A Report on the MOU Signing Ceremony and Multidisciplinary Orientation Workshop on the Rock Art of Maharashtra

At
Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur

(23 August, 2016)
A one day multidisciplinary orientation workshop on the rock art and its allied subjects in Maharashtra was organised by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi in collaboration with the Department of Ancient Indian History Culture & Archaeology, RTM Nagpur University at Assembly Hall, Dept. of Geology, RTM Nagpur University on 23rd August, 2016. It was a part of IGNCA’s capacity building programme and for preparing interdisciplinary documentation teams to take up research and documentation in the field of rock art in India. This workshop was organised as a prelude to the approved multidisciplinary documentation of rock art sites in Maharashtra as part of IGNCA’s ongoing Rock Art Project with Dr. Prabash Sahu of the Dept. of Ancient Indian History Culture & Archaeology, RTM University, Nagpur as the coordinator. Dr. Sahu will submit the proposal for taking up the first phase field documentation in Maharashtra very shortly.

The inaugural session of the workshop was chaired by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNCA, New Delhi. Dr. A.M Pophare, Prof. & Head, Dept. of Geology, RTM Nagpur University gave the welcome address on the occasion while lauding the multidisciplinary research on the rock art of Maharashtra for having a comprehensive understanding. Dr. B.L Malla, Project Director, IGNCA while highlighting on the status of ongoing rock art project in different parts of the country, emphasised on the need for documenting and studying it in the light of the documentation work being carried out in other parts of the country. He presented a road map for taking up rock art documentation of Maharashtra in a time bound manner and the role to be played by the interdisciplinary team members to achieve the set objectives of the project.
The orientation workshop for the Multidisciplinary team members was conducted by Professor (retd.) V.H. Sonawane of M.S University, Baroda, a noted rock art scholar and archaeologist. The multidisciplinary team members who participated in the workshop were; Dr. Prabash Sahu, Dept. of Ancient Indian History Culture & Archaeology, RTM University, Nagpur, Dr. K.R. Randive, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Geology, RTM Nagpur University, Sh. S.B Thakre, CCF, Chandrapur region, Dr. Bhaskar Urade, Anthropological Survey of India, Dr. Vijay Gedam, Research Scholar, Dr. Ekta Dhawkar, Research Scholar and Mr. Vijay Kumar. The students and teachers from different departments of RTM Nagpur University were also present in large numbers at the workshop.

An interactive session after the workshop saw a fruitful exchange of ideas among the scholars, students and experts. The response to the workshop was overwhelming and the principle objective of creating interest in the young scholars and training to the interdisciplinary team members for field documentation of rock art was achieved.
Prior to the Orientation workshop, an MoU signing ceremony was held between IGNCA, New Delhi and RTM Nagpur University at Jal P. Gimi Committee Hall, RTM Nagpur University. The event was graced by Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNCA, New Delhi and Dr. Siddarth Vinayak Kane, Vice Chancellor, RTM Nagpur University. Dr. Prabash Sahu, Dept. of Ancient Indian History Culture & Archaeology, RTM University, Nagpur welcomed the guest on the occasion. An introduction to the IGNCA’s Rock Art Project was given by Dr. B. L Malla, Project Director, IGNCA. Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi, Member Secretary, IGNCA, highlighted the achievements of IGNCA in research and documentation of various forms of arts while stressing on the need to collaborate with academic institutions for more such ventures. Dr. Siddarth Vinayak Kane, Vice Chancellor, RTM Nagpur University in his presidential address highly appreciated the task taken up by IGNCA for documenting the rock art of Maharashtra and also expressed full cooperation for timely completion of the project. Concluding the ceremony, Dr. K. R. Randive, Dept. of Geology, RTM Nagpur University presented the vote of thanks.
Both the events; the MoU signing ceremony and Multidisciplinary orientation workshop was covered by print and electronic media.

University signs agreement with IGNCA

MoU on Multidisciplinary Documentation of Rock Art was signed

Principal Correspondent

BASHTIRASANT Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University (RTMNU) on Tuesday signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi on a project titled “Multidisciplinary Documentation of Rock Art and its allied subjects in Maharashtra”. Dr B L Malla, Project Director, IGNCA and Pranchnandra Meshram, Registrar, RTMNU signed the document from respective organisations in presence of Vice-Chancellor Dr Siddharthavimmay Kandale and Member secretary of IGNCA Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi.

Dr B L Malla introduced the objectives of the project and highlighted need for implementation of such a project in every State for preservation of Rock Art in the country. Prof. Joshi elaborated role of IGNCA in preservation of cultural heritage of ancient India. He further expressed his desire to have a long term meaningful collaboration between RTMNU and IGNCA. V-C welcomed such an initiative for multidisciplinary collaboration for growth of Science and Culture together, and promised to provide all the necessary facilities for implementation of such project. Prof. V H Sonawane, an internationally acclaimed researcher in the field of Archaeology and Rock Art and retired Professor of MS University, Baroda was prominently present alongside other members of the Multidisciplinary Research Team on the occasion. Dr Prabhas Shehu, Department of Archeology, Ancient Indian History and Culture and Project Coordinator conducted the proceedings and Dr K R Bhole presented the vote of thanks.

In the afternoon an orientation workshop was organised for training the recently formulated multidisciplinary team and scholars and students in the Department of Geology. The main objective of this workshop was to attain best possible documentation and analysis of the field work and also to sensitise students about the importance of Rock Art, the first creative act of human being. It was formally inaugurated by Prof. Sachchidanand Joshi and the orientation lectures were given by Dr Sonawane and Dr Malla. Prof. Anjali Pophare, Head of the Department of Geology, RTMNU highlighted achievements of faculty members and students of Geology Department in various fields. Dr Vijay Kumar conducted the proceedings and Dr Unde proposed a vote of thanks.
विद्यापीठ में ‘पाषाणकला’ पर अध्ययन 
पुरातन शिल्प के जतन पर रहेगा जोर 

विद्यापीठ और आईजीएचएसी में करार 

स्वस्थ सांस्कृतिक बहस 
को मिलेगी संजीवनी 

हास्य प्रतिचित्र | नागपुर: राष्ट्रवादी 
तुकड़े महाराज नागपुर विद्यापीठ में 
अब विद्यार्थी पाषाण कला का अध्ययन 
कर सकेंगे। नागपुर विद्यापीठ ने दिल्ली 
की इंदिरा गांधी नेशनल सेंटर फॉर आर्ट्स 
(आईजीएचएसी) के साथ मंगलवार को 
करार किया गया है। करार के मुताबिक 
अब विद्यापीठ में ‘मल्टीडिसिप्लिनरी 
डिजिटलिसेशन ऑफ रॉक आर्ट एंड इंटर 
एलिड सक्षेपक हिन्दु महाराज’ की विधान 
पर अध्ययन होगा। इससे महाराज के 
पाषाण शिल्प और उसके जतन संबंधी 
विषयों का विश्लेषण कर सकेंगे। 
आईजीएचएसी प्रोजेक्ट डायरेक्टर डॉ. 
बी.एल. मल्ल, सभी विषयों के 
सर्वाधिकारी, विद्यापीठ कुलपूर और 
सिद्धार्थ विवाहित विवाहित 
मैन्यूअल पूर्णचून 
मेंट्री की उपस्थिति में यह फूल हुआ। 

Team Rock Art
Rock Art Department
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts
11 Mansingh Road, New Delhi