

The genesis of the Society of South Asia Archaeology (SOSAA) lies in the fact that over the years many scholars have suggested the need for a dedicated platform where young archaeologists can present their research and views openly without fear and reproach. It was also suggested that this forum should be structured in a manner that permits extended discussion beyond the usual question and answer session. It was further decided to create a society that would deal with the archaeology, anthropology, history, and ethnography of Asia in general and South Asia in particular. As Afghanistan, Iran and Central Asia are historically closely related to South Asia, the countries of this region have also been included on this podium. *Ancient Asia* is an official annual journal of the Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA) that is published by Reesha Books International, Mumbai. *Ancient Asia* is an international forum for the publication of peer-reviewed original research papers, review articles, short research notes, most significant archaeological discoveries and book reviews. Submission of manuscript implies that the work has not been published or it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

The scope of the *Ancient Asia* is vast- from Stone Age to the Modern times, including archaeology, history, anthropology, art, architecture, numismatics, iconography, ethnography, various scientific aspects including archaeobotany and archaeozoology, and theoretical and methodological issues. Amongst the goals of this society are, to bring forth the research being conducted in areas that are not often well published such as the North Eastern States of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Central Asia, Iran, etc. We will also aim to bring out cutting edge research in other related scientific, technical and methodological fields to the focus area of this society.

This journal is made of two sections; the main section (Section A) presents research papers organized chronologically on the time line while the second section titled "By Invitation" (Section B) will include papers from invited scholars. The first issue of the Journal contains 13 research articles in the first section on the subject ranging from prehistory through protohistory and historical periods and covering vast geographical area from Sri Lanka to North India and from Iran to Northeast India. There are a couple of papers on ancient technology. The paper by Suraj Bhan is in the second section titled By Invitation. It should be mentioned that the SOSAA and the editors of *Ancient Asia* are not responsible for the views expressed or conclusions drawn by individuals in their respective articles. The editors take the responsibility of any editorial mistake.

Every issue will invite one or more scholars to present their views on any subject they desire and we will endeavour to publish these papers with minimal changes in this section. The purpose of this is to both bring out new ideas as well as to share with the next generation of archaeologists the ideas and opinions of eminent archaeologists. In future issues we will also incorporate a section where we will also publish letters to the editor as well as critical comments on the previously published articles creating a healthy atmosphere for academic debate. The society would like to ask all its members to help us make this a successful endeavour.

*Ancient Asia* is a source for both scholars and students of timely and authoritative syntheses of research from all fields of archaeology.