

# ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL INDIA

For UPSC Examinations



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Education

Poonam Dalal Dahiya

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For UPSC and State Civil Services Examinations

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**McGraw Hill Education (India) Private Limited**

CHENNAI

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### **Ancient and Medieval India**

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Dedicated to my late father Sh. Randhawa Singh Dalal  
who taught me to dream big.

# PREFACE

The syllabus of the General Studies for the UPSC and State Service examinations is pretty exhaustive in nature and Ancient and Medieval History has emerged as one of the important component of this syllabus. Many aspirants find history a boring factual subject that has to be crammed and is not a fun to learn. It is indeed difficult for any new aspirant to cover it comprehensively in a short span of time. The very purpose of writing this book is to break this myth and to make learning of history a joyful process.

This book has a completely new approach towards study of Ancient and Medieval History. It attempts **to make the learning of history simple and interesting** and provides a one-stop solution to all your history needs. The book is structured in a way that it is in sync with **each and every topic in the syllabus**. The information is given in an interesting format to make one comfortable with history.

## Special Features of this Book

1. Comprehensive coverage of entire syllabus pertaining to Ancient and Medieval History demanded for UPSC, State Services and other competitive exams.
2. Inclusion of two comprehensive detachable quick revision charts each pertaining to Ancient and Medieval history to simplify the learning process.
3. In every chapter, the keywords have been highlighted so that it becomes easy for the reader to make a quick reference to important points.
4. Ample diagrams are included in the chapters to provide conceptual clarity about historic events.
5. Along with the repository of last year's questions (both Prelims and Mains), practice questions are provided for each chapter to make students practice, assess and master the particular topic.
6. Use of simple and lucid language to cater to the needs of students of different backgrounds. The last chapter is more of an epilogue and is provided in the form of notes since it caters to certain crucial early modern India topics which are generally asked in examination.

I sincerely hope that all the readers of the book will appreciate and benefit from its contents and find it useful for their preparation.

Any remarks/recommendations towards improving the content and its richness will be most welcome and eagerly awaited. Your valuable suggestions will go far in enhancing this book in the future. You may reach the author at [poonamrandhawasingh@gmail.com](mailto:poonamrandhawasingh@gmail.com)

**All the very Best!**

*Poonam Dalal Dahiya*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank a multitude of people whose lives have intersected with mine in one way or the other and inspired me to write this book. To begin with, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for my dear husband Mr. Aseem Dahiya, who has been a source of constant inspiration and encouragement ever since I have known him and who has seen from close quarters the crests and troughs of my struggle, all the while prodding me to never give up. Without his unflinching support, I would not have been able to complete this challenging task or anything else in life. He, along with my son Vikramaditya, has given a new meaning and purpose to my life, wherein I find myself obligated to return to the society in no small measure, what I have gained from it.

My gratitude is also due to my brothers Amit and Ajay who have always believed in me and motivated me to develop my notes written over the years during preparation of various exams into this work. I would also like to thank my whole family especially my in-laws, my mother, teachers, colleagues and friends who in their own unique ways have helped me to form my views on various issues as delineated in this book and without their support it would not have been possible for me to research and write this book.

I am also indebted to every teacher of mine who have not only relentlessly mentored me in this endeavour but also helped me during the course of my own UPSC preparation specially Pavan Sir (of Pavan Kumar IAS Academy), Ravindran Sir (of Vajiram and Ravi), Praveen Bansal Sir (of Abhimanu IAS Study Group), Anil Narula Sir (of Anil Narula's IAS Study Center). I am also sincerely thankful to Shri D.S. Mishra, IAS, Dr. Dinesh Arora, IAS, Shri Maheswar Dayal, IPS, Dr. Ajay Chikkara, IRS who have always supported me through this journey of mine, and have encouraged and helped me in their own ways in completing this work in time.

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Shankrit for their continued support all through the venture.

I finally hope that this book will help the readers in a better conceptual understanding of the Ancient and Medieval History of India and help all those civil service aspirants who have fire in their eyes and who dare to dream.

