



DECCAN COLLEGE POST-GRADUATE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY UNDER SECTION 3 OF UGC ACT 1956)

PUNE 411006

**DEPARTMENT OF ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY
BHAGWAN SHITALNATH CHAIR FOR JAIN ARCHAEOLOGY**

(FUNDED BY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR JAIN STUDIES, A DIVISION OF AMAR PRERANA TRUST, PUNE AND
VARDHAMANA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, USA)



**ANNUAL REPORT OF
BHAGWAN SHITALNATH CHAIR FOR
JAIN ARCHAEOLOGY**

DECEMBER 2024 - NOVEMBER 2025

**Annual Report of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology
(December 2024-November 2025)**

Publisher

Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University), Pune

All rights reserved

© Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, 2025

Editor

Dr. Shrikant Ganvir
Coordinator
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

Associate Editor

Oshin Bamb
Assistant Professor,
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

Assistant Editor

Dhananjay Khandare
Research Assistant,
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

Front cover photo credits: Fragment of a shikhara of a Jain Temple from Devagiri, Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI, Pune.

Back cover photo credits: Main Building of Deccan College PGRI, Pune. Photo by Dr. Saurabh Singh



DECCAN COLLEGE POST-GRADUATE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE

(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act 1956)

PUNE 411006

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

(Funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Amar Prerna Trust, Pune and Vardhman Charitable Foundation, USA)

Annual Report of

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

2024-2025

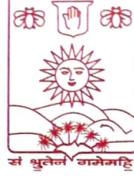
Contents

Contents	Page No.
1. Message by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A)	iii
2. Message by the Director, International School for Jain Studies	iv
3. Message by the Head, Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology	v
4. Preface by the Coordinator of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology	vi
5. Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology	1
6. Second National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology	5
7. Prof. H. D. Sankalia Monthly Lecture Series on Jain Heritage	11
8. Second Prof. M. A. Dhaky Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Art	16
9. Prof. S. B. Deo Memorial Annual Lecture on Jain Studies	17
10. Special Lecture on the occasion of World Heritage Week	20
11. Research Projects of the Chair	21
12. Internship Programme in Jain Art and Archaeology Bibliography Project	28
13. Internship cum On-Job-Training Programme Documentation of Jain remains displayed in Museums of Maharashtra and Telangana	30
14. The Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on Jain Art, Architecture, History and Heritage	32
15. Activities by Oshin Bamb	35
16. Activities by Dhananjay Khandare	40
17. Activities by Prashant Goyal	43
18. Work done by Vishal Rathod	45

Message by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A)

DECCAN COLLEGE
Postgraduate and Research Institute
Pune-411 006, India

(Declared as Deemed to be University
under Section 3 of U.G.C. Act, 1956)



डेक्कन कॉलेज

पदव्युत्तर व संशोधन संस्था
पुणे-४११ ००६, भारत

(विद्यापीठ अनुदान आयोगाच्या १०५६ च्या
अधिनियमातील प्रभाग ३ अनुसार अभिमत विद्यापीठ घोषित)

S. No. 2025/

044

Prof. Prasad Joshi
Vice-Chancellor (A.)

Message

The Year 2024-25 ended with great satisfaction for me so far as the progress of the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology is concerned. The Chair completed its 2nd year with remarkable success which is evident from the diverse activities carried out under the auspices of the Chair.

Prof. H. D. Sankalia, the former Director of Deccan College, paved a path for Jain Studies to be followed by a generation of students, scholars and researchers. His dream is certainly coming to reality with the establishment of a special dedicated Chair in our Institute. Through the channel of invited lectures series, internship programme, On-Job-Training, quiz competition and other activities, the Chair was successful in bringing a pool of experts, scholars and students together in the Institute.

I wholeheartedly appreciate the efforts taken by the Coordinator, Dr. Shrikant Ganvir, the Assistant Professor, Oshin Bamb and the Research Assistant, Dhananjay Khandare in organising various academic activities. My appreciation is also due towards Vishal Rathod and Prashant Goyal for various help they rendered for the activities of the Chair.

Last, but not the least, on behalf of the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune and my personal behalf, I express my thanks to Dr. Jasvant Modi, Dr. Abhay Firodia, Dr. Shugan Jain, Dr. Sulekh Jain and Dr. Shrinetra Pandey for their financial support, moral encouragement and their precious presence on various occasions. I look forward to their continued support in the future.

With best wishes,

Date: 19/01/2026

(Prof. Prasad Joshi)
Vice-Chancellor (A.)

Tel: (O) +91-20-2651 3203; (M) +91 74983 97113
Email: vc@dcpune.ac.in; prasad.joshi@dcpune.ac.in (P)
Website: www.dcpune.ac.in

Message by the Director, International School for Jain Studies



अहिंसा परमो धर्मः* International School for Jain Studies

(A Division of Amar Prerana Trust)
C/o Firodia Institute of Philosophy, Culture and History
Parwadi, Maval, Pune - 412106 (Maharashtra), INDIA
website: www.isjs.in | e-mail: info@isjs.in



January 12, 2026

Dear Faculty and Students,

Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute,
Deemed to be University, Pune

The International School for Jain Studies 'ISJS', warmly extends its greetings!

We are delighted to acknowledge the remarkable initiatives of the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology at Deccan College during December 2024 – November 2025. The wide range of activities undertaken this year reflects both academic excellence and a spirit of collegial engagement.

The Chair's courses, seminars, and lecture series have provided a strong base for continued inquiry, while the annual and special lectures offered fresh insights into Jain heritage. Ongoing and completed research projects highlight the Chair's commitment to advancing original scholarship. Equally noteworthy was the internship and on-the-job training program, which successfully imparted learning through practical experience and nurtured future scholars.

Beyond these academic endeavors, the intercollegiate quiz and the celebration of World Heritage Week created vibrant spaces for dialogue and community participation. We also warmly appreciate the collective contributions of four faculty members, whose work reports exemplify dedication, rigor, and collaborative spirit.

ISJS deeply values this momentum and remains committed to supporting such initiatives. We look forward to the continued exchange of ideas and extend our warmest wishes for the success of your upcoming initiatives.

With sincere regards,

Dr. Shrinetra Pandey
Director

Registered office: "Sanmitra", 132B/2A, Ganeshkhind Road, Pune – 411 007, INDIA

*Non-violence is the Supreme Spiritual Value (Dharma)

Message by the Head, Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology

DECCAN COLLEGE

Post-Graduate & Research Institute
Pune - 411 006, India.

(Declared as Deemed to be University
under Section 3 of U.G.C. Act, 1956)



डेक्कन कॉलेज

पदव्युत्तर आणि संशोधन संस्था
पुणे - ४११ ००६, भारत.

(विद्यापीठ अनुदान आयोगाच्या १९५६ च्या
अधिनियमातील प्रभाग ३ नुसार अभिमत विद्यापीठ घोषित)

S.No. 2024/ 396

Dept. of A.I.H.C. & Archaeology

Message

It is with pleasure that I am writing this message for the Annual Report of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology under the aegis of the Department of AIHC & Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate & Research Institute, Pune. The only academic Chair of its kind globally, established through the vision of the International School for Jain Studies (Amar Prerana Trust) and the Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA, the Chair fulfils a vital role in Indian archaeology.

Honouring a distinguished Legacy, the Chair continues the exemplary work of pioneering scholars such as Prof. H.D. Sankalia, Prof. S. B. Deo, Dr. A. P. Jamkhedkar, Prof. M. S. Mate, Prof. Shobhana Gokhale and Dr. Viraj Shah. By corroborating Jain texts with material remains, the Chair provides a holistic understanding of our cultural past.

Bridging research and public engagement through a scientific approach and diverse initiatives—including National Seminars, Certificate Courses, and site-centric research—the Chair has ignited fresh enthusiasm for Jain Art and Archaeology. These efforts successfully bridge the gap between academic rigour and public awareness.

The Department of AIHC and Archaeology is happy to support the Chair's mission and looks forward to its continued contributions to the field in the coming year.


19.01.2026

(Prof. Shahida Ansari)
Head,
Department of AIHC & Archaeology,
Deccan College, Pune -6

Preface

Dr. Shrikant Ganvir

Coordinator,

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology.

This year marks another academic milestone achieved by Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. The authorities of International School for Jain Studies (a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune) and Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA had entrusted the task of dissemination of Jain Studies with special reference to art, architecture, archaeology, history and heritage of Jainism to the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune, by establishing Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. This responsibility is being shouldered by the team of the Chair by organising various activities for creating awareness about heritage among enthusiasts, commoners and academicians specifically about Jain Art and Archaeology.

Various academic activities like the National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology, Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology, Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on Jain Art, Architecture, History and Heritage, several annual and monthly lectures which were initiated as a tribute to eminent scholars such as Prof. H. D. Sankalia, Prof. S. B. Deo, Prof. M. A. Dhaky, etc. along with other academic representations of the domain of Jain Art and Archaeology by the team members have been held.

The Second National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology received a good participation of young scholars coming from various educational institutions, with an equally good participation of more than a hundred people who had come from around various places of the country to simply attend and actively participate in the seminar.

The second batch of Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology has also been successfully completed, with an active participation in presentations, questions and answers, study tour and other activities.

Apart from the above-mentioned activities, the Internship Programme on Jain Art and Archaeology has brought about a significant compilation of bibliography of Jain Art,

Architecture, Archaeology, Heritage, History and Epigraphy. Training was imparted to the students of MA in A.I.H.C. and Archaeology, who made a detailed documentation of the Jain remains displayed in select museums of Maharashtra and Telangana, towards the completion of their Internship cum On-Job-Training component. The minor research projects on Muktagiri and Anjaneri are also in good state of progress, led respectively by the Assistant Professor and Research Assistant of the Chair. In near future, the Second Annual Workshop on Jain Heritage would be organised.

We express our sincere gratitude to the authorities of International School for Jain Studies (a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune) and Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA, for their valuable guidance and constant support. We take this opportunity to express sincere gratitude to Dr. Abhay Firodia, Chairman of ISJS, Dr. Shugan Chand Jain, President of ISJS, Dr. Sulekh Chand Jain, Former President JAINA, USA, Dr. Jasvant Modi, President, Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA and Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Director of ISJS for their undulating trust, support and precious guidance. We express sincere thanks to Prof. Prasad Joshi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A) of the University for his continued cooperation and able leadership. We are thankful to Prof. Shahida Ansari, Head, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology for her encouragement and support. I express my sincere thanks to Oshin Bamb, Dhananjay Khandare, Prashant Goyal and Vishal Rathod for their kind support.

We express our gratitude towards Mrs. Anita Sonwane, Registrar of the University. We thank the Account Section, Academic Section, Administrative staff, teaching and non-teaching staff of the University for their support. Whatever the Chair undertakes as its academic activity, is generously supported by each one of these above-mentioned people and systematically executed by the whole team. We expect a similar positive response and good wishes for the next year's academic activities too.

Last but not the least, we express sincere thanks to the students of the Deccan College for their active support to the academic activities of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology for the dissemination of awareness about Jain Heritage.

Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology

There are multiple courses on Jain Studies that are being run by various academic institutions. Most of these certificate or diploma courses deal with philosophy, language, literature and religious aspects. The need for a course dedicated to the investigation of Jain Art, Architecture and Heritage was felt by the Chair. The first batch of Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology was successfully completed in December 2024 and the second batch was commenced in January 2025.

