

# ANUBHAV PREET KAUR

Fulbright-Kalam postdoctoral fellow

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## POSITIONS

1. Current position: Fulbright-Kalam Postdoctoral Fellow  
Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona  
Supervisor: Dr. Kaustubh Thirumalai
2. 2024-2025: Residential fellow  
Center for Interdisciplinary Archaeological Research (CIAR), Ashoka University  
Supervisor: Dr. Kalyan Shekhar Chakraborty
3. 2019-2024: Ph.D.  
The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali, India  
Title: Multidisciplinary perspectives on Early-to-Middle Pleistocene (2.58-0.63 Ma) contexts in the Siwalik Hills and implications for hominin adaptations in northern India  
Supervisor: Dr. Parth R. Chauhan  
Co-supervisor: Dr. Rajeev Patnaik
4. 2022-2023: Predoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History, Washington DC  
Project: Taphonomic record of the Pinjor Formation (2.58-0.63 Ma) in the Siwalik Hills near Chandigarh, northern India  
Supervisor: Dr. Briana Pobiner  
Co-supervisor: Dr. Anna K. Behrensmeyer

## EDUCATION

1. PhD: Humanities and Social Sciences  
August 2019-June 2024  
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali, India  
PhD Thesis Topic: *Multidisciplinary perspectives on Early-to-Middle Pleistocene (2.58-0.63 Ma) contexts in the Siwalik Hills and implications for hominin adaptations in northern India*
2. Master of Arts in Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology GPA: 4.56 ('A' grade)  
June 2017-May 2019  
Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Pune, Maharashtra, India  
M.A. Dissertation Topic: *"Lithic Assemblage from Palaeolithic Localities of the Hoshiarpur Siwalik Frontal Range, Punjab: A Preliminary Analysis"*
3. Bachelor of Arts (History Honors) First Division  
August 2014-May 2017  
Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College, Panjab University, Chandigarh, India

## RESEARCH VISITS

1. July-August 2025: Visiting scholar at National Museums of Kenya.  
Project: Assessing chewing damages on prehistoric hyena accumulations  
Collaboration: Dr. Briana Pobiner (Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History), Dr. Anna Kay Behrensmeyer (Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History), Dr. Ogeto Mwebi (National Museums of Kenya)
2. March-April 2024: Short-term scholar at University of Arizona, Tucson.  
Project: Taphonomy and paleoecology of the Hyaena Den (*Pachycrocuta brevisrostris*) at the Haro River Quarry, present day Pakistan  
Supervisor: Dr. Kaustubh Thirumalai  
Co-supervisor: Dr. Advait M. Jukar
3. February-March 2023: Research Associate (under Dr. Anne Skinner) in the Chemistry Lab, at Williams College, Massachusetts  
Project: Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) dating and geochronology of the Pinjor Formation of Siwalik Hills north of Chandigarh

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, Anne Skinner and Rajeev Patnaik (2025). *Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) dating of Pleistocene mammalian teeth and its implication on biostratigraphy of the Pinjor Formation of Upper Siwalik Hills near Chandigarh in northern India*. Quaternary International.
2. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, Juha Saarinen, Rajeev Patnaik, Parth R. Chauhan, Robin W. Dennell (**in review**). *First evidence of dietary-habitat shifts in the large herbivore guild in Early-to-Middle Pleistocene (2.58-0.4 Ma) landscapes of northern India and implications for early hominin adaptations*. Quaternary Science Reviews
3. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, Rajeev Patnaik, Prabhin Sukumaran, Stanley H. Ambrose and Anne Skinner (**in review**). *First evidence of Early Pleistocene (~1.3-1.0 Ma) fossilized ostrich eggshells from the Pinjor Formation of the Upper Siwalik Hills in northern India*. Quaternary Science Reviews
4. Kaur, A. P., Sisk, M. L., & Chauhan, P. R. (2024). *A MaxEnt predictive model for palaeontological sites in the Siwalik Hills: A case study from the Pinjor Formation of the Upper Siwalik Hills near Chandigarh, northern India*. Quaternary Environments and Humans, 100017. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.qeh.2024.100017>
5. Kaur, Anubhav Preet (2022). *New fossil mammalian assemblages and ratite eggshells from the Pinjore Formation (2.58-0.63 Ma) of the Siwalik Hills near Chandigarh, northern India*. Quaternary Science Reviews. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quascirev.2022.107694>
6. Book chapter: Kaur, Anubhav Preet (2022). *An Overview of Palaeolithic Localities on a Post-Siwalik Landscape from the Janauri Anticline of Northern India* (Eds. Sushama G. Deo, Andre Baptista, Jayendra

