

## The Brainstorming Session

### Centenary Celebrations of *Padmashree* Dr. V. S. Wakankar



Rock art, an important cultural heritage and universal phenomenon, has survived long period of human history and considered as valuable source for understanding the human mind and its evolution through the course of time. IGNCA has been organising seminars and conferences under its *Adi Drishya* programme from time to time to address different aspects related to rock art documentation, its conservation, dating and its interpretation in order to remain updated with recent trends of researches in these fields.

A brainstorming session on Centenary Celebrations of *Padmashree* Dr. V. S. Wakankar was organised on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2019 at 10:00 am in the Conference Hall, C. V. Mess, Janpath, IGNCA, New Delhi on the occasion of Seventh Foundation day of *Adi Drishya* department. Our Member Secretary Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi in his introductory speech welcomed our chief guest Shri Baba Yogendraji and shared some of the rare incidents of Dr. V. S. Wakankar's life and discoveries. The session was chaired by Dr. G. B. Deglurkar.



**Inaugural Address by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi**



**Speech of Chief Guest Shri Baba Yogendraji**

Experts of brainstorming session gave some suggestions to spread awareness among the youth through exhibition and cultural activities, we should give scholarship and announce reward for young enthusiastic scholars, scientific methods and new technologies should include for dating the rock art sites. The main highlights of the session were documentation of Dr. Wakankar's work and finding out the ways to preserve our precious cultural heritage to reconstruct our glorious past.

**Suparna De, Rita Rawat**

Project Assistants  
Adi Drishya Department  
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar Memorial Lecture

The Adi Drishya Department of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) has initiated Dr. V. S. Wakankar memorial lecture series in memory of Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar (4<sup>th</sup> May 1919 – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1988) who was an eminent archaeologist. He is widely acknowledged and renowned for his discovery of Bhimbetka rock shelters caves in 1957 which was inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2003. Dr. Wakankar is known as the "Pitamaha" of Indian Rock Art. He had carried out extensive work on Rock Art in India and abroad since 1954 and discovered numerous rock art sites in India and abroad dating back to 40,000 years ago. In 1975, he was awarded the *Padmashree*, one of India's highest civilian honours.



**Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi Delivering Welcome Address**

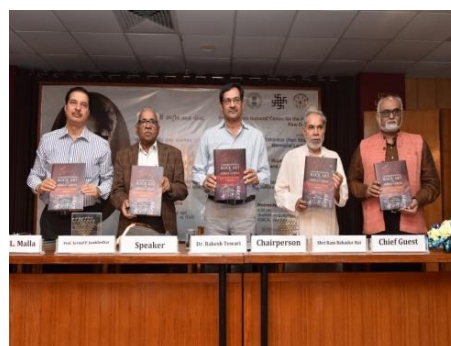


**Prof. Arvind P. Jamkhedkar Delivering The Memorial Lecture**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar Memorial Lecture was organised at 4:00 pm in the Auditorium, C. V. Mess, Janpath, IGNCA, New Delhi. On the same day Adi Drishya department was celebrating its seventh Foundation day. Shri Ram Bahadur Rai, Hon'ble President, IGNCA Trust was the Chief Guest on the occasion and the inaugural session was chaired by Dr. Rakesh Tewari. Prof. Arvind P. Jamkhedkar was the Speaker on the occasion. Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNCA in his welcome address, talked about the *Padmashree* Dr. Wakankar's contribution in the field of Rock Art research of India. All the other dignitaries sitting on the dais paid tribute to Dr. Wakankar by lighting of the lamp and offering flowers.

Prof. Arvind P. Jamkhedkar, in his lecture on "Interaction of the Mainstream Art of India and Autochthones" elaborated upon comparative studies of Prehistoric Rock Art and Ethnoarchaeology. The Adi Drishya Department has successfully brought out yet another publication on: "*Understanding Rock Art of India-China: Rock Art of India- Vol.I*" edited by Dr. B. L. Malla at this occasion. Dr. Rakesh Tewari in his address remarked on the major achievements of Dr. Wakankar and his contribution to rock art studies. He also talked about first discovery of rock paintings at Sohagi-hat in the Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh by Archibald Carlleyle.

Concluding the event, Dr. B. L. Malla, Project Director, IGNCA proposed the vote of thanks.



**Release of Publication**

**Suparna De, Rita Rawat**  
Project Assistants  
Adi Drishya Department  
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

