



INDIAN COUNCIL OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER

समाचार

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Chairman's Column

This issue gives a bird's eye view of various activities and programmes conducted by the ICHR during the last quarter of the year just rolled by. The period was significant for the rich variety of academic programmes and collaborative activities at various fronts.

The collaborations with academic bodies of UK, Germany, France, Japan, Finland, Turkey, Iran, etc. have resulted in successful conduct of various academic events like seminars, workshops, lecture series, training programmes and joint research projects. ICHR hosted most of these events facilitating a good interaction between the experts of partner countries.

In active association with the CBSE and NBT, ICHR has undertaken a prestigious national programme, *Shodh Yatri*, envisaged by the Ministry of HRD, Government of India, under the aegis of Hon'ble Minister, Smt. Smriti Z. Irani. A national competition was held to select about 10 students of classes



Xth and XIth who formed into 5 groups of 2 members each. Each group will be sent to any one of the five South-East Asian nations, viz. Myanmar, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Thailand on a study tour and to submit a report on their visit at the end of their tour. Each student will be accompanied by a parent/guardian. And a historian-cum-geographer, a creative writer and a professional photographer will be included in each group.

* From 2016 (Volume 13) onwards the Newsletter shall be published on a quarterly basis: January-March; April-June; July-September; October-December.



Among our running projects, the project entitled '*Dictionary of Martyrs: India's Freedom Struggle (1857-1947)*' is nearing completion. Four volumes with parts have been completed and the fourth volume is under print. The last volume, i.e. the fifth volume covering Southern India, will be finalized by the end of March 2016 and we hope to get it printed by May/June 2016. Similarly, we are also happy that the project on '*Documents on Economic History during British Rule in Northern and Western India: Quality of Life*' is progressing well as per schedule. The volume on Western India is ready for printing while the last volume is expected to be ready by the end of this year. The South Indian Unit of '*Dictionary of Social, Economic and Administrative Terms in Indian/South Asian Inscriptions*' project is also progressing to our satisfaction.

The Council has taken up necessary steps to launch the following major research projects: 1) *History of Science and Technology*; 2) *Environmental History of India*; 3) *Translation of Foreign Sources*; 4) *Modern India: Pre-Partition and Post-Partition India*; and 5) *Epigraphical Records on Indian Education*. The themes will be posted on our web-site seeking suggestions from the experts in the relevant field. Later, the work would start on these projects and we

hope to complete them in record time. Besides these, we are also planning to hold a 21-day training programme on applied allied disciplines like epigraphy and numismatics for young research scholars and junior faculty members to acquaint them with these specialist areas, which are essential in history writing. Details of the programme will be notified shortly inviting applications.

The Council is also planning to conduct an Indo-Japan joint International Symposium on *Economic History of India* in the first week of January 2016 at New Delhi. Similarly, under the Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) German historian, Professor Sebastian Conrad of Freie University, Berlin (Germany), shall be visiting India and delivering lectures in February 2016. The Council has taken various steps to conduct lecture series in India.

We feel happy that the Council is functioning smoothly with the close cooperation of the members of the Council and the administrative staff. We are also getting good encouragement and support from our academic fraternity and intelligentsia. With the kind patronage of the Government of India, we hope to move forward with long strides.

Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao



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Selections From Chairman's Diary

Following is a brief report of Chairman's academic activities and his views on Historical Research:

23 December 2015: 10th Conference of Bharatiya Itihasa Sankalana Yojana, University of Mysore, Manasa Gangotri, Mysore.

Brief Description

Chairman gave a message to the Conference which reads as follows:

“The modern understandings of the origins of Society and State formation are dependent on the Western theories mostly proposed during the Enlightened era in Europe. The modern theories are evolved

on the basis of imagined societies of the past in the light of empirical analysis of the present. While the imagined societies are unreal, the empiricism changes priorities very frequently. So, the understandings based on such temporal thought process would lead to diversities, complexities and mutual incompatibilities. The liberal thought has led to ‘individualism’ where every individual will have his/her way in life. Stretching too much of this ‘liberalism’ will test the elasticity of social harmony. Intellectual speculations on fundamental issues and basic social structures would only destabilize the time tested social institutions in general and marriage institution in particular.

India, which holds the record of unbroken culture since ages unknown, holds the key for the survival of civilized communities continuously over the length and breadth of our country. Our civilization throughout has been based on culture. Our culture has emerged from the Vedic thought which in turn is based on *Dharma*. This is what we refer to as *Sanathana Dharma*. Thus, *Dharma* is not only above religion, it is also the basis for the Veda, according to Mahamahopadhyaya, Dr Sivananda Murtyji. The primary Vedic literature professes *Dharma*; *Sutras* dictate *Dharma* and Epics demonstrate *Dharma*.

Our ancient literature vouchsafes that Indian social institutions enjoy solid cultural base reinforced by *Dharma* unlike modern intellectual propositions. As argued today, social institutions like marriage, family, community, tribe, society and state should not be understood as contractual, which



could be broken at will. Safety and security of woman is given top priority in all these social institutions by the ancient Indian culture. An individual, man or woman, has to be bound to certain regulations, a code of conduct, for establishing harmony in the society. In a social organization an individual enjoys restricted freedom. Absolute freedom evokes *jungle* law in the temporal world.

The original Indian thought is not mind-boggling; rather it is soul-searching. It explains the meaning and purpose of life. It fixes one goal for all and allows wide choice in religious practices. Though the soul has no gender yet it takes birth as either male or female. They are united as 'one' in marriage. They together pursue one goal thereafter. Common spiritual goal for both is unique to Vedic marriage. Thus, every Indian marriage, irrespective of caste or colour or creed or rituals or family customs, is viewed in terms of the marriage of Goddess Laxmi and Narayana, to be united like *Ardhanareeswara* (like Siva and Parvati, the primordial couple) and to live in this world as two in one (like Sita and Ram). That is the ideal for the order of the society.

It doesn't mean that all Indian marriages are running on ideal lines, but their shortcomings should not be attributed to the concept. The success of these marriages also varies in degrees. We mortals attempt to reach the goal, transcending the pitfalls. In our life, we may be failing many a time but we continue to struggle to stay on the path since we have to take the system seriously. The institution of marriage sustains a healthy society.

The Vedic marriage system is qualitatively different from the marriages of other religious belief systems or modern social marriages or live-in relationships where both enter into a conditional agreement unless they bind themselves for life. Otherwise, the modern approaches may even take us back to the days of social formation. Gender equality is better served in the marriage system where mutual respect and understanding is ensured between the partners.

In fact, in Indian philosophical thought, wife is not only equal to her husband, but even placed in a central position in the household domain. In family and in marriage, much thought was applied to ensure first her security and primacy. Man's life only revolves around his wife in a limited radius being bound to her and she, holding the rope, loosens or tightens, as occasion demands. The *Sutra* literature deals with do's and don'ts in detail for both men and women. The modern interpretations of the *Sutras* leading to misunderstandings of the



Chairman (extreme right) with other participants at the 10th Conference of Bharatiya Itihasa Sankalana Yojana, Mysore



time-tested institutions are conditioned by the present social complexities.”

17 December 2015 : Joint Annual Session of Indian Archaeological Society at University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.

Brief Description

Chairman, in his message at the inaugural function of the Joint Session of the Society, reiterated the importance of archaeological and literary sources for constructing the history of the past of any community or society, region or country. India is unique in the world with vast amount of literary sources dating back to time immemorial and every place in India will provide material evidences if properly and seriously explored. Historiography depends on these two basic sources – archaeological and historical. Now several other intangible sources, folklore for example, are also identified to reconstruct the history.



