



INTACH

# PARAMPARA

College Heritage Volunteer Programme  
(Issue 10)

Annual  
E-Newsletter  
2024 - 2025



## Contents of The E-Newsletter

- Volunteer Programme
- Heritage Activities in Colleges
- College Initiatives
- Feature Story: Capture Culture Competition
- My Botanical Heritage



### MESSAGE FROM INTACH

We are pleased to share the tenth issue of the College Heritage Volunteer e-Newsletter, 'Parampara'. It highlights the heritage activities undertaken by colleges and other contributions from students in 2024-25. We appreciate the efforts of the history departments of Delhi University colleges.

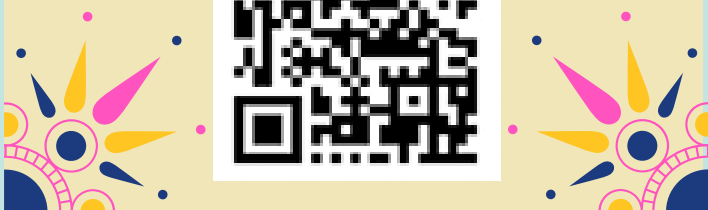
Youth can act as a bridge between cultures, heritage and development. They can serve as agents in promoting heritage, intercultural understanding and good citizenship values. Students as citizens are encouraged to become stakeholders and custodians in protecting our country's heritage.

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.



**INTACH RECENTLY LAUNCHED A NEW  
MOBILE APP FOR HERITAGE SURVEY  
WHICH CAN BE USED BY EVERYONE TO  
LIST A HERITAGE PROPERTY/SITE**

**SCAN TO PARTICIPATE IN  
THE SURVEY:**



# About INTACH

The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), founded in 1984 in New Delhi, is a leading organization dedicated to heritage awareness and conservation in India. With a vision to preserve the country's rich and diverse heritage, INTACH has become one of the world's largest heritage organizations, with over 190 Chapters across the country. INTACH's mission is rooted in the belief that living in harmony with heritage enhances the quality of life, and it is the duty of every Indian citizen to protect and preserve heritage as outlined in the Constitution of India. The organization's objectives, detailed in its Memorandum of Association, guide its work in sensitizing the public about India's pluralistic cultural legacy, fostering social responsibility towards preservation, and protecting the nation's tangible and intangible heritage. Through its various divisions—Architectural Heritage, Natural Heritage, Material Heritage, Intangible Cultural Heritage, Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS), Crafts and Community Cell, Chapters, INTACH Heritage Academy, Heritage Tourism, Listing Cell, and Library, Archives and Documentation Centre—INTACH aims to provide expertise in conservation, develop heritage policies, and collaborate with national and international agencies to safeguard India's cultural and natural treasures.

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)



## About 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>





# About INTACH Heritage Academy



The INTACH Heritage Academy (IHA), formerly known as the Centre for Conservation Training and Capacity Building, was established in 2012 and is envisioned as a centre of excellence for training, research, and capacity building in the field of cultural and natural heritage conservation in India. Located at the INTACH headquarters in Delhi, the Academy supports and complements the initiatives of various technical divisions, centres, and chapters of INTACH across the country. IHA plays a crucial role in developing skills and strengthening capacities through a wide range of training programmes, special courses, and research opportunities. The multidisciplinary nature of its courses attracts participants from within India and overseas, encouraging collaboration and knowledge sharing across various sectors. IHA also aims to develop guidelines for conservation training at multiple levels and respond to national, regional, and local heritage concerns and potentials. Through its initiatives, IHA strives to enhance the implementation of INTACH's mission—to be the foremost repository of India's rich and diverse cultural, architectural, artistic, and natural heritage, and to promote awareness and preservation of this legacy for future generations.

Envisioned as a centre of excellence IHA aims at strengthening the implementation of INTACH objectives.

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

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



## Journey of the Programme



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

Our project cities (2024) were Kathua, Delhi, Varanasi and Malerkotla. We do believe all our project cities are valuable links who are undertaking interesting heritage work.

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



# College Heritage Volunteer Workshop, Delhi 2024

The College Heritage Volunteer Workshop was held on 24th January 2024 at INTACH, New Delhi. The event saw enthusiastic participation from 94 students and teachers representing 12 colleges. The workshop brought together distinguished experts including Dr. Swapna Liddle, eminent historian and author; Prof. A.G.K. Menon, architect and urban planner; Dr. Abira Bhattacharya, Assistant Curator at the Department of Anthropology, National Museum; Dr. Narayani Gupta, historian and former Director of the INTACH Documentation Centre; and the HECS team.

The day commenced with an introductory session by Ms. Purnima Datt, Principal Director, HECS, INTACH, who delivered an engaging talk on "What is Heritage?" She elaborated on the diverse dimensions of heritage, including natural, built, material, and living heritage.

Following this, Dr. Swapna Liddle conducted a session on "The History of Modern Archaeological Study and Preservation in Colonial Delhi," where she highlighted the evolution of conservation efforts across different historical periods in Delhi.

