



Ministry of Culture
Government of India



75
Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav



Report on

Sixth

Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar

Memorial Lecture

04th April, 2022



संस्कृति मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

सत्यमेव जयते



इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts



आदि दृश्य विभाग
Adi Drishya Department



आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts
Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India

Adi Drishya Department
cordially invites you to

Sixth Dr. V. S. Wakankar Memorial Lecture
Celebrating Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar
(Monday, 4th April, 2022 at 03:00 pm)

इन्दिरा गाँधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र
संस्कृति मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

आदि दृश्य विभाग
द्वारा

षष्ठम् डॉ० वी० एस० वाकणकर स्मृति व्याख्यान
‘सेलीब्रेटिंग विष्णु श्रीधर वाकणकर’
(सोमवार, 4 अप्रैल, 2022 अपराह्न 03:00 बजे)

Chairperson



Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri
HoD, Dept. of Anthropology
Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh

Speaker



Prof. Ravi Korisetar
Adjunct Professor
National Institute of Advanced Studies
Formerly, ICHR Senior Academic Fellow, Dharwad

Moderator



Prof. B. L. Malla
HoD, Adi Drishya Department
IGNCA, New Delhi

Venue
Samvet Auditorium
IGNCA, Janpath Road, New Delhi

स्थान:
सम्वेत सभागार
इ० गा० रा० क० के०, जनपथ मार्ग, नई दिल्ली

Other Programmes:

- Inauguration of Exhibition on 'Bhimbetka: An Artist's Paradise' at Darshanam 1, IGNCA, Janpath Road, New Delhi on 4th April, 2022 at 04:30 pm
- Exclusive Screening of Documentary: *Dhartiputra Wakankar* after inaugural function of exhibition at Samvet Auditorium, IGNCA, Janpath Road, New Delhi
- Release of Publications

अन्य कार्यक्रम:

- 'श्रीमबेतका: विश्वकारों का स्वर्ग' प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन, स्थान: दर्शनम-1, इ० गा० रा० क० के०, जनपथ मार्ग, नई दिल्ली, दिनांक व समय: 4 अप्रैल, 2022 शाम 04:30 बजे।
- 'धर्तपुत्र वाकणकर' वृत्तचित्र एक्सक्लूसिव स्क्रीनिंग, प्रदर्शनी उद्घाटन कार्यक्रम के पश्चात्, स्थान: सम्वेत सभागार, इ० गा० रा० क० के०, जनपथ मार्ग, नई दिल्ली।
- पुस्तक विमोचन

Adi Drishya Department
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts
New Delhi

Dr. V. S. Wakankar was an eminent archaeologist, widely acknowledged and renowned for the discovery of Bhimbetka rock art site in 1957. Bhimbetka was inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2003. In 1975, Dr. Wakankar was awarded the *Padmashree*, one of India's highest civilian honours for his enormous contributions in the field of culture. The Adi Drishya Department of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) has initiated a memorial lecture series to commemorate Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar (4th May, 1919-3rd April, 1988). So far, the department has organised five Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar Memorial Lectures and present one is the sixth in this series.



Dr. V. S. Wakankar's sketch at Bhimbetka camp site by late Dr. Jagdish Gupta dated 24th December, 1974

The sixth Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar Memorial Lecture was organised on 4th April, 2022 at IGNCA, New Delhi. The lecture was delivered by an internationally renowned scholar Prof. Ravi Korisettar (Ret.), Dept. of History and Archaeology at Karnatak University, Dharwad, Karnataka and Adjunct Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangaluru.

On this occasion, Prof. B. L. Malla (Head, Adi Drishya Department, IGNCA, New Delhi) in his welcome address greeted everyone in person, the Chairperson Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri (Head, Dept. of Anthropology Rajiv Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh), the Speaker of the memorial lecture Prof. Ravi Korisettar and other distinguished guests, such as *Padmashree* Baba Yogendra ji (Founder member, Sanskar Bharati), Shri Vasudeo Kamath, Hon'ble Trustee, IGNCA and renowned painter, eminent archaeologist Dr. G. B. Deglurkar (Former Chancellor Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Deemed University, Pune), Shri K. N. Dikshit (General Secretary, Indian Archaeological



Welcome Speech by Prof. B. L. Malla

Society, New Delhi), Shri B. M. Pande (Former Director, Archaeological Survey of India) and Prof. V. H. Sonawane (The M S University of Baroda, Vadodara) and all the other participants. Further, he explained about the objective of the memorial lecture series and remembered the speakers of previous lectures also and gives a brief about their lectures.

