, 17th August

The workshop was held at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Public School with the participation of nine schools from across the city. Uma Jaikumar from BVB gave the welcome address. Hyderabad Convenor Anuradha Reddy addressed them on the work being done by the Chapter, heritage walks, heritage quiz, etc. PD Purnima Datt introduced themes for the year and screened the HECS film. The technical resource duo Vinod and Sumit interacted with students on the different techniques and editing of film making. Short films were also screened to demonstrate examples on how to use the camera. The programme concluded with distribution of last year’s DVDs.

ROUTE TO ROOTS NATIONAL POSTER COMPETITION

Nation Winners Visit to Delhi, 4th to 6th July

To celebrate the remarkable success of the programme and in appreciation of students’ efforts, 15 National Winners were invited to visit Delhi for a 3 day educational trip and award ceremony. They visited various sites and organisations working on heritage conservation and engaged with experts in the field. They also visited INTACH’s Material Conservation Lab in Delhi, the Aga Khan Foundation and Sanskriti Pratishthan.

Their visit concluded with a felicitation and award ceremony on 6th July at INTACH New Delhi. The Chief Guest was philanthropist, poet, author, former member Rajya Sabha and Minister Dr. Karan Singh, and Guest of Honour INTACH Founder OP Jain, patron, philanthropist, art doyen and Founder of the Sanskriti Pratishthan. Together with INTACH Chairman LK Gupta and Member Secretary CT Misra, they felicitated the winners and spoke to them about taking pride in their heritage, as well as embracing heritage sensitive values. It is hoped the students will be inspired to take on a leading role to promote and protect the heritage of their respective places.

NATIONAL WINNERS ENTRIES

Topic: Naga Tribes, Jason Lon Murry - Class 9, Maple Tree School, Dimapur

Topic: Prajapati Clan
Bhaskar Prajapati Class 9, Sardar Dastur Hormazdian High School, Pune
INTACH HERITAGE QUIZ -2018

Andhra Pradesh

East Godavari 8th July

The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz in 4 districts of the State viz. Kakinada, Amalapuram, Rajahmundry and Tuni. A total of 239 Teams (478 students) participated in the event.

Srikakulam 19th July. 87 Teachers/11 Schools

The Heritage Quiz was conducted by the Chapter at the Central Library, Srikakulam.

Kurnool 17th August. 98 Students/10 Schools

The Chapter organized the Heritage Quiz at the iconic Gol Gumbaz of Kurnool. INTACH Kurnool Chapter Members as well as staff members from ASI Kurnool Circle were present at the event.

Anantapur 19th August. 80 Students/10 Schools

The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Rotary English Medium School.

Visakhapatnam 31st August. 49 Teams/8 Schools

The Visakhapatnam Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Little Angels School.

Kadapa 12th September. 188 Students/9 Schools

The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Nekhnamkhan Kalakhethram. District Tourism Officer

Rajashekar Reddy was the Chief Guest and greatly appreciated the work of INTACH.

Telangana

Mahabubnagar August. 72 Schools/ 284 Students of selected Mandalas

The Mahabubnagar Chapter expanded the outreach of INTACH’S Heritage Education programme by conducting the Heritage Quiz in 6 rural mandals of Mahabubnagar and Wanaparthy Districts. The Winners of Mahabubnagar and Wanaparthy Finals represented their respective Districts in the State Finals. Through this experience the participating students of these mandals are now well informed about the vision and logo of INTACH and important need for living in harmony with heritage.

Warangal 28th August. 144 Teams/288 Students/70 Schools

The Warangal Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz Ekashila at B.Ed. College. Convenor Prof M Pandu Ranga Rao, HECS Convenor J Sridhar Rao, District Education Officer S Yadaiah, Secretary, Ekashila Educational Institutes Upender Reddy, District Scientific Officer Gousia Begum and senior INTACH Members were also present at the event.
Tamil Nadu

**Chennai 27th July. Over 28 Schools Participated**

The Chennai Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Vidyalaya School. Resource person, Writer and Member of the Tamil Heritage Trust, Vallabha Srinivasan gave a presentation on the heritage site of Mahabalipuram.

**Nagercoil 4th August. 80 Students/8 Schools**

The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Scott Christian Hr. Sec. School.

**Coimbatore 5th August**

The Coimbatore Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz with 136 students from 16 schools participating. Tamil Nadu State Convenor Dr. S Suressh was the Quiz master for the event. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan School was declared the winner of the city round.

**Thanjavur 21st August. 196 Students/12 Schools**

The Thanjavur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Little Scholars Matriculation Higher Secondary School. Correspondent, Anjalaiammal Mahalingam, Engineering College, Dr. Tamilarasan was the Chief Guest, who, in his address stressed on the need of such heritage awareness programmes.

**Kodaikanal 5th September. Students/12 Schools**

The Kodaikanal Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Zion School. The team from Bhavans, Gandhi Vidyashram was the winner of the city final.

**Bihar**

**Bhagalpur 13th August. 100 Students/8 Schools**

The Bhagalpur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at SMS Mission Sciences School. The Chief Guest KK Sinha, in his interaction stressed on the importance of conserving heritage for the survival of human civilization.

**Jharkhand**

**Jamsbedpur 5th August. 68 Students/10 Schools**

The Jharkhand State Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at...
Quiz at the Russi Mody Center for Excellence.

**Odisha**

**Balasore 5th August. 134 Students/9 Schools**
The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Balasore Public School. The team from DAV Public School was declared the winner of the city round.

**Mayurbhanj 19th August. 114 Students/9 Schools**
The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Lions Club, Baripada. Dr. Tarun Ojha, a reputed environmentalist, addressed the students.

**Sonepur 19th August. 84 Students/9 Schools**
The Sonepur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir.

**Bhadrak 22nd August, 68 Students/9 Schools**
The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at BM Bagurai High School. It was attended by many Chapter Members of the city.

**Bhubaneswar 8th September. 112 Students/56 Teams/12 Schools**
The Bhubaneswar Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Mother’s Public School.

**Rajasthan**

**Bikaner 29th July. 163 Students/11 Schools**
The Chapter conducted the city round of the Heritage Quiz at Tolaram Bafna Academy. The event was covered by the local media.

**Udaipur 20th August. 100 Students/10 Schools**
The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Maharana Mewar Public School. The team from Maharana Mewar Public School was declared the winner of the city round.

**Bhilwara 24th August. 100 Students/10 Schools**
The Bhilwara Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Rajendra Marg Senior Higher Secondary School. The team from Sophia School was declared the winner of the event.

**Jodhpur 30th August. 144 Students/11 Schools**
The Jodhpur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Konark Senior Secondary School. Convenor Mahendra Singh Tanwar addressed the students and familiarised them with INTACH objectives as India’s premier organization for heritage conservation and preservation.
Karauli 19th September. 100 Students/8 Schools
The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz with the participation of INTACH Life Member Vivasvat Pal as Chief Guest for the event.

Chhattisgarh
Sarguja 5th August. 100 Students/10 Schools
The Sarguja Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Vivekanand Vidya Niketan.

Bilaspur 20th August. 176 Students/16 Schools
The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Deokindan High School for Girls. Bal Bharti Public School NTPC was declared the winner of the city round.

Madhya Pradesh
Orchha 17th July. 88 Students
The Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz. Students from Sunrise Public High School participated in the event.

Khandwa 31st July. 50 Students/5 Schools
Khandwa Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at St. Jones Convent Higher Secondary School.

Karauli 19th September. 100 Students/8 Schools
Ut Krisht Vidyalaya. Students from various schools of the city participated in the competition. After the quiz the participants were also taken for a Heritage Walk of the Dhar Fort.

Mandla 24th August. 33 Students/4 Schools
The Mandla Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Govt. Higher Sec. School, No. 2.

Jabalpur 28th August. 50 Students/5 Schools
The Jabalpur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Rani Durgavati Sangrahala. The Team from Little World School, Tilwara were declared winners of the city round.

Burhanpur 28th August. 80 Students/Various Schools
The Burhanpur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Hotel Ambar and Holiday Resort. The Chapter also inaugurated the Paryatan Parv during this event and spoke about the Eco – Tourism efforts.

Haryana
Ambala 8th August. 130 Students/17 Schools
Lt. Gen. Ram Pratap (retd.), PVSM, AVSM, VSM, was the Chief Guest. A senior and experienced teacher Madhu Singh was the Quiz Master. CJM team stood first with Police DAV Public School coming second.
**Gurgaon 10th August**

INTACH Gurgaon Chapter conducted the Quiz on 10th August. The winning team comprised of Tejinder Saini Tatva and Amogh Rawal from Scottish High International School.

**Panipat, 10th August**

INTACH Panipat Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz on 10th August at MASD Public School. Delhi Public School, Panipat Refinery stood first followed by The Millennium School.

**Kurukshetra, 24th August. 204 Students/17 Schools**

Kurukshetra Chapter conducted the city round of INTACH Heritage Quiz in collaboration with Kurukshetra Panorama and Science Centre (A Ministry of Culture Centre). Students from Kurukshetra, Pehowa, Kaithal, Karnal and Ambala participated in the oral and written rounds of the Quiz. Convenor Kurukshetra Chapter, Prof. AR Chaudhri gave a talk on Indian Scientific Heritage. The team from Army Public School, Ambala Cantt. received the first prize.

**Hissar, 25th August. 126 Students/15 Schools**

The Hisar Chapter held its first City Round of heritage at Indus Public School. Delhi Public School Hissar stood first.

**Yamunanagar, 1st September. 129 Students/12 Schools**

Yamunanagar Chapter conducted the city round of the heritage quiz at Mukand Lal Public School. The quiz master was Raminder Kaur. The competition was won by Vivekanand Public School.

**Punjab**

**Faridkot, July. 51 Teams/6 Schools**

DCM International School, Kotkapura got the first prize and will be going to Amritsar to participate in the Punjab State Finals.

**Jalandhar, 4th August. 75 Teams/15 Schools**

Jalandhar Chapter conducted a Quiz Competition on ‘Quit India movement and our glorious Heritage’ at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Jalandhar Cantt. Schools from Jalandhar, Beas Nakodhar and Kapurthala participated. Tarun Soni and Vatsal Khanna of Police DAV School came first.

**Amritsar, 4th August. 150 Students/15 Schools**

A City Level Heritage Quiz Contest was organized at DAV International Public School, Verka bypass. The team of Sri Guru Harkishan Senior Secondary School, G.T. Road Amritsar comprising of Mehakdeep Kaur and Gursimran Kaur came first. Presiding the Quiz, Col. (Retd) Santokh Singh Bhatti appreciated the enthusiasm and sense of responsibility in the students and their teachers towards the country’s rich cultural heritage and lauded INTACH’s efforts.

**Maharashtra**

**Solapur, 18th July. 51 Teams/102 Students**

INTACH India Heritage Quiz was conducted by Solapur Chapter at Mule Hall, H. D. High School. Seemantini Chaphalkar was the quiz master. The team from Survase...
High School stood first. Prof. Dr. Maske, a history enthusiast, talked about the importance of knowledge of our history and of great personalities. Later regional winner, local winners and participants of Route to Roots were awarded trophies and certificates.

**Chandrapur, 4th August. 86 Students/Different Schools**
The city round of INTACH Heritage Quiz 2018 was held at Hindi City High School. Chief Guest was A N Pullawar. Lokmanya Tilak Kanya Vidyalaya secured first position.

**Aurangabad, 20th August. 13 Schools**
INTACH Aurangabad Chapter organized Written Quiz Competition in collaboration with HECS Delhi for school students from classes VII to X at Bhanudas Chavan Hall, the Institution of Engineers, Osmanpura. Stepping Stones High School, Aurangabad came first.

**Wai-Panchgani, 20th Aug. 122 Students/Various Schools**
INTACH Quiz Competition was successfully held in Wai at TL Joshi Vidyalaya, Wai. Balchandra Mone Sir and Dhananjay Malatane were the chief guests of the programme.

**Pune 1st September**
The Pune round was held at Dr. Shamarao Kalmadi Primary School Premises with Tejaswini Aphale as the quiz master. The youngest students from each participating school were invited to inaugurate the programme by putting their hand prints to form a colourful tree on a sheet of paper. Winners were the students of Delhi Public School, Pune.

**Karnataka**

**Bijapur, 21st July. 79 Students/8 Schools**
The Bijapur Chapter in association with Dr. PG Halakatti Research Centre conducted the Heritage Quiz. Retd. Principal of local B.Ed. College Dr. VD Aiholli was the quiz master. Dr. MS Madabhavi, Secretary Research Centre was invited as the Chief Guest. St. Joseph's School won the quiz.

**Belagavi, 25th August. 84 Students**
Belagavi Chapter conducted the City Quiz for students of various schools participating. Sayami Kusannavar and Shivamani Angadi, studying in eighth standard at Bharatesh Central School (BCS), Halaga emerged as the winners.

**Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand**

**Brijbhoomi, 18th August. 100 Students/Various Schools**
Brijbhoomi Chapter conducted the heritage quiz in Gyan Mahavidyalaya, Aligarh. Dharam Samaj Bal Mandir Sr. Sec. School secured first position. Chief Guest Tulika Agrawal gave away the prizes.
Gorakhpur, 19th August. Students of Class 7-10/10 Schools

Gorakhpur Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz City at St. Joseph Women College, Civil Lines. The Quiz was conducted by Life Member Sri Achintya Lahiri. The SS Academy was declared the winner.

Varanasi, 25th August. 112 Students/13 Schools

Varanasi Chapter conducted the City Quiz at Aryans International School. Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur won the Quiz conducted by INTACH Varanasi Education Cell Coordinator Nirmal Joshi. Convenor Ashok Kapoor spoke about the Chapter activities to students from schools and colleges.

