

E-Abhilekh
Quarterly Newsletter
Jan - Mar 2020



Editorial

After a hiatus of almost six years we present this issue of e-Abhilekh with renewed hope. The quarterly newsletter of the National Archives of India (NAI) shares information about the activities, developments and events in the archival world and emphasises the fundamental role of archives in the lives of scholars, students and the larger society. We aim to achieve this with the help of State Archives, Private Archives, Libraries and NGOs engaged in archival activities. Therefore, we request all of you to share with us news and developments of common interest.

In this issue we offer news from NAI and introduce two State Archives and two Archives among institutions of higher education. We have also tried to update you with a few highlights from the gap years through a new section 'Glimpses from the Past.' In 'Personal Memoirs' we offer writings of well-known personalities and anonymous public servants.

We hope you will find this issue engaging and share it with your colleagues and friends. With your help we hope to make e-Abhilekh both interesting and useful. Do write to us.

Chandan Sinha
Director General of Archives

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Section I

Activities of NAI

Records Management:

During the first quarter of 2020, National Archives of India (NAI) organized two Orientation Workshops for Departmental Records Officers on various aspects related to Records Management in its Headquarters at New Delhi and Record Office at Bhubaneswar. It was attended by over 50 participants.

As per laid down guidelines, work of appraising 25 years old records, available at various Government Ministries/ Departments, to identify permanent category records that are to be transferred to NAI for posterity continued during the quarter. Approximately 14,500 files of Prime Minister's Office, Election Commission of India and Department of Heavy Industries, New Delhi were appraised and identified for transfer to NAI. During the quarter, approximately 6780 files were transferred from various Government Departments after similar appraisal conducted earlier.



Participants of an Orientation Workshop in New Delhi

Accessioning of Records:

Accessioning is the process of physical verification, arrangement, amalgamation (as and when required) of records transferred to archives before making them accessible to users. As per practice being followed in almost all international archives, records are retained as per provenance. During January – March 2020, 5434 files/ records of Ministries of Home Affairs (Rehabilitation Division; 1948-85) and Ministry of Commerce (Department of Industrial Promotion & Policy; 1951-93) were accessioned in NAI. These records were in continuation of their earlier lot and were amalgamated ensuring the continuity and provenance.

Preservation of records:

Preservation Division of NAI not only takes care of curative measures that need attention but also regularly undertakes preventive measures to ensure longevity of paper records. To assist in its huge responsibility, the Preservation Division of NAI has engaged 47 contractual staff who have undergone training in its School of Archival Studies and other institutions imparting similar training. The Division has restored 1, 14,018 sheets of records and over 120 outsized documents and maps.

Restoration of a Gilgit Manuscript on Birch bark has been a significant achievement that needs special mention.



Restored Gilgit Manuscripts



Preservation Work in progress

Accessing Archives:

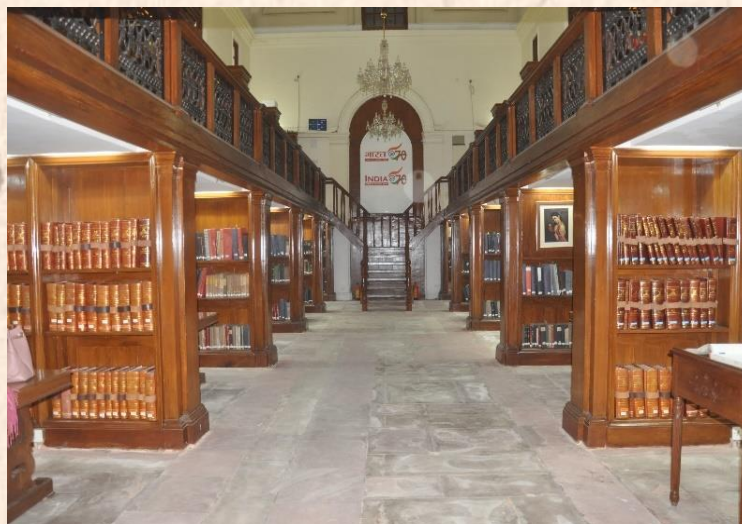
Most significant usage of records in the custody of any archives is that it is accessible for the use of researchers and other users. Researchers and citizens who fulfill the registration procedures in the Research Room of NAI can access all 'open' category records that are over 30 years old. During January – March 2020, 332 new researchers including 34 foreign nationals were registered in the Research Room for conducting research and over 9200 requisitions for records were attended to. Registered researchers can access other reading spaces in NAI namely Library, Oriental Records and Private Archives.

Facilitating research across the world:

Apart from the researchers visiting the Research Room, records and references to records are accessible to users globally through our search portal www.abhilekh-patal.in Through the search portal we are striving to reach out to those researchers and users who find it difficult to visit us in person. This portal is a dynamic site and we hope to improve the facilities in due course of time. With the promulgation of RTI Act, 2005 number of common citizens seeking access to records has increased substantially.



Research Room, NAI



Reading Room, Official publications

School of Archival Studies:

As a training institute within NAI, School of Archival Studies plays a very crucial role by training future archivists of our country. During the period a short Term six weeks course in Archives Management with 20 participants was conducted and 23 Trainees of One year diploma in Archives and Records Management went on a study tour to the State Archives of Telangana, Madhya Pradesh and also to Institutional archives of Reserve Bank of India and National Film Archives, Pune to gain first-hand knowledge of how institutional archives and archives of various States are being managed



Trainees at RBI archives, Pune

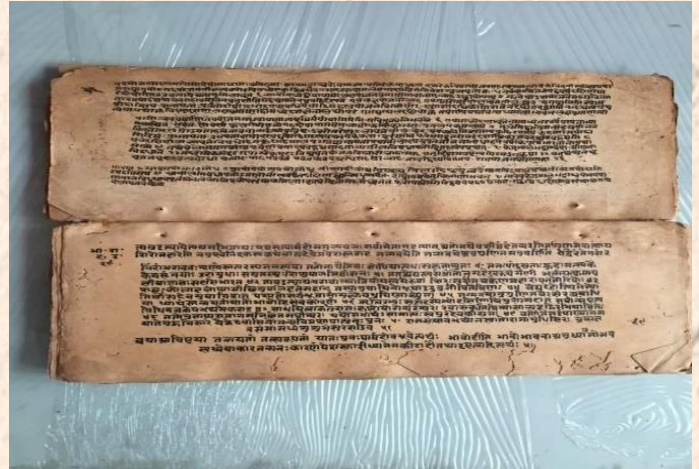


Trainees at Sanchi, M.P

Grants in Aid:

