Mumtaz Ahmad Yatoo - Curricular Vitae

Personal Details

Name: Mumtaz Ahmad Surname: Yatoo

<u>Place of Birth:</u> Sopore, Kashmir <u>Nationality:</u> Indian

<u>Institutional Affiliation Address:</u> Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir Srinagar, Kashmir-190006

Permanent Home Address: Upper Ashpeer Mohalla, Sopore, Baramulla, Jammu and

Kashmir- 193201

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Academic Accomplishments:

- **2023 Invited Academic Visitor** to Louvre Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates for an international workshop "Working together for a vision of Himalayan archaeology".
- **2019 Visiting Academic Fellow** to School of Philosophical and Historical Inquiry, University of Sydney, Australia.
- 2007-2011 Ford Foundation International Fellow awarded by Ford Foundation International Fellowships Programme, New York for pursuing higher education (PhD).
- **2006 Scholarship** awarded by Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi for the MPhil Programme.

Educational Details

October 2007- December 2011

PhD

University of Leicester, United Kingdom, School of Archaeology and Ancient History. Funded by Ford Foundation International Fellowships Programme, New York

Thesis title: *Characterising material culture to determine settlement patterns in north west Kashmir.* Supervisors: Prof. Ruth Young and Prof. Mark Gillings

Abstract: This thesis explores the cultural profile of Baramulla District by determining settlement patterns through systematic field survey and artefact analysis. Until this new study, very little archaeological work had been carried out in Kashmir, and what had been done took the form of a few unsystematic explorations and site specific excavations; in Baramulla District the situation was even more extreme. The limited archaeological work carried out in Baramulla District showed that there was great potential for further work, and there also appeared to be no evidence for an Iron Age activity in this region. Baramulla has a

distinct place in Kashmir; its location on the network of trade routes connects it to the Indian plains towards the south, and the northern areas of South and Central Asia towards the north. To understand the archaeology of Baramulla District, a systematic transect based landscape survey was undertaken. The material culture recovered from the newly located and recorded sites was evaluated and carefully analysed to arrive at new interpretations about past settlement and activity, and this information was synthesised with previously available from key sites in Kashmir and South Asia. The new data thus available showed that human presence in the region begins during the Upper Palaeolithic period (c. 18000 BP) and continues up to later historic period (c. 10th century AD). This thesis therefore examines the material culture and settlement data of four chronological periods: the Upper Palaeolithic period, the Neolithic period, the early historic period and the later historic periods in Baramulla District. This data is analysed to explore different issues: site types; settlement data; issues of continuity or discontinuity in chronology and interactions with South and Central Asia on the basis of similarities and dissimilarities in material culture, and the apparent 'missing' Iron Age.

2004-2006 MPhil

University of Kashmir, Srinagar, India, Centre of Central Asian Studies. Partially funded by Indian Council of Historical Research, New Delhi

Thesis title: *Archaeological Explorations of Sopore and Bandipora Tehsils in District Baramulla*. Supervisor: Prof. Aijaz A. Bandey

Abstract: This thesis provides a chronological framework of human activities that were recorded in the two tehsils Sopore and Bandipora of District Baramulla. A total of 36 archaeological sites were recorded in the two tehsils to demonstrate the presence of archaeological material from diverse periods which pushed the history of the district back to the Palaeolithic period for the first time. It is in this study that archaeological documentation of the two tehsils of district was initiated, however an important chronological gap was also revealed in the archaeological record. Analysis of the material culture showed the absence of Iron Age and Indo-Greek (which covers 1000 BC to 100 AD) material culture from the region. A methodological survey approach was devised for carrying out a village to village survey in the region. Prior to this work the two tehsils were believed to have been insignificant in terms of prehistoric archaeology, with the exception of Kanispora and other sites that lie on the Jhelum Valley communication route.

