

Newsletter

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Nehru Centre



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Annual Subscription Rs. 100

Events At a Glance...

Children's Day @ Nehru Centre

Art Gallery



Bal-Disha

An exhibition of artworks by children.

November 12 - 18, 2024

11.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Nehru Centre Art Gallery

Library

A Book I Wrote-2024
(6th Edition)



Launch of book written by
children and for children on the
occasion of Children's Day.

Thursday, November 14, 2024

3.00 pm. to 5.00 p.m.

Hall of Harmony

Culture Wing

संगीत बिबट आख्यान

A Marathi play by a group of
youngsters that addresses the critical
issue of human-leopard conflict.



Friday, November 22, 2024

7.00 pm.

Nehru Centre Auditorium

Speeches of the Freedom Movement

3. BAL GANGADHAR TILAK: Tenets of the New Party (Part 2)

Calcutta, 2 January 1907

"Many of the civilian officers who come out of schools and colleges are very good Liberals, but by the time they leave India they are Conservatives. So Liberal or Conservative, is anyone prepared to give you those rights and concessions?"

I laughed when I read the proceedings of the meeting in Calcutta, congratulating people on the appointment of Mr. Morley as Secretary of State for India. Passages were read from Mr. Morley's books. A statesman is bound to look to the present circumstances and see what concessions are absolutely necessary. Do you mean to say that when the entire bureaucracy is against you, the Secretary of State will give you rights? Has he the power? If he does, will he not be asked to put in his papers? You now depend on the British Labour Party. But British labourers have their own grievances and they won't treat you any better. On the contrary, they will treat you worse, because they obtain their livelihood by sending us their goods. Younger people who

have gone to England like Mr. Gokhale are not so disappointed though those who went with him were, like Lala Lajpat Rai. Appeals to the bureaucracy are hopeless. The Old Party believes in appealing to the British nation and we do not. That being our position, it logically follows that we must have some other method.

You got the Queen's Proclamation.¹ They wanted to pacify you, as you had grown too turbulent. Now all that anxiety did not proceed from constitutional agitation. It was after 1858 that the constitutional agitation began. As a result, the Proclamation remained a dead letter, because you could not get it enforced. A promise was made but you proved too weak to have it enforced. The bureaucracy got the upper hand and they established a system of administration which made it impossible for the Proclamation to be acted up to. They now want to explain away that Proclamation. Such is the experience of the Government and this is what, I believe, they wrote to Mr. Morley relating to the Partition

question. They have probably told Mr. Morley that if he remained quiet for a short time, everything would be right. Mr Morley thinks that the administrative duties require him to do so and he does it as honestly as any other man in the world. This is then how the matter stands. The New Party wishes to put a stop to this. We have come forward with a scheme which shall better enable you to remedy this state of things. Your industries are utterly ruined by foreign rule, your wealth is going out of the country and you are reduced to the lowest level which no human being can occupy. In this state of things, is there any other remedy by which you can help yourself? The remedy is not petitioning but boycott. We say prepare your forces, organise your power and then go to work so that they cannot refuse what you demand. We have a stronger weapon, a political weapon, in boycott.

We have perceived one fact; that the whole of this administration, which is carried on by a handful of Englishmen, is carried on with our assistance. We are all in subordinate service. The point is to have the entire control in our hands. I want to have the key of my house; self-government is our goal; we want control over our administrative machinery. We don't want to become clerks. At present, we are clerks and willing instruments of our own oppression in the hands of an alien Government. That Government is

ruling over us not by its innate strength but by keeping us in ignorance of this fact. Every Englishman knows that they are a mere handful in this country and it is the business of every one of them to fool you in believing that you are weak and they are strong.

The New Party wants you to realise the fact that your future rests entirely in your own hands. If you mean to be free, you can be free; if you do not mean to be free, you will fall and be forever fallen. This is boycott and this is what is meant when we say that boycott is a political weapon. We shall not give them assistance to collect revenue and keep peace. We shall not assist them in fighting beyond the frontiers or outside India with Indian blood and money. We shall not assist them in carrying on the administration of justice. We shall have our own courts and when time comes, we shall not pay taxes. Can you do that by your united efforts? If you can, you are free from tomorrow.

We have not raised this cry from a mere impulse. It is a reasoned one. Old prejudices die very hard. Neither of us wanted to wreck the Congress, so we compromised, and were satisfied that our principles were recognised, though only to a certain extent. This is the way in which a nation progresses. This is the way national sentiment progresses, and this is the lesson you have to learn from the struggle now going on. This is a lesson of progress, a lesson of

helping yourself as much as possible, and if you really perceive the force of it, if you are convinced by these arguments, then and only then is it possible for you to effect your salvation from the alien rule under which you labour at this moment."

