

Draft

Report: One day extension programme entitled “Goa Through the Ages: Heritage Walks in Chandor and Loutolim”

The Department of History, Goa University, under the auspices of Goa University's Directorate of Extra Mural Studies and Extension Services organized one day extension programme entitled “Goa Through the Ages: Heritage Walks in Chandor and Loutolim”, for the students of Government High School, Shelop–Khurd, Sattari and Azmane High School, Neura, Tiswadi on 17th March 2017. The extension programme was planned for 85 school students, of which 40 students who participated were from Azmane High School and were accompanied by their 04 teachers, while there were 45 students from Government High School, Shelop, and were accompanied by their 04 teachers.

The extension programme was coordinated by Professor Pratiam Kamat, Head, Department of History and Shri Parag D. Parobo, Assistant Professor, Department of History. Apart from the above faculty members from the Department of History, the extension programme was largely guided by Shri Prajal Sakhardande, Associate Professor in History, Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar, Panaji, and Shri Nandesh Naik support staff of Visiting Research Programme, Goa University, offered assistance on field and with logistics.

The extension programme was aimed at: making school students aware of their past and culture; inculcating a sense of belonging towards heritage; sensitising and developing healthy value system towards their own heritage; encouraging students to actively contribute towards protection and preservation of heritage; enhancing co-operation between schools and heritage sites; understanding the links between historical and natural environments; and understanding the meaning of heritage and the message it conveys.

On 17th March 2017 students from Government High School, Shelop and Azmane High School along with their teachers and accompanied by Professor Pratiam Kamat, Shri Parag D. Parobo and Shri Prajal Sakhardande reached Chandor at 8.45 am. After tea and snacks, the students assembled outside Menezes Bragança house and the programme began with Shri Prajal Sakhardande explaining history of Goa with the emphasis on the significance of

Chandor to the history of Goa. With a brief outline of history of Chandor, students were first taken to Menezes Bragança house and later Sara Fernandes House. As they toured these houses guided by the family members in the case of Sara Fernandes House and a person employed to look after Menezes Bragança house, they were opened to the possibilities of making sense of political history and social life in Goa during the colonial times. Here there was much discussion and also participation of the students on the significance of these heritage houses, their history, collection of family portraits, exquisite furniture and Chinese porcelain and usage of household objects on the display.

After the visit to heritage houses, students were served refreshments and taken to the remains of an 11 century Shiva temple which houses the Nandi bull and was first excavated by Fr. Henry Heras in 1930s. From the temple students walked to remnants of the fortress walls. As students were moving around these heritage sites they were informed about the pre-colonial history of Goa, important dynasties like the Bhojas and Kadambas, and trade in pre-colonial Goa. The heritage trail at Chandor ended with lunch.

In the second session, students arrived at the Ancestral Goa Museum, Loutolim at 2.30 pm. Ancestral Goa Museum attempts to recreate Goan village and rural life through miniature houses in audio-visual approach that imagines about the mode of life in a village in colonial Goa and showcases occupations and social classes such as fishermen, Goan artisans, a music school, farmers, liquors shops, landlords, leather workers, the village market, distillation of feni and *tavern*. After moving around the model of village, the curator of Ancestral Goa Museum Shri Maendra Alvares conducted origami and craft workshop for students, which was followed by painting competition and giving away of prizes. At the end all students were given books on culture of Goa and the programme ended with serving of cold drink and snacks.