

**NEXT IAS**

# HISTORY OF ANCIENT INDIA

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**History of Ancient India**

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# Unit

## Different Shades of Civilization

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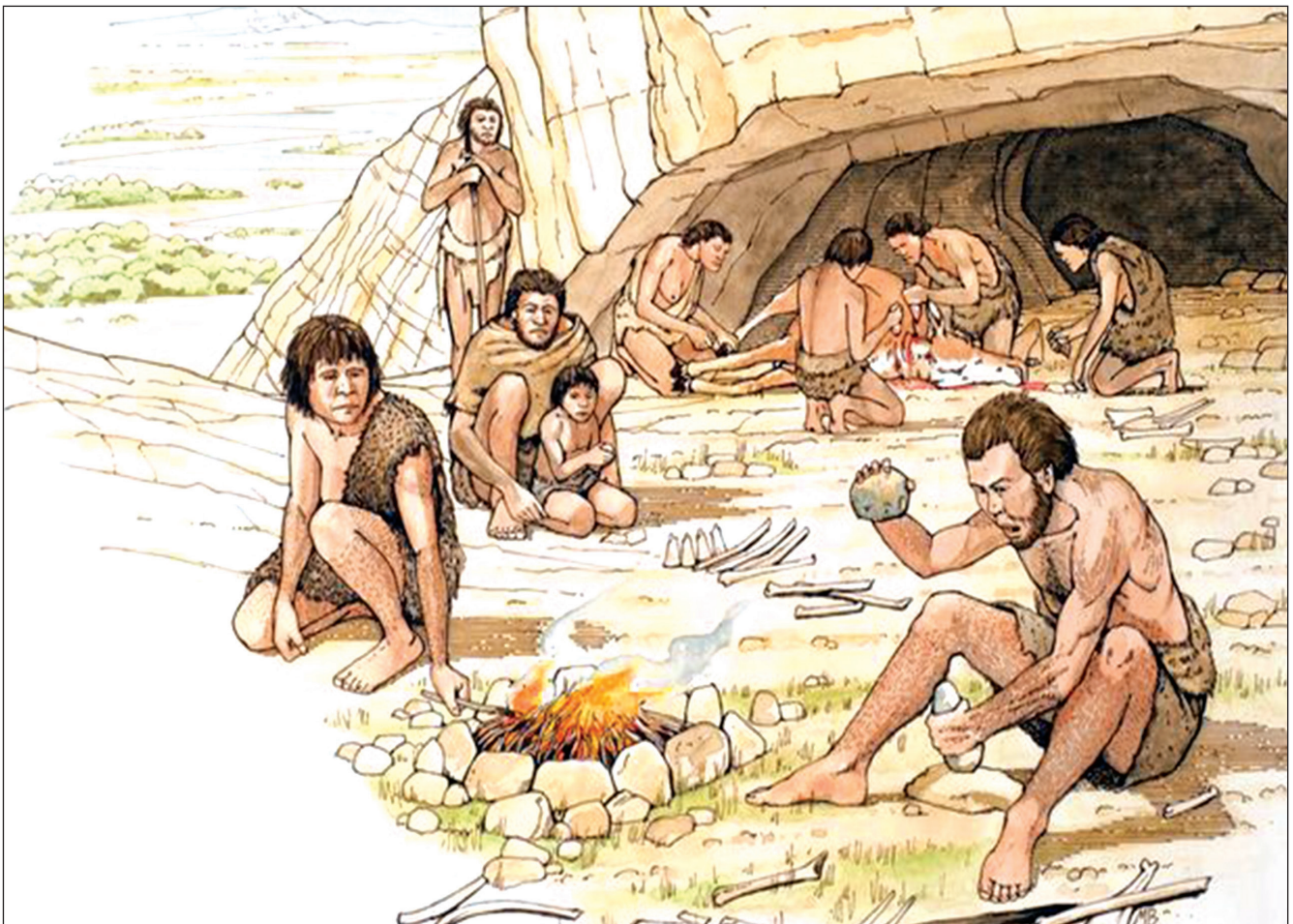
# CHAPTER 1

# INDIAN PRE-HISTORY

## 1.1 Introduction

The term 'Prehistory' means 'before history'. It is used to denote both, the times and the events, before which man had invented writing of any form. Robert Bruce Foote was a British geologist and archaeologist he is considered as the father of Indian Pre-History. He was associated with the geological survey and documented the antiquities of the stone age. Present archaeological system of the three main ages i.e., Stone-age, Bronze-age and Iron-age was developed by the Danish archaeologist Christian Jurgenson Thompson in 1820.

Based on different type of tools and techniques, the stages of human development in prehistoric period are described as the Paleolithic or Old Stone Age, the Mesolithic or Middle Stone Age, the Neolithic or New Stone Age and the Chalcolithic Age. During these ages, humans didn't know how to write and lived in very primitive way. Also, the human fossils are rarely available beyond 10,000 BC and therefore we have to deduce their living style and culture from the artefacts they used. These artefacts are found in various excavations and then studied by different experts. These artefacts, generally, contain the tools, weapons, pottery, arts, crafts and other relics which are largely made up of stones and this is the reason why prehistoric cultures are known as lithic cultures.



