

Maharashtra Shikshan Samiti, Nilanga

Maharashtra Mahavidyalaya, Nilanga Dist. Latur (M.S.)



Department of History

Organised

Two Day National Conference

On



“New Research Trends in Ancient South Indian Art and Iconography - Rock Paintings, Caves, Stupas, Chaityagrihas, Temples and Sculptures”

"प्राचीन कालखंडातील दक्षिण भारतीय कला आणि प्रतिमा शास्त्रातील नवीन संशोधन प्रवृत्ती - शैलचित्र, लेणी, स्तूप, चैत्यगृह, मंदिरे आणि मूर्ती शिल्प"

Sponsored by

Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi

02nd & 03rd February, 2024

A Brief Report

First Day 02nd February 2024

Inauguration Ceremony:

A two-day national conference sponsored by Indian Social Science Research Council, New Delhi was concluded on 02nd and 03rd February, 2024 at Maharashtra Mahavidyalaya, Nilanga. The conference was organized by the Department of History on the theme “New Research Trends in Ancient South Indian Art and Iconography - Sculptures, Caves, Stupas, Chaityagrihas, Temples and Sculptures”. The conference started with the inaugural session on 02nd February 2024 at 10:30AM. Hon'ble Dr. Arvind Jamkhedkar, former President of Indian Historical Research Council, New Delhi and former President of Deccan College, Pune was present as the inaugurator to the conference. Hon'ble Vijay Patil Nilangekar, President of Maharashtra Shikshn Samiti, Nilanga presided over the inaugural ceremony. Prof. Dr. E. Shivanagareddy Sthapathi CEO of Pleach Foundation, Hyderabad was present as key speaker for this conference,. Dr. Rahul Varvantikar, Chairman of History, Board of Study, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded was among the special attendees on the occasion of the inaugural ceremony. Dr. Arvind Sontakke, President of Iconography

Research Society, Dr. Bhagwat Paul, Principal, College of Pharmacy, Dr. Madhav Kolpuke, Principal and Chief Convener of the conference, Dr. D. S. Chaudhari, Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Dr. Subhash Benjalwar Convener and Professors, Researchers and Practitioners of history and Archeology were present.

In the introduction of the Conference, the convener Dr. Subhash Benjalwar, while explaining the role behind the organization of the two-day national conference which was held with the sponsorship of Indian Social Science Research Council, New Delhi, highlighted the glorious history of art, architecture and sculpture in South India and expressed the hope that pros and cons would be discussed in the present conference. The chief convener Dr. M. N. Kolpuke principal of the college welcomed the participants on behalf of the college and expressed the purpose of the college and the various activities implemented in the college. The conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Dr. Arvind Jamkhedkar. He puts his valuable opinions in his inaugural speech that research is a part of education. Education is the creation of competence in others. While doing this kind of research one can study the idol only if the science of iconography is understood. Coins are an image but the one who falls into his hands uses it with different meanings. Research should be done by understanding this different meaning that he has applied. In the context of North India, a lot of historical arrangements have been made regarding idols, sculptures, caves, stupas, chaityagriha. In the case of South India, the extent of such arrangement is very less. And it is commendable that this two-day national conference has been organized keeping it in mind. Researchers expressed their opinions that the southern region also has a great contribution in Indian culture.

Key note Speech :

The seed speech of the two day national conference was delivered by Professor Dr. E. Sivanagireddi Sthapati, Hyderabad. He said that south Indian Art and Iconography has a very glorious tradition of sculpture, caves, stupas, chaityagrihas and temples. The task of carrying this tradition forward is the duty of young generation of researchers in the country. In his key note speech he addressed the history of all the historical art, sculptures of South India. He recorded historical knowledge regarding sculpture production in Telangana, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu about how new sculptures were created in different eras.

Hon'ble Mr. Vijaykumar Shivajirao Patil Nilangekar, President of Maharashtra Shikshn Samiti, chaired the Inaugural Ceremony of two day National Conference. In his presidential speech, he said that new research directions will be opened for professors, researchers and students. New

researchers should understand this topic thoroughly and add value to it. Dr. Rahul Varvantikar, Chairman, History Board of Study, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University Nanded, was present as the chief guest. On this occasion, he expressed the opinion that history researchers and professors have got a feast of sculpture from this conference which is being held in the university premises and everyone should take advantage of it. Dr. Arvind Sontakke, President of Iconography Research Society, also wished the two-day conference in his brief speech. This inaugural session was attended by Lucknow scholar Iconography, Indian culture and art, Dr. Somesh Srivastava who was also a prominent presence. Dr. Bhaskar Gaikwad gratituted the inaugural ceremony

Session One:

After the inaugural session of the two-day conference, the first session began after lunch. Dr. Akash Gedam, Assistant Professor, Yashwantrao Chavan College, Nagpur was the chairman for this session. Hon. Satish Lalit, Retired administrative officer and researcher of Petro glyphs from Sindhudurg as a resource person for this session. Satish Lalit while presenting on the subject of Petro glyphs of South Konkan, he told that Petro glyphs is the heritage of stone age of human culture in Indian history and through this, one can reach the stone age. He asserted that it is necessary to preserve this Petro glyphs and to bring forward new research from it. In this session, researchers presented their research papers on various topics of Petro glyphs, south Indian stupas, chaityas and viharas. Chairman of this session Dr. Aakash Gedam reviewed the research papers in the session and the role of resource person Mr. Satish Lalit. Dr. Akash Gedam gave his scholarly presentation on the subject of Petro glyphs in Vidarbha.

