

28. Annie Howell was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Society for twelve months from the 1st July 1996, at a rate of £10 per hour.

THE AKRA PROJECT (paper 14/96)

29. The Akra project was adopted as an “aided” project, of the Society.

EXCAVATION STAFF

30. It was agreed to explore the establishment of two Society funded Ph.D studentships, linked with the post of field director/coordinator to assist in the conduct of excavations at Akra (Pakistan) and Paithan (India). The British Academy should be consulted. The Finance Committee was authorised to proceed with the appointments, if necessary for excavation work in 1996/7. The Secretary and Mr. Knox were asked to draw up a job description as soon as possible.

PAITHAN EXCAVATIONS

31. The Research Fellow James Howell presented his monthly reports (paper 13/96). These were noted by Council.

TRAVEL GRANTS

32. Two grants of £600 each were agreed for two British students to join the expedition team of Dr. D.K. Chakrabarti for the Upper Ganges Project (paper 7/96), subject to the receipt of satisfactory written applications.

SMALL RESEARCH GRANTS (paper 12/96)

33. Dr. J.A. Laidlaw’s application for a grant of £1100 to travel to Mandoli to study the cult of Shanti Vijay suri and it’s relationship with the Jain and Raika communities was given provisional approval.. Dr. Laidlaw has also applied to the Smuts Memorial Fund, University of Cambridge for funding. The Society will only approve this award if unsuccessful in his application to the Smuts Fund . If partially successful in that application, the Society agrees to make up the shortfall.

34. Dr. Amin Jaffar’s application for a grant of £555 to carry out field research in the production of Indo - European furniture and woodwork was approved.

35. The Rev. Dr. F.V, Tiso’s application for a grant of £500 to study the Tibetan biographical tradition of the poet - yogin Milarepa was rejected.

SOCIETY'S LIBRARY IN KABUL.

36. The British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Sir Christopher Macrae KCMG, has confirmed that the Society's library in Kabul is still preserved in the Hospital compound of the British Embassy

NEXT MEETING

37. Monday 16th September 1996.

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Meeting of the Council held on Monday 16th September 1996

Present : Dr. D.W. MacDowall (Chairman)	Mr. J.R. Knox*
Sir Oliver Forster (Treasurer)	Dr. Julia Leslie
Dr. M. Willis (Secretary)	Mrs. M.E. Mackay
Dr. B. Allchin (Editor)	Prof. J.M. Rogers*
Mr. T.R. Blurton	Dr. M. Shokoohy*
Prof. Sir John Boardman	Dr. D.J Smith*
Dr. J.B. Katz	Dr. D. Swallow

(* members unable to attend)

In attendance : Ms Annie Howell (Assistant Secretary) and Ms. Hillary Kent (British Academy)

MINUTES

38. Minutes 3/96 were approved and signed,

ANURADHAPURA EXCAVATIONS

39. Dr. Coningham is making good progress. Chapters 2, 4 and 6 have been submitted to the Society and a complete draft of the report is expected by February 1997. The sections on the coins, metal working slags, stone tools and the faunal remains (the responsibility of external experts) could be produced as separate articles at a later date if necessary. Council approved a grant of £1,600 for the analysis and report on the metal slags.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

40. It was agreed that if the Assistant Secretary is confirmed in the post as the Society's administrative officer, she should be offered a fractional salaried post within the scale for university administrative staff grades 1 and 2.

THE AKRA PROJECT (paper 14/96)

41. Dr. Willis was asked to obtain from Dr. Thomas and Mr. Knox a completed form P3 setting out the 1996/97 budget for the Akra Project, based on a Society grant of £6500 per year, matching the British Museum grant of £6500.

PAITHAN EXCAVATIONS

42. The present Research Fellow has agreed to conduct the 1997 season of excavations at Paithan at a monthly fee based on his present salary with his 1996 team. It was agreed to appoint a new research fellow during 1997, with a primary responsibility to conduct the 1998 excavations. The Secretary was asked to draw up a draft advertisement and job description for the December Council.

