

INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE **II** **Diary**

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Outstanding Women of Delhi

FESTIVAL : *Dilli Ki Mahilayan: Words in the Garden—A Celebration of Literature, Arts and Ideas*

Curated by Ashok Vajpeyi

COLLABORATION : *Sanatan Sangeet Sanskriti*

2 to 4 March 2023

The three-day annual festival celebrating the outstanding women of Delhi was inaugurated with a photographic exhibition by Shobha Jolly, followed by a vibrant discussion. The panel led by Ashok Vajpeyi initiated an animated dialogue about the artistic spirit of the women of Delhi who have soared to new heights in their specific art forms: Pavan K. Varma, Santana Bhattacharya and Ameeta Wattal were appreciative, speculative and encouraging about the sustained creativity of the talent among women in Delhi. The future seemed promising with the flow of ideas and expertise with innovation.

The *bahuvridh* character of the metropolis also emerged from the many 'word weaver' artistes who put together narrations of diverse pieces of languages and philosophies. The art forms recognised the multiplicity that is Delhi's dominant character. The performances by Arushi and Sawani Mudgal were mesmerising. The seamless connections between *nritta*, *natya* and *bhava* that Arushi crafted together made her

performance a true delight. Sawani took the musical notes in her melodious stringing to a delightful aural experience. Ankita Kumar's playful rendition on the piano is always a joy.

The festival also created webs of words and ideas, bringing in a wide sweep of writers from the realm of the imagined to the experiences of journalists who acquaint people of the realities in the physical social world. The session by Aneesha Bedi, Jyoti Yadav, Soniya Agarwal, Manisha Mondal and Fatima Khan, as well as women from the corporate sector, projected the triumphs of the spaces in 'Entrepreneurship and Innovation for a Bright Future'. Kudos to Supriya Paul, Founder and CEO, Josh Talks; Shivani Poddar and Tanvi Malik, Founders of FabAlley; Upasana Taku, Co-Founder, Moikwik; Ntione Saluja, Founder of Chayos; and Annu Grover, Founder Nurturing Green. The coming together of talent from the arts to business to writers to food and mental health experts brought the strong sense that no field has been left untouched by women.

■ ASHA SINGH



India's Maritime History

**EXHIBITION : Shared Cultural Heritage
Across the Indian Ocean**

*Exhibition and Workshop organised in
collaboration with Archaeological Survey of
India*

7 to 25 February 2023

The three-day programme included panel discussions, webinars and workshop presentations on a theme that has been under-researched, especially as it relates to India's maritime history. How has this blind spot in the understanding of the country's past impacted post-Independence foreign policy? A panel discussion chaired by Amb. Shyam Saran focused on the 'Indianization' debate as Himanshu Prabha Ray, Madhavan Palat and T.C.A. Raghavan provided insights from three different perspectives. The term 'Indianization' was coined by French Indologist Sylvain Levi (1863–1935) and popularised by Jean Przyluski (1885–1944) and George Coedès (1886–1969), the author of *The Indianized*

States of Southeast Asia, 1948. Since the 1950s, the term has gained notoriety and has been discarded. Nevertheless, the research done by Indian scholars later labelled as 'Nationalists' has relevance in the present and needs to be acknowledged.

The workshop papers presented by scholars from India, Indonesia, Vietnam, UK and USA addressed current debates around maritime cultural heritage. Themes such as the Hindu temple and Tantric Buddhist images have often been used to argue for distinctive Southeast Asian religious practices, often disregarding the circularity inherent in the spread of ideas and knowledge systems across the Indian Ocean.

The webinar by Ingo Strauch drew attention to the Hoq cave at Socotra and its wealth of inscriptions dating from the 2nd to the 5th century CE, written by seafarers from the Indian subcontinent. The theme of maritime traditions in the western Indian Ocean continued in a panel from the Archaeological Survey of India that presented the results of the excavations at Vadnagar in Gujarat and the temples of Sikotar Mata (the saviour of sailors) found in the coastal areas of western India.

■ HIMANSHU PRABHA RAY

Tirukkural's Many Shades of Love

**IIC DIAMOND JUBILEE—CULTURE &
CREATIVITY: LEGACY AND CHANGE**

A Year of Poetry at IIC

Conceptualised by Gitanjali Surendran

**LAUNCH AND DISCUSSION : The Book of
Desire: Love Poems from the Kural by Meena
Kandasamy**

CHAIR : Shri Shyam Saran

14 February 2023

Tamil feminist-poet Meena Kandasamy held the audience spellbound through the evening with her lucid introduction to *Tirukkural* and the tradition of ancient Tamil literature known as the Sangam age. Then she read her translation of the third part—*Kamattu-p-pal*—of the ancient Tamil text of couplets, along with the Tamil couplet from the original text. The audience had many young people, especially girls, who had questions about the book and the Tamil text that Kandasamy translated with the title *The Book of Desire*. Kandasamy explained that *Tirukkural* has been extensively cited as a text of homilies, with an emphasis on morality and wisdom. And the section on love was placed at the end of the Kural text.



Kandasamy also showed that the keepers of tradition and culture did not want the people to know the celebratory aspect of the book. She also said that the part of desire and love she has translated can be 'weaponised' to challenge the Establishment about women's emotions and the freedom to express them as reflected in the ancient book. Though she understands the value of the book to challenge the traditionalists, she feels the beauty of the text, especially the part dealing with love and desire, is something to be enjoyed for its own sake, for its poetic felicity as well as for its celebration of a woman's voice and desire. It turned out to be an evening of celebrating a text of Tamil high culture with passion and joy.

■ PARSA VENKATESHWAR RAO JR.

Ties between Nations

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE : *Connected Histories, Shared Present—Cross-Cultural Experiences between Latin America, the Caribbean and India*

20 to 22 February 2023



This conference established connections and initiated a South-to-South dialogue through literature, poetry, art, performing arts and cinema to strengthen the cultural and intellectual ties between nations. Eminent scholars shared and exchanged their thoughts and ideas and threw light on future endeavours. It started with memories and connections through an exhibition of photography, paintings, handicraft, etc., followed by a keynote lecture by Jorge Volpi. He reflected on how Latin America transformed from Spanish colonialism to dictatorship, US imperialism and to Latin America's boom, till today's global reality.

Alejandro José traced Maya cultural heritage through ancient Maya script and history in Peru. Kumar Mahabir presented his anthropological research on the influence of Caribbean Chutney singer Sundar Popo on India's music and cinema, flavoured with nostalgia between the nations. G.N. Devy reflected on *Sunya*, the idea of nothingness or absence in Greece, Egypt, Mesopotamia, South America, Africa and India. Tota C. Mongar turned historical pages on the exodus of Indian labour in Guyana and their subsequent parish and how the exchanges at the educational and cultural level strengthened post-

independence ties. Shalima Mohammad threw light on the religious identity of the Indo-Jamaicans in the 21st century. José Marmol reflected on Magical Realism as a reality to understand Latin America. Alex Paucides reflected on the concept of poetry as a bridge and a pathway, and as a resistant tool for slaves and labour in Latin America in general and in Cuba in particular. Wendy J. Philips Rodríguez's parallel vision of Rulfo and Gandhi on their social ideologies left a mark on the audience. Minni Sawhney reflected on Octavio Paz's engagement

with India. Abhay Kumar outlined India and Brazil's literary bridges through Cecelia Meireles's charm for India and his own engagement with the connection. Patricia Romano performed Indian classical dance and reflected on the importance of the guru-shishya system prevalent in India. Fernando Valdiviezo emphasised art as a way to self-realisation. Indranil Chakravarty reflected on the cinematic transformations of Latin American cinema from Hollywood's negative images to boom till date. Gustavo Canzobre reflected on the Argentine women's contribution to the knowledge of India. Óscar Pujol's engagement with the Bhagvatgita and its impact on Francisco Madero and the Mexican Revolution showed us how our own culture can be an inspiration to the world.

