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Nehru Centre



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NEWSLETTER

Human Development

A new lecture series on "Human Development" was launched on the 18th November, 2007 with an interactive session by Prof. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate from Bangladesh.

The inaugural address by Prof. Yunus at the session was simply scintillating. He narrated at length his experimental but successful project of establishing 'Grameen Bank' in Bangladesh with the object of eradicating poverty, eradicating evil practices like dowry system, child marriage etc. with major active participation of women. This should inspire any NGO dedicated to the cause of upliftment of the poor.

Prof. Yunus expressed confidence of achieving the goal to reduce poverty to half by 2015 and zero poverty by 2030. By that time he was sure that Bangladesh will be a country where nobody will be known as a poor person and that a 'Poverty Museum' will be created which children will visit and vow to never have poverty again in their country.

Following are the excerpts of his narration on the working of Grameen Banks in Bangladesh:

"Bangladesh became independent in 1971. There was a famine in 1974. People were dying in 100s and 1000s with nobody to help them... I was simply trying to see if there was anyway in which I could make myself useful. All my knowledge of economics was thoroughly ineffective. I tried to be of help

to somebody even if it was for one day. In that face-to-face situation, I suddenly felt the horror of the whole thing. So my first inclination was to understand as to why the famine occurred, how it spread etc. One way I thought of was to make a list of people who were borrowing loans from the banks. That list had 42 names and the total money that they borrowed was 27 dollars or 856 takas. ...

.... Seeing the horror of the situation, I realized that the problem is difficult. But the solution is so simple, so exciting. I thought to myself that if I give this 27 dollars or 856 takas from my pocket and tell them to return the money to the 'loan sharks', so that they would be free. That was exactly what I did. But I didn't realize the reaction that it would generate. From the next day onwards, when I walked around the village, people looked at me differently. It was almost as if I was a heaven sent angel for them. The thought that came to my mind then was that if I could make so many people happy with such a small amount of money, why shouldn't I do some more of that? So that is what I tried to do....

I had to create a separate bank. ... I was successful in getting a separate law for us that created the bank - the bank of the poor people, owned by the poor people. That struggle still continues globally. Still existing banking laws cannot give the word that we at Grameen Bank do, being in financial services to the poorest people....

Anyway, we started it and it continued to work. Today we work all over Bangladesh. It is 31 years now. We have 7^{1/2} million borrowers, 97% of them being women. We wanted to avoid the mistake made by the conventional banks that avoided giving loans to women. I insisted that at least half the borrowers in my bank must be women. This was something I took up very passionately, very seriously....

contd. on page 2

What Nehru said

.... although freedom of information is of vital consequence, even that freedom becomes unimportant where there is absolute poverty prevailing. Freedom of life itself is more important than any other freedom. If through poverty and for other reasons you do not have even the capacity to live worthily, all other freedoms do not count. The starving man has no freedom. It is only a great philosopher who even when he starves can take advantage of the freedom and right of expression. Normally a person who is starving will not think of freedom of expression; he will think of food. Therefore, the problem takes a somewhat different shape and form, depending on whether a country is developed or under-developed....

March 5, 1962

At a glance ... Events of Nehru Centre

Lecture series "VISTAS IN ASTRONOMY"

The **eighth** lecture of this series will be delivered by **Prof. S. K. Gupta, TIFR, Mumbai** on "**Cosmic Ray Astronomy**" on **Saturday, 1 March 2008** at 5 pm at **Nehru Centre's Hall of Culture**, Worli, Mumbai 400018. All are cordially invited.

ART FUSION SHOW 2008

Nehru Centre is organising Art Fusion Show 2008. This time it is an fusion of art of artists from Maharashtra and West Bengal.

5th to 10th March 2008
Between 11:00 am & 8:00 pm
Hall of Vision

Cultural Wing

Vocal Recital Programme
(A Four Days Programme of Vocal Recital)

5th to 8th March 2008, 6:30 pm
Nehru Centre's Hal of Culture

Lecture

Prof. Irfan Habib, Professor Emeritus, Aligarh Muslim University, will speak on "**Nehru's Discovery of India**" on **March 12, 2008** at **5:30 pm** at **Nehru Centre's Hall of Harmony**.

