



Newsletter of Indian Heritage Cities Network Foundation (IHCNF)



In – Heritage

For the Future of Our Cities

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From IHCNF Desk in Bangalore

We are happy to present IHCNF's April newsletter which allows us to update you about all our activities this month in different parts of India.

Earlier this month, the Chairman of IHCNF Dr. M. Ramachandran and Executive Director IHCNF visited Bhubaneswar on 6th-7th April 2017 and called on the Honorable Chief Minister of Orissa Mr Naveen Patnaik and other senior state government officials and sought the support of Govt. of Odisha to organize IHCNF's Biennial conference jointly with UNESCO New Delhi in Bhubaneswar in February 2018.



Hon'ble CM of Odisha Mr Naveen Patnaik with Chairman and ED IHCNF

On 13th April 2017, the Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka invited IHCNF to a meeting in Bangalore to discuss the development of 16 tourism destinations in

Karnataka which includes places where IHCNF has been actively working in for the last 5 years.

On 18th April 2017, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State for Finance, Government of India visited Bikaner during which the IHCNF team working in Bikaner got an opportunity to brief him about the preparation of the Heritage Resources Management Plan for Bikaner. IHCNF is in the final stages of the preparation of Heritage Management Plan for Bikaner and Dungarpur in Rajasthan and the HRMP is expected to be submitted to the Government of Rajasthan by May 2017.

The Government of Karnataka has identified 20 heritage towns and villages as 'heritage areas' way back in 2012-13. Starting with this month's newsletter, we are going to feature one heritage city/village of Karnataka every month. This feature article on heritage towns and villages of Karnataka will focus on the significance and various heritage aspects of the place. This newsletter also gives an update on our ongoing projects under HRIDAY and other activities carried out this month.

We wish our readers an enjoyable read and look forward to your continued feedback.

Inside this Issue

Feature Article

Pg 2

A short article on Malkhed a village in Gulbarga district, notified as a 'Heritage Area' by the Government of Karnataka in 2013.

Project Updates

Pg 3

Status of ongoing Project Activities

News and Information

Pg 4

- **IHCNF Missions in April 2017**
Bhubaneswar, Bidar, Gulbarga, Vijayapura
- **News from our partners**
Events, conferences, seminars and lectures organized by our partners
- **Events**
Information on upcoming events

FEATURE ARTICLE

Heritage Village: Malkhed



In 2012-13, the Government of Karnataka declared 20 new towns and villages as Heritage areas in the State of Karnataka. Every month one heritage town or village of Karnataka will be featured in IHCNF's newsletter focusing on the significance and various heritage aspects of the place with the aim to enrich our readers with knowledge and bring awareness about the rich heritage of Karnataka.

The Malkhed region is located in the south-eastern part of Gulbarga district bounded on the north by southern part of Bidar district, on the east by Gulbarga and Mehabubnagar district of Andhra Pradesh on the west and on the south by Yadgir taluk. Malkhed or Manyakheta as known in the olden days, is today a small town located in the Gulbarga District of Karnataka. Manyakheta, was historically the capital city of Rashtrakutas. The place that had once flourished and continued to be the capital for various dynasties is a distant shadow of its royal past which only visible in the ruins of various historic structures and monuments including a fort.

History

The history of the region can be traced back to the Mauryan period. The major rock edicts of Ashoka found very recently at Sannati suggests the possibility of parts of Karnataka having been conquered by Ashoka along with Kalinga. After the decline of the Murayas, the Satavahanas assumed the reigns of political power in the Deccan region. Subsequently the Chalukyas of Badami established their rule in this region in 540 A.D. with Pulakesi I building a strong hill-fort at Badami. Within a short span of time the kingdom was expanded in all directions. In the reign of Pulakesi II the empire stretched from the Narmada to Kaveri and from Arabian sea to the Bay of Bengal. The Malkhed region formed a part of the Chalukya empire and probably had some prominence as an administrative headquarter. The Rashtrakutas who succeeded the Chalukyas of Badami dominated the political scene of Karnataka from 735 A.D. to 973 A.D. During this period Malkhed became the capital city of Rashtrakutas during the rule of Amoghavarsha I. The Rashtrakutas were succeeded by the later Chalukyas. This place was also the capital city of the Western Chalukyas till the end of 10th Century. Malkhed was under Chalukyas of Kalyana until they were overthrown by feudatories of Kalyana Chalukyas. With the