Jainism has thrived in India since a long time and has left numerous traces of its existence, some being continued as sacred place of worship and some being reduced to unnoticed ruins. This course on Jain Art and Archaeology is in keeping with the recent approaches of studying the past, focusing on the processes dealing with the emergence, dissemination, changes and transformations in Jainism through historical and archaeological investigations. The important features of this course are its focus on the history and chronology of Jain monuments, monasticism, Jain architecture, iconography of the Tirthankaras and Yaksha-Yakshis and other deities, important Jain inscriptions, role and nature of patronage and various other factors which led to the dissemination of Jainism in varied parts of the country. A field trip to an important Jain heritage site may be held. The course will also examine the changes in different aspects of ancient society in the socio-economic and religious backdrop, which played a significant role in shaping Jainism in India.

Objectives of the course are:

- To offer an opportunity to students to understand the rich Jain literary and philosophical heritage of India's past and also in the present society.
- To introduce the students to the History of Jainism and Jain pilgrimage centres in India.
- To acquaint the students with a basic outline of History and Archaeology of Jainism and its relationship to various sources of study.
- To study the art, architecture, archaeology and history of Jainism through analytical and contextual insights.

- To get acquainted with the various processes involved in the emergence and spread of Jainism in ancient and medieval India.

- To give an idea of the various processes that have went on to impact the ancient and later day nature of Jainism.

On successful completion of the course, students are able to understand the nature of various processes involved in the emergence and development of Jainism. The students also get information to comprehend multiple aspects of the archaeology of religion in general and Jainism in particular. The students would also be able to acquire knowledge of Jain art and architecture, various Jain pilgrimage centres and Jain heritage sites.

It is a 4-credit course and spans over 60 hours of lectures delivered by scholars on topics and regions of their expertise. The course received popularity from around the various states of India. A total of around forty-one participants were given admission for this course. The inaugural lecture of the course was delivered by Dr. Shugan Jain, President, International School for Jain Studies (a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune), on the topic 'Introduction to Principles of Jainism'.

The other eminent scholars who delivered lectures for this certificate course include Prof. Ashok Kumar Singh (Former Professor, B. L. Institute of Indology and Senior Research Fellow, International School for Jain Studies, Pune), Dr. Shrinetra Pandey (Director, International School for Jain Studies, Pune), Dr. Rajashree Mohadikar (Former Faculty, Department of Sanskrit and Prakrit, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune), Gopal Joge (Assistant Professor, Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI, Pune), Anchit Jain (Assistant Professor, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, Delhi), Dr. Gauri Bedekar (Research Assistant, Firodia Institute of Philosophy, Culture and History, Pune), Dr. Renuka Porwal (Course Convener of Jain Art and Archaeology at Department of Ancient Indian Culture, Sathaye College, Mumbai), Dr. Pawan Jain (Visiting Faculty, National Museum Institute, Delhi), Dr. Shubha Majumder (Superintending Archaeologist, ASI Vadodara Circle, Vadodara), Dr. Ashish Ranjan Sahoo (Assistant Superintending Archaeologist, Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Institute of Archaeology, Noida), H. P. Nitin (Independent Researcher), Prof. E. Siva Nagi Reddy (Chief Executive Officer, Pleach India Foundation, Hyderabad), Dr. Neeru Misra (Former Head, Department of Museum Studies, National Museum Institute (Deemed to be University, New Delhi), Dr. Manjiri Bhalerao (Head of the Department and Associate Professor, Balmukund Lohia Centre of Sanskrit and

Indological Studies, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune), Dr. Amruta Natu (Assistant Curator, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune), Dr. Priya Thakur (Associate Professor and Coordinator, Department of Studies and Research in History and Archaeology, Tumkur University), Dr. Manisha Puranik (Assistant Professor, Balmukund Lohia Centre of Sanskrit and Indological Studies, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune), Dheepika Karunakar (Independent Researcher, Madurai), Rohit Chakote (UGC Senior Research Fellow, Department of Sanskrit and Prakrit, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune), Dr. Anjay Dhanawade (Assistant Professor), Rahul Maurya (PhD Research Scholar, University of Delhi, Delhi), Deepti Kulkarni (Independent Researcher, Pune), Prashant Goyal (Research Fellow). Dr. Shrikant Ganvir (Coordinator, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology) and Oshin Bamb (Assistant Professor, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology) also delivered multiple lectures.

The course also includes internal assignments in the form of subjective and objective assessments, write-ups, abstracts, reviews, presentations, etc. A study tour was also organised at Ellora to give practical on-site experience to the participants of this course. Towards the end of the certificate course, a final examination has also been held, the result of which is under progress. The students have given their positive feedback about the course and have considered it to be very useful. A total of 66 lectures were delivered by the scholars. The course has reached completion in September 2025. The total number of participants enrolled for this batch was 41.

Study Tour of the Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology:

A study tour of the Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology was planned on 1st August 2025. The whole day was spent on giving on-site training to the participants of the course. The Jain caves at UNESCO World Heritage site of Ellora, District Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar (formerly Aurangabad), Maharashtra were studied and understood in their context of space and time. The iconography, art, painting, architecture and other aspects of the Jain tradition were covered in this one-day study tour.



Participants of the study tour at the Jain Caves, Ellora

The Second National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology

The Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune, organised the Second National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology under the aegis of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology on 22nd August 2025. Around thirteen research papers on various aspects of Jainism focusing on Art, Architecture, Iconography, Narratives, Recent Explorations and Textual Traditions were presented by scholars coming from different parts of the country.

Prof. Prasad Joshi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A) of Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune chaired the inaugural function and congratulated everyone for the activities being undertaken by Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. An eminent scholar of Jain Studies and the keynote speaker of the seminar, Prof. Bhagchandra Jain (Former Professor and Head, Department of Pali and Prakrit, Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur), spoke on the development and dissemination of Jain iconography and texts on iconography. He expressed a strong need for undertaking multi-disciplinary approach for studying Jain Art, Architecture, and Archaeology. He, during his lecture, encouraged young scholars to go deeper into every minute aspect for getting the best research outcome. A detailed trajectory of the chronological development of Jain Iconography as reflected through Text and Archaeology, was presented by him. Guest of Honour, Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Director of the International School for Jain Studies (a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune), highlighted the importance of such academic activities and conveyed his wishes for the auspicious *Paryushana Parva*. Prof. Shahida Ansari, Head, Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology, delivered the welcome address and highlighted the important contribution of Deccan College towards the field of Jain Studies, with special reference to the work done by stalwarts like Prof. S. B. Deo, Prof. A. P. Jamkhedkar, Dr. Viraj Shah and others. Dr. Shrikant Ganvir, Coordinator of the Seminar and of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, gave the introductory speech.

Technical Session I

The first technical session, titled Investigating Jainism through Inscriptions and Narratives was chaired by Dr. Manjiri Bhalerao, Associate Professor and Head, Shri Balmukund Lohia Centre for Sanskrit and Indological Studies, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune. Four papers were presented in this session, highlighting significant aspects of Jain narratives and epigraphic records. Oshin Bamb investigated the significance of *Samvat* 1548 through epigraphic records of selected Jain images from Vidarbha and highlighted the significance of this auspicious date. Chaitanya Ashtekar examined two Hale-Kannada inscriptions from Kolhapur region and made an attempt to shed light on Jainism in early medieval Kolhapur. Deepti Kulkarni and Oshin Bamb, in their joint paper, shed light on narrative panels from Omkareshvara temple (a converted Jain temple), Kolhapur and correlated these panels with the Jain *Acharya*. Shrihari Tote in his paper investigated the role of Jain hagiographical narratives in shaping shrines and sanctuaries with special reference to Karakandu.

Technical Session II

The second technical session, titled Understanding the Jain Art and Architecture was chaired by Dr. Maya Patil, Former Head, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Punyashloka Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur. Three papers were presented in this session. Mihir Keshari in his paper examined the presence of Jain icons in Hindu temples in the region of Mewar, Rajasthan and has made an attempt to study this phenomenon in wider context. Aman Pagare in his paper revisited the Jain Caves at Shahada, protected Jain Cave site of the State Archaeology Department of Maharashtra, and re-examined identity of icons and process of intention to claim and reclaim the Jain icons. Dr. Anjay Dhanawade carried out a comprehensive survey of culture and religious landscape of Jainism in early medieval Konkan based on archaeological remains at places such as Sopara, Pendur, etc.

Technical Session III

The third session titled Interpreting the Jain Texts and Visual Art Tradition was chaired by Dr. Shubha Majumder, Superintending Archaeologist, Vadodara Circle, Archaeological Survey of India. Three papers were presented in the session. Dr. Chaitanya Sathe has carried out reappraisal of Naigamesha in Jainism based on art-historical and textual sources and he further connected Naigamesha with Balagrahas. Anchit Jain in his paper, interpreted a 12th century CE illustrated manuscript and shed light on Devasuri and Kumudachandra as narrated through paintings and textual data. Kshitij Jain, in his paper, investigated textual tradition of Jain monastic lawbooks by Chamundaraya and Ashadhara—the non-monastic householders in medieval Digambara Jainism. He shed light on socio-cultural paradigms of medieval Jainism as reflected through Jain monastic law books.

Technical Session IV

The fourth session titled Recent Researches in Material culture of Jainism was chaired by Dr. Ramesh Mulimani, Superintending Archaeologist, Dharwad Circle, Archaeological Survey of India. Three papers were presented in this session. Dr. Yogesh Prabhudesai examined Parshvanatha twin-temples at Ibrahimpur and Bhogoli from Chandgad taluka of Kolhapur. His paper highlighted the architectural and cultural significance of these less-known Jain temples. Rupesh Madkar explored the journey of migration of people and visual culture through paintings. He shed light on this journey with special reference to Gujarat and Phaltan. Prashant Goyal highlighted the presence of multi-religious archaeological heritage in Chanderi region of Madhya Pradesh.