Lecture Series

"Witness to History: Transition and Transformation of India - 1946-1964"

The Third lecture of the series titled "Jawaharlal Nehru - From Far and Near: Some Recollections" will be delivered by **Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap**, former Secretary General of the Lok Sabha, on **Saturday, March 15, 2008** at **5:30 pm** at **Nehru Centre's Hall of Harmony**

Human Development

contd. from page 1

It took us six years to bring the number of men and women borrowers on par. We started noticing something very remarkable. Money that went to the families where there were women borrowers brought so much benefit to the family than the same amount of money that went to men borrowers. When the mother was the borrower, the children became beneficiaries. ... When the mother started earning money, she brings back her children, one after the other... When we gave her the money, she brought all her skills of managing scarce resources. She got the best mileage out of it, compared to the man. We started lending more and more money to the women. As a result, our women borrowers comprise 97%.

Another aspect of the Grameen Bank is that it is owned by its borrowers. The owner of the bank are the borrowers. If the bank makes a profit, the profit goes back to them. The money doesn't come from outside. It is within the system. We just take deposits that go as loan to the poor people. When we open a new branch, we literally give the branch manager a piece of paper with the address of the new branch that he is supposed to head in a remote village. So he goes there and we tell him that we will not give him any money. The first job of the manager is to start mobilizing the deposits and the locality where he works and then start lending money. Then, within a maximum period of 12 months, he has to reach the break-even point. One cannot take one's own time. One has to build up the business within 12 months to cover all ones costs and achieve a surplus. That is how new branches were created.

So we don't really need any money. We can go anywhere and set up a bank. When the question of money came up, I had explained to a member of my staff and in general that we live in an ocean of money. It is only that the poor people cannot get a sip out of that ocean. There is no institution where they can do that. So money is not a problem. The institution is a

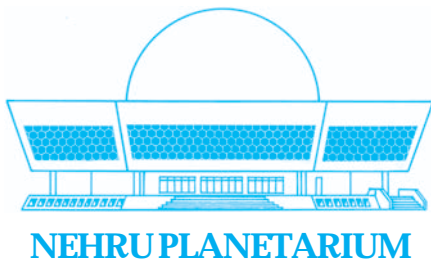
problem. So we have built an institution.

There are all illiterate women and their husbands are illiterate too. So one of the things that we wanted to do was to send the children to school. So we encouraged our borrowers to send their children to school. There is something called "16 Decisions" in Grameen Bank... One of the decisions in Bangladesh, which is quite a bold decision is "we shall not take any dowry at our son's weddings, neither shall we give any dowry at our daughters wedding".... "We shall not practice child marriage". This practice was killing them....

Another such decision was, "we shall educate our children and ensure that they can earn to pay for their education." As a result, the children not only went to school but some of them fared very well too. That thrilled us. There was a first generation of children going to schools in families that had no idea about education. To celebrate this achievement, we introduced scholarships.... We today give out about 30,000 scholarships. That number keeps on increasing. Many students took up higher education. Educational loans were disbursed for medical, engineering and other higher studies. Some students also obtained professional qualifications and Ph.D. So we want to create a whole new generation....

Now there is tremendous cyclone in Bangladesh. We have tried to find out the number of deaths and their identities. This means a loss to Grameen Bank. But this is life for us. Our commitment is that in the event of a natural disaster, the Grameen Bank becomes a humanitarian organization. It is our job to protect everybody. We resettle them, put them back on their feet until they are stable. Grameen Bank provides the money for rehabilitation and restoration of normal life.... These people are moving up the poverty line. We have our own "Ten Indicators" to assess the poverty level of a family....

(To be concluded)



SKY SHOW:
"Awesome Universe"

TIMINGS:
12:00 noon (Hindi), 1:30 pm Marathi)
3:00 pm (English), 4:30 pm (Hindi)

MONDAY CLOSED

VISTAS IN ASTRONOMY

Prof. Swarna K. Ghosh, Infrared Astronomy Group, TIFR, Mumbai gave the fourth lecture this series on "Universe in far-infrared wavelengths" on Saturday, 17 November 2007. We bring you some excerpts from his talk.

There are certain important physical parameters and extreme values which can never be realized in the laboratory, but in the laboratory of Universe these are common occurrences. Like humans stars too take birth, live their normal life and die. Some of these situations can be studied using infrared light particularly the far-infrared.

