



e- Abhilekh

QUARTERLY NEWS LETTER

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Editors' Note

I am happy to place the third issue of **e- Abhilekh**, which is the second one during my tenure. The Newsletter, which is being brought out with the intention of disseminating information about the archival community at International, National and state level, is receiving encouraging response.

The focus of this issue is on the outreach programmes of varied archival institutions. Although the academic and scholarly world is aware about the rich archival heritage everywhere, the common man is yet to be involved in preserving the archives of their nation. The approach of popularising the archives among the citizens by various means and exhibitions has been accepted as an effective way of communicating the importance of archives but in recent times, archives professionals have also harnessed the unifying and potent power of the World Wide Web by initiating online archives professional groups.

I would appeal to all readers to send their reactions and valuable suggestions to improve the content of the forthcoming issues of the Newsletter. The activities of the Institutions dedicated to the archives are an important source material for our Newsletter, and we look forward to your feedback.

V. Srinivas, IAS
Director General of Archives

“The surest way to preserve your books in health is to treat them as you would your own children, who are sure to sicken if confined in an atmosphere which is impure, too hot, too cold, too damp or too dry.”

-William Blades, London, 1880

Opinion...

This e-newsletter is a valuable platform for spreading the message of archives globally. Spreading Archival consciousness in schools is given great significance in many countries over the years and this e Newsletter too can do something in this area. Perhaps an effort could be made to add select Senior Secondary Schools in the mailing list and involve the younger generation by having a special Section of interest to school children and getting their feedback. Interesting relevant news from Schools could be included in this Section. Archives is after all a process of empowering the future generation with the knowledge of the present.

-Rajesh Verma

Retired Deputy Director of Archives
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Your e-Abhilekh is informative and useful about archives in conventional format. We, the archives observers' look forward to read in your e-Abhilekh information about electronic records that are being generated, used and archived electronically.

-Syamalendu Sengupta.

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My sincere appreciation to the team of officers and staff of the National Archives of India for their efforts in bringing out this e Abhilekh which is first of its kind in our country. It provides us latest information about the developments in archival institutions across the country and also from other parts of the globe. It is a praise-worthy initiative and a big leap forward in creating archival awareness. I wish the Newsletter a grand success and hope it will grow bigger and incorporate informative articles, features & book reviews in due course.

Dr. R.L.Sahoo

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After going through the contents of last two issues of e-Abhilekh, I must record that such initiative is not only good but will bring good results in future. The features of the professional activities of different organisations and issues of association of Indian Archivists may help us in focusing our work in the Newsletter. I request you to kindly include work and profile of the university archives also in the forthcoming issues.

-Mritunjay Kumar

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News from National Archives of India

Indian Historical Records Committee

The 61st session of Indian Historical Records Committee was organized from 19-20 December, 2013 at Patna under the auspices of Bihar State Archives. The Session was inaugurated by Shri Nitish Kumar, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar. The Business Meeting was held in the afternoon of 19 December 2013 in the Conference Hall of the State Archives and it was followed by the Academic Session which continued till next day. 27 papers based on the original sources of Indian history were presented and discussed in the academic session. An archival exhibition on **Selected Manuscripts from the collections** of various Archives in India was also displayed during the Session.



Shri Nitish Kumar, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Bihar at the 61st Session of the Indian Historical Records Committee, Patna, 19-20 December 2013.

Records Management

To optimise the efficacy of records management system in various public organizations, technical advice was rendered to Ministry of Defence, New Delhi; Tehri Hydro Development Corporation India Limited (THDC), Rishikesh; Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi; ICAR, New Delhi; Government of Sikkim, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie; Rampur Raza Library, Rampur; Ministry of Human Resources Development, New Delhi. Simultaneously, appraisal and transfer of historically valuable public records lying in the Ministries continued. The team appraised 31,144 files of the Rehabilitation Division and Freedom Fighter Division of Ministry of Home Affairs, Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Commission, Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, New Delhi. The references of 3,615 files were entered on our online reference media Archival Information Management System (AIMS).

13th meeting of the Archival Advisory Board was held on 18 December 2013, under the chairmanship of Shri Ravindra Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Culture. All areas of functional archives, including personnel, computerization and digital preservation of records, proposed amendment of

Public Records Act, 1993, training and critical area projects in terms of present status and future projections were discussed and principal action points were formulated.

Outreach Programme

Archival exhibitions form a vital component of our outreach drive and during this period, a variety of exhibitions were organized to showcase our rich archival heritage in various platforms.

An exhibition on **Sir Syed** was organized at India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi on 10 October, 2013 on the occasion of **Sir Syed Memorial Lecture**.



An exhibition entitled **Transvaal March-1913** was organised on the occasion of Centenary Celebration of the Historic Transvaal March by Gandhiji at South Africa in 1913. This exhibition was displayed on 30 November 2013, at Volksrust Prison, South Africa and was inaugurated by Ms. Ila Gandhi, Gandhi Development Trust in the presence of Shri Ravindra Singh, Secretary (Culture),

Shri Virendra Gupta, Indian High Commission to South Africa and other dignitaries. Shri Rajmani, Assistant Director of Archives was deputed to mount this exhibition in South Africa and Shri Ravindra Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, participated in The Transvaal March organised by the Government of South Africa to commemorate the historic event.

As a part of the Monthly lecture series, a lecture on **Archives and Indenture Labour from India** by Prof. Brij V.Lal, Australian National University, Canberra was organised on 19 November 2013 in the premises of the Department.

Cultural Exchange Programmes/Deputations/Visits

In pursuance of the common goal of preservation of mutual documentary heritage and foster an atmosphere of cooperation, the National Archives of India actively coordinates and participates in Cultural Exchange programmes. The visits impart valuable perspective regarding the best practices followed globally and procure vital information about new techniques, innovations which could be gainfully implemented in India.

