



# SOUTH ASIAN HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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## Contents

<i>Editor Note</i> .....	iii
1. Soft Power in India's Foreign Policy and Cultural Diplomacy to South East Asia .....	1-5
<i>Babuli Chandra Nayak</i>	
2. A State Hidden in the Womb of History: Simraungarh.....	7-16
<i>Balaram Kayastha</i>	
3. Jainism in the Forgotten Empire .....	17-21
<i>Indira Malapaka</i>	
4. Exploring Buddhist Pilgrimage Sites in Pakistan: Historical and Spiritual Significance .....	23-44
<i>Nighat Aslam &amp; Mastoor Bukhari &amp; Sohab Ahmad</i>	
5. Historical Record of the Visit of Dr. Hoffmeister and Prince Waldemar of Prussia to .....	45-71
Lucknow and other Important Places of India in the Year 1845: A Resurgence	
<i>Niranjan Chandra Shah</i>	
6. Nizam, his Subjects and Soldiers during the 1857 Revolt .....	73-80
<i>Rampandu Thunga</i>	
7. Neolithic Potteries from the Excavated Site of Bang-Harirajpur, Coastal Odisha.....	81-87
<i>Ranjana Rani Singh, Manas Ranjan Pattanayak, Kishor K Basa, Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, Daitari Sahoo &amp; Shantanu Vaidya</i>	
8. Archaeo-Metallurgical Advancement of Iron Furnace System(s) in India .....	89-93
<i>Saravanan. R</i>	
9. The Economic Insights into the Prachi Valley Civilization (3rd century B.C. to .....	95-105
9th Century A.D)	
<i>Sarita Dash</i>	
10. Emergence of Śaiva-Tantrik Trend in Upper Mahanadi Valley: A Preliminary Study on.....	107-134
Coitus Icons in Star Shaped Temples of Boudh, Odisha	
<i>Santosh Kumar Mallik</i>	
11. Prehistoric cultural heritage of the site Jagannathpur in Purbi Singhbhum district of.....	135-145
Jharkhand, in Eastern India	
<i>Tamal Dutta &amp; Debasis Kumar Mondal</i>	
12. Gandikota – An Overview of Tourism Importance .....	147-152
<i>V. Varija</i>	
13. Vamana Figures: An Artistic Representation of Achondroplasia And The Utility of .....	153-165
Achondroplastic People as a Theme to Artistically Illustrate the Concepts of	
Vamana and Bhairava (A Study Based on Dwarf Carvings in India and Sri Lanka)	
<i>W.T.I.M. Subasinghe &amp; H.H. Ashoka Karunarathna</i>	



## Editor Notes

*“South Asian History, Culture and Archaeology”* (SAHCA) is a bi-annual peer reviewed journal that seeks to explore the close links between the different disciplines of history, art and archaeology. History is dependent upon sources and archaeological sources provide a vital component in the reconstruction of not only the remote past, but also of the not so distant one. Art is a mirror of society and cannot be studied without its historical context. Even modern art needs to be examined in the light of the social forces that have shaped it. Archaeology provides insights into past cultures, especially where there is a dearth of written records. The present journal is a platform where scholars from different disciplines can examine and explore the inter-related nature of the disciplines of history, art, culture and archaeology using a holistic approach. SAHCA strongly encourages trans-disciplinary analysis of contemporary and historical social change in Asia by offering a meeting space for international scholars across the social sciences, including anthropology, cultural studies, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology.

This issue of the journal contains thirteen articles. **Babuli Chandra Nayak** discusses how soft power and cultural diplomacy have gained popularity in the field of international affairs. The purpose of this article is to draw attention to India’s longstanding cultural ties to East and Southeast Asian nations through maritime trade, as well as the proactive measures India has made to capitalize on these ties through its “Look East and Act East Policies.” With the growing influence of China. **Balaram Kayastha** explores the history of the State Simraungarh, which was rich in art and culture. This article presents about the establishment of Simraungarh, its achievements, its influence on Kathmandu valley, prominent rulers, and finally its fall, which is based on primary and secondary source materials. **Indira Malapaka** elaborates how the emergence of Saivism and Vaishnavism in elite standards, Jainism lost its glory in the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> century in Karnataka. This research paper speaks about the Jaina inscriptions issued by the rulers of the Vijayanagara dynasty such as Bukkaraya I, Harihara II, Devaraya II and Krishnadevaraya along with the inscriptions issued by some of the feudatories like the Wodeyars of Karkal, the Chowters of Mudabidris, the Nandvar Bangars, the Ajalars of Aldangadi, the Mulars of Bailangidi and the Savants of Mulki. **Nighat Aslam & Mastoor Bukhari & Sohab Ahmad** broadly discusses about the Buddhist pilgrimage sites in Pakistan, unraveling their historical and spiritual significance. The paper explores the specific pilgrimage sites, such as Taxila, Takhti-Bahi, and Julian, unraveling their historical contexts and religious importance. Taxila, an ancient centre of learning and Buddhist philosophy, serves as a testament to the region’s intellectual and spiritual legacy. It thus encourages sustainable tourism practices, fostering the preservation of these sacred sites for future generations while promoting cultural exchange and dialogue.

