

UNIVERSITY OF LADAKH

Department of History **Leh Campus, Taru Thang**

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Press Note

LEH, APRIL 18, 2023- On the occasion of World Heritage Day, Department of History, University of Ladakh, Taru Campus organised a Heritage walk in collaboration with The Ladakh Art and Media Organization (LAMO) to identify the important historical sites of Old Leh Town. The aim of the heritage walk was to raise awareness about the importance of rich cultural heritage of the region and to promote its preservation.

The walk started from the Western Gate of old Leh town and covered various historical sites including many restored old houses, monuments and temples. The walk was led by Aaron Dhana, Creative Director at The Ladakh Arts and Media Organization. He gave detailed insights into the historical significance of each site.

The heritage walk was followed by an interactive session with Dr. Sonam Spalzin, Archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) at Leh Palace. She briefed the participants about the ongoing works being carried out by the ASI in Ladakh. She also shared information about the importance of preserving the cultural heritage sites and the challenges faced by the ASI in the preservation and restoration process.

Dr. Phunstog Angmo, Coordinator, Department of History, University of Ladakh, expressed her appreciation to Dr. Sonam Spalzin and LAMO for their contribution in preserving and conserving the heritage sites in Ladakh and further expressed the need for forming collaboration with University of Ladakh in such endeavors. She emphasized that the heritage sites of Leh need to be preserved and protected for future generation, and the efforts of the ASI in this regard are greatly appreciated.

The heritage walk and the interaction session culminated with a visit to the Leh Palace, where the participants were given a tour of the palace.