



Karnataka Janapada Parishath and Janapada Loka

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A PROFILE





ಜಾನಪದ ಲೋಕ JANAPADA LOKA UNESCO ACCREDITED ORGANIZATION

ಜಾನಪದ ಲೋಕದ ಪಾರಂಪರಿಕ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳು Heritage Buildings of Janapada Loka

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | ಮುಖ್ಯದ್ವಾರ
Entrance Plaza | 18 | ಜಾನಪದ ಮಂಟಪ
Janapada Mantapa |
| 2 | ಸ್ವಾಗತ ಕಛೇರಿ
Reception | 19 | ಕಿನ್ನರಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ
Kinnari |
| 3 | ಬಾಯಲು ರಂಗಮಂದಿರ
Amphitheatre | 20 | ಕರ್ಮಾಳಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡ
Karmsale |
| 4 | ವಿಡಿಯೋಸ್ಕೋಪ್ ಥಿಯೇಟರ್
Videoscope Theatre | 21 | ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮನೆ
Village House |
| 5 | ಮಲೆನಾಡ ಮನೆಗಳು
The House of Malenadu | 22 | ನಾಣಿ ಮನೆ
Oil Milling |
| 6 | ಲೋಕಮಹಾ ಮಂದಿರ ಮ್ಯೂಸಿಯಂ
Lokamahala Museum | 23 | ಲೋಕಮಹಾ ಮ್ಯೂಸಿಯಂ
Lokamahala Museum |
| 7 | ಚಿತ್ರಕುಟೀರ ಮ್ಯೂಸಿಯಂ
Chitra Kuteera Museum | 24 | ಲೋಕನಿರ ಮ್ಯೂಸಿಯಂ
Lokasiri Museum |
| 8 | ನಾಡೋಜ ಎಚ್. ಎಲ್. ನಾಗೇಗೌಡ ಪ್ರತಿಮೆ
Nadoja H.L.Nagegowda Statue | 25 | ಸಿದ್ದಿವಿನಾಯಕ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನ
Siddivinayaka Temple |
| 9 | ಬಾಯಲು ಕೋರ್ಟ್
Festive Court | 26 | ಹಲಸುರು ನೋವೆಟ್ಟೆರ ರಥದ ಕುಟೀರ
Halasuru Someshwara Chariot |
| 10 | ಪುರುಷೋತ್ತಮ ಕುಟೀರ
Purushottama Kuteera | 27 | ಹೆರಾಗಾಹಿಲ್ಲಮ್ಮನ ಗುಡಿ
Heragahallammanna Gudi |
| 11 | ಕುಟೀರ ಕುಟೀರ
Potter's Kuteera | 28 | ಲೋಕ ಸರೋವರ
Loka Sarovara |
| 12 | ಕಪ್ಪುಗುಡಿ ಕುಟೀರ
Black Smith's Kuteera | 29 | ಲೋಕನಿವಾಸ ಕಛೇರಿ
Lokanivasa |
| 13 | ಕೊಬ್ಬಗದ ಕುಟೀರ
Paddy Milling Kuteera | 30 | ಪೆರ್ಗೋಲಾ ಕುಟೀರ
Pergola Kuteera |
| 14 | ಅಲಮನೆ ಉಪಕರಣಗಳ ಕುಟೀರ
Sugarcane Crusher Implements Kuteera | 31 | ನಾಡೋಜ ಎಚ್. ಎಲ್. ನಾಗೇಗೌಡ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ / ಸರಸ್ವತಿ ಮಂದಿರ
Nadoja H.L.Nagegowda Research Centre / Saraswathi Mandira |
| 15 | ಲೋಕನಿವಾಸ ಕುಟೀರ
Agriculture Implements Kuteera | 32 | ನಿಜದ ಲೋಕ
Tribal Village |
| 16 | ಬಾಸ್ಕೆಟ್ ಕುಟೀರ
Basket Knitting Kuteera | 33 | ದೈವ ಬಾನ
Devabana |
| 17 | ದೊಡ್ಡಮನೆ
Doddamane | | |

ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳು Facilities

- | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| | ಪಾರ್ಕಿಂಗ್
Parking | | ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
Information Centre | | ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು
Drinking Water | | ಆಟದ ಮೈದಾನ
Children's Playground |
| | ಲೇವಲಾಯಗಳು
Toilets | | ಕಾಮತ್ ಲೋಕರುಚಿ ರೆಸ್ಟೋರಂಟ್
Kamath Loka Ruchi Restaurant | | ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳು/ಅಂಗಡಗಳು
Shop | | ಸಾಂಪ್ರದಾಯಿಕ ಮದುವೆ ಮನೆ
Traditional Marriage Hall |
| | ಆತಿಥ್ಯ ಗೃಹಗಳು
Guest House | | ಪುಸ್ತಕ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ
Books Sales and Exhibition | | ಜಾನಪದ ಕಲಾಕೃತಿ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
Folkarts Training Center | | |





KARNATAKA JANAPADA PARISHATH - Bengaluru

Karnataka Janapada Parishath is a prominent cultural organization dedicated to the preservation, promotion, and development of Karnataka's rich folk & tribal traditions. Established with the vision of safeguarding and fostering the state's unique folk arts, literature, and cultural heritage. The Parishath has become a key institution in the cultural landscape of Karnataka.

JANAPADA LOKA - Ramanagar, Bengaluru South Dist.

Janapada Loka is a folk museum and cultural centre that has exclusive display of rural folk arts and traditions, also tribal heritage of Karnataka. **Janapada Loka is a part of Karnataka Janapada Parishath.** This sanctuary of art and culture is situated on the Bangalore-Mysore old Highway is the only cultural center in the state of Karnataka to preserve and promote the rituals, customs and living traditions of Karnataka's villages. It also houses a plethora of rural artifacts which bring out the theme of "folk literature, music, dance, festivals, sculpture and lifestyle. The museum provides an opportunity for rural artisans, musicians and crafts people to showcase their art.

Audio recording of folk music and video documentation, publication of books and magazines, hosting seminars, encouraging folk artists by way of felicitations and awards, research and training, organizing folk festivals are few of our main activities.



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ಯಾತ್ರೆ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿ.

Embark on a folk cultural odyssey of Karnataka
from Janapada Loka.



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A Journey through Time : Preservation of Folk and Tribal Culture

Karnataka Janapada Parishath : A Brief Introduction

Karnataka Janapada Parishath focuses on preserving Karnataka's vast and diverse folk & tribal traditions, including music, dance, theater, oral literature, and rituals that are integral to the state's cultural identity. It serves as a platform for the documentation, research, and promotion of traditional folk art forms, offering a space for scholars, artists, students and enthusiasts to come together and celebrate Karnataka's rich folk heritage.

Karnataka Janapada Parishath organizes various cultural programs, festivals, and seminars, providing a platform for folk and tribal artists and scholars to showcase their work. It also plays a pivotal role in conducting research and publishing literature on folk arts, ensuring that the traditions are passed down to future generations.

Under the leadership of eminent personalities, the Parishath has continually worked towards enhancing awareness about traditional culture in modern society. It is instrumental in integrating folk traditions with contemporary art forms, ensuring their relevance in today's rapidly changing world. The institution is involved in various educational and outreach initiatives, including the development of curriculum and educational materials that highlight Karnataka's folk arts.

With its tireless efforts in promoting folk culture, Karnataka Janapada Parishath continues to be an important cultural hub in the state, shaping the future of Karnataka's rich heritage and contributing significantly to the cultural vibrancy of India.



Founder President

H.L. Nage Gowda (1979-2005): A retired IAS officer and eminent folklorist, the visionary founder of Karnataka Janapada Parishath and Janapada Loka, left an indelible mark on the preservation and promotion of Karnataka's rich folk heritage. With the establishment of this institution, he embarked on a mission to ensure that the vibrant tapestry of rural and tribal culture and folk arts would continue to thrive and inspire generations to come. Born with a





deep appreciation for the cultural diversity of Karnataka, Nage Gowda's dedication led to the founding of Karnataka Janapada Parishath in 1979. This institution became a beacon for the preservation of folklore, conducting research, archiving traditional art forms, and organizing engaging events that celebrated the essence of the state's cultural roots.

