Chapter III

Rock Shelters and Paintings
**Rock Shelters and Paintings**

Field investigations for discovering new rock shelters, re-examining known ones and for the recording of paintings in them were carried out during four seasons over a period of 18 months between 1980 and 1984. Fifteen new sites were discovered and three previously reported sites were re-examined. Eight of these sites are located along river banks and the remaining ten are on the hills (Fig. 4).

Table 1 below gives the names and location of the sites and the number of rock shelters at each site.

Table 1: Painted rock shelters in Sagar district

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Abbr.</th>
<th>Tehsil</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>No. of shelters</th>
<th>Total No. of shelters in a tehsil</th>
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<tr>
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<td>CHL</td>
<td>Sagar</td>
<td>Hill</td>
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1. **Chitauli (CHL)**

The village of Chitauli is located 17 km north of Sagar town and about 1.5 km east of the Sagar-Dhamoni road. Only one shelter was found on a hill known as 'Richha Fahar', located about 1.5 km west of the village.

The shelter is 15 m long, 3 m wide and 6 m high. It has a gentle slope from the back wall towards the entrance. Microliths were found scattered on the ground outside the shelter in an area of about 10 sq m. A collection of 39 artefacts was made from the site. The shelter is divided into two compartments by a thin rock wall. The walls of the shelter are weathered and patinated. The shelter opens
HISTORICAL PLACES AND ROCK PAINTING SITES IN
SAGAR DISTRICT, M.P.

Fig. 4
towards south-east. Paintings are found on the back wall and ceiling of the shelter. Only traces of paintings are seen on the ceiling. The shelter contains 65 drawings, executed in red, dark red, white and black colours. Of these 42 are human figures and five are of animals. The remaining drawings consist of one peacock, one ritualistic pot (Fig. 26.6), four other symbols and 12 unidentified figures. Of the human figures, 26 are male figures, eight soldiers, seven horse-riders and one archer. Animal figures consist of two horses, two elephants and one ox. On the wall of the right compartment is a scene showing a small figure, probably an animal in front of a net held by two men apparently in a move to trap the animal. One of the men holds a stick to attack the animal with (Pl. XVI a). To the right, a row of three human figures carrying some unidentified weapons are shown in dark red to the right side of an elephant. The eyes of these human figures are shown as round dots in white (Pl. XVI b). On the back wall of the right compartment, a scene of soldiers holding swords and shields and of horse-riders is shown in red wash. All the paintings belong to the historic period.

2. Piprai (PPR)

The village of Piprai is located 5 km north of Barauda village which is 22 km south-east of Sagar town on Sagar-Rahli road. The only shelter here is located on the scarp of a hill, 1.5 km east of the village at a height of about
20 m from the ground surface. It is 6.15 m long, 3.50 m wide and 3.60 m high, and opens to the west. The back wall of the shelter is uneven and encrusted with fungal growth. Seepage of water on the wall has damaged the paintings. The shelter contains 31 paintings on the back wall. Of these only 19 are clear, the remaining 12 being unidentifiable. The paintings are executed in red, dark red and white and all of them belong to the historic period. The visible drawings are one of horse-riders and soldiers. Six persons are shown riding a horse. They are drawn in thick outline and the body of the horse is decorated by irregular lines. Below, four deer are shown in red wash. To the right of them, a soldier holding a crescent shaped shield and an angular sword is depicted in white.

3. Bedwara (BD.)

Bedwara is the name of a locality around a small waterfall on a nullah, 4 km east of village Barauda. Five shelters are found on two sides of the nullah, shelter one and five on the right bank and two to four on the left bank.

Shelter No. 1

The shelter is situated at a distance of 7 m from the bank of a nullah. It is 6.70 m long, 2 m wide and 2.30 m high. The shelter contains eight paintings in red colour. They are in a poor state of preservation due to fungal growth. They depict a scene of two horse-riders in outline. The horses
are decorated by criss-cross design. A man holding a large shield is shown facing one of the horse-riders. Below the man, there is a horse in red wash and two quadrupeds, one of them depicted in outline and the other decorated by spiral lines in dark red. By the side of the animal, a human figure is drawn in outline.

Th. 7515

Shelter No. 2

It is located at a height of about 8 m from the water level and 4 m away from the bank and faces east. It is 4 m long, 2 m wide and 4.60 m high. The shelter contains seven figures in red. The paintings on the back wall as well as the ceiling are poorly preserved. Towards the left of the wall, two horses are depicted in red. Below another scene shows a man with a long shield standing in front of a deer, seemingly blocking its way. A circle with the opposed triangles within it is executed in red. A scene on the ceiling shows a man pulling a horse which is decorated with criss-cross lines in red.

Th. 7515

Shelter No. 3

The shelter is about 3 m away from the previous shelter and faces east. It is 2.40 m long, 1.80 m wide and 3 m high. A single painting resembling English alphabet N is found on the back wall. The drawing is decorated by thin line projections.
Shelter No. 4

This shelter is situated about 15 m away from the previous one and about 8 m from the bank of the nullah, and faces east. The shelter is 6.20 m long, 4 m wide and 5 m high. Only three paintings of prehistoric period are found on the back wall in dark red. To the right of the wall, a figure of an elephant decorated with thin spiral lines is drawn in dark red (Pl. XVII a).

Another figure to its left is of a quadruped with its body decorated by spiral and irregular thin lines (Pl. XVII b). Slightly below, a figure of a buffalo is found depicted in outline in dark red.

Shelter No. 5

The shelter is located at a distance of about 10 m from the bank of the nullah at a height of about 7 m from the water level. It is 6.10 m long, 3 m wide and 3 m high and faces north. The shelter contains only three figures on the back wall. They depict two stick-shaped human figures in red over a white patch. A figure of a peacock drawn in outline is found close to the legs of one of the men.

4. Garhapehra (GPR)

The village of Garhapehra is 10 km north of Sagar town on Sagar-Jhansi road. Only one shelter is found on a hill known as "Argandevi Ki Fakari", 1 km west of the village. The shelter is 2 m long, 1.30 m wide and 2.20 m is height and
faces north. The paintings on the back wall show two soldiers carrying swords and shields. The figure on the right is dressed in a long tunic and the one on the left is in silhouette in red wash.

5. Jerai (JER)

The village of Jerai is 17 km west of Sagar town on Sagar-Bina road. Two shelters were found on a hill located about 1.5 km north of the village. These shelters are locally known as "Jungaram" which means the "dwelling place of boar."

Shelter No. 1

It faces south and is 7 m long, 4 m wide and 3.70 m high. The back wall of the shelter is uneven and the paintings are found in hollows. It contains 16 figures in red. On the right, one faded human figure wearing a long tunic is shown along with two archers. Next to them, four human figures are seen carrying swords and shields. One of them is shown holding a bow and arrows. To the left, two more soldiers are shown holding swords and shields. All these figures are done in red over a thin layer of patina.

Shelter No. 2

The shelter is 9.50 m long, 4.15 m wide and 4 m high and faces south. It contains eight figures, one on the ceiling and remaining are on the back wall. These are executed in red and dark red. A horse-rider on the ceiling is shown carrying a long stick-shaped weapon, probably a spear. On the
wall, a deer is shown in red wash. Further left two deer are shown running, one behind the other. The muzzle of a horse is superimposed on the tail of the second deer. Below, three soldiers with horn-shaped head-gear are shown carrying scimitar and shield in dark red.

