

of one God, who is omni - present and omniscient. It condemned some of the evil practices of Hinduism like caste system, Sati, Child Marriages etc. Brahma Samaj evoked issues that were common to people all around the Indian sub-continent. The Brahma Samaj has played a significant role in the renaissance of India and the roots of much of the modern thinking in India can be traced back to Brahma Samaj.

The Theosophical Society

The Theosophical Society was founded in the United States by Madam H.P Blavatsky and Colonel H.S. Olcott who later came to India and founded the headquarters of the Society at Adyar near Madras in 1882. The Theosophical movement soon grew in India as a result of the leadership given to it by Mrs. Annie Besant who had come to India in 1893. The Theosophical society was formed to advance the spiritual principles and search for truth known as Theosophy. They recognised the doctrine of the transmigration of the soul.

Prarthana Samaj

Prarthana Samaj was founded in 1867 in Mumbai by Dr. Atmaram Pandurang as an off shoot of the Brahma Samaj. It was later joined by M.G. Ranade and R.G. Bhandarkar. It aimed at removing the evil social customs. It preached the worship of one God and tried to free religion of caste orthodoxy and priestly domination.

Aligarh Movement

Aligarh Movement was started by Sir Syed

RAMAKRISHNA MISSION

Ramakrishna Mission is a humanitarian organisation founded by Sri Rama Krishnan Paramahansa's Chief disciple Swami Vivekananda in 1897. The aims and ideals of the mission are purely spiritual and humanitarian and has no relation with politics. The principles of Karma Yoga in Bhagavad Gita are one of the main source of inspiration for the Ramakrishna Mission. The Mission conducts extensive work in healthcare, disaster relief, rural management, tribal welfare, elementary and higher education and culture. The headquarters of the Ramakrishna Mission is at Belur Math near Kolkata.

Ahmad Khan to educate the Muslims of the Indian subcontinent after the defeat of the rebels in Indian rebellion of 1817. It had enormous success and had a profound impact on the future of the subcontinent. In 1875, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan founded the Muhammedan Anglo - Oriental College at Aligarh as a centre for spreading western sciences and culture. Later this College grew into the Aligarh Muslim University.

Shuddhi Movement

Shuddhi Movement was started by Arya Samaj in early 20th Century to bring back the people who transformed their religion to Islam and Christianity from Hinduism. Islam and Christianity claim divine authority for their Koran and Bible but the Hindus does not put up such claims for Vedas. Founder of Arya Samaj, Dayananda strived to give Vedas the similar degree of supernatural authority. The process of reconverting Hindus from Islam and Christianity was accompanied by a Sanghathan movements, which was launched to unify the Hindus and organise them in self - defence

Young Bengal Movement

Young Bengal Movement was started by Sir Henry Louis Vivian Derozio, teacher of Hindu

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Festival is conducted on the first week of January in Ahmedabad every year. This festival was inaugurated by Pt. Ravi Shankar in 1980. All leading vocalist as well as instrumentalists participate on this platform regularly. Some of the innovative features of this festival have been instrument and dance ensembles, Tala Vadya Kacheri, Rajasthani and Punjab Folk music. Saptak also tries to keep alive Thumri and Dhrupad and instruments like Sarangi and Pakhawaj by inviting the older generation of artists specialising in these fields.

Savai Gandharva Music Festival : Savai Gandharva Sangeet Mahotsav is celebrated in Pune usually in December. It is held in commemoration of Pandit Rambhan Kundgolkar, the eminent Khyal Singer. His student, Pandi Bhimsen Joshi conducts the festival to observe his Gurus death anniversary. Many eminent classical music artists from all over the country participate in this festival.

Tansen Music Festival : Tansen Music Festival is held in Gwalior in memory of the great musician Tansen, the father of Hindustani Music especially the Dhrapa style. The festival is held, near the tomb of Tansen at Behat, Gwalior in the month of November/ December every year. Renowned classical singers from the country gather and perform for five night long sessions.

Thyagaraja Music Festival : Thyagaraja Music festival is held in Thiruvaiyaru (situated 13kms from Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu), where the great saint and music composer Thyagaraja lived and attained Samadhi. Here an eight day music festival is held every year towards the end of January. The venue is near his Samadhi on the banks of river Cauvery. This carnatic music festival attracts music lovers from all corners of the country.

Chennai music and dance festival : Chennai music and dance festival is a celebration of classical music and dance of South India held during mid December to mid January in

Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The festival is held at a number of venues around the city by various Sabhas or organisations. Many eminent artists from various parts of India participate in this festival. Performances include vocal and instrumental music, dance - sole, and group, both by Junior and senior artists.

