



Center for Rock Art & Cognitive Studies



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
School of Social Sciences & International Studies
Pondicherry University
Pondicherry



P.G.DIPLOMA
IN
Rock Art & Cognitive Studies
[PGDRA&CS]

REGULATIONS, CURRICULUM AND SYLLABI
(2025-26 ONWARDS)



About the Department:

The Department of History, established in 1988 has distinguished itself among the frontline history departments across the country. Its primary mission is to promote teaching and research in the diverse fields of Indian History and Archaeology. In 2023, the department has implemented the National Education Policy (NEP 2020) with the introduction of the four-Year B.A (hons) programme with a thoroughly revised curriculum having the Certificate programme in Museology (First Year) P.G. Diploma in Epigraphy & Manuscriptology (Second Year), where in the students will be equipped with employable skills in museum management and administration; study, use and application of scientific methods and tools of Archaeological survey; study, analysis and interpretation of inscriptions and conservation of manuscripts and other archival materials.

At present there are five regular faculty and six guest faculty members teaching in the department. They are drawn from different parts of the country and have had their academic training in India and abroad. The department is offering the Value-Added Course: *Understanding India*, a common paper for all the UG programmes of the University. The thrust areas of teaching and research reflect the specializations of the faculty.

The Thrust Areas of Teaching & Research:

- ❖ Chola State and the Agrarian order: Peasantry, landed groups and water rights
- ❖ Contemporary India
- ❖ Diaspora studies
- ❖ Epigraphy and Manuscriptology
- ❖ Growth of Capitalism, Labour and Subaltern studies
- ❖ History of Science, Technology & Medicine in Modern India.
- ❖ History of Indian Freedom Movement.
- ❖ Indian and Global Rock Art traditions.
- ❖ Museology
- ❖ Prehistory, Proto-history and Archaeological Sciences
- ❖ Social and Intellectual history of modern India
- ❖ Social transformation in Colonial South India
- ❖ South India and Indian Ocean as a maritime Region
- ❖ State Formation and Societal Transformations in Peninsular India
- ❖ Women in India

Infrastructure and student amenities:

The Department is equipped with most modern facilities for the purpose of research and teaching. Facilities like computer laboratory, smart-boards, public address systems, collar mike and amplifiers, unlimited access to web resources, availability of Online Cambridge History Series, LCD projectors, well-furnished seminar hall and class rooms and photo copying facility. Sophisticated gadgets like hand held GPS, digital vernier calipers, digital cameras, voice recorders, scanners, estampage material for copying the stone inscriptions are also available in the department. The department is having all the necessary scientific equipment and tools needed in archaeological excavations.

We are in the process of shifting to a new building (G+2) having spacious class rooms, conference halls and ample space for separate museology section and scientific laboratory for the conservation and preservation of manuscripts and also to provide hands-on training to the students in this domain.

Our students and doctoral scholars organize extra-curricular activities under the club *Pondicherry University Societe Histoire (PUSH)*. Students are encouraged to use e-learning tools like Prezi; you tube videos, blogs, MOOCS, software like D-Stretch and Photoshop; E-Resources like JSTOR, Project MUSE; Google Scholar etc. Key papers and books are shared by faculty.

The curriculum blends empirical and theoretical aspects of history with interactive, structured teaching. Remedial classes were handled for academically weak students. Through group discussions, seminar presentations, the soft skill of the students are monitored and mentored. The department invites distinguished scholars to deliver lectures to keep the students updated with the latest trends and developments in historical and archaeological research.

The department has signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with four reputed academic Institutions: The French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP), and Sri Aurobindo Centre for Advanced Research (SACAR), Pondicherry, C.P. Ramaswamy Aiyar Foundation (CPRAF) and Sharma Centre for Heritage Education (SCHE), Chennai. In collaboration with the MoU institutions, a series of academic programmes are being designed in tune with the National Education Policy (NEP 2020).

Among the deliverables of the MoUs, the vital one is the 6-week summer internship programme for the UG students of the department, which will provide them hand-on training archaeological exploration and excavation methods; Prehistoric stone tool making; photogrammetry, 3D image processing, study and analysis of ancient coinage; reading, preservation and conservation of palm leaf manuscripts and other archival materials, research methods in history, research and publication ethics, study of temple architecture, identification of endogamous medicinal and vegetable plants, bio-diversity issues etc. The department has proposed to start two research centers offering P.G. Diploma Courses:

- a. Center for Agamic Studies & Indian Knowledge Systems.
- b. Center for Rock Art and Cognitive Studies.

