

Paramparā

College Heritage Volunteer e-Newsletter



INTACH

Paramparā (Issue 1)

Heritage Education and Communication Service

Inaugural issue released on the World Heritage Day, 18 April 2013

Delhi's nomination as a World Heritage City



Read about INTACH's work for Delhi's nomination as a World Heritage city. The Delhi Chapter and Heritage Education and Communication Service of INTACH have been involved in the awareness campaigns to sensitize students about Delhi's heritage.

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Heritage activities undertaken in Colleges



Find out about the heritage activities undertaken by **Gargi College, Jesus and Mary College, Lady Shri Ram College, Miranda House and Sri Venkateswara College** of Delhi University.

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Suggested collaborative heritage activities



Read about the heritage activities suggested by students to be undertaken in collaboration with INTACH.

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Message from the Member Secretary

We are pleased to share the first issue of the INTACH HECS e-Newsletter '**Paramparā**'. The e-Newsletter showcases the efforts of colleges in Delhi University to promote heritage at their respective educational institutions. INTACH appreciates your efforts, and thanks Gargi College; Hindu College; Jesus and Mary College; Lady Shri Ram College for Women; Miranda House; St. Stephens College; and Sri Venkateswara College for their participation in the Heritage Volunteering initiative.

We thank each of you for your contributions, ideas and suggestions. It would not have been possible to put together the e-Newsletter without you! The first issue of the newsletter highlights the heritage activities undertaken by the Colleges in the current academic session, 2012 – 13 as well as the heritage activities being proposed for the next academic session.

We look forward to your continued interest and contributions to bring out '**Paramparā**' twice a year.



Editorial

Education is at the heart of INTACH's endeavours to preserve national heritage. INTACH's Heritage Volunteer Training is a pioneering initiative undertaken with the support and endorsement of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India since November 2012. It aims at sensitizing the youth to protect their heritage and train them to lead a nation-wide movement for heritage conservation and preservation.

As a part of the initiative, two Heritage Volunteering Training Workshops were organized by INTACH New Delhi in January and March 2013 respectively. Around 45 undergraduate history students were accompanied by their respective College-teacher representatives from Delhi University to attend the same.

We are delighted to share that the feedback received from the participants has been positive and confirms that our collective efforts have been worthwhile!

We look forward to your continued support to take the initiative forward.

The workshop experiences...

The Workshop helped raise awareness about heritage, its components and key concerns. It made me realize that heritage encompasses a wide range of assets and was not merely confined to 'built heritage'. The workshop has made us more sensitive towards heritage which is often 'taken for granted' and has instilled a sense of realization to preserve it.

- Maithili Borkar

The INTACH Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop was a life-changing experience for us. It made us aware of the rich and varied cultural heritage of our country. We are planning to volunteer in cultural preservation initiatives.

- Santosh Kumar Mangain

The Heritage Volunteer Workshop was an extremely informative and enriching experience. It was enlightening in the sense that the students got to know of the several nuances of heritage.

- Sanchita Srivastava



Credit: www.icgeb.org

Delhi's nomination as a World Heritage City

The UNESCO World Heritage City (WHC) list has around 226 cities from across the world. At the moment, there are no Indian cities on this list. The efforts by INTACH to nominate Delhi is among one of the first initiatives in this direction.

Delhi has been characterized by the intermingling of peoples from diverse backgrounds and epitomizes a unique syncretism of cultures (Indo-Islamic and hybrid Colonial styles of architecture; Sufism; Urdu language; performing art traditions like qawwalis; artistic-craft traditions and more). Perhaps among one of the many striking features of the City is its 'Imperial Mughal city planning' wherein, the morphology has remained unchanged over the past centuries.

The areas being proposed for the World Heritage City nomination are Shahjahanabad and New Delhi. We encourage college students to raise awareness about Delhi's World Heritage City nomination campaign at their respective educational institutions, neighbourhoods as well as among their peers and friends.

