



JÑĀNA-PRAVĀHA
Centre for Cultural Studies & Research
Varanasi

Invocation

प्रसादाद्विश्वनाथस्य काश्यां भागीरथीतटे।
वृद्धिर्ज्ञानप्रवाहे स्यात् संस्कृतेश्चानुशीलने॥

*prasādādvīśvanāthasya kāśyām bhāgīrathītaṭe /
vṛddhirjñānapravāhe syāt saṁskṛteścānuśīlane //*

*Nourished with the Grace of Lord Viśvanātha, Jñāna-Pravāha rests on the bank of Gaṅgā in Kāśī,
Dedicated to the Pursuit of Knowledge and Enrichment of Culture.*

Aims & Objectives

- ◆ Bring together scholars of various nationalities on a common platform of cultural expression.
- ◆ Foster in-depth study of ancient epigraphy & obscure Indian scripts.
- ◆ Encourage & Support advance research in Indian art, culture, archaeology and metaphysics.
- ◆ Organize seminars, lectures, advanced study courses and workshops.
- ◆ Support artisans to preserve their hereditary skills of handicrafts.
- ◆ Nurture cultural values among young generation through interaction.
- ◆ Train novitiates for learned priesthood to cater the needs of society.
- ◆ Revive the performance of Sanskrit theatre and Vedic *yajña*.
- ◆ Endow scholarships and fellowships to young scholars for further training in Indian classical music and study Indian art & culture.
- ◆ Explore, Excavate and Document heritage sites and ancient ruins of historical value.

Jñāna-Pravāha at a Glance

2014-2015



From the Pen of Director

The Annual Report '2014-2015 At a Glance' is in your hands highlighting the multidimensional activities of Jñāna-Pravāha during the year. As usual, National/International Seminars, Memorial/Special Lectures, Advanced Study Courses/Workshops, Youth Programmes, Sanskrit Play, Vedic Yajña, Music Concerts, etc. were organized with the guidance and cooperation of the members of Jñāna-Pravāha Governing Council, Academic Committees and Scholars from various disciplines and institutions. Our thanks are due to all of them and we aspire for their support in future as well.

The Scholar-in-Residence Programme was given special impetus this year by introducing one-year project on a new subject to be taken up by the eminent scholars. Another new chapter added was the selection of one post-doctoral and two doctoral Fellows for carrying out fresh researches under the guidance of Prof. Vidula Jayaswal.

The Institution has gone international as its Drama group was invited by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India for presentation of a Sanskrit Play 'Karnabharam' at the World Sanskrit Conference 2015 organized in Bangkok, Thailand.

New acquisitions of some textiles, especially Parsi, Copperplate of Govindacandra of Gahadvala dynasty and several newly published books enriched our Museum and Library, respectively. Institution's Handicraft Atelier continues to promote the traditional art of Banaras and is receiving attention of the visitors and art lovers from all corners.

The year fetched moments of mixed emotions for the Jñāna-Pravāha family. An occasion of pride arrived when two of its members, viz. the Managing Trustee Smt. Bimla Poddar and Trustee Shri Rahul Jain received the prestigious 'Padmashree' award from the Government of India. The Chairman Shri Suresh Neotia took initiative to celebrate this bliss and conducted a grand event organized at Jñāna-Pravāha felicitating about 180 prominent citizens of Kashi.

The Jñāna-Pravāha family experienced its mournful moment when its Founder Chairman Shri Suresh Neotia suddenly left for his heavenly abode on 7th May 2015. His demise is undoubtedly an irrecoverable setback to the Institution. The members of the Jñāna-Pravāha family dedicate this issue to him and pay tribute to his fond memories.

Kamal Giri

(Prof. Kamal Giri)

Jñāna-Pravāha Bodies

TRUSTEES

Shri Harsha Vardhana Neotia: Chairman
Smt. Bimla Poddar: Managing Trustee
Smt. Smriti Morarka: Trustee
Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra: Trustee
Prof. Anjan Chakraverty: Trustee
Smt. Shraddha Gupta: Trustee
Shri Rahul Jain: Trustee

GOVERNING COUNCIL

Shri Harsha Vardhana Neotia: Chairman
Smt. Bimla Poddar: Managing Trustee
Dr. Bhanu Shankar Mehta
Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra, Former VC, JRRSU, Jaipur
Prof. Maruti Nandan Prasad Tiwari
Prof. Anjan Chakraverty
Shri Rahul Jain
Dr. Nilkanth Purushottam Joshi: Hon. Acharya
Prof. Kamal Giri: Hon. Director
Prof. Vidula Jayaswal: Fellow, Prof. R.C. Sharma Chair

ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

Philosophy, Religion & Literature

Prof. Sudhanshu Shekhar Shastri
Prof. G. N. Samten, VC, CUTS, Sarnath
Prof. P. K. Mukhopadhyaya
Prof. Hridaya Ranjan Sharma
Prof. Krishna Kant Sharma
Prof. Ram Pujan Pandey
Dr. Kamla Pandey
Dr. Bhanu Shankar Mehta