MA in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology

2000-2002

Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal Central University, Uttarakhand, School of Ancient Indian History, culture and Archaeology

Subjects undertaken: Prehistoric & Environmental Archaeology; Protohistoric Archaeology; Field Archaeology & Early Historical Archaeology; Political History of Ancient India (600 BC – 650 AD); Ancient Indian Art and Architecture; Social and Economic History of Ancient India; History of Indian Epigraphy & Numismatics

Teaching and administrative experience

2025 - Assistant Professor, CCAS, KU (Sustentative)

2016 – 2024 Assistant Professor, CCAS, KU (Contractual)

Research and teaching since 2016 at Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar

2014-2015 Senior Research Fellow

Senior Research Fellow at Centre for Research and Development Policy, Srinagar.

2013 Assistant to Director DIQA

Assistant, Directorate of Internal Quality Assurance, University of Kashmir, Srinagar

2005 Teaching Assistant

Taught archaeology and ancient history to MA History final year students in the Department of History, University of Kashmir, Srinagar

2005-2006 Academic Counselor

Taught archaeology and ancient history modules to MA history students of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)

Other experiences

Three years experience in cataloguing artefacts at the Central Asian Museum, University of Kashmir, Srinagar.

Eight years experience in field explorations cum excavations in Jammu and Kashmir and United Kingdom.

List of publications

Articles -Published

- 2025, Aparna Dwivedi, Lomous Kumar, Snigdha Konar, Nagarjuna Pasupuleti, Sanjay Kumar Singh Gahlaud, Richa Rajpal, Mohammad Ajmal Shah, Mumtaz A. Yatoo, Sachin Kumar, Shiv Kumar Patel, Ningombam Somorjit Singh & Niraj Rai. Ancient mitogenomes from Neolithic, megalithic and medieval burials suggest complex genetic history of Kashmir valley, India, *Scientific Reports* 15, 35247 (2025). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-025-00568-4.
- 2024, Malik Atiqullah, **Yatoo Mumtaz A**., Ahmed Rayees. The Geographies of apple cultivation: tracing the origins and dispersal of the wild apple Malus sieversii via the Silk Road to the Kashmir Valley, *Geography*, Taylor & Francis, 109:3, 137-144, London, https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00167487.2024.2395176.
- 2022, Spate Michael, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.**, Shen Hui, Pokharia Anil K., Shah Mohammad Ajmal, Betts Alison. Cereal size, AMS and charcoal data from phase 1 of the Kashmir Prehistory Project, *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, Elsevier, 42(2022), https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jasrep.2022.103369.
- 2022, Spate Michael, Yatoo Mumtaz A., Penny Dan, Shah Mohammad Ajmal, Betts Alison. Palaeoenvironental proxies indicate long-term development of agropastoralist landscapes in Inner Asian mountains, *Scientific reports*, Nature, 12:554, https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-04546-4.
- 2022, Spate Michael, Penny Dan, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.**, Betts Alison. Re-examining climate-driven Malthusian collapse in Kashmir: New Palaeoenvironmental context for the archaeological record, *Quaternary International*, Elsevier, 623, 127-138, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2021.07.014
- 2020, Yatoo Mumtaz A., Spate Michael, Betts Alison, Pokharia Anil K., Shah Mohamad Ajmal. New Evidence from the Kashmir Valley indicates the adoption of East and West Asian crops in the western Himalayas by 4400 years ago, *Quaternary Science Advances*, 2 (2020), Elsevier, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.qsa.2020.100011.
- 2019, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.** Kashmir and Swat during Neolithic times A comparative analysis of material culture between the sites of two distinct regions, *Ancient Asia*, 10:3, pp. 1-9.
- 2019, Betts Alison, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.**, Spate Michael, Fraser James, Kaloo Zahoor, Rashid Younis, Pokharia Anil K., Zhang Guilin, The Northern Neolithic of the Western Himalayas: New Research in the Kashmir Valley, *Archaeological Research in Asia*, 2019 (3), Elsevier, ISSN 2352-2267. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ara.2019.02.001.
- 2018, Yatoo Mumtaz A., Vahia M.N, Iqbal N. Astronomical Interpretation of a Palaeolithic rock carving found at Sopore, Kashmir, *Journal of Central Asian Studies*, ISSN: 0975-086X.
- 2017, Spate Michael, Zhang G, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.**, Betts Alison. New evidence for early 4th Millennium BP agriculture in the Western Himalayas: Qasim Bagh, Kashmir, *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 2017 (11), 568-577, Elsevier, ISSN: 2352-409X