SOCIETY'S LIBRARY IN KABUL

43. It was agreed that if the Society's library could be retrieved from the Hospital Compound of the Kabul embassy, it should be housed in the new British Council Library building in Peshawar. It should be kept in a separate locked case and clearly labelled as the property of the Society.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

44. Kandahar Excavations Volume 1, edited by Warwick Ball, has been published by BAR as SSAS Monograph no.1. Kandahar Excavations Volume 2 by Svend Helms has now been copy edited by Jenny Marsh and is about to go to BAR for publication as SSAS Monograph no.2. The Sannathi Excavation Report by James Howell has been published by the Archaeological Survey of India as Memoir of the Archaeological Survey of India no.93. The artefacts from the Sopara excavations have now been cleaned by the ASI laboratory at Lucknow and will be available for study by James Howell's team.

TREASURERS REPORT (Paper 23/96)

45. Expenditure for 1996/97 seemed to be within budget, although there was still uncertainty about expenditure for Akra.

DRAFT ACCOUNTS 1995/96 (Paper 15/96)

46. The draft accounts, as amended showed a small surplus of £1741. Production costs for the Journal had been reduced from £11000 to £9500 following the decision to print it in India, reducing the shortfall between journal cost and journal income to £2326

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE (Papers 16/96 and 17/96)

47. Six copies of the complete document are now available for study by Council members. Council considered paper 17/96 on action required by the Society:-

1. The number of sub committees has already been reduced from four to two.
2. An assistant secretary had been appointed to strengthen administrative support.

3. Council agreed that the Society should invite representatives of institutions involved in South Asian studies to an open meeting to discuss ways in which the Society could widen its scope.

4. The Society already introduces young scholars to academic work in Asia through its scheme for travel grants.

5. Kandahar Excavations I, II and III would now be published by BAR. It was agreed that wherever suitable the Society would prefer to use the BAR series of numbered SSAS monographs and to require all monographs published by other publishers to state clearly on the title page the Society's role or to be joint publications.

6. The shortfall between the Journal costs and subscription/sale income remained a serious problem which could only be solved by increasing substantially the number of members.

7. Increasing the membership must be a top priority (see below).

8. It was agreed to widen the scope of the journal.

9-10. The questions of generating income from sources other than the Academy and of establishing closer links with the academic constituency in the UK were deferred to the next meeting.

MEMBERSHIP (Paper 18/96)

48. The Secretary was asked to clarify for December
- how many full £20+ members were paid up at 31st December 1995
 - how many full £20+ members are paid up for 1996

It was agreed that responsibility for membership should be transferred to the Assistant Secretary as soon as possible. The Audit Committee was to analyse the present position and recommend ways by which personal members and subscribing institutions could be increased by some 150 - the number required to close the gap between journal costs and journal income.

NEW MEMBERS (Paper 19/96)

49. The following were elected members of the Society:-

Mrs. Margaret Chamberlain

Miss L.V.. Marsh-Smith

Ms Sophie Hawkins

Miss Elaine Stevenson

Miss Joan Masters

Mr. Peter James Stiles

Mr. and Mrs. Olayzer

Dr. J. Tanner

Jean Francois Salles

The Rev. Canon F. Tiso

Mr. and Mrs. Sloan

SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

50. It was agreed that some articles intended for Harappan Studies could be included in SSAS 1997 and 1998, so long as the Society incurred no additional costs. Council agreed that SSAS 1997 should commemorate the 50th anniversary of Indian and Pakistani independence. Council authorised the Editor to increase the size of the journal to 216 pages for 1997 only (excluding any pages paid for by Harappan Studies).