Script, Epigraphy & Archaeology

Prof. Thakur Prasad Verma
Dr. B. R. Mani, ADG, ASI, New Delhi
Prof. Arvind Kumar Singh
Prof. Vidula Jayaswal

History, Art & Culture

Prof. Vibha Tripathi
Prof. Manjula Chaturvedi
Prof. Mridula Sinha
Dr. Naman P. Ahuja
Prof. Maruti Nandan Prasad Tiwari

Performing Arts

Prof. Kamlesh Datta Tripathi
Prof. Ritwik Sanyal
Dr. Chandrakanta Rai
Dr. Iravati
Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra

Saṁskāra & Anuṣṭhāna Kendra

Prof. Sita Ram Shastri: Chairman
Smt. Bimla Poddar: Member
Dr. Nilkanth Purushottam Joshi: Member
Prof. Shri Kishor Mishra: Member
Prof. Kamal Giri: Member
Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra: Member/Coordinator

Jñāna-Pravāha, Mumbai

Prof. Rashmi Poddar: Hon. Director
Smt. Smriti Morarka: Trustee

Jñāna-Pravāha Scholarship for Indian Classical Music, Kolkata

Governing Body:
Padmabhushan 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 12A 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 section 80G.



Padmabhushan Suresh Kumar Neotia

Founder-Chairman Jñāna-Pravāha

8th September 1936 - 7th May 2015

कीर्तिर्यस्य स जीवति (Kīrtiryasya sa Jīvati)
Glorious Deeds Assure Immortality

Scholar-in-Residence

It was felt necessary for quite some time now that the Scholar-in-Residence Programme should run throughout the year in the Institution. In the process, renowned scholars Dr. Asok Kumar Das, Smt. Syamali Das and Prof. P. K. Mukhopadhyaya were approached with the request to take up one-year projects on unpublished topics of their choice, which would be published by Jñāna-Pravāha. Accordingly, they joined the Institution and took up the projects on 'Wall Paintings in Mughal Monuments', 'Study of Motifs in Baluchar Silk Textiles' and 'India and her Changing Self Perception', respectively.



Dr. Asok Kumar Das

Dr. Syamali Das



Prof. P. K. Mukhopadhyaya

Prof. R. C. Sharma Chair for Art & Archeology



Prof. Vidula Jayaswal

Excavations at Rajghat were completed in May 2014 in joint auspices of Jñāna-Pravāha and Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi. Under the guidance of Prof. Vidula Jayaswal, the analysis of pottery and other antiquities were completed by Dr. Meera Sharma and Shri Manoj Yadav, while the line drawings were prepared by Shri Ajai Chakrawal. This report is ready for publication.

Prof. Arvind Kumar Singh (Gwalior University) and Dr. Meera Sharma (Jñāna-Pravāha) along with Dr. Seema Patel and Kumari Arati completed the survey of

Mundeshwari Devi Temple Complex in 2014. About 300 inscriptions and more than 100 icons have been documented by the team. Report is under preparation.

Prof. Vidula Jayaswal, Fellow, Prof. R. C. Sharma Chair for Art & Archaeology, Jñāna-Pravāha, authored the book *Buddhist Landscape of Varanasi on Account of Excavated Remains of Sarnath*, which has been printed.



Dr. Meera Sharma and Shri Manoj Yadav

Naman : Celebrating 85th Birthday of Padmabhushan Smt. Girija Devi

November 10, 2014

[In collaboration with Sangeet Parishad Kashi]

Vocal Recital by Padmavibhushan Smt. Kishori Amonkar, Mumbai



Padmashree Investiture Ceremony



The Managing Trustee Smt. Bimla Poddar and Trustee Shri Rahul Jain receiving prestigious 'Padmashree' award from the Honourable President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi on 30th March 2015.



Kashi Vibhuti Vandana Samaroha

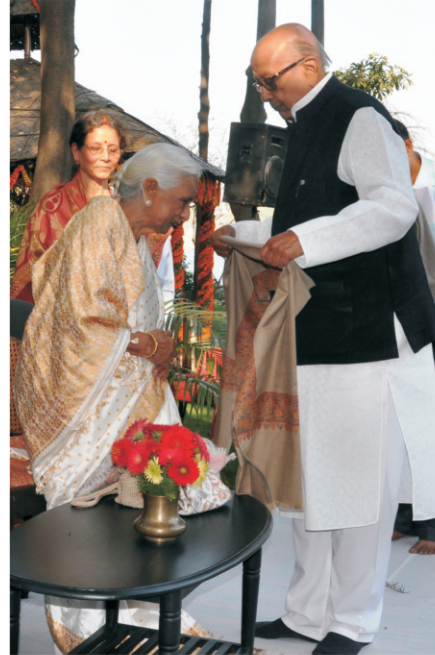
Chief Guest : Padmabhushan Smt. Girija Devi

February 22, 2015

It was a moment of great pride for the whole Jñāna-Pravāha family when two of its members, Managing Trustee Smt. Bimla Poddar and Trustee Shri Rahul Jain received the prestigious 'Padmashree' award this year. An event was initiated and conducted by Chairman Shri Suresh Neotia at Varanasi to celebrate this blissful moment in which about 180 prominent figures of Kashi were felicitated for making commendable contributions in various fields.



