

World Heritage Site -Group of monuments at Hampi



Traditionally known as Pampakshetra of Kishkindha, Hampi is situated on the southern bank of the river Tungabhadra. Once it was the seat of the mighty Vijayanagara empire.

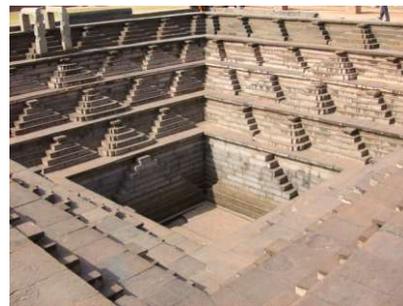
The monuments of Vijayanagara city, also known as Vidyanagara in honour of the sage Vidyanarya were built between AD 1336-1570, from the times of Harihara-I to Sadasiva Raya. A large number of royal buildings were raised by Krishnadeva Raya (AD 1509-30), the greatest ruler of the dynasty. The period witnessed resurgence of Hindu religion, art, architecture in an unprecedented scale. The contemporary chroniclers who came from far off countries-such as Arabia, Italy, Portugal and Russia visited the empire, have left graphic and glowing accounts of the city. It covers an area of nearly 26 sq km and is stated to be enclosed by seven lines of fortifications.

Extensive remains of the palaces can be seen within innermost enclosure of the ancient Vijayanagara. The various religious and secular structures which include Hindu and Jaina temples, audience hall of the king, the magnificent throne platform to witness the festivals and other events, the king's balance (tulabhara) are awe-inspiring.

Temples of this city are noted for their large dimensions, florid ornamentation, bold and delicate carvings, stately pillars, magnificent pavilions and a great wealth of iconographic and traditional



depictions which include subjects from the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. The largest extant temple is that of Pampapati (now in worship) was extensively renovated. Its magnificent entrance tower was caused by Krishnadeva Raya. The Vitthala temple is an excellent example of Vijayanagara style. The



Contd.

Cultural Calendar for September 2010

September 9

Film: Mahabharat – India's greatest epic (In Hindi)
Volume II
Venue & Time: ICC 5.30 p.m. Duration: 3 hrs

September 14

Hindi Day Celebrations
by the Hindi course students of the Indian Cultural Centre
Venue & Time: ICC 6.00 p.m.

September 21

Film: Pasanga (Tamil Film)
Director: Pandiraj
Venue & Time: ICC 6.00 p.m. Duration: 3 hrs

September 24

An evening of dance & music by the students of Nadeshwaralaya Academy of Fine Arts
Venue & Time: ICC 6.00 p.m.

September 21

Film: Ankur
Director: Shyam Benegal
Venue & Time: ICC 6.00 p.m. Duration: 3 hrs

September 25

Lecture on "World Heritage City of Hampi" by Dr. M. S. Nagaraja Rao, former Director General, Archeological Survey of India
Venue & Time: ICC 5.30 p.m.

September 28

Bharatha Natyam Recital
by the students of the Indian Cultural Centre, trained by their guru Ms. Subashini Pathmanathan
Venue & Time: ICC 6.00 p.m.

September 30

Book launch - "Elements of Hindustani Music"
Authored by Shasthrapathi Anil Mihiripenne
Venue & Time: ICC 6.00 p.m.

(Admission to all programmes is free and on first come first served basis)



monolithic statues of Lakshmi, Narasimha and Ganesa are noted for their massiveness and grace.

The Krishna temple, Pattabhirama temple, Hazara Ramachandra and Chandrasekhara temple as also the Jaina temples, are other examples. Majority of these temples were provided with widespread bazaars flanked on either side by storeyed mandapas. Among secular edifices mention may be made of the Zenana enclosure wherein a massive stone basement of the Queen's palace and an ornate pavilion called 'Lotus-Mahal' are only

remnants of a luxurious antahpura. The corner towers of arresting elevation, the Dhananayaka's enclosure (treasury), the Mahanavami Dibba carrying beautifully sculptured panels, a variety of ponds and tanks, mandapas, the elephant's stables and the row of pillared mandapas are some of the important architectural remains of this city.

Recent excavations at the site have brought to light a large number of palatial complexes and basements of several platforms. Interesting finds include a large number of stone images, both in round and relief, beautiful terracotta objects and stucco figures that once embellished the palaces. In addition many gold and copper coins, household utensils, a square stepped-tank (sarovara) at the south-west of Mahanavami Dibba, and a large number of ceramics including the important variety of porcelain and inscribed Buddhist sculptures of 2nd-3rd century AD have also been unearthed.

