



*Unravelling
The Mystical Legacy*

DILARAM BUNGALOW



Where History meets Spirituality



Swami Vivekananda's
Tour of Gujarat



✦ *Heaven of Peace* ✦

PREFACE



This booklet is a tribute to the serene yet powerful presence of Dilaram Bungalow—a timeless witness to Vadodara’s spiritual and cultural journey.

It celebrates the bungalow’s quiet elegance, while unveiling its remarkable links to art, mathematics, physics, and biology—disciplines that harmonize within its historic walls.

Built in 1863 as the residence of Diwan Manibhai Mehta, Dilaram Bungalow gained eternal significance when Swami Vivekananda stayed here in April 1892, engaging in profound conversations on education and philosophy.

Today, as the Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Memorial, it invites seekers to explore the blend of heritage and spirituality it embodies.

The purpose is to take a fresh look at this monument—to experience it not just as a relic of history, but as a living classroom.

INDEX

Contents	Page No.
Cover Page	1
Preface	2
Index	3
From The Principal's Desk	4
Why ETM	5
Exploring, Observing And Internalizing	6
About The Dilaram Bungalow	8
Heritage Heaven	9
Renovation And Memorial Status	10
Geometry In Harmony	11
Physics In Place	24
Chemical Legacy	29
Life In Structure	34
Cultural Expression	41
Serve , Love, Realize	51
Reflective Heritage Walk	56
Learning From Legacy	68
Our Responsibility	73
Conclusion	74
Acknowledgement	75
Find Me Here	76

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



History is not merely his or her story. It is the story of a person, place, culture, or civilization — a mirror reflecting the present, and a book of statutes guiding the future, depending on the spirit with which we learn its lessons now.

Anand Vidya Vihar, in its 25 glorious years of existence, has always believed in imparting education with a difference. The core theme of the Vadodara History Festival — exploring the city's monuments through a holistic lens — beautifully aligns with this belief.

While deciding which monument to study, we aimed to select one that may not command immediate attention, yet holds profound significance in shaping Vadodara's past, present, and future. And so, we chose Dilaram Bungalow as the subject of our research.

Today, Dilaram Bungalow is a well-known Ramakrishna Mission Centre — a vibrant hub dedicated to awakening future citizens.

What many may not know, however, is that this very bungalow hosted Swami Vivekananda before he departed for Chicago to attend the iconic World Congress of Religions. How did that brief stay at Dilaram Bungalow influence his legendary speech on Bhakti Vedanta, or on Hinduism — the world's oldest and most tolerant religion? Did it impact him at all?

How Dilaram Bungalow continues to play the role Swamiji envisioned — and perhaps even more — forms a part of this unique study. Additionally, the monument opens up remarkable opportunities for interdisciplinary learning across subjects such as Mathematics, English, Hindi, Sanskrit, History, Physics, Chemistry, Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Digital Arts, and Biology.

Our students' journey in exploring the multiple dimensions of this monument has been rich, rewarding, and rejuvenating.

A monument is not just a relic of the past — it is a window into the soul of the future. Through our participation in the Vadodara History Festival, this truth has been affirmed beyond doubt.

Dilaram Bungalow has truly won the hearts of AVVites — and now, it echoes with the spirit of 'Yeh Dil Maange More!'

WHY ETM @ DILARAM



Monuments are time machines – they take us back to history in one step.

Walls talk Math & Science – every arch, dome, and roof hides shapes, symmetry, and smart design.

Stones tell stories – of leaders, culture, and traditions that shaped us.

Learning is fun – not from blackboard, but from real-life walls of wisdom!

**EXPLORE,
ETM = THINK,
MANIFEST.**

EXPLORING, OBSERVING AND INTERNALIZING

Our student team spent days exploring every corner of the historic Dilaram Bungalow—measuring proportions, sketching motifs, interviewing the caretakers, and capturing details that bring history alive. Each photograph records their curiosity in action.”



Observe
Discover
Measure
Learn
Experience



EXPLORING, OBSERVING AND INTERNALIZING



ABOUT THE DILARAM BUNGALOW



Dilaram Bungalow, located opposite the Circuit House in Vadodara, is a 19th-century colonial-style mansion built around 1863 for Dewan Manibhai Mehta. Its red-brick façade, broad wooden verandah with carved pillars, arched windows, and decorative fretwork reflect the craftsmanship of the era, while lush gardens and mature trees create a serene heritage ambience.

In April 1892, Swami Vivekananda stayed here as a guest, engaging in discussions on education, social reform, and spiritual growth, and exploring Vadodara's libraries and art collections. His stay left an enduring impression, connecting the city to his timeless vision.

Recognising its historical and spiritual significance, the Government of Gujarat handed the bungalow to the Ramakrishna Mission in 2005. Fully restored in 2014, it now serves as the Swami Vivekananda Memorial — a vibrant centre for meditation, learning, cultural activities, and welfare programs. Visitors not only experience the bungalow's architectural charm but also connect with the enduring legacy of knowledge, service, and self-realisation that Swami Vivekananda inspired.

Heritage Heaven



Dilaram Bungalow was built in 1863 for Dewan Manibhai Mehta during the reign of Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III. Conceived as a colonial-style retreat for senior officials of the Baroda State, it reflected the city's growing prominence and blended European design with Indian craftsmanship. Its broad verandahs, carved pillars, arched windows, and tranquil gardens soon made it a distinctive landmark of Vadodara.

In April 1892, Swami Vivekananda stayed here while visiting Vadodara. During his short stay, he met scholars, artists, and reformers, exchanging ideas on education, social reform, and spiritual awakening. This visit forged a lasting connection between the bungalow and Vivekananda's vision of knowledge, service, and self-realization.

After Independence, the bungalow remained under government care until 2005, when it was handed over to the Ramakrishna Mission. Restored in 2014, it reopened as the Swami Vivekananda Memorial, preserving over 160 years of cultural and spiritual heritage for future generations.

RENOVATION AND MEMORIAL STATUS



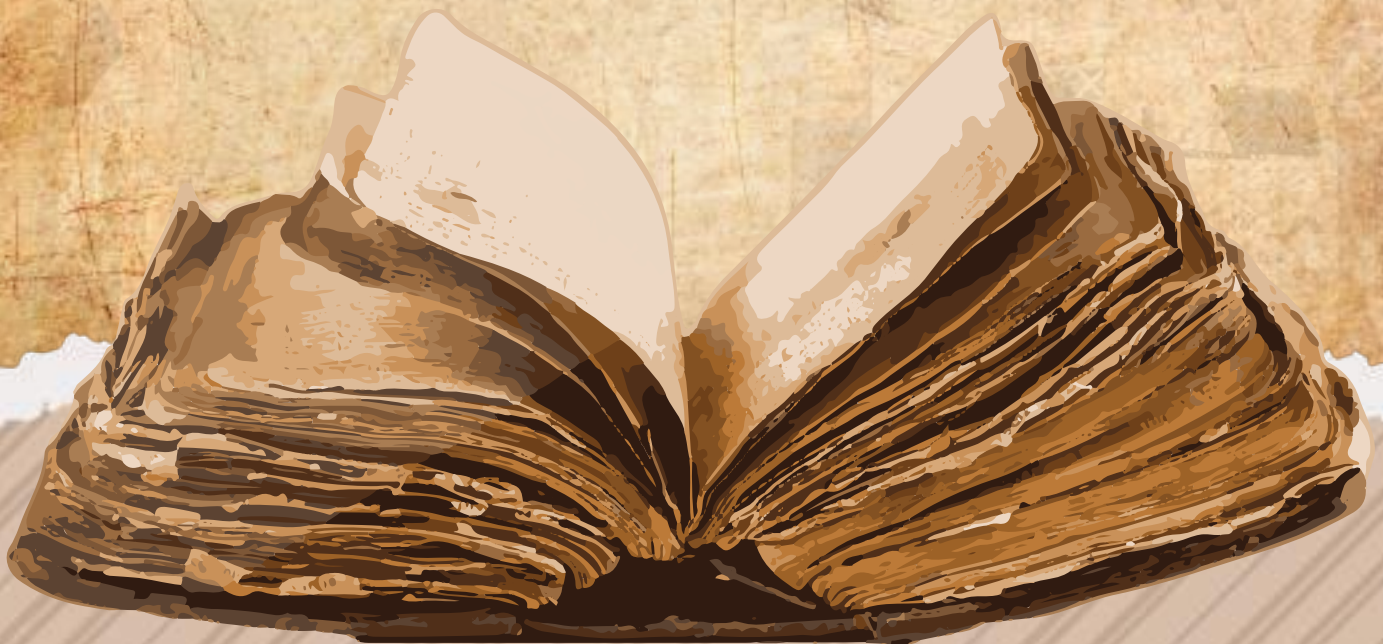
This transfer marked the beginning of an extensive programme to conserve and revitalise the 19th-century structure. Original features such as wooden verandahs, arched windows, stone flooring, and carved pillars were carefully documented and restored, while modern facilities were discreetly added to make the building suitable for visitors and programmes.

After nearly a decade of meticulous work, the renovated bungalow was inaugurated in 2014 as the Swami Vivekananda Memorial. Today, it functions as a centre for meditation, study, cultural events, and welfare activities.

The memorial preserves the bungalow's colonial charm while showcasing Vivekananda's life, ideals, and travels through exhibitions, photographs, and interactive displays. This allows visitors to experience both the building's architectural beauty and the enduring message of service, knowledge, and spiritual growth.



GEOMETRY IN HARMONY



Maths isn't only for exams. It hides in the most unexpected places.

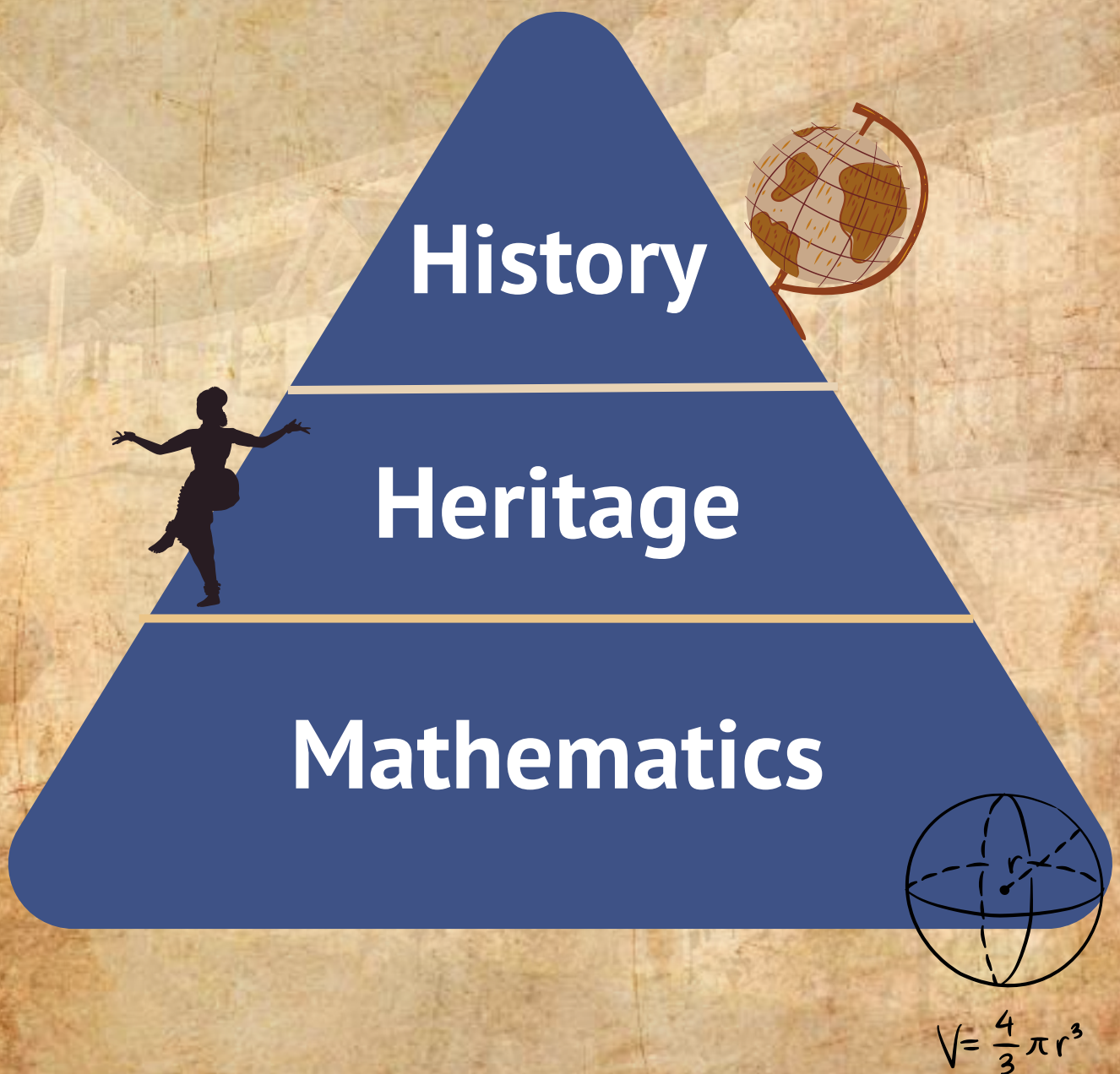
At first, you just see sloping tiles. But wait! Look deeper and you'll spot geometry, symmetry, and some pretty clever maths tricks built right into history.

