



दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय  
University of Delhi

Vice Chancellor, DU <vc@du.ac.in>

### Indian Military Heritage Festival

USI Milfest <usimilfest@gmail.com>  
To: vc@du.ac.in

कुलपति कार्यालय  
VC's OFFICE  
कार्य संख्या 6136  
Diary No. ....  
दिनांक 11.10.2023  
Date .....

Mon, Oct 9, 2023 at 2:47 PM

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

**The United Service Institution of India (USI)** is organizing an **"Indian Military Heritage Festival"**. The festival would be conducted on an annual basis and has been conceptualized as a flagship event for the Defence Services in synergy with the policies of the Government of India. It aims to give a new thrust to the study of Indian military culture, traditions and history to add tangible value to the Government of India's programmes of **Atmanirbhar Bharat and 'Make in India'**. This vision is carried out by the **USI-Centre for Military History and Conflict Studies** which is the only Centre in the country dedicated to the study of Indian military history in general and of the Indian Armed Forces in particular.

**The USI of India** in association with **Network 18** aims to promote the **Indian Military Heritage Festival (IMHF)** and the cause undertaken by it across the nation.

To make this event a huge success, we would request your presence along with the Staff members and students. The event is open for all above age 16 yrs and free registration may be done through BookMyShow portal.

Link for registration is as follows:

<https://in.bookmyshow.com/special/indian-military-heritage-festival/ET00368183?webview=true>

In this regard, please find attached the DO letter of Sqn Ldr RTS Chhina, Director USI-CMHCS.

Regards  
Dr. Archana Tyagi  
Senior Research Fellow

Centre for Military History and Conflict Studies  
United Service Institution of India  
Rao Tula Ram Marg  
Opposite Signals Enclave  
Post Bag No. 8, Vasant Vihar PO  
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Tele : 011-20862327  
Mobile: 8587938201  
Website: <https://indianmilitaryheritagefestival.in/>

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Follow us on Twitter at USI\_CAFHR  
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4 attachments

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Ref. as above :-

If approved, the same may be circulated to All the Principals/Directors, Colleges/Institutes for information and necessary action.

Amr  
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submitted please.  
S.O. (Cep-II) <sup>ewr</sup>  
19/10/23

~~D.R. College~~



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## UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION OF INDIA

Founded : 1870

CENTRE FOR MILITARY HISTORY AND CONFLICT STUDIES

**Sqn Ldr RTS Chhina, MBE (Retd)**  
*Director & Editor CMHCS*

Rao Tula Ram Marg  
Opp Signals Enclave  
Post Bag No.8, Vasant Vihar P.O  
New Delhi- 110 057

No.1059-A/USI/CAFHR/IMHF

04 Oct 2023

Prof. Yogesh Singh  
Delhi University Office of the Vice-Chancellor  
Vice Regal Lodge, University of Delhi, Delhi – 110007

### **INVITATION FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS FOR THE INDIAN MILITARY HERITAGE FESTIVAL**

1. I am writing to you from the United Service Institution of India (USI), India's oldest military think tank, established in 1870, that works for the 'furtherance of interest and knowledge in the art, science and literature of the Defence Services.'
2. USI is organizing the first annual '*Indian Military Heritage Festival*' (*MilFest*) on 21-22 October 2023 at the prestigious Manekshaw Center, New Delhi. The Festival will focus on our Military Heritage and Traditions; Security and Self-Reliance; and the vector of Atmanirbhar Bharat in the defence and military domains. The festival has the approval-in-principle of the Chief of Defence Staff who has offered support through the three Services.
3. The MilFest will be an interesting amalgamation of Global and Indian corporates, our public sector undertakings, non-profits, think-tanks and associations that are interested in our national military culture, committed to national security, as well as being open to the general people, including students, academicians and research scholars for cross-pollination of ideas and discussions.
4. Apart from the discussions the festival is also hosting an exhibition '*Military History of India: From Antiquity to the Present*', in collaboration with the National Museum Institute, Ministry of Culture. The event will also host Symphony Band performances by the three armed forces, a cultural gala evening through the *Trikayaa Dance Foundation*, and interactive Veergatha story-telling sessions with decorated veterans to learn about their battle experiences first hand.
5. We believe that the festival presents a unique opportunity for students to engage with, understand and appreciate the rich military history and traditions of our nation, and will present them with a unique learning experience not available in the traditional syllabus of our books. We cordially invite you along with your staff and students to be part of the festival.

