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The 3rd Annual Convention "Advances in Earthquake Science - The Future challenges"

Institute of Seismological Research (ISR), and Indian Society of Earthquake Science (ISES), Gandhinagar, Gujarat are jointly organizing the 3rd Annual Convention "Advances in Earthquake Science - The Future challenges". The convention will be held during 4 – 6 January 2014 at Institute of Seismological Research, Raisan, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India. The special theme of the convention is "Seismic Microzonation and Hazard Assessment". The other themes of the convention are *Earthquake Precursors and Prediction Studies, Real Time Seismology and Seismic Studies, Lithospheric Structure, Engineering Seismology and Neotectonics: Tectonic Geomorphology, Paleoseismology, Seismotectonics*.

All Research Scholars, Scientists and Faculty of various organizations and universities are invited to participate in the convention. The interested researchers are requested to send the abstract on or before 25 December 2013 at eqsc.2014@gmail.com. The abstract should be within one A4 page in MS Word format, Times New Roman, font 12, line spacing 1.5. The title of the abstract should be in Times New Roman, font 14, bold, centered aligned followed by authors' names, affiliations, and email of corresponding author. Figures, if necessary, should be accommodated on the same page.

Registration fees:

Delegates	Rs. 5000
ISES Life Members	Rs. 4000
Research Scholars	Rs. 1000
Foreign Delegates	US\$ 100

Registration fees will include Conference material and tea/coffee

ISR guesthouse/hostel accommodation will be arranged on request

From the President's Desk

During 3rd Annual Convention "Advances in Earthquake Science - The Future challenges" two best Oral and Poster presentations will be awarded to young scientists/researchers of age within 40 years.

Contact details of the ISES Life-Members are provided in page nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6. All are requested to check their contact details. In case of any changes or modifications, please contact us at our email ises2009@gmail.com.

Invited Speakers for 3rd annual convention "Advances in Earthquake Science – The future Challenges"

Prof. Shamita Das, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford, United Kingdom.

Prof. Antonella Peresan, Department of Geosciences, DiGe - University of Trieste, Italy.

Prof. Walter Mooney, United States Geological Survey (USGS).

NEWS / EVENTS

♦ ISES-ISR distinguished

lecture "Energy Security in India – A way forward" by Prof. T. Harinarayana, Director, GERMI was held at Institute of Seismological Research (ISR), Gandhinagar on 8th August 2013.

♦ ISES e - journal "Journal of Earthquake Science (JOES)" will publish its first volume in January 2014.

♦ Indian Society of Earthquake Science (ISES) calls research articles for its open e - journal "Journal of Earthquake Science (JOES)"

♦ A total of 159 members are on roll of ISES.

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Need for initializing Palaeotsunami studies from Gujarat Coast, Western India

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Tsunami is one of the most destructive natural disasters known to mankind. The 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami was one of the most devastating natural marine disasters in recent times as it claimed more than 225,000 lives. It had highlighted the significance of tsunami hazard assessments and mitigation for coastal areas. Post 2004 the eastern coast of India has been studied intensely for unraveling the palaeotsunami deposits, whereas understanding of such past high energy events along western coast is still in its infancy.

The northern Arabian Sea hosts several tsunamigenic sources ranging from active subduction zones to sites of mega submarine landslides (Figure 1). Several studies have investigated that Seismic activity along the Makran Subduction Zone, Owen Fracture Zone, and Carlsberg Ridge are capable of generating tsunami in the Arabian Sea and generating devastating waves that can hit the Indian Coast in short duration (Rastogi and Jaiswal, 2006). Although it is well known that submarine landslides are also potential source of tsunami, however this hazard has been under-rated in the Arabian Sea region. Recently voluminous submarine landslides activity along Southern Owen Ridge has been identified (Rodriguez et al., 2012), which can be a likely hazard for the Gujarat coast. Additionally the geomorphic setup of Gujarat coast shows presence of landform assemblages which acts as 'sedimentary sink' and have stronger preservation potential for archiving such high energy marine events (i.e. back swamps, beach ridge complex, mudflats in sheltered environments) (Prizomwala et al., 2010). The geographic position of southwest coast of Kachchh and western, southern and southwestern coast of Saurashtra enables it to be areas of higher potential for archiving palaeotsunami deposits as these coastlines are facing the tsunamigenic sources (Figure 1).

