



Chikitsak Samuha's

Sitaram And Lady Shantabai Patkar Varde College Of Arts And
Science and V.P Varde College Of Commerce and Economics.

(An Autonomus college affiliated to University of Mumbai)



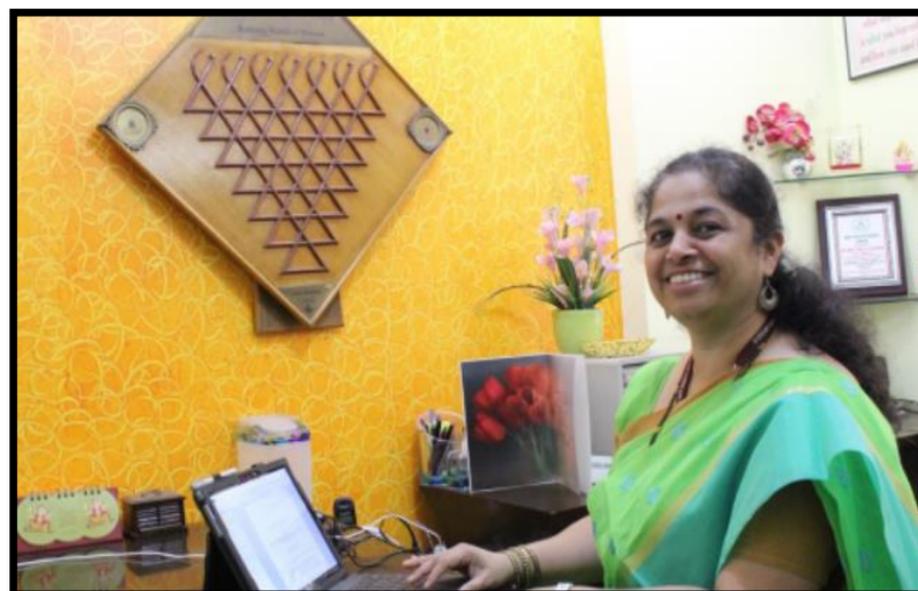
**COUNTRYSIDE
TREASURES**



WEEKEND CHRONICLE

SPECIAL ISSUE

An initiative by B.M.S department



A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF EDUCATION OFFICER'S DESK

Dear Readers,

“Develop a passion for learning. If you do, you will never cease to grow.” We live today in a world that is so very different from the one we grew up in, the one we were educated in. The world today is moving at such an enhanced rate and we as educationalists need to cause and reflect on the entire system of education. On-line learning provides new age technology to widen the educational scope. It prepares students to succeed in an increasing technology driven global economy. Technology makes life much easier, most of all it saves time and energy. It is one of the fastest growing field right now and there is no sign of stopping anytime soon.

It is indeed a great moment for all of us to bring forth this weekly E-Periodical “Weekend Chronicle”. We are sure this E-Periodical will help to acquire knowledge and skills, build build character and enhance employability of our young talented students to become globally competent. There is something for everyone here, right from the fields of Business, Academics, Travel and Tourism, Science and technology, Media and lot more. The variety and creativity of the articles in E-Periodical will surely add on to the knowledge of the readers. I am sure that the positive attitude, hard work, continued efforts and innovative ideas exhibited by our students will surely stir the mind of the readers and take them to the fantastic world of joy and pleasure.

Dr. Mala Kharkar
Chief Education Officer
(Patkar-Varde College)



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear Readers,

As we know, "An Investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

Hence in this regard the E-Periodical Weekend Chronicle is playing a vital role in providing a platform to enhance the creative minds of our students of BMS Department.

The E-Periodical i.e online magazine drives us through varied genres containing- News related to Global affairs under departments like Business, Advertisement, IT and Science & Nature to intellectual news articles under Academics, Media and Library Departments. It also covers articles related to Food & Health care, Culture & Cuisine and Travel & Tourism which usually tops our "bucket lists" including article which address societal problems under Department of Social Issues. Lastly covering words and vision of our talented students as budding poets, writers and thinkers under Student's section Department.

Over all this vision of constructing E-Periodical by students will engage today's youth and the crafters of the youth (teachers) in their communities which is the necessity to over come hurdles of present reality. We will strive to make a better world through our acts and thoughts. Rather it is a challenge to be met!!!

**Dr. Shrikant B Sawant
Principal
(Patkar-Varde College)**

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BUSINESS

8 MYSTERIOUS TREASURES IN INDIA THAT COULD MAKE YOU A BILLIONAIRE OVERNIGHT

1. Charminar Tunnel, Hyderabad

Constructed by Sultan Mohammed Quli Qutub Shah, this tunnel connects Charminar and Golconda Fort. This secret passageway served as an emergency exit for the royal family during exigencies. The king hid his treasure in this tunnel. There are rumours that the treasure chest is still undiscovered and awaits an exploration.

2. King Kothi palace, Hyderabad

The last Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali was named as 'fifth all-time wealthiest person' with a net worth of \$210.8 billion by Forbes magazine, while TIME magazine declared him the richest man in the world in 1937. The riches of this royal king are said to be hidden in the underground chambers of King Kothi Palace, the king's personal residence. In his sprawling King Kothi palace, precious jewellery like diamonds, rubies, sapphires, pearls and gems are stored in steel trunks.

3. Alwar fort

During the exile of Emperor Jehangir, the emperor sought refuge in Alwar Fort of Rajasthan. It is believed that he hid a great deal of treasure here while he was on the run. While some of it was found, there was quite some part of it still uncovered.

