



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS

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# WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS-2023

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## CRD6- ARCHAEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

### ROUND TABLE TITLE:

## PALAEOANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF SOUTH ASIA: STATUS, DEVELOPMENTS, TRENDS, AND ISSUES

CHAIR AND MODERATOR: PROF RAJAN GAUR

### ABSTRACT

Scientists from diverse disciplines, such as geology, anthropology, archaeology, genetics, etc., have considerable interest in the origin and subsequent evolution of humankind not only from a morphological but also from a cultural viewpoint. It intrigues researchers as to when, where, and how the various stages of evolution, from our early Primate ancestors to the modern humans, progressed. It has been the endeavour of the scientific community to unravel the mysteries related to the chronology, morphology, phylogenetic relationships, material culture, distribution, palaeoenvironments, palaeopathology, diversification, and lifeways of ancestral hominins.

The discovery of new archaeological sites and materials are providing insights into the hitherto unexplored aspects of the lifeways of ancestral humans. Recovery of several unknown hominin fossils, since the beginning of this Century, from various parts of the world have helped to piece together some missing pieces of jigsaw puzzle of human past. Recent developments in the field of palaeogenomics, palaeopathology have shed fresh light on ancestral hominins and opened new avenues to explore the phylogenetic relationships, trauma, diseases, migration, and diversification of our species. However, the task is far from complete. Though new fossil and artefact findings provide answers to some questions but also raise several others. Thus, an enquiry into human physical and cultural past is an ongoing process with great hope for unscrambling several aspects of the mystery of human origins and evolution.

The proposed roundtable aims to delve on the developments in the fields of palaeoanthropology and prehistoric archaeology with respect to the fossil finds, archaeological findings, palaeoenvironments, palaeogenomics, palaeopathology, and other related aspects of ancestral humans.

**Keywords:** Archaeology, Palaeoanthropology, Palaeoenvironments

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