Image: Iron Pillar and Mosque, Qutb Complex
Photography: Debbashish Das
If INTACH can be seen as a work in progress, the role of Chapters spread across the country define the directions that journey takes. I have been conscious of the critical role that Chapters have to play in that journey ever since I took over as the Convenor almost eight years ago. My predecessor, Shri O.P. Jain had laid strong foundations for the chapter’s activities which I continued and further developed.

Our objective was to make a difference for the better in Delhi. The different departments of the government were focussed on their specific duties and no one thought of implementing a holistic perspective trying up the various initiatives. To achieve this we proposed two projects: First was the Heritage Route Project, which planned to connect the heritage sites in a manner that offered a different - a heritage oriented - cognitive image of the city. Several projects involving the ASI, State Department of Archaeology, PWD, Municipal governments and DDA were identified for development. The Hop-on-Hop-off (Ho Ho) bus service was started as one of the projects. It provided a road map for undertaking projects by different agencies in a coordinated manner. The second was to nominate Delhi to the List of UNESCO World Heritage Cities. Again this project drew in different government agencies for the betterment of the city. While the Central Government has unfortunately withdrawn the nomination at the last step of its consideration by UNESCO, the improvement works identified as account of the nomination are continuing through a Moll between INTACH and the Shahjahanabad Redevelopment Corporation.

Several other projects undertaken by the Chapter are described in this newsletter, but I take this opportunity to emphasize how the immense potential of INTACH and its Chapters could be put to use. That has been my vision as the Convenor of the Delhi Chapter.

Heritage in danger - the Mehrauli Archaeological Park

In Delhi we can justifiably look with pride at our many successes in the cause of heritage conservation. At the same time there are threats that cannot be ignored. The Mehrauli Archaeological Park, located right next to the Qutub Minar Complex, is an area particularly rich in built heritage, dating from the 11th century to the 19th. It contains the ruins of the original wall of Lal Kot - the 11th century Tomar fort, the tomb of the Emperor Balban, the beautiful step well known as Rajon ki Baoli, and the exquisite tomb of Maulana Jamali, among many others. All this is set amidst an extensive green cover.

INTACH Delhi Chapter has been involved in conservation projects in this area since the late 1990s. It has been our dream that this beautiful park should be a showcase of Delhi’s rich heritage, as well as a recreation area for the city. These efforts have however been frustrated through the lack of suitable action from the authorities. Official apathy over the years has led to rampant encroachment, vandalism and defacement of heritage structures, and rendered the park unsightly as well as unsafe.

Having exhausted all other means of redress, we have now approached the Delhi High Court in a Public Interest Litigation. We have requested that illegal activities be checked in the park and that is should be brought under an efficient management plan. With the support of the Court, we hope that this important heritage precinct can be saved for posterity and for the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike.
DELHI’S IMPERIAL CAPITAL CITIES NOMINATION TO UNESCO’S LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE CITIES

‘Delhi’s Imperial Capital Cities’ comprising of the two imperial capital cities of Shahjahanababd and New Delhi were proposed for nomination to UNESCO’s List of World Heritage Cities in June 2015, the only nomination submitted to UNESCO by India this year. INTACH Delhi Chapter was given the responsibility for producing the dossier, a task that was undertaken very thoroughly and kept us busy for the last few years.

A decision was to be taken at the 39th Session of the World Heritage Committee Meeting, held in Bonn, Germany from 28 June - 8 July 2015. To the complete surprise of the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, it appears that the nomination was withdrawn by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India without consulting the State Government. A Note on the UNESCO website simply stated that the ‘Nomination was withdrawn at the request of the State Party’. A further corrigendum dated 22nd May 2015 on the UNESCO Website stated that ‘The nomination of Delhi’s Imperial Capital Cities, India, has been postponed for consideration of the World Heritage Committee to a later date.’ The Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi has not been able to get any response from the Government of India as to why the nomination was withdrawn.
CONSERVATION AND ILLUMINATION OF MONUMENTS IN DELHI

The Department of Archaeology and the Delhi Chapter, INTACH, signed a memorandum of understanding on 29th October 2008 for the protection and conservation of 92 monuments in Delhi. The 92 monuments are part of the list of 250 monuments prepared by the Department of Archaeology. Another memorandum of understanding has been signed on December 2012 for the protection and conservation of 155 monuments, which are part of the list of 250 monuments, apart from the 92 monuments for which conservation statements were made in 2009. As per the memorandum, INTACH will provide for protection, conservation and management of these monuments in two phases.