Joglekar), Adaptations Across Antiquity: Tracing Quaternary Environments and Prehistoric Cultural Responses in Peninsular India. Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies.

7. Book chapter: Kaur, Anubhav Preet (2021). *Palaeolithic sites in gravel context in India* (Eds. Nupur Tiwari, Vivek Singh, Shashi B. Mehra), Quaternary Geoarchaeology of India, Geological Society of London. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1144/SP515-2020-196>
8. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, S.G. Deo, J. Joglekar and M. Chatterjee (2019). *A preliminary study of the lithic assemblage from Palaeolithic localities of the Hoshiarpur Siwalik Frontal Range, Punjab, India*. Bulletin of the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Vol. 79, pp. 1-19.

#### **In preparation for publication:**

1. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, Lael Vetter, Kaustubh Thirumalai, Anna K. Behrensmeyer, Briana Pobiner, Rajeev Patnaik, Jefferey J. Saunders and Advait M. Jukar (**in prep**). *Herbivore diets in the Early Pleistocene Haro River Quarry of Pakistan*.
2. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, Huesges Sophia, Patrick Roberts and Kalyan Sekhar Chakraborty (**in prep**). *Stable isotope evidence for long-term ecological stability and adaptation of mammalian fauna in the Indian Subcontinent during the Late Pleistocene*.

#### **GRANTS AND AWARDS**

1. **December 2025:** Leakey Foundation Research Grant (\$25000)  
**Co-PI:** Dr. Advait Jukar (University of Florida), Dr. Jordan Wostbrock (Yale University), Dr. Rajeev Patnaik (Panjab University), Dr. Parth R. Chauhan (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali)
2. **May 2025:** Norman Newell Early Career Research Grant (\$5000)
3. **August 2024:** John C. Graff International Paleontology award (up to \$4000)
4. **March 2024:** Prehistoric society travel grant (£300).
5. **March 2024:** Paleoanthropology society bursary to attend 2024 annual meeting (\$250).
6. **June 2023:** Kalam travel award for attending a three-day international conference on decoding the human population histories of south Asia using Archaeology and genetics (all expenses covered).
7. **February 2023:** INQUA bursary for attending the INQUA Roma conference in July 2023 (€2150)
8. **August 2022:** Jackson school of geosciences travel award to attend Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting 2022 (Toronto, Canada) (\$600)
9. **March 2022:** Deinje Kenyon fellowship award from the Society for American Archaeologists (\$1000)
10. **December 2021:** Sylvester Bradley Award from the Palaeontological Association (£1500)
11. **December 2021:** The Leakey Foundation grant fund (\$8352)  
**Co-PI:** Dr. Parth R. Chauhan (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali), Dr. Rajeev Patnaik (Panjab University), Dr. Briana Pobiner (Smithsonian Institute National Museum of Natural History)
12. **June 2021:** Emslie Horniman Scholarship Fund from the Royal Anthropological Institute, London, U.K.

