With a hope and prayer
Happy New Year to all our Members and Readers
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With the onset of winter, in November and December 2018, Delhi made headlines again, stricken by air pollution while several other Indian cities which ranked worse on the air quality index (AQI) failed to find mention in the mainstream media. Sensationalism, driven by TRPs, overshadows news of vital importance.

The causes of air pollution and even the contribution of various sources have still not been firmed up, and year after year scientific studies by one or the other leading Institutes delivers differing analyses which only confuses the Public. After all the burning of crop stubble in Punjab and Haryana was long over, the air quality did not show signs of improvement. Since the diagnosis was hazy, prescriptions are bound to be riddled with infirmity in future too.

One must recall the times of Beijing Olympics in 2008 when the Chinese Government shut down industrial production in Beijing in order to obtain tolerable air quality. In the last 4 years, Beijing has vastly improved its air quality, whereas Indian cities are still struggling to arrive at proper and required measures. In comparison with the other big Asian countries, China’s capital Beijing, once regarded as the most polluted city in the world, improved its air quality by setting time bound targets and implementing a comprehensive regional action plan. Beijing’s average concentration of PM 2.5 is now less than half of Delhi’s, and the number of unhealthy days (very high pollution days) was one-fourth that of Delhi’s highly polluted days this winter.

It is urgent for India to launch a comprehensive action plan to tackle air pollution. It should be based on a regional approach, identifying key polluted regions for time bound action. Specific pollution reduction targets need to be marked and measures defined to guide the development of regional action plans. These must include specific targets such as restricting the total number of vehicles in cities by the end of 2019, and meeting annual average PM 2.5 concentration of micro-grams per cubic meter and reducing coal consumption by 80
percent by 2020. There is need to impose a yearly quota for new vehicles fixed at a specific number of cars
and specific numbers allotted to fuel-efficient cars. In China for example the quota was reduced to 100,000
annually for 2018. Coal consumption was reduced to 11 million tonnes by closing all big coal-fired power
stations. Reduction of industrial pollution was taken seriously, with deterrent fines on violators, unlike India
where our Pollution Control Boards are near ineffective. People are more than inclined to break laws for
convenience. A massive greening programme also needs to be taken up to create more urban green spaces.

After years of being one of the most polluted cities Beijing effectively reduced air pollution This year, while
the surrounding provinces coordinated and implemented a joint action plan, it recorded more blue sky days
compared to the previous years. One of their major sources of air pollution had been the use of coal for domestic
heating in winters which was stopped and relatively cleaner gas was promoted. In Indian cities, nearly 20-25% of
daily cooking is still through burning biomass and urban waste that are significant sources of pollution. Greater
use of LPG would have a positive impact on air quality, but the price of a gas cylinder has been steadily rising!
It is also unfortunate that year after year extensive burning of crop residue continues to persist in northern States.
There are machines available not only to extract crop residue but also aggregate and compact them to be used as organic
fertilizers. They are expensive for individual farmers to buy. It has been suggested that Government
could facilitate Farmers’ Service Stations which can lease the machines for a nominal payment.
It would banish the winter haze that hangs heavily over Northern India. Delhi has 36 monitoring
stations but only two of them measure the concentration of PM 1 particulate matter.

Sporadic measures and court directives from time to time will not suffice. Delhi’s problems, or
for that matter that of any Indian metropolis, requires a regional approach where areas across
immediate urban boundaries also have to be improved. It needs time-bound targets to address all
pollutants and polluting sources, administering drastic action rather than incremental doses,
and lastly ruthless enforcement. Delhi’s recent thinking of about

*House plants can filter out harmful toxins and help clean the air*

- **SPIDER PLANT**
  - Filters: Benzene, Xylene

- **PEACE LILY**
  - Filters: Benzene, Xylene, Ammonia, Formaldehyde, Trichloroethylene

- **BOSTON FERN**
  - Filters: Xylene and Toluene, Formaldehyde

- **BAMBOO PALM**

- **ARECA PALM**
  - Filters: Benzene, Xylene, Ammonia, Formaldehyde, Trichloroethylene

- **WEPPING FIG**
  - Filters: Benzene, Xylene, Formaldehyde, Trichloroethylene

- **SNAKE PLANT**
  - Filters: Benzene, Xylene, Formaldehyde, Trichloroethylene

- **SNAKE PLANT**
banning pet coke usage and in lieu encouraging electric vehicles is a small step in the right direction. But it is not attractively priced and hence inadequate to resolve the problem of deadly pollution. Meanwhile urban birds have been found to have accelerated biological ageing and having shorter life spans. – people will be next! WHO reported that over a million premature deaths in India “are related to cooking causes” mostly in rural areas.

_Ack.: News digest from various newspapers._

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**SOME ANSWERS TO POLLUTION**

Founder and Director of _Chintan Environmental Research & Action Group_ Bharati Chaturvedi recently met Punjab farmers and agricultural labourers in their burning fields. Of the many solutions proposed was a shift in farming policy. It is not viable to grow water-guzzling crops like rice that suck up the depleted water tables and then struggle with the stubble. The Group suggested better MSPs to incentivize cultivation of hand-threshed varieties, where stubble is not bruised by machines and can be fed to cattle; and using MNREGA for labour to remove stubble as it is too expensive to hire farm hands in Punjab; and to re-think the sowing dates. Monetary incentives and land for local composting would also prevent organic wastes from burning at landfills.

Bharati Chaturvedi also sadly recalled fireworks going up endlessly on Diwali night inspite of time limitation imposed. She asks “How can you first create illness and then expect Lakshmi to visit you?........Can the Swachh Bharat Mission also help us with swachh saans”?

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**COP24**

The 24th Conference of the Parties to the _UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP24)_ at Katowice, Poland was held in December 2018. A series of fresh warnings were issued that the measures announced earlier by many countries were seriously inadequate to achieve the goal agreed at Paris in 2015 to contain temperature rise within 2 degrees C from pre-industrial times. At the COP22 Meeting at Marrakech countries in 2016, countries had set themselves a 2018 deadline for the completion of the “rule book”. For the last 2 years, negotiators had been working to raise funds for climate project, but most issues proved to be contentious and the rule book is far from completion mostly due to unresolved financial issues. To attain even a modified target of 1.5 degree by 2030, the world needs to reduce green house emissions to about half of 2010 figures. The stock taking is going on and the long term impact of COP24 will be known in due course. Meanwhile, the World Meteorological Organisation has reported that the global average surface temperatures in 2018 was all set to be the fourth highest ever recorded. Furthermore, the 20 warmest years have all been in the last two decades, and the top four being the last four years!

_Amitabh Sinha, Indian Express 3rd December ’18_

P.S. The good news from COP24 was the announcement by World Bank that it would provide needy countries about US$ 200 billion between 2021-2025 to help them adopt more ambitious climate actions and build resilience against climate change. Developed countries also committed that at least US$100 billion would be mobilized between 2021-2025 “to adopt more ambitious actions and build resilience against climate change thus doubling their current five year commitment”.

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Message from Chairman

Dear Members,

I would like to recapitulate the steps taken to strengthen the role and involvement of Members in INTACH activities. Commencing with the Convenors/Co-Convenors’ Orientation Program in 2010, Membership Capacity Building course were started in 2015. These courses were instituted so that Members become aware of the type of roles they can play depending on their interest and capability to protect our heritage. Two such courses are being organized every year in April and October. I do implore you to volunteer attending these courses that are fully funded i.e. travel, boarding and lodging at Delhi is taken care of by the Central Office. It is a refresher course that adds to not only your personality but also provides an opening to you to become 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. 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 INTACH 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 the Knowledge Centre so that your endeavours benefit all of us and other visitors to the Centre.

Lastly, I have been visiting, meeting INTACH 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 posed towards our heritage.

With best wishes and a Happy New Year to all our INTACH Members,

Major General LK Gupta (Retd.). AVSM
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 6TH DECEMBER

Chairman welcomed the Members of the Executive Committee. He briefed them on his visit to Odisha State Chapter and interactions with several Members. He reviewed the progress of the State Chapter projects which has undertaken the listing and documentation of River Mahanadi, the Tribal Heritage at Koraput and the Prachi Valley Project with support of the State Advisory Committee. He also visited the ICI Laboratory at Bhubaneswar. Subsequently, he inaugurated the Balangir Chapter and visited Sambalpur Chapter interacting with their core committees.

Chairman informed the Committee on some major developments since the last meeting. The Holkar family has contributed Rs.35 lakhs to establish a Holkar Gallery at the Indore Museum. A INTACH team was sent to ASI Cambodia to investigate the structural and technical stabilization of stone temples at the request of APSARA. He also informed the Committee that INTACH project at Assi Nalla commenced on 27th November with the approval of National Clean Ganga Mission.

Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra presented the draft Annual Report to the Committee. She suggested INTACH should engage and consult ICHR experts from BHU for the NMCG project on the Ganga. Another notable development was nomination of INTACH as a Knowledge Partner for the Lucknow Smart City project and a MoU signed with the Municipal Corporation. She mentioned that a Spanish delegation had visited INTACH seeking cooperation for skill development in pursuance of the MOU signed earlier with Spain authorities. The Committee was also briefed on several other administrative matters.

It was announced that the 34th Annual General Meeting and election to the Governing Council will be held on 16th March 2019.

MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, 7TH DECEMBER

Chairman welcomed the Members specially welcoming Shri Rakesh Surie and Maj. Gen. Balwinder Singh, who were attending the Meeting for the first time.

Several presentations were made to the Committee: Virtual Experiential Museum, Varanasi by Director AH Division; Arunachal Pradesh Workshop by Director, ICH Division; Ganga Documentation project given by National Mission for Clean Ganga by Principal Director NHD.

Chairman mentioned that since the last meeting of the Governing Council in April, he had attended the State level meetings of Chapters in Punjab, Haryana, A.P., Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, MP and recently Odisha, and had reviewed State level projects and the ICI Centre at Bhubaneswar. He had also paid individual visits to Chapters at Bhatinda, Faridkot, Sangroor, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, Machlipatnam, Guntur, Ajmer, Alwar, Karauli sub-Chapter, Pushkar, Pune, Kodaikanal, Coimbatore, Belagavi, Ganjam, Balangir and Bhopal.

One of the landmark events was the 86th World Congress of Poets, Essayists, Dramatists and Writers from many countries that was held for the first time at Pune in September. He was invited to deliver the keynote address and inaugurated an exhibition on Indian scripts and crafts put up by the Dastakari Haat Samiti. He brought to the attention of this Congress that India with 2.45% earth’s surface is one of the 17 Mega Biodiversity Countries (10% of the earth’s surface) and represents 25% of the earth’s mega biodiversity with 45000 species of flora i.e. 12% of the global wealth. It has thousands of distinct communities with diverse ecology, languages, dialects, monuments, architecture, performing arts, and a multitude of cultural customs, beliefs, etc. It is a major challenge for INTACH to document and list this
diversity of India’s tangible and intangible heritage.

This year floods caused considerable damage to the heritage in Kerala and in Kodago region of Karnataka. Through the State Convenors, INTACH is documenting the loss of heritage and has advised the State Governments to issue notification of byelaws for the Hill regions.

The Committee was informed that Member of Governing Council Ashok Singh Thakur was selected as Member of Editorial Board of Gazetteer, Department of Government of Maharashtra. The *Tadoba Pillar* which was published as a INTACH leaflet has been selected as a symbol for the first page of Chandrapur District Gazetteer. The information given by Chandrapur Chapter was published in the last Gazette of Chandrapur District, which is a matter of pride for INTACH.

Chairman requested the Member Secretary to take up the Agenda for discussion.

She brought to the attention of Members that a PG Diploma Course in Heritage Studies had been started at INTACH, and candidates from diverse education and geographical background such as law, economics, literature, history, museum studies, engineering and architecture had enrolled for it.

The *National Skill Development* authorities had accepted INTACH proposals for a Qualification Pack to certify Heritage Masons working with lime and stone.

The Ministry of Water Resources, National Mission for Clean Ganga had assigned to INTACH the project for the documentation of Ganga River from Gaumukh to Ganga Sagar at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.2 crore.

INTACH has also been assigned work of transferring a painting by the famous artist M.F. Hussain to the wall of the new WHO building from its earlier office.

A capsule on *Heritage Studies* was organized at the National Centre for Good Governance, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie for the officers of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh and Central Tibetan Administration.

A reprint of the Monuments of Sanchi originally authored by John Marshall has been published by INTACH Bhopal Chapter for which the Committee commended M.M. Upadhyay for this initiative.

The salient features of the audited accounts for the year 2017-18 were explained by Member Secretary CT Misra. After a brief discussion, the audited accounts, recommended for approval by the Finance Committee and the Executive Committee, were approved by the Governing Council for final adoption.

The Meeting concluded with the announcement of the 34th AGM on 16th March, 2019, and Election to the Governing Council will be held simultaneously.

**CHAIRMAN’S TOURS**

Chairman visited the Ganjam Chapter along with State Convenor AB Tripathi and its Advisor Anant Mahapatara. It was a well attended meeting with many interactions with the Chapter Members. There is much scope for conservation related work as Ganjam is very rich in architectural, natural and intangible heritage assets. Chapter thus has many opportunities to make an impact on several fronts.
On 9th October Chairman inaugurated the Balangir Chapter adding to considerable INTACH presence in Western Orissa. Chairman also interacted with the team from Sambalpur at Balanger. On 10th October Chairman visited the ICI Conservation Laboratory at Bhubaneswar. He was accompanied by some Members of the State Advisory Committee. They updated themselves on the work in progress of State Chapter projects like listing and documentation of the Mahanadi River, the tribal heritage of Koraput, and a report on the Prachi Valley.

Chairman LK Gupta attended the Madhya Pradesh State Chapters Meeting at Bhopal on 31st October. It was attended by its patron MM Upadhaya, and State Convenor HBL Maheshwari. The Convenors of Jabalpur, Burhanpur, Bhopal, Datia, Gwalior, Dhar, Chanderi, Khandwa, Morena, Khajuraho; and the Co-Convenors of Bhopal, Shivpuri and Indore were present. It was a highly interactive session with several issues of common interest and approach discussed at length. Meetings at the State level are a learning experience for coordinated efforts between Chapters that in the long run impacts the State as a whole.

Chairman visited the world heritage sites of Sanchi, Bhimbetka, the unique Shiv Temple at Bhojpur, and Islamper Palace which is protected by the State Archaeology Department. He reviewed the on-going restoration of Sadr Manjil and Moti Mahal. He availed the opportunity to visit the Bhopal School of Planning & Architecture (SPA) for an interaction, and attended their valedictory session of the Lime Workshop that was held jointly by the SPA and the INTACH Heritage Academy.

**ASSOCIATION WITH LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI NATIONAL AKADEMY OF ADMINISTRATION (LBSNAA)**

For the last two years a one day Heritage Quiz Programme was conducted by INTACH as an extra curricular activity. It attracted great interest and enthusiasm among the probationers who will join the IAS, IFS, IP Services and hold key positions in future. LBSNAA has now decided to institutionalise Heritage Education class as a regular feature in its formal training programme. This is an important development as the ‘students’ attending the course are our future decision takers and will man important positions in the course of their 30 odd years of service. At a meeting held with senior LBSNAA representatives, Sr. Deputy Director Ms. Awasthy S, Deputy Director Alankrita Singh, and Asst. Director Girish Sharma expressed an interest in exploring a formal collaboration with INTACH, and sought INTACH expertise in designing sessions on heritage management. (Last two years INTACH had held only Quiz Programmes as an extracurricular programme). The keen participation has triggered the idea of a full fledged heritage management course which is welcomed by INTACH. LBSNAA has requested the involvement of Member Secretary Dr. CT Misra for designing a framework for a course on heritage protection and promotion of culture on a national scale to be introduced as part of LBSNAA study programme for Probationers. It was indicated that emphasis should be on a practical approach based on successful heritage cases, a hands-on experience, an exposure visit, and a guided tour of INTACH as part of a field visit.

This is a very noteworthy development for INTACH. The course will be formalised in time for the next batch of 2019 Probationers.
An attractive INTACH brochure has been produced highlighting in brief the facets and activities of all Divisions. The twenty eight pages are informative for students and professionals in the field of conservation/restoration of heritage.

The Heritage Tourism Division is currently associated with renovation of the ancestral mud house of Guruji Ramdas Majhi in a Karnakata village of East Singhbhum District of Jharkhand. It is being executed by the Jharkhand Chapter to create a heritage tourism site and to showcase the traditional knowledge and rural architecture of Santal tribal community. The project will rejuvenate and sustain interest in the cultural aspects of the area and would attract tourists as well as revitalize the local economy. A tribal dance arena including a changing room for artistes is proposed to be constructed for promotion of cultural activities.
In the age of industrialization and technology nature has fallen from its pedestal of supremacy, reverence and awe to being an object of exploitation or an inert obstacle to progress. Humans have become the dominant force in the landscape. At present a dirge is being heard for our rivers, whilst the public at large is engrossed in its mundane day to day existence, but a few concerned souls are trying to undo the irreversible harm that has been done to riverine systems.

People do not perceive rivers like domain specialists do. For the Indian public at large the river is an article of faith and its legends lie at the very foundations of Indian civilization and culture. In this regard, nature is the muse of culture, and thus culture thrives only if nature does, which is to say that Ganga can inspire only if it survives in a healthy vibrant flow.

River Ganga: A Cultural, Architectural, Environmental Heritage

While the subject is vast with an already extensive bank of literature this short note draws attention only to a few aspects.

In the Rig Veda, the rivers are listed from east to west, and Ganga is mentioned in Nadistuti (Rigveda (10.75). The river has 24 names highlighting various benign aspects of the deity. Her mount is the Makara (a crocodile with an elephantine head). In Mahabharata the River is described as ‘the best of rivers, originating from all the sacred waters’. The mantra to worship her is “Om Gangaye Namah Om”.

There are a plethora of stories about the origin of the Ganga and its descent on earth recorded in mythological literature. The Ganga is considered a ‘Tirtha’ (a transition point between earth and heaven). Among Hindus the River is associated with the rites of passage – of birth, purification and remission of sins through ritual bathing, of achieving moksha (relief from the cycle of rebirth). Ganga aarti or homage to the river carried out with flaming lamps is a sight to behold and makes a powerful impression of reverence.

Ganga as the Goddess of Purity adorns the entrance of many ancient temples. Ganges water is kept in many homes and used in rituals. The Kanwars were originally meant for bringing Ganga jal (water) to their villages, pouring it into the wells and ponds and purifying them as miniature Gangas. Emperor Akbar ensured a supply of pure Ganga water for himself no matter where he was in his dominions.

The 7th Jain Tirthankar was born at Varanasi and Gautam Budha’s first sermon was delivered on the banks of Ganga. The River is thus sacred to the Jains and Buddhists as well. The River’s confluence with the sea is marked by the ashram (hermitage) of Kapil Muni.

Several are the ecological services of rivers, but of all services it is the psychological therapy provided by the River which is most important. This is almost unique to Indian Rivers of which the holiest is the Ganga – a bath in it is considered purifying and of more value and more rejuvenating than many a discourse.

The Doab between the Ganga and Jamuna rivers is famous for its association with courteous social behaviour and norms that have come to be known as the “Ganga Jamuna tezzeeb”.

The important festivals (Melas) are the renowned Kumbh Mela and Magh Mela both held at Allahabad, Ganga Saptami (the day of descent of the river from heaven), Sri Ganga Dassehra, Ganga Mahotsav, Bera Festival at Murshidabad where both idols and tazias are immersed.
The River has inspired many poets like Tulsidas, Kabir, Tagore, Dinkar, Sumitraranand Pant and artistes such as Ustad Bismillah Khan and Birju Maharaj.

In popular culture Ganga is part of individual nomenclature (female as well which is the title of Manohar Mulgaonkar’ novel on the Partition of India.

**Architecture and Archaeology**

Ancient cities dot the course of the River Ganga. Apart from that the river has several unexcavated mounds in its vicinity as shown in the map. Sringaverapura near Allahabad is also the site of one of India’s most ancient waterworks dating from 1st Century BC.

The banks of the River are dotted with Ghats that enable access to the water. Several Prayags are to be found in the Himalayan stretch, each of them visually dramatic.

The *Har ki Pauri* and *Varanasi Ghats* are famous with the latter making a strong visual impact with its serrated skyline. Similar Ghats have been established at many other locations along the river banks.

*Patliputra* was described as the most magnificent city by the Greek ambassador Megasthenes. The Gufa of Chankaya is said to be on the river bank (a speculative site exists). The city was the centre for river borne trade and the Ghats are still known by the name of the product which landed at these ghats for eg. *Kela Ghat* (bananas), *Mirchi Ghat* (chillies), *Pathar Ghat* (stones), *Adrak Ghat* (ginger) or *Gai Ghat* (cows/ cattle).

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*Archaeological Sites along The Ganga (Source : Wikipedia)*

*A 2000 year OldFeat in Hydraulic Engineering*– BBLal & KN Dikshit, 1984
Further down the river is *Munger Fort* with its *Mahabharat* associations.

From Murshidabad onwards the architecture demonstrates European influences. Dutch (at Serampore) and French buildings (at Chandernagore) are to be found on the Hooghly River banks along with Bengal style terracotta temples.

The River Front on the Hooghly at Chandernagore was developed by the French.
River Trade

A significant amount of river-borne trade was carried on during the monsoon, especially during the post monsoon season when there was adequate draft in the river. The movement of goods and material was and is by shallow draft barges. Passengers were moved by boats known as *Bajras* or *budgerows*, pulled by men walking along the banks.

