

**‘Brahmavadini IKSC’s “Navam Pushpa”:
National E-Seminar Celebrates India’s Rich Textile Heritage (29th August 2026)**

The ‘Brahmavadini’ Indian Knowledge System Centre (IKSC), Bhagini Nivedita College, University of Delhi, organised a National E-Seminar on “Traditional Indian Textiles: A Rich Heritage” as the Ninth Lecture in its Lecture Series, symbolically celebrated as the “Ninth Flower” (Navam Pushpa) of the series. The seminar was conducted online through Google Meet.

The programme was chaired by Prof. Ruby Mishra, Principal, Bhagini Nivedita College. The event was coordinated by Prof. Sushma Rana and Prof. Rachna Mohan, who delivered the opening remarks and introduced the theme of the seminar.

The distinguished speaker for the session was Dr. Anamika Pathak, Former Curator, Decorative Arts and Textiles Department, National Museum, New Delhi. Drawing upon her extensive expertise in Indian textiles, Dr. Pathak delivered an insightful lecture highlighting the extraordinary diversity, craftsmanship and historical richness of India’s textile traditions.

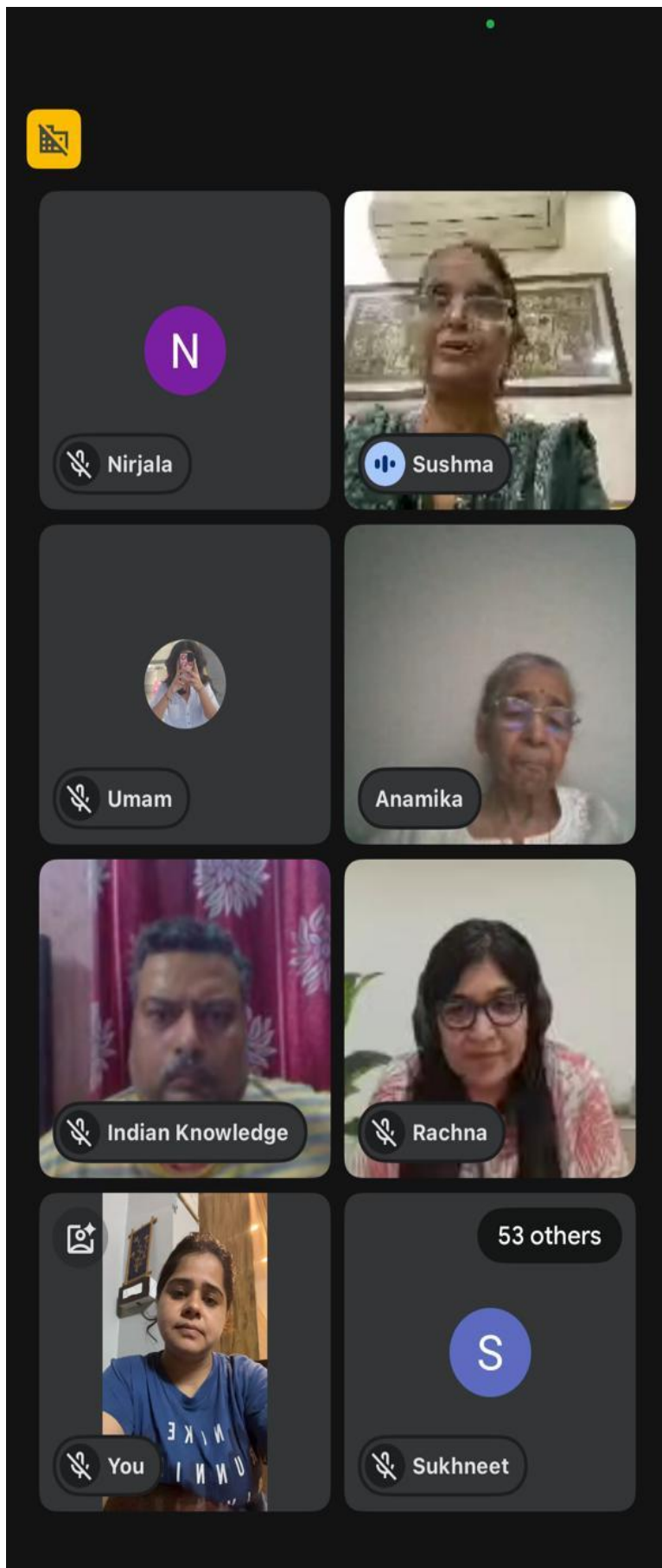
Her lecture explored traditional weaving practices, textile craftsmanship and indigenous knowledge systems that have been preserved and transmitted across generations. The session highlighted that Indian textiles are much more than articles of clothing; they are living expressions of India’s cultural memory, artistic traditions, community knowledge and regional identities.

