

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Prateek Chakraborty

Designation: Scientific Assistant, Palaeontology Laboratory

Official Address:

Department of Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune 411 006 Maharashtra India

Residential Address:

Fl. no 4, Padmavati Residency, 153 Pratik Nagar Road, Mohanwadi, Yerwada Pune 411 006, Maharashtra India

Qualifications:

School: The Future Foundation School, 3 Regent Park, Kolkata -7000 40

(Affiliated to the Council For The Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi)

2003

Secondary School: The Future Foundation School, 3 Regent Park, Kolkata -7000 40 (Affiliated to the Council For The Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi)

Graduation:

B.A. In History Presidency College, 86/1 College Street Kolkata 700 073

(Affiliated to the University of Calcutta)

Post Graduation:

M.A. In Archaeology Deccan College Post Graduate & Research Institute, Pune 411 006

Thesis Submitted: “Cattle through Space and Time: An Archaeological Perspective” involved an exploration of the biomechanics of Cattle Domestication in the Neolithic, and the various cultural constructs that have grown out of the symbiotic relationship between man and domestic cattle: Biomorphometric comparisons of fossil and modern-day specimens

Doctorate:

Ph.D in Archaeology, Deccan College Post Graduate & Research Institute, Pune 411 006

Thesis Submitted: “Impact Of Animal Exploitation As Seen In The Bones From Chalcolithic Sites In Western India, With Special Reference To Skeletal Microstructure.”

An in-depth look at the biological mechanics of domestication in terms of changing skeletal tissue structures in a select population of sheep and goat from archaeological sites in western India. This study involved the microscopic and crystallographic analysis of animal bones and several different levels of tissue structure, comparing populations from different environmental conditions and time scales to isolate the changes brought about by the domestication process.

Miscellaneous training received:

- Basic training in Bioarchaeology and Palaeontology as a Guest Scholar at Deccan College between September 2010 and January 2011
- Handled fossil Collections at G.S.I. Repository, Calcutta as part of M.A. Thesis (2009-2010)
- Assisted Dr. Vijay Sathe in SEM micrography and X-Ray Diffraction/ Fluorescence studies at TIFR, Mumbai from 2010-2012.
- Sample preparation and processing for IRMS Stable isotope analysis under Dr. Prosenjit

Ghosh, IISc Bengaluru, 2011.

- Sample preparation, processing and calibration/analysis for IRMS Stable Isotopes of Dental specimens, under Dr. Supriyo Chakraborty, IITM Pune, 2017-18
- Sample preparation methods, processing and analysis of Fossil material (skeletal and dental) for AMS Dating, under Dr. Pankaj Kumar and Dr. Rajbir Sharma, IUAC New Delhi, 2019.

Field Experience:

Farmana 2008-09 (Rohtak dist., Haryana, India;)

Conducted by:

- Deccan College PGRI Pune, India
- M.D University Rohtak, India
- The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature, Kyoto, Japan Training received:
 - Excavation of Habitation Sites
 - Excavation of Burial Sites
 - Identification of Cultural deposits and material
 - Identification of Faunal Remains at archaeological sites
 - Recovery of Plant Remains through Flotation
 - Pottery and ceramic analysis

Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park 2010-2011 (Dist. Godhra, Gujarat)

Conducted by:

- The Archaeological Survey of India, Vadodara Circle (Under the Direction of Dr. K.C. Nauriyal, Superintending Archaeologist)

Work carried out:

- Assisted in defining season objectives for excavation and long term objectives for site development, museology, and visitor management
- Field supervisor for excavation and clearance of Scindia Palace Complex (“Maratha Mahal”)
- Initial report and interpretation
- Preliminary recording and documentation of antiquities
- Recommended objectives and potential areas of interest for subsequent season of Excavation

Rakhigarhi (2014-15) Dist. Hisar, Haryana

Conducted by:

- Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute
- State Department of Archaeology, Haryana

Work Carried out:

