

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Dr. Harsha Dhiman

Email ID: dhimanharsha77@gmail.com

Current Position: Assistant Professor

Affiliation: Department of Geology, University of Delhi, New Delhi – 110007

Professional career

- May 2026-Till date: Assistant Professor, Department of Geology, University of Delhi
- June 2024-May 2026: DST-INSPIRE Faculty, Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences, IISER Mohali

Education

- Ph.D. in Vertebrate Palaeontology (degree awarded in 2022)
Department of Geology, University of Delhi
Supervisor: Prof. GVR Prasad
Title: Study of dinosaur nests, eggs and eggshells from the Upper Cretaceous Lameta Formation of lower Narmada valley, India with reference to parataxonomy, palaeobiology and taphonomy
- Integrated B.Sc.(Hons.)-M.Sc. Geology (2010-2015)
Department of Geology, University of Delhi
81.73 % (First division)
Master's Dissertation title: Dinosaur eggshell characterization and taphonomy of dinosaur nesting sites of Upper Cretaceous Lameta Formation near Padlya, lower Narmada valley, India

Teaching experience

- EES419: Applied Palaeontology (Spring Semester 2026, IISER Mohali)
- IDC215: Palaeobiology: Life through deep time (Monsoon Semester 2025, IISER Mohali)
- EES636: The Quaternary period-environments, animal adaptations during the last 2.5 million years (Spring Semester 2025, IISER Mohali; co-taught with Dr. Parth Chauhan)
- IDC213: Introduction to Palaeontology (Monsoon Semester 2024, IISER Mohali)
- IDC623: Field and lab-based methods in geology, ecology, and archaeology (Monsoon Semester 2024, IISER Mohali; five classes related to palaeontology)
- Undergraduate course in Palaeontology and Evolution of life through time (assisted during Ph.D. at University of Delhi)
- Masters course in Indian Stratigraphy (assisted during Ph.D. at University of Delhi)

Awards/Fellowships/Grants

- Best paper award in MedGU 24 in the track 12 (Sedimentology, Stratigraphy, Palaeontology, Geochronology, Marine Geosciences, Historical Geology) (2024)
- DST-INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship (2024) for five years from 4th June 2024 to 03rd June 2029
- SERB National Post-Doctoral Fellowship (NPDF) awarded in 2024 (had to forego as I had already joined WISE-PDF)
- WISE-PDF (2024) (had to forego as I joined INSPIRE-Faculty)
- DuAl Geology Best Researcher Award (2021)
- CSIR's Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowship (All India Rank: 5) (2018)
- Fondation L'Oréal travel grant (2018) to attend the 5th International Palaeontological Congress at Sorbonne Université (formerly Université Paris VI), Paris from 9th-13th July 2018
- University of Delhi Vice Chancellor's travel grant to attend VI Symposium on Dinosaur Eggs and Babies, Caparica, Portugal (2017)
- UGC's Junior Research Fellowship (2017)
- Certificate of Merit from CBSE for outstanding academic performance and for being among the top 0.1 percent of successful candidates in Mathematics

Publications

Peer-reviewed published articles

- **Dhiman H**, Prasad GVR (2024) An overview of recent research on the fossil biota of the Deccan Volcanic Province, India. *Proceedings of the Indian National Science Academy* 90(2): 332-46 (New Delhi, India)
- Lourembam RS, **Dhiman H**, Prasad GVR (2023) Preservation of Membrana Testacea in titanosaurid dinosaur eggshells from the Upper Cretaceous Deccan volcano-sedimentary strata of Central India. *Geological Magazine* 160(2): 361-71 (Cambridge, UK)
- **Dhiman H**, Verma V, Singh LR, Miglani V, Jha DK, Sanyal P, Tandon SK, Prasad GVR (2023) New Late Cretaceous titanosaur sauropod dinosaur egg clutches from lower Narmada valley, India: Palaeobiology and taphonomy. *PLoS One* 18(1): e0278242 (San Francisco, USA)
- **Dhiman H**, Verma V, Prasad GVR (2022) First ovum-in-ovo pathological titanosaurid egg throws light on the reproductive biology of sauropod dinosaurs. *Scientific Reports* 12(1): 9362 (Nature Portfolio (Springer Nature))
- **Dhiman H**, Dutta S, Kumar S, Verma V, Prasad GVR (2021) Discovery of proteinaceous moieties in Late Cretaceous dinosaur eggshell. *Palaeontology* 64(5): 585-95 (London, UK)

- **Dhiman H**, Prasad GVR, Goswami A (2019) Parataxonomy and palaeobiogeographic significance of dinosaur eggshell fragments from the Upper Cretaceous strata of the Cauvery Basin, South India. *Historical Biology* 31(10): 1310-22 (Oxfordshire, UK)