Work being done
by INTACH

Delhi- A World Heritage City Campaign

The Delhi Chapter in collaboration with INTACH HECS organised awareness campaigns across 35 Delhi schools in an effort to sensitize students about the nomination of Delhi as a World Heritage City.

The campaign included a **Signature drive** where the headboy and headgirl of each school signed a pledge to nurture Delhi's heritage and the pledges were handed over to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi, Smt. Sheila Dikshit.

HECS INTACH organised essay writing, painting, photography, poster making and short filmmaking **competitions** across 35 schools to raise awareness about the tangible and intangible heritage of Delhi.



What you can do....

INTACH HECS will be organising a Delhi Heritage City Awareness Campaign for colleges and we would invite you to be a part of it. The HECS team will be in touch with you...

In 2008, the INTACH Delhi Chapter was invited by the State Department of Archaeology, Government of NCT of Delhi to conceptualize and execute a project for the Protection and Conservation of 250 unprotected monuments.

A few monuments conserved by the INTACH Delhi Chapter:

1. Mutiny memorial
2. Turkman gate
3. Bijri Khan's tomb
4. Bara Lao ka gumbad
5. Tomb of Kuli Khan
6. Phutta Gumbad, the Jawaharlal Nehru stadium

**INTACH
DELHI
Chapter**

Test your knowledge of Delhi's heritage

Quiz: History of Delhi

1. Who founded the Lalkot fort?
2. The National Stadium in Delhi was earlier known by the name_____.
3. Qila-e-mubarak is better known as_____.
4. There is a crater on an asteroid named after a Mughal king. Who is he?
5. *"Delhi is the symbol of old India and new. Even the stones here whisper to our ears of the ages of long ago and the air we breathe is full of the dust and fragrances of the past, as also of the fresh and piercing winds of the present"*. Who said this?
6. Ajitgarh was formerly known as?
7. A prehistoric site near Delhi?
8. When was the Delhi metro inaugurated?
9. Who gave the slogan *"Dilli Chalo"*?
10. Which pottery is associated with the Purana Qila excavations?

Quiz: Monuments of Delhi

1. Which fortified city in Delhi was called *Dar-ul-Khilafat*, or 'The seat of Califate' ?
2. Which Victory tower is nicknamed as 'poor cousin of Qutab Minar' ?
3. Name the mosque which has an attached Madrasa, built by the Maha Angah (foster mother of Emperor Akbar)?
4. Stone used to build Safdarjung's tomb was ripped off from which Mughal monument?
5. Name a Mughal serai which is known for the mutiny memorial built by the British?
6. Name the fort which has grand gateways known as Talaqi Darwaza and Bara Darwaza?
7. The first Islamic tomb to be built in India is in Delhi. Name the monument?
8. Name the garden which is also called 'Butterfly Gardens' ?
9. A citadel, a deep water tank nicknamed '*Jahannum ka Rasta*' (or the Road to Hell) is situated inside a famous fort. Name the fort?
10. What is the colourful paintwork on Lodi and Mughal monuments called?

Heritage activities undertaken by Colleges in Delhi University

Gargi College

Adopt a Monument Initiative

Earlier this year, a group of students mentored by college teachers went on an excursion to conduct a survey which began with the Muhammad Wali mosque (in the back yard of Gargi College) and covered the Tohfewala Gumbad and the Sirifort sports complex. The survey concluded with a visit to the Shahpur Jat village. During the survey, the students engaged in a historical research of the Siri, studied maps, took pictures and gathered first-hand information about government initiatives of face-lifting and protecting monuments in the precincts of the Siri heritage. This enabled the students to raise questions about encroachment and the development versus heritage debate.

