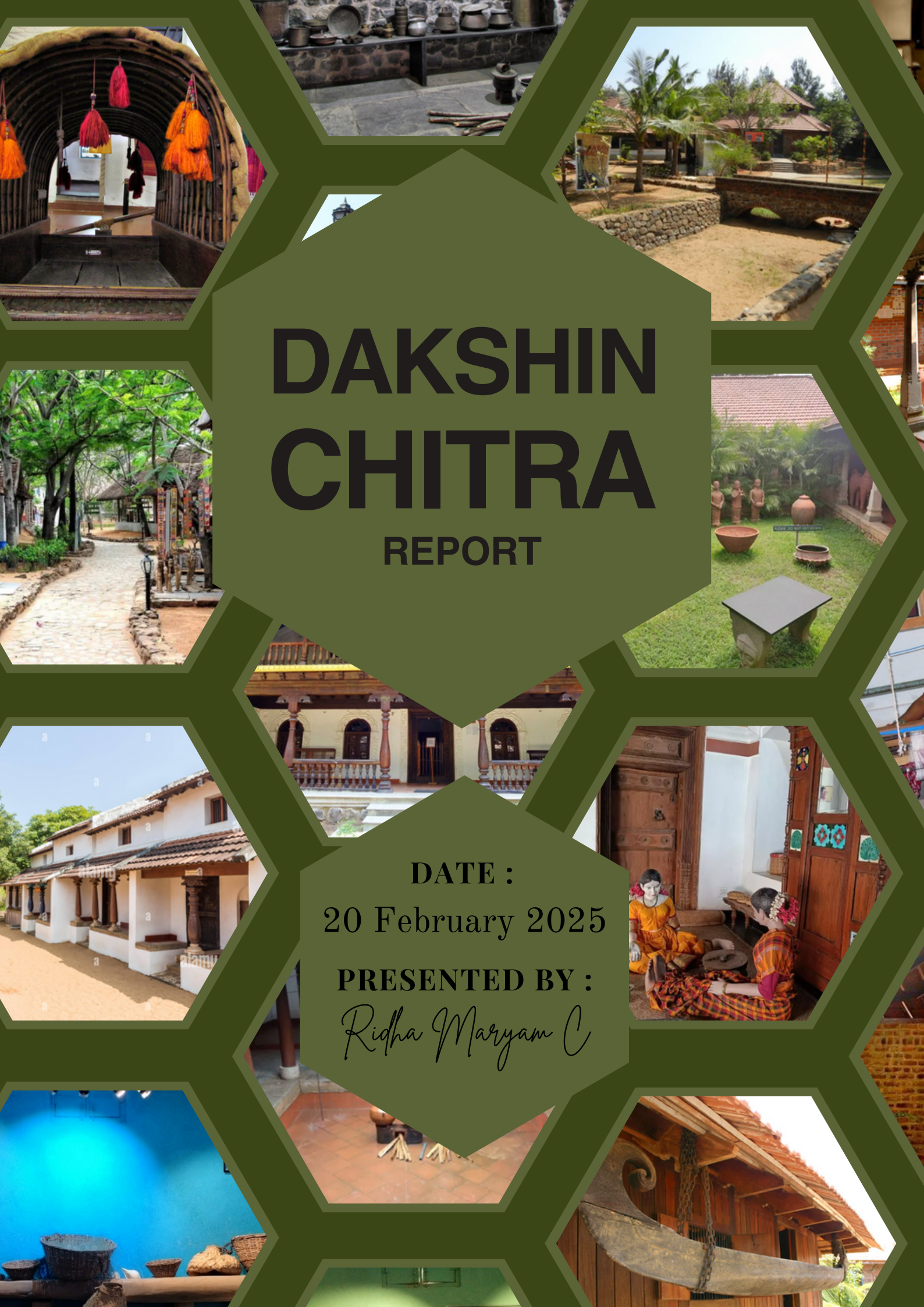




DAKSHIN CHITRA

REPORT

DATE :
20 February 2025

PRESENTED BY :
Ridha Maryam C



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INTRODUCTION

On 30th Jan 2025, our class went on an educational trip to Dakshin Chitra, a heritage museum on the East Coast Road near Chennai. The visit was part of our Home Science curriculum to help us understand about the South Indian culture, architecture, and traditions. We were accompanied by our teacher, Ms. Shabana Fathima Ma'am, who guided us throughout the trip. The purpose of this visit was to see and learn about the rich heritage of Southern India through art, craft, and historical exhibits.

EXPLORING THE CULTURE

As we entered the museum, we saw a beautiful traditional South Indian entrance, which set the mood for the visit. Dakshin Chitra, meaning 'a picture of the South,' is a museum that showcases the culture and history of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh.

We started with the Tamil Nadu section, where we saw traditional Chettinad houses with beautiful woodwork and tiled floors. The guide explained how these houses were designed for ventilation and comfort. We also watched weavers making Kanjeevaram sarees and artists creating Tanjore paintings. It was amazing to see how much skill and patience goes into these crafts.

Next, we explored the Kerala section, which had Nalukettu houses with open courtyards in the center. The sloping roofs were specially designed for the rainy climate. We also saw Kathakali masks and mural paintings, which were colorful and unique.

In the Karnataka section, we saw Agraharam houses, which are Brahmin homes. Here, we learned about Mysore paintings and how dolls are made by hand. The Andhra Pradesh section had traditional rural houses and featured Kalamkari art, a special form of hand-painted textile art.

During our tour, we saw artisans working on different crafts like pottery and basket weaving. Some of us even tried our hands at clay modeling and puppet making, which was really fun.

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As the day came to an end, we gathered for a short discussion about what we had learned. Our teacher, Ms. Shabana Fathima Ma'am, encouraged us to reflect on the importance of preserving traditional art and architecture. Many of us were fascinated by how every detail in these heritage homes and crafts carried a deep cultural significance.

Before leaving, we visited the souvenir shop, where we bought small handmade crafts and traditional artifacts as mementos of our trip. The visit to Dakshin Chitra was not only educational but also an enjoyable experience. We left with a deeper appreciation for the rich heritage of South India and the skilled artisans who keep these traditions alive.

CONCLUSION

Overall, this trip was an eye-opening experience that connected us with the roots of our culture in a meaningful way. It was truly a fun-filled and informative day that we will cherish for a long time.