The roof of Dilaram Bungalows, Vadodara, is more than an architectural cover — it is a silent storyteller of geometry, balance, and intelligence.

By observing this roof, we discover how maths leaves the classroom and comes alive in the real world. It explains why ancient builders trusted triangles to create beauty and safety at the same time. This booklet is your ticket to see maths outside the classroom.



THE ROOF OF DILARAM BUNGALOW ISN'T JUST WOOD AND TILES. ITS TRIANGLE OF:



GEOMETRY IN HARMONY

Origin of the Triangular (Pitched) Roof Pattern

1. Ancient Beginnings

- The idea of the sloping or pitched roof is very old and was first used in regions with heavy rainfall or snow.
- Early evidence can be seen in Greek temples and Roman houses, where triangular gable roofs were used to shed water quickly.

2. Spread to Europe and Asia

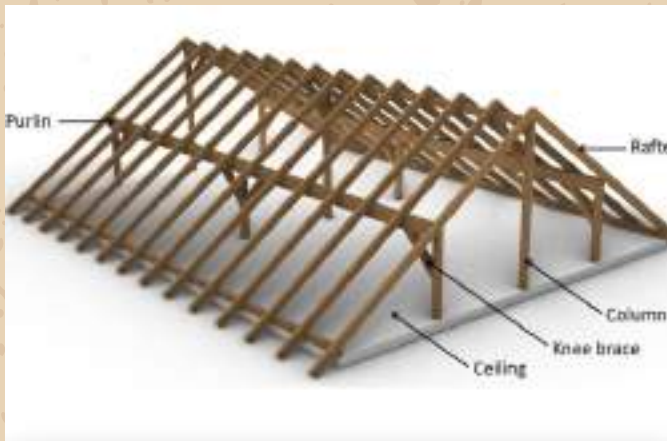
- In medieval Europe, pitched roofs became the most common form of roof because they were easy to build, strong, and safe in wet climates.
- Through trade and colonial influence, the pitched roof pattern spread widely to Asia, including India.

3. Arrival in India

- In India, pitched roofs were adapted to local conditions.
- In the Kerala and Konkan regions: steeply sloped roofs covered with clay tiles helped in heavy monsoon rains.
- In the Himalayan regions: triangular roofs prevented snow from collecting.
- In Gujarat, especially during the colonial and princely states period (1800s), European bungalow styles introduced pitched and gable roofs into city mansions (like Dilaram Bungalow).

A LOOK AT THE ROOF STRUCTURE

GABLE ROOF



- A gable roof is a roof with two sloping sides that meet at a ridge, forming a triangle at each end called a gable.
- Simple, elegant, and very common in traditional and colonial buildings.
- The triangle shape makes it structurally stable — it can carry heavy loads of rain, wind, or even furniture inside the house without collapsing.
- Symmetry is a key feature: both slopes mirror each other, balancing the weight evenly across the walls.
- Think of it as a triangle superhero on top of your house — strong, balanced, and efficient.



Why Gable roofs are Relevant to Dilaram Bungalow?



1. Climate Adaptation:

- Vadodara experiences monsoons and heavy rain, and the gable roof allows water to flow off quickly, preventing leaks or water damage.

2. Structural Stability:

- The triangular gable distributes the load evenly to the walls.
- In combination with timber rafters, it ensures that the roof can support heavy tiles or weights.

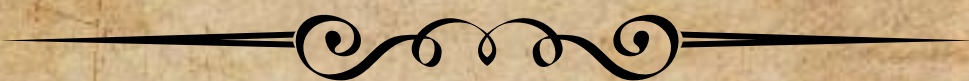
3. Aesthetic & Cultural Appeal:

- The gable design was a European influence, brought into India during colonial times.
- Dilaram Bungalow reflects this blend of European architecture with Indian craftsmanship — symmetry, proportion, and functionality combined.

4. Mathematical Efficiency:

- Builders could use simple geometry and Pythagoras theorem to calculate slope lengths and angles.
- Triangles provide the rigidity that rectangles cannot, making construction safer.
- Symmetry makes calculations easier: height, slope, and span are predictable and measurable.

MATHS IN ACTION



Load Distribution: A gable roof evenly distributes the weight of tiles, rainwater, and even wind pressure along the triangular slopes.

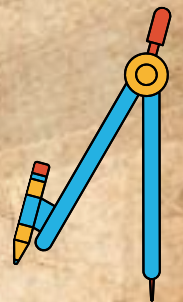
Slope Calculation:

- If the **span of the bungalow** = 10 m and the **height of the gable** = 3 m, then the slope of each side can be calculated:
- Using Pythagoras: $s = \sqrt{(\text{span}/2)^2 + \text{height}^2} = \sqrt{5^2 + 3^2} = 5.83 \text{ m}$

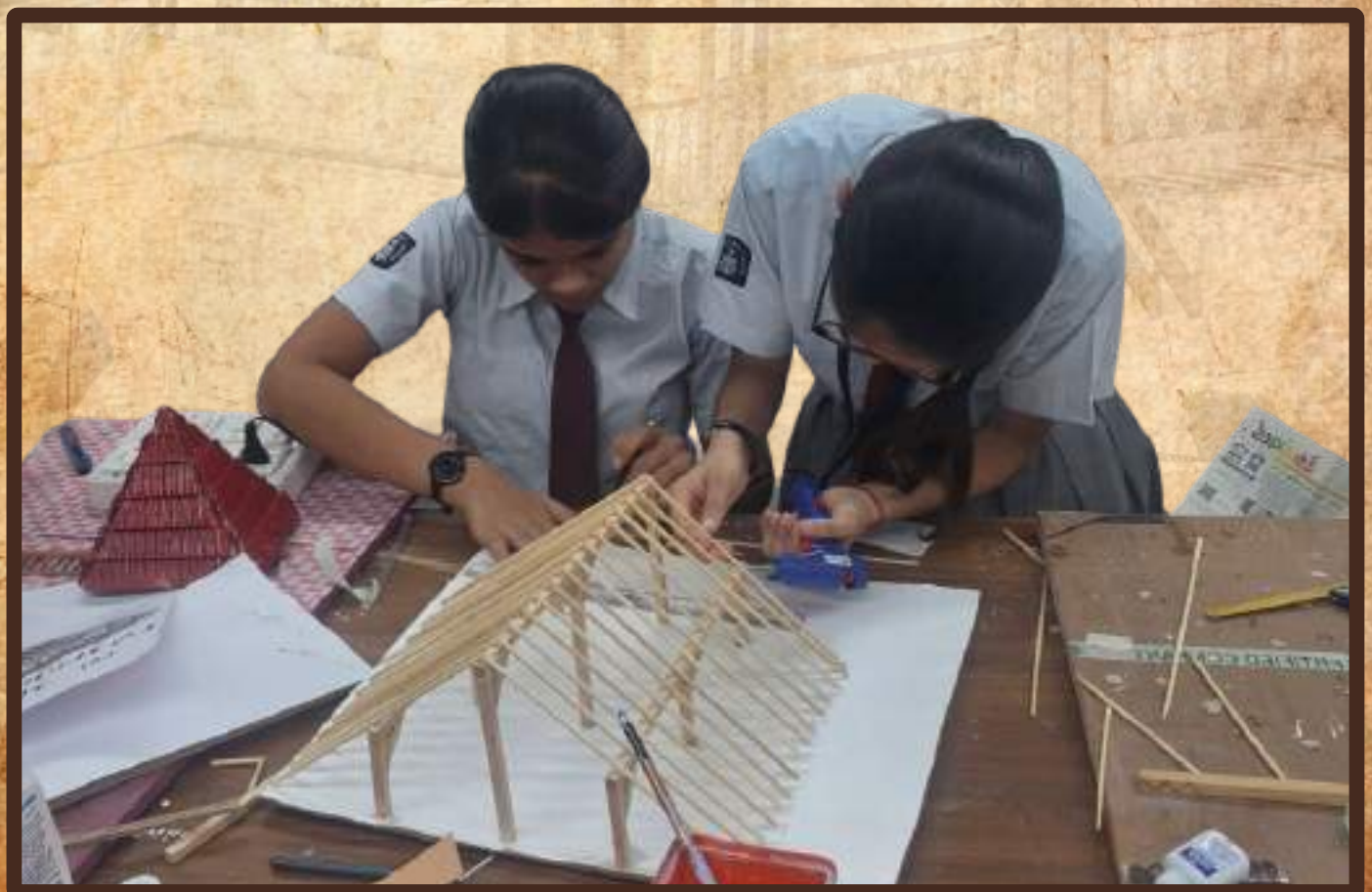
Surface Area:

- One slope area = $5.83 \times 8 \text{ m} = 46.64 \text{ m}^2$
- Total roof area = 93.28 m^2

Material Efficiency: Using a triangle ensures maximum strength with minimum material.



Gable roofs are not just beautiful — they are living geometry lessons.



ROOF PATTERNS AND THEIR ORIGIN



1. loped/Pitched Roofs

Sloping (pitched) roofs were adopted in many parts of India especially in areas with heavy rainfall. They help water drain off quickly so that water does not collect and damage the walls.

In Gujarat, particularly coastal and monsoon-affected regions like Saurashtra, pitched clay tile roofs are common. Builders used local timber (teak, babul wood) for structure, and clay or country tiles for covering.

2. Materials and Vernacular Techniques

Many traditional houses used local woods for rafters and beams, and clay tiles or terracotta for roof covering. These materials were easily available and suited to the climate (heat and rain).

Vernacular architecture (homes of ordinary people, not palaces) influenced larger buildings: artisans and builders often borrowed practices that worked well locally.

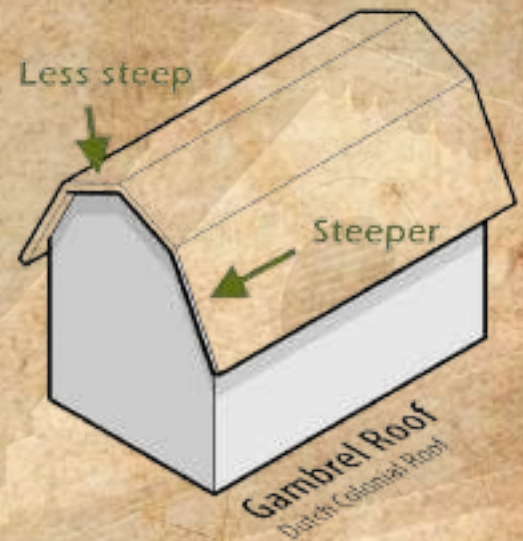
3. Symmetry and Gable Roofs

The “gable roof” pattern — a roof with two sloping sides meeting at a ridge — has been widely used in traditional architecture in India. It is simple, strong, and allows for symmetry.

