

TIMES OF INDIA

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The extreme heat of the last 10 days has not deterred organisations from making one last cultural fling at programmes before the summer sets in good and proper. In spite of the fact that the Gujarat SSC and HSC exams began on Monday, cultural aficionados thronged the five-day dance festival spread over the weekend and spilling into the exam week as well as the incomparable Birju Maharaj's programme organised by Spic Macay at New Era School on Sunday morning. The Handcrafted Textiles of Gujarat exhibition at the Baroda Museum has also been attracting a fair crowd every day. It closes on Sunday.

Prashant Sinha at Fine Arts



Illustration of Nyay Mandir by Prashant Sinha

Prashant Sinha is a young Masters (Illustration) student at the faculty of Fine Arts and has worked on illustrations of various facets of Baroda city,

most of them featuring heritage buildings of the city in the throng of bustling life around them. He has now put these together as an exhibition, 'Glimpses of Baroda 2004' which was inaugurated by Shrimant Ranjitsingh Gaekwad on March 17 at the Fine Arts faculty exhibition hall. The exhibition will continue till the 19th. In addition to the illustrations of places and people, Sinha is also exhibiting his cartoons at the show.

Kavan Shukla at Sarjan

When the painter K G Subramanyan visited the studio of Kavan Shukla, a hearing impaired young man in Baroda, he was impressed with his draw-

JOJO'S JOTTINGS

ings and paintings that had a "pronounced sense of design". Kavan suffered from hydrocephalus at birth that caused him to lose his power of hearing and speech. He refused to go to school as a child since he fell and hurt himself on the same spot where he had been operated upon. His latent talent was spotted by Damodar Gajjar who decided to support him and encourage and nurture his interest in drawing and painting.

A few years later Shukla suffered from a stroke which paralysed the right side of his body. This was a major setback as he could not use his right hand. However with Gajjar's help and extensive physiotherapy, he began painting again with his left hand. He now paints at least four hours a day, using pencils, pens and pastels. Though he cannot move his hand quite freely