

World Asia-Pacific Regional Register

Why In News

- **Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayaloka-Locana** have been named to UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register. This is a significant achievement for India as it has been recognized for its rich literary heritage and cultural legacy. The inclusion of these **three literary masterpieces** on the register highlights the importance of recognizing and safeguarding the diverse narratives and artistic expressions that shape our shared humanity.



All You Need To Know

- **Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayaloka-Locana** are timeless works that have had a profound impact on Indian literature and culture. These literary works have transcended time and place, leaving an indelible mark on readers and artists both within and outside India.



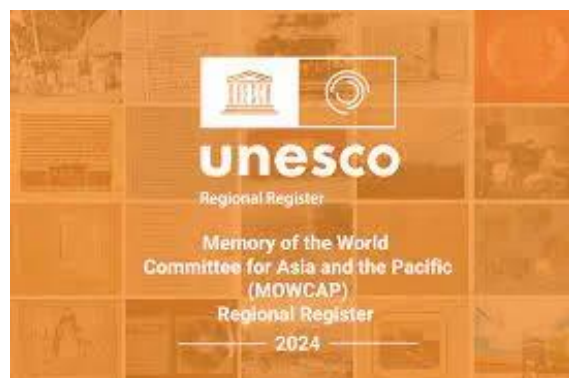
- They are sure to continue to inspire and enlighten future generations.
- The inclusion of **these three works on the register** is a testament to the efforts of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) in promoting and preserving India's cultural heritage.



- IGNCA played a vital role in securing this historic moment during the 10th meeting of the **Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP)** in Ulaanbaatar, 38 representatives from member states, along with 40 observers and nominees, gathered to discuss the nominations.

MoWCAP

- MoW (Memory of the World) Program was launched by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural **Organization (UNESCO) in 1992**.
- **MOWCAP was set up in 1998** during its First MOWCAP General Meeting.
- MOWCAP embraces the Asia **Pacific region of 43 countries** – one of five UNESCO regions across the globe.

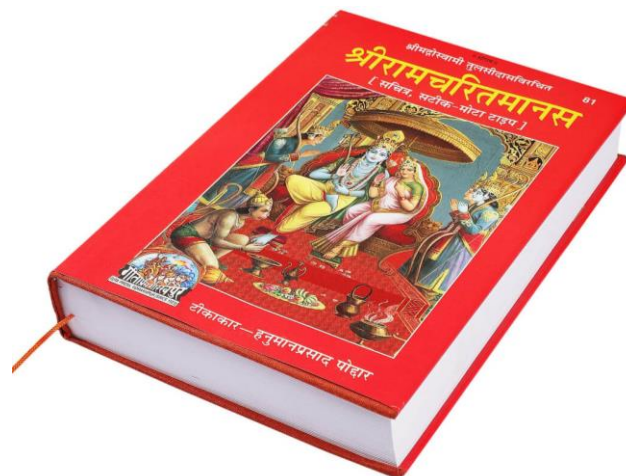


- MOWCAP maintains an Asia/Pacific Regional Register of the MoW documentary heritage, a listing of the documentary heritage of influence in the Asia/Pacific region.
- **MOWCAP is the authority** that approves inscriptions on the Asia/Pacific MoW Register. It assesses nominations from members through its Asia/Pacific Register Subcommittee.
- Normally, inscriptions on the Asia/Pacific Register are made every two years.



Ramcharitmanas

- Authored by **16th century Indian poet Goswami Tulsidas**, 'Ramcharitmanas' is an epic poem that narrates the life of Lord Rama.
- It is based on the Sanskrit epic Ramayana and is written in the Awadhi dialect of Hindi.

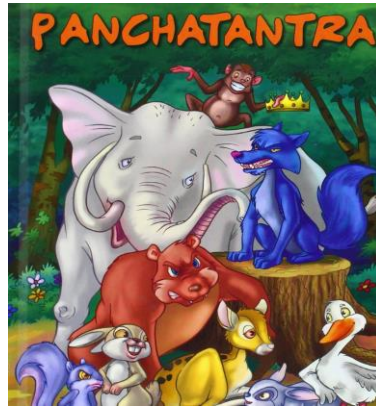


- The choice to write in **Awadhi reflects the Bhakti movement's** emphasis on devotion and the effort to make religious texts accessible to a wider audience.

- The poem is divided into **seven chapters**, or Kandas, that tell the story of Lord Ram from his birth to becoming the King of Ayodhya.
- The poem is also called **Tulsikrit Ramayan** (literally, The Ramayan composed by Tulsī or, loosely, The Ramayan of Tulsidas). Hanuman Chalisa is a combination of 40 verses from the same epic.

Panchatantra

- The Panchatantra is a collection of **ancient Indian animal fables** that dates back to at least the 3rd century BCE.
- Originally written in **Sanskrit by Vishnu Sharma**.
- Its stories are crafted as simple yet vibrant narratives that aim to impart practical life lessons through the interactions of anthropomorphized animals.



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Sahrdyaloka-Locana

- **Sahrdyaloka-Locana** is a **Sanskrit** treatise on poetics written by Jagannatha Paṇḍitaraja in the 17th century.
- It is considered one of the most important works of Sanskrit literary criticism.
- The text discusses the concept of “**Sahrdaya**”, which refers to a sensitive or discerning reader or critic.



Other Listings From India In MOW Register

- The I.A.S. Tamil Medical Manuscript Collection (1997)
- Archives of the Dutch East India Company (2003)
- Saiva Manuscript in Pondicherry (2005)
- Rigveda (2007)
- Iaghukālacakratantrarājatikā (Vimalaprabhā) (2011)
- Tarikh-E-Khandan-E-Timuriyah (2011)
- Shāntinātha Charitra (2013)
- Gilgit Manuscript (2017)
- Maitreyayvarakarana (2017)

Conclusion

- It is a significant achievement for India, as it has been recognized for its rich **literary heritage** and cultural legacy.
- The inclusion of these three literary masterpieces on the register highlights the importance of recognizing and safeguarding the diverse narratives and artistic expressions that shape our shared humanity.



Congratulations
INDIA

*The Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and
Sahydayāloka-Locana included in
UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific
Regional Register*

