

**NATIONAL MONUMENT AUTHORITY
24 TILAK MARG, NEW DELHI-110001**

REVISITING OUR MONUMENTAL HERITAGE

NMA Lecture Series 1

The archaeological excavations carried for three sessions concluded that there was no large-scale influx of foreigners or migrations of locals, indicating those living in Haryana and the Ghaggar basin now are descendants of original inhabitants. The excavation carried out by Prof. Vasant Shinde, in a much-awaited DNA study of the skeletal remains found at the Harappan site of Rakhigarhi, Haryana, shows no Central Asian trace, indicating the Aryan invasion theory was flawed and Vedic evolution was through indigenous people. It revealed that the DNA analysis of 5,000-year-old skeletal remains has no traces of migration from this region for the last 10,000 years. The latest study shows that the knowledge ecosystem in the Vedic era was guided by fully indigenous people with very limited external contact. The burials excavated from Rakhigarhi are quite similar to the Rigvedic Era. The pottery, the brick type used for construction and the general good health reflected through the skeletal remains in Rakhigarhi, pointed to a well-developed knowledge system that evolved further into the Vedic era.

The Aryan invasion theories, stating that people from other countries arrived in India while locals migrated, are no longer relevant. There is no substance in these theories. The scientific data obtained by Prof. Shinde has been analyzed in two laboratories, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow. Further the data was cross-examined at Harvard University. Professor Shinde insists on the fact that facial reconstruction and physical appearance of the skeletons had striking similarity with current inhabitants of Haryana and Punjab. His statement is supported by facial reconstruction and pathological studies of remains carried out in the Seoul National University College of Medicine in South Korea. The sharp facial features and build-up of Harappan skeletons and current inhabitants are identical.

These scientific evidences drew towards a conclusion that contradict the findings of western scholars and proves no Central Asian trace, indicating the Aryan invasion theory was flawed and Vedic evolution was through indigenous people. Prof. Shinde believes that Rakhigarhi, spread over 550 hectares and divided into nine zones, had emerged as the metropolis of Harappan times, which was the hub of administration and trade and have trade relations with central Asia.

We warmly invite you to NMA lecture series "Is Rakhigarhi Last word to reject finally the Aryan Invasion Theory?" by Professor Vasant Shinde, Former Vice Chancellor of Deccan College Research and Post Graduate Studies, Pune and present Director General of Maritime Heritage, Gandhinagar. We hope this will be a fabulous evening for us all and look forward to seeing you there.

Venue: At Conference Hall, National Monument Authority, 24 Tilak Marg, and New Delhi-110001 on Friday, 16 August 2019 at 3.30 PM