Chairman inaugurating Annual Session of Indian Archaeological Society, Hyderabad

He said that the development of science can trace its beginning to the Enlightenment era in Europe during 18th century. The ‘knowledge’ had been unclassified till then.

The basic disciplines of science emerged in 19th century which is described as the Age of Science. The disciplined and classified Science has revolutionized the life of man on earth almost influencing every walk of life. The following century witnessed a spurt in the progress of science as each discipline developed substantially which necessitated the branching off of each discipline. Specializations and super-specializations have emerged. The super-specializations led to the emergence of applied sciences. This phenomenon transformed the 20th century as the Age of Technology. By the end of the last century, the necessity of following an interdisciplinary approach became widely recognized and the leads in these fields in the present century suggest that the demarcations and boundaries of each discipline are superficial.

Archaeology as a science underwent all these phases of development from amateurish to professional. Indian historiography was mainly dominated by literary sources. Till early 20th century, our historiography was based on literary sources. Our attention is now being drawn to archaeological sources, thanks to the pioneering work of Cunningham. He identified several Puranic sites and the routes of the travelers based on literature – foreign and indigenous. In the first half of the 20th century, archaeology enriched our history with new finds of material sources. These findings and new interpretations of these sources have also disturbed the contemporary established facts of history. A new trend has developed in the



Indian historiography giving prominence to archeological sources and the authenticity of literary sources is mostly dependent on the material evidence. Several issues are raised in relation to ethnic, social, cultural, economic and political aspects.

Globally, like all other sciences, archaeology as a discipline has also undergone a great change from pre-processional and processional to post-processional. While in the beginning it was thought of digging our past for us, but now modern super-sciences like geology, astronomy, bio-chemistry, etc. are being applied to explore medieval and modern times and also cosmic spheres. It is also attempting to include intangible sources like folklore. The archaeologists being inspired by the Indian literature are seriously attempting to find archaeological sources to authenticate their ancient myths, old and new Testaments, etc. Indian archaeologists may also pay their attention to these studies to substantiate Indian history. The advances made in the archaeological science in the West should help us in our endeavor to know the factual and real history of our past. He suggested that archeological and literary sources should go hand in hand to reconstruct our history.

He concluded by quoting a distinguished archaeologist, George L. Cowgill: “If we cannot properly understand without taking serious account of the minds of ancient individuals, we face disturbing problems” (*American Anthropologist*, New Series, Vol. 95, No. 3 [September, 1993], pp. 551-573, <http://www.jstor.org/stable/679650>)

5 December 2015 : A Two-day National Seminar on ‘Rayalaseema Identity, Development and Politics from the formation of Andhra State to the partition of Andhra Pradesh’ at SKR & SKR Govt. College, Kadapa.

Brief Description

While inaugurating the seminar as the Chief Guest, the Chairman said that it was in the nature of man to crave for an identity, from individual identity to a collective identity based on several aspects like occupation, language, community, tribe, country, religion and creed, etc. Earlier, the identities were preferred on cultural lines. The emergence of democracies have revived the need of maintaining the identities for economic considerations. Economic development of the region had become a major slogan in contemporary politics.



Chairman delivering the inaugural address at Kadapa

The cultural identities have slowly led to class, caste and region identities for a concerted political action. The studies of regional history have gained ground in the post Independence era starting from the



role of region in the great struggle for freedom to various other social and political movements.

In the post Independence era, historical research by Indian scholars stepped up. Soon after we achieved Independence, the roles of each region, community and individual in the freedom struggle dominated the theme of researches in the academia and also by independent scholars or groups of scholars. As the liberal democratic system attained stability over the years, economic, social, cultural and art histories came into prominence. This has drawn the attention of historians to regional, local and micro studies. Over the recent years, new areas like gender, trade and commerce, health, education, crime, folklore, etc. took precedence. These paradigm shifts quite often have been creating new genres of history. However, these studies enriched our history and also the understanding of our history.

4 December 2015 : Seminar on ‘Secularism—Conceptual and Historical Analysis in Indian Context’ organized by Pragna Bharati, Tirupati Unit, in the Senate Hall of S V University, Tirupati.

Brief Description

The Chairman in his keynote address dwelt at length on the conceptual framework of ‘Secularism’ in the modern context tracing its origin from the Enlightened era in Europe. Since then, reason and logic have obtained precedence over belief and faith in

Europe. Despite the growing predominance and influence of reason and logic, religion is enjoying its control over social and political aspects of human life in the world communities that opted for some kind of democratic system.

Being the oldest and continuous civilized community, India offers a different scenario in this field of human activity. India is not committed to one religion or a single stream of religious activity. Its multi belief systems emerged from various philosophies (*Darsanas*) and multi religious practices (both *savya* and *apsavya*). Indian culture provides us a wider choice of multiple disciplinary paths or directions, all leading to only a single goal. Though it appears very complicated, Indian culture allows an individual to enjoy complete freedom in choosing a path of his liking and ability for his spiritual practice. Though different schools have evolved in ancient and medieval times, the individual’s freedom to follow any particular school is assured. Various schools, practices, beliefs of multi communities living together have in course of time been absorbed by the mainstream which is now known as ‘Hinduism’ in which all these practices and beliefs are comfortably accommodated without major frictions. Therefore, the secular thought has been the basis of Indian psyche even in the presence of strong non-Indian religions in practice and also being preached. The non-Indian religions and philosophical schools are not only tolerated in India but also respected.





Chairman delivering the keynote address at SV University, Tirupati

30 October 2015 : A Special Lecture on ‘The Importance of preservation of Heritage Monuments’, organized by Rajasthan Study Centre, and the Department of History and Culture, Rajasthan University, in collaboration with the Rajasthan Gharohar Samrakshana and Pronnati Pradheekaran, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Brief Description

Indian sub-continent, known as Bharat since time immemorial, has left a vast and rich mine of historical material of different kinds. The significance of this ‘Land’ is that every inch of this will tell us many stories of historical interest. Apart from material remains, we have folk and tribal lore besides elitist oral and literary traditions. The modern times dominated by Western education and culture contributed to the alienation of present generations from their rich past. It is time that the Government takes cognizance of this situation and initiates appropriate measures to educate our children and youth in such a manner

that they are able to appreciate the rich, age-old cultural heritage of our country.



Chairman delivering the inaugural address at Rajasthan University

30 October 2016 : National Seminar on ‘New Dimensions on Early Medieval India’, Rajasthan University Campus, organized by Shodhak, Jaipur.

Brief Description

Inaugurating the Annual Session of the ‘Shodhak’, the Chairman referred to certain misconceptions about medieval India. The early Western scholars, looking at medieval India from the Western historical perspective, claimed that the medieval period was a dark age wherein India was split into small kingdoms that were at loggerheads with one another on a constant basis, creating in the process total disunity. This fragile political situation invited outsiders to encroach on our territory.

In fact, there was no historical void between Ancient and Modern periods in India. Though it is difficult to convincingly establish a civilizational continuity covering



the missing links from the remote past to Mauryan times, India, nevertheless, is blessed with continuous civilization and culture from time immemorial. Empire building for the sake of extending their political control over other geographical areas was not an Indian concept. Even during the epic period, epic heroes had defeated their enemies only for their personal reasons and the victors did not occupy the kingdoms of the losers. The main aim of the heads of those political units was protecting the 'dharma'. Even the empires referred to in the epics and ancient literature, Sanskrit and others, were *dharmic* and cultural rather than political. Now-a-days, it is often stated that the 'haves' have succeeded in building huge 'economic' empires. If we classify the invasions on India, we find that the earliest known in our history was that of Greeks which was surely political; and those of medieval India in comparison were, initially, economic but later turned out to be political and religious. The attacks by Westerners were mostly commercial.

