



ANNUAL **REPORT** 2018-2019

Institute *for* Social Democracy

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

New Delhi, 2019

Publisher

Institute for Social Democracy

Flat No. 110, Numberdar House
62-A, Laxmi Market, Munirka
New Delhi-110067, INDIA
Phone & Telefax : 091-11-26177904
Email : notowar.isd@gmail.com
Website : www.isd.net.in

In-co-operation with

Bread for the World - Protestant Development Service

P.O. Box 40144
D-10061 Berlin
Federal Republic of Germany
www.info.brot-fuer-die-welt.de

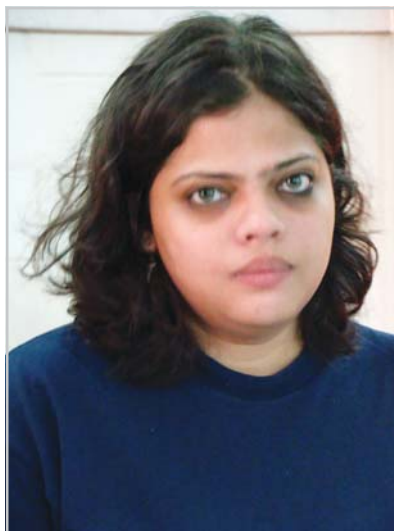
Written and Edited

Babita Negi

Illustrations and Cover Design

Surender Singh

MESSAGE from the DESK



As challenges increase, so does our resolve to continue against all odds. When we look around ourselves we see frightening alienation of people from people, from their own culture, from their own feelings of love and compassion. There is wide spread fear - unsaid, unexplained, beyond one's own comprehension. This fear and mistrust on fellow humans, fellow citizens is manifested in most cruel and barbaric ways. This tells us something about the health of our society. Where are we heading? Where is this hate coming from? Why we are so harsh on each other? Why we are harsh on ourselves? Many similar questions stare at us. We have to look for answers within ourselves and beyond.

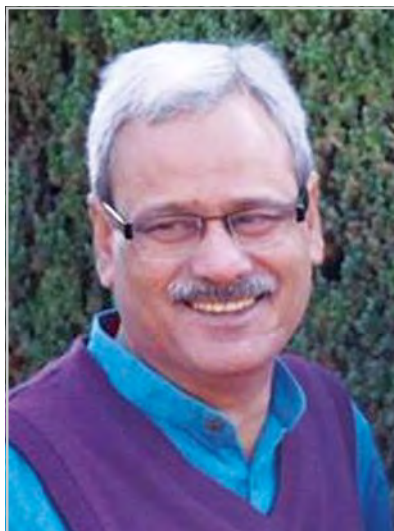
ISD has committed herself to work on understanding conflict and towards building peace. Both are very difficult fields. Societies are complex, human beings are complex, conflict is complex and so is resolving conflict or transforming conflict. To accept and understand conflict, to be able to analyze it and reflect on it exposes us to our own boundaries and limitations. The added challenge is to accept that we have limitations and anxieties, that we do not have answers for everything every time.

Peace should not be seen as an end result. It is a process, a way of life, a value that one passes on to next generation. It is a process of learning, evolving and strengthening existing interconnections among people, among different cultures. ISD's work on Composite Heritage is one such attempt to explore and expose these interconnections that we have in our society. The bonding we share, the differences we have, the commonality of our cultural practices, the never ending assertion of being different and superior. Our society (like any other) is made up of these contradictions. And we as those committed to work on peace and conflict have to understand these contradictions. We have to be flexible in our understanding and dealing with difficult situations.

ISD team is learning these skills as we take each step. We are engaging meaningfully with youth, women, and children from different cultural backgrounds in our attempt to bring them closer to each other and bond together. We are engaging with institutions and common people alike in not-so-violent conflict zones to intense violent conflict zones. We have our share of encouraging experiences and hardships too. With each difficult situation we learn and gain wisdom and maturity on one hand, and on the other we celebrate our little achievements in making little contributions towards the larger context. Blessings and teachings of ISD's founder and our mentor Dr. Khurshid Anwar continue to guide us.



INSTITUTE *for* SOCIAL DEMOCRACY



Institute for Social Democracy came into existence in the backdrop of unprecedented violent conflict that South Asia has witnessed over several decades. Now they have become a routine affair. Thousands of women, men and children fell victim to this madness. ISD was established by late Dr. Khurshid Anwar and its work on Composite Heritage was his brainchild. ISD has chosen Composite Heritage as a tool for conflict transformation and violence prevention as no other organisation has yet taken it up. Composite Heritage is chosen as a tool, because of the fact that irrespective of the caste, religion and gender every individual relates to it. It belongs to masses, not an individual. The initial objective of ISD was to provide a common platform for groups and individuals committed to secularism and democracy, to explore and affirm Composite Heritage as a basis for peace and democracy. With this objective in mind, we initiated our intervention through the perspective building and capacity building on the context of conflict and bringing Composite Heritage as a tool to restore Peace, Harmony and Democracy. Through our interventions, we learnt that there is almost total lack of peace movements in the context of sectarian violent and non-violent conflict such as communal, caste, ethnic, linguistic and regional conflicts. In sub-continent, there is a movement for peace when it comes to war and nuclear race issues. There is also a strong and significant feminist movement but when it comes to conflicts mentioned above, our efforts become only reactive. We assume that there is peace because there is no visible conflict. We remain until and unless we are confronted with violent conflicts. Once the violent conflict is invisible, we again assume that there is peace. The biggest lesson that we learnt through these years is that the absence of violent conflict does not mean peace. We also learnt that there are always sources of tension present in the society and they become visible as and when the forces behind the sources become proactive. On the contrary, we also realize that in a given society there are always "Local Capacities for Peace" present. Though we always require them to remain on the surface and help to keep peace and harmony intact we hardly become proactive. During our journey we have evolved not just as an organisation but also the concept of Composite Heritage has evolved and new dimensions are added to it.

