



NATURAL HERITAGE ASSOCIATION OF KARACHI

Progress Report 1 Nov. 2019 -Feb. 2020

Vision and Core Committee Members

Vision

The Natural Heritage Association of Karachi (NHAK) is a Civil Society Driven Project, which will exist to Protect, Preserve and Promote the Historical and Indigenous Flora and Fauna of the city with a particular focus on replenishing at-risk Heritage Trees.

The Natural Heritage Association of Karachi will raise awareness of Karachi's rich Ecological Heritage, and promote civic engagement in issues concerning Heritage and the Built Environment.

Honourary Core Committee NHAK and Sindh Government

1. Mr. Iftikhar Ali Shallwani (Commissioner, Karachi)
2. Mr. Murtaza Wahab (Senator / Adviser to CM Sindh)
3. Mr. Irshad Ali Sodhar (Deputy Commissioner, South)
4. Ms. Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy (Film Director / Patron in Chief, Citizens Archive of Pakistan)
5. Mr. Shahid Khan (Architect)
6. Mr. Tofiq Pasha Mooraj (Environmental Activist)
7. Mr. Arif Belgaumi (Architect)
8. Ms. Marvi Mazhar (Heritage Consultant / Architect)
9. Ms. Mariyam Iftikhar (Architect)
10. Ms. Sara Tahir Khan (CEO FM91)



Fig. 1.0 - 28th NHAK Core Committee meeting at Marvi Mazhar and Associates.

Date: November 14th, 2019

Location: Commissioner Office, Karachi

Title: Vision Presentation for Conserving Old Banyan Trees by Team NHAK.



Fig. 2.0 NHAK Core Committee meeting with the government officials at the Commissioner house.

Natural Heritage Association of Karachi met Honourable Commissioner Karachi, Iftikhar Ali Shallwani at the Commissioner office regarding the main idea behind the formed association. According to which, Team NHAK, including Architect and Heritage Consultant Marvi Mazhar and Architect Shahid Khan, presented it's vision for the need to conserve the 68 significant Banyan Tress on the Shahra-e-Iran, Clifton.

Date: December 1st, 2019

Location: Old Clifton Park, Karachi

Title: Inauguration of the Banyan Trees Conservation Project.



Fig. 3.0 Architect Shahid Khan talks about the Importance of Peoples Project and Public Spaces.



Fig. 3.1 Architect and Heritage Consultant Marvi Mazhar addressing the guests.



Fig. 3.2 NIIAK Team along with the foreign delegation at the event

The Natural Heritage Association of Karachi in partnership with the Sindh Government, requested the Honorable Commissioner Karachi, Iftikhar Shallwani to chair the project of Conserving The Banyan Trees of Karachi. The inauguration helped to bring Civil Society Members together and pledged the conservation process in his guidance.

Guests Lists included, Civil Society Members, Consulates Representatives, Activists, Residents of Old Clifton, Corporate Representatives, Educational and other Institutions in the proximity of Old Clifton, Media & Journalists.

Marvi Mazhar and Associates (MMA) presented the Condition Survey Report, Field Documentation and the Master Plan of Banyan Tree Project.



Date: December 7th, 2019

Location: Sindh Secretariat, Karachi

Title: Official Declaration of Banyan Trees as a 'Protected Heritage' by the Sindh Government.

 No. CK/HMS/ 720 /2019.
OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSIONER KARACHI
KARACHI DIVISION
Karachi, dated 07TH Dec. 2019
4, Club Road Karachi, Tel: 99205636 Fax: 99202041

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

It has been noted with great concern that BANYAN TREES in the city of Karachi are in the danger of being chopped, discarded and becoming extinct due to negligence and deliberate cutting done by the unscrupulous elements.

In view of above and on the directives of Honorable Chief Minister Sindh the "BANYAN TREES" in Clifton and other parts of Karachi City are declared as "PROTECTED HERITAGE" of the City.

Any individual / organization found in harming these old trees will be dealt strictly in accordance with "Sindh Cultural Heritage (Preservation) Act 1994".

The Deputy Commissioners of Karachi Division are directed to survey the old "BANYAN TREES" and make directory marking with numbers and symbols.

(IFTIKHAR ALI SHALLWANI)
PAS
COMMISSIONER KARACHI

Copy to:

1. The Secretary Antiquities Department Govt. of Sindh, Karachi.
2. The Secretary Environment & Climate Change Govt. of Sindh, Karachi.
3. The Metropolitan Commissioner KMC
4. The Director General, KDA Karachi.
5. HQs 5 Corps Karachi.
6. HQs Pakistan Rangers Sindh, Karachi.
7. The Deputy Commissioners (all) Karachi Division
8. The Municipal Commissioner DMCs (all) Karachi.
9. The Cantonment Boards (all) Karachi.
10. Deputy Secretary (Staff) to the Chief Minister Sindh, Karachi.
11. Deputy Secretary (Staff) to the Chief Secretary Sindh, Karachi.
12. P.S. to Inspector General Police Sindh, Karachi.
13. P.S. to Advisor to Chief Minister Sindh for Law, Environment, Climate Change & Coastal Development Govt. of Sindh, Karachi.
14. Ms. Marvi Mazhar, Principal Architect Marvi Mazhar & Associates
15. Ms. Sharmain Obaid Chino, (Filmmaker)

(ALJAZ HUSSAIN RIND BALQCH)
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER (GENERAL)
FOR COMMISSIONER KARACHI DIVISION

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Fig. 4.0 A copy of the Administrative Order regarding the Declaration of The Banyan Trees as City's Protected Heritage.

