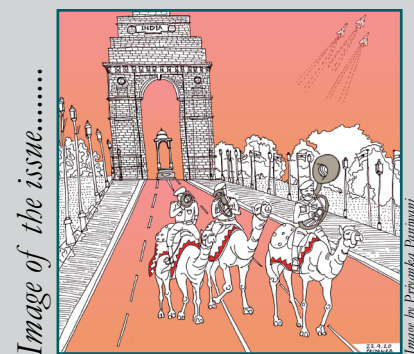


ICOMOS INDIA

June-September 2020



Note from the Convenor

Communication - in all its many forms and facets - has always been an important component of basic human existence. As such, even before the words 'Covid-19' and 'Corona Virus' became part of everyday speech, ICOMOS India was already focussing on improving ways of communicating and sharing news and information within our membership.

Lockdown saw most of us in frequent virtual contact with our professional colleagues across the globe, perhaps more extended and useful than we may have thought possible when the year 2020 dawned. Lockdown 2020 became an extended phase of numerous webinars and online conferences, and internet or smart phone related exchanges for most of us. It also resulted in several exceptionally memorable ICOMOS India collaborative virtual meetings.

Webinars, online courses and virtual conferences seem to be here to stay, at least for the immediate future, and as we hone our skills in communicating via LED or whatever screens, Icomos India is happy to announce the formal start of our Quaterly Newsletters.

The Newsletters will share details of activities by NSCs, members, zones, and so forth, and of conferences and publications. We invite all our Comos India members to share in this new venture.

Rime Hooja

Introducing the Newsletter

We are happy to announce an ICOMOS India Quarterly Newsletter (an e-publication) that will cover all events from June 2020. As you all may be aware, the intention of coming out with a Quarterly Newsletter was announced in the AGM 2020 by the Secretary of ICOMOS India. The need for being updated about the activities of ICOMOS India has also been voiced by many members and NSC Coordinators in the past. As a follow up of all these conversations, this is the first Newsletter from ICOMOS India, Quarterly Newsletters will be published in the yearly cycle of April (news from

January - March), July (news from April - June), October (news from July - September) and January (news from October - December) every year.

PUBLICATION SUB-COMMITTEE

The Publications Sub-Committee was formulated to publish quarterly newsletter to disseminate information to all members; to Publish academic monographs, conference proceedings, symposium papers, Webinar proceedings, etc. for outreach & Archiving and to publish peer reviewed Journal to create higher visibility for ICOMOS India.

Inside...



NORTH ZONE
Central Vista Report
by (CVWC) Central
Vista Working Sub-
Committee

04



NORTH EAST ZONE - NSC-ICH
Webinar on Bihu :
Agrarian Festival of
Assam

14



EAST ZONE - NSC-HTV
Webinar Series
Concepts,
Framework, Needs
and Experiences -
Focus West Bengal

16

NSC ACTIVITIES

NSC-VA
NSC-RP
NSC-Fort
NSC-Theophil

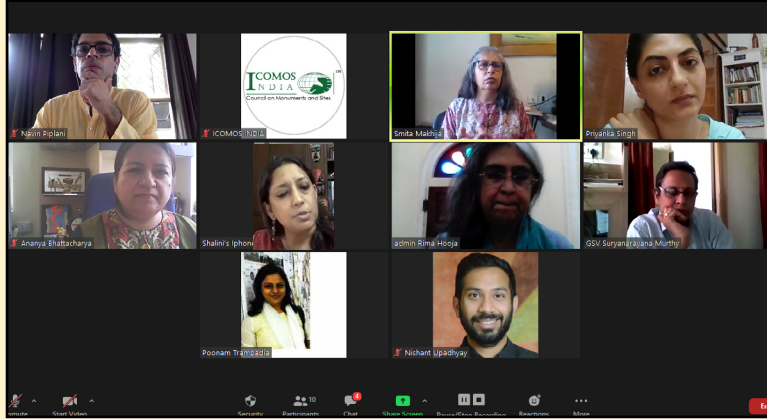
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ICOMOS India Newsletter is being undertaken as a part of Publication Activities by the Executive Committee. The work has been initiated by setting up a Sub-Committee with following members of ICOMOS India:

- Ms Rima Hooja: Vice President and Convener of the Sub-Committee
- Ms Shalini Dasgupta: Secretary
- Ms Poonam Trambadia: WZ Rep
- Mr Nishant Upadhyay: CZ Rep
- Ms Jigna Desai: Institutional Rep
- Mr Arun Menon: NSC Counsellor

From the Secretariat

The New Executive Committee



ICOMOS India's first online AGM was successfully conducted on 12th June 2020. The AGM was attended by 142 members including 80 voting members. The Executive Committee Election results were announced during the AGM.

The new Executive Committee elected (2020-2023) is as under -

- Mr. Navin Piplani - President
- Ms. Rima Hooja - Vice President
- Ms. Shalini Dasgupta - Secretary
- Ms. Priyanka Singh - Treasurer
- Ms. Ananya Bhattacharya - East Zone Representative
- Ms. Poonam Trambadia - West Zone Representative
- Ms. Smita Makhija - North Zone Representative
- Mr. GSV Surya Narayana Murthy - South Zone Representative
- Mr. Nishant Upadhyay - Central Zone Representative
- Dr. Jigna Desai - Representative CEPT (Institutional member)

The official hand over between the outgoing and new Executive Committee was organized through zoom platform on 20th June. We would like to thank the outgoing President Prof Kiran Joshi, Vice President Ms. Gurmeet Rai, Treasurer Ms. Sangeeta Bais, North Zone Representative Ms. Radhika Dhumal, Central Zone Representative Dr. Sarvesh Kumar and Institutional Member Representative Ms. Vidhu Gandhi for their invaluable support to ICOMOS India during their tenure.

North East Zone Representative



The members expressed the need to appoint a Zonal Representative from the newly formed North East Zone. It was agreed that the East Zone Representative, Ms. Ananya Bhattacharya coordinated among the 7 members of North East Zone to arrive at a consensus member representative, who shall coordinate activities in the region and become a part of the Executive Committee once they complete the minimum 2 year term.

Mr. Shankar Krishna Das was unanimously accepted as the North East Zone Coordinator by the members of the Zone.

Nomination of Institutional Member as Ex-Com Member

As per the RR 12.xviii in the MoA, the seat for Institutional member in the Executive Committee shall be held by rotation among various institutional members based on a draw of lots. The draw of lot was conducted by the President from among the voting institutional members – CEPT University, Aga Khan Trust for Culture and Sushant School of Art and Architecture. The CEPT University won the draw.



CEPT University nomination was unanimously agreed by the Ex-Com members.

Dr. Jigna Desai was nominated as the CEPT (Institutional Member) representative on the Executive Committee.

Appointment of new NSC Counsellor



The term of the NSC Counsellor, Dr. Jigna Desai, concluded on 31 July 2020.

The NSC Counsellor is a post nominated by the Executive Committee of COMOS for a period of two years. The Call for Candidature for NSC

Counsellor with modalities of engagement, Scope of Work and Qualifications was circulated on the listserv and the website for all members of ICOMOS India to respond. ExCom received two applications in response.

The Ex Com evaluated the two applications and unanimously agreed to nominate Prof. Dr. Arun Menon. He took charge from 1st of September, 2020. We welcome the new NSC Counsellor, Prof. Dr. Arun Menon and look forward to the NSC's working with him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1 Announcement of Publications Sub-Committee

The secretariat announced on 25th September, 2020 via listserv, the Publications Sub-Committee with the Objective to publish quarterly newsletter to disseminate information to all members, to Publish academic monographs, conference proceedings, symposium papers, Webinar proceedings, etc. for outreach and Archiving and Publication of peer reviewed Journal to create higher visibility for ICOMOS India.

2 Announcement for Appointment/ Call for Interns

Executive Committee (ExCom) of ICOMOS India announced two positions for internships to work at the Secretariat looking for enthusiastic, self-motivated and skilled students or recent graduates in conservation practice and research. These positions were specifically opened to Young Professional Members of ICOMOS India, the students and fresh graduates from the Institutional Members of ICOMOS India.

3 Announcement of Communication Platforms

As an endeavour to make all members aware of the existing and proposed platforms of communication or engagement available, the secretariat put a comprehensive table of engagements as a ready reckoner. The platforms were circulated among the members via listserv on 22nd September, 2020.

4 Announcement of New Membership / Renewals

ICOMOS India opened the 1st cycle of the Memberships for the year 2021 from 1st September 2020. The deadline for new registrations and renewals for the 1st cycle was set upto 15th October 2020.

5 Communication with ICOMOS International

Ex-Com attended the virtual GA 2020 on 23rd and 24th July 2020
List of voting members at GA2020 has been sent to ICOMOS Secretariat.

Note from the Secretary

It gives me great pleasure to present the First Newsletter of COMOS India showcasing activities from June - September 2020. The Newsletter presents the variety of efforts taken by members to promote ICOMOS India agenda and fulfill its vision. It has been our endeavour and foremost task to keep the entire membership informed regarding all activities, events, meetings, reportings, news clippings etc. ICOMOS India promotes Open Communication Policy within its membership by launching its Quarterly Newsletter, keeping all members abreast with all in-house information and reporting.

In today's COVID Pandemic times, Conservation of Heritage faces massive challenges. The far reaching network of ICOMOS India, which spreads through its six zones in all corners of the country, came together to generate meaningful discourse around the Cultural Heritage of our country.

The Newsletter covers the various discourses undertaken by the NSC's through Webinars / Lecture series. It showcases behind the scene efforts of the executive committee in running the organisation. It highlights Members and EPWG corner showcasing significant contributions. It also showcases the efforts of the Zonal representatives within each Zone.

I sincerely request all members to participate & contribute to ICOMOS India activities and subsequently to the Newsletter to make it an enriching experience for all.

ISC Affiliations

ICOMOS India initiated to create the database on ISC Members from our National Committee. Updated ISC members list were sought from all International Scientific Committees and update on current members was provided to them. Members interested in joining ISC's were encouraged and National Committee recommendations provided to members seeking voting / bureau positions within the ISC.

Following members were provided support from the national committee -

- i) Ms. Mrinalini Atray designated as voting member for IC-ICH.
- ii) Ms. Kamalika Bose designated as voting member for ISC-SBH.
- iii) Prof. Arun Menon designated as voting member for ISCARSAH.
- iv) Ms. Radhika Dhumal as a Voting Member of ISCAHM.

Get to know

Meetings between Ex Com & Zones/ NSC / Working Groups

NSCs/Zone/ Working Group meetings were organized for Ex Com members and the Zone / NSC / Working Group members to get to know each other, discuss & brainstorm on way forward for proposed activities. The following Zones / NSC's / Working Groups took the initiative to meet.

