

"The future of heritage studies rests on the degree of enthusiasm and curiosity we can generate among the younger generation. We tend to forget that one of the greatest natural resources is the mind of children. It is a happy development that the KCHR initiative would entice the young citizens of India to visit heritage sites like Pattanam via their success in an essay competition on the great doyens of world archaeology. I would like to suggest the following Indian pioneers for the essay competition, Sir William Jones, James Prinsep, Colin Mackenzie, Meadows Taylor, James Fergusson, Alexander Cunningham, Bruce Foote, A. Ghosh, B. Subbarao, D.D. Kosambi and R.S. Sharma. I wish every success for the project"

- K. Paddayya

Professor Emeritus and Former Director, Deccan College (Deemed University) Pune



past for a positive future

KCHR International Fellowships in Pattanam Research

Essay Competition for Indian High School and Plus 2 Students

The Kerala Council for Historical Research (KCHR), Kerala, India, is instituting International Research fellowships named after some of the pioneering researchers in archaeology across the globe. In this context, an essay competition is being held for Indian high school and Plus-2 students, both within and outside the country. The essay can be on a pioneer researcher from the list given below or on a late eminent archaeologist from anywhere in the world.

The competition is meant to introduce the young to the doyens of archaeology and allied areas. The participants are expected to explore and review the life and academic contributions of these scholars. They may refer to all sources of information, including the internet, but are strictly advised to cross-check the accuracy of what they discover. They may refer to any number of sources while writing the essay. Documentation, including footnotes and a bibliography, is mandatory. The language can be either English or Malayalam, and the essay has to be limited to 3,000 words.

Last date for the receipt of entries is 31 December 2014.

Prizes

The ten best participants in each category will be awarded prize money, which they are expected to use for visiting the Muziris (Pattanam) Heritage Zone and the KM Biennale with their parents. (Enlightened individuals, business establishments, the Spices Board, the Kerala Tourism Department, and the KMB are expected to sponsor the 20 winning families for this extraordinary journey to the site of proto-history and a contemporary festival of Indian art.) The KCHR will award a citation and trophy to all the selected entries.





Hasmukh Dhirajlal Sankalia (10 December 1908 – 28 January 1989) was an Indian archaeologist, with pre-history and ancient Indian history as focal areas of interest. He is considered to have pioneered multi-disciplinary archaeological research in India, with significant contributions to his credit.



Vere Gordon Childe (14 April 1892 – 19 October 1957), better known as V. Gordon Childe, was an Australian archaeologist and philologist who specialized in the study of European prehistory. Working most of his life as an academic in the United Kingdom for the University of Edinburgh and then the Institute of Archaeology, London, he wrote many influential books and was an early proponent of culture-historical archaeology and Marxist archaeology.



Bruce Graham Trigger (18 June 1937–1 December 2006) was a Canadian archaeologist, anthropologist, and ethno-historian. His research interests included the history of archaeological research and the comparative study of early cultures.



Lewis Roberts Binford (21 November 1931 – 11 April 2011) was an American archaeologist known for his influential work in archaeological theory, ethno-archaeology, and the Paleolithic period. He is widely considered among the most influential archaeologists of the late 20th century, and is credited with fundamentally changing the field with the introduction of processual archaeology (or “New Archaeology”) in the 1960s.



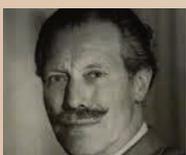
Stuart Ernest Piggott (28 May 1910 – 23 September 1996) was a British archaeologist best known for his work on prehistoric Wessex. Born in Petersfield, Hampshire, Piggott was educated at Churcher's College, and on leaving school in 1927 took up a post as assistant at Reading Museum where he developed an expertise in Neolithic pottery.



Robert John Braidwood (29 July 1907 – 15 January 2003) was an American archaeologist and anthropologist. He was one of the founders of scientific archaeology, and a leader in the field of Near Eastern Pre-history.



Sir John Grahame Douglas Clark (28 July 1907 – 12 September 1995) was a British archaeologist most noted for his work on the Mesolithic and his theories on palaeo-economy. He was Disney Professor of Archaeology at the Cambridge from 1952 to 1974, and Master of Peter House College, Cambridge from 1973 to 1980.



Sir Robert Eric Mortimer Wheeler (10 September 1890 – 22 July 1976) was a British archaeologist. After service in the Royal Artillery in World War I, he undertook excavations in Wales, England, and Northern France as Director of the National Museum of Wales and Keeper of the London Museum. After further service in World War II, he was Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India.



Frank Raymond Allchin (9 July 1923 – 4 June 2010) was an archaeologist who specialized in South Asian archaeology. He first visited India in 1944 while

-serving with the army in the Royal Corps of Signals, and his interest in archaeology grew from then on. Between 1954 and 1959, he taught South Asian Archaeology at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, and later spent 30 years teaching at Churchill College, Cambridge.



Louis and Mary Leakey, two of the foremost fossil hunters of the 20th century, are known for their many discoveries relating to early human evolution. Their finds at the Olduvai Gorge, a site in northwestern Tanzania, convinced most paleoanthropologists that humans originally evolved in Africa.

