

**Field Transect: NR011, Siwalik vertebrates and Siwalik Fossil Park, Saketi (H.P.)**

**Geological Significance:**

- The Siwalik hills border the northern limit of the great Indo-Gangetic plain and stretch as a narrow belt of low lying ridges running parallel to the main Himalayan range.
- The Siwalik rocks embody in the form of fossils, the varied flora and fauna that thrived during the middle Miocene to Early Pleistocene. Siwalik rocks are famous worldwide for providing the excellent collections of vertebrate fossils of several groups, specifically mammals, which evolved along diverging lines during the span of about 18 million years attracting the attention of geoscientists since the mid-19th century.
- Certain sections in the Siwalik ranges are richly fossiliferous, particularly those in the Markanda valley, south of Nalagarh, around Nurpur (Himachal Pradesh), north of Chandigarh (in Haryana), Uttarbaini and Ramnagar (Jammu & Kashmir).

**International Attraction:**

- The Markanda valley with its natural grandeur, richness of fossil vertebrates and unique geological set up is a mini representative of the vast Siwalik region where rocks from Lower Siwalik subgroup (Nahan Formation) to Upper Siwalik subgroup (Kalar Formation = Lower Boulder Conglomerate) are exposed.
- A large collection of Siwalik vertebrates has been collected in Siwalik Fossil Park established at Saketi (part of Markanda valley) which houses a museum and displays life size fiber glass models of Siwalik vertebrates.



Fiber glass model of *Hexaprotodon sivalensis* (Hippopotamus)

**Duration: 2 Days**

**Date of Excursion: Pre Congress**

**Max. Participants: 20**

**GEOTOURISTS SITES:**



Fossilized skeletal remain of *Stegodon ganesha* (Giant elephant), Siwalik Museum, Saketi, H.P.



Fibre glass model of *Gavialis browni* (Gharial)



Fibre glass model of *Stegodon ganesha* (Giant elephant)

## Geological Field Photographs:



Poly-cyclic sequence of alternating sandstone and siltstone of Tatrot/ Saketi Formation), Upper Siwalik, Kala Amb, Sirmour, H.P.



Molar of Cervus sp. Recovered from the pre historic cultural sites.



Bioturbation in siltstone, Saketi Formation



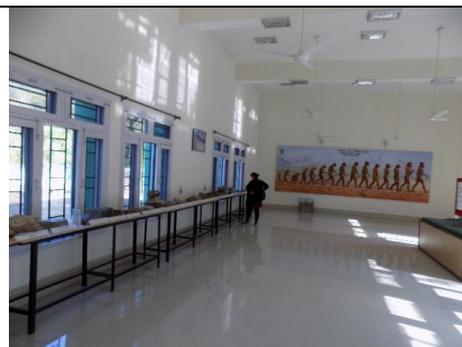
Model of hydro-power generation.



(a) Golunda kelleri & (b) Golunda ellioti



Disarticulated fossil remains in Saketi Formation



Stratigraphy of Himalaya

## GEOTOURIST SITES



Cultural Museum, Bala Sundri temple complex, Trilokpur



Art exhibited in government museum and art gallery



Fossil / Dinosaur Gallery at the museum



Sculptures at Rock garden,