

**A chocolatier, a travel entrepreneur, an artist & a cultural aficionado have made Mysuru their mission. Discover why at:
Cultural Capitals: Future Legacies of India's Cities – Mysuru
Thursday, 6th January 2022
6:00 – 7:30 pm
Zoom Live Session
www.avidlearning.in**

Live History India and **Avid Learning** present the eighth edition of **Cultural Capitals: Future Legacies of India's Cities on Mysuru**, an exciting series of discussions celebrating the historical and current legacy of culturally rich, diverse and important cities across India. On the panel are:

*Creative & Managing Director at Naviluna Artisan Chocolate, **David Belo***

*CEO & Founder, Gully Tours, **Vinay Parameswarappa***

*Architect & Urban Designer, **Dr Champa H S***

*Visual Artist, **Amjum Rizve***

*will be in conversation with Co-Founder and Head of Research at Live History India, **Akshay Chavan***

The panelists are loyal Mysoreans who come from different fields – food and drink, travel, art and books – and will look at the historic city of Mysuru through their very contemporary lens. We will ask a chocolatier why he is restoring the ruins of a heritage bungalow. We will explore how young, urban Mysoreans are engaging with the city. The artist will share how Mysuru inspired him to traverse state borders. And together we will discover how a city of such historical import makes modern transformations as seamlessly as Mysuru does.

Cultural Capitals is an exciting series of discussions that celebrates the historical and contemporary legacy of culturally rich, diverse and important cities across India. Its aim is 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 Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Lucknow, Kohima and Indore. The highlight is on varied perspectives on the cultural identity of these urbanscapes, and will be presented as informed by 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 as Mysuru, and the panel is perfectly poised to deconstruct the unquestionable "Mysuru Style" that marks every field from painting and architecture to music and poetry in this modern city. Join us for an evening that will have you making that travel booking to the erstwhile Kingdom of Mysore!

Event details:

Date: Thursday, 6th January 2022

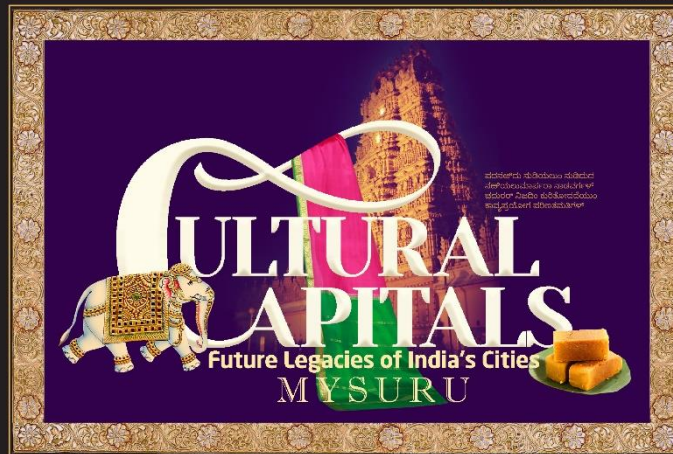
Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM (IST)

Format: Live Zoom Session

Register: www.avidlearning.in

Contact: Ayeshah Dadachanji at ayeshah.avid@gmail.com

#CULTURALCAPITALS



A chocolatier, a travel entrepreneur, an artist and a cultural aficionado have made **Mysuru** their mission. Discover *why* at the *eight edition* of **Cultural Capitals: Future Legacies of India's Cities**.

Few cities enjoy the vibrant juxtaposition of historical import with modern transformations as seamlessly as Mysuru does. From the mythical origins of the Kingdom of Mysore to the unquestionable "Mysuru Style" in every field from painting and architecture to art, music and poetry, this modern city has a unique place on India's map.

Join us for a wander through the legendary city of Mysuru, and experience it as never before with our panel of loyal Mysoreans. They will chart the city's evolution through the years - unearthing fascinating lesser-known nuggets, spotlighting inspiring personalities and documenting pivotal stories that have shaped its distinct cultural fabric.