Shri Suresh Kumar Neotia



Shri Suresh Kumar Neotia welcoming the Chief Guest Smt. Girija Devi



Smt. Bimla Poddar



Shri Rahul Jain



Dr. Nilkanth Purushottam Joshi



Prof. Rewa Prasad Dwivedi



Shri Badri Prasad Prajapati



Shri Radha Raman



Janab Shahid Junaid



Prof. Girish Chandra Chaudhary

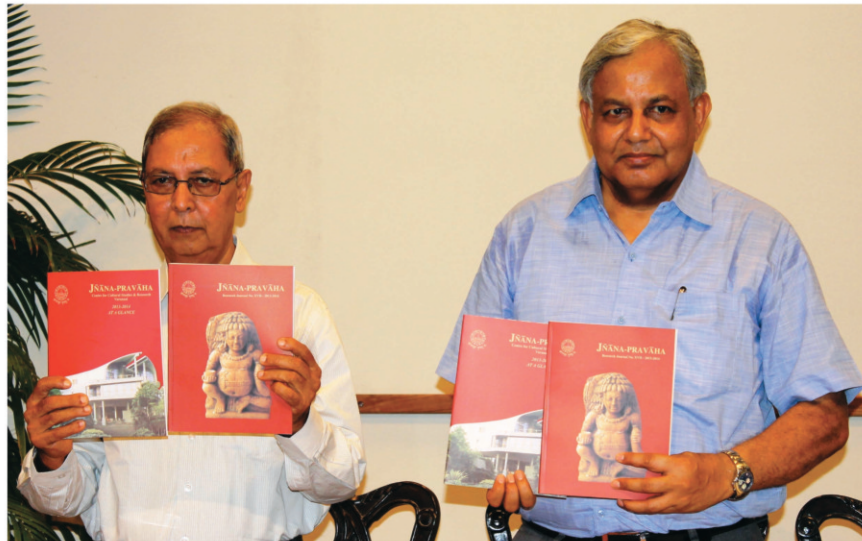
Inauguration : Academic Session 2014-2015

August 01, 2014

Chief Guest : Prof. P. Nag, Vice Chancellor, M.G.K.V.P. & S.S.U.



Mangalacharan by students of Jñāna-Pravāha Samskara & Anushthan Kendra



Prof. V. H. Sonawane & Prof. P. Nag releasing the publications
Jñāna-Pravāha Research Journal No. XVII & Jñāna-Pravāha 2013-2014 At a Glance

Memorial Lectures

August 01, 2014

9th Prof. R. C. Sharma Memorial Lecture
Recent Trends in Rock Art Research in India
By Prof. V. H. Sonawane, Vadodara



November 27, 2014

10th James Prinsep Memorial Lecture
*Sir William Jones and the Beginning of the
Indological Studies in India*
By Dr. O. P. Kejariwal, Varanasi

International Seminar

January 07-08, 2015

Benares, Bayly and the Making of Indian History

[In collaboration with Cambridge and Oxford Universities, UK]

Coordinated by Dr. Faisal Devji (Oxford), Dr. Shruti Kapila (Cambridge), Dr. Shailendra Bhandare (Oxford), Prof. Anjan Chakraverty (Jñāna-Pravāha) & Prof. Kamal Giri (Jñāna-Pravāha)

Participating Scholars : Prof. Sir Christopher A. Bayly, Prof. Christopher Clark, Prof. Thomas R. Metcalf, Prof. Barbara D. Metcalf, Dr. Faisal Devji, Dr. Shailendra Bhandare, Dr. Sunil Purushotham, Dr. Shruti Kapila, Prof. Richard Drayton, Dr. Robert Travers, Prof. Sandria Freitag, Dr. Susan Bayly, Dr. Michael S. Dodson, Prof. William Pinch, Prof. Sugata Bose, Dr. Shruti Kapila, Dr. Simon Layton, Dr. Sujit Sivasundaram, Prof. Radhika Singha, Prof. Anjan Chakraverty, Prof. Ruth Harris and Dr. Murat Siviloglu.

The Jñāna-Pravāha family pays homage to the great scholar of Indian History Sir Christopher Alan Bayly who suddenly left for his heavenly abode on 18th April 2015.





