

II. Information Building and Sharing

Sahapedia is involved in activities such as identification, documentation, database/archive building, utilising digital contents. It also organizes and facilitates workshops, seminars and other events to provide a platform for dialogue on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).

1. Main activity

Sahapedia is an online encyclopedic web resource and platform. It offers various types of multimedia databases, multiple tools to use and create content and a new technology platform that facilitates dynamic access for users. The main activities involve documentation, content creation and compilation. Sahapedia identifies knowledge-holders, scholars, practitioners and experts from various fields. This is followed by extensive interviews and documentation of their work for instance performances, lecture-demonstrations, etc.

Content includes text articles and multimedia formats like photographs, audio-video recordings, maps, digitized documents, timelines, extensive interviews, lineage trees and much more.

Content is generated in three ways:

- Crowd-sourced content: Registered online users may contribute to the encyclopedia with articles, photographs and audio-visual resources. At this stage various IP issues could arise regarding the identification of the owner of the copyright and issues of bearers' ownership. Content in the encyclopedia section is registered under the not-for-profit Creative Commons Attribution Share-alike License. While due acknowledgement would be given to authors for their contributions, a strong and vigilant screening and moderating mechanism would be required to protect against misuse.
- Contribution by the editorial team of Sahapedia: A qualified editorial

team curates and monitors sections of participatory content to ensure that the encyclopedia conforms to established standards of credibility and authenticity.

- Caches of thematic material generated by partner institutions: Thematic content is generated in partnership with various institutions pertaining to their mandate. The IP issue here might arise with regard to the determination of ownership of both the database itself and its contents when created collaboratively with other institutions. A Memorandum of Understanding would be drafted with each partnering institution that would include aspects connected with copyright issues, ownership and content sharing policies, terms of use of ICH material, and management and access of the collaboratively created database. This would be based on non-commercial, non-exclusive, use of content for educational purposes. It would also safeguard the interests of the ICH subjects and knowledge-holders by providing acknowledgement wherever required and obtaining prior consent and approval.

Guidelines

Since the web platform of Sahapedia has not yet become live online, Sahapedia is currently in the process of developing guidelines connected with its various activities based on the following principles:

- Share-alike license: Content in all the Sahapedia databases, with the exception of the Indian Heritage Library, is registered under the not-for-profit Creative Commons Attribution Share-alike License. The copyright for all the material in the Indian Heritage Library rests with the copyright owner unless otherwise specified.
- Indian Copyright Act: All material available on Sahapedia is protected by copyright laws under the Indian Copyright Act, 1957. The Compilation Right and Performer's Right under the Copyright Act are specifically relevant to Sahapedia in its interactions with contributors, authors, performers, festival organizers and interviewees and for documentation. Section 52 Under the Act provides exceptions towards the use of a literary, dramatic, musical or artistic work towards educational and research purposes. (Indian Copyright Act is available on <http://copyright.gov.in/Documents/CopyrightRules1957.pdf>)

- Editorial policy: Sahapedia has a qualified editorial team consisting of experts on various aspects of Indian culture and heritage. A vigilant screening and moderating mechanism will be devised and operationalised when the web resource becomes live.
- Templates: The editorial team, in consultation with domain experts, has also created templates, style-sheets, manuals and guidelines in order to standardise the content generated for uploading on the web resource.
- Free use: Sahapedia allows the free use of its content for users. The copyright for the content rests with the respective authors. The Sahapedia web site may contain links to other web sites. These linked sites are not under the control of Sahapedia and Sahapedia is not responsible for the contents of any linked site.
- Permission: Sahapedia seeks permission from the content providers such as authors, performers, experts, etc. through a Non- Exclusive Copyright License for Contributors. (Attached in Annexure)
- Disclaimers and Terms of Use: In consultation with legal experts, Sahapedia is in the process of devising the Terms of Use and Disclaimers in order to prevent violation and infringement and to ensure legal remedy in case of abuse.
- Privacy Policy for users: This policy governs Sahapedia's treatment of any information, including personally identifiable information submitted by users during the process of registration on Sahapedia. According to this policy the user acknowledges that his/her submission of any information, statements, data, and content to Sahapedia is voluntary and Sahapedia promises not to misuse this information.

2. Sahapedia Projects

A. Documentation of Knowledge-Holders in Traditional Knowledge, Heritage and the Arts

Collaboration between the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies (IIAS) and Sahapedia.

