

Heritage Centre, IIT Madras presents

Volume 1, Issue 3

Glass Panels

Sep
2023

Heritage Centre
IIT Madras



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The Heritage Centre was formally inaugurated by Dr. Arcot Ramachandran, former Director of IIT Madras, on 3 March 2006. It is a repository of material of heritage value and historical significance to IIT Madras. "Heritage Centre - Reimagined" was inaugurated on 18 December 2022 by Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman, Honourable Finance Minister of India.

Located centrally on campus, the Heritage Centre has an exhibition space that enjoys an abundance of natural light. The centre also has a small theatre and a particularly pleasant reading area that offers incomparable views of the green campus.

CONTENTS

1

EDITORIAL

2

COVER STORY:
ELEPHANT IN EUROPE

4

A BITTERSWEET
FRUIT FROM THE
FOREST BED

8

A DISCRETE
SENSE OF
HISTORY

12

HUMANITY, POSTERITY
AND REALITY @ THE
HERITAGE CENTRE

14

THE HERITAGE SQUARE
(WITH PREVIOUS ISSUE
SOLUTIONS)

15

AMUSING
MUSEUM MUSINGS

16

VISITORS TO THE
CENTRE

19

IDENTITY DESIGN AT HC
PART 2

Kumaran Sathasivam
Operational Head
Heritage Centre



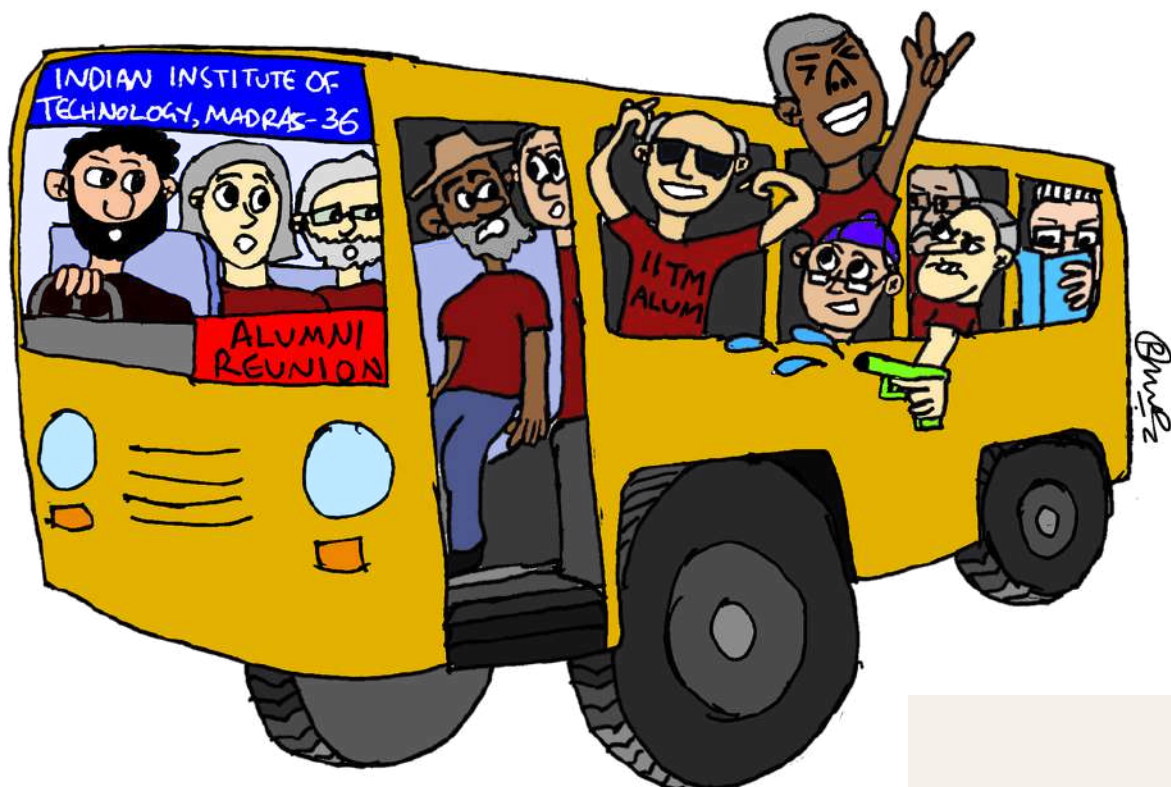
EDITORIAL

It was not by design, but by coincidence, that 'time' is a recurring theme in this edition of *Glass Panels*.

