



NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, KENGERI, BENGALURU

Report on Educational Trip

Grade VIII

“A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimension.”

The students of Grades VIII, National Public School, Kengeri, Bengaluru, went on an educational trip to “Jana Pada Loka/Folk Cosmos”, located in Ramanagaram, on Mysuru-Bangalore Highway, on 26th July 2023. Shri Nage Gowda, a long-serving civil servant and lover of folk culture of India, is the creator and conceptual architect of this prominent cultural centre of India in 1994. This sprawling 15 acres of land has a splendid representation of folklore and tribal life, where Karnataka’s rural milieus have been recreated to keep the pulse of the past alive.

The main attraction of Janapada Loka is the folk-art museum, which plays host to artifacts belonging to the folk culture, along with different instruments of music, agriculture and farming. Information boards at regular intervals educate about the different tribes and their ways of life and also the models of these tribal men and women, their hutments with the exhibit of utensils. The representation of the tribal men preparing to hunt with their dog was spectacular.

Each building is called ‘Loka’ – a museum of artefacts, dolls, weapons and household articles. Some of the articles dates back to a period of more than four hundred years old. The ‘Bhoothada’ Gallery has dolls of ghosts made of wood and stone and has information related to the superstitious beliefs and myths. Special dolls made for folk theater -leather puppets, string puppets, rod puppets children's playthings, masks exhibited, captured the interest for the folk culture and art. An artificial village house has exhibits of tools of rural vocations like pottery and smithy, sugarcane juice extractor, oil extractor, fishing nets weapons used for hunting, a bullock cart and so on which was noteworthy. Along the line the students also saw an Open-air theatre for the folk-art forms and the artificial lake for children. A video scope theatre showing the art forms and culture documentaries, Saraswati Mandira-a library for the folk literature and culture-students and scholars was also seen. There was also an Alasuru chariot – beautifully carved and is a part of Someshwara temple in Bengaluru.

Visiting Janapada Loka, was an enriching experience for the students. They enjoyed the aesthetic and well-informed place. The students also had an insight into the early life of people and the distinctive features of those people. The trip was overall very interesting and knowledgeable one.