Background

The project seeks to carry out extensive oral documentation of experts from various fields and create an archive of detailed interviews and autobiographical reminiscences. This is envisaged as a method of preservation of traditional, indigenous knowledge systems, skills and

practices. The project will identify specialists from different areas of traditional knowledge and practice. At this 'stage of preparation', the IP issues that could possibly arise pertain to the identification of knowledge holders who can be documented. This process of identification and selection would involve dialogues with the community concerned and consultation with a steering committee of experts (the committee would be constituted by IAS and Sahapedia). The second issue would be to obtain prior informed consent from the knowledge-holders for documentation. The consent forms and permissions from ICH subjects are in the process of being drafted in compliance with the Indian Copyright Act, 1957, and the UNESCO 2003 convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. The knowledge-holders would be duly acknowledged for sharing their knowledge and Sahapedia would be a facilitator for disseminating this knowledge.

Sahapedia will conduct in-depth interviews which would be documented in audio-visual formats and transcribed. In the first year of the project, 40 knowledge-holders will be identified and interviewed, following which the project would be further expanded in the next phase. The major IP concern at the stage of maintaining, processing and disseminating information could be regarding the determination of ownership of the database and content; and bearer's ownership rights. IAS and Sahapedia will have shared rights on this content and it will be made available in various formats on Sahapedia. The IAS was set up by the Ministry of Education, Government of India in 1965. It is primarily a research institute that will make available the ICH material compiled in the project for educational and academic purposes. As a not-for-profit society, Sahapedia would ensure that the content generated from this project is used for non-commercial, non-exclusive, educational public use. The knowledge-holders would be duly credited and prior informed consent would be obtained from the knowledge-holders for the use of this content for research and educational purposes and for online dissemination through Sahapedia. The content would be made available to scholars and researchers at the IAS library/archives as well.

Since the documentation would be in audio-visual format, related rights for transmission of audio-visual works such as feature films, the copyright protection in translations, and the copyright in photographs and films etc. would be referred to, as per the Indian Copyright Act, 1957.

Context

The critical knowledge and practices which form the bedrock of India's indigenous wisdom are dwindling. Efforts at organizing and systematically documenting the legacy of knowledge and heritage so far are sporadic. With the decrease and the gradual deterioration of qualified experts, there is the danger of losing much vital knowledge in this area. Therefore, there is an urgent need to compile and document this wisdom before it gets lost to the world.

Procedure

Parameters for identifying the persons to be interviewed:

- Those who have made significant contribution and have immense knowledge of their field of work.
- Preference would be given to those knowledge-holders who are less represented on the national mapping currently or whose knowledge is not recorded in writing in a comprehensive manner.
- Preference would be given to senior and elderly resource persons.

Nature of interviews:

- The interviews would cover their knowledge on the area of their expertise, set against the background of their own experience and involvement. The interview would also encourage them to share their views on key issues of their interest and importance in a focused manner for specific and short duration. These segments can later also be compiled as stand-alone versions of the views of experts on particular issues.
- The duration of the interviews will be between one to five hours.

Formats:

- Interviews will be recorded in audio (Wav and Mp3) and video formats (avi) and detailed transcriptions will be prepared.

Outcomes/effects

Sahapedia and IIAS will generate:

- Video (in avi/mov format) of interviews
- Audio of recordings (in wav and mp3 formats)
- Text transcriptions in doc file
- Meta-data documentation of all material generated

B. Heritage Education Project

Collaboration between Sahapedia and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)

Background

Sahapedia will jointly create an online multimedia website/database on Heritage Education for schools under the CBSE. This database will exist as a separate link (micro website) made available on the CBSE website as well as a part of a larger database on Indian culture and history on the Sahapedia website.

Context

The micro-site seeks to link all the schools across the country associated with CBSE and to provide a resource for teachers and students to document their local heritage and to be the definitive online resource on heritage education in India. It will promote interdisciplinary studies and provide opportunities for cooperation among educators and students. It would focus on experiential learning, for instance it would provide information in multi-media formats like pdf-s of articles, photographs, AV recordings, interactive maps, so that the students can experience these sites even if they have not or cannot visit the actual sites. It also seeks to complement existing education curricula by enhancing the students' comprehension of a variety of scientific, aesthetic and historical concepts.

Procedure

Stage1: Preparation and set up (2 month)

- A four member (1 from each organisation) team will be designated to decide and develop the content for the website
- The team will seek and scrutinise the content from Sahapedia, INTACH and SPIC MACAY
- Office allocation (in CBSE) and set up with required technical infrastructure
- Appointment of a team of project coordinator and researchers, who will regularly seek relevant content from the stake holders and will upload the vetted content to the website
- CBSE will write to the schools to contribute and use the copyright free information.

Stage2:Database development and documentation (3 months)

- Sahapedia and the appointed team in consultation with all the stake holders will chart out the specific information for the website.
- The web designing team will design the website in consultation with the project management team.

Stage 3: Data processing and user testing (1month)

- At this stage all the data will be processed and quality checked before the upload. The user testing of the website will be done at this stage.

