

The Society for South Asian Studies

The British Academy



London

2004

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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Registered Charity: 264591

ANNUAL REPORT

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

THE BRITISH ACADEMY
10 CARLTON HOUSE TERRACE
LONDON SW1Y 5AH

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST MARCH 2004

The Annual General Meeting of the Society
will be held at The Royal Asiatic Society, 60 Queen's Gardens, London W2 3AF

on Monday 22 November 2004

at 5:15 p.m.

to consider the Report and Accounts,
elect officers and members of Council,
re-appoint the Auditors and
transact any other business
proper to the AGM

at 5.30 p.m.

to hear a lecture entitled:

“The Brahmans and the End of Indian Buddhism”

by

Professor Giovanni Verardi
Università degli Studi di Napoli “L’Orientale”
Dipartimento di Studi Asiatica

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

THE COUNCIL 2004

CHAIRMAN

PROF. MICHAEL WILLIS (2004)

TREASURER

MR. DAVID WATERHOUSE

HONORARY SECRETARY

DR. ULRICH PAGEL (2006)

EDITOR

PROF. ADAM HARDY

MEMBERS

DR. C. BATES (2004)
DR. SHAIENDRA BHANDARE (2007)
PROF. G. CHAPMAN (2005)
DR. V. DAMODORAN (2005)
DR. J. HOWES (2005)
DR. JAVED MAJEED (2007)
DR. EMMA MAWDSLEY (2007)
MRS. SUSAN STRONGE (2007)

RESEARCH FELLOWS

DR. DEREK KENNET
DR. ELIZABETH LAMBOURN
DR. TED PROFERES

HONORARY FELLOWS

DR. F.R. ALLCHIN
DR. BRIDGET ALLCHIN
PROF. A.D.H BIVAR
DR. D.W. MACDOWALL
MR. R. PINDER-WILSON

**COUNCIL'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR
SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2004**

SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION

The Society for South Asian Studies (incorporating the Society for Afghan Studies) is a charity registered with the Charity Commissioners under Registration Number 264591. It is an unincorporated association and its basic governing document consists of the resolutions signed by the 68 persons who signed the resolutions for the formation of the Society and so became its first ordinary members on 1st June 1972 and the rules subsequently adopted by them.

The address of the Society is c/o The British Academy, 10 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AH.

Enquiries about the Society's activities should be directed to the Assistant Secretary, The Society for South Asian Studies, 60 Queen's Gardens, London W2 3AF.

Aims and Objectives

The Society was originally founded in 1972 as the Society for Afghan Studies. Its present name and scope were adopted in 1983. It is one of the schools and institutes founded and grant aided by the British Academy. The object for which the Society was established is to advance, encourage, support and undertake the study and research of the history, antiquities, archaeology, ethnography, languages, literature, art, culture, customs and geography of the countries of South Asia. The Society promotes a number of activities in these fields and produces an annual Journal in which it publishes the results of the research that it supports.

Organisation and Structure

The Society is governed by a Council of Management and is administered by certain members of Council appointed as Honorary Officers, assisted at present by a paid part-time assistant secretary.

Honorary Officers

The Honorary Officers who served during the year ended 31st March 2004 were:

Prof. M. Willis	Chairman
Mr. David Waterhouse	Treasurer
Dr. Ulrich Pagel	Honorary Secretary
Prof. A. Hardy	Editor

All Honorary Officers serve as members of Council and are members of the committees which advise Council on the awards it makes and monitor the Society's projects.

Members of Council

The following served on Council during the year ended 31st March 2004:

Dr. C. Bates	
Dr. Shailendra Bhandare	(from January 2004)
Prof. G. Chapman	
Dr. Vinita Damodoran	(from January 2003)
Dr. A. Hardy	
Dr. Jennifer Howes	(from January 2002)
Dr. Javed Majeed	(from January 2004)
Dr. Emma Mawdsley	(from January 2004)
Dr. Ulrich Pagel	(from January 2003)
Mrs. Susan Stronge	(from January 2004)
Mr. D. Waterhouse	
Professor M. Willis	

Members of the Council constitute the Trustees of the Society for the purposes of the Charities Act.

The Chairman, Treasurer, Honorary Secretary and Editor are elected each year at the Annual General Meeting under Rule 16 of the 1996 Rules.

Members of the Council are elected in terms of Rule 15, with vacancies being filled by vote upon nominations placed in November each year before the members of the Society at the Annual General Meeting.

Advisers

Auditors

Peter M. Duffell, FCA, CTA
32 The Ridgeway

Enfield, Middx. EN2 8QH

Bankers

CAFCASH Ltd, Kings Hill, West Malling,
Kent ME19 4TA

The Society would like to express its gratitude to the British Academy and its staff for the continued support and assistance they have provided for all the activities of the Society throughout the year. The Society wishes to record its appreciation of the help and assistance it has been given by the officers of the British Council and the Directors of Archaeology in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2004

The past year brought much change to the structure and operation of the Society for South Asian Studies. Some of this took place as a result of the Society's on-going efforts to strengthen and improve its contributions to the South Asia research community. Other changes were propelled by a British Academy initiative to streamline and better focus the funding activities of its overseas schools and institutes in order to avoid duplication with other major funding bodies. While this process has not yet come to an end, it has already become clear that the new guidelines offer much opportunity for increased research support. On the other hand, driven by the desire to promote innovation and distinctiveness, it led to a number of adjustments in the grant provision that the Society has hitherto offered. As a result of these changes, the Society is no longer able to offer its traditional palette of grants. Some of the old grants have been abolished altogether, others were recast to conform with the revised funding ideal and some were newly created. Members of the Society should note that the British Academy has specifically instructed us to stop offering grants to individuals. As a consequence, the following grants have been withdrawn from the Society's portfolio: (1) Small Personal Research Grants, (2) Travel Grants, (3) UK Conference Grants.