With the support and encouragement received from INTACH, the second-phase of the 'adoption of the Siri-Fort wall' project, the History Department proposes to examine and document the landscape around the wall with help of archival and other official records. The plan is to investigate the changing topology of this area post-independence by writing about other monuments in the proximity of the heritage wall – civic, historical, religious, or official – their nature and how being juxtaposed to the wall has impacted their existence. The other important component of this project would be to capture the living memories and the experiences of people inhabiting the Siri-Fort wall surroundings through interviews and an oral-history approach.



In addition to the 'adoption of the Siri wall initiative', the History Department of Gargi College has been involved in a series of academic and non-academic activities related to natural and cultural heritage.

- A foundation course on 'Environmental Issues in India' for BA Honours students on natural heritage; environmental policies of the colonial and the post-colonial period; and issues related to environment, sustainable development, and threats to biodiversity has been organized;
- An Interdisciplinary Convergence conference was held at the Gargi College. The panelists included Prof. A.G.K. Menon, Prof. H. P. Ray, and the chief PRO of the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation who deliberated on the 'Heritage versus Development' debate;
- 'Environment and Heritage' was a major theme of the annual departmental festival 'Antraal'. Mr Dunu Roy (a well-known environmentalist) gave the key note address on 'Environment and Society', and later Ms Manisha Jha gave an illustrative talk on Madhubani paintings;
- In September 2012, the department organised a trip to the Khajuraho Temples and the towns of Orchha and Jhansi;
- Earlier this year, a day-long heritage walk was organised to various historic places in Delhi. This included, the Purana Qila; the Red Fort; the Feroz Shah Kotla; and the National Museum.

Jesus and Mary College

The History Department of Jesus and Mary College participated in a multi-dimensional cultural festival, '**Antardhwani**' (22 - 24 February 2013) organised for the first time by the University of Delhi. The College was allotted a stall at the UGC Cluster Innovation center (as part of the history-sociology innovation project) and given the theme '**Preserving our Cultural Heritage: The Monuments of Delhi**' with the area of study of Zafar Mahal' for presentation. A research paper on the above mentioned theme, along with a display of poster pictures of Zafar Mahal were presented; besides brochures and bookmarks which were shared with the visitors. In addition to this, the '**I pledge**' board placed at the stall was also appreciated.

Dastaan, the Art and Architecture Society of Jesus and Mary College managed by two students from the Department of History is a platform for those curious about Delhi's glorious heritage and aims at raising awareness about Delhi's monuments, its cultures and people.

The society has successfully carried out heritage walks to lesser-known monuments of Delhi. This includes, the Mehrauli Archaeological Park; the Khirki Masjid; the Satpula Dam; the Feroz Shah Kotla; the Rail Museum; the Tughlaqabad Fort; the Safdarjung's tomb, among others. In addition to this, Dastaan has organised talks by eminent historians, including - Dr Swapna Liddle; Rakshanda Jalile.

Heritage activities proposed by Dastaan for the next academic session:

- Cultural programme to celebrate the 'Intangible Cultural Heritage of Delhi' (September 2013);
- Cleanliness drive in Shamshi Talab (in collaboration with the JMC-NSS society of the college);
- Heritage walks in Mehrauli for the local inhabitants (in collaboration with the History Department of the college).



My personal heritage...

The city of Darbhanga (Bihar) has been associated with the glorious empire of **Darbhangra Raj**. Historically, my family has been associated with the Raj. Centuries back, my great grandfather was the treasurer of Darbhanga Raj. Our family owns a property in Darbhanga which was given by Maharaja Rameshwar Singh of the Darbhanga Raj in the form of a copper plate inscription in the late 19th century. Very recently, this copper plate inscription was checked by the government authority and documented.

Ankita Choudhary

Lady Shri Ram College for Women

The Lady Shri Ram College collaborated with the INTACH Centre for Conservation Training and Capacity Building (ICCTCB) and organised a two-day **certificate course on 'Understanding Heritage'** which was attended by around 40 students. They learnt about the different components of heritage, its importance and ways to preserve it; in addition to attending a heritage walk which was a wonderful learning experience.