In 1994, Nage Gowda's vision expanded further with the establishment of Janapada Loka, often referred to as the 'Folklore World' or 'Folk-Culture World.' This cultural center emerged as a testament to his commitment, providing a dedicated space for the captivating

village folk arts of Karnataka to be displayed and appreciated by all. Janapada Loka became a hub of learning and celebration, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in the captivating stories, vibrant performances, and intricate crafts that encapsulated the soul of Karnataka's rural communities. H.L. Nage Gowda's enduring legacy through Karnataka Janapada Parishath and Janapada Loka continues to bridge the gap between tradition and modernity, ensuring that the cultural treasures of Karnataka remain alive and cherished.

Mission

Revival and respectful preservation of Karnataka's endangered folk cultures lies at the heart of the Janapada Loka. The mission of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath to preserve and present Karnataka folk heritage through programs of research, documentation, archiving, exhibition and publication of folk and tribal traditions.



Aims and Objectives of Karnataka Janapada Parishath

Establishment of Forum for the i) Preservation ii) Rejuvenation iii) Propagation of Folklore (Janapada) in its all forums and shades such as folk music, dance, drama, Art & and advancement of any other in other object of Folklore but not involving carrying any object for profit.

The Karnataka Janapada Parishath was established 1979. Its main objectives are to identify and illuminate the folk literature, arts, and artists scattered across different corners of Karnataka, to reintroduce ancient art forms threatened by modern civilization's progress to contemporary society, and to provide them with a platform.

The Karnataka Janapada Parishath stands as a significant milestone in the history of Karnataka Folklore. Its establishment aimed at preserving and showcasing Karnataka's folk heritage through a range of activities including research, documentation, archiving, live performances, exhibitions, publications, and training. Over the years, it has amassed one of the largest collections of ethnographic materials, as evident from the following pages.



Since its inception, the Parishath has initiated numerous programs in phases to capture the pristine glory of rural and forest culture, preserve related activities, and promote them in a way that resonates with the wider public, enabling them to truly appreciate its essence.

The primary objective of the Parishath is to promote, protect, propagate, and publicize the folk traditions of Karnataka.

1. Preservation and Documentation

- Compiling, preserving, and promoting various forms of Janapada literature, including folk idioms, colloquial phrases, songs, proverbs, stories, and Bayalata performances that continue to thrive in rural culture.



- Publishing materials such as the Janapada Jagattu, dictionaries, and encyclopedias related to folk traditions.

2. Cultural Exhibits and Museums

- Establishing museums to display the costumes, tools, devices, and other artifacts used by rural communities, along with other items that vividly depict rural life and culture.

3. Education and Awareness

- Awarding prizes to students who achieve the highest marks in Folk Studies at the postgraduate level to foster interest in folk traditions.



- Organizing lecture-demonstrations in schools and colleges and publishing accessible booklets to educate the modern generation about the value of folk culture.

4. Folk Music and Audio Preservation

- Recording captivating tunes of folk music and creating an audio library of cassettes and discs.
- Offering scholarships for research on the contribution of folk music to classical music.
- Producing audio recordings and discs to popularize folk music.

5. Art and Performance Promotion

- Organizing folk art exhibitions at various locations to highlight the beauty and richness of folk traditions.
- Assisting in the organization of exhibitions and providing platforms for folk artists and troupes to participate in national and international exchange programs.
- Encouraging artists to create music and dance ballets inspired by folk literature for educational and entertainment purposes.

6. Documentation and Film Creation

- Producing still photographs and documentary films on topics such as village life, car festivals, fairs, weddings, thread ceremonies, festivals, and rituals.

7. Recognition and Support for Folk Artists

- Honoring individuals who have made significant contributions to folk art and literature during the annual celebrations of the trust.
- Arranging monthly pensions, honorariums, and maintenance allowances for needy folk artists and fieldworkers in collaboration with the government.

8. Skill Development and Media Engagement

- Training folk artists in music, dance, and Yakshagana-Bayalata to enable them to perform on radio and television, and providing opportunities for participation in these media platforms.

9. Community Events and Competitions

- Organizing seminars, folk festivals (melas), competitions, and exhibitions to promote folk culture.
- Establishing art schools to teach Janapada traditions.

10. Infrastructure Development

- Creating a dedicated facility, Janapada Siribhuvana, in Bangalore to serve as the administrative office and a venue for hosting folk cultural activities, supported by necessary infrastructure.

Achievements- Propagation of Folk Culture

Karnataka Janapada Parishath was founded on March 21, 1979, with the primary goal of promoting, preserving, propagating, and documenting the rich folk traditions of Karnataka. Over its 46 year journey, it has achieved numerous milestones, including:

Recording and Production of Folk Music

Documenting authentic folk music in various styles and tunes, performed by traditional folk musicians.

Producing and selling audio cassettes and discs featuring folk music performed by new artists, with instrumental arrangements designed to complement their lyrics, voices, and melodies.

Establishment of Folk Museums

Creating museums that display an array of folk artifacts, including musical instruments, puppets, household items, traditional jewelry and apparel, arms and weapons, earthenware, life-size statues of Yakshagana artists, masks, photographs, paintings, and other native artifacts of Karnataka.



Visual Documentation

Video recording the lives of villagers, their festivals, customs, dances, puppet shows, dramas like Sannata and Krishna Parijatha, as well as traditional sports and musical instruments.

Producing thousands of traditional color transparencies on these subjects.

Publications and Research

Publishing the journal Janapada Jagattu, dedicated to the study, research, discussion, review, and analysis of Karnataka's folklore.

Establishing a specialized library for the study and research of Janapada traditions.

Events and Recognition

Organizing seminars, Janapada Kalamelas (folk art festivals), and training programs in native folk dance forms. Honoring and celebrating folk artists with special felicitations. Infrastructure Development.



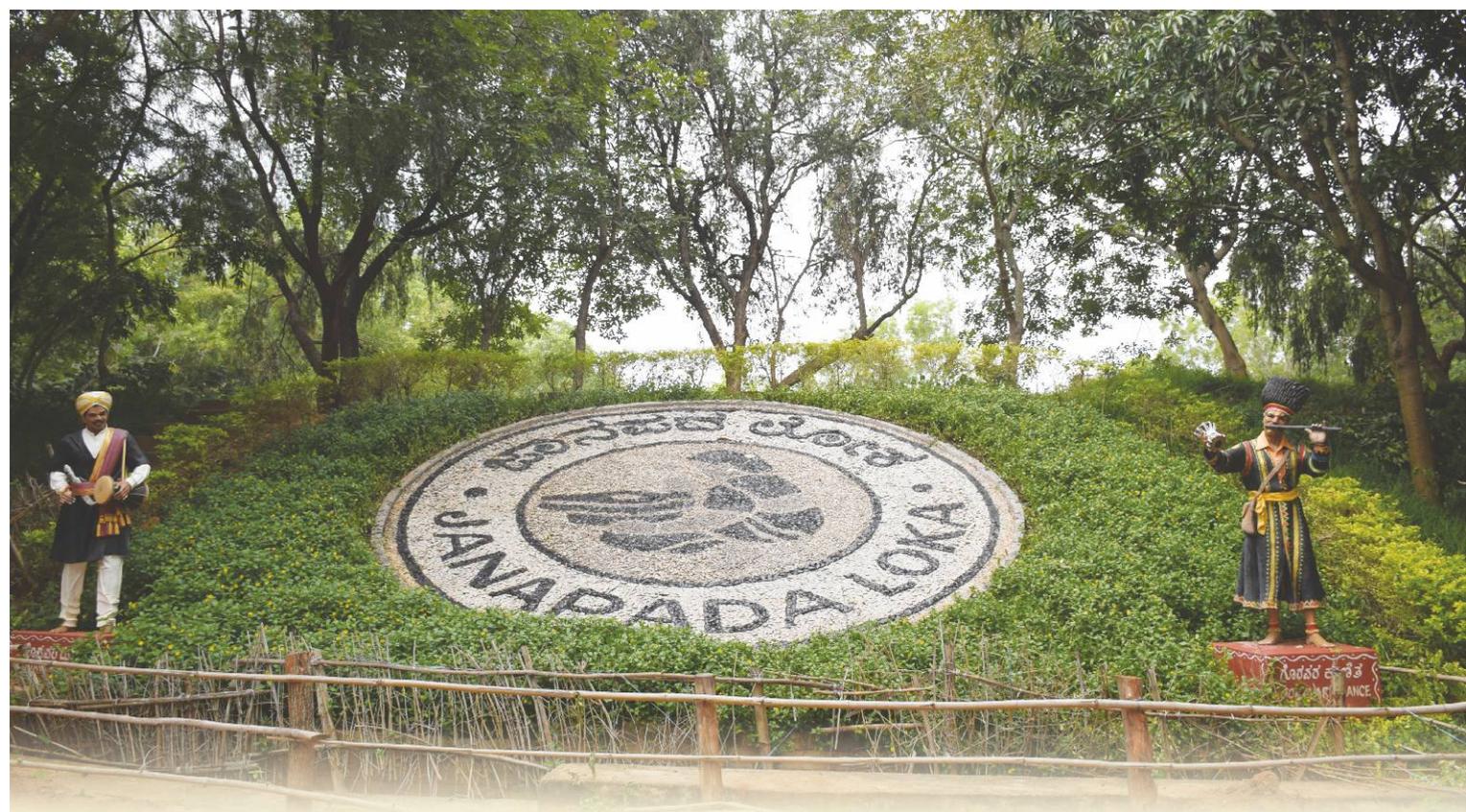
Building Sobane Chikkamma, a fully-equipped studio for audio recording, video filming, slide preparation, and film screening.

