

SOCIETY TO SAVE ROCKS

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Quarterly Newsletter

October-December 2023 Volume 109

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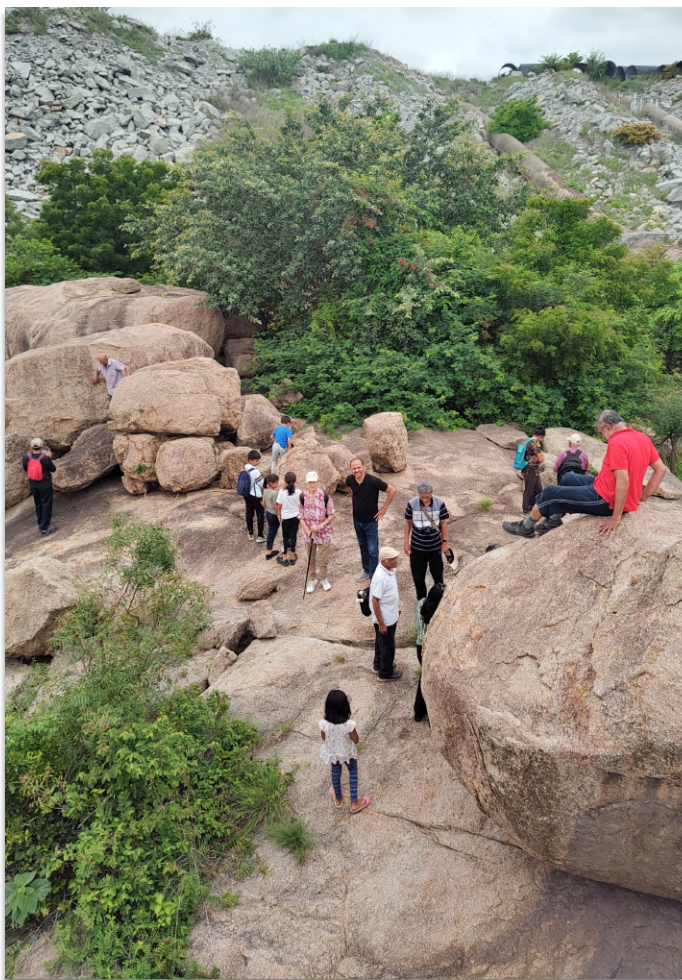
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ROCK WALK IN AUGUST 2023 AT RACHAKONDA FORT

ROCK WALKS OF THE PAST THREE MONTHS

July 2023

Venkateshwaragutta (Shamirpet)
55 Participants



August 2023

Rachakonda
65 Participants



September 2023

Kondamadugu
57 Participants



Experiencing Energies

- By Trishna-Mehta, Academic Coordinator, Oakridge International School

A bunch of people get together and connect for a Rock Walk – a monthly initiative by the Society to Save Rocks that brings together the vagabonds at heart. Everybody comes with a different flavour, a different zing, a different mindset, a different internal makeup and external build. But all have a thirst - some wish to achieve a personal goal or prove their caliber to themselves, some cannot accept that they cannot do something and put their might to push through, some have extreme interest in bouldering, some want to experiment and find a new high, some are looking forward to bond with newbies, have fun with friends, extend encouragement to others and some stand rock solid for the rock cause. As we traverse the course, the unknown becomes known, the strangers become friends, sharing, caring and bonding flourishes and soon we become one tribe, a sense of achievement permeates and we all head home with a feeling of immense satisfaction. Looking forward to the next rock walk !

Neolithic finds at the Khajaguda hills

According to a news item in The Hindu (Hyderabad) recently, archaeologist Dr. E. Nagireddy and his team discovered proof of settlements during the neolithic period in the rocky hill of Khajaguda (Fakhruddingutta): grooves in the sheet rocks of about 30 cm length, 4 to 6 cm width and 2 cm depth. They are thought to have been caused through cutting and sharpening of tools. They were found near several rock overhangs and caves which were probably used as shelters by the ancient people.

We will give you more news on this when more details are known.

Events Last Quarter

Uma Maheshwari, Schools & Educational Institutions Sub-Committee member of the Society, reports:

9th August 2023

Mr. Ravi Vundavalli, Managing Committee Member and Geologist Rtd. and I were invited to give a talk on to 3rd graders at **Chirec International School, Kondapur**. The students participated enthusiastically in the programme. We interacted with the kids time and again by asking them simple questions, making them see, touch and feel rock samples. The event was organized with meticulous follow up by Ms. Tajinder Kaur and was well received by both the children and the staff.