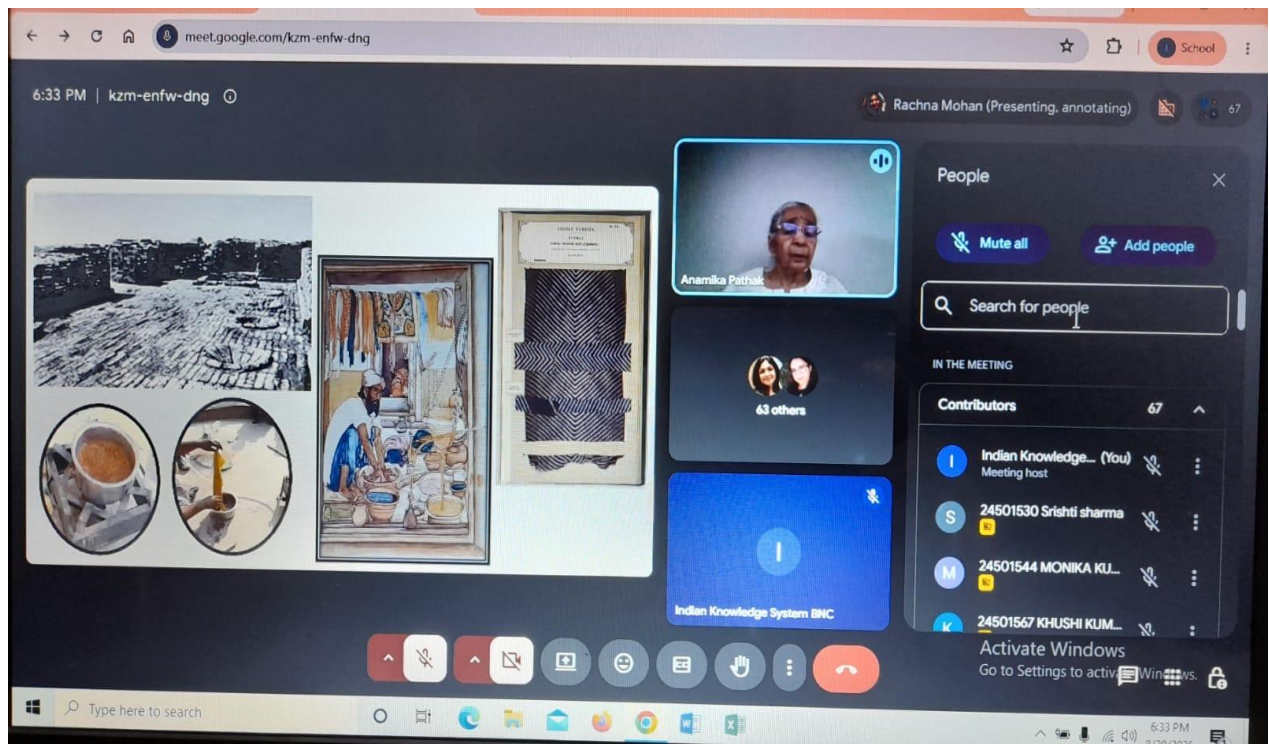
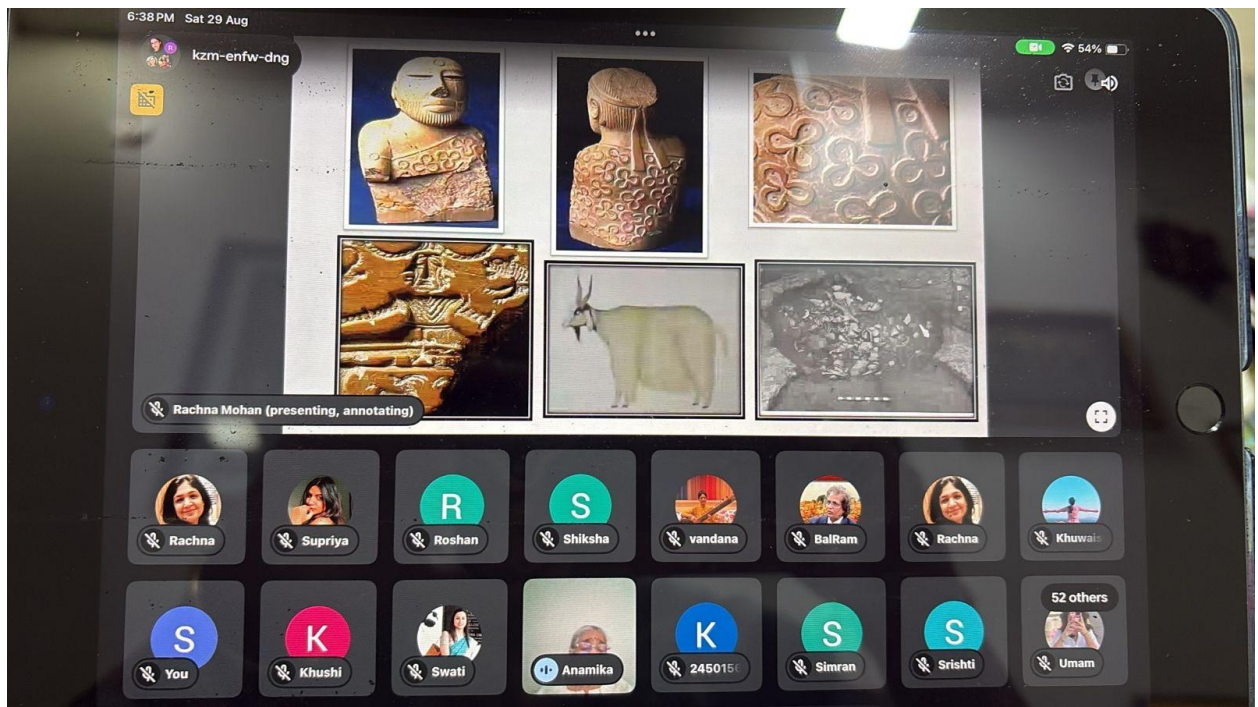
The discussion covered diverse dimensions of India’s textile heritage, including Khadi-Khaddar, hand-spinning and hand-weaving, natural dyes, wool, embroidery, Jamdani, block printing and other indigenous textile traditions. The significant role of artisans, locally available resources, traditional skills and sustainable production practices was also highlighted.