These centers will initially offer One Year P.G. Diploma Courses. In the near future they will start two - year P.G Programmes.

Today, the Department of History is well known for its strong academic programmes, visibility, external outreach, unique research and teaching programmes and high standards of research. We invite enthusiastic scholars and students to join us in the exciting journey of Historical and Archaeological studies and investigations.



About the P.G. Diploma:

The One Year (Two Semester) P.G. Diploma course in *“Rock Art and Cognitive Studies”*, is an intensive, immersive, hands-on programme offered by the Centre of Rock Art and Cognitive Studies, Department of History, Pondicherry University that will provide the participants with the knowledge and professional skillset required to comprehend the overall structure and functioning of global rock art.

Unique Features:

- ❖ A field-based course aimed at training the undergraduate students for their employment in various interpretation centres, cultural centres and museums.
- ❖ To explore the key theoretical frameworks of rock art and archaeology and focus on the practical know-how and critical tools essential for the effective documentation of rock art sites; interpretation, preservation and management of rock art sites.
- ❖ To provide a panoramic view of the Rock Art of India and the global Rock Art traditions.
- ❖ To apply scientific methods for a better understanding of the chronology of rock art.
- ❖ To train the students to work with digital records and collections of rock art, exhibitions and research data frameworks that will ensure the longevity of our global and national tangible and intangible cultural and ethnic heritage.

Eligibility & Selection Process:

- ❖ Students with a 3-year Graduate/4-year honours graduate/ Master’s Degree in History/ Ancient History & Archaeology, Religious Studies & Comparative Religion with a minimum score of 55% marks are eligible for admission into the P.G. Diploma Programme.
- ❖ The selection of the eligible students will be based on the CUET (UG/PG) merit list.
- ❖ If merit list from the CUET (UG/PG) is exhausted, the remaining seats will be filled up by calling for applications by advertising in the University web site, by the department and the merit list will be prepared based on the UG/PG marks of the applicants.
- ❖ Reservation of seats and the relaxation of the eligibility criteria is governed by the University regulations.

Programme Outcomes:

- ❖ Introducing knowledge and methodologies of how to make selected rock art sites as cultural tourism destinations.
- ❖ Impart training in managing the rock art and related archaeological sites through local communities and public outreach.
- ❖ Access to a range of digital resources available for teaching with themes and incorporating works of rock art, archaeology, ethnography, ethno-history and anthropology.
- ❖ Training in Digital Image Processing and related techniques. Intensive field experience to collate the theoretical knowledge through scientific report writing.

Intake: 30 students.

Fee Structure:

Semester 1: Rs.20,472.00

Semester.2: Rs. 3,200.00

Medium of Instruction: The medium of instruction shall be English.

Pedagogy:

Classroom Lectures, Field Visits, Case Studies, Tutorials, Seminars, Expert Lectures etc., shall form part of the teaching methods.

Course Structure:

Students must secure 40 credits (20 credits each semester) for the award of the P.G. Diploma degree. The course structure includes four (4) Major papers (16 credits), two minor papers (6 credits) and eighteen (18) credits in Seminars, Field report/Project report & Viva-Voce = (2+4+3 credits in each semester respectively).

Passing Minimum:

- ❖ To be eligible for the award of the P.G. Diploma in *Agamic Studies and Indian Knowledge Systems* [PGDAS&IKS] the student must secure 50% (internal + end semester examination together) marks.
- ❖ Percentage calculation and grading for the award of the P.G. Diploma will be governed by the existing CBCS regulations of the Pondicherry University.
- ❖ The attendance requirement, clearance of the arrear's papers shall be governed by the existing rules of the University.

Evaluation:

- ❖ The Evaluation of the major and minor papers in each semester is for 100 marks.
- ❖ Internal Assessment will comprise 40 Marks consisting of
 - A: Internal examination:30 marks
 - B: Written assignment: 05 marks, and
 - C: Seminar Presentation 05 marks.
- ❖ End Semester examination would be a 3-hours written test, for 60 marks, consisting of questions in Part A and Part B signifying long answer (2X15=30) and short answer (3X10=30) type questions.