- 2016, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.** Chronological significance of stone bowls and saddle querns reported from the archaeological sites in north west Kashmir, *Journal of Central Asian Studies*, Vol. 23 (XXIII), 195-200. ISSN: 0975-086X.
- 2015, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.**, Iron Age Material Culture in South Asia Analysis and Context of Recently Discovered Slag Sites in Northwest Kashmir (Baramulla District) in India, *Ancient Asia*, 6, Art.3, 1-8, doi: http://dx.doi.org/10.5334/aa.12322. E-ISSN: 2042-5937.
- 2014, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.** & Bandey Aijaz A. Relations of Neolithic Kashmir with South and Central Asia: Comparative Analysis of Material Culture from new sites in Kashmir, *Journal of Central Asian Studies*, Vol. 21 (XXI), 37-46. ISSN: 0975-086X.
- 2013, **Yatoo Mumtaz A.** New Evidence for Upper Palaeolithic Material Culture from North West Kashmir, *Pakistan Heritage*, Volume V, pp. 1-10, Hazara University Mansehra Pakistan. ISSN: 2073-64IX.

Books Published (Editor)

- 2023, Peopling and Cultural Spread: Studies in South Asian Archaeology, <u>felicitation</u> volume in honour of Prof. Vasant Shinde, Dev Publishers, New Delhi.
- 2022, Revisiting Himalayan Borderlands: A Bridge between India and Central Asia, Jay Kay Books, New Delhi.

Book Chapters

- 2023, Mumtaz a. Yatoo. Neolithic Archaeology of Kashmir and Beyond: Some New Insights. In K. Sreenivasarao (ed.), *Vitasta: Uniting Cultures*, 2023, Sahitya Akademi, 301-314.
- 2022, Mumtaz A. Yatoo, Mohammad Ajmal Shah, Michael Spate and Alison Betts. A
 Reappraisal of Kashmir Neolithic: with Special Reference to Radiocarbon
 Chronology and Archaeology. In Ravi Korisettar (ed.), Beyond Stones and More Stones,
 Vol. III, Mythic Society, Bengaluru, pp. 78-95.
- 2022, Mohammad Ajmal Shah & **Mumtaz A. Yatoo**. Identities, Interactions and Influences: Understanding Ancient Art of Kashmir Himalaya through Cross-Cultural networks. In T. A. Rather et. al. (eds.), *Revisiting Himalayan Borderlands A Bridge Between India and Central Asia*, Jay Kay Books, New Delhi, pp. 45-59.
- 2021, Alison Betts, Peter Jia, Michael Spate, Qi Meng and **Mumtaz A. Yatoo**. When East and West First Met: The Nature of Culture and Technological Transmissions at the Dawn of the Silk Roads. In Marc Lebeau (ed.), *Identity, Diversity & Contact From the Southern Balkans to Xinjiang, from the Upper Palaeolithic to Alexander*, Brepols Publishers, Belgium. ISBN 978-2-503-58949-7.
- 2020, Mumtaz A. Yatoo, Neolithic Site Qasim Bagh New Findings. In V. Shinde, S. Ganvir, S. Bhattacharya (eds.), Cultural Heritage of South Asia and Beyond: Recent Perspective: 35-44, New Delhi-Pune, Research India Press and Society of South Asian Archaeology.

