

*A Year
to Remember*



past for a positive future

Kerala Council for Historical Research

The Past

*Why are you silent, oh past?
You have no beginning, nor any end-
All ages have poured their tales into you
Mingling so many life streams and thus
Losing their own voices.
Still, fearsome silence!
Why don't you speak?
You are not unconscious as I have felt,
Your stirrings in my heart at times
Dropping treasures from days bygone,
To enrich my life.
You work in silence-
In so many worlds,
But keep still and secret.
Oh, speak to my heart -
Of those forgotten by everyone else,
The stories of their lives, which you have stored-
Need a language, for others to know.
Oh Sage ! Speak to me
And help me record and give voice
To those lost memories.*

- Rabindranath Tagore

Annual Report 2010-11

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Editor

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past for a positive future

Annual Report 2010-'11

Contents

1. Prologue
2. International Research Projects
 - a. Pattanam Archaeological Research
 - b. International Workshop on Rituals
 - c. Workshops and Seminars in collaboration with the British Museum
3. Ongoing Projects :
 - a. Contemporary History Archives of Kerala
 - b. Digitalizing Kerala's Past
 - c. History of Malayali Migrants and Migrant Communities
 - d. Writing Local/ Micro Histories, Life Histories and Institutional Histories
4. New Projects :
 - a. Historical Atlas for Kerala
 - b. Archaeological exploration and Surveys
5. Inter University Centre for Material Culture Studies
6. Collaborations
 - a. Institutional
 - b. Individual expertise
7. KCHR Library
8. KCHR Friends Forum
9. Seminars and lectures
 - a. Public Lectures
 - b. Memorial Lecture/ Condolence meetings
10. Participation in Academic Events
11. Academic Programmes
 - a. Internships
 - b. Fellowships and Scholarships
 - c. Centre for Doctoral / Post Doctoral Research
12. Awards and Fellowships
13. Administration
 - a. KCHR Funds and Audit
 - b. FCRI Fund
14. KCHR Publications
15. Forthcoming Publications
16. Academic Affiliations
17. Year Ahead
 - a. Sixth season's excavation at Pattanam
 - b. Establishing Site Museum and Archaeological Park at Pattanam
 - c. Campus with infrastructural facilities for KCHR Complex
 - d. History Network to explore Buddhist and Jain vestiges of Kerala
 - e. Post excavation research
18. Visitors to KCHR
19. KCHR Staff
20. KCHR Online
21. Thank You



1. Prologue

The Kerala Council for Historical Research [KCHR], established in 2001, is one of the premier research institutes in Kerala dedicated to scientific research in history and social sciences. Chaired by Professor K. N Panikkar, and funded by the Ministry of Higher Education, Government of Kerala, KCHR is a recognized research centre of the University of Kerala and has bilateral academic and exchange agreements with various Universities and research Institutes in India and abroad. KCHR strives to integrate advanced research and scholarship with historical and social consciousness through its projects and programmes.

As a recognized research centre of the University of Kerala, KCHR offers doctoral and post-doctoral programmes in the faculty of social science. The intellectual resources of KCHR are mostly utilized to enrich the domains of research, publication, documentation, training and co-ordination.

2. International Research Projects

a. Pattanam Archaeological Research

Pattanam archaeological research is one of the components of the Muziris Heritage Project.

KCHR was successful in planning and executing archeological research, excavation, exploration, surface and under-water survey in Ernakulam and Thrissur areas, with an added focus on the Kodungallur – North Paravur region. Over the past five years, KCHR has been successfully undertaking archaeological excavations at Pattanam. The excavations at Pattanam have brought to the fore important findings, which have proved helpful in attracting global attention and experts from different academic centres of Asian, European and American Universities. Significantly enough, the findings have also been interpreted as vital turning points in putting together the history of ancient Kerala and the vibrant trade links that the state's ancestors had maintained with the foreigners - especially with Roman and Persian countries.

Laying-out of the trenches in the Padamadathil plot owned by KCHR



Fifth Season's Pattanam Excavation

The fifth season excavations at Pattanam (Ernakulum District, Kerala, India), add yet another important chapter to the story of the brisk maritime contacts of the South West Coast of India with the Mesopotamian and Mediterranean regions. The substantial quantity of antiquities unearthed at Pattanam narrates the tale of a 2000-year-old urban culture with exogenous and indigenous characteristics. Intriguingly, the dig did not unearth any structural remnants that match the magnitude of antiquities. This is a report of the multi-disciplinary research conducted by the Kerala Council for Historical Research (KCHR, Trivandrum), in collaboration with the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI, Thrissur Circle) and various institutes and universities in India and abroad.

The excavation lasted four months (Feb to May 2011) and 10 trenches, including open trenches covering a total area of ca. 250 sq m were dug in three phases. (Phase I: Trenches 28, 29, 30, 31; Phase II: Trenches 32, 33 and Phase III: Trenches 34, 35, 36, 37). The open-trenches were of 10 x 10 m and 9 x 4.5 m dimensions. The excavation method was locus-based, and Harris Matrix was deployed to analyze the complex stratigraphic relationships.

1. Objectives of the Excavation

One of the major objectives of the season was to study the overseas and regional trade networks that intersected at Pattanam. The exploration of the spatial organization of this ancient port town was attempted by laying trenches in the northwestern sector 500 m away from the area, where a wharf structure and a ca. 2000-year-old canoe were excavated earlier. The open-trench method was adopted to ensure maximum exposure of structural features allied to the already known commercial, industrial and maritime contexts of the site.

Research Team on day one of the fifth season

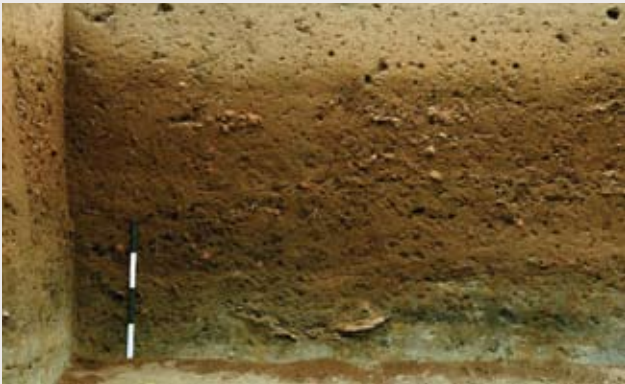




Debris, dump and pits are common features in Pattanam trenches



Searching a pit within a trench



The complex stratigraphic relationships and cultural sequence are studied using Harris Matrix tool



Pattanam excavations employ locus based method to retrieve and document artefacts and ecofacts

2. Structural features

In this season only two ring-wells, a terracotta toilet feature and a burned clay floor suggestive of prolonged burning activity (as in furnace/kiln) were found. All were unearthed from the lower levels of the Early Historic layer. The absence of major structures is an intriguing aspect of this important port site, especially since the artifacts excavated demonstrate wealth and international connections demanding considerable built infrastructure. The intense disturbance of the site partially explains the highly fragmented artifacts, but the huge quantum of rubble; brickbats, iron nails and the roof tile pieces provide no clue as to how and why such disturbance happened. By virtue of its location, the site would have been exposed to coastal and riverine activities. Geological opinion, however, is yet to authenticate any natural calamity or process that might have contributed to the disturbance or destruction. Further, the absence of primary structural contexts or aligned features point to the possibility of effective clearance attributable to later occupations.

