### Annual Festival – Gatha, March 24, 2025

Heritage – The History Association of the Department of History celebrated its annual festival, *Gatha*, on March 24, 2025, with great enthusiasm. The event showcased a rich blend of academic and cultural activities. The highlight of the day was a Seminar and a *National Young Scholars Conference*, which provided a vibrant platform for undergraduate and postgraduate students from across India to present their research papers. The conference witnessed active participation and a range of original ideas, with the best papers being recognized with awards and certificates. The festival also featured captivating cultural performances and a spirited classical dance competition that celebrated India's diverse heritage. The event encouraged both intellectual engagement and creative expression, embodying the department's commitment to holistic development. Faculty, students, and guest participants created a vibrant academic environment throughout the day. The success of *Gatha 2025* lay in its ability to merge scholarship with cultural pride, offering participants a meaningful and memorable experience. Events like *Gatha* continue to uphold the vision of Heritage – The History Association by nurturing young voices in the field of history while fostering cultural appreciation and inclusivity.







#### Pratispardha – Knowledge Quiz, February 21, 2025

On February 21, 2025, Heritage – The History Association organised *Pratispardha*, a knowledge-based quiz competition in collaboration with Vision IAS. The competition was designed to foster a spirit of curiosity, learning, and healthy academic competition among the students. With rounds covering history, current affairs, polity, and general knowledge, the quiz challenged participants to think critically and engage with the material beyond their textbooks. Students participated enthusiastically, showcasing their intellectual acumen and competitive spirit. Members of Vision IAS moderated the event, adding professional rigor and valuable insights. *Pratispardha* was well-received and appreciated by both faculty and students for its innovative structure and smooth execution. The event successfully blended learning with fun and demonstrated Heritage – The History Association's ongoing commitment to building interdisciplinary engagement and knowledge-sharing platforms within the academic community.





## Pedagogy Workshop for Faculty – February 4, 2025

Heritage – The History Association organised a focused Pedagogy Workshop for faculty members of the Department of History on February 4, 2025. The workshop was conducted by Prof. Snigdha Singh from Miranda House and Dr. Ranjan Kumar from Swami Shraddhanand College. It aimed to enhance teaching methodologies, foster innovation in classroom practices, and promote reflective pedagogy. The sessions encouraged critical discussions on pedagogical tools, student engagement strategies, and ways to bridge gaps between traditional and modern teaching approaches. Both speakers shared insights from their experiences, offering practical techniques and theoretical frameworks that could be implemented in undergraduate teaching. The workshop served as a platform for collaborative dialogue among faculty members and helped deepen understanding of student-centered learning. The event also highlighted the importance of continued professional development in academia. The workshop was interactive and concluded with an open discussion session where faculty could exchange ideas and clarify doubts. This initiative reflected Heritage's commitment to academic excellence, not only for students but also for educators. By facilitating such professional growth opportunities, the History Association contributes meaningfully to the enhancement of academic standards and pedagogical effectiveness in the department.







## Field Trip to Delhi Art Gallery - October 15, 2024

On October 15, 2024, Heritage – The History Association organised a field trip to the Delhi Art Gallery (DAG) for students of the Department of History. The visit was aimed at exposing students to the rich legacy of Indian visual arts and providing experiential learning outside the classroom setting. Students explored a range of modern and contemporary artworks housed in the gallery, including collections from key Indian artists. The exhibits helped students connect historical narratives with artistic expressions and examine how visual culture reflects political, social, and cultural developments. The gallery visit was guided by DAG's curatorial staff, who offered valuable insights into the techniques, styles, and historical contexts of the artworks on display. This hands-on exposure fostered deeper appreciation of art as a historical source and sparked critical discussions among students about art history, patronage, and nationalism. The trip also allowed students to observe curatorial practices and understand the functioning of heritage institutions. Overall, the visit to DAG proved to be an enriching and intellectually stimulating experience that aligned with the educational goals of Heritage – The History Association, strengthening the department's commitment to integrating classroom learning with field-based engagement.





# Lecture: "Military Technology and Strategy from Tarain 1192 to Panipat 1526" – October 8, 2024

On October 8, 2024, Heritage – The History Association of the Department of History organised an insightful lecture on the topic "Military Technology and Strategy from Tarain 1192 to Panipat 1526." The lecture was delivered by the eminent historian, Prof. Ali Athar from Aligarh Muslim University, whose expertise in medieval Indian history drew a large audience of students and faculty members. Prof. Athar provided a nuanced analysis of the evolution of military strategies and technological innovations that shaped key battles in medieval India, including the Battles of Tarain and Panipat. He elaborated on the transformation of warfare through the introduction of cavalry tactics, use of composite bows, developments in siege warfare, and the eventual impact of gunpowder and artillery. Emphasising both indigenous military traditions and the influence of Central Asian techniques, the lecture offered valuable insights into the political and strategic landscape of the Delhi Sultanate and early Mughal periods. The engaging session concluded with an interactive Q&A where students posed thoughtful questions. The lecture deepened historical understanding and demonstrated Heritage's continued commitment to providing enriching academic platforms for critical engagement with historical themes.





## 9th Dr. Vijay Nath Memorial Lecture - September 26, 2024

Heritage – The History Association proudly hosted the 9th Dr. Vijay Nath Memorial Lecture on September 26, 2024. This year's lecture was delivered by the distinguished historian, Prof. R. Mahalakshmi from the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. Her talk, titled "Of Women and Patriarchal Norms: Myths in the Early Puranas", delved into the representation of gender and patriarchal ideologies in early Puranic texts. Prof. Mahalakshmi explored how mythologies played a crucial role in shaping social norms and female identities, offering a critical feminist reading of early religious narratives. The lecture was both scholarly and accessible, attracting an enthusiastic audience of students and faculty members. It provoked thoughtful discussions on the intersection of religion, gender, and historiography. The memorial lecture series, dedicated to the memory of the late Prof. Vijay Nath, continues to be a flagship intellectual event of the department. It provides a platform for critical engagement with emerging historical perspectives. By curating such high-caliber academic lectures, Heritage – The History Association upholds its legacy of scholarly excellence and contributes meaningfully to feminist historiography and intellectual discourse.





#### Pedagogy Workshop for Faculty – August 7, 2024

Heritage – The History Association organised a Pedagogy Workshop on August 7, 2024, exclusively for the faculty members of the Department of History. The workshop featured an esteemed panel of academic resource persons: Dr. Shahana Bhattacharya (Kirori Mal College), Dr. Srimanjari (Miranda House), and Dr. Pankaj Jha (Lady Shri Ram College for Women). The sessions focused on rethinking history teaching practices, curriculum responsiveness, assessment patterns, and strategies for making lectures more inclusive and engaging. Through case studies and interactive activities, the speakers highlighted the need to adopt interdisciplinary methods and digital tools in history classrooms. The workshop facilitated active reflection among faculty about their roles as educators in a rapidly changing academic landscape. It also encouraged discussions around decolonising pedagogy and accommodating diverse student backgrounds. Faculty members found the workshop stimulating and appreciated the collaborative and dialogic format. This initiative was in line with Heritage's commitment to continuous learning and professional development. By organising such academic forums, Heritage – The History Association reaffirms its dedication to enhancing the quality of education and cultivating a progressive teaching environment within the department.



