

Programmes organized by Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata

July 2009

1. Organized an in-house workshop on “**Curating the Exhibition and Conservation of Museum Artefacts**” conducted by Ms. Alice Sedgwick, Exhibition Coordinator and Ms. Sandra Smith, Head, Conservation, V&A, London on 04.07.2009.
2. Organized a special lecture entitled “**The Environmental History of Sunderbans**” delivered by Professor Ranjan Chakraborty, Department of History, Jadavpur University on 20.07.2009 at the Memorial.

Shri Tushar Kanjilal, Secretary, Tagore Society for Rural Development, Kolkata was the discussant. He also spoke on the theme.

They interacted with more than one hundred participants present on the occasion.

August 2009

1. Organized a Special Lecture entitled “**Oupanibeshik Aamale Bangaleer Byabasa-o-Banijya**” delivered by Professor Chittabrata Palit, U.G.C. Emeritus Fellow, Jadavpur University and Director, Institute of Historical Studies, Kolkata on 24.08.2009 at the Memorial.

Professor Amit Bhattacharyya, Professor of History, Jadavpur University, Kolkata was the discussant.

They also interacted with ninety-three participants remained present in the programme.

September 2009

1. Organized an in-house workshop on “**Conservation of Archival Material**” on 09.09.2009. conducted by Ms. Malabika Ghosh, Assistant Library cum Information Officer, National Library, Kolkata.

2. Organized an in-house workshop during 08.09.2009 - 10.09.2009 conducted by Dr. O. P. Agrawal, Director General, INTACH, Lucknow on **“Restoration of Oil Painting”**.
3. Organized an in-house Hindi workshop on **“Noting and Drafting”** on 07.09.2009 conducted by Shri G. D. Keswani, Dy. Director (O.L.), Rajbhasa, Govt. of India
4. Observed Hindi Saptah during 14.9.2009 to 20.9.2009 by organizing competitions in Hindi on **“Noting / drafting as well as Quiz”**

October 2009

1. Celebrated the **“International Day for Older Persons”** on 01.10.2009 at VMH by organizing an interactive session on the theme in collaboration with the Directorate of Social Welfare, Govt. of West Bengal.

Also organized a guided tour to the Memorial.

Fifty (50) elderly persons participated in the programme.

Smt Bhakti Gangopadhyay, Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Dept. of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare and Smt. Uma Mukhopadhyay, Director, Directorate of Social Welfare remained present on the occasion and participated in the programme.

2. Organized an exhibition of black and white photographs on the **“Raj Bhavan, Kolkata”** from the collection of Shri Anirban Mitra on 09.10.2009 at the Portrait Gallery of the Memorial.

Shri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Culture inaugurated the exhibition and Professor Suranjan Das, Vice- Chancellor, University of Calcutta and other distinguished guests remained present on the occasion.

3. Organized an exhibition on the **“Culture and Heritage of Darjeeling”** in collaboration with the Department of Information and Culture, Govt. of West Bengal at Darjeeling Jimkhana Club during 12- 14 October, 2009.

Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi, Hon'ble Governor of West Bengal inaugurated the exhibition. Shri P. C. Mahtab, Hon'ble Trustee of the Memorial, Shri Anup Matilal, Director, Culture and Shri Niloy Sen, Director Information, Govt. of West Bengal remained present on the occasion.

November 2009

1. Observed "**Vigilance Awareness Week**"2009 from 3 to 7 November, 2009. The week commenced with a pledge taken on 03 November 2009, Shri Shakil Ahmed, Administrative Officer of the Memorial delivered a lecture on 06 November 2009 highlighting the important aspects of vigilance Administration.
2. Celebrated the "**Children's Day**" on 14.11.2009 at VMH by organizing an "**Art Workshop- cum- Sit and Draw Competition and Quiz Contest**" conducted by renowned painter Shri Wasim R. Kapoor in collaboration with Calcutta Muslim Orphanage.

350 children from Calcutta Muslim Orphanage, Calcutta Orphanage and the Refuge, Kolkata participated in the programme.

3. A seminar cum workshop on "**Conservation of Paper Objects**" was held at VMH from 23rd to 27th November 2009. Shri A.S. Bisht, Ex-Chief Restorer, National Museum, New Delhi and Professor, National Museum Institute, New Delhi, conducted the Workshop for the museum personnel of North Eastern Hill States and VMH to co-ordinate the seminar.

Following officials from the N.E. states participated in the said seminar:

Ms. Sahana P. Marak & Ms. Dapherlin Kharjana from Meghalaya, Mr. Tage Tabin, Ms. Kemi Ampu & Dr. S.K. Ghosh from Arunachal Pradesh, Mr. Vanlalhuma Siwgson and Mr. Folix Lantanpuia from Mizoram, Mr. Dilip Kr. Singh and Mr. L.N. Sharma from Sikkim

4. Organized an **Art Workshop on Landscape Painting** on 25 November 2009 involving prize-winning school children from Arunachal Pradesh followed by a Heritage Tour in Kolkata for the children. Renowned

painter Professor Isha Mohammad was present on the occasion and interacted with the school children.