Grants in aid is a scheme through which many organizations are seeking financial assistance in setting up of archives, digitization of records and building up their requisite infrastructure

Manuscript from Abrol Manuscript and Rare Books Library, a grantee institution of NAI



Outreach programmes:

Archives reaches out to those who are not researchers but are curious to know about its holdings and the rich documentary heritage of our country through a number of outreach programmes. Exhibitions commemorating historic events, personalities and talks, seminars are held regularly.

As a part of the outreach activities, monthly display of some rare and interesting maps available in NAI were exhibited in Foyer of NAI Annexe on 15 January. These maps on display were facsimiles of the original maps in the holdings of Archives. It was a varied display comprising of a painting of Red fort, 1800; pictorial view of Jerusalem, a map of the island of Singapore comprising the town and districts, 1842-45, plans of Zoological Garden, Alipore; ruins of Jantar Mantur, 1822 and British Position maintained at Delhi, 1857, etc.

Display of few rare and interesting cartographic collection in NAI



Foundation Day of NAI, on 11 March 2020, was commemorated with a talk by Ms Kishwar Desai on 'JallianwalaBagh: the real story' followed by an exhibition on Jallianwala Bagh. This exhibition displayed some original and digital copies of the documents available in National Archives on Jallianwala Bagh.



Ms Kishwar Desai, guest Speaker with Shri Chandan Sinha, DG, NAI, delivering the Foundation Day lecture



Exhibition on Jallianwala Bagh

Archives Reads:

'Archives Reads' are book reading sessions where researchers and authors who have used NAI are invited to talk about their book and also share their thoughts and experiences of researching here. On 12 March 2020, fourth of the series of book reading session was held where Prof Jan Lucassen, Senior Fellow, of International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam spoke on his forthcoming publication "Money for the Masses: Copper coin production, circulation and its usage by the wage labourers in India 1500-1900".



Book Reading session in progress



Section II

Acquisitions of Interest in NAI



भारत निर्वाचन आयोग
Election Commission of India

Records of Election Commission of India. This lot of 5000 records has been received in continuation of earlier lot received few years back.

As World's biggest democracy, elections in India has been a subject of research for many Historians across the world. Among many others, some of the interesting files are on the following: Electoral Reforms-1980; Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies; Changes in Administrative Units –Jammu & Kashmir 1978; Introduction Of Scheme Of Photo-Identity Cards to Voters, 1983; Use of electronic voting machines in future elections, 1985; Amendment of the Representation of the people Acts 1950 & 1961; Registration of Indian Nationals residing abroad-as electors and Extension of postal ballot facility to them, 1971; Women Contestants in Elections, 1967, etc.



Section III

State Archives and their activities

Archives of any country is a reflection of its documentary heritage. India being a federal democratic structure, NAI caters to the records being generated by the Union Government and State/ Union Territory administrations have their own independent archives. Although with the onset of internet, most organizations are in public domain. However, through these newsletters, we are trying to highlight the developments taking place in various state archives. This is being done randomly with no particular priority order. In the current issue we are highlighting Delhi State Archives and Kerala State Archives

A. DELHI ARCHIVES*

Delhi Archives is a repository of non-current records of Government of NCT of Delhi and was set-up in the year 1972 on the recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission, a pioneer advisory body under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India with the sole aim to preserve the rich archival heritage of Delhi in the form of rare documents, maps, photographs, manuscripts, rare books etc. for historical research purposes and for administrative use. It was shifted to its present building constructed on archival standard in the year 1986.



New Initiatives:

i. Oral History Programme:

Delhi Archives has recently launched an Oral History Programme in collaboration with Ambedkar University, Delhi. It proposes to complete 100 recordings in a period of two years. These interviews would be of not only eminent personalities of Delhi but also other important personalities/ dignitaries of Delhi, who have played a significant role as an educationalist, social reformer, political personality, artist, scientist, peasants, laborers, technocrat etc. and played a vital role in the development and history of Delhi.



ii. Digitization and Microfilming:

- The management of electronic records has been given priority as it is a key to the government target for online service delivery.
- The Department is aiming to put all digital records on web portal of the Department through customized software with a view to quick access of information by the users, long term archiving and help in saving the original archival records etc. from mishandling and decay.
- Four crore pages of records will be digitized and microfilmed in first phase within time line of 30 Months.
- One Crore pages of archival records have been digitized so far.



Digitization of records at Delhi Archives



iii. Setting up of Heritage Clubs:

To preserve this rich cultural heritage of Delhi, it is proposed to involve school students by way of setting-up of Heritage Clubs in the Govt. Schools of Govt. of NCT of Delhi. In this way, they not only create the heritage awareness amongst the students but also involve the students in maintaining and preservation of rich cultural heritage of Delhi. The Heritage Club project endeavors to create awareness of local culture and heritage among people in the community through school going children

iii. Research Fellowships:

Government of NCT of Delhi has instituted research fellowships in the field of archives, conservation of archival records, management of records/materials on archival standards, use of information and technology to create an archival friendly environment, publication of archival based research, exhibitions etc. The main aim is to research on the neglected areas of archives to facilitate the scholar community and general public.

v. Conservation of Archival Records:

Most of the records in custody of the Department are in deteriorating state due to unscientific storage in the past, vagaries of nature, human vandalism and natural decay by age. Repair of such records is proposed to be undertaken through outsourcing.

vi. Publication:

It is proposed to bring out various publications on the history of Delhi. It is also proposed to bring out the updated "Guide to the Records" for facilitating the scholars. These are to be done through outsourcing.

