

# **The Society for South Asian Studies**

**The British Academy**

**London**

**2001**

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

## **THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

THE BRITISH ACADEMY  
10 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE  
LONDON SW1Y 5AH

### **REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

#### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31ST MARCH 2001**

The Annual General Meeting of the Society  
will be held at the The Royal Asiatic Society,  
60 Queen's Gardens, London W2 3AF

on Monday 26th November 2001

**at 5.15 p.m.**

to consider the Report and Accounts,  
elect officers and members of Council,  
re-appoint the Auditors and  
transact any other business  
proper to the AGM

**at 5.30 p.m.**

to hear a lecture entitled

**Chanderi in Madhya Pradesh:  
Planning and Building a Town in Muslim India**

by

**Professor G. Fussman  
(Collège de France)**

**THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**THE COUNCIL 2001**

**CHAIRMAN**

Dr. GILES TILLOTSON

**TREASURER**

Mr. DAVID WATERHOUSE

**SECRETARY**

Dr. MICHAEL WILLIS

**EDITOR**

Dr. ADAM HARDY

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Dr. A. TOPSFIELD (2004)  
Prof. N SIMS-WILLIAMS F.B.A (2001)

**RESEARCH FELLOWS**

Dr. D. KENNET  
Dr. Y.S. SIKAND

Dr.S. BHANDARE

**HONORARY FELLOWS**

Dr. F.R. ALLCHIN  
Dr. BRIDGET ALLCHIN  
Prof. A.D.H BIVAR  
Dr. D.W. MACDOWALL  
Mr. R. PINDER-WILSON

## **COUNCIL'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001**

### **SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION**

The Society for South Asian Studies (incorporating the Society for Afghan Studies) is a charity registered with the Charity Commissioners under Registration Number 264591. It is an unincorporated association and its basic governing document consists of the resolutions signed by the 68 persons who signed the resolutions for the formation of the Society and so became its first ordinary members on 1st June 1972 and the rules subsequently adopted by them.

The address of the Society is *c/o* The British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH.

Enquiries about the Society's activities should be directed to the Assistant Secretary, The Society for South Asian Studies, The Main Wing, Elsworth Manor, Elsworth, Cambs., CB3 8HY.

### **Aims and Objectives**

The Society was originally founded in 1972 as the Society for Afghan Studies. Its present name and scope were adopted in 1983. It is one of the schools and institutes founded and grant aided by the British Academy. The object for which the Society was established is to advance, encourage, support and undertake the study and research of the history, antiquities, archaeology, ethnography, languages, literature, art, culture, customs and geography of the countries of South Asia. The Society promotes a number of activities in these fields and produces an annual Journal in which it publishes the results of the research that it supports.

### **Organisation and Structure**

The Society is governed by a Council of Management and is administered by certain members of Council appointed as Honorary Officers, assisted at present by two remunerated employees - a full time research fellow and a part time assistant secretary.

### **Honorary Officers**

The Honorary Officers who served during the year ended 31st March 2001 were:-

Dr. G. Tillotson	Chairman
Mr. David Waterhouse	Treasurer
Dr. M. Willis	Secretary
Dr. A. Hardy	Editor

All Honorary Officers serve as members of Council and are members of the Research and Projects Committees, which advise Council on the awards it makes and monitor the Society's projects.

### **Members of Council**

The following served on Council during the year ended 31st March 2001:-

Dr. D. Ali	
Dr. C. Bates	(from January 2001)
Prof. A.D.H. Bivar	(retired December 2000)
Mr. J. Cribb	
Ms. Rosemary Crill	
Dr. Heather Elgood	
Prof. J.R. Hinnells	(retired December 2000)
Mr. J.P. Losty	
Dr. Francesca Orsini	
Prof. F.C.R. Robinson	
Prof. C. Shackle	
Dr. A. Topsfield	(from January 2001)
Prof. N. Sims-Williams	

Members of the Council constitute the Trustees of the Society for the purposes of the Charities Act.

The Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting under Rule 16 of the 1996 Rules.

Members of the Council are elected in terms of Rule 15, with vacancies being filled by vote upon nominations placed in November each year before the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting.

### **Advisers**

Auditors	Pridie Brewster, Chartered Accountants 29-39 London Rd, Twickenham Middlesex TW1 3SZ
Bankers	Coutts and Co, Adelaide Branch The Strand, London

The Society would like to express its gratitude to the British Academy and its staff for the continued support and assistance they have provided for all the activities of the Society throughout the year. The Society wishes to record its appreciation of the help and assistance it has been given by the officers of the British Council and the Directors of Archaeology in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Finally the Society records its gratitude to the Trustees of the British Museum and especially to Mr. J. R. Knox, Keeper of the Department of Oriental Antiquities, for the energetic support and encouragement offered to the Society over the course of the year.

#### **REPORT BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001**

The Society has passed a number of important intellectual and administrative milestones over the last year. A leading development has been a collaboration with the School of Oriental and African Studies to create a new academic position in Ancient Indian Religion and Vedic Studies. Society projects and post-doctoral fellows meanwhile have produced good results; in several cases the final publications for long-standing projects are now in press or in the final stages of preparation. Reports from all our post-doctoral fellows and project directors are found in the following pages. They attest to the remarkable diversity of Society activities.

On May 15th, the Chairman and Hon. Secretary met with the assessors for the British Academy Schools, Institutes and Societies (BASIS). The purpose of this meeting was to consider the Society's response to Sir David Wilson's review of the overseas operations of the British Academy. His report, prepared in 1995, made ten recommendations with regard to our Society and gave five years for their implementation. The Society, as a consequence, began to reorganise its priorities and operations. Our report on these changes was submitted to the British Academy early this year. As this report signals important changes the full text is given in Annex 1. BASIS accepted the Society's submission and in recognition of our efforts raised the annual grant-in-aid by £5,000, a considerable success given the current scarcity of research funding.

This marks my last report as Hon. Secretary. The rules of the Society were changed in 1999 to limit the term of both chairman and Hon. Secretary to three years. An explanation for this and other changes is given in our response to the Wilson report that appears in Annex 1. Having come this far, it is now a matter of urgency for all those with an academic interest in South Asia to become involved in Society activities, either by contributing to its administrative work or by becoming regular members. This will help ensure the future of the Society as a funding body and do much to maintain the vitality of South Asian studies in the UK

Dr. Michael Willis  
Secretary



## REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF SOCIETY PROJECTS

### **Paithan and Chandor Archaeological Project**

**Director: Dr. Derek Kennet**

#### **Chandor**

The Society's involvement in the Chandor excavations ended in February 2000 but the ASI team have continued to dig at the site during 2001. The Society was invited to continue the collaboration but this was not possible due to funding considerations.

The site has yielded detailed information on the three-phase development of the medieval brick temple at the site. The earliest phase has a cruciform plan so-far unknown in South Asia.

Now that fieldwork has ended, work is being directed towards the final publication of the results. A detailed report on the excavations was prepared and circulated to the Society, the ASI, and other interested parties and scholars in May 2000.<sup>1</sup> The (unpublished) report includes plans and analysis of the temple phases and provides a solid basis for the final report which is in preparation. A paper on the Chandor excavations was delivered to the 16th International Conference on South Asian Archaeology (Paris 2-6th July 2001) and a 5000-word interim report has been accepted for publication in *South Asian Studies* 17 (2001).

The Research Fellow made a short trip to Chandor in December 2000 to finalise a topographic plan of the village, to liaise with the ASI team, and to collect bibliographic and other information on the site for the final report.

Two thermoluminescence dates on the bricks from Phases I and II at Chandor were submitted to the Durham TL laboratory. The results have now been received and are as follows: Phase I (279-1 DurOSLqi01) 280 A.D.  $\pm$  300; Phase II (279-2 DurOSLqi01) 860 A.D.  $\pm$  200. The uncertainties are given at a 68% level of confidence (1s), and represent the overall error.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Paithan**

Fieldwork at Paithan ended in March 1999. Since then work has been directed towards the final publication of the results. The Research Fellow visited the ASI in Delhi in December 2000 at which time a detailed schedule for publication was worked out and signed by Dr Rao (collaborator) and the Research Fellow and agreed by the Director General ASI. A copy of this was sent to the Secretary of the SSAS in February 2001.

