

[Travel back in time to the ancient city of Patna and discover its modern creative spirit in yet another exciting panel discussion at AVID Online](#)

For Immediate Release

The capital city of Bihar, Patna still reminisces its historical roots. Home to sacred and touristic sites, it is located on the south bank of the Ganges river. One of the oldest cities in India, one can map its trajectory from Pataliputra to Azimabad to present-day Patna. With varied dynasties over thousands of years, the city's culture developed and prevails even today. While the tales of the city may not always be heard, for patient listeners, there is a lot that can be delved into.

From myths and legends encompassed in the monuments and temples to tales chronicled in folk art, Patna presents the rich cultural heritage of Bihar. The city's heritage is upheld through its traditions, handicrafts, festivals, among other things.

Live History India and **Avid Learning** present **Cultural Capitals: Patna**, yet another episode of Cultural Capitals: Future Legacies of India's Cities, an exciting new series of discussions that celebrate the historical and current legacy of the culturally rich, diverse and important cities across India. This series is an attempt to celebrate a wider swathe of India's great cities, their legacy and how they continue to be vibrant centres of culture.

Please read on for more details:

*Curator, Bihar Museum, **Moumita Ghosh**, Artist & Founder of Studio, **Naresh Kumar**, Founder, The Potbelly Bihari Kitchen, **Puja Sahu**, Associate Professor, NIFT, **Vinayak Yashraj** will be drawn into conversation by an accomplished moderator who is fluent with Indian history and heritage at large, Deputy Editor, Live History India, **Aparna Andhare**.*

The panelists will present local insights from different fields- – food and drink, travel, art and books – and will look at the historic city of Patna through their very contemporary lens. The panelists will address: How does one unravel the histories of this bustling city? What is it that sets this historical city apart? How has the confluence of cultures impacted this city? What are the tussles this historical city faces in its journey of modernization?

Read more about the series below:

Cultural Capitals is an exciting series of discussions that celebrates the historical and contemporary legacy of culturally rich, diverse and important cities across India. It aims to celebrate the wider swathe of India's great cities, their legacy and how they thrive as vibrant centres of culture. The city's that have covered so far include Mysore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Kohima, Indore, Mysuru, Varanasi and Puducherry. The varied perspectives on the cultural identity of these urbanscapes are highlighted in these sessions. The speakers present the city's history, hidden stories and local insights through diverse lenses. The conversations are focused on restoring, reinventing and reiterating the legacy of these great cities.

Few cities enjoy such a vibrant juxtaposition Patna, and the panel is perfectly poised to unravel the paradigms of the ancient and contemporary that marks every field from painting and architecture to music and poetry in this capital city. Join us for an evening that will have you making that travel booking to the erstwhile centre for learning- Patna!

When: Thursday, 7th April, 2022 |

Time : 6:00 PM – 7:30 (PM IST)

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#CULTURALCAPITALS

Live History India

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Wish to travel back in time to the ancient capital of Pataliputra? Tune in to the next episode of Cultural Capitals an exciting series to discuss and celebrate the historical and current legacy of culturally rich, diverse and important cities across India.

From myths and legends encompassed in the monuments and temples to tales chronicled in folk art, Patna presents the rich cultural heritage of Bihar. This session will trace its history of thousands of years and delve into the city's culture that reminisces its historical roots even today. Unearthing fascinating lesser-known nuggets and spotlighting influential personalities, the speakers will share pivotal moments that shaped its distinct traditional and urban fabric. Join us to explore this ancient centre for learning and fine arts, and embark on a journey to explore the culture of this booming capital city- Patna!

