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EXPLORATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE DEEG, KAITHAL DISTRICT OF HARYANA

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Abstract:

Present paper is based on the exploration of an archaeological mound which is located in Village Deeg in block Pundri, District Kaithal, Haryana. This site is situated in Chautang valley (ancient Drisadvati). Exploration yielded the Harappan, late Harappan, Bara, OCP, PGW and Historical culture remains from mound. Expansion of the site is about 15 acre and raised about 4 mt. from the surrounding level. According to the expansion of site it looks like a big villager in Harappan period.

KEY WORDS:

Parental Handling Style , Oppositional Behaviour , Family Environment , psychological.

INTRODUCTION

The archaeological site Deeg (29° 39' 51" N 76° 37' 51" E) is a small village in tehsil Pundri, district Kaithal of Haryana. It is located about 18 KM from Pundri on Chochra road. Village has a huge mound which is situated in south east of village about one km away on the right side of the Deeg-Ragushan road, which lengths around 140m north to south; widths 70m east to west and heights 4m from surface level. The site expansion is around 10 to 15 acre; whole area is under cultivation. Villagers name it 'Khera'. The site lies near bank of Chautang Nala (ancient Drisadvati). Drisadvati holds an important place in early Vedic literature. This river has often been identified as Choutangnala which rise from the Siwalik foot-hills (Oldham, 1883), and Rakshi is a tributary of this river (Joshi Y. , 2003). The Drisadvati is one of the many transcendental rivers in India but later the seismic activities converted this river to a seasonal river which is flooded in only rainy season (Valdia, 2002). According to Srimad Bhagavatam this is very Great River. Drisadvati River is already mentioned in the Rigveda along with Sarasvati and Apaya (Rigveda 3.23.4). In Manu Smriti, this river and the Sarasvati River define the boundary of Brahmavart (Manu Smriti 2.17). According to Mahabharata and Vaman Purana the land which lies between Sarasvati and Drisadvati rivers, is called Kurukshetra (Kesarwani, 2008). It is also explained in Kalika Purana that Drisadvati is Papnasni River (Kalika Purana 51.2) like present Ganga. According to Matsya Purana this river is Pitrvilabha and gives the Crores of time benefit (Matsya Purana 20.22). So it is proved that present river was very important in ancient time for religious purposes. New research in the field of geology and geography shed light on the fact that drisadvati river was a major tributary of Vedic river Saraswati. Drisadvati joins Saraswati in Suratgarh, Rajasthan (Valdia, 2002).

DISCUSSION

Exploration conducted by Manoj Kumar Technical assistant under the supervision of Dr. Ranvir Shastri, Deputy Director, Department of Archaeology & Museums Haryana. He explored the old bed of Drisadvati River (Chautang), during the exploration of Chautang (Old Drisadvati River) valley, author visited many archaeology sites and this is one of them. Exploration yielded Physical remains of five cultural phases, which belong to Urban phase of Harappan civilization (mature Harappan), Late Harappan Phase, Ocher colour Pottery (OCP), Painted Grey Ware (PGW) and Historical period. A pre-Harappan site Dacher (Sukla, 2007) situated about 3 km in east and Late Harappan and PGW site Rattak 5 km in south are already explored by researchers. These sites are also situated on bank of Chautang. OCP is very rare in this

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region, this culture mostly found in Ganga Yamuna Doab. But OCP existence is reported at this site. Few incised shard of Bara culture was found during exploration. A larger no of PGW remains is available on mound. Recovered cultural material from the site is explained below in details.

MATURE HARAPPAN PHASE

This phase is identified by Pottery and antiquity which are similar to Harappan pottery. Recovered pottery like Dish-on-Stand, Two broken dish-on-stand were found during this work. One of these is half part of the base of dish-on-stand and the other one is complete base without dish (Pl-6); these are in red colour, which is very typical pottery of mature-Harappan. One dish-on-stand, which is half part of base, was found in a pit which was dug for erecting an electricity pole at a depth around 5-6 feet and the second dish on stand was found in a vertical section of the mound which was exposed by J.C.B. which is almost at the same depth as the first one. Two important antiquities were recovered like a terracotta hub-wheel; it was also found with the first dish-on-stand; similar wheels have been found at Bnawali, Bhirrhana (Fatehabad, Haryana) (B.B.Lal, 2002.) (Pl-1) and a carnelian bead also found.

