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
31 MARCH 2005

The Annual General Meeting of the Society
will be held at the Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS, Russell Square, London SW1Y 5AH

on Monday, 21 November 2005

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:

‘Indian Epigraphy Today - New Materials, Methods, Questions and Results’

by

Prof. Dr. Harry Falk

Freie Universität, Berlin
THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

THE COUNCIL 2005

Chairman
Prof. Peter Robb

Treasurer
Mr. David Waterhouse

Honorary Secretary
Dr. Ulrich Pagel (2006)

Editor
Prof. Adam Hardy

Monographs Editor
Dr. Michael Willis

Members
Dr. Shailendra Bhandare (2007)
Prof. Graham Chapman (2005)
Dr. Vinita Damodoran (2005)
Dr. Jennifer Howes (2005)
Dr. Javed Majeed (2007)
Dr. Emma Mawdsley (2007)
Dr. John Smith (2009)
Mrs. Susan Stronge (2007)
Dr. Maya Unnithan (2008)
Dr. Dominik Wujastyk (2008)

Research Fellows
Dr. Elizabeth Lambourn
Dr. Ted Proferes

Honorary Fellows
Dr. Bridget Allchin
Dr. F.R. 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 31 MARCH 2005

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 1 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, 73 Collier Street, London N1 9BE.

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 2005 were:

Prof. Peter Robb
Mr. David Waterhouse
Dr. Ulrich Pagel
Prof. Adam Hardy
Dr. Michael Willis

Chairman
Treasurer
Honorary Secretary
Editor
Monographs 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 2005:

Dr. Shailendra Bhandare  
Prof. Graham Chapman  
Dr. Vinita Damodaran  
Dr. Adam Hardy  
Dr. Jennifer Howes  
Dr. Javed Majeed  
Dr. Emma Mawdsley  
Dr. Ulrich Pagel  

Prof. Peter Robb  
Dr. John Smith  
Mrs. Susan Stronge  
Dr. Maya Unnithan  
Mr. David Waterhouse  
Dr. Michael Willis  
Dr. Dominik Wujastyk

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**  
CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue,  
West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

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 for 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 2004/5

The past year has brought many changes to the operations of the Society. Some took place as a result of our ongoing effort to enhance our contribution to South Asia research; other changes were propelled by restructuring at the British Academy and by the Academy’s decision to increase the Society’s grant-in-aid by some 30 per cent to £100,000. This substantial boost in funding was secured through the submission of a new strategic plan -- crafted by our previous Chairman, Dr. Michael Willis -- which proffered a considerably expanded and more contemporary vision of South Asia research, both in Britain and on the subcontinent. The increase in our grant-in-aid, by far the largest given to any overseas organisation funded by the Academy, bodes well for South Asian studies and confirms, in a very concrete way, the role the Society has to play.

In 2004/5 the Society expanded its funding profile and offered a greater number of grants in each competition. Important beneficiaries were the students who applied for language training grants. In the last year the Society disbursed grants for the study of Sanskrit, Hindi, Tibetan and Arabic. The inclusion of the latter was prompted by its wide use as one of the key languages of Indian Ocean trade and by a growing interest in this phenomenon among our research-active members.

Apart from ongoing support for existing research projects, the Society issued three new Project Development Grants and one South Asia Conference Grant. We also supported two major international conferences: the 14th Conference of the International Association of Buddhist Studies (SOAS, September 2005) and the European Association of South Asian Archaeologists (British Museum, July 2005). These were major international gatherings attended by hundreds of scholars. Due to changes in the organisation of the Society’s programmes, they were the last UK-based conferences we will support. Nonetheless, their impact will endure for many years, as both were attended by an unprecedented number of scholars from South Asia.

Following the announcement in the Annual Report for 2004, Council decided to institute three further categories of grants:

- Fieldwork Access Grants for undergraduate students of exceptional quality;
- South Asia Conference Grants;
- Academic Exchange Grants.

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 website.