Scholars talked about India's presence in Panamanian and Costa Rican literatures. The Conference was chaired by eminent scholars, diplomats and ambassadors. In his Valedictory Session, the Minister for External Affairs, Dr. S. Jaishankar reflected on strengthening future ties at all possible levels between our countries. The conference ended with the screening of films from Latin American and Caribbean countries.

■ ANITA SAINI

Himalayan View

TALK : Himalaya : An Exploration of the Roof of the World

SPEAKER : John Keay

CHAIR : Siddiq Wahid

COLLABORATION : Shiv Nadar University

6 February 2023

An evening with John Keay holding forth on his vast knowledge of the Himalaya, first dwelt on the very pronunciation of the Sanskrit word Himalaya. He introduced this in his latest book *Himalaya—Exploring the Roof of the World*. He harked back to Sir Geoffery Corbett who had actually written so in 1929 in the *Himalayan Journal*, and was derisive of the Anglicisation which seemed to have stuck for almost a century!

A true explorer in not just the physical sense, he was able to give insights into this amazing and elegant geographical uprising which has been the grounds for many cultures laying claim from the Mongols and Manchus in the north, Buddhist India from the south, Islam from its western approaches, and of course, China from the east and what was done in Tibet. He talked of the cultures clashing and

empires expanding through their emissaries and various expeditions, some diplomatic and some armed.

Leading him to delve deeper was his host Siddiq Wahid, who hails from Ladakh and is a traveller, academic and author himself. Generally in activist mode, he let Keay unfold the nuggets of his latest book, who in turn held a packed room of enthusiastic listeners to his take on the tumultuous history and geography and the politics and development, all of which have not been very kind to the Himalaya as he put it.

Keay brought with him an experience of many decades in the Himalayan regions since the 1960s when he was a foreign correspondent in Kashmir and was to later make and present a seven-part BBC series in the 1980s on the Himalayan kingdoms. Amongst his wide repertoire of books he has penned from his Scottish highlands are the classics *When Men and Mountains Meet*; *The Gilgit Game*; *Eccentric Travellers*; and *Explorers Extraordinary*, to name a few. His magnum opus was the *History of World Exploration* for the Royal Geographical Society.

This book is well worth a read, an engrossing look at and understanding of the fragility of the great Wilderness of the Himalaya which we have been gifted. It is for all humanity to try and protect and develop in a sustainable way.

■ MANDIP SINGH SOIN

Innovation for National Wealth

IIC DIAMOND JUBILEE: SCIENCE LECTURE: Why Should we Support Science and Innovation?

SPEAKER : V. Ramakrishnan

CHAIR : Shri K. N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC

4 February 2023

This crucial question was at the core of the talk by V. Ramakrishnan who has done ground-breaking work, including his tenure as the first Indian President of the Royal Society and his 2010 Nobel Prize co-recipient status. His efforts in understanding mRNA interaction in protein formation is renowned.

Ramakrishnan emphasised the importance of knowledge and innovation for national wealth. He argued that knowledge surpasses natural resources in value, citing African countries with abundant resources but limited investment in knowledge. He stressed basic science's

role in providing societal benefits, such as doubling life expectancy within the last century.

He provided examples of how basic science could lead to technological use decades or even centuries later, such as Newton's laws taking 300 years to be applied to satellite technology. He underscored the vital role of research in fundamental sciences in developing life-improving technologies, including GPS technology based on Einstein's theories of relativity.

Ramakrishnan highlighted the connection between economic growth and scientific advancement, emphasising the importance of a nation's ability to recognise and utilise research through the first-mover effect, creating a growth path from basic science to applied science to technology.

In the latter part of his talk, he focused on the pandemic response, crediting the development of vaccines in just 11 months to decades of basic sciences research, particularly knowledge of cell structure. In conclusion, Ramakrishnan urged a sustained commitment to science and technology to address the 21st century's challenges and maintain global competitiveness. He stated that future prosperity depends on innovation, and relying on cheap labour for growth is unsustainable.

■ VIKRAM DATTA

Voice of Asia

TALK : *Building the Next Stage of India–Japan Relations*

SPEAKER : *James Kondo, Chairman, International House of Japan, Tokyo*

CHAIR : *Shri K.N. Shrivastava, Director, IIC*
9 March 2023

First, the bad news. For all the Marutis on our roads, Japanese cumulative investment in India is a meagre US\$30 billion, a fifth of what China has got and off-the-charts compared with the colossal US\$275 billion in the 10 ASEAN countries. Now, the good news. In 2022, for the first time, said James Kondo, India became the most favoured location for Japanese businesses. Today, 73 per cent of Japanese businesses want to invest in India, with Bangladesh and Vietnam lagging behind, and China, understandably enough, an also-ran. With Sino–American ties deteriorating and the ASEAN countries ‘looking for ways to navigate through difficult times’, it is time Indian and Japanese business leaders ‘broadened their relationship’, said Kondo.

And there’s no better time to move to India, Kondo added,

keeping in mind the market—mammoth and still growing—technological prowess and the labour force—both skilled and youthful— just as Japan’s population isn’t just aging, but ‘disappearing’. He spoke of investments not just in the automobile industry, but also pharmaceuticals, garments, home appliances and furniture.

What cannot be overlooked is the strategic impetus: a restive, well-armed Beijing threatening Taiwan and other neighbours, and India and Japan joining hands with the US and Australia to safeguard the Indo–Pacific. ‘India’s environment has ripened. Many business leaders need to come here’, stressed Kondo, to benefit from Indo–Japan ties, the ‘most strategically significant relationship the world has now, the international situation making it so’.

Once dazzled by business opportunities in China, Japan aims to deter the dragon by doubling defence spending, mostly in the maritime sector, said Kondo. The increase should not cause alarm, he said, probably realising that Japan’s neighbours remember the tensions of the 1930s and 1940s. Meanwhile, as the G-7 chair (and the only Asian country there) Japan will speak for the global South, and India, as the G-20 president, said Kondo, could provide leadership as Russia and China are part of the grouping. Together, Japan and India, ‘in this time of division’, will be ‘the voice of Asia’.

■ SRINJOY CHOWDHURY

Connected Histories

LECTURE : *Understanding Ancient Indian Ocean Trade through Buddhist Iconography*

SPEAKER : *Osmund Bopearachchi*

CHAIR : *Shri Shyam Saran, President, IIC*

INTRODUCTION : *Upinder Singh*

COLLABORATION : *Ashoka University, Sonipat*

28 February 2023

We tend to study the history of ancient ‘India’ as though our country has always existed with its current boundaries, separated from other countries with their boundaries. In fact, the link between the geographical space of India today and the locus of our history should be re-examined. In addition, we need to acknowledge that goods, people, ideas and artistic traditions travelled long distances, across national borders, in the ancient world. A new series of lectures, ‘South Asia beyond Borders’, organised by the IIC in collaboration with Ashoka University, aims to highlight shared elements that connect South Asian countries, and foreground new discoveries and fresh research in the history and archaeology of South Asia.

