

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### SUDESHNA GUHA

#### EDUCATION

Ph.D.: University of Poona, Department of Archaeology, Deccan College 1985–89

Dissertation Title: 'Evolution of the Harappan State'

Ph.D. awarded in 1990

M.A: University of Poona, Deccan College, 1983–85

Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, First Class

B.A: University of Delhi, Lady Sri Ram College, 1980–83

History (Hons.), First Class

Post-Doctoral Research, Dept. of Archaeology, University of Cambridge, 1990–'91

Commonwealth Visiting Scholar

Topic: 'Pastoralism and the Harappan State'

#### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY, Delhi-NCR, India

**Professor**, Department of History, August 2021— present

**Associate Professor**, Department of History, January 2016— August 2021

NATIONAL MUSEUM, NEW DELHI

**Tagore Research Scholar**, April 2015-May 2016.

To Refurbish the Harappa Gallery and research catalogue the Harappa Collections, National Museum (New Delhi)

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY (MAA), UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**Research Associate** 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2013 (Fixed Term)

Creating protocols of research cataloguing and archiving of MAA's collections of photographs and archaeological objects on the digital archive created by European Collected Library of Artistic Performance ([www.eclap.eu](http://www.eclap.eu))

Co-curator of MAA's archaeology galleries, 'Cambridge', and curator of 'South Asia' in the gallery of World Archaeology.

FACUTLY OF ASIAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**University Lecturer in South Asian History** (Un-established post), 1 October 2005–30 September 2009.

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**Research Associate**, Photograph Collections, October 1997–August 2005. Post supported through Heritage Lottery Fund (UK, 1997–2000) and Getty Grant

Foundation (2000–5). Management of the photographic archive: Designing databases, establishing cataloguing procedures, collections management protocols (including preventative conservation), hiring assistant cataloguers, receiving academic visitors and public enquiries (especially regarding donations and loans), dissemination of the collections through academic lectures and journal articles.

Co-curated the first in-house exhibition of MAA's photographic collections, *Collected Sights*.

**Curatorial and Exhibition Assistant** (Temporary Post), August 1995–April 1996

Archival research for the exhibition 'Torres Strait Islanders'

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, LONDON

**Curatorial Assistant**, Indian and Southeast Asian Collections, September 1994–July 1995 (Tenure of post covering a permanent curator's sabbatical leave)

Created digital databases for the department's photographic collections, and devised protocols of collections management and research cataloguing.

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

**Assistant Staff** (Temporary Post), February 1993–August 1994

Cataloguing the archaeology collections and assisting with the conservation of the Roman bronzes.

LADY SRI RAM COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

**Guest Lecturer, Department of History**, January–July 1992.

BA (Hons.) 1st year: Ancient India

BRITISH COUNCIL DIVISION, NEW DELHI

**Assistant Arts Officer**, January–April 1990

Temporary post (followed by the Commonwealth Fellowship)

### **OTHER TEACHING**

2021, University of Hyderabad.

Interdisciplinary Open Elective Course on *Negotiating Human Non-Human Historical Interactions in Pre Modern South Asia*.

Lecture: Early Histories of Art, of Human-Animal Depiction in the Deccan. September 22.

2017, Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi), School of Arts and Aesthetics.

Lecture: Histories of Archaeologies: Collections and Nation Making (for the MA class). February 22.

2019, Institute of American Archaeology

Field Lectures on Temples of Karnataka at Badami, Pattadakal, Halebid, Hampi, February 4–11.

2016, Diploma, Indian Art and Architecture, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London

Lectures on Ancient and Medieval India, 10-16 October.

2010, Department of History, Guest Lecturer, SOAS, October-December

Taught two undergraduate courses:

H140 (Introduction to the History of South Asia)

H500 (Independent Study Project, Asian and African History)

2010, Diploma, Indian Art and Architecture, SOAS

Four lectures on Ancient Indian art and architecture (300 BCE–900 CE), July 11-15.

