



Textiles and Clothing Research Centre (TCRC)

A two day workshop on

‘Preventive Conservation of Museum Objects’

(13th – 14th March 2018)



in collaboration with

Rashtrapati Bhavan Museum

at

Seminar Hall, Rashtrapati Bhavan Museum,

Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi

Introduction

Preventive Conservation is the mitigation of deterioration and damage to cultural property through the formulation and implementation of policies and procedures for the following: appropriate environmental conditions; handling and maintenance procedures for storage, exhibition, packing, transport, and use; integrated pest management; emergency preparedness and response; and reformatting/duplication. Preventive conservation is an ongoing process that continues throughout the life of cultural property, and does not end with interventive treatment.

The purpose of the workshop is to discuss and practice the risk management approach to conservation of collections. Risk management can be understood not only as the management of rare catastrophes, but also as the management of slow continual hazards, and everything between. It becomes an integrated view of all expected damages and losses to collections. The workshop reviewed the risk management concept and its various current interpretations and applications in the field of cultural heritage. The aim of this workshop was to touch upon some of the basic principles of preventive conservation especially of textile objects. This has been designed in interactive manner with the resource persons from the field of conservation and textile museum experts to make people aware of its importance. It includes small lectures, talks and demonstrations by conservators and resource persons from the Textiles & Clothing Research Centre (TCRC), New Delhi. Also the aim of the workshop to create awareness about the country's textile heritage and to brought in focus the fragility of these objects if not cared properly. The participants will learn basics of handling, examination, documentation and labelling, as well as proper storage and display of textiles. The main objective of workshop is to emphasize on the significance of preventive conservation for textile collections and to learn the intricacies of mounting and support making.

Participants will be introduced to a practical method to carry out a risk assessment survey for collections in museums. By the end of the course participants should be able to:

- 1- identify all agents of deterioration;
- 2- identify risk types;
- 3- estimate magnitudes of risks;
- 4- rank their relative importance;
- 5- Implement consistent environmental monitoring for temperature, relative humidity, and light levels in storage, exhibit, and work-processing areas.
- 6- Implement an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program throughout the building in public, staff, and collection storage and exhibit areas etc...

Thus, participants will be able to put into application the proper preventive conservation measures to safeguard collections under their custody.

Participants

The workshop is designed for museum curators, museum technicians, conservators and Gallery attendants. This event is intended to serve as a basic introduction to preventive conservation techniques and measures which hopefully will provide the impetus to conduct more comprehensive workshops in the future.

Programme:

The Two days workshop was inaugurated with Lamp Lighting by Shri Sanjay Kothari, Secretary to the President, in the presence of Smt. Anjali B.M. Bakshi, Joint Director and I/c Museum and Dr. Anamika Pathak, Chairperson, TCRC and participant of the workshop. This was followed followed by welcome address by Mr. Pankaj Protim Bordoloi, Education Officer, Rashtrapati Bhavan Museum who has welcomed the resource persons of TCRC and the participants of the workshop.

The workshop was divided in series of introductory lectures and practical sessions by Dr. Anamika Pathak, Chairperson -TCRC and Curator- Decorative Arts, National Museum; Ms. Smita Singh, Founder Member and Chief Editor TCRC and Textile Conservation Consultant, New Delhi; Mr. Zahid Ali Ansari, Treasurer-TCRC and Assistant Curator, Decorative Arts; Mr. Md. Ali Nasir, Founder Member TCRC and Scholar-Textile Conservation, New Delhi which are as follows:

Day- 1

- Workshop Introduction & Significance of Textile Objects by Dr. Anamika Pathak
- Conservation, Ethics of Conservation and Factors of Deterioration of Textiles by Ms. Smita Singh
- Museum Visit to identify Textile Materials & causes & mechanism of textile damage by Dr. Anamika Pathak & Ms. Smita Singh
- Discussion/Presentation by Participants
- Factors of deterioration like RH, temperature, Light, Insect etc. by Mr. Zahid Ali Ansari
- Practical Session on Assessment and impact of deterioration of Textiles etc. by Ms. Smita Singh, Mr. Zahid Ali Ansari & Mr. Md. Ali Nasir.
- Discussion/Presentation by Participants
- Presentation on Examination and Digital Documentation of Textiles by Ms. Smita Singh
- Practical Session on Examination and Digital Documentation by Ms. Smita Singh Mr. Zahid Ali Ansari
- Discussion/Presentation by Participants

Day-2

- Storage and Display techniques for museum objects by Dr. Anamika Pathak.
- Handling of Textile objects by Mr. Zahid Ali Ansari & Mr. Md. Ali Nasir.
- Practical Session on Care and Handling of Textile objects by Mr. Zahid Ali Ansari & Mr. Md. Ali Nasir.
- Discussion by Participants.
- Visit to Museum Gallery and Preventive Care assessment by the Participants.
- Presentation by Participants on Display and Preventive Care assessment.
- Presentation/ Discussion by Participants on Workshop outcome & feedback.

The last session of second day of workshop was concluded by words of appreciations and certificate distribution to participant of workshop by Smt. Anjali B.M. Bakshi, Joint Director and I/c Museum, Dr. Anamika Pathak, Chairperson, TCRC and Mr. Pankaj Protim Bordoloi, Education Officer, Rashtrapati Bhavan Museum.

Glimpses of Workshop:



Inauguration of Workshop: Lighting of Lamp by Shri Sanjay Kothari, Secretary to the President; Smt. Anjali B.M. Bakshi, Joint Director and I/c Rashtrapati Bhavan Museum; Dr. Anamika Pathak, Chairperson, TCRC; Mr. Pankaj Protim Bordoloi, Education Officer, Rashtrapati Bhavan Museum



Inauguration session of Workshop



Presentation by Dr. Anamika Pathak



Presentation and discussion by Ms. Smita Singh



Museum Visit to identify textile materials & causes & mechanism of textile damage



Museum Visit by participants to identify materials & causes & mechanism of damage



Discussion and preparation of presentation by Participants in groups



Practical session: Rolling of flat textile objects on rollers for storage in Museum



Discussion and preparation of Presentation by Participants



Presentation by Participants of Group-A



Presentation by Participants of Group-B



Presentation by Participants of Group-C



Discussion and examining of feedback and outcome of workshop by Smt. Anjali B.M. Bakshi, Joint Director and I/c Museum and Dr. Anamika Pathak, Chairperson- TCRC



Valedictory Function



Certificate distribution to the Participants