In the meantime work has continued in the UK on the phasing of the site and analysis of the archaeobotanical remains and pottery. A total of 3,327 seeds have now been isolated, identified and catalogued by R. Gee. The identifications will now be checked by Dr D. Fuller (University College London) who has agreed to publish this material. This is one of the largest systematically collected assemblages of plant remains from the Early Historic period of peninsular India and will be of considerable scientific interest.

The Society helped to organise a 10-day trip for Dr JVP Rao and Dr M Kasturi Bai to

Aurangabad and Paithan this summer. During the trip they were able to finish the catalogue of the finds from the 1996, '97, and, '98 seasons at Paithan, they were also able to review the antiquities collection of Mr B. Patel in Paithan, taking photographs and notes on objects of importance which will be included in the final publication. Dr M Kasturi Bai has taken on responsibility for the publication of the small finds and coins. Work is progressing well with this material.

A short paper on the excavations at Paithan was given to the 15th International Conference on South Asian Archaeology (Leiden July 1999). A text of this paper entitled *Two Early Historic Brick Temples at Paithan in Maharashtra* by D. Kennet & J.V.P. Rao is expected to appear in the Proceedings of the conference when they are published in the next few months.

### **World Corpus of Amaravati Sculpture**

**Director: Dr. Michael Willis**

The purpose of this project is to encourage a multi-disciplinary and international discussion of Amaravati, especially among students and younger scholars. Towards this end, a web-site has been established and research encouraged at the British Museum on different aspects of the collection. Mr. Balasubrahmaniam, curator of the archaeological collections at the Government Museum, Chennai, spent three months at the BM examining the collection and the conditions of display. He now hopes to reorganise and improve the important Amaravati galleries at Chennai. Akira Shimada, with generous support from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, has also come to London to study Amaravati. His research, on all aspects of the site and its documentation, will be carried out over several years and lead to publications in due course.

Dr. Jennifer Howes (British Library) is working on the history and dispersal of the Mackenzie Amaravati stones. While in India in December 2000 she visited Amaravati and museums holding Amaravati material. She gave talks on her research at the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad and the Government Museum, Chennai. She has prepared a digitised version of the Mackenzie Amaravati Album which is due to be launched on the British Library's web site next year and has written an article on her Mackenzie Amaravati research which should be published in the coming year.

Further information is available on the project web-site which is currently being redesigned:

<http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS/frameset.html>

### **REPORTS BY THE SOCIETY'S RESEARCH FELLOWS**

**Dr. Derek Kennet, University of Durham**

The Research Fellowship in South Asian Archaeology is now entering its third academic year. Over the last three years an average of 32 undergraduates per year have taken the specialist module on South Asia taught by the Fellow. A similar number is expected in the coming year (2001/2), making this the most well-attended South Asian archaeology module in the UK.

The MA in Archaeology strand in "Egypt, the Near East and India" is a new initiative that has been developed over the last two years as a result of the presence of the Fellow in Durham. It currently attracts about 6 students per year but is expected to grow significantly. The Fellow contributes one third of the specialist teaching on this MA strand, which includes optional specialist modules in S. Asian archaeology.

Two applications from PhD students were received this year, both of whom may come to Durham to begin work under the Fellow if funding is obtained.

The Fellow has successfully completed the Society's 5-year fieldwork project (Paithan/Chandor) and is now working towards the publication (see Project report).

The Fellow is currently on a 3-year fixed-term contract at Durham until January 2004. The University has made a commitment to the Society that a permanent lectureship in South Asian Archaeology will be created at that time.

**Dr. Shailendra Bhandare, the British Museum**

The research in this year was undertaken in three phases - the period August 2000 - December 2000 was spent in the Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum. December 2000 - March 2001 was spent in India, and then from April onwards, again in the British Museum.

During the month of August I attended a conference organised by the Royal Numismatic Society on 'Counterfeit Currencies through the Ages' and presented a paper entitled 'An overview of Imitative Currencies in India' This paper is expected to be published in the proceedings of the conference due next year.

In October, a survey visit was undertaken to Hanover, Germany, where the collection of the Niedersaechsische Munzkabinett der Deutschen Bank was studied, primarily for the coins of the Indian Princely States from the residual collection of Dr. Freudenthal, a large part of which also forms the collection in the British Museum. Some very interesting novelties were noted

and they will be duly published as notes in the Newsletter of the Oriental Numismatic Society.

In November, a lecture titled 'Transitional Coinage of the East India Company' was presented at the meeting of the Royal Numismatic Society. It discussed, apart from the coins classified as such themselves, British response to indigenous circulatory practices and its effect on coin design.

In December, a study day was organised at the Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, jointly with the Oriental Numismatic Society, on the theme of 'Religion and Indian Coins'. I presented a paper entitled 'Representations of a river goddess on ancient Indian coins', highlighting the stylistic similarities between numismatic depictions and early terracotta art.

My tenure in India was spent studying three important private collections in Bombay, building a database of references to Princely moneys in the indices of the Foreign Department, Government of India located in the National Archives of India, New Delhi, and studying the extensive collection of Mr. J.P.Goenka in Calcutta. The database of the archives now includes

references to 1200 documents regarding various aspects of princely coins. It may be noted that almost all of this information is likely to be previously unpublished.

Upon my return from India, the task of re-arranging the collection in the British Museum was undertaken. In May 400 coins from the collection of the late Ken Wiggins were acquired by the Department of Coins and Medals to complement the existing array of late Mughal and Princely States coins in the collection. The most important coin acquired was a unique rupee of the Mughal puppet Muhammad Akbar, issued from the mint of Haridwar (North India), during his short reign of about 45 days.

The rearrangement of the collection is now complete and the task of building a descriptive database is to be undertaken. Apart from giving an overview of the collection and facilitating its cataloguing, this database will also help in updating the standard listing of these coins in the Krause-Mishler publication 'Standard Catalogue of World Coins'.

### **Dr. Y.S. Sikand, Royal Holloway College**

In the period February 1999 to June 2001 I have divided my time between India and the UK, spending considerable time in the field as well as interacting with Professor Francis Robinson. I was invited to speak about my research at the Institute for the Study of Islam in the Modern

World, Leiden, the Jama'at-e-Islami Hind, New Delhi, the Backward Caste Muslim Foundation, Guntur, and the School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

During this period I have published the following articles:

a] 'Building Bridges Between Sikhs and Muslims: The Contribution of Khwaja Hasan Nizami', *Studies in Inter-Religious Dialogue*, 9 [1999], 2.

b] *The Role of the Kashmiri Sufis in the Promotion of Communal Harmony and Social Reform [14th-16th Centuries]* [published as a monograph by the Centre for the Study of Society and Secularism, Mumbai, 1999].

c] 'Changing Course of Kashmiri Struggle: From National Liberation to Islamist Jihad?', *The Muslim World*, vol.91, nos. 1 & 2, Spring 2001, pp. 229-256.

d] 'Popular Beliefs and the Dialogue of Everyday Life: Inter-Religious Interaction at the Sufi Shrines of Jammu', *Studies in Inter-Religious Dialogue*, vol.10, no.2, 2000.

e] 'Ritual and Popular Piety at the 'Urs of a Qalandar *Dargah* in South India', *Journal of the Henry Martyn Institute*, 19:1, 2000.

f] 'Between Dialogue and Conflict: The Origins and Development of the Deendar Anjuman [1924-2000]', in *Encounters: Journal of Inter-Cultural Perspectives*, vol.6, no.2, 2001, pp. 177-222.

g] 'Another Ayodhya in the Making? The Baba Budhangiri Dargah Controversy in South India', in *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, vol. 20, no. 2, 2000, pp. 211-227.

h] 'Hazrat Bulbul Shah: The First Known Muslim Missionary in Kashmir', in *Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*, vol. 20, no. 2, 2000, pp. 36-67.

i] 'The Tablighi Jama'at in Post-1947 Mewat', in *The Eastern Anthropologist*, no. 53, vol. 3-4, 2000, pp. 341-350.