Lalitpur, 28th August

The city round of INTACH Heritage Quiz was held at Rajkiya Inter College Lalitpur. Several schools from the city participated with the team from Life Vision Academy standing first.

Dehradun, 29th August. 9 Schools participated

Dehradun Chapter organised the inter-school Heritage Quiz that included some well known boarding schools-RIMC, Welham Boys Schools, Unison Girls School, Army Public School, Doon International School, Kasiga School, Doon International School, Jaswant Modern Sr. Sec. School and DAV Public School. 3 rounds were conducted, including a tie-breaker. RIMC emerged winners in the final round.

Robilkhand, 1st September. 100 Students Various Schools

The Heritage Quiz was held in Jamuna Devi Inter College with Shah Alam Khan as the Chief Guest. It was won by the hosts, Jamuna Devi Inter College.

Gujarat

Jamnagar 28th July

The City Round was held at Summair Sports Club, coordinated by Honorary Secretary Yashi Kumari Jadeja. Convenor Air Comm. Surendra Singh Tyagi (Retd.) gave a presentation on tangible and intangible heritage and later awarded certificates, along with Co-Convenor Nileshbhai Dave, to all the participants and teachers. Shree Satya Sai Vidyalaya won the first prize.

Himachal Pradesh

Kangra, 27th August. 56 Teams/Different Schools

Kangra Chapter, Dharamshala organized Heritage Quiz on 27th August at the Govt. Senior Secondary School (Boys). 25 schools were invited, resulting in an impressive participation. Rainbow English Senior Secondary School, Bhaterh/Dari Dharamshala came first.

Shimla, 8th September. 27th Team/5 Schools

Shimla Chapter conducted the Heritage Quiz at Auckland House School, Shimla. The winners were from ECI Chalet Day School.
Mandi 8th September. 10 Schools/100 Students

Mandi Chapter organised the Quiz at DAV Sr. Sec. School, Mandi. Namrata and Dushyant from DAV Centenary School were the winners. The Chief Guest was renowned artist Achhru Ram Gautam.

North East

Sikkim 10th August. 108 Students/15 Schools

The Heritage Quiz was held at Modern Senior Secondary School. Quiz Master Bina Sharma is a senior teacher from Enchey Sr. Sec. School. Yash Thapa and Tenzing Wangdi Lachungpa from the Daffodils Homes School won the prize.

Dibrugarh 25th August. 11 Schools/96 Students/48 Teams

The Quiz was conducted by Dudul Das from the Department of Energy, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, Assam.

Dimapur 28th August. 14 Schools/60 Students

The Dimapur City Round was held at the Don Bosco Institute on Development Learning (DBIdl) with the participation of 14 schools in and around the city. The winning Team was from Charis High Academy, Chumukedima, Dimapur.

West Bengal

Kolkata 8th September

The Kolkata Round of The Quiz was held on 8th September at Shri Shikshayatan School premises with Ayan Ghosh as the Quiz Master. The winner of the Quiz was The Heritage School with Bratati Bhattacharya from Birla High School as the runner up. Secretary General of the Shri Shikshayatan Group of Institutions presided over the programme that was conducted by INTACH State Convenor GM Kapur.

Santiniketan August. 94 Students/47 Groups

The Heritage Quiz was conducted in four parts and over four days, with the winning team selected on the basis of total marks. The participating schools were Rajatpur Indranarayan Vidyapith (Higher Secondary) School, Goalpara Tanayendra Vidyalaya (H.S), Siksha Satra, Visva Bharati, Sriniketan and Bolpur High School. Visva Bharati won the first prize.

STATE ROUND

Odisha 8th September

Bhubaneswar Chapter along with the Odisha State Chapter conducted the State Final of the Heritage Quiz. Best teams from Balasore, Bhadrak, Mayurbhanj, Sonepur and Bhubaneswar were the contestants in the State Final. The team from DAV Public School, Chandrasekharpur won the State Round and will represent the State in the National Finals of the Quiz. The DAV Public School, Balasore stood second, with the team from St. Xavier High School, Bhadrak bagging the third position.

YOUNG INTACH NEWSLETTER, ISSUE JULY – SEPTEMBER 2018

Wooden Wonders

This issue explored the magnificent heritage of wood used innovatively to create exquisite artefacts, votive deities, traditional toys, daily utilities and more. The history of wood carving can be traced from pre-historic times, with tools, weapons, homes, using wood, to the present times. The beautiful journey of ‘wooden wonders’ is captured in the current issue (Back Cover).
Note: All Ordinary Members are requested to expedite renewal of their membership subscription for the year 2018-19 if not already done so. The renewal subscription should preferably be deposited at their local Chapter Office or may be sent by post to the INTACH Central Office.

ANDHRA PRADESH

Chairman’s tour of Andhra Pradesh Chapters from 25th-31st July, commenced with Vishakhapatnam. He visited heritage sites like the Shiv Temple, Buddhist sites and the sand dunes.

From Deep Water Port, the INTACH party boarded the Tug for a short sea cruise. On arrival at Kakinada, an interactive meeting of Andhra Pradesh Convenors was held at the Cosmopolitan Club on 28th July, attended by the District Magistrate and other Government officials.

State Convenor M Gopalakrishna welcomed Telengana Co-Convenor P Anuradha, KVJ Radhra Prasad from Srikakulam, PPV Prasad from Vizag, SV Laksminarayana from Guntur, B Venkateswarulu from Kurnool, Elias Reddy and Venugopal from Kadapa, Ramkumar from Ananthapur, Co-Convenor VVLN Murthy, V Ramakrishna and AP Co-Convenor L Sesha Kumari from East Godavari who were present at the meeting. District Magistrate & Collector Kartikeya Misra also participated in the discussions.

Various suggestions were discussed to draw up the future plan of action like preparation of District Maps, photography and video recording of district monuments and heritage sites, formation of District Advisory Committee with the help of the District Collectors, etc. INTACH proposals for the District Collectors’ Conference called by the Chief Minister were discussed taking the above into consideration. The role of INTACH Convenors and District Collectors in conservation of natural, built and living heritage; and the close linkage between tourism and employment development needed to be both emphasised and clarified.

Chairman briefed the gathering on specialized tasks taken up by INTACH Divisions at Delhi, sharing some landmark achievements like bio-remediation in cleaning water bodies, steam cleaning of stone, restoration of artifacts, paintings and fragile fabrics. He presented the Best Chapter Award to the Co-Convenor of AP State cum East Godavari Convenor L Sesha Kumari.
On 30th July Chairman visited Vijayawada for a meeting at its Cultural Centre. Senior officers of the Andhra Pradesh Government, prominent citizens and academicians also attended at the request of State Convenor. Special Secretary Manmohan Singh presided over the meeting, that was attended by Endowments Commissioner YV Auradaha along with executive officers of Srisailam, Srikalabasti and Simbchalam Temples. Founder of the Vijayawada Cultural Centre Y Harishchandra Prasad, Y Bhargav of Heritage Jignasa and industrialist G Presanna were also present.

Initiating the discussions State Convenor M. Gopalakrishna requested the Special Chief Secretary Dr. Manmohan Singh to preside over the meeting who briefed them on numerous initiatives taken by INTACH. He said setting up an AP INTACH Conservation Institute for specialized training of engineers, architects and personnel of roads, building and irrigation was an important development.

Chairman suggested that State Government might also consider coordinating with neighboring Odisha authorities for developing a planned Buddhist circuit in Andhra, as there is a great demand from South East Asian tourists. At present the primary focus should be mainly on uplifting heritage sites. He advised setting up of a Heritage Conservation Committee as it is mandatory for demolishing/altering a heritage site by any authority. One can pitch for UNESCO recognition at a later date.

The Meeting ended with a Press Meet, with extensive coverage in Telugu and English newspapers published from Vijaywada the following day.

**Guntur**

Chairman paid a maiden visit to Guntur Chapter and had an interactive session with Members of this newly established Chapter. He visited the Amravati Museum and the site of the proposed capital of Andhra Pradesh at Amravati on the banks of the River Amravati.

**Machilipatnam**

Chairman LK Gupta visited Machilipatnam Chapter on 31st July, accompanied by former AP Special Secretary and now INTACH State Convenor M Gopala Krishna, Co Convenor L Sesha Kumari and Chapter Convenor Dr.
Udattu Srinivasa Rao. INTACH party was extended a warm welcome and honoured with *Purnakumbham* by authorities of the 140 years old *Kanya Parameswari Temple*.

They visited Banderkota Dutchkota, the bell tower, and the armory gunpowder godown. They saw the *Cyclone Pillar* erected in memory of 30,000 persons who tragically lost their lives in 1864 in a severe cyclone that lashed the city. It was followed by a visit to the *Kalamkari Centre* at Perdana.

Chairman lauded the activities of the Chapter. Krishna University Vice-Chancellor Sunkari A Rama Krishna Rao spoke on the importance of city’s culture and on some of the new courses introduced in the academic year. State Convenor Gopala Krishna hopes Chairman’s visit will pave the way for follow up action on a number of plans of the Chapter. New developments are also expected in the city when the Port comes into existence.

**Srikakulam**

*World Indigenous People’s Day* was celebrated by the Chapter at ITDA Seethampeta with the participation of its Project Officer L Sivasankar and other officials. INTACH Convenor KVJ Radhaprasad performed a *puja* to the goddess of forests, prior to the rally with tribal people. Later Chief Guests District Collector Dhananjaya Reddy and MLA Smt. V. Kalavati interacted with them. ITDA honoured the aged tribal leaders. Prizes were distributed to college students who had won in various competitions conducted by the Chapter.

In Ganagivalasa Village, Additional Co-Convenor N Sanyasi Rao conducted various competitions in this tribal area. MD CGM NABARD Vasudevan was the Chief Guest at this event. There was an exhibition of tribal products and traditions and dances sponsored by the NGO *Arts Peddapeta*.

The Chapter also marked *Librarians Day* on the birth anniversary of SR Ranganathan with Chief Librarian Tirumula Kumari as the Chief Guest. Various competitions were conducted with about 50 librarians participating, five of whom were honoured as the best librarians.

This year INTACH Members were invited to hoisting
Visakhapatnam

Ms Mayank Kumari Deo is appointed as the Convenor of the Visakhapatnam Chapter. She will be supported by Ms Poonam Shah Srinath as the recently appointed Co-Convenor. INTACH greets the new team, wishing them every success in the responsibilities they have taken up. We extend a warm welcome to the INTACH family.

ASSAM

State Convenor Sheila Bora reported the steady progress of work at Dakshipat Satra, Majulis. Training sessions for local people working on restoration of artifacts, ornaments and manuscript is on-going. The Chapter proposes to move a plea to the Dispur authorities for constructing a museum at Dakshinpur Xatra in Majuli so that the “valuable cultural wealth” of the State could be preserved for posterity. The Chapter meanwhile took up two projects of listing and documenting valuable artifacts and manuscripts in the horbhoral (storehouses) of the Xatra supported by the Prince Claus Emergency Funding. A Chapter team comprising of historian Sheila Bora, former bureaucrat Co-Convenor Swapnanil Barua and Malika Mitra from the Odisha National Mission for Manuscripts, make a formidable team to ensure that Dakshinpur Xatra becomes a storehouse of valuable artifacts, with some dating to the medieval period. It has precious exhibits like a crown of gold and silver engraved with Krishna and Balaram worn by Ahom kings, over 500 manuscripts on sanchipat (bark of aloe wood) on historical events, scriptures and songs, etc. It is a veritable treasure house of information. Meanwhile six bhakts (monks) are being trained in proper handling and upkeep of manuscripts. Majuli happens to be the constituency of the Chief Minister, a factor that might hopefully expedite this project.

BIHAR

Darbhanga

Chapter was associated with a week long training programme on the two main scripts of Bihar - Kaitybi and Tirhuta from 21st–27th July, conducted by the Central Institution of Indian Languages, Mysore. Its Director Dr. Prof. DG Rao addressed the participants on the subject. Other eminent people on the dais were Dr. Narayan Chaudhary from CIL, former head of History, LNMU
Darbhanga, Dr. Prof. Ratneshwar Mishra, and Curator of the local Maharaja Laxmishwar Singh Museum Dr. SK Mishra. One of the interesting talks was on the origin and development of the two scripts delivered by Bhairab Lal Das.

There were more than 500 participants enrolled for this programme. In the ensuing training periods they were taught how to join alphabets, and make sentence in Kaithi and Tirhuta so that they can read documents and stone inscriptions. If adequate number of people take an interest, especially the women folk, it would be the best way to transfer knowledge to the younger generation. There were as many as 75 participants from the teaching fraternity. Two of the participants were recipients of the prestigious Sahitya Academy Puraskar. Coordinator Dr. NK Agrawal informs that some bank officers, advocates, clerks from the Judiciary and from the education field participated in the programme. So Hope floats!

CHHATTISGARH

Shri Rajendra Chandak is appointed as the Additional Co-Convenor of Chhattisgarh. This is a challenging assignment with much work ahead. INTACH welcomes him and wishes him every success in expanding the reach of heritage conservation in his richly endowed State.

Bilaspur

Convenor Manju Mitra informs that a Quiz was held on 20th August at the Deokinandan H. S. Girls School with many INTACH Members present which made it an impressive event. Details of this will be covered under HECS.

Durg-Bhilai

Another new Chapter in the State is Durg-Bhilai with Convenor Prof. Hari Narayan heading it, supported by Ms. Vidya Gupta as the Co-Convenor. We wish the new INTACH team every success in the work and challenges ahead – with many good wishes.

