**Background Paper.**

**Safeguarding our Living Heritage**

**Celebrating The International Day of the**

**World's Indigenous Peoples 9th August 2020**

In the past few months as India and the rest of the world has gone through an unprecedented crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic. It has affected millions of people in all walks of life. We have all rightly focussed on those whose livelihoods have been impacted upon. Today, as the lockdown eases we are able to take stock and see where it leaves us.

Culture and especially intangible or living heritage often takes the backseat in the rehabilitation and support initiatives. This is ironic as the living heritage enriches the daily lives of all people. It helps communities to cope with the pandemic. It provides an identity and on the economic level the biggest support for tourism. However the past few decades have seen these traditions threatened for survival or deteriorating to levels that make them practically meaningless.An attempt to revive cultural activities only through economic means may well sound the death knell for what is most meaningful and beautiful in culture.

Today the emphasis has been on the internet and the digital domain to compensate for the lack of audiences, of people being able to celebrate weddings and ceremonies, festivals which provide patronage to such practitioners. However this very emphasis of online concerts, podcasts etc leave out much of the marginalised communities and people, highlighting the digital divide.

Today we need to look beyond the immediate needs to plan a future for this living breathing intangible culture. There is a need to draw attention to the issues which challenge the survival of these traditions. Short term financial help has is place at a time of crisis, but what is needed is an awareness of this aspect of our culture.

To bring attention to these issues, and on the occasion of TheInternational Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, Lok Samvad Sansthan, Jaipur and Rupayan Sansthan Jodhpur are holding Webinars on Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage and Diverse Cultural Traditions of India’ on the 9th and 10th of August.It will bring together thinkers and scholars, cultural activists, and practitioners for 2 days of presentations, exhibitions and performances.

The event brings together many like minded organisations who have come together to discuss, discover common issues, and find a future direction.

1. International Centre for Inclusive Cultural Leadership, Anant National University, Ahmadabad, India
2. International Institute for the Inclusive Museum, Australia/India/USA
3. UNITWIN-UNESCO Network – Tourism, Culture and Development, Université    Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne
4. Centre for Intangible Heritage studies, SreeSankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala
5. Lok Samvad Sansthan (Media Advocacy Base NGO, Jaipur
6. Rupayan Sansthan, Jodhpur
7. Archives and Research Center for Ethnomusicology, American Institute of Indian Studies, Gurgaon.
8. Apeejay Institute of Mass Communication, Dwarka (Delhi) -as a social media campaign  partner
9. UPES University, Dehradun
10. All India Media Conference (AIMC)

**EVENT SCHEDULE**

**FIRST DAY EVENT: AUGUST 9, 2020 (SUNDAY)**

**EVENT TIMING:** 4 PM to 7 PM (To suit the international audience)

* • Welcome Folk Song (5 Minutes)

Song sung by Langa community children from Komal Kothari School of Folk Music

[These singers are known for singing about nature, human lifestyles, epics and ballads. Their iconic musical instruments include *Sindhi Sarangi, Dholak* & *Khartal*]

* • Inauguration: **Hon’ble CM of Rajasthan Speech** (10 Minutes)(Expected).
* • Key Note Address: Dr. Amareswar Galla, Prof and Executive Director, International Institute for the Inclusive Museum; Anant National University Ahmadabad, Former Chairman of the Asia-Pacific organization of the International Council of Museums and a UNESCO expert on Heritage (20 Minutes).
* • Showing a small video clip as a prelude to the program scheduled for 10th August 2020
* • Panel Discussion**: (10- 15 minutes each person)**

2. **Dr Sarit Kumar Chaudhari:** Professor, Department of Anthropology, RG University, Arunachal Pradesh. Former Director, IGRMS, M o C, Govt of India, Bhopal

3. **Dr. B Venugopal**: Presently: Honorary Director, Centre for Intangible Heritage studies, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala. Ex. Director NMNH, National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi,

4. **Dr. Sachidanand Joshi**: Member Secretary, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the ARTS, New Delhi (GOI). Flag bearer of Indian Arts, Culture and Literature. Prolific Thinker, Educationist and Reformer.

5. **Dr. Madan Meena**: Practicing Painter and Cultural Anthropologist Director, The Adivasi Academy at Tejgad.

6. **Shri KG Suresh**: Dean, Journalism Department, UPES University, Dehradun, Senior Journalist, and Former Director General IIMC, New Delhi (Govt of India).

**7. Prof Ashok Ogra:** Advisor(Mass Communication), Apeejay Institute of Mass Communication at Apeejay Education Society, New Delhi

8. **Dr. Shubha Chaudhuri:** Associate Director General Archives and Research Centre for Ethnomusicology, American Institute of Indian Studies,Gurgaon.

9. **Mr. Kuldeep Kothari:** Secretary Rupayan Sansthan (Rajasthan Institute of Folklore), Jodhpur.

10. **Dr Subhra Devi:** Assistant Curator, Department of Cultural Studies, Tezpur University, Assam.

11. **Sharvari Mehta:** Manager, International Centre for Inclusive Cultural Leadership, Anant National University.Ahemdabad.

12. **Mo Diener**: A Scholar who works on the nomadic Roma Community of Europe; Artistic Director, Roma Jam Session art Kollektiv, Switzerland.

**Moderator:** Prof. Pijush Dutta, Associate Professor & Program Director , Formerly Creative Director, Dentsu, Triton Communication, Publicis, Mudra, MNC Saatchi.

**SECOND DAY: AUGUST 10, 2020 (Monday)**

**EVENT TIMING**: 4 PM to 7.00 PM (To suit International audience)

* • Exhibitions of Intangible Heritage through Craft, Artworks and Performances:

1. Arna Jharna Desert **Museum curatorial visit** by Kuldeep Kothari & A Small **Interview with Broom exhibition by** Mr. Jitu Kholi (15 to 20 Min).

2. **Kalbelia Dance** and **interview on intangible cultural heritage** of the world-renown and highly acclaimed artist Kalbelia Suva and Sheshnath by Ms. Gulnaz (12 to 15 Min).

3. **Pottery Making & G- Filter Demonstration** by Abdul Razak & Associate Professor Anand Krishnan Plappally, IIT Jodhpur.

4. **Crafting and Playing Puppet** by renown puppeteer Khairati Ram Bhatt & Kuldeep Kothari (12 to 15 minutes)

5. **Musical Performance by senior Langa Group & Interview** with Hayat Mohammad Langa and Kuldeep Kothari

**After every activity, there will be Q&A session with artists and scholars.**

**Moderator: ……………………….**

**Note: The Panel Mentioned above will be present on August 10, 2020 Event also. They will participate in interactive session for Questions and Answers.**

Link for Registration:

https://forms.gle/NCT85hjWEbE3LUC87

Kalyan