



NEWSLETTER

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Pattachitra artists Swarna and Shambhu Chitrakar performing the scroll depicting the COVID-19 Pandemic in the 4th Heritage Management Conference.

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Welcome to the Centre's Newsletter

As we enter into 2023 and a new semester, we are happy to present to you the second edition of the newsletter in this academic year. We are excited to share updates from the conference and the workshop that were held in December. We are also happy to report achievements of our students as well as faculty. These all reflect our academic culture and philosophy, and how we wish to make a positive impact in the vast sector of heritage management.

We completed the heritage field immersion course in rural contexts of Tamilnadu - namely Ravanamudram, Dohnavur and Kanyakumari in the second half of December, along with some excursions to nearby sites like Rameswaram and Dhanushkodi. Immersion is the challenging learning experience for students as well as faculty, and we are thankful to Dr. Krupa Rajangam for facilitating this.

Before we went for immersion, the early December was almost like a reunion time, when we resumed our international conference series after a break of two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation. It was great to have an in-person conference which was also complimented by a workshop on intangible cultural heritage. Both the events saw about seventy participants from different parts of India, Nepal, Philippines, and South Korea. The conference was also held in hybrid format. We are thankful to our partner International Information Centre for Networking and Cooperation for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICHCAP).

Prior to the conference during the annual meeting of the Asia Pacific Higher Education Network for Intangible Cultural Heritage (APHEN-ICH), we were elected as the next secretariat for the network. We look forward to leading the network of about 25 universities from the Asia Pacific region, with the help of ICHCAP and three bureau members from Nepal, Philippines and South Korea.

Moving forward, the new semester will see exciting courses that our Masters students will be taking, such as the Ethics and Professional Practice in Heritage Management, Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Heritage and Sustainable Development, among others. We will also be going through the admissions process to list our next cohort group to enter the programme. Let me take this opportunity to ask for your help in spreading the word and help us identify appropriate candidates to be considered for enrollment into our two years Masters degree programme on Heritage Management. More information about the programme and admissions process can be found on our website. With every new cohort group, we grow collectively with new knowledge and experience, and look forward to enriching the field of heritage management through our collaborations.

Neel Kamal Chapagain

Professor and Director,

Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University



4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HERITAGE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION AND PRACTICE

The 4th International Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practice was held at the Ahmedabad University from 2nd to 4th December 2022. The theme of the conference was 'Heritage in the Post-COVID-19 World' based on which 30 participants presented their papers and posters.

The keynote speakers Dr Mallika Sarabhai, Professor A Damodaran and Professor Ashoke Chatterjee addressed the audience on the impact of the pandemic on the heritage sector - specifically the performing arts sector. The speakers of the plenary session were Professor Eric Zerrudo from the University of Santo Tomas and IFS Officer Dr Sonali Ghosh. A panel discussion on the last day also included Professor Tejaswini Niranjana and Professor Darshini Mahadevia from Ahmedabad University, Ms Tara Sharma from the Jungwa Foundation and Ms Poonam V Mascaranhas of Archinova_Environs, Goa.

The Conference had 9 technical sessions which included an inaugural session, one plenary session, one panel discussion, one concluding session and 5 presentation sessions. The technical sessions were held under various sub themes like:

- A. Heritage in the Digital World
- B. Mapping pandemic-related memories
- C. Heritage Tourism and Business Strategy
- D. Urban and Natural Heritage
- E. Pedagogical Tools and Online Engagement

The highlight of the conference was the Pattachitra performance by Patuas Swarna Chitrakar and her husband Shambhu Chitrakar from West Bengal. They performed the folk art of Patachitra by narrating mythological stories, social issues, and folklore through their paintings on canvas and singing the Patua songs to explain the significance behind the artwork (a glimpse of which can be seen on the cover page).

Centre's Highlights

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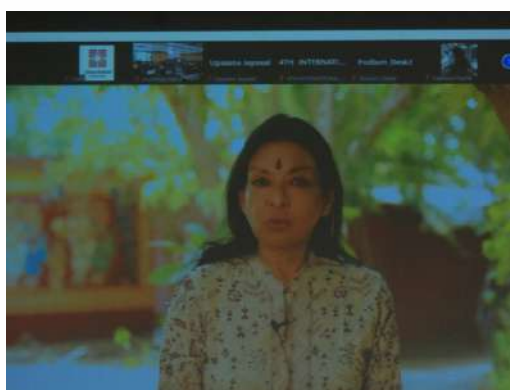
CONFERENCE WAS
ATTENDED BY
RESEARCHERS,
PRACTITIONERS AND
GRADUATE STUDENTS.

