GUJARAT AND THE SEA

Foreword by Professor Bhikhu Parekh

Published by Darshak Itihas Nidhi

700 pages
210 illustrations, half of them in colour.
34 authors, 22 from abroad and 12 from India.
Rs.1600 (Hard bound)

Available at:
Rangdwar Prakashan, G-15, University Plaza
Nr. Dadasaheb Pagla, Navrangpura
Ahmedabad-380 015, Gujarat, India
Tel. : 079-27913344
Darshak Itihas Nidhi

Darshak Itihas Nidhi (DIN), a registered society and trust, is engaged in studies in history for over a decade now. DIN has several publications to its credit, the last one being the translation of David Hardiman’s Feeding the Bania into Gujarati. Besides Gujarat and the Sea, a well-researched volume on Bhagwanlal Indrajii, perhaps the first Indian archaeologist with multidisciplinary credentials, and the history of Barton Library of Bhavnagar will be published before the year end.

On Gujarat and the Sea

What we know now as Gujarat benefited throughout history from its strategic location on the Indian Ocean. The region’s interaction with a multitude of lands and peoples across hundreds – indeed, thousands – of years has, with few aberrations, created a society with a broader vision. It was against this background that Darshak Itihas Nidhi (DIN), a foundation for studies in history, organised at Mandvi, a small coastal town with a long boat-building tradition, a symposium titled ‘Gujarat and the Sea’, with an emphasis on people and technology. The present volume compiles selected papers presented on this occasion and aims to open up new areas of research in the fields of anthropology, archaeology, maritime history, architecture, etc.

Contents

Hydrography, Archaeology

Changing Land-Sea Relationship in the Ranns of Kachchh (A Geoarchaeological Perspective)

Sukumar S. Merh, Retired from Department of Geology, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara, India

Archaeological Sites along the Gujarat Coast: Proxies to Decipher the Past Shoreline

K. H. Vora, A. S. Gaur, Sundaresh, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, India

Sea Level Change and Seashore Settlement

Yogesh P. Khare, Ashish J. Mehta, Department of Civil and Coastal Engineering, University of Florida, USA

Maritime Archaeology of the Okhamandal Region, Gujarat

Sundaresh, A.S. Gaur, Sila Tripati, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, India

From Ugarit to India via Dilmun and Lothal: Stone Anchors Undersea and in Sacred Contexts

The late Honor Frost, Underwater Archaeologist, London

Ancient Anchorage Systems in India with Reference to the Gujarat Coast

A.S. Gaur, Sundaresh, Sila Tripati, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, India

Technology, Ethnological and Comparative

“Sailing on a String and a Prayer”: The ORU Culture in Sri Lanka and the Indian Ocean

Somasiri Devendra, Department of Archaeology, Sri Lanka; ICOMOS, Sri Lanka
A Comparative Study of Sewn Boats from the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. The Question of Gujarat

Patrice Pomey, Centre d'Etudes Alexandrines du CNRS, Alexandria, Egypt

The Stern Rudder: A Chinese Invention circa 200 CE

Wei CAI, Nan SI, Weiguo WU, Longfei XI, Research Center of Shipbuilding History, China

Windows on Gujarat: An Ethno-Technological Reconstruction

Lotika Varadarajan, Historian, Delhi; Rupal Mankad, Himanshu Ajabia, Academics, Jamnagar.

Navigation, Shipping

Indian Ocean and Chinese Techniques of Navigation: Reflections on Nautical Information from Early Portuguese Sources

Jose Manuel Malhao Pereira, Academia de Marinha, Lisbon, Portugal

Joao de Castro’s Survey of the West Coast of India (1538)

Paul Lunde, Civilizations in Contact Project, Wolfson College, and University of Cambridge, UK

The ‘Easternisation’ of the Portuguese Fleets in the Asian Seas during the 16th Century: Causes and Consequences

Vitor Luis Gaspar Rodrigues, IICT (Instituto Investigao Cientifica Tropical), Lisbon, Portugal

Trade and Commerce

Core and Periphery: Harappans in Gujarat

M. K. Dhavalikar, Retired from the Deccan College, Pune, India

Harappan Ships and Maritime Spheres

Alok Tripathi, Centre for Archaeological Research, Assam University, Silchar

Nani Rayan in Kachchh: Archaeological Evidences of Shipping and Trade in Ancient India

Pulin Vasa, Amateur Archeologist, Mandvi, India

Gujarat, the Deccan, China and the Islamic World

John Carswell, The Oriental Institute; Director, David and Alfred Smart Museum of Art, University of Chicago, USA

A Forgotten Portuguese Document of the Economic History of Gujarat

Luis Filipe F. R. Thomaz, Catholic University, Lisbon, Portugal

East and Southeast Asia

Gujarat in a 13th Century Chinese Source: Zhao Rugua’s Chapter on Gujarat in Zhu fan zhi

Sally K. Church, Wolfson College, University of Cambridge, UK

The 15th-Century Gujarat Cloth Trade with Southeast Asia – the Indonesian Archipelago

Kenneth R. Hall, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana, USA
The Gujarati Legacy in Southeast Asia
Leonard Y. Andaya, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii, USA

Gujarat and the Malay World, 15th-17th Centuries: Trade and Influence
Paul Wormser, Claude Guillot, CNRS, France; EHESS, Paris, France

Evidence of Gujarat in the Philippines: Historical and Archaeological Sources of Sufi-Islam
Jennifer Craig, Oxford Centre for Maritime Archaeology, University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Gujarat’s Maritime Connections with Southeast Asia as Seen through the Textile Trade
Hema Devare, Historian

Gujarati in Spirit and Form: Unique Textile from Gujarat in the Collection of the Asian Civilisations Museum, Singapore
Gauri Parimoo Krishnan, Asian Civilisation Museum, Singapore

Memory as Validation

Sailing Boats Depicted in Rock Art at Chamardi in Gujarat
V. H. Sonawane, Department of Archaeology, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara, India

Sea Voyages in the Story of Shripala Rasa from the Gujarat Coast with Supplementary Notes from Shri Jagadu Charita
Ratan Parimoo, L.D. Museum, Ahmedabad, India.

Diu Fisherfolk Community: Culture and Language
Javed Khatri, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara, India

Kutch and the Sea
Edward Simpson, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, UK

Mercantile Communities

Merchants and Mariners: A Review of Early Parsi Settlements on the Coast of Western India (With Special Reference to Sanjan)
Rukshana Nanji, Archaeologist and Independent Researcher, Pune

Gujarat and the Sea: A Study of the Jain Overseas Merchants in the Ancient and Medieval Periods
Makrand Mehta, Retired from Department of History, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, India

Baniyas and the Foreign Trade of Diu (18th Century)
Luis Frederico Dias Antunes, IICT (Instituto de Investigaao Cientifica Tropical), Lisbon, Portugal

Socio-Economic Origins of a Business Community: The Bhatias of Kutch as Overseas Merchants
Shirin Mehta, Retired from Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, India

Khojas: A Historical Overview of their Settlements Overseas
Chhaya Goswami, Historian