4. Jaigarh fort, Jaipur

When Man Singh I was on his way from the Afghan conquest, he had a huge chest of treasure with him. Sources have revealed that he never shared all the treasure with the king. He hid some of it in Jaigarh Fort. There is also a parallel story which states that the then PM Indira Gandhi, ordered a search in hunt of the treasure. No one knows how successful the hunt was.

5. Padmanabhaswamy temple, Kerala

In 2011, an underground secret vault in the Padmanabhaswamy Temple, situated in Thiruvananthapuram, was opened on the court order and a collection of gold, diamonds, gems, silver ornaments, crowns and precious stones were uncovered. The estimated value of the treasure chest is around \$22 billion.

6. Krishna river treasure, Andhra Pradesh

The place that gave birth to the invincible Kohinoor Diamond, the banks of Krishna river are said to have the world's best diamond. Once upon a time, these mines were the main source of diamonds to the world. If you are lucky, you may even catch a few diamonds here today. Seven of world's top 10 diamonds are said to be from Andhra Pradesh.

7. Son Bhandar, Bihar

Son Bhandar - literally meaning 'a repository of gold' hint towards the golden treasury chest safely camouflaged in it. The set of twin caves, located in the Rajgir district of Bihar are said to conceal a huge treasure secured safely by the great king of the Magadha empire, King Bimbisara. Legend has it that if you can decipher the scripts engraved on the cave; the door of the cave will magically open.

8. Mookambika temple, Karnataka

Located on the foothills of Western Ghats, Sri Mookambika Temple is situated in the Kollur district of Karnataka. The Nayaks of Bednore which initially ruled under the Vijayanagra kingdom declared this temple as their state temple and honoured the idol and the sanctum with a lot of jewellery. It is believed that the kings hid a great deal of treasure here in a secretly closed chamber, guarded by a serpent's motif.



Preeti parab
(Newscaster)

Ref: - <https://in.musafir.com/blog/hidden-treasures-of-india.aspx>

ADVERTISEMENT

MONDELEZ INDIA LIGHTS UP THE VILLAGE OF DIYA MAKERS.



Festivals form an intrinsic part of the Indian culture. Mondelez India, with its campaigns, colourful packaging and unique product formats has been at the heart of India's festive spirit for over 70 years. Mondelez India brings alive the joy of goodness by bringing people together and strengthens relationships with a deep rooted mantra of generosity and making a difference to people's lives. Just like no festival is complete without celebrations, Diwali cannot be revered in its true sense without illuminating our homes with diyas.

Surchand in Rajasthan is a village famously known as the village of diyamakers, while they have been lighting up our lives for 50 years, they themselves continue to live in darkness; until recently, when Mondelez India decided to install solar panels at their homes, ensuring that Diwali, the festival of lights holds true for every house in Surchand.

"Brand speak is no longer enough. If you really want to be a brand that matters, you have to be a brand that does. Cadbury has always had generosity at its core. So when Diwali came around, we discovered this village that makes diyas for a living, but doesn't have electricity for most of the day. The irony was obvious. And the solution was too. What if we could light up their lives, the way they light up ours? From there it was only getting it done that was the hard part. And their reactions were totally worth the hard work." Neville Shah, Executive Creative Director, Ogilvy & Mather.

Kshitija Chavan
(Newscaster)

Ref:-<https://brandequity.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/marketing/mondelez-india-lights-up-the-village-of-diyamakers/66544407>

PRIYANKA CHOPRA 'AWESOME ASSAM' CAMPAIGN.



Northeast still remains unexplored! A lot has been said and discussed on how to promote tourism in Assam. Yet an aura of mystery surrounds it. Just like the mainstream media, tourists too rarely put it on their bucket list. However, the cloud of uncertainty might just be fading soon.

Assam Tourism Minister Himanta Biswas Sarma has announced incentives and subsidies to promote Assam Tourism under its brand new 'Awesome Assam' campaign. The good news--- Bollywood actress, Priyanka Chopra, who was appointed the brand ambassador of Awesome Assam.

Priyanka Chopra, who is now a global icon, is the perfect choice for awesome Assam and it is hoped that people might now see Assam for what it is---rich and colourful culture. The reason has a lot to show and offer. From amazing river cruises to world wild adventures, from world wildlife safaris to Asia's oldest refinery the reason is full of surprises.

We hope that Priyanka can actually manage to steal some time from her busy schedule and experience the beauty of the region. To make it easier for her and the lovers of Assam, here's a lowdown on how to get the best of Assam.

With the wildlife of Assam there is many more to see and enjoy about Assam for example as Temples and Pilgrimage, Rural life, Adventure views, River Cruising.

Wildlife



BHAKTI MHATRE.
(Newscaster)

Ref: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/travel/destination/priyanka-chopras-awesome-assam-campaign-is-all-set-to-launch-on-nov-1/as61185320.cms>

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

HOW TECHNOLOGY IS TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF INDIA'S FARMERS?



The Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) heralds an exponential pace of technological change, building on the digital revolution to combine technologies, spawn new ones, and transform systems, industries, countries - even society itself. For developing countries, advances in computing power, connectivity, artificial intelligence, biotechnology and GIS, and newer, more capable technologies hold tremendous promise. Inclusive agriculture, rural growth and structural transformation from agriculture to high-productivity manufacturing and other economic sectors can be accelerated, as technological change transforms individuals' lives and enables developing countries to progress at speeds and on scales previously inconceivable. To realize the positive outcomes of this new industrial revolution, public policymaking must bridge the already widening gap between skilled and unskilled labor. This gap already poses a threat to the liberal world economic order in the form of anti-globalization movements - manifested in the rise of US President Donald Trump and Brexit - which have been caused in part by the liberal elites' prolonged neglect of the growing economic inequalities and the plight of the working class that globalization has prompted.

