



INTACH

# Paramparā

2015 (Issue 2)

We, at the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) would like to thank each and every one of you for the initiatives that you have undertaken to take forward the movement of protecting India's heritage. We urge you to continue these efforts and preserve what is yours for yourself as well as the future generations.



Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop, INTACH  
15th and 16th January 2015

## I CARE...

**FOR THE WONDERS OF NATURE THAT ARE MINE TO PROTECT  
FOR THE RICHNESS OF CULTURE THAT I PROMISE TO RESPECT  
FOR THE HERITAGE OF INDIA THAT IS OURS TO PROTECT.**

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# MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBER SECRETARY

We are pleased to share the second issue of the INTACH HECS College e-Newsletter 'Parampara'. This e-Newsletter showcases the efforts of the students from the colleges of Delhi University to promote heritage at their respective educational institutions. INTACH appreciates your efforts, and we would like to extend a special thanks to the students of Gargi College, Jesus and Mary College, Kamala Nehru College, Sri Venkateswara College, Lady Shri Ram College for Women and Miranda House College for the initiatives that they undertook as well as their contributions, ideas and suggestions for this e-Newsletter. It would not have been possible to put it together without you! This issue of the newsletter highlights the heritage activities undertaken by the colleges in the current academic session, 2014-15, 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 'Parampara' bi-annually.

## EDITORIAL



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



As a part of this initiative, a Heritage Volunteering Training Workshop was organized by INTACH, New Delhi, in January 2015. The student volunteers were encouraged to promote heritage conservation initiatives in their respective institutions. The feedback received from the participants has been positive and confirms that our collective efforts have made a difference! This e-newsletter is meant to function as a platform to showcase the efforts of our student volunteers towards heritage awareness.



We at HECS would especially like to acknowledge the efforts of the students of Gargi College, Jesus and Mary College, Kamala Nehru College, Sri Venkateswara College, Lady Shri Ram College for Women and Miranda House College. This e-Newsletter would not have been possible without your valuable contribution! We look forward to your continued support in taking up such heritage conservation initiatives in the future too.

## HERITAGE VOLUNTEER TRAINING WORKSHOP



The Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop for undergraduate and postgraduate students of Delhi was held at INTACH, New Delhi on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> January 2015. Close to 85 students from nine colleges of the University of Delhi, the Department of History and Culture of Jamia Millia Islamia and the Special Centre for Sanskrit Studies of Jawaharlal Nehru University participated. Sessions were conducted by a panel of eminent scholars including Dr. Narayani Gupta and Prof. A. G. Krishna Menon. The workshop also included a heritage walk to Lodhi Gardens, a Seraikella Chhau dance performance by the Intangible Cultural Heritage department, a visit to the Material Heritage division, and a quiz related to the heritage of Delhi. The students were also trained to become active heritage volunteers and undertake various initiatives in their institutions to promote heritage. They were given a time period of four to five months to organize various heritage activities in their respective colleges. The subsequent pages of the newsletter provide a glimpse of some of these initiatives.

## HERITAGE INITIATIVES BY THE STUDENTS





## Gargi College



On 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015, the students of Gargi College organized a **History Fest 'Antaraal'**, based on the theme '**Celebrating Intangible Heritage and Performative Traditions in India**'. Prof. T. K. V. Subramanian and Ms. Geeta Chandran were the distinguished speakers. Prof. Subramanian spoke on, '*Music and Theatre: Performative Traditions in India*', and Ms. Chandran gave a lecture on the topic, '*Bharatnatyam: Where History Springs to Life*'. Both the speakers highlighted the importance of intangible heritage in their own respective fields and emphasized on the importance of continuously maintaining their passion for both these forms of heritage.

Four competitions were held as a part of this festival, and the students were encouraged to participate in large numbers and showcase their talents. The competitions were:

**Quiz:** 'Performative Traditions',

**One Act Play:** 'Dialogue with the Past',

**Debate:** 'Technology has sounded the Death Knell of the Performing Arts'

**Face Painting and Mask Making**



*"All the competitions proved to be quite exciting and a fun way to dwell over the both tangible and intangible Heritage. Overall, the fest was an enjoyable experience where there was an intermingling of the knowledge and the practice of the different forms of heritage."*

*~Sushobha Sanyal, B.A. Hons. History, Gargi College*

The History Department of Gargi College organised **a one-day trip to Kurukshetra**, and here, they visited two built heritage sites and one museum.

