


Quarterly Newsletter

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# Society to Save Rocks

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“ Woven palm leaf art work by T. Vijay Kumar, Final year student of JN Architecture and Fine Arts University. He was inspired by the Society's logo and worked on it for one week especially to be displayed at the Society's HLF space. ”



**SOCIETY to SAVE ROCKS**





# Hyderabad Literary Festival 2025 (HLF)

24 - 26 January, 2025

HLF 2025 was as vibrant as ever at the Sattva Knowledge City, Madhapur. The Society was given a spacious area where we had our stall and activities. With Aurora's Design Academy (ADA) and Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture & Fine Arts University (JNAFAU) as our partners, some interesting Art works were displayed.



JNAFAU Department of Painting displayed their student's works on eco-friendly canvases like grass paper and banana fabric, some with paints made of coffee or mehendi. ADA built installations on the rock theme, taught digital rock postcard making, rock book-mark painting, did rock tattoos, rock balancing and origami which all kept visitors more than engaged well past closing hours. We also had prominent environmentalists Bittu Sahgal, Asad Rahmani, Romulus Whitaker and his wife Janaki Lenin visiting who resonate with our cause and shared insights.

The highlight of our HLF programme was the premiering of "A Peaceful Movement" a dance-theatre dialogue produced & presented by Odissi dancer & Activist Nayantara Nanda Kumar and her troupe on 26 th January. This 45 minute energetic depiction of what can be achieved by a People's Peaceful Movement to save essential features of the environment enthralled the audience.

26th January was also the 29th Anniversary of our Society, celebrated by the distribution of 100 cupcakes to all the happy visitors.



Our gratitude to the HLF committee and all our partners for this great opportunity to spread awareness about our 2500 million year old rock heritage.

Art by D Nand Kishore  
Coffee stain on grass paper



Geologist Ravi Vundavalli demonstrating rock specimens



## Naimisam Earth Festival 2025

Held on 9th February at the Engineering Staff College of India, Gachibowli campus, this second edition of Naimisam's Earth Festival gave the Society the opportunity to have a stall and interact with a large number of school students. "Hyderabad- City of Rocks" was screened for the audience of Earth lovers, many of whom are striving to tone down lifestyles and spread awareness on saving water, forests, environment, and also eat healthy. The Rock demonstration and quiz by our Managing Committee Member, Geologist Ravi Vundavalli, and the rock tattoos were both great hits with the children.



## Outings with Gitanjali Vedika School



On 1st February 2025, Ravi Vundavalli conducted an awareness programme in Fakhruddingutta for teachers of Gitanjali Vedika School, Narsingi. 50 teachers and their Principal Sonia Nagpal participated in the programme which not only imparted the knowledge of the history and geology of our stunning rocky landscape but also gave them the opportunity to enjoy the early morning in the rocks by exploring the bolder-strewn hill of Fakhruddingutta and finally climbing the boulders. Emily, a friend from America, came along to experience and get a feel of our granites in preparation of a short film about Hyderabad's stony surroundings.

On March 1st 2025, Gitanjali Vedika sent 50 children with some of the parents and a group of teachers to Fakhruddingutta where Ravi Vundavalli again explained the geological formations to the big group and also conducted some relevant games and puzzles for the children. He also made the children search for Heritage Rocks on a big map. The children and parents were very interested in the presentations and became instant rock fans!





### March 2nd 2025 - 100th Managing Committee Meeting


Believe it or not, we have reached the 100th Committee Meeting this March! To celebrate the occasion, all previous and present Committee Members were invited for a get-together at Secretary, Frauke Quader's, home. Much was talked about the long history of the Society and the early times of our work.

We remembered the many MC members who have passed away during these 29 long years of the Society's existence, foremost our president of 25 years Mr. Narendra Luther. Many MC Members have served on the Committee and contributed to the development of the Society and our work. We thank them all for their dedicated involvement.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

 **13th April 2025, 7 pm.** - "A Peaceful Movement" on the theme of conserving the heritage rock formations of the Deccan by Nayantara Nanda Kumar & troupe will be presented at Our Sacred Space during their Summer Festival MIDSUMMER MAZURKA, Chaurah Auditorium

 **14th to 22nd April 2025** - "Whispering Rocks" an exhibition of art installations on rocks by well-known artists at the Forestrek Park, near Narsingi. This programme is being organized by Dr Avani Rao of ICONART Gallery with the support of the Society to Save Rocks. Other Participants: TG Photographic Society, Nature Lovers of Hyderabad, Handloom Weavers, Poets, Ikebana artists and performers. Earth Day on 22nd April will have special programmes, like a Rock Walk from 6.30 - 8.30 a.m. and a walk with Botanist Kobita Dass etc.

 **26th May to 1st June 2025** at IIT Hyderabad: The Society hopes to be present at the 10th International SPIC MACAY Convention through presentation of our film "Hyderabad, City of Rocks" and distribution of publicity material to a few hundred participants who come from all over the country.

 We have plans to stage "A Peaceful Movement" for a larger audience again to mark World Environment Day in the month of June. It is celebrated annually on **5th June** and encourages awareness and action for the protection of the environment. Please check our website closer to the date about the details.

# Updates from the Society

We welcome our new members

Beatrice D.F., Life Single  
Lavanya, Life Single  
Aditi Dalvi, Active Couple  
Srikanth, Active Single

Omar Ali Khan, Active Single  
D. Chandra, Active Single  
Srawanthi, Active Single

Conversion of membership

Sanandana, from Active Single to Life Single

Check below to become a member!

Class	Admission	Annual Subscription	Total
Active (Single)	100/-	500/-	600/-
Active (Couple)	100/-	600/-	700/-
Student (<18 Years)	100/-	200/-	300/-
Life (Single)	3000/-	NA	3000/-
Life (Couple)	5000/-	NA	5000/-
Institution	10000/-	NA	10000/-
Corporate	50000/-	NA	50000/-

Application Form for membership is available at [www.saverocks.org](http://www.saverocks.org)

## Managing Committee

President	Prof. Fatima Alikhan	98493 62944
Vice President	Sangeeta Varma	98490 44624
Secretary	Frauke Quader	98499 36248
Joint Secretary	Padmini B Patell	99128 65299
Treasurer	G.R.B. Pradeep	98667 52114
Members:	Dr. Sudheer Bhan	81060 72537
	Sajid Mehmood	98105 28070
	Amita Talwar	98490 10704
	Ravi Kumar Vundavalli	94944 89472



“ As we have all been anxious about the fate of our favorite **Mushroom Rock** on the HCU campus, the ray of hope is that the Society as been officially reassured by TGIIC that Mushroom Rock will be preserved with some landscaping around it. They insist though that the 400 acres are Government land according to the court verdict. We keep our fingers crossed and ensure that future generations have the Mushroom Rock to enjoy it as we rock lovers and generations of students of HCU have. ”

You can find us on



For more details, here's the QR code to our website



Sign our petition to help to save Fakhruddingutta (Khojaguda Rocks)



QR code for payment to the Society Please mention your name

## Check out our upcoming rock walks!



### Ghar-e-Mubarak

Behind Taramati Baradari

Meet at 6:00 a.m. at Royal Function Hall Lane, Narsingi (Return at 10 a.m. approx.)

Please register with Pradeep at 9866752114.



### Moula Ali

Meet at 6:00 a.m. at White House, opp. St. Ann's, Tarnaka (Return at 10 a.m. approx.)



### Durgam Cheruvu,

Jubilee Hills

Meet at 6:00 a.m. at Footwear Design and Development Institute, Off Dargah Road (Return at 10 a.m. approx.)

