

Pre historic hunter-gathers and Food production Paleolithic culture. Stone age

The stone age is the period in which the primitive man used the stone for his various necessary function in relation to the discovery of the sub-discovery work.

The stone age is divided into three stages based on climate and natural change and the variety of stone tools used, such as the old stone age, Middle stone age and new stone age.

old stone age - The first phase of the stone age is called old stone age or ancient stone age, The second phase is called Middle stone age and third phase is called new or developed stone age. usually until the development of the ancient stone age until further evidence is found the date is 6,00,000 BC to 1,50,000 BC. Some archaeologist have estimated that this period is 8,000 BC. The time of the middle stone age is 1,50,000^{BC} to 35,000 BC. The time of the new stone age is generally 35,000 BC to 10,000.

Hunter Gathers! - we know that the hunter gatherer society that formed human society is one of the most imp. in human history. There are still many areas of the world where human live as collectors or hunter. So we need to know about their culture and the cultural changes that are taking place in human history.

How do we know about hunter gatherers? we can learn from hunters and collectors about the way of life their social organization and their environment. By learning about their work and the living condition of the hunter gatherers we can feel about the society of the past. However we will know mainly on the work of Archaeologists and other scientist to find out about the past.

Old Stone tools - The ancient stone culture is divided in to three parts

One of the most important weapons of antiquity was the long wooden bow. with this pile he was able to hit the heads of the enemy and the beast.

A least of other weapons of the era is given below.

The tools used in the age of the under developed ancient stone are hand made conds, beads and piece of equipment.

Described by Bataki and scraper of the well developed stone age.

Handaxe - Its bond is wide and short to work. It is thought to be used for cutting and digging.

Bidarak, clearer It has two edge and more or less sheptherly position. It is used for cutting and chopping such as cutting down tree trunks cutting machine - This is a large seeding device which has a working edge, a one way wallet and is used for cutting work.

Life style of old stone age - During this time, many indigenous and foreign species lived. Camels and horses had North American relations. The elephant center was relocated from Abricaco India. Displacement and roads were to the east and west of the Himalaya. However many displaced animals crossed the North western border.

As we explore the relationship between the ancient stone age humans, and their resources we gain insight into their way of life by thinking about the remains of that animal. We learn from the people of that time were mostly preying, hunting and collecting. He also hunted deer, rhinos and habs. In some areas certain animals were hunted in large numbers because they were so large that it was easy to hunt them.

The use of fire begins - The construction of wood and stone was able to hunt large animals as well as protect themselves from predators. The use of fire has been widely used in an ancient time as a nomadic people. The trees spent the night in the woods, inside the caves and in the open. He had repeatedly seen forest fires. At times they even ate the flesh of wild animals. The meat tasted better to him than the raw meat. From time to time he himself thought of burning meat and some fruits in the fire. He was always seen waving bamboo on the bamboo body, especially when the wind was blowing and spreading through out the forest. In this way human life became easier after learning of the use of fire.

The nomadic community - The people of the Paleolithic culture were often homeless. They were nomads. They were living a nomadic life and not savers.

Dress - They did not learn to wear clothes. The clothes of the most ancient people were completely naked. Even in the present day the people of the Kaiti and Bonda communities are completely naked. They did not learn to wear clothes, once the ancient people started they covered themselves with animal skin, bird feathers and the bark of trees.

It was also an indomitable desire of man to speak like the Making Equipment.

Painting - In his leisure time human invented a variety of tools to paint animals, birds and so on which is evidence of his greatest intellect.

After painting people painted them in different colors black, red, green, and ~~gray~~ gray. The picture size was large and long.

Mesolithic culture - New developments in Technology and Economy - Introduction -

The mesolithic is the old world archaeological period between the upper paleolithic and Neolithic. The mesolithic has different time spans in different part of Eurasia. It refers to the final period of hunter-gatherer cultures in Europe and western Asia between the end of the last glacial maximum and Neolithic Revolution. In Europe it spans roughly 15,000 to 5,000 BP, in South west Asia roughly 20,000 to 8,000 BP. The term is less used of areas further east, and not at all beyond Eurasia and North Africa.

Mesolithic tools - The tools in mesolithic era are smaller in size and better in finishing than the paleolithic age and are called microlithic or small stone tools.