COURSE STRUCTURE& CREDIT DISTRIBUTION
P.G. DIPLOMA IN ROCK ART & COGNITIVE STUDIES
[PGDRA&CS]

(Semester I)

Papers	Title	Credits
PGDRA&CS -1	Introduction to the study of Archaeology	3
PGDRA&CS -2	Pre & Proto History of India	4
PGDRA&CS -3	Global Rock Art Traditions	4
PGDRA&CS - 4,5,6	Practicals, Field Report& Viva-Voce	2+4+3 =9

(Semester II)

Papers	Title	Credits
PGDRA&CS -7	History of Indian Archaeology	3
PGDRA&CS -8	Archaeology: Principles & methods	4
PGDRA&CS -9	Rock Art of India	4
PGDRA&CS -10,11,12	Practicals, Project Report& Viva-Voce	2+4+3 =9

Majors: 4 (16 credits) Minors:2 (6 Credits) Practical & Field work: 18 credits= 40 Credits

Papzrs & Syllabi

PGDRA&CS -1. Introduction to the Study of Archaeology (Minor Course-4 Credits)

Course Overview:

The course is designed to introduce the discipline of archaeology to students of history. The various archaeological methods and theories involved in reading the primary source would be taught to understand the context of the material that is available for the study.

Objectives:

- ❖ To understand the foundational concepts and theoretical frameworks that underpin archaeological inquiry, including key paradigms and debates in the discipline.
- ❖ To develop proficiency in archaeological methods and techniques, such as excavation, survey, dating methods, and artifact analysis.
- ❖ To critically evaluate archaeological evidence and interpret material culture in relation to social, cultural, and environmental contexts.
- ❖ To explore the ethical, political and legal dimensions of archaeological practice, including heritage management and issues of cultural patrimony.
- ❖ To conduct independent research and present findings effectively, both orally and in writing, using appropriate academic conventions and referencing styles.

Course Outcome:

- ❖ Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of core archaeological theories and methodologies and their applications in different research contexts.
- ❖ Analyze and interpret archaeological data to reconstruct past human behaviours, societies, and cultural practices.
- ❖ Apply appropriate field and laboratory techniques to archaeological case studies and problem-solving scenarios.
- ❖ Critically assess ethical issues and contemporary challenges in archaeology, including heritage conservation and indigenous perspectives.
- ❖ Communicate archaeological findings effectively through well-structured academic writing, presentations and discussions.

Module 1: Definition & Scope of Archaeology -Terms and Concepts

Prehistory - Proto History and History; Artefact, Site, Culture, Exploration, Excavation. Sources of Archaeology: Monuments- Inscriptions-Coins; The dating problem- dates in Inscriptions.

Module 2: Relationship of Archaeology with other disciplines

History, Anthropology and Archaeology- Contribution of Social sciences and Humanities to Archaeology- Impact of pure sciences on Archaeology.

Module 3: History of Archaeology

Origin and growth of archaeological studies–Contribution of archaeology for the study of the evolution of man.

Module 4: History of Archaeology in India

Colonial Archaeology-Institutional growth in field epigraphy and archaeology–Oriental Studies-Establishment of Professional organizations and institutions.

Module 5: Important Archaeological sites in India

Palaeolithic sites: Bhimbetka, Attirampakkam. Renigunta, Baghor, Bagor, Patne. Neolithic Sites: Paiyampalli, Nagarjunakonda, Tekkalakota. Proto–Historic sites: Mohenjodaro, Harappa, Lothal, Kalibangan, Dholavira- Rakhigarhi - Iron Age/Early Historic sites: Kodumanal, Hallur, Dhulikatta, Pattanam.

Suggested Readings :

Agrawal, D.P. 1982. *The Archaeology of India*. London: Curzon Press.

Allchin, B, and Allchin, R. 1982. *The Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan*. Cambridge: CUP.

Chakrabarti, D.K. 1988, *A History of Indian Archaeology: From the Beginning to 1947*. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.

Chakrabarti, D.K. 1999, *India: An Archaeological History –Palaeolithic Beginnings to Early Historic Foundations*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Daniel, Glyn E. 1967. *The Origins and Growth of Archaeology*. London: Pelican Books.

