



IIT Bhubaneswar Students Experience Stories Of Ancient Odisha At Cave Trails



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Bhubaneswar: The extended golden hour and a little drizzle was the perfect setup for a Saturday morning walk by 100 students from IIT Bhubaneswar through the Twin Hills of Khandagiri and Udayagiri.

These students along with walkers from around the country were fascinated to learn about the stories and legends of Emperor Kharavela. They were intrigued by how these hills have been in use for thousands of years and how the city of Bhubaneswar has grown around it from tiny hamlets to a cosmopolitan hub.

The students had a good time learning the history of these hills and the stories of these caves as it was something different from their regular daily schedule. The IITs attract the best minds from around the country and for them to experience the heritage and culture of a new place is an enriching experience.

The cave trails began at the foothill of Udayagiri which translates to the sunrise hill. It proceeded through the Rani Gumpha and went around the hill. The engraved panels of Rani Gumpha give a glimpse into the evolution of the art of stone craftsmen of the land of Kalinga. Also here we get to see the life and times of Emperor Kharavela. These caves and their histories are a testament to the religious tolerance practised millennia ago.

The lush greenery around the hills and the breathtaking view of the city from the top of the Udayagiri hill excited the students who joined the 82nd Cave Trail. The Heritage Walks taking place every weekend are an initiative to introduce people to the rich history and culture of Odisha to the world. These walks are curated to be fun and enlightening both for the young and old alike.