Recognizing the lack of attention given to intangible heritage, the theme for our annual festival was **Myths and Legends**. It included talks on 'Legend of Anarkali' by Shireen Moosvi, 'Legends surrounding Delhi' by Narayani Gupta; quiz; debate; paper presentation as well as a blog with articles on various myths.

Two batches of students participated in INTACH's Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop held in January and March respectively. Following the training, it was decided that we would form a **Heritage Club**, in order to generate awareness about preserving heritage as well as highlight the nomination campaign of Delhi as a UNESCO World Heritage City. The heritage club would undertake cleanliness drives as we strongly believe, that it is important for us to sensitize people and make them recognize the importance of heritage, before laying tall claims to something as prestigious as a 'World Heritage City'.

We propose to collaborate with INTACH to conduct heritage walks and excursions; organise a filmscreening week followed by discussions on various facets of heritage; 'Adopt a Monument' and look after its conservation and preservation. In addition to this, during holidays we would undertake cleanliness and conservation drives.



Popular Creation Myths of Asia

02/14/2013

0 Comments

There it lay in the middle of the universe, a shapeless form of matter, resembling chaos, in the midst of a static, soundless surrounding. Over thousands of years, soft sounds evolved signifying the movement of particles, one unprecedented in the history of the universe where millions of particles rose, differentiating between light and the particles with the lowest density. Light ascended at a faster pace than the rest and once, it reached its limit, the light formed the top of the universe and the particles below it formed first the clouds and then Heaven. The particles that had not risen formed a huge mass, dense and dark which came to be called Earth. From Heaven emerged the first three Gods. This narrative, also known as Tenchikaibyaku, constitutes the Japanese Creation Myth which is described first hand in the texts of Kojiki and Nihon Shoki.

<http://Israntiquity2013.weebly.com/voice.html>

Miranda House

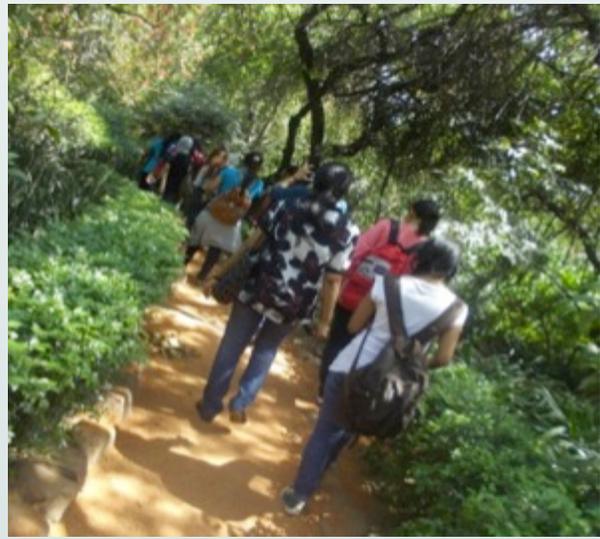
In January 2012, a department trip to Hampi and adjoining areas was organised. It gave an opportunity to explore the sites en route to the former Vijayanagara capital: the Pattadakal; the Badami caves; and the Aihole.

In August 2012, the students visited the National Museum and the Humayun's Tomb. In the month of September, a session on anecdotes of Amir Khusrau was organised in the college in association with the Aga Khan Trust.

In January 2013, the students visited the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) to view the International Rock Art exhibition.

In February 2013, the department festival 'TARIKH' on the theme, 'Different Archives, Different Histories' was organised. It included presentations by Prof. Shahid Amin; Dr Najaf Haider; and Mr Lawrence Liang, as well as students, which inquired into sources ranging from oral histories to virtual archives.

In March 2013, the History Department of our college organised a Heritage Walk to the Northern Delhi Ridge. The three-hour walk covered seven monuments, and exposed the students to the rich and turbulent past of the Northern Ridge.



