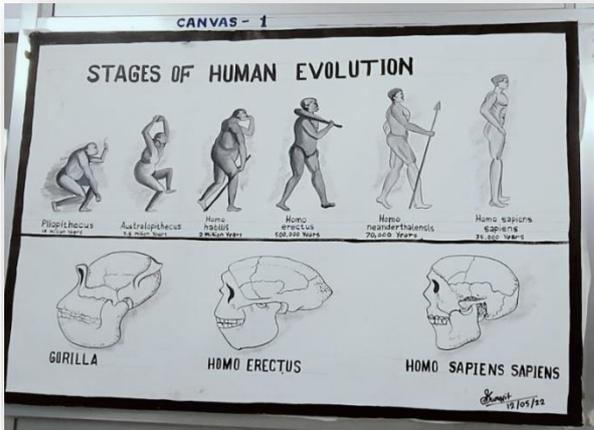


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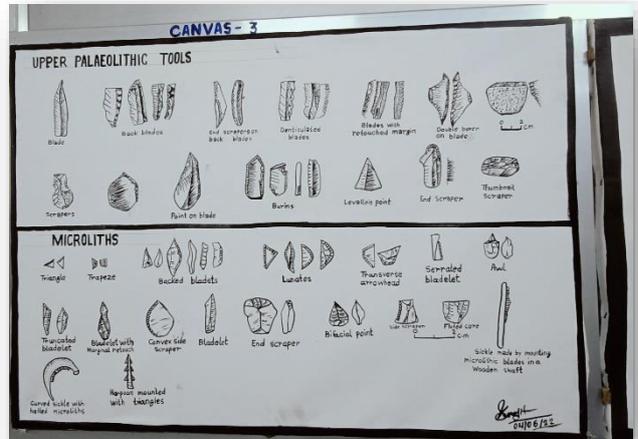
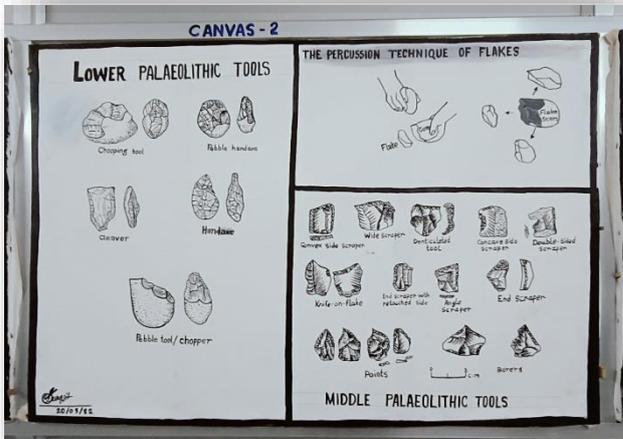
About the Museum:



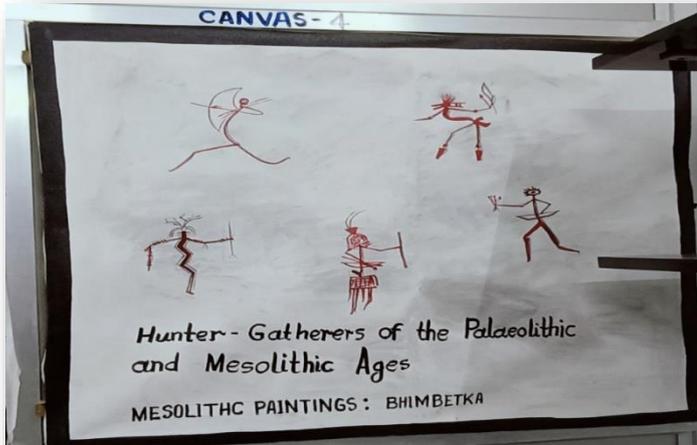
The foundation of the Dr. Nabakishore Hazra Memorial Museum was laid in 2019. The initiative was spearheaded by the History Department, which emphasized on creating a specialized section dedicated to skill-based courses on museums and archives, heritage, art and architecture, popular culture, ethnographic practices, archaeology, and more. Recognizing the students' keen interest and passion for the museum, the institution chose to expand its scope, making it a unique feature. This brief overview will outline the key considerations made to guarantee the museum's relevance.



Four walls of the rectangular-shaped museum room have numerical marks in sequence. They are dedicated to four separate themes. The display of Wall-I has been constituted by four canvases that outline glimpses of prehistoric human civilization. All four are sketched by the students of this institution under the supervision of the History department. The upper part of the horizontally



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bifurcated Canvas -1 demonstrates the evolution of human body structure while lower part emphasized on the evolution of human skull.

Canvas 2 and 3 elaborate the lithic culture. Students attempted to capture the stone tools from upper Upper Palaeolithic to the age of Microliths by divided the two canvases into different blocks. The fourth one attempted to recreate sights of Mesolithic paintings of Bhimbetka cave art.

Regional Sculptural Excellence found way on Wall-2. A portion of the wall has three ranks (Rack 1, 2 & 3) where some replicas of archaeological findings across Bengal are placed. The larger part of this wall encompasses a photo gallery on the sculptural heritage of Bengal.



Wall-3 is preserved specifically for the art and craft of the Birbhum district, which have sought to become a specimen of the unique environment, social rituals, and historical narratives and achievements associated with this region. Racks 4,5,6, 7 and 9 have dedicated displays for Shola Pith art work, hand made models of Gala, bamboo work, wood carvings, and dry

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straw-made objects produced by local artisans. The wall also has two copper string made potrays.



Rack 8 is meant for displaying **Ser Pai or Suri Bowls** which are sophisticated measuring bowls, a unique creation of Lokepur village in Birbhum District, West Bengal. This craft dates back more than hundred years and is noted in General O'Malley's Birbhum District Gazetteer (1910). The word 'Ser' refers to a weight unit, and 'Poa' or 'Pi' means a quarter. These circular wooden bowls are decorated with brass designs, featuring motifs like fish, flower and lotus etc. The craft has been passed down within one family, the Karmakar family, who still make them today.

The artistic statement of the land continues on Wall 4 where different signature features of weaving tradition and textile art have found space through the exhibition of Batik work , Kantha stitch, embroidered hand held fans etc. with this, there is a 'Dhaner Gang', that not only considered as a symbol of good fortune for the households



,but also as a naturally stunning work of art that can serve as a decorative piece in rural homes. Besides, the wall has three exclusive collections of original manuscript from segments of Mangalkavyas which truly act as a tangible connection to our shared human legacy.

There is an iron rack, which helps to accommodate a few more exhibits. It has miscellaneous items such as a few replicas to demonstrate the North Indian sculptural tradition of different periods and old stone-made utensils, which were used by rural families for centuries to enhance food flavour, maintain heat, and provide natural, non-toxic cooking. books on art archaeology,





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cultural practices and photo albums of the Bengal school of art are also there to enhance students' knowledge about the art and antiquity of Bengal.

This museum is primarily created as a teaching museum to foster critical thinking, creativity, and deeper engagement, serving as active learning environments that improve knowledge retention beyond textbooks. The entire collection is obtained either through purchases, collections or generous donations. The regular visit of students from different departments under the guidance of their teachers is the key inspiration for this museum.