2014, Patna Museum, Patna

Three-day Lecture Workshop on Museum Documentation and Collections Management, 12-15 November

2009, Foundation of Liberal and Management Education (FLAME), Pune

Visiting Faculty, Dept. of Social Sciences, October 6-30.

2007, 2008, The Courtauld Institute of Art, London

Summer School Course: *The 'Buddhist Art' of India and its Discovery by the West* (July, August)

2000–2005 and 2010–12

University of Cambridge, Department of Social Anthropology and Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. Guest lectures in M.Phil. Museum Studies.

2000–2001, University of Cambridge, Faculty of Oriental Studies

Guest Lecturer, *Tripas* on Indian Studies, Part I and II.

1988–89, Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi

Course Writer, History (Hons.): *The Mauryan Empire and Ashokan Dhamma*.

Film script: *Archaeological Reconstructions*.

### **AREAS OF RESEARCH**

- Cultural Heritage and Ethics
- Museum Archaeology and Museum Studies
- Histories of Archaeology and Antiquarian Scholarship
- Historiography of Pre-Colonial India
- Ethnography of Social Memories and Statehood
- Visual Histories and Material Culture
- Histories of Collections and Collecting Practices

### **CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS**

- Co-investigator (with Dr Ajay Dandekar): *Sikkim and the Making of a Frontier State*. The project follows a pilot project *A State in Periphery*:

*Social Memory and Sikkim*, which was supported by ICSSR North East, 2017-18.

- Edited volume, for the exhibition *Archaeology and Photography*, May 2023.
- Heritage and Its Archaeologies. Research project since 2017

#### **RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS**

- Tagore Research Scholar, National Museum New Delhi, 2015.
- British Academy Small Research Grant, February 2006.
- Crowther Beynon Fund Grant, October 2003.
- Society of South Asian Studies, Research Grant for Collaborative project, December 1999–2003.
- Evans Fellowship Committee Grant, 1999–2000.
- Smuts Memorial Fund Grant, October 1998.
- The Nehru Trust for the Collection at the Victoria and Albert Museum, February 1995.
- Commonwealth Visiting Fellowship, University of Cambridge (Clare Hall), 1990–91
- Junior Research Fellow, University Grants Commission (India), 1985–89.

#### **SELECT INVITED LECTURES, SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES**

2021, August 8, Public Talk. *Interrogating Heritage: History, Archaeology, Collection*. KARWAAN: The Heritage Exploration Initiative.

2021, July 3. Public Talk. *Heritage Histories and Recollections of Bombay*. KHAKI Foundation, Mumbai (KHAKI: Keeping Heritage Alive and Kicking)

2021, May 14. Public Talk. *Heritage Histories and Museum Archaeology: Exploring Practice and Disciplinary Domain*, Centre for Public History, Srishti Manipal, Institute of Art, Design, Technology, Bengaluru.

2019, November 30. Public Talk. *Archaeological Collections and 19<sup>th</sup> century Bombay*, Public Lecture, Bhau Daji Lad Museum, Mumbai.

2019, January 5. 'Antiquities and Design Towards a Nation: Object Lessons for Archaeology'. Conference *Design, Culture and History: The Idea of Objects in Modern and Contemporary India*. The K.R. Cama Research Institute, Mumbai. January 5 and 6.

2018, August 3. 'Curating Cultures: Collections, Practices and their Histories'. Conference *The Idea of Culture: An International Conference on Teaching History*. Seagull Peaceworks, Kolkata. August 3--5.

2018, January 27. Closing Keynote: 'Decolonising South Asia through Heritage- and Nation-Building'. For *Heritage, Decolonisation and the Field: A Conference*. German

Historical Research Institute and UCL Institute of Archaeology, London. January 26 and 27.

2018, January 6. 'Archaeological and Architectural Surveys and Map-Making in India', invited speaker for conference *Survey, Mapping and Cartography*, at the Krishnakriti Festival of the Arts and Culture, Hyderabad. January 5-7.