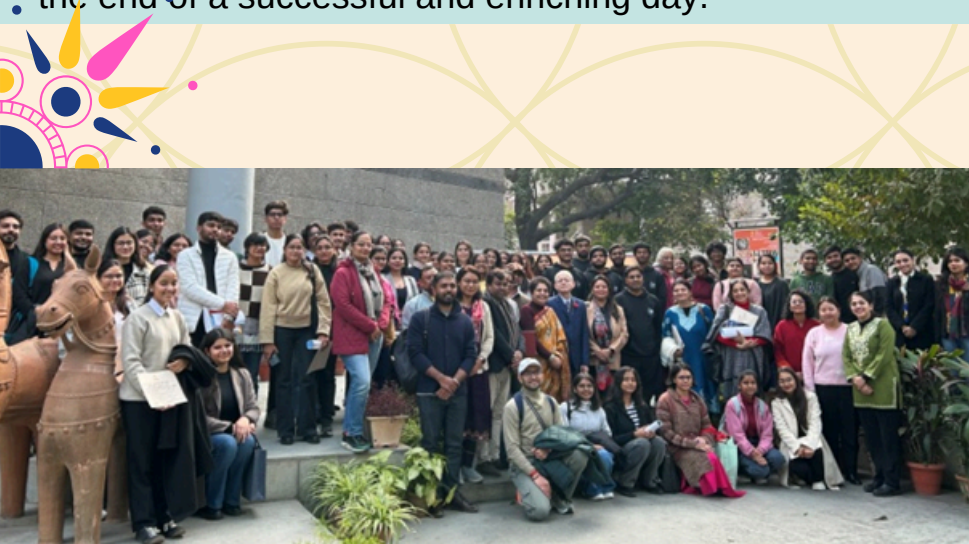
The third session, led by Prof. A.G.K. Menon, focused on "Built Heritage of Delhi and the Role of Citizens in its Protection," with special reference to the INTACH Charter. He emphasized the need for holistic and context-sensitive conservation practices in India.

In the next session, Dr. Abira Bhattacharya explored "Objects of the Ancient Period of the National Museum," particularly focusing on Buddhist and Hindu artefacts. This was followed by a guided visit to the Conservation Labs, where participants observed the meticulous processes involved in conserving material heritage such as paintings, textiles, and sculptures.

Dr. Narayani Gupta delivered an insightful session titled "Romance of Ruins and the Boredom of Textbooks," where she reflected on Delhi's architectural legacy, its layered history, and the influential figures associated with its development.

Later, the HECS team conducted a session on volunteering opportunities at INTACH. This was followed by an interactive group activity, where students brainstormed and proposed creative heritage promotion initiatives, also outlining the kind of support they would require from INTACH. Their presentations were thoughtful, innovative, and deeply rooted in their personal and academic contexts.

The workshop concluded with a felicitation ceremony, where students were awarded certificates and publications by the Chairman and the Member Secretary of INTACH, marking the end of a successful and enriching day.





# Voices from the Workshop



Through this workshop I got to know how even a single road could have its own history and how to record and secure it through digitalizing and sharing stories of our past - **Harshit, Sri Venkateswara College**



This workshop developed a sensitivity towards our heritage and its conservation - **Meenakshi, Lady Shri Ram College**



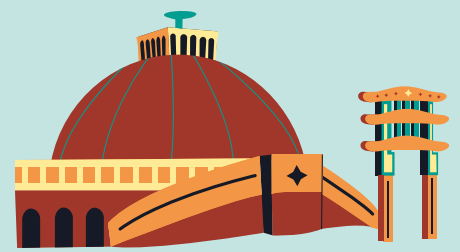
Wonderful and insightful event, giving us the volunteer spirit to conserve and preserve our tangible and intangible heritage- **Arya Chaudhary, Hindu College**



The workshop provided insights into the broad parameters of heritage. The art to value not just the historical facts but also the memories - **Minya Patel, Gargi College**



# GARGI COLLEGE



## Lecture on Multiple Histories of the Madhyadesh Region

The academic year began with a lecture by Prof. P. K. Basant on 1st October 2024, focusing on regional histories of Madhyadesh and their role in challenging dominant narratives.

## Participation in National Conference and Exhibition

History students participated in the 2nd National Conference at Gargi College, securing first position for their exhibitions on Museums & Museology and Understanding Archives.

## Field Visit to National Museum and Purana Qila

Dr. Deeksha Bhardwaj led a field visit to the National Museum and Purana Qila on 14th December 2024, providing students with hands-on exposure to heritage conservation.

## INTACH Workshop Participation

On 22nd January 2025, Dr. Aditya Kaushal accompanied students to the INTACH Volunteers Workshop, where they won a quiz and presented at the closing ceremony.

## National Seminar on the Harappan Civilization

The session concluded with a National Seminar on 27th February 2025, marking the centenary of the Harappan Civilization and featuring talks by Dr. B. R. Mani and Prof. Nayanjot Lahiri.



## Heritage Through the Lens

Students will document elements of local heritage—be it architectural landmarks, traditional crafts, cultural rituals, or natural heritage—through photography.

Selected photographs are then curated into an on-campus exhibition titled “Heritage Through the Lens”, accompanied by short narratives explaining the cultural significance of each subject.



# HINDU COLLEGE



## Heritage Walk – Exploring the Ridge 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025

As part of the INTACH College Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop, a heritage walk was organised by the college around Kamala Nehru Ridge, North Campus, Delhi University. The walk aimed to sensitise students about heritage conservation and was guided by Dr Azad Choudhary, Department of History, Hindu College. Key sites covered included Flag Tower, Khooni Jheel, Chauburji Mosque, Pir Ghaib, Mutiny Memorial, and the Ashoka Pillar. The walk offered students a unique opportunity to engage with both architectural and natural heritage, blending historical insights with visual experience.

