

INSTITUT DE FRANCE
ACADÉMIE DES INSCRIPTIONS ET BELLES-LETTRES
THE CARROLL PRIZE IN AMERICAN STUDIES

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- Denis VIALOU, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle

2009 Prize Winner : Dr. Aïcha BACHIR BACHA

- Born in 1963
- Docteur en archéologie (1996)
- Ingénieur de recherche (Associate Professor) at l'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS)
- Member of the « Centre de Recherche sur l'Amérique Précolombienne » (Université de Paris-Sorbonne and EHESS)
- Archaeological missions in South Peru : Cahuachi, Ánimas Altas
- Publications about the sites of Nazca, Cahuachi and Paracas culture

Description of Project Winning The Carroll Prize :

- As part of the program of the Research Center for Pre-hispanic American Studies common to EHESS and to the University of Paris-Sorbonne excavations have been undertaken by Mrs Aïcha BACHIR BACHA since 2007 on the site of Ánimas Altas, in the province of Ica, on the southern coast of Peru, in the heart of the Paracas culture (500 BCE – 150 CE). The site had been rapidly prospected in 1964, 1982, and 1991.
- The aim of the research is to reconstruct the history of the pre-hispanic populations through the socio-political patterns of the cultural entities.
- The site, of approximately a hundred hectares, comprises about forty barrows inside of which there are to be found walls of tombs, remains of temples as well as fragments of ritual ceramics.
- The digging, which has been given a grant from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, works in cooperation with the Museo de Historia Natural of San Marcos University of Lima and the French Institute of Andean Studies. The fieldwork is expected to be completed by 2013.
- The help provided by the Carroll Prize will especially facilitate photogrammetric processes and paleoclimatic enquiries, which would prove impossible to realize without this essential subvention.