2017, October 21. *Nineveh and Histories of Indian Archaeology*. Ancient India Iran Trust (Lecture Series, Michaelmas), Cambridge, U.K.

2017, March 28. Public Talk. *Nineveh in Bombay and Histories of Indian Archaeology*. Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Dhaka (at the 13<sup>th</sup> Monthly General Meeting)

2016, September 21. *Photographs as Histories: Looking Through Collections*. Ambedkar University, Delhi, Centre for Community Knowledge

2016, September 14. 'Drawing in the World? Museums as Public Spaces' invited speaker for conference *Capacity Building For Museums in India*. School of Arts and Aesthetics, JNU (New Delhi) in collaboration with Nehru Trust for the Indian Collections at the V&A (London) and Goethe Institute, Max Müller Bhavan (New Delhi 12-14 September)

2016, March 2. *Looking into Indian Pasts: Archaeology, History and Ways of Seeing*. Centre of South Asian Studies (Lent Term Seminar Series), University of Cambridge.

2016, February 18. 'Looking at Orientalism through "Nineveh in Bombay"'. Workshop *Orientalism and It's Institutions*. Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), University of Cambridge

2015, October 20. *Visual Histories, Archaeological Constructs and Indian Pasts*. Lecture for Research Seminar on Cultures of Photography, Du Montford University, Leicester

2013, November 15. 'Periodizing Change and Evaluating Culture from Indus to the Early Historical Ages'. *Annual Conference* of Centre for Archaeological Studies and Training, Eastern India, Kolkata. November, 15-16.

2012, 10 August. Public Talk. *Cultural Heritage and Archaeology*. Dept. of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (Powai, Mumbai)

2012, May 8. 'Curating Data, Disseminating Knowledge: Museums of the Digital Age'. Conference: *Information Technologies for Performing Arts, Media Access and Entertainment*, University of Firenze. May, 7-9.

2012, April 12. 'Archives as Artefacts of Archaeological Knowledge'. Conference *An Archaeology of Archaeological Archives*, Department of Archaeology, Birkbeck College, University of London

2011, June, 10. 'Inappropriate Use: IPR and Traditional Cultural Material'. Workshop on *Performing Arts Digital Collections for the New Millennium*, La Bellone, Maison du Spectacle, Brussels, June, 10–11.

2010, October 22. 'Archaeology, Photography and Communicating Histories'. Conference, *Visualisation in Archaeology*, Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton, October, 21–23.

2010, September 10. *Fielding Histories: Photography and Archaeology in British India*. Dept. of Art and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi,

2010, September 8. Public lecture. *Photography, Archaeology and Sir John Marshall's Survey*. National Museum, New Delhi, hosted by Director General, Archaeological Survey of India.

2010, November 11. *Historicising Civilisations: Archaeology and fielding of Histories of Ancient India*. Centre for Research in the Arts Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH), Cambridge,

2010, May 26. *Archaeology and Histories of Ancient India*. Dept. of Archaeology, Cambridge,

2010, 10 March. *Photography and Archaeology in British India*. Research Seminars, Dept. of Art and Archaeology, SOAS, London.

2009, May 16-17. Chair for Conference *Local heritage, Global Histories: Colonialism, History and the Making of Heritage*, German Historical Institute, London.

2008, July 10. 'A Useful Science? Archaeological Knowledge and its Prerogative'. *20<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Modern South Asian Studies*, University of Manchester, July 8–11.

2007, July 28. 'Photographs as Sources of Archaeological Knowledge'. Conference, *Sources for the History of Archaeology*, Department of Archaeology, University of Freiburg, July, 27–28.

2007, January 31. *Archaeological Foundations within British India*. Department of Archaeology, University of Durham.

2006, February 22. *Archaeological Photography and the Creation of Histories within Colonial India*. Research Seminar in the History of Photography, The Courtauld Institute of Art, London.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

2022 *A History of India Through 75 Objects*. Hachette India, New Delhi.