6. **Khanpur (KNB)**

The village of Khanpur is 13 km west of Sagar town and 2 km north of Sagar-Sina road. Three shelters have been found on a hill at a height of 45 m, about 1 km west of the village.

**Shelter No. 1**

The shelter is 5 m long, 2 m wide and about 6 m high and faces east. The shelter contains seven paintings on the back wall. All of them are faded and have been damaged by vandals by sketchings done with stone chips. They show one figure of an ox drawn in outline in red just above the figure of a buffalo in ochre. The mouth of the buffalo is superimposed by a walking human figure drawn in red wash. The human figure is shown wearing a jacket-like dress and holding a stick in his hand. The toes are skillfully drawn. To the right of it is a soldier holding a shield and executed in red.
Shelter No. 2

The shelter measures 4.50 m in length, 2 m in width and 6 m in height, and faces west. The paintings on the back wall are clear and depict a scene in red wash of eight soldiers carrying swords and shields.

Shelter No. 3

The shelter has two tiers, one above the other and is locally known as "Nahar kol" meaning the dwelling place of tiger. The lower tier is 9 m long, 4 m wide and 4 m high and the surface of the back wall is pitted and uneven. The upper tier is 10 m long, 3 to 4.50 m wide and 4 m high. The wall of the shelter is encrusted and patinated and the right portion of the shelter is covered with smoke. The shelter faces south-east and contains 48 figures. Of these, 40 are human figures and eight animals. Of the human figures, 18 are male figures, one dancer, two children, seven archers, six soldiers and six unidentifiable figures. Among the animal figures, five are deer, one boar, one monkey and one tiger.

The paintings in the lower tier show four soldiers carrying swords and shields. They are depicted in a hollow in red wash. In the centre of the wall, a tiger is shown decorated with vertical lines in light red. To its right a pair of deer is drawn in red wash. Below the tiger, there are two soldiers, carrying swords and shields, are facing each other.
The paintings of the upper tier are found in three clusters. First and second clusters are one above the other and the third cluster is found to the left of the second one. The paintings of the lower cluster show two human figures, probably dancers drawn in linear pattern. They face each other and are shown wearing long flapping waist coverings. In the centre a monkey with long, upraised tail is shown in a jumping posture, with its body decorated with lines and mouth shown by colour wash. Above this scene, two human figures, one tall and one short are depicted in dark red. The short figure holds a stick over the shoulder in one hand while the other hand is in akimbo posture. The tall figure is shown frightened and a third human figure is found bending over it (Pl. II). A figure of a boar is drawn with a prominent snout in red wash. The body is decorated by criss-cross lines. It is superimposed by the figure of a man sitting in a squatting posture.

The second cluster comprises three human figures in linear style. The figures are shown wearing long flapping and triangular waist cloth. Above, two children, probably playing, are shown wearing hook-shaped head-gear. They are depicted close to an unidentified quadruped. Above this, are three human figures. Three deer are depicted on either side of these figures in outline. To the left, at a distance
of about 40 cm, a human figure is drawn in a posture of "Natraj" wearing long shoes. To the left, a group of seven archers, carrying long bows and wearing long tunic are shown. Three of these archers are superimposed by three human figures drawn in thin outline in dark red (Pl. II).

7. Pagara (PGR)

The village Pagara is 6 km north-west of Sagar town and 3 km west of a road going to this village from Sagar-Jhansi road. Two shelters were found on the hill located about 1 km west of the village.

Shelter No. 1

This shelter is 4 m long, 2 m wide and 4.30 m high and in facing south. The paintings depict seven soldiers in red wash. Of these, four are shown with oblong shaped shields and the remaining are shown holding swords and circular shaped shields. To their right, two horse-riders are painted in red wash. One of the riders is shown holding a long spear which is upside down. Above them, three deer are depicted in red wash.

Shelter No. 2

This is close to the previous shelter and is facing south-east. It is 3 m long, 1.80 m wide and 3.20 m high. The paintings on the back wall portray a horse-ride
surrounded by four soldiers. Below, two persons are shown sitting on the back of an elephant. All these figures are in red wash.

8. Amaoni (AIII)

The village of Amaoni is 6 km west of Sagar town on Sagar-Bina road. A chain of eight shelters is located on the scarp of a hill. Seven of them are about 1 km west of the village and one is 0.5 km west of the village.

Shelter No. 1

The shelter is 2 m long, 1.50 m wide and 7 m high and is facing north. The shelter contains seven figures on the back wall. The paintings depict a scene of four dancers in a row with clapping hands drawn in thin lines. The second and fourth figures seem to be females because of thin, curved and rhythmic body postures, whereas the first and third figures are male figures because of less rhythmic postures. The figures have rectangular shaped head, except the fourth figure which has a round head. The round shape may be due to hair being shown knotted on the top of the head. These figures are drawn by vertical thin lines with an excellent body curvature in ochre colour (Fig. 16.3). To the right of these figures, a design of thin lines looking like a figure of a 'Mermaid' is drawn in ochre colour (Fig. 21). Further right to this design, a figure of an ox decorated by oblique lines is
found in white, followed by an archer carrying bow and arrows in outline in dark red.

Shelter No. 2

This shelter is located at a distance of about 20 m from the previous one. It is 6 m in length, 2 m in width and 3.50 m in height and is facing north. The shelter is exposed and contains 12 faded figures. The paintings depict nine human figures within a rectangle. They are drawn in outline in ochre. These figures are depicted motionless, probably, symbolizing a burial. To its right, a man is shown holding a long bow in red. At a distance of about 30 cm two oxen are drawn in red, one of them decorated by irregular lines and the other drawn in red wash. There is a figure of a man alongside.

Shelter No. 3

This shelter is located at a distance of about 50 m from the previous one. It is 9 m long, 2 m wide and 3 m high and is facing north. The back wall of the shelter is highly patinated and the drawings are found in traces. The complete paintings comprise two human figures, one of them has a bushy attachment at the waist and is holding bow and arrows in the hands. The second figure is wearing a short triangular and skirt-like waist cloth. A deer is shown behind him (Pl. XIV a). All these figures are executed in white.
Shelter No. 4

The shelter is located at a distance of 10 m from the previous shelter and is 6 m long, 2 m wide and 8 m high. It is facing north. The shelter is exposed and has no ceiling as such. On the back wall of the shelter only traces of paintings are found in dark red, white and green colours.

Shelter No. 5

It is 7 m in length, 2.70 m in width and 9.70 m in height and is located about 12 m from the previous one. It is facing north. The shelter contains 13 paintings on the wall in red colour. The drawings comprise six soldiers holding swords and shields. To the left of these, three human figures are found in red. One of them is shown holding bow and arrows and walking rapidly. The head of this figure is round and a vertical line divides it into two halves. The figure in the middle is shown holding a plough-like object in one hand and a squarish-shaped object in the other. It is followed by another man.

Shelter No. 6

The shelter is 7.50 m in length, 6.50 m in width and 3.60 m in height. It is facing north. It is locally known as "Siddha Baba ki Gupha". The name of this shelter is probably related to some ascetic (Baba) who attained enlightenment (Siddhi) and was residing in this cave in the past. As a mark
of reverence to this ascetic, people in the locality offer flowers, coconut, camphor etc., when their wishes are fulfilled. Due to seepage of water and lighting of sacrificial fire the walls and the ceiling are covered with a thin layer of smoke. The shelter contains 38 paintings executed in red and ochre. The paintings are depicted on the wall and ceiling. These include 20 human figures, five animal figures, one peacock and 12 unidentified figures. On the human figures, 11 are males, five horseriders and four archers. Animal figures consist of two tigers, two deer and one elephant. On the right of the wall, the tigers have been depicted vertically in front of each other in red. Above, two deer are depicted in the same way in red wash. Towards left, two archers are shown holding bows with stretched string in front of each other in ochre. On the ceiling, two archers holding bows and arrows are found below the figure of an elephant in red wash.

