

“Nandi of Bateshwar was waiting for me for 1200 years”: Padma Shri K.K. Muhammed

Sunita Vakil

New Delhi: Indra Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) to commemorate International Museum Day organised a special lecture on the topic “Temple Conservation: Challenges in Chambal- A Story of Fallen Temples and Human Engineering” which

Ranchi, IGNC Prof. Arun Bhardwaj, Professor and In-charge Academic Unit and Prof. Achal Pandya, HoD, Conservation Division, IGNC.

It would be noteworthy in this context that IGNC Archives also houses the 44 UNESCO posters, which are on display to create

state-of-the-art technologies for standardization, exchange and dissemination of data.

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shared anecdotes of his experiences and said how through the help of the dacoits he successfully assembled the temple back to its glory. He said that when he was renovating the temples there, there was no idol in one temple. They determined it to be a Shiva temple, according to some

UNESCO organizations and its objective to protect World Cultural and Natural Heritage. He further informed the audience that till date India has 32 inscriptions in UNESCO list out of the total inscriptions in the UNESCO list is 1157 from over 167 countries.

There is a specific criterion for selection of the World Culture and Natural Heritage of mankind by UNESCO. Prof. Sanjay Jha shared vital information regarding 44 UNESCO posters donated by the UNESCO, Delhi office in 1992. To celebrate the International Museum Day the IGNC Conservation lab had also organized a workshop on Conservation of Workshop Art to educate and raise awareness about the rich cultural properties of India. The workshop was a part of the Museum Expo hosted in Pragati Maidan by the Govt. of India. In the beginning of the event Dr. Achal Pandya, HoD, Conservation Division, IGNC, honored Padma K.K. with a brief description of the works of Muhammad. The special lecture concluded with an address by Prof. Arun Kumar Bhardwaj, during which he praised the works of K. K. Mohammad and compared him to Loknayak Jai Prakash Narayan.



was delivered by Padma K.K. Muhammed former Regional Director of Archaeological Survey of India. The day was also marked by the inauguration of an exhibition of ‘UNESCO POSTERS’ (WORLD HERITAGE SITES): “HERITAGE ACROSS THE WORLD”; to celebrate the completion of 50 years of UNESCO and India hosting the G20 summit for the year 2023. The other guests present on the occasion were Prof. Sanjay Jha, Archivist and former Regional Director,

public awareness and recognition of the protected sites in the G20 countries and special invited countries together with other nations across the globe. The posters represent the cultural, natural and mixed ‘World Heritage’ Sites in different parts of the world. IGNC has also been identified by UNESCO as the nodal agency for the development of regional databases for South and South East Asian countries on art, cultural heritage and lifestyles through the application of

Bateshwar temple. Bateshwar Hindu temples are a group of nearly 200 sandstone Hindu temples in Madhya Pradesh. He also informed the audience that many dacoits joined the reconstruction of temples. He further expressed how challenging and fraught with danger it was to undertake this work in the dacoit-infested Chambal region. He went on and said he was able to convince the dacoits about the importance of these temples, which are around 1,250 years old. He also

classical features. But there was a problem, there is a Shiva temple, so where is its Nandi. Then he looked around the temple and saw a small Nandi. K.K. Muhammad said, “I saw a cute little Nandi and I felt as if they had been waiting for me for 1,200 years.” He concluded by saying that Bhagirath work is a milestone in the reconstruction of the temples of Bateshwar.

Prof. Sanjay Jha during his welcome address welcomed the esteemed guests and talked about

Andy Bourke

the Smiths' charming man

dies aged 59

Raamlaxman some c

Composer Raamlaxman, who died at the age of 78, following a cardiac arrest at Nagpur on Saturday, tuned some of the biggest hits in Hindi film



Special lectures and poster exhibition mark International Museum Day celebration by IGNC A

By IBNS 📅 May 20, 2023..



New Delhi/IBNS: Finding the 1,200 year old ‘cute little Nandi’ – the bull which is invariably seen in all Shiva temples across India – was like a fulfilment of his quest, said Padma Shri KK Muhammed, former regional Director of Archaeological Survey of India.

He and his team were excavating the ruins of the 1,250 years old Hindu temples of Bateshwar in Madhya Pradesh when they chanced upon a temple which they identified as a Shiva Temple.