The following articles that I have written in this period are under consideration for being published in various journals:

a] 'A New Indian Muslim Agenda: The Dalit Muslims and the All-India Backward Caste Muslim Morcha' [*Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*]

b] 'Islamic Perspectives on Liberation and Dialogue in Contemporary India: A Case Study of Muslim Writings in *Dalit Voice*' [*Journal of Muslim Minority Affairs*]

c] 'The Jama'at-I-Islami of India: Between Da'wah and *Dialogue*' [*Islam and Christian Muslim Relations*]

d] 'Now or Never!': Inter-Faith Dialogue and the Recovery of 'True' Hinduism as Seen in the Writings of Acharya Maulana Shams Naved Usmani [*Encounters*]

e] 'Islam and the Muslim Minority Predicament: Reflections on the Contributions of Sayyed Abul Hasan 'Ali Nadwi' [*Encounters*]

f] 'The Tablighi Jama'at and Politics' [*Encounters*]

g] 'The Origins and Development of the Jama'at-I-Islami of Jammu and Kashmir' [*Modern Asian Studies*].

h] 'The Changing Nature of Hindu-Muslim Syncretic Shrines in Karnataka'

i] 'Islamist Militancy in Kashmir: The Case of the Lashkar-i-Tayyeba'.

Himayat, a Bangalore-based non-profit organisation, has published the following monographs written during the same period(1999-2001):

1. *The Sufis of Jammu*.

2. *Building Bridges of Harmony: A Speech By Maulana Anwar Shah Kashmiri.*
3. *Religion and Dalit Liberation.*
4. *Religion, Dialogue and Justice.*
5. *Kashmiri Muslim Perspectives on Inter-Religious Dialogue*
6. *The Islamic Movement and the Political Challenge.*
7. *Inter-Religious Dialogue and Liberation Theology.*
8. *The Islamic Movement and the Political Challenge*
  
9. *The Role of Women in Kashmiri Rishism.*
10. *The Muslim Rishis of Kashmir: Harbingers of Love and Justice.*

I have also reworked my Ph.D. thesis for publication, and it will be published in March, 2002 by Orient Longman Ltd., Delhi.

### **Lecturer in Ancient Indian Religion and Vedic Studies, SOAS**

From September 2001, Dr. Theodore Proferes, the newly appointed lecturer in Ancient Indian Religions in the Department of the Study of Religions, will offer two MA-level courses in Vedic Religion and Classical Hinduism, and a BA-level course in Indian Philosophy. Dr. Proferes' current fieldwork focuses on the Vedic school of the Vaikhanasas in the area around Tanjore in Tamil Nadu. He is currently working on a number of articles on this and related topics for publication in the coming year.

### **REPORTS ON SOCIETY AIDED PROJECTS**

#### **The Bannu Project**

**Directors : Mr. J.R. Knox and Dr. K.D. Thomas**

The Bannu Archaeological Project resumed its work in Pakistan in late January and continued into early March 2001. The principal members of the team were Professor Farid Khan, Chairman of the Pakistan Heritage Society (Peshawar), Mr Abdul Nasir of the Government of Pakistan Department of Archaeology and Museums, Mr J.R. Knox and Mr Justin Morris, of the British Museum, and Dr K.D. Thomas, Institute of Archaeology, UCL.

A few days were spent in Peshawar at the beginning of the season, meeting with colleagues at the University and giving lectures. It was agreed that we would offer instruction in archaeological field techniques at the site of Lewan. Although time consuming such exercises are beneficial for the Project and, by extension, for the image of the Society in Pakistan.

Excellent progress was made on the catalogues of the artefacts for the monograph on Sheri Khan Tarakai. These and the accompanying text are now complete and it is proposed that as

the quantity of material and data from Sheri Khan Tarakai is so great the monograph will be published as two volumes of *Ancient Pakistan*, one in 2001 and the other in 2002.

To further the plans for the second volume on Sheri Khan Tarakai, a visit was made to the closely related site of Girdai, Narmi Khel, in Bannu District. This site has been virtually destroyed to create fields, but trial trenches in four different locations revealed remnants of surviving stratigraphy in the form of compacted floor deposits, in one case sealing a small pit, directly upon the underlying natural alluvial sands and gravels. Collections of artefacts were made and, vitally, four small samples of charcoal were obtained which will give dating framework for the site. These samples are to be submitted for AMS radiocarbon dating.

Limited excavations were made at Lewan, on the higher part of the site. Three 10 m by 10 m trenches revealed pits dug into the natural alluvial sediments that underlie the site. This was the only stratigraphy recovered, confirming last season's impression that the site had been subject to significant erosion and wash-down. The pottery and terracotta objects recovered from these pits were, however, quite unlike those found in the previous season, confirming an early Bronze Age occupation of the Rehman Dheri I cultural phase, which the Bannu Project has recently termed the 'Tochi-Gomal phase'. We were, however, astonished to discover that the pottery from one of the trenches was not of this cultural phase but was identical to material excavated at the site of Ter Kala Dheri, from deposits of the late Sheri Khan Tarakai period. The implications of this intriguing discovery are not yet fully clear, but it seems that, in its latest phase, the Sheri Khan Tarakai complex extended (or possibly shifted) its distribution towards the riverine tracts of the Bannu plain and away from the conglomerate fans near the western foothills). A further series of charcoal samples were taken for radiocarbon dating.

While the work was continuing in the higher areas of the Lewan site, some small children were observed digging holes in an area not far from our excavations of 2000. We were surprised to find that they had dug up quantities of highly fired reddened clay and white ashy material containing vitrified fragments of pottery slag indicating that this was a pottery kiln. Excavation revealed that much of the kiln structure had once been above ground, as a roughly cylindrical structure of uncertain height but approximately 1.9m in diameter. It had been almost completely knocked down in antiquity, with fragments of the fired clay of the kiln walls being scattered over a fairly wide area. An ash-filled firing pit was found beneath the kiln and samples of the ash were taken for phytolith analysis, which should reveal if the kiln had been fired using wood or (more probably) animal dung. Pottery in various states of firing, including highly over-fired and completely vitrified lumps, was recovered. The kiln was clearly of Kot Diji (pre-Harappan Bronze Age) date and is the first we have ever found in Bannu and among the very few excavated in Pakistan (we know of only two such kilns excavated at Harappa). Samples of pottery were taken and of clay material and these will be examined in the Department of Scientific Research (British Museum) to establish the characteristics of the clays and other materials used to make the pots, as well as the technology of manufacture. In addition, we have taken samples of pottery from the assemblages from other Kot Diji period sites in Bannu, to see how closely related they are to the Lewan kiln samples. This might reveal if there were ceramic production centres in Bannu in the Bronze Age and if pottery was traded or exchanged between settlements in the Bannu region.

The current year also saw a number of significant publications by the Bannu Project, most notably the monograph on Akra and the report on the 2000 excavations at Akra:

- Khan, F., Knox, J.R., Magee, P. and Thomas, K.D. 2000. Akra: the ancient capital of Bannu. *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 23 (no. 1), 1-202.

- Khan, F., Knox, J.R., Magee, P., Petrie, C. and Thomas, K.D. 2000. The 2000 season of excavations at Akra by the Bannu Archaeological Project. *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 23 (no. 2), 105-136.