Senator and Advisor to Chief Minister Sindh, Mr. Murtaza Wahab, on 7th December issued an order in respect of the ongoing Banyan Tree Conservation Project, declaring the significant Banyan Trees in Clifton and all other parts of Karachi city as a 'Protected Heritage'.

Date: February 11th, 2020

Location: Shakra-e-Iran, Clifton, Karachi

Title: NHAK meets the Deputy Commissioner South, Mr. Irshad Ali Sodhar at the site of the Banyan Tree Project. (Phase 01)



Fig. 5.0 - Architect Marvi Mazhar briefing the DC South in Phase 01 regarding the current position of the site.



Fig. 5.1 - Team NHAK examines the site of Do Talwar regarding its Restoration and Development.



Fig. 5.2 Team NHAK looks for possible interventions on site regarding the Restoration of Do Talwar Monument.

Architect and Heritage Consultant Marvi Mazhar as a member of NHAK, met the Deputy Commissioner South, Mr. Irshad Ali Sodhar regarding the present condition of the Banyan Trees on Shakra-e-Iran, and shortlisted first 12 trees on both the sides of the road adopted by Sindh Government in Phase 01.

The meeting further decided:

- a) Signage and Map Placement
- b) Footpath Rehabilitation
- c) Numbering system to be placed on the selected trees

Date: February 14th, 2020

Location: Shakra-e-Iran, Clifton, Karachi

Title: Site Visit by Team NHAK and Senator Mr. Murtaza Wahab. (Phase 02)



Fig. 6.0 - Members of the meetup brief Senator Murtaza Wahab and DC Irshad Ali Sodhar on site.



Fig. 6.1 - Senator Murtaza Wahab takes a look at the neglected Old Clifton Park on Shakra-e-Iran.



Fig. 6.2 - Architect Marvi Mazhar examines the present condition and the strategies required for the conservation of the Banyan Trees.

Team NHAK, including DC South Mr. Irshad Ali Sodhar, Architect and Heritage Consultant Marvi Mazhar, Architect Arif Belgaumi, Architect Mariyam Iftikhar and Filmamker / Activist Sharmeen Obaid Chinoy, on Feb. 14th met with the Senator and Advisor to CM Mr. Murtaza Wahab on the site of Banyan Tree Project. The team briefed him regarding selected trees from Phase 01 being cleared of the pavement and concrete.

Date: February 21st, 2020

Location: Shakra-e-Iran, Clifton, Karachi

Title: Field Work - Placement of the Digital Numbering System on the Banyan Trees (Phase 03)



Fig. 7.0 - One of the 12 Trees shortlisted in Phase 01 assigned with its Digital Number Plate.



Fig. 7.1 - Tree No. B (32)



	Tree no. B(32)	
	B(32) درخت نمبر	
#Savethebanyantree Project		
Name: Banyan Tree	نام: برگد	
Botanical Name: Ficus Benghalensis	نباتاتی نام: فیکس بنگالینس	
Protected Heritage Enlistment Year: 2020_KHI_B32/68	Dia 3ft Hieght 14ft	

Fig. 7.2 - A Sample of the Digital Number Plate for the Banyan Trees.

Field work in Phase 03 included the marking of 12 shortlisted Banyan Trees on Shakra-e-Iran, with the help of a Digital Numbering System / Measurements / Bilingual Details placed on the cards, on the basis of Condition Survey Report. Later on, the proposal is to bolt the information on stone or plate as a permanent feature on the floor.

Date: February 25th, 2020

Location: Shakra-e-Iran, Clifton, Karachi

Title: Field Work - Pruning and Maintenance of the Banyan Trees
(Phase 04)



Fig. 8.0 - Environmental Activist Toffeeq Pasha briefs the workers on site regarding the pruning of Old Banyan Trees.



Fig. 8.1 - Field Work - Phase 04 in process.



Fig. 8.2 - Team NHAK with the supporting staff on site.

Field work in Phase 04 included the maintenance of the Banyan Trees under the supervision of Environmental Activist Toffeeq Pasha Mooraj.

According to the conservation strategies proposed by Team NHAK, Pruning and Maintenance by experts will protect the trees from toppling and enable their weight to be evenly distributed, ensuring long-term stability. Termite injections will be used to prevent the internal threat of insects and decay.