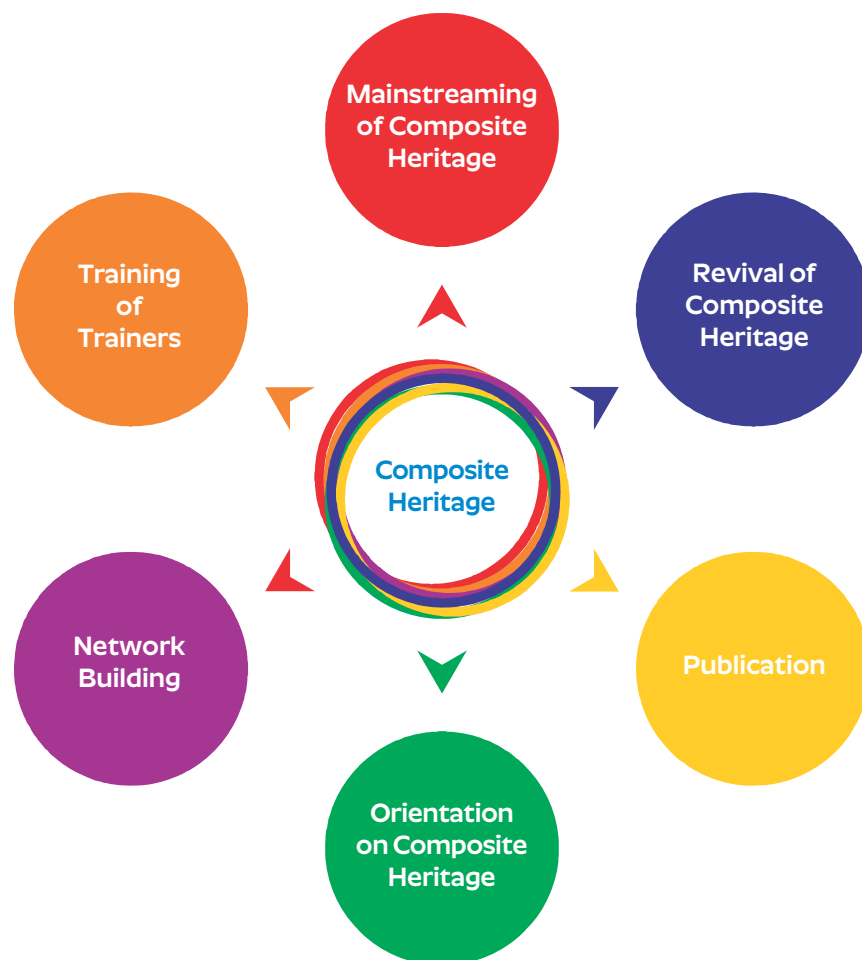
STRATEGIES and AREA of WORK

ISD is based on the vision of a democratic, secular and peaceful society. A society based on mutual respect of rights of individuals and human development. It believes in accepting identities difference, empathizing with the socio-cultural aspiration of various social groups and opening dialogues without questioning intention.

For fulfilling our vision while keeping our beliefs intact we have adopted a few strategies and have developed our working areas. ISD works on two broad themes one is Composite Heritage and other is Local Capacities for Peace.

Composite Heritage

Under this theme bringing civil society groups and organisation committed to democracy and secularism through a series of meeting and workshops, to explore the dimensions of Composite Heritage and build commitment to preserve and enrich it is our one of the strategy. We also carry out training and research studies to explore and popularize cultural resources such as literature, folk tales, music and theatre, in order to uncover and defend cultural commonalities and make visible the secular and democratic values underlying shared traditions. We develop simple easy accessible materials for popular education and public mobilization, with a particular focus on rural communities in Hindi speaking belt of North India.



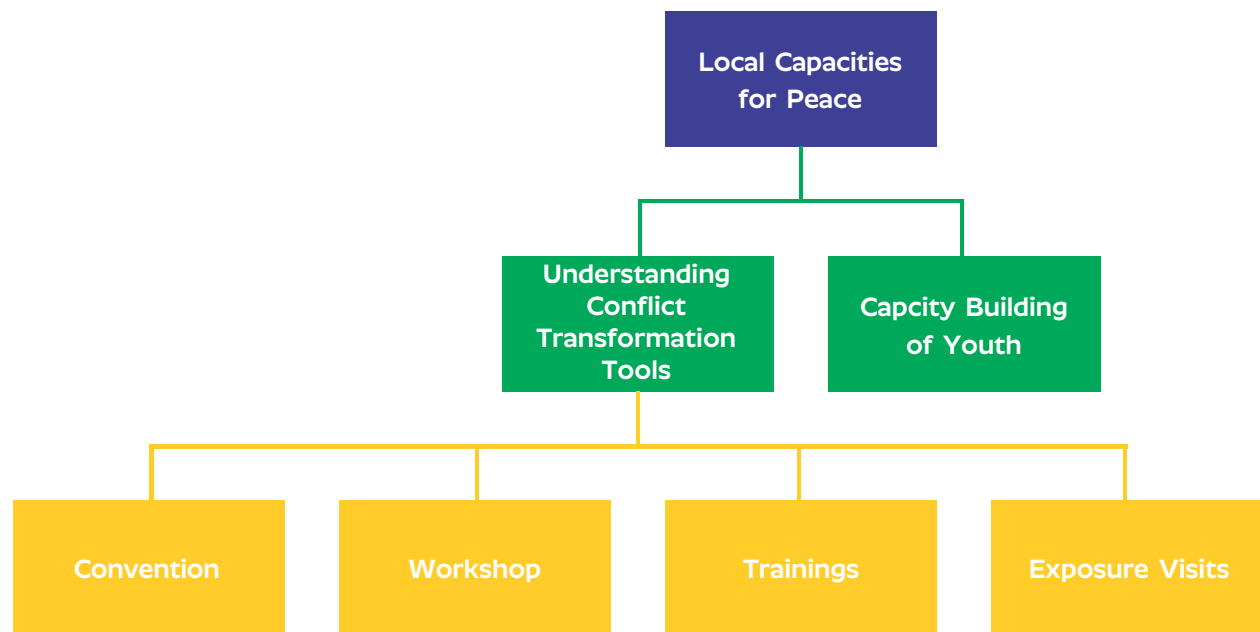
Local Capacities for Peace

Local Capacities for Peace (LCP) is project developed by the various organisation and funding agencies for reducing conflict and establishing peace in society. Many of organisations those working on conflict and peace building started to implement it since 2001. LCP helps agencies, development organizations, development workers and peace practitioners in analysing the contexts of conflicts and smooth running of projects, programmes and assistance work at various levels and situations.

The strategy of LCP focused in establishing peace among communities is very close to the concept of Composite Heritage. It was year 2002 when manual /handbook was developed to conduct workshops around LCP which was later revised /improved to suits needs of South Asia.

ISD has started workshop and other activities around 2005 and it continues unabated till date. Much like workshop and activities around Composite Heritage the spread of LCP is from national grass root to South Asia. The only difference is ISD doesn't independently undertake TOT (Training of Trainers) for LCP workshops but it is organised by LCP network.

Under the Local Capacities for Peace programme, we provide training and workshops on conflict transformation tools and developed the understanding of youth so that they can analyze and seek solutions regarding the conflict.



MAIN AREAS of INTERVENTION

- Violent and non-violent conflict – Addressing issues like communal, caste, ethnic and gender-based tensions/conflict through the use of Composite Heritage and bringing communities together in order to bring peace and harmony in the society.
- Dalit, Adivasi and Indigenous people's issues related to land right, migration and displacement by state government's policies, multinationals, industrialists and globalization.
- Working for various identities-cultural, regional, lingual etc.

AREAS of WORKING

ISD was registered as a trust and its organisational structure has been constituted accordingly. The core team of the organisation which designs and conducts different programmes is based in New Delhi which is also a head office of the organisation.

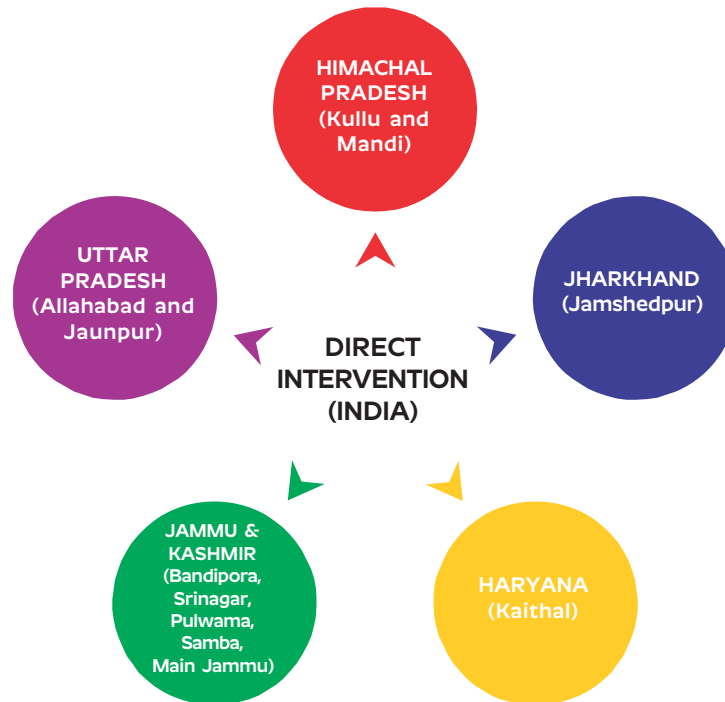
Programme of ISD or one call it social intervention is spread over many levels. The Delhi office grassroots level work is managed by a team of activists associated with ISD. Apart from this ISD conducts many other activities with help from comrades of network. There are many organizations and Individuals who are putting their efforts into many tools and methods to establish peace and harmony as per the needs of the regions. In that process geographically ISD has its direct and indirect interventions in various parts of the country and along with national intervention ISD also works with South Asian Countries.