Biodiversity and Environment

In its upper reaches the Ganga used to be a wild and scenic river. This aspect of the river along with the dull roar of its torrent over boulders made the human spirit soar. Alas, this aspect has been savagely mauled by the several dams and tunnels through which the river has been made to flow now.

In the upstream portions of the basin, populations of *Bharal* (blue sheep), musk deer and snow leopard are to be found. The dams have depleted the *Golden Mahaseer* that populated the upper waters, by interfering with their movement to spawning grounds. Similarly, *Hilsa* in the lower reaches has been depleted by the insertion of the Farrakka Barrage on the river course.

The Ganges dolphin has been declared the *National Aquatic Animal* recently. The remaining population of this mammal is also known as *Susu* after its breathing sound, and mainly found in the *Vikramshila Dolphin Sanctuary*, upstream of Bhagalpur. The dolphins can also be observed downstream of Narora Barrage and at Chunar Fort. Sand mining, motorized boats, pollution and low flow and shallow draft are the reasons for their depleted population.

Turtles have been given a protected habitat by way of
the Kacchua Sanctuary at Varanasi which is now sought to be de-notified to facilitate the movement of cargo boats. The general deterioration in the natural conditions has thus affected the size and populations.

Gharials and Muggers are to be found all along the river course other than Himalayan reach. Further downstream in the Hooghly one finds river sharks, and in the Sunderbans the top predator is the Royal Bengal Tiger.

Rivers provide several invaluable services to humans, the most important being the elevation of human spirit when it merges with the spirit of the pure and vibrant river. This requires keeping the river in full flow and in an unpolluted state to enable communion with the river by ensuring access to it. We need to stop further dam building, decommission some dams, restore flow by enhancing irrigation efficiency, stop sand mining, conserve the flood plains and curtail pollution. Awareness of this great civilizational, cultural and natural heritage would lead to a holistic consideration of the great River – thus moving the focus away from single and self defeating dimension of pollution abatement.

A LAW FOR GARBAGE DISPOSAL?

Daily disposal of garbage requires discipline to be practiced almost like one of the tenets laid down by the Constitution – if we want to survive and not drop off like flies in coming times! Recently the Editor witnessed the garbage disposal at not just one home called Skandavan, but as a widely prevailing practice adopted generally in ecologically conscious Auroville, Tamil Nadu. All kitchen waste is segregated into two containers – one with leftovers of vegetable and fruit peels and anything else that pets and chicken will eat or can be converted into compost. The second bin is filled with containers and all else bought in cartons made of tin foil, plastic, tetra packs, etc. Plastic, metal and glass are separately packed after properly washing under taps. But plastic containers for items like shampoo, Harpic, etc are separated and are not washed as residues of chemicals in the containers might spoil the grounds and gardens, and hence they are also bagged separately. All paper and plastic bags after shopping visits are collected and folded in a neat heap. A space is created in the garden or corner shed for sorting out the waste material for recycling in every home.

Thus categorised, each packed bag is deposited at Auroville’s Recycling Facility. If required, a payment of Rs.400 is made for services of a station wagon for a pick up van. Even if waste disposal is made at some public bin, people adhere to the above discipline so that garbage thrown in public bins remains untouched by ill fed cows and homeless animals. They do not forage in public bins which is a very common sight in most lanes of capital Delhi and other metropolitan cities.

Delhi has some waste disposal sites on the outskirts of the city that sometimes pile up as high as 50-60m above ground
level, and one even recently collapsed killing two people. Landfill gas in these piles – methane – often catches fire when it comes in contact with air. Such fires at surface or sub-surface further contribute to air pollution. When doused by fire tenders the water percolates through as leachate and washes out good quality soil cover from the slopes exposing the waste! Even in the posh colonies of Indian cities, ‘dry garbage’ is not ensured as long as it is just packed off their premises each day!

Slapping a Rs.25 crore fine by the National Green Tribunal on Delhi Government is not a solution till the systems are set up for disposal of household segregated waste, and policies are extended to cover every home.

What will the future be with micro killers in the very air we breathe – in addition to air pollution? Will we all be walking around with masks on our faces and mini oxygen cylinders strapped to our bent backs next?

**ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCY**

This year India was the global host of the World Environment Day where the theme was Beat Plastic Pollution. According to UNEP, as much as 500 billion plastic bags were produced and used in the last one decade which is more than what was used during the entire 20th century! Moreover, about 8 million tonnes of plastic are dumped into the seas each year with nearly half of it consumed for single use. It kills millions of sea birds and sea mammals. It gets ingested by fish and enters into man’s food chain. Bony cattle grazing on plastic wastes is a common sight in our city lanes. While waste management is receiving some attention in India now, it has not been integrated into a well structured recycling chain. According to UNEP, a million plastic bottles are consumed every minute in the world, and Indians are the major consumers! Burning of waste dumps only adds more to the pollution.

**SIGNIFICANT TRIBAL CONSERVATION PRACTICES**

Worship of nature and animals by tribals reveals an ethos of protection and conservation of both the environment, and ultimately human life itself.

Plants are conserved and worshipped as tribals believe Gods and Goddesses reside in them. The Bhil tribals of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh for example believe Lord Shiva resides in the Bel tree and Lord Brihaspati in Nimbu (lemon) tree. Goddess Laxmi is associated with Tulsi, and Lord Brahma with the Arjun tree.

Plants conserved in natural habitat in forests are used by tribal healers as antidote for snake bites and scorpion stings. Many plant species with medicinal properties are conserved in their natural habitat. The stem and leaves of Moringa oleifer, Achyranthus aspera, Gynandropsis gynandra, Bombax ceiba are used as antidote for snake bite and scorpion sting. Plants like Vanda tessala, Alternanthera sessiles and roots of Cassia adnata, Sidacordata, Bauhinapurpurea, etc. are powdered and turned into a paste applied on broken bones for 10 - 15 days and used for setting them and other orthopedic treatments.

Tribals preserve bio-diversity, flora and fauna in Sacred Groves that are protected by tradition, and provide resources
during droughts. They have a ruling deity and elaborate rules for preservation and usage.

Tribals read environment signals through direct observations, intuition and traditional knowledge acquired over generations. An interesting example is the Tsunami of 2001 that devastated South India and even shifted the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The Sentinalese sensed the disaster in advance and moved inland from coastal areas that resulted in no loss of life.

The Mishmis of Arunachal claim kinship with tigers and consider them as their elder siblings born to the same mother. They claim that their respect for tigers and conservation of lands is more in sync with the idea of preservation than building isolated tiger reserves to confine tigers and restrict tribal movement. In Nagaland the tiger is believed to be the protector of the forests. Legend states that the forests and all the life they hold, originated from the bones of a dead tiger - hence it is believed to be a sin to hunt or kill tigers. The Warlis of Maharashtra consider the tiger as a guest, and that its presence ensures prosperity. Among the Kols of Central India, there is a belief that they share their fate with the tiger. Should tigers be deprived of food, the villagers believe they will starve too. Uncannily, what may seem like remnants of myth and superstition is actually true. The tiger is an apex predator and hence an indicator of the health of the ecosystem. By feeding on herbivores, it keeps a check on their population, which in turn ensures that forest cover is not rapidly eroded. Dense forests bind the soil preventing erosion and in turn, floods. Forests also facilitate the evaporation of water into the atmosphere and thus ensure rainfall.

The festival of Naag Panchami is celebrated to worship the snake goddess Manasa who is believed to protect against snakebites. The Cobra is also worshipped as a symbol of fertility in the South. In Kerala and Karnataka, groves and shrines are found in all homes, dedicated to snakes. According to Indian thought, the snake Patanjali or Karkotaka who lies coiled around the great ascetic’s neck is the first creature to learn the secrets of Yoga from Shiva and bring it to Man. The ability to ‘hear’ despite the lack of external ears led people to associate the quality of prescience with this graceful reptile. Along the Konkan coast, snakes are also worshipped during the harvest festival. Huge quantities of food grain are consumed by pests like rodents and insects, many of which are preyed upon by snakes, checking the spread of rodents and preventing diseases like plague.

During the annual Chaitra Parva in Seraikela, Jharkhand, one of the rituals practiced concerns prediction of rainfall in the coming year. Men collect water in pots from the Kharkei River, and the procession Kalash Yatra is taken out to a Shiva temple. The water-filled pots are buried in the temple compound overnight and the next day a priest digs out these pots and the water level is analysed. If the level is almost the same, it is indicative of a year of good rainfall and productivity, whereas a significant dip in the water predicts a dry year, for which rituals are performed to appease the Gods and involves men – usually Dalits – rolling over thorns, asking the Gods for forgiveness for any sins they might have committed, requesting them not to punish them by taking away the rainfall.

**Conservation Practices of Tribals**

Gond tribals of Central India stop fishing in Kaithani River during breeding season along certain stretches designated as refuge for fish. This ensures healthy and adequate fish population.

**Water Conservation**

Tribal communities of Meghalaya have elaborate practices of forest conservation. They nurture forests on steep slopes, upstream of water sources, and in ecologically sensitive areas. The entire system of traditional forest management
ensures its sustainable use year after year for the entire community, conserving water resources, forest produce, hunting populations.

**Lion Protection**

*Maldharis* of Gir live in harmony with the lions, and claim they never attack until provoked. Lions only come out to feed on the livestock because prey in the forest is going down. *Maldharis* believe that lions take only the livestock that is aged, weak or dying. There are several accounts of harmless encounters between them and the *Maldaris* who believe if they move out of Gir, the lions will too as they survive mainly on the fringe livestock of the tribe. *Maldharis* are allowed greater access to the forest due to this close relationship with the lion and respectful dependence.

**ART & MATERIAL HERITAGE DIVISION /INTACH CONSERVATION INSTITUTES (A&MH/ICI)**

The A&MH Division completed the impressive compilation of the *Wall Paintings of India*, a marathon all-India effort assisted by their many Conservation Institutes and the endeavours of Chapters near locations. This pioneering work is an exhaustive publication that will be treasured by art historians, research scholars, conservation students and serious tourists. It will hopefully inspire the conservation of a very precious heritage of the country, and create greater awareness among people in general.

*Conservation of Rare Collection of Rashtrapita Mahatma Gandhi*

The Sangrabalaya at Sabarmati Ashram, Ahmedabad, Gujarat houses a vast and precious collection of Gandhiji’s legacy. INTACH Conservation Institute, Lucknow was entrusted in 2004 with the work of this important collection of Manpatras, rare textiles and nine oil paintings related to Rashtrapita Mahatma Gandhi.

The collection was categorised:

- Oil paintings based on the life and work of Gandhiji.
- Vestments and other textile possessions of Gandhiji and Kasturbai.
- Letters written to and by Gandhiji.
- Manpatras or scroll of honour presented to Gandhiji by various Institutions.
- Account Files.

A part of the collection was in various stages of deterioration, and needed immediate attention. The paintings were mostly oil on canvas by Chandulal S. Shah and H.L. Khatri in 1948, depicting Gandhiji in different events and periods of his life.

The archival collection comprising very important
Manpatras (scrolls of honour) and vestments along with other textile belongings of Gandhi and Kasturbaji were brought to the ICI laboratory, Lucknow for conservation. A total of 174 objects including textiles, manuscripts, manpatras on different materials like khadi, silk, paper and palm leaf, and 54 objects comprising newspaper cuttings and account files were received from Sabarmati Ashram.

The textiles included utility items, gifts received and given by Bapu and Ba and some cotton yarns. The paper manuscripts were highly damaged. During the entire conservation treatment, special care was taken to use non-acidic materials, varying according to the nature and material of different objects. Work was successfully completed by a very dedicated team of Conservators.


During the last three months 32 diaries and 14 newspaper cuttings in bound form have also been received for conservation from Sabarmati Ashram. The ink used in diaries was very sensitive and of a different type and bleeding which complicated the treatment. The paper of the documents were acidic, yellow and weak due to ageing. Improper old repair using tapes, with cello tape present in many folios, were too brittle to be handled. Abrasion, loss of areas, torn edges, fold marks, accretion, insect and fungus infestation were present. It was also noticed that u-clips had been used to hold folios that had rusted over time creating stains on paper surface.

All the diaries and newspaper cuttings have now been properly documented in graphic and photographic form. The diary of 'Mahadev Bhai' was consolidated for stabilizing the inks before treatment. The newspaper cuttings were treated by removing cutting and neutralizing each strip, providing one side lining, trimming, pasting on new acid free handmade paper, then stitching and binding.
Before: Stains, loose stitching and sensitive ink

After: Conservation treatment & binding

Newspaper cutting strongly pasted with non archival adhesive on acidic paper

Removal of newspaper cutting, providing tissue lining and repasting on new handmade sheets

Today, the Ashram is a source of inspiration and guidance, and stands as a monument to Gandhi’s life mission and a testimony to others who have fought a similar struggle.

ICI Delhi: Wall Paintings Directory (WPD)

The Wall Painting Directory teams have to date surveyed more than 500 sites from April 2018 to November 2018. More than 60 wall painting sites have been documented in the states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Odisha by their respective teams. The teams surveyed Forts, Palaces, Temples, Church, Mosque, Memorials, Havelis and Caves to document Wall Paintings and Rock Art Sites. Some of the documented wall painting sites are well maintained, and many others were found in damaged and ruined condition.

Workshop in Ramgarh–Shekhawati

The WPD team from Delhi recently visited Ramgarh, Shekhawati in November at the request of INTACH Convenor Dr. Shruti Poddar, for an introductory workshop on documentation for Wall Painting Directory. It was also attended by the Convenor and Co-Convenor of Jhunjhunu Chapter. There was a power point presentation on theoretical aspects of conservation, introduction to wall paintings of India, documentation and digitization methodology for WPD, research and conservation. The second session comprised a site visit at Poddar Chhatri where the WPD team demonstrated the process of survey and documentation. A local team will now be formed for the survey work.

Workshop and survey in progress

The Ramgarh Shekhawati region is famous for housing beautiful wall paintings in the havelis, temples and chhatris. The theme of the region’s wall paintings comprises religious subjects like the incarnations of Vishnu and stories of Rama and Krishna being the most popular. Rajasthani folk tales such as story of Dhola–Maru are commonly seen in the paintings of this region. Decorative designs such as stylized plants or floral patterns and geometric designs are seen on the panels, friezes, dividing walls or in spandrels of arches.
Lime Testing Centre & Analysis of Lime Plaster

A lime mortar sample of Oont Kadal Bridge, Dal Lake was received from Srinagar, Kashmir Chapter. The bridge was built in 1670 AD (350 years ago). The structure was part of a historic causeway connecting the inner Srinagar city with Ishber Village.

Analysis of lime plaster sample of Narang building, Ashok Marg, Lucknow received from ANB Consultant, Lucknow, has been carried out.

Artificial Weathering Test

In situ experimentation was carried out using 14% sodium sulphate to study the sustainability of plaster prepared using different admixture. After completing the experiment it will be known which admixture shows the longest sustainability and advice will be given accordingly to conservators of historic buildings.

Preparation of plaster sample in Laboratory

The plaster samples were first made 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% white cement was also used to study the effect on physical property of plaster like water absorption, effect of salt, weathering effect and breathing property.

Museum of Christian Art Collection, Goa

ICI Delhi team commenced conservation of art objects at the Museum of Christian Art (MOCA) in June -August 2018. After setting up a lab, the work on ivory collection comprising 40 objects was completed.

Conservation of the collection of Museum of Christian Art
started on 11th August this year. Some of these objects are made entirely of metal and some have composite elements like textile, wood, glass, etc. Conservation of fifty such objects was completed during this quarter. The objects were mostly made of silver and gilt silver, and some made of gold, brass and iron. The common deterioration pattern in most metals is corrosion which occurs when the object comes in contact with water, acids, salts, oils, aggressive metal polishes, and other chemicals. Metals also corrode when exposed to gaseous materials and need to be addressed for prolonging the life of metal. Other sources of deterioration are breakages, dents, and scratches from accidents or mishandling. The most common reason for deterioration is accumulation of dust, and corrosive products and tarnishing.

Soft brushes, Wishab sponge, erasers or solvent cleaning were employed for mechanical cleaning or for removing stains and adamant corrosive products from the object.

Areas which were loosely bound or structurally unstable or had a potential to be lost, were secured using aclylic dowels.

All the objects were given a protective layer with acrylic coating to avoid tarnishing and accumulation of dirt.

**Conservation of Dutch Bengal School Paintings**

During the second quarter of the 19th century, the artistic scenario of Calcutta (now Kolkata) witnessed a transformation, with the adaptation of western ideas of painting and imagery. Although this process started under the Nawabs of Murshidabad who took special interest in European paintings and luxury objects, it found new expression under the Company officials of the 19th century. They commissioned native Indians who were trained by European painters of theatre props, idyllic landscapes and portraits to cater to European taste, and also trained them in the medium of oil paint.

Apart from British Calcutta, the Dutch and French colonies at Chinsurah and Chandernagar became major artistic centres for producing hybrid paintings in oil for various East India Company officials and zamindars. These later came to be known as Dutch-Bengal and French-Bengal school of painting - an amalgamation of Indian art such as Mughal
miniatures and European art. They pre-date the Bengal School and are referred to as ‘Company School’ or Pre-Bengal School. The subjects were mostly on Indian mythological and religious narratives; and a few famous themes were paintings related to Krishna and Chaitanya Mahaprabhu (a devotee of Krishna).

ICI Delhi received two paintings for restoration and conservation depicting themes related to Krishna, Balram and Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, performing a Kirtan in the streets. They were in a severely damaged condition and yellowed varnish due to ageing. Other usual problems were deposition of dirt, wavy canvas, flaking paint layer and blanching. Negligence in handling of the paintings had led to tears in many areas.

Solvent cleaning was done to remove thick varnish layer and paint layer was consolidated. The canvas and the paint layer were settled and re-integrated with inert material. After full lining the paintings were stretched on new stretchers. Finally, re-integration of colors was done and a layer of protective coating was given to the surface of the painting.
ICI Lucknow

Damaged artifacts of UP Institute of Design, Lucknow

An ongoing project for conserving a variety of artifacts of Uttar Pradesh Institute of Design, Lucknow is in progress. One textile artifact depicting an old woman teaching chikan work to young girl on the cot was received coated in heavy dust and dirt deposition, loose stitching, mould smell, insect attack and torn at various places. After documentation and fumigation, the conservation treatment carried out included separation of all the parts, solvent cleaning, darning of torn and loose areas and finally putting the parts together.

Conservation of Lord Surya statue at Chhau, Kushinagar, Gorakhpur

A statue of Lord Surya was found while levelling of a field in Chhau village, Kushinagar. ICI Lucknow team was deputed for conservation of statue from 14th to 20th September at Sonmati Mata Temple. As per condition of the idol, methodology of conservation was decided for the treatment, dimension of objects, examination of lost areas. Heavy dust and dirt covered the figurative details, with the statue having stains, cementing, ingrained deposition, and a large crack. The upper part from the idol's neck was vertically broken in two parts, left lower area supporting figure of man, three horse faces, several parts of figure, main Lord Surya finger and lower jaw were all missing.

The treatment involved dry brush solvent cleaning, joining broken pieces by dowelling and fixing steel screws with the help of epoxy resin and fine stone dust. After joining, visible gaps were filled with same powder and resin,
smoothening uneven surface mechanically, restoration of 3 horse faces, porous parts etc. was completed and finally application of a protective coating.

**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 its team from Manuscript Conservation Centre. The Centre has a precious collection of 13,000 manuscripts, both illustrated and non-illustrated. The manuscripts were firstly documented, then dry cleaned with soft brush, given support of handmade acid free mount board from both side. The manuscripts were wrapped in red cotton cloth (vesthan), and accession number was written over it. From October till now preventive conservation on 1330 manuscripts having 23,266 folios has been completed at site. Besides preventive, curative conservation on 39 manuscripts having 240 folios was also done in the laboratory.

**ICI Bangalore**

Art works from a private collection from Goa were recently conserved and restored at ICI Bengaluru. The collection comprised different media like oil on canvas, acrylic on canvas, water colour on paper, etc. Although mostly preventive conservation treatment was given to the paintings, some were also treated for fungal infestation and termite attack. The art works were displayed in a gallery close to the sea coast which had resulted in fungal growth due to frequent fluctuations in humidity levels. Suggestions for better storage, display, temperature and humidity monitoring, and control were made before sending back the artworks.

A drawing of Konark temple in water colour on paper pasted on board by artist Shiva Chavda was recently conserved at ICI, Bangalore.
The artwork had suffered severe deterioration during the Chennai floods. As it was neglected for quite some time, water stains on the paper support and termite infestation on the board had increased. Firstly it was treated for termite attack and removed from the board. The fragile paper was lined on Japanese tissue paper. Losses in the paper support were filled with tinted paper inserts.

A recently painted Portrait of Gandhiji was brought to the Centre for treating insect infestation. The artwork by M.R. Balakai is an oil on canvas pasted on plyboard. Though fairly recent, use of inferior quality material and improper framing had caused major problems. With no separator between glass and painting, the painting was stuck to the glass. After removing the glass from paint layer, the art work was fumigated for insect infestation that had drilled several holes in the canvas and plywood. After removing the canvas from plywood, it was re-stretched on a new stretcher. Holes of the canvas were mended and filled. Finally a separator was provided between the glass and painting.

