

Emerging Perspectives of the Harappan Civilization An International Colloquium

Venue: Academic Block Auditorium 1/102, IIT Gandhinagar

— COLLOQUIUM PROGRAMME—

As per Indian Standard Time (IST), UTC +5:30

Day One – 10 February 2023

Registration 9.00-9.45 AM

1. Inaugural Session
10.00: Lighting the ceremonial lamp
10.03: Sarasvati Vandana
10.05: Welcome Address: Michel Danino
10.10: Introduction of ASC and ASI Archaeology Chair
by V.N. Prabhakar
10.18: Inauguration of ASI Archaeology Chair
10.20: Address by Director (IITGN)
10.30: Address by ADG, ASI
10.35: Address by Secretary Culture
10.45: Vote of thanks by Sharada C.V.

10.47-11.15 AM – High Tea

2. Keynote Address 11.15 AM-12.00 Noon
Harappan Civilization: Recent Perspectives, by P. Ajithprasad

Session ONE

The genesis of the Harappan / Indus / Indus-Sarasvati Civilization, terminologies

1. Ute Franke 12.00-12.20 PM
Online Sohr Damb/Nal: Perspectives on cultural development and change in the Central Indo-Iranian Borderland from the 4th through the mid-3rd millennium BCE
2. V.N. Prabhakar (*jointly with Shikha Rai, Vikrant Jain, and J.S Ray*) 12.20-12.40 PM
Offline Recent discovery of Shell Middens of the seventh millennium BP from Khadir Island and its implications

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| 3. | Rajesh S.V. (<i>jointly with Abhayan G.S., Francesco C. Conesa, Juan Jose Garcia-Granero, Subhash Bhandar, and Anil Chavan</i>)
12.40-1.00 PM
<i>Offline</i> | New insights from the Pre-Urban Harappan Cemetery at Juna Khatiya |
| 4. | Akinori Uesugi
1.00-1.20 PM
<i>Online</i> | Extensiveness, diversity and integration of the Indus urban society |

1.20-1.45 PM – Panel Discussion

1.45-2.30 PM – Lunch Break

Session TWO

The genesis of the Harappan / Indus / Indus-Sarasvati Civilization, terminologies

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| 5. | Adam S. Green
2.30-2.50 PM
<i>Online</i> | Two grand challenges for Indus archaeology |
| 6. | K. Krishnan
2.50-3.10 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Perceiving the Indus Civilization ceramic traditions differently |
| 7. | J. S. Kharakwal
3.10-3.30 PM
<i>Online</i> | The Aharians in the hinterland |

3.30 to 4.00 PM – Panel Discussion

4.00-4.20 PM – Tea Break

Session THREE

Bioarchaeological perspectives (floral, faunal, and other related studies)

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| 8. | Subhash R. Walimbe
4.20-4.40 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Physical anthropology of the Harappans: Status of research and prospects |
| 9. | Veena Mushrif-Tripathy
4.40-5.00 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Anthropological analysis on human skeletal remains from Rakhigarhi (1999-2000) |
| 10. | P.P. Joglekar
5.00-5.20 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Bioarchaeological perspective of Harappan archaeo-faunal record |
| 11. | Akshyeta Suryanarayan
5.20-5.40 PM
<i>Online</i> | Organic residues in pottery from the Indus Civilisation: Opportunities, challenges, and questions |
| 12. | Abhayan G.S. (<i>jointly with P.P. Joglekar, P Ajithprasad, Rajesh S.V., and J.S. Kharakwal</i>)
5.40-6.00 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Ichthyoarchaeological perspectives on the role of fish in Indus Civilization in Gujarat, India |

13. Arati Deshpande-Mukherjee (jointly with Anindya Sarkar, Torsa Sengupta, Ravi Bhushan, and R.S. Bisht) 6.00-6.20 PM
Offline Archaeomalacological investigations at Dholavira, an urban metropolis of the Indus Valley Civilization

6.20-6.50 PM – Panel Discussion

Day Two – 11 February 2023

Session FOUR

Trade contacts with other regions

14. Marta Ameri 9.30-9.50 AM
Online Visual Language in the miniature arts of the Harappan world
15. Brad Chase (jointly with Randall Law, P. Ajithprasad, Prabodh Shirvalkar, and Y.S. Rawat) 9.50-10.10 AM
Online Harappan steatite beads: A new methodology and preliminary results provide fresh insights into the creation and circulation of value in the Indus Civilization
16. S.K. Manjul 10.10-10.30 AM
Offline Recent excavations at Rakhigarhi
17. Prabodh Shirvalkar 10.30-10.50 AM
Online Role of small site in the larger complex Harappan economy
18. Dennys Frenez 10.50-11.10 AM
Online The Indus Civilization external trade: A coordinated supra-regional marketing strategy?

