

# PARAMPARA



## College Heritage Volunteer Programme Annual e-Newsletter (2017 - 18), Issue - 5

[www.youngintach.org](http://www.youngintach.org)  
[www.intach.org](http://www.intach.org)

### Message from INTACH

We are pleased to share the **fifth issue of the College Heritage Volunteer e-Newsletter, 'Parampara'**. It highlights the heritage activities undertaken by colleges and other contributions from students in 2017-18. We appreciate the efforts of the history departments of 15 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.



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**Heritage of my native place**

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**Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH)** is a membership organisation of volunteers, committed towards preserving and conserving, art and cultural heritage in India. Established in 1984, INTACH protects unprotected monuments and sites, preserves and conserves the environment and living heritage, and fosters an awareness and appreciation of our past.

INTACH's mission to conserve heritage is premised on the belief that living in harmony with heritage enhances the quality of life and is the duty of every Indian citizen.

INTACH has successfully undertaken numerous heritage restoration, preservation and awareness initiatives. It has widened its membership-base to involve more individuals to address its core heritage concerns.

Membership is important, as it gives weight to INTACH's representation as a premier Indian institution dedicated to preserve and conserve the country's art and cultural heritage. The representation must stretch across social strata and not remain only with the educated elite."

*[INTACH Chapter guidelines]*

**For more information, visit:** [www.intach.org](http://www.intach.org), [www.intach.org/join-become-a-member.php](http://www.intach.org/join-become-a-member.php)

## 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/>

## 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>

## **Volunteer Programme 2017-18 ...**

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. In addition to, seeing their role in carrying it to the future as a living inheritance. Since 2012, over 2000 undergraduate student volunteers have been trained through workshops and forums organised by INTACH in 16 cities (until March 2018). Our project cities (at the moment) are Chandigarh; Chennai; Gangtok; Guwahati; Gwalior; Hyderabad; Jammu; Kakinada; New Delhi; Pune; Shimla; Shillong; Udaipur; Varanasi; Warangal and Wai.

We do believe all our project cities are valuable links who are undertaking interesting heritage work. In the financial year - 2017/18, four forums, five workshops and one college heritage session was organised. The cities of Hyderabad, Shillong, Udaipur and Wai joined our network too. We reached out to: 9 cities; 728 students; 163 teachers and 71 colleges.

The e-newsletter is a celebration of your efforts and work undertaken by students, as well as, college faculty members.

### **College Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop in Delhi**

The College Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop for undergraduate history students of Delhi University was held on 16 January 2018 at INTACH New Delhi. It was attended by 87 students, 12 faculty members from 15 colleges. Including, the Delhi College of Arts and Commerce; Daulat Ram College; Gargi College; Hindu College; Hans Raj College; Indraprastha College for Women; Jesus and Mary College; Kamala Nehru College; Kalindi College; Lady Shri Ram College for Women; Mata Sundari College; Maiteryi College; Miranda House; Sri Venkateswara College; and St. Stephens College.

The workshop introduced and discussed various aspects of heritage. Including, Understanding Heritage and its components by Ms Purnima Datt (Principal Director, HECS); Heritage-based development of Delhi and its related conservation issues by Prof. A. G. K. Menon (Architect and Conservation Consultant); Historic Delhi- Its Heritage and the Role of Youth by Dr Narayani Gupta (Historian); Understanding Material Heritage and a visit to the conservation lab by Dr Padma Rohilla (Director, INTACH Conservation Institute Delhi). In addition to, a heritage walk to Lodhi Garden with Dr Swapna Liddle (Convenor, INTACH Delhi).

The sessions and interactions helped raise general awareness on various heritage issues gripping the nation. At the end of the workshop, participants presented heritage activities they could undertake within their respective colleges or neighbourhoods, as well as, suggested ways to safeguard the heritage of their educational institution.



## VOICES FROM THE PROGRAMME:

As a college heritage volunteer, I can organise heritage walks for sensitising people and reach out to students through plays, competitions and other awareness programmes.

- **Aakansha Singh, Kamala Nehru college**

Through HECS, I learned about various cities, their history, important landmarks as well as, their cultural heritage. Once back in college, I will try to spread awareness about the need for heritage conservation and ways in which it can be done. In addition to, INTACH's pivotal role in accomplishing the task.