Dr. Pathak emphasised the need to preserve, document and transmit India’s traditional textile knowledge to future generations. She also connected traditional textile practices with contemporary concerns such as sustainability, responsible consumption, preservation of indigenous skills, and greater recognition and empowerment of traditional artisans.

The Ninth Lecture or “Navam Pushpa” of the ‘Brahmavadini’ IKSC Lecture Series thus provided an enriching academic platform for understanding India’s rich textile heritage and recognising traditional knowledge as an integral part of the country’s cultural and intellectual legacy.

E-certificates were issued to participants who completed the feedback form. The Organising Committee comprised Dr. Seema Gupta, Dr. Ashutosh Kumar, Ms. Anju and Mr. Sanjay Kumar Tiwari, whose dedicated efforts contributed to the successful conduct of the seminar.





Series of exhibitions from 1851 onwards

First exhibition after Independence was sent to London in 1947-48.

Wedding gift exhibition at Buckingham Palace, Britain, 2007
Mahatma Gandhi's gift of cloth woven from yarn specially spun for the then Princess Elizabeth II
Bearing the name **Jai Hind**.
On the 60th anniversary of India's independence, which coincides with Elizabeth and Philip's wedding anniversary.

October 2022 exhibition by NIFT
Khadi:
The Fabric of Freedom,
The Language of Fashion

Rachna Mohan (presenting, anno

N

Nirjala

A

Anita

p

You

58 others

Anamika

Guy

Migration of artisans

Rachna Mohan (presenting, anno

N

Nirjala

Anamika

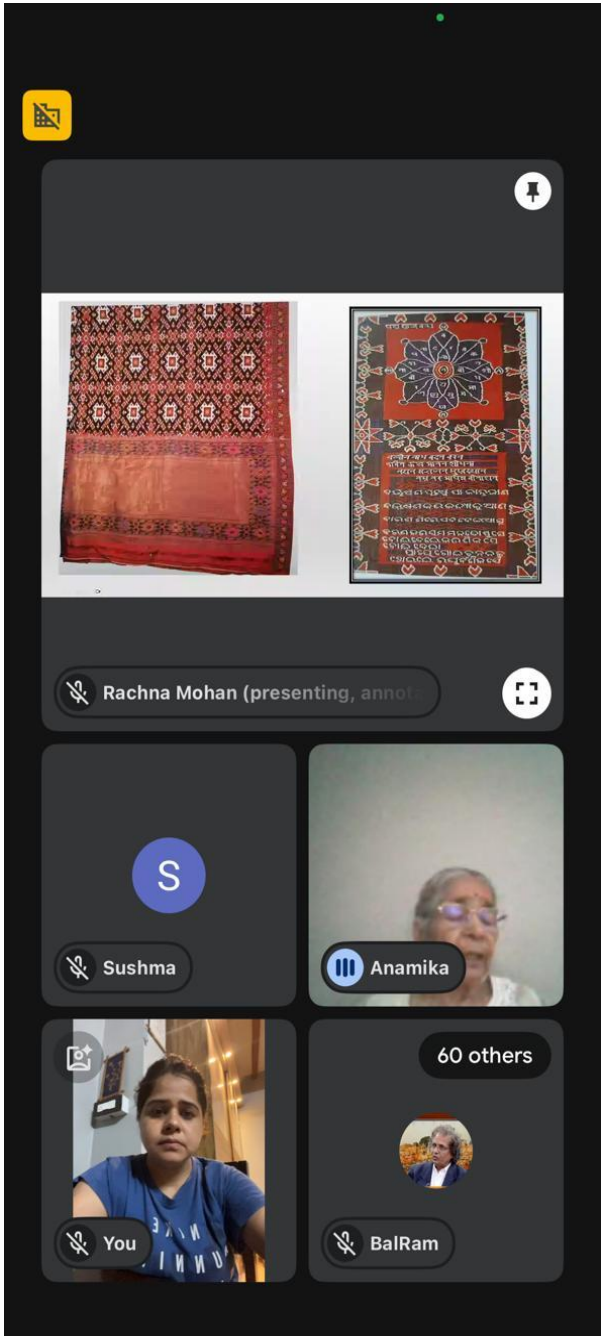
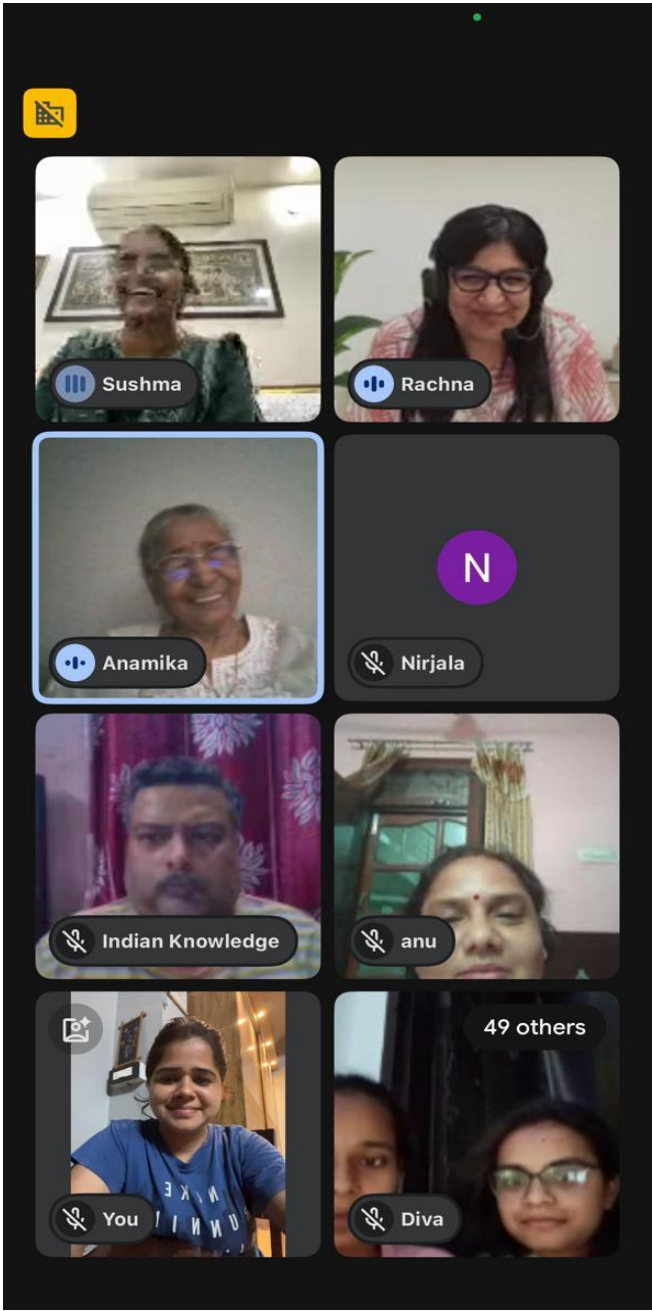
58 others