Mahasamund

There are other new appointments in the State. Shri Daulal Chandrakar is the Convenor of the newly opened Mahasamund Chapter. He will be assisted by Co-Convenor Rajeshwar Khare who was also appointed recently. It is always a challenging task to start a new Chapter, induct new Members and break new ground for heritage awareness and conservation. We send good wishes for the onerous responsibilities they have taken up and wish them every success.

Raipur

CONDOLENCES

State Convenor Lalit Surjan communicated the sad news that Life Member Dr. Ramchandra Singhdeo had passed away. He was associated with the Chapter since 1985. His absence will indeed be a great loss to his colleagues. Though 89 years old, he had continued to take a lively interest in INTACH activities. It was due to his initiative that Chapters were established at Sarguja, Kawardha and Korea.
He lived an interesting life indeed. First elected as MLA in 1967, he went on to serve six terms in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh Assemblies. He was the first Finance Minister of Chhattisgarh. He was famously known as a development oriented politician who constantly pitched for sustainable projects and as a teacher of management science. There was an entirely other side to his personality. He was an avid photographer and fashion designer! In his death the Chapter has lost a great friend, philosopher and guide, says Lalit Surjan.

INTACH will always remember him. We send our heartfelt condolences to his family members, with many good wishes for the future. Such people live on forever in memories of others.

DELHI

The Chapter has institutionalised heritage walks in the capital. They have grown in popularity with locals and visitors alike. The usual weekend walks continued even through the onset of rainy season which is never severe in Delhi.

The walk at Qutub Minar Complex was conducted on 1st July by Aradhana Sinha. A cycle tour was held on 15th July with Drona Vatsyayan, covering architectural sites of the colonial period in the capital.

The walk at Chirag Delhi was personally conducted by Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle on 22 July. Participants seemed to have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the lanes of Chirag Dilli during this outing, with the Convenor giving them detailed information on their history and about the residents.

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The Chapter also announced a three month concentrated program of walks in Old Delhi to be conducted by its Project Coordinator Kanika Dawar. It is the best time to explore one of the most interesting areas of the capital especially during the coming months of autumnal weather or winter sun.

GUJARAT

Mehsana

With the outbreak of monsoon on 16th August, the Chapter organised a tree plantation drive at Vadnagar in the surrounding premises of the Hatkeshwar Mahadev Temple. The Central and Gujarat Governments have allotted Rs. 19 crore for the development of this complex under a registered Trust with facilities provided for both pilgrims and tourists who visit the Temple in large numbers, especially during the month of Shravan. Convenor Javahar Mehta is a Member of the Trust.

The tree plantation on the premises was undertaken with the help of pilgrims on 19th August starting with a 100 plants collected from the Government Nursery. The tourists were most enthusiastic in participating in the plantation.

It is also very interesting to know that long back Prime Minister Narendra Modi used to attend the evening aarti here and beat the drums. There are many people including Amit Shah who worship Hatkeshwar Mahadev as their family God.

Vadodara

INTACH has appointed Ms. Avi K. Sabavala as the Co-Convenor of the Vadodara Chapter. We extend a warm welcome to her with all our good wishes for success in her executing responsibilities ahead and in promoting public awareness and tourism at its famous heritage site.

HARYANA

Ambala

Nation Builders

INTACH Life Members Ms. Vijay Sharma and Ms. Madhu Singh were awarded the prestigious Nation Builder award by the Ambala Rotary Club on 18th September by the Chief Guest DRM Dinesh Chander Sharma. The programme was anchored by a well known educationist and former College Principal Dr. Desh Bandhu. It was described as a value based programme contributing towards nation building. INTACH extends its heartiest congratulations to Madhu Singh and Vijay Sharma for having distinguished themselves in teaching the younger generation heritage values.

The Chapter celebrated Kargil Vijay Diwas on 4th September. Unsurprisingly it evoked an overwhelming emotional response from the public in this cantonment town. Over 50 students from the Army Public School as well as from many other schools attended, led by Convenor Col. RD Singh who paid a touching tribute to the Kargil martyrs. Standing at the famous Indira Chowk with placards, they displayed banners hailing India’s victory in Jammu &
Kashmir, photographs of Kargil and also pictures of some officers who had valiantly served the country. Hundreds of pedestrians and cars stopped by to click photographs of the event.

The children carried out a Kargil Diwas March at the Rai Market singing patriotic songs and calling out slogans like Bharat Mata ki Jai, Hamare jawan hamari shaan, while shopkeepers and passers by cheered them.

“For us soldiers, nation always comes first, and we will safeguard its honour at all costs always” said Convenor RD Singh, a proud veteran himself.

On the same day a Blood Donation Camp was organised at Tepla Village near the Ambala Cantonment, held in memory of Shaheed L/Nk Vikramjit Singh who laid down his life fighting militants. Ambala DC Sharandeep Kaur was the Chief Guest with nearly a hundred people donating blood. She lauded the soldiers of Tepla village which boasts of having a large number of its youth serving in the armed forces. The parents and brother of Shaheed L/Nk Vikramjit were present on the occasion. So were members of the Rotary Club who had taken this initiative.

Convenor Col. RD Singh was honoured as a Star Blood Donor by the DC. To date he has donated blood 102 times which is a record few can claim. INTACH is proud of him.

Gurugram

State Convenor Shikha Jain wrote about Gurgaon’s profile and history in a recently published article in Hindustan Times. Sandwiced between Delhi’s grand history and Rajasthan’s famous heritage sites that ensure major tourism inflow, Gurugram is mostly associated with Malls, shopping and entertainment. Shikha Jain is of the view that the Millennium City, as it is often described, has the potential “to create a meaningful, sustainable heritage tourism model with leftover monuments that will take us beyond the mall mentality or reconstructed experiences to a more authentic and meaningful experience”. One also should look at the historic cities around Gurugram to promote heritage tourism.

Haryana region was once upon a time a battlefield in India’s history which has experienced destruction of towns and villages, the last substantial damage recorded being what is often described as ‘the first war of independence’ in 1857. Convenor feels “it is time to look at these scattered parts of our history and consider the possibility of experiencing them as a more cohesive narrative of the region”. She lists 5 interesting historic zones from different phases of history within the range of 35-40 minutes drive. She mentions Sindhu Saraswati (Indus Valley) and Buddhist period towns, Gurugram as Dronacharya’s village and the Indus valley period settlements of Dhankot which was a major supplier of milk in olden times; Sayid (guru’s residence) and later Atta also are located within 11 km of the city. It calls for an interpretation centre that talks of Gurugram’s origin which can work as a small heritage tourism circuit. Besides stories of Mahabharata, Buddhist relics, Jain and Pratihara period remains, painted grey ware found at excavation sites can become parts of this narrative. The monuments and tombs along with a picturesque fort bastion on the Aravali hill top, the sulphur springs visited by Mughal Emperor Akbar, the lanes and trails could add up to heritage walks down Gurugram’s glorious history!

Shikha Jain lists a number of other attractions like the medieval period 18th century octagonal walled town of Farrukhanagar, the Riyasat of Pataudi now under renovation by Saif Ali Khan and likely to be turned into a
heritage hotel under the Neemrana Group, Badshahpur-Jharsa linked to Begum Samru, British Cantonment settlement, etc. Collectively the historic towns and sites from different eras lend themselves to making Gurugram more than just a much ‘malled’ city.

Recently the Railway Ministry attempted to run an old steam locomotive from Farrukhanagar to Garhi Harsaru which lies along the road from Gurugram to the heritage zone of Pataudi, Sultanpur Sanctuary and Farrukhanagar. Harsaru is named after the Chauhan Rajpur ruler Harsh Dev Singh. During British period Garhi Harsaru came into prominence for the salt trade and a meter gauge railway track was laid in 1873. In 1981 the famous scene at the Railway Station in the film Gandhi, with Ben Kingsley in the lead role and directed by Richard Attenborough, was in fact shot at Harsaru.

INTACH has a strong presence in Haryana State with 11 Chapters. Together they have much work to be done before the State Convenor’s aspirations can be realised.

**HIMACHAL PRADESH**

**Kangra**

The 72nd Independence Day of India on 15th August this year was celebrated by the Members of Kangra Chapter. Convenor L N Aggarwal briefed them about the progress made in our country since Independence and honoured them by presenting a badge with National Flag to each.

A new member P C Nehria joined Kangra Chapter. He was welcomed and decorated with INTACH badge by the Convenor.

**Mandi**

The Chapter organized a workshop on Mandi Kalam, a 17th-19th century style of miniature paintings patronized by the former kings of this hilly state. These artists had migrated from different parts of the country and settled in the small hilly states ruled by kings of Mandi, Kangra, Chamba, Bilaspur and Kullu. Their works display influence of both the Moghul and Rajasthani schools of painting. Due to lack of support from erstwhile princes towards the end of 19th-20th century, work on Mandi Kalam became almost extinct.

The Chapter had made an effort to revive this local art by organising a workshop in August for students, some of whom have shown great potential in learning the basics of this style of painting. The Chapter has therefore decided to hold some more workshops and it would be interesting to know the results of this initiative.

**Shimla**

Convenor Raaja Bhasin was nominated by the Himachal Pradesh High Court to participate in the cleaning of
rain-fed Chadwick Falls near Shimla, an initiative of the State Government. It set up a Committee comprising of various State official including the Deputy Commissioner, Director Tourism and various concerned officials. Recommendations for remedial action and restoration of this natural heritage site were drawn up. The site is severely damaged due to debris, garbage and leaking sewage.

**JAMMU & KASHMIR**

**Jammu**

The Jammu Chapter organised the Workshop-Interactive Session – Crafts of Jammu. Listing-documentation in collaboration with the Department of Handicrafts held the session at Udyog Bhawan. The technical sessions included training officers of the Department from various districts. The crafts of Jammu are integral to the daily requirements of the people and their socio-economic ethos. Even in the humblest of homes a variety of handicrafts are used daily like clay utensils, embroidered garments, wheat straw, etc. Jammu crafts like tilla and crewel embroidery, chikri wood articles, stone and metal crafts, leather, zari, Samba prints, etc have a market and are purchased by visiting pilgrims and tourists. The technical session conducted by INTACH Member Prof. Sudhir Singh explained measures needed to keep such handcrafts alive. State Co-Convenor Dr. CM Seth spoke on forest based crafts. Member Prof. Anita Billawaria explained the pivotal role of women in handicrafts. Interactive sessions followed with the main focus being on revival of these traditional crafts of the region.

An open invitation was circulated for the Van Mahotsav 2018. It was held on 11th July at the Public Park No. 45 inviting the public to join in planting saplings of traditional plants of Jammu as part of a Natural Heritage Mission. Nagrota MLA Davinder Singh Rana, Chief Conservator of Forests SK Bharti and State Co-Convenor Dr. CM Seth graced the occasion. Director Floriculture Department Babila Rakwal was the first to plant the sapling of a Chinar tree. Residents of the area are now so enthused and are committed to maintaining the traditional saplings of Sita, Ashok, Jiya Potta, Mehandi, China Rose, Jasmine, Tulsi, etc that adorn the park.

Kashmir is blessed with a bounty of lakes, rivers and above all springs that are a perennial source of water for its people. At present a large number of springs are facing neglect resulting in ‘water refugees’ or ‘climate migrants’ in some of the villages. INTACH initiated a drive to restore the springs involving a local NGO Healing Touch Foundation.
from Ganderbal District and identified springs around Manasbal Lake that were on the verge of extinction. There was an overwhelming response from the local inhabitants.

*Walur* in Bandipore is considered as one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia, and acted as a natural flood reservoir for Jhelum River that prevented floods in the Valley. Today it is gasping for survival. The Chapter hopes that Rs. 60 crore funds released by the State Government will expedite the project under consideration since last year. An Indo-Sino Company had bagged the contract.

**Kashmir**

Kashmir Chapter held the *Shireen Qalam* - Exhibition-cum-Workshop of old manuscripts, rare art objects and Islamic calligraphy held earlier in June at Srinagar.

The Chapter joined hands with the J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages and other organisations like Shaswat Art Gallery in Jammu that has Peerzada Collection and Hakim Collection to organise the exhibition ‘*Shireen Qalam*’. It has a display of rare manuscripts, calligraphies, paintings and other art objects. The collection of calligraphies on vellum owned by Shaswat Art Gallery, Jammu, the descendants of the royal jewellers of Dogra became a huge attraction for visitors. Gallery Director Suresh Abrol mentioned that the collection was built up by his grandfather Lala Rekhi Ram Abrol who was a jeweller in the court of Maharaja Hari Singh, the last Dogra ruler.

The exhibition offered a unique display of different types of rare Islamic manuscripts. One of them is ‘*Majooma-Ilm-Iklaq*’, a well written manuscript in Persian language in 1882 AD on ethics. Another type of manuscript is ‘*Sud Pand Luqman*’, 100 tales from the wise Prophet, *Hakim Luqman*, a Persian manuscript scribed by Peer Baksh of Punjab in *Khate Nakhoon*.

The exhibition was visited by the Governor J&K, Chief Minister J&K, and other dignitaries.

**KARNATAKA**

**Bagalkot**

Convenor Dr. DG Kulkarni gave the introductory talk at a lecture *Preservation of Ancient Monuments* organized by the Chapter jointly with Karnataka’s Archaeology
Museum and Heritage Department and Basaveshwara Arts College Heritage Club. The guests were welcomed by Club Secretary Dr. Siddanna Rampur. Noted scholar Dr. Shilakant Pattar gave a talk on the value of monuments and advised the students to actively participate in their preservation. College Principal Dr. VS Katagihallimath counseled the students to take part in conservation activities. Co-Convenor Prof. MF Kuri along with other senior INTACH Members like Dr. HF Yogappanavar attended the program anchored by Prof. Smt. Lagaloti. The students subsequently led a procession towards the Basaveshwara Temple in Hallur Village carrying slogans drawing public attention to respect and preserve monuments.

