

SOCIETY TO SAVE ROCKS

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NEWSLETTER

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A Rock walk participant enjoys the tranquility that only Nature can provide, abundantly available amidst our rich Deccan granites.

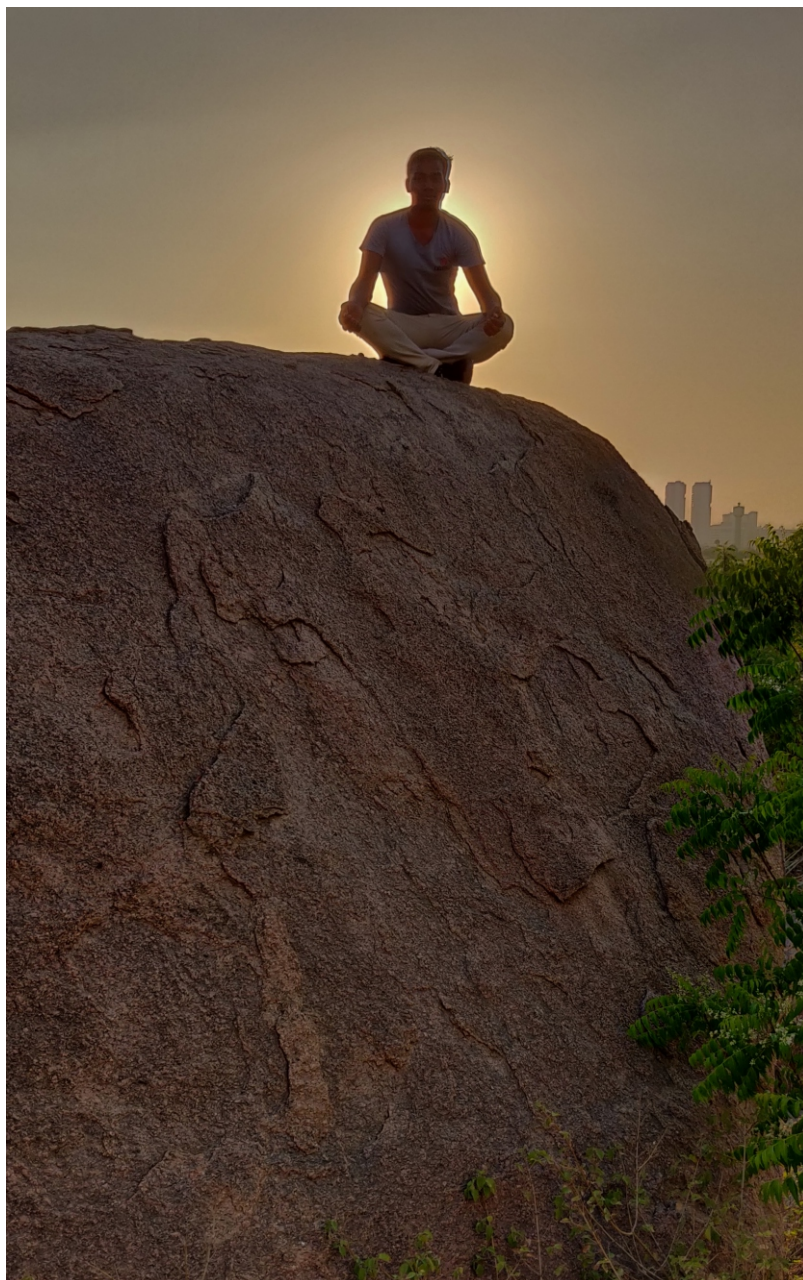


Photo by :
V. Ashok Kumar



THE MANUU ROCK WALK IN MARCH

Heat and early afternoon timing were no obstacle to the enthusiasm of the Rock Walkers on this March Sunday, the 17th. First, a few members of the Society

and some newcomers arrived at our meeting point, the tall Islamic-style gateway of the Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), then a number of faculty and staff members, followed by a big group of students, mainly from the National Social Service (NSS) group. And from there, it seemed like nothing was going to dampen the spirits of the crowd with the young in majority.



Starting on the massive boulder behind the canteen which affords an exciting panoramic view of the surrounding Gachibowli area and the Fakhruddingutta beyond, scrambling up and down the great formations along the periphery of the magnificent campus of the University was a unique experience for everyone. The not so sporty participants were helped up steep surfaces.