1. NSC-Industrial Heritage members & Ex Com members
2. Central Zone Members & Ex Com members.
3. NSC-Intangible Cultural Heritage members & Ex Com members.
4. EPWG members & Ex Com members

Financial Matters

All financial and legal changes in signatories on statutory documents with the Registrar of Society and the Bank were made, reflecting the newly elected Executive Committee. This was followed by the (re)appointment of the Statutory Auditor and Chartered Accountant. Consultations with both have led to clarity on the accumulated corpus. Finalization of the Annual Budget 2020-21, is underway, for presentation at a Special General Meeting on 1st November 2020.

Contd. from page 3

Support letter to IIT Madras and NSC RP for collaborative Research Project

ICOMOS India provided a letter of support towards the research project proposal - DRREAM – Disaster Risk Reduction for Extreme hAzards in Museums. The project proposal was developed by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM), Chennai and the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto (FEUP), Portugal in response to the 2020 Call for Scientific Research and Technological Development Projects Portugal-India, published by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, and the Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Government of Portugal.

Comments & Queries regarding Strategic Plan

The 'Strategic Plan' was circulated for a final round of consultation as per the minutes of the AGM held in June 2020. Members were requested to send in their comments / Queries latest by 27th October to enable collation of the final document.

IPR Sub-Committee Update

A Review Committee of Dr. Jigna Desai (National Scientific Counsellor), Dr. Arun Menon (Coordinator, NSC-ARSAH) and Dr. Vidhu Gandhi (Institutional Member) was formed during the Annual General Meeting in June 2019 to look into regulations on IPR and connected matters as contained in the SoPG. After reviewing the Copyright Law (1957), Copyright Policy by Ministry of Industry and Commerce (2016), IPR Policy of IIT Madras and CEPT University, it was found that the current COMOS India Policies were not congruent to the best practices. The IPR Committee's recommendations included rewriting of Annexure 14 of SOPG. The committee has requested Mr. Nishant Upadhyay to join in place of Dr. Vidhu Gandhi and revise the Annexure to address the issues regarding ICOMOS India Publications.

NORTH ZONE

Zone News

North Zone Representative: Smita Datta Makhija

The North Zone members virtual meet was held on the 16th of August 2020. Radhika Dhumal outgoing North Zone Representative gave us an overview of activities in 2019-20 and helped us to set the goals for this year. The ideas floated by institutional members were related to research and hosting of events and these will need to be turned into action plans. Action plans to be undertaken were with respect to awareness generation in schools and other educational institutions. A need to create small advocacy group in each state was also tabled to get an input on the issues related to the heritage sites. The members of NSC's and EP's were encouraged to join to ISC's and represent India in different ranks internationally.

A need to create small advocacy group in each state was also tabled to get an input on the issues related to the heritage sites!

We at north zone have engaged with a matter of grave concern the "Central Vista Redevelopment Plan" with respect to its impact on the heritage significance and values at multiple levels. The ball was set rolling on when Executive



Committee gave a green signal to set up a Central Vista Working Committee at the end of August 2020. Twenty-one members volunteered. Three NSC's partnered with the North zone. The process was initiated by NSC-20C and taken up by members from NSC-SBH, NSC-LAFI and NSC-HTV. It was decided to have a convener and a co convener along with four advisory members one from each NSC and one from North zone to be supported by their own working group members. The team has worked effectively.

Several online meetings have been held, the meeting on 30th September 2020 was conclusive where the vision and methodology of work plan for the Central Vista working group was crystallized.

A social media campaign was launched led by NSC-20C to collect memories of the Central Vista as a "People's Place" "JANSTHAL" on the world democracy day, 15th September 2020.

Another important event was an introductory interaction with students and faculty of the school on 9th October 2020 hosted by Sushant School of Art and Architecture (SSAA) with ICOMOS India Executive Committee members. The session opened avenues for engagement across ICOMOS India and SSAA, with focus on the role of students in the process. The important takeaways included exchange of ideas about popularizing heritage and generating awareness about it among students as well as wider audiences, enhancing interaction among ICOMOS India members and academic activities of SSAA and creating a collaborative platform for adopting a site or area and working on it to make real difference on ground.



CENTRAL ZONE

The ICOMOS Central Zone meeting was called on 16th August, 2020 to discuss the vision and strategy for the COMOS India for the coming three years and received a great response and participation from the zonal members. To strengthen the vision document for the Central zone, all the zonal members from various regions of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh were requested to provide their inputs to envision common goals and ensure geographical representations. The information was requested in form of an initial localized SWOT analysis, which was discussed later in the meeting along with a feedback session.

The opening statement by Mr. Nishant Upadhyay, Central zonal representative of ICOMOS India, focused on the urgent need to initiate conservation and management of cultural landscapes in the zone starting with drafting a scientific framework for its documentation. He assured all attendees of transparency of ICOMOS India owing to its equitable model of functioning, which could be further supplemented by promotion of zone's membership and proper documentation of zonal activities. Subsequently, brief presentations by the ICOMOS India executive committee members emphasized on the administrative and operational structure of their respective roles. The urgency for drafting Vision and strategy for the central zone for the protection of its rich and diverse cultural heritage was observed by all the speakers.

Mr. Navin Piplani, President, ICOMOS India talked about the necessity of International collaborations amongst the scientific committees and their international counterparts as a tool to showcase their work and engage in continuous constructive dialogues. He was in favor of bringing a new generation of conservation heritage professionals in the team for their critical insights about today's issues, which can help in internally reforming the functioning of the committees and suggested a thorough documentation of tangible & intangible heritage, including scientific research works on the cultural landscape of Mathura, Vrindavan, Brij, Ayodhya and Varanasi.

The importance of collaboration with institutional members by validating their role in documentation and mapping of heritage monuments was prompted by Dr. Vandana Sehgal, representing Faculty of Architecture and Planning, AKTU, Lucknow, the only zonal Institutional member of ICOMOS India. On the lines of ongoing schemes for intangible heritage like One District One Product (ODOP), she proposed a team for collecting information and listing heritage buildings in Uttar Pradesh.

In the latter half of the meeting, after a short round of introduction, SWOT analysis prepared by each of the member attendees with respect to their region became an excellent trigger for discussion amongst the attendees. In their feedback, most of the attendees agreed upon the lack of awareness and troubled state of Heritage Conservation in the zone. As an attempt to find a solution, interesting suggestions such as linking of the already existing scientific findings, listing & documentation available with various Institutional members, emerging professionals and local development authorities in the state were discussed. Discussions also drifted towards the proposals for areas of action and activities of NSCs for the coming years. Moreover, Revisions in the Indian Culture Landscape Framework and publication on sacred landscapes, as suggested by Prof. Rana P.B. Singh came out as a valuable suggestion for the vision statement for the central zone of ICOMOS India.

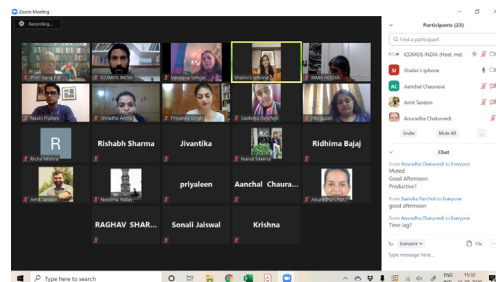
In a well-informed and productive sequence of events, the Meeting was a call for urgent actions for heritage conservation in the zone like proactive

heritage awareness campaigns, thematic activities, institutional and collaborative research projects and possibility of seed grants. However, Establishment of short-term, medium-term and long-term plan of action would be imperative for the whole process to run efficiently, as described in the concluding remarks.

The urgency for drafting Vision and strategy for the central zone for the protection of its rich and diverse cultural heritage was observed by all the speakers

Following this, the Vice-president of COMOS India, Ms. Rima Hooja stressed upon the need to initiate work on emergency measures and disaster mitigation, which can be facilitated by a

heritage impact assessment team or disaster response team as part of the zonal vision document. The need of the hour is formation of a shareable data bank for storing detailed documentation, data, drawings and related information about the cultural heritage. Another appeal to merge all the ICOMOS



activities to the broader perspective of heritage & democracy was made by Ms. Shalini Dasgupta, Secretary of ICOMOS India. There upon it was also suggested that the areas like knowledge building, archives, advisory, capacity building, advocacy and outreach should be considered for the strategy document and these activities can be published to upgrade the existing archival records.

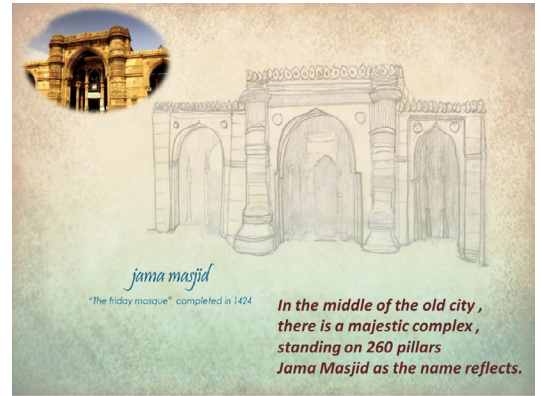
Prevailing to be one of the crucial topics, the financial structure of ICOMOS and the broadness of its framework was discussed in the meeting by the Treasurer of ICOMOS India, Ms. Priyanka Singh. While stating some important engagement and upcoming events in the annual calendar, she suggested activities like webinars and research projects for the zone. Since EPWG's role in this process was recognized by most of the presenters, Ms. Singh added that members are allowed to engage freely in the non-hierarchical structure of ICOMOS India, with several activities and primary research works as EPWG.

WEST ZONE CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR MONUMENTS AND SITES, WEST ZONE, 18TH APRIL 2020

West Zone Representative: Poonam Trambadia

Event no.1

This year saw every one taking different and innovative approaches to everything. On one side it took us further from each other physically but at the same time it allowed us to interact more frequently and with larger numbers through the digital medium. ICOMOS India has a special focus on youth engagement in heritage and the West zone, ICOMOS India has always put stress on asserting and regards of the same, amongst the youth and the children. Keeping this same thought in mind, the celebrations this year were conducted with online presentation session by a 10 year old, you girl, Ms. Aarya Chavda from Ahmedabad who is popular for her heritage

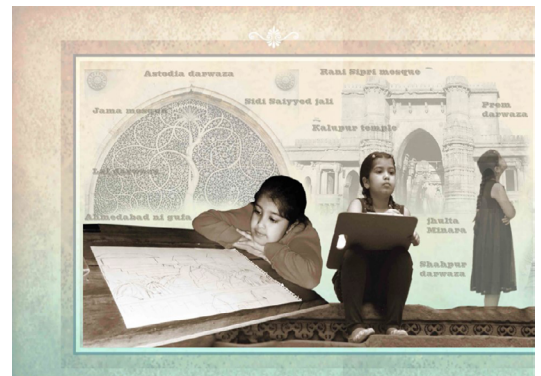


In duration of 2 hours, many important points like membership drive, protection of heritage under threat, institutional partnership and other activities were discussed. Members from Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Pune and other places in the regions participated in the discussion.