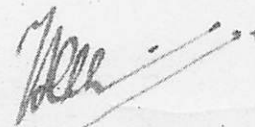
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6. Through informed and diverse range of sessions, discussions on contemporary issues, and immersive experiences that will enlighten and inspire attendees, the Festival will definitely be something to look forward to. It will a perfect platform for students to broaden their knowledge and connect with experts in a variety of fields. We believe that the presence of your students at the Indian Military Heritage Festival will not only be an educational experience but also contribute to the overall success of this prestigious event. Please find the brochure and programme details attached.

7. You may kindly wish to display the enclosed poster on your notice board and on your website so that the staff/ students who may like to attend the festival may register their place through the online portal Book My Show. There is no registration/entry fee. Students are requested to carry their valid ID card to enter the premises.

Book my Show Link: <https://in.bookmyshow.com/national-capital-region-ncr/special/indian-military-heritage-festival/ET00368183>

8. Should you have any queries or require further assistance, please feel free to contact us. For further information please visit our website: <https://linktr.ee/militaryheritagefestival>



(RTS Chhina)  
Sqn Ldr (Retd)  
Director, CMHCS



**The Indian Military Heritage Festival (MILFEST )**  
**21-22 October 2023**  
**Draft Programme**

The Indian Military Heritage Festival (MILFEST)				
Programme Schedule				
S.No	Time slot	Venue 1	Venue 2	Venue 3
<b>Day 1</b>				
	9:30 onwards	Registration		
	1030-1100	Receiving of the Chief Guest (Tbc) Tri-Service Band in attendance		
1.1	1100-1200	<b>Venue: Zorawar</b> <b>Inaugural Session (SS1)</b>  Lighting of Lamp (1100-1110 hrs) Welcome address - DG, USI (1110-1115 hrs) Felicitation of Guests (1115-1125 hrs) Keynote address-Chief Guest (tbc) (1125-1135 hrs) Launch of UDBHAV (1135-1145 hrs) Address by COAS (Tbc) (1145-1155 hrs) Vote of Thanks (1155-1200 hrs)		

