



INTACH



Annual E-Newsletter
2022-23
Issue 8

parampara

College Heritage Volunteer Programme

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Message from INTACH

We are pleased to share the eighth issue of the College Heritage Volunteer e-Newsletter, 'Parampara'. It highlights the heritage activities undertaken by colleges and other contributions from students in 2022-23. We appreciate the efforts of the history departments of 14 colleges of Delhi University.

Youth can act as a bridge between cultures, heritage and development. They can serve as agents in promoting heritage, intercultural understanding and good citizenship values. Students as citizens are encouraged to become stakeholders and custodians in protecting our country's heritage.

Parampara stands for heritage and supports a legacy of heritage preservation. We hope you may carry forward this tradition, even as, you pursue further academic programmes or step into the professional world!

INTACH invites more volunteers to become a part of the college heritage volunteer programme.



Heritage Education and Communication Service, INTACH

About INTACH

The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) was founded in 1984 in New Delhi with the vision to spearhead heritage awareness and conservation in India. Today INTACH is recognized as one of the world's largest heritage organizations, with over 190 Chapters across the Country. In the past 31 years INTACH has pioneered the conservation and preservation of not just our natural and built heritage but intangible heritage as well. Headquartered in New Delhi, it operates through various divisions such as Architectural Heritage, Natural Heritage, Material Heritage, Intangible Cultural Heritage, Heritage Education and Communication Services (HECS), Crafts and Community Cell, Chapters, INTACH Heritage Academy, Heritage Tourism, Listing Cell and Library, Archives and Documentation Centre.

For more information, visit: www.intach.org, www.intach.org/join-become-a-member.php

Heritage Education and Communication Service

Education is at the heart of INTACH's endeavours to promote heritage. The Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) set up in 1998, works towards raising heritage awareness among undergraduate college students and faculty members. Training them to become heritage volunteers to lead a nation-wide movement for heritage protection and promotion.

- Training and capacity building workshops for college heritage volunteers.
- Interactive forums on heritage conservation and management.
- Cultural Heritage walks for students.
- Design and support heritage activities for colleges.

For more information, visit: <http://www.youngintach.org>

INTACH Heritage Academy

INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA) set up in 2012, undertakes training, research and capacity building in all aspects of heritage conservation and management for conservation specialists; academic institutions; authorities, departments and organisations (government and non-government); crafts people; the general public and communities.

Envisioned as a centre of excellence and one of the first of its kinds in the country, IHA aims at strengthening the implementation of INTACH objectives.

- Capacity building by developing skills through training programmes.
- Develop guidelines for conservation training at various levels.
- Special courses on conservation and management of natural and cultural heritage in different parts of the country.

For more information, visit: <http://heritage.intach.org/>

Journey of the Programme

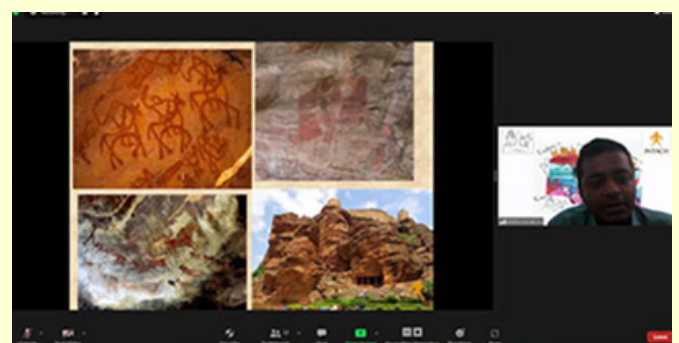
INTACH's College Heritage Volunteer Training is a pioneering initiative undertaken with the support and endorsement of the Government of India since November 2012. The programme aims at sensitising youth to protect their heritage and train them to lead a nation-wide movement for heritage conservation and preservation. Experts across the world have emphasised that heritage cannot be preserved, unless, there is community participation and involvement. The College Heritage Volunteer Training Programme is premised on this aspect of community involvement in heritage awareness and conservation. It endeavours to foster a generation of citizens who respect and appreciate their past, as reflected in its historic and natural environments, monuments and museums, and also see their role in carrying it to the future as a living inheritance.

Our project cities (2022) are Delhi, Noida, Katra, Vishkahapatnam, Singur, Yamunanagar, Basohli and Udaipur. We do believe all our project cities are valuable links who are undertaking interesting heritage work.

The e-newsletter is a celebration of our efforts and work undertaken by students, as well as, college faculty members. INTACH invites more volunteers to become a part of the college heritage volunteer training programme.



📍 Varanasi



📍 Udaipur



📍 Katra



📍 Delhi

College Heritage Volunteer Workshop, Delhi 2023

The College Heritage Volunteer Workshop was conducted on 20th January 2023 at the INTACH, New Delhi and was attended by 76 students and 13 teachers from 14 colleges of Delhi University. The resource persons for the session were- Dr. Swapna Liddle, eminent historian, author, Advisor INTACH Delhi Chapter, Mr. Ajay Kumar, Director Projects, INTACH Delhi Chapter, Mr. T. S. Randhawa (IAS Retd.), Advisor, INTACH and Divisional Head, IKC and the HECS team.