Access rules:

➤ Indian Scholars:

1. Letter of Introduction from their sponsoring Institution/University.
2. Self-attested copy of University Identity Card.
3. Self-attested copy of Address Proof.

➤ Foreign Scholars:

1. Letter of Introduction from their sponsoring Institution/University.
2. Accreditation Letter from diplomatic mission in India/Embassy.
3. Self-attested copy of Passport.
4. Self-attested copy of Visa.

➤ General Public:

Self-attested copy of Voter ID/ Aadhar Card/ Passport/ Driving Licence or any other photo bearing document having address issued by Central/State Government

Registration and Working hours:

Research Room and Library of Delhi Archives can be contacted on any working day (Monday - Friday) from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM (except Saturdays/Sundays and Gazetted Holidays) for completion of the registration process

Contact details:

Shri Sanjay Garg, Archivist & Head of Office
Phone: 011-26515993, 011-26962800
s.garg68@gov.in , ddarchives@nic.in

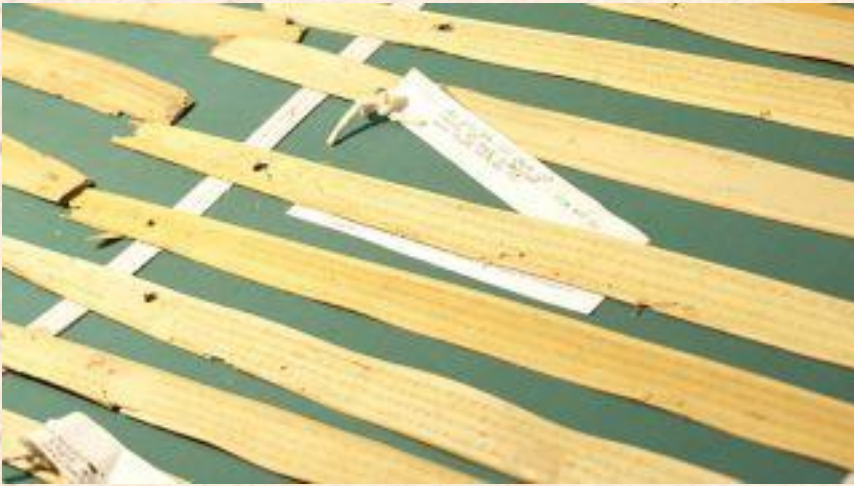
*Courtesy: Delhi Archives; www.archives.delhi.gov.in

B. ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT, KERALA*

The State Archives Department was formed in the year 1962. It functions as the custodian of all non-current records of permanent value of the State Government and various Departments. It has a huge cache of public records, private records, Churunas (Palm leaf records), microfilms, ChellamVaka records, court records, land records, records of Sri Padmanabha Swami Temple, etc.

These are housed in different places at Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam, Kozhikode and Kannur, etc.





Different types of palm leaf records in Kerala Archives



Ongoing projects:

Digitization of records:

Long term preservation and accessibility of records has always been a concern of all archives. As the repository with the highest collection of manuscripts on palm leaf, Kerala Archives has been striving to digitize them and make them accessible to users and simultaneously ensure longevity of these priceless records.

New Initiatives:

- Signature Museum: Signatures of renowned personalities and celebrities has been collected and displayed along with a profile of the personality.
- Freedom Memorial and Historical Museum on Freedom Fighters at Vattiyookavu, Thiruvananthapuram is open for public.
- Heritage Club, Heritage Award and History Quiz are school based activities that target younger generation instilling pride in the rich cultural heritage of the State and country.
- Heritage Camp/Seminar for the Heritage club members of selected schools: The camp includes an exhibition of Archival materials collected by the Heritage Club members and provides hands-on experience on conservation and management of Archival Records.



History Quiz for school children



*Freedom Memorial,
Vattiyookavu,
Thiruvananthapuram*

Outreach Programmes:

Kerala state Archives has been trying to take the archives to the public through various outreach programmes such as:

- a) Exhibition of Archival Records hosted periodically
- b) Open Forums for School and College students
- c) Seminars
- d) Interaction with trainee teachers on archives and its holdings
- e) Development of community archives which aims at creating pride among local community about local history and documentary heritage



Visitors at the Archives Department, Kerala



Students at the Archives Department, Kerala



Inspiring the young:



Exhibition organized by the Archives Department, Kerala

Access Policy:

Permission is granted for six months to research scholars who submit a letter of his/ her Guide / Introduction letter along with a nominal fee of Rs 460/-. Registration is renewable. Registered researchers can seek copies of records on submission of prescribed fee and photographs can be taken with prior approval.

Contact details:

For any information related to the Kerala Archives, researchers may contact:
Directorate of State Archives, Nalanda, Thiruvananthapuram, 695003, Kerala.

*Courtesy: State Archives Department, Government of Kerala www.keralaarchives.org