- **Chaistha Channan, Lady Shri Ram College for Women**

In school, I was introduced to INTACH through activities organised by 'Miraas', the Heritage Club. Later, I discovered HECS through seniors at college. During an HECS internship, I was introduced to office work culture that will act as a base for my future career. As an intern, I learnt to manage my time in a more efficient manner and adapting to a professional setting. However, most importantly, I have developed a deeper appreciation for Indian heritage and the incredible work that goes into maintaining it.

Architectural heritage holds a special place for me along with cultural heritage. Being brought up in an Army background, I have been exposed to a melting pot of traditions and cultures. Therefore, I would like to study different folk-cultures of India, while recognising the importance of monuments too.

- **Tarini Sudhakar, Lady Shri Ram College for Women**

## DID YOU KNOW?

### Varanasi is a UNESCO Creative City of Music.

It is one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world. Given the tradition of classical music and the famous gharana's, and numerous musical maestros, it is paradise for music lovers!

### Jaipur is a UNESCO Creative City of Crafts and Folk Art.

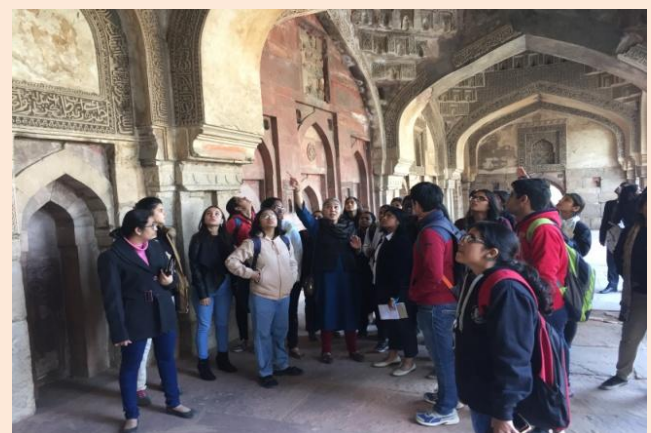
Some crafts made here are bandhani, block printing, stone carving and sculpture, zari, gota-patti, kinari and zardozi, silver jewellery, gems, kundan, jewellery, lakh jewellery, miniature paintings, blue pottery .....

### Ahmedabad is the first Indian city on the UNESCO World Heritage City List.

It is known for its unique heritage of urban living and multiculturalism.



Find out about the music, crafts, folk art and history of an Indian City of your choice. Think about an aspect of its heritage that makes it unique.



Participants at the College Volunteer Heritage Training Workshop at Delhi (16 January 2018)

## Gargi College

### Visit to the Purana Quila

A study tour was organised to the Purana Quila. It was a unique and unusual experience as the team from the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) was engaged in excavations there. The students appreciated an opportunity to interact with the ASI representatives. Including, Dr Akshat Kaushik who described the various methods of archaeology and site identification. Observing the layers of archaeological material, lanes, pottery, wells and brick walls right from the Painted Grey Ware (PGW) levels was indeed an interesting and exciting experience!

### Walk to Qutub Complex

As a part of the Heritage Walk Club, the second year students and teachers visited the Qutub Complex (November 2017). Discussions about the monument, its ritualistic, as well as, historic importance was initiated through the walk. Students attempted to decipher the symbolism of monument's many tombs, and other structures through their visit.



## DELHI

*"I asked my soul: What is Delhi? She replied: The world is the body and Delhi its life!"*

- Mirza Asadullah Khan Ghalib

It maybe perceived as, one of the best lines depicting the culture and spirit of Delhi. It has always been a power centre and represents in many ways, an amalgamation of diverse cultures and traditions, with references to its existence, even in the Mahabharata.

**Delhi boasts of a rich heritage which includes, numerous monuments, havelis to name a few. Together with a rich cultural environment that fosters the growth of new traditions, including, quawalis at the Nizamuddin Dargah and poetry by Ghalib ...**

**- Ragini Sharma, Gargi College**

## Gargi College

### 'RUHANIYAAT'- *An event dedicated to Oral Heritage*

During 'Antaraal', a Gargi College programme, heritage was celebrated in a unique way through 'Ruhaaniyat' a devotional and spiritual singing competition for students. It offered students a platform to enthral the audience with their melodies across various genres. Including, ragas, bhakti, sufi, kawwalis, religious, spiritual carols and others.