The Workshop began with a brief introduction on HECS and INTACH in general by Mrs. Purnima Datt, Principal Director, HECS INTACH. The INTACH film was then screened. In the first session "What is Heritage", Mrs. Datt spoke at length about the different facets of heritage - natural, built, material and living.

The next session on the 'Historic precincts of Delhi (Chandni Chowk, Connaught Place and New Delhi)' was conducted by Dr. Swapna Liddle. She spoke about the cities of Shahjahanabad and New Delhi and how and why they were established.

Mr. Ajay Kumar then spoke of the role of INTACH Delhi Chapter in the conservation of Delhi's heritage. Discussion on heritage bye laws and regulations was also done.

Mr. Randhawa in his presentation showed some images of the traditional Vernacular architecture and talked about traditional residences which are diminishing in numbers.

A heritage walk to Lodhi Garden was then carried out by Mr. Abhishek Das, Ms. Geetika Gunjan and Ms. Nanki Kaur.

Post lunch, a quiz activity and visit to the INACH Conservation lab were done. The students learned about the practices of conservation and how different materials are conserved. This was then followed by a presentation on 'College Heritage Volunteer Programme and Heritage in my Institution' by the HECS team.

In the interactive group activity, the students were asked to propose ways in which they can engage in learning about heritage, what programmes they can organise to promote heritage and what help they require from INTACH while doing so. The presentations were insightful with various innovative ideas shared. The workshop ended with a short note from Member Secretary, INTACH Mrs. C.T. Misra who urged the students to appreciate such ancient knowledge and learn to respect it. All students and teachers were given participation certificates and books for the college.



Voices from the Programme



The workshop helped me understand how volunteerism can go a long way in heritage conservation at individual level.

Akshita Gupta
Sri Venkateswara College

The heritage volunteer workshop gave everyone present, an in-depth knowledge of conservation & restoration of not only known but unknown monuments.

Chetansi Chauhan
Gargi College



The workshop was quite informative about the preservation of heritage and how important the process of conservation is.

Ajiya Shah
Kamala Nehru College for Women



Antraal 2022

The History Department of Gargi college celebrated its annual fest Antaraal themed Parallel narratives: Foregrounding Regional History on 22 February 2022 with various events such as a lecture by Professor Nandini Sinha Kapur (IGNOU) and Professor Ranjeeta Dutta (JNU). The annual fest was organised in the online mode, and included the following events: PowerPoint presentations by students on the theme- “Interrogating Regionalism and Regionality”, Musical Notes – a regional and folk singing competition and Paint-a-lore – Postcard-making competition.

Field Trip to Humayun's Tomb

The students of BA Programme were taken on a trip to Humayun’s Tomb, the trip was conducted by Dr. Alka Michael and Ms. Aditi Jain, faculty members of the Department of History.

Talk on’ Reconstructing Representation and Agency of Women Activists in the National Movement

As a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, Dr. Manjushree Singh (retd. Professor, Department of History, Gargi college) enlightened students on the role of women activists in Delhi and several unsung women freedom fighters were brought to light.

A Visit to the National Museum

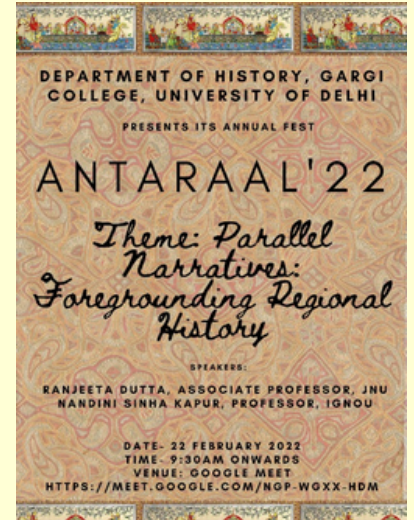
for the 1st year students (batch 2021-22) was organised under the guidance of Dr. Deeksha Bhardwaj and Dr. Alka Michael.

Talk on Kings, Spirits and Memory in Central India

Dr. Aditya Pratap Deo, Associate Professor, St. Stephen’s College delivered a talk revolving around the study of the polity of the pre- colonial princely state of Kanker in Central India which was the subject of his book.

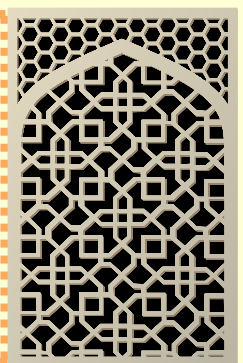
Study of Religious Traditions of Rural Delhi from an Archaeological Perspective

Dr. Aditi Mann (Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies) engaged with students through an enriching lecture on religious traditions of rural Delhi and how the rural traditions flourished and were still alive today.



