


# SOCIETY TO SAVE ROCKS

1236, Road No.60, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad-500 033

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**Quarterly Newsletter**

**July - September 2023**

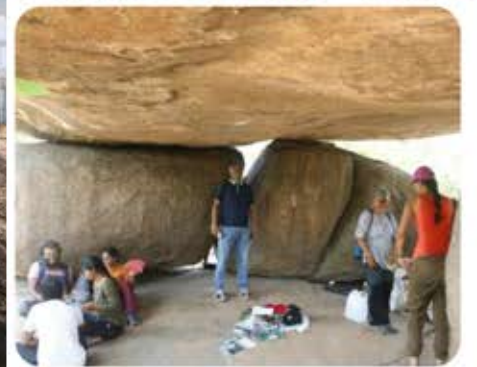
**Volume - 108**

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## ROCK WALKERS BRAVE THE SUMMER TEMPERATURES





### Earth Day 2023

In keeping with this year's Earth Day theme of "Invest in Our Planet" a Rock Photo Exhibition was held at Lamakaan, from **25<sup>th</sup> April to 4<sup>th</sup> May**.

The stunning photographs by Society Member Ashok K Vootla drew a good many curious onlookers and inspired a few new rock friends.



### Visit to the US Consulate General on 15<sup>th</sup> May

The beautiful campus of the new building of the US Consulate General in Financial District has preserved many rock formations. Let Jennifer Larson, the Consul General, tell you about it:

"We made a deliberate and conscious decision to preserve the Deccan rock formations at our new Consulate because we recognize the importance of respecting and preserving Hyderabad's cultural patrimony. Plus, to be quite frank, they simply look amazing!

In fact, the whole design here was influenced by Telangana's dynamic topography. We laid out these pathways through natural boulder fields and gardens. The idea was to create an experience that is similar to what one feels while ascending the stairs at Golconda fortress.

In addition to preserving the Deccan rock formations, we've also used native plants on our grounds, which are not only beautiful, they make sense for the climate here and they help us conserve water.

Put simply, we're very serious about the "in Hyderabad" part of the U.S. Consulate in Hyderabad. And that's why I'm so happy to welcome the Society to Save Rocks to our new campus, so their members get a glimpse of what the U.S. government has done to preserve and conserve an Important slice of Hyderabad for the benefit of everyone who comes here."



### World Environment Day

Ashok Vootla's Photo Exhibition was also displayed at Our Sacred Space from **1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> June** for Environment week. This had a lecture by Ravi K. Vundavalli on the age of the Earth, the Rocks and their significance. Ravi also displayed an interesting diorama with rock sites of Hyderabad encouraging both children and adults to find out the locations of the various rock sites with a QR code for more information on the logistics. Since Our Sacred Space was conducting a Sunday Market, we had a captive audience who were interested in the photos and the talk. We concluded with our short film "Hyderabad City of Rocks". This brought us some members and a coverage in the New Indian Express by Ojal Sengar.





## GHAC's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

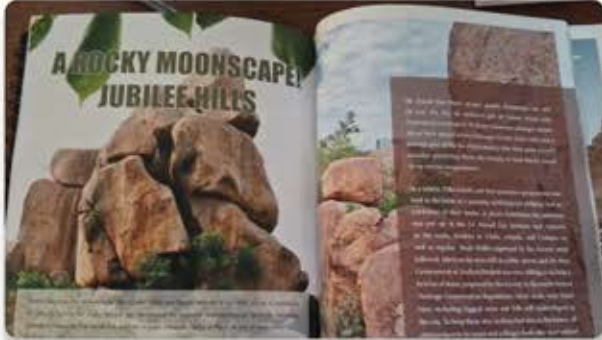


The **Great Hyderabad Adventure Club** celebrated their 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Phoenix Arena on **4<sup>th</sup> June** which a few of our members attended.