From radio waves to gamma rays the electromagnetic spectrum relates to variety of object temperatures. The x-ray radiation would mean a million degrees Kelvin or more temperature, ultra violet is 10,000 and above, the visual that our eyes are capable of seeing would typically be in between 3,000 to 7,000 degrees Kelvin range. On the other hand infrared plays at below 3000 going down to 30 degree Kelvin. In infra-red studies we are really talking about very cold objects. Infra-red range is further sub-divided as near, mid and far infra-red. On the other extreme end are radio waves which correspond to even lower temperature.

In near-infrared one can "see" cooler red stars or red giants, and in mid infrared one looks for planets, comets, asteroids, proto-planetary disks (where planets are yet to be formed) and in far-infrared, on the other hand, one looks for even cooler objects such as extremely cold molecular clouds - the raw materials from which the stars are formed. If one goes up to a mountain, which is say 2 km from sea level, some amount of infrared astronomy can be done. If one goes further up then it is much better.

Hawaii island is a very good place to do infrared astronomy and in India Jammu and Kashmir offers some good sites. We already have telescopes working in Hanle in Ladakh. Around wavelengths of 20 to 30 microns there is absolutely no transmission and for these and longer wavelengths one has to go beyond earth's atmosphere. Even if one goes to a very high mountain the enormous amount of emission from the earth's atmosphere impedes any kind of measurements in astronomy.

The interstellar medium or the material between the stars, which is responsible for the birth of next generation stars, is not easily visible. It can be studied only in far-infrared. In infrared spectroscopy we study intensity as a function of wavelength. The universe is mostly composed of hydrogen. As nuclear reactions proceed at the centre of a star it churns up heavier elements that are thrown back into the interstellar medium when it ends in an explosive death. Every element, other than hydrogen and little bit of helium, which we find on earth has been cooked at the centre of some star or another during the past history of the universe.

The one advantage of infrared over optical astronomy is as we go to longer wavelengths we are able to penetrate deeper into the stars and we see what is happening in a star - how the formation of stars in general takes place in large clouds of gas and dust.



Prof. S. K. Ghosh

To send infrared telescope up in an orbit is a huge technical challenge, we need to cool the detector to 1 degree Kelvin or .3 degrees Kelvin. Imagine we design a satellite with a life of one year then to keep the detector cooled for 1 year at such low temperatures is a very difficult and expensive task. It is normally done using helium, but helium is a super fluid - handling it is very difficult.

[Concluded]

**Nehru Planetarium
31st Anniversary
Celebrations - 2008**

Astro-Quiz Contest

For Students of Std. VI & VII
Saturday, 1st March 2008
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Astro-Elocution Contest