Overhangs (eaves) are common so that rain is directed away from walls. In many heritage buildings, roofing overhangs and symmetry are used not only for function but also for beauty.

Mathematical Reason

- Builders everywhere realized that a triangle is the most rigid shape.
- Unlike a rectangle that can deform, a triangle keeps its shape and balances loads evenly.
- This is why gable roofs (two sloping sides forming a triangle) became the universal choice for safe building



EXPERIMENT

Experiment: “Why Triangular Roofs Are Stronger?”

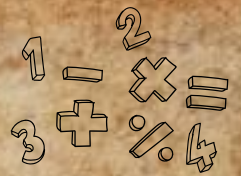
Objective :

- To show that triangles give more strength and stability to roofs compared to other shapes.

Materials Needed (eco-friendly):

- Cardboard / thick chart paper pieces
- Scale & pencil
- Glue / tape
- Coins, books, or small weights
- 4 straws / sticks

PROCEDURE



1. Make two roof models using cardboard:

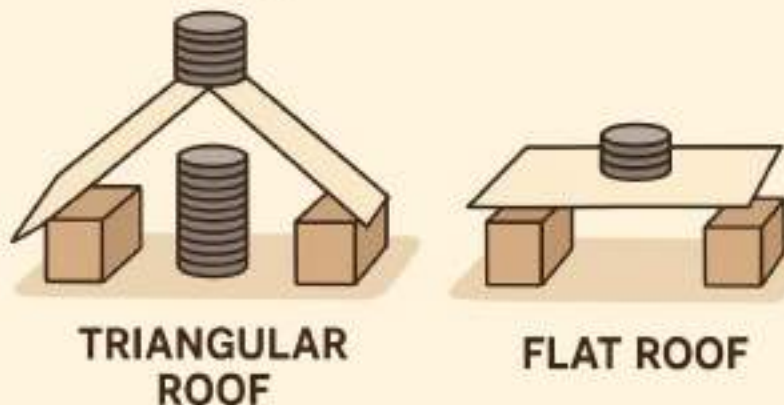
Model 1: Rectangular roof (just a flat rectangle on two walls).

**COMPARING LOAD BEARING CAPACITY:
FLAT vs. CURVED (ARCHED) SHEET**



Model 2: Triangular roof (two sloping sides making a triangle).

**Comparing Load Bearing Capacity:
Triangular vs. Flat Roof**



- Fix both roofs on two vertical walls (made from cardboard strips).



- Now, put equal weights (coins/books) on both roofs, one by one.



Observe what happens:

- The rectangular roof bends or collapses easily.
- The triangular roof holds the weight better.

MATHEMATICAL CONNECTION

A rectangle can change its shape into a parallelogram without changing its side lengths → unstable.

1. Surface Area of Slopes

- Formula: $\text{Area} = \text{Sloping Length} \times \text{Length of Building}$
- Total roof = $2 \times (\text{one slope area})$.

2. Pythagoras Theorem

- To calculate sloping length:
$$s = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\text{span}}{2}\right)^2 + (\text{height})^2}$$

3. Symmetry

- The ridge of the roof is a **line of symmetry**.
- Both halves are mirror images → equal strength and equal distribution of load.

4. Trigonometry (optional for higher classes)

- To calculate angle of slope:

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\text{height}}{\text{half span}}$$

- A triangle is rigid; it cannot change shape without changing its side lengths → stable.
- This proves the rigidity of triangles in geometry.



SKILLS YOU PICK UP

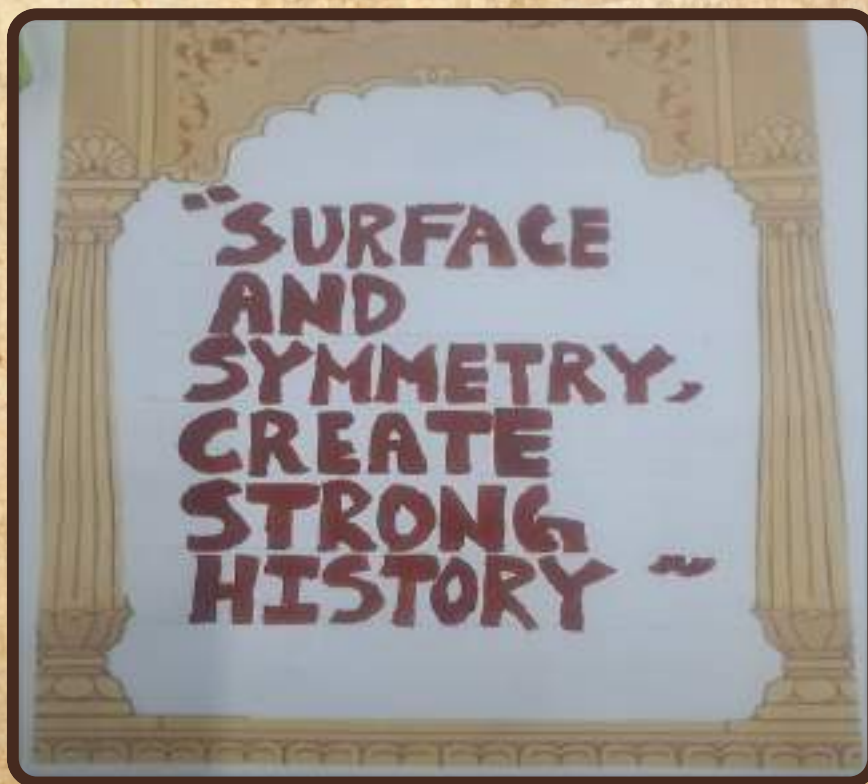
Studying this roof isn't just maths. Its life skills!

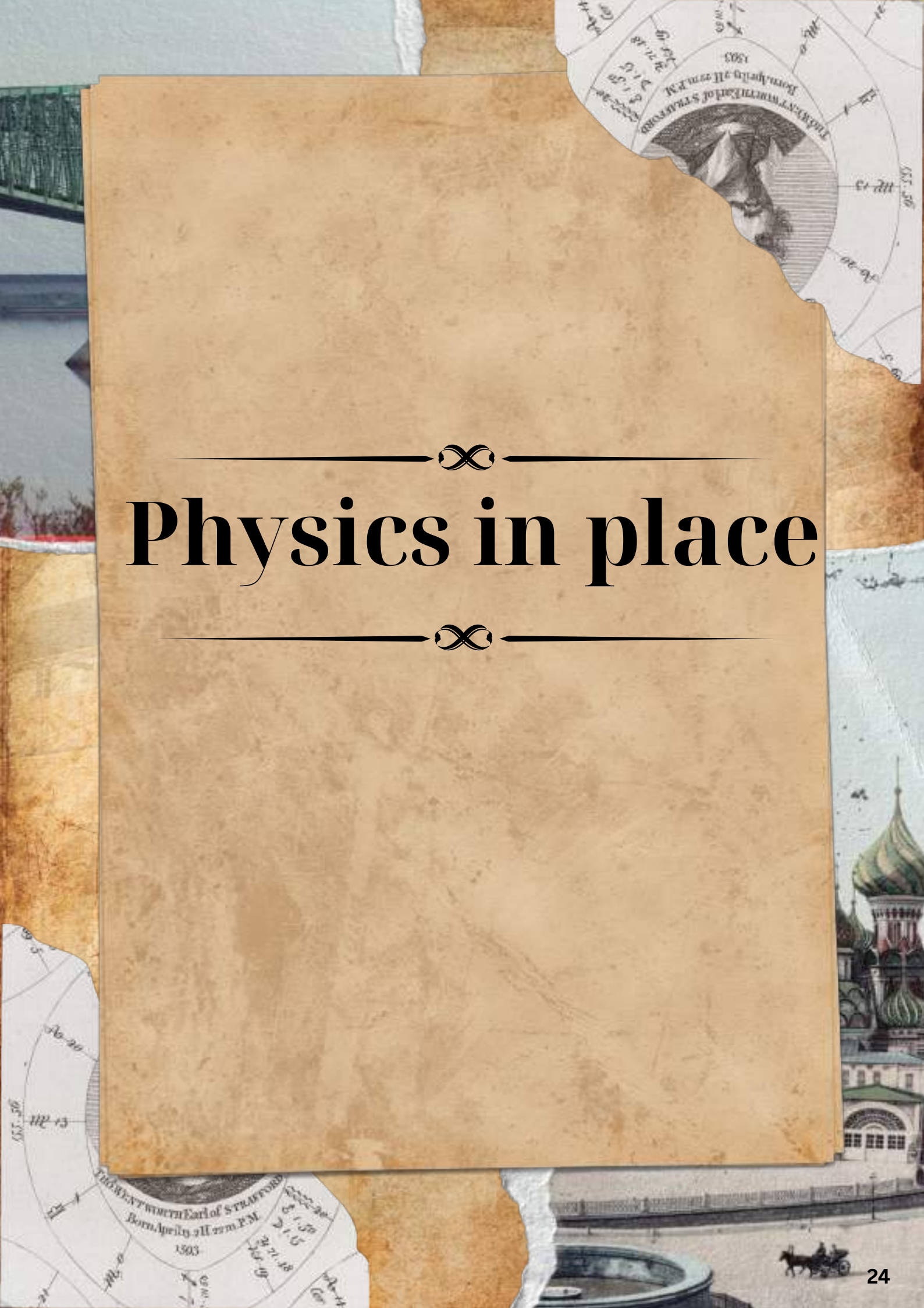
Observation: Spot hidden patterns.

- ✓ Problem-Solving: Test models, find answers.
- ✓ Analytical Thinking: Compare designs.
- ✓ Creativity: Connect history + maths + architecture.
- ✓ Cultural Respect: See how smart our ancestors were.

Reflection Time :

1. Why does a triangular roof need more material than a flat one?
2. How does symmetry make it stronger?
3. Can you think of another building where triangles rule?
4. What do we learn by mixing culture with mathematics?



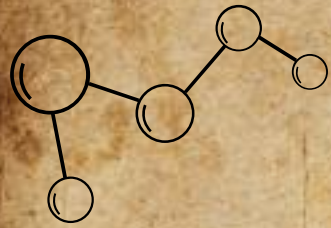


∞

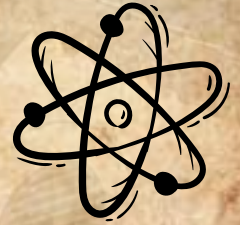
Physics in place

∞

PHYSICS IN PLACE



Acoustic and sound proofing:



Experiment title:

Exploring Sound Reflection and Absorption in Dilaram Bungalow using Ultrasonic Sensor

Objective:

To demonstrate how sound waves from an ultrasonic sensor are reflected by solid objects but absorbed by materials like cloth, paralleling soundproofing in architecture as seen in Dilaram Bungalow, particularly in its prayer hall.

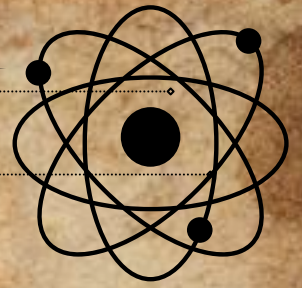
Materials Required:

- An ultrasonic sensor (commonly available in electronics or robotics kits)
- A microcontroller (like Arduino) for controlling the sensor
- A computer with necessary software for programming the microcontroller
- Solid objects of various materials (wood, metal, plastic)
- Cloth materials of different thicknesses and textures
- Measuring scale

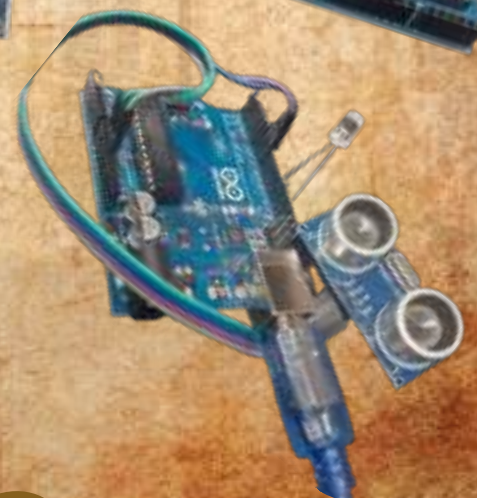




PROCEDURE :



- **Testing Sound Wave Reflection :** Measure the distance and time it takes for sound waves to reflect off solid objects (wood, metal, plastic) placed at varying distances from the sensor.
- **Setting Up the Ultrasonic Sensor :** Connect the ultrasonic sensor to the microcontroller and place it in a fixed position .
- **Testing Sound Wave Absorption/Deflection :** Place cloth materials of different thicknesses and textures in front of the solid objects and measure the change in sound wave reflection.
- **Measuring and Comparing Results :** Record and compare the results for different materials to understand their sound absorption and reflection properties.