SRI LANKAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT (Paper 20/96)

51. Council approved a grant of £4000 for 1996/97

REPORT FROM JONATHAN LEE (Paper 21/96)

52. The report from Mr. Lee was noted.

RESEARCH AND TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATIONS (Paper 22/96)

53. The following grants were awarded:-

a. Mr. Jonathan Lee - £500 towards the cost of his survey of monuments in northern Afghanistan.

b, Mr. Brian Robson - £1000 to study Sir Hugh Rose's central Indian campaign of 1858.

c. Dr. James Laidlaw - £500 towards the costs of studying the cult of the Raika born Jain saint Shanti Vijay suri.

d. Dr. Rosemary Crill - £500 towards the cost of studying costume and textiles in Pakistan.

e. Ms. Sophie Hawkins - £500 towards the cost of her studying Hindu iconography in Bangalore.

The applications from Dr. Peter Carl, Mr. Vivek Nanda, Dr. Anna Dallapiccola and Dr. George Michell were rejected, but Council reaffirmed its decision of September 1995 that it would be prepared to consider applications from younger scholars for travel grants up to £600

each to enable them to join the project. The Chairman was empowered to authorise up to four grants to named young people who submitted completed forms T1.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

54. Council decided it should establish an archive of all articles, monographs and books published on work funded by the Society and ask if the Royal Asiatic Society would be prepared to keep the archive in their Library.

55. Council agreed to exchange future issues of SAS with Pakistan Archaeology,

NEXT MEETING

56. Monday 2nd December 1996 at 2.30pm, prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Society.

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Meeting of the Council held on Monday 2nd December 1996

Present : Dr. D.W. MacDowall (Chairman)	Mr. J.R. Knox*
Sir Oliver Forster (Treasurer)	Dr. Julia Leslie*
Dr. M. Willis (Secretary)*	Mrs. M.E. Mackay
Dr. B. Allchin (Editor)	Prof. J.M. Rogers*
Mr. T.R. Blurton*	Dr. M. Shokoohy
Prof. Sir John Boardman	Dr. D.J Smith*
Dr. J.B. Katz*	Dr. D. Swallow*

(* members unable to attend)

In attendance : Ms Annie Howell (Assistant Secretary) and Ms. Hillary Kent (British Academy)

MINUTES

57. Minutes 4/96 were approved and signed.

MATTERS ARISING

58. A draft job description and advertisement for the new Research Fellow is urgently required.

59. Travel grants of £600 each have been awarded to Miss Wendy Hiu-Ying Chan, Miss Victoria Page, Mr Malcolm Birks and Mr Nicholas Hornig to enable them to join the Kumbakonam Project.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

60. There have been further discussions with Professor Ucko, the new Director of the University of London Institute of Archaeology about the possibility of appointing a new lecturer in Indian archaeology. If Professor Ucko is able to raise funds for two thirds of the new lecturers costs, the Society would contribute the balance and the lecturer would be seconded to the Society for four months each year (January to April) to conduct the excavations at Paithan. The Council agreed to such an arrangement subject to suitable terms being negotiated. The Society would have to make alternative arrangements for its wider role of cultural diplomacy in India.

61. The proposal to establish (if possible) a local branch of the Society in Delhi among the expatriate community and Indian friends was welcomed. The Chairman and Research Fellow

were asked to initiate this when they are in Delhi in January. The Chairman will review the joint ASI -Society projects with the new DG and negotiate publication and printing arrangements with the ASI, Indira Gandhi Foundation and other bodies for the joint projects that had been undertaken

CONTROL OF PROJECTS IN INDIA

62. The present Research Fellow has agreed to conduct the 1997 excavation season at Paithan. with the same team as in 1996. He would now hand over to his successor in 1998.

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

63. The reports of Carla Grissman's reports (papers 5/96 and 29/96) and Jonathan Lee (paper 25/96) were noted.

64. It was agreed that the Society should join SPAC; and that a joint meeting with the RAS on Afghanistan and the Kabul Museum should be held in 1997.

PUBLICATIONS

65. ANURADHAPURA EXCAVATION REPORT (paper 25/96)
Substantial progress has been made. A complete draft should be received early in 1997. Authority was given to employ a copy editor, if the report is published by BAR.