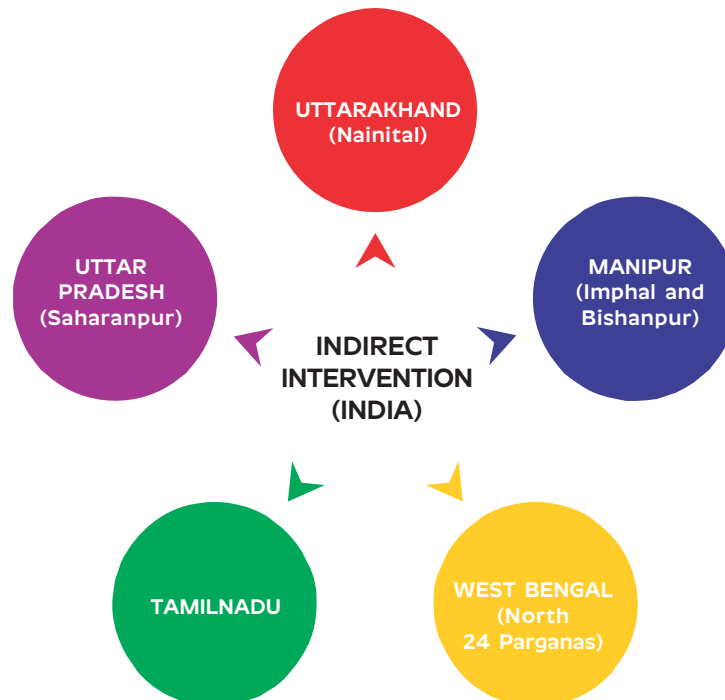
ISD has its direct and indirect intervention in the field. In direct intervention process ISD has built up a team in different areas of the state. This team conducts various programmes, events and activities for mainstreaming the concept of Composite Heritage and building peace in society. Following are the areas in different states where ISD has its direct interventions, Kullu and Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, Allahabad and Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh, Kaithal in Haryana, Jamshedpur in Jharkhand, Shopian, Bandipore and Baramulla in Kashmir.

Indirect intervention is a process in which ISD has built up its network partners in different areas of the country. ISD provides resources and support to these network partners for conducting activities and programmes that helps in promoting concept of Composite Heritage, building awareness and peace in society. Following are the areas where ISD has its indirect interventions, Nainital in Uttarakhand, Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh, 24 Pargana In West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Imphal and Bishanpur in Manipur.

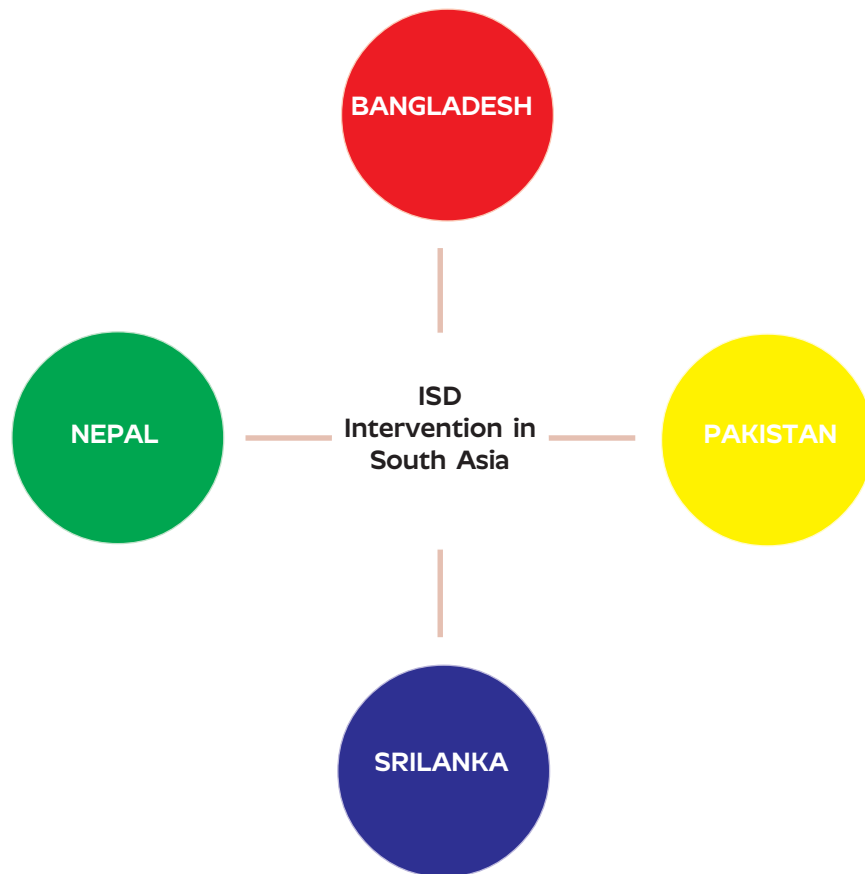
Direct Intervention of ISD in India



Indirect Intervention of ISD through its Carders and Network Partners in India



Intervention of ISD through Network Partners in South Asia



The 90s were an era of turmoil in the whole world. The world had entered a new phase of disintegration and social conflicts. Civil wars, racial/caste and ethnic conflicts and social unrest caused by globalisation had assumed an explosive shape. The unfolding situation had prompted thinkers and the plethora of social activists spread across the world to think of a peace process at the international level. It was this ambience only when under the leadership of Mary B Anderson 'Collaborative for Development Action' initiated a project for 'Local Capacities for Peace'. A decade following this initiative NGOs and funding agencies in the world prepared a new strategy for establishment of peace summarising the experiences and studies of all such areas who were beset with tensions and conflicts. Many of those organisations working in conflict areas started to implement it since the year 2001. Nine organisations from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan started implementing this strategy from the beginning of 2003. Since then a network of nine organisations in South Asia which is also known as LCP South Asia Network has been working for reducing tension and conflicts and establishment of peace. ISD has been an active member of this network and has built up its own South Asian network for the promotion of the concept of Composite Heritage and peace building.

ORIENTING PEOPLE and PROVIDING TRAINING of TRAINERS



“

Orientation Workshop on Composite Heritage in Bangalore

The orientation workshop on Composite Heritage was conducted from 04th May to 08th May 2018 at Fireflies Intercultural Centre, Dinnapalya, Bangalore for South Indian states' participants in order to understand its Composite Heritage components.

Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka participants actively participated in the workshop and shared their views on cultural harmony and disharmony of their respective society. The purpose of the workshop was to make participants understand about their multicultural strengths and introduce the participant about the concept of Composite Heritage.

ORIENTING PEOPLE and PROVIDING TRAINING of TRAINERS



“

Orientation Workshop on Composite Heritage in Amritsar, Punjab

Institute for Social Democracy (ISD) organised an orientation workshop on Composite Heritage from 20th to 24th December 2018 in Amritsar Punjab, India. Participants from three states viz Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir were part of the workshop. The objective of this workshop was to introduce the concept of Composite Heritage to a new group of people from various states of India and to explore various Composite Heritage of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Kashmir and Jammu. Moreover, the workshop was also focused to spread the concept of Composite Heritage among large groups of youth and communities through the medium of participants of the workshop and make them aware about its potential to connect societies, despite various kinds of differences and boundaries.