1.2	1200-1300	<b>Venue: Zorawar</b> <b>Session 1</b>  Theme: Udbhav: India's Indigenous Historical knowledge  # 1: Col P K Gautam  # 2: Prof Vasileios Syros (Tbc)  # 3: Col Vivek Chaddha (Retd)  # 4: Brig Nick Sawyer, British DA, British High Commission India (Tbc)  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr Deepshikha Shahi, OP Jindal University	<b>Venue: Ashoka</b> <b>Session 2</b>  Theme: Cyber Security- Protecting Military CII, Threat Analysis and Response  # 1: VCNS (Tbc)  # 2: Lt Gen M U Nair AVSM, SM, National Cyber Security Coordinator, National Security Council Secretariat (Tbc)  # 3: Dr Rajeev Chandrashekar, Minister for State, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Tbc)  # 4: Lt Cdr Pawan Desai (Retd), CEO Mitkat Advisory  <b>Moderator:</b> Maj Gen Pawan Anand, AVSM (Retd)	<b>Venue: Exhibition Hall</b> <b>Session 3</b>  Theme: Challenges in Security in Asia  # 1: Maj Gen BK Sharma, AVSM, SM and Bar (Retd) <i>USI Strategic Yearbook, 2023</i>  # 2: Dr Stanly Johnny <i>Comrades and The Mullahs: China, Afghanistan and the New Asian Geopolitics</i> , Harper Collins India, 2022  # 3: Lt Gen AK Singh, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd) <i>Military Strategy for India in the 21st Century</i> , KW Publishers, 2019  <b>Moderator:</b> V Adm Satish Soni PVSM, AVSM, NM, ADC (Retd)
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1.3	1300-1400	<b>Venue: Zorawar Session 4</b>  Theme: AtmaNirbhar Bharat  <b>#1 Amitabh Kant</b> <i>Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise</i> , Rupa Publications, 2023  <b>Moderator: Lt Gen Subrata Saha</b> , PVSM, UYSM, YSM, VSM & Bar (Retd)	<b>Venue: Ashoka Session 5</b>  Theme: War, Conflict and Fiction  <b># 1: Amb Navtej Sarna, IFS (Retd)</b> <i>Crimson Spring</i> , Aleph Book Company, 2022  <b># 2: Aanchal Malhotra</b> <i>The Book of Everlasting Things</i> , HarperCollins, 2022  <b>Moderator: Mandira Nayar</b>	<b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 6</b>  Theme: Limited Conflicts  <b># 1: Lt Gen Ramesh Kulkarni</b> , PVSM, UYSM, AVSM (Retd) <i>Siachen 1987</i> , HarperCollins India, 2022  <b># 2: Lt Col BR Nair (Retd)</b> <i>Resurrecting The IPKF Legacy</i> , Notion Press, 2023  <b># 3: Lt Gen Mohinder Puri</b> , PVSM, UYSM (Retd) <i>Kargil: Turning the Tide</i> , Lancer Publishers, 2015  <b>Moderator: Maj Gen (Dr) Mandip Singh SM, VSM (Retd)</b>
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1.4	1400-1500	<b>Venue: Zorawar Session 7</b>  Theme: Territorial Army, Role & Opportunities  <b># 1: Lt Gen Gajendra Joshi, AVSM, SM</b> , Director General of Territorial Army (Tbc)  <b>Moderator: Lt Col Surender Singh (Tbc)</b>	<b>Venue: Ashoka Session 8</b>  Theme: 1971 War  <b># 1: Maj Gen Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM (Retd)</b> <i>The Sinking of INS Khukri: Survivor's Stories: Survivors Stories</i> , Roli Books, 2006  <b># 2: KS Nair</b> <i>December in Dacca: The Indian Armed Forces and the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War</i> , Harper Collins, 2022  <b># 3: Maj Gen Jagatbir Singh VSM (Retd)</b> <i>Armour 71</i> , Akash Media, 2023  <b>Moderator: Maj Gen V K Singh (Retd)</b>	<b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 9</b>  Session by: CAPS- Indian Air Force in its Centennial Decade  <b># 1: Gp Cpt (Dr) Swaim Prakash Singh</b> , Senior Fellow, CAPS,  <b># 2: Air Vice Marshal Tejbir Singh</b> , AVSM, VM, ACAS Ops (T&H), IAF  <b># 3: AVM Rajesh Isser AVSM, VM (Retd)</b> , Distinguished Fellow, CAPS  <b># 4: Mr Anchit Gupta (Tbc)</b>  <b>Moderator: AVM Anil Golani (Retd)</b> Addl DGI, CAPS
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1.5	1500-1600	<b>Venue: Zorawar Session 10</b>  Theme: Anti-Colonial Movements and Indian Armed Forces  <b># 1: Pramod Kapoor</b> <i>1946 Royal Indian Navy Mutiny: Last War of Independence, Roli Books, 2022</i>  <b># 2: Maj Gen VK Singh (Retd)</b> <i>The Contribution of the Jubbulpore Mutiny to India's Freedom, KW Publisher, 2022</i>  <b># 3: Dr Jyoti Atwal</b> <i>India, Ireland and Anti-Imperial Struggle: Remembering the Connaught Rangers Mutiny, 1920, Aakar Books, 2021</i>  <b>Moderator: Dr Indivar Kamtekar,</b> Associate Professor, JNU	<b>Venue: Ashoka Session 11</b>  Theme: Military Leaders and Leadership  <b># 1: Rachna Bisht</b> <i>Bipin: The Man Behind the Uniform, Penguin Veer, 2023</i>  <b># 2: Col TK Tikoo (Retd)</b> <i>Bob Khathing, Lancer Publishers, 2021</i>  <b># 3: Lt Gen AK Singh, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd)</b> <i>Men of Steel: Military Leadership for India, KW Publishers Pvt Ltd, 2022</i>  <b>Moderator: Preeti Gill</b>	<b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 12</b>  Theme: Gunners at War  <b># 1: Col Mandeep Singh (Retd)</b> <i>History of Indian Air Defence Artillery 1940-1945, Manohar Publisher, 2022</i>  <b># 2: Maj Gen AJS Sandhu, VSM (Retd)</b> <i>With Honour And Glory: Five Great Artillery Battles, USI, 2021</i>  <b>Moderator: Lt Gen Raj Shukla,</b> PVSM, YSM, SM, ADC (Retd)