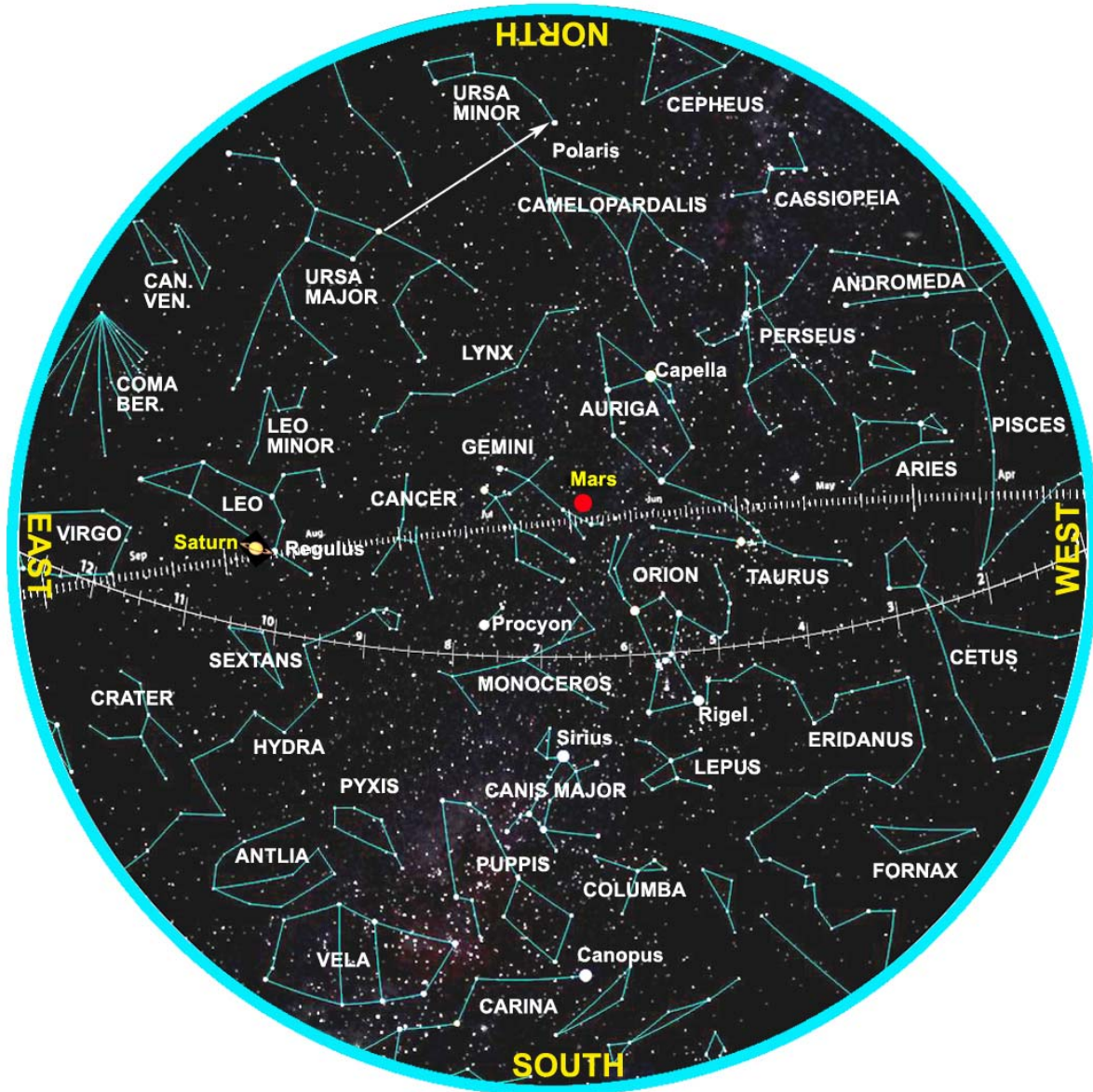
For Students of Std. VIII & IX
Sunday, 2nd March 2008
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Concluding Function

The concluding function of the 31st Anniversary Celebrations of Nehru Planetarium will be held on Monday 3rd March 2008 at 5:00 pm at Sky Theatre of Nehru Planetarium, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

Mr. A. S. Manekar, Director, Nehru Science Centre will be the Chief Guest.

STAR CHART FOR MARCH 2008



Hold the chart vertically before your eyes and turn until the geographical direction you are facing shows at the bottom of the chart. Planets Mars and Saturn are within the chart boundaries at 8 p.m. in the middle of the month in Gemini and Leo respectively. Mercury, Venus and Jupiter are in the morning sky. The star positions shown in the chart are for early month; 9 p.m., middle month; 8 p.m. and late month; 7 p.m. and the planet positions are for the middle of the month.

Phases of the Moon (timings in IST)

New Moon (Amavasya)	First Quarter (Shukla Paksha Asthami)	Full Moon (Poornima)	Last Quarter (Krishna Paksha Ashtami)
07 Mar. 22:44 hrs	14 Mar. 16:16 hrs	22 Mar. 00:10 hrs	30 Mar. 03:17 hrs

Piyush Pandey
Director, Nehru Planetarium

Cultural Wing

Vocal Recital Programme

Nehru Centre is organising a four days programme of Vocal Recitals during the month of March 2008.

The details of the programme are:

5th March 2008

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Vocal Recital by Prasad Khaparde

7:45 pm to 8:45 pm

Vocal Recital by Pt. G. G. Joshi

6th March 2008

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Vocal Recital by Meeta Pandit

7:45 pm to 8:45 pm

Vocal Recital by Neha Pethe

7th March 2008

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Vocal Recital by Aparna S. Biwalkar

7:45 pm to 8:45 pm

Vocal Recital by Rasika Karulkar

8th March 2008

6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Vocal Recital by Anita Goswami

7:45 pm to 8:45 pm

Vocal Recital by Malashri Prasad

Prasad Khaparde had initial training in music under the guidance of eminent Gurus D. V. Panke, Smt. Suman Choudhari and Ustad Abdul Rashid Khan. He has performed in various programmes in India and abroad. He is recipient of various awards and also sung for the Marathi movie "Thaang" by renowned director Amol Palekar.