**Niranjan Chandra Shah** gives a summary of a travelogue written in 1845 by Dr. Hoffmeister, who was a physician, botanist, and historian-scientist to Prince Waldemar of Prussia, who was himself a talented artist of international fame. He describes about the cities he met on the way to Nainital, like Agra, Bharatpur, and Mathura, and their monuments and palaces. he visited in these cities likelike Red Fort, Moti Masjid, Humayun Tomb, Nizamuddin Dargah, Purana Quila, Allaudin- Mosque, and Feroz Shah Kotelah ,supported with the notes from the Archeological Survey of India for comparison. **Rampandu Thunga** brings forth the British Nizam relations, the decisive attitude of Nizam and the

role played by his Diwan Salar Jung during the Great Revolt of 1857. The article further discusses the role played by a few unsung warriors such as Turrabaz Khan, Alla – ud – din, Raja Venkatappa Naik etc and their contribution in shaping the early independence struggle in South India. **Ranjana Rani Singh, Manas Ranjan Pattanayak, Kishor K Basa, Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, Daitari Sahoo & Shantanu Vaidya** have tried to excavate a number of Neolithic sites in different parts of Odisha to understand the emergence of Early Farming Communities in the region. These sites include Golabai Sasan, Suabarei, Kuchai and Hikudi, etc. This paper basically provides a descriptive account of the Neolithic Potteries of Bang-Harirajpur. **Saravanan. R** makes an attempt to analysis some basic concepts related to the manufacturing and technology of the smelting furnaces in India. It also traces the construction process, smelting process and also various types of furnaces. He finds out that Iron smelting technology was invented while smelting Copper and the factors that influence to produce this high quality of metal smelting process is particularly fuel and good supply of air.

**Sarita Dash** elaborates the economic facets of the lost Prachi Valley Civilization in Odisha, spanning from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century B.C. to the 9<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Focusing on the economic life of the Prachi Valley inhabitants, this paper underscores the necessity of understanding Odisha's ancient history, including its genealogical dynastic rule. It scrutinizes the trade and industry aspects, encompassing both inland and outland trade, trade routes, trading articles, and the significant trading centres associated with different genealogical dynastic rules. **Santosh Kumar Mallik** seeks to shed light on the *Śaiva-Tāntrik* trends and the connotation of Coitus and affectionate imagery in the Mahanadi Valley locales of central-western part of Odisha. This paper intends to outline the relatively little known of such coitus images as agency of the *Śaiva-Tāntrik* trend is which is prevailed in this locale, and how the Somavamāśī rulers are the part of this tradition will be studied very carefully. The temple tradition, people's migration, and diffusion of ideas are reflected in this region due to Bhauma-Kara and Somavamāśī ruler. **Tamal Dutta & Debasis Kumar Mondal** focuses on the prehistoric cultural heritage of the site Jagannathpur in Galudih area in Purbi Singhbhum district of Jharkhand. The search was initiated by Captain Beaching in 1868 and later by V. Ball, P. Mitra, S.C. Sinha, D. Sen, A. K. Ghosh, R. Ray, D. K. Mondal and others. This study has been carried out to reconstruct the geochronology of prehistoric cultures. **V.Varija** deals with Andhra Pradesh tourism which has a vast potential for generating employment and earning large sums of foreign exchange besides giving a flip to the country's overall economic and social development. Gandikota is a small village on the right bank of Pennar, 15 km from Jammalamadugu in Kadapa district, Andhra Pradesh in India, which is situated amidst beautiful landscape and wild forests, it is endowed with vast natural resources. **W.T.I.M. Subasinghe & H.H. Ashoka Karunarathna** examined the Vamana carvings from different sites in India and Sri Lanka. The study justifies that these Vamana figures are artistic representations of adults with achondroplasia, with a slight exaggeration of limb shortness compared to the upper segment to clearly represent the intended population. The Vamana figures examined are an artistic representation of achondroplastic adults during ancient times.

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**Rashmi Pramanik**