Representation of Early Stone Age Life

## 1.2 Paleolithic Age

The term Paleolithic is derived from the Greek word 'palaeo', which means old and 'lithic' which means stone. Therefore, the term Paleolithic age refers to the Old Stone Age. It covers a long period of time and has undergone many climatic changes.

**Types of Paleolithic Age:** According to the type of the stone tools used by the people, this period has been classified into three sub-periods viz.

Types of Paleolithic Age	
Types	Time Period
Early/Lower	500,000 BC – 50,000 BC
Middle	50,000 BC – 40,000 BC
Upper	40,000 BC – 10,000 BC

### Lower Paleolithic (500,000 BC – 50,000 BC)

It is the earliest period of human existence and existed from the end of the First Ice Age (Gunz Glaciation) up to the end of Third Ice Age (Riss Glaciation). The climate during this phase was extreme and man had to struggle with the nature along with the wild animals. The Indian Lower Paleolithic culture can be better understood if we take survey of the sites from where the tools are found and then taking a view of the possible usages of these tools and the techniques employed in developing them. We will now geographically divide the sites to better understand them.

#### North India (Sohan Culture)

Sites of this phase are found in valley of Soan or Sohan River in Punjab, now in Pakistan. Several sites are found in Kashmir and tools of this phase are also found in the Belan valley in Mirzapur District of Uttar Pradesh.

The chief tools of this period as far as North India is concerned were chopper, hand axes and cleavers. These chopping tools were prepared from pebbles. The tools were rough and heavy made by chipping the sides of the stone. These tools served the purpose of obtaining barks of trees and skins of animals.

#### Central India

The region consists of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Rajasthan. The banks of river Narmada is the important tract along which sites have been found. Important sites are as follows:

- **Bhimbetka:** This is a group of around 700 caves and rock shelters about 40 Km north of river Narmada in Raisen district of MP.
- **Adamgarh:** It is a rock shelter, a few kilometres south of river Narmada in Hoshangabad.

- **Nagari and Chittorgarh:** Both are rich in artefacts and lie in Rajasthan.
- **Didwana:** It is yet another important site in Rajasthan, and lie in dry region. This region exhibits a mixture of pebble tools with different types of choppers and other chopping tools.

#### South India (Madrasian Culture)

This region comprises of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Of these, Kerala has so far not yielded any Lower Paleolithic artefact.

- **Tamil Nadu:** Attirampakkam and Vadamadurai on river Kortalar near Madras.
- **Karnataka:** Kibbanahalli, Malprabha and Ghatprabha basin, Anagwadi and Shorapur Doab.
- **Andhra Pradesh:** Banks of River Gundlakamma in Kurnool district, Nagarjunakonda on river Krishna.
- **Maharashtra:** Nasik (Nashik), Navesa and Pune.

The south Indian sites majorly contain the hand axes and cleavers as a tool. Their precise function is yet to be ascertained but some inferences can be made.

The chopping tools of north show that the Sohan people were simple food gatherers. The Hand axes of the southern India were all purpose tools that could have been used for hunting and digging roots.



Chopping Tools

The raw material for these tools was mainly quartzite and at some points jasper was also used. It can be said that the Lower Paleolithic people were nomadic hunters and food gatherers who organized themselves in very small groups.

### Middle Paleolithic (50,000 BC – 40,000 BC)

There are not many sites available for the study of this phase and the key sites remain restricted to some regional pockets of India. The main region for the sites of this phase is in the western and the southern India while there are some small sites in the northern India.

The most important feature of Middle Paleolithic is the complete change of the raw material in nearly 90% of the cases, as compared to Lower Paleolithic from Quartzite to Chalcedony, Chert and Jasper. Many of the sites of this phase coincide with the sites of Lower Paleolithic phase and the first site of Middle Paleolithic was found in Maharashtra at place called Navesa. The other sites are as follows:

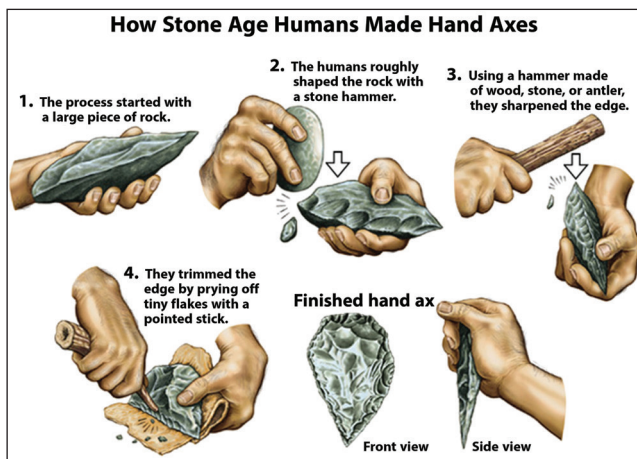




- **Karnataka:** Taminhal, Bagalkot and Anagwadi.
- **Andhra Pradesh:** Chittor, Kurnool, and Nalgonda.
- **Madhya Pradesh:** Bhimbetka caves, Gonchi, Damoh and Sihora.
- Other small sites are found in Luni valley of Rajasthan, Kangra Valley of Punjab, Belan Valley of U.P.

