

# Newsletter

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## Nehru Centre



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## OBITUARY

Shri S. K. Kulkarni, Nehru Centre's Director of Finance and Administration for over three decades is no more. He passed away on the afternoon of 14th June, 2018 at Pune. The suddenness of his passing away has been a great shock for everyone at the Centre and also for his vast circle of friends and admirers.

Who was this man whose demise at the age of ninety has left so many shocked and stupefied? He was a *karma yogi* in the real sense of the word. Born in a family which had just the bare minimum means of subsistence, he had seen his young widowed mother struggle day and night to make two ends meet. That memory got permanently etched in his mind and he pursued education with dedication and a sincerity of purpose. Starting at the lowest rung of the hierarchy in the office of the Accountant General in 1953 he, by sheer dint of hard work and impeccable rectitude, rose to become the Senior Deputy Accountant General, having been inducted into the prestigious Indian Audit and Accounts Service (IA&AS) earlier. It was indeed a great achievement and well deserved recognition of his outstanding merit.

Within days after his retirement from government service on 31st October, 1986, he joined the Nehru Centre as its Director (Finance & Administration). The Centre needed someone like him to put its finances and administration on a sound footing in those formative years of its existence. He proved equal to the task and handled it with aplomb. It was his management skill that steered the Centre through many a difficult times.

As time passed and years turned into decades this quiet little man with gentle ways became a father figure at the Centre, loved and respected by all. He made sure that all units of the Centre functioned well and uninterrupted. When the Planetarium was without a Director for some time, he managed it. And when Director (Culture) was on long leave, he ensured the continuity of cultural programmes. When a dignitary visited the Discovery of India Exposition he would volunteer to guide him/her around all the galleries of the Exposition. When the Centre was taken by surprise by the unscheduled visit of Chelsea Clinton, he was there to show her around.

During his years at the Centre, he became an author, a talent which had remained dormant while he was dealing with the dreary statements of accounts of various government departments. He wrote seven books, out of which 'The Art of Ageing' received wide acclaim.

He was a constant at the Centre and an institution within the institution. With his passing away, an era of Nehru Centre has ended and a huge void looms large. But time is a big healer and life must go on. Goodbye Mr. Kulkarni. May you rest in peace!

## Events At a Glance...

### Library

#### Talk

**Letters from Kargil**  
Written by Diksha Dwivedi

Diksha will talk about her father who was a Kargil war martyr. In this book, Diksha writes about the story of the Kargil war, through the letters and diaries of her father and other soldiers who fought there.

**Saturday, 7th July 2018**  
**4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.**  
**'Who Are We' Hall**

Open to all

### Cultural Wing

**Megh Malhar**  
(A programme based on Raag Malhar through dance & music)

**Thursday, 19th July 2018**  
**6.30 p.m.**  
**Nehru Centre Auditorium**

### Art Gallery

**Chatak 2018 (A Monsoon Show of Student Artists)**

**Monday, 2nd July 2018 to**  
**Monday, 10th July 2018**  
**(AC & Circular Gallery)**

### Dear Subscribers

You are requested to renew your subscription for the year 2018-2019 (April to March) if not already done, so that the Newsletter can be sent to you without any break. The cheque should be drawn in favour of Nehru Centre only.

## Montagu - Chelmsford Report, April 1918



Edwin Samuel Montagu



Lord Chelmsford

Last month the Newsletter dwelt upon the Home Rule Movement which, many felt, was responsible for the constitutional reforms. It is also said that the reforms were in recognition of the loyal services of Indians to Great Britain during the First World War. Be that as it may, Mr. Edwin Montagu, the secretary of state for India, made the famous announcement regarding self governing institutions in India in the House of Commons on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1917. Thereafter he came to India in November, the same year, and along with Lord Chelmsford, the Governor General of India, toured the country extensively holding a series of formal hearings with a view to ascertaining public opinion. Their deliberations resulted in Montagu - Chelmsford Report which was published in April 1918 and which bore the signature of both. This Report formed the basis of the Government of India Act, 1919.

This Act defined the functions of the Central and Provincial Governments. Defence, political

and external affairs, communications and railways, Currency and coinage, civil and criminal law and procedures and the All India Services were allotted to the Centre.

Internal law and order, administration of justice and jails, irrigation, forests, inspection of factories, land revenue administration, local self government, education, medical department, sanitation and public health, public works and agriculture were entrusted to the Provincial Governments.

The spheres of the Central and Provincial Governments with regard to the sources of income and the heads of revenue were also laid down.