The new support offered by the Society includes the following four types of grants:

- (1) Language Training Grants for postgraduate language acquisition in South Asia;
- (2) Research Group Grants available to provide seed funding in support of Society-endorsed Research Groups;
- (3) Project Development Grants designed to assist in the formulation and development of research initiatives that stand good chance of maturing into large-scale, multi-sponsored research projects;
- (4) Project Grants designed to complete existing projects or launch new projects in partnership with other funding bodies.

Full details of these grants will be mounted on the Society's web-site.

It is hoped that these grants can, in due course, be complemented by other bursaries and funding initiatives. Details will be published on the Society's web-site as and when they become available.

The Society's new direction and programme of activities are laid out in the Corporate Plan 2005–08. A copy of this document will be mounted on the Society's web-site for ready reference toward the end of 2004. In essence, the Corporate Plan 2005–08 introduces a new, considerably expanded and much more sophisticated vision of the ways in which the Society can benefit research in virtually all aspects of South Asian culture.

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank everybody involved in the consultative effort, most notably all those colleagues from universities, libraries and museums across the UK who attended the brain-storming meeting at the Wellcome Institute in June 2004.

In response to the discussion at the Wellcome Trust meeting, and now part of the Society's research strategy, we instituted the concept of SSAS Research Groups. These Research Groups, some of which are already active, will serve (1) to provide scholarly leadership in the conception and development of new research initiatives, (2) to inspire and inform intellectual debate, (3) to identify new research horizons and (4) to explore funding opportunities in support of promising research projects. In keeping with its mission to assist UK scholars working on South Asia, the Society has set aside funding to facilitate the creation, advancement and management of these Research Groups.

I would like to end this report with the announcement that the Society is about to launch a new and substantially enhanced web-site. While the site's address remains unchanged, its new design contains a range of useful documents about the running of the Society, up-to-date information on services and initiatives as well as many new links to Indological web resources across the globe.

Ulrich Pagel
Hon. Secretary

REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF SOCIETY PROJECTS

Listed below, by geographical region, are the research projects currently supported by the Society for South Asian Studies. In a departure from previous conventions, because the Society is moving towards a more unified project structure, this Annual Report no longer distinguishes between Society Projects and Society Aided Projects. An expanded version of the project descriptions is included in the Corporate Plan 2005–08. The full version is available on the Society’s website at: <http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS/index.html>

Kashika: The Encyclopaedic Grammar of the Sanskrit Language
Directors: Dr. T. Proferes, School of Oriental and African Studies, London;
Dr. Pascale Haag-Bernede, École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris

This project combines the production of a critical edition – a traditional concern in Sanskrit studies – with the history and sociology of manuscript transmission and the analysis of Asian texts using IS technologies. In combining Indology, sociology and technology, the project will produce a landmark study of a key grammatical work – the *Kashika* – and provides IS tools which scholars will be able to use for the study of other texts.

To date more than one hundred manuscripts of the *Kashika* have been copied from Indian and European libraries. The project aims run as follow: (a) to complete the collection of MSS copies for the study, (b) to complete interviews with traditional pundits and families responsible for the preservation and transmission of *Kashika* manuscripts, (c) to build and test the software for the analysis of the text in collaboration with INRIA, and (d) to prepare a critical edition of the introductory section (on the *Shiva sutras*) together with the two first chapters of the *Kashika*.

Paithan and the Early Temple Tradition in Maharashtra

**Directors: Dr. Derek Kennet, University of Durham,
Dr. J. V. P. Rao, Archaeological Survey of India.**

The excavation at Paithan is a long-standing Society project carried out in partnership with the Archaeological Survey of India. The directorship was taken over by Derek Kennet in 1998 when the Society's Research Fellow was anchored in the University of Durham. Analysis of the organic material is nearing completion at the Institute of Archaeology, London, under the supervision of Dr. Dorian Fuller. The final write-up of small finds, once cleaning and conservation is finished in India, will be done at Durham and in India by the Indian collaborator Dr. J. V. P. Rao (ASI) and Dr M Katuribai (ASI Dharvard). The final report will be a Memoir of the Archaeological Survey of India, published in partnership with the Society. In the meantime a paper on the Paithan temples has been submitted to *South Asian Studies* for publication in 2003 ('Two Early Historic Brick Temples at Paithan in Maharashtra' by D. Kennet & J.V.P. Rao).

Action Cinema in India: Regional, National and Trans-national Dimensions of a Contemporary Genre.

Directors: Dr. Valentina Vitali; Prof. Paul Willemen, Media and Performing Arts Department, University of Ulster.

'Action cinema' has emerged as a category of the mainstream sector world-wide including South Asia. The historiographic perception of an autonomous Indian stunt genre in the 1920s and 1930s that took its cue from American serials, and the co-presence, in 1970s India, of Indian and imported action films, have led film historians to interpret the modern Hindi action film as an effect of Hollywood's export operations in South Asia. However, contemporary film reviews, the surviving stills, plot synopses and the movement of stunt actors in the 1920s and 1930s reveal a connection between early Indian stunt films and mythological film which was not at work in the American serials of the time. Notions of the yogic body are at work in South Asian action films that predate the advent of cinema and which cannot be ascribed to the influence of American action cinema. 'Action' in South Asian films evokes combat techniques which draw also from older South Asian disciplines, including wrestling.

