



Ministry of Culture
Government of India



कला यस्मिन् प्रतिष्ठिता
इन्दिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय कला केन्द्र
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

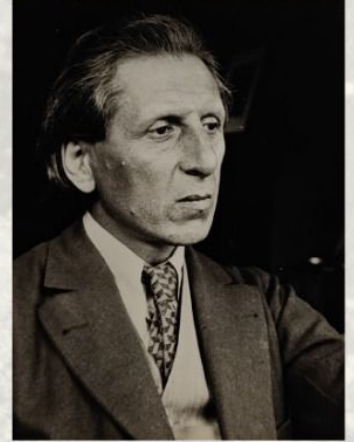
Cultural Archives & Conservation Division

Cordial Invitation to the

Fourth Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Memorial Lecture

On

The Origin of Another Buddha Image



Chairperson

Dr Kalyan Kumar Chakravarty

Retd. IAS, Eminent Art Historian & Former Member Secretary, IGNC



Inaugural Address & Felicitation

Dr Sachchidanand Joshi

Member Secretary, IGNC



Speaker

Prof. Naman P. Ahuja

Professor, School of Arts & Aesthetics JNU, New Delhi

Introduction

Prof. Achal Pandya

HoD, Cultural Archives and Conservation Division

Date: September 9, 2025 | Time: 4:00 PM

Venue:

**SAMVET Auditorium, Ground Floor,
Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)
Janpath, New Delhi – 110001**



Ministry of Culture
Government of India



Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts

Cultural Archives & Conservation Division

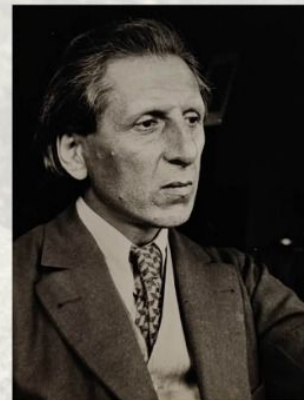
Cordial Invitation to the

Fourth

Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Memorial Lecture

On

The Origin of Another Buddha Image



Chairperson

Dr Kalyan Kumar Chakravarty

Retd. IAS, Eminent Art Historian Former & Member Secretary, IGNCA

Dr Kalyan Kumar Chakravarty is a distinguished art historian and administrator who has combined governance with cultural leadership for over five decades. He has served as Chairman, Lalit Kala Akademi; Director General, National Museum; Member Secretary, IGNCA; Director, Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya; Chancellor, NUEPA; and Commissioner/Secretary for Culture, Environment, Education, and Tourism in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. He has also led Bhasha Trust, People's Council of Education, and the Delhi Institute of Heritage Research and Management, among others.



Speaker

Prof. Naman P. Ahuja

Professor, School of Arts & Aesthetics JNU, New Delhi

Prof. Naman P. Ahuja is a curator and Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, specializing in art history. He is also the General Editor of Marg. His studies on ancient terracotta and small everyday objects examine the foundations of Indian visual aesthetics. His publications and curatorial projects—The Body in Indian Art, The Making of the Modern Indian Artist Craftsman, Gandhara: A Confluence of Cultures, and India & the World, to name a few—have drawn attention to Indian iconography, trans culturalism in antiquity and the historiography of the Arts and Crafts Movement.

Abstract

The Origin of Another Buddha Image

Recent discoveries of images of bodhisattvas and perhaps even Siddhartha in ancient terracotta and ivories show them in styles and forms that are completely different from the well-known Mathura, Gandhara or Amaravati types. Accommodating them into the longstanding history of the origin and early development of the image of the Buddha forces a wider acknowledgement of the forces that encourage the shift toward theistic worship in Ancient India as well as moving beyond the false binaries between aniconism and anthropomorphic worship. This lecture builds on the fundamental postulates on these matters as laid down by Coomaraswamy by adding elements from this new corpus of images alongside more current research on the religious history of the period.



ignca.gov.in



outreach.ignca@gmail.com



IGNCA



ignca_delhi