LATE HARAPPAN PHASE

Last phase of Harappan civilization, which is known as late-Harappan. Deeg mound is also related to the last phase of Harappan civilization because few potteries, which belong to the late Harappan culture, have been found here. A small complete pot with base found at the site, which is typically a late Harappan (Pl-2). Reported pot has a thin red colour slip, it bears some horizontal band line above the belly and two lines below the belly in black colour, it has long neck. A fragment of the neck of a vessel was found at the site. It shows that vessel has the outturned flourished rim. Collar of rim decorated by zigzag black line and below of zigzag line a horizontal bend line also appeared. Neck also is bearing three horizontal bend lines. It has a thin white slip on red surface. Two neck of narrow mouth pots with outturned rim with dropper edge; these have black painting on red surface with sturdy section (Pl-2). Remains of late Harappan bowls of various kinds were also found (Pl-3). Some examples of Bara ware also found like incised wavy line shard and broken fine red coloured pot. Its upper part of belly is well leavigated with red wash and below portion of belly has coarse texture with wide grooved wavy lines (Pl-4).

OCP CULTURE

In 1949, B. B. Lal excavated the site Rajpura Parsu Dist. Bijnor (UP) (J.N, 1983) and here Ochre Colour Pottery (OCP) was found for the first time. (J.N, 1983) Chiefly, the area of O.C.P. is Ganga and Yamuna plain. Expansion of O.C.P. is in Haryana, U.P., Delhi; and some sites have also been discovered in Punjab (J.N, 1983). This site provided few shards of OCP from surface level. This pottery is very rare on this region (Pl-5).

PAINTED GREY WARE

Painted Grey Ware (PGW) pottery is related to Aryan culture. First time it was found at Ahichhitra (U.P.). It is a grey colour ware with black colour painting. PGW is very beautiful and well-fired kitchenware. These are very thin ware. PGW has been already found in Haryana at many sites like Bhagwanpura (J.N, 1983), Dist. Kurukshetra, and in Drisadvati valley few km from this site in south a very rich PGW site Rattak explored by (IAR 1967-68) Prof. Suraj Bhan. Similar PGW pottery is found at Deeg: like a fragment of big bowl, miniature bowl shard with outside turn edge and some potsherd is painted with black colour, motifs are half circles with dots in the middle and some more dots are motif on other potsherd (Pl-6). It is a very rich site from the angle of PGW Culture. A section made by the villagers for mud digging, demonstrates the very close relationship between the late Harappan and P.G.W. Culture. Here is a possibility of overlapping of late Harappan culture and P.G.W. Culture like Bhagwanpur (Kurukshetra) excavated by J.P. Joshi 1975-76 (Joshi J. P., 1993).

HISTORICAL PERIOD

Historical period represented by the stamped pottery of Sunga period and fine slip Kushan pottery and Gupta period red slipped ware, fine edge bowl of Rajput period. A square baked bricks with grooved line were found. Mostly upper deposit of historic period has been removed by villagers.

BEADS

Bead is a very important antiquity from archaeological angle. It shows the art of culture and ornaments. During the exploration, four beads have been found here: one is of Harappan period and the other three belong to P.G.W. culture. First bead is semi-precious stone carnelian and the other three are Ghata-shaped terracotta beads (Pl-5).

OTHER FINDINGS

An iron slag, stone weight, some terracotta children playing cake found on this site. Some terracotta children playing cake and unidentified potshard were recovered during this exploration at site.(Pl-5)

CONCLUSION

The excavation and exploration reveals that the land of Haryana is very rich from the archaeological point of view. The archaeological site Deeg is very important site and attracts the attention of archaeologists. But this site has been converted in agricultural land due to the ignorance of villagers. It has sequences of five cultures -mature Harappan, late Harappan, OCP, and PGW. and historical culture. The mound hides near about 4500 year old history. On the base of these physical remains human habitation started near about 2500BC at the site because this period occupied by Mature Harappan culture and late Harappan period started since 1900-1800 BC and Bara culture also contemporary i.e. period. OPC culture may have been appeared in later phase of late Harappan period. PGW period began after the late Harappan period and last period is represented by historic phase,

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Bead



Dish-on-stand



Wheel



Dish-on-stand

Pl-1 Harappan Pottery & Antiquity



Pl-2 Late Harappan Pottery



Pl-3 Late Harappan Pottery



Pl-4 Bara Pottery



OCP



Bead



Stone weight & terracotta cake

PI-5



PI-6 PGW

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