PHASE-1 of the project will assist notification and protection of the monuments under the provisions of the Delhi Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 2004. This phase includes photo documentation and structural description of the monument in the form of a conservation statement.

PHASE-II of the project will incorporate preparation of architectural drawings and conservation proposals, execution of conservation work and refurbishment of the site around the monuments. It will also include providing maintenance and security of the monuments by involving public and private partnership.

CONSERVATION OF 16 MONUMENTS

The conservation of 16 monuments began in 2014. Before execution of the work, detailed project reports were submitted to the Dept. of State Archaeology, GNTCD. This is an ongoing part of the MoU signed between State Dept. of Archaeology, GNCTD and INTACH Delhi Chapter in 2008.

The 16 monuments which were shortlisted within the larger area of Delhi/NCR are:

MONUMENTS

Baoli
Tomb
Baradari
Mosque, Baoli and Water Channel
Tomb
Tomb
Tomb
Tomb and Enclosure Wall
Tomb Unknown
Jharna
Chaumachi Khan Tomb
Gateways of Sarai Badarpur
Tomb
Imambara and mosque
Northern Guard House
Southern Guard House

LOCATION

Dwarka
Sadhna Enclave
Sadhna Enclave
Vasant Vihar
Gautam Nagar
G.K.1
Katwariya Sarai
Mehrauli
Mehrauli
Mehrauli
Baradarpur
Qutb Road
Qutb Road
Ridge
Ridge

Before

After

Tomb and Enclosure Wall, Mehrauli

Before

After

Baoli, Dwarka
Amongst the monuments for which conservation statement had been prepared, 18 monuments, located in the border areas of Delhi, have been selected in the next phase. The list of 18 monuments for which Detail project report have been prepared and submitted is as follows:

**MONUMENTS**

- Bhuli Bhatiyari ka Mahal
- Zail Horse stable
- Tomb (unknown)
- Tomb (unknown) jharokha
- Mosque (nameless)
- Tomb of Shaikh Ziyauddin Rumi
- Tomb locally known as gumti
- Embankment Mahal
- Gateway of Sarai of Mehram Nagar
- Katra Garden, Landscape Proposal
- Sarai of Basant
- Eastern gateway of Chirag Delhi
- Southern gateway of Chirag Delhi
- Northern gateway of Chirag Delhi
- Gateway of Mahaldar Khan Garden

**LOCATION**

- Karol Bagh
- Bawana
- Mehrauli
- Mehrauli
- Mehrauli
- Lado Sarai
- Kalu Serai
- Humayaun Pur Tal Katora
- Mahipalpur
- Mehram Nagar
- Mehram Nagar
- Mehram Nagar
- Basant Range
- Chirag Delhi
- Chirag Delhi
- Chirag Delhi
- Gur ki Mandi

**CONSERVATION STATEMENT OF 155 MONUMENTS**

This project is a part of Phase I of the project – Protection and Conservation of Monuments in Delhi. It introduces the monument with a brief historical and architectural description and the present state of condition. A general recommendation for future action is also indicated.

A key objective of the project is to make conservation statements for each heritage structure stating its worth & thereby giving guidelines to restore the integrity & authenticity of the monument. This would require removing encroachments and also require rebuilding some components and restoring lost portions, respecting the historic remains. The historical context of the surrounding of the monument shall also be restored in a very sensitive manner by appropriate site development/ landscaping.
DISCOVERING HERITAGE
During the project involving conservation of 16 monuments, a baoli was discovered in sector 12, Dwaka. Initially it was thought to be a baoli with only a well and a wall left. After excavation, it was discovered to be a baoli with three levels with 34 steps approaching the well. The baoli is constructed of rubble masonry and is rectangular in plan. From its architectural style, it may be attributed to the Lodi period. Internally the baoli measures 52’ from north to south by 16”6” from east to west. To the north there is a staircase which leads to the octagonal tank at the bottom. The internal walls and arches would originally have been plastered.

HERITAGE AT RISK!
COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN-PRESIDENT’S HOUSE AND PRESIDENT’S ESTATE, NEW DELHI

The grand residence of the President of India, Rashtrapati Bhawan, and the grounds and buildings attached to it, comprise 154 hectares of land at the focal point of the monumental Central Axis at the heart of New Delhi. Built as a residence for the Viceroy during British rule, it is one of the largest residences for any head of state in the world. President’s Estate requires urgent and sympathetic consideration if the site is to maintain its heritage character. It was to address this issue that in January 2013, the President’s Secretariat and CPWD commissioned INTACH to prepare a Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan (CCMP) in two parts: Phase I to focus on the Estate and Phase II to address the issues related to the main Rashtrapati Bhawan Building. The CCMP has now been approved by all the statutory authorities regulating activities in New Delhi, and the President’s Secretariat and the CPWD have committed themselves to follow its imperatives in the future management of the Estate.
CONSERVATION OF CLOCK TOWER, SCHEDULE A, PRESIDENT’S ESTATE