It may also be mentioned here that the dynasties ruling India in the medieval times were so short that stability of the kingdom was always in peril. In ancient India we find long lineages of kings in at least 4 or 5 dynasties, some continuing for more than 100 generations dating back to Puranic times till almost up to the Mauryan times. We do not hear of any major wars among them. Even the Mahabharata was fought between the cousins for the same kingdom. Several kingdoms in Bharat, including the

ones in deep south, participated in the battle. Irrespective of the results of the battle, no participant either lost his kingdom or gained that of the other. In comparison, the invaders of India in the medieval times were of a different class.

The distorted Indian history of colonial times has been so widely publicized and has so deeply influenced the minds of people that all efforts to bring the truth to the forefront have gone in vain. While colonial historiography contains lots of distortions, borrowed perspectives, bias on the basis of class, colour, gender, social status, etc. of the West dominate the historiography of the post-Independence period. Modern research works are only meant for the scholars to read and debate endlessly without any concrete purpose being served. The common man is thus deprived of any knowledge of his history. Let modern research scholars strive to work sincerely without a bias in order that the masses get to know the real history of the people. History should be objective and its aim should be to educate the common man in such a manner that his character gets



A warm welcome being extended to Chairman at the National Seminar organized by Shodhak, Jaipur



transformed and he is able to see things in their true perspective.

5 October 2015: ICHR Workshop on 'Rapid Urbanization' at Osmania University, Hyderabad.

In his presidential remarks at the close of the workshop under the Indo-German exchange programme organized by the ICHR, the Chairman spoke:

“The ‘urbanity’ referred to in this workshop is different from India and the West. Their characteristics are also different because the studies pertain to different regions of the world. The phenomenon of this urbanity in the West is mostly related to the post-industrial revolution. The process of modern urbanization in the West has three phases: pre-industrial revolution, post-industrialization and post-Second World War when Global economy had emerged. Including its urban phase of Greco-Roman times, their urban history does not go beyond two-three millennia. But India has had quite longer background for its urbanization dating back to 5-6 millennia of Harappan times. Recent studies show that Harappan urbanization was not just limited to the Sind area; this phenomenon was widespread in India. Urbanization has been a continuous process in India as there were no breaks in civilization.

Indian urban process has also three broad phases because of her colonial background: pre-colonial, colonial and post-Independence. Pre-colonial period had witnessed developed urban process on most

scientific lines, the texts dating back to at least two millennia. The coding and fabricating applications continued till the beginning of its colonial phase. The medieval text, ‘*Samaranganasutradhara*’, is a fair example of this. The pre-historic town planning of Harappan times, urban management science from Indica and Arthashastra serve as appropriate examples of expertise available in India. Many historic cities, the antiquities of which cannot be traced, continue to be famous religious and commercial centers. Considerable historical literature on the ancient cities is still available. According to legendary sources, Varanasi, the seat of Viswanatha, is supposed to be about 25000 years old and claim that it was found at the time of the beginnings of this ‘creation’.

Our Sastras and literature have distinctly classified cities or towns, like *pura*, *pattana*, *nagara*, etc. These distinctions are based on how and why a city is raised. Some served as capitals of political units, some as administrative units, some for trade and commerce, some for artistic pursuits, etc. During the colonial phase, European traders built their ‘factories’ along the Indian sea-coast. In course of time some of these factories developed into bigger towns and cities. Greek and Roman notices of early centuries of this era mention the existence of many ‘*puras*’ protected by walls. In the Deccan itself, it was reported that there were 30 ‘walled towns’. Thus, we are left with a very rich heritage of towns and cities. With the coming of Muslims and Europeans, new cities came up throughout India with different



stylistic features. In the post-Independence era, the process of urbanization could be seen in two sub-phases--pre-liberalization and liberalization stages. During the mixed economy phase in the pre-liberalization period, major industries and irrigation projects came up in new cities and townships in the existing cities. Rural migration made these cities intolerably congested. City-planning is totally ignored, slums developed, traffic increased multi-fold and things went beyond control. Liberalization gave impetus to rapid urbanization.

Ancient and medieval cities could retain their special characteristics till as late as the beginning of liberalization of economy. In the past two-three decades, every Indian city has grown disproportionate to the physical facilities and infrastructure available in the city. Traffic congestions, constant widening of roads, etc. changed the faces of all cities. When we speak of heritage, none of these cities could preserve and retain their pristine glory and characteristics. Unlike European cities which till now succeeded in retaining their medieval stylistic features, Indian cities have grown beyond recognition in three decades.

In the recent times, several scholars worked on urban history in the West. But their theories are based on their experiences and these theories and applications are based on empirical studies in their regions. A few Indian scholars are also attempting to research in this area. We must draw the attention of the policy makers to consider the historical aspects of urbanization and

Indian theoretical knowledge of the past in building up strategies to solve the problems we are encountering in the process of urban development.”



Chairman delivering the presidential address at the conclusion of the workshop; Professor Susanne Rau from Germany (sitting) delivered the keynote address; also seen in the picture, among others, is Professor A. Satyanarayana (dark blue shirt)

2 October 2016 : National Seminar on ‘Contribution of Folklores in History writing’, organized by Thakur Jagdev Singh Smriti Sodha Samsthan, Neri, Dt. Hamirpur, HP.

While inaugurating the Seminar, the Chairman spoke on the importance of collection and preservation of our folk traditions, which are fading away fast. If enough care is not taken by the Government and voluntary associations to preserve our folk traditions as historical sources, the future generations shall stand to lose. He said, our ancient literary tradition only started as oral tradition. For preserving the knowledge, a number of families are identified and they are entrusted with the responsibility of preserving the oral tradition in letter, sound and deed for thousands of years.



Similarly, the families were dedicated to popularize history of the universe and mankind as Puranas and the knowledge of this was disseminated to different regions of our land. This was a continuous effort by the elite to reach out to the common man. We can find the system working in historical phase in Buddhist and Jain traditions. During the medieval times, as modern vernaculars developed, some families under each social group were entrusted by the communities with the responsibility of recording, preserving and propagating their family histories and the stories of their heroes and memorable events. This method was current till we got independence. In modern times these long chains got broken. The valuable historical information was thus lost forever. The least we can now do is to preserve whatever historical information is available for the benefit of future generations.



Chairman interacting with the organizers of the National Seminar at Hamirpur, HP

Major Projects

During the period under report, progress was made in some of the major projects

undertaken by the ICHR, the details of which are given below.

Dictionary of Martyrs: India's Freedom Struggle (1857-1947)

During the period under report the Central Research Team (CRT) received the suggestions/opinions of the experts and State Coordinators on the draft of Volume 4, covering Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and North-East Hill States (1857-1947). The Ministry of Culture, Government of India, has sent its approval for the publication of Volumes 4 & 5 with a few suggestions for improvement in the draft type-script, submitted by the CRT in the preceding month.

Following the incorporation of suggestions of all, the CRT had sent the draft volume to the press for its composition in book-form in December 2015. At least three proofs will be read in the composed copy in the subsequent month before its actual publication.

As regards Volume 5 (covering Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Kerala), the experts' suggestions are awaited. The State Coordinators of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, however, had sent their opinions on the biographical sketches of martyrs of their respective states by the end of December 2015. On receiving all the suggestions/opinions, the work will follow in the same manner as in Volume 4.