This gap already poses a threat to the liberal world economic order in the form of anti-globalization movements - manifested in the rise of US President Donald Trump and Brexit - which have been caused in part by the liberal elites' prolonged neglect of the growing economic inequalities and the plight of the working class that globalization has prompted. The case of India is salient because, unlike its East and Southeast Asian neighbors, rapid economic growth has not been inclusive enough to reduce the numbers of Indians living in poverty. India contains the largest number of poor people in the world: 270 million, according to the World Bank. Employment growth is critical in low-productivity agriculture, which accounts for nearly three-quarters of the poor population. But automation threatens to create more unemployment. Public policy must be directed toward increasing the productivity of poor people rather than just offering handouts.

Ajay Lovekar

(Newscaster)

Ref: <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2017/10/india-fourth-industrial-revolution-farming/>

NEW TECH COULD HALT THE DECLINE OF RURAL COMMUNITIES



In the not-too-distant future, individuals might hop into their autonomous car, drive to the grocery shop, pick up some goods and leave without handing over any cash, or even meeting another person. Bins could automatically send a message to waste management teams alerting them that they need to be emptied. Utilities will be able to inform the relevant engineering teams when they require maintenance. These futuristic features would fit right in alongside the gleaming skyscrapers of New York and Shanghai, but that might not be where they are destined to have the greatest impact. The smart city may be one of tech's most talked-up innovations, but smart countryside's are making their way into reality too. Increasingly, rural areas are being stripped of the communities and infrastructure that sustain them as more people move to towns and cities, usually in search of better employment prospects.

According to the United Nations, 55 percent of the global population already lives in urban areas, with this figure set to reach 68 percent by 2050. This increasing concentration is often discussed in relation to urban infrastructure: how will cities cope with this influx of people? The depopulation of villages and hamlets is an afterthought, if it is thought about at all. To let rural communities fade away, however, would be a mistake. The clean air, gentle pace of life and proximity to nature are all things to be treasured - it's why many of those moving to cities do so with a heavy heart. In the years to come, however, technology may mean they don't have to. Around the world, governments and private enterprises are looking at ways of preventing the countryside from being hollowed out. Walking along the abandoned streets of El Alamin, a deserted village in Spain's Madrid province, is an eerie experience. Only founded in the 1950s, the municipality's short-lived existence is a microcosm of the global depopulation of rural areas.

Ajay Lovekar

(Newscaster)

Ref: <https://www.theneweconomy.com/technology/silicon-villages-how-new-tech-could-halt-the-decline-of-rural-communities>

ACADEMICS

SOME TREASURES THAT COULD BE FOUND IN INDIA?



India was known as 'sone ki chidiya', meaning 'the golden sparrow'. It was because, India earlier was considered to be rich, prosperous and wealthy. Here are a few hidden treasures in India that give you a glimpse of India's glorious past.

Charminar Tunnel, Hyderabad: Constructed by Sultan Mohammed Quli Qutub Shah, this tunnel connects Charminar and Golconda Fort. This secret passageway served as an emergency exit for the royal family during exigencies. The king hid his treasure in this tunnel. There are rumours that the treasure chest is still undiscovered and awaits an exploration.

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Shaikh Ubedur Rehman

(Newscaster)

Ref-<https://in.musafir.com/blog/hidden-treasure-india>

FAMOUS TREASURE HUNTS IN INDIAN HISTORY

From time immemorial, the fascination for gold has persuaded the human civilisation to launch numerous treasure hunts. Right from the days of the Muhammad of Ghoris and Ghaznis invading India, to the Pirates of the Caribbean who searched for Aztec gold, invaders have always searched exotic lands for gold. Many found them and returned, but many died in vain. Here is a list of great treasure hunts in Indian history, which are remembered for their infamy and intrigue.

2011 AD – Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple



Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala shot into the media spotlight recently when a Supreme Court's order forced open the secret chambers of the temple for inspection. When the six vaults underneath the temple were opened, the inspection committee were astounded by the immense wealth worth around Rs.100,000 crore discovered there. Around 1,200 golden chains, three golden crowns, numerous golden staffs, golden plates, golden coins of 1732 vintage, and precious stones including diamonds, cat's eye, rubies and emeralds were found in just two vaults.

1976 AD – Jaigarh Fort Treasure Hun



Surprisingly, there was a similar treasure hunt conducted in 1976 by the Indira Gandhi government during the heydays of the emergency period. Just outside Jaipur, lies the mountain top citadel of Jaigarh fort, which was built by Jai Singh II in 1726 AD to protect the Amber fort. Legend has it that Raja Man Singh I, who was the Rajput ally of Emperor Akbar, collected a lot of wealth during his war campaigns and some of this treasure was hidden in Amber fort and Jaigarh fort for posterity.

-Sanjeet Bhalekar
(Newscaster)

Ref:www.caleidoscope.in

MEDIA

ON A TREASURE HUNT IN THE SONBHANDAR CAVES OF BIHAR



Caves have always been an interesting topic to talk, explore, and write about. Owing to the secret tales surrounding them, caves have inevitably managed to capture the attention of travelers, researchers and historians at large. India too has a fair share of such caves that are still unexplored and well-hidden, and one among them is the Son Bhandar Caves in Rajgir, Bihar. Son Bhandar or Sonbhandar caves, basically is a set of two artificial cave structures located in the foothills on the Vaibhar Hills, dating back to 3rd or 4th century BC.