The building, which is popularly known today as the Clock Tower, is located in the Schedule A of the President’s Estate and was built as the Institute in the Escort Lines. Since 1947, the building has been occupied by the President’s Body Guard as its Regimental Head Quarters. The rooms to the west side are occupied by the Army Guard (Madras Regiment. The building is centrally located in the avenue which runs diagonally and is part of the original design intent of Lutyens. The building plan is based on a perfect square with each side measuring 21.30 metres, chamfered corners that measure 3.35 meters diagonally, the total area being 454 sq. mts. The total height of the structure is 23 mts. The corners have arched alcoves with stone basin and lion head water spouts for fountains. There are projected porches with two circular pillars at the centre of each side, which serve as main entrances. The square plan is basically two tiered. The clock system installed in the tower is inscribed with the name “Pulsynetic”, which indicates that it was manufactured by Gent and Company of Leicester, UK. The company, which had been established in 1872, started making electric clock systems in the early 20th century; these electric clock systems became famous under the name Pulsynetic, and were used to drive tower and other clocks. Gent and Company’s electric clocks adorned many important buildings around the world, including the Royal Liver Building at Liverpool (for long the largest electric clock in the world), Terry’s Confectionary Works in York, Port of London Authority Building in London. The building was precisely documented and analysed by the team of INTACH, Delhi Chapter. Original plaster has been preserved and the tile flooring has been removed and replaced with kota stone flooring. The conical obelisks were repaired. All fire places were cleaned to remove layers of paint and restored to their original design. All the wood work has been cleaned to its original finish and the water tanks and other service installations have been re-located. Appropriate plinth protections (in red sandstone) have been provided all around the building.

CONSERVATION OF CLOCK TOWER, SCHEDULE B, PRESIDENT’S ESTATE

This Clock Tower is located in the Schedule B of the President’s Estate. The building is centrally located in the avenue which runs diagonally and is part of the original design intent of Lutyens. The building plan is based on a perfect square with each side measuring 21.30 meters, chamfered corners that measure 3.35 meters diagonally, the total area being 454 sq mts. The total height of the structure is 23 mts. The corners have arched alcoves with stone basin and lion head water spouts for fountains. There are projected porches with two circular pillars at the centre of each side, which serve as main entrances. The square plan is basically two tiered. This structure was originally built for band practice for the British Indian Army. The clock system installed in the tower is inscribed with the name “J.B. Joyce & Co.Ltd, Whitchurch 1924”, which indicates that it was manufactured by J.B. Joyce & Co. in England. The company, which had been established in 1690 in Shropshire, England, started making longcase clocks. In 1790 when the company moved to Whitchurch, they started making large clocks for churches and public buildings including principle railway companies. J.B. Joyce & Co. clocks adorned many important buildings around the world, including the East gate clock, Chester installed in 1897, Shanghai Custom House installed in 1927. This company installed several clocks all over the world. The conservation principles used for the conservation of this building are the same as Clock Tower, Schedule A.
CONSERVATION PROJECTS
Over the years, INTACH, Delhi Chapter has become the primary advisor/consultant in the matter of preservation and conservation of the city’s art and cultural heritage, to institutions within the government and outside, especially institutions of decentralized governance. Apart from the conservation of monuments under the protection of the State Department of Archeology, INTACH Delhi Chapter has also embarked on several projects like the conservation of the monuments at Lodi Garden that are under the management of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI). The project is supported by funds from the Steel Authority of India Ltd. through the National Culture Fund. The project is of significance, because for the first time ASI has entrusted the conservation work of monuments under their protection to INTACH Delhi Chapter. It is also an example of the public-private partnership, which the ASI has begun to promote.

COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN OF NATIONAL ARCHIVES
The National Archives of India is the repository of the noncurrent records of the Government of India and is holding them in trust for the use of administrators and scholars. It is an Attached Office of the Ministry of Culture. This institution was set up in March 1891 in Calcutta (Kolkata) as the Imperial Records Department. After the shift of the National Capital from Calcutta to New Delhi in 1911, it was shifted to its present building in 1926. This was one of four museum and archive buildings planned by its architect Edwin Lutyens, at the intersection of King’s Way and Queen’s Way. However, only this one was built. A Comprehensive Conservation Management Report that will be produced as part of the deliverables and will form the benchmark for all future interventions. It has been proposed to undertake this using 3D Laser Scanning equipment used worldwide.