- Horizontal Excavation of Mound no. 6
- Index trench Excavation at Mound no. 4
- DNA Sampling from animal bones
- Examination of select bones with unusual taphonomy

Explorations along the Narmada and Tawa River Valleys and in the Mahadeo hills region (Dist Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh)

Conducted by:

- Department of Humanities, IISER, Mohali, under the direction of Dr. Parth Chauhan

Work Carried out:

- Explorations along Narmada and Tawa Rivers and in Hoshangabad district along the Mahadeo Hills
- Lithic Analysis
- Identification of Fossils

Excavations at Rakhigarhi 2015-16, (Dist. Hisar, Haryana)

- Step trench excavation at mound no. 2
- Burial Excavation at mound no. 3
- Faunal and skeletal analyses carried out

Previous Work Experience:

- Freelance Illustration and Graphic design (from 2006 to 2008)
- Temporary project associate, Archaeological Survey of India, Vadodara Circle (employed on daily wages as „Skilled Technician”) for office and reference work, including writing and editing of the Champaner-Pavagadh Excavation Report (2010-11) and the UNESCO World Heritage Site dossier for Rani-ki-Vav, Patan, Gujarat. From Nov 2012 to January 2013.

Other Academic/Professional Engagements:

Presidency College, Calcutta:

- Seminar Secretary and Departmental Librarian (2007-8)

Deccan College PGRI, Pune:

- Secretary, Workshop Committee (2011 to 2012)
- Co-ordinator, Nature Club (2014-present)
- Editing and data collection for Annual Report 2014-15 published during the visit of Hon'ble HRD minister.
- Co-ordinator, Students' Mess Committee (2016- present, under supervision of Prof. Shailendra Mohan, Dept. of Linguistics)

Palaeontology Laboratory, Deccan College Pune:

- Tabulation and Data processing for various Laboratory Projects
- Equus taxonomy project under Dr. Vijay Sathe
- Photodocumentation of Fossil material from Hunsgi-Baichbal and preliminary spatial analysis of the same with relation to site distribution
- Digitisation of faunal data from Kurnool Caves
- Analysis of Fossils from the site of Amonda, Narsinghpur district, Madhya Pradesh (With Prof. Vijay Sathe, Deccan College)
- Analysis and Photodocumentation of the Fossil Collection from Hunsgi-Baichbal valley (2013)
- Photodocumentation of Fossils from Manjra Valley (2013):
- Re-examination, cleaning and documentation of fossils from the Kurnool Caves, Andhra Pradesh (2014).
- Large Vertebrate Palaeontology of Central India with special reference to River Valley sites (with Dr. Parth Chauhan, IISER, Mohali and Prof. Vijay Sathe) 2013-15.
- "Colonisation, Prevalence, and Contribution of the Microbial world to Fresh Water Fossilisation". With Prof. Vijay Sathe (Dept. Of Archaeology, Deccan College) as Principal Investigator and Dr. Varsha Kelkar-Mane as a Co-Investigator from the Deptt of Biotechnology, Univ of Mumbai. 2015-16
- Osteon behaviour and taxonomy: significance of Bone Histology in Archaeozoology. With Prof. Vijay Sathe (Principal investigator), Dr. Marco Zedda, and Dr. Vittorio Farina (Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Sassari) (2016- ongoing)
- *Palaeontology of the Manjra valley, Dist Latur and Beed, Maharashtra*. Funding received from the University between 2003-2010. (With Prof. Vijay Sathe as principal investigator. 2016-2018)
- RTI and photogrammetry of fossils , July 2017