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HERITAGE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION AND PRACTICE



Clockwise from top right: Swarna and Shambhu Chitrakar performing the Pattachitra scroll; panelists of the panel discussion; Professor Ashoke Chattarjee addressing the participants; presenters of the session 'Heritage in the Digital World' moderated by session chair Professor Aditya Prakash Kanth.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Left to right: Dr Mallika Sarabhai; Professor A Damodaran and Professor Ashoke Chatterjee.



2022 INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

The workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Community Resilience was conducted from 4th to 6th December as an extension of the conference. Both the events were supported by the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHCAP).

Through a mixed pedagogy of classroom discussions, field visits and craft demonstrations over two days, the workshop covered topics such as:

1. Patachitra Performance: An Example of ICH practice during the pandemic
2. ICH in Urban Context: Heritage Walk in the Old City of Ahmedabad
3. Heritage Discourses and the 2003 ICH Convention
4. ICH and Resilience - Rural living heritage for Wellbeing
5. ICH and Community (Participation, Consent etc.) - Community mapping and resource building
6. Craft Demonstration - Mata Ni Pachedi 27
7. ICH for building community resilience - Building resilience through traditional crafts.
8. Sustaining ICH Safeguarding: Business Approaches/ Insights
9. ICH and Broader Issues like Policy, Education and Ethics

The participants had the opportunity to take a heritage walk in the Historic City of Ahmedabad and visit Mata ni Pachhedi artist Chadrakant Chitara's art studio to see a demonstration of the traditional art form.

Centre's Highlights

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THE WORKSHOP WAS ATTENDED BY YOUNG PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS INTERESTED IN INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

2022 INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE



On the left: Participants at Mata Ni Pachhedi artists Chandrakant Chitara's studio; group activity in the session 'Sustaining ICH Safeguarding: Business Approaches/Insights'; musical performance by the Devi Pujak Community; participants at the heritage walk in the Historic City of Ahmedabad.

On the right: Participants introducing themselves, Professor Eric Zerrudo from the University of Santo Thomas, Philippines addressing the participants on 'ICH and Resilience - Rural living heritage for Wellbeing'; Ms Tara Sharma, founder of the Jungwa Foundation sharing her experience with the Chang Pa tribe of Ladakh.

APHEN-ICH

Asia-Pacific Higher Education Network for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage



SECRETARIAT FOR APHEN-ICH

Centre for Heritage Management has been elected as the Secretariat for the Asia-Pacific Higher Education Network for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage (APHEN-ICH) for a two-year term starting December 2022. The APHEN-ICH network was launched in September 2018 with the support of ICHCAP and UNESCO Bangkok Office to establish as a collaboration and networking platform among institutions of higher education dealing with intangible cultural heritage in the Asia-Pacific region.

Professor Neel Kamal Chapagain, who has been serving as its bureau member since the establishment of the network, will now lead the secretariat, with cooperation from ICHCAP as well as 3 bureau members respectively from Nepal, Philippines and South Korea.

Centre's Highlights

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THE APHEN-ICH NETWORK CURRENTLY INVOLVES 22 ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS CATERING TO DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF HERITAGE MANAGEMENT IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.



DR KRUPA RAJANGAM JOINS AS ADJUNCT FACULTY

Dr Krupa Rajangam has recently joined the Centre as an adjunct faculty. As a scholar-practitioner Krupa works interdisciplinarily through a humanities-based and community-engaged approach. She holds a PhD in Conservation Studies from NIAS-MAHE (2020). She commenced structured (doctoral) research with the aim to understand the place of Social or Community Value in the Heritage Conservation Process. Based on ethnographic fieldwork at Hampi World Heritage Site, her work evolved to deconstruct the heritage idea and everyday site conservation-management processes in particular socio-cultural and geographical contexts.

Her research interests overlap sociology, anthropology, social archaeology, modern history, human geography and urban studies to explicate the material practices of heritage and conservation as social-political processes that impinge on places and people, including not just resident communities but also heritage practitioners. Her current focus, based on UNESCO World Heritage sites, is tourism imaginaries, rural-urban geographies and socio-cultural place identities.