Following the sale of the Royal Asiatic Society’s premises near Paddington, the headquarters of the Society are no longer in Queen’s Gardens. In a few months, we will move with the RAS to a new address near Euston, close to the British Library, SOAS and the British Museum. For the duration of renovation works to the Euston property, our
office is housed in temporary accommodation close to Kings Cross at 73 Collier Street, London N1. Mrs. Brenda McGregor-Laarhoven, who has run the Society’s office since 2003, is currently on maternity leave. Until March 2006, Society administration will be overseen and executed by Ms. Andrea P.A. Belloli.

In 2004, the Society’s Annual Lecture (22 November, Royal Asiatic Society) was delivered by Prof. Giovanni Veradi (Università degli Studi di Napoli ‘L’Orientale’), who spoke about the role of Brahmins in bringing about the demise of Buddhism in India (‘The Brahmins and the End of Indian Buddhism’).

The last year saw also the launch of an extensively revised and upgraded SSAS website. The new site contains a wide range of information about the Society and its operations, including grant application forms, our corporate plan, project descriptions and reports, Council minutes, Annual Reports, committee membership, lecture announcements and publications. For further details see: http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS/

I would like to take this opportunity to heartily thank our ever-vigilant Treasurer, David Waterhouse, who has decided to step down. He served the Society exceptionally well with his knowledge, financial prudence and deep appreciation for South Asia research. For many of us, life at the Society will never be quite the same. It is also time to thank Council members whose term of office has expired: Prof. Graham Chapman, Dr. Vinita Damodaran and Dr. Jennifer Howes. I would personally like to thank them for their keen interest in Society business and their contributions to our success over the last few years. Finally, I would like to welcome Prof. Peter Robb, who took over as Chairman from Dr. Willis in January 2005. In spite of a very busy schedule as Pro-Director of SOAS, Prof. Robb kindly agreed to stand at the helm of the Society and oversee its activities.

Dr. Ulrich Pagel
Honorary Secretary
REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF SOCIETY PROJECTS

Listed below are the research projects currently supported by the Society for South Asian Studies. The full version is available on the Society’s website at: http://www.britac.ac.uk/institutes/SSAS/index.html

Mapping Settlements, Dams and Monasteries in Central India
Director: Dr. Julia Shaw, Institute of Archaeology, UCL, London; in collaboration with Anthony Beck and Graham Philip, Departments of Geography and Archaeology, University of Durham; under sanction from the Department of Archaeology, Museums and Archives, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal

The core study area of this project, which emerged from the Vidisha Research Group, covers approximately 1,000 sq km centering on the UNESCO World Heritage site of Sanchi and the neighbouring early-historic city-site of Vidisha (Madhya Pradesh). Detailed architectural and topographical mapping was carried out at ten Buddhist complexes and two dam sites. Further developments included the purchase of Quickbird satellite imagery of selected areas, and improvements to the project’s existing GIS structure. Some of the resulting maps and datasets will be included in a paper entitled ‘Ancient Dams and Buddhist Sites in the Sanchi Area: New Evidence on Irrigation, Land Use, and Patronage in Central India’ (J. Shaw and J. Sutcliffe) (South Asian Studies, 21 [2005]). A more complete set of maps and site catalogues will be presented in a monograph entitled Sanchi and its Archaeological Landscape: Approaches to Religious and Economic Change in Central India (J. Shaw), to be published by UCL Press.

The Sanchi Dams Project
Director: Dr. Julia Shaw, Institute of Archaeology, UCL, London; under sanction from Department of Archaeology, Museums and Archives, Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal

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 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. These analyses were carried out with success. The results of this work will appear in a paper, ‘The Sanchi Dams Project: A Pilot Study of Ancient Dam and Reservoir Deposits for Geological Dating andArchaeobotanical Analysis’ (J. Shaw et al.), which is to be submitted to Antiquity. A more detailed account will appear in Sanchi and its Archaeological Landscape: Approaches to Religious and Economic Change in Central India (see above).

