A two days workshop on “The Suitable Dating Techniques for Indian Rock Art” and book release function was organized by the Rock Art Unit of the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi (IGNCA) on 25th -26th February, 2014. The workshop was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr. Subas Pani, Trustee, IGNCA. At this occasion he also released the Proceedings of the International Conference of Rock Art 2012. Dr. Pani in his speech stressed on the need for understanding rock art in a holistic perspective. The inaugural function was chaired by Shri Chinmaya R. Gharekhan, President IGNCA. The welcome address and introduction to the event was given by Mrs. Dipali Khanna, Member Secretary, IGNCA. The key note address was given by renowned scholar Shri B. M. Pande. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. B. L. Malla, Project Director.

The two volumes of the proceedings of the international conference on Rock Art 2012 released by the Chief Guest at this occasion were Rock Art Studies (Vol. I & II). These volumes contain selected articles representing rock art from all over the world. In the first volume, papers related to concept, methodology, context, documentation, and conservation are included. In the second volume papers related to the interpretation of rock art are included. The main focus of the present publication(s) is on the recent developments in rock art research, documentation, and preservation.

The scholars from different parts of India participated in the two days workshop. The senior scholars like Prof. A. Sundara (Karnataka), Prof. Ravi Korisettar (Karnataka), Dr. C.M. Nautiyal (Lucknow), Dr. Somnath Chakraverty (Kolkata), Dr. N. Chandramouli (Pondicherry), Dr. G. L. Badam (Maharashtra), Prof. R.C. Agrawal (Delhi), Dr. K. K. Chakraverty (Delhi) and Dr. Kanti Pawar (Maharashtra) presented their papers and discussed about the problems related to dating rock art of India.

The students from Institute of Archaeology, Archaeological Survey of India and National Museum Institute attended the workshop and raised some of their concerns on dating of the rock art in India. Their active participation in the workshop was a good sign for this emerging discipline.

The participation of the renowned scholars and students enriched the deliberations of the workshop and helped in working out the basic approach/planning for dating rock art sites in India.
The following recommendations were made by the participating scholars in the workshop:

1. The rock art should be studied in relation to environment, and archaeological background of the study area.
2. Geographical zones of rock art should be recognized to understand the spatial distribution of rock art sites.
3. Rock art sites should be listed out and the rock art of each zone therein should be classified on thematic grounds from individual sites.
4. Relative chronological sequence should be reconstructed and with the corroborative scientific dates, each site should be given a time range.
5. Use of biological data in the appreciation of rock art chronology as an aid towards the dating techniques.
6. For employing latest scientific techniques in the dating of rock art it is suggested that type-sites should be identified from different parts of the country. List of such identified sites should be prepared by scholars working in respective regions.
7. While collecting samples from these sites for dating purpose, Dr. C.M. Nautiyal, Birbal Sahni Institute of palaeobotany, Lucknow should be part of the team so that the samples are collected properly and the chances of contamination is avoided.
8. Those sites which are un-protected should be considered for the sampling purpose to avoid legal problems.
9. Establishment of AMS-C\textsuperscript{14} in India may take a year or two to get grounded. In the meantime, the Identification of appropriate sites may be initiated.
10. Protocol(s) for sample collection for the C\textsuperscript{14} as well as U-Th series dating and treatment may be discussed now so that we are ready by the time the laboratories are fully equipped.
11. Appropriate project should be initiated including interdisciplinary experts from paleontology, Anthropology etc.
12. IGNCA should come forward for collaborative dating projects on Indian Rock Art.
13. IGNCA being the premier organization in India having a separate Unit of Rock Art should initiate steps in forming a group of experts from a multi-disciplinary background to formulate a work plan to address the dating problem of rock art.
14. IGNCA should publish the proceedings of the workshop on priority basis while looking into the importance and relevance of the papers presented in the workshop. Its publication can act as a road map for the researchers working in the field of the rock art dating in India.
Lighting of Lamp: Inaugural Function

Dr. Subas Pani, Chief Guest, Trustee, IGNCA
Felicitation by Mrs. Dipali Khanna, Member Secretary, IGNCA
Shri Chinmaya R. Gharekhan, President IGNCA
Welcome by Member Secretary, IGNCA

Book on Rock Art Studies: Vol-I & II
released by Dr. Subas Pani, Chief Guest, Trustee, IGNCA
in the Inaugural Function
Welcome address and introduction to the event
by Mrs. Dipali Khanna, Member Secretary, IGNCA

Vote of thanks by Dr. B. L. Malla, Project Director
Chief Guest Speech by
by Dr. Subas Pani, Chief Guest, Trustee, IGNCA
in the Inaugural Function

Key note address by Shrii B. M. Pande
Delegates and Students from Institute of Archaeology Archaeological Survey of India in the workshop
Prof. A. Sundara presenting his paper

Dr. Ravi Korisettag presenting his paper
Dr. C. Nautiyal presenting his paper

Dr. K. K. Chakraverty sharing his views