

## Invocation

प्रसादाद्विश्वनाथस्य काश्यां भागीरथीतटे ।  
वृद्धिर्ज्ञानप्रवाहे स्यात् संस्कृतेश्चानुशीलने । ।

prasādādvīśvanāthasya kāśyām bhāgīrathītaṭe ।  
vṛddhirjñānapravāhe syāt saṁskṛteścānuśīlane ॥

With the grace of Lord Śiva, Jñāna-Pravāha stands on the holy bank of Gaṅgā in Kāśī  
for furtherance of flow of knowledge and service to the culture.





## Jñāna-Pravāha at a Glance

2009-2010

### THE DIRECTOR'S ANNOTATION

Various streams of knowledge continue to flow uninterruptedly at Jñāna-Pravāha – Centre for Cultural Studies & Research, Varanasi, situated on the bank of holy river Gaṅgā. The Institution, serving as the confluence, is moving forward with academic and research activities by the Grace of Bābā Viśvanātha and Mā Gaṅgā, the two identities of Kāśī-Varanasi. The ungrudging support and guidance of the members of Jñāna-Pravāha committees and scholars from various disciplines and institutions are our main source of inspiration. The cardinal activities of the Institution include national and international seminars, in-depth study courses, workshops, higher research projects, memorial and special lectures, publications, etc.

Since the erstwhile 'Jñāna-Pravāha Annual Bulletin' was transformed into 'Jñāna-Pravāha Research Journal' last year, it was unanimously decided by the esteemed members to bring out a Supplement featuring the activities of the year 2009-2010. We are happy to place this first Supplement in the hands of our readers with the Journal (No. XIII).

The Founder of 'Jñāna-Pravāha Trust' Sri Vinod Kumar Neotia suddenly left for his heavenly abode on December 1, 2009. His untimely demise was a setback to the Institution. The Jñāna-Pravāha family pays tribute to his fond memories.

Two of our colleagues, viz. Dr. Niraj Pandey and Dr. Chandraneel Sharma, were promoted as Assistant Director (Museum & Administration) and Assistant Director (Research & Publication) respectively, for their diligence and ability to make new endeavours in the academic pursuits of the Institution.

We deeply acknowledge Prof. Anjan Chakraverty's guidance in various activities of Jñāna-Pravāha, especially the Museum. The Institution is thankful to all the distinguished members of Governing Council and Academic Committees, students, teachers, staff of various institutions of the city and outside, citizens of Varanasi and media personnel for their kind cooperation and support throughout the year for successfully carrying out the efforts of Jñāna-Pravāha in appending a drop to the vast ocean of Indian Culture.

*Kamal Giri*

(Prof. Kamal Giri)  
Hon. Director

## Jñāna-Pravāha Bodies

### TRUSTEES

Sri Suresh Neotia: Chairman  
Smt. Bimla Poddar: Managing Trustee  
Sri Harsha Vardhana Neotia: Trustee  
Smt. Smriti Morarka: Trustee  
Prof. Y. K. Mishra: Trustee

### GOVERNING COUNCIL

Sri Suresh Neotia: Chairman  
Smt. Bimla Poddar: Managing Trustee  
Dr. Bhanu Shankar Mehta  
Prof. Pramod Chandra, Harvard University, USA  
Prof. Y. K. Mishra, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, JRRSU, Jaipur  
Prof. M. N. P. Tiwari  
Prof. Anjan Chakraverty  
Prof. Kamal Giri: Hon. Director  
Dr. N. P. Joshi: Hon. Acharya

### ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

#### Philosophy and Religion

Prof. K. D. Tripathi  
Prof. S. S. Shastri  
Prof. G. N. Samten, VC, CUTS, Sarnath  
Prof. H. R. Sharma  
Prof. Y. K. Mishra

#### Literature

Prof. K. K. Sharma  
Prof. Ram Pujan Pandey  
Dr. Kamla Pandeya  
Dr. Chandra Kanta  
Dr. Bhanu Shankar Mehta

#### History and Culture

Prof. Sita Ram Dubey  
Prof. Vidula Jayaswal  
Prof. Vibha Tripathi  
Dr. R. S. Bisht  
Prof. M. N. P. Tiwari

### Visual Arts

Prof. Manjula Chaturvedi  
Prof. Ritwik Sanyal  
Prof. Mridula Sinha  
Dr. Iravati  
Prof. Anjan Chakraverty

### Script & Epigraphy

Prof. K. K. Thaplyal  
Prof. T. P. Verma  
Dr. Savita Sharma  
Dr. B. R. Mani, Joint D.G., ASI, New Delhi

### Samskāra & Anuṣṭhāna Kendra

Sri Suresh Neotia: Patron  
Prof. Sita Ram Shastri: Chairman  
Smt. Bimla Poddar: Member  
Dr. N. P. Joshi: Member  
Prof. S. K. Mishra: Member Secretary, MSRVP, Ujjain  
Prof. Y. K. Mishra: Member/Coordinator

### Jñāna-Pravāha, Mumbai

Prof. Rashmi Poddar : Hon. Director  
Mrs. Smriti Morarka : Joint Director

### Jñāna-Pravāha Scholarship for Indian Classical Music, Kolkata Governing Body :

Smt. Girija Devi  
Shri Gautam Ghosh  
Shri Gautam Chakravarty  
Pt. Vijay Kichlu - Convenor

Jñāna-Pravāha Trust was registered on June 26, 1997 under the Registrar of Assurances, Reg. No. being 1110 of 1997 and is also registered under section 12 A of IT Act 1961. Registration No. being DIT-(E) T 122/8E/86/97-98 dated 14.01.1998. The trust is exempted from Income Tax under sec. 80G. MOU has been signed with National Culture Fund.



## VINOD KUMAR NEOTIA

Founder of Jñāna-Pravāha Trust  
1st October 1939 - 1st December 2009



*From point comes a line, then a circle; when the circuit of this circle is complete,  
then the last is joined to the first.*