Gharanaa Music Festival : Gharana is an annual festival of Hindustani classical music held in January in Chennai. The festival is usually conducted at Museum Theatre in Egmore, Chennai annually for three days. Many eminent Hindustani music maestros perform in this music festival. The aim of this festival is to initiate South Indian music lovers with the Hindustani music, especially the Dhrupad style.

Ellora Ajanta Aurangabad Festival : It is a festival of Carnatic music held in November in Sumeri Mahal in Aurangabad. This festival showcases a mix of classical and folk - dances, instrumental, vocals milajula mushaira etc from the best talents in Indian music and dance. India's renowned artists perform their talents in this festival.

Soorya Music Festival : The Soorya classical music and dance festival is conducted for 10 days every years in Trivandrum, Kerala. It starts from 1st October to 10th October. The festival is organized by Soorya stage and Film Society founded by Soorya Krishnamoorthy. Renowned dancers and musicians from all over India participate in this festival.

Swathi Music Festival : Swathi Sangeethotsavam is a week long festival of music celebrating the compositions of Maharaja Swathi Thirunal. The festival is held from 6 to 12 January every year at the courtyard of Kuthira Malika, Trivandrum. The event features Hindustani and Carnatic classical music. The festival is conducted by HH Sri. Rama Varma Maharaja of Travancore Trust.

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CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Lalit Kala Academy

- Established in 1954. Headquarters: New Delhi. Since its inception, the Academy has been organising national exhibition of contemporary Indian art with 15 national awards, each of Rs. 50,000. Every three years, the Academy also organises Triennial India, an International exhibition of contemporary art in New Delhi.
- Regional Centres : Chennai, Lucknow, Kolkata and Bhubaneshwar and Garhi Artist Studies, Delhi.
- The Academy honours eminent artists and art historians every year by electing them as fellows of the Academy. To propagate Indian art outside, the Academy regularly participates in International Biennials and Triennials abroad and also organises exhibitions of works of art from other countries. To foster contacts with artists from outside, it sponsors exchange of artists with other countries under the various cultural exchange programmes and agreements of the Government.
- The present chairman of Lalit Kala Academy: Ashok Vajpayee.

Sangeet Natak Academy

It was established on January 28, 1953 by a resolution of the Ministry of Education headed by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad signed on 31st May 1952. Headquarter – New Delhi;

The Sangeet Natak Academy - India's National Academy for Music, Dance and Drama – is the first Academy of the Arts, set up by the Republic of India. It encourages the forms of Dance, Drama and Music, offers Scholarships to Artists and Teachers of traditional arts and gives awards to outstanding Artists. The Academy Awards are the highest National recognition conferred on participating artists. The

Academy also confers Fellowships to Scholars, their numbers being restricted to 30 living recipients. The Fellowship and Awards carries a cash prize of Rs. 50,000 a shawl and 'Tamrapatra'.

- The present chairperson of Sangeet Natak Academy - Ram Nivas Mirdha

Sahitya Academy

- Sahitya Academy is the Indian National Academy of letters meant to promote the cause of Indian literature through publications, translations, seminars, workshops, cultural exchange programmes and literary meets organised all over the country.

The Academy was founded in March 1954 as an autonomous body fully funded by the Department of Culture. The Academy has recognised 24 languages. It has an Advisory Board for each of the languages that suggests various programmes and publications in the concerned languages. Its head office is in New Delhi.

- The highest honour conferred by the Academy on a writer is by electing him its fellow. This honour is reserved for the 'Immortals of Literature' and limited to 21 at any given time.
- The present Chairman of Sahitya Academy is Sunil Gangopadhyay.

National School of Drama

It is one of the foremost theatre institutions of the World and the only one of its kind in India. It was set up by Sangeet Natak Academy in 1959, later in 1975 it became an autonomous body, totally financed by Department of Culture. The objective of NSD is to train students in all aspects of theatre, including Theatre History Production, Scene Design, Costume Designs, Lighting, Makeup etc. The training course at NSD Art and Culture is of three years duration. Each year, 20 students are admitted to the course.

as a nodal agency for setting up a National Data Bank on Arts, Humanities and Cultural Heritage.

? **Indian Society of Oriental Art**

Set up in Kolkata, it promotes knowledge of ancient and modern Indian and oriental art; collects objects of art; holds exhibitions, lectures seminars etc. it also researches and study. It has a collection of rare and modern art books.