Articles & Monographs in press

- 2024, Aparna Dwivedi, Lomous Kumar, Snigdha Konar, Nagarjuna Pasupuleti, Sanjay Kumar Singh Gahlaud, Richa Rajpal, Mohammad Ajmal Shah, Mumtaz Yatoo, Sachin Kumar, Shiv Kumar Patel, Ningombam Somerjit Singh, Niraj Rai. Ancient mitogenomes from Neolithic, Megalithic and Medieval burials suggest complex genetic history of Kashmir valley, India, Hereditary, Springer, Nature. Under review.
- 2023, Michael Spate; Alison Betts; **Mumtaz A. Yatoo** and Anil Pokharia, New Evidence for Agriculture and Pastoralisim in the Kashmir Valley. In Proceedings from the International Symposium of Palaeoethnobotanical Discoveries and Studies on the Tibetan Plateau and Surrounding Areas. **In Press**.
- Characterising material culture to determine settlement patterns in north west Kashmir,
 BAR International Series, Archaeopress, UK (accepted), Catalogued and online
 available at British Library, ID:
 http://ethos.bl.uk/OrderDetails.do?uin=uk.bl.ethos.555490

Data & Reports

- 2021, Spate Michael, **Yatoo Mumtaz**, Betts Alison, AMS dates and Neolithic cereal measurements from the Kashmir Prehistory Project, DRYAD, Dataset, https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.7d7wm37vd
- 2016, "Special Article-New Radiometric (C14) Dates for Neolithic Sites Reported from North West Kashmir", 48-49, Central Asian Digest, Vol. XXX.
- 2013, editor, Annual Report-2012, University of Kashmir, Srinagar.
- 2003, "Preliminary report: Archaeological Investigations in Sopore", Central Asian Digest, Vol. XXIII.

Articles/reports/interviews in newspapers:

- Kashmir Observer, June 14, 2018, 'Abusing The Past: Burzahom Archaeological Site Vandalised'.
- **Kashmir Observer, 'Interview'** June 13, 2018, 'Monumental Neglect of Burzahom'.
- **The Indian Express**, September 14, 2017, 'Neolithic Pot of Joy promises to shine light on prehistory in Kashmir, beyond'.
- Sunday Guardian Live, September 2, 2017, 'Kashmir's history is older than the prehistoric Burzahom'.
- Ourstories.org.in, August 29, 2017, 'Building a Future in the Past in Kashmir'
- Sunday Guardian Live, March 26, 2017, 'Humans inhabited Kashmir since 6,000 BCE'
- The Rising Kashmir, December 9, 2014, An Archaeological perspective of floods in Kashmir.

Projects Completed:

- Principal Investigator Kashmir Prehistory Project, Stage 1, (KPP-1) 2014-2016 "The Neolithic Kashmir", Funded by Department of Archaeology, School of Philosophical and Historical Enquiry, University of Sydney, Australia Amount \$ 20,000.00 AUD (Approximately Rs. 1,575,000.00).
- Principal Investigator Kashmir Prehistory Project, Stage 2 (KPP-2) 2016-2018, "Kashmir Prehistoric Project (KPP-Stage 2) Reconstruction of Past Vegetation
 Communities Through Pollen Microfossil and Microcharcoal", Funded by
 Department of Archaeology, School of Philosophical and Historical Enquiry,
 University of Sydney, Australia (PI) Amount \$ 15,000.00 AUD (Approximately
 Rs. 1,181,250.00).
- Collaborator 'Archaeological Study of Migration Routes' with Institute of Archaeology and Ethenogrpahy, Siberian Branch of Russian academy of Sciences, Russia 2015-2017, funded by Gerda Henkel Foundation, Germany.
- Collaborator Archaeological Exploration of Prehistoric Neolithic Sites around Bomai, Sopore, District Baramulla, 2017, Funded by University of Kashmir, Srinagar Amount Rs. 70,000.00.
- Collaborator Systematic archaeological Exploration to collect the information about Australopithecines in Jammu, J & K, 2018, funded by CCSA, University of Kashmir, Srinagar Amount Rs. 70000.00.
- Collaborator Archaeological Excavations at Ahan, Ganderbal -2017, funded by CCAS, University of Kashmir, Srinagar Amount Rs. 100,000.00.

