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Sarat Centenary College

Dhaniakhali, Hooghly

Founded: 1976

Recognised Under UGC 2F&12B
WB Govt. Aided

Affiliated to The University of Burdwan

3RD CYCLE NAAC ACCREDITATION PROCESS-2024


**CRITERIA: 6 - GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND
MANAGEMENT**

Key Indicator: 6.5 Internal Quality Assurance System

**Metric: 6.5.2- Quality assurance initiatives of the
institution**

***Activity performed against the Academic Linkage between Sarat Centenary College and Hugli River of Cultures Pilot Project funded by AHRC(UK) and ICHR(India)**




[DR SANDIP KUMAR BASAK]
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CERTIFICATE OF COLLABORATIVE PARTICIPATION

Liverpool, 1 September 2024

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To Whom it May Concern

This is to certify that Dr Ramanuj Konar, Assistant Professor of English, Sarat Centenary College, actively participated in the AHRC (UK) and ICHR(India) funded Hugli River of Cultures Pilot Project (January 2018 to December 2021) as the project websites confirm:

- <https://www.archiam.co.uk/the-hugli-river-of-cultures-pilot-project-from-bandel-to-barrackpore/>
- <http://hugliriverofcultures.org/members/>

Hugli River of Cultures Pilot Project was headed by me, as Principal Investigator, on behalf of the University of Liverpool.

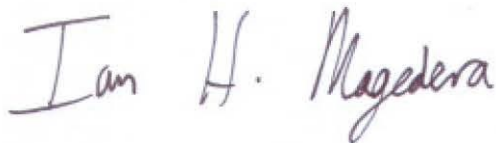
As a member of the collaborative research team, Dr Konar took lead role in organising the following events under the project (details available at <http://hugliriverofcultures.org/events/>):

1. Photography Exhibition at Town Hall, Chandernagore, March 26-28, 2018
2. Multi-Stakeholder Round-Table at the British Council, Kolkata, April 6, 2018
3. River-Symposium, on the River Ganges from Chandernagore to Serampore, April 22, 2018
4. School Sensitisation, at the Chandernagore Municipal Corporation, August 23, 2018
5. Heritage Excursion, to Itachuna Rajbari, September 14, 2018
6. Heritage Walk, in Chandernagore, October 03, 2018
7. Heritage Fest, in Rabindra Bhavan, Chandernagore, November 25, 2018
8. Heritage Walk, in Chandernagore, December 25, 2018
9. One Day Symposium on Intangible Heritage, at ICCR Kolkata, 20 January 2019
10. Hugli Heritage Day, in Chandernagore, January 13, 2019
11. Heritage Walk, in Chandernagore, February 10, 2020
12. River-Time: 1396-1854 (A Time Before the Railways Came), Webinar, September 12, 2021
13. *Hugli Heritage Management Strategy*, Open Access Policy Document for West Bengal Heritage Commission, ISBN: 978-1-910911-17-4 Publication Date: July 2020