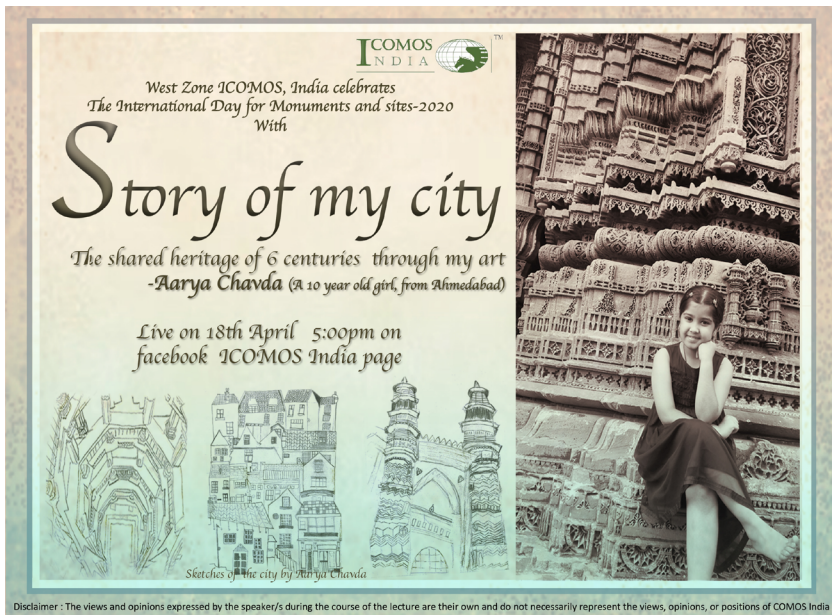
Some members expressed their willingness to volunteer and form teams to take zonal activities further. A possibility of zonal newsletter, zone level event, adding new institutional members and other activities were discussed.

THEME AND CONCERN

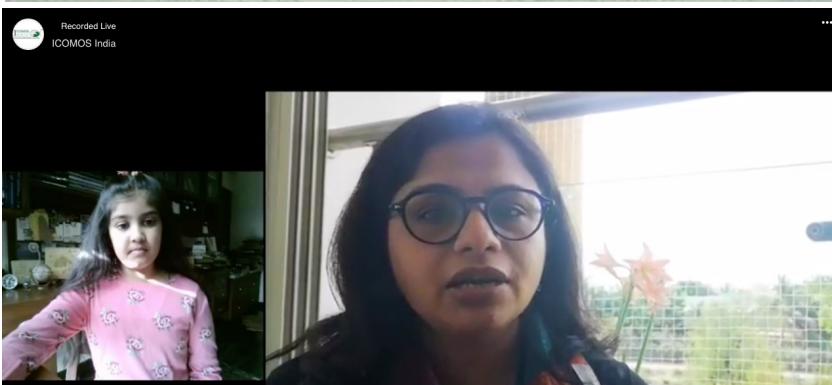
The current COVID 19 situation has brought the arts, culture, heritage environmental and tourism sectors into a deep crisis. It is one for which no country or community was prepared. As we ride the wave or tsunami of emergencies, the challenge remains as to how we move forward building on the resilience of communities and cultural groups. In order to safeguard the grassroots cultural and linguistic diversity of our countries and beyond borders, what are the pathways for the future? We know how much



Heritage Matters, but how can we position heritage in all its manifestations in the holistic discourse of sustainable heritage development? How do we rethink the way we approach the UN Sustainable Development Goals? How do we continue to locate and advocate for culture in development through demonstration projects? These and many other questions and concerns were addressed in this webinar.



Disclaimer : The views and opinions expressed by the speaker/s during the course of the lecture are their own and do not necessarily represent the views, opinions, or positions of COMOS India



artwork. As a child she has published a few of her works already. She has given an introductory speech during UNESCO convention in 2018. Her art is published by UNESCO Delhi. She was invited to provide her perspectives as well as showcase her artwork online. As she began the verbal sketch of the heritage of her city, her online webinar, during lock-down period, was to be an inspiring event for many children, youth and individuals.

Event no.2

ZONAL MEETING FOR WEST ZONE

A zonal meeting for members in the west zone was organized on 8th August 2020 online on zoom platform to ensure wider participation during the lockdown period. The members updated everyone about their whereabouts and their present situation during the COVID-19 pandemic conditions.

NSC News

Note from NSC Counsellor

ICOMOS India's 21 NSCs, functioning with strong enrolment and participation of young, aspiring professionals, is strategically placed to make a difference to the field of heritage conservation. In line with the Eger-Xi'an Principles adopted in the 15thGA of ICOMOS (2005), the NSCs in turn are expected to be "at the heart of scientific inquiry and exchange in their domains" to cultivate an interdisciplinary approach to heritage protection and management. To fulfil such a mandate, NSCs need to recognise the primacy of scientific rigour and establish an environment focussed on sharing technical expertise, updating, and enhancing professional skills of its members.

Our former Counsellor, Prof. Jigna Desai, imaginatively and skilfully put NSCs on such a track. The mandate to articulate the scientific scope of each NSC, its objectives in alignment with parent ISCs, India-specific challenges, nature of activities and a two-year

action plan is having far-reaching consequences. It has helped in setting forth a roadmap within each NSC after articulating its *raison d'être*. The exercise is a work in progress, and when completed, will provide the much-needed clarity to young members who choose to work in an NSC or two, on how they can contribute to our cause and what they stand to gain.

With several NSCs rather low on energy, kindling active participation of members, even to articulate existential matters is not simple. Having taken on the responsibility of Counsellor in September 2020, in a period challenged by the pandemic, our task ahead is tough but essential. Streamlining operating procedures, mechanisms for research grants, training/capacity building and outreach programmes, and expected outcomes including formal publications under the aegis

of ICOMOS India, are areas requiring concerted efforts. In the run up to NSC Conclave scheduled for 27-28 November 2020 in a virtual mode, connecting with NSC Coordinators has been key in bringing to the discussion table, critical techno-administrative matters that can strengthen the functioning of NSCs, making them more effective, autonomous, productive, creating positive platforms to nurture scientific enquiry. It is with eagerness and a sense of purpose that NSCs look ahead to 2021, where the contribution of every member counts, and will be valued.

We welcome the new Coordinator and Vice duo of Prof. Khushi Shah and Ms. Nigar Shaikh, who have taken on the mantle of NSC-ARSAH in September 2020. We place on record the contribution of outgoing NSC-AHM Coordinator Ms. Geetika Kalha in rallying and guiding NSC-AHM.

NSC - VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE

Coordinator: Poorva Patil

Event no.1

"WEBINAR SERIES ON "RETHINKING VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE: DOCUMENTATION & LESSONS"

The vision under NSC Vernacular Architecture is

NSC-VA to Foster a country wide network that promotes the identification, study, protection and conservation of Vernacular Architecture, in keeping with the objectives of ICOMOS' International Committee on Vernacular Architecture (CIAV).

The webinar series organised but NSC - VA revisited vernacular architecture to understand its various sustainability principles and features. The idea was to expand understanding of vernacular architecture through various case studies located in diverse region in order to decipher and decode the vernacular built form.

First Live Session

Date & Time – Friday 17 July 2020 at 5.00 PM IST

Speaker – Dr Benny Kuriakose

Moderator – Ar. Poorva Patil

Topic- *Hassan Fathy, Laurie Baker, Geoffrey Bawa & Beyond; Towards a Sustainable Vernacularism*

Brief – Kenneth Frampton and few others popularized the term critical regionalism, as a counter to the international style of architecture, by emphasizing the location and the identity of the place. Tropical modernism or regional modernism are other terms which are used to describe the works of some of the architects doing similar works. The relevance of vernacular architecture has increased many times due to climate change and global warming. Fathy, Baker and Bawa rediscovered some of the forgotten traditions and used them at a time when sustainability

was not thought about. The terms used during those days were rural architecture, appropriate architecture, cost-effective architecture, tropical modernism etc., but had a common thread of vernacular architecture elements in their buildings. They criticised modernism of the international style through their works. All three of them were able to influence a generation of architects in their own regions, but in the present context, the importance of the works of these great architects have increased. Dr.

The vision is to Foster a country wide network that promotes the identification, study, protection and conservation of Vernacular Architecture

Benny Kuriakose is looking into the works of these three prominent architects of the last century from the perspective of Sustainable Vernacularism.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Benny Kuriakose started his career in 1984 and received the basic lessons in architecture under the tutelage of Laurie Baker. He received the Charles Wallace India Trust award for an MA in Conservation Studies from the University of York., United Kingdom. He has received his doctorate from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

Benny Kuriakose's strict adherence to the universal principles of architecture can be seen in the range of his work: in individual houses, resorts and institutional projects, in the Dakshinachitra project in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, in the rehabilitation of disaster sites at Nagapattinam, Bhuj or Latur and in the Muziris Heritage Project in Kerala.

Second Live Session

Date & Time – Saturday 18 July 2020 @ 5.00 PM IST

Speaker – Ar. Akshay Varma

Moderator – Ar. Poorva Patil

Topic- Understanding Vernacular Typologies - through the landscape of Uttarakhand, North-East India, Kutch & Rajasthan.

Brief – Understanding the term ‘Vernacular’ and multiple parameters that form the repository of vernacular. Understanding the vernacular – Reading vernacular. Focusing on the built environment or “architecture” Methods to identify and decode the parameters of vernacular that are imperative to study and identify the variations: Physical topographical context; climate;

Flora and Fauna; Occupation; craftsmanship, Lifestyle; Culture are the major parameters. The variations, differences and common parameters in these typologies. Understanding through landscapes across Utrakhland, North-East India, Kutch and Rajasthan.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Akshay Varma has done his graduation from Rachana Sansad Academy of Architecture in 2009. After that he went on to pursue a degree in Urban Design from Newcastle Upon Tyne University (UK), 2011. He is a founder of ‘Windows to Vernacular’.

A process driven collaborative that is set on an exploratory journey, traversing through the countryside's and hinterlands of India. Window to Vernacular engage with the local population, listening to them, learn and understand their culture, their way of life, why they build and how to build. In the process, the team creates a repository adding to the existing knowledge pool of built ecological studies. These experiences and learning are imbibed into a contemporary practice where the work contributes in shedding a light on the lost crafts and building skills.

This engages in a fresh dialogue that involves a relevant, modern day application of an otherwise factual investigation.