As part of cultural exchange programme with Turkey, Shri V. Srinivas, Director General of Archives, accompanied by Shri T. Hussain, Assistant Director of Archives visited Oman and Turkey from 30 December 2013 to 3 January 2014 under Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India and the Government of Turkey. The protocol on Cooperation in the field of Archives between the Government of India and Government of Turkey was signed on 7 October 2013.



Shri V.Srinivas, Joint Secretary to the Government of India and Director General of Archives at the occasion of signing the protocol on Cooperation in the field of Archives between the Government of India and Government of Turkey , 7 October 2013.

The Ambassador of India to Turkey, Smt. Susmita Gongulee Thomas and the First Deputy Minister of Archives of Turkey Mr. M. Abdullah Canbek were also present on the occasion in the State Archives of Turkey at Ankara when the Hindi and the Turkish Texts of the Protocol were signed and exchanged. India and Turkey agreed on a functional road-map for future collaboration: (a) Identifying Archival Material of Mutual Interest; (b) Exhibition of Ottoman Archival Records in National Archives of India; (c) Collaboration in Training Programs;(d) Collaboration in Digitization of Records: the National Archives of India agreed to explore possible areas of collaboration with the State Archives of Turkey in the exchange of digital copies and share experiences in this regard.

Smt. Kalpana Shukla, Archivist was deputed to Malaysia to attend the Short Term Course in Malaysia under the Malaysia Technical Cooperation Programme held from 25 November to 4 December, 2013 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Dr. M.A Haque, Deputy Director of Archives, and Shri Sohan Pal Singh, Assistant Director of Archives were deputed to Colombo (Sri Lanka) to participate and present the paper in the conference entitled **The Future of Archives and Archives of the Future** at the SAARC International Conference on Development of Archives in South Asia, held from 3-6 December 2013.

S/Shri Syed Farid Ahmad, Assistant Director of Archives and Niraj Kumar Mishra, Library and Information Assistant were deputed to Iran to participate and present papers at the International Conference of Iranian Records held on 16 December 2013 at Tehran, Iran.

Under the Indo-Malaysia Cultural Exchange Programme (2010-2013), Shri Naoroibam Raju Singh, Archivist, was deputed to Malaysia from 21-25 October 2013 to study the list of records pertaining to Indian interest from the records holdings of the National Archives of Malaysia.

Important Visitors

H.E. Jorge Roza de Oliveria, Ambassador of Portugal visited National Archives of India on 15 October 2013 and met Director General of Archives regarding access to the records relating to annexation of Goa.

Dr. James Onley, Senior Lecturer, University of Exeter, UK along with Ms. Tammi Moe, Assistant Director, Library Virginia Commonwealth, University of Qatar visited National Archives of India and attended a meeting in connection with the preparation of a catalogue of NAI record holdings relating to Arabian Peninsula, Iran and Iraq from early 19th -20th centuries.

Mr. Hussain G. Sayyid and Mr. Sohail A. Sayyed from the Tata Central Archives, Pune visited National Archives of India on 4 November 2013. Shri Amril Pal Singh, Deputy Director General, Film Division, New Delhi visited National Archives of India on 20 November 2013 and met Senior Officers of the department regarding work on the documentary on National Archives of India.

A delegation of six members from China visited National Archives of India on 7 December 2013 and met Director General of Archives, senior officers of National Archives of India and Ministry of Culture in which Director, Indian Cultural Relations, was also present.

H.E. Dr. Sand Mohammed Al Sati, Ambassador of the kingdom of Saudi Arabia visited National Archives of India on 9 December 2013 and met Director General of Archives and other Officers of the Department.

H.E. Shri Chandranath Singh, High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago visited National Archives of India on 13 December 2013 and met Director General of Archives and other senior Officers of the department.

Research facilities

167 Indian and 32 foreign scholars were freshly enrolled in the Research Room and availed research facilities. A total of **13,707 requisitions** were made by the scholars for their research work.

School of Archival Studies

The **68th Short Term Certificate Course in Care and Conservation of Books, Manuscripts and Archives** was conducted from 28 October to 20 December 2013. 11 trainees participated in this course.

Reprographic Services

60,000 images were scanned from microfilms and 25,720 digital copies pertaining to Malaysia were supplied to National Archives of Malaysia. Besides, 1,077 maps were also scanned. Reprographic services were also extended to the research scholars on their demand.

Financial Assistance

In order to promote archival awareness and preservation of archival material initiatives in the country, National Archives of India continued its schemes of financial assistance. The Grants Committee, held on 6 and 7 November 2013 under the chairmanship of Sh. V. Srinivas, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Culture and Director General of Archives. A sum of Rs. 35, 23,697 was given to four Government institutions by the Committee under the Scheme of Financial Assistance to State/ Union Territory Archival Repositories, Government Libraries and Rs. 31, 04,063/- was recommended to 19 registered voluntary organizations, Government institutions, for 2013-14.

Regional Office, Bhopal



A Training programme entitled **Significance of Archives & Methods and Techniques of Preservation of Records** was organized for Nutan College, Bhopal. The aim of this training module was to acquaint the students about archives and significant holdings of the Regional Office of National Archives of India, Bhopal. Information about the essential qualifications required for working in the Archives, preservation

of the Records collection, techniques of repair etc, was also provided to the participants.

Record Centre, Jaipur

115th Orientation course in Records Management was conducted at Record Centre of National Archives of India, Jaipur from 21-25 October 2013. 21 Record Officers from various Ministries/Departments participated in this course.

