

Newsletter

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Nehru Centre



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Events At a Glance...

Library

Book Discussion

Raghoba; The Assassination of Narayan Rao Peshwa
Written by **Dr. Uday S. Kulkarni**

The author
Dr. Uday S. Kulkarni
will be in conversation with
Dr. Gaurav Gadgil

4th January 2025
5.00 p.m.
Hall of Harmony

Culture Wing

A Three Day Dance and Drama Extravaganza

21st January 2025
PUNYATIRTHA - Ek Kaal Kathaa

22nd January 2025
MEET ME ON THE MEADOW

23rd January 2025
THE ETERNAL FLAME

7.00 p.m. (Each day)
Nehru Centre Auditorium

Speeches of the Freedom Movement

4. GOPAL KRISHNA GOKHALE : The Indian Problem

London, 30th November 1908

Gopal Krishna Gokhale, a liberal politician and a social reformer, was a member of the Indian National Congress. He was the member of the Legislative Council and was later elected to the Imperial Legislative Council in 1902. Gandhiji regarded him as his political guru. Founder of the 'Servants of India Society', he believed that independence could be achieved through constitutional reforms. He strongly recommended the annulment of the partition of Bengal which was eventually done in 1911.

He also thought that Minto-Morley reforms would provide for self-government in India and was greatly disappointed when that did not happen in 1909 when the reforms were enacted into law. He was particularly unhappy at separate electorates for the Muslims.

In the following speech which he delivered at the New Reform Club, Gokhale expresses his views most clearly.

"I came to this country more than six months ago, deputed by the Presidency Association of Bombay, to present before the authorities here, the views of the association

on the subject of the forthcoming reforms. I am now about to return to India, and before leaving I am glad to have had this opportunity to address a last word to friends of Indian reform in this country.

The situation in India at the present moment is undoubtedly serious and even anxious but I think it is necessary that considerable caution should be exercised in accepting or interpreting the somewhat alarmist telegrams that have of late been coming from that country. A section of the Anglo-Indian community, especially in upper India, has undoubtedly grown apprehensive about the scope and character of the proposed reforms. It is not difficult to discover traces of this nervousness through the telegrams which appear here from day to day. The advocates of disorder and their instruments, I fear, are not pleased at the prospect of important reforms. This may account to some extent for what appears to be a spurt of renewed activity on their part. But when all these things are said, and allowances made for them, the fact remains - and I hope all who are in a position to influence the course of events in India will adequately realize this - that the Indian situation today is most serious. We are in the midst of a

grave crisis in that country, and that the next two or three years will really determine what is to be the future of India's connection with England.

And now, what is the position today? That, after all, is the all-important question. In dealing with it, let me say at once that we have to keep in view principally, what are known as the educated classes of the country. It is true that these classes were numerically a small minority in the country, though they were not quite so small in numbers as was sometimes imagined. But they were the brain of the country, and what they thought today, the rest of India thought tomorrow. They formed the public opinion for the land. There are about a million people in India today who have received some sort of English education; and between fifteen to twenty millions have received an education in the vernaculars. All who come directly or indirectly under the influence of the vernacular press take such interest, and it is not an extravagant estimate to put this number between forty to fifty millions - equal practically to the entire population of these islands.

It is quite safe to say that those who want reforms are still the vast majority - nearly about a nineteenth of the number. The bulk of these men, though they want reforms, have now practically lost all hope of receiving any substantial reforms.

If the reforms, which are to be shortly announced, turn out to be substantial, the effective conciliation of those who want reforms is not impossible. If such conciliation is achieved, the air will be cleared of that anti-English feeling with which it is so heavily charged today, and



Gopal Krishna Gokhale

which is really the gravest danger in the present situation. There will then be very little sympathy in the country with the advocates of disorder or their instruments and the task of dealing with disorder will be comparatively simple.