Centre's Highlights

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PROFESSOR RAJANGAM IS THE FOUNDER-DIRECTOR OF THE BANGALORE-BASED NON-INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIVE 'SAYTHU... LINKING PEOPLE AND HERITAGE'.

Students and Alumni Achievements

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Aakanksha Tated (graduate of 2022) worked as a research associate for 'Breaking Boundaries' - an exhibition held in collaboration with IFBE in Mumbai. This exhibition was a retrospective exhibit on the life of the late Contemporary Indian dancer Astad Deboo.
- Bharvi Chheda (graduate of 2021) has received a 6-month fellowship under the Jayakrishna Indrajithaker Research Opportunity facilitated by Research and Monitoring in the Banni Landscape (RAMBLE). The project involves updating the Biocultural Community Protocol of the Maldhari Community of Banni Landscape in Kutch. Bharvi Chheda is currently working as a research associate at the Centre for Heritage Management.
- Vasudha Saraogi (graduate of 2021) has been a part of the Vadnagar Project team from the ideation stage and contributed through her research and work experience with the heritage and sustainable development domain. She continues to contribute to developing and executing the research project.
- Saif Siddique (graduate of 2020) worked in capacity of Project Architect supervising conservation works for the stepwells at Golconda. This project received the Award of Distinction at the 2022 UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. The works have been supported by Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation and Tata trusts.



Before (left) and after (right) conservation of Buttresses at the Eastern Baoli based on on-site evidence. Source: Saif Siddique.

Students and Alumni Achievements

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Chapagain, N. K., & Chheda, B. (2022). Pedagogy for Intangible Cultural Heritage in Pandemic Times: Reflections from an International Workshop during Covid-19. *Journal of Heritage Management*, 7(2), 133-148.

Das, P., & Tated, A. (2022). How Can Museum Memories Create a New Future. Case study of The Museum Memories Project. Paper Presentation presented at the 4th Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practice: Heritage in the Post-COVID-19 World' organized by the Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University.

Kumari, A.(2022) Sustaining Traditional Crafts in Contemporary Indian Market: The Case Studies of Shrujan and FabIndia, 4th International Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practices, Ahmedabad University, 02-04 December 2022

Kumari, A., Purohit, S., Satra, R., & Tated, A. (2022). "Need for memorializing the collective heritage of Covid-19." Paper Presentation presented at the 4th Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practice: Heritage in the Post-COVID-19 World' organized by the Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University. December, 2022.

Sahasrabudhe, R. (2022). "Tambats of Tambat Ali: Converting a Lifeless Material into Healthy Storage Copper Utensils", *ICHCAP Courier*, 53.

Potdar, S. (2022). "Deciphering Food Preservation as a Storage Technique through Purumenth, a Goan Customary Tradition", *ICH Courier*, 53.

Purohit, S. (2022). "Rethinking the urban landscape of Kashi through the case of Kathak." Poster Presentation presented at the 4th Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practice: Heritage in the Post-COVID-19 World' organized by the Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University. December, 2022.

Tated, A. (2022). "Pedagogical Engagement in Museum with Difficult Pasts" Poster Presentation presented at the 4th Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practice: Heritage in the Post-COVID-19 World' organized by the Centre for Heritage Management, Ahmedabad University. December, 2022.

Faculty Updates

PROFESSOR NEEL KAMAL CHAPAGAIN

- Selected as a Global Facilitator for the implementation of the 2003 Convention on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO.
- Invited as a guest speaker to share his critique the INTACH Charter at the INTACH's 12th National Conveners' Convention.
- Nominated as a member of a High Level Committee for INTACH Heritage Academy.
- Invited to facilitate a workshop during the ICH NGO Conference in Udaipur organised by UNESCO and ICHCAP in Udaipur, 25-26 September 2022.
- Webinar Speaker: Interlinking the tangible and intangible including memories in Heritage Interpretation, a part of 2022 webinar series on 'Bridging the Gap: 50 years of World Heritage Convention', organized by UNESCO Category 2 Centre for the World Heritage Interpretation and Presentation (WHIPIC),
- Chapagain, N. K., & Chheda, B. (2022). Pedagogy for Intangible Cultural Heritage in Pandemic Times: Reflections from an International Workshop during Covid-19. *Journal of Heritage Management*, 7(2), 133-148.
- Chapagain, N.K., (2022). Ruptures and Disruptions as Innovative Turns: Interpreting Changes and Anticipating Possibilities in Built Environment in and around the Walled Settlement of Lomanthang, Nepal'; at the 2022 Conference of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE 2022), National University of Singapore, 14-18 December 2022.