National Seminar

February 17-19, 2015

Annual Feature : Veda-Vidya

Vedopanga Dharmashastram

[In collaboration with MSRVP, GOI, Ujjain]

Coordinated by Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra & Prof. Shri Kishor Mishra

Some Participating Scholars : Prof. Shivaraj Acharya, Nepal Sanskrit University; Prof. Hridaya Ranjan Sharma, Banaras Hindu University; Prof. Kamalesh Datta Tripathi, Hon. Acharya, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts; Prof. Yadunath Prasad Dubey, Vice Chancellor, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University; Prof. Om Prakash Pandey, Former Secretary, Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan; Dr. Gopal Prasad Sharma, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeth; Prof. Rani Majumdar, Aligarh Muslim University; Prof. Meera Sharma, Dayal Bagh Shikshan Sansthan Deemed University; Dr. Sukumar Chattopadhyaya, Banaras Hindu University; Dr. Ramendra Nath Tripathi, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University; Prof. Ravindra Nath Bhattacharya, Kolkata University; Dr. Shitanshu Rath, Secretary, Kalidas Samiti, Vikram University;



Dr. Sharadindu Kumar Tiwari, Banaras Hindu University; Prof. Ved Prakash Upadhyaya, Punjab University; Prof. Manoj Kumar Mishra, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan Deemed University; Dr. Karunanand Mukhopadhyaya, Banaras Hindu University; Prof. Devendra Nath Pandey, Shri Somnath Sanskrit University; Prof. Vyas Mishra, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University; Dr. Shailendra Nath Dikshit, Acharya Gopal Chandra Mishra Vaidika-Unnayan Sansthan; Prof. Roop Kishor Shastri, Secretary, Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan; Prof. Gangadhar Panda, Shri Jagannath Sanskrit University; Prof. Sudheer Kumar, Director, Haryana Sanskrit Academy Institute and Dr. Chandrakanta Rai, Arya Mahila PG College.



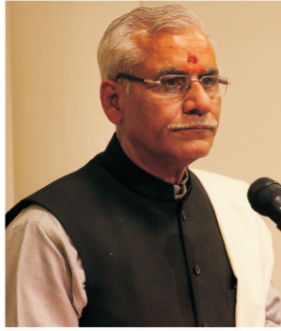
Prof. R. Majumdar & Prof. B. Bhattacharya



Prof. G. D. Panda, Prof. Y. K. Mishra & Prof. A. N. Pandey



Prof. K. D. Tripathi



Prof. Y. N. P. Dubey



Prof. H. K. Shatpathy



Dr. G. P. Sharma



Dr. S. Chattopadhyaya



Prof. S. K. Mishra



Special Lectures

August 02, 2014

Annual Feature : Radiance of Kashi

*Some Post-Medieval Historical Facts
Related to Kashi*
By Dr. N. P. Joshi

*Cosmic Landscape and Sacred
Geometry of Kashi*
By Prof. Rana P.B. Singh



September 19, 2014

Is Puja a Meaningless Ritual?
By Prof. P. K. Mukhopadhyay

October 19, 2014

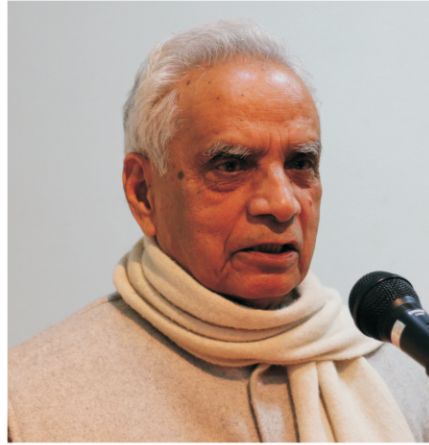
Yaga Homa Svarupa Vimarsha
By Prof. Hridaya Ranjan Sharma



January 08, 2015

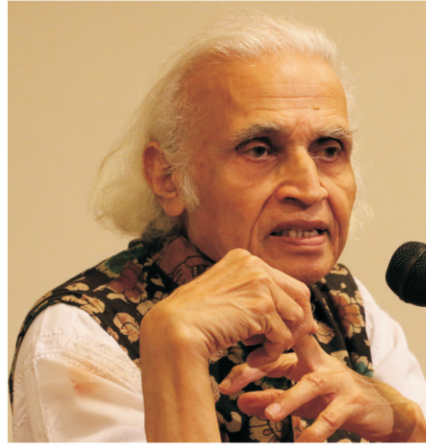
*Hindu Populism & the Politics of the Peasant,
India c. 1914-14*
By Prof. Sir Christopher Alan Bayly





January 23, 2015

European Perception of History
By Prof. Thakur Prasad Verma



April 15, 2015

*Sattriya Dances of Assam :
The Life of Monks at Utter Kamalabari Sattra*
By Padmashri Dr. Sunil Kothari



Advanced Study Course

October 09-18, 2014

Aihole, Badami & Pattadakal

Conducted by Dr. Shrinivas V. Padigar, Dharwad

Participants : 27 (BHU: 23, DMPGC: 2, SSU: 1, JP: 1)



