

## CONFERENCES

### 63<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF INDIAN HISTORY CONGRESS : A REPORT

The 63rd session of the Indian History Congress was hosted by Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar on 28-30 December, 2002 and inaugurated by Captain Amrinder Singh, the honourable Chief Minister of Punjab. More than eleven hundred delegates from all over the country and a few from abroad participated in the Congress in which more than five hundred research papers pertaining to all aspects and various dimensions of history in six major sessions were presented. The General President was Professor Dwijendra Tripathi (IMA Ahmedabad), and the sectional presidents included Professor U.P. Arora, Bareilly (Ancient India), S.P. Verma, Aligarh (Medieval India), Mariam Dossal, Bombay (Modern India), Arjun Dev, Delhi (countries other than India) and Professor V.H. Sonawane, Vadodara (Archaeology). Professor Tripathi in his presidential address attracted the notice of the scholars on "Crisis of Indian Polity and the Historians". Besides six major sessions there was a number of other panel discussions on different themes including a special panel on Punjab History, History and Archaeology, Idea of India and the Urban Phenomena in Indian History. The Proceedings of the last session of the *Indian History Congress* held in Bhopal containing 196 papers was released and distributed among the participants. A few other books namely, *Disease and Medicine in History* (ed. Deepak Kumar), *Money and Credit in Indian since Early Medieval Times* (ed. Amiya K. Bagchi) and *History and Concepts of Time in Early India* (by Romila Thapar) and *The Khalsa and the Punjab* (ed. by Himadri Banerjee) were also released on this occasion.

The following research papers bearing on history of science and technology were presented at the Congress :

Bibek Kumar (Purnea), "Health Practices in Indus Civilization"

K.K. Mandal (Patna), "Popular Perception of Medicine in the *Jātakas*".

Seema Sahay (Bhagalpur), "Building Technology in Ancient India".

Jitendra Yadav, "The Śreṣṭhīn Status in Gupta Period".

Shilpi Ganguly, "Hoards of Gold Coins of Bengal".

Minakshi Mishra, "Himalayan Region : Probable Source of Gold, depicted in the *Mahābhārata*".

Radhavendra Pratap Singh, "Social Status and Mobility of Artisans in Early Medieval India".

P.D. Johny, "Thaikkaal (Alleppey, Kerala State) Ship—A Sign of Pre-Modern Indian Shipping and Maritime Trade".

Iqbal G. Khan (Aligarh), "Study of Natural History in the 17th Century India".

Subhasis Biswas, "Christianity and Environmentalism—Two different Perceptions of Colonization in Eastern India".

Mahua Sarkar, (Kolkata), "Jharkhand—An Ecological History".

Ashok Aounshuman (Patna), "The Entermeshing of Colonial and Environmental Concerns : the Case of Gangetic Fishing and Fishers in Colonial Bihar".

Simkie Sarkar (Bombay), "The Prevention of Cholera in the 19th Century Bombay".

Madhuri Sharma (New Delhi), "Public Health and Historical City of Banaras : Emergence of Concern"

Pradeep Mohan Saklani and Praveen Joshi, "Surviving Traditions of Copper making among the Tamotas of Central Himalaya".

Santosh Kumar Rai (Delhi), "Weaver's Aurungs and Colonial Control in the Gorakhpur Region (1801-1807)".

Lakshman. U. Vadhel, (Bhavnagar), "Contemporary Challenges of Indian Art of Weaving : 18th and 19th Centuries".

Praveen Joshi (Uttaranchal), "Fishing practice among the Tribal and Ethnic Communities of Jammu Valley of Garhwal Himalaya".

Subhas Chandra Sen (Kolkata), "Bengal Fishermen in the Colonial Rule".

Anil Kumar Pande, (Chattisgarh), "The Development of Water Schemes in Solarpur during British Period".

R.C. Thakaran, Delhi, "Settlements Antecedents to the Harappan Civilisation".

P.T. Brahmabadi (Bhagalpur), "Archaeological and Scientific Evidence of Ancient Anga".

Banani Bhattacharya (Santiniketan), "Mesolithic Industry from Rohilkhul : Discovery of a new site from North-Eastern Bankura, West Bengal,".

G.K. Mane, (Maharashtra), "Megalithic Pottery of Vidarbha".

Nalinaksh Pandya (Gujarat), "A Terracota Ring-well found at Porda in Gujarat".

Mohd. Nazrul Bari (Aligarh), "Methods and Sources of Irrigation in Early Historical Period : Archaeological Evidence".

- Vinod Kumar (Aligarh), "Comparing the Mughal with the regional waterworks: a comparative survey of the stepwell in Shekhawati region and Fatehpur Sikri".
- Mayank Kumar, "Methods of Water Conservation—A Case study Medieval Rajasthan".
- Renu Thakur (Chandigarh), "Percepts of Town-Planning in India, AD 600-1200 : Confirmity and Conflict in Archaeological and Literary Sources".
- Sanjay Kumar (Uttaranchal), "Environment, Archaeology and Early Medieval India".
- A.Q. Ansari (Bihar), "Urban Settlements and Iron Age Culture of Sonpur and Bodhgaya".
- Rahman Ali (Ujjain), "The Genesis and Development of Architecture in the Daśārṇa-Desa : An Apropos".
- Sanjay Subodh (Kuruksheetra), "Medieval Architecture and Dynamics : A Case Study of Sheesh Mahal of Farrukhnagar".
- B. Ratabyal (Mumbai), "A History of Malaria in Ancient India".
- Lakshman Prasad, "Medieval Education Centres in Ancient Bihar".
- Pius Male-kandathil, "The Sassanids and the Maritime Trade of India during the Early Medieval Period".
- Kumar Indu Bhusan (Bhagalpur), "Ancient Science, Arts and Culture of Angadesh (600 BC)".
- N.Q. Pankaj, "Flora and Fauna in the *Daśakumārcarita* of Dandin".

**Shabnam Shukla**

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## 22<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS IN HISTORY OF SCIENCE

The 22<sup>nd</sup> congress on History of Science under the auspices of International Union for History and Philosophy of Science will take place in China in 2005. The preparatory Secretariat is housed at the Institute for the History of Natural Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 137. Chao Nei Street, Beijing 10001, People's Republic of China (Fax : 86-10-6401-7637 Website : [www.22-ichs.ihns.ac.cn](http://www.22-ichs.ihns.ac.cn))