**Poonam Dalal Dahiya**

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# ANCIENT INDIA



## PRE-HISTORY PHASE

The English word ‘**history**’ comes from the Greek *historia*, meaning “inquiry, knowledge acquired by investigation”. It corresponds to the study of the past and throws light on various past events of significance which shaped and evolved human experiences. History is further divided into *pre-history*, *proto-history*, and *history*. Events occurring before the invention of writing are considered the domain of **pre-history**, which is generally represented by the three stone ages. Defining **proto-history** is rather difficult as it has different connotations. Generally, it refers to a period between prehistory and history, during which a culture or civilisation has not yet developed writing but are mentioned in the written records of a contemporary literate civilisation. For example, the script of the Harappan civilisation remains undeciphered; however, since its existence is noted in Mesopotamian writings, it is considered a part of proto-history. Similarly, the Vedic civilisation from c. 1500–600 BCE had an oral literary tradition, though they did not take to literary writing — they can thus be considered a part of proto-history as well. Archaeologists consider Neolithic and Chalcolithic cultures to be a part of proto-history. The study of the past after the invention of writing and the study of literate societies based on the written and archaeological sources constitutes **history**.

The history and identity of human settlements in India go back to prehistoric times. The credit for doing an early extensive study of Indian pre-history go to **Robert Bruce Foote**, who discovered what was probably the **first palaeolithic tool** discovered in India — the **Pallavaram handaxe**. Later, he discovered a large number of pre-historic sites in South India. The contribution of **Sir Mortimer Wheeler** is equally significant, as his efforts greatly contributed towards our knowledge of

the pre-historical cultures of India and their sequence. On the basis of geological age, the type and technology of stone tools, and subsistence base, the Indian Stone Age is classified primarily into three types:

Indian Stone Age\*:

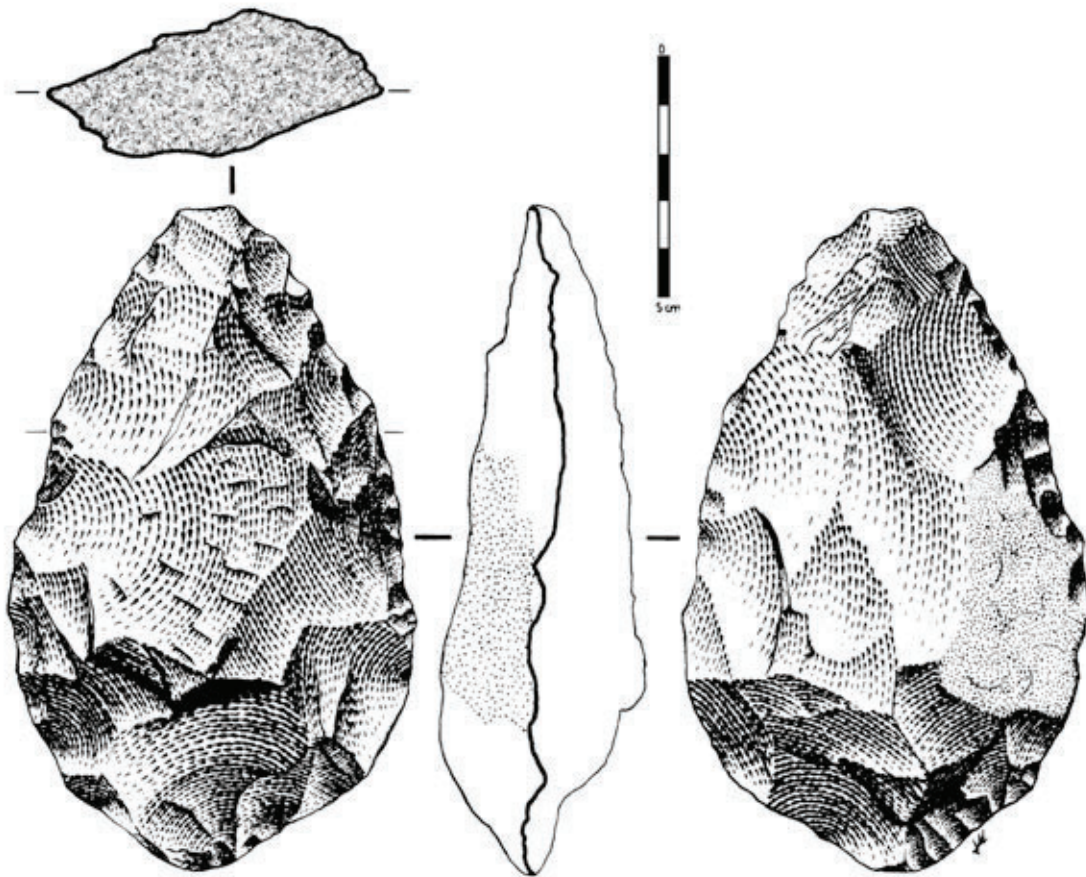
- Old stone Age, Palaeolithic Age (5,00,000–10,000 BCE)
- Late Stone Age, Mesolithic Age (10,000–6000 BCE)
- New Stone Age, Neolithic Age (6,000–1000 BCE)