The tools of this phase are called flake tools as these very small and made out of flakes. The tools used were Blades, Point, Borers, and Scrappers. In some quantities bifacial Hand axes and other chopping tools were also found.

The tools on flake were in majority, and so the Middle Paleolithic phase has been called as a Flake culture. The presence of many varieties of scrapers leads us to infer that some of them may have been used to scrape animal skin for clothing.



Stone tool making

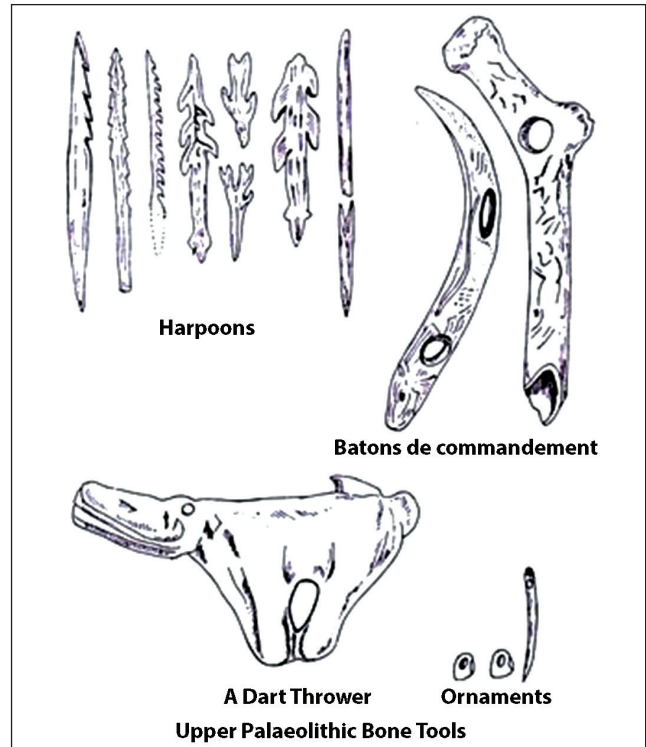
### Upper Paleolithic (40,000 BC – 10,000 BC)

The presence of the Upper Paleolithic phase in India has been in doubt until the tools of this phase were discovered in many sites of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. There are total of 566 sites in India of Upper Paleolithic phase. At this time of prehistory, the climate was less humid, as it coincided with the last phase of the ice age. The important sites of this phase are as follows:

- **Muchchatla Chintamanu Gavi (MCG)** is cave site in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh. Here, the tools had a 90 percent composition of bones while the remaining 10 percent were made up of stones.
- **Renigunta** is a site on the banks of river Rallakalva in Chittor district of Andhra Pradesh. Here, blades and burins form the largest group of tools which are made of fine grained olive green quartzite.
- **Bhimbetka caves** is a cave site containing around 700 caves and rock shelters in Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh.

- **Belan Valley** is located in Uttar Pradesh.
- **Baghor II** is a site on the Son river in Uttar Pradesh.

In the Upper Paleolithic phase, new tools like blades, scrapers and burins were used.



### Art in the Paleolithic Age



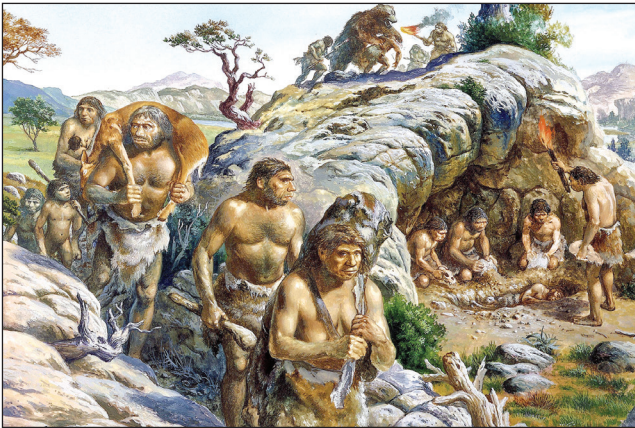
Rock Painting

There are not enough evidences available of the art works of these people. The earliest form of art by humans belongs to Upper Paleolithic period in the form of rock paintings. The caves of Bhimbetka have some of the rock paintings of this phase with the subjects of paintings being different birds, animals, and human beings. The purpose of the painting is still not clear as they didn't have much of the time left for painting owing to their nomadic life. However, an opinion could be made that these people depicted



various wild animals to ensure control over them, as they needed to hunt them for their survival.