Record Centre, Puducherry



116th Orientation course in Records Management was conducted at Record Centre of National Archives of India, Puducherry from 2-6 December 2013. 25 Record Officers from various Ministries/Departments participated in this course such as Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited, Chennai, Director of Oil Palm Research, Andhra Pradesh, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Andhra Pradesh, Indian Institute of Spices, Kerala, Madras

Fertilizers Limited, Chennai, Rubber Board, Kerala, National Sample Survey Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme, Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Cochin, Central Ground Water Board South Eastern Coastal Region, Chennai etc.

Record Centre, Bhubaneswar



The exhibition entitled **Journey Of Girmitya** was mounted by the National Archives of India, Record Centre, Bhubaneswar in Ravenshaw University, Cuttack from 28-30 December 2013 on the occasion of 74th session of Indian History Congress. Approximately 150 visitors recorded their impressions of this archival exposition.

State/UT Archives

Andhra Pradesh



H.E. Dr. Hadi Soleymanpour, Director of International Research and Educations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Iran visited A.P. State Archives and expressed his willingness to initiate the establishment of an Iranian Research Centre in Hyderabad for the preservation and promotion of the Persian language. He also proposed to sponsor the publication of books and compilation of translated Persian works to English.

During the visit of H.E. Soleymanpore, Dr. Zareena Parveen, Director of the Archives, informed apprised him about the collection of Andhra Pradesh State Archives which has the largest collection of Moghul records with 1,55,000 documents of the Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb era.

The State Archives and Research Institute continued the digitization of records belonging to Ex- Hyderabad Secretariat and Andhra Pradesh Government Office (1896 -1920) and 18, 00,000 pages were also scanned and microfilmed. Besides, the department is jointly collaborating with The National Mission for Manuscripts, New Delhi to undertake the repair of manuscript folios and under this venture, 11,842 folios were repaired preventively and 1,691 folios were curatively conserved.

Bihar

Bihar State Archives organized the 61st Session of Indian Historical Records Committee from 19 to 20 December 2013, and Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri. Nitish Kumar inaugurated the Session. A souvenir and four Books on Dr. Anugrah Narain Sinha were released by Hon'ble Chief Minister during the inaugural function.



The State Archives also organized Memorial Lectures on **Prof. Sayed Hasan Askari: An explorer of Ganga-Yamuna Tahzeeb of Bihar**, by Prof. Bharti S. Kumar, Ex. Prof. and Head of the Department of History, Patna University on 28 November 2013 and **Prof. Vijay Kumar Thakur, The Nature and Significance of the Kaivarata Revolt** by Prof. Kameshwar Prasad, Ex. Prof. and Head of the Department of History, Patna University on 27 December 2013. Four books on Dr. Sri Krishna Singh were released on 5 November 2013 by Hon'ble Chief Minister in Khanwa, the birth place of Dr. S.K. Sinha.

Haryana

Department of Archives, Government of Haryana organized an exhibition at Brahm Sarover, Kurukshetra from 9 to 13 December, 2013 on the occasion of Geeta Jayanti Utsav. Further, the task of conversion of the tape recorded memoirs in audio cassettes into DVD format has been started with a view to preserve them for the posterity. An exhibition of Rare Manuscripts was also organized at Patna from 19 to 20 December, 2013 at the 61st Session of Indian Historical Records Committee.

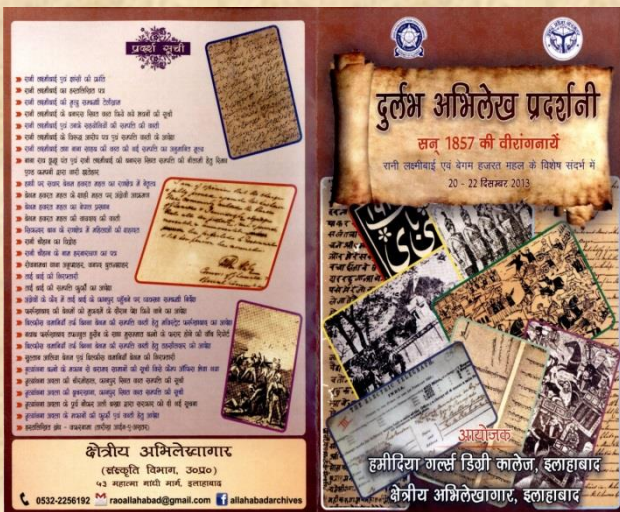


Shri Nitish Kumar, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar with Dr. Rajwanti Mann, Director, Department of Archives, Haryana.

Uttar Pradesh

An exhibition of rare documents on **WOMEN FREEDOM FIGHTERS OF 1857** with special reference to Rani Luxmi Bai and Begum Hazarat Mahal was organised at Hamidia Girls' Degree College, Allahabad by Regional Archives, Allahabad from December 20 to 22, 2013, Prof. Mridula Tripathi, Dean, Arts, Allahabad University inaugurated the exhibition and Prof. S.Z.H Jafri ,Delhi University, Mr D.N Moghe, Director, Doordarshan Kendra, Allahabad, Mr V.S Dutta, Chief Editor, Northern India Patrika, Allahabad were other distinguished guests present during the inauguration. Prof.Keshav Misra of Banaras Hindu University, Prof. Yogendra Tiwari of Allahabad University, Prof. Badri Narayan of Pant Institute, Allahabad and Prof. S M Azizuddin Hussain, Director, Raza Library, Rampur also visited the exhibition.

The role of unsung women warriors of first war of Independence like Tae Bai of Jalaun, Rani Chauhan of Anup Shahar, Begums of Farrukhabad, Nana Saheb's close associate ,dancer Adala of Kanpur were highlights of this exhibition and was appreciated by the large number of visitors which included students, academicians and general public.



Invitation card of an exhibition on Women Warriors of 1857 with special reference to Rani Luxmi Bai Begum and Hazarat Mahal organised by Regional Archives, Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh.