Projects in Progress:

• Principal Investigator - Kashmir Prehistory Project, Stage 3 (KPP-3) 2025-2027, - "Prehistoric Mining and Metallurgy in Kashmir", Funded by Edwin Cuthbert Hall Fund at the University of Sydney, Australia (PI) - Amount \$ 20,000.00 USD (Approximately Rs. 1,372,720.00).

New Projects Submitted (provisionally approved):

 Co- Principal Investigator - Lost Capital of Kashmir - Locating extent and change detection of ancient city of Parihaspora through Drones, GPR and Geo-spatial technology, Funded by Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India under Science Heritage Research Initiative (SHRI) - (Project Approved under TPN:68571)

Papers presented at International conferences/workshops

2025- Attended two days International conference Trans-Himalayan Borderlands:
 Dynamics of Connectivity, Culture, and Change organised by Centre of Centre Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar on 25-26 February, 2025 and presented a co-

authored paper, "Central Asia as gene pool centre: examining the role of ancient routes in the transmission of fruits and nuts within the Trans-Himalayan Border Lands".

- 2025- Attended two days International conference Trans-Himalayan Borderlands:
 Dynamics of Connectivity, Culture, and Change organised by Centre of Centre Asian
 Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar on 25-26 February, 2025 and presented a co authored paper, "Chronology and Typology of Neolithic Ceramics in Kashmir: A
 Study of Forms, Fabrics, and Contexts".
- 2024- Attended 8th International Congress of Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA), organised by Bihar Museum, Patna & Directorate of Archaeology, Department of Art, Culture and Youth, Government of Bihar from 04-07 April, 2024 and presented a paper, "New evidences of agricultural practices during the 3rd millennium BC from Kashmir and the affinities with inner Asian farming settlements.
- 2023- Attended two day seminar "Buddhism and Kashmir" on the occasion of Ambit of Vitasta: Kashmir Festival organised by Sahitya Akademi & North Zone Cultural Centre on 24-25 June, 2023 and Presented a paper "Neolithic Archaeology of Kashmir and beyond some new insights".
- 2023- Attended three day International Conference on "Reconstructing the human population histories of south Asia using archaeology and genetics", from 7-9 June, 2023, organised by Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow funded by Ministry of Culture and presented a paper "Kashmir through the Ages a chronological reappraisal based on new data".
- 2022- Participated as panellist at three-day International Workshop in "Scientific Applications within South Asian Archaeology, An Integrative Platform for Research on the Reconstruction of the Past in South Asia", Jointly organised by University of Chicago, USA and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, India at The International Centre Goa, Dona Paula from 14th-16th June, 2022.
- 2022- 28th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists in Budapest, Hungary, from 31st August- 3 September co-author of the oral presentation "Environmental and cultural factors in the use of broomcorn millet in the Western Himalayas"
- 2022- Attended three day International Seminar on "Himalayan History, Art and Culture, organised by Himachal State Museum, Shimla from 25th-27th March, 2022 and presented a paper "The Neolithic Settlements of north-western Himalayas, subsistence and their material culture".
- 2021- Attended one day International Conference "Beyond Being a Pastoralist in Central Asia – 'Margins or Nodes' concluding conference", organised by Bioarchaeology Research Centre of Vilnius University, Lithuania held on March 26,