3. Cultural Sequence

The stratigraphic layers and assemblages of artifacts broadly validate – though with some question marks - the cultural sequence suggested in the previous seasons. The stratification of the 4m thick cultural deposit is explained below in the reverse chronological order, i.e. in the order archaeological dig proceeds - from modern to ancient.

The upper stratum of about 1m thickness, with a humus crest, represents the modern period (21st to 17th century CE). The next 2 to 2.5m is the core stratum of Pattanam, representing the Post, Mid and Early-Medieval periods and the Early Historic period (16th century CE to 1st century BCE). Underneath the relatively undisturbed lower

Glass beads are the largest category of antiquities at Pattanam. The stone beads include beryl, carnelian, quartz, agate, amethyst, quartz crystal, chalcedony and onyx



levels of Early Historic stratum is the 30-to-50 cm thick sandy layers representing the Early Historic - Iron Age transition (2nd century BCE to 4th century BCE) and Iron Age period (5th century BCE to 10th century BCE).

The stratigraphic differentiation of the medieval layers (16th century CE to 5th century CE) is difficult, primarily due to lack of artifact evidence. Except for a few medieval roof tiles, no artifacts directly pertaining to this period were found. Natural calamities, commercial slumps or political instabilities could have caused the dwindling of the density of occupation or even led to long interludes of desertions during the medieval period. The probability is that, Pattanam is predominantly an Early Historic commercial site, which gradually declined after the “glitter and glory” of the Muziris phase.

4. Antiquities

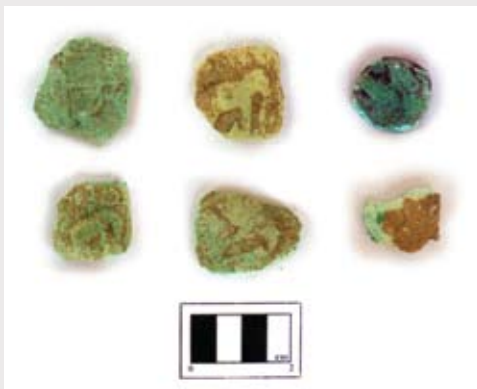
The voluminous quantity of antiquities unearthed at Pattanam speaks eloquent about a 2000-year-old polychromatic and polyphonic urban culture. In the 5th season, the antiquity register had 4697 entries. (One entry may have multiple objects of the same kind, provided they are from the same locus, as the case of beads). The select list of finds discussed here does not imply any prioritizing per se. Pattanam continues to be the paradise of antiquities.

1805 iron nails were recovered in the fifth season

i. Beads : The bead assemblage consists of glass (5758 Nos.), semi-precious stones (128) and terracotta (10) beads. The fascinating range of semi-precious stone beads includes beryl, carnelian, quartz, agate, amethyst, quartz crystal, chalcedony and onyx. Beryl beads are the largest group, followed by carnelian beads. Going by the large quantity of raw material, chips and rough-outs found across the trenches, it is inferred that Pattanam had extensive lapidary workshops. Cameo blanks excavated (*sthaanika mudra*) were more than those found in the previous seasons. Parts of stone moulds (4) probably used for making beads and rings are other interesting finds of the season. This season also saw other



Glass assemblage comprised fragments of pillared Roman bowls, painted and mosaic varieties



Early Chera coins have symbols of elephant and goad on the obverse and bow and arrow on the reverse.

stone objects like broken saddle querns, pestles and work stones being unearthed.

ii. Metals: Another dominant antiquity assemblage was the bunch of iron nails. As many as 1805 nails were recovered this season, and most of them sported thick rust and soil encrustations. Other metal objects unearthed include copper nails, lead scrolls and fragments of unidentified objects made of iron, copper and lead. A gold ring and minute bits of gold were also recovered. The presence of crucibles and substantial quantity of iron slag throw light on intense metallurgical activities of the period. A crucible with a stirrer was another remarkable find.

iii. Glass: As many as 400 glass fragments were recovered and this is so far the largest number reported from Pattanam. Along with the fragments of pillared Roman bowls, this season produced fragments of beautifully painted glass and a few mosaic varieties. This season also produced black and white moulded glass gaming counters, used for board games. Finger ring stones or pendants made of glass were excavated this season for the first time.

iv. Coins: Of the 22 copper coins excavated, nine are from the early Chera era, with the typical symbols of elephant and bow and arrow. Interestingly, in all the five seasons, Roman coins marked their presence at Pattanam with their striking absence.

v. Pottery: The Pottery assemblage excavated can be broadly classified into local pottery and special ceramics. The local pottery sherds amounted to nearly 9 lakh (894,085) in number, including body sherds (735,114), rim sherds (144,044), impressed/ grooved/ decorated (14,016), edge ground (534), perforated (92), graffiti (17), spout (8), handle (45), base (132) and organic impressed (83). The small and medium sized terracotta bowls from the Early Historic layers seem to be the dominant ones. Cooking vessels were few if one goes by the presence of soot particles on them. Dr V. Selvakumar (Tamil University) and Dr K. Krishnan (M.S. University) are studying different aspects of local pottery.

Five Brahmi letters found on a pot rim imply the presence of Jain and Buddha traditions in Kerala. Digitally inked version of the Brahmi script (Right)



The terracotta objects include lamps, spindle whorls, toy wheels, hopscotch discs, oven knobs and stoppers



vi. Pot sherds with writings: This season produced two sherds with post firing Brahmi letters. The five letters found on the rim of a local pot were deciphered as “a” “ma” “na” “tai”. According to Dr. Iravatham Mahadevan, “a ma na” meaning Jaina, is derived from Sanskrit Sramana via Prakrit Samana and Tamil Camana and the discovery is an evidence of the presence of Jainism on the west coast of India at least from the 2nd century CE. The stratigraphic context of the rim is in agreement with the above assumption. The second sherd was read as “ta” “ta”. A few graffiti marked potsherds were also gathered from the pottery yard.

vii. Terracotta objects: The terracotta objects of this season include lamps, spindle whorls, toy wheels, discs (with and without perforation), hopscotch discs, oven knobs and stoppers. Two terracotta objects of special interest are a vase base with moulded design of an animal and another with a swastika symbol.

viii. The special ceramics: The special ceramics include fine or distinct pottery - Indian or foreign and some unidentified types. The special ceramic assemblage comprises the Mediterranean (Roman) pottery- which includes amphora (2779) and terra sigillata (111), and the West Asian which includes torpedo jar sherds (1986) and Turquoise Glazed Pottery (861). The others in this category are Indian Rouletted Ware (3410), Pattanam Ware (186), Black and Red Ware (125), Chinese Ceramics (66) and a host of unidentified fine ware (37,650). The ceramic expert from British Museum, Dr. Roberta Tomber, who was with the team for three weeks, analysed the Mediterranean assemblage of the 2010 and 2011 seasons. According to her, “The large quantities of amphorae, particularly intact from the 2011 excavations, reinforce the picture previously obtained, of a peak of Roman contact during the later first century BCE and first century CE, although some sherds continue into at least the second century CE. The only Late Roman (fifth/sixth) transport amphora so far identified at Pattanam, the Aqaba (ancient Aila) amphora also occurred.”