The initiative was a collective effort to celebrate oral music traditions of India. Including, folklore, lullabies, devotional songs and others. While they continue to be sung by local people and representatives of the popular myths and legends. Very often, songs with similar narratives exist across regions with variations. Nonetheless, they offer insights into history, cultures and beliefs prevalent amongst locals.

History can be interpreted from oral traditions along with written accounts. It encompasses society as a whole (instead of merely, the top layer) as it revealed by an analysis of oral traditions. Our connections with oral traditions and an aspect of a larger heterogenous society that they represent is interesting, yet challenging, as many traditions remain neglected.

As history students, 'Ruhaniyaat' was an attempt to remember and celebrate these oral traditions that lurk in our vicinities, neighbourhoods and surroundings. It was indeed a memorable evening of holy euphony with an extraordinary musical ambience that drew participants from various colleges.

- **Shivangi Singh and Gargi Sharma, Gargi College**

#### ORAL TRADITIONS

Oral traditions encompass spoken forms, including proverbs, riddles, tales, nursery rhymes, legends, myths, epic songs, poems, charms, prayers, chants, songs, dramatic performances and more. ***They play a crucial role in keeping cultures alive by passing on knowledge, cultural or social values and collective memory.***

They are passed on by word of mouth, therefore, varying significantly, in their 'reproduction, improvisation and creation' ... that contributes to their vibrancy, but making them fragile, since their transmission depends on an uninterrupted chain of transmission over each generation.

Oral traditions and expressions can be safeguarded by maintaining their every day role in society. There is a need for opportunities that enable knowledge to be passed on from person-to-person; elders interaction with youth and so on. Oral traditions constitute an important part of festive and cultural celebrations as well. These celebrations need to be promoted and new contexts, such as, story-telling festivals, be encouraged ...

**Source:** <https://ich.unesco.org/en/oral-traditions-and-expressions-00053>



# Heritage Activities undertaken by Colleges in Delhi University

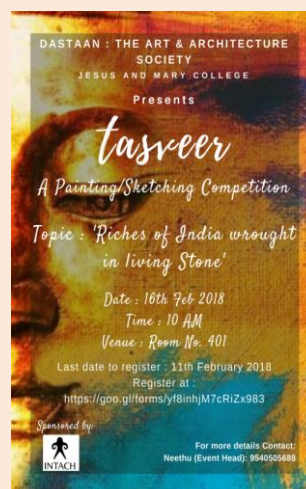
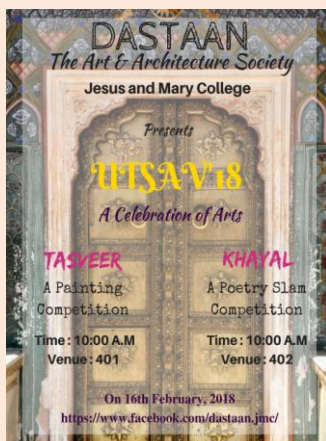
## Jesus and Mary College (JMC)

### Dastaan, Art and Architecture Society – UTSAV 2018

Dastaan - Art and Architecture Society of the Jesus and Mary College (JMC), in collaboration with INTACH's Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS) organised interesting programmes as part of the annual college festival, 'UTSAV 2018' held on 16 February 2018 in the college premises. Three competitions themed on history, heritage and culture were organised. These were Khayal: A Poetry Slam Competition; Tasveer: A Painting and Sketching Competition and Aks-i-dilli: Online Photography Competition.

The Poetry Slam competition had an interesting line-up of young poets from colleges across the city. They shared thoughts on the partition of India, smog in the city and the vibrant culture of Delhi, among other captivating themes! The Painting and Sketching competition showcased beautiful art works and creativity of the artistic students. The Online Photography competition that was organised earlier on, received several unique and delightful entries as well.

