



CENTENARY  
EXHIBITION

100

— YEARS —

CSMVS

M u m b a i

'If you cannot come to the museum, the museum will come to you'

**MUSEUM ON WHEELS**

A Citi - CSMVS Outreach Initiative

## **About the exhibition**

The Museum opened its doors to the public on 10th January 1922 and became a space where people from all over the country and beyond could come and connect with art and artifacts.

This exhibition is a celebration of the 100-year journey of CSMVS and what better way than to carry it on the Museum on Wheels, the Museum's pioneering outreach initiative towards connecting with the larger community. The exhibition explores major milestones in the Museum's development and highlights its rich and diverse collections.

Discover some of the most important objects from the Museum and try to recall where you might have seen them!

## **About the Museum**

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai (CSMVS) is one of the premier museums in the country. Situated at the southern tip of Mumbai on the 'Crescent Site' the Museum building is a fine example of the Indo-Saracenic architectural style – a combination of Hindu, Islamic and western architecture. The Museum houses over 70,000 artifacts with a variety of objects from pre-historic to contemporary times, from India and abroad. Besides these, the Museum has a Natural History section as well.



## **Bahubali**

Bahubali meaning 'the one with strong arms' was the son of Rishabh, the first Tirthankara of Jainism. Following a fierce fight with his own brother Bharat, Bahubali was full of remorse and went deep into the forests to perform penance.

He was so focussed on his penance, that creepers grew all over his body but he continued his meditation. He has thus been considered a symbol of both physical and mental strength.



## **Stone Tool**

Human history can be traced back more than a million years and one of the most abundant objects that can be found from this time are stone tools. One of the most important pieces of technology ever created, these tools were multipurpose and were used to prepare food and make shelter. The choice of stone and their shape indicated their use.

**What according to you, is one of the most important 'tools' in today's world?**



## Jacobin cuckoo

A member of the cuckoo family (Cuculidae) of birds, Jacobin cuckoos are found in Africa and Asia. They are partially

migratory birds and their arrival in India signifies the onset of the monsoon. They have a distinctive crest on their head and can also be recognised by the characteristic “piu piu” call they have. This specimen has gone through the process of taxidermy which involves cleaning, preserving, and mounting specimens.

**What are some of the birds you have seen? Can you mimic the sounds they make?**



## Summer Elephant

The term “miniature” to describe Indian paintings was first used by Europeans

as their paintings were much larger in size. There are several schools of Indian Miniature paintings, and this painting is from the Bundi Rajasthani school. It depicts the month of summer or Jyestha. Just as we feel agitated when the weather gets too hot, the elephants in the painting are also unable to tolerate the heat and one of them seems to be searching for water. The artist has used orange and yellow to re-create the atmosphere of the burning summer of Rajasthan.



## **Bird on Wheels**

Archaeologists use artifacts to reconstruct history, to understand how people lived in the past. This terracotta object of a bird on wheels, almost 4500 years old, was excavated at Mohenjo-Daro, a city of the Indus Valley Civilization and one of the earliest urban centres in the world. The wheels attached to the figure of the bird indicate that it may have been used as a toy.





## Kolhapuri Saj

**Have you ever wondered how goldsmiths manufacture different pieces of jewellery?**

A delicate and refined piece of jewellery from Maharashtra, the Kolhapuri Saj has been a popular ornament throughout the ages. The making technique involves gold sheets pressed into stone or brass moulds and gently beaten to bring out the design details; the hollow part is then filled with lac to retain the form. This technique of moulding allows the goldsmith to use small quantities of gold to create large ornaments.



## Coin of Chandragupta II

The Guptas ruled over the northern, central and western parts of India from the early 4th century CE to the late 6th century CE. The Gupta gold coins depicted various facets of the Gupta rulers' personal and social life. This coin issued by Chandragupta II depicts the Goddess Lakshmi seated on a lotus on one side which indicates the religious beliefs of the Gupta kings. The other side depicts the King slaying a lion, indicating his bravery and supremacy.

**What motifs would you put on your coin if you could issue one?**



## Textiles

Textiles are a part of our everyday lives, as clothes in furnishings, in decoration as symbols of rank and even as offerings

and gifts. These textiles vary across regions and are woven from locally available fibres including cotton, wool and silk. Dyes of various colours, needlework, applique work and other embellishments create vibrant and diverse textiles. Traditional textiles often used designs and motifs inspired by the natural world around them. You would have seen motifs of flowers and trees, birds and animals.

**What are the designs you see on the clothes you wear today?**

# About Museum on Wheels

The Citi-CSMVS Museum on Wheels initiative, now over 6 years old, furthers the Museum's educational outreach efforts through 2 state-of-the-art buses that travel extensively in the city, suburbs, and rural areas of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, and Karnataka. The customized air-conditioned buses are fully equipped with display cases for objects, interactive demo kits, art supplies, audio-visual equipment, and digital media. The buses host exhibitions on specific subjects, which change periodically. The buses are access enabled including an electric lift for wheelchair users and have CCTV surveillance for security purposes. The exhibition and activities are FREE of charge.

Schools, colleges, cultural institutions, museums, historic sites, fairs, housing complexes, neighbourhoods, malls, and Government departments can invite the bus to be at their venue to be enjoyed by children, families, and communities.

For booking enquiries,  
Email us at [\*\*mow@csmvs.in\*\*](mailto:mow@csmvs.in)

For more information on the Museum on Wheels Outreach initiative visit our website - [\*\*csmvs.in\*\*](http://csmvs.in)