Section IV

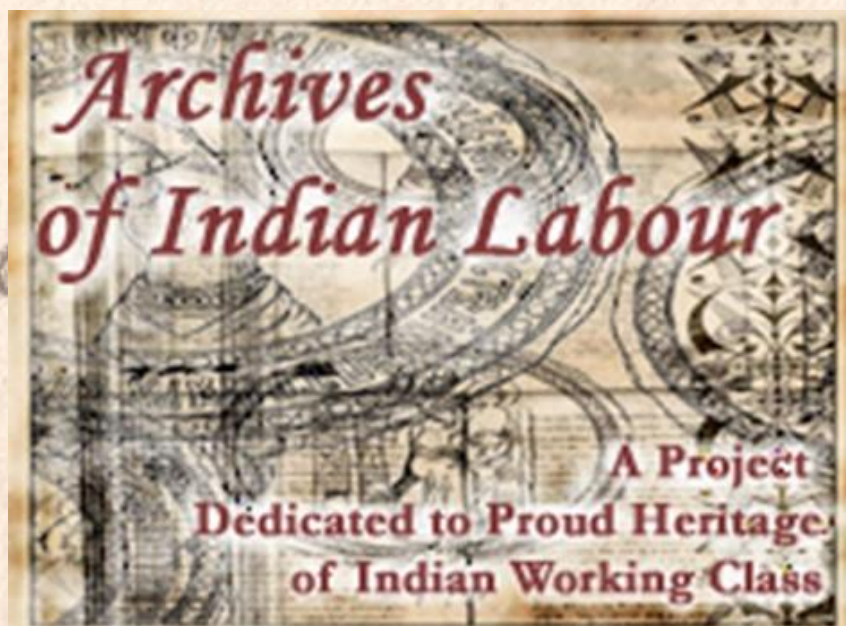
Navigating Non-Governmental Archives

In this edition of e-abhilekh we are sharing information about two non-governmental archives which are totally varied in their set up and mission. While one is dedicated to the oft marginalized group of labour, the other is dedicated to the intellectuals and their activities. Both in their own way have helped and would continue to play a very significant role in growth of our country and society.

A. ARCHIVES OF INDIAN LABOUR:

Archives of Indian Labour was set up in July, 1998 as a collaborative project of V.V. Giri National Labour Institute and the Association of Indian Labour Historians. The Archives of Indian Labour was constituted with the long-term objective to act as a specialised repository of records and voices of the workers, and contain textual, visual and oral records on labour in India for initiating advance research in the field of labour history

Holdings:



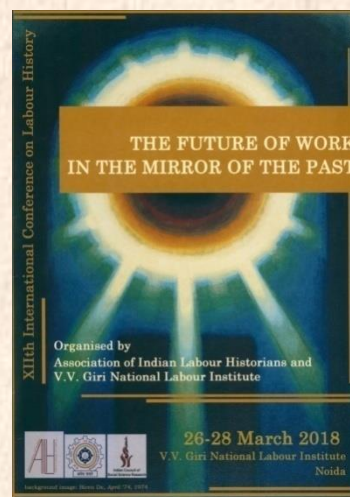
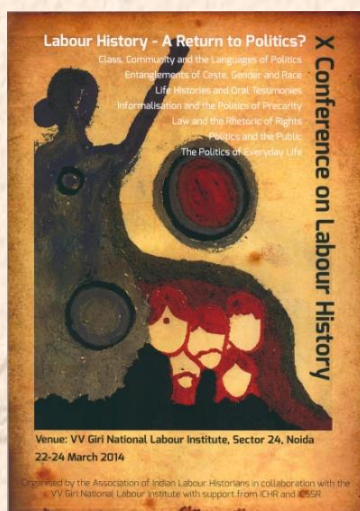
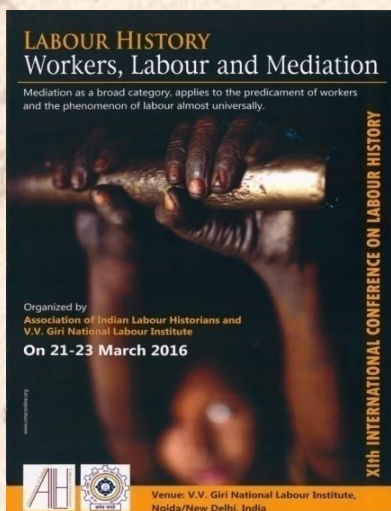
- The collections mainly are institutional documents donated by various organisations, documents related to labour movement (generated by workers' organisations, state and business enterprises) are preserved at the archive.
- Journals and Newspapers Addressing the Labouring Poor, Pamphlets, Leaflets and Posters Issued by Trade Unions, International Working Class Bodies
- Relevant Papers of Employments' Organisations, Documents of Business Corporations
- Oral Testimonies, Personal Narratives of Participants in Labour Struggles, Photographs, Video Tapes and Films on and of Labour, Work Songs and Other Similar Material of Workers' Culture, Trial Proceedings in Courts of Law
- Personal Correspondence and Biographical Material of Labour Leaders., Documents of Trade Unions, Records of Individual and Collective Labour Disputes
- Records of the Ministry of Labour, National Commissions on Labour and other Government Agencies

Unique Features:

- Full-fledged digital structure: The documents and material on labour related issues are stored and made available in digital form. This is the first fully digital archives in the country and aspires to be the prime repository of labour related records.
- Integrated Multimedia Storage and Retrieval System: The archives is enabled to store records and material in different formats such as printed material, audio, video and digital forms and provide access through an integrated delivery system.
- Enhanced Public Access: The digital access system enables fast and meaningful delivery of documents through different access modes such as offline networked PCs at the Archives, through CDs and now over World Wide Web. Access upto the level of a page of a document or a tagged audio and video clip is possible.
- Integration of historical and contemporary records: The digital archives enables simultaneous access to records of both historical and contemporary period. This provides historical depth to contemporary issues and situates historical changes in a contemporary perspective.
- Focus on records of the unorganized sector labour: A large number of interviews of workers and labour activists and documents of labour movement in the sector are stored here and are accessible.

Outreach programmes:

Seminars, working papers, film shows, and publications ensure effective ways of disseminating information generated by the archives and other research programme.



Posters of outreach programmes, Archives of Indian Labour

Contact details:

The Archives of Indian Labour, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute is situated in Sector 24, NOIDA and can be contacted on their email shram_nli@vsnl.com, ilhrpnli@gmail.com

*Courtesy: www.indialabourarchives.org

B. THE ARCHIVES, NATIONAL CENTRE FOR BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH, BANGALORE*

Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) are a collecting space for the history of contemporary biology in India. It adheres to the philosophy of archiving and the policies laid by the International Council on Archives (ICA) in the Universal Declaration on Archives (2011).

Holdings:

The currently accessible collections at Archives at NCBS (<http://archives.ncbs.res.in/>) include five manuscript collections, seven institutional collections, two artefact collections, two bibliographic collections, and an oral history collection. The holdings are in various forms, ranging from manuscripts to negatives to photographs, books, fine art, audio recordings, scientific equipment, letters, field and lab notes. The Archives catalogue is open to the public.