Pt. G.G. Joshi belongs to the era of Guru-Shishya Parampara-old tradition of Agra Gharana. He is a disciple of Ustad like Azmat Hussein Khan, Ustad Latafat Hussein Khan,

Ustad Shafi Ahmed Khan. Also received guidance from great stalwarts of Agra Gharana; Late Ustad Yunus Hussein Khan and Pt. Ram Rao Naik. He has performed in various Mahotsavas in the country.

Meeta Pandit has been groomed by her grandfather, the Late Padmabhushan Pt. Krishnarao Shankar Pandit and then her father Pt. L.K. Pandit. She has won numerous prestigious awards.

Neha Pethe has received guidance of Mrs. Sunetra Pandit and Chandrakant Parkar. She is now taking lessons in the intricacies of Kirana style from Padmabhushan Dr. Prabha Atre. She pursued advanced training in light music from renowned ghazal singer Jasvinder Singh and also from Suhas Bawadekar. She has performed in numerous stage shows, functions and competitions.

Aparna S. Biwalkar is disciple of Gajanan Joshi, Mangala Apte, Prof. Aviraj Tayde and Dr. Vikas Kashalkar. She has performed at various music competitions organised by the Music Institutions and recipient of various awards.

Rasika Karulkar has been learning Hindustani Classical Music from Mrs.

Sunetra Pandit and Mrs. Priyamvada Pethe. She is also taking guidance from Pt. Chandrakant Parkar and Pt. Narayan Prabhu. She has performed at various festivals.

Anita Goswami a thumri singer was initiated into singing by Smt. Renuka Sen at her tender age. She is disciple of Sri Amiyo Ghosh, Ustad Chand Khan, Pt. Kashinath Mishra and Ustad Iqbal Ahmed Khan. She is an "A" Grade singer in Hindi Bhajan and "B" high Grade singer of Thumri of All India Radio and Doordarshan. She has performed at various places in India.

Malashri Prasad received her initial training in music from her mother, Smt. Ira Chakravarti at the age of three years. She is disciple of late Padma Bhushan Pandit Gyan Prakash Ghosh, late Ustad Munawar Ali Khan, Smt. Meera Banerjee, Smt. Savita Devi, late Smt. Siddheswari Devi and the Padma Bhushan late Smt. Shobha Gurtu. She has given a number of performances in many parts of India and abroad. She is an "A" Grade artiste of All India Radio and Television.

5-8 March 2008, 6:30 pm
Nehru Centre's Hall of Culture

Entry: Free to all music lovers

Review: "National Dance Festival"

National Dance Festival

Nehru Centre had organised Dance Festival from 28th to 30th January 2008 at Nehru Centre Auditorium.

The following dancers performed :

28th January 2008

Nandita Puri (Kathak), Devayani (Bharatnatyam)

29th January 2008

Daksha Mashruwala (Odissi), Bimbavati Devi (Manipuri)

30th January 2008

Shanta Rati Misra (Kuchipudi), Deepak Majumdar (Bharatnatyam)

The festival was well attended and appreciated by dance lovers.

Programme for March 2008

ANAND MALI . EKNATH GIRAM

Anand secured G.D.A. in painting from Abhinav Kala Mahavidyalaya, Pune, Dip.Ed. from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai and A.T.D. from Latur. His paintings are compositions in acrylic on canvas.

Eknath received G.D. Art in Drawing & painting and Dip. Ed. from Pune and A.T.D. from Nanded. He has won many awards. His paintings are figurative in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 26th February 2008
to Monday 3rd March 2008
(AC Gallery)**

DR. A. N. DAMLE

Dr. Damle is a doctorate in Chemistry. He is a self taught artist. Landscapes in water colour is his first love. He has been guided by an eminent painter Shri Shrad Waykool of Kolhapur.