Dr. Shrinivas V. Padigar



Prof. Kamal Sheel, Chief Guest, Valedictory Session



Workshop



Nathdwara Painting

November 08-16, 2014

Conducted by Shri Raja Ram Sharma, Udaipur

Guidance by Prof. Anjan Chakraverty, Varanasi

Participants : 50 (BHU: 28, MGKVP: 3, DMPGC: 16, Lakhimpur: 1, Australia: 2)



Shri Raja Ram Sharma



Prof. Anjan Chakraverty



Prof. Bettina Baumer
Chief Guest, Valedictory Session

Prerana-Pravaha

The events organized under this feature are especially aimed at the young generation to arouse awareness about the importance of the Indian Cultural Values and motivate them to take keen interest in knowing and preserving the ethos of our ancient culture.

Quiz

Fairs and Festivals (School Children)

Coordinated by Dr. N. P. Joshi, Prof. M. N. P. Tiwari & Prof. Kamal Giri

Participating Institutions : Sunbeam English School; Sunbeam Academy; Delhi Public School; Central Hindu Boys School; Durgacharan Girls Inter College; Imperial Public School; Dalims Sunbeam; Children's Academy & Kanya Kumari Vidya Mandir Intermediate College.

August 23, 2014



Heritage of Banaras (UG/PG Students)

Coordinated by Dr. N. P. Joshi, Prof. M. N. P. Tiwari & Prof. Kamal Giri

Participating Institutions : Vasanta College for Women, Rajghat;

Indian Institute of Technology, BHU; Arya Mahila PG College, Chetganj;

Women's College, BHU; Vasant Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Kamaccha & S. S. University.

September 18, 2014



Sanskrit Antyakshari

This is based on the Sanskrit literature and is an exceptional and distinguished programme designed for the students with the aim to encourage them to take keen interest and develop deep understanding of Sanskrit language.

November 28, 2014

Gita Antyakshari

Conducted by Prof. Upendra Pandey

Participating Institutions : JP Samskara & Anushthana Kendra; Central Hindu Boys School; Marwari Seva Sangh Sanskrit Vidyalaya; Annada Devi Kanya Gurukul Sanskrit Vidyalaya; Dept. of Sanskrit, BHU; Shri Kedarnath Goyanka Veda Vidyalaya; Acharya Gopal Chandra Mishra Vaidik Unnayan Sansthan; Shri Pattabharam Shastri Veda Mimamsa Anusandhan Kendra & Dept. of Sanskrit Vidya Dharma Vijnan, BHU.



February 21, 2015

Kalidasa Antyakshari

Chief Guest : Dr. Hema Krishnan

Presided by Prof. Jayashankar Lal Tripathi

Conducted by Dr. Kamla Pandeya

Participating Institutions : Arya Mahila PG College; Vasanta Kanya Mahavidyalaya; Vasanta College for Women; Dept. of Sanskrit, BHU & Marwari Seva Sangh Sanskrit Vidyalaya.



Dr. Hema Krishnan



Prof. Jayashankar Lal Tripathi



Dr. Kamla Pandeya

Visits and Interaction with Students

Students and teachers from various schools, colleges and universities often visit to develop familiarity with cultural ethos of India through Museum and interaction.

Visiting Institutions: Vasanta College for Women, Rajghat (18.09.2014)
Krishnamurti Foundation Rajghat Besant School, Rajghat (23.11.2014)
Vidyashram – The South Point School, Nagwa (10.02.2015)
River Valley Royal School (11.02.2015)



Outstanding Performance



Banethi : Ancient Martial Art Technique of Banaras
Performed by Shri Krishna Murari (08.01.2015)

Special Events

September 28, 2014

Harikatha in Naradiya Style
Perfomed by Dr. N. P. Joshi



December 25-29, 2014

Sanskriti – Cultural Programmes organized by Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India

Main events held at Jñāna-Pravāha - Chakari and Glass Dance by Shahi Hamdan Musical Group, Jammu & Kashmir; Tamasha by Ganesh Sampat Rao Chandanshive, Pune; Rasan Chauki – Avahan Sangeet by the artists of Achhinjal, Madhubani; Alha – Vocal Recital by Ramlakhan Tiwari & Group; Raja Harishchandra – Nautanki by Santosh Kumar & Group; Seminar & Discussion on Traditional & Modern Drama.