gradual weakening of the kingdom the Delhi Sultanate, Alauddin Khilji, to attack the Chalukyas of Kalyana and ended the rule. After the decline of the Kalyana Chalukyas, the Capital city Malkhed never reached to the glory it reached during the reign of Rashtrakutas.

Present situation

Currently, Malkhed is a small village with a settlement just outside the historic forts wall. The settlement and fort are situated on left bank of Kagini river, a tributary of river Bhima. Inside this fort there is barren land with few traces of its glorious past. The fort is under the ownership of state government Department of Archaeology and Museums. The military architecture of the fort is plain and built in Shahabad stone masonry with battered walls. The fort's entrance is through massive bastions made of Shabhad stone blocks roughly dressed.



The fort has about 52 bastions with a cornice running at almost six meters height. The fort has a lot of later additions and alterations probably dating back as early as the 16th century. The entry to the fort is oriented towards the north with multiple/ series of entry arches/ gateways and bastions creating a dramatic entry to the inside of fort. The gateway has a series of brackets supporting half dilapidated structure like jarokha.

Malkhed fort has a watch tower and the entrance gate to the stairs of watch tower contains a Jina Arhat Parshwa image in lintel and its association with a Jina temple is well attested on inscriptional and literary sources.

Situated inside the fort is Khala Masjid and next to it on a lower ground is a Jain Mantapa which is also in a bad state of conservation.



Rashtrakutas were a great patron of the Jain religion and this structure is the only indication left inside the fort. This is a typical *Basadi* with simple design which was reconstructed in recent times. There is also a madrasa being run in the fort premises. The fort walls are in a dilapidated condition due to lack of maintenance and repair work. It is in dire need of attention, scientific clearance and conservation.

The settlement around the fort is built in the vernacular style of the period in which it evolved. The earliest part of the settlement is tightly packed with narrow streets allowing shaded streets. The colonial part of the village is easily distinguished by a slightly spaced out arrangement of buildings with wider streets. The post-Independence part of the village is even planned with more space including modern houses and institutions. The community spaces of the village have been carved out of the physical fabric over years of continuous evolution and is an active space for the residents to carry out their informal activities. The other significant place in Malkhed is the Jain Bhattaraka Math. The pillars and walls of the temple date back to between the 9th and 11th centuries. The built natural and intangible heritage of the village can become an important resource in development of the village to generate employment, revenues and achieve sustainable development.

PROJECT UPDATES

IMPLEMENTATION OF HRIDAY SCHEME

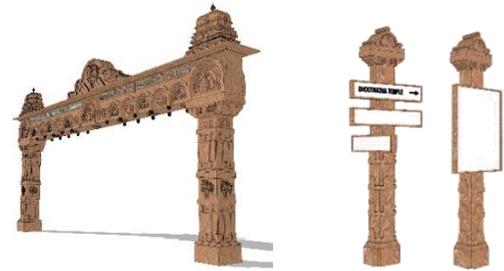
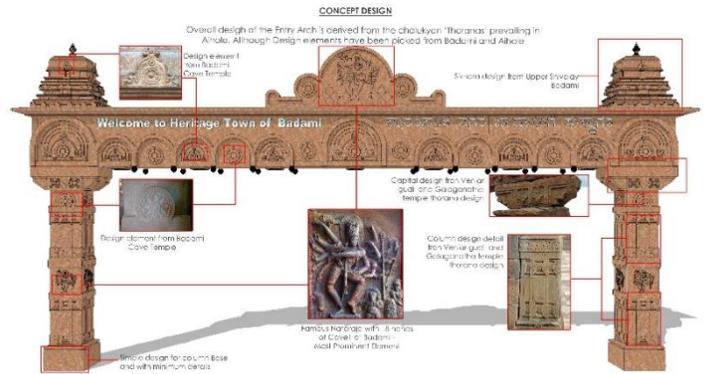
Workshop with artisans and sculptors in Badami, 22nd April 2017

