

# Prof. R. C. Sharma Chair for Art & Archaeology

A Special Course on *Indian Stone Age in Global Perspective*, was organized by Prof. Vidula Jayaswal, with Prof. Prakash Sinha, of Allahabad University, between December 10 and 19, 2019. The twenty-one participants who joined the course came from different parts of the country, - Gauhati (IIT), Kolkata (University), Haryana (University),



Guest Participant Prof. Atul Tripathi sharing his views at the Inaugural Session

Allahabad (University), and Varanasi (BHU, and affiliated colleges). Besides, post-graduate and Ph.D students, teachers and officers of Archaeology and Ancient History, also attended this course.

The guest speakers Prof. Ranjana Roy, Professor Emeritus, University of Calcutta deliberated upon, evidence of early man in East Africa, and the Prehistory of Bengal, while Prof. Rama Krishna Pishipati, Dean and Head of Sanskrit and History, Faculty, Kanchipuram University, talked about the Early Stone Age of Tamilnadu. Prof. Vidula Jayaswal delivered a series of lectures on world and Indian Stone Age, while Prof. Prakash Sinha conducted practical classes on Stone-tool making and Micro-wear studies.



Prof. Vidula Jayaswal explaining stone tool



Prof. Ranjana Roy talking on Cradle of Man in Africa



Prof. Rama Krishna Pishipati delivering lecture on Prehistory of Tamilnadu





Tool knapping training by Prof. Prakash Sinha



Stone tools prepared in class

In view to impart field training an excursion to prehistoric rock-shelter site at Morhana Pahar, (near the border of Mirzapur and Rewa districts), was organized. The region which had provided natural shelter to prehistoric man from about 30,000 years ago to the end of the Stone Age, provided first-hand experience of Stone Age habitat to the participants.



Learning Micro-wear technique in Geology Department, BHU



Learning tool drawing from Shri Ajay Chakrawal





General view of the rock-shelters



Prof. Vidula Jayaswal explains prehistoric site during excursion



The team resting after the survey in a prehistoric rock-shelter



The successful completion of the course was marked by the Valedictory Session which was presided over by Prof. Kamal Sheel, former Rector, Banaras Hindu University, who gave Course Certificate to the participants.



Dr. Subhash Yadav, Regional Archaeological Officer, receiving certificate of course from Prof. Kamal Sheel in the valedictory session



The Chief Guest, Coordinators and Participants after the completion of the course



The report on excavations at Sarswati Udyan prepared by Prof. Vidula Jayaswal, was finalized and sent to press for printing.

The survey of parts of Mirzapur and Chakia districts which were conducted during 2918-219, as part of the project, - Archaeological remains in periphery of Varanasi, is under preparation. The field study has brought to light a number of epigraphs, sculptures and remains of ancient settlements in the form of mounds. The data is being analyzed and documented as to form a report entitled, - *Routes and Early Historic Settlements of Greater Varanasi: Discoveries and Interpretations*.



Dr. Meera Sharma documenting antiquities



Inscribed pillar site Belharka