Third Live Session

Date & Time – Sunday 19 July 2020 @ 5.00 PM IST

Speaker – Dr.Ritu Gulati

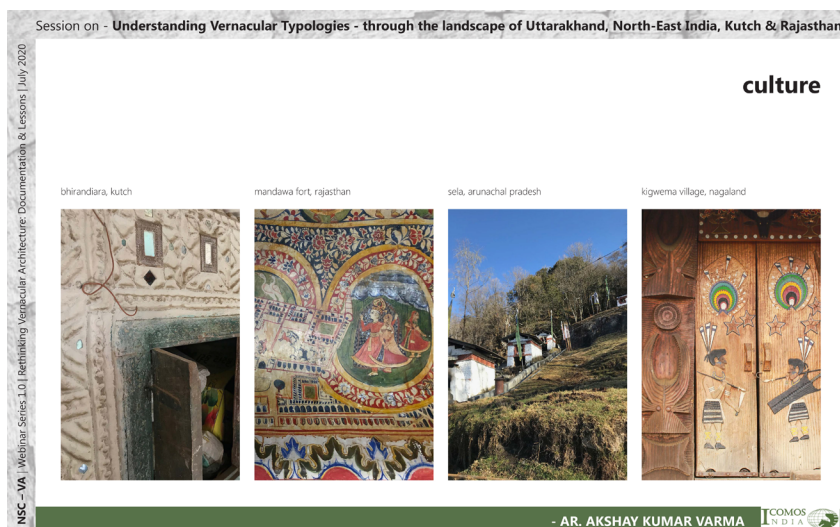
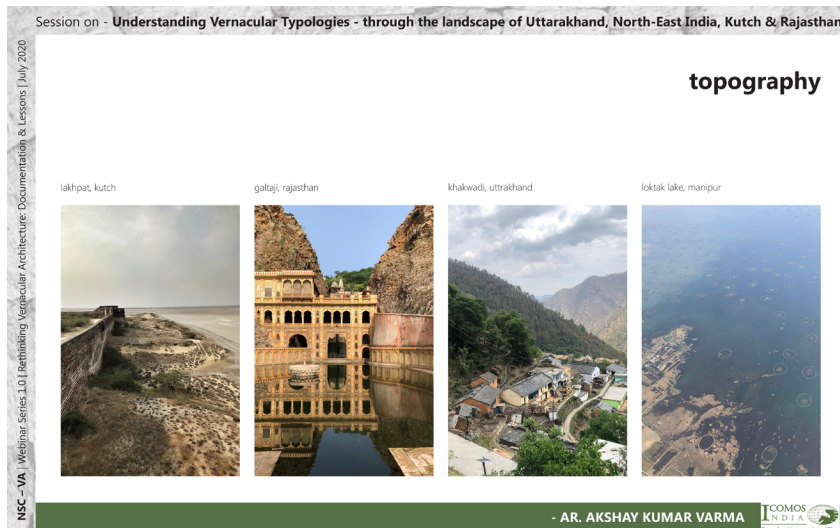
Moderator – Ar. Shreamey Phadnis

Topic – “ Vernacular Heritage of Culturally rich Indian cities: learnings from House Forms in Lucknow Region”.

Brief – The presentation covered the relevance of learning from Vernacular Architecture in the contemporary context, along with the diverse lessons that could be adopted from the vernacular architecture of a region. The vernacular heritage of culturally rich Indian Cities especially the case of Lucknow and its contrasting house forms will be discussed in detail along with methods that could be adopted in its revival and upkeep.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Ritu Gulati is an Associate Professor at Faculty of Architecture, AKTU, Lucknow (previously known as Govt. College of Architecture) having a 20-year experience as core faculty specializing in vernacular architecture. Along with Academics she is also involved in practice and research, having completed her PhD from CEPT University in the premise of Thermal Performance of Vernacular Houses at Lucknow. (2017). Moreover, she has researched in depth on Vernacular Architecture



for the last 13 years, in which she has presented on many International and National forums including publications of the same. She has received awards for her contribution to teaching, research and practice. Heading the Institutional Consultancy cell at faculty of Architecture she is also the coordinator of the Masters in Architecture and Environment Design.

Fourth Live Session

Date & Time – Saturday 25 July 2020 @ 3.30 PM IST

Speaker – Mr. Janhwij Sharma

Moderator – Ar. Shreamey Phadnis

Topic - The reproduction of Vernacular Place in Disaster recovery and Build Back better.

Brief - This lecture provides an over view of culture-place-risk phenomenon in the context of Disaster recovery and Build back better approaches. Here how different build back better has adopted top down and bottom-up participatory approaches. It articulates on how different local communities across the globe have adapted or have responded to such cataclysmic changes occurred through disaster development processes. Case studies include, few primary case studies from India and Sweden and few secondary studies from Peru, Columbia and Turkey. Based on the understanding of a variety of build back processes and responses this study concludes on the determinants of the reproduction of a vernacular place in the Disaster-development contexts.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dr. Ram Sateesh Pasupuleti is an architect and expert in Vernacular Architecture. He has done B.Arch from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, School of Architecture and Planning, Hyderabad, in 2003. He completed his M.A. in International Studies in Vernacular Architecture in 2005 from ISVA Oxford Brookes University Oxford UK.

His Ph.D in “Understanding the role of Culture in Post Disaster development contexts- The case Tsunami reconstruction in Tamil Nadu, Southern India” from University of Westminster, SABE, Department of Urban Development and Regeneration, London, UK, 2011.

His areas of interest - Culturally Responsive Built Environments, Disasters, Culture, Development and Attractive Winter cities, Design for All in All Climatic condition. Currently he is Assistant Professor at Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee Department of Architecture and Planning.

Panel Discussion Session

Date – Saturday 25 July 2020

Time – 4.30 – 6.00 PM IST

Theme – “Rethinking vernacular architecture:

need for future contexts”

Panel Members-

1. Dr. Priyaleen Singh, School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi
2. Ar. Pratyush Shankar, Dean, SEDA, Vadodra
3. Dr.Ritu Gulati, AKTU, Lucknow
4. Dr. Ram Sateesh Pasupuleti, IIT Roorkee

Event no.2

Online talk is on “Vernacularism & the Built Heritage: Establishing the Cultural Landscape of the Western Himalayas”

The strongest point of vernacular architecture is the harmony between environment and buildings. People built their houses according to their possibilities, needs, available materials, topography, and culture. Vernacular Architectural systems are a result of a dialogue between the ecological, economic and social factors of a particular region in Indian Context.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Janhwij Sharma, Conservation architect, currently heads the Conservation and World Heritage sections, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), New Delhi. He monitors the conservation works in India and abroad in coordination with the ASI field offices. He was the Member Secretary of the team drafting National Policy for the Conservation of Monuments, Archaeological Sites and Remains, 2014. He has been instrumental in 9 Indian properties to be placed on India’s World Heritage List of UNESCO. He pursued his Bachelors in Architecture from Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar (1991) and Post graduate studies in Building Conservation from the University of York, UK (1996). He has authored a book “Architectural Heritage: Ladakh”, published by INTACH, and contributed several papers leading Indian and foreign journals and edited publications. He has been invited on several occasions in India and abroad to talk about issues related to conservation of monuments and management of world heritage properties. The region of Western Himalayas remains his prime interest, and he has travelled extensively in these remote areas for the purpose of listing and documentation of Buddhist monasteries and other building types. While he was at INTACH he initiated the conservation of the thousand year old Mangyu monastery.

ABOUT THE THEME

The region is includes Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh mainly Lahaul and Spiti. The region is arid cold dessert. Architecture emerged over a millennium, and evolved taking into consideration the availability of building material and here it is largely mud, stone and very limited use of timber. Different techniques of Earth construction, rammed Earth, Adobe have been used to build range of the structures including Forts, Palaces, monasteries, mosque residential buildings scattered across throughout the region. The presentation was taken as a fascinating journey of Western Himalayas with Ar. Janhwij Sharma’s perspective, his thoughts on Vernacular heritage and cultural landscape of Western Himalayas.

NSC - FORTIFICATIONS AND MILITARY HERITAGE

NSC-FORT

Coordinator: Ashish Trambadia

Event no.1

NSC Fort organized a web based series of talks and discussion on fortification and military heritage covering almost all the regions and thematic areas of our country. A number of renowned speakers on the subject of fortification the military Heritage were invited for keynote address in each session. Members of the national scientific committee also made detailed presentations followed by the keynote address:

The heritage of defense has a very different context today. The heritage of fortifications, arms and ammunitions, defense systems and architecture are being forgotten or at least not given their due diligence. Fortification are significant

sources of knowledge of urban planning, natural topography, resource management, defense strategies and many more. The series shall also bring out various Regional variations and context based cases.

The series was planned for awareness, promotion and deliberate discussion about history, knowledge and current status of fortification by involving experts of various fields and regions. The online sessions were held between 5:30 to 7:00 starting from 19th June followed by 20th, 26th, 27th and finale on 4th July. The series was planned over three weekends, each dedicated to the geographical zones of India and a keynote lecture by eminent expert on the region/theme for the region followed by presentations by NSC members.

Session 1

It kickstarted with inauguration on 19th July with the welcome note by NSC Coordinator Mr. Ashish Trambadia who gave an overview of the webinar series and invited participants for interaction. The opening note was made by the President of the International Scientific Committee, ICOMOS, Mr Jose claudio Dos Santos. He mentioned about the International Scientific Committee and state of research on fortifications and military heritage. He congratulated the Indian National Scientific Committee for this exemplary webinar series being organized. The entire series received overwhelming response from academia, students, enthusiasts and international experts.

Fortification are significant sources of knowledge of urban planning, natural topography, resource management, defense strategies and many more.

The initial session introduced select examples and knowhow about Deccan fort by Dr. Pushkar Sohoni who began with terminology of fortification, historical references and examples of various highly evolved forts of Deccan. The session received a wide participation and number of questions were also answered by the keynote speaker. Ms. Tejaswini Aphale moderated the session.

Session 2

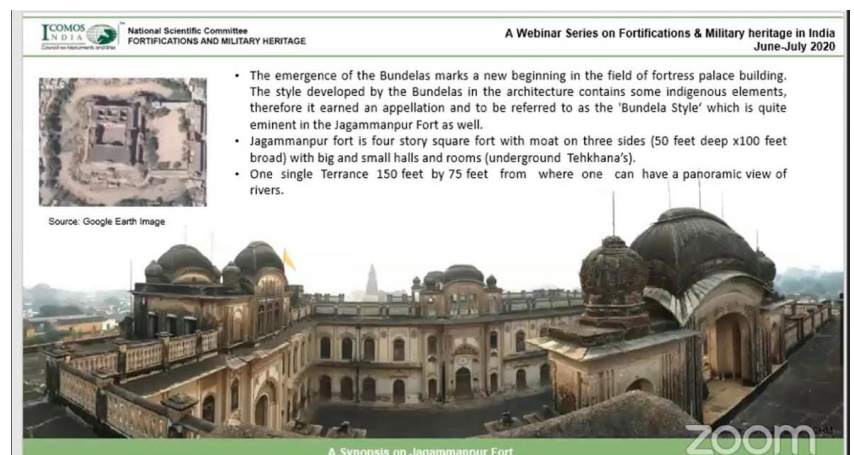
The session started with keynote speech by Dr. Tejas Garge who deliberated his exclusive research on arms, ammunition and chemistry including range and typology of military and fortification heritage. The NSC members made presentations on Forts of Maharashtra and Goa by Ms Komal Potdar, Ms. Sonal Chitnis, Ms. Tejaswini Aphale and Ms. Alisha Acharya.