In the first lecture of the series, Professor Osmund Bopearachchi’s audience travelled with him from the Mediterranean to South East Asia. Drawing on an enormous range of evidence from the shipwreck at Godavaya, amphorae from the Mediterranean world at Pattanam and Arikamedu, the image of a man dressed in Persian garb in Cave No. 1 at Ajanta to depictions of the Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara as the protector of traders at sites as far apart as Aurangabad and Dunhuang, Bopearachchi demonstrated that the subcontinent has always been part of a web of interactions that extended beyond the national boundaries of our time. Seafaring traders and caravan merchants, whose wealth was based on flourishing inland and international trade centres located at ports along the coast and navigable rivers, were important patrons of Buddhist establishments in South and South East Asia. The spread of Buddhism and Buddhist iconographies in South and South East Asia is closely linked with the growth of maritime networks that facilitated the movement of Buddhist merchants as well as monks and teachers. Thus, Buddhist iconographies developed in a connected world, incorporating the sentiments and aesthetic of the traditions in which they emerged, but also stimulating the creation of new forms of art. These traces of continuity and change help us understand the development of maritime networks.

■ NAINA DAYAL

National Science Day

IIC DIAMOND JUBILEE : SCIENCE FILMS by
Nandan Kudhyadi

28 February 2023

National Science Day, commemorating the discovery of the Raman Effect, is celebrated on 28 February. To mark the occasion, IIC screened two films on two renowned Indian scientists: Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (better known as C.V. Raman) and Prafulla Chandra Ray.

Where Raman's discovery, leading to the Nobel Prize in 1930, was in the field of physics, P.C. Ray's domain was inorganic chemistry. That was not the only difference between the two scientists. The character sketch of the physicist, as brought out by the film *C.V. Raman: The Scientist and His Legacy*, and that of Ray as shown in *Revolutionary in the Garb of a Scientist*, bring out not just the achievements of the two, but also the differences. Raman, an arrogant scientist with an attitudinal problem, was totally focused on his research on acoustics and on

the reflection of light. Ray, on the other hand, knew how to swallow a bitter pill and even after being insulted by the British, took up their offer of a job at a measly salary since he wanted Indian chemistry to progress. Even though he was an avid scientist (he founded Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals, India's first pharmaceutical company), he was also an ardent nationalist and encouraged his students to fight for freedom.

Raman never wanted to go overseas for his research. Educated indigenously, first in Andhra Pradesh, then in Madras Presidency, he however found it necessary to have foreign collaboration in India. It was at his invitation that the German scientist Max Born came to India to work with him at the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. Ray, on the other hand, studied chemistry at the Bachelor's and doctoral level at the University of Edinburgh, which helped him in his discoveries and findings later in India.

■ **SWATI DASGUPTA**

The Geoglyphs of Nazca

TALK : *Mysteries of the Geoglyphs of Nazca*

ILLUSTRATED LECTURE : *Ana Maria Cogorno*

COLLABORATION : *Embassy of Peru*

CHAIR : *Fabio Subio Diaz*

3 March 2023

Ana Maria Cogorno is a renowned Peruvian Archaeologist and conservationist. She has been mentored by the legendary Maria Reiche (1903–1998), a German–Peruvian mathematician and archaeologist who dedicated her life to unearthing the mysterious Nazca Lines, a group of geoglyphs in the soil of the Nazca desert in southern Peru. Now recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Lines are believed to date back 2,000 years.

For visitors to Peru, the Nazca Lines are an attraction second only to Machu Picchu, a 15th century Inca citadel. The lecture by Cogorno was truly a revelation for the lay person. She gave the history of the Lines that are believed to survive because of the scant rain, wind and erosion in the desert. Her theory is that they have been preserved

because they are covered with stones, and the strong winds provide a continuous cushion of air. Their ancient creators, pointed out Cogorno through her illustrations, formed lines to resemble figures like a humming bird, monkey, spider and an 'owl man'. Reiche's postulation, says Cogorno, was that some lines were made to correspond to an astronomical calendar.

The Lines are clearly visible today from a plane. 'They are an incredible sight but I fly over them in a helicopter,' said Cogorno. She now carries on Maria Reiche's legacy. As director of the Maria Reiche Association, she has made it her mission to create awareness in Peru and across the world about the importance of preserving the Nazca Lines. In her words, 'I educate the public, particularly children and youth, by giving them data and education about the Nazca Lines because they are the inheritor of the Lines.' This programme was part of the celebrations commemorating the 60th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Peru.

■ **KAVITA CHARANJI**

India-Japan Relations

TALK : *Japan in the Post-Abe Era : The Challenges of Consensus Building in a Shifting Geopolitical Landscape*

SPEAKER : Pema Gyalpo

CHAIR : Shri Shyam Saran

2 March 2023

In the 1960s, Japan maintained a low profile; post the 1970 Expo, reaching economic parity with the West, Japan extended aid to neighbouring countries. A far cry from 1945, when Japan was reduced almost to ashes, but concentrated on rebuilding its economy.

As Prime Minister, Abe vowed to rid Japan of post-war policies and build relations with Asia, following his grandfather's goals. After 2000, with public support, he achieved revising the Constitution and increasing the defense budget. Contrary to the earlier adage 'when the US coughs Japan catches a cold', Abe gutsily asserted being equal with the US, which the US also acknowledged. Gyalpo emphasised that after the unfortunate assassination of Abe, PM Kishida is diligently carrying on his legacy—materialising Indo-Pacific strategies and changing defense laws from 'attack only when attacked' to 'attack before attacked' due to the compulsions of the

'threat of China and North Korea'.

Regarding India and Japan's relationship, Gyalpo's talk was laced with positivity. Abe's grandfather visited India in 1957, and India welcomed the Japanese royal family. The Japanese know of Lord Buddha, Bodhisena and Bose from schoolbooks, from Daruma (Bodhidharma) idols, and Japanese gods derived from Hinduism, Buddhism and Tantra. PM Abe and Indian PM Modi through personal chemistry, mutual respect and similar views on international and regional matters, revived historical connections in Kyoto, building a strong foundation. Abe regarded India a partner in sharing global responsibilities towards world freedom, human rights and democracy.

The Japanese acknowledge India as a reliable partner, most important for Japan's security. India is number five in GDP, overtaking the UK. Yet, as Shri Shyam Saran questioned, Japanese businesses are not shifting from China to India. Gyalpo responded that China is stymying efforts. However, Japan has pledged to invest 5 trillion yen in India. Besides, to revive its economy, Japan hopes India will buy weapons from it, rather than Russia. The speaker concluded that now is the best time to strengthen India-Japan relations, and opined that whoever would be the next prime minister of Japan, he too would follow Abe's policies.