### Society in Paleolithic Age



Representation of Hunting

In those times, climate was very harsh and food availability was scarce. The food was needed to be hunted or gathered through much of hard work, so the society in those times tended to be small. Specifically they were small groups of around 25 people who used to roam around for food. Their prime occupation was hunting and food gathering and the produce was distributed equally among all the members of the group. They led a nomadic life as they kept migrating to places where plant and animal resources along with water were easily available.

### Importance of this Phase

- A major climatic change occurred during this phase and these people adjusted to this change in very good manner and survived against the natural odds. Since then, not much changes have occurred in the climate. Hence making it easy for the later people to make progress. The progress in tool designs and raw materials used was remarkable.
- The mode of communication improved because of the use of language and this facilitated a smooth working of the small society. In this phase, fire was also discovered which protected them from the wild animals and from the cold climate helping them to sustain their lives.

### Limitations of this Phase

The majority of the tools were made from the stones and therefore they were required to live near the rocks and mountains for the raw material. They had limited availability of food and other resources as they needed to be near the mountains. They lived a nomadic life which couldn't result in

a better organized society and so the division of labour was practically missing. They would live in the caves and rock shelter which were riddled with dangers of life. All this made their life span a bit shorter compared to the later people.

## 1.3 Mesolithic Age (9,000 BC – 4,000 BC)

### Way of Living

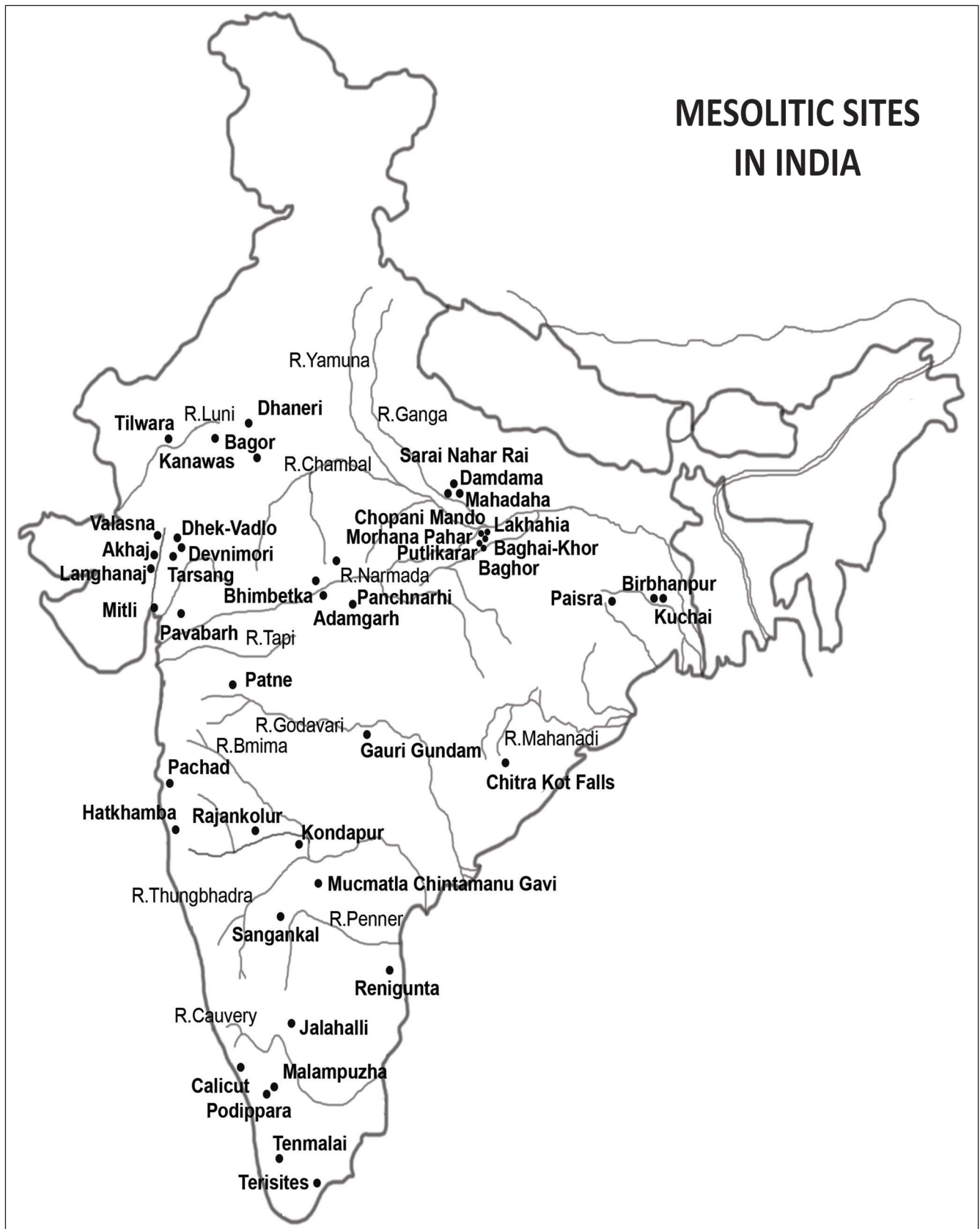
Around 10,000 BC., a transitory phase in the Stone Age culture begun, this phase is known as Mesolithic Age. Around this time, the last ice age came to an end and the climate became warm and dry. This resulted in the growth of new flora and fauna. The forests and bushes had a tremendous growth of impassable undergrowth and the big animals gave place to the smaller and faster animals. All this led to new challenges for the Mesolithic people as they had to get through these dense forests to gather food and to hunt new fast animals. This made them invent new tools (Microliths) and techniques to overcome these challenges. Their new ways of living and hunting can be understood by the sites found in different regions. Some of these sites are mentioned below.

