

AIPS Final Report Template – Pakistan to U.S. Exchange

In order to better report and highlight AIPS-sponsored programs with our funding agencies and AIPS members, please fill in the information below to the best of your ability, writing in the third person.

Information provided in this report may be posted on the AIPS website and/or submitted to our granting agency. Please send all required materials via email to aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Grantee Information

Name: Nafees Ahmad

U.S. Institution: Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Home Institution in Pakistan: Department of Archaeology, University of the Punjab, Lahore.

Research Field: Indus Valley Civilization (Early Harappan Pottery at Harappa)

Scholar Bios

Mr. Nafees Ahmad secured his graduation and Master degrees from university of the Punjab, Lahore. After the completion of his Masters in Archaeology he joined Department of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Pakistan at January 22, 2008 and served this department till April 10, 2010 as Field Officer and participated in the excavations of Proto Historic and Historic period sites. During this period he had the charge of more than thirty five thousand antiquities housed in Exploration and Excavation Branch, Karachi and worked on their digitization. On April 12, 2010 he joined Department of Archaeology University of the Punjab, Lahore as Curator of Archaeological Museum. In 2012 he got opportunity for one month training on Museology from Smithsonian Institution Washington DC and Experimental Archaeology from Wisconsin University, Madison, USA by funding from AIPS and US embassy, Islamabad. For this program the efforts of Dr. Jonathan Mark Kenoyer are worth admirable as he is always very passionate for the training and grooming of the Pakistani archaeologists. This training was very helpful to enhance his capabilities as museum curator. After the completion of his M.Phil he was inducted in same department as Lecturer on April 18, 2014 and has been serving it till date. His field of interest and area of research is Indus Valley Civilization.

What resources did you use and/or in which activities did you partake at the institution where you stayed? (Please select all the apply.)

- Visited an on-campus library **(Yes)**
- Utilized scholarly collections that were previously unavailable **(Yes)**
- Attended a lecture (outside of the classroom) **(Yes)**
- Attended an in-class lecture **(Yes)**
- Gave a lecture (outside of the classroom) **(Yes)**
- Gave an in-class lecture **(No)**
- Collaborated with other junior scholars **(Yes)**
- Collaborated with other senior scholars **(Yes)**
- Exchanged contact information with other scholars (if yes, approximately how many?) **10**
- Attended a local/cultural event **(Yes)**

- Began a new research project **(Yes)**
- Continued working on a research project started before this program **(Yes)**
- Became more familiar with the U.S. culture and lifestyle **(Yes)**
- Other (please explain below)

Program Description

Please provide a summary of your program and its components, elaborating on the section above. Please be sure to mention the overarching topic(s) and goal(s) of the program.

The main goals of the training are as follows;

- Enhancing the teaching skills by preparing the courses, making presentation on multimedia, semester work plan and generating the interest of students in class discussion.
- Use of the library and access to the literary sources
- Finding future collaborations between Punjab University Lahore, Pakistan and University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA
- Interactions with senior and junior faculty members and scholars
- Learning about the diversity of cultures in USA through cultural events and festivals
- Examination of Harappan pottery to study its fabric, surface treatment, manufacturing techniques
- Photography of archaeological material that is very necessary part of archaeological research.
- Learning the use of digital microscope (Dinolite) and optical microscope, as well as the Scanning Electron Microscope, which are important laboratory techniques used to study the mineralogy of objects focusing on composition of clay used in manufacturing of Early Harappan pottery from Harappa.
- Study of Ravi and Kot Diji pottery excavated from early levels at Harappa.
- Understanding the grain charts and learning the documentation of pottery that how it is studied and recorded on tabulation chart and Microsoft Excel sheets.
- Drawing of Pottery to understand how rims, potsherds and bases are drawn and studied.
- Learning about typology and classification of pottery.
- Learning thin sectioning and petrology of pottery.
- Getting knowledge of SEM (Scanning Electron Microscope) that how it works and how objects are studied in this machine.

Deliverables and Outcomes

What do you anticipate the short and long-term results of this exchange will be? Please provide specific examples (i.e. chapters written, lectures given, collaborations leading to new projects, shared information to advance research, etc.)

