

The Society for South Asian Studies

The British Academy

London

2003

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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ANNUAL REPORT

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

THE BRITISH ACADEMY
10 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE
LONDON SW1Y 5AH

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH 2003

The Annual General Meeting of the Society
will be held at The British Academy,
10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH

on Monday 17th November 2003

at 5:15 p.m.

to consider the Report and Accounts,
elect officers and members of Council,
re-appoint the Auditors and
transact any other business
proper to the AGM

at 5.30 p.m.

to hear a lecture entitled

‘Indian Knowledge Systems’

by

Sheldon Pollock

**George V. Bobrinskoy Professor of Sanskrit and Indic Studies
(University of Chicago)**

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

THE COUNCIL 2003

CHAIRMAN

Prof. MICHAEL WILLIS

TREASURER

Mr. DAVID WATERHOUSE

SECRETARY

Dr. FRANCESCA ORSINI

EDITOR

Prof. ADAM HARDY

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Dr. D. ALI (2003)

Dr. C. BATES (2004)

Prof. G. CHAPMAN (2005)

Mr. J. CRIBB (2003)

Ms. R. CRILL (2003)

Dr. V. DAMODORAN (2005)

Dr. JENNIFER HOWES (2005)

Dr. ULRICH PAGEL (2006)

Dr. A. TOPSFIELD (2004)

RESEARCH FELLOWS

Dr. DEREK KENNET

Dr. ELIZABETH LAMBOURN
Dr. NANYANIKA MOOKHERJEE

HONORARY FELLOWS

Dr. F.R. ALLCHIN
Dr. BRIDGET ALLCHIN
Prof. A.D.H BIVAR
Dr. D.W. MACDOWALL
Mr. R. PINDER-WILSON

COUNCIL'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2003

SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION

The Society for South Asian Studies (incorporating the Society for Afghan Studies) is a charity registered with the Charity Commissioners under Registration Number 264591. It is an unincorporated association and its basic governing document consists of the resolutions signed by the 68 persons who signed the resolutions for the formation of the Society and so became its first ordinary members on 1st June 1972 and the rules subsequently adopted by them.

The address of the Society is c/o The British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH.

Enquiries about the Society's activities should be directed to the Assistant Secretary, The Society for South Asian Studies, 60 Queen's Gardens, London W2 3AF.

Aims and Objectives

The Society was originally founded in 1972 as the Society for Afghan Studies. Its present name and scope were adopted in 1983. It is one of the schools and institutes founded and grant aided by the British Academy. The object for which the Society was established is to advance, encourage, support and undertake the study and research of the history, antiquities, archaeology, ethnography, languages, literature, art, culture, customs and geography of the countries of South Asia. The Society promotes a number of activities in these fields and produces an annual Journal in which it publishes the results of the research that it supports.

Organisation and Structure

The Society is governed by a Council of Management and is administered by certain members of Council appointed as Honorary Officers, assisted at present by two remunerated employees - a full time research fellow and a part-time assistant secretary.

Honorary Officers

The Honorary Officers who served during the year ended 31st March 2003 were:-

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Prof. M. Willis | Chairman |
| Mr. David Waterhouse | Treasurer |
| Dr. F. Orsini | Secretary |
| Prof. A. Hardy | Editor |

All Honorary Officers serve as members of Council and are members of the Research and Projects Committees, which advise Council on the awards it makes and monitor the Society's projects.

Members of Council

The following served on Council during the year ended 31st March 2003:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Dr. D. Ali | |
| Dr. C. Bates | |
| Prof. G. Chapman | (from January 2002) |
| Mr. J. Cribb | |
| Ms. Rosemary Crill | |
| Dr. Vinita Damodoran | (from January 2002) |
| Dr. E. English | (from January 2003) |
| Dr. A. Hardy | (from January 2001) |
| Dr. Jennifer Howes | (from January 2002) |
| Dr. Francesca Orsini | (from January 2001) |
| Dr. Ulrich Pagel | (from January 2003) |
| Dr. A. Topsfield | |
| Mr. D. Waterhouse | (from January 2001) |
| Dr. M. Willis | (from January 2001) |

Members of the Council constitute the Trustees of the Society for the purposes of the Charities Act.

The Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting under Rule 16 of the 1996 Rules.

Members of the Council are elected in terms of Rule 15, with vacancies being filled by vote upon nominations placed in November each year before the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting.

Advisers

| | |
|----------|--|
| Auditors | Peter M. Duffell, FCA, CTA 32 The Ridgeway Enfield, Middx. EN2 8QH |
| Bankers | CAFCASH Ltd, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4TA |

The Society would like to express its gratitude to the British Academy and its staff for the continued support and assistance they have provided for all the activities of the Society throughout the year. The Society wishes to record its appreciation of the help and assistance it has been given by the officers of the British Council and the Directors of Archaeology in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Finally the Society records its gratitude to the Trustees of the British Museum for the energetic support and encouragement offered to the Society over the course of the year.