The age of caves

As per an inscription written in Gupta language/characters on a rock at the entrance, these caves were constructed by a Jain muni, meaning 'wise man', named Vairadeva, which makes them structures belonging from the 4th century BC. Moreover, a sculpture of Lord Vishnu found here has confirmed its relation with Jainism.

The inscription on the rock, when translated, reads as follow:

"Muni Vairadeva, the jewel among the acaryas and of great lustre, caused to be made the two auspicious caves which are worthy of ascetics and in which were placed the images of arhats (i.e., tirthankaras)."

Back in the British Raj, a British Archaeological Survey of India, Cunningham, did some serious investigation and after a detailed historical research, he mentioned in a report that these caves are related to Buddhism.

It is believed that the ancient caves of Son Bhandar, which means 'store of gold', is home to a hidden gold treasure. Legend has it that there is a crazy amount of gold hidden inside the walls of the caves. It is said that there is a passage inside the cave leading to the treasure, but no one could find it ever.

Also, on one wall of the cave, you will notice a doorway-like structure and next to it there is some unreadable inscription. People say that it is a kind of 'secret word', and whoever manages to read it will open the doorway to the passage. Till date, no one has managed to decipher the inscription.

Several attempts have been made to find the 'supposedly' hidden treasure but in vain. In fact, once officials from the British government tried to blow the walls of the cave with strong explosives but could not succeed. All these happenings have only intensified the mystery around these caves.

Besides, the chambers of these caves are beautifully polished, which add to the beauty and uniqueness of these. There are several inscriptions in and around the caves, which as per belief is left by the pilgrims, who must have visited the place once. Moreover, the entire construction of the cave resembles that of Mauryan rock cut structures.

Also, among the few last surviving rock cut caves in India, Son Bhandar is one of the prime tourist draws in the state of Bihar. Traveler's from all across the globe visit it to unravel the mystery related to these caves.

Vishaka Ipte
(Newscaster)

Ref: - <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Travel/Destinations/On-A-Treasure-Hunt-In-The-Son-Bhandar-Caves-Of-Bihar/As65200298.Cms>

A TIME FOR GLOBAL EXPOSURE.



The report- Handmade in India: Traditional Craft Skills in a Changing World by Maureen Liebl and Tirthankar Roy deals with the present situation of Indian traditional handicraft in detail. It states the harsh and tragic reality of the artisans who often beg master weavers for work, or even commit suicide.

In this context it becomes critical to find ways of integrating culture into livelihood as a force for inclusive socio-economic development, peace and security. Safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage as a means of livelihood is the only solution. Realizing this need, many individuals and organizations along with government bodies are innovating models for transforming cultural capital into economic assets and thereby creating a green pathway for development.

The Changing Dynamics

The issues facing India's handicrafts producers require multi-pronged solutions. The good thing is that there is an existing market and new markets are developing. To generate better income there is a need for adaptation of skills and products to meet new market demands. Direct access to the market is another critical need. To sustain the traditional skill base and to protect the artisans' traditional knowledge resources, the priority is development and implementation of appropriate IPR legislation.

The overall living condition of the artists' community has started to improve. The revival of the art forms has particularly empowered the women artisans, who are now into a purposeful engagement, possess new strength and employ innovative ideas through their creativity.

Using Tech For Inclusion

Technology which offers direct and easy access and drives the desire to explore beyond known boundaries, has been a boon for the handicraft sector as well. Global consumer acquisition is now a possibility like never before if one has a product to offer. It's time makers of fabulous products with mind-blowing diversity are brought onto the radar of these consumers. The Global consumer is now increasingly conscientious and aware of the power of an informed choice.

Use of social media platforms for marketing has also increased awareness of Indian handicrafts globally. Easy access to handicraft goods through online platforms by consumers across the world has created tangible impact in the lives of rural artists. The increasing demand for handmade and handicraft products in fashion, real estate, home decor etc., at both national and international markets, is creating great opportunities for rural Indian artists. E-commerce giants including CraftedIndia, Indian Roots, Craftsvilla, Engrave are constantly empowering the artisans by creating market linkages with customers ready to pay higher prices.

Vedang Khopkar
(Newscaster)
REF: entrepreneur.com

ARTS & HISTORY

KONARK SUN TEMPLE



Konark Sun temple (Konark Surya Mandir) is a 13th-century CE Sun temple at Konark about 35 kilometres (22 mi) northeast from Puri on the coastline of Odisha, India. The temple is attributed to king Narasimhadeva I of the Eastern Ganga Dynasty about 1250 CE.

