PART I

PRE AND PROTO-HISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY
CHAPTER I

SITES AND THEIR LOCATIONS (PL. NO. 1)

In the valleys of the river Manjra and its tributaries Karanja, Chulki, Kunknala nala are found numerous Pre and Proto-historic sites. In this Chapter are given some necessary details of the sites such as locations, geographical and geological aspects and kinds of relics found in them.

Extensive explorations carried out in the Manjra valley, failed to reveal any Early Palaeolithic sites so far. However, I could pick up two pieces of fossils in an ancient habitation site at Nager-Babli in Auradi taluk. They are identified as Hydropphyte species. And two fossilised teeth could be picked up in an ancient site at Sklar in Auradi taluk. They are identified as tooth (Tusk) of small carnivorous animal and the other, as tooth (Incisor) of a small canine. Besides, three teeth could be picked up in an ancient site at Yenkura in Bhalki taluk and are identified as incisor of a Bovine i.e., Bos Domesticus. Two more semi-fossilised specimens in an ancient site
at Souralli in Aroud taluk could be found and they are identified as antler of an unidentified species. Possibly from the river Manjra sometime ago a bone of an animal was picked up by an individual and it is identified as a baby elephant Indicus of semi-domesticated origin. And the specimen does not belong to remote past. It may be recalled here that many animal fossils of the Pre-historic period have been collected in the Manjra valley sometime ago (Bazmi, C.L., 1979: p. 198). It is therefore, likely that Early Palaeolithic remains may also be found in the terrace of the river system. More intensive survey of the river fossils and its Pleistocene aspects is required to be carried out.

I. Middle and Upper Palaeolithic Sites

But the survey first from the upper regions of the Karanja upto its confluence and similarly of the Manjra from the point of its entrance into Bidar district downwards, has revealed a dozen Middle Palaeolithic sites. Of them while ten are found in the valleys of the tributaries of the Manjra including the Karanja, only one is found near the Manjra. Besides even in the river beds Middle and Upper Palaeolithic and microlithic tools are found. Of
course their provenance cannot be correctly ascertained. Also in a few of the ancient sites with neolithic to early historical remains Middle Palaeolithic tools are sparsely found. It may also be noted here that in one of the Middle Palaeolithic sites, i.e., in Wannarpalli Mesolithic remains are found almost in equal proportion. Near the site i.e., about 10 to 15 meters away in another ancient habitation site with the remains of Neolithic, early-historic cultures. Of the Middle Palaeolithic sites only half number appear to be factory sites. In the others tools and the waste flakes are scattered in moderate quantities over one to two hectares. No indication of the settlement of the people could be found in surface explorations. Even among the sites in small number more are in the areas of the tributaries than in the main river valleys.

The Middle Palaeolithic remains are usually flakes, flake tools, cores, fragments, etc., made on coarse jasper, chert, chalcedony are found scattered over a wide area, sometimes in and around the localities in the various ancient sites. But no finished tools generally are found. Some of the flakes have slight retouch marks. All these seem to indicate that they are factory sites.
In some of the sites are found bladish flakes and these are comparatively longer than the other flakes in their sizes. They are found in considerable number. One is therefore inclined to think that there may be Upper Palaeolithic element also. This is not unusual for, in Salwaiggi rich, in Middle Palaeolithic remains, K. Goshāri (1951: pp. 1-5) has recognised the presence of an Upper Palaeolithic element. In fact he reasonably recognised a 'Gravittarian tool' (p. 2) in the assemblage which is typically Upper Palaeolithic. There is also a site at Bālīūr in Aurād taluk in which more longish flakes are found in large number. However, no burin as such could be found in it. Anyway all these seem to indicate a weak presence of the Upper Palaeolithic phase in this region. Hence, in the following pages both the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic remains have been separately discussed.

The sites are described below following the Kārana first and then the Māhīra from the Upper reaches to the lower.

A. Middle Palaeolithic Sites in the Kārana Valley

1. Markund (Bīdar taluk): Lat. 17°42'N and Long. 77°35' 30"E
West of the village about 1/4 km away near the bank of the river Karanja in the black soil fields are found scattered, in moderate quantity flakes, irregular cores on coarse jasper and chalcedony. The region of the locality consists of plain dry land with black cotton fields and a few trees of acacia, mango etc. The flakes collected from the site are a few worked scrapers such as side, rectangular, end, hollow scrapers and irregular shape scrapers.

The scraper-point assemblages in the collection and the technique of making them clearly indicates that they are of Middle Palaeolithic cultures. The site is in all probability a factory site. It is interesting to note that the industry is located in the open area near the Karanja river and numerous siliceous rock pebbles are scattered thinly all over the site.

2. Rekulgi (Bidar taluk): Lat. 17°.45'50"N and Long. 77°.21'E

West of Rekulgi about 1/2 km away is located an ancient site. The river Karanja is about 2 km away from the site. The site is about two hectares in area where a plenty of flake tools, cores, waste flakes are found.
Further north-west of the site about 1.3 km away is another site with similar materials. Both the sites are located in the brownish black soil fields.

To the south-east of the site nearby is a shallow valley in which loose flint boulders of coarse variety are found exposed. The rock material of both the boulders and the flakes of the site is the same.

The site is located on the open black cotton soil. South-east about 6 km away is an elevated plateau. In the collection there are scrapers of different types. It is interesting to note that the flakes are found scattered over considerable area in between the villages Aurad-Sekulpí-Srikantamahalli. The region consists of dry land with a few trees of neem, acacia here and there.


To the south-east of the village in the cultivated fields of black cotton soil are found sparsely scattered flakes, irregular cores and chips of jasper and chalcedony. The river is close to the south-west of the site. The region of the locality consists of plain dry land with
black cotton soil and a few trees of acacia, mango, neem etc. It is interesting to note that the flakes, cores etc. are scattered in and around the ancient habitation site ranging from neolithic to modern period. Besides the flakes, cores were collected from the site.

4. Ambasangvi (Bhalki taluk): Lat.18°3'15" N and Long. 77°16'15" E

South-east of the village and on the left bank of a nala, a tributary of the river Karanja, is an ancient site in a cultivated field. A tank is constructed across the nala, covering almost the entire site. In and around the area and at the bottom and top of the tank embankment are found scattered thickly field boulders of silicious rock and waste pebbles and chips. Of course chert normally of blackish chocolate colour having the marks of removal of chips. The extent of the site is about one hectare. It is interesting to note that the industry is located in the open area. It is particularly interesting to note that in the collection of the flakes there is hardly any flake that may be described as tool. There is no secondary work on the edge of the flakes. It appears, therefore, that the site is almost exclusively a factory site. And it may be
noted that there is an ancient habitation site ranging from neolithic to early historic period, located north of the site and close to the east of the village. The region consists of dry and roughly plain land with blackish brown soil.

3. **Middle Palaeolithic Sites in the Nandira Valley**

5. **Bhalki taluk**: Lat. 19° 6' 30" N and Long. 77° 0' 15" E

About a kilometer south-west is an ancient site in a cultivated field. It is located on the right bank of a nala that joins the river Nandira nearby. In and around the site are found sparsely flake tools and pottery of different periods. It may be noted here that to the north-east of the site in the cultivated field are found enormous quantities of flakes made on cherty jasper and flint. The area appears to represent a factory site. The flakes from the site are probably the sprinkling from the other site.

South-east of the village about 1/4 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field locally known as "Gargoti hola". Gargoti is a Marathi term for flint stone.
In the Bidar region being adjacent to Maharashtra partily Marathi mixed with Kannada and Urdu also is spoken by a section of the people. On the eastern side about 1/3 km away is a low ground. The region of the locality consists of plain dry land with black cotton soil and a few trees of acacia arabica, neem, mango. The site is about 2 hectares in area. All over the site are found scattered moderately, a few flint chips and pieces of quartz.

The flint chips are found in enormous quantity. These are found in the site. It is particularly noteworthy that in the collection of the flakes there is hardly any flake that may be described as tool. There is no secondary work. It appears that the site is almost exclusively a factory site. Further east of the area, in the field which is slightly elevated are found scattered big flakes probably of quartz. The region of the locality consists of plain dry land with black cotton soil and a few trees of acacia etc.

6. Karauli-Sangara (Shalki taluk): Lat.19°5'30"N and Long.77°44'20"E

In the cultivated field on the right and left bank of the river Karanja and the left bank of the river Hamjra
near the confluence of the two rivers are found scattered flakes of a rather coarse grained jasper normally dull yellow and dull brown in colour. These flakes are of medium size to small size. Such flakes are found in the river bed too. These flakes comprised tools with prepared edge such as scrapers and points as well as waste flakes and pieces of stone. All these indicate that in this area was a factory site and the site has been much washed. The flakes therefore are found scattered in the open site of brownish black soil. The region of the locality consists of plain land with brownish black soil and a tree of acacia arabica, neem.

