

Dr. Bijoy Kumar Choudhary



1. **Date of Birth** :15-03-1957
2. **Present Designation** :**Director, K.P. Jayaswal Research Institute, Patna.**
Executive Director, Bihar Heritage Development Society,
Patna (An autonomous institution under the Art, Culture & Youth Department of Bihar Government)

4. **Home Address** :205, Ma Vindhawasini Complex, Sheikhpura Patna-800014.

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5. **Educational Qualifications** : M.A in History (J.N.U), Ph. D (B.U)

7. **Archaeological Works** :I. Directed archaeological excavations at the following sites under the permission of the Archaeological Survey of India: **Konahara** (Hajipur)-1993-94; Ramchaura, (Vaishali district)-1994-95; 1996-97; 1997-98; **Panda**, (Samastipur district)-1998-99; 1999-2000;2001-02; 2002-03; 2003-04; 2004-05; 2006-07; 2007-08; 2009-10; **Kutumba** (Aurangabad district)- 2012-13; 2013-14; 2014-15

II. **Directed archaeological explorations**
 1. The Buddhist Stupas in Bihar during 2005-06 and 2006-07
 2. Archaeological Sites in 30 districts of Bihar in order to update the publication of KPJRI, namely *The Antiquarian Remains in Bihar*, during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 and 2014-15 under the permission of the ASI. So far, more than 6500 antiquarian finds-pots have been explored and documented in Bihar under this programme.

8. **Teaching Experience:-** Has been conducting a certificate course in 'Research methodology in History and Archaeology' at the K.P. Jayaswal Research Institute for the last twelve years. Has

regularly been taking classes at the Academic Staff College, Patna University and Bihar Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development for the last several years.

9. Publications

- (i) Research Books:
- (a) *From Kinship to Social Hierarchy: The Vedic Experience*, Patna, 1999
 - (b) Archaeological Gazetteer of Nalanda District, 2015
 - (c) Archaeological Gazetteer of Vaishali District, 2016
 - (d) Archaeological Gazetteer of Samastipur District, 2016
 - (e) Archaeological Gazetteer of Kaimur District, 2017
 - (f) Archaeological Gazetteer of Gaya District, 2017
- (ii) Edited Works:
- (g) *Readings in Indian History: S.H. Askari Centenary Volume*, Patna, 2000
 - (h) *Readings in History of Rural South Bihar*, Patna, 2007
 - (i) *Changing Perspectives and Methodologies in South Asian Archaeology* (KPJRI, Patna, 2012)
- (iii) Research Journal Edited : Nine Issues of the *Prajñā Bhārtī*, (The journal of the K.P. Jayaswal Research Institute) Vol IX to XVIII.
- (iv) General Editor : General Editor of several books published by KPJRI.
- (v) Research Articles
- :(1) 'Archaeology in Bihar: Trends and Prospects' in D.N. Jha (ed.) *The Complex Heritage of Early India* (Manohar, New Delhi, 2014)pp. 133-153
 - (2) 'Neolithic and Chalcolithic in Gangetic Bihar' In K.N. Dikshit (ed.) *Neolithic-Chalcolithic Cultures of Eastern India* (Indian Archaeological Society, New Delhi, 2013), 208-215

- (3) 'History of Archaeology in Bihar' in G. Sengupta & K.Gangopadhyay(ed.), *Archaeology in India* (Munshiram Manoharlal, New Delhi, 2009) pp. 227-243
- (4) 'Identifying the Surroundings of Nalanda Mahavihara' *Purattava*, Bulletin of the Indian Archaeological Society, no. 38, 2008, pp. 91-101
- (5) 'Legal Provisions for Protection of Manuscripts', Khuda Bux Journal, NO. 141, July-Sept. 2005.
- (6) 'Developing Archaeological Resources in Bihar' in ***Bihar***, 2004.
- (7) 'A Brief Report On Excavations at Panda', Prajñā Bhārtī, the Journal of K.P. Jayaswal Research Institute, Vol.XI, 1999.
- (8) 'A Critical Examination of the Taittiriya Samhita as a Source of History', Prajñā Bhārtī, Vol.IX, 1999.
- (9) 'The Sajata in Later Vedic Literature' *Indian History Congress Proceedings*, Bangalore Session, 1998.
- (10) 'Excavations at Hajipur', *The Journal of Bihar Puravid Parishad*, Vol. XI & XII 1997-98.
- (11) 'Hymns, Sacrifices and Social Hierarchy in Early India' in *Indian History and Culture*, Vol.III, Patna, 1996.
- (12) 'Kinship Relations and Social Hierarchy in Early India', *Indian History Congress Proceedings*, Gorakhpur Session, 1990.
- (13) 'Gifts with special Reference to the Matsya Purana' Prajñā Bhārtī, Vol.V, 1988.
- (14) 'Education in Ancient Bihar' *Bihar: past and Present*, Patna, 1987.
- (15) A short note on the Inscriptions of Ancient Bihar', in *Bihar past and Present*, Patna, 1987.
- (16) 'The Position of Brahmanas in Bihar and Bengal'(Cira A.D.800-1200)', Prajñā Bhārtī, Vol.IV,1984