ORIENTING PEOPLE and PROVIDING TRAINING of TRAINERS



Training of Trainers Workshop on Composite Heritage in Bangladesh

The Training of Trainers workshop on Composite Heritage was organised for South Asia partners of ISD. In this workshop 19 participants participated and represented their country. This workshop had selected participants from previous orientation workshops to be trained into trainers of Composite Heritage. This was the first opportunity for ISD to have Sri Lankan participation in a ToT. The workshop was organised to comprehend the cultural differences and similarities among South Asian countries, to make the participant full-fledged trainers on Composite Heritage, to explore the different forms of Composite Heritage in each region, to stretch and increase the pool of trainers on Composite Heritage. Above all this workshop was held to gain knowledge and skills from the participants' creative training presentations. The Further aim was to make participants realise their multicultural strengths and lead them to the path of diversity through Composite Heritage tool.

MAINSTREAMING of COMPOSITE HERITAGE and BUILDING AWARENESS



Allahabad | (UTTAR PRADESH)

A series of meetings, camps, workshops, and festival programmes were carried in the region of Allahabad for building awareness and revival of Composite Heritage. During these set of activities, many creative mediums and ideas were used to engage children and youth in understanding issues of society and developing their capacities.

Composite Heritage Workshops

For promoting the concept of Composite Heritage and building awareness about the culture and tradition of the region series of workshops has been organised with children youth and women in Allahabad. During this year first Composite Heritage workshop was organised from 22nd-24th May 2018 in Uday Chandpur village following the workshop two-day residential meeting was conducted on 28th-29th July, 2018 in Bal Bharti School, Civil Lines, Allahabad, again in same school a two-day children camp was held on 18th-19th August 2018. Composite Heritage workshop in Subhash Chand Bose Junior High School, Machli



Shehar, Jaunpur was organised from 28th-31st August 2018. In Shrinetganj Junior High School, Machali Shehar Jaunpur the workshop was organised from 13th-15th September 2018. One-day children camp was organised on 16th September 2018 in Bal Bharti School, Civil Lines, Allahabad. A workshop on Composite Heritage in Poorva Madhyamik Vidyalaya, Machhali Shehar, Jaunpur, was organised from 01st-03rd November 2018. A workshop of the Composite Heritage with youth was organised from 27th-29th December 2018 in Sudarshan Inter College, Hanumangunj, Allahabad. A workshop on Composite Heritage with Open Arms School, Allahabad was organised from 21st-23rd February 2019. Three-day workshop with the women on Composite Heritage was organised from 26th-28th February 2019 in Chakadam Gaon, Hanumangunj, Allahabad.

Gender Training

This programme was organised by ISD with 21 students of Subash Chandra Bose School. The objective was to develop children's understanding of gender discrimination and their role for its transformation, It was also focused on building awareness and sensitization of students on Indian constitution and rights for the women.

Gender workshop was organised by ISD Allahabad from 22nd to 24th January 2019 in Chitrakoot, Madhya Pradesh the objective of the workshop was building awareness and sensitization of the youngsters about gender-based discrimination and violence.

Celebration of International Women's Day

March 8th is observed as International Women's Day. Keeping this in view, ISD organised a one-day programme in 6 different places on 08th, 12th, 13th and 14th March. The programmes were held with women of different communities in Bal Bharati School, Civil Lines, Gaughat, Karela Bagh Basti, Roza Mahal and Uncha Mohalla of Sevait village respectively. Students of Shrinetganj in Jaunpur also observed and learnt about International Women's Day.

Lok Sirjan

Some five years ago people of Saifkhanpur village had a clash and they were debating over the establishment of the statue of Ambedkar due to which there was an atmosphere of conflict and tension. ISD through its intervention over this issue has developed peace and harmony among the people and now they have become close to each other. In the process of developing a peaceful atmosphere, a programme named Lok Sirjan was organised on 11th November 2018, by the ISD.

Bal Mela (Children's Fair)

This was organised on Children's Day by ISD team on November 18th 2018, in Allahabad in which number of children participated from various caste and religion. Nowadays the majority of the children are either confining themselves in their houses or in their respective groups. Under these circumstances, it is an endeavor to bring these children from various castes and faiths on a single platform to make them acquainted with each other.

Khurshid Smriti Samvad on “Gandhi’s Thoughts and Dreams”

In memory of Khurshid Anwar, a one day programme was organised on 23rd November 2018 by ISD Allahabad called Khushshid Smriti Samvad at Sadhana Sadan (Tashkant Marg), Allahabad. On the occasion of programme Shri Ashok Vajpayee (poet and critic) was invited to deliver his speech on the Gandhi’s Thoughts and Dreams.

Come and Let us Play Together

It was one day programme organised by ISD Allahabad on 9th December 2018. In this programme a sports competition was organised under the slogan : ‘*Jaat Paat se Naata Todo Manvta Se Naata Jodo*’ which means ‘break casteism and unite with humanism’. This programme was participated by the children from various caste and religion from 4 schools and 5 villages. Various sports like Kabaddi and Kho-kho were played between teams.

Bal Sirjan

Since 2013 Allahabad team of ISD had been organising workshops regarding Composite Heritage in different schools of Jaunpur and Allahabad. During this course, an idea of organising a programme with children naming Bal Sirjan came up.

Keeping that in mind ISD organised a one-day camp on 23rd September with children at Ramsuchit Patel Intermediate College. In which the students of Ramsuchit Patel Intermediate College-Gohari, Purva Madhyamik Vidyalaya- Sewait, Sadanand Kushwaha School, Rampur village, Gohari village, Badalpur village, Saifkhanpur village, Bankat village, Humari Awaz Pustkalay Sewait, Sanjay Nagar Basti and Karelalbag Basti’s were present.

Five separate activities were done during the workshop, which included earrings making workshop, social inequality workshop, gender



workshop, newspaper cutting and collecting material workshop, workshop for creating various types of stories, short plays and poetry, pictures making workshop. After the activities, a discussion about Bhagat Singh held with children and later children presented the things , which they had made in the workshop.

Another informal Bal Sirjan was celebrated on 25th November, 2018 at Dr. Girish Chandra Shrivastava Junior High School, Jaunpur in which many students participated irrespective of their caste, creed and language.

Sirjan Celebration of Composite Heritage

Sirjan is a celebration of Composite Heritages organised every year during *Magh Mela* of Allahabad. In past few years, ISD has developed a new relationship with the *Magh Mela* that happens at the confluence of rivers Ganga and Yamuna also known as *Sangam*, in Allahabad city of Uttar Pradesh. This relationship is not of a tourist, nor is it of any urban-elite who thinks *Mela* as an outing of uncivilized people. This relationship is about being part of the Mela and at the same time considering Mela as part of community. ISD has become part of this *Magh Mela* and this relationship.

Sirjan means to create something. It is a programme of reliving and looking for those small strings of our culture which, despite all tensions and conflicts have developed a composite culture, which has helped in making peace while keeping aside any kind of violence. This year also Sirjan was organised from 6th-10th February 2019 in *Ardh Kumbh Magh Mela*, Allahabad, where number of rallies and other countless events were conducted.