On 16th September Bagalkot Chapter conducted monument cleaning programme; special lecture on history of ‘Sudi’ and Jatha was organised in Sudi village of Gadag district. History lecturer Dr. MS Naregal of KSS Arts and Commerce College, Gadag was invited as the chief guest. He mentioned that in inscriptions Sudi was mentioned as ‘Sundi’ and it was a ‘Brahmapuri’ (education centre) in the 11th century. Queen Akkadevi of Chalukyas of Kalyan built many temples, among them ‘Akkeshwara Temple’ presently known as ‘Mallikarjuna Temple’ which is famous for its unique architecture and beauty. He also said that about 70 monuments and 16 inscription are found village which belonged to Rashtrakuta-Chalukya of Kalyan period. These inscriptions tell about education, religious activities, cultural activities and donations made by royal families. The Cholas invaded and destroyed Sudi, queen Akkadevi defeated the Cholas and Sudi village was rebuilt.

Before the lecture a Jatha and monument cleaning program was held. Pushkarani (water tank) was cleaned by village youth and INTACH Members. Surekha D Kulkarni explained the architecture of Sudi Temples after the cleaning programme.
Former Convenor Dr. HF Yogappanavar and Co-Convenor Dr. Shilakant Pattar also spoke on the occasion. 

**Belagavi**

INTACH Heritage Club Parampara of Bharatesh Central School, Halaga held an exhibition of heritage saris on 13th August. It was inaugurated by the CEP Divya Shivaram of the Belgaum Cantonment Board to coincide with Independence Day celebrations. There were fifty odd sarees on display like Kanjeevarams, Bandhini, Paihani, Pattu, Muga, Chanderi, Ilkal, Pochampalli, Manipuri, Kannchi, Benarasi silks, etc. The exhibition is particularly noteworthy as it was organized by students of BCS Halaga. Some were even draped in heritage saris and explained their geographical indicators. There was a demonstration of different ways of draping a sari by Prajakta Bedekar and Geeta Kittur, and films on saris. The students set up a stall for the sale of Belgavi sarees.

It was a great success thanks to the efforts of Member Swatee Jog, and others like Kirti Doddanava, Ruma Patil, Vrushali Sarnobat who deserve special mention.

The Belagavi Chapter released Architectural Splendors of Belagavi compiled by Dr. Smita Surebankar on 26th September at SG Balekundri Institute of Technology.
Chairman LK Gupta and INTACH Vice Chairman Padmashri Dr. Saryu Doshi were the Chief Guests on the occasion introduced by Sarojini Dhengole and Co-Convenor Dr. Meena Mohite respectively. The book documents all the major monuments in Belagavi District including its forts, temples, _swadas_ (large heritage residential compounds), churches, mosques, Government buildings, private residences, educational institutions, etc. It is a major research work by Dr. Smita conducted over several years. INTACH Members, academicians, heritage enthusiasts and students from colleges across Belagavi were present in large numbers.

Another special publication on the *Mahamastakabhishek Celebrations of Shravanbelagola* by Swatee Jog was also released by the Chapter at this gala function. It describes the architecture of Shravanabelagola town, traditions associated with the celebrations, legends of the place and its significance. It is the culmination of the work undertaken by Swatee Jog who stayed at Shravanabelagola for a month during the celebrations for compiling details for this brochure.

Speaking at the occasion, Maj. Gen. Gupta said that development and protection of heritage go hand in hand. He commented that Belagavi District is rich in heritage, and sites like _Killa Torgal_ for example are at par with other well known heritage sites like _Pattadakal_ and must be brought on to the District planning and tourist map.

Belagavi Co-Convenor Vinod Doddanavar detailed the Chapter’s activities over the last two years. It is an impressive body of work in a short span of time, as remarked by the Chairman. Since its inauguration the
Chapter has held teachers training workshops, painting competitions, heritage quiz, exhibitions, heritage walks, lectures and presentations. Chairman said that there should be a documentation of Belagavi’s rich heritage. Belagavi Convenor Dr. Jinadatta Desai affirmed that the Chapter will take the lead in compilation of heritage related laws and hopes to undertake many more meaningful endeavours in future.

Dr. Saryu Doshi made an outstanding presentation on the Jain tradition of *Panchkalyan* with the help of ancient Jain cloth paintings. She highlighted that art and tradition were seamlessly integrated in ancient India. Swatee Jog was thanked for hosting this event.

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**ARCHITECTURAL SPLENDOURS OF BELAGAVI**

Andhakeshvara Temple  
Heritage Home  
Ladkhan Temple  
Kamalanarayuan Temple  
Mauli temple  
Desaiwade

The book *Architectural Splendours of Belagavi* by Smita Surebankar is replete with photographs on every page, covering the length and breadth of Belagavi District. It is obviously a labour of love based on a research work undertaken with financial support of University Grants Commission. Smita Surebankar acknowledges the support of many people and organisations, and in particular the cooperation of the villagers wherever she went.

The result is a pictorial delight with extensive notes on the landscape and architecture of the cultural heartland in north-western Karnataka nesting in the foothills of Western Ghats. Once upon a time it was known as Venugra, Ikshugrama, Azamnagar, Muzaffarnagar in various periods of its 2000 years history. It was called Belgaum during British times and is now known by its Kannada name Belagavi. It has a history going back to Kadambas, Rattas, Yadavas, Tughlaks, Vijaynagara, Bahmanis, Adil Shahis, Marathas, Mughals and the British as corroborated by historic records and architectural heritage. A write up on this book cannot be encapsulated in a box item. It is a book to go through and discover the lesser known treasures of Indian architectural heritage. Belagavi deserves a place in the Karnataka tourist guide books.

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**Bengaluru**

Shri Arvind Chandramohan is appointed as Co-Convenor of the Bengaluru Chapter. INTACH extends a hearty welcome and all success in the onerous responsibilities you have taken up. We hope you will take the good work done to date by the Chapter to greater heights. Good luck and many good wishes for success.
The Chapter organized a Tree Walk on a slightly overcast Sunday morning when participants gathered at Indiranagar for a Tree Parichay under the massive Rain tree, a native of the city. Bengaluru, being a city with a generally salubrious climate, boasts of many non-native tree species and was earlier referred to as the garden city — but no more. Indiranagar still retains over 60 species and merits observation. In addition to just looking at trees, tour leader Ganesh encouraged the walkers to use their senses to touch and smell the trees. It was indeed a curious sight along a busy road of this suburb. After a few hours of touching, smiling, walking, talking and listening, the walkers ended up under the Indian Cork Tree.

In view of the growing public interest in its activities, on 11th August the Chapter organized a public interaction with the ongoing restoration projects at Fort High School. Visitors were taken on a guided tour with information panels and maps on display to understand the features and structures of the restoration at various sites. Conservation experts, masons and architects had queries about the workmanship, materials used and design challenges encountered.

Work on the Panchalinga Temple in Begur has been completed with the inscription mounted on a pedestal and signages, thanks to SVS Gupta and Advaith Hyundai for supporting the work. On 10th September there was a preliminary hearing on the PIL filed by the Chapter regarding preservation of Janatha Building threatened with demolition. The Chapter earnestly hopes it can save this building designed by GH Krumbegel and listed as a heritage site in the draft Revised Master Plan 2031.

Dharwad

INTACH Heritage Museum is now so well established that it has been drawing visitors not only from in and around Dharwad but also far places like Banahatti and Raichur. It is a Museum continuously growing with additions of new artifacts. Recently it added a copper plate dating back to 1556 AD donated by a well wisher from Udupi District. A century old Ramayana written on palm leaf and a stone epigraph dating to 1906 AD are other recent acquisitions. The Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation (HDMC) has agreed to construct an extension wing to the existing museum building seeing the pace of growth and popularity. The design has been submitted to the Municipal Corporation. To train the museum staff, a visit was sponsored to Hyderabad’s Salarjung Museum guided by the local Convenor Anuradha Reddy.

Last quarter Heritage Museum Day was marked by the presence of Padmasri Dr. Ganesh Devy and some distinguished Museum builders from other cities like KK Chakravarty (Kolkata), Madan Meena, (Jodhpur), and Shri Kalam (Chennai).

The Chapter instituted Musicians Benevolent Fund two years ago in the name of Chidambar Krishna Sardeshpande to extend financial aid to needy musicians of yesteryears. Chief Guest Raghavendra Aayi who inaugurated it had spoken about the unsung heroes of the music world. Despite their financial constraints they made
the city renowned and enriched music traditions. Pandit Dr. Shantaram Hegde stressed on the role of society in sustaining the cause of music. Lt. Gen. SC Sardeshpande (Retd.) had spoken about the need to integrate different gharanas of music under the banner of Dharwad Gharana.

This quarter the Chapter followed it up with a special event chaired by Convenor NP Bhat at the INTACH Heritage Museum auditorium on 21st August to felicitate 84 years old noted tabla player, Ustad Kaseemsab Jamedar of Dandeli, noted vocalists Pandit Chittepal Dattanna Govarkar of Yellapur and Vidushi Shilpa Navalimath from Dharwad. They regaled the audience with some of their experiences and shared glimpses of their musical talent. Ustad Jamedar spoke about his experiences and Pandit Govarkar recited some devotional songs. Guest of Honour, Editor Virasat Rajeshwari Tandon presented cheques (Rs. 20,000) to each on behalf of the Chapter. She remarked that Dharwad is the only INTACH Chapter to have taken such an initiative to support aged musicians after a lifetime of bringing joy into the lives of others. Co-Convenor Brigadier SG Bhagwat proposed the vote of thanks. The programme was beautifully anchored and coordinated by Honorary Supervisor of the Museum Shaila Kargudri assisted by Arundati Savadatti.

On 24 August Convenor NP Bhat chaired another function at the RLS College auditorium for school children anchored by Chief Coordinator Shaila Kargudri. He spoke at length on the importance of taking ‘ownership’ and protecting natural heritage, monuments and literary heritage. INTACH Member BR Sarathi, a committed heritage champion, was honoured with a trophy. It is noteworthy that Dharwad Chapter has been honoured as the Best Chapter for three consecutive years. Chief Guest Rajeshwari Tandon recalled her childhood spent in Dharwad when the earth was covered in red earth, and flora and fauna flourished with red roofed houses nestling amidst green spaces. Stressing the importance of heritage in our lives she suggested that even students could contribute by greening the school grounds for a start. She invited questions as the best way of interacting with the younger generation.

Co-Convenor Brigadier SG Bhagwat proposed the vote of thanks. Chief Coordinator and honorary supervisor Shaila Karagudri who is the Honorary Supervisor of INTACH Heritage Museum, anchored the programme.

Gulbarga

Prof. Malleshappa Kumbar is the newly appointed Convenor of the Gulbarga Chapter. He will be supported by Dr. Shashishekhar Reddy as the Co-Convenor who is also a new appointee. We wish INTACH’s new team every success in fulfilling the challenging work of heritage promotion and INTACH expectations.

Mangaluru

Convenor Subhas Basu is planning an exhibition on Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay. He was advised to contact Crafts Council of India which has a ready and complete exhibition on her life and times that were on display a couple of times in Delhi.

Kerala

Shri Jaiprakash Raghaviah is the new Convenor of the Calicut Chapter. Ms Archana Kamath is also newly appointed as the Co-Convenor. We wish our new team every success in the assignment they have taken up to promote and spread the heritage message which is the most challenging mission of INTACH. We send good wishes to both of them for every success.

Devastating Floods

Kerala Floods have been one of the most devastating climate calamities in India’s history – with both loss of life and means of living on a scale that may take years to recover. Even more tragic is the news it could have been prevented despite the heavy rains that poured for 24 hours at one stretch. The dams had reached their full capacity when operators opened the gates of 35 dams in an unplanned manner without any warning to people in their vicinity. How could they is a question that remains unanswered! It is estimated that $1 trillion will be needed to make the existing and future infrastructure in
India climate resilient. But right now Kerala needs our immediate attention and all the help it can muster – both from the Government and contributions from people everywhere.

**Nagercoil**

It is noteworthy that INTACH Members of Nagercoil together contributed Rs. 50,000 towards Kerala Flood Relief Fund. They also sent urgently needed materials to the Collector’s Office on 20th and 23rd August. It is a noteworthy initiative taken by Convenor Dr. RSL Mohan and Chapter Members given the dire trials and tribulations faced by people, many of whom continue to be homeless and are facing a grim future, due to this marathon tragedy not of their making.

**Palakkad**

Close to a hundred bright young people from various schools across Palakkad participated in the city round of *India Heritage Quiz* this year at the *Koothambalam* (traditional performance space) of Ahalia Heritage Village. It drew a bigger participation than last year when it was first held. The final winners were the BES Bharathi Theertha Vidyalayam, Kallekad team of Hisham Nihal and Farhan Nazeem, both from Class 10. Certificates and presents for winners were given out by Dr. Vijayakumar Varma, Hon. Director of the Ahalia Heritage Village and Ahalia Ayurvedic College. The special guests were presented mementos by Chapter Co-Convenor Dr. Rakesh Nair.

