

Parth R. Chauhan

Citizenship: U.S.A.

Date and Place of Birth: August 30, 1973; Ahmedabad, India

Languages: English, Gujarati, Hindi

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Current Position: Postdoctoral Research Associate

EDUCATION

- 2004 **Ph.D.** University of Sheffield (U.K.) - Archaeology
Thesis Title: “*Site-formation studies and palaeolithic investigations in the Siwalik hills of northern India: Reconsidering the Soanian Industry*”. [Dissertation Supervisor: Dr. R. W. Dennell]
- 1998 **M.A.** Deccan College Post-Graduate & Research Institute (India). Archaeology (1ST Class).
Dissertation Title: “*An Overview of Palaeolithic Research in South Asia From 1970 to 1998: Chronology, Lacunae, and Future Scope.*”
[Dissertation Supervisor: Dr. V.N. Misra]
- 1998 **Seminar in Geoarchaeology.** Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA.
- 1996 **B.A.** Rutgers University (USA) - Anthropology

RESEARCH & FIELD EXPERIENCE

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (2000-2004)

Doctoral Project: Discovered ~28 Pleistocene palaeolithic and Plio-Pleistocene fossil sites in the Siwalik hills. Involved extensive foot-surveys, qualitative lithic analyses, photography, geological observations, and mapping. Documented known sites for comparative purposes. [4 years]

PRINCIPAL CO-INVESTIGATOR (2003 – ongoing)

Project: “*Search for hominid fossils and stone tools in the Narmada Valley*”. Objectives include re-investigations at Hathnora, the only known Middle Pleistocene fossil hominid site in South Asia, supplemented with further explorations for *in situ* stone tools and hominid fossils. [ongoing]

VOLUNTEER EXCAVATOR (2002-2003)

Attirampakkam (Tamil Nadu, India). Assisted with the large-scale excavations, photography, artifact cataloguing, section drawing, and actualistic studies at this multicultural palaeolithic site. Taught and conducted experimental flintknapping exercises. [6 weeks]

ARCHAEOLOGIST (2001; 1998-99)

Richard Grubb & Associates (Cultural Resource Management). Duties involved excavation, artifact photography, illustration, processing, analyzing, comparing, and detailed analysis of faunal remains from sites ranging from Archaic-Woodland prehistoric to early Historic in eastern North America. [11 months]

STUDENT EXCAVATOR (1996 – 1998)

Worked on all aspects of fieldwork at numerous important localities ranging from Lower Palaeolithic to the Chalcolithic during M.A. degree: *Balathal* (Chalcolithic), *Isampur* (Early Acheulian), *Hathnora* (fossil hominid site), and various geological investigations in Maharashtra. Work involved exploration, large-scale excavation, collection, mapping, illustration, report writing, photography, analysis, and formulating research proposals. [2 months]

TEACHING & RELATED EXPERIENCE

TUTOR (1999 – 2000)

University of Sheffield. Tutored Undergraduates in 1) *Archaeology & Anthropology of the Earliest Humans* and 2) *Bioarchaeology & Geoarchaeology*.

PRINCIPAL ORGANIZER (1996 – 1998)

Initiated “*Archaeo-Talk*” (Graduate Student discussion group). Topics involved human evolutionary theories, origin and decline of the Harappans, and various thesis/dissertation topics.

PUBLISHED PAPERS

Book Review of “*The Fossil Trail. How We Know What We Think We Know About Human Evolution*”. (I. Tattersall). New York: Oxford University Press. (For *Paleoanthropology* - Paleanthropology Society) (under review).

“Modes of raw material availability and associated exploitative strategies during the Palaeolithic occupation of the Himalayan foothills, northern India” (as an invited chapter in an edited volume on lithic raw material exploitation (B. Adams & B. Blades, Eds.) (under review).

“Traditional methods, new strategies, and recent discoveries regarding palaeolithic site surveys in the sub-Himalaya, South Asia”. In an edited volume devoted to palaeolithic site surveys. (M. Skele, Ed.) *University of Illinois Press*. (under review).

“Human Origins Studies in India: Position, Problems, and Prospects.” Proceedings of *National Conference on Human Origins, Genome, and Peoples of India*. Organized by The Anthropological Survey of India. March 22-24, 2004 (under review).

2004. **“A Review of the Early Acheulian evidence from South Asia”**. *Assemblage* 8. (The Sheffield Graduate Journal of Archaeology). April. Web address: (<http://www.shef.ac.uk/assem/issue8/chauhan.html>).

