

A SEVEN-DAY INTERNATIONAL SKILL ENHANCEMENT WORKSHOP

on

IS ARCHAEOLOGY DYING? THE IMPERATIVENESS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TECHNIQUES IN HISTORY AND OTHER SOCIAL SCIENCES To be held from 21st August to 27th August 2023

Organizer: Department of History, University of North Bengal jointly with Akshaya Kumar Maitreya Heritage Museum, University of North Bengal and IQAC, North Bengal University

Chief Patron: Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, University of North Bengal

Convenor: Dr. Dipsikha Acharya, Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of North Bengal

Chairperson: Dr Dahlia Bhattacharya, Director, Akshaya Kumar Maitreya Heritage Museum, University of North Bengal

Organizing Committee: Dr. Sudash Lama, Dr. Varun Kumar Roy, Dr. Amrita Mondal, Dr. Tahiti Sarkar, Dr Verma Priyadarshini, Dr. Malay Saha

It has been a matter of great concern that in a country like India, historians have put enormous emphasis on the last 500 years of history while negating the importance of incessant occurrence of human cultures on the surface of earth. While there were no written records and even when there were written records, human interactions with ecology over a geological time scale got imprinted in various forms of archaeological sources, viz. the remains of their habitation in a landscape, their used artefacts, etc. Our present behavioural patterns, the nature of settlement distribution, perceptions of looking at facts bear essence of what we conceive from time immemorial and are not definitely the outcome of the last 200 years. This seven-day workshop will give a scope to the participants having their academic backgrounds especially in history and also in other social sciences to enhance their knowledge on what they have never thought of employing in their knowledge system and research. Scholars' emphasis solely on archival data, had narrowed down the scope of knowing the history of how common people lived their lives, survived, and left their footprints on this earth. This workshop promises to fill that missing link.

Archaeology is a social science which not only deals with the rediscovery of human cultural past but also gives strong importance to preservation and protection of cultural heritage, as 'humankind's

universal patrimony'. 'Recovering the humankind's past and saving the universal heritage' led to the rise of public archaeology as a historical discipline, through an inter- disciplinary perspective. It is of no wonder that the wide adoption of ICT technologies in our daily life is also impacting the way in which we interact with our cultural heritage particularly in terms of preservation and dissemination of cultural objects.

The Course Format:

The first question that comes to our mind is archaeology dying? Are we being able to spread among the masses especially those who are dealing with history, what Rakhaldas Bandyopadhyay, John Marshall, R.E.M. Wheeler had cultivated, followed by their competent progeny? The course runs on one week from 21st August to 27th August 2023 and it is divided into three main modules each of which include lectures, quiz, study materials and discussion topics. The participants will be divided into (maximum 30 in numbers) five main groups viz. Dholavira, Pompeii, Constantinople, Angkor, and Machu-Picchu, named after important archaeological sites of the planet. The classes will be conducted on human evolution, followed by stone tool making technology, pottery making techniques, ethnographic approaches, and field survey, exploration, and excavation methods. The major yardstick of this workshop not only lies in its classroom lectures with the aid of ICT, but to grasp the practical knowledge by handling, working, and making artefacts under the supervision of specialized professionals. The said groups within the participants will be created for presentation, interactive sessions, and evaluation. These groups each day at the end of lectures and practical class sessions will conduct collaborative interactions supervised by the concerned resource person/convenor.

We are inviting students, research scholars, teaching faculties from History and other Social Sciences for participating in the workshop.

Registration Fees for Participants (with lunch/lunch packets for seven days): Rs. 3500/-Registration Fees for Outstation Participants (lunch/ lunch packets and lodging for seven days): Rs. 4000/-

The applicants are requested to send the scanned copy of filled in form (attached herewith), their CV along with a <u>NOC</u> (only for in-service candidates from their employer in proposed format) via email within 12th July 2023.

The last date of registration of the selected candidates is 30th July 2023. *The selected candidates will be intimated via email within 20th July 2023



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dipsikhaacharya@nbu.ac.in

a.dipsikha@gmail.com

For queries:

+ 91 9903542359 (Also WhatsApp No.); + 91 6289092115