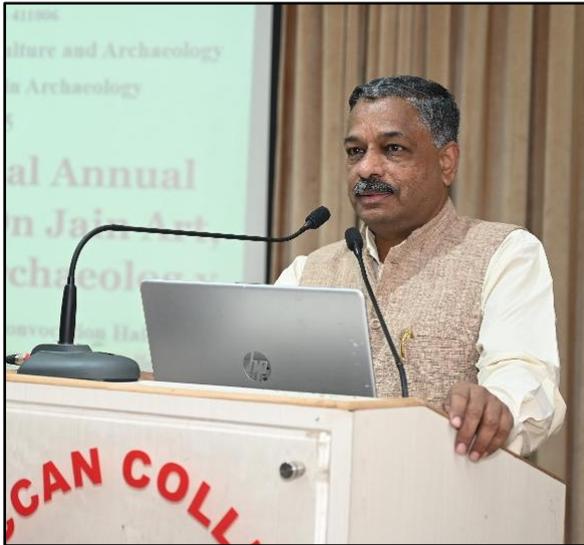
Valedictory Session

Dr. Ramesh Mulimani delivered a special lecture titled Scientific Debris Clearance at Jain Cave no. 4 to Agastyateertha Tank, Badami where he talked about the recent discovery of a stair-way and some relief sculptures near the Jain Cave. Prof. Ashok Kumar Singh, Former Professor, B. L. Institute of Indology, New Delhi and Senior Research Associate, International School for Jain Studies, Pune was invited as the Guest of Honour. He appreciated the themes of the technical sessions and applauded the presenters for their emphasis on primary data and appropriate research methodology. Dhananjay Khandare,

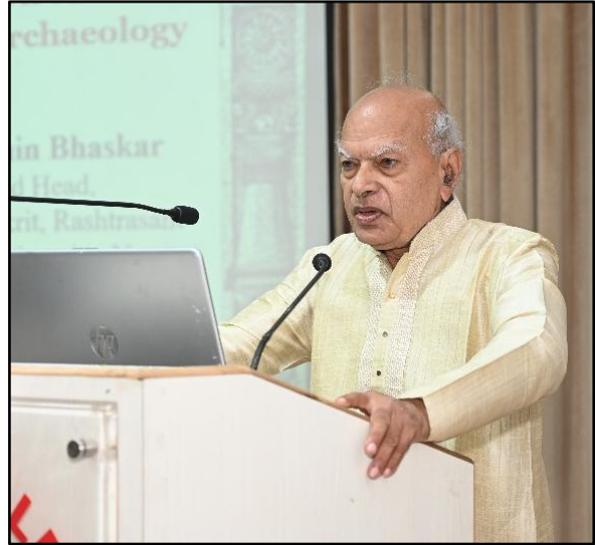
Research Assistant of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, presented the academic report of the seminar. Certificates were distributed to the presenters at the hands of Prof. Ashok Kumar Singh, Prof. Shahida Ansari, Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Dr. Ramesh Mulimani and Dr. Shrikant Ganvir. Dr. Shrikant Ganvir presented a vote of thanks and applauded the efforts put in by the advisory, organising, volunteering and other committees for the successful organisation of this seminar. An abstract book and a memento with a depiction of a *shikhara* of Jain temple from Devagiri (Daulatabad) [presently displayed at the Archaeology Museum, Deccan College, Pune], were given to all presenters as souvenirs. The Seminar was attended by around 125 participants coming from various parts of the country and from Deccan College itself. The objective of the dissemination of awareness about Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology amongst the academia and the commoners, was thus a successful outcome of the seminar.



Inaugural function of the Second National Annual Research Seminar



Prof. Prasad Joshi, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor (A), delivering the chairperson's remarks



Prof. Bhagchandra Jain Bhaskar delivering the keynote address



Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Director, ISJS, sharing his thoughts on the occasion



Prof. Ashok Kumar Singh sharing his thoughts on the occasion



Dr. Manjiri Bhalerao sharing her insights



Dr. Maya Patil sharing her insights



Prof. Shahida Ansari felicitating Dr. Ramesh Mulimani



Participants of the Second National Annual Research Seminar

Prof. H. D. Sankalia Monthly Lecture Series on Jain Heritage

The idea of having this monthly lecture series comes from various reasons. It was thought that a monthly lecture series for Jain Heritage should be started as an activity of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune, which will be held in online mode so that many more enthusiasts from all over the globe who are interested in the domain of Jain Heritages should get benefitted. These lectures by respective scholars would enrich the students and other interested people with a detailed knowledge of varied subjects coming under the domain of Jain Studies.

Prof. H. D. Sankalia, the founder of the Department of Archaeology at Deccan College, played a seminal role in establishing the early presence of Jainism in the Western Deccan through his articles, with special reference to the inscription at Pale. His numerous research publications, lectures and his academic career inspire many future researchers. To commemorate his contribution to academia and to carry forward his legacy, it was decided that this Monthly Lecture Series should be named after him and this would be known as ‘Prof. H. D. Sankalia Monthly Lecture Series on Jain Heritage.’

Till November 2024, already the first three lectures were delivered by Oshin Bamb, Dr. Yogesh Prabhudesai and Dr. Shubha Majumder respectively in the months of September, October and November 2024. Lecture 4 in this series was delivered by Dr. Swapna Joshi (PhD in Humanities and Social Sciences from Indian Institute of Science, Education and Research, IISER) on the topic ‘Painted Stories: The Art of Setha Bhandasara Jain Temple, Bikaner’ on 26th December 2024. The Seth Bhandasara Jain Temple, located in Bikaner’s historic walled city, is a significant religious and cultural site dedicated to the fifth Tirthankara, Sumatinatha. Notably, a series of paintings depicts the miraculous acts of the Dada Gurus, depictions of Tirthankaras, sacred symbols and rituals, reflecting the temple’s integral role in preserving Jain heritage and artistic traditions. The talk delved into the artistic and religious dimensions of the temple and these paintings.

Lecture 5 was delivered by Dr. Kanika Kishore Saxena, Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, affiliated to the University of Delhi, on the topic ‘Kankali Tila: Past and Present’ on 29th January 2025. The lecture

explored the archaeological finds from Kankali Tila, Mathura, a key site for understanding Jainism of early period. The study presented by the speaker critically examined stupa worship, image donation and the presence of multiple Tirthankara images being worshipped simultaneously.

Lecture 6 was delivered by Nikita Singh, Guest Faculty at Motilal Nehru College, University of Delhi, on the topic 'Art and Icons: Investigating Early Medieval Jain Bronze Sculpture from Jharkhand' on 26th March 2025. Jharkhand is widely known for the famous Jain pilgrimage centre of Parshvanatha Hills and showcases an impressive array of Jain sculptural remains from the early medieval period. The artistic genius of the region found its expression through various mode of representations of the art objects, bronze being one of them. Archaeological excavations and explorations have brought to light various bronze images that speak of artistic excellence. These bronzes became very schematic over the centuries and therefore, an investigation of its iconographic programme and classification into different categories becomes essential.

Lecture 7 was delivered by Dr. Yashvender Dhaka, Assistant Professor at Department of History, Vardhaman College, Bijnore. The lecture titled 'Archaeology of the Jain Stupa at Mathura: Epigraphy, Engravers and Issues of Patronage' was delivered on 28th May 2025. The Jain stupa and other remains from Mathura's Kankali Tila throw ample light on multiple facets of contemporary art, architecture, iconography, rituals, patronage, role of women, laity and monastic order. The talk focused upon unravelling the multifaceted corpus of information and interpretation about the site.

Lecture 8 was delivered by Dr. Gauri Bedekar, Assistant Researcher at Firodia Institute of Philosophy, Culture and History, Pune on the topic 'Patronage and spread of Jainism: Archaeological and Epigraphical Evidence'. The lecture, delivered on 25th June 2025, discussed various important things. In the reconstruction of the history of Jainism, archaeological and epigraphical evidence provide information of immense significance. The lecture shed light on the seminal roles of archaeological and epigraphical evidence in comprehending patronage and dissemination of Jainism.

Lecture 9 was delivered by Anchit Jain, Guest Faculty of History at the Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, University of Delhi. The lecture titled 'Guru, Goddess and God at Gyaraspur's Maladevi Jain Temple' was delivered on 30th July 2025. It explored the unique art and architecture of the late 9th century CE Maladevi Jain temple, a towering landmark,

erected on a hill's rock ledge in Gyaraspur, Madhya Pradesh. The talk examined how its iconography and patronage reflect monastic authority, polemical art and a once vibrant Jain goddess tradition within the region's dynamic religious and political landscape.

Lecture 10 was delivered on 28th August 2025 by Kshitij Jain, presently a PhD Research Scholar at the University of Oxford. His lecture titled 'Monastic Jurisprudence and Social History in Medieval Digambara Jainism' examined Digambara Jain lawbooks written between the 11th and 15th centuries to explore how monastic rules evolved. By analysing how these texts reinterpreted older laws, the research shows that they were not just instrumental texts, but also responses to changing social and religious circumstances. These lawbooks offer valuable insights into the shifting practices and concerns of Digambara communities, revealing how monastic rules adapted to meet the needs of the time while reflecting broader cultural and historical developments.

Lecture 11 was delivered by Stuti Jain, a faculty at International School for Jain Studies (a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune), on 23rd September 2025. The lecture titled 'The Shantinatha Basadi at Jinanathapura: A Masterpiece of Hoysala Temple Architecture' introduced a lesser-known temple, dating from the 11th to the 13th century CE, which exemplifies the stylistic and sculptural developments characteristic of Jain temple architecture of that region. Special focus was given to the classification of iconographic elements, including depictions beyond the Tirthankaras, to understand their religious and symbolic significance. The lecture examined the temple's intricate sculptures and architectural features, contributing to a deeper understanding of Jain artistic expression and patronage in medieval Karnataka.

Lecture 12 titled 'Locating Jain Icons in Hindu Temples: A Few Case Studies from Mewar' was delivered on 31st October 2025 by Mihir Kesari, a PhD Research Scholar in Ancient History at the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. The lecture aimed to locate and understand the presence of Jain icons in some of the historical Hindu temples of Mewar region of Rajasthan. Arguing for alternative case specific explanations, which are conscious of evolving histories of the cultural landscape as well as the larger social processes, with a particular emphasis on understanding the social dimensions of inter-religious interactions in the ancient past.

Lecture 13 of this series was delivered by Rohit Chakote, a PhD Research Scholar at the Department of Sanskrit and Prakrit, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune on 26th

November 2025. This lecture was titled as ‘Legacy of Pethada: Contribution to Jain Art, Architecture and Literature.’ Jain history has many well-known patrons or donors such as Kharavela, Kumarapala, Vastupala-Tejapala, Chamundaraya, Rani Abbakka and others who helped Jainism disseminate through their support to art, architecture and literature. Among them, Pethada, a prominent figure of the 13th century CE, is especially remembered for building Jain temples, undertaking extensive pilgrimages and donating manuscripts. Many texts from the medieval period chant his glory, yet he still remains a lesser-known figure. The lecture aimed at showing Pethada’s efforts, legacy and deep dedication to Jainism. The lecture explored the historical, literary and archaeological evidence that tells us about Pethada’s life and work.



Anchit Jain



Nikita Singh



Rohit Chakote



Mihir Kesari



Stuti Jain



Dr. Yashvender Dhaka

Patronage and Spread of Jainism:
Archaeological and Epigraphical Evidence

Dr Gauri Bedekar
gauribedekar@gmail.com



Gauri Bedekar

Dr. Gauri Bedekar

KANKALI TILA: PAST AND PRESENT

Dr. Kanika Kishore Saxena
Assistant Professor of History, Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University.



kanikakishore saxena

Dr. Kanika Kishore Saxena



Kshitij Jain

Prof. M. A. Dhaky Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Art

Prof. M. A. Dhaky, an eminent art-historian is known to all the students of Indology. Through his works on Temple Architecture, Art, Iconography and related aspects, many generations have trained themselves. His writings have been considered very scholarly and respected throughout by the world academia. His contributions specifically to Jain Art and Architecture are very noteworthy, so much so that his bibliography would go beyond hundreds of pages, full of extensive scholarly works. It was decided that to honour the immense contributions and zeal of this great scholar, an annual lecture should be organised to inspire young minds to follow on to his zealous path. The Inaugural Prof. M. A. Dhaky Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Art was delivered by Prof. Parul Pandya Dhar, Professor in South and South-East Asian Art History, Department of History, University of Delhi. Acclaimed for her many scholarly publications, Prof. Dhar did her doctoral research on *toranas* under the guidance of Prof. M. A. Dhaky. Her lecture titled ‘Austerity and Adornment in the Jaina Temples of Karnataka’ was like a true tribute to the works of Prof. M. A. Dhaky. The lecture was organised on the occasion of World Heritage Day on 29th April 2025. Prof. Dhar opened up new perspectives into understanding Jain heritages with multiple examples of sites from Karnataka. This online lecture was attended by many other eminent scholars, teachers, researchers, students and enthusiasts.

Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Pune

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology
under the aegis of
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology
(funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Anand Pratima Trust, Pune
and Yashwantrao Chavan Foundation, SSK)

on the occasion of World Heritage Day
Inaugural Prof. M. A. Dhaky
Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Art

Topic:
Austerity and Adornment in
the Jaina Temples of Karnataka

Speaker:
Prof. Parul Pandya Dhar
Professor in South and South-East Asian Art History,
Department of History, University of Delhi

Date: 29th April 2025
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Google Meet Link:
<https://meet.google.com/hwk-bkik-vkk>

Inaugural Prof. M.A. Dhaky
Annual Memorial Lecture

Austerity and Adornment
in the
Jaina Temples of Karnataka

Prof. Parul Pandya Dhar
Department of History, University of Delhi

Parul Pandya Dhar

Prof. Parul Pandya Dhar, delivering the Prof. M. A. Dhaky Annual Memorial Lecture

Second Prof. S. B. Deo Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Studies

The Second Prof. S. B. Deo Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Studies as an activity of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune was organised on 30th September 2025 from 3 pm to 5 pm at the New Convocation Hall.

Prof. S. B. Deo's monumental work titled 'History of Jaina Monachism from Inscriptions and Literature' brought in a new impetus to Historical and Archaeological Studies related to Jainism. This work brought about a corroboration of the textual data of Jain literature and the inscriptional evidence from around the corners of the country. He was the Director of Deccan College from 1978 to 1985. His numerous research publications, lectures and his academic career inspire many future researchers. To commemorate his contribution to academia, especially to Jain Studies, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology thought of naming this annual lecture after him. The inaugural lecture was delivered last year on 1st October 2024 on the topic 'Haribhadrāsūrī: Contribution to Jain Yoga' by Dr. A. P. Jamkhedkar, Hon'ble Chancellor, Sir J. J. School of Art, Architecture and Design (Deemed to be University under De-Novo Category) and Former Chancellor, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune where Dr. G. B. Deglurkar, Hon'ble former President, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune was present as the Guest of Honour. This year, the second lecture in this series was organised on 30th September 2025. Prof. Maruti Nandan Prasad Tiwari, Former Professor Emeritus, Banaras Hindu University and Former Tagore National Fellow of Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts and a renowned art-historian who has written extensively on Jain Art, Architecture and Iconography. He spoke on 'Landmarks and Sharing in Jaina Art with reference to Khajuraho Jaina Temples.' Dr. Shrikant Ganvir, Coordinator, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, gave the introduction of the programme. Prof. Shahida Ansari, Head, Department of AIHC and Archaeology, delivered the welcome address. Prof. Prasad Joshi, Dr. Abhay Firodia, Prof. Maruti Nandan Prasad Tiwari, Dr. Shrinetra Pandey, Prof. Shahida Ansari, Dr. Shrikant Ganvir joined hands and offered flower garland to the photograph of late Prof. S. B. Deo.

The lecture by Prof. Maruti Nandan Prasad Tiwari highlighted many lesser-known aspects of the Jain temples at Khajuraho. He spoke about various small details of the Jain temples, discussing the iconography, art, and other aspects. Depiction of *yaksha-yakshis*, dreams of Tirthankara's mother, monastic representations, deities which have affiliation with other traditions, Parents of the Jina, etc. were elaborated upon in their contextual understanding study by him.

Prof. Prasad Joshi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A) of the University was present as the Chairperson of the session. He shared his insights on the importance and further prospectus of the domains of Jain Studies. Dr. Abhay Firodia, Chairman of International School for Jain Studies, and the founder of Amar Prerana Trust, graced the occasion with his warm presence. He also shared his wisdom on the importance of Jain Studies on this occasion and highlighted the newly established Amar Prerana Museum as a novel institution of Jain ideas, culture and history. Prof. K. Paddayya, Emeritus Professor, was also present at the occasion. The comparing was done by Oshin Bamb, Assistant Professor, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, while the formal vote of thanks was proposed by Dhananjay Khandare, Research Assistant, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. The lecture was attended by around eighty people coming from around the city and outside, including scholars, teachers, students, enthusiasts and others. After the official completion of the lecture, the audience engaged in an informal question and answer session. This lecture was a true tribute to the memories and academic works of a scholar like Prof. S. B. Deo, whose contributions to Archaeology in general and Jain Studies in particular, have benefitted the academia a lot.



Inauguration ceremony of the Second Prof. S. B. Deo Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Studies



Prof. Prasad Joshi felicitating Dr. Abhay Firodia



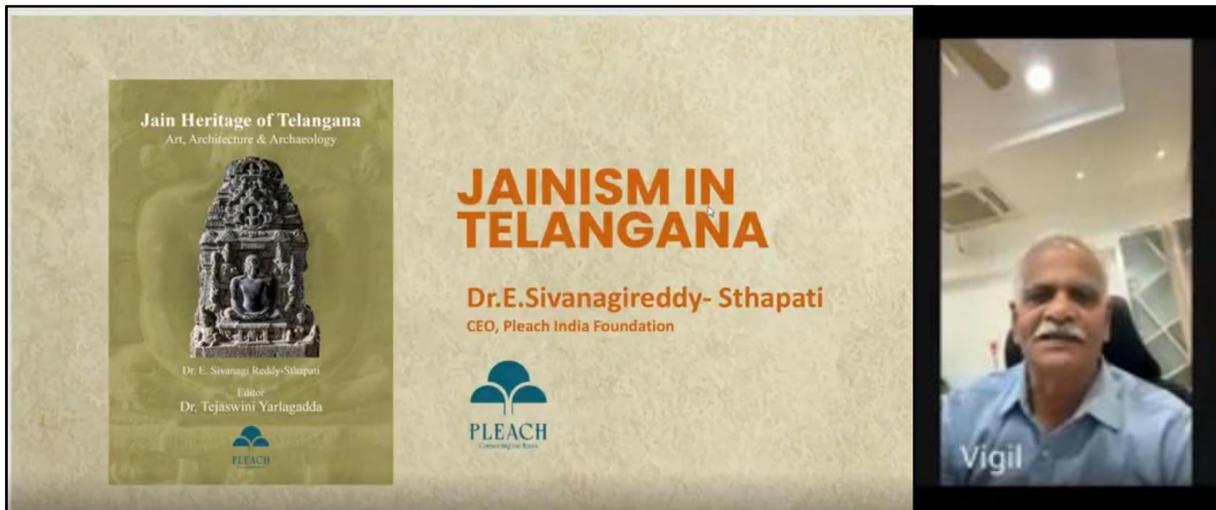
Prof. Prasad Joshi felicitating Prof. Maruti Nandan Prasad Tiwari



Participants of the Second Prof. S. B. Deo Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Studies

Special Lecture on the occasion of World Heritage Week

A special lecture on the occasion of World Heritage Week was organised on the topic Jain Heritage of Telangana on 19th November 2025. It was delivered by Prof. Emani Siva Nagi Reddy, the Chief Executive Officer at Pleach India Foundation and an architect trained as a traditional Sthapati. He shared vast knowledge about the Jain Heritages of Telangana based on decades of his service to the field of Archaeology. Jainism in the region of Telangana is a less-delved topic. Apart from the famous pilgrimage centre of Kollanapaka (Kulpakji) and Aggalayya Gutta, there are many remains of Jain temples made from stone and bricks, Jain images which lay around throughout the region of Telangana. The lecture explored many specimens of excavated Jain sites, Jain images which are now worshipped in a changed religious context and images and other memorials discovered during the exploration by the speaker and his team. The lecture was attended by around eighty participants from India and abroad.



Prof. Emani Siva Nagi Reddy delivering the lecture

Research Projects of the Chair

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology is keen on undertaking various research projects for spreading awareness about the vestiges of Jainism scattered across the country. The research projects essentially focus on surveying, exploring, documenting, analysing the data, inference drawing and publishing the findings for the benefit of the academia and the commoners. Currently, one major research project and two minor research projects are in progress, while one minor research project on ‘A Forgotten Jain Religious Centre of Devagiri: Investigating Coexistence of the Two Sects’ was completed in December 2024 (final report is submitted). The brief details of these major and minor research projects are as follows:

Ongoing Major Research Project

Archaeological Study of Jainism in Kolhapur and its Vicinity (c. 9th to 14th century CE)

Name of the principal investigator: Dr. Shrikant Ganvir

Names of coinvestigators: Oshin Bamb, Dhananjay Khandare

The Kolhapur district, located southwest of Maharashtra, has a rich history and culture of Jainism. The area became an important Jain centre from the 9th to the 12th century CE. During this period, Kolhapur was known as Kshullakapur. The place got the patronage of the Shilahara rulers and their ministers, which helped it to flourish as an important Jain centre. In his time several Jain temples were constructed, which were marvels of architecture of those times. These temples were prime worship places and served as a learning and cultural exchange centres for scholars, devotees and the monastic community from various regions. These Jain temples in Kolhapur are great examples of architectural heritage characterised by intricate carvings, iconography, and the use of locally sourced materials that reflect the craftsmanship and artistic excellence of the time. Most of these temples are still worshipped by the Jain community today and are of great interest to historians and archaeologists studying the region’s rich cultural past. The legacy of the Shilahara dynasty’s patronage, the community patronage and the region’s significance as a centre of Jain religious and cultural activities is a testament to the history of Jainism in Kolhapur. This historical

narrative not only enriches our understanding of Jainism's spread in Maharashtra but also highlights the architectural and cultural contributions of the Jain community in Kolhapur. An approximate number of twenty-four temples, sites with Jain remains, scattered archaeological material related to Jainism of this region would be surveyed and documented. This study will explore the role of geography and other socio-economic factors in developing Jain religious centres and the network of satellite monastic centres in the vicinity of Kolhapur as a central site. This includes the documentation of Jain temples and their topographical and archaeological settings, as well as the documentation of habitational settlements wherever necessary, art and architecture and other archaeological remains at Kolhapur and its surrounding region pertaining to Jainism. Documenting the archaeological remains of Jainism of Kolhapur and its vicinity is crucial for several reasons. Firstly, it helps preserve the rich historical and cultural heritage site, ensuring that future generations can appreciate and learn from these ancient structures. Detailed documentation, including architectural plans, inscriptions, and iconography, provides valuable data for researchers and historians, aiding the study of Jainism and medieval Indian history as a whole. Additionally, thorough documentation can assist in the conservation and restoration efforts, helping to protect these temples from natural decay and human-induced damage. By recording the current state of the temples, scholars can track changes over time and implement strategies to mitigate further deterioration. Lastly, such documentation raises awareness about the significance of the Jain archaeological remains, temples, images and others, potentially attracting more support for their preservation and promoting heritage awareness in the region.

The aims of this project are:

1. To explore the development and formation of Jain temples in Kolhapur and its vicinity, identifying the elements that constitute their archaeological landscape.
2. To comprehensively document the landscape of Jain archaeological remains in Kolhapur and its vicinity, including detailed measurements of structural remains.
3. To analyse religious and architectural spaces within the regional landscape, linking them to a broader social context.
4. To investigate the influence of social, religious, political and economic factors on the formation of Jain sacred spaces in Kolhapur and its vicinity.

5. To understand the continuity and transformations in Jain religious spaces in context of Kolhapur and its vicinity.

Historical records, inscriptions, and other primary sources are being examined to trace the history and development of archaeological records related to Jainism in Kolhapur and its vicinity. Published and unpublished data on early Jainism, Jain Temples in Kolhapur and its close vicinity and surrounding archaeological sites are being reviewed and analysed. Archaeological, architectural, and structural remains of temples will soon be documented (field notes, photography, measurements, and digital illustrations, ground plans and elevations), using advanced instruments. High quality images and videos will be captured to create a visual record for future reference. Additionally, a comparative stylistic study of these art, architectural remains would be done, followed by their description and analysis. Inferences would be drawn thereon.