Pattanam has the largest quantity of Mediterranean amphora sherds recovered from an Indian Ocean site



Dr. Tomber adds, “The broad range of Mediterranean amphora sources, particularly South Italy, had already been recorded in the earlier seasons. New to the 2010 assemblage is the flat-bottomed Gaulish (French) wine amphora represented by a grooved handle and a number of body sherds. The handle can belong to a number of different rim variants, the earliest of which may date from c. 40 BCE, but the majority and the most widely exported shapes date between 50 CE and the end of the third century.”

This season produced 111 sherds of Italian terra sigillata, including some

In the broad range of Mediterranean amphora at Pattanam, the South Italian variety dominates

Pattanam has the largest quantity of terra sigillata sherds ever recovered from an Indian port site



diagnostic types, such as rim, base and stamped sherds. One base had a stamp of three letters 'VIL' probably part of a potter's mark. Though the 122 terra sigillata sherds recovered during the past five seasons may not look impressive when compared to the ca. 6000 amphorae sherds, they are the largest quantity of terra sigillata ever recovered from an Indian port site. Two other Indian sites, both on the Tamil Nadu Coast, had produced terra sigillata; Alagankulam (3 sherds) and Arikamedu (85?).

Dr. Tomber says "The terra sigillata ware belongs to the finer spectrum of Roman pottery and was originally covered in a glossy red surface produced from fine clay (slip) and used at the table for the serving and consumption of food. Therefore, it serves a different function than the numerous Roman amphorae that were used for the long-distance transport of foodstuffs. Two main sigillata shapes are present, large shallow platters and small cups for drinking. Further study of the Pattanam sherds will provide details on the forms, their date and where they came from, but generally speaking, they appear to belong mostly to the late first century BCE and the early first century CE."

West Asian ceramic expert Dr. Derek Kennet of the Durham University, UK, is studying the assemblage of buff, blue and green glazed Parthian/Sassanian ceramics (Turquoise Glazed Pottery) and torpedo jar sherds. The nature of distribution of torpedo jar fragments and their occurrence in large quantity this season suggests the strong commercial links of Pattanam with the West Asian region probably even before and beyond the Roman phase.

The Indian Rouletted Ware (IRW) - with a record number this season - will help understand the Indian Ocean trade dynamics, which contributed to the development of long-distance maritime trade. The occurrence of IRW at the lowest layers of occupation is a pointer to the probable Buddhist and Jain commercial links of Pattanam. The study of IRW assemblage by Dr. Peter Magee of Bryn Mawr College, USA, can give insights into the urban character of peninsular India and its role in long distance trade in the Early Historic period.

5. Post Excavation Research

Analysis and interpretation of the data collected from the excavations are in full swing, incorporating components like archaeo-botanical, geo-archaeological, geo-physical and anthropocene research.

Archaeo-botanical research: The University of Oxford conducted the second season of archaeo-botanical research in the 2011 season. Mr. Andrew Blair (Durham University) collected samples from the sediments of each locus employing floatation and wet sieving methods. A total of 176 sediment samples and five wet samples were collected.



Geo-archaeological research at Pattanam is undertaken by the Oxford University, UK

Dr. Nicole Boivin, Principal Investigator, Sea Link Project (Oxford University) and Dr. Dorian Fuller (UCL, UK) would study these samples at the laboratories of the Oxford University.

Geo-archaeological and geo-physical research: Two researchers from the collaborating Universities of Oxford and Southampton, the UK, carried out geo-morphological and geo-physical surveys during the season. As part of the geo-archaeological research, Ms. Anna M. Kotarba-Morley (Oxford University) conducted auguring and geo-morphological surveys to generate geo-archaeological data from the site. This study, designed to complement the

archaeological excavations, is crucial in the re-visualisation of the ancient landscape and seascape of the Pattanam port site. The survey also aims comparative study of other contemporary port sites in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean rims. The study is expected to aid the generation of scientific data to re-imagine the ancient ports, their infrastructure, capacity and logistics of harbour usages. The data collection was successfully completed and the second stage involves the analysis of geo-sediments; by particle size, magnetic susceptibility and sediment chemistry at the Research Laboratory for Archaeology, History and Art at the University of Oxford.

The geophysical studies conducted by Ms. Carmen Obied, (Southampton University) consisted of magnetometric survey of select areas of the Pattanam site. The primary aim was to identify sub-surface features such as brick walls, hearths, kilns and dumps in order to map the ancient maritime landscape of Pattanam. Magnetometry is highly effective in archaeology since it can detect human processes and interventions that affect the magnetic properties of the soil. The magnetometric surveys have greater significance in Pattanam since they are particularly effective in waterlogged areas. At Pattanam, besides the water logged areas, the locations with possible sub-surface features were scanned using a dual sensor fluxgate gradiometer. The data will be processed at the Digital Archaeology Computing Laboratory at the University of Southampton and contextualized on the topographic survey maps of the Pattanam area. If the Pattanam survey generates positive results, it could become a standard practice for locating potential archaeological spots elsewhere in India.

Geo-physical surveys carried out by the Southampton University, UK

Anthropocene research: A team of researchers, led by Dr. T. N. Prakash, Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS), Trivandrum, collected soil samples from the trenches for tracking the anthropocene context of Pattanam. Sediment samples collected at 10cm intervals from the trench baulks will help to locate the anthropocene boundaries. This is also part of a national project by the IISC Bangalore, to study the anthropocene horizon of different parts of the country. Thanks are due to the Director, CESS, for making available Total Station Survey equipments for field studies at Pattanam.



6. Documentation

Digital database: The sheer quantity and variety of material



Pattanam team with a terracotta feature unearthed at 4 m depth



Archeology Field School at Pattanam

data, multi-disciplinary data fields, excavation reports, laboratory reports, photo/video and drawing documentations, confirmatory and speculative data, comparative data from other sites and a host of other information fields have exposed the limitations of the traditional registries and modes of documentation in archaeology research. Therefore, this season, an effort was made to develop a digital solution to store and manage the archaeological data. Thanks to the voluntary support of IT consultants Mr. Deepak P. (IBM, Bangalore) and Mr. Salil G. K. (Bangalore), the first phase of digital solution could be successfully completed. Presently, under their guidance, two KCHR interns, Mr. Paul Thomas and Mr. Nevil Joe Baby (Model Engineering College, Cochin) are working to develop an application to automate Harris Matrix based recordings during excavations.