The Baoli near Bara Hindu Rao, which is in a dilapidated state, could be adopted by the History Department of Miranda House. We also look forward to making a documentary on it.

In addition to this, keeping in mind the 'Adopt a Monument' concept, we seek INTACH's support to restore and conserve the Baoli. During the Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop, we realised there were numerous ways of water cleaning and bio-remediation. INTACH could work on cleaning the Baoli as there is excessive faunal growth in and around it. The grills can be removed and guards placed to man it. During the summer break, the students could research and collect information about the Baoli (its history, construction, use and other interesting information) which can be displayed on a plaque.

After restoration, the Baoli can be taken care by our college. It can be showcased as an example of community involvement in heritage protection, as well as a key heritage attraction in the heart of Delhi University.

Sri Venkateswara College

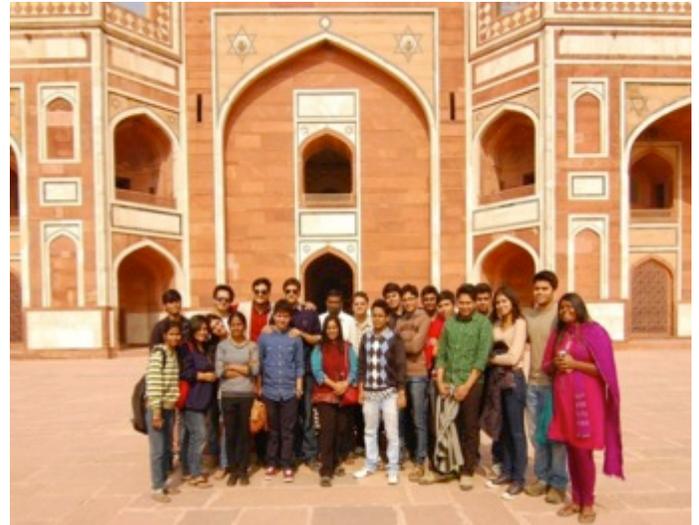
The heritage activities undertaken by Sri Venkateswara College included a heritage walk in the form of a **Delhi trip** to raise awareness among the students about the need for heritage conservation. The trip included a heritage walk to the Humayun's tomb; the Qutub complex; and the Red Fort. In addition to this, **lectures** by eminent scholars such as, Shereen Ratnagar and Indu Banga were organised. These exposed the students to the cultural and the material heritage of our country.

A number of activities are being planned for the next academic session. This includes, monthly heritage walks to the neglected monuments; forming Heritage Clubs to engage in heritage awareness activities; organise events with a heritage-based theme including competitions, debates and talks. INTACH could lend support in training students as 'heritage conservation volunteers'.

We also intend to garner support from other societies in our college. This includes, the Hindi Dramatics Society to stage plays for spreading heritage consciousness; the Debating Society to organise debates and discuss the need to conserve heritage; the Film Society to screen films on cultural heritage; the Art Society to collaborate with the Heritage Club and promote Indian styles of paintings, like the Warli and the Madhubani.

In addition this, we intend to organise skits and cultural performances on endangered cultural dance forms, folk music and folklore during our department festival.

It is hoped that through these activities we are able to contribute towards heritage conservation.



My personal heritage...

Assamese cultural heritage is rich in terms of religion and faith. A personal cultural heritage of our family is the **PaalNaam**. This is an annual religious gathering of our family. A date is fixed and the family priest or "satraadhikar" is invited to perform special prayers for the family. Everyone gathers and prays for each other's welfare and overall well-being. This ritual has been going on for generations, and it is a form of 'kirtan' that takes place throughout the night without any break. The next day of the ritual includes the distribution of the prashad and community feasting.

Mercy Dutta

Suggested heritage activities with INTACH

The College students have proposed various ways to engage in a long-term collaboration with INTACH and promote heritage activities at their respective educational institutions. Some of the ideas suggested by them are given below.