Thereafter, Prof. Malla invited Prof. Korisettar for the lecture and Dr. Dileep Kumar Sant gave introduction of the speaker. Prof. Ravi Korisettar, in his lecture on “Celebrating Vishnu Shridhar Wākankar” has expressed his gratitude and described his first interaction with Dr. Wākankar at Deccan College, Pune in 1972. He remembered, during this period itself Dr. Wākankar was already celebrity for the discovery of Bhimbetka rock art site. In this lecture, he emphasis on the Indological research and contributions of Dr. Wākankar. He said, the Indological study of Dr. Wākankar was as much significant as to his rock art research. Dr. Wākankar’s main Indological research contain the discovery of nearly a hundred Chalcolithic cultural sites in Malwa region, identification of Varaha Mihira’s zero meridian passing Ujjain and Dongla village. He also studied numerous inscriptions in Prakrit, Pali, Sanskrit etc., and several hundreds of rock shelters with pictographs and petroglyphs in India. The rediscovery of the River *Saraswati* (*Saraswati* Abhiyan) and also participated in the excavations of Maheshwar and Navdatoli paved way for identifying the Kayatha and Malwa culture sites in the Chambal valley and beyond. In addition, Dr. Wākankar also excavated a number of archaeological sites ranging from Early History to the Medieval period in the Malwa region.

Prof. Sarit Kumar Chaudhuri, in his address congratulated Prof. Korisettar for the impressive lecture. He referred his close association with Bhimbetka rock art site and Dr. Wakankar, when he worked at IGRMS, Bhopal. He appreciated the role of IGNCA for creating awareness among the younger generations and sustaining the rock art studies in other parts of the country, especially in the



Prof. Ravi Korisettar, Speaker of the sixth Dr. V. S. Wakankar Memorial Lecture



Chairperson's address by Prof. Sarit K. Chaudhuri

Northeast region.

At the end of the event, Dr. Dileep Kumar Sant, proposed vote of thanks to all the participants for showing their keen interest in this lecture.



Vote of thanks by Dr. Dileep Kumar Sant

Releasing of Booklet of the sixth Memorial Lecture series titled ‘Celebrating Vishnu Shridhar Wākaṅkar’. It was released by *Padmashree* Baba Yogendra ji in the presence of Shri Vasudeo Kamath, Hon’ble Trustee IGNCA, Prof. Sachchidanand Joshi, Hon’ble Member Secretary IGNCA and Prof. B. L. Malla, Head Adi Drishya Department. On this occasion, other three books on rock art were also released.



Releasing of the Sixth Memorial Lecture Booklet

Other Programmes

Followed by the Memorial Lecture, a temporary exhibition on ‘**Bhimbetka: An Artist’s Paradise**’ was also inaugurated on this occasion. The exhibition was based on the reproductions made by the artists on the Bhimbetka site in a national workshop organised by the IGNCA in 2019 as a part of

centenary celebrations of Dr. V. S. Wakankar. It was displayed from 4th – 25th April, 2022 at the exhibition hall (Darshanam I), IGNCA, New Delhi.

On this occasion, a documentary on '**Dhartiputra Wakankar**', related to the life and contributions of *Padmashree* Dr. Vishnu Shridhar Wakankar was also released by *Padmashree* Baba Yogendra ji in the presence of Shri Vasudeo Kamath, Hon'ble Trustee IGNCA, Prof. Sachchidanand Joshi, Hon'ble Member Secretary IGNCA and Prof. B. L. Malla, Head Adi Drishya Department. Exclusive screening of the documentary was also organised along with this programme.



Sixth Dr. V. S. Wakankar Memorial Lecture by Prof. Korisettar