- ① Microlithic are very small in size and their length ranges upto 8cm. Some microliths have even geometric forms.
 - ② A microlith is usually made of flint or chert.
 - ③ Blade, cone, point, triangle, lunate and trapeze are the main types of mesolithic tools.
 - ④ Some of the microliths were used as components of spearheads, arrowheads, knives, sickles, harpoons and daggers.
 - ⑤ Use of the bows and arrow for hunting and became common in this period, which is evident from many rock paintings.
 - ⑥ These new technological elements led to enhanced efficiency in hunting, collection and processing of wild plant foods.
- Mesolithic sites - one more important fact about the mesolithic era in India is that the first major human colonization of the Ganga plains took place during this period. There are more than two hundred mesolithic sites found in, Allahabad, Patnaguri, Jazipur, Manjapur

and Varanasi district of Uttar Pradesh.

Rasastham - the Pachpadra basin and the Sojat area (Rasastham) are rich in microliths.

The significant habitation site discovered is Tilwara which has two cultural phases.

Phase I is mesolithic and is characterized by the presence of microliths.

Baagon (Rasastham) on the river Kothari is the largest mesolithic sites in India.

It is one of the best documented mesolithic sites.

It is located on a sand dune close to the Kothari

river.

The river Tapti, Narmada, Mahi and Sabarmati has also yielded many mesolithic sites.

Other Pradesh - The Satpura are rich in mesolithic sites.

The three excavated sites of Sarai Mahan, Rai, Mahadaha and Dandama lie very close to each other.

Local life - The mesolithic Economy, like the Paleolithic was still essentially based on hunting, fishing, and gathering. But some sites have given evidence of the domestication of animals.

Animals bones have been reported from sites of the mesolithic settlement, and an analysis of these bones indicated that the bones of the domesticated varieties of animals like cattle, sheep and goat.

The earliest evidence of domestication of animals has been provided by Adamgarh in Madhya Pradesh and Baagon in Rasastham.

The mesolithic culture paved the way for the Neolithic where pastoralism and agriculture supplemented hunting gathering as the prevalent mode of subsistence.

The early mesolithic sites have yielded the remains of cattle, sheep, goat, buffalo, pig, dog, boar, bison, elephant, hippo, jackal, wolf, cheetah, sambar, bharial, black buck, chinkara, hog deer, hare, porcupine, mongoose, lizard, tortoise and fish.

The diet of the people during mesolithic age included both meat and vegetable food.

Besides hunting and fishing the mesolithic people also collected wild roots, tubers, nuts, honey etc and these constituted important elements in the overall dietary pattern. It is argued in the context of surviving hunter-gatherers that the major of the food comes from plant sources supplemented by hunting.

Changes in life mesolithic era - from nomadism to sedentary settlements:

There were some more interesting changes in life style of the mesolithic era humans. The favourable climate better naturally, warm atmosphere and increased food security led to reduction in nomadism to seasonally sedentary settlement.

First disposal of dead and making of graves:

The sedentary settlements lead to beginning of the tradition of various ways of international disposal of the dead. The dead were occasionally provided with grave offerings which include meat, microliths, animal bone and ornaments and pieces of haematite.

Emergence of Arts - The mesolithic man was a lover of arts evident from the paintings in several thousand rock shelters in the vindhyan sandstone hills in central India. The rock painting of mesolithic period is found in

Adlam gash, Bimbeta ka of making a paderh and the paderp gash, minga pin of Rajasthan. The subject matter of the paintings are mostly wild animals and hunting scenes though there are some related to human social and religious life.

Clothing and ornaments - The human figures in the rock shelter paintings are shown wearing a loam cloth. Some of the figures are elaborately decorated with ornaments, head gear, feathers and waist bands, shell swung and bone beads also are evident from sites.

Pottery - is absent at most mesolithic sites but if occur at some sites such as Langhna in Gujrat Kaimur region of Mizapur (UP) etc.

* Pottery can be associated with mesolithic culture after the introduction of geometric pots.

Structural Activity: - Evidence of structural activity in form of hutments paved floor of wind screen come from a number of mesolithic sites.

* The huts were roughly circular or oval in plane with pathways around them. Some hutments have paved floor.

Question & Answer

- ⇒ From which area were the elephants relocated to India?
- ⇒ How old is the earth so far now?
- ⇒ Even in the middle Stone age on what did man depend?
- ⇒ What Stone were found in the North Entrance Vishavalis Excavation (1950)
- ⇒ How did the Origin of oldest man in India?
- ⇒ What was the religious life of mesolithic culture?

Write the answer in six sentence

- ⇒ Discuss about the time of pre-hunter gather?
- ⇒ Briefly discuss about the social life of palaeolithic culture?
- ⇒ Shortly described the mesolithic culture?
- ⇒ Briefly write the tools of mesolithic culture?