Ancient Asia: Journal of the Society for South Asian Archaeology

- Associate Editor, 2015- present

Center for Extramural Studies, University of Mumbai

- Exhibit designs for Palaeontology section, at the Rocks, Fossils and Minerals Exhibition, 2010
- Exhibit designs and Resource Person for Palaeontology section at Rocks, Fossils and Minerals Exhibition, January 2012, also assisted in convening of Palaeontology workshop at the same event
- One-day workshop on Archaeology and Palaeontology, as part of Archaeology Day, December 2013
- Exhibit designs and Resource Person for Palaeontology section at Rocks, Fossils and Minerals Exhibition, December 2013
- One-day workshop on Archaeology and Palaeontology, as part of Archaeology Day, December 2014
- Exhibit designs and Resource Person for Palaeontology section during International Science Congress, January 2015
- Exhibit designs and Resource Person for Palaeontology section- Rocks, Fossils and Minerals Exhibition December 2015
- Exhibit designs and Resource Person for Palaeontology section- Rocks, Fossils and Minerals Exhibition December 2016

Suhana Spice Museum, Yawat, Pune (Maharashtra)

- Project Consultant/ Coordinator for museology, exhibit planning and visitor management (2011- 12)

Sharma Center for Heritage Studies, Chennai

- Involved in the development of permanent Palaeontology and Fossil displays at the Center, since October 2013.

Pimpri-Chinchwad Science Center, PCMC, Maharashtra, India

- Consultant for the refurbishment and development of Paleontology and Evolution displays. Feb 2017 (with Mr. Animesh Chatterjee)

Terton Humanities-

- Digitisation methods for archaeological evidence: July 2017- present, with Ms. Rashmi Gajare (Director) and Mr. Mithilesh Kulkarni (Partner, Nyansa trust)

Ongoing Work/Projects:

- Taphonomy of small vertebrates in Barn Owl Pellets (with Prof. Vijay Sathe, Deccan College, Pune)
- Chronology of Fossil sites in the Peninsular Region of India, with Dr. Pankaj Kumar,

IUAC New Delhi

- Taphonomy of large mammal carcasses in natural, undisturbed environments (with Dr. Parth Chauhan, IISER, Mohali and Prof. R. Sukumar, IISc Bangalore)
- Global Extinction Mapping project, South Asia (under the Zoological Survey of London with Dr. Samuel Turvey as Principal Investigator)
- Microstructural differences in the bones of Modern and Pleistocene Fauna (With the Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Sassari, Sardinia)
- Animal Domestication and environmental stress
- Landmark point studies in skeletal morphology
- Fossil Histology projects
- Taxonomic analysis of *Hexaprotodon* subspecies with special reference to microstructure and crystallography

Participation in National Conferences, Symposia and Workshops:

- **Annual Conference for the Indian Society for Prehistory and Quaternary Studies (ISPQS), November 2012, Vadodara, Gujarat, India.**
 - *Paper title: “Physiognomy and Rock Art: A case study of bovids from the prehistoric rock art of India.” (With Prof. Vijay Sathe)*
- **Resource person for a workshop on “Fossils and Palaeontology” for School Children, organized at the Sharma Center for Heritage studies in October 2013. Conducted the practical segment and the mock excavation for the participants.**
- **Attended the Robert Bruce Foote Memorial Seminar, organized at Deccan College, November 2013**
- **Palaeontology Exhibition as part of Archaeology Day, 10th and 11 th December 2013, Organised by the Center for Extra Mural Studies, University of Mumbai**
- **Resource Person at the Exhibition of Rocks, Fossils and Minerals organised jointly by the Center for Extra-Mural Studies, University of Mumbai, and The Instucen Trust Mumbai. (January 2014)**
- **Annual Conference for the Indian Society for Prehistory and Quaternary Studies (ISPQS), October 2014 at Pune, Maharashtra, India**
 - *Paper title: “Stegodon and associated fossil vertebrate remains from Amonda (Narsinghpur District, Madhya Pradesh)” (With Prof. Vijay sathe, Dr. Parth Chauhan, Shri O.P. Mishra, and Dr. Saleem Shaikh)*
- **Prof. V.N. Mishra Felicitation Seminar at the Dept. Of Archaeology, Deccan College on 17th August 2015. Organised Jointly by Deccan College and**

ISPQS, Pune.