Rasan Chauki – Avahan Sangeet by the artists of Achhinjal, Madhubani



Pancha-Vadya, Kerala



Purulia Chhau



Chakari & Glass Dance by
Shahi Hamdan Musical Group, Jammu & Kashmir



Raja Harishchandra – Nautanki by Santosh Kumar & Group



Tamasha by Ganesh Sampat Rao Chandanshive, Pune



Alha – Vocal Recital by Ramlakhani Tiwari & Group



Saraikela Chhau



Music Concerts



Pt. Vijay Kichlu

December 07, 2014

Prabhati : The Jñāna-Pravāha Music Festival
Performed by the artists of Jñāna-Pravāha, Kolkata
Coordinated by Pt. Vijay Kichlu



Soumen Nandy, Sanjukta Biswas & Jamuna Vallabha Gujarati (Bhayanji)



Soumen Nandy & Kalyanjeet Das

Vasantiki (Music Concert)

March 01, 2015

Vocal Recital by Pandit Uday Bhawalkar & Vidushi Shubhra Guha
Accompanied by Sabina Mumtaz (Vocal), Pratap (Pakhawaj),
Ashok Chatterjee (Tabla) & Rupshree Bhattacharya (Harmonium)



Sanskrit Play

Karnabharam : A Sanskrit Play by Bhasa
Directed by Prof. K. D. Tripathi, Prof. Y. K. Mishra &
Dr. Chandrakanta Rai
Dance Direction by Shri Shashdhar Acharya, New Delhi
Staged in : 1. Varanasi (February 08, 2015)
2. Agartala (March 17, 2015)
3. Bangkok, Thailand (June 29, 2015)



Varanasi



Bangkok



Agartala

Vedic Yajna

February 17, 2015

Shrauta Yaga : Mitravindeshti

Chief Guest : Prof. Shivraj Acharya

Performed by Pt. Sudhakar Digambar Kulkarni, Pune

Coordinated by Prof. H. R. Sharma



Special Visits

The academic activities of the Institution disseminating the knowledge and awareness about Indian art and culture attract a number of individuals, groups and academic organizations from India and abroad. Some distinguished visitors this year were:



Mr. Ravindra Singh, Secretary Culture with Prof. V. Jayaswal (6.12.2014)



Mr. & Mrs. Onne, Ambuja Cement (25.10.2014)



Mr. Shankar Bajpai (17.12.2014)



Ms. Barbara Timmer & Group, USA (24.01.2015)



Mr. Amit Shah, President BJP (20.8.2014)



Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Cultural Minister with Prof. K. Giri & Prof. Y. K. Mishra (25.12.2014)

Samskara & Anushthana Kendra



Practical Examination



Upanayan Samskara

Jñāna-Pravāha is running a city unit *Samskara & Anushthana Kendra* at Meerghat, Varanasi, which aims at nourishing the glorious traditions of infusing *samskaras* and discipline among the younger generation aspiring to become *purohitas*. This is executed in *Gurukula* tradition. The emphasis is laid on correct pronunciation and proper recitation of the Vedic hymns, performing of rites and rituals along with ceremonies, knowledge of *Jyotisha* (Astrology) and good grasp of Sanskrit grammar. The duration of the course is three years. Prof. Sita Ram Shastri and Prof. Yugal Kishor Mishra share the major responsibility in the functioning of the Centre. Every year 10 new students are admitted after interview by panel of experts. All the passed out students are now into active service of the society and earning well for their livelihood.

Students performing Rudrabhishek



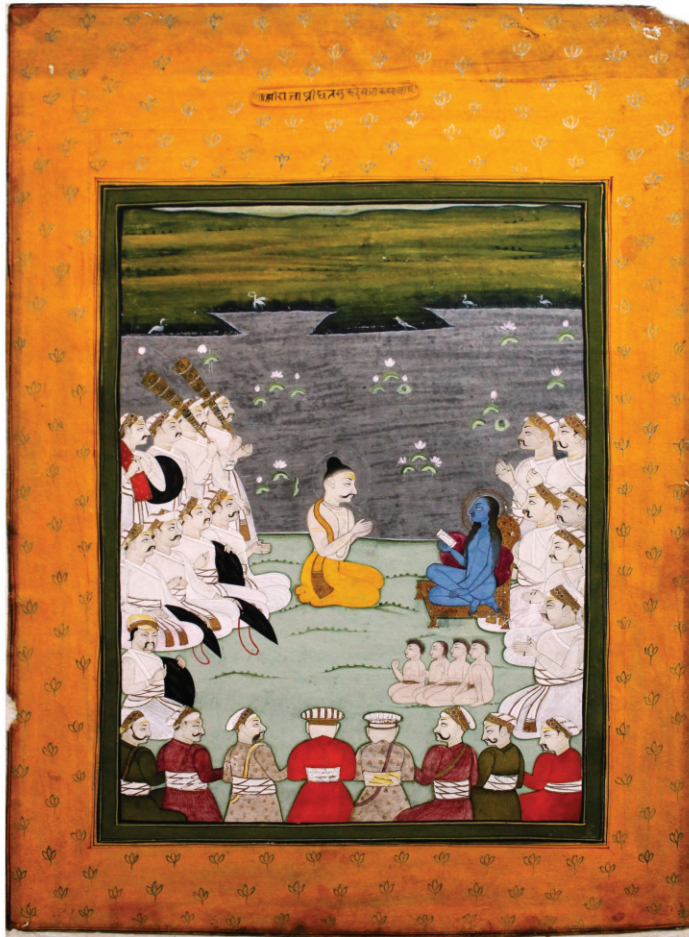
August 30, 2014 [Rishi Panchami] *Samavartana Samaroha* (Convocation)