Dictionary of Social, Economic and Administrative Terms in Indian/South Asian Inscriptions

Professor Y. Subbarayalu, Chief Editor of the South Indian Inscriptions volumes of the project entitled 'Dictionary of Social, Economic and Administrative Terms in Indian/South Asian Inscriptions' mentioned in his report that as decided in the sub-committee meeting of the Dictionary Project held at Bengaluru on 4 August 2015, the correction work of the computerized data was taken up during this period. The data was separated language-wise and given to the respective language editors. As the data for the Telugu language was found insufficient, with about thousand (1000) entries only, Dr. N.S. Ramachandra Murthy, the Editor for the Telugu entries, was requested to collect more entries from untapped inscriptions with the help of research assistants. By the end of December, he could collect nearly two thousand five hundred (2500) fresh entries. According to his estimate the remaining work is expected to be completed by April 2016. The Kannada and Tamil entries are being checked with the original texts for corrections. About one-third of the correction work has been completed.

ICHR-IDSK Joint Project entitled 'Documents on Economic History during the British Rule in Northern and Western India in the Late Nineteenth Century: Quality of Life'

Professor Arun Bandopadhyay, Associate Editor of the Project, has sent a report

of the above-named project in which he informs that during the period under report, the final draft of Part II (1880s-1890s) of the volume on Northern India was prepared and will be submitted before the meeting of the Monitoring Committee of ICHR scheduled to be held in February 2016 (the first draft was placed before the Monitoring Committee on 15 May 2015).

Documents for both Part I and Part II of the volume have been collected from a wide spectrum of human activity giving special information bearing on the quality of life of ordinary Indians. The documents have been broadly classified under the following heads: a) Administrative Reports; b) Land Revenue Settlement Reports; c) Forest Reports; d) Income Tax Reports; e) Public Health Reports; f) Infanticide Reports; g) Education Reports; h) Famine Reports; i) Jail Reports; j) Census Reports; k) Reports of Native Presses; l) Miscellaneous Reports. The research team had visited the National Library, Kolkata; National Archives of India, New Delhi; Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi; and other repositories both in Kolkata and New Delhi for consulting the sources available there. Moreover, many of the documents were procured from Internet Access to UNOG (United Nations Office at Geneva) Library and Archives, Cambridge University Library, Google Archives, etc.

Publications

The ICHR, a premier institution in the field of historical studies, provides lead in



fostering research on all aspects of Indian history. A number of research projects are undertaken or sponsored every year and new findings are brought out in print. The ICHR has brought out many such publications. These publications fall broadly into the following categories:

1. Publication of research works and sources commissioned by the Council;
2. Publication of books on Indian History translated into various Indian languages;
3. Publication of works for which financial subsidy has been awarded by the Council; and
4. Publication of two biannual journals—*Indian Historical Review* in English and *Itihas* in Hindi—and a Newsletter (in English).

During the period under report, the following work was done under different heads:

Publication Subsidy

ICHR has been helping authors to publish books under its Publication Subsidy Scheme. The majority of these are doctoral dissertations approved by the Council after rigorous scrutiny. Apart from doctoral dissertations, the following categories of works relating to History are also covered under this scheme: monograph and other research work; proceedings of seminar/symposium/conference; critically

edited/ translated source material; bibliographical and documentation work; periodical publication; any other research-oriented work; and translation into any Indian language or into English of an important work on History.

During the period under report, ten books covering various aspects of history like Agrarian Society, Saiva Art, Police Administration, etc. were published under the Publication Subsidy Scheme of ICHR.

Indian Historical Review (IHR), Vol. 42, No. 2 (December 2015)

The IHR, brought out since 1974 by the ICHR, has been an important means of transmitting results of researches in history. It has won wide recognition for its comprehensive and balanced coverage of different periods, as well as its high academic and editorial standards. It is indeed among the most prestigious publications of ICHR and is perhaps the only journal of its kind that has been published continuously for more than 40 years. It is a matter of great pride that IHR is listed in Thomson Reuters Citation Index; it is one of the few journals in India with an elaborate system of referral of all contributions to experts.

The IHR will continue to serve a broad range of research interests in Indian history from early times to contemporary history, and in the various specializations or sub-disciplines which have developed in the area of historical studies.



Professor Dilip K. Chakrabarti (Professor Emeritus of South Asian Archaeology, Cambridge University, UK) is the Editor-in-Chief of IHR. The technical work of production and marketing is taken care of by Sage Publications (India) Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.

During the period under report, Vol. 42, No. 2 (December 2015) of IHR was published. This issue contains 6 articles and 24 reviews of books.

Articles

Vinay Kumar Gupta: Archaeological Landscape of Ancient Mathura in Relation to Its Art Workshops

Shalin Jain: Jain Elites and the Mughal State under Shahjahan

Jangkhomang Guite: One Event, Two States: Commemorating the Deaths of 1891 in Manipur

Santosh Kumar Rai: Ways to Modernization and Adaptation: The State, Weaving Training Schools and Handloom Weavers in Early Twentieth Century United Provinces, India

Sarah Hilaly: Trajectory of Region Formation in the Eastern Himalayas

Douglas McDonald: Becoming Indian: William Broome and Colonial Continuity in Post-Independence India

Itihās (Shodh Patrika) Hindi Journal

The Editorial Committee meeting of *Itihās* held on 13 May 2015 had resolved

to revive *Itihās* from 2015. As a result of request made to scholars through a notice in ICHR's website, 34 articles were received for *Itihās*. A list of these was prepared and sent to the Working Editor, Professor I.S. Vishwakarma, to nominate experts for their evaluation. Professor Vishwakarma, in consultation with the Chief Editor of *Itihās* and the Chairman, nominated the names of experts. The expert opinion was received on 32 articles, a list of which shall be placed before the Editorial Board in its next meeting likely to be held in March 2016.

Display and Sale of ICHR Publications

Apart from publishing books and journals and extending subsidy, the Publications Unit of ICHR also plays a big role by way of organizing make-shift book-stalls (on various occasions like seminars, workshops, special lectures, conferences, etc.) where ICHR publications are displayed and sold.



Book-stall opened by ICHR's Publications Unit at Malda from 27th to 29th December 2015

During the period under report, ICHR participated in the Annual Session of the



Indian History Congress held at the University of Gour Banga, Malda, West Bengal from 27 December to 29 December 2015. On this occasion also ICHR's Publications Unit opened a make-shift book-stall where all the books and other publications of the Council were prominently displayed.

Library-Cum-Documentation Centre

The ICHR Library, the knowledge hub of the organization, provides comprehensive access to books, journals, theses and dissertations covering diverse disciplines. The library offers a congenial atmosphere with a reader cultured approach in a serene and calm environment.

The library has developed fully air-conditioned reading room and computer terminals for providing a congenial environment to scholars. It has also been providing xerox copies of academic reference to scholars on demand at a nominal rate of Re 1/- per page. Approximately 8350 exposures were made available to scholars for their research requirement during October-December 2015.

The ICHR Library-cum-Documentation Centre provided reference services to 400 scholars in person, by telephone and through written and electronic correspondence during the said period. The library also received during this period 6 books as complimentary and 30 M.Phil./Ph.D. theses/dissertations from Grants-in-Aid units of the Council.

The reading room of ICHR Library is kept open from 9.30 am to 5.30 pm on all days, with the exception of Sundays and gazetted holidays. Scholars are welcome to offer suggestions for improvement of the library.

Microfilm/Microfiche Digitization

The Library-cum-Documentation Centre continues to serve the academic world with digitization of microfilms/microfiches by converting into the digital form. The digital copies are available in the Documentation Centre for access to scholars. During the period under report, more than 2500 folios were digitized into the pdf format.

Digitization of rare books & manuscripts

The Library-cum-Documentation Centre continues with digitization of rare original Index means of scanning. During the period under report, 1500 pages were converted into the digital format. These are rare proceedings of the ICHR seminars. The digital copies are available in the Documentation Centre for access to scholars.