- Shabistari





## Jñāna-Pravāha

Centre for Cultural Studies & Research  
Varanasi

### Aims & Objectives

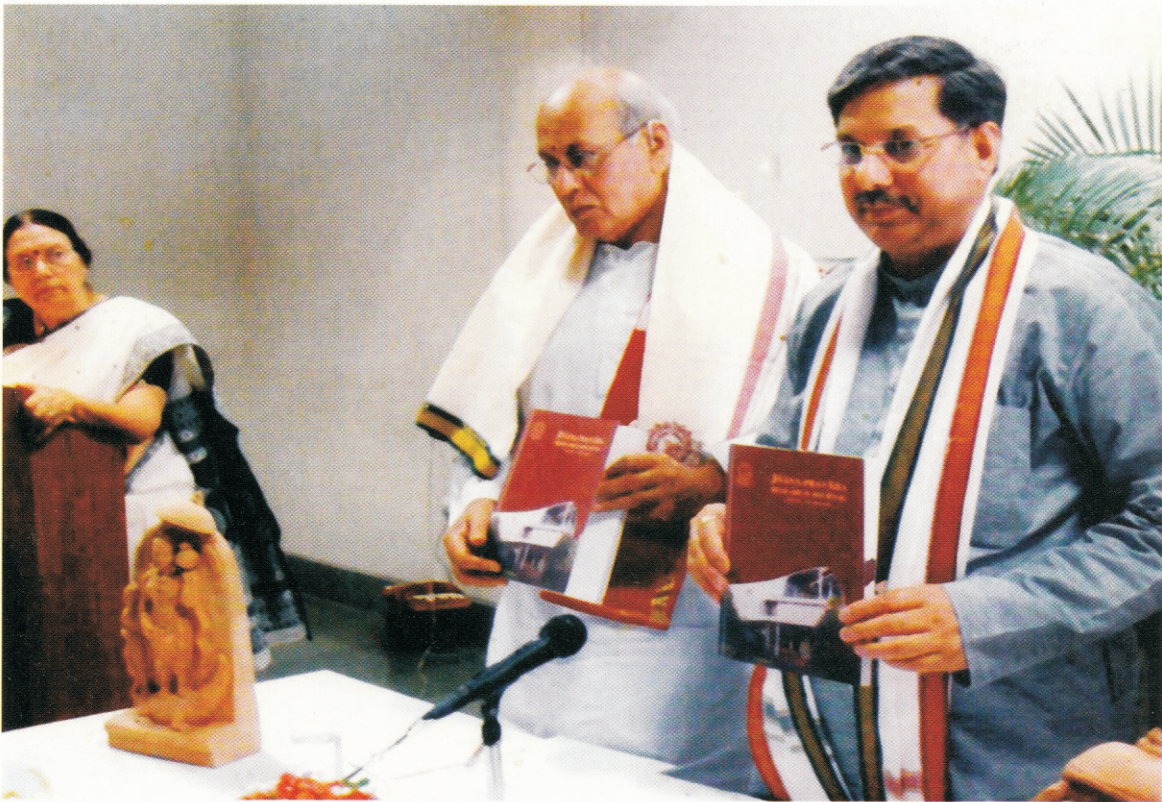
- ❖ Bringing together scholars of various nationalities on a common platform of cultural expression, leading to development and understanding
- ❖ Furthering learning and investigation in ancient inscriptions and old and obscure Indian scripts
- ❖ Advancing in-depth study of Indian art, culture and spirituality through higher research projects, seminars, symposia, workshops, survey and documentation programmes.
- ❖ Encouraging researchers through fellowships for deeper probing into the subjects pertaining to Indian Culture
- ❖ Promoting Indian artistic traditions, the visual and performing arts through a series of performances
- ❖ Motivating and promoting artisans to preserve traditional Indian handicrafts
- ❖ Nurturing cultural values among children and youth by conducting camps, quiz and workshops
- ❖ Training novitiates towards learned priesthood to cater to the future needs of the society
- ❖ Reviving the performance of Sanskrit drama and Vedic 'yajña'
- ❖ Endowing scholarships to young scholars of Indian classical music for further training
- ❖ Exploring and excavating ancient sites of historical value



## SEMINARS

The new academic session of Jñāna-Pravāha each year begins on 1<sup>st</sup> August with a Seminar on a topic connected to the ancient city of Kāśī with the aim to bring forth its variegated cultural facets through research papers and discussions. This Seminar is held under the annual feature entitled Radiance of Kāśī.

A two-day Seminar on Architecture in Kāśī, coordinated by Dr. N. P. Joshi and Prof. M. N. P. Tiwari, was organized on August 1-2, 2009. Prof. K. D. Tripathi, Professor Emeritus, Banaras Hindu University and Dr. Bhanu Shankar Mehta, a veteran scholar of the city, graced the function. Several eminent and also young scholars presented their research papers during the course of seminar on different forms of architecture adorning the city. The Jñāna-Pravāha Research Journal No. XII was released during the formal inauguration of the Academic Session 2009-2010 by the Chief Guest Prof. D. P. Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University.



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## National Seminars

National seminars are organized from time to time, independently or in collaboration, on a theme related to Indian Culture, in which reputed scholars of the field from all over the country are invited for participation. This year, three such seminars were held.

### A Session on Poetry and Short Story Reading:

In collaboration with Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Banaras Hindu University and Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi.

One-day academic session on the above theme during the National Seminar on The Self and Its Translations: New Thinking About the Written Text and their Relation with the Other Art Forms of India was held on August 21, 2009, which was coordinated by Prof. Sushila Singh, Ex-Principal, MMV, Banaras Hindu University. Reputed scholars from different universities of the country like Prof. Guru Charan Behera, Varanasi; Dr. Arundhati Subramaniam, Mumbai; Dr. Sukrita P. Kumar, New Delhi; Dr. Alok Bhalla, New Delhi; Dr. D. Venkat Rao, Hyderabad and several other eminent English writers and poets from distant locations gathered for fruitful discussions.





## Narratives in Indian Art:

In collaboration with Bharat Kala Bhavan, Banaras Hindu University.

One-day Session of Indian Art History Congress, Guwahati during the National Seminar on above theme was held on November 29, 2009. Renowned scholars of the field adorning various institutions and universities, like Dr. Pratapaditya Pal, Eminent Art Historian, Los Angeles, USA; Dr. R. D. Choudhary, Former D.G./V.C., National Museum/Institute, New Delhi; Dr. R. C. Agrawala, Principal Director, Architectural Heritage Division, INTACH, New Delhi; Prof. P. N. Naidu, Tirupati; Dr. C. S. Vasudevan, Hampi; Dr. D. N. V. S. Seetharamaiah, New Delhi; Dr. Supriya Ray Bandopadhyaya, Kolkata; Dr. N. K. Swain, Bhubaneshwar and many more exchanged their views on the subject through projections and discussions.

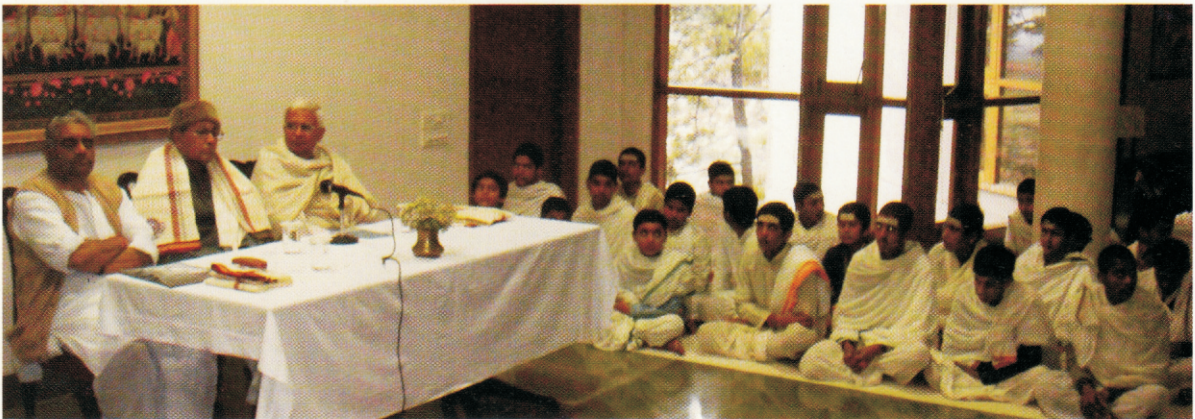




## Akhila Bhāratīya Veda Saṅgoṣṭhī:

In collaboration with Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthana, Government of India, Ujjain.

Various efforts are made to promote and propagate the use of Sanskrit among the youth. In the process, a three-day National Seminar on Vedas, coordinated by Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra and Prof. Shri Kishor Mishra, was organized from February 12 to 14, 2010. Eminent Vedic scholars from various universities all over the country, like Prof. Lekh Ram Sharma, Amritsar; Prof. Tara Shankar Sharma, Jaipur; Prof. Ved Prakash Upadhyaya, Chandigarh; Prof. Ram Pratap Tiwari, Srinagar; Prof. Hari Har Trivedi, New Delhi; Prof. Vachaspati Sharma Tripathi, Darbhanga and several others marked their presence in the seminar.





## International Seminars

These are organized with the aim to bring eminent scholars from all over the world on a common platform so as to enable them exchange their views and ideas under the light of new researches.