In the article 'Humanity, Posterity, and Reality', Ashlin touches on the idea that museums aim to make one travel through time, among other things. 'Museum', incidentally, is a word that we use as a placeholder when referring to the category of facilities that the Heritage Centre belongs to. Actually even 'facility' does not seem to be the *mot juste*...

Prof. Nagarajan, in 'Discrete Sense of History', takes you along on a brief six-decade journey (oxymoron unintended) and speculates on the future.

And by coincidence again, we had an extraordinary meeting of alumni at the Heritage Centre last week. What did this meeting have to do with time? There were alumni from four cohorts, representing various 'ages' of IIT Madras history, practically from the beginning to the present. More on this meeting in the next issue.



Kumaran Sathasivam
Operational Head
Heritage Centre



ELEPHANT IN EUROPE

A couple of weeks back, a visitor to the Heritage Centre was directed to me. It seemed that this visitor had a specific question. Would I be able to answer it? The visitor's name was Aryan. He was a student at BITS Pilani, and he was completing an internship at IIT Madras. The chat I started with Aryan developed into one of the most enjoyable conversations I have had in a long time.

Our conversation jumped from one spot in a vast territory to another. It touched on topics ranging from early computers at IIT Madras to the spotted deer on campus. The fact of the matter is that Aryan was blessed with a refreshing curiosity about the world around him.

As it turned out, he also had a keen sense of observation — his question related to a scanned image shown briefly in *Journey to Eminence*, the introductory video of the Heritage Centre. This black-and-white photograph is displayed for just a little more than two seconds. It shows a man standing on an open vehicle, near the tail of an aircraft. On the tarmac, between the land vehicle and the airplane, are an object — it looks like a crate — and a host of people. If you are exceptionally quick (or if you pause the video!) you will note that a boom of sorts is mounted on the vehicle. The crane, for that is what it is, is poised to lift the crate. This tableau has an intriguing caption: 'Lifting a baby elephant into an aircraft — an early consultancy project'.

I must explain here that the original photo appeared in a report prepared by Mr. H. J. Ebert, a German, who had served as Workshop Superintendent and Works Manager in IIT Madras's Central Workshop during the period from 1959 to 1975. In Ebert's report, the photo has the caption 'The 5 t MIAG crane lifting a baby elephant into an aircraft. The first consultancy the IIT had.' There are no other details.



This image appears briefly in *Journey to Eminence* by Sripad Sridhar. The man standing in the crane is most likely Mr. H. J. Ebert.

Aryan's question was this: Was the elephant mentioned in Journey to Eminence the one that had been gifted to Salvador Dali? I did not know that an elephant had been gifted to Salvador Dali. Not to worry, the Internet is at hand. According to a couple of web pages that I found, Air India once asked Salvador Dali to design a unique ashtray for them. The airline would make hundreds of porcelain ashtrays to this design, for use in First Class and for giving away as gifts. Apparently the Spanish painter was quite a 'pop icon' then, in 1967. Dali asked for \$100,000 and a baby elephant as payment. And he got it! Air India flew Surus, the baby elephant, from Bangalore to Geneva, whence he was taken to Spain.

So was it IIT Madras that helped lift the elephant into the plane? One would like to believe that it was so. But the few details that are available do not support this notion.

For one, the consultancy that Ebert documents is likely to have been in Madras, whereas Surus embarked on his plane at Bangalore. For another, the Ebert photograph clearly shows a BOAC airplane, while the elephant that went to Salvador Dali flew Air India.

Where was the 'IIT elephant' headed? More research is needed.

No disappointment. It was delightful that Aryan could discern a potential connection and drew my attention to a strange story.



The baby elephant that Salvador Dali received. Dali can be seen kneeling next to the elephant

Bhuvanesh Santharam
Project Associate
Heritage Centre



A BITTERSWEET FRUIT FROM THE FOREST BED

“Live in each season as it passes: breathe the air, drink the drink, taste the fruit.”

Henry David Thoreau

Sometime last week, I found a large fruit lying on the ground. It was dark brown, almost black. It was like a cannonball. This fruit was a ripe palmyra fruit from an Asian palmyra palm. The scientific name for this tree is *Borassus flabellifer*. It sounds like it is part of a magic spell, doesn't it? I subsequently discovered that the fruit's flavour was just as cabalistic and disarming as its name.

