India is rich in archaeological wealth and Gujarat is no exception to it. The district of Jamnagar which is very important because of its geographical position and forms the north-western part of the peninsula of Gujarat. The district does not seem to have attracted much attention from the archaeologists. However, it attracted attention of few scholars like, G.L. Jacob, B.C. Sarcar, A.S. Allade, James Burgess, H.D. Sankalia, (Capt.) H. Bellweather, R. Subrahmanyan and K.V. Sounderajan, mainly due to few inscriptions and standing monuments that were discovered in this region. The real contribution of archaeological explorations and excavations in the district goes to P.P. Pandya, J.M. Kanavati, J.P. Joshi, Z.A. Ansari, M.S. Hate, B. Subbarao and others.

The importance of its geographical position, and the work carried by earlier scholars indicated that the discovery of many new sites of various cultural periods was a possibility. Going through the previous work, conducted by few previous scholars, it was felt that the area of Jamnagar requires detail village to village survey for matter of understanding of the various facets of human history through the ages, and also adds substantially to the study of this region.

The field work carried out by the present investigator in the district, was spread over a number of seasons from
1970 to 1981. Almost every part of the district was explored. These fresh explorations brought to light hundred new sites, varying in nature and character, throwing light on variety of antiquities extending from pre-historic to historic period IV. The present work is thus based on the interpretation of material remains obtained during exploration. A comparative study of the data has been carried out to interpret in broader context, the archaeology of the region with that of the adjoining region. The work of the previous investigators was also scrutinised carefully and used their data for tracing the complete picture of the cultural heritage of the Jamnagar district.

The thesis consists of Introduction, eight chapters and four appendixes.

**INTRODUCTION**

A short introduction deals with the problems which inspired the author to undertake the field work in the Jamnagar district. It also deals with the aim of study. The method of work adopted for data collection and sources of information has been also discussed here.

**CHAPTER - I**

EGO-GENEAL AND COMMUNICATION

The chapter deals with the origin of the name of the Jamnagar, its location and boundary. A brief outline of the geographical and geological set-up of the district along with
climate, rainfall, flora, fauna and ancient trade routes of communication are discussed, as a background studies for proper understanding of the cultural development of the district through the ages.

CHAPTER II

ARCHAEOLOGY

In this chapter, the political history of the Jumagar is discussed. Literary, bardic as well as archaeological source are utilised for tracing the history. This gives the framework in which the succession of archaeological material could be sequently arranged and this enables one to construct the meaningful chronological sequence.

CHAPTER IV

EXPLORATIONS

This chapter forms the nucleus of the thesis and deals with archaeological explorations. All explored sites are discussed in chronological order. Details of geographical background, topography, measurements, the material finds from these sites are given. However, tabulated form of ceramic as well as metal sites is also given. The total number of sites belonging to various periods, discovered in each period are noted below:
This chapter deals with the ceramic assemblage of the district. The ceramic assemblage is divided into Chalcolithic and Historic pottery. Further, each group is studied in details comprising its forms, fabric and decoration. As such Chalcolithic and historic potteries are undertaken for detail study.

CHAPTER VI
ARCHITECTURE, SCULPTURE AND ICONOGRAPHY

The chapter covers architecture, sculpture and iconography of the district. The architecture of temples of historic period I, II, III and IV are described.
The sculpture and iconography of Hindu, as well as Jain
Pantheon and memorial stones are also discussed in this
chapter.

CHAPTER - VII
MINOR ANTIQUITIES

This chapter deals with the description of explored anti-
quities such as Lower, Middle Palaeolithic stone tools, Microliths, Chalcolithic lithic industry, terracotta objects, shell
industry, coins, copper plate inscriptions, beads and ornaments and other minor antiquities from Jamnagar district.

I. Lithic Industry:
The stone tools obtained from the district are classified
into four main sub-divisions:
(1) Lower palaeolithic period,
(2) Middle palaeolithic period,
(3) Mesolithic or Microlithic period,
and (4) Chalcolithic period.

The type of stone tools and the raw material technique
of manufacturing of tools and their probable use are dis-
cussed period-wise in this section.