Chief Guest : Prof. Hare Ram Tripathi, Retd., M.G.K.V.P., Varanasi; Guest-of-Honour : Prof. Gangadhar Panda, V.C., S.G.S. University, Puri; Chairperson : Dr. N. P. Joshi, Hon. Acharya, JP, Varanasi



Kalamandapa (Museum)

The Jñāna-Pravāha Museum (*Kalamandapa*) houses Late Shri Suresh Neotia's personal collection of rare paintings, sculptures, terracotta, coins and decorative art items. It is further enriched with display of textiles like Banaras brocades, Kashmiri shawls, Baluchara *saris*, Kantha from Bengal, Pulkari from Punjab, etc. and appended with a number of objects like silver representing



Raja Parikshit and Sukadevaji, Rajasthan, 18th Century

country. Some outstanding exhibits include a huge Kalamkari, a dated copperplate of King Harshavardhana and an exceptional piece of textile 'Samit' from eastern India. C. 8th century BCE objects of Ramnagar, Varanasi are added attraction. New acquisitions include a Varanasi Copperplate of Govindachandra of Cahadavala dynasty, Gara (*sari*) and Decorative Torana with Parsi embroidery. The Banaras Gallery (a separate wing) exhibits various aspects of Kashi Culture and Art.



Gara (Sari) with Parsi Embroidery, Surat (Gujarat), mid-19th century

Reference Library

The Reference Library consists of around 20,000 books & several rare manuscripts on various aspects of Indology, e.g. Art, Culture, Philosophy, Religion, Sanskrit, History, Epigraphy, Numismatics, Archaeology and allied subjects. Besides the main library, one section contains books on Sanskrit and Classical Literature, while the other on every aspect of Varanasi.



Social Service

A Charitable Homeopathic Dispensary, managed by Dr. Purnendu Chakraborty, is serving the people. It is quite popular among the residents of nearby and far off urban and rural areas. About 20,000 patients on an average avail the benefit of this service every year.



Shilpashala (The Handicraft Atelier)

Art & Craft Development and Promotion Wing aims to preserve and promote the fast diminishing traditional art and craft of Varanasi. Required facilities are provided to the artisans for salvaging these dying traditions. The Atelier is progressing well under the supervision of Dr. Pramod Giri. It produces various objects in *ashtadhatu* (alloy of 8 metals) and *repousse* in copper & brass.



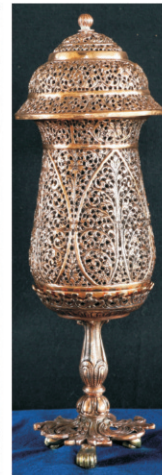
Artisans at Work



Ganga (Ashtadhatu + Copper)
C.No.147



Mahishamardini (Ashtadhatu)
C.No.138



Lamp (Copper)
C.No.R61

Jñāna-Pravāha Scholarship for Indian Classical Music, Kolkata

Under the able guidance of Convener Pt. Vijay Kichlu, the Kolkata chapter of Jñāna-Pravāha has developed several young artists adjudged amongst the best in the field of Indian Classical Music. They underwent vigorous training through the scholarship scheme in a traditional guru-shishya-parampara to achieve this height. At present the following gurus and shishyas are engaged in the making of future musicians for the country:

1. Vidushi Subhra Guha (Sanjukta Biswas, Sabina Mumtaz Islam),
2. Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar (Soumyajit Paul),
3. Pt. Soumitra Lahiri (Kaustav Majumdar),
4. Pt. Arup Chattopadhyay (Soumen Nandy),
5. Shri Kushal Das (Prateek Shrivastava, Kalyanjit Das, Santa Kundu) and
6. Pt. Mohanlal Mishra (Soumyajit Goswami).

February 13-15, 2015

An annual three-day Jñāna-Pravāha Music Festival held in collaboration with Sangeet Ashram at GD Birla Sabhagar, Kolkata.



Gauri Pathare



Pravin Godkhindi



Raghubandan Panshikar



Sanjukta Biswas



Kartik Sheshadhri



Parthasarathy

Jñāna-Pravāha, Mumbai

We, at Jnanapravaha Mumbai (JPM), continue to engage with national and international scholars in our endeavour to disseminate knowledge of the arts in the broadest sense. Our courses, lectures, seminars and conversations are an ideal platform to keep abreast with current global trends of theory and practice. These have opened up new vistas continuing our mission to think critical, think art. Major events of the year were:



Faisal Devji, Shruti Kapila & Akeel Bilgrami

(A) **Certificate Courses** : *PG Diploma in Indian Aesthetics* (31 students); *Art, Criticism and Theory* (13 students); *The Art and Architecture of Southeast Asia* (14 students).

