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ICHR Lecture Series Programme

Challenges for Constructing Global History in Contemporary Times

by

Dr. Sunil Gupta

Director I/C of the Allahabad Museum

Date:11th September 2017

Time: 3.30 PM.

Venue: ICHR's Conference Hall, 3rd Floor, 35, Ferozeshah Road,

New Delhi

ABSTRACT

A major impact of the phenomena of economic globalization is seen in the standardization of lifestyles manifested in dress codes, eating habits and new entertainment hubs. In recent years local cultures have begun to resist this new cultural mode. In many parts of the world, this reaction has taken the form of resentment to the free movement of people looking for opportunities. In a certain sense, globalozation has triggered fractious thinking, insularity an even racism.

The present scenario in world affairs offers a challenge to historians and archaeologists. Embedded in the idea of global histories are long time scales and large territories. This perspective militates against histories confined by national boundaries of nation states or ethnic categories. In fact, global histories encapsulate the vividness and diversity of the world and do not conceptually agree with the blandness of economic globalization.

In my lecture I will draw upon the ancient world of the early centuries CE, when the Silk Routes of the Land and Sea brought about a globalization of sorts, to explore the dialectics above.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Dr. Sunil Gupta, Director I/C of the Allahabad Museum obtained his Phd from the Deccan College, Pune on the subject of the Archaeology of Indo-Roman Sea Trade in 1998. He has been Charles Wallace Fellow in the UK and JSPS Post Doctoral Fellow in Japan. Dr. Gupta has been editing the Journal of Indian Ocean Archaeology since 2004.