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Editor Notes

On behalf of the Editorial Board of the Journal and my co-editors, I am delighted to present the inaugural issue of the 'Journal of Archaeological Studies in India' (JASI), a new journal dedicated to archaeological researches in India. It is an open access double peer-reviewed biannual Journal which is aimed at providing new and exciting opportunities to consider the interdisciplinary nature of archaeological studies in time and space of last two million years. The objective of the JASI is to publish international standards and high-quality research on various themes of South Asian Archaeology. The inaugural volume contains eleven research papers covering Palaeolithic, Megalithic, field survey results, Buddhist studies, and the application of computer generated virtual models of Medieval structure. I am glad to receive papers contributed by reputed senior professors and young and upcoming research scholars from India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh. The research papers cover a diverse arena of topics from Palaeolithic to medieval periods.

In this volume, Prashantha B. Mandawala provides extensive details of the Buddhist monastic remains of Girikumhiila Tissa Pabbatha Viharaya, in the Rajagala Archaeological Reserve at Rajagalatenna in Ampara in Sri Lanka. Sudam Deep, traces the lithic materials utilisation for Microlithic tool production in the Ranj river valley of West Odisha. Praveen Kumar and his co-authors reports findings of their prehistoric explorations in the Mayar River in District Singrauli, in North-Central India. The paper by Astha Dibyopama, P.D. Sable and Vasant Shinde discuss the desert landscape and archaeological sites of Jodhpur District in Western Rajasthan. Himanshu Sekher discusses the typology and distribution pattern of megalithic sites in different landscapes and presents his recent observation on Megalithic sites of Jharkhand. Young scholar Praveen Kumar along with co-authors, reports their work on the prehistoric explorations in the Mayar River in District Singrauli, in North-Central India. Bharat Jhunjhunwala (former faculty at IIM, Ahmedabad) narrates his interpretation and postulate the possible origins of the Abrahamic and Hindu religions in the Indus valley.

Md. Rifat-Ur-Rahman reports an archaeological survey in Khirtala village in the Lower Brahmaputra Basin of Bangladesh. In their paper, Jason Johns and Jyotsna Rani Nag discuss the Muchalinda Buddha with an interdisciplinary approach to reinterpret the depiction of the Buddha with Muchalinda Naga. Their paper is focused on the Muchalinda Naga, a snake king that appears in Buddhist texts. Savita Kumari presents her studies on structural remains found in the medieval sculptures of the Sayāli Mahādeva Temple Complex in Manali and Kullu in Himachal Pradesh. Aparna Bhogal writes an interesting paper on the Caryās verses written by or sung by some of the eighty four Mahāsiddhas. She focuses on interpreting Caryā No. 2 composed by Kukkuripā and its association with the legend of Kānhapā. Pallavee Gokhale and Shilpa Apte take a new approach to connect ordinary people with academic research using virtual reality as a medium of expression and have written on virtual reality modelling for medieval cityscape of Pune city as a case study.

On this occasion, I thank all the reviewers, editorial board members, and contributors for bringing out this first volume of the Journal with an overwhelming response.

Tosabanta Padhan