(£5,296)

13. **June 2021:** Sepkoski Grant from the Paleontological Society, Washington D.C., U.S.A. (\$1000)
14. **March 2021:** Wymer Bursary from the Lithic Studies Society (£250)
15. **December 2018:** Qualified UGC-NET Lectureship award

#### **FUNDED PROJECTS**

1. **May 2025-present (Funded by Norman Newell ECR grant, Paleontology Society):** Assessing chewing damage in modern and fossilized hyaena den assemblages: A neo-taphonomic approach to taxon-specificity (Project PI; in collaboration with Dr. Briana Pobiner and Dr. Kay Behrensmeyer)
2. **August 2019- 2024 (Doctoral Project; funded by the Wymer Bursary, Emslie Horniman Scholarship Fund, The Leakey Foundation, Palaeontological Association):** Understanding the human-animal-environment interface in the Pinjor Formation (2.58-0.63 Ma) of the Siwalik Hills north of Chandigarh, India (Project PI)
3. **June 2021- 2024 (funded by the Sepkoski Grant):** Understanding Taxonomic diversity and biochronology of vertebrate fauna in the Pinjor Formation of the Chandigarh Siwalik Frontal Range of northern India (Project PI)

#### **STUDENTS MENTORED**

1. Ms. Aarya Joshi (master's dissertation): Understanding the Taphonomy and Taxonomy of a New Fossil Assemblage of Proboscideans from Hathnora, Madhya Pradesh, India.

#### **ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

1. Virtual internship at the Natural History Museum, Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C., United States; under the mentorship of Dr Briana Pobiner (November 2020- April 2021)
2. Course in Evolutionary Biology at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali, India (December 2019- May 2020)
3. Course in Remote Sensing and GIS at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali, India (August 2019- November 2019)
4. Certificate course in Persian Language (Level 1 and pre-intermediate)
5. Certificate course in Introduction to Linguistics

#### **FIELD WORK EXPERIENCE**

1. **December 2024-present:** Paleontological field surveys in Central Narmada Valley (Madhya Pradesh).
2. **December 2024-January 2025:** Excavation at fossil locality of Hathnora, Central Narmada Valley (Madhya Pradesh).
3. **March 2021-April 2022:** Supervised excavation at a fossil locality in the Siwalik Hills.
4. **December 2021-present:** Palaeoanthropological and palaeontological field surveys in the Siwalik Hills north of Chandigarh

5. **December 2018:** Masters' dissertation field survey in the Siwalik Hills north of Hoshiarpur (Punjab).
6. **June 2018:** Palaeoanthropology Field School at Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh, India. Organised by IISER Mohali and CHARUSAT-Changa, under the supervision of Parth R. Chauhan and Dr. Prabhin Sukumar
7. **January 2018-February 2018:** Excavation at Nagardhan, Maharashtra, India.
8. **2016-2017:** Palaeoanthropological field surveys at the site of Masol, in the Chandigarh Siwalik Frontal.

## CONFERENCE SESSIONS

1. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, Shashi B. Mehra, Vivek Singh (WAC-10, 2025) *Pleistocene hominin landscapes in Asia.*
2. Kaur, Anubhav Preet, Shashi B. Mehra, Vivek Singh (INQUA, 2023) *Understanding the human-animal-environment interface in Quaternary South Asia.*

## CONFERENCE

1. **Poster** presentation at the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology annual meeting (2024) on "Taphonomy of an excavated Early Pleistocene hyena (*Pachycrocuta brevirostris*) den at the Haro River Quarry, Northern Pakistan"
2. **Oral** presentation at the Indian Quaternary Congress (2024) on "ESR dating of fossil mammalian teeth from the Pinjor Formation of the Upper Siwalik Hills of northern India."
3. **Poster** presentation at Paleoanthropology Society annual meeting (2024) on "Palaeoecological context of hominin adaptations from Early-to-Middle Pleistocene (2.58-0.6 Ma) in the Siwalik Hills of northern India."
4. **Oral** presentation at INQUA'23 on "Palaeoecological implications for hominin dispersal(s) in the Pinjor Formation (2.58-0.63 Ma) in the Siwalik Hills north of Chandigarh in northern India"
5. **Poster** presentation at INQUA'23 on "A MaxEnt predictive model for fossil localities: A case study from the Pinjor Formation in the Siwalik Hills north of Chandigarh"
6. **Poster** presentation (in absentia) at the EAAPP 2022 on "Palaeoecological implications for hominin dispersal(s) in the Pinjor Formation (2.58-0.63 Ma) in the Siwalik Hills north of Chandigarh in northern India"
7. **Oral** presentation at the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology Annual Meeting (2022) on "New fossil mammalian assemblages from the Pinjore Formation (2.58-0.63Ma) in the Siwalik Hills region, north of Chandigarh" (November 2022)
8. **Poster** presentation at the Indian Quaternary Congress (2022) followed by a five-minute lightening talk on "First known fossil ratite eggshells from the Siwalik Frontal Range near Chandigarh (northern India) and their multidisciplinary analysis" (January 2022)
9. **Oral** presentation at the Palaeontological Association Annual Meeting (2021) on "First known fossil ratite eggshells from the Siwalik Frontal Range near Chandigarh (northern India) and their multidisciplinary