The **Sheikh Chaheli's Tomb** consists of two tombs (one of Sheikh Chaheli and the other of his wife), a Madrasa, a Mosque and Mughal Gardens to the north. The Assistant Superintendent Archaeologist, Mr. Sameer Diwan guided them through this historical place. The reconstruction process was being carried out in one of the areas at the time of the visit.

They visited the **Sri Krishna Museum** where, through the use of 3D and Multimedia, the whole museum showed the various stages of Krishna's life and the whole story of the Mahabharata, especially the sayings of Krishna in Bhagawad-Gita. The museum was beautifully laid out with carvings and realistic statues, which encouraged any visitor to stand, stare, read and ponder.

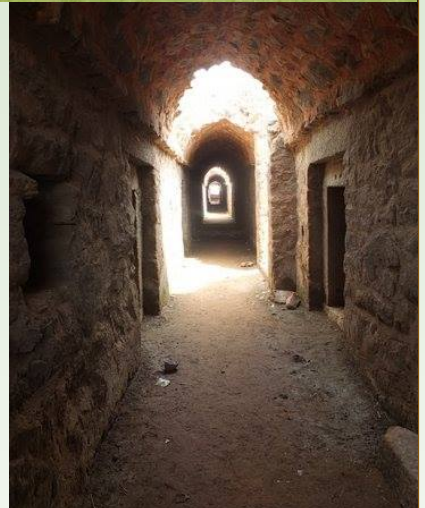
The students also went to **Brahma Sarovar**, an ancient water tank sacred to Hinduism. People often bathe in this sarovar in order to symbolically purify themselves.

# Jesus and Mary College

'DASTAAN', the Art and Architecture Society of Jesus and Mary college, is dedicated to spreading awareness about the rich tangible and intangible culture of India. For Dastaan, the year was jam-packed with a wide array of activities. Right from the very beginning, the society was suffused with enthusiasm and energy. The response Dastaan received during its orientation was overwhelming. More than 200 students from different courses registered and became a part of Dastaan's close knit family. With such an overwhelming response, they began scheduling heritage walks and talks. They focused on organising walks to the lesser known monuments of Delhi and started a campaign called- #KnowTheUnknown. This became a mission for their society to lift the obscurity surrounding these monuments. This year, Dastaan organised heritage walks to the following places:



**Qutub Minar complex  
Lodhi Gardens  
Safdurjung's Tomb  
Mehrauli Archaeological Park  
Red Fort  
Jama Masjid  
Kotla Feroz Shah  
Nizamuddin Basti  
Mughal Gardens  
Tughlaqabad Fort**



To view more photographs of walks conducted by Dastaan, log on to [www.facebook.com/dastaan.jmc](http://www.facebook.com/dastaan.jmc)

## Jesus and Mary College (continued...)

Dastaan conducted a number of talks by eminent historians, who spoke about different aspects of Delhi's culture and art.

Dr. Nilima Chitgopekar: "The World of Shiva through the prism of art and iconography"

Dr. Najaf Haider: "The lost city of Delhi through the Persian histories"

Dr. Swapna Liddle: "Qutub Minar Complex and the roots of Composite Culture"

Dastaan also represented the college at ANTARDHWANI. The stall was a success and many appreciated the work being carried out by the society. The members of Dastaan used this avenue to ask people who visited the stall to 'Take a pledge with Dastaan' to save heritage.

UTSAV '15, Dastaan's annual festival saw a range of competitions both online and offline. A 'Heritage Quiz' was conducted in collaboration with INTACH; 'Rang Manch', an on-the-spot acting competition; 'Art Pitara: Making the Best Out of Waste' competition; and two online competitions – 'Ashar' (Poetry competition) and 'Spectrum' (Photography competition), which saw huge participation. The Quiz was held for the sole purpose of spreading awareness about heritage of Delhi among the participants as well as the audience.

Dastaan also recently launched their own Newsletter and Blog. To keep in touch with the people who follow their society, they have a Facebook and an Instagram page.