Celebration of Festivals and Days

In the era of globalization festivals like Kajri (folk songs), Holi Milan and Eid Milan are at verge of extinction and present generation is slowly forgetting them. These festivals used to be means of entertainment, unity and harmony among people but unfortunately, people have forgotten the real sense of its celebration, so to revive and promote these Composite Heritages Allahabad team organised three programmes on Kajri which was titled as 'Kajri Mahotsav' on 18th, 21st and 23rd August, 2018 in Nevada Basti, Sanjay Nagar Basti, Alop Basti and another programme on Eid Milan was celebrated as Eid Milan Samaroh on 19th June 2018 in Karela Basti. The Programme of Holi Milan is the best example of Composite Heritage. It is a festival which is free from casteism and religious animosity and brings happiness, peace and harmony, Allahabad team of ISD had organised 3 separate Holi Milan programmes on 17th, 26th and 27th March 2019 in Karela Basti, Gaughat Basti, Chakadam, Hanumangunj of Allahabad.

Other programmes like Independence Day, May Day (Labour Day) and Ambedkar Jayanti were also organised. The purpose of organising a programme on Ambedkar Jayanti was to make people aware about Ambedkar's struggle and discuss his ideas on women and their empowerment. Similarly, Labour Day was organised to build awareness among the people of the Bastis on their rights.

Forms of Composite Heritage in Process of Revival

“

During this year these forms of Composite Heritage were in the process of revival, Awadhi Boli (Dialect) and Naach Geet, Holi Songs and Festivals, Kite Flying, Kabaddi, Puppet Show, Kushti etc.

”

Jaunpur | (UTTAR PRADESH)

In Jaunpur various activities were conducted for the mainstreaming of Composite Heritage. The activities included celebration of festivals fair and important days, camp for peace and solidarity, orientation workshops on Composite Heritage, gender training and meeting with farmers.

Seminar on Day of Ambedkar Jayanti

For building awareness and sensitising people on the issue of untouchability a seminar was organised in Khetasari on the occasion of birth anniversary of Dr. B.R Ambedkar. During this occasion, a discussion took place on his ideas, struggles and contributions for the development of the society.

Labour Day

On the occasion of Labour Day meeting was organised with agricultural labourers and other people for building awareness among them about their rights. After giving the historical introduction of this day, the plans and schemes of the Ministry of Labour were also introduced

Composite Heritage Workshop

For introducing the concept of Composite Heritage and building awareness among the people regarding culture and tradition, this workshop was organised by ISD and Azad Shiksha Kendra from 21st to 25th May 2018 at Khetasari, District Jaunpur (Uttar Pradesh).

ISD, with the help of its collaborative organisation again organised a three day workshop on Composite Heritage at Farid-ul-Haq Memorial Degree College, Sabarhad of Jaunpur from 15th to 17th of November, 2018. This workshop was organised to remove caste, religious,



economic and gender discrimination and biases from students and to make them aware of Composite Heritage.

Celebration of Fairs and Festivals

These are the important Composite Heritage of any society as it promotes harmony and peace. Given this one day programme was organised in fair of Syed Salar Masood, Gazi Miyan on 26th April 2018. It is a fair where one can witness the unity of religious feelings of Hindus and Muslims, which is also a symbol of communal harmony. The celebration of festival Eid Milan took place on 24th June 2018 to spread the message of eliminating religious hatred from the society.

One Day Art Programme on Composite Heritage

An art programme along with sports competition and cultural programme was also held by ISD in collaboration with its partner organisation in Jaunpur on 14th November 2018 in remembrance of the first Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The objective of the programme was to inculcate the sense of social equality and brotherhood amongst the children.

India is a secular country where people are living united. Despite this, there is a huge gap of cultural interaction between two religions because there are lots of misconceptions between them about each other. Intending to reduce these difference and to develop better relations amongst the children ISD, with Azad Shiksha Kendra, conducted a one-day art competition and cultural programme on 28th April 2018 in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh.

Gender Workshop and Trainings

ISD organised two gender trainings with girls', women and ASHA workers in Khetasarai during the month of July in 2018. Efforts were made to develop an understanding of girls and women about their



rights and negative and positive cultural practices associated with it.

Another three-day workshop on Composite Heritage in Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girls School, Shahganj, Jaunpur from 1st-3rd February 2019 for peace and harmony with female students. Along with that

Kisan Goshthi (Farmers Meeting)

Azad Shiksha Kendra and ISD organised a Kisan Goshthi at Khetasarai for the promotion of organic farming. It is discussed that present food production in our country is composed of chemical fertilizers which is very harmful for the land and environment as well as for human health. Therefore it is necessary that people should adopt the organic farming for the betterment of health. This will also help in preserving the culture associated with the traditional farming.

A One Day Tour Regarding Composite Heritage

Tours of historical sites develop our understanding about the particular structure and place. We learn to look at things from various perspectives by gaining various experiences. With such objective in mind, ISD, along with its collaborating organisation in Jaunpur, organised a one day tour of Sarnath, Varanasi with participants from various religion and castes. Sarnath is a prime Buddhist pilgrimage. It has its historical importance. Before the tour, the participants were informed about ISD and the work it is doing. Thereafter, they were told about the importance of the tour of historic places.

International Women's Day

The lack of awareness regarding the law poses a big hurdle in the empowerment of women. ISD celebrated the International Women's Day on 8th March 2019 in the Shahganj block of Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh with the help of its collaborating organisation so that the women could be made aware of their rights, fight for them and achieve them. The programme started by telling the women about



the history of the day. Thereafter, the women were told about the lives of Savitribai Phule and Fatima Sheikh and their struggles for the rights of women. Apart from these, the composite culture and untouchability in the village were also discussed.

Children's Fair (*Bal Mela*)

To reduce tension and conflict in the society, to promote peace and harmony and to revive old sports, ISD with the help of Azad Siksha Kendra, organised a Children fair (*Bal Mela*) for the students of Madrasas, primary schools and junior schools. The event organised on 10th March, 2019 saw the participation of around 600 students from 30 villages of Shahganj (Sondhi) and Khuthan block. Apart from these people from various organizations and men and women from the village also participated in the event. Various competition such as painting competition, sports competitions were conducted and students also performed the play titled "*Anpad Aadmi*" (The Illiterate Man). Thereafter, the students of Madrasa Noor-ul-Uloom sang a song which gave the message for bringing in the modern techniques in education. There was Prize distribution as well; efforts were made to develop an understanding of harmonious relations among the children and people of different religions.

Forms of Composite Heritage in Process of Revival

“

Forms of Composite Heritage which were in the process of revival during this year Marriage Ceremony Songs, Local Traditional Sports like - Kabaddi, Kho-Kho and Hide and Seek, Teepeu Khel, Langdi Daud, Tayar Race, Drama, Folk Songs, Bhojan Ke Baad Thali Dhona.

”

Kullu and Mandi | (HIMACHAL PRADESH)

During this year team of Himachal Pradesh had organised various meetings and workshops for mainstreaming of Composite Heritage in the region. Meetings and workshops were conducted with villagers, community stakeholders, farmers, community leaders and community elders. People from different caste and community, students and youth were also part of these programmes .

Meeting for Discussing Negative Heritage with Community People

A Composite Heritage meeting was conducted at Kanyali village on 15th April 2018 with villagers and community stakeholders in view to discuss how negative Composite Heritage are harming the peace and harmony of the society and creating obstacles in the way of reviving positive Composite Heritage. Participants shared their experiences and conducted the fruitful discussions; some suggestions were also put forward by the participants like organising community walks in all villages for spreading awareness among the masses regarding the elimination of negative Composite Heritage. Further understanding of villagers was also developed on the law against caste discrimination.

Meeting for the Revival of Fair Associated with Hailstorm

Himachal Pradesh is a state known for local deities and these deities hold a special place in people's life. A Composite Heritage revival meeting with elders at Podi village was conducted on 15th May 2018 over the issue of hailstorm wherein participants were of the view that the tradition of preventing hailstorm is associated with worshipping of local deities. Participants shared that hailstorm can be prevented by performing rituals in their respective villages. There are certain *Melas*



(local fairs) associated with this ritual therefore for the revival of those fair and folktales and prevention of hailstrom these rituals were performed by the villagers.