1.6	1600-1700	<b>Venue: Zorawar Session 13</b>  Theme: Legendary Warriors  <b># 1: Mr Vaibhav Purandare</b> <i>Shivaji: India's Great Warrior King, Juggernaut Publisher, 2022</i>  <b># 2: Dr Rima Hooja</b> <i>Maharana Pratap: The Invincible Warrior, Juggernaut Publication, 2019</i>  <b># 3: Col Harisimran Singh (Retd)</b> <i>Deep Singh Shaheed: The Man in The Legend, Speaking Tiger, 2022</i>  <b>Moderator: RJ Khurafati Nitin,</b> 92.7 BIG FM	<b>Venue : Ashoka Session 14</b>  India's Culture of Gallantry-Veer Gatha Session. Highlighting the untold stories of the real heroes of the Country  Courtesy: Amar Chitra Katha  <b># 1: Lt Col Dilbagh Singh Dabas (Retd)</b>  <b># 2: Komal from Amar Chitra Katha</b>	<b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 15</b>  Theme: 1857  <b># 1: Dr Rosie Llewellyn-Jones</b> <i>India's Historic Battles: Lucknow 1857, HarperCollins, 2022</i>  <b># 2: Rana Safvi</b> <i>Tears of the Begums: Stories of Survivors of the Uprising of 1857, Hachette India, 2022</i>  <b>Moderator: Professor Amar Farooqui</b> <i>The Colonial Subjugation of India, Rupa &amp; Co &amp; Aleph Book Company, 2022</i>
		1700-1715	<b>Turn Over Time</b>	
	1715-1815	<b>Venue: Zorawar SS-2</b> Band Performance by the Army Symphony		
	1900 onwards	<b>Black Tie Dinner</b> (Invite only for selected gathering)		

<i>Day 2</i>		
	9:30 onwards	Registration
	1030-1100	Receiving of the Chief Guest Tri-Service Band in attendance
2.1	1100-1200	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Venue: Zorawar</b> SS 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Theme: 'Man v/s Machine – shaping the future of Defence Industry'</p> <p>Welcome &amp; Introduction of the guests by the moderator (1100-1105)</p> <p><b>Keynote Address (1105-1115)</b> # 1: ACM Vivek Ram Chaudhari, PVSM, AVSM, VM, ADC, Chief of Air Staff</p> <p><b>Panel Discussion (1115 -1200)</b> # 2: Lt Gen Vinod G Khandare, PVSM, AVSM, SM (Retd) Principal Advisor to MOD</p> <p># 3: Lt Gen Anil Bhatt, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd) Director General, Indian Space Association</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Lt Gen (Dr) RS Panwar, AVSM, SM, VSM Distinguished Fellow, USI</p>