... concluded

Shri Aurobindo Ghose has beautifully described Tilak's speeches in 'An Appreciation' which introduces the book 'Bal Gangadhar Tilak: His Writings and Speeches'. The following paragraph brings out the essence of the particular speech in this and the previous issue.

"He saw from the first that for a people circumstanced like ours there could be only one political question and one aim, not the gradual improvement of the present administration into something, in the end, fundamentally the opposite of itself, but the early substitution of Indian and national for English and bureaucratic control in the affairs of India. A subject nation does not prepare itself by gradual progress for liberty; it opens by liberty its way to rapid progress. The only progress that has to be made in the preparation for liberty is progress in the awakening of the national spirit and in the creation of the will to be free and the will to adopt necessary means and bear the necessary sacrifices for liberty.

In boycott, which was only a popular name for passive resistance, he saw the means to give to the struggle between the two ideas in conflict, bureaucratic control and national control, a vigorous shape and body and to the popular side a weapon and an effective form of action."

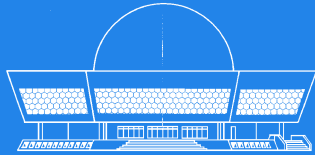
Reference

1. Queen Victoria's Proclamation of 1858.

What Nehru said....

In India, as in China, learning and erudition have always stood high in public esteem, for learning was supposed to imply both superior knowledge and virtue. Before the learned man, the ruler and the warrior always bowed.

...from Chapter 3, *The Indus Valley Civilization, The Discovery of India.*



NEHRU PLANETARIUM

Tel: 022-40245413
Mobile : 9892890510

SKY SHOW : BIOGRAPHY OF THE UNIVERSE

12 noon (Hindi) 1:30 p.m. (Marathi)
3:00 p.m. (English) 4:30 p.m. (Hindi)

(MONDAY CLOSED)

Tickets will be available online and at the Booking Counter.
Visitors are expected to strictly follow Covid-19 norms.

Email: managernpmumbai@gmail.com

Astronauts Stuck in Space?

On June 5, 2024, two American astronauts, Sunita Williams (of Indian origin) and Butch Wilmore, reached the International Space Station (ISS)¹ on board the spacecraft Starliner. The Starliner is a spacecraft designed to transport crew to and from the International Space Station. Boeing developed the Starliner under NASA's Commercial Crew Program (CCP). Starliner is designed to be compatible with different launch vehicles. It comprises a reusable crew capsule named Calypso and an expendable service module. The Starliner can carry up to seven crew members and remain docked on the ISS for seven months. The June 5 flight was Starliner's first crew test flight. The most experienced and fit astronauts, Williams and Wilmore were selected for the test flight.

It was initially planned that both astronauts would return to Earth after spending eight days in space. However, due to technical snags in the Starliner, which were not considered life-threatening, their stay on the ISS was extended to eight months. "The decision to keep Butch and Suni aboard the International Space Station and bring the Boeing Starliner home uncrewed is a result of (NASA's) commitment to safety," NASA Administrator Bill Nelson told reporters.

Spacecraft and technical snags

A spacecraft is mounted on a rocket known as a launch vehicle. The launch vehicle takes the spacecraft to a pre-planned altitude above the surface of the Earth. After reaching this height, the spacecraft is directed to its planned trajectory and separated from the launch vehicle. It then continues its journey by using fuel stored on board. The remaining parts of the vehicle are burned upon re-entry into the atmosphere. Thrusters are installed on the spacecraft's perimeter to control its attitude². They are small rockets that can be switched on for a short time to give a gentle push to change the spacecraft's direction or gently nudge it when docking with another satellite, such as the ISS. The fuel used for thrusters is helium or xenon, which are noble gases. Noble gases are odourless, colourless, non-flammable, monotonic³, and have low chemical reactivity. These properties make them ideal spacecraft fuel.

Before the launch on June 5 a helium leak was noticed. Since it was not significant, the vehicle was launched. Once the spacecraft was put in orbit, it was sent to the ISS for docking. The astronauts and the Starliner's onboard computer were repeatedly instructed to test-fire the thrusters. Five of its 28 Reaction Control System thrusters malfunctioned as Starliner approached the space station. This revealed degradation in the thrusters' performance. The computer considered five thrusters damaged and unusable. Five separate helium leaks were also detected in the service module. After checking the data related to thruster failures, astronauts and mission managers at the ground station restored the control of four thrusters, leading to the capsule's successful docking with the ISS. This delayed the actual docking by nearly one hour.