S

Sushma

p

You









Rachna Mohan (presenting, annota

Nirjala

Anamika

59 others

Sushma

You



Khadi-khaddar

- Hand-spun and hand- woven cloth in its present context and meaning from 1920 onwards.
- tradition and know-how never lost
- Usually made of cotton, it can also be blended with some wool, silk or linen.
- Eco-friendly, biodegradable, breathable, suitable



Several participants joined the meeting

Komal

Chanchal

58 others

People's participation

- Kala-Raksha- Judy Frater -embroidery
- Avani-kumaon-Natural Dyeing
- Desi-oon-hub.org- sheep wool
- Himalayan Gaddi Thread- wool
- Rumals of Chamba-Kullu, by Dr Rohini Arora
- Jamdani weaving – Bishnupur, by Vishal Shah
- Marwar Block printing- Madan Meena
- Anveshanam Foundation-upcycling

Rachna Mohan (presenting, annota

Nirjala

Umam

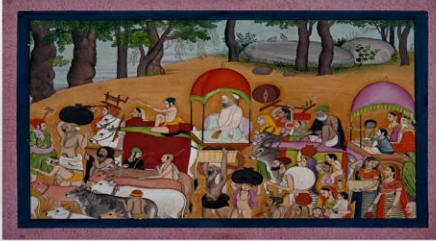
58 others

Anamika

You



Migration of artisans



 Rachna Mohan (presenting, annotating) 



 Nirjala



 You



 Anamika

58 others



 Sushma



Swadeshi Movement

- Ganesh Vasudev Joshi (1828-1880) of Pune, popularly known as Saravajanik Kaka, use to spin yarn daily to prepare his own dhoti, shirt and turban.
- He started emporia at several places to popularize indigenously manufactured goods and in **Delhi Darbar in 1877 he was present with the dress of pure self-spun khadi.**
- **Boycotting** foreign cloth around 1918-1920, by nationalist politicians and Indian mill owners
- **First Swadeshi Industries exhibition with Khadi** and village December 1924 to April 1925
- Featured khadi, spinning wheels, and village crafts, highlighting the vision of economic self-reliance.
- Wearing khadi was both a **political statement** and a social reform, encouraging rural employment and unity across classes.

