

The image shows a close-up of a painting on a textured, light-brown surface, possibly a wall or canvas. The painting is heavily deteriorated, with large areas of discoloration and dark, fuzzy patches of mold or microbial growth. The text 'Microbial Deterioration of Paintings : A Review' is overlaid in red, slanted font across the upper portion of the image. The left edge shows a dark, possibly black, binding or frame.

**Microbial
Deterioration
of Paintings : A Review**

**O. P. Agrawal
Shashi Dhawan
K. L. Garg**

PREFACE

Paintings of all types including wall paintings form an important part of nation's cultural heritage. It is well-known that the paintings because of their complex structure are easily affected by different types of deterioration including deterioration by micro-organisms. In order to deal with the entire panorama of study, examination and conservation of wall paintings a major project – the National Project on Wall Paintings has been undertaken jointly by the National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property, Intach Conservation Centre and several State Departments of Archaeology. An important activity under this project is to bring out literature on the subject of deterioration of paintings, case studies of conservation and similar related problems.

The present publication – “Microbial Deterioration of Paintings: A Review” is the first of its type in this area. It gives the present status of knowledge on the subject. This will form the basis for further research. It is being brought out in a printed form in the hope that it would be useful to the other research workers as well.

The Review has been prepared by scanning the publications which have come to our notice. It is quite likely that there are other publications dealing with the subject. Eventually we hope to scan them also and to publish the results in future.

*O. P. Agrawal
Shashi Dhawan
K. L. Garg*

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