Borassus, derived from Greek, refers to the “rugged covering of leafy fruits”,¹ while *flabellifer* means “fan-shaped leaves” or “fan-bearing leaves”.

The Asian palmyra palm is the state tree of Tamil Nadu. It is entrenched in the history and folklore of Tamil culture. The tree was apparently named *Karpaga Taru*² which translates to “wish-fulfilling tree” owing to the versatility of the tree. Almost all the parts of the tree can be put to use, making it a valuable resource.

This tree is also mentioned in classical Tamil poetry. Classical *caṅkam* Tamil poetry uses five landscapes (*tiṇai*) to indicate different emotions and moods. One of these landscapes is *neytal* which is the seashore. This landscape symbolizes the feeling of sorrow and longing that arises from the absence of a loved one.

According to some sources,³ the time of day associated with this landscape is dusk. Here is a poem giving a glimpse of the *neytal* landscape set at the time of dusk. It is from the collection *Akanāṇūru* (literally 400 [poems] in the *akam* genre). *Akam* is one of the two genres of classical Tamil poetry, the other being *Puram*. *Akam* refers to love poetry (if I were to put it in simple terms).



The sun dims, the hills change colors,
 a swarm of bees amasses on flowers and drinks,
 a flock of herons cries from the tops of screw pines in
 the seashore grove,
 crabs playing in water return to their holes,
 the sound of the waves stops, fishing boats are put to
 rest,
 the sky turns red, a pair of partnered aṇṇil birds
 nest in the leaves of a Palmyra tree in a sand dune,
 the sweet-smelling flowers of the saltmarsh close, and
 in the garden
 near our house the fragrant puṇṇai flowers turn golden.
 The day slowly passes as night arrives.
 How will I flourish? The owl, screeching
 as it roosts, never leaving the old tree,
 suddenly cries at midnight when spirits wander.
 I greatly desired the wise man with no love for me,
 who caused the anguish that bruised my heart.

(Mōcik Karaiyaṇār, Akanāṇūru 260)⁴

The poem makes a reference to an Asian palmyra palm, which is predominantly found in the *neytal* landscape. The poem also highlights longing and pining where the *talaivi* (heroine) expresses her desire for “the wise man with no love” for her. It is a contrast to the “aṇṇil birds”, “crabs” and “a flock of herons”, all of whom seem to be in joyful company, unlike the *talaivi* in the poem whose heart is “bruised”.

Chennai, being a coastal city fits into this landscape. The Asian palmyra palm, which is a part of the *neytal* landscape, commonly occurs on the IIT Madras campus. I have noticed spotted deer feasting on the ripe fruit on campus on many occasions, but this was the first time I got my hands on a fruit for myself. I decided that I would cook the fruit. I was told that one could make fritters, dosas, idly and various other dishes with this fruit.

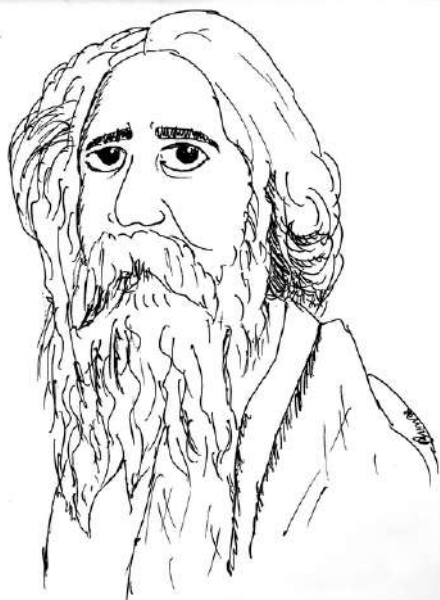
Two days after I found the fruit, I decided to finally make something with it after having preserved it in the kitchen. It was a Sunday and I had the time to cook an elaborate dish. I Googled some recipes and found a barrage of Bengali dishes when I searched for palmyra fruit recipes.



The seed covered covered with the husk and pulp of the fruit.

The pulp collected in a bowl after grating the seed





Taal Gachh (Palm Tree)

Palm-tree: single-legged giant,
topping other trees,
peering at the firmament —
It longs to pierce the black cloud-ceiling
and fly away, away,
if only it had wings.

The tree seems to express its wish
in the tossing of its head:
its fronds heave and swish —
It thinks, Maybe my leaves are feathers,
and nothing stops me now
from rising on their flutter.