? **Indian Council for Cultural Relations**

It was founded on 9 April 1950 by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first Education Minister of independent India. An autonomous body to establish and promote cultural relations and exchanges between India and other countries. It has overseas offices at Suva (Fiji), San Francisco (US), Georgetown (Guyana). It organises Nehru Memorial award for International Understanding. It has established cultural centers for Indians abroad.

? **Indian Council of Historical Research**

It enunciates and implements national policy of historical research and encourages scientific writing of history. It gives grants for seminars, research activities, and publications in the field of history. It maintains a large and expanding library cum documentation centre exclusively for researchers and scholars.

? **Indian Institute of Islamic Studies**

Set up in 1963, at New Delhi, its main objects are to promote the study of Islamic culture and civilization, to promote intercourse between scholars and institutions engaged in Islamic studies in different countries and focus on India's contribution to Islam. It has 5000 plus manuscripts in Arabic and Persian.

? **National Gallery of Modern Art**

The National Gallery of Modern Art (NGMA), New Delhi was founded in 1954. The main aim of the NGMA is the promotion and development of contemporary Indian Art. The NGMA's important collections include

paintings, sculpture, graphic arts and photographs. NGMA organizes exhibitions from its collection and under Cultural Exchange programme periodically. The foremost responsibility of the NGMA is the ensure quality and to set and maintain standards of excellence.

? **National Mission for Manuscripts**

The National Mission for Manuscripts was launched in February, 2003 by the Ministry of Culture to save the most valuable of our cultural inheritance, i.e., manuscripts. The mission seeks to unearth and preserve the vast manuscript wealth of India. An ambitious five year project, the Mission seeks not merely to locate catalogue and preserve India's manuscripts but also to enhance access, spread awareness and encourage their use for educational purposes.

MUSEUMS

National Museum

Established on 15th August 1949, functioning as a Subordinate Office under Ministry of Culture since 1960, formally inaugurated on 18 December 1960.

Location : In the Darbar Hall of the Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.

Activities: Acquisition of art objects, their exhibition and conservation. Coordinates the 'Festival of India' in various countries. It has now 26 galleries with new addition of Buddhist Art gallery, Decorative Arts gallery, Jewellery Gallery, Tanjore and Mysore School of Painting, Evolution of Indian Scripts and Coins Gallery etc.

Indian Museum

Established: 2nd February 1814, Location: Kolkata

It is the ninth oldest regular museum of the world, a second oldest institution of its kind in the Asia Pacific Region and repository of the largest museum objects in India. It has

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compile the Indian National Bibliography after the promulgation of the delivery of books act, 1954.

? **State Central Library, Mumbai**

Established in 1804, the Asiatic Society focuses on study and research in languages, philosophy, arts and natural & social sciences on Asia in general and India in particular. Besides a museum, the Asiatic Society maintains a state central library. The Asiatic Society of Bombay is a public state library in the city of Mumbai. It was established in 1803 as "The Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay Branch." The society, founded by Sir James Mackintosh was known as the Literary Society of Bombay, and first met on November 26, 1830. It was later moved to the present Tower Hall building which was built in 1804. The library is currently run on an annual grant by Maharashtra.

? **Central Secretariat Library, Delhi**

The Central Secretariat Library (CSL) originally known as Imperial Secretariat Library, Kolkata was established in 1899. Since 1969 the Library has been housed at Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi. It has a collection of over several thousand documents mainly on Social Sciences and Humanities. It is a depository of Indian Official Documents, Central Government and has a strong collection of State Government documents also.

? **Connemara Public Library, Chennai**

Connemara Public Library at Chennai is one of the four National Depository libraries, which receive a copy of all books, newspapers and periodicals published in India. Established in 1890 the library is a repository of centuries old publications, wherein lie some of the most respected works and collections in the country. It also serves as a depository library for the UN.

? **Saraswati Mahal Library, Thanjavur**

The Thanjavur Maharaja Serfoji's Saraswati Mahal Library is one of the few medieval libraries that exist in the world. It is an unbounded repository of culture and inexhaust-

ible treasure-house of knowledge built up by the successive dynasties of Nayaks and Marathas of Thanjavur. It contains very rare and valuable collection of manuscripts on all aspects of art, culture and literature The En-