## Event: Frescoed Tales – Unveiling Ramgarh Sethan

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

As part of a cultural heritage initiative, students embarked on an immersive journey to Ramgarh Sethan in Shekhawati, Rajasthan—a town renowned for its rich legacy of merchant-led prosperity, fresco-painted havelis, and socio-political innovation. Guided heritage walks took students through intricately adorned chattris, vibrant temples, and historic havelis like Mohar Haveli and Do Chowk Ki Haveli, where they explored themes ranging from mythology and colonial influence to gender roles and artistic exchange. Engaging hands-on in traditional crafts such as bangle-making and Ayurvedic healing, students connected with local artisans and sustainable practices. The experience provided a meaningful lens into Ramgarh's unique culture leaving students with a deeper appreciation for heritage conservation and the living history of Rajasthan.



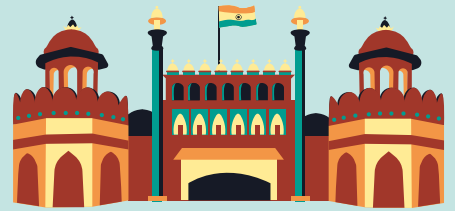
## Visit to Mehrauli Archaeological Park

**Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025, Caucus – The Discussion Forum of Hindu College organised an unofficial visit to Mehrauli Archaeological Park, offering students a quiet, immersive encounter with Delhi's forgotten past. Far from the usual tourist bustle, the park welcomed the group with a rare stillness. They explored the restored section featuring Quli Khan's Tomb, Metcalfe's Boathouse, a heritage gallery tracing Delhi's layered history, and The Stone Café with its scenic view of Qutub Minar at sunset.

The journey continued through ancient stepwells like Rajon ki Baoli and Gandhak ki Baoli, unrecorded tombs, and the open-air grave of Sultan Ghiyasuddin Balban—a stark reminder of the impermanence of power. At Jamali Kamali's Tomb, where Sufi poetry meets Mughal architecture, students reflected on Mehrauli as the true cradle of Delhi—its silent ruins whispering stories to those who choose to listen.





## **Red Fort Walk – Tracing Mughal Majesty 8th February 2025**

Dastaan explored the grandeur of Shah Jahan's Red Fort, delving into its breathtaking architecture, royal halls, and lush Mughal gardens. Highlights included the Diwan-i-Aam, where emperors once addressed the public, and the Diwan-i-Khas, where the legendary Peacock Throne once stood. Entering through the Lahori Gate, participants imagined the bustling Meena Bazaar and stood in awe before the towering red sandstone walls, silent witnesses to centuries of change—from Mughal opulence to Pandit Nehru's iconic independence speech. The Red Fort walk emphasized the monument not just as a structure, but as a living chronicle of Delhi's evolving history.

## **Mehrauli Archaeological Park – Where Ruins Whisper History 9th November 2024**

Frozen in time and layered with legacy, Mehrauli Archaeological Park became the site of Dastaan's immersive historical walk. Participants explored monuments echoing Delhi's deep past—from the mystical Jamali Kamali Tomb to Balban's Tomb, home to India's first true arch. The journey continued to the impressive Rajon ki Baoli, a stunning example of medieval water conservation, and culminated at Metcalfe House, blending colonial retreat aesthetics with Mughal architecture. Each site whispered stories of faith, power, and architectural brilliance.

## **Utsav '25 – Celebrating Art, Expression & Serenity 20th February 2025**

As part of Montage, the annual college fest, Dastaan curated Utsav '25, a captivating confluence of creativity, heritage, and emotional expression through two signature competitions. Bazm-e-Ishq, a bilingual poetry competition, beautifully captured the many shades of love—romantic, familial, platonic, and self-love—mesmerizing the audience with heartfelt verses. Sukoon, an online photography contest, invited participants to frame serenity within Delhi's dynamic landscape. From quiet corners of historic monuments to moments of calm amid chaos, each image told a unique story of peace. Utsav '25 emerged as a soulful blend of art, history, and storytelling, leaving a lasting impression on all who experienced it.

## **Dandiya Fest '2024-10th October 2024**

Organized by the Department of Physical Education in collaboration with NCC and Dastaan, the event at Jesus and Mary College's football field marked a vibrant celebration of Navratri. With Chogada Tara playing and colorful dandiya sticks in hand, students participated in an energetic display of tradition and cultural pride.

## **Guest Lecture – Dr. Corinne Lefevre on Mughal Visual Culture 19th March 2025**

Dastaan hosted an insightful speaker session featuring Dr. Corinne Lefevre, who presented her research titled "The King at the Window: Origins and Circulations of a Visual Topos of Mughal Majestas." The lecture focused on the jarokha, a royal balcony element, exploring its symbolic significance in Mughal architecture and drawing surprising parallels with English royal traditions. This session provided a fascinating window into the cross-cultural visual language of architecture and power, enriching our understanding of how architectural elements conveyed authority across different cultures.





# JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE



## Nizamuddin Dargah Walk –A Spiritual and Literary Legacy 28th September 2024

Dastaan led a soulful walk through the lanes of Nizamuddin Dargah, immersing participants in Delhi's spiritual heart. The journey began at Aziz Koka's tomb, showcasing its Mughal design, and continued to the mazaar of Mirza Ghalib, rich in literary legacy. Along the way, we visited the tombs of prominent historians like Zia Barni and Siraj, before culminating at the resting place of Princess Jahanara, a poignant symbol of grace and devotion. Through vibrant bazaars and soulful qawwalis, the experience deepened participants' connection to centuries of faith, poetry, and love.

## Saree Sutra – Honouring India's Textile Heritage

Held on campus, Saree Sutra was Dastaan's homage to India's rich textile heritage. The event showcased iconic sarees such as Banarasi, Kanjivaram, Paithani, and Mekhla Chadar, celebrating the cultural and regional beauty of traditional weaves. The program featured an elegant ramp walk by professors, highlighting the grace and timeless elegance of sarees. Through Saree Sutra, Dastaan sparked meaningful conversations about tradition, craftsmanship, and cultural identity.