PROFESSOR ADITYA PRAKASH KANTH

- Professor Kanth has received a project from the Indian Railways (Western) on the conservation and renovation of a heritage tea stall at the Rail Museum at New Delhi.
- Kanth, A. P., & Soni, A. K. (2023). Application of nanocomposites for conservation of materials of cultural heritage. *Journal of Cultural Heritage*, 59, 120-130.

PROFESSOR IOANNIS POULIOS

- Professors Ioannis Poullos and Aditya Prakash Kanth, with the support of project associate Vasudha Saraogi, launched a research project on 'The Living Heritage of Vadnagar: Documentation, and Comparative Analysis'. the project is funded by the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Sports, Youth and Culture Activities Department, Government of Gujarat (DAM).
- Poullos, I., & Kamperou, E. (2022). Business Innovation in Orchestra Organizations Supported by Digital Technologies: The Orchestra Mobile Case Study. *Sustainability*, 14(7), 3715.
- Poullos, I., & Sakkou, I., (2022) Museums within and beyond Covid crisis: an overview of challenges and perspectives in the Western world at the 4th International Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practice: Heritage in the Post-COVID-19 World, Ahmedabad University, 2-4 December 2022.

Students' Activities

HERITAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMME 2022



First-year students of Masters in Heritage Management completed their heritage field-immersion programme during their winter break at Ravanasamudram and nearby places like Dohnavur Fellowship, Agasthyamalai Community Conservation Centre, Brahmadesam and Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu. This week-long field-immersion programme encourages them to connect the learning of the first semester – particularly heritage discourses, community connections, economics and management challenges in broader aspects of heritage management.

The immersion programme takes place in a new place every year, and students, as well as faculty, will engage with community to understand what could heritage mean in the given context, how it could be documented and perhaps managed, and more importantly to understand how the idea of heritage may play an enabling role in the broader social and environmental development of the area.



Students' Activities

HERITAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMME 2022

This particular immersion focused on everyday lives in a rural context in South India, nuances of multicultural societies, local livelihoods, nature-culture linkages through agriculture and conservation activities, and management challenges of religious institutions.

In order to understand the ecosystem of the village, the students visited local artisans involved in activities like mat-making, tile-making and *beedi* manufacturing in Ravanasamudram. They also had the opportunity to interact with ATREE-ACCC, an environmental organization, working on the conservation and restoration of Tamiraparani river ecosystem. The immersion also included a visit to Dohnavur Fellowship.



Clockwise from right: the students interacting with the staff of ATREE-ACCC; a woman rolling a *beedi*; students observe the mat-making process; students in discussion with the local community members.

Students' Activities



Clockwise from top right corner: Students documenting the wood work of the surviving traditional houses; clock tower of Dharmaj; Mukhi bungalow known for its ornate carvings; a *khadki* or a traditional gate to a community residence; students at the Rhodesia House; *vyayamshala* or gymkhana of Dharmaj

FIELD TRIP TO DHARMAJ (ANAND)

As part of their academic curriculum, the first year Masters students visited the village of Dharmaj near Anand. The visit was part of Heritage Management Workshop offered by Professor Chapagain and included a heritage walk by Ms Bharvi Chheda. The heritage walk was designed by the some of the students of the Centre in 2019 and covered various features of the village including its history of migration, the connection with East Africa, tobacco cultivation, traditional built spaces, etc. Through tangible and intangible elements of heritage in the village the students were introduced to real-life examples of concepts like diasporic heritage, memory and nostalgia, rural awareness towards heritage safeguarding, adaptive reuse, and tourism model of heritage safeguarding.

Based on their observations and learnings, the students designed proposals of heritage management plans for Dharmaj.

Students' Activities

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

The 4th Conference on Heritage Management Education and Practice and the 2022 Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Community Resilience was also a platform for the students of the Centre to organize different activities and participate in workshops.

A pre-Conference sketch walk was held in collaboration with Urban Sketchers Ahmedabad during the Heritage Week. The Heritage Club organized a block printing workshop for the participants of the conference and workshop. Some students of the Centre hosted art and craft stalls, selling handmade terracotta jewellery, oxidized jewellery and paintings.