Ongoing Minor Research Projects

Minor Research Project 1

Serenity in Stone: Unveiling the Sacred Architecture and Iconography of Jain Temples at Muktagiri

Name of the investigator: Oshin Bamb

Jainism in Vidarbha, especially of the medieval period, has been through a lot of continuity and transformations, in terms of rituals, sacred space, monastic order and even the architecture. The rise of pilgrimage centres, which the people of Vidarbha can fulfil their religious needs from, is yet another important feature. The landscape of the region was well explored and utilised to best suit the requirements for claiming the sacred nature for such tirthas. Muktagiri, an important *tirthakshetra*, mentioned in the lines of *Nirvanakanda*, grew on to become a very famous pilgrimage centre not just for Vidarbha, but for Jains coming from all parts of the country. The landscape and scenic beauty were very well used to make the best place for religious and spiritual endeavours. This project would describe the unique partially rock-cut and partially structural cave-temples and fully structural temples at Muktagiri along with the iconographic study of the images present here. Such architectural activities at the site were still well-thought and planned before execution, and this has been further substantiated by the description and study of these religious edifices in this project by

the present investigator. The picturesque location of this group of hill-temples at Muktagiri, in the midst of a dense forest covering the Satpuda mountain ranges, inlaid by the flow of various pristine 24 waterfalls, streams and rivulets, was chosen by the Jain followers for the creation of *Bavana Jinalaya* i.e., a group of 52 Jain temples. Variety of flora and fauna adorn the natural landscape of this place, which got more famous for its sacred and cultural importance amongst the followers of Jainism, especially in the medieval period.

The aims of the project are:

1. To study the development of Muktagiri as a sacred pilgrimage centre for the Jains.
2. To study the iconography and architecture at the Jain temples of Muktagiri.
3. To do photographic and literary documentation of the archaeological material present at the site.
4. To document and understand the narratives, rituals and other beliefs associated with the site.
5. To make site plan and ground plan of selected temples from Muktagiri.

Primary and secondary sources have been referred to get an idea of the previous studies undertaken with respect to the site. Data collection has been done through a thorough documentation of the images, temples, inscriptions and other important remains at the site. For a holistic understanding, site plan and ground plans of selected individual temples have also been made. The collected data is now being analysed to draw inferences and conclusions. The final report is under progress.

Minor Research Project 2

An Archaeological Exploration and Documentation of Anjaneri Jain Temples and Caves

Name of the investigator: Dhananjay Khandare

The Anjaneri Jain Temple Complex, located near Nashik in Maharashtra, India, is an important archaeological site from the 12th century CE. This complex is famous for its ancient Jain caves and temples, which showcase the area's rich cultural and spiritual heritage of Jainism. It features structural and intricately carved cave temples, demonstrating the architectural skill and religious commitment of that time. From an archaeological viewpoint,

the Anjaneri Jain Temple Complex provides valuable insights into the growth of Jainism in Maharashtra. The temples are embellished with finely carved sculptures of Jinas, *Yakshini* Ambika and Chakreshvari, reflecting the artistic talent of the period. The site also indicates the support of Jainism by various dynasties, such as the Rashtrakutas, Yaadavas and Shilaharas, who played a role in building and maintaining these sacred structures. The site of Anjaneri is significant for its religious and cultural elements. It also enhances the understanding of medieval Indian architecture and iconography of Jainism. This study will explore the role of geography and other environmental factors in the development of Jain religious centres and also the network of satellite monastic centres in the vicinity of Anjaneri as a central site. This includes the documentation of Jain temples and caves and their topographical and archaeological settings, and also the documentation of habitational settlements, art and architecture, and other archaeological remains at the Anjaneri archaeological site and its surrounding region.

The aims of the project are:

1. To understand the development of Jain temples and caves at Anjaneri, how they form, and what elements form an archaeological landscape.
2. To document the entire landscape of Jain temples and caves at Anjaneri, it includes measurements of structural remains.
3. To study religious and other architectural spaces within a regional landscape of meaning and interaction to link them within a larger social context.
4. To examine the role of landscape and environment in the formation of Jain temples and caves at Anjaneri.
5. To understand the changing nature of Jain temples and caves at Anjaneri with respect to present-day worship patterns.

Examining the historical records, inscriptions, and other primary sources to trace the temple's history and development; reading, reviewing, and analysing published and unpublished data on early Jainism, Anjaneri Jain Temples, Caves, and surrounding archaeological sites; documentation (field notes, photography, measurements, digital illustrations) of archaeological, architectural and structural remains of the Anjaneri temple complex and other temples and caves located in its vicinity is being done. The documentation has been carried out with the help of a trained architect. High-quality images and videos of

the temple have been taken to create a visual record for future reference. A comparative study of the architectural models and archaeological remains of adjoining regions with important Jain sites in the study area is being carried out to derive conclusive statements. The final report of the project is under progress.



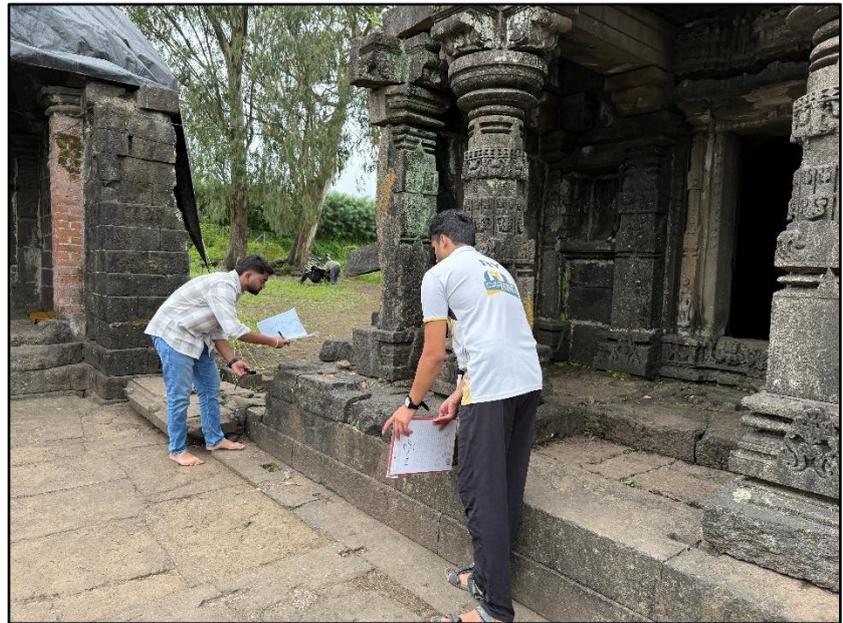
Field work at Kolhapur



Field work at Muktagiri



Field work at Anjaneri



Making of ground plan at Anjaneri

Internship Programme in Jain Art and Archaeology

Bibliography Project on Jain Art, Architecture, Archaeology, History and Epigraphy

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology is inclined towards creating awareness and academic enthusiasm regarding Jain Heritage, Art, History and Archaeology. One of its aims is to provide a forum for post-graduate and research level training programmes, workshops, conferences, symposiums, seminars in the fields of Archaeology of Jainism, Jain Art and Architecture, etc. for generating interest about Jain Studies amongst the young scholars. Keeping this in mind, an internship programme is being organised to train students in the field of Jain Art and Archaeology and thereby develop an academic project.

The objectives of this internship programme are:

1. To provide exposure and training to young students in the field of research in Jain Studies.
2. To impart experience in data collection, referencing, and research writing.
3. To develop a short-term project on a topic related to Jain Studies.

A total of two interns were selected for this programme initially. The internship is being offered in offline mode and the location of the workspace is the office of the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology at the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune. It is a full-time internship which has commenced from the month of November 2024 and has been in function till October 2025. The nature of work in this internship includes data collection, referencing, research writing, developing a short-term project and any other academic work associated with Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. These interns got training from Dr. Shrikant Ganvir, Coordinator of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, Oshin Bamb, Assistant Professor, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology and Dhananjay Khandare, Research Assistant, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. The team of interns, under the guidance of aforementioned people, have worked on bringing out a bibliographic compilation of all important academic writings related to Jain Art, Architecture, Archaeology, History, and Epigraphy. For this bibliographic work, the library of Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune, other important libraries in the country

such as Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune, Institute of Archaeology, Noida, ASI Central Library, Bhopal; online repositories, open access journals, research articles, papers, proceedings, excavation reports, dissertations, theses, books, monographs, edited volumes, online databases and other sources are being utilised.

This extensive bibliography will be extremely useful to all researchers and students of Jain Studies where they will get references to almost all the data that they need at one place. It will also be helpful for academicians and young scholars to check the research that has been done till date on the relevant themes. The selected interns who dedicatedly worked for this project are Smriti Kushwaha and Deepti Kulkarni. Asmi Aklekar also contributed to the work of this project. Prashant Goyal, Research Fellow of the Chair, also contributed to this project and collected many references.

Currently, the data collection part of the project is majorly complete with more than 3000 references on the themes of relevance. The tedious task of editing these references will be commenced shortly by the Coordinator and the staff of the Chair. This project may take some more time so that maximum errors are avoided and a good quality extensive work is brought up as the final outcome, which will greatly benefit the academia.



Library work for Bibliography project

Internship cum On-Job-Training Programme

Documentation of Jain Remains displayed in Museums of Maharashtra and Telangana

The students of Semester II, MA in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology of the University have been given training in documentation of Jain remains as a part of their Internship cum On-Job-Training as prescribed in the New Educational Policy. Twelve students were selected for this particular programme. In this duration, the following students participated in various activities including documentation of Jain remains displayed in museums of Maharashtra and Telangana: Amisha Singh, Banoth Babu, Debanjan Sarkar, Ejarkhim Halam, Megha Shyam, Nandini Sharma, Pranjali Dahake, Sampada Ghatkar, Saurabh Patil, Shubhodeep Karmakar, Surangana Dutta and Sushmita Shah.

Various museums administered by the State Archaeology Departments of Maharashtra and Telangana, University Departments, Local Government Bodies, etc. were visited by these students. Lectures on Jain art, iconography, photographic documentation, datasheet filling, museum objects, referencing, data collection, analysis, report writing, etc. were delivered for the students by the staff of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. Some lectures on systematic detailed documentation along with an on-site museum documentation experience were conducted by Rushal Unkule, a professional in the field of Museum Studies. Museums at Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Dhule, Ahilyanagar, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, Nashik, Karimnagar, Kollanapaka (Kulpakji), Hyderabad, Secunderabad, etc. were visited by the students after completion of their in-house training. The students did systematic documentation on the aspects of iconography, preservation, accession, provenance, time period, stylistic description, etc. Their data is now being studied, errors are being checked and later it will be classified and systematically made in the format of a detailed comprehensive catalogue kind of report by the staff of the Chair.



Training of the students on Jain Iconography



On-site museum documentation session by Rushal Unkule

Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on Jain Art, Architecture, and Heritage

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune under the aegis of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, organised the Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on Jain Art, Architecture, Heritage and History to commemorate the 2624th *Janma Kalyanaka* of Bhagwan Mahavira and the World Heritage Week on 22nd April 2025 at Prof. S. M. Katre Hall (New Convocation Hall), Department of AIHC and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI, Pune. The quiz focused upon the themes of art, architecture, heritage and history pertaining to Jainism. It was in the form of 50 multiple-choice questions, which were to be solved in a time limit of an hour. The competition was open to all Junior College, Under-Graduate, Post Graduate, PhD and any other students or even laypeople (up to age of 40 years) who are interested in the domain of Jain Studies.

