



Gujarat Vidyapith

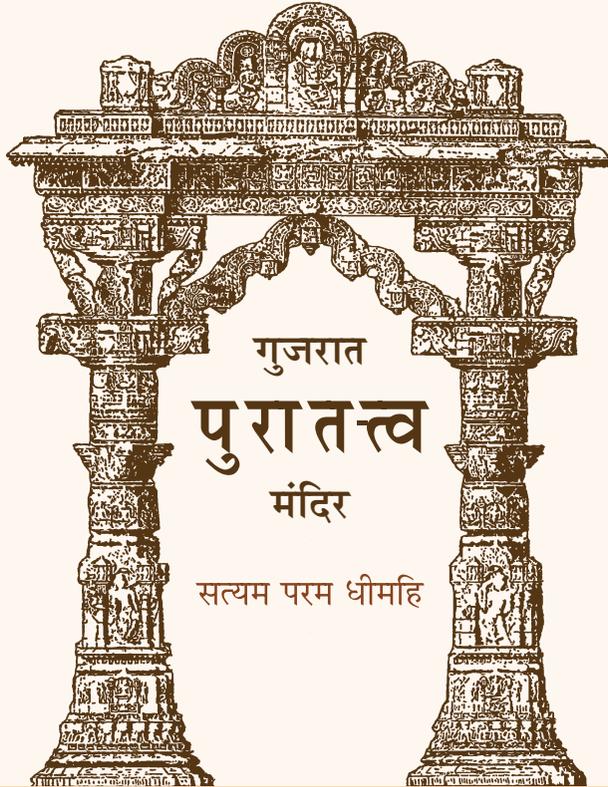
Founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920

International Seminar
CULTURAL FUTURES
Youth Power in Heritage, Arts and Innovation



The Department of Youth Affairs
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Government of India

January 11-13, 2026 | Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad, India



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Jointly organized: The Department of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India and Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad

About

Gujarat Vidyapith

Founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1920, Gujarat Vidyapith is a deemed university dedicated to national reconstruction through value-based education. With its rich legacy in culture, history, peace studies, and museology, it provides an ideal platform for deliberations on heritage and arts.

Department of Youth Affairs

As part of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, the Department facilitates youth development and nation-building activities, empowering Indian youth through global exposure and leadership opportunities.

Message from the Patron

It gives me great pleasure to welcome scholars, youth delegates, and cultural practitioners from India and abroad to the International Seminar on “Cultural Futures: Youth Power in Heritage, Arts and Innovation” at Gujarat Vidyapith. In a rapidly changing global context, youth engagement with heritage, arts, and innovation is crucial for building sustainable and inclusive cultural futures. I am confident that this seminar will foster meaningful dialogue, critical reflection, and collaborative thinking, and will inspire young minds to engage creatively with culture while remaining anchored in ethical and humanistic values.

Objectives of the Seminar

- To provide a global platform for youth to engage with issues of culture, heritage, arts, and innovation.
- To encourage interdisciplinary dialogue among scholars, practitioners, and policymakers.
- To strengthen youth participation in heritage preservation and cultural innovation.
- To promote cross-cultural understanding and international academic collaboration.
- To link academic research with contemporary cultural and policy concerns.

Programme Schedule

- 11 January 2026 – Day 1:** Arrival, orientation, icebreaking session, and roundtable discussions
- 12 January 2026 – Day 2:** Inaugural session, keynote addresses, research paper presentations, and cultural programme
- 13 January 2026 – Day 3:** Ahmedabad city heritage walk, valedictory session, and departure

About Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad, the cultural heart of Gujarat and India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, offers a rich blend of historic monuments, traditional neighbourhoods, museums, stepwells, and vibrant cultural life. January weather is pleasant (13°C–28°C), making it ideal for academic engagement and heritage exploration.

Patron

Dr. Harshad Patel

Honourable Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad

Seminar Convener

Prem Anand Mishra

Director, Gujarat Purattava Mandir, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad

Expert Committee

Surendra C. Patel

Founder Vishalla Heritage Museum

Subhash Brahmhatt

Indologist, Vice Chancellor, Sardar Vallabhbhai Global University, Ahmedabad

Shubha Majumdar

Superintending Archaeologist ASI Vadodara Circle, Vadodara

Rizwan Kadri

Member of Prime Ministers' Museum & Library (PMML) Society

Kanaiyalal Nayak

Dean, Social Science Faculty & HOD, History & Culture, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad

Kiran Varia

Museum Consultant

Manekbhai Patel

Writer & Heritage Film Producer

Key Speaker

Yadubir Singh Rawat

Director General (DG) of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Pankaj Sharma

Director of the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Gujarat

Vasant Shinde

Director General, National Maritime Heritage Complex, Gandhinagar

Sudhir Lall

Head and Director, Cultural Informatics, Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi

Birad Yajnik

Trustee IGNC, New Delhi

Ashish Trambadia

Conservation Architect

Former Director, AWHCT

Expert Member ICOFORT

Organizing committee

Himanshu Patel

Registrar, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad

Achutbhai Beronate

Trustee, Kirtidev Chinubhai Trust

Haribhai Patel

Faculty, Education Department

Sunny Thomes

Head, IT Branch

Charmy Panchal

Head, SSCW

Adavaita Dave

Head, PPR branch

Kaushik Vala

Coordinator

Day 1: Sunday, January 11, 2026
Orientation & Thematic Engagement

Time	Event	Key Person
10:00 am – 2:00 pm	Registration & Accommodation Check-in	
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Welcome & Opening Remarks	Prem Anand Mishra, Director of Gujarat Puratattva Mandir
2:15 pm – 3:00 pm	Orientation Session	Sudhir Lall, IGNC A, New Delhi
3:00 pm – 3:30 pm	City of Heritage and Sustainable Growth: Ahmedabad	Ashish Trambadia, Former Director, AWHCT and Expert Member ICOFORT
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Lothal: Past, Present and Future	Shubha Majumdar, ASI Vadodara
4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Tea Break	Networking
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	Special Presentation: Khadi as Living Heritage	Yayoyi, Japan

Day 2: Monday, January 12, 2026
Theme: Keynote Addresses & Thematic Paper Presentations

Time	Event	Key Person
09:55 am – 10:00 am	Guests Arrival & Assembly	Coordinator / Volunteers
10:00 am – 10:05 am	University Song & Lighting of the Lamp	Dignitaries on Dais
10:05 am – 10:12 am	Formal Welcome Address	Himanshu Patel, Registrar, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad
10:12 am – 10:18 am	Felicitation Ceremony	
10:18 am – 10:25 am	Introduction to Seminar Objectives	Ministry of Youth Affair & Sports, Government of India

Time	Event	Key Person
10:25 am – 10:35 am	Inaugural Address Guest of Honour	Yadubir Singh Rawat, DG, ASI
10:35 am – 10:45 am	Inaugural Address Guest of Honour	Birad Yajnik, Trustee IGNC A
10:45 am – 10:55 am	Special Remarks	
10:55 am – 11:12 am	Presidential Address	Honourable Dr. Harshad Patel, Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad
11:12 am – 11:17 am	Formal Vote of Thanks	Prem Anand Mishra
11:17 am – 11:35 am	Break	
11:35 am – 12:15 pm	Youth, Archaeology & Culture	Yadubir Singh Rawat, DG, ASI
12:15 pm – 1:00 pm	National Maritime Heritage Complex Lothal: A Case Study	Vasant Shinde, DG, NMHC
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	Lunch Break	Conference Venue
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm	Youth Technology & Cultural Innovation Knowledge, Policy and the Future of Heritage	Birad Yajnik, Trustee IGNC A
2:45 pm – 3:30 pm	Youth and Cultural Informatic	Sudhir Lall, IGNC A
3:30 pm – 4:00 pm	Tea Break	PPT Tech-Check in Breakout Rooms
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Thematic Paper Presentations	Parallel Sessions
6:30 pm	Cultural Event & Dinner Venue: Vishalla, Ahmedabad	

Day 3: Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Theme: Field Experience & Valedictory Session

Time	Event	Key Person
6:00 am – 10:30 am	Heritage Walk of Ahmedabad	Kaushik Vala, Kiran Varia
11:00 am – 12:30 pm	Valedictory Session	Pankaj Sharma, Director of the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Gujarat
		Ministry Representative of Youth Affairs Prem Anand Mishra

How to Reach Gujarat Vidyapith

- **By Air:** Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport is about 9.5 km away.
- **By Rail:** Ahmedabad Junction (Kalupur) connects to all major cities of India.
- **By Road/Metro:** Gujarat Vidyapith is well connected by AMTS, BRTS, and Ahmedabad Metro services.

Scan QR for directions to Gujarat Vidyapith



Contact

Phone: 9327112627

Email: puratattvamandir@gujaratvidyapith.org

Website : www.gujaratvidyapith.org

Gujarat Puratattva Mandir, Gujarat Vidyapith, Ahmedabad