An understanding of the interconnections that enables these action films to circulate across, and function as part of diverse South Asian public spheres, requires an examination of the complex relays by which generic categories pertaining to very diverse historical moments and geographical areas travelled and aggregated into action cinemas that are specific to the South Asian film industries and their public. This is a three-year project begun in 2003-04. The project directors are planning an edited volume of papers following a series of workshops and seminars. The Society will consider this for publication in its *Occasional Papers*.

**Tughluqabad: the 14th century Capital of Sultanate India.
Director: Dr. Mehrdad Shokoohy, University of Greenwich.**

As an early fourteenth-century capital of the Delhi sultanate, Tughluqabad is not only a significant historical site of Delhi, but also a prototype for the planning of most of the later towns in India. The ruins of Tughluqabad represent the advances in architectural design and engineering skills of their time, and the well-preserved town walls, street layout and other urban features provide us with the earliest existing example of Indo-Muslim urban planning and its architectural components: a key to understanding the principles behind the morphology of later Indian cities.

With the support of the British Academy and the SSAS six seasons of fieldwork were carried out between 1986 and 1999 to record the architectural and archaeological remains of the site. The research is now complete and the final report was approved in 2002 by the Society for publication in its monograph.

The Sanchi Dams Project

Principal Investigator: Dr. Julia Shaw, Merton College, Oxford.

Indian collaborator: Dr O. P. Mishra, Department of Archaeology, Museums and Archives, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

Project Supervisor: Lindsay Lloyd-Smith

This project has emerged from the Vidisha Research Group and is endorsed by the Society. To date the work has been supported by the Society for South Asian Studies (small project grants), and Merton College (travel grant). A preliminary pilot study was carried out between December 2003 and January 2004, with the aim of establishing a model for the chronology and function of a group of ancient dams already documented in the Sanchi area (Madhya Pradesh), and to test a number of hypotheses regarding the relationship between changes in agriculture and the environment, and wider cultural processes such as urbanization, state-formation and the spread of new religions during the late centuries BC. The study involved the collection of trial samples of buried sediments from selected dam sections and reservoir beds, in order to assess their suitability to Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating techniques as well as pollen and phytolith analysis. A follow-up season will be carried out in December 2004.

The results of this research will be published as a multi-authored paper in 2005. They will also be incorporated into the Principal Researcher's forthcoming monograph, *Sanchi and its Archaeological Landscape: Approaches to Religious and Agrarian Change in Ancient India* (London: UCL Press). It is expected that the results of this study will provide the foundation for a longer term, multidisciplinary excavation-based project, for which a grant application will be submitted to the British Academy in 2005-6.

Mapping Settlements, Dams, and Monasteries in Central India

Principal Investigator: Dr. Julia Shaw, Merton College, Oxford

Indian Collaborator: Dr O. P. Mishra, Department of Archaeology, Museums and Archives, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal.

UK Collaborators: Dr. Graham Philip and Mr. Anthony Beck, University of

Durham

This project has emerged from the Vidisha Research Group and is endorsed by the Society. To date the project has been supported by a two-year British Academy Board for Academy-Sponsored Institutes and Societies (BASIS) grant (2003-5). The core study area covers approximately 1000 sq km centering on the UNESCO World Heritage site of Sanchi and the neighbouring early-historic city site of Vidisha (Madhya Pradesh). The project has two components: i) contour mapping of selected irrigation works and Buddhist sites documented during earlier survey seasons; and ii) purchase and analysis of satellite imagery for ongoing archaeological prospection and site-mapping.

The first fieldwork season was carried out in December 2003-January 2004, with two major aims in keeping with the two-part structure of the project: i) to test the degree of concordance between already identified archaeological residues in the application area and levels of visibility within a sub-set of different satellite imagery; and ii) to initiate ground-based contour mapping of a number of key archaeological sites in the area. The latter component formed the initial stage of an extensive mapping programme to be continued in the 2004/5 field season.

The results of the project will form an important part in planning ongoing reconnaissance work, excavation, and archaeobotanical and geoarchaeological sampling in the area. They are also being integrated into the GIS structure of the project, as an essential means of analysing spatial and temporal patterns in the landscape. A multi-authored paper is currently in preparation on the use of satellite imagery as a means of detecting archaeological residues in central India. Finally, the resulting maps are being incorporated into a number of publications by members of the Vidisha Research Group.

Electronic Mahabharata

Director: Dr. John Smith, Cambridge in collaboration with the Bhandarkar Oriental Institute, Pune.

The project is based in Cambridge and Pune; the Society has partially funded fieldwork aspects of the project, particularly those elements which other bodies were unable to support but which were essential for the project's execution. Over the life of the project, Dr Smith has attracted funding from a range of sources, all of which are described and acknowledged on its web-site.

This project has been successfully completed but has an ongoing life due to its electronic and interactive nature. The Society plans to maintain an active electronic link to the project and to ensure that the assets of this project are exploited by the Society's Research Groups.

Ancient Historical Geography of Northern India

Director: Dr. Dilip K. Chakrabarti, Department of Archaeology, Cambridge.

