

# The Indian Museums: Art Preserveres

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## ABSTRACT

*Today, people have become more aware as such that they know about every single social activity. people have understood What is the importance of keeping or preserving their history. whatever humans are today, and whatever they know about their self, their ancestors their culture, there Civilization, all because they know their history and this all credit goes to those institutions that maintain or preserve this history. So it is very important that every individual along with the government to encourage and look after to these institutions more. People can visit to the museum and can find out how their ancestors used to work for their livelihood how they practice them pray and by seeing or observing all these beautiful paintings and sculptures and other artworks human got to know that how intelligent the early man or their ancestors are so the researcher thinks that the human being should be grateful to all the artist of history because of which they are able to know about their rich heritage or about themselves.*

**Key words:***Conservation, Indian National Museum, Civilization, Indian Sculpture, Vandalism, Excavation, Antiquity.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In today's time, people like to collect memories, because they understand that through these memories, they can tell their next generation about their family. Due to increasing adulteration, people have realized the importance of old things. That's why they start preserving their old things so now when they know or they have understood about this, they should have to show some interest in the museums which preserved our history or our rich culture in the form of painting, sculptures and other artifacts etc. Museums are the main institution that preserve and promote our rich heritage culture worldwide. To inspire and give knowledge to new generation is the main purpose of museums so people have to understand the importance of these museums. As our Indian heritage is very rich so our museums have so much to see which attract the international visitors also, which benefits our country. Capitoline museum is the first and oldest museum in the world, which is in Rome, Itali. With the help of these museums, we get information about the history of our country. Like, when and which incident took place in our country, when which a king came to our country, what kind of weapons used in ancient time, etc. The researchers found this research very interesting as such it gives so much of knowledge and this is the reason the researchers want people to view museums first every time they go to visit some new place. There are so many museums in our country which are being closed due to lack of attention of the people. People should understand that if this continues in the same way, then the museums, which handles the heritage of our country are in danger due to which our future generations will never recognize and understand these heritages. So how will India bring its identity, its culture and its rich heritage to the world and people.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

Some of the Museum were visited by the researchers to collect the information and some information about museums was collected by the help of electronic media. There are approximately 55000 Museum in the world. No wonder how many museums are there in our own country India. Only 10 Museum was finally selected based on their popularity and their collection of work to collect the information for the study. the researcher collects the information of Museum space, it's collection, the exhibitions, Museum events and its expenditure, when, where and by whom these museums were built and what is the main purpose to build the museum. The selected historical museums were, National museum, Indian museum, Government museum, Napier Museum. Victoria Memorial, salar Jung Museum, Mathura Museum, Pondicherry Museum, The Prince of Wales Museum, Tribal Museum. during this research researcher got to know or learn so many things from our history and from our culture which is very rich and deep. Presently, the cultural division of the museum has three sections. Archeology, Art and Anthropology Section; Whereas scientist The division consists of three additional sections, namely zoology, botany and geology section. Is the largest from the geological section Asia continent and among the major collections in the world. this also, The best and richest collection of natural and geological resources from the Indian subcontinent all over the world. Archaeological Department is Presented by nine galleries: East and History, Main Entrance, Bharhut, Gandhara, Long Archeology, Bronze, Coin, Miniature Art and Egypt. Art Displayed in four magnificent galleries: Mughal and Bengal Painting, decorative arts and textiles and the famous Southeast Asian gallery.

### 3. MATERIAL ANALAYIS EVIDENCES

#### 3.1 DELHI NATIONAL MUSEUM



*Figure 1 National Museum Delhi.*

National Museum, Delhi the other name of national Museum of New Delhi is national Museum of India, established in 1949. It is the largest museum in India. the ministry of culture in India and the Government of India Look after to this museum. the idea of building this national Museum for India was given by Sir Maurice Gwyer who was the Chief Justice of India and Vice Chancellor of Delhi University on that time. according to the research during 1947 -1948 an Exhibition of Indian art and craft was organized by Royal Academy of Fine Arts, London. which gave the Indian art and craft the status of High Art. after which the decision was taken to make a permanent national Museum in Delhi. There are approximately 200,000 art works displayed in the gallery. For the display of work many departments were built in the museum like. Manuscripts: There are our 14000 manuscripts and text in the