Establishing a Folk Research Center and Folk University in collaboration with Bangalore University.

Media and Broadcasting

Producing the Sirigandha television series, comprising 108 episodes, showcasing folk traditions.

Publishing literary works based on folk culture and heritage.



PRESERVATION JANAPADA LOKA

Janapada Loka is a folk museum and cultural centre that has exclusive display of rural folk arts of Karnataka. Karnataka has a vast basket of living and diverse cultural traditions and expressions, and intangible cultural heritage comprising masterpieces which need institutional support and encouragement with a view to addressing areas critical for the survival and propagation of these forms of cultural heritage.

Janapada Loka ('Folklore world or Folk-culture World'), is a part of Karnataka Janapada Parishath. This sanctuary of art and culture is situated on the Bangalore-Mysore Highway is the only cultural center in the state of Karnataka to preserve and promote the rituals,

customs and living traditions of Karnataka's villages. It also houses a plethora of rural artifacts which bring out the theme of "folk literature, music, dance, festivals, sculpture and lifestyle. The museum provides an opportunity for rural artisans, musicians and crafts people to showcase their art.

Audio recording of folk music and video documentation, publication of books and magazines, hosting seminars, encouraging folk artists by way of felicitations and awards , research and training, organizing folk festivals are few of our main activities.

Janapada Loka is divided into distinct wings — the Folk Arts Museum, Loka Mata Mandira, Chitra Kutira, Loka Siri, Loka Mahal, Deevara Mane, Hasalara Mane,, Doddamane, Shilpamala, Aayagaramala, Loka Sarovara and Tribal Village, among others. The museum houses a compilation of 10,000 folk artifacts. The concept of establishing an open museum to showcase Karnataka's rich folk art and culture. Collections Janapada Loka is spread across a 15-acre (61,000 m²) campus, where it recreates "rural milieus from Karnataka." It also houses a diverse range of rural artifacts that highlight themes such as "folk literature, music, dance, festivals, sculpture, and lifestyle.

The entrance of Janapada Loka - The museum's entry gate provides a striking welcome for visitors. It features brass trumpets on two pillars adorned with "Harige" and Nandidwajas (Nandi flags). The front face of the gate leaves bear embossed images of Shiva and Vishnu, revered figures of worship.

The primary attraction at Janapada Loka is the folk arts museum, tribal village which showcases a substantial number of artifacts representing folk culture. Musical instruments and tools used in agriculture and farming are on display, including shadow puppets that are over 500 years old. One can witness life-sized structures of artists from various parts of Karnataka at Janapada Loka. It is truly a village of art, celebrating various art forms.



Indoor Museum



Outdoor Museum

Lokamata Mandira

The museum, Lokamata Mandira, showcases the beauty and elegance of rural life, rooted in hard work and tradition. It features a wide range of items used in daily rural life, such as:

- Large grain storage bins.
- Cooking pots and utensils.
- Wooden and iron tools for animal husbandry and agriculture.

The museum's well-organized display, complete with informative labels, vividly portrays rural life. In front of the Lokamata Mandira stands a life-size statue of the founder, Shri Nadoja H.L. Nagegowda, the visionary behind the creation of the vibrant folk universe of Janapada Loka.



Chitra Kuteera

Chitra Kuteera is a gallery that brings Karnataka's vibrant festivals, fairs, arts, and customs to life through an extensive collection of black-and-white and color photographs. It also displays:

- Photos of Shri Nagegowda during his efforts to establish Janapada Loka, record folk music, and collect artifacts.
- Personal items, manuscripts, and awards of Shri Nagegowda.
- Photographs of tribal communities, Tenkutittu Yakshagana masks, and folk theater exhibits, capturing the attention of visitors.





Loka Mahal

This spacious, two-story building offers:

- Ground Floor: Life-size dolls depicting rural characters such as Garudi Gombe, Coorgi couples, Dasayya, Goravayya, and performers of tribal and harvest dances.
- First Floor: An exhibition of folk instruments, leather puppets (Togalu Gombegalu), string puppets, Ganjeefa playing cards, children's toys, masks, and other folk theater-related artifacts.

Saraswathi Mandira - Library

Situated on the bank of Loka Sarovara, this building serves dual purposes:

- Ground Floor: A well-equipped library, open to the public on all working days, for in-house reading and research.
- First Floor: A classroom for certificate and diploma courses in folklore studies, also used for seminars and meetings.

Aayagara House

This section showcases tools and equipment used in rural trades, including:

- Pottery and smithy tools.
- Wooden sugarcane and oil extractors.
- Kottana (rice-pounding equipment) and agricultural tools.
- Fishing nets, boats, hunting weapons, bullock carts, chariots, and palanquins adorned with beads.

The highlight is a beautifully constructed village house, completing the rural ambiance.





Loka Siri

Another spacious two-story building featuring:

- Ground Floor: Life-size dolls of Mudalapaya Yakshagana artists, Gondaliga, Budabudike, Kinnara Jogi, Goravayya, Soma, and Halakki Vokkaligas.
- First Floor: A collection of folk instruments, leather puppets, rod puppets, and costumes of Badagu Tittu and Tenkutittu Yakshagana artists.

Open-Air Theatre

This impressive Greek-style theater has a seating capacity of 1000 people. It comes alive every Sunday with folk art performances. Adjacent to it is a well-equipped green room. The theater has received acclaim from the late B.V. Karanth, one of India's finest theater directors.

Video Scope Theatre

Located behind the open-air theater, this facility offers comfortable seating and a large screen for viewing videos and documentaries on folk art and culture.

Children's Park

A serene park designed for children aged 2 to 10 years, equipped with play structures and seating for adults, offering a relaxing natural environment for families.

Dodda Mane

This traditional house, featuring twelve pillars and an open central courtyard, is designed to:

- Serve as dormitories for visiting folk artists.
- Host events such as weddings, seminars, and workshops.

Adjacent to the house is a community kitchen for large-scale cooking, along with a spacious hall and a well-maintained lawn.



Janapada Mantapa

A multipurpose hall with a stage, Janapada Mantapa is ideal for lectures, seminars, and cultural functions. It is complemented by two smaller adjacent buildings and an open-air stage set against lush greenery, creating the perfect backdrop for folk performances.

Alasuru Chariot

Once part of the Someshwara Temple in Bangalore, this chariot holds historical significance. Slightly damaged by a fire, it was deemed unfit for rituals. Now restored and preserved, it is showcased for its intricate carvings and artistic beauty.



Loka Sarovara

Loka Sarovara is an enchanting artificial lake spanning approximately one acre. Visitors, especially children, can enjoy pedal boat rides in its serene surroundings.