The Critical Edition of the Kashikavrtti
Director: Dr. Ted Proferes, SOAS, London; Pascale Haag, EHESS, Paris
For practical reasons funds were transferred to the French institution EHESS in April 2004; Pascale Haag is in charge of the project’s financial management. New developments this year, in some cases with new collaborators (among them Dr. Arlo Griffiths [Leiden], Ms. Corinne Lagarde-Chapdelaine [Paris] and Mr. Paolo Giunta [Rome]), included collection of reproductions of manuscripts still missing from Prof. J. Bronkhorst’s set; study and collation of manuscripts (preparing an electronic file of each one); and translation into English by Pascale Haag and Vincenzo Vergiani in collaboration with Saroja Bhat and Anjanya Sharma. The final version will be revised and published in a monograph composed of the critical edition, the translation, a presentation of all sources and some articles on related subjects. IT specialists from the Institut National de Recherches en Informatique et en Automatique headed by Dr. Marc Csernel, in collaboration with Dr. François Patte (EFEO), are building the software for critical editions of ancient Indian texts and their statistical analysis. A general meeting of all the participants took place in March 2005, thus enabling Indologists and computer specialists to share views and establish working conventions.

Paithan and the Early Temple Tradition in Maharashtra  
**Director:** Dr. Derek Kennet


**Boundaries of Blood: Genealogies of War Babies and the Bangladeshi Nation**  
**Director:** Dr. Nayanika Mookherjee, Department of Sociology, University of Lancaster

One of the main objectives this year was to start examining the hundreds of adoption files made available by the Department of Social Welfare, Government of Bangladesh. This made it possible to make theoretical analyses and contributions to studies on children and youth in the context of violence, on the basis of which a panel was organised for the Association of American Anthropology in November 2005. Alongside this research, interviews were conducted with social workers, doctors and government officials who worked among war babies in 1972, right after the war.

**Udayagiri and the Establishment of the Gods**  
**Directors:** Dr. Michael Willis, London; Dr. Meera Dass, Bhopal; under sanction from the Archaeological Survey of India

This project emerged from the Vidisha Research Group. During the period covered by this report, the Archaeological Survey of India authorised a detailed topographic survey of the site. The work was undertaken between September and December 2004. This survey will be used to make new site maps, which will be included in a monograph entitled *Udayagiri and the Establishment of the Gods*, currently in preparation. This will be the project’s main output and will mark its conclusion.
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

This project explores the long-term historical dynamics and cultural layers which shape and characterize action cinema as it emerged in South Asia. Having adopted a short-term historical perspective that views cinema as a self-contained cultural practice, film historians have tended to discuss the modern Hindi action film as an effect of Hollywood’s export operations in South Asia. However, clear connections have been revealed between early Indian stunt films and pre-industrial notions of the yogic body. Similarly, the narrative strategies of 1960s and ’70s Hindi action productions indicate that a pre-modern epic tradition was still at work. Finally, viewing practices and the circulation of contemporary films across South Asia borrow as much from current distribution strategies as from eighteenth- and nineteenth-century forms of public exhibition. The immediate objective of this project is to identify those layers that lend the action cinemas of South Asia their specificity and, in the process, through close collaboration with South Asian scholars, to investigate the dynamics that shape and sustain those cinemas. The longer-term objective of this project is to set in place the conditions for closer collaboration between British and South Asian scholars in the areas of film theory.

Ancient Historical Geography of the Ganga Plain  
Director: Dilip Chakrabarti

The areas taken up for study this year were Ghaziabad, Meerut, Moradabad and Bijnor. More than a hundred sites were studied in all, and a report has been submitted to *South Asian Studies* for consideration. One of the major highlights of the season was a new insight into the distribution of ‘Harappan’ sites. Many of these sites had hitherto been placed in the ‘mature/late’ Harappan category. The basis of such categorisations is rather nebulous and should be replaced by a general category of ‘Harappan tradition’. Another important point to emerge was the range of distribution of such sites up to the Himalayan foothills. A large number of sites of the historical period have also been reported along with a number of massive mounds at the edge of the Yamuna in the Baghpat area.

