

Tata Institute of fundamental research

ASET Colloquium

Archaeogenetic Research at Rakhigarhi
and Its Implication on Indian History

Prof (Dr.) Vasant Shinde,
former Vice Chancellor, Deccan College

Friday, May 26 2023 at 4 p.m. (AG-66, TIFR Mumbai)

YouTube Live Link:

<https://youtube.com/live/Fr9JUzm4pcA?feature=share>



The objectives of the research at the largest Harappan city of Rakhigarhi in Haryana were to understand the cultural transformation from the beginning to the Urban phase, roughly from 5500 to 2600 BCE, and understand the genesis and complexion of the Harappan people. Excavations at the site have yielded convincing evidence for the local origin and gradual transformation in the material culture from c. 5500 to 2600 BCE, which is mainly reflected in their architecture and pottery. The aDNA of the Harappan people done for the first time reveals that the Harappans possess distinct genes and reveal that neither the Iranian farmers nor the Steppe pastoralists have contributed to the development of the Harappan genetic history. The 3-D reconstruction of the Harappan people, done for the first time through Craniofacial Reconstruction Research, reveals continuity in the human complexion for almost five thousand years. These aspects of Harappan history will be presented and explained through illustrations.

Prof (Dr.) Vasant Shinde is a renowned archaeologist and museum expert in South Asia. With a strong academic background and extensive teaching experience, he has supervised numerous students and conducted research projects in collaboration with international scholars and institutes. Prof. Shinde specializes in the Protohistory of South Asia, Maritime History, and Field Archaeology. He has directed excavations at significant sites across India, including the prestigious Rakhigarhi Harappan site in Haryana. His contributions to the development of the National Maritime Heritage Museum at Lothal are highly regarded. Prof. Shinde's research includes ground-breaking work on the DNA analysis and Craniofacial Reconstruction of the Harappan people, recognized as a major achievement in genomics. He has published extensively, authored books, edited journals, and delivered lectures worldwide. In addition to his academic pursuits, Prof. Shinde has held administrative positions and actively promotes public awareness and the protection of cultural heritage.



Follow us on Social Media