

MODULE 2

HERITAGE WALK AND CRAFTS CORNER

2.1 Introduction to Heritage Sites

Heritage sites are not only a testament to human creativity and natural beauty but also a bridge connecting past, present, and future generations. They embody the cultural, spiritual, and historical essence of a place, often symbolizing the identity and values of the communities associated with them. These sites include ancient temples, fortresses, archaeological ruins, historic towns, and even natural wonders like forests, mountains, and waterfalls. The preservation of heritage sites requires collective efforts to safeguard them from threats such as urbanization, climate change, and neglect. By visiting and protecting these sites, we celebrate humanity's diverse legacy and contribute to the continuity of traditions, knowledge, and inspiration.

2.2 Importance of Heritage places

Heritage sites serve as valuable resources for learning about past civilizations, historical events, and cultural practices, fostering understanding and respect across different cultures. They help preserve the history, traditions, and values of a community, giving people a sense of identity and belonging. Heritage places inspire creativity, art, and innovation by showcasing human achievements and natural beauty. These sites attract tourists, creating economic opportunities and supporting local economies through tourism-related industries.

2.3 Planning, execution, destination to Pilikula

On 5th December 2024, we visited Pilikula as a part of a well-organized college study trip. The visit was smoothly coordinated by our lecturers, who arranged all the tickets for the park in advance. We travelled to the park by college bus, which made the journey comfortable. The park itself was an enriching experience, surrounded by diverse wildlife, and we had plenty of time to explore the various exhibits. This well-planned trip allowed us to enjoy the beauty of nature it was memorable experience.

A visit to Pilikula Guttu Mane and Pilikula Biological Park offers a wonderful blend

of nature, wildlife, and local culture. We Started with the Pilikula Biological Park, a spacious zoo Pilikula Nisargadhama is a well-maintained biological park, home to a variety of animals, birds, and reptiles, including tigers, lions, and crocodiles along with the rich collection of birds. The sanctuary is spread over a large area and is a perfect place for nature walks and animal sightings, allowing visitors to learn about conservation efforts while enjoying the natural surroundings. Pilikula is also home to a heritage village that showcases the traditional lifestyle of the coastal region After exploring the park, later on a visit to Guttu Mane which is a a traditional village-themed house resembling tuluva community setup offering a glimpse into the local culture, heritage, and lifestyle. We explored authentic folk arts, crafts, customs, tradition and architectural designs which was the part of cultural heritage and architectural tradition that reflect the region's history.

2.4 About Guttu Mane

Pilikula Guttu Mane, located within the Pilikula Nisargadhama near Mangalore, is a cultural heritage site that beautifully represents the traditional architecture and lifestyle of Tulu Nadu. The term "Guttu Mane" refers to the ancestral homes of Tulu landlords, known for their grandeur and significance in the community. The house, believed to be over 200 years old, has been carefully restored as part of the Pilikula Heritage Village project, preserving its architectural charm and cultural essence. Inside, visitors can see period-specific furniture, utensils, and artifacts that offer a glimpse into daily life from the past. The kitchen is equipped with traditional items such as clay pots, grinding stones, wooden ladles, and brass and copper vessels, showcasing ancient food preparation methods. Additionally, the Heritage Village around the Guttu Mane brings Tuluva culture to life, with demonstrations of traditional crafts like pottery, weaving, and carpentry. Folk performances, including Yakshagana and Bhoota Kola, are sometimes organized to provide visitors with a firsthand experience of Tuluva art and rituals.