Observations:

- **Solid Objects:** The ultrasonic sensor consistently measured accurate distances for solid objects, indicating effective sound wave reflection.
- **Cloth Materials:** The sensor's readings were affected when cloth materials were introduced, showing absorption or deflection of sound waves.
- **Material Comparison:** Different materials exhibited varying degrees of sound absorption and reflection, with thicker cloth materials showing greater absorption.

Observation Table			
Object	Distance	Time	Echo Property
1) Wood	5.30 cm	0.000312s	Strong
2) Metal	5.30 cm	0.000312s	Strong
3) Plastic	5.30 cm	0.000312s	Strong
4) Soft Cloth	-	-	Absorbed
5) Woolen Cloth	-	-	Absorbed



CHEMICAL LEGACY



CHEMICAL LEGACY

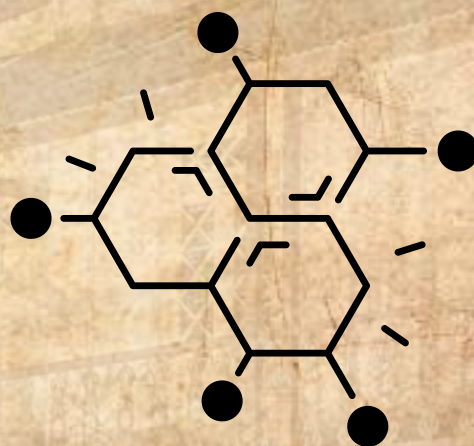
PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION OF DILARAM BUNGALOW

Objective:

To show that polymer is used to preserve and conserve dilaram bungalow.

Materials required:

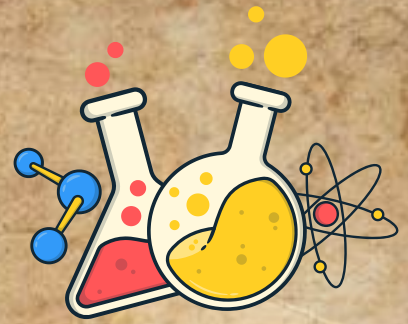
- 2 beakers,
- water,
- superabsorbent polymer.



Procedure (two-ingredient method):

- Place 1 g of dry SAP on a clean surface or in a clear cup. (If you don't have a scale, use a small pinch — note the limitation.)
- Slowly pour 50 ml water onto the polymer (use a measuring cup if available). Start the stopwatch.
- Watch for 1–2 minutes as the powder swells into a jelly. Gently leave undisturbed for 10 minutes.
- After 10 minutes, observe: the powder will have turned into a soft, clear/white gel and most water will be absorbed.
- Optional: Tilt the cup — if clear water runs out, less water was absorbed; if none runs out, absorption was complete.

Observations :



Surface Protection:

- The polymer formed a thin protective layer over the monument material (stone, brick, or plaster).
- The layer reduced visible dust accumulation and surface erosion.

Durability Enhancement:

- Treated sections showed less wear and cracking over time, especially when exposed to air, moisture, or mild physical friction.
- Untreated sections were more prone to erosion, cracks, and color fading.

Color and Texture Preservation:

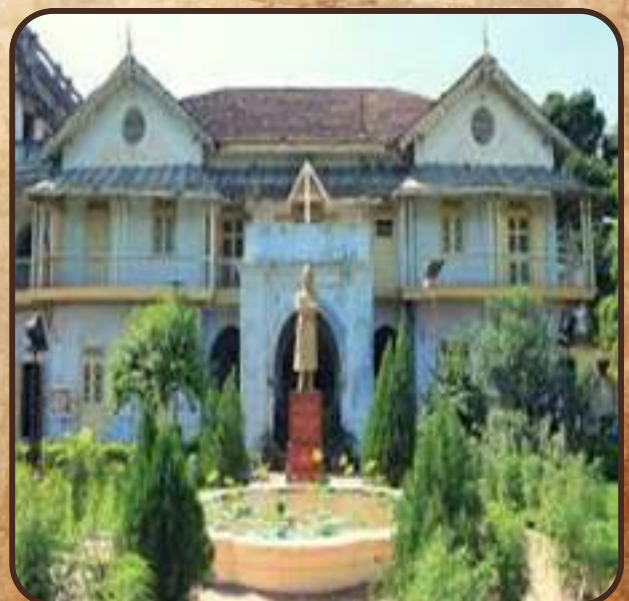
- Polymers helped maintain the original color and texture of the monument material.
- Treated surfaces retained brightness and smoothness compared to untreated areas, which appeared duller.





Applications of polymer in dilaram bungalows :

Polymers are used in dilaram bungalows for preservation, restoration, and display. They act as consolidates to strengthen deteriorating materials like stone and wood, and as adhesives to reattach broken fragments. Protective polymer coatings including acrylics and fluoropolymers repel water, pollutants, and prevent corrosion, effectively guarding against environmental damage. In cleaning, polymer-based gels are used to selectively and safely remove dirt and aged layers. They are also crucial for creating stable, custom mounts and storage systems for fragile artifacts.





Conclusion :

- The experiment successfully demonstrated the role of polymers in the preservation and conservation of heritage structures like Dilaram Bungalow. By using water-absorbing polymers (similar to the super-absorbent material found in diapers), it was observed that polymers can effectively manage and control moisture. This property is crucial in protecting old structures



LIFE IN STRUCTURE



LIFE IN STRUCTURE



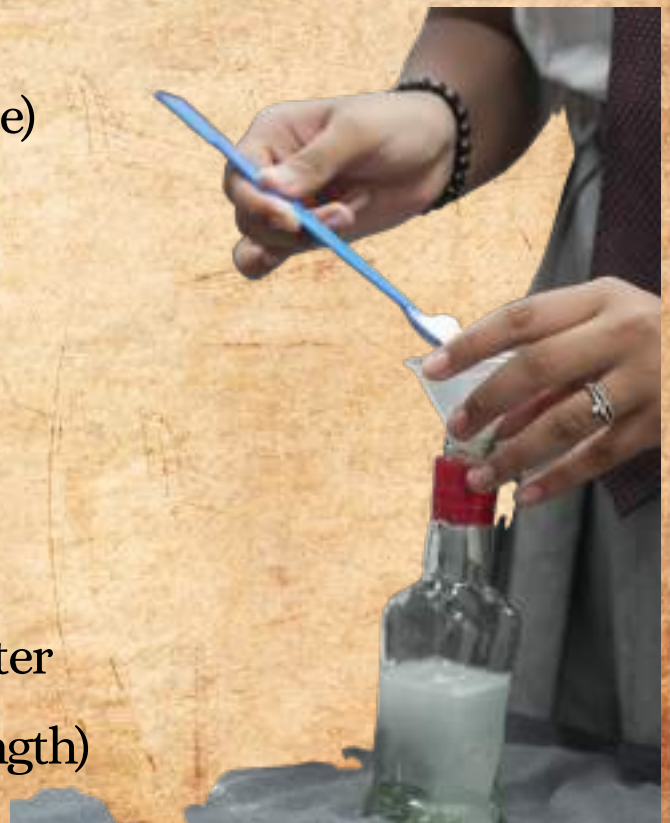
BREATH OF BALANCE: FROM INVISIBLE GASES TO VISIBLE CALM AT DILARAM BUNGALOW

Objective:

To demonstrate that carbon dioxide (CO_2) is heavier than air and can be 'poured' from one container to another, using a chemical reaction to produce CO_2 . The experiment also aims to show the effect of CO_2 on a candle flame and to connect this principle to the role of photosynthesis in balancing atmospheric gases.

Materials required:

- Baking soda (sodium bicarbonate)
- Vinegar (acetic acid)
- Plastic bottle
- Balloon
- Large container (for reaction)
- Small glass (to catch CO_2)
- Candle/splinter, matches or lighter
- Flexible plastic tube ($\sim 1/2$ m in length)



Procedure:

- Fill the balloon with a teaspoon of baking soda and the plastic bottle with vinegar. Attach balloon to the bottle and release baking soda into vinegar.
- In the large container, mix baking soda and vinegar. Reaction releases CO₂ gas.
- Hold one end of the tube above the reacting mixture and the other into the glass to catch CO₂.
- Light the candle/splinter and insert it into the glass.
- Observe how the flame reacts.

Measuring Balloon Diameter (Approximate Method):

- Inflate the balloon with the gas produced.
- Measure its circumference or diameter using a measuring tape or string.
- Assume the balloon is roughly spherical (approximation).
- Calculate the volume using:

$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \quad (\text{where } r = \text{radius})$$

Example : If balloon diameter = 12 cm, radius = 6 cm.

$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi(6)^3 \approx 904 \text{ cm}^3 = 904 \text{ mL}$$

Observation Table:

Time (s)	CO ₂ captured, Trial 1 (mL)	CO ₂ captured, Trial 2 (mL)	CO ₂ captured, Trial 3 (mL)
0	0	0	0
10	40	35	45
20	95	85	100
30	150	140	160
40	215	200	225
50	280	265	290
60	340	330	360

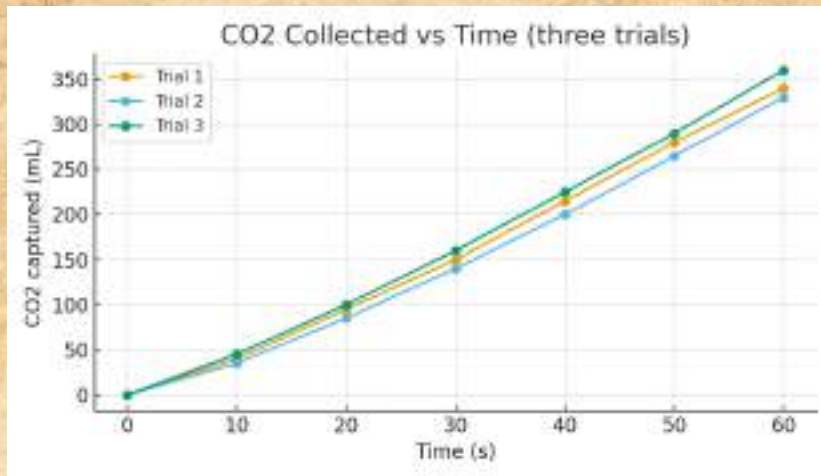
Candle Extinguish Summary:

Trial	Candle Insertion Time (s)	CO ₂ in Glass at Extinguish (mL)	Observation
Trial 1	28	139	Flame gradually dimmed then out
Trial 2	30	140	Flame flickered then out
Trial 3	26	136	Flame out quickly

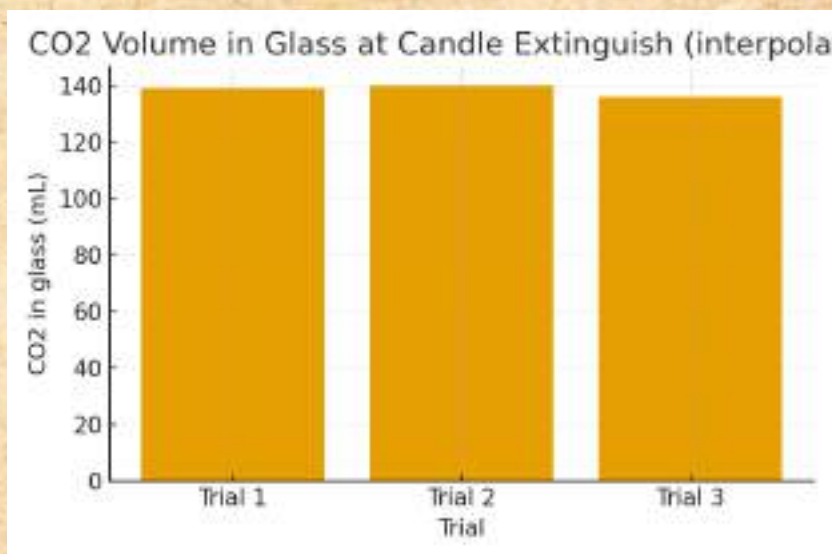


Graphs:

CO₂ Collected vs Time (three trials)



CO₂ Volume in Glass at Candle Extinguish



1. Reaction between vinegar and baking soda releases CO₂ steadily, reaching 330–360 mL in 60 seconds. Candle flame extinguished when approximately 136–140 mL CO₂ was present in the glass.
2. Data across trials was consistent, showing repeatability of results.
3. The experiment demonstrates that CO₂ is heavier than air and displaces oxygen, extinguishing a flame. This connects to photosynthesis: plants use CO₂ and release O₂, thereby replenishing atmospheric oxygen. In the shaded gardens of Dilaram Bungalow, Vadodara, trees produce fresh oxygen during the day (~600 L per day for 6 mature trees, estimated). This makes the environment cleaner and more suitable for meditation. Thus, while CO₂ suffocates flames, O₂ liberated by photosynthesis sustains human life and enhances the experience of breathing fresh air.