Looking through the Jali

The jali is a beautiful Mughal contribution to architecture. They allowed air and light to flow through the structure. The unique feature of these jalis was that they were carved out of a single stone slab. At Humayun's Tomb, no two jali designs are the same!



A Visit to Feroz Shah Kotla fort

Around 15 students of “Popular Culture” Skill Enhancement Course of 3rd year from Gargi College, the University of Delhi were taken for a heritage walk to Feroz Shah Kotla fort by our mentor and professor, Dr. Alka Michael, owing to the topic ‘Everyday healing and petitioning the Divine: case study of Jinns in Delhi’ in their curriculum.



Unity Day Celebrations

As a tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the History Department of Gargi College organized a cultural event to celebrate the unity and strength of the nation. The program included few group songs and a dance performance like “Mile sur mera tumhara” sung in different languages by the students. A poster-making competition was also organized on the theme “One India, Many Colours” signifying and celebrating the diversity of the nation which was the motto of the event as well.



Heritage Home- *Havelis*

Haveli refers to a residential complex with a courtyard, ornamental gateway, arched entrances, jharokhas, and columns. They were inhabited by nobility.

Kucha Pati Ram, is a narrow lane with a number of havelis or mansions. These havelis feature as heritage buildings in the 800 structures listed by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

Kala Mahal Haveli

Kala Mahal, built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan was used as his residence temporarily (before the completion of the Red Fort). After Partition, the palace was bought by moneylender and trader Chunna Mal.

Chunna Mal ki Haveli

Lala Rai Chunna Mal was a wealthy moneylender and textile trader of Old Delhi in the 1800s. He owned a large portion of Chandni Chowk and lived there too. His Haveli built in 1848, continues to be a landmark in Chandni Chowk. It is a beautiful mansion with intricate artwork, exquisite chandeliers hanging from the high ceilings. It is inhabited by descendants of Lala Chunnamal and remains well preserved till date.

Mirza Ghalib ki Haveli

Mirza Ghalib ki Haveli in the walled city of Delhi is located at Gali Qasim Jaan in Ballimaran, Chandni Chowk, Delhi. As the name suggests, Mirza Ghalib lived here and felt inspired to pen down some spectacular masterpieces in poetry, couplets and literary works.

Dharampura Haveli

Dharampura Haveli was built in late Mughal architectural style in 1887. The ground floor was for commercial purposes, while the subsequent floors were for residential purposes. The haveli was restored recently and operates as a heritage hotel now. It gives immense hope to other havelis that could transform with an architectural- restorative- makeover.

Kirori Mal College

Heritage Walk to Kashmere Gate and Chandni Chowk

the students of the History department, under the guidance of Prof. Shahana Bhattacharya, explored the ruins of Kashmere Gate and Chandni Chowk. they explored the architectural beauty of Dara Shikoh's Library, Kashmere Gate or Kashmiri Darwaza and Nicholson Cemetery, formerly known as the Old Delhi Military Cemetery. Students visited haveli of Begum Samru and Mirza Ghalib's haveli and Fatehpuri Masjid in Chandni Chowk.



A Visit to Teen Murfi Bhawan

Organised by 'Legacy' the history society, the students set out to explore the new Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya at Teen Murti Estate in New Delhi. The museum recalls the tenures of 14 Prime Ministers from Jawaharlal Nehru to Manmohan Singh, and the various challenges they faced while leading the country. It tells the story of how our Prime Ministers navigated the nation through various challenges and ensured the progress of the country.



International Seminar with Dr. Arun Kumar

A student-led conversation on "Recent Trends in History Writing" with Dr. Arun Kumar was organized. Dr. Kumar gave insightful details on the new historiography that has come up in the recent years, dealt with the questions of how to overcome a historian's own biases in his writing and also talked about his own recent work.



Professor KM Ashraf Memorial Lecture' 2023

The Prof. K.M Ashraf Memorial lecture was based on the theme "Public History: People's Perception of the past" to understand the dynamics and perceptions of history throughout Indian history. The Guest speakers for the event were eminent authors and historians Prof. Andre Wink, Dr. Shashank S. Sinha, Dr. Prabhat Kumar, and Dr. Swapna Liddle.



Did You Know?

In July 2014, a museum inside the Rashtrapati Bhavan's grounds was inaugurated by the then President of India, Pranab Mukherjee. The museum aims at giving an inside view of the building's history, occupants, art and architecture.