■ ANU JINDAL

Synthesis of Indigeneity

DISCUSSION : *What is Tibetan About 'Little' or 'Greater' Tibet : Uncovering the Complexity of Nomenclatures in the Himalayas*

SPEAKER : Robert Linrothe

11 March 2023

Why is Ladakh described as 'Little' or 'Greater' Tibet by outsiders? Robert Linrothe, Associate Professor Emeritus of Art History and former Chair, Department of Art History, Northwestern University, Illinois, USA, explained the confusion and the complexities of nomenclatures used to describe the area. He asserted that Ladakhis have a distinct identity from Tibetans and, in fact, all of the western Himalayas too.

'Today, we have inherited a long history of misrepresentation by outsiders who confused shared cultural traits with identity. The pre-modern history of the western Himalaya region, is by no means "Tibetan" in any exclusive or meaningful sense,' according to Linrothe.

Based on new archaeological discoveries, the lecture reviewed the history of these regions between the 8th and 17th centuries. It highlighted the early indigenous and pre- and non-Tibetan contributions to the region, as well as its history of both conflict and interchange with Central and West Tibet.

The lecture was based on an introductory chapter of his forthcoming book, *Early Matters: Essays on the History of Buddhist Art in Zangskar, Western Himalaya*. He argued against the popular association of the western Himalaya

(especially Ladakh, Zangskar, Spiti and Lahaul) as 'Little Tibet' or 'Western Tibet.'

It is easier to homogenise people without understanding their geographies, culture or histories. In the process, their culture gets submerged. To understand the northern Himalayas, there is need for a new nomenclature. We need a new epistemology, he suggested.

Exoticism of Tibet is used for marketing and commercial purposes as one walks through the streets of Leh and

reads the signs on stores, eateries, or even art galleries, he said on a lighter note.

Military history suggests endemic conflicts. The region has a long history of invasions and wars since the 8th century. The occupation of Ladakh, Zangskar, Spiti and Baltistan by Central Tibet, followed by the destruction of polities by western Tibet, later recaptured by independent Ladakhi kings, implies a synthesis of indigeneity

■ VICHITRA SHARMA

The Life and Career of Azad

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP : *Maulana Azad: A Life*

By S. Irfan Habib (Aleph Book Company: 2023)

CHIEF GUEST : *Romila Thapar*

DISCUSSANTS : *Neera Chandhoke; M. Sayeed Alam; and S. Irfan Habib*

CHAIR : *Shri N.N. Vohra, Life Trustee, IIC*

18 February 2023

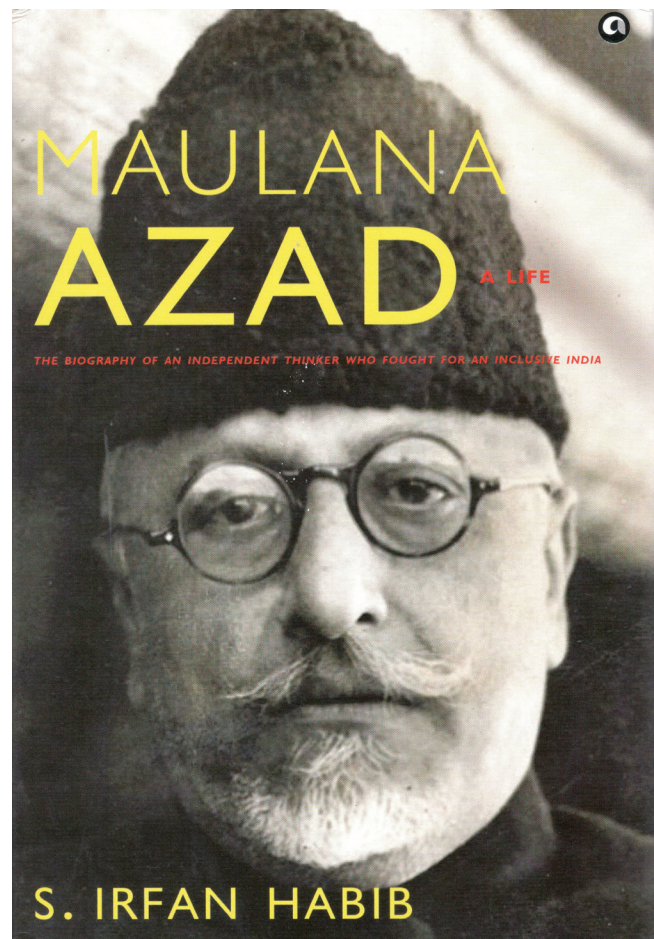
Noted historian S. Irfan Habib's book, *Maulana Azad: A Life*, was discussed along with screened clips from the play on Azad. The work focuses on the life and career of Azad: his scholarship, his writings, his revolt at a fairly young age against religious orthodoxy, his rationalism, his irate but persuasive response to the demand for Pakistan, his interest in education, and above all his emphasis on the syncretic culture of India which enables different religious persuasions to 'live together, and live well'.

Delivering the historic presidential address at the Ramgarh Congress session in 1940, Azad spoke of India's 'historic destiny that its soil should become the destination of many different caravans of races, cultures, and religions.... This vast and hospitable land welcomed them all and took them to her bosom'. This is exactly what the poet Firaq Gorakhpuri had written—'Kafile baste gaye, Hindustan banta gaya'.

Habib records Azad's endearing sense of what sociologists call the 'everyday'. Among the first letters written by Azad before he went to Ahmednagar Jail was one that spoke of his love for the preparation and consumption of tea. 'With the first sip of tea I light the cigarette and then follow it up with use of this special compound'. An interesting insight into the habits of a gifted intellectual indeed.

Irfan Habib's work on Azad allows us to understand that personal piety can co-exist with secular politics; that religion can be interpreted through the prism of rationalism; that the attractions of a multi-religious society are infinitely more than a society based on one religion; and that education in English does not imply that we lose hold of our own culture. The work, more significantly, addresses the main political predicament that confronts today's India: how do people who subscribe to different religious persuasions manage to 'live together'? It is precisely this quality that makes the book timely and relevant.

■ NEERA CHANDHOKE



Conservation of Phanigiri

INDIAN ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURES :

Phanigiri : Interpreting an Ancient Buddhist Site in Telangana

The Jewel in the Crown: Lessons on Heritage from Phanigiri

SPEAKER : Naman P. Ahuja

A Gateway to Phanigiri: Reading Architecture, Constructing Narrative at an Early Buddhist Site

SPEAKER : Parul Pandya Dhar

CHAIR : Nayanjyot Lahiri

COLLABORATION : Marg Foundation

24 March 2023

Two illustrated lectures threw light on the recently excavated and curated Buddhist sites of Phanigiri, Telangana.

This ancient Buddhist site is a mere three-hour drive from Hyderabad and comprises what must have been a spectacular Buddhist Stupa and monastery, perched high on a granite massif, overlooking the land around. The main buildings and artefacts date between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD. This was a decisive period when Buddhism was sharing space with a rising number of organised sects. This is comparable to the other two major Buddhist sites of Amravati and Nagarjuna in terms of layout, location and carvings.

Dhar dwelt mainly on the unique Torana (gateway) leading to the main Stupa. This unfortunately has fragmented and fallen pieces are found spread all over. Excavation was still continuing. The original Torana was similar to the one at Sanchi—with elaborate and exquisite carvings of a devotional and decorative nature, of mainly animals like the lion, griffin and elephant. Dhar started her work seven years ago and felt that despite the incomplete excavation, it was essential to publish the art recovered—keeping in view the fast pace of development and growing urbanisation to focus interest on saving and conserving this heritage site.