World Corpus of Amarāvati Sculpture  
Director: Dr. Akira Shimada, in collaboration with the Archaeological Survey of India  
Project Advisors: Prof. Dr. Jens-Uwe Hartmann, Ludwig Maximilians Universität, Munich; Dr. Jennifer Howes, The British Library, London; Dr. Janice Stargardt, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge; Dr. Michael Willis, The British Museum, London

The stūpa at Amarāvati is one of the most celebrated monuments in India. A flourishing centre of Buddhism for over five hundred years from c. 200 BC, it remained active until the 14th century, when the stūpa was finally abandoned. The World Corpus of Amarāvati Sculpture is a web-based node for the stūpa's widely-dispersed remains. The aims of the project are to facilitate access to the site's sculpture and documentation, to encourage the interdisciplinary and international discussion of Amarāvati and to promote new research and publication on Amarāvati and Buddhist archaeology. The World Corpus is unique among the Society’s projects as a distinctive web-based resource.
REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF PROJECTS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

The Kavitāvali of Tulsīdās - A Critical Edition
Dániel Balogh, Budapest; Dr. Imre Bangha, University of Oxford; Miercurea Ciuc; Eszter Berki, Budapest; Gábor Karsai, Centre for Project Studies; Dr. Mária Négyesi, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest; Eszter Somogyi, Budapest

The South Asian Language and Literature research group brings together scholars of Hindi who work on critical text editions of works in Brajbhasha and in other pre-modern dialects today considered to be the literary heritage of Hindi. The first major project of the group is the critical edition of the Kavitāvali of Tulsīdās, considered to be one of his finest works. This edition of the Kavitāvali will show Tulsi as a human figure who was polished into sainthood through making his poetry agrees with stylistic and thematic norms. Since its first printed edition in 1815 the Kavitāvali has been published about 120 times. The critical edition is now prepared by scholars based in Britain, Romania, Hungary and India. At the moment the collation of the manuscripts has been started with a development grant from the Society.

Vijayanagara-Period Architecture in Karnataka
Director: Dr. Crispin Branfoot

This research is an examination of the temple architecture and sculpture of the Vijayanagara period in Karnataka. This forms part of an ongoing research project in collaboration with Anna Dallapiccola and Anila Verghese. The intellectual focus is not on the capital itself but on the regions of the empire and their relationship with the imperial centre. During this period of fieldwork over sixty temples in southern Karnataka and the border region of Andhra Pradesh were visited. Positive working relationships were established with Indian scholars at the Karnatak University and the Kannada Research Institute in Dharwad, and the National Institute for Advanced Studies and Indian Council for Historical Research in Bangalore. Plans for the publication of this year’s research include a chapter in a forthcoming book, an article for South Asian Studies and a paper delivered at the European Association of South Asian Archaeologists conference in July 2005.

Tibetan Buddhist Literature: the Electronic Kangyur
Directors: Burkhard Quesel, The British Library, London; Prof. David Germano, University of Virginia

The Tibetan scriptural canon, consisting of the Kangyur and Tengyur, are collections of ancient Buddhist scriptures originally composed in Sanskrit and other Asian languages. The Kangyur contains canonical works attributed to various Buddhas and other divine figures, while the Tengyur is a compilation of commentarial texts by historical authors in exegetical explication of the Kangyur. Together, they constitute one of the largest and most important collections of ancient Buddhist literature. The aim of this project is to offer the entire Kangyur via the World Wide Web. One volume with explanatory framework has been prepared with Society support. Pending the approval of a larger project, other volumes will be published as they are finished.
REPORTS BY THE SOCIETY'S RESEARCH FELLOWS

Dr. Elizabeth Lambourn, Senior Research Fellow, Faculty of Art and Design, De Montfort University
Islamic Architecture of Gujarat

Two periods of fieldwork were carried out: a two-week visit to Pakistan during the second half of September 2003 and a six-week field trip to India from mid-December 2003 to end January 2004. Research in Pakistan focused particularly on building materials and the use of brick and brick-and-timber construction in the Punjab plains, with work at Multan and Uchch Sharif. Unfortunately the security situation in Sind made it impossible to visit the area. Research in India focused on Ahmedabad, where the documentation and surveying of the majority of post-1500 Islamic structures in the old walled city took place via black-and-white photographs and slides. Complete sets of new CAD drawings for the main Islamic structures at Khambhata (Cambay) were commissioned, and a short visit to the Deccan, again focusing on remaining timber structures at Bidar, was undertaken as well.