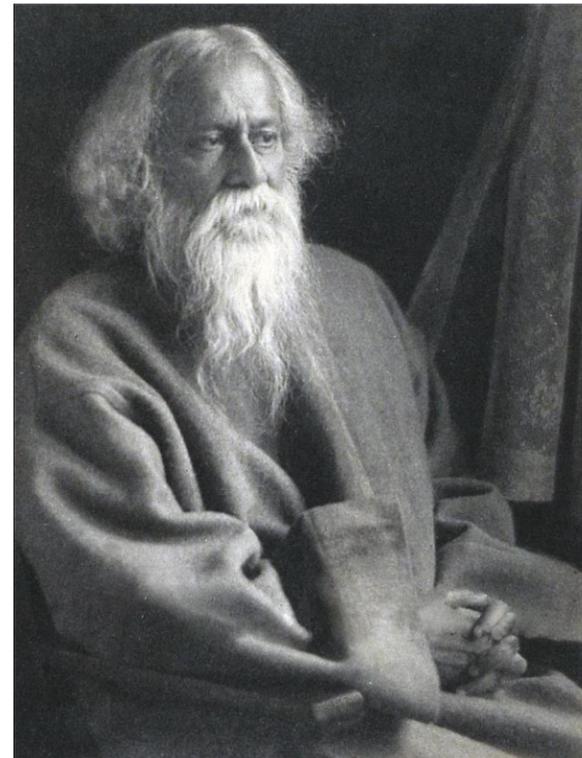
The oldest surviving Vedic hymns, such as hymn 1.115 of the Rigveda, mention Surya with particular reverence for the “rising sun” and its symbolism as dispeller of darkness, one who empowers knowledge, the good, and all life. However, the usage is context specific. In some hymns, the word Surya simply means sun as an inanimate object, a stone, or a gem in the sky (Rigvedic hymns 5.47, 6.51 and 7.63) while in others it refers to a personified deity. In the layers of Vedic texts, Surya is one of the several trinities along with Agni and either Vayu or Indra, which are presented as an equivalent icon and aspect of the Hindu metaphysical concept called the Brahman.

In the Brahmanas layer of Vedic literature, Surya appears with Agni (fire god) in the same hymns. Surya is revered for the day, and Agni for its role during the night. According to Kapila Vatsyayan, the concept of a Surya–Agni relationship evolves, and in later literature Surya is described as Agni representing the first principle and the seed of the universe. It is in the Brahmanas layer of the Vedas, and the Upanishads that Surya is explicitly linked to the power of sight, and to visual perception and knowledge. He is then internalized and said to be the eye, as ancient Hindu sages suggested abandonment of external rituals to gods in favor of internal reflection and meditation of the gods within, in one’s journey to realize the Atman (soul, self) within, in texts such as the Brihadaranyaka Upanishad, Chandogya Upanishad, Kaushitaki Upanishad, and others.

SWARANGI RANE
(Newscaster)

Reference: Wikipedia.in

RABINDRANATH TAGORE



Rabindranath Tagore; born Rabindranath Thakur, 7 May 1861 – 7 August 1941; sobriquet Gurudev, Kobiguru, Biswakobi was a Bengali poet, writer, composer, philosopher and painter. He reshaped Bengali literature and music, as well as Indian art with Contextual Modernism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Author of the “profoundly sensitive, fresh and beautiful verse” of Gitanjali, he became in 1913 the first non-European as well as the first lyricist to win the Nobel Prize in Literature. Tagore’s poetic songs were viewed as spiritual and mercurial; however, his “elegant prose and magical poetry” remain largely unknown outside Bengal. He is sometimes referred to as “the Bard of Bengal”.

Known mostly for his poetry, Tagore wrote novels, essays, short stories, travelogues, dramas, and thousands of songs. Of Tagore’s prose, his short stories are perhaps most highly regarded; he is indeed credited with originating the Bengali-language version of the genre. His works are frequently noted for their rhythmic, optimistic, and lyrical nature. Such stories mostly borrow from the lives of common people. Tagore’s non-fiction grappled with history, linguistics, and spirituality. He wrote autobiographies. His travelogues, essays, and lectures were compiled into several volumes, including Europe Jatrir Patro (Letters from Europe) and Manusher Dhormo (The Religion of Man). His brief chat with Einstein, “Note on the Nature of Reality”, is included as an appendix to the latter. On the occasion of Tagore’s 150th birthday, an anthology (titled Kalanukromik Rabindra Rachanabali) of the total body of his works is currently being published in Bengali in chronological order. This includes all versions of each work and fills about eighty volumes. In 2011, Harvard University Press collaborated with Visva-Bharati University to publish The Essential Tagore, the largest anthology of Tagore’s works available in English; it was edited by Fakrul Alam and Radha Chakravarty and marks the 150th anniversary of Tagore’s birth.

SWARANGI RANE
(Newscaster)

Reference: Wikipedia.in

LIBRARY

ANCIENT HISTORY OF INDIAN ARMY

The distinguished history of Indian Army dates back more than ten thousand years. The two grand epics of 'Ramayana' and 'Mahabharata' constitute the fundamental framework around which the edifice of Indian Army is built. The massive war 'Mahabharata', fought at Kurukshetra in north-central India, has left indelible imprints on the Indian psyche. Fought relentlessly for eighteen days in the quest of peace, the force level described in the Epic states 18 'Akshaunis', seven with the 'Pandavas' and eleven with the 'Kauravas', amounting to nearly 400,000 assorted troops fighting on chariots, horses, elephants and foot soldiers.

Though innumerable wars have been fought thereafter, most were in quest of universal peace and 'dharma'. Recourse to arms was only taken when peace was threatened. In fact the word 'peace' forms the very core of Indian philosophy, which can most aptly be traced to one of India's ancient scripture known as the 'Yajurveda'. It is stated in verse, the English translation of which reads – "May the sky be peaceful; may the atmosphere be peaceful; may the earth be peaceful; may eternal peace cometh upon us".



The archaeological history of India dates back to more than 2500 BC, when an urbanised civilisation known as the Indus Valley Civilisation flourished along the banks of River Indus, in the alluvial north – western plains. Similar findings like the coastal cities of Lothal and Dwarka came to light more recently along the coast of Gujarat. However, the Indus Valley Civilisation's two urban centres at Mohenjodaro and Harappa gradually declined in the second millennium BC, and almost completely disintegrated around 1500 BC due to ecological reasons like drying up of rivers and drought. The coastal cities disintegrated due to massive floods.

