

## Report

### 3<sup>RD</sup> PALEOANTHROPOLOGY FIELD WORKSHOP

June 6–10, 2022, Narmadapuram, Madhya Pradesh, India

THE 3<sup>rd</sup> Paleoanthropology Fieldschool/Workshop was held in Narmadapuram, Madhya Pradesh, India from June 6 to June 10, 2022. The co-organisers were Parth R. Chauhan (IISER Mohali) and Prabhin Sukumaran (CHARUSAT) and the event was co-sponsored by IISER Mohali, Association of Quaternary Researchers (AOQR) and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow (BSIP). Wide publicity for the event was done through social media platforms, emails, and personal and institutional communications. Applications for

the workshop were collected through an online platform. Each application included basic academic details of the applicant, a detailed CV, and a statement of purpose. Applications were received from across the states of India and reputed universities/institutes, such as AIHC & Archaeology Department, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (UP); Vikram University, Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh; Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh; BSIP, Lucknow, UP; Cotton University, Assam; Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Pune, Maharashtra; Delhi Institute of Heritage Research & Management, New Delhi; Department of Anthropology, Panjab University, Chandigarh; Doon University, Dehradun; H.N.B. Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand; IIT BHU, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh; Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Madhya Pradesh; Jawaharlal Nehru University,



New Delhi; Kerala State Department of Archaeology, Kerala; Kurukshetra University, Thanesar, Haryana; Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala; Nalanda University, Rajgir, Bihar; Panjab University, Punjab; Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute of Archaeology, Greater Noida, UP; Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune, Maharashtra; Tamil University, Tamil Nadu; University of Ladakh, Ladakh and Vasanta College for Women, B.H.U., Varanasi, UP. The organizers of the event had critically gone through all applications and the selection of candidates was made purely based on their academic credentials and statements of purpose.

A total of 19 participants were shortlisted out of 41 applications and 15 students confirmed their participation. The selected candidates were provided online lectures prior to the fieldschool to facilitate smoother discussions at the sites. Participants were taken to both well-known and lesser-known prehistoric sites including stone tool occurrences, rock paintings, fossil vertebrate sites, and important Quaternary

type-sections. The visited sites included Hathnora, Bhimbetka, Sardarnagar, Dhansi, Pilikarar, and Talpura, localities among others. Students were shown how to survey for sites, what and how to document and interpret geological and palaeontological observations, and how to collect samples for multiproxy high-resolution studies. All participants were highly enthusiastic, asked relevant questions, and provided important feedback for future workshops. Overall the event was a great success and participants were satisfied with its overall aspects. Most of the participants suggested organizing such events more frequently. The next such workshop is planned for the winter session along with international experts and welcome you all to participate.

**Parth R. Chauhan<sup>1</sup> & Prabhin Sukumaran<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>IISER Mohali, Punjab

<sup>2</sup>CHARUSAT Changa, Gujarat