The Archives of Business

Reserve Bank of India Archives



Reserve Bank of India Archives participated in the IHRC session at Patna and displayed scanned copies of selected historical documents and photographs reflecting history of RBI. The exhibition was inaugurated by Shri Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister of Bihar and was visited by dignitaries, delegates and students. It was well covered in local media.

During the quarter under report, Two hundred and Eighty Three (283) persons visited RBI Archives Museum which included Smt. Indirani Rao, Chief Forex Officer, Clearing Corporation of India Limited (CCIL), Mumbai, students, participants and general public.

Ms. Christine Barbara Nyakairu, Chief Supervisor, Communications Department, Bank of Uganda, Uganda also visited RBI Archives from 19 – 21 November, 2013 on her official assignment. Search facilities of archival documents were undertaken as per request received from Central Office Departments and Regional Offices of RBI.

Two officers from Andhra Pradesh State Archives and Research Centre visited RBI Archives on December 9, 2013 and they were provided with technical information and other literature on scientific preservation of records.

The work relating to the digitisation of records in RBI Archives continued during the quarter and digitisation of 216 files containing 1, 00,573 pages was completed.

State Bank Archives and Museum

During the quarter, visitors to the Archives & Museum included people from different walks of life and interest; academics, students, professionals, media, etc, from within the country and abroad. Some prominent visitors included Dr. Dhriti Ray of the Department of Museology, University of Calcutta, an academic from Marseille, France, Vivi Gissel from Denmark, Lt. Gen. V.K. Chaturvedi, etc.

Other Institutions

Victoria Memorial Hall



On the death of Queen Victoria in January 1901, Lord Curzon, the then Viceroy of India, mooted the idea of setting up a fitting memorial to the Queen. The Victoria Memorial Hall opened in 1921 as a historical museum which housed pictures and statues of men who played a prominent part in the history of India, especially in relation to the history of Calcutta. Presently it is the finest and most prominent building and art museum of Kolkata, under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

A large number of valuable manuscripts are in the collection of this memorial, some of which are on display at the Portrait Gallery. Among these are the manuscript copy of **Ain-i-Akbari** by Abul Fazal, a manuscript copy of **Diwan Hafiz** or the Ghazals of Hafiz; the note book of Tipu Sultan in his own hand writing; a volume of copies of Tipu Sultan's letters; **Akbar-Namah**, a manuscript copy of **Shah Namah**, written by Firdausi (999 A.D.); the Persian translation of **Nala Damayanti** by Abul Fazal. Beside these, there are many manuscripts stored in the High Court Room.

During this quarter, many significant events were organized. An exhibition of works by Hungarian Textile Artist Anna Kubinyi was inaugurated by Dr. Janos Martonyi, Honourable Foreign Minister of Hungary on 13 November 2013 and it remained on view till 8 December 2013.

As part of the World Heritage Week, Victoria Memorial Hall organized two events; the first was a talk on 22 November 2013 by Shri Alapan Bandopadhyay, Principal Secretary, Department of Transport and Housing, Government of West Bengal, on **Idioms of Kolkata's Heritage Movement: Some Random Thoughts**, in collaboration with INTACH, West Bengal Chapter. The second event was a live demonstration organized on 25 November 2013 on **Baul and Sufi Music - Our Folk Heritage**, with an introduction by Shri Ashadullah Gayen in collaboration with Folk Foundation. A special Lecture on **Jaina Paintings of Gujarat and the Problems of Chaurapanchashika Style** by Professor Ratan Parimoo, Director, Lalbhai Dalpatbhai Museum and N. C. Mehta Gallery, Ahmedabad was organized on 18 November 2013.

Nehru Memorial Museum and Library

In pursuance with its aims and objectives, NMML continued to strengthen its resources by adding more to its holdings. The Manuscript Division acquired the collections of Dr. Ved Pratap Vaidik (Freelance journalist), Shri Lal Radhakrishan (Arya samajist), Dadabhai Naoroji- Grand Old Man of India, Shri Rahul Bajaj, Industrialist and Parliamentarian, Shri Ramchandra Gandhi and others. The Oral History Division recorded the memoirs of Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Chief Economic Advisor to Government of India, Dr. Bimal Jalan, former Governor, Reserve Bank of India and Gandhian, Dr. Karan Singh and Shri K. Natwar Singh, former Cabinet Minister, Government of India, Shri Dina Nath Sharan, (Retd. IPS) and Shri Gopal K. Pillai, Civil Servant.

As a part of Public Lectures series, lectures on **India and the Third Industrial Revolution** by Mr. Nandan Nilekani, and **How We Failed Social Justice: the Mismatch of Constitutional Provisions and Institutional Arrangements** by Dr. Shyam Babu were organized. A workshop focusing on the

tribal issues and community practices entitled **Reading Adivasi Histories** and a Panel Discussion chaired by Shri. Jairam Ramesh on **India China Ties: 25 years after the Deng Rajiv Talks** with Mr. Ronen Sen, Former Ambassador, USA and Prof. Alka Acharya from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, as Panelist, were also organized. An exhibition focusing on the contributions made by Shri Motilal Nehru in framing the Indian Constitution was organized to mark the 150th Birth Anniversary of Shri Motilal Nehru. Sixty-four papers have been published under the series History and Society and Perspectives in Indian Development by end of December 2013 by NMML Publication Division.

Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts



Veteran actor Kulbushan Kharbanda inaugurating the exhibition **25 years of audiovisual journey: recalling through equipment and documentation**, 11-20 December, 2013, IGNC A, New Delhi

Exhibition of Audio Visual Archives was organized on the occasion of the International Audiovisual Heritage Day, observed by UNESCO on 27 October 2013. This exhibition was inaugurated by Ms. Anjolie Ela Menon. Sangeet Natak Akademi, Prasar Bharati (All India Radio & Doordarshan), Archives & Research Centre for Ethnomusicology - American Institute of Indian Studies, Rupayan Sansthan, Archive of Indian Music, Naad Saagar Archives & Documentation Society for South Asian Music, School of Cultural Texts & Records - Jadavpur University and IGNC A collaborated in the event. Select collections from respective archives were also presented in the exhibition.