ICI Bhubaneswar

Conservation Work of Rare and Valuable Records of Tata Central Archives, Pune

Conservation work of rare and important records and documents of Tata Central Archives is being carried out by the conservation experts of the ICI Centre at Pune.

Conservation Work of Illustrated Manuscripts of K R Cama Oriental Institute & Library at Mumbai

Important and very beautifully illustrated manuscripts dating to early 18th century, are being conserved by the paper conservation experts of the Centre.
Students Internship in Conservation of Manuscripts

A group of 15 students from Rabindrabharati University, Kolkata attended a seven day student internship on conservation of manuscripts as part of their practical exam for graduation in manuscriptology and paleography.

ICI Kolkata

Restoration of Oil Paintings

Two oil paintings on canvas board were received from a private collector by the Art Conservation Centre, Kolkata for restoration. One was a landscape (50.5 cm X 35.5 cm); the other was of fishermen fishing in the river (50 cm X 33 cm) by artist H. Mazumdar.

The paintings suffered from fungus, flaking of paint layer, loss of paint layer cracks, warping, previous restoration, darkened varnish, dust, etc. Fumigation was followed by consolidation of flaked paint layer applying a suitable consolidant, removal of darkened varnish and flattening. Reintegration of colour was done where required. Lastly a layer of protective coat was applied and the paintings were reframed in the original frames.

ICI Mumbai

Conservation of Soap Stone From Museum Show-Case Display

This beautiful late 19th–early 20th century soap stone plate, heptagonal in shape, is decorated by floral elements. (Talc–Schist, softer grade may feel similar to soap when touched). It is easy to carve due to presence of high content of talc.
Conservation issues were usual accumulation of dust layer and ingrained dirt, uneven hard brown layer visible on the surface, cracks and unscientific restoration done previously in a few areas. After photographic and written documentation, surface dust was removed with the help of soft bristle brush. The hard dirt layer was tested by solvents, and resulting presence of a thin coating applied in the past was removed by a combination of solvents with help of cotton swabs. Infilling of cracks was done by new conservation grade restoration material, and finally faulty material replaced by a similar material.

**Conservation of the Clay Model Soldiers Regiment Museum Display**

Half baked terracotta clay models of late 19th-early 20th, beautifully hand painted figures categorized in different occupation, community, god and goddess *avatar*, indoor and outdoor games, *sadhus*, yoga, soldiers and army models, etc. were received from Dr. Bhau Daji Lad Museum for conservation.

![Before Conservation](image1.png) ![After Conservation](image2.png)

Conservation issues were the usual dust and dirt all over the objects, broken head and leg in some with two models having shaky legs at the base, a few stains visible and flaking of paint layer in some areas. The treatment involved stabilizing the base and consolidation of broken parts by conservation adhesive, removal of stains, stabilizing paint layer, and reintegration by appropriate pigments.

**Fungi-Made Concrete**

Researchers have found that once the first crack appears fungus remains dormant and when mixed with concrete, the spore growth begins. “The fungal spores, together with the concrete nutrients, will be placed into the concrete matrix during the mixing process. When cracking occurs, water and oxygen will find their way in. With enough water and oxygen, the dormant fungal spores will germinate, grow and precipitate calcium carbonate to heal the cracks”.

ICI researchers are now working to see how well the fungus will survive in a concrete environment; and expect it to be an effective solution. There are some adjustments and research to be done to bring an efficient self-healing product to the market. When cracks are completely filled, and no more water or oxygen can enter inside, the fungi will again form spores. Researchers at Binghampton University have found that a fungus called *Trichoderma reesei* could be used to make concrete with self-healing properties.
**TEMPLE WITHOUT A NAME**

A two centuries old temple in southwest Delhi at Nangal Dewat village is the only temple in the list of heritage shortlisted by the Government for conservation jointly with INTACH. It has striking pictures on fine plaster work in later Mughal style. The village has a fascinating history. Jawaharlal Nehru visited the village in the 1930s to praise the villagers for their courage. There are some damaged sculptures that will be consolidated.

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**UNEARTHED ART**

A spectacular exhibition came to Delhi earlier this year titled *India and the World*, with fascinating tales of how we share our past with continents, countries and people in unimaginable ways. It was inspired by a book *A History of the World in 100 Objects* by the Director of the British Museum Neil MacGregor who was part of the core team that mooted India for the exhibition of 200-odd exhibits dating back to thousands of years. The exhibition presented the idea of shared histories through its many juxtapositions of display.

_Dancing Girl, unearthed at Mohenjodaro 2500 BC_  
_Woman from Mesopotania 2400 BC_

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**INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE DIVISION (ICHD)**

*Cultural Mapping of the Apatani Tribes*

The documentation of Apatani tribal community of Ziro Valley of Arunachal Pradesh was taken up as a case study by ICH Division to comprehensively research and document the intangible cultural facets of this community. Arunachal Pradesh has 26 major tribes and several hundred sub-tribes. It is said to be the most linguistically rich State of India with over 90 different dialects. Arunachal Pradesh largely remains on the fringe of mainstream documentation and study due to its remote location, difficult terrain and an inaccessible topography. This study looks at one particular tribe in the State, the Apatanis, whose crafts, traditions, beliefs and skills have survived over centuries but are now threatened by the effects of modernity, globalization and cultural assimilation.

*Ziro Valley*

The Apatanis inhabit the Subansiri District of Arunachal Pradesh named after the Subansiri river, a tributary of the Brahmaputra. The Lower Subansiri District presents a mosaic of various different cultural traditions of the many tribes that live there. It is divided into three sub-divisions, namely Ziro, Raga and Yachuli. The Apatanis are mainly found in the Ziro Valley which is also known as the Apatani Valley, a fertile land that is covered with bamboo groves and dense blue pine trees. Besides the Apatanis one also finds the Nyishi and Hill Miri tribes, and interaction...
amongst these tribes has resulted in the formation of a unique mega-cultural landscape in the region.

_Apatani Women_

The Apatani tribe identify themselves as Tanii. Like the other tribes in the region, they claim to be the descendants of the legendary ancestor Abo-Tani. They believe in the Donyi Polo, and are worshippers of the Sun and Moon, and also numerous sylvan deities. A small number of Apatanis also converted to Christianity over the years. It is important to note that the Apatanis do not have a script of their own and their material culture, made out of wood and bamboo, is easily perishable. In a scenario where there is no written script or archaeological findings to be preserved, it becomes necessary to understand the intangible cultural heritage which is still being orally transferred from generation to generation by members of the tribe. These oral narratives have been documented so that their traditional practices such as rituals, knowledge systems, festivals, traditional crafts and ethnic cuisine is preserved for posterity.

**INTACH-RGU Workshop 2018**

INTACH ICH Division, in collaboration with Arunachal Institute of Tribal Studies (AITS), Rajiv Gandhi University (RGU), Itanagar, organized a two-day workshop titled – ‘Dialogue on Intangible Cultural Heritage of Communities’ on 19th – 20th November this year. The objective was to engage with the communities, and the workshop explored ways by which their intangible heritage can be protected and promoted.

Chief Guest RGU Vice Chancellor Professor A Mitra emphasized the importance of organizing such programmes along with academic works.

Director Nirupama Modwel spoke on how community memories are essential and steps should be taken to preserve and understand them. She stressed upon the need to create a network of community resources that could evolve into an ‘organic database’. The primary challenge is how to get the youth interested in the discourse on cultural heritage, and that promotion and creating awareness were keys to achieve this.

Prof. Sukrita Paul Kumar in her address titled ‘Unseen but Felt: This Continuum of Culture’, and renowned poet and professor at Delhi University Prof. Sukrita Paul Kumar, both spoke about the need to include culture and folklories in the curriculum to make the younger generations more aware about their culture and identity. They suggested that a programme be initiated, with traditional practitioners as mentors.
A major feature of the workshop was the discussion on the ‘way forward’ for retention of indigenous culture, interaction amongst the CRPs for learning from each other, and suggestions on overcoming the challenges that were unanimously agreed upon by participating members. It stressed on collaborations with the communities as essential in bringing out a more constructive approach. The findings from this workshop will be collated in a resolution to hand over to the State authorities and will hopefully impact the State Cultural Policy.

Interactive sessions and demonstration by artisans, folk artistes, weavers, indigenous chiropractors, shamans, and bead workers from Adi, Idu Mishmi, Galo, Nyishi, Nocte tribal communities conducted the courses and participants spoke at length on difficulties faced in pursuing the dying traditional art forms.

An installation, demonstration and display of Opo/Apong (traditional knowledge of brewing) were followed by the Kit Laam dance of Rongmei Nagab and a Galo folk performance.
INTACH Heritage Quiz at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration
Mussoorie, 12th November

As a part of the annual cultural awareness programme, the second successful INTACH Heritage Quiz was held on 12 November 2018 at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand. The quiz was conducted by Kunal Savarkar and his team. The enthusiastic participation of 370 probation officers from the Academy made the quiz a highly interactive event. The quiz comprised a written round in which all students fared exceptionally well. It was followed by oral rounds with six teams of three probation officers each. The questions covered a range of key heritage areas and highlighted the wealth of heritage assets in the country. The quiz was attended by the Director LBSNAA, Ms. Upma Chawdhry, among other representatives and faculty members. The quiz winners were felicitated by Ms. Upma Chawdhry with Principal Director Purnima Datt and were awarded books as well as INTACH publications.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS CELL

How to be a Fig? 4th October ’18

This intriguingly titled talk by artist and ecologist Abhisheka Krishnagopal immediately caught the attention of a regular hall full audience at INTACH. In her student days she was involved with rescue and rehabilitation of distressed urban wildlife and later became a professional wildlife conservator for life, having worked at ATREE, BNH. She has specialised in Wet Ecology and Bird Migration. For the project How to be a Fig? she brought together scientists, artists, writers and performers so that people understand the importance of the Ficus in our ecosystem.

Ficus trees (Fig) are considered keystone species in rainforest and have sustained the lives of many creatures from birds and mammals to the tiniest of insects from time immemorial when dinosaurs roamed the forest to the present day. The little known ecological significance of these species was a surprise to many in the audience.

It is a tough world out there for the tiny fig wasps as all around them lurks the danger of being predated. Then there are the parasitic wasps with long ovipositors that aid them to lay their eggs inside the fig without even entering it. And sitting on the extended wall of the fig, the wasps’, sensitive ovipositor is able to sense which flower has a pollinator wasp egg to lay their egg within the same flower and feed on the larvae of the pollinator wasp once hatched! Even if a pollinator wasp manages to escape the parasites within the fig, there are predatory ants waiting outside the hole to attack emerging wasps so sometimes the males sacrifice themselves valiantly to let the females escape the death trap!

Another ‘enemy’ are hornbills with their large long bills who love to primarily feed on figs. During their courtship hornbills are seen passing the fig fruit to each other, and even later the male partner loves to feed his lady love through a small hole in the ideal tree hole where she has sealed herself allowing just a tiny gap for the feeding till her chicks are hatched! Later when it is tough for their mother to find invertebrates to feed her chicks regularly,
it is again the fig that supports the parents to raise their family! If the fig trees are lost, hornbills will be affected. On the other hand, if the hornbill population decreases then seed dispersal of several forest species will also get affected. It’s a Catch-22 situation!

There is an interesting book titled *Ladders to Heaven* by Dr. Mike Shanahan that unravels the mystery of the magnificent grown up and strong fig trees. If you come across a strangler fig in a forest you cannot help but stop and stare at its physical beauty. You see a tiny seed that has grown up tall and is strong and capable of killing a very healthy tree!

**Book Discussion – Adi Shankaracharya, Hinduism’s Greatest Thinker, 12th November, 2018**

A book discussion on Adi Shankaracharya with reference to the above mentioned book authored by Pavan K Varma was held at INTACH Multipurpose Hall in November. It is a well-researched account of the life and times of a child-saint Adi Shankaracharya, who was the first to give Hinduism a definite form, along with his journeys across India and setting up of monasteries or *mathas* in Sringeri, Dwaraka, Puri and Joshimatha. The book describes the ultimate unfolding of an unmatched philosophy in the history of world religions – *Advaita*. It highlights Adi Shankara’s sheer audacity and thought in establishing significant scientific principles which modern science endorsed centuries later. The ensuing discussion was chaired by Dr. Karan Singh who is known for his vast knowledge on India’s cultural philosophy. There was a lively interactive session with the audience chaired by Dr. Swapna Liddle, Delhi Chapter Convenor.

**LISTING CELL**

**Documentation of Rock Art of Alwar, Rajasthan**

Shelters/ boulders/rock walls/ rocks – a total of 46 in numbers in 6 groups, at various locations - Dadhikar, Dhani Dadhikar, Hajipur, Kiron ki Dhani - have been identified and documented, with detailed notes of their paintings, by INTACH Alwar Chapter.

**Listing of Azamgarh Town:** The listing of Azamgarh town includes 150 structures of varied typology. It was done by M.Arch Conservation, SPA Shaista Parveen as part of INTACH Listing Cell’s student grant for listings.

**Other listings:** Several other listings are ongoing in Zanskar Region by Ladakh Chapter, Vellore Town by TN State Chapter, Hisar district by Haryana State Chapter and Neyyattinkara by Trivandrum Chapter. Thematic listing of Prachi Valley by Bhubaneswar Chapter; Cultural Mapping of Chambal Valley by MP State Chapter, Kota Chapter and Agra Chapter, Cultural Mapping of Mahanadi River by Odisha State Chapter and Mapping of Thrissur heritage by Thrissur Chapter. Natural Heritage listing of Gaya district by Bihar State Chapter and Murshidabad District (Cultural and Natural Heritage) by WB State Chapter are also ongoing. Historic Gardens of India Phase-II is ongoing in Uttar Pradesh. Kangra District by Kangra Chapter; Baran District by Baran Chapter; Basadis in Moodbidri and Karkala by Mangaluru Chapter; Sonbhadra District by Varanasi Chapter; and Hoshiarpur District by Punjab State Chapter. Sample inventories have been received from all Chapters and are under review by the Listing Cell.
**Victoria Market, Gwalior**

The *Victoria Market* built in 1910 A.D, also known as *Rani Laxmi Bai Market*, is located in Maharaj Bada. It was gutted in fire on 5th June 2010, when half of the building had collapsed.

In January 2015, INTACH had prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR) and supervised the work that was thereafter successfully completed with proper structural retrofitting and reconstruction in October 2018.

**Rambha Palace, Odisha**

The *Rambha Palace* to the south of the Chilka Lake, built by Sir Thomas Snodgrass in late 18th century, belongs to the royal family of Khallikote. The palace building is part of a large complex spread over half acre land and includes courtyards, gardens and other ancillary structures. The double storey building showcases elements of neo classical style of architecture and has about fifty rooms with a large Central Hall.

The property has been recently leased to Suave Venture Pvt. Ltd who proposes to reuse the Palace as a heritage hotel given the splendid location and potential for a spatial layout. INTACH prepared the Detailed Project Report and Reuse Plan in February 2018. Restoration work on site is ongoing since September 2018 under supervision of INTACH.

**Allahabad High Court**

The Allahabad High Court built in early 20th century is within a site covering approximately an area of 28 acres. Over the years the building has undergone several additions and alterations with new materials, new walls,
new blocks, etc. In June 2017, Allahabad High Court approached INTACH for a conservation plan for the building and signed a MOU. The Detail Project Report along with documentation, condition assessment has been completed and submitted.

**Lucknow Smart City Project**

A MoU was signed between INTACH and Lucknow Smart City Limited (LSCL) in June 2018, whereby INTACH’s role will be of the ‘knowledge partner’ and ‘implementing agency’ for various Heritage Conservation and Smart City projects in Lucknow. The properties include Darshan Vilas, Gulistan-e-eram, Chattar Manzil, Begum Hazrat Mahal Park, Sibtainabad Imambada, Raushan-ud-Daula, Marris Market, and the Rifa-e-Aam Club. Conceptual project proposal reports for these buildings have been prepared by AHD and submitted.

**Hussainabad Trust, Lucknow, U.P.**

On the request of the Additional District Magistrate, Lucknow, an Initial Assessment Report for the east and west gates and facade of the outer courtyard of Hussainabad Imambada, and proposal for the fencing of Hussainabad Trust precinct has been prepared and submitted.

**Nepal**

Nepal was struck by an earthquake of 7.8 magnitude in April 2015 when about 750 monuments were damaged amidst other losses.

A MOU was signed between the Government of Nepal (GoN) and Government of India (GoI) on implementation of the grant component of India’s Post Earthquake Reconstruction Package in the Cultural Heritage sector in Nepal on 24 August 2017. INTACH
was requested by the Government of India to review the 22 Detailed Project Reports (DPR) already existing and prepare a new set of DPRs for these cultural heritage sites if necessary.

A preliminary site visit was carried out on 29th-31st October 2018, by INTACH Principal Director, AH Division Divay Gupta and Principal Director, A&MH Division Nilabh Sinha. The inspection report has been submitted along with broad recommendations and a framework for assistance in executing the work.

**Braj Integrated Proposal**

A multi-disciplinary group from INTACH is collaborating on an integrated initiative for the sacred region of Braj. The focus is on aspects of documentation, conservation and awareness in the region.

**Virtual Experimental Museum, Man Mahal, Varanasi**

The Virtual Experiential Museum at Man Mahal, in collaboration with the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), is now in the final stage of execution at site. The concept was approved by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in March 2018. The Museum galleries include the timeline of Kashi, Lanes of Banaras, Literature and Journalism, Textile, City of Music, Craft, Faith and Spirituality, Travellers, Celebrated Citizens, Ayurvedic Traditions, Salvation, concluding with a pledge to save the Ganga. Visitors will also have an immersive experience with a projection film on ‘The Descent of Ganga’ in the central hall and a 3-D film highlighting the iconic structures of Banaras. A multilayered mural painting of Varanasi Ghats and lanes created by local artists at the entrance lobby welcomes visitors to the Museum.

**Thematic Development of 10 Roads, HRIDAY, Varanasi**

The lanes and by-lanes of Varanasi run between havelis, palaces, temples, gateways, kunds, idols, traditional craft clusters - each leading to a landmark site. Under the HRIDAY scheme of Ministry of Urban Development, ten such roads were taken up for a comprehensive thematic development by INTACH. Gurudham Road, taken up in April 2018 as a pilot road, has been completed and greatly appreciated by everyone. Work at other roads is ongoing since September 2018 and expected to be completed very shortly. The work has garnered huge support from the local residents, who have given permission to repair and paint their walls. Instead of spot paintings, entire streets have been covered with uniform colours resulting in major cleaning of the areas. The themes for the artistic works chosen for each street are related to its local significance such as the wooden toys of the Khojwa, textile represented in Saanjhi style, lost features of Varanasi traditional buildings, etc. Some residents have witnessed their walls being plastered for the first time ever. Along with urban fabric upliftment, the work is also creating a socio cultural impact.

**Technical Assistance for Built Heritage**

As part of technical assistance for built heritage, preliminary inspection has been done for Fort Bhensola, Ujjain District, MP, Arya Samaj Girls Senior Secondary School, Chawri Bazar, Delhi and Chondath House by INTACH Palakkad Chapter.
POT OF GOLD COINS

A bronze pot full of rare gold coins and gold earring were discovered recently at Caesarea, an ancient Mediterranean port in northern Israel. The Israeli Antiquities Authority announced that it had been found between two stones in the side of a well of a house. The neighbourhood dates back to 900 years. It was one more discovery of an amazing ancient world history.

**PRESERVING WORLD HISTORY**

Earlier this year, the United Nations’ cultural agency added four new sites on its World Heritage list.

Apart from the excavated remains of Nalanda in India, Zuojian Huashan landscape in China, and the Nan Madol, Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia and the Persian Qnaf in Iran were placed on the World Heritage List.
Training and Skill Development Workshop on Rammed Earth Traditions in Spiti, Himachal Pradesh, 2018

A two-day workshop was organized in Kaza, the biggest town in Spiti valley for artisans. This training workshop was to understand the artisans’ perspective on the future of rammed earth in the region, and the scientific and technical up-gradation required in current technology. The initial analysis of documentation of rammed earth in the region revealed that the technique is still widely used and preferred to other construction materials like bricks and concrete. Rammed earth is also popular as there is a scarcity of other materials like timber and stone available in abundance in other parts of Himachal Pradesh. Timber is used in roofing, doors, and windows, while all walls are made of rammed earth. The form-work used in the region is 6–8 ft. long while shorter walls are constructed in adobe. The training workshop was not only for scientific validation and up-gradation of rammed earth techniques but also to discuss the overall construction scenario in Spiti, considering the climate change and growing tourism.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To introduce artisans to INTACH & Hunnarshala and the ideology, with the focus on building technologies.
- To expose artisans to different rammed earth traditions around the world through presentation, starting with local tradition.
- To understand technique used by the artisans in greater detail.
- To understand properties of the soil from the region and the implications of properties on the behavior of rammed earth wall in Spiti.
- To understand implications of soil, composition and weathering on the performance of stabilized and un-stabilized walls.
- To understand the composition of soil and make both stabilized and un-stabilized wall samples from Spiti region.
- To discuss the possibilities of organizing artisans from the Spiti region into an enterprise after training and orientation to take the technique forward.