analysis" (December 2021)

10. **Oral** presentation at the Festival of Lithics, organised by the Lithic Studies Society on "Understanding variability in the lithic record of the Siwalik Hills" (August 2021)
11. **Oral** presentation at the AOQR student colloquium on, "New Palaeolithic and fossil localities from the Pinjor Formation of the Chandigarh Siwalik Frontal Range of northern India" (July 2021)
12. **Oral** presentation at pastbiodivsea21: Current studies on past biodiversity in South-East Asia (Thailand) on, "New fossiliferous localities from the Pinjor Formation of the Chandigarh Siwalik Frontal Range" (June 2021)
13. **Poster** presentation at CHASCON 2020, Panjab University, on "Preliminary Results of Palaeoanthropological Surveys in the Pinjore Formation of the Chandigarh Siwalik Frontal Range" (December 2020).
14. **Oral** presentation on "Prehistoric evidence in the Himalayan region" at National Seminar organised
15. by the Himachal State Museum, Shimla, 21-22nd November 2019.
16. **Oral** presentation on "Lithic Assemblage from Palaeolithic Localities of Hoshiarpur Siwalik Frontal Range, Punjab: A Preliminary Study" at INCA, 2019, Anthropology Department, Pune University, Pune, Maharashtra, India

## **TEACHING**

1. Ashoka University:
  - a. Reading Archaeology (select lectures along with Dr. Sanjukta Dutta)
  - b. Eat Like Human (select lectures with Dr. Kalyan Chakraborty)
  - c. Principles of Archaeology (select lectures with Dr. Kalyan Chakraborty)
2. Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali:
  - a. Teaching Assistant for HSS615: Archaeology of the world: A cultural quest into our global past

## **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

1. November 2024: Expert talk for Paleoschool 2024 (Paleoher Foundation) on "Grant Writing and Funding opportunities in Quaternary Sciences"
2. November 2024: Expert talk for Paleoschool 2024 (Paleoher Foundation) on "Quaternary Paleontology in the Siwaliks"
3. June 2024: Expert talk for a workshop on "Grant Writing and Identifying Funding Opportunities in Archaeology and Quaternary Sciences"
4. 2023: Outreach session with local schools from Chandigarh-Mohali on palaeontology and

palaeoanthropology, on Foundation Day at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali, India.

5. 2023: Outreach session with school facilitators on fossils and fossilization at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali, India.
6. 2021: On-site education session on Siwalik Palaeontology, field surveys and context with the students and parents of Coveda school (Chandigarh)
7. 2019: Outreach session with local schools of Chandigarh-Mohali on palaeoanthropology and archaeology.