Shelter No. 7

The shelter is located about 1 m from the previous shelter and is 8 m long, 2.50 m wide and 3 m high. It is facing north. The wall of the shelter is found encrusted with fungal growth and contains 14 paintings. From right to left, two archers are found in cutline in geometrical shape. These are accompanied by four more archers holding bows and arrows in red wash. Further, towards left, four
male human figures are depicted in red. Below the human figures, two soldiers carrying swords and shields are shown. In the left corner of the wall, a pair of archers in red wash is indistinctly visible.

**Shelter No. 8**

The shelter is about 0.5 km west of the village and faces south. It is 8 m long, 3.45 m wide and 4 m high and is locally known as "Diwan Baba Ki gupha." The name of this cave is given after a hero of Bundela Rajput community. A hero stone bearing a sword wielding figure of a man, lies 30 m away from the cave. Microliths were found scattered on the surface outside the shelter in an area of about 15 sq.m. A collection of 91 artefacts was made from this site. The shelter contains 15 figures on the back wall and the ceiling. Paintings have been damaged due to fungal growth and soot. In the left corner of the wall, five human figures are found, close to five mythical animals in red. On the ceiling, five floral designs are found in red.

9. **Bhapail (BB)**

The village of Bhapail is 14 km west of Sagar town on Sagar-Bhopal road. Four shelters are located on a hill north of the village. This site was discovered by C.K. Pandey (1973:3).
Shelter No. 1

The shelter is 4.40 m long, 3.20 m wide and 3 m high and is facing west. It contains seven paintings on the back wall in red. From the right, four squares are drawn parallel to each other. The blank space appears like a cross. In the middle, three right hand prints are found. At a distance of about 40 cm there is a symbol of a 'Nandipada' (Fig. 26.4).

Shelter No. 2

This is adjacent to the previous shelter. It is 2 m long, 1.80 m wide and 3.10 m high and faces west. On the back wall, two squares are drawn in red. One of them is shown empty and the other is divided into two parts by wavy lines.

Shelter No. 3

This is about 6 m away from the previous one. It is 6.40 m long, 4 m wide and 3 m high and is facing west. The shelter contains 11 drawings on the back wall. One scene comprises horse riders and soldiers. The horses are shown with saddle. Towards the left, five persons are shown sitting on an elephant. A little further, four moving deer are drawn in red colour.

Shelter No. 4

This shelter is located about 5 m from the previous one. It is 2.50 m in length, 2 m in width and 3 m in height.
An inscription on the back wall, reading 'Shriman Ravichandra' is written in characters of 7th-8th century A.D. (Pandey 1973:37).

10. **Naryaoli (NRL)**

The village of Naryaoli is situated between two hills, 22 km west of Sagar town, on Sagar-Bina road. On the hill about 2 km south east of the village, four shelters have been reported by S.K. Pandey (1973:73).

**Shelter No. 1**

The shelter is situated on the northern side of the hill and is known as "Siddha Baba ki Gupha." It faces east. Eighteen paintings are found on the back wall. The paintings show a soldier holding the rein of a horse. On either side of the horse are two standing soldiers. Towards left, a man is shown holding a dagger in one hand and a ring-shaped object in the other. He is shown bending forward and carrying some instrument in his hands. Another person holds a semi-circular object. Below, other drawings consist of a scorpion, a fish and a peacock. Immediately to the left, a depiction of three duck-like birds inside a circle is found. Probably, this is a symbolic representation of a lake. Further left, there is a depiction of two persons, one holding an umbrella over his head and the other carrying some load on a stick over his shoulder. A man behind him is shown carrying a long beam on
his shoulder. Below, a camel like animal is shown. All these figures are executed in red.

**Shelter No. 2**

This shelter is located on the north eastern side of the hill and is 4.30 m long, 2 m wide and 3.20 m high. The paintings of the shelter have been destroyed by white washing. Only some unidentified traces of them can be seen.

**Shelter No. 3**

It is located on a hill situated about 1.50 km east of the village. It measures 4 m in length, 2.80 m in width and 3.30 m in height and is facing west. It is locally called 'Bundela Baba ki Cupha'. The name is given after a Bundela fighter, who died in battle near the cave. The shelter contains 14 figures on the back wall. The paintings show a scene of soldiers standing in a row and holding their swords aloft. Further left, four horse riders are found in red wash. One of them is shown wearing a mask. All these figures are done in red.

**Shelter No. 4**

This shelter is located about 0.5 km from the previous one. It is 2.60 m long, 2 m wide and 2.70 m high and is facing north. All the paintings of this shelter have been damaged by over-writing with stone chips and charcoal. Only a drawing of a horse rider has been seen in white.
11. **Karta (KRT)**

The village of Karta is 29 km south-east of Sagar town on Sagar-Kahli road. Five shelters have been found on either side of the Kalth nullah, 2.5 km east of the village. Shelters 1-3 are situated on the left bank and 4 and 5 on the right bank of the nullah.

**Shelter No. 1**

This shelter is 1.80 m long, 1 m wide and 0.80 m high and it is situated at a height of about 5 m from the bank of the nullah and faces north. The paintings in a circular cavity of the shelter show a group of seven deer drawn in outline, with vertical lines in red.

**Shelter No. 2**

It is about 3 m from the bank of the nullah. Two deer are drawn in red wash in a small crevice of the wall of the shelter.

**Shelter No. 3**

This shelter is about 10 m from the previous one, at a height of about 6 m from the bank. It is 6 m long, 1.75 m wide and 2.40 m high and is facing east. On the wall there is a depiction of a peacock in abstract design in red. To its right, a horse is drawn in thick outline. The fore and hind legs of the horse are shown filled by red wash. Above the peacock, there is a circle intersected by two lines and
forming two opposed triangles which are filled in red colour (Fig. 18.4).

Shelter No. 4

This shelter is located at a height of about 8 m from the water level and is difficult to reach. It is facing south. The drawings on the wall show three figures of men in linear pattern. The figure on the right resembles an anthropomorphic figure painted in yellow. The remaining two figures are in stick shape and hold sticks in their hands. They are wearing long flapping waist coverings. In between, an animal figure, probably of a hare, is found depicted in red.

Shelter No. 5

It is about 10 m from the previous shelter and is 4 m long, 1.20 m wide and 1.80 m high. It is facing south. The wall of the shelter contains three human figures, filled partially with red colour. The first and the third figures are shown with raised hands while the figure in the centre is holding an oblong shaped shield in the hand.

12. Abchand (ABD)

At the 33rd km milestone of the Sagar-Jabalpur highway a cart track branches off towards the right. At a distance of 3 km from the highway on the cart track flows the Badheri river. Rock shelters are present in the rocky cliffs on both
sides of the river. The shelters are within the revenue jurisdiction of Abchand village which is located two km south of the cart track and about 4 km south of the highway. The shelters run more or less parallel to the highway over a distance of four kilometers. Twenty-two painted shelters have been discovered in the area. Of these shelters, 1 to 18 are located on the left bank and 19 to 22 on the right bank.