*\*A general time range is specified as there is a great deal of variation in the dates for different sites.*



## Palaeolithic Age (Hunters and Food Gatherers)

The Palaeolithic Age is the **earliest** period of the Stone Age, which developed in the **Pleistocene period** or **the Ice Age**. It was spread in practically all parts of India **except the alluvial plains of the Indus and Ganga**. The Palaeolithic man of India are said to have belonged to the **Negrito race** and lived in caves and rock shelters. **They were food gathering people who lived on hunting and gathering wild fruits and vegetables.** **They had no knowledge of agriculture, house building, pottery, or any metal.** It was only **in later stages** that they **attained the knowledge of fire.** Man, during this period, **used tools of unpolished, undressed rough stones** — mainly hand axes, cleavers, choppers, blades, burin, and scrapers. Since the stone tools were made of a hard rock called **‘quartzite’**, Palaeolithic men are therefore also called **‘Quartzite men’** in India.



### Palaeolithic Tools

The Palaeolithic Age is divided into three phases according to the nature of stone tools used. They are:

Early or lower Palaeolithic	Middle Palaeolithic	Late or Upper Palaeolithic
Use of hand axes, choppers, and cleavers, mainly for chopping, digging, and skinning.	Use of stone tools made of flakes, mainly scrapers, borers, points, and bladelike tools.	Parallel-sided blades, burins, and some instances of bone tools.
Found in Soan and Sohan river valley (now in Pakistan), Kashmir, Thar Desert	Found in Soan, Narmada and Tungabhadra river valleys,	Found in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Central MP, Southern UP and

(Didwana, Rajasthan), Hiran Valley (Gujarat), rockshelters of Bhimbetka (MP), and Belan Valley Mirzapur (UP)	Potwar plateau (between Indus and Jhelum), Sanghao Cave (near Peshawar, Pakistan).	Chhotanagpur Plateau. Bone tools found only at cave sites of Kurnool and Muchchatla Chintamani Gavi in Andhra Pradesh
5,00,000 BCE–50,000 BCE	50,000 BCE –40,000 BCE	40,000 BCE–10,000 BCE
Covers the greater part of the Ice Age.	Established only in 1960 by H.D. Sankalia and was named Nevasan industry after the site of Nevasa (Maharashtra).	<i>Homo sapiens</i> first appeared at the end of this phase. Coincided with the last phase of the Ice Age, when the climate became comparatively warm and less humid.



## Mesolithic Age (Hunters and Herders)



A Variety of Stone Tools



The Mesolithic Age represents the **intermediate** stage in Stone Age Culture. Both Mesolithic and Neolithic Cultures belong to the **Holocene era** (which succeeded the Pleistocene era around 10,000 years ago). The Mesolithic man lived on hunting, fishing, food gathering, and in later stages, also domesticated animals. One of the key aspects of the Mesolithic Age was the **reduction in size of well-established tool types**. The characteristic tools of this age were **microliths** (miniature stone tools usually made of crypto-crystalline silica, chalcedony, or chert, both of geometrical and non-geometrical shapes). They were not only used as tools in themselves but also to make composite tools, spearheads, arrowheads, and sickles after hafting them on wooden or bone handles. Some of the other aspects of the Mesolithic Age are:

- Pottery is absent at most Mesolithic sites, but it is present at **Langhnaj** in **Gujarat** and in the **Kaimur region of Mirzapur (UP)**.
- The last phase of this age saw the beginning of plant cultivation.
- The Mesolithic era **initiated rock art** in pre-history. In 1867, the first rock paintings in India were discovered at Sohagighat (Kaimur Hills, UP). Now, over 150 Mesolithic rock art sites have been discovered across India, with rich concentration in Central India such as the **Bhimbetka Caves**, Kharwar, Jaora, and Kathotia (M.P.), Sundargarh and Sambalpur (Orissa), Ezhuthu Guha (Kerala). **Animals dominate the scenes** at most Mesolithic rock art sites. However, **no snakes are depicted** in Mesolithic Paintings.