7. Research Team

P. J. Cherian (KCHR) - the Director, Co-directors - Dr. M. Nambirajan (ASI), Dr. K. P. Shajan (KCHR), Dr. V. Selvakumar (Tamil University) and Dr. K. Rajan (University of Pondicherry). Ceramic expert - Dr Roberta Tomber, (British Museum), Antiquity Registrar - Dr. Preeta Nayar (KCHR), Field work and documentation supervisors - Madhavi K. (Mar Thoma College, Perumbavur), and Dineesh Krishnan (KCHR). Trench supervisors - Sarath Chandra Babu (KCHR), Ajeesh Krishnan (ASI), Vijimol P. K. (KCHR), Jaseera Majeed (KCHR), Andrew Blair (Durham University), Remya K. (KCHR), K. P. Rajesh (KCHR) and Rajeswari (Tamil University). Pottery yard researchers - Vasudevan K. (KCHR), Metilda M. (Tamil University), Kalaiselvi J. (Tamil University), M. Valentina (Tamil University) and Rejitha Santhosh. Archaeo-botanical research- Andrew Blair (Durham University) Bandari Saidulu (KCHR) and Barandaman (Tamil University). Visual documentation research - Prasanth Mohan, Survey and trench layout - L. R. Rakes (ASI). Section drawings by Bandari Saidulu (KCHR), Geo-archaeological survey - Anna Morley Kotarba (Oxford University.), Geo-physical survey - Carmen Obied (Southampton University). Digital database research - P. Deepak, (IBM, Bangalore) and G. K. Salil (Bangalore). KCHR staff - T P Sivanandan, Sunanda Nair, Dineesh Krishnan, K. P. Rajesh, Sreekumari B., Dileep Kumar B. and J. Santhosh shared multiple responsibilities of finance, co-ordination, accounting, storage, data entry, food and logistics. Students from various foreign and Indian Universities participated in the excavations as interns. Select number of school and college students were imparted training as part of the Archaeology Field School.



Team paying homage to Kesavan, a trench worker who passed away following a heart attack during the fifth season

8. Loss of a loyal hand

Kesavan, one of the local workers assisting the Pattanam excavations, died of heart attack on the early hours of May 7th. He was with the team ever since the Pattanam excavations began in 2007. He remained with the team though he had better remunerative opportunities elsewhere. He was one of the disciplined and dignified members of the Pattanam team. Kesavan's death has orphaned his children, Ashitha, 12, and Ashith, 6 and his wife, Saraswathi. Like other Dalit families in his neighborhood, Kesavan's family too had no insurance or social security. Kesavan Family Fund initiated by KCHR is receiving support from far and near. If you are yet to donate, you are welcome. (kchrtvm@gmail.com)

List of donors: A well-wisher from USA (Rs. 14,721.00); Shri. M. Karthigayan, Tiruchirappalli (10,000.00), Shri. Ravishankar, Chennai (10,000.00), SBSS Trust, New Delhi (9,200.00), Ms. Thresy Vallikkapen, Norway (8,198.45), Prof. K.N. Panikkar, Chairman, KCHR (5,000.00), Ms. Narayani Harigovind, New Delhi (5,000.00), Prof. Periasamy N, Mumbai (5,000.00), Dr. Muralee Thummarakudy, Geneva (5,000.00), Smt. R. Malathy, Chennai (5,000.00), Karen Nivedita Foundation, Coimbatore (5,000.00), Heritage India Trust, Thanjavur (5,000.00), Mr. Wilson Patton (4329.00) Dr. Derek Kennet, Durham University, UK (3,000.00), Dr. Kesavan Veluthat, DU, New Delhi (2,501.00), Ms. Geetha Gopalan (2,000.00), A well-wisher (1553.00), Shri. Sriram, Madurai (1,050.00), Dr. R.V.G.Menon, Tvm (1,000.00), Vice – Admiral (Rtd) Manohar Awati, Mumbai (1,000.00), Shri. N.C.Narayanan, IIT, Mumbai (1,000.00), Brigadier (Rtd) T Radhakrishnan, N.Paravur (1,000.00), Dr. Sreelatha Cherian, Tvm (1,000.00), Smt. Girija Maniyan, Chennai (1,000.00), Shri. S. Sridharan, Chennai (1,000.00), Mr. Andrew Blair, UK (1,000.00), Shri. N.M. Mathew, Kozhencherry (1,000.00), Smt. Vijaya Nair, Chennai (1,000.00), A well-wisher (1,000.00), Shri. George C. Podipara, Ktm (500.00), Smt. Anu Harilal, Pathanamthitta (500.00), A well-wisher (500.00), Co-workers of Kesavan (2,775.00), KCHR Director, Staff & Researchers (19,114.00)

9. New Activities at Excavation Site/Camp

Green Archaeology: As part of the community archaeology initiative and heritage

Prof. K. N. Panikkar hands over a bicycle to Ms. Vijimol, Research Assistant in the 'Green Archaeology' Project

'Green Archaeology' encourages the use of bicycles to reduce carbon footprint. Bicycles are gifted to Pattanam villagers, on a merit cum need basis





Pattanam excavations have attracted the attention of people from all walks of life

management concerns, the team promoted the use of bicycles in the village. The bicycles donated towards green archaeology by the KCHR well-wishers and Pattanam friends were gifted to the Pattanam villagers to promote the cause of the eco-friendly Muziris Heritage zone. This ongoing initiative hopes to convert Pattanam into a village of bikers, proudly guarding the environment of a potential world heritage site. Please feel free to donate a bicycle to green archaeology if you are yet to. (kchrtvm@gmail.com).

List of donors:

Shri. K.P.S.Menon, *Former Foreign Secretary*, Prof. K.N.Panikkar, *Chairman, KCHR*, Vice – Admiral (Rtd) Manohar Awati, *Mumbai*, Shri. Sethu, *Novelist, Chendamangalam*, Shri. P. J. Alexander, *Former DGP, Tvm*, Dr. Melwyn Firth, *UK*, Dr. Roberta Tomber, *UK*, Shri. Sasidharan & Dr. Rita, *New Zealand*, Dr. K. G. Varughese & Smt. Susan Varughese, *Norway*, Dr. V. Santhakumar, *CDS, Tvm*, Dr. Muralee Thumarakkudy, *Geneva*, Shri. A.T. Thomas, Dr. Sreelatha Cherian, *Tvm*, Smt. R.K. Jayashree, *Ekln*, Smt. Mariam Susan, *Tvm*, Shri. Vijayan, *Damam*, Shri. K.M. Gafoor, *Muscat*, Shri. Jayaseelan Raj, *Norway*, 3 bicycles from a well wisher in USA & 3 anonymous online donors.

Yoga Sessions: Archaeological excavations demand team work, disciplined labour, concentration and precision. Working days began at 6 am with yoga sessions that lasted 45 minutes. These sessions helped the team to focus and work in harmony. Our sincere thanks are due to Brig. (Rtd) Radhakrishnan who equipped us physically and mentally for the demanding tasks of the long day.

Pattanam visitors: The excavation site at Pattanam attracted the attention of people from all walks of life, like ministers, academicians, researchers, students, officials, politicians and the general public.

b. International Workshop on Rituals

KCHR plans to organize a 3 day International workshop in 2012 in Thiruvananthapuram on Ritual as the Domain of the Open: The Imagination of Human Realities, their Construction and Generation, in collaboration with the University of Bergen, Norway. This conference comes under a major project Challenging the State: Transmutation of Power in Contemporary Global Realities (CHATS) of University of Bergen. The workshop aims to investigate ritual events as domains of creative and innovative thought and practice, as spaces that are not merely representative or reproductive – major perspectives – but creative and generative.





The yoga sessions at 6 am helped the team to focus and work in harmony

c. Workshops and Seminars in collaboration with the British Museum

The British Museum, London, and KCHR were awarded 30000 pounds by the British Academy to conduct international workshops on the topic “Indian Ocean exchange and the archaeology of technology” over the next three years. Each workshop will focus on a different category of the excavated artifact assemblage from Pattanam and use that as a springboard for inquiries into the broad issues within Indian Ocean exchanges.