Coronation Park Heritage Walk

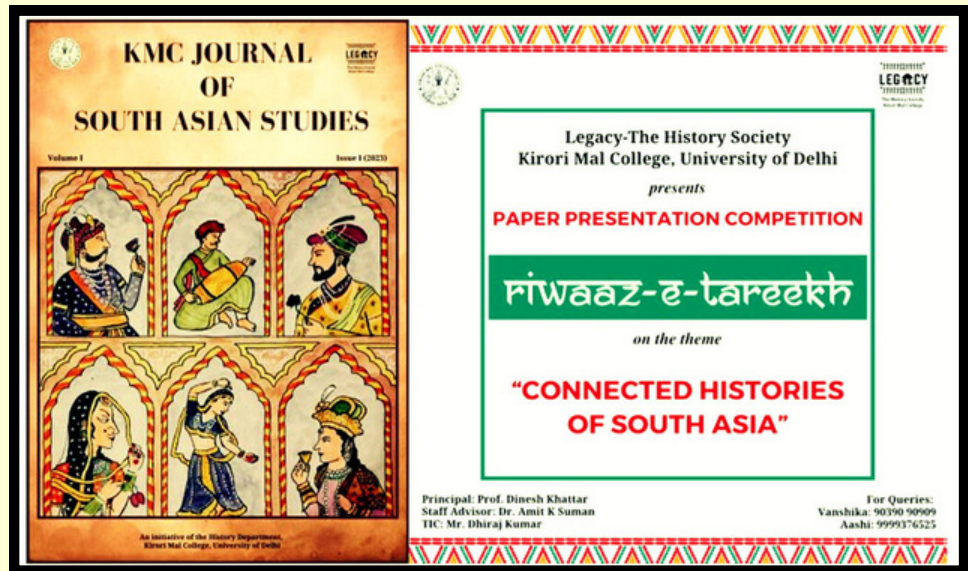
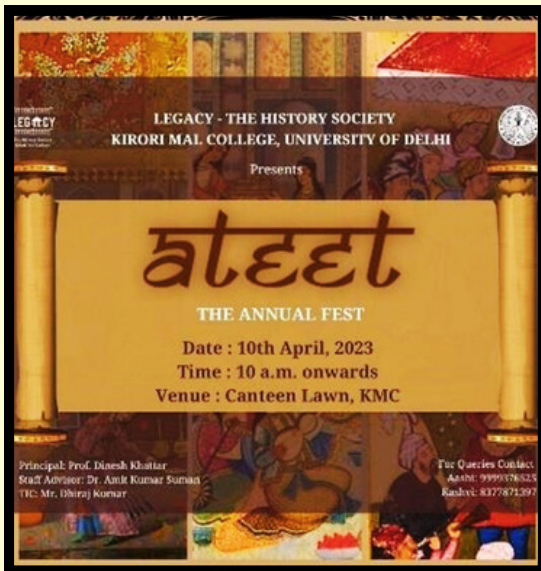
Legacy organized its first heritage walk of the year 2023, led by Professor Shahana Bhattacharya in Coronation Park. The park is often referred to as Coronation Memorial and has served as the venue for the Delhi Durbar of 1877 when Queen Victoria was proclaimed the Empress of India. The park has become the final resting place for some of the statues of former British kings, governors and officials of the British Raj.

ATEET- Annual Fest

The fest involve a range of activities such as cultural performances, sports competitions, academic and technical events, guest lectures, exhibitions, workshops, and social gatherings. It provides an opportunity for students to showcase their talents and skills, to learn new things, and to interact with other students and faculty members.

Riwaaz-e-Taarikh, Paper Presentation Competition

The KMC Journal of South Asian Studies, an initiative led by LEGACY - The History Society, Kirori Mal College, aspires to focus on creating an accessible and comprehensive forum for study relating to the subcontinent in order to preserve a history as wealthy as that of South Asia.



Stein Story

Joseph Allen Stein, a well known American architect designed several buildings in Delhi, especially in Lodhi Estate.

Therefore, this area is often referred to as 'Steinabad'. His designs though contemporary, incorporated some medieval architectural elements like jalis. he used earthy colours and achieved an ecological balance by maintaining harmony with nature in his architecture.

Some buildings designed by him are The India International Center (IIC), Indian Habitat Center(IHC) and Triveni Kala Sangam.

A Heritage Walk to The National Museum

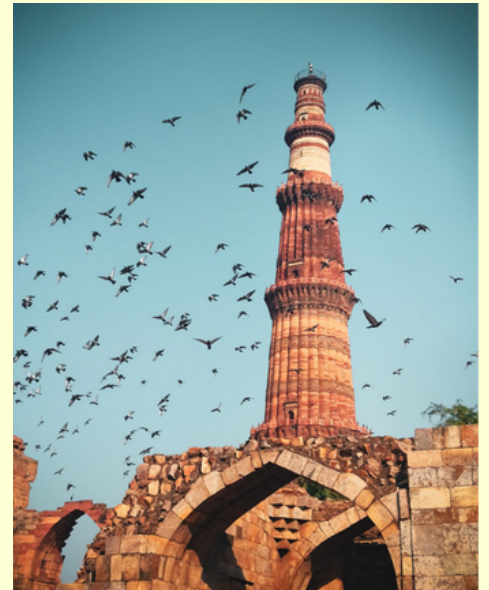
'Sakshya' - The History Society of Hindu College organized a heritage walk to the National Museum, New Delhi, and the India Gate Complex, followed by the National War Memorial in Central Delhi, one of the many initiatives of the society, to accentuate the knowledge of architectural marvel and the value of historical observation. The walk was led by teachers of the History department.

