FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK

EXHIBIT OF THE MONTH
- 'TODAKKA' - A Percussion Instrument from Kerala
- JEVAR - Ornaments of Himachal Pradesh
- JAUTUKA PEDI - A Dowry Box of Odisha

EXHIBITIONS
- Kangla Gate From Manipur
- Kala Vah- The Unique World of Art and Crafts
- Krishna-Rukmini Prasanga - A Special Exhibition

WORKSHOPS
- National Workshop - Anthropology And Museums (post-graduate Students)
- National Workshop - Anthropology and Museums (Teachers and Museum Personnels)
- Workshop - Pluto Writers
- Potters Tradition Of India - Open Air Exhibition Phase III Workshop
- आदवासी विसं, अितव और अिमता का विसं - पयोधी

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IGRMS
एक भारत ऐफ भारत

SEMINARS
- National Seminar - ‘Tribal Situation In India: Contemporary Issues And Concerns’
- National Seminar - Tribal Situations With Special Reference To Eastern India
- International Interdisciplinary Winter School

MUSEUM VISITS
12th BLIND CHALLENGE CAR RALLY
REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

42nd FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATION
- Al-Vilakku Light Up
- EXHIBITION - Sikkim and the Sikkimes
- Photographic Exhibition SUKHMIM
- Second Memorial Lecture - K. Ananthakrishna Iyer
- National Symposium
- Traditional Art and Craft Exhibition-Cum-Sale
- Ethnic Food
- Cultural Performances

In our institutional life present quarter (January to March 2018) is always very significant as it involves celebration of our Foundation Day. Focusing on 43rd foundation day, we celebrated the state of Sikkim with three days cultural programmes, exhibitions, provision for ethnic food and crafts along with academic discourse and even we have shown rare documentary film. Obviously, it has created huge impact in the city of Bhopal. We are really grateful to the Government of Sikkim who extended support for which large number of cultural troops, crafts men and women along with their officials who became members of extended IGRMS family during festive days. Ministry of Culture through ZCC, also celebrated 'Ek Bharat Srestha Bharat' in IGRMS campus which Hon'ble Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Ms. Anandiben Patel, inaugurated. Perhaps one of our finest achievements within this time is our exhibition titled "Krishna Rukmini Prasanga" which on behalf of Ministry of Culture, we organized during Madhavpur Ghid in Gujarat from 25-27 March, 2018. I must put it in record that the very idea of such grand exhibition came from our Secretary, Shri Raghvendra Singh, and it really touched our heart when Hon'ble Minister of Culture, Dr. Mahesh Sharma gifted the whole exhibition to the Government of Gujarat during the inaugural session of evening cultural programme in the presence of various Chief Ministers, Governors, Home Minister (MOS), Govt. of India and other dignitaries. We are really grateful to Madam, Sujata Prasad, Additional Secretary and Ms. Deepika Pokharna, Director, Ministry of Culture as both of them inspired all of us to curate such a fascinating event reflecting the strength of our civilization. I am sure this newsletter will reveal some glimpses of our other activities to enrich Manav Sangrahalya and its commitments to the communities of our nation irrespective of their cultural boundaries.

Prof. Sunit Kumar Chaudhuri
DIRECTOR, IGRMS
EDDAKKA - A Percussion Instrument from Kerala

Area: Kerala
Community: Folk
Acc. No: 2016.13
Curated By: Smt. Rashmi Shukla, Museum Associate

The exhibit for the month of January, 2018 was a musical instrument named Edakka/Idakka from Kerala. It is a percussion instrument, very much similar to Damru in shape. It is hung from the left shoulder with the help of cloth strap and played with a curved wooden stick from the right side of the instrument while the position of its body and string is manipulated simultaneously with the help of other hand. It is one of the five instruments that constitute the panchvadyam ensemble of Kerala and considered to be Devavadyam. It is played during the puja session at temple for creating a mood of devotion, as the accompaniment to the sopanam music and also played during presentation of different dance forms like Kathakali, Mohiniattam and Krishnagam. The body of instrument is made out of the core part of Jackfruit tree trunk which is hollow from inside and both ends are covered by thin skin extracted from the inner wall of cow’s stomach. Idakka has two sides but only the front side is used to play it and the frontal part is identified by a bunch of colourful woollen balls tied to that side.

JEVAR - Ornaments of Himachal Pradesh

Area: Himachal Pradesh
Community: Gaddi Tribe
Curated By: Dr. Rakesh Nayal, Assistant Keeper

The exhibit for the month of February came from the category of ornaments out of seventeen functional category of the reserve collection of IGRMS Jevar, a set of three types of ornaments Chatta (main ornament for fore head having a central pendant in triangular shape with ghungrus attached to its lower part), Mala (crescent shape slide necklace) and Murkhuli (the main ear ornament with decorative work) were on display. All these ornaments were made of silver as a common metal in Himalayan belt. These ornaments are considered to be the status symbol of a Himachali woman as well as symbol of marriage bliss. Ornaments are profusely used by the women during marriage and festive occasions. These ornaments are made by local gold smith of the village at their workshop set up in a room or verandah of the house.
JAUTUKA PEDI - A Dowry Box of Odisha

Area: Puri Odisha
Community: Folk
Acc. No: 2015.507 A - C
Curated By: Smt. P. Anuradha, Museum Associate

The exhibit of the month of March, 2018 came up with a special attraction from the category of Art and Craft of Odisha acquired by the museum as an important product of the workshop “Chitragatha” organized in the museum. *Jaautuka Pedi*, a kind of decorative dowry box is used by the folk communities of Odisha in marriage ceremony. It is similar to a temple like structure. It is available in set of either three or five in nos. of different sizes decorated with paintings of incidents from Krishna life, mythology of Jagannath, scenes from Ramayana, Ganesh, images of musician and dancer, animals, plants and other floral motifs.