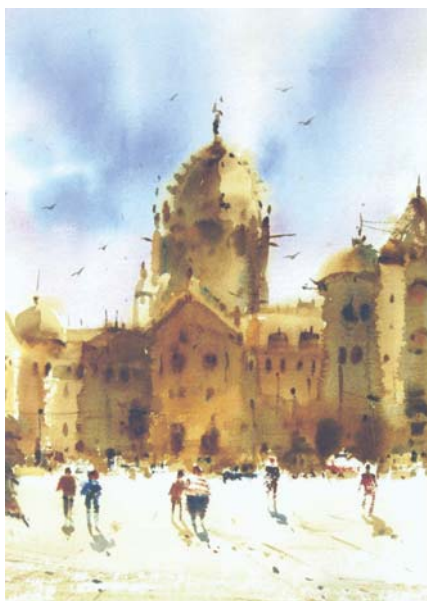
**Tuesday 26th February 2008
to Monday 3rd March 2008
(Circular Gallery)**

**VARSHA PANDIT .
JAYANTA PANDIT**

Varsha secured Diploma in Painting and A.T.D. from L. S. Raheja School of Art and Art Masters from Sir J. J. School of Art, Mumbai. She has won many awards for her water colour landscapes.

Jayanta also graduated in Painting from L. S. Raheja School of Art with Art Teacher's Diploma. He has done Art Masters from Sir J. J. School of Art. His landscapes are in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 4th March 2008
to Monday 10th March 2008
(AC Gallery)**



Painting by Varsha Pandit

'AFFORDABLE ART'

The water colour landscapes from the collection of Nehru Centre Art Gallery will be exhibited.

**Tuesday 4th March 2008
to Monday 10th March 2008
(Circular Gallery)**

A. M. BEKWAD

Bekwad has secured Diploma in Drawing & Painting from Belgaum, Karnataka. He has won many awards for his water colour landscapes with Panaromic view.

**Tuesday 11th March 2008
to Monday 17th March 2008
(AC Gallery)**

ARVIND SUTHAR

Arvind has received B.A. and M.A. in Fine Arts from M. S. University, Baroda. He has won many prestigious awards. Had many shows to his credit. He has attended water colour, terracotta and ceramic workshops in Baroda and Lalit Kala's Art Festival in Assam.

**Tuesday 11th March 2008
to Monday 17th March 2008
(Circular Gallery)**

**ANKUSH DHUPKAR .
KAILAS ANYAL . SACHIN WAIKAR
. SUSHANT KUVESKAR**



Painting by Ankush Dhupkar

Ankush is a self taught artist. He has participated in many shows. His paintings are landscapes in water colours.



Painting by Kailas Anyal

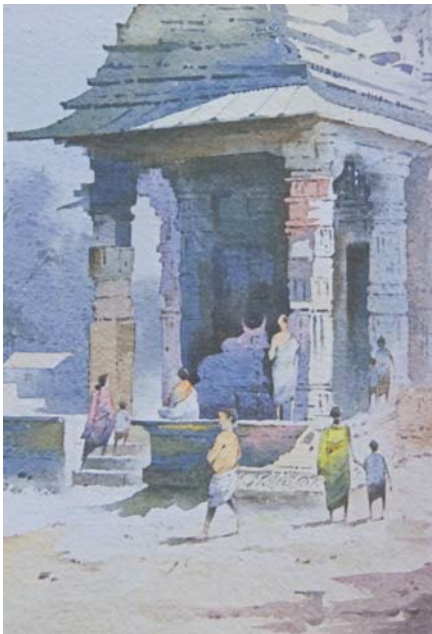
Kailas has secured G. D. Art in Applied Art from L. S. Raheja School of Art, Mumbai. He paints in water colours. He has done exhibitions of his photographs too.

Sachin holds Diploma in Sculpture & Modelling from Sir J. J. School of Art,



Sculpture by Sachin Waikar

Mumbai. He has won many awards. His sculptures are in various mediums.



Painting by Sushant Kuveskar

Sushant is a self taught artist. His landscapes are in water colours. Has participated in many group shows.

**Tuesday 18th March 2008
to Monday 24th March 2008
(AC Gallery)**

K. SATYANARAYANA

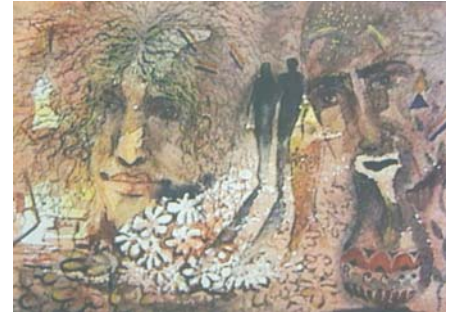
Shri Satyanarayana, a Chemical Engineer by profession is a self taught

artist. He has exhibited his water colours and oils on canvas in Vishakapatnam and Mangalore.