Ms Archana Deshmukh, co-coordinator of the NSC moderated the session with discussion on comparison between and outside regional Forts was carried out during question answer session.

Session 3

North and Northwest region session began by explorative tour of select Forts by Ms. Amita Baig who discussed in detail the Forts, its management, conservation efforts and community participation by involvement of Government and Non-governmental organizations.

Series of presentations were made by Ms. Hemani Badyal, Mr Ashish Trambadia and Ms. Priya Gosain to enrich the examples of case studies from



Jammu, Punjab, Delhi, UP, MP and Gujarat. Ms Priyanka Singh moderated the session.

Session 4

Ms. Rima Hooja, Vice President, ICOMOS India presented the case studies from Rajasthan which is currently, only state having serial nominated fortified heritage Dr. Shikha Jain and Mr. Yash Pratap Singh Shekhawat presented case studies starting from overall process to get the World Heritage Serial nominations and also included small scale Forts such as Thikanas. Session was moderated by Mr. Munish Pandit.

Session 5

Mr. Janhwij Sharma presented the finale session with select case studies of fortified heritage including lesser-known Forts. The presentation by Ms. Nitya Bali, Ms. Apurva Sinha and Ms. Somi Chatterjee brought out some interesting perspectives about initiatives and present condition of fortification heritage in the regions of Southern and Eastern India. Prof. Sangeeta Bagga moderated the session and linked the dovetailed presentation one after another.

The finale was marked by a Panel discussion between eminent experts from diverse backgrounds including Dr. Shikha Jain, Mr. Janhwij Sharma, Dr. Rima Hooja and Ar. Shalini Dasgupta who discussed the present need of focus on Military and Fortification Heritage, the perspective of preservation, promotion and wider awareness building throughout the nation. Panelists also provided certain facts and figures to corroborate the potential and research which can help continuing its values. The panel discussion was moderated by Ashish Trambadia who also concluded the series by thanking wider participation and all speakers, members, volunteers and attendees to spare out time and making the series an overwhelming success.



Event no.2

Important aspect of the series was the representation from almost all the regions of India in case studies including vivid typologies and regional variations in fortifications and military heritage - A webinar on “Conservation Dialogue on Forts of India with Special Focus on Forts of Rajasthan” was organized on 21st August 2020 and hosted by Deptt. of Science and Technology, Govt. of Rajasthan as part of the event series named as Design Conclave 2020. The event was

coordinated by Aayojan School of Architecture.

ICOMOS India had associated with the event through NSC of Fortifications and Military Heritage. Members of the NSC, Dr. Rima Hooja (Vice President ICOMOS India) moderated the event and Dr. Shikha Jain (Vice President, ICOMOS India) & Ar. Yash Pratap Singh Shekhawat had presented. The dialogue started with Dr. Shikha Jain’s introductions to Forts of India and later focusing to the forts of Rajasthan and overall background of serial nomination of hill forts of Rajasthan. Subsequent presentation by Ar. Yash Pratap Singh brought the attention of participants to lesser known forts of Kishangarh Region in Rajasthan. The event concluded with closing comments from Dr. Rima Hooja.

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NSC-RP NSC - RISK PREPAREDNESS

Coordinator: Poonam Verma Mascarenhas

National Scientific Committee on Risk Preparedness of ICOMOS India's initiative: Sharing and Learning Series on Role of Community and Culture in building Resilience.

Webinar

Decoding Resilience in context of Cultural Continuum

On 5th July 2020 at 4 pm IST on virtual platform.

Number of Participants: 40

PRESENTATIONS

- 1) Shahjahanabad: Revitalization and Resilience will focus on the inbuilt complex modes of resilience in the Shahjahanabad Historic City design by Ar. Smita Datta Makhija
- 2) Paradigm for recovery and rehabilitation in a fire-affected historical temple structure in a living religious-cultural site: The case of Veera VasanthaRayar Mandapam of Meenakshi Sundareswar Temple of Madurai in 2018. By Dr. Arun Menon. Session was Moderated by: Ar. Poonam V. Mascarenhas, Coordinator NSC-RP ICOMOS India.

COORDINATOR'S INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Decoding Resilience is like decoding creativity. Prevalent but not easy to define. As many minds that many perceptions and as many definitions. Open to many interpretations, resilience can be equated as an intangible, the human spirit to scientific as the inbuilt in human body the white blood cells. Amidst the agreement on building immunity as the best defence against the ongoing health challenge; one has to wonder if the same principle could be applied to the living environment- an inbuilt defence mechanism.

An enquiry into this aspect has to begin in the past settlements for not only have they survived centuries but have also flourished and perhaps it is time to view through this lens of resilience to understand the different players and factors. Employing case studies appears to be the best way forward. Is it the place or the people? Is it a practice or human consciousness itself? Can it be learned? Can it be copied? Can it be understood and emulated? Hence we need to - decode it! This webinar is just the beginning and is conceived as initiation into this aspect of cultural heritage to then be furthered as evolving informed mitigation strategy in ensuing climate change induced disasters that now threaten loss of both- lives and cultures.

SALIENT POINTS OF DISCUSSIONS:

Creating the bonds within the diverse inhabiting communities with the government bodies and professionals was identified as key for continuum along

with using the in-built resilience system in the urban fabric as the core for creating planned intervention, i.e. to create a dynamic relationship between the people and the settlement fabric.

Resilience of people and place are anchored in the intangibles that endow the site and espouse ownership. However, political and cultural upheavals can cause fractures and tools for building- up these have not yet been recognized as primary requisite for resilience.

Ar. Smita captured the essentials of Resilience in Historic City as:

- Eradicate ignorance- amongst all –the Govt., the residents, the players of developments.
- To do so- a digital repository that is open source for better understanding of evolution of city and later development along with all planned interventions.
- All interventions and revitalization projects must prioritise: Life, safety, health and well-being as primary goals.
- Community connect is crucible. Looking at past admin structure and present 74th amendment to constitution- can help resolve the gap between the top-down and down to top decision making process.
- Burden of going to court for basic rights by citizens need to be lightened and the system of planning needs to change keeping all of the above in mind.

Dr. Arun Menon espoused:

- Partnership between the traditional knowledge bearers and contemporary educated professionals is a must for long lasting continuum.
- Technical advancements do not alone ensure appropriate solutions.
- Challenges of decisions on restoration, renovation, rebuilding- post a disaster are in negotiating between cultural knowledge systems and practices and the international charters. The discussions may present many perspectives and multiplicity should be accepted as positive engagement and negotiating these are a must.
- Modern education systems have continued to delineate the core strength of the cultural continuum of India.

This webinar is an initiation into resilience aspect of cultural heritage to be furthered as informed mitigation strategy in ensuing climate change induced disasters that now threaten loss of both- lives and cultures.

ICOMOS INDIA Council on Monuments and Sites | NSCRP | Role of Community and Culture in building Resilience | Sharing and Learning Series | Series Curator | Moderator: Poonam Verma Mascarenhas | Conservation Architect | Coordinator NSC-RP | Webinar 02, 5th July 2020 at 4 to 5:30PM

Decoding Resilience in context of Cultural Continuum

Smita Datta Makhija: Graduate from IAAS YORK in 1986, founder director of architectural practice AVESANA, Delhi | NSC-RP

Shahjahanabad: Revitalization and Resilience will focus on the inbuilt complex modes of resilience in the Shahjahanabad Historic City design.

Arun Menon, Associate Professor of Structural Engineering at IIT Madras | NSC-RP

Paradigm for recovery and rehabilitation in a fire-affected historical temple structure in a living religious-cultural site: The case of Veera VasanthaRayar Mandapam of Meenakshi Sundareswar Temple of Madurai in 2018.

NSC-THEOPHIL NSC-THEORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION

Coordinator: Nalini Thakur

Meeting & Discussion

The first Theophil 2020 meeting of the ICOMOS India - Theory and Philosophy of Conservation and Restoration, was held on 6th June 2020.

Due to lockdown this meeting was held online through Zoom. The Agenda of this meeting was to discuss the preparation of the “White Paper”.

The following members participated in the meeting:

1. Prof. Nalini Thakur, Coordinator, Theophil NSC and Chair for the meeting
2. Prof. Jigna Desai, member Theophil and NCS Counselor, ICOMOS India
3. Prof. AGK Menon, Member, Theophil NSC
4. Moulshri Joshi, Member, Theophil NSC
5. Lakshmi Priya, Member, Theophil NSC
6. Nirmal Kulkarni, Member, Theophil NSC
7. Shubhru Gupta, Member, Theophil NSC
8. Prathyaksha Krishna Prasad, Member, Theophil NSC
9. Nitya Khendry, Member, Theophil NSC
10. Tirupura Sundari, Member, Theophil NSC
11. Monalisa Bharadwaj, Member, Theophil NSC
12. Vivek C G, Trainee with the Coordinator

The meeting commenced with the NSC Coordinator Nalini Thakur reminding the participants that ICOMOS Theophil is a critical component of the system promulgated by the UNESCO World Heritage Convention '72 – a vertical central core that links the Inter-governmental Organization to the World heritage Sites on the ground in different countries. As India is a signatory to the Convention, the mandate for ICOMOS India is to participate in the intelligent integration of international obligations with Indian realities towards its heritage sites. At the same time answers have to be given which require knowledge and expertise, without marginalization of India's interests and compromising the authenticity and integrity of the two cultural resources/sites through poor knowledge and quality of conservation. This is the challenge for the white paper and for India ICOMOS, &Theophil 2020 will be addressing it.

ICOMOS Theophil attempts to design the white paper to play a critical role to guide formulation of approaches and activities for ICOMOS India. The role of Theophil will be to build the foundation and base for India ICOMOS, for all NSCs to have common principles for the collective development of culture of work within the parameters of the World Heritage System.