From the pieces recovered, the carvings on the front side of the Torana depict the biography of the Buddha. A life narrative starting from the birth of Prince Siddhartha to Queen Maya onwards, ending with his Enlightenment (not

the attainment of Nirvana). The rear of the panel depicts the conflicts between the monks and sects and the further development of Buddhism.

Ahujha said that he had first visited this site in 2001 when it was just a storeroom at the bottom of the hill, then in 2010, when he located the main stone carvings, which were finally exhibited in 2014. They were appreciated all over as superb specimens and ignited wide attention and interest, with books being published widely in the archaeological world. Viewed from above, the site resembles a snake, particularly the head (Phan) on which the main buildings were. Hence, apparently, the name. A number of Stupas, temples and over 150 caves carved into the rock were spread around. Some large statues, stone sculptures/inscriptions were recovered from a multi-level site. The work of reconstructing and conserving these pieces was needed urgently. The architecture of the central structure was similar to those in Sanchi, Amravati and Nagarjuna. Of interest was the recovery of a large number of Stucco (clay) life-size images, similar to the ones in Bamiyan and Kandhar. Of interest were inscriptions recovered, which were both in Sanskrit and Prakrit script. In particular there was one regarding donations made by the chief physician of King Rudrapura.

Listing out the demons and rakshas that the Lords Shiva and Krishnadeva Raya found difficult to subdue—they were subdued with ease by the Dharma Chakra of the Buddha—a subtle reference to the then ongoing conflict between Brahmanism and Buddhism. Another inscription details the Festivals (e.g., flower festival) celebrated at Phanigiri at that time and donations of cows and gold to feed the monks.

He gave a detailed description of a beautiful and intricate sculpture recovered—naming it the ‘Jewel in the crown’. This has three panels—the first portraying Prince Siddhartha leaving the King’s palace, the middle one showing him casting off his royal robes and other trappings—particularly his Turban (crown)—which was his inheritance, and the last one showing how the Turban, when removed, unlike other items, does not fall to the ground, but unravels into a swan and flies up to the 33rd Heaven. There the gods make a temple for it where the Prince’s late mother Queen Maya prays to it. This act of sacrifice by him, of his Patrimony, is the Jewel in the crown. This episode was popularised in plays and poems at that time. The moral being that materialism ties us to life, and links and binds us down—this was broken by the Buddha. The British Museum together with India held a joint exhibition in 2017, lending over 100 of its pieces. This gave wide publicity to Phanigiri, evoking global interest. The need of the hour was the immediate conservation of this site.

■ SIDDHARTH KAK

'Where Words Fail, Music Speaks'

PERFORMANCE : 'Peace Notes'—concert by South Asian Symphony Orchestra to mark conclusion of IIC Diamond Jubilee.

CONDUCTOR : Alvin Arumugam

INTRODUCTION : Amb. Nirupama Menon Rao, Founder-Trustee, South Asian Symphony Foundation

CHIEF GUEST : Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs

CHAIR : Shri Shyam Saran, President, IIC

29 March 2023

On an evening that saw the conclusion of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations, claps of thunder echoed the appreciative applause of the capacity crowd on the Fountain Lawn.



Once the formalities were completed, we heard the spectacular South Asian Symphony Orchestra beneath a grey sky threatening rain. The programme began with a melodious invocation by Akshatha Rudrapatna followed by Vivaldi's Winter from The Four Seasons, which was in three parts (allegro non molto, largo, and allegro), and the musicians from 11 countries performed to a fault. The violin soloist, Raja Halder, played with great expression capturing the dynamism and poetry of each concerto. Later, as the heavens opened up, the audience hurriedly looked for shelter, till the orchestra resumed, and could



be seen treading the wet paths 'slowly and cautiously, for fear of tripping and falling'.

Halder also performed the Primavera Portena composed by Astor Piazzolla and part of The Four Seasons of Buenos Aires. With hints of Vivaldi resonating in the composition, Halder handled the rhythmic complexity and tight construction of the piece skilfully.

Picking up their pieces and continuing in the safety of the auditorium, the resilient musicians completed the programme. The Melodies from the Mountains premiered at this concert and was delightful with its roots in folk and film compositions from India and Nepal. The Melodies were



conducted by Maestro Alvin Arumugam from Singapore, as was Beethoven's Symphony No. 8 in F Major. The four parts of the Symphony were played beautifully and ended to enthusiastic applause.

The concerts by the orchestra are called Peace Notes, to endorse the mission of The South Asian Symphony Foundation, which plays to foster peace in the South Asian region and believes that music is a basic human right.

■ RIMA HANDA ZAHEER

Challenges to Digital Media

DISCUSSION : *IIC/The Media Foundation—Media Dialogues*

PANEL DISCUSSION : *Challenges to Digital Media*

COLLABORATION : *Media Foundation*

IIC/The Media Foundation Dialogues is a series of conversations featuring prominent voices and highlighting different perspectives.

13 February 2023

An engaging and informative panel discussion enlightened attendees on digital media and the challenges before it with a lens on complex issues afflicting digital news media and digital censorship amid new regulatory restrictions.

Senior journalist, Shailaja Bajpai, who, after a long innings in print media, has transitioned to digital media, moderated the discussion.

Bajpai, along with eminent fellow panellists Saurabh Dwivedi, Vibodh Parthasarathi and Ujjwala Uppaluri discussed in-depth, several pressures around the 24-hour news cycle, digital media environment such as economic compulsions and business models—in terms of programming (how will the subscription model work when much online content is free); curbing costs while news gathering; accuracy, veracity, trolling/abuse on social media (not faced by print media); issues from pressure

groups, social media influencers and also guidance to young journalists to manage mental stress in the speed-driven, daunting digital news world. Bajpai lauded news website Newsland as a role model for sustaining itself for a decade without advertising support.

While Dwivedi ascribed his newsroom policy to three tenets—*Spasht* (clear and lucid); *Saral* (simple) and *Saras* (ability to explain complex issues in an entertaining and informative way), Parthasarathi explained how, apart from two main sources of information from administration and professional news organisations, a small space of news emerging from gossip, rumours, falsity and grapevine has also found traction with the advent of digital and mobile media, such as SMS, Facebook, Twitter and Whatsapp, and has grown in volume and reach with both news sources vying for our attention.

Uppaluri opined that the new IT rules—Information Technology Intermediary Guidelines and digital media Ethics Code of 2021, further amended in October 2022—have placed stringent curbs on news content, often resulting in blocking or taking down news content, and the proposed law of PIB fact check further adding to the existing checks and balances. She agreed with Bajpai that presently there was a lack of access and recourse to these laws, and as they could only be challenged in court journalists had to co-exist with them.

Veteran journalist Harish Khare, chair of Media Foundation, observed that challenges, be it digital or print media, remained mostly unchanged, the most crucial component still being managing a sustainable and viable revenue model.

■ GAURIKA KAPOOR

Syncretic Foundations

TALK : *The Planetary King: Humayun Padshah (Mapin Books & AKTC) by Ebba Koch*

INTRODUCTION : *William Dalrymple*

COLLABORATION : *Agha Khan Trust for Culture*

6 March 2023

In her introduction to the book, titled *The Planetary King: Humayun Padshah, Inventor and Visionary on the Mughal Throne*, Ebba Koch sought to explain why she chose Humayun as the subject of her latest work. Generally, she said, it is perceived that while Babur laid the foundations of the Mughal Empire with his military conquest, Akbar laid down the social and cultural foundations of the Empire. However, her book sets out to prove how Humayun deserves much more credit than he is usually given.



