Bharuch to host meet on maritime history

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bharuch: The ancient town of Bharuch will be hosting the fourth edition of an international symposium on 'The Sea and Knowledge', highlighting the maritime history of Gujarat on December 9. The event is being organised by Darshak Itihas Nidhi, a foundation for studies in history with support of Bharuch Citizen Council.

Hasmukh Shah, chairman Darshak Itihas Nidhi told TOI, “The conference will explore intangible exchanges in the Indian ocean world. It will look at perspectives illustrating the role of Gujarat as a driving force for the shaping of knowledge. Cultural, philosophical, technical, botanical and scientific movements will be taken into considerations.”

Admiral Sunil Lanba, chief of naval staff, will inaugurate the conference at GNFC auditorium. The great grandson of freedom fighter Subhash Chandra Bose, Prof Sugata Bose, Gardiner professor of oceanic history and affairs at Harvard University, will deliver keynote address on ‘Old tides and new waves in Indian ocean history’.

The two-days conference will cover variety of topics like - The influence of Chinese ceramic technology across the Indian Ocean between 8 and 14 century; geographical knowledge and mapping of Kutch; Gujarat art furniture in the 19th century global markets; The urban history of Bharuch before 1800 and other topics.

The conference will also have a thematic exhibition and an associated cultural programme. The participants will taken on an excursion on December 11 across port towns of Bharuch and Cambay, said Kamlesh Udani, president of Bharuch Citizen Council. Over 20 speakers from across the globe will be presenting their papers which include historians like Sara Keller (Paris), Fernando Rosa (South Africa), Dnyar Patel (South Carolina), Prof Edward Simpson (London), Margaret Frenz (USA), Prof Helene Basu (Germany), Prof Beheroze Shroff (California), besides Indian experts like Maher Mistry, Rizwan Kadri, Y S Rawat, Prof Markand Mehta and many others.