Dhavalikar, M.K. 1990. *First Farmers of the Deccan*. Pune: Ravish Publishers.

Ghosh, A.(ed)1988. *An Encyclopaedia of Indian Archaeology*, 2 Vols. Delhi:Munishiram Manoharlal.

Gururaja Rao, B.K. 1972. *Megalithic Culture in South India*. Mysore: University of Mysore.

Rajan, K. 2002. *Archaeology: Principles and Methods*. Tanjavur: Manoo Pathippakam.

Raman, K.V. 1986. *Principles and Methods of Archaeology*. Madras: Parthajan Publications.

Thapar, B.K. 1985. *Recent Archaeological Discoveries in India*. Paris: UNESCO.

PGDRA&CS -2. Pre History and Proto History of India (Major-4 Credits)

Course Overview:

The course tries to explain the emergence of various cultures in India from Palaeolithic times down to Iron Age. The cultural differences that exist in different geographical zones of India would be studied to understand the various controlling factors that shaped the Indian culture. Broad contours of the Prehistoric and proto historical cultures in the subcontinent will be in the focus.

Objectives:

- ❖ To introduce students to the key concepts, terminology and chronological frameworks of Indian prehistory and protohistory.
- ❖ To familiarize students with major prehistoric and protohistoric cultures in the Indian subcontinent, including their material remains, subsistence strategies and settlement patterns.
- ❖ To examine the development of human societies in India from the palaeolithic to the early historic period, with attention to regional variations and cultural transitions.
- ❖ To explore interdisciplinary approaches and scientific techniques used in reconstructing prehistoric life, such as archaeobotany, zooarchaeology, and geochronology.
- ❖ To encourage critical thinking and scholarly engagement with current debates, research trends and theoretical perspectives in Indian prehistory and protohistory.

Course Outcomes:

- ❖ Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the cultural sequences from the Palaeolithic to the Bronze Age in the Indian subcontinent.
- ❖ Identify and interpret key archaeological sites and artifacts associated with India's prehistoric and protohistoric periods.
- ❖ Critically evaluate theories and models related to human evolution, human urban settlements, technological development, and socio-cultural transformations in ancient India.
- ❖ Analyze interdisciplinary data (e.g., environmental, biological and material) to reconstruct patterns of prehistoric lifeways and protohistoric urbanization.
- ❖ Engage with scholarly debates and present informed arguments through research-based writing and academic presentations.

Module 1

Definitions – Scope - Lower Palaeolithic Culture – Middle Palaeolithic Culture – Upper Palaeolithic Culture - Stone tools and techniques- Life of Prehistoric man.

Module 2

Microlithic/Mesolithic Culture – Beginning of Domestication of Plants and animals - Neolithic Culture –Neolithic zones - Agricultural Revolution - Settlements of New Stone Age – Characteristic traits.

Module 3

Chalcolithic Culture — Indus Valley Civilization- Rise and Growth - Town planning - Architecture- Trade and Commerce- Indus Script- Indus Sites: Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Kalibangan, Lothal and Dholavira – Its Decay – causes.

Module 4

Post Harappan Cultures - Central Chalcolithic culture - Ahar culture - Kayatha culture - Malwa Culture - Jorwe Culture – Characteristic Features.

Module 5

Megalithic Culture (Iron Age) – Megalithic Monuments - Types of burials- Megalithic people - Iron technology - Megalithic pottery - Life of the Megalithic people- Cultural, Religious and economic conditions – dawn of the Historical Phase.

Suggested Readings:

Agrawal, D.P. 1982. *The Archaeology of India*. London: Curzon Press.

Allchin, B, and Allchin, R. 1982. *The Rise of Civilization in India and Pakistan*, Cambridge: CUP.

Banerjee, N.R. 1965. *The Iron Age in India*. New Delhi: Munishiram Manoharlal.

Dhavalikar, M.K. 1990. *First Farmers of the Deccan*. Pune: Ravish Publishers.

Ghosh, A., (ed.) 1988. *An Encyclopedia of Indian Archaeology*, 2 vols, Delhi: Munishiram Manoharlal.

Gururaja Rao, B.K. 1972. *Megalithic Culture in South India*, Mysore: University of Mysore.

Possehl, G.L. 1993. *Harappan Civilization – A Recent Perspective*. Delhi: Oxford and IBH.