At the National Museum students witnessed a veritable culmination of different objects of historical relevance making plausible a careful retelling of the past including artefacts from Harappan Civilization and various artistic styles of Gandhar and Maurya period.

The heritage walk helped the students to discover the multifarious facets of the Indian past, and connect the conceptual knowledge gained from historical discourse to the tangible reality of Indian heritage, egging us to discover more as historians and scholars in the future.

A Visit to Qutub Minar

The History department of Hindu College in collaboration with the sociology department paid a visit to the Qutub Minar. The students explored the various structures in the vicinity such as Ala'i minar, tombs of of Iltutmish and Ala-ud-din Khilji and Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque.



METAL MASTERY

THE IRON PILLAR OF CHANDRAGUPTA II IS A SCIENTIFIC MARVEL. IT STANDS NEAR THE QUTUB MINAR IN DELHI. THE TOTAL HEIGHT OF THE PILLAR IS 7.2 METERS OF WHICH 93 CM IS UNDERGROUND. THE HIGH AMOUNT OF PHOSPHORUS IN THE IRON FORMED A LAYER OF 'MISAMITE', WHICH HAS PROTECTED THE IRON PILLAR FROM RUSTING. SIR ROBERT HADFIELD'S CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE IRON PILLAR DISCLOSED THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS- CARBON-0.080%, SILICON-0.046%, PHOSPHOROUS-0.114%, IRON- 99.720%.

St. Stephen's College

Dastaangoi Performance

The History Society, in collaboration with The Internal Quality Assurance Cell, organised a Dastangoi performance called Dastan-e Taqseem-e Hind: The Partition of India by Pratap Sen & Rohan Chopra on the 10th of November, 2023. The performance uses the Urdu storytelling format to present a riveting tale of the Partition that amalgamated information from news reports, archival material, documentaries, academic monographs, memoirs, poetry and personal anecdotes.

A Visit to Hauz Khas

The Talks and Walks vertical organised a walk to Hauz Khas led by Sakshi Sharma and Pratyusha Chakrabarti and accompanied by Dr. Sudipto Basu on the 25th of February, 2023. The theme 'Underlying Urbanisms' covered the historical and evolving significance of the structures of the complex in the urban milieu and placed the complex within a larger complex of urban needs such as education, religious centres, access to water etc.



Did You Know?

Dastangoi or Qissagoi is the art of storytelling from the 13th century. It is said that when Nizamuddin Auliya fell ill, his disciple Amir Khusrau told him a series of stories called the 'Qissae-Chahar Dervish' (The Tale of Four Dervishes). Auliya recovered, and this tradition continued. Dastangoi stories were about magic, djinns and prophecies, surrounding the character of Hamza – who was believed to be the uncle of Prophet Mohammed. He was the powerful and daring Chief Minister of the King of Persia.

Jesus and Mary College

A Walk to Purana Qila

This was a collaborative walk of Dastaan x Global Youth Forum. The walk traced the monument of Purana Qila and Bada Darwaza, Humayun Darwaza, Sher Mandal, Qila-e-Kuhna Mosque, Baoli and a grand finish at Talaqi Darwaza.

A Walk to Mehrauli Archaeological Park

Dastaan, the Art and Architecture Society of JMC collaborated with NSS JMC on the occasion of World Tourism Day on a walk through the monuments at the Mehrauli Archeological Park. The walk touched upon the architecture from the Mamluk dynasty, Lodi dynasty, Mughal rule and even the colonial era.

Two-day Weekend Walk to Qutub Complex

A two-day weekend walk to Qutub Minar was organized to explore various monuments like Alai Darwaza, Quwwat ul Islam Mosque, Iron Pillar, ofc the majestic Qutub Minar, the tomb of Iltutmish, Alauddin Khalji's tomb and madrasa, Alai Darwaza, Tomb of Imam Zamin, Smithson's Folly and Sanderson's sundial. The walk on the last day was a collaboration between Dastaan x Rotaract. The walk was indulgently expansive as we covered these large arrays of monuments.



Dastaan - The Art and Architecture Society of JMC

Dastaan is a platform for students curious about Delhi's glorious heritage, which is a synthesis of diverse cultures, blended perfectly to come to exist as the 'Dilli' we know and love. Dilli is not just the home of the Dilwale, it is also where the old and new co-exist in perfect harmony.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIGS

At least three dozen prehistoric sites have been discovered in and around Delhi.