2.4.1 History

The Pilikula Guttumane is currently a well-preserved heritage site and a prominent attraction within the Dr. Shivarama Karanth Pilikula Heritage Village. The guttu mane represents a family unit of guttu and house reflects the costal Karnataka architecture, designed the houses are constructed with locally sourced material. It serves as a living museum, showcasing the traditional lifestyle, architecture, and cultural practices of the Tulu Nadu region. Established and the sustainable use of resources to preserve rich biodiversity and culture, visitors can explore the house to experience its unique architectural elements, such as the central courtyard (nadumane), intricately carved wooden pillars, and traditional design suited to the coastal climate. In addition to being a cultural exhibit, the Pilikula Guttumane hosts activities and demonstrations related to Tulu Nadu's rich heritage, including traditional art forms, rituals, and agricultural practices. It helps them understand the socio-culture practices of the tulu community. It is a significant part of the Pilikula Nisargadhama, which focuses on environmental conservation, cultural preservation, and education. The guttumane remains an important symbol of Tulu Nadu's heritage and attracts tourists, researchers, and cultural enthusiasts throughout the year, passed on to the year allowing the community to appreciate the roots.

2.4.2 Present Status

The Guttu Mane represents a significant piece of cultural heritage serves as an important part of Pilikula's broader cultural offerings, which include an artisan village where visitors can learn about traditional crafts like pottery, blacksmithing, and stone carving. The site aims to preserve and promote the rich cultural practices of Dakshina Kannada, and it regularly hosts events like Bisu (a traditional feast) to connect visitors with the region's rural past. Guttu Mane serves as a educational tool and the way to showcase the cultural richness of the regions attracting the visitors intrested in experiencing the authentic costal Karnataka lifestyle, arts and crafts.

5.3 Gallery

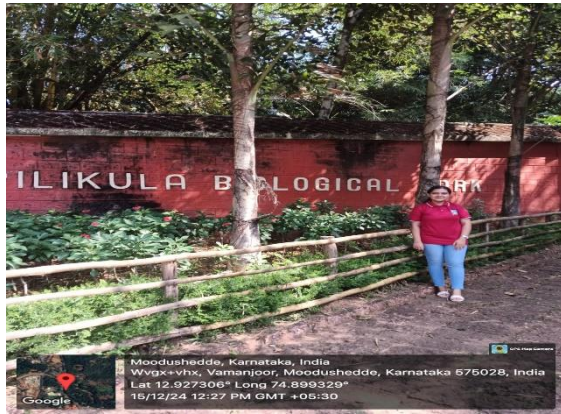


Fig 1: Reaching Pilikula



Fig 2: Visit to Guttu Mane



Fig.3: Yakshagana Culture(chowki)



Fig 4: Ancient pallakki



Fig.5: Bhoota koola(Tulu culture)

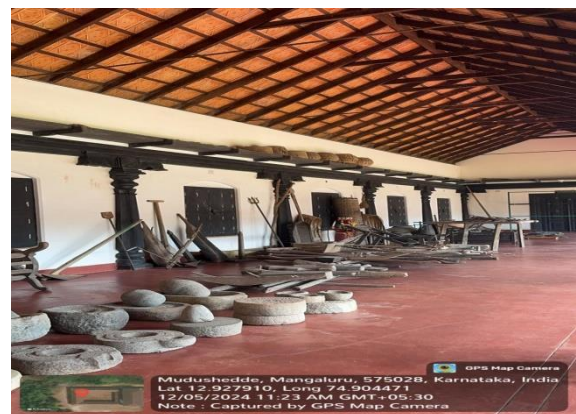


Fig.6: Traditional utensils

5.4 Conclusion

The heritage visit to Pilikula, particularly the Guttu Mane, has been an enriching experience that offers valuable insights into the cultural and architectural history of coastal Karnataka. By exploring the traditional Guttu Mane house, we gained a deeper understanding of the region's lifestyle, family structures, and sustainable living practices. The preservation of such heritage sites highlights the importance of safeguarding cultural legacies for future generations. This visit not only brings a sense of connection with the past but also serves as an educational tool for promoting cultural awareness and environmental conservation. It reinforces the value of traditional architecture and community living, encouraging a balance between modern development and the preservation of historical traditions. Overall, the heritage visit to Pilikula is a meaningful journey that enriches our appreciation for the cultural diversity and history of the region.