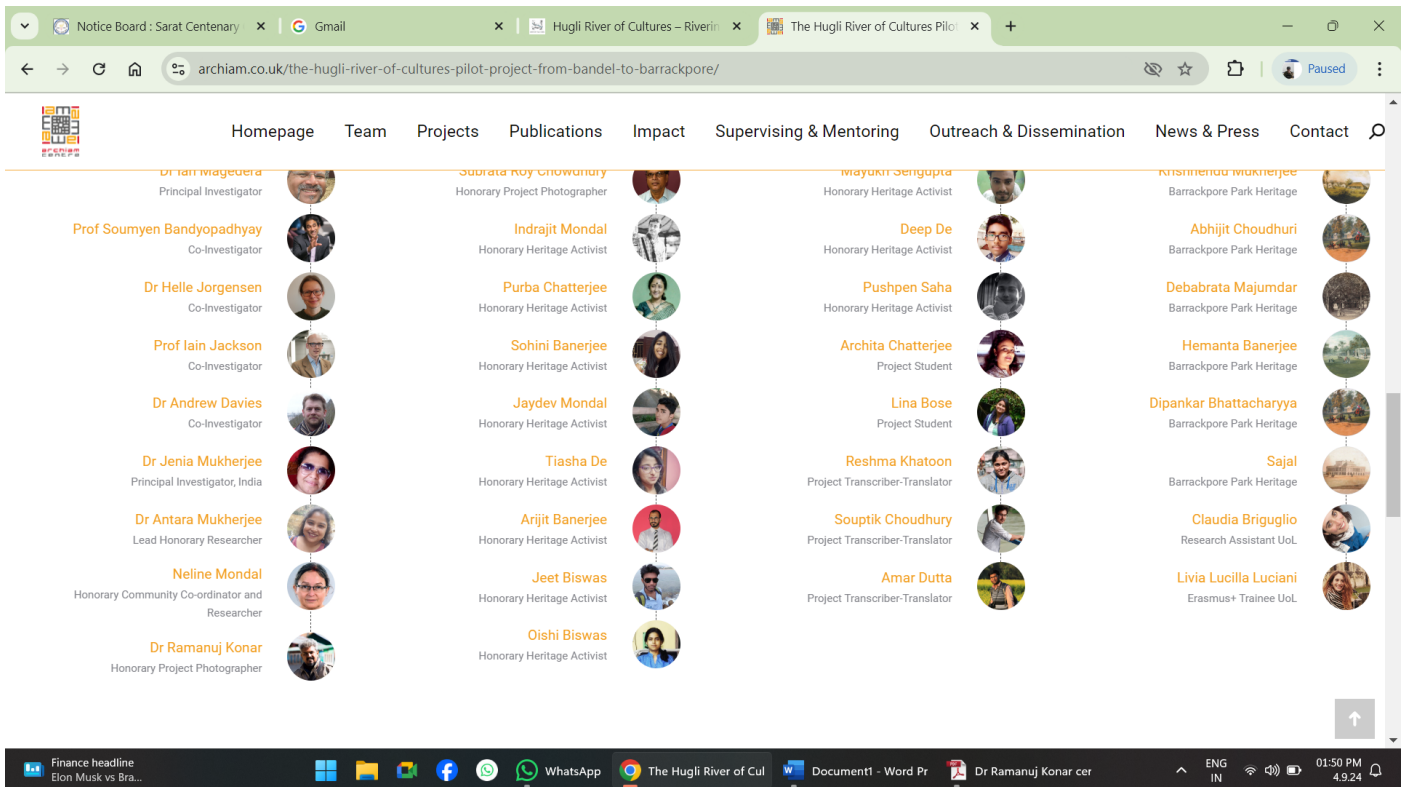
https://issuu.com/archiam/docs/hhms_hugli_heritage_management_strategy

Dr Konar remained one of the Lead Honorary Researcher on this major international project, the impact delivered by the project was such that it was retained by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council as a model for impact delivery.

With best wishes



Dr Ian Magedera MA (Cambridge), PhD (London)
Senior Lecturer, Languages, Cultures and Film, the University of Liverpool



Dr Ramanuj Konar in list of project team members from the project website



Multi-Stakeholder Round-Table at the British Council, Kolkata, April 6, 2018



River-Symposium, on the River Ganges from Chandernagore to Serampore, April 22, 2018