There was, however, no change in the position of the Governor General. He remained directly responsible to the Secretary of State and Parliament and not to the Indian Legislature. The Executive Council was enlarged and three of the members were

*contd. on page 3*

chosen from among qualified Indians.

The Central Legislature was made bi-cameral, the two chambers being the Council of State and the Legislative Assembly. The former was to consist of 60 members, 34 of whom were to be elected. Some seats were meant for officials. The latter was to consist of 145 members of whom 105 were elected, 26 nominated officials and 14 nominated non officials. Elections to both the houses were direct and the franchise was based on a high property qualification.

The tenure of life of the Council of States was fixed at five years and that of the Assembly at three years. But the Governor General had the power to dissolve either chamber or, in special circumstances, to extend its tenure.

In spite of clearly defined functions of the Central and Provincial Governments, the Central Legislature had the power to enact laws for the whole of British India provided prior consent of the Governor General had been obtained. The Governor General was empowered in cases of emergency, to promulgate ordinances effective for a period of six months to begin with but could be embodied in law if necessary. Thus the Governor General was 'an important, if not predominant factor of the Indian Legislature.'

Provincial Legislatures were unicameral known as Legislative Councils. Seventy per cent of the members were to be elected and twenty per cent were nominated



Archival aerial view of Parliament House Complex (Courtesy: <https://rajyasabha.nic.in>)

officials. There was a Governor for each province appointed by the crown. The Governor of a province was given enormous powers and was the real authority over it. He was not responsible to the Legislature but to the Governor General and the Secretary of State of India at Whitehall.

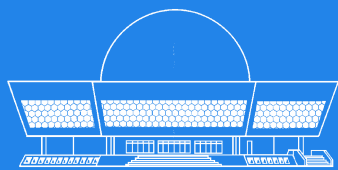
The Government of India Act did not give real responsibility to the elected representatives of the people because the Governor General at the Centre and the Governor within the province wielded real power. Nevertheless

from the point of view of the British it was an important step in the direction of constitutional development in India. But from the point of view of Indians, the Act of 1919 did not satisfy the national aspirations. The Montagu – Chelmsford Report was considered in a special session of the Congress and condemned as inadequate, disappointing and unsatisfactory. In a special session held in Calcutta in 1920 the Congress adopted the famous Non-Cooperation Resolution and that marked the beginning of India's freedom movement under Gandhi's leadership.

### What Nehru said....

The growth of India in industry, in technology, in science, and in other ways will benefit not only India but the world at large in promoting peace and co-operative living between nations. Thus we may bring together our own traditional ideals and modern techniques and have a marriage of the two, and serve ourselves and the world. I want you to bear in mind that we are privileged to live through this changing period and to participate in bringing about these great changes.

*July 28, 1961*



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

## SKY SHOW : 'Biography of the Universe'

### Timings

12 noon (Hindi) 1:30 p.m. Marathi  
3:00 p.m. (English) 4:30 p.m. Hindi

(MONDAY CLOSED)

## Summer Workshops at Nehru Planetarium

Two different workshops were organized for the students of VII and VIII standard. There were half-day workshops conducted by visiting faculty on 12 different topics and workshops for five days conducted in the science laboratory.

There were **12 half-day workshops** conducted on all days from 8th to 23rd May 2018 except Nehru Centre holidays. The topics covered and the faculty are as follows:

**Biotechnology** by **Dr. Siddhivinayak Barve**, Department of Biotechnology, V.G. Vaze College.

**Microbiology** by **Dr. Pramod Ghogare**, Department of Microbiology, SIES, College.

**Climate Changes** by **Dr. Nandini Deshmukh**, Director, Ecopersona, Mumbai & District Manager, Climate Reality Project (India).

**Astronomy** by **Mr. Arvind Paranjpye**, Director, Nehru Planetarium.

**Chemistry** by **Dr. (Mrs.) Chitra A. Joshi**, Dept. of Chemistry, Ramnarain Ruia College.

**Concept Development in Sciences** by **Ms. Manasi Rajadhyaksha**, Director, Concepts Unlimited Science Education and Research Centre.

**Experimentation** by **Shri C. S. Pulliwar**, Education Officer, Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai.

**Physics** by **Dr. Lochan Jolly**, Dept. of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineering, Thakur College.

**An Environmental Awareness** by **Dr. Rajendra Shinde** Department of Botany, St. Xavier's College.

**Marine Life** by **Dr. Vinay Deshmukh**, Former Principal Scientist, Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI).