CONSERVATION OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE AND ITS PRECINCT
The Parliament of India is the supreme legislative body in India housing one of the most magnificent buildings in New Delhi. Though not part of the original plan of New Delhi it became necessary after the reforms of 1919 laid the foundations of the bicameral legislature. The building has a circular plan with three axes radiating from the centre. Parliament House and its Precinct comprises the Parliament House, Reception Office building, Sansadiya Gyanpeeth (Parliament Library Building), Parliament House Annexe and extensive lawns around it ponds and fountains. INTACH, Delhi Chapter aims to conserve the main building of the Parliament Estate along with its open spaces. The restoration of this structure includes a comprehensive restoration plan, and advice from art conservators to restore the fixed and moveable artwork in a scientific manner including furniture, fixtures and fittings, paintings and objects-d-art.
THE BAHAI HOUSE OF WORSHIP (LOTUS TEMPLE), NOMINATION TO UNESCO’S LIST OF WORLD HERITAGE SITES

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais of India has engaged the services of INTACH, Delhi Chapter to nominate the Bahai House of Worship, Delhi as a UNESCO’s World Heritage Site. INTACH, Delhi Chapter was chosen for this task because of our extensive experience in the preparation of such documentation and our expertise in some of the more technical aspects of the matter, such as conservation and urban planning arrangements in the Delhi area.

Some of the tasks involved are:

1. Identify the area for nomination and the Buffer Zone based on criteria as prescribed by UNESCO after due deliberations with the Advisory Committee on World Heritage Matters.
2. Prepare and/or supply all maps and drawings needed to depict the site location, the buffer zone and the relevant urban planning and conservation arrangements, or otherwise required for the completion of the Nomination Dossier.
3. Advise and assist the Indian National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais with the preparation of the Site Management Plan.
4. Hold consultative sessions with all stakeholders involved in the site and the identified Buffer Zone.
5. Liaise with monitoring agencies like the Archaeological Survey of India and UNESCO on behalf of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahais of India.

INTACH Delhi Chapter will prepare the dossier over a period of 18 months and submit the same to UNESCO in January 2017.

PIL- MEHRAULI ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK

Mehrauli Archaeological Park houses many monuments and heritage structures. Many of them are protected by ASI and the Delhi State department of archaeology. Recently, INTACH has recognized the severe threat that the monuments face in Mehrauli Archaeological Park, a prime example being the Tomb of Khan Shahid which has recently been whitewashed and defaced. There is an urgent need for proper management of the site. INTACH has filed a public interest litigation (PIL) to maintain, preserve, and ensure there is no further decay and destruction of the ancient monuments which are situated within the Mehrauli archaeological park, Delhi and also for directions/orders to ensure protection, maintenance and preservation of old monuments and cultural heritage in the park. INTACH has submitted a list of monuments and a map to help delineate the boundary of the park. DDA, DTTDC, ASI, South MCD, and Waqf Board have been made parties and are made liable to participate in the delineating the boundary of the Mehrauli Archaeological Park.

Aerial View of Lotus Temple
Source: GoogleEarth 2013
CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF REDEMPTION
The Cathedral Church of the Redemption is not only an important place of worship in Delhi, it is an iconic heritage structure. In its location as well as architectural style it forms an integral part of the Capitol Complex of New Delhi - which includes structures such as Rashtrapati Bhawan, Central Secretariat and Parliament. The initiative for its construction was taken by the Christian community of Delhi and the foundation stone way laid by the then Viceroy, Lord Irwin, 23rd February, 1927. The architect responsible for its design was H.A.N. Medd, and Sardar Sobha Singh was the contractor for the project. The Church was opened for worship on 18th January 1931, but due to lack of funds, it was not finished till 1935. Today it is a Grade I Heritage Structure notified by the Government of Delhi. In view of the age of the building and certain structural problems, urgent restoration had become necessary, for which INTACH Delhi Chapter made a proposal to the church authorities. Analysis of data from the primary sources as received from the Church, were supplemented by several site visits, including detailed photographic documentation of each roof level and the exterior facade. It was also noted that there are eight paintings inside the Church, which show signs of degradation and require immediate restoration. The project will include:
- Stain removal from the surface
- Removal of decayed plaster and restoration of the surface with lime plaster and lime punning
- Anti-termite treatment wherever there are timber elements
- Consolidation of stone and cleaning of rust
- Restoration of all horizontal bands and affected tiles
- Replacement of cracked, decayed and damaged tiles including replacement of rusted nails