## Qutub Complex Walk

This heritage walk, organized by Team Dastaan and joined by our Principal, Prof. Sandra Joseph, was an enriching journey that immersed students in the layered history of the Qutub Complex. Guided through centuries of cultural evolution, students explored iconic landmarks like the Qutub Minar, Alai Darwaza, and the Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque—each reflecting the fusion of artistic traditions and shifting dynastic power. The walk went beyond historical exploration, sparking meaningful conversations on architectural brilliance and the role of history in shaping collective identity. In doing so, it echoed Dastaan's commitment to preserving, understanding, and celebrating our diverse heritage.





## **Visit to the Partition Museum – 2nd March 2024**

As part of the Skill Enhancement Course Museum and Museology (Semester II), students visited the Partition Museum on 2nd March 2024 under the guidance of Dr. Surabhi Pandey. The visit aimed to explore contemporary museology practices beyond conventional methods. It offered profound insights into understanding the Partition not merely as a historical tragedy but as a deeply personal and collective experience. This immersive learning experience fostered empathy and helped students connect emotionally with the subject matter, enhancing their grasp of modern museological approaches.

## **Mutiny Memorial Visit- 9th March 2024**

Students of Semester II enrolled in the paper Delhi Through the Ages visited the Mutiny Memorial on 9th March 2024, accompanied by Ms. Victoria Potshangbam. The students explored several significant sites related to the 1857 Rebellion across Delhi University's North Campus. The visit helped contextualize the rebellion within Delhi's complex historical landscape, enhancing students' appreciation of the city's layered past and its role in shaping modern Indian history.

## **Unveiling of the Departmental Newsletter, Chronicle – 21st March 2024**

The annual departmental newsletter, Chronicle, was unveiled on 21st March 2024. This year's edition was themed "Tracing Sixty Years of Kamala Nehru College: From Founding to Future". It celebrated the institution's remarkable journey and contributions to women's education over six decades, documenting its legacy, achievements, and vision for the future.

## **Workshop by Indian Cultural Portal – 24th April 2024**

The Indian Cultural Portal organized a workshop under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture. The session aimed at familiarizing students and faculty with the diverse e-resources available on the platform. Participants also gained insight into the academic and professional opportunities offered through the portal, which served to expand their digital literacy and cultural knowledge.

## **Inter-University Paper Presentation – 24th April 2024**

The History Department successfully hosted an Inter-University paper presentation titled "Histories of Entertainment and Recreation: Global Scenario" on 24th April 2024. Undergraduate students from various Delhi colleges participated, presenting papers that explored the evolution of entertainment as a cultural and social phenomenon. The event emphasized the significance of public spaces in shaping communal experiences. Cash prizes were awarded to the best paper presentations, recognizing outstanding academic contributions.

## **Visit to Red Fort Archaeological Museum**

On 27th April 2024, students of Museums & Museology (Semester IV) visited the Red Fort Archaeological Museum under the guidance of Ms. Deepika. The excursion provided first-hand insight into the functioning of site museums and their vital role in conserving and narrating historical stories. The visit enriched the students' understanding of heritage preservation and site-specific curation.







## Annual Lecture – Sketching History Through Cartoons

The department hosted its Annual History Lecture on 1st May 2024, themed “Sketching History: Unravelling the Potential of Cartoons and Satire Through Time.” Dr. Ritu Gairola Khanduri (University of Texas, Arlington) presented a talk on “Gender, Politics, and Cartoons in the US.” Dr. Prabhat Kumar (CSDS) followed with a scholarly address, after which renowned cartoonist E.P. Unny delivered an engaging and interactive session titled “The Art of Dissent: A Quick Look at Indian Cartoons.” The lecture series explored cartoons as instruments of political critique and cultural commentary.

## Educational Visits to National Museums

Students of the BA Programme visited the National Museum and National Gallery of Modern Art, Delhi, on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Organized by Ms. Shikha Prakash, the visit offered students an opportunity to engage directly with India’s historical and cultural artifacts. The museum tour helped contextualize classroom learnings with material evidence from India’s vast past.

## Field Trip to Partition Museum – Session Opening

The new academic session 2024 began with a field trip to the Partition Museum, Delhi, on 31 August 2024, led by Ms. Jayanti Bala Gupta.

## National Museum Visit – Understanding Heritage Institutions

On 27th September 2024, the department organized a visit to the National Museum, Delhi, for students of History Honours (Semesters I, III, and V) and those enrolled in the Museum and Museology course. Guided by Dr. Shobhana Warriar, Ms. Vinita Malik, Ms. Deepika, and Dr. Surabhi Pandey, the visit emphasized the museum’s role as a social institution that educates the public about India’s diverse heritage.

## Chrono 2024 – Revisiting the 1857 Revolt

The department’s flagship lecture series, Chrono 2024, was held on 24th October 2024. Prof. Amar Farooqui (University of Delhi) delivered a lecture titled “Revolt of 1857: Some Historiographical Issues.” He addressed the transformation of narratives from colonial suppression to nationalist rebellion, shedding light on the historiographical evolution of the event and its political implications. The session offered students critical perspectives on the writing and rewriting of history.