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2003

It has been another busy year for the Society. We continue to maintain a presence, through projects or grants to individual researchers, in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Bhutan and Sri Lanka across a variety of disciplines, reflecting the depth and diversity of Asian studies in the whole of the UK. We now fund research in anthropology, film studies, geography, history and politics beside the traditional core of art, archaeology and Indology.

A particularly important aspect of the Society's activities over the past couple of years has been the emphasis on nurturing a young generation of scholars of South Asia in this country. The first round of post-doctoral fellowships ended very successfully, with all three fellows conducting excellent research, and two finding permanent jobs in UK institutions before the end of their tenure. A new round of very strong applications resulted in the choice of two new post-doctoral fellows, Dr. Elisabeth Lambourn, working on Muslim architecture in Gujarat at De Montfort University in Leicester, and Dr. Nayanika Mookherjee at Sussex, whose research deals with the "war babies" born after the liberation struggle of Bangladesh. Both have now completed their first year. They are both expected to teach and contribute to the activities of their departments as well as to conduct their own research, in preparation for academic jobs.

In addition, we have decided to start a new scheme for language-training and fieldwork grants, in response to a strong need expressed by academic institutions for proper language training of graduate students before or as they embark on their Ph.Ds. Language proficiency is necessary for innovative research and informed teaching, but the tight schedule of postgraduate degrees often leaves no adequate time for it. We are confident that this scheme will be most valuable in training a future generation of scholars of South Asia.

Similarly, our important collaborations continue with the School of Oriental and African Studies in London for the post of Vedic Studies, which has proved a popular and valued addition to the Department for the Study of Religions, and with the Derek Kenner's work in archaeology at Durham University. Brief accounts of the Society's projects, publications and grants are given in the following pages, and details of the Society's activities can be found on the revamped Society's website at <http://www.societyforsouthasianstudies.org>. The Journal *South Asian Studies*, under the able editorship of Dr. Adam Hardy, continues to be an international reference point for recent research on archaeology, art and architecture.

You will notice that, compared to earlier years, the Society now prefers to spread out its grant in order to benefit the greatest possible number of scholars rather than concentrating it on a few projects. Strict procedures are in place to ensure that all applicants also apply for funds to their own institutions and have a clear funding plan. Also, in compliance to the British Academy policy for unpublished fieldwork, the Society is keen to make sure that all projects result in scholarly publications.

Afghanistan was this year a running concern for the Society, which was originally started as the Society for Afghan Studies. In particular, negotiations went on all year to secure a safe home for the books that belonged to the former Institute for Afghan Studies in Kabul and were lodged since 1982 in crates in the compound of the British Embassy. The Society felt that, with the fall of the Taliban regime and the reestablishment of democratic institutions, it was important that the books remained in Afghanistan, accessible to Afghan scholars and students. The Society wants to record its gratitude to Dr. James Lee for his untiring efforts in this respect. We also hope to be able to support suitable research projects in Afghanistan as soon as circumstances allow.

This was the last year in which our Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Annie Howell, rendered service to the Society. We want to record our deepest thanks for her sterling work and selfless dedication, and our best wishes for her new career in education. We welcome her successor,

Mrs. Brenda McGregor, who will combine her part-time work for us with a Ph.D. in Chinese art. We could not hope to find a better person for the job.

As the scope of the Society's funding activities increases, we will soon face the challenge of asking the British Academy for a larger grant, so that we can continue to support the best British research and advance the interests of South Asian scholars. The fellowship programme, for example, is currently run from our accumulated reserves, and once they reach the minimum level as determined by our reserves policy (see Annex) we will have to rethink our budget requirements. The support and encouragement of our membership will be crucial in this challenge.

Dr. Francesca Orsini
Hon. Secretary

Paithan and Chandor Archaeological Project
Director: Dr. Derek Kennet & Dr. J.V.P. Rao

During the past year work has continued towards the final publication of the Paithan excavations (1996-1999). Dr J.V.P. Rao and Dr. M.Kasturibai (A.S.I. Dharwad Circle) visited Durham for three weeks during September 2002 in order to work on the report. During this time the site phasing was completed and the final format of the publication was agreed.

It is hoped that the final report will be completed soon. The report will be published as a Memoir of the Archaeological Survey of India.

In the meantime a paper on the Paithan temples has been submitted to South Asian Studies for publication in 2003 ('Two Early Historic Brick Temples at Paithan in Maharashtra' by D. Kennet & J.V.P. Rao).