**Bhimbetka Cave Painting**

- Burials and rock paintings give us ideas about the development of religious practices and also reflect the division of labour on the basis of gender.

Important Mesolithic sites are:

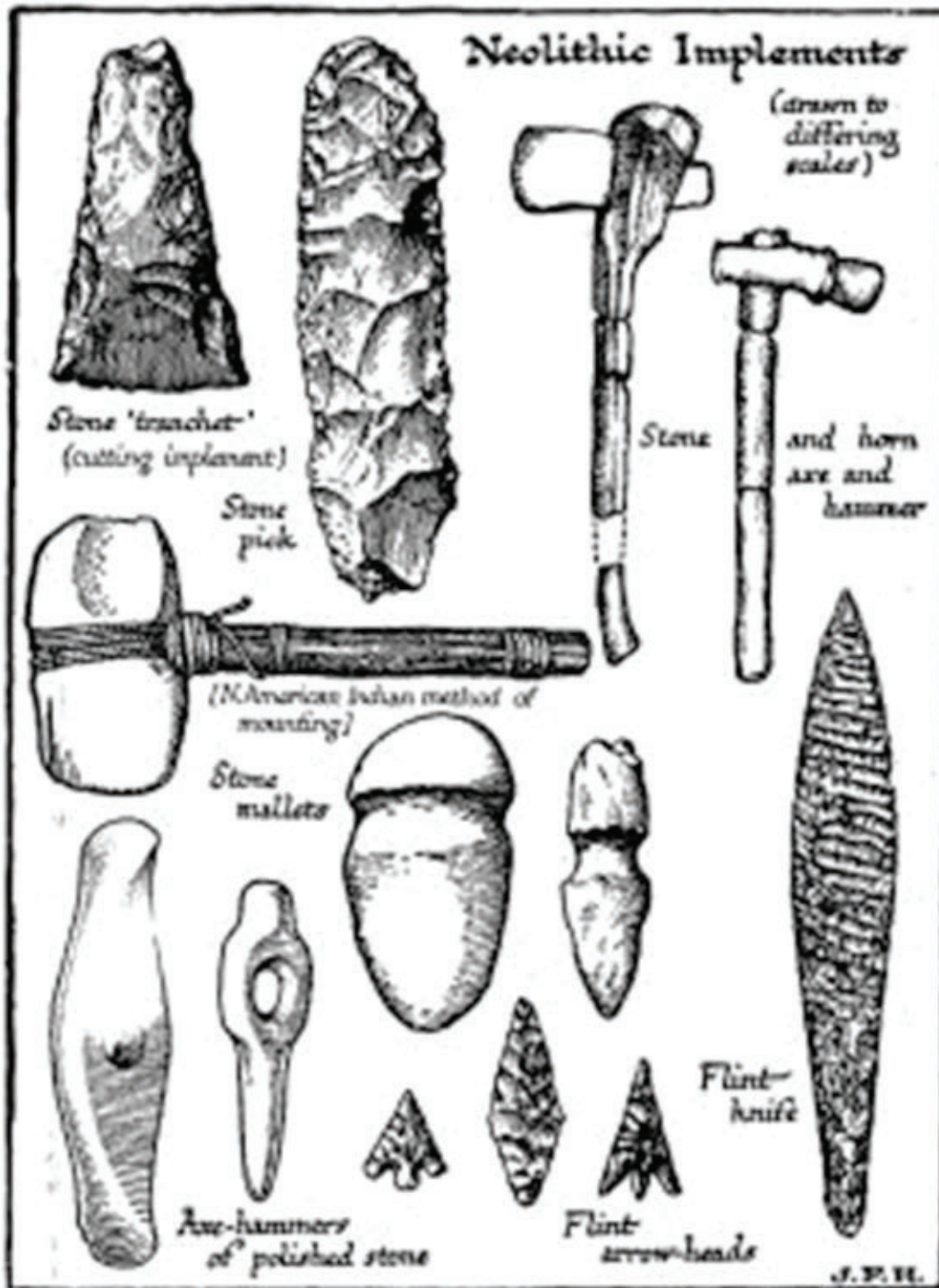
- Bagor, Rajasthan on River Kothari is one of the largest and best documented Mesolithic sites in India.
- Chhotanagpur Region, Central India. Both Adamgarh, M.P. and Bagor provide the earliest evidence for the domestication of animals
- South of River Krishna, Tinnevely in Tamil Nadu
- Birbhanpur in West Bengal
- Sarai Nahar Rai, near Allahabad, Pratapgarh area
- Mahadaha, U.P., where bone artifacts are found, including arrowheads and bone ornaments.