The following points were highlighted in the presentation made by the NSC Coordinator Nalini Thakur :

- Intergovernmental interaction requires thorough understanding of the legal framework for a one to one dialogue. Protection and management of India's plural and diverse heritage is a responsible area requires well informed, professional and ethical conservators.
- Conservation Education is one of the most critical area where Theory and philosophy of Conservation may be expanded and developed.
- The challenge for our heritage lies in successful transition from Theory to Practice.
 - Practice must go beyond the status quo and address new ways and processes. Does “Theory” actually exist within the Indian intellectual context? We do possess principles and knowledge, have traditional knowledge systems, but are we able to develop or apply “Theory” across disciplines for protection, maintenance and management of built heritage.
 - An important aspect of current prevailing official context is the multiplicity of stakeholders and numerous official organizations for heritage management. From a technical point of view they may be ill-conceived with no expertise or knowledge. It is very important that as conservators, we do not compromise in these situations but address the challenge to facilitate interaction for the purposes of responsible heritage management.
- There is a lacuna in the modern engineering approach that does not understand traditional building systems.
- There is also a lack of adequate information about our architecture.

Subsequent to the presentation a detailed discussion was held and the following points were mentioned:

I. Summarizing the points mentioned during the presentation, the Emergent Themes for consideration are as follows:

- Articulation of Theory of Conservation for Indian context
- The Cultural plurality and Diversity of the country.
- Transgressing to the Democratic paradigm from the Colonial.
- Developing “new” Theory through Research and Practice
- New Education
- Ethical and Professional in approach and actions.
- Collaboration to begin within NSCs through engagement.
- Only well thought through Collaboration as the basis towards other organizations within India and outside.

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Collaborative Activities

NSC - INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE & NORTH EAST ZONE

NSC-ICH Coordinator: Mrinalini Atrey & North East Zone: Sankar Krishna Das



Webinar on

Bihu

the agrarian festival of Assam

LIVE telecast link : <https://www.facebook.com/icomosindia>



NSC-ICH & NE ZONE

Bihu is the national festival of Assam. This colourful agrarian festival deserves global recognition. So ICOMOS India (North East Zone) organised a webinar on Bihu in association with the National Scientific Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (NSC ICH ICOMOS India) and International Committee for Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH ICOMOS) on 20th September 2020 Sunday. It was held from 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm IST on Zoom platform. Sujatha Prasad, executive secretary of ICOMOS India operated the zoom event from head-office. Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti, President of Society for SrimantaSankaradeva and Expert member of ICOMOS International Scientific Committee for Intangible Cultural Heritage moderated this event. The program was uploaded in ICOMOS India YouTube channel.

The representative of ICOMOS North East zone Sankar Krishna Das opened the program. He said that it was the first event organised by the ICOMOS India, North East zone. He introduced the moderator Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti, who gave a brief idea of the Bihu festival. Dr



Meji burnt in Magh Bihu or Bhogali Bihu
Photo by Samiron Goswami

Borkakoti said that Bihu is a unique festival since it is observed by both rural and urban dwellers, both farmers and non-farmers, in spite of the basic character of the festival being that of an agrarian festival. He also said that observation at three different times of the year was another distinctive feature of Bihu. He said that drawing the attention of the scholars across the world was the main aim of the webinar.

The Secretary of ICOMOS India, Shalini Dasgupta sent a video message of best wishes to all the participants as well as the North East zone, at the outset of the webinar. It was followed by the main discussion by the panelists. The three panelists were Dr Pradip Neog, Dinesh Gogoi and Mridu Moucham Bora. They gave power-point presentations on the features, history and ornaments worn in Bihu.

Dinesh Gogoi, Retired Professor, DR College, and a Researcher on Bihu traced the history of Bihu. He said that it had originated in the 'Chu Kingdom' of China during the reign of Zhou dynasty between 770 BCE to 223 BCE. It was brought to Assam by the Chutiyas. A small group of people from Chu Kingdom migrated via Sichuan of Tibet to Brahmaputra Valley between the 5th and 6th century CE. These



Bohag Bihu on way to being UNESCO's 'intangible cultural heritage'

MAMATA MISHRA

GUWAHATI, Sept 23: Bohag Bihu is on its way to getting a place in the list of intangible cultural heritage under the UNESCO, with efforts being stepped up by the North East Zone of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in association with global cultural heritage experts to fetch this status to the major festival of Assam.

The move, according to experts, would give an exclusive international recognition to Bihu, contributing in both its preservation and promotion at the international level.

The ICOMOS is an international non-governmental organisation that rallies its network of experts to serve UNESCO's World Heritage Convention.

"After a number of web presentations about the Bihu, its origin and evolution, the dance form, musical instruments etc., the global experts

of ICOMOS have conveyed to us that Bihu, especially Bohag Bihu, fulfils the criteria of getting enlisted as an intangible cultural heritage," Dilip Changkakoty, member of ICOMOS NE Zone told *The Assam Tribune*.

The ICOMOS International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH) is one of the many international scientific committees of ICOMOS, which allow members from around the world to form networks of expertise in particular areas of cultural heritage. Members include internationally renowned specialists in their fields.

"After being created as a separate zone for the North East a couple of months back, we have taken the initiative to make the world aware about the cultural specialities of Assam and the North East. With a number of cultural experts from Assam on board, we organised a web session on September 20 for the in-



ternational level culture heritage experts to showcase different aspects of Bihu, and its role as a melting pot for cultures and traditions of different communities and tribes. The presentations have earned lots of positive response from global specialists, paving the way for the cause,"

Changkakoty said. From Assam Changkakoty and Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti of ICOMOS India (North East Zone) are also the experts of global ICICH. In a proactive approach, Dr Hee Sook Lee-Niinjoja, global president of ICICH had requested all members of

ICICH in different parts of world to attend the online events on Bihu.

According to the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, the term 'intangible cultural heritage' means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills-

as well as the instruments, objects, artifacts and cultural spaces associated therewith - that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage.

"This international recognition to Bihu would mean a greater international expo-

sure to Bihu dance, songs, traditional Assamese ornaments, textile, etc. It will open a world of opportunities to our artists and artisans alike," Changkakoty added.

So far, altogether 18 cultural elements from India including yoga, Vedic chanting, Manipuri Songkirtan, etc., have been recognised as intangible cultural heritage.

Dr Mrinalini Atray, expert from ICOMOS expressed hope that coming together of experts from across the globe in a web session on Bihu would make a case for enlisting Bihu in the list of world's cultural heritage. "Bihu festival is the

perfect blend of different tribes and clans who have made Assam their home. It is an organic whole, and is a true representative of Assam and its heritage. It must get a seat in the world heritage list," she mentioned.

Backing the cause, Munish Pandit, vice-president of ICOMOS-ICICH said for any kind of cultural heritage, ICOMOS can help in its safeguard. "Though the actual carriers of any cultural heritage are the local people who follow it, the global platform can provide some framework in terms of its documentation or its recognition," he added.

ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड
(एन सी ई डी एल)
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people introduced themselves as 'Chutia'. By 'Tia' they referred to their religious deity and 'Chu' was derived from the Chu Kingdom. Bihu was performed in Rang Ghar in 1705 CE, the first amphitheatre of Assam as well as Asia. The religious context associated with Bihu came into being after 15th Century with Srimanta Sankaradeva, the Assamese polymath, founded the Eka Sarana Nama Dharma. Dr. Pradip Neog, Professor, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat, and a Researcher on Bihu explained the musical properties of Bihu dance and songs. He explained the foot-steps in Bihu dance, which differed in male and female dancers. He also described the features of Bihu songs as given below.

1. Majority of Bihu songs are in Dularimetre.
2. There are several thousands of Bihu songs in Dularimetre.
3. There are about thousand Bihu songs which do not follow any metre.
4. Bihu songs are generally sung in the same rhythm mentioned in case of Bihu-dance : I khitkhiti I khitkhiti
5. In Huchari, Bihu songs are also sung in four additional rhythms

6. Bihu songs are also sung in Raga.
7. Bihu songs are of high lyrical qualities in terms of use of words, metaphors, songlike attribute, emotions and personal feelings.
8. Majority of Bihu songs are enriched with superb metaphors.
9. There are Bihu songs on all aspects of agrarian Assamese people
10. Love is at the core of majority of the Bihu songs.

Mridu Moucham Bora, Secretary of Society for Srimanta Sankaradeva, and a Manuscript painter showed the ornaments worn in Bihu festival. He showed the process of their manufacture as well as the raw materials used therein.

Munish Pandit, Vice President of ICOMOS International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage said that Bihu deserved recognition from UNESCO. "Though the actual carriers of any cultural heritage are the local people who follow it, the global platform can provide some framework in terms of its documentation or its recognition," he added.

Dr Mrinalini Atray, Co-ordinator, NSC ICH, ICOMOS expressed hope that coming together of experts from across the globe in a web session on Bihu would make a case for enlisting Bihu in the list of world's cultural heritage. "Bihu festival is the perfect blend of different tribes and clans who have made Assam their home. It is an organic whole, and is a true representative of Assam and its heritage. It must get a seat in the world heritage list," she mentioned.

Several video of Bihu dance was shown in the webinar between the speeches. This added a special attraction to the event. These included Bihu performance under tree and Bihu Husori performance in the residences of people.

The moderator Dr Sanjib Kumar Borkakoti summed up the discussion saying that Bihu deserved a place in the representative list of UNESCO. He solicited support from all in this journey. Expert Member, ICOMOS International Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICICH) Dilip Kr. Changkakoti offered vote of thanks to the panelists and the participants. He specially thanked the President of ICICH Dr Hee Sook Niinjoja for her support to the event.



Delicacies prepared in Bihu Photo by Samiron Goswami

NSC -HISTORIC TOWNS AND VILLAGES & EAST ZONE

NSC-HTV Coordinator: Sanghamitra Basu & East Zone: Ananya Bhattacharya

INAUGURAL WEBINAR: CONCEPTS, FRAMEWORK, NEEDS AND EXPERIENCES – FOCUS WEST BENGAL

27th – 28th August 2020 (ONLINE: Zoom and Facebook)

Brief Report

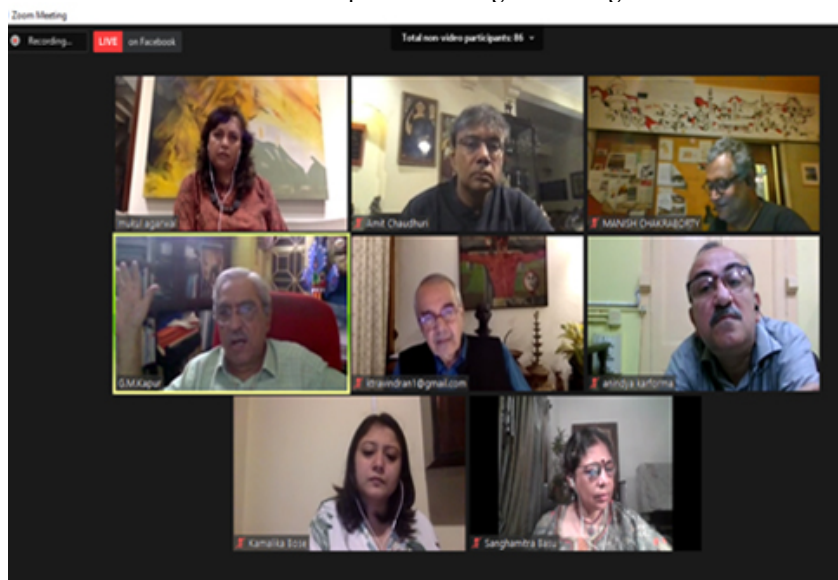
The East Zone of ICOMOS India in collaboration with the National Scientific Committee of Historic Towns and Villages (NSC-HTV) kick-started its webinar series on 'Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas' with its inaugural session on August 27-28, 2020. Right from the ideation stage to networking, implementation and publicity, a core team comprising ICOMOS India East Zone representative, coordinator NSC HTV along with a few ICOMOS India members from East Zone / NSC HTV, played a crucial role.