World Corpus of Amaravati Sculpture
Director: Dr. Jennifer Howes and Dr. Michael Willis
Project Assistant: Mr. Akira Shimada

The aim of this project is to stimulate study of Amaravati, one of the most important Buddhist sites in ancient Andhra. Towards this end research is encouraged at the British Museum and British Library on different aspect of the collection and its documentation. Over the last year, on support of the Personal Research Grant from the SSAS, Akira Shimada made a three months research trip to India. He visited Amaravati to understand the archaeological and geographical setting of the site. He also undertook a survey in several museums which preserve Amaravati pieces to collect sculptural and epigraphic data of these collection. Dr. Jennifer Howes has continued her work on the Mackenzie manuscripts held in the Oriental and India Office collections by publishing an article in South Asian Studies (Volume 18, 2002) and has improved the web page of the Amaravati project in the Society's web site by adding lists of the museums holding Amaravati collections.

Dr. Derek Kennet, University of Durham

The Research Fellowship in South Asian Archaeology at Durham is about to enter its sixth academic year. The Society's involvement with this is scheduled to end on 15/1/04. South Asian archaeology is now a firmly-established part of the teaching at Durham with high undergraduate and postgraduate interest. A further AHRB-funded PhD in South Asian archaeobotany was obtained this year (to be supervised jointly with Dr. P. Rowley-Conwy).

A paper on the dating of Red Polished Ware was given at the SAA Conference in Bonn in July. A paper on the Paithan temples has been submitted to South Asian Studies for publication in 2003 and a paper jointly authored with Dr. D. Ali 'Viisha and its Environs and Early Medieval India' was submitted to the Vidisha Research Group Monograph to be edited by Prof. M. Willis and published by the British Museum in 2003/4. The text of a BAR monograph on Early Historic and medieval pottery and trade in the Gulf and Western Indian Ocean has been submitted to Archaeopress for expected publication December 2003 or January 2004.

Much of the fellow's time continues to be occupied by the completion of the Paithan excavation report (see Project report), which is expected soon.

**Dr. Elizabeth Lambourn, PRASADA, De Montfort University,
Islamic Architecture in Gujarat**

I undertook a two month fieldwork trip to Gujarat in January and February 2003. Fieldwork in Gujarat has become increasingly difficult. Recurrent waves of rioting and killings in Gujarat, especially following the attack at Godhra, have left Gujarat's Muslim community extremely suspicious of outsiders and have made access to mosques and Muslim structures an extremely complex issue. However, I was able to build up a strong network of contacts across Gujarat enabling me to gain access to most structures and, most importantly, to be granted permission to photograph them. This network will be a valuable asset in all future work across the state and indeed across India more generally.

During the fieldwork period new prospection/survey work was carried in central Gujarat at Ahmedabad, Mahmudabad, Vadodara and its environs, Surat, Rander, Bharuch and Kapadwanj. A number of previously unrecorded medieval mosques, some of them in private ownership, were identified at several locations.

At PRASADA, I gave six lectures on various aspects of Indian Islamic architecture on the M.A. South Asian Arts and have since been invited to contribute lectures to several undergraduate programs in Architecture and the History of Art within the Faculty. I also helped establish the Midlands South Asia Seminar, jointly organized by De Montfort and Leicester universities. The seminar is beginning its second year this autumn. During this period I participated in one conference in Michigan, one seminar in Vadodara on "Recent developments in the study of Indian Islamic architecture in Europe and North America", and co-organized a two-day international workshop on *The Islamic Heritage of*

Sumatra in the pre-Modern Period at SOAS, of which I am currently editing the workshop proceedings.

A number of articles have appeared during the past year

Elizabeth Lambourn, "The English Factory or "Kothi" gateway at Cambay – an unpublished Tughluq structure from Gujarat", *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 65/3, 2002, pp.495-517.

E. Lambourn, "La production de marbre sculpté à Cambaye au Gujarat et son exportation dans l'Océan Indien (XIII^e – XV^e siècles Ap. J. C.)", in *Mirabilia Asiatica. Productos raros no comércio marítimo. Produtos raros dans le commerce maritime. Seltene Waren im Seehandel*, J. dos Santos Alves C. Guillot and R. Ptak eds., South China and Maritime Asia 11, Wiesbaden: Harrasowitz Verlag and Lisboa: Fundação Oriente, 2003, pp.209-252.

E. Lambourn, "Of horses and jewels – the career and patronage of an Iranian merchant under Shah Jahan", *Iranian Studies*, 36, 2, 2003, pp.213-258.