**Science Experimentation** by **Mr. Rajiv Vartak**, Institute for School Science Education and

**Mathematics** by **Dr. Shweta Naik**, Scientific Officer, Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE).

About 35 students from schools in and around Mumbai participated in these interactive workshops.

Five days summer vacation batches were conducted from April 17th to June 9th, 2018 for the students of 7th-10th standard.

The batches were as follows:

1. Astronomy - 5 days (conducted twice)
2. Wonders of light - 5 days (conducted once)
3. Biology - 3 days (conducted twice)
4. Chemistry - 3 days (conducted twice)
5. Electricity and magnetism - 5 days (conducted twice)
6. Heat and sound - 5 days (conducted once)



There was overwhelming response to these sessions. Approximately 25 students had participated for each of the batch mentioned above. Students were given a certificate of participation for completing the course successfully.

Optional examinations for Electricity & Magnetism and Heat & Sound, were conducted. Most of the students showed willingness to evaluate themselves. Certificate of merit (with grades mentioned) was given to those who successfully completed the examination.

## One Small Step...

"That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind."

This is the most significant sentence spoken in the history of the Earth. Most likely, it will never be surpassed.

The sentence marks the epoch moment when Neil Alden Armstrong first set foot on the Moon on 20 July 1969. That small step transformed mankind's journey from the present confines of the home planet to a future of space exploration and possibly colonisation.

Armstrong was Mission Commander, along with Command Module Pilot Michael Collins and Lunar Module Pilot Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin. They were the crew of Apollo 11 that became the first manned spacecraft to land on the Moon. It was the first time that human beings stepped on an entirely alien body in the Solar System.



Mankind had taken heroic steps before. There were watershed moments, as when Homo Sapiens crossed over from Asia to Australia and America about 10,000 years ago; or when Columbus went on his adventure and landed on what he thought was India. But these were adventures with a 'one way ticket'. The Moon-landing, on the other hand, was a carefully planned mission, with a perfectly defined goal and a precisely laid-out path. It would not be a one-way journey. Its success would be established when the astronauts returned home after completion of their journey.

The voyage can be deemed to be the most significant because of the element of uncertainty — and because it was the shared adventure of an entire planet. Almost every human being on Earth was tracking the event with the limited communication means that were available in the 'sixties.

The entire mission was the collective effort of a very large number of people from different walks of life: scientists and mathematicians who studied the motion of the Sun, the Earth and the Moon, and chalked out the exact path; engineers, who took on the technological challenge of ensuring that the mission followed that exact path; administrative staff who took care of every need of the scientists and engineers; security personnel; and the media who made the event a living room conversation. And the importance of the political class cannot be overstated. The mission would not have gone beyond the drawing board without their express will. In fact, it was President John F Kennedy who proposed in 1961 that "...this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the Earth."

Selecting the right team for the mission, along with the right back up team was no less a challenge. There are always too many aspirants for such an endeavour. But many an aspirant falls short by several steps on the ladder of ability.

But when NASA's Chief of the Astronaut Office, Deke Slayton, selected Armstrong, Aldrin and Collins for the Apollo 11 mission, he knew he was on the right track. And indeed, history has proven that he was.

# Cultural Wing



## Megh Malhar

Rains have arrived and once again Nehru Centre is welcoming them by presenting Raag Malhar in all its richness and variety. This raag has been sung by legendary singers throughout ages. Nehru Centre too has been for the past thirty years paying its tribute to this magnificent raag by organizing a yearly festival dedicated to it. This year's presentation will narrate through the sounds of instruments the impact of rain all over India.

### *Credits*

Concept & Script	:	L. A. Kazi, Director (Culture), Nehru Centre
Dance Choreography	:	Jayashree Nair
Music	:	Narayan Mani
Commentary	:	Sarosh Tungekar

Thursday, 19th July 2018  
6.30 p.m.  
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Entry: Passes will be available on 16th July 2018 from 10.30 a.m. onwards at the auditorium. The booking window will close when all passes get exhausted.

## Programmes for July 2018

### CHATAK' A MONSOON SHOW of Student Artists

'CHATAK' - A Monsoon show of paintings of student artists, each having a different style and medium, will be on display. There are twenty one student artists participating from Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai, Raigad, Pune, Nashik, Kolhapur, Satara, Sangli. Their works are in various styles and mediums. The art lovers will be able to view different styles of paintings and sculptures under one roof.