7. Munenāla (Aurād taluk): Lat.18°38'13" and Long. 77°25'15"E

East of the village is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Gārgāti hola". The site is sloping towards a nala originating from the high levelled plateau near the village and therefore it is locally called as Munenal nala. The earth is blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 2 hectares. The elevated plateau is to the north-west of the site and oriented in east-west direction. In and around the site are found thickly scattered field boulders and waste flakes of coarse cherty
Jasper. It is interesting to note that in the collection of the flakes there is hardly any flake that may be described as tool. Therefore, the area appears to be a factory site.

Further east of the site about 1/4 km away on the way to Boral is another ancient site. It is on a slopy land. The extent of the site is about half hectare in area. In and around the site are found sparsely scattered flake tools, waste flakes, cores on coarse jasper and flint. It is interesting to note that most of these flakes and tools are not similar to the flakes found in the above factory site. The region of the locality consists of an undulating land with a few trees of acacia arabica, mango etc.

B. Warmpalli (Aurad taluk): Lat.18°13′N and Long. 77°23′50′′E

About 3 km north from Aurad is an elevated laterite plateau. The village Warmpalli is at the corner of the elevated land. North-east of the village is an ancient site called "Gouligarahala" in a cultivated field. West of the site is a small hill about 10 meters high. Numerous cores on quartz found scattered near a few Muslim graves are on the top of the hill. The site is separated from
the ancient habitation site ranging from neolithic to early historic period. In and around the site are found scattered numerous flakes, flake tools, such as scrapers, points, blades, cores etc. These may be distinguished into Middle Palaeolithic, Upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic tools. The region of the locality consists of dry plain reddish brown laterite plateau oriented in east-west direction. And south-east of the site about 1/3 km away is a nala tributary of the river Manjra.

9. Jamalpur (Aurad taluk); Lat. 19° 15' N and Long. 77° 30' E

North-east about 1/2 km away is an ancient habitation site ranging from Neolithic to early historic period. The site is under cultivation. The soil of the site is black. The extent of the site is about one hectare in area. In and around the site are found numerous flakes, irregular flake tools in few number, cores, waste flakes, lumps of field boulders, pebbles etc. There are numerous nodules exposed to the west of the site and on the way to Skarsa. The assemblage of flake tools such as scrapers - points indicate that there was a factory site and the site has been much washed. The flakes therefore are found scattered in the open site. West of the site nearby is a
Sola originates. The region of the locality consists of has arebica rolling dry plateau and a few trees of accacia, mango etc.

10. **Sailgoli (Aurād taluk):** Lat. 18° 15' and Long. 77° 32' 57".

About a kilometer north-east is an ancient site called "Goulgerahola". The site is under cultivation. The soil is black in colour. The extent of the site is about one hectare in area. The site is slopy towards a nala on the north. In and around the ancient site as well as in the basin of the nala, are found scattered numerous irregular flakes, waste flakes, few flake tools such as scrapers and points, lumps of silicious rock. Besides in the site are found abundance of pottery of neolithic to early historic periods. All these indicate that in this area was a factory site. The region of the locality consists of plain dry land and a few trees of accacia arebica etc. along the banks of the nala.

11. **Hamikera (Aurād taluk):** Lat. 18° 18' 45" and Long. 77° 15' 50".

An ancient site is located at the foot of elevated plateau to the north of the village. In and around the
site and in the basin of the nails are found scattered thickly flakes, waste flakes, stone pieces of flint. A few of them are irregular scrapers. It is interesting to note that numerous nodules are exposed at the foot of the elevated ground. It indicates that this area was a factory site. The region consists of dry rolling plateau and a few trees of acacia arabica, neem etc.


North-east of the village is an ancient site located on the high levelled ground called "Madidi". The Madidi is a local Kannada word used for elevated plateau. The plateau is round and rolling in landscape and is under cultivation. Besides the earth is blackish brown. The extent of the site is about 1/2 hectare. Several nalas, tributary of the river Hanja originate from the plateau. The field boulders of the Deccan trap are scattered at near the site. In the site are found scattered flakes, irregular flake tools and waste flakes on coarse grained jasper, agate etc. Most of the flakes are small to medium in size. Most of the irregular flakes have the marks of secondary works. The region is dry plateau and a few trees of acacia, mango
MIDDLE PALEOLITHIC TOOLS IN OTHER LOCALITIES

The flakes have been collected from the site. The irregular flakes, chips and a few flakes with slight retouch marks and waste flakes of coarse cherty jasper, chalcedony and agate are found few and far between in most of the ancient habitation sites ranging from Neolithic to Early historic sites in the region.

Besides the flake tools have been collected from the sites. No site as such with Middle Paleolithic tools or their remains could be demarcated.

II. UPPER PALEOLITHIC REMAINS

The implements such as bladeish flakes are very sparsely found in most of the Middle Paleolithic sites and in some of the ancient habitation sites ranging from neolithic to early historic period at Netti-Melkumbi-wadi, Yengunda, Nagur-Sabli, Tuljapur etc. However, in only one site viz., Balluru in Turad taluk unusually numerous bladeish flakes, irregular flakes are found in a cultivated field.
1. Balluru (Aura taluk): Lat. 18°.4'N and Long. 77°.27'E

Numerous bladish flakes, irregular flakes, unfinished bladish flakes and pebbles on coarse cherty jasper, are found scattered thickly in a cultivated field which is located about 1 km north-east of Balluru and about 2 km from the river Manjra. The site is under cultivation. The soil is black. The extent of the site is one hectare. A nala tributary of the river Manjra is on the east of the site. The region of the locality consists of dry, plain black cotton fields and a few trees of acacia arabica. It is interesting to note that to the south-west of the site on the left bank of the river Manjra are exposed nodules of silicious rock. These have the marks of removal of chips. And thus they indicate that these boulders were the source of the bladish flakes found at the site. Secondly the rock material of both the boulders (nodules) and the bladish flakes found at the site is the same. Most of the bladish flakes are irregular, thick, long blades and thin small blades. And they are small to medium in size. A few of them have slight retouch marks at the sides. It appears that the site is almost exclusively a factory site.
Besides the bladish flakes were collected from the site.

**General Observations**

The Middle and Upper Palaeolithic in the areas of northern Karnataka has not been as exclusively studied systematically as the Early Palaeolithic of the Malaprabha and the Krishna basins. However, good studies of the Middle and Upper Palaeolithic in individual sites like Salvegi, Gulhal, Heresabavi (Paddayya, K.; 1970: pp.165-191) have been made. In a broader perspective the Middle Palaeolithic of the Deccan has been considerably well studied by Issac (1960). However, in this broad survey very few sites in northern Karnataka then known had been discussed. Consequently an exhaustive account of the Middle Palaeolithic based on village to village survey in the Nannja and the Karanja valleys is welcome. The number of sites noticed so far in these valleys is small, being a dozen or so. Of these only half of them are factory sites. In the others tools and the waste flakes are scattered in moderate quantities over 1 to 2 hectares. No indication of the settlement of the people probably in seasonal could be found in surface explorations. Even the small number of sites are more in the areas of the tributaries than in
the main valleys. Excavations in one of the promising factory sites may reveal a few things regarding their camping for manufacturing tools.

Secondly occurrence of factory sites more in the former appears to be owing to availability of suitable rock material nearby.

Thirdly, in most of these sites reasonably finished tools are small in number. Since obviously they were carried by the makers with them for use. Only the waste flakes and unfinished tools are found in large quantities. Again excavations in such sites may reveal more number of tools in varieties.

Fourthly, in comparison with the tools from the Krishna valley such as Salvadgi etc., the tools in the Mahbura and the Kēranja valleys are not so fine. The minute secondary work clearly visible in the tools of the Krishna valley is absent in the tools of the area. The secondary work is indistinct. This is because the flint in the area unlike the soapy and glossy jasper of the Krishna, is coarser. Besides flint which is largely used, it is noteworthy that chalcedony also was another rock material preferred. Generally the Middle Palaeolithic
tools in the Deccan particularly in the Krishna valley are jasper. The tool types do not fall distinctly under the types triangular, rectangular, side, hollow scrapers, borer-cum-scrapers; andawl, borer, points. They are roughly comparable to the corresponding types from the Krishna valley. Many of them are amorphous in forms. This again may be owing to the coarseness of the rock material which cannot be conveniently fashioned into required forms.