During the Seminar, an overview of the collections of the participating institutions as well as details of their collections were shared while in the technical session, problems of storage, care and maintenance of collections and the related issues of digitization, access and dissemination were discussed.

On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Media Centre, IGNCA organized a hindsight view of all the audio-visual equipment it has been using and the multi-disciplinary documentation it has done using them in 25 years in the format of an exhibition. Film and theatre actor Kulbhushan Kharbanda inaugurated this ten-day-long audio-visual exhibition entitled **25 years of audiovisual journey: recalling through equipment and documentation**. In the last three decades, the world of audio-visual equipment has undergone a sea change and audio-visual evolution from spool or VHS format to present digital format have had its varied signatures at different phases. This exhibition provided a retrospective view on how evolution took place in the last 25 years and how the world is negotiating towards the digital future.

This highly interactive exhibition had two kiosks showcasing huge unpublished audiovisual documentation material, which provides the precursor for any researcher and a viewing and listening counter to give an insight into various documentations. Apart from this, special training workshops were arranged with Mass Media schools and colleges to give an exposure to the world of documentation and documentary-making. A film festival was also organized from 12– 20 December 2013 which featured six short movies covering various aspects of our cultural heritage from all over the country.

Rampur Raza Library



During this quarter, on the occasion of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, a special exhibition was organized in Rampur Raza Library on 2 October, 2013. Shri S.L. Gandhi, Freedom Fighter, inaugurated the exhibition. An extension lecture by Shri Shamim Tariq, Reporter, Mumbai, on **Impact of Persian Literature on Tagore** was organized on 7 October 2013. A book fair was organized from 19 to 22 October, 2013. National Council for Promotion of Urdu Languages and Uttar Pradesh Urdu Academy, Lucknow also participated in this book fair.

Raza Library also organized an International Seminar on **Malfizat of Sufis of India – A Source of Indian History and Culture** from 24 to 26 October, 2013. The Seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Azarmi Dukht Safawi, Director, Persian Research Institute, Aligarh Muslim University; Aligarh. A 10 days' exhibition on **History of Islam in the light of manuscripts and books** was inaugurated by Shri Mufti Maulvi Mehboob Ali, Imam, Jama Masjid, Rampur on 7 November, 2013.

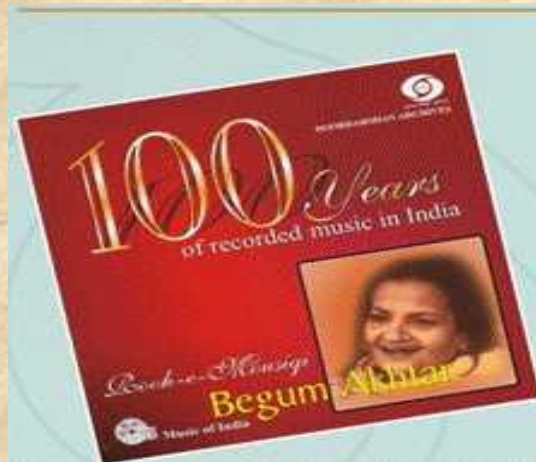
On the occasion of the 125th Birthday of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Urdu Day was organized by Nadeem Tareen Education Society on 24 November, 2013. In this function, **Asrariya Kashaf-i-Sufiya** was introduced by Prof. S.M. Azizuddin Husain, Director, Rampur Raza Library.

Prof. S.M. Azizuddin Husain, Director, Rampur Raza Library, delivered an extension lecture on **Rare manuscripts of Raza Library's collection** and organized an exhibition of facsimile copy of paintings preserved in Rampur Raza Library on 16 December, 2013, at Indira Gandhi National Art Centre, New Delhi.

Doordarshan Archives

Doordarshan Archives is a treasure house of many memorable performances of the great artistes who have contributed to India's rich music and dance heritage. It is an attempt to bring some of the exquisite performances of enduring beauty to reach out to a larger audience celebrating the spirit of a singing and dancing nation.

As modern India's national channel, Doordarshan holds India's master cache of archival material on her exquisite and arcane performing arts that survived independently of "formal documentation" as understood by the transcribing tradition of western societies.



Today, various Doordarshan Channels cover the rich heritage of the Indian sub-continent. Doordarshan celebrated the centenary of recorded music in India (1902-2002) with its first set of seven VCDs and ACDs in January 2003 and a second set on 11 June. The third set featuring the Bharat Ratna Awardees M.S.Subbulakshmi and Ustad Bismillah Khan was released in the year 2004. These series are now in their second edition. The culled performance highs of the last quarter of a century were also made available from 2005 onwards.

Indian Memory Project

Indian Memory Project was founded in February 2010, by Anusha Yadav. It is an online, curated, visual and oral-history based archive that traces a personal history of the Indian Subcontinent, its people, cultures, professions, cities, development, traditions, circumstances and their consequences. Applying images, letters and stories from family archives (sent and collected from contributors), it reconstructs a visual history that is emotionally rich, vivid and informative.

SPECIAL FEATURE

Indian Historical records Committee- A retrospect

The Indian Historical Committee was initially set up as Indian Historical Records Commission in 1919 by Government of India to offer advice on the management of archives and their use for historical research. It is headed by the Union Minister of Culture and comprises Government of India nominees, representatives from Central Government Department, State Archives, Universities and Learned institutions. Director General of Archives, National Archives of India acts as its ex-officio Member Secretary, while Secretary, Ministry of Culture is ex-officio Chairman, Standing Committee. The present strength of the committee is around 120. It is constituted for a five year term. It received its present nomenclature in 2011.

