

# Report

## Two-Day Conservation Workshop, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

Mata Sundri College for Women presented a Two-day Conservation Workshop for 3rd-year History Honours and History Discipline BA Programme students on the topic “Introduction to Conservation of Artifacts” held on the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2024. It was conducted by the Conservation Division of Indira Gandhi Centre for the Arts, Janpath, Delhi.

Day 1 of the workshop started with the Brief Introduction of the Conservation Workshop and its objectives laid out by Dr Achal Pandya, Professor and Head of the Conservation Division. This was followed by the Introductory Session moderated by Ms. Shivangi Naithani Devrani, in which Dr Achal Pandya, Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta, Dr. Priyanka Chanana Sahni, and Dr. Ruchika Sharma were on the panel. The first lecture for day 1 started at 10.45 am. It was attended by 27 students and Prof Daljit Kaur and Mr Satveer Singh also joined them. Dr. Achal Pandya gave an overview of Art Conservation involving direct intervention on the artwork to repair and restore it. This is usually done when damage has already occurred. Followed by Preventive Conservation it focuses on creating and maintaining optimal conditions for artworks. Lecture 2 focused on Understanding the Various Aggressors such as environmental, biological, and human-made aggressors, they were discussed along with different case studies and examples. In the post-lunch session, the students were divided into three groups with 9 students each, a guided tour of the conservation labs of the Janapada Sampada division and also visited inside storage space of the cultural archives. Day 1 of the workshop ended with a demonstration of archival techniques and types of equipment used for conservation.

Day 2 of the workshop began with a lecture on the definition of a museum and its guidelines while understanding different types of museum objects. The speaker delved into the topic discussing the material, historical significance, and conservation challenges of these museum objects. The groups were created for the hands-on session on remedial conservation that included Archival binding, Documentation, Photography, Handling, and Surface cleaning. Remedial Conservation techniques include archival binding, thorough documentation, precise photography, careful handling, and gentle surface cleaning. These practices were taught in a hands-on session

to ensure the preservation and longevity of these valuable artifacts. The practical session continued even after the lunch break; each group switched to a different activity each time. The session ended with a discussion on Art Conservation and its interdisciplinary nature followed by a question-and-answer session, in which the students asked their doubts and enthusiastically interacted with the speakers. The two-day conservation workshop ended with the certificate distribution to the students and as well as the faculty members. The complete two-day workshop was attended by 27 students along with faculty from the History Department, Dr. Simmi Kapoor Mehta (Teacher-in-Charge), Ms. Shivangi Naithani Devrani (Programme-Coordinator) and Mr. Satveer Singh on both