Papers accepted

- **Dhiman H**, Parvez F, Goswami A, Prasad GVR (2026) A second theropod tooth from the Cauvery Basin reaffirms the presence of troodontid dinosaurs in the Cretaceous of India. *The Anatomical Record* (revised manuscript submitted) (New Jersey, USA)
- **Dhiman H**, Prasad GVR (2026) Dinosaur Research in India – A Historical Perspective. In: Jayananda M, Prasad GVR (eds), *Evolution of life through time: Insights from Indian subcontinent*, 90th Anniversary Special Book Volume of INSA (New Delhi)

Papers under review

- **Dhiman H**, Verma V, Parvez F, Kumar S, Mahajan S, Prasad GVR (2026) First neosauropod dinosaur teeth from the pre-Maastrichtian Cretaceous deposits of India. *Geological Society, London, Special Publications* (London, UK)

Book chapters

- Prasad GVR, **Dhiman H**, Goswami A (2025) A Synoptic View of Vertebrate Paleontological Research on the Cretaceous Deposits of the Cauvery Basin, South India. In: Jain S, Chakraborty N (eds) *Geology of the Cauvery Basin in South India* (pp. 276-302). *CRC Press* (Florida, USA)
- **Dhiman H**, Verma V, Prasad GVR (2017) Preliminary Study of Microstructure and Taphonomy of Dinosaur Eggs and Nests of the Upper Cretaceous Lameta Formation near Padlya, Lower Narmada Valley, India. In: Kathal PK, Nigam R, Talib A (eds) *Micropaleontology and Its Applications*. 211, *Scientific Publishers* (Jodhpur, India)

Conference presentations/posters/abstracts

- **Dhiman H**, Vishal V, Kumar S, Mahajan S, Prasad GVR (2025) Sauropod dinosaur teeth from the Bagh Group (Campanian), Central India. *Paleo NE 2025 7th IMERP*, Santana do Cariri, Brazil, 3rd-5th December 2025 (online)
- **Dhiman H**, Vishal V, Prasad GVR (2025) Ovum-in-ovo egg pathology in Titanosaur eggs. *Palaeontological Society of India Platinum Jubilee Conference*, NIO, Goa, 29th-31st October 2025

- **Dhiman H**, Vishal V, Prasad GVR (2024) Titanosaur eggs and clutches from the lower Narmada valley of India: an overview. Mediterranean Geosciences Union, University of Barcelona, 25th-27th November 2024 (online)
- **Dhiman H**, Vishal V, Prasad GVR (2021) Nesting pattern and taphonomic conditions of the titanosaur nesting sites from the Upper Cretaceous Lameta Formation of the lower Narmada valley, India. 2nd symposium of IGCP 679, 26th-27th October 2021 (online)
- **Dhiman H**, Vishal V, Prasad GVR (2020) Nesting behavior and egg pathologies of titanosaur sauropod dinosaurs from the Upper Cretaceous continental Lameta Formation of the Lower Narmada Valley, India. 36th International Geological Congress, New Delhi (program postponed)
- **Dhiman H** (2018) Field problems and the need of on-site museums/fossil parks. Brainstorming meet on Rejuvenating Indian Palaeontology and establishing a National Earth Museum, INSA, New Delhi, 10th-11th September 2018
- **Dhiman H**, Verma V, Prasad GVR (2018) Dinosaur nesting sites of the Upper Cretaceous Lameta Formation of Lower Narmada Valley, India: an insight into dinosaur palaeobiology, nesting behavior and taphonomy – A preliminary report. 5th International Paleontological Congress, Sorbonne University, Paris, 9th-13th July 2018
- **Dhiman H**, Prasad GVR, Goswami A (2017) Dinosaur eggshell fragments from the Upper Cretaceous deposits of Cauvery basin. VI Symposium on Dinosaur Eggs and Babies, Caparica, Portugal, 3rd-7th October 2017
- **Dhiman H**, Verma V, Prasad GVR (2016) Microstructure and taphonomy of dinosaur nesting sites of the Upper Cretaceous Lameta Formation near Padyala, Lower Narmada Valley, India. Developments in Geosciences in the Past Decade – Emerging trends for the Future & Impact on Society & Annual General Meeting of the Geological Society of India, IIT Kharagpur, Kolkata, 21st-23rd October 2016

Research experience

- Summer internship, BSIP Lucknow (2014)
Title: Palynofacies analysis of Late Cretaceous sediments from Khasi hills, Meghalaya, south Shillong plateau, NE India
Supervisor: Dr. Vandana Prasad
- Winter Internship, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi (2013)
Title: Yamuna floodplains as a water resource
Supervisor: Dr. Vikram Soni