Creative & Managing Director at
Nairana Artisan Chocolate
David Belo



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Dr Champa H S



Co-Founder and Head of Research
at LiveHistoryIndia
Akshay Chavan

THU, 6 JANUARY | 6.00-7.30 PM (IST) | REG: www.avidlearning.in

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About The Panelist:

David Belo :

An avid seeker of great design and culture, David's enjoyed an 18 year career in food and drink, having trained as a cocktail bartender in London during the early 2000's where he practiced the craft of mixology for over a decade, before retraining as a bread baker & pastry chef in a path that led him to founding India's first craft chocolate company in the historical city of Mysore back in 2012. He believes that ingredients are an agent for conversations around culture, nature, history, art and pleasure. Having studied both music and business management at Queen Mary's university London, the Cape Town native draws no distinction between art, business and sustainability, believing that all three should co-exist in balance. As a vocal resident of the city of Mysore who'd spent many years seeing the cultural and historical fabric of the city being

eroded to make way for modern India, In recent years David has dedicated a large part of his time to restoring heritage buildings that can find new purpose in the city so that its historical relevance may be preserved and benefit generations to come.

Dr Champa HS is an architect and Urban Designer who has worked in Bangalore, Goa and Trivandrum in professional capacity. Dr Champa has taught in University of Mysore and went on to become „Principal“ of the college for 10yrs before moving on a teaching assignment at Birla Institute of Technology, Dubai. And later served as Professor and Director at SVS School of Architecture, Coimbatore, She is presently Professor and Dean at Mysore School of Architecture, Mysore. Through her professional independent practice, she has many projects to the credit like Resorts, Institutions, Residences, Industries, Urban spaces etc.

During the centenary year of Mysore University Champa was awarded for her PhD in development studies with the title “REFURBISHING THE IDENTITY OF A CITY IN TRANSITION: An Urban Design Intervention into Development Paradigms of Mysuru”. She is a Member of Expert committee for Mysore Heritage, Dept. of Archeology Museums and Heritage, Government of Karnataka and has worked on revision of the Mysore City Master Plan and JNNURM Urban Renewal Mission.

Dr. Champa has published books and presented papers in many research areas both in India and Abroad. All her initiatives, research and involvement revolves around climate response, heritage, urban and public spaces. She is an avid reader and loves to travel to explore new places.

Vinay Parameswarappa is the founder of Gully Tours, one of India’s first experiential tour companies set up in 2009. They curate walking tours, food tours and bespoke tours in Mysore, Bangalore, Coorg & Kochi. He has hosted more than 30,000 people from heads of states, CXOs, Bollywood Celebrities and the ex-UN Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan. He is featured in The Guardian, The National Geographic Magazine & The Conde Nast Traveller. He is also featured in the Netflix series on Indian food - Raja, Rasoi auranya Kahaniya. He has delivered talks at the Ministry of Tourism, CII & The Bangalore International Center on the subject of Mysore. Apart from his interest in Gully Tours, he is also a corporate facilitator. Vinay has lived and worked in India, Singapore & UK. He is an engineer and an MBA from the University of Oxford.

Amjum Rizve artistic practice is predominantly centered around subjective fantasies and melancholic longings in relation to the idea of Dreams and Storytelling. Rizve takes references from his experiences, from the history of Islamic decorative symbolisms and their orientation, as well as from the mosaic murals of the far-eastern artistic and craft-based practices. In many ways, Amjum is interested in making layered narratives, which can complicate as well as generate artistic frameworks to understand the notion of celebration, events and the celebrated unconscious. Both conceptually and artistically, Rizve’s work generates spaces of dichotomy between eternal life and separated experiences, between different levels of continuations, repetitions and disruptions and those between nostalgias and unknown, untouched landscapes. In this way, the artist’s works are not just limited to psychoanalysis but incorporate a profound value for culture and their attribution to image-making.

Akshay Chavan is Co-Founder and Head of Research at Live History India (www.livehistoryindia.com), India’s largest digital platform on history and culture. A graduate of Lancaster University Management School (LUMS) in IT Management and Organizational Change, Chavan went on to pursue a decade-long career in digital media and marketing, before returning to his first love – history. He co-founded Live History India with senior journalist Mini Menon, to take Indian history to a wider audience in a digital, new-age format. Chavan has a special interest in researching the Princely States of India, and has written several papers and articles for various publications. He is also co-author of the book *Quirky History: The Swan Car of Nabha & Other Unusual Stories From History* (Harper Collins, 2020).

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