3. Ongoing Projects of KCHR

a. Contemporary History Archives of Kerala:

This project aims at creating and maintaining an internet repository of data related to various aspects of contemporary life of Malayalis across the world. It will document all aspects of the every day life of Malayalis living in India and abroad. Since it is conceived as ‘people’s archives’, all can contribute to the repository. Further, the access to the archive will be open to all. Generation and documentation of data with the participation of maximum number of people, the employment of perceptive and reliable methods in data generation are the major objectives of this project.

b. Digitalizing Kerala’s Past:

Digitalizing Kerala’s past is a project to conserve the documents and photographs relating to the social, cultural, historical and scientific heritage of Kerala. A state-wide village-to-village campaign to digitize privately owned historical records, images and valid documents is envisaged in this project. One mobile digitizing unit, with the necessary equipments, would tour selected Panchayats and the people’s archives campaign would culminate in the establishment of a Digital Archives.

c. History of Malayali Migrants and Migrant Communities

KCHR proposes to collect, compile and publish materials of Malayali migration history, written accounts, oral articulations, lived experiences, narratives and photographs. KCHR proposes to build a resource centre on the theme with facilities for online consultation and submissions. This will encourage academic scholars to take up research projects on the history of Malayali Diaspora.

d. Writing Local/Micro Histories, Life Histories and Institutional Histories:

1. Promotion of writing and collection of data :

Academic and organizational support is being offered to local Government institutions and cultural organizations in the state to undertake research, writing and mapping the local/micro/life/institutional histories. This involves activities like survey, collection, analysis, editing and compilation of the data.

2. Writing a Monograph:

To intensify researches on micro histories, there is a need to reassess the state of the art of such researches in Kerala. KCHR will prepare a monograph towards that end.

4. New Projects

a. Historical Atlas for Kerala; Database creation and documentation of archaeological/historical sites, artifacts and monuments of Kerala

The effort is to locate, update and document all archeologically and historically significant sites, artifacts and monuments of Kerala and create a comprehensive database for research. This is expected to eventually generate a digital Historical Atlas for Kerala to be linked to the official website of the KCHR.

The methods would include survey of literary and oral sources, update of available data through site visits and published references, GPS readings and visual documentations.

KCHR has done a preliminary survey of central Kerala with special focus on Kodungallur and Paravur area and identified many archaeologically and historically important sites and monuments. The proposal is to extend it to other parts of Kerala in a systematic manner.

b. Archaeological explorations and surveys

Limited exploratory studies have been conducted in Kerala, especially on the eastern hilly tracts of the state where archaeological remains such as dolmens, cists, urn burials, cave paintings, Neolithic celts and few coin hoards were reported since the colonial period. Making use of the available archaeological, historical and geological data on either side of the Western Ghats the project envisages systematic explorations in the area through the methods of surface survey and scientific documentation. The exploration will be multi-disciplinary in method taking into account the geological, ecological, archaeological and historical aspects of the region.

This research endeavor has special significance in the context of the KCHR excavations at Pattanam and its dated data which requires to be corroborated through the identification of habitation/commercial locations in the hinterland.

5. Inter University Centre for Material Culture Studies

On March 28th 2011, Hon. Minister, Jose Thettayil inaugurated the Inter University Centre for Material Culture Studies at Sree Sanakaracharya University, Kalady, at a meeting presided by Dr J Prasad, Vice Chancellor, Sree Sanakaracharya University. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. P. J. Cherian, Director, KCHR. The Centre, a joint venture by the University and the KCHR would be a multi- and inter-disciplinary centre for archaeology, archaeo-sciences, heritage management and museum studies. The Centre would transform the academic impact of Pattanam research into opportunities for advanced studies in material culture.

6. Collaborations

a. Institutional Collaborations

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Department of Architecture, College of Engineering, Thiruvananthapuram, in September 2010 for the study of the architectural features of the Pattanam site and to explore the possibilities of academic



Inter University Centre for Material Culture Studies was inaugurated at the Sree Sankaracharya University, Kalady

collaboration in heritage management and conservation of structural monuments.

Proposals are being considered for the signing of MoUs with British Museum, London, the National Institute of Oceanography, Goa and the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore.

KCHR already has collaborations with Institutions like University of Oxford , University of Rome, Viterbo University, Italy; Southampton University, the UK; University of Bergen, Norway; Durham University, the UK; Bryn Mawr College, USA, St. Lawrence University, USA, University of Delaware, USA, The Archaeological Survey of India [ASI], New Delhi; Indian Navy, Southern Naval Command, Kochi; Indian Space Research Organization [ISRO], Bangalore ; Department of Archaeology, Kerala University Thiruvananthapuram ; National Geo Physical Research Laboratory, [NGRI]; Deccan College Post Graduate Research Institute, Pune; Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar ; Kerala Forest Research Institute [KFRI], Peechi; Cochin University of Science & Technology, [CUSAT], Kochi; Centre for Earth Science Studies [CESS], Thiruvananthapuram ; National Institute of Advanced Studies [NIAS], Bangalore; MS University, Baroda; Maritime History Society, Mumbai; University of Pondicherry, Puthussery; Tamil University, Thanjore; Regional Conservation Laboratory, Mysore; Geological Survey of India [GSI], Thiruvananthapuram; and National Research Laboratory for Conservation (NRLC), Lucknow

b. Individual expertise

1. Dr. Steve Edward Sidebotham, University of Delaware, USA, Field Archaeology
2. Dr. Roberta Tomber, British Museum, UK, Ceramic expert
3. Dr. Shinu Abraham, USA, Bead expert
4. Dr. Federico Romanis, University of Rome, Italy , Expert in Roman Trade
5. Dr. Derek Kennet, University of Durham, UK, TGP expert
6. Dr. Peter Magee, Bryn Mawr College, USA, Indian Rouletted-ware expert
7. Dr. Rick Jones, University of Bradford, UK, Roman Archaeology expert
8. Dr. Nicole Boivin, Oxford University, Maritime Archaeology expert
9. Dr. Dorian Fuller, Reader, Institute of Archaeology, Palaeobotany expert
10. Dr. Damien Robinson, Director, Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology, Maritime Archaeology expert
11. Dr. Noboru Karashima, University of Tokyo, Chinese ceramics expert
12. Dr. Selvakumar, Tamil University, Tanjavur, Ceramic expert
13. Dr. K. Rajan ,University of Pondicherry, Archaeological excavation expert
14. Dr. G.V Raviprasad , Institute of Physics, Bhuvanesar, Geo Physics expert
15. Dr. Koushik Dutta, Institute of Physics, Bhuvanesar, Geo Physics expert
16. Dr. M.D.Kajale, Deccan College Post Graduate Research Institute, Pune, Palynology expert
17. Dr.R.K. Mohanty, Deccan College Post Graduate Research Institute, Pune, Bead expert
18. Dr.Nagabhushanam, National Geophysics Research Institute, Hyderabad, Geophysics expert
19. Dr. Sharada Sreenivasan, National Centre for Advanced Studies, Bangalore, Metallurgy expert



