

**GOVERNMENT OF GOA,
SANT SOHIROBANATH AMBIYEE
GOVT. COLLEGE OF ARTS & COMMERCE
VIRNODA, PERNEM, GOA**

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BEST PRACTICE 1

Protecting and promoting Goan Heritage

Objectives:

The practice centers on Goa's cultural heritage as a valuable asset, contributing significantly to job creation and revenue for Goa and India. The college prioritizes conservation strategies to achieve the following objectives: promote conservation, identify, document, and research Goan Heritage, and ensure its transmission for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Context

Preserving cultural heritage involves tangible items and intangible attributes inherited from the past. Pernem taluka, the last Portuguese conquest, exhibits minimal Portuguese influence compared to other parts of Goa, making it ideal for conserving ancient Goan Heritage. In a college setting, where technology prevails, engaging students in heritage conservation is challenging. Recognizing this, the college, with its history department, integrates Goan Heritage promotion through curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities. The challenge lies in ensuring that students find it enjoyable while fostering a genuine interest in Goan Heritage conservation.

The Practice

The college actively safeguards cultural heritage through restoration, reconstruction, and preservation of artifacts with utmost respect for their significance. Inventorying tangible and intangible Goan heritage is a priority, involving training programs, conservation workshops, and archaeology courses. A unique 30-hour certificate course in 'Modi Marathi' protects linguistic heritage. The college hosted a state-level seminar showcasing recognition for all dialects of Konkani. Named after poet-saint Sant Sohirobanath Ambiyee, the college displays bust statues of him and other personalities. It organized an exhibition on Goa's Freedom struggle in collaboration with the Directorate of Archives. Educational excursions, book procurement, and a forthcoming museum highlight the commitment to Goan Heritage. The college also promotes Goan folk and traditional performing arts, including the popular Ghumat Arti event, emphasizing intangible heritage conservation.

Evidence of Success

The success is evident as the Department of History's proposal secured permission for the college's museum, set to open in 2024. Donations from artifact owners signify trust in the college. Popular Archaeology courses attract a substantial student count. Notably, the college successfully salvaged and restored an ancient ceiling now preserved in the museum. Heritage activities, like educational excursions and cultural programs, enjoy immense popularity among students, ensuring a continuous grand success.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The college has space to set up the museum in the Library building. However, certain civil works had to be undertaken to make structural changes in keeping with the requirements of 'Museum architecture'. This was one of the major problems encountered which has delayed the project. Since this is a pioneering project of the Government/college, certain bureaucratic formalities, which are a necessity in a government organisation, were time consuming. Difficulty was/is also sometimes faced in transporting certain delicate/fragile items to the museum. Since there is no post of a full-time Curator in the college, the work of setting up the museum is being carried out by Dr. Rohit Phalgaonkar, Assistant Professor of History, trained in archeology, who initiated this project and who performs these duties in addition to teaching duties. All resources, especially financial resources, have been provided by the College or the Directorate of Higher Education and other government bodies.

Sr. No.	Practice Description	Web Link to Document
1	Field Trip to Pilar Musuem and St. Anna Church, Telaarlim (DSC Batch I)-23-02-2018	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/123-02-2018-Field-trip-to-Pilar-Museum-St.-Anna-Church-Telaarlim.pdf
2	Field Trip to Pilar Musuem and St, Anna Church, Telaarlim (DSC Batch 1)24-09-2019	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/224-09-2019-Field-trip-to-Pilar-Museum-St.-Anna-Church-Telaarlim.pdf
3	Study Trip to Pilar Seminary Museum and St. Anna Church Telaarlim (History DSC)19-03-2022	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/319-03-2022-Field-trip-to-Pilar-Seminary-Museum-St.-Anna-Church.pdf
4	Study trip to Fort of Colvale, Ruins of Bicholim Fort and Namazgah- 07-05-2022	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/47-5-2022-Study-trip-to-Fort-of-Colvale.pdf
5	Field Trip to Pilar Musuem and St. Anna Church, Telaarlim (DSC Batch I)27-08-2022	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/527-8-2022-Field-trip-to-Museum-Church.pdf
6	Dept. of History in Collaboration with Dept of Archives, Govt. of Goa organised One Day Exhibition on Goa's Freedom Struggle.17-09-2022	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/617-09-2022-Exhibition-Goas-Freedom-Struggle.pdf
7	Proposal for starting a museum in the College and to get sanction for developing	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/7-Proposal-for-Museum.pdf

	a museum.22-06-2022	
8	Field trip to Halshi Degao and Kittur Fort for the students of FY/SY and TY (History)25-06-2022	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/825-06-2022-Field-trip-to-Halshi.pdf
9	Three Day demonstration cum workshop of wooden lotus ceiling. 27-09-2022	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/927-09-2022-Workshop-of-wooden-lotus-ceiling.pdf
10	Key personalities of Pernem Taluka	https://ssagcpernem.in/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/10Key-Personalities-of-Pernem-Taluka.pdf