For instance, four lower Paleolithic stone tools have been found in the Northern Ridge. The first ever excavation by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was done in 1955 at the Purana Qila. In 1983, an Achillean hand-axe was found in the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) area. Numerous excavations carried out by the ASI at Purana Qila, Mehrauli, Tughlaqabad, Siri Fort, Red Fort, and Salimgarh Fort between 1969 and 2008 have revealed stone artefacts from the ancient empires of the Maurya, Sunga, Saka, Kushan, Gupta, and Post-Gupta. Remains have been found from the Rajput, Sultanate, and Mughal Periods as well.

Excavation is still in progress in Purana Qila by ASI.

Kamala Nehru College

Guest Lecture Series

The Department of History organized an online lecture titled “Travel, Trauma, History- Creating Graphic Narrative” by Ms A.P. Payal, this was followed by an online lecture by Mr Amardeep Singh, titled "Nanakpanthis of Indus".

Exhibitions in the College

As a part of the “Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav,” the History honors students worked on an exhibition display showcasing the contribution of female freedom fighters. The students worked on another exhibit tracing the historical relevance of the college’s location through visual documentation and created departmental wallpaper on the theme of ‘Temple Architecture’, including the Nagara, Dravida and Vesara architectural traditions.

A Visit to National Archives Museum

The students of History department visited National Archives Museum with Ms. Jayanti Bala.



Geometry of New Delhi

Lutyens enjoyed using geometrical shapes in his designs. It was reflected in elements in his plan for New Delhi as well.

- A hexagon system with separate triangular sections was created. Important buildings were built at these intersections.
- A rectangular central avenue, known as Rajpath (earlier Kingsway), was designed as a processional path that linked the Viceroy's House or Rashtrapati Bhavan to the War Memorial Arch or India Gate.



Mata Sundri College for Women

GAATHA- History Society

GAATHA, the History Society and DHAROHAR, the Heritage Society of Mata Sundri College for Women has been organising various lectures, conferences, webinars, workshops. As part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (75 years of independence), college celebrated Partition Remembrance Day on 12th August 2022. Dr IffatZarrin impressed the gathering with her thought provoking shayari which was followed by songs, poetry and finally by the National Anthem by the students of History, Punjabi and Jhankar Society.

'Rethinking Partition' Reel Making Competition

As a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Film Society in collaboration with IQAC team of college organised a Reel Making Competition which had a submission deadline of 4th November 2022. Kulwinder Kaur of 2nd year History Honours and Jyotsana of 3rd year History Honours stood 1st and 3rd respectively.



Lecture on 'मध्य कालीन प्रेमाख्यान ऐतिहासिक स्रोत'

GAATHA had organised a lecture by Dr Lokesh Kumar of the Department of Hindi on the topic 'मध्य कालीन भक्ति कविता में प्रेम के आख्यान' on 21st September 2023.

'Monuments' Painting Competition

A painting competition with a theme "Monuments" on 14th February 2023 was organized. This competition was open to all the students of the college.



In 1931, the Imperial capital of New Delhi was established as a seat of power of the British Empire. Its chief architect, Edwin Lutyens took inspiration from various indigenous elements in its architecture. For instance, the use of local raw materials, like, red and buff sandstone; the Sanchi Stupa dome, inspired the design for a similar dome in the Rashtrapati Bhavan. A decorative element, Chattri was adopted from the architectural style in Rajasthan and adapted into fountain bowls....

To protect the building from the blazing heat of sun and rains, Lutyens incorporated the Mughal element, Chajja which is a stone slab. In addition to, using stone screens inspired from Mughal Jali work

The next time you visit the Rashtrapati Bhavan, do look out for these - interesting architectural features

- A CAPITAL STORY: THE BUILDING OF NEW DELHI, 1911-1931 (INTACH)

Motilal Nehru College

Walk to the Qutub Complex

Abstract- The History Society of Motilal Nehru College, conducted a heritage walk to the Qutub Complex. The walk was led by Dr. Kalpana Malik, Mr. Ravinder Singh and Mr. Prateek Ahlawat, all specialized in the field of Medieval History, gave the students insights into the architecture of Qutub Complex. Through Heritage walks students can learn about historic value of the site and encourage them to preserve it.

Heritage Awareness Programme

History society organized awareness programme to orient students about the necessity to preserve heritage. different initiatives were discussed to promote heritage conservation including heritage walk, festivals and debates.

Heritage Debate Competition

Debate competition was organized among students of history to awaken heritage preservation spirit. The topic of debate was "The impact of COVID 19 on heritage".



Inter-College Competitions on Lesser Known Heritage, Varanasi



INTACH Varanasi Chapter organized a Group Presentation/Competition on 'Lesser Known Heritage of India' which was hosted by Sunbeam Women's College Varuna. The aim of this program is to make college students aware of their role in the conservation and preservation of our natural, cultural and living heritage.

