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Title: Interrogating Site Museum: A Study in the Interface between History and Ethnography of Sanghol Archaeological Museum, Sanghol, Punjab.

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Abstract:

The ancient Sanghol archaeological site, nestled in the heart of Punjab's Fatehgarh Sahib district, is a captivating confluence of historical narratives and ethnographic perspectives. This thesis explores the intricate interplay between the site's excavated remnants and the nearby Sanghol Museum, unveiling the multifaceted layers of cultural significance that have shaped the region's identity. Sanghol's unique status as the sole Dharmachakra-style Buddhist stupa discovered in Northern India serves as the catalyst for this scholarly inquiry. The juxtaposition of this ancient Buddhist landmark with the contemporary demographic composition of the area, where adherents of the faith constitute a minority, presents a compelling paradox ripe for investigation. Through an immersive ethnographic approach, complemented by a meticulous examination of historical accounts and archaeological evidence, this research endeavours to shed light on the enduring legacies that have shaped the region's collective consciousness. By delving into the lived experiences of the local community and the narratives embedded within the museum's curated exhibits, this thesis aims to uncover the intricate threads that bind the past to the present, illuminating the complexities of cultural identity formation.

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