This is a long-standing and productive Society project. The Society covers only fieldwork costs in India; staff costs are met by Cambridge and the project director manages publications arrangements in India.

The last year of fieldwork for this project will be 2005/6. As in the past, the Society will expect the project director and his collaborators in India to produce an interim report for *South Asian Studies*. A final monograph summarising the findings is expected before 2008.

Udayagiri and the Establishment of the Gods

Directors: Dr. Michael Willis, London; Dr. Meera Dass, INTACH, Bhopal.

This project has emerged from the Vidisha Research Group and is endorsed by the Society. To date the work has been supported by the British Museum (travel grants) and the British Academy (small research grant). A monograph entitled *Udayagiri and the Establishment of the Gods* will be ready for publication during the period covered by this Corporate Plan. This will be the project's main output and marks its conclusion.

World Corpus of Amaravati Sculpture

Directors: Dr. Jennifer Howes, British Library; Dr. Michael Willis, London; Akira Shimada, British Museum and School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

This project is the result of an agreement signed in 1991 with the Archaeological Survey of India. The aim of this project is to encourage scholarship on Amaravati and related questions of Buddhist archaeology. The project is partially based in the British Museum which holds a substantial collection of sculpture from the site. The Society intends to begin the process of depositing digital images and related material with ADS, York, as way of providing access to the data collected under the project. The Society is using this as a model for projects under its supervision as it is our view that ongoing and future projects should make full use of the AHDS service.

Kashmir Smast Exploration

Directors: Dr Robert Harding, Institute of Archaeology, London; Dr Nasim Khan, University of Peshawar.

This project has emerged from the Gandhara Research Group and is endorsed by the Society. A five year survey plan has been developed whose implementation is supported with a grant from the Society of Antiquaries, London. A five-year plan for the exploration of Kashmir Smast is given on the project web-site. The Society will

encourage the publication of findings in the *Journal of the Society of Antiquaries* and *South Asian Studies*.

Charsadda Excavations

Director: Dr R. Conningham, University of Bradford.

This project was conceived and led by Raymond Allchin and generously supported by the Society in the years before the Wilson Report. Responsibility for the project was passed to Robin Conningham who has now completed about 90% of the final report during a recent period of research leave from the University of Bradford. The Society intends to publish the Charsadda excavation report and thereby bring this project to a close by 2008.

Bannu Archaeological Project

Directors: Professor Ken Thomas, Institute of Archaeology, London; Mr J. R. Knox, British Museum.

This project is a long-standing collaboration between the institutions to which the directors belong and the Pakistan Heritage Society (PHS). The PHS is a non-governmental organisation based in Pakistan which has negotiated excavation permissions on behalf of the team and managed internal matters such as the storage of archaeological finds. The project has been funded primarily by the British Museum. As in the past, the Society expects the British Museum and Institute of Archaeology to guide the project and take responsibility for the production of the final excavation reports.

Anuradhapura Excavations

Director: Dr Robin Conningham, University of Bradford.

This project was conceived and led by Raymond Allchin and generously supported by the Society. Responsibility for the project was passed to Robin Conningham. The first report volume has been published. The second and final volume has been completed and is currently passing through the press. The Society expects to release volume 2 in 2004-05 and so bring this project to a conclusion.

Boundaries of Blood: Genealogies of 'War Babies' and the National Imaginings in Bangladesh

Director: Dr Nayanika Mookherjee, Department of Sociology, University of Lancaster

Dr Mookherjee's project was first funded by the Society when she held a Society post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Sussex. After resigning the fellowship to take a position at Lancaster, the Society made the research a Society project and hopes to continue supporting the fieldwork aspect of the research for three years.

In the future Dr Mookherjee intends to (a) organise a panel for the American Anthropological Association on Kinship, Violence and Nation, (b) to organise a workshop in South Asia on the same theme, to publish the proceedings and to seek Society support for this under the new Conference Grant scheme, and (c) to publish a monograph on the history of war-babies and international adoptions in Bangladesh.

Paithan and Chandor Archaeological Project

Director: Dr. Derek Kennet and Dr. J.V.P. Rao

During the past year work has continued towards the final publication of the Paithan excavations (1996-1999). Dr J.V.P. Rao and Dr. M.Kasturibai (A.S.I. Dharwad Circle) visited Durham for three weeks during September 2002 in order to work on the report. During this time the site phasing was completed and the final format of the publication was agreed.

It is hoped that the final report will be completed in 2007. The report will be published as a Memoir of the Archaeological Survey of India.

Ordered Sites and Images: India as a Laboratory for Archaeological Practice

Director: Dr Sudeshna Guha.

Focusing on Sir Mortimer Wheeler's Directorship of the Archaeological Survey of India, this three-year project was aimed at situating archaeology in South Asia as an empirical science. The objectives were to examine the shifting values through which archaeology was professionalised within the colonial experience of India. Wheeler's archaeology (1944-48) marks a watershed in the history of the discipline. Through his fieldwork and the visibility he endowed to them, he could effect conceptual transformations regarding the manner in which archaeology was to be 'staged and performed'. His 'ordered' sites, which became laboratories of his practice in Britain and India, best exemplify representations of organised practice.

Mainly based on archival research in India, nuances of Wheeler's representations have been published during the course of this project (*Bulletin of the History of Archaeology* 13 [1], *South Asian Studies* 19, *Modern Asian Studies* 39 [1], February 2005) which will culminate in a book-length monograph, aimed for publication in 2006.