(B) **Seminars** : 19-22 August 2014 – *Masterpieces of Indian Sculpture* by Kirit Mankodi (30 participants); 26-27 August 2014 – *Semiotics* by Rohit Goel (30 participants); 22-25 September 2014 – *Contemporary Art Practices in the Middle-East and North Africa* by Rohit Goel (12 participants); 6-8 January 2015 – *Horizons: A Thematic Approach to Islamic Art* by Finbarr Barry Flood (40 participants); 13-15 January 2015 – *The Trouble with Images: Aniconism and Iconoclasm in Theory and Practice* by Finbarr Barry Flood (30 participants); 23-24 February 2015 – *Adventures in Mass Publicity: From Censorship to Magic* by William Mazzarella (7 participants); 17-20 March 2015 – *Reading Marx: Writing Against the Grain* by Rohit Goel (10 participants); 24-27 March 2015 – *Psychoanalysis: Aesthetics, Ethics and Politics* by Rohit Goel (13 participants).

(C) **Public Lectures** : 23 public lectures were delivered by notable national and international scholars on a vast array of topic spanning the fields of Art Criticism, Artist Practice, History, Political Thought, Archaeology, Architecture, Literature, Museum Studies, etc.

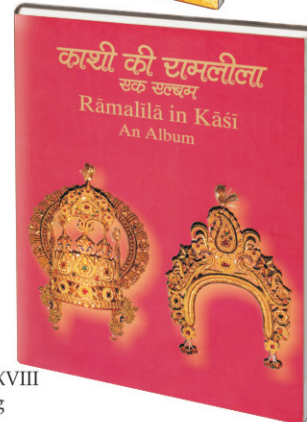
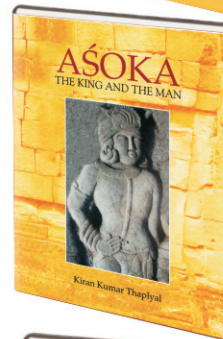
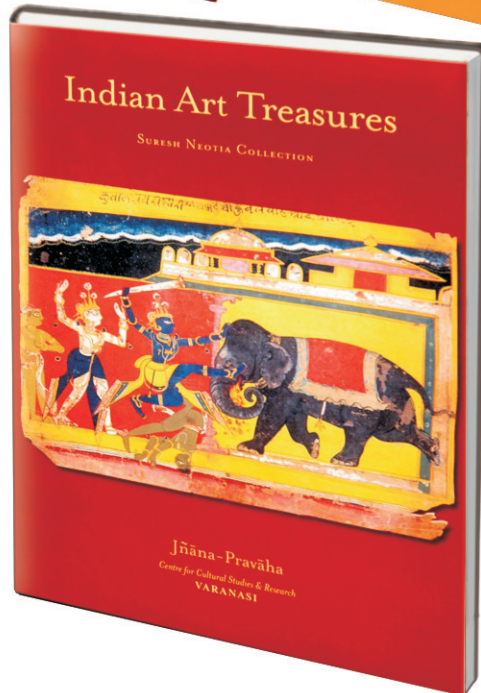
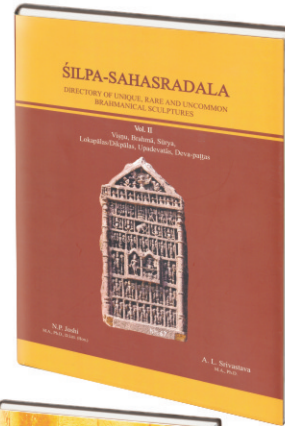
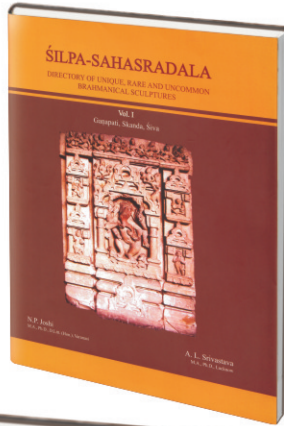
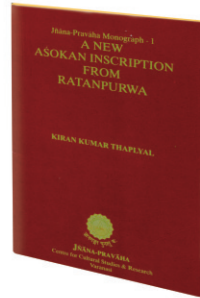
(D) **New Endeavours** : 1. JPM has launched two new programming titles, namely *Islam Aesthetics* and *Southeast Asian Aesthetics*. 2.



W.J.T. Mitchell & Homi K. Bhabha

The first of the annual lectures initiated by a collaboration with the Deccan Heritage Foundation India (DHFI) to bring awareness to a Deccan tangible or intangible subject. 3. With a view to expanding and formalizing its ongoing commitment to rigorous pedagogy and academic research in the fields of Art History, Visual Culture, and Critical Theory, JPM is pleased to announce the appointment of Rohit Goel as Academic Director.

Some Important Publications



Annual Publication : Jñāna-Pravāha Research Journal, Vols. I - XVIII
For details please visit our website : www.jnanpravaha.org