INTACH Varanasi Chapter also organized an Inter-College Quiz on the occasion of Azaadi ka Amrit Mahotsava. The theme of the quiz was 'Struggle for Independence and Rebuilding India', it was hosted by Sunbeam Women's College Bhagwanpur.

Delhi College of Arts and Commerce

Presentations on 'Hidden in Plain site'

The Department of History organized a series of student presentations titled Hidden in Plain Site series where the focus is on themes like lesser known luminaries and the intangible and tangible heritage. As part of these series students besides talking about luminaries who have contributed to the making of India post 1947 also made presentations on themes like the Hornbill festival of Nagaland, the role of Kerala Kalamandalam and the various forms of dances.

Visit to Various Sites in Delhi

History department organized awareness programme to orient students about the necessity to preserve heritage. Heritage walk to Humayun's Tomb and Sundar Nursery was also organized, in order to make the heritage walks more meaningful the students made photo guides of the monuments, which described a brief history of the monument, its significance and its symbolism. Students also visited National Museum and National Gallery of Modern Art to enrich their knowledge about art and culture.



College Magazine

The students were encouraged to focus on the art, architecture, traditions, rituals and cuisines of the regions they belong to and present it in the class. Students will be compiling all these topics in the magazine which will act as a source for other students.

HERITAGE ALERT!

Dwindling Folk Arts of Jammu Region

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra

Mr. Kripal Singh, member, INTACH Jammu Chapter, during his session at the College Heritage Volunteer workshop (March 2023), spoke on the folk art of Jammu. He gave a humorous and educative talk on the dwindling folk heritage of Jammu. He talked about how handicrafts are made using material that is local to the area. This is not just heritage but also a means to better economic conditions and tourism. He said that folk artists' lives are hard but happy. He mentioned folk art, artists, folk festivals and the different tribes that are present in the Jammu region. He mentioned a few handicrafts like pidhi (stool), wooden comb, gadirna (walker), rassi (rope), etc.



INTACH Restoration Project of Majuli Island

Cotton University, Guwahati

During her session at the College Heritage Volunteer workshop (August 2019), Dr. Shiela Bora highlighted the rich Vaishnavite culture and a storehouse of antiquities at Majuli islands. The presentation showcased the manuscript restoration undertaken for the satras of Majuli, with special reference to the Dakshinapat Satra. It was described how the Dakshinapat Satra was a storehouse of antiquities of cultural importance and was an advanced centre of performing arts. It was also shared how following considerable efforts and talks with INTACH, the Chief Minister was persuaded to build a museum and an inauguration stone was laid on 7 July 2019.



Lady Shri Ram College

Field Trips to Various Sites in Delhi

The Department of History organized a vibrant plethora of activities, for exploring and understanding the intricacies and various aspects of the discipline for the students. The students along with the faculty undertake field trips in and around the places of historical importance such as are Qutub Minar, Mehrauli Archaeological Park, Humayun's Tomb, Sundar Nursery, Lodi Garden, National Museum, Malay Mandir. So that the students can develop a deeper understanding of the Site's historical and heritage significance.



Research Papers and Assignments

As a part of the internal assessment and evaluation, students were assigned with tasks which requires them to go beyond the textbook knowledge and explore the possibilities, an extensive range of sources as well as hardcore research to prepare their projects.

Especially in papers concerning the region of Delhi and nearby, students visited the sites and tried to acquire first hand sources like oral histories by taking interviews, mythical and folk traditions, buildings and ruins and inscriptions. They have also developed a fondness towards trying to understand local cultures by looking at the handicrafts and related items on sale by regional and local artisans.



Did You Know?

The Athpula Bridge is located near Sikander Lodi's Tomb. 'Ath' means eight and 'pula' means span or pier. The bridge is said to have been built during the Mughal Emperor Akbar's reign by Nawab Bahadur. The bridge has seven arches and eight piers. This bridge is said to have spanned the tributary of the Yamuna that fed the South Delhi area.

