

A report of two day workshop on  
**Conservation Approach to Mughal Gardens:**  
with special reference to Bibi-ka-Maqbara

**Friday 17 February 2012**

The ASI, Aurangabad Circle and INTACH, Aurangabad Chapter jointly organized a two day workshop under events for celebrations of 150 years anniversary of ASI at the Bibi ka Maqbara, Aurangabad. In the Inaugural Session Dr. D. Dayalan Superintendent Archaeologist, ASI Aurangabad Circle delivered welcome address along with brief remarks by Sh. Mukund Bhogale, Convener, INTACH Aurangabad.



The concept of the workshop was introduced by Mr. Geert Robberechts, Convener, INTACH Belgium. Dr. Jagdish Patil, Managing Director, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation Ltd and other dignitaries inaugurated the workshop by lighting the lamp. Dr. Jagdish Patil delivered inaugural address.



The main event of the second session after tea break was **keynote lecture**: “*The Archaeological Park as a Tool for the Conservation of a Mughal Garden*” by Dr. Nalini Thakur (SPA, New Delhi). She emphasized on inclusion of larger area while dealing with heritage properties with gardens and effective measures to be taken by the government along with participation of the local communities. The second presentation was by Shri Ratish Nanda (Aga Khan Foundation, New Delhi) on “*The Restoration of the Humayun’s Tomb: the Garden*”. In his absence his paper was presented by Mr. Geert Robberechts, Convener, INTACH Belgium. The session resumed for lunch hosted by Archaeological Survey of India.



The session after lunch started with presentation of Shri Saleem Beg (INTACH J&K Chapter) on “*Safeguarding the Mughal Gardens of Kashmir*”. A paper on “*The Mughal Gardens of Kashmir, - The Pleasures of Paradise*” to be presented by Dr. Jan Haenraets (Atelier Anonymous, Vancouver, Canada) was also presented by Mr. Geert Robberechts. Dr. D. Dayalan (ASI, Aurangabad) presented on “*Gardens and Water Management Systems of the Mughals*”. The main emphasis of the presentation was on Mughal monuments of Agra, Burhanpur and Aurangabad, their gardens and water management system.



After tea break Shri Sharvey Dongde (BNCA, Pune) presented a paper on “Riddles of *Bani Begum Bagh*”. This monument protected by state archaeology remains good example of a Late Mughal Tomb Garden in the Deccan.



The last part of the first day of the workshop was discussion session, chaired by Mr. Geert Robberechts (INTACH Belgium) and the main topic of the discussion was on “*Restoration Issues for Mughal Garden*”.

### **Saturday 18 February 2012**

The first presentation in the morning session was presented by Sh.AMV Subramanyam, Deputy Superintending Archaeologist, ASI, Aurangabad Circle on “*Bibi-ka-Maqbara: A Classic Mughal Monument of Deccan*” supplemented by the commentary/ remarks of Dr. D. Dyalan. The second paper was presented by Sh. Manager Sing, Superintending Archaeological Chemist, Chemistry Branch, Aurangabad on “*Environmental Impact on Lime works of Bibi-ka-Maqbara*”. Dr. Vijay Paranjape presented the last paper of the workshop on “*Water Systems and Waterworks in the Gardens of the Bibi ka Maqbara*”. A presentation “*Horticulture Works Executed by Garden Branch at Bibi-ka-Maqbara Aurangabad*” was presented by Dr. D. Dayalan, SA, ASI, Aurangabad Circle on behalf of officials of the garden branch who could not attend workshop due to field visit.



This session was followed by a field visit of the delegates and participants to Bibi-ka- Maqbara, various issues related to structural and garden conservation were discussed in the field.



The field visit was followed by a Concluding Session with remarks by Dr. D. Dayalan, SA, ASI, Aurangabad Circle, Shri Mukund Bhogale, INTACH, Aurangabad Chapter and Mr. Geert Robberechts, Convener, INTACH Belgium. Thus, Aurangabad Circle managed a successful organization of two days workshop on “*Conservation Approach to Mughal Gardens: with special reference to Bibi-ka-Maqbara*” under series of events planned for 150 years anniversary celebrations of Archaeological Survey of India.

