

## ASET Colloquium

Peopling of India: evolutionary and genetic perspective

by Dr. Thangaraj K (Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad,)

Friday, 3 February 2017 from 16:00 to 17:00 at AG-66

### Description

India represents one of the largest sources of human diversity, comprising of more than four and half thousand anthropologically well-defined populations. We have been studying the genetic aspects of large number of Indian populations to get insight about their complex origin, health and disease. Using the complete mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) sequence information, we have demonstrated that the India inhabited by the descendants of the very first modern humans, who migrated out-of- Africa about 60,000 years ago. Subsequently, we have established several ancient and recent migrations into and out of India. Our results show that genetic patterns in Indian populations have been shaped by a long history of genetic isolation between different groups that predates the caste system in place in India during colonialism. During the presentation, I would focus on various migratory events, how the Indian populations are different from rest of the world and what would be its implications.

### About the Speaker:

Dr. K. Thangaraj is a Senior Principal Scientist and Group Leader at the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad. His main research interests are; origin of modern human, cardiovascular diseases, mitochondrial disorders, male infertility, sex determination, and Genetic basis of Ayurveda prakritis. He has published more than 225 research articles. He is an elected Fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences, Indian National Science Academy, National Academy of Biological Sciences, and elected member of Guha Research Conference. He is the recipient of Raman Research Fellowship, Rashtriya Rathan Award, UK-India Education and Research Initiative Major Award, Life-time achievement Award, etc. He is a Board Editor of Mitochondrion; Academic Editor of PLoS ONE; associate Editor of BMC Medical Genetics; BMC Genetics and member of the Editorial Board of the journals -Clinical Genetics, Investigative Genetics, Human Biology, etc. He was the President of the Indian Society of Human Genetics (2011 – 2015) and the founder of the Society for Mitochondrial Research and Medicine.