Due to the gradual extinction of such civilizations, the north-western invasion route through the Hindu Kush Mountains remained unguarded for centuries, and gradually many people and tribes managed to cross over for better economic prospects. With many recent landmark findings refuting the invasion of Asian-European people, or the Aryans, into the Indian sub continent en masse, the military history of India dates back to 6th century BC, encompassing the period when some of the more belligerent forces like the Persians, Greeks, the Turks, Huns, Mongols and so on crossed over into the more fertile and alluvial plains of India from the north-western route.

Though scanty details are available of the early conflicts between the invading forces, evidence shows that some of the invaders did manage to slowly overrun western India and consolidated their hold along the Indo – Gangetic plains, and in the process subdued numerous native tribal kingdoms through pitched battles. Their advance further south was generally halted by the jungle covered Vindhya Mountains. Those apart, certain areas along the western coast and the Deccan plateau were hilly and sparse – unsuitable for the movements of considerable bodies of people. However, this vast area also lent itself favourably to resistance against invasion by loose fighting warriors, such as the Marathas who subsequently became a force to reckon with. The other major pre-condition of war in India was and continues to be the climate. Monsoon rains between June and September rendered movement of armies virtually impossible. The best season for campaigning was always October and November, when the crops were ripe, the herbage green and it was possible to live off the country.

HETAL PARMAR

(NEWSCASTER)

SOURCE: INDIANARMY.NIC.IN

FOOD & HEALTHCARE

11 UNIQUE FOODS FROM INDIA

A melting pot of culture and traditions, India is paradise for anyone seeking adventures of the gastronomic kind. Each state in India offers its own unique delicacies that you will find nowhere else – not even in restaurants!



1. Makke Di Roti and Sarson Da Saag, Punjab

Makke di roti and Sarson da saag is a traditional dish from Punjab but is loved and relished all over India. The green gravy is made from mustard leaves (sarso), spinach, fenugreek, radish and spices. The gravy is served with flatbread made of corn flour, called Makke di roti.

2. Puranpoli, Maharashtra

This yummy dish is Maharashtrian in tradition, and made from all-purpose flour stuffed with a paste of lentil and jaggery (unrefined cane sugar). The sweet flat bread is cooked on a pan (tawa) until brown. Every Maharashtrian family has their own special recipe for Puran Poli and the preparation varies across different regions of the state.

3. Misa Mach Poora, Mizoram

If you love seafood, this Mizo dish is made for you. Misa Mach Poora (or grilled shrimp) is a dish traditionally made by grilling or roasting the shrimp on banana leaves placed on hot charcoal.

4. Chamani Qaliya, Kashmir

Chamani Qaliya is a Kashmiri dish made of paneer (cottage cheese), milk, curd and spices. The gravy is suffused with delicate flavours of Kashmiri spices, but the real essence of the dish lies in the utensil it is cooked in.

5. Unidhiyu, Gujarat

Made from all the vegetables you can think of, Unidhiyu is a popular dish from Gujarat. The curry is an amalgam of eggplant, peas, potatoes, purple yam, green beans and other seasonal vegetables, all slow-cooked into an even pulp.

6. Bhutte Ka Kees, Madhya Pradesh

Bhutte ka kees is popular street food from Madhya Pradesh, mainly Indore, which is famous for its chaat and dairy sweets. The grated corn is simply cooked with spices and then simmered with milk. This delicious snack is simple, wholesome and very satisfying.

7. Bisibelebhath, Karnataka

Bisibelebhath is a sour and tangy South Indian dish made from rice, lentils, vegetables and spices like nutmeg, curry leaves and tamarind pulp. A complete nutritious meal in itself, Bisibelebhath is served steaming hot with curd and papad.

8. Irachi Ishtu, Kerala

Kerala is known for its spicy food, but Irachi Ishtu is one of the rare exceptions. A thin stew made of chicken, beef or lamb cooked with vegetables and coconut milk, this delightful dish is popular for its subtle flavours and soothing taste.

9. Jadoh, Meghalaya

The north-eastern states boast of several culinary treasures and Jadoh is only one of them. Popular among the Khasi tribes of Meghalaya, Jadoh is made of red rice cooked with bits of pork.

10. Macher Dimer Bora, Bengal

It is no secret that the Bengalis are crazy about their fish, and culinary traditions in general. Macher Dimer Bora is one such Bengali delicacy. These are fried fritters with fish eggs as the primary ingredient coated in a batter of chickpea flour and spices.

11. Litti Chokha, Bihar

Litti Chokha hails from the heartland of Bihar and has been on our fave food list since eternity. “Litti” are tight sattu dumplings traditionally baked in clay ovens while “chokha” is a fiery dip made of brinjal, onions and spices.

ANKANA MITRA
(NEWSCASTER)

REFERENCE: <https://www.skyscanner.co.in/news/11-unique-foods-india>

CULTURE & CUISINE

EXPERIENCE THE CULTURAL ENIGMA OF KASOL: THE MINI-ISRAEL OF INDIA



Kasol is a quiet little village that is tucked away between the hills of Himachal in the Parvati Valley. Known for its relaxed atmosphere, hippy culture and breathtaking beauty, Kasol has a mixed population of people pouring in from different locations.

Here are the unique features of Kasol's culture.

1. Mixed ethnicity:

Kasol has a huge population of Israelis along with the local Himachalis. Around 70 per cent of the tourists visiting Himachal Pradesh are from Israel. Israeli tourists in Kasol are so common that the village even has signboards in Hebrew now. Tons of Jews too migrate to Kasol for various reasons. Kasol is also an extremely popular destination for Israelis who have completed two years of their mandatory military service. The Israeli cuisine, the language, and Israeli music are an integral part of Kasol.