Indexing Service

The Library-cum-Documentation Centre has also brought out a list of important titles bearing on Indian history that were published in various journals and periodicals both in India and abroad under the title 'Papers on Indian History' covering the period from October to December 2015.



Online database services

The Library-cum-Documentation Centre continues to serve the academic community through the online database service, viz. DELNET, JSTOR, INDIASTATE, PROJECT MUSE. About 1000 downloads were made available across India during the said period.

National Education Day Celebration

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Memorial Lecture

The ICHR celebrated the National Education Day by organizing the VIIIth Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Memorial Lecture on Saturday, 30 November 2015, in the auditorium of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA), Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi.

Distinguished historian His Excellency Dr. BurakAkcapar, Ambassador of the



His Excellency Dr. BurakAkcapar being extended a warm welcome by Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary (officiating), ICHR

Republic of Turkey to India, New Delhi, delivered the Memorial Lecture and spoke on “Connected Histories of Humanitarianisms: A Rejoinder”. Professor R.S. Agarwal, among the senior-most Members of the Council of ICHR, presided over the Lecture.

His Excellency Dr. BurakAkcapar informed the audience that “At the turn of the 20th century the world entered an age of senseless violence, culminating in two conventional and one cold war. This coincided with the flow of compassion across borders and beyond the call of duty. The world has responded by creating institutions to restrain violence and facilitate provision of development and humanitarian relief partnerships. In the 21st century the world is moving towards the first World Humanitarian Summit at a time when Western/Northern monopolies in global power relationships and institutions are giving way to more universal ones. Scholarship must catch up by integrating various humanitarianisms existent in the histories of various cultures and religions and show the connected history of the concept of institutionalized compassion across borders. This Lecture will locate humanitarianism in the context of the Indian Medical Mission to the Ottoman Empire during the Balkan Wars of 1912-1913 and make a rejoinder to develop a body of connected history scholarship in a bid to help establish a joint Western/Northern and non-Western/Southern universal concept of humanitarianism”.

His Excellency first discussed historiography, the challenges of re-enacting history



withstanding the complications brought about by the differences between any concept's contemporary and past meanings. He then proceeded to a re-enactment of the Indian Medical Mission's context and activities in Ottoman Turkey, highlighting its political and humanitarian efforts. Thereafter, he followed up by explaining the Western historiography of humanitarianism and the contemporary challenge to form a holistic or cross-culturally integrated understanding of humanitarianism. Lastly, His Excellency made an appeal to connect histories.

The Lecture was attended by a number of scholars from various academic institutions and universities and by staff-members of ICHR.



His Excellency Dr. Burak Akcapar delivering the Maulana Azad Memorial Lecture; also seen in the picture are Professor R.S. Agarwal and Dr. S.K. Aruni

Cultural Exchange Programme

ICHR has been contributing substantially to developing cultural relations between India and various countries of the world through

its Cultural Exchange Programme. During the period under report, the following activities took place under the CEP:

EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP)

The Steering Committee Meeting of EqUIP held on 21 October 2015 in New Delhi to discuss future activities of the programme was attended by Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Chairman, ICHR, Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary (officiating), ICHR, and Dr. (Ms) Noopur Singh, Consultant (Public Relations), ICHR.

EU-India Platform: In order to encourage closer cooperation between India and Europe in the Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) disciplines at a global level, the EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) brings together research funding and support organizations in Europe and India in order to develop a stronger strategic partnership. The EqUIP, therefore, seeks to enhance collaboration and to expand, including other organizations as associate members. Associate membership in the Platform is open to all organizations – governmental or non-governmental funding agencies – based in India, in the EU Member States, as well as in Associated Countries to the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

The geographical focus of this Platform requires the identification of SSH networks in India. The ICSSR acts as nodal link



between EU and ICSSR's regional institutions associated with the ICSSR, other research councils (particularly Humanities research councils such as the Indian Council for Historical Research and the Indian Council for Philosophical Research) and universities.



Chairman addressing the participants from EU countries; also seen in the picture is Shri Ramesh Yernagula, Dy Director (Documentation), ICHR

Staff Exchange Scheme (SES): A visit of representatives of the EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) partners to the ICHR under the EqUIP's Staff Exchange Scheme was organised on 16 October 2016 to give partners the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences to further understanding and build trust, and to get to know each other's funding opportunities, peer review systems and programmes of international collaboration. The ICHR discussed its research funding and evaluation process with participants from EU countries [Gonçalo Zagalo Pereira (Fundacao Para A Ciencia E A Tecnologia, Portugal), Jacqui Karn (Economic and Social Research Council, United Kingdom), Benjamin Sharman (Economic and Social Research Council, United Kingdom), Jennifer

Striebeck (Deutsches Zentrum FuerLuft - Und Raumfahrt Ev, Germany), Merethe Sandberg Moe (Norges Forskningsrad, Norway), SatuHuuha-Cissokho (Suomen Akatemia, Finland)] and from ICSSR [Dr. Mahesh P. Madhukar (Assistant Director), Dr. S.M. Verma (Assistant Director) and Dr. Reena Marwah (Senior Academic Consultant & Coordinator, EqUIP Programme)]. The SES was organized to help to build professional networks and good relationships among partners; it primarily targeted at officers working closely with research funding activities and evaluation process.

ICHR and AHRC (UK) Joint Call for Proposals, 2015-16, Cultural Heritage and Rapid Urbanisation in India

As a follow-up activity to the ICHR-AHRC workshop on 3-5 March 2015 in New Delhi, the ICHR-AHRC announced on 22 July 2015 a Call for Joint Research Project for the year 2015-16 on the theme: 'Cultural Heritage and Rapid Urbanisation in India'. The selection committees of both ICHR and AHRC invited video conference on 27 October 2016 at Delhi and selected the following four Research Projects for being awarded:

Name	Topic
Prof. Ajay Khare School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal	The Historic City of Ajmer-Pushkar: Mapping Layers of History, Use and Meaning for Sustainable Planning and Conservation



Name	Topic
Dr. Anu Sabhlok Indian Institute of Science, Education & Research, Mohali	Learning from the Utopian City: An International Network on Alternative Histories of India's Urban Futures
Prof. Manvita Baradi Center for Environmental Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad	Reflecting on the River: Rapid Urbanisation and Representations of Indian Cultural Heritage
Dr. Priyaleen Singh School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi	Community-led Heritage Regeneration in India

Indo-German Exchange Programme

ICHR-DFG Workshop in Hyderabad

A workshop (under Indo-German Exchange Programme) on Urban History in collaboration with the PG Department of History, Osmania University, Hyderabad and the Southern Regional Centre of the ICSSR, was held at Osmania University, Hyderabad on 5 October 2015.

The keynote address was delivered by Professor Susanne Rau (Professor of Spatial History and Culture, University of Erfurt, Germany) on the topic: "From Urbanization to Urbanity: New Trends in Exploring the History of Cities".

The abstract of Professor Rau's lecture is given below:

Why should we concern ourselves about the history of the urban environment? Modern cities are facing major challenges. It is estimated that 60% of the world's population will live in cities by 2040, but

they already use 80% of the total energy that is consumed. By 2025, the number of cities with more than 10 million people should move from about 20 to 30. This was different in the early modern period when only 10 to 20% of the population was living in cities. But even at that time we can observe urbanization processes. In Europe, in the 17th and 18th centuries, the number of inhabitants increased by 30 to 50% in several cities like London or Paris, the pure number of cities with more than 10,000 inhabitants increased and, especially in the 18th century, some of them were expanding their surface area. But what were the effects of the urbanization, what was the impact on the ways of life of the inhabitants? What did it mean for the development of an urban culture? While former (demographically oriented) research on urban history has analyzed the development of cities, processes of urbanization and urban systems, recent studies place an emphasis on the ways in which urban centers were perceived, experienced and understood. I would like to propose that it should be the goal of further research into urban history to combine quantitative and qualitative (or cultural) approaches for a better understanding of the functioning and the problems of rapidly growing cities. Therefore we should ask in which ways these changes (density, expansion) were perceived, how the urban environment and the change of urban form were apprehended, which cultural techniques were invented for this, how and why citizens developed urban institutions and urban ways of life as a reaction to the growing difference between town and country, urbanity and rurality. Recent urban histories are responding to this challenge.