Mesolithic Sites

Introduction

There are eleven sites yielding innumerable flakes and fragments of jasper, chalcedony, chert, agate, etc., on the surface over an area of one to two hectares. In each of them are sparsely found parallel sided blades. About eight of them are located on the top of the rather abruptly elevated lands. And three are located in the low lying areas. These elevated lands essentially comprised black cotton soil. Five of them are under cultivation. Some distance away from three of these sites such as Aurad, Ujjini and Vennmarpalli in Aurad taluk are ancient habitation sites with cultural remains ranging from neolithic to early historic periods. But, as mentioned above in
Wanimarpalli in the Middle Palaeolithic site located on the elevated ground are found Mesolithic remains as well. Within a very short distance is an ancient habitation site with the remains of neolithic, early historic etc. Near these elevated lands are small rivulets dry in summer. There is some close similarity between the parallel sided blades, etc., found in the sites without other cultural remains and in the sites with cultural remains. It is therefore, at present difficult to treat the above sites as truly mesolithic. But their location on the elevated lands suggests that these sites may represent the latest phase of the mesolithic almost overlapping with the neolithic stage nearby. So for the time being therefore, they are with reservation being treated as mesolithic. It may be noted at Sangaell and Ambasangvi the Middle Palaeolithic sites described above are not located far away from the mesolithic sites. In the following sites are found sparsely blades, cores, waste flakes, stone pieces, etc., in the ancient habitation sites with the remains of neolithic, early historic, etc. Khini Dausjol, Hajjargi, Koswad, Sangavi, Chitta, Halhalli, Kanaji, Haminoda, Chalkapur, Bhalki, Gorinchollli, Dongapur, Bhatabra, Netimelkunda, Lankewala, Lekhangana, Shivani, Nagar, Karsinchollli, hallikho (9), Muchlab, Suraj, Mandapur,
The Sites

In and around the following ancient habitation sites with cultural remains mostly ranging from neolithic to early historic periods are found scattered sparsely, blades, cores, waste flakes, stone pieces at Khigj-Talaj, Kadwa'i, Sangnal, Aminar (Bidar taluk); Hajjargi, Melhali, Kanaji, Nalmolu, Chalkapur, Chitta, Bhalki, Gorchincholi, Dongapur, Bhateshra, Nettimalkund, Negi-Mulkund-Vadi, Lajowada, Lakhmagan, Shivapul, Nagoor, Bhalkangil, Ambesangil, Harul (Balki taluk), Mamarchincholi, Hallikhed (3) (Humnabad taluk); Muchlapa (Samavakalyana taluk) and Auru, Menapur, Tegamapur, Klaras, Tuljapur, Itigila, Sangnal, Anamballi, Nagampalli, Hippalgaon, Raipalli,
Wansarpalli, Ujjini, Chintaki, Jasalpur, Chotanิtturu
(Aurād taluk). Besides in some other sites are found a few blades, cores and scrapers of varied size, points and pieces of stone are found without any ceramics in the following sites.

A. Mesolithic Sites in the Kāraṇīa Valley

1. Rāmaśvara Tēkadi (Bhāltī taluk): Lat. 18°4.17' and Long. 77°14.1°E

About 2 km north-east of Bhāltī is a mesolithic factory site located on a high levelled plateau. The site is locally called "Rāmaśvara Tēkadi". In the site are part of Muslim-Maratha fort and a recent temple called "Rāmaśvara temple". In an area of about one hectare numerous fragments of flint, jasper, chert, chalcedony and carnelian are found scattered rather thickly all over. In the site are also Deccan trap field black boulders which are now and then removed by the local people for domestic purposes. The tools could be found under the boulders and on the surface round them. The soil is blackish brown. The high ground is about 10 meters high from the normal level. There are small nalas from the plateau reaching both the rivers Manjra and Karsuīja located close to the
north and south-west of the area. There is a small pond on the top. Among the pieces of stones, some are undoubtedly tools. They are parallel sided blades, single backed blades, single retouch points, hollow scrapers, etc. Besides there are many fluted cores and countless waste flakes. All these are largely of chalcedony and carnelian. A few are of chert and jasper. Thus the above site is definitely mesolithic site with remnants of Middle Palaeolithic, very close in age to chalcolithic.

Besides the flakes, cores/were picked up from the site.

2. Tezrumur (2) (Bhalki taluk): Lat. 18°0'30"N and Long. 77°19'15"E

The site is located on the high level ground to the south of the village. The extent of the site is about two hectares in area. There is a village in ruins close to the south-west of the site. A medieval Hanuman temple is in the centre of the site. The soil is blackish brown in colour. This high level ground is running in east-west direction. A low level shallow ground used as a tank, is to the south-west of the site.
In the site are found some flakes, fragments of jasper, chert, chalcedony, etc., in abundance. A close examination of the collected specimens reveal the presence of waste flakes, fragments, numerous irregular cores, few scrapers, broken parallel sided blades, worked points, trapezium, crescent etc. The site appears to be a factory site. Besides Middle Palaeolithic tools are also occasionally found. Besides the cores, flakes have been collected from the site.

3. **Mesolithic Sites in the Maniva Valley**

3. **Aurud (Aurud taluk):** Lat. 16°15'.20"N and Long. 77°24'.30"E

South of Aurud is a mesolithic factory site located on the top of a high level plateau. Over a considerable extent of the locality are found scattered sparsely, fragments of jasper, chert and flakes. The collected specimens include waste flakes, irregular cores, unfinished parallel sided blades etc. The site appears to be a factory site. Its extent is about 1 hectare in area. The plateau is oriented in east-west direction. There are small nalas from the plateau reaching the main nala to the west. The soil of the site is blackish brown.
The site is under cultivation. The region of the locality consists of dry undulating land and a few trees of *acacia arabica* species.

Besides the irregular flakes were picked up from the site.

4. **Eklara (Aurād taluk):** Lat. 18°.12'N and Long. 77°.26'E

South-west of the village is a mesolithic factory site located on the top of an isolated high level ground. The ground is about 10 meters high from the normal level and sloping southwards. It is oriented in east-west direction. In the middle of the site is a long wall probably of a medieval fort, now in ruins. On the northern edge is a modern house. The soil of the site is gritty, reddish brown in colour. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare in area. There are small nals from the plateau reaching the main nala called "Hunganal nala" located to the north of the site.

There are numerous fragments of cores, fluted cores, parallel sided blades, fragments of stone, waste flakes, made on jasper, chalcedony, etc., scattered in the area.
The site appears to be a factory site. Most of them are unfinished flakes and waste cores. The region of the locality has arid undulating land with patches of high level ground at frequent intervals and a few trees of acacia arabica, tamarindus indica.

Thus the site is definitely a mesolithic site with remnants of Middle Falsolith.

Besides the flakes, cores have been collected from the site.

5. Kashinagar (Aurad taluk): Lat. 18°.14'N and Long. 77°.30'E

About 1 km south-east of the locality is a mesolithic factory site located on the high level ground oriented in east-west direction. The extent of the site is about 1 sq. hectares. The soil of the site is blackish brown. The site is under cultivation. It is slopy southwards. There are small nala from the plateau reaching the "Mungal nala" located to the north of the site. There are numerous irregular cores, fragments of waste cores, broken and unfinished blades, and a few flakes made on jasper, chalcedony, agate and carnelian. This
site appears to be a factory site. Besides, Middle Palaeolithic tools occasionally are found. Thus the site is definitely a mesolithic site with a few remnants of Middle Palaeolith.

The flakes have been collected from the site.

6. Chintōli (Surāī taluk); Lat. 77°,32',30"N and Long. 18°,13',30"

About 2 km west is an ancient habitation site with artefacts ranging from neolithic to early historical period. East of the village on the way to Saganpalli is a microlithic factory site located in an open slopy land towards a null in the north. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The soil is gritty blackish brown. The region of the site consists of undulating dry land and a few trees of neem, acacia, etc. In the site are found scattered numerous irregular flakes, cores, blades made on jasper, chalcedony and carnelian. The site appears to be a factory site.

Besides the flake tools were collected from the site.
7. **Uliini (Aurad taluk);** Lat. 18°.10′.30″N and Long. 77°.52′.30″E

About 1 km north is an ancient site in a low level ground which is surrounded on the north-east, north and south by a high level plateau. The site is under cultivation. The soil is reddish brown. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The high level plateau is running in east-west direction. In and around the site are found scattered sparsely few cores, fragmentary blades, irregular and unfinished tools made on jasper, chalcedony, carnelian. The region of the locality consists of low level ground sloping southwards, arid land and a few trees of scocia, neem etc. It appears to be a factory site. From the site flakes, cores, etc., were collected.

8. **Sultánpur (Bidar taluk);** Lat. 17°.52′.30″N and Long. 77°.35′E

North-west of the village and on the bank of a nala is a Mesolithic factory site on the elevated area. The extent of the site is about one hectare in area. The soil in black. The region of the locality consists of undulating land with black cotton soil and has a few
trees of *acacia arebica* etc.

In the site are found scattered numerous irregular flakes, stone fragments and bluish cores of jasper, chert, etc. Besides, irregular flakes have been collected from the site.

9. *Vëmparalli*

Existence of Middle Palaeolithic site with equal proportion of the Mesolithic implements found in the site is mentioned already in the Chapter at the appropriate place.