2. The Cuisine:



Kasol Cuisines since Israelis make up such a major part of the population; its influence on the cuisine is inevitable. The marketplace of Kasol has a long line of Israeli cafes. You can also find Nepali, Tibetan and Italian food here. Israeli dishes such as Pita bread, Lafa, Hummus, Chicken shapudim, and Shakshouka are some of the staples here. Some of the popular restaurants that serve great Israeli food are Evergreen Cafe, King Falafel, MaMa Café, Rainbow Café and Jim Morrison Café. Little Italy serves some mouth-watering pastas, lasagnas and pizzas. Moon Dance Café is a popular choice for those who want to indulge their sweet tooth. Crepes, pastries, waffles and cakes are some of the must-haves. There is also a German Bakery next to the café that serves excellent apple pies, croissants, muffins, and cakes. Some of other dishes you must try include street food like steaming hot momos, egg paratha, and thukpa. Staple drinks in Kasol are the ginger lemon honey tea, watermelon juice and rice beer.

3. Festivals of Kasol:

Kasol is famous for its hip party culture and hosts some of the best New Year parties. The village also has a host of music festivals throughout the year. Some of the most popular rave parties in Kasol are the Parvati Peaking Festival, Magica, Full Moon Party, Rudraksh Festival and Kasol Music Festival. Magica offers fire dancers, jugglers, and Ayurvedic massages along with thumping music. The Full Moon Party has crazy games like the Drink till you die and Skipping Fire Ropes, which definitely are not for the faint of heart. Some of the New Year party events include the Parvati Shangri-La Festival, Himachal Hills Festival, 3rd Eye, Hype Music Festival, and Sylvester Gathering. These festivals showcase famous DJs as they play their popular tracks, and you can dance away till the wee hours. The festivals also have laser shows, food stalls, flea markets, bonfires, trippy decors, and camping sites for night stays.

4. Handicraft items in Kasol:

Kasol is surrounded by small villages that make excellent handicraft items. These villagers often come to the Kasol flea market to sell their products. Different types of backpacks, hippy sling bags, tote bags, belts, jewellery, scarves, key chains, stoles, and headbands are sold here. An extremely popular handicraft item in Kasol is the dream catcher. Made in a variety of sizes and colours, these beautiful pieces are believed to make your dreams and wishes come true. The shops in Kasol also sell graceful Pahari Topis, or Himachali Caps, that are made of fine wool. Kasol has a pleasant climate throughout the year. The months from March to June have soothing temperatures and are ideal for family visits. If you like your hill stations to give you the proper chills, the winter months from October to February are for you. Temperatures range from 7 °C to 15 °C in winter and can get a bit uncomfortable unless you are a seasoned traveller. To reach Kasol, you can take the local bus or taxi from Bhuntar. There are also regular buses from Manali.

BHAVNA SAYEKAR

(NEWSCASTER)

REF: <https://www.yatrablog.com/cultural-enigma-of-kasol#:~:text=Kasol%20is%20a%20quiet%20little,pouring%20in%20from%20different%20locations.>

TRAVEL & TOURISM

GATEWAY OF KONKAN COAST - PANVEL



Best known as the gateway of Konkan coast, Panvel is the most crowded locality of Raigad District of Maharashtra. Located at a distance of 40kms from Mumbai metropolitan region, Panvel is highly populated. It is known for the forts in Raigad and Khopoli; and also the Karnala fort which is a popular trekking spot. Birds like Magpie Robin, the Malabar whistling thrush and Paradise flycatcher often migrate here making it the best spot for bird watching.

The city is situated on the banks of Panvel creek surrounded by the Matheran Hills. Panvel is also known for the two prominent Ganesha temples in Maharashtra – Ballaleshwar and Varadavinayak. With Hinduism being the major religion in the city, Panvel also has a mix of Agri smaaaj, Muslims and koli community in the region. The best time to visit Panvel is during winters as the city receives substantial rainfall during monsoons and scorching summers.

Karnala fort also known as the Funnel Hill is a hill fort in Raigad district, about 10 km from Panvel city and 65 km from Mumbai. The fort is a protected property which is situated within the Karnala Bird Sanctuary and offers a great opportunity to enjoy a refreshing, easy trek. Karnala fort consists of two forts out of which one is at a higher level and other is at a lower level.

The trek to the top of the fort takes at least 2 hours if you are in good health, and a little lesser while walking back down. The route is quite easy and not very steep, although it gets very slippery during the monsoon. For more adventurous trekkers, there is a short-cut to the top of the fort as well which reduces the time by about half an hour; however, this route is very steep and should only be attempted if you are comfortable with trekking. We would advise you to carry at least 2 litres of water per person on the trek and make sure you are wearing appropriate shoes.

VEDANT DALVI

(NEWSCASTER)

REFERENCE: www.holidify.com

PALI - MAHARASHTRA (ASHTAVINAYAK - BALLALESHWAR MANDIR)



REASONS TO VISIT: Pali is known for the Ballaleshwar Temple, one of the eight Ashtavinayak, a set 8 regionally significant of Ganesh temples in Maharashtra

Pali is home to many farm stays off Khopoli – Pali road.