Heritage walks were held to introduce the participants and dignitaries to the city of Ahmedabad. The walks were led by Niyati Bajpai. A Mata ni Pachedi workshop was also held at the Chitara studio in Ahmedabad.



Clockwise from top right corner: Workshop participant showcasing the block printed handkerchief; students' games and activities in progress; craft stalls set up by students; the Heritage Club hosting the block printing workshop; pre-Conference sketch walk at Dhal ni Pol.

Students' Activities

HANDS-ON MATERIAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION COURSE

As part of the Masters programme, the first year students take part in the Conservation Principles and Processes course for one semester, led by Prof. Aditya Prakash Kanth. The course introduces the students to the key concepts and processes of conservation science. The hands-on conservation course introduces various types of heritage materials and their deterioration, conservation processes and principles of various heritage materials, and hands-on experience on conservation of heritage objects.

The first year students took part in the hands-on conservation and restoration of paper, and understood the processes of conservation of heritage objects such as paintings.



Upcoming Events

STUDENTS' SYMPOSIUM ON HERITAGE FIELD IMMERSION



The first year students of Masters in Heritage Management welcome everyone to the Students' Symposium based on their field immersion to Tamil Nadu!

The students will share their observations, experiences and learnings by presenting a glimpse of their week-long journey.

DATE: 25TH JANUARY, WEDNESDAY

TIME: 2:00PM TO 5:00PM

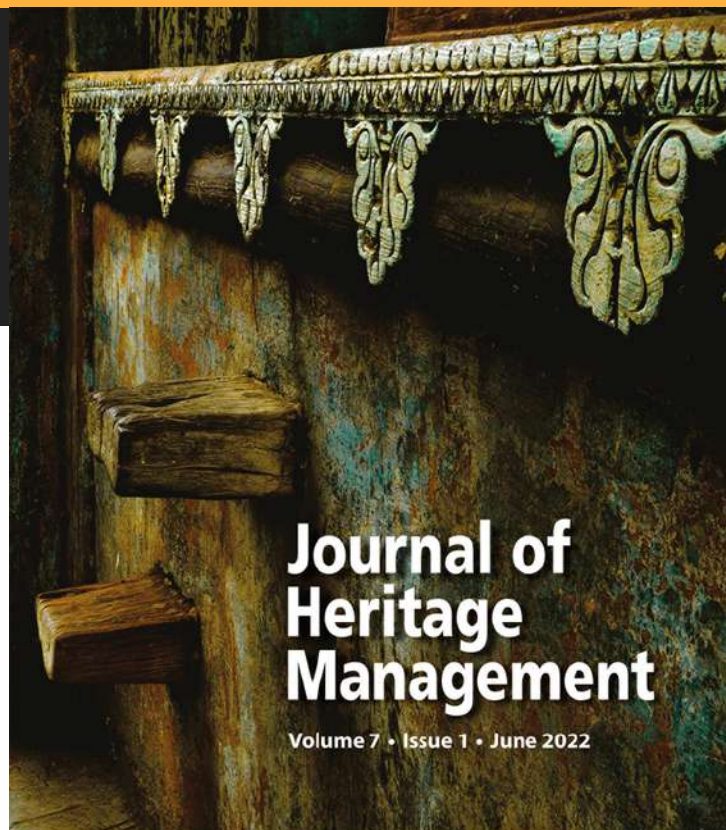
VENUE: BIG FAN AREA, SAS BUILDING, AHMEDABAD UNIVERSITY

Centre's Publication

The Journal of Heritage Management is a peer-reviewed biannual (June and December) International Journal of the Ahmedabad University.

In collaboration with the Sage Publications, the journal publishes high-quality research papers, commentaries and book reviews on themes of heritage management.

[Visit the Sage Publications website to submit your paper online.](#)



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CENTRE FOR
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

Ahmedabad
University



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ADMISSIONS OPEN

MASTERS IN HERITAGE MANAGEMENT



The Centre for Heritage Management aims to foster critical discourses on the broader domain of heritage, and to promote a holistic heritage management approach as a guidance for sustainable and just social development. It offers an intensive 2-year Master's Degree in Management Studies - Heritage Management for which the applications for admission are now open.

[To know more about the programme, visit our website.](#)

Scan the QR Code to download the admissions brochure and apply for the programme.

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