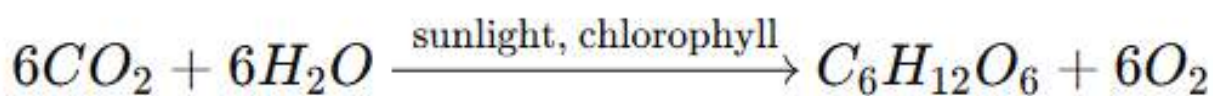
Conclusion:

The vinegar-baking soda reaction effectively demonstrated CO₂ production and its ability to extinguish a flame. This simple experiment highlights the importance of gas balance in nature. While CO₂ can displace oxygen and threaten combustion or respiration in enclosed spaces, photosynthesis by plants restores oxygen in the atmosphere. At Dilaram Bungalow, the oxygen-rich air generated by trees not only balances CO₂ levels but also creates a serene, health-supporting atmosphere for meditation.

Photosynthesis, Oxygen, and Meditation: The Connection at Dilaram Bungalow

1. Photosynthesis and Oxygen Liberation

- Plants and trees around Dilaram Bungalow perform photosynthesis during daylight:

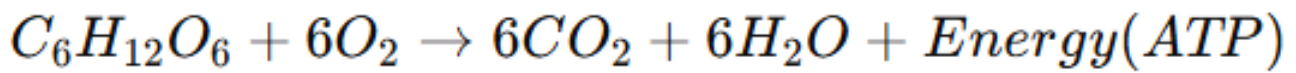


In this process:

- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the air and water (H₂O) from the soil are used.
- Glucose (C₆H₁₂O₆) is produced as food for the plant.
- Oxygen (O₂) is liberated as a by-product and released into the surrounding atmosphere.

2. Role of Oxygen in Human Physiology

- Oxygen is essential for cellular respiration in humans:



Higher oxygen levels in the environment:

- Improve lung function and oxygen saturation in the blood.
- Enhance ATP production, leading to more energy.
- Support clearer thinking and reduced fatigue.

3. Meditation and Fresh Oxygen

- During meditation, people practice deep, slow breathing (pranayama).
- If the surrounding air is rich in oxygen:
 - The brain receives better oxygenation, improving focus and concentration.
 - Parasympathetic activity (relaxation response) is enhanced, lowering stress and anxiety.
 - Fresh oxygen helps in maintaining steady heart rate and calm nervous system activity.

Thus, meditating at Dilaram Bungalow — surrounded by oxygen-liberating trees — can scientifically explain the feeling of calmness, clarity, and rejuvenation that visitors often experience.

4. Local Significance – Dilaram Bungalow, Vadodara

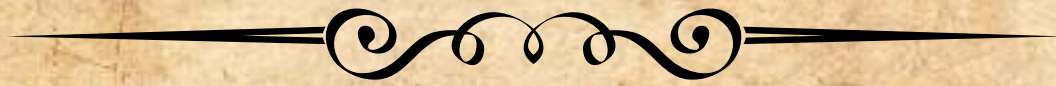
- The trees around the historical monument act as “green oxygen factories”, refreshing the microenvironment.
- People who meditate here benefit from:
 - a. Cleaner, oxygen-rich air produced by photosynthesis.
 - b. A balanced CO_2 – O_2 cycle, preventing suffocation or drowsiness.
 - c. A sense of mental peace and spiritual connection, enhanced by the natural setting.



CULTURAL EXPRESSION



CULTURAL EXPRESSION



A SUSTAINABLE 3D MODEL CELEBRATING VADODARA'S HERITAGE

- As part of VHF, an event dedicated to celebrating the rich cultural and architectural heritage of Vadodara, our creative team was entrusted with a flagship project: the conceptualization and creation of a detailed 3D miniature model of a historic Dilaram Bungalow.



- We chose to recreate Dilaram Bungalow, an iconic structure that reflects the architectural elegance of Vadodara's past. Our model showcases two distinct perspectives of the bungalow



- The Facade Side: This side features a detailed exterior view of the bungalow, capturing the front elevation and architectural styling in its full glory.



- The Interior Cut-Section: The reverse side reveals an intricate view of the bungalow's interiors, providing insight into the spatial planning and structural layout.



- What sets this model apart is our commitment to sustainability and innovation. The entire structure has been crafted using biodegradable and recycled materials. Key components include:

- Cardboard and recycled paper for walls, roofing, and structural detailing
- Recycled plastic waste for doors, windows, and intricate design elements
- Wooden supports for the base, wrapped in white soft cardboard for aesthetic cohesion

To enhance the precision and authenticity of the facade, we incorporated 3D printing technology for detailed ornamental and structural elements. This fusion of traditional craftsmanship with modern technology allowed us to maintain both historical accuracy and eco-friendly practices



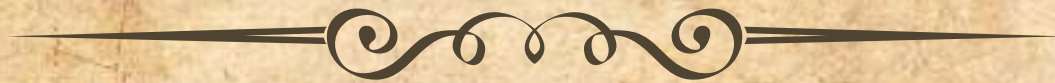


- The creation of the model was a collaborative effort involving a dedicated team of students working consistently over a period of three weeks under the guidance and mentorship of experienced faculty. Every stage—from research and design to execution—was carried out with conscious attention to detail, heritage value, and sustainability.



- Through this project, students gained hands-on experience in sustainable design practices, heritage research, 3D modeling, and collaborative teamwork. They developed a deeper understanding of architectural heritage and the importance of preserving it through modern yet eco-conscious means. The process also fostered skills in project planning, creative problem-solving, and integrating traditional art forms with cutting-edge technology.

CULTURAL EXPRESSION



DANCE DRAMA — DILARAM BUNGALOW & SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

- The dance drama offered a captivating and heartfelt tribute to the profound historical connection between Dilaram Bungalow and Swami Vivekananda. Set against the backdrop of his visit to Ahmedabad in 1892, the performance thoughtfully depicted how this serene bungalow served as a space for contemplation and inner reflection for the great spiritual leader.



- The choreography was both graceful and precise, reflecting a deep sense of devotion and reverence. Each movement and gesture appeared carefully crafted to resonate with the spiritual essence of Swami Vivekananda's journey and the cultural heritage of the site. The seamless coordination among the performers, paired with evocative music and expressive storytelling, brought the narrative to life in a powerful way.

- What made the performance especially impactful was its ability to blend classical art with historical narrative. The dramatization did not merely recount an event—it invited the audience to emotionally and spiritually engage with a pivotal moment in history. Through dance and drama, the significance of Dilaram Bungalow was elevated from a physical location to a symbol of introspection, enlightenment, and national pride.
- Overall, the presentation succeeded in achieving both artistic excellence and historical insight. It left the audience not only moved by the beauty of the performance but also enriched by a deeper understanding of Swami Vivekananda's legacy and the cultural relevance of the Dilaram Bungalow. It was a truly memorable and meaningful experience.



HERITAGE ON CANVAS:

VIVEKANANDA IN VADODARA

- The painting is a visual timeline of Swami Vivekananda's life and journey, beginning with his early days as Narendra Nath Datta in Kolkata and culminating in his historic address at the Parliament of Religions in Chicago. Within this journey, the canvas gives special focus to his stay at Dilaram Bungalow in Vadodara, symbolizing Gujarat's significant role in shaping his mission.



The composition is divided into key narrative sections:

- His arrival in Vadodara, welcomed by local admirers and scholars
- Moments of solitude and meditation at Dilaram Bungalow, capturing the spiritual calm of the space
- Dialogues and discourses held in the premises, symbolizing the exchange of wisdom

- A symbolic depiction of his philosophical teachings radiating from the bungalow into the larger world
- The emblem of the Ramakrishna Mission—a swan on the waters, encircled by the rising sun, lotus, and serpent—depicted as part of the painting, representing the harmony of work, worship, knowledge, and meditation.
- Rendered using eco-friendly materials such as natural pigments, recycled paper canvas, and sustainable paints, the artwork aligns with the festival's values of heritage preservation and environmental consciousness.

Learning & Creative Process:

- The painting was brought to life over a period of three weeks, through the combined efforts of students and mentors who researched historical records, visual references, and Swamiji's writings. This project was not only a creative endeavor but also a deeply educational one.

Through this work, students learned about:

- Swami Vivekananda's philosophical legacy and travels
- The transformation of young Narendra into Swami Vivekananda, and his global journey from Kolkata to Chicago
- The historical and cultural importance of Dilaram Bungalow and Gujarat in this larger journey
- The philosophy and emblem of the Ramakrishna Mission, and how it reflects balance in life
- How to translate research into visual storytelling
- The importance of using art as a tool for heritage education
- Working collaboratively with discipline, sensitivity, and purpose



Conclusion:

- This painting is more than a tribute—it is a living reminder of a powerful historical connection between one of India's greatest spiritual minds and the heritage of Vadodara. It narrates the inspiring journey of a small boy, Narendra, who grew into Swami Vivekananda and carried India's spiritual message to Chicago and the world.
- It encourages viewers to reflect on the values of wisdom, humility, service, and national pride that Swami Vivekananda embodied, while also showcasing the emblem and philosophy of the Ramakrishna Mission. Ultimately, it serves as a beacon for future generations to explore their roots through art, history, and shared culture.

SERVE , LOVE, REALIZE

Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Memorial, Vadodara

- A branch of the worldwide Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, founded by Swami Vivekananda in the name of his guru, Sri Ramakrishna — a saint of the modern age.
- The motto of the Mission is: "Atmano mokshartham jagat hitaya cha" (For one's own liberation and for the welfare of the world).
- This sacred place was sanctified by Swami Vivekananda's visit in 1892. In 2005, Shri Narendrabhai Modi, then Chief Minister of Gujarat, handed over the premises to the Mission to develop a memorial. Since then, the centre has actively served Gujarat through spiritual, cultural, educational, medical, and relief activities.



Why the Centre for Excellence and Culture?

Today's youth face confusion and disconnection from values, despite their energy and potential. Society is drifting from its cultural roots, and even elders feel lost in the fast-paced modern world.

To address this, we've launched the **Vivekananda Centre for Excellence and Culture** — a space for inner growth, cultural rediscovery, and character building. It is a step towards *Eternal India*, inspired by Swami Vivekananda's vision.