II. Terracotta objects:
Terracotta objects of the district are classified into
two main sub-divisions:
(1) Chalcolithic period.
(2) Historic period.
The terracotta objects of Chalcolithic period mostly consist of spindle whorls, terracotta discs, lamps, handles of saucepan pans etc. are described in this section. While in the historic period female figures, animals, choppers, plaques and discs are described.

III. Chalk Industry:

In the chalk industry of Jamagar, nature of sites, type of tools and their raw material, techniques of manufacturing tools, are discussed period-wise, viz.: Chalcolithic and Historic period.

IV. Inscriptions:

In this section the six copper plates of Sindhava's Cunda and Sulvasar inscriptions are also discussed. The material on which the inscriptions are found, the subject matter of the inscriptions, historical significance are also discussed.

V. Coins:

In this section Koitrapa as well as Gupta coins obtained from the district are described.

VI. Beads and Ornaments:

In this section beads and ornaments found during explorations are discussed.

VII. Stone Objects:

In this section various stone objects obtained from the district are discussed in detail.
CHAPTER — VIII

CONCLUSION

This is the concluding chapter of the thesis, deals with the general discussion on different cultures that existed in the Jamnagar district. Moreover, it shows a comparative study of the different cultures in relation to those of the neighbouring regions and also deals with the general evolution and development of the cultures through the ages in Jamnagar.

Appendix I contains different tabular forms used during explorations.

Appendix II contains dynastic tree of different dynasties, which ruled the Jamnagar district.

Appendix III contains the tabulated form of ceramic assemblage of different sites.

Appendix IV contains brief information about each archaeological site discovered in Jamnagar district.
STATEMENT - I

Statement Regarding The Discovery Of New Facts, etc.: :

The district of Jammagar, a political unit of State of Gujarat was taken up for systematic archaeological village to village survey for the first time. Hence as a result following discoveries of new facts are made:

(1) For the first time the archaeology of Jammagar district have been treated as a whole.

(2) Before the present work was undertaken only EIGHT sites were known to exist in this district. As a result of the recent investigations carried out from 1979 to 1981, (6) hundred new sites; belonging to various periods from Prehistoric to Historic period have been brought to light.

(3) The human habitation of the district started during later Paleolithic period.

(4) In earlier exploration only one lower Paleolithic site was discovered by J.P. Joshi and in addition to that one more new site was discovered at Triveni-Gangar in Bhavnad taluka.

(5) The present investigations have proved that the area was occupied during Middle Paleolithic period also.

(6) A number of Late stone age sites were discovered mostly in and around Bhavnad taluka and have proved the microlithic tradition of Pre-pottery phase of Nagar (Rajasthan) had
(7) The microlithic men were using non-geometrical tools like scrapers, burins, points and blades etc. and they lived along the river banks and hillocks.

(8) Nearly thirty new Chalcolithic sites were discovered in the district thus testifies a thick habitation of the district during this period.

(9) A striking geographical fact which can be noted is that Chalcolithic sites are located directly adjacent to sources of flowing water and sometimes hillocks were also occupied.

(10) Some of the Chalcolithic sites are quite extensive suggesting well settled villages.

(11) Like their neighbours in the adjoining districts the people of Chalcolithic culture also used painted and plain red and buff potteries.

(12) Some of the Chalcolithic sites had developed their own shell industries.

(13) Large number of shell manufacturing waste obtained from the Chalcolithic sites of the district has enabled the present investigator to study the techniques and raw material used for manufacturing shell objects and the study had revealed the following facts:

(a) Two species of the shell were used as raw material:

- *Turbinella syringa* (Linn) or the sacred *sandha* and
- *Chicoreus ramossus* (Linn) or great *murox*. Both these...
species are marine commonly found in Gulf of Kutch and were also used at other mature Harappan sites.

(b) The Chalcolithic fishermen were using boats and were diving in deeper waters to collect *Lampit*, while they were wading and collecting *Cyprinus* from rocky areas and coral reefs during low tides.

(c) The process used for manufacturing of objects of *Cyprinus* and that used on *Lampit* are different.

(d) It is far the first time that the process used for manufacturing of shell objects from *Cyprinus* has been understood.

(e) The shell industry was