Unique Features:

➤ Space for the public:

The Archives has been the workspace for the Bangalore Sustainability Forum, and students and visitors working on research projects. The India Bioscience group uses the Archives recording room for their podcasts.

➤ Digital archive:

Catalogue with 49,000 digital objects is fully accessible to researchers and the public: <http://catalogue.archives.ncbs.res.in/>. Most materials can be made available to researchers upon discretion, including remote access.



Storage box
Stack Area



Outreach programmes:

- Monthly public lecture series (<https://www.ncbs.res.in/events/apls>)
- discussions by scientists, historians, and journalists on science archives
- Quarterly Readings and Screenings Series featuring documentary history of nuclear science research.
- Exhibitions on Science especially related to Biology
- Active social media presence :
https://twitter.com/archives_ncbs
https://www.instagram.com/archives_ncbs/
<https://www.facebook.com/archives.at.NCBS/>

Access policy:

Since its opening on Feb 4 2019, the Archives is free and open to the public and the archives can be reached for any questions at archives@ncbs.res.in



Reading Room

Contact details:

Archives, National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS)
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, GKVK Campus, Bellary Road, Bangalore 560065

*Courtesy: <http://archives.ncbs.res.in>



Section V

Personal Memoirs/ Writings/ Speeches/ Diaries

NAI is the custodian of the records of enduring value. Among the public records, private archives and Oriental records and the Library are many hidden treasures like memoirs, writings, speeches and diaries of personalities who have contributed towards the rich documentary heritage of our country. The documents highlighted below would give a glimpse of the treasure trove in NAI. Notes of many officials reflected their in-depth knowledge of the subject and many such notes became the background for many policies and plans of the then Government.

A. Private Archives:

A Dream Song - Poem of Sarojini Naidu (13 February 1879 – 2 March 1949)

A dream. Song. To Teresa Goose.²

Once on a night in a dream I stood
Lone in the light of a magical wood,
Soul-deep in visions that poppy-like sprang;
And spirits of Truth are the birds that sing,
And spirits of Love are the stars that gleam,
And spirits of Peace are the streams that flow
In that magical wood in the land of sleep.

II

Lone in the glades of the magical grove,
I felt the stars of the spirits of Love
Gather and gleam round my delicate youth,
And I heard the song of the spirits of Truth;
To quench my longing I bent me low
By the streams of the spirits of Peace that flow
In that magical wood in the land of sleep.

Sarojini Chattopādhyāy.
27th September 1896.

Hamptliad

ONCE in the dream of a night I stood
Lone in the light of a magical wood,
Soul-deep in visions that poppy-like sprang;
And spirits of Truth were the birds that sang,
And spirits of Love were the stars that
glowed,
And spirits of Peace were the streams that
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In that magical wood in the land of sleep.

Lone in the light of that magical grove,
I felt the stars of the spirits of Love
Gather and gleam round my delicate youth,
And I heard the song of the spirits of Truth;
To quench my longing I bent me low
By the streams of the spirits of Peace that
flow
In that magical wood in the land of sleep.

*Sarojini Naidu, 'Nightingale of India', an
Indian political activist and poet dedicated*

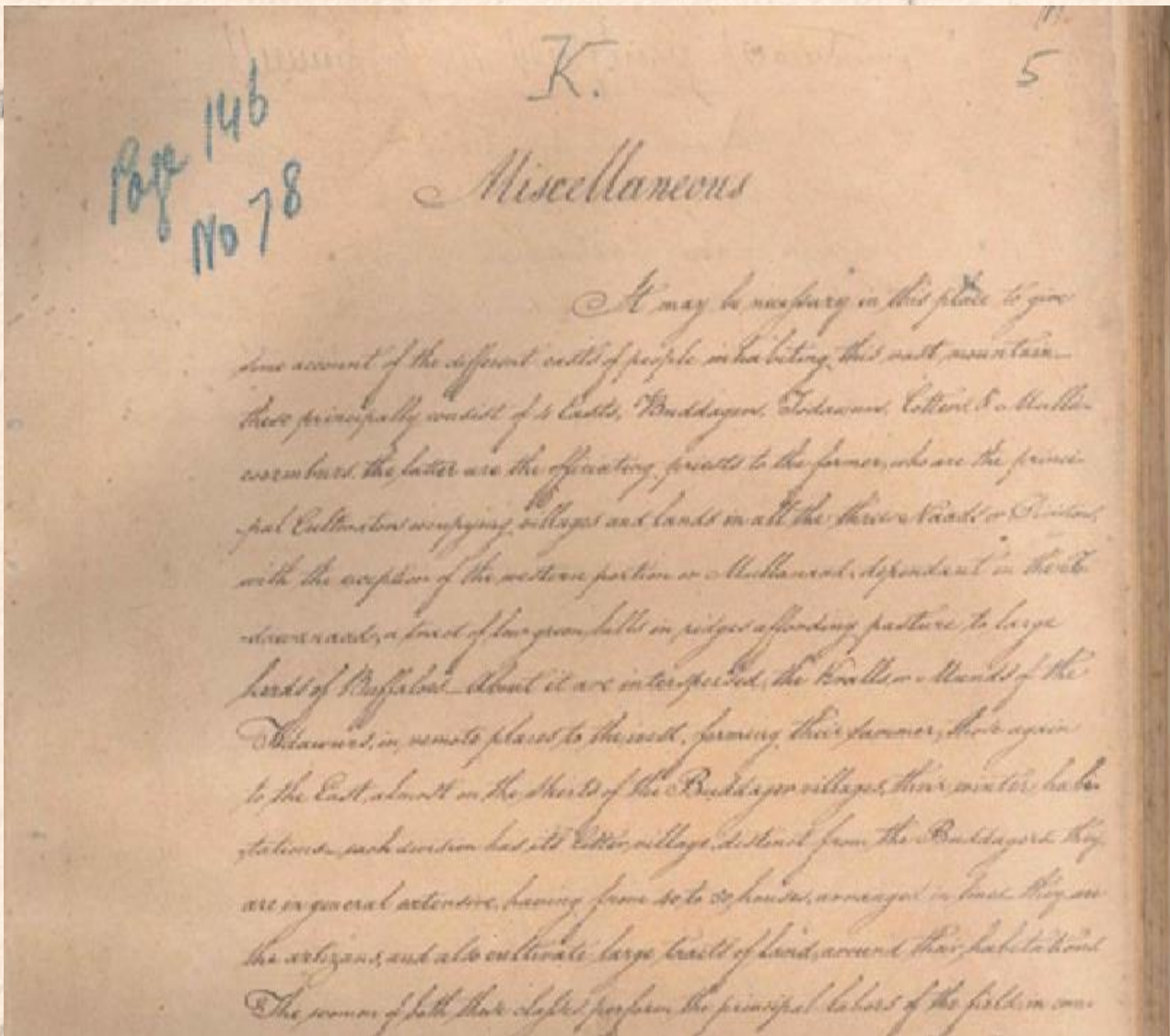
Reference: Private Archives, Sarojini Naidu
papers, F.No.4