Rajesh Kochchar, 2000. *The Vedic People: Their History and Geography*, Delhi: Orient Longman.

Sankalia, H.D. 1974. *Pre and Protohistory in India and Pakistan*. Pune: Deccan College.

Thapar, B.K. 1985. *Recent Archaeological Discoveries in India*, Paris: UNESCO.

PGDRA&CS -3. Global Rock Art Traditions (Major – 4 Credits)

Course Overview:

The course is designed to provide a panoramic view of the Global Rock art traditions to contextualize the Indian Rock art from theoretical and methodological viewpoints. Since its discovery in Europe, significant developments were witnessed in the study and understanding of the theme, content and context of the rock art. The application of scientific methods led to a better understanding of the chronology of rock art. The study and understanding of the ethnographic context of rock art provided significant insights into the meaning of rock art thus altering the interpretative methods of rock art.

Objectives:

- ❖ To introduce students to the diversity and distribution of rock art traditions across different regions and time periods worldwide.
- ❖ To familiarize students with key concepts, terminologies and classification systems used in the study of rock art.
- ❖ To explore various interpretive frameworks and theoretical approaches to understanding the meanings, functions and symbolism of rock art.
- ❖ To examine the techniques, materials and methods used in the creation, documentation and analysis of rock art.
- ❖ To discuss contemporary issues in rock art research and conservation, including site preservation, indigenous perspectives and ethical considerations.

Course Outcomes:

- ❖ Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of major global rock art sites and traditions, including their cultural and chronological contexts.
- ❖ Critically analyze rock art using appropriate theoretical and methodological approaches, recognizing regional and stylistic variations.
- ❖ Evaluate the significance of rock art in understanding past human cognition, symbolism and ritual behaviour.
- ❖ Apply documentation and analytical techniques for recording, interpreting and comparing rock art across different regions.
- ❖ Assess contemporary challenges in rock art conservation and heritage management, including ethical issues and indigenous stakeholder engagements.

Module 1

Rock art – Definitions – Types of Rock art – Rock art traditions of the World - Important Discoveries - Early Theoretical inventions - Drawbacks.

Module 2

Characteristic Features of the Global Rock art Traditions – Europe – Africa – Australia – The methodological developments – Space-Time Systematics – The Euro-Centric Evolution theories – Debates.

Module 3

Scientific Studies in Rock Art - Dating methods - Advances in Direct Dating Techniques for Rock Art: Radiocarbon, Uranium-series and Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) - Microstratigraphy and Layer Analysis of Rock Art Panels - Application of portable XRF, Raman spectroscopy for Provenance and Chronology - Use of D Stretch, 3D scanning and AI-driven tools to analyze Superimposition - Rock Varnish Microlamination Dating in Arid-Region Petroglyphs.

Module 4

Characteristic Features of Indian Rock art – Classification- Space – time systematics in Indian Rock art study- Contributions of the early pioneers.

Module 5

Theories in Rock Art Studies – Interpretation of the Meaning of Rock Art - Shamanism and Altered States of Consciousness - Ethnography and Indigenous Knowledge in Rock Art - Gender and Identity - Representation and Social Roles - Semiotics and Structuralist Approaches to Rock Art - Mythology and Narrative Structures in Rock Art - Landscape, Sacred Geography and the Spatial Context of Rock Art.