Relics and Relic Worship in the Buddhism of India and Burma

**Directors: Dr. Janice Stargardt, Sidney Sussex College, University of Cambridge;
Professor K.R. van Kooij, Kern Institute, University of Leiden.**

The British Academy International Project on Relics and Relic Worship in the Early Buddhism of India and Burma runs for five years and has received valuable supplementary support from the Society for South Asian Studies. Its members are exploring the fundamental problem of the role of relics in Buddhism in the wider context

established by other religions with and without relics and relic worship. The significance of the founding historical figure and his disciples, the quest for immediate physical contact with them through relics, and the proliferation of relics are key questions in this study. So are issues such as the interaction between early Buddhist thought and practice and the preceding religions of the late Iron Age in India and Burma; the problems of reliably distinguishing between sacred burials and relics, on the one hand, and between foundation deposits and relics, on the other. An initial volume of research papers produced under the auspices of this Project is planned for 2005.

REPORTS BY THE SOCIETY'S RESEARCH FELLOWS

Dr. Derek Kennet, University of Durham

The Research Fellowship in South Asian Archaeology at Durham ended on 15/1/04. South Asian archaeology is now a firmly-established part of the teaching at Durham with high undergraduate and postgraduate interest. A further AHRB-funded PhD in South Asian archaeobotany was obtained and is being supervised jointly with Dr. P. Rowley-Conwy).

Dr Kennet gave a paper on the dating of Red Polished Ware at the SAA Conference in Bonn (July 2003). A paper on the Paithan temples was submitted to *South Asian Studies* for publication in 2003. The text of a BAR monograph on Early Historic and medieval pottery and trade in the Gulf and Western Indian Ocean has been submitted to Archaeopress for expected publication in 2003/4. Dr. Kennet is also involved in the completion of the Society's Paithan excavation report (see Project report).

Dr. Ted Proferes. School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London Religions of Ancient India

During the past year Dr. Proferes made a number of signal contributions to South Asian studies at SOAS. In 2003/4, he won the SOAS internal Principal's Teaching Prize awarded in recognition for excellence and innovation in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. In the same year, he was appointed Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching (2005–2008). Dr Proferes also received an AHRB teaching replacement grant in support for his fieldwork in South India during 2004/5. In the same year, Dr. Proferes inspired and organised the Louis Jordan Lectures in Comparative Religions, delivered by Professor Stanley Insler (Yale University) (April 2004) on 'Ancient Indian and Iranian Religion: Common Ground and Divergence'. Finally, Dr. Proferes was appointed Director of the SSAS *Kashika* project that works towards the production of critical editions of several important Sanskrit grammatical texts, including the *Kashikavrtti*.

Dr Proferes' more recent publications include: "Kuru Kings, Tura Kavaseya, and the -tvaya Gerund", *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 66.2, 2003, pp. 210–219; "Poetics and Pragmatics in the Vedic Liturgy for the Installation of the Sacrificial Post", *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 123.2, 2003, pp. 47–80; "Remarks on the Transition from Rigvedic Composition to Sruta Compilation", *Indo-Iranian Journal*, 46, 2003, pp. 1–21.

**Dr. Elizabeth Lambourn, PRASADA, De Montfort University,
Islamic Architecture in Gujarat**

Dr. Lambourn undertook a two-month fieldwork trip to Gujarat in January and February 2003. Fieldwork in Gujarat has become increasingly difficult. Recurrent waves of rioting and killings in Gujarat, especially following the attack at Godhra, have left Gujarat's Muslim community extremely suspicious of outsiders and have made access to mosques and Muslim structures an extremely complex issue. However, Dr. Lambourn was able to build up a strong network of contacts across Gujarat enabling her to gain access to most structures and, most importantly, to be granted permission to photograph them. This network will be a valuable asset in all future work across the state and indeed across India more generally.

During the fieldwork period new prospection/survey work was carried out in central Gujarat at Ahmedabad, Mahmudabad, Vadodara and its environs, Surat, Rander, Bharuch and Kapadwanj. A number of previously unrecorded medieval mosques, some of them in private ownership, were identified at several locations. Dr. Lambourn also helped establish the Midlands South Asia Seminar, jointly organized by De Montfort and Leicester universities. The seminar is beginning its second year this autumn. During this period Dr. Lambourn participated in one conference in Michigan, a seminar in Vadodara on "Recent developments in the study of Indian Islamic architecture in Europe and North America", and co-organized a two-day international workshop on *The Islamic Heritage of Sumatra in the pre-Modern Period* at SOAS. The workshop proceedings are currently being edited by Dr. Lambourn.

A number of articles have appeared during the past year:

Elizabeth Lambourn, "The English Factory or "Kothi" gateway at Cambay – an unpublished Tughluq structure from Gujarat", *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*, 65/3, 2002, pp.495-517.

E. Lambourn, "La production de marbre sculpté à Cambaye au Gujarat et son exportation dans l'Océan Indien (XIIIe – XVe siècles Ap. J. C.)", in *Mirabilia Asiatica. Produtos raros no comércio marítimo. Produtos raros dans le commerce maritime. Seltene Waren im Seehandel*, J. dos Santos Alves C. Guillot and R. Ptak eds., *South China and Maritime Asia 11*, Wiesbaden: Harrasowitz Verlag and Lisboa: Fundação Oriente, 2003, pp.209-252.

E. Lambourn, "Of horses and jewels – the career and patronage of an Iranian merchant under Shah Jahan", *Iranian Studies*, 36, 2, 2003, pp.213-258.

REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S JOURNAL

South Asian Studies has again attracted an international group of contributors, writing on a wide range of subjects. Volume 19 (2003) contains the following articles: Joe Cribb on the Indian coinage tradition; Nicole Boivin, Ravi Korisettar and P.C Venkatasubbiah on Megalithic graffiti marks on burial pots; Roger Boesche on women in the *Arthashastra*; Sudeshna Guha on the visual presentation of Mortimer Wheeler's Archaeology in South Asia; Dilip K. Chakrabarti, Rakesh Tiwari and R. N. Singh on ancient routes between the Ganga plain and the Deccan; Julia Shaw and John Sutcliffe on water management, patronage networks and religious change; Steven E. Lindquist on the *Asvamedha* coin-type; Derek Kennett and J.V.P. Rao on early historic temples at Paithan; Samuel K. Parker on essentialism in the construction of the traditional South Asian artist's identity; Vibhuti Sachdev on the theory of *jaali* design; Pika Ghosh on a Bengali *Ramayana* scroll painting; Mehrdad Shokoohy and Natalie H. Shokoohy on the Portuguese fort of Diu. Abstracts will be posted on the Society's new website.

Professor Adam Hardy
Journal Editor

REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY'S MONOGRAPHS

During the last year publication of the Society monograph series continued with Routledge-Curzon. Mehrdad Shokoohy's, *Muslim Architecture of South India* has been published and his *Tughluqabad* has been accepted by Council for publication. Nora Titley's *Nimat Nama* is currently in press and is expected 2004-05. Monograph proposals have been received and accepted from Elizabeth Lambourn and Crispin Branfoot. Richard Shaw's work on siddhas, provisionally accepted last year, is undergoing revisions; the editor expects the manuscript in 2004-05. Robin Conningham's *Anuradhapura* vol. 2 is currently with Archaeopress UK and should appear in 2004-05.

The editor welcomes monograph proposals from scholars who have been supported by the Society's grant programme. Those interested in submitting proposals should consult guidelines provided on the Society's web-site.

M. Willis
Monographs Editor

LECTURES

The Society also supports the work of the Indian Art Circle, and members of the Society are entitled to attend lectures given under their auspices. The following lectures were supported by the Society.

Robert Skelton	“Sultanate Painting in India”
Richard Shaw	“The Art of the Siddha: Ascetic carvings in South India”
Barry Flood	“The Sultan’s body and the Raja’s belt: cross-cultural encounters in medieval India”
Jyotindra Jain	“Kalighat Painting: Images from a Changing World”
Robert Skelton	“Deccani Painting”
Sudeshna Guha	“Unearthing a Saffron Past: Harappan Archaeology and Contemporary Indian Politics”
Timothy Hyman	“Remembering Bhupen Khakhar”

RECENT AWARDS MADE BY THE SOCIETY

The following awards were made by Council in the financial year covered by the report:

Language Training grants:

- Mr. Talat Ahmed - £1,230 to study Hindi and Urdu in New Delhi
- Ms. Emma Flatt - £2,000 to learn Persian in New Delhi
- Mr. Georgios Halkias - £2,000 to undertake intensive language training in Tibetan at Darjeeling
- Mr. Justin Jones - £2,000 to study Urdu in Delhi and Lucknow
- Ms. Orlanda Ruthven - £1,425 to undertake intensive study of Hindi in Lucknow and Moradabad

Small Personal Research Grants:

- Nicole Boivin - £1,406 "Geoarchaeological investigation of the Kurnool cave complex"
- Dr. Crispin Branfoot - £1000 "Vijayanagara and the temples of coastal Kanara"
- Dr. Madhuvanti Ghose - £1900 "A comparison of the objects from Gandhara and Khotan kept in the public collections of Pakistan and India with those of the Ashmolean, Oxford"
- Dr. Helen Lewis - £700 "Exploring prehistoric agricultural landscapes in South India: a pilot study of the ancient field system of Bellary District."
- Dr. Nayanika Mookherjee - £1,580 "Genealogies of war babies in Bangladesh"
- Dr. Julia Shaw - £1500 "The archaeological setting of Buddhist monasteries in ancient India"
- Dr. Lloyd-Smith - £1000 "Ancient dams in central India: the archaeo-environmental and palaeo-botanical background"
- Dr. Sumi Madhok - £1000 "Rights, Gender and Moral Meaning: The Rights Evolution in Southern India"
- Dr. Andrea Major - £1200 "Child Wives and Burning Brides: Imperialism, Nationalism and Social Reform in early twentieth century India"
- Dr. Richard Whitecross - £1500 "Popular understanding of constitutional change in Bhutan"
- Dr. Andrew Wyatt - £1650 "Explaining Party System Change in Tamil Nadu"

Travel Grants:

- Ms. Rachel Basan - £500 "The Bhojeshwar Temple: Bhojpur"
- Dr. Roderick Chalmers - £1400 "A Garden of all Peoples? Nature, nationhood and the idea of Nepal, 1768-2001"
- Dr. Nile Green - £1100 "Survey of Sufi shrines in Aurangabad"
- Dr. Ananya Kabir - £600 "Conflict trauma and the Arts in post-Partition South Asia: A Study of Artistic Responses to the Kashmir Conflict"
- Dr. Magnus Marsden - £3000 "Migration, Labour and Islam in Pakistan"

Conference Grants:

- Dr. Katherine Adeney - £1000 "Coalition Politics and Hindu nationalism." Institute of Commonwealth Studies 21-22 February 2004
- Dr. Imre Bangha - £1500 "The South Asian Legacy of Sir Aurel Stein." De Montfort University 5-6 March 2004
- Dr. Roger Jefferey - £600 South Asian Anthropologists' Group (SAAG) 2003 Conference: "Kinship in the New Economy." London School of Economics

- Dr. Lalita du Perron - £500 “Food and emotion in South Asian Literature.” Centre of South Asian Studies, SOAS, 27 October 2003
- Dr. Charles Ramble - £1000 Tenth Seminar of the International Association of Tibetan Studies. St. Hugh’s College, Oxford 6-12 September 2003
- Dr. Kunal Sen - £1000 2004 Annual Conference of the British Association of South Asian Studies: “Contemporary Developments in South Asia.” University of East Anglia, Norwich, 5-7 April 2004

Aided projects:

- Dr. Janice Stargardt - £1425 “Relics and Relic Worship in the Early Buddhism of India and Burma.”

Support for Publications:

- Dr. Bashibir Fraser - £1000 “Partition Stories of Bengal: Untold Story”
- Mrs. Sheila Middleton - £520 “Intagli from Burma”

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

INDEPENDENT REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

We have audited the financial statements on pages 24 to 30 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and the accounting policies set out on page 26.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND AUDITORS

The trustees' responsibilities for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards are set out in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities.

I have been appointed auditor under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 44 of that Act. My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

I report to you my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. I also report to you if, in my opinion, the Trustees' Report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if I have all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

We read other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. I confirm the implications for my report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. My responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

BASIS OF AUDIT OPINION

We conducted my audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and or whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

OPINION

In my opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs at 31st March 2004 and of the incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

30 October 2004

32 The Ridgeway
Enfield
Middx EN2 8QH

Peter Duffell
Chartered Accountant
Registered Auditor

**THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2004

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	<u>2004</u> Total Funds	<u>2003</u> Total Funds
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Donations, legacies and similar incoming resources:					
British Academy Grant		75,000		75,000	75,000
Vidisha Project			33,800	33,800	1,000
Donations		<u>200</u>	<u> </u>	<u>200</u>	
		75,200	33,800	109,000	76,000
Income from activities in furtherance of the Charity's Objects:					
Subscriptions and Publication sales		7,725		7,725	7,286
Investment income - bank interest		<u>2,001</u>	<u> </u>	<u>2,001</u>	<u>2,411</u>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		<u>84,926</u>	<u>33,800</u>	<u>118,726</u>	<u>85,697</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Grants payable in furtherance of the Charity's Objects	3(a)	82,936	33,800	116,736	73,928
Cost of activities in furtherance of the Charity's Objects	3(b)	7,628		7,628	8,615
Management and Administration of the Charity	3(c)	<u>13,406</u>	<u> </u>	<u>13,406</u>	<u>11,156</u>
		<u>£103,970</u>	<u>£33,800</u>	<u>£137,770</u>	<u>£93,699</u>
Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources		(19,044)		(19,044)	(8,002)
Total funds brought forward		<u>57,998</u>		<u>57,998</u>	<u>66,000</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>£38,954</u>		<u>£38,954</u>	<u>£57,998</u>

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2004

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible Assets	4	2,173	1,580
CURRENT ASSETS			
Prepayment		500	
Cash at bank and in hand	5	<u>91,388</u> 91,388	<u>49,460</u> 49,960
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	6	<u>(35,563)</u>	<u>(12,586)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>55,825</u>	<u>37,374</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>£57,998</u>	<u>£38,954</u>
Financed by Capital Funds:			
Unrestricted Funds:			
General fund		15,998	21,954
Designated funds	8	<u>42,000</u>	<u>17,000</u>
		<u>£57,998</u>	<u>£38,954</u>

Approved on 27 September 2004 by

Members of the Council of Management

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2004

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities.
- b) The stock of publications is not brought into account. The Council consider that to estimate the value of these items would be of no real benefit to the Society
- c) Fixed assets abroad are written off in the year of purchase and are not capitalised in the accounts.
- d) Direct currency conversions are translated at the exchange rate at the time of transaction, other balances are converted at year end rates, any difference arising on exchange is written off in the year concerned.
- e) Fixed assets are depreciated at the following rates, in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful life:

Furniture	25% reducing balance
Computer Equipment	25% reducing balance.
- f) The Society's financial statements have been prepared to comply with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), produced by the Charity Commission in October 2000 and thus with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act 1993.
- g) In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard number 1, no cash flow statement is included in these financial statements as the Charity is covered by the small entity exemption.
- h) The Charity is exempt from taxes on income and capital gains under the provisions of section 505 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988. The Charity is not exempt from VAT; irrecoverable VAT is included within the expense heading to which it relates.

2. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

Trustees' responsibilities regarding the financial statements

The Trustees accept that it is primarily their responsibility:

1. to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Trust and of its results for that period; and to achieve that end:
2. to select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
3. to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
4. to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements and with the Society's governing document.