Stage 4: Data upload and launch (1 month)

- The data will be uploaded for the launch.
- CBSE and Sahapedia will share rights on the design and collected material and Sahapedia will upload it on its online encyclopaedia on Indian culture and heritage.

Outcome

To provide a unique internet resource for teachers and students on heritage education that will include:

- immersive experience of heritage sites and forms,
- space to share opinions on heritage
- games, puzzles, quizzes and fun but educational ways to learn about heritage
- guidelines, suggestions for activities, reference material, worksheets to support site visits and learning modules for the use of parents and teachers

C. Documentation of 21 World Heritage Sites

Collaboration between Sahapedia and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

Background

Sahapedia will jointly create an online multimedia database of 21 World Heritage sites with the ASI. This database will exist as a separate link made available on the ASI website as well as a part of a larger database on Indian culture and history on the Sahapedia website.

Context

The project is part of the 150th Year celebrations of ASI commencing from December 2011.

Stage 0: Preparation and set up (1month)

- A twelve member team of photo, video documenters and researchers will be appointed in accordance with the essential with the essential qualifications against each post
- Office allocation and set up with required technical infrastructure'
- A documentation training of 15 days will be given to the recruited team in order to standardise the documentation output.
- Sahapedia in consultation with Archaeological Survey of India will chart out the specific information for each Sahapedia Web Feature (SWF). The targets will also be set for the team at this stage.
- Archaeological Survey of India will write to state/local ASI units to facilitate the documentation and for sharing of copyright-free material with Sahapedia.

Stage 1: Research and Needs assessment (1month)

- The team will research and assess the already available information (with ASI) on each monument.
- Based on the assessment a documentation plan/strategy will be prepared for the implementation.
- The technical and design requirements of the micro website will be evaluated.

Stage 2: Database development and documentation (8 months)

- The three teams of researcher cum producer, videographer and a photographer will be assigned a target of 7 sites (approx 1 site in a month) to document.
- The team will contact the local ASI contacts and fix appointments for the documentation
- The web designing team will design the website in consultation with the project management team.

Stage 3: Data processing and user testing (1month)

- At this stage all the data will be processed and quality checked before the upload. The user testing of the website will be done at this stage.

Stage 4: Data upload and launch (1 month)

- The data will be uploaded for the launch.
- Archaeological Survey of India and Sahapedia will share rights on the design and collected material and Sahapedia will upload it on its online encyclopaedia on Indian culture and heritage.

The micro-site on 21 world heritage sites of India has the following objectives:

- To be the definitive online resource on the 21 World Heritage Sites in India
- To provide information in multi-media formats (pdf's, photographs, AV recordings, interactive maps, so that user can experience these sites even if they have not or cannot visit the actual sites)
- To bring together diverse sources of information that already exist both on the internet and offline at various institutions

D. Online Theatre archives

Collaboration between Sahapedia and National School of Drama (NSD)

Background

The National School of Drama is the pioneering theatre training institution in India. It was set up by the SangeetNatakAkademi as one of its constituent units in 1959. In 1975, it became an independent entity and was registered as an autonomous organisation under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860, fully financed by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India. Sahapedia will collaboratively create an online theatre and drama archive with NSD, containing comprehensive modules on trendsetting modern Indian plays with scripts, existing documentation of past performances, interviews with artistes associated with the productions and various writings on them.

As a pilot project, two model web features will be created on two plays. In addition to digitizing available archival material on the play from NSD archives, fresh material like interviews, articles etc. connected with the plays would be generated. Following this pilot feature, similar web feature would be created for other documented plays. Transcriptions of recorded interviews of theatre personalities from NSD archives would also be made available online.

The IP issue here is to identify the affiliated copyright protection under which various dramatic works are protected under the Indian Copyright Act, 1957. To bring this data online might require permission from rights holders. Thus, verification of IP Status in identified ICH material would be needed:

- Dramatic works under intellectual property law refer to theatre protection, including performance of plays, operas, etc.
- Archives could be ranged in the database category. They contain records, documents, or other materials of historical interest such as ICH data. During documentation stage, IP rights are created in the fixation of the ICH theatre elements in archives.
- Digitized ICH related dramatic works refer to digital copyright. They could be protected under WIPO Internet treaties: WIPO Copyright Treaty, 20 Dec 1996, and WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty May 20, 2002. These treaties protect specifically the dissemination of protected material over the global networks that make up the Internet.

Context

India has a rich theatre tradition and there have been extensive documentation efforts around it in recent times. However, there is a lacuna with regard to the consolidation and accessibility of these resources, specifically online. Sahapedia in collaboration with the National School of Drama (NSD) envisages an online multimedia, multilingual theatre resource including textual knowledge and dramaturgical practices. This would comprise a wide range of material and multiple media such as interviews, play scripts, photographs, audio-visual material, ephemera, designs, sketches, database of theatrical forms, directory of performers, documentation of artists, performers, directors and other theatre personalities. The purpose of the project is to trace the trajectory of theatre in India, consolidate existing archival material and facilitate a comprehensive online resource in order to share and disseminate this knowledge.