Bihashad Mela Meeting with Community Leaders

A *Bihashad Mela* meeting with community leaders was conducted on 4th July 2018 to enhance the importance of Bihashad. Every year several fairs are conducted at this place (Bihashad is name of the place and name of the Vikrami calendar of India as well). This place and fair is associated with agriculture also. This meeting was conducted for the purpose of the revival of ritual, food and fair associated with this occasion and place.

Workshop with Students

ISD believes that teaching young minds about the importance of Composite Heritage is very important therefore a workshop on Composite Heritage was organised with students of this Teel and Gadagusain village. In Gadagusain this workshop was held in God Valley Public School on 2nd June 2018 and in Teel it was held in a Government School on 11th November 2018. The purpose of the workshop was to popularise and re-introduce the lost Composite Heritages of the region.

Composite Heritage Meeting with Farmers

One day meeting with farmers was held in Bachhut village of Himachal on 23rd August 2018 over traditional farming and Composite Heritage related to it and in this meeting traditional art and music was also discussed. ISD believes that going back to traditional organic farming will help in revival of Culture and Heritage.

After conducting meeting in Bachhut similar kind of meeting in Bahu Village was also conducted on 1st November 2018 with the objective of preserving natural and traditional farming and livelihood process along with the revival of Composite Heritage.

Composite Heritage Meeting with Children and Women

One day meeting on Composite Heritage with children and women was organised on 5th December 2018 in Kharmada keeping in view that in rural areas mothers are much more associated with their children and can teach their children better about importance of Composite Heritage. Through this meeting ISD along with villagers discussed about the local dialect, sports, food and other local culture of the village and region.

One Day Meeting with Students and Youths

This meeting was organised on 15th January 2019 to motivate youth and students for the revival of local Composite Heritage of the region. One of the important Composite Heritage which was re-introduced in this meeting was "Jub Dena" which means presenting green grass to elders

for blessings. It is given by younger to elders, but to maternal uncles or their family anyone can give or present this Jub. In return maternal uncle or his family gives money, chestnut and sweets to presenters.

Workshop with Musician

In India traditional musician belongs to lower caste similarly in Himachal Pradesh as well people who performs music and instruments belongs to lower caste. These musicians knows many Composite Heritage related songs, folklore's, and music, keeping this in mind this celebration meeting was conducted in Chunnar village on 20th January 2019. There were session on different forms of dance and songs, such as music of slow Nati, Shehnai and folk songs. Almost 8 kinds of instruments were played in this celebration meeting.

Faguli Festival Workshop

This festival is known for mask dance and related activities, but most of the people do not know stories behind it. People are also not aware of the hard work which craftsmen do for this festival, especially the youth and students are not aware of this. To make them understand the importance of this Composite Heritage and keep it alive in their mind this workshop was conducted on 14th February 2019 with students and youth of the Teel village. In this workshop craftsman narrated the local folklore while weaving the basket for the ritual.

Chetru Vith Mela (Fair)

Every year ISD organizes this *Mela* in Teel. This year also the *Mela* was celebrated on 15th March 2019 in which lost or forgotten sports with other local traditional sports were, played by the women and the children.

Forms of Composite Heritage in Process of Revival



“

During this year these forms of Composite Heritage were in the process of revival, nature worshipping (Sharu Barna), games related to nature worshipping (Padiyi), local dance forms such as dancing with the wooden torch light. Traditional food of festivals, Ornaments skills, organic farming, traditional food such as Lama Sag. Sports and games – Ghur Bhraighe, local craft like basket weaving

”

Jamshedpur | (JHARKHAND)

In the region of Jharkhand various workshops with students and youth were conducted during this year. They celebrated fairs and festivals, organised theatre training and recorded folk songs. Walk for peace and exposure visits were also carried out during this year.

Sohrai Painting Workshop

A four days Sohrai painting workshop was organised at Kasturba Gandhi Awasiya Vidyalaya, Potka block in Jharkhand from 5th to 8th April 2018. Sohrai painting belongs to tribal communities of Jharkhand, Chhatisgarh, Orissa and West Bengal. In present time the young generation especially children of tribal communities are unaware of this art and folk tales associated with it. Therefore to promote the cultural value of the art this workshop was organised, as it is one of the oldest art form and identity of tribal communities

Raska Ranso Porob (Local Composite Heritage Fair)

Institute for Social Democracy (ISD) believes that folk dance, theatre and collective fairs work as a uniting factor in the society. Keeping all these things in mind, ISD organised Raska Ranso Porob in Nutandih School Ground, Potka, East Singhbhum, Jharkhand from 21st to 22nd April 2018. This event was organised with the help of Firkal Dance Group and theatre activists of Jamshedpur Jharkhand.

Two-Day Theatre Training Programme

This training was conducted on 10th-11th May 2018 with students in view to build their capacities so that they develop confidence and sense of unity among them. Efforts were also made to make them understand that street theatre is a powerful tool to sensitize people on different vital issues as it is an effective medium for mass communication and awareness building.



Composite Heritage Meeting with Youth

Two day meeting with youth was organised in Jagannath Sabhagar, Sonari, Jamshedpur in Jharkhand on 30th and 31st May 2018. The objective of the meeting was to introduce the concept of Composite Heritage, building awareness about the culture and tradition and discuss the connecting elements and the factors that unites the society.

One day Cultural Event

The cultural event was organised jointly by the Institute for Social Democracy (ISD), New Delhi and Adarsh Seva Sansthan, Jamshedpur on 7th October 2018 in Beldigram Basti. The programme started with the theme of the programme named Sadhbhav- Sambhav for Ekta- Samrasta- Sadhbhavna. Different Basti's of region participated in it and each Basti representative shared their views on unity of society and culture of their respective area. They also discussed the possibilities of maintaining unity in a diverse situation.

Exposure Visit of Children and Youth

This visit was organised on 20th January 2019 in Sabars Basti, this tribe has forgotten its culture and handicraft which were used to be the means of livelihood for them. To discuss their art forms which are disappearing from the society and sharing experiences of both urban and rural artists in Sukhalapur village of East Singhbhum this exposure visit of children and youth of the Jamshedpur area was organised.

Forms of Composite Heritage in Process of Revival

“

During this year these forms of Composite Heritage were in process of revival, traditional dresses, Adivasi wall painting, Alpona, Chaupal (a common place for villagers to discuss issues and gossip as well), street plays, Mage Susun, Baha Susun, Tusu Nach, Singrai Nach, Mage Parab, Dureng, Tusu Geet, Gulli Danda, Lokokti aur Lokgyan and Jodi Bootiya (Herbs) etc.

”



Bandipora, Srinagar, Pulwama, Samba, Main Jammu | (JAMMU & KASHMIR)

Activities with Children and Youth

The purpose of conducting workshops and activities on Composite Heritage and life skills with children and youth was to introduce them with concept of Composite Heritage and make them aware of their culture.

