Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

Lokesh Ohri
“This is the holy land of Shiva, a land where you find answers (uttar) to the most complex problems life throws at you; every rock (khand) gives you the answers you seek. That is why one keeps returning to Uttarakhand.”

A sadhu on the Kedarnath pilgrimage
Cultural Heritage?

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

Captain Vikram Batra, Param Vir Chakra 1974-99
Cultural Heritage?

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

IDENTITY
LIBERTY
CREATIVITY
Art, Cultural Heritage, Creativity

SWAN LAKE, 1875

TAJ, 1632

CALL OF THE VALLEY, 1967
HERE, NOW & THEN

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

Doon Court
Circuit House
Raj Bhawan

Doon Court
Dehra Dun, Uttarakhand
Heritage pervades us...

BUILDINGS  CLOTHES  FOOD  LANGUAGE

PHOTOS  GRANDMA’S STORIES  PAINTINGS

BOOKS  FILMS  MUSIC  IDIOMS  SONGS

GAMES  PLANTS  INSECTS  WILDLIFE  ART

&  SO MUCH MORE...
Our Connection With the Past

Lakhudiyar
Almora, Uttarakhand

Cave Paintings

Old Stone Age to the Neo Stone Age.

Paintings, megaliths, menhirs, cup marks, burial graves, cist pottery, beads.

Figures of humans and also tectiforms done with fingers in black, red and white colours.
Ashokan Edict

Kalsi, Uttarakhand

PAST INFLUENCES
FUTURE DECISIONS

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

XIIIth Edict

270 BC, Dating.

"Dhamma" victory foremost. Gajottam.

Ptolemy II
Philadelphus- King of Egypt (285-247 BC),
Alexander - King of Epirus (273-255 BC),
Antigonous Gonatus-King of Macedonia (276-239 BC),
Magas- King of Cyrene.
Jageshwar
Almora, Uttarakhand

BEAUTY IS GOOD FOR THE BRAIN

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

Jageshwar Temple
124 Temple Complex
Centre of Lakulesh Shaivism.
ART & SCIENCE GO TOGETHER

Baleshwar
Champawat, Uttarakhand

Baleshwar Temple
10th – 12th Century
Stone Carving

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand
EVERY SITE TELLS A STORY, OF HOPE & RESILIENCE

Koti-Banal
Jaunpur, Uttarakhand

Earthquake Proof Housing
300 to 500 years’ old.
Pherols and Panchpuras.
Locally sourced materials.

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand
Guru Ram Rai Darbar
Dehradun, Uttarakhand

REINVENT THE PAST, INTERPRET THE PRESENT

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

Durbar

Built by Aurangzeb

1707 A.D.

Combines elements of Mughal, Sikh & Pahari Architecture

Garhwal School of Painting
Garhwal School
Garhwal, Uttarakhand

ART GIVES US COURAGE TO FIGHT ADVERSITY

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

Garhwal School
Pt. Maula Ram Tomar.
1743-1833
Poet, writer, historian, social scientist, philosopher & artist par excellence.
The Mapping of India

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand

Sir George Everest
1790-1876
Upper Ganga Canal
Roorkee, Uttarakhand-U.P.

GREAT FOR ECONOMICS

Sir Proby Cautley
(1802-1871)
The Quest for Tibet
India – Tibet – Tawang
F.R.I.
Dehradun, Uttarakhand

LABOUR INTENSIVE
LOCAL SKILLS

Forest Research Institute
Built in 1929
by Bloomfield
Locally available material & skills used

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand
I AM ONLY A COMMON CITIZEN, WHAT CAN I DO?

- Walk/Cycle
- Reduce Single-Use Plastic
- Segregate
- Recycle

Preserve your state’s fabric.

Treat the city/town as a home.

Art, Cultural Heritage & Creativity in Uttarakhand
I AM ONLY A COMMON CITIZEN, WHAT CAN I DO?

Know about your heritage.
Take friends along.
Tell others about it.
Question desecration and vandalism.
Take pride in heritage.

Preserve your state’s fabric.

Treat the city/town as a home.
THANK YOU