RECCOMENDATIONS: Farm Getaways in Maharashtra

"Pali (110 kms from Mumbai / Pune) is home to farms that are set around orchards and offer excellent farm getaway for family groups. "

Local Getaway Destinations within 100 kms of Pune

"Pali (100 - 110 kms) is home to farm getaways that are good for family group getaways. "

Local Getaway Destinations within 100 kms of Mumbai

"Pali (100 - 110 kms) lies on the junction of Mumbai - Goa Road and Khopoli - Pali Road and is home to some farm getaways that are popular for family groups."

HOW TO REACH: The temple is located in the village of Pali, 58 kilometers from Raigad district Ballaleshwar, right between fort Sarasgad and the river Amba. If traveling by public transport, get down at Vakan, further take a local transport to reach Pali. Nagothana, 13 kilometers from Pali, is the closest railway station.

NEARBY ATTRACTIONS: On a pilgrimage tour to Ballaleshwar Pali, if having extra days at disposal then do visit the nearby attractions. For adventure sports lovers, there are many coastal towns nearby, and high-end forts that are approachable by trekking. Also, there are many Buddhist caves.

BEST TIME TO VISIT: The temple remains crowded throughout the year, but the best time to visit will be the festivals hosted in the Hindu months of Bhadrapad and Magh.

VIDHI JADHAV

(NEWSCASTER)

REFERENCE: www.palimaharashtra.com

STUDENT'S SECTION

QUIZ

1. The famous miniature painting style flourished under the rule of the Mughal ruler Akbar, but it declined under the rule of one Mughal emperor. Name this emperor.

- Shah Jahan
- Jahangir
- Babur
- Aurangzeb

2. In ancient India under the rule of the Kushanas, the Satvahanas and the Mauryas, two schools of sculpture developed. Both these schools were famous for sculptures of Buddha which they created in different styles. Can you name these two schools?

- Nalanda , Sanchi
- Gandhara, Nalanda
- Sarnath, Gandhara
- Sanchi, Sarnath

3. Does the tribal Indian art form of Madhubani come from the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh?

- Yes
- No

4. He was one of the founders of the Bengal School of Painting. He was also the nephew of the Nobel Laureate, Rabindranath Tagore. Who was he?

Nandalal Tagore

- Abanindranath Tagore
- Jamini Tagore
- Rabindradas Tagor

5. Born in Hungary, she became one of India's most celebrated artists. She is often called India's Frieda Kahlo. Who was she?

- Gogi saroj pal
- B.Prabha
- Anjolie Ela Menon
- Amrita Shergill

6. The Kalighat form of painting comes from Kolkata in the Indian state of Poschim Bengal (West Bengal).

- True
- False

RASVITA RANE

(Newscaster)

REF: <https://www.funtrivia.com/playquiz/quiz3423922732548.html>

HIDDEN ART TREASURES OF DELHI

Delhi, the nation's capital, is filled with so many internationally acclaimed galleries and cultural centres that it's enough to keep any artophile occupied for ages.

Art Buzz Studios: Amisha Chowbey is an art writer whose also worked in art restoration in the past. Her parents have been collecting art for forty years and her mother and brother are both artists. She's been surrounded by artists, art collectors and art lovers all her life.

Delhi Artists Studio Tour: Art for Change Foundation, a New-Delhi based arts organization, has an unmissable voyeuristic treat for art lovers. Once a month they organize the Delhi Studio Tour.

Lodhi Colony: India's first public art colony started out as a three wall experiment in 2015. The subsequent year 25 street artists from India and around the world descended on the colony for the two month long Lodhi Art Festival.

Garden of Five Senses: One of the largest collections of public art in India is not in a museum or gallery, but in a park. The Garden of Five Senses, located in Sadul Ajai Village near Mehrauli, is a sensory wonder in the midst of a chaotic urban jungle.

Studio Safdar: An independent, non-funded, space for arts and activism, Studio Safdar was established by India's pioneer street theatre group Jana Natya Manch in 2012. It aims to be an alternate and affordable space in Delhi for staging and experimenting with the arts.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Ancient India

ACROSS

- One of the world's oldest religious texts: It is a book composed by Vedic Brahman priests that contains hymns and Sanskrit poetry.
- A religion founded in India in the sixth century BC whose members believe that everything in the universe has a soul and therefore should not be harmed.
- These mountains form a natural barrier between the Indian subcontinent and the rest of Asia.
- An ancient language of India and the primary sacred language of Hinduism.
- Chandragupta's grandson who was a great military leader that was known for his army.
- He was the founder of the Maurya Empire.
- The river that flows from the Himalayas to the Arabian Sea.
- A major city of the Indus valley civilization which flourished around 2,000 BC.

DOWN

- The first centralized empire of India whose founder was Chandragupta Maurya.
- The Aryan religion developed into this religion which is still practiced today.
- A belief found in Hinduism that a person has a duty to live an honorable life.
- This sacred river to Hindu's flows into the Indian Ocean.
- A Hindu social class system that determined a person's occupation and place in society.
- An Indian religious teacher who is regarded as the founder of Jainism.
- An ancient civilization along the Indus River established around 7,000 BC.
- Members of the Indo-European people who crossed into India around 1,500 BC.
- A wise man born around 563 BC. Buddhism was founded on his teachings of love, truth, joy of knowledge and a calm mind.

WORD BANK:
Aryans, Ashoka, Buddha, Caste System, Chandragupta, Dharma, Ganges, Harappa, Himalayas, Hinduism, Indus, Jainism, Mahavira, Mauryan, Mohenjo Daro, Rigveda, Sanskrit

RASVITA RANE

(Newscaster)

REF: <https://images.app.goo.gl/7BB1RdgT4RvHUuiK7Quiz>

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