10. *Mangnål*

Existence of Middle Palaeolithic site near the locality is already described in the Chapter. Mesolithic factory site located about 1/4 km away from the Middle Palaeolithic site is also noticed there. From the Mesolithic site irregular flakes, blades, etc., have been collected.
South about 1 1/2 km away is a Mesolithic site in a flat land located near a nala, tributary of the Manjra river. The soil is blackish gray. The extent of the site is about 1 1/2 hectares in area. Small shallow trenches have been laid for plantation purposes in the site by the forest department. Several bone pieces have been collected in one of the trenches there. The region consists of plain land with black cotton soil and has sparse trees of acacia etc. From the site flakes, cores, blades were picked up.

Mesolithic Sites

General Observations

A clear-cut Mesolithic and pre-mesolithic distinction has been established stratigraphically at Sanganakalla for the first time in India by V.D.Sankalia (1969 : p. 41) in 1965. Eleven Mesolithic factory sites have been found without any ceramics or any other antiquities in the Kēranja and the Manjra valleys. Of them eight are located on the elevated grounds and three in the low lying area. It is important to note that the
sites are located quite away from the main rivers but within the vicinity of their tributaries.

The average distance between two sites normally varies from 6 to 16 kms. Most of the sites are near to each other with a distance of 5 to 7 kms.

In two sites the soil is red in which the implements are found. One i.e. Wannarpalli is on the elevated ground and the other i.e. Ujjini is on the low lying area. It is important to note that two of them i.e. Mungsal, Wannarpalli in Suria taluk are located near the Middle Palaeolithic sites and the three close to the habitation sites ranging from neolithic to early historic periods. In most of the sites are found crude flakes, a few small blades, fluted cores and finished implements. It is important to note that only the waste flakes, cores, fragments and unfinished implements occurred more in the sites.

In most of the sites i.e., eight out of eleven are found parallel sided blades closely akin to those of the Chalcolithic assemblage elsewhere. It is true they are in small number but yet, it may be noted the whole assemblage itself in most of the sites is considerably small. In all
the sites scraper like small flakes that could have served as tools, some having secondary work, are also found. Besides points, trapezium, crescents are variously found in these sites. Thus the sites in view of the tool types and of their occurrence generally away from the habitation areas and without any other cultural antiquities appear to be representing the transitional phase from the Mesolithic to the Neolithic in the chalcolithic stage in this region. They may even be contemporaneous with the early phase of the proto-historic culture.

There are 44 ancient habitation sites noticed in the valleys of the rivers Nahiya and Karenja. Of them 34 have cultural remains of neolithic and early historic periods. In the remaining two i.e., at Yenkura and Tuljapur besides these remains pottery most probably of megalithic fabric are found.

Most of the sites are located near the tributaries of the main rivers. Seventeen sites out of 44 are located in the vicinity of the Karenja river and 27 sites,
in the Ifōhra valley. It is important to note that in
most of the sites the soil is black. The sites are under
cultivation. In one of the sites viz., Nagenor, are found
two disturbed pits containing neolithic pottery, etc.
Among this pottery there is one potsherd of red ware
closely akin to Jorwe fabric, which is noteworthy.
Besides, cores, bone fragments, a backed blade could also
be collected from the pit. It is also important to note
that close to the disturbed pits on the surface are two
stone cairns of the Deccan trap. Besides, at Nāgūr-Sabli
in the site could be picked up a few pieces of fossils
of hydrophyte species. Similarly, at another site Jemalpur
could be collected a semi-fossilized bone piece with a
cut mark.

IV. Neolithic-Chalcolithic Sites

In and around the ancient habitation sites mostly
ranging from neolithic to early historic period found
scattered sparsely the implements such as scrapers of
varied type, irregular flakes, cores, blades, fragments
of stone etc., made on jasper, chert, chalcedony etc.
In some localities the ancient habitation sites are near
the industries of mesolithic sites. The locations of some
of the habitation sites with the remains of this culture
also are already described above.

A. Neolithic Sites in the Karanja Valley

1. Khini Baniol (Bidar taluk)

Existence of the Middle Palaeolithic site in the locality is referred to in this Chapter above. On the southern outskirts of the village is another ancient habitation site with archaeological remains ranging from neolithic to modern period. It is locally called "Nalu". The southern edge of the site is being dug by the local people. And the earth is used for domestic purposes. A part of the village is located on the ancient site. The soil is blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 2 hectares in area. On the west is the river Karanja. In the site are found sparsely grey ware pottery, irregular cores, stone fragment pieces, flakes and parallel sided blades made on coarse jasper, chalcedony, chert and neoliths besides, abundant pottery of the early historic medieval and modern periods. In the section of the disturbed part are found numerous pottery of early historic and of later periods excepting neolithic pottery. From the site the antiquities such as pottery, microliths, bone pieces etc., have been collected.
2. **Badrew (Bidar taluk)**: Lat. 17°.45'40"N and Long. 77°.22'50"E

North-western corner of the village is an ancient habitation site ranging from neolithic to early historic periods. The soil is reddish brown. The site is under cultivation. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare in area. There are some of modern period graves in the site. On the west of the site is a nala that joins the river Karanja. The region consists of arid least undulating landscape.

The grey ware pottery of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage and abundant pottery of early historic period are found and scattered in the site. Besides pottery were collected from the site.

3. **Kahwa (Bidar taluk)**: Lat. 17°.50'N and Long. 77°.25'40"E

To the western corner of the village is an ancient habitation site with archaeological remains ranging from neolithic to early historic period in a cultivated field. The soil is reddish brown. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The site is under cultivation. The region
consists of arid, plain laterite plateau and has a few trees of mango etc., are seen.

In and around the site are found scattered sparsely cores, irregular flakes made on chert. In the site are found in abundance pottery of different periods. Among the collections there are a few sherds of grey ware, cores of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage, abundant pottery of early historic cultures. From the site the pottery, bones etc., have been collected.

4. Hajiwari (Bidar taluk): Lat. 17°.49'30"N and Long. 77°.20'45"E

To the west of the village is an ancient habitation site ranging from neolithic to recent periods. It is called "Hajiwari". The site is under cultivation. The extent of the site is about half hectare in area. The soil is ashy blackish grey. No part of the site is disturbed. The river Karanja is to the east of the site. As the site is very close to the village the modern cultural debris are mixed with that of the ancient site. The region of the locality consists of dry, plain black with cotton fields.
In the collection there are few flake tools, cores and pottery as well as bone pieces. Among the collection of the neolithic pottery there are very few sherds of grey ware and blackish grey ware of vases. Besides the pottery, shell bangles, bone pieces have been collected from the site.

5. Malhalli (Bhalki taluk): Lat. 17°52.30′N and Long. 77°20.30′ E

South-west of the village about 1 km away is an ancient site called "Malhalli" located on the bank of a rivulet that joins the river Karanja. It is under cultivation. The site is slopy towards the rivulet. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The soil is black in colour. The locality is dry, slightly flat land with black cotton fields and is surrounded on the east and the north by high level laterite plateau. The plateau is oriented in north-south direction and slightly extends on western and the north-western sides of the village.

In and around the site are found scattered a few fragments of irregular flakes, parallel sided blade, pieces of stone, made on jasper, chert, etc. In the site
are found a broken neolith, some pottery of the neolithic fabric and abundant early historic pottery. The pottery, flakes, blade, neolith, shell bangle pieces, some terracotta figurines were also collected from the site.

6. **Kapadi (Dhalki taluk):** Lat. 17°.34'.23"N and Long. 77°.18'.22"E

Close to the west of the village is an ancient site called "Haluola" in a cultivated field. A well on the south-east and a long and shallow canal on the west are laid recently. The site is under cultivation. The extent of the site is about 2 hectares in area. It is slopy towards a nala that joins the river Karkanja on the north. The soil is blackish brown in colour. The region is dry, plain land with black cotton and blackish brown fields.

In and around the site are found sparsely irregular flakes, fragments of stones etc. In the site are found grey ware pottery, a neolith and abundant black and red ware, red ware pottery of the early historic period. Along with pottery, cores, a neolith etc., have been collected from the site.
7. **Kallikhat (3) Hurnabad taluk**: Lat. 17°.51'.09"N and Long. 77°.16'5"

The village is located in an ancient site. In the open south-western outskirts are the remains of ancient human habitation such as pottery, flakes etc. In the south-western part of the site a deep shallow trench is dug exposing the section of the site. The approximate height of the site from the present bottom level of the trench is about 4 meters. Besides the section is a shallow depression owing to digging. The region of the locality consists of dry interite plain land. From the depression and also the earth taken out from the depression now spread on the surface of the site, pieces of red ware and grey ware pottery could be collected. And in the surrounding area are found fluted cores irregular flake pieces.

From the site flakes, pottery, blades, cores have been collected.