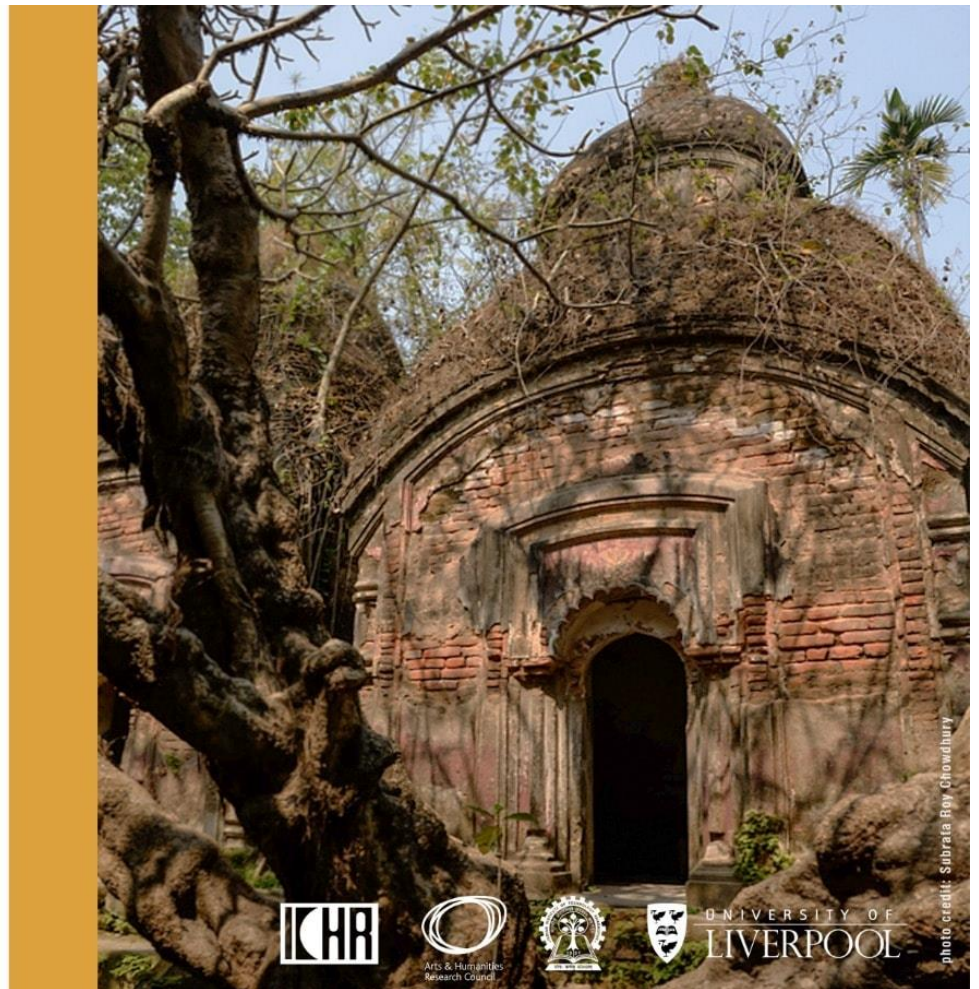


School Sensitisation, at the Chandernagore Municipal Corporation, August 23, 2018

HERITAGEFEST

Sunday, November 25
8am to 5:30pm
Rabindra Bhavan

Today, **sustainability** of heritage in West Bengal is at risk. This day-long event aims to make **heritage** more **meaningful** to **younger generations** through a series of activities. This is part of the world heritage week.



Brochure Cover Page of Heritage Fest, in Rabindra Bhavan, Chandernagore, November 25, 2018



Heritage Excursion, to Itachuna Rajbari, September 14, 2018

Focus on French past and fight for freedom

Tour to revive heritage

SUDESHNA BANERJEE

Chandernagore: Some members of a non-governmental organisation (NGO) that is working to secure the history and revive the cultural heritage of Chandernagore are launching a tour to give visitors a feel of the town with a rich past.

"It is not enough to save the built heritage. One needs to nurture the intangible heritage, too," said Krishna Gupta of Chandernagore Sanskriti, who is part of the team that has launched Tour de Chandernagore.

"On behalf of the NGO, we have identified some areas to work on, like the Phorashdanga *taant* (loom). We have spoken to some weaver families, who are still fluent in French. Chandernagore was under French rule till 1954), as well as the Crafts Council of India. We are urging them to resume production so we can help them market the *dhuti* and *sari* they were famous for. This tour will be a showcase of the work we are doing."