Some Important Institutes

- Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manava Sangrahalaya, Bhopal
- National Mission for Manuscripts, Delhi
- Allahabad Museum, Allahabad
- Asiatic Society, Kolkata
- Central Institute of Buddhist Studies, Jammu and Kashmir
- Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies (CIHTS)
- Centre for Cultural Resources and Training, New Delhi
- Delhi Public Library, Delhi
- Gandhi Samiti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi
- Indian Museum, Kolkata
- Kalakshetra Foundation, Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai
- Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna
- Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata
- National Council of Science Museums, Kolkata
- National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology (MMIHACM), Delhi
- Nav Nalanda Mahavihara, Nalanda, Bihar
- Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi (Teen Murti Bhavan)
- Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata
- Raza Library, Rampur
- Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad
- Saraswathi Mahal Library, Tanjore
- Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata

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MASS COMMUNICATIONS

Prasar Bharati

Prasar Bharati is the public service broadcaster in the country with All India Radio and Doordarshan as its two constituents. It came into existence on 23 November, 1997. Its head quarters is in Delhi.

The major objectives of the Prasar Bharati Corporation are as follows.

- 1) Upholding the unity and integrity of the country and the values enshrined in the constitution.
- 2) Promoting national integration.
- 3) Safeguarding citizen's rights and to be informed on all matters of public interest and presenting a fair and balanced flow of information.
- 4) Paying special attention to the fields of education and spread of literacy, agriculture, rural development, health and family welfare and science and technology.
- 5) Creating awareness about women's issues and taking special steps to protect the interests of children, the aged and other vulnerable sections of society.
- 6) Providing adequate coverage to the diverse cultures, sports and games and youth affairs.
- 7) Promoting social justice, safeguarding the rights of working classes, minorities and tribal communities.
- 8) Expanding broadcasting facilities and promoting research and development

in broadcast technology. The present chairman of Prasar Bharati - **Ms. Mrinal Pande**

RADIO

Radio Broadcasting started in India in 1927 with two privately owned transmitters at Mumbai and Kolkata, which were taken over by the Government in 1930. These were operating under the name "India Broadcasting Service" until 1936 when it was given the present name "All India Radio (AIR)". It also came to be known as "Akashwani" from 1957. All India Radio, informs, educates and entertains people through its programmes broadcast from various stations. The AIR network comprises the national channel, regional stations, local radio stations, Vividh Bharati Centres, FM Stereo services and North - Eastern Services. All India Radio is one of the largest broadcasting networks in the world. As in December 2015, the network comprises 233 stations and 375 transmitters, which provide

IMPROVISATIONAL THEATRE IN INDIA

Improvisational theatre is a form of theatre in which the improvisational actors use improvisational acting techniques to perform spontaneously. Improvisers typically use audience suggestions to guide the performance as they create dialogue, setting and plot extemporaneously. Improvisational Theatre in India is largely used for educational, interventional and entertainment purposes. The traces of improvisational theatre in India dates back to the year 1990.

Improvisational Theatre groups in India are yours truly Theatre, Janasanskriti, Forum theatre, playback theatre, Mushyara theatre etc.

Ancient Theatre Personalities

Bharata Muni, Kalidasa, Sudraka, Bhasa, Bhavabhuti

Medieval age Theatre personalities

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Dinabandhu Mitra, Michael Madhusudan Dutta, Bharatendu Harischandra, Jai Shankar Prasad.

National Film Archive of India

The National Film Archive of India was established as an independent media unit under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in February 1964 with the following aims and objectives

- 1) To trace, acquire and preserve for posterity the heritage of national cinema and build up a representative collection of World Cinema.
- 2) To classify and document data related to film, undertake and encourage research on cinema and publish and distribute them; and
- 3) To act as a centre for dissemination of film culture in the country and to ensure the cultural presence of Indian Cinema abroad.

Children's Film Society, India (CFSI)

Children's Film Society, India was established in 1955 to provide value - based entertainment to children through the medium of films. CFSI is engaged in production, acquisition, distribution, exhibition and promotion of children's films. The head office of the CFSI is in Mumbai with branch offices in New Delhi and Chennai. CFSI holds its own International Children's Film Festival once every two years. The 16th edition of this Festival was held in Hyderabad in November 2009. 70 films from 20 countries were selected for participation in the festival. 350 children participated in the festival from across the country.

TRAINING INSTITUTE

Film and Television Institute of India, Pune

The Film Institute was setup by the Government of India in 1960. With the coming of Television wing in 1974, the Institute was re-designated as Film and Television Institute of India. The Institute became a society in October 1974. The society consists of eminent personalities connected with film, Television, Communication, Culture, Alumni of Institute and Ex-officio Government members. The

Institute is governed by a Governing Council, headed by a Chairman. The current chairman is Dr. U.R. Ananthamurthy. The Institute consists of two wings, The Film wing and the TV wing. It offers courses in both Film and Television. Film and Television Institute provides the latest education and technological experience in the art and technique of film making and television production.

Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI)

SRFTI located in Kolkata is the second national level film training Institute to be established by the Government of India. The Institute offers three - year post graduate diploma courses in Direction and Screenplay writing, Cinematography, Editing, and Audiography. Apart from the 3 year diploma course, the institute also has the provision to conduct short and medium term courses on subjects related to film and television research and explorative studies in the sociology, culture and technology of film and television are other areas of focus in SRFTI

Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC)

IIMC came into existence on 17th August 1963. It was established with the basic objective of undertaking teaching, training and research in the area of mass communication. The institute conducts a number of Post - graduate Diploma Courses in Print Journalism, Radio and TV Journalism and Advertising and Public Relations. A number of specialised short - term courses ranging from one week to twelve weeks are also organised to meet the ever - growing training needs of communication professionals working in various media/publicity outfits of central, state governments and public sector organizations. In addition the institute also collaborates with different national and international agencies in conducting training programmes, seminars, workshops etc. and in undertaking research projects.

introduction of British education during colonial rule.

Tamil Literature

It is the language of Dravida family, the origin, of which may be traced around 500 B.C. It is very ancient as well as modern. At the primary stage Tolkapiyam, a grammar was published. This period (500 B.C.-200 B.C.) is known as the Sangam period. Tirukural of Tiruvallure is still very popular.

As far as devotional literary work is concerned, the Ramayana of Kamban got wide popularity. Manimekhale and Shilappadikaram are the other prominent epics.

The trends of modernisation, patriotism and consciousness in Tamil literature started with the works of Subrahmanyam Bharthi. He inspired thousands of youths through his literary works. The other prominent novelists are Rajan Ayyar, Madhavaiya, Pudumaipitan, K.P. Rajgopalan and Kalki Krishnamurti. The chief architect of prose composition are Jayakantan, Neela Palaiahnabhan, Sunderamswami and Parnasarthi etc.

Telugu Literature

The origin of this language is traced to the 11th century. The period between 11th to 15th century is considered as the period of translation. In the 16th century. The poet, Srinath who composed Shreengar Naishadham was widely acclaimed.

Gona Ganna Reddy is considered as the Tulsidas of Telugu. His Rangnath Ramayana became very popular. Patana, Tikkanna and Gauranna were the other religious poets. The period of 16th and 17th centuries is considered as the golden age in the Telugu literature. 19th century is considered as the period of Renaissance in Telugu literature.

Santhali Literature

Santhali language is classified under the Munda sub-group of the Austric family. The Santhali speaking population is spread across

Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Assam, Tripura, and even Nepal, Bangladesh, Tibet and Burma.

After a long struggle, the Santhali language was incorporated into the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution on 22 December, 2003. It is believed that the Santhali literature has its beginning in the 14th century. The first ever book in Santhali literature was published in 1852. It was written by Reverend J. Phillips, titled "An Introduction to the Santhali language". The first real work by a Santhali writer was a translation of R. Corstairs 'Harma's Village' by R.P.K. Rapaj and was titled 'Harmawah Ato'. The first collection of poems that was printed was that of Paul Jujhar Soren titled 'Baha Dalwak'.

Pt. Raghunath Murmu, Naran Soren (Toresutam), Aditya Mira (Santani), Babulal Murmu (Adiyas) are some of the prominent Santhali literary figures. Writers like Doman Samir, Basudev Besra and Bhagwat Murmu have valuable contributions to this literature. Recently, Jadumani Besra became the first Santhali writer to be awarded the prestigious Sahitya Akademi Puraskar.

Sanskrit Literature

The origin of Sanskrit language is traced during the 1500 B.C. to 1200 B.C. The Ashthadhayi of Panini, Ramayana of Valmiki, Mahabharata of Vyas etc. were composed during early times.

The Panchatantra of Vishnu Sharma, Budhacharitra of Ashwaghosh and Bodhimatiakavya of Saundaranand are other famous works of this period. Meghdutam, Kumarsambhav and Raghuvansham of Kalidas are still very popular. His famous drama, Abhigyan Shakuntalam got world wide recognition. Malvikagnimitra and Vikramorvshiyam are the other famous dramas of Kalidas.

Ashwaghosh and Bhasa started the dramatical composition in Sanskrit. Pratiyogandharayan and Pratibhanatkam are very popular dramas