Around 130 participants registered through the link for online registration. These participants were representing universities, colleges and institutes such as Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune; K. J. Somaiya College of Arts and Commerce, Mumbai; Visva Bharati; Indian Institute of Heritage, Noida; R. C. Patel Art's Commerce & Science College, Shirpur; Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Chhatrapati Sambhajanagar; PSGR Krishnammal College for Women; Fergusson College, Pune; Shivaji University, Kolhapur; Chintamanrao College of Commerce, Sangli; Walchand Institute of Technology, Solapur; St. Miras College for Girls, Pune; CMP Degree College, Prayagraj; Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi; SNJB, Nashik; Garware College of Commerce, Pune; Department of History L.N.M.U., Darbhanga; Education Section Murbad, Tal. Murbad, Dist. Thane; Abhinav Kala Mahavidyalay, Pune; Mordern College, Pune; Vishwakarma University, Pune; New Art's Commerce and Science College, Ahmednagar; SGBAU, Amaravati; Punyashlok Ahilyadevi Holkar Solapur University, Solapur; Rajmata Jijau Arts, Commerce and Science College Landewadi, Bhosari; Vardhman Education and Research Centre, VIIT College; Bhogawati Mahavidyalaya, Kurukali; Marathwada Mitramandal's College of Engineering, Pune; S.P. College Sociology Department, Pune; International School for Jain Studies, Pune; Central Sanskrit University,

Delhi; Dr. D. Y. Patil School of Architecture, Lohegaon; Bharati Vidyapeeth College Of Architecture, Pune, etc.

Around sixty participants actually showed up on the day of the competition. Prize and certificate distribution function was held on the same day. Prof. Prasad Joshi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A), Prof. Shahida Ansari, Head, Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, and Dr. Shrikant Ganvir, Coordinator of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology were present at the prize distribution ceremony. The first rank of the competition was secured by Abhigyan Dutta of Deccan College, the second rank by Harleen Makkar of St. Miras College and the third rank by Bhakti Anmol Band of Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University. Certificate of participation were given to all the participants of the Inter Collegiate Quiz. The quiz was well received by the participants who acknowledged that there is a lot more to be explored in the field of Jain Studies and Jain Heritages.



Inaugural function of the second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition



First winner of the Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition



Second winner of the Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition



Third winner of the Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition



Participants of the Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition

Activities done by Oshin Bamb

(Assistant Professor, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology)

Apart from a thorough fieldwork in more than forty Jain temples including the sacred site of Muktagiri (Minor Research Project), museums, archaeological sites with Jain remains for his doctoral research in Vidarbha, the following academic works were done by Oshin Bamb:

Lectures delivered:

1. Delivered an online lecture on 'Jain Art and Architecture of Maharashtra' for Certificate Course in Heritage of Maharashtra, Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College, Mumbai. (17th December 2024)
2. Delivered an online lecture on 'Maharashtratil Jain Puratattva: Ek Sankshipta Adhawa' (in Marathi) for Sahyadri Trekkers Samajika Sanstha. (25th January 2025)
3. Delivered an online lecture on 'Serenity and Landscape: Devotion in Art at Muktagiri Siddha Kshetra' for Pleach India Foundation. (21st February 2025)
4. Delivered lectures in a three-day workshop on Introduction to Iconography organised by Department of Archaeology, Goa. (27th February to 1st March 2025)
5. Delivered a lecture for Political History: Textual Sources for Political History w.s.r.t. Jain Sources for MA AIHC and Archaeology Sem II students. (5th March 2025)
6. Delivered a lecture on 'Research Aptitude' for NET-SET Guidance Programme at Deccan College, Pune. (22nd March 2025)
7. Delivered online lectures on 'Importance of Buddhist Inscriptions' for Certificate Course in Archaeology of Buddhism (22nd March 2025) and 'Typology of Buddhist Rock-Cut Monastic Architecture (25th - 26th August 2025)
8. Delivered a series of lectures on History of Jainism for Religious History students of MA AIHC and Archaeology at Deccan College, Pune. (25th March 2025- 28th March 2025)
9. Delivered a lecture on 'Maharashtratil Jain Puratattva' on the occasion of World Heritage Day organised by the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Ratnagiri and Pune Office, Maharashtra. (18th April 2025)
10. Delivered a lecture on 'Reappraisal of the Jain Heritages in Maharashtra: An

- Archaeological Perspective’ at the Jain Dharohar Diwas celebrations at Abhay Prabhavana Museum. (26th April 2025)
11. Series of lectures on Introduction to Jain Iconography for Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology at Deccan College. (January 2025 to August 2025)
 12. Delivered a lecture on Introduction to Jain Iconography for students of the winter school programme of the International School for Jain Studies, Pune, at Naval Veerayatan. (2nd July 2025)
 13. Delivered a lecture on Jain Archaeological Remains in Maharashtra in a Seminar on Jain Visual Art held at the Government College of Arts and Science, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar. (26th and 27th July 2025)
 14. Delivered a lecture on Iconography of Mudrās, Āsanas and Vāhanas for Certificate Course in Indian Iconography organised by Sambhasha Foundation. (11th September 2025)
 15. Delivered a lecture on Temples of Goa, organised by Vishwakarma University for students of Architecture. (25th September 2025)
 16. Delivered an online lecture on ‘Introduction to Jain Caves at Ellora’ for Tamil Kurum Nanmakkal organisation. (30th November 2025)

Papers presented:

1. Presented a paper on ‘Forgotten Jain Sacred Centre of Padampur, District Gondia, Maharashtra: An Iconographic Study at the conference on Timeless Deccan organised at S.K.N. College of Architecture. (10th January 2025)
2. Research Paper on ‘Muni Shilavijaya: A Monk’s Description of the Jain Tirthas of Maharashtra in the 17th century CE’ in the 3-Day National Conference on Indian Culture in Art and Literature organised by Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune. (10th April 2025)
3. Presented a paper titled “Narrative and Reality of the 10,000 Jain Images of 1548 *Samvat*: Case study of select Jain temples of Vidarbha” in the Second National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology held at Deccan College, Pune. (22nd August 2025)
4. Co-presented a joint paper with Deepti Kulkarni titled “The King and the *Ācārya*: A New Light on the Jain Sculptural Panels at Omkāreśvara Temple, Kolhapur” in the

Second National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology held at Deccan College, Pune. (22nd August 2025)

Publications:

1. Research article titled ‘Devagiri- A Forgotten Jain religious centre: A case study of some Shvetambar images’ in UGC CARE-listed *History Research Journal* (December 2024). (ISSN: 0976-5425, Vol. 33, pp. 17-27)
2. Monograph titled *Vidarbhatil Ek Vismrut Mahapashaniya Sthal: Khairwada* (in Marathi), published by Vidya Books, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar, ISBN: 978-93-92-204-39-5.
3. Research article titled ‘Forgotten Jain Sacred Centre of Padampur, District Gondia, Maharashtra: An Iconographic Study’ in UGC CARE-listed *Sanmati Journal* (April 2025). (ISSN 2395-5503, Vol. 75 (9), pp. 30-37)
4. Published an article titled “Sthapatya: Tantrajnana Prakar ani Vikas” in *Bharatiya Jnanavyavastha*, edited by Dr. Shraddha Kumbhojkar and published by the Department of History, Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. (July 2025) (ISBN No. 978-81-952779-3-3)

Editorial work:

1. Associate Editor of the Proceedings of the First National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology held at Deccan College, Pune on 31st August 2024. (December 2025)

Participation in study tours:

1. Study tour of Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology to Devagiri and Ellora Caves. (14th and 15th December 2024)
2. Study tour of Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology at Ellora Caves. (1st August 2025)
3. Study tour of MA AIHC and Archaeology students of Deccan College at Bhaja Caves. (17th August 2025)

4. Study tour to Kanaganahalli and District Museum, Gulbarga for Certificate Course Archaeology of Buddhism. (3rd October 2025)
5. Study tour to heritage sites of Madhya Pradesh for students of MA in AIHC and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI, Pune. (9th October to 14th October 2025)
6. Study tour to Nashik Caves for students of MA in AIHC and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI, Pune. (5th November 2025)

Workshops attended:

1. Attended a workshop on Marathi Vishvakosha Nondalekhana organised at Deccan College, Pune. (13th August 2025)
2. Attended three-day workshop on Ancient Indian Ceramics: Technology and Traditions organised by the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Pune Division and Deccan College PGRI (Deemed to be University), Pune. (21st, 22nd and 23rd November 2025)

Other academic works:

1. The detailed report of the field work for Jain remains at Arang, Mahant Ghasidass Museum, Raipur and Sirpur has been written for Victoria and Albert Museum Nehru Trust for Indian Collections, Jain Fund Award. (15th February to 20th February 2025)
2. Interviewed Mr. Manish Modi (Hindi Grantha Karyalaya) for Ancient Jainism (online platform) on the legacy of Pandit Nathuram Premi and Hindi Grantha Karyalaya. (23rd February 2025)
3. Meeting with the Interns for the Internship Programme in Documentation of Jain Remains for the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. (29th March 2025)
4. Orientation and Documentation training for students doing the Internship Programme in Documentation of Jain Remains for Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. (4th April 2025)
5. Acted as a Rapporteur in the 7th Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad Conference on Social Sciences in Bharatiya Perspective held at Deccan College, Pune from 26th-28th April 2025. (27th April 2025)
6. Invited as a subject expert to do an ethnographic survey and documentation of architectural and sculptural remains at Chada, Dist. Yadadri Bhongir, Telangana,

- during excavations conducted by the Department of Heritage, Telangana, in collaboration with Deccan College, Pune. (30th April 2025 to 12th May 2025)
7. Interviewed Prof. Hampana Nagarajiah, eminent scholar of Jain Studies and Kannada for the Ancient Jainism online platform. (25th May 2025)
 8. Personal interviews with scholars such as Prof. Vidyadhar Johrapurkar, Prof. Bhagchandra Jain Bhaskar, and Prof. Manisha Patil at their residences in Nagpur. (19th June 2025)
 9. Field work and documentation of Jain sculptural panels at Omkareshvara Temple, Kolhapur, with Dr. Yogesh Prabhudesai and Deepti Kulkarni and an interview with Bhattaraka Lakshmisena Pattacharya Swamiji of Kolhapur Mutha. (13th and 14th September 2025)
 10. Recorded three MOOCS on Jaina Dharma, Prachina Bharatiya Sthapatya and Madhyayugina Bharatiya Sthapatya for an IKS project of the Department of History, Savitribai Phule Pune University. (11th September 2025)

Award received:

1. ‘Sanskriti Sanrakshak’ award by Shri Bharatvarshiya Digambar Jain Teerth Sanrakshini Mahasabha and Sethi Trust on the occasion of Jain Dharohar Diwas held at Abhay Prabhavana Museum, Pune. (26th April 2025)

Activities done by Dhananjay Khandare

(Research Assistant, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology)

During this period, Dhananjay Khandare, the Research Assistant, actively engaged and participated in various academic activities and also helped in organisation and management of various academic events.

Minor Research Project:

1. Working on “An Archaeological Exploration and Documentation of Anjaneri Jain Temples and Caves”, a minor research project, the fieldwork of which is completed, and a detailed report is in progress.

