



Confluence

Launching 21.03.2021

A Virtual Exhibition

Confluence captures Mumbai's multifaceted relationship with water from the Mithi River to the shores of the Arabian Sea, from wells and tanks governed by cultural practices to the fishing communities of Mumbai struggling to retain their livelihoods, from the tanker economy servicing high-rise apartments to the everyday water vulnerabilities faced by informal settlements dotting the cityscape. In a year marked by a global pandemic, more than 30 professionals - artists, conservation architects, photographers, designers, social scientists and urban planners - came together to launch the Mumbai Water Narratives. They documented Mumbai's water journey from heritage to public health, through storytelling, new media design, digital technology and the arts, seeking to engage our youth as future water keepers. Confluence, their first virtual exhibition, is supported by the Living Waters Museum, a member of the Global Network of Water Museums, endorsed by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Hydrological Program as a special initiative to address Sustainable Development Goal 6 on Water through public education.

To mark one year since the Covid-19 lockdown in India and to celebrate World Water Day, we invite you to join us for an exciting launch week with talks, curated walks, films, music and conversations on Mumbai's water challenges from March 21st, 2021.



Confluence | Galleries



Photo credit: Mohammed Esa Shaikh

Water and Built Heritage

Where does our water come from? For an urban child in Mumbai, the journey that water has traveled over time from sacred tanks and wells to public fountains and piped water sources is relatively unknown. But Mumbai has a rich history of built heritage that has catered to dispensing water, holding and transporting water, and edifying these processes in its built form.

Water and Culture

Rituals and practices, festivals and leisure – our cultural associations with water are so embedded in our daily life and work that they often escape our notice. Water, one of the five elements of nature, is perhaps the most mysterious of them all and the most revered in various cultures for its sacred values – whether it be through the holiness of wells, or the shared waters of a religious tank.



Photo credit: Prateek Chorge

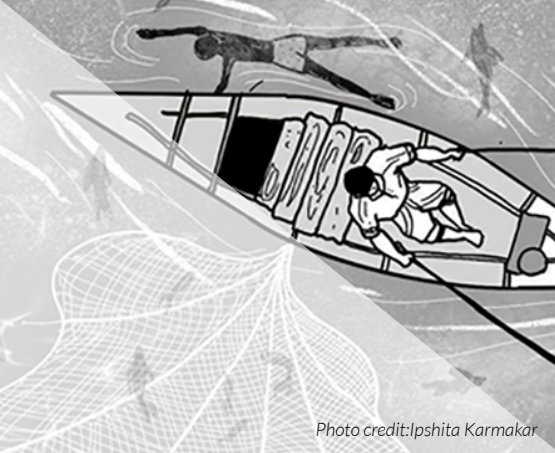


Photo credit: Ipshita Karmakar

Water and Livelihoods

How does water seep through the spirit of Mumbai's economic engine? This gallery expands on the various stakeholders that depend on Mumbai's riverine, estuarine, and still water systems, and the interconnected economies and livelihoods sustained by water.

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Saline Waters

Being an island city, Mumbai's inhabitants - from citizens to coastal wildlife - have sustained a long standing relationship with the sea. This gallery lets you explore the city's seashore habitats and its myriad of marine creatures, and expands on the challenges that rising sea levels, coastal development and pollution pose to marine ecosystems and livelihoods - especially those of the Koli fisherfolk, Mumbai's earliest inhabitants



Photo credit: Sarang Naik

Water and Equity

Access to water in the city is often contested on the grounds of community, caste, gender and legal status. Who can be called a resident of Mumbai and by that definition, legitimately access water? Why is it that while the city remains flooded in the monsoons, the water in our taps is reduced to a trickle for barely a few hours a day? This gallery traces the history of collective action on the right to water in Mumbai.



Photo credit: Prachi Adesara

Water and Public Health

The history of public health in Mumbai is closely intertwined with access to clean water and sanitation. The Covid-19 pandemic with its messaging on handwashing and sanitizing, brought to the fore the need to re-examine our public infrastructure, particularly in low-income neighbourhoods vulnerable to water insecurity.



Photo credit: Wellcome Foundation

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