Dr. Nanyanika Mookherjee, University of Sussex
'Boundaries of Blood': Genealogies of 'War-Babies'

Between December 2002 and March 2003 I undertook a fieldwork trip to Dhaka and Kusthia, Bangladesh, where I conducted interviews and started very fruitful archival research in connection to my new project on 'Boundaries of Blood': Genealogies of 'War-Babies' and their National Imaginings in Bangladesh. The project aims to explore how anthropological categories of kinship and family genealogy are transformed into national narratives in Bangladesh through the construction of 'war-babies' (children born as a result of sexual violence during the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971). At Sussex, I was involved in a consultive capacity at the department of Anthropology. During the first six months of my tenure I presented a paper on 'Mapping Violent Narratives: War-Memorials in Dhaka and their Embodied Recallings' in the City One Conference on Urban Ethnographies held in the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, and published the following papers:

Mookherjee, N. 2003. 'Ethical Issues Concerning Representation of Narratives of Sexual Violence'. www.drishtipat.org/1971. Mookherjee, N. 2003. 'My man (honour) is lost but I still have my iman (principle)': Sexual Violence and Articulations of Masculinity in R. Chopra, C. Osella and F. Osella eds. *South Asian Masculinities*. New Delhi: Kali for Women. (In Press). Mookherjee, N. 'Ranjit Guha' in J. S. Sanga, ed. *South Asian Literature in English: An Encyclopaedia*. Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc.: Connecticut. Mookherjee, N. 'The Great Indian Novel' in J. S. Sanga, ed. *South Asian Literature in English: An Encyclopaedia*. Greenwood Publishing Group, Inc.: Connecticut.

Mookherjee, N. 'Prachanda Akyana Sithiyamagathakirima: Dhakahi Yudha o Smaraka ha Evaye Anthargatha Mathakayan' ('Mapping Violent Narratives: War-Memorials in Dhaka and their Embodied Recallings') in the Journal

Patitha: Samaja Sanskruthika Sameeksha (Texts: Socio Cultural Enquiries).
Vol. 1 2003. (Translated in Sinhala). Mookherjee, N. 'Mapping Violent
Narratives : War-Memorials in Dhaka and their o Embodied Recallings' in
City One Conference proceedings on Urban Ethnographies. CSDS: New Delhi.
www.sarai.net . Mookherjee, N. 2002. Article Review of 'Zina and the
Moral Regulation of Pakistani Women' in Feminist Review.

Lewan excavation – no report received as yet by Justin Morris

The Upper Ganges Project

Director: Dr. D. K. Chakrabarti, University of Cambridge

The first few days of this year's work, which had to be cut short because of my unforeseen medical emergency, were spent in examining the significance of the Betwa valley in maintaining the links between the Kanpur-Agra-Etawah sector of the Ganga-Yamuna plain and central India. Ancient Kanpur is represented by the huge mound of Jajmau on the Ganga, and if one follows the road going west from Kanpur to Ghatampur and Musanagar one reaches the Yamuna. At Musanagar there is an early historic city site on the Yamuna cliff with the adjunct of a Bharhut-type stupa in the neighbouring village of Katar. Musanagar stands at the site of an old Yamuna crossing, and the ancient significance of this crossing is well represented by the location of a city site with stupa here. What is further interesting is that the Betwa joins the Yamuna in the Hamirpur sector which is reached after crossing the Yamuna at Musanagar.

Having crossed the Yamuna at Musanagar one perhaps moved along the Betwa valley where the first major early historic city site is Ehrich. The second major early historic city site in the Betwa valley from this direction is Tumain or ancient Tumbavana. From the Tumain area there is more or less a straight alignment towards Vidisha. This alignment is still represented by a back-country road. Moving up from Kanpur one reaches the Etawah-Agra sector. The Betwa valley can be reached from the Etawah side through Gujjarra which has a Minor Rock Edict. The early historic city site of Ekachakra which is set in the Yamuna ravines and can be approached from Etawah gave access to the Bhind-Gwalior area, from which the whole network of routes in central India was open. Similarly, the major early historic site of Bateshwar which can be approached from Shikohabad between Etawah and Agra and is also set in the Yamuna ravines gave access to the Morena-Gwalior area, from which too central India (and eventually the Deccan) was open.

PUBLICATION IN 2002 (April 2002 to March 2003)-- based on the fieldwork funded by Society: Dilip K Chakrabarti, R.Tewari, R.N.Singh. K.K.Singh and R. Trivedi, "Kampil, Sankisa and Chakranagar : sites in the Farrukhabad-Etah-Budaun-Mainpuri-Etawah region of Uttar Pradesh", In " South Asian Studies" vol. 18 (2002), pp. 109-119.

The Electronic Mahabharata Project

Director: Dr. J. Smith, University of Cambridge

This was the third and final year of the project. Dr. Smith's two assistants in Pune, Kirti Sameer Kulkarni and Shilpa Bidnoor, continued to carry out computer-based analyses of the repeated phraseology occurring in the *Mahābhārata*. Following on from their earlier general investigation of representative samples of the text—specific passages selected as typifying the various recognizable stylistic components of the epic, such as earlier and later battle narrative, central non-battle narrative, inserted tales, etc. — one concentrated on an examination of the battle books for signs of earlier and later narrative elements, whilst the other focused on 'grammatical formulae' — patterns of grammar that recur frequently even

though the actual words used may differ. Both assistants were invited to attend and make presentations at the All-India Oriental Conference held in Puri, Orissa, in 2002. As before, Dr. Smith exercised supervision over the assistants' work via email for the most part, but visited Pune in July 2002 and again in March 2003.