THE BENGALI CLUB
The building of Bengali Club was constructed in 1925 AD and ever since it has been an active centre for the Bengali community and is associated with many distinguished people such as Rabindra Nath Tagore, Subhash Chandra Bose, etc. It is a double-storied structure with shops on the ground floor. Two rooms and the lobby of the first floor are occupied by the Bengali Club, and the remaining part of the first floor is used as a hotel. INTACH, Delhi Chapter intends to take up the conservation work in this building in two phases. In Phase I, the team of Delhi Chapter will re-plaster the walls and repair the roof with the original traditional roofing system of wooden joists and planks along with relaying of the terrace with appropriate slope and to provide the Iron pillar on the ground floor similar to the original design and dimensions. Then on the first floor, to decrease the masonry load a parapet wall needs to be redesigned. The phase II of the project would lead to a complete structural conservation and up-gradation of the building, which can be only implemented after inspecting and documenting it.
CONSERVATION AND MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT AT DARA SHIKOH LIBRARY

Dara Shikoh was the eldest son of Mughal emperor Shahjahan. Dara Shikhoh Library has extreme historic significance as it is believed to be part of the mansion built by the prince at the same time that the Red Fort was being constructed, around 1639-48 AD. In the early 19th century the building became the first British residency occupied by Sir David Ochterlony, and was given a new façade with classical colonial features. There are some remains of the original structure, specially found on the northern side at a lower level and in form of some columns and cusped arches on the upper level partially hidden by the walls added later. The building therefore reflects an interesting hybridity. The interior still retains features of Mughal architecture such as baluster columns and scalloped arches, while the front façade of the building has large Roman pillars with Ionic order capitals on the front verandah on the southern side. The series of columns and arches found on the lower level constitute what was perhaps the Qutub khana, or library, which originally housed the collection of books of Dara Shikoh.

INTACH has proposed to turn the Dara Shikoh library into a City Museum with the intention of preserving and promoting cultural heritage. The museum lends itself well to the learning process as a laboratory of sorts; where practical knowledge may be introduced in a whimsical, thoughtful and artistic manner.

CONSERVATION OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS IN SHAHJAHANABAD – A Manual for Homeowners

INTACH, Delhi Chapter has compiled a handbook aimed at the conservation of heritage buildings in Shahjahanabad for the owners or anyone who proposes to conserve a heritage building in Shahjahanabad. It covers all aspects of conservation, restoration, repair and maintenance of a heritage building in Shahjahanabad.

All available data (surveys, listing studies previously conducted) on Shahjahanabad was collated to develop an understanding of the diagnosis of typical issues affecting the heritage properties in Shahjahanabad, the condition of the heritage buildings and environment, and the legal framework, existing legislation and policies impacting the heritage of Shahjahanabad. An analysis of this data helped in deriving a list of typical problems and their solutions that are coherent with the ground conditions. Field surveys were undertaken for the identification of construction systems, materials, and stylistic compositions as well as to develop case studies which demonstrate certain processes. Explanatory drawings and photodocumentation of case studies have been used to illustrate the case studies. Recommendations are developed in the form of guidelines for repair and maintenance, proposing the best immediate solutions to repair or treat the most common pathologies found in the built heritage of Shahjahanabad. This has been presented in the form of a concise A5 portrait handbook that is easy to read and manage, and is well presented and illustrated.
SIGNAGE

The experience of visitors at heritage sites is considerably enhanced by attractive and informative signage. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) signed an MOU with INTACH Delhi Chapter, in October 2009, for the design, fabrication and installation of an integrated signage system at 15 ASI protected sites in Delhi. Some of these sites are Firoz Shah Kotla complex, Purana Qila Complex, Hauz Khas, and Lodigarden.

AN INTEGRATED SIGNAGE SYSTEM FOR HERITAGE BUILDINGS NOTIFIED BY THE NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has engaged the services of INTACH, Delhi Chapter to design and install an integrated signage system for the heritage notified by the NDMC. This system comprises of:

1) Directional flags added to existing NDMC signage poles at all roundabouts. They indicate the direction of important heritage buildings.

2) Heritage Location Boards which have a map of the NDMC area with the location of all heritage buildings marked on it. These are to be placed at popular tourist destinations and market complexes.

3) Information boards outside each notified heritage building within the NDMC area. The information boards have detailed information about the heritage site along with a layout plan and images of the architectural features of the building. A QR Code will be placed on each sign board with a link to a website giving more information about the site/monument.

