

Second Circular

February 2009

BUMA-VII

**SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
The Beginnings of the Use of Metals and Alloys**



**September 13-18, 2009
National Institute of Advanced Studies
Bangalore, India**

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The international conference on “ the Beginnings of the Use of Metals and Alloys” (BUMA) is one of the oldest and most prestigious platforms for the presentation of research related to metallurgical heritage especially of Asia. BUMA was founded in 1981 by two eminent archaeometallurgists Prof. Robert Maddin in Philadelphia USA and Prof Tsun Ko in Beijing, China. Since then the research presented at this conference series has increasingly established Asia to be one of the major cradles of the development of ancient metallurgy. From Beijing in 1981 BUMA has traveled to Zhengzhou, China (1986), Sanmenxia, China (1992), Matsue, Japan (1998) Gyeongju, Korea (2002) and Beijing,China (2006). For the first time this conference will be held in India in 2009. The National Institute of Advanced Studies in the Indian Institute of Science Campus is an interdisciplinary centre and will be the venue.

The Asian region is also one which faces numerous challenges in an era of globalisation for the preservation of heritage, metal crafts and traditional knowledge systems and intangible heritage so that this conference will also play a role in raising such awareness.

Scope

The field of archaeometallurgy has been the subject of increasing interest in the last decades and intense research has deepened our knowledge in many ways. The conference will provide a forum for discussion on all aspects of the field with a special focus on Asian materials, interactions between Eurasian cultures and Asian connected research. Nevertheless studies on non-Asian materials which are relevant to the field of archaeometallurgy will be accepted as topics.

Papers presented at the conference and accepted by the editorial committee will be published in CD form. A selection of the papers will be published in a dedicated volume and will include also non-Asian topics, if approved by the editorial committee. Special attention should be given to the archaeological and historical background of the studies and to the interaction between specialized researchers. The conference language will be English.

Themes

As in the previous BUMA editions the papers will be grouped in different sessions, depending on their topics and their chronology. The suggested themes can be related to:

Metallurgy and Interaction across Eurasia, Ancient Iron and Steel Technology, History and Production of Copper-based Alloys, Precious Metals, Metallurgical Processes, Metalware Production, Metal Workshops.

We will try and avoid parallel sessions, but the poster session will allow maximum participation .

Conference Venue

All technical sessions will be held in the J R D Tata Auditorium of the National Institute of Advanced Studies. Adequate international connection through fax/phone and e-mail will be provided to the delegates. The host, NIAS is a leader in post-graduate education in India and is internationally known for its multidisciplinary programmes in scientific and engineering research and humanities and social sciences.

Schedule of Important Dates:

Abstract submission Deadline: April 15, 2009

Abstract Acceptance: May 15, 2009

Advance registration Deadline: May 31, 2009

Final Programme: June 30, 2009

Conference: September 13-18, 2009

Submitted abstracts and list of delegates may be accessed at the BUMA 2009 website.

Registration

The registration fee will cover abstract booklet, lunch and light refreshments on all days, conference banquet and cultural programme. We encourage active participation by students at this conference. Registration as a student is possible only with a certificate from the concerned university. Registration for an accompanying person is complimentary.

You can register online at the BUMA2009 website

[\(http://www.nias.iisc.ernet.in/buma2009.html/\)](http://www.nias.iisc.ernet.in/buma2009.html/)

Regular Participant

Registration and payment before 31 May 2009: **US \$ 200.00**

Registration and payment after 31 May 2009: **US \$ 250.00**

Students

Registration and payment before May 31, 2009 ; **US \$ 100.00**

Registration and payment after May 31, 2009 : **US \$ 125.00**

Abstracts:

Abstract acceptance will be communicated by May 15, 2009. Both oral and poster presentations are planned. The website has other relevant information for the authors.

BUMA 2009 Secretariat:

Ms. S. Gayathri Lokhwande

Conference Secretary, National Institute of Advanced Studies Bangalore-560012, India

buma2009@yahoo.com

Travel and Accommodation

All overseas delegates are requested to apply to the nearest Indian Embassy/Consulate for their visa. Upon request, the BUMA 2009 Chairpersons can send an invitation letter for visa purposes.

Bangalore is well connected to the rest of the world directly. Lufthansa, Air India, Air France, British Airways, Singapore Airlines, Jet Airways, Thai Airlines, Malaysian Airline and Srilankan Airlines have regular flight directly to Bangalore from various destinations around the world. These airlines also fly to Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai International airports which are connected to Bangalore (150 minutes, 45 minutes and 90 minutes, respectively) by a large number of domestic airlines around the clock. Among the options for domestic airlines in India are Indian Airlines, Jet Air lines, Kingfisher Airlines, Spice Airlines and Go Airlines. Bangalore is also accessible by train from all parts of India.

Hotels are being identified for rooms in the range of \$ 50 to \$ 200. This information will soon be available at the BUMA 009 website.

About Bangalore

Bangalore is booming, and a look at some of its nicknames says why: “India’s SiliconValley”, “Fashion Capital of India”, “The Pub City of India” and so on. Home to over 6 million people and a base for 10,000 industries, Bangalore is the fifth largest city in India and the fastest growing in Asia. The capital of the state of Karnataka, Bangalore is situated halfway between the coasts in southern India. The city was founded in the 16th century. The regions close to Bangalore and in Karnataka witnessed great southern dynasties like the Hoysalas, the Kadambas and Vijayanagar emperors. Legend has it that the name Bangalore comes from “boiled beans” (Benda Kaluru), which was served by a humble old lady to a hungry ruler in the 10th century. Surprisingly, despite some adverse environmental impact of industrial development leading to traffic congestion, another of Bangalore’s nicknames is “The Garden City”. That is thanks to many local parks, such as Cubbon Park and Lal Bagh along with pink cassias, golden acacias, and jacarandas which bloom throughout the city.

While enjoying the warm weather year-around, the delegates can also use the city as a central base for day trips to other Karnataka attractions such as Mysore and the intricate Hoysala temples at Belur and Halebid and Sriranganapatna, the capital of the Tiger of Mysore, Tipu Sultan. Bangalore is also famed for its fine silks and sarees, and has a very lively cultural life with many flourishing art galleries, book stores and most of all a rich performance arts and theatre scene straddling both traditional and contemporary forms.

Weather:

Bangalore is pleasant in the month of September. The temperature ranges between 15 C and 24 C. Be prepared for the occasional shower, in particular towards the evening.

Conference Chairpersons

S Ranganathan & Sharada Srinivasan,
Chairpersons, BUMA – VII
National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore

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International Advisory Committee

Prof Robert Maddin, USA
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CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

More information available at the BUMA-VII website:

<http://www.nias.iisc.ernet.in/buma2009.html>

Supporting Organizations

The Indian Institute of Metals

The Indian National Academy of Engineering

Institute of Historical Metallurgy and Materials, University of Science and Technology
Beijing, P. R. China

Japanese Study Group for the History of Mining and Metallurgy, Japan

The Needham Research Institute, UK

AGM Archeoanalisi, Italy

SPONSORS

Departments of the Government of India, Overseas agencies and corporate sponsors are being approached for financial grants. Names of sponsors will soon be made available on the website. The conference will endeavour to give partial travel or accommodation support for those delegates who may need it

Pre-conference and post-conference tours :

These details will be made available on the website