INTACH documentation of traditional building crafts (Brick Constructions in Haryana and Punjab)

Brick is one of the oldest building materials used for construction for centuries in all parts of the world. In India, most States use brick as the basic building block for construction. This is mostly true for States that are deficient in stone and are rich in soil that is suitable for making bricks like Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Kashmir, West Bengal with this repository of building stock. It is necessary to study the traditional knowledge of brick as a craft through the buildings as well as various resource
persons associated with it. INTACH carried out an in-depth study of Haryana and Punjab where there is a large concentration of brick structures and varied kinds of bricks used in buildings. The documentation details the forgotten craft of brick. Brick is being used prominently in the construction industry in Punjab and Haryana. The study is based on primary and secondary research of both States. It documents different types of bricks, brick sizes, ways of production, details of construction, including ornamentation, available, traditional knowledge and craftsmen engaged with historic brick making as well as working with them. The study brought forth the challenges of working with brick, lack of continuity of craftsman and craftsmanship, which poses a major threat to the conservation of traditional buildings with bricks.
**Smart Heritage, Dehradun, 16 – 18 October, 2018**

The 3-day workshop was held at DIT University, Dehradun, conducted in collaboration with INTACH Dehradun Chapter and DIT University. The objective was to understand and develop further the concept of ‘Smart Heritage’, analyze the meaning of ‘Smart Heritage within a Smart City’ and prepare a methodology for its application within the management of a ‘Smart City’. The workshop was attended by about 150 participants comprising both students and faculty of architecture, heritage professionals, research students, and officials from urban local bodies and NGOs.

**Capacity Building Workshop – VII**

A 3-day workshop on Capacity Building – VII was organized in collaboration with Chapters Division for INTACH Chapter Members. Sixty-one participants attended the workshop from Jhalawar, Osmanabad, Pali, Gorakhpur, Bikaner, Jaipur, Tripura, East Godavari, Chandrapur, Mahasamund, Nagaland, Kangra, Calicut, Bilaspur, Mangalore, Darjeeling, Darbhanga, Nagercoil, Allahabad, Kasargod, Jammu, Bhilai-Durg, Rajpipla, Khajuraho, Kashmir, Varanasi, Barmer, Allahabad, Raipur, Yamunagar, Kamrup, Jodhpur, Calcutta, Pune, Bagalkot, Jalandhar, and Amritsar.

Special field visits were organized for an exposure and practical understanding of built and natural heritage. Working sessions were also organized for listing of heritage sites and conservation of material heritage. At the end of the workshop, various ideas and events that the Members would like to take up in their Chapters were discussed.

Governing Council Member GM Kapur was invited to deliver the keynote address in the absence of Chairman OP Jain, Chairperson Financial Monitoring Committee. He later graced the occasion and distributed certificates of attendance to all participants.
Master Class – Traditional Knowledge Systems – 25 October, 2018

A Master Class was held at INTACH on 25th October, as part of the PG Diploma in Heritage Studies open to all external participants. The broad aim was to understand the traditional knowledge systems and explore their potential for use in heritage conservation works. The lectures provided an introduction to the ICCROM Forum on this theme that was first held in 2014.

Study, Use and Conservation of Lime at Bhopal, 29 October–1 November

A 3-day practical hands-on workshop was conducted at the School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal. The workshop was planned for INTACH PG Diploma students and Masters students of School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), Bhopal. The broad aim was to introduce some of the key philosophical issues and practical challenges which arise in the use and conservation of lime in historic buildings. The practical sessions were held at the on-going conservation site of Sadar Manzil and Moti Mahal. Both these historic buildings are being restored under the Bhopal Smart City project,
and are owned by the Bhopal Municipal Corporation and the State Department of Archaeology respectively. The workshop was attended by about 35 participants. Chairman INTACH and former Director of SPA presided over the valedictory session and distribution of certificates.

**Lucknow Smart City Summit, 30 Nov. 2018, Hotel Hyatt Regency**

INTACH was invited by the Lucknow Municipal Corporation as a ‘Heritage Partner’ to participate in the Lucknow Smart City Summit

PD (IHA) presented the work done by INTACH as per the MoU with Lucknow Smart City Ltd. He introduced the idea of ‘Smart Heritage’ to an audience of senior administrative officers from designated Smart Cities in India.

It was evident that a confusion persists regarding understanding a Smart City concept in the minds of the administrators and a lack of clear direction. Most cities are either duplicating work done by other cities or importing ideas from international cities. It was stressed that the solutions need to be specific to each city. The focus on heritage is either poor or at a much lower level than required.

The *HRIDAY* Division of Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs had organized a workshop at Habitat Centre, Delhi on the sustainability of assets created under *HRIDAY* scheme beyond the scheme period. The workshop was chaired by the Additional Secretary (MoHUA) along with Mission Director- *HRIDAY* and Director-NIUA. The officials of City Mission Directorate of the 12 *HRIDAY* cities participated in the workshop. PD, IHA was invited to share his experience on the subject and deliver a presentation on the sustainability of heritage assets with focus on best practices across the globe for O&M and revenue generation through these assets.

This workshop was a continuation of a four day capacity building workshop organized at SPA, Bhopal earlier on 31 July - 3 August for *HRIDAY* city officials with the objective of training the officials to comprehend the attributes of *HRIDAY* cities, work out ways to incorporate heritage assets in planning documents, develop tools for management of heritage resources and assets created under the scheme, innovative revenue opportunities and achieve sustainability goals for all *HRIDAY* cities. PD, IHA had been an invited resource person at that workshop as well.

*HRIDAY Workshop on the Sustainability of Assets, 7 Dec 2018*  
*PD IHA Navin Piplani*
Teachers Training Workshop

Datia, 18th – 19th December
32 Teachers/ 19 Schools

A two-day Teacher Training Workshop was organised by the Datia Chapter in collaboration with INTACH HECS. Convenor Vinod Kumar Mishra in his welcome address introduced INTACH and the work undertaken by the organization. Local journalist and historian Ravi Thakur spoke about heritage, history and the architecture of Datia, and how it has come to be known as ‘Mini Vrindavan’ due to its numerous temples, followed by the screening of a film on Datia Fort (palace).

Sr. Programme Coordinator Abhishek Das and Programme Coordinator Christina Shangne explained heritage education and key heritage themes through a detailed presentation. They discussed heritage education in classrooms, including, hands-on-practical application of heritage education with group activities, lesson planning, teaching aids and ways to promote heritage education effectively. The highlight of the second day was a heritage walk to the ‘Chhatris of Datia’. Following the walk, presentations on assigned heritage themes were made by participants. Lalitpur Convenor Santosh Kumar Sharma, invited as special guest, addressed the participants and historian Ramswaroop Dengula discussed in brief Datia’s history. The workshop concluded with distribution of certificates and resource material.

Datia Fort also known as the The Bir Singh Palace, Datia Mahal or Gobind Mahal, is an iconic historic seven-storey palace in Indo-Islamic architectural style made of stone without using bricks or iron. Datia rose to prominence during the 16th – 17th centuries, under the rule of the Bundela dynasty.

Maler Kotla, 11th – 12th December
27 Teachers/ 12 Schools

A two-day Teacher’s Training Workshop organised by Maler Kotla Chapter in collaboration with HECS at the Falah Public Senior Secondary School was attended by over 25 teachers from the city. The welcome address by Convenor Dr. Salim Mohammad encouraged participants to take cognizance of the abundant heritage in the city. In the next segment, a brief history of Maler Kotla was shared by Advocate Azmat Ali Khan.

The session on Understanding Heritage – meaning, component and its overview – was by HECS National Coordinator Shivaa Rawat. Sr. Programme Coordinator Abhishek Das also spoke at length on Heritage Education in Classrooms. The highlight of the second day was a site visit organised by Maler Kotla Convenor Dr. Salim Mohammad. The participants were then divided into groups to make a presentation on the Heritage of Maler Kotla. In the concluding session. Convenor Dr. Salim Mohammad encouraged them to undertake heritage activities in their respective schools.
undertake heritage activities in their respective educational institutions.

The city of Jaipur was founded in 1727 by Jai Singh II of the Kachhwaha Rajput clan. Several books on architecture were consulted for planning Jaipur and eventually, under the guidance of Vidyadhar Bhattacharya it was designed based on the principles of Vastu Shastra and Shilpa Shastra.

**College Heritage Volunteer Programme**

The College Heritage Volunteer Programme sensitises college students to protect heritage and become a part of a nationwide-youth movement to protect heritage.

**Gwalior, 2nd November**

8 Colleges/ 45 College Students/ 4 Faculty Members

The Gwalior College Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop, organised by the Gwalior Chapter in collaboration with HECS, was held at the ABV-Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management in Gwalior. The welcome note was by Convenor Kamakshi Maheswari and Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Gwalior. A detailed session on understanding Heritage and Heritage Volunteerism was held by HECS National Coordinator Shivaa Rawat. The history and heritage of Gwalior was described by Convenor Dr. HB Maheshwari Jaisal. Thereafter participant group presentations highlighted

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Sheesh Mahal was the royal abode of the Nawab of Malerkotla and is known for its aesthetic appeal. The Mubarak Mahal is a 19th century palace built in the beautiful European architectural style. The Nanakshahi Brick Fort and Kaccha Fort are among the other prominent historical sites in Malerkotla.

**Jaipur, 23rd – 24th October**

55 Teachers/ 36 Schools

Teacher’s Training was organised by the Jaipur Chapter in collaboration with HECS with the support of City Palace Museum and Central Board of Secondary Education (C.B.S.E.) at the SV Public School in Jaipur. The welcome address by Jaipur Convener Dharmender Kanwar was followed by an introduction to INTACH and HECS by HECS Principal Director Purnima Datt. The sessions by the resource persons were enriching and informative. The Natural Heritage of Jaipur was described by Harsh Vardhan, the Built Heritage of Jaipur was highlighted by PK Jain, and the Living Heritage of Jaipur with special reference to the craftsmen involved in brassworks was presented by Yunus Khimani. The sessions on understanding Heritage and Establishing Heritage Clubs in Schools was explained by Purnima Datt and Shivaa Rawat. The highlight of the second day was a site visit to the City Palace Museum and participants’ group presentations highlighting various aspects of the city’s heritage. The workshop concluded with teachers expressing enthusiasm to establish Heritage Clubs and
various aspects of Gwalior’s heritage with corresponding activities suggested that could be undertaken by volunteers. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Gwalior Additional Co-Convenor Vikas Singh. The students expressed enthusiasm to undertake heritage activities within their respective educational institutions.

*The majestic Gwalior Fort spread over an area of 3 square km, encloses three temples, six palaces and numerous water tanks. It is regarded among North and Central India’s most invincible fortresses. It was built by Raja Man Singh Tomar in the 15th century.*

**Vijaypur, 6th October**

**9 Colleges/ 92 College Students**

The College Heritage Volunteer Workshop attended by B.Ed students was held at Dr. P G Halakatti Research Centre Seminar Hall. Vijaypur Convenor Dr. Krishna Kolharkulkarni welcomed the gathering and shared the workshop objectives. Secretary Dr. MS Malbhavi and Dr. PG Halkatti from Research Centre inaugurated the workshop. Dr. Sheelakant Pattar from Badami spoke on the importance of Cultural Heritage Education in Schools and Colleges. Retd. Prof Dr. SK Koppa spoke about Karnataka Culture. Dr. Krishna Kolharkulkarni also made a presentation on history and cultural heritage of Bijapur, while giving details of INTACH work in the field of cultural heritage of India. Conservation Assistant MB Kuravatti from ASI Department in his valedictory address appreciated INTACH heritage conservation initiatives.

**Heritage and Citizenship Training Programme**

**Hyderabad, 19th – 20th December**

2 State Chapters - Andhra Pradesh and Telangana /11 Chapters 25 Members – State Convenors, State Co-Convenors, Chapter Convenors, Chapter Co-Convenors and Additional Co-Convenors; senior active INTACH Members

Heritage and Citizenship Programme ‘JAGO’ aims to promote heritage awareness and conservation as good citizenship values. The JAGO Training Programme was launched for INTACH southern zone Chapters, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana through a training workshop held on 19th–20th December at Hotel Shree Venkateshwara, Lakdikapul in Hyderabad. The programme was held in collaboration with the Andhra Pradesh and Telangana State Chapters. Over 25 senior INTACH Members, comprising all State and District Convenors and Co-Convenors of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana States participated enthusiastically.

The welcome address by State Convenor, Andhra Pradesh & Telangana M Gopala Krishna described the need for heritage protection in a detailed session on the role of Governments, as well as citizens in this process. It was followed by an enriching talk by Architect Shankarnarayan on Heritage Protection and integrating it with Urban Development, Heritage Conservation and Preservation in the context of good citizenship from a legal perspective and case studies or prevailing best practices of work undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India and highlighted by Superintending Architect, ASI, Hyderabad Circle Dr. Milan Kumar Chauley. The sessions by Superintending Archaeologist, ASI, Hyderabad and Architect Sri Shankarnarayan explained the heritage issues and suggested solutions. HECS Principal Director Purnima Datt spoke on Understanding Heritage and Citizenship and ways to undertake Good Citizenship initiatives to carry forward the legacy within their respective Chapters followed by Heritage Listing Guidelines. Participants spoke about their unique heritage citizenship symbols in a group exercise.

The highlight of the second day was a heritage walk at the Kutub Shahi Tombs conducted by Yeshwant Purohit.
Chanderi has been a historic town since the time of Malwa Sultans and Bundela Rajputs, who ruled the region in 15th and 16th century. Surrounded by exotic hills, lakes, and forest, it is well known for Chanderi saris and textiles too.

Creative Workshops & Activities – Heritage Week Celebrations, Delhi

As part of Heritage Week celebrations, HECS organised two creative workshops Dastangoi and Calligraphy and water heritage ‘Paani ki Kahani’ poster competition for middle school children of New Delhi and NCR. The creative programmes aimed at raising awareness of students about their city’s heritage, establish a better understanding of its heritage assets and inculcate more pride in them. The heritage education activities culminated with students drawing inputs from the various HECS from Aga Khan Trust who described the history, heritage and on-going restoration work being undertaken by the Trust. The road journey to Kutub Shahi Tombs was in a new noiseless, pollution-free “Electric Bus”, provided by M/s. Olectra Greentech Limited, Hyderabad. It was a novel experience, informative and exhilarating. The interactions were supplemented with detailed background information by Telangana State Co-Convenor cum Hyderabad Convenor Anuradha Reddy. In the final segment, participants prepared action plans to protect and promote heritage through good citizenship initiatives in collaboration with stakeholders and Convenors. The workshop was a good model to emulate in their respective Districts.
Creative Programmes to document their city’s heritage and speak about it in a competition to be held on the occasion of INTACH’s Foundation Day celebrations scheduled in January 2019.

**Creative Workshop: Dastangoi**

*15th – 16th November*

*60 Students/ 32 Schools*

The Workshop commenced with an introduction to INTACH by PD Purnima Datt speaking about the various Divisions of INTACH. The *Dastangoi* session was by Fouzia Dastango, the first female Dastango, and Ms Saneya. Students learnt about the history of this performing art and its nuances, such as the style of speaking, the language and Dastangoi performance. Ms. Fouzia shared how the Pied Piper story, translated by the famous playwright and director Safdar Hashmi, was once performed on the stairs of Jama Masjid. The story of the *Tilism-e-Hoshruba*, the story of *Amir Hamza* and *Afrasiyab* were narrated to demonstrate how words of the storyteller can captivate imagination of the audience. It was followed by an activity session for students to prepare a script for their performances with feedback from Fouzia and Saneya on how to enhance their narrative. It concluded with the distribution of certificates.

**Paani Ki Kahani – My Water Heritage Poster Competition**

*New Delhi, 19th November*

*123 Students/ 41 Schools*

On the occasion of Heritage Week, HECS organised *Paani ki Kahani (My Water Heritage)* – National Poster-making and Essay writing competition for Middle School children (classes 6 to 9) on 19 November at INTACH New Delhi.

It began with an introduction to water heritage and discussions about traditional water-harvesting structures by HECS PD Purnima Datt, followed by an introduction to the screening of an HECS film highlighting its activities. HECS publications *Adopt a Monument* (Hindi Translation) and the *Hornbill Warrior* – story colouring book on Nagaland were released by the Principal Directors Manu Bhatnagar and Purnima Datt. In the next segment, a talk on the Water Story – Past, Present and Future was presented by special guest and resource person, Principal Director, Natural Heritage Division, Manu Bhatnagar. He traced the Story of Water (*Paani ki Kahani*) and water heritage in history (*Rig Veda; Harrapa Great Bath; Sudarsban Tal; Chittorgarh and Bhopal lake systems; canal systems established by the British*) to contemporary times. Attention was drawn to the receding water tables, diminishing glaciers, effects of climate change, modern irrigation/ dam projects, pollution/sewage disposal into water bodies as well as their impact on the eco-system. He described how river systems were intimately linked to culture, heritage and religion. The need and initiatives of INTACH for protecting and reviving water bodies was described including work undertaken by his INTACH Division in Delhi, adoption of traditional sustainable agricultural practices, pitcher emitter irrigation, among other programmes.

The poster and essay writing competition after the talk had many students drawing step wells, natural lakes and river banks. There were others who created a narrative around the grim situation of water access, man-made pollution and a disrupted water cycle. The essay accompanying each art-work helped students explain their respective water ‘kahani’. 
Creative Workshop: Calligraphy

New Delhi, 29th – 30th November
90 Students/31 Schools

The eagerly awaited Calligraphy Workshop for Middle School students from Delhi NCR, inaugurated by PD Purnima Datt, helped raise awareness about the rich culture of languages and patrimony present in the city. The workshop was conducted by Mohammad Zubair, a professional calligraphist and an artist, who has been associated with the exciting world of calligraphy for more than a decade. He explained the basic features of Urdu calligraphy and the importance of angle, size and shape in a stylised form of writing. He demonstrated how to hold the kalam (i.e. the wooden pen). After the brief on alphabets, the students were taught to write Dilli–dur–ast, a famous quote of the renowned Sufi Saint Nizamuddin Auliya. He was assisted by his team of facilitators Ms. Shaheena, Abdul Rahman, Anas, and Ms. Iqra Iyaaz. They helped the students in hands-on experience of calligraphy and to understand its finer nuances.

PD. Datt shared with the students the historical context of this quote.

Chhattisgarh

Sarguja, 18th December
63 Students from various schools

For ‘My Water Heritage’ essay and painting competition Shashank Singh, Director of GRAM (Groundwater and Reforestation Adaptive Management) was invited as the Chief Guest.

Odisha

Mayurbhanj, 9th December
85 Students/8 Secondary Schools

Mayurbhanj Chapter conducted the National Painting Competition on Water at Lions Club Baripada, Mayurbhanj. Renowned speaker Dr. Jagannath Prasad Nath in his lecture vividly described the sources of water and its utility for life of plants, animals and human beings quoting various examples from nature.

Tamil Nadu

Nagercoil, 17th November
8 Schools

My Water Heritage national competition was conducted
at the Scott Christian Hr. Sec. School, Nagercoil. Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan explained the objective of the competition and said “we are losing the heritage water resources of the district at a fast rate and it is our duty to protect them and save them”.

**Karnataka**

**Bijapur, 15th December**  
**19 Schools/114 Students**

My Water Heritage competition was held at Dr. PG. Halakatti Research Centre. Rajyotsav Awardee Dr. PS. Kademani inaugurated the function saying that ‘Water is a must for human beings including flora and fauna. Whole world is created by water and it is our duty to preserve water for the future generations.’

**Uttar Pradesh**

**Mahoba / 8th December**  
**80 Students**

My Water Heritage was held at Gyan Sthali Public School and Sai Inter College. The competition was a great success and covered widely by the local media. It was followed by another schedule on 28th December in other schools of Mahoba.

**Gorakhpur/ 23rd December**

The All India essay and painting competition – Paani ki Kahani: My Water Heritage was organized at St. Joseph's Women's College, Civil Lines, Gorakhpur. The event was a great success and widely covered by the local media.

**Varanasi / 20th November**  
**13 Schools/ 150 Students**

Varanasi Chapter organised the “Paani Ki Kahani-My Water Heritage Competition” at Kardmeshwar Mahadev Temple, Kandwa. This Temple was chosen as the venue because there is a water body beside the temple.

**Haryana**

**Ambala, 27th November**

122 Children from 14 schools participated in the ‘My Water Heritage’ competition organized at Patel Park, Ambala Cantt. with Mina Sidhu invited as the Chief
Guest. Students of Kendriya Vidyalaya enacted a skit on importance of water conservation. The event was well covered by the local media.

Yamunanagar, 14th December
11 Schools/ 125 Students

*My Water Heritage* competition was held at Sant Nischal Singh Public School. The Principal of the host school, Anirudh Joshi gave a motivational talk to the students. The event was widely covered by the local media.

**Punjab**

Jalandhar / 29th November
35 Schools/ 300 Students

*My Water Heritage* competition was held at Kendriya Vidyalaya 1 Jalandhar Cantt. Maj Gen Balwinder Singh emphasized that children should become ambassadors for awareness programme in their schools and areas where they live. The event was widely covered by the media.

**West Bengal**

Kolkata, 12th December
7 Schools/ 23 Students

Kolkata Chapter organised “*Paani Ki Kahaani-*My Water

Heritage Competition” at the historic Indian Museum - Asutosh Birth Centenary Hall.

**Heritage Quiz**

New Delhi, 14th - 15th December

**Heritage Quiz – National Finals**

The INTACH Heritage Quiz Finals comprised 100 City Rounds and 22 State Rounds conducted by INTACH (10 State Rounds supported by Xpressminds). The entire event culminated in the National Finals that was organised by HECS and Xpressminds at INTACH New Delhi. The winning teams from 22 State Finals were invited to be part of the National Finals from Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Bihar and Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Chandigarh, Rajasthan, Delhi - NCR, Nagaland, Sikkim and Assam.

