

Society to Save Rocks

1236, Road No.60, Jubilee Hills, 📍

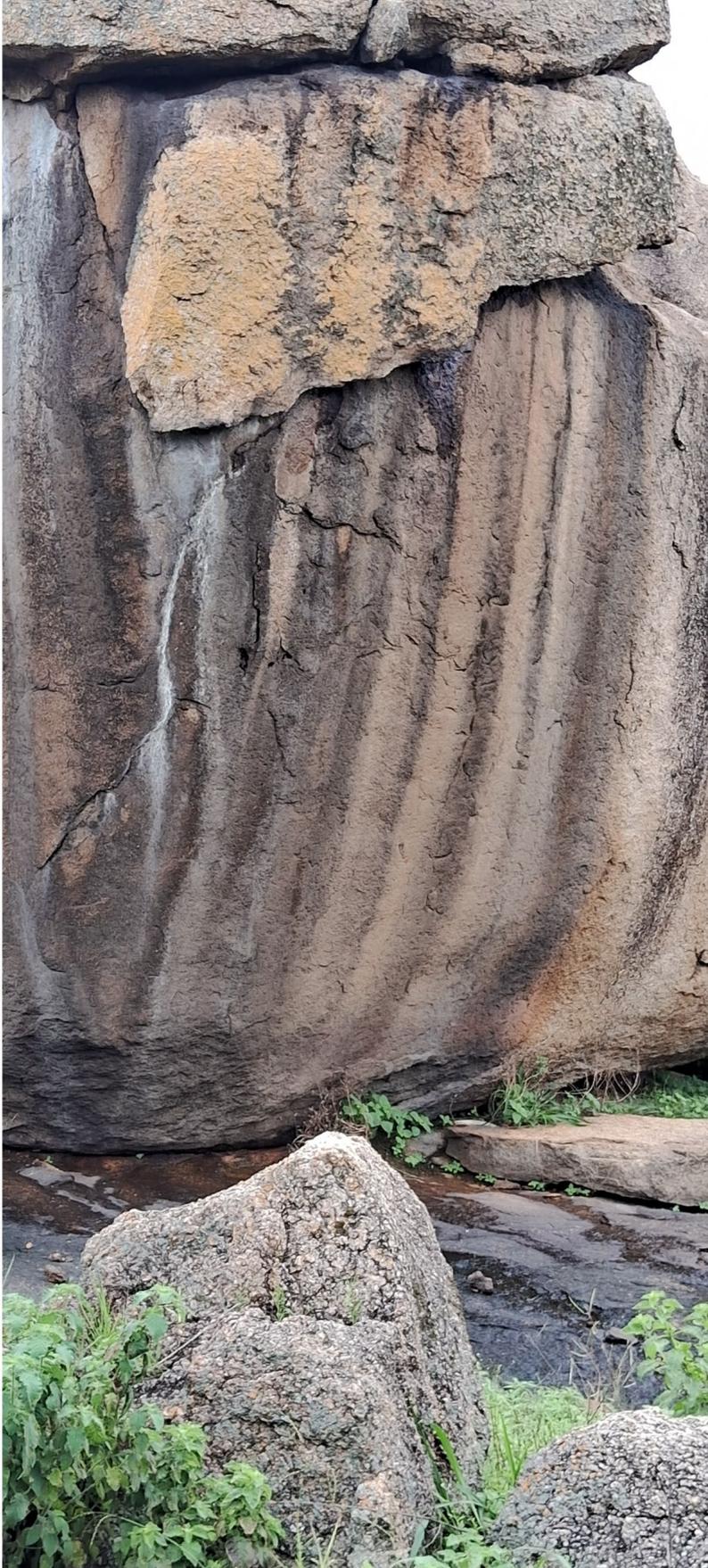
Hyderabad-500 033

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Quarterly Newsletter

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PAINTED BY NATURE

A boulder withstanding the elements in a dramatic symphony of colours and textures

AN ODE TO THE ROCKS

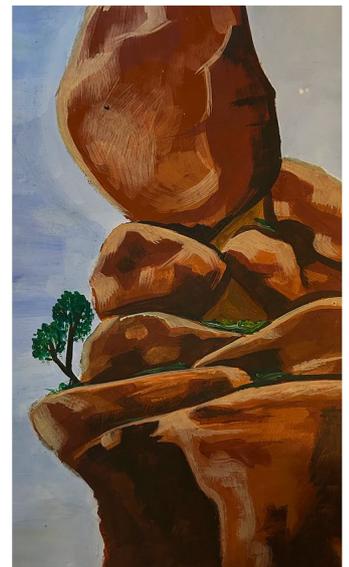
8-10th August 2025

An Exhibition of paintings of Rocks done by students of Gitanjali Vedika School, Narsingi, was held at the Metro Mall, next to the Metro Station Irrum Manzil. 50 paintings had been selected from students of classes 6 to 10 . The students had also prepared impressive installations as well as rakhis and earrings made from clay. Aply organized by our Vice President Sangeeta Varma and the management and teachers of the school, the exhibition attracted many visitors. The paintings were also offered for sale, and indeed 18 of them were sold to rock enthusiasts. The sales were a proof of the excellent quality of the art works of the students who were so carefully trained by their art teachers.