After the astronauts moved to the ISS, the mission managers conducted a 'hot fire test' in space. While the Starliner was docked to the ISS, they fired Starliner's thrusters in short bursts. Preliminary results of this test indicated that all but one of the 28 Reaction Control System thrusters performed well. It is suspected that the teflon seal might have expanded during the docking process, thus causing leaks.

Subsequently, on September 7, 2024, the Starliner undocked from the ISS and landed safely at White Sands Space Harbor, New Mexico. NASA and Boeing engineers are systematically studying the cause of malfunctions and finding solutions to the problems.

Stuck in space?

NASA has categorically maintained that the two astronauts are not 'stuck' in space as they are "safe aboard the space station working alongside the other crew conducting research and performing station maintenance". NASA Administrator Bill Nelson said that human spaceflights are "risky" and that "test flight, by nature, is neither safe nor routine."

The extended stay of the two astronauts onboard the ISS would allow researchers on earth to study the effects of long-duration spaceflight on astronauts. As for the astronauts, Wilmore and Williams expressed, "It's a great place to be, a great place to live, and a great place to work." They were interacting with the media about a month after arriving at the ISS. In the past, many such events have occurred when astronauts had to spend a longer time in space than initially scheduled.

In February 2003, the Columbia space shuttle disintegrated during its re-entry into the atmosphere. All seven astronauts on board, including Indian-American Kalpana Chawla, were killed in the accident. The Columbia disaster delayed by three months the return of three astronauts who were then on the ISS.

A delay can also be non-technical. There is the famous case of Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev. On 19 May 1991, he went to the Russian space station Mir (Mir means peace). Coincidentally, it so happened that during his stay, the Soviet Union was dissolved (December 1991). A particular uncertainty developed about his return as the Baikonur Cosmodrome and the landing area were located in the newly formed independent Kazakhstan. He eventually returned on 25 March 1992 after having spent 311 days in space.

Return of Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore

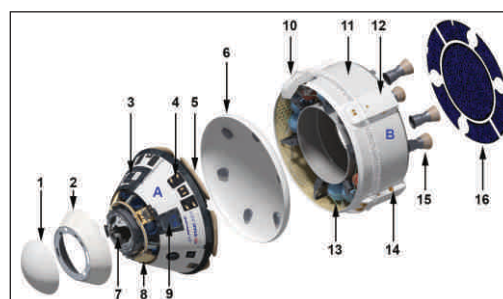
Many missions to the ISS have been planned, with some being scheduled between now and February 2025. SpaceX's Dragon capsule, Freedom, docked with the ISS on 29 September. It can carry up to four crew members but has only two. It is expected to return on 22 February 2025 with Sunita Williams and Butch Wilmore. In the meantime, both the astronauts are busy with various assigned tasks. At the time of writing, there were eleven astronauts on the ISS.

On 26 September 2024, Sunita Williams took over as Commander of the ISS from Russian cosmonaut Oleg Kononenko. This is the second time she has been appointed Commander of the ISS. During the handover event, Williams expressed gratitude, saying, "You welcomed Butch and me even though it wasn't part of the plan." As part of the ceremony, Kononenko handed Williams a golden key, a symbolic piece from the Soyuz spacecraft's docking port. In a lighthearted moment, Williams joyfully played with the key in the microgravity environment.

Meanwhile, the station's scientific research continues on the ISS. Astronauts Jeanette Epps and Michael Barratt assisted Williams in collecting blood samples. These samples will be later analysed to study the effects of long-term spaceflight on the human body. Wilmore has teamed up with Victor Dominick to replace components in the waste and hygiene compartment, commonly known as the space toilet. Keeping these systems in good working order is crucial for the crew's comfort and health during their extended stays in space.

REFERENCES

- 1 International Space Station (ISS) is the world's largest and permanently crewed orbiting facility. It is a collaboration between five space agencies and their contractors: NASA (United States), Roscosmos (Russia), ESA (Europe), JAXA (Japan) and CSA (Canada).
- 2 An attitude of a spacecraft or aircraft is its orientation with respect to the horizon.
- 3 A molecule which contains only one atom.