Key Activities

1. Spiritual & Cultural

- Daily prayers and meditation
- Celebration of saints' birth anniversaries
- Talks on the Gita, Upanishads, and spiritual texts
- Bhajan sessions and cultural programs

2. Educational

- Library with 19,000+ books
- Vivekananda Book World (literature & exhibition)
- Value Education on Wheels (rural outreach)
- Computer training at nominal fees
- Study room for students
- Free coaching for underprivileged children
- Youth & Girls Study Circles for personality development
- Educational kits for needy students
- Support for girls' education

3. Welfare & Relief

- Monthly ration kits for blind families
- Distribution of clothes and household items
- Relief work during natural disasters

4. Medical Services

- Ayurvedic, Homeopathy, Dental & Eye care at low/no cost
- Free eye surgeries via Narayan Eye Hospital
- Free village eye camps
- Mobile medical van for rural healthcare

Our Mission

- To awaken inner strength, build character, and serve society — blending Indian values with modern needs.
- Let us walk together on the path of Swami Vivekananda's vision — to rediscover ourselves and rebuild the nation.





In the emblem, the wavy waters represent Karma Yoga; the lotus flower represents Bhakti Yoga; the rising Sun represents Jnana Yoga; the coiled serpent represents Raja Yoga; the Swan represents the Supreme Self. Swami Vivekananda regarded the synthesis of these four yogas as the ideal of Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission.

The emblem was designed by Swami Vivekananda.



**REFLECTIVE HERITAGE
WALK**

REFLECTIVE HERITAGE WALK



After visiting Dilaram Bungalow in Vadodara, Gujarat, connected to the Ramkrishna Mission, I reflected on the blend of architectural styles and the mission's spiritual ideals. The bungalow showcases elements of colonial-era architecture adapted for the mission's activities in spiritual growth, education, and service.

From the perspective of Physics, considering the prayer hall's acoustics was intriguing. Effective soundproofing in such a space would enhance the contemplative and peaceful environment, minimizing external noise disturbances and optimizing sound distribution for prayers or meditations. Sound-absorbing materials or strategic architectural designs could play a crucial role in achieving this. Understanding sound wave behavior, reflection, and absorption – as explored in my experiment on sound absorption and reflection – can inform better acoustic design in spaces like the prayer hall of Dilaram Bungalow.

The visit highlighted the interplay of physics principles in architectural design and spiritual spaces, fostering harmony and peace.

Nasla AA

Physics Teacher

The Dilaram Bungalow 3D model project was a remarkable journey of creativity, sustainability, and heritage preservation. Witnessing students collaborate over three weeks to blend traditional Vadodara architecture with eco-friendly materials like recycled cardboard, paper, and plastic was inspiring. The fusion of 3D printing for intricate details alongside biodegradable components showcased their innovation and commitment to environmental responsibility. This project deepened students' understanding of cultural heritage and honed their skills in teamwork, design thinking, and sustainable practices. It's a testament to how learning can beautifully marry tradition, technology, and ecological consciousness, celebrating Vadodara's past while nurturing a greener future.

Maitri Buch

Art Teacher

While conducting these activities on surface area, symmetry, and the strength of triangular roofs, I observed a very positive response from students. The photographs of Dilaram Bungalows immediately caught their attention and helped them connect mathematics with real-life architecture. Students were curious to know why old buildings have such sloping roofs, and this curiosity became the starting point for learning.

The calculation of roof surface area using Pythagoras' theorem gave them a practical reason for learning geometry. They understood that without such calculations, architects cannot estimate materials correctly, and mistakes can affect both cost and safety. Comparing the roof area with the ceiling area was an eye-opener because students realized that even a small difference in slope leads to a significant increase in surface area.

The hands-on experiment with rectangular and triangular roofs was the highlight. When they placed weights on the two models, the rectangular one bent quickly while the triangular one stayed stable. This direct observation made them appreciate why the triangle is called the strongest shape in geometry. Students were able to relate mathematical concepts such as rigidity of triangles, symmetry, and load distribution to real-world construction.

As a teacher, I feel these activities were successful in shifting the students' perspective of mathematics from being just numbers on paper to a practical tool for life. The integration of monuments and architecture gave cultural value, while the experiments added experiential learning. This also supported critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

For future lessons, I would like to extend the activity by asking students to design their own roof models using different angles and calculate the material required, so they can apply trigonometry in a meaningful way.

Yogita Harne

PGT Mathematics Teacher

The Vadodara History Festival was not merely an event—it was a profound journey that transformed how my students and I perceive history and heritage.

Guiding my students through the hallowed halls of Dilaram Bungalow was a privilege beyond words. This experience allowed us to step out of the confines of textbooks and immerse ourselves in the palpable essence of history. Together, we explored not just a structure of stone and wood, but a living repository of culture, art, science, and enduring values.

What struck me most was witnessing my students' evolving engagement—not superficial observation, but genuine curiosity and critical thinking. They connected threads across disciplines, relating architectural intricacies to scientific principles, cultural symbolism to social dynamics, and historical narratives to contemporary relevance. It was inspiring to see them appreciate the monument as a multifaceted story, rich in meaning and lessons.

This encounter reinforced a vital truth: education flourishes best when it transcends rote learning and fosters emotional and intellectual connection. Experiential learning like this cultivates empathy, broadens perspectives, and anchors knowledge in lived experience.

As an educator, I felt immense pride watching my students absorb the silent wisdom of the bungalow—its serenity, its spirit of service, and its testament to human resilience and harmony. The festival underscored that heritage is not a relic of the past but a living dialogue between history and today, shaping how we understand ourselves and our responsibilities.

Such immersive experiences are indispensable. They cultivate not only knowledge but also a profound sense of identity and stewardship. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to walk this path alongside my students—to learn with them, inspire them, and witness their transformation.

In essence, the Vadodara History Festival was a powerful reminder that heritage education is vital—not as an academic formality, but as a catalyst for conscious, thoughtful, and compassionate citizenship.

Gayatri Bajaj

TGT Social Science Teacher

We are delighted to share with you the successful outcome of our Art Integrated Project. This project is a celebration of creativity, teamwork, and heritage. This year's theme was a beautifully designed Heritage Bungalow, which our talented students decorated with their imagination and art.

With the encouragement of our Principal Madam, this project went beyond just a work of art—it became a journey of learning and expression. The students understood the beauty and cultural significance of heritage sites and then captured them in their paintings with their thoughts and feelings.

The most special thing about this project was the spirit of teamwork. From planning to painting, the students worked together—sharing ideas, improving their techniques, and supporting each other through every challenge. They faced challenges such as perspective drawing, color mixing, and time management, but they faced each challenge with confidence and a positive attitude.

The final exhibition was a colorful tribute to our heritage, proudly showcasing the students' talents and growth. Each painting told a unique story, and together they created a beautiful collection that honored tradition and highlighted the creativity of the new generation.

We heartily congratulate all the students who participated. Your hard work, creativity, and teamwork made this project a great success. We also thank our Principal, whose support and inspiration always guided us.

This is just the beginning—many more creative journeys await us!

Madhavi Dhodapkar
Art Teacher

“People without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.”

It works beautifully for heritage like Dilaram Bungalow, since it emphasizes the importance of preserving history for identity and continuity.

I had the opportunity to introduce students to the concept of polymers, with a particular focus on their application in water absorption. The lesson centred on super absorbent polymers (SAPs), which have the remarkable ability to retain large quantities of water, relative to their own mass. These materials are commonly used in everyday products such as diapers, sanitary products.

“Heritage preserves our past, and polymers protect that preservation—one gives us roots, the other ensures they endure.”

The session allowed students to connect theoretical knowledge with practical demonstrations. By observing how a polymer absorbs water and swells, they were able to appreciate the molecular structure of polymers and the role of cross-linking in enhancing their absorbent capacity. The experiment not only generated curiosity but also encouraged critical thinking, as students discussed real-world uses and environmental considerations surrounding polymer applications.

Polymers in the renovation of Dilaram Bungalow helped in waterproofing, crack repair, wood conservation, surface strengthening, and long-term preservation of the structure.

From a teaching perspective, the experience highlighted the importance of contextualizing chemical concepts with tangible examples. Students demonstrated greater engagement when the discussion linked classroom learning to products they encounter in daily life. Furthermore, the practical activity fostered inquiry-based learning, allowing them to hypothesize, test, and analyze results in a hands-on manner.

Overall, this reflection reinforces my belief, that effective science teaching lies in bridging theory with practice. By exploring the concept of water-absorbing polymers, students not only deepened their understanding of chemistry but also developed an appreciation of how scientific knowledge is applied in solving everyday challenges.

Fessy Jinson

Physics Teacher

The dance drama beautifully highlighted the historic connection between Dillaram Bungalow and Swami Vivekananda. The performance effectively portrayed how this landmark became a place of reflection during Swami Vivekananda's visit to Ahmedabad in 1892.

The presentation was graceful, well-coordinated, and carried a strong sense of devotion and respect. The performers succeeded in blending art with history, making the audience aware of the spiritual and cultural significance of the bungalow.

Overall, it was an impactful performance that not only engaged the audience artistically, but also conveyed an important historical message with clarity and sensitivity.

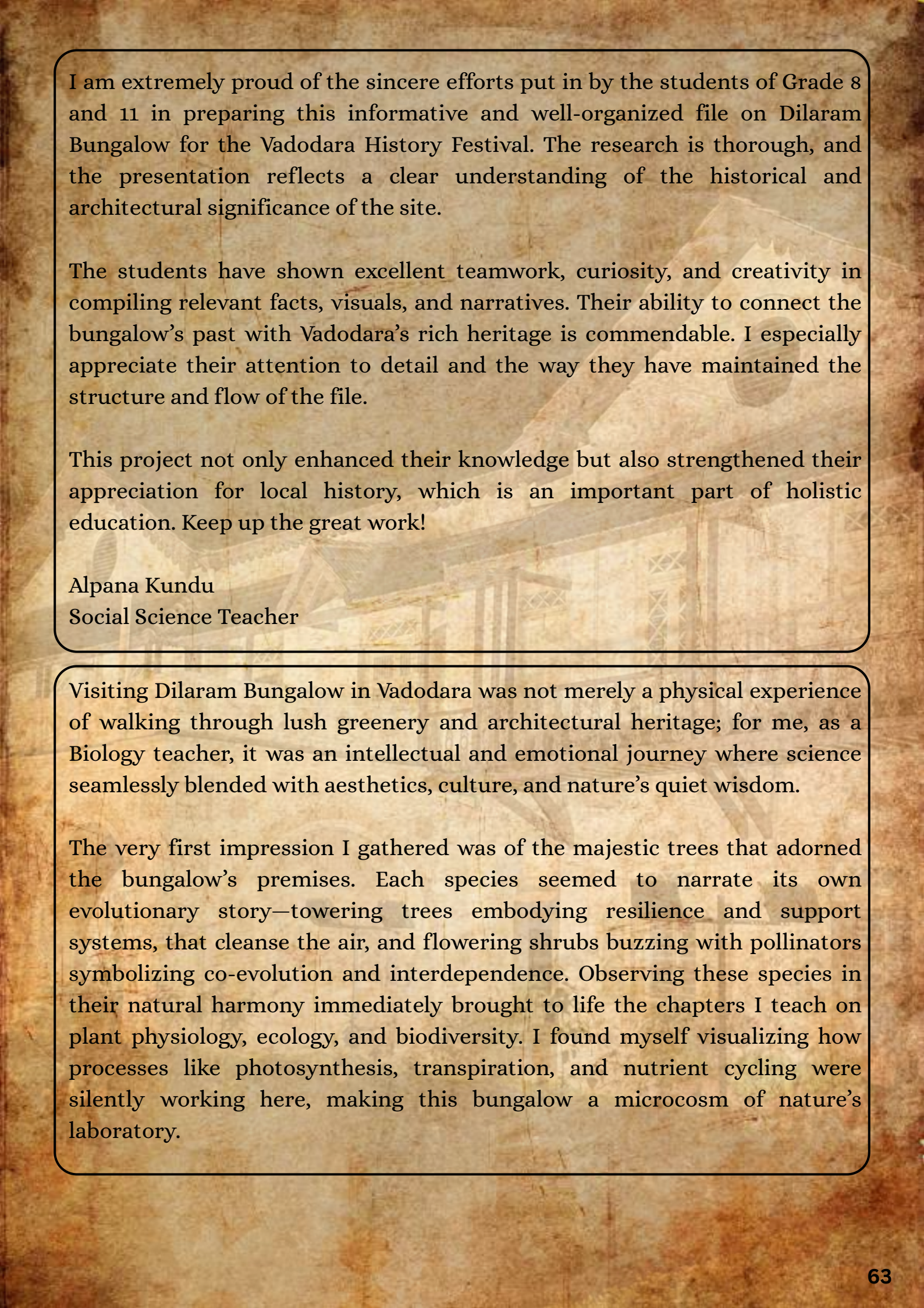
Prashasti Majumdar
Dance Teacher

The dance drama beautifully highlighted the historic connection between Dillaram Bungalow and Swami Vivekananda. The performance effectively portrayed how this landmark became a place of reflection during Swami Vivekananda's visit to Ahmedabad in 1892.