The town by the Hooghly river, about 45km from Calcutta, is steeped in history. "But with most young residents oblivious to the past, Chandernagore is losing its identity. One way of stemming this tide is to bring tourists in. That way, youngsters will feel encouraged to learn about their own town so they can act as professional guides. They will also get exposure by interacting with outsiders, including foreigners," said Basabi Pal, head of the French department of Chandernagore Government College, who plans to organise heritage workshops for students after classes. She also points to the



TOUR STOPS: (Clockwise from above) Patal Bari, so called because the lowest floor of the building gets submerged during high tide. Vidyasagar and Rabindranath Tagore had stayed in this building; the Nandadulal Jiu temple, which was attacked by Lord Clive, the list of revolutionaries associated with Prabartak Sangha, starting with Aurobindo Ghose.

Pictures by Sudeshna Banerjee

knowledge gap that exists in the travel agencies that come calling sporadically with tourist groups. "This tour has qualified people with local connection involved."

Metro was part of the outfit's inaugural tour and the itinerary revealed an equal stress on Chandernagore's link with the freedom movement as on its French past. "Since the town was under French rule, those fighting the British could operate here with relative immunity," said Parashar Basu, urban planner and architect, who was the general secretary of Alliance Francaise de Calcutta in the 1990s.

The first stop was Prabar-

tak Sangha, founded in 1910 by social reformer Motilal Roy. Pradip Banerjee, secretary of Prabartak Aponalay, the boys' home run by the trust, provided an insight into the Sangha's activities.

"Every prominent leader of the day has set foot here — Subhas Chandra Bose, Sarojini Naidu, C.R. Das... Gandhiji came twice, in 1925 and 1926. The pistol to kill Naren Gosain, who had turned approver and deposed against Sri Aurobindo, Barin Ghosh and others in the Alipore bomb case or the bomb used in the assassination attempt on viceroy Lord Hardinge were all manufactured in the house

of the Soms next door."

Chandernagore lacks a decent place for tourists to stay. "We are in talks with some families who have agreed to offer rooms for homestay," said Gupta. The company is also exploring possibilities of offering a river cruise.

Rafael Moschellat, a young Frenchman staying in Calcutta, was awestruck by the French inscriptions on plaques on Joraghat and the clock tower. He said the current generation in France had not heard of the town at all. "I only knew Chandernagore to be the surname of French historian Francoise Chandernagore! This is quite a discovery."



Heritage Walk

Focus on heritage hurdles

A STAFF REPORTER

Calcutta: The owners of a number of old properties along the Hooghly, some of which have the heritage tag, sat down with architects, planners and conservation workers at Chandernagore on Sunday to discuss how to preserve and protect the structures.

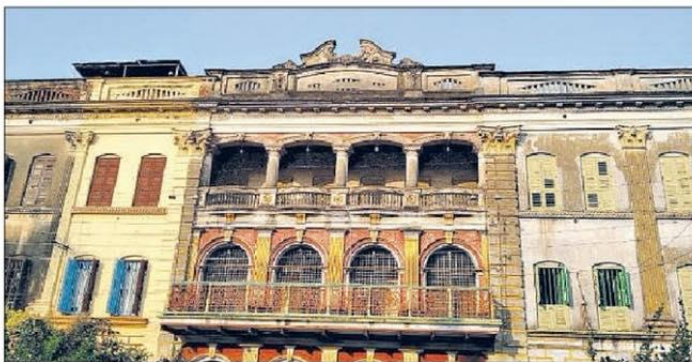
Most of the owner-custodians said lack of funds and inadequate hands were coming in the way of preserving the structures.

The discussion was organised by the Hugli River of Cultures Pilot Project, which has been set up by 20 people and aims to document heritage and conserve built heritage.

Neline Mondal from the Mondalbati in Chandernagore's Gondalpara, a mansion built in 1741, spoke about the difficulty in maintaining such an old house. "There is an issue of finance. Also, the walls are so damp that sometimes they become unsafe," she said.

The event was held in the house built by businessman and philanthropist Harihar Sett around 135 years ago.