Professor Sheela Prasad, Centre for Regional Studies, University of Hyderabad, Professor



C. Ramachandraiah, Dept. of Urban Studies, Centre for Economic and Social Studies, Hyderabad and Prof. Srinivas Chary Vedala, Director, Urban Governance, Infrastructure, Environment and Energy, Hyderabad were the discussants.

The programme was attended by a number of scholars from various academic institutions and universities including Prof. Sudarshan Reddy and Prof. A. Satyanarayana of Osmania University. Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary, conducted the programme.



Professor Susanne Rau delivering the keynote address; to her left are Chairman, ICHR and Professor A. Satyanarayana

Regional Centres

With a view to reaching out to far-flung areas of the country, the Council runs two regional centres, one at Bengaluru and the other at Guwahati. Both the centres have been actively involved in helping scholars carry out their research by providing library infrastructure and organizing regional and state level seminars.

The Southern Regional Centre (SRC), Bengaluru, and the North East Regional Centre, Guwahati, are headed by Dr. S.K. Aruni and Dr. Uttam Bathari respectively.

Southern Regional Centre (SRC), Bengaluru

The Southern Regional Centre has been actively taking part in various research schemes of ICHR; it has also been organizing workshops, seminars, symposia and lecture programmes. The Centre's endeavour has been to promote scientific research in history.

A brief report of the activities undertaken by the SRC during the period under report is given below.

I. Lecture Series Programme

The SRC organized two lectures under this Programme, the details of which are given below.

1. **Professor Ravi Korisettar** (Dr. D. C. Pavate Chair, Professor of Art and Archaeology, Karnatak University, Dharwad) spoke on "Early Agricultural Village Settlement at Sanganakallu, Ballari District, Karnataka", on 9 November 2015. Twenty-five scholars attended the lecture. Among these were: Dr. Aswathanarayana (Dept. of History, Bangalore University, Bengaluru); Dr. H.G. Rajesh (Editor, *Itihasa Darpana*); Dr. S. Khaja Moideen (Assistant Professor, Govt. College, Krishnagiri, T.N.); Dr. Pampa Devi (Bengaluru);



Dr. B.S. Shamala Rathnakumari (Bengaluru); and Sri C.B. Patil (ASI, Bengaluru).



Professor Ravi Korisetar delivering the lecture

2. **Professor Nikhiles Guha**, Member, ICHR, and former Professor of History, Kalyani University, West Bengal, spoke on “Education in Princely Mysore and the Establishment of the Mysore University” on 23 December 2015. Thirty-seven scholars attended the programme. Among these were: Dr. Aswathanarayana (Dept. of History, Bangalore University, Bengaluru); Dr. H.G. Rajesh (Editor,



Professor Nikhiles Guha delivering the lecture; also seen in the picture is Professor O. Anantharamaiah

Itihasa Darpana); Dr. S. Khaja Moideen (Assistant Professor, Govt. College, Krishnagiri, T.N.); Dr. Pampa Devi (Bengaluru); Dr. B.S. Shamala Rathnakumari (Bengaluru); and Sri C.B. Patil (ASI, Bengaluru).

II. Meetings

Library Books Selection Committee Meeting of SRC

The Meeting of Library Books Selection Committee was held on 1 October 2015 at Southern Regional Centre, Bengaluru. The Committee Members present were Professor P.C. Venkatasubaiah, Dravidian University, Kuppam; Professor K.B. Shivatharak, former Professor of History, Honavar (Bengaluru); Dr. H.G. Rajesh, Editor, *Itihasa Darpana*; Dr. S.K. Aruni, Member Secretary (officiating), ICHR, New Delhi; and Sri K. Sangappa, Senior Library and Information Assistant, SRC, Bengaluru. The Committee recommended procurement of a number of scholarly books for the library and of 72 journals; besides, it also suggested procurement of 9 new regional journals.

III. Library-cum-Documentation Unit

During the period under report:

- (a) Four books were received as complimentary;
- (b) The library served around 2510 photocopies to scholars;
- (c) The library continued subscription of 37 journals/periodicals for the current year;



- (d) Two hundred eighty-five (285) scholars consulted the library;
- (e) Facilities like J-Stor, Historical Abstracts and photocopy were continued for the benefit of readers.

Apart from these, important and rare Paintings, Old Photographs, E-book CDs, Photographic Slides are also available at the Centre for the benefit of scholars. The Centre has also kept in its library articles collected from individual scholars; besides, a rich collection of Bibliographies is also available at the Centre.

IV. Sales of Publications

During the said period, the SRC collected an amount of Rs. 4,049/- (Rupees four thousand and forty-nine only) from sales of publications. Apart from this, the SRC sent letters and catalogues of ICHR books and other publications to various PG Departments, research institutions and universities, informing them about the availability of publications at the Centre and the discounts being offered on these. The Centre also circulated the latest ICHR Newsletter among the different universities and research scholars based in the southern part of the country.

V. Chairman's Visit to SRC

Professor Y. Sudershan Rao, Hon'ble Chairman, ICHR, visited the Southern Regional Centre, Bengaluru on 23 December 2015 for a short while. Thereafter, on that very day, he proceeded to Mysore University.

North East Regional Centre (NERC), Guwahati

1. Library-cum-Documentation Unit

During this period bar-coding and spine labeling of approximately 130 books was completed;

Several titles were procured for the library of the Centre. Three books as complimentary were also received;

In addition, the library also helped the readers by providing xerox copies of reading material from 135 books.

2. Project on the Survey, Collection and Documentation of Archival Sources in North East India

The NERC has been supervising this project and regularly sending reports on progress to the Head Office on a weekly basis. During this period the following work was done.

- (a) Sorting out work was done from a large number of letters received from the Government.
- (b) Summary of a total of 681 pages of letters received from Government was prepared.
- (c) Work on the following volumes was completed: Vol. 1 (1823), Vol. 3 (1825), Vol. 5, Part-1 (1827)

3. Martyrs' Project

The NERC vetted the Assam and Bengal section of the report on Martyrs' Project. Altogether 905 entries were vetted.



4. Number of Visitors

The centre hosted during the period around 651 scholars for consulting the library.

Besides, the Centre also provided relevant information to 26 visitors who came to the Centre to inquire about the work done by ICHR, particularly about its various Research Funding Schemes.

5. Other Activities

(a) Receipt and forwarding of applications

Three applications for grant in different categories were received and forwarded to the Head Office.

(b) Newsletter Distribution

During this period the Centre prominently displayed and distributed among scholars the latest issue of the ICHR Newsletter-- Vol. 12, No. 2.

News from Council Members

The Council of ICHR comprises eighteen distinguished scholars who keep themselves actively involved in various academic and cultural activities both in India and abroad.

During the period under report Professor P.T. Haridas, Member, ICHR, delivered the **Annual Pazhassi Memorial Lecture** on 30th November 2015 at Pazhassiraja College, Pulpally, Wayanad, Deptt. of History, Kerala

State Higher Education Council (KSHEC). The occasion was the Commemoration of Pazhassiraja Memorial Day (Death Anniversary of Kerala Varma Pazhassiraja).