B. Cartographic records:

Cartography section of NAI has along with a rich collection of maps, many Travel Records, Dairies of Indian Explorers, Memoirs, Reports, Journals, Route Plans, Registers.

The following is a glimpse of the Surveyor's note on Nilgiri Mountains, describing its geographical location, contours, flora and fauna and the native tribes of the mountains. He has given details of their lifestyle and the indigenous methods of farming, cultivation of land and plantation.

In-depth information as contained in Memoirs such as these helped administrators plan out strategies for development of an area and also assisted in taking decisions regarding trade, agriculture, revenue, etc.



Reference: Survey of India records, Memoirs, No.5

C. Public Records:

Resolution on Census of 1911 which commenced on 10th March of 1911

Nos. 434—453.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Department of Education (Census) under date Calcutta, the 20th March 1911.

RESOLUTION.

In certain provinces such as Madras and the Punjab the custom of making periodic estimates of the population, founded on more or less accurate data, is of very old standing, but the first systematic attempt to obtain information regarding the population of the whole of India, based on an actual counting of heads, was made between the years 1867 and 1872. But even then, many of the Native States, including Hyderabad, Kashmir, the States of the Central India and Rajputana Agencies and those attached to the Punjab, were left out of the count. This Census, moreover, was non-synchronous; the arrangements were seldom very elaborate, and in some of the more remote tracts it was admittedly carried out in a very rough and imperfect manner. The experience gained, however, was valuable, and it paved the way for the first regular Census on the modern system, which was carried out on the 17th February 1881. On this occasion the operations were extended to all the provinces and states in India, as the term was then understood, except Kashmir and various small remote tracts. The count was a synchronous one, taken in the manner to be presently described, except in certain forest and desert tracts where counting by night was impracticable and the regular procedure was modified to a varying extent; in some places a simplified schedule was employed and the final revision of the record was carried out by day, while in others this process was dispensed with. In the latter case the schedules did not, as elsewhere, show the persons actually present in each house on the night of the Census but those who ordinarily resided there.

On the 26th February 1891, the second general Census was taken on lines very similar to those of the previous one, but more elaborate arrangements were made to ensure completeness; the non-synchronous area was smaller; and Upper Burma, which had meanwhile been acquired, was included in the operations, as well as Kashmir and Sikkim. The third Census was taken on the 1st March 1901. Its operations embraced for the first time a large part of the Baluchistan Agency, the Bhil country in Rajputana, the settlements of the wild Nicobarese and Andamanese and certain outlying tracts on the confines of Burma, the Punjab and Kashmir. The non-synchronous area was again reduced, and even where it was not found practicable to effect a final revision, the enumeration was ordinarily carried out on the standard schedule. In some of the newly added areas, however, no detailed enumeration was possible, and the population was estimated with reference to the ascertained number of houses or the returns of the tribal headmen.

2. The fourth general Census of India was taken on the night of the 10th March 1911, or ten years and nine days after the previous one. The date was chosen partly with reference to the age of the moon, so that the Census staff might be able to go about their work by moonlight, and partly with the object of avoiding as far as possible religious festivals and fairs and the dates regarded as auspicious for marriage ceremonies or for bathing in the sacred rivers. Unfortunately there was a serious recrudescence of plague which interfered considerably with the enumeration in some parts of the country and caused a large temporary decrease in the population of certain towns, such as Nagpur, Gaya and Indore, many of whose inhabitants had left their homes. In parts of Northern India heavy rain fell while the final Census was being taken. This Census included within its scope the whole of Baluchistan (except Kharan), and several remote tracts in Burma which had not previously been dealt with. In a few tracts where the previous count had been non synchronous, a synchronous Census was effected and in a few others an actual enumeration took the place of an estimate.

The standard procedure to be followed was laid down by the Census Commissioner for India in a Code, on the basis of which the Census Superintendents of the different provinces and states prepared their local instructions after such

the Agencies & tribal areas of the North West Frontier Province.

Extracts from the above:

“...It is interesting to observe that the rules to fill up the Census schedules by the Enumerators came in to existence due to the majority of the people were literate. It is also interesting to know that the date was chosen partly with reference to the age of the moon, so that the Census staff might be able to go about their work by moonlight, and partly with the object of avoiding as far as possible religious festivals and fairs....”



Section VI

Archives from the world of education

Among the institutional archives, many educational institutions (schools, colleges and Universities) have been maintaining and nurturing their old archival collections. In this issue of e-abhilekh we are sharing information about archives of two Universities - one centrally funded University and the other a private University.

A. JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA: PREMCHAND ARCHIVES AND LITERARY CENTRE*

Munshi Premchand the novelist and short story writer was the most popular Urdu / Hindi writer, secular icon and an intellectual who used literature as a potent tool for social reform. He introduced a new dimension to Hindi language by bringing in real life experience of the marginalized and the down trodden. His realistic approach set a trend for future writers. Premchand has been extensively studied, researched and translated. The Jamia's Premchand Archives & Literary Centre is engaged in collecting original or true copies of his published and unpublished letters to people/institutions, photographs, certificates, diaries, personal belongings, etc.