In addition, we published the following articles on other aspects of the work of the Project:

- Khan, F., Knox, J.R. and Thomas, K.D. 2000. The Bannu Archaeological Project: archaeological explorations and excavations in Bannu Division, North-West Frontier Province, Pakistan, 1985-2000. *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 23 (no. 2), 1-6.
- Khan, F., Knox, J.R. and Thomas, K.D. 2000. Settlements and settlement systems in the southwest Gomal Plain in the proto-historic period. *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 23 (no. 2), 7-23.
- Khan, F., Knox, J.R. and Thomas, K.D. 2000b. Jhandi Babar, a new site in the Gomal Plain, and the Sheri Khan Tarakai culture complex. *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 23 (no. 2), 25-50.
- Khan, F., Knox, J.R. and Thomas, K.D. 2000. The 'Tochi-Gomal phase': an early 3rd millennium BC culture horizon in Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan Divisions, North-West Frontier Province, Pakistan. *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 23 (no. 2), 51-56.
- Khan, F., Knox, J.R. , Morris, J.C. and Thomas, K.D. 2000. A preliminary account of archaeological survey and excavations at Lewan (Bannu Division), 2000. *Journal of Asian Civilizations* 23 (no. 2), 57-104.

During the 2001 field season an article was written for presentation at the UNESCO-funded conference '2001 Dialogue Among Civilizations International Colloquium on the Indus Civilization' at Islamabad , April 6th-8th, 2001:

- Khan, F., Knox, J.R. and Thomas, K.D. Bannu: a melting pot for cultural change in the protohistoric periods. [This will be published as part of the Conference proceedings]

An invited article has been written and submitted for publication in a forthcoming book:

- Thomas, K.D. Minimising risk? Approaches to pre-Harappan human ecology on the north-west margin of the Greater Indus system. In (S. Weber, ed.) *Ethnobiology and the Indus Civilization. An interdisciplinary approach to subsistence, environment and change*. Submitted.

The members of the Bannu Archaeological Project also attended the South Asian Archaeology 2001 conference, which was held in Paris at the beginning of July, at which they presented three research papers (which will be published in the conference proceedings).



## **The Upper Ganges Project**

**Director : Dr. D.K Chakrabarti, University of Cambridge**

The geographical area which was studied this year included the Hardoi, Shajahanpur, Bareilly, Udham Singh Nagar, Pilibhit, Kheri and Sitapur districts of Uttar Pradesh -- roughly an area of 20000 sq km. Seventy two archaeological sites were studied in all.

The work was done in collaboration with the U.P. State Archaeology Department (represented by its Director Dr Rakesh Tewari and two other members, Drs Rajiv Trivedi and K.K.Singh) and the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology of Banaras Hindu University (represented by Dr R.N.Singh).

Apart from throwing some fresh light on the distribution and character of the representative sites of this region and the major routes by which they were linked, this study brings out two

important but hitherto neglected aspects of its historical geography. The first of these issues relates to the location of Kashipur, the only extensive and fortified early historical settlement between the well-known site of Ahichchhatra and the outer line of the Himalayas. It has been inferred by us on the basis of our assessment of the geographical and archaeological situation that Kashipur, the ancient name of which is unknown, makes sense as the capital of Kuninda Janapada in the early centuries A.D. and as a Mauryan administrative centre before that. Further, on the basis of some early gazetteer data it has been postulated that the ancient importance of Kashipur could also be due to its being a place where the hill-produce was traded for the products of the plains. In short, the location of Kashipur can be explained as a central place where the plains and the hills interacted both politically and economically. The second issue relates to the location of Ahichchhatra, one of the most impressive early historical settlements of the subcontinent. All that is historically understood about it is that it was the capital of the Panchala kingdom. Our field-observations of the situation in the entire area,

including the location of early historical sites in Pilibhit and Kheri, and some early gazetteer data regarding the pattern of its preindustrial trade have led us to the inference that Ahichchhatra was important not merely as the Panchala capital but also as a place where extensive trade was

conducted both with the Uttar Pradesh hills and Nepal which is still easily accessed through Tanakpur.

One of the avowed aims of historical geographical studies is to add geographical depth to the historical landscape. From this point of view, our field-study of the northeastern segment of Uttar Pradesh in 2000 has been successful.

## **The Electronic Mahabharata Project**

**Director : Dr. John Smith, University of Cambridge**

The second phase of this project is now being conducted in association with the University of Pune. Two assistants, who worked on the previous phase of the project, have been appointed and work is progressing well. Each of the assistants has now completed a full analysis of the diction of three chapters of the *Mahabharata*. Work is now concentrating on the diction of

the four battle books, which form a major part of the core narrative. Dr. Smith is also carrying out work on the closely-related topic of metrics, and particularly on the distribution of different metrical patterns throughout the text. Although the project is still in its early phase the results achieved so far have been very valuable and distinctive patterns are emerging.

The electronic text is available on the internet at  
<http://bombay.oriental.cam.ac.uk/john/mahabharata/statement.html>.

### **The Sri Lankan Archaeometallurgy Project**

**Director : Dr. Gill Juleff**

The Samanalawewa archaeo-metallurgical project in collaboration with the Archaeological Department of Sri Lanka is continuing to examine the extent of wind-powered smelting in the island between the 7th and 11th century CE.

### **Jaina Temple Architecture Project**

**Director : Dr. Julia Hegewald, Oxford University**

During the second field season research was carried out in central India (Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra) and in southern India (Karnataka), with work also being undertaken at a few new sites in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Haryana. Over eighty Jaina pilgrimage centres

were studied; many of the sites having several hundred temples of which many had never been documented before.

In the first part of the second field season further research was carried out on the Jaina temple in the fort at Gwalior before moving to the Khajuraho area to concentrate on the pilgrimage sites at Makarabai, Khajuraho, Papora and Ahar. Especially interesting from a sculptural point of view were Deogarh and Khandagiri near Canderi. Surveys were also undertaken at a number of sites near Bhopal and Indore. In Maharashtra work was carried at a number of temples including one of India's most impressive sacred Jaina sites, the twin peaks of Mangi Tungji. The site is surrounded by excavated cave temples containing large numbers of religious icons. Back in Madhya Pradesh the elaborate temple at Seoni with its hundreds of brass images was studied, and the large temple cities at Kundalpur, Nainagiri and Dronagiri. During the final few weeks of this fieldtrip Jaina temples at Mahavirjee, Jaipur and Nasiyan in Rajasthan, Hastinapur in Haryananand and in old Delhi were surveyed.

Work in the second part of the field season concentrated mainly on central and southern India. The survey work in Maharashtra was completed by studying the temples at Mumbai, Sholapur, Kolhapur and kumbhojgiri before moving south to Karnataka. Here the sites at Bijapur, Babanagar and Belgaum were documented together with the famous pilgrimage sites at Hangal, Lakshmeshvar, gadag, Annigeri and Lakkundi. A considerable amount of time was spent at Vajayanagara and Kamalapuram tracking down lesser known Jaina structures. Many of the lesser known Jaina temples such as those at Bagalkot, Hallur,

Muddebihal and Gogi proved to be very interesting. especially fascinating material surfaced in the mangalore area of coastal Karnataka where research was conducted at Mudabidri, Karkal, Varanga, Narsimharajapura, Humcha, Bhatkal, Dharmasthala, Guruvayankere, Padangady and Venur. Although the Jaina community of this area has been greatly reduced, the many Jaina structures are evidence of a powerful past. The 2001 field season was completed with a survey of temples further inland at Halebid, Hassan, Shravanabelagola, Jinanthapura, Gomatagiri, Chikkahanasoge, Mysore and Srinagapatnam.

### **The 20th Century History of Imagery in Indian Archaeology**

**Directors : Dr. Sudeshna Guha and Dr. Robin Boast, Cambridge University**

The main focus of the project to date has been the material held by the Archaeological Survey of India and Deccan College Pune. Dr. Guha has spent her time in India successfully reproducing many early 20th century archaeological photographs and has been able to access the archives at the Archaeological Survey's headquarters in New Delhi. Work carried out at Deccan College concentrated on the Sankalia papers but Dr. Guha was also able to interview senior archaeologists who had trained under Sir Mortimer Wheeler, and others who are experts on the critical history of Indian archaeology. The Deccan College archives have provided valuable information regarding specific non-academic and political 'agendas' that were involved with the dissemination of the discipline in the 1950's, and the College, one of the foremost teaching institutions for archaeology in India has been very supportive of the project.