The administration at present is carried on by a fleeting body of foreign officials, who stay in the country just long enough to complete their period of service and then retire with a pension. When they retire, they take with them all the knowledge and experience and training which they have acquired at our expense, and which can no longer be available to us. New officials take their place to acquire, in their turn, similar knowledge, experience and training, and then similarly, to carry it out of the country. Larger issues concerning the permanent wellbeing of the people, such as mass education, relief of agricultural indebtedness, and so on, which require continuous examination, discussion and persevering effort made every year naturally cannot receive much

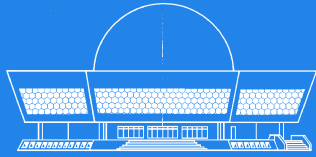
attention at their hands. The present efficiency can at best be only a mechanical kind of efficiency - the result of the capacity, sense of discipline and duty. It can never attain the level of that higher efficiency which can spring only from self-government.

In less than a fortnight from today, we shall know what the reforms are. We shall then be in a position to say how far they would really conciliate the people. It will be unfortunate, and even disastrous, if they fail to satisfy. I think if these reforms are granted, they will give us a real interest in provincial, district and local administration. Moreover, if they are accompanied by conciliatory action in two important matters - the partition of Bengal and amnesty to political prisoners - there is every probability of the present crisis being successfully overcome. I am absolutely convinced that unless the partition of Bengal is modified in some way, there will be no peace there, and as a result, no peace in India. If Lord Morley and Lord Minto would take this path, and take it without delay, I think it would prove effective. Their names would go down to a grateful posterity with those of Lord Canning and Lord Ripon. But if they miss this opportunity, if the reforms turn out to be less substantial than they should be, or if they are not accompanied by either of the two conciliatory measures I have mentioned, I really fear we shall not be far from martial law in parts of India. If martial law is proclaimed, it will at once mean an end all over the country of the moral influence which still lies behind British rule and the mind reels to think of the consequences which will ensue."

What Nehru said....

There is, in the Upanishads, a continual emphasis on the fitness of the body and clarity of mind, on the discipline of both body and mind, before effective progress can be made. The acquisition of knowledge, or any achievement, requires restraint, self-suffering, self-sacrifice.

... from Chapter 4, 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

The International Space Station - II

In continuation, we give more notes on timings and information about various modules attached to the International Space Station.

Pirs

Another module that helped astronauts to do EVA (extravehicular activities) was the Russian module Pirs (meaning Pier) which docked with Zvezda on 17 September 2001. It provided one docking port for the Russian spacecraft Soyuz and the American spacecraft Progress. It remained docked for nearly twenty years and was decommissioned in July 2021 to make way for the new module Nauka (meaning Science) that docked with the ISS on 29 July 2021.



The Pirs module attached to the International Space Station



Nauka docked to ISS

Nauka

Nauka is a multipurpose laboratory module. It was initially built as a backup for Zarya. Nauka was docked at the ISS's Nadir port (the earth-facing side) but there was a software glitch after its docking. Nauka's thrusters continued to fire even after docking, causing the entire space station to turn continuously. The turning stopped only after the fuel ran out. In the meantime, the station turned over one and a half times. Later, the crew onboard brought the station back to its normal position.

Harmony

Harmony, NASA's second node, docked with the ISS on 26 October 2007. Its diameter is 4.4 metres, and it is 7.2 metres long. NASA held a competition for school students to suggest a name for the module. The students were required to learn about the space station, build a scale model and write an essay explaining their proposed name. Two thousand two hundred students participated in the competition. It was NASA's educational programme effort. Harmony was initially attached to the Unity module and was later shifted to the Destiny module. The addition of Harmony to the ISS created significant living space on the ISS.

Columbus

On 11 February 2008, the Columbus module berthed with the Harmony module that had earlier been attached to the ISS. The Columbus module is a science laboratory and is the largest single module contributed by the European Space Agency (ESA). The laboratory was constructed in Turin, Italy, and its scientific equipment and software were designed in Bremen,

Germany. When ready, the module was transported as a payload on board the space shuttle Atlantis. Canadarm-2 was used to remove the Columbus module from the shuttle's cargo bay to attach it to Harmony.