Vision and Mission:

- Premchand Archives and Literary Centre is devoted to preserving the cultural literary ethos of India.
- The archives was initially established to house material on Premchand, his contemporaries in field of Hindi and Urdu literature as well as other leading present day creative writers.
- Jamia's Premchand Archives and Literary Centre is devoted to preserving the cultural literary ethos of India.
- The archives aims to collect for posterity, published and unpublished manuscripts, letters, photographs, journals, newspapers or their clippings, books, translations in Indian as well as foreign languages, critical works and all such historically important material related to Premchand, and other literary figures whose contribution is important to the making and study of modern India.
- Efforts will be made to procure and preserve valuable personal collections from Hindi/Urdu writers for future study and research

Holdings:

The Archives houses private papers, photographs, awards, mementos and personal collections of eminent personalities. Some of the important collections are:

- Maulana Shaukat Ali (1873 - 1936)
- Munshi Premchand (1880 - 1936)
- Dr. Zakir Husain (1897 - 1969)
- Dr. Hamid Hasan Qadri(1887 - 1964)
- Asaf Ali (1888 - 1953)
- Pandit Banarsidas Chaturvedi (1892 -1985)
- QurratulainHyder (1926 - 2007)
- Prof. Qamar Rais (1932 - 2009)
- Khwaja Ahmad Farooqi (1917 - 1995)
- Ralph Russell (1918 - 2008)
- Begum Anis Kidwai (1906 - 1982)
- Abdul Majeed Khwaja (1885 -1962)

- Noor Jahan Sarwat (1950 – 2010)
- Prof. Saros Cowasjee (1931)
- Devender Satyarthi (1908-2003)
- Manjul Bhagat (1936-2009) in pipeline
- Dr. A.M. Zutshi 'Gulzar Dehalvi' (1925) in pipeline.
- Prof. Sughra Mehdi (1927-2014)
- Begum Saliha Abid Husain (1913-1988)
- Hamid Ali Khan (1905-1963)
- Prof. Asghar Wajahat (1946- -)
- Smt. Manjul Bhagat (1936-1998)
- Prof. Gopi Chand Narang (1931--)
- Prof. Saros Cowasjee (1931--)
- Dr. Kartar Singh Duggal (1917-2012)
- Shri Devender Satyarthi (1908-1963)
- Prof. A. M. Shaharyar (1936-2012)

Contact details:

Jamia's Premchand Archives And Literary Centre,
 Al Beruni Block,
 Jamia Millia Islamia,
 Maulana Mohd. Ali Jauhar Road,
 Okhla, Jamia Nagar,
 New Delhi-110025,
 INDIA,
 Phone: 011- 26988363
 Email: szaidi@jmi.ac.in, jpalc@jmi.ac.in

*Courtesy: <https://www.jmi.ac.in/jpalc>

B. ASHOKA UNIVERSITY: ASHOKA ARCHIVES OF CONTEMPORARY INDIA

Ashoka University is located in Sonapat, Haryana. With its focus on Liberal Arts and Sciences has, in a short span of time, established itself as a premier university in the country by providing every student a rare intellectual experience. Taking a step further in this direction, an Archives of Contemporary India was set up at Ashoka in 2017 for archiving and preserving primary source material for the study of modern and contemporary history of India.

The archives is striving to work on its mission to create a centre for historical and social science research in the country and set up an archives of private papers with focus on segments of contemporary Indian history. Its focusing on acquiring and archiving documents/photos/audios &

videos of India's economic reforms initiated in the 1990s, new social and cultural movements, wildlife, environment and climate change, women's histories, growth of media in various forms and the rise of new business segments. The archives is expected to be useful for their graduate and PhD students who are being encouraged to use original sources.

Holdings:

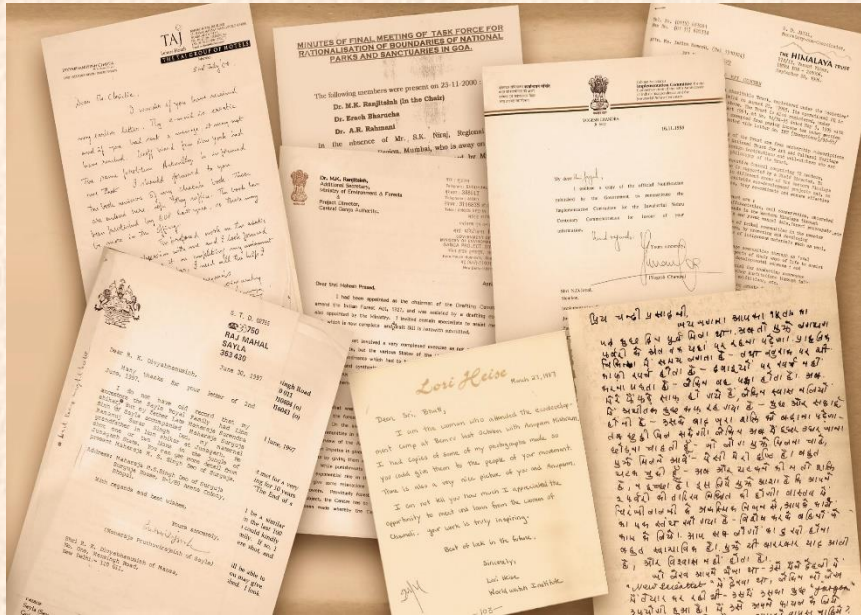
- Anand, A. S. (Former Chief Justice of India) (catalogue available)
- Bhatt, Chandi Prasad (environmentalist & Chipko movement leader) (catalogue available)
- Bidwai, Praful (journalist, political analyst & activist)
- Chavda, Divyabhanusinh (wildlife conservationist) (catalogue available)
- Deepak Kumar (academic)
- Dua, H.K. (journalist) (catalogue available)
- Gandhi, Gopalkrishna (academic & diplomat) (catalogue available)
- Harriss-White, Barbara (academic & political economist)
- Hiro, Dilip (author & journalist)
- Jayal, Nalni D. (environmentalist)
- Karanth, K. Ullas (wildlife conservationist & tiger expert)
- Karnad, Girish (film actor/director & Kannada playwright) (catalogue available)
- Mehrotra, S.R. (historian & author)
- Menon, Ritu (feminist writer & publisher)
- Nagarkar, Kiran (English/Marathi writer & novelist)
- Nayar, Kuldip (journalist & writer) (catalogue available)
- Radhakrishnan, Sarvepalli (Former President of India)
- Rampal, Anita (educationist & author) (catalogue available)
- Ranjitsinh, M.K. (wildlife conservationist) (catalogue available)
- Rauf Ali (environmentalist)
- Singh, Manmohan (Former Prime Minister of India) (catalogue available)
- Singhal, Devahuti and Damodar P. (historians & authors)
- Singhvi, L. M. (jurist & diplomat)
- Srivastava, Pramod (historian) (catalogue available)