An article highlighting some of the differences between pre-Wheeler and post-Wheeler archaeological imagery in the Indian subcontinent was submitted to the journal Antiquity in November. Dr. Guha and Dr. Boast have also prepared an exhibition on the photographic collections. Entitled *Collected Sights*, the exhibition is being hosted by the Cambridge University Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. This is the first exhibition to draw exclusively on the Museum's rich archive of photographic prints, negatives, albums and lantern slides which forms one of the foremost collections of ethnographic and archaeological photographs in the United Kingdom. The special display of early twentieth century ASI photographs from British India is based entirely on Dr. Guha's current research.

### **Survey of Tughluqabad**

**Director : Dr. Mehrdad Shokoohy**

Dr Mehrdad Shokoohy has carried out a detailed survey of Tughluqabad, a unique programme of documentation that the Society hopes to publish after the appearance of Dr Shokoohy's Muslim Architecture in South India. The work at Tughluqabad is especially important as much of the Sultanate city has been lost to the growth and development of New Delhi over the last decade.

### **Vidisha Project**

**Director : Dr. Michael Willis**

The Vidisha project is concerned with cultural change and the ways in which Indian civilisation developed between circa 400BC and 800 CE. Headed by Dr. Michael Willis at the British Museum, a research group has been formed to look at these issues in an interdisciplinary setting. The group, which is taking Vidisha in central India as its target area, is concerned not so much with the description of recognised high points of Indian civilisation but with the dynamics of cultural change and the ways in which these dynamics can be understood from both textual sources and physical remains (inscriptions, sculpture, architecture, irrigation systems and other archaeological material).

The project has been recognised by the British Museum and is partially funded by sources within the Museum. Dr. Willis has also received a Leverhulme research grant to carry out an extended period of fieldwork in India in 2001-2002. Additionally Dr. Willis has received a British Academy grant to carry out a series of workshops on Vidisha in 2001-2002.

Recent publications from the project include :

M. Willis, Buddhist Reliquaries from Ancient India (London, 2000)

M. Willis, 'The Sanchi Bodhisattva dated Kusana year 28', Silk Road Art and Archaeology 6 (1999/2000): 269-73; 'Buddhist Saints in Ancient Vedisa', Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society 11 (2001): 219-29.

Further information is available on the project web-site :

<http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/oriental/research/fieldwork/vidisha.html>

## **REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL**

*South Asian Studies* 16 was published in the autumn of 2000, the first issue under new Editorship, and with a new appearance. Dr Crispin Branfoot has since been appointed Reviews Editor. The journal now has a substantial section in the Society's website ([www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS](http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS)). This includes contents of back issues and abstracts articles from volume 26 onwards.

## **REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S MONOGRAPHS**

In the last year the Society has negotiated an agreement with Curzon Press to publish the monograph series. This is a considerable step forward as the production values of forthcoming volumes will be considerably enhanced and do much greater justice to the material. The following monographs have been sent to readers, accepted for publication and are now in press.

Professor Sean McGrail. Boats of South Asia

Dr. Mehrdad Shokoohy. Muslim Architecture of South India

In addition , a number of new proposals are now under consideration and the monographs Editor is waiting for the second volume of Anuradhapura and the Gazetteer of Roman and Sub-Roman Finds in India. To match the style of the society's earlier archaeological publications, these will be publishes by Archaeopress UK.

## **LECTURES**

During the year the following lecture were given to the Society:

Professor, Dr. Hans T. Bakker. 'Religion and politics of the Vakataka kingdom'

The Society also supports the work of the Indian Art Circle, and members of the Society are entitled to attend lectures given under their auspices. The following lectures were supported by the Society.

Elizabeth Lambourn .Commerce and Conquest - Islamic architecture in 15th century Gujarat'

Julia Hegewald. Jaina Temple Architecture: A progression from images to shrines and temple cities'

Kirsti Evans. The Delights of Reason: the aesthetics of Hoysala art

Mike Wheeler . The Materials and Techniques of Indian Miniature Paintings

Pedro Carvalho . Early lacquered furniture for the Portuguese market and its probable Indian origin

## **ANNEX 1**

### **SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

#### **REPORT ON REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS 1994-95.**

The enquiry led by Sir David Wilson into the British Schools, Institutes Overseas and Sponsored Societies made ten recommendations with regard to the Society for South Asian Studies. These recommendations are given below along with the Society's response to each.

Recommendation 1: That the number of sub-committees be reduced.

The Society has restructured its administration. Apart from ad-hoc sub-committees which may be set up from time to time to deal with issues as they arise, the is now one committee

and its decisions are ratified by Council in all cases. This committee deals with (1) small research and travel grants and (2) with Society projects and aided-projects. The membership of the committee is open; all members of Council receive papers and can participate in the decision-making process. This is expedited using e-mail with comments being collected and circulated by the Chairman. Additionally the committee makes use of expertise both within and outside the Society if an application falls outside the specialist scope of individual committee members.

The success of the present system is shown by the increased number and disciplinary range of grants. These are listed each year in our annual reports, copies of which are attached. In addition to what is found in the reports, a list of more recent awards is given in Annex 3; these awards will be listed in the report presented at the annual meeting, November 2001.

Recommendation 2: That for the funding of projects there should be a more open process, with peer review.

In order for the Society to carry out an effective review of new and existing projects, the membership of Council had to be changed so that it was morally, intellectually and politically capable of undertaking an open and professional peer review. With this goal in mind, restructuring of Council began from the annual meeting in November 1998. A new Chairman was elected and new members were invited to join Council, some distinguished academics and fellows of the British Academy, some well-established University professionals in mid-career and some younger scholars of promise.

To promote disciplinary balance, the Society has reduced the number of archaeologists on Council and introduced new members with interests in religion, languages, social science, history, art and ethnography. We have aimed for appropriate representation from outside London and have sought to strike a balance in terms of gender and age.

With a renewed and more vigorous Council, the Society has been able to expand the scope and number of the projects it supports. These are listed in the Society's annual reports, copies of which are appended. A tough stand has been taken towards unproductive projects as is evident from the Secretary's report for the year ending 31 March 2000. This states: 'In the past, projects have tended to be open-ended and consequently not focussed in their research design. In the current environment it is difficult to support this type of work and the Society will make increasing demands on project directors to produce clearly defined research questions and methodologies and to prepare publications of the highest refereed standard.' This statement was endorsed by Council and as such can be regarded as Society policy.

As a general principle, the Society has recognised that it cannot afford to fund any project in full. As a result, the Society has entered into a number of partnership arrangements whereby projects are headquartered in University departments. This has been productive in both research and funding terms. The first and most significant change for the Society under this new scheme was the placement of our Paithan project and research fellow in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Durham. The University is now covering three-quarters of the fellow's salary and after three years will assume all costs. This arrangement allows the Society to make more effective use of the grant-in-aid from the Academy and to devolve

supervision of the project to the University where deadlines are effectively enforced by the RAE and other mechanisms internal to the University. Peer-review is also built into the activities of the Department of Archaeology at Durham, as they aim to maintain or improve their RAE rating of 5.

Recommendation 3: That a first priority should be to encourage and introduce suitably qualified young scholars to work on South Asia.

The Society has addressed this problem by (1) providing more travel and small grants (2) supporting the projects of younger scholars and (3) introducing a post-doctoral fellowship programme. Details of all appear in the Society's Annual Reports, copies of which are attached. The most ambitious of our schemes to meet this recommendation was the post-doctoral fellowship programme. The invitation for applications, which was distributed worldwide, is given in Annex 1. An account of the successful applicants, and their subsequent reports, are provided in the Society's Annual Reports.

