



ICHR SPONSORED NATIONAL SEMINAR ON

Odisha's Past Reimagined

**New Historical Perspectives
and
Unexplored Dimensions**

Date: 8th & 9th February 2025

Organised By

**P.G. Department of History
Sambalpur University**

FIRST CIRCULAR

CONCEPT NOTE ABOUT THE SEMINAR

History, once considered a fixed and singular narrative, is now undergoing a vibrant reimagining. New perspectives and methodologies are uncovering unexplored dimensions of the past, challenging traditional narratives and enriching our understanding of human experience. This Seminar, "**ODISHA'S PAST REIMAGINED: NEW HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES AND UNEXPLORED DIMENSIONS**" aims to showcase these exciting developments and engage in a critical dialogue about the recent developments in history and archaeology of Odisha. Since the first discovery of palaeolithic implements in Odisha by Valentine Ball at Bhursapali in Sambalpur district in the year 1875, marked the beginning of a systematic exploration of Odisha's archaeological treasures. Over the years, numerous excavations and studies have uncovered a plethora of artifacts and structures, shedding light on the ancient civilizations that once thrived in the region along the different river valleys. A large number of young scholars from different Universities have explored many important river valleys along with their tributaries have brought to light many archaeological sites from the prehistoric to historical period. Moreover, the history of Odisha is often overshadowed by the dominance of major dynasties. Furthermore, the history of Odisha is not confined to grand temples and monumental structures. The everyday lives of its people, their struggles, triumphs, and cultural assimilation, are equally integral to the narrative. The ancient trade routes that crisscrossed the state, the agricultural practices that sustained communities, and the evolution of indigenous crafts – all contribute to a holistic view of Odisha's history. Reimagining Odisha's past also necessitates a reassessment of its role in larger historical events. For instance, during the Kalinga War, the land witnessed a transformation that eventually influenced Emperor Ashoka's embrace of Buddhism. Exploring the impact of such pivotal moments on the socio-religious landscape of Odisha can provide a fresh perspective on its historical trajectory. However, a closer look at the local and regional

rulers who flourished in relative obscurity can offer valuable insights. The modern urbanisation process has also made significant changes in the development of tribal community and displacement from their native places. The Western Odisha played a crucial role in India's struggle for independence, as many unknown heroes from rural villages in the area made noteworthy contributions to the cause. Among these courageous men, the remarkable freedom warrior Veer Surendra Sai and his brother Chhabila Sai are particularly prominent. Regrettably, Chhabila Sai met his demise in an ambush in Kudopali village on December 13, 1857, masterminded by Captain Wood, leading to the loss of not only Chhabila Sai but also his loyal disciple. This event represents the resolute dedication from Western Odisha to the resistance against British colonial rule. The sacrifices and efforts made by them emphasize the historical importance of the region in the wider context of India's struggle for independence. The main objectives of this seminar are to offer a comprehensive exploration of the state's history right from prehistory to Modern phase, presenting new perspectives and unexplored dimensions. In conclusion, Odisha's past, when reimagined through new historical perspectives and unexplored dimensions, unfolds as a narrative rich in diversity and complexity.

SUB-THEMES

- 1. Pre and Protohistoric Archaeology**
- 2. Rock Art**
- 3. Iron Age and Early history**
- 4. Epigraphy & Numismatics**
- 5. Maritime History/Archaeology**
- 6. Science and Interdisciplinary approach in Archaeology**
- 7. Art & Architecture**
- 8. Tribal Studies**
- 9. Unsung freedom fighter of Western Odisha**
- 10. Regional history**

ABOUT SAMBALPUR UNIVERSITY

Sambalpur University, located in Western Odisha, has come into being with effect from 1st January 1967 by virtue of the Sambalpur University Act that was passed in the Orissa Legislature on the 10th December 1966. Sambalpur University occupies an important position in the academic scenario of the State of Odisha and India. As an institution of higher learning, it has become a catalyzing factor of social change in a relatively underdeveloped region of Odisha. This is an affiliating university, with 137 colleges under its jurisdiction which is spread over as many as seven districts of Odisha. The University campus at Jyoti Vihar is endowed with lush green woodlands and a peaceful atmosphere that is conducive to learning. Sambalpur University has expanded its academic profile over the years to comprise 26 Postgraduate Departments that offer 35 subjects. This institution has continuously expanded its curricular range in keeping with the emergent academic needs of the region. As a leading academic institution in Odisha, Sambalpur University has been in many ways discharging its academic and social responsibilities for human capital growth and social transformation.