This vibrant collection of exhibits and facilities makes Janapada Loka a living museum of Karnataka's rich folk heritage.



The Living Museum of Karnataka's Folk Heritage

Janapada Loka, located in Karnataka, is a vibrant folk culture museum that showcases the rich traditions, arts, and crafts of rural India. It is a unique place where the past and present of Karnataka's folk culture come to life, offering visitors an immersive experience. What sets Janapada Loka apart from other museums is its dynamic atmosphere, where exhibits are not just static displays but are brought to life through live performances.

The museum is designed to preserve and present the folk traditions of Karnataka, displaying artifacts such as traditional musical instruments, tools, costumes, and other



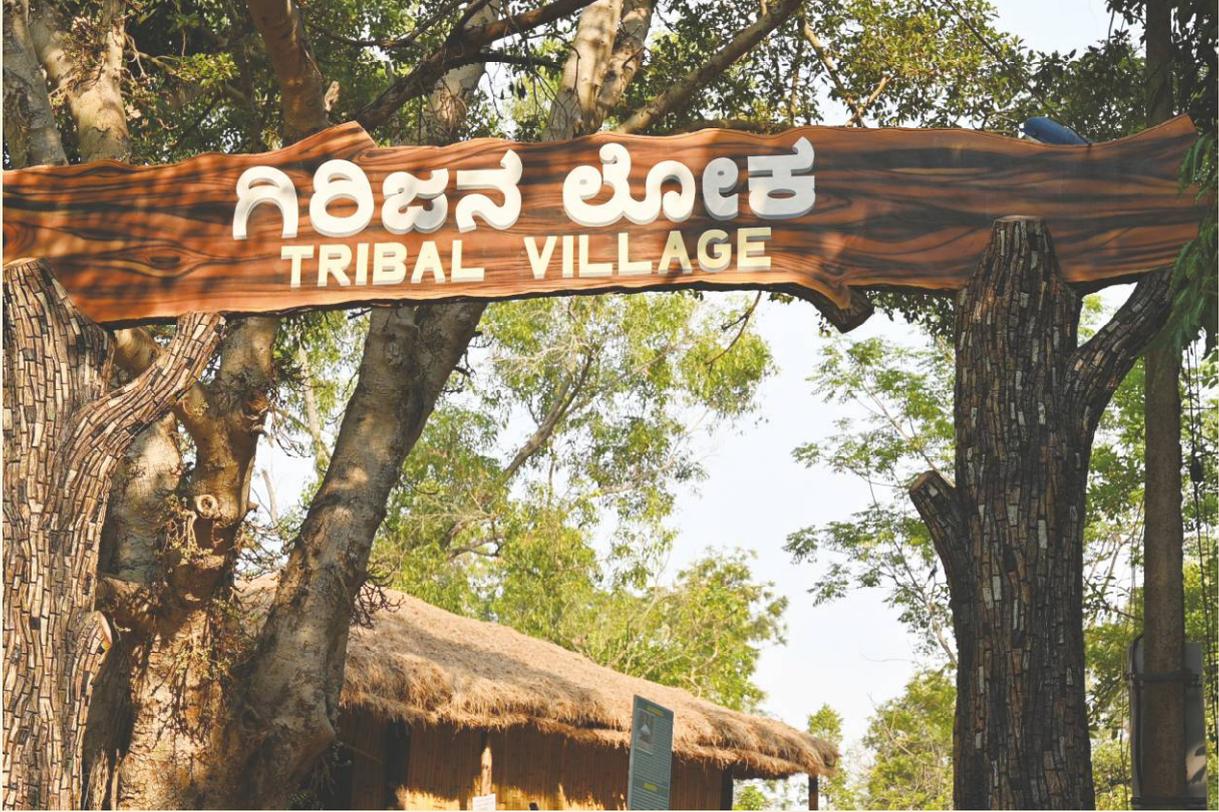
cultural relics. These objects are displayed in beautifully crafted replicas of rural homes, which make visitors feel as though they've stepped into the heart of a village.

However, the real magic of Janapada Loka comes from its live performances. The museum regularly hosts folk music and dance performances, where artists perform traditional songs and dances in their authentic attire. This allows visitors to experience firsthand the energy and spirit of Karnataka's folk traditions, as well as interact with the artists.

Additionally, workshops and events take place throughout the year, where local artisans and folk artists demonstrate their craft and share their knowledge. Whether it's watching a puppet show, listening to folk songs, or witnessing a rural craft being created, Janapada Loka offers a one-of-a-kind cultural experience that goes beyond the traditional museum visit, making it a living testament to Karnataka's rich folk heritage.



TRIBLE VILLAGE



The Tribal Village, a recent addition to Janapada Loka, was inaugurated with great enthusiasm. This village within the museum complex offers a captivating insight into the rich and diverse tribal cultures of Karnataka. Through meticulously recreated environments and lifelike displays, visitors can now experience the traditional lifestyles, rituals, artistry, and daily activities of various tribal communities. The Tribal Village marks a significant step towards preserving and showcasing the invaluable cultural heritage of these indigenous communities, providing visitors with an immersive and educational



experience that fosters appreciation and understanding of their way of life. This unique addition underscores Janapada Loka's commitment to cultural preservation and education, and its role as a bridge between the past and the present for generations to come. The Tribal Village consists of Halakki- Vokkaliga, Gowli, Kudiya Male Kudiya, Gonda, Jenukuruba, Soliga, Siddhi, Iruliga, Kunabi communities and temple of Kadugolla.

Janapada Library boasts a substantial collection of books used for research. Janapada Mahavidyalaya has been a part of the institution affiliated with Dr. Gangubai Hangal Music and Performance University, Mysore , offering Janapada Diploma Courses. Janapada Loka hosts national cultural events celebrating folk culture throughout the year. Key festivals include Lokotsava (February–March), Dassera in October, and the Kite Festival in July. The H L Nagegowda School of Folk Arts has initiated the training of nearly extinct art forms of Karnataka. The Sobane Chikkamma Studio at Janapada Siribhavana, Bangalore has an

extensive collection of audio and video recordings of folk artists. Every year, the Parishath felicitates artists with the Lokotsava Award. The display of handicrafts, exhibitions, and sales are part of Janapada Loka's activities. This, in turn, will help the craftsmen. Karnataka Janapada Parishath has established the H.L. Nage Gowda National Award since 2015 to recognize the lifetime achievements of artists who contribute to Folklore in national level.

Karnataka Janapada Parishath has acted as one of the few organizations to shelter art and its disciples. It has aided in development, practice of the art and the artists. The gate of Janapada loka has invited thousands of artists, and many more audiences to impart knowledge and culture. With modernization of the rural Karnataka taking pace, Janapada Loka has made consistent efforts to house the culture and continue the traditions among the youth of India.





PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES



Loka Siri Monthly Guest : A Platform for Celebrating Folk Art and Culture

Loka Siri is a notable monthly event held every second Sunday by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath, a prominent cultural organization dedicated to the preservation and promotion of folk arts in Karnataka. This event has gained immense popularity and significance in the folk art community since its inception on September 13, 2014. The program primarily focuses on honoring eminent folk artists who have made remarkable contributions to the world of folk arts, with a particular emphasis on traditional and rural arts. Loka Siri serves as a platform for these artists to share their life stories, experiences, struggles, and accomplishments, offering a deep dive into their unique journey with the folk traditions.

The first event of Loka Siri was graced by the legendary folk artist, Mrs. Sukri Bommagowda, who was honored with the Loka Siri Award for her remarkable work in the Halkanati folk art form. Since then, the event has grown in stature, consistently celebrating the contributions of Karnataka's folk artists. The key feature of this program is the interaction between the artists and the audience, where they reflect on their lives, the art they practice, and the cultural heritage they represent. This format allows attendees not only to witness a performance but also to engage deeply with the artists, learning from their lived experiences.

Sankranti Celebrations in Janapada Loka

One of the most captivating celebrations in Karnataka is the Sankranti festival, which marks the beginning of the harvest season. This is a time when rural communities come together to celebrate the success of their harvest and the prosperity it brings. In the Mysuru region, Sankranti is celebrated with distinctive customs, such as the symbolic "fire-leaping" of cattle, where cows are led through flames as part of a ritualistic cleansing. The event also involves worshiping local deities, offering prayers, and preparing traditional dishes like "Kichchadi Anna" (Pongal) made from new rice.