Congratulations to all of them!

(From top)
Manvitha, Class 7 c
Maghizini, Class 7 a
Megha Sri, Class 8 b

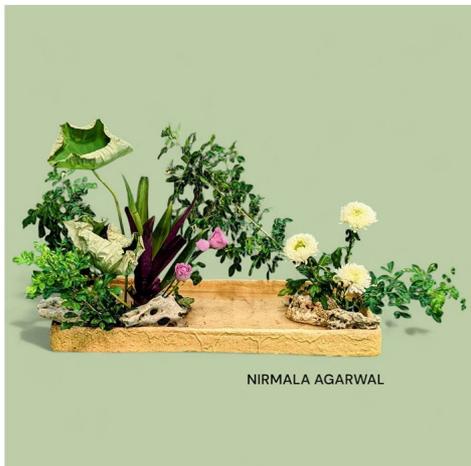
(Below)
Ruhi, Class 8 b



INTERNATIONAL ROCK DAY CELEBRATION

13th July, 2025

The Society marked International Rock Day aptly with a unique collaborative evening of Rock Ikebana & a dance ballet highlighting Rock Conservation. The Ohara School of Ikebana, Hyderabad Chapter members portrayed the priceless natural rock heritage of Telangana by incorporating rock samples with appropriate captions into 25 attractive floral arrangements.



NIRMALA AGARWAL



VANDANA PAI



“A Peaceful Movement”, a ballet by Nayantara Nanda Kumar and her group from Our Sacred Space gave a thought provoking performance with examples from around the world of people’s movements that have succeeded in safe guarding the environment. Both initiatives were much appreciated by the hundred odd audience with good intentions to further our cause.

(Left) Ikebana Arrangements by Ohara School of Ikebana, Hyderabad

RUN FOR ROCKS

27th July, 2025

The Run For Rocks is an annual event in collaboration with the Hyderabad Runners Society. It takes place before the Hyderabad Marathon as one of the preparatory training runs for participants in the now famous Marathon. The Run was planned to take place in the new Forestrek Park near Narsingi, but it was not to be: Two days before the event, the Park was closed because of the sighting of a leopard roaming around in the vast extent of the park. The whole programme had to be shifted to Fakhruddingutta. It was raining continuously, and shamianas were not available in the locality. Still, through the benevolence of the weather-god and by sheer enthusiasm of the running fraternity, a full contingent of about 120 runners assembled at 5 am and started on their different distances of 6, 10 and 20 km. And the day was sunny and bright after all the rain of the last days! Some Walks into the rocky hills around and a sumptuous breakfast concluded the programme.



Nature’s Angel

A German bird landed
On billion-year-old
Hyderabadi rocks,
And stayed perched forever...

Frail in appearance
But firm and strong in response,
Often hefty in her repartee,
She didn’t mince any words.

For she had a mission,
To save the rocks.

She was no migratory bird,
But Nature’s angel herself,
To protect the pristine rocks...



FOND FAREWELL TO THE ROCK LADY

We are bidding farewell to our very own Frauke Quader. A walk down memory lane was put together in a brief presentation by Sangeeta Varma and our member Ashok Vootla. It traced the early days of the formation of the Society and Frauke’s dedication to the cause of the Deccan Rocks. A few old time members sent their sincere appreciation for Frauke’s tireless efforts for over two and a half decades and one pointed focus on building a cordial community that safe-guards rocks. This ended with a gesture of gratitude and cake cutting and some parting words of inspiration from Frauke to the new Managing Committee. With much reluctance we see our Secretary of 29 years step down from the Managing Committee. However, on public request Frauke Quader will now guide the Society from time to time as Advisor. Though her love for rocks will always remain, she confided that she would like to spend her time pursuing other interests.

A well worded poem on Frauke was penned by our Member B.P.Acharya and his sketch makes for an apt visual.

STORIES IN STONE

On August 10th, Ravi Vundavalli, our Geologist Committee Member, gave a talk at the Rotary Club of Abhyuday Hyderabad to 30 of their members. Titled "Stories in Stone: uncovering Hyderabad's Rocky Legacy," Ravi emphasized the uniqueness of the Deccan Rocks and had the audience listening with rapt attention.