18th August 2023

Following an invitation to have a similar talk to 225 3rd graders and several teaching staff at **Oakridge International School, Nanakramguda**. Ms. Sangeeta Varma, Vice-President, and myself presented the talk and in order to make it interactive, the students were asked to identify the type of rocks and the resemblance of their shapes to other living beings besides sharing interesting aspects. The session ended with a vote of thanks by Trishna Mehta, Coordinator and teacher for the 3rd class who also attended the following rock walk with some students.



In Preparation for International Geodiversity Day

16th September 2023

A video workshop was held for the 5th and 7th semester students at the **Sri Venkateshwara College of Architecture (SVCA)** as a preliminary programme to the International Geodiversity Day event on 6th October in the College and in preparation for a video and sketching contest at that programme. Our Members Dr. Sathya Prakash and Vanesh Eada engaged with the students of Architecture for two hours to sensitize them to the importance of the Deccan rock heritage and ways to promote inclusive architecture.

25 of these students joined the 17th September Rock Walk to Kondamadugu Hill to make their videos and sketches. For many, this was the first encounter with such demanding terrain. The students' genuine interest and enthusiasm reaffirmed our belief that youth are powerful catalysts for rock conservation. Our gratitude to Principal Prof Kamini, HOD Shalini and Harini Naidu for providing this opportunity. We look forward to a continued partnership and more participation from SVCA.



From right: Jai, Sandy Maheshwari, Frauke, Vani, Meenakshi, Vinod, Marion
We missed Prof. C.P. Rajendran and Surya Teja

When in Bangalore recently, Frauke met some of the Members and friends of the Society who have settled there. We had a great time reconnecting.

The Rockathon 2023 - Our 10th Rockathon !

A full-day rock programme with many adventure and fun events

will be conducted by the Society to Save Rocks and the Great Hyderabad Adventure Club at the end of November 2023. Date and Venue and further details will be announced soon.

Rockwalkers and Members are requested to volunteer for the preparation and conduct of the Rockathon. Please contact the office and register on secretary@saverocks.org.

SCHEDULE OF ROCK WALKS

Rock Walks are conducted on the third Sunday of every month.
Everybody is welcome. Walking shoes and long pants should be worn.
Registration with GRB Pradeep at 9866752114

 Vijay Kumar

**15 OCT
SUN**

**19 NOV
SUN**

**17 DEC
SUN**

Koilkonda (near Mahabubnagar)

Meet at 07:00 a.m. sharp
NMDC, Masab Tank,
Full-day excursion by bus
Carry breakfast and Lunch
(Return approx. 6 p.m.)
see also below*

Bodugutta (near Koyalagudem)

Meet at 7:00 a.m. sharp
Opp. Ramoji Film City Main Gate,
Vijayawada Highway
Carry Lunch
(Return approx. 3 p.m.)

Under The Moon (Yadgarpally East)

Meet at 7:00 a.m. sharp
Opp. Main Gate of St. Ann's School,
SP Road, Secunderabad
(Return by Lunch)

***Excursion to Koilkonda**

Please pay Rs. 750 for transport, to the
Account of the Society to Save Rocks at
Bank of Baroda, Jubilee Hills Branch,
A/C No. 18090100003047
IFSC BARBOJUBILE.
Enroll with Pradeep at
9866752114.

**Last date for registration and
payment of Bus fees is 11 OCT 2023**



Signature Petition:
Help to save Fakhrud dingutta
(Khajaguda Rocks) and scan
the QR code to sign our petition



Scan this QR code to watch
our documentary "Hyderabad
- City of Rocks" on YouTube

BECOME OUR MEMBER

CLASS	ADMISSION	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
Active (Single)	₹ 100.00	₹ 500.00
Active (Couple)	₹ 100.00	₹ 600.00
Student (Under 18 Years)	₹ 100.00	₹ 200.00
Life (Single)	₹ 3000.00	NA
Life (Couple)	₹ 5000.00	NA
Institution	₹ 10000.00	NA
Corporate	₹ 50000.00	NA

MANAGING COMMITTEE

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