**DASTAAN**  
The Art & Architecture Society  
Jesus & Mary College  
Presents  
**UTSAV'15**  
26th & 27th March

On the Spot events:-  
Rang Manch (On spot Acting Competition)  
Zeb-i-dilli (A Quiz on Delhi)  
Art Pitara (Best out of the Waste Competition)

Online events:-  
Spectrum (Photography Competition)  
Ashar (Poetry Competition)

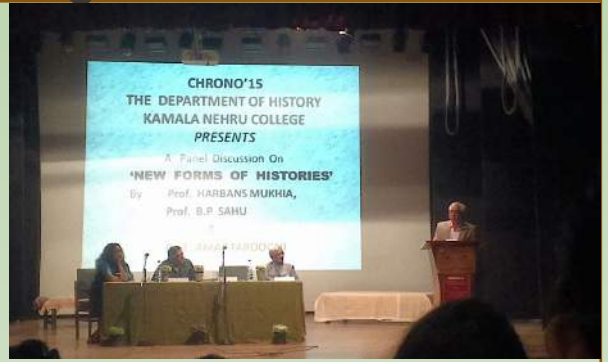
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# Kamala Nehru College

The History Department of Kamala Nehru College organized their **annual festival 'CHRONO'** on 18th and 19th February 2015. Their festival consisted of a number of activities, which were entertaining as well as enriching.

The first day kick started with the **annual lecture** by Prof. T. K. V. Subramanian, who gave a talk on, '**The Madras Music Scenario from the 1920s to 1960s**'. This was followed by a **Paper Presentation** competition on 'Social and Political Movements in Indian History'. The students also actively participated in a **Cartoon Making** competition and a **Treasure Hunt**.

The second day started with a **Panel Discussion** of three distinguished historians, namely, Prof. Harbans Mukhia, who spoke about many ways of studying history, Prof. B. P. Sahu, who spoke about perspectives in early Indian history, and Prof. Amar Farooqui, who spoke about India in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This was followed by question-answer session. The festival ended with an enthralling **Sufi Music Performance** by Dr. Madan Gopal Singh and Char Yaar, who got the audience to groove to their rhythmic beats and, at the same time, brought tears to their eyes with their soul touching performance.



## DID YOU KNOW?



The revival of Dastangoi, the lost art form of Urdu storytelling, completes a decade in India this year. Mahmood Farooqui, an actor and a writer based in Delhi, revived this art form and has been working tirelessly to promote it. Developed thousand years ago, these are stories about the valour and adventures of Amir Hamza, an Arab hero. Dastangoi was very popular in 19<sup>th</sup> century India, but with the demise of Mir Baqar Ali, who was the last known exponent of this art form, in 1928, the form also died with him.

# Sri Venkateswara College

Heritage walks conducted by 'Ain-i-Dili' society of Sri Venkateswara College



## *A Glimpse of the Culture of Sri Venkateswara College*

'Tirumula Tirupati Devasthanam Sri Venkateswara College' – the name of the college itself provides a hint of the rich South Indian culture that is prevalent in this college. One can have a glimpse of its distinct culture, not only through its architecture, but also its intangible culture.

As far as architecture is concerned, the structure of the entrance of this college is in the form of a 'gopuram', which exhibits the 'Vesara' style of the architecture. There is a temple within the college premises itself, dedicated to the Lord Sri Venkateswara. The foyer is adorned with beautiful paintings depicting the life scenes of Lord Sri Venkateshwara. Interestingly, one of the paintings depicts his marriage.

As far as intangible culture is concerned, before the start of any important event, which includes the cultural event 'NEXUS', the lord is worshipped and following that the students of the college perform dances and sing songs, particularly in order to display the culture of the south. All the festivals, especially the south Indian festivals, are celebrated with a lot of pomp and show. Also, since language forms an important part of the culture, Tamil and Telugu are offered as optional subjects in the syllabus to all the students.

However, one needs to understand the fact that even though the college has kept its culture intact, it should not be presumed that there is no diversity. Students with diverse cultural backgrounds are a part of this college. There is a complete acceptance of this heterogeneity. Students belonging to diverse cultural backgrounds together have fun especially at the beautiful 'Rock Garden', which adds to the beauty of the college. The 'Satya Niketan market', which is located in front of the college, is one of the famous sites for hangout among them. So by interacting amongst themselves, they learn a lot about each other's culture.



# Miranda House College

The students of Miranda House College went for a Heritage Walk to Nizamuddin, and Qwinkl Kalita, a student of 1<sup>st</sup> year B.A. Hons. History has provided us with a detailed report and photographs of this excursion. This is a summarized version of her report.