Teaching Skills:

He attended the in-class lectures by departmental faculty as well as guest speakers. He also delivered a lecture outside the class room. After getting the lectures and guidance he has learned how teaching skills can be improved. He attended lectures with keen interest, prepared his courses on the pattern provide by Dr. Kenoyer as examples from the UW Anthropology department. He

changed outdated terminologies and used new ones according to the requirements. He planned the semester and divided the topics according to the span of the semester in which topics of discussion, exams and the lectures of guest speakers are planned on weekly basis. Student participation in class discussion will be evaluated by marks or points so that student come in class with preparation and must participate in class discussions.

He also learned how effective presentation on power point is prepared and delivered in effective way. All this learning will benefit him in teaching and planning the semester in better way.

Pottery Study and Analysis:

All of the work on pottery is done under the guidance of Dr. Jonathan Mark Kenoyer such as;

Photography: He learned the basic techniques of photography with DSLR professional camera and learnt how ISO, aperture and shutter speed is set while photography of the archaeological material.

Study of Pottery through digital microscope (Dinolite): He learnt the use of Dinolite microscopic camera and studied the temper, inclusions, minerals and voids and also learnt that how to get their measurements. He studied the grain chart to examine the fineness of temper and minerals.

Study of Ravi and Kot Diji pottery from Harappa: In the archaeological lab of the Department of Anthropology, University of Wisconsin, he saw the drawings and sherds of Ravi and Kot Diji period and keenly examined its fabric, surface, manufacturing technique, designs and clay composition. By this practice he gained rich information of the typology and characteristic features of Early Harappan pottery from Harappa. The study of Ravi and Kot Dijian pottery enhanced his knowledge for PhD studies and now he has become able to advance his research in more appropriate and systematic way.

Documentation/Recording on Excel Sheet. He learned how pottery is documented after careful examination using naked eye as well as 10x handlense microscope. He prepared the excel sheet and put all information of pottery on that for documentation and recording purpose.

Thin Sectioning and Pottery Petrology: He was introduced to the basic knowledge of pottery petrographic thin sectioning and its significance in archaeological studies and how thin sections of pottery is made. He saw the thin sections and studied the petrology of some sherds.

Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM): He observed the process of SEM in the lab of South Asian Archaeology and learned how different archaeological materials are examined through SEM and how the images can be interpreted.

Pottery Drawing: He learned to draw the potsherds, rims and bases of Ravi and Kot Dijian pottery. He also learned how rim chart, digital caliper, contour comb, scales and drawing pencils are used in drawing of the pottery.

Typology and Pottery Classification: He learned to classify the pottery according to the typology, rim and base forms. He examined the manufacturing technique, surface treatment, slips, paints, incisions and different features of pottery.

Deliverables and Outcomes

What do you anticipate the short and long-term results of this exchange will be? Please provide specific examples (i.e. chapters written, lectures given, collaborations leading to new projects, shared information to advance research, etc.)

During this six weeks program he got ample opportunities of learning which will be very beneficial for him and his institution. His learning in teaching will enhance his teaching skills; the lab work and knowledge of scientific analysis will help him in his research and this learning will benefit his institution and country as well.

Collaborations:

University of the Punjab, Lahore is the oldest and biggest public university of Pakistan. Presently there are total 45,678 male and female students who are studying in different programs of studies in morning and evening sessions. University has a total of 13 faculties within which there are 83 academic departments, research centers, and institutes. Punjab University has ranked first among large-sized multiple faculty universities by the HEC in 2012. There are also two Nobel Laureates among the university's alumni and faculty; Dr. H. Gobind Khorana (Nobel Prize in Physiology/Medicine 1968) who got his B.Sc and M.Sc degrees from Punjab University and Dr. Abdus Salam (Nobel Prize in Physics, 1979) who got education from Punjab University and served the university as faculty member.

Collaboration between University of Wisconsin and Punjab University for archaeological research will be very beneficial for both universities. Through this collaboration archaeological surveys and excavations will be conducted in Pakistan that will open new horizons for researchers of both countries and many questions in archaeological research will be answered. This collaboration will also be beneficial for cultural exchange program.