8. **Naskhāv (Beğāki taluk)**: Lat. 17°.54'.15"N and Long. 77°.16'.30"E

Close to the north-western outskirts of the village and on the bank of the river Kuranja is an ancient site
called "Halul". Several shallow trenches are laid for storing cow-dung. A part of the site is converted into play ground. The soil is ashy blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 1/2 hectare in area. The region of the locality is dry, plain land with black cotton fields.

In and around the site are found scattered sparsely irregular flake, stone pieces. In the site are found grey ware pottery of the neolithic fabric and early historic as well as modern pottery in more number. The pottery, bone pieces, flakes etc., have been collected from the site.

9. **Shalkhur (Shalqi taluk):** Lat. 17°53'30" N and Long. 77°16'15"

North of the village and on the right bank of a nala is an ancient site located in a cultivated field called "Halohala". It is under cultivation. The soil is ashy blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The remains of the neolithic pottery are few in number on the surface due to accumulation of later period debris.
The region of the locality is dry, hard land with blackish grey soil. On the south-east of the village is an undulated laterite hill. The hill is locally known as "Chalkomana godda". On the top of the hill is a recent temple called "Chalkomanaagudi". Inside the temple are a recent shivalinga and a sculpture of Mahishasuramardini. The icon of Mahishasuramardini is locally called as "Chalkomna" who is connected with the locality by tradition.

In the site are found fluted core, few grey and blachy pinkish red ware pottery of neolithic-chalcolithic stage and also of other periods. From the site the flakes, pottery were collected.

10. Chitta (Bhukki taluk): Lat. 17°.54'N and Long. 79°.14'.30'E

In the western outskirts of the village and on the right bank of a rivulet that joins the river Karamja is an ancient site located in a cultivated field called "Halabola". The eastern part of the site is disturbed by the local people for domestic purposes. The soil is sandy grey. It is about two hectares in area. The site is sloppy towards east. The site is under cultivation.
region of the locality is dry, plain land with black cotton fields.

In the site are found stone tools, pottery, terracottas etc. The pottery of neolithic in chalcolithic stage and early historic cultures, terracottas, shell bangle pieces, bone fragments etc., have been collected in the site.

11. Yenkura (Shalki taluk): Lat. 17°.57'N and Long. 77°.11'.15" E

South-western and south-eastern side of the village is an extensive ancient site located on either side of a nulla, tributary of the river Karanja. The site is under cultivation and is disturbed partially. The area of the site is roughly two hectares. It is locally called "Umuhola". The earth is ashy grey. In and around the locality are thinly scattered pebbles of Deccan trap. And small pieces of iron slag are thickly scattered in the site on the south-west of the village. The region consists of dry, least undulating land with hard black cotton and brownish black soil and has scanty vegetation.
The neolithic pottery is found scattered more on the south-western side of the site. This pattern is noteworthy for the study.

In the collection of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage culture there are a few cores, a neolith and a few sherds of grey ware. Besides there are other cultural antiquities such as pottery, bone pieces, shell bangles etc., of the early historic periods. The pottery, shell bangle pieces, terracotta beads etc., were collected from the site.

12. Ambesanvi (Shalki taluk); Lat. 18° 3'. 30" N and Long. 77° 16'. 15" E

Existence of Middle Palaeolithic factory site located in this locality is referred to in this Chapter. On the south-eastern outskirts of the village and the right bank of a nala, tributary of the river Karama is another habitation site. The soil is sandy grey. The extent is about 1 hectare. The earth is used for constructing a small watch tower probably of medieval period in the locality. The site is under cultivation.
In the site are found a few irregular flakes, cores and grey ware pottery in less number. A few flakes, the pottery of neolithic in chalcolithic stage and early historic cultures were collected from the site.


The old town Shālki called locally "Hāle Shālki" is located on the ancient site. On the south of the village is a nala, tributary of the river Karanja. Most of the site is used for laying the foundation of the present day houses. Southern part of the site has several shallow trenches laid by local people for domestic purposes. The soil is ashy grey. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The region of the locality is dry, little undulating landscape with hard black cotton fields. Geological formation of trap belt below the black cotton fields is exposed to the west of the locality new town area.

In the collection among the antiquities there are few grey ware pottery, cores, irregular flakes and stone pieces of jasper, chalcedony and chert as well as abundant pottery of early historic periods.
14. **Mouchlaeb (Bannavakalwana taluk):** Lat. 17°57'.30"N and Long. 77°3'.30"E

To the north-east about half km away and on the left bank of a nala called Chalki nala is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Huluhola". It is slopy towards the nala. The soil is ashy grey. The extent is about 1 hectare in area. On the western side of the site a shallow oblong trench was laid some years back by the local people for removing earth. The site is under cultivation. The region of the locality is dry, plain land with blackish brown soil and has scanty vegetation.

In the site are found a few irregular flake, stone pieces made on jasper, obsid. In the site are found a few neolithic pottery and abundant pottery of the early historic period, shell bangle pieces. From the site the pottery and bangle pieces were collected.

15. **Gorchinchollai (Shalik taluk):** Lat. 17°3'.10"N and Long. 77°7'.30"E

On the left bank of Chulki nala and to the west of the village is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Hala Gorchinchollai". The site is slightly slopy towards...
the maha that joins the river Karonja nearby. Small round pebbles of the Deccan trap are thickly scattered in the site. The region of the locality consists of dry, plain land with black cotton fields. The earth is little sandy black. The extent of the site is about 1/2 hectares. In the site are found pottery pieces in abundance, neoliths, bone pieces, terracotta figure etc.

In the collection of the antiquities of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage there are three neoliths, grey ware pottery of varied types, etc. It may be noted here that the neolithic remains are concentrated more in a part of the site. The trap is exposed in the basin of the maha. From the site neoliths, pottery, terracotta figurines were collected.

16. Bhutashbra (Bhalki taluk): Lat. 18°41'25"N and Long. 77°10'5"E

An ancient site is located beside a fort of Maratha period situated to the west of the village. Eastern part of the site is occupied by the fort and the remaining portion is under cultivation. A rivulet of the river Karonja is to the north-west of the site. Surrounding area is plain dry land with black cotton soil and use
scanty vegetation. The soil is ashy grey. The extent of the site is about half a hectare.

In the site is found considerable quantity of pottery, flakes etc. In the collection among the antiquities of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage, there are sparse grey ware pottery and few waste cores. From the site numerous pottery, shell bangle pieces have been collected.

3. Neolithic Sites in the Kehira Valley

17. Matmapalkund (Ghalgi taluk): Lat. 18°46'40"N and Long. 77°38'25"E

To the south about 1 km away and near the bank of the river Kāranja is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Pandhīmaṭi or Maluhola". The soil is ashy grey. Small pits were dug recently by local people for domestic purposes in the site. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. In and around the site are scattered small pebbles of Deccan trap. The region of the locality consists of dry, slightly flat land with black soil and has scanty vegetation.
In the site are found sparsely pottery, stone pieces, terracotta, etc. In the collection of the antiquities there are a few pottery of grey ware of the neolithic culture.

18. Mettinalkundawadi (Shalki taluk); Lat. 18° 6'.45"N and Long. 77° 0'.9"E

South-east of the village nearby is a ancient site in a cultivated field called "Pandhramati hola" or "Maluhola". It is under cultivation. Beside the site on the south is a nala that joins the river Hanjra. The extent of the site is about 2 hectares. The earth is ashy grey. The site is plain and the eastern side of the site is disturbed. The region is dry, plain with black cotton soil and has scanty vegetation.

All over the site are thickly scattered pottery of different periods and also stone bladier flakes, bones, terracottas figurines, shell bangle pieces etc. In the collection of the antiquities of the neolithic there are grey ware, pinkish grey ware pottery of vases. Besides, a terracotta rubber, pieces of toys and a part of logged stem (?) have been also collected.
North of the village about 1/3 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Saluhala or Chandhrinati hola". The site is sloping towards a outlier on the north that joins the river Hafrja. The soil is greyish black in colour. The site is plain. Round pebbles are thinly scattered in and around the site. The region of the locality consists of dry land with blackish grey soil and has few trees of acacia arabica.

In the site are found sparsely grey ware pottery, scrapers, stone pieces made of jasper, chert of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage and also abundant pottery of early historic culture. Besides the pottery, brick bate, russet coated white painted pottery, shell bangle pieces etc., were collected from the site.

There are two ancient sites in the locality. They are located on the right bank of the river Hafrja. One of them is about 1 km north-west of the village in a cultivated
A field called "Fandhramti hola or Halubola" and the other is about 1 km north-west of the village and about 1 1/2 km east of the first ancient site. They are designated into locality 1 and locality 2 respectively.