ABOUT THE P.G. DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

The P.G. Department of History since its establishment in 1969 at Sambalpur University is a distinguished institution of higher learning, known for its commitment to academic excellence and research in the field of History & Archaeology. Situated in Sambalpur, Odisha, India, the Department has a rich history and a legacy of producing highly skilled and knowledgeable Historians & Archaeologists since its inception. Established several decades ago, the P.G. Department of History has grown to become one of the premier centers for historical and archaeological studies in the country. The department offers various postgraduate and doctoral programs that cater to the diverse interests of history enthusiasts and researchers. Faculty members at the department are experts in their respective fields, and their dedication to teaching and research sets the department apart. They are actively engaged in publishing research papers, articles, and books, contributing significantly to the academic world. The faculty encourages students to explore different perspectives and methodologies, helping them develop a holistic approach to historical & archaeological analysis. The department boasts state-of-the-art facilities, including

well-equipped classrooms, a comprehensive library, and advanced research laboratories, Museum, Archives and Palm leaf library. The library is a treasure trove of historical texts, documents, and journals, providing students with ample resources to conduct in-depth research and broaden their knowledge base. Apart from academic activities, the department actively organizes seminars, conferences, and workshops. To ensure students gain practical experience, the department encourages them to undertake field trips to historical sites, archaeological excavations, and museums. The alumni of the P.G. Department of History have made significant contributions to various fields, including academia, administration, journalism, and research. They carry the torch of knowledge and continue to uphold the department's legacy by demonstrating their expertise and scholarship. The P.G. Department of History at Sambalpur University stands as a pillar of academic excellence and research in the domain of history.

ABOUT PROF. N.K. SAHU MUSEUM

The Post Graduate Department of History, Sambalpur University opened its museum in 1970 for collection, preservation and documentation of the invaluable antiquities within a decade it has made considerable progress in the work for which it was started. At present the museum comprises pre-historic tools from different parts of Orissa and Assam, excavated potteries and other archaeological objects from Asurgarh (Kalahandi district) and Manamunda (Phulbani district), some interesting coins and sculptures, copper plate inscriptions ranging from 4th Century A.D. to 19th Century A.D. and a few lithic epigraphs. It has also preserved punch marked coins from Kalahandi district, Puri-Kusana coins from Purusottampur and Bhilingi, Sarabhapuriya gold coins from Nehena (Nuapada district), a few gold coins probably issued by the Chedis and the Kusanas, some gold fanams of the imperial Gangas from Subarnapur, some gold and silver coins of the medieval period, coins of the British-East India Company and princely states as well as a few terracotta seals. War implements of the 19th Century, brass objects of the same period, musical instruments

and other objects of the tribal people and painted portraits are some of the interesting collections of the museum.

Important Dates

Last Dates of Abstract Submission	08/01/2025
Intimation of Acceptance	12/01/2025
Last Date of Full Paper Submission	23/01/2025
Online Registration Starts From	15/12/2024
Online Registration Close on	05/02/2025

Registration Fees

Faculty Members with Paper : Rs. 1000/-

Faculty member with out Paper : Rs. 700/-

Research Scholar with Paper : Rs. 700/-

Research scholar without Paper : Rs. 500/-

Students : Rs. 300/-

➤ **(Registration fees includes: Seminar kit, Participation certificates and hospitality during the Seminar)**

Bank details for Fees Deposit (Online payments Only)

Account Name: DIRECTOR NATIONAL SEMINAR SBI, Branch: Jyoti Vihar, Burla.

SB Account No: 37574684244

IFSC Code: SBIN0006672

MICR: 768002011

(Please share the remittance PDF/Screen shot on the given WhatsApp no: 7077945136 or 8480924356)

Submission of Abstract and Papers

1. All papers must be original, unpublished, and not currently under review by any journal or for any other conference. The papers must be written in MS word document (A4 size), Times New Roman, 12 font size, and 1.5 line spacing.
2. Each paper should include the following sections: (i) Introduction, (ii) Materials

and methods, (iii) Results and Discussion (v) Conclusion, and (vi) References.

3. The full paper should not contain more than 4000 words.

4. A paper should not exceed 10 pages. References should be as per the APA style.

The abstracts should not be more than 300 words composed as running matter without any formatting in MS Word file (Times New Roman font 12-point, should be typed in 1.5 spacing). Abstracts and the papers should be sent to histconfsu@gmail.com within the stipulated dates as mentioned above.

ACCOMMODATION

Limited sharing accommodation will be arranged for the registered delegates from whom we will receive the request on or before **05th February 2025**. After 5th February 2025 the delegates have to make their own arrangement for stay.

Click on the following link to register for national Seminar.

Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFJJ05_7J8uAM4eCWBHLY2uSfXlz-707Fldck6QX7iD2ORLg/viewform?usp=dialog

Patrons

- ❖ Prof. Bidhu Bhusan Mishra, Vice-Chancellor, Sambalpur University
- ❖ Dr. Nruparaj Sahu, Registrar, Sambalpur University
- ❖ Prof. Tushar Kanti Das, Chairman, P.G. Council

Members of the Organising Committee

- ❖ Prof. Khagendra Nath Sethi, HOD, History, Convenor
- ❖ Dr. Neena Thakur, Assistant. Professor,
- ❖ Dr. Kshirasindhu Barik
- ❖ Dr. Kishor Chandra Mishra
- ❖ Dr. Nakhat Shaheen
- ❖ Dr. Chandrama Mishra

For Any details contact on this Email: histconfsu@gmail.com