



SoS in Anthropology
Pt. RSU, Raipur (C.G.)



INTACH
Raipur Chapter

Workshop Report

“Hands-on Training on Prehistoric Artefacts”

Organized by

School of Studies in Anthropology

Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur (C.G.)

&

INTACH (Raipur Chapter)

during

November 3 - 7, 2022

REPORT

Workshop Title “Hands-on Training on Prehistoric Artefacts”,

**Organizers: School of Studies in Anthropology, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla
University, Raipur (C.G.)**

&

INTACH (Raipur Chapter)

3rd – 7th November, 2022

1. Objectives

To train the students both at Post-Graduate and Research level on the Prehistory and lithic artefacts that forms the major source of archaeological remains in prehistoric sites.

2. Target Participants

Since Prehistory is part of Anthropology and Archaeology, Post -graduate students from both School of Studies (Anthropology) and School of Studies (History) of Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur participated in the Workshop. Besides, research scholars of both the departments participated in the Workshop.

3. Number of Participants: 96 (List attached)

S.N.	Name of Participant	S.N.	Name of Participant
1	Aayush Agrawal	49	Sakshee Nirmalkar
2	Aditi Agrawal	50	Swati Dewangan
3	Ankita Pradhan	51	Tilak Ram Vishwakarma
4	Astha Verma	52	Usha Sahu
5	Atul Kumar Jaiswal	53	Venkateshwar
6	Bindiya Nayak	54	Yogita Singh
7	Chunni Nishad	55	Ankita Bhoi
8	Dashrath	56	Ankita Bhoi
9	Dilip Yadav	57	Anurag Mali
10	Gulshan	58	Bhumika Raj Sonwane
11	Hemanjali Kannouje	59	Hemant Kumar Joshi
12	Jayshri Ratre	60	Krishna Kumar Paikra
13	Kritika Sahu	61	Prakash Chandra
14	Mona Garg	62	Raj Kumar Verma
15	Monika Purena	63	Sanjana Patel
16	Narendra Kumar	64	Shaila Mukharjee
17	Padmini Sahu	65	Suneel Kumar Mehta
18	Payal Patel	66	Dr. Mukesh Kumar Rathia

19	Priyanka Shrivastava	67	Dr. Somprakash Kanwar
20	Ravina	68	Shubham Singh Rajput
21	Reena Verma	69	Ankur Yadav
22	Shishupal Bhoi	70	Anuja Lakra
23	Shristi Ware	71	Bramhanand Ghritlahre
24	Sujit Jangde	72	Hemlata
25	Sushma Pandey	73	Manoj Kumar Bharti
26	Swati Chandrakar	74	Morjdhvaj
27	Sweta Verma	75	Neharika
28	Usha Baghel	76	Pallavi Roy
29	Vibha Belchandan	77	Rahul Sharma
30	Yogita Verma	78	Rishabh Dev Sahu
31	Ankit Chandrawanshi	79	Rupesh Kumar Yadav
32	Bharti Chandrakar	80	Shatruhan Dewangan
33	Indrakant Bhuarya	81	Sohrab
34	Jyoti Sahu	82	Supriya Chandrakar
35	Kajal Tiwari	83	Tannu Markam
36	Mithlesh Sen	84	Umakant Verma
37	Neelam Sahu	85	Vaibhav Yadav
38	Nitika Baghel	86	Vivek Kumar Shukla
39	Nutan Sahu	87	Prashant Pandariya
40	Pooja Sahu	88	Virendra Kumar
41	Poorvi Gaharwar	89	Amar Bhartdwaj
42	Pratibha Tripathi	90	Bhagya Shree
43	Priti Pradhan	91	Bhenu
44	Priya Rani Neti	92	Dhal Singh Dewangan
45	Priyanka Nayak	93	Sharda Markam
46	Priyanka Sonwani	94	Teej Ram Pal
47	Pukh Raj	95	Upasana
48	Rajiya Bano	96	Zakir Khan

4. Resource Persons

The resource persons were Dr. S.B. Ota, Former Joint Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, Ms. Niharika Srivastava and Ms. Suman Pandey both Research Scholars from the Department of AIHC & Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune.

5. Mode of Workshop

This five days Workshop on Prehistoric artefacts was designed with a view to impart intensive and effective training to the students on all aspects of lithic artefacts including basics of prehistoric archaeology. Therefore, the modalities of the Workshop were of twofold: on one hand there were theoretical classes that were followed by practical training including hands-on training for the students. This hands-on training was given with the artefacts and students were also allowed to practice certain things with the resource persons.

6. Program

1st Day : 03. 11.2022

6.1 Inaugural Function

Dr K.L.Verma, Vice Chancellor of Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University acted as a chief-guest of the function. The function started with welcoming of guests by Dr. Ashok K. Pradhan, H.O.D. of the Anthropology department. Dr.Arun Kumar, Co-Convenor of INTACH(Raipur Chapter) briefed about the activities of INTACH (Raipur Chapter). Dr. K.L.Verma in his presidential address expressed the views that these sort of workshops should be organized every year for the benefit of students. Dr.S.B. Ota outlined the main features of the workshop stating that participants would be exposed to finer details of prehistoric artifacts through lectures, practicals and field work during course of workshop. The program ended with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Shailendra Kumar Verma, assistant professor of the department. Dr. Jitendra K. Premi, professor of the department acted as a master of the ceremony.