- **Poster Presentation on: “Relics of Ancient Fauna: Vertebrate Palaeontology in the 21st century”.**
- **Research Students’ Seminar, Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, November 2015.**
 - “Significance of Bone histology in Archaeozoology” at Research Student's Seminar, November 2015. Organised at Deccan College PGRI, Pune.
 - “Large mammalian Quaternary Megafauna in the Indian Subcontinent: Sites and Distribution” at the Research Methodology Seminar at the Department of Archaeology, Deccan College, December 2015.
- Organised Lecture Series on World Palaeontology Day, 2018 by Dr. Kantimati Kulkarni
- Organised Lecture Series on World Palaeontology Day, 2019, by Dr. Ajit Vartak.

Participation in International Conferences, Symposia and Workshops:

- International Council for Archaeozoology (ICAZ), September 2014, San Rafael, Mendoza province, Argentina.
- Session organizer, Session no. 27 “FAUNA, SUBSISTENCE AND CULTURAL DYNAMICS OF SOUTH ASIAN ARCHAEOLOGY: ANCIENT BONES AND NEW DATA IN THE 21st CENTURY” (With Prof Vijay Sathe and Dr. Arati Deshpande-Mukherjee)
 - Paper title: “*Environmental Stress in the Bones of Domestic Animals: A Fresh Look into the Processes of Domestication and Exploitation.*” o Paper title: “*Microvertebrate taphonomy in the pellets of Tyto alba (Barn Owl).*”(with Prof. Vijay Sathe)
- **5th international conference of the Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA) 2014, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India (February 2014)**
 - *Paper title: “Animal motifs in the reliefs at sanchi: implications of stylistic variation in anatomical forms.” (With Mr. Yong Jun Kim)*
- Resource Person for Exhibition-cum-workshop on Palaeontology and Fossils, as part of the International Science Congress, January 2015, Organised at the University of Mumbai.
- Joint Indo –Uk Symposium on Late Quaternary Megafaunal Extinctions: February 2015 in conjunction with the Zoological Society of London, Organised in Pune, Maharashtra

Assisted in organising the proceedings with Prof. Vijay Sathe, co-organiser

- **Paper title: “Megafaunal mammals from the Late Quaternary: Sites and Distribution.”**

- Attended the International Conference of “Ancient Science and Technology - Retrospection and Aspirations (A.S.T.R.A.- 2016)” from 9 to 11 January 2016
- International Symposium of Palaeohistology, New Jersey, 9th July 2017
 - Poster Presentation: Osteon Arrangement and Taxonomy: Significance of Bone Histology in Archaeozoology.

Lectures delivered:

Teaching in Deccan College, for M.A. and P.G. Diploma Semester II

- **Arc 202 Methods in Archaeology**
- **Arc 204: Science in archaeology (Palaeontology Practicals)**
- **Arc 508: Archaeological Science (Palaeontology Practicals)**
- **Arc 304: Environmental Archaeology (Bioarchaeology)**

Special Lectures delivered:

- Resource person for One Day Seminar on Archaeology for School Teachers of Pune city, July 2013: An introduction to Palaeontology, its subject matter, development and relevance to archaeology”.
- Lecture delivered to the students of Unit 3-B, Symbiosis International School, Pune:
“An Introduction to Palaeontology”, February 2014
- Lecture delivered to the students of Unit 3-B, Symbiosis International School, Pune:
“An Introduction to Palaeontology”, February 2015.
- Special Lectures given to groups from Dinesh Modi Institute, Mumbai, and the Center for Extra Mural Studies, University of Mumbai on Palaeontology and its relevance to Archaeology, during field trips to Deccan College Pune.
- Lecture on “Bones and Soil: An introduction to Palaeontology” at the Sprouts Environmental Trust, Mumbai; 28th November 2015 as part of Earth Mela on the occasion of World Soils Day..

Academic/Professional Interests:

- Technological Applications in Archaeology and Digital Humanities
- Public Archaeology and education
- Archaeological Sciences
- Experimental Archaeology