A Seminar on Fauna Imagery in Medieval Indian Sculptural Art (7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> Century CE) was held from March 5 to 7, 2010, which was coordinated by Dr. Gouriswar Bhattacharya (Berlin), Dr. N. P. Joshi and Prof. Maruti Nandan Tiwari (Varanasi). Stalwarts of the subject from India and abroad, like Prof. Pramod Chandra, George P. Bickford Professor of Indian Art, Harvard University, USA; Prof. Adalbert J. Gail, Free University, Berlin, Germany; Prof. Enamul Haque, Chairman & Academic Director, International Centre for Study of Bengal Art, Dhaka, Bangladesh; Dr. Shailendra Bhandare, Keeper, South Asian Numismatics, Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford, UK; Prof. Gautama Vajracharya, Prof. Emeritus, University of Wisconsin, USA; Dr. B. R. Mani, Joint D.G., Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi; Prof. G. B. Deglurkar, President, Deccan College, Deemed University, Pune; Prof. Ashvini Agrawal, Punjab University, Chandigarh; Dr. R. C. Agrawal, Former Director, Museums & Archaeology, Rajasthan; Dr. H. C. Das, Former Director of Museums, Orissa; Dr. S. K. Sullerey, Retired Professor, Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur and many more scholars of repute discussed and exchanged their views. Dr. Gautam Sengupta, Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi graced the Inaugural Session as the Chief Guest.





## LECTURES

Two Memorial lectures, organized annually, and a number of Special lectures on various themes by invited scholars of respective fields, from India or abroad, are organized throughout the year. The following Memorial and Special lectures were held in Jñāna-Pravāha in the academic year under review:

### Memorial Lectures

#### James Prinsep Memorial Lecture

Contribution of James Prinsep in the Field of Epigraphy

November 21, 2009

Speaker : Prof. G. K. Mane, University of Amravati



#### Prof. R. C. Sharma Memorial Lecture

A Pantheon Rediscovered? New Research on Terracottas, Ivories and Wooden Images from Early India

February 6, 2010

Speaker : Dr. Naman P. Ahuja, Associate Professor, JNU, New Delhi





## Special Lectures

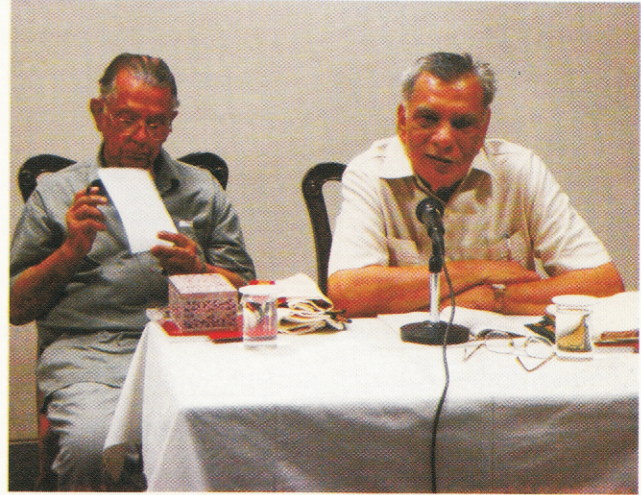
Two special interactive lectures were concurrently delivered by the two eminent scholars of Indological studies on July 3, 2009.

### 1. Śāradā Script

Speaker : Prof. T. N. Ganjoo, Srinagar

### 2. The Concept of Rudra

Speaker : Prof. T. N. Dharmadhikari, Pune.



### Tolerance in Indian Tradition

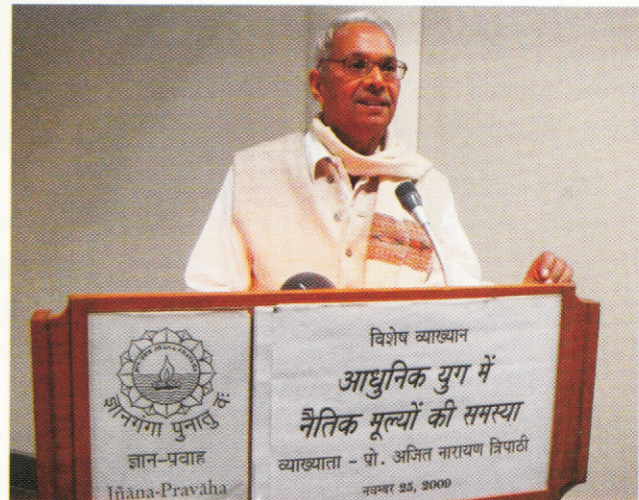
September 20, 2009

Speaker : Prof. V. C. Srivastava, Former Director, I.I.A.S., Shimla

### Naitika Mūlyon kī Samasyā Ādhunika Yuga Mein

November 25, 2009

Speaker : Prof. A. N. Tripathi, Former Convenor, Malaviya Mulya Anushilan Kendra, B. H. U., Varanasi



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## HIGHER RESEARCH PROJECTS

Since its inception, Jñāna-Pravāha is encouraging the higher research studies in various streams of Indology, like the ancient and obscure scripts, inscriptions, art, archaeology, literature, etc. The following projects are in hand:

### Aśoka: The Man and The King:

The ongoing higher research project by Prof. K. K. Thaplyal, Retired Professor, University of Lucknow has been completed and is in its final stage.

### Śilpa-sahasradala:

Unique and Uncommon Brahmanical Sculptures (In 3 Volumes):

Another higher research project, jointly taken up by Dr. N. P. Joshi (Varanasi) and Dr. A. L. Srivastava (Bhilai), is also progressing well. The First Volume, comprising the images of Gaṇapati, Skanda and Śiva, is already in the press. The Second Volume, focusing on the images of Brahmā, Viṣṇu, Sūrya, Lokapālas, Upadevatās and Devapaṭṭas, is in hand for further editing. The Third Volume containing the images of Devīs, like Mātṛdevī, Mātṛkās, Saptamātṛkās, Lakṣmī, Sarasvatī, Pārvatī, Mahiṣamardinī-Durgā and some other specific forms, is in progress.

### Rāmalīlā in Kāśī:

The project on above theme, undertaken in collaboration with Ayodhya Shodha Sansthan, Ayodhya, aims to highlight different aspects of this festival, like the history, traditions, features and development, through articles and illustrations. Extensive research on Rāmalīlās performed in different parts of Kāśī was carried out and performance of several committees were surveyed, documented and interviewed. The project has been completed this year and handed over to Ayodhya Shodha Sansthan for publication.

## IN-DEPTH STUDY COURSES

These courses, being the unique and distinctive academic pursuit of the Institution, have earned the recognition from participants comprising students, research scholars and teachers. These courses are conducted by expert scholars of respective disciplines and certificates are distributed to course participants on the day of valediction.

The Institution lays emphasis on the revival of old and obscure Indian scripts, found in inscriptions, which are the most authentic source of history, especially of ancient India. Courses are organized from time to time on such scripts with the aim to arouse interest among the young generation towards the subject so that they can themselves handle the 'original sources' and do not rely solely on translations for carrying out further researches. Some serious students have become quite proficient in deciphering the ancient Indian scripts like Brāhmī and Kharoṣṭī. As such, the courses on Indian scripts and inscriptions have gained wide popularity among the students. The following courses were organized during the session 2009-2010:



### Mauryan Inscriptions :

Language, Script & Content

September 1 to 7, 2009

Conducted by : Prof. K. K. Thaplyal (Lucknow)

No. of Participants : 52



### Brāhmī Script

November 19 to 21, 2009

Conducted by : Prof. G. K. Mane (Amravati)

No of Participants : 11

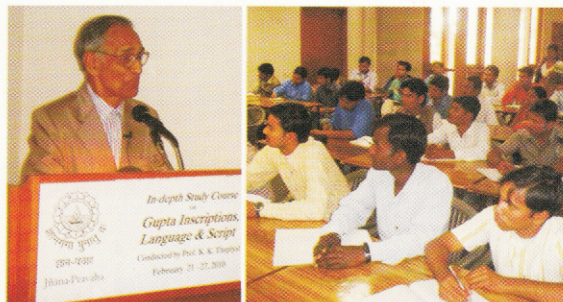
### Gupta Inscriptions :

Language, Script & Content

February 21 to 27, 2010

Conducted by : Prof. K. K. Thaplyal (Lucknow)

No. of Participants : 48



### Ajanta

October 30 to November 6, 2009

Conducted by : Prof. Ratan Parimoo,

Dr. Rajesh Singh (Baroda)

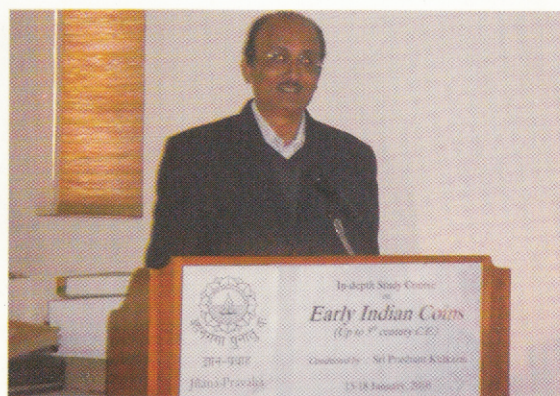
No. of Participants : 145

### Early Indian Coins

January 15 to 18, 2010

Conducted by : Sri Prashant Kulkarni (Nagpur)

No. of Participants : 33





## WORKSHOPS

Workshops in various art disciplines are conducted for the revival of traditional art forms of India. The participants receive training under the master artists who rarely teach the aspects of their hereditary artistic tradition beyond the family circle.

