

Day 8:

Day 8 was a terrific day. Today we were rafting to Kannauj, a town situated almost 80 km northwest of Kanpur. The town is known for its rich history. The early history of the region now covered by the present district of Kannauj goes back to remote antiquity. Numerous prehistoric weapons, tools and large numbers of stone statues are found here. The traditional history of the district from the earliest times till the end of The Mahabharata war is gleaned from the Puranas & Mahabharata.

We reached the Panchal Ghat, all ready and excited at 7 AM. We were received by Sh. Nagendra Singh Rathore, MLA, Bhojpur and Mr. Rajinder Pasia, CDO, Farrukhabad. Sh. Nagendra Singh Rathore, being the social worker he is, decided to join us in raising awareness by kayaking for a stretch of about 3 km. Ready to board the rafts and kayaks, we bid our farewell to the people who came to see us off. Kayaking is a little more complex as compared to rafting but to Sh. Nagendra Singh Rathore, it came naturally.

Scientists for CSIR-IITR also accompanied us on the expedition today. They tested the samples and explained what is the process of testing. During the interaction, they also explained what precautions we must take to lessen the contamination of Ganga

After about 3kms at a small ghat, we dropped Sh. Nagendra Singh Rathore and said our final goodbyes. We continued our journey and reached Kannauj at about 5 PM. There were hundreds of people who came to welcome us. They were shouting "Har Har Gange, Namami Gange.. Har Har Gange, Namami Gange." What we experienced at that moment was ecstatic. We were received by the authorities along with people from all walks of life. Today we decided to carry a plantation drive in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya. After the plantation drive, the students from Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya had planned a cultural event for us. Seeing those kids putting efforts together to organize the entire evening to help The Ganga Aamantran Rafting Expedition made us really happy.

After the cultural night, we discussed the rich history of Kanauj and its connection to Ganga with the students. The entire rafting team learned a lot of new facts about Kannauj today. It was getting late and we decided to call it a night. We thanked everyone who made time to be with us and moved towards our hotels, looking forward to another day of thrills, meeting new people and of course our beautiful mother Ganga.