Student representative Ms Libin (College Society, President) interacted with the HECS representatives, Ms Shivaa Rawat and Ms Teresa Walter. They were informed about various heritage activities undertaken by the college towards protecting and safeguarding their city's heritage. Including, organising free heritage walks, food walks, talks, seminars among other initiatives. Dr Amita Paliwal (Faculty member, JMC and Society Coordinator) facilitated the session proceedings and thanked INTACH HECS for their support and encouragement.



# Heritage Activities undertaken by Colleges in Delhi University

## Kamala Nehru College (KNC)

The History Department of the college has made sincere and consistent efforts to take History teaching and its various layered aspects beyond classrooms.



### Visit to Purana Qila

The first and second year students visited the Purana Qila (7 February 2018). They were accompanied by faculty members and representatives from the History Department, Dr Archana Ojha, Dr Shubhra Sinha, Dr Shobhana Warriar, Ms Vinita Malik and Ms Victoria; the Political Science Department (Ms Amber Ahmad) and the English Department (Ms Sanam Khanna and Dr Sheuli Chaudhary). The objective was to expose students to the ongoing excavation work, with artefacts dating from the Mauryan period onwards together with the entire site excavation process. The discussions highlighted the continued significance of the site well before it became the capital city of Sher Shah Suri who named it Sher Garh and Din Panah under the Mughal Emperor Humayun. Thereafter, the Archaeological museum and the Qila-i Kuhna Masjid (inside the complex) was visited. It helped understand changes in building construction technology, architectural features by the 16th century and comparisons with the Qutb complex.

### Visit to Qutb Minar



Dr Shubhra Sinha organised a site visit for the second year students to the Qutb Minar (14 February 2018). They were shown the Tomb of Imam Zamin, the Alai Darwaza, the Qutb Minar, the Qubbat-i Islam mosque, the Iron pillar, the Alauddin Khalji's tomb, the madrasa, tomb of Sultan Iltutmish and the Alai Minar. The gradual growth and development of Indo-Islamic architecture in this complex where indigenous structural material was re-used for laying down the foundation of the Qutb complex was explained. The minar was introduced along with arches, domes, chhatris and squinches that became dominant features from this period onwards. Along with the use of lime mortar that was a new cementing agent. The new stylised monuments were based on mortar-masonry work that led to rubble finish on top of which they placed fine limestone plaster or dressed stone. The new beginnings made in different style of ornamentation with motifs cut in stone, cut on plaster and then at the end painted or inlaid. In the same period, mosques and tombs were introduced with surrounding gardens and elaborately decorated doorways became a dominant feature from 13th century onwards.

Apart from these heritage activities, at a personal level, Dr Archana Ojha conducted a walk for a group of historians coming from different parts of the world. They were taken to the Qila-i Mubarak, the Jama Masjid and thereafter, the Al Jawahar for a taste of Old Delhi food. In addition to this, she conducted a walk for a group of senior citizens to Old Delhi as well.



Photograph source: <http://www.knc.edu.in/departments/history/>



# Heritage Activities undertaken by Colleges in Delhi University

## Lady Shri Ram College for Women

The Department of History of Lady Shri Ram College for Women organised a Books, Films and Heritage (BFH) Club which conducted events on heritage.

### Heritage Walks and Field Trips

#### Tughlaqabad Fort

A trip to Tughlaqabad Fort and the adjoining tomb of Ghiyas Ud Din Tughlaq (16 September 2017) was organised. About 50 students from various courses joined the visit.



#### Nizamuddin Dargah



An LSR alumni, Akriti (professional guide) organised a guided tour of the Nizamuddin Dargah (21 January 2018).

#### National Museum

A visit was organised for the first year students to the National Museum (10 September 2017).

### Documentaries



The BFH Club screened various documentaries. Including, 'In the Fall of the Fallen Chinar' (8 September 2017) and 'Joe's Violin' (13 October 2017). The former was about the younger generation of Kashmiris who used the Western forms of art along with traditional ones to create an air of resistance. The latter was about a Holocaust survivor passing on his violin to a young girl and how the exchange of the violin carried a deep meaning.

A Quiz on Mythology, Etymology and History was organised (2 November 2017). It was an open event with students participating from other colleges. The History Department's annual academic meet Maazi-o-Mustaqbil reflected on the theme of modern myths and contested memories (16 - 17 March 2018). One of the talks concerned the popular perception in modern age. The popular perceptions surrounding monuments, especially, those built by the rulers of the Delhi Sultanate and the Mughal Dynasty were discussed.