Second Session:

The second session of the first day was concluded under the chairmanship of Dr. Shanta Geeta Jadwar. In this session, Dr. Maya Patil Head of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archeology Department of Punyashlok Ahilya Devi Holkar University, Solapur, was present as a Resource Person. She is a scholar on the architecture and sculpture of the Kalyani Chalukya period, an important power in South India. During the Kalyani Chalukya period, Tridal temple architecture developed to a great extent. He also opined that these temples are famous as Kalyani Chalukya period temples. In this session, researchers presented scholarly research papers on the topics of Kalyani Chalukya period temple architecture, The session was concluded by Dr. Shanta Geeta Jadwar chair's speech.

Second Day:- 03rd February, 2024

Visit to Nilkantheshwar Temple at Nilanga:

The second day of the two-day conference, dated 03rd February, 2024, began with a visit session at the Kalyani Chalukya period's Nilkantheshwara temple at Nilanga. In this session, the idolatry scholar Dr. Arvind Sontakke said, how to study the temple architecture and idols on the temples, how to read the idols, how to understand them, from the actual analysis of the idols in the temple and the area,

Third Session:

The first and third sessions of the conference on 03rd February, 2024. It was conducted under the chairmanship of Dr. Rambhau Mutkule. Dr. A. D. Shinde, director of Sub center Parbhani, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded. was present as resource person . In this session, according to the topic of temple architecture and temple style, researchers presented articles on temple architecture and style in Goa, Aundha Nagnath, Ambejogai, Ter etc. At this time, Resource person Dr. A. D. Shinde commented on the earlier Tagar and present day temple at Ter. He said that this is a Chafakar style temple. The culture of Maharashtra must have started from Marathwada itself. So this me be the first temple of chafakar style. Latter time, styles of temple construction changed. He also expressed the hope that the cultural heritage of ancient temples is being destroyed almost. It's duty of young researchers to preserve, find and bring it to the world.

Fourth Session:

In the fourth and final session, of the conference, Dr. Nitin Bawle Head, Department of History of Sharda College, Parbhani was the chairperson. Dr Srikanth Ganveer from Deccan College, Pune was present as a resource person. He scholarly commented on the Buddhist Stupa. On the basis of sculptures from Telangana and Paris sculpture museums, he highlighted the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, Yaksha, Shakya tradition, Lokpal, Dharmachakra promoter Sukta. In this session Dr. Arvind Sontakke, presented a research paper on the topic of 'Surasundari, Devangana ki Nayika'.

Valedictory Function:

In valedictory function, Dr. M. N. Kolpuke, the principal of the college was present as chair person. Hon'ble Dr. Somnath Rode, Retired Principal of Mahatma Basaveshwar College, Latur and senior history researcher and scholar, Hon'ble Manohar Sangve, retired Head of Department of History, Maharashtra College, Nilanga were present. Senior thinker Dr. Somnath

Rode said that there is no shortage of scholars and researchers to study medieval and modern history in Maharashtra, but there is a shortage of ancient history scholars and researchers. Therefore, the number of such researchers should increase. He expressed hope that this National Conference of History, based on sculpture and architecture, would create a new chapter in the history of the South. He further said that researchers should conduct research with using original sources. Marathwada has many temples, sculptures, fine examples of architecture. They are falling apart. If research makes it, will add a new addition to the cultural history of India and it will be useful for reference for the future generation.

Scholars, students got a different vision from this history conference in these two days. The principal Dr. Madhav Kolpuke expressed that view towards the temple has changed. On the occasion of the valedictory ceremony, the President of Marathwada History Council Dr. Narayan Suryavanshi, the former Vice Principal of the College Dr. Shivajirao Gaikwad, Former Head of Department of History Prof. Dr. Manohar Sangve, Convener of the conference, Dr. Subhash Benjalwar, president of Iconography Research Society, Dr. Arvind Sontakke, Coordinator of Internal Quality Assurance Cell, Dr. D. S. Chaudhary, Chairman of history, Bord of Study S.R.T.M.U. Nanded Dr. Rahul Varvantikar and others were present. Anchoring coordination of various sessions and valedictory program was maintained by Dr. Ajit Muljekar, Dr. Naresh Pinmakar, Dr. Hansraj Bhosle, Dr. Govind Sivashette. Dr. Subhash Bejalwar Gratitude the conference.

During this Conference, Mr. Bevanale S. S. conducted exhibition programme on historical coins, weapons of Shiva era, gold coins, bond paper of 90 states, coins of Buddha era, Indian notes. Also Dr. Sunil Puri organized a poster presentation about temples, sculptures, forts in Latur district and both these programs received good response.

Kharosa Caves Study Visit:

After valedictory ceremony, a study trip was organized to visit Kharosa caves which is 06 km away from Nilanga. At this time, scholar Dr. Shrikant Ganaveer made an important comment regarding Kharosa Caves in the site visit discussion. He said that this cave must have been created before Verul. There are 71 caves in this entire hill area, the Jambha stone on the hill is not found anywhere else except Konkan. This must be the only such cave in India. In 1878, James Burgess and Ferguson recorded the place. The sea churning sculpture carved in this cave is the largest sculpture in India. Ekashma temples found in the area are also a distinct feature of this cave. He regretted that this important cave was being neglected.