Students Together Can Speak 28 Languages!

The INTACH Heritage Quiz was a remarkable feat that brought together speakers of 28 languages/dialects under one roof: English, Hindi, Mizo, Malayalam, Odia, Nepali, Bhotia, Pahari, Assamese, Bengali, Kutchhi, Punjabi, Chhattisgarhi, Punjabi, Tulu, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Marathi, Rajasthani, Marwadi, Nagamese, Angami, Sumi, Maithali, Mandeali, Kumauni and Garhwali.

The two-day programme began with an introductory session by PD HECS. Participants were congratulated for their efforts. She spoke about INTACH’s heritage conservation activities across the country. It was followed by a guided heritage walk to the Lodi Gardens and a
visit to the Material Heritage Conservation Laboratory. It concluded with an address by Member Secretary, INTACH Dr. (Mrs.) C. T. Misra and issue of the Heritage Passport and INTACH Badge to each student.

The National Final of the Quiz was conducted by quiz master Kunal Savarkar on the second day. Four semi-finals were held for the qualifying teams to compete in a National Final. The team from Kodad (Teja Vidyalaya) was declared the National Winner of the INTACH Heritage Quiz 2018, followed by the team from Varanasi (Sunbeam School, Bhagwanpur). The third position was bagged by Jayshree Periwal High School, Jaipur while the fourth position was secured by Convent of Jesus and Mary, Ambala Cantt. The winners were felicitated and congratulated by Maj. Gen. (Retd.) LK Gupta, Chairman, INTACH.

**INTACH Heritage Quiz 2018 - Winners**

- Teja Vidyalaya, Kodad – 1st Position
- Sunbeam English School, Bhagwanpur, Varanasi – 2nd position
- Jayshree Periwal High School, Jaipur – 3rd position
- Convent of Jesus and Mary, Ambala Cantt. – 4th position
- Shanti Asiatic School, Ahmedabad
- The Heritage School, Kolkata
- Maharishi Vidyamandir, Silpukhuri, Guwahati
- DAV Centenary Public School, Mandi
- Presidency School, Bangalore
- St. Shantal English Medium School, Trivandrum
- Mount Carmel School, Aizawl
- Sri Guru Harkrishan Public School, Amritsar
- Delhi Public School, Secunderabad
- Stepping Stones High School, Aurangabad
- Bharatiya Vidyabavan Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Coimbatore
- The Radiant Way School, Raipur
- Charis High Academy, Dimapur
- Daffodils Home Senior School, Gangtok
- Vidyabharti Chinmay Vidyalaya, Jamshedpur
- Cambridge School, Noida
- Gwalior Glory High School
- DAV Public School, CS Pur, Bhubaneshwar

**Filmit**

Filmit India is a multi-cultural project of HECS in collaboration with the Helen Hamlyn Trust, United Kingdom through the *Open Futures* initiative that aims at nurturing cultural understanding, care and concern for heritage among school children through an exciting experience of film making and sharing. Filmit India engages middle school students (std. 6-8) to develop short films (1-3 minutes) on their culture and heritage. These films are shared with school children in the United Kingdom (UK) through the *Open Futures* online platform. Since its launch in 2008, about 11 cities are a part of this exciting project in India now with Ahmedabad, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kolkata, Mumbai, Varanasi and latest addition, Kochi included this year.

**Kochi, 27th – 28th November**

*16 Teachers/100 students/16 Schools*

A two-day Art Workshop was conducted by INTACH in collaboration with the Helen Hamlyn Trust, UK. The workshop aimed at helping students understand art and make films for the Kochi Muziris Biennale. PD HECS Purnima Datt introduced the programme and the workshop resource persons Shobita Punja and Kriti Sood. Cochin Convenor Babu C Rajeev spoke to the schools and thanked them for starting heritage clubs in their respective schools. A series of artworks and videos were shown to students. An ice breaker activity was held where participants were asked to trace the route of potatoes to India by sailors who found them in South America. This was done to weave a story. Another video on coal, its types, uses, production, etc. was shown. Prabhakar P. Pachpute interacted with the students, discussed his artworks and showed them an animated film on coal.
Following a round of discussion about the films, the students were asked to choose a topic from themes they were given on the previous day. While they worked on their story board, Dr. Punja and Kriti helped them brainstorm various ideas that could turn into a film. Lady Helen Hamlyn, of the Helen Hamlyn Trust listened to the students discuss their ideas (potential stories). The final session was attended by the Director Chamber of Commerce and Industry G P Goyal, Kerala State Convenor K J Sohan, Cochin Convenor Babu C Rajeev and other Members of the Chapter. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Cochin Convenor.

Kochi Filmit – Content and Technical Workshops
Kochi, 15th – 16th October
16 schools/16 teachers/95-100 students

Kochi, once known as the Queen of the Arabian Sea, has remained an important port city. It is resplendent with history and heritage. It houses estuaries and backwaters, small islands, and the magnificent Fort Kochi and Mattancherry.

The Filmit Content and Technical Workshops for school children was held at Bhavans Vidya Mandir, Elamakkara, Kochi. It provided a brief overview for the themes of FilmIt 2018-19 and ways to examine content for the films. Content Expert and Resource Person was Feisal Alkazi, while the technical resource persons were Ankit Pogula and Shreya Kakria. Their sessions helped the participants understand the content, theme and technical aspects of film-making. Cochin Convenor Babu C Rajeev spoke to the students and motivated them to make good films pertaining to heritage and its conservation. Kerala Convenor K J Sohan encouraged the participants to make films highlighting the rich heritage of their region. Advisor, Bhavan’s Board of Education Meena Vishwanathan advised the students. Cochin Convenor Babu C Rajeev advised the students and said that already a lot of damage has been caused to our heritage and we need to conserve it at the earliest. The workshop concluded with a question and answer round between the resource persons and the students.
HECS participated in the *Smile International Film Festival* for children and youth of the *Smile Foundation* (SIFFCY) with screenings of films made by school children followed by a panel discussion. The welcome note by Programme Curator, SIFFCY Monica Wahi was followed by an introduction by PD HECS who explained the INTACH Filmit programme objectives and the collaboration with Helen Hamlyn Trust (United Kingdom). The film screenings included short films on themes of cultural heritage, environment, peace and harmony. The interaction of young film makers in a panel discussion was moderated by Wahi and Datt. The programme was attended by Prof. Dragan Milinkovic Fimon, an eminent academic and a University Professor from Serbia who expressed his appreciation of the films, particularly those made on the theme of peace and harmony.

**FILMIT INDIA – MILESTONES**

Over a decade, the project has inspired over 10,000 Indian students to make films on heritage and helped them understand their physical and cultural environments, as well as appreciate the contributions of different cultures and communities in their country.

Over 3,000 short films have been prepared by Indian students and some films have received awards at the International Children’s Film Festivals in Hyderabad, the *Andy Cameroon Award* and most recently, the *Filmit India* film screenings held at the Smile International Film Festival (SIFFCY) festival at New Delhi.

**Publications**

**Young INTACH Newsletter – Spice Story (Oct. – Dec. ’18)**

India with its diverse topography, geography, climate and landscapes is home to varieties of spices. The newsletter draws attention to the history, heritage, mythology, diversity and multi-purpose uses of aromatic Indian spices. The newsletter has many interesting facts, stories, activities and colourful contributions from the school children.

**The Hornbill Warrior – Know Nagaland (A Colouring Book)**

The storybook-cum-colouring book is on the heritage of Nagaland discovered through the eyes of a young Naga girl. The informative and interactive colouring book was released on the occasion of Heritage Week celebrations at INTACH Delhi.
**ANDAMAN & NICOBAR**

*World Heritage Week, 19th-25th November, was celebrated by the children of Naach Academy of Performing Arts and INTACH Chapter. The children from Club Handumaan, an exclusive heritage club at Naach Academy, participated in a poster competition and a poetry evening.*

A cuisine festival was held on 23rd November with food tasting from different States of India. The week's activities ended with a Natural Heritage Tour on the final day. The children visited Wandoor Marine Interpretation Centre under the guidance of Convenor Samhita Veda Acharya, Manager of Naach Academy Rajesh Nair and its faculty members Vinish Patel and Jayanta Sarkar. The tour was sponsored by State Bank of India with support from the Forest Department. Convenor Samhita Veda thanked DCF Navin Kumar of the Forest Dept and the SBI team through a press release for their support in imparting heritage education to the younger generation.

**ANDHRA PRADESH**

*East Godavari*

Vedula VLN Murthy is appointed the Convenor of East Godavari Chapter. He will be assisted by V Ramakrishna as the Co-Convenor. We welcome them to the INTACH fold with many good wishes for success of the Chapter and sustaining the many events held to date.

*Srikakulam*

The Chapter conducted a number of competitions at the close of last quarter that could not be covered. A few photographs are however published in this issue.

Eco-Tourism Competition, World Tourism Day – at L.P.H. School, Kintali Village

Convenor K V J Radha Prasad informs that the focus of December was on children. Fifty of them accompanied
Students of the Government College for Women held a gathering on 28th December, attended by its senior Faculty, INTACH officials and District Tourism Officer Narayana Rao. They were introduced to the history of the Buddhist monument Salihundam. Subsequently, Convenor KVJ Radha Prasad and others accompanied them on the heritage walk at Salihundam.

**Visakhapatnam**

Mayank Kumari Deo is appointed Convenor of Visakhapatnam Chapter. She will be supported by Poonam Shah Srinath as the Co-Convenor. We wish them a hearty welcome and all good wishes in executing their new responsibilities and much success.

The publication of the New Testament Bible written by Umit Bhattacharya was published by *Hindu*. St. Jerome was the first one to translate the Bible from Hebrew to Latin. The Greek version was translated into Telugu by Rev Benjamin Schulz in the early 18th century. These manuscripts were sent to Halle in Germany for printing; however it did not proceed as per the plan.

**ASSAM**

Assam, along with Nagaland and Tripura Chapters, participated in an exhibition with the North Eastern Council and Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region on 27th–31st October at India International Centre. It was a great exposure for many visitors who have not explored these States that are so different from their own.

There are many tourists going to overseas destinations, but few explore the lesser known but enchanting terrains of the northeastern parts of India. Thanks to our three active INTACH Convenors who organised this promotion. INTACH hopes many more will now venture to discover the enchantment of these regions referred to as the ‘seven sisters’.

Assam State Convenor Shiela Bora made a presentation on the prospects of Home Stay in developing Northeast tourist destinations by the Ministry of DONER and India Tourism. Tripura State Convenor Pragya Deb Burman organised a presentation on the history of the State, its people, literature, craft tradition and archaeological heritage. There was a display of archival photographs and contemporary heritage, craft traditions, textiles, and every day objects used by its people.

Convenor Nagaland Chapter Sentila T Yanger participated with an exhibition on *Unbroken Threads – Broadening Narratives*. Heirloom shawls and textiles of the Mizos, contemporary textiles and designer couture from the Northeastern region were on display.
**BIHAR**

The proposal to set up an INTACH Chapter at Champaran was pending since March. Since the nation is celebrating the centenary year of the Satyagraha Movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi, INTACH proposed heritage walks and other programmes at Betia, a town in West Champaran where the movement started. State Convenor Prem Sharan visited Champaran District, and subsequently Life Member Arun Srivastava organized a heritage walk to Gandhi Ashram in Bhithiawa District, joined by Justice AB Singh, Judge, Jharkhand High Court, among others. Awareness programmes and heritage walks were organised by Arun Srivastava at Bagha, Valmiki Nagar Tiger Reserve, Lauria Nandangarh, and West Champaran. Ajay Kumar Lal who is presently with the Ministry of Justice also participated. Bihar Co-Convenor Deepak Kumar Baxi along with several eminent persons of the town met in an interactive session and expressed their wish to join INTACH. Many participated in the walk to heritage sites of Bettiah and its Raj compound, Sagar Pokhra Shiv Mandir and to Lauria and Gandhi Ashram Bhitharwa.

INTACH Life Member Arun Srivastava, a native of Bettiah, is concerned about the conservation of cultural and natural heritage of the area. He is willing to take on this responsibility if the Chapter is opened at Champaran. The attention of State Convenor and Co-Convenor is drawn to the proposal which has the approval of INTACH Chairman.

**CHHATTISGARH**

**Mahasamund**

In celebrations of World Heritage Week a discussion on the district’s heritage was organized on 25th Nov. coordinated by Convenor Daulal Chandrakar and Co-Convenor Rajeshwar Khare at the local rest house. Vijay Sharma Komakhând discussed the various heritage places of Baghbahra Vikashkhand, and other places – Khallari, Bheemkhoj, Khemra, Bamhansara. Member Shashi Sharma decided to conduct a heritage walk for members at Suarmargarh to create heritage awareness among the villagers.

**DELHI**

**National Tourism Award**

On World Tourism Day, the Delhi Chapter received National Award for the ’Best Heritage Walks’ in the country by Ministry of Tourism. It was presented by Minister of Tourism KJ Alphons and Tourism Secretary Rashmi Verma, to Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle.

**Workshop on Conservation of Heritage Buildings, Shahjahanabad**

The Chapter organised a workshop, ‘Conservation of
Heritage Buildings in Shahjahanabad’ with the support of North Delhi Municipal Corporation during the last week of September. It invited owners and occupiers of traditional havelis in Old Delhi, encouraging them to repair, restore and reuse these traditional dwellings, some dating to the 18th century and accorded ‘heritage status’ by the Delhi Government.

Prof. Priyaleen Singh had done the survey of the area five years ago and identified almost 1000 buildings of heritage value. The principal speaker at this workshop PD IHA Navin Piplani highlighted the advantages of owning a heritage property, and Aishwarya Tipnis demystified the process of conserving a traditional haveli, and its importance.

There was a public discussion on the topic with Chairman LK Gupta, Convenor Dr. Swapna Liddle and Conservation Consultant AGK Menon. It elicited a great response from the audience attending this very successful event.

Shahjahanabad and the nearby areas.

In October, the walks were conducted within the walled city.

In November, the focus of the walks was interestingly on ‘How the dusk falls over Shahjahanabad’. There were visits to the Town Hall, Mirza Ghalib’s Haveli and to the sites of 1857 ‘war of independence’ at the North Ridge in Delhi.

Delhi Chapter’s publication ‘Conservation of Heritage Buildings in Shahjahanabad - A Manual for Home’ was published in English and Hindi, with the support of Shahjahanabad Redevelopment Corporation. It was presented to the owners of all listed, heritage buildings in Shahjahanabad at a workshop held by the North Delhi Municipal Corporation. Hopefully it will encourage the owners to consider transformation of their buildings into heritage assets for alternative usages and the area will have added commercial value at par with Lutyens Delhi.

HARYANA

Ambala

The Chapter joined hands with the Kharga Corps in presenting the Sound and Light Show: 2018 marking the 175th year of raising Ambala Cantonment in 1843. It was a nostalgic journey recounting the valour and legacy.
HIMACHAL PRADESH

Dharamshala

Devendra Singh is appointed as the Convenor of the Dharamshala Chapter, assisted by Co-Convenor Sangram Guleria. This is one more Chapter added to INTACH presence at important Buddhist locations. We wish both our appointees many good wishes for some pioneering work at this new Chapter.

Gurugram

The Chapter organised the 12th edition of their Gurugram Haat at the DLF Community Centre on 15th and 16th Dec. with free entrance. There were 50 stalls put up by artisans displaying their products for sale at non-commercial prices. M/s Spencers had snacks and refreshments including various bakery items on sale.

GOING BACK IN HISTORY . . . . TO VALUE ENVIRONMENT

How to conserve and value environment has become the most critical concern of the 21st century, says Haryana State Convenor Shikha Jain. She is a Member of Heritage Committees set up by the Ministries of Culture and Human Resource Development.

The State adopted the city’s new name from the Mahabharata era, when environment practices and reverence for nature was one of the core values of Dharma. As far back as 300 CE, both Chandragupta Maurya, and later Ashoka, were patrons of conservation. Chanakya’s Arthshastra of that time clearly defined a set of basic morals for nature and forest conservation, protection of animals and banning hunting. Even the Harshacharitra written in the 7th century emphasised on the acculturalisation of forests and green lands – and hunting certain species of wild animals was banned. Such ancient ethics began to falter during British times and has worsened in our own times of concrete jungles and millennium cities. Shikha Jain advises that we need to go back in history and learn how to conserve and value environment. One may well ask: Are we doing that at least in the handful of designated “smart cities” to begin with?

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Dharamshala

On 1st November, many INTACH Members along with Rotary Club Members and some KV-3 students of the Heritage Club spent time with patients in the Civil Hospital Ambala Cantt to share some good cheer and sweets. They gave ‘shagun’ to mothers of new born babies, and in particular to parents of baby girls who were congratulated with gifts. Most of them were from humble families and it was heart warming to see their smiles on the eve of Diwali. Members also met patients in wheel chairs and others undergoing various treatments, wishing them a happy Diwali with cards and gifts, as their faces brightened up. It was an enriching experience of sharing and caring.

Comforting patients at the Civil Hospital

of this centrally located army centre in North India. It attracted over two thousand spectators. Serving and ex-servicemen with their families, prominent citizens, local dignitaries, Ambala Divisional Commissioner and the Police Commissioner, Sirhind Club Members, and a number of school children attended the show steered by the GOC Lt. Gen. Alok Kher and his wife. Convenor Col. RD Singh reported that the event was a splendid inspiring show. The army band, horsemen and live effects dramatically sparked memories of 1857 Mutiny, viewed as India’s first ‘war of independence’. It was a time when both the army and the civilian population suffered unspeakable brutality of the British might.

Convenor Col. RD Singh recounted the heritage and history of Ambala and hopes to carry forward the nationalist spirit of this event that is an inspiration for children.

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JAMMU & KASHMIR

Jammu

Interactive Session with Weavers of Samba, Nov. 2018

In collaboration with Handloom Development Department, the Jammu Chapter organized an interactive session with the weavers of Samba District (J&K) for revival of handloom products. Chaired by Joint Director, Handloom Department Namrita Dogra and Assistant Director, Devia Nanda, Convenor SM Sahni with INTACH Members and civil society members participated. Various aspects of revival of handloom products, diversification as per market demand specially at pilgrimage centers like Katra–Vaishno Devi, Shiv Khori, Sukrala Mata, were discussed. The Joint Director assured participants that she will take up these issues with the authorities concerned. A visit to handmade paper unit of Gandhi Seva Sadan followed on 19th November.

World Heritage Week– November 2018

The Chapter organized a Demo-Presentation-Nukkad Natak on 18th November under the Swachh Bharat Swachh Paryatan Abhiyan at Katra. Members of hospitality sector, students, pilgrims and Katra host community participated in the program. The Ministry of Tourism proposes to organize such programs at pilgrim destinations to sensitize stakeholders in the tourism sector and visiting pilgrims about the opportunities in tourism. Chapter Convenor, President Hotel Association Katra, Faculty Members of Central University of Jammu, ITTM Gwalior and SHTM University of Jammu were the resource persons.
**Natural Heritage – Interactive Meet, 7th December**

Convenor S. M. Sahni spoke on the significance of natural heritage and the unique heritage of stone carvings and rejuvenation to maintain ecological balance and restore the heritage of Jammu. Chief Guest Sheetal Nanda emphasized the need to prioritise conservation issues and schemes beneficial to the rural community. Coordinator Prof. AK Raina, Environmental Expert

Dr. Deepika Slathia made a presentation on *Listing of Ponds, Baolis, Stepwells, Chapprais, Talabs of District Jammu* – a joint initiative of the Chapter and Department of Environmental Science.

Rehana Batul, in her concluding remarks, advised her Department to prepare a pilot project proposal based on traditional conservation measures to be replicated in different areas by the of Rural Development Department.

**Conservation work undertaken at: Shri Ranbir Higher Secondary School.**

Birmingham cast iron original grill on roof

Reused original grill

**Kashmir**

The Chapter Co-Convenor Habibullah Bhat reported the approval received for restoration of the historic *Oont Kadal* in the Dal Lake, supported by the Embassy of Federal Republic of Germany. A MOU to this effect has been signed by the two parties on 1st October at Delhi.

**Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts**

A five day workshop on Preventive Conservation of Manuscripts and Historic Books was held on 23rd–27th October at the SPS Museum. Various celebrated works on religion, philosophy, history, etc. like the *Nilamath Purana, Virath Katha, Rajatarangini* and *Chronicles of Kashmir* and the earlier Gilgit manuscripts dating to the pre-Islamic era of Kashmir were written mostly in Sharda or Sanskrit and occasionally in Pali, on birch barks which were the only writing material in Kashmir of those times.

The Workshop was held in collaboration with the Department of Archives, Archaeology and J&K Museums and the support of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for
the Arts (IGNCA), Delhi led by its HoD Conservation
Dr. Achal Pandya.

Oont Kadal is an important part of the public realm comprising the Dal Lake, the Zabarwan mountain range and the potential World Heritage Site of Nishat Bagh. It is in a deteriorated state and in a matter of a few years this historic structure would succumb to erosion and pilfering for building material - unless immediate action is taken. Majority of the Public has a sentimental connect with it, and are quite concerned about its rapid deterioration. Despite its present condition, tourists take a boat ride upto the Oont Kadal out of curiousity.

