

Report  
on

# Book Release

and  
Workshop  
on

## Suitable Dating Techniques for Indian Rock Art

(25th and 26th February, 2014)



### BOOK RELEASE and Workshop on Suitable Dating Techniques for Indian Rock Art

25th -26th February, 2014



कार्यक्रम रूपरेखा

| आवृत्ति                      | समय/दिनांक    | स्थान  |
|------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| उद्घाटन एवं पुस्तक का विमोचन | 25 फरवरी 2014 | संयोजक |
| शैक्षिक सत्र-1               | 25 फरवरी 2014 | संयोजक |
| शैक्षिक सत्र-2               | 25 फरवरी 2014 | संयोजक |
| शैक्षिक सत्र-3               | 25 फरवरी 2014 | संयोजक |
| समापन                        | 26 फरवरी 2014 | संयोजक |

| Programme Schedule                        |                       |  |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| Date & Time                               | Venue                 |  |
| 25th February 2014<br>11:30 AM - 01:00 PM | Conference Room, IGCA |  |
| 25th February 2014<br>03:00 - 05:30 PM    | Conference Room, IGCA |  |
| 25th February 2014<br>08:00 - 09:30 PM    | Conference Room, IGCA |  |
| 26th February 2014<br>09:00 - 02:00 PM    | Conference Room, IGCA |  |
| 26th February 2014<br>05:00 - 05:30 PM    | Conference Room, IGCA |  |



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REPORT  
ON



BOOK RELEASE AND WORKSHOP ON  
“SUITABLE DATING TECHNIQUES FOR INDIAN ROCK ART”

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 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> 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:

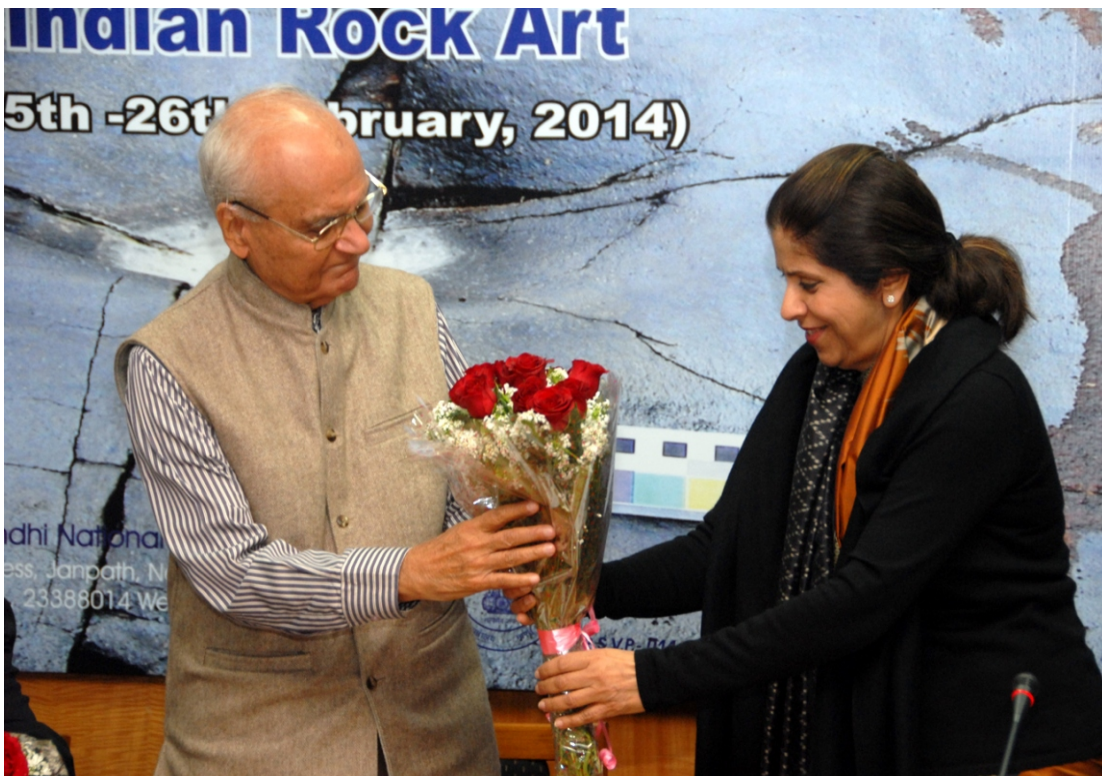
1. The rock art should be studied in relation to environment, and archaeological background of the study area.
2. Geographical zones of rock art should be recognized to understand the spatial distribution of rock art sites.
3. Rock art sites should be listed out and the rock art of each zone therein 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<sup>14</sup> 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<sup>14</sup> 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.