2.2	1200-1300	<p><b>Venue: Zorawar</b> <b>Session 16</b></p> <p>Theme: War and Media (Tbc)</p> <p># 1: Nitin Gokhale</p> <p># 2: Network 18</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Mandira Nayar</p>	<p><b>Venue: Ashoka</b> <b>Session 17</b></p> <p>Theme: War Stories</p> <p># 1: Maj Gen Ian Cardozo, AVSM, SM (Retd)</p> <p>a) <i>1971: Stories of Grit and Glory from the Indo-Pak War</i>, Penguin e-Bury Press, 2021</p> <p>b) <i>Beyond Fear</i>, Penguin Veer, 2023</p> <p>c) <i>Cartoos Saab: A Soldier's Story of Resilience in Adversity</i>, Roli Books, 2022</p> <p>d) War Poetry- <i>Marigold</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Amb Asoke Mukerji, IFS (Retd)</p>	<p><b>Venue: Exhibition Hall</b> <b>Session 18</b></p> <p>Theme: WWI</p> <p># 1: Dr Dominiek Dendooven <i>Asia in Flanders Fields: Indians and Chinese on the Western Front, 1914-1920</i>, Pen and Sword Military, 2022</p> <p># 2: Tony McClenaghan <i>For the Honour of My House: The Contribution of the Indian Princely States to the First World War - War &amp; Military Culture in South Asia</i>, Helion &amp; Company, 2019</p> <p># 3: Brig MS Jodha (Retd) <i>The Story of the Jodhpur Lancers 1885-1952</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Prof Peter Stanley <i>Die in Battle, Do Not Despair: The Indian on Gallipoli, 1915 War and Military Culture in South Asia, 1757-1948</i>, Helion &amp; Company, 2015</p>
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2.3	1300-1400	<p><b>Venue: Zorawar Session 19</b></p> <p>India's Culture of Gallantry- Veer Gatha Session. Highlighting the untold stories of the real heroes of the Country</p> <p>Courtesy: Amar Chitra Katha</p> <p># 1: Lt Col Atul Kochhar (Retd) <i>Resurrecting The IPKF Legacy</i>, Notion Press, 2023</p> <p># 2: Sub Major &amp; Hony Capt Yogendra Singh Yadav PVC (Retd) (Tbc)</p> <p># 3: Komal from Amar Chitra Katha</p>	<p><b>Venue: Ashoka Session 20</b></p> <p>Theme: Women Warriors</p> <p># 1: Nandini Sengupta <i>Rani Durgawati: The Forgotten Life of a Warrior Queen</i>, Penguin Viking, 2022</p> <p># 2: Tanvi Srivastava <i>The War Diary of Asha-San: From Tokyo to Netaji's Indian National Army</i>, HarperCollins, 2022</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Preeti Gill</p>	<p><b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 21</b></p> <p>Theme: WW2</p> <p># 1: KS Nair <i>The Forgotten Few: The Indian Air Force in World War 2</i>, HarperCollins India, 2019</p> <p># 2: Dr Alan Jeffreys <i>Approach to Battle: Training the Indian Army during the Second World War</i>, Primus, 2019</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Col Ajay Singh (Retd) <i>India's Battlefields, From Kurukshetra to Balakot</i>, Pentagon Press LLP, 2020</p>
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2.4	1400-1500	<p><b>Venue: Zorawar Session 22</b></p> <p>Theme: HEIC</p> <p># 1: Prof Peter Stanley <i>Hull Hull The Suppression of the Santal Rebellion in British India, 1855</i>, C Hurst &amp; Co Publishers Ltd, 2022</p> <p># 2: Swapna Liddle <i>The Broken Script: Delhi Under the East India Company And The Fall of The Mughal Dynasty, 1803-1857</i>, HarperCollins, 2022</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Prof Anirudh Deshpande, Centre for Historical Studies, JNU</p>	<p><b>Venue: Ashoka Session 23</b></p> <p>Theme: Preserving India's Military Heritage</p> <p># 1: Prof Raman Surie <i>Need for a NMHT</i></p> <p># 2: Julian Farrance, Regimental and Corps Museum Liaison Officer at NAM</p> <p># 3: Dr Manvi Seth, Director and Dean National Museum</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Sqn Ldr Rana TS Chhina (Retd), MBE, Director, USI-CMHCS</p>	<p><b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 24</b></p> <p>Theme: War and Peace</p> <p># 1: Mr Tilak Devasher <i>The Pashtuns: A Contested History</i>, HarperCollins India, 2022</p> <p># 2: Amb TCA Raghavan <i>The People Next Door: The Curious &amp; History of India-Pakistan Relations</i>, HarperCollins, 2017</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Lt Gen Rakesh Sharma, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)</p>
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2.5	1590-1600	<b>Venue: Zorawar Session 25</b>  Theme: Success of AtmaNirbhar Bharat in Defence and a Way Forward  <b># 1:</b> Lt Gen J P Mathews, UYSM, AVSM, VSM, Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to the Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee (CISC)  <b># 2:</b> Smt Rachna Shah, Secretary, Ministry of Textile (Tbc)  <b># 3:</b> Maj Gen P K Saini, VSM (Retd), Principal Advisor SIDM  <b># 4:</b> Col Sanjay Singh (Retd), CGM UPDIC  <b>#5:</b> Ms Shruti Kharbanda, Advisor, Startup India  <b>Moderator:</b> AM (Dr) Rajeev Sachdeva, AVSM (Retd) Council Member, USI	<b>Venue: Ashoka Session 26</b>  Theme: Women in Arms  <b># 1:</b> Women Officers Rep- Army, Navy, Air Force (Tbc)  <b>Moderator:</b>	<b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 27</b>  Theme: Welfare in Indian Armed Forces  <b># 1:</b> Meghna Girish War Wounded and Veer Naris  <b># 2:</b> Dr Pudi Hari Prasad JS, Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (Tbc)  <b># 3:</b> Dr Jyoti Atwal <i>Real and Imagined Widows: Gender Relations in Colonial North India</i> , Primus Books, 2016  <b># 4:</b> Maj Gen Ian Cardozo AVSM, SM (Retd)  <b>Moderator:</b> Lt Gen Harsha Gupta, UYSM, AVSM, YSM, VSM (Retd)