**Nathadwara Painting and Its Technique: November 1 - 8, 2009. No. of Participants: 23**

This annual workshop, well-acclaimed by the students of Visual Arts, is organized with the sole idea to popularize the age-old technique of 'Pichhavai' painting and acquaint the young learners with the complicated process of pigment making, still a secret with many painter families. Held under the guidance of Prof. Anjan Chakraverty, it was conducted by the eminent artist from Udaipur, Sri Raja Ram Sharma. Sri Sharma, an exponent of Nathadwara School of Rajasthani painting, exhibited his works in India and abroad, repeatedly at Boston, Cleveland and New York. An exhibition of 'Pichhavai' painted during the workshop was mounted on the concluding day.





## EVENTS

In addition to above, the Institution organizes several other events also to promote our Shastric and cultural tradition. Some notable events of the year were as under:

A unique folk dance Kālī-Durgā Nṛtya (dance of goddesses Kālī and Durgā) was presented by the folk artists of Varanasi on September 29, 2009. This dance forms the part of Nakkaṭaiyā procession during the festival of Rāmalīlā.



Sri Gaurang C. Dash and his troupe performed Rāvaṇa Chāyā (the shadow puppet theatre of Orissa), which was followed by staging of a Bhojapuri Play Lakṣmī Kathā on October 11, 2009 in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts, Banaras Hindu University.



In the year under review, a Sanskrit Play Sītā Svayaṁvara was staged by the students of Jñāna-Pravāha Saṁskāra & Anuṣṭhāna Kendra on January 21, 2010. Performed at the Kendra itself, the play was written by Sri Bhal Shastri and directed by Sri Vishnu Prasad Ghimire.



The Institution aims to revive and promote the dramas performed according to Bharata Nāṭyaśāstra in chaste Sanskrit, which has now become a rare feature. With this point in view, one drama is staged every year before the critics and learned audience. In the last session, the Sanskrit Play Cārudattam by Bhāsa was staged on February 9, 2010 at Nagari Natak Mandali, Varanasi. Coordinators were Prof. K. D. Tripathi and Prof. Kaushalendra Pandey, while direction was rendered by Sri Bhumikeshwar Singh (New Delhi) and assisted by Dr. Chandra Kanta.



Śrauta Yāga was started at Jñāna-Pravāha with the aim to revive the age-old but fast diminishing tradition of Vedic yajñas, one of the important constituents of Indian Culture. It has now become an annual feature. The Vedic yajña Mitravindā-iṣṭi was organized this year on February 12, 2010, which was accomplished by Ahitagni Mahadeva Shastri Agnihotri, Sri Shashikant Agnihotri and group from Buldhana, Maharashtra with the participation of other renowned priests from Varanasi.



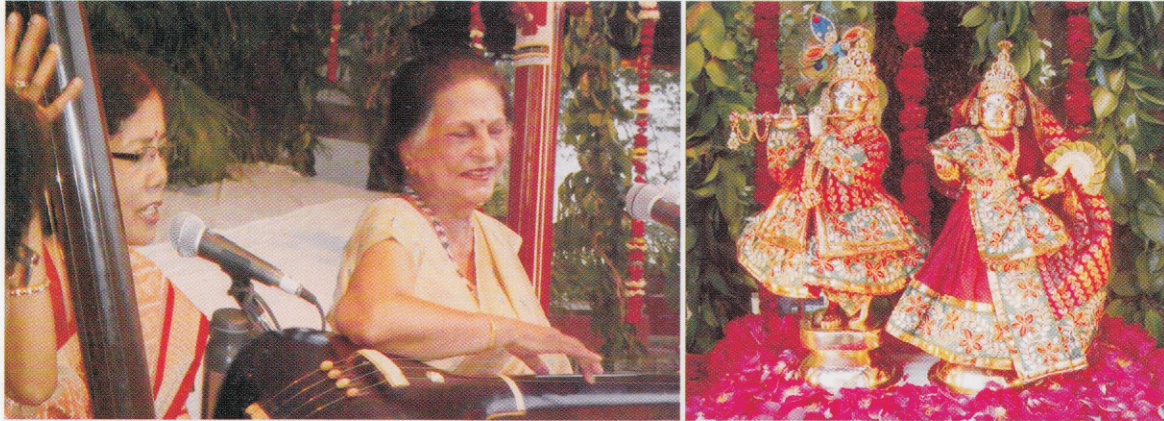
A unique presentation of Dhanurvedyā (the art of archery) by the students of Panini Kanya Mahavidyalaya on February 14, 2010 was appreciated by the spectators.





A special event related to the traditional martial arts of Kāśī, known as Banēṭhī (play of sticks and ropes with fire), was organized on March 6, 2010. This wonderful art was demonstrated by Sri Krishna Murari Sharma and his group.

The music concert Gulāb-Bāḍī was organized on March 21, 2010 in collaboration with Sangeet Parishad, Kashi. A soulful vocal recital was rendered by the veteran exponent of Indian classical music, Padmabhushan Dr. Shanno Khurana, New Delhi.





## PRERAṆĀ-PRAVĀHA (YOUTH SERVICE)

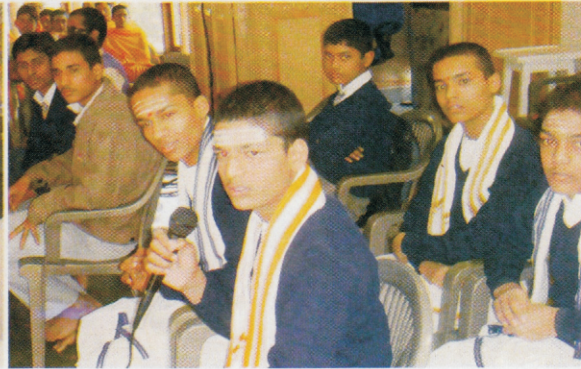
The Youth Service programme Preraṇā-Pravāha has also gained wide popularity among the school and college students. The following events were organized this year for the young generation:



**Sanskrit Antyākṣarī on Kālidāsa:** Held on September 19, 2009, the event was coordinated by Dr. Kamala Pandeya and Dr. Chandra Kanta.



**Quiz on Heritage of Kāśī:** The quiz, organized for the U.G./P.G. students on October 9, 2009, was coordinated by Prof. M. N. P. Tiwari and Prof. Kamal Giri.



**Gītā Antyākṣarī:** Organized on December 5, 2009, the programme was coordinated by Prof. K. K. Sharma and Prof. Upendra Pandey.





**Mānasa Antyākṣarī:** This Antyākṣarī on 'Rāmacaritamānasa' was organized on December 29, 2009, which was coordinated by Dr. Brijbala Singh and Dr. Lakshmi Singh of Arya Mahila Degree College and Agrasena Kanya Mahavidyalaya, respectively.