According to the customary practices, *Jaautuka Pedi* is given as a gift from bride’s father to groom’s family specifically at the time of marriage. In this box clothes, household utensils, ornaments and bride’s daily use items like *sindur* (vermillion), *chudi* (bangles), *alta* (a kind of liquid red colour) etc. were packed into a box or chest, traditionally made of wood and typically decorated as richly as means would allow, the better to show it off as a status symbol when the bride arrived at her-in-laws home. It is quite difficult to determine whether this pedi was in fact intended to serve for a dowry or whether it is commissioned for other purposes. However, it is most richly decorated marriage box, particularly those are decorated with good luck symbols and sign of red paint is the colour of celebration, fertility and blood, which breaks the traditional practice of ‘Dowry’. It is made by the carpenters as per the order from the Chitrakars who purchase these boxes and prepare the wooden surface for painting.

KANGLA GATE FROM MANIPUR

In dira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalya, under operation salvage activities for revitalization of vanishing but valuable cultural traditions made a unique installation of ‘Kangla Gate’ at entrance of open-air exhibition Tribal Habitat, jointly inaugurated on 27th February 2018 by Shri L. Ebomcha Meitei and Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri (Director, IGRMS). This huge traditional architecture of the ancient kingdom was taken inspiration from the gate of Canchipur, once a palace established by Maharaja Gambhir Singh, on this occasion traditional artist from Manipur and visitors in large number were also present during the inaugural event. The artists of Manipur performed the traditional dance Thang-Ta.

The construction of this Royal Gate was made by 15 artists from Manipur led by Mr. L. Ebomcha Meitei. This Gate was establishment in the museum for exhibition. The Kangla Fort Gate embodying with historical, social, architectural, traditional and religious element of Manipur is now open for visitors.
Under the celebration of Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav, IGRMS has organised an exhibition out of its reserve collection focusing on the collection of two states i.e. Nagaland and Manipur. The exhibition Kala Vaibhav presented a vivid and fascinating picture of each and every aspects of the life of Manipuri and Naga people through their Art and Crafts. The exhibition was jointly inaugurated by Shri Indrajit Grover, Director NCZCC Allahabad and Shri Harish Kumar, Director Ministry of Culture, in the presence of Prof Sarit K Chaudhuri and other official staff of IGRMS on 26th February 2018.

Art and Crafts holds an important role in man's life and society. It seems that Art and Human life have been inseparable and is as old as tradition in human existence. Among the people of Manipur and Nagaland the pieces of Art manufactured by them can be classified from several angles but there is no any doubt that by using the local raw materials such as wood, bamboo, cane, metal, clay, animal horn, bone, cotton, grass etc. they according to the requirement of object and its utility, they confirm the unique character of ‘unity in diversity of Indian Culture’. All such creative products are related to their daily life as well as the identity of community. The Manipuris are well known for their Art of weaving and the colorful Manipuri dresses are woven with different colors, signs, symbols and motifs which symbolically identify different groups and communities. The wood and metal crafts of Nagaland show the bravery and head hunting traditions. All these artistic products are associated with their ritual believes, ceremonial ethnicity, identity and several other domestic practices.

KALA VAIBHAV - The Unique World of Art and Crafts

To celebrate the idea of Unity in diversity and with a view to strengthen national integration, the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India organised the Madhavpur Mela from 25th March to 29th March 2018 at Madhavpur Ghat, District Porbandar in Gujarat. The Ministry of Culture and Government of Gujarat were jointly celebrated the immortal journey which Rukmini undertook from Arunachal Pradesh to Gujarat with Lord Krishna. was organized to build up on the legend of Rukmini and Krishna ingrained in our oral, textual, visual and performing traditions. In this connection Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalya organised an exhibition on Krishna-Rukmini Prasanga from 25th to 29th March, 2018. Exhibition narrates Legends of Krishna and Rukmini which expand from North East to Gujarat depicting the stories of human connectedness and cultural linkages of Indian Civilisation. The painting exhibited in the fair were the created in the workshop organised by IGRMS in its campus. The exhibition consisted of paintings from Madhubani Bihar, Pothy Chitra of Majuli Assam, Pata Painting of Odisha, Pothi Chitra of Majuli Assam, Pata Paning of Odisha, Kalamkari Painting of Andhra Pradesh, Pata Painting of West Bengal, Miniature Painting of Kerala, painting from Manipur. More than 30 paintings with Photographs and text panels on Krishna Rukmini Prasang were on display. These paintings were generated through a museum workshop organised by the IGRMS in its campus by inviting traditional painters from different corners of the country. The exhibition was curated by Shri Rakesh Bhatt (Assistant Curator) and Shri Tapas Kumar Biswas (Photography Officer) and team under the supervision of Director IGRMS, Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri. The exhibition was visited by Additional Secretary Ms. Sujata Prasad, and Director MOCS Ms. Dipika Pokharna, Union Minister of State for culture, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Union Minister of state for home affairs Shri Kiran Rijiju, Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Vijay Rupani, The state's tourism minister, Shri Gnanpat Vasava, Secretary Ministry of Culture, Dr Raghvendra Singh accompanied with Chief Secretary of Gujarat Mr. J. N. Singh. Thousands of people from Jeitpur, Dwarka, Amreli, Gir, Dhoraji, and Junagadh along with local people of Madhavpur visited the exhibition. This exhibition became one of the prime attractions of 5 days Ghed Fair. It also gained immense popularity in the social media, besides the exhibition, IGRMS team made a detailed documentation (textual as well as visual) of Krishna Rukmini marriage rites, Procession of Krishna returning back to Madhavpur temple (belongs 15th century), songs, chants, saktiis etc.