Enlarged view of the Starliner

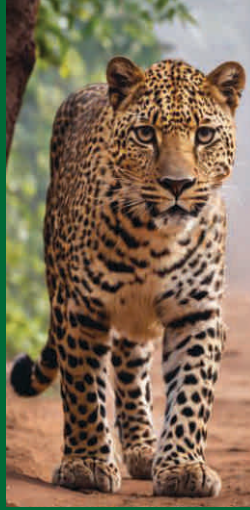
- A: Crew capsule, B: Service module
1: Nosecone, 2: Parachute compartment cover,
3: Crew access hatch, 4: RCS thrusters for re-entry,
5: Airbags, 6: Heat shield, 7: NASA Docking System,
8: Parachutes, 9: Window, 10: Umbilical, 11: Radiators,
12: "Doghouse" with RCS and OMAC thrusters,
13: Propellant tanks, 14: Roll control thruster, 15: RS-88 engines for launch escape, 16: Solar panels



The Starliner approaching the ISS for docking. Its nose-cone and parachute compartment cover are open and we can see the docking system.

Culture Wing

SANGEET BIBAT AAKHYAN संगीत बिबट आख्यान by SEETA CREATIONS



To celebrate Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's birth anniversary, Nehru Centre will present *Sangeet Bibat Aakhyan* in Marathi.

This is an initiative by a group of passionate youngsters from Maharashtra whose mission is to create awareness about wildlife and promote its conservation by using the rich folk arts of Maharashtra. They believe in the power of traditional music, dance and drama to educate and inspire communities about the urgent need to protect our natural heritage.

Sangeet Bibat Aakhyan is their debut project, a musical comedy play that addresses the critical issue of human-leopard conflict.

The play narrates the story of a small village that is frequented by a leopard. As fear and misunderstanding grow among the villagers, tensions rise. Through captivating folk music and compelling storytelling, the play explores the perspectives of both the villagers and the leopard, aiming to foster understanding and coexistence.

Writer, Director: Makarand Sawant

**Producer, Creative Supervisor,
Marketing Head: Kunika Bansode Sawant**

Production Manager: Yogesh Gonde

Consultant, Curator: Dr. Abhishek Satam

**Actors: Makarand Sawant,
Sagar Chavan, Shruti Patil,
Sagar Jadhav,
Pratik Chaudhari**

**Music Composers:
Atharv Bhekare & Sanskar Lohar**

Dholki Player: Shivam Kirvadkar

Choreographer: Vaishnavi Bhalekar

**Singers: Tulsi Bole, Vedant Jadhav,
Atharv Bhekare, Pratik Chaudhari**

**Friday, 22nd November 2024
7.00 p.m.
(1 Hrs 40 min. without interval)
Nehru Centre Auditorium**

**Entry: Free Entrance Cards will be available
on 18th November 2024 from 10.30 a.m.
until availability from the ticket counter of the
Nehru Centre Auditorium.**

SWAPAN DAS



Swapan specialises in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 5 November 2024
to Monday 11 November 2024
(AC Gallery)**

SANDEEPA BAGRECHA



Sandeepa will exhibit abstract painting in mix media.

**Tuesday 5 November 2024
to Monday 11 November 2024
(Circular Gallery)**

CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION

Saraswati Purushottam Memorial Trust will organize Art Exhibition of works created by children.

**Tuesday 12 November 2024
to Monday 18 November 2024
(Circular Gallery)**



On Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's birth anniversary, Nehru Centre Art Gallery has been organising an exhibition of children's artworks every year for the past twenty-nine years. Children from different schools of Mumbai will participate this year too.



**Tuesday 12th November to Monday 18th November 2024 (AC Gallery)
Between 11.00 am & 7.00 pm daily**

SWATI ROY



Swati's paintings will be pastel colour on paper.

**Tuesday 19 November 2024
to Monday 25 November 2024
(AC Gallery)**

VASANT SONAVANI



Vasant will exhibit works in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 26 November 2024
to Monday 2 December 2024
(AC Gallery)**

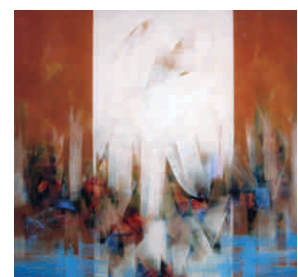
LEILA A. KESWANY



Leila's specialization is in oil on canvas which will be on display.