Suggested Readings

- Chakravorthy, K.K. 1984. (Ed). *Rock Art of India: Painting & Engraving*. New Delhi: Abhinav.
- Chakravorthy, K.K., & Bednarik, R.G. (ed) 1997. *Indian Rock Art in its Global Context*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International.
- Chakravorthy, K.K. 2018. *Early Rock art & Tribal Art in India*. New Delhi: Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
- Chakraverty, S. 2003. *Rock Art Studies in India: A Historical Perspective*. Kolkata: Asiatic Society.
- Chandramouli, N. 2004. *Rock Art of South India*. New Delhi, Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
- Chandramouli, N. 2013. *Rock Art of Andhra Pradesh: A New Synthesis*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International.
- Conkey, M.W. 1981. "A Century of Palaeolithic Cave Art" *Archaeology* 34(4):20-28.
- Kumar, G. 2011. *Rock art of India*. New Delhi: Sarada Books.
- Leroi – Gourhan, A. 1968. *The Art of the Prehistoric Man in western Europe*. London: Thames & Hudson.
- Mathpal, Y. 1984. *Prehistoric Rock Paintings of Central India*. New Delhi: Abhinav.
- Neumayer, E. 1993. *Lines on Stone: Prehistoric Art of India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Pradhan, S. 2004. *Rock Art of Orissa*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International.
- Pradhan, S. 2017. (ed) *Rock Art in India* (Felicitation Volumes for Prof. V.A. Sonawane) New Delhi: B.R. Publications.
- Sundara, A. 1994. *Rock Art of Karnataka*. Bangalore: Karnataka Lalita Kala Academy.
- Ucko, P.J. & Andre Rosenfeld. 1967. *Palaeolithic Cave Art*. London. World University Press.
- Willcox, M. 1982. *Rock Art of South Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Williams, Lewis. 1983. *The Rock art of Southern Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

PGDRA&CS -7. History of Indian Archaeology (Minor-3 Credits)

Course Overview:

The course is intended to give an introduction to the development of archaeological research in India both in pre-independence and post-Independence era. The survey undertaken by early explorers have been placed in a given socio-cultural context.

Objectives:

- ❖ To trace the historical development of archaeological thought and practice in the Indian subcontinent from antiquarianism to modern scientific archaeology.
- ❖ To introduce key personalities, institutions and milestones that shaped the discipline of archaeology in India.
- ❖ To examine the impact of colonialism, nationalism and post-independence developments on archaeological research and heritage policy in India.
- ❖ To critically engage with the historiography of Indian archaeology, including shifts in interpretation, methodology and theoretical orientation.
- ❖ To encourage analytical thinking and scholarly inquiry into how archaeology has contributed to constructing narratives of India's past and present.

Course Outcomes:

- ❖ Demonstrate a critical understanding of the evolution of archaeological practices in India from the colonial to the contemporary period.
- ❖ Identify and assess the contributions of key archaeologists, institutions and landmark excavations in shaping Indian archaeology.
- ❖ Analyze the influence of political, ideological and cultural contexts on the interpretation and presentation of India's archaeological past.
- ❖ Evaluate historiographical trends and methodological shifts in Indian archaeology over time.
- ❖ Engage in informed academic discourse and research on the development and challenges of archaeology as a discipline in India.

Module 1

Antiquarianism to Archaeology - The Surveyors – The Antiquarians – Adventurers – Early Archaeological writings – William Jones and James Princep.

Module 2

The establishment of Archaeological Survey – Alexander Cunningham as a Surveyor - His contribution to the field epigraphy and archaeology – His survey – Alexander Cunningham as Director General of Archaeological Survey of India – His contribution to the development of archaeology.

Module 3

The role of India in archaeological studies - Lord Curzon – His contribution to the development of archaeology – Sir John Marshall and his contribution.

Module 4

Robert Bruce Foote – James Burgess – Colin Mackenzie – ACL Carlleyle – H.H.Cole - T.S.Elliot – Robert Sewell - Era of Mortimer Wheeler – contribution in the development of excavation techniques.

Module 5

Post-Independence era – Development of Prehistoric studies – Proto-historic studies – Epigraphical Studies – Numismatic Studies – Archaeological excavations – Conservation.

Suggested Readings

Chakrabarti,D.K. 1988.*A History of Indian Archaeology from the beginning to 1947*. Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.

Chakrabarti,D.K. 1999. *India: An Archaeological History*. Delhi: Oxford University Press.

Ghosh, A.1938. “Fifty years of the Archaeological Survey of India”, *Ancient India*.Vol.9, pp.29- 52.

Ghosh, A..1989. *An Encyclopedia of Indian Archaeology*. New Delhi: ICHR.

John Kean.2011. *To Cherish and Conserve:The early Years of the Archaeological survey of India*. New Delhi: ASI. Munshiram Manohar Lal.

Sourindranath Roy, 1961 *The Story of Indian Archaeology 1784-1947*, New Delhi: ASI.

Upinder Singh,2004.*The Discovery of Ancient India: Early Archaeologists and the Beginnings of Archaeology*. Delhi: Permanent Black.