museum. These manuscripts are in different languages which covers the many subjects and all these manuscripts are written on different type of materials like birch bark, cloth, metal, paper, palm leaf, parchment. Archaeology: Beautiful and antique collection of sculptures have been displayed there from 3rd Century BC to 19th century. These sculptures are mostly in stone, bronze and Terracotta. Arms and Armours: Arms and Armours from the stone age to the modern age were also exhibited there, like the collection of fire arms Armours for men and animals, ornamental and war accessories, ritual and smashing weapons and many more. the collection of Mughal, Maratha, Sikh and Rajput were also very well represented over there. wood carving: - many wood carving artefacts from Nepal, Tibet, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Odisha, central India, south India were exhibited here. Decorative arts: the exhibited decorative art collection in the national Museum shows the lifestyle of Indian people from 16th to 20th century. decorative art includes the art related to the design and decoration of the different objects. and many more galleries like Asian antiquities, jewelry, paintings, pre-Colombian art, epigraphy.

### 3.2 GOVERNMENT MUSEUM, CHENNAI



*Figure 2 Government Museum, Chennai*

Government Museum, Chennai. the Government Museum is also known as Madras museum. The proposal of making this Museum in Madras was first given by Madras literary society in 1846 then this museum Established in 1851. It is the second oldest museum in India and the 10th oldest Museum in the world and comes on 3rd number in the world's largest museums. the owner of this Museum Are Ministry of culture and government of India. the Museum is divided into many different sections like. art galleries in which many paintings of Raja Ravi Verma and contemporary art were exhibited and many other works like British portraits, holography and traditional paintings were also exhibited, Anthropology in the anthropology section the art works related to folk religion, Indus Valley civilization, musical instruments, arms & Armours, puppetry and many other works related to pre-history were exhibited there, Archaeology in this section many amazing and beautiful sculpture from our history were displayed like Jain sculptures, Amaravati sculptures, Hindu sculptures, north &

south Indian sculptures with these sculptures wood carving and bronze, copper & stones work of pressure historical time were also exhibited. Children's Museum in the children museum many spots were built according to their interests and for their knowledge like technology, science, transport, objects for knowledge related to world civilizations and world costume dolls. And many other sections like botany, chemical conservation, design and display, geology, zoology and education.

### 3.3 NAPIER MUSEUM, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM



*Figure 3 Napier Museum, Thiruvananthapuram*

Napier Museum, Thiruvananthapuram It is a Treasure house of cultural artefacts and is a preserver of a bygone era. Building this Museum is an idea of the king UthramThirunal in the year 1855 then this museum was opened to public in 1857 CE. By the organized committee of king UthramThirunal. museum was demolished during the reign of AyilyamThirunal. Robert Fellowes Chisholm is an architect of this museum he designed it after making a detailed study of Kerala's architecture. then in 1880 the museum was again open to the public by the king of Travancore, AyilyamThirunal. The museum was named after the name of the lord Napier. This Museum has amazing and antique collections Like, bronze, the museum have rich bronze collection which fascinate with its incredible style and works. The bronze collection here exhibits the true & pure craftsmanship of the artist. these bronze images include The lord Shiva, Parvati, Vishnu, Lakshmi in numerous forms. Wood carving, this includes the works on idols of Indra, Manmadhan, Vishnu, Dakshinamoorthy, Narasimha, Durga which depicts art at its best. Most of the works are in 'Namaskara mandapas'. The wood of 'kumbal' is used in carving. Other wood carving crafts include Koothambalam, Pushpa Vimanam and Jewellery Box etc. Coins, the collection of coins of the Museum is amazing and noteworthy. the exhibit contains coins from Ancient, mediaeval and modern South India, Chola coins, sivaganga coins, Dutchcoins, Chinese coins, Roman coins, Turkey coins, Persian coins, Pandya coins and Vijay nagara coins. for the clarity of the coins the photographs were also displayed along with all the coins. Stone sculpture, The amazing collection of stone sculptures from the 1st to 18th C CE. is also exhibited in the museum. like Buddhist sculptures, Rishi Agastya sculpture, Egyptian sculpture etc. The Sword of Veluthampi Dalawa, In the Napier Museum this sword is the most renowned exhibit. this sword belongs to the first martyrs of the Indian freedom struggle Veluthampi Dilwara. This sword was first handover to the first president of India, Dr Rajendra Prasad, in 1957 and was