10. Forthcoming publication : Report on the Excavations at Paṅr (Samastipur district)

11. Research Supervision:- Has guided a number of research scholars for Ph.d degree under Magadh University. **Shri Aditya Chatterjee** on 'professions in Vedic Society', **Shri Arun Kumar** on 'The NBP Culture of the Gandak Valley', **Shri S.N Mishra** on Indo-Ceylonese Relations C. 3rd. C. BC- 6th C.AD; **Shri Sarjun Prasad** on the 'Origins and Evolution of Iron Technology in Middle Ganga Valley (Neolithic to NBPW)'; **Shri SujitNayan**, 'A Techno-Typological Study of Harrapan Pottery': **Shri Shankar Jaikishan**, 'Archaeological Study of Beads in Middle Ganga Plain: Neolithic to Gupta period'

12. List of Conferences and Seminars, Attended in Recent Years:

- (1) Presidential Address on 'Settlement Histories of the Interfluves of the Bihar Plains' at the Annual Conference of Bihar Itihas Conference (Ancient Section) on 3 July, 2014
- (2) 'Buddhist monasteries at Ghorawan and Telhara', at the 42nd Annual Conference of South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 20 October, 2013
- (3) 'Archaeological conservation in India', Hamilton College, Clinton, 23 2013
- (4) 'History of Nalanda' National Seminar on Nalanda Tradition of Buddhism in Asia organized by Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, New Delhi, 14 November, 2013
- (5) 'Text & Archaeology: Sites and Settlements', CASTEI, Kolkata, 15 November, 2013
- (6) 'History of Rice Cultivation in Bihar' IGNC, Bhuvneswara, 3 February, 2012
- (7) 'Neolithic in Bihar Plains' National Seminar on 'Prehistory in South Asia' organized by CASTEI, Kolkata, 28 November, 2010
- (8) 'Excavations at Panr' in "Recent Archaeological Activities in Eastern India" by AIHC&A, Visva Bharti, West Bengal, 6-7 August, 2010
- (9) Presented Key-note Address during the Seminar on the Antiquarian Laws and Heritage Management Organized by the Archaeology Directorate and others on 12 March, 2009
- (10) 'The position of women in Ancient India' at Patna Collage, August 2009
- (11) 'Challenges of Protecting and Promoting the Archaeological Heritage of Bihar' Y. Mishra Memorial Lecture, April, 2008
- (12) Delivered lectures at different forums including the postgraduate departments of Ancient History Department of different Universities of Bihar, UGC refresher courses and several Research Institutes and colleges.

13. Bihar Heritage Development Society: (i) As the Executive Director of the Bihar Heritage Development Society has organized training courses on Epigraphy, Numismatics, Potsherds, Conservation of Monuments and Conservation of Antiquities in order to enhance capability in the field of heritage-studies. Has also organized large-scale heritage awareness programmes including several villages.

(ii) Supervised the renovation of a colonial building in the premises of the A.N, Sinha Institute of Social Studies, Patna, where Mahatma Gandhi stayed for 68 days in 1947.

14. (i) Member, General Council, Center of Archaeological Studies and Training, Eastern India, Kolkata, 2003-2010

(ii) **Visiting Professor, Department of Ancient Indian History & Culture, Calcutta University,** February, 2011

(iii) **State Project Coordinator (Bihar), National Mission of Monuments and Antiquities,** 2010-2011, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi

(iv) Member, State Level Committee of National Mission of Monuments and Antiquities (Current)

15. Other Activities:- Helped the conservation of the western gate of the Purana Qila (Patna

City) and the archaeological garden of Minto hostel (Patna College). As the Director of the KPJRI and the Executive Director of BHDS, have organized memorial lectures, seminars, conferences, workshops. Through popular lectures, radio and T.V. talks have played a meaningful role in activating popular interest in heritage. During extensive archaeological explorations have succeeded in forming Local Heritage Committees which would be custodians of their neighboring archaeological resources.

16. Current Project: - Engaged in state- wide documentation of antiquarian remains in Bihar. The work, begun in July 2007, has already covered thirty districts of the province with the assistance of 26 Research Investigators and five senior-level coordinators.