*Dr. Rick Jones,
University of Leeds,
UK in discussion with
Pattanam team*



*Dr Roberta Tomber,
British Museum,
UK, Amphora expert
at Pattanam*

- 20. Dr. K. Krishnan, MS University, Baroda, Petrology expert
- 21. Dr. Prakash, Centre for Earth Sciences Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, Geology expert
- 22. Dr.M.V.Nair, National Research Laboratory for Conservation, Lucknow, Conservation Expert
- 23. Dr. Irvatham Mahadevan, Chennai, Palaeography and Epigraphy expert
- 24. Dr.N.Athiyaman, Tamil University, Thanjavur, Palaeography and Epigraphy expert
- 25. Dr. M.R. Raghava Varier, Kerala, Palaeography and Epigraphy expert
- 26. Dr.K.M.Bhatt, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Thrissur, Wood science expert
- 27. Dr. Thomas, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Thrissur, Soil science expert

7. KCHR Library

KCHR has a well equipped library and research resource centre with a fairly large collection of books on Kerala history and society. Malayali family history, Kamala Surayya archives, biography and local history collections are some segments of KCHR contemporary history archives. KCHR library also has reference books on various social science disciplines. The library houses over 10,000 books subscribes to over two dozen of International and Indian Journals. The Library receives books as gifts too. New arrivals to the library are brought to the attention of public through The Hindu daily's Education Plus every Tuesday. Those who are interested to get a weekly note on the new arrivals may contact the KCHR librarian at kchrliba@gmail.com. The modernization, interior re-arrangements, furnishing, web-cabling and pest control treatment and computerization of the accession register of the KCHR Library and research resource centre were completed.



8. KCHR Friends Forum

KCHR hopes to expand this collective of people with interest in historical studies and related areas. The Council, therefore, would like to associate with all those who are sensitive to the role of history in the making of the future.

Membership Privileges

1. You will be in the mailing list of KCHR.

2. You will be a special invitee to KCHR Memorial Lectures, Public Lectures, Colloquiums etc.
3. You can avail a discount of 10% (Annual Members) and 30% (Life Members) on all KCHR publications.
4. You will have free access to KCHR Library and Research Resource Centre and paid access to WiFi Internet connection.
5. You will be a subscriber of the KCHR newsletter and will be eligible for a subsidised subscription of the proposed research journal.
6. You will have the facility to consult senior scholars in Kerala History / Culture.
7. Life Members will get a laminated ID card and a souvenir.

You can become a friend of KCHR by paying a nominal registration fee. During the year 2010-2011, KCHR Friends Forum received good response from academics, researchers, students and the general public. KCHR currently has 133 life members and 565 annual members. This year 69 annual and 13 life members have enrolled in the Forum.

9. Seminars and lectures

a. Public Lecture

1. KCHR organized a lecture on Barack Obama and Black Politics in the United States by Prof. Eric Foner, Professor of History at Columbia University, USA on 19th January 2011 at the Fourth Estate Hall, Press Club, Thiruvananthapuram.
2. Dr Rick Jones, University of Leeds at UK, and Director, Pompeii excavations, gave a lecture at Pattanam on Conservation of Pompeii site on April 28th 2011.
3. Paul David Kenny, Research Scholar, Yale University gave a lecture on The Patronage State: Patrons, Patriots and Bureaucrats in the making of Modern India on 29th October 2010, at KCHR.

b. Memorial Lecture/ condolence meeting

1. Dr Prabhat Patnaik, Vice Chairman, Planning Board delivered Allchin Memorial Lecture on 12th July 2010.
2. A condolence meeting on the demise of renowned historian A. Sreedhara Menon was held on 4th August 2010 at KCHR.

Dr. Prabhat Patnaik, Vice- Chairman, KSPB *Dr Eric Foner, Columbia University, USA*



10. KCHR Participation in Academic Events

As many as 14 members of the KCHR research team participated in the Annual Conference of the International Association for Asian Heritage (IAAH) at Colombo in Sri Lanka and presented 16 papers on different aspects of Pattanam Archaeological Research.

i. Prof. Cherian, participated in the International Conference conducted by ASI and the Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Eastern India, on "The Ports of the Indian Ocean, from the Red Sea



Pattanam team presented 16 papers at the Annual Conference of IAAH at Colombo, seen with Sri T.B.Ekanayake Hon. Minister for Cultural affairs, Sri Lanka.

to the Gulf of Bengal” at Kolkotta in February 2011. He presented a paper on ‘Archaeology of Pattanam: Evidence of Indian Ocean Trade from the Malabar Coast’.

ii. Dr. K. P. Shajan, Research Officer, attended the International Seminar on Silk Route, organized by the School of Archaeology, Oxford University, on 28th November 2010.

iii. Dr. K. P. Shajan participated in the International Conference conducted on “The Ports of the Indian Ocean, from the Red Sea to the Gulf

of Bengal” conducted by ASI and the Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Eastern India at Kolkotta in February 2011.

iv. Dr. K P Shajan, Research Officer attended the Getty Foundation Seminar on the Arts of Rome’s Provinces in the UK from May 1-15 -2011.

v. Dr. Preeta Nayar, Academic coordinator, participated in the three day National Conference of Indian Art History Congress on November 2010 at Vivekananda Kendra at Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu.

11. Academic Programmes

a. Internship Programme

1. Internship facilities are offered to under-graduate Indian/overseas students for taking up short-term Social Science assignments. During 2010-2011 KCHR provided Internship facilities to Mr Berlin Fernandez, a student from Loyola College, Chennai to do his one-month internship training programme as part of his Degree curriculum package. He did his project work on The ceramics from Pattanam Excavation.
2. Ms Soumya L R , MPhil student of Department of History, University College, Thiruvananthapuram made use of KCHR academic facilities for doing her internship dissertation on Agrarian Relations in Medieval Kerala.
3. Ms. Manju. P, Department of Malayalam, Sreesankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, was another KCHR Research Intern of this period. She, as part of the ASPIRE programme, instituted by the Government of Kerala worked on the topic Keraleeya Thozhilidangal – Charithram, Rashtreeyam.

b. Fellowships and Scholarships

KCHR offered both academic and monetary support to enable interdisciplinary social science research in various themes related to theory/historiography/ Kerala history/ society

i. Scholar in Residence Fellowship

Scholar in Residence Fellowship is offered to support the writing / completion of research articles or monographs. The scholars identified under this scheme are obliged to remain resident fellows of KCHR. This fellowship is aimed to promote advanced research output in the broad spectrum of the social sciences and is competitively open to all candidates cutting across disciplinary boundaries and nationalities. Scholar in Residence Fellowship for 2010-2011 was offered to Dr Meera Nanda and Dr. Cyriac Maprayil.

ii. Fellowship for Revising PhD Thesis

This fellowship supports scholar to revise/modify their Ph.D theses for publication.

Three scholars Dr.T.K.Anandi, Dr. Sebastian Joseph and Dr. A. Shaji revised their theses by availing this fellowship.

iii. Fellowship for post doctoral Research

This scheme is meant to support Ph.D holders to pursue their research by helping them define and design an area/theme for post-doctoral research. Scholars who have undertaken social science research at Ph.D level on any aspects of Kerala society/history or social science theory are considered for this fellowship. The scholars who were awarded this fellowship were Dr.U.V. Shakkeela and Dr. Joseph Skaria

iv. Ph.D Fellowships

The KCHR Doctoral fellowship is offered to research scholars to pursue Ph.D programme in any of the Indian Universities or at KCHR on themes related to Kerala Society and History or social science theories. Ms. Anu Mariam Ninan, Department of History, Sree Sankara University of Sanskrit, Kalady, received the 2010-11 Ph. D fellowship.