## Crafts Museum Visit – Exploring Living Traditions

On 14th December 2024, students of Museums & Museology visited the National Crafts Museum & Hastkala Academy. Accompanied by Dr. Shubhra Sinha and Dr. Surabhi Pandey, the visit provided rich insights into India’s living cultural traditions. Students explored the award-winning village complex, witnessed a traditional Bihu dance performance, and admired indigenous art forms such as Madhubani and Warli. The visit reinforced the importance of preserving India’s folk and craft heritage through experiential learning.



# LADY SHRI RAM COLLEGE



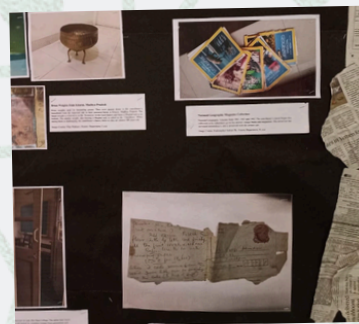
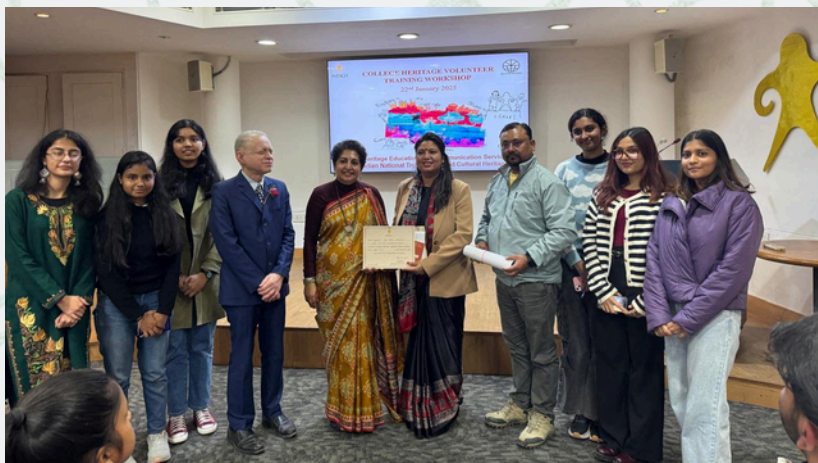
On January 22, 2025, a team of six students from the History Department of Lady Shri Ram College for Women, guided by two professors, participated in the INTACH Heritage Volunteer Training Workshop. The workshop featured a series of interactive sessions conducted by prominent historians and the INTACH team. Key discussions included the concept of heritage, the role of water in Delhi's historical landscape, and the documentation of local histories in the Ganga basin. The students also explored the INTACH conservation laboratory, gaining hands-on insights into heritage preservation techniques. An engaging heritage quiz tested participants' knowledge, and a session on the college heritage volunteer programme highlighted practical ways students could contribute to conservation efforts. The workshop concluded with a cross-college group activity and presentations on innovative student-led heritage initiatives. This experience not only broadened students' understanding of heritage but also inspired them to actively contribute to its preservation within their college and beyond.

## Heritage Initiatives by the Books, Films and Heritage Club

The History Department of LSR has consistently emphasized heritage education and conservation through a wide range of activities conducted throughout the academic year. Central to these efforts is the Books, Films and Heritage Club, a dynamic student-led group dedicated to deepening awareness and appreciation of history through alternative modes of engagement.

## Heritage Walks: Exploring Delhi's Past

The club regularly organizes heritage walks, offering students the opportunity to connect with the past through direct engagement with historical spaces. Walks have been conducted at iconic locations such as Siri Fort, Mirza Ghalib's Haveli, and the Partition Museum, each accompanied by detailed historical narratives and discussions. A particularly meaningful walk was held within the LSR campus itself, exploring the college's architectural and institutional heritage, and allowing students to reflect on the legacy of their own academic space.







## Exhibition – ‘The Home and Beyond

One of the club’s standout initiatives has been the exhibition titled ‘The Home and Beyond’. This personal histories exhibition featured artifacts—both physical and photographic—accompanied by stories shared by students and faculty. The curation focused on themes of continuity and change across generations, shedding light on how familial and cultural legacies shape contemporary identities.

The success of this exhibition has encouraged the club to plan a follow-up exhibition in the near future, aiming to include even more diverse voices and narratives.

## Digital Engagement: Social Media Series

Beyond physical events, the department actively engages with a wider audience through its social media platforms. It runs several themed series, including ‘Verses of the Vernacular’ and ‘Exploring Heritage’, which highlight various aspects of regional cultures, historical traditions, and forgotten narratives.

The social media team also conducts myth-busting campaigns and awareness drives, addressing popular misconceptions and fostering critical thinking around topics of history, culture, and heritage. These efforts have broadened the reach of the department’s initiatives and enabled meaningful digital outreach and engagement.

## A Vision for the Future:

With growing interest among students and unwavering support from faculty, the History Department of LSR continues to build on its vibrant heritage initiatives. These efforts reflect a deep-rooted commitment to making history accessible, experiential, and relevant. Through thoughtful planning, creativity, and collaboration, the department remains committed to expanding its work in heritage conservation, ensuring that the past continues to inform and inspire future generations.



## Did You Know?

The annual ‘procession of florists’ or Phoolwalon Ki Sair in Delhi began in 1812 to commemorate the return of Prince Mirza Jahangir from exile. It involves the making of a flower chadar and a pankha (decorated with paper) to the shrine of Khwaja Bakhtiar Kaki and Jogmaya Temple.



## Felicitation and Farewell Programme – 8th May 2024

The Department of History bid farewell to the graduating batch of 2021–2024 on 8th May 2024 with a celebratory Felicitation and Farewell Programme. The event honored Ms. Kulwinder Kaur, President of Gaatha (2023–24), who was selected as the Student of the Year 2024. She was felicitated by Principal Prof. Harpreet Kaur and faculty members for her contributions and achievements.