A close look at his life would reveal not only the full extent of his military conquests, but a similar look at the material heritage that Humayun left reveals that he not only continued with several Central Asian characteristics (from his homeland), but also incorporated Indian peculiarities in painting, architecture and daily norms—or what French historians would call as *mentalités*. The best example of the last category would be his obsessive occupation with astrology (almost wholly inspired by Indian tradition) which he sought to inscribe everywhere from paintings to architecture, interior designing and even various games (*bisat-i-nishat*) meant to be played by his guests. On the one hand, Humayun attempted at combining the cosmological

ideas from Ptolemy onwards with the various geocentric/heliocentric models; on the other hand, he experimented with combining Central Asian cultural norms with South Asian norms.

Humayun's complex personality which ranged from defining the notion of kingship to its own dismantling in the private sphere, implied a union of conflicting ideas. His espousal of various cosmological and astrological doctrines led to the syncretic foundations of the Mughal regime, while his numerous attempts at upholding and subverting established norms created what Michel Foucault calls as 'heterotopia'.

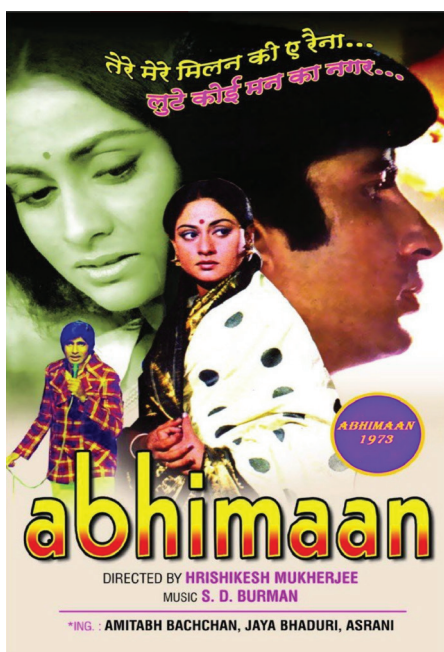
■ PAVEL TOMAR

Superstar Amitabh Bachchan

FILM CLUB : *Bachchan Back to the Beginning : A selection of films to Celebrate the 80th birthday of Amitabh Bachchan*

COLLABORATION : *Film Heritage Foundation*

MARCH 2023



Amitabh Bachchan, the most popular superstar of Hindi cinema in the last 50 years, was given a tribute in anticipation of his 80th birthday due in October this year. Six of his films made between 1973 and 1982 and shot originally on 35 MM film were screened, albeit, in digital format. These made clear why Amitabh

Bachchan became the phenomenon that he did.

The first, *Abhimaan*, directed by Hrishikesh Mukherjee, a highly successful veteran of the middle-class commercial Hindi cinema from an earlier period, proved that the promising actor hidden behind the soon-to-emerge superstar was indeed true. Earlier, in an important supporting role in Mukherjee's *Anand*, a finely made tearjerker which was a huge hit starring Rajesh Khanna, Bachchan held his own. In *Abhimaan*, a love story between a successful newly married singer overshadowed by his equally talented wife from a rural background, resulting in jealousy and

heartbreak but ending 'happily', was proof of the actor's ability to play a believable middle-class character. Mukherjee did 10 films with his discovery, perhaps to tell the audience that they also could appreciate another side of an actor who could become an entirely different personality as a superstar.

Amitabh Bachchan is however remembered by an overwhelming majority of millions of viewers of his films as an angry young man who, when wronged by an unjust society, gives back as good as he gets. The writing team of Salim (Khan) and Jawed (Akhtar) must get full credit for creating this image. A typical example of this is *Deewar*, a smash hit directed by Yash Chopra, in which a poverty-stricken young man takes to crime to avenge the death of his trade unionist father, destroyed by the owners of the factory he worked in. In true tradition of popular Hindi cinema, there is a younger brother, a police officer, who tries to make him see reason—unsuccessfully. That the film is a copy of a 1930s Hollywood crime thriller is another matter! Salim–Jawed, the most successful scriptwriters in Hindi film history created the unparalleled box-office success of Amitabh Bachchan's films in the first decade of his superstardom.

Manmohan Desai was the other director who brought out to perfection the comical–rogue side to Amitabh Bachchan's personality; most successfully in *Amar Akbar Anthony*, which was a zany comedy–crime thriller, subliminally disguised as a call for communal harmony, as the names of the three characters suggest, and the camaraderie that exists between them.

Other films shown like Chandra Barot's *Don*, *Namakhalaal* (by Prakash Mehra, also deserving credit for the terrific success of Bachchan's films) and *Kalia* by Tinnu Anand, deal with ideas about lost ethics and betrayed innocence and of complicated versions of loyalty.

Ultimately the commercial Hindi cinema in particular, and all Indian commercial cinema in general, deal with the guilt associated with failing morality, although, a large chunk of such films appears to celebrate it with a tacked-on comeuppance in the end! Amitabh Bachchan is the biggest beneficiary of this kind of filmmaking.

■ PARTHA CHATTERJEE

A Shared Heritage

PERFORMANCE : *Ensemble Khusrawi*

COLLABORATION : *O.P. Jindal Global University; Ashoka University; The Raza Foundation; American Institute of Indian Studies*

6 March 2023

The seminar on 'India-Iran: A Shared Heritage' concluded with a Valedictory by Ashis Nandy, followed by a lively performance by 'Ensemble Khusrawi', an Indo-Persian musical collaboration that brought together Indian, Persian and Afghan classical and folk music traditions, underlining the essence of a 'Shared Heritage'.

Led by William Rees Hofmann, a multi-instrumentalist specialising in both the Indian Sarod and the Afghan Rubab, the performance opened with Hoffmann playing the Rubab. He was accompanied by Fakhroddin Sina Ghaffari, a versatile artiste and master of multiple Persian and Middle Eastern percussion instruments, including his principal instrument, the Tombak, and the Kurdish Daf. Playing traditional and folk songs written by Pashtoon poets and sung by Akhavass, a musician and classical Persian vocalist, Hofmann regaled the audience. The tunes reminded the discerning audiences of the Hindustani

ragas of Kafi Thaati, while the rhythmic support sounded like the lilting gait of Dadra or Kahrwa Taal.

Ustad Mustafa Faizi, a senior disciple of Shah Mohammad Sarhang of Patiala Gharana from Kabul, brought the classical flavour of Hindustani music when he took the stage accompanied by Indian artists Mudassir Khan on Sarangi, Mohit Lal on Tabla and Ghaffari on Kurdish Daf. Opening with a Persian Ghazal 'Paye Ashq' based on raga Puria Dhanashri, bringing out the emotional content of the poetry in a very slow tempo, he used Sargams as well. Continuing the same raga he presented a Khayal Bandish set to Drut Ektal followed by a Tarana in a faster tempo of Teentaal, just like a conventional Hindustani vocal recital.