In this process, a programme of Composite Heritage and life skills was conducted with the help of JKAWS on 18th April 2018 in Suednara, Hajin, North Kashmir. A programme on painting and Composite Heritage with children was conducted with the students of Government middle School, Banyari Garbi, Hajin, Bandipora on 15th May 2018. An activity for the revival of Kashmiri rhyme Hukus Bukus and traditional game Saza Long was conducted on 12th June 2018 in Suednara, Hajin, Bandipora. Composite Heritage followup activity with children was conducted on 12th July 2018 in Ghat Palhallan and Inter Child Parliament meetings held in Laddipora, Gund Prang on 18th July 2018 and in Suednara, Hajin Bandipora on 21st July 2018. For the revival of Rouf (traditional folk dance) and sensitize children about the importance of cultural tradition a one day programme was conducted in Government Middle School, Banyari Garbi, Hajin on 20th August 2018. With similar objective on 15th September 2018 ISD conducted a cultural programme with children at Government High School, Mukdamyari village for the revival of few forms of Kashmiri folk songs (Wanwun, Gyawun, and Rouf). Similar kind of Cultural programme on folk dance Rouf was also organised on 6th October 2018 in Madwan, Hajin Kashmir. An activity for the revival of traditional games and to build an understanding of children on Composite Heritage was conducted on 12th December 2018 in Gagrin Shopian. To sensitize children on importance of lost forms of Composite Heritage a cultural programme with children on theme proverbs and storytelling was organised on 15th January 2019 in Hajin. To promote the folk forms of Kashmir, a one day discussion with children on folk forms of Kashmir was conducted on 25th February



2019 in Janwanipora, Pattan. To understand how reviving Composite Heritage can help to cure mental health issues like sadness and depression a one day meet for discussing Composite Heritage and mental health with adolescents was organised on 02nd March 2019 in Tengwani, Shopain. ISD also conducted an activity for enhancing life skills among children on 09th March 2019 in Ghat palhallan. An interaction with children on Composite Heritage was held in a one day workshop which was conducted on 15th March 2019 in Trigham, Sonawari

Meetings with Girls and Women Groups

To interact and understand the daily routine of rural women and how culture shapes their lives a meeting with women group was organised on 14th May 2018 in Banyari Garbi, Hajin District Bandipora. A meeting with girls on various art forms of Kashmir was organised in Suednara Hajin on 07th July 2018 to understand life of young girls in villages and their involvement in various art forms of Kashmir. There are various tribes in valley they have various artistic forms but unfortunately they are dying due to conflict and tension in the valley. In this process an interaction meet with women group was organised on 10th February 2019 in Hasnaabad to understand different narratives that women of Kashmir hold in both personal and public spaces. An interaction meet was conducted with women on "Kathi Baath" – cultural talk in Sheikh Mohalla, Makhdoom Sahib, Hawal on 20th February 2019.

Activities with Volunteers

To enhance skills and build capacities among participants to make them understand conflict and peace from different perspectives one day programme with volunteers was conducted in Suednara, Hajin district Bandipora on 09th July 2018. ISD also organised an orientation workshop on Composite Heritage with volunteers in Janwanipora, Pattan on 15th November 2018 to build understanding of volunteers on the concept of Composite Heritage. A meeting with volunteers was conducted on 09th January 2019 in Madwan, Hajin. The purpose of the meeting was to boost the volunteers and plan further strategies.



Exposure Visits

Exposure visit to the fair of Kheer Bhawani during the festival was also conducted on 20th June 2018. Kheer Bhawani is a famous temple of Kashmiri Pandits, to build up harmony and make children understand about others religion. Another visit for children of Ghat Gopalan, Palhallan to museum and children's park was conducted on 11th September 2018 with the objective of connecting them to their cultural Heritage.

Interactions with Folk Singer and Community People

These Programme were organised to understand the folk culture of the Kashmir and its revival. In this process one day interaction meeting with folk singer was organised in Banyari Garbi, Zone Hajin, Bandipora on 12th May 2018, the objective of the meeting was to interact and understand the essence of folk singing in Kashmir and its present status. A meeting with Gujar and Bakarwal community was organised in Malangaam, Bandipora on 16th May 2018 to explore cultural values of Gujar and Bakarwal communities and develop understanding about their living conditions. In view of promoting communal harmony a two-day event, Salam Mahra was organised by space communications in which ISD Kashmir also participated to build their understanding of the history of culture, unity and brotherhood in Kashmir.

Child Collective

To build up a bond with children, to know their level of understanding and connect them with their culture child collective meets are one of the initiative of ISD in Kashmir. Following the objectives an inter community child collective meet of 5 communities of Pattan, Baramulla was conducted on 9th September 2018. Another interaction meet with child collective of Madwan was conducted in 3rd October 2018 in Hajin. An inter group meeting of 7 villages of child collectives was conducted on 29th November 2018 in Government boys middle school, Banyari Garbi, Hajin. An inter community child collective meet was conducted on 5th December 2018 in Gund Ibbrahim Pattan.

Forms of Composite Heritage in Process of Revival

“

During this year these forms of Composite Heritage were in process of revival- Hikar, Chouri Tchape and Saza Long(traditional games), Hukus Bukus (Kashmiri rhyme), Eid Reh (traditional Eid dance), Gyawun, Wanwun (folk song), Rouf(Folk dance), Garam or Santooli (Sports), Preaching (Kashmiri proverbs) and Story telling etc.

”

Kaithal | (HARYANA)

In Haryana series of activities were carried out during this year which included celebration of Sirjan festival, conducting orientation workshops and programmes on important days and celebrating festivals. The overall motive of these activities was to strengthen the base of Composite Heritage in the region of Haryana.

Sirjan

Sirjan holds an important place in the region of Haryana. It is a great medium to fight against negative Composite Heritage as during this festival people from all regions, religion, caste, creed and gender attends the programme together without any kind of discrimination. This year Sirjan was celebrated for three days from 18th-20th June 2018 in Kaithal.

An Orientation Workshop

The workshop was organised in Morni Hills of Haryana for three days from 23rd-25th June 2018 to promote the concept of Composite Heritage and make participants understand that how this concept plays a very positive role in changing and shaping societal perspectives. Following the similar objective, ISD organised a three day workshop from 08th to 10th September in Titram village of Kaithal for peace and harmony.

Celebration of Festivals and Important Days

Festivals play an important role to bind people together and promote communal harmony so in this regard programme on Haryali Teej was



conducted on 13th August 2018 to highlight its importance in the society and in women's lives. The festival which gives a space to women to sit together and share their happiness with each other. Apart from this to sensitize and make people aware of the iconic figures of their region important days like birth anniversary of Khudiram Bose on 11th August 2018, Independence Day (15th August) and Subhash Chandra Bose Birth Anniversary on 23rd January 2019 in Titram were celebrated. ISD also organised cultural programmes on the occasion of Republic Day in Girls Primary School of Titram village and celebrated Guru Ravidas Birth Anniversary on 19th February 2019. Bhagat Singh - Saheedi Diwas on 23rd March 2019 was also celebrated to make children aware of the ideas of these revolutionaries.

Sports Based Workshops

Two-days sports based workshop with the students was organised to strengthened and enhance the skills of students in Titram village kaithal on 24th-25th August 2018. A similar kind of two-day sports competition was also organised on 07th-08th December 2018 in Aryavart Siksha Niketan School of Titram Village, Kaithal.

Meeting with Women and Community People

To promote the cultural, tradition and womens right in Titram village of Haryana following activities were conducted. A Chaupal (a place of gathering in the village) was organised with elders of village Sirsa on 21st October 2018 in Titram to discuss Composite relations. One day meeting with women on folk songs was organised on 6th November 2018.

ISD also organised a three-day programme from 8th-10th March 2019 in the Titram village on occasion of Women's Day. During this occasion plays on 8th March, a sports competition for rural women on 9th March and peace talk on 10th March were conducted. To inculcate awareness about gender discrimination in the troubled society, ISD facilitated a play 'Ye Soorat Badalni Chahiye' in the Bhagat Singh theatre of Titram village on 6th January 2019.