kept in the National Museum, New Delhi for some time then handover to the Government of Kerala in 2010 and now it is presently exhibited in the Central Hall of the Napier Museum. Many more works like musicals instruments, ivory carving, south eastern gallery and lamps were also exhibited there.

### 3.4 VICTORIA MEMORIAL, KOLKATA



Figure

*4Victoria Memorial, Kolkata*

Victoria Memorial, the 1st Baron Curzon proposed this idea of construction the Grand building with a Museum and Gardens after the death of Queen Victoria in January, 1901. so in the memory of Queen Victoria after her death this Museum was built between 1906 and 1921. William Emerson was the architect of this building, who is the president of the royal Institute of British architect. the design of the building was influenced by the Venetian, Deccani, Islamic, Mughal, Egyptian and British architecture. this museum was built in marble. The Victoria Memorial Hall is considered to be one of the best, amazing and unique example where we can see architect, sculpture, painting and gardening together at its best. according to the gallery instructor the research's got to know that there are approximately 28,349 artefacts displayed in the gallery which were from the beginning of 1650 AD. which include paintings, drawings, aquatints, lithographs, photographs, books, manuscripts, stamps, metals, coins, arm armours, costumes, sculptures, and personal relics etc. The collection of this museum is very rich. And for this collection many different galleries were built inside the memorial like portrait gallery, the Royal gallery, Calcutta gallery and many more. The Royal gallery displayed the portraits and paintings illustrating the royal life, copy work of old paintings were also displayed here. The whole memorial is very rich in art from inside and outside as well.

### 3.5 MATHURA MUSEUM, MATHURA



*Figure 5 Government Museum, Mathura*

Mathura Museum, it is also named as government Museum, Mathura. Sir F. S. Growse, the collector of Mathura district is the founder of this Museum in 1874, Dr. Shiv PrashadSingh is the director of Museum, when first this museum was built it initially was known as Curzon Museum of Archaeology then named as archaeology Museum, Mathura and then finally changed as the Government Museum, Mathura. The researcher finds many artefacts like painting, sculptures, pottery, coins. This Museum is mainly famous for its ancient sculptures from Mathura school. These sculptures are from 3rd C BC. to 12th C AD., during Kushan and Gupta Empire like Mother Goddess, (Prehistory, 4th Century BCE), Standing Buddha, (2nd century CE.), Head of Buddha. (C. 5th Century CE, Chamunda mound, Mathura district.), Jain colossal head, (Gupta period), Standing Buddha, (5th century CE.), Jain chaumukha sculpture, (6th century), Parshvanatha, (Post Gupta Period, 6th-8th Century CE.), Goddess Ambika (Medieval Period), Anjani with Child Hanuman, (Bronze, Pallava Period), Bodhisattva Manjushri statue, (15th-16th Century) etc. The building of the Museum is a work of art in itself as it is made with red sandstone. It is the leading Museum of Uttar Pradesh today.

