



CALL FOR PAPERS

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts Archives and Conservation Division

&

Save Our Country Foundation, Chennai

Organises

28-29
NOVEMBER
2024

A

Two days National Seminar

“Exploring the Essence: Nandi in Indian Mythology and History”



Venue

Samvet Auditorium

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts,
Janpath, near Western Court,
New Delhi-110001.

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

IGNCA is an autonomous trust set up by Govt. of India under the Ministry of Culture. It is a premier resource centre engaged in research, documentation, publication, and dissemination of knowledge of arts. It is visualised as a centre, encompassing the study and experience of all the arts; classical and folk, written and oral, ancient and modern. The uniqueness of the IGNCA's approach to the art lies in the fact that it does not segregate the folk and classical, the oral and aural, the written and the spoken, and the old and the modern. The work of Centre is carried through five divisions (*Kala Nidhi, Kalakosa, Janapada Sampada, Kaladarsana* and *Sutradhra*) and Sub-units (*Nari Prakalp Samvad, Bharat Vidya Prayojana, Cultural Informatics Lab, Adi Drishya* Unit, Conservation Laboratory, and Media Centre) and nine Regional Centres.

The Cultural Archives is one of the unique archives in South Asia where one can find paintings, photographs, sculptures, puppets, textiles and documents in a single Archives belonging to the art historians, art collectors and photographers like, Dr Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy, Dr Kapila Vatsyayan, Dr Mulk Raj Anand, Prof. Mohan Khokar, Shambhu Nath Mitra, Henri Cartier Bresson, Raja Deen Dayal, Shambhu Saha and Sunil Janah, etc. Apart from the major work of documentation, archives also impart training to interns on various aspects of documentation and cataloguing.

The Conservation Division specialises in the areas of preventive conservation, training, conservation of books, manuscripts, paintings, artefacts and antiquities (metal, wooden object, stone objects, and ethnographic objects, etc.). Conservation Division has provided the service of re-organisation of Museums and Archives mainly under the jurisdiction of State and Central government. In some cases, collections housed in private museums were also re-organised by the division.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

The Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi is organising a two days National Seminar titled, “**Exploring the Essence: Nandi in Indian Mythology and History**” focusing on the profound significance of Nandi; the divine bull, in Indian cultural and historical contexts on 28-29 November, 2024.

The primary goal of this Seminar shall be to shed light on the multifaceted aspects of Nandi's historical existence, relevance, and also worship in Indian culture. By delving into the mythological narratives, historical references, and contemporary practices, we shall aim to provide a comprehensive understanding of Nandi's significance in Hindu traditions and historical existence.

Nandi is a recurring motif in Hindu art and architecture, prominently seen in temple complexes dedicated to Lord Shiva. Often, massive statues of Nandi guard the entrances of Shiva temples, symbolising his role as the guardian and protector. These sculptures beautifully capture the strength, grace, and spiritual significance of Nandi, considered being an integral part of Hindu culture and holds immense importance in the hearts of millions of devotees.

Exploring the iconography of Nandi adds another layer of understanding to his role and significance in Indian mythology and worship practices. It deepens our appreciation for the profound symbolism embedded in Hindu religious art and provides insight into the devotion and reverence associated with Nandi.

OBJECTIVE

The primary goal of this Seminar is to shed light on the multifaceted aspects of Nandi's historical existence, relevance, and also worship in Indian culture. By delving into the mythological narratives, historical references, and contemporary practices, we shall aim to provide a comprehensive understanding of Nandi's significance in Hindu traditions and historical existence.

SEMINAR THEME

- 1. Mythological Origins**
 - a. Legends and stories on Nandi in Hindu mythology.
 - b. Nandi in Puranas.
- 2. Symbolism and Attributes**
 - a. Nandi as vahana
 - b. Symbolism of Nandi
 - c. Different attributes and its meaning
- 3. Temples and Sacred Sites**
 - a. Temples of Nandi
 - b. Nandi in temple and temple complexes
- 4. Rituals and Worship**
 - a. Nandi in day-to-day rituals
 - b. Festivals associated with Nandi
 - c. Nandi worship and its meaning
- 5. Cultural and Historical Impact**
 - a. Historical significance of Nandi in Indian Art-history
 - b. Architecture and sculpture.
- 6. Iconography**
 - a. Symbolism of Nandi as Icon
 - b. Meaning and Philosophy of Nandi murti
 - c. Different iconographical forms
- 7. Folklore and Tribal Stories**
 - a. Folklore on Nandi from different regions
 - b. Tribal and ethnic practices associated with Nandi
 - c. Regional religio-cultural significance on Nandi.
- 8. Nandi**
 - a. Symbol of power and justice.
 - b. Nandi with its unyielding gaze as the power of 'Nyaya'

KEY INFORMATION

- **Conference Dates:** Thursday, 28th November, 2024 to Friday, 29th November, 2024.
- **Early Bird Abstract Submission Deadline:** October 15, 2024.
- **Final Abstract Submission Deadline:** October 30, 2024.
- **Results of abstract review returned to authors:** Generally within two weeks
- **Full conference registration fees due for all presenters:** October 30, 2024.
- **Full conference paper submission (after the event):** January, 2025.

PAYMENT DETAILS

₹ 1000/- will be charged per participant. The fee includes the cost of the seminar kit, lunch and refreshment during the Seminar.

REGISTRATION

Application for participation in the seminar should be submitted via Google forms link below and the registration fee should be submitted to the workshop coordinator by October 30, 2024. The fee should be remitted by a crossed demand draft drawn in favour of 'Indira Gandhi National centre for the Arts' payable at New Delhi or registration fee can be paid on-site by paying Rs. ₹ 1000/- in cash. Registration is on first come, first serve basis.
Google Link: <https://forms.gle/jCFX6hbf2bCEPZR39>

TRAVEL, BOARDING & LODGING ARRANGEMENTS

Travel, boarding and lodging expenses of the participants have to be borne by participants or their sponsoring organisations or on their own.

SEMINAR CO-ORDINATORS

Prof. Achal Pandya

Professor and Head, Archives & Conservation Division
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA),
New Delhi.

Dr Kumar Sanjay Jha

Regional Director, Ranchi
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA),
Ranchi.

Ms. Padhmapriya. S

Trustee
Save Our Country Foundation, Chennai.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS, CONTACT

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DIRECTIONS TO REACH IGNCA

By Metro, from Indira Gandhi International Airport/New Delhi Railway Station/Nizamuddin Railway Station.

Nearest Metro Stations are Janpath Metro Station (Violet line), Patel Chowk Metro Station (Yellow line).

From Patel Chowk Metro Station take an auto up to Janpath Road, IGNCA Gate No-3 or by walk from Janpath metro station towards Western Court, Janpath, IGNCA Gate No-1 and 3 respectively.