



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal
"सही मार्गदर्शन, उज्ज्वल भविष्य।"

करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

पुरालेखवेत्ता

Epigraphists decode ancient inscriptions carved on stone, copper plates, coins and temples to reveal history.
Rajasthan's rock edicts and copper plates are rich sources for this work.



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/socst-4577

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Jethantri · ब्लॉक समदड़ी · बालोतरा (Block Samdari · Balotra)

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सुशील कुमार शर्मा

प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी · मास्टर ट्रेनर
Principal, GSSS Jethantri · Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

Epigraphists decode ancient inscriptions carved on stone, copper plates, coins and temples to reveal history. Rajasthan's rock edicts and copper plates are rich sources for this work.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Class 12 + degree in history/archaeology + master's/diploma in epigraphy
Work mode	Field survey plus study in museums/office
Demand	Niche - limited but steady posts in ASI, museums and research
Top earning	₹1.8 lakh+/month at director/professor level

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Curiosity about ancient scripts and languages
- Like deep, independent study
- Enjoy connecting history and cultures

ABILITIES

- Fine observation and patience
- Grasp of languages and scripts
- Piecing facts together into conclusions

KEY SKILLS

- Knowledge of ancient scripts like Brahmi and Kharosthi
- Sanskrit, Prakrit, Persian or regional languages
- Taking estampages (impressions) of inscriptions
- Dating and historical analysis
- Research writing and documentation
- Basics of digital imaging

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 12 in arts; take history and languages.
- 2 Do a bachelor's in history, Sanskrit or archaeology.
- 3 Do a master's in epigraphy/ancient history.
- 4 Take the PG diploma of ASI's Institute of Archaeology (includes epigraphy).
- 5 Pursue a PhD for research; apply for ASI epigraphy branch posts.

MAIN EXAMS

- CUET UG/PG for university admission
- Entrance test for the ASI Institute of Archaeology PG diploma
- UGC-NET (History) for research and teaching

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- University of Rajasthan (History & Indian Culture) — Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Jai Narain Vyas University — Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- Institute of Archaeology (ASI) — Delhi/Greater Noida
- The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda — Vadodara, Gujarat
- University of Mysore (epigraphy studies) — Mysuru, Karnataka

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- Janardan Rai Nagar Rajasthan Vidyapeeth — Udaipur, Rajasthan
- Deccan College Post-Graduate & Research Institute — Pune, Maharashtra

ONLINE

- IGNOU (MA History) — Distance education

FEES

Course fees roughly ₹2,000 to ₹1,50,000; very low at government universities and IGNOU. Varies by institute.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- National Scholarship Portal (<https://scholarships.gov.in>)

- Vidya Lakshmi Education Loan Portal (<https://www.vidyalakshmi.co.in>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

ASI epigraphy branch, state archaeology departments, museums, archives, universities and research institutes.

WORK CULTURE

Field trips to trace inscriptions, then reading and writing in office/library; a calm environment of independent research. Opportunities exist for persons with disabilities.

WHO HIRES

- Archaeological Survey of India - epigraphy branch, Mysuru
- National and state archives
- Universities and the Indian Council of Historical Research
- Rajasthan Department of Archaeology & Museums
- Museums and cultural institutions
- Manuscript and heritage projects

DEMAND (2026)

A niche field - posts are few but so is competition; digitisation of inscriptions and heritage projects are creating new openings in 2026.

7 Career growth

- 1 Research assistant/intern
- 2 Assistant epigraphist
- 3 Epigraphist/deputy superintending epigraphist
- 4 Director (epigraphy)/professor

EARNINGS

Starting	₹25,000-40,000
Mid level	₹50,000-90,000
Senior level	₹1,00,000-1,80,000

Regular government pay scales in ASI and universities; research fellowships support the early years.

8 The good parts · The challenges

The good parts

- The thrill of reading history first-hand
- A niche field with low competition
- Stability of government research posts

The challenges

- Limited posts and vacancies
- Long study and language mastery required
- Hard travel to remote sites

9 Real-life journeys

Iravatham Mahadevan

World-renowned epigraphist - scholar of Tamil-Brahmi and the Indus script

A civil servant, Iravatham Mahadevan pursued ancient scripts alongside his job, produced the definitive study of Tamil-Brahmi inscriptions and earned the Padma Shri.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iravatham_Mahadevan

Snigdha Tripathy

Historian-epigraphist - expert on the inscriptions of Odisha

Snigdha Tripathy studied hundreds of Odisha's rock and copper-plate inscriptions to compile authoritative multi-volume catalogues; she co-founded the Orissa Research Society and co-edits its journal.

Vedic Books (author bio) · <https://www.vedicbooks.net/inscriptions-orissa-p-2251.html>

10 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Political Scientist
- Criminologist
- Museologist

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance portal - official career page — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/epigraphist%e0%a4%aa%e0%a5%81%e0%a4%b0%e0%a4%be%e0%a4%b2%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%96%e0%a4%b5%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%a4%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%a4%e0%a4%be/>
2. Archaeological Survey of India - epigraphy branch — <https://asi.nic.in/pages/Epigraphy-Branch/HQ>
3. National Scholarship Portal — <https://scholarships.gov.in>



And 770+ more careers — the whole portal

Interest and aptitude tests, government jobs, skill courses and a CV builder — free, no login, and it works offline.

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