

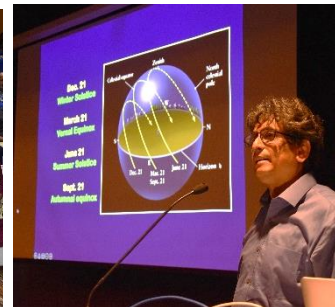
The DHARA SERIES

The inaugural Dhara conference, centered on India's contributions to Mathematics or Gaṇitaśāstra, was conducted on 25th February 2022 at the Headquarters of the IKS



Division, AICTE, New Delhi.

The second event took place on the Indian Calendar System, and was organised at Vikram University, Ujjain, by Vijnana Bharati in association with the Ministry of Culture from April 22 to 23, 2022 to raise awareness about the scientific as well as the holistic facets of the Indian National Calendar and commemorate the 65th anniversary of the adoption of this calendar.



The third Dhara conference, held on the last day of "Bhārat Tirtha - 2", was organised and conducted by IIT Kharagpur, West Bengal from June 14 to 18, 2022. The conference witnessed discussions by eminent thought leaders on a diverse range of topics, such as Indian Astrophysics, Quantum Physics and Cosmology, the Raman Effect, Indian contributions to the physics of black holes and other singularities, Prof Padmanabhan's contributions to the field of astrophysics, the holism of Yoga, Ayurveda, Vedanta, Mathematics, cosmology etc.



The fourth event that gathered national momentum was the first ever "IKS Mela 2022" which was conducted between July 29 to 31, 2022, at the IKS Division, AICTE, New Delhi. It sought to deliberate on the need and challenges of introducing IKS and culture into the education system under the framework of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 with a goal of seeing it thrive in 2047 at all levels of the system. Essentially a celebration of Bharatiya Jnana Parampara, its theme was "Inclusive Excellence in Learning Processes" drawn



from the ideas of "abhyudaya" - prosperity for all - and "antyodaya" - prosperity for the weaker sections - respectively.

Subsequently, Ayurdhara, a conference on Ayurveda, was conducted from September 23 to 24, 2022, at the University of Trans-disciplinary Health Sciences and Technology (TDU), Bangalore, by the IKS Division, Ministry of Culture and the AYUSH Ministry and IKS Division. It served as a platform to launch a month-long national campaign titled "Har Ghar Har Din Ayurveda" that culminated on 23rd October, 2022, which was celebrated as Ayurveda Day in keeping with the Dhanvantari Jayanti.



This was followed up with ‘Ayurdhara - A National Symposium on the Ayurvedic Knowledge Continuum’ at the Science City Auditorium, Kolkata on 4th and 5th November, 2022, which saw panel discussions by scholars



and practitioners, exhibitions and interactive stalls.

Ayudhana Kala, India’s first ever National Martial Arts Mela was organised between 7th and 8th October, 2022, by the IKS Centre for Kalaripayattu and Siddhar Traditions, at Trinity Engineering College and Agasthyam Kalari, Trivandrum coinciding with the auspicious days of Navaratri. The Mela included practitioner’s discussions and demonstrations of six different martial art forms such as Silambam from Tamil Nadu, Mallakhamb and Mardani Khel from Maharashtra, Gadka from Punjab, Kalaripayattu from Kerala and Kung Fu which traces its roots to the last century.



Samudramanthan: the next Dhara conference on the Maritime traditions of India was hosted from 8th to 10th November, 2022, by Shiksha 'O' Anusandhan University (SOA), Bhubaneswar, which saw a massive participation of 50,000 people offline and 4.5 lakh+ online. The event was clubbed with the inauguration of the annual Bali Yatra celebrations held on the banks of the Mahanadi river to commemorate that departure of sailors of yore to distant shores like Bali.



The Dhara on Sangita and Natya Parampara was conducted at SASTRA University, Thanjavur, on January 5 and 6, 2023. With a confluence of doyens in the field, practitioners, scholars of India's performing art traditions and artists themselves addressing an audience of hundreds of young students, the conference highlighted themes such as the need for instilling pride in our rich performing arts traditions, challenges they face, integration of Loka and Marga parampara, protecting the life and livelihood of endangered artists and instrument-makers, utilising multimedia and technology to preserve and promote the art forms and understanding the positive economic implications of the confluence of arts, culture and wellness.



The recently concluded Dhara on Chemistry and Rasayanashastra was organised at the IKS Centre, IIT, at Banaras Hindu University on February 13 and 14, 2023. It focused on the key contributions of Indian Chemistry or Rasayanashastra such as the use of plant-based acids and bases in medicine, the compositions of perfumes, the making of durable organic



colours on different materials like textiles, paper, murals and the body, metal nanoparticles, the preparation of rustless iron, steel alloys and so on.