### **3.6 TRIBAL MUSEUM, BHOPAL**



*vi* Figure 6 Tribal Museum

Tribal Museum, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. The tribal museum was established in 2013 by Pranab Mukherjee, who is the president of India on that time. This tribal museum was designed by Revathi Kamath, who is a renowned Indian architect. This Museum is limelight in Madhya Pradesh now days. six galleries in this mean in Museum showing the difference of seven tribes of states. These seven tribes are the Gonds, Bharias, kol, Sahariya, Baiga, Bhils, korku even the lives of all these seven tribes were celebrated here together through their crafts. Researcher got to know these tribe's art and culture of the region. the way they exhibit their craft works or the way they arrange everything in their galleries, it touches the heart of the viewers. in the museum there is a beautiful shop with amazing craft work named as "Chinhari", which is a great attraction for the tourists. The houses in the gallery are made up of dung, mud, grass, bamboo, hay and the essentials such as earthenware, agricultural tools, used by the people from tribal communities. Another gallery shows the different traditions of tribal communities associated with weddings and festivals. The rituals they performed or practice during their wedding and festivals are colorfully portrayed. The story of 'baasinkanya' (Gond folklore) is very beautifully narrated. The house of devlok shows the myths and beliefs of their customs. This museum is a good effort to take art forward in the field of art. According to research, this museum is an example that proves that it is a good way for any culture to preserve its civilization so that the coming generations will be aware of their civilization.

### **3.7 PONDICHERRY MUSEUM, PONDICHERRY**



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Pondicherry Museum, Pondicherry, it is also known as pondy museum, established in 1983. It was built by Arcot nawab. It's building is over 100 years old so it is a heritage site also. the Pondicherry Museum is an history and Art Museum in India which is especially known for its bronzes made with lost wax technique from the Chola period. The Pondicherry Museum have one of the largest collection of Chola bronzes sculptures, approximately 81 Chola bronze sculptures were exhibited in this museum. The museum also has collections of snail shells, glass, tanjore, oil, pastel, water colour paintings and colonial prints, the bronze statues include the statues of God, Goddess, along with lamps, handicrafts and other artifacts.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

This is most visible in the adherence to the double and excluded taxonomy of archeology and 'industry', which allow so many areas of Indian history to be undermined. It is also reflected in the museum's poverty in the exact areas of the collection that it is the foreground: The National Museum's collection of ancient sculpture is not the best. Great collections were already built in Calcutta, Mathura, Chennai or Lucknow, 50 or 100 years before the National Museum was established. When the National Museum tried to retain items borrowed from these augmented institutions for the London exhibition, most lenders refused to abandon their items. Face their recurrence, head. The minister regrets that the museum had no national privileges over these artifacts, and that they could not maintain them through a fight. The National Museum had to be willing to lend what it could and to lend to a central organization such as the Archaeological Survey. Is the result a provisional collection - filled with gaps? And second-rate material - which still belongs to an official account of Indian art. With all these gaps and accidents in our history, we must ask: Is the museum national? Despite the shortcomings of the museum, I would like the museum to have been received as 'national' regardless of its narrative or its performance. It is not what the museum does, but rather the fact that it exists that makes the museum national. The National Museum achieves symbolic depth through the very turmoil of its history: that it was a new museum built by a new nation; It displays Indian artifacts, and it will judge them as aesthetic objects and display them as masterpieces. The symbolic meaning of the National Museum, in its special place, especially from the simple fact of its establishment at the time, was strong enough to serve as India's claim as a sovereign land. Perhaps the discrepancies and shortcomings in the National Museum also lead us to a meaningful insight. As this land reflects through culture, the museum's national-center is filled with gaps and compromises, ideals contrasted with reality,

the central desire found with provincial recalculation. India likes it very much: The National Museum of India is national by default and not design. Museum exhibitions are completely different from computer technology. In the 21st century, museums started providing education services to the common man. Whether it is through demonstrations or by some other methods. These institutions have preserved India's culture and its valuable goods. So It is very important to have museums. On talking in depth, 30 percent of the population is not aware of these treasure. There are so many people who do not even know about them, what their work is and why they have been made. From thousands of years, these sites have proved to be helpful in keeping a collection of Indian heritage, whether it is artistic, scientific, natural, anything related to the living beings and every such stream which is going extinct or moving towards it. The subjects related to the collection should also be considered necessary to be put in the school syllabus, so that students are aware of them since childhood.

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