Oont Kadal has always been a part of the Mughal Gardens placed on the UNESCO tentative list of World Heritage Sites. It was an integral part of the Mughal landscape of historic gardens and hence part of the Outstanding Universal Values associated with the Nishat Bagh. A detailed conservation plan prepared by INTACH was sent to the German Embassy. The FRG Political Minister from the Mission visited the site. The formal agreement was signed by the German Ambassador.

This is not the first time that the German Embassy has extended this kind of financial support. Earlier, it had supported the restoration of paper mache ceilings at the Black Pavilion of the Mughal Shalimar Bagh in 2015. This location was specially chosen for signing the current agreement.

JHARKHAND

On World Tourism Day Tour it was a great experience for Jharkhand Chapter to participate in the celebrations with the District Administration and Kalamandir team held for school students at the Pramod Garden. A Quiz competition on local heritage, tourist sites, tribal rituals, cultural practices, etc. amidst the scenic beauty and lush green nature beautifully added to the atmosphere in the park, not to forget the songs of birds in the air. Chief Guest Deputy Commissioner Biswanath Maheshwar, Director NREP Ranjana Mishra and Director DRDA Uma Mahato were present for the prize distribution.

Co-Convenor Amitava Ghosh coordinated the programme, supported by Kalamandir Jamshedpur, jointly with DPO Ajay Kumar and DPRO Shreya Mishra. A string of performances like Natua and Nagpuri led by Gautam Gope from Kaladham, Bishwadev Mahato performing Manbhum Chau, Hanuman Chaliya presented by Shreya Mishra, and Santali songs led by Ram Chandra Manjhi enthralled the audience.

Ancestral Mud House

The renovation of the ancestral mud house of Guru Ramdas Majhi in the Karuakata village of the East Singhbhum District is being implemented by the Jharkhand Chapter to create a heritage tourism site. It is a showcase of
traditional knowledge and rural architecture of Santal Tribal Community. The project promises to rejuvenate and sustain interest in the cultural aspects of the area to attract tourists and revitalize the economy. Mud houses and construction of a Tribal Dance Arena with changing room for artisans is included in the project plan.

**Jamsedpur**

Amitava Ghosh is appointed the Convenor of Jamsedpur Chapter. We extend warm welcome to him with great expectations and wish him a very fruitful association with INTACH. We send many good wishes for your work and success.

**Ranchi**

Dr. DK Srivastava is appointed Convenor of the Ranchi Chapter. We extend all good wishes for a long and mutually enriching association with INTACH. A hearty welcome is extended to you from the INTACH family.

**Karnataka**

**Bagalkot**

M S Hiremath is appointed as the Co-Convenor of the Bagalkot Chapter. We send many good wishes for a long association with INTACH and success all the way in promotion of heritage conservation. And for the challenging work that you have undertaken. Welcome to the INTACH family!

**Bijapur**

Convenor Dr. Krishna Kolharkulkarni conducted an all day long workshop at the Dr. PG Halakatti Research Centre for 92 B.Ed. students from nine local colleges. It was inaugurated by Dr. MS Madbhavi, Secretary of the Research Centre by pouring water in a flower pot. A very original thought! He said this workshop is just a small part of INTACH efforts over the last 25 years to bring heritage and culture related subjects to public attention.

Dr. Sheelkant Pattar from Badami, resource person for the first session, stressed on the importance of Cultural Heritage Education in schools and colleges citing several examples that have encouraged greater students’ participation. Dr. Kolharkulkarni detailed the components of Indian culture on the basis of inscriptions and monuments. In the second session the focus was on Bijapur cultural history and heritage. A written questionnaire was circulated for assessing students feedback who declared the workshop as a resounding success.

On the occasion of World Heritage Week, in association with ASI, the Chapter conducted a tourist awareness campaign at Badami cave site. The main objective was to educate people on the “Dos and Dont’s” while visiting tourist places. All Chapter Members including Convenor, Co-Convenor and ASI staff attended the programme.

**Mangaluru**

Nemiraja K Shetty is appointed Co-Convenor of the Mangaluru Chapter which is known for its many interesting programmes. INTACH has great expectations that this will be continued and enhance during his tenure. Good luck and our good wishes are always with you. Welcome to the INTACH family!
**CONDOLENCES**

The Chapter Members greatly miss the absence of senior Life Member Shri Prakash Sarvotham Shetty who passed away on 3rd September. He had a long and distinguished career that commenced as Professor and Chairman, Dept. of Physiology, St. John’s Medical College, Bengaluru and other senior academic posts held during 1981-1993. Thereafter he went to London as Professor of Human Nutrition and Head of Public Health Nutrition unit. Later he joined the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine followed by a stint with FAO in Rome. He had many other important assignments in his field of work that were recognized with awards. He was elected Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, London in 2006 and served as Consultant to WHO, FAO and other UN organizations for each of which he received many honours.

“PS” as he was known to his close circle of friends, was a fighter till the end. An erudite scholar with a large heart, his unassuming ways and lucidity of expression were greatly admired by all. He greatly contributed to INTACH Chapter till he succumbed to a recurring cancer. He will be greatly missed by all. INTACH joins Chapter Members in belatedly condoling his passing away. We sincerely hope his life and work will be an inspiration to his fellow INTACH Members. We send many good wishes to his family members for their future.

**KERALA**

**Calicut**

The Calicut Regional Chapter organized a Heritage Tour to the ancient port city of Ponnani on the Malabar Coast. It is a *bund* situated at the estuary of the Bharatappuzha (River Ponnani) by the Arabian Sea on the west coast with a series of brackish lagoons in the south. The Colonial era *Conolly Canal* bisects Ponnani town. During the months of February-March a large number of migratory birds flock at the Ponnani beaches. The local *Jum'ah Masjid* was built in the 16th century and is known as the *Little Mecca*; it is now a prominent centre of Islamic learning at Malabar. The town is often described as the ‘Land of 231/2 Mosques’ and at present there are only 50 mosques. The city of Ponnani also provided ideological support in battling the Estado da India.

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**THE PULSE OF CALICUT**

Former INTACH Convenor K. Mohan has shared his intimate knowledge of the city’s geography in a book titled *The Pulse of Calicut*. It encapsulates the trajectory of the city’s evolution and developments during the eventful years 1935-1975, its topography and the people of Calicut. A hand bound copy was forwarded to Chairman, and efforts are being made to approach English and Malyalee publishers. It is an interesting book for general readers and equally a guide book for discerning tourists. The Calicut Regional Chapter now headed by Convenor Jaiprakash Raghaviah will no doubt try to get the manuscript published.

Once upon a time the port of Calicut offered a safe haven to traders. Arab dhows, Chinese tradesmen in palanquins carried by four people, and elephants loading timber were a common sight. Today more than thirty migrant communities including Gujaratis, Anglo-Indians and others are an integral part of the local population. The Dutch, French, British and Zoroastrians have left relics of their past presence in this town. It became a part of Kerala State only in 1956. Today the city is growing with malls and hotels - the way of other resurgent cities – but the writer claims that its people have remained true and honest and welcoming.
**Kasargod**

The Chapter conducted a hectic series of events through the month of November - almost like a relief from the tragic events that flooded so many regions of the State and took a heavy toll.

World Heritage Week 19th-25th celebrations were centred at the *International Centre for Folklore and Culture*. A Heritage Walk was flagged on 22nd November from the recently INTACH renovated *Old Police Station* at Payyannur.

![Renovated Police Station](image)

**International Heritage, Week**

The Kasargod Chapter in association with *Folk Land*, and *Dorf Ketal* jointly celebrated the International Heritage week with programs including demonstrations to convey the aesthetics of *Kathakali* to school children, leather puppetry (*Tolpavakoottu*), lecture demonstration on performing arts by NIFT students, making *Nettipattam* design (elephant forehead decoration design) etc.

A Heritage Walk was held from old Police station to *Sree Narayana Vidyalayam* founded by Swami Ananda Tirtha who spent his life opposing untouchability. Mahatma Gandhi visited this Ashram and planted a Mango tree in 1932.

Payyanur Police Station, a heritage station constructed in 1910, has witnessed several historic struggles like *Salt Satyagraha* and *Quit India* strike. The building was protected by INTACH and has pressured the Government to declare it as a protected monument. The Heritage Walk was led by Convener, Dr. V Jayarajan, President, Payyanur Paurasamithi, KV Sasidharan Nambari, EP Balakrishnan, PM Balakrishnan, Narayani Nambari, Manju Mohan, and Saralakrishnan. Students of Sreenarayana Vidyalayam welcomed the heritage walkers with a shower of flowers laid at *Swami Ananda Tirtha Samadhi*. The visiting party did the ceremonies.
A meeting was held under the heritage mango tree, presided by Dr. V Jayarajan. EP Balakrishnan, AKP Narayanan, Rugmini KG Sreelatha Madhu, Achuthan Puthalath, and R Chanradas spoke on the occasion.

**The Kochi–Muziris Biennale (KMB)**

This is a prestigious international exhibition and was the first Biennale held in India in 2012. The Kochi–Muziris Biennale was an initiative of the Kochi-Biennale Foundation with support from the Government of Kerala. The exhibition along with other official collateral events was held across Kochi, Muziris and surrounding islands. The exhibits are displayed in existing galleries and halls, and site-specific installations in public spaces, heritage buildings and structures not in use.

**MADHYA PRADESH**

**Bhopal**

A wealth of architectural beauty, art and history of early Buddhist history lay buried for centuries in Sanchi till 1818 when Gen. Taylor first wrote about them. Later Sir John Marshall at the Archaeological Survey of India and Alfred Foucher launched an excavation for a detailed study of the site for 8 years and revealed for the first time a wealth of architectural beauty, art and history of the early Buddhist period. They documented them and wrote three volumes on The Monuments of Sanchi. It is the heaviest single book to be published on Indian monuments, an unparalleled work on Sanchi to date. Its stupas and monuments are now recognised as a World Heritage Site. The Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies has brought out this book with many undiscovered facets of these monuments that need further in depth studies by scholars.

Bhopal Convenor Madan Mohan Upadhyay thanked the Vice Chancellor of Sanchi University Dr. Yajneshwar Shastri and the Registrar Rajesh Gupta for facilitating the publication of this book.

Chapter Members met on 17th November at Hotel Palash Residency with Co-Convenor Dr. OP Mishra. The proposed International Conference of Culture 21 on nine disciplines is proposed to be held at Lake View. The Cultural Department, IGNCA, Sanchi University, AIGGPA, Ministry of Tourism and Culture are some of the likely partners of INTACH for this conference.

A number of proposals like a conference of stake holders, conservation of Char Bagh area, the Baoli near Islam Nagar, Bag Farhat Afza, Teen Mohare Key Stone and the second gate Dakhil Darwaza, etc. were discussed. A Conference of Stakeholders involving people in related fields like history, culture, handicrafts, museums, coins, stamps, wildlife and local colleges of architecture was also proposed.

**Burhanpur**

The Chapter and India Heritage Walk jointly organized the India With Local heritage walk at the closing ceremony of Paryattan Parv on 7th October. They discussed heritage, traditional pilgrimages and eco tourism promoted earlier.

Convenor Hoshang Havaldar elaborated Burhanpur heritage. He was honoured as MPTB Bhopal along with Dhanshayam Maalviya and Kamruheen Falak as ‘Walk Leaders’.

On 18th November INTACH Members discussed details of World Heritage Day celebrations the following day with
focus on *My City My Heritage*. It was attended by foreign guests.

**Datia**

During World Heritage Week the walk *Virasat Gram Darsha* was held for students of Ravishankar School Datia and S M Vishwavidyalaya Gurjara. They visited the world famous Gurjara inscriptions with Jagdish Khichi from ASI explaining the importance of the inscriptions. Gurjara History Literateur and Convenor Vinod Mishra said that this is the only inscription of King Ashok which carries his name. A traditional dinner was organized in conclusion with thanksgiving by writer Mahesh Sharma.

The Annual General Body Meeting was presided by the Divisional Commissioner. Attention of the local authorities was drawn to the fast decaying of the Reformatory School built by Henry Sleeman in 1837 in connection with the Suppression of Thugee. An important resolution on INTACH expertise in conservation, preservation and development of geological and architectural heritage was passed with specific reference to conservation of Madan Mahal Hills of Jabalpur as per the judgement of the Madhya Pradesh High Court of September 2018. The local authorities assured that appropriate action would be taken shortly.

**Dhar**

The Chapter celebrated *World Heritage Week* with a heritage walk *Kartikeya Exhibition* held by the Archaeological Department and Heritage Club students at a local fort. The week ended with a singing program on *Deepawali* by Members. Convenor Deependra Sharma said film songs are not only for entertainment. They can be fine expressions of spirituality, culture and human sensibilities. He said that INTACH also appreciates such values. The young singers greatly contributed to make the program a great success conducted by Jagdish Boralia. A traditional dinner was organized in conclusion with thanksgiving by writer Mahesh Sharma.

**Maihar-Satna**

A new INTACH Chapter was inaugurated at Maihar-Satna in November with Ambica Beri appointed as Chapter Convenor. She will be assisted by Co-Convenor Jayant Jain. We extend a warm welcome to them from the INTACH family and all our good wishes for success in executing the responsibilities they have accepted in the cause of heritage conservation. We also wish them an enjoyable tenure with INTACH, and every success along the way.

The mapping project of documenting the tangible and intangible heritage of Maihar to Panna region has commenced. Experts from Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi who are assisting in this endeavour have completed a considerable amount of research, and a valuable documentation is under progress. A budget of Rs. 9 lacs has been sanctioned for this project which is due.
to be completed in a short span of 8-9 months.

The Chapter had a well attended and fruitful meeting in October when a decision was taken to commence restoration of two very old baolis (stepwells) at the foot of the Sharda Devi Temple. One of them has a stairwell leading to the top structure. Surprisingly it has water throughout the year. Unfortunately it is not in a good condition mostly due to encroachment. Immediate action needs to be launched for its conservation. Baolis are not built any more; the few that have survived the turbulence of times need to be protected as best as can be done by INTACH.

Mandla

Ramesh Chandra Pathak is appointed Convenor of the Mandla Chapter. He will be assisted by Arun Kumar Agrawal as Co-Convenor. INTACH extends a hearty welcome to both and a fruitful time in their new assignments. They can always count on INTACH support for heritage conservation work. We send our best wishes for success to you both.

MAHARASHTRA

Chandrapur

Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur, a noted history researcher, gave a talk on 1st October under the auspices of the History Study Circle of Anand Niketan College, Warora in Chandrapur District. He spoke on various historical monuments, memorials, temples, caves, dolmens, menhirs and other historical places linked to Chandrapur history with a power point presentation. There are a series of sandstone pillars alongside the road in the jungles of Tadoba. Different stories are told by guides that created several myths and misconceptions! Convenor studied the 35 pillars and came to the conclusion that the pillars were erected by the British as direction indicators in the dense jungle of Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve. At that time British officers had to regularly report to the Nagpur Residency. These markers must have helped to map their way to Chimur which was the official route and they had to travel for days at a stretch. The markers were specially necessary during the rainy season as the Irai River and nallabs near Warora and Butibori would overflow. The U shaped stones placed on top of pillars must have been erected to indicate the correct direction to follow.

Chandrapur Foundation Day on 2nd October brought students and teachers of the Hindi City Higher Secondary School together for a Cleanliness Drive led by Co-Convenor Pravin Nikhare, with several teachers making a great effort for organisation of this one day effective campaign.

On 19th Nov. students of local Hindi City Higher Sec. School and City Madhyamic Vidyalaya, Babupet were
taken to a photo exhibition on World Heritage Sites of the Asia and Pacific Region.

At Veershab’s Grave Yard premises organized by ASI, Nagpur, 20th November

Under the guidance of Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur, and some senior Members, a heritage visit was organized to the Gond king’s Veershab Tomb near Anchleshwar gate for students and teachers of the local Hindi City Higher School. Co-Convenor Nikhare and senior Member A N Pillawar acquainted the students with the glorious history of Gond kings and queens. On Nov. 21st a visit to the historic Tadoba Pillar at the national park was held for students accompanied by 20 school teachers on the third day of Heritage Week. The pillar was erected by the British in the 19th Century as a direction indicator in the dense forest of Tadoba. Information leaflets were distributed to the teachers.

The Maharashtra Government has appointed Convenor Ashok Singh Thakur as Chandrapur Jilla Gazeteer. Congratulations! It is an honour to be recognised for both knowledge and hard work.

Nagpur

Madhura Rathod is appointed Co-Convenor of the Nagpur Chapter. We send many good wishes for a fruitful association with INTACH and every success in the challenging assignments you will be taking up in one of Maharashtra’s well known cities.

Nashik

Girish S’Take is appointed Convenor of the Nashik Chapter. INTACH welcomes you with many good wishes for a long and happy association with us and many successes on the way.

Pune

INTACH welcomes Jui J Tawde as Co-Convenor of Pune Chapter. She will be assisted by Additional Co-Convenor Supriya Goturkar who has been a member of the Pune Chapter and was associated with its numerous activities. We wish you both every success in sustaining the excellent work that has been undertaken by the Chapter. It makes your work more challenging to sustain the record to date. Our good wishes are always with you both.

PUNE PATRIKA

The Chapter’s newsletter Pune Patrika poses an interesting question “What lies beyond the functionality of the entrance?” The answer will always make one look at every doorway and trigger a riot of thoughts! These entrances at Pune not only separate the exterior from the interior but they bear marks like a constant reminder of what they’ve endured. The doors and windows seem to have been in conversation with visitors ever since their construction; they are reminiscent of a rich cultural history, and stand witness to the changes in time. Perhaps INTACH readers will hence forward look at all doorways of our countless heritage monuments and stop to ponder about their history and the people who must have passed through them! The Chapter is currently working on a photo-lithography. The last Patrika also featured the report of Henry Cousens who lived in “Poona” (now Pune) in the 1890s. Editor Dr. Chetan Sahasrabudhe says Henry Cousens exemplified a breed of colonial explorers who literally ‘discovered’ some of India’s architectural doors. Buit he denigrated some “indecent sculptures” that did not meet his aesthetic judgement. Though they are among the great tourist attractions in our times!

Vedh : Retrospection: ‘Story of our traditional water systems’, 27th October

As a part of the ongoing monthly series of ‘Vedh: Retrospection’ jointly with the Maharaja Shivachhatrapati Pratishthan Pune, Prof. Vijay Paranjpye gave a talk on ‘आपल्या पानपर्यंतपर्यंत’ - story of the traditional water systems’ on 27th October at Sarkar Wada, Shivarsrushi Heritage Park, Pune. The presentation was an overview of cultural and hydrological perceptions of rivers and water systems through stories of rivers from source to the mouth, the rich world of water systems was revealed as
seen through a traditional prism.

'Timeless Splendours of India – Our Regal Heritage' 17th November

As part of Chapter’s ongoing series of Warsaa Walks and Workshops, an audio visual lecture on Royal Palaces of India – Timeless Splendours of India – Our Regal Heritage was conducted by Mrinalini Sane and Swanand Arole at Zaga Studio Space. India is blessed with a rich collection of palaces of many eras and cultural influences. To appreciate the romance and history of these palaces takes a truly passionate and astute lover of the subject.

Vedh Retrospection: Waarsa Shivakathanacha held on 24 November at Sarkar Wada, Shivasrushti Heritage Park

Digpa Lanjekar, a well-known writer and Director of films and dramas like, Farzand, Challenge, He Mrutunjay, gave a talk on Waarsa Shivakathanacha. The session was a retrospective narrative of Shivacharitra through old cinemas and dramas. It was an appreciation of historic films of eminent directors like Bhalji Pendharkar and books by authors like Go Ni Dandekar through the speaker’s sensitive interpretation.

Workshop on Conservation by Laser – 20th October at Mahendra M Nanavati Institute of Laser Technology and Applications

As part of Warsaa Walks and Workshops, the Chapter conducted a session on Conservation by Laser in association with Nanavati Institute of Laser Technology. The idea of using laser cleaning for the removal of encrustation on surface of artifacts dates back to the 70s. Thanks to the studies conducted in the last few years laser systems have developed, laser cleaning has become routine in conservation. A presentation and demonstration of Laser Technology for Heritage Conservation and Artefacts was conducted for participants who were encouraged to bring their own artefacts for the demonstration of the cleaning process.

Talk on Sacred Groves: a Treasure Trove at Zaga, Pune

As another part of Warsaa program, the Chapter organised a talk on Sacred Groves: A Treasure Trove by Mukul Mahabaleshwarkar. It took the audience through the lush green forests that have been conserved traditionally by local communities. Dedicated to primitive deities, these groves are treasures of biodiversity. Replete with natural and cultural wonders once, their survival is threatened and calls for attention today.

Pt. Ravi Shankar – Tradition and Innovation in Hindustani Music at Sarkar Wada at Shivasrushti

This session of Vedh Retrospection was conducted by Chaitanya Kunte, renowned musicologist, harmonium player and composer. His talk focussed on Pt. Ravi Shankar’s beautiful renditions on Sitar, unique style of presentation at concerts, music experiments of fusion with other renowned international musicians. Innovating while following traditions was a speciality of his music. He explained how traditional classical music can evolve through different experiments.
Heritage walks were conducted for citizen groups and exchange programme students from Vikhe Patil School, Pune; students from Thakur college of Architecture, CTES College, Mumbai and family guests visiting from abroad.

Warsaa, Heritage Shop outlet at Pune that promotes heritage arts and crafts participated in the Yellow Ribbon Fair 6-8 Oct. and at the Tech Mahindra’s pre-Diwali fair on 23rd Oct. Products like traditional fabrics and Pune’s copper craft were displayed at these fairs.