Recommendation 4: That the Society review its publication arrangements, including those for volumes under preparation.

The Society has developed a successful arrangement with British Archeological Reports and Archaeopress for the publication of monographs on archaeological subjects (see the web-site <http://www.archaeopress.com>). The two volumes on Kandahar have been published as well as the first volume on Anuradhapura. The second Anuradhapura volume is anticipated in 2001.

For non-archaeological work, three monographs are in press or are in preparation and we hope to publish these in partnership with Curzon Press. Negotiations with Curzon are currently in train.

Some directors of Society-aided projects have established relationships with private publishers and bring out their work without direct Society involvement (for example Dr Dilip Chakrabarti, Cambridge). The Society fully endorses this procedure because it results in the timely publication of research without encumbering the resources of the Society or the time of Council members.

Recommendation 5: That the Society monitor its arrangements with respect to the Journal.

Dr Bridget Allchin has retired as the editor of the Society's journal. The new editor is Dr Adam Hardy, De Montfort University, Leicester. Under his direction the Society has decided to end printing and publication of the Journal in India. In UK, the Society has terminated its distribution arrangements with Oxbow Books. The finances of the journal are now run according to a closely-monitored budget submitted annually to Council by the editor.

The Society has decided to undertake the distribution and promotion of the Journal using the Society web-site (see <http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS/index.html>). In terms of editorial policy, the Society, after consultation with academic specialists in this country, decided to maintain the journal's focus on the history of the material and visual cultures of south Asia. The chief reasons for this were (1) the journal has an established reputation as the only periodical covering this subject-area outside of India and any change in content would undermine the journal's position as a serious scholarly publication, (2) the subscription-base

rests on the subjects covered and would suffer from radical changes in content, (3) there are a number of well-known and well-established journals dealing with other aspects of south Asian culture, linguistics, politics, history etc. and any attempt to duplicate their work would undermine not only the Society's journal but other specialist publications, (4) the widened disciplinary scope of our research grants (as described above) will result in monographs on a wide range of subjects; this will more than compensate for the specific focus of the journal.

Recommendation 6: That there should be a major effort to generate more members and to raise the Society's profile at home.

To raise the profile of the Society and South Asian studies generally, the Society has taken the following action.

(1) Support of conferences and seminars. The following conference and seminars have been supported by the Society. This pattern of support will continue, and hopefully expand, in the future: (1) University of Bristol, Identity in South Asia, 22 May 2000, organised by Dr Andrew Wyatt, Department of History, Bristol; (2) University of Edinburgh, Sixteenth Modern South Asian Conference, from 5 September 2000, organised by Professor Roger Jeffery, Department of Sociology, Edinburgh, (3) University of Derby, Seminars on Violence in South Asia, ongoing, organised by Professor John Hinnells, FBA; (4) University of Cambridge, Seminar entitled Love in South Asian traditions: Words, Contexts and Meanings, co-ordinated by Dr Francesca Orsini, Oriental Studies, Cambridge, 25- 26 May 2001.

(2) Change in bi-monthly lecture programme. Due to the time and location of Society lectures, they were not as well attended as they deserved to be. Accordingly the Society entered into a partnership arrangement with the Indian Art Circle and supports the monthly lectures on South Asian subjects which the circle organises at the School of Oriental and African Studies. The Society also supports individual lectures on an ad hoc basis when distinguished scholars are visiting the UK and may not otherwise be heard by a general audience. A significant increase in the number of people attending lectures has shown the soundness of this arrangement. A list of lecture titles is given in the appended Annual Reports.

(3) Development of the annual lecture. The Society has raised the profile of the lecture given at the Annual General Meeting. In order to make this a special event, the Society has invited distinguished scholars to speak. So far the speakers have been as follows (1) Prof Sir John Boardman, Oxford (1998) (2) Mr Joe Cribb, British Museum (1999) (3) Prof Dr Hans Bakker, University of Groningen (2000). For 2001, the Society has invited Prof G. Fussman, Collège de France.

(4) British Association of South Asian Studies Web-site. The Society gives an annual grant to BASAS to help maintain that organisation's web-site. BASAS members were made complimentary member of the Society for one year in 1998. We hope to renew this arrangement in 2001.

As of 6/1/2001 the Society had 246 members (145 full members, 14 student members, 87 associate members). This is not as high as might be desired but there has been slow and steady growth with new members being introduced at each Council meeting. Due to mismanagement at Oxbow books (with whom we are no longer dealing as noted above), the Society lost a significant number of institutional subscribers and has to struggle over the last



year to recover in this area. It is not possible to give the exact number in this area as a consequence but it stands at approximately 20 members.

Recommendation 7: That the Society seek to become a body to which all those with a professional academic interest in the subcontinent should belong.

The changes described above should indicate that the Society is working in the interests of the

UK academic community and that that community should, as a consequence, contribute to the Society's successful operation, either by being members or by being directly involved in administration or research. Unfortunately, we cannot claim that the academic community, especially outside London, fully understands the need to be concerned about the Society. In order to instil a sense of urgency, and equally to ensure a steady influx of new people and ideas, the rules of the Society were changed at the Annual General Meeting on 29 November 1999. These changes limited the term of the Chairman and Secretary to three years, with no possibility of re-election to these posts. Put simply and in extreme form, these changes in the rules challenge the academic community to become involved in the Society or face the loss of funding opportunities that would come with its extinction.

Recommendation 8: That the Society's officers should discuss with the Committee for South-East Asian Studies, a body with a successful track record of stimulating a wide range of work in its region, how the Society might work more closely with the academic constituency in this country.

Discussions with the Committee for South-East Asian Studies have taken place. Beyond that, the Durham arrangement described above demonstrates the degree to which the Society is working with the academic constituency in this country. As this arrangement proved a success and met with approval in the academic community, the Society decided to invite bids for a second academic position along the same lines. A notice was circulated and posted on the web-site of the British Association for South Asian Studies. The text of this notice appears in Annex 2. After careful consideration of submissions, the Society decided to fund a position in Ancient Indian Religion at the School of Oriental and African Studies. The School was successful in recruiting a promising scholar who will join the Department of Religious Studies at the end of March 2001.

The Society has decided to continue collaborative undertakings of this type and intends to support a further position in 2004 or 2005 pending the availability of funds. The Society supports these arrangements in that they help the Society maintain a diverse research profile in South Asia. The Society has decided that it is inappropriate for a significant portion of the budget to be directed to a single project and the maintenance of a research fellow in India. We now hope to maintain an academic presence in South Asia through a number of fellowships and university-based projects across a range of disciplines. As South Asian studies has suffered at UK universities over the last two decades, most notably in fields that deal with 'classical' or non-contemporary subjects, the Society feels obliged to support the creation of academic posts to guarantee that fieldwork will indeed take place.

Recommendation 9: That the Society undertake similar discussion with the main professional

associations of South Asian Studies.

The Society has developed a working relationship with British Association for South Asian Studies (BASAS) and supports its web-site financially. There are cross-links between the SSAS and BASAS web-sites, with important Society news posted on the BASAS web-site in a timely manner (<http://www.brad.ac.uk/acad/ses/basas1>). In addition the Society has raised its profile by giving grants to support conferences in the UK; these have been mentioned above and are also listed in Annex 3.

The Society for South Asian Studies is perhaps unique among the British schools and overseas institutes in having to work in tandem with a long-established and distinguished learned society, i.e. the Royal Asiatic Society (RAS). Our aim in this relationship is to be an enabling organisation which encourages and strengthens the work of the RAS. We are especially concerned not to undermine the RAS by running programmes or publications which compete with those of the RAS. With this in mind, our Society has decided not to establish a library and has entered into an agreement with the RAS to house our publications as well as the various

volumes we acquire through exchange. All these volumes have (and will be) incorporated into the general library of the RAS with a note that they are part of the 'Society for South Asian Studies Collection'. For archival material from fieldwork, we have an arrangement with the Department of Oriental Antiquities, British Museum, which is our repository for plans, drawings and related fieldwork material.