<p>INTACH summer school / internships to engage students in heritage conservation and safe guard.</p> <p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Support cleanliness drives in colleges.</p>	<p>Engage in an interactive forum or discussion with the Archeological Survey of India (A.S.I) and other State government organizations involved in heritage conservation and management.</p> <p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Documentation and listing of disputed monuments.</p>
<p>Exposure and involvement of students in handling manuscripts and INTACH assistance in conservation of old library books.</p> <p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Screen films or documentaries on heritage.</p>	<p>An interactive forum with conservation professionals, academic and educational institutions as well as policy-makers to discuss heritage conservation and preservation.</p> <p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Develop a network of heritage volunteers across various colleges in Delhi University. Involvement of students from across various disciplines, instead of a restricted focus on history students.</p>

We encourage you to share more ideas and suggestions for heritage activities with us: intachhecs@gmail.com

Answer key: Quiz

Quiz: History of Delhi

1. Anangpal 2. Irwin Stadium 3. Red Fort 4. Shahjahan 5. Jawaharlal Nehru 6. Mutiny Memorial
7. Anangpur 8. 24th December 2002 9. Netaju Subhash Chandra Bose 10. Painted Grey Ware

Quiz: Monuments of Delhi

1. Siri 2. Hastal Minar 3. Khair-ul-manzil 4. Abdur Rahim Khan-e Khana's Tomb 5. Badli-ki-Sarai
6. Purana Qila or Old Fort 7. Sultan Ghari's Tomb 8. Mughal Gardens in Rashtrapati Bhawan 9. Tughlaqabad Fort
10. Stucco work (Colours from Persia)

Our upcoming events...

<p style="text-align: center;">Felicitation of the National Winners <i>Harit Sankalp 'Care for Nature' Programme</i></p> <p>A three-day programme for the national winners of the all-India Harit Sankalp 'Care for Nature' essay competition will be held in New Delhi. The felicitation program will be held on 03 May 2013.</p> <p>Date: 03 May 2013 Time: 10:30 - 11:30am Venue: INTACH, New Delhi</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">An Exhibition of Old Maps of British India <i>Defining the Empire</i></p> <p>“Defining the Empire”, an exhibition of the old maps of British India published between 1871-1928 will be held at INTACH. These maps depict British territories and erstwhile Princely States during colonial times.</p> <p>Date: 18 - 30 April 2013 Time: 10:00am - 07:00pm (Open all days) Venue: INTACH , New Delhi</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">A Heritage Awareness Programme</p> <p>On the occasion of World Heritage day, a heritage awareness programme will be held at the Anglo Arabic Senior Secondary School. The programme will highlight aspects of Shahjahanabad's heritage and the Delhi's World Heritage City nomination campaign.</p> <p>Date: 18 April 2013 Time: 08:00 - 09:30am Venue: Anglo Arabic Senior Secondary School, Ajmeri Gate, New Delhi</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">'Perspectives on our Cultural Past' by Michel Danino <i>Fifth Pupul Jayakar Memorial Lecture</i></p> <p>Michel Danino, an eminent scholar, indologist, teacher and historian will be giving a talk on the occasion of World Heritage Day about India's cultural past.</p> <p>Mr Danino has authored several papers and books, the most recent one being <i>Indian Culture and India's future</i>.</p> <p>Date: 18 April 2013 Time: 06:00 pm Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC, New Delhi</p>

Past Events

INTACH ICCTCB Course on UNESCO World Heritage Sites

The course on UNESCO World Heritage Sites (WHS) will explore the concepts, issues, and complexities related to understanding conservation and management of the WHS.

Date: 15 - 19 April 2013
Venue: INTACH ICCTCB, New Delhi

World Heritage Day, 18 April 2013

The World Heritage Day offers an opportunity to raise the public awareness about the diversity of cultural heritage and draws attention to its vulnerabilities, as well as efforts to protect it.

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