## **Neolithic Age (Food-Producing Stage)**

In northern India, the Neolithic age emerged around c.8000–6000 BCE.

At some places in south and eastern India, it is as late as 1000 BCE. Its significance in pre-history can be gauged by the fact that **V. Gordon Childe** termed the Neolithic phase as **Neolithic Revolution**. It introduced a lot of innovations such as:



**Neolithic Implements**

- (a) **Advent of food production:** The Neolithic man cultivated land and grew fruits & corn like *ragi* and horse gram (*kulathi*). He domesticated cattle, sheep, and goats.
- (b) **Innovations in technology:** The Neolithic man innovated in the production of stone tools, producing implements such as polished, pecked, and ground stone tools. They depended on polished stones other than quartzite for making tools. The use of celts was especially important for ground and polished handaxes. Based on the types of axes used, three important areas of Neolithic Settlements can be identified:
  - (i) **North-Western:** Rectangular axes with curved cutting edge.
  - (ii) **North-Eastern:** Polished stone axes with rectangular butt, has occasional shouldered hoes.
  - (iii) **Southern:** Axes with oval sides and pointed butt.
- (c) **Invention of pottery:** The Neolithic era communities first made pottery by hand and then with the help of the potter's wheel. Their pottery included black burnished ware, grey ware, and mat-impressed ware. It can therefore be said that pottery on a large-scale appeared in this phase.
- (d) **Emergence of self-sufficient village communities:** In the later phases of the Neolithic era, people led a more settled life. They lived in circular and rectangular houses made of mud and reed. They also knew how to make boats and could spin cotton and wool and weave cloth.
- (e) **Division of labour based on sex and age:** As society was progressing, the need for additional labour was recognised and thus labour was procured from other non kin groups too.

Some of the **important excavated Neolithic Sites** along with their **unique aspects** are as follows:

- **Burzahom** (unique rectangular chopper, domestic dogs buried with their masters in graves) and **Gufkhaal** in **Jammu and Kashmir** (famous for pit dwelling, stone tools, and graveyards located within households)
- **Maski**, **Brahmagiri**, **Piklihal** (proof of cattle herding), **Budihal** (community food preparation and feasting), and **Tekkalakota** in

Karnataka

- Paiyampalli in Tamil Nadu and Utnur in Andhra Pradesh
- Garo Hills in Meghalaya, Chirand in Bihar (considerable use of bone implements, especially those made of antlers)
- Saraikhola, near Taxila on Potwar plateau, Amri, Kotdiji and Mehrgarh (the earliest Neolithic site known as the Breadbasket of Baluchistan, a province of Pakistan)
- Koldihwa, in Belan valley (unique in terms of the presence of a three-fold Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Iron Age settlements), Koldihwa and Mahagara, south of Allahabad (many strata of circular huts along with crude hand-made pottery; earliest evidence of rice cultivation in the world)
- Chopani – Mando, Belan valley (earliest evidence of use of pottery)
- Belan Valley, on the northern spurs of the Vindhya, and the middle part of the Narmada valley (evidence of all the three phases of Paleolithic settlement, followed by Mesolithic and Neolithic settlements)