During the last ninety-five year journey, sixty one sessions of the committee have been held so far at various parts of the country and issues on Archival Legislation, Records Management, Archival Buildings, Publication, Research and Reference, Repair and Reprography, Training etc. have been discussed by the Creators, Custodians and users of records for better results. Among the luminaries who have been associated with the activities of the committee, mention may be made of Sir Jadunath Sarkar, K.K. Dutt, R.C. Majumdar, Nandlal Chatterjee, Raghubir Singh, N. Sen, Mohd. Habib, S.H. Askari, Dwijender Tripathi, P.L. Mehra, B.R. Anand, S.R. Mehotra, etc.

The Committee has played a significant role in promoting archival awareness in the country. It has been largely through the efforts of the committee that many new archival sources have been brought to light, many rare collections have been preserved and published for the benefit of scholars, research facilities were significantly enhanced and a new spirit has been inculcated for preservation of our documentary heritage.

A session of the committee is convened at the invitation of a host i.e. state Government or University. It is held over a period of two days and includes inaugural function, Business Meeting and Academic Meeting. An archival exhibition on historical documents is also organized wherein participating Archives also display exhibits on the theme available in their collections.

The latest session of the committee was organized from 19-20 December 2013 in collaboration with Bihar State Archives, Patna.

WEBSITES RELATED TO AUDIO AND MUSIC ARCHIVES IN INDIA

- Namgyal Monastery Audio Visual Archive Centre : www.namgyal.org/articles/nava.cfm
- Archive of Carnatic music: www.shivkumar.org/music -
- ITC Sangeet Research Academy : www.itcsra.org
- All India Radio Archives : www.allindiaradio.gov.in
- Doordarshan Archives: <http://www.ddindia.gov.in>
- The Naad Saagar Archives and Documentation Society for South Asian Music- www.naadsaagar.com
- American Institute of Indian Studies/ Archives & Research Centre for Ethnomusicology - www.indiastudies.org/ethnomusicology
- Rupayan Sansthan, an archives of Folk Music traditions funded by the Ford Foundation - <http://www.archiving-performance.o>

Archives around the World

International Council on Archives



The Annual Conference of International Council on Archives was organized jointly by the International Council on Archives (ICA) and the National Archives of Belgium on 23 and 24 November 2013 in Brussels. Supported by Ancestry, Conservation By Design, Family Search, Provost, Spark Archives and Zeutschel, the conference was a great success: more than 500 participants from 100 different countries attended, and some sessions played to packed halls which was ample proof of the interest of archives and records management professionals in the conference theme: Accountability, Transparency and Access to Information.

The National Archives, head office of the State Archives in Belgium, was the host of the first annual ICA conference and covers 70 km of archives that hold thousands of individual stories about people and institutions. The main conclusion drawn from all the panelists and from the audience was the imperative need for greater advocacy across all information professions, across all borders and to society in general. Archivists have an important role to play, and have the skills, knowledge and experience to engage and solve the main information, records and archival issues of the day.

Open Knowledge Exchanges (OKE)

Open Knowledge Exchanges (OKE) of International Council on Archives is an exchange platform aimed at archives professionals and for other users. This exchange platform is like any other social network which allows one to share experiences and to debate on important issues that concern the archival profession. It is an interactive space where all the members have the opportunity to comment, publicly or privately, on topics raised and to test projects in the course of their development. OKE is monitored by an editor and the host is the ICA who will be responsible for choosing the topic of debates and anyone who is interested can join in the discussions and put forward their point of view on the questions of the moment.

Commonwealth Archives

The Association of Commonwealth Archivists and Records Managers (ACARM) was founded in 1984 to provide a link for archival institutions, archivists and records managers across the Commonwealth. What makes this link especially important is the common heritage of legal and administrative systems, and hence of record keeping practices, which the countries of the Commonwealth share with each other and with the United Kingdom.

As part of its objectives, ACARM has established a network of Commonwealth professionals in its field and has used that network to develop a practical strategy for solving record keeping problems in public administration. This has involved a number of developmental projects concerned with promoting professional education and training through workshops and the production of training materials. In these activities, ACARM has in recent years worked in partnership with the International Records Management Trust (IRMT). ACARM's Annual General Meeting was held on 22 November 2013 during the ICA Annual Conference in Brussels, Belgium and minutes of the meeting have been posted to the members' pages.

LinkedIn Archives Professional Group

LinkedIn is the world's largest professional network with 250 million members connected in over 200 countries and territories around the globe. It connects the world's professionals to make them more productive and successful. LinkedIn was officially launched on 5 May, 2003. Jeff Weiner is the CEO of the Company. Ramses V., an Archivist at Netherlands Institute for Art History, The Hague, created an archival professional group in LinkedIn on 24 March, 2008. Agnes E.M.J. and Marieke V are the active managers of this group.

The main aim of this group is to form an international network and to share information on archival matters between archivists and other information professionals. Through the course of these interactions, many interesting developments are shared. Simon Tanner, Deputy Head, Department of Digital Humanities at King's College London shared his lecture on the topic **Avoiding the Digital Death Spiral - Surviving and Thriving Through Understanding the Value and Impact of Digital Culture at NDF Conference**. On the issue of Record management, Gillian Oliver, Senior Lecturer in Archives and Records Management at Victoria University of Wellington (VUW), New Zealand conducted a survey wherein educators and trainers were invited to use the International Standards on Records Management. Agnes E.M. Jonker, Researcher at InterPARES Trust requested the professionals to join in this survey. The main aim of this research was to investigate the use of international standards on records management in education and training which can provide useful insights into the influence of the standards on professional practice.