- Bharat (academic & Jharkhand movement activist) (catalogue available)
- Verghese, B. G. (journalist & writer)



Collage of some documents and pictures from Radhakrishnan papers





Collage of some documents from papers of environmentalists

New Initiatives:

Asoka Archives is planning on digitization of their collections and make them accessible. Catalogue of some of their holdings are available on the website of Asoka University www.ashoka.edu.in and will be made accessible as per established access policy

Contact details:

Director, Ashoka Archives of Contemporary India may be contacted on deepa.bhatnagar@ashoka.edu.in

*Courtesy: www.ashoka.edu.in



Section VII

Glimpses from the Past

NAI was established as the Imperial Records Department in Calcutta, erstwhile capital of British India on 11 March 1891. In 2016 it completed 125 years of its existence. To commemorate the event, year long celebrations started on 11 March 2015. A major initiative was that NAI took the archives to the public by launching an online search portal www.abhilekh-Patal.in. “Patal” an acronym for “Portal for Access to Archives and Libraries”, reflects the broader role envisaged in future for the online search portal of NAI. Anyone across

the globe can access the portal and its contents without visiting NAI. On 23 January 2016 on the occasion of the birth centenary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, a portal www.netajipapers.in for the declassified records related to Netaji was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of the country. Throughout the year there were a series of events – lecture series, exhibitions, interactive sessions with students, etc.



Inauguration of the launch of the 125th Foundation Year celebrations



Dr Mahesh Sharma, the then Hon'ble Minister for Culture was the Chief Guest at the inauguration

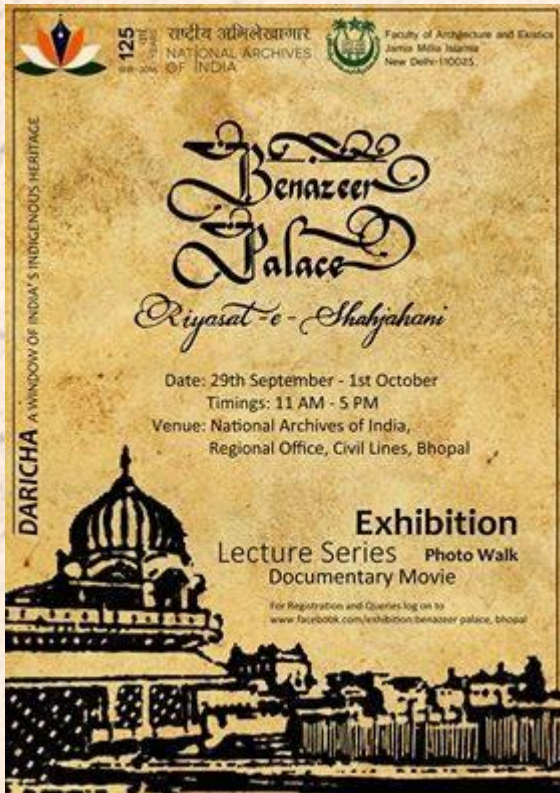
Lecture series:

Series of lectures by eminent scholars, archives professionals were organized throughout the year at the Headquarters and at the Regional Office, Bhopal and Records Centre, Bhubaneswar, Jaipur and Puducherry. Glimpses of the series:



Lecture series in progress in New Delhi and Bhubaneswar






125 YEARS 1891-2016 राष्ट्रीय अभिलेखागार NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

Lecture Series
125th Foundation Year Celebrations

Smt. Sreya Guha, IAS
Director General, National Archives of India
Cordially invites you to the eighth lecture in the series by

Mr. Bruno Racine
Chairman and Chief Executive of the Bibliothèque Nationale de France
on

Digitisation and Cultural Heritage
Date: 26 October 2015 at 4.00 PM

Venue
Conference Room, Ground Floor,
National Archives of India, Annexe

RSVP:
23383436
72384067

Posters of various outreach programmes of the commemorative year 2015-16



10 Rupees National Archives of India



© Joseph Kunnappally

Commemorative issue
125th Anniversary Celebration of National Archives of India

Obverse
Lion Capital of Ashoka Pillar, denomination below.

Lettering:
सत्यमेव जयते
भारत
INDIA
₹10

Translation: Truth alone triumphs

Features	
Country	India 🇮🇳
Type	Circulating commemorative coin
Year	2016
Value	10 Rupees (10 INR)
Currency	Rupee (decimalized, 1957-date)
Composition	Bimetallic: copper-nickel center in aluminium-bronze ring
Weight	7.71 g
Diameter	27 mm
Thickness	1.8 mm
Shape	Round
Orientation	Medal alignment ↑↑
References	KM# 437

Commemorative Stamp and commemorative coins issued on 11 March 2016



NAI, Annexe with a commemorative banner of 125th Foundation Year

Editorial Team:

Smt Jayaprabha Ravindran, Assistant Director of Archives

Dr Sumita Das, Archivist

Dr Thingnam Sanjeev, Archivist

Ms Sangeeta Besoya, Assistant Archivist

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Email: ada.rec-archives@gov.in , archives@nic.in

Backdrop: From the collection of Cartographic Records; Historical Maps; F- 77-6A; 1832