Their belief was vindicated when he came across the statue of the bull.

“I saw a cute little Nandi and I felt as if they had been waiting for me for 1,200 years,” he said.

Delivering an illustrated special lecture titled “Temple Conservation: Challenges in Chambal- A Story of Fallen Temples and Human Engineering” at the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) to commemorate International Museum Day, KK Muhammed was talking about how difficult an archaeologist’s can be in light of his work at excavating the ruins of Bateshwar group of temples in Morena, near Gwalior.

Convincing the dreaded dacoits (bandits) of the Chambal valley of the importance of the temples, he even went to rope in some of them to help with his work, he said. Of the 200 temples, 80 have been restored by the ASI, according to media reports.

IGNCA also unveiled an exhibition titled ‘Heritage Across the World’, which consisted of posters from UNESCO to celebrate the completion of 50 years of UNESCO, and India hosting the G20 summit for the year 2023.

Prof. Sanjay Jha, archivist and former Regional Director, Ranchi, Prof. Arun Bhardwaj, in-charge of Academic Unit, IGNC, and Prof. Achal Pandya, head of the department, Conservation Division, IGNC, were also present.

In his welcome address Prof. Sanjay Jha talked about UNESCO’s objectives to protect world cultural and natural heritage as well as about the 444 posters donated by the UNESCO Delhi office in 1992.

To celebrate the International Museum Day, the IGNC Conservation lab had also organized a workshop on Conservation of Workshop Art to educate and raise awareness about the rich cultural properties of India.

The workshop was a part of the Museum Expo hosted in Pragati Maidan by the Union government.

According to a release by the organization, IGNC has also been identified by UNESCO as the nodal agency for the development of regional databases for South and South East Asian countries on art, cultural heritage and lifestyles through the application of state-of-the-art technologies for standardization, exchange and dissemination of data.

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By India Education Diary ... On May 19, 2023

New Delhi: Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) to commemorate International Museum Day organised a special lecture on the topic "Temple Conservation: Challenges in Chambal- A Story of Fallen Temples and Human Engineering" which was delivered by Padma Shri K.K. Muhammed former Regional Director of Archaeological Survey of India . The day was also marked by the inauguration of an exhibition of 'UNESCO POSTERS' (WORLD HERITAGE SITES): "HERITAGE ACROSS THE WORLD"; to celebrate the completion of 50 years of UNESCO and India hosting the G20 summit for the year 2023. The other guests present on the occasion were Prof. Sanjay Jha, Archivist and former Regional Director, Ranchi, IGNC Prof. Arun Bhardwaj, Professor and In-charge Academic Unit and Prof. Achal Pandya, HoD, Conservation Division, IGNC.

It would be noteworthy in this context that IGNC Archives also houses the 44 UNESCO posters, which are on display to create public awareness and recognition of the protected sites in the G20 countries and special invited countries together with other nations across the globe. The posters represent the cultural, natural and mixed 'World Heritage' Sites in different parts of the world. IGNC has also been identified by UNESCO as the nodal agency for the development of regional databases for South and South East Asian countries on art, cultural heritage and lifestyles through the application of state-of-the-art technologies for standardization, exchange and dissemination of data.

Shri K.K. Mohhamad commenced his lecture and shed light on the architectural aspects of a temple and presented astounding pictures of the disassembled ruins of Bateshwar temple. Bateshwar Hindu temples are a group of nearly 200 sandstone Hindu temples in Madhya Pradesh. He also informed the audience that many dacoits joined the reconstruction of temples. He further expressed how challenging and fraught with danger it was to undertake this work in the dacoit-infested Chambal region. He went on and said he was able to convince the dacoits about the importance of these temples, which are around 1,250 years old. He also shared anecdotes of his experiences and said how through the help of the dacoits he successfully assembled the temple back to its glory. He said that when he was renovating the temples there, there was no idol in one temple. They determined it to be a Shiva temple, according to some classical features. But there was a problem, there is a Shiva temple, so where is its Nandi. Then he looked around the temple and saw a small Nandi. K.K. Muhammad said, "I saw a cute little Nandi and I felt as if they had been waiting for me for 1,200 years." He concluded by saying that Bhagirath work is a milestone in the reconstruction of the temples of Bateshwar.

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