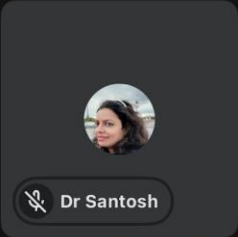
 Rachna Mohan (presenting, annotating) 



 24501567



 You



 Dr Santosh

59 others

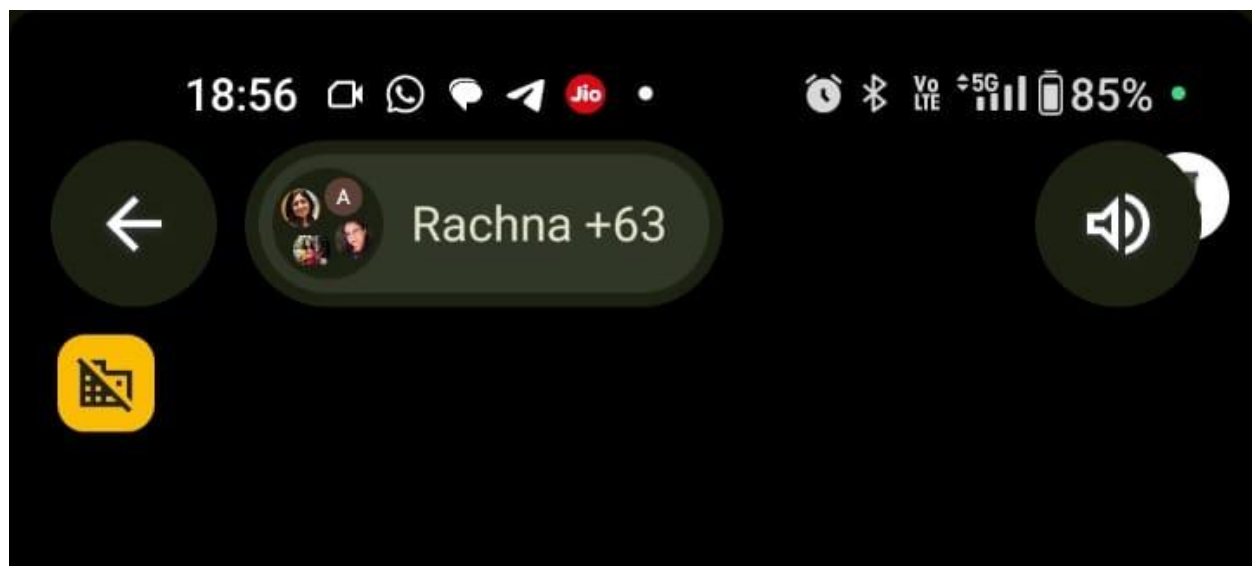


 Anamika



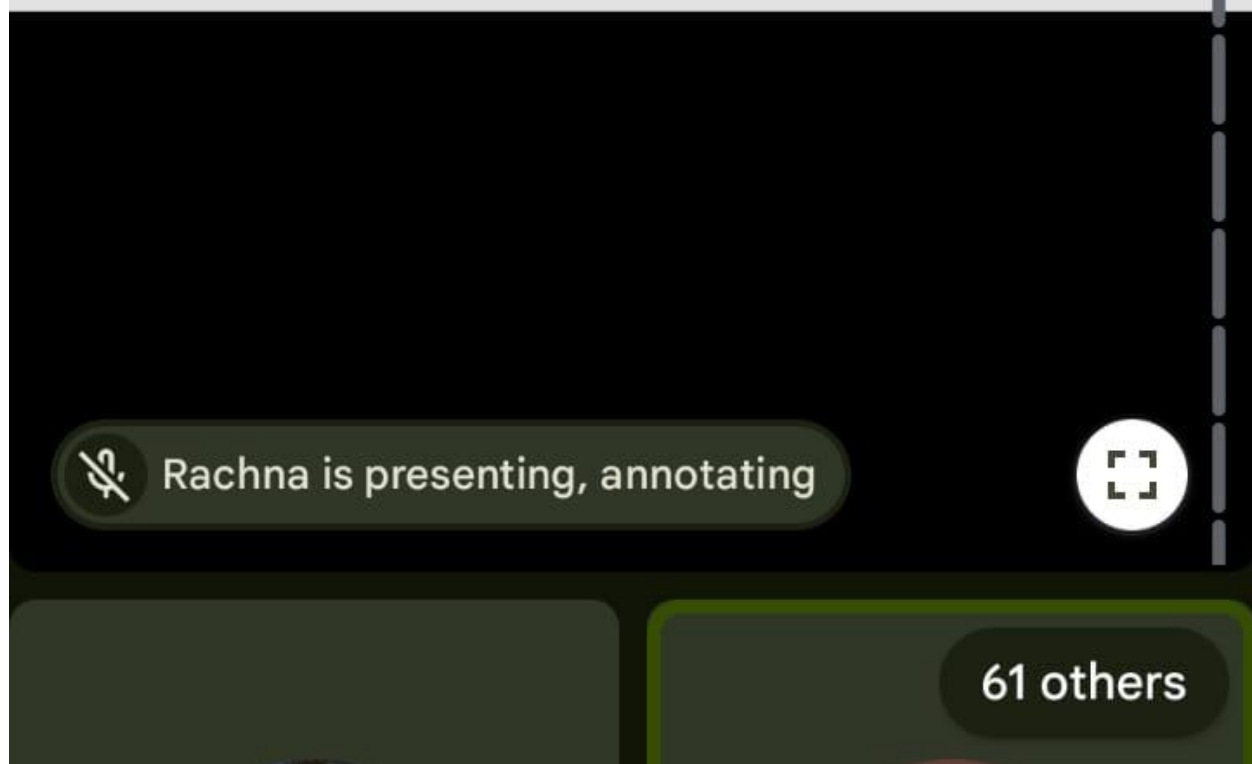
- Khadi is the symbol of self-reliance
- The khadi method is a new method of economics as non-violence is a new method in politics.
- Gandhi ji's wrote in Young India, 'the revival of hand-spinning and hand-weaving will make the largest contribution to the economic and moral regeneration of India'.
- Community involvement, spinner, weaver, dyers, carpenter, blacksmith etc.





Swadeshi Movement

- Ganesh Vasudev Joshi (1828-1880) of Pune, popularly known as Saravajanik Kaka, used to spin yarn daily to prepare his own dhoti, shirt and turban.
- He started emporia at several places to popularize indigenously manufactured goods and in **Delhi Durbar in 1877 he was present with the dress of pure self-spun khadi.**
- **Boycotting** foreign cloth around 1918-1920, by nationalist politicians and Indian mill owners