The signage structure is a combination of sandstone, lathe turned base, a stainless steel pipe structure on which is mounted a composite aluminum panel, with images and text printed on eco-solvent stickers.
BYELAWS FOR SHAHJAHANABAD - PART OF THE SPECIAL AREA IDENTIFIED BY MPD2021

Shahjahanabad, the capital city of the Mughal Empire, built in the mid 17th century (1638-1857), represents the apogee of town-planning in medieval India. The city when designed showcased great morphological cohesion and identity. The Redevelopment Plan/Scheme for the Special Area as it stands today, would completely destroy the heritage character of Shahjahanabad. Proposals as mentioned in the document, for example - ‘The street pattern in residential areas to be restructured to provide better linkages to the metro stations. Road widening considering movement of fire fighting vehicle and other disaster management criteria.’ would forever change the unique urban morphology of the walled city which has remained unchanged since the time the city was built.

The North Municipal Corporation of Delhi, in recognition of the fact that the unique character of the walled city had to be retained agreed that Shahjahanabad can be treated as a separate area within the ‘Special Area’ and requested INTACH, Delhi Chapter to prepare an independent set of byelaws and development controls for the walled city of Shahjahanabad. The following is the methodology that was used in the preparation of these byelaws:

1. Impact of the existing masterplan MPD 2021/other statutory plans applicable in the area on the built fabric and character.
2. Identification of character and features that contribute to Outstanding Universal Value and need to be retained. This section includes an assessment of existing building characters such as architectural elements of the historic facades (proportions, material etc), building height, massing etc.
3. Parameters for formulation of building bye laws and guidelines for development in Shahjahanabad
4. Consultation with stakeholders

The Document was submitted to the Chief Town Planner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi in December 2014 and Chief Town Planner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi has forwarded the document to Delhi Development Authority on 25th Feb 2015.

PROJECT “MERA JAUNTY” (VILLAGE) A DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Dr. Udit Raj, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) has adopted Jaunti village, which is situated in North-western outer Delhi, close to the border with Haryana. It is a part of the North West constituency of Delhi. Delhi has had urban settlements for many centuries, and is famous for its numerous fortified cities. At the same time there are many villages that are to be found in this area, and often have a longer history than the urban centers. Many of Delhi’s villages contain significant historic structures, including places of worship, irrigation and other water works, royal hunting lodges, etc. While Delhi was an urban capital for empires, through much of the historical period its surroundings continued to be wilderness, teeming with wildlife. There were many areas in the neighbourhood, which served as royal hunting grounds, and where emperors built hunting lodges. Jaunti has important structures such as Dara Shikoh’s house, which may have been constructed by Dara Shikoh, the eldest son of Emperor Shahjahan, and the Shikargah which is believed to have been built by Shahjahan. It also houses a very large pond or tank. The vision is to develop Jaunti village as an interesting tourist destination. INTACH is voluntarily helping the team to accomplish this objective.
**HERITAGE WALKS**

INTACH Delhi Chapter is regularly conducting walks in various areas of Delhi since 2005. Heritage walks is an important strategy to create awareness among citizens about the key historic areas within Delhi. They help citizens and tourists to relate to the historic parts of the city in a more personal and intimate manner and draw the citizens of Delhi and tourists into areas of rich cultural and architectural heritage which are not yet on the tourist itinerary.

**Special walks:**

On the occasion of world Heritage day there was a special walk themed ‘Sufis and Poet’, in which we visited the places associated with sufis and poets of Nizamuddin, the walk stared from the tomb of Abdul Rahim Khan e Khana and ended at Chilla Nizamuddin.

A walk around the Sitaram Bazar and Churiwalan areas, themed ‘Stories in stone’, focused on the beautiful stone facades of the Havelis of this part of Shahjahanabad.

We organized a walk for IAS officers of the Ministry of External Affairs at Punana Qila.

A walk was organized at the Nizamuddin Dargah which was followed by attendance at the weekly Thursday Qawali performance at the Dargarh.

**School walks:**

We are associated with schools and colleges of Delhi and do various activities with them. We conducted heritage walks with Birla Vidaya Niketan at Meharuli Archaeological Park and Lodi Garden.

A special walk on the History of Women “Begum and her Hooka” has been organized in collaboration with DARWESH. During the walk we explored the little known stories of women who through changing and often challenging times have continued to enrich Delhi’s historical and cultural landscape. During the walk we explored Begum Samru’s palace, some vibrant streets of Chandni Chowk, an old haveli and Fatehpuri Masjid. A Kathak performance was also organized inside the old haveli.