All day the fronds the windblown tree
soar and flap and shudder
as though it thinks it can fly,
As though it wanders in the skies,
travelling who knows where,
wheeling past the stars —

And then as soon as the wind dies down,
the fronds subside, subside:
the mind of the tree returns.
To earth, recalls that earth is its mother:
and then it likes once more
its earthly corner.

One of the dishes that caught my eye was a dish from a website called Bongeats.⁵ The dish was a dessert called *Taal'er Kheer*, which is a palmyra fruit pudding. *Taal* is the Bengali name for the palmyra fruit. From their website, I learned that Bengali poets such as Rabindranath Tagore and Nazrul had praised the palmyra tree in some of their poems. I found Tagore's poem *Taal Gachh* (Palm Tree) on a couple of websites.⁶ There were several beautiful translations of the poem and I am sharing one here (see poem under the line sketch).

This encomium by Tagore celebrates the tree's imposing personality. Throughout the poem, the tree is given the image of a mighty being among other living organisms. It peers "at the firmament" and "longs to pierce the black cloud-ceiling". The leaves of the tree are compared to "feathers" and Tagore gives us the impression that this tree does not belong here, but in the heavenly realm, somewhere above the clouds. The final lines of the poem are a lull compared to the action-packed first three stanzas. It signifies a period of rest and the tree is brought back down to earth, metaphorically.

When I started preparing the fruit for the dish, I had to remove the outer skin which came off easier than I thought. The seeds, covered with a fibrous coating, were filled with a yellow ochre pulp. In order to access the pulp, which would ultimately be cooked, I would have to grate the seeds and extract the sticky pulp. It took at least half an hour if not more, to complete this tiring process. Cooking the dish was the easiest part and it was ready in around 40 minutes. I was not able to dispel the bitterness completely, but I garnished it with almonds, raisins and cashews, which gave the texture a slight crunch and most definitely went well with the taste of the grated coconut which had comfortably nestled in the thick pulp.



The husk after de-pulping

I am hoping that one of the single-legged giants on the IIT Madras campus will donate another fruit for my culinary experiments soon. We are fortunate to be surrounded by a considerable number of these trees, and I feel lucky to have discovered a complete, untouched fruit. I wonder how many more of these enchanting trees are present on the vast 600-acre campus.



My version of Taal'er Kheer!



Here's another dish Taal'er Bora (Palm Fritters) made with the same fruit by Mamata Dash (Senior Project Officer, Heritage Centre)

Scan for original recipe!



My version:

1. Peel the fruit and separate the pods.
2. Grate the pods to collect the pulp.
3. Add the pulp to a pan and let it cook.
4. Add jaggery as per requirement and stir.
5. Add a little salt and freshly grated coconut and continue stirring.
6. Boil 250 ml of milk. Add this to the mixture and stir. (I also added the cream which formed while boiling.)
7. Let the mixture cook well. (I waited until it came to a boil and then turned off the stove.)
8. Add almonds, cashew and raisins to garnish the dish.

Notes

¹Sangaravadivel, Arunbharathi & Sivanantha, J.. (2022). Palmyra Tree – Treasured Tree of Indian Farmers

² <https://tamilandvedas.com/2014/09/23/palmyra-tree-worship-in-india-and-sri-lanka/>

³ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sangam_landscape

⁴ Harris, Gardner 2018. The Phenomenology of Time in Classical Tamil Poetry. Asian Literature and Translation (ALT) 5 (1) , pp. 104-126. 10.18573/alt.32 file

⁵ <https://www.bongeats.com/recipe/taaler-kheer>

⁶ <https://www.poeticous.com/rabindranath-tagore/palm-tree>

R. Nagarajan
Faculty-in-Charge
Heritage Centre



A DISCRETE SENSE OF HISTORY

**My association with IIT Madras spans 6 decades. With the passing of days, in a million different ways, I do wonder:
How has my perception of IITM changed over time?**

My earliest memory of IITM goes back to 1975 when I had just graduated with seventh rank in the State in the SSLC exam. A news reporter (yes, we had media even in those days!) asked me about my future plans. I, having just made it out of a Tamil medium school in Mannargudi, boldly declared: “I will join IIT Madras”.



