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**EDITORIAL****Editorial**

Vasant Shinde\*

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Ancient Asia is the official annual journal of the Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA). The Ancient Asia Editorial Board is pleased to present volume 4 of the journal of the Society of South Asian Archaeology to the scholarly world.

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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 archaeological disciplines, and theoretical and methodological issues. The present issue carries seven research articles, varied on topic ranging from pure archaeology to scientific discipline. The first paper is by Sachin Tiwary entitled "Ethnic roots of cultural tradition illustrated in Kaimur Rock Art". This paper is based on the ethno rock art investigation made in the Kaimur region of Bihar, India. In this paper the author has attempted to link between ancient rock art living pattern and the art and culture of modern local group especially the tribe and semi tribes residing in the hill, foot hill and the plain. The second research paper is by Fereshteh Sarhaddi on "Pictographs and Petroglyphs of Saravan (Sistan-Baluchistan, Iran)". This paper has examined the rock art of Saravan as a rich cultural heritage and has discussed on the systematic and scientific study and protection of the Rock Art. The third paper is by Sudeshna Guha and on "Photographs and Archaeological Knowledge". The paper explores some of the ways in which photographs and their archives enable in understanding archaeological knowledge. The fourth research paper is by Yousef Fallahian on "Investigation of Burial Patterns in Iron Age Gilan, Iran". This paper throws light on the Iron Age Culture of Gilan, with special reference to the study of burial practices and patterns. The fifth paper is by Satish S Naik, Vasant Shinde, Amrita Sarkar and Megan Merry McCormick entitled "Plant Micro Remains from Early Historic Vessel, Gilund, Rajasthan". This paper highlights the

archaeo-botanical remains retrieved from an Early Historic vessel from Gilund. The sixth paper is by Vinay Kumar Rao on "The Terracotta Plaques of Pagan: Indian Influence on Burmese Innovations". This paper deals with the art and architecture performed in terracotta plaques of Pagan and its Buddhist religious monumental architecture that shows deep influence from eastern India but at the same time is not a mere repetition of its Indian neighbourhood and is evident with many local experiments and innovations. The final paper is by Bratati Sen on "Structural Remains at the Early Medieval Fort at Raibania, Orissa". The paper deals with the preliminary study of the structural remains at the early mediaeval fort at Raibania in the district of Balasore in Orissa. The author has attempted to establish the role of Raibania under the authority of the Gangas as very significant from the point of view of its strategic location in preventing external attacks and also operating as an army shelter.

This issue also has a book Review by Shahida Ansari on Prehistoric Settlement Pattern of Bengal Delta by M. M. Hoque.

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).

Prof. Vasant Shinde  
Editor

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