Shelter No. 1

This shelter has a southward opening. It is difficult to measure it as from time to time Sadhus (holy men) have constructed walls to modify the shelter into a temple. The temple is locally known as 'Gupha Mandir'. The walls and ceiling are smudged with white wash and smoke. As a result, only traces of paintings in red and white are visible.

Shelter No. 2

This shelter is 0.5 km away from the previous one. It is situated about 20 m away from the river bank and at a height of 3 m. It is 5.70 m long, 3 m wide and 3.30 m high and faces south east. The paintings on the back wall are in red, depicting a decorated horse with a rider and a soldier alongside carrying sword and shield. Close to this are two human figures with raised hands and a man with fish-like tail in a diving posture. Next to the horse rider is another man with a long braid followed by a dog. Above the horse rider are two human
figures. One of them is with upraised arms and the other is similar to an anthropomorphic figure. Close to this is a figure of probably a hare. All these figures are executed in red.

Shelter No. 3

This shelter lies at a distance of about 20 m from the previous one and is at a height of 4 m from the river bed. It is 3.10 m long, 3 m wide and 4.30 m high and faces east. Two peacocks facing east other are depicted in red (Fig. 13).1.

Shelter No. 4

This shelter is located close to the river bed at a height of 4.80 m. It is 21 m in length, 4.40 m in width and 4 m in height and opens towards south. The paintings are found on the back wall and the overhanging ceiling which projects outside. The paintings are in a poor state of preservation. The ceiling contains 16 human figures of roughly the same size in dark red colour. They stand in a row holding their hands together, and therefore appear to be dancers. Below this scene, is a depiction of a bull followed by grazing deer, both shown in red colour. To the right are ten quadrupeds also in red. Further, a scene of hunting a boar is drawn realistically in dark red. The boar has an elegant figure with a prominent snout, ears and hair on the body. The body of the boar is decorated by criss-cross lines. A hunter is piercing a barbed spear into the body of the boar from behind.
(Fig. 19.4). To the right of this scene there is a honeycomb design.

Shelter No. 5

It is located at a height of 3 m from the river bed and is about 30 m from the previous one. It is 4 m long, 2 m wide and 2.80 m high and faces south. It contains three human figures drawn in geometrical pattern in white.

Shelter No. 6

This shelter is adjacent to the previous shelter and is at the same height. It is 3.30 m long, 2 m wide and 2.30 m high. Four squares adjacent to each other and progressively smaller in size are found in red. The largest square has a pattern of intersecting lines. The other three squares contain 7, 4 and 3 dots respectively in red colour.

Shelter No. 7

This shelter is at a distance of about 20 m from the previous one. It is 3.60 m long, 2 m wide and 2.80 m high and faces south. An incomplete drawing of an animal is depicted in red in the circular and concave rock.

Shelter No. 8

This shelter is situated about 10 m away from the river bed at a height of 8 m and opens towards south. Its length and width are 7 and 3 m respectively and the height
is 4.70 m. On the right wall of this shelter are seen
two deer facing each other in red colour. Behind them
is a hare in red wash. Below the deer is depicted a deer
with its body decorated by vertical and horizontal lines.
Three hunters are shown one each on the front, back and
side of the deer. One of them is piercing a spear into the
body of the deer. Arrow shot by the other two hunters have
already pierced the body of the deer (Fig. 19.1). Next to
that is the depiction of a man with upraised hands. Between
this man and the hunters is seen a fish in white.

Shelter No. 9

The shelter is 1.50 m away from the previous one and
faces south. It is 2.70 m long, 1.70 m wide and 3.10 m high.
The paintings on the wall show two archers in red, covered
with feathers from the waist down to the knees.

Shelter No. 10

This shelter is located at a distance of about 30 m
from the previous one and at a height of about 3 m from the
river bed. It is 6 m long, 4 m wide and 2.70 m high and is facing
south. The paintings are found on the back wall as well as on
the ceiling. The drawings are very faint and encrusted with
patina. From right to left on the ceiling, we see four human
figures, three of them wearing triangular shape waist covering
and the fourth carrying a load on his back and wearing no
clothing. Below, there is a milgai walking in a long stride.
The nilgai is drawn in vertical and horizontal lines. Behind the nilgai is an ox heading upwards drawn in outline. Towards the left, is an archer with long flapping waist covering and holding a bow in one hand. Above this is a quadruped with oval shape body. Another human figure is shown with triangular headgear and triangular waist covering. In between the human figure and the archer, is seen a buffalo hanging upward and drawn in ochre colour. The back wall is decorated by six human and two animal figures. From left to right, we see two human figures facing each other and each holding a stick in his hand. One of the stick is bared. Higher up we find the other human figures, one with a hook shaped mask and holding sticks or arrows and the other with dew drop - shaped mask and holding a bow and an arrow. Below them is a deer shown walking and followed by a human figure carrying a bow in his hand. Higher up towards left, is a faint squatting human figure, apparently digging with a sharp implement. This is facing an ox walking upward. All these figures are executed in line drawings and in dark red colour (Fig. 22).

**Shelter No. 11**

This shelter is 5 m above the river bed with an opening towards the south. Its length and width are 4.35 m and 2.50 m respectively, and height is 3.15 m. The paintings on the wall include a giant figure of a man stretching his
fisted arms and flexing his muscles apparently in a mood to fight a lion that is in front of him. Close to this is seen the figure in red of an ox and another animal which is not identifiable. To the right of them are four human figures shown in red. Two of them appear to have arrows pierced into their body. The remaining two figures are shown with raised arms.

Shelter No. 12

The shelter is about 7 m away from the previous one. It is at a height of 4.70 m from the river bed and is 3.50 m long, 2.20 m wide, and 4.30 m high. It opens towards the south. The paintings are fairly well preserved and show the following:

1. a peacock drawn in outline on a platform (Fig. 13.4)
2. two animals probably nilgai, one superimposed over the other. The body of the animal at the back is not clearly discernible but the neck of the animal at the back side is clearly in view.
3. an eye catching figure of another nilgai suckling a baby is found in line drawing. Further to the right, there is an ox in outline. Between the nilgai and the bull there is another figure of a nilgai which is shown lifting its head toward a branch (Fig. 9.4:5-6).
Shelter No. 13

This shelter is at a height of about 15 m from the river bed and is about 0.5 km away from the previous shelter. It is 16 m long and 3 m wide. A huge overhanging ceiling is projecting towards the river at a height of 20 m from the surface of the shelter. Palm imprints of right hand are seen on the ceiling in a faded condition. Most of the paintings are in a poor state of preservation. Some of them are spoiled by over writing by vandals. The shelter contains 101 figures. These include 56 humans, 4 animals, 1 bird, 1 symbol, 36 palm prints and 3 unidentified figures. Of the human figures, 25 are of dancers, 2 of drummers, 4 of soldiers, 12 of horse riders, 3 of load bearers, 2 of sorcerors and 8 of other men. The animal figures consist of 1 lion, 1 buffalo, 1 ox and 1 dog. The colours used for these paintings are light and dark red, white, ochre and light blue. The whole scene seems to represent a religious or magical ceremony. A row of dancers accompanied by a drummer in white is found superimposed on armoured horse riders depicted in red wash. Another ritual ceremony performed by 12 human figures dancing around concentric circles, probably a symbolic representation of fire, and directed by a sorceror (Pl. VIII). The light blue colour in which the horse rider and soldier are depicted is unique to this shelter (Pl. XI).
Shelter No. 14

This shelter is at a height of 15 m from the river and is facing east. It is 15 m long, 3 m wide and 12 m high. The paintings found in clusters in two corners of the shelter are in a poor condition. The paintings in the left corner show four horse riders drawn in red by stencil technique. Close to them is an elephant in red wash. The paintings in the right corner comprise horse riders, elephant riders and soldiers in white and decorated by red spots on their body. Some of the elephant riders are shown carrying umbrella (chhatra) in white. In the same scene two archers are also found (Pl. IV).