### **INVITED LECTURES**

1. Symposium on “Rethinking Deep Time: Debating Transitions, Origins, and Identities in South Asian Palaeolithic Archaeology” at IIT Gandhinagar, India (January 2026)
2. History lecture series, Department of History (Ashoka University) “Resilient landscapes and vanishing giants: Tracing prehistoric environments in Central India” (September 2025)
3. Saturday night lecture series for HICHS “Ecological landscape of Early Pleistocene Siwalik Hills” (September 2024)
4. Lecture on Investigating the Palaeoecological Implications for Hominin Dispersal(s) in the Pinjor Formation, Siwalik Hills, Northern India (October 2023) as part of The Student Affairs Lecture Series in Archaeology (SALSA).
5. Lecture on “Threats to Palaeolithic sites in the Siwaliks” for Speaking Archaeologically (October 2020).
6. Lecture on “Soanian Culture tools: Understanding the assemblage and classification” for Speaking Archaeologically (August 2020).
7. Lecture on “A retrospective study of prehistoric evidence of the Himalayas” for Purattatva Samvardhan (May 2020).
8. Lecture on “Indo-Islamic Architecture” at Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College, 2016-2017
9. Lecture on “The Valley Kings” at Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College, 2015-2016

### **WORKSHOPS**

1. Virtual workshop on “Introduction to theory and practice of Stable Light Isotopes,” organised by
2. the University of Cape Town, July 2021
3. E-Training on “Refresher training on concepts of Quaternary mapping”, organised by the
4. Geological Survey of India, June 2021
5. Workshop on ‘Writing Gender History’ organised by Indian Council of Historical Research, 2014- 2015

## **BLOGS**

1. Womxn in Archaeology: Dr. Nairanjana Srivastava. Published for the Rusty Shoes <https://therustyshoes19.wordpress.com/2020/10/01/womxn-in-archaeology-dr-nairanjana-srivastava/>
2. Womxn in Archaeology: Ekta Singh. Published for the Rusty Shoes <https://therustyshoes19.wordpress.com/2020/08/29/womxn-in-archaeology-ekta-singh/>
3. Speaking Historically: The Nirankari Movement. Published for Speaking Archaeologically <http://speakingarchaeologically.blogspot.com/search?q=nirankari>
4. SA Site cover: The Lal Bangla of Delhi. Published for Speaking Archaeologically <http://speakingarchaeologically.blogspot.com/search?q=lal+bangla>

## **ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

1. Life member of the Indian Society for Prehistoric and Quaternary Studies (ISPQS) (February 2022)
2. Member of the Society of Vertebrate Palaeontology (October 2021-present)
3. Student member of the Palaeontological Association (October 2021-present)
4. Member of the European Association of Archaeologists (April 2021)
5. Member of The Lithic Studies Society (January 2021)
6. Member of the Association of Quaternary Researchers (January 2021-present)

## **POSITIONS HELD**

1. Co-founder (with Rupali Neeta Rakheja) of Rusty Shoes (an initiative representing Indian womxn in archaeology, palaeontology, anthropology and other allied fields) under Saira Heritage, New Delhi (October 2020)
2. <https://therustyshoes19.wordpress.com/>
3. Student member and representative of the Committee Against Sexual Harassment of Women (CASH) at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali (September 2019- September 2021)
4. Humanities and Social Sciences Department representative in the Student Representative Council at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Mohali (September 2019-September 2021)
5. Research wing member at Speaking Archaeologically (2016-2017)
6. Student editor of college magazine 'Nirmata' of Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College, Chandigarh, India (2017)
7. General Secretary of the History Association, Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College, Chandigarh, India (2016)

## **SKILLS**

Lithic Knapping; GIS software (ArcGIS) and remote sensing; MaxEnt Software; Microsoft Office; R software.

## **PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES**

Dr. Parth R. Chauhan  
Associate Professor  
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Mohali, India  
Email: [parthrc@iisermohali.ac.in](mailto:parthrc@iisermohali.ac.in)

Prof. Rajeev Patnaik  
Professor  
Department of Geology, Panjab University  
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Dr. Briana Pobiner  
Research Scientist and Museum Educator  
Human Origins Program, Department of Anthropology  
Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History  
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Dr. Anna K. Behrensmeyer  
Senior Research Geologist and Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology  
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Dr. Matthew Sisk  
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Dr. Anne Skinner  
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