Recommendation 10: That a further review be undertaken in five years' time.

The information given in the foregoing paragraphs should provide the necessary information for the recommended review.

Dr Michael Willis  
Honorary Secretary  
23 March 2001

## ANNEX 2

### SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

#### POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The Society for South Asian Studies (British Academy) seeks to appoint two post-doctoral Research Fellows, each for a period of up to three years, with effect from 1st September 1999, to undertake and complete research projects, one in any aspect of the visual or performing arts of South Asia (including art, architecture, archaeology, dance and music), the other in any aspect of the history, religions, language, literatures or anthropology of South Asia.

In each case the research will be undertaken in an appropriate institution; i.e. a university department, museum or learned society within the United Kingdom, with a specialist interest in the region. It is the responsibility of the applicants to approach such an institution and secure in writing an agreement from them to be host to their project, to manage the grant, and to provide such resources (office space, administrative support etc.) as may be required. In addition to pursuing their research, the Fellows will be expected to participate in the activities of the institution (e.g. through teaching, or curatorial work). preference will be given to applications which make a positive and desired contribution to the work of the institution, for example by focussing the research on part of the collections (in the case of a museum), or complementing research and teaching already in progress. Please note that applications cannot be made by people already in a tenure-track or permanent post at such an institution: the intention is to strengthen the work of the department, museum or society through the addition of a team member involved in a research project.

The topics and nature of the research project is for the applicant to decide, but it should normally include a significant component of fieldwork or study in one of the countries of South Asia. this might be independent site study, or research in libraries or archives, or both. the Fellows should also be prepared to give lectures on their research in appropriate branches of the British Council and in research institutes in South Asia. the Society may undertake to support the cost of international travel, but any additional cost for fieldwork must be met either from the stipend or from further applications, either to the Society or to other grant-giving bodies (including the institutions in which their research is housed).

#### Applications

Candidates should normally be aged 35 or less, and must have completed a PhD degree before 1st September 1999. Candidates still registered for a higher degree at that date will be disqualified.

The absolute deadline for receipt of applications and supporting material is 1st June 1999. Candidates should send applications to : Dr. M. Willis, Secretary Society for South Asian Studies, Department of Oriental Antiquities, the British Museum, London WC1B 3DG

1. A detailed description of the proposed research, setting out its aims and methods, and plans for publication. This statement should also indicate how the project related to the
2. A curriculum vitae giving details of education, previous research and publications.

3. A letter from an appropriate authority in the proposed host institution undertaking to manage the grant and provide any necessary resources.
4. Letters of reference from two senior scholars familiar with the candidate's research, to be sent directly to the Secretary of the Society, to reach him by the deadline.

The Society reserves the right to make only one appointment, or in the absence of satisfactory applicants, to make no appointments in the current year.

Salary : in the region of £16,000 - £18,000 per annum

Special Instruction for Applicants outside the United Kingdom . Applications are invited from citizens of all countries. For information regarding universities, museums and learned societies in the UK, potential applicants are directed to the appropriate British Council reference library in their country of residence. The officers of the Society for South Asian Studies regret that due to a shortage of staff they are unfortunately unable to suggest affiliations or help in establishing them. Such arrangements should be made directly with the appropriate university or museum in the UK.

*Note: the fellowships advertised by this notice were successfully filled (see reports page 8). Council hopes to announce a further similar scheme shortly.*

### **ANNEX 3**

#### **SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

##### **ACADEMIC POSITIONS IN SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES : INVITATION TO SUBMIT FUNDING PROPOSALS.**

As part of its effort to strengthen South Asian Studies in the United Kingdom, the Society invites proposals from university departments or schools for the establishment of academic positions. All fields of study relating to south Asia will be considered apart from archaeology.

Depending on the availability of funds, the Society proposes to help establish one academic post sometime before March 2001. Ideally, the proposed post will be in a department, school or university with a reputation for research excellence in some aspect of south asian studies. Applicants will be expected to justify their proposed position in relation to existing programmes, courses, staffing, student numbers and long-term plans for the discipline in question. it is also of some importance that the proposed position not duplicate a subject area already covered at other UK universities.

The Society expects the cost of the position to be funded in partnership with the applicant over a period of five or six years, preferably on a sliding scale. In addition to a narrative statement, applicants should thus provide a brief table clearly showing how Society funds would be used with other monies over the funding period.

There are no application forms. Institutional applicants should submit their proposals (preferably no more than 3 pages A4 in the first instance) to dr. michael Willis, Secretary, Society for South Asian Studies, British Museum, London WC1B 3DG. Submissions should reach the secretary before 30th may 2000. Electronically generated proposals are welcome and should be sent to [Mwillis@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](mailto:Mwillis@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk)

*Note: This notice led to the establishment of a Lectureship in Ancient Indian Religions, jointly funded with the Department of the Study of Religions, SOAS (see report page 10).*

## **ANNEX 4**

### **SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

#### **RECENT AWARDS MADE BY THE SOCIETY**

##### Small Personal Research Grants

- i) Dr. S. Blackburn - £4,400 to study the oral tradition of tribes in Arunchal Pradesh, India
- ii) Dr. C. Branfoot - £900 to study the major 14th and 15th century monuments in the highland region of central Sri Lanka.
- iii) Dr. E. Edwards - £1,957 to document the production of cloth by the Khatris of Kachch
- iv) Jeevan Singh Deol - £1,000 to study and photograph 18th and 19th century Sikh manuscripts in the Punjab and Uttar Pradesh
- v) Dr. N. Tobert - £1,000 to study mental health practices in a South Indian context.
- vi) Dr. Kalpana Wilson - £2,000 to conduct a study of women and work in rural Bihar

##### Travel Grants

- i) Dr. J. Clarke - £600 to carry out research in Bhutan, India and the Kathmandu Valley for a catalogue and book on Himalayan jewellery
- ii) Dr. J. Howes - £634 to conduct fieldwork for a book on the drawings of Colin Mackenzie
- iii) Dr. Iftikhar Malik - £600 to study issues of Muslim identity amongst the Urdu speaking communities of Dhaka, Hyderabad and Karachi

##### Conference Grants (listed by co-ordinator)

- i) Professor R. Jeffery, University of Edinburgh - £3,000 to support the 16th European Modern South Asian Studies Conference
- ii) Dr. Francesca Orsini, University of Cambridge - £2,000 for an international seminar entitled Love in South Asian Traditions: Words, Contexts and meanings

## **THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

### **REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

We have audited the financial statements on pages 26 to 32 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and the accounting policies set out on pages 29 and 30.

#### **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND AUDITORS**

As described on page 29, the Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

#### **BASIS OF OPINION**

We conducted our audit under s43 of the Charities Act 1993 and in accordance with regulations made under s44 of that Act, and with auditing standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes an examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made in the preparation of the financial statements, and an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### **OPINION**

In our opinion the Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs at 31st March 2001 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended, and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

Twickenham  
ACCOUNTANTS  
Middlesex TW1 3SZ

REGISTERED  
CHARTERED

AUDITORS



**THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001**

	Notes	2001	2000	(Un
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Subscriptions		5,002	4,017	
Publication Sales		3,103	2,064	
British Academy Annual Grant		70,000	70,000	
British Academy Supplementary Grant		-	5,500	
Investment Income.				
Deposit Interest		5,743	3,328	
		-----	-----	
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>£83,848</b>	<b>£84,909</b>	
		=====	=====	
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
<b>Direct Charitable Expenditure:</b>				
Grants payable	2(a)	57,374	85,100	
Other charitable expenditure	2(b)	23,803	20,958	
		-----	-----	
		81,177	106,058	
		=====	=====	
<b>Other Expenditure:</b>				
Management & Administration	2(c)	9,462	9,710	
		-----	-----	
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>		<b>£90,639</b>	<b>£115,768</b>	
		=====	=====	
<b>Net Outgoing Resources</b>		(6,791)	(30,859)	
Total funds brought forward		95,151	126,010	
		-----	-----	
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>£88,360</b>	<b>£95,151</b>	
		=====	=====	

**THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH 2001**

<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Tangible Assets	(3)	2,658	2,793
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand	(4)	102,147	110,350
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due within one year	(5)	16,445	17,992
		-----	-----
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		85,702	92,358
		-----	-----
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		£88,360	£95,151
		=====	=====

**Financed by:**

Unrestricted Funds:			
General Fund		54,759	28,151
Designated Funds	(8)	33,601	67,000
		-----	-----
		£88,360	£95,151
		=====	=====

Approved on. ....