- 2015 *Artefacts of History: Archaeology, Historiography and Indian Pasts*. SAGE, New Delhi.
- 2010 (Ed.) *The Marshall Albums: Photography and Archaeology*. Mapin and Alkazi Collection of Photography, Ahmedabad/New Delhi.
- 2001 with R.B. Boast and A. Herle.  
*Collected Sights: Photographic Collections of the Museum of Archaeology Anthropology, 1860s–1930s*. Exhibition Catalogue, Cambridge.

### Journal Articles, Book Chapters

Guha, S.

- 2022. A Status Report of the Tribal Arts within the Central Tribal Belt. In M. Shah and P.S. Vijay Shankar (Eds.) *Tribal Development Report: Human Development and Governance*, London/New Delhi: Routledge India, pp. 275–338.
- 2021. Decolonizing South Asia through Heritage and Nation Building *FutureAnterior: Journal of Historic Preservation, History, Theory and Criticism* Vol. 16 (2), pp. 31-46.
- 2019. Curating ‘Cultures’: Collections, Practices and their Histories. *The Idea of Culture, Conference Proceedings*, Calcutta 2018, The Seagull Foundation for the Arts.
- 2017. ‘Nineveh’ in Bombay and Histories of Indian Archaeology. *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh (Humanities)*, Vol. 62 (1), pp. 65–85.
- 2014. Civilizational Heritage and Archaeological Practices within South Asia. In C. Sandis (Ed.) *Cultural Heritage Ethics: Between Theory and Practice*, Open Book Publishers, pp. 103–16.
- 2014. Heritage, Archaeology and the Indus Civilization. In D.N. Jha (Ed.) *The Complex Heritage of Early India: Essays in Memory of Ram Sharan Sharma*, Manohar, pp. 37–70.
- 2013. Beyond Representation: Photographs in Archaeological Knowledge. In O. M. Abadia and C. Huth (eds.) ‘Speaking Material: Sources for the History of Archaeology’ *Complutum*, Vol. 24 (2), pp. 173–88.
- 2013. Photographs and Archaeological Knowledge. *Ancient South Asia*, Vol 4, no. 4. <http://doi.org/10.5334/aa.12314>
- 2012. Material Truths and Religious Identities: The Archaeological and Photographic Making of Banaras. In M. S. Dodson (Ed.) *Banaras: Urban History, Architecture, Identity*, Routledge, pp. 42–76.
- 2012. Visual Histories, Archaeology and Photographic Knowledge. In R. Allana (Ed.) ‘Depth of Field’, *Lalit Kala Contemporary* 52, pp. 29–40.
- 2012. Curating Data, Disseminating Knowledge: Museums in Digital Age. In P. Nesi and R. Santucci (eds.), *ECLAP: Ist International Conference on Information Technologies for Performing Arts, Media Access and Entertainment*, Firenze University Press, pp. 41–6.

- 2007. The Indus Civilization. *History Today*, Vol. 57, No. 10 (October), pp. 50–7.
- 2005. Archaeology and Photography. In R. Lenman (Ed.) *The Oxford Companion to the Photograph*, Oxford University Press, pp. 42–44.
- 2005. Negotiating Evidence: History, Archaeology and the Indus Civilisation. *Modern Asian Studies*, Vol. 39 (2), pp. 399–426.
- 2004. Sights of Reference: Photography in the Construction of an Ethnographic Record. In F. Kerlogue (Ed.) *Performing Objects: Museums, Material Culture and Performance in Southeast Asia*, in series *Contributions in Critical Museology and Material Culture*, Horniman Museum Publication, pp. 87–102.
- 2004. The Camera and the Spade: Photography in the Making of Archaeological Knowledge. *Visual Knowledges* (electronic format: ISBN 0 9532713 3 1).
- 2004. The Making of Institutional Archives: Photographs of Ethnology and Archaeology. *South Asia Archive and Library Group Newsletter* (No. 2, November), pp. 16–20.
- 2003. Mortimer Wheeler’s Archaeology in South Asia and its Photographic Presentation. *South Asian Studies*, Vol. 19, pp. 43–55.
- 2003. Imposing the Habit of Science: Sir Mortimer Wheeler and Indian Archaeology. *Bulletin of the History of Archaeology*, Vol.13 (1), 4–10.
- 2002. The Visual in Archaeology: Photographic Representations of Archaeological Practice in the Indian Subcontinent. *Antiquity* Vol. 76, pp. 93–100.
- 2000. South Asian Photographs in the University of Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. *Man and Environment*, Vol. 25 (1), pp. 89–96.
- 1994. Recognizing ‘Harappan’: A Critical Review of the Position of Hunter-Gatherers within Harappan Society. *South Asian Studies*, Vol. 10, pp. 91–7.