**Visits and Interaction:** Besides the above organized programmes, the teachers and students of different standards from various schools, colleges and universities frequently visited Jñāna-Pravāha to develop familiarity with the cultural heritage of India through interaction and also to see and appreciate our heritage antiquities preserved in the Jñāna-Pravāha Museum.



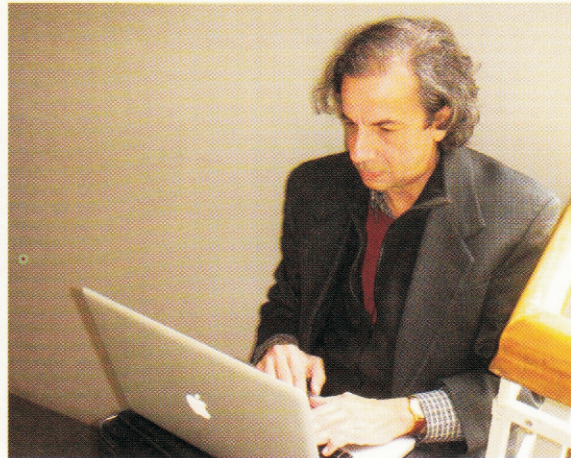
## SPECIAL VISITS

Knowing of the academic activities in promoting the knowledge and awareness about Indian art and culture, a number of distinguished individuals, groups and academic organizations from India and abroad are attracted towards the Institution. Some important visitors of this academic year include:

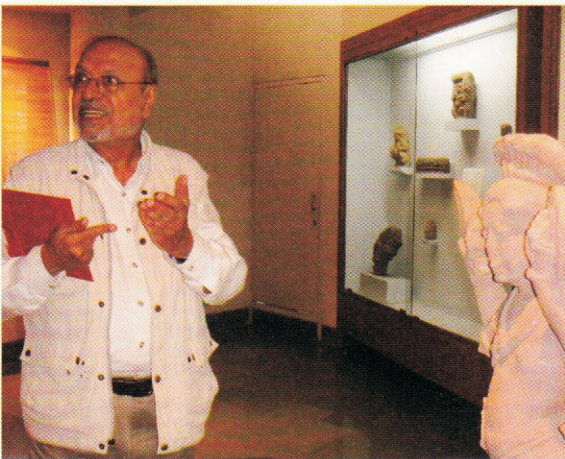
- Sri M. J. Akbar, Senior Journalist, New Delhi (July 19, 2009)
- Mr. Armoogum Parsuramen, Director, UNESCO, New Delhi (November 19, 2009)
- Dr. Ryosuke Fumi, University of Tokyo, Japan (December 11, 2009)
- Dr. Don Stadner, Eminent Art Historian (December 26, 2009)
- Sri Tarun J. Tejpal, Chief Editor, Tehelka, New Delhi (February 20, 2010)
- Martine Frank, Renowned Photographer, Paris, France (February 16, 2010)
- Sri Ramanathan Krishnan and Sri Ramesh Krishnan, Tennis Players of International Fame, Chennai (March 18, 2010) etc.



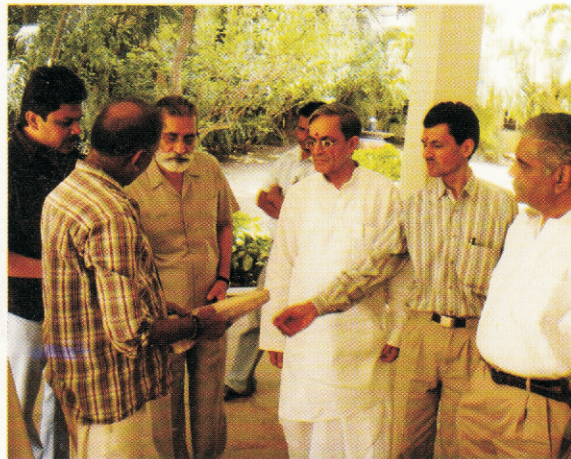
Mr. Olabiyi Yai, Ambassador of Benin to UNESCO (November 19, 2009)



Dr. Akeel Bilgrami, Professor of Philosophy, New York, U.S.A. (December 29, 2009)



Sri Shyam Benegal, Reputed Film Maker, Mumbai (December 29, 2009)



Dr. S. S. Bloeria, Former Chief Secretary, Jammu & Kashmir (April 14, 2010)



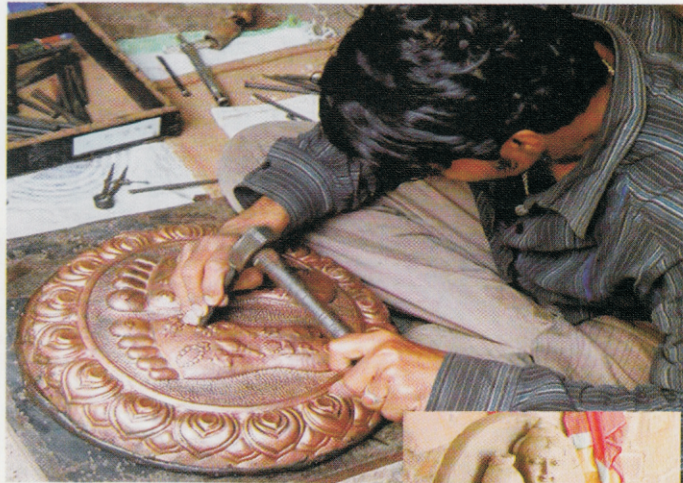
His Excellency Sri B. L. Joshi, Governor, Uttar Pradesh (March 26, 2010)





## ŚILPAŚĀLĀ – THE HANDICRAFT ATELIER

Śilpaśālā – Art & Craft Development and Promotion Wing of Jñāna-Pravāha – was launched in June 2008 with a view to preserve and promote the fast diminishing traditional art and craft of the ancient city of Varanasi. Once known for its unique and multifarious handicrafts, the city is now left with a handful of artisans working, rather struggling in the fast changing and challenging scenario. In fact, the artists working with wood, clay, metal, paper, stone, etc. can now be counted on fingertips; hence, the Institution decided to encourage such artists to come out with new creations. Required facilities are provided to them so that the new generation also comes forward and could contribute in salvaging these dying traditional arts and crafts of Varanasi. The Handicraft Atelier at Jñāna-Pravāha is progressing well by way of new creations. The hereditary artists are engaged in making various objects in clay and metal – repousse and aṣṭadhātu casting – through traditional methods.





## Some Creations at Śilpaśālā



JPBP.07 : Kubera, Terracotta, 6"



JPBP.11 : Garuda, Terracotta, 10.5"



JPBP.20 : Sarasvatī, Aṣṭadhātu, 10"



S.46 : Copper Plate, 12"



S.42 : Copper Box, 8 × 6"



S.45 : Copper Pot, 7"



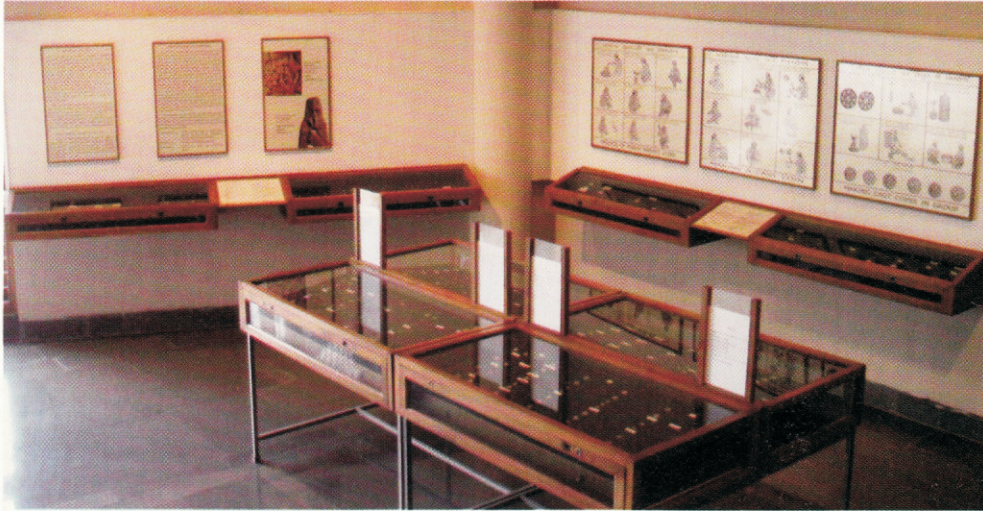
S.27 : Copper Bowl, 12"