The project has yielded a great deal of information on the use of diction in the *Mahābhārata*. As noted in the previous report, the patterns of distribution have proved to be more complex than initially suspected: there is no simple correlation between highly repetitive 'bardic' diction and evidently early composition. Ms Kulkarni's work on patterns of grammar has intersected in a number of ways with the work currently being done in Cambridge by another research student, who is approaching the text from the quite different direction of analyzing favored metrical word-patterns. An informal collaboration between them will eventually form part of a monograph jointly authored by the two of them and myself. The Society's generous support of this project allowed an extended collaboration across continents and encouraged the application of modern IT techniques to an ancient text. Formal publication of the project results will take some further time, but those involved in the work have already gained valuable experience which would not otherwise have been possible.

Jaina Temple Architectur Project

Director: Dr. Julia Hegewald, Oxford University

During the past year (2002-2003) I spent two months conducting fieldwork in India. In December 2002 and January 2003 I surveyed several hundred Jaina temples in South India, mainly in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. I also revisited a number of sites in Karnataka at which I had conducted fieldwork during earlier seasons, and surveyed further new Jaina temples in Delhi and Mumbai.

The three-year research grant from the Society for South Asian Studies has resulted in a series of publications. So far, ten articles have been published, are being printed or have been accepted for publication. In addition, the first chapter of the monograph entitled *Jaina Temple Architecture in India* has been completed and work is progressing well on the writing of the other chapters.

- [2005] "Representations of the Jina's Birth and Enlightenment in Jaina Art, Architecture and Ritual." *South Asian Archaeology 2003*. Forthcoming.
- [2004] "Samavasarana, Meru and Sinhasana: The Significance of three-tiered structures in Jaina art and architecture." *Indo-Asiatiasche Zeitschrift*. Forthcoming.
- [2004] "Oceans, Islands and Sacred Mountains: Representations of Cosmic Geography in Jaina Art and Architecture." *COSMOS: The Journal of the Traditional Cosmology Society*. Forthcoming.
- [2004] "Jainism in Central India: Sculptural and Epigraphic Records from the Vidisha Region." *South Asian Studies: Occasional Papers*. Forthcoming.
- [2004] "From Shiva to Parshvanatha: The Appropriation of a Hindu Temple for Jaina Worship." *South Asian Archaeology 2001*. Forthcoming.
- [2004] "Mandirs, Maps and Cosmologies: The Role of Landscape in Jaina Art and Identity." *Environmental Design*. Forthcoming.
- [2003] "Architectural, Sculptural and Religious Change: A New Interpretation of the Jaina Temples at Khajuraho." *Jaina Studies Series*. Vol. 1, P. Flügel (ed.), Curzon Press, Forthcoming.
- [2003] "Jaina Temple Architecture: A Progression from Images to Shrines and Temple Cities." *South Asian Archaeology 1999*. Forthcoming.
- 2002 "Aspects of Jaina Temple Architecture in Rajasthan and Gujarat." *South Asia Research*. 22, 2. pp. 107-122.
- 2001 "Multi-shrined Complexes: The Ordering of Space in Jaina Temple Architecture in North-Western India." *South Asian Studies*. Vol. 17, pp. 77-96.

Ordered Sites and Images: India as a Laboratory for Archaeological Practice
Director: Dr. Sudeshna Guha, Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge

My initial project was restricted to the photographic representation of Sir Mortimer Wheeler's archaeological practice in India. However, research finds have prompted me to extend beyond the period of Wheeler's Director-Generalship and undertake the history of photographic representation of archaeological excavations in India during the early 20th century. Over the last year, I have been increasingly convinced that the interpretations that Wheeler offered for sites he excavated in the Indian subcontinent were influenced by his experience of excavating Roman sites in Britain, and his policies regarding the management of archaeology in India needs to be pursued beyond the narrative of British colonialism. This year I undertook a very successful study trip in India for six weeks between December 2002 and January 2003, working at the Archaeological Survey of India and the National Archives in New Delhi and at Deccan College in Pune, and interviewing once again two of Mortimer Wheeler's last surviving students, Professors B.B. Lal and M.N. Deshpande. I was able to locate letters and documents related to themes such as the nature of relationship between the Archaeological Survey of India and the Public Works Department between 1902 and before the First World War in 1917, the nature of relationships between contemporary officers of the Survey, and those related to training of staff and funding. They are also valuable for tracing nationalistic agendas in the construction of India's past through archaeology during the early twentieth century; a subject which gains considerable importance in the light of Indian politics today.

