



RAJASTHANI
BHASKAR ACADEMY
राजस्थानी भास्कर अकादमी



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announces

The Visual Archives of Wall Paintings: *Reading and Documenting a History of Mobility and Identity in Shekhawati*

Art History | Architectural History | Heritage Documentation

17-19 December,
2024

Churu,
Rajasthan



Photo by George Agarwal

WHO WE ARE?	03
WHAT WE DO?	04
CONCEPT NOTE	06
INSTRUCTORS	07
WHERE?	08

CONTENTS



Who we are?

The Rajasthani Bhasha Academy is set up as a Trust under the Indian Trusts Act (1882), to pursue and facilitate research in and on Rajasthan, with a focus on the Rajasthani language

Our team comprises people from various walks of life – scholars, academics, researchers, writers, translators, activists and students, all united by a common purpose to preserve and propagate the Rajasthani language.



RAJASTHANI
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What we do?

We run a variety of courses and learning programs in both online and offline modes.

Our first offering was The Seekho Rajasthani / सीखो राजस्थानी Project under which we continue to run online Rajasthani language learning courses. In addition, we organize the Rajasthani Summer School-- an immersive learning and research experience in the 'field' in Rajasthan targeted at advanced University students, post-doctoral scholars and active researchers.

Our academic programs aim to study Rajasthan's development across multiple fields, integrating contemporary interdisciplinary subjects advocating a immersive approach to learning.

The Visual Archives of Wall Paintings:
*Reading and Documenting a History of
Mobility and Identity in Shekhawati*

Art History | Architectural History | Heritage Documentation



Concept Note

Participants will engage in a structured examination of place-making and mobilities within the painted regions of Churu, complemented by practical training in photographic documentation. Students will have access to lectures on the historical context, the significance of architectural history, and the importance of photographic archives, along with hands-on photography sessions focused on documenting architecture and murals.

Through these activities, students will develop a nuanced appreciation of both the heritage and contemporary practices associated with the painted towns, culminating in the creation of a photographic archive that reflects their research findings.



Photo by Saanya Agast

Instructors



**Prof. Saumya
Agarwal**

*Assistant Professor of Art History, School
of Journalism and Communication, OP
Jindal Global University*



**Sundeep
Bali**

*Lens-based Artist, Heritage
Documentation &
Interpretation Expert,
Fulbright Fellow (Visual Arts)*

Where?

Churu

Established in the 13th century as a key settlement along the ancient trade routes, Churu played a crucial role in connecting northern India with the trading centers of Multan, Gujarat, and the western ports, influencing its historical and cultural development. The town is distinguished by its ornate havelis, including the Kothari and Surana Havelis -- some also protected by the ASI, India, for their detailed fresco paintings and carvings. The town also features notable landmarks such as Churu Fort and the Jati Ji Ka Upasara, an intricately painted Jain temple popular for its elaborate artwork. Over time, Churu has been influenced by various religious sects and doctrinal traditions, including the Sufis, Vaishnavites, and Dadupanthis -- which can be seen in the town's structures .



Jati Ji Ka Upasara, Churu

www.rajasthanibhashaacademy.org

