

**REPORT ON
WORKSHOP ON
“MUSEUMS AND INTANGIBLE NATURAL HERITAGE WITH FOCUS ON DESERT”
(19-21 March, 2013)**

NMNH organized this workshop in collaboration with ‘RUPAYAN SANSTHAN’, Jodhpur and ‘DESERT CULTURE CENTRE MUSEUM’, Jaisalmer during 19 – 21 March 2013 at Jaisalmer (Rajasthan). It was an Exhibition Development Programme workshop on “Museums and Intangible Natural Heritage with focus on Desert”.

Objective: The objective of the Workshop was to

- a. Bring together all stakeholders interested in the INH of Desert
- b. Suggest a viable Methodology for the Inventorisation of Desert of INH
- c. Act a capacity building exercise to Museologist
- d. Preparation of a draft exhibition on INH

Themes: The following themes were discussed:

- a. INH of Desert Plants,
- b. INH of Desert Animals,
- c. General themes on INH
- d. INH aspects of Kalbelia

Participants:

About 100 participants from various fields such as Museology, Botany, Zoology, Biodiversity, Folklore, Heritage, etc as well as local traditional practioners attended.

Sessions

The workshop was structured toward gaining an understanding of the applications of various methodologies of heritage mapping as a viable tool for the inventorisation of INH. The academic sessions were held through panel discussions.

Day 1:

The forenoon session started with inaugural function with welcome by Shri Kuldeep Kothari of Rupayan Sansthan, workshop was introduced by Dr. B. Venugopal Director, NMNH, Shri Kalunath, President Gayan Vikas Sansthan, Jodhpur formally inaugurated the workshop followed by observations from Guest of Honours Shri N.K. Sharma, Desert Culture Centre Museum, Jaisalmer, Dr. Arjun Deo Charan, Chairman Rajasthan Sangeet Natak Academy, Jodhpur and Shri Karan Singh, DCF Wildlife Jaisalmer. The vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Onkar Naik, SEA, NMNH. The afternoon session had panel discussion of following Experts.

- a. “Biodiversity in Thar Desert and Conservation” by Dr. J.P. Singh, Head, CAZRI, Regional Research Station, Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.
- b. “Diversity of Intangible Natural Heritage of Desert Fauna” by Dr. Padma Bohra, Scientist D & Officer in charge, Desert Regional Centre, ZSI, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- c. “Plants used in Musical Instruments by Indigenous people in Rajasthan” by Vinod Maina, Scientist-C, BSI, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

- d. “Intangible Natural Heritage in Rajasthan Desert – A Case study of soil” by Dr. L.P. Bharara, Retd. Principal Scientist, CAZRI, Jodhpur, Rajasthan.
- e. “Habitat preference of some common birds in Thar Desert of India” by Dr. S.S. Meena, Deptt. of Zoology, SBKPG College Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

The morning and afternoon sessions were designed to provide participants with an exposure to the various aspects of INH of Deserts.

Day 2:

Field Visit: In the morning session there was a field visit to Desert National Park where the participants had Camel cart ride inside the park and also interacted with the Eco-Development Committee as well as villagers. Mr. Mal Singh Jamara, Honorary Wildlife Warden Distt. Jaisalmer and President of eco development committee, sudasari-jamara had accompanied the delegates inside the park and to the villagers. The afternoon session had focus session on Kalbelia, with the actual performers from various regions of the State leading the discussion with inputs from other Experts. The exercise was facilitated by Rupayan Sansthan.

Day 3:

The session started with presentation on Art for life-Making Art a livelihood by Ms Lipika Das and Mr. D Mukherjee, Banglanatak.com. Kolkata. Ms Niharika Gupta from Sahapedia gave a presentation on overview of their organization. Dr. Reena Dey, Scientist C NMNH, Dr Onkar Naik, SEA RMNH Mysore, Shri R. R. Bakde Retd. Scientist NMNH gave a presentation on Development of an Exhibition on Intangible Natural Heritage focused on Desert based on temporary exhibition of NMNH Intangible Natural Heritage. The presentation was followed by discussion on how to develop an Exhibition on INH based on the deliberations of the workshop.

SELECTED PHOTOS