KRISHNA-RUKMINI PRASANGA - A Special Exhibition
During this Fair Union Minister of State for Culture, Dr. Mahesh Sharma in the presence of Gujarat governor Shri O. P. Kohli, Arunachal Pradesh's governor Brigadier Dr. B. D. Mishra, Chief Ministers of Gujarat Shri Vijay Rupani, Chief Ministers of Arunachal Pradesh Shri Pema Khandu, and Chief Ministers of Manipur, Shri Biren Singh, Union minister of State for home affairs Shri Kiran Rijiju. The State's Tourism Minister, Shri Ganpat Vasava, Secretary Ministry of Culture, Dr Raghvendra Singh, Chief Secretary of Gujarat Mr. J.N. Singh, Secretary Sports, Youth and Culture, Shri V.P. Patel and other dignitaries along with huge visitors around 100,000 peoples from different parts on Gujarat announced to give permanently the exhibition Krishna Rukmani Prasanga to Govt of Gujarat. In this connection IGRMS with all formalities handed over the exhibition to Dr. Ashok Rawal, Member Secretary Lalit Kala Academy Gujarat.

**NATIONAL WORKSHOP - Anthropology and Museums (Post-Graduate Students)**

The Museum Annual Programme of National workshop on 'Anthropology and Museums' for the Post-graduation students from various Universities of India was organised at IGRMS. Workshop from 5th to 7th February, 2018 Post-graduate students of Anthropology from various Universities of north-eastern India viz. Sikkim Uni., Guwahati Uni., Cotton College Uni. of Assam, Rajiv Gandhi Uni of Arunachal Pradesh, NEHU, Meghalaya and Manipur University were participated.

The workshop aimed at bridging the gap between Anthropology as a disciple and its very practical component of the Ethnographic Museums. This popular programme of the museum is designed to facilitate the students of anthropology with a practical knowledge of understanding the vitality of ethnographic collections in harnessing the knowledge of resources shared by the museum. Guided tour to the students were organised to various facilities like photography section, modelling section, graphic art section and cine video section and different exhibition areas of the museum. Further, to give an insight into the understanding of the prehistoric life.

In the valedictory session of the workshop, Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director IGRMS said that the participants can use the experience gained from this workshop to add value to their departmental museums. He also suggested the students to share their experiences of the workshop with their fellow students. Participants spoke about their experiences and learning from the workshop.
A two day National Workshop on Anthropology and Museums for teachers and museum personnel was organised by Indian Museum, Kolkata in collaboration with Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal and Anthropological Survey of India, Kolkata on 15th and 16th of March, 2018 at Ashutosh Birth Centenary Hall of the Indian Museum, Kolkata.

Prof. Vinay Kumar Shrivastava, Director, Anthropological Survey of India was the Chief Guest of inaugural ceremony. In his speech Prof. Shrivastava told that Ethnographic Museum is an integral part of anthropological teaching but gradually museums linkage to the anthropology is diminishing and its impact on departmental museum are quite visible. Study of Material Culture has been declined. The need of the hour is to rejuvenate the museums so that tangible and intangible dimensions can be studied in its proper context. Dr. Rajesh Purohit, Director, Indian Museum presented the Welcome Address. Dr. Surya Kumar Pandey of IGRMS gave the detailed outline of the objective of the workshop. Shri Sayan Bhattacharya Education officer, Indian Museum, Kolkata presented vote of thanks. Ms. Mita Chakravarty, Indian Museum conducted the programme. Participants from Department of Anthropology, Guwahati University, Coon College University, Dep. of Tribal Studies, Rajiv Gandhi University, Dep. of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University, Nagaland State Museum, Kohima, Anthropological Survey of India, MAKAIAIS etc. took part in this workshop.

Shri Rajesh Purohit discussed with the participants the issues and problems of their museums and told them about the Project Management and Change Management. The Participants were also addressed by scholars like Shri R.P. Savita, Indian Museum, Prof. Piyasi Bharasa, Deptt. of Museology, Kolkata University, Ms. Joyee Roy, Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata. The participants were taken to the exhibition entitled Digital Exhibition on Raffaello. The 2nd day began with the guided tour to the Indian museum followed by the presentation on exhibition making by Dr. Mita Chakravarti and Dr. S.K. Pandey. Dr. Pandey also presented a case study depicting Involvement of community in the process of exhibition making. In this workshop participants were explained segmentation of audience, outreach programmes, hands on activities, publicity, marketing and branding.