## Visit to Shaheed Bhagat Singh Memorial – 24th May 2024

On 24th May 2024, faculty members of the department, along with Principal Prof. Harpreet Kaur, visited the Shaheed Memorial within the university campus. The visit commemorated the legacy of Shaheed Bhagat Singh and was a moment of collective tribute and reflection.

## Conservation Workshop – 13th & 14th June 2024

Under Dharohar, the Heritage Society, a two-day workshop titled “Introduction to Conservation of Artefacts” was organized in collaboration with the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). Held on 13th and 14th June 2024, the workshop was attended by 27 students from History Honours and BA Programme. The event was coordinated by Ms. Shivangi Naithani Devrani and provided students with practical exposure to conservation techniques.

## Documentary Screening: The French Revolution – 23rd August 2024

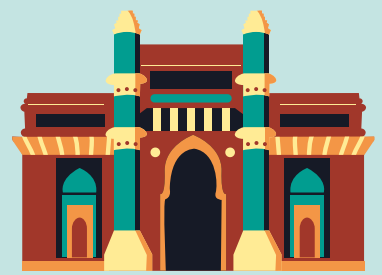
On 23rd August 2024, AKS, the Film Society of the department, organized a screening of a documentary on the French Revolution in Mata Gujri Hall. The session was curated for students of BA History Honours and BA Programme (5th Semester), promoting visual learning and critical discussions on revolutionary histories.

## Orientation Programme – 29th August 2024

The new batch of 2024–2027/28 was welcomed on 29th August 2024 by the Teacher-in-Charge, Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta, along with other faculty members. The History notice board was creatively decorated by students from the 2nd and 3rd years under the guidance of Ms. Shivangi Naithani Devrani, adding a warm and personal touch to the welcome.







## Gaatha Lecture Series 1 – 25th September 2024

The first lecture of the Gaatha Lecture Series featured Dr. Meenakshi Khanna, Associate Professor at Indraprastha College for Women. She delivered a lecture on “Fatehpur Sikri: History, Religion and Legitimacy in the Mughal Sultanate.” The event included a counselling session and was convened by Prof. Daljit Kaur.

## Virtual Tour of Al Shindagha Museum, Dubai – 17th October 2024

In a unique cross-cultural initiative, Dharohar organized a virtual tour of Dubai’s Al Shindagha Museum on 17th October 2024. The session, coordinated by Dr. Shivangi Naithani Devrani, allowed students to explore the culture and heritage of Dubai, broadening their global perspectives on museology

## Gaatha Lecture Series 2 – 8th November 2024

The second lecture of the Gaatha Lecture Series was held on 8th November 2024. Dr. Ranjeeta Dutta delivered an insightful lecture on “The Saint and the Princess: Narratives of Devotion and Power in Medieval South India.” The event took place at Mata Gujri Hall and was well-attended by students and faculty.

## Visit to Embassy of Bulgaria – 11th November 2024

On 11th November 2024, faculty members visited the Embassy of Bulgaria to attend the exhibition “Threads of Heritage”, organized in collaboration with Lokayata Art Gallery. The event was curated by History alumna Ms. Pranjali Saini, currently serving as Gallery Manager

## Educational Visit to National Gallery of Modern Art – 21st November 2024

Dharohar organized a visit to the National Gallery of Modern Art for BA History Honours and Programme students. Guided by a tour expert, the students also visited the restoration lab and interacted with the Deputy Curator. The trip was led by Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta and Dr. Shivangi Naithani Devrani

## Alumna Lecture – 27th November 2024

Dharohar hosted an alumna lecture by Ms. Pranjali Saini on the topic “Beyond the Display: Exploring the Power of Curation, Exhibition Design and Career Prospects in Cultural Settings.” The programme was planned and executed by student office-bearers of Gaatha and Dharohar, showcasing leadership in organizing academic events.





## Movie Screening Series #1 – 28th November 2024

On 28th November 2024, Aks in collaboration with the Department of Punjabi screened *Khamosh Pani*, a critically acclaimed film, in Mata Gujri Hall. The screening encouraged inter-departmental dialogue on partition and gender through cinematic interpretation.

## Release of Chronicle Volume 9 – 30th December 2024

The department released Volume 9 of its E-newsletter *Chronicle* on 30th December 2024. Themed “Culinary Traditions of India”, the edition was edited by students Ms. Palak Goel and Ms. Nehal Verma, mentored by Mr. Satveer Singh and Dr. Priyanka C. Sahni. Principal Prof. Harpreet Kaur formally unveiled the edition.

## INTACH Workshop – 22nd January 2025

Six History Honours students attended the ‘Heritage Awareness and Capacity Building Programme’ organized by INTACH at India International Centre on 22nd January 2025. Accompanied by Dr. Priyanka Chanana Sahni and Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta, students engaged with heritage conservation discourse and field practices