Under the ongoing implementation of Government of India scheme HRIDAY in Badami, a workshop was organized on 22nd April 2017 at the Badami Town Municipal Council office with the local artisans and sculptors to discuss the design and structural aspects of the Badami entry arch and signage which has been proposed for Badami town for implementation under HRIDAY under the Integrated Development and Improvement of Arterial Road, Transportation Infrastructure, Parking and Road Signage project.

The design of the arched gateway is based on the toolkit prepared by IHCNF as part of the City HRIDAY Plan. A total of 3nos. and 2nos. gateways for 16 m and 6m road width respectively is proposed at 5 entry point to the town municipal limit of Badami. The entry gateway has been designed after study of the historical background, architectural traditions and the layers of history in the regional context. It was found that the most prominent period in the history of Badami was during the early western Chalukyan dynasty and later Rashtrakuta that has also contributed greatly to the development of architecture in India. Thus, the design of the Entry gateway has been inspired from these periods and is based on the key architectural design concept and elements that are to be found in the significant Chalukyan and Rastrakuta buildings of that period. The workshop helped to identify issues that need to be addressed for proper execution of Badami entry arch as per the approved designs. IHCNF jointly organized this workshop along with Town Municipal Council Officials and the DPR consultants Darashaw. Around 20 local artisans and sculptors participated in this workshop and gave their inputs on the kind of fixing details/ cladding details of the Entry Arch and signage, the chronology of work involved in executing the projects and various other technical and practical considerations for implementation of the project.



Artisans and sculptors attending the workshop held in Badami



Designs of the approved entrance gateway and signage in Badami



LISTING AND MAPPING OF PWD HERITAGE STRUCTURES

IHCNF has initiated the listing and documentation of heritage structures of the Public Works Department, Government of Karnataka initially on a pilot basis for the Mysore district. The typology of heritage structures to be identified and listed will include residential, institutional, utility structure and ports.

IHCNF developed a sample template for listing and documentation of heritage buildings which was filled up for the Government House in Mysore. The Government guest house of Mysore is one of the oldest buildings in the city dating back to 1805. The construction of the building began in 1800 when Col. Wilks was the Acting Resident in Mysore. In 1803, it was still a small house for the British Resident when Lord Valentia stayed here. In 1805, when the drawing-room-verandah was added, it became a Residency. It has high historic, architectural, associational and cultural value and for which it needs to be protected and conserved.

This template was submitted to PWD in April 2017 and will be used for the various heritage structures to be documented in Mysore District under this project.

The overall purpose of this project is to gauge the state of conservation of the heritage buildings under the PWD and also identify the heritage structures for their adaptive reuse, and give recommendations for suitable repair and restoration of the structures considering their heritage significance and values.

NEWS AND INFORMATION



IHCNF MISSION TO STATES

Mission to Orissa: Chairman of IHCNF Dr. M. Ramachandran and Executive Director IHCNF Mr Kishore Raykar visited Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 6th-7th April 2017. Chairman and ED called on the Honorable Chief Minister of Orissa Mr Naveen Patnaik, Mr Aditya Prasad Padhi, Chief Secretary, Govt of Odisha and R Balakrishnan, Development Commissioner-Additional Chief Secretary & Secretary Planning & Convergence Department, Govt. of Odisha and briefed them about IHCNF activities and sought the support of Govt. of Odisha to organize its Biennial conference jointly with UNESCO New Delhi in Bhubaneswar in February 2018. The Chairman and ED subsequently visited the Infosys campus for a meeting with General Manager Infosys to finalize the venue for the Biennial conference.

