

## Editorial

Ancient Asia is the official annual journal of the Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA). The editors are happy to release the third issue of the journal Ancient Asia, which was long overdue. Due to the circumstances beyond our control, there has been inordinate delay in publishing this issue. However, the future issues of the journal will be published on time annually.

The scope of the Ancient Asia is vast - from the Stone Age to modern times, including archaeology, history, anthropology, art, architecture, numismatics, iconography, ethnography and also various scientific aspects including archaeobotany and archaeozoology, including theoretical and methodological issues. The present issue carries six research articles, ranging in time from fifth millennium BCE Protohistoric to the Medieval period; subject matter from environmental studies to archaeological studies including theories, methods and scientific analysis and art and architecture and finally region wise covering from Bangladesh in the east to Iran in the west.

The first paper is by Mohammad Salighe, Mehdi Mortazavi and Fariba Mosapour Negari entitled “Uniformitarianism: A Comparative Study of the Global Transitional Climatic Area Influences on the Bampur Valley” in Iran. This paper examines the interactions between people and the natural environment against a background of climatic change. The focus of attention is on the Bampur Valley, which is located in the global transitional climatic area. The second research paper is by Amrita Sarkar on “A Study of Development of the Ahar Culture in south-east Rajasthan, India from a ceramic point of view”. Mewar Region in south east Rajasthan of India is emerging as one of the most important area to understand origin of sedentism and agriculture. Ahar Culture which is the most famed, Non-Harappan Culture emerged and developed in this region from 5<sup>th</sup> millennium BCE. This paper deals with pottery assemblages from the chalcolithic sites of Balathal and Gilund of the Ahar Culture and highlights the new insights on the development of Chalcolithic Culture in Mewar. The paper is also significant from the point of view of building rigorous methodology to take up post-excavation studies. The third paper is by P.C.Venkatasubbaiah and is on “A Preliminary study on the Ashmound sites in the Lower Tungabhadra Region of Andhra Pradesh”. The present paper deals with the preliminary observations made on two ash mound sites, Kambadahal and Tsallakudluru, located along the banks of river Tungabhadra and its many affluents covering the eastern part of Yemmiganur, western part of kurnool taluk and eastern part of Kodumur taluks of Kurnool district. It also gives a brief account of the main characteristics of the Neolithic culture of the area along with the inferences made on the evidence of ash mound sites. The fourth research paper is by Dilruba Sharmin and Fumio Okada on “Surface Coating Technique of Northern Black Polished Ware by the Microscopic Analysis”. This particular paper is purely scientific and is an analytical study of collected Northern Black Polished Ware sherds from Wari-Bateshwar and Mahasthangarh sites in Bangladesh including surface observations using binocular and scanning electron microscopes

and Thin Section Analysis of potsherds. The fifth paper is by Badshah Sardar on “Rock art in the Swat Valley, Pakistan”. This paper attempts to study the rock art of Swat valley, an administrative district of the province of Pakistan which is rich in innumerable ancient remains like stupas, monasteries, viharas, forts, castles, petroglyphs, carvings, rock inscriptions, painted shelters and stele. The final paper is by Zulfiqar Ali Kalhoro on “The Tombs of Burfat Tribe at Taung, Thana Bula Khan, Sindh (Pakistan)”. This paper deals with the tombs of the Burfats in small village Taung in Thana Bula Khan. The author has also discussed the role of the Burfats tribe in the socio-political history of Sindh.

We would like to thank all the authors for their valuable contribution. We have received a number of letters appreciating the qualities of our previous issues of the journal. However we would also like to receive critical comments and suggestion from our readers so that we can develop and grow on those lines. Please send in your suggestions to [write@sosaa.org](mailto:write@sosaa.org) and [sosaaindia@gmail.com](mailto:sosaaindia@gmail.com).

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