Mukul Mahableshwarkar represented the Pune Chapter at the International Biodiversity Congress, Dehradun on 4th–6th Oct. and presented his work on Sacred Groves, their importance and their conservation. His paper titled Need for Integrated Strategies for Conservation and Management of Sacred Groves, gave an overview of Pune District, Maharashtra.

Solapur

Save NG Mill Campaign

Solapur Chapter has continuously campaigned for conservation and restoration of N G Mill buildings since 2016. After reports of handing over the Mill land to Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority, the Chapter made a representation to Minister of Co-operation, Marketing and Textiles Shubhas Deshmukh as the precinct is listed as Grade-I Heritage Building. The Chapter has suggested that the buildings should be reserved as heritage site. Structures can be developed as Exhibition cum Convention Center/ Boutique Hotels etc. and would spur the development of Solapur as a Smart City.

The Chapter conducted a Press Conference on 10th October to highlight this to the media and the general public. It started a ‘Save NG Mill Signature Campaign’, and produced three short films on the importance of conserving N G Mill, supported by Convenor Seemantini Chaphalkar along with Mallabadkar and Sheikh - two persons who have worked in the Mill.

Rotary Club North Presentation

On 12th October, Co-Convenor Shveta Kothavale made a presentation on ‘Role of Youth in Preservation and Conservation of Heritage’ to students of National Service Scheme at DAV College organized by the President of Rotary Club of Solapur North, Rtn. Vandana Kopkar. More than 120 students attended and some evinced interest in volunteering with INTACH. Co-Convenor Pushpanjali Katikar with many Rotarians, Professors and Teachers were present.
**Heritage Committee**

After continuous follow up with the Solapur Municipal Corporation, the Heritage Committee started the process of identifying names of experts on the Committee. The Chapter had filed a PIL for establishment of the *Heritage Committee* which was ruled in its favour by the Mumbai High Court with directions given to accelerate the process.

**Solapur Fest**

The Chapter participated in *Solapur Fest* in Pune held from 16th- 18th November to showcase the city’s culture and specialties, especially products ingeniously produced in Solapur.

**Heritage Walk, 23rd November**

During *Heritage Week* celebrations, the Chapter organized a *Mandir- Math-Wada Heritage Walk* on 23rd November which also happened to be *Guru Nanak Jayanti* and *Tripurari Purnima*. The walk covered *Shri Mallikarjun Mandir, Rudrambika Devi Punyashram- Awwaru Mutt, Thobade Wada, Hotgi Bruhanmutt and Mengane Wada*. The participants gathered in large numbers and learned about the history, architectural characters, building materials and various stories and events associated with these sites. The Chapter felicitated senior historian and expert on stone inscriptions of Solapur District, Anand Kumbhar in recognition of his immense contribution to research and understanding of Solapur history.

Shveta S Kothavale addressed the gathering on the history and development of temples of India. The talk was meant to understand how one should view them.

The first temple to be visited was *Mallikarjun Mandir* where apart from the unique features of the temple, participants evinced interest in the tunnel connecting the temple to *Thobade Wada*. They walked to *Awwaru Math* and apart from its serene structure the group appreciated the range of paintings on the walls of the *Math*. Seemantini Chaphalkar brought to notice the British influence on the architecture of the *Math*.

The group visited *Thobade Wada*. The grand Peshwa architecture, the fountain and garden, chandeliers, swords, painting by Shedjale, wood work, bronze antiquities, store rooms and the story of how the Thobades built the *Mallikarjuna Temple* left the participants in awe of the times gone by.

The walk led to *Hotgi Math* where the main teachings and practices of *Veerashaivas* and the architecture of the structure were discussed.
The last stop on the walk was Mengane Wada built in 1942. One of the locals Mengane shared that the wada houses 30 members of the family, and the extended family comes also together during festivals and celebrations. The family enjoys living in the wada even in these modern times and were happy to get photographed with the walkers.

The Chapter arranged a Heritage Walk to Kotnis Memorial on the eve of Smruti Din of Dr. Kotnis on 9th December. It helped the walkers to understand and appreciate the life and noble work of Dr. Dwarkanath Kotnis. Convenor Seemantini Chaphalkar gave a small introduction on restoring the residence of Dr. Kotnis as a Memorial. Member Purushottam Wagga took charge of photography.

Dr. Nulkar talked about the life and humanitarian work of Dr. Kotnis. Solapur Municipal Corporation inaugurated a website dedicated to Dr. Kotnis on the occasion. Many of the participants had come to the memorial for the first time and were impressed by Dr. Kotnis’s selfless work in China and values that were dear to him.

MEGHALAYA

Madeline Yvonne Tham is appointed as Convenor of the Meghalaya State Chapter. The North – East is a great destination that needs to be promoted aggressively and its many attractions brought to the attention of people. Greater tourism promotion is required on priority. We wish our Convenor every success in this challenging assignment with focus on conserving the vast intangible heritage of the State. INTACH sends its best wishes for your success.

ODISHA

Balangir

INTACH added a new Chapter at Balangir located at Sarojinee Residency, with Dr. SP Nanda appointed as the Convenor. It was inaugurated by Chairman LK Gupta who administered the Heritage Oath to all new Members of the Chapter, and distributed ID cards and INTACH kit presided by Convenor Dr. SP Nanda. State Convenor AB
Tripathy and Members of the State Advisory Committee A Mahapatra and DK Mishra addressed the gathering. Chairman shared his views on INTACH aspirations and goals, and interacted with the new Members and team from Sambalpur Chapter over a tea break. Prof. MS Pati is the newly appointed Advisor to the Balangir Chapter. Co-Convenor Dr. SK Ratha gave the vote of thanks.

We wish our newly appointed Convenor Dr. SP Nanda every success and welcome aboard INTACH

Bhadrad

The Chapter held a State Seminar on the British Occupation of Odisha: War of Independence. The coastal districts of Odisha were the last independent bastions to pass into British hands in 1803, but the very next year the Paikas (peasant militia) rose in revolt known as the Khurda Rising-1804, the first daring movement against British East India Company. It culminated in a full fledged war that lasted 21 days, the hero of which was Jayakrushna Mohapatra who came to be popularly known as Shabeed Jayee Raiguru. His life is a saga of selfless sacrifice and unflinching courage and patriotism followed by his brutal execution by the British three years later. His contribution to the social, religious and political life of the State has made him an inspiring personage but rarely covered in history textbooks.

A Seminar was inaugurated by State Convenor AB Tripathy at D. R. D. A. on 11th November presided by Prof. Sanatan Mohanty. Convenor Digamber Mohanty emphasised the need to reconstruct Odisha’s vital link to freedom struggle. Chancellor of Rajendra Prasad Agricultural University Dr. Prafulla Kumar also spoke on reconstructing the History of Odisha. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Soma Chaand, Head of History Department, Urkal University. Co-Convenors SM Farooque and Pravakar Mallik were congratulated for this well attended conference.

The conference recommended the introduction of Paik
Revolt in school syllabus, a special chair to be created at a University level and renaming Malatipatpur railway station as Jayee Rajguru Railway Station.

**Bhubaneswar**

Bhubaneswar Chapter organised a Seminar on Gandhiji on the occasion of 150th Gandhi Jayanti, 2nd October.

Odisha Chapter has been working tirelessly for the preservation and conservation of both tangible and intangible heritage of the State. Chapter Foundation Day was observed at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan. State Convenor AB Tripathy and senior Member Ananta Mohapatra shared their views on heritage related works.

Prof. Ishan Ku. Patro, VC, Ravenshaw University and Dash Benhur spoke on Gandhiji’s contribution to Humanity - A common man’s view. While Prof. Patro highlighted the relevance of Gandhi today and urged people to read Gandhiji extensively, former Odisha Finance Minister Panchanan Kanungo and writer Dash Benhur touched the human aspects of Gandhiji, while Dr. Sangram Jena spoke on Odisha’s influence on Gandhiji and P Kanungo, narrated Gandhi’s understanding of the self respect of Odiya people. Dr. Sangram Jena quoted many incidents which influenced Gandhi and made him a very good friend of Odisha. Gandhi experimented the Charkha movement in Odisha. Freedom fighter Bhavani Charan Pattanayak was felicitated with a shawl and a citation, and advised the younger generation to follow Gandhiji’s teachings for a better society.

Convenor Baikuntha Panigrahi moderated the talks and Co-Convenor Biranchi Mishra offered the Vote of Thanks.

A meeting of the Chapter was held at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on 26th October with Bijaya Kumar Swain, as the chief guest. He spoke on the Kalinga Heritage and has authored a book with the same title. The history and chronological development along with heritage of the State was elaborately explained by him.

A Seminar on Gandhiji and Foundation Day programme of the Chapter on 27th Dec was addressed by the Vice-Chancellor Ravenshaw University. Prof. Ishan Kumar Patro, poet, writer and thinker Dash Benhur, researcher and writer Sangram Jena, former Minister Dr. Panchanan Kanungo, former MP and freedom fighter Padmashri Bhabani Charan Pattanayak were felicitated by the Chapter.

The Newsletter of Bhubaneswar Chapter “Aitihya” for the quarter July-September was released by Sri Nihar Ranjan Hota and State Convenor AB Tripathy during the meeting on Kalinga Heritage.

**Ganjam**

Chairman visited the Ganjam Chapter on 8th October along with Odisha Convenor AB Tripathy and State Advisor Anant Mahapatra. Convenor Dr. Sudhansu Patil and the Co-Convenor Sushil Kumar Padhi attended the
The Chapter marked the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 2nd October with INTACH Members and other invitees.

**Jaipur**

World Tourism Day was observed at the Biraja Women’s College, with senior Member Prafulla Chandra Samal presiding the meeting. Former Principal of Pranakrishna Mahavidyala was the Chief Guest, with Principal of the Biraja Women’s College Dr. Akhila Mohana Padhi as the honourable guest. Prof. Udayanarayan Parida and Dr. Subhadra Misra introduced the guests. Convenor Prof. Balaram Mohanty delivered the welcome address. Most of the special guests spoke on the importance of tourism in present day world and discussed at length with reference to modern trends. More than a 100 people attended from the Senior Citizen’s Forum, the Rotary Club and the Akhila Chakra Sahitya Samsada apart from students and staff of the college. Co-Convenor Binoda Chandra Nayak gave the vote of thanks in conclusion.

The Chapter took an active part in the rally from Jagannath Temple to the Sanskrit Bhawan on the occasion—the 99th year of the daily newspaper *The Samaja* was established by Utkalamani Gopabandhu Das. Convenor Prof. Balaram Mohanty discussed the role of the down trodden, social reform and other related subjects. The contributions of Utkalamani Das for the unification of Odisha and the freedom movement were lauded.

**Mayurbhanj**

World Tourism Day

The Chapter marked the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 2nd October with INTACH Members and other invitees.
staff. Convenor Major Dr. Mohit Kumar Sarangi, Kobalya Prasad Mohapatra and Jatindra Nath Basu addressed the students on various topics like *What is Tourism* and how it benefits the common man and societies.

The students presented a very charming Adivasi dance on the theme *One Child One Tree*. There was an elocution competition with prizes awarded to them.

The Chapter observed the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi with more than 250 students and staff of the Sai Vidya Mandir of Baripada. An elocution competition was held at the school on two subjects that were dear to him – Truth and Non-Violence in order to make students aware of the ideals of Father of the Nation, his contribution and sacrifices for the freedom of India.

**PUNJAB**

**Chandigarh**

The Chapter along with the Legal Services Authority of Chandigarh organized a musical evening at the Senior Citizen’s Home at Sector 43 of the city. Justice Mahesh Grover, Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court was the Chief Guest. It was attended by not only residents of the Old Home but many elite citizens of Chandigarh. Other participants were senior bureaucrats and Police Officers. It was a special and delightful evening for all present.

**Jalandhar**

Convenor, and INTACH Member of the Governing Council, Major General Balwinder Singh drew attention to an impending water crisis ahead in the critical years to come. Nearly 300 students from Jalandhar participated in the all India *My Water Heritage* Competition launched by INTACH to save an important natural heritage asset.
without which man would perish. Special attention was drawn to wastage of a precious resource through leaking taps, overflowing tanks, lack of ground recharging and unabated wastage and lack of meters. He requested the local Administration to launch an aggressive campaign among farmers and rural areas, for cleaning ponds and build recharging facilities. He felt there should be free consultancy at all times in rural areas. The children enthusiastically participated in this programme.

**RAJASTHAN**

**Baran**

Shri Jagdish Sharma is appointed Convenor of the Baran Chapter. He will be supported by Dr. Manoj Kumar Sharma, also newly appointed as Co-Convenor of the Chapter. INTACH extends a warm welcome to you both with many good wishes that you will fulfil the great expectations of a new team in enhancing our heritage mission in Rajasthan, the premier tourist State for tourism. Good luck and all our good wishes are with you.

**Jaipur**

Special lecture sessions were held by Almitra Patel who spoke on construction sites and demolition of waste in India. Dr. Anjali Krishna described the global scenario in waste management. Two students of architecture presented papers about floral waste and waste management in a naturopathy centre.

Life Member Kulbir Singh considers the 1809 Phillaur Fort near Ludhiana on the banks of the Sutlej as the “symbol of potent heritage” of Punjab. It was built by Maharaja Ranjit Singh who ruled over a powerful Sikh empire from 1799-1839. It has flown the flags of Mughals, Rajputs, Sikhs and British empires down centuries since its origin goes back to the 15th century. The architectural style of the gateways of the sarai indicate their construction during the period of Shah Jehan’s reign from 1628-1658. Later Ranjit Singh considered Phillaur as the frontier town of his empire but after the battle of Aliwal in 1846 the Fort was controlled by the British. At present it houses the Punjab Police Academy.

**Malerkotla**

INTACH extends a warm welcome to newly appointed Sabir Ali Zobairi as Co-Convenor of the Malerkotla Chapter. This will enhance the Chapter activities as he will be a great support for all Members. Our many good wishes are sent for his long, successful and happy association with INTACH. Welcome to the INTACH family!

On the following day Dr. Vivekanand from Malviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur delivered a lecture on Waste Management in *International Conference on Waste Management*. Prof. Mohd. Firoz Anwar from the Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi lectured on *Bio Medical Waste*. There were many research scholars, NGO and industry
representatives who participated in the conference with some presenting their papers on the subject that is increasingly a health hazard.

**WORLD HERITAGE STATUS FOR JAIPUR ?**

The walled city of Jaipur richly deserves the World Heritage Status. *Its beautiful heritage sites and world class museums along with its rich heritage and culture bespeak a unified tone to ensure its entry into the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites*, said Chairman LK Gupta in his interaction with Business Insider. In 2015, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) submitted its proposal to UNESCO. It continues to remain on UNESCO’s tentative list and a UNESCO team visited the city in September. Meanwhile Ahmedabad became India’s first World Heritage City.

On its part, INTACH is working earnestly for the protection of natural heritage, geo-heritage, water bodies, stepwells, groves, wall paintings as well as its rock paintings. INTACH is also mapping the natural heritage in Thar Desert area that needs to be preserved as a ‘hot spot’ and not greened for meteorological reasons. Chairman INTACH is of the view that heritage buildings should be converted into economic assets so that proper maintenance is ensured.

**Jhalawar**

Convenor Rajyapal Sharma shared some fascinating pictures of different ancient games carved on stone in stepwells of Reechchwa village in Jhalawar district. One wonders if anyone knows today how they are played?

A Heritage Walk was organized on World Tourism Day in association with the Tourism Department and the District Administration. INTACH Members were accompanied by 50 students along with teachers from the Girls’ Government Sr. Secondary School on the visit to the 14th century Daljanpur near Chhapi Dame. It was widely covered by the local Press as several media persons also accompanied the group.

**Kota**

Thakur Ranvir Singh forwarded a write up on Kota sarees by Sheffali Pathak titled *The Whispering Willow*. There is a little village of Kaithoon 12 kms from Kota with a group of some “fairy elves weaving away, with love and care the beautiful fine meshes of cloth” what are known as the Kota sarees on simple antiquated 15x5x8 wooden frames. They also make a finer variety of Kotas using cotton and silk threads in the ratio of 85:15 known as the Musooria (Dorai). There are even Sarees woven in counts of 300, 350 or even 400 - the finer the count the more beautiful and more expensive becomes the saree. True Zari sarees are also woven with rich golden or silver threads requiring greater skill and even become heirlooms. The more expensive sarees are printed in beautiful designs using
colour pigments dissolved in an organic solvent together with colour fixers using wooden blocks. The sarees that have been printed use Rapid Indigo and are washed in a water solution containing 20 grams of sulphur and dried in the sun for 2-3 days to make the colours permanent, then pressed and polished in a traditional way by a process called Charakk. The work done is labour intensive and highly skilled but the poor weavers earns only Rs. 100 per day for all this hard work! The craft has survived entirely due to some women’s organizations that are constantly patronizing and helping to revive this traditional art.

On the other hand a plethora of cheaper machine made Kota sarees from power looms located in and around villages in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and elsewhere flood the market, and are patronized for their light weight as ideal summer wear. The demand for the pure Kota has been hit by synthetic and imported fabrics.

Shefali Pathak’s note ends with a sigh when she quotes “In this restless race of machine and man a flame lingers, a heart wonders at the human hand”.

**Pali**

The Chapter held a heritage walk *Apne Dharohar Ko Jano* on *World Tourism Day* to discover the Kumbhalgarh Fort located in Rajasmand District. 56 students with 16 teachers of Rajkiya Sr. Sec. School Chirpatia participated in the event. The walk was flagged off from the premises of the school passing by Desuri-ki-Nal. Enroute they saw the Naag Devata Temple and its surrounding areas. Students and teachers were informed that many palaces, temples and residential buildings were constructed inside the Fort. It was the birth place of Rana Pratap, and where Prithviraj and Rana Sanga spent their childhood. They learned its history and role of a saint and Rana Kumbha in the construction of the fort, from the Fort administrator Chauhan.

**Udaipur**

Life Member Dr. Peeyush Bhadwiya attended the *Capacity Building Workshop* organized on 21st-24th October at INTACH, New Delhi.

A day long conglomeration of events was held at Goenka International School under the joint auspices of Udaipur Chapter and *Udaipur Times* on 27th October. Over 650 students from 16 schools showcased their talents and accomplishments.

Dr. BP Bhatnagar was the Chief Guest at the Classical Song and Dance Programme organised on 28th October by *Kumbha Sangeet Parishad*, Udaipur. Dr. YS Kothari participated in some of the events.

*Udaipur Chapter’s Foundation Day* was celebrated on 1st December for the first time with a social get-together over Dinner on the lawns of Bhatnagar Sabha campus. All Members with their family and children were invited, as well as some special invitees, subject experts, Press reporters, etc. Being the first occasion of its kind, it was a
A pleasant surprise for everyone who profusely thanked the Convenor for taking this initiative.

Thirty Members of the Heritage Volunteers visited the heritage site of famous Dilwara Temples on 4th December led by Chief Coordinator Dr. Peeyush Bhadwiya. It was not only an enjoyable trip but the group learnt much about heritage on this well managed historical trip. Dr. Rashi Mathur and many other Members participated.

The Heritage Club Members of the Maharana Mewar Public School organized a Heritage Tour of Delhi on 17th–21st December. They visited all important historical places at Delhi. Teacher Incharge Kamla Choudhary and Pratima Paliwal managed the tour in an effective and interesting manner.

The initiative was taken on 30th December to promote heritage games like Gilli Danda, Sitoliya, Kancha, Lattu, Das Koda, etc. Although it was difficult to find rules of the games as well as material, a successful effort by the team of Bhatnagar Sabha ended with young and old enjoying the fun of traditional Indian games and attracted a large number of participants. It was indeed a pleasant surprise for all.

A 4th Institutional Member - JRN Rajasthan Vidyapeeth (Deemed- to-be-University) - joined INTACH Udaipur Chapter on 23rd December.
This is a great addition to the Chapter’s strength and range of activities undertaken to date.

**TAMIL NADU**

**Chennai**

On 14th November the Chapter hosted a talk on *Mahabalipuram: A Museum of Pallava Architecture and Sculpture* by Prof. S. Swaminathan at Amethyst, Royapettah. The Speaker has been exploring the relationship between culture and development, and between individuals and society, ever since he settled in the city after having taught mechanical engineering at IIT Delhi for three decades.

The Professor said the world heritage site of Mahabilipuram holds an important place in the art history of India. A significant variety of the earliest cave temples and sculptures, monoliths, open air bas reliefs and structural temples make Mahabilipuram a one-stop destination for Pallava art that is to be seen in many places in Tamil Nadu. The talk explored Pallava art in its historic setting which made it extra special. One of the puzzling questions however is why most of the monuments curiously remained unfinished.

**Nagercoil**

The Nagercoil Chapter conducted a Drawing and Essay competition on *Water Heritage of Kanniakumari District* on 17th November at Scott Christian Hr. Sec. School. Many schools participated in the programme. The Headmaster Joseph Edison welcomed the gathering. Convenor Dr. RS Lal Mohan explained the objective of the competition emphasising the fast disappearing heritage water resources of the District and that it is the duty of citizens to protect and save them. He added that destruction of heritage water resources of the District would lead to a water famine in future. Chapter Members Abraham Lincoln, N Chellappa and Adv. Thiruthamildevanar, urged the participants to protect the water bodies of the District and spread awareness of this precious resource.