The presentation was graceful, well-coordinated, and carried a strong sense of devotion and respect. The performers succeeded in blending art with history, making the audience aware of the spiritual and cultural significance of the bungalow.

Overall, it was an impactful performance that not only engaged the audience artistically but also conveyed an important historical message with clarity and sensitivity.

Shreyas Sathe
Drama Sir



I am extremely proud of the sincere efforts put in by the students of Grade 8 and 11 in preparing this informative and well-organized file on Dilaram Bungalow for the Vadodara History Festival. The research is thorough, and the presentation reflects a clear understanding of the historical and architectural significance of the site.

The students have shown excellent teamwork, curiosity, and creativity in compiling relevant facts, visuals, and narratives. Their ability to connect the bungalow's past with Vadodara's rich heritage is commendable. I especially appreciate their attention to detail and the way they have maintained the structure and flow of the file.

This project not only enhanced their knowledge but also strengthened their appreciation for local history, which is an important part of holistic education. Keep up the great work!

Alpana Kundu
Social Science Teacher

Visiting Dilaram Bungalow in Vadodara was not merely a physical experience of walking through lush greenery and architectural heritage; for me, as a Biology teacher, it was an intellectual and emotional journey where science seamlessly blended with aesthetics, culture, and nature's quiet wisdom.

The very first impression I gathered was of the majestic trees that adorned the bungalow's premises. Each species seemed to narrate its own evolutionary story—towering trees embodying resilience and support systems, that cleanse the air, and flowering shrubs buzzing with pollinators symbolizing co-evolution and interdependence. Observing these species in their natural harmony immediately brought to life the chapters I teach on plant physiology, ecology, and biodiversity. I found myself visualizing how processes like photosynthesis, transpiration, and nutrient cycling were silently working here, making this bungalow a microcosm of nature's laboratory.

The bungalow, with its calm environment, also became a perfect lens through which to see the connection between environment and human well-being. Standing amidst the garden, I could almost measure the invisible work of photosynthesis—oxygen being liberated in abundance, purifying the air and revitalizing the mind. It made me reflect on the importance of such spaces in urban ecosystems where people can meditate, breathe deeply, and reconnect with their inner selves. From a biology teacher's standpoint, this was a live example of how science underpins human health—the chloroplasts of green leaves ensuring the rhythm of life continues. Another striking aspect was the faunal diversity I noticed around the premises. The flitting of butterflies, the melodious calls of birds, reminded me of the food webs and energy flows we often depict in diagrams. Here, these were no longer textbook illustrations but dynamic realities—predators, prey, pollinators, and seed dispersers forming an interconnected web that sustains the bungalow's ecosystem. This reinforced the lesson I often share with my students: that no organism exists in isolation, and even the smallest ant contributes to the ecological balance.

The architectural structure of Dilaram Bungalow also seemed to respect this ecological harmony. Its design allowed natural light and ventilation, reducing dependency on artificial energy sources—an echo of sustainable practices we emphasize in environmental biology. The stone pathways and shaded verandas invited reflection on the symbiosis between human creations and natural settings.

Personally, the time spent here deepened my appreciation of outdoor learning environments. As a Biology teacher, I often seek opportunities to connect classroom knowledge with experiential understanding. Dilaram Bungalow, in that sense, felt like a living textbook. The serenity of the place underscored the importance of slowing down, observing, and allowing curiosity to unfold—qualities essential not just for a scientist but for any learner.

In conclusion, my experience at Dilaram Bungalow was a beautiful integration of pedagogy, personal reflection, and ecological awareness. It reminded me that Biology is not confined to laboratories or textbooks but is profoundly alive in every leaf, every breath of air, and every quiet corner where humans and nature coexist. The visit left me inspired to bring more such real-world connections into my teaching, so that students too can feel the wonder of biology beyond the classroom walls, much like I did in the tranquil embrace of Dilaram Bungalow.

Ms. Bhavna B
Biology Teacher

The Vadodara History Festival Project at Dilaram Bungalow was a meaningful learning experience for our class 8 students. The project successfully integrated Mathematics, Science, Social Science, English, Hindi, Art, Dance and Drama allowing students to explore heritage from an interdisciplinary perspective.

As the English teacher, I guided the groups in conducting discussions, organizing their ideas, and preparing PowerPoint presentations for effective delivery. It was encouraging to see how quickly students adapted to collaborative work, dividing responsibilities and supporting one another to achieve common goals. Their confidence in public speaking and ability to communicate ideas clearly improved significantly through this process.

Personally, I felt proud to see the growth in their presentation skills and the way they connected their classroom learning with real-world history. This project not only strengthened their subject knowledge but also enhanced their teamwork, critical thinking and communication skills—qualities that will benefit them in future academic and personal pursuits.

Ms. Tanya Solomon
English Teacher

As I reflect on my experience with Dilaram Bungalow, I am filled with a sense of awe and gratitude. This heritage monument has taught me invaluable lessons, transcending its physical structure.

Dilaram Bungalow showed me that monuments are not just historical relics but living testaments to art, science, spirituality, and humanity.

This bungalow embodies the spirit of selfless service, spreading messages of humanity and harmony.

Its design and structure exude serenity and divinity, creating a spiritual haven. Every monument has a story to tell; we just need to explore and understand its journey.

This project has given me a fresh perspective, encouraging me to look beyond the surface level and appreciate the nuances of heritage sites. Dilaram Bungalow's legacy will continue to inspire me, reminding me of the importance of preserving our cultural heritage and embracing its timeless wisdom.

Usha Pandit
Social Science Teacher

“People without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.”

It works beautifully for heritage like Dilaram Bungalow, since it emphasizes the importance of preserving history for identity and continuity.

I had the opportunity to introduce students to the concept of polymers, with a particular focus on their application in water absorption. The lesson centred on super absorbent polymers (SAPs), which have the remarkable ability to retain large quantities of water, relative to their own mass. These materials are commonly used in everyday products such as diapers, sanitary products.

“Heritage preserves our past, and polymers protect that preservation—one gives us roots, the other ensures they endure.”

The session allowed students to connect theoretical knowledge with practical demonstrations. By observing how a polymer absorbs water and swells, they were able to appreciate the molecular structure of polymers and the role of cross-linking in enhancing their absorbent capacity. The experiment not only generated curiosity but also encouraged critical thinking, as students discussed real-world uses and environmental considerations surrounding polymer applications.

Polymers in the renovation of Dilaram Bungalow helped in waterproofing, crack repair, wood conservation, surface strengthening, and long-term preservation of the structure.

From a teaching perspective, the experience highlighted the importance of contextualizing chemical concepts with tangible examples. Students demonstrated greater engagement when the discussion linked classroom learning to products they encounter in daily life. Furthermore, the practical activity fostered inquiry-based learning, allowing them to hypothesize, test, and analyze results in a hands-on manner.

Overall, this reflection reinforces my belief, that effective science teaching lies in bridging theory with practice. By exploring the concept of water-absorbing polymers, students not only deepened their understanding of chemistry but also developed an appreciation of how scientific knowledge is applied in solving everyday challenges.

Fessy Jinson
Chemistry Teacher

शिक्षिका के द्वारा आठवीं कक्षा में स्वामी विवेकानंद के विचारों पर चर्चा करने का निर्णय लिया। उन्होंने विद्यार्थियों से स्वामी विवेकानंद के प्रसिद्ध उद्धरण लिखने को कहा, जैसे कि "उठो, जागो और तब तक नहीं रुको जब तक लक्ष्य प्राप्त न हो जाए"। छात्रों ने उत्साह से अपने विचार कागज़ पर उतारे। शिक्षिका ने प्रत्येक छात्र के विचारों की सराहना की और उन्हें प्रेरित किया।

इस अनुभव ने विद्यार्थियों को स्वामी विवेकानंद के विचारों से जुड़ने का अवसर प्रदान किया। उन्हें अपने लक्ष्यों को प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रेरित किया गया और उन्होंने अपने जीवन में सकारात्मक परिवर्तन लाने का संकल्प लिया। शिक्षिका की इस पहल ने कक्षा में एक सकारात्मक वातावरण बनाया और विद्यार्थियों को जीवन के महत्वपूर्ण सबक सिखाए।

इस अनुभव के बाद, विद्यार्थियों ने अपने जीवन में स्वामी विवेकानंद के विचारों को लागू करने का प्रयास किया और अपने लक्ष्यों की दिशा में काम करना शुरू किया। शिक्षिका की इस पहल का विद्यार्थियों के जीवन पर स्थायी प्रभाव पड़ा।

शीतल उपाध्याय
Sanskrit Teacher

कक्षा 8 के छात्रों ने सुविचार लेखन गतिविधि के अंतर्गत स्वामी विवेकानंद के सुविचारों की चर्चा की और जाना कि उनके उपदेश आज भी जीवन में मार्गदर्शन देते हैं। उन्होंने उनके जीवन से जुड़े प्रेरणादायक प्रसंगों और आदर्शों को समझते हुए उनके सुविचार सुंदर अक्षरों में लिखे। कुछ विद्यार्थियों ने स्वामी विवेकानंद के जीवन पर आधारित प्रेरक कहानियाँ भी लिखीं, जिनमें उनकी रचनात्मकता, कल्पनाशक्ति और भाषा की उत्कृष्ट प्रस्तुति झलकती है।

इस गतिविधि के माध्यम से छात्रों में न केवल लेखन कौशल का विकास हुआ, बल्कि उनमें सकारात्मक सोच और आत्मविश्वास का भी संचार हुआ। विद्यार्थियों ने यह अनुभव किया कि स्वामी विवेकानंद के आदर्श आज के युग में भी उतने ही प्रासंगिक हैं जितने उनके समय में थे। उनके विचार — “उठो, जागो और तब तक मत रुको जब तक लक्ष्य की प्राप्ति न हो जाए” — ने सभी के हृदय में एक नई ऊर्जा और प्रेरणा का संचार किया। इस अवसर ने छात्रों में देशभक्ति, नैतिक मूल्यों और आत्मनिर्भरता की भावना को भी प्रबल किया, जिससे वे जीवन में आगे बढ़ने के लिए और अधिक उत्साहित हुए।

Anju Singh
Hindi Teacher

LEARNING FROM LEGACY

LEARNING FROM LEGACY



Working on the VHF project about the Dilaram Bungalow was a truly amazing experience for me. I mainly worked on the digital, maths, and art parts, but also got involved in other areas like English and Hindi. It was really interesting to see how one monument could be connected to so many subjects. Managing a group of 15 students wasn't easy, but it taught me a lot about teamwork and handling responsibilities. Like they say, "Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." I loved being part of this project and representing our school.

VIYONA JAIN

Working on the Vadodara Heritage Festival (VHF) project for nearly the past two months has been a truly wonderful and enriching experience. It gave me the chance to engage meaningfully with my team, and I learned how powerful teamwork and cooperation can be. We worked together towards a common goal, sharing ideas, dividing responsibilities, and supporting each other. This experience helped me improve my communication skills and understand the value of listening to different perspectives. Along the way, I also discovered a lot about Dilaram Bungalow, especially through subjects like history and science, which played an important role in helping us understand its significance, design, and construction. The biggest takeaway for me was how much we can learn when we work together as a team.