### Major Sites

- **Bagor** is a site situated on the banks of river Kothari near Bhilawara, Rajasthan. The Microliths found here are the tiniest ones in India with majority in the range of 1.5-2 cm.
- **Tilwara** is a site in Rajasthan. It formed the western most limit of the Mesolithic Age in India.
- **Langhnaj** is a site on the western banks of river Sabarmati in Mehsana district of Gujarat.
- **Sarai Nahar Rai** is a site situated in Uttar Pradesh.
- **Birbhanpur** is a site on river Damodar in Burdwan district of West Bengal.
- **Bhimbetka Caves** is a cave site containing around 700 caves and rock shelters in Raisen district of Madhya Pradesh.
- **Tinnevely** or Teri is a site along Tambraparni river in Tinnevely district of Tamil Nadu.
- **Sangankallu** is located in Bellary district of Karnataka.

### Nature of Tools

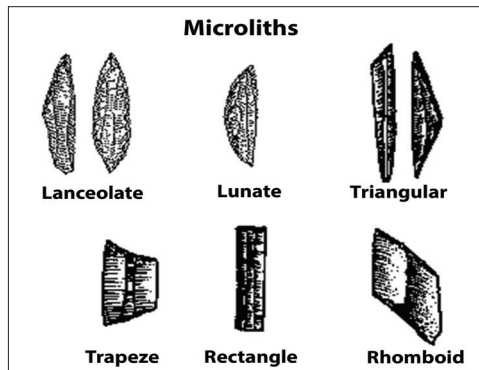
The characteristic feature of Mesolithic Age is the nature of the tools which were small in size ranging from 1 to 8 cm in length and 0.5 - 1.5cm in breadth. These tools were mostly fitted into wood, bone or jaws of large animals and were used as compound tools which could be tied or fixed



in other objects to form an arrow or a spear. These tools can be divided into two broad categories on the basis of their shape:

1. Geometric
2. Non-Geometric

It is opined that geometric tools denote an advanced stage of tool making in this age.



### Main Tools

1. Trapeze
2. Lunate or Crescent
3. Retouched Blade
4. Obliquely Blunted blade or Pen Knife
5. Flake-Points
6. Triangle – scalene
7. Microburin

### Art in Mesolithic Age

The caves of Bhimbetka have many rock paintings of this phase. The subjects of the painting were different birds, animals, and human beings and most of the animals and birds are the one which were hunted. Perching birds that live on the grains do not figure in the earliest group of paintings as people from this age were largely hunters and food gatherers.

### Society in Mesolithic Age



Representation of Mesolithic Society

The people of Mesolithic Age lived on hunting, fishing, and food gathering (honey and wild seed collection) and at a later stage they started domesticating animals. There was a shift in the pattern of hunting from the big animals in the Paleolithic period to the smaller animals which could be attacked with the help of bows and arrows. Bands were formed for the hunting, which generally had people not more than 25. There could have been a form of alliance between various bands for mutual aid and there might have been enmity among various bands. This eventually led band turning into an exogamous group which was called as clan in Neolithic age. This gives a picture that partial sedentary life, as well as feud and warfare might have become the part of their culture.

### Importance of Mesolithic Age

Mesolithic people adjusted well to the abrupt changes in climate and made a great stride in tackling the new challenges. They developed new tools (Microliths) to deal with challenges of hunting. They were the pioneers in the field of domestication of the animals. They were also the first people to start the cultivation practice. All this led towards a more sedentary life and made a base for further evolution of society which we witness in Neolithic Age.

### Limitations of Mesolithic Age

Mesolithic people used to produce only for their subsistence and not for any other purpose. Society was not much evolved and existed in form of bands and groups.

## 1.4 Neolithic Age (9000 – 1000 BC)

The Neolithic Age means New Stone Age. It is a period in the history in which man finally altered his relationship with nature, from being dependent on the nature for his survival to becoming its exploiters. The Neolithic people started producing cereals and other grains, domesticated cattle and adopted more sedentary life style. Neolithic people invented pottery, weaving and developed permanent house construction practices. On the basis of technological developments, a Neolithic site is characterized by the presence of the following:

- (a) Celts (They are a kind of axes)
- (b) Pit dwelling
- (c) Pottery

### Major Sites

The Neolithic sites are divided into 3 zones based on the types of axes used by the settlers, these are:

1. **North-Western:** It uses rectangular axes with curved cutting edges.