**Tuesday 18th March 2008
to Monday 24th March 2008
(Circular Gallery)**

ROOP CHAND

Shri Roop Chand secured Diploma in Fine Art from S.U.S.A., New Delhi and B.A. in Art from Delhi University. Worked under the guidance of Shri Rameshwar Broota at Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi. He has won many prestigious awards and had



Painting by Roop Chand

shows in India. His paintings are human compositions in oils and mix media.

**Tuesday 25th March 2008
to Monday 31st March 2008
(Circular Gallery)**



Fusion Show 2008

**Artists from:
Maharashtra and West Bengal**

Nehru Centre had the first 'Art Fusion' Show last year. 101 artists from the hinterland of Maharashtra and Mumbai participated.

Nehru Centre is organising this year Art Fusion Show 2008, second year in succession.

This time it is a fusion of art of artists from Maharashtra and West Bengal. More than 110 artists from Maharashtra and West Bengal will get an opportunity to display their work to the connoisseurs and collectors of art.

The Art Fusion Show will be inaugurated by eminent artist **Akbar Padamsee** on **Thursday, 4th March 2008 at 6:00 pm.** at the **Hall of Vision**, Second Floor, Discovery of India Building, Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

The show will be on view from **5th March 2008 to 10th March 2008** between **11:00 am and 8:00 pm.**

**FOR PRIVATE
CIRCULATION ONLY**

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

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NEHRU REVISITED

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A Source Book

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The Planetarium Way

DISCOVERY OF INDIA
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D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI)
"GURU-SHISHYA"

BABA GAJBAR & GANPATRAO WADANGEKAR

NARAYAN L. SONAVALDEKAR

NAGESH BHIMRAO SABANNAVAR

SAMAKALEEN (Contemporary Five Artists)

VINAYAK S. MASOJI

K. B. KULKARNI

COLLECTOR'S PRIDE

Available at:

Discovery of India Exposition
Ground floor, NEHRU CENTRE
Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.

TO OUR READERS

Kindly write to us if there is any discrepancy in the address (or name). It is our aim to reach this publication well before the beginning of the month, to ensure that you do not miss any programmes of Nehru Centre.

Tel : 2493 3340, 2496 4676 Ext: 118

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DISCOVERY OF INDIA EXPOSITION

Glimpses

Know Your India:

Mauryan Period

Stupas and other crafts

The earliest stupas must have been ordinary mounds of earth, marking burial places. For people considered important or holy, the height began to be raised. Later these mounds developed into elaborate dome-shaped brick or stone constructions with sculptured railings and gateways.

In this way, the Great Stupa of Sanchi was erected over a smaller stupa of Ashoka's time that housed some Buddhist relics. Excavations have shown that the original stupa was a much smaller structure, about 60 ft in diameter. Built of bricks, it must have been surrounded by wooden railings.

All regions and cultures have their distinct pottery, which can be recognized by the use of typical colours, firing processes, shapes and motifs. Pottery being commonly and extensively used, it is usually found in profusion in excavations and helps to identify the time and culture to which the site belongs.

Northern Black Polished Ware (NBP) was an extremely fine pottery that developed in the north. First found in the times of Buddha and Mahavira, its use continued right through the Mauryan period. NBP was apparently much in demand, for it travelled to the far corners of the empire; it was probably an expensive pottery, however, and not for everyday use.

If the stone pillars were expressions of imperial art, NBP may be seen as folk art, for the techniques and designs in pottery develop from common traditions and from the experiments of craftsmen NBP was made of fine clay and fired to a very high temperature.

Examples found vary from the thick to the thin, but all have a surface polish, a steely blue or golden glitter, that we have not yet been able to duplicate! There are bowls and dishes; the painted motifs often resemble those of the earlier Painted Grey Ware (PGW). Most other contemporary objects of everyday craft - in wood, cloth, ivory, palm-leaf - have perished.

(To be concluded)

Exposition open from 10.30 am to 5 pm - Every Day except Monday