My enrolment photograph

Reality set in during the Pre-University program at a city college. I was surrounded by smart guys who were also smartasses, in city-bred cliques that welcomed no outsiders. I recall an English class where I presented my analysis of a poem to shouts of “He couldn’t have done it by himself, Sir!” I didn’t know whether to be proud or humiliated. The latter prevailed when the teacher sided with the baying babble of bubbleheads. The experience gave me a sense of foreboding. Would the five years at IITM be like this, with me as an outsider simply because I did not go to the right schools? I fully expected IITM to be just as elitist and clique-driven.

For a while, I toyed with dropping my IITM quest altogether. There were no “coaching schools” for JEE back then, though there was an after-hours one-hour class you could sign up for. I decided to stick with it mainly due to a lack of alternatives. My father, a lawyer, and my sister, a doctor, both warned me off from their respective professions with bleak descriptions of the future.



Anyway, I got in and chose Chemical Engineering at IITM after a ten-second “counsel”. Here I was, in the academic home I had prophesied in all my naiveté. The campus back then had relatively few students, hostels, faculty, and staff, but the ones who were there seemed larger than life.

The seniors loomed large in the first semester, ready to rag at the drop of a hat. The JEE “rankers” of the batch were royalty until proven otherwise (such as being caught in the act of mugging before perios). Faculty varied—some impressed, and some were targets for paper balls once their backs were turned.

Hostels had individual messes, and each had something unique to offer by way of gastronomy. By an amazing coincidence, power cuts in hostels would prevail on the night before every test, and student reps would bang on the doors at faculty homes seeking a postponement. It helped that virtually all faculty lived on campus in those days. Then there was Saarang, OAT movies, Schroeter’s, Tharams, TT and carrom in the Common Room, and cycle rides to the city. By the fifth year, priorities changed, and all attention was turned towards TOEFL, GRE and “apping”. Brain drain, back then, was a real thing.

I too went abroad for PhD, and stayed there for 23 years before making a comeback to the campus. During those two decades, I was an alumnus at large, with few ties back to the alma mater. IITM did not make a big effort to stay in touch, and I did likewise. I was also not active in local alumni chapters, though I kept in touch with a few close friends from my batch. Thus, the years from 1981 to 2003 were my “lost” years from an IITM context.

When I reconnected in 2004 and joined the faculty ranks, the campus had certainly changed. There was more of virtually everything—students, faculty, staff, trees, deer, water, buildings, labs, sports arenas, vehicles and speed breakers on streets, but less of one important parameter: time. B.Tech. students had too many demands on their time as the B.Tech. programme compressed to four years from five; faculty had multiple demands on their time as research and entrepreneurial activities intensified. The same breathlessness had entered campus life as was evident elsewhere. Even the monkeys were business-like in their snack-snatching.

1976: My first year at the Institute. These photographs were taken during the 13th Inter-IIT Sports Meet at IIT Kanpur. I am not featured in the images.





A photograph taken at the Ganga Hostel Quadrangle. I can be seen standing in the last row, third from left.



With Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Hau, Vice-President, International Relations, University of Passau. I was the Dean, International and Alumni Relations at the time. 2014.
(via IIT Madras' page, Facebook)



Five years after I joined as a Professor, I entered “Administration,” where I would spend the next 13 years. This period gave me a different perspective on campus life. As Dean and as Department Head, you get a broader and deeper view. I was privy to the internal workings — the decision-making process — which was held quite secretive. I was now backstage, and much of the mystery and mystique wore off. My ability to influence the evolution of the Institute suddenly magnified, bringing trepidation in its wake. Would I be a force for good or the other?

I can now look around in satisfaction at the many sites and sights on campus that bear the imprint of my days at the helm of Alumni and International Relations and later as Head of Chemical Engineering. The lives I have touched are a metric that I use to keep track of my contribution to the campus, and I'm happy with where that metric lies as I head towards my retirement in 2024.

My last leadership role as faculty-in-charge of the Heritage Centre is perhaps the ideal stepping-off point. We have built a place where the past is cherished, the present celebrated, and the future foretold. Various perspectives are merged, experiences shared, memories invoked, highs and lows recollected, old acquaintances renewed, and new friendships forged.

After aspirant, student, alumnus, faculty, and administrator, I'll be playing my sixth role soon, as a retired faculty. I wonder if my perspective will change again. Will I feel like an outsider once more, peeping in through cracks in the wall? Will my ties to the alma mater slowly weaken, as they did during my years abroad? Que será, será, but it's been a heck of a ride so far!