- **First Swadeshi Industries exhibition with Khadi** and village December 1924 to April 1925
- Featured khadi, spinning wheels, and village crafts, highlighting the vision of economic self-reliance.
- Wearing khadi was both a **political statement** and a social reform, encouraging rural employment and unity across classes.



meet.google.com/kzm-enfw-dng

6:33 PM | kzm-enfw-dng

Rachna Mohan (Presenting, annotating)

67



Anamika Pattnaik

63 others

Indian Knowledge System BNC

People

Mute all Add people

Search for people

IN THE MEETING

Contributors 67

I Indian Knowledge... (You) Meeting host

S 24501530 Srihti sharma

M 24501544 MONIKA KUL...

K 24501567 KHUSHI KUM...

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Windows.

Microphone

Video

Chat

Help

More

Phone

Type here to search

6:33 PM 8/29/2024

18:30

VoLTE 5G 78%



Rachna +60



History Archaeology (Pre- history and history)

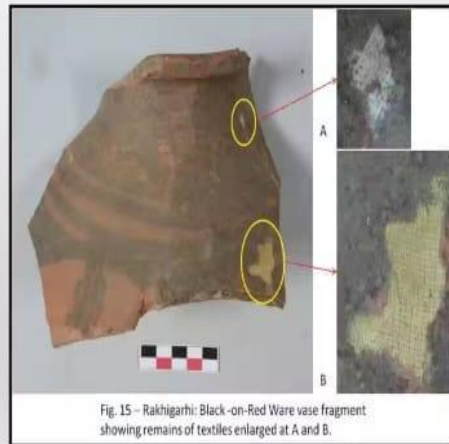


Fig. 15 – Rakhigarhi: Black-on-Red Ware vase fragment showing remains of textiles enlarged at A and B.



Rachna is presenting, annotating



58 others