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 ) Members of the  
 ) Council of Management  
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## **THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

### **NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

- a) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting principles under the historical cost convention.
- b) The stock of publications is not brought into account. The Council consider that to estimate the value of these items would be of no real benefit to the Institute.
- c) Fixed assets abroad are written off in the year of purchase and are not capitalised in the accounts.
- d) Direct currency conversions are translated at the exchange rate at the time of transaction, other balances are converted at year end rates, any difference arising on exchange is written off in the year concerned.
- e) Fixed assets are depreciated at the following rates, in order to write off the asset over their estimated useful life.

Furniture	25% reducing balance
Computer Equipment	25% reducing balance

- f) The Society's financial statements have been prepared to comply with the Charities Act 1993 and thus the 'Statement of Recommended Practice' (SORP) for charities, produced by the Charity Commission.
- g) The Society qualifies as a small enterprise and is therefore exempt from preparing a cash flow statement.

#### **h) STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Charity law requires the Trustees (the Council of Management) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- (i) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- (ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (iii) state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the

appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and

- (iv) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in business.

**THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001**

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

**2. DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE**

**a) GRANTS PAYABLE**

	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
The Society funded the following projects in the year		
:		
Mahabharata	-	3,620
Excavations at Paithan and other projects in India	5,358	19,165
Sri Lanka archaeometallurgical and other projects	247	5,020
Marine archaeology project in East India	-	7,000
Excavations at Bannu	2,500	4,500
	-----	-----
	8,105	39,305
Post Graduate Research Fellowships	33,399	30,000
and made small grants as follows: -		
To 13 individuals (2000 : 16)	15,870	15,795
	-----	-----
	£57,374	£85,100
	=====	=====

**b) OTHER CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE**

Salaries, Superannuation and allowances	14,666	11,860
Publication costs: South Asian Studies 2001	8,252	8,168
Depreciation	885	930
	-----	-----
	£23,803	£20,958

c) **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

Audit fees	2,056	2,056
Office and sundry expenses	7,267	7,257
Bank charges and interest	139	397
	-----	-----
	£9,462	£9,710

**THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001**

3 **FIXED ASSETS**

	<b>Furniture and Equipment £</b>	<b>Library £</b>	<b>Computer Equipment £</b>	<b>TOTAL £</b>
<b><u>Cost</u></b>				
As at 1st April 2000	7,108	5,840	8,913	21,861
Additions	-	-	750	750
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	£7,108	£5,840	£9,663	£22,611
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b><u>Depreciation</u></b>				
As at 1st April 2000	6,956	5,839	6,273	19,068
Charge for year	38	-	847	885
	-----	-----	-----	-----
As at 31st March 2001	£6,994	£5,839	£7,120	£19,953
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b><u>Net Book Value</u></b>				
At 31st March 2001	£114	£1	£2,543	£2,658
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b><u>Net Book Value</u></b>				
At 31st March 2000	£152	£1	£2,640	£2,793
	=====	=====	=====	=====

4. CASH AT BANK	2001	2000
	£	£
Bank Accounts	102,147	110,350
	=====	=====



**THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2001**

5. **CREDITORS (Amounts failing due within one year)**

	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Grants allocated but unpaid	300	600
Publication Costs	6,400	6,400
Accruals and other creditors	9,745	10,992
	-----	-----
	<b>£16,445</b>	<b>£17,992</b>
	=====	=====

6. **EMPLOYEES**

The Society employs one full-time research fellow.

7. **TRUSTEES**

No Trustee or their connected persons received any remuneration from the Charity in the year. Reimbursed travel etc. expenses totalling £305 were paid to seven Trustees.

8. **DESIGNATED FUNDS**

The following amounts have been designated by the Trustees from the general funds of the Society for specific purposes :-

	<b>Fund Balance</b>	<b>Transfer</b>	<b>Fund Balances</b>
	<b>B/Fwd</b>	<b>to/(from) Fund</b>	<b>C/Fwd</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Research Fellowships	£67,000	£(33,399)	£33,601
	=====	=====	=====



## **THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES**

The Society for South Asian Studies promotes and supports study and research into the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. To this end it offers annually a number of travel and small personal research grants. Applicants must normally be resident in the United Kingdom.

### **SMALL PERSONAL RESEARCH GRANTS**

The Society invites applications for awards made towards the cost of research and fieldwork, at post-doctoral level or its equivalent, in the humanities or social sciences of South Asia during the financial year 2000/2001. Awards will not be made to support courses or research leading to academic qualifications or for research directly related to the topic of a current thesis. Applicants must be normally resident in the UK. All applicants are also expected to seek funding from their own institutions.

### **TRAVEL GRANTS**

A limited number of travel grants of up to £600 each will be awarded to assist British scholars travelling to South Asia to establish collaborative research projects. Some grants will be awarded to younger postgraduate students to enable them to join supervised projects intended to introduce them to fieldwork in South Asia. Applicants are expected to seek supplementary funding from their own institutions and other agencies

### **AIDED PROJECTS**

The Society will also consider proposals for co-ordinated projects involving two or more post-doctoral researchers, which will be of more than one year in duration. Applicants are also expected to seek funding from their own institutions, and must be normally resident in the UK. .

### **APPLICATIONS**

Applications for grants must be made on the prescribed application forms which are available from the Assistant Secretary. All applications must be submitted to the Assistant Secretary before the closing dates of **15th April and 15th September** each year

For further details and application forms please contact:

**The Assistant Secretary, Society for South Asian Studies,  
Main Wing, Elsworth Manor, Elsworth, Cambs CB3 8HY.  
Tel/fax: 01954 267324. e-mail: [ssas.howell@dial.pipex.com](mailto:ssas.howell@dial.pipex.com).  
Web site : <http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS/>**

## THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The Society for South Asian Studies is one of the Schools and Institutes founded and grant aided by the British Academy. It is also a learned Society that organises a regular programme of meetings and publishes an annual journal South Asian Studies. It promotes and supports study and research in the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. Lecture meetings are held at the British Academy. From time to time other meetings, seminars and colloquia are arranged. Members of the Society are entitled to attend all lectures and other meetings organised by the Society and to introduce guests. They receive the Annual Report of the Society and its journal South Asian Studies free of charge. Applications for membership are welcomed. Current subscriptions rates, payable on 1st January are:

### Subscription Rates

From 1st January 2001

Individual Members	£30.00 or US\$50.00
Institutional Members	£40.00 or US\$70.00
Junior Members (under 25)	£20.00
Additional Members at same address (Associate)	£5.00
Associate Membership (without Journal)	£10.00

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### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Full Name .....

-

Address .....

-

.....

-

Please send this form together with a completed Bankers Order, Dollar or Stirling Cheque (drawn on a British Bank) for the current subscription to:

The Assistant Secretary, The Society for South Asian Studies  
The Main Wing, Elsworth Manor, Elsworth, Cambs. CB3 8HY

Copies of back numbers of Afghan Studies 1-3 and South Asian Studies 1-16 may be purchased from:

The Assistant Secretary  
The Society for South Asian Studies  
The Main Wing, Elsworth Manor, Elsworth, Cambs. CB3 8HY

Tel/fax: 01954 267324

e-mail: [ssas.howell@dial.pipex.com](mailto:ssas.howell@dial.pipex.com)