

SUTRA
in partnership with

Botanical Survey of India
Ministry of Environment & Forests

Indian Museum Kolkata
Ministry of Culture

Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR
Kolkata

Victoria and Albert Museum
London

presents

RAKSHA

INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS, EXHIBITIONS & WORKSHOPS
on

CONSERVATION OF TEXTILES and TEXTILE TRADITIONS
20th - 27th February 2010 in Kolkata, India

The cultural heritage of India includes some of the world's most beautiful textiles and their preservation is a subject which is of great importance to curators, conservators, private collectors and all those with a general interest in textiles. Fortunately the subcontinent still continues to produce exquisite textiles. However with changing economies and social history, many textile traditions have been lost or are on the verge of disappearing.

SUTRA, a society concerned with the preservation of our Textile Heritage, in partnership with the Botanical Survey of India, The Indian Museum, Kolkata, The Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR, Kolkata and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, is organizing an event on the **Conservation of Textiles and Textile Traditions** from 20th to 27th February, 2010, comprising of Seminars, Workshops, Exhibitions and Demonstrations of traditional weaving and patterning at the Tagore Centre, ICCR, Ho Chi Minh Sarani, Kolkata, India.

Highlights of the event

VRIKSHA

The Botanical Survey of India is the repository of the priceless fourteen volume set of Sir Thomas Wardle documentation of natural dye textile samples of the 1870s. These are one of a kind and some original documents will be exhibited for the very first time in Kolkata. Along with this some of the equally important eighteen volume set of documentation of Indian textile samples of the same period by John Forbes Watson will also be on display. By sheer coincidence this happens to be the centennial year of Sir Thomas Wardle. A one day seminar with Indian and international experts will focus on different aspects of this collection.

EXHIBITION AND SEMINAR ON RARE DOCUMENTS WITH TEXTILE SAMPLES IN THE COLLECTION OF THE BOTANICAL SURVEY OF INDIA, KOLKATA

- A weeklong **Exhibition** of :
 - Examples of the rare natural dye textile samples compiled by **Sir Thomas Wardle** in the 1870s – (14 Volumes) and related objects.

- Examples of the **Forbes Watson** documents containing textile samples from the Indian subcontinent in the 1860s – (18 Volumes) and related objects.
- A one day **Seminar** focusing on these rare documents and other Indian textile traditions. National and international experts will present papers on the subjects.

VASTRA

SEMINAR AND WORKSHOPS ON THE CONSERVATION OF TEXTILES:

- A **one day Seminar** on the principles of textile conservation by **senior conservators of the Victoria and Albert Museum, London and experts from other museums**
- 2 three-day workshops focusing on practical applications of textile conservation and integrated pest management

There will also be:

Exhibitions; sale of textiles, textile crafts and handicrafts; displays and demonstrations of natural dyes and textile techniques.

Tours of textile and cultural heritage centres.

The event would be of particular benefit to a wide range of people including museum professionals, textile curators and conservators; textile scholars, collectors, enthusiasts, designers and manufacturers; natural dye specialists, botanists, chemists, historians and all interested in the conservation of cultural heritage.

SUTRA, a non profit society concerned with the **Preservation of our Textile Heritage**, was formed in Kolkata in 2002, with the objective of raising awareness of our textile heritage through seminars, exhibitions, workshops, publications and other means, to pave the way for further research, documentation, conservation and development of our textile traditions in order to reach and impact the grassroots level.

Note: **Raksha**: (*Sanskrit*) : to protect, save...

Vriksha: (*Sanskrit*) : plants, shrubs, trees ...

Vastra : (*Sanskrit*) : garments, clothing, textiles...

Programme subject to minor alterations

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