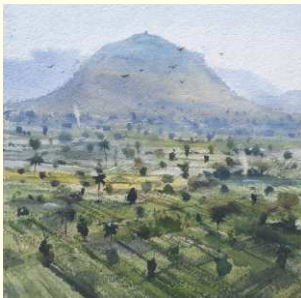
Painting by Priya Sawardekar



Painting by Reena Naik



Painting by Siddhant Pisal



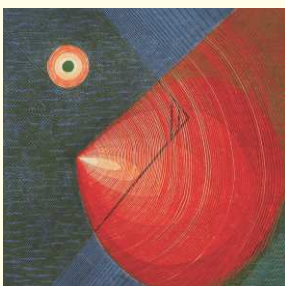
Painting by Akash Potdar



Painting by Anup Sharma



Painting by Shruti Chawan



Painting by Pooja Jadhav



Painting by Tejas Mhatre



Painting by Shubham Kesur

**Monday 2nd July to Tuesday 10th July 2018  
( AC & Circular Gallery )**

### HIRALAL PATEL



Painting by Hiralal Patel

**Hiralal** has Diploma in Fine Arts from Gujarat. His artworks are in pencil with tiny dots and circles of various shades. In the 'On the Spot Art Contest' held in Gujarat, there were three hundred participants. He was selected and honoured amongst the top twenty five artists.

**Tuesday 24th July to  
Monday 30th July 2018  
( AC Gallery )**

### KUMAR UMESH



Painting by Kumar Umesh

**Kumar Umesh** is a self taught artist from New Delhi. His paintings are realistic figurative compositions in acrylic and oils. He has been exhibiting his works in India.

**Tuesday 24th July to  
Monday 30th July 2018  
( Circular Gallery )**

## NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

MUMBAI PAST &amp; PRESENT \* WITNESS TO HISTORY

\* REMEMBERING EINSTEIN \*

INDIAN ASTRONOMY A Source Book

EXPLORING THE UNIVERSE: The Planetarium Way

SCIENCE IN INDIA: PAST &amp; PRESENT

DISCOVERY OF INDIA Abridged and illustrated

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11. COLLECTOR'S PRIDE / 12. K. B. KULKARNI

13. VINAYAK S. MASOJI

14. SAMAKALEEN (Contemporary Five Artists)

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KRISHNAJI KETKAR \* DATTAJIRAO DALVI

\* GOVIND MALADKAR

15. NAGESH B. SABANNAVAR

16. NARAYAN L. SONAVADEKAR

17. "GURU-SHISHYA"

BABA GAJBAR &amp; GANPATRAO WADANGEKAR

18. D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI)

19. MILLENNIUM SHOW

(A Century of Art from Maharashtra)

20. BALAJI TALIM &amp; HARISH TALIM

21. S. L. HALDANKAR &amp; G. S. HALDANKAR

22. VINAYAKRAO P. KARMARKAR

23. GOPALRAO DEUSKAR

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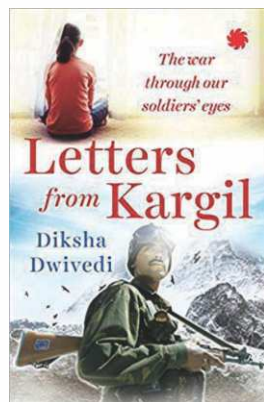
Available at:

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## New Arrivals: Books

Sr. No.	Title	Author /s
1.	Bombay: Exploring the Jewish urban heritage	Shaul Sapir
2.	Mills, molls and moolah: It all began in Bombay	Bachi Karkaria
3.	The siege: The attack on the Taj	Adrian Levy and Cathy Scott-Clark
4.	Beyond a billion ballots: Democratic reforms for a resurgent India	Vinay Sahasrabudde
5.	Coalition politics in India	Bidyut Chakrabarty
6.	The making of exile: Sindhi Hindus and the partition of India	Nandita Bhavnani
7.	India shastra: Reflections on the nation in our time	Shashi Tharoor
8.	Sheikh Mujibur Rahman: From rebel to founding father	Syed Badrul Ahsan
9.	Banaras: Walking through India's sacred city	Nandini Majumdar
10.	Embodied vision: Interpreting the architecture of Fatehpur Sikri	Jaimini Mehta

## Talk

Letters from Kargil  
Written by Diksha Dwivedi

Diksha will talk about her father who was a Kargil war martyr. In this book, Diksha writes about the story of the Kargil war, through the letters and diaries of her father and other soldiers who fought there.

Saturday, 7th July 2018

'Who Are We' Hall  
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Open to all

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2nd & 4th Saturdays  
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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public holidays

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