## Mata Sundari College for Women

Several activities were organised by 'GAATHA', the Student's Association of the Department of History of Mata Sundri College for Women.

### Site Visits and educational projects

A mandatory visit to the National Museum for first year students was organised (30 January 2018). The faculty members discussed and highlighted various artifacts displayed there. The excavation site at Purana Qila was visited to learn the method and the process of excavation too. The students interacted with the team of archeologists and were shown the recently excavated artifacts (10 February 2018). A field trip was organised to the Taj Mahal (8 November 2018).

For a better understanding and experience of heritage, the second year students were given a project and site-visit of a monument of their choice. Including, the Qutub complex, the Safdargunj Tomb, the Humayun's Tomb, the Mutiny Memorial, the Ghalib ki Haveli and so on. Thereafter, case studies were written about on each.

### Heritage Quiz

GAATHA organised a Quiz to commemorate 75 years of the Quit India Movement (25 August 2017).

### Talks and sessions by experts

Dr Kumkum Srivastava and Dr Sumail Singh Sidhu spoke about 'Alternative Narratives – Qalandars - An Antinomian Sufi Cult' and 'A Vernacular Approach – Bhagat Singh', respectively (15 September 2017).

Mr Rajamani, former Deputy Director of National Archives spoke about the relevance of Museums and Archives (11 January 2018).

### Department's e-newsletter

The department 'e-Newsletter' titled 'Chronicle' was launched in January 2017. The Chronicle covers the theme of Indian heritage, archaeology and so on. It mirrors aspirations, thoughts, and dedication towards history and heritage. It is a celebration of student activities, as well as, offers readers relevant information about heritage.

### Historic film screening

'Aqsk', the departmental cinema/documentary club screened 'Sikander' (1941). 'Aqsk' tries to feature renowned black and white film classics.



## Mata Sundari College for Women

### Heritage Seminar

A one-day seminar was organised by GAATHA on 'Kabir- Symbol of Syncretic India'. Eminent historian Prof. Harbans Mukhia delivered a key-note address. Prof. Jaspal Singh (Former, Vice Chancellor, Punjabi University, Patiala) and other eminent speakers offered enriching perspectives on Kabir and his contribution. It was followed by a vibrant session put together by students. They performed a skit, recited Kabir dohas and organised an open quiz, all in an effort to imbibe the essence of Kabir's syncreticism. Pranavi Jha (Third year, history student) made a documentary on Kabir which was screened (16 March 2018).

### Intangible Heritage: Food Festival

In an initiative to highlight intangible heritage traditions, second year students planned a 'Food Day' (24 February 2018). The students prepared various traditional foods from their state's respectively.

### Student's paper presentation: Russian Revolution

Commemorating 100 years of the Russian Revolution (in 1917), the third year students participated in a 'Paper Presentation'. About ten students presented papers highlighting various perspectives on the Revolution (12 April 2018).





# HERITAGE OF MY NATIVE PLACE ...

## Dhanbad

Dhanbad, 'the Coal capital of India' is situated in Jharkhand. 'Thekua' is my favorite sweet dish from here. It is prepared during the 'chath' festival. This festival is marked by worshipping of sun god and people singing folk songs with musical instruments (like bansuri and sehnai). The beautiful Paitkar folk paintings are from here too.

- **Shivangi Singh, Gargi College, University of Delhi**



Paitkar Paniting

## Gulaothi

Gulaothi is a small town in west Uttar Pradesh. It was earlier known as 'Gulab besi' due to large-scale rose cultivation. Although, such plantations can not be seen now. Historically, Gulaothi was established by the Sayyid rulers. During the War of 1857, many soldiers stationed in the area took up arms against British. A battle between the British and Indian soldiers took place in a big ground which still exists. A Martyr place [Shaheed smarak] is a site dedicated as a tribute to the valiant soldiers.

Gulaothi is a vibrant town that connects villages closeby with people engaged with in various businesses here. 'Sevak ki kulfi' is among the famous delicacies from this town, running for three generations and always filled with people!