I wrote two articles during the course of the year:

June 2003: Imposing the habit of Science; Sir Mortimer Wheeler and Indian Archaeology in the *Bulletin of the History of Archaeology*, Vol.13, No.1, and
(forthcoming): Mortimer Wheeler's Archaeology in South Asia and its Visual Presentation, *South Asian Studies* Vol. 19.

Having completed my doctorate from India, I have always had the good fortune of knowing most of the professionals who are/ have been in the field, and many, e.g., Professors Dhavalakar, Paddayya and Romila Thapar have provided useful comments. In December 2002, I also presented a paper at Deccan College, Pune, my former alma mater. Based on my archival work in India this year, I will be speaking on "Photography in the making of archaeological knowledge" at a conference on Visual Knowledges that will be hosted in the University of Edinburgh on 18th September.

Vidisha Project

Director: Dr. M. Willis

The aim of the Vidisha project is to examine cultural change and the ways in which Indian civilisation developed between *circa* 400 BCE and 1350 CE. A research group is examining these issues in a regional setting and taking Vidisha as its target area. The group is concerned not so much with the description of recognised high points of Indian civilisation but with the dynamics of cultural change and the ways in which these dynamics can be understood from both textual sources and physical remains (inscriptions, sculpture, architecture, water-management systems and other archaeological material).

In the last year the research group conducted a post-fieldwork seminar and discussed strategies for funding. Subsequently Dr Julia Shaw made a successful bid to BASIS for satellite images of the Vidisha region; these are now being analysed and processed at the University of Durham. Professor Willis raised funds to carry out fieldwork at Udayagiri and related sites. The project web-site was updated and can be consulted for a full account of the project's aims, participants and publications. See <http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS/index.html>

Recent papers and publications by the research group:

Hans Bakker, 'Religion and Politics in the Eastern Vakataka Kingdom', *South Asian Studies* 18 (2002): 1-24; Meera Dass and Michael Willis, 'The Lion Capital from Udayagiri and the Antiquity of Sun Worship in Central India', *South Asian Studies* 18 (2002): 25-45; Julia Shaw and J. V. Sutcliffe, 'Ancient Irrigation Works in the Sanchi Area', *South Asian Studies* 17 (2001): 58-71; 'Ancient Dams, Settlement Archaeology and Buddhist Propagation in Central India: the Hydrological Background', *Hydrological Sciences Journal* 48(2003): 277-91; Michael Willis, 'Udayagiri: the Holy Mountain in Central India', read at the International Vakataka Conference, Groningen, June 2002; Michael Willis, 'The Archaeology of Time and the Establishment of Hindu Deities as Juristic Personalities,' read at Institut für Indische Philologie und Kunstgeschichte der Freien Universität Berlin, November, 2002.

REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL

The following papers appeared in Volume 18 of *South Asian Studies* (2002): Hans Bakker on religion and politics in the Eastern Vakataka kingdom, Meera Dass and Michael Willis on Udayagiri and sun worship in Central India, A.K. Singh on a Kalachuri monastic complex at Chunari, Jennifer Howes on Colin Mackenzie and the Amaravati stupa, Sheila Hohey Middleton on Gupta bronze Buddhas, Anna Dallapiccola and Anila Verghese on narrative reliefs of Bhima and Purushamriga at Vijayanagara, Crispin Branfoot on the same theme in the Nayaka sculpture of Tamil Nadu, Nasim Khan on Lajja Gauri seals from Kashmir Smast, Gandhara, N.F. Howard on the Political Geography of South East Zanskar, Dilip K Chakrabarti and associates on the archaeological sites of Kampil, Sankisa and Chakranagar, U.P., and Alok Kumar Kanungo on Bondo beads.

Abstracts of papers from recent Volumes appear on the Society's website, along with the contents of all past issues.

Professor Adam Hardy
Editor

REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S MONOGRAPHS

During the last year the Society continued its relationship with Routledge Curzon and published Mehrdad Shokoohy, *Muslim Architecture of South India* and Sean McGrail, *Boats of South Asia*.

Norah Titley's translation of and commentary on the *Nimat Nama* in the Oriental and India Office Collections of the British Library is currently in press. An external report for Mehrdad Shokoohy, *Tughluqabad*, was received recommending publication; the work is now going to press. Richard Shaw, *Archaeology of Asceticism* has been provisionally accepted for publication pending revisions suggested by the reader.

Proposals for monographs have been received from Dr Julia Shaw Dr Crispin Branfoot and Dr Elizabeth Lambourn.

The editor is waiting for Robin Conningham, *Anuradhapura*, volume 2; Justin Morris et al, *Excavations at Lewan* and MacDowall et al, *Gazetteer of Roman and Sub-Roman Finds in India*. To match the style of the Society's earlier archaeological reports, these will be published by Archaeopress UK.