Mission to Bidar, Gulbarga, Malkhed and Vijayapura in Karnataka: Executive Director visited Bidar on 24th April 2017. Discussion were held with Dr. H R Mahadev, Deputy Commissioner Bidar on the Bidar Karez project, the Karez conference and other proposed IHCNF activities in Bidar.

The IHCNF team visited Gulbarga on 25th April 2017. Meeting was held with the District Tourism Officer & sites for the proposed tourism destination development were visited. The team also visited Malkhed fort and met with the local Panchyat officials who took the team around the fort area.

On 26th April 2017, the IHCNF team visited Vijayapura for a meeting with the Deputy Commissioner Mr K.B. Shivakumar. Discussions was held to stop the ingress of sewage into the Bijapur Karez. The DC informed IHCNF about a proposal for rejuvenation of historic Bavadis being initiated by the District Admin with CSR funds. IHCNF agreed to give its suggestions for the same.

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

World Heritage Day celebration on 18th April 2017.

The National Rail Museum and APHTRO India Chapter in association with UNESCO New Delhi and DRONAH Foundation organized an Exhibition and Panel Discussion on the Theme 'Railway Heritage for Sustainable Tourism' at the Auditorium, National Rail Museum, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi on 18th April 2017. The theme for the 2017 UN International World Heritage Day was "Cultural Heritage & Sustainable Tourism". This theme was celebrated through an exhibition 'Intangibles' that brings together a diverse range of intangible cultural heritage from across India along with some glimpses of Railway Heritage. The Panel Discussion on 'Railway Heritage and Sustainable Tourism' discussed improvised strategies for the management of Railway Heritage through the specific case of Darjeeling Mountain Railways World Heritage Site.

Course on Understanding Outstanding Universal Values 'OUV' of World Heritage Sites in India, 17-21st April 2017

UNESCO supported INTACH New Delhi in organizing a course aimed at imparting an in-depth understanding of the concept and the significance of 'Outstanding Universal Value' (OUV) in the context of World Heritage properties in India.

World Intellectual Property Day, 26th April 2017

The Embassy of France in India, in association with Institut Français India organized a seminar "The Other Thought: French-Indian Encounters on Creativity and Innovation" to commemorate World Intellectual Property Day on April 26 2017 in New Delhi. The seminar was organized with the support of UNESCO Delhi, Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, the French National Institute for Intellectual Property, Bodhana Arts and Research Foundation and

Centre for South Asian Studies. The seminar was organized for artists, historians and critics, curators, art dealers and consultants, collectors and museums. The purpose of this seminar was to initiate a dialogue and reveal important facets about the copyrights laws governing and protecting the visual art discourse.

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

**International Museum Day, 18th May 2017
Auditorium, National Museum
Janpath, New Delhi**

This year International Museum Day is being celebrated on 18th May 2017. The theme is Museums and contested histories: Saying the unspeakable in museums. This theme focuses on the role of museums that, by working to benefit society, become hubs for promoting peaceful relationships between people. It also highlights how the acceptance of a contested history is the first step in envisioning a shared future under the banner of reconciliation.

On the occasion of the International Museum Day on 18th May, the National Museum in Delhi in association with UNESCO Delhi, TAACHT (Partition Museum Trust), and DRONAH Foundation is organizing the launch of the publication 'Museum Dialogue in India' along with a series of panel discussions on various themes relevant to museums. The book is a revised version of the previous special issue of the journal Context published by DRONAH on Museums.

Panel discussion on 'Expanding vision for best practices in museums' includes emerging trends in Museums, Collections Care, and Museum Planning and Accessibility. The session titled 'Curatorial voices – stories and people' will include discussion such as the Partition Museum and the Bhopal gas tragedy that raise questions about the promise and perils of museumising contentious events and forces the museums to engage with difficult narratives. The sessions will focus on the trend of museums in public spaces – the mall, metro stations, railways stations and airports or even conversion of urban public spaces into art galleries.