

About Exhibition:

The exhibition will present materials on the history of Africans, recounting the tale of the extraordinary achievements of Africans in India from 16th century onwards, where they became high ranking officials, generals, commanders and even rulers. The history of the Afro-Indian community called “*siddis*” in India who went on to rule two kingdoms along western coast of India, and the lineage of *siddi* royalty from “Slaves to Sultans”. India presents the rare example in the world where people of African origin who were brought in as slaves, went on to rule an alien population. This exhibition revolves around those who were descended from the earlier arrivals from Bengal to Gujarat in the west and to the Deccan in Central India, these men and women known as *siddi* and *habshis* vigorously asserted themselves in the country of their enslavement. Besides appearing in written documents, the Africans have been immortalized in the rich paintings of different eras, states and styles that form an important component of Indian Culture. Because of their high positions, they were captured in vivid and exquisite portraits as principal subjects or in the vicinity of non-African rulers. As rulers, city planners and architects, the Africans have left an impressive historical and architectural legacy that attests to their determination, skills and intellectual, cultural and military and political savvy.

About Dr. S.K. Nanda IAS

Dr. Sudip Kumar Nanda, a senior IAS officer of Government of Gujarat was 1978 batch. He was born in 1956 in the state of Orissa. He holds a Master's degree in Political Science from Delhi University, LLB. on Law and LLM. on Crimology from Gujarat University. He did his Ph.D. on Rural Economics. Dr. Nanda holds many important Government departments as Principal Secretary of Food & Civil supply, Forest & Environment, Health and as Managing Director of Gujarat State Financial Corporation. Dr. Nanda was the Additional Chief Secretary of Home from 2012-2014. The Dang district, most backward district in Gujarat was transformed by Dr. Nanda, to become a hub of horticulture and vegetable belt to assure good quality life for the tribals. Dr. Nanda is a recipient of “India CEO Award 2015”, Udog Ratna Award, Global Leadership Award, Global Visionary Award, Golden Peacock Award and Environment Protection Award for his outstanding contribution for the welfare of the society. Dr. Nanda was honored by UNESCO, Subash Chandra Bose award for Communal harmony and public service. At present, Dr. Nanda is the Chairman & Managing Director of the Gujarat State Fertilizer and Chemicals Ltd. Govt. of Gujarat.



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INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS



Gujarat National Law University

Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar
In collaboration with

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi
&
Schomburg Centre for Research in Black Culture
New York Public Library

Cordially invite you to the opening of
Africans in India: A Rediscovery

An exhibition featuring reprints of paintings and written documents
from the collection of different Museums

The exhibition will be inaugurated by
Dr. S.K. Nanda IAS
Chairman & Managing Director
Gujarat State Fertilizers & Chemicals Limited.

Guest of Honour
H.H.Sidi Mahammed Reza Khan
Nawab of Sachin
THE PALACE SACHIN

on Monday 10th of August, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.
the exhibition will be open to public till
10th of September, 2015 according to University calendar and timing

Prof. (Dr.) Bimal N. Patel
Director
GNLU, Gandhinagar

Dr. Mangalam Swaminathan
Programme Director
IGNCA, New Delhi

RSVP: Dr. Indubala Nahakpam, Curator, Indian Legal History Museum
(M: 08128650864, E: inahakpam@gnlu.ac.in)