*Times of India, 2018
(via IIT Madras Alumni page on Facebook)*



With Dr. Brian P. Schmidt (2011 Nobel Laureate - Physics) at the Heritage Centre on 2 March 2023

Ashlin Deena Mathews
Project Associate



HUMANITY, POSTERITY, AND REALITY @ THE HERITAGE CENTRE



*The Heritage Centre entrance in 2006
on the day of its inauguration*

**What can we say about
humanity, posterity
and reality?**



Inside the Heritage Centre, 2006



*Taking a look at the Visitor's Book
(the digitised and the original),
December 2022*

The Heritage Centre has stood in its patch of land, its concrete yard, since 2006. As the trees around it grew taller and leafier, and the years fell away to approach the next decade, the Centre was still rooted in its space, itching to transform.

With technology bypassing the speed of time, the Centre began to evolve. From wooden panelled displays, we have moved on to interactive large screens, a small theatre with an excellent surround sound system and several digitised elements. We have a digitised version of the IIT Madras Visitor's Book from the 1960s, but the original physical artefacts also grab visitors' attention.

What does this tell us about people?

What can we say about humanity, posterity and reality?

Are people more interested in the IIT Madras documentary shown in our theatre or the bust of Mr. A. L. Mudaliar, the first Chairman of the Board of Governors? Are they more curious about the original foundation stone of IIT Madras that dates back to 1959 or the 1956 archival footage of India's then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru visiting Bonn in Germany when Germany and India inked the agreement for IIT Madras' German funding?

So much goes by us that we forget that 1959 was over half a century ago. For us, we take in time by the seconds on our clocks and mobile devices and somehow forget the significance of it all. We see the year "1959" and then feel "Wow." Do we recognise that large chunk of time for what it is?

One of the jobs of a museum is to make one travel through time. Is immersion into a time past possible at the Heritage Centre? What can we do to aid it in creating an atmosphere that takes one back? Perhaps it is the convocation robes used in IIT Madras that people used to use fifty years ago, the films we show in the Heritage Centre's theatre, and the authentic hornet nest displayed at the Centre for all to see. Perhaps it's none of these. However, our imaginations will show us a sepia-toned stereotypical past and may even colour the past in vivid shades that we may forget existed then. With the aid of our creative brains, will we be able to walk down the paths that are still used (64 years later) and bring into frame what 1960 in IIT Madras looked like?

While we ponder the above, let us look at a scientific article that is quite interesting, simple - and magically - relevant to this rumination about time and humanity.

The study, titled Motion From Shape Change, is about an algorithm that verifies that animals like snakes and jellyfish move by changing their shapes. Shape change is a concept that has been around for millennia in literature, art and science. Movement, of course, does not always mean that the direction is forward. What it means is the opposite of stagnation and visible inactivity.

The study also has roots in the arts and humanities; therefore, in a more abstract sense, if the shape of an artefact alters from physical to digital, we can posit that there is movement. In the Heritage Centre's case, there is movement across time. The Heritage Centre has begun to step ahead and overcome stagnation, welcoming change.

If none of the text has enthralled you, I have failed - but if even one bit of this is appealing, drop by the Heritage Centre on the ground floor of the Administration building and find out how you react to history.

**Drop by the
Heritage Centre
on the ground
floor of the
Administration
building and find
out how you
react to history.**



Your [answers](#) to this issue's
Heritage Square



[Feedback](#) for Glass Panels



THE HERITAGE SQUARE

This is a word scramble. Find the words which are scrambled and send us your answers through the Google Form on the left! The clues are given next to the scrambled words. Answers will be provided in the next issue.



- ccnjadealrrige - Happy Ganesh Chaturthi.
- lvgeartehaey - Easy access to Nandhiniee Sweets.
- trerahcieteneg - Frozen memories.
- ricabdozolya - Quench your thirst here.
- alyiamha - A range of peaks.
- irumawkanhs - "Welcome, newbie," said the 20 others.
- pliwosnmoigm - Cool down!
- yrleptemara - Features in one of the articles in this issue.
- iavanavn - Inspiring young minds.
- uaqnetwrradser - Behind a big mess.
- nuonrgmasgda - Skaters gonna skate.
- oiantzo - Not your usual toon.
- mermtpair - Tiny supermarket.
- ajnmekatrpteteawaalsle - Place of worship.
- yaakhgmn - Opposite TGH.