Research Collaborations

- Dr. Sharmila Bhattacharya (Assistant Professor, EES Department, IISER Mohali)
Multi-proxy analysis of biological changes at the Cretaceous-Palaeogene (K/Pg) boundary in the Umsohryngkew River section, Meghalaya (organic geochemistry, stable isotope geochemistry, palynology, and study of vertebrate fossils)
- Dr. Parth Chauhan (Associate Professor and Head of HSS Department, IISER Mohali)
Taxonomy of Palaeoloxodon from Hathnora, Madhya Pradesh

Invited talks

- Panel discussion
“Are we an Accident or Event”
Organized by Club STRATA, IISER Mohali
February 25th, 2026
- Online popular science lecture
“Ask a Palaeontologist”
Organized by Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai
May 18th, 2025
- Public talk on the topic “Dinosaur nests in India”
Organized by Scholar’s conclave of AAPG DU student chapter
July 24th, 2020
- Public talk on the topic “From eggshells to nests: Secrets of dinosaurs unveiled”
Organized by Alumni meet of Department of Geology, University of Delhi
November 9th, 2019
- Talk on the topic “Field problems and the need of on-site museums/fossil parks”
Brainstorming meet on Rejuvenating Indian Palaeontology and establishing a National Earth Museum, INSA, New Delhi
September 11th, 2018

Workshops conducted

- Dinosaurs, elephants & ostriches: A multidisciplinary palaeontology workshop (IISER Mohali)
In collaboration with Dr. Parth Chauhan (HSS department)
February 24th to 27th, 2026
- Field workshop: Platinum jubilee celebrations of the Palaeontological Society of India
In collaboration with Dr. Ritesh Arya (Tethys Fossil Museum)
May 31st, 2025

Workshops attended

- Hands on Training on “Electron Microscopy-Why, How and What”
National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, India
22nd May to 1st June, 2018
- Training course in “Science Journalism”
Indian Science Communication Society (Grade B+)
2017
- Workshop on “Mohr Circle simplified and Modern methods of fabric analysis in deformed rocks”
Seminar on Developments in Geosciences in the past decade – Emerging trends for the future and impact on society, IIT Kharagpur, Kolkata
21st-23rd October, 2016
- Course on “Science in the Public Interest – An interdisciplinary course on Planet Science and non-invasive technology”
Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi
1st February to 30th April, 2011

Field work

- Field work in Cretaceous-Palaeogene (K/Pg) boundary in the Umsohryngkew River section, Meghalaya (March, 2026)
- Field work in Maleri and Kota Formations of the PG valley and intertrappeans of Asifabad in Telangana (January, 2025; March, 2025, February 2026)
- Field work to prospect for vertebrate fossils in the Permian and Jurassic formations of the Spiti valley (September, 2024)
- Field work to prospect for vertebrate fossils in the intertrappean beds of Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Telangana, and in the Cretaceous marine formations of the Cauvery basin in Tamil Nadu (February, 2024)
- Field work to document fossils in Khadir Formation of Kutch (September, 2018)
- Field work to study dinosaur nesting sites of Lameta Formation in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) and Kheda district of Gujarat. Also visited sites consisting of Bagh Group, Deccan Basalts, and intertrappean sediments (March, 2014; December, 2017; January, 2018; March, 2020)

Professional service

- Member of the State Level Committee for the conceptualization of the proposed orientation centre at Bagh and in-situ conservation works for fossils (16th January, 2022)
- Member Secretary of Students' Grievance Committee, Department of Geology, University of Delhi (2018-2020)

Reviewer

- Historical Biology

Media coverage of my research

- Manthan magazine (IISER Mohali): https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Sx3mnPW1zeF3mB_Tq5Zptz5vBHTj9Gea/view
- Nature India: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d44151-023-00014-2>
- Nature India: <https://www.nature.com/articles/d44151-022-00070-0>
- CNN World: <https://edition.cnn.com/2023/01/18/world/dinosaurs-nest-eggs-india-discovery-scn/index.html>
- Times of India: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/science/researchers-uncover-92-fossil-nests-belonging-to-some-of-indias-largest-dinosaurs/articleshow/97173839.cms>
- Down to Earth: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/science-technology/rare-dinosaur-eggs-found-in-narmada-valley-show-how-ancient-reptiles-shared-traits-with-today-s-birds-study-87202>
- Economic Times: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/new-updates/paleontologists-discover-dinosaur-nests-and-265-fossilised-eggs-in-madhya-pradeshs-narmada-valley/articleshow/97231319.cms?from=mdr>