The Karnataka Janapada Parishath, recognizing the need to preserve these cultural practices, organizes the Sankranti celebrations under the name "Sankranti Sambhrama."



This festival, which takes place annually, focuses on showcasing rural traditions such as the "Rasu" (a group of decorated cows) and "Kichchadi Anna," (Pongal) helping to safeguard these customs from disappearing in the face of urbanization and modernity. In addition to these traditional performances, the event also fosters awareness about the importance of folk arts, culture, and rituals in rural life.

State-Level Folk Song Competitions

Folk songs in Karnataka are passed down orally from one generation to the next. They are a crucial part of the state's folk heritage and are an essential means of cultural transmission. The Karnataka Janapada Parishath organizes a state-level folk song competition to revive interest in traditional folk songs, especially among the youth. This event serves as a tribute to late H.L. Nanjaraj, Managing Trustee of Karnataka Janapada Parishath.



The competition, held annually, invites participants from various districts of Karnataka to showcase their skills in singing traditional folk songs, adhering strictly to the original melodies and lyrics. This event also encourages the use of traditional folk instruments and emphasizes the importance of preserving the purity of folk songs. The competition plays a pivotal role in bringing folk music to the next generation and ensuring that it remains relevant in today's rapidly changing world.

Lokotsava : The Grand Folk Festival

Lokotsava, another major event organized by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath, is a celebration of folk arts and culture in Karnataka. Every year, this grand festival brings together folk artists from all over the state, providing them a platform to showcase their talent and artistry. The festival typically features folk dance performances, music concerts,





handicraft exhibitions, folk song competitions, and even discussions on the state of folk culture.

Lokotsava is an important occasion for recognizing the contributions of outstanding folk artists. The festival honors these artists with the "Janapada Lokashri Award," which is presented to those who have made exceptional contributions to the folk arts. The festival also serves as a reminder of the importance of supporting and promoting folk artists, ensuring that their traditional knowledge and skills are passed down to future generations.

Kite Festival: Celebrating Tradition and Fun

The Kite Festival, known as "Gaalipata Utsava," is another vibrant event organized by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath. This event, which began in 1986 under the guidance of the renowned cultural leader H.L. Nagegowda, celebrates the joy of kite flying, a tradition that has been a part of various regional festivals, including Makar Sankranti.



In rural Karnataka, particularly in the Mysuru region, people enthusiastically participate in kite flying during the Ashadha month (July), and the Karnataka Janapada Parishath has continued this tradition with an annual state-level kite festival. The event is not just about flying kites; it also involves showcasing different types of kites, including traditional and innovative designs such as birds, animals, and geometric shapes. It also aims to engage people of all ages in this fun activity, fostering community spirit and preserving this rural pastime.

World Folk Day: A Global Celebration of Folk Culture

The World Folk Day, observed on August 22, is another important celebration organized by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath. This day honors the traditional folk knowledge that has been passed down orally through generations. It also serves as a platform to highlight the significance of folk culture in the modern world and the importance of preserving it. The



day was officially declared by UNESCO as the World Folk Day in recognition of the essential role that folk traditions play in the cultural heritage of humanity.

For the past six years, the Karnataka Janapada Parishat has celebrated World Folk Day by bringing together folk artists, cultural experts, and audiences to reflect on the importance of folk culture and the challenges faced by folk artists in contemporary society. The day also serves to raise awareness about the need for governments and societies to support folk artists and ensure the survival of their art forms.

World Intangible Cultural Heritage Day was celebrated on 17th October at Janapada Loka, serving as a heartfelt tribute to Karnataka's rich and diverse folk traditions, as recognized by UNESCO.

Dussehra Celebrations and the Preservation of Folk Culture

The Dussehra festival is one of the most significant cultural events in Karnataka, especially in the Mysuru region, where the festival is celebrated with grandeur. The Karnataka Janapada Parishath has been organizing various folk arts and cultural performances during the Dussehra festival since 1988, bringing together folk artists from all over the region to showcase their talents.



Exhibitions of Folk Dolls

In addition to traditional rituals and prayers, the Janapada Parishath organizes exhibitions of folk dolls (Gombe Habba), folk performances, and even folk music and dance competitions. This initiative helps preserve and promote the cultural heritage of the region, providing a platform for folk artists to perform in front of large audiences, thus ensuring the continuity of these time-honored traditions.



Rural Games: A Celebration of Rural Fun and Fitness

Another unique initiative of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath is the organization of rural games festivals, which aim to preserve traditional rural sports that are gradually fading from the landscape. These games, such as "Kunti Bille," "Goli," "Bugari," and "Chakkar Bandhi," provide a glimpse into rural life and promote physical fitness. The festival not only encourages children to engage in these activities but also educates them about the importance of preserving these traditional games.

The Karnataka Janapada Parishath has played a pivotal role in preserving, promoting, and celebrating the rich folk culture and traditions of Karnataka. Through events like Loka Siri, Sankranti Sambhrama, Lokotsava and the World Folk Day, the Parishat ensures that the unique cultural heritage of Karnataka's folk artists continues to thrive for generations to come.

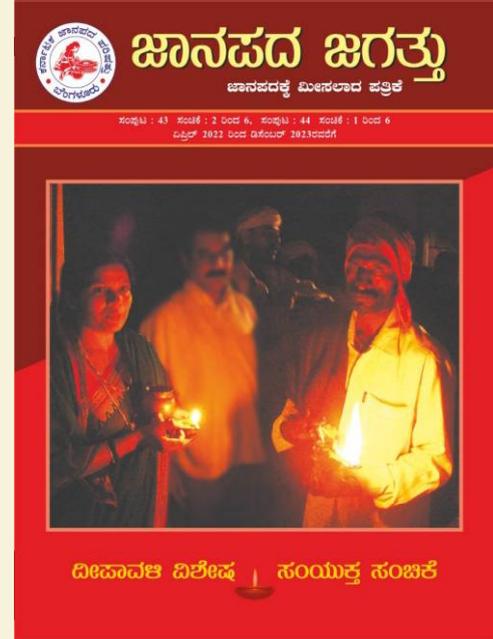


PUBLICATION

Janapada Jagattu: A Chronicle of Karnataka's Folk Traditions

"Janapada Jagattu" is a significant magazine dedicated to preserving and promoting the rich folk traditions of Karnataka, and it serves as a key resource for researchers, students, and enthusiasts of folk culture.

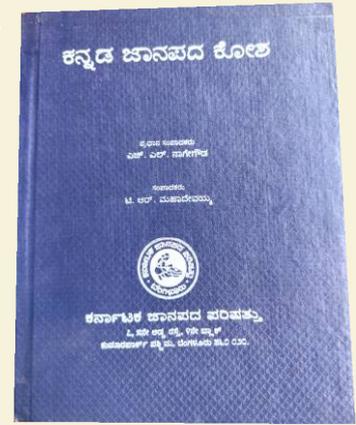
The magazine has been a vital resource for scholars, researchers, and folk culture enthusiasts, providing an authentic and deep understanding of Karnataka's folk traditions. It also acts as a bridge between past and present generations, ensuring that future generations can continue to appreciate and learn from these rich cultural legacies. Through its commitment to documenting and promoting folk art and culture, "Janapada Jagattu" has significantly contributed to the preservation and revitalization of Karnataka's folk heritage.



Janapada Kosha

One of the most significant contributions of Shri H.L. Nagégowda, the founder of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath and Janapada Loka is his work as the chief editor of the Janapada Kosha (Folk Dictionary). This monumental project has played an essential role in preserving and documenting the linguistic richness of Karnataka's rural and folk traditions. Through his leadership, Janapada Kosha became a comprehensive repository of the vocabulary, expressions, idioms, and proverbs used in folk literature and everyday life in rural Karnataka.