**Thrissur**

*CONDOLENCES*

The Chapter and INTACH too has lost a great champion of the heritage cause with the passing away of KV Abdul Aziz on 13th July. Long before the Chapter formally came into existence in 2013, Abdul Aziz had sought to establish it in 2007 when there was a move to construct a new complex at the premises of the imposing Town Hall that represented Thrissur’s past military and cultural history. He remained actively involved as a socially responsible man in addition to his business and family duties. The Chapter has lost a valued Member who was deeply rooted in Indian culture, committed to various social causes. INTACH sends its deepest condolences to his wife Shameena and their beloved children Adil, Aliya, Azam and Aysha – with many good wishes for their future.

**MADHYA PRADESH**

**Burhanpur**

The Chapter marked *World Tourism Day* with students from different schools who wrote essays on *Tourism Development* with colourful illustrations. They had been given a week for preparing their entries at leisurely pace at home before the programme scheduled for 1st July. Many citizens and dignitaries were invited on the last day along with the gathering of teachers. The Collector who was also present on the occasion commented that many good suggestions
from students had been received to improve tourism and should be taken into account.

Convenor Hoshang Havaldar and Co-Convenor Chanrakant Patidar have decided to adopt *Paryatak Mitra* (Tourist Friend/Guide) as the motto for a training programme. Heritage walks and exchange programmes with other schools in Madhya Pradesh would be taken up at the next MP Convenors’ Meet for discussing the details.

The *Tourism Festival 2018* on 7th–8th September was marked with a *rangoli* competition. Students of Jyotiba Phule Girls’ School, Sr. Secondary Girls School of Chowk and Senior Secondary School Phophnar with a total of nearly 80 students participated with prizes awarded to the best entries. Convenor Hoshang Havaldar, MN Patle, Kamaruddin Phalak and Principal Smt. Gupta spoke about the festival details. Rajkumar Singh Gurjar elaborated on the importance of the tourism festival of this kind. District Education Officer was thanked by the Chapter for extending considerable assistance in organizing this two day event.

**Chanderi**

Convenor Madhuri Sharma proposes to hold a cultural programme for promoting the *Sanjha* festival which literally means evening time. It is celebrated especially in the rural belt of Malwa-Nimar region every year. It is the time when the sun bids *au revoir* for the day, and young unmarried girls gather around the ramparts of their modest lodgings to sing and celebrate the evening. *Sanjha* is celebrated as another form of the goddess *Durga*, not as a deity but as a friend. The *Sanjha* drawings reflect the vivid imagination of young Malwa girls. Legend has it that all their wishes will be fulfilled if they make a *Sanjha* during this 16 days period of the festival. The practice also develops their social and artistic skills. Most such Indian beliefs and practices always carry a deeper meaning and invariably there was ancient wisdom encapsulated in their origin.

This festival is celebrated in rural areas, so Convenor Madhuri Sharma hopes to organize a cultural programme on the theme with folk songs and dancing and revive it in an urban area where its importance has been long lost and forgotten.

**Datia**

On the *World Tourism Day*, Chapter Convenor Vinod Kumar Mishra attended an event at the five star hotel *Ramgarh Mahal* and gifted a copy of the VIRASAT magazine to the MP Public Relation Minister Dr. Narottam Mishra.

**Gwalior**

The Chapter has a new Co-Convenor Vikas Singh. INTACH congratulates him on this new assignment. We extend our good wishes and hope he will greatly enhance the success of the Chapter and contribute significantly to INTACH heritage mission.

**MAHARASHTRA**

**Chandrapur**

Forest Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar initiated the resolution to plant 13 crore trees across the State. The
Chandrapur Chapter under Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur thus embarked on a tree plantation programme at Junona Village on 1st July. Over 50 saplings of Java Plum, Ficus, Banyan, Gulmohar, Karanjji, Neem, Amla, etc were planted. Co-Convenor Pravin Nikhare along with Members Rohit Singh Thakur, Vijayku Dhande, Ashish Vyas and Nin Hejib were at the forefront of this successful ‘green’ venture.

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in tiger costumes. It was a high profile event attended by Chandrapur Mayor Anjalie Ghotekar, Chairman of Social Welfare Brijbhushan Pazare, Executive Member of Maharashtra Tourism Board Arun Tikhe, and President of Wild Capture Rohit Singh Thakur.

The students of Hindi City High School and Junior College, office bearers, Wild Capture Members, TATR staff members and the Chandrapur Chapter participated with great enthusiasm. They tied wrist bands to visitors and tourists with ‘Save Tiger and Save Nature’ message. Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur and Co-Convenor Pravin Nikhare are congratulated for the success of this event.

Convenor Thakur prepared a leaflet on the Tadoba Pillar that was released on Independence Day by the Finance, Planning and Forest Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar during the MH-34 Heritage Paintings Exhibition held at the Lata Mangeshkar Art Gallery in Priyadarshini Indira Gandhi Hall. He made the introductory remarks at this impressive gathering attended by Minister Sudhir

The Chapter celebrated International Tiger Day on 29th July at Padmapur Gate of Tadoba Andheri Tiger Reserve (TATR) with members of Wild Capture, an environmental NGO and TATR. The program was conducted under guidance of Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur as an awareness campaign for conservation of tigers and other wildlife.

Executive Member of Maharashtra Tourism Board paid a visit to the camp and appreciated the students’ participation. Many of the young people were garbed
Mungantiwar, MLA Nana Shamkule, Mayor Anjali Ghotekar and artist Praveen Kaveri. There are many stories regarding the Tadoba Pillars. Co-Convenor Pravin Nikhare who had been actively involved in designing the leaflet, gave some interesting information in particular to some tourist guides who attended the event.

**Greater Mumbai**

**Flora Fountain Project**

The Chapter has been working on the ‘Restoration and Cleaning of Flora Fountain’ with Architect Vikas Dilawari and other conservation experts for a considerable time and the project is expected to be complete by the end of this quarter. It will be formally opened to public tours in October this year.

**Heritage Walks**

Yes Culture Heritage Walks, conducted in collaboration with Yes Global Institutes / YES Bank, started Museum Special Walks this quarter. Several museums in Mumbai City were identified for designing these walks. The Chapter has scheduled visits to one museum/art gallery each month as part of this program. Details of all the scheduled Walks are shared with the general public periodically on social media and not restricted to Members only, thereby reaching out to new audiences and adding more and more supporters of heritage.

**Piramal Art Museum Heritage Tour – 14th July**

Mumbai Chapter conducted the heritage tour of the Piramal Art Museum for the first time in wake of the new exhibition of Raza paintings collected from both private and Government owned museums and collections on display. Most of the participants were not from art background and this tour was their first exposure to art guided by Tejeswi Mehta of Piramal Art Gallery. She gave an introduction to his early life and how it influenced his paintings. The collection was segregated in chronological order which gave a great perspective on the progression of his art work. The walk concluded at Bindu Naad, a very famous work of Raza in his classic style. With this tour the Chapter realised the importance of art in contemporary history and how it captures the visitors’ interest. It hopes to conduct more tours of this kind in future.

**Heritage Talks/Lectures**

The Greater Mumbai Chapter plans to host at least one Talk/Lecture every month to familiarise the participants with the intangible heritage of the country.

On 31st August a talk was held on Kalaripayattu, one of the oldest martial art forms in India from which Kung Fu draws inspiration. Practitioner Arpit Singh was invited to elaborate on the finer points of this ancient martial art. He began with the history of Kalaripayattu and its ancient forms and took the audience through its evolution which is also used to heal the human body. The engaging lecture was followed by a demonstration of this martial art which was a great revelation. The interactive audience was curious to learn about different aspects of the form. It turned out to be such an engaging session that the Chapter is planning to conduct many more sessions on intangible heritage in future.

**Lecture Series for Tourist Guides Association, 16th-24th July**

Greater Mumbai Chapter hosted a 6 days lecture series for the Tourist Guides Association in July, with talks by
heritage experts like Museum Director Tasneem Mehta, Vikas Dilawari, Alisha Sadikot, Atul Kumar, Rajan Jayakarand and Suraj Pandit who spoke on different aspects of Mumbai’s Heritage. It covered the history of the city, its various monuments and the latest inclusion of Art Deco into the UNESCO world heritage list. It was a great 6 days learning experience.

Reach: To date, INTACH Mumbai has about 2300 likes on Facebook page and 1009 Instagram Followers.

Pune

Shri Sharvey Ramesh Dhongde has taken over as the appointed Convenor of the Pune Chapter. He is no stranger to the activities of the Pune Chapter of which he has been the Co-Convenor. INTACH is confident that he will progress and sustain the multifarious activities and heritage initiatives that the Chapter is known to undertake with notable success. We extend our best wishes to him.

The Chapter joined hands with the Maharaja Shivachhhatrapati Pratishtan, Pune for a new series on heritage awareness Vedh-Retrospection held at Sarkar Wada, Shivarsushti Park. It comprised of a series of programmes and activities to create awareness and preservation of heritage. It explored the built, art, culture and natural heritage of Maharashtra State. The inaugural lecture by the Director, Department of Archaeology and Museums, Dr. Tejas Garge gave examples of built heritage and described the methods of restoration at various sites.

The second lecture of this series was on Art of Paintings in Maharashtra – Mural to Miniature by artist cum professor Dr. Shrikant Pradhan at Deccan College, Pune. He explained the history of paintings from Ajanta frescos to Maratha miniatures with his beautifully researched examples.

The third lecture was on Being, Body and Soul of the Sahyadri - Understood Through the Lens. It represented the vast richness of the Sahyadri mountains of the Western Ghats, their importance and the present threats through photographs that he had personally clicked during his hiking trips over the years. This series received a great deal of attention including Press coverage.

The Chapter also conducted a number of heritage walks that had been specially designed for academic institutions including both students and professors of Savitribai Phule Pune University, Drive Change Learning & Resource Centre, L'Ecole Design Nantes Atlantique France, Maharashtra Institute of Technology – Art, Design
and Technology and UWC Mahindra College among others. This is a very positive development that Institutes are coming forth to give an exposure of local heritage to students to follow up.

The inaugural lecture ‘Built Heritage of Maharashtra’ by Dr. Tejas Garge highlighted the need for education and promotion of proper conservation of sites and monuments. He appreciated the initiative taken by the local people towards cleanliness and tourism as well as conservation of forts.

Chairman LK Gupta inaugurated Akshara - Crafting Indian Scripts exhibition by Dastkari Haat Samiti. An informal meeting hosted by INTACH Patron Arti Kirloskar was attended by Sharvey Dhongde, Rajan Jaykar and other active Pune Chapter Members. There were interesting discussions on a wide range of heritage related topics. Chairman complimented Pune and Mumbai Chapters for their ongoing work to empower citizens and especially young students for the heritage cause. Issues related to possible ways of addressing heritage issues were discussed. There was brainstorming on the areas INTACH should focus on and how intangible heritage should become an intrinsic part of our ongoing efforts.

Rajan Jaykar shared interesting stories on collecting heritage objects.

The Chapter’s newsletter Pune Patrika captures the finer facets of the city’s heritage that often escape the eye because they have always been there and hence unnoticed like “the keymaker, or the simple chai shop. The one man jewellery shop serving the needs of the common man and others who add colour and charm to our city and its visual texture but are on the verge of extinction and may only survive in photographs”. The newsletter draws attention to all these facets of the city that go unnoticed lest we lose sight of the collective legacy of a city in our bulldozer age. Pune Patrika exhorts readers not to look upon conservation as an obstacle, but a resource and tool for sustainable infrastructure asset to the city. It also explains to readers the importance of listing and conservation of heritage and natural assets, their classifications, regulations, and covers events/ festivals, and even recipes for nutritious food. The only thing missing is proposed forthcoming events – even without precise dates – for people visiting the smart city Pune to plan their itinerary accordingly! INTACH congratulates the Pune Patrika editorial team : Chetan Sahasrabuddhe, Manjusha Ukidve and Supriya Goturkar Mahabale.
Solapur

On 1st July the Chapter participated in the Tree Plantation Drive conducted by Maharashtra Government through the entire month of July this year.

The Chapter planted some indigenous tree saplings of Peepal, Banyan, Fig, Jamoon, Shirish, Almond and drooping Ashoka/Mast trees at Haribai Deokaran High School. The chosen school has a legacy of illustrious alumni and celebrated its centenary last year. Convenor Seemantini Chapalkar, Co-Convenors Shveta Kothavale and Pushpanjali Katikar, Life Members Narendra Katikar and Amol Chaphalkar, Nitin Anvekar and heritage enthusiast Preeti Shriram headed the drive among other participants.

Wai-Panchgani

CONDOLENCES

Shri J S Jadav

INTACH sends its deepest condolences to our Convenor Vanita Jadhav who lost her dear husband unexpectedly, soon after they visited Delhi and had a meeting with Chairman. Shri JS Jadav was an INTACH Member and shared his wife’s enthusiasm by supporting her work. He was a highly qualified Civil Engineer who, having worked in different sectors, had continued to impart his knowledge to upcoming generations. He always extended his full support to INTACH activities at Wai. To rephrase a well known saying, ‘behind every successful woman there is also a man’. His sudden passing away is indeed a great loss for Smt. Vanita Jadhav. She herself is a renowned international artist and runs her own Art Gallery in Pune. We send our deepest condolences and our best wishes to her and their children who are all highly qualified professionals working in USA. We wish them strength to bear the loss of a dear one, and many good wishes for their future well being.

ODISHA

Balangir

Dr. Siba Prasad Nanda is appointed Convenor of the newly inaugurated Balangir Chapter. He will be supported by Dr. Santosh Kumar Ratha as the Co-Convenor who is also newly appointed. We wish the new INTACH team every success in promoting heritage conservation and preservation of Balangir. INTACH assures the new team all support and good wishes for success in the responsibilities they have taken up which are challenging in the beginning but fulfilling in the long run.