- 2021 and presented a paper "Between Kashmir and Inner Asia: revisiting analogous subsistence and cultural material of Neolithic sites from these two distinct regions".
- 2021- Attended one day International seminar "New AMS ¹⁴C direct dates trace early West Asian cereals and pulses, as well as East Asian millets, from Neolithic Sites in Kashmir", organised by Centre of Central Asian Studies in Collaboration with University of Sydney, Australia held at CCAS on 16-01-2021 and presented a paper 'The Future of Kashmir Neolithic'.
- 2020- 8th McDonnell Academy International Symposium of Washington University in St. Louis, held on November 7th, 2020 and a co-authored paper was presented "Holocene Climate Change, seasonality and agriculture in the Kashmir Valley',
- 2020- Attended 7th International Congress (Webinar) of Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA), organised by the Department of History and Archaeology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka in collaboration with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, Colombo & Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO and presented a Paper 'Pethpuran Teng a Neolithic site in eastern Kashmir is ca. 5000 years old suggests new data'.
- 2020- Attended 2nd Annual International Seminar on "An integrative platform for research on reconstruction of the past in India", held from 10-12 October, 2020 organised by Himalayan Institute of Archaeology and Allied Sciences, Ladakh and presented a paper 'Subsistence Farming Practices in the Neolithic Communities of Kashmir Valley- Some New Insights.
- 2019- Attended 4 day international workshop "An integrative platform for research on reconstruction of the past in India", held on 9-12 July, 2019 organised by Department of Human Genetics, the University of Chicago, Illinois, USA and presented a paper 'Past Present and Future of Archaeology and Allied Sciences in Kashmir Himalaya: Opportunities and Challenges'.
- 2019- Attended 1 day international workshop "Globalisation in Antiquity", held on 24 May, 2019 organised by University of Sydney and presented a paper 'Kashmiri Neolithic and their Frontiers Understanding Northern Neolithic Complex', held at University of Sydney.
- 2019- Attended two day international conference "Silk Route Historical and Contemporary Relevance" held on 25-26 March, 2019 organised by Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir and presented a paper 'Northern Neolithic Frontiers: Linkages and Interactions with Central Asia'.
- 2019- Attended Joint Annual Seminar 2019 of the Directorate of Archaeology, Bihar; The Indian Archaeological Society; The Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies and the History and Culture Society from 6th to 9th February, 2019 at Patna Bihar and presented a paper "An Appraisal of Neolithic Kashmir in the Light of Most Recent Discoveries".
- 2018- Presented Paper "Neolithic Kashmir and its Central Asian Linkages New Findings" at two days London Postgraduate Conference for the Ancient Near East

- 'Ancient Lives, New Stories: Current Research on the Ancient Near East' held at British Museum on 1st and 2nd December, 2018, London.
- 2018- Attended three day 6th International Congress of Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA) from 16th to 18th of March, 2018 at Indian Museum Kolkata, organised by Indian Museum, Ministry of Culture, Government of India in collaboration with Society of South Asian Archaeology and All India Digamber Jain Heritage Preservation Organisation, New Delhi and presented a paper "Neolithic Site Qasim Bagh New Findings".
- 2017- Attended two day International conference "Sir Aurel Stein From Kashmir to Central Asia" held from 20th to 21st of September, 2017 organised by Central of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar in collaboration with J&K Tourism, Indus Discoveries Pvt. Ltd., INTACH, Kashmir Chapter and presented a paper "Archaeological Glory of the Village Bhimatika (modern Bumai) as identified by Sir Aurel Stein"
- 2017- Attended one day National Seminar "Cultural Similarities between India and Central Asia" held on 04-03-2017, organised by Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir in Collaboration with the Cultural Educational Forum, Gujarat, India and presented a paper "Cultural Similarities of Kashmir with South and Central Asia since prehistoric Period as Depicted through Archaeological Material Culture".
- 2016- Attended two day International conference "Silk Route as a Factor in Asian Integration" held from 10th to 11th of March 2016 organised by Central of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar in collaboration with MMAJ Academy of International Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia and Bedil International Foundation, New Delhi and presented a paper "Notes on the origin of Kashmir from an ancient lake and its subsequent communication links with the Silk Route within South Asian region"
- 2016- Attended three day International conference "Ancient Science and Technology: Retrospection & Aspiration" held from 9th to 11th January 2016 organised by and held at Deccan College Post Graduate and Research Institute, Pune and presented a paper "Archaeo-astronomy from rock art analysis of an in situ rock engraving found at Bumai, Sopore (North Kashmir, India)"
- 2015- Attended three day International conference "literary Legacy of Indo-Central Asia, Afghanistan and Iran" held from 31st March to 2nd of April 2015 organised by Central Of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar in collaboration with Bedil International Foundation, New Delhi and presented a paper "Significance of ancient trade routes to the development of cultural relations of Kashmir with South and Central Asia"
- 2014- Attended five days 5th International Congress of Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA) from February 14-18, 2014, organised by Directorate of Culture and Archaeology, Govt. Of Chhattisgarh in collaboration with School of

