

# Water Management, Past and Future- An Archaeological Perspective

By  
SOSAA

Held at

Dept. of Archaeology, Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute, Deemed University,  
Pune, on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2012

A one-day workshop entitled as “Water Management Past and Future- an Archaeological Perspective” organized by Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA) was held in the Dept of Archaeology, Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute, Deemed University, Pune on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2012. Water management is a global issue now, and this workshop was conceptualized in order to address this issue by using examples from archaeological perspective and also aimed at generating awareness regarding water management, water-related standardization, share knowledge and best practices and diffuse needed solutions. This is infact SOSAA’s first workshop and the guiding principal behind this was a strong commitment to the society: that it is the duty of the archaeologist not only to describe the past, but to use such insights to change the present world.

The workshop was divided into two parts. The first session was the Talk session. We had two distinguished guests from Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipality Corporation viz, Mr. Pravin Ladkat and Mr. Ramdas Tambe both Executive Engineers of the city Municipality. They gave us very interesting talks and some mind boggling insights and data that acted as eye opener. Dr. P.D. Sable from our own Department also gave a very interesting talk on Rain Shed Harvesting. Prof. Vasant Shinde, one of the founders and General Secretary of SOSAA gave a talk on Ancient Water Management Technology and how that can help us in solving contemporary issues.

The second half was that of an interactive session. An exhibition was put up by the workshop committee of SOSAA using some of the archaeological collections and poster presentations related to water management and conservation in the Sankalia Memorial Hall of the Dept of Archaeology, Deccan College. This was followed by a competitive Fun Activity. Participants were provided with sheet of paper, pencil, eraser and colour crayons and asked to either make some illustration or write some message related to Water or Water Management issues. They were asked to be as imaginative, as creative or as weird they want to be. This was a competition and three prizes were to be given. The net result of this fun activity was so overwhelming, considering the ideas and talents of the participants, the Workshop committee chose 17 of these illustrations apart from prize winning ones to be put up in the website. The last but not the least was a street play enacted by the students of the Archaeology department called “Jal Nahi to Kal Nahi” (if there is no water there is no future). This was the real show stopper of the event and participants really enjoyed and learnt the best practices related to water management. A suggestion desk was also made to get feedback so that it helps the workshop committee to develop on those lines and come up with more of such events.

Ninety six people had registered for this workshop among which eighty two people had attended it which means that the workshop had more than 85% success rate. Participants came from Mumbai and Sholapur and also from different walks of life. SOSAA executive committee and workshop committee is thankful to all the participants and invited dignitaries for making this workshop a success.