

Conservation of collection at Museum of Christian Art, Goa: Museum of Christian Art (MOCA), Convent of Santa Monica, in Old Goa was founded under the guidance of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon and Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH). This museum was inaugurated by the President of India, Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma on January 23, 1994 during the 7th International Seminar on Indo-Portuguese History and houses some rare Indo-Portuguese artefacts.

In 2014, INTACH undertook the condition assessment of the objects of Museum collection and prepared a Detailed Project Report (DPR), which was submitted by the Museum authorities to the Ministry of Culture for a grant. The museum received funds from the Ministry, following which an MOU was signed between INTACH and MOCA for conservation of the collection. The rare and exquisite collection includes polychrome wooden sculptures and objects, ivory sculptures, richly embroidered textiles, precious metals as well as stone objects.

A team of conservators from ICI Delhi commenced the conservation project in June 2018. The first phase included setting up the lab space and building up the local conservation team with the support of



Documentation of condition of objects

MOCA. Turn tables, table stands and adjustable wooden cradles were designed and made for the lab. Conservation material, tools and other equipment were procured locally.

The conservation work started from July 2018 and the entire work was completed in April 2019.



Examination of object



Cleaning of ivory objects



Wooden object (before and after conservation)



Infant Jesus savior of the world; object before and after conservation