2004. **“The technological organization of the Soanian palaeolithic industry: A general ‘typo-qualitative’ description of a large Core-and-Flake assemblage in surface context from the Siwalik Hills of northern India”**. Invited for *Issues and Themes in Anthropology: A Festschrift in Honour of Prof. D.K. Bhattacharya* (V.K. Srivastava and M.K. Singh, Eds.). Delhi: Palaka Prakashan: pp. 287-336.

2004. **Book review** of *“Lower Palaeolithic Small Tools in Europe and the Levant”*. Edited by J.M. Burdukiewicz and A. Ronen. B.A.R. International Series 1115. 2003. Oxford: Archaeopress. (for *Paleoanthropology*).

2003. **“An Overview of the Siwalik Acheulian & Reconsidering Its Chronological Relationship with the Soanian – A Theoretical Perspective”**. *Assemblage* 7 (The Sheffield Graduate Journal of Archaeology). April. Web address: (<http://www.shef.ac.uk/assem/issue7/chauhan.html>)

2002. **“The Impact of Geological and Anthropogenic Processes on Prehistoric Sites on Siwalik slopes: A Case Study”** (P.R. Chauhan and G.S. Gill) in *Bulletin of the Indian Geologists Association*. Vol. 35(2): 71–81. Department of Geology, Panjab University. Chandigarh.

2001-2002. **“Temporary Shelter in the Sub-Himalaya: An Ethno-archaeological Observation”** in *Puratattva* 32 (2001-2002). Journal of the Indian Archaeological Society. New Delhi.

PAPERS/BOOKS UNDER PREPARATION

Experimental Flintknapping in a South Asian Context: Recent Results and Future Scope. (invited for the Attirampakkam volume).

The Mode 1 Evidence from South Asia with Special Reference to Soanian Assemblages. (*Journal of World Prehistory* – in submission).

The Narmada hominin locality revisited: implications of fresh geological, palaeolithic, and palaeontological investigations. (R. Patnaik, **P.R. Chauhan**, M.R. Rao, and other co-authors).

Evidence of Symbolic Behavior From Upper Pleistocene Deposits in the Narmada Basin of central India. (with several co-authors).

The Paleocological Background to Hominin Evolution in the Indian subcontinent: A review of regional patterns of adaptation during the Pleistocene. (for a proposed volume on South Asian paleoenvironmental adaptations. (**P.R. Chauhan** and R. Patnaik, Eds.)).

Book: Pursuing Cultural Heritage Studies in South Asia. (**P.R. Chauhan** and T. Garge). *Global Cultural Heritage Handbook Series.* World Archaeological Congress. Kluwer Academic-Plenum Press.

Book Review: “The Stone Age Record of Australia” by S. Holdaway and N. Stern (for *Paleoanthropology*).

Co-editing: “Pleistocene Paleoenvironments and Hominin Adaptive Strategies in southern Asia” (**P.R. Chauhan** and R. Patnaik, Eds.).

EDITORIAL & RELATED EXPERIENCE

SERIES CO-EDITOR (2004 – ongoing)

Global Cultural Heritage Handbook Series. World Archaeological Congress. Kluwer Academic-Plenum Press. Co-editor with four additional editors.

COLLOQUIUM CO-ORGANIZER (2006) for “*Transitions in the Palaeolithic*” at IUSPP Congress (Lisbon, Portugal): Organized by M. Camps, **P.R. Chauhan**, and C. Szmidt.

RESEARCH GRANTS

2002 Project: “*Search for hominid fossils and stone tools in the Narmada Valley*” from the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY (jointly awarded with Dr. R. Patnaik (Principal Investigator), Dr. A. Sahni, and Dr. M.R. Rao).

2002 Project: “*Siwalik Hominid Project*“ (Phase I of doctoral fieldwork from the AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (awarded to David Cameron).

AWARDS

USNC-INQUA Travel Grant to attend and present poster at the XVI INQUA Congress in Reno, Nevada. July 22nd– 29th, **2003**.

1st Place for “Best Paper Presentation” at Geosyneregy 2003. Organized by Dept. of Earth Sciences. Indian Institute of Technology. Roorkee, Uttar Pradesh. April 5-6, **2003**. Roorkee, Uttar Pradesh, India.

The Learned Societies Travel Grant (University of Sheffield) to attend and present 2 papers at the Fifth World Archaeological Congress in Washington, D.C. June 21st – 26th, **2003**.

“Best Paper Presentation” Award in Prehistory section at P.C. Biswas Centenary National Seminar- People of India- Anthropological Perspective. Organized by Dept. of Anthropology, Delhi University. March 29-31, **2003**, Delhi, India.

1st Place for “Best Poster Presentation” in the Anthropological and Behavioral Sciences Section at Indian Science Congress, January 3-7, **2004**, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India.