SAARC International Conference



South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)'s Cultural Centre organized an International Conference on Development of Archives in South Asia entitled: **The Future of Archives and Archives of the Future** and its associated activity, an exhibition of **Historical Documents and**

Archival Photographs from 3-5 December 2013 at the Department of National Archives, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The Conference, which had paper reading sessions and round table discussions, was attended by over 100 participants from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, the USA and the UK. The conference was convened with a view to providing a platform to the key stakeholders in the field of archives and records management in the region to assess their preparedness, share their challenges and problems, showcase their achievements, voice their concerns and learn from the experts for effectively managing their existing and future collections over the long-term.

Third Asia and Pacific Conference on Archival Education

The Third Asia Pacific Conference on Archival Education was held in Renmin Executive University of China (RUC) in Beijing on 23 and 24 October 2013. Participants were experts and specialists from the United States, Canada, Australia, United Kingdom, Sweden, Norway, Germany, Japan, South Africa, Argentina, Nigeria and many other countries attended the conference. The Conference had four sessions and 11 speakers gave their presentations on development of archival education worldwide; mapping International archival curricula; innovation in Archival Education (Asia) and archival education in a digital World. On 24 October, 2013, three Parallel workshops on archival education were held at RUC, as part of the Third Asia and Pacific Conference on Archival Education. The participants in the workshops explored the transformation and innovation of global archive education in the digital era, shared curriculum design and training examples and analyzed the global education and training situation.

Archivio di Stato, Venice, Italy



The Records Office was established in 1822 in the former convent of Minor Friars at "I Frari" in order to reconstruct the constitutional make-up of the Venetian Republic by bringing together all the records produced by the Venetian magistrature. In addition to the archives of the Republic, the records office also keeps the records of the central and local institutions located in Venice and of the Governments which followed the

fall of the Venetian Republic in 1797 as well as other archives such as those of the religious institutions abolished by Napoleon.

Being one of the largest archives in Italy, the Venice State Archive preserves all documents related to Venetian history (more than 1000 years) that cover about 90 km of shelves, and still collects all the historical documentation of the state organs nowadays operating in the province of Venice. It is a collection of the original papers of the *Repubblica Serenissima*, preserved between 1815 and 1822. This was done in accordance with a decision by Austrian Emperor Franz I. Political, administrative and legal documents from the 9th Century, notary archives, as well as convent archives are all kept here.

SiASVe, Information System of the State Archives of Venice, is an on-line guide to the fonds held at the State Archives of Venice, their series, and their creators and the appropriate finding aids.

Descriptions of these fonds, compiled over the last ten years, have been imported into the system and made fully available after having been checked, updated and revised to function in this new and different context. Special attention has been paid to fonds without inventories, and particularly to the nineteenth-century archives.

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) and the Venice Time Machine



EPFL and Ca' Foscari University, Venice have launched a trans-disciplinary centre for education, research and public engagement in science and art in Venice. Venice itself is the subject of the research program Venice Time Machine—a historical and geographical simulation of the city that is one of the well-documented in the world.

Frederic Kaplan, the Digital Humanities Chair at Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (EPFL) and the EPFL's Digital Humanities Lab Director is at the helm of this collaborative work which aims to archive 80 kilometers of books from throughout 1000 years of Venetian history. The goal of the time machine is to create an information system which can be searched and mapped. This initiative aims to transform the information available in the archives into a virtual time machine – a historical and geographical simulation at the crossroads between a Facebook and a Google Map of the past. Today, the Venetian state's historical archives is one of the many archives of the city and stretches over more than 80 kilometres.

Important Wills, work contracts, taxation documents, maps, charts and stocks – the lives and activities of the Venetians and their trading partners throughout their Mediterranean empire were meticulously recorded over centuries.

This time machine will enable the researchers and the public to browse and search historical data, trace individuals through time and follow the city's evolution over the centuries. An extraordinary set of documents to be explored is the advent of the printing press and Venice becoming the centre of world printing material. Most notably, the first printed Quran was published in Venice in Arabic script.

The Venice Time Machine project is hoping to expand the scope from Venice to Venetian Empire by adopting new computer technology to study the past and create new platform for the general public.

Australia

National Archives of Australia at Canberra curated a free exhibition entitled **Aboriginal and Islander stories: I've been working on the railway** on 22 November 2013. The railway stories and experiences of Torres Strait Islanders, Aboriginal people and Australian South Sea Islanders were featured in the exhibition. It explored the contribution of these cultural groups to the development of rail across Australia through stories, objects, music, video and photographs.

David Fricker ,Director-General of the National Archives stated that throughout the 1950s, 60s and 70s there were large-scale developments of rail infrastructure across Australia and Torres

Strait Islanders, Aboriginal people and Australian South Sea Islanders were working long and hard in the hot and dusty environment.

The exhibition complements their ongoing commitment to make Indigenous records available, including those of Indigenous servicemen. The Reconciliation Action Plan through promotion of mutually beneficial partnerships and projects helps them to preserve Australia's most valuable Indigenous records and promote good records management by Australian Government agencies.

Personal accounts of railway workers life are central to the exhibition and for those who left to work on the railway, they were leaving their homes and traditional land. While some families went with the men, living the arduous and ever-changing camp existence along railway tracks; the exhibition also explores the experiences of the many families who were left behind and continued life with their husband or father far away. The exhibition at the National Archives of Australia, is open until 18 May 2014.