2. **North-Eastern:** It shows the use of polished stone axes with rectangular butt and occasional shoulder hoes.
3. **Southern:** It is distinguished by the use of the axes with oval sides and pointed butt.

We will see the sites of each zone now.

### North-Western Zone

- **Burzahom** is a site in Jhelum Valley near Srinagar. The people in the region lived there on a lake-side in pits, and probably had a hunting and fishing economy. They used polished tools of stones. Interestingly, numerous tools and weapons made of bones were also used in the region. These people used coarse grey pottery. They practiced the burial of domestic dogs with their masters in their graves.
- **Gufkral** is also a site in Jhelum Valley near Srinagar. They practised both agriculture and animal husbandry.
- **Martand** is yet another site located in Jhelum Valley.

### North-Eastern Zone

- **Daojali Hadling** are the sites located in the North Cachar Hills of Assam.
- **Chirand** is a site located at the confluence of the four rivers- Ganga, son, Gandak and Ghaghra near Chapra in Bihar. Chirand is not a hill like other sites, it is an alluvial plain. A peculiarity of Chirand is the presence of terracotta figurines of birds, bulls and snakes. The place is marked by the paucity of stone tools.
- **Koldihwa, Mahagara (Belan River)** is a site near Allahabad and famous for its oldest remains of rice.

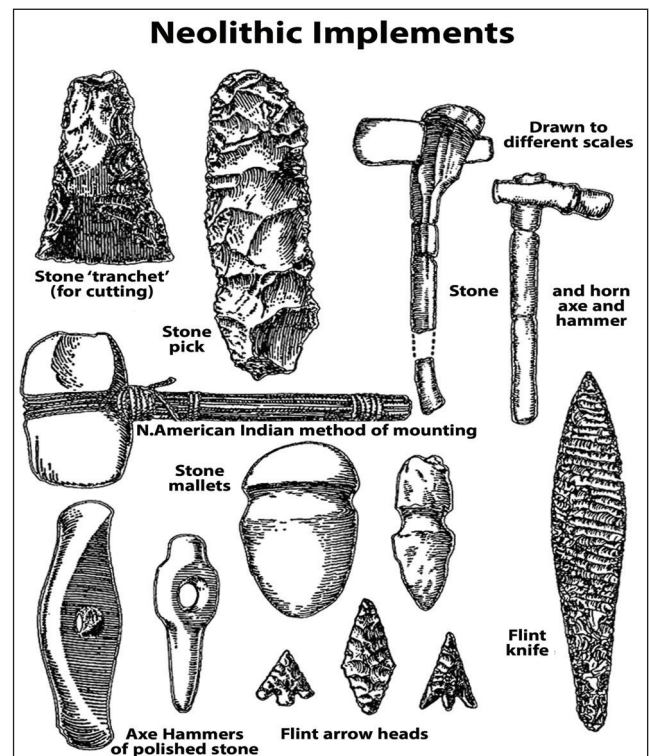
### Southern Zone

People here settled on the tops of the granite hills or on the plateaus near the river banks. South India has the largest number of Neolithic settlements because of the easy availability of the stone.

- **Piklihal** located in Karnataka, comprised of Neolithic settlers who were cattle-herders who domesticated cattle, goats and sheep. They used slash-and-burn cultivation methods. Presence of both, ash mounds and habitation sites was there in Piklihal.
- **Tekkalakota** is a site situated in the Bellary district of Karnataka. This site is atop a granite hill. The other sites in Karnataka are Maski, Brahamgiri, Hallur, Kodekal, Piklihal, sanganakallu and T. Narsipur.
- **Paiyampalli** and **Utnur** are sites in Tamil Nadu and Telangana respectively.

### Major Tools

- The tools found from these sites are of various shapes and sizes. Axes, Adzes, Chisels, Querns, Mace head or Ring Stones, Wedges, Stone hoes, Pick are the different tools which were made up of dolerite or sand-stone. They also used microlithic blades. The bone and antlers were also used to make harpoons, arrowhead, scrapers, needle with eye and points.
- The mace heads/ring stones were used to till the ground before seeds were sown into the ground. Neolithic people followed slash and burn type of cultivations as evident from the site of Piklihal.
- Stone querns were then used for the grinding of grains.
- Some important crops grown by them were wheat, barley, and corn.
- They also domesticated cattle, sheep and goats.
- Neolithic people were the first to have a relatively permanent residence. They used to live in the natural pits, here they lived on the floor of the pit and covered the mouth of the pit with thatched covering resting on post-holes. These people had also made advances in the field of pottery too. The potsherds show a gradual evolution from hand-made unfired variety to wheel-made and fired one. Pots were used for storing food grains, for cooking, eating and drinking.