Ustad Faizi presented the next piece in raga Pahadi in a Thumri-Dadra format with attractive Bol-Banaav, elaborating the Persian couplets which were interspersed in between. Mesmerising the audience with his sonorous voice, he concluded with a Persian Qalam of Amir Khusro in raga Bhairavi with shades of Kirwani. The melodious touches of Sarangi and the vibrant support of the Tabla and Kurdish Daf were the added attraction of his brilliant performance, inviting the audience to join in with rhythmic claps. The erudite deliberations of the seminar on the 'Shared Heritage' came alive through the language of music when Ensemble Khusrawi created the musical environment of the Indo-Persian poet and musician, Amir Khusraw and his contemporaries with such aplomb.

■ MANJARI SINHA

IAWRT Asian Women's Film Festival

TO MARK INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023 : *The 18th IAWRT Asian Women's Film Festival*

COLLABORATION : *International Association of Women in Radio & Television, Chapter India; Alliance Française, New Delhi; WISCOMP; Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS); Breakthrough; The Park Hotels; Fredrich-Ebert-Stiftung; Public Service Broadcasting Trust (PSBT); UNICEF; Max Mueller Bhavan-Goethe Institut; Embassy of Israel; INKO Centre, Chennai; CRY; UNWomen; A.R. Rehman Foundation; Bennet University; and Institute of Home Economics, University of Delhi*

15 to 17 March 2023

The 18th edition of the festival brought together a collection of over 50 films directed by Asian women filmmakers from 20 countries, including South Korea, Indonesia, Philippines, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Sri Lanka and Israel, to name a few. The festival included a homage to the recently departed iconic Sri Lankan director, Sumitra Peries; animated films from South Korea; iTales, an anthology of five short films made solely on iPhones; a gaming session on rumour and gossip, gender and fake news; a presentation on 'Making Films and Watching Films—Gender in Hindi Cinema'; seminar on 'Representation of Children and Women in the Media'; 'Movies@Mobile', a session on the art and craft of making purposive communication messages for articulated goals.

The festival included two exhibitions. 'An Incredible Child' emerged from a process of co-creation between adults and children and reflected the need for play and beauty in all lives. This was curated by Samina Mishra,



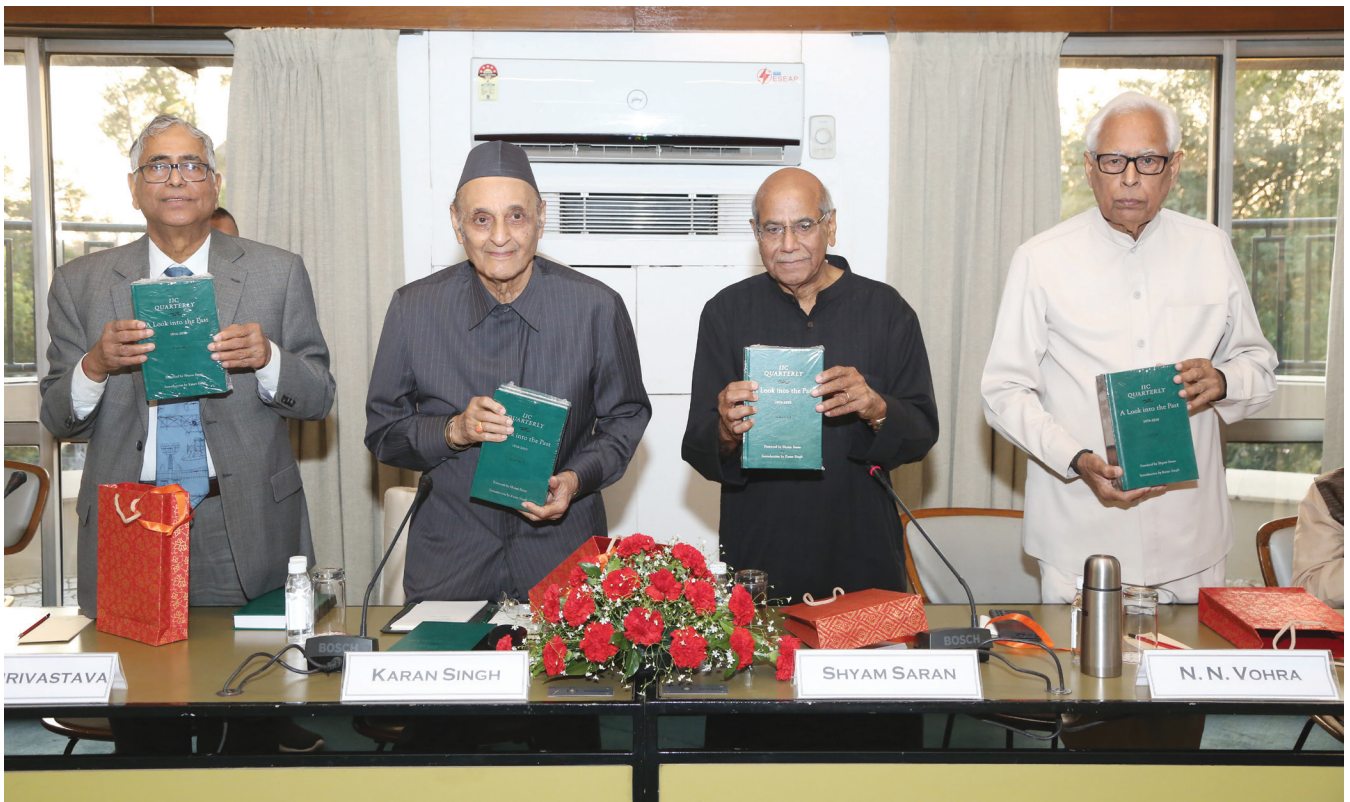
documentary filmmaker and founder of The Magic Key Centre for the Arts and Childhood. The second exhibition was 'The Life She Lives' which explored the lives of women living at the margins of India's socio-economic

realities. It was an exhibition of photographs by Chitvan Gill, writer, photographer and independent filmmaker. There was a workshop titled 'Farzi: Busting Fake News and Misinformation', and presentation and discussion on 'Making Films & Watching Films: Gender in Hindi Cinema'. The discussion was on 'The Vulnerable Child'—can traditional and digital media help provide opportunities for creating safe spaces for children, especially a decade after POCSO.

There was an IAWRT roundtable on 'Representation of Gender, Women and Children in Media', and another roundtable on 'Gender Climate Change Intersectionalities'. The films included *Only One Earth*; *The Egret River* by Wna-Ling Liu (Taiwan/animation); *Water Celery* by Yu So-young (South Korea/non-fiction); and *Polar Bears* by Shilpa Krishnan Shukla (Singapore/fiction).

IIC Quarterly Commemorative Volumes

Panellists: Dr. Karan Singh, Shri N. N. Vohra, Shri Shyam Saran; and Shri K.N. Shrivastava



The *IIC Quarterly* is the flagship publication of the Centre, and has been published regularly since 1974. On the occasion of the Centre's Diamond Jubilee, a commemorative two-volume set was launched. Titled *IIC Quarterly: A Look into the Past, 1974–2010*, the articles that make up this collection have been taken from past issues of the journal and are of relevance even decades later.

DEPARTURES

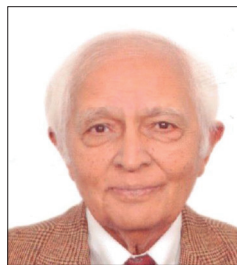
We are deeply saddened by the passing away of the following Members of the IIC family, and convey our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families.