The idea of creating a folk dictionary was born out of Nagégowda's deep commitment to preserving the oral traditions of Karnataka's villages. These traditions, including songs, stories, rituals, and expressions, have been passed down through generations and are an essential part of the state's cultural heritage. However, many of these languages and expressions were at risk of fading away due to modernization and the decline of rural dialects. Nagégowda recognized the urgency of capturing these linguistic treasures before they were lost.



Other Publications

Book and Publications by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath focus on a wide array of folk traditions, from songs and stories to visual arts. They release books, journals, and newsletters that delve into various folk forms, offering both academic and practical insights into the state's cultural diversity.



Through these publications, the Karnataka Janapada Parishath ensures the preservation of traditional knowledge, fostering awareness among the younger generation and promoting Karnataka's rich cultural legacy. These efforts help maintain the relevance of folk art in the modern world while ensuring that it continues to be valued and celebrated. parishath published 110 books which are very popular among folklorists students and general public.

Sirigandha Serial on Doordarshan

The Srigandha serial was a landmark television production that aired on Doordarshan, the national television network in India. It was a part of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath's broader effort to bring folk culture into the mainstream and make it accessible to a wider audience. The serial, which featured stories from rural Karnataka, was an exploration of the deep-rooted traditions, folk songs, rituals, and customs that form the heart of the state's cultural identity. It continues to run for two years.

The Sirigandha serial stands out not just for its artistic value but also for its educational importance. The program showcased the rural lifestyle, rituals, and local legends in a



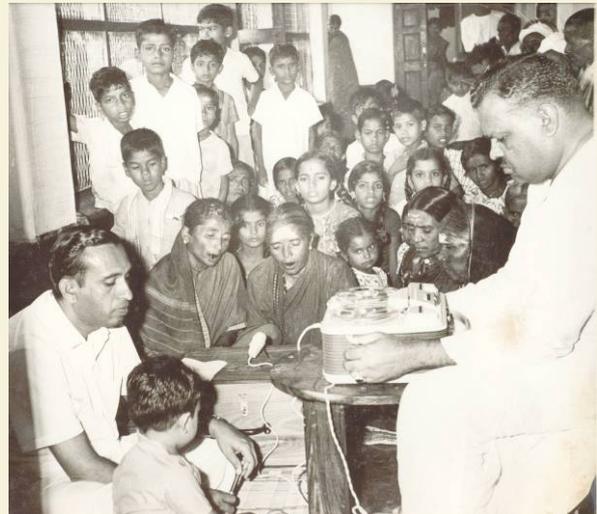
manner that brought folk traditions into the living rooms of urban viewers. By utilizing the powerful medium of television, the serial helped bridge the gap between rural and urban Karnataka, making folk culture more visible and relatable. Through *Sirigandha*, viewers were introduced to the intricacies of Karnataka's diverse folk art forms, including its music, dance, and storytelling traditions.

The serial also highlighted the role of women in rural life, depicting stories of strength, resilience, and tradition. In this way, '*Sirigandha*' contributed significantly to the representation of women in folk narratives and provided a platform for their voices to be heard.

Sobane Chikkamma Studio : Preserving Karnataka's Folk Heritage

The Sobane Chikkamma Studio is a cornerstone of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath's audio-video documentation efforts. Named after a renowned folk singer Sobane Chikkamma, the studio was established to record and preserve Karnataka's rich folk performances, rituals, and songs. Equipped with modern audio-video gear, it provides a professional setting to capture traditional art forms with authenticity, safeguarding them from being lost to time. Many folk artists have found a platform here, showcasing their talents and contributing to the preservation of their cultural legacy.

This studio is integral to the Parishath's vast archive, which now holds thousands of hours of audio recordings of folk songs and a significant collection of videos. This invaluable repository is a vital resource for students and researchers. Students can delve into in-depth studies of regional music, lyrical analysis, and the evolution of folk art forms. Researchers can utilize the material for



comprehensive investigations into ethnomusicology, social anthropology, and the historical context of these traditions. Ultimately, this significant collection preserves a vital part of Karnataka's identity, offering unparalleled opportunities for academic exploration and cultural understanding.

Audio-Video Documentation Projects

Beyond Sirigandha and Sobane Chikkamma Studio, the Karnataka Janapada Parishath has been deeply involved in various other audio-video documentation projects that focus on preserving the cultural diversity of Karnataka's folk traditions. These projects have included recording folk music, rituals, dance performances, and oral storytelling traditions that are often passed down orally within



communities. Through these initiatives, the Parishath has ensured that the voices of rural artists and the rich cultural heritage of Karnataka are preserved for future generations.

The audio-video documentation work of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath serves several important purposes. First, it provides a valuable record of the cultural practices of rural Karnataka, many of which are on the verge of extinction due to rapid urbanization and globalization. Second, it offers a platform for folk artists to showcase their talents and gain recognition for their work. Lastly, these projects contribute to the academic study of Karnataka's folk traditions, offering scholars and researchers an invaluable resource for understanding the state's cultural landscape.

Through its comprehensive audio-video documentation efforts, the Karnataka Janapada Parishath has ensured that the folk culture of Karnataka is not only preserved but also celebrated. By using modern technology to document and share these traditions, the Parishath has played an instrumental role in ensuring the continued relevance of Karnataka's folk culture in the contemporary world.

RESEARCH, EDUCATION & TRAINING

Janapada Mahavidyalaya

The Janapada Mahavidyalaya is a pioneering educational institution established by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath with the aim of shaping folk culture into a formal academic discipline. The Mahavidyalaya's primary objective is to provide a theoretical foundation for the study of folk traditions and to offer specialized programs for individuals interested in learning about the folk culture of Karnataka. The institution focuses on integrating folk studies with various fields such as anthropology, sociology, linguistics, and communication, allowing students to gain a holistic understanding of folk traditions.



Since its inception, the Janapada Mahavidyalaya has become a leading center for academic studies on folk culture. The institution offers a range of diploma and certificate courses, designed not only for students from academic backgrounds but also for artists, teachers, and anyone with a keen interest in folk culture. These courses cover a broad spectrum of topics, including folk music, dance, theater, and visual arts. Classes are held every Sunday, and students participate in practical training sessions to enhance their skills in folk arts. The curriculum encourages students to engage deeply with the traditions they study, fostering a hands-on approach to learning.

HLN Research Centre

The HLN Research Centre, named after the founder H.L. Nagégowda, is another vital initiative by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath. The research center is dedicated to conducting in-depth studies and research on various aspects of Karnataka's folk culture. The center collects, documents, and analyzes folk traditions, providing a scholarly platform for researchers and academicians to explore the diverse folk art forms of the region.

Over the years, the HLN Research Centre has gathered an extensive collection of audio recordings, video footage, slides, and artifacts that reflect the rich cultural heritage of Karnataka. These resources are invaluable for both academic research and practical use in



preserving and promoting folk traditions. The center also organizes seminars, workshops, and conferences on folk culture, inviting experts from around the world to discuss various aspects of folk studies.

HLN Folk Art Training Center

The HLN Folk Art Training Center is another significant initiative by the Karnataka Janapada Parishath aimed at providing hands-on training in folk arts to individuals. The training center offers practical workshops in folk music, dance, theater, and other traditional art forms. It is designed to provide both beginners and experienced artists with the opportunity to learn, practice, and refine their skills.



Students at the training center not only learn the techniques of various folk art forms but also gain an understanding of the cultural and historical context in which these arts evolved. The center's approach emphasizes experiential learning, where students participate in live performances, community events, and folk art festivals. This practical engagement helps them connect with the living traditions of folk culture and pass on the knowledge to future generations.

Nurturing Folk Culture Among Youth

Janapada Loka annually hosts state-level folk performances specifically for youth, aiming to raise awareness about the richness and importance of folk culture. These vibrant events serve as a crucial platform to instill an appreciation for traditional arts and ensure their transmission to future generations. The performances offer young people a unique opportunity to engage directly with Karnataka's diverse folk heritage.

RECOGNITION and FELICITATION

Parishath Honors Folk Artists : National and State-Level Recognition and Felicitation

National Award

In 2015, the Karnataka Janapada Parishath introduced the prestigious H. L. Nage Gowda National Award. The award was established as part of the centenary celebrations to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of Nadoja H. L. Nage Gowda.