Lecture Delivered:

1. Delivered a lecture on “From Terrain to Culture: Decoding Cultural Landscape Theories” for the exhibition on ‘The Sahyadri Cultural Landscape: Fort, People and Heritage’ organised by FORTSCAPE Collective at TATA Hall, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune from 21st to 23rd November, 2025, on the occasion of ‘World Heritage Week 2025.

Papers Presented:

1. Participated and presented a paper on ‘Divine Play in Context: Unveiling the Philosophical Foundation of Sankasur-Khele in the Konkan Region, Maharashtra’ in the 3-Day National Conference on “Indian Culture in Art and Literature” organised by Shri Balmukund Lohia Centre of Sanskrit and Indology Studies, Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth, Pune, from 9th to 11th April 2025.
2. Participated and presented a paper on ‘Sacred Petroglyphs and Divine Rituals: An Ethnographic Study of Devihasol Temple, Tal. Rajapur, Dist. Ratnagiri (Maharashtra)’ in the 2-Day National Level Research Conference 2025 “Timeless Deccan: Exploring Caves, Temple Architecture and Iconography” on January 10th and 11th, 2025,

organised by STES' Smt. Kashibai Navale College of Architecture ('Mimamsa' Department History & Culture), sponsored by Indian Sculpture & Architecture Research Council (I-SARC) & in Collaboration with Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi (ICSSR).

Editorial work:

1. Assistant Editor of the Proceedings of the First National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology held at Deccan College, Pune on 31st August 2024. (December 2025)

Certificate Course:

1. Completed the Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology organised by Bhagwant Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, Dept. of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology, Deccan College Post-Graduate Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune (2025) (O Grade)

Participation in study tours:

1. Study tour of Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology to Devagiri and Ellora Caves. (14th and 15th December 2024)
2. Study tour to Nashik Caves for students of M.A. in A.I.H.C. and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI, Pune. (5th November 2025)

Workshops attended:

1. Attended a workshop on "Marathi Vishvakosha Nondalekhana" organised at Deccan College, Pune. (13th August 2025)
2. Attended a three-day workshop on "Ancient Indian Ceramics: Technology and Traditions" organised by the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Pune Division and Deccan College PGRI (Deemed to be University), Pune. (21st, 22nd and 23rd November 2025)

Webinar attended:

1. Attended a 3-day webinar training programme on ‘Bhuvan Overview’ organised by Bhuvan, National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Hyderabad. (11th to 13th November, 2025)

Other academic works:

1. Participated in the seminar on ‘Maratha Forts to World Heritage: Challenges and Opportunities’ organised by Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune, in collaboration with the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Govt. of Maharashtra (Pune Division), Pune at Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune on 1st October 2025.
2. Participated and worked as a member of the organising committee of the ‘Second National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology’ organised by the Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology under the aegis of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology at Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune on 31st August 2025.
3. Participated and worked as a member of the organising committee of the 7th Annual National Conference of Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) on “Social Sciences in Bharatiya Perspective” held from 26th to 28th April 2025 at Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune by Rashtriya Samaj Vigyan Parishad (RSVP) in collaboration with Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune.
4. Member of the management team of the Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on Jain Art, Architecture, Heritage and History to commemorate the 2624th *Janma Kalyanaka* of Bhagwan Mahavira and the World Heritage Week on 22nd April 2025.
5. Participated in the National Seminar on “Bharatiya Basha Pariwar: Understanding Indian Heritage Through Language Documentation” organised by Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Pune, in collaboration with Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti, Ministry of Education, Govt. of India, on 5th March 2025.
6. Visited museums in Maharashtra and Telangana states as part of the Documentation of Jain Remains displayed in Museums of Maharashtra and Telangana. (April-May 2025)

Activities done by Prashant Goyal

(Research Fellow, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology)

(till November 2025)

During this period as the Research Fellow of the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, Prashant Goyal focused on systematic study, documentation and academic engagement related to Jain archaeological remains especially in the Chanderi and Ashoknagar region of Madhya Pradesh. His fieldwork covered important sites such as Idor, Khandar, Guril Pahad, Budhi Chanderi and surrounding villages. Through continuous site visits, photography, architectural study and inscriptional observations, he has completed a comprehensive research paper titled ‘Jain Remains at Idor Village: An Archaeological Study in Ashoknagar District, Madhya Pradesh,’ which is now fully prepared and currently under publication process.

Alongside the fieldwork, he actively contributed to the ongoing Bibliography Project being carried out under the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology and this work now forms an important academic foundation for the Chair’s broader objectives.

During this period, he successfully completed the Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology, in which he also coordinated several lectures and delivered one lecture sharing insights from his field studies.

In terms of academic contributions, he presented three research papers at major academic events. He presented a paper titled ‘Recent Archaeological Exploration of Amanchar Village, Ashoknagar District, Madhya Pradesh’ at the Joint Annual Conference held in Raipur from 7th–9th March 2025. On 22 August 2025, he presented another paper titled ‘Hasari Village: A Study of Multi-Religious Archaeological Heritage in the Chanderi Region of Madhya Pradesh’ at the Second National Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology, organised by the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology, Department of AIHC and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI (Deemed to be University), Pune. Later, on 30th–31st August 2025, he presented a third paper titled ‘Jain Remains and Multireligious Context of Ashoknagar District, Madhya Pradesh’ at the National Conference on New Trends in Archaeology with Special Reference to Madhya Pradesh, held at Jiwaji University, Gwalior. Additionally, he is preparing a research paper for the ICSSR-sponsored national

seminar on Jain studies scheduled to be held in Varanasi.

Overall, his tenure as a Research Fellow under the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology has been academically productive. He has now been awarded UGC Junior Research Fellowship, which is why his tenure with Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology has been completed in November 2025.

Work done by Vishal Rathod

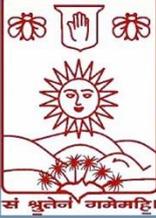
(Secretarial Assistant, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology)

Vishal Rathod, the Secretarial Assistant of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology looks after the smooth functioning of the activities of the Chair. He assisted in the administrative work of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology.

The aftermath of the administrative, admission and exam formality and honorarium of the speakers and similar related things of the Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology were efficiently handled by him. He helped in the smooth organisation of the National Annual Research Seminar on Jain Art, Architecture and Archaeology, Prof. S. B. Deo Memorial Annual Lecture on Jain Studies, Inter-Collegiate Quiz and other activities of the Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology. He also assisted in the actual aftermath of many of the activities. From systematically making claim forms for students who travelled for the internship programme to the other research project-related financial sanctions, all these official works and letters were also prepared by him.

Flyers

Certificate Course in Jain Art and Archaeology



Note

1. The hard copy of admission application forms along with payment receipt should reach on or before 4th February 2025 to the Academic Section, Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute (Deemed to be University), Yerawada, Pune- 411006

2. Students will send a copy of payment made to jain.archaeology@dcpune.ac.in accounts@dcpune.ac.in & ujwala.karande@dcpune.ac.in and have to mention their name, receipt, amount, date and time of transaction, and course name in the mail.

3. For any query, please contact the Academic Section, Tel: 020-26513237 For further details regarding the admission process, one may contact the Academic Section of the University on aforementioned number or the Course Coordinator through e-mail: jain.archaeology@dcpune.ac.in or Oshin Bamb Assistant Professor Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology (+91 9420347982)

Dr. Shrikant Ganvir
Course Coordinator
(+91 9623219222)

DECCAN COLLEGE POST GRADUATE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE

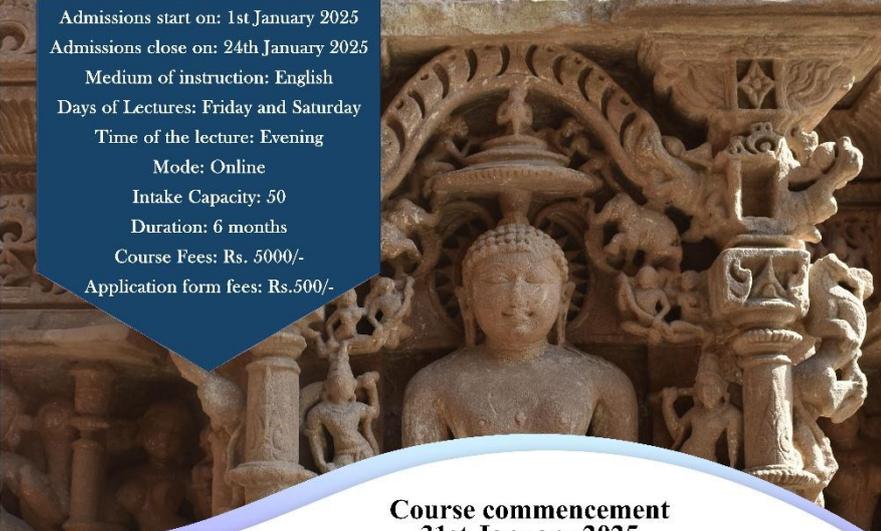
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of the UGC act 1956)
Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology

ANNOUNCEMENT

CERTIFICATE COURSE IN JAIN ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

under the aegis of Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology
(Funded by International School for Jain Studies, a Division of Amar Prerana Trust and Vardhman Charitable Foundation, USA)

Admissions start on: 1st January 2025
Admissions close on: 24th January 2025
Medium of instruction: English
Days of Lectures: Friday and Saturday
Time of the lecture: Evening
Mode: Online
Intake Capacity: 50
Duration: 6 months
Course Fees: Rs. 5000/-
Application form fees: Rs.500/-



Course commencement

31st January 2025

Concept
Jainism has thrived in India since a long time and has left numerous traces of its existence, some being continued as sacred place of worship and some being reduced to unnoticed ruins. This course on Jain Art and Archaeology, is in keeping with the recent approaches of studying the past, focusing on the processes dealing with the emergence, dissemination, changes and transformations in Jainism through historical and archaeological investigations.
The important features of this course are its focus on the history and chronology of Jain monuments, monasticism, Jain architecture, iconography of the Tirthankaras and Shasnadevatias and other deities, important Jain inscriptions, role and nature of patronage and various other factors which led to the dissemination of Jainism in varied parts of the country.

Course Objectives

- To offer an opportunity to students to understand the rich Jain literary and philosophical heritage of India's past and also in the present society.
- To introduce them to the history of Jainism in India and Jain pilgrimage centres of India.
- To acquaint the students with a basic outline of history and archaeology of Jainism and its relationship to various sources of study.
- To study the art, archaeology and history of Jainism through analytical and contextual insights.
- To get acquainted with the various processes involved in the emergence and spread of Jainism in Ancient and Medieval India.

Course Outcome
After successful completion of the course, students would be able to interpret the Jain art, architecture, icons and archaeological material in a better context. They should be acquainted with knowledge tools sufficient to study the various processes of emergence, dissemination, degeneration and transformations in relation to Jainism in India. The students would also be imparted information on some important Jain heritage sites and their historical and archaeological analysis to a good extent.

Eligibility: Any Graduation from any UGC recognized University

Examination:
The evaluation of this course will be done as per the University rules. 75% attendance is required to appear for the examination. At the end of the Course, there shall be an external examination of 50 marks and an internal examination of 50 marks. The nature of the internal assessment would be varied, which will include minimum three components out of Written test, Essay writing, Group discussion, Seminar presentation, Tutorial writing, Field visit report, Article/book review and Oral examination.

