Annual Conference of 2006
Gwalior

The 34th Annual Conference was held, in conjunction with the 40th Annual Conference of the Indian Archaeological Society and 30th Annual Conference of the Indian History and Culture Society on 02-05 December 2006 which was organized by the School of Studies in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Jiwaji University, Gwalior under the overall leadership of Professor R.A. Sharma.

The following life members of the Society participated in the conference:


Inaugural Function

The inaugural function of the joint Annual Conference of the three Societies was held at 10.30 am, on 2\textsuperscript{nd} December, 2006 at the Gwalior University Auditorium. R. A. Sharma, Head, School of Studies in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Jiwaji University, Gwalior welcomed scholars from all over the country. Shri A.N. Tripathi, the Transport Commissioner, Government of Madhya Pradesh graced the occasion by inaugurating the four day conference at Gwalior. Dr. Dr. J.N. Gautam, the acting Vice-Chancellor and the Dean of the Arts Faculty, Jiwaji University, Gwalior gave the Predential address. The Chief Guest of the function Shri, J.P. Joshi, the former Director General of the
Archaeological Survey of India reviewed the progress of Indian Archaeology since the 19th century. Dr. Vandana Kaushik, General Secretary, Indian History and Culture Society, Dr. P. K. Thomas, General Secretary, Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies, Dr. S. P. Gupta, Chairman, Indian Archaeological Society, spoke for their respective Societies.

**Presidential Address**

The Presidential Address of the Society was delivered by Professor V. D. Misra, Former Head of Department of Ancient History, Culture and Archaeology, University of Allahabad on “Stone Age Cultures, their Chronology and Beginning of Agriculture in North-Central India”. *Man and Environment* XXXII (1):1-14 [2007]

**Professor H. D. Sankalia Memorial Lecture**

The Sixteenth Professor H. D. Sankalia Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr. Shobhana Gokhale, Retired Reader, Department of Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune on “The Buddhist Literary Traditions as Reflected in Western Indian Cave Inscriptions and Architecture with special Reference to Kanheri Caves”. *Man and Environment* XXXII (1):15-22 [2007]
The Academic Sessions

The academic sessions of the conference were held from 2 – 5 December 2006 and the following papers were presented.

1. Abdolreza Dashtizadeh: Survey of a Palaeolithic Region, So-adat Shahr’s plain in North-east Fars Province, Iran.


4. Anup Ranjan Mishra: Climatic Fluctuations vis-à-vis changes in Ceramic Techno-typology in Mature to Late Ahar Phase at Balathal.


9. Ambika Patel: Conservation and Restoration of Copper Objects from Bagasra, a Mature Harappan Site, Gujarat.


15. R.N. Kumaran and M. Saranya Kumaran: Beads from Tandikudi, Tamil Nadu.

17. Shahida Ansari: Coins from Kopia Excavation.


20. Rakesh Kumar Bansal and Bina Gandhi Deori: The Problems faced by Travellers, Traders and Merchants During the Mughal Period (1526-1707 A.D).


New Life Members

The following persons joined the family of life members of the Society during 2006-2007:

Ms. Ruben Banerjee, Ms. Farida Sarhadot, Ms. Fareshteh Sarhadot, Ms. Poonam Chaudhari, Shri Vijay Kumar, Shri Abdolreza Dashtizadeh, Ms. C.V. Sharada, Shri Midit Trivedi, Shri Vinay Deviprasad
Meetings of the Executive Committee

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society was held at the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, at 15.00 hrs on 4th December 2006. The meeting was presided over by Dr. S.P. Gupta. The following members were present:

1. Dr. S.P. Gupta, 2. Dr. M.C. Gupta, 3. Dr. Alok Kanungo 4. Dr. P.K. Thomas, 5. Dr. P.P. Joglekar, 6. Dr. K. Ismail, 7. Dr. Arati Deshpande-Mukherjee, 8. Dr. S.G. Deo and 9. Dr. A.S. Gaur

Dr. R.C. Agrawal, Dr. V.N. Misra, Dr. Ajitprasad, Dr. K.K. Basa, Dr. V.D. Gogte, Dr. Rakesh Tewari, Dr. Shanti Pappu and Dr. S. Selvakumar were unable to attend the meeting.

At the outset, the General Secretary, Dr. P.K. Thomas, welcomed the members. He apprised the Committee about the major activities of the Society during 2005-2006. These include details of the 33rd Annual Conference held at Bangalore by the M.H. Krishna Institute Indology, Bangalore, Department of Sanskrit, Bangalore University and the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Karnataka under the overall leadership of Professor S. Nagaraju, on 15-18th December 2005, and the publication of Vol. XXX (1) & (2) of Man and Environment. He also apprised the Committee of the details of the audited statement of Society’s income and expenditure during 2005-2006, which is printed in Man and Environment XXXI (2). The Society’s financial situation remains reasonably good.

To encourage more students to attend the Conference of the Society, it has been decided to allow the students at a nominal fee of Rs. 100/- to participate in the Conference. However, they will not be entitled for the Journal.

Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Meeting of the General Body of the Society

The General body meeting of the Society was held at the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, at 14.30 hrs on 5th December 2006. The meeting was presided over by Professor V.D. Misra. The following members were present.

The following business was transacted at the meeting.

At the outset, the General Secretary, Dr. P.K. Thomas, welcomed the members and presented the report of the activities of the Society for the year 2005-2006. The members of the Society unanimously approved it.

The General Secretary placed the Annual Audited Statement of the Accounts for the year 2005-2006 before the General Body, and the members present unanimously approved it.

President of the Society for 2007

Dr. P. K. Thomas proposed the name of Prof. (Retd.) A. Sundara, Dharwad, as President of the Society for the next year. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the members present.

Professor H.D. Sankalia Memorial Lecturer for 2007

Prof. V. D. Misra proposed the name of Prof. V. H. Sonawane, Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara, Gujarat for Prof. H. D. Sankalia Memorial Lecture for 2007. The members present unanimously approved the proposal.

The 4th Professor R. K. Sharma Award for Excellence in Archaeology

In recognition of the valuable contribution made by Shri J. P. Joshi to Indian Archaeology, over a period spanning more than fifty years, the fourth Professor R. K. Sharma Award for Excellence in Archaeology will be honoured to Shri J. P. Joshi at the Conference Venue in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.