### Importance of Neolithic Age

- These people laid the foundation for the prosperity of civilizations. They developed the techniques of



cultivation, weaving, pot-making, house building, writing and domestication of animals.

- The development of these techniques created a tremendous change in the mode of subsistence. The Neolithic people no longer depended only on hunting, fishing, and gathering.
- They practice cultivation and cattle husbandry to provide them with food.

### Limitations of the Neolithic Age

As most of the tools and weapons of these people were made up of stones, they could not find settlements far away

from the hilly areas. They were also not able to produce more than what was needed for their bare subsistence.

## 1.5 Chalcolithic Age (2800 BC – 700 BC)

Chalcolithic Age means the stone-copper phase. Copper was the first metal to be used by the humans. Chalcolithic people mostly used stone and copper objects, but at sometimes they also used bronze and iron. They lived in the hilly lands and along the rivers and were primarily a rural community. The sites of the chalcolithic culture have

been discovered almost all over India, except the alluvial plains and thickly forested areas.

### Major Sites

The regions around which sites of this culture are found are as follows.

- **South-Eastern Rajasthan:** In the South-eastern Rajasthan, two sites are very important: one is Ahar and the other is Gilund. Both, Ahar and Gilund lie in the dry zones of the Banas river Valley in Rajasthan. The people of Ahar had been practicing smelting and metallurgy since the beginning. In fact, the earlier name of Ahar is Tambavati or a place that has copper. Also a mention may be made of Amri and Kot Diji in Sindh; Kalibangan and Ganeshwar in Rajasthan. In Ganeshwar, we find the Ochre- Coloured Pottery (OCP) ware which is a red-slipped ware often painted in black and largely represented on vase forms.
- **Western Madhya Pradesh:** Sites such as Malwa, Kayatha and Eran have been excavated in the region. The Malwa ware is considered to be the richest among all the chalcolithic ceramics.
- **Western Maharashtra:** This region had witnessed the most extensive excavations and several important chalcolithic sites lie in this region. Sites such as Jorwe, Nevasa and Daimabad, in Ahmadnagar district; Chandoli, Songaon and Inamgaon in Pune district; and Navdatoli on Narmada river have been excavated.
- **Eastern India:** Several chalcolithic sites can be found in the Vindhyan region of Allahabad district. Chirand situated on river Ganges, Pandu Rajar Dhibi in Burdwan district and Mahishdal in purba medinipur district of West Bengal. Some other sites have also been found in Senuar, Sonpur and Taradih of Bihar and Khairadih and Narhan in eastern Uttar Pradesh.

### Major Tools

- The chalcolithic people used tiny tools and weapons made of stone. Flat, rectangular copper axes have been found in Jorwe and Chandoli, and copper chisels were found at Chandoli in Maharashtra.
- The Ganeshwar excavations have revealed the existence of arrowheads, spearhead, fish hooks, colts, bangles and chisels which were made of copper.
- Many microliths, found in the region, belong to the chalcolithic culture. Chalcolithic people used different types of pottery, one of which is called black-and-red pottery and was widely prevalent after 2000 BC.

### Domestication of Animals

They domesticated animals and reared cows, sheep, goats, pigs and buffaloes and hunted deer. They were also acquainted with the camels, but their knowledge about horse has not been mentioned.

### Agriculture and Food

- They practised agriculture and produced wheat, rice and bajra.
- They also produced pulses such as lentil (masur), black gram, green gram, and grass pea.
- On the black cotton soil of Deccan, cotton was produced. While ragi, bajra and several other millets were produced in the lower Deccan, rice was produced in Bihar and West Bengal.
- The people of Navdatoli produced ber and linseed.
- Fish hooks were found in Bihar and west Bengal which indicates their love for fish and rice.
- They also consumed beef and pork.

### Art in Chalcolithic Age

- They were expert coppersmith and skilful stone-workers. Tools, weapons, and bangles of copper have been unearthed.
- They manufactured beads of semiprecious stones such as carnelian, steatite, and quartz crystal.
- As spindle whorls were discovered in Malwa, it could be inferred that people of malwa knew the art of spinning and weaving.
- The presence of cotton, flax and silk threads, made of cotton silk of semal/silk indicates that the people were well acquainted with the manufacture of cloth.
- Inamagaon in Maharashtra had the presence of potters, smiths, ivory cravers, lime makers and terracotta artisans.

### Society in Chalcolithic Age

- The chalcolithic society was the first society in human history to show social stratification. The settlement pattern and burial practices suggest the existence of social inequalities.
- This is seen in Jorwe settlements, where some settlements are as large as twenty hectares and others are of only five hectares or less. This implies two-tier habitations.
- These people also started worshiping and this is substantiated by the findings of terracotta figures of women, which is supposed to be venerated as mother goddess.
- In Malwa and Rajasthan, the findings of stylized bull terracotta figures show that the bull was the symbol of a religious cult.
- The Chalcolithic cultures in central and western India disappeared by 1200 BC. as only Jorwe culture continued until 700 BC.