Mary Leakey (6 February 1913 – 9 December 1996) was a British paleoanthropologist who discovered the first fossilized Proconsul skull, an extinct ape now believed to have been an ancestor of humans.

Louis Seymour Bazett Leakey (7 August 1903 – 1 October 1972) was a British paleoanthropologist and archaeologist whose work was important in establishing human evolutionary development in Africa, particularly through his discoveries in the Olduvai Gorge. He also played a major role in creating organizations for future research in Africa and for protecting wildlife there.



Sir Leonard Woolley (17 April 1880 – 20 February 1960) was a British archaeologist whose excavation of the ancient Sumerian city of Ur (in modern Iraq) greatly advanced knowledge of ancient Mesopotamian civilization. His discovery of geological evidence of a great flood suggested a possible correlation with the deluge described in Genesis.



Dame Kathleen Mary Kenyon (5 January 1906 – 24 August 1978) was a leading archaeologist of Neolithic culture in the Fertile Crescent. Former Principal of St Hugh's College, Oxford and best known for her excavations of Jericho and Bangalow in 1952-1958, she has been called the most influential female archaeologist of the 20th century.



Peter Vilhelm Glob (20 February 1911 – 20 July 1985), also known as P.V. Glob, was a Danish archaeologist who worked as the Director General of Museums and Antiquities of Denmark and was also the Director of the National Museum in Copenhagen. Glob was most noted for his investigations of Denmark's bog bodies—mummified remains of Iron and Bronze Age people found preserved in peat bogs.



Sir Arthur John Evans (8 July 1851 – 11 July 1941) was an English archaeologist famous for unearthing the palace of Knossos on the Greek island of Crete and for developing the concept of the Minoan civilization from structures and artifacts found there and elsewhere in the eastern Mediterranean. Evans was the first to define Cretan scripts Linear A and Linear B, as well as an earlier pictographic writing.



Hiram Bingham (19 November 1875 – 6 June 1956) was an American archaeologist, who in 1911 initiated a scientific study of Machu Picchu, an ancient Inca site in a remote part of the Peruvian Andes. Bingham and his work were the key catalysts for the archaeological investigation of sites in the Andes and other parts of South America.



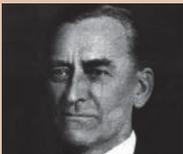
Gertrude Margaret Lowthian Bell (14 July 1868 – 12 July 1926) was an English writer, traveller, administrator, and archaeologist who explored, mapped, and became highly influential to British imperial policy-making due to her skill and contacts built up through extensive travels in Greater Syria, Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, and Arabia. Along with T. E. Lawrence, Bell helped establish the Hashemite dynasties in what is today Jordan as well as Iraq.



Ahmad Hasan Dani (20 June 1920 – 26 January 2009) was an intellectual, archaeologist, historian, and linguist. He was among the foremost authorities on Central Asian and South Asian archaeology and history. He introduced archaeology as a discipline in higher education in Pakistan and Bangladesh. He is particularly known for archaeological work on the pre-Indus civilization and the Gandhara sites in Northern Pakistan. As a prolific linguist, he spoke 35 local and international languages and dialects.



Li Ji (12 July 1896 – 1 August 1979), also commonly Romanized as Li Chi, was an influential Chinese archaeologist. He is considered to be the founder of modern Chinese archaeology and his work was instrumental in proving the historical authenticity of the Shang Dynasty. In 1928, he became the first director of the archeology department and started to teach at the Tsinghua University.



Sir John Hubert Marshall (19 March 1876 – 17 August 1958) was the Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India from 1902 to 1928. His excavations led to the discovery of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, two of the main cities that comprise the Indus Valley Civilization.



Anujan Achan (1899 – 1964) was born in Thrissur to Paliath Kochupilla Kunjamma and Mekkattu Manakkal Esaanan Nampoothiri. He studied History, Bengali, and Pali as a graduate student at Viswabharathi University, Kolkata (Calcutta) and became the Superintendent of Cochin state's archaeology department. He was instrumental in the founding of the Ramavarma Research Institute, Thrissur, in 1930. In 1945, Achan, perhaps at the behest of Sir Mortimer Wheeler, organized an excavation at Kodungallur in search of archaeological evidence related to Kerala's trans-oceanic links.



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Address for communication
The Director, KCHR
PB No. 839, Vylloppilly Samskriti Bhavan, Nalanda,
Thiruvananthapuram 695 003
Tel/Fax: 0471-2310409/9447137651
E-mail: kchrtvm@gmail.com
www.kchr.ac.in

Child is the Father of Man

"While wandering a deserted beach at dawn, stagnant in my work, I saw a young boy in the distance bending and throwing as he walked the endless stretch toward me. As he came near, I could see that he was throwing starfish, abandoned on the sand by the tide, back into the sea. When he was close enough I asked him why he was working so hard at this strange task. 'The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them the sun would dry the starfish.' I said to him 'Son, don't you realize there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't make a difference!' He smiled as he picked up the next starfish. Hurling it gently into the sea he said, 'It makes a difference for this one.' I abandoned my writing and spent the morning throwing starfish."

- Loren Eiseley