Forthcoming:

Guha, S.

- Craft and Its Representation Thinking Through the Pre-Colonial Histories of Craft Practices in India. In T. Kachru and R. Reubens (Eds.) *The Routledge Handbook of Craft and Sustainability in India*. Routledge.
- Heritage and the Curation of the Archaeological Scholarship of India. In V. Selvakumar, S.K. Aruni and S. Hemanth (Eds.) *South Asian archaeology: From the Palaeolithic to the Present: Essays in Honor of Professor K. Paddayya*. Aryan, New-Delhi.
- Imagination and Presence: Human Animal Relations and the Arts of Precolonial Deccan. In A. Parasher-Sen (Ed.) *Conversations with the Animate ‘Other’: Historical Representations of Human and non-Human interactions in India*. New Delhi/London: Bloomsbury Academic.

### Journal Articles Reprinted



Guha, S.

- 2020. *Critical Collective*. Negotiating Evidence: History, Archaeology and the Indus Civilization (*Modern Asian Studies*, 2005)
- 2021. *Harappa.com*. Decolonizing South Asia through Heritage and Nation Building (*FutureAnterior*, 2019)
- 2003. *Man and Environment* 26 (2), pp. 111–5. Imposing the Habit of Science: Sir Mortimer Wheeler and Indian Archaeology (*Bulletin of the History of Archaeology*, 2003).

### **Book Reviews, Review Articles**

Guha, S.

- 2019. *Indian Economic and Social History Review*, No. 56 (1), pp. 107–9. Review of Priya Maholay-Jaradi, *Fashioning a National Art: Baroda's Royal Collection and Art Institutions: 1875-1924* (2016)
- 2017. *Studies in History*, Vol. 33 (2), pp. 275–9. Review of S. Ratnagar, *Harappan Archaeology: Early State Perspectives* (2016).
- 2007. *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, Vol. 17 (Part 3), pp. 340–3. Review of E.F. Bryant and L. Patterson (eds.) *The Indo-Aryan Controversy: Evidence And Inference In Indian History* (2005).
- 2006. Diggers and the Mappers Mapped. *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, 9 May. Review of U. Singh, *The Discovery of Ancient India: Early Archaeologists and the Beginning of Archaeology* (2005).
- 2005. Ancient People for Whom Birds no longer Sing. *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, 14 March. Review of Madhusree Mukherjee, *The Land of the Naked People: Encounters with Stone Age Islanders* (2003).
- 2005. The Photographic Framing of Land. *Journal of Museum Ethnography*, Vol. 17, pp. 258–60. Review of exhibition *Seeing Lhasa: British Depictions of the Tibetan capital 1936–47*, Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford (2005).
- 2002. Bollywood in London. *Frontline*, Vol. 19. Review of exhibition *Cinema India: The Art of Bollywood*, V&A, London (2002).
- 1995. Strata within Strata. *The Times Higher Education Supplement*, 4 August. Review of P.K. Wasson, *The Archaeology of Rank* (1994).
- 1993. Indian Archaeology: Exploring the Present. *Antiquity*, Vol. 67, (No. 257), pp. 918–21 [Review Article]

### **News Journal/Media**

Guha, S.

