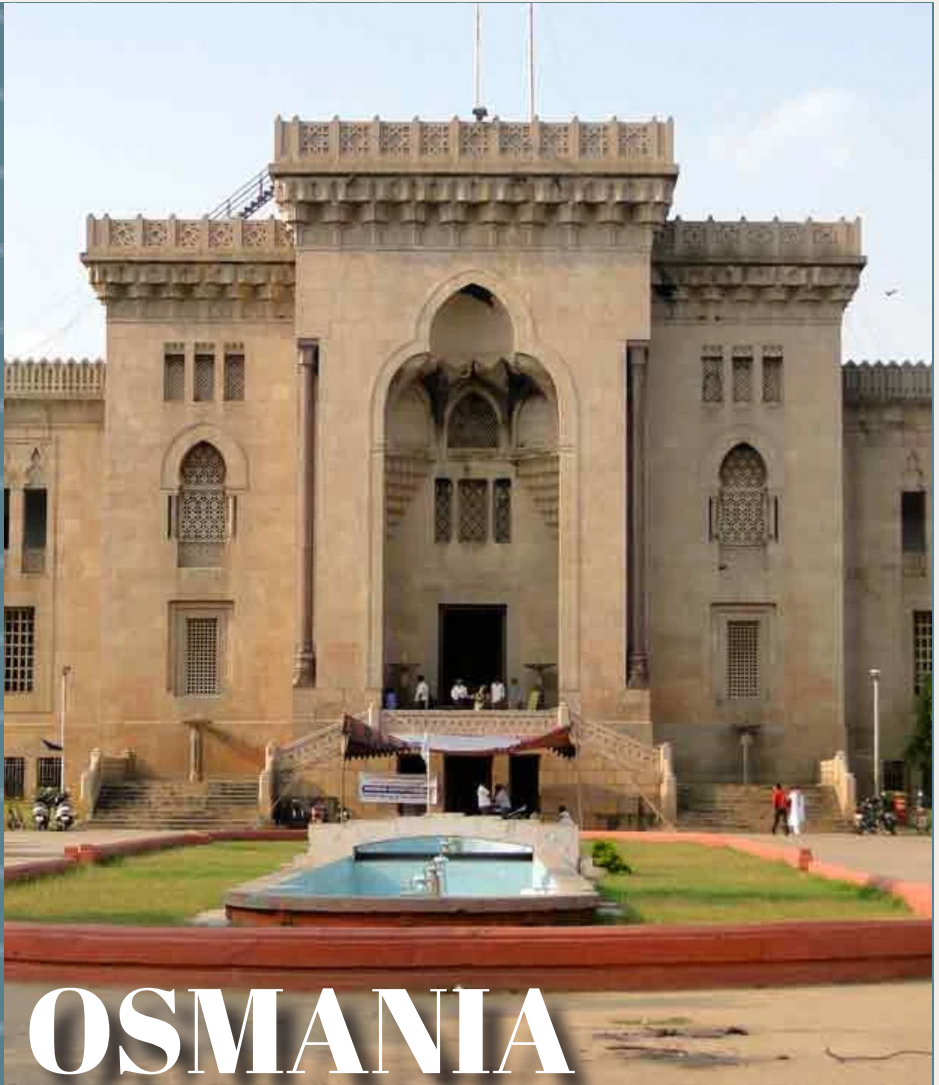


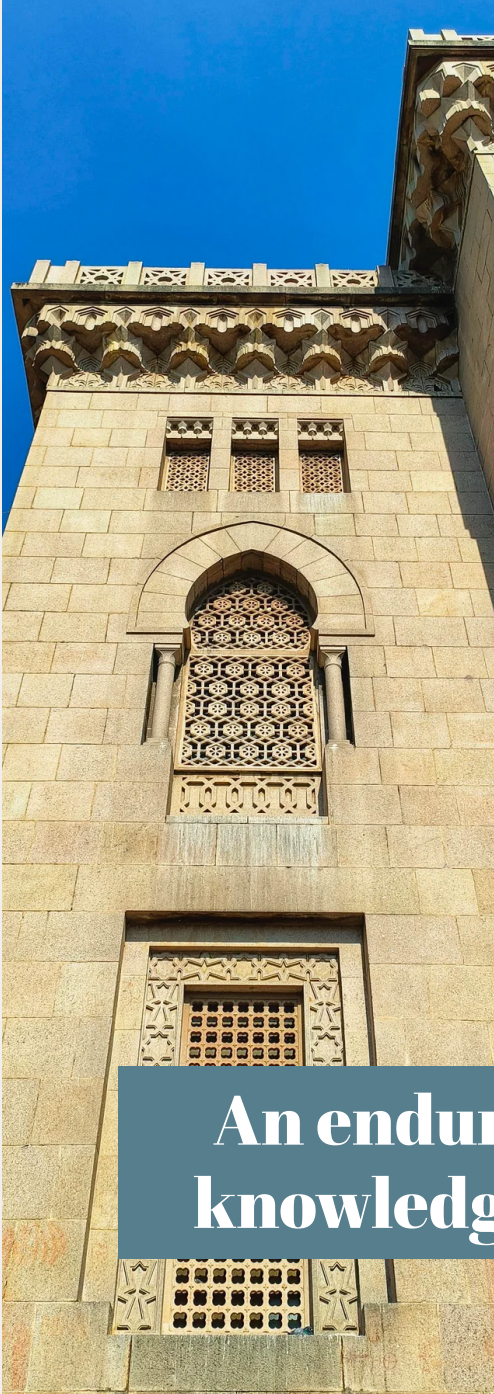


# OSMANIA UNIVERSITY HERITAGE STRUCTURES HERITAGE PARTNER SCHEME

Osmania University was set up by Nizam VII, Osman Ali Khan in 1918. It is known to be the It is the third oldest university in southern India, the first to be established in Hyderabad and the first Indian university to use Urdu as a language of instruction.