*A day's walk around Nizamuddin could not possibly give us a complete understanding about heritage, but it provided the necessary intellectual stimulus to delve into the question of what heritage is. Nizamuddin has a rich history and this invited my attention as a budding historian. In addition to the monument, we visited the Basti, the MCD School and the market located inside. The area was earlier called Ghiyasuddin. As we marched along with a guide, we were made aware about many aspects of this area. The basti started with the death of the Sufi saint Nizamuddin Auliya. Devotees began to linger in and around the burial of the saint and settled down in the peripheral area. Eventually as they died, they were also buried here. Agha Khan initiated the repair the MCD School, which had existed as a study place for the children of this locality.*

*The other spots covered in the trip includes the Tilangani tomb, Attar street, Urs Mahal, Attar Khan's Tomb, Fulwali Gali, Khwaja Hall, Alwi Chowk, Imam Bargah and Mohammad Shah Rangila's Tomb. The aura surrounding these monuments and streets gave an impression of grandeur. The streets were narrow 'galis', and it was difficult for even three people to walk.*

*It is interesting that behind this basti, there is a posh colony. A question that came to my mind was - why has such a historically rich area become so degraded over time? The lax attitude of the authorities and the lack of sensitivity among the people may be the major factors that contributed to this. Also, people have started commercializing the area, but have not taken any initiative to preserve it. All this made me realize that steps need to be taken by us to help the authorities build upon the ruins and restore them to their former glory.*

*History has become a source of nostalgic reminiscence for me. However, I also remember what they say - "History is not nostalgia, it is not written to revere the dead, but to inspire the living". This provides the necessary encouragement to take a step forward and do what needs to be done!*

# Miranda House College (continued...)

Heritage Awareness Initiatives undertaken by the History Department of Miranda House



**HERITAGE WALK  
TO NIZAMUDDIN  
DARGAH**

**SPIC MACAY EVENT  
TO PROMOTE  
CULTURAL  
HERITAGE**



**TREE WALK**

**DEPARTMENT TRIP TO UDAIPUR**



**HERITAGE WALK  
TO HUMAYUN'S  
TOMB**



**HERITAGE WALK  
TO A BAOLI**



**HERITAGE WALK TO ISA KHAN'S  
TOMB**



# Lady Shri Ram College for Women



Lady Shri Ram  
College for Women

Lady Shri Ram College for Women sent us a detailed proposal enlisting the initiatives that they plan to undertake for the promotion of heritage in their institution.

## **PROPOSAL FOR PROMOTION OF HERITAGE CONSERVATION**

**Aim:** To partner with INTACH and work towards the conservation of India's rich heritage and history.

### **Objectives:**

- To increase sensitivity in college regarding the importance of heritage conservation
- To encourage students of the History Department to study history with a more hands-on approach
- To build cooperation between the Department of History, LSR and INTACH so as to work towards the greater goals of the two

### **Follow-up:**

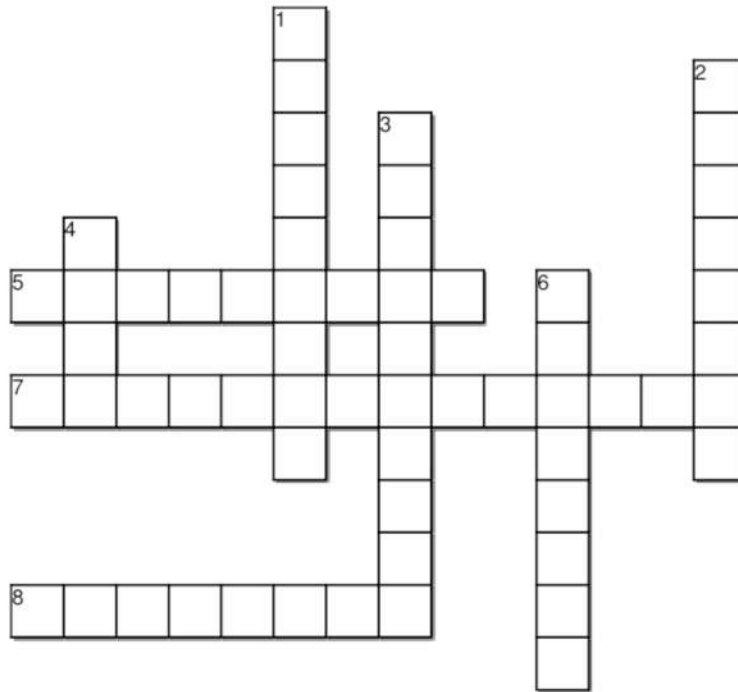
- Setting up a **heritage club**, in order to involve enthusiastic students from all departments with the opportunity to study the heritage of India and to engage in activities related to the conservation of the same, including:
  - Organization of Heritage Walks
  - Organization of Heritage Conservation Workshops to sensitize students about the importance of conservation of heritage
  - Organization of an endangered craft conservation workshop. This will involve inviting a craftsman to teach students their craft and showcase their work
  - Organization of a paper presentation competition (open to participation from other colleges) on a theme relevant to Heritage Conservation
- Encouraging students to write **articles** on topics relevant to heritage and publishing the same on the **Department blog**
- Putting up **information on different kinds of tangible and intangible cultural heritage** on the **Department board**.
- Engaging with INTACH to stay informed about **internship and volunteer opportunities in INTACH**