## Chalcolithic Age / Copper-Stone Age (c. 3000–500 BCE)

The Chalcolithic age marked the emergence of the use of metal along with stone tools. The first metal to be used was copper, though they also occasionally used bronze. Technologically, the Chalcolithic stage largely applies to the settlements of pre-Harappans, but in various parts of country, it appears after the end of the bronze Harappa culture. Some Chalcolithic cultures are contemporary of Harappan culture and some of pre-Harappan cultures, though it is possible to say that most Chalcolithic cultures are post-Harappan. Some prominent sites of pre-Harappan Chalcolithic culture are Ganeshwar, near the Khetri Mines of Rajasthan, Kalibangan in Rajasthan, Banawali in Haryana, Kot Diji in Sindh (Pakistan).

Chalcolithic people domesticated cows, sheep, goats, pigs and buffaloes, and hunted deer. They ate beef but did not like pork and were

also **not acquainted with horses**. It is rather interesting to note that *the domesticated animals were slaughtered for food and not milked for dairy products* (this practice still continues among the (**Gond people of Bastar**)). The people of the Chalcolithic phase **produced wheat and rice** as their **staple**, *bajra*, several pulses such as lentil, black gram, green gram, and grass pea, while those living in eastern regions lived on fish and rice. They practiced more slash-burn or *jhum* cultivation. However, **neither the plough nor the hoe has been found** at any site of this period. They used different types of pottery, of which **black and red pottery** was the most popular. This was made using the potter's wheel and was painted with white line design. Equally interesting is the fact that female potters did not use the potter's wheel, only men did.

Other distinguishing features of people in the Chalcolithic age are as follows:

- They **were not acquainted with burnt brick**, and generally lived in thatched houses made of mud bricks. Their economy was a village-based economy.
- Chalcolithic-era people did **not know the use of writing**.
- Their villages were small, with huts close to each other.
- Chalcolithic age people cooked their food.
- Small clay images of earth goddesses have been found from Chalcolithic sites. It is thus possible to say that they venerated the Mother Goddess.
- Chalcolithic people were fond of ornaments and decoration. The women wore ornaments of shell and bone and carried finely worked combs in their hair.
- The bull was probably the symbol of their religious cult (based on stylised bull terracottas of Malwa and Rajasthan).
- The Chalcolithic people were **expert coppersmiths**. They **knew the art of copper-smelting** and were **good stone workers** as well.
- They manufactured beads of semi-precious stones such as carnelian, steatite, and quartz crystal.
- They knew spinning and weaving.
- Chalcolithic settlements have been found in south-eastern Rajasthan, western M.P. western Maharashtra, as well as other

parts of southern and eastern India. There are definite regional differences in terms of cereals produced and consumed, pottery made, and so on. For instance, eastern India produced rice, whereas western India cultivated barley and wheat. In Maharashtra, the dead were buried in the north-south direction, whereas in southern India they were buried in the east-west direction. In eastern India, fractional burial was practiced.

- **Infant mortality** was very **high** among Chalcolithic people, as evident from the burial of a large number of children in western Maharashtra.
- One can note the **beginnings of social inequalities** in Chalcolithic societies, as chiefs who lived in rectangular houses dominated others who lived in round huts.

Some of the **important excavated Chalcolithic Sites** along with their **unique aspects** are as follows:

- **Ahar (smelting and metallurgy, stone houses) and Gilund (occasional use of burnt bricks) in Banas Valley, Rajasthan**



Remains Found at Ahar Site Rajasthan (Chalcolithic)

- Nevasa, Jorwe (non-Harappan culture), Navdatoli (cultivated almost all foodgrains), Daimabad (largest Jorwe culture site in the Godavari valley, famous for the recovery of bronze goods), Songaon, Inamgaon (large mud houses with ovens and circular pit houses) and Nasik, Maharashtra
- Chirand, Senuar, Sonpur in Bihar, Mahishdal in West Bengal
- Kayatha (mud-plastered floors, pre-Harappan elements in pottery), Malwa (richest Chalcolithic ceramics, spindle whorls, non-Harappan culture), Eran, M.P. (non- Harappan culture)

Chalcolithic

Harappan



Primarily rural	Primarily urban
Used mostly copper	Used bronze
Lived near hilly land or rivers	Attained urbanisation on the basis of produce from flood plains in Indus valley

