

- » As a part of the project a webinar of 30 minutes titled “Long Long Time Ago” for kids of age group 7 - 12 years have been organized by Dr. Chakravorti through the Geology Museum and supported by the Regional Science Centre, Tirupati, under the Ministry of Cultural affairs of the Govt. of India.
 - » Another webinar titled “Mass extinction, chronicle of life and death long time ago” was also organized.
- Several schools in Kolkata, like the Holy Child School, B. D. Memorial International, Indus valley International and others participated in the above written outreach program.
- » You Tube video and teaser of the said programs are also uploaded. The links are as follows- 1. <https://youtu.be/zG2iv2owV-w> and 2. <https://youtu.be/h0ES0phF83Q>

Visitors

Many national experts as well as students of vertebrate palaeontology visited the Museum in 2021-2022 to study the rare collections.

List of visitors

Sl. No.	Name	Affiliation	period of visit
1	Prof. Sanghamitra Ray	Department of Geology & Geophysics, IIT Kharagpur	November 29 - 30, 2021
2.	Dr. Debajit Datta	Research Fellow of Department of Geology & Geophysics, IIT Kharagpur	December 01 - 31, 2021
3.	Mr. Juned Zariwala	The Maharaja Sayajirao University, Baroda	January 03 - 06, 2022

6.3.2 PRASANTA CHANDRA MAHALANOBIS MEMORIAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of In-charge :	Kishor Chandra Satpathy
Physical Address :	Amrapali, ISI, 204 B T Road, Kolkata-700 108
Founded in :	29th June 1993
Founded by :	Indian Statistical Institute

Brief Overview of the Museum and Archives



PCMMM&A Building (Amrapali)

In the year 1993 Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archives (PCMMM&A) has started its journey as a museum and archive on the occasion of the birth centenary celebration of Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (PCM). This museum and archives was established in the historic building Amrapali which was the residence of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis from 1941 and the nest or the nucleus of the Indian Statistical Institute Kolkata from its inception. Setting up a museum and archives for the systematic preservation of the documents related to the formulation and development period of this Institute was a dream project of Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, but due to his sudden demise on 28th June 1972 the project was terminated. During 1991 the Institute took the initiative to establish a museum and archives to pay homage to the founder of the Indian Statistical Institute, Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis.

Other Academic Activities

Its major objective is the collection, documentation, preservation, restoration, display and communication of personal, administrative as well as rare source materials connected with the life, legacy of Prof. Mahalanobis and the formation of the Indian Statistical Institute, which also encompasses the historical growth of the Institute and of statistical science in India.

The Museum



It is housed in Amrapali, the erstwhile residence of Professor Mahalanobis, located on the campus of the Institute at Kolkata. The ground floor of the house, on the eastern side, has a permanent exhibition on the life and work of PCM through photographic displays. The display of the museum consists of five galleries. There are 921 exhibits through 101 panels and a collection of artifacts related to PCM on display in these galleries. An open lounge called the Chatal, study room of PCM and personal areas of the residence have been preserved for the audience on the first floor at the house. In 2016, a new gallery on the special relationship of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis and his wife, Nirmal Kumari Mahalanobis with Rabindranath Tagore was inaugurated on the 1st floor.

Archives




The archival materials trace the history of the development of statistics in the Indian sub-continent during the PCM's lifetime and beyond, with special reference to his outstanding contributions in this area. They include official and personal documents, files, correspondence, scientific and literary papers, photographs, newspaper cuttings, diaries, and manuscripts related to Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis and Nirmal Kumari. Audio-visual materials like sound recordings and film footage, negatives and slides, also form a part of this collection. There are roughly 3 lakh documents, of which around 1.9 lakh have been already gone through preservation treatments depending on their conditions. Digitization of the documents commenced in 2007. To date around 25,000 documents have been digitized and metadata of approximately 20,000 documents have been saved on a customized server, while around 2000 documents have been uploaded to the D-space server.

Note: Presently the Museum & Archives has been shifted to the third floor of the library building temporarily for the renovation work of the existing museum building (Amrapali). The physical museum space is closed for the time being for the general visitors. With prior permission serious visitors can access the museum and archives. Also PCMMM&A has its presence in the virtual platforms (Instagram& Facebook). General visitors can reach through these digital mediums.

PCM Museum and Archives: Major Collections

Name of Collection	Brief Overview of Collection
Manuscripts	3,00,000 Manuscripts (Typescript/ Handwritten)
Books	550 approx.
Audio-video[Spool, Record, Cassettes]	93 nos., 89 nos., 101 nos.
Photographs	4000 approx.
Negatives	5000 approx.
Slides	1236 slides approx.
Artifacts	1330 approx.

Major Activities

Reference Services Provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Nikhil Menon, Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of Notre Dame » Dr. Sanjoy Ghosh, Global Exploration Advisor, Shell International, London, UK. » Chetan Ghate, Professor, Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi. » Sananda Sahoo, Ph.D. Candidate, Media Studies, Faculty of Information and Media Studies, Western University » Sunish Kumar Deb, Assistant Secretary, Bangiya Bijan Parishad (Archival Documents on Professor S. N. Bose). » Sandipan Mitra, Ph.D. Student, Presidency University (Letters to PCM regarding ISI Council 1931-1934). » Atanu Hait, was provided with reference assistance for his work from PCMMM&A. » Prof. Debasis Mitra from Florida Institute of Technology, visiting CVPRU as Fulbright-Nehru Senior Scholar
Guided Tours & Special Visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Guided tours were provided by the PCMMM&A Trainees to the individuals and special visitors.
Student Group Demonstration	 <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Museum Demonstration by PCMMM&A Trainees</p> <p>Group of seventeen college students from Maharani Kasiswari College including three teachers of Library and Information Studies were given the museum demonstrated by the PCMMM&A Trainees.</p>
Preservation Treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Conservation and preservation of the documents to ensure availability to present and future researchers. During this financial year, approximately 1519 nos. of archival documents were provided preservation treatment after assessing their condition.
Accessioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Accessioning of 200 books belongs to PCM's study.

Other Academic Activities

Digital Accessioning	» Digital accessioning of approximately 50 books.
Damaged Book Identification	» Identification and sorting of around 20 damaged books of PCM's study.

Participation in events

1. PCMM&A collaborated and participated in MILLI SESSION 2021 during International Archives Week on 7th-13th June 2021.



2. Showcased P.C.Mahalanobis' life, contribution, research output and glorious past of ISI in the exhibition titled "Cluster of Museum". The theme of the exhibition was "The Future of Museum: recovered and re-imagined" organized by the Kolkata Centre for Creativity & Pashchimbanga Sangrahalaya Samiti on the occasion of World Heritage week from 19th- 25th November 2021.



3. Curated an exhibition on the life and scientific contribution of Professor P.C. Mahalanobis on the occasion of the 91st foundation day of the Indian Statistical Institute on 17th December 2021 at PJA building, ISI Kolkata.



4. A Group of IAS officer trainees from LBSNAA visited the library and Museum on 27th December 2021. A special exhibition was organized to showcase Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis' life and contribution towards Statistics in India as well as Nation. A rare collection of the archives was displayed on this occasion.



Other Academic Activities

5. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archives have participated in the Bijnan Prajukti Mela 2022 on the digital platform from 20th to 23rd January 2022. A virtual exhibition has been designed and presented on the main aims and objectives of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis Memorial Museum & Archives including life and works of Professor Mahalanobis. This virtual exhibition has been designed with a voice over in story telling mode by Deputy Librarian Smt. Monali Mitra Paladhi.