Emerging Professional Working Group provided the necessary support for these webinars. The inaugural session focused on the theme of Concepts, Frameworks, Needs and Experiences of Historic Areas and Precincts with a focus on West Bengal (Day 1) and Kolkata (Day 2). This gathering was conducted on Zoom and simultaneously broadcast on Facebook to enable broader outreach. A total of 466 registered for the webinars and 120+ attended in Zoom while 2.1 K view reported on Facebook so far.

Day 1: Focus on West Bengal

Coordinator: Prof Dr Sanghamitra Basu, Moderator: MsKamalika Bose, Rapporteur: MsZarna Shah

The day began with introductory remarks by Prof Dr Sanghamitra Basu (Coordinator, NSC-HTV). She briefed the audience about role and objectives of ICOMOS and ICH. She then proceeded to give a background of this



Webinar series, importance of heritage precincts and areas in preserving the identity of a place and to realize development potentials. She elaborated on the genesis of this webinar series in the context of West Bengal and how over the course of next few months several webinars are being planned with each webinar addressing a particular theme, sharing of experiences through case studies, learning from precedents, and discussion amongst stakeholders. She then gave a brief introduction to keynote speaker Professor AGK Menon, a father figure of the conservation movement in India.

Prof Menon in his usual candid style reminded us that we need to reflect on, why, in spite of talking about the same issues for a long time, no body outside the conservation fraternity is listening to us. He highlighted four points,

how present development is rooted in colonial ideology, need to understand the problem to develop a solution, ICOMOS Venice Charter vs INTACH Charter, and indigenous urbanism as a way forward. He gave examples to elucidate his point. He mentioned the contemporary projects of Varanasi – Vishwanath Plaza, Chandni Chowk Redevelopment project, the Redevelopment of Central Vista in Delhi as some relevant examples where transformations are taking place as beautification projects emulating the classical plazas like St Mark's Square Venice. He argued that rather than these places being recognized and appreciated by UNESCO as World Heritage Cities, these projects should highlight the context, culture and needs of these places. He lamented that these examples show that we have deviated from the INTACH Charter on indigenous urbanism which was a way to look at conserving Indian cities. He exhorted that the answers lie in understanding the circumstances, to relook at our historic cities and learn from their culture, and draft context specific bye laws to manage change, develop and modernize in a way that is appropriate for our culture, our cities, our environment, and our ways of living.

Thereafter Prof Dr Sanghamitra Basu thanked Professor Menon and invited Dr Arjun Mukerji and MrAnjanMitra to begin the program by sharing their experiences of working in historic areas within West Bengal: Cooch Behar and Bishnupur respectively.

Dr Arjun Mukerji shared experiences from Cooch Behar known for the Royal Palace and Madan Mohan temple. With illustrations, maps and images, he elucidated the rational approach adopted by the team at IIT Kharagpur to integrate heritage conservation in the planning process of Cooch Behar, a city that has been recently declared as a heritage city by West Bengal Government. He first gave a brief overview of the prevailing legal tools and organizations with regard to heritage conservation in the state of West Bengal and talked about the need of legal reforms required in State and Municipal rules, regulations and bye laws to aid in the conservation process as a part of land use and development control plan. He listed some of the impending revisions in legislation. Dr Mukerji then elucidated the interesting history of the town, its heritage, the existing historic structures, precincts and water bodies and briefly explained the criteria for declaring Cooch Behar as a heritage town. He went on to explain how an objective measure of significance as a function of value,

authenticity and integrity has been developed by him for identification and assessment of heritage properties leading to statutory declaration, listing and grading of local heritage. He concluded with illustration of a few action area plans to be implemented by local bodies. Glimpses of these demonstrative examples showed how to blend preservation of heritage along with creation of exciting and inclusive public places, in order to make it sustainable in a bottom up approach. The objective, he reiterated, is to enhance and celebrate the cultural, historical and natural environment in present context and adapted for future use.

Mr Anjan Mitra began his session by taking a leaf out of Prof Menon's indigenous urbanism. He raised the pertinent question of prevailing development paradigm and urged for doing away with a culture that is defined only by built environment and guided by growth driven policies. He reminded us of the responsibilities to look at any place from a socio-cultural aspect, understand significance of indigenous development practices and traditional wisdom. In the context of ongoing pandemic, he highlighted the life style adjustment we are making and its impact on environment – the need to follow alternative paths for a sustainable development process. He then goes on to take the example of Bishnupur town and its resilience against onslaughts of various kinds over centuries. What is the rationale behind its resilience? He speaks about the topography of the town which is largely barren but lies at the confluence of two ancient trading routes. He then elaborates on the carefully crafted traditional dam systems, a water harvesting system that have allowed the sustenance of the town; how ecology played a significant role and how the mechanisms were devised to sustain livelihood and trade; how pilgrimage and Vaishnavism came together to weave into a fabric of collective wisdom. Mr Mitra then gave detailed examples of significant structures in the town and how they were connected to the local way of life, folklore and social engagement. He also detailed on local crafts and small scale industries that reflected on the seamless economic integration with the sustainable livelihood.

The final session was a panel discussion anchored by Ms Kamalika Bose. The panel included Mr Partha Ranjan Das, IPS Mr Soumen Mitra, Mr Saptarshi Sanyal along with Professor Menon, Dr Arjun Mukerji and Mr Anjan Mitra. Some of the points brought to the fore by Mr P.R. Das, member of West Bengal Heritage Commission and a practicing architect and urban designer, were that law enforcement alone



can't be the tool to bring in the sense of heritage. There has to be a sense of belongingness especially in the context of Kolkata where many heritage structures are occupied by tenants and owners are untraceable. He also talked about issue of overlapping laws, need of sufficient incentives and making people as well as architects and designers, the public bodies aware of what is our own heritage and inculcating a sense of pride.

Mr Soumen Mitra, IPS, shared a short presentation on restoration and adaptive reuse of the entire precinct of Swami Vivekananda State Police Academy, Latbagan, Barrackpore, a shared heritage from colonial era. With a historical narrative for this precinct, and a few other examples, Mr Mitra, illustrated the pivotal role an administrator can play through actual restoration and adaptive reuse, creating awareness to further the cause of conservation and generating a ripple effect. Next discussant, Mr Saptarshi Sanyal, an academician, shared a short presentation with images of Shantiniketan. He talked about multiscale modelling of Shantiniketan, a physical and social space that's been contributed to by multiple people from various cultures, a space built by its inhabitants. Through an elucidating presentation, Mr. Sanyal offered a different perspective of Shantiniketan, need to connect with people, its ecology and understand it as a dynamic entity before making any intervention.

The discussion continued with further questions from the moderator Ms Kamalika Bose. Discussants talked about decentralized, localized approach in identifying and managing precincts. They emphasised the importance of local pride and valorisation while appreciating local aspirations in mobilising precinct designation. Need to integrate local economy into way of living by giving impetus to small-scale self-sustaining initiatives as well as public private ventures that encourage local craftsmanship and enhance capacity building at multiple levels. Importance of a people-centric approach where heritage education is a part of primary school curriculums and integrating heritage conservation with formal planning process, were some of the other areas of discussion. The final remarks focused on conservation as a continuous process in a country with diverse traditions with a need to recognise traditional systems. Arriving at a rational method for delineation of precincts and context specific bye-laws which could be adopted as Bengal model emerged as key pointers for way forward.

Dr Sanghamitra Basu summarized the discussions in her closing address. The vote of thanks was given by Ms Ananya Bhattacharya.

DAY 2: FOCUS ON KOLKATA

Coordinator: Prof Dr Sanghamitra Basu, Moderator: MsMukul Agarwal, Rapporteur: MsNityaa Lakshmi Iyer

This webinar began with opening remarks by Prof Dr Sanghamitra Basu on the reflections that emerged from the previous day's session that focused on West Bengal. Through deliberations, it also emerged that although heritage professionals have been expressing the necessity to protect historic areas and precincts for a long time, we have failed to establish its urgency in India. She also recalled some comments expressed by Prof A.G.K. Menon during his keynote speech--to reflect, develop solutions by understanding problems rather than relying on the western model or talking about the World Heritage Site. She reminded that at the end of the session of Day 1, the following approaches were identified as ways forward: indigenous urbanism, people-centric approach, broad urban development plans incorporated with conservation principles, increasing community engagement at multiple levels, and instilling the ethos of conservation within the community, especially young adults.

Having set the tone for the proceedings, Prof Basu then invited speakers Ms Kamalika Bose and Mr Manish Chakraborti to begin the program. Both the presenters shared their experiences of working in historic areas within Kolkata-Chitpur Road and BBD Bag previously known as Dalhousie Square, respectively.



Ms Kamalika Bose walked the audience through the multilayered socio political milieu of Chitpur Road in North Kolkata, the different neighbourhoods that organically evolved along this arterialspine that was indigenously built by the Bengali elite and working class. She highlighted that the historical significance of Chitpur Road pre-dates the formal establishment of colonial Calcutta as a trading and port city in 1690 and hence has its roots in the rural landscape of Bengal. She further established the significance of Chitpur's diverse neighbourhoods, enumerated their importance by identifying tangible & intangible attributes, a range of economic activities, uses, social practices, sacred spaces and cultural development. She explained the technical mapping process and condition survey conducted under her guidance, and finally called attention to livability issues due to rapid change, risks and threats facing Chitpur's built heritage today. This spotlights the urgent need to designate these areas as historic precincts. During the presentation, she also drew focus to the lack of research and study undertaken to understand indigenous neighbourhoods such as Chitpur Road, especially in cities of colonial origin.

Mr Manish Chakraborti set the context to his presentation by sharing a brief history and overview of the conception of BBD Bag previously known as Dalhousie Square, especially the prevalent use of European influences in the development of the square. He further classified its associated values, qualitative features, and physical attributes that collectively add to the cultural significance of the urban ensemble. Using his work on the Dalhousie Square Heritage Zone or Precinct as a case study, he underscored the need for comprehensive conservation led development strategy drafted with active participation from multiple stakeholders. He also alluded to the need to implement systemic actions such as the formal designation of areas as a historic precinct, and to establish a special town centre committee that formulates design guidelines and regulations that enable the conservation of heritage spaces.