For further enquiries contact Jñāna-Pravāha  
(19)



## KALĀMAṆḌAPA

The Jñāna-Pravāha Kalāmaṇḍapa (Museum) is enriched this year and appended with a number of new objects, like several miniature paintings, coins, textiles, stone sculptures and terracotta specimens. Among important pieces are the paintings depicting Rasikapriyā (c. 17<sup>th</sup> century), Rāmāyaṇa (c. 17<sup>th</sup> century) and Bhāgavata (c. 18<sup>th</sup> century) themes; Kānthā, Phulkārī and some other textiles; Jaina, Vaiṣṇava, a Kubera of Kuṣāṇa period and a few female heads among the sculptures. A number of terracotta seals and sealings from Rajghat belonging to Gupta period is also notable accretion. A new 'Numismatic Gallery' has been created with excellent exhibits of coins from almost all the important epochs of Indian history starting right from the earliest coins of India, i.e. Punch-marked coins. This Gallery is further enriched with illustrated charts depicting the techniques adopted for manufacturing coins in India.



Numismatic Gallery

Janapada Punch-marked Coins, Silver, 6th - 3rd century BCE



Vidarbha

Kuntala

Malla

Gupta Coins, Gold, 4th - 5th century CE

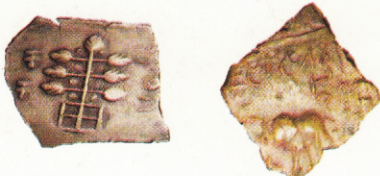


Samudragupta  
Aśvamedha type

Chandragupta  
Chatra type

Kumāragupta  
Horseman type

City State Coins, Alloy, 1st century BCE



Bhadrāvati

Sātakarṇī

Padma Ṭaṅkā, Gold Punch-marked, 11th century CE







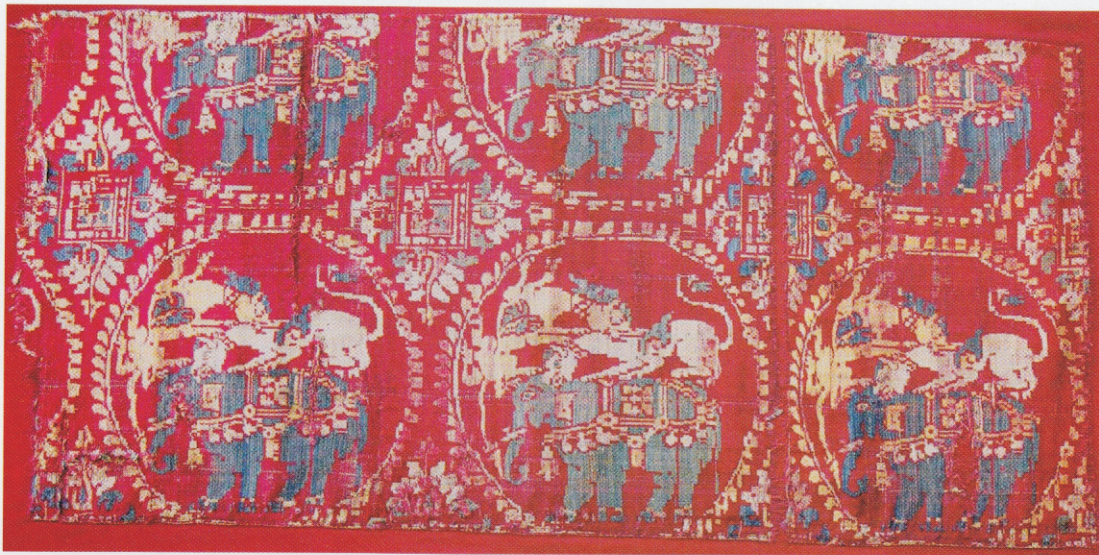
Female Figure  
Terracotta, Mauryan



Mother & Child  
Terracotta, Mauryan



Black Slip Bowl with Stampage  
4th - 3rd century BCE



Silk Fragment, Eastern India, 15th/16th century CE



Kānthā, West Bengal, 19th century  
(21)



## SAMSKĀRA & ANUṢṬHĀNA KENDRA

Jñāna-Pravāha is running a city unit Samskāra & Anuṣṭhāna Kendra since 2003 at Meerghat, Varanasi, which aims at nourishing the early and glorious traditions of infusing good samskāras (sacraments) and discipline among the younger generation aspiring to become purohits. The system of teaching follows the oriental style of Gurukula pattern. The emphasis is laid on correct pronunciation and proper recitation of the Vedic hymns, performance of rites and rituals along with ceremonies, knowledge of Jyotiṣa (Astrology) and good grasp of Sanskrit grammar. The duration of the Course is four years. The students of the Kendra since last year are further enjoying the facilities of appearing in the 'Pūrva-madhyamā' Examination of the Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi. Prof. Sita Ram Shastri and Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra share the major responsibility in the functioning of the Kendra. His Holiness Jagatguru Shankaracharya of Shringeri Peeth has very kindly blessed the Centre through academic advices and financial support.



Examination





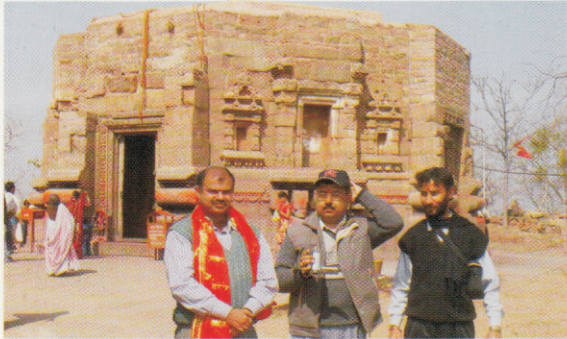


Convocation  
(23)

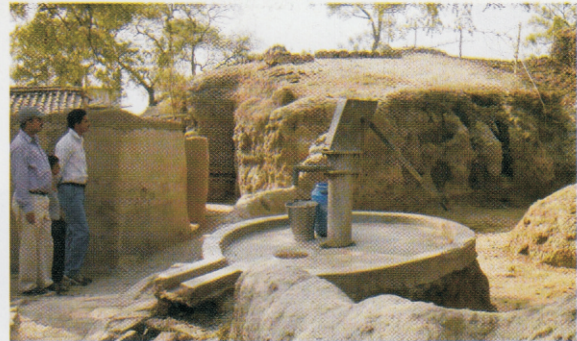


## SURVEY AND DOCUMENTATION

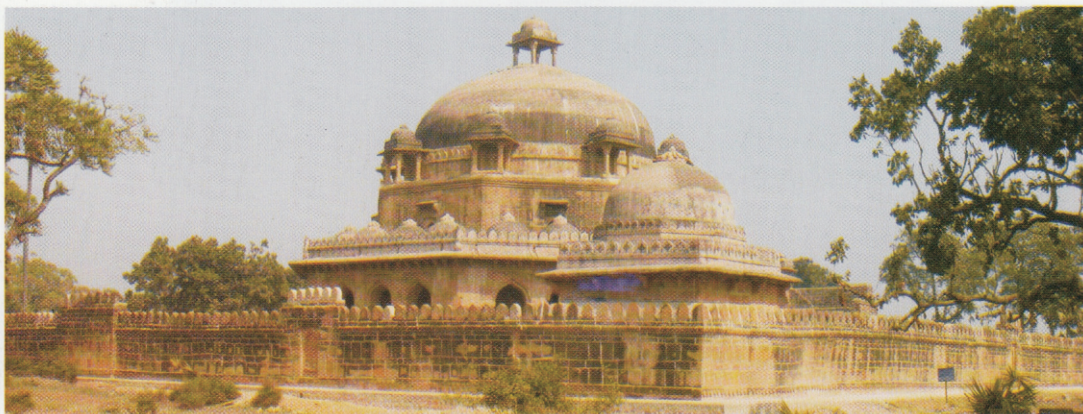
Survey and documentation are the on-going activities of Jñāna-Pravāha carried on throughout the year on information from internal as well as external sources. Under this programme, important or unknown historical spots, sites, festivals, ceremonies, etc. are being surveyed and documented for the benefit of new researchers. This year, the team of Jñāna-Pravāha surveyed several potential sites in the Kaimur district of Bihar and Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh. The photo-documentation of the important places and events in and around Varanasi is also an important activity of Jñāna-Pravāha, which is progressing well under the guidance of Hon. Director Prof. Kamal Giri.



