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1961 - 2021
Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams
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Sustainable Tourism and
Revival/ Preservation of Hill
Cultures and Ecology in
abandoned villages of
Uttarakhand: A pilot project

Funded by
National Mission Himalayan Studies
(NMHS)
Ministry of Environment, Forest &
Climate Change (MoEF&CC)

KHUNT, ALMORA

Building a home stay model for rural tourism



House 2 after renovation and painting with traditional arches on windows

Our homes are keepers of the past – of our culture and traditions.

As we teach new generations about the history of ourselves and our country, we are also mindful of our duty towards society, to preserve our heritage. With this in mind we began a pilot project to restore and renovate traditional houses in district Almora in Uttarakhand. With decreasing job opportunities and decline in traditional incomes, many villages in Almora district stand abandoned. With help from NMHS, we plan to transform these 'ghost' villages into 'homestay' villages, by promoting sustainable tourism and also generating a sustainable means of income for the locals. Our objective is the preservation of local cultures and traditions, both tangible and intangible, by transforming these houses into keepers of their glorious heritage.



(Clockwise from top):

1. Original state of House 1

2. House 1 after restoration and renovation. Special care was taken to preserve distinct architectural features on windows and doors

3. A sample room from House 1, to be used as a homestay.

4-8. *(Below)* Two Day Mushroom Cultivation Training cum Workshop, 14-15h March, 2021.

Our project looks at the village and its residents as a cohesive unit. We aim to hold regular workshops to introduce alternative means of livelihood to make reverse migration of residents feasible.