2.6	1600-1700	<b>Venue: Zorawar Session 28</b>  Session by: National Maritime Foundation- NMF	<b>Venue: Ashoka Session 29</b>  Theme: India's Aviation Pioneer  <b># 1:</b> Stephen Barker <i>Lion of the Skies: Hardit Singh Malik, the Royal Air Force and the First World War</i> , HarperCollins India, 2021  <b>Moderator:</b> KS.Nair <i>The Forgotten Few: The Indian Air Force in World War 2</i> , HarperCollins India, 2019	<b>Venue: Exhibition Hall Session 30</b>  Theme: WW2  <b># 1:</b> Dr Robert Lyman <i>A War of Empires: Japan, India, Burma &amp; Britain: 1941-45</i> , Osprey Publishing, 2021  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr Alan Jeffreys
		1700-1715	<b>Turn Over time</b>	
2.7	1715-1915	SS-4 <b>Venue: Zorawar</b> <b>Closing Ceremony / Cultural Gala Evening</b> Welcome of the guests by DG, USI (1715- 1720) Band Display by Air Force and Navy Symphony Band (1720-1800) <b>Address by the Chief Guest: Gen Anil Chauhan, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, Chief of Defence Staff (1800- 1810)</b> Cultural Gala Evening (1810-1900) Vote of Thanks and felicitation of the artists		