6.2 Introductory Lecture

Dr. S.B. Ota, principal Resource Person of the Workshop delivered a lecture “Journey to Deep Human History: Investigations of Acheulian Sites in District Raisen, Madhya Pradesh” where he explained the latest techniques applied for investigations of prehistoric settlements to understand the lifeways of prehistoric hunter-gatherers and the result of his research in the area around the village Tikoda and Damdongri in district Raisen.



2nd Day : 04.11.2022

6.3 Dr. S. B. Ota delivered three lectures, as follows

1. Introduction to Prehistoric Archaeology
2. Understanding Lithic Artefacts: Part I
3. Understanding Lithic Artefacts: Part II

In 1st lecture ‘Introduction to Prehistoric Archaeology’, he explained the goals of archaeology, early initiates in prehistoric discoveries, periodization and terminology, methods of study, geographical configuration of prehistoric settlements, types of prehistoric settlements, primary and secondary context of sites etc.

Subsequent two lectures were on lithic artefacts that includes terms used, natural vs man made fractures, understanding raw materials, fracture mechanics, identification of artefacts and terms used, technology, typology and classification and latest methods of stone tool analysis.

6.4 Practical Training

The theoretical lectures were followed with hands-on training that were imparted by the Resource Persons Ms. Niharika Srivastava and Ms. Suman Pandey on 'Stone Artefact Identification' and 'Stone Artefact Classification'. It was demonstrated by explaining on the actual samples i.e. lithic artefacts and also followed by knapping artefacts and explaining the various features of lithic artefacts.





3rd Day : 05.11.2022

6.5 Theoretical Lectures

The day started with Ms. Niharika Srivastava's three lectures pertaining to lithic artefacts:

- 1. Lithic Illustrations in Prehistory**
- 2. Photographic documentation in Prehistory**
- 3. Life History of a Stone Tool: A Taphonomical Studies**

These lectures that were covered the aspects like drawing methods of stone artefacts, different types of photography that are followed in prehistoric investigations and taphonomy of lithic artefacts.



Subsequently, Ms Suman Pandey delivered a lecture on ‘**Microwear Study in Prehistory**’ in which she explained the methods involved in understanding the functions of a stone tool through micro-wear studies.



Lastly, one lecture was delivered by Dr. S.B. Ota on ‘Site Formation Processes’ which is essential to understand by all archaeologists to find out the context of lithic artefacts to determine the whether the site(s) is in primary or secondary context.

6.6 Practical Training

The theoretical lectures were followed by hands-on training that were imparted by the Resource Persons Ms. Niharika Srivastava and Ms. Suman Pandey on ‘Taphonomical Observations on Lithic Artefacts’, ‘Morphometric Techniques’ and ‘Lithic Artefact Drawings’. It was demonstrated by explaining on the lithic artefacts, so that the students can follow easily and also understand and remember.

4th Day : 06. 11.2022

6.7 Field-Work

The participants were taken to a **Rewa historical site** where State Archaeology and Museums department of Government of Chhattisgarh had excavated earlier. At this site, it was explained to the students about the nature and cultural sequence at the site, stratigraphy and other related matters connected to historical site. Subsequently, students were taken to a **microlithic site** at Kharkharadih near village Birbira. Students were explained about the basics of GPS recording and also talked about the method for documentation of prehistoric sites.







5th Day : 07. 11.2022

6.8 Lecture

Dr. S.B. Ota delivered a lecture on ‘**Understanding Rock Art**’ in context of Bimbetka site.

6.9 Practical Training

Besides, on the demand of the faculty members of the School of Anthropology, practical training was imparted on ‘**Stone Artefact Identification**’ for the teachers and Research Scholars.





6.10 Valedictory Function

Chief Guest of the function was **Dr. C. R. Prasanna**, Secretary, Skill Development and Commissioner, Health Services(CG); while **Dr. Kalol Ghosh**, Co-Ordinator, Public Outreach Centre, Pt. Ravishankar Shukla University presided over the function. The function started with welcome speech by Dr. Ashok. K. Pradhan. H.O.D. of Anthropology department. It was followed by public lecture on “Management of Rock Art Site: Experience with World Heritage Site at Bhimbetka”.





by Dr.S.B.Ota. In course of lecture, he emphasised the role of local communities in conservation of the site. Dr. C. R. Prasanna shared his experiences in hands on training.

Dr, Kalol Gosh congratulated the organisers for success of the Workshop. Four participants who shared their experiences appeared completely satisfied with outcome of the workshop. They desired to have more such academic programs in the future. Before proposing vote of thanks by Dr. Shailendra Kumar Verma, Assistant Professor, mementoes were presented to resource persons and distinguished guests.

(Dr. Ashok Pradhan)
Professor & Head