Shelter No. 15

This is a small concave shelter measuring 3 m long, 1.50 m wide and 2 m high. This contains a painting of a symbol in red. The design of the symbol is elliptical in shape and has 5 arm-like projections on either side. A representation of a floral design having 8 petals is found on the four corners of the symbol. The inner part of the design is decorated by lines forming two triangles (Pl. III).
Shelter No. 16

This shelter is adjacent to the previous one and is locally known as 'Dhabua ghat' meaning umbrella shape. The shelter has a semicircular ceiling and faces east. It has a height of 5 m from the water level and length and breadth of 12.20 m and 6.40 m respectively. The height of the ceiling from the surface of the shelter is 4.10 m. It has an artificial stone platform with stone steps leading to the water level. The shelter contains 195 paintings in light and dark red, ochre, light blue and white. There are superimposition up to three layers. These paintings are well preserved and all of them belong to the historic period. The surface of the shelter is spoiled by the seepage of water and fungal growth. The paintings include 130 humans, 34 animals, 9 birds, 3 symbols, 3 designs, 1 tree and 3 swastikas. Of the human figures 66 are of men, 1 anthropomorphic figure, 1 archer, 3 drummers, 10 dancers, 18 soldiers, 28 horse riders, 2 elephant riders, and 1 royal personage.

The animals represented include the following:
7 lions, 2 tigers, 1 buffalo, 2 bulls, 17 deer, 1 dog and 4 elephants. Among birds, 9 peacocks are found depicted in abstract design. The scene of 4 deer captured in various positions suggests that they are running in fear due to being chased by a predator (Fig. 25.3). Another scene shows
birds sitting on the branch of a tree and is drawn on a platform (Pl. VI). Two lions in red wash are shown facing each other in an aggressive manner (Fig. 6.1). In the left corner of the shelter, a large sized man carrying a plough like implement in one hand is shown pulling a wild buffalo by a rope (Fig. 20.2).

**Shelter No. 17**

This shelter is at a height of 17 m from the river bed and is facing south-east. It is 3.30 m in length, and 2.30 m in width and 3.80 m in height. The paintings on the wall, in red wash, show four horse riders with long braid and holding the reins. The horses are gracefully drawn with special attention given to mane and hairy tail. To the left, four more human figures are shown carrying some weapons. Their knees are bent suggesting movement. Two soldiers wearing turbans are found in red wash. They are holding scimitar and an oblong shaped shield and they have a scabbard in their waist. Below this, four human figures in a row with upraised hands are depicted in outline together with a realistically drawn dog (Fig. 23). Towards the left of these, a human figure resembling an anthropomorphic figure is depicted below the horse rider drawn in stylised pattern.
Shelter No. 18

The shelter is located about 20 m from the previous one and is at a height of about 9 m from the river bed. It is 4.15 m long, 1.40 m wide and 3 m high and is facing south-west. Here the paintings in white show figures of two deer and two unidentifiable animals. Below, are three rows of chevrons, one above the other. On either side of them is seen a barbed stick and a human figure.

Shelter No. 19

It is located about 7 m from the previous shelter and at a height of about 6 m from the water level. It is 6.30 m long, 2 m wide and 2.60 m high, and is facing south-west. The paintings in dark red show a row of six human figures with their hands clasped. A horizontal line passes through their legs which overlaps two hare depicted in the end. Below this is seen a pair of drummers holding a stick or a sword that is bent at a right angle near the tip (Fig. 17.5). To the right and left of the drummers, a horse-rider and a human figure along with a deer are found in red. Further towards right, a pair of horse-riders is found in front of two crocodiles drawn in dark red. At a distance, towards right, an archer is shown independently in red.
Shelter No. 20

This shelter is located at a distance of about 0.5 km from the previous one and is about 20 m from the river bank and is located at a height of about 8 m. It is 8.30 m long, 6.70 m wide and 4 m high. The shelter forms three tiers, one above the other and facing south-east, south south-east and east. The surface of the shelters is heavily patinated and encrusted and the paintings are poorly preserved. The second and third tier could not be examined because of the difficulty of access. One can see the paintings in them only from a distance of about 2.5 m. All these tiers are decorated and only unclear traces of the paintings can be seen. The total number of visible paintings is 99. Out of these, 52 are human figures and 27 animal figures. Of the human figures 17 are men, two women, one boy, four hunters, two archers, three load-bearers, 11 soldiers and 12 horse-riders. The animal figures include, one lion, one boar, one nilgai, four oxen, one buffalo, 14 deer and one dog. Peacock is the only bird present and it is depicted in stylized pattern.

The most eye-arresting scene on the back wall of the first tier is of a lion shown pouncing on a buffalo and four deer running away in panic. The artist has drawn the figures of the deer progressively smaller, effectively creating the perspective of distance (Fig. 10.3). In another
scene a man (35.56 cm) holding a stick on his shoulder, is drawn in linear pattern (Fig. 5.8). At the bottom of the lower tier, two oxen gracefully drawn in red wash face each other. A cow-herd carrying an axe is shown near the oxen (Fig. 3.4). A design in honey comb pattern is executed in violet colour on second tier. All these figures are executed in red and dark red colours.

Shelter No. 21

The shelter is located at a distance of about 40 m from the previous one and is about 10 m from the river bank. It is situated at a height of about 5 m and is facing south east. The shelter is divided into two compartments. The left compartment is 8.30 m long, 2.30 m wide and 4.10 m high. Here the paintings on the back wall show two buffaloes (76.2 x 55.30 cm) of the same size in dark red colour and decorated by triangles and other geometrical lines (Fig. 7.1). Superimposed on the buffaloes are two stylized horse-riders in white colour. The right compartment is 3.10 m long, 2 m wide and 4 m high. The paintings on the wall depict six human figures drawn in geometrical pattern. Out of six, four figures are shown in a row with their stretched hands together. The remaining two figures are found separately in white. Below, a floral design comprising eight petals is found depicted along with two other unidentifiable symbols. Towards right of this, four ducks in abstract form near tree
symbol are found along with two human figures on either side of a tree. All these figures are in white.

**Shelter No. 22**

It is at a height of about 40 m from the water level and is 33 m long, 3 to 7 m wide and about 8 m high, and faces west. The shelter is nearly full with drawings and red washes which occur both on the walls and the ceiling. Majority of the animal drawings are unidentifiable because of encrustation, patination and growth of fungus. The clearly visible paintings are of human figures which comprise 13 men, 2 children, 5 load bearers, and 3 horse-riders. Among animals only 7 deer are found depicted clearly. Towards the right corner of the wall, two human figures are shown holding their hands together. Close to them, three other human figures with triangular headgear are found super-imposed by a group of six human figures dressed in long tunics and carrying long bows and arrows. Above them a group of eight human figures are seen carrying some load or baskets on their back along with two children. In the centre five human figures in a row are bending over one another and each of them is holding the waist of the man in front. The last figure which is bigger in size is found with upraised hands. Two deer are depicted on the ceiling, one of them is 60 cm long and 45 cm wide and is drawn in thick outline in red. The other figure is 91 cm long and
60 cm wide and is decorated by oblique lines in white. All these drawings are executed in red.