Professor Michael Willis
Monographs Editor

LECTURES

The Society also supports the work of the Indian Art Circle, and members of the Society are entitled to attend lectures given under their auspices. The following lectures were supported by the Society.

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| Mr Ilay Cooper | <u>Mughal and Sikh Murals of Lahore</u> |
| Mr Akira Shimada | <u>Patronage of the Amaravati Stupa: Archaeological and Epigraphic Evidence</u> |
| Dr Michael Willis | <u>Udayagiri: The Holy Mountain in Central India</u> |
| Ms Madhuvanti Ghose | <u>Durga and the Lion: Remnants of Nana iconography in South Asia</u> |
| Ms. Julia Shaw | <u>The Archaeological Setting of Buddhist Monasteries in Central India: Results of recent survey work, with special emphasis on a group of 'new' early sculptures</u> |
| Sally North | <u>Nawabs and the Neo-Classical: the court architecture of Lucknow</u> |
| Crispin Branfoot | <u>Heavens on Earth: the development of the temple-city in Tamilnadu</u> |
| Robert Skelton | <u>Sultanate Painting in India</u> |
| Richard Shaw | <u>The Art of the Siddha: Ascetic carvings in South India</u> |
| Barry Flood | <u>The Sultan's body and the Raja's belt: cross-cultural encounters in medieval India</u> |

RECENT AWARDS MADE BY THE SOCIETY

The following awards were made by Council in the financial year covered by the report :

Small Personal Research Grants:

- i. Dr. Naman P. Ahuja - £2,000 to date and map the spread of the iconography of a major Indian cult goddess;
- ii. Dr. Lalita Du Perron - £1,670 to study the role of language in consolidating regional identities in India's 'Hindi Belt';
- iii. Dr. Rachel Dwyer - £2,000 to study depictions of religion in Indian cinema;
- iv. Dr. Robin Jones - £1,000 to study a range of colonial-period buildings in South India and Sri Lanka;
- v. Dr. Jonathan Lee - £3,000 to undertake a historical and archaeological expedition to Afghanistan;
- vi. Dr. Magnus Marsden - £3,000 Migration, Labour and Islam in Pakistan
- vii. Mr. Akira Shimada - £2,200 to carry out work in connection to the 'World Corpus of Amaravati Sculpture' project;
- viii. Dr. Natalie Tobert - £1,360 to study mental health practices in an Indian context.

Travel Grants:

- i. Dr. William Douglas - £460 – to conduct research in Pakistan;
- ii. Dr. Stephen Hughes £500 – to conduct interviews and collect photographs for his forthcoming book on Indian cinema;
- iii. Dr. Julia Leslie - £630 to chair the 6th international conference on Dowry deaths in New Delhi;
- iv. Dr. Deborah Sutton - £1,520 to study development, colonialism and post-colonialism in India and East Africa;

Conference Grants:

- i. Dr. Crispin Branfoot - £2,000 to organise a conference on traditional arts of South Asia;

Subsidy for Publications

Dr. Elizabeth English - £1,000 reproductions for '*Vajrayogini: her Visualisation, Rituals and Forms*';

Dr. Robert Elgood - £1,000 to assist with the publication costs of his book '*Hindu Weapons and Warfare*'

INDEPENDENT REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

We have audited the financial statements on pages 15 to 21 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and the accounting policies set out on page 18.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND AUDITORS

The trustees' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards are set out in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities.

We have been appointed auditors under S43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under S44 of that Act.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Annual Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding trustees' remuneration and transactions with the charity is not disclosed.

We read other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. We confirm the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

BASIS OF AUDIT OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and or whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

OPINION

In our opinion the Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity's affairs at 31st March 2003 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended, and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2003

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Approved on 22 September 2003 by
Members of the Council of Management

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2003

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting principles under the historical cost convention.
- b) The stock of publications is not brought into account. The Council consider that to estimate the value of these items would be of no real benefit to the Institute.
- c) Fixed assets abroad are written off in the year of purchase and are not capitalised in the accounts.
- d) Direct currency conversions are translated at the exchange rate at the time of transaction, other balances are converted at year end rates, any difference arising on exchange is written off in the year concerned.
- e) Fixed assets are depreciated at the following rates, in order to write off the asset over their estimated useful life.

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Furniture | 25% reducing balance |
| Computer Equipment | 25% reducing balance |

- f) The Society's financial statements have been prepared to comply with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the 'Statement of Recommended Practice' (SORP), produced by the Charity Commission in October 2000 and thus with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 1993.
- g) The Society qualifies as a small enterprise and is therefore exempt from preparing a cash flow statement.
- h) **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

Charity law requires the Trustees (the Council of Management) to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees are required to:

- (i) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- (ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- (iii) state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the appropriate SORP on Accounting by Charities and the Accounting Regulations and with applicable accounting standards, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- (iv) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Charity will continue in business.