Publications
During the period in question the following articles were published:


During the final five-and-a-half-month tenure of my Postdoctoral Research Grant my work focused on writing up research and fieldwork results. Chapters that will also be published as independent articles have been completed on the principles of architectural decoration in western India; the development of minarets in western India and their interaction with types from the Arabian Peninsula, Iran and India; and the visual aesthetics of Gujarati Islamic architecture. A major article entitled 'Building Materials and the Construction of Architectural History in Western India' has been accepted for publication in Muqarnas. A further article on Khambhata carving is in press with Ars Orientalis: 'Carving and Communities: Marble Carving for Muslim Communities at Khambhata and around the Indian Ocean Rim (Late 13th–Mid-15th Centuries CE).

Conferences and Other Activities
During this period I had a panel proposal accepted for the European Association of South Asian Archaeologists conference at the British Museum (July 2005). The day-long panel, entitled 'New Research on Pre-Mughal Islamic Material Culture in South Asia', was co-convened with Dr. Finbarr Flood, New York University, and gathered papers from South Asia, Europe and North America. It is hoped to publish the proceedings as a separate volume entitled Islamic Material Culture in South Asia - New Research and Directions under the auspices of UCL and UCL Press.
Dr. Ted Proferes. School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London
Religions of Ancient India

Dr. Proferes has continued to make signal contributions to South Asian studies at SOAS. In 2003/4, he won the internal Principal’s Teaching Prize in recognition for excellence and innovation in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. In the same year, he was appointed Associate Dean for Learning and Teaching (2005-08). Dr Proferes also received an AHRB teaching replacement grant in support for his fieldwork in South India during 2004/5, as well as inspiring and organising the Louis Jordan Lectures in Comparative Religions.

Dr. Proferes is Director of the SSAS Kashika project, which works towards the production of critical editions of several important Sanskrit grammatical texts, including the Kashikavritti.
REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY’S JOURNAL

Volume 20 (2004) of *South Asian Studies* contains the following articles: M.A. Dhaky on the bases of Javanese *shivalingas*; Giles Tillotson on the work of the architect George S.T. Harris in Gwalior; Philip E. Harding on the geometry of the Durga Temple, Aihole; Peter Magee on the chronology of Painted Grey Ware; Robin Jones on the Anglicisation of local elite domestic interiors in Ceylon, c. 1850 to 1910; Dilip K. Chakrabarti, Rakesh Tewari and R. N. Singh on sites in the Agra-Mathura-Aligarh-Bulandshahr Sector of the upper Ganga-Yamuna Doab; Nile Green on patronage of Sufi institutions in the Late Mughal and early Asaf Jah Deccán; and Isabella Nardi on an unpublished Hindi source on the theory of proportion of images. Abstracts will be posted on the Society’s website.

Prof. Adam Hardy
Journal Editor

REPORT BY THE EDITOR OF THE SOCIETY’S MONOGRAPHS

During the last year, the Society continued to publish monographs with Routledge-Curzon. The most notable achievement was the publication of Nora Titley’s *Nimat Nama*. A facsimile of the India Office Library’s copy of the Sultanate MS, it includes Titley’s translation and commentary. Otherwise the Society is going ahead with Mehrdad Shokoohy’s *Tughluqabad*, which was accepted by Council for publication following receipt of reports from external readers. Also accepted for publication following receipt of reports was Crispin Branfoot’s *Gods on the Move*, a study of later south Indian temple architecture. Richard Shaw’s work on *siddhas*, provisionally accepted, is undergoing revisions, while volume 2 of Robin Coningham’s *Anuradhapura* is currently with Archaeopress UK. 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 website.

Dr. Michael 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:

Richard Blurton  ‘Tribal Transitions: Report on Recent Fieldwork in North-East India’
Helen Philon  ‘The Urban Environment of Gulbarga: The Second Capital of the Bahmanis in the Deccan’
John Clarke  ‘New Perspectives on Tibetan Jewellery’
Robert Skelton  ‘Deccani Painting’
Geoffrey Quilley  ‘William Hodges: Artist of Empire’
Marsha Olson  ‘Indo-Portuguese Ivory Statuettes from Seventeenth to Eighteenth Century Goa’
Henry Noltie  ‘Indian Botanical Drawings at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh’
Harsha Dehejia  ‘Celebrating Krishna’
Penelope Woolfitt  ‘Heroes and Monsters: A Study of Costume in the Hamzanama’
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. Lewis Doney - £2,000 to study Sanskrit and Tibetan in Sarnath
Mr. Mattia Salvini - £2,000 to study Sanskrit and Tibetan in Sarnath
Ms. Rachel Stevens - £2,500 to study Tibetan in Darjeeling