The university began functioning in 1918 in a building adjacent to the Nizam College, where arts and theology were the only two faculties offered, and the first batch consisted of 225 students and 25 faculty members.





# About the University

The design of the iconic Arts College is inspired by Mamluk architecture of Cairo. Various other significant buildings have been constructed in the campus, which was originally spread over 1600 acres.

Other buildings of significance include the Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology colleges, as well as the Hostels.

Ornamental details such as carved motifs, jali screens, and decorative cornices add a subtle elegance, reflecting the fusion of Islamic, Persian, and local Deccan aesthetics.

**An enduring symbol of  
knowledge and history.**

# The OSMANIA UNIVERSITY



Several historic structures remain underutilized or vacant, leading to neglect, accelerated decay, and loss of functional relevance. The absence of heritage interpretation limits awareness of the campus's architectural and historical significance. Dense tree cover reduces visibility of key academic blocks, while closed buildings create inactive edges and dead zones that affect safety and campus vibrancy. Newer constructions lack visual and spatial integration with historic structures.

The Osmania University Library is one of the oldest academic libraries in South India and plays a crucial role in the intellectual life of the university.



Hostel Blocks A and B are abandoned and in poor condition, with significant deterioration and loss of architectural clarity due to neglect. Hostel Blocks D and E are still in use, but suffer from inadequate maintenance.



These hostels feature long linear corridors, repetitive student rooms, high ceilings, arched openings, and internal courtyards. Verandahs and spaces encouraged social interaction, making the hostels important spaces for students.



# Reimagining a Historic Site: Future possibilities



The proposal envisions Osmania University as a living heritage campus, where conservation and academic excellence coexist with vibrant public engagement. By restoring historic buildings and adaptively reusing underutilized hostels and academic blocks for co-living, co-working, innovation hubs, and cultural spaces, the campus becomes a dynamic model of heritage-led urban development.

# Where History Meets Innovation



**Heritage Conservation & Restoration:** Conduct structural stabilization, façade restoration, and interior conservation for all heritage buildings.



**Adaptive Reuse of Hostel Blocks**  
Convert unused hostels into co-living, co-working, or student innovation hubs while maintaining their historic layout.

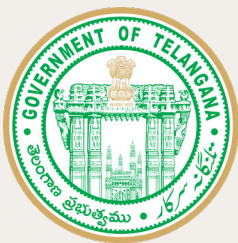
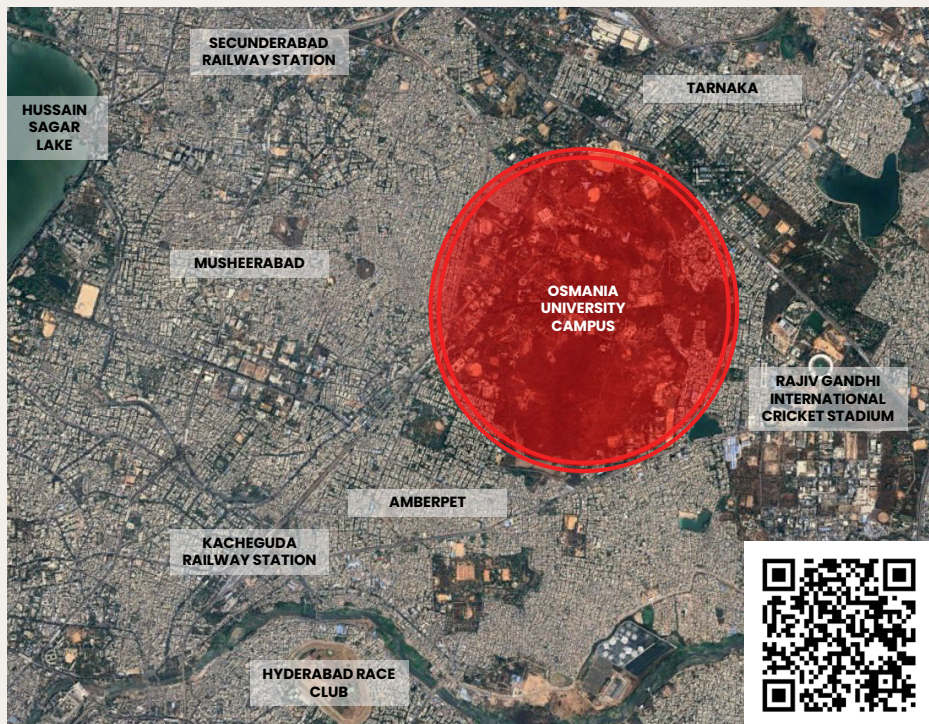


**Heritage & Community Engagement:** Transform portions of the campus into heritage-led public spaces, including: Open courtyards as lecture or seminar lawns.



**Campus streets and pathways** are redesigned with pedestrian-friendly layouts, heritage-inspired street furniture, seating pockets, shaded walkways, and wayfinding elements to enhance comfort and mobility for students.

*\* Ideas and AI-generated images are for conceptual reference only, Partners are encouraged to share alternate proposals and their vision for the site.*



Scan for  
details

The **Heritage Partner Scheme** seeks to form long-term partnerships to transform historic structures into active cultural spaces, and inspire a statewide culture of preservation, ensuring that our heritage sites are safeguarded for the next generations.