- 2017. The Necklace that Divided Two Nations. BBC Documentary, *The Museum of Lost Objects*, episode 5, July 15.

- 2015. Light of the Solar Race: Rajendra Chola. *The Week*, December 27.
- 2015. Nineveh in Bombay: When the Splendours of Ancient Assyria Enraptured the City. *Scroll.in*. December 13.
- 2006. Archaeological Photography and the Creation of Histories in Colonial India. [www.harappa.com/photo-archaeology/index.html](http://www.harappa.com/photo-archaeology/index.html).

## **EXHIBITIONS**

### **FORTHCOMING**

- 2023 *Archaeology and Photography*, co-curation with Giles Tillotson, DAG, New Delhi
- 2012 *South Asia*, Archaeology Gallery, MAA, University of Cambridge
- 2012 *Cambridge*, co-curated with Christopher Chippindale, MAA, University of Cambridge
- 2010 Advisor and Content Contributor for *The Marshall Albums: Photography and Archaeology*, Curated by Alkazi Collection of Photography (ACP), Shridharani Gallery, New Delhi
- 2001 *Collected Sights (1860-1930)*, co curated with R.B. Boast and A. Herle, MAA, University of Cambridge

### **EXTERNAL EXPERT/ADVISORY WORK**

- 2021 June Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya (CSMVS, Mumbai). External Expert for designing Ancient Worlds Gallery. CSMVS/Getty project
- 2019 October Kannur University (Kerala), External Expert for designing a Diploma in Museums Studies
- 2018 Indira Gandhi Open University (New Delhi), Member Expert Committee, Redesigning select core courses for B.A. History (Hons.) Rise of the Modern West I and II, History of Modern Europe I (c.1780-1939), History of Modern Europe II (c.1780-1939)
- 2017 Researcher for Bharat Rural Livelihoods Foundation, New Delhi, for status report on the Arts of the Central Tribal Belt, India (March-December)
- 2014–2016 Research Consultant, Lords Cultural Resources (Canada, Toronto), for Collections Management, Bihar Museum, Patna.
- 2004 Assessor of Photograph archives of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Ream Studio. Lillian Ream Trust, Wisbeach, UK
- 2005 Alkazi Foundation for the Arts, New Delhi. Cataloguer and researcher of photograph collection of Sir John Marshall, Director General Archaeological Survey of India (1902–28).
- 2003 Museums and Libraries Group. Referee for Awards in Lieu Scheme. Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford.
- 2003 Home Ministry. Advisor to Refugee Legal Centre, Oakington.
- 2001 Foreign and Commonwealth Office, London. Advice on documentation of photographs held in the Collection.
- 1987–1988

Indian National Trust for Architecture, Culture and Heritage (INTACH)  
Pune Chapter. Researcher for surveying and listing the colonial architecture  
in Poona cantonment.

Peer Reviewer

*Public Archaeology, Current Anthropology, Archaeological Dialogues, Journal of Social  
Anthropology, Modern Asian Studies, Antiquity, Current Science*  
Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, Peter Lang, I. B. Taurus,  
Bloomsbury Academic (UK), Orient Blackswan

2021, Invited Moderator for One session (16 June 2021) and Discussant for Webinar  
Series (May-June) *Archaeologies of deltaic ecology: Relevant methods and techniques for  
engaging with human and non-human interaction in Southwestern part of Bangladesh.*  
Regional Directorate Office Khulna, Department of Archaeology, Bangladesh.

2018—External examiner for select M.Phil. theses in History, Ambedkar University,  
Delhi.

#### **INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

2015–ongoing. Affiliate Scholar, Centre of South Asian Studies, University of  
Cambridge

1991–ongoing. Life Member, Clare Hall, University of Cambridge

2000–ongoing. Life Member, Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies

#### **PERSONAL INFORMATION:**

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Shiv Nadar University, Delhi NCR, Uttar Pradesh, 201314, India

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