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2003**

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(h) STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES (continued)

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity, and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under s44 of the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud or other irregularities.

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THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2003**

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THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2003

5. **CREDITORS (Amounts falling due within one year)**

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6. **EMPLOYEES**

7. **TRUSTEES**

8. **DESIGNATED FUNDS**

The following amounts have been designated by the Trustees from the general funds of the Society for specific purposes :-

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ANNEX

SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

RESERVES POLICY

Council reviews regularly the Society's activities and future commitments. It has been established that, if the annual grant to the Society were to be terminated, a reserve of £25000 would be needed to wind up the Society's affairs and to meet any outstanding commitments. Council has therefore determined that the minimum level of the Society's reserves should be £25000 and that no commitments should be entered into which would bring the reserves below this level.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The major risk that the Society faces is the withdrawal of all or part of its grant from the Academy. Systems have been established to minimise this possibility through maintaining and improving the quality of its work, accurate reporting and tight financial control. Council is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and taking all reasonable steps for the detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities. Financial procedures are reviewed regularly and the Society's accounts are audited annually. Procedures have been established to ensure that award holders produce accounts, and the Society's accounts are audited annually.

September 2003

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The Society for South Asian Studies promotes and supports study and research into the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. To this end it offers annually a number of travel and small personal research grants. Applicants must normally be resident in the United Kingdom.

SMALL PERSONAL RESEARCH GRANTS

The Society invites applications for awards made towards the cost of research and fieldwork, at post-doctoral level or its equivalent, in the humanities or social sciences of South Asia during the financial year 2003/2004. Awards will not be made to support courses or research leading to academic qualifications or for research directly related to the topic of a current thesis. Applicants must be normally resident in the UK. All applicants are also expected to seek funding from their own institutions. Grants will not usually exceed £3,000.

CONFERENCE GRANTS

These awards are intended for expenses towards conferences in the Humanities and Social Sciences of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh held in the U.K.

LANGUAGE TRAINING AND RESEARCH GRANTS

The Society for South Asian Studies offers a small number of language training and research grants for students enrolled at U.K. universities. They are intended to fund periods of language training and fieldwork in South Asia.

TRAVEL GRANTS

A limited number of travel grants of up to £600 each will be awarded to assist British scholars travelling to South Asia to establish collaborative research projects. Some grants will be awarded to younger postgraduate students to enable them to join supervised projects intended to introduce them to fieldwork in South Asia. Applicants are expected to seek supplementary funding from their own institutions and other agencies.

AIDED PROJECTS

The Society will also consider proposals for co-ordinated projects involving two or more post-doctoral researchers, which will be of more than one year in duration. Applicants are also expected to seek funding from their own institutions, and must be normally resident in the UK.

APPLICATIONS

Applications for grants must be made on the prescribed application forms which can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.societyforsouthasianstudies.org> and click on 'grants'. All applications must be submitted to the Assistant Secretary before the closing dates of **15th April and 15th September** each year.

For further details and application forms please contact:

**The Assistant Secretary, Society for South Asian Studies,
60 Queen's Gardens, London W2 3AF
Tel/fax: +44-20-7402 5753. E-mail: secretary@societyforsouthasianstudies.org
Website: <http://www.societyforsouthasianstudies.org>**

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The Society for South Asian Studies is one of the Schools and Institutes founded and grant aided by the British Academy. It is also a learned Society that organises a regular programme of meetings and publishes an annual journal South Asian Studies. It promotes and supports study and research in the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. Lecture meetings are held at the British Academy. From time to time other meetings, seminars and colloquia are arranged. Members of the Society are entitled to attend all lectures and other meetings organised by the Society and to introduce guests. They receive the Annual Report of the Society and its journal South Asian Studies free of charge. Applications for membership are welcomed. Current subscriptions rates, payable on 1st January are:

Subscription Rates

From 1st January 2003

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Individual Members | £30.00 or US\$65.00 |
| Institutional Members | £40.00 or US\$75.00 |
| Junior Members (under 25) | £20.00 |
| Additional Members at same address (Associate) | £ 5.00 |
| Associate Membership (without Journal) | £10.00 |

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Full Name

Address

E-mail

Please send this form together with a completed Bankers Order, Dollar or Stirling Cheque (drawn on a British Bank) for the current subscription to:

The Assistant Secretary, The Society for South Asian Studies
60 Queen's Gardens, London W2 3AF

Copies of back numbers of Afghan Studies 1-3 and South Asian Studies 1-18 may be purchased from:

The Assistant Secretary
The Society for South Asian Studies
60 Queen's Gardens, London W2 3AF

Tel/fax: +44 (0)20-7402 5753

E-mail: secretary@societyforsouthasianstudies.org