December 2009

1. Organized an international exhibition titled **“Indian Life and Landscape by Western Artists (Paintings and Drawings from the V&A, 1790-1927)”** in collaboration with Victoria and Albert Museum, London and British Council, Kolkata. The exhibition was complemented with a small exhibition titled **“India: Land and People by the Western Artists, Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century, (Drawings and Sketches from the VM’s own collection)**. Both the exhibitions were on display at VMH till 31 January, 2010. The Calcutta School of Music and Military Band performed a combination of Western Classical Music (instrumental).

Shri Jawhar Sircar, Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Culture inaugurated the exhibition on 19 December, 2009 at VMH in the presence of Mr. Mark Jones, Director, V&A Museum, London and Ms. Bina Sarkar Ellias, Editor- Publisher, Gallery International.

January 2010

1. VMH organized the following public programmes in collaboration with V&A, London and British Council, Kolkata in connection with the exhibition **“Indian Life and Landscape by the Western Artists”** held during 20 December 2010 – 31 January 2010.

- Day-long water colour workshop for school children on 02 January 2010 at VMH

Professor Jayanta Chowdhury, Faculty member, Govt. Art College conducted the workshop

Participants: 72 children from Loreto Day School, Sealdah; Bharatiya Vidya Mandir, Kolkata; St. Josephs School, Kolkata; Litera valley Zee School, 24 Pgs (South); Loreto Convent, Darjeeling; Elite Co-ed School, Kolkata; Welmand Goldsmith School, Kolkata; Future Hope,

Kolkata; St. Lawrence School, Kolkata, Carmel School, Amtala, South 24-Pgs., Khalsa Model Senior Secondary School, Kolkata.

- Organized a talk titled “**British Foreign Office and Foreigners**” delivered by Michael Dockrill on 02 January 2010 at VMH.

Shri Pradip Das, Author and Former Corporate presided over the talk.

92 participants attended the talk.

- A History Quiz conducted by Mr. Barry O’ brien was held on 09 January 2010 at VMH.

Participants: 150 school children from Ballygunge Shiksha Sadan, Kolkata, K.E. Carmel, Amtala, Khalsa Model Sr. Secondary School, Kolkata, Loreto Day School, Sealdah, Vidyanjali High School, Kolkata, Hind Motor Education Centre, Howrah, MSB Educational Institute, Kolkata, Dolna Day School, Kolkata, Calcutta Public School, Garden High School, Kolkata, Central Modern School, Kolkata, Birla High School, Kolkata, La Martiniere for Boys, Kolkata, The Heritage School, South 24-Pgs. Chowringhee High School, Kolkata, The Park English School, Kolkata, Nopany Vidyalaya, Kolkata, Delhi public School Megacity, Kolkata, Akshar, Howrah, La Martiniere for Girls, Kolkata, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Salt Lake, National Gems Hr. Secondary School, Hooghly, St. Lawrence High School, Kolkata, D.P.S. Ruby Park, Kolkata, Ballygunge Govt. High School, Kolkata, Don Bosco, Liluah, Howrah, Mahadevi Birla High School, Kolkata, Frank Anthony Public School, Kolkata, Calcutta Public School, Baguihati, Kolkata participated in the quiz programme.

- A panel discussion titled “**India Through Western Eyes**” was organized on 16 January 2010 at VMH.

Panelists: Professor Tapati Guha Thakurta, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata, Ms. Sangeeta Datta, London based Author and Director, Mr. Bill Pryde Artist and Editor, Ms. Pheroza Godrej, author

and owner of Cymroza Art Gallery, Ms. Shrabani Bose, Journalist and Historian

160 participants from art and literature community, critics, researchers and students attended the discussion.

- A day-long Souvenir Design Workshop conducted by Smt. Ruby Pal Chowdhury of Crafts Council of West Bengal was organized on 23 January 2010 at VMH.

41 young artists and museum professionals from all over West Bengal participated in the workshop.

- VMH organized special viewing of both the exhibitions “Indian Life and Landscape by Western Artists” from V&A, London and “India: Land and People 18th and 19th centuries” from the collection of VMH along with other galleries of VMH on 21st, 23rd, 28th and 30th January 2010 for the art lovers and art connoisseurs of Kolkata from 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

February 2010

1. A three- day in-house **workshop on “Self Development, Motivation and Work Culture”** was organized on 9-11 February 2010 at VM.

Resource Persons: Dr. M.A. Mabud, Director, Management Development Centre Consultant, Mr. S. M. Sahariar, Management Consultant

2. A two-day in-house seminar entitled “Authenticity of Museum Objects” was organized at VM on 19- 20 February, 2010.

Resource Persons: Shri K.K. Gupta, Former Restorer, National Museum, N. Delhi, Dr. V. Jeyaraj, Former Curator, Govt. Museum, Chennai and Shri B.V. Kharbade, Scientist and Head, Regional Conservation Laboratory, Mysore.