Travel Grant to present a poster and paper at the annual Paleoanthropology Society Meeting. March 30-31, **2004**, Montreal, Canada.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

2005

National Workshop on Perspectives in Palaeoanthropology: Methodological and Conceptual Issues. March 15 – 17, 2005, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India.

Presented: “Paleolithic Archaeology of the Siwalik hills, northern India”. The Stone Age Institute. February 28th. Bloomington, Indiana.

2004

Presented: “Dynamic adaptations on a dynamic landscape: Hominin Behavior in the Siwalik hills of India”. Department of Anatomical Sciences, Stony Brook University, October 20th.

69th Annual Conference of Society for American Archaeology. March 31 – April 4, Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

Paper: “Understanding the Soanian Industrial Complex: preliminary excavation results and geoarchaeological perspectives from the Siwalik Hills, northern India”. at *The Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society*. March 30-31, Montreal Quebec, Canada.

Poster: “The Narmada hominin locality revisited: implications of fresh geological, palaeolithic, and palaeontological observations”. (with R. Patnaik) at *The Annual Meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society*. March 30-31, Montreal Quebec, Canada.

Invited Paper: “The Significance and the Potential of Human Origins Studies In India: Position, Problems, and Prospects of Research” at the *National Conference on Human Origins, Genome, and Peoples of India*. Organized by The Anthropological Survey of India. March 22-24, 2004, India International Centre, New Delhi, India.

Recent Advances in Biosocial Anthropology, March 10-12, 2004. Organized by Department of Anthropology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India. (National Seminar)

Poster: “Formation Processes of Palaeolithic Sites in the Siwalik Region, Northern India” at the *Indian Science Congress*, January 3-7, 2004, Panjab University, Chandigarh. India.

2003

Poster: “Formation Processes of Palaeolithic Sites in the Siwalik Region, Northern India” at the *XVI INQUA Quaternary Congress: Shaping the Earth, A Quaternary Perspective*, July 23 – 30, 2003, Reno, Nevada, USA.

Paper: “Modeling hominid mobility during the Pleistocene in the Siwalik region of South Asia” at the *Fifth World Archaeological Congress*. June 23 – 26, 2003, Washington, D.C. USA.

Paper: “The Identity Crisis of the Soanian: To be or not to be?” at the *Fifth World Archaeological Congress*. June 23 – 26, 2003, Washington, D.C. USA.

Paper: “Geological and geomorphological contexts of prehistoric sites in the Siwalik region of South Asia” at *Geosyneregy 2003*. Organized by Dept. of Earth Sciences. Indian Institute of Technology. Roorkee, Uttar Pradesh April 5-6, 2003, Roorkee, Uttar Pradesh, India.

Paper: “A fresh look at “typo-techno-morphological” variability within the Soanian lithic tradition: An inter-regional perspective” at *P.C. Biswas Centenary National Seminar- People of India- Anthropological Perspective*. Organized by Dept. of Anthropology, Delhi University. March 29-31,2003, Delhi, India.

2002

Paper: “Geoarchaeology of a Soanian factory Site: Preliminary Observations” at the annual conference of the *Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies*. December 19-22, 2002. Ernakulum, Kerala, India.

Fourth South Asian Geological Congress: Quaternary Geology and Geodynamics of South Asia. November 13-15, 2002. GEOSAS-IV. India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Organized by the Geological Survey of India.

Geographical Information Systems: Geoscientific & Geotechnical Applications- A Case Study Approach organized by Department of Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India. October 23-24, 2002. (Seminar/Workshop)

Department of Science & Technology Short Course on Paleoseismology & Earthquake Geology organized by Department of Geology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India. October 8-11, 2002. (Seminar and Field Excursion)

Remote Sensing and GIS Applications organized by Mining Engineers’ Association of India (Himalayan Chapter) in association with State Council for Science, Technology & Environment. June 15 – 16, 2002, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, India. (Workshop)

Paper: “The Effects of Faulting and Erosion on Palaeolithic Sites on the Siwaliks Frontal Slopes” at the National Seminar on Natural Hazards and their Mitigation. March 8-11, 2002, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India.

2000

Paper: “Chasing Himalayan Ghosts” at a Research Student Seminar, Department of Archaeology & Prehistory, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, U.K.

1997

National Conference on River Valley Cultures & Narmada Valley. Organized by Indira Gandhi Manav Sangralaya (Museum of Man). July 1997. Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. India.

MEMBERSHIPS

- ◆ American Anthropological Association (U.S.A.)
- ◆ Indian Society for Prehistoric & Quaternary Studies (Life Member) (INDIA)
- ◆ The Paleoanthropology Society (U.S.A.)
- ◆ The Prehistoric Society (U.K.)
- ◆ Rajasthan Studies Group (U.S.A.)