

IInd Symposium on History of Bikaner

February 27, 2017

Bikaner through the Ages



Organized by:
Department of History
Maharaja Ganga Singh University
Bikaner

INVITATION

The Department of History, Maharaja Ganga Singh University Bikaner is organizing a symposium on “Bikaner Through the Ages”. The aim and objective of this symposium is to discover and bring to light the new facts and forgotten pages of the history of Bikaner division located in the midst of Thar desert of north – western Rajasthan, also referred to as *Jangaldesha* and *Madreya Jangalah*. This highly important region once witnessed the rise and growth of a very rich human civilization flourishing in the catchment areas of glorious rivers Saraswati (identified with modern Ghaggar river) and Drishadvati. There existed a large river system in which these rivers along with hundreds of their tributaries flowed and contributed towards the growth of a highly rich human civilization referred to as Saraswati-Indus Civilization. This region also witnessed the migration of several peasants, artisans, trading communities as well as human races such as Greeks, Scythians, Parthian etc. who traversed this region and also added to the colours and glory of Maru Pradesh. In the Early Medieval period, Bikaner witnessed the emergence of Jats, Johiyas, Bhatias, Sankhals, Mohils and other artisanal as well as the peasant communities which were possibly autonomous in nature.

In the first half of 15th century, the migration of a strong contingent of Rathores under the leadership of Rao Bika is an event of far reaching importance in the region which resulted in formation of a strong centralized state in collaboration with indigenous clans which were till then autonomous. The successive Rathore rulers effected alliances with the central authorities of Delhi and worked for consolidation of the state as well as for material progress of the region. The induction of the rulers of Bikaner as Mughal mansabdars exposed this region to the central authority. The Rathore rulers by virtue of being the pillars of Mughal Empire brought peace, prosperity and stability to this region. Similarly, during the British period, the level of socio-economic development of this region reached new heights when the projects of Bikaner Railway, Gang Canal, roads, hospitals etc. were executed. Thus, the erstwhile Bikaner State emerged as a jewel in the crown of mother India with its distinct and unique identity across the globe. Equally important is Bikaner’s Rishi Parampara, glorious cultural tradition, dress and costumes, art and architecture, social values, ethos, folk songs, folk art and literature in the golden pages of the history of Bikaner.

Keeping in view the significance of the history of this region and its geopolitical and strategic importance, the Department of History is organizing a daylong symposium on some unexplored aspects of the history of Bikaner with the aim of discovering and highlighting new facts and sources for reconstruction of the history of this region. The broader themes of this symposium are as follows:-

1. Sources of the History of Bikaner
2. Bikaner in the age of Vedas, Epics and Puranas
3. Saraswati-Indus Civilization and present Bikaner region
4. Rishi Parampara of the ancient Bikaner
5. Advent of Shakas, Hunas, Greeks etc. in Bikaner and their impact on society and culture
6. Society, culture and polity of Bikaner in Pre-Rathore period
7. Castes, communities peasants, nomadic tribes, artisanal castes of Bikaner State: their origin and history
8. Migration of Rathores and the process of state formation and its consolidation
9. Battle of RatiGhati and subsequent Rathore-Mughal Alliance and Relations
10. British-Bikaner relations

Methodology: In a daylong symposium, resource persons shall deliberate upon contentions and burning issues concerning the history of Bikaner. The participants of the symposium would also present papers and shall share their views to bring into light the unexplored areas of the history of this region. It shall be our endeavour to prepare an action plan which shall help in systematic reconstruction of the history of north-western region of Rajasthan.

Organizing Committee

Prof. Bhagirath Singh
 Sh. Premaram Parmar
 Dr. Narayan Singh Rao
 Dr. Ambika Dhaka
 Dr. Meghna Sharma
 Dr. Anil Kumar Chhangani
 Dr. Rajaram Choyal
 Dr. Chandrashekhar Kachhawa
 Dr. Sukha Ram
 Dr. Anand Singh Bithu

Advisory Committee

Prof. Bhagirath Singh
 Sh. Premaram Parmar
 Prof. S.K. Bhanot
 Dr. Umakant Gupt
 Dr. Bela Bhanot
 Dr. Janaki Narayan Shrimali
 Prof. B.L. Bhadani

IMPORTANT DATES FOR PARTICIPATION

Abstracts of original research work should be sent to the Convener of the symposium on the email ID historysymposiummgsu@gmail.com on or before February 18th 2017 along with Registration Form. Abstract(s) should not exceed 1 page; containing title, name of author (s), name of the institution/ organization, keywords (three to five), typed in English Times New Roman 12 pt fonts 1.5 space and Hindi Script Krutidev 010 with font size 14 and on A4 size paper in MS Word. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to select or reject the paper (s) received on the basis of merit in each case. Research Articles (Full Length Papers) must be submitted only electronically via Email to in the format mentioned above by 24 February, 2017. It is mandatory to mention Email ID name, designation of the author & institution on research article, as all correspondence will be made through it only. There is no provision of TA/ DA for delegates/ participants.

REGISTRTION FEE:

Faculty / General delegates:	INR	200/-
Research scholars/ Students:	INR	200/-

PAYMENTS:

Registration fees should be paid by Demand Draft drawn in favor of Registrar, Maharaja Ganga Singh University, Bikaner (Rajasthan).

IMPORTANT DATES:

Submission of Registration form and Abstract	18 February, 2017
Notification of Acceptance	22 February, 2017
Last date of submission of full length paper	24 February, 2017