Project Development Grants:
Dr. Imre Bangha - £1,500  ‘Kavítávali Statistical Analysis’
Dr. Rachel Dwyer - £3,000  ‘Bombay Talkies: Language and Emotion in Hindi Cinema’
Dr. Burkhard Quessell - £2,170  ‘Digitisation of the Tibetan Kanjur’
Dr. Deborah Sutton - £1,500  ‘Identity, Mobility and Exclusion: India and Mauritius, 1947-1965’

Project Grants:
Dr. Robert Harding - £500  ‘Kashmir Smast Exploration, Pakistan’
Dr. Elinor Keane - £700  ‘A Description of Tamil Intonation’
Dr. Ted Proferes - £5,000  ‘Kashika: The Encyclopedic Grammar of the Sanskrit Language’

Small Personal Research Grants:
Dr. Crispin Branfoot - £1,284  ‘Vijayanagara-period Architecture in Karnataka’
Mr. Tsering Gonkatsang - £1,000  Audio-visual Project in Dharamsala
Ms. Salla Sariola - £1,000  ‘Female Sex Workers in Tamil Nadu’

Conference Grants:
Dr. Shailendra Bhandare - £2,000  ‘Indian Numismatics, Epigraphy and Archaeology’  Worcester College Oxford, 15-17 September 2004
Dr. Anindita Ghosh - £2,000  ‘Women in Colonial India: A Contour of Resistance’  Manchester, 19-20 August 2004
Dr. Michael Petraglia - £1,545  ‘South Asia at the Crossroads: Biological, Archaeological and Linguistic Approaches to Cultural Diversity’  University of Cambridge
Dr. Tadeusz Skorupski - £3,220  ‘14th Conference of the International Association of Buddhist Studies’, 29 August-3 September 2005
British Association of South Asian Studies - £2,500

Aided Project:
Dr. N. Mookherjee - £2,500  ‘Boundaries of Blood: Genealogies of “War-babies” and their National Imaginings in Bangladesh’
THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

INDEPENDENT REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO THE TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2005

I have audited the financial statements on pages 19 to 27 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and the accounting policies set out on page 22.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES AND AUDITOR

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 I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit, or if I have all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

I read other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. I consider 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

I 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 of whether the accounting polices 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 my opinion, I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.
In my opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs at 31st March 2005 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 2005

32 The Ridgeway
Enfield
Middx EN2 8QH

Peter M. Duffell
Chartered Accountant
Registered Auditor
THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2005  

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<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>2005 Total Funds</th>
<th>2004 Total Funds</th>
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<td>INCOMING RESOURCES</td>
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<td>British Academy Grant</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vidisha Project</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>33,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>82,500</td>
<td>109,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from activities in</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>furtherance of the Charity's</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objects:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions and Publication sales</td>
<td>7,780</td>
<td></td>
<td>7,780</td>
<td>7,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income - bank interest</td>
<td>2,328</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,328</td>
<td>2,001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</td>
<td>85,108</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>92,608</td>
<td>118,726</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RESOURCES EXPENDED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants payable in furtherance of the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity's Objects</td>
<td>3(a)</td>
<td>57,849</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>62,649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of activities in furtherance of the</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity's Objects</td>
<td>3(b)</td>
<td>7,444</td>
<td>7,444</td>
<td>7,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and Administration of the</td>
<td>3(c)</td>
<td>14,284</td>
<td></td>
<td>14,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>13,406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>79,577</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>84,377</td>
<td>137,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net incoming/ (outgoing) resources</td>
<td>5,531</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>8,231</td>
<td>(19,044)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total funds brought forward</td>
<td>38,954</td>
<td></td>
<td>38,954</td>
<td>57,998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total funds carried forward</td>
<td>44,485</td>
<td>2,700</td>
<td>47,185</td>
<td>38,954</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Notes on pages 22 to 27 form part of these Accounts.
THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| FIXED ASSETS
| Tangible Assets | 4     | 1,821  | 1,580  |
| CURRENT ASSETS
| Prepayment       | 500   | 500    |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 5     | 60,939 | 49,460 |
|                  |       | 60,939 | 49,960 |
| LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | 6     | (15,575) | (12,586) |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS |       | 45,364 | 37,374 |
| NET ASSETS |       | £47,185 | £38,954 |