## Collaboration with Department of Elementary Education – Jan–Feb 2025

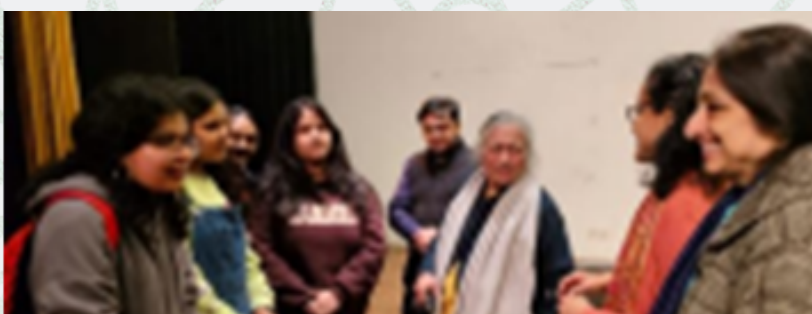
The department actively participated in a five-day international seminar “Ecology, Heritage, Literature in ESD” from 27th to 31st January 2025. Events included a lecture by Prof. Narayani Gupta, a heritage walk to Humayun’s Tomb, and a collaborative student presentation titled “Looking Around the Monuments of Delhi” for school students. The initiatives were guided by Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta

## Educational Visit to National Gallery of Modern Art – 21st November 2024

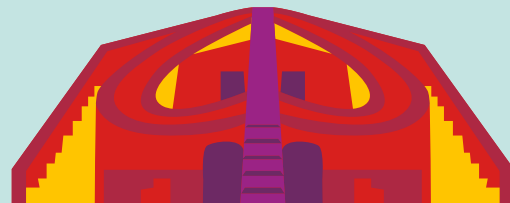
Dharohar organized a visit to the National Gallery of Modern Art for BA History Honours and Programme students. Guided by a tour expert, the students also visited the restoration lab and interacted with the Deputy Curator. The trip was led by Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta and Dr. Shivangi Naithani Devrani

## Gaatha Lecture Series #3 – 8th February 2025

The third Gaatha Lecture Series lecture was delivered by Dr. Nafisa Sayed Motiwala on “Mughal Jewellery: Technique, Opulence and Modern Impact” on 8th February 2025 via Zoom. The lecture explored the techniques of Mughal jewellery craftsmanship. The event was convened by Dr. Ruchika Sharma







## International Seminar on Baba Farid – 13th February 2025

In collaboration with the Department of Punjabi, the department organized an international seminar titled “Baba Farid: Literary Contributions, Historical Insights, and Lasting Legacy.” Distinguished speakers from the UK, Pakistan, and India participated. Prof. Saiyid Zaheer Husain Jafri delivered the Presidential Address, and Prof. Sukhdev Singh Sirsa presented the keynote. Mr. Satveer Singh served as the convenor.

## Saarang 2025 – 24th–25th February 2025

The annual inter-college cultural fest Saarang 2025 was jointly organized by the Departments of History, Economics, and EVS. Held on 24th and 25th February, it was convened by Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta and co-convened by Dr. Niti Arora. The event featured diverse academic and cultural activities that promoted interdisciplinary engagement.

## Student Research Paper Presentation – 5th March 2025

As part of its Research Mentoring Programme, the department hosted a Student Research Paper Presentation Programme on 5th March 2025. The event focused on the theme “Breaking the Binary: Reassessing Women’s Enduring Impact on History.” It was convened by Prof. Daljit Kaur and encouraged undergraduate research and scholarly expression.

## Workshop on Higher Education in History – 19th March 2025

An online workshop on “Pursuing Higher Education for History Students” was conducted on 19th March 2025 under the aegis of Gaatha and the Motivation to Post Graduation Cell (IQAC). History alumnae including Ms. Shikha Khokhar, Ms. Sadia Shakil, Ms. Afia Malik, Ms. Bulbul Gupta, and Ms. Kalash Chauhan shared valuable insights with current students.

## International Workshop on Historical Research – 2nd April 2025

The department concluded its academic year with an international workshop titled “Writing in Historical Research: Tools and Methodology” on 2nd April 2025. Conducted in collaboration with Vaishvika (IQAC), the event featured multiple sessions with speakers including Prof. Harpreet Kaur, Dr. Shobhna Warriar,



# MOTILAL NEHRU COLLEGE



## NTACH Workshop – Heritage Awareness and Capacity Building ,22nd January 2025

Students from the Department of History participated in a heritage workshop conducted by INTACH, bringing together students from five Delhi colleges. The sessions unveiled lesser-known aspects of India's cultural heritage, fostering awareness and practical understanding of heritage preservation.



## Mehrauli Heritage Walk – Architecture and Syncretic Traditions ,21st February 2025

Led by Dr. Sonal, this insightful walk traced the syncretic legacy of Mehrauli through its iconic monuments: Alai Darwaza, Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque, Iltutmish's Tomb, Alai Minar, Yogmaya Temple, and the Dargah of Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki. Students deepened their appreciation for Delhi's layered heritage and the importance of conservation.



## KNMA x Ateet – Museology Workshop, 6th March 2025

At the Kiran Nadar Museum of Art, students explored the evolving role of museums through interactive sessions. A "Museum in a Box" activity encouraged participants to reimagine museums as dynamic, tech-integrated storytelling spaces.



## Speaker Session with Abhay K. – Nalanda and the Indian Knowledge System, 20th March 2025

Author Abhay K. presented an engaging lecture on the rise, glory, and revival of Nalanda University, highlighting India's ancient education system. The session inspired students to view knowledge transmission as a vital part of cultural heritage.



## Dharohar 2.0 – Inter-College Heritage Quiz, 20th March 2025

Based on the theme Indian Knowledge System, this quiz featured preliminary and final rounds, including audio-visual segments. Students from various colleges participated enthusiastically, showcasing their awareness and interest in India's rich intellectual heritage.