**Locality No.1**

The site is slopy towards the river Manjra. The earth is ashy grey. The site is about 1/2 hectare. In and around the site are thickly scattered small round pebbles of Deccan trap. A narrow vertical trench about 10 meters long, 2 meters deep and an oblong trench are laid in the site by local people for domestic purposes. The region is dry, plain land with black cotton soil, slightly sloping towards north, north-west and north-east and has a few trees of Acacia arabica.

In the site are found sparse grey ware pottery, broken parts of stone axes of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage and abundant pottery of the early historic period. Besides, pottery, brick bats, buttend of a stone axe, shell bangle pieces were collected from the site.

In the second locality no neolithic pottery or other remains could be collected.
21. Shivrani (Bhalki taluk): Lat. 18°.8'.40"N and Long. 77°.5'.15"E

On the right bank of the river Nañira and to the north-east of the village is an ancient site in a cultivated field. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The earth is blackish grey. The site is under cultivation. It is slopy towards the river Nañira. The land is slightly sloping towards the river Nañira. The region consists of dry plain land with black cotton fields scattered thinly with pebbles of Deccan trap.

In the site are found sparsely grey ware pottery, fluted cores, bladish cores, stone pieces of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; pottery of the early historic period. Besides bladish flakes, pottery, bone pieces, shell bangle pieces were collected from the site.

22. Donagur (Bhalki taluk): Lat. 18°.6'.30"N and Long. 77°.6'.45"E

Existence of Middle Palaeolithic factory site in the locality is referred to above in the Chapter at the appropriate place.
About 1 km south-west is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Hālubhāla". The earth is blackish grey. The site is slopy towards a nala, a tributary of the river Mājira, on the west. The site is under cultivation. Eastern part of the site is covered with scrubs. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. Small pebbles of Deccan trap are scattered thickly in the locality. The region consists of dry land with black cotton fields and a few trees of acacia arabica etc.

In the site are found sparsely, gray ware pottery, cores, irregular flakes, stone pieces of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; pottery in abundance of the early historic period. From the site the flakes, the pottery, have been collected.

23. Mānīpur (Bhelki taluk); Lat. 18°.1'N and Long. 77°.21'.20"E

North-west of the village about 1/3 km away are found two disturbed pit burials. Vagoor-Chandapur main road was laid at the eastern margin of a sloping elevated part of the area. On the side of the road were noticed two pits disturbed. The pits are cut into the naturally
disintegrated chlorite schist rock layer. The pits are narrow at the top and gradually become wider towards the bottom. The pits are filled with black soil. Nearby these pits on the surface are separately three cairns of pebbly stones of Deccan trap. Owing to scrub vegetation at the top of the pit in each case, the width cannot be clearly marked.

One of the disturbed pits is about 1.30 meter deep; 0.90 meter and 1.10 meter wide at the middle and the bottom.

From the section of the pits considerable number of pot sherds, stone flakes and a few bone pieces could be collected. In the collection of the antiquities of neolithic-chalcolithic there are a core with a prepared striking platform, grey ware pottery and its variants. It is interesting to note that there is only one sherd of red ware probably of Jorwe fabric.

To the east of the village is an ancient habitation site in a cultivated field called "Māluhola". The soil is ashy grey. The region consists of land with black cotton soil and has scanty vegetation. The extent of the site is about 1/2 hectare in area. It is under
cultivation. The region of the locality consists of seven isolated small hills called "Pattis" located on the south, south-east, south-west, and west of the village.

In the site are found sparse grey ware pottery of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; pottery of the early historic period. Besides the pottery have been collected from the site.

24. Sangaral (Bidar taluk); Lat. 18°.21'.45"N and Long. 77°.25'E

On the western outskirts of the village and on the bank of the river Manjra is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Naluhola". The site is under cultivation. The soil is blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 1/2 hectares. The site is slopy towards the river on the north-west. Small pebbles of the Deccan trap are thinly scattered all over the locality. The region consists of dry least plain land with black cotton soil and has scanty vegetation. A few trees of acacia arabica species, are seen.
South-west of the village and on the right bank of a nala, tributary of the river Mañjra is an ancient site with antiquities ranging from neolithic to early historic periods called "Nalu". Recently several Jamata houses are constructed on the northern side of the site. Here and there many shallow pits are dug. The village is also located on the ancient site. The soil is blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 2 hectares. The region consists of roughly flat dry land with blackish brown soil and has scattered thickly Deccan trap pebbles in the fields.

In and around the site are found scattered sparsely grey ware pottery, fragment of cores, irregular flakes, pieces of stone made on jasper, chalcedony, chert. Besides the pottery, flakes etc., were collected from the site.

Close to the village on the north-east is an
ancient site. Recently a tank was built on the site for lift irrigation purposes. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare in area. It is called "Halu". The earth is blackish grey. It is said that several grinding stones, rubbers and vases were found in the site while digging to build a tank for storing water from the river Manjra which is close to the south of the area. The region consists of dry plain land with black cotton soil.

In the site are found fluted cores, parallel sided blades and grey ware pottery of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; as well as pottery, of the early historic periods. Besides, the flakes, blades, cores, pottery were collected from the site.

27. Hājur-Bahlī (Aurād taluk): Lat. 18° 7' 15" N and
Long. 77° 30' 18"

To the north-west about 1 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field. The site is along towards a nala that joins the river Manjra. The soil is blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. At the centre of the site is a small mound which is partly disturbed. The site is under cultivation. In and around the site are thinly scattered pebbly stones. The region
consists of dry, plain landscape with black cotton fields
and has a few trees of acacia arabica species.

In the site are found sparsely fluted cores, bluish
cores, grey ware pottery of the neolithic in chalcolithic
stage, abundant pottery of the early historic period.
Besides pottery etc., small fragments of fossilised hydro­
phytes were also collected from the site.

Sheambulli (Aurād taluk); Lat. 18°7'.10"N and
Long. 77°30' E.

To the north-east of the village and on the left
bank of a nala is an ancient site in a cultivated field.
It is called "Hāluhola". It is under cultivation. The
soil is blackish grey. The extent of the site is about
1 hectare. The site is plain and slope towards a nala
that joins the river Manjra. The region consists of dry
flat landscapes with black cotton fields.

In the site are found sparsely grey ware pottery
fluted cores of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage;
abundant pottery of the early historic period. From the
site the flakes, cores, pottery have been collected.
To the north-west about 1 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Hāluhola". The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. In the site are laid horizontal shallow trenches for storing rain water in the fields. The site is slopy towards a naal that joins the river Manjra. The site is under cultivation. The soil of the site is blackish grey. The region consists of arid plain landscape with black cotton fields and has scanty vegetation.

In the site are found pottery of grey ware, fluted cores, stone pieces, of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; abundant pottery, of the early historic period. It is interesting to note that some fragments of fossilised bones of antler (unidentified animal) could be collected in the site. From the site pottery, semi-fossilised pieces, a small copper piece, bones have been collected.

To the north about 1/2 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field. The site is slopy towards a naal
that joins the river Mehsra. In and around the locality are thickly scattered pebbly stones. The site is under cultivation. The soil is blackish brown. The extent of the site is about 1/2 hectare. The region consists of dry, low ground with blackish brown land and has scanty vegetation.

In the site are found sparsely pottery, blades, cores, of neolithic in chalcolithic stage; abundant pottery of the early historic periods. Besides, the pottery, blades, cores, cinder pieces have been collected from the site.

The remains of mesolithic site in the locality is referred to above in the chapter.

31. Nagamargoll (Aurad taluk): Lat. 18°.16'.30"N and Long. 77°.31'8"

To the south-west about 1/2 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Haluholi". The soil is ashy grey. The site is under cultivation. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare in area. The site is about 1 meter high from the surrounding ground level. The region of the locality is dry, and least plain land with black cotton fields and has scanty vegetation.
In the site are found sparsely pottery, parallel sided blades, fluted cores of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; abundant pottery of the early historic period. From the site the pottery, flakes, blades, cores have been collected.

32. Chintati (Surat taluk)

Existence of Neolithic factory site in this locality is referred to above in the Chapter.

To the west about 1 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Goulgarahola". Close to the west of the site is a nulla, a tributary of the river Manjra. The soil is sandy grey. The extent of the site is about a half hectare. The site is under cultivation.

In the collection of the antiquities of the neolithic (chalcolithic stage) there are sparse grey ware pottery, a fluted core, stone pieces. Besides pottery of the early historic period are found. From the site the pottery, brick bats have been collected.
33. **Bapoli (Aurad taluk)**

To the north-east about 1 km away and near the right bank of a nala is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Joulgerahala". It is under cultivation. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The earth is blackish grey. The site is slopy towards the nala which joins the river Manjra. In and around the site are thinly scattered pebbly stones of Deccan trap; flakes, chips made on flint and coarse jasper.

