

**National Seminar
on
Rock Art Research in India
(2nd – 4th May, 2019)**



A National Seminar on Rock Art Research in India was organised on 2nd – 4th May, 2019 at IGNCA, New Delhi as a part of the Dr. V. S. Wakankar Centenary celebrations. Dr. B. L. Malla (Project Director, IGNCA) delivered welcome address and gave introduction to the seminar. The seminar was inaugurated with lighting the lamp by the Chief Guest Prof. Nageshwar Rao (Vice-Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University), Keynote Speaker Prof. Susmita Pande (Former Chairperson, National Monument Authority) and Shri Baba Yogendra Ji (Patron and Founder Member, Sanskar Bharti). Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi (Member Secretary, IGNCA) was Chairperson on the occasion. He felicitated the dignitaries. Thereafter, the brochure of the seminar was released. Prof. Susmita Pande in her keynote address elaborated on rock art as a documentary of our history and culture. Prof. Nageshwar Rao and Shri Baba Yogendra Ji in their addresses refreshed the memories and contributions of Dr. V. S. Wakankar. Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi in his speech discussed about Dr. V. S. Wakankar's multifaceted personality and emphasised on commencement of courses on Rock Art studies for students and young scholars.



Releasing the Seminar's Brochure

All the session's presentations concluded with fruitful discussions by the scholars. In the valedictory session, most of the scholars shared their valuable suggestions and some

recommendations were proposed for further research activities in rock art of India which includes: Workshop and seminar should be separately organised on Megalithic Art in India. Archaeo-astrology has to study on megalithic sites; Rock Art Workshop in vicinity of the Rock Art site itself as on the spot showing associated objects to archaeologists and public at large; If possible, comprehensive annual journal should be released that covering various aspects of rock art in India and abroad too. In this purpose proper editorial board should be formed. We should work on reviving the journal "***Shaila Chitra***" started by Dr. V. S. Wakankar; Regional seminars, awareness programmes and annual conference in collaboration with various institutions, schools and colleges to be arranged. Orientation workshop on rock art should be arranged for interdisciplinary team members; We may work on minor research project, training of scientific application for rock art study to encourage young scholars to submit the research paper; A uniform standardised form should be developed to document the rock art sites of India systematically. Online bibliography and databank to be developed that may help the scholars from all over the country; We should focus on resolving the chronological issues and dating of rock art sites by doing multidisciplinary study and proper training should be given on new scientific application that may help on capacity building; We have to tell local people about the importance of rock art site for preservation and conservation. Awareness should be spread among the forest department officers so that the sites can be preserved from vandalism. Postage, eco-tourism centres and heritage walk to be arranged in commemoration of Dr. V. S. Wakankar in the Rock Art Sites.



A Group Photograph of the Participants

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