Apart from these special walks, there are regular walks every weekend at several locations around the city, including, Chandni Chowk, Lodi Garden, Meharauli Archaeological Park, Hauz Khas, Nizamuddin. Special customized walks can also be organized by the chapter.
With the growing popularity of our walks we have been feeling the need to train more volunteers to serve as walk leaders. To this end, a training workshop for walk leaders was arranged by INTACH, Delhi Chapter in the month of July for aspiring walk leaders. The 20 heritage enthusiasts who participated, included students and professionals. The aim of this workshop was to build a team of dedicated volunteers who will help INTACH Delhi Chapter to create awareness among people of Delhi about their monumental heritage. A number of experts from different fields were called to deliver lectures for the participants. Mr. Ajay Kumar, the Director Projects of INTACH Delhi Chapter began the training workshop with an introductory session outlining the history and role of the organization. Ms. Aradhna Sinha led a heritage walk at Hauz Khas village. There were two presentations, one on ‘Evolution of Architecture in the Sultanate and Mughal Periods’ and one on ‘Colonial and Modern Architecture’, by Ms. Sarmistha Chatterjee. There was a lecture on the ‘Garden and Decorative Features of Humayun’s tomb’ by Dr. Neeru Misra. Ms Samina Misra read from her book Hina in the Old City and this provoked a lively discussion on the living heritage of Shahjahanabad. Delhi Chapter Convenor Prof. A.G. Krishna Menon spoke about Delhi’s heritage and its nomination to UNESCO’s World Heritage City list. The Co-Convenor of INTACH Delhi Chapter, Dr. Swapna Liddle gave an overview of Delhi’s history and shared interesting anecdotes related to the history of the city. Ms Arshiya Sethi, a pioneer of heritage walks in Delhi, shared her insights about ‘Creating a Signature Walk’.

**CYCLE TOUR**

INTACH Delhi Chapter and Delhi Tourism are collaborating and organizing a Heritage Cycle tour at Mehrauli and Shahjahanabad. A team from INTACH Delhi Chapter went to both the areas to study the monuments of the area and identify a route for both the tours. The motive behind this collaboration is to make the people of Delhi aware about their heritage and to allow them to visit a large number of monuments in a short duration of time of approximately two hours. The route of the tour has been already developed and the walk fold-outs have also been prepared for both the routes.

The cycle tour in Mehrauli will cover the areas of Mehrauli village and Mehrauli Archaeological Park and the Old Delhi walk will cover the areas of Chandni Chowk and Civil lines.
OTHER ACTIVITIES

RADIO PROGRAM ON HERITAGE: As part of our efforts to inform and educate the public at large, we have been reaching out for the past three and a half years, through All India Radio. On every Thursday, between 10 and 11 a.m on AIR FM Gold (106.4), listeners’ questions about the history and heritage of the city are answered by our expert, in the program called ‘Barish Sawalon Ki’. The popularity of this program attests to the growing interest in heritage among citizens.

ONLINE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST
An online photography competition was organized by INTACH, Delhi Chapter in the month of June. A number of entries were received and out of all the amazing pictures, a picture from Mr. Debbashish Das won the contest, and that picture is proudly displayed on our 2015 Newsletter’s cover page. The following picture from Ms. Arunima Roy got a special mention and was appreciated by all.

FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS
On 27th January 2015, INTACH celebrated its 31st Foundation Day in the office headquarters. The team of INTACH, Delhi Chapter participated in a Rangoli competition and won the second prize.

HOLI PARTY
On the festive occasion of Holi, INTACH Delhi Chapter’s team had a gala time celebrating the festival with colours at the office. The INTACH team has always been enthusiastic about celebrating every cultural events and also takes the initiative to promote them. This strengthens the team sprit and proves our respect to the Indian heritage.

MOTIVATIONAL LUNCH
A team lunch was organized for the staff of INTACH, Delhi Chapter. INTACH believes in celebrating big and small achievements. Therefore, on completion of projects, the team organises a motivational lunch.
CREATIVE CORNER

Often real heroes are common people doing uncommon things. They create unrealistic dreams for us to smile, enjoy and appreciate their passion. People like me find a pretext to chronicle their real stories carved in stone, and write an ode to them. The following story was envisaged while I sat with an archival sketch of Jharna at Mehrauli in one hand and my brown diary in the other. It was an early September morning, when I could hear the dried leaves rustle around me, the air was fresh and the site of the pleasure garden was beautiful. I saw the sketch and could imagine why Jharna is called “Jharna”

You Are My HERO

Situation: Near Qutb Complex, Delhi
Time frame: 160 years ago
Story: The chisels have been busy since months. The red sandstone has been quarried and brought to the location. He kept a stern watch over each artisan while they sweated their day for a meagre daily wage of few annas. At the break of dawn the chisels would go “tick tick cluck and click” till it became dusk. The master builder had a vision-A Pleasure Garden amidst the gentle slope of the ridge.

