

THIRD CIRCULAR



**IUGS-ICG-Heritage Stones Subcommittee:
III Workshop-cum-Seminar on natural stones and conservation of cultural heritage:
Agra – Makrana – Jaipur
1 – 6 December 2023**



Taj Mahal (UNESCO Heritage Site)

The International Union of Geological Sciences - International Commission on Geoheritage-Heritage Stones Subcommittee (IUGS-ICG-HSS) has been advancing the recognition of natural stones with historical and cultural significance, utilized in architectural monuments. After the successful 1st International Stone Workshop at Salamanca in Spain in October 2018 and the 2nd International Stone Workshop at Torino in Italy in October 2021, India is hosting the 3rd Stone workshop-cum-International Seminar on natural stones and conservation of cultural heritage in 2023 under the aegis of IUGS-ICG-HSS and IUGS-UNESCO IGCP-637 project HerStones: Heritage Stone Recognition-A Step Forward. The workshop in India is supported by Panjab University (Chandigarh), University of Rajasthan (Jaipur), Centre for Development of Stones (Jaipur) and International Council for Geosciences Research (a forum of the International Society for Life Sciences, Jaipur).

Taj Mahal (a UNESCO Heritage Site) is a perfect example and recognized as one of the wonders of the world for its novel utilization of Makrana Marble. The Makrana Marble has been designated as Global Heritage Stone Resource “GHSR” by the IUGS for its unique properties. Besides marble, the Red Sandstone of Vindhyan Basin has also been extensively used in the Taj

Mahal Complex. We plan to showcase the Taj Mahal Complex, Red Sandstone of Vindhyan Basin and Makrana quarries during the workshop.

**IUGS-ICG-Heritage Stones Subcommittee and UNESCO IGCP-637
III Workshop-cum-Seminar on Heritage Stones (Tentative Programme)**

Day 1 (1st December): Assembly of delegates in Jaipur

Evening: Welcome & Registration
Introduction to HSS and Ice-breaking
Dinner
Night Stay at Jaipur

Day 2 (2nd December) Technical Sessions

Technical session I (9.00 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.): Invited talk/Keynote address

9.00–10.00 a.m.	Keynote address by Asier Hilario (Chair, IUGS-International Commission on Geoheritage)
10.00–11.00 a.m.	Keynote address
11.00–11.30 a.m.	Tea break
11.30 a.m.–1.30 p.m.	Talks/Presentations
1.30–2.15 p.m.	Lunch
2.15–3.00 p.m.	Technical Session II - Poster Session (poster display to continue throughout the day)
3.00–5.00 p.m.	Technical Session III - Talks/Presentations
5.00–5.20 p.m.	Tea Break
5.20 – 6.30 p.m.	Technical session IV - Talks/Presentations
7.30 p.m.	Dinner

Night Stay at Jaipur

Day 3 (3rd December)

8.00 a.m.	Travel to Makrana town (approx. 175 km) and visit to historic and active marble quarries there
1.00 p.m.	Lunch at R K Marbles premises
2.00–4.00 p.m.	Visit to stone processing units in Kishangarh Return to Jaipur
7.30 p.m.	Dinner at Chokhi Dhani (a resort offering traditional Rajasthan rural setup with authentic local cuisine and a flavor of rich culture)

Night stay at Jaipur

Day 4 (4th December)

9.00 a.m.	Visit to the Amber Fort (a UNESCO Heritage Site) & Nahargarh Fort
1.30 p.m.	Lunch
3.00 p.m.	Visit to Alwar Quartzite outcrops in the vicinity of Amber and Nahargarh Forts (the Alwar Quartzite has been extensively used in both the monuments)
7.00 p.m.	Dinner at Nahargarh Fort

Night stay at Jaipur

Day 5 (5th December)

8.00 a.m. Travel to Agra (approx. 250 km from Jaipur)
Visit to Red Sandstone quarries on the way to Agra
Lunch Packed lunch
3.00 p.m. Visit to Red Fort at Agra
7.00 p.m. Dinner
Night stay at Agra

Day 6 (6th December)

8.00 a.m. Visit to Taj Mahal
1.00 p.m. Lunch
2.00–3.00 p.m. Valedictory and formal closing of the workshop



A google image with location of cities and monuments of interest marked.

Major themes to be covered:

1. Geoheritage – Concept, significance and sites
2. Heritage Stones
3. Conservation of Historical quarry sites
4. Sustainability of Heritage Stones
5. Restoration and preservation of stone built monuments

Last date for receiving abstracts (submitted electronically) is 30th June, 2023 and the abstract acceptance will be communicated by 31st July, 2023.

Abstract submission fee: Euro 40.00 (~Rs. 3000.00 for Indian delegates) - two abstracts maximum; Euro 20.00 (~Rs. 1500.00 for Indian delegates) for Ph.D. and Masters students - two abstract maximum

Kindly note that the abstract submission fee is non-refundable.

Publication

It is intended to publish proceedings of the workshop including selected contributions (through the peer review process) as a Special Issue of some reputed international journal (e.g. Episodes/ Geological Society of London/ Geoheritage/Cultural Heritage, etc.)

Registration Fee

Registration fee of 700 euros (~ Rs. 50,000/- for Indian delegates) will include workshop material, accommodation for workshop days in hotel/guest house, travel to Taj Mahal and Makrana and red sandstone quarries, Amer & Nahargarh forts (includes cost of tickets to visit the monuments), field guide/literature, tea/coffee, lunch and dinner during the workshop days. Travel will be by air-conditioned coaches.

Accompanying person Registration fee

Registration fee of 650 euros will include accommodation for workshop days in hotel/guest house, travel to Taj Mahal and Makrana and red sandstone quarries, Amer & Nahargarh forts (includes cost of tickets to visit the monuments), tea/coffee, lunch and dinner during the workshop days. Travel will be by air-conditioned coaches.

Delegates who wish to attend only the workshop sessions on 2 December 2023, can register for one day at a registration fee of 50 euros (Rs. 4000/- for Indian delegates) which includes abstract volume, lunch and tea/coffee

Participants will have to arrange for their own insurance cover.

Partial funding: There is a provision of partial funding for eligible students, female researchers and retired delegates from the developing/emerging countries by the IUGS-UNESCO IGCP-637 project HerStones: Heritage Stone Recognition-A Step Forward.

We will be able to accommodate up to **50 to 60 delegates**. Please, confirm your interest through email to Gurmeet Kaur at iiiworkshoponheritagestones@gmail.com

Online abstract form submission link:

<https://forms.gle/yMzxtTe5VETQPNEB9>

Workshop bank account details for payment:

Name of the account: ISLS III Stone Workshop

Beneficiary address: (International Society for Life Sciences, D-43, Vaishali Nagar, Jaipur - 302021)

Name of Bank: ICICI Bank

Branch: Bapu Nagar, University campus, Jaipur

Savings Account Number: 674701702577

IFSC Code: ICIC0006747

MICR Code: 302229018

SWIFT Code: ICICINBBNRI

Local Organizing committee (India):

Gurmeet Kaur-Convenor (Panjab University, Chandigarh)

Manoj Pandit (University of Rajasthan, Jaipur)

Pradeep Agarwal (Rajasthan State Mines Department, Jaipur)

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