Kerala Council for Historical Research

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KCHR/Press release/International Workshop/856/2015

11th November 2015

International workshop on Architectural features of Ancient Port Cities

Kerala Council for Historical Research (KCHR) in collaboration with the British Museum, UK is organizing an International workshop on "Early Historic Port Cities: Architectural Features, Techniques of Construction and Conservation with special reference to Pattanam". The workshop is scheduled from 23rd to 27th November 2015 at the Pattanam Archaeological Site located near North Paravur in the Ernakulum district of Kerala, India.

The workshop is the 3rd and last in the series of workshops organized as part of the International research partnership award of the British Academy (2010) jointly received by Professor P J Cherian, Director, KCHR and Dr. Roberta Tomber, Visiting Scientist, British Museum, London for the proposal "Indian Ocean Trade: the Archaeology of Technology." The earlier two workshops were on the ceramic assemblage and adornment items unearthed at Pattanam. This workshop will discuss the architectural features of Pattanam in relation to other port cities in the Mediterranean, Red Sea and Indian Ocean littoral.

Specialists and senior scholars working on the Architectural features, techniques and conservation from within and outside India will present papers. (They include Prof. David Blackman (Oxford University), Prof. Luis Feduchi (UCJC University Spain), Alessandra Avancini (University of Pisa, Italy), Prof. Steve Sidebotham (Delaware University, USA), Dr Chris Brandon (Architect, London), Prof. K Rajan (Pondicherry Central University), Prof. Prathapchandran (MS University, Baroda), Dr.V. Selvakumar, Prof. Athiyaman & Prof Rajavelu (Tamil University, Thanjavur), Dr. Sunil Gupta (Allahabad Museum) Dr. Sundaresh & Dr Sila Tripati (NIO, Goa) and Prof Binumol Tom (Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology, Kottayam).

Preceding the workshop, an ethno-archaeological survey from 16th to 21st November will document the traditional boat making and carpentry practices in the Pattanam region.

Professor P J Cherian
Kerala Council for Historical Research

Dr. Roberta Tomber British Museum