13. Semra (GM)

The village of Semra is 10 km west of Rahli town. Fourteen shelters have been discovered on either side of river Behar, about 3 km west of the village. The shelters 1 to 4 are located on the left bank of the river and shelters 5 to 14 on the right bank.

Shelter No. 1

This shelter is 9 m long, 3 m wide and 7 m high and is facing west. The shelter is found cracked, smudged with smoke and full of colour washes. The visible paintings on the wall show figures of a buffalo and another quadruped in white. Towards the left, four human figures are found in outline in geometrical shape. Below, three soldiers are shown carrying shields. All these figures are executed in red.

Shelter No. 2

It is located about 30 m from the previous shelter and about 4 m from the river bed. It is 8 m long, 2.50 m wide and 4 m high and is facing west. The figures on the wall show three monkeys drawn realistically in white. Above them are seen three horse-riders in red wash and four soldiers carrying swords and shields, depicted in outline in red.
Shelter No. 3

This shelter is located at a distance of about 10 m from the river bed and faces west. It is 4 m long, 2.60 m wide and 2.80 m high and is situated at height of about 6 m from the surface. The paintings on the back wall show 26 figures, all executed in red. These comprise nine human figures, three soldiers, two archers, two horses, one horse rider, one elephant rider, three circular designs and five unidentified figures. The paintings show a battle scene of soldiers, frightened men, archers and horse and elephant riders. Above this scene, three circular designs are found in decreasing diameter. The design comprises two circles one within the other. The space between the inner and outer circle has been divided into eight compartments by straight lines. The inner circle is divided into four triangular compartments by intersecting lines, two opposed compartments are filled with red wash (*i.e.* XIV B).

Shelter No. 4

This shelter is located about 7 m from the previous one and at a height of about 6 m from the river bank. It is 3.50 m long, 2.50 m wide and 3 m high and is facing west. The paintings on the back wall are fairly preserved. The shelter contains 58 figures executed in red, dark red and white. Of these, 29 are soldiers, three human figures, two archers, two royal personages, 13 horse-riders, two elephant-
riders and seven dancers. Of the 29 soldiers, 25 are shown with curved swords and oblong shields and remaining four are holding straight swords and spoked circular shields. All soldiers are depicted around royal personages one of whom is riding a horse and the other an elephant. The horse is covered by a saddle which is decorated with several small triangles. Over the head of the royal person sitting on a horse, an umbrella is shown. Towards the left of this scene, three persons are shown sitting on elephant back. The elephant is drawn realistically and is overlapped by a horse with rider drawn in outline. In the left corner of the wall, dancers are shown in three groups. In one group there are three dancers and a drummer. The two other groups consist of two dancers each and they are shown in rhythmic motion (Pl. XIII A&B).

Shelter No. 5

This shelter is about 15 m away from the river bank and is located at a height of about 13 m from the surface. It is 4 m long, 2.10 m wide and 3 m high and faces north. The shelters contain 10 drawings on the back wall which is fairly well preserved. These comprise four human figures in outline, four figures and two unidentifiable figures. All the figures are executed in dark red.
Shelter No. 6

This shelter is located 2 m away from the previous one. It is 11.30 m long and 2.60 m high. It has two openings, one towards east and the other towards north. Its width is 4 m on eastern side and 3 m on the northern side. The paintings on the back wall are faded due to fungal growth. The shelter contains 56 figures. Of these, 23 are human figures, 18 animal figures and one peacock. The remaining 14 are unidentified. Of the human figures, four are men, one woman, five dancers, seven soldiers, one royal personage and one horse- rider. Among animal figures, two are tigers, four lions, seven deer, three horses, one elephant and one buffalo. The soldiers are shown carrying broad tipped swords and circular spoked shields. Most of the drawings are on the eastern part of the shelter. On the northern side there is a depiction of a dancing scene. Five dancers are shown in a row. Male and female are found alternately in a line. The left hand of each figure is shown akimbo and is held by the right hand of the figure on the left (Fig. 16.1). Towards left, there is one more female figure wearing a decorated headgear drawn with a single thick line in a rhythmic posture (Fig. 16.2). Further to the left, a realistically drawn and galloping horse is shown close to a peacock. All these figures are done in red and dark red in colour except the peacock which is in white.
Shelter No. 7

This shelter is located at a distance of about 20 m from the previous one and is 30 m from the river bank. It is 4.30 m long, 2.10 m wide and 2.50 m high and faces north. The back wall of the shelter is heavily encrusted and patinated and contains 38 figures executed in red, dark red and white. Of these, 18 are human, nine animals and 11 unidentifiable. Among the human figures four are simple male figures, eight soldiers, four horse riders and two elephant riders. The animal figures include three lions, one tiger, one horse, one deer and two nilgai. The soldiers wearing circular and horn-shaped headgear are shown fighting with swords and shields. Other drawings to the left comprise four horse-riders and two elephant-riders. Below, another drawing depicts a man holding 'Chhatra' over the head of a royal person sitting on the elephant back. Slightly above towards left, three lions are depicted with their tails up (Fig. 6.5). Between the second and third lion there is a figure of a horse. Further to the left, there are two nilgai. Their neck is prominently drawn in thick line and their body is decorated with concentric circles (Fig. 9.1). Also four human figures are found in white, of which two are superimposed, on the soldier.

Shelter No. 8

This shelter is facing north and is located about 15 m from the previous shelter. It is 3.10 m long, 2.60 m wide and 1.20 m high. The paintings on the back wall containing
22 figures are peeled off. These include four human figures, 12 soldiers, one archer, four horse-rider and one elephant rider. All these are executed in red. From the bottom, a soldier is shown carrying a rectangular shield and a sword and another human figure depicted to his right. In between an archer is shown holding a bow and arrows. Above these, three soldiers with rectangular shields and swords are engaged in fighting. A horse-rider is holding a 'Chhatra'. Two other human figures in outline are shown towards left. On the left of these soldiers a horse-rider is shown holding the reins in one hand. On the top, four soldiers are depicted, two of them holding swords with broad tips. Two dots on their face represent eyes. The other two soldiers carry simple curved sword and spoked circular shield. To the right of them is a horse with two riders on its back. Two soldiers carrying swords and shield are shown on either side of the horse-rider. On the extreme left is an elephant with riders sitting on its back (Fig. 24).

Shelter No. 9

The shelter is located about 20 m from the previous one and is facing north. It is 3.60 m long, 1.40 m wide and 1.75 m high. The paintings on the wall show two figures of soldiers carrying swords and shields. One soldier is in red wash and the other is partially in red wash.
Shelter No. 10

This shelter is about 6 m away from the previous one and is facing north. It is 2.85 m long, 1.75 m wide and 2.80 m high. The paintings on the ceiling comprise five soldiers holding arrows and shields. On either side of the soldiers, two horse-riders are depicted in red. On the wall two figures of dogs in outline are drawn one behind the other in red (Fig. 11.1).

Shelter No. 11

This shelter is located about 10 m away from the previous one and is facing north. It is 7.30 m long, 1.10 m wide and 2.30 m high. The paintings on the wall are in a good state of preservation. They show four soldiers in a row, three of them carrying swords and shields and the fourth holding an arrow and a shield. Below, a rider on a galloping horse is depicted. The rider is shown leaning back and holding the reins. He holds arrows in one hand and a stick in the other (Fig. 14.3). There is also a figure of a peacock drawn in white and decorated with oblique lines.