In the site are found pottery of blackish grey ware of neolithic in chalcolithic stage in sparse quantity; bladish flakes, irregular flakes, cores; abundant pottery of the early historic period. It is interesting to note that as described in the Chapter, in and around the site found scattered lump of flakes, waste flakes, stone pieces. Besides from the site the flakes, pottery, terracotta figurines, have been collected.

34. **Jugjhal (Aurad taluk); Lat. 18°.15'N and Long. 77°.30'.40'N**

North of the village about 1 km away and on the right bank of a nala is an ancient site called
"Soupjgrehola". The site is slopy towards a nala which joins the river Manjra. The site is under cultivation. The earth is ashy grey. In and around the site are thinly scattered pebbly stones of Deccan trap. On the western side is a small disturbed mound. The region of the locality consists of dry slightly plain land with black cotton fields and has a scanty vegetation.

In the site are found parallel sided blades, bladelike cores, stone pieces and grey ware pottery of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; abundant pottery of the early historic periods. From the site the blades, cores, pottery, bone pieces have been collected.

35. *Vangunda (Auré taluk)*: Lat. 19°.14'N and Long. 77°.28'E

To the north of the village and on the left bank of a nala is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Soupjgrehola". The soil is blackish grey. The site is under cultivation. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare in area. It is slopy towards the nala on the south. The region of the locality is dry, plain land with black cotton fields and has a few trees of mango,
In the site are found sparse pottery, cores with prepared platform of neolithic in chalcolithic stage, as well as pottery of early historic and early medieval periods. Besides the pottery etc., several flakes, bladish flakes, etc., were collected from the site.

36. Ragarpur (Aurād taluk): Lat. 16°.14'.45"N and Long. 77°.27'.45"E

To the south-east of the village is an ancient site in a cultivated field called “Doulgerakola”. The site is under cultivation. It is about 1 hectare. The earth is blackish gray. In and around the site are thickly scattered pebbly stones of Deccan trap.

In and around the site are found sparsely flakes with slight retouch marks, stone pieces made on jasper, chert. In the site are found irregular blades, sparse pottery (neolithic in chalcolithic stage), abundant pottery of early historic culture. Besides flakes, blades, pottery, bone fragments, shell bangle pieces, etc., were collected from the site.
To the south-east about a kilometer away and on the left bank of a nāla called "Chulkīnāla" is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Douglahalu". It is about 1/2 hectares in area. The soil is blackish grey. The site is under cultivation. Some rectangular shallow trenches were laid in the centre of the site for storing water for the fields. In and around the locality are thickly scattered pebbly stones of Deccan trap. The region of the locality is dry, slightly undulating with black cotton soil and has a few trees of acacia arabica and cashew nut, etc.

In and around the site are found scattered irregular flakes, stone pieces etc., made on jasper, chert. In the site are found sparse blackish grey ware pottery, cores, parallel sided blades of neolithic in chalcolithic stage, abundant pottery of early historic period. Numerous pottery, bladish flakes, irregular flakes with retouch marks, etc., were picked up in the site.
38. Eklara (aurai taluk)

Existence of the Mesolithic factory site to the south of the locality is referred to above at the appropriate place.

To the north-east, about a kilometer away, is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Goulgechola". The site is slopy towards a mala called "Munganala mala" on the north. The earth is blackish grey. The area of the site is about 1/2 hectare. It is under cultivation.

In the site are found sparse pottery, parallel sided blade, cores of neolithic in chalcolithic stage, also pottery of early historic period. In the collection of the antiquities there are cores, parallel sided blades, stone axe, bone pieces, pottery etc., of different periods. From the site implements, pottery etc., have been collected.

39. Talim near (aurai taluk): Lat. 18°13'30"N and Long. 77°28'5"E

North of the village and on the left bank of a mala called "Munganala mala" is an ancient site in a
cultivated field. It is about one hectare in area. The earth is ashy grey. In and around the site are thinly scattered pebbly stones. A few years ago about 0.60 cm deep horizontal shallow trenches were laid out in the centre of the site for storing water. The site is slopy towards the nala on the south. The region of the locality is dry land slightly elevating towards north with black cotton fields and has scanty vegetation.

In and around the site are found irregular flakes, lumps of stone pieces made on chert, jasper, etc. In the site are found sparse pottery, parallel blades, stone pieces of neolithic in chalcolithic stage, pottery of early historic period. Besides numerous black and red ware pottery, bone pieces, etc., were collected from the site.

40. Auruā (Auruā taluk)

The Mesolithic factory site described in the Chapter above is located on the south of the site.

Close to the north of the town and on the right bank of a nala as well as by the side of a fort is an ancient site called "Hālu". Several pits were dug in the site by the local people for domestic purposes.
On the northern side of the site there are dilapidated graves of the Muslim—wartha period. The site is about 1 hectare in area. The earth is ashy grey. The site is slopy towards the main on the north. The bricks of the fort wall is made of mud from the site.

In and around the ancient site are sparsely found scattered irregular flakes, cores, stone pieces made on jasper, chert, flint. In the site are found sparsely grey ware pottery, cores, of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage, numerous pottery of the early historic and modern periods. Besides cores, flakes, the pottery, bone pieces, shell bangle pieces also were collected from the site.

41. Wampurannoli (Aurangabad taluk)

To the north-east of the village is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Goulgerahola". The earth is blackish brown. The area of the site is about a 1/2 hectare. There are field boulders of Deccan trap laid in a line on the southern edge of the site. It is interesting to note that the site is separated from the Middle Palasolithic factory site which is described in the Chapter above.
In the site are found pottery, parallel sided blades, fluted cores of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; pottery of early historic period. Besides from the site, blades, cores, the pottery, bone pieces etc., have been collected.

42. Jammalpur (Aurod taluk)

To the north-east of the village 1/2 km away is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Andhrumati hole". The extent of the site is about a 1/2 hectare. The earth is blackish grey. It is slopy towards a nal on the west. It is said that some brick bats and pottery vessels were found in the site about 20 years ago while digging the earth for domestic purposes. A horizontal shallow trench was dug for a water canal for supplying water from the well to the neighbouring fields.

In the site are found pottery, fluted cores, parallel sided blades, of neolithic in chalcolithic stage; pottery of the early historic period. Besides, the pottery, fragment of fossilised bone with cut mark were picked up from the site.
The Middle Palaeolithic factory site described in the Chapter above is near the site.

43. Hiranmangal (Aurad taluk): Lat. 18°.10'N and Long. 77°.20'8

To the west of the village on the right bank of a nulla which joins the river Harsara is an ancient site in a cultivated field called "Halu". The site is slopy towards the nulla. It is under cultivation. The earth is blackish grey. The extent of the site is about 1 hectare. The region of the locality consists of dry undulating landscape with black cotton fields and has scanty vegetation.

In the site are found the remains such as pottery of black ware and grey ware, cores with prepared platforms, fluted cores of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage; numerous pottery of the early historic period. Besides the cores, pottery have been collected from the site.

44. Semnhal (Aurad taluk): Lat. 18°.21'.45"N and Long. 77°.25'7

To the south of the village about a half kilometer
away is an ancient site in a cultivated field. The earth is blackish grey. The site is slopy towards a nulla which joins the river Manjra. The site is thickly covered with shrub. The area of the site is about 1/4 hectares. The region consists of dry, plain landscape with black cotton fields and has scanty vegetation.

In the site are found sparsely grey ware pottery, flakes, core of neolithic in chalcolithic stage. Besides the flakes, the core and the pottery were also collected from the site.

**General Observations of the Neolithic in Chalcolithic Stage Sites**

From the above survey of the sites particularly with regard to their localities it is evident that:

1. There are 44 neolithic sites in these valleys: 17 in the Karanja over 70 kms and 27 in the Manjra over 100 km. The soil of the sites are distinguished easily by their ashy grey colour which appears from their surrounding soil. They are locally called "Hālu" or "Hāluhol" or "Goulgehole" in the region. Again out of 44 neolithic (chalcolithic in stage) sites 37 are
located on the tributaries of the two villages. That is the concentration is more in their tributaries than the banks of the major rivers. This may imply that the people preferred the region of their tributaries possibly because of the fear of the annual floods of the major rivers that are more dangerous than that of the tributaries. It may be noted here that the sites generally are located close to the tributaries of the rivers. The distance between the sites and the tributaries of the rivers is about 150 meters.

2. The average distance between the two sites generally varies from 2 to 16 kms. However, the number of sites near to each other with a distance of 2 to 3 kms are far more than those with a distance of 5 to 15 kms. This distribution pattern goes fairly well with that of the Krishna valley to the south where the existence of numerous chalcolithic sites and neolithic sites of the neolithic in chalcolithic stage is better known (Sundara, A.; 1974: p.14).