Professor P.T. Haridas delivering the Annual Pazhassi Memorial Lecture

Staff News

A. Additional Charge

Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Deputy Director (Research), apart from holding the additional charge of Hindi Officer, was given the additional charge of the following Academic Units (in addition to the Research Projects, Academic Fellowships, Itihas and Special Projects) w.e.f. 27.10.2015:

- (i) Seminar/ Conference / Workshop
- (ii) Study- cum -Travel Grant
- (iii) Foreign Travel Grant/ Cultural Exchange Programme
- (iv) Indian Historical Review (IHR) / Newsletter
- (v) Junior Research Fellowship
- (vi) Post Doctoral Fellowship



Shri Ramesh Yernagula, Deputy Director (Documentation), was given the additional charge of Deputy Director (Administration) w.e.f. 21.12.2015.



B. Promotions

Dr. Rajesh Kumar was promoted from the post of Assistant Director(R) to that of Deputy Director(R) w.e.f. 24th July 2015.*



*(*This information got inadvertently omitted in the previous issue of the newsletter)*

C. Appointments

Shri G.V.R Murali, AAO, Finance (Accounts) Department, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, New Delhi, was appointed as Deputy Director (Accounts) on deputation basis on 14.10.2015.



Dr. Anup Taneja, well-known writer and editor, was engaged as Consultant (Publications) on 26.11.2015.



D. Retirement

Shri Amrit Singh was appointed as Farash-cum-Peon on 26.03.1976. He retired on superannuation on 30.11.2015 as Assistant. He served the Council for forty years with utmost devotion and sincerity.



Shri Dashrath Ram was appointed as Farash-cum-Peon on 01.05.1975. He retired on superannuation on 30.11.2015 as Office Attendant. He served the Council for more than forty years with utmost devotion and sincerity.



Swachh Bharat Abhiyan

“A clean India would be the best tribute India could pay to Mahatma Gandhi on his 150 birth anniversary in 2019,” said our Hon’ble Prime Minister while launching the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan on 2 October 2014. In keeping with the spirit of this noble mission, ICHR regularly conducts cleaning drive in the office premises. During the reporting period, one such programme was held on 2 October 2015 by the staff-members of ICHR. They picked up brooms and cleaned all the rooms of the premises.



Constitution Day

Constitution Day, also known as *Samvidhan Divas*, is celebrated in India in honour of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, who contributed immensely to the framing of the Indian Constitution. On 19 November 2015, the Government of India declared 26 November as Constitution Day. On this day in 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, and it went into effect on 26 January 1950.

The First Constitution Day was celebrated in the Council on 26 November 2015. The staff members actively participated in this celebration and remembered Dr. Ambedkar, known as the architect of the Indian constitution.

Research Funding Schemes

The primary objective of the Council is to promote and give direction to historical research and to encourage and foster objective and scientific writing of history. Enhancing the academic standard of the output of ICHR activities has been the foremost objective of ICHR. In pursuance of this objective, the Council i) provides fellowships and financial assistance to young teachers in colleges, universities and registered research organizations, as well as to senior scholars who might need financial support; ii) brings historians together by providing financial assistance

for holding symposia, seminars, workshops, etc. for exchanging views related to history; iii) provides publication subsidy to the seminar proceedings, congress proceedings, journals, etc. so that these publications may reach out to researchers and scholars.

The grants-in-aid are awarded to scholars/institutions and are released through affiliating agencies, like research institutes, universities or colleges. The different types of research funding schemes* of ICHR are as follows:

Junior Research Fellowship

Junior Research Fellows get Rs. 16,000/- per month with a contingency grant of Rupees fifteen thousand (Rs. 15,000/-) per annum for a period of two years extendable up to one more year without any financial commitment under special circumstances.

Post-Doctoral Fellowship

Post Doctoral Fellowships are awarded to scholars who have shown significant competence in research work, having been awarded their Ph. D. or have done equivalent research work of merit in History or its allied subjects.

The Fellowship shall carry an amount of Rupees twenty-eight thousand (Rs. 28,000/-) per month with a contingency grant of Rupees twenty thousand (Rs 20,000/-) per annum for a period of two years extendable up to a maximum of one more year without any financial commitment under special circumstances.



Senior Academic Fellowship

Senior Fellowships are awarded to senior scholars who have done quality work and have publications in the form of books and papers in professional journals to their credit.

The Fellowship shall carry an amount of Rupees forty thousand (Rs. 40,000/-) per month with a contingency grant of Rupees forty thousand (Rs. 40,000/-) per annum for a period of two years extendable up to a maximum of one more year without any financial commitment under special circumstances.

National Fellowship

National Fellowships are offered by the Chairman, ICHR, in consultation with Research Projects Committee members to eminent scholars in history who have made outstanding contributions to research in their respective fields, to enable them to continue their academic work and research.

The Fellowship—awarded for 2 years—shall carry an amount of Rupees fifty-five thousand only (Rs. 55,000/-) per month with a contingency grant of Rupees sixty thousand (Rs. 60,000/-) per annum.

Research Project

The Research Projects Committee of ICHR may award a grant for a project of research in History or on a theme substantively including an aspect or aspects of History, undertaken within India, to a scholar as

Project Director, who has shown significant competence in research work, having been awarded his/her Ph. D. or equivalent research work.

Bona fide institutions with a well established and respected record of historical research may apply for funding for projects.

Project grants to institutions will not exceed Rs 5 lakh for a maximum period of two years.

Contingency (Study-cum-Travel) Grant

Scholars who are engaged in M.Phil., Ph.D. or Post Doctoral work or carrying on independent research in History and are not currently receiving any travel or contingency grant for the proposed work from any other source are eligible for this grant.

Grant not exceeding the sum of Rupees forty thousand (Rs. 40,000/-) may be awarded to an M.Phil. student and Rupees fifty thousand (Rs. 50,000/-) to a student working for Ph.D. by the Contingency (Study-cum-Travel) Grants Committee.

Grants for Foreign Travel and Maintenance Abroad, and Visits of Foreign Scholars

Cost of travel and of maintenance abroad may be provided to a citizen of India wishing to study at archives, museums, libraries or private collections abroad for collection of source material, or to take part in a workshop, seminar or conference abroad for



presenting a paper related to History, or to receive training in a specialized branch of History.

Publication Subsidy

The maximum amount of subsidy awarded shall be half (50%) of the cost of production of the work subject to a maximum of Rupees thirty thousand (Rs. 30,000/-). The grant shall lapse if it is not availed of within two years from the date on intimation, but the Research Projects Committee may grant renewal upon application being made. Provided that in case of a work where because of series, length, illustrations, maps, etc., the expenditure on printing is likely to be very high, the Research Projects Committee may decide to award a subsidy exceeding the maximum amount above specified.

Seminar, Workshop or Conference Grant

The Research Projects Committee may award grants for seminars, workshops or academic conferences concerned with specific themes of History to individual scholars as coordinators; the amount of grant in each case should not exceed Rupees three lakh fifty thousand (Rs. 3,50,000/-) and to be paid through the host institute deemed to be the institute of affiliation.

**The information provided here is in brief; for details, see the Research Funding Rules book of ICHR*

II (Applications Received)

During the period under report (1 October to 31 December 2015), the following work was done under different Funding Schemes of ICHR:

Senior Academic Fellowship (SAF)

Progress reports were received for 16 ongoing Senior Fellows. These were sent to the experts (with the approval of the competent authority) for evaluation. Simultaneously, for the release of payment to experts and of installment to scholars, sanction orders were issued. Further, during the said period, the unit prepared agenda papers for the next meeting of the Research Projects Committee (RPC) likely to be held sometime in March 2016.