Columbus is a cylindrical module with a diameter of 4.78 metres and an overall length of 6.78 metres. It has ten racks for scientific instruments, five reserved for ESA scientists and the rest for NASA. These racks are placed in Columbus's pressure zone, which means astronauts can access the instruments without using space suits.

Four more payloads like instruments to study the Sun, an Earth viewing camera and other instruments that need to be in a pressurised environment can be placed outside Columbus.



Astronaut Stephen K. Robinson anchored to the end of the Canadarm - 2

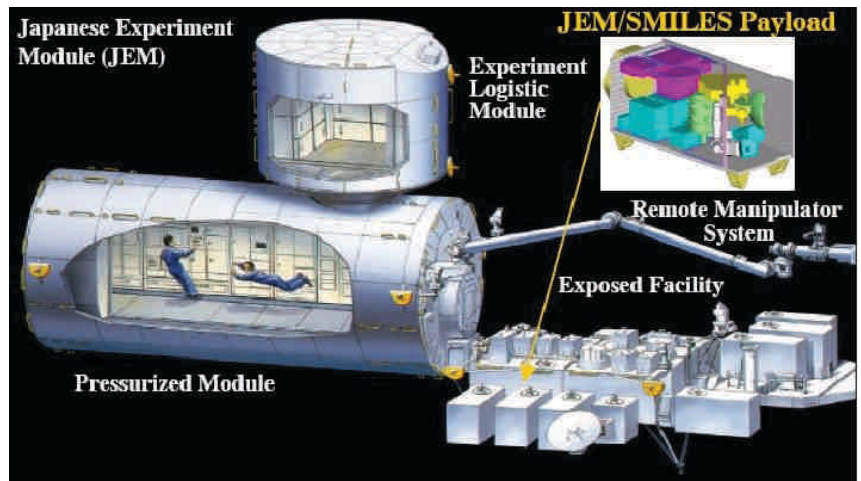
Canadarm - 2

A robotic arm, Canadarm, was developed in 1969 in Canada and fitted to space shuttles. Canadarm is used to deploy manoeuvring and capture payloads. Its higher version, Canadarm-2, was installed on the ISS on 27 May 2011. Officially, it is known as the Space Station Remote Manipulator System (SSRMS).

The Canadarm-2 has a 17.6-metre (58-foot) boom with a 35 centimetre diameter. It is made from titanium and has handrails and inspection cameras attached to its end. The arm has seven motorised joints or 'elbows'. It is capable of handling payloads of up to 116,000 kg. The Canadarm-2 can self-relocate and move to almost every exterior part of the ISS. It has been used to assist in docking spacecraft and also by the astronauts during their EVA to inspect, add or repair the exterior of the ISS.

Kibo

On 14 March 2008, the Japanese Experimental Module Kibo (which means Hope in Japanese) berthed with the ISS. In docking, the module gets attached to the ISS whereas berthing positions the module. This module contains a pressurised laboratory, two storage compartments, and a robotic arm fixed to the outside of the module. The area where the arm is fixed is informally called the "Terrace" by the astronauts. The entire module was assembled in space in three stages. The module was divided into three parts. These three parts were independently transported to the ISS on different flights of the Space Shuttle. After it was fully assembled, Kibo, with its overall length of about 30 meters, is the largest module on the ISS.



Drawing of Japanese Experimental Module Kibo (cutaway view)

The pressurised Kibo module connects to the Harmony module. It has twenty-three payload racks. Ten racks are dedicated to science experiments, and thirteen are reserved for storage and equipment related to Kibo's operation. The astronauts hold most of the press conferences on board the station from this module.

... to be continued

Culture Wing

Nehru Centre presents A 3-Day Dance and Drama Extravaganza



PUNYATIRTHA - Ek Kaal Kathaa

Conceptualised by
Yuvak Biradari's founder
Kranti Shah

A historical journey from
Vedic times to independent
India, with the story
intricately woven in a
dance-ballet.

