



ORGANISATION OF 'ARINDAM', AN ART EXHIBITION ON RAMAYAN UNDER ICCR'S 'YEAR OF CONNECTING THE WORLD THROUGH RAMAYAN - 2024'

To celebrate the 75th anniversary of its Foundation Day, ICCR organized an art exhibition called 'Arindam', at the Bikaner House, New Delhi from April 9-14, 2024. The exhibition displayed magnificent paintings by more than 50 renowned artists that brought together various traditions and styles in the visual art spectrum that have kept the tradition and stories of the Ramayan alive through the centuries. It was inaugurated by Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi, Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture.

During the 6-day 'Arindam' art exhibition, around 100 artworks were displayed, which showcased a diverse range of traditional and contemporary styles, themes, and artistic techniques, captivating the audience with their creativity and vision. Several paintings of celebrated artists like Raja Ravi Varma, Anupam Sud, Jyoti Bhatt and Rini Dhumal were displayed. The exhibition attempted to encompass the major styles of Ramayan prevalent in India and also to cover all six Kandas (chapters), namely Bala Kanda, Ayodhya Kanda, Aranya Kanda, Kishkindha Kanda, Sundara Kanda, and Lanka Kanda as per the Valmiki Ramayan.

Curated under ICCR's initiative, 'Year of Connecting the World through Ramayan - 2024', the exhibition, which was open to the public for over six days took visitors on an enchanting journey through the timeless saga. The ICCR's year-long celebration of connecting the world through Ramayan was launched with the organization of the 7th India International Ramayan Mela, held at Purana Qila, New Delhi, from January 18-21, 2024. As part of the 4-day long festival, cultural performances by international and Indian artists on the Ramayan, an exhibition on textile handloom and craft, a puppet and magic show, and yoga sessions were organized. Cultural troupes from 7 countries, including Thailand, Mauritius, Indonesia and Singapore performed on different days of the event.