Post the talk there were informal exchanges on how the Society could explore possibilities to collaborate with Rotary Clubs to further rock conservation.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

October 6th is International Geo-diversity Day 2025 and the theme announced by UNESCO is One Earth, Many Stories. Our Members V. Ravi Kumar and Ajit Kumar will be speaking at the Sundaraya Vigyana Kendram, Gachibowli on 6th October at 6pm on Geo-diversity and how it translates into Geo-tourism. All are welcome to attend.

The Naimisam Earth Festival which was planned for November 2025 is now postponed.

For a head start, please visit our website for information on the Society's participation in The Hyderabad Literary Festival 2026 and please pitch in with unique ideas for the Society's 30th celebration on 26th January 2026.

UPDATES FROM THE SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING (AGM) & ELECTIONS TO THE MANAGING COMMITTEE

24th September, 2025

We welcome the new Managing Committee Members:

Sushil Prasad was elected by members as the Secretary of the Society. He takes over the baton from Frauke Quader. Sushil is a Banking Consultant by profession, having worked with various banks in India and abroad for about 30 years. He has an interest in preserving ecology and got interested in the rocks of the Deccan Plateau about 8 years ago when he participated in a Rock Walks.

Over the last 4-5 years, apart from participating in the monthly rock walks, he has attended our programmes and volunteered in various activities arranged by the Society. Sushil is interested in a number of subjects and puts his ideas on his blog.

Ashok Kumar Vootla is an Information Security professional having experience across IT, ITES, BFSI, Healthcare and Semi-Conductor industries. He has joined Society to save Rocks in 2018 and has participated in several Rock Walks and Rockathons. His Rock Art photographs were exhibited at Hyderabad Literary Festival, Ameerpet Metro Station, Telangana Photographic Society, State Gallery of Art to name a few and during the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Society. He was recognized for 'Rock Art Photography' and entered into the 'Legend Book of Records' in 2016.

Bharath Kumar joined SSR in 2023, and has actively participated in numerous rock walks, awareness sessions for school children, and other community events. These experiences have deepened his appreciation for the unique geological heritage of the Deccan Plateau. He says, "professionally, I work in the IT industry and am passionate about mentoring and giving back to the community. My curiosity for nature spans across disciplines—from being a citizen naturalist to exploring geology and environmental conservation. I'm associated with multiple organizations that promote ecological awareness, and SSR stands out as a truly unique initiative with immense potential to educate and inspire."

The 29th Annual General Body Meeting was held on 24th September at the Jubilee Hills International Centre. It was well attended by 43 members, however it was unlike any previous AGM held.

Post a very vociferous election process, a new Managing Committee emerged.



President
Prof. Fatima Ali Khan



Vice President
Sangeeta Varma



Secretary
Sushil Prasad



Joint Secretary
Padmini Patell



Treasurer
GRB Pradeep



Member
Ashok Vootla



Member
Bharat Kumar P



Member
Dr Sudheer Bhan



Member
Ravi Kumar V

We welcome our new members

Rubin Shah (Life Couple)
Prabhavati Ayalasonmayajula (Life Single)
Venu Madhav Ravi / Hima Bindu (Active Couple)
Roshan (ActiveSingle)

Parama Guru (Active Single)
K. Karthikeya (Active Single)
R.Karthikeyan (Active Single)

Conversions:

Vanesh Eada, from Active to Life Couple)
Sushil Prasad, from Active to Life Single

(Below) All gratitude to the Founder Secretary.





UPCOMING ROCK WALKS!

October 19
Bodagutta
(near choutuppal)

7:00 a.m./ Oposite Ramoji Film City
Main Gate, Off Vijaywada Highway

Return time 1:00 p.m.

November 15&16
Gandikota Fort
(Andhra Pradesh)

Departure from Hyd. on Friday night, 14-11-25,
Arrival in Hyd. on Sunday night, 16-11-25

(Two days outstation excursion by van @
Rs.2,500/-* per head for non-AC travel and shared
non-AC accommodation)

*subject to filling up of optimum registrations

December 21
Ammuguda
(Secunderabad)

7:00 a.m./ Oposite St. Ann's School
Main Gate, Sardar Patel Road

Return time 12:00 noon

We conduct rock walks on the 3rd Sunday of
every month! Do join us for a journey through
these boulders! Don't forget your walking shoes
and a good 'ol bottle of water :)

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

You can find us on



saverocks



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societysaverocks



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



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



QR code for
payment to the
Society
Please mention
your name