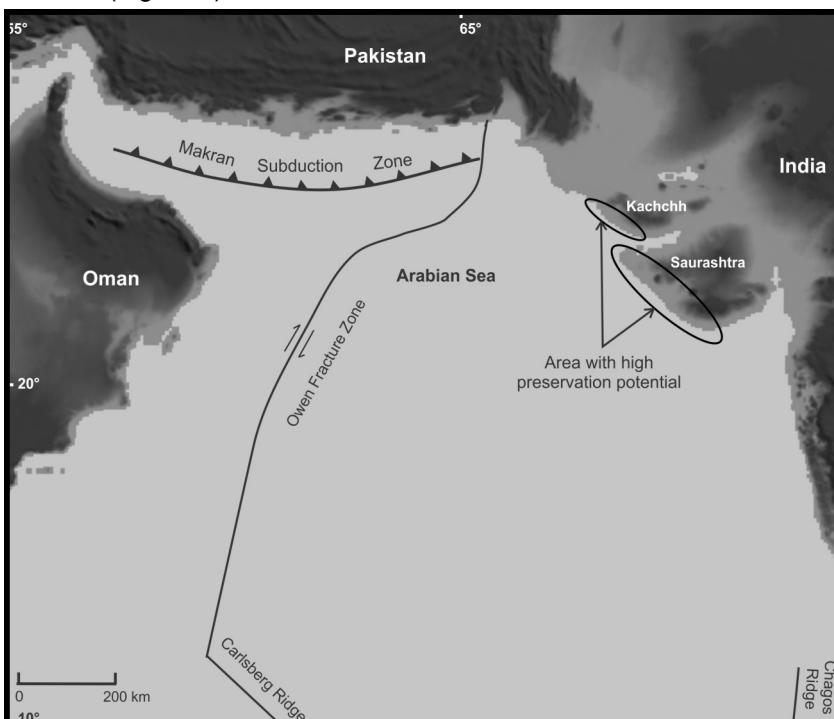


Figure 1. Tectonic framework of northern Arabian Sea and proposed area along Gujarat coast for future palaeotsunami studies with high preservation potential.

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There are several historical records that show that the west coast of India and surrounding areas have been affected by numerous and disastrous tsunami in the historical past (Table 1; Source: Rastogi and Jaiswal, 2006). The most recent one being the 1945 Makran tsunami, which claimed about 4000 lives (Ambraseys and Melville, 1982). It is believed that two tsunami waves were generated, first one due to an earthquake and second one due to a landslide that was triggered by the earthquake. The second wave was more devastating than the first wave. The wave height was 2 m at Mumbai and about 11 m at Kandla (Pararas - Carayannis, 2006). However this claim is disputed by some. Geological signatures of this event have been reported from Sur lagoon, Oman. However owing to its proximity and reported wave heights along Kachchh coast, it should also have been archived, but is still unreported. Hence there is a vital need for documentation of palaeotsunami deposits from Gujarat coast as it helps in ascertaining the vulnerability of tsunami as a hazard for the particular segment of the coastline. Continued in Page 5

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Table 1: List of major Tsunami events as per historical records in the northern Arabian Sea

Year	Location	Comment	Reference
326 BC	Indus Delta	Alexander's navy destroyed, massive waves in Arabian Sea	Murty and Bapat, 1999
1008 AD	Strait of Hormoz	Tsunami waves have been observed on Iranian coast	Ambraseys and Melville, 1982
1524 AD	Off the coast of Dabhol, Maharashtra, India	Tsunami caused alarm in Portugese fleet assembled in the area	Bendick and Bilham, 1999
1618 AD	Offshore of Mumbai	Town of Samwani sunk due to large earthquake with 30,000 houses	Rastogi and Jaiswal, 2006
1819 AD	Rann of Kachchh	Town of Sindri and adjoining area was inundated by a tremendous rush of wave from ocean	Rastogi and Jaiswal, 2006
1845 AD	Kori creek	The sea water rolled up the Kori creek far landward.	Rastogi and Jaiswal, 2006
1945 AD	Pasni, Offshore Pakistani coast	More than 400 people lost their lives on Makran coast and about 15 in Mumbai	Ambraseys and Melville, 1982

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