- Studies in Anthropology, Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla University, Raipur at Raipur and presented a paper "Dwelling pits or granaries: revisiting pits at Burzahom and Gufkral in Kashmir India in the light of new research".
- 2012- Attended five days Paris Conference 2012 from July 2-6, 2012 organised by European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art hosted by Agence France-Museums, Paris and presented a paper "Neolithic Baramulla: Discovery of new Neolithic material culture with similarities found across South Asia"

Invited Lectures

- 2022- A special lecture was delivered on the topic "Northern Neolithic: Rise and Spread of this lost enigmatic culture through Kashmir and beyond". The lecture was hosted by Museum Society of Mumbai and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya, Mumbai on 26th of May 2022.
- 2021- A special lecture was delivered on the topic "Reconstructing Subsistence Practices of Kashmiri Neolithic", the lecture was hosted by Sharma Centre for Heritage Education, India under the series Down Ancient Trials, Herd and Harvest on 25th of January, 2021.
- 2020- An invited special lecture was delivered on the topic "Neolithic Kashmir in Retrospect and Prospect", the lecture was hosted by Department of History & Archaeology, Nagaland University, Kohima Campus, Meriema, Nagaland on 10th of September, 2020.

Chaired technical sessions at Conferences/workshops/Seminars

- <u>2024-</u> Chaired a technical session entitled "*Historical Archaeology*" in 8th International Congress of Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA), organised by Bihar Museum, Patna & Directorate of Archaeology, Department of Art, Culture and Youth, Government of Bihar from 04-07 April, 2024.
- 2020- Chaired a technical session entitled "Prehistory and Environmental Archaeology" in 7th International Congress (Webinar) of Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA), organised by the Department of History and Archaeology, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Nugegoda, Sri Lanka in collaboration with Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre, High Commission of India, Colombo & Sri Lanka National Commission for UNESCO
- 2019- Chaired a technical session entitled "Culture, Religion and Economic Aspects
 of Silk Route" in two day International Conference "Silk Route Historical and
 Contemporary Relevance" held on 25-26 March, 2019 organised by Centre of Central
 Asian Studies, University of Kashmir.

Papers accepted for International Conferences/workshops

- 2022- Paper accepted for 16th Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies (IATS 2022) held at faculty of Arts of the Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic from 3-9 July, 2022.
- 2022- Paper accepted for the 25th conference of European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art held at Barcelona from 04 July to 08 July at Barcelona, Spain.
- 2019- Presentation selected for the International Workshop "Frontiers or Interaction Zones? Borderlands as Areas of Communication and Mobility" from 28-02-2019 to 02-03-2019 at the University of Bern, Switzerland.

Participation in Workshops/symposia

- Attended workshop as an invited academic expert "Working together for a vision of Himalayan archaeology", hosted by the Louvre Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates from 13th to 17th of November, 2023.
- Attended a two day Archaeological Workshop "Looking Beyond: Vision for Exploration & Excavations by 2035 on 5-6 November, 2023 organised by Archaeological Survey of India and gave a presentation.
- Attended and acted as chief rapporteur in two days National Seminar 'Contribution of Sufis and Saints to Composite Culture of Kashmir' on 23-24 March, 2019 organised by CCAS, University of Kashmir, Srinagar in collaboration with ICPR, New Delhi and also presented vote of thanks.
- Attended five days Vienna Conference 2010 from July 4-9, 2010 organised by European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art hosted by University of Wien, Austria.
- Attended UK-India Education Research Initiative (UKIERI) one day symposium on October 20, 2008 on Major Issues on the Origins and Evolution of Modern Humans in India, organised and held by Leverhulme Centre for Human Evolutionary Studies, University of Cambridge.
- Attended one day workshop on September 20, 2009 on Recent Developments in South Asian Archaeology organised by McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research held at Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge

Coordinator/Convenor for Workshops cum Seminars

• Coordinator of the one day national seminar on 20-02-2025, "Continuity and Change: Some Sociological Insights from Kashmir and Ladakh" sponsored by ICSSR North-Western Regional Centre, P.U. Chandigarh and organised by Centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir, Srinagar.