The H.L. Nage Gowda National Award was designed to recognize and honor senior folk artists who have dedicated their lives to the preservation, promotion, and enhancement of

folk arts. It serves as a platform to acknowledge the immense contribution of these unsung heroes of India's rich cultural heritage, who have often worked in the peripheries, preserving oral traditions, folk music, dance, theater, and various other art forms. By elevating folk artists to a national level, the award seeks to bring attention to the value of traditional art forms, ensuring that they are recognized and appreciated for their cultural and educational importance.



UNESCO

A Global Platform for Karnataka's Folk Culture: UNESCO Accreditation Preserving the Soul of Karnataka's Folk Heritage

Nestled amidst the lush greenery of Ramanagara, 50 kms from Bangalore, Karnataka, Janapada Loka stands as a beacon of hope, dedication, and passion for the preservation of India's rich and diverse folk culture. An initiative of Karnataka Janapada Parishath, a UNESCO-accredited NGO, Janapada Loka has emerged as a cultural sanctuary that brings to life the vibrant traditions, folklore, and indigenous art forms of Karnataka. The establishment is not just a museum; it is a living archive, a space where history breathes through its colorful exhibits, performances, and educational programs. Its journey is a testament to the timeless allure of folk heritage and the collective effort to ensure its survival in a rapidly modernizing world.

Janapada Loka's impact extends beyond Karnataka and India, as it has garnered recognition on the global stage. Its association with UNESCO underscores its significance as a cultural institution of international repute. The organization's efforts align with UNESCO's mission to safeguard intangible cultural heritage, making Janapada Loka a model for similar initiatives worldwide.

The institution's global outreach is further enhanced through collaborations, exhibitions, and cultural exchanges. By participating in international forums and showcasing Karnataka's folk traditions to global audiences, Janapada Loka highlights the universal appeal of folk culture while emphasizing the need for its preservation.



VISIONERIES

STEWARDS OF TRADITION :

Establishment of the Trust

On March 21, 1979, the H.L. Nage Gowda Trust was formally established Karnataka Janapada Parishath. Chartered Accountant D. Deavaraj played a crucial role in drafting the Trust Deed based on the Indian Trust Act, ensuring that the institution was legally sound and well-structured. The Trust was registered with H.L. Nage Gowda as the Chairman, and a distinguished governing committee was formed, comprising Shri G. Narayana, Dr. Siddaiah Puranik, Prof. G. Venkatasubbaiah, Dr. G.S. Paramashivaiah, Shri Arya Lakshmi Narayana Alva, Shri Simpi Linganna, and Prof. H.J. Lakkappagowda. Shri Go Ru Channabasappa was appointed as the Secretary.

Visionary Chairpersons of Karnataka Janapada Parishath

Nadoja G. Narayana : A Pioneer of Folk Arts (from 2005 to 2011) : Nadoja G. Narayana played a crucial role in the growth of Janapada Parishath.

Shri T. Timme Gowda : A Dedicated Advocate for Rural Culture and Folk Traditions (from 2011 to 2022) : Shri T. Timme Gowda, former President of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath, is a retired IAS officer who was actively involved as its Chairman, contributing significantly to its growth and activities.

Prof. Hi. Shi. Ramachandre Gowda: A Visionary Scholar of Folk Tradition (From 2022 to 2024) : Prof. Hi. Chi. Ramachandre Gowda, a former Chairman of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath, his leadership marked a period of growth and innovation for the Parishath.

Early Pillars of Karnataka Janapada Parishath

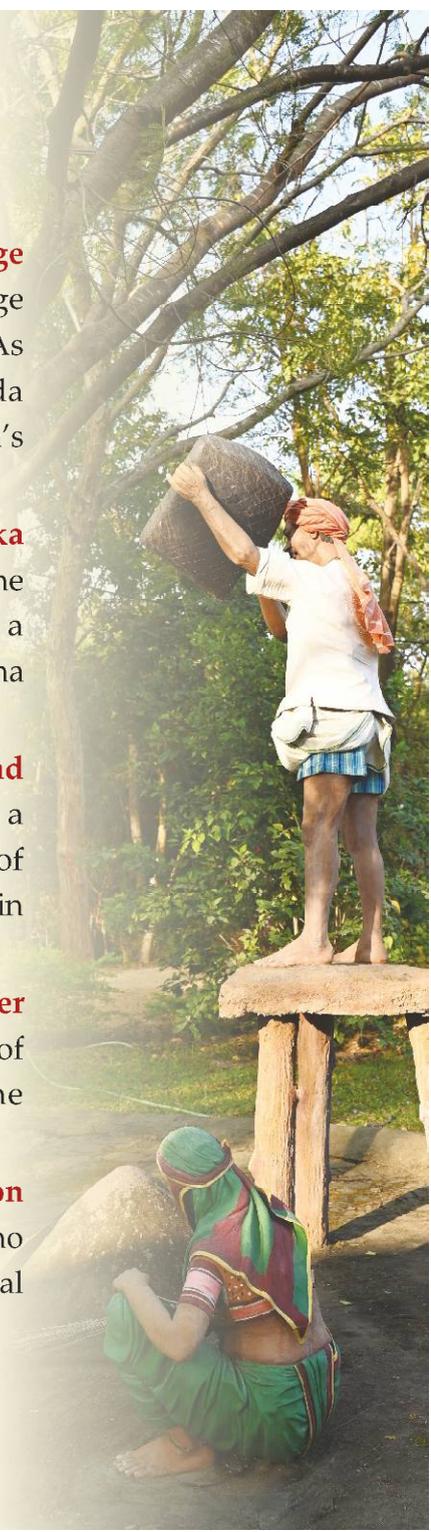
Late Shri H.N. Nanjaraj : Continuing a Legacy of Folk Heritage (From 1996 to 2018) : Late Shri H.N. Nanjaraj, the son of H.L. Nage Gowda, played a pivotal role in the development of Janapada Loka. As the Managing Trustee of Janapada Loka and Karnataka Janapada Parishath, Nanjaraj worked tirelessly to strengthen the institution's impact.

Smt. Indira Balakrishna: A Visionary Leader of Karnataka Janapada Parishath (from 2002 to 2018) : Smt. Indira Balakrishna, the daughter of H.L. Nagegowda, guiding the institution through a challenging period. Over her 15-year tenure, Smt. Indira Balakrishna revitalized the Parishath, bringing stability and renewed purpose.

Dr. Chakkere Shivashankar : A Pioneer of Folk Studies and Leadership (from 1994 to 2011) : Dr. Chakkere Shivashankar, a distinguished folklorist and scholar. Serving as the Secretary of Karnataka Janapada Parishath from 1994 to 2011, he played a vital role in the institution's growth and prominence.

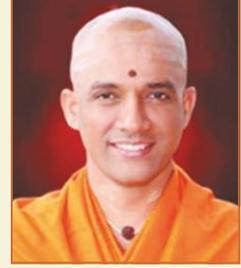
Dr. H.R. Rajegowda: A Dedicated Folklorist and Visionary Leader (from 2011 to) : Dr. H.R. Rajegowda, as the Honorary Secretary of Karnataka Janapada Parishath, played a pivotal role in the organization's administration and activities.

Dr. Sirigandha Srinivasmurthy : A Poeneer in Folk Documentation : Dr. Sirigandha Srinivasamurthy a famous Cinematographer who works with H.L. Nagegowda for meny year and documented valuebal folk and tribal cultures for the Janapada Parishath.



Chief Patron

Parama Poojya Jagadguru Shri Shri Shri Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Maha Swamiji : As the Chief Patron, Shri Shri Shri Dr. Nirmalanandanatha Maha Swamiji, Sri Adhichunchanagiri Mutt provides spiritual guidance and support to the Parishath, ensuring its activities align with cultural and ethical values.



Executive Committee

The present Executive Committee of Karnataka Janapada Parishath comprises distinguished individuals dedicated to preserving and promoting Karnataka's rich folk heritage. Their roles and contributions are integral to the organization's mission of fostering folk arts, culture, and traditions. Here's an overview of the key members:

Chairman

Prof. Hi. Chi. Boralingaiah: A touchbearer of Tradition and Scholarship (from 2024) : Prof. Hi. Chi. Boralingaiah, is a renowned academic and cultural leader, currently serving as Chairman of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath. He served as vice chancellor of Kannada University, Hampi and he is the man of many successful research projects.