- **Gargi College, University of Delhi**



Shaheed Smarak

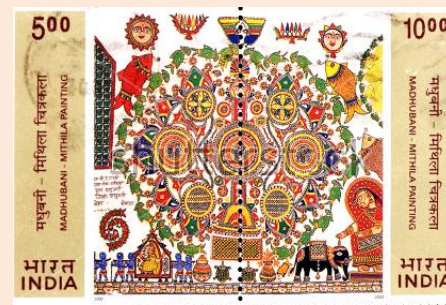
## Madhubani Paintings

Also popularly known, as 'Mithila Paintings'. These are made in the Madhubani district of North Bihar. Thematically, they are associated with religion, mythology and nature. Featuring Raja Salesh, Buddheshwar, Jutki Malini, tribute to hindu deities, like, Krishna-Radha, Shiva-Parvati, Ganesha, Maa Durga and Ram-Sita. Nature is another recurring theme with fishes, flora and fauna. Besides, abstract human figures, motifs and designs are seen as well.

Kohober is an important Madhubani painting made during a wedding. It indicates a specially decorated room with elaborate paintings on the walls for a newly married couple.

The Mithila painting is a precious cultural heritage. It has achieved fame in international art markets, as well, like Mauritius. At present, the Railway Station of Madhubani has been decorated with Mithila paintings and catches everyone's attention.

- **Vishakha Vikram Jha, Gargi College, University of Delhi**



An Indian postage stamp (2000) with a Mithila / Madhubani Painting

# Feature Story (Natural Heritage) – Trees of Delhi

Excerpts from INTACH HECS Handbook, Dilli Ki Shaan, Discover Delhi  
(\*published in January 2018)

Delhi's forest is the Ridge or the Aravalli.

It has four zones:

**Old Delhi or Northern Ridge** (Delhi University).

**New Delhi or Central Ridge** (Sadar Bazar to Dhaula Kaun).

**Mehrauli or South-Central Ridge** (JNU).

**Tughlakabad or Southern.**

**Rapid urbanisation, de-forestation, population growth - is putting the Ridge in Danger**

Think about what you can do to protect the ridge – the plants, trees, animals inhabiting it.



**Treasured trees** - Babul, Khair, Amaltas, Siris, Vilayati Kikar, Neem, Dau and Dhak.

**Avenue trees** (Jamun, Neem, Arjun, Imli, Baheda).

**Sanctuaries of Delhi** (home to birds and animals): Aravalli Biodiversity Park; Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary; Okhla Bird Sanctuary; Sultanpur National Park ; Sanjay Van; Tughuqabad Biodiversity Park; Yamuna Biodiversity Park.

**Graceful gardens (Medieval** - Firoz Shah Tughlaq, Delhi Sultanate built 1,200; Mughals (Jahanara Garden, Qudsia Bagh, Roshanara Bagh, Shalimar Bagh, Beriwalla Bagh and Talkatora Garden; **British** – Lodhi and Mughal); **Post Independence** - MCD, CPWD, DDA established Buddha Jayanti Park, Talkatora Gardens and Gulmohar Park).

## DID YOU KNOW?

The British contributed to the greenery of Delhi by planting trees along roadsides or pathways, called avenue plantation. William Mustoe, Director of Horticulture, was responsible for planting New Delhi's avenue trees. These avenue trees structure the space, giving it a distinct identity; they act as a sound buffer and arrest air pollution. Most of the mature avenue trees of Delhi are evergreen species.

There are six main avenue trees planted along various roads in the city.

These are: • Jamun – Tughlaq Road and Rajaji Tyagraj Marg. • Neem – Safdarjung Road, Lodi Road, Prithviraj Road and Ashoka Road. • Arjun – Janpath. • Imli – Akbar Road. • Sausage Tree – Humayun Road and Amrita Shergill Marg. • Baheda – Barakhamba Road.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Article 51 of the Indian Constitution states that it is the fundamental duty of Indian citizens to protect and improve the natural environment which includes forests, lakes, rivers, and so on...



On the occasion of World Environment Day (5 June) ....

## THINK ABOUT

**Trees and Natural heritage – as a part of national identity?**

Research, identify and explore the trees in your neighbourhood, city and state

**What can be done to preserve this natural heritage ...**



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<https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/>; <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/santiago/culture/intangible-heritage/>.

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