## Questions from last year's Mains

- (1) Mesolithic rock cut architecture of India not only reflects the cultural life of the times but also a fine aesthetic sense comparable to modern painting. Critically evaluate this comment. (2015)



## Practice Questions - Prelims

1. Match the following:

Column A

- i. Palaeolithic Age
- ii. Neolithic Age
- iii. Chalcolithic Age
- iv. Mesolithic Age

Column B

- A. Copper
- B. Discovery of Fire
- C. Microliths
- D. Tools for harvesting crops

- |     |      |       |        |       |
|-----|------|-------|--------|-------|
| (a) | i. A | ii. C | iii. D | iv. B |
| (b) | i. C | ii. A | iii. D | iv. B |
| (c) | i. B | ii. D | iii. A | iv. C |
| (d) | i. D | ii. C | iii. A | iv. B |

2. Consider the following statements and identify which are specific to the Neolithic period.
- i. Domestication of animals and growing of wild varieties of crops
  - ii. People used copper and bronze to make a lot of tools

iii. Making of specialised tools by flaking stones, which were pointed in one end

(a) 1 only

(b) 1, 2, 3

(c) 1, 3 only

(d) 1, 2 only

3. Match the historical period and archaeological sites.

	Period		Site	
i.	Palaeolithic		A.	Bhimbetka
ii.	Mesolithic		B.	Belan
iii.	Neolithic		C.	Navdatoli
iv.	Chalcolithic		D.	Mehargarh
(a)	i. A	ii C	iii. D	iv B
(b)	i. C	ii. A	iii. D	iv. B
(c)	i. B	ii. A	iii. D	iv. C
(d)	i. D	ii. C	iii. A	iv. B

4. Which of the following are characteristic of the Neolithic age?

i. Use of very finely flaked small stone stools, blades, and burins

ii. Domestication of cattle, horses, and other farm animals

iii. Painting and decorating pottery

(a) i, ii, iii, only

(b) i, ii only

(c) ii, iii, only

(d) None of the above

5. Consider the following statements and choose the appropriate one.

i. Technologically, the Chalcolithic stage refers to pre-Harappans but in various parts of the country it appears after the end of the bronze Harappan culture

ii. All Chalcolithic cultures are not necessarily pre-Harappan cultures, but all pre-Harappan cultures are necessarily

Chalcolithic cultures

- iii. All Chalcolithic cultures are necessarily pre-Harappan cultures, but pre-Harappan cultures are not necessarily Chalcolithic cultures
- (a) i only  
(b) i, iii only  
(c) i, ii, iii  
(d) i, ii only
6. Which of the following statements is correct regarding pre-historic art?
- (a) Palaeolithic and Mesolithic people practised painting  
(b) Pre-historic art do not appear at the Bhimbetka caves  
(c) Many figures regarding the solar system were painted  
(d) The paintings depict the religious beliefs of the people
7. Which was the first metal used by man?
- (a) Copper  
(b) Silver  
(c) Bronze  
(d) Iron
8. With which of the following periods do we associate the 'microlith' implements?
- (a) Palaeolithic  
(b) Chalcolithic  
(c) Neolithic  
(d) Mesolithic
9. With which period do we associate the 'megaliths'?
- (a) Pleistocene  
(b) Neolithic-Chalcolithic  
(c) Mesolithic  
(d) None of the above
10. What was the earliest metal tool used for?
- (a) Pot-making

- (b) House-building
  - (c) Clearing jungles
  - (d) Making wheels
11. The first animals to be domesticated during Stone Age were:
- (a) Dogs, goat, sheep
  - (b) Dogs, horses, goat
  - (c) Horses, sheep, goat
  - (d) Sheep, elephant, dog
12. Nomadic man started settling in:
- (a) Palaeolithic Age
  - (b) Mesolithic Age
  - (c) Neolithic Age
  - (d) Chalcolithic Age
13. Man moved from food-gathering to food-producing in the:
- (a) Palaeolithic Age
  - (b) Mesolithic Age
  - (c) Chalcolithic Age
  - (d) Neolithic Age
14. The greatest innovation of man in the Palaeolithic age was
- (a) Metal implements
  - (b) Potter's wheel
  - (c) Discovery of fire
  - (d) Spinning and weaving
15. During the Chalcolithic age, the only metal known to man was:
- (a) Iron
  - (b) Gold
  - (c) Copper
  - (d) Silver
16. Which one of the following statements is not correct?
- (a) The Chalcolithic man in India were acquainted with burnt bricks
  - (b) Palaeolithic man in the later stages knew about fire

(c) Bhimbetka Caves are a treasure house of pre-historic paintings

(d) Man came to practice agriculture in Neolithic era.