New Zealand

In December 2013, The UNESCO Memory of the World New Zealand Programme announced three new inscriptions to the New Zealand documentary heritage register. These inscriptions are: the Sir Edmund Hillary Archive (the Auckland Museum), God Defend New Zealand Original Score and Lyrics (Auckland Libraries) and Charles Brasch Literary and Personal Papers (Hocken Collections, Otago University, Dunedin). For more information about the inscriptions and on the Memory of the World New Zealand, visit new website <http://www.unescomow.org.nz/>.



A charcoal wash by George Edmund Butler, from the National Collection of War Art of New Zealand

On 17 October 2013, Australian Society of Archivists (ASA) organized a National Conference in Canberra. Kylie Percival, President of the ASA and Theresa Graham, President of the Archives and Records Association of New Zealand (ARANZ) signed a new Memorandum of Understanding. They recognised the advantages in working together more closely, given the similarities between Australia and New Zealand on many levels including language, professional practice, age of the two associations, a shared experience as countries within the Commonwealth, and the common issues each association faces in taking the profession forward. Informal communications exist in terms of networks, and in sharing ideas and experiences between practitioners. The ASA and ARANZ agree through the new Memorandum of Understanding to work together to strengthen ties for the benefit of these associations, their members, and the archival profession.

United Kingdom

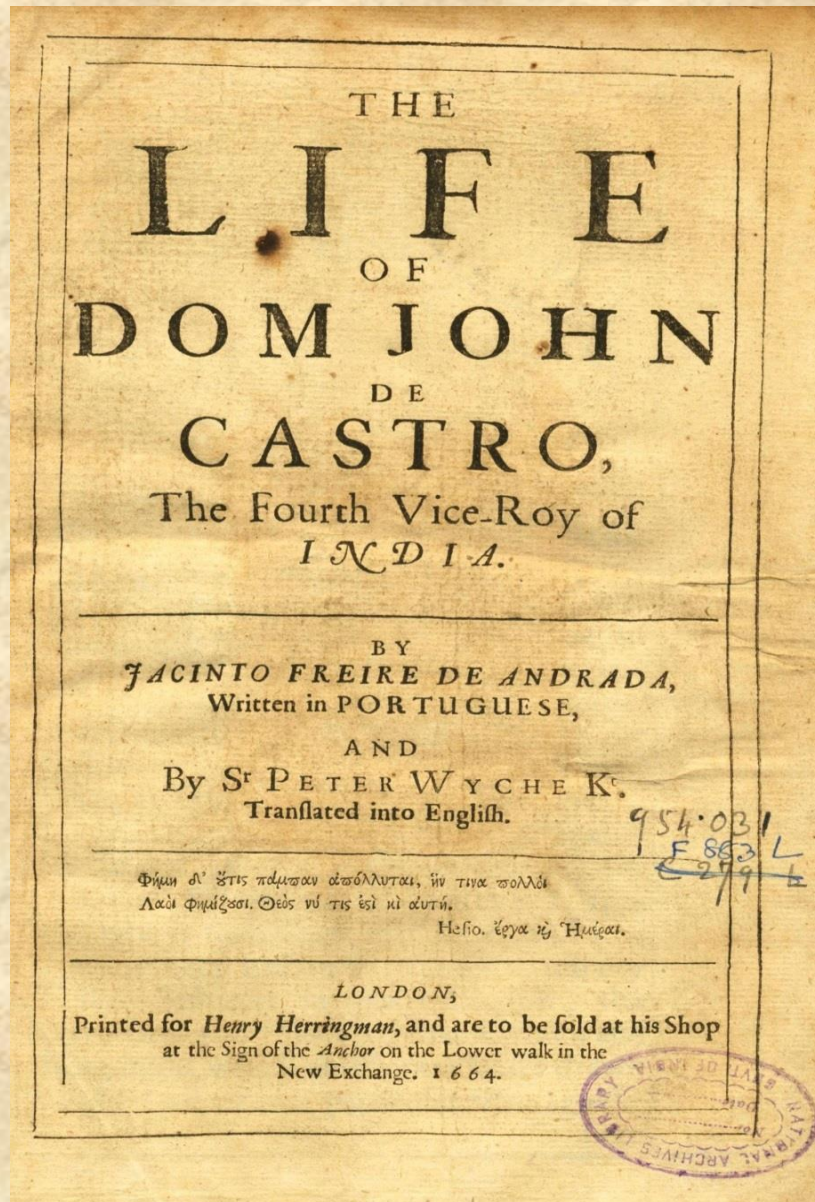
The National Archives, United Kingdom launched the **First World War portal** on 8 November 2013 and highlighted the plans to mark the centenary of the First World War with an extensive programme, spanning a five-year period from 2014 - 2019. The First World War 100 focuses on primary sources and aims to attract a new audience for archives during the centenary, as well as offering historians and regular archive users' fresh insights into this landmark conflict. The key aspects of the war through various themes of diplomacy, technology, home front, air and sea, peace, bravery and courage, medicine and health, and global perspectives form the core concerns. The first of these themes, diplomacy, will be the subject of a conference at the Kew site in June 2014. The National Archives will open its unique collection of millions of First World War records through a rolling series of digitised record releases, including the popular unit war diaries, online and on site events and education resources from 2014, all of which will be accessible through the new portal.

United States of America



The National Archives, Washington, DC has announced that the third volume of the **Public Papers of President Barack Obama** is now available for sale. These Public Papers of the Presidents series includes documented volumes of the administrations of Presidents Hoover, Truman, and Eisenhower to Obama. The Public Papers of the President are published twice a year and cover a six-month period. The publication is edited and annotated by the Office of the Federal Register and is the authoritative record of Presidents used by scholars, researchers, and the public. The first three volumes of the *Public Papers of President Barack Obama* are also available online. [<http://www.FDsys.gov>].

The inner cover of the oldest book available in the National Archives of India



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The information aggregated from the international organisations is based on their official websites. The rest of the information has been collected by NAI for promoting archival awareness.