160 years later, 7:30am Ms. Storyteller reaches the place. The magic of those tirelessly worked chisels still narrated the great story of each artist. As I sat in the central pavilion, I wondered, “You created that history which became our identity. If you didn’t become the master builder of ‘My Monuments’, I would never have been a devotee of heritage”.

Story by : Sarmistha Chatterjee

Sketch by: Adwait & Piyuish

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HERITAGE PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC DELHI - INITIATIVE BY INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES ON ASIA, TOKYO

Institute of Advanced studies on Asia, the university of Tokyo, is doing a research and survey on “Urban Development and Heritage Preservation of Historic Delhi” as an extension of their photographic research, done in 1960, in association with INTACH, Delhi chapter. The team comprises of Naoko Fukami, Director of JSPS research station, Cairo, So Yamane, professor Osaka university, Shu Yamane, associate professor, Kwansei Gakuin University, Kyota Yamada, Assistant professor, kyoto university and Katsumi Shishido, assistant professor, Kagoshima Prefectural college.

A comparative analysis has been done by the team, a glimpse of which is as follows-

Tomb of Bahlol Shah Lodhi
Tomb at Mujahidpur
Tomb at Shaikhpur
MEMBERSHIP

INTACH is primarily a membership organization with 150 chapters comprising enthusiastic members in all parts of the country. We have the following types of membership for which you can register by downloading the registration form from the Join Us section of our website: www.intachdelhichapter.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CLASS OF MEMBER</th>
<th>ADMISSION FEE (£)</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Individual Donor</td>
<td>2,00,000</td>
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<td>• Any Government or Government Organisation/Authority/Body</td>
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<td>Corporate</td>
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<td>• Public or Private Sector Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Institutional (new)</td>
<td>10,000 (for 10 years)</td>
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<td>Individual Life</td>
<td>5,000</td>
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<td>Ordinary (existing)</td>
<td>200 p.a</td>
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<td>Ordinary (new)</td>
<td>1200 on admission</td>
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<td>And 200 each year thereafter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate Individual (non-voting class)*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student(18-25 years) (non- voting class)</td>
<td>300 (one time)</td>
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<td>Overseas</td>
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<td>Life ( Overseas) individual</td>
<td>US $ 150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>US $ 250</td>
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All INTACH members are entitled to a copy of the Chapter’s annual newsletter Virasat, Invitation to INTACH lectures and events, access to INTACH’s library, discount on INTACH publications, assistance or guidance for any project in furtherance of INTACH’s objectives.

With the hope of forging closer links with the chapter members, the Delhi Chapter has for some time now provided the Weekly News Clippings service to it’s members. It has also for the benefit of its members issued a newsletter updating them about the activities of the chapter. We look forward to your suggestions, views and comments on conservation issues which you can send to us by completing a form which can be downloaded from the INTACH website or it is also available at the Delhi Chapter office.

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- Prof. A.G. Krishna Menon
- Shri. S.K. Mishra
- Shri. Salman Haider
- Ms. Anita Singh
- Dr. Swapna Liddle
- Shri. Satish Jacob
- Shri. K.T. Ravindran
- Shri. Sanjeev Batra
- Ms. Shobita Punja
- Shri. Ratisht Nanda
- Shri. Ajay Kumar
- Ms. Annabel Lopez

COLLABORATING AGENCIES
- Govt. of NCT of Delhi
- Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation.
- Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation Ltd.
- State Department of Archaeology
- CPWD
- Archaeological Survey of India
- Delhi Development of Authority
- Municipal Corporation of Delhi
- Delhi Police
- Delhi Jal Board
- Media
- N.G.O’s, corporates, scholars, educational institutions.
- Legal system

NEWSLETTER
Advisors:
Prof. A.G.K. Menon - Convenor
Dr. Swapna Liddle - Co-convenor
Ajay Kumar - Director (projects)
Annabel Lopez - Director (projects)
Sarmistha Chatterjee - Conservation Architect
Anika Kapoor - Urban Planner
Sunil - Urban Planner
Priya Sinha - Research Associate
Suraj Kumar - Conservator
Piyush Prajapati - Architect
Adwait Kumar - Architect
Kanika Dawar - Archaeologist
Jagriti Arora - Architect
Mohan Rawat - Office Assistant

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