3. A special lecture entitled **“Landscape in Indian Art”** delivered by Professor Dipali Bhattacharya, Principal and Dr. Jayanta Chowdhury, Faculty, Government Art College, Kolkata on 26.02.2010 at VM.

Shri Ganesh Haloi, renowned painter spoke on the theme and chaired the session.

They also interacted with ninety-two participants present on the occasion.

March 2010

- 1 Organized in-house interactive session conducted by Dr. O.P. Agarwal, D.G. INTACH, Lucknow on **“ Restoration of oil Paintings”** at V.M.H. on 5 & 6 March 2010 at VM.
- 2 Dr. Sukanta Basu, former Chief Restorer, National Museum, New Delhi visited VMH to advise on the issues of relating to restoration of one oil painting (Portrait of Dwarakanath Tagore by F. R. Say) on 24th March 2010.
- 3 Organized an exhibition of **Award Winning and Selected Artworks, Faculty of Visual Arts, Rabindra Bharati University (RBU), Kolkata** in collaboration with RBU during 8-21 March, 2010 at the Portrait and Entrance Gallery of the Memorial.

His Excellency Shri M. K. Narayanan, Governor of West Bengal inaugurated the exhibition.

Professor Karuna Sindhu Das, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, RBU and Shri Ramananda Bandyopadhyay,

Smt. Padmini Narayanan, Hon’ble First Lady remained present on the occasion.

- 4 Organized 3-day seminar on “**Local History / Regional History**” in collaboration with Mahishadal Raj College on 20 March 2010 at Kolkata and 23 and 24 March 2010 at Mahishadal Raj College premises.

Resource Persons: Shri Jawhar Sircar (Keynote address), Secretary to the Govt. of India, Ministry of Culture, Professor Bhaskar Chakraborty, Calcutta University, Shri Anup Matilal, Director, Culture and Joint Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Shri Nirmal Kr. Nag, former Director, W. B. State Forensic Science Laboratory, Professor Ratanlal Chakraborty, Dhaka University, Dr. Seshadri Prasad Basu, Parimal Mitra Smriti College, Jalpaiguri, Dr. Partha Shankha Majumdar, Seuri Vidyasagar College, Professor Amalendu De, Jadavpur University, Shri Gopikanta Kongar, former Principal, Memari College, Burdwan, Shri Debasish Basu, Researcher on Regional History, Shri Prakash Das Biswas, West Bengal Cooperative Society, Professor Gautam Chanda Roy, Vidyasagar University, Shri Jajneswar Chaudhury, Researcher on Regional History, Shri Chittaranjan Dasgupta, Secretary, Vishnupur Bangiya Sahitya Parishad, Shri Rohinnath Mangal, Researcher on Regional History. Shri Gour Kr. Moulik, Researcher on regional History, Shri Shyamal Bera, Researcher on Regional History. Shri Tapan Bandyopadhyay, Secretary, Paschim Banga Sishu Kishore Akademi, Shri Mihir Sengupta, and Shri Nalini Basu, author, Shri Umesh Sharma, Researcher on Music.

- 5 Organized quarterly in-house Hindi Workshop on “**Noting and Drafting in Hindi**” conducted by Shri G. D. Keswani, former Deputy Director, Raj Bhasa on 27th March 2010 at VMH.
- 6 Organized Computer Training for the 2nd batch of staff of Victoria Memorial commenced on 29.03.2010 at BITM, Kolkata in collaboration with NCSM, Kolkata.

April 2010

1. A special lecture entitled “Marketing of Cultural Institutions” delivered by Dr. G.S. Rautela, Director General, National Council of Science

Museums, Kolkata was organized on 12.04.2010 at Victoria Memorial Hall.

Professor K.K. Basa, Director, Indian Museum, Kolkata presided over the programme.

2. An in-house special lecture delivered by Ms. Suhasini Sinha, Assistant Curator, Victoria and Albert Museum, London on organizational set-up, Management of Collection and Designing the Exhibitions at V&A, London was organized on 16.04.2010 at Victoria Memorial Hall.
3. Earth Day was celebrated in Victoria Memorial Hall by organizing day-long Art Workshop (Poster Making, Pata-Chitra painting), Sit and Draw competition on 22nd April 2010 in collaboration with Bangla Natak dot com, Kolkata. 100 under privileged children from Municipal and street schools and from the Sarba Siksha Abhijan Schools participated in the programme. Children at Victoria Memorial Hall also presented a skit on the theme “Amar Prithibi” (My world) on the occasion. Shri Suman Chitrakar, Smt. Manimala Chitrakar, Shri Susanta Mukherjee, Ahei Biplanu Moitra conducted the Art Workshop, Shri A.N. Bakshi, Chief Controller of Accounts, Government of India, New Delhi inaugurated the programme. Smt. Karuna A. Singh, Country Director-India, Earth Day network remained present on the occasion.