Presented by Yuvak Biradari
(Bharat), Mumbai

Tuesday, 21.01.2025
Duration: 2 hours
(without interval)
Language : Hindi



MEET ME ON THE MEADOW

An Anita Kulkarni Production -
Celebrating the power of love

A musical portraying the
epic love tale of Radha and
Krishna, with an attractive
multi-media presentation.

Presented by Renu Art
Foundation, Pune

*Choreography & Kathak
Performance by Sharvari
Jamenis, Aditya Garud and
dancers of Renu Art
Foundation, Pune*

*Story, Music, Direction by
Anita Kulkarni*

Wednesday, 22.01.2025
Duration: 1 hour 30 min.
(without interval)
Language: English



THE FLAME ETERNAL

Concept by
Smt. Keka Sinha

Depiction of some snippets
from Swami Vivekananda's
life and also his eternal
message to humankind
which is relevant today.

Presented by Kalapi Centre for
Performing Arts, Mumbai

*Choreography & Kathak
Performance by Smt. Keka
Sinha and her troupe*

*Music by
Pradipto Sengupta*

Thursday, 23.01.2025
Duration: 1 hour 20 min.
(without interval)
Language: English

**7.00 p.m. (Each day)
Nehru Centre Auditorium**

Entry: Free Entrance Cards will be available from
Thursday, 16th January 2025 from 10.30 am onwards
until availability from the ticket counter of Nehru Centre
Auditorium

NANDINI BAJEKAL



Nandini has a Bachelor's degree from Sir J. J. Institute of Applied Art, Mumbai. She has specialized in oriental painting on rice paper.

**Tuesday 7th January 2025
to Monday 13th January 2025
(AC Gallery)**

**KAILASH DUDHAT
BHANU DUDHAT
MANOJ VEKARIYA
PRABHA DUDHAT
VIBHA VEKARIYA**

This group of artists will display a variety of artwork like graphic design, acrylic and scroll paintings on canvas.

**Tuesday 7th January 2025
to Monday 13th January 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

**ASEEMA PUBLIC
CHARITABLE TRUST**

Aseema is a public charitable trust which provides high quality, value based education to children from marginalized communities. An art show of paintings by children will be on display.

**Tuesday 14th January 2025
to Monday 20th January 2025
(AC Gallery)**

MANOJ BHADANGE



Manoj will exhibit artworks in mixed media.

**Tuesday 14th January 2025
to Monday 20th January 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

SUSHANT KUVESKAR



Sushant will display his artworks in mixed media.

**Tuesday 21st January 2025
to Monday 27th January 2025
(AC Gallery)**

**MANOHAR BAVISKAR
BHAGWAT SAPKAL**



Manohar Bawiskar

Manohar and Bhagwat will display artworks in acrylic on canvas.

**Tuesday 21st January 2025
to Monday 27th January 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

KIRTHI SHETTY



Kirthi will exhibit her artworks and paintings.

**Tuesday 28th January 2025
to Monday 3 February 2025
(AC Gallery)**

**TEJAL MODI
DIVYESH BAGDAWALA
FALGUNI ARORA
AMEE GODIWALA
FALGUNI DESAI and others**



Amee Godiwala



Divyesh Bagdawala

This group of 13 artists will showcase their works in charcoal and acrylic and various other mediums.

**Tuesday 28th January 2025
to Monday 3 February 2025
(Circular Gallery)**

RAMSAR WETLAND SITES IN INDIA

22. Tripura

1. Rudrasagar Lake

The Rudrasagar Lake is located in the Sipahijala district of Tripura. The lake encloses a geographical area of 2.4 sq. km and is situated at a distance of about 52 km from Agartala. It consists of a lowland sedimentation reservoir in the northeast hills and is fed by three perennial streams discharging into the Gumti River.

Rudrasagar Lake is popular for Neermahal, the Royal Palace, which is located in the midst of the lake. Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya, the ruler of Tripura in pre-independent India, constructed the palace at the northern part of the lake and used it as a summer resort. Presently, this palace is maintained by the state government and has become a major tourist centre.

