

Editorial

The 43rd issue of "Indian Journal of Archaeology (www.ijarch.org)" has eight articles. The first article titled **"Archaeological Survey and Recent Discoveries in Rairakhol, Sambalpur District, Odisha"** by Atula Kumar Pradhan and Sambit Mesua gives the details of recent archaeological explorations in the Rairakhol region of Sambalpur district, Odisha. It significantly expanded our understanding of cultural development in western Odisha from the Prehistoric to the medieval period. The second article titled **"Prehistoric tools and technology in the river valley of Manipur: archaeological and historical analysis in the line of the traditional knowledge system"** by Dr. Ahongsangbam Kingson Singh and Oinam Ranjita Devi gives the details of Neolithic cultural evolution in the context of riverine landscape in Manipur. The third article titled **"Maternal genetic ancestries of Neolithic and Megalithic Populations of Burzahom, Kashmir revealed through Ancient DNA Analysis"** by Aparna Dwivedi and Niraj Rai provides one of the oldest ancient genomic datasets from South Asia. The results confirm genetic continuity in Kashmir from second millennium BCE to Medieval time with close association to Swat Valley. The occurrence of Central Asian maternal haplogroup was due to migration from Central Asia because of trade or the frequent invasions. The fourth article titled **"Seals and sealings kept in the collection of Himanshu Garg, Agra, U.P."** by Vijay Kumar, Alok Ranjan and Himanshu Garg gives the details of 351 seals and sealings. These seals and sealings throw light on socio-political, religious, historical and cultural scenario of different periods. The fifth article titled **"Seals, sealings and rings of metal, bone, soft stone etc., kept in the private collection of Aditya Agarwal, Prayagraj, U.P."** by Vijay Kumar, Alok Ranjan and Aditya Kumar Agarwal gives the details of 53 seals and stamps of bronze, lead, bone, soft stone and glass, 32 bronze rings, 48 bronze and lead amulets, 2 bronze medallions, 6 moulds and 17 miscellaneous objects. These antiquities are dated from 2nd – 1st Century BC to Modern times. The sixth article titled **"Siva in the gorge: reconstructing the Saiva sculptural Positioning in the temple of Menal"** by Ram Niwas reconstructs the organisations of sculptures in the Mahanalesvara temple complex at Menal in southeastern Rajasthan, an important Saiva centre of the eleventh-twelfth centuries associated with the Lakulisa-Pashupata tradition. The seventh article titled **"Translation of Manuscript Describing the Period of Tughlaq Dynasty named "Ahadnama, Salāṭīn-e-Tughlaq", Presently Kept in Rampur Raza library, district Rampur, U.P."** by Vijay Kumar gives the translation of Persian manuscript named "Ahadnama, Salāṭīn-e-Tughlaq", Presently Kept in

Rampur Raza library district Rampur, U.P. The eighth article titled “**Understanding Social Customs and Ritual Practices with Reference to Birth: The Manipuris (Meiteis) in Tripura**” by Dr. Asem Bidhyaleima Chanu and Prof. Oinam Ranjit Singh. The paper is an attempt to examine the life-cycle ceremonies of Manipuris (Meiteis) in Tripura particularly birth rituals that emphasize social cohesion.



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