The Society was presented with a memento as an acknowledgement of our close collaboration during our joint event over the years - the annual Hyderabad Rockathon. GHAC members shared their experiences and attachment to the Club. The highlight at the end was a magnificent Birthday Cake with GHAC's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary logo printed on it.



## Article on the Rockscape



The glossy monthly magazine *The Jubilee Hills Cooperative House Building Society* has published an article on the Rockscape of Jubilee Hills in their June 2023 edition with photos of the Rock sites and Rock Parks in and around Jubilee Hills.

Article and photos were supplied by our Society Members.

## Rotary Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> June

The Rotary Club Pride of Banjara Hills invited the Society to Save Rocks to give a talk on the Rockscape of Hyderabad and the Deccan on 28.7.2023. Sangeeta Varma, Vice President, spoke about the Society and its goals and activities, and Professor A.C. Narayana told the sizeable audience about the geology, history and environmental significance of our rocky landscape. We are grateful that Mr. Anil Kumar V. Epur, Chairman and Trustee, WWF, India, could spare the time to be with us and deliver the very interesting final remarks of the programme.

Thanks go to the President of the Rotary Club Pride, Ms. Asma Razvi, and her team for arranging this event and giving us the opportunity to bring awareness to yet another group of concerned and interested citizens.



## Moula Ali



The June Rockwalk showed us that the big concrete walls built across the beautiful rock dome of Moulali are being continued as retaining walls for the road to lead to the top of the hill. The local community, we hear, insists on this facility for elderly devotees to reach the dargah on the mountain in comfort. Our efforts to argue with the authorities to protect this ancient and famous religious precinct (being also a Heritage-protected Rock)) from "development" could not change the destiny of the rock.



## SCHEDULE OF ROCK WALKS

Rock Walks are conducted on the third Sunday of every month.  
Everybody is welcome. Walking shoes and long pants should be worn.  
**Registration with GRB Pradeep at 9866752114**

**16 JUL  
SUN**

📍 **Venkateshwaragutta  
near Shamirpet Lake**  
02:30 p.m. / Near Katta Maisamma  
Temple, Shamirpet lake bund,  
Via Karimnagar Highway

**20 AUG  
SUN**

📍 **Rachakonda**  
8:30 a.m. / Opp. Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar  
Circle, Ibrahimpatnam,  
Via Nagarjunasagar Highway  
**Carry Lunch**  
(Return approx. 3- 4pm)

**17 SEP  
SUN**

📍 **Kondamadugu**  
7:30 a.m. / Next to Uppal Police  
Station, Uppal X Roads  
(Return approx. noon time)

### BECOME OUR MEMBER

CLASS	ADMISSION	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION
Active (Single)	₹ 100.00	₹ 500.00
Active (Couple)	₹ 100.00	₹ 600.00
Student (Under 18 Years)	₹ 100.00	₹ 200.00
Life (Single)	₹ 3000.00	NA
Life (Couple)	₹ 5000.00	NA
Institution	₹ 10000.00	NA
Corporate	₹ 50000.00	NA

### MANAGING COMMITTEE

President	Prof. Fatima Alikhan	98493 62944
Vice President	Sangeeta Varma	98490 44624
Secretary	Frauke Quader	98499 36248
Joint Secretary	Padmini B Patell	99128 65299
Treasurer	G.R.B. Pradeep	98667 52114
Members:	Dr. Sudheer Bhan	81060 72537
	Sajid Mehmood	98105 28070
	Amita Talwar	98490 10704
	Ravi Kumar Vundavalli	94944 89472

### We Welcome our New Members:

**V. Lakshmeshwari &  
V. Purna Chandra Rao** (Life Couple)  
**Vinita Raj Narayanam** (Life Single)  
**N. Shiva Kumar** (Life Single)  
**Vanesh Eada** (Active Single)  
**Sushil Prasad** (Active Single)



Signature Petition:  
Help to save Fakhrud dingutta  
(Khajaguda Rocks) and scan  
the QR code to sign our petition



Scan this QR code to watch  
our documentary "Hyderabad  
- City of Rocks " on YouTube