Forms of Composite Heritage in Process of Revival

“

During this year forms of Composite Heritage which were in the process of revival are *Sang* dance, Dialect (*Haryanvi Boli*), traditional dress, *Rassa Kassi*, *Matka Daud* (pot race), Traditional food habits or Shared Kitchen, *Ghadwua* (traditional instrument), *Natak* (drama) and *Ghoomar* (dance form).

”

FOLLOW-UP VISITS and BACKSTOPPING WORKSHOPS : LEARNING and SHARING



Jaunpur Follow-Up Visit

A three day follow up meeting was conducted in Jaunpur from 12th to 14th September 2018. The meeting was conducted with school children, farmers and women. The objective of the follow up meeting was to know about the grassroots communities and their understanding of Composite Heritage. Through this visiting team also tried to understand the changes and achievements in the working area of the Jaunpur.

Uttarakhand Follow-Up Visit

A follow-up visit to Mukteshwar region of Uttarakhand was organised in September 2018. During the follow-up meeting/interaction was conducted with three groups of the community in which they shared their experiences on Composite Heritage. Women during the interaction shared experiences on the culture of collective and traditional farming, preserving traditional sources of water, reviving festivals Holi, Shivratri and preserving forests.

Allahabad Follow-Up Visit

Follow up is a process of learning from each other. Under this programme, a follow-up visit of Allahabad was conducted on 9th-10th March 2019. During this visit, follow up team interacted with women, children and other groups of Saifkhanpur, Savait, Sanjaynagar Basti and Karela Bagh of Allahabad. Team had meetings in which they observed and shared their experiences with each other.

Backstopping Workshop in Allahabad

Institute of social democracy has organised many workshops and programmes at national and state levels regarding Composite Heritage. In this long run, many new partners and new states have been associated with ISD and several changes have been made in programmes and strategies related to Composite Heritage, therefore a need to stop and look back at work which has been done in past years emerged. ISD for fulfilling the need organised a Backstop workshop in Allahabad from 9th-11th October 2018. The objectives of the workshop was to share our experiences, discuss the altering structure of the manual which team has developed up in past few year. One more objective of the workshop was to discuss important points and area of work with partners and trainers, which can be assimilate with Composite Heritage and can be used for our further work.



NETWORK BUILDING

Under the process of network building , ISD has built up their networks in Uttarakhand, Saharanpur, Kolkata, North East and in some Southern Parts of India such as Tamil Nadu, Bangalore etc. ISD has also developed its network at South Asia level with various Organizations.



UTTARAKHAND

As part of network, building ISD has provided its support in Uttarakhand with the help of that Uttarakhand has conducted meetings, campaigns, exposure visits and orientation workshops on Composite Heritage. The focus of activities was to build awareness among people on the importance of traditional, culture and natural resources and its preservation. This will help in enhancing harmonious relations, ownership and a sense of collectiveness in society.

Conducting meetings and workshops on local Composite Heritage and its promotion had developed understanding in people on its importance and as a result, they have started taking initiatives on their own, like cleaning of traditional water reservoirs, promoting fairs and festivals.

They have done campaigns with farmers of Nai, Thalee, Tanda and Khujethi to develop an understanding of traditional farming and re-establishment of vanishing seeds. The exposure visits and campaigns created a platform for people to share experiences and gain knowledge on the traditional agriculture .

In present times local traditional food is on verge of extinction and younger generation is much more attracted towards junk food therefore for the promotion of local traditional food and preservation of recipes and dishes a three days workshop was conducted in Bheedpani, Nainital in which traditional dishes according to the weather and special dishes of local festivals were discussed and cooked by the participants.

SAHARANPUR

In Saharanpur Eid Milan programme was conducted at NazMahal, Saharanpur by ISD in collaboration with Sanji Virasat Manch (a forum of various organizations) to celebrate the richness of festival and promote the importance of such Composite Heritage among the masses. The programme witnessed performances by various cultural groups and poets. The message was disseminated for the protection of Composite Heritage as it is a tool to fight against religious politics and promote unity in society.

On the day of Independence, a programme was organised in Madarsa Falahdarain which included cultural programmes and speeches. Students were made aware of the importance of event and history of Independence Day was shared.

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, a cultural programme based on concept of Composite Heritage was organised at Green Field Modern College by ISD Delhi in collaboration with Sajhi Virasat Manch Saharanpur and Tehrik. In this cultural programme, Students from different schools along college students and students of Madarsa Sirat-UI-Uloom participated. On Diwali, a cultural programme called Jashn-E -Diwali based on the concept of Composite Heritage was organised at Mukul Academy Pratap Nagar in November, by the ISD Delhi in collaboration with Sajhi Virasat Manch Saharanpur and Tehrik. Republic Day, cultural programme was also organised by ISD Delhi in collaboration of Sajhi Virasat Manch Saharanpur and Tehrik. The objective of the programme was to develop an understanding of the children and strengthen their view on the concept of Composite Heritage and meaning of martyrdom. During this programme students of Newton public school, MHI Acedemy, Madarsa Mhadul kuraan and Sunna, Alisha-jam and Madarsa-Ilaam -UI-Haq participated with great enthusiasm. Holi is a festival of colour and spiritedness, that gives happiness, peace and harmony, keeping all this in view ISD in Saharanpur organised a festival called Jashn-E-Holi.

KOLKATA

In the region of Kolkatta, a seminar on peace and Composite Heritage was organised by ISD in collaboration with Millennium Education and Care. The programme was titled as *Samjhdaari Ke Dhage Jo Sabhi Dharmon Ko Jode* (threads which connects all religions). The purpose of the programme was to disseminate the message of love, peace and harmony among the people of different communities. In the programme speakers were present from different communities who shared their thoughts on "conflict and peace."



PUBLICATION



SAMRATH

SAMRATH : April-June, 2018

SAMRATH : July-September, 2018

SAMRATH : October-December, 2018

SAMRATH : January-March, 2019

SACH

SACH : April-June, 2018, ISSUE-50

SACH : July-September, 2018, ISSUE-51

SACH : October-December, 2018, ISSUE-52

SACH : January-March, 2019, ISSUE-53

BOOKLET

BOOKLET : ISSUE 81

BOOKLET : ISSUE 82

BOOKLET : ISSUE 83

BOOKLET : ISSUE 84

OUR TEAM

Delhi

SHRUTI CHATURVEDI : Chief Functionary
CHANCHAL SINGH : Finance Head
SURENDER SINGH : Administrative Head
NEERAJ SHARMA : Accounts Incharge
BABITA NEGI : Programme Associate
HUMA KHATOON : Programme Associate
SHRADHA RAWAT : Publication Assistant and Documentation Incharge
SHRI KRISHAN : Senior Office Assistant

Uttar Pradesh

UTPALA SHUKLA : Programme Associate
VISHAL SINGH : Programme Associate
PRABHA DEVI : Programme Associate
SARITA BHARATIYA : Programme Associate
NISAR AHMAD KHAN : Programme Associate
BINA DEVI : Cadre

Himachal Pradesh

TEJ SINGH THAKUR : Programme Associate
BHIM SAIN : Programme Associate

Jharkhand

GOUTAM GOPE : Programme Associate
ANITA DEVI : Programme Associate

Haryana

VIKRAM SINGH : Programme Associate

Jammu & Kashmir

SANIA MUSHTAQ DEEN : Programme Associate
DILSHADA BANO : Cadre

Uttarakhand

BIMLA KARKI : Cadre



INSTITUTE *for* SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

Flat No. 110, Numberdar House, 62-A, Laxmi Market, Munirka, New Delhi-110067

Phone : 091-11-26177904 / Telefax : 091-11-26177904

E-Mail : notowar.isd@gmail.com / Website : www.isd.net.in

PRINTING : Design & Dimensions, L-5 A, Sheikh Sarai, Phase-II, New Delhi-110017