Shelter No. 12

This shelter is located about 20 m from the previous one and is facing north. It is 3.80 m long, 1.10 m wide and 4 m high. The paintings on the back wall reveal two floral designs. One of them is a circle, divided into four sectors by two bisecting lines. Two sectors are filled with
red wash and two are left blank. The outer portion of the circle is decorated with 13 rays similar to the English alphabet 'Y' (Fig. 18.1). The second design is similar to the first one excepting that its periphery is decorated with 15 hook-like designs (Fig. 18.2). Between these two designs is a quadruped and behind them are two horse-riders. All the drawings are in red colour.

Shelter No. 13

This shelter is about 5 m away from the previous one and faces north. It is 10 m long, 2 m wide and 3.40 m high. The paintings on the wall show two horse-riders, drawn one behind the other. Below, a circle with 8 spokes is found close to a figure of a lion. To its right, a figure of a bull is found decorated by squarish design (Fig. 8.1). All these figures are in dark red.

Shelter No. 14

This shelter is located about 10 m from the previous one and is facing north. It is 2.50 m long, 2.80 m wide and 3 m high. The figures on the wall show three unidentified symbols and a figure of a hare, all in red.

14. Guari (GUR)

The village of Guari is 5 km west of Surkhi village which is 30 km south-west of Sagar town. A hill 500 m east of the village contains seven shelters in a clockwise direction.
**Shelter No. 1**

This shelter is 3.70 m in length, 2.80 m in width and 2.10 m in height and is facing west. The paintings are on the ceiling. They include one archer aiming a barbed arrow at a deer from the front and three more deer shown around. These are executed in red. Further to the left, a galloping horse is depicted in outline over a white patch in light red.

**Shelter No. 2**

This shelter is resting over a large block of rock at a height of about 4 m. It is located about 12 m from the previous shelter. It is 2.80 m long, 1.65 m wide and 2 m high and is facing north-west. The drawings on the wall show three deer, two of them drawn one behind the other and the third slightly away. In between, a man is shown in thick outline in a squatting posture. All three figures are executed in red.

**Shelter No. 3**

It is located about one m from the previous one. It is 1.70 m long, 1.50 m wide and 2.10 m high and is facing north-west. Four horse-riders in red wash are found on an even surface of the wall.
Shelter No. 4

This shelter, located about 10 m far from the previous one, is in the form of an oval shaped cavity in the rock. It is facing north. The wall of the cavity shows a drawing of a horse-rider holding a long crescent shaped sword in red wash. To its right, a galloping horse is depicted in yellow colour.

Shelter No. 5

This shelter is located about 7 m from the previous one. It is 3 m long, 2.30 m wide and 3 m high and is facing north. The paintings on the wall in red wash, show two soldiers holding swords followed by a horse-rider.

Shelter No. 6

This shelter is situated at a distance of 12 m from the previous one and is facing north. It is 3.40 m long, 3.20 m wide and 2.80 m high. It shows a grazing deer drawn in outline and decorated with semi-circular lines. Towards the right, two men with upraised hands and two unrecognizable animals in between them are found. All the paintings are in red colour.

Shelter No. 7

This shelter facing north-east is 7.20 m in length, 2.40 m in width and 3.30 m in height. The paintings on the wall are in a poor state of preservation due to soot and
encrustation. One drawing in dark red outline shows two buffaloes, one above the other. The buffalo on the top is decorated with concentric circles whereas the one below is decorated with triangular design. To its left, traces of several other paintings are seen.

15. Patrikota (PTK)

The village of Patrikota is 11 km east of the village of Dali atpur which lies 40 km north-east of Sagar town on Sagar-Chhatarpur road. Two shelters have been found on the bank of the river Bewas, about 1 km south to the village.

Shelter No. 1

This shelter facing south is located at the base of a hill at a distance of about 15 m from the river. It is 11 m long, 5.30 m wide and 12.10 m high. The wall of the shelter is patinated and the paintings are in a poor state of preservation. They are drawn very close to each other. Most of the paintings are found overlapping one another and it is difficult to disentangle the superimposition. Majority of the paintings comprise animal drawings. These include 16 deer and two elephants. Human figures include one soldier, two horse-riders, one elephant-rider and one drummer. Except the drummer, which is drawn in dark red, all the figures are executed in red.
Shelter No. 2

It is located at a distance of about 30 m from the previous one and at height of about 9 m from the surface. It is facing south. It is 2.70 m in length, 1.20 m in width and 2.50 m in height. It shows only one figure of a soldier on the wall holding a sword and a shield and with a knife tucked in the waist.

16. Patharia Gond (PTA)

The village of Patharia Gond is 35 km north of Sagar town and 1 km east of Sagar-Dhamoni road. Two painted shelters are near the village on two hills. The gap between the hills is known as putarion kikachhar (valley of paintings).

Shelter No. 1

This shelter is located at a distance of about 3.5 km south-east of the village. It is 8 m long, 2.40 m wide and 2 m high and is facing north. The shelter contains three figures of deer in a row on the back wall. These are drawn in outline and are decorated with zigzag lines in dark red.

Shelter No. 2

It is about 2.5 km south of the village and is located at the bank of a nullah which joins the river Dhasan. The shelter is 6 m long, 3 m wide and 3 m high.
and is facing west. It is locally known as 'Matua Bhanka' but the meaning of this name is not clear. The paintings on the wall and ceiling are spoiled by the covering of soot and fungal growth. The visible drawings comprise five deer drawn in outline in ochre. Besides, there are one buffalo and three soldiers carrying sword and shields. One of the soldier is dressed in a long tunic. All are drawn in white.

17. **Bila (BLA)**

A metalled road branches out towards west from the 63rd mile stone on the Sagar-Chhatarpur road to a dam on the Bila river. Rock shelters appear close to the dam on the downstream side of the river and extends for about a stretch of 1.5 km. Thirteen shelters have been discovered on both sides of the river. Shelter 1 to 10 on the left bank and 11 to 13 on the right bank of the river.

**Shelter No. 1**

This shelter is located at a height of about 2.50 m from the water level. It is 2 m long, 0.50 m wide and 1 m high and faces south-west. The drawings on the back wall show 11 human figures in a row and clasping hands. Close to them, towards the right, two men are shown fighting. Below, a bullock cart is shown. All the paintings are in dark red.
Shelter No. 2

It is located at a height of 3 m from the water level and is about 15 m far from the previous one. It is 1.50 m long, 0.70 m wide and 1.80 m high and is facing south-west. Paintings on the back wall show a faint figure of a deer decorated with chevrons and two horse-riders facing each other, all in dark red.

Shelter No. 3

This shelter is adjacent to the previous one and is at the same height and in the same direction. It is 1.10 m in length, 1 m in width and 1 m in height. It contains only three figures on the wall, all in red colour. They include two deer in faded condition and below, an elegant figure of a gaur realistically drawn in partially filled style (Fig. 7.3).

Shelter No. 4

This shelter is located about 15 m from the previous one and is facing east. It is found at a height of about 5 m from the bank of the river. It is 3 m long, 2.80 m wide and 3 m high. The paintings on the wall in dark red colour are faded and difficult to identify. They comprise two deer facing each other in linear style and behind them a hare sitting on its hind legs.
**Shelter No. 5**

This shelter is adjacent to the previous one and is located at the same height. It is 2.80 m long, 1.15 m wide and 4.50 m high and is facing south-east. The paintings are visible only in traces. Only two drawings could be recognized. One of them is of a deer in outline decorated with semi-circular lines in dark red. Two human figures are shown in embracing posture, one of them sitting on the lap of the other. They are drawn in red wash.