A girl in a burka commented that it was an experience to see students help each-other to reach and descend the higher granites. A journalism student recorded the whole trip on video talking to her camera all along. Wonder how she kept up with us. A reporter in the making! After a short glimpse at the Khajaguda Talab at the far end of the campus, a visit to the two Heritage Rocks "Pathar Dil" and "United-we-stand" was a must. The University has not only put up signboards and directions for these rocks, but also illuminated the Pathar Dil Rock at night! A great tribute by them to our 2,500 million year old rock formations. The final get - together at the Department of Communication saw all the students, teachers and other Rock Walkers relaxing with refreshments and exchanging their views on the outing, appreciating the opportunity to get out into nature and learn more about the rocks and the campus of the MANUU. Dr. Md. Fariyad, Professor Communications and coordinator of the NSS Cell, was thanked for making this experience possible.





Our Anniversary month January began on a good note with a Rock Photo Exhibition by our passionate photographer members Mr. P. Vishwanath and Mr. V. Ashok Kumar who did us proud at the Hyderabad Literary Festival (HLF). Not only did they put together their prized photographs within a day's notice, they also spent time educating the many visitors about the great Deccan rock wealth and the great rocksites around the city that wait to be explored and protected. The Society appreciates their combined effort.

Our documentary **"Hyderabad – City of Rocks"** was screened at HLF on 26th January to an interested audience that were pleasantly surprised with a treat of yummy cupcakes to mark our 23rd Anniversary at the end of the show. Sadly we could not go through with the three announced Rock Walks due to some logistic constraints of the School.

The documentary was also screened at Phoenix Arena, and at Lamakaan during their recent 9th Anniversary celebrations and at Goethe Zentrum.

The Society was fortunate to get some input from Mr. Jayesh Ranjan, Principal Secretary Industries and Commerce, a long - time well wisher of the Society. He gave us several tips to build up membership and leads to further our cause. Follow-up on these matters has begun.

APPEAL TO MEMBERS

We earnestly request EVERY MEMBER of the Society to introduce at least one new member who can become an active promoter of our cause. The Society needs more hands to work at spreading the message, planning fund raising events, screening the documentary etc. if we are to stop the rampant destruction of rocks happening all over the city.

We request members to initiate at least 2 screenings of our Documentary perhaps one in their respective residential colonies and one at their work where new audiences can be sensitized. Also at schools, clubs and associations. The film in its full length (12.5 min.) is available on YouTube (link: <https://youtu.be/dd7vdwOZfAw>). A 6.5 min version and a 2.5 min version can be obtained from the Society's office - call Suma at 23552923 between 10 am. and 2 p.m.

Rock Walks in April, May & June 2019

Day & Date	Place	Time / Meeting Point
Sunday, April 21, 2019	Rocks Between Peeranshah Dargah & TS Police Academy	7 a.m. / NMDC, Masab Tank
Sunday, May 19, 2019	Rocks near Durgam Cheruvu	7 a.m. / Jubilee Hills Check Post (opp. Bharat Petroleum Bunk)
Sunday, June 16, 2019	Venkateshwaragutta (Shamirpet)	2 p.m. / Opp. St. Ann's School Main Gate, Sardar Patel Road (West Marredpally Side)

Rock Walks are conducted on the third Sunday of every month. They are announced in the Press and social media, and on our website. Everybody is welcome. Walking shoes, a cap, long pants and a water bottle are a must. Please enroll with **G.R.B. Pradeep at 9866752114**.

Student and Active Members are requested to pay their Subscription for the financial year April 2019 – March 2020.

Managing Committee

President : Narendra Luther - 040-23399778
 Vice President : Aparajita Sinha - 9849655363
 Secretary : Frauke Quader - 9849936248
 Joint Secretary : G.R.B. Pradeep - 9866752114
 Treasurer : Sangeeta Varma - 9849044624

Members

Padmini B. Patell - 9912865299
 Dr. Sudheer Bhan - 8106072537
 Anand Madabhushi - 9849033763
 Dr. E. Sathya Prakash - 9440057846
 Ravi Setlem - 9866241768

Membership Fees

Class	Admission	Annual Subscription
Active (Single)	Rs. 100	Rs. 200
(Couple)	Rs. 100	Rs. 300
Student	Rs. 100	Rs. 100
Life (Single)	Rs. 2,000 for Life	
(Couple)	Rs. 3,000 for Life	
Institution	Rs. 10,000	
Corporate	Rs. 50,000	