**SHRI SUJATHA
MATHAI**
A-1437



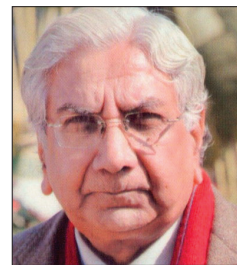
**SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR
DASGUPTA**
A-2309



SHRI KIRAN DOSHI
A-2592



MRS. MANJULA JOSHI
A-2949



SHRI SHARAD DUTT
A-3802



**MS. SARAH
CHANDRAKANT RAJ URS**
A-4323



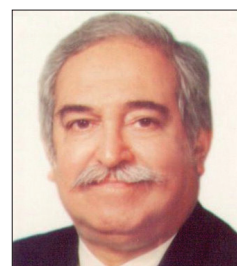
**SMT. DAMAYANTI
MURGAI**
A-5681



MS. AMRIT DHINGRA
A-6314



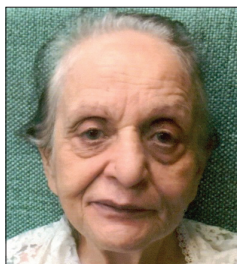
SMT. ANUJA BANSAL
A-6806



**SHRI DADI
ERUCHSHAW MISTRY**
A-6909



SMT. SUNITI JAIPURIA
A-6998



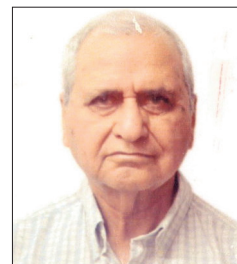
SMT. KUSHAL G. SINGH
A-7326



**DR. (MS.) PREM
KUMARI SRIVASTAVA**
AT1191



**DR. VED PRATAP
VAIDIK**
L-0341



**SHRI HARISH
CHANDOLA**
M-0473



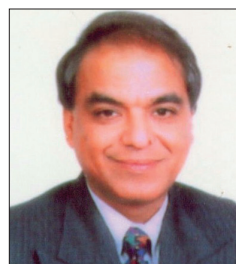
**SHRI P.
ROHMINGTHANGA**
M-2549



**SHRI OM PRAKASH
JETLEY**
M-3027



**SMT. JASLEEN
DHAMIJA**
M-3566



**DR. SHYAM BABU
VYAS**
M-4076



SHRI R.C. MODY
M-2974

And the following Members (Photographs not available):
BEGUM K. YUSUF KHAN (A-5397); MS. SUJATHA MATHAI (A-1437); SHRI AMAL KANTI BOSE (A-3694);
JUSTICE C. L. CHAUDHRY (A-3681)



Message from the Director

Dear Members,

The year-long celebrations of the IIC's Diamond Jubilee concluded on 29 March with a gala performance by the South Asian Symphony Orchestra, in the presence of Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs. It was a tremendous success, a drenching storm notwithstanding.

The IIC cherishes all its Members, but more specially the older Members who have played a significant role in adhering to and upholding the mandate and legacy of the IIC since its inception. A befitting function, followed by lunch, was held on 25 February 2023 during the historic year of the Centre's Diamond Jubilee, to honour and felicitate the Super Senior Members (SSMs) in the age group 85 and above. Several SSM and their spouses had gathered and shared nostalgic memories. It was a very moving occasion.

Spring in Delhi is perhaps the best season—not too warm, with bursts of summer flowers along sidewalks and roundabouts. The Centre's gardens were a veritable riot of colour with a mix of seasonal flowers, bulbous plants, etc. Among the most appreciated were Nemesis, Verbena, Gazania, California, Dahlia, Single Poppy, Larkspur, Clarkia and stocks. Other parts of the vast garden spaces were covered with Double Dahlia, Flox and Marigold. Sophisticated and delicate plants such as Freesia, Tulip, Lillium and Ranunculus were a beautiful sight. The Rose garden was in full bloom with the addition of new varieties.

Members have been very appreciative of the special lunches and dinners prepared by our kitchen. Over these two months, we have hosted a lunch showcasing millets; Awadhi dinner; Navratri menu. A supplementary menu with a wider variety of dishes has been added to the Annexe Dining Hall menu. Also, the summer special juices like Aam Panna, Melon Juice and Thandai have been added in the Main Dining Hall menu.

The Centre had recently commissioned a 150 kg/day Organic Waste Composter (OWC) plant to produce compost manure using its green horticultural waste. It was inaugurated by Shri Shyam Saran, President, IIC. This initiative will help the Centre in recycling the waste and using the compost manure produced for its own gardens and plants. A 29.1 KVA Solar Power Plant has been installed and commissioned at the Annexe. The plant will entail in an annual saving of more than ₹ 3.5 lakh towards the saving in power cost. The required fund (₹25.20 lakh) was provided by IREDA through its CSR arm. Work on the upgradation of the Sewage Treatment Plant has commenced. It is expected to be completed in May 2023. The upgradation will produce better quality treated water which will be used for the Centre's gardens and air-conditioning system. This endeavour will reduce our dependence on the underground water. The plans for the renovation of Committee Rooms I and II in the Annexe are in the final stages of finalisation.

As the world is attempting to reduce the use of fossil fuels, the Centre too has started playing its part in terms of replacing its conventional fossil fuel-run vehicles with the Electric Vehicles. So far, we have replaced one of our older cars, which was nearing expiry, with an EV. A fixed charging station has also been installed at Gate No. 3 to charge the EV. Members can also use this facility as per availability.

As Members are aware, in terms of our new Membership Policy, the new members are initially inducted as Short Term Associate Members (STAM) for an initial period of three years, which is extendable by another two years (i.e., 3+2=5 years). Thereafter, they acquire eligibility for being considered for regular membership. The sale of Application Forms for STAM for the FY 2022-23 commenced from 1 July 2022, and the last date for the receipt of the duly filled in application forms was 31 October 2022. In our efforts to reduce paper usage, it was decided that the application forms would be made available online only. On the recommendation of the STAM Selection Committee and with the approval of the Competent Authority, 149 applicants were inducted as STAM in March 2023 and their brief profiles will be placed on the Centre's website shortly.

The biennial elections to the two seats of BoT and four seats of Executive Committee were held during the month of March. A record 40 per cent of eligible voters voted which was about 15 per cent higher than the previous election. The following members were declared elected:

Board of Trustees



SHRI SUHAS BORKER
(M-3355)
(Individual Category)



SHRI NAVNEET SONI
(CM-351)
(Institutional Category)



SHRI P.K. TRIPATHI
(M-4095)
(Individual Category)



SHRI SANJEEV CHOPRA
(M-3995)
(Individual Category)



SHRI PRADIP KUMAR DAS
(CM- 340)
(Institutional other than
University Category)



PROF. (DR.) MAHESH VERMA
(CM-252)
(Institutional University
Category)

Executive Committee

K. N. SHRIVASTAVA

This issue of the Diary has been assembled and edited by Omita Goyal, Chief Editor; Ritu Singh, Deputy Editor; Shweta Keshri, Asstt. Editor. Published by Kanwal Wali, for the India International Centre, 40, Max Mueller Marg, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi - 110003. Ph.: 24619431. Designed and printed by Niyogi Offset Pvt. Ltd., D-78, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase 1, New Delhi-110020; Phone: 49327000.