THE AKRA PROJECT (paper 14/96)

66. A grant of £2500 was approved subject to the submission of a satisfactory budget in the standard form to the finance committee.

TREASURERS REPORT (Paper 31/96)

67. Expenditure for 1996/97 was within budget, but there may be a slight underspend due to the reduced budget for the Akra Project.

NEW MEMBERS (Paper 27/96)

68. Mon. Olivier Tirard-Collet and Dr. Richard Neil Shaw were elected members of the Society.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE NEW COUNCIL

69. Council agreed to propose to the AGM the re-election of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Editor and the election of Miss H. Bell, Professor A.D.H. Bivar,

Professor J. Hinnells and Mr. N Kreitman (if he agreed), as new ordinary members of Council for four years.

The Assistant Secretary was asked to remind Council at the June meeting each year about the need to finalise its nominations to the AGM by September, so that there will be no problem about circulating them to the members of the Society at least fifteen days before the AGM.

RESEARCH AND TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATIONS (Paper 28/96)

70. The following grants were awarded:-

a. Dr. Mark Blackburn - Up to £500 to meet the shortfall in grants awarded by other bodies towards the study and publication of the Fitzwilliam Museum's Indian coin collection in collaboration with young Indian numismatists.

b. Dr. Adam Hardy - £1000 towards his project to document the settlement patterns and architectural forms of villages in Orissa.

c. Miss Elizabeth Lambourn - £500 to survey the Islamic epigraphy of coastal South India.

The applications from Mon. Olivier Tirard-Collet and Miss Vaswati Ghosh were rejected.

Dr. J.D Smith's application for £4000 (paper 30/96) would be reconsidered in the light of the outcome of his bid for a British Academy grant.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE (Papers 16/96 and 17/96)

71. Council continued its consideration of paper 17/96

9. The officers asked Miss Kent to arrange the meeting with the officers of the South East Asian committee as suggested in the report.

10. The Secretary was asked to make sure that information about the Society was given to the BASAS for their annual meeting at Easter. He was asked to arrange a series of open meetings in conjunction with various universities to promote the Society. He should arrange for an attractive brochure to promote the Society and to explain that its scope was not limited to archaeology and art history.

NEXT MEETING

72. Monday 17th February 1997 at 2.30pm.

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Monday 2nd December 1996 in the lecture rooms of the British Academy

Members of Council present : Dr. D.W. MacDowall (Chairman)
Sir Oliver Forster (Treasurer)
Dr. B. Allchin (Editor)
Mrs. M.E. Mackay
Dr. M. Shokoohy

In attendance : Ms Annie Howell (Assistant Secretary)

MINUTES

1. The Minutes 6/95 of the A.G.M of the Society held on 11th December 1995 were approved and signed,

2. The Chairman presented his report for 1995/96

3. The Treasurer presented the accounts of the Society for 1995/96 which were approved. Pridie Brewster, Chartered Accountants of 29-39 London Rd, Twickenham. Middlesex, TW1 3SZ were re-appointed auditors for 1996/97.

4. The following members retired from Council :-

Dr. J.B Katz

Mrs. M.E Mackay

Dr. Julia Leslie

Professor J.M Rogers

5. The following officers were re-elected for 1997:-

Chairman Dr. D.W. MacDowall

Treasurer Sir Oliver Forster

Secretary Dr. Michael Willis

Editor Dr. Bridget Allchin

6. The following new members of Council were elected for a four year term from 1997:-

Miss H. Bell

Professor J. Hinnells

Professor A.D.H. Bivar

Mr. N. Kreitman (if he agrees)

7. Following comments from the floor by Sir Nicholas Barrington the recommendations of the Wilson Report were discussed.

A proposal to hold a meeting with the Royal Asiatic Society in the autumn of 1997 to celebrate fifty years of archaeology since Indian and Pakistani independence was approved.

8. Professor Sean McGrail and Dr. Lucy Blue gave a lecture entitled The Patia Fishing Boat: Multi-Disciplinary research in Orissa.