How to apply:
Visit the website www.dcpune.ac.in
Click on "Online Admission" option
Click on "Certificate Courses", and click on "Apply" and follow further instructions.
Deposit Rs. 500/- as admission form fee
After depositing the fees, click on "Log In" and "enter registered mobile number and password" and fill in the form.
It is necessary to submit all required details in the form.
Please send the admission form with all necessary documents and payment details to following e-mail id:
academic@dcpune.ac.in and jain.archaeology@dcpune.ac.in on or before 24th January 2025.

Prof. H. D. Sankalia Monthly Lecture Series on Jain Heritage



**Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Pune**

**Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology
under the aegis of**

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

(funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Amar Prerna Trust, Pune
and Vardhman Charitable Foundation, USA)

**Lecture
5**

**Prof. H. D. Sankalia
Monthly Lecture Series on Jain Heritage**

Topic:

Kankali Tila: Past and Present

Date: 29th January 2025

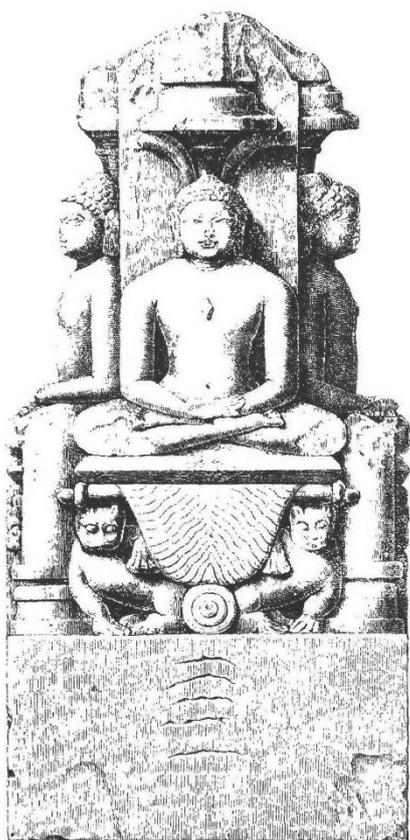
Time: 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Google Meet Link:

<https://meet.google.com/ozf-sgou-sht>

Speaker

Dr. Kanika Kishore Saxena



Tirthankar Chaumukhi from Kankali Tila.

About the topic: This talk will explore the archaeological findings from Kankali Tila, Mathura, a key site for understanding Jainism of early period. The study critically examines stupa worship, image donation, and the presence of multiple Tirthankara images being worshipped simultaneously.

About the speaker: Dr. Kanika Saxena is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, affiliated to the University of Delhi, New Delhi. Her book titled 'Before Kṛṣṇa: Religious Diversity in Ancient Mathura' (2021) has been published by the Oxford University Press.

Coordinator, **Head,**
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology **Department of AIHC and Archaeology**

Second Prof. M. A. Dhaky Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Art



**Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Pune**

**Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology
under the aegis of**

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

(funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune
and Vardhmana Charitable Foundation, USA)

on the occasion of World Heritage Day

**Inaugural Prof. M. A. Dhaky
Annual Memorial Lecture on Jain Art**

Topic:

**Austerity and Adornment in
the Jaina Temples of Karnataka**

Speaker:

Prof. Parul Pandya Dhar

Professor in South and South-East Asian Art History,
Department of History, University of Delhi

Date: 29th April 2025

Time: 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

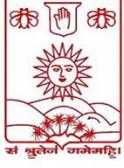
Google Meet Link:

<https://meet.google.com/hwk-bkik-vkk>



Gommateshvara Bahubali, Shravanabelagola

Prof. S. B. Deo Memorial Annual Lecture on Jain Studies



**Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Pune**

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology
under the aegis of
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology
(funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune
and Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA)

**Prof. S. B. Deo Second Annual Memorial Lecture
on Jain Studies**

INVITATION

Topic:

**“Landmarks and Sharing in Jaina Art with reference to
Khajuraho Jaina Temples”**

Date: 30th September 2025 Time: 03.00 pm

Venue: Prof. S. M. Katre Hall (New Convocation Hall),
Department of AIHC and Archaeology, Deccan College, PGRI, Pune.

Speaker

Prof. Maruti Nandan Pd. Tiwari
Former Professor Emeritus,
Banaras Hindu University.
Former National Tagore Fellow
Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts

Guest of Honour

Dr. Shrinetra Pandey
Director,
International School for Jain Studies, Pune.

Chairperson

Prof. Prasad Joshi
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A),
Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University), Pune

Dr. Shrikant Ganvir
Coordinator,

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

Prof. Shahida Ansari
Head,

Department of AIHC and Archaeology

Special Lecture on the occasion of World Heritage Week



**Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Pune**

**Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology
under the aegis of**

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

(funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune
and Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA)

Special Lecture on the occasion of World Heritage Week

Topic:

Jain Heritage of Telangana

Date: 19th November 2025

Time: 7.00 pm to 8.00 pm

Google Meet Link:

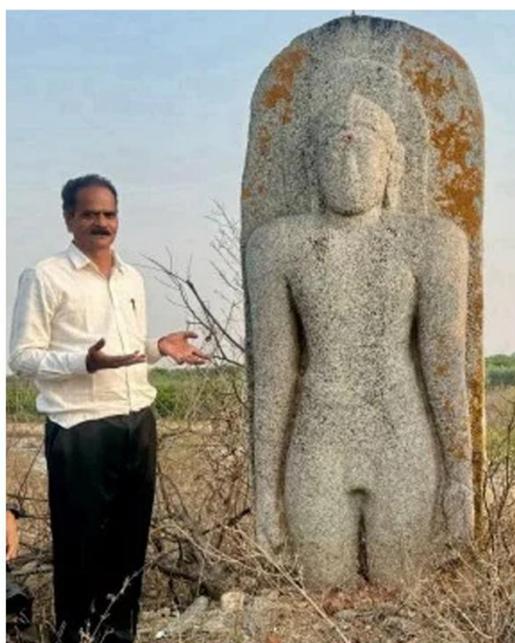
<https://meet.google.com/zbm-hrrh-qtb>

Speaker

Prof. E. Siva Nagi Reddy

About the topic: Jainism in the region of Telangana is a less delved topic. Apart from the famous pilgrimage Centre of Kollanapaka and Aggalayya Gutta, there are many remains of Jain temples, images which lay around throughout the region of Telangana. The lecture explores such known and lesser known sites from Telangana.

About the speaker: Prof. E. Siva Nagi Reddy is Chief Executive Officer at Pleach India Foundation and a Sthapati. He has dedicated many decades to study the heritages of Telangana and adjoining region.



**Dr. Shrikant Ganvir
Coordinator,**

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

**Prof. Shahida Ansari
Head,**

Department of AIHC and Archaeology

**The Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on Jain Art, Architecture,
History and Heritage**



**Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University), Pune**

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology

under the aegis of

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

(Funded by International School for Jain Studies, a Division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune and
Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA)

organises

**THE SECOND INTER-COLLEGIATE QUIZ COMPETITION ON JAIN ART,
ARCHITECTURE, HERITAGE AND HISTORY**

To commemorate the 2624th Janma Kalyanaka of Bhagwana Mahavira and World Heritage Day, we are organising The Second Inter-Collegiate Quiz Competition on the theme of Jain Art, Architecture, Heritage and History

- **Free Registration**
- **Certificates to all participants; prizes to top three scorers**
- **Age limit: maximum 40 years**
- **50 MCQ type questions, total marks: 50**
- **Registration is compulsory**
- **Please note that the quiz will be held in OFFLINE MODE only.**

Date: 22nd April 2025

Time: 2.15 pm sharp (reporting time); 2.30 pm to 3.30 pm (exam time)

Venue: Prof. S. M. Katre Hall (New Convocation Hall) Department of AIHC and Archaeology, Deccan College PGRI, Pune.

The competition is open to all Junior College, UG, PG, PhD and any other students or even laypeople from Pune who are interested in the domain of Jain Studies. The participants would have to tick 50 Multiple Choice Questions printed on a paper in a time limit of 1 hour.

Prize and certificate distribution ceremony will be held on the same day from 4.30 pm to 5.00 pm.

The link to the registration form: <https://forms.gle/mAYKqWpaikVA81Ht9>

Last date of registration: 20th April 2025

For any queries contact: Oshin Bamb (Assistant Professor, Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology) 9420347982

Dr. Shrikant Ganvir

Coordinator

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

Prof. Shahida Ansari

Head

Department of AIHC and Archaeology

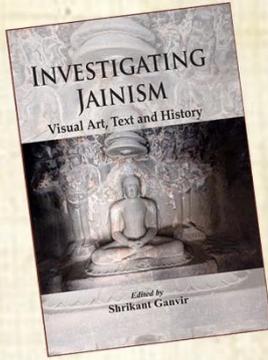
Upcoming



**Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Pune**

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology
under the aegis of
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology
(funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune
and Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA)

Book Publication Invitation



“Investigating Jainism: Visual Art, Text and History”

Edited by Shrikant Ganvir

Date: 18th December 2025 Time: 03.00 pm
**Venue: Prof. S. M. Katre Hall (New Convocation Hall),
Deccan College PGRI, Pune.**

Chief Guest

Prof. Christopher Key Chapple
Distinguished Professor of Indic &
Comparative Theology,
Loyola Marymount University, USA.

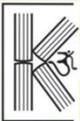
Guest of Honour

Dr. Shrinetra Pandey
Director,
International School for Jain Studies, Pune.

Chairperson

Prof. Prasad Joshi
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A),
Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University), Pune.

Published by



Kaveri Books
4832/24, Ansari Road,
Darya Ganj, New Delhi- 110 002

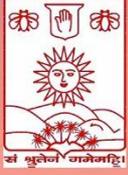
**Deccan College Post-Graduate
and Research Institute**
(Deemed to be University), Pune, 411006



Dr. Shrikant Ganvir
Coordinator,
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

Prof. Shahida Ansari
Head,
Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology

Upcoming



**Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University),
Pune**

Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology
under the aegis of
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology
(funded by International School for Jain Studies, a division of Amar Prerana Trust, Pune
and Vardhamana Charitable Foundation, USA)

Special Lecture Invitation

Topic:

“Elements, Embodiment and Environment: The Yoga Connection”

Date: 18th December 2025 Time: 03.00 pm
Venue: Prof. S. M. Katre Hall (New Convocation Hall),
Deccan College, PGRI, Pune.

Speaker

Prof. Christopher Key Chapple
Distinguished Professor of Indic &
Comparative Theology,
Director, Master of Arts in Yoga Studies,
Bellarmine College of Liberal Arts,
Loyola Marymount University
Los Angeles, CA United States of America.

Guest of Honour

Dr. Shrinetra Pandey
Director,
International School for Jain Studies, Pune.

Chairperson

Prof. Prasad Joshi
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (A),
Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute
(Deemed to be University), Pune.

Dr. Shrikant Ganvir

Coordinator,
Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology

Prof. Shahida Ansari

Head,
Department of A.I.H.C. and Archaeology

Bhagwan Shitalnath Chair for Jain Archaeology



Dr. Shrikant Ganvir
Coordinator



Oshin Bamb
Assistant Professor



Dhananjay Khandare
Research Assistant



Prashant Goyal
Research Fellow



Vishal Rathod
Secretarial Assistant



DEPARTMENT OF ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHAEOLOGY



DECCAN COLLEGE POST-GRADUATE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY UNDER SECTION 3 OF UGC ACT 1956)
PUNE 411006