

DETAILS OF FUNCTIONAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MoU)

PAMA INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TRANSDISCIPLINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

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NAME OF THE INSTITUTION: PAMA INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TRANSDISCIPLINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

File No:	2020.16
Name of the Collaborating Institution	PAMA INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TRANSDISCIPLINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
Area of collaboration	Research/ academic
Date of Initiation	29 th January 2020
Co-ordinator Name	Linto Alappat
National/ International	National
Duration of collaboration	Five years
Targeting departments/ beneficiaries	Geology/ History/ Language
Number of Students/ Faculty participated	150 students and Faculty of Geology

Details of Activities under MoU

Introduction

PAMA is a transdisciplinary research collective, registered as no-profit-educational Trust, to address the problems of shrinking academic vision, rigid knowledge boundaries, mechanistic career practices and fragmented scientific investigations. PAMA aims to offer short-term and long-term research fellowships, internships and space for critical collective thinking on diverse themes irrespective of the differences in disciplinary learning and practice.

PAMA aims to facilitate self-driven s. Skeptical about the rigid, conventional pedagogic categorisation of knowledge domains into humanities, arts, technological, social and physical science, PAMA intends to sensitise the public on the common strand or method that runs across disciplines, which may be termed as science based, even while respecting the focus and methodological difference in discipline bound enquiries.

PAMA is committed to seek practical alternatives by fostering such trans-disciplinary scientific pursuits, scholarships and alternate ways of living and pursuing professions.

Activities conducted:

Under the MoU, joined conference and workshop were organized and research collaborations have been initiated. National Conference on Geoarchaeology was conducted with the financial assistance from Kerala Council for Historical Research in collaboration with the partnering institutions. The collaboration had also successfully completed a season of archaeological excavation in the Pattanam- Mathilakam area in 2020 (Report: DOC-004). The students and faculty of Department of Geology and Environmental Science were actively participated in the excavation. Another field excavation and surveying is being organized in

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collaboration with Archaeological Survey of India for Excavation at Pattanam and Mathilakam, locality Delta region of Periyar and Chalakudy Rivers (License order: DOC-005).

SPECIFIC OUTCOMES

<p>Specific Outcomes: (What, Why, Impacts)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>National seminar on Geo-archaeology (Brochure: DOC-006) funded by Kerala Council for Historical Research (Sanction order: DOC-007)</i> 2. <i>Student and faculty involvement in the Pattanam- Mathilakam Archaeological Excavations 2020 to unearth the archaeological remains of the region. The excavated materials are stored in the laboratory facility at Christ College.</i> 3. <i>Survey and field excavations were carried out with the involvement of Archaeological Survey of India for Excavation at Pattanam and Mathilakam, locality Delta region of Periyar and Chalakudy Rivers.</i>
<p>Any other details: (Items/Knowledge Shared)</p>
<p>Photographs of the event/ YouTube link of the event may given</p> 

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Specific Outcomes: (What, Why, Impacts)



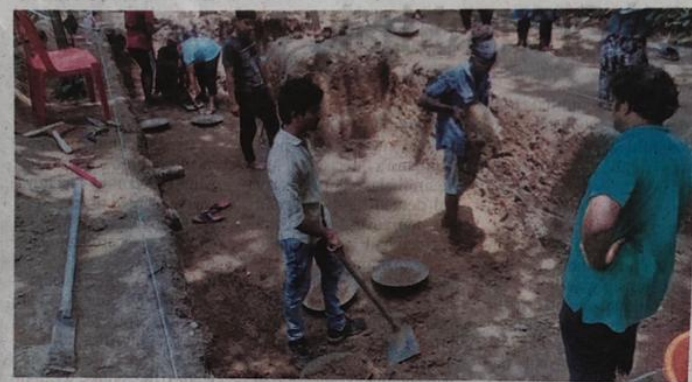
ASI to play crucial role in Muziris excavations

Field research to resume once COVID situation is under control

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
KOCHI

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) will be a prominent partner in the 11th season of excavations at Pattanam and Mathilakam villages in Ernakulam and Thrissur districts. The excavations are being spearheaded by PAMA Institute for the Advancement of Transdisciplinary Archaeological Sciences, a non-profit research organisation.

The ASI has named K.P. Mohandas, head of its Thrissur Circle; Linto Alappat, head of Geology Department, Christ College, Irinjalakuda; Rajesh C.V. and Abhayam G., faculty, Department of Archaeology, Kerala University; Veenus Jain, head of History, Amity University; and Deepak P., faculty, Department of Computer Science, Queen's University, Belfast, as co-directors of the project.



Digging deep: Youths engaged in excavation in the Muziris region at North Paravur.

The Pattanam excavations, launched in 2006-07, resumed in January 2020 after a five-year hiatus. The main objective of the Muziris research project is to gather evidence and analyse ancient India's trade and cultural transactions from the coast of Gujarat to Bengal and beyond. So far, excavations at Pattanam have unearthed relics of three dozen cultures linked to diverse ge-

ographies that extend from the Hepu site in southern China to Catalonia in Spain, from 5th century BCE to 5th century CE. They point towards a highly sophisticated culture flourishing in the Periyar delta, with its indigenous settlements dating back to 1,000 BCE.

Important artefacts

The excavations of the 10th season had unearthed important artefacts, including a

seal ring with the image of Greek sphinx closely resembling the seal ring of Augustus Caesar – the first Roman Emperor – and a Greco-Roman head statuette.

Besides promoting evidence-based research, PAMA aims to transform Pattanam village into a knowledge hub and a model world heritage site, with public participation, according to R.V.G. Menon and P.J. Cherian, chairman and director

respectively of PAMA. Field research will commence at Pattanam and Mathilakam once the COVID-19 situation is under control.

Mapping the Periyar

In the meantime, PAMA is planning a ward-based survey on both banks of the Periyar to document the material surface remains and to collect associated information from local communities. The project titled 'Periyar River Valley: Mapping Materials and Memories' aims to discern the role of Pattanam hinterland in the making of the Muziris port.



PAMA has created a digital group of ward members of panchayats / municipalities on the banks of the Periyar for the exercise. The aim is to familiarise them with digital modes of investigation and help them develop a deeper understanding of the Periyar.

Students and science enthusiasts can become part of the project by registering and paying online a fee of ₹200. Details are available on www.pama.org.in.

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DECLARATION

We hereby declare that the above activities detailed in the current report was conducted under the MoU between our institutions.

Christ College (Autonomous)	PAMA INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TRANSDISCIPLINARY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SCIENCES, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
 Fr. Dr. Jolly Andrews Assistant Professor- In-charge of Principal Christ College (Autonomous) Irinjalakuda	 Prof. RVG Menon, Chairman PAMA Institute for the Advancement of Trans-disciplinary Archaeological Sciences Post Box 2556, Medical College PO Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 695011
PRINCIPAL	HEAD OF THE INSTITUTION

DATE 09/12/2021

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