Survey Team of Jñāna-Pravāha at Mundeshwari Devi Temple, Kaimur (Bihar)



Mahadev Village, Chandauli (U.P.)

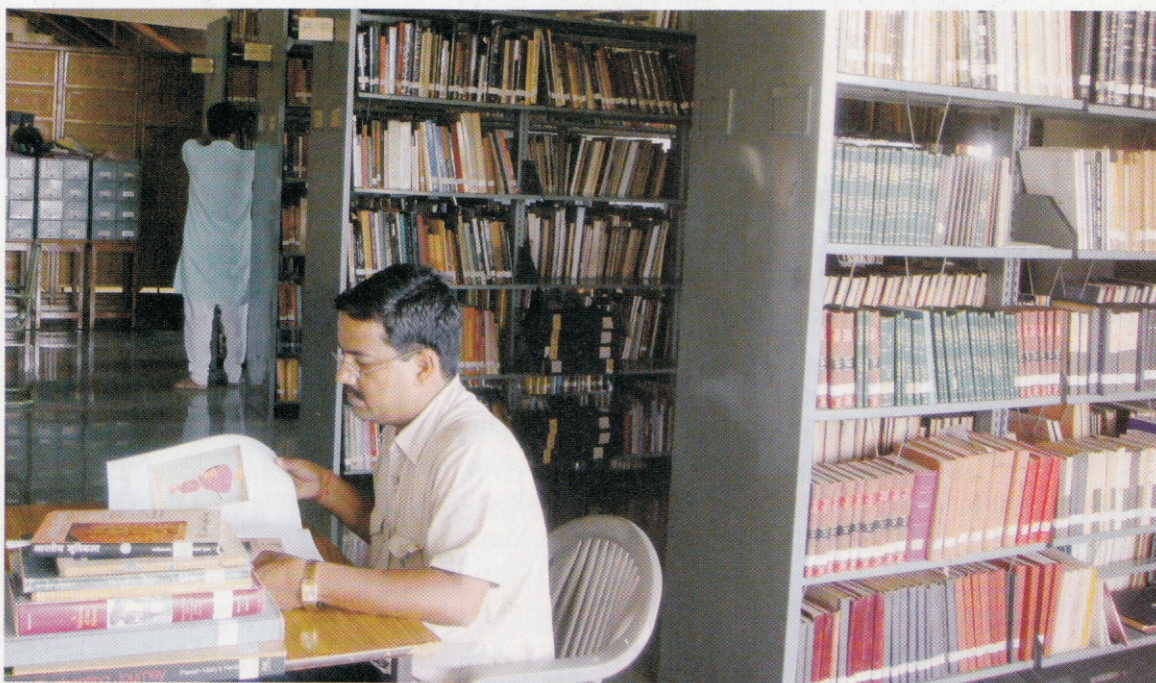


Tomb of Bakhtiyar Khan (Son-in-Law of Sher Shah Suri), Kaimur



## LIBRARY

The Jñāna-Pravāha reference library houses about nine thousand books on various aspects of Indology like Art, Culture, Philosophy, Religion, Sanskrit, History, Epigraphy, Numismatics, Archaeology and allied subjects. This year, the library was further enhanced by the addition of more books gifted by our esteemed members, scholars and also through acquisition.



## SOCIAL SERVICE

Under the social service programme, a Charitable Homeopathic Dispensary is run by Jñāna-Pravāha, which has become quite popular among the patients, who come from nearby and far off urban and rural areas to avail of this facility. It is managed by Dr. Purnendu Chakraborty. About 20,000 patients took the benefit of the Dispensary this year.





## JÑĀNA-PRAVĀHA, MUMBAI

In July 2009, Jñāna-Pravāha, Mumbai (JPM) entered its third year of existence. The year 2009-10 saw a range of programmes organised under the different initiatives. Twenty-five students completed a year long Indian Aesthetics Post Graduate Diploma from the Institution. The lecture series organized this academic year were on the following themes: Renaissance Florence: Painting and Sculpture in the 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> Centuries by Ms. Berenice Schreiner; Originals and Dispersal: 'Further India', Fact or Fiction? by Dr. Donald Stadtner; Ancient Indian Terracotta Art by Dr. Naman P. Ahuja; The Dawn of Photography in India by Mr. Rahaab Allana and Mr. Akshaya Tankha; Imperial Mughal Painting by Dr. Asok K. Das; Painting in Kashmir by Dr. Pratapaditya Pal; Coinage at the Crossroads of History by Dr. Shailendra Bhandare; Courtly Architecture of the Bahmani Dynasty by Dr. Helen Philon; Nationalism and Modernism in India by Dr. Tapti Guha-Thakurta and The Later Temple Architecture of India by Dr. George Michell. Several important illustrated lectures were also presented during the academic year by the specialists both from India and abroad, like – An Inevitable Love Affair: Indian Royal Patronage of European Jewellers by Dr. Amin Jaffer; A Jeweller's Art: New Perspective in Enamelling in Iran, India and China by Dr. Amy G. Poster; The Architecture of Raja Bir Singh Dev Bundela of Orchha (r. 1605-1627): Continuity, Adaptation and Invention by Dr. Edward L. Rothfarb; A Quest for Krishna by Dr. Walter Spink; The Dance Performed by the Temple by Dr. Adam Hardy; Darçana – Seeing the Divine by Dr. Malavika Sarukkai; Exploring Ajanta by Dr. Walter Spink; Pichchvai – An Artist's Journey into Methods and Materials by Dr. Desmond Lazaro and Dr. Naman P. Ahuja; South Indian Painting (c. 1500-1900) by Dr. Anna Dallapiccola and Divine Proxies: The Devata "Masks" of Himachal by Dr. Kirit Mankodi.

This was the second year of the Art, Criticism and Theory (ACT) course. The semester long course aims at developing writing and critical thinking skills amongst those interested in the field of art and ideas. The following lectures were organized in this series: Claiming Descent – Discussing Atul Dodiya's Gangavataran by Ranjit Hoskote; Praise, Prestige and Prowess – The Image of the King on Gupta Gold Coins by Dr. Shailendra Bhandare; War, Ecology and the Senses by Mr. Kaushik Baumik; The Mahapurusha from Shamlaji by Dr. Arvind Jamkhedkar; A Potent Vision: Eagles (Hill 1) by Ratheesh T. by Mr. Gieve Patel; A Monumental Brahma from Sindh by Dr. Pratapaditya Pal; Bombay Gothic: On the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Kamal Amrohi's Mahal – The Manson by Mr. Rachel Dwyer; The Three Strides of Indra's Friend Vishnu by Dr. Kirit Mankodi and Anish Kapoor: Memory by Ms. Sandhini Poddar.