Rudrasagar Lake attracts a lot of migratory birds every year. Vijaya Dashami, one of the most important Hindu festivals when various sports events are organized, attracts at least 50,000 tourists annually. A boat festival is organized in July/August. This lake serves as an ideal spot for water sports and boating.

Rudrasagar Lake is a small fishery resource that contributes 0.3% of the state's fish production which is the most important economic activity in the area. However, it is a wetland that is home to a variety of native and ornamental fish species, and is important to the livelihoods of many fishermen.

Lands owned by the state with perennial water areas are leased out to the fishermen's cooperatives, and surrounding seasonal waterbodies are cultivated for paddy. Main threats are increasing silt loads due to deforestation, expansion of agricultural land, intensive farming and land conversion for ever increasing population.

Rudrasagar is a potentially important bird sanctuary and attracts a large number of waterfowl in winter. Among the rarer species recorded are the endangered Baer's pochard and near-threatened ferruginous duck.

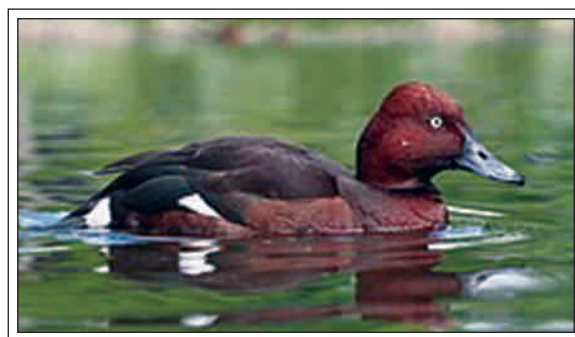
Rudrasagar lake was designated as a Ramsar Wetland site on 8th November 2005.



Rudrasagar Lake



Neermahal



Ferruginous duck

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. SONAVADEKAR (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

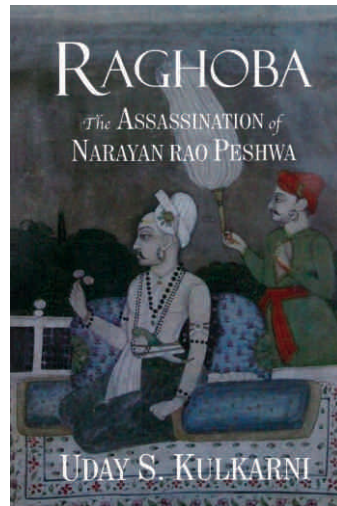
DISCOVERY OF INDIA (VCD)

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.



Book Discussion



Date:
Saturday, 4th January 2025

Venue:
**Hall of Harmony
Ground Floor,
Discovery of India Building,
Nehru Centre**

Time:
**5.00 p.m.
Open to all by registration**

R.S.V.P. -
nehrucenlib@gmail.com

Raghoba: The Assassination of Narayan Rao Peshwa

Written by
Dr. Uday S. Kulkarni

The author **Dr. Uday S. Kulkarni**
will be in conversation with
Dr. Gaurav Gadgil



Dr. Uday S. Kulkarni

Dr. Gaurav Gadgil

The story of Raghoba - or Raghunath Rao - is one that straddles eras. Under the tutelage of his brother Nanasaheb, Raghoba soared to dizzy heights of success, before his fortune deserted him. The son of Baji Rao Peshwa, once credited with great military skills and a talent for intrigue, later succumbed to his own growing indolence and burning ambition. When he finally crossed a line, there was no turning back. It singled him and threw the Empire into the throes of a violent disorder.

This account emerges from authentic contemporary sources which will pull you into the vortex of a plot - with a momentum all its own, as it peels layer after layer of this story. In Maratha folklore, to this day, the story and plaintive cry of a dying Peshwa is heard and retold over and over again. And here is what really happened.

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 nehrucen-koha.informindia.co.in
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