Research Project

The Research Projects Unit received 23 (twenty-three) fresh proposals for the award of Research Projects Grant. These proposals were processed—acknowledgment letters issued and proposals sent to the experts (with the approval of the competent authority) for evaluation. Simultaneously, ongoing cases were also processed. Further, during this period the unit prepared agenda papers for the next meeting of the Research Projects Committee (RPC) likely to be held sometime in March 2016.

Foreign Travel Grant

Twenty(20) fresh applications were received during this period; and along with the previous cases, a total of 21 cases are under process.



DIRECTORY OF HISTORIANS*

Proforma

INDIAN COUNCIL OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH

(All entries should be typed or filled in Capital Letters/Boxes should be ticked or crossed)

Professor/Associate Professor/Asstt. Professor, Research Fellow of Universities/Colleges / Institution.

1. Name: _____ 2. Sex: Male Female
3. Designation: Research Fellow Asstt. Prof./lecturer Assoc Prof./Reader Professor
4. Nature of appointment: Permanent Temporary
5. Salary: Pay Scale _____ Consolidated _____
6. Office : _____
7. Date of Birth : _____
8. Place of Birth: _____
9. Employed in: Central Univ. State. Univ. College Junior College Research Institution
10. Address: (i) Correspondence:-

 _____ Pin _____
 (ii) Permanent:-

 _____ Pin _____
 Contact No. (i) (R) _____ (ii) (O) : _____ (iii) (M) _____
 (iv) E-mail: _____
11. Highest Academic Qualification:- M.A M. Phil Ph. D
12. Ph.D.
 (i) Title of Ph.D. Thesis: _____



(ii) Name of the University (with year) _____

(iii) Published / Un-published _____

13. The total no. of M.Phil/Ph.D./D.Lit. scholars supervised (degree awarded) _____

(i) M.Phil _____ (ii) Ph.D. _____ (iii) D.Lit _____

14. Area of specialization: Ancient Medieval Modern Contemporary History

15. Field of Specialization: Regional Histories, Histories of Countries outside India, Archaeology, Numismatics, Epigraphy, Economic History, Urban history, Transport, Communications, Diet, culinary history, Science and technology, Social Structure including systems of social organizations e.g. feudalism, History of Religion, History of Art and Architecture, Political history, National liberation movements, Military History, Philosophy of History including Intellectual History, History of Language and literature, History of Education, Historical Geography, Environmental History, Historical Demography, Quantitative History, Imperialism and Colonialism, Historiography, etc.

16. Language(s) known :-

1. _____ Speaking Reading Writing

2. _____ Speaking Reading Writing

3. _____ Speaking Reading Writing

4. _____ Speaking Reading Writing

17. Publication** :-

The Total number of books _____ (i) Monographs _____ (ii) Edited _____

(iii) Number of books published: English _____ Hindi _____
Others (specify languages) _____

(i) The title of five best books (start with latest) :-

Sl. No.	Name of Book	Publisher (with place & year)	Broad Theme (*)
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____

The total number of research papers _____



(ii) The title of the five best research papers (start with latest) :-

Sl.No.	The title of the research paper	Journal	Issue & Place	Refereed/ Not Refereed	Broad Theme(*)
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

The total number of the articles _____

International/ National/ State /award (three major awards): _____

18. Foreign country/Countries visited _____

19. Any other relevant information :- _____

(Full Name in Capital letter)

(Signature) (Not required if sent by e-mail)

Date: _____

*The ICHR is in the process of preparing a Directory of Historians. Scholars are requested to fill the attached proforma and send it to Deputy Director (Documentation), ICHR, 35, Firozeshah Road, New Delhi - 110001; email: dd.doc@ichr.ac.in, Tel. 011-23387877.

**Broad theme i.e. Social history, Economic history, Political history, Archaeology, etc.



Objectives of ICHR

- To foster objective and scientific writing of history such as will inculcate an informed appreciation of the country's national and cultural heritage.
- To bring historians together and provide a forum for exchange of views between them;
- To give a national direction to an objective and rational presentation and interpretation of history;
- To promote, accelerate and coordinate research in history with special emphasis on areas which have not received adequate attention so far;
- To promote a coordinated and balanced distribution of research effort over different areas;
- To elicit support and recognition of historical research from all concerned and ensure the necessary dissemination and use of results.



Council Members

1. Prof. Y. Sudershan Rao
Chairman, ICHR,
35, Ferozeshah Road,
New Delhi-110001
2. Prof. Dilip K. Chakrabarti
(Professor Emeritus of South Asian
Archaeology, Cambridge University,
U.K.); No. 20, Uttaranchal Apartments,
5, I.P. Extension, Patparganj,
Delhi-110092
3. Prof. Michel Danino
80, Swarnambika Layout, Ramnagar
(Near Ganga Hospital), Coimbatore,
Tamil Nadu-641009
4. Dr. Meenakshi Jain
Department of History,
Gargi College, Siri Fort Road,
Delhi-110049
5. Prof. Nanditha Krishna
Director
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APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

ICHR receives applications for financial assistance under various schemes three times in a year. The last dates for the three terms are

- 30th April
- 31st August
- 31st December

The applications are acknowledged immediately. ICHR takes about 3-4 months to process the proposals and to intimate the decision of the Council to the applicants.

The list of the awardees is also published in our Website. The expectants need not take the trouble of seeking information of the status of their applications. Kindly bear with us.



Shodh Yatri, 2015-2016

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) had initiated a programme named as 'Shodh Yatri' to encourage young students to know about India's academic contribution to its neighbouring countries from ancient period. The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) is part of selection and implementation of the programme. The Council is entrusted with the responsibility of providing historical themes of five countries, viz. Thailand, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bangladesh and Cambodia. The Council, along with CBSE, made efforts to select ten students from all over the country through national level test. The Council is also given the responsibility of selecting and nominating five Historian-cum-Geographers for the 'Shodh Yatri' programme.

Following steps were taken for completion of the selection process of teams:

*Online Essay writing contest was invited for X & XI standard students of both Central and State Boards. The last date for Essay contest was 15 December 2015; *405 students from all over the country submitted their essays for the contest; *The scrutiny of the entries / essays was conducted by a Scrutiny Committee on 19 & 20 December 2015 at ICHR, New Delhi. After the scrutiny, 266 essays were found eligible for evaluation; *Evaluation of 266 essays was done both in consultation with ICHR & CBSE on 22 & 23 December 2015

at Central Board of Secondary Education, 17, Rouse Avenue, Institutional Area, ITO, New Delhi-110002. The Evaluators were: Professor R.S. Agrawal (Chief Coordinator), Dr. Suchi Dayal, Dr. Shatarupa Bhattacharya, Dr. Smarika Nawani, Dr. Aruna Sharma and Shri Yash Pal Singh; *The members of ICHR team involved in 'Shodh Yatri' programme were: Dr. S.K. Aruni (Member Secretary), Shri Ramesh Yernagula, Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dr. Jyotsna Arora, Shri G.V.R. Murali, Shri Davinder Singh, Shri Devendra Singh Bisht, Shri Hemant Kumar and Shri Kamran Ali; *The CBSE representatives were: Ms. Sugandh Sharma (Additional Director) and Ms. P. Rajeswary; *On the basis of merit, **forty** students were shortlisted for interview through SKYPE; *The SKYPE Interview was conducted on 29 & 30 December 2015 in collaboration with the CBSE, New Delhi; *Final list of selected students, along with the names of guardians/teachers for five countries, was forwarded to the National Book Trust, New Delhi, for further announcement of the team.



Selection Committee Team for Shodh Yatri Programme



Chairman

Professor Yellapragada Sudershan Rao

Member Secretary (Officiating)

Dr S.K. Aruni

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