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2023



WORLD ANTHROPOLOGY CONGRESS

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In Association with



# World Anthropology Congress

9-14 AUGUST 2023



Hosted by: Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar, India

www.kiss.ac.in



Plenary Session



## Unlocking the Past's Health Secrets: Bioarchaeology's Evolutionary Journey

In a captivating lecture that bridged the realms of history, health, and anthropology, Emeritus Professor Charlotte Ann Roberts, a distinguished British archaeologist and academic, explored the dynamic landscape of bioarchaeology and its transformative potential. With a distinguished background in both archaeology and nursing, Professor Roberts has been a trailblazer in unraveling the mysteries of human health across time.

Hailing from the Department of Archaeology at Durham University, UK, Professor Roberts has a rich legacy as an educator and researcher. Her work has delved into the intricate relationship between human remains and the stories they tell about our ancestors' health, lives, and societal shifts. With a focus on the evolution of infectious diseases in humans, she has pioneered research that reshapes our understanding of the past.

Palaeopathology, the study of disease in ancient populations, emerged as a cornerstone of bioarchaeology. Professor Roberts detailed how through the lens of palaeopathology, researchers can trace the evolution and impact of diseases over centuries. From individual skeletons to entire populations, this approach provides a panoramic view of humanity's struggles and adaptations.

Professor Roberts passionately advocated for a holistic approach to bioarchaeology that considers ethical dimensions. As the dead become teachers through the discoveries of the living, she highlighted the importance of engaging with ethical dilemmas and engaging the wider public in discussions surrounding these topics.

She approached this important subject in her Plenary Address titled "Bioarchaeology: Evolution to revolution in answering the big questions about past health and well-being" on 11th August 2023 at the World Anthropology Congress 2023 being hosted by Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS), Bhubaneswar.

At the heart of her discourse lay the concept of bioarchaeology, a subdiscipline of archaeology that harnesses data from human remains to illuminate the lives of our forebears, from their earliest days to their final moments. Professor Roberts articulated how these remains serve as silent witnesses to history, and how they can be vital in comprehending our contemporary human condition.

Crucially, bioarchaeology is not confined to academia alone. Professor Roberts underscored the role it plays in addressing questions relevant to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. With a global reach, this field has become a platform for multidisciplinary collaboration, amalgamating insights from humanities, social sciences, and the sciences.

Drawing the threads of her lecture together, Professor Roberts emphasized the significance of bioarchaeology's mission. She envisaged a future where the research conducted on the remains of the past can illuminate pathways toward a better world for the living. Her words resonated with the audience, inspiring a renewed commitment to understanding history's enigmas and applying those lessons to address contemporary challenges.

## Veteran Anthropologists Felicitated



Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) and the United Indian Anthropology Forum (UIAF) felicitated several eminent and promising anthropologists at a special felicitation ceremony on the third day of the World Anthropology Congress 2023. Twelve distinguished anthropologists were presented with citations and medals in recognition of their significant contributions to the field. The felicitation ceremony was graced by Prof. Deepak Kumar Behera, Vice-Chancellor of KISS-DU, and other dignitaries. The anthropologists who were felicitated are Professor R. K. Mutatkar, Professor Alahari Paparao, Professor Rajan Gaur, Professor K. N. Saraswati, Professor KH Narendra Singh, Professor Subho Roy, Professor Amitabh Pande, Professor Arun Kumar Acharya, Professor Roumi Deb, Professor K. Anil Kumar, Professor Rajani Lamba, and Prashant Khattri.



# WAC 2023 in Print Media



## Cultural Program

Presented by  
KIIT International Students and KIIT Student Activity Center





# Technical Sessions

11th August 2023



## KISS Inks MoU with Chamarajanagara University



*KISS-DU signed an Memorandum of Understanding with Chamarajanagara University, Karnataka on the sidelines of the World Anthropology Congress 2023 on 11th August 2023. The MoU will facilitate academic and research cooperation between the two universities.*



## Profile



Poverty creates  
ILLITERACY.  
literacy eradicates  
POVERTY.

Professor  
**ACHYUTA SAMANTA**  
FOUNDER OF KIIT, KIMS & KISS

Prof Achyuta Samanta's life story reads like a powerful saga of grit, determination, and social responsibility. Born and brought up in poverty in a remote village in Odisha, he was dealt a cruel blow at the tender age of four when he lost his father, after which his life became a struggle for food and education for 15 long years. However, he persevered, and at the age of 22, joined teaching. At 25, he embarked on a journey that would change his own life, and the lives of thousands of people. With just Rs 5000 in his pocket, he started KIIT (Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology) and KISS (Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences) in two rented houses.

Today, these institutions are beacons of hope, providing world-class education,

decorated with all possible national and international accolades and global reputation. KIIT has become one of the most sought-after universities in India for professional education. It currently has 40,000 students and representation from 65 countries. KISS is a ray of hope for tribals, providing education, healthcare, sports, and vocational training to 80,000 disadvantaged students - all fully free in a residential campus. KISS has a school, a college, and a university - KISS Deemed to be University, which is the first and only university exclusively for tribal scholars providing innovative tribal courses. KISS has made a huge impact in arresting naxalism, harassment, trafficking, malnutrition, illiteracy, and superstitions by promoting education. He has founded Kalinga Institute of

Medical Sciences, Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences and Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences, besides an attached 2600 bedded state-of-the-art hospital, a super-speciality center and a cancer care hospital.

He developed the first smart village in Asia - Kalarabanka Smart Village and a model panchayat in Odisha. It is a fully solar-powered village. Besides education and tribal upliftment, Prof Samanta has also contributed immensely to art, culture, sculpture, literature, film, media, spirituality, rural development, and his humanitarian contribution to society is awe-inspiring. His contribution to Sports is nothing short of phenomenal. Through his institutions, he has nurtured 11 Olympians, created a massive sports

infrastructure and promoted sports persons - contributing to physical fitness, national unity, and social integration. His humanitarian efforts have touched countless lives. Despite all his achievements and accolades and access to luxuries, he leads a simple life and remains a bachelor who embodies humility and compassion.

Prof Achyuta Samanta's life story is one of inspiration and hope. It is a testament to the indomitable human spirit, and the power of hard work, perseverance, and social responsibility to transform lives and create a better world. His unwavering commitment to the betterment of society, both as a policymaker and a social activist, serves as a shining example for one and all.



- **30+** years of teaching experience
- **1.5 lakhs** employment created indirectly
- **Over 100** entrepreneurs created

- **10 million** lives impacted
- **1 million** vulnerable children protected from trafficking
- **50** International and National & 200 State level awards

## Awards, Recognition and Accolades

- Prof Achyuta Samanta has been conferred several accolades, memberships and recognition for his contribution to society. Some are as follows:-
- 55 Honorary Doctorates from universities across India and the globe, becoming the Indian with the most number of Honorary Doctorates.
- 50 International National and 200 State level awards
- 2 highest International Civilian Awards - a) ISA Award for Service to Humanity from the Kingdom of Bahrain with a \$1 Million Cash Prize and b) 'Best Worker' Award from the Republic of Mongolia
- National and International Fellowships - ISTE, CSI, ICA, APACH and Royal Society of Chemistry, UK
- Commission member UGC (twice) and executive member of AICTE and NCTE, Govt. of India
- Currently, the President of Volleyball Federation of India and Democracy without Borders, India Chapter and has been the President of Indian Science Congress, World Congress of Poets and Indian Economic Association
- Elected Member of Rajya Sabha in 2018, and subsequently, Member of Parliament Lok Sabha from Kandhamal since 2019