Solution to July 2023 Wordsearch

N	C	A	N	T	A	I	S	O	R	R	Y	N	O	M	O	N	K	E	Y
C	A	Y	C	H	U	S	H	A	C	O	N	T	A	I	N	R	A	F	N
O	B	V	X	F	G	G	A	G	S	D	A	V	B	E	E	E	G	B	Y
X	Q	H	A	D	Q	B	D	E	A	N	S	L	Z	E	X	E	D	A	S
Y	O	F	Z	L	X	V	O	F	Q	H	W	Q	A	X	T	Z	S	V	Q
L	L	A	C	F	A	Z	H	L	O	Y	R	C	M	U	I	D	M	B	T
I	G	E	Q	U	A	R	K	A	S	L	C	U	T	N	M	A	A	A	E
T	A	S	V	I	F	A	C	S	U	S	A	I	D	W	E	S	D	S	H
I	O	D	V	E	R	A	B	H	E	R	T	E	X	T	L	X	R	J	F
L	V	K	A	M	A	K	O	T	I	S	H	I	E	L	D	S	A	I	S
L	F	E	W	R	P	B	X	Y	N	T	Z	R	N	A	N	A	S	F	W
O	H	W	Q	E	A	A	R	I	I	R	E	F	I	E	B	A	R	B	I
C	S	C	D	A	S	A	N	R	E	E	Y	C	W	A	L	S	D	F	N
O	O	R	L	L	T	A	B	D	D	E	R	K	T	M	C	D	R	T	D
R	A	S	M	L	I	S	A	S	E	T	N	S	B	U	L	S	V	S	I
B	Z	C	G	D	O	D	G	C	J	M	S	T	F	O	R	E	S	T	S
O	C	C	N	H	B	R	O	L	M	A	I	N	G	A	T	E	M	E	G
G	K	I	F	E	R	V	C	P	A	C	K	C	Y	L	E	T	A	T	S
H	D	O	H	U	L	G	S	R	D	A	N	B	E	B	I	I	R	T	F
L	Q	O	E	N	I	N	Y	T	F	I	F	N	E	E	T	E	N	I	N

AMUSING MUSEUM MUSINGS

“Humour breaks down boundaries, it topples our self-importance, it connects people, and because it engages and entertains, it ultimately enlightens.”- John Agard



by **bhuva**

 @bhuva23



Mamata Dash
Senior Project Officer



VISITORS TO THE CENTRE

It is always a pleasure and honour to host important personalities at the Heritage Centre. Ministers, entrepreneurs, Nobel laureates...the Centre is never short of stories of dignitaries gracing it. The past, present and future of the Institute are documented and kept on display here, making it a significant part of any visitor's itinerary.

Although the student visitor count decreased due to the holidays, the Heritage Centre is still buzzing with activity. Here is a glimpse of some of the recent distinguished visitors.



Delegation from Nelson Mandela Institution, Tanzania

Prof. Anthony Mshandete (in grey suit) and his delegation from Nelson Mandela Institution, Tanzania.

"Turning ideas to life. Impacting people globally"

June 2023
28th



National winners of the Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM)

National winners of the Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan (VVM). India's largest science talent examination for school students of class VI to XI in association with Vigyan Prasar, an organization under the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India and National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) of the Ministry of Human Resources and Development.

July 2023
19th



Dhananjaya Chandrachud
Chief Justice of India

"Visiting the Heritage Centre is to breathe & experience a slice of history. Kudos for documenting the work & role of IIT-M in post independent India. Institutions of excellence & cutting edge research like IIT-M give us a cause for optimism in a stirring & vibrant future for the nation in its quest for achievement"

July 2023
21st

August 2023

5th

"It is nostalgic to visit this evergreen campus after nearly 5 decades. As this is the place where I started my search for ultimate verities, it has a special place in my heart. I pray to the almighty for keeping this institution ever vibrant. 😊"



Swami Siddhananda Giri
Senior Monk, YSS

August 2023

14th

"It is a proud moment to go through the 64-year journey of IIT-M. Very well captured the best moment as IITM emerged as Institute of Eminence. Keep it up. Jai Hind!!"



Arvind Kumar
MD, Chennai Petroleum Corp. Ltd.
(Indian Oil)

August 2023

18th

"Exciting to get a picture of the evolution of IIT Madras ... technology is the main contributor to economics. IIT Madras is one of the leading institutions of technology in our country. Congratulations and best wishes."

(C. Rangarajan)

"A wonderful tribute to the history and achievements of IITM. A truly mood elevating experience."