SANDESH

The monthly newsletter of the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo

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September 2010

Todi Ragini By Ukil

Past Events

16th July

Bharatha Natyam & Kuchupuddi Recital by Mr.Thavarajah Mohanapriyan



Graduates of Kalai Kaveri College of Fine Arts Mr. Thavarajah Mohanapriyan, presented a brilliant Bharatha Natyam & Kuchupuddi recital at the Centre. He commenced his performance with Pushpanjali and continued with Natesha Kauthavam and dance for a song by great poet Bharathiyar in Bharatha Natyam style. He presented two items, Jathiswaram and Tharangam in Kuchupuddi style and concluded his recital with Thillana. Around 90 – 100 guests attended the event.

23rd July

Hindustani Vocal Music recital by Shasthrapathi Sangeetha Michael (Dalugama)



A vocal recital in North Indian Classical music by Shasthrapathi Sangeetha Michael (Dalugama) held at the Centre on 23rd July was well attended by music lovers and students of classical music. Sangeetha sang several raga's and bhajans.

Around 75 - 100 guests participated.



30th July

Tabla recital by the students of Visharad S. W. Randoowa



Students trained by their guru Visharad S.W.Randoowa presented a brilliant tabla recital at teh Centre which lasted for an hour and half. They commenced their recital by accompanying on tabla for a vocal item presnted by Shasthrapathi Asith Atapattu.The studnets presented several items as group, duet and solo. Around 100 – 150 guests participated.



LIBRARY

Recent Library Accessions

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan : Vision and Mission

Ed. Shahabuddin Iraqi
New Delhi,Manohar,2008,300p.
/National Biography/

Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya

Ed. V.S. Narayana Rao
New Delhi,National Book Trust,1995,138p.
/National Biography/

Meghnad Saha

Ed. Santimay Chatterjee
New Delhi,National Book Trust,1997,150p.
/National Biography/

Dr. Zakir Husain

Ed. M. Mujeeb
New Delhi,National Book Trust,1997,248p.
/National Biography/

The last mughal : the fall of a dynasty

Delhi, 1857
Dalrymple William,
New Delhi, Penguin Group, 2006, 578 p.

Jeisalmer

Haryana, Shubhi publications, 2006, 136 p.

Chune Hue Balgeet: (selected poems for children)

Ed. Dr. Rohitashra Asthana Vol.1
New Delhi, Prabhat Prakashan 2008, 143 p.

Films in September

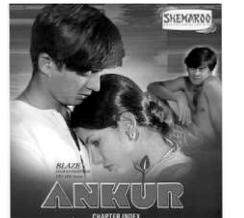
Mahabharat – India's greatest epic (Volume II)

Mahabharat is a powerful and amazing text that inspires awe and wonder. It presents sweeping visions of the cosmos and humanity and intriguing and frightening glimpses of divinity in an ancient narrative that is accessible, interesting and compelling for anyone willing to learn the basic themes of India's culture. The Mahabharat definitely is one of those creations that has travelled far beyond the place of its original creation and will eventually take its rightful place on the highest shelf of world literature. Produced and directed by B.R.Chopra & Ravi Chopra.



Ankur (with English subtitles)

The debut directorial film from Shyam Benegal, deals with social disparities and exploitation. This film focuses on power and privilege with careful thought and acute perception. This film won the award as second best feature film in 1974.



Language: Hindi Starring: Anant Nag, Shabana Azmi, Priya Tendulkar, Sadhu Meher, Kadar Ali Beg & Agha Mohammed Hussain Directed by: Shyam Benegal

New Courses

Hindustani Vocal Music

Course fee : Registration fee Rs.250/=
Monthly fee Rs.500/=

Registration commenced from : 1st June 2010

Yoga

Course fee : Registration fee Rs.250/=
Course fee Rs.2000/= (4months)

Registration will commence from : 27th September 2010
Course will commence from : October 2010

Bharatha Natyam

Course fee : Registration fee Rs.250/=
Monthly fee Rs.500/=

Registration commenced from : 1st May 2010

Tabla

Course fee : Registration fee Rs.250/=
Monthly fee Rs.300/=

Registration will commence from : 10th September 2010
Course will commence from : October 2010