

## JAISLAMER AND JODHPUR TRIP OF ALUMNI OF IIT KANPUR OUTER DELHI CHAPTER MARCH 2012

Six members of Alumni Association IIT Kanpur Outer Delhi Chapter namely, Anurag Goel, Ajit Kumar, Shashi Kant Agarwal, Sudhir Mohan Mittal, Satya N Zindal, Pravin Kumar along with their spouses, boarded overnight train from Delhi and reached Jaisalmer on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2012. A 14 seater Tempo Traveller picked them from Jaisalmer Railway Station and was at their disposal for five days.

In Jaisalmer, it was a royal stay at heritage hotel, Jawahar Niwas Palace, the palace of erstwhile Raja Maharawal Jawahar Singh. Jaisalmer is a city of fort and Havelis. The group covered all the places of tourist attraction, namely, Jaisalmer Fort, Patwon Ki Haveli, Salimji Kii Haveli, Nathmalji ki Haveli, Gadisar Lake, Tazia Tower, Empty Village, Wood Fossil Park, Jain Temples and large number of Cenotaphs. In Rajputana royalties, it is customary to make a *CENOTAPH* of the king at the place of his cremation. We also enjoyed Puppet Show at Cultural Center.

The entire group on top of the Jaisalmer fort:



L to R Anita, Pravin, Asha, Sudhir, Deepti, Ajit, Anurag, Shashi Kant, Anita, Neera, Satya and Chetna.

Camel Ride and Buggy Ride on the Sand dunes were an experience for all. We stayed in the Camp second night near sand dunes, and enjoyed traditional Rajasthani Dance and Dinner.

On the third day, we went to Tanot Mata temple, 120 km east of Jaisalmer, almost at Pak Border. During 1965 Pak war, shells falling in this temple campus did not explode. Tanot Mata protected the people. Now BSF has made a very good temple. The entire 120 km ride is through Thar desert – absolutely barren and hostile environment.

Jaisalmer has wood fossils more than 10 million years old, from Dinosaur period. It also has an Empty Village – which was emptied overnight by its 80 inmates out of fear of cast war.

On the way to Jodhpur, we took a detour to visit very famous Ramdevra Temple, Pokharan (famous for its nuclear explosion) and finally to a temple in Osian before reaching Jodhpur. This temple has 125 steps leading to the deity.

Mandore Fort in Jodhpur was wonderful place with very friendly and disciplined *Langurs* (black faced monkeys). The fort has exquisite Zanaana Khana and houses Cenotaph of many Maharajas.

On the last day we visited Ummaid Singh Palace and the Mehrangarh Fort, followed by Cenotaph of Maharaja Jaswant Singhji called Jaswant Thada.

The trip was wonderful, travelling was fun, full of Antakshari, songs, jokes and anecdotes. It created new bonds amongst the alumni. Overall, everybody enjoyed the visit.

More details and pictures are available at the Chapter website.

[www.iitkalumniassocitionouterdelhi.in](http://www.iitkalumniassocitionouterdelhi.in)

Anurag Goel, B.Tech. (IIT/K-1971)  
President, Alumni Association I.I.T. Kanpur Outer Delhi Chapter  
([www.iitkalumniassocitionouterdelhi.in](http://www.iitkalumniassocitionouterdelhi.in))  
Corporate Consultant for Innovation & Growth  
P2/22, Block 15, Kailash Dham, Plot E 1, Sector 50, NOIDA  
9810313145, 0120-2572319  
[anuraggoel\\_iitk@yahoo.co.in](mailto:anuraggoel_iitk@yahoo.co.in), [anuraggoel.iitk@gmail.com](mailto:anuraggoel.iitk@gmail.com)