Goutam Sett, a successor of Harihar, said: "You need a lot of money to maintain such houses. Besides, there is always a threat from land



The house of the Setts in Chandernagore

sharks. Even if the owner wants to preserve it, the situation often forces him or her to think otherwise."

The West Bengal Heritage Commission had in 2018 declared the Sett house a heritage property.

The Hugli River of Cultures Pilot Project, funded by the University of Liverpool and IIT Kharagpur, aims to devise a strategy for Mondal, Sett and others like them to save their heritage.

"We will create a management strategy for tangible and intangible heritage along the

35km stretch of the Hooghly river between Bandel and Barrackpore," said Purba Chatterjee, a senior volunteer of the project.

Five European nations had set up colonies along the stretch — the Portuguese in Bandel, the Dutch in Chinsurah, the Danes in Serampore, the French in Chandernagore and the British in Barrackpore.

While Bandel, Chinsurah, Serampore and Chandernagore are in Hooghly district, Barrackpore is in North 24 Parganas.

"These places have some built heritage that represent both Indian and European styles. The façade of these buildings have an European architecture while inside one can find *thakurdalans*. We need to preserve this heritage," said Ian Magedera, a lecturer in French at the University of Liverpool who was in Chandernagore on Sunday.

"Our project will document the heritage, raise awareness among people about heritage and also tell them about showcasing the heritage," he said.



Heritage Fest, in Rabindra Bhavan, Chandernagore, November 25, 2018



Hugli Heritage Day, in Chandernagore, January 13, 2019



One Day Symposium on Intangible Heritage, at ICCR Kolkata, 20 January 2019



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WEST BENGAL HERITAGE COMMISSION



SIR



UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

HUGLI RIVER OF CULTURES PRESENTS

THE SECOND HUGLI HERITAGE DAY

IN COLLABORATION WITH WEST BENGAL HERITAGE COMMISSION

SUPPORTED BY THE SERAMPORE INITIATIVE, THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF DENMARK

AT THE DANISH GOVERNOR'S HOUSE, COURT COMPOUND, SERAMPORE

ON THURSDAY, 23 JANUARY, 2020



Painting Source: <https://en.natmus.dk/historical-knowledge/research/research-projects/the-serampore-initiative/>

Info Brochure of 2nd Hugli Heritage Day



Hugli Heritage Day

Hooghly Heritage Day to be observed on 23 January

HOOGHLY 20 JANUARY

This year the Hooghly heritage day will be celebrated at Serampore on 23 January.

Dr Bente Wolff from the National Museum of Denmark said: "For the second time the Hooghly heritage day will be celebrated at Serampore on 23 January. Last year the Hooghly heritage day was observed at Chandannagar. A team termed as Hooghly river of cultures, are involved in heritage programs at Chandannagar, Chinsurah, Hooghly together with a group of teachers and students from the Liverpool University and Chandannagar itself. On 23 January during the celebration of Hooghly heritage day a film will be screened on the work and ongoing work on renovation, preservation and conservation of various heritage buildings in the district. Moreover a documentary on the famous Chandannagar Jagadhatri puja will also be screened."

The West Bengal heritage commission will unveil plaques of newly restored buildings and structures in Serampore.

The Denmark Traven and others have been restored to their former glory.

The officials said that the Governor's house is under restoration by the government of West Bengal. Dr Bente Wolff added, "We have restored nearly seven buildings and other heritage structures here in Serampore."

Darje

STATESMAN NE
DARJEELING, 20 J.

The stage is set for Minister Mamata Banerjee to inaugurate a CAA/NRC rally and celebrations on the birth anniversary of Subash Chandra

Banerjee arriving in the evening to take part in a rally. National Register and the Citizen Act on Wednesday by the Netaji birth celebrations the

"The chief minister will take part in a rally at NRC and the CAA start from Bhanu. The rally will take place in the town area and Motor Stand where she will speak. On the 23rd an official programme will mark the birth anniversary

MOB FURY



Police action during a mob at Gobordanga

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