17.

Sites		Age	
i. Ahar and Gilund		A. Chalcolithic	
ii. Mohenjodaro		B. Harappa	
iii. Burzahom		C. Neolithic	
iv. Bagor		D. Mesolithic	
a) i - A	ii C	iii B	iv D
(b) i - C	ii A	iii D	iv B
(c) i- A	ii B	iii C	iv D
(d) i - D	ii C	iii - A	iv B

18. Consider the following statements regarding the economy of the Neolithic period:

i. The economy of the early Neolithic cultures was based on agriculture and animal domestication

ii. The Neolithic man knew about iron

Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

(a) Only i

(b) Both i and ii

(c) Only ii

(d) None of the above

19. Consider the following statements regarding Chalcolithic people:

i. Chalcolithic communities traded and exchanged materials with other contemporary communities

ii. Large settlements like Ahar, Gilund, Navdatoli, Eran, Rangpur, Daimabad, and Inamgaon served as major centres of trade and exchange

iii. Ahar people, settled close to the copper source, supplied copper tools and objects to other contemporary communities in Malwa and Gujarat

Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- (a) Only i
- (b) i and ii
- (c) ii and iii
- (d) All of the above

20. Consider the following statements regarding the status of technology during the Chalcolithic period:

- i. The Chalcolithic people were expert coppersmiths and had made considerable progress in metal technology
- ii. The painted pottery was well made.

Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- (a) Only i
- (b) i and ii
- (c) Only ii
- (d) None of the above

21. Consider the following statements regarding the Chalcolithic cultures in India:

- i. Some of the Chalcolithic cultures were contemporary with the Harappan culture and others were post-Harappan
  - ii. The Chalcolithic culture is characterised by painted pottery, usually red and black
  - iii. It was urban as compared to rural Harappan
- Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- (a) Only i
- (b) i and ii
- (c) i and iii
- (d) All of the above

22. Which of the following pairs is incorrectly matched?

- i. Lower Palaeolithic–Handaxe and cleaver industries
- ii. Middle Palaeolithic–Tools made on flakes
- iii. Upper Palaeolithic–Tools made on blades and burins.

- (a) Only i

- (b) Only i and ii
  - (c) All of the above
  - (d) None of the above
23. Consider the following statements regarding tools and technology of the middle Palaeolithic culture:
- i. The middle Palaeolithic period is characterised basically by the flakes obtained by striking them out from pebbles or cobbles
  - ii. The tools included various kinds of scrapers, borers, and knives
- Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?
- (a) Only i
  - (b) i and ii
  - (c) Only ii
  - (d) None
24. Which of the following archaeological sites have Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic remains?
- (a) Belan valley
  - (b) Bhimbetka
  - (c) Nevasa
  - (d) Pushkar



## Answers

- 1. (c)
- 2. (a)
- 3. (c)
- 4. (a)
- 5. (a)
- 6. (a)
- 7. (a)
- 8. (d)
- 9. (b)

10. (c)
11. (a)
12. (c)
13. (d)
14. (c)
15. (c)
16. (a)
17. (c)
18. (a)
19. (d)
20. (b)
21. (b)
22. (d)
23. (b)
24. (a)



## Practice Questions - Mains

1. Explain the different phases of the Stone Age, specifying their characteristic features and prominent sites related to each.
2. Why does the Neolithic Age hold an unique place in the evolution of mankind? Elaborate with five examples.
3. “Technologically, the Chalcolithic phase refers to pre-Harappan cultures, but in various parts of the country, the Chalcolithic phase appears after the end of bronze Harappa culture.” Does this statement hold any authenticity? Specify with reasonsa.





2

HARAPPAN CIVILISATION (c.  
2600–1900 BCE)/BRONZE AGE  
CIVILISATION