Curator,
Bihar Museum
Moumita Ghosh

Artist and Founder
of Studio
Naresh Kumar

Founder,
The Pothelly Bihari Kitchen
Puja Sahu

Associate Professor,
NIIFT
Vinayak Yashraj

Deputy Editor,
Live History India and Curator
Aparna Andhare

THU, 7 APRIL | 6.00-7.30 PM (IST) | REG: www.avidlearning.in

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About Speakers:

Moumita Ghosh is the Curator the Bihar Museum, under the Department of Art, Culture and Youth, Government of Bihar. She has over a decade of experience in Collection Management, Curation and other museum related works. Before joining Bihar Museum she worked in Indian Museum, Allahabad Museum in different curatorial capacity. She worked with Lord Cultural Resources as Researcher for the collection analysis for the Bihar Museum. She has been awarded Small Study and Research Grant (India) 2013 for 'Ivory Carving Tradition from Murshidabad' from Nehru Trust for the Indian Collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Moumita Ghosh has a M. A. in Museology and B. A (Hons.) in History from University of Calcutta.

Naresh Kumar (Born-1988, Patna), founder - Studio Naresh Kumar - lives and works between Patna Bombay and Paris. Studio explore and engage in contemporary art practices; currently working in the art gallery, museum, public space, online, and multiple other contexts of art making and exhibition.

His practice addresses the social, economic, and migration conditions of our time through deeply personal and performative gestures. Inspired by the process of migration and the shifting identities and hopes it often accompanies. His work draws upon his own experience as a migrant first from rural Bihar to Delhi, and later to Paris and Mumbai.

Naresh works with highly symbolic materials and objects, large sculpture, installation and painting, His performative and transformative manipulation of the mundane are at the same time reflections and enquiries into the role of ritual and philosophy in a world of information and technology.

BFA Patna & MFA Agra 2010, École des Beaux-Arts in 2014-15. His works have been exhibited and collected by some of the major galleries and museums in the world including Dakar Biennial, Senegal, Africa | Irish Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Dublin, Ireland, | ACCA, Gwangju, | Baijia Lake Museum, Nanjing, China, | Darat Al-Funun, Museum, Amman, | BDL Museum, Bombay, | Gandhi museum Patna, | saloon. London, | kadist art foundation, Paris, | Para Site, Hong Kong, | PAWA at Wellington, New Zealand, | Foundation Salomon, France, Schmall Gallery, Amsterdam, | Galerie Frachon Felix in Brussels, | Chemould Prescott Road, Bombay, New gallery, Paris, | Clark House Initiative, Bombay.

Puja Sahu, owner of the famed The Potbelly Bihari Kitchen had been a designer for over 12 years. At some point in her design career, she decided to use her potential to the fullest and started thinking about opening a cafe. Potbelly serves her mother's traditional Bihari recipes. The Potbelly is currently present in 3 locations in India- Gurugram, Bihar and two restaurants in New Delhi.

Vinayak Yashraj is an Associate Professor in the Department of Fashion & Lifestyle Accessories at the NIFT Patna and teaches Fashion Society & Culture, Fashion & Film image, History & Philosophy of Design & Fashion, etc. Post his graduation from NIFT Delhi, he has contributed in the fashion industry in key profiles like visual merchandising and merchandising in prestigious luxury and fashion retail organizations in India. Following his Masters in Fashion Marketing from Istituto Europeo Di Design in Milan, he worked on projects with Luxury Fashion and Textile companies. His PhD includes the Ethnographic Study of Film Costumes, Fashion, and Feminism, which he is pursuing from the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Patna. He has published with *Media Watch*, *Contemporary Literature Review India* and the *American Journal of Arts and Design*. Currently as a Campus Coordinator he is part of the Trend Research and Fashion Forecasting project sponsored by Govt. of India, coordinated by NIFT, with special reference and focus to Patna.

Aparna Andhare is the Deputy Editor, Live History India, looking after programming for LHI Circle. She was, until recently, a curator at the Maharaja Sawai Man Singh II Museum, the City Palace, Jaipur. Joining the Museum in 2017, she worked on developing a new gallery on transport, contributed to publications, had collection responsibilities, and handled outreach activities including social media. Specialising in art and architecture of early modern India, she has two master's degrees: Art in the Global Middle Ages (University of Edinburgh, 2017), and Arts and Aesthetics (Master's, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2012). In Bombay, she has worked on independent archiving projects, and taught and co-ordinated the Art Design History and Theory programme for the undergraduates at ISDI-Parson's Mumbai (2013-16). Aparna contributes to various publications on art and culture.

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