The KCHR Executive Council has decided to increase the PhD fellowship amount from Rs. 6000 to Rs. 10000, and the annual contingency grant from Rs. 20,000 to Rs.25,000 from next academic year onwards.

c. KCHR as Centre for Doctoral / Post Doctoral Research

The following are the research guides associated with KCHR in the faculty of social sciences.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Dr. P. J. Cherian | [KCHR] |
| 2. Dr. Preeta Nayar | [KCHR] |
| 3. Dr. K.N.Ganesh | [University of Calicut] |
| 4. Dr. S. Sivadasan | [SSUS, Kalady] |
| 5. Dr. J. Prabhash | [Kerala University] |
| 6. Dr. T Jamal Mohammed | [SSUS, Kalady] |
| 7. Dr. K.Y.Benedict | [Kerala University] |
| 8. Dr. A. Sathiyaraj | [Kerala University] |
| 9. Dr. A Jadeeda | [Kerala University] |
| 10. Dr. Susan Thomas | [SSUS, Kalady] |
| 11. Dr. M.T. Narayanan | [SSUS, Kalady] |

The research facilities at KCHR are attracting research students from inside and outside Kerala to pursue their research work. This academic year, Ms Neena Thomas and Ms Shanti Jose joined KCHR as part time research scholar in Education and fulltime research scholar in History respectively.

12. Awards and Fellowships

i. Prof. P J Cherian was awarded the Visiting Fellowship in archaeological research by the Oxford University's School of Archaeology and the Keble College. He was a visiting fellow during the Michaelmas term, October-December 2010. The fellowship was meant to deepen Dr. Cherian's understanding of new theoretical and methodological developments in archaeology, and contribute to ensuring that Pattanam continued to be excavated and interpreted to the highest standards. Besides attending three courses, he also participated in the field activities of the School of Archaeology. He delivered three lectures, two at the Oxford University; in the workshop on "Contact and Creativity in the Ancient World" on 18th October and in the "Silk Routes and Eastern Contacts" Seminar on Nov 13th. His lecture at the British Museum, London on Nov 27th 2010 was

on “Crossing cultures: the archaeological findings from Pattanam, South-West India.”

ii. P J Cherian, Director, KCHR was awarded three year research fellowship by the University of Rome (Tor Vergata) for undertaking doctoral studies in Cultural Exchanges between India and Rome (500BCE to 500 CE) with special reference to Pattanam Archaeological Evidence. The research would involve archaeological field studies, library work and museum studies in Europe and India.

iii. P J Cherian, Director, KCHR, was conferred the title of Honorary Research Associate in the Department of Archaeology for three years by the University of Durham, the United Kingdom, in appreciation of his contributions in archaeological research.

13. Administration

A 16-member Executive Council with nine academic members holding office to a maximum of six years, and one-third of them retiring on seniority basis every third year, is the Governing Body of the Institution. The Vice-Chancellor of Kerala University, Secretary, Higher Education Department, Secretary, Finance Department, Chairman, KCHR, Director, KCHR, Director, Archaeology Department and Director, Directorate of State Archives are the ex-officio members. The nine academic members are Dr.Y.Subbarayalu, Dr.P.M.Rajan Gurukkal, Dr. P.K. Michael Tharakan, Dr. Kesavan Veluthat, Dr.K.N.Ganesh, Dr. K.M. Sheeba, Dr. M. Vijayalekshmy, Dr.K.Rajan, and Dr. K.V.Kunhikrishnan. Dr. K.N.Panikkar is the Chairman and Dr. P.J.Cherian, the Director. To monitor the implementation of the aims and objectives of the Council, KCHR has sub-committees for Publication, Research and Finance & Administration with the Chairman, KCHR as the president and Director, KCHR as the convener.

a. KCHR Funds and Audit:

KCHR Budget & Funds

Against the Plan proposals for Rs.553 lakhs and Non-Plan proposals Rs.67.50 lakhs, the Government of Kerala has provided Rs.200 lakhs and Rs.5.50 lakhs under Plan and Non-Plan respectively.

Further, against the proposal for the Supplementary Demand Grant, Rs.200 lakhs was released vide GO (Rt) No.536/2011/H.Edn. dated 31/03/2011 for the purchase of land at Pattanam, fencing and landscaping, setting up of camp house, site museum, post-excavation research and conservation/documentation.

Audit:

M/s. Varma & Varma, Chartered Accountants, was appointed as auditors of the KCHR for the year 2010-11 and they have carried out the audit of Books of Accounts for the year 2010-11 and the audited statement of Accounts together with their report was approved by the Executive Council Meeting held on 27th August, 2011.

The Audit team from the Office of the Accountant General (Audit) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, conducted the audit for the year 2010-11 from 20th August, 2011 to 31st August, 2011.

b. Foreign Contribution Regulation Act:

As per the rules of the Foreign Contribution Regulation Act, FC-3 Return Form, the audited statement of Receipts and Payments, certificate of audit were forwarded to the Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, Government of India.

14. KCHR Publications

KCHR has 41 volumes of seminal significance to research on Kerala society.

1. *Mahishashatakam*: a Sanskrit text translated by Prof. Kesavan Veluthatt (2011).
2. *Kerala Mathematics: History and its possible transmission to Europe* (Ed) Prof. George Gheverghese Joseph (2010).
3. *Vaniyamkulam Panchayat Vijnaneeyam* (ed) Vijnanneeyam Samithi (2001).
4. *Essays on the cultural formation of Kerala* (ed) Prof. P.J. Cherian (2000).
5. *Perspectives on Kerala History the second millennium* (ed) Prof. P.J. Cherian (2000).
6. *William Logan's Malabar Manual by William Logan* (2 Volumes) (ed) Prof. P.J. Cherian (2000).
7. *Travancore state manual*, V. Nagam Aiya (3 Volumes) (1999).
8. *A collection of treaties engagements and other papers of importance relating to British affairs in Malabar* (Malabar Manual- Vol.III) by William Logan, (1997).
9. *Malabar gazetteer* by CA Innes and Ivans, (1997).
10. *Kerala society papers* edited by T. K. Joseph (1997).
11. *Neiuhoff kanda keralam* (Malayalam Translation by K. Sivasankaran Nair), (1996).
12. *The Travancore state manual* by T. K. Velu Pillai. (4 Volumes), (1996).
13. *The descriptive memoir of Malabar* by Lts.Ward & Conner, (1995).
14. *The Cochin state manual* by C. Achyutha Menon (1994).
15. *Memoir of the survey of Travancore and Cochin states* by Lts.Ward & Conner (2 Volumes) (1994).
16. *History of Travancore* by P. Shangoony Menon (1983).
17. *State gazetteer series – origins and Geography, pre & early historic period; economic affairs* (3 Volumes), edited by K.K Ramachandran Nair (Volume I) (1986), K.K. Ramachandran Nair (Volume II) (1986) and K.N. Ganesh (Volume III) (1989).
18. *District gazetteers* (Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha, Kottayam, Ernakulam,Thrissur, Kozhikkode and Kannur edited by A. Sreedhara Menon and Palakkad and Malappuram by C. K. Karim).
19. *District gazetteers supplements* (Thiruvananthapuram. Kollam, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Kozhikkode).