**Tuesday 19 November 2024
to Monday 25 November 2024
(Circular Gallery)**

KOYAL DAS MAJI



Koyal will exhibit her art work in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 26 November 2024
to Monday 2 December 2024
(Circular Gallery)**

RAMSAR WETLAND SITES IN INDIA

20. Tamil Nadu (Part 1)

1. Gulf of Mannar Marine Biosphere Reserve (GoMBR)

This is one of the four major coral reef areas and most biologically diverse regions in India, comprising 117 species of corals, 550 aqua species, 160 species of birds, a number of crustaceans, sponges, molluscs, echinoderms, sea horses, sea snakes and mangroves. It is also home to several globally important and highly threatened species like the dugong, whale shark, balanoglossus, green sea turtle, hawksbill turtle, dolphins, sacred chanks etc.

The local communities are mainly Marakeyars. Fishing is their main livelihood. Although classified as a Marine National Park and recognized as a World Heritage Site, habitat destruction, over-harvesting of marine resources and localized land-based sources of marine pollution have been identified as threats to the ecological integrity of the site.

GoMBR was designated as Ramsar site on 4th August 2022.



Coral Reefs in the Gulf of Mannar

2. Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary

Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary is a nationally protected area and a notable nesting site for several migratory heron species.

It is dominated by sub-tropical forests of babul that provide habitat for endemic and migratory birds including near-threatened species such as painted stork, spot-billed pelican, oriental darter and oriental white ibis. Recent growth of the invasive prosopis trees has affected the indigenous babul population and threatened the habitat of these birds. Besides its rich biodiversity, the wetland supports the adjacent ecosystems and communities by providing irrigation, flood control and erosion control. It is culturally important to the local communities who are known to protect the birds from poaching and other threats.

Kanjirankulam Bird Sanctuary was designated as Ramsar site on 13th August 2022.



Black Ibis

3. Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary

The Point Calimere is situated at the southern end of Nagapattinam District. It was first identified as an area of high significance in the conservation of birds. As the monsoon recedes, the water gradually dries up and by the end of January, most of the water in the forest and low-lying areas becomes saline, leaving behind hardpacked mud which gradually turns into soft powdery dust as summer advances.

The Point Calimere Sanctuary primarily focuses on the protection and conservation of the black bucks, an endangered and endemic species that are found in this region.

The region also boasts of the presence of many mangroves owing to its coastal properties. Wild boar, macaque, chital etc. are some of the animals that we may commonly see in Point Calimere.

Point Calimere Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary was designated as Ramsar site on 19th August 2002.



Black Buck

NEHRU CENTRE PUBLICATIONS

Books for Sale

- Nehru Revisited
- India's Defence Preparedness
- Nehru and Indian Constitutionalism
- Internal Security in India
- Constitutionalism and Democracy in South Asia
- मुंबई: काल आणि आज
- Mumbai: Past and Present
- India and Central Asia
- Witness to History
- India-Russia Relations
- India-China Relations
- Remembering Einstein
- Challenges to Democracy in India
- Rule of Law in a Free Society
- Science in India
- Exploring The Universe

Colourful art catalogues for sale

- (1) GOPALRAO DEUSKAR (1995)
 - (2) VINAYAKRAO KARMARKAR (1996)
 - (3) MITTER BEDI (1997)
 - (4) S. L. & G. S. HALDANKAR (1998)
 - (5) BALAJI & HARISH TALIM (1999)
 - (6) D. G. KULKARNI (DIZI) (2001)
 - (7) NARAYAN L. SONAFADEKAR (2003)
 - (8) NAGESH B. SABANNAVAR (2004)
 - (9) SAMAKALEEN (2005)
 - (10) VINAYAK S. MASOJI (2006)
- and many more...

ART FUSION catalogues

2007 / 2008 / 2009 / 2010 / 2011 / 2012 / 2013 / 2014

Set of five assorted gift cards
Designed by differently abled children

SANSKRUTI - CD ROM :
An aesthetics of Indian culture

DISCOVERY OF INDIA (VCD)

Set of ten greeting cards
Based on Discovery of India Exposition

Available at:
Book Stall, Ground Floor,
Discovery of India Building,
Nehru Centre, Worli, Mumbai - 400 018.



A Book I Wrote-2024 (6th Edition)

A collection of poems and stories

Launch of book written by children and for children on the occasion of Children's Day

A Nehru Centre Library initiative to encourage children to pen their thoughts



Date: Thursday, 14th November 2024
Time: 3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Venue:
Hall of Harmony,
Ground Floor, Discovery of India Building, Nehru Centre
Dr. Annie Besant Road, Worli,
Mumbai - 400 018.



nehru-centre.org/library.html



nehrucenlib.blogspot.com



nehrucen-koha.informindia.co.in



www.facebook.com/NehruCentreLibrary



www.twitter.com/nehrucenlib

10.00 a.m. to 5.45 p.m.

On all working days



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