- The major reason for the decline of this culture in Western India and western MP was due to the decline in the rainfall.
- In the other areas, the Chalcolithic Age was superseded by the Iron Age.

### Importance of Chalcolithic Age

- They were the first people to know about the copper smelting and metallurgy. This knowledge was later used to make bronze and to purify other metals such as iron.
- They were the first to use painted pottery. Almost all of them used wheel-turned black-and-red pots.
- They were the first to build first large villages in peninsular India and cultivated far more cereals than were known to the Neolithic communities.

### Limitations of Chalcolithic Cultures

- The chalcolithic people were unable to make full use of animals they domesticated as they slaughtered them for food and did not use them for milk and dairy products.
- They didn't practise cultivation on large and intensive scale, instead they used slash and burn type of cultivation.
- There was a physical weakness prevailing among the chalcolithic people which is evident from the large burials of children in western Maharashtra.
- Despite being a food producing economy, the rate of infant mortality were very high which could be

attributed to poor nutrition, lack of medical knowledge or outbreak of epidemics.

- The chalcolithic culture inherently was of rural background.
- They were not acquainted with burnt bricks which were rarely used, as in Gilund around 1500 BC. Mostly, they used mud bricks for constructions and at times, stones were also used.
- They were unaware of the art of mixing tin with copper to form bronze.

### Some Important Discoveries

- **Mahadaha:** Borne ornaments have been discovered.
- **Damdama:** There human skeleton in a single grave were discovered.
- **Mehragarh:** The earliest evidence of agriculture in the Indian sub-continent have been obtained.
- **Navdatoli:** It has revealed excellent evidence of both round and rectangular residential structures which are located near Indore.
- **Sangana Kallu:** The 'Ash Mound' have been found from a Neolithic site Sangana Kallu located in Vellari district near Mysore.
- **Lekhahiya (Vindhya Region):** A maximum number of human skeleton have been found.
- The best example of prehistoric paintings are the rock-shelters and caves of Bhimbetka.
- National human museum which was renamed as Indira Gandhi Human Museum in located in Bhopal.



## Indian Pre-History: Important Facts

	Early (lower)	Middle	Late (upper)	Mesolithic	Neolithic	Chalcolithic
Technology		Flakes	Flints	Microliths	Polished Tools	Blade & Flake tools
Stone Used	Quartzite	Quartzite	Chert, Jasper	Agate	Dyke, Basalt, Dolomite.	Siliceous material like chalcedony & chert. use of copper and bronze tools also evidenced on a limited scale
Occupation	Hunting, food gathering and fishing.	Hunting, food gathering and fishing	Hunting, food gathering and fishing. Homo-sapiens come in.	Hunting, food gathering and fishing. In the later phase they start domesticating animals.	Hunting, food gathering and fishing were practiced. Regular agriculture begins. Settled in smaller villages Food producing age. Mehrgarg -wheat, cotton Mirzapur - cultivation of rice.	subsistence agriculture, stock-raising, hunting, and fishing. Cultivation of cotton was a main feature of Mehrgarh as well as Indus Valley Civilization. The Earliest evidence of Rice cultivation has come from Belan Valley. The Middle Palaeolithic Industry based upon stone was located in southern Thar desert in Rajasthan and it was called Luni industry. The most common animal in the cave paintings of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic era was deer. The people of Gilund in Rajasthan were NOT aware of bricks. The Banana, Coconut, areca nut etc. Came from South East Asia around 2000 BC
Sites	Soan or Sohan Valley, Punjab Belan Valley, Mirzapur District, UP (near Allahabad) Didwana, Rajasthan Bhimbetka, MP	Geography coincides roughly with the Lower Paleolithic sites.	Upper levels of Gujrat Dunes. Andhra, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Central MP, south UP. Bhimbetka caves used as shelters.	Adamgargh, MP & Bagor, Rajasthan-earliest evidence of domestication of animals. Salt Lake, Sambhar deposits suggest cultivation of plants.	<b>North</b> Kashmiri-dwelling pits, range of ceramics, variety of stone and bone tools and absence of microlith. Burzahom, Gufkrul Bihar-Chirand <b>South</b> South of Godavari <b>East</b> Assam, Garo Hills	The centers of Chalcolithic cultures flourished in semi-arid regions of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, and Maharashtra Some of them were Ahar, Gilund, Nagada, Navdatoli, Eran, Prabhas, Rangpur, Prakash, Daimabad, and Inamgaon
Burial					Burzahom-Domestic dogs buried with their masters.	Lagre Burial's of children in Western Maharashtra
Pottery	No pottery found				First reference of pottery. Burzahom-coarse grey pottery. Hand-made pottery found in this age. Later period – footwheel is also used. Included black-burnished ware, greyware and mat-pressed ware.	The pottery ranges from Red ware , deep red ware to deep brown and black, Pictographic red and black and polished red.
Painting	Bimbetka in Madhya Pradesh, Belan Valley in Uttar Pradesh and Narmada Valley have prehistoric art belonging to all the 3 phases.					