Prof. Boralingaiah has held prestigious positions, including the Visiting Professor at the University of Würzburg, Germany. Representing India, he participated in International Puppet Festivals in Europe and Tehran. His academic influence extends through memberships in councils and committees of various universities and advisory roles in educational policy. Notably, he chaired the Kannada Language Teaching Implementation Committee, shaping language education in Karnataka.

An accomplished writer and folklorist, Prof. Boralingaiah has authored over 20 research works on folklore, tribal culture, and literature. Prof. Boralingaiah's role as chairman of the Karnataka Janapada Parishath has been instrumental in establishing Girijana Loka "The

Tribal Village'' in Janapada Loka. From 1980 as a young scholar he worked with H.L. Nagegowda in many aspects and played a significant role in developing Janapada Parishath.

Managing Trustee

Shri Aditya Nanjaraj - A Visionary Leader at Karnataka Janapada Parishath (from 2018) : Shri Aditya Nanjaraj, the Managing Trustee of Karnataka Janapada Parishath, is a dynamic individual carrying forward a rich legacy. As the grandson of the revered H. L. Nage Gowda and son of H.N. Nanjaraj, he embodies the spirit of dedication and service ingrained in his family. He assumed his pivotal role in the Parishath in 2018 after the untimely demise of Smt. Indira Balakrishna, stepping into a position of significant responsibility with determination and purpose.



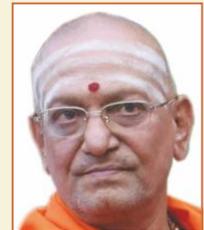
With a strong academic foundation, Shri Aditya completed his Masters in Engineering Management in the United States, and having worked with an MNC he equipped himself with advanced knowledge and global perspectives.

As Managing Trustee, Shri Aditya Nanjaraj has significantly contributed to the Karnataka Janapada Parishath, focusing on modernizing and streamlining its operations. His expertise spans across IT, engineering, civil and financial management, areas where he has implemented innovative solutions to enhance efficiency and transparency.

Board Members

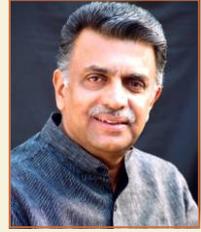
The Executive Committee includes a diverse group of accomplished individuals, each contributing their expertise to the Parishath's objectives:

1. **Shri Shri Annadaneshwara Swamiji** of the Adi Chunchanagiri Matha, Branch in Ramanagara is a highly respected spiritual leader. He significantly impacts society by establishing and supporting educational institutions that foster intellectual and personal growth. The Swamiji's teachings consistently emphasize human values and community welfare, reflecting the rich tradition of spiritual leadership



in Indian culture. Through various religious and cultural programs at the matha, devotees actively engage, showcasing their profound connection to his guidance. Ultimately, Shri Shri Annadaneshwara Swamiji is instrumental in preserving and advancing cultural heritage through his spiritual guidance and charitable activities.

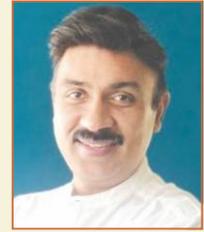
2. **Shri Balakrishna Hegde** is a distinguished individual who effectively blends his role as a trustee with his entrepreneurial acumen. Mr. Balakrishna Hegde is the Founder Chairman of the Bangalore based Chartered Group started in 1983, which is primarily into Residential Apartments. Mr Hegde's focus in business is on Uncompromising Ethical & Moral values, Complete Transparency and Impeccable Quality in Construction. Mr. Hegde was an active participant during the formation of CREDAI National in 1999. He is the Past President of CREDAI – Karnataka and the past Editor of CREDAI Times. Currently, he is the Chairman of Centre of Learning at CREDAI National. Apart from Business, he splits his time equally to Charitable, Social, Cultural pursuits - working actively as Founder Chairman of Premaanjali Foundation (since 1988) which serves slum children, needy and the blind, as Founder President of Rathna Avenue Association - a Resident Welfare Body (since 2004) and also as Trustee of Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheswara Dharmothana Trust, Karnataka Janapada Parishath, Indian Musical Experience (IME) and many other organisations. His passion in educating rural children has led him to adopting a Government School in Karnataka.



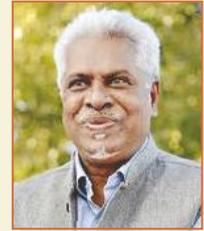
3. **Smt. Sujatha H.R.** is a notable Kannada poet, writer, and film producer, known for her dedication to cultural preservation. She actively promotes folk arts and traditions. Her creative work, both in writing and film production, often highlights the rich storytelling inherent in Karnataka's folk heritage. Through her artistic endeavors, she plays a vital role in bringing traditional narratives to a broader audience. Her multifaceted contributions underscore her commitment to the vibrant cultural landscape of the region.



4. **Dr. Krishnaraj** is a dedicated medical professional who extends his commitment beyond healthcare into significant social work. He is notably passionate about supporting initiatives that are deeply rooted in folk traditions and culture. His contributions likely involve leveraging his expertise and resources to uplift communities through culturally relevant programs. This blend of medical background and social activism makes him a unique proponent of preserving and promoting regional folk arts and practices. He exemplifies how individuals from diverse professional fields can contribute meaningfully to cultural heritage.



5. **Shri C. Basavalingiah** is a highly respected figure in Indian theatre, celebrated for his profound contributions to the performing arts. As a renowned theatre personality, he has dedicated his career to nurturing and promoting folk theatre traditions. His influential role as a former director of the National School of Drama (NSD) underscores his significant impact on theatre education and practice nationwide. Basavalingiah's work emphasizes bridging traditional folk forms with contemporary theatrical expressions. Through his extensive career, he has played a crucial role in bringing indigenous theatrical styles to the forefront.



6. **Prof. V.L. Patil**, from the Department of Folklore at Karnataka University, Dharwad, is a distinguished folk scholar. He is dedicated to ensuring academic rigor in cultural research, particularly within the vast field of folklore studies. His work at the university involves in-depth study and analysis of traditional knowledge, oral histories, and various folk expressions. Prof. Patil's contributions are crucial for documenting and understanding the diverse cultural heritage of Karnataka and beyond. Through his academic pursuits, he plays a vital role in elevating folklore studies to a recognized and respected discipline.



7. **Dr. Vemgal Narayanaswamy** is a remarkable personality, having achieved distinction both in public service and the arts. He is a retired Superintendent of Police, showcasing a career dedicated to law enforcement. Beyond his demanding professional life, Dr. Narayanaswamy is an accomplished 'A' grade folk singer, a testament to his profound talent and passion for traditional music. His musical journey includes a doctorate in folk theatre, highlighting his deep academic engagement with the art form. Furthermore, he serves as the Chairman of the Vemgal Narayana Swamy Pratishtana, extending his contributions to the cultural sphere through this organization.



State Government Representation

8. **Department of Kannada and Culture, Government of Karnataka**
9. **State Archeological Department, Government of Karnataka**
10. **State Tourism Department, Government of Karnataka**

The committee's collective efforts foster research, education, and outreach programs to ensure that Karnataka's folk culture continues to thrive and inspire future generations.

Dr. Nandakumar Hegde serves as an Administrative Officer in Karnataka Janapada Parishath, bringing a wealth of academic and professional experience to his role. He holds M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. degrees, all earned from the esteemed Central University of Hyderabad. Beyond academia, Dr. Hegde has a rich professional background, having contributed to various prominent print and electronic media conglomerates. His strong academic foundation is complemented by numerous research papers published in both national and international journals. He is also qualified in Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) by UNESCO, a qualification he has leveraged in his significant contributions to Janapada Loka, particularly in projects related to folk tourism and its UNESCO accreditation efforts.



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LOKANIVASA

KARNATAKA JANAPADA PARISHATH
and
JANAPADALOKA

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*Karnataka
Janapada Parishath
and
Janapadaloka*

(A UNESCO Accredited Organization)



Rs. 100/-