11.10-11.30 AM – Panel Discussion

11.30-11.50 AM – Tea Break

Session FIVE

Climate and environment

19. Kalyan Sekhar Chakraborty 11.50 AM-12.10 PM
Offline Does a single model fit all? Evaluating the environmental adaptational model to explain the decline of the Harappan Civilization
20. Ajit Singh 12.10-12.30 PM
Offline Palaeohydrology to assess the role of ephemeral rivers in sustenance of the Harappan civilization: Markanda River, NW Himalaya
21. Jennifer Bates 12.30-12.50 PM
Online The opportunities and challenges afforded by a diverse ecology, economy and society: The Indus as a unique region for agricultural experimentation

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| 22. | Yama Dixit
12.50-1.10 PM
Online | Reconstructing climates of the Harappan period: Insights from lakes in NW India |
| 23. | Cameron A. Petrie
1.10-1.30 PM
Online | Living in a heartland of villages: Climatic and landscape perspectives on the dynamic fluvial landscapes and settlement systems of the Indus Civilisation |

1.30-1.50 PM – Panel Discussion

1.50-2.50 PM – Lunch Break

Session SIX
Technology during the Harappan civilization

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| 24. | Jonathan Mark Kenoyer
2.50-3.10 PM
Online | Continuity and change in diagnostic Indus technologies: Evidence from Harappa, Pakistan. |
| 25. | Ravindra N. Singh <i>(jointly with Cameron A. Petrie)</i>
3.10-3.30 PM
Offline | Archaeometallurgical study from Khanak: Harappan Civilization site in Bhiwani, Haryana, India |
| 26. | Ambika Patel
3.30-3.50 PM
Online | Technology of Harappan/Chalcolithic copper from Gujarat: Reflections on composition & conservation |
| 27. | Gregg Jamison <i>(jointly with Akinori Uesugi)</i>
3.50-4.10 PM
Online | Diachronic perspectives on seal production technologies of the Indus tradition: New insights into organization, integration, and variation |

4.10-4.40 PM – Panel Discussion

4.40-5.00 PM – Tea Break

Session SEVEN
Technology during the Harappan civilization

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| 28. | K.K. Bhan
5.00-5.20 PM
Offline | Harappan shell production in Gujarat, Western India: Raw material, stockpiling, activity areas and workshops |
| 29. | Massimo Vidale
5.20-5.40 PM
Online | Preliminary information on an unreported hoard of copper and semiprecious stones objects from Mohenjo-Daro |
| 30. | Randall Law
5.40-6.00 PM
Online | An overview of Indus Civilization steatite acquisition and production |
| 31. | P. Ajithprasad
6.00-6.20 PM
Offline | Economic production, cultural, and food consumption practices of the Harappans: Views from Shikarpur, Gujarat |

6.20-6.50 PM – Panel Discussion

8.00 PM onwards – Gala Dinner

Day Three – 12 February 2023

Session EIGHT

Genetic studies of ancient South Asian populations

32. K. Thangaraj
9.30-9.50 AM
Offline
Origin of ancient and contemporary Indians: Genomic perspectives
33. Gyaneshwer Chaubey
9.50-10.10 AM
Offline
Which language group is the first settler of India?

10.10 to 10.30 AM – Panel Discussion

Session NINE

The Indus script: inputs from archaeology and statistical studies

34. Andreas Fuls
10.30-10.50 AM
Online
A digital corpus and epigraphical database for Indus script research
35. Izhar Ashraf
10.50-11.10 AM
Offline
Directions for the direction: Using statistics to computationally infer sequence orientation in undeciphered inscriptions
36. Dennys Frenez (*jointly with Massimo Vidale*)
11.10-11.30 AM
Importance of archaeological context in Harappan script studies: Evidence from Mesopotamia and the Gulf

11.30 to 11.50 AM – Tea Break

37. Nisha Yadav
11.50 AM-12.10 Noon
Online
Computational studies of the Harappan script
38. Sitabhra Sinha
12.10-12.30 PM
Offline
Computers, statistics, and inscriptions: The digital epigraphy of Indus "Writing"
39. Pallavee Gokhale
12.30-12.50 PM
Offline
The Indus script: Inputs from archaeology
40. Ayumu Konasukawa
12.50-1.10 PM
Online
Indus scripts incised on the seals discovered from the initial phase of Harappan period: An Investigation of the chronology of Indus Writing System

1.10-1.40 PM – Panel Discussion

1.40-2.30 PM – Lunch Break

Session TEN

Harappan civilization vs. Vedic culture: Possible points of contact/transmission

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| 41. Koenraad Elst
2.30-2.50 PM
<i>Offline</i> | State of the art in the “Aryan” debate |
| 42. Rajesh Lal
2.50-3.10 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Prof. B.B. Lal’s correlation of Harappan Civilization with Vedic culture |
| 43. Giacomo Benedetti
3.10-3.30 PM
<i>Online</i> | From the great drought to the Mahabharata war: Vedic, Epic and Puranic sources in comparison with the archaeological phases |
| 3.30-3.50 PM – Tea Break | |
| 44. R.N. Iyengar
3.50-4.10 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Importance of the legend of Dhruva for Indian chronology |
| 45. Michel Danino
4.10-4.30 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Revisiting Harappan and Vedic horses |
| 46. Ajit Padmanabh
4.30-4.50 PM
<i>Offline</i> | Using immersive technologies to document the Harappan legacy |
| 47. Shrikant Talageri
4.50-5.10 PM
<i>Online</i> | Lactase persistence as a factor in establishing the common identity of the Rigvedic and Harappan Civilizations |

5.10-5.40 PM – Panel Discussion

5.40 PM onwards – Concluding Session (to be decided)

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