Since Jñāna-Pravāha, Mumbai (JPM) opened its doors, Community Engagement has been a standalone programming head, which has sought to address issues and concerns in the field of arts, with a focus on devising ways to make the arts more participatory and egalitarian. The focus is on interrogating the past and the influence it has on theory and praxis today. Following programmes were organized this year:

1. Pecha Kucha Night – Mumbai: Pecha Kucha is a format where every presenter shows 20 slides. Pecha Kucha Night – Mumbai started at JPM; after four successful, oversubscribed volumes running around the year, it is now moving out to other locations in the city, with one volume slated to happen at JPM sometime in 2010-2011.



2. Jñāna-Pravāha – Almost Island Reading Series: Jñāna-Pravāha, Mumbai, in collaboration with Almost Island – an online literature journal – organizes poetry/prose reading sessions by established as well as new names in the literary world. The academic year 2009-2010 saw four editions of the reading series by I. Allan Sealy, Anne Waldman, Adil Jussawala and a joint reading by Vahni Capildeo and Sharmistha Mohanty.
3. Hind Swaraj: Imagining the Public Life of Non-violence: This conference, in collaboration with PUKAR and supported by the Sister Cities Project of the Society for Transnational Cultural Studies and The Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation, was the second leg of a three-part transnational conference marking the centenary of Mahatma Gandhi's book Hind Swaraj that was organized by Professors Ritu Birla and Faisal Devji.
4. Vanishing Margins – Films and Videos on Development, Resistance and Violence: In November 2010, the central government launched a paramilitary offensive (titled 'Operation Greenhunt') in the forests of Chhatisgarh and Maharashtra to rid the areas of Maoists. These 'operation areas' are also, incidentally places that have witnessed numerous resistance movements by the indigenous inhabitants against land-grabbing and large industrial projects. The series of films and videos provided a glimpse of these movements and explored how film and video is being used as a means of voicing protest.

The following illustrated lectures were also presented by the specialists from India and abroad: Defining Contemporary Asian Art by Chaitanya V. Sambrani; The Indian Emergency (1975-77) and the New Indian Cinema: Revisiting a Troubled History – Book reading by Ashish Rajadhyaksha; Beneath the Roses by Gregory Crewdson; Some Reflections on the Relations between Literature, Science and Philosophy by Dr. Akeel Bilgrami; Amrita Sher-Gil: A Self-portrait in Letters & Writings: A Panel Discussion – by various; Aftermath of Desire: Kashmir, Kashmiris and the Burdens of Representation by Dr. Ananya Jahanara Kabir and Timely Flowers and Seasonal Imagery: Marking Festivals in Chinese Art by Jan Stuart.





## JÑĀNA-PRAVĀHA, KOLKATA

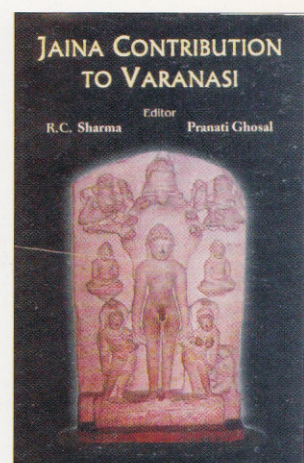
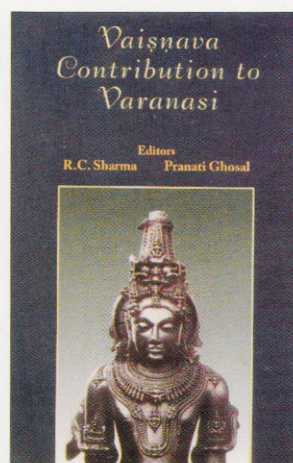
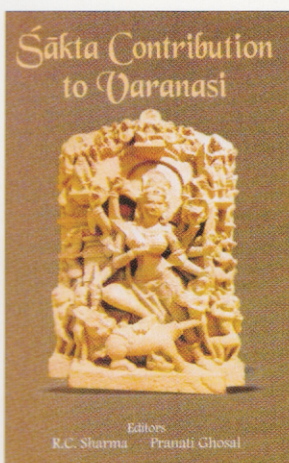
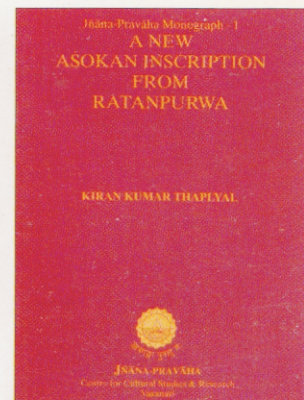
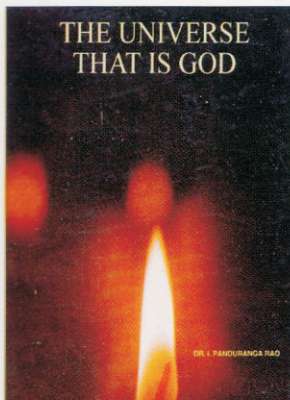
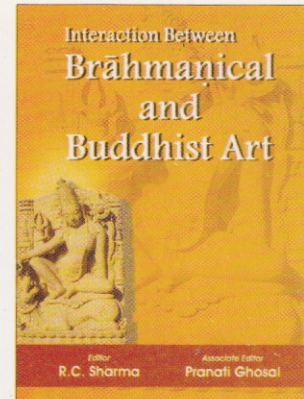
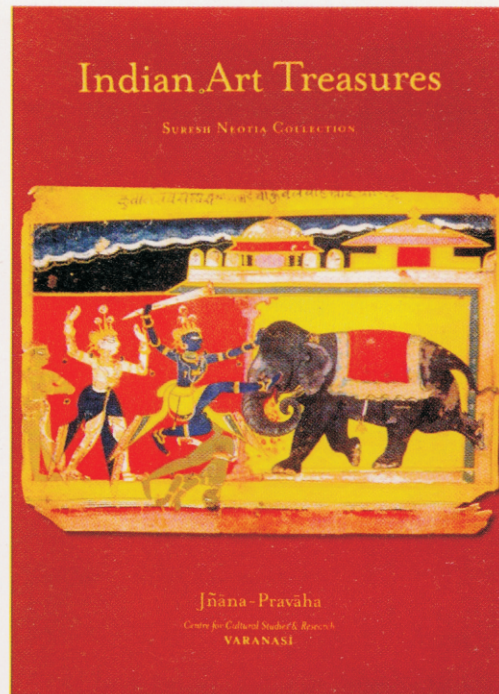
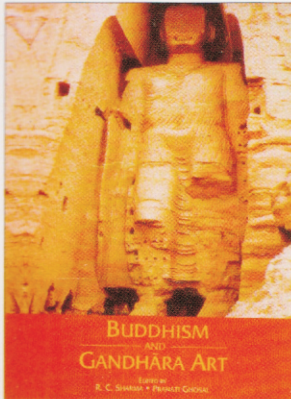
Under the able guidance of Pandit Vijay Kichlu, Convenor, the Jñāna-Pravāha Scholarship for Classical Music is running well. A competition for young students of Classical Indian Music, both vocal and instrumental, was organized at G. D. Birla Sabhagar on May 13, 2010 and a number of new talents were spotted. In the forthcoming meeting, two more students, in addition to the existing three, will be selected for the scholarships offered by Jñāna-Pravāha for the promotion of Indian Classical music.

A three-day Music Conference, entitled 'Young Maestros Music Festival', of upcoming artists was organized in collaboration with Sangeet Ashram at the G. D. Birla Sabhagar on May 14-16, 2010. The event was inaugurated by the Governor of West Bengal His Excellency Sri M. K. Narayanan and his wife. The conference was attended by a large number of music lovers. Three out of the eight artists, viz. Manjari Asnare Kelkar from Nasik, Manjusha Patil Kulkarni from Pune and M. Venkatesh Kumar from Dharwar carved niches for themselves by giving outstanding performances. These three artists are proposed to be presented again at the end of the year.





## IMPORTANT PUBLICATIONS OF JÑĀNA-PRAVĀHA



Annual Publication : Jñāna-Pravāha Research Journal erstwhile Bulletin (1997-2010), Volumes I - XIII