**Salem**

Since its inception, the Salem Chapter has inculcated the value of our traditional culture in Heritage Clubs. Every year during the *Salem Day* celebrations inter-school competitions on traditional skills are conducted and traditional game kits are distributed to participants. To impart greater skills in these and to make them understand leadership qualities, a Workshop was conducted on 21st December for school children and their coordinators. Convenor Lakshmi Siddhartha explained the importance of traditional games in her welcome address while Vinitha from Chennai conducted this workshop. Children from various Heritage Clubs interacted with the resource person and were given hands on training in various games. An inter-school traditional games carnival is proposed to be held this year.
TELENGANA

Hyderabad

INTACH Governing Council Member M Vedakumar, who is also President of the Forum For a Better Hyderabad and Tree Protection Committee Member along with Forest Department officials made visits to several places where tree felling is taking places in and around Hyderabad during October and December due to road widening. They made suggestions for translocation for their protection to retain green cover.

Shri Vedakumar attended a number of functions as he is patron of many important organizations in Hyderabad, enlisted below:

As President, Forum for Better Hyderabad, he organized the Musi River front walk on 27 September. The main objective of the programme was to sensitize the youth of Hyderabad and Civil Society about the Underground Drainage System initiated by the then 7th Nizam Mir Osman Ali. He reiterated the need for a proper drainage system in Hyderabad city.

Director, Department of Culture, Mamidi Hari along with String Puppeteer Mothe Jagannatham presented his 3 books on the Culture of Telangana to M Vedakumar on 22nd October.

On 14th October, M Vedakumar was the Guest at a Book Release function of Maa Kathalu - 2017 organized by Dept. of Culture and the Simhaprasad Sabitya Samithi in memory of Vedagiri Rambabu, a well known journalist and poet.

M Vedakumar attended the One Day National Symposium on Literature and Cinema: Visual Culture and Social Change & Photo Exhibition on Incredible Reflections - History of Telangana Cinema organized by Department of English, Palamuru University on 6th October. He visited the Photo Exhibition History of Telangana Cinema arranged on the premises.

As Chairman, Children’s Film Society he was Chief Guest at the Scholarships -2018 ceremony organized by Telugu Association of Metro Atlanta (TAMA) at Ravindra Bharathi, Hyderabad on 4th November.
As Chairman, Telengana Children’s Film Society, he organized the *BALOSTAV-2018* in association with Hyderabad Book Fair on 21st- 23rd Nov. at Sundaraiah Vignana Kendram.

On 12th November, M Vedakumar inaugurated *Fresh Town* to make pesticide and chemical free vegetables, fruits and food grains available to people. There was a Press Meet to release *GREEN MANIFESTO-2018* on environmental issues, urging all political parties to formulate policies on environment issues detailed in the manifesto before the Telangana Legislative Assembly.

M Vedakumar presided the colloquium on *Hyderabad Metro Rail and Last Mile Connectivity* as Chief Guest on 12th December at the School for Planning and Architecture of the Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University. He spoke on the importance of creating a vision for how a city must develop anticipating the needs of future populations.

**WARANGAL**

The Chapter organized a cycle rally on Gandhi Jayanthi, 2nd October to create awareness among youth about their region, and to inculcate the spirit of togetherness and adventure. Mahatma Gandhi’s statue at the public garden *Hanamkonda* was garlanded by the Chief Guest, Collector and District Magistrate M Haritha who addressed the students and local citizens on Gandhian philosophy. She advised participation in *Swathub Bharat* programmes to keep their city clean. Convenor M Pandu Ranga Rao also addressed the gathering.

The Collector flagged off the cycle rally, and many were surprised to see Commissioner VP Gautham and Convenor Pandu Ranga Rao cycling with them upto *Sri Padmakshi Temple*. The Chapter has taken up restoration of a Kakatiya temple *Sri Pamakshi Gundam* along with its presiding deity *Sri Padmakshi* belonging to the Jain period. INTACH volunteers cleaned an entire tank by removing sunken *Ganesh* idols and waste material with the help of students and sanitary staff of the Municipal Corporation.

The seminar on *Irrigation Technologies of Kakatiyas – Its Relevance to Present Day Scenario* was organized at the *Sri Padmakshi Temple*. Convenor Prof. Pandu Ranga Rao addressed the students on Kakatiya Heritage and the significance of irrigation structures constructed by them that even today are fulfilling the drinking water and irrigation requirements.
TRIPURA

Shri Amitabh Kishore Debbarma is appointed the Co-Convenor of the Tripura Chapter. The North East States are famous for their ancient heritage that needs greater promotion to bring the cultural splendor of this region to general notice all over India. And to be promoted overseas as well. INTACH extends all good wishes for this challenging work and success in all conservation works in the State.

UTTAR PRADESH

Allahabad

Justice Arun Tandon (Retd.) was Chief Guest while the guest speaker was Professor Mahesh Chandra Chattopadhaya (Retd) who participated in the commemorating World Tourism Day at Allahabad Chapter. Convenor Shambhu Chopra welcomed the guests. A discussion on Smart Heritage in Smart City was the focus of the event. Justice Tandon stressed on the importance of conserving heritage in “smart cities” of India as an integral part of the city and its people. The local Administration also needs to integrate heritage as an important factor in its developmental plans. Professor Chattopadhaya remarked that stakeholders of the city need to press for conserving both tangible and intangible heritage. The event was attended by the Director of Allahabad Museum and Director Tourism. Co-Convenor Anupam Parihar thanked the citizens for participating in the discussions.

Gorakhpur

Shri Achintya Kumar Lahiri is appointed Additional Co-Convenor of the Chapter. INTACH extends a hearty welcome to him and many good wishes for a very successful association in the promotion and conservation of heritage. You can always count on our full support to make your tenure a great experience and lead the Chapter effectively. We send many good wishes for a successful tenure with INTACH.

Gorakhpur Chapter celebrated Heritage Week on 19th – 21st November. A radio talk was given by Life Member Achintya Lahiri on three heritage sites, Jama Masjid, Gurudwara and Kali Badi Mandir. On 23rd November a seminar on cultural heritage was organised at Heritage Hotel. Prof Ramdev Shukla, renewed in literature, was the Chief Guest. Manoj Kumar Singh gave a talk on the folk art tradition of Gorakhpur. Prof Ajai Shukla elaborated on the importance of cultural heritage. Prof Ramdeo Shukla gave some useful directions to Members on heritage related subjects. Achintya Lahiri and Convenor MP Kandoi thanked the guests for their participation.
Members of Gorakhpur Chapter, led by Convenor MP Kandoi, Co-Convenors Dr. Mumtaz Khan and Achintya Lahiri met the Divisional Commissioner Amit Gupta on 3rd December and submitted proceedings of a Seminar organized by the Chapter on 23rd November on the occasion of World Heritage Week. Members also proposed that name plates should be put at all heritage tourist places to make local people and tourists aware of their history. The Commissioner assured the team that proper steps would be taken on the matter.

A seminar was organised on 22nd December by Mahanagar Paryavaran Manch and Gorakhpur Chapter on the subject Gorakhpur Mahanagar Vision – Challenges and Opportunities. Convenor MP Kandoi spoke on heritage conservation, stressing the need to conserve architectural and natural heritage of the city in view of pressures on land due to rapid urbanization. He gave suggestions for proper enforcement of rules endangering heritage due to vested interests. Chapter Co-Convenor Dr. Mumtaz Khan conducted the meeting. Co-Convenor Achintya Lahiri gave the vote of thanks.

**Jhansi**

Shri Sushil S Agarwal is appointed Co-Convenor of the Jhansi Chapter. INTACH extends many good wishes for your heritage pursuits and responsibilities. It is an arduous but rewarding assignment. We wish you every success and all support from INTACH is assured.

**Lalitpur**

In a joint collaboration the Chapter and Jhansi Archaeological Department of U P celebrated World Heritage Week on 19th – 25th Nov. with two day seminar on 25th – 26th Nov. at Lalitpur district.

During the week a series of events were held namely a heritage awareness rally, heritage photo exhibition, spot painting competition, powerpoint presentations in schools, debate on We and Our Heritage, heritage walk, cleaning campaign and seminar were organized by the Chapter. With great efforts of Convenor Santosh Kumar Sharma, about 2 lakh students attended from Primary and Inter College and took the INTACH Heritage Pledge.
On 19th Nov. the Chapter organized a Photo exhibition on *We and Our Heritage* at Tuwan Maidan Lalitpur. The program was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Collector Lalitpur District Manvendra Singh. He also took the pledge alongwith three thousand students, teachers, eminent citizens and Chapter members. On 20th Nov. a cleaning campaign and a heritage walk with students and 40 foreign visitors was organized to Baruasagar Fort in Jhansi District. 21st Nov. was dedicated to cleaning campaign at Archaeological Site Museum with Scout Guides under guidance of Prof. Dr. Rajive Niranjan of Nehru Mahavidyalaya. On 22nd American tourists were taken to the heritage exhibition at Archaeological Site Museum and explained the Bundelkhand’s history. On 23rd Nov. a heritage powerpoint presentation was made to the students of Bhani Devi Goyal Inter College. A discussion by Minister Hargovind Kushwaha on *We and Our Heritage* were orgnised on 24th Nov. at Pahalwan Guruddin Mahavidyalaya. On 25th to 26th Nov. a two days seminar on ‘Role of Bundelkhand’s History in Indian History’ was organized at Archaeological Site Museum Jhansi with the participation of famous historian and literatures of country who read their research papers.

**Lucknow**

Lucknow Chapter organised a Heritage Walk led by the Convenor on 30th November. The participating architects and urban planners were from 32 countries including France, Germany, USA, Argentina, Chile, Sri Lanka, Phillipines, China, Poland, Australia among others, It was a group of almost 40 people who were taken to the heritage precincts of *Kaiserbagh, Vidhan Sabha* and *Hussainabad*. The delegates enjoyed the fine architectural excellence of *Imambara, Rumi Darwaza, Clock Tower, Satkhanda, Picture Gallery of Old City*. They also appreciated the colonial architecture of *Vidhan Sabha* and Hazratganj.

**Orai**

The Chapter celebrated Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti on 2nd October at Alopideen Mahavidyalaya with a photo exhibition of coins. A similar exhibition was hosted for the Archaeological Students Council at Rajkiya Intercollege on 14th October visited by hundreds of students.
On 12th November a meeting was held at the Shatabdi Mahavidyalaya on Save the Heritage, coordinated by Convenor Hari Mohan Purwar, Dr. Alka Rani and Dr. Neeta Gupta with a sizeable number of students.

The Chapter participated in Jalon Festival on antique artifacts organized by the District Administration, and inaugurated by Police Commissioner Chaturvedi on 3rd December. On 16th December, the Chapter held an exhibition on coins at Pt. Beli Madhav Tiwari Inter-College which was attended by both students and villagers. On 18th December another Exhibition was organised on various articles like stamps and ancient coins at Mijpa Christian School. The busy month concluded with a discussion on Heritage Conservation on 20th December at Bansi Dhar Mahavidyalaya for students.

Varanasi

The Chapter organised a 4-days workshop for Bharat Natyam Dance from 4th-7th October at Little Flower House, conducted by a senior Professor Dr. Smruti Vaghela, currently teaching at MS University, Vadodara. Ten senior students of Banaras Hindu University were taught new facets of this dance form. A renowned flute artist Hari Paudwal arranged the stay of the artistes.

Cell Coordinator Mudita Adhar Prajapati had announced it would be an event to make one’s own diyas for Diwali with the result many were thrilled to participate. Master Potter Ram Adhar Prajapati, a National Awardee, provided some potters, wheels and discussed clay making techniques and demonstrated pot making and image making. His sons Sujith and Amith Prajapati spoke about the family tradition portraying how such a living indigenous tradition is a valuable asset to give to the younger tradition. There were 8 children accompanying their parents who had a great time making small images of birds, animals, human figures and gods from clay. It was an opportunity to ponder and reflect on Indian living heritage practices to this day in our villages.

On 5th October a talk by S Sundaram was held on Kashi Vimarsch and Dr. Annie Besant which captured the interest of an interactive audience.

Create Diyas for Diwali

On 5th October a talk by S Sundaram was held on Kashi Vimarsch and Dr. Annie Basant which captured the interest of an interactive audience.

The Arts and Crafts Cell of the Chapter organized a visit to Amra village, a typical traditional village located 1 km from the famous Kardmeshwar Temple. Arts and Crafts

The Chapter marked Heritage Week from 19th-28th November in collaboration with the local State Archaeological Office, and a photo exhibition of UP Heritage and excavation sites at Gurudham Temple. It was inaugurated by former DG ASI Dr. Rakesh Tiwari. More than a hundred students participated in the rangoli and a number of other competitions like painting, essay and slogan writing, pottery making at the Gurudham Temple during the week. A film was exhibited on Rashtrapati Bhavan. A Heritage Walk culminated in prize distribution on 28th November. Co-Convenors Nalin Gulati and Nirmal Joshi contributed greatly to the execution of this plethora of successful programmes.

Professor Dr. Madhav Janardan Ratate of Banaras Hindu University gave a scholarly discourse on the importance of Kartik month of the Hindu calendar, and narrated the many religious events and festivities falling during this period with reference to Kashi (Benaras). The Prabodhmi Ekadashi is when the god Vishnu wakes up after four months of rest and marks the commencement of the festive season. Tulsi Vivaah and the importance of worshiping the Tulsi, Peepal and Aonla trees during
this month was explained with many interesting stories. During this time devotees light oil lamps in front of the Tulsi plant and an Akashdeep at the banks of the Ganga River. This event is one in the series of Kashi Vimarsh lectures held regularly that attracts attendance of scholars, students and NTACH Members.

It was a beautiful morning with a nip in the air as the group assembled at Tulsi Ghat for the walk and proceeded to many interesting areas around the ghat. Ram Mandir was made by Tulsidas. It is said the Pandavas wanted to steal the Ram Charitra Manas but found two handsome boys guarding them, believed to be Ram and Lakhsmman. Ark Vinayak among 56 Vinayak Temples of Kashi is located on Tulsi Ghat with a small Ganesh statue that has turned red due to constant application of sindoor by devotees. Tulsidas often slept here in a corner and a bed has been symbolically added. Hanuman idols were present in the temple at different locations pointing in all four directions, and the one at a lower level is known as Gufawale Hanuman.

The first Hanuman idol points in north direction; the lower level of temple has the Gufawale Hanumanji. There are several small temples and a Peepal tree. After Darshan of all temples, INTACH party assembled for an audience with the Mahant of Tulsi Ghat and were briefed on the history of Tulsidas whose most famous work is Ram Charitra Manas. Tulsidas has several other works like Vinay Patrika, Hanuman Chalisa also to his credit. He founded Ram Lila so that even the illiterate could learn about Sri Ram. Tulsidas started working on Ram Charitra Manas at 75 and finished it in 2 years. The visiting group was shown the manuscript lying in the temple. The Mahant felt that cities, like people, are ever evolving and that the younger generation should be made aware of ancient scriptures as they impart sufficient wisdom to help them lead a good life and deal with the mental distress of our times. They also visited the Sankat Mochan Temple.

After the spiritually uplifting talk, the group proceeded to the "Vegan and Raw" for a vegan breakfast of healthy breads and cereals laid out with an interesting menu.

The Cultural Counsellor of US Embassy Conrad Turner
paid an official visit on 26th November accompanied by his wife and Mandeep Kaur of the Embassy. Convenor Ashok Kapur showed them around as the project funding by the World Monument Fund and American Express had been arranged by the US Embassy.

**Story Telling Programme**

Varanasi Chapter in association with *Dainik Jagran* newspaper, conducted an 8 weeks long Story Telling Session in different schools under the *Sanskarshala Programme* of the Jagaran group. It began on 20th September and ended on 14th November. There were Video and Web interactions occasionally with the students. The English as well as Hindi medium schools were covered during this programme. The Chapter provided 11 Resource Persons for the Story Telling who were either resource persons, INTACH Life Members or their family members. Convenor Ashok Kapoor and Additional Co-Convenor Nirmal Joshi attended all the sessions with Jagran team, and even took a few sessions.

This story telling programme by the *Dainik Jagran* group has been held in more than 30 cities where their newspaper is published. Varanasi Chapter is the only one outside the organization invited to associate with the newspaper in their prestigious *Sanskarshala* programme. It has helped in reaching out to new schools and students, and an opportunity to propagate INTACH activities among new groups of people.

Chapter’s Heritage Education Cell organised a Heritage Walk for Sunbeam School Bhagwanpur students of 8th-9th Class, accompanied by Convenor Ashok Kapoor on the visit to two beautifully decorated churches in time for Christmas and New Year. At the 1879 Red Protestant Church (commonly known as *Lal Girja*), its Secretary Vijay Dayal explained its historic importance and about the two major sects in Christianity - Protestants and Roman Catholics. They also visited the oldest church of north India - *St. Mary’s Church* built in 1812 which is in very bad condition with the inside portion and roof totally damaged. INTACH had tried to arrange funds for its restoration a few years back but local members were not able to raise matching funds. Ashok Kapoor assured the church management to look into this matter and see that this oldest church recovers its past glory.

Chapter will organise more such visits to old churches of Varanasi.

Regional Archaeological Unit and Pilgrim Books organised a lecture on *Kashi and Hindi Journalism* under the monthly *Kashi Vimarsh* lecture series. Senior journalist Dr. Dayanand, explained the history of Hindi Journalism in Varanasi and contribution of stalwarts like Babu
Veena Pande is appointed Co-Convenor of the Nainital Chapter. INTACH extends a warm welcome to her and all success for a fruitful time in promoting heritage tourism. Nainital is a popular tourist destination and many facets of its heritage can enhance the experience of visitors. INTACH wishes her every success in her endeavours.

The Chapter organized the Darobar Yatra to Kardmeshwar Mahadev Temple and Kund on 2nd December. Research scholar Rajesh briefed the group on the ancient history of this oldest surviving temple of Kashi Kshetra situated at Kandwa Village. The complex of kund and temple was restored in the 18th century by Rani Bhawani. The site is the first stop of the century old Panchkoshi Yatra and some olde world dhramshalas en route.

Belgium Chapter

On 20th October, Belgium Chapter organized the 15th Fund Raising Dinner for the Lost Gardens of Khajuraho at Geertruih of in Leuven. It was a fully vegetarian Indian dinner with a special kids menu. The Chapter has always received the patronage of Indian Embassy of Belgium, Luxembourg & European Union, and our current Ambassador Gaitri Issar Kumar.
Significance of Number 108

Why is the number 108 sacred for Hindus? It is mostly associated with the *rudraksha mala*, also known as the *japmala*, for prayers to their favoured God or Goddess of the Indian pantheon. There are many other prayer beads like the Christian rosary which also has 108 beads. Sikh tradition has a *mala* of 108 but tied in knots. The Chinese Buddhists and Taoists also use 108 beads in their *Su-chu mala*. In Chinese astrology there are 108 sacred stars. Only the Arabic *Misbaha, Tasbih* or *Sibha* contain 99 beads corresponding to the names of Gods in Islam.

More fascinating are the worldly dimensions of the figure 108.

The diameter of the Sun is 108 times the diameter of the Earth.
The distance from the Sun to Earth is 108 times the diameter of the Sun.
The average distance of the Moon from Earth is 108 times the diameter of the Moon.

There are 108 *marma* points in *Ayurveda* that are vital for giving life to living beings.
The powerful *Sri Chakra Yantra* intersects at 54 points each with a masculine and feminine quality, totaling to 108.
In Indian astrology there are 12 houses and 9 planets, 12 X 9 equals to 108.

In *Tantra*, it is estimated that we breathe 21,600 times every day out of which 10,800 are solar energy and 10,800 are lunar energy.

The famous saint Bharata wrote the *Natya Shastra* which has 108 *Karanas* i.e. movements of hand and feet

There are 54 letters in Sanskrit each having a masculine (*Shiva*) and feminine (*Shakti*) aspect, totalling 108.

There are 108 *Puranas* and 108 *Upanishads*.

*Chakras* are the intersections of energy lines. There are a total of 108 energy lines converging to form the heart *chakra*.

*Sri Yantra* has *marmas* where three lines intersect, and there are 54 intersections representing *Shiva* and *Shakti*. Thus there are 108 points that define the *Sri Yantra* as well as the human body.

There are 12 constellations in Astrology, and 9 segments called *Namsbas* or *Chandrakalas*. (9x12 equals 108).

The sacred *River Ganga* spans a longitude of 12 degrees (79 to 91), and latitude of 9 degrees (22 to 31). 12 times 9 equals 108.

There are 108 *Nadis*.

The metal silver is said to represent the moon. The atomic weight of silver is 108.
Some Buddhists carve 108 small Buddhas on a walnut for good luck.

In Japan at the end of the year, a bell is rung 108 times

It is said that *Atman*, the human soul goes through 108 stages on the journey ahead.

*PS*: After reading all these mind boggling facts one should also know that 108 is an Emergency Number in India if required!
COMMUNITIES

INTACH is undertaking the Cultural Mapping of the tribes and communities of India to identify and document their unique oral traditions, indigenous knowledge and traditional occupations. The aim is to study the role of elders and transmission of their skills and look at the connects between cultural heritage and livelihoods.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR)

Ministry of Corporate Affairs notification effective April 2014 states Companies of Rs. 500 -10000 crore net worth profit during financial year, must constitute a CSR Committee to recommend to their Board to spend at least 2% of the average net profits during the 3 preceeding years on social activities like eradication of hunger, and enhancing vocational skills, safe drinking water and other social schemes important to society.