

INTACH: A BRIEF HISTORY

The Idea

INTACH was founded on 27 January 1984 in the gardens of 71, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi in the presence of Rajiv Gandhi, our first chairman. The vision of our founder members was to create a membership organization to serve as a catalyst for heritage awareness and conservation in India.

INTACH has over the past 20 years blazed the trail for the conservation and protection of our natural and cultural heritage. We have acted as a vehicle for civil action by moving judicial courts to save heritage, as well as engaging and educating the public in heritage awareness.



Four early projects represent the range and vision of INTACH. Project Ganga was the first major project and it combined INTACH's vision for natural and cultural conservation with community involvement and people's participation. By cleaning the Ganga it was hoped that elsewhere in the country people would take the initiative to clean their rivers and environment.

Golconda Fort, Andhra Pradesh was one of the first architectural heritage projects in which INTACH played a catalytic role by writing to the chief minister and publicizing the perils of unplanned urban encroachment.

Two seminars held at Champaner and Hampi in late 1987 saw INTACH gain international standing. Several international agencies, artists and scholars shared their experiences and exchanged information about best practices in conservation methods. The seminars resulted in development plans for the preservation and development of these two cities.

INTACH's primary mandate is the listing of natural and built heritage sites to create a national inventory. INTACH's first listing was completed for Shekhawati in Rajasthan.

These projects were just the beginning!

INTACH TIMELINE

- 1984 INTACH IS FOUNDED
- 1984 PROJECT GANGA IS LAUNCHED
- 1984 INTACH'S FIRST NEWSLETTER IS PRINTED
- 1984 INTACH SETS UP THE ART HERITAGE (AH) DIVISION
- 1984 INTACH SETS UP NATURAL RESOURCE DIVISION
- 1985 LUCKNOW CONSERVATION CENTRE IS ESTABLISHED
AS INTACH'S FIRST CONSERVATION CENTRE
- 1985 THE NATURAL RESOURCE DIVISION IS RENAMED
THE NH (NATURAL HERITAGE) DIVISION
- 1987 FIRST LISTING (OF SHEKHAWATI) IS COMPLETED
- 1989 ORISSA IS THE FIRST STATE TO FINISH LISTING
- 1990 INTACH ART CONSERVATION CENTRE
AT NEW DELHI IS ESTABLISHED
- 1993 INTACH CHITRAKALA PARISHATH ART CONSERVATION CENTRE
AT BANGALORE IS ESTABLISHED

1984

1985

1986

1987

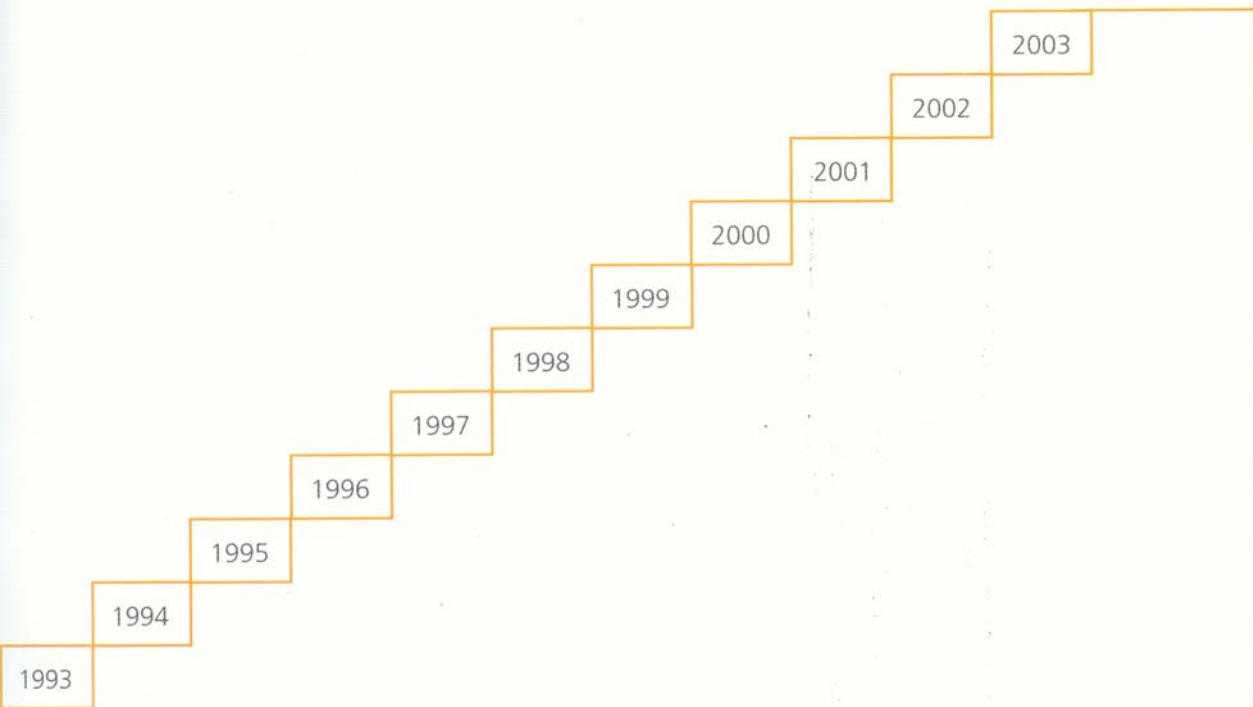
1988

1989

1990

1991

1992



- 1995 ICI (INDIAN CONSERVATION INSTITUTE) ORISSA ART CONSERVATION CENTRE AT BHUBANESHWAR AND ICI ART CONSERVATION CENTRE AT RAMPUR ARE ESTABLISHED
- 1996 ICI MEHRANGARH ART CONSERVATION CENTRE AT JODHPUR IS ESTABLISHED
- 1997 INTACH HEAD OFFICES' NEW BUILDING AT 71, LODHI ESTATE, NEW DELHI, IS READY
- 1998 INTACH'S HERITAGE EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION SERVICE (HECS) IS ESTABLISHED
- 1999 INTACH'S WEBSITE IS LAUNCHED: www.intach.org
- 2000 MURAL PAINTING CONSERVATION RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTRE AT THRISSUR IS ESTABLISHED