In conclusion, both Kamalika Bose and Manish Chakraborti highlighted the dire need to document tangible and intangible characteristics of precincts through rigorous mapping exercises. They believe such effects would help communities understand the importance of their heritage assets and lived histories. It would empower them to come up with comprehensive strategies that enable management of change without losing a sense of place.

These short presentations were followed by a panel discussion that was moderated by Ms Mukul Agarwal and included panelists: Prof. KT Ravindran, Mr Amit Chaudhuri, Mr G.M. Kapur and Mr Anindya Karforma along with Ms Kamalika Bose and Mr Manish Chakraborti .

Prof Ravindran, spoke about the roles played by Urban Art Commission and Heritage Conservation Committee in Delhi, the continuous struggle in safeguarding heritage areas and precincts of Delhi. He deliberated on Kochin Plan, which for the first time in India, applied the concepts of heritage precincts and prescribed what should be allowed and how to identify heritage districts. Mr Amit Chaudhary passionately explained why and how Kolkata can be considered as a great city of modernity and how a vibrant inheritance of middle class India is imbibed in its architecture and space and urged for inclusion of heritage precinct in the Corporation Act. Mr G M Kapur gave an overview of heritage legislation in India and INTCH's role. He also spoke about the need of adapting the two jails in Alipore, Kolkata. Mr Anindya Karforma briefed about the initiation of the Heritage Conservation Committee of

the Kolkata Municipal Corporation and the process followed in case of heritage properties. He also lamented on the precarious states of some of the listed properties due to lack of maintenance and subsequent demolition for safety reason. Few rounds of discussion focused on enabling a more holistic dialogue to develop a deeper understanding of concepts, framework and shared experience related to historic areas and precincts. The exchange focused on building knowledge systems that address the processes and challenges faced with grading and listing heritage properties, refine methods of delineating historic precinct, learning from the legislative actions undertaken by other heritage national organisations in the past, recognising the multiple architectural and communal identities of Kolkata and to foster a better appreciation for the intangible attributes that make historic urban spaces a living heritage. The exchange was followed by a moderated Q&A session, where the concept of historic landscape, issue of arbitrary downgrading of listed properties, need for an appellate body to have a dialogue, setting up of committees to act as watch dogs, and need for implementation came up.

The program concluded with brief closing remarks by Prof Basu. This was followed by a vote of thanks by Ms Ananya Bhattacharya who thanked the audience, panelists, moderator and speakers for their presence and active participation. Overall, it was a well-attended event.

Organizing sessions on this virtual platform has opened up unprecedented opportunity to have speakers, discussants and participants from various places. Online sessions and simultaneous streaming on Face Book resulted in overwhelming participation enabling us to reach out to people from various places and diverse backgrounds. Moreover with availability of the recordings online, the sessions are being viewed by interested people resulting in a wide dissipation. Logistic support provided by ICOMOS India in conducting the sessions has been of immense help. This along with active participation of EPWG members and efficient management and coordination of the entire event by the East Zone representative, is an exemplary case of team work of ICOMOS India. Feedbacks received from participants are really encouraging. EPWG members have come forward to engage in the post processing of the event and help the coordinator and moderators in compilation and editing process, in order to produce an output in the form of a publication that will be shared with the stake holders, policy makers and related organizations.

Acknowledgement:

Core team members: Ananya Bhattacharya, Arjun Mukerji, Kamalika Bose, Puja Bhowmik, Sanghamitra Basu, Sukanya Mitra, Sukrit Sen
EPWG members: Aditi Rai, Khushi Shah, Zarna Shah, Nityaa Lakshmi Iyer, Shahzad, ICOMOS India office: Sujatha Prasad

EPWG Section

Emerging Professionals of ICOMOS India have been the back bone of all events that have taken place in the past few months. EPs not only provided a much needed logistical support for online events but they were active in recording information and in many cases providing missing links of content.

All events organised by the Executive Committee, Zones and NSCs would not have been possible without the support of the EPWG Members. Special thanks are due to Ritika Khanna, Laxmi Ravi Kumar, Nandini Mukhopahyay, Nishant Upadhyay, Priya Gosain, Priyanka Singh, Aditi Rai, Zarna Shah, Nityaa Iyer, Khushi Shah, Sukrit Sen and Yash Pratap Singh Shekhawat for supporting various events.



Ritika Khanna



Laxmi Ravi Kumar



Nandini Mukhopahyay



Nishant Upadhyay



Priya Gosain



Priyanka Singh



Aditi Rai



Zarna Shah



Nityaa Iyer



Khushi Shah



Sukrit Sen



Yash Pratap Singh Shekhawat

Member's Corner

BY MOULSHRI JOSHI

2020 India- Taiwan Online Forum on Railway Cultural Heritage Conservation

On 28 September 2020, 2020 India-Taiwan Online Forum on Railway Cultural Heritage Conservation



View of Staff of National Railway Museum Preparatory Office in Taiwan watching the Forum.

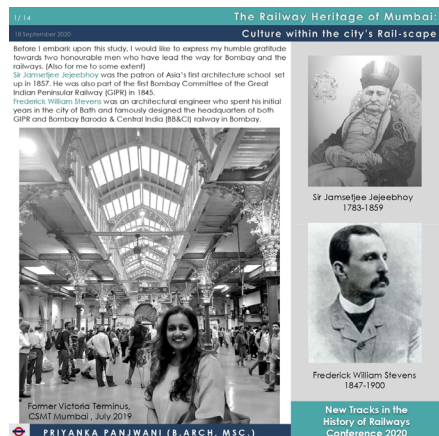
was held virtually. The Forum was organised & sponsored Ministry of Culture, Taiwan and co-organised by Heritage Directorate, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways. The event was curated by Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India and SpaceMatters, Delhi based design consultancy specialising in Industrial Heritage. Three prominent Railway organisations co-hosted and led the discussions - Preparatory Office of National Railway Museum (Taiwan), National Rail Museum, New Delhi and National Academy of Indian Railways (NAIR), Vadodara. Asian Heritage of Industrial Heritage (ANIH), a think-tank based out of Taichung with an objective to preserve Asia's vast industrial heritage was the knowledge partner of the event.

ICOMOS India was an invited observer at the event. Nishant Upadhyay represented the Executive Committee, ICOMOS India. Curator & moderator of the event was Moulshri Joshi who is the Coordinator, NSC-IH ICOMOS India. Vinita Srivastava, member of NSC-IH ICOMOS India was an invited speaker at the event.

BY PRIYANKA PANJWANI

Participation in the New Tracks in the History of Railways Conference 2020

New Tracks in the History of Railways Conference 2020 was organised by a collective of transport historians and researchers from Universities in the UK- York, Portsmouth, Manchester and academics at the National Railway Museum, UK. The two-day conference was hosted on Twitter and involved various themes such as railway histories of organisation and functions, workers,



literature, leisure, exhibitions etc. All the papers of the conference can be read on twitter using the hashtag #NTiHoR. Under the theme of 'Shaping Environment and Space', a paper titled 'The Railway Heritage of Mumbai- Culture within the City's Railscape' was presented by Priyanka Panjwani of ICOMOS India NSC Industrial Heritage. In this paper, the Railway Heritage of Mumbai is examined by analyzing the resilient built environment and evolving context of ten key railway nodes in the city. The cultural narrative is realized through shifts in historic geography, local community and urban economy.
<https://twitter.com/i/events/1308165306951626754>

Article in TICCIH Bulletin 89, titled 'Crafting Art Districts in Indian Industrial Sites'

The International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage brings together global perspectives and



expertise to understand, interpret and protect heritage of the industrial cultural landscapes. The quarterly bulletin presents case studies and opinions involving a wide range of themes revolving around various typologies of industry, people and places.

In the article 'Crafting Art Districts in Indian Industrial Sites', two cultural projects in Mumbai are explored as case studies for reactivating Indian industrial sites through artistic interventions. The Sassoon Docks and the India United Mills were sites that once belonged to the illustrious Sassoon family in erstwhile Bombay. An experimental urban art project in the dock site and a new textile museum project in the mill site demonstrate approaches to stimulate Mumbai's cosmopolitan and enterprising spirit using art as a viable medium. They give hope for revitalization of other vast industrial sites in the city and the country.
<https://ticcih.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/TICCIH-Bulletin-89-Final.pdf>

Events Calendar

From June till September 2020

DATE	COMMITTEE / ZONE	ORGANISED BY	NAME OF THE EVENT
12/6/2020	EX-COM	KIRAN JOSHI	AGM
19/6/2020	NSC -FORT	ASHISH TRAMBADIA	A Webinar Series - on Fortifications & Military Heritage in India
20/6/2020			A webinar on Western Fortresses : Maharashtra & Goa
26/6/2020			A webinar on Northern Frontiers with Central Strongholds : Jammu and Panjab / Delhi, U. P, M.P and Gujarat
27/6/2020			A webinar on Northwestern Frontiers : Rajasthan
4/7/2020			A webinar on Southern & Eastern Fortified Heritage : Karnataka, Andhra, Telangana :: Concluding of webinar series
5/7/2020	NSC-RP	POONAM VERMA MASCAREHAS	Sharing and Learning Series on Role of Community and Culture in building Resilience
17/7/2020	NSC-VA	POORVA PATIL	WEB-BASED SERIES OF TALKS ON "RETHINKING VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE: DOCUMENTATION & LESSONS" BY NSC-VA
18/7/2020			WEB-BASED SERIES OF TALKS ON "RETHINKING VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE: DOCUMENTATION & LESSONS" BY NSC-VA
19/7/2020			WEB-BASED SERIES OF TALKS ON "RETHINKING VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE: DOCUMENTATION & LESSONS" BY NSC-VA
25/7/2020			WEB-BASED SERIES OF TALKS ON "RETHINKING VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE: DOCUMENTATION & LESSONS" BY NSC-VA
20/8/2020	NSC-Fort	ASHISH TRAMBADIA	AN ONLINE SESSION OF CONSERVATION DIALOGUE ON FORTS OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON RAJASTHAN
21/8/2020			AN ONLINE SESSION OF CONSERVATION DIALOGUE ON FORTS OF INDIA WITH SPECIAL FOCUS ON RAJASTHAN
27/8/2020	NSC-HTV/East Zone	Sanghamitra Basu/ Ananya Bhattacharya	Webinars on 'Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas
28/8/2020			Webinars on 'Resilient and Sustainable Development of Historic Precincts and Areas
20/9/2020	North East Zone Rep	Sankar Krishna Das	Webinar on "Bihu : the AWgrarian festival of Assam", intangible cultural heritage



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