(D. Subba Rao)



C. Rangarajan & D. Subba Rao
Former RBI Governors



Krishnakumar Ramanathan
CEO, Siemens Large Drives India
Pvt. Ltd.

"The Heritage Centre is a wonderful concept, one that is also executed very well. I feel a sense of pride in seeing the amazing growth of IITM over the past 6 decades - and the best part is; it continues to do so, and disrupt itself. Sincere appreciation to the staff of this Heritage Centre for their focus and dedication!"

August 2023

21st



Shiv Narayan Sharma, IAS
Assistant Secretary, Ministry of
Education

"Enjoyed our visit to this beautiful campus. It is amazing how the campus is maintained so green despite large number of students. It was amazing to understand about history and Indo-German partnership."

September
2023

7th



Sajani Sathasivam
Intern

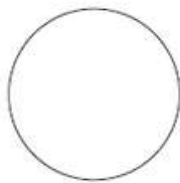
IDENTITY DESIGN: A LOGO FOR THE HERITAGE CENTRE PART 2

Colour palette

My direction for the colour palette was towards boldness and historical relevance. In order to represent another integral aspect of the IITM campus, the colour olive green was used to depict how the campus and nature are interconnected. The shade was selected to embody the vast amount of green that inhabits the campus.



#000000



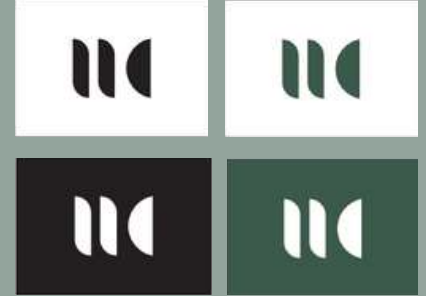
#ffffff



#3c5a4c

Symbol Colour

The symbol is either black, white or olive green. It must be legible and maintain the integrity of its form. When the logo is placed on a lighter background, the symbol should be black and when the logo is placed on a darker background, the symbol should be white. This ensures that the logo does not dissolve into the background and is noticeable.



*Examples of how the new logo can be used**

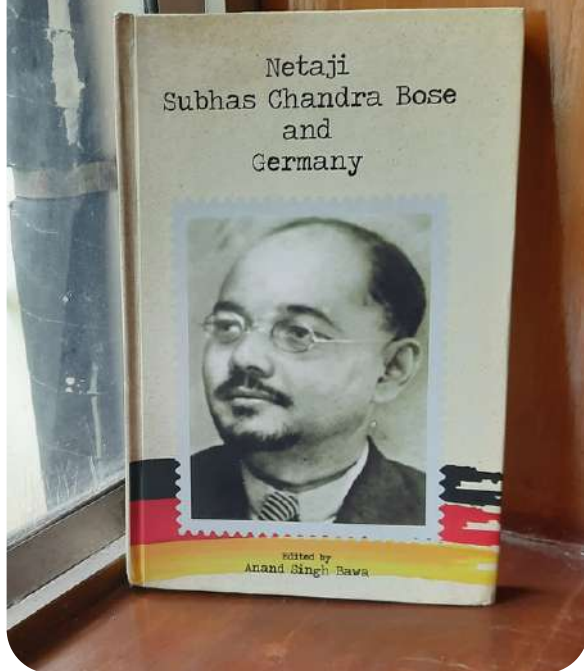
**not available for purchase*



*Examples of how the new logo can be used**

RECENTLY RECEIVED

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and Germany - edited by Anand Singh Bawa (the first editor of *Campastimes*, a student-run publication in IIT Madras - 1960 to the late 1990s.)



Red-bellied piranha from Venezuela, presented by Mr. N. Sankaran, alumnus (1972 BTech Chemical Engineering)

Bamboo slide rule contributed by Prof. P. Sriram: Post Versalog 1460 model, marketed in the USA by Post, manufactured by Hemmi (Japan), late 1960s



IIT-M GIFT SHOP

Looking for the perfect tea coaster? The ideal coffee mug? A fridge magnet to remind you of your days at IIT Madras? Then you must not miss this cute little shop tucked away in the Heritage Centre. Come check out our exciting range of products!



**"I paint flowers so they
will not die."
- Frida Kahlo**

Stay up to date with the latest events, activities and exhibitions through our social media pages.
Schedule visits by writing to the official email or by calling us!



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Heritage Centre
of IIT Madras

 heritage.iitm.ac.in

 heritage@iitm.ac.in

 +91-44-22579480



Heritage Centre
IIT Madras