PGDRA&CS-8. Principles and Methods of Archaeology (Major - 4 Credits)

Course Overview:

The course is designed to introduce various exploration and excavation techniques practiced in India. The principles and methods followed in archaeological exploration, excavation, and documentation of archaeological material are emphasized.

Objectives:

- ❖ To introduce students to the fundamental principles, aims, scopes and types of archaeology as a scientific discipline.
- ❖ To familiarize students with the key archaeological methods and techniques, including survey, excavation, recording, dating and laboratory analyses.
- ❖ To explore theoretical frameworks and interpretive approaches used in analyzing archaeological data and understanding past human behaviour.
- ❖ To develop practical skills in fieldwork, data collection and artifact handling through case studies and hands-on activities.
- ❖ To encourage critical thinking about methodological choices, ethical considerations and interdisciplinary applications in archaeological research.

Course Outcomes:

- ❖ Demonstrate a clear understanding of the foundational principles and objectives of archaeological inquiry.
- ❖ Apply a range of archaeological methods and techniques in the collection, documentation and analyses of material evidences.
- ❖ Critically evaluate different theoretical approaches used in interpreting archaeological data.
- ❖ Effectively plan and assess field strategies, including site surveys, excavation methods and post-excavation analyses.
- ❖ Analyze ethical issues and best practices in archaeological research, conservation, community and public engagement.

Module 1: Introduction - Kinds of Archaeology:

Classical Archaeology – Historical Archaeology – Environmental Archaeology – Underwater Archaeology – Ethno-Archaeology– Linguistic Archaeology – Salvage Archaeology.

Module 2: History of Archaeology:

Classical Archaeology – Antiquarianism - Three-Age theory – Scientific archaeology - Antiquity of Mankind – The Dawn of Prehistoric Archaeology.

Module 3: Exploration and Excavation Methods:

Exploration Methods – Determination of archaeological data – Types of archaeological sites -On-site investigations – Site Survey methods – Excavation Methods – Excavation of a burial.

Module 4: Archaeological Stratigraphy and Recording:

Concept of Stratigraphy in geology and in archaeology – Haris Matrix – Laws of Archaeological Stratigraphy – Archaeological Recording – Maps – Site Plan – Site note book.

Module 5: Dating Methods in Archaeology:

Dating System – Absolute dating methods – Relative dating methods.

Suggested Readings

Barker, Philip. 1977. *Techniques of Archaeological Excavation*. Newyork: Universe Books.

Colin Renfrew. 2000. *Archaeology: Theories Methods and Practices*. London: Thames and Hudson.

Clive Gamble. 2001. *Archaeology: The Basics*. London: Routledge.

Dancey, W.S. 1981. *Archaeological Field Methods: An Introduction*. Minneapolis: Burgess.

Daniel, Glyn E. 1976, *A Hundred and Fifty Years of Archaeology*. London: Gerald Duckworth.

Dillon, B.D. (ed.) 1989. *Practical Archaeology: Field and Laboratory Techniques and Archaeological Logistics*. Institute of Archaeology. Los Angeles: University of California.

Harris, Edward, C. 1989. *Principles of Archaeological Stratigraphy*. London: Academic Press.

Rajan K. 2002. *Archaeology: Principles and Methods*, Tanjavur: Manoo Pathippakam.

Raman, K.V. 1986. *Principles and Methods of Archaeology*. Madras: Parthajan Publications.

Trigger, G. Bruce, 1989. *A History of Archaeological Thought*. Cambridge: C.U.P.

PGDRA&CS -9. Rock Art of India

(Major – 4 Credits)

Course Overview:

The course is designed to provide a panoramic view of the Rock Art of India. Since the discovery in India, significant developments were witnessed in the study and understanding of the theme, content and context of the rock art. The application of scientific methods led to a better understanding of the chronology of rock art. The study and understanding of the ethnographic context of rock art provided significant insights into the meaning of rock art thus altering the interpretative methods of rock art. The regional traditions of Indian Rock Art will be elaborately discussed.

Objectives:

- ❖ To introduce students to the chronological and regional diversity of rock art traditions in India, from the prehistoric to the historic period.
- ❖ To familiarize students with major Indian rock art sites, their discovery, documentation and cultural significance.
- ❖ To explore the techniques, motifs and stylistic features characteristic of Indian rock art, with attention to regional variations.
- ❖ To examine interpretive frameworks and theoretical approaches used in understanding the symbolism, function and meaning of Indian rock art.
- ❖ To discuss the challenges of preservation, documentation and heritage management of rock art sites in India, including the role of indigenous communities.