VINHA MAKADIA

During the Vadodara Heritage Festival, our group worked together on a project where we created banners and posters on various topics related to Vadodara's rich culture and history. The highlight was building a detailed model of the Dilaram Bungalow, a famous heritage site, which required a lot of creativity, patience, and teamwork. Each member had a role—some focused on the posters, while others crafted the model using different materials and new techniques like paper craft and recycled items. Through this experience, we learned the importance of collaboration, communication, and dedication, as well as discovering new ways to bring ideas to life. Representing our school alongside other schools motivated us to do our best and made the whole process more exciting and meaningful. Overall, it was an unforgettable experience that taught us valuable lessons about working as a team and deepened our appreciation for our city's heritage.

AARAV PATEL

Connecting with Heritage: My VHF Project Experience

I had the opportunity to work on a project for the Vadodara Heritage Festival, and it was a truly unique experience. We were making wall hangings that had powerful Hindi quotes by Swami Vivekananda, and the main theme was based on Dilaram Bungalow and his teachings. Most of our time was spent working in the Kalam Lab, which had a very calm and inspiring vibe—it actually made working enjoyable. It helped me improve my creativity and skills in a way that felt natural and fun. Working in a group also taught me a lot, especially about understanding others, cooperating, and managing small disagreements that arise when different ideas clash. But that's part of teamwork, and it actually made the experience more real and meaningful. Through this project, I developed a stronger sense of connection to the heritage of Vadodara, and the quotes we utilized taught me simple yet crucial life lessons that I will definitely keep in mind.

AARYA PATEL

I found working for the Vadodara Heritage Festival to be both enjoyable and educational. Through this project, I was able to gain a more in-depth understanding of our rich traditions and heritage, which was truly inspiring. I was tasked with creating slogans that were inspired by Swami Vivekananda's teachings, which inspired me to work with greater dedication and concentration. The project's main highlight was the work around the Dilaram Bungalow, which also involved decorating and creative tasks. I gained valuable life skills, including creativity, teamwork, and effective communication, as a result of this experience. The festival not only enriched my knowledge about our culture but also assisted me in developing skills that will be beneficial in my future endeavors.

BHAVYA PATEL

The VHF project was a very exciting project. It was based on the Dilaram Bungalow, which is a very important part of the heritage of our city, Vadodara. It was a wonderful journey for me as well as all of my friends and classmates. We learned a lot about our cultural heritage by visiting the Dilaram Bungalow, which also helped us understand various mathematical, biological, physics, and many more aspects by seeing them work in real life. We understood various properties of physics, many concepts of math a lot about the biological life and much more about the history of Vadodara. In short, I really enjoyed the journey with my friends and teachers and I am thankful to the school for conducting such wonderful trips.

ANJANEE CHAUHAN

It was a pleasant experience working on the VHF project on Dilaram Bungalow. I gained so much knowledge about its history and architecture. I also had fun creating the layout and conceptualizing new designs such as the garden, library, and hall. It made me think outside the box and in a different way.

This project taught me that old buildings are special because they narrate our history. We should preserve them so that they can also be seen by future generations. The project was enjoyable and taught me about our heritage.

PARAM DETROJA

Participating in the Vadodara Heritage Festival (VHF) project has been an incredibly unique experience for me. For the past two months, we, the students of Anand Vidya Vihar, have put in a great deal of effort to research and present our city's heritage.

Prior to this project, I had no idea about the history of Vadodara. But through this project and our cooperative inquiry, I learned so much, especially about the over-160-year-old Dilaram Bungalow. It was incredible to discover a significant place in our city's history and learn about its importance, design, and even its links to Science and Math.

I also learned a lot about the value of communication and teamwork during the process of working with my classmates. We generated ideas, solved problems, and created something amazing as a team. Even small disagreements reinforced listening and comprehension skills between us. I also made improvements in management, and being responsible for my part.

JAHAAAN BUCH

The VHF project has been an incredibly rewarding journey, blending diverse fields—Physics, Social Science, History, Civics, Geography, Culture, and more—and showing me just how interconnected knowledge really is. Diving into the science behind communication technology helped me appreciate the invisible forces that connect us all, while exploring the Dilaram Bungalow in Vadodara revealed how history, architecture, and geography hold the stories that shape communities and civic identity.

One of the best parts was the teamwork—especially brainstorming sessions, which were genuinely fun and energizing. Watching ideas bounce around the room, slowly taking shape from rough sketches on paper into real, meaningful insights, was an exciting process. It reminded me that great progress often happens step by step, fueled by collaboration and creativity.

This project reinforced that true learning comes from embracing multiple perspectives. As Carl Sagan said, “You have to know the past to understand the present.” Swami Vivekananda’s words, “Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached,” inspire me to keep exploring, questioning, and growing—uniting science with culture, and technology with humanity.

Ultimately, the VHF project taught me that knowledge isn’t fragmented but a vibrant, interconnected whole. By honoring the past, embracing teamwork, and blending science with culture, we can transform ideas into reality and contribute meaningfully to the future—with curiosity, courage, and a lot of enthusiasm.

VIHA MEHTA

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Students have a vital responsibility towards preserving historical monuments like Dilaram Bungalow. These structures are not just architectural marvels but also carry the legacy of our rich cultural and historical heritage. As young citizens, students should show respect by not defacing or damaging the monument in any way and by following all preservation guidelines during visits. Learning about the history and significance of such sites helps deepen their appreciation and understanding of the past. Additionally, students can spread awareness among peers, participate in clean-up drives, and support conservation efforts. By being responsible visitors and active advocates for heritage, students help ensure that monuments like Dilaram Bungalow remain protected and valued for generations to come.

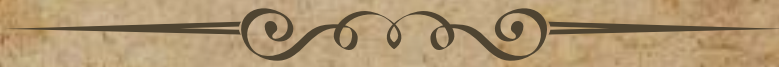
CONCLUSION



Dilaram Bungalow stands today not only as a historical monument but also as a living center where spirituality, education, science, and art converge. Built in 1863 as the residence of Diwan Manibhai Mehta, it gained importance with Swami Vivekananda's visit in April 1892. His discussions on education, his visit to the library, and viewing Ravi Varma's paintings at Laxmi Vilas Palace add deep cultural significance to the site. In 2005, the Government of Gujarat handed the bungalow over to the Ramakrishna Mission, transforming it into the Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Memorial, which now actively promotes education, healthcare, cultural activities, and spiritual growth.

The bungalow integrates Chemistry (preservation of materials), Maths (symmetry and proportion), Physics (acoustics and stability), Art (decorative motifs and heritage paintings), and Biology (environmental design and ecological impact). Students and visitors discover how these disciplines harmonize to create a space that is both functional and deeply spiritual. Swami Vivekananda's ideals of self-realization, service to humanity, and harmony of religions resonate through every corner of this site. Preserving Dilaram Bungalow means safeguarding India's collective memory and spiritual heritage. It is not just a building but a testimony to the timeless message: "Service is my religion" and "Preserving our heritage is our duty."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



We express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who made this booklet *Unravelling the Mystical Legacy of Dilaram Bungalow* possible.

Our sincere thanks to the Ramakrishna Mission, Vadodara, for granting us access to the bungalow and sharing valuable insights into its history and Swami Vivekananda's inspiring visit.

We extend our deepest appreciation to Mr. Sandeep Shethi, the visionary behind *Education through Monuments*, whose inspiring initiative encouraged us to explore heritage through learning.

Our heartfelt thanks to Anand Vidya Vihar School, Principal Mrs. Poornima Menon, and Vice Principal Mrs. Kukoo Mukherjee for their constant encouragement, guidance, and patient mentoring throughout the research and creative process.

We are equally grateful to Cyguns World School for graciously hosting this event and for their warm support in celebrating this collaborative effort.

Special appreciation goes to our in-charge teachers and the enthusiastic Class 8 and Class 11 students, whose curiosity, dedication, and teamwork brought each page to life through writing, photography, experiments, and artwork.

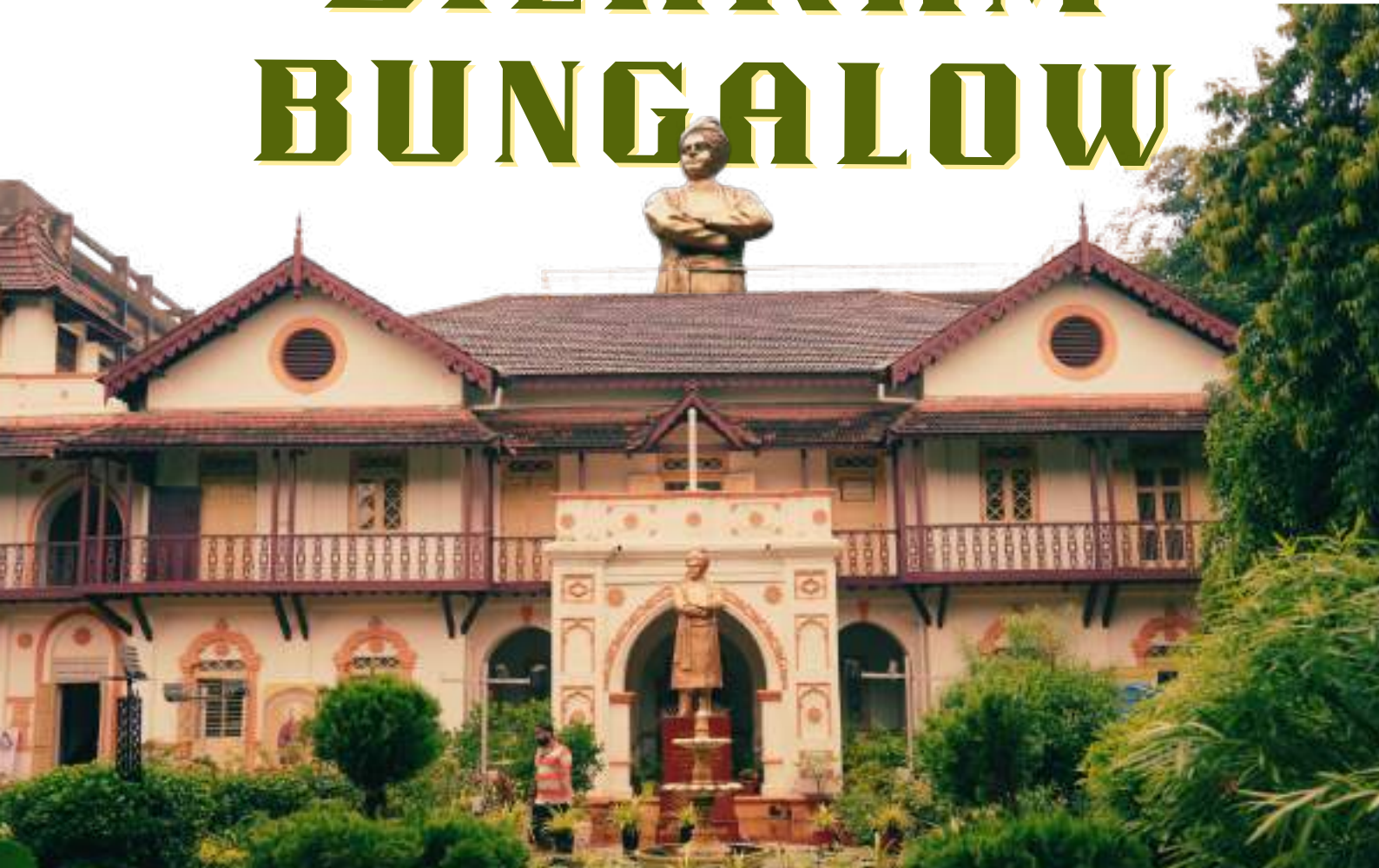
We also acknowledge the parents and well-wishers who supported long hours of field visits and late-evening discussions.

Above all, we offer respectful homage to Swami Vivekananda, whose timeless message of service, knowledge, and spiritual awakening continues to inspire generations.

This collective endeavor reflects the spirit of learning beyond the classroom—where history, science, and art meet to preserve our shared heritage.

FIND ME HERE

DILARAM BUNGALOW



Scan me



After Vmart and Offtel Tower, Opp. Circuit House, Way, to,
RC Dutt Rd, Jetapur, Vadodara, Gujarat 390007