State Convenor AB Tripathy informed that a new Chapter is being inaugurated shortly at Balangir. He takes great pride in the steady growth of INTACH presence in the State. He is of the view that it should be possible for INTACH Conservation Centre to start restoration of one wing of the Bejharua Residence at Sambalpur in near future while mapping the Mahanadi. In this connection
AB Tripathy visited Sonepur and Sambalpur along with Coordinator of the Mahanadi Project Anil Dhir earlier this year.

The State Cabinet constituted a Heritage Cabinet but the scope of its activities remains to be defined. It is however a positive development and augurs well for the conservation and preservation of Odisha’s precious heritage.

AB Tripathy was accompanied by Coordinator of the Mahanadi Project during the visit to Sonepur. For reviewing progress on this project he also visited Sambalpur where Convenor Tarini Prasad Panda updated him on the submerged temples of Hirakund Reservoir and the listing of monuments in the upper Mahanadi Reservoir.

**Balasore**

The Chapter organised a two day exhibition of photographs, news articles, etc. on the *Great Odisha Famine,1866* in association with Bhubaneswar Chapter and State Archives. Additional District Magistrate Manas Ranjan Padhi inaugurated the exhibition at Balasore College of Arts and Craft on 4th September. It drew a large number of students as well as general public who were quite overcome by the dire situation that prevailed during that famine.

The 8th Foundation Day of the Chapter was celebrated on 5th September presided over by Convenor Himanshu Das, a day that coincided with Teachers’ Day. Another issue of the Chapter’s news bulletin *Parampara* was released. Former Advisor State Planning Board Rabi Narayan Das and State Convenor AB Tripathy were special guests on the occasion. Co-Convenor Uday Ranjan Das briefed the gathering on the activities undertaken to date during 2017-18.

**Bhadrapur**

The Chapter had held a special session of Members on 24th June. There is a palpable discontent prevailing in the State due to delays in declaring *Bande Utkal Janani* as the ‘State Song’. Composed by Kantakabi Laxmikanta
Mohapatra, it has been cherished and sung at all literary and cultural functions since 1903. It was also recited during the closing days of Odisha Legislative Assembly. Members are emotionally attached to this song and are pursuing their request to the authorities and other stakeholders to get it formally recognised as the *State Song*.

Members also held a State level seminar on *Saheed Jayee Rajguru*, the first freedom fighter to be martyred in India’s freedom movement. Many historians were invited to participate in the discussions.

The Chapter gave a warm welcome to several recently inducted Members. Speaker Tapaswini Padhi gave a talk on *Jaganath Culture* that was greatly appreciated. *A Bandhu Milan* for all participants and their spouses followed by a community lunch concluded the meeting on a happy note.

**Bhubaneswar**

The Chapter has a new Office and will be sharing the space with the ICI Office. It will henceforth dispatch copies of Odisha Newsletter *Aithya* from this centre to all other Chapters of the State.

The Chapter held its monthly meeting at the Bhartiya Vidya Bhavan, Bhubaneswar. Chief Guest Prafulla Samantara is the Goldman Environmental Award winner 2017 from India, popularly known as the Green Noble Award. He was welcomed by the State Convenor AB Tripathy.

An iconic leader of social justice movements in India, Prafulla Samantara led a historic 12-year legal battle that affirmed the indigenous Dongria Kondh’s land rights and protected the Niyamgiri Hills from a massive, open-pit aluminium ore mine. He spoke on the subject with data and highlighted how we can save the Globe from further destruction. There was a question answer session with many queries on the intangible heritage of Dongria Kondh.

**Jajpur**

*Raja Festival* 2018, held mid June in Jajpur, is akin to the *Ambuvachi Festival* of Assam. It is believed that for four specific days, 14th-17th every June, Mother Earth menstruates during which people do not cook food or dig the earth. They spend time playing different sports like *kabaddi*, or participate in competitions held in *Rajadoli, Mehendi*, songs and dances, and games. This year eminent persons including Deputy Collector Tanusri Samal, Tahsildar Laxmikanta Misra, President *Ananya Sahitya Samsada* Santosh Kumar Nanda and novelist...
Suryamani Khuntia graced the occasion along with Chapter Members, Convenor Balaram Mohanty and Co-Convenor Dr. Binod Chandra Nayak.

The Chapter also observed Yoga Day in collaboration with the Bharata Swabhiman Patanjali Yoga Samiti with Senior Citizens, Rotary Club Members and more than a thousand people participating in yoga exercises.

**Mayurbhanj**

Convenor Major Rabindranath Parida conducted an awareness programme at one of the oldest schools, the Government High School at Shirs that was not entirely a students only event. Renowned scholar Prof. Dr. Trilok Singh Anand, prominent poet cum author Amarjit Singh Kakunke, President Punjab Eco Friendly Association Parmveer Singh, advocate Jatinder Singh Sarao were some of the distinguished guests. Dr. Anand emphasized the need to save the State’s great heritage comparing it to our grandmothers, who work for the betterment of their family. Dr. Kakunke, who presided over highlighted the importance of being aware about nature and our natural resources. State Convenor Sarbjit Singh said that we are the custodians of this big treasure received from generations in the form of heritage and now we are duty bound to take care of it.

**Patiala**

THE Chapter organised a seminar on Punjab Heritage: Importance and Preservation with a Heritage Quiz at the Government Multipurpose Senior School. It was attended by people from different strata of society so it was not entirely a students only event. Renowned scholar Prof. Dr. Trilok Singh Anand, prominent poet cum author Amarjit Singh Kakunke, President Punjab Eco Friendly Association Parmveer Singh, advocate Jatinder Singh Sarao were some of the distinguished guests. Dr. Anand emphasized the need to save the State’s great heritage comparing it to our grandmothers, who work for the betterment of their family. Dr. Kakunke, who presided over highlighted the importance of being aware about nature and our natural resources. State Convenor Sarbjit Singh said that we are the custodians of this big treasure received from generations in the form of heritage and now we are duty bound to take care of it.

**Sangrur**

Brigadier Rajshwar Singh Grewal (Retd.) was recently appointed as the Convenor of the Sangrur Chapter. INTACH wishes him all success in promoting heritage cause in this new region which is always challenging at the inception. INTACH has great expectations. We send all our good wishes for his success in the responsibilities he will now shoulder. He will be assisted by Lt. Cdr. Ranbir Singh (Retd.) as the Co-Convenor of the Chapter. INTACH is confident that they will fulfill all expectations like determined soldiers. Welcome to the INTACH family with all our good wishes for your success.
RAJASTHAN

Ajmer

The Chapter organised a three day Sand Art Training Camp for the first time conducted by artist Pushkar Ajay Rawat. Convenor Mahendra Vikram Singh also organised an on-the-spot painting competition at the Government Museum in which nearly 1000 students participated on the all-encompassing theme Heritage of Ajmer. Prof. Vasudevnani from the Rajasthan Education Ministry presided.

Chairman LK Gupta visited the Chapter on 6th August and held a meeting at the old Rangji Temple, Pushkar. The Chairman also interacted with Members.

Kota

The Chapter has a new team. Shri Nikhilesh Sethi is appointed Convenor of the Chapter. He will be supported by the newly appointed Co-Convenor Bahadur Singh Hada. INTACH welcomes them with many good wishes and hopes they will have every success in the assignment they have taken up in the cause of heritage. Our good wishes are with you.

The Chapter was honoured by the Rajasthan Education Minister Prof. Vasudev Devnani on Independence Day for the good work and heritage awareness it has created among the students and people of the city.

The recently appointed Convenor Nikhilesh Sethi held two meetings with experienced Members for a brainstorming session to familiarise himself with pressing issues. This is a good way to begin. For the second meeting, State Co-Convenor Harisingh Palakhiya was present and he offered some valuable suggestions. Convenor Sethi also has the support of a second Co-Convenor Bahadur Singh Hada. INTACH mostly runs on voluntary enthusiasm without which Heritage would not be well served or receive the importance it requires.

Kota Chapter team visited the JDB College to see its restoration plan and assess how its heritage value and surrounding greens, which were a part of CB Gardens, will be safeguarded.

Sawai Madhopur

Dr. Arti Singh Bhadauria is appointed as the Additional Co-Convenor of the Chapter. INTACH extends a warm welcome to him. We wish him every success in enhancing the activities of the Chapter.
and in promoting the heritage of this much visited city. Our good wishes are always with you.

Additional Co-Convenor Arti Singh Bhadauria has written a book *Katha Jari Rabe*, a collection of 25 short stories in Hindi. It was released on 29th August at a gathering of Rajasthan Literary Academy attended by its former Chairman Ved Vyas at Kanodia Girls PG College. It was attended by an august gathering of poets including Farooq Afridy, Lokesh Kumar Singh Sahil, Dr. Padmaja Sharma. Ranjana Trikha and Dr. Sadhana Joshi Pradhan.

The second General Body Meeting of the INTACH Udaipur Chapter was held on 6th September at the Kumbha Sangeet Kendra hall. Most importantly it was exclusively a Business Meeting - as there was no event/activity attached.

Six new Life Members were felicitated and took a pledge to remain dedicated to the protection of heritage. INTACH Principal Advisor, Natural Heritage Division SK Verma presided over the Meeting. Convenor Dr. Bhatnagar welcomed the Members and presented a detailed report of the quarter along with future planning. Members praised the manner in which the Chapter is being run to achieve goals of heritage and approved the report. Co-Convenor Singhvi thanked all Members for their overwhelming presence and positive support. He also expressed thanks to Dr. Y S Kothari, President, *Kumbha Kendra* and Shri Sushil Dashora for organising this meeting.

**Tamil Nadu**

State Convenor Dr. S Suresh returned last quarter after a 4 month stint as the Samuel Kress International lecturer at the invitation of the Archaeological Institute of America for the academic year 2017-2018. The Kress Lectureship is one of the most prestigious lectureships offered by US authorities to a non-American scholar each year for the last 35 years. Dr. Suresh is the first Indian to have received this honour. INTACH extends a special congratulations to him.
His lectureship entailed speaking at over 15 Universities and Museums across USA and Canada at prestigious institutes. His most popular lecture subject is the commercial contacts between ancient South Asia and the Roman Empire.

A Meeting of all the Convenors of INTACH Chapters in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry was held on 10th September at Hotel Heritage Inn, Coimbatore, coordinated by the Tamil Nadu State Chapter in collaboration with the Coimbatore Chapter. State Convenor Dr. Suresh Sethuraman and Convenors/Co-Convenors of Chennai, Puducherry, Salem, Coimbatore, Tanjavur, Madurai, Kodaikanal and Nagarkoil Chapters were present at the Meeting. INTACH Chairman LK Gupta chaired the Meeting. Group Captain Arvind Shukla, the new Director of Chapters Division and Director KP Madhurani of Chitrakala Parishath Art Conservation Centre, Bengaluru attended the Meeting.

Dr. S Suresh formally welcomed participants to the Meeting, fondly recalling the venue’s historical associations with INTACH. The Coimbatore Chapter, started around 1985, is one of the oldest Chapters with several ‘firsts’ to its credit. It is the first Chapter in Tamil Nadu to attempt architectural Listing/Documentation of historic structures/buildings as early as 1986-87. Dr. Suresh, then a college student, was one of the Research Assistants on this Project. Much later, from 2003, Hotel Heritage Inn became the venue where a candle-lit ‘Roman Theme Dinner’ was served to the participants of the ‘Roman Trail Tour’ covering sites/museums connected with that ancient period when Roman traders frequented the coast of South India. Recently appointed Coimbatore Convenor Ramachandra Prasad, in his introductory remarks, mentioned he was very happy that this Meeting had been organized in the historic city of Coimbatore. He presented a silk shawl and a memento to the Chairman.

Chairman lauded the work of TN and Puducherry Chapters. He said that the INTACH movement is very vibrant in Tamil Nadu. He congratulated all the Chapters for the various innovative projects and activities undertaken by them. He mentioned that Ms. Madhurani has been specially invited to this Meeting so that the Chapter Convenors get better acquainted with the work done by her and her team in Bengaluru in the area of conservation/restoration of art objects including paintings, paper manuscripts, stone, wood and metal artifacts. The Chapters can utilize services of this team for such restoration work in their respective towns/cities. The Chairman stressed that Chapters should increase their efforts in enlisting new Members and in Listing/Documentation of the Architectural and Natural Heritage. In particular, he urged them to undertake documentation of bio-diversity in rural and urban areas of the State and assured that the Central Office would consider funding such projects.

The Convenors/Co-Convenors gave an update of their respective Chapters with presentations leading to lively discussions that stretched over 2 hours. One of the major decisions at the Meeting was to file a petition in the Supreme Court for revision of a Madras High Court Order, ratified by the Supreme Court (in 2012) that bars INTACH representatives from serving on Government Committees. Chennai Co-Convenor Tara Murali was requested to identify a senior lawyer who can take up this case on behalf of INTACH.

The Meeting was followed by an informal interaction between all the Convenors/Co-Convenors and with important Members of the Coimbatore Chapter. The Chapter’s first Convenor Sashi Gulati and many other Members were also present for this Meeting.
Chairperson and Managing Trustee of AIM for Seva and Swami Dayanand Educational Trust, Sheela Balaji was invited to give a talk on Organic Farming, and share some of her experiences. Her talk My Journey on the Heritage Rice Trail on 20th July revolved around the major role she has played in reviving 103 varieties of rice on a 40 acre farm in Manjakkudi, Kumbakonam. She talked about lessons she gathered from stories of farmers across India. Over the last two decades she has been instrumental in setting up 127 projects across 16 States in India in the sphere of education, healthcare and community development. In 2017 she set up Spirit of the Earth that promotes and encourages sustainable lifestyle practices. She believes that the planet’s resources are not to be construed as a source for common consumption and personal gratification. But like the Earth, they are meant for sharing (vibhakthi), giving in abundance (vriddhi), providing nutrition (vrihi) and being compassionate (daya) - all of which contribute to the harmony in society.