3. Almost all the sites are located in the plain fields with extensive chunks of black cotton soil like the sites in the valleys of the Krishna (p. 14) and the
Obdivari (Sankalia, N.D., et al; 1950). The tendency therefore, on the part of the people was to have the settlement in the fertile fields that would provide required fodder for their cattle and useful for cultivation. Of course availability of the perennial water source and occurrence of suitable rock materials are the other sided attractions for the people. However, the rock materials especially the flint is not of as fine quality as that of the Krishna valley. But the availability of small nodules of chalcedony, jasper, etc., could compensate the inferior chert. Now the whole region has very thin natural vegetation and receives moderate to less rain fall. During the proto-historic period there might be a little more rainfall and natural vegetation, similar to that of the Godavari; the middle and the lower Krishna (Sundara, A.; 1971: p. 14). Generally the land has undulating topography with less prominent hillocks here and there consisting of Deccan trap. Only one or two sites have been found in the laterite zones. It appears therefore, that the people avoided as far as possible the lateritic zone for their settlement.

4. What is really noteworthy is the extent of the site on average as mentioned they are one to two hectares in
area. Not of single site is found to be larger. It may be recalled that there are very extensive sites in the Krishna and the Godāvari valleys i.e., about 8 to 10 acres in area with considerable thickness of cultural debris (p.14). They are located in the midst of the sites smaller in area i.e., 2 to 4 hectares. It appears therefore that the habitants of the larger sites in the Krishna-Godāvari valleys were rich as in the present day towns, comparatively while the smaller sites located nearby were occupied by not as rich like the present day village people. This sort of pattern is not to be found in the Māṇḍra and the Kāranja valleys. Almost all of them are village-like sites. And this explains the lack of variety and richness among the antiquities.

5. Lastly the surface explorations in the disturbed part of the sites at Khinj-Hanjūl (Āider taluk) and Yenkura (Shālki taluk) were laid trial pits on a very small scale. A brief account of the classification of the materials collected from the explorations and excavations is studied below in the early historic Chapter.
Iron Age Megalithic Sites

Introduction

Iron Age Megalithic remains are found at six localities. Of them in two sites i.e., at Yenkura and Tuljapur have the remains of neolithic, megalithic and early historic cultures as mentioned above. And similarly in one of the sites at Lakhangaon locality No. 2 are found only the pottery of black and red ware, red ware most probably of megalithic fabric. And in two sites at Kammarchincohalli and Bagdal are found only disturbed megalithic pits containing pottery of the megalithic fabric. In one of the sites at Bagdal fragmentary iron implement could be collected besides pottery from the disturbed pit. In the site at Sirei are noticed Cairns only. In the habitation site at Yenkura besides pottery, three teeth apparently of Bos Domesticus could be picked up from the disturbed pits in the site. It is interesting to note that disturbed pits at Bagdal and Kammarchincohalli and the Cairn Barrows of laterite rubbles at Sirei are located in the laterite zone. The remaining sites are located in the black soil. Most of the sites are situated near the tributaries of the main rivers in the region.
North-east of the village about 1 km away is an elevated laterite plateau, oriented slightly in east-west direction. There are twelve Cairns comprising laterite pebbles in the locality. The site is locally known as "Punanagotri". These round barrows are believed to contain wealth by the local people. But really they are megalithic Cairns. For, from one of the disturbed Cairns of laterite pebbles, the cutting of the circular pit filled with earth and overlain by the heap of laterite pebbles, is clearly indicated. Further from a disturbed Cairn, were got three pieces of red ware pottery.

As many as twelve such Cairns could be traced. They are scattered over an area of about three hectares. They are roughly in north-south orientation. Each Cairn approximately measures about a meter high at the centre.

Besides, the pottery, few flake tools have been collected in the locality. The region of the locality is dry, plain laterite plateau and has scanty vegetation. On the west is the river Karanja. An ancient site ranging from
neolithic to early historic period is located about one kilometer north of the site and near to the west of Kaimad referred to in the Chapter above.

2. **Burdal (Bidar taluk)**

Existence of the neolithic site in this locality is referred to above at the appropriate place.

To the north-east of the village, about 1 km away and on the way to Nomaddi is found a disturbed pit on the low level plain laterite plateau which is oriented in east-west direction. There is a nala on the east of the site. Over it are grown shrubs. I was informed that in the course of digging of the pit for producing bricks of laterite and some pottery pieces as well as iron objects were found. Now the surface is thinly covered with grass. The surrounding region is arid, plain land and has sparse vegetation.

3. **Kempir-Chinobili (Aurai taluk):** Lat. 17°34'N and Long. 12°23'E (Plate 5; Fig Moaad)

About a kilometer south-east of the village in a cultivated field were laid trenches in 1978 by contractors
to get earth for laying a road nearby. In one of the trenches was found accidentally a pit. This pit was found to be ancient. It contains pottery of black and red ware and black ware, red ware obviously it was a megalithic burial. I therefore, searched the other trenches on both the sides of the road over a considerable extent. But did not find any megalithic or any other remains either on the surface or in the trenches. But there cannot be only one pit of this kind. However, there is no clue from the surface to search for other pits if there be any. The earth is of laterite soil. The area is under cultivation.

Examination of the pit, revealed some more pottery in it. The pottery is definitely of Megalithic fabric such as black and red ware. The region of the locality is dry, plain land with reddish brown soil of the laterite zone.

4. Venkura (Bhalki taluk)

Existence of an ancient site ranging from neolithic to early historic is referred to above in the Chapter. In the site was noticed a disturbed megalithic pit. From the disturbed pit, in the south-eastern side of the site, at a depth of about 50 cm were got pottery and a few bone pieces presumably of human, and three teeth identified as Bos
In fact, the teeth were found in a shallow dish of black and red ware.

9. Lakhmanson (Chalki taluk)

That there is a neolithic site in this locality is referred to above in this Chapter at the appropriate place. Also existence of another site with megalithic remains has been noticed there. The site is about 1 km north of the village and on the bank of the river Hanjra. It is locally called as "Halubola" in a cultivated field. The site is slopy towards a rivulet on the east, which joins the river Hanjra. The earth is blackish grey.

The area of the site is about half hectares. There are field boulders of Deccan trap scattered on the western side of the site. The region of the locality is dry, unirrigating land with black cotton fields and has scanty vegetation.

In the site are found black and red ware pottery mostly of bowls as well as red ware pottery evidently of Iron Age Megalithic culture. Besides the pottery, bone pieces have been collected from the site.
6. Tullupur (Aurad taluk)

Existence of ancient site with the remains of neolithic to early historic pottery etc., is already referred to in the Chapter above. In the disturbed area several pottery of black and red ware, red ware of the megalithic fabric are found. Most of them are bowls.

General Observations of the Iron Age Megalithic Sites

The Iron Age Megalithic sites known so far are a few and far between in the region.

There are no sites in the region with megalithic burials such as Passage-Chambers, Port-holed Chambers, Oblong Chambers etc. Elsewhere, there are sites with distinct megalithic burials such as Passage-Chambers in Konuru (Belgaum district), Port-holed Chambers and Oblong Chambers in Nire-Bankal (Raichur district) (Sundara, A.; 1975: p. 36) etc. The absence of such megalithic burial chambers is obviously due to the fact that no suitable rock materials such as sand stone, lime stone of sedimentary rocks, granite etc., are available, as described above under geology of the region in the introduction part. In the areas of the Deccan trap the only
possible megalithic burial in the Cairn Circle type.
Probably there were some sites with Cairn barrows in the
areas having the similar geological condition. But as
found elsewhere wherever the sites with Cairns were
brought under cultivation the surface indications have
been totally erased out. Consequently, no surface indication
of the previously existing megaliths are extinct in such
places. And it is not ordinarily possible to find out in
such sites if there were previously megaliths. So far in
my exploration in Deccan trap area only at two sites. I.e.,
Yepkura and Tuljapur found with remains of neolithic,
megalithic etc. Similarly one of the sites at Lakhangaon
the black and red ware of the megalithic fabric are found
in the site. In the site at Yepkura are found some pits
obviously of megalithic. I could examine one of them. In
the other sites are habitation remains mostly of the megalithic.
In the two of them (i.e., Bagdal in Bidar taluk and
Karnar-Chincholli in Jamnabai taluk) are pits and in the other
(Sirai in Bidar taluk) are Cairns. Elsewhere, in Karnataka
in the lateritic coastal regions i.e., South Kanara,
(Sundara, A : 1974 : pp. 74-85) are found megalithic burials
but not in the interior. It is only in Bidar region for
the first time megalithic burials are found in the
lateritic zone. Generally in lateritic
regions underground hemi-circular chambers with top opening are found. And it is difficult to trace such underground chambers. Since the surface indications of such chambers are generally missing in the above localities and the pits are exposed partially owing to local disturbances. There could be noticed. In the other sites are round barrows of laterite rubbles. Some of which are disturbed. It is likely therefore, that the pits in the other sites might have had such Cairn packing from above the pit. Therefore, there might have been many more such sites in the laterite area. But the surface indications might have been destroyed.