The History Department intends to actively associate with INTACH in conducting these activities successfully so that the larger mission of heritage conservation can be optimally propagated within LSR and the greater goals of INTACH and the Department of History can be achieved. We, at INTACH, look forward to providing full support to any initiatives undertaken by the students.

# CROSSWORD

## The Seven Cities of Delhi

Delhi has had a long history and despite occasional dislocations, there has been a remarkable continuity. Historians speak of the "Seven Cities of Delhi". Do you know about all of them?



### Across

5. Firoz Shah Tughlaq created a city of Delhi, which is now known as Kotla Firoz Shah, and it is located next to the river Yamuna. What was this city called?
7. Rajput king Prithviraj Chauhan's ancestors captured Delhi from the Tomars. What did he name this city after he acquired control over it?
8. The place that was originally built by Humayun as his capital Dinpanah, was razed by Sher Shah and he built another city in its place. What was the name of this city?

### Down

1. The Lal Qila and Chandni Chowk are located in the seventh city of Delhi. This area is presently called 'Old Delhi'. Who was responsible for building this city?
2. What was the name of the Tomar ruler, who is said to have 'founded' the city of Delhi?
3. Mohammad bin Tughlaq raised a city, which largely comprised of a palace complex between Qila Rai Pithora and Siri. What was its name?
4. Alauddin Khalji created one of the cities of Delhi. What was its name?
6. When Delhi became the capital of Mamluk or the Slave dynasty, Qutbuddin Aibak brought about many architectural changes in Prithviraj Chauhan's city. What is the area where it is currently located?

# DISCOVERING THE WORLD HERITAGE SITES OF INDIA

The Qutub Minar is divided into five storeys and decorated with ornamental bands. The first three storeys are built entirely of red sandstone, though not evenly of the same colour. In the first and the second, the stones are pinkish buff, and in the third, dark red. Shafts of the upper two storeys are encased in marble and red sandstone.



The temples of the Pattadakal group of Monuments in Karnataka depict a wonderful blend of Dravidian and Nagara architectural styles.



Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus formerly known as the Victoria Terminus station is an outstanding example of Victorian Gothic Revival architecture in India. It was built in 1888.

The Konark Sun Temple at Orissa was built in the 13th century during the reign of King Narsimha Deva and it is dedicated to Surya, the Sun God. It depicts seven horses for seven days of the week, and twelve pairs of wheels, decorated with symbolic designs, for the twelve months.



Humayun's Tomb was built by Humayun's widow Hamida Bano Begum, a few years after his death. The roof surmounted by a double dome (42.5m) of marble has pillared chhatris placed around it. The tomb is a synthesis of Persian architecture and Indian traditions.



Hampi is located within the ruins of Vijayanagara, on the banks of Tungabhadra River, in Karnataka. It formed one of the cores of the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire from 1336 to 1565. More recently Hampi was listed by UNESCO on the list of the World Heritage in Danger prompted by the construction of two new suspension bridges and a new major road within the Core Protected Area, which threaten the World Heritage Site's integrity.



Pavalagadh Hill was a famous Hindu fortress under the Solanki kings of Gujarat. The Pavalagadh Archaeological Park is an example of a living cultural heritage, a place of worship and pilgrimage for Hindus.

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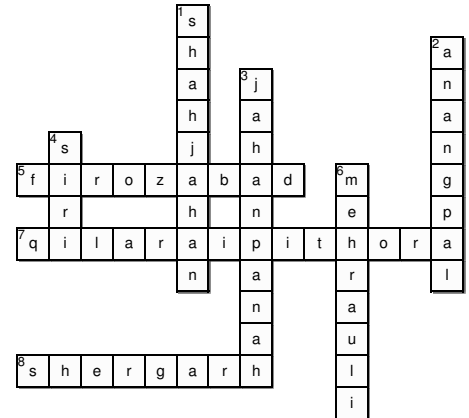
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## ANSWER KEY: CROSSWORD



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