In collaboration with Mapin Publishing and the Alkazi collection of Photographs, the Chapter launched the book Paper Jewels – Postcards from the Raj authored by Omar Khan. It is the story of first global visual communications medium in colour during 1892-1943. The book has the earliest illustrated postcards of India, and factors that shaped this new form of communication. It ranges from the first artist-signed postcards of India from Ravi Varma Press to the first Raj publications catering to mass city audiences. The talk took the audience through a largely unknown and little researched visual history of India and early advertising postcards by Singer, Liptons, Nestles and others. Postcards were the Instagram of their time! They even included major political figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Mohammed Ali Jinnah, and much researched visual history of India!

The Chapter held a heritage walk to discover The Theosophical Society located at Adyar. It was led by Harihararaghavan, a long time resident member. He is currently Advisor to Tim Boyd, President of the Theosophical Society.

The Society, founded in 1875 at New York, shifted to Bombay in 1879, and later in 1882 to Adyar. Earlier some Indians have headed it like Dr. GS Arundale, C Jinarajadasa, N Sri Ram. Annie Besant, originally a British citizen, became a long term resident of India. She was President of the Theosophical Society from 1907-1933. It now has Members from about 50 countries belonging to different religions, races and walks of life.
Three years of research of approximately sixty villages in the Palani hills by INTACH Members Nishita Vasanth and Priyashri Mani culminated in this idea of a ‘POP-UP’ Museum containing a systematic and authentic study of the intangible heritage and lifestyles of communities in Palani hills. It includes their origins and historical evolution as separate and distinct communities with specific livelihood and sustenance strategies, their heritage and traditional practices.

Palani hills were peopled long before the advent of the Americans, from about 1300CE up to the present day. Since the first people were traditionally hunter-gatherers, a little forest with a real honeycomb and steps made from strong creepers, a pond with a bamboo basket to catch fish, subsistence crops of yesteryears, tools used by the craftsmen, among other ancient things, were created in the museum. A group of musicians from Poombbarai village enthral visitors to the Museum with their dance and music played on their traditional drums, Kuzhal and Kombu (wind instruments). At a small theatre, a skit on life in a village is performed by the students of the Kodaikanal International School and a movie screened on grasslands and sholais of the Palani hills. A talk on various subjects pertaining to the Palani hills by experts in their field is held for visitors.

Having no permanent space and yet wanting to showcase the immense work done, Principal of the Kodaikanal International School, Corey Stixrud has always been supportive of the Chapter’s activities and has no hesitation in providing the school’s beautiful hall.

The Museum has had over a 1000 footfalls including many groups of students from about 12 schools/ colleges. Some schools have sent a second group after their experience at the Museum. The events have been covered by the local and also some out station Press.

### Nilgiri

The Ooty Literary Festival 2018 was held at the Nilgiri Library, which has become the most happening place in the city, on 14th-15th September. The keynote address was by Shanta Gokhale who was felicitated with the 2018 Ooty Literary Festival Lifetime Achievement Award. It was an impressive group of fiction writers, novelists, playwright, historians, biographers, poets, archaeologists, environmental journalists, etc and even a children’s fiction writer who congregated at the gathering.

Convenor Geetha Srinivasan extended personal invitations for the two days long events, also mentioning that there
would be an audio visual presentation on The Life and Times of renowned artist Raja Ravi Verma on the third day i.e 16th September, sponsored by the Chapter.

PEOPLE OF PALANI HILLS

The People of the Palani Hills is a book of community narratives from villages around Kodaikanal, published by Feld & Basso, (Ed) 1966.

The Palani Hills range across 2000 kms in Tamil Nadu and have been inhabited for at least an equal number of years. Archaeologists have since excavated evidences like clay bowls, plates, jars and urns that date back 3500-4000 years to pre iron ages.

The much frequented Kodaikanal lies among these hills as part of the Western Ghats. The editors of the book have prefaced the book highlighting that “A place is not a mere patch of ground, a bare stretch of earth, a sedimentary set of stones. Places embody entangled lives”. Kodaikanal has been mostly known as the hill station patronized by British officers and American missionaries in the 19th century, as a cool retreat during hot summers.

The hills however have a rich history from long before with migration of people arriving to escape war, famine or disease. Today there are at least 15 distinct communities living in the hills starting with the original Adivasi community of Paliyans. The book covers some of its flora and fauna, crafts people and mountain beings. Over the years a wave of migrants like the Chettiars and Muslims brought salt, cloth, oil and horses from the plains and began trading. The first roads were built and communities began to grow. After India’s Independence the first group of Sri Lankans arrived in the hills under the repatriation scheme. Over the last 70 years Kodaikanal town has become a bustling tourist destination with the demographic of these mountains more diverse than ever.

There is however another side to the coin because as late as 1986 India Today reported that a Government official was making a committed effort to free bonded labourers, living in penury and utter desolation, from the clutches of unscrupulous contractors. Climate has always remained salubrious and Kodaikanal continues to be a favourite destination for the summers.

TELANGANA

Governing Council Member M Vedakumar had a packed schedule of events he attended at Hyderabad during the months of July-September. As President of the Forum for a Better Hyderabad and a Tree Protection Committee Member, he offered many suggestions regarding translocation of trees to retain green cover. He was Chief Guest at the Kathakali performance on 22nd July where Chokkapu Ventakatraman performed 100 stories in 100 minutes at the Thyagaraya Gana Sabha, now listed in the Guiness Book of World Records.

He was Chief Guest at the release of the book Moggalu brought out by Deccan Land, Mahaboobnagar on 9th August.

As President of the Forum for a Better Hyderabad, he visited Bommalamagutta where a rock inscription of Kurikyla proclaims the glory of Pampa and Shanigaram Cheruvu, a medium irrigation project constructed across the ahanigaram River. It is one of the oldest reservoirs constructed in 1891 during the Nizam period. He was the Guest of Honour at the 125th anniversary of K Krishna Swamy Mudiraj, the first mayor of Hyderabad cum journalist who wrote Pictorial Hyderabad.

On 9th September, Shri Vedakumar was the Chief Guest at the closing ceremony of the Regulapati Laxmi Children’s Literary Festival.
He ended the activities of this quarter on 12th September on Vinayaka Chaturthi day by releasing a wall poster of Clay Ganesha Awareness and as Guest Speaker at a Round Table on Telangana History-Heritage the same day.

**Hyderabad**

Associate Professor Humanities, IIT-Hyderabad invited Convenor Anuradha Reddy to address students at their campus on Our City Hyderabad. It has started an induction programme since last year for incoming students in the 17-19 year age group. This programme is designed to impart a better understanding of the wider world as many of them would be living alone for the first time and may be unacquainted with the city. It will be an exposure to the arts, workshops, field visits, etc to understand other dimension of their surrounding environment apart from IIT studies. The talk made them also understand the importance of heritage conservation.

There was a power point presentation on Chalni Coins of the Asaf Jahi Era by Dr. Deme Raja Reddy on 11th August at the Salarjung Museum attended by INTACH members.

**TRIPURA**

State Convenor Pragya Deb Burman organised the exhibition held at the Ujjayanta Palace jointly with ICA, Government of Tripura, State Museum authorities and the organisation Triveg on 25th August. It was a very successful event with Deputy Chief Minister Jishnu Deb Burman as the Chief Guest, and Tribal Minister Mevar K Jamatia as the Guest of Honour. Writer Dhawal Krishna Deb Barma and Convenor Buran Shukla were the main speakers addressing a sizeable audience of almost a thousand people. On the second day the numbers swelled and an estimated 1800 people attended the event.
Another successful programme was the socio-cultural evenings spread over two days in collaboration with the Department of Information, Culture & Arts and NGO Triveg.

The birth anniversary celebration of Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikaya was inaugurated by the Chief Minister. It was organised by the Chapter with Triveg and sponsored by the Dept. of Culture. Convenor MK Pragya Deb Burman will be curating and exhibiting photos, documents, etc. for the forthcoming annual IIC programme on N. E. India in October.

**UTTAR PRADESH**

**Allahabad**

Shri Shambhu Chopra is appointed Convenor of the Allahabad Chapter. We extend a warm welcome to him, and wish him every success in sustaining the great expectations associated with the heritage city of Allahabad. There was a time when a whole generation of civil servants graduated from Allahabad University, and it continues to be a cultural and historic centre for many people to this day.

**Gorakhpur**

It was reported by the Press that a portion of *Kabir Mazar* at Maghar had been damaged. A delegation led by Convenor MP Kandoi and Co-Convenor PK Lahiri immediately met the District Magistrate, Sant Kabir Nagar and submitted a report by the Chapter. They also met the Vice President of the Gorakhpur Development Authority with a request to constitute a Heritage Conservation Committee as stipulated in Clause 20 of the UP Government notification related to heritage conservation. Both authorities have been apprised about the project prepared by INTACH for developing the 600 years old *Basant Sarai Fort* in particular. It remains to be seen how soon action be initiated for conserving these heritage assets of the city.

Convenor Kandoi had a meeting with Professor Rajwant Rao of the Ancient History Department regarding excavation of *Taladih* and *Bawanmorcha* that needs to be taken up by the ASI, Uttar Pradesh.

The Chapter celebrated *World Tourism Day* on 27th September with a seminar on *Scope and Challenges of Tourism in Gorakhpur Region*. All concerned officials and agencies were invited to attend the seminar. Convenor MP Kandoi, welcoming the guests, said development of heritage tourism is also one of the tasks of INTACH. Special Guest Prof. Kumar Harsh and Programme Chairman Prof. Dr. Rajwant Rao with Members launched a four day heritage tour programme of Gorakhpur city. Eminent Jain scholar Acharya Dhanendra Jain, and Lalmani
Four rare idols were discovered by farmers at Chchau Village, Distt. Kushinagar in 2018. Among them was a big Sun idol found in two pieces while digging their fields. When these were joined together, the idol seemed to belong to 7th-century Harsh period. It was installed by villagers in a temple constructed by them. When the Chapter heard the news, Convenor MP Kandoi visited the village and sent photographs to Central Office seeking advice on the matter. A team from ICI Lucknow also visited on 14th September.

Conservation work is in progress. Regarding the future of the Idol which is a rare heritage, assurances have been given by the Gram Pradhan and the villagers that the idols will be installed in a separate temple to be constructed by them at the same site. The Convenor has told the villagers that if they fail to look after their heritage properly, it would be shifted from the site. Invariably such sites become a place of worship. The Chapter also ensured that the ASI Uttar Pradesh visited the village for inspection, and will be following up on the matter with the District Magistrate.

The Convenor has suggested to the villagers that they might consider naming their village Surya Nagar Chchau which can become a tourist attraction of eastern U. P.

The villagers remained true to their commitment and just before Pitra Paksha they did the bhoomi poojan and work was started. The Chapter will keep track of the progress and extend any help required in this pious work.
**Lakhimpur Kheri**

Shri Manuraj Singh Chauhan is appointed the Addl. Co-Convenor of the Lakhimpur Chapter. Welcome to the INTACH family. We wish you every success in the new responsibilities you have taken up and for the many challenges ahead and goals to be met.

**Lalitpur**

The Chapter organised a 7 days program on the Heritage Conservation Awareness Mission for students of various schools of Lalitpur district. Convenor Santosh Kumar Sharma conducted several meetings in schools and explained to the students that ancient heritage, Bundeli folk culture, visiting places, tourist centres, its lakes, dams, bowdies, and forts should be protected by young generation and citizens alike. He said that these awareness programs will be conducted continuously by the Chapter.

**Lucknow**

*Our Heritage*, a programme of discussions with historians, and Lucknowophile Yogesh Praveen in conversation with Convenor Vipul Varshney, was held on 22nd July at the PWD Vishwariaya Auditorium. Yogesh Praveen is an authority on Lucknow with 25 books on the city to his credit. They cover more than history as they are peppered with interesting tales of *nawabs*, *begums*, cuisine and costumes with many anecdotes that would hold any audience spellbound.

**Mahoba**

The Chapter organized a cultural program on 30th August at *Albaa Manch, Kirat Sagar Coastal* during the famous *Kajali Mela*. Various artistes participated and presented their performances. An *Albaa* recital was presented by Nathuram Yadav and Ramdas Fatehpur with their group, *Tamoora-Vaadan* presented by Harprasad, and a traditional instrument *Algoja* played by Dwarika Prasad from Chitrakut. Performances were well appreciated by the audience. Mahoba Aasha Trust presented a special item on *Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao*. Roshni Verma, Nandani Verma and Khushi Verma of the Trust also performed a cultural show on the occasion.

INTACH Chapter Members, Project Manager Mahendra Yadav, District Collector Sunita Rajput and Co-Convenor Sharad Tiwari were present. Convenor Parmod Paliwal addressed the program and said this program is an effort to spread awareness about our traditional and endangered art forms of traditional singing and musical instruments.