Procedures

- A coordination committee of four (two members each from NSD and Sahapedia) would be formed to coordinate the pilot project.
- Commencing digitization of fifty interviews as soon as possible.
- Hiring a transcription team for the interviews.

- Collecting and collating audio-visual clips, photographs, ephemera, texts, etc to create a web feature on the iconic play by DharamvirBharati, Andha Yug. This has been produced by various directors in NSD through the years from the 1950s.

Outcomes

- To be the definitive single-window online resource for multilingual Indian theatre practices.
- To document theatre personalities and create a database of theatrical forms, traditions and histories.
- To integrate nation-wide institutional and individual theatre archiving efforts to provide a comprehensive and dynamic online resource on Indian theatre.
- To collaborate with NSD for a pilot project to initiate the process of bringing the existing NSD archive online.

3. Additional explanation of activities

Sahapedia obtain ICH-related data by:

- Field work and documentation
- Donation
- Collaboration with other institutions for content generation and digitisation and online dissemination of their existing archives
- Participatory content generation by users

Name of data types

- Encyclopedia: The community generated database on Indian history and culture that may be created and edited by registered users
- Indian Heritage Library: A collection of scholarly articles and digitized documents and books
- Saha Maps: A collection online maps generated by the community and by editorial team
- Saha Explore: A feature to encourage exploration of local cultural contexts via walks, stories and other activities
- Saha Learn: A feature containing learning modules, a space for students to share their experiences and impressions of cultural and historical events and for teachers to gain peer reviews of heritage education syllabi, courses etc.

All data is presently offline and would be made available online when the web resource is launched.

Types of data:

Text articles	Photographs
Sound recordings	Podcasts
Video recordings	Maps
Learning modules	Scholarly articles in pdf format
Digitized original source material (documents, old sound and video recordings)	Games and puzzles
Calendars	Blogs

Source of data

Content is generated in three ways:

- Contributions by the Editorial Team: A competent and qualified editorial team will make substantial contributions to the sections of the website that are curated.
- Caches of thematic material generated by partner institutions: Through partnerships with specialist institutions, material of various kinds will be generated on relevant themes. Some proposed initiatives are to create databases on theatre, modern architecture, built heritage and educational material with various institutions.
- Participatory content generation: The encyclopedia will be created and edited by registered online users. Articles, photographs and AV resources may be contributed by online users.
- Scholarly and Archival Material: Sahapedia compiles material on different topics by well-known scholars. This includes entries written specifically for Sahapedia and, under the Indian Heritage Library, pdfs of published articles and monographs. It is also a repository of digitised primary material such as original documents, manuscripts and photographs, available for public use.

Context of data

Sahapedia seeks to present Indian culture in all its multiple aspects and to emphasize its interconnectedness and non-linearity. For instance, the Mahabharata is an epic text, it also has associated performance forms, rituals, cultural events, built heritage and knowledge systems. India’s pluralistic cultural traditions - with a wide range of knowledge systems, cultural

practices, monuments, arts and crafts - need to be documented, discussed and promoted in a way that strengthens them for future generations. The target audience of Sahapedia includes scholars, practitioners, teachers, students, travellers and enthusiasts, thereby fostering a forum for creativity and dialogue. The Sahapedia platform is designed to be used offline as well, increasing its reach and relevance in rural education and in areas without internet access.

Person/Organisation who has rights on the data

Content in all the databases except for Indian Heritage Library will be registered under not-for-profit Creative Commons Attribution Sharealike License. Copyrights for published articles in the Indian Heritage Library will remain with the author.

Principle/guideline of data management

Since Sahapedia is an online repository, it is critical to ensure that the content, context and structure of records is preserved and protected when the records do not have a physical existence. This has important implications for the authenticity, reliability, and trustworthiness of records.

Particular concerns exist about the ability to access and read electronic records over time, since the rapid pace of change in technology can make the software used to create the records obsolete, leaving the records unreadable. Sahapedia is also partnering with a number of archives of performing arts and will attempt to collectively integrate and seek solutions for standardising the data management systems.

Sahapedia is in the process of organising its meta-data according to 12 key domains:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. History | 7. Performing arts |
| 2. Knowledge systems | 8. Arts and crafts |
| 3. Cultural practices | 9. Museums and institutions |
| 4. Built spaces and heritage sites | 10. Culinary traditions |
| 5. Literature | 11. Film |
| 6. Festive events | 12. Natural Heritage |

Sahapedia has multiple formats and preserves data as:

- Audio: mp3/wav
- Video: AVI/mov/mp4
- Images: JPEG/TIFF/PNG