**Shelter No. 6**

This shelter is located at a distance of about 30 m from the previous one. It is 3.40 m long, 2 m wide and 3 m high and is facing south. It is situated at a height of about 2 m from the water level. The paintings on the wall show four deer in a row decorated with vertical lines. Six human figures in outline are depicted above the deer. To their left there are two more deer in outline and a buffalo decorated with vertical and horizontal lines. All these are executed in dark red.

**Shelter No. 7**

This shelter is about 5 m away from the previous one and is situated at a height of about 2.50 m from the water level. It is 3.50 m long, 1.20 m wide and 2 m high and is facing south. It contains faded figures of six deer in a row in dark red colour and decorated with vertical lines. To the
left, there is a figure of a buffalo which has been skilfully transformed into the figure of a deer by some later artist. A human figure is shown near the buffalo. All these figures are executed in red wash.

**Shelter No. 8**

This shelter is about 10 m away from the previous one and is 1.50 m above the water level. It is 4 m long, 2 m wide and 3.70 m high and is facing south. There are four deer in a row decorated with vertical lines. To their right, there are two soldiers carrying shields. Above them, there are two deer. Their body is decorated with three vertical lines and one horizontal line. To the left, there are two wheels with five spokes and one sun symbol. Below, there is a row of six human figures with their hands joined together. All the paintings are in red.

**Shelter No. 9**

It is 2 m far from the previous shelter and is located at a height of about 2 m from the water level. It is 5.10 m long, 2.20 m wide and 2.80 m high. The paintings include an archer aiming at a man who is shown prostrate on the ground. Below, there is an animal, probably a nilgai decorated with randomly drawn lines and four human figures. To the right of them, a horse-rider and two soldiers with swords and shields are depicted. All these figures are executed in red.
Shelter No. 10

This shelter facing west is 5 m long, 1.50 m wide and 2.30 m high. It is about 200 m away from the river bed. The paintings are poorly preserved and covered by fungal growth. The shelters contain 45 drawings in red colour. Of these, 19 are human figures, 17 animal figures and nine unidentifiable. Of the human figures, two are archers, 16 men and one elephant-rider. Among animals, 14 are deer, one horse and two hares.

Shelter No. 11

This shelter facing north is located at a height of about 3 m from the water level. It is 3.60 m long, 0.80 m wide and 4 m high. The paintings show a herd of seven deer drawn in linear pattern and decorated with vertical lines in dark red. Four of them are moving in one direction and the fifth in opposite direction. Below, there are two more deer in faded condition, followed by an archer who is aiming at them. Three symbols are found in abstract design at the base of the shelter.

Shelter No. 12

It is adjacent to the previous shelter, faces in the same direction and is at the same height. It is 1.70 m long, 0.70 m wide and 3.80 m high. There are four lions drawn in outline and decorated with vertical lines in dark red. Their tails are upraised.
Shelter No. 13

This shelter is 4 m away from the previous one and faces north. The wall of the shelter is highly weathered and the paintings all in red colour, are damaged by the chipping off of the rock surface. The paintings comprise 16 deer drawn in outline and one human figure executed only up to the chest in outline.

18. Dari (DAR)

The village of Dari is 6 km north-east to the village Barodia Kulan which lies 48 km north of Sagar town on Sagar-Jhansi road. Nine shelters are found on the bank of river Jamni, 4 km north to the village. Shelter 1-7 are located on the left bank of the river and shelters 8-9 are on the right bank. Two shelters, 6-7, are located in the maroni tehsil of Lalitpur district of Uttar Pradesh.

Shelter No. 1

This shelter is located at a distance of about 20 m from the river bed and at a height of about 5 m. It is 10 m long, 3 m wide and 5 m high and faces east. The wall of the shelter is pitted, encrusted and covered with fungal growth. The shelter contains seven paintings on the wall as well as on the ceiling. They include an elephant with elaborately decorated body and thin tusks decorated by vertical, horizontal and oblong shaped designs in dark red. Towards the left three horse-riders are found in white.
They are superimposed over two human figures in red. On the ceiling, the figure of a buffalo is found decorated with curved lines in white. Its horns are shown filled with white colour (Fig. 7.2.).

**Shelter No. 2**

This shelter is located at a distance of about 20 m from the previous one and is 6 m from the river bank. It is 6 m long, 4 m wide and 5 m high and is facing east. The paintings on the wall are faded. On the right is a figure of a buffalo in red wash. Towards left a herd of seven deer is found. The first three deer are shown in red wash and the remaining four are decorated with vertical lines in red. A figure of a lion is also found alongside in red.

**Shelter No. 3**

This shelter is located 8 m far from the river bank and is 1 m away from the previous shelter and is facing east. It is 4.50 m long, 2 m wide and 3 m high. The paintings on the wall depict five deer in a row in dark red.

**Shelter No. 4**

This shelter is located at a distance of about 40 m from the previous one and is 30 m away from the river bed. It is 4.50 m long, 3 m wide and 3.50 m high and is facing east. The paintings are found both on the wall and ceiling. The shelter shows a scene of four deer in black colour.
Four more deer are found on the ceiling, two of them in red outline and two in red wash. To their right, two horse-riders and two human figures, one of the latter wearing circular head gear in abstract form, are shown in white colour.

Shelter No. 5

This shelter is located about 15 m from the previous one and faces north-west. It is situated at a height of about 8 m from the bed and is difficult to reach very close to it. From a distance the figures appear to include a herd of eight deer, three of them in red wash, two in outline and remaining three decorated with oblique lines, with one of the deer shown looking back. Below, three human figures are found in a row. All these figures are executed in red wash.

Shelter No. 6

This shelter is situated about 30 m away from the river bed at a height of about 20 m. It is 9 m long, 2 m wide and 3 m high and is facing north. Only one figure of a soldier holding sword and shield is found in white.

Shelter No. 7

This shelter is located about 0.50 km far from the previous one and is at a height of about 20 m. It is facing east. The path to reach this shelter is very difficult. The drawings can be seen only from a distance. The shelter
contains nine figures on the back wall. Six of them are of deer. Of these, four are drawn in red outline and two in black outline. The body in all cases is filled with red wash. At some distance to the right, a small figure of another deer is found. To the left of these figures, an archer is shown with stretched bow. His head is represented by two circular rings. Close to the archer is a figure of a giant man. In this figure the portion of the thighs is left blank.

Shelter No. 8

This shelter is situated about 15 m from the water level. It is 6 m long, 2.70 m wide and 4 m high and is facing west. The drawings on the wall show a row of three lions in dark red. Their body is decorated with vertical lines and their tails are raised up.

Shelter No. 9

This shelter is 1.50 m away from the previous one and is situated at the same distance from the water level. It is 7 m long, 4 m wide and 5 m high and is facing west. The wall of the shelter has been damaged by hammer strokes. The surface is further spoiled by writing of names with charcoal. The paintings show an 'Alpana' symbol in red and three human figures in red wash. Below, three more figures of men in stick shape are found in dark red. Further, to the right, two
deer are shown in red wash. Close to them, a figure of a man is shown in spider shape. Below this figure, four more human figures are found in abstract form. These latter paintings are in red colour.