Financed by Capital Funds:

Restricted Fund: | 2,700 |

Unrestricted Funds:
| General fund | 30,485 | 21,954 |
| Designated funds | 8     | 14,000 | 17,000 |

|       | £47,185 | £38,954 |

The Notes on pages 22 to 27 form part of these Accounts.

Approved on 23 September 2005 by Members of the Council of Management

Ulrich Pagel
Michael Willis
THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2005

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: 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 2005

3. DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE
   a). GRANTS PAYABLE:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vidisha Project (Restricted Fund)</td>
<td>4,800</td>
<td>33,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOAS Indian Religion</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kashmir Smast</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kavitavali</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh War Babies</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Identity, Mobility and Exclusion</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tibetan Kanjur</td>
<td>2,170</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindi Cinema</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kashika</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archives</td>
<td>2,350</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Ganges</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kasikravitti</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relic worship in Early India and Burma</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitali: Action Cinema</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guha: Ordered sites and images</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Graduate Research Fellowships</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Grants (5) (2004: 6)</td>
<td>11,265</td>
<td>5,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small grants to 13 individuals (2004: 29) for:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>1,364</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>9,200</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,564</strong></td>
<td><strong>28,161</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total GRANTS PAYABLE</strong></td>
<td><strong>£62,649</strong></td>
<td><strong>£116,736</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

b). OTHER CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publication costs: South Asian Studies Journal</td>
<td>6,838</td>
<td>7,035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>593</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£7,444</strong></td>
<td><strong>£7,628</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c). MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audit fees</td>
<td>1,645</td>
<td>1,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office and sundry expenses</td>
<td>10,599</td>
<td>10,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges and interest</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>£14,284</strong></td>
<td><strong>£13,406</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE SOCIETY FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
For the year ended 31 March 2005

4. FIXED ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Computer and Office Equipment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost at 1 April 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at 31 March 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation at 1 April 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge for year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at 31 March 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Book Value at 1 April 2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at 31 March 2005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank Accounts - interest bearing</td>
<td>60,376</td>
<td>49,242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash in hand</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£60,439</td>
<td>£49,460</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. CREDITORS (amounts falling due within 1 year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants allocated but unpaid</td>
<td>4,230</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication costs</td>
<td>9,200</td>
<td>9,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accruals and other creditors</td>
<td>2,145</td>
<td>2,086</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£15,575</td>
<td>£12,586</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. TRUSTEES

No Trustee or their connected persons received any remuneration from the Charity in the year. Reimbursed travel etc expenses totalling £781 were paid to 9 Trustees. (2004: £920 to 7).

8. DESIGNATED FUNDS

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Fund Balance brought forward</th>
<th>Transfer to (/from) Fund</th>
<th>Fund Balance carried forward</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Fellowships and Other Grants</td>
<td>£17,000</td>
<td>£(3,000)</td>
<td>£14,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 2005
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 website. As grant programmes and other funding initiatives are approved by the British Academy, further particulars and application forms will be made available.

The Assistant Secretary
The Society for South Asian Studies
73 Collier Street
London N1 9BE

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7812 1422
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 2005

- Individual Members: £30 or US$70
- Institutional Members: £40 or US$90
- Junior Members (under 25): £20
- Additional Members at same address (Associate): £5
- Associate Membership (without Journal): £10

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Full Name

Address

E-mail

Please send this form together with a completed Banker’s Order or Dollar or Stirling Cheque (drawn on a British bank) to:

The Assistant Secretary
The Society for South Asian Studies
73 Collier Street
London N1 9BE
Tel: +44 (0)20 7812 1422
E-mail: secretary@societyforsouthasianstudies.org

Copies of back numbers of *Afghan Studies* 1-3 and *South Asian Studies* 1-19 may be purchased from the above-mentioned address.