

Scientific Cleaning and Heritage Mural Painting Event, WHS Makli

A Scientific Cleaning and Mural Painting event was held at the tombs of Sultan Ibrahim and Muhammad Amir Sultan at WHS Makli on Saturday, 8th November 2014. On 15th September 2014, the US Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) announced an award for the conservation of the tombs, which is being undertaken by Heritage Foundation of Pakistan (HF) in collaboration with Directorate of Archaeology, Sindh Culture Department.

In order to bring about greater awareness of the importance of heritage assets at Makli, HF organized the first community outreach program at the historic site on 8th November 2014. Heritage safeguarding events are part of HF's strategy to foster pride and stake in Pakistan's heritage sites. Several such events have been held in the past at diverse heritage venues across Pakistan: Tomb of Samma Noble I at WHS Makli, WHS Lahore Fort, WHS Taxila and monastery of Jaulian, palaces of Bahawalpur and a host of Karachi buildings.

The programme started with a welcome note on behalf of HF by Ms. Feryal Ali-Gauhar, Consultative Committee Member, followed by addresses by Sindh's Director Archaeology, Mr Qasim Ali Qasim and the U.S. Consul General, Mr. Brian Heath. Thereafter a scientific cleaning demonstration was given by Ar. Yasmeen Lari, CEO, HF, to the participating volunteers and students of Architecture belonging to Mehran University and IVS. All volunteers were enthusiastically involved in the cleaning exercise and were later joined by Senator Nasreen Jalil, who took part in the cleaning of political slogans. Members of the US Consulate General also took part with great enthusiasm.

Likewise, the Mural painting activity was thoroughly enjoyed by the students and teachers from schools situated in the neighbourhood of Makli. Students of Government Girls Community Model School, Government Girls High School, Government Boys High School, Government Girls Elementary School, Government Primary School and Government Boys Primary School prepared beautiful work representing various monuments and heritage sites.

The event was concluded with certificate distribution to schools and universities by H.E. Brian Heath and a closing speech by Hon'ble Nasreen Jalil who stressed the importance of conservation of heritage and culture of Pakistan in general and Sindh in particular.



US Consul General, Brian Heath addressing the audience.



CEO, Heritage Foundation Mrs Yasmeen Lari with Consultative Committee Member, Faryal Gauhar.



CEO Heritage Foundation Mrs Yasmeen Lari demonstrating dry cleaning of brick walls.



Groups of volunteers gathered around the Tomb of Sultan Ibrahim.



Sindh's director Archeology, Mr Qasim Ali Qasim with Co-founder of HF Mr. Sohail Zaheer Lari.



Concluding remarks by Senator, Nasreen Jalil.



Key plan showing the distribution of groups around tombs of Sultan Ibrahim and Amir Sultan Mohammad for cleaning.



Students scrubbing off graffiti from stone plinth.



Students taking part in the cleaning activity.



Hon'ble Nasreen Jalil washing off political slogans from the Tomb of Amir Sultan Mohammad.



Members of the US Consulate General taking part in the cleaning exercise.



One of the members of the US Consulate General scrubbing off markings from the plinth of tomb of Sultan Ibrahim.



School students painting murals.



H.E. Brian Heath in conversation with school children.



Certificate distribution by US Consul General.



A Group photo of volunteers with respective guests and hosts of the event.



Students talking to the media.



US Consul General trying his hand on pottery making.