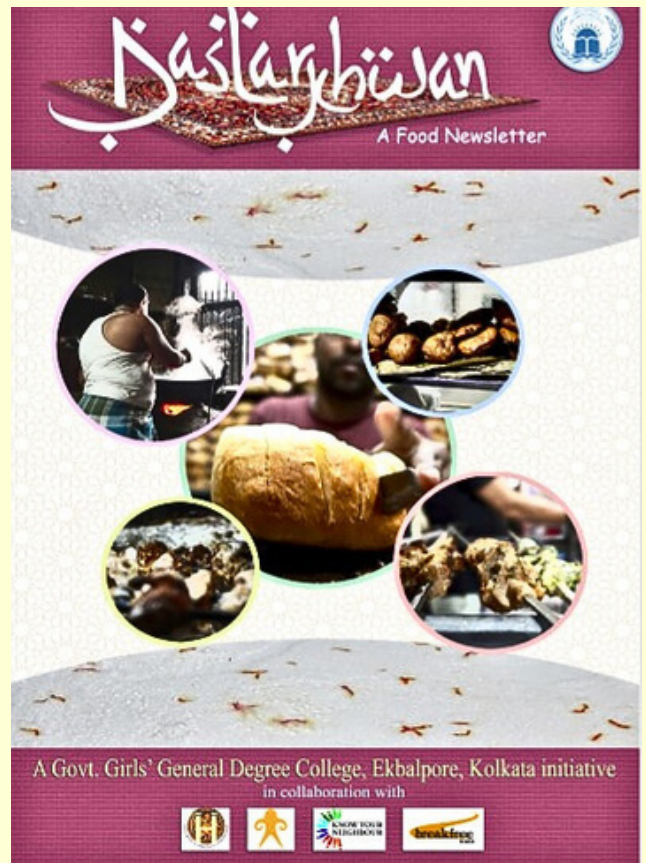


College Initiative: Heritage Food Festival

The Government Girl's General Degree College, Ekbalpore Kolkata hosted heritage food festival, 'KHANA-E-KIDDERPORE' in collaborations with INTACH, West Bengal Heritage Commission, Know Your Neighbour and Break Free Trails. To celebrate culinary art of kidderpore, this was an important port town in 19th century leading to amalgamation of cultures. Food and photography competition was organized followed by talks, panel discussion and cultural programme with poetry reading, Kathak and Ghazal performance.

Festival included local food eateries, sweet shops and students making delicacy of the region which is rich in culinary traditions from biryani and kebabs to mawaladdu and nan khatai.

Students of Government Girl's General Degree College also showcased documentary film on food tradition of Kidderpore, students visited local restaurants and eatery to survey and record what goes behind cooking and serving the experience, that is food.



DASTARKHWAN, A Food Newsletter- interesting initiative by the students it includes history of kidderpore, its Shahi Pakwan or royal cuisine, sweets and snacks.



FEATURE STORY



The United Nations General Assembly at its 75th session in March 2021, declared 2023 the International Year of Millets.

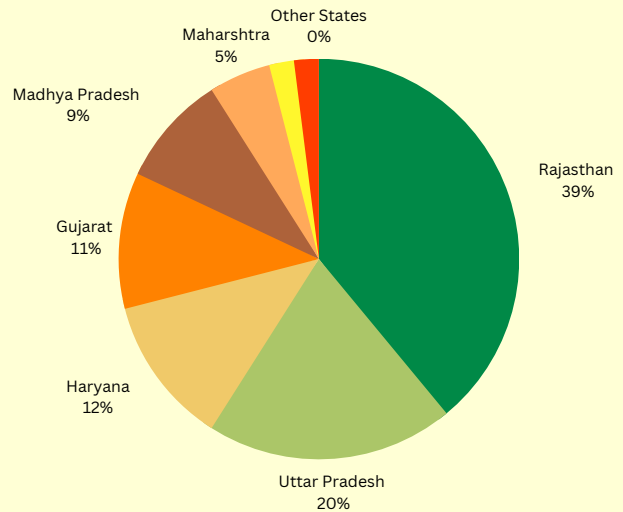
Millet is a group of small-seeded grasses grown as grain crops. The most common are pearl millet (bajra), finger millet (ragi), and sorghum (jowar). Pearl millet accounts for nearly half of total millet output. Foxtail, barnyard, proso, and other minor millets are examples. These crops are grown in a variety of Asian and African countries, with India being the world's largest millet producer.

Millets are adapted to drylands and can grow in harsh conditions. They reduce the risk to farmers and communities because they are hardy, dissolved salts-tolerant, and can grow in drought-prone environments with poor soils, even in temperatures as high as 50 degrees Celsius.



In 2020, India's two millet varieties, Pearl Millet (Bajra) and Sorghum (Jowar), will contribute approximately 19% of global production. In 2020, India's Pearl Millet production accounts for 40.51 percent of global Millet production, with Sorghum accounting for 8.09 percent.

State-wise Millet production in 2021-22



India produces a wide range of millets, including Pearl Millets, Sorghum, Finger Millet, Foxtail, Kodo, Barnyard, Proso, Little Millet, and Pseudo Millets such as Buckwheat and Amaranths. Pearl millet (Bajra), sorghum (Jowar), and finger millet (Ragi) account for the majority of millet production in India.

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the National Institute of Nutrition in India and other partners discovered that eating millets on a regular basis can lower the risk of diabetes and obesity, improve cholesterol levels, and lower the risk of cardiovascular disease.

Did You Know?

Millet is one of the oldest human foods and believed to be the first domesticated cereal grain. They were probably first cultivated in Asia more than 4,000 years ago, and they were major grains in Europe during the Middle Ages.

My Monument Report

Visit a monument with your friends and identify its main architectural elements. You can include following questions in your documentation card.

Are there any interesting stories or myths associated with the monument?

What are the unique features of the monument?

What is the function of the building?

What makes this monument special?

What is the present condition?

Any other suggestions



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