- Organising member of one-week workshop on "Flintknapping in Archaeology", 9-13, December, 2024, organised by Centre of Central Asian Studies, Kashmir University, Srinagar.
- Organising member of three day International Conference on "Reconstructing the human population histories of south Asia using archaeology and genetics", from 7-9
 June, 2023, organised by Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow in collaboration with University of Kashmir, funded by Ministry of Culture.
- Coordinator of the one day international seminar "New AMS ¹⁴C direct dates trace early West Asian cereals and pulses, as well as East Asian millets, from Neolithic Sites in Kashmir", organised by Centre of Central Asian Studies in Collaboration with University of Sydney, Australia held at CCAS on 16-01-2021.
- Convenor cum resource person for one week international workshop (20th to 26th of September, 2018) on "Archaeological Field Methods", jointly organised by Centre of Central Asian Studies and Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk, Russia held at centre of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir.
- Convenor cum resource person for two day workshop (16th and 17th April, 2018) on "Archaeology as a Source of History", organised by and held at Government Degree College for Women, Anantnag.

Expert lectures delivered for UGC-CEC at EMMRC

Special lectures delivered at Education Multimedia Research Centre, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, for University Grants Commission, New Delhi on the following topics:

- Trade and Communication Routes of Ancient Kashmir
- Archaeology as practiced in Kashmir
- What is Archaeology Introduction to archaeology and its relevance today
- Landscape Archaeology Introduction to systematic Landscape surveys in archaeology
- Origin of Kashmir: the legend of Satisar
- Material Culture in Archaeology

Guest Speaker since 2017 - Series of radio programmes on archaeology recorded at Radio Kashmir Srinagar for:

- Programme "Soon Atihas (Our Past)", host Satish Vimal broadcasted on every Monday at 8:30 am on MW, SW and FM.
- Programme "Ahsas-Saan Tareakh (our History)", host Zahoor Zahid broadcasted on every Sunday at 6:30 pm on MW, SW and FM

Memberships:

- Member Academic Council for UGC-HRDC, National Resource Centre, University of Kashmir in the discipline of Arts and Humanities for conducting Annual Orientation Programme.
- Life Member European Association for South Asian Archaeology and Art (EASAA)
- Life Member Society of South Asian Archaeology (SOSAA)
- Member Central Eurasian Studies Society (CESS), Indiana University
- Member Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies
- Member Bedil International Foundation, New Delhi

Resource academic (in Archaeology) to Indian National Trust for Art Culture and Heritage (INTACH), Srinagar Chapter.

Reviewer

- Iranian Journal of Archaeological Studies, University of Sistan and Baluchistan, Iran
- Asian Perspectives: The Journal of Asian Perspective for Asia and the Pacific, University of Hawai'i Press, Honolulu, USA.
- Ancient Asia, Research Journal of the Society of South Asian Archaeology and Art, Deccan College Pune.
- The Journal of Central Asian Studies, Research journal of Central Asian Studies, University of Kashmir.
- *Pakistan Heritage*, Research Journal of the Department of Archaeology, Hazara University Mansehra, Pakistan.
- Frontier Archaeology, Research Journal of the Directorate of the Archaeology and Museums, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan.

Participation in International events

Participated in a special two day networking event from February 27 to March 1, 2009, organised by British Council and hosted by University of Birmingham, Birmingham, United Kingdom

Orientation and training courses attended

- Attended three day training programme Introduction to GIS for Archaeologists from January 12-16, 2009, organised by University of Leicester, UK
- Attended two day orientation programme from January 2-3, 2006, for Academic counsellors of MA History, organised by Indira Gandhi National Open University at Regional Centre Delhi

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