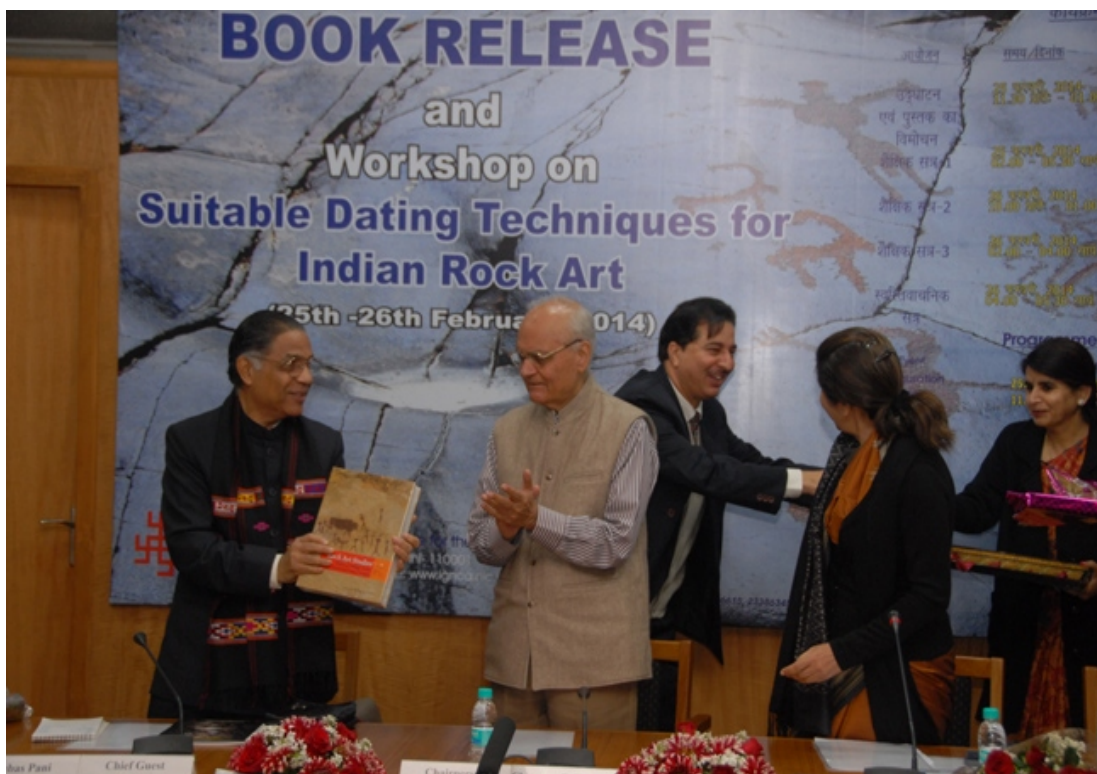
**Lighting of Lamp: Inaugural Function**



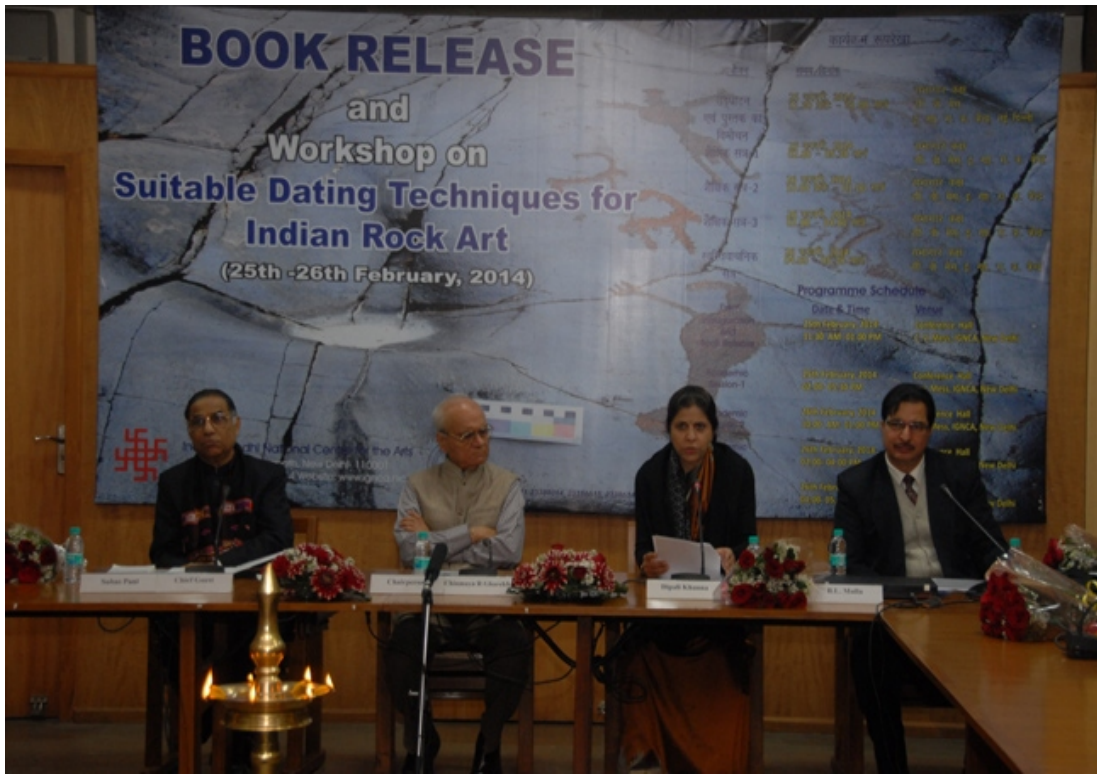
**Dr. Subas Pani, Chief Guest, Trustee, IGNC A  
Felicitation by Mrs. Dipali Khanna, Member Secretary, IGNC A**



**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, IGNC



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**



**Delegates and Students from Institute of Archaeology  
Archaeological Survey of India in the workshop**





Prof. A. Sundara presenting his paper



Dr. Ravi Korisetar presenting his paper



**Dr. N. Chandramouli presenting his paper**



**Dr. G. L. Badam presenting his paper**



**Dr. C. Nautiyal presenting his paper**



**Dr. K. K. Chakraverty sharing his views**



**Valedictory Session**



**Group Photograph of Delegates and other participants**