Course Outcome:

- ❖ Demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the major rock art sites in India, including their historical, cultural and geographical contexts.
- ❖ Identify and analyze key themes, motifs and styles found in Indian rock art across different regions and time periods.
- ❖ Apply theoretical and methodological approaches to interpret the symbolic, ritualistic and communicative aspects of Indian rock art.
- ❖ Critically assess the significance of Indian rock art in reconstructing prehistoric and early historic lifeways, beliefs and social structures.
- ❖ Evaluate current issues in conservation, documentation and heritage management of Indian rock art, with an emphasis on ethical, ethnic and community-based practices.

Module 1

Rock Art of India –Early Notices –Early and Mature Stages of Research – Important Discoveries – the significance of the Mobiliary art – Emergence of Research Organizations - The Global connections and the consequences.

Module 2

Important Regional Rock art Traditions of the Vindhyan region – Chronological and Cultural Phases of Bhimbetka Rock Shelters: A Regional Synthesis - Mesolithic Rock Art Traditions of Central India: Style, Techniques and Iconography – Rock Art of Rajasthan - Ethnic-Indigenous continuum studies in Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Odisha Rock Art - Megalithism in India: The Case of Jharkhand, Karnataka and

Kerala - Petroglyph Traditions of the Konkan and Western Ghats - Prehistoric and Early Historic Rock Art of Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir.

Module 3

Rock Art traditions of south India- major rock art sites- naturalistic faunal depictions in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh - Schematic human and symbolic art forms of the Kerala and Tamil Nadu - Characteristic features of southern regional traditions- the ecological context- recent developments in rock art research.

Module 4

Characteristic Features of Indian Rock art – Types of Rock Art – Classification of Rock art - Space – time systematics in Indian Rock art study- Contributions of the early pioneers - Characteristic Features.

Module 5

Theories in Indian Rock Art Studies – Interpretation of the Meaning of Rock Art – Recent Developments in the Dating of Indian Rock Art – Scientific Studies.

Suggested Readings

- Chakravarthi,K.K. 1984. (Ed). *Rock Art of India: Painting & Engraving*. New Delhi. Abhinav.
- Chakravarthi,K.K.& Bednarik,R.G (ed).1997.*Indian Rock Art in its Global Context*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International.
- Chakravarthi, K.K.2018. *Early Rock art & Tribal Art in India*. New Delhi:Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
- Chakravarthi,S.2003. *Rock Art Studies in India: A Historical Perspective*. Kolkata: Asiatic Society.
- Chandramouli,N. 2004. *Rock Art of South India*. New Delhi, Bharatiya Kala Prakashan.
- Chandramouli,N. 2013. *Rock Art of Andhra Pradesh: A New Synthesis*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International
- Conkey, M.W. 1981. "A Century of Palaeolithic Cave Art " *Archaeology* 34(4):20 -28.
- Kumar, G.2011. *Rock art of India*. New Delhi: Sarada Books.
- Leroi – Gourhan, A. 1968.*The Art of the Prehistoric Man in western Europe*. London: Thames & Hudson.
- Mathpal, Y. 1984. *Prehistoric Rock Paintings of Central India*. New Delhi: Abhinav.
- Neumayer, E. 1993.*Lines on Stone: Prehistoric Art of India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press.
- Pradhan, S. 2004. *Rock Art of Orissa*. New Delhi: Aryan Books International.
- Pradhan,S. 2017. (ed)*Rock Art in India* (Felicitation Volumes for Prof.V.A Sonawane)New Delhi: B.R.Publications
- Sundara, A. 1994.*Rock Art of Karnataka*.Banglore, Karnataka Lalita Kala Academy.
- Ucko, P.J. & Andre Rosenfeld.1967. *Palaeolithic Cave Art*. London. World University Press.
- Willcox,M.1982. *Rock Art of South Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Williams, Lewis. 1983. *The Rock art of Southern Africa*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Relevant articles from Journal of the Australian Rock Art Association (AURA), World Archaeology, Purakala, Current Anthropology, Journal of the South African Archaeological Society etc.*



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