**Meerut**

The Chapter published a 4 page booklet *Paschimachal Virasat* highlighting the Fairs of north-western Uttar Pradesh. Among the most important gatherings is the *Nauchandi Mela* of Meerut, the name derived from the temple of *Nauchandi Devi* and held on the grounds of her temple. The mazaar of *Bade Mian* is also situated within
the fair grounds. Both are considered the most important religious shrines of the region and co-exist close to the old city of Meerut. It is said the origin of this fair is linked to Chaitra Kali Amawasya, Chaitra being the first month of the Hindu calendar. Presently Nauchandi Mela is celebrated for a whole month starting on the second Sunday after Holi.

The booklet is also about the Gharanas of classical music of north-western Uttar Pradesh. Perhaps no other region of India has as many gharanas within a small geographical area. Kairana is the birthplace of renowned vocalist Ustad Abdul Karim Khan; Rammpur—Sabaswan Gharana whose founder is Ustad Inayat Khan; Saharanpur Gharana believed to be founded by a Sufi Khalifa Mohammed Zama and later made famous by the Dagar brothers; the 1800 Ajrara Gharana of tabla, are all the best and widely known gharanas.

The booklet quotes Emerson who said “a nation without cultural heritage is like an orphan who has nothing to feed upon”.

To add a modern touch, in the early 1900s, then Collector of Meerut FN Wright organised a horse-show and efforts were made to promote trade and commerce during the Nauchandi Mela. The rais of the districts would also come and pitch tents on the fair grounds that attracted shopkeepers and exhibitors from all over India. The Fair continues to this day as an important festivity of our times.

**Noida/Greater Noida Monsoon Luncheon Meet 12 Aug 2018**

A meeting of the Noida/Greater Noida Chapter was held at Arun Vihar Institute on 12th Aug with a total of nine Members attending. Chairman, LK Gupta attended the meet and interacted with them and shared his perspective. He covered several issues in detail along with practical tips. He pointed out that Capacity Building Course for members is regularly held at Central Office, New Delhi. Members appreciate the role of the organization and the areas/fields where they could work and contribute. More importantly, they get to meet section heads at the HO and should avail these opportunities.

Noida/Greater Noida offers wonderful localities for urban heritage site. These are frequented by Delhi people especially on weekends and require highlighting and projection as a distinctive feature.

INTACH scheme for bio remediation cleaning has been presented to Chairman Noida. With the work of Assi river cleaning project at Varanasi, it will be given impetus.

It was advised that for Swatchh Bharat Abhiyan CSR funds should be tapped from corporates in Noida/Greater Noida for cleaning the eco-system. IndusInd Bank has committed huge sum of funds to INTACH for cleaning of river Ganga/Yamuna at Allahabad/Prayag. Intangible Cultural Heritage Initiative should also be explored in the villages and their dwindling habitat due to urbanization.

Co-Convenor thanked the Chairman for his guidance and after a functional lunch the meeting was over.

**Orai**

The Chapter has been marking World Ocean Day since 2011 with an exhibition of different types of Malushka shells that resemble Ganesh, Shiva. Bhim gada, bird, reptile etc. It also exhibited old coins and postages released on this special date by other countries. Some international coins exhibited were also in the fish series. It was the first time for the Chapter to host an exhibition of this kind although it is far from any sea shore! Programme Coordinator Sandhya Purwar said that the sound of a shell can destroy bacteria in the atmosphere. Exhibits also included shells and other ocean related objects. Convenor Hari Mohan Purwar is lauded for having put up these unique and rare exhibits. During the earlier quarter too the Chapter held exhibitions on World Museum Day and World Heritage Day.
The monthly lecture series *Kashi Vimarsh* by the Varanasi Chapter is held in association with the UP Archaeological Department and Pilgrim Publications. The lecture on 15th July by Pandit Dhyan Gangadhar Bapat, a renowned scholar and expert on *Bhagwat Geeta* and the *Ramayana Katha*, was about *Kashi ki Dharmik Kathayen aur unkaa Mahatva* (significant religious stories of Kashi). He explained the benefits of *Katha Vachan* and the details associated with old *Kashi* that is Varanasi today. The walkers visited the *Swami Rama Krishnan Paramhans Charan Paduka* shrine situated next to Harishchandra Ghat where his *khadau* is preserved in a glass box with his sandalwood bed standing by. The walkers also visited the nearby *Shri Vidya Math* and had an audience with Swamy Avimukteshwaranand who is very much in tune with the concerns and problems of today. He believes development and conservation of heritage go hand in hand.

The group was fascinated by a flawless rendition of the *Vedas* by students of the *Gurukul*. It has an old schooling system run by the temple authorities that encourages independent and creative thinking among youth. A visit to the *Sri Gauri Kedareshwar Temple* was another religious experience. The walk concluded at Alvaro Entarrio’s house for a sumptuous breakfast on the terrace with a lovely view of the Ganga.

Life Members Jayant Malhotra and Monika Malhotra are the principal coordinators of the Chapter’s Heritage Walk Programmes that never fail to attract considerable public interest. It deserves to be widely advertised on the domestic tourist circuit and can be a USP for the Chapter’s profile as these walks are usually outside the ken of tourist packages.
Craft and Textile Heritage Cell of the Chapter organised a visit to the Banaras Bead Limited on 3rd August. The group of 30 participants were introduced to the process of glass bead manufacturing. It is a very labour intensive industry. Glass beads have been a traditional industry in this city for over a 100 years. The company employs a large number of women and disabled persons. There is a variety of both handmade as well as machine made beads. The lamp winding technique is particularly interesting as it is one of the oldest techniques practised in Varanasi. Bead cutting, polishing and various methods of embellishment like hand painting, metallic coating by vacuum treatment, spray coating, dip coating, etc were witnessed by the participants.

The two-day 10th Kajri Thumri Utsav was organised by Kala Prakash, a leading cultural organisation of Benaras, in association with the Chapter for the third year in succession. It is a semi classical form of Thumri and a folk tradition of special significance in the rainy season. It attracts a large number of local artistes and people.

On 19th August Coordinator Monika Malhotra conducted a heritage walk for 34 Members at Shivala area to the Anandmayee Ashram, Anand Jyotimandir and Jain Teerthbhand Suparshwanath’s birthplace. It was coordinated by Convenor Ashok Kapoor, Regional Archaeological Officer Dr. Subhash Chandra Yadav and Chapter Members Anurag Chandra, Anjila Agarwal and Monika Malhotra. The history of the area was narrated by Dr. Subhash Chandra Yadav with an introduction to the greater area called Bhadaini dating back to olden times and earlier known Kaccha Ghat which was later bifurcated into four other ghats. The party also visited the Gopal Mandir which has the statue of Lord Krishna as a crawling child, made of Ashtadhatu.

At the ashram its head Swamiji and head of the Kanya Vidalaya Maa Geeta briefed the visiting party and spoke about Mata Anandmaye’s life history with several interesting episodes in her life. There are idols representing four different ages. They also attended the aarti at the beautiful Suparshwanath Temple where the 7th Teerthankar was born.

The walk ended with breakfast at an interesting restaurant called Vegan and Raw that is run by its German owner who donates all his hard earned profits to a school for underprivileged children in Varanasi!

A series of programmes were held in September like Aalap, an interactive musical programme on 19th September by vocalist Nishad Baakre. On 23rd September a Heritage Walk was organised to visit the havelis of Choukhamba and Thatheri Bazar area. There was a lecture on Kasbi and Dr. Annie Besant by former General Secretary of the Theosophical Society's Sundaram on 30th September.
The Chapter, in association with the UP Regional Archaeological Unit, Varanasi and Pilgrim Publishers organised *Kashi Vimarsh* lecture on 19th August. INTACH Life Member Raama Tiwari is the owner of this publishing house that facilitates lectures being regularly held every month. Former Head of History Department Prof. Mahesh Vikram Singh spoke at length on the *Cultural Emergence and Resurgence of Kashi* without any political patronage. He emphasised that the city’s culture evolved on its own due to people themselves and gave details of the four distinct periods of such resurgence.

Life Member Anjila Agrawal and Co-ordinator for ICH Cell was Guest of Honour with Convenor Ashok Kapoor as Chief Guest. Students did excellent work that was displayed and awards and certificates were distributed.

Principal Anita Dey felicitated Chief Guest and Guest of Honour, and Convenor Ashok Kapoor felicitated the judges.

**WEST BENGAL**

**Kolkata**

The Chapter organised a seminar on 4th August in association with AusHeritage and Glasbau Hahn to present innovations in protection and preservation of heritage at the Oberoi Grand, Kolkata. Among the speakers were Chairman AusHeritage Vinod Daniel, Marcus Knecht of Glasbau Han, Germany, Jayant Dandavate of Rentokil OPCI, and State Convenor GM Kapur.

**Santiniketan**

Shri Tarit Roychoudhury is the newly appointed Co-Convenor of the Santiniketan Chapter. INTACH welcomes him with many good wishes for success in enhancing the work of the Chapter.

Santiniketan is known as a great educational and cultural city, making it an ideal centre for promotion of heritage values among the younger generation in particular who will be entrusted with the future of the country.

The Chapter introduced a new programme – the first Heritage Tour to visit Kalikapur-Roukhir-IIIambajar. The Kalikapur Rajbari was built 400 years ago by its landlord Parameswara Roy. It was part of Bengal heritage and presently in a state of utter ruin although evidently a piece of architectural excellence. In fact the whole area is rich in different historical and natural aspects. There are the Twin Shiva Temples made entirely of terracotta bricks, the Durga Temple and the Radha Vinod Temple.
The annual Palash was held Istishaner Pashe, at the house of IAS Officer Chandana Khan currently posted at Prantik. A yellow Palash sapling was planted by local tribal women and children. Another attraction was Santhal dancing. It was a great interaction between local folks and INTACH Members.

BELGIUM CHAPTER

Three years ago the UN General Assembly approved 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an extension of what was termed as Millennium Goals. Convenor Geert Robberechts feels that the Lost Gardens of Khajuraho in many ways meet this sustainable development concept by giving farmers a secured livelihood. Khajuraho region is very prone to periodical droughts but it has been spared from the suicide epidemic that we find in other regions in India where farmers live on the edge. The Khajuraho project has given employment to several families with a fixed monthly income. This was achieved by promoting sustainable, traditional agriculture with the use of local varieties of grains, vegetables and pulses rather than the commercial varieties as the former are better adapted to the local conditions of drought and high temperatures. The project also promotes presence of trees on the farms termed agro-forestry.

The rural character of the region implies traditional family life, with several generations of one family living together and taking care of each other. The Project regularly organises educational sessions in the Lost Gardens, with focus on flora and fauna, local history and cuisine. The only local institute (a branch of ITI Chhattarpur) offers basic vocational training. The Chapter highlighted the need to establish a local campus for higher education as an economic motor for the region. The higher the ambition, the further from home one has to go with the nearest Jhansi being 175 kms and Bhopal 375 kms away.

One of the parameters of SDG is Gender Equality, but it is understandable that a foreign project is naturally diffident to interfere with traditional role models. To meet other parameters like sanitation, clean energy, infrastructure like good roads is basically the responsibility of the Government. Unfortunately Khajuraho has no industry and the only economic activities are agriculture and tourism. The Belgium Chapter’s contribution perforce has to be limited to mostly promotion of sustainable agricultural models, based on a sustainable way of life. Chapter is of the view that their most important contribution to date is the attention given to trees in the agricultural model, that prevents land degradation and promotes sustainable use of ecosystems.
Under the flagship of Belgium INTACH and the MP Tourism Board, an International Documentation Workshop was organized on 11th-15th August to document the Fort of Rajanagar, supported by the Embassy of Belgium. Its overreaching goal was to jointly develop a strategy for the rehabilitation and reuse of Rajanagar Fort.

**NEWS FROM HERE & THERE**

**Crocodiles Save Life**

We all know crocodiles are amongst the deadliest hunters in the animal kingdom, and have known to bite off huge chunks of human flesh! But in Bazoule village of Burkina Faso, West Africa it is a common sight to see someone sitting atop these frightening reptiles. According to local legend it is a long standing relationship dating back to the 15th century when the village suffered a severe drought and the crocodiles led women to a hidden pond to quench their thirst. Love conquered fear! To date the celebration *Koom Lakre* is held annually when villagers make sacrifices and ask the crocodiles to grant their wishes, especially a good harvest.

**Man Dumps Oceans**

This shark only bites the mind! It was an installation at an Ocean Park in Rozhao, at Shandong province in China. It was made of bottles and packages, some 12 million tonnes of plastic, mostly in the form of single-use packaging, and then dumped into the world’s ocean to eventually destroy itself! They will remain there forever and mankind will suffer the consequences if we do not mend our ways right now.

**Animals are Dying**

World Wildlife Fund estimates that illegal wildlife trafficking is annually worth $20 billion backed by syndicated crime and corruption – and continues to grow. They are skinned, stuffed or powdered for bizarre remedies. The National Wildlife Property Repository in Colorado alone is home to 1.3 million illegal wildlife items. Do we need to use cobra skin boots, elephant foot stools, python purses, baby rhino foot pencil holders, rhino horn beads, etc., all from endangered animals?

**Hidden Coral Gems**

The Great Barrier Reef in Australia first comes to mind when talking of coral reefs. India has some fringing reefs in the Gulfs of Mannar, Kutch, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. There is one small hidden gem off the coast of Goa with a great biodiversity of marine ecosystem. A typical reef has not only corals but snails, clams, sponges, anemones, crabs, starfish, shrimps, lobsters, sea lillies, coloured algae, and dozens of plant groups, etc. etc. Corals are organisms built of hard exoskeletons. They are relatives of jellyfish and anemones, and are primarily carnivorous, feeding on tiny seawater animals. They bud and branch and form reefs in warm temperatures. Just imagine, once upon a time they were all along the west coast of India.
Varanasi - Doorways into the City of Light