## DID YOU KNOW?

Maharaja Sawai Ram Singh of Jaipur was so fascinated with kites that he established a Patang Khana or kite factory in the city to specially make kites for him





# VENKATESWARA

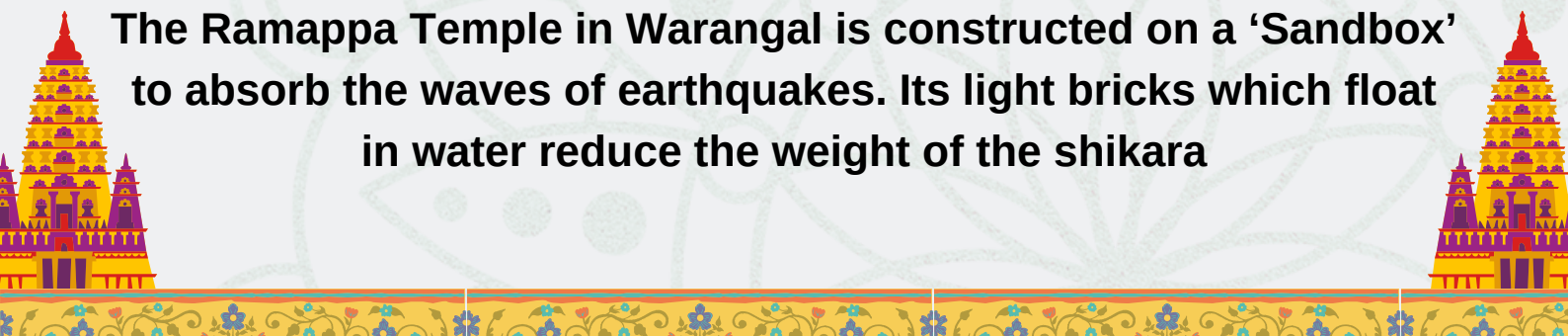


As part of the Heritage Initiative, a student from Venkateswara College authored a well-researched and engaging report on Batik Art. The document combines personal experiences with historical insights, tracing the possible origins and journey of Batik to the Indian subcontinent. The report highlighted both traditional and contemporary practices, with a special focus on national award-winning artist Sudhir V. Phadnis, whose work exemplifies the fusion of heritage and innovation. This student-led research not only deepened understanding of Batik's artistic and cultural significance but also contributed meaningfully to the college's heritage documentation efforts.



## Did You Know?

The Ramappa Temple in Warangal is constructed on a 'Sandbox' to absorb the waves of earthquakes. Its light bricks which float in water reduce the weight of the shikara



## In collaboration with INTACH Heritage Academy:

The Introduction to Heritage Documentation Workshop was organised by the INTACH Heritage Academy in collaboration with the Heritage Education and Communication Service (HECS). It was attended by 56 undergraduate students from 9 colleges and universities across Delhi. The workshop began with a welcome address by Mrs. Purnima Datt, Principal Director of HECS, who introduced students to the concept of heritage and INTACH's work across India. She highlighted the contributions of INTACH's 10 specialised conservation labs and notable restoration projects. An INTACH film was screened, and feedback was collected through a QR code.

Dr. Parul Munjal, Director of INTACH Heritage Academy, led the first session, exploring the meaning, values, and evolving definitions of heritage. Through discussion, students examined how heritage is linked to memory, identity, and community, and reflected on both tangible and intangible aspects. The second session, conducted by Ms. Tavishi Gautam, focused on methods of documenting intangible cultural heritage. She outlined practical and ethical steps including stakeholder engagement, interviews, mapping, and field notes to create meaningful records that support education and conservation. In the concluding session, Dr. Munjal highlighted how well-researched case studies can reveal holistic understandings of heritage. Examples such as Chakrata and Mandvi showcased interdisciplinary approaches that combine visual tools, storytelling, and analysis to document cultural landscapes effectively.



**Principal Director and Team of HECS, INTACH were invited to Sparsh'25, the annual festival of Sri Aurobindo College's BA Society Tadatmya.** The theme was Youth's involvement in Nation building. Ms Purnima Datt who graciously attended the event was felicitated by the convenor of BA Society and the professors' present.

The programme saw a kathak performance and a short presentation on Heritage of India, Intach's role in preservation and Volunteerism.

Ms Datt enthusiastically spoke to the students and imparted her wisdom and knowledge around the topic of heritage. The programme concluded with a group photograph with all the team-members and head of the department.



## Historical Costume Day

**Encourage students to portray prominent figures from Indian history by dressing in character and delivering brief monologues highlighting their achievements and historical significance followed by a parade to display their creativity**



# My Botanical Documentation

Organize a visit to nearby gardens, forests, or community green spaces to identify and study local plants and flowers native to your region. Research their traditional uses in Ayurveda and folk medicine.

You can include the following questions in your documentation card:



1. What is the local and botanical name of the plant or flower?
2. Description and identifying features
3. Is the plant part of any cultural rituals, festivals, or traditional ceremonies?
4. How has this plant been traditionally used in Ayurveda or local medicine?
5. Are there any specific communities, tribes, or families traditionally associated with this plant?
6. Does this plant or flower have any mythological or religious significance?

## Did You Know?

Delhi's oldest perfumery, Gulab Singh Johrimal, is believed to have showcased its ittars in the court of Mughal Emperor Akbar Shah II. Nestled in Dariba Kalan, Chandni Chowk, this historic perfumery still crafts natural, alcohol-free fragrances using centuries-old methods. A fragrant legacy that has endured for over 200 years.





# Credits

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**Aarushi Rana**

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**Kamala Nehru College, History Department, DU**

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**Mata Sundri College for Women, History Department, DU**

**Motilal Nehru College, History Department, DU**

**Venkateswara College, History Department, DU**

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**2.) Monuments and Sciences April-June 2023,**

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