15. Forthcoming Publications

1. *Londonum Parisum*: Re-print of the book by Barrister G.P. Pillai
2. *Keralathile Pazhanchollukal* (a collection of Malayalam proverbs) compiled and published by KCHR
3. *Latin-Malayalam-Latin dictionary* edited by Prof. Kesavan Veluthat
4. *Kolezhuthu and Malayalam Records in the Oriental section of Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris*, edited by Dr.M.R. Raghava Varier

KCHR brings out annual reports, interim reports of Pattanam Excavation, preliminary reports and final reports periodically.

16. Academic Affiliation

KCHR offers three types of academic affiliations.

1. An affiliation meant for scholars to work independently towards the publication of a monograph.

2. A research affiliation meant for Ph.D researchers and
3. An affiliation meant for participating in KCHR research projects.

During the period from 2010-2011 academic affiliations were granted to Ms Anna Morley Kotarba from Oxford University for doing Geo-archaeological survey and Ms Carmen Obied from Southampton University for doing Geo-physical survey of Pattanam archaeological site.

Academic affiliations of Dr Lucy Blue, Dr Steve Sidebotham, Dr. Istvan Perczel, Dr. Shinu Abraham, Dr. Ariane de Saxce, Dr. Federico de Romanis and Dr. Derek Kennet, scholars related to Pattanam excavation, were renewed for three more years.

17. Year Ahead

a. Sixth season's Excavation at Pattanam

The sixth season excavation at Pattanam would begin in February 2012. Expected to unearth more tangible evidence to understand the role of Pattanam in the Indian Ocean trade, the endeavour had as its objectives the study of the cultural sequence of the site, its lay out, industrial output, technological legacy, cross cultural movements, paleo environment and the state and polity of the region.

b. Establishing Site Museum and Archaeological Park at Pattanam

The KCHR has purchased 60 cents of land at Pattanam (where the excavations were undertaken) and efforts are on to get more land towards the setting up of a site, an imaginarium of international standards, landscape gardening and site conservation.

c. Campus with infrastructural facilities for KCHR Complex:

An Open History Museum that would narrate the history of Kerala society through the display of archaeological/cultural objects, models, maps, images and manuscripts is envisaged. The campus will also house the KCHR library, Research Resource Centre, conference hall, faculty space, administrative office, scholars' hostel and other amenities necessary for the KCHR campus.

d. History Network to explore Buddhist and Jain vestiges of Kerala

History Network is a programme aimed at locating, collecting and helping to preserve archaeological, archival, oral and other sources relevant to the study of Kerala history and society. Students or Kerala history enthusiasts are welcome to join the KCHR in the exploration studies of the Buddhist and Jain vestiges of Kerala, on honorarium or voluntary basis. Interested persons may apply with CV. There is no cut-off date.

e. Post Excavation Research

Besides continuing the excavation, the Pattanam research requires the training of research personnel, application of cutting edge technology, publication and conservation of artifacts. KCHR gives high priority to the post excavation research and publication of the results.

18. Visitors to KCHR

- a, Mr. Mike Nithavrianakis, Deputy High Commissioner in Southern India, Chennai
- b, Dr. Roberta Tomber, British Museum, the UK, the ceramic expert collaborating with Pattanam excavations.

- c, Dr. Rick Jones, University of Leeds, the UK and Director, Pompeii excavations
 d, Dr. Shinu Abraham, St Lawrence University, Canton, USA, the bead expert collaborating with Pattanam excavations.
 e, Dr. Eric Foner, Columbia University, New York City, USA
 f, Dr. Carlos Alzugaray, Professor, University of Hondura & Member of Cuban Academy of Sciences
 g, Dr. Prabhath Patnaik, Vice Chairman, Planning Board, Kerala
 h, Ms. Ania Kotarba Morley, Oxford University, Geo- archaeological survey
 i, Ms. Carmen Obied, Southampton University, Geo- physical survey
 j, Mr. Andrew Blair, Research Scholar, Durham University
 k, Mr. Robert Falvey, Research Scholar, the UK

19. KCHR staff

The staff members of KCHR include the Director, Research Officer, Academic Co-ordinator. Finance Officer, Administrative Officer, Secretary to Director, Publication Assistant, Office Assistant, Library Assistant, Peon, Typist, Driver, Care Taker (Pattanam) and a part-time menial. KCHR also has six research assistants. During the course of the year, Dr. K P Shajan joined as Research Officer and Mr. Mathew George as Library Assistant.

20. KCHR online

The KCHR website is located at www.keralahistory.ac.in. The home page provides up-to- date information on the Centre.

21. Thank You

We take this opportunity to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Higher Education Department, other government agencies, well-wishers, friends forum members, academics and all who have extended critical support and co-operation to KCHR. We look forward to their continuing support.

Prof. K.N. Panikkar
Chairman

Prof. P.J. Cherian
Director



27th September 2011

Citation

The National Maritime Foundation Award for Excellence has been instituted to recognize sustained performance and demonstrated achievement in any one of the key result areas of the Foundation, one of which is to nurture and facilitate study, scholarship and discourse in respect of a broad spectrum of maritime issues, including marine resources, maritime law, maritime history, preservation of the maritime environment and disaster relief.

The Kerala Council for Historical Research is an autonomous institution committed to scientific research in history and social sciences. Funded by the Ministry of Higher Education, Government of Kerala, KCHR is a recognized research centre of the University of Kerala and has bilateral academic and exchange agreements with various Universities and Research Institutes in India and abroad. KCHR strives to integrate advanced research and scholarship with historical-social consciousness through its projects and programs.

The Kerala Council for Historical Research has played a pioneering role in The Muziris Heritage Project which is a flagship initiative of the Government of Kerala. The project envisages retrieval of the historical heritage of the Kodungallur-Paravur region, heritage conservation with elements of responsible tourism and history education incorporated.

KCHR has been successful in planning and executing the archaeological research for the last four seasons at Pattanam, which includes excavation, exploration, surface and under-water surveys and post excavation studies.

KCHR has organized multi disciplinary archaeological excavations at Pattanam since 2007.

The excavations at Pattanam have attracted global attention and have brought out important evidences on the vibrant maritime trade with Mediterranean, Red Sea and Indian Ocean rims, which can probably rewrite the history of ancient maritime contacts. Such evidences include imported and fine pottery assemblage comprising Roman, West Asian, Indian Rouletted Ware (IRW) and a host of other unidentified fine wares. The number of Roman amphora and Terra Sigillata sherds excavated at Pattanam continues to be impressive and it is perhaps the largest assemblage of Roman pottery in India. It will have deeper implications in understanding the Roman role in Indian Ocean trade.

The work carried out by the KCHR in the Pattanam project throws significant light on the development of long-distance maritime trade between India and the world since ancient times.

The Awards Committee of the National Maritime Foundation has selected the Kerala Council for Historical Research for its Excellence Award to be presented on the occasion of the National Conference on Ship building, Strategies, Human Resources, Infrastructure, Processes, Security, SHIPS 2011, at Kochi, on 27th, 28th September 2011.

(Vice Admiral (Retd) PRADEEP KAUSHIVA UYSM VSM IN)
Director, National Maritime Foundation



past for a positive future

PB No. 839, Vylloppilly Samskrithi Bhavan
Nalanda, Thiruvananthapuram- 695 003