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2004

3. DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

a). GRANTS PAYABLE:	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Vidisha Project (Restricted Fund)	1,000	33,800
SOAS Indian Religion	16,000	8,000
Mahabharata	1,800	-
Boats of South Asia	1,568	-
Upper Ganges	2,500	2,500
Amaravati Sculptures	2,200	-
Kasikravritti	-	3,050
Relic worship in Early India and Burma	-	1,425
Vitali: Action Cinema	-	3,000
Guha: Ordered sites and images	-	1,000
	<u>25,068</u>	52,775
Post Graduate Research Fellowships	27,000	30,000
small grants to 29 individuals (2003: 17) for:		
Research	15,486	
Travel	2,300	
Monographs	1,720	
Language	8,655	
Conferences	5,800	
	<u>33,961</u>	
	<u>21,860</u>	<u>33,961</u>
	<u>£73,928</u>	<u>£116,736</u>
b). OTHER CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE		
Publication costs: South Asian Studies Journal	7,890	7,035
Depreciation	<u>725</u>	<u>593</u>
	<u>£8,615</u>	<u>£7,628</u>
c). MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION		
Audit fees	1,528	1,586
Office and sundry expenses	9,605	10,300
Bank charges and interest	23	20
Rent	-	1,500
	<u>£11,156</u>	<u>£13,406</u>

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2004

4. FIXED ASSETS

	<u>Furniture and Library Equipment</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Computer Equipment</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cost at 1 April 2003 and	7,108	5,840	10,870	23,818
at 31 March 2004	<u>£7,108</u>	<u>£5,840</u>	<u>£10,870</u>	<u>£23,818</u>
Depreciation at 1 April 2003	7,044	5,839	8,762	21,645
Charge for year	64	1	528	593
at 31 March 2004	<u>£7,108</u>	<u>£5,840</u>	<u>£9,290</u>	<u>£22,238</u>
Net Book Value at 1 April 2003	<u>£64</u>	<u>£1</u>	<u>£2,108</u>	<u>£2,173</u>
at 31 March 2004	<u>£-</u>	<u>£-</u>	<u>£1,580</u>	<u>£1,580</u>

5. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Bank Accounts - interest bearing	91,388	49,242
Cash in hand	-	218
	<u>£91,388</u>	<u>£49,460</u>

6. CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)

Grants allocated but unpaid	4,650	1,200
Publication costs	8,606	9,300
Accruals and other creditors	3,557	2,086
Income received in advance	18,750	-
	<u>£35,563</u>	<u>£12,586</u>

7. TRUSTEES

No Trustee or their connected persons received any remuneration from the Charity in the year. Reimbursed travel etc expenses totalling **£920** were paid to **7** Trustees. (2003: £722 to 8).

8. DESIGNATED FUNDS

The following amounts have been designated by the Trustees from the general funds of the Society for specific purposes:

	Fund Balance brought forward	Transfer to (/from) Fund	Fund Balance carried forward
Research Fellowships	<u>£42,000</u>	<u>£(25,000)</u>	<u>£17,000</u>

RESERVES POLICY

Council reviews regularly the Society's activities and future commitments. It has been established that, if the annual grant to the Society were to be terminated, a reserve of £25,000 would be needed to wind up the Society's affairs and to meet any outstanding commitments. Council has therefore determined that the minimum level of the Society's reserves should be £25,000 and that no commitments should be entered into which would bring the reserves below this level.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The major risk that the Society faces is the withdrawal of all or part of its grant from the Academy. Systems have been established to minimise this possibility through maintaining and improving the quality of its work, accurate reporting and tight financial control. Council is responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and taking all reasonable steps for the detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities. Financial procedures are reviewed regularly and the Society's accounts are audited annually.

September 2004

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH

The Society for South Asian Studies promotes and supports study and research into the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bangladesh. To this end it offers a range of research grants to applicants who are normally resident in the United Kingdom.

Details of the Society's programmes are available on the Society's web-site. As grant programmes and other funding initiatives are approved by the British Academy, further particulars and application forms will be made available on the Society's web-site.

**The Assistant Secretary,
The Society for South Asian Studies,
60 Queen's Gardens,
London W2 3AF
Tel/fax: +44 (0)20 7402 5753.
Office hours: Tuesday-Wednesday 9:30-17:30
e-mail: secretary@societyforsouthasianstudies.org
Website: <http://www.societyforsouthasianstudies.org>**

THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

The Society for South Asian Studies is one of the Schools and Institutes founded and grant aided by the British Academy. It is also a learned Society that organises a regular programme of meetings and publishes an annual journal *South Asian Studies*. It promotes and supports study and research in the humanities and social sciences of Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. The Society's annual lecture is a landmark event, held each year in November. From time to time other meetings, seminars and colloquia are also arranged. Members of the Society are entitled to attend all lectures and other meetings organised by the Society and to introduce guests. They receive the Annual Report of the Society and its journal *South Asian Studies* free of charge. Applications for membership are welcomed. Current subscriptions rates, payable on 1st January are:

Subscription Rates

From 1st January 2004

Individual Members	£30.00 or US\$65.00
Institutional Members	£40.00 or US\$75.00
Junior Members (under 25)	£20.00
Additional Members at same address (Associate)	£ 5.00
Associate Membership (without Journal)	£10.00

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Full Name

Address

.....

E-mail

Please send this form together with a completed Bankers Order, Dollar or Stirling Cheque (drawn on a British Bank) for the current subscription to:

The Assistant Secretary,
The Society for South Asian Studies
60 Queen's Gardens,
London W2 3AF
Tel/fax: +44 (0)20-7402 5753
E-mail: secretary@societyforsouthasianstudies.org

Copies of back numbers of *Afghan Studies* 1-3 and *South Asian Studies* 1-18 may be purchased from the above mentioned address.