---

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya in association with EKTARA (Children Literature and Art Centre of Takshila) organised a workshop on ‘Pluto writers’ from 24th to 28th February, 2018 at Rock Art Conference Hall of the museum. This was aimed to give a recognition to the contributions of the third workshop in the series of Pluto writers’ workshop made by Pluto writers who remained unsung behind the workshop. Twenty three writers from all over the country were participated in this workshop. The Pluto writers are the one who inspires the children in building confidence, creative and morally sound. They are the true friends of young minds and help them to develop creative skills. These writers make their stories illustrative and highly attractive and interactive. They could read the thought and mind of juvenile readers. This workshop provided an environment like IGRMS that offers a pan Indian Habitats and a sight into different tradition and culture of India at one place.
Towards the development of a new exhibition on Potters trail, devoted to pottery craft tradition of India, IGRMS has successfully organised the third phase of workshop by inviting potters from Manipur. The traditional pottery making artists prepared pots the height of its specificity and importance of the traditional pottery craft of Manipur. The artisans made different types of pots which are used in many rituals and traditional ceremonies from birth and death and installed in the pottery Trail in IGRMS.

The potters developed an exhibit that showcases the cultural glory of Chaphu Keithel (Potter’s Market) in Manipur. The traditional market (Keithel) in Manipur, popularly known as the Nupi Keithel and it has a prominent place in the socio-economic and religious sphere of the people. Every market in the valley is believed to have been guarded by the Lairembi (Goddess) whose benign presence showers blessings to all the vendors. The market place without traditional handmade pottery in Manipur is negligible. The largest Khwairamband Keithel (market) in the heart of the state capital reserves special place for the pottery vendors. It is the segment that fulfills the domestic utilities and socio-religious ambit and cultural aspirations of the people who are strongly bounded local beliefs and practices.
देश का सांकेतिक बहलाता को समारोहत करने, राय एकता को बढ़ावा देने तथा वषमेंय संकेतय से लोग को परचत कराने के उद्देश्य से संकेत मंगल, भारत सरकार द्वारा इंदौरा, मध्य प्रदेश संग्रह विश्वास में 26 एवं 27 फरवरी, 2018 को 'एक भारत एक भारत' का थीम के अन्तर्गत भारत के दो लोक और जनजातीय संकेत के रंगारंग कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया।

देश की झल्की-मल्ल राय बहलाता दूसरे दवसीय कार्यक्रम का उघाटन में रायपाल भोपाल के आनंद बेन पटेल और आलोक सजाने, सासदं, भोपाल ने किया। इस अवसर पर सजाने ने अपने सौगत से कहा कि उह हमेशा संस्कृति के गतिविधि से जड़कर गौरवानभत होती है साथ ही इस तरह के आयोजनों से कलावर और पर्यटक केंद्र निर्माण के रूप में ही लाभानपी मृत्यु होती है जिससे समुद्र देश में संस्कृति हरसरपण होता है।

दो दवसीय सांकेतिक समारोह का शास्त्र स्थान के लोक कलाकार द्वारा पारंपरिक संग्रह और संभालाए। इसके पारंपरिक लघुपट्टी, ड्राफ्ट, मनचरित्र, हरियाणा, राजस्थान, उत्तराखंड, गुरुग्राम, महाराष्ट्र, हरियाणा है।

हथकरघा और हथरघा उस भी इस कार्यक्रम का एक महत्वपूर्ण भाग था। संकेत मंगल के ओर से भी प्रशासन, संस्कृति संस्थाओं और विभिन्न संस्कृति के कार्यक्रम के अध्यक्ष ने बताया कि इस कार्यक्रम का एक महत्वपूर्ण भाग है। संकेत मंगल के ओर से भी प्रशासन, संस्कृति संस्थाओं और विभिन्न संस्कृति के कार्यक्रम के अध्यक्ष ने बताया कि इस कार्यक्रम का एक महत्वपूर्ण भाग है।

### THE 48TH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF IGRMS

The 48th meeting of the Executive Council of the IGRMS Samiti was commenced under the Chairmanship of Shri Raghvendra Singh, Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Culture on 6th March, 2018 at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi in the presence of Shri Shravan Kumar, Vice Chairman EC and all the members (Ex-officio), Member Secretary & Special invitees comprising of Shri Manoj Shrivastava, Principal Secretary, Govt. of MP, Shri Rajesh Prasad Misra, Secretary, Govt. of MP, Shri Arun Gupta, Director (Finance), Prof Vinay Srivastava, Director Anth. Survey of India, Prof. Mitashree Mitra, Deptt. Of Anthropology, Ms Naaz Rizvi, Director, National Museum of Natural History, Shri N. Taher, Director, Monuments, ASI, Shri Hemraj Suryawanshi, Dy. Director General, GSI, Bhopal, Shri N. Ahmed, Under Secretary (TSP), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Gol, Prof Sant K. Chaudhuri, Director IGRMS & Member Secretary and special invitee Shri S.C. Mondal, Under Secretary, &A Section, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi. The Executive Council approved Annual Report, 2016-17, Audit report along with Director’s report on organizational activities. Members also discussed about the future collaborative strategies for traditional healing practices of the tribal healers and related health issues to bring out a wider implications on public health issues of our country where Ministry of Tribal Affairs expressed their desire to participate along with the Anthropological Survey of India.
The IGRMS as a part of its education and outreach activities has organised a three-day National Seminar on 'Tribal Situation in India: Contemporary Issues and Concerns' from 29 to 31 January, 2018 at Vivekananda Auditorium, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh. Organised jointly by IGRMS, TATA Steel Ltd., and IAS. The conference had three Memorial lectures and a seminar on the proposed theme. Memorial Lectures were organized to pay homage to the three doyens of Indian Anthropology; Nirmal Kumar Bose Memorial Lecture, Sasanka Sekhar Sarkar Memorial Lecture, and Dharani Sen Memorial Lecture. The seminar aimed at providing a comprehensive overview of contemporary issues and concerns on tribes and their development. Academicians and social scientists coming from across the country expressed their expert views to enhance living standards of the tribal while preserving their culture. While inaugurating 47th Annual Conference of the Indian Anthropological Society (IAS) and the Seminar, Prof. Rajat Kan Das, President, IAS described various issues pertaining to tribes in India and asked social scientists and anthropologists to come up with innovative suggestions to solve their challenges. Prof. Sarit K. Chaudhary, Director, IGRMS, Bhopal said that tribes having few thousand population in north-eastern states should be brought under the purview of higher education. 'Through higher education a positive transformation can be ensured for tribes. There is also a need for interdisciplinary study of contemporary issues of tribes to come up with innovative suggestions', he added. Prof. Alok Shrotriya, Dean (Academics) discussed two points of views regarding the development of tribes. First, they should be leave on their own cause with little help from the society and second-they should be assimilated with the society through technological interventions. He suggested integrated approach for their development giving necessary help from the society while learning from their rich cultural values and traditional knowledge. The Seminar witnessed different technical sessions ranging from sustainable development, poverty and unemployment, governance and policy, empowerment of women, tribal art and culture, health and education. 150 researchers from different institutions have submitted their research papers for the Seminar. Two books from Dr. Nar Singh Kumar were also released at this occasion. Inaugural Session was attended by Prof. Prasanna K. Samal and Ms. Chaitali Kamble. Dr. Santosh Sonker presented vote of thanks.
The International Interdisciplinary Winter School for five days on ‘Endangered Cultures and Sustainability with special reference to tribal and folk communities in India’ was organised by the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal, University College of Cork, Ireland and the Anthropological Survey of India from 8th to 12th January 2018. The Winter School was inaugurated with an inaugural function chaired by Prof. Alok Shrotriya, Dean, Social Science and Director Academics, IGNTU. Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS was the Chief Guest. Prof. Ranju Hasini Sahoo was the co-ordinator of the event. Dr. Lidia Guzy, Head, Study of Religions Department, University College Cork, National University of Ireland was the Key note speaker of the inaugural function. Prof. S.R. Padhi, HoD, Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, IGNTU was present as the Guest of Honour. On this occasion, Sri. Sevaram, a representative of the Baiga community gave a special presence. The Winter School was participated by a large number of registered participants from various academic backgrounds. From IGRMS, Dr. S.K. Pandey, Asstt. Keeper, Shrikant Gupta, N. Shakmacha Singh, Dr. Pritam Chaudhuri and Rajesh Gautam (Museum Associates) participated in the Winter School. Dr. S.K. Pandey chaired a session of the and Shrikant Gupta co-chaired a session. At the end of the winter school a special session entitled “Session for Guidance” was held to make recommendations of the winter school 2018.

On the occasion of Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Department of Anthropology (1958-2018), a National Seminar on Tribal Situations with Special Reference to Eastern India was organised by P.G. Department of Anthropology, UGC Centre of Advanced Study (CAS), Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with IGRMS, Bhopal and Population Research Centre, Bhubaneswar, from 28th-30th, March, 2018.

Many dignitaries and eminent scholars took part in the National Seminar and presented papers on various themes like Tribal Religion and Education, Tribal Demography, Population and Health dynamics of tribes of Eastern India, Economy, Archaeology and Museum Management, Research Scholar Meet, Tribal Economy, and Tribal Health.
The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya as part of its educational activities and attempt for strengthening new museum movement organized ‘Aadi Mitra’ a day long programme of Museum in which visit for tribal students on 31st March, 2018. Post Matric tribal student found an interesting way to learn about human evolution, cultural diversity and significance of age old cultural traditions and their conservation through ‘Aadi Mitra’. Over 50 post matric tribal student from various districts of Madhya Pradesh studying with various streams, visited the museum under the program. The day long programme began with introductory session by Museum officials and screening of an introductory film on activities of IGRMS. Officials shared the objective of programme and explained them about their greater role in achieving the objective of maintaining cultural identity.

Tribal Students Visited the Museum Under the Program of ‘Aadi Mitra’

Visit of Dr. P. Pugazhendi, I.F.S. (Director, STDD, Govt. of Kerala)

For the purpose of establishing a Tribal Museum in Kerala state, Dr. P. Pugazhendi, I.F.S. (Director, Scheduled Tribes Development Department, Govt. of Kerala) visited Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya. He visited Traditional Technology Park, Rock Art Shelters, Tribal Habitat, Himalayan Village, Coastal & Desert Village open air exhibition and Specimen store, Mythological Trail, Avvritti Bhawan and galleries of Veethi Sankul at IGRMS. His visit was guided by Shri. R.K. Jhariya, Shri. T.G. Sajeev, Shri. Shrikant Gupta and Dr. Ashok Kumar Sharma of Manav Sangrahalaya.

Visit of the Director and Officers of 18 States of Tribal Research Institute of India

Director and officers of 18 States of Tribal Research Institute, visited Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya on 15th February, 2018. The delegates were welcomed by Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director, IGRMS who gave them the introductory information about IGRMS. He further said “The term tribe has different connotations. Each tribe should be understood in its own perspective and environment in which they live. IGRMS is a remarkable example of mini India where the cultures of various communities are displayed in the curatorship of artists from respective communities”. Later on they were shown documentary film on IGRMS and taken to various open air and indoor exhibition of Museum, where they guided by the senior officers of the museum.

Delegation Visited the Museum from 24 Countries

A group of 44 delegation from 24 countries visited IGRMS on 13th January, 2018. The delegation was welcomed by Director, IGRMS Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri who gave them the initial information about IGRMS and diverse variety of Indian culture and the elements binding them together. He further said “IGRMS is invites various communities of India to its campus spread in over 200 acres land and develops open air as well as indoor museum galleries with special emphasis on geographical conditions of the region while conserving and exhibiting it in here.
IGRMS has been making continuous efforts to make its premises disabled friendly. It has been organizing programmes and activities to facilitate the physically challenged people as one of the important museum audiences. Blind Challenge Car Rally is one of such activity.

The 12th blind challenge car rally was organized on 14th January 2018 by Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya with Arushi- an NGO devoted to work for differently abled people. The Rally started at 9:30 am from Aamer Bakery Hut near Prakash Swimming Pool at Bhopal. The rally was organized to make people aware of capabilities of disabled person especially blind people. Most exciting feature of the rally was that the sighted person drove the car in navigation of visually impaired persons who were given a route map in Braille script on the spot. After covering a long route and passing through various spots of the city the rally concluded in the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya campus.

The valedictory ceremony was organized in the amphitheatre and courtyard of Veethi Sankul- the indoor museum building with prize distribution to the winners and participants.

Friendship Cricket Tournament - 2018

69th Republic Day of India was celebrated at IGRMS with great pleasure and enthusiasm. Prof Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri hoisted the National flag and took guard of honour by museum security personnel at the Veethi Sankul premises of Manav Sangrahalaya. Later officials of IGRMS presented patriotic songs. On this occasion IGRMS arranged, FRIENDSHIP CRICKET TOURNAMENT at Costal village open air exhibition ground. The official staff took part in the tournament.
The Sangrahalaya celebrated its 42nd Foundation day with great festivity and enthusiasm from 21st to 23rd March 2018. Various programme were organised to mark the celebration. The programme commenced with inauguration of exhibition ‘SIKKIM AND THE SIKKIMESE: The Sentinels of the Godly Mountains and Cultural Heritage of Sikkim’.

After inauguration of exhibition, Director, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Prof Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri presented the annual activities report 2017-18 and traditional artists like Mr. Rajendra Singh Negi, Mr. Anant Ram Rana, Mr. Lunaram, Smt. Safiyano Pavale, Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Hajong were felicitated with Shawl, Shrifaal, memento and certificates for their immense contribution to the Sangrahalaya. Head of the Office, Mr. D. S. Rao gave the welcome speech.

Chief Guest, Shri K.T. Gyaltsen, (Legal Advisor to the Chief Minister of Sikkim & former Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly) in his address, focused on the uniqueness and great vision behind the institute like IGRMS. “Sangrahalaya with time has transformed this piece of land into a space of culture and a synergy between man and nature is clearly visible. The IGRMS is a centre of learning and will someday protect the identity in the form of tradition, culture, food habit, language etc. and character of India as a whole” he added. He gave a detailed account of the innovative work being done on various aspects by Shri Pawan Kumar Chamling, Honourable Chief Minister of Sikkim.

The Sikkim’s culture, such as folk beliefs, folk art, folk tales etc. On the occasion Ms. Sarala Rai (Secretary, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare, Govt. of Sikkim) was present as the special Guest of 42th Foundation day. In the end, Mr. Rakesh Mohan Naylor, Assistant Keeper & Programme Co-ordinator gave the vote of thanks.
Al-Vilakku Light Up

Chief guest, special guest lighted the 1001 wicks traditional lamp of Kerala Aal Vilakku at Veethi Sankul premises of Manav Sangrahalya. Everyone present in the audience lit the wicks of the Al-Vilakku lamp. After this, instrumental performance of Shinkari Melam performed by both male and female folk artists from Kerala.

Shinkari Melam or dancing drum is popular art form which has been evolved from traditional Chenda Melam (drum percussion) and dancing. Chenda (drums) and Ilathalam (Cymbals) constitute the instruments. Chenda- the traditional double membrane drum of Kerala played on every auspicious occasion by male folks because of the requirement of muscular strength. But now women in Kerala has broken this myth and organise a group of traditional women percussionists ‘Shinkari Melam.'

EXHIBITION - Sikkim and the Sikkimies

A special exhibition was inaugurated on 21st March 2018, the first day of the foundation day celebration by Shri K.T. Gyaltsen, (Legal Advisor to the Chief Minister of Sikkim & former Speaker, Sikkim Legislative Assembly), Ms. Sarala Rai (Secretary, Social Justice, Empowerment and Welfare, Govt. of Sikkim in the presence of Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Director IGRMS. Once a tiny little kingdom in the Himalayas, Sikkim became an integral part of the Indian Nation and attainted the 22nd state of India in 14th April 1975. The people of Sikkim, Lepcha, Bhutia and the Nepalese together constitutes Sikkimese population who are privileged to have their unique socio-cultural, political and historical presence of the ancient past. They regard the mountain Kanchendonga as their guardian deity whose benevolence can protect them from the miseries and roars can crumble them from the very existence. The belief is strongly reflected in the life and culture of the people who are living with great endurance in these ever growing mountainous rugged terrain of the great Himalayas. Fairly known as the land of mountains and melting snows, Sikkim also has its crown the great ancient monasteries and temples where Buddhism, Hinduism and animistic traditions flourished parallel to the ethos of the great Himalayan state. The exhibition was visualised to present the glory of mountain and its people who stands sentinel to protect the amity of the great Himalayas through their exquisite art and aesthetic traditions of Monastic cultures, mountain livelihood patterns, animistic beliefs and practices, that were profoundly reflected from the ethnographic objects collected by the IGRMS.
Photographic Exhibition SUKHIM

A photographic exhibition on land, people and culture of Sikkim titled SUKHIM was jointly inaugurated by Prof. P.K. Mishra, Dr. Uttam Lal and Dr. Charisma K. Lepcha. On this occasion, Director, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, Anthropologist Prof. T.B. Subba and other dignitaries were also present.

This exhibition consisted of photographs related to landscape specifically the snow clad mountain Kangchenjunga, the third highest peak in the world, believed by the sikkimese to be the inhabitants of their gods and spirits, different ethnic communities like Bhuta, Lepcha and Nepali.

Photographs related to art, craft, fairs, festivals and dances were also part of this exhibition. It provides a grand array of Sikkim’s land, people and culture in a nutshell.

This exhibition has been created by Dr. Soma Kiro (Asst. Curator), Dr. P. Shankar Rao (Asstt. Keeper), Shri Tapas Biswas (Photographic Officer), Shri Pravin Narad (Chief Artist) Shri Lalit S. Bagul (Senior Artist) Shri Ratnakar Dhok (Painter) also with the help of other museum officials and Dr. Uttam Lal and Dr. Charishma Lepcha from Sikkim.

Second Memorial Lecture - L.K. Ananthakrishna Iyer

The IGRMS has been initiating various academic events to highlight the latest and versatile experiences and research works of great Indian Anthropologists for the benefits of budding anthropologists, museologists and masses. In continuation of such endeavours IGRMS initiated a new memorial lecture entitled Prof. L. K. Ananthakrishna Iyer Memorial Lecture in the year 2016-17. This was the second lecture in the series given by Prof. P.K. Misra, a renowned anthropologist on ‘Making of Tribe and Modern Dilemma in Studying Them’. In his presentation he intended to show that in spite of the fact that in independent India the tribes have been provided with constitutional safeguards and attempts to develop them and integrate them with the larger Indian society, they are the most deprived and displaced people in the country. Prof. Misra argues that what we are witnessing today is to a large extent owing to the legacy of colonization for which tri-junction of south India provides enough and appropriate illustrations. Moreover it appears that the students of tribal studies in India have reached a blind alley—neither have they been able to set new relevant and challenging goals theoretical or otherwise for studies nor have they been able to gain the confidence of the people they study. They have remained outsiders hungry for information—raw material for processing them in academic centres while people they have been studying are persistently and systematically peripheralized. We need to ask as to how we have reached to this stage, what are the problems in this stage and where do we go from here.
National Symposium

On the occasion of Sikkim Cultural Festival a national symposium was organised to commemorate the 42nd foundation day of IGRMS. The topic of two days symposium was Historicity livelihood and emerging socio-cultural reality of Sikkim: A bordering state in Transition. The keynote address was delivered by renowned social scientist Prof A.C. Sinha and chaired by Prof. T.B.Subba. In this symposium different scholars presented their research papers. The session was headed by Prof A.C. Sinha. Scholars like Dr James Vungjangam Haokip, from the Anthropology department of Sikkim University spoke on the topic Pang Lhabsol Festival in Sikkim, Dr. Uam Lal spoke on Yak and Yak herders of Sikkim: between Borderland to the vanishing homeland. He threw light on schematic representation of yak grazing, trans-ecological exchanges and cross border interactions. Also focussed on yak breeders and the problem they face along the international border during seasonal yak grazing. Dr. Charisma Lepcha spoke on the topic Changing Religious landscape of Sikkim in which she focussed on advent of Buddhism in Sikkim during 17th century and was adopted by local Lepcha community and accepted Kanchanjanga mountain range as conserving/protecting god. She also threw light on different religions entering into Sikkim at different time frame and adaptation of those religions by different ethnic communities. Dr Roshina Gaulug talk about the traditional Lepcha dress specifically of women and said the material, the patterns on the clothes are identify of the Lepcha community. She also focussed on the changes in material of the clothes. This session was chaired by Prof T. B. Subba of Northeast Hill University, Shillong.

Traditional Art and Craft Exhibition-Cum-Sale

A craft fair held in the Veethi Sankul of the museum as part of the three-day Sikkim art and craft. A wide variety of art and craft repositories brought by the craftsperson from Sikkim were on display for sale. Visitors purchased various handicraft items made of bamboo, decorative dry flowers, hand bags with specific designs, tea, spices, historic books etc.
Ethnic Food

Under the celebration of regional cultural festival of the state Sikkim, IGRMS organised a food festival of Sikkim for the visitors. The food of Sikkim is special among the diverse ethnic Himalayan food. Momos (steamed wheat flour stuffed with meat or any vegetables), tomato pickle, thukpa, kainema curry (fermented soybean curry), sinki soup, gundruk pickle (fermented food prepared out of leaves of cauliflower, radish, mustard and sag), churpi soup (a traditional cottage cheese cooked with herbs and spices), sael roti, shaphalay (a spicy deep fried, meat or cabbage stuffed savoury akin to an oversized momos), pakku curry (mutton curry) etc. were among few of its dishes which impressed the visitors a lot.

Cultural Performances

In the evening a renowned folk fusion Band of Sikkim – SOFIYUM gave enthralling performance on this occasion. Sofiyum is a Lepcha Contemporary Folk Fusion band based in Gangtok, Sikkim. ‘Sofiyum’, translates to ‘breeze’ in the Lepcha language. Formed in the year 2011 with the aim of popularizing Lepcha folk music, culture and language through fusion of contemporary music. Having played numerous gigs in their home state and many on a national / international stage like Ziro fest, SDNE Mumbai, Sangeet Natak Akademi shows etc. Sofiyum aim for a greater and bigger stages to connect their culture to the rest of the world. Band members were 1. Mickma Tshering Lepcha : Vocals / Tungbuk / Puntong Palit; 2. Ongyal Tshering Lepcha : Vocals / Guitars 3. Rathap Lepcha : Drums / Percussion; 4. Chyuzong Lepcha : Bass guitar and vocals.
14th Annual IGRMS Lecture

The 14th Annual IGRMS Lecture was delivered by Prof. T.B. Subba of Northeast Hill University, Shillong, Meghalaya. Prof. T.B. Subba spoke on “Middle Class and Museums in India” and the lecture was chaired by Anthropologist Prof. P.K. Misra. In his lecture Prof. Subba threw light on museums in India and what kind people visit museums in India. The visitors to most museums predominantly in India belongs to two categories. One category is the student on educational excursions and other is the tourist. While taking about short falls of middle class not coming to visit museums, he sighted many examples of museums in India. While talking about Don Bosco Museums for Indigenous People he said that he asked many people like govt. service holders, teachers, professor whether they have ever visited the Don Bosco museum. Someone told twice and someone thrice, for project work on museum or some other official work, but he couldn’t find a person who visited the museum for the sake of knowing, visiting, seeing or satisfying their curiosity. Taking about the Private Museums, he said very less people visit those collections that are not properly captioned and even family members except one or two elderly person does not know the purpose of keeping those old items in the house.

Again public museum are accessible to everyone but time is not suitable for the visitors, in some museums, staffs are not well educated to differentiate between the foreign visitors and the visitors from north east. Such ignorance certainly discourage the foot falls on museum he added. He emphasised lack of waking up curiosity among the visitors by the museum staff, lack of performances and exhibitions based on new themes and as per the demand of visitors, paucity of various facilities provided to the visitors etc. are to be rectified to attract the middle class to the museums in India.

Prof. Subba suggest that one of the key factor to attract the middle class to the museums is that various exhibitions on Social Diversity shall be organized and also bring new changes by organizing exhibitions on new themes and replacing new objects with the older one. Prof. P.K. Mishra who headed the Lecture also insisted that the museum should emphasizes on various oppositions of our society which are in vogue to museum make itself incidental.

Screening of Documentary Film by Satyajit Ray

On the third and the last day of the 42nd foundation day of the Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sanghralaya, a film show was organized in the rock art conference hall of the museum. In this film show, famous filmmaker and Academy Award winner Satyajit Ray directed Sikkim movie was shown. In this almost an-hour-long film, Sikkim’s natural beauty, specialties of the local people, their religion, rituals and royal families were displayed. It is worth mentioning that Satyajit Ray himself did background narration in the movie. The film left the audience here mesmerized. On this occasion, large number of audience and artists took part in Sikkim cultural festival were present.
स्वच्छ भारत अभयान

साफ-सफाई एक अभिश्लोक आदत है जो स्वच्छ परिवर्तन और अद्यतन जीवन वैश्विकी के लिए हर एक स्वयंसेवक में होना चाहिए। स्वच्छता का द्वारा, महत्त्व तथा आदत को समझने हेतु साफ़-सफाई में स्वच्छ भारत अभयान के अंतर्गत साफ-सफाई से संबंधित गतिविधियों का आयोजन किया गया। जिसमें महेंद्र पुष्कर साम्य 4 से 6 संयुक्त सरकार के संयुक्त समाजवाद के विभिन्न विभागों में साफ-सफाई की गई एवं दीवार पर कंटेनर की रचना किया गया। साथ ही उपमात्रीय आदेश परिषद ने दीया बेडके के मरम्मत के बाकी क्षेत्रों में साफ-सफाई की गई एवं अच्छी किया जा रहा। यह साफ-सफाई का स्वरूपण यहाँ पर स्थानांतरित किया गया। एवं सुख्य बांस बांस के निर्माण हेतु सुझाव दिया गया।

Published By:
INDIRA GANDHI RASHTRIYA MANAV SANGRAHALAYA, BHOPAL, (An Autonomous Organisation of the Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India)
Editor: Prof. Sati Kumar Choudhuri
Editorial Assistance: Sudhir Shrivastava, Garima Anand, N. Shailma Singh, and P. Anuradha
Concept and Layout Design: Lalit S. Bagul Photography: Iapata Kumar Baweja, Sunil Agarwal
For Further Information Contact: Shyama Dixit, Shyama Dixit (R.R.) Shalma Hills, Bhopal (MP)
Email/Phone: 91-755-2661656, 2661670, 2661689, 2666590, 2661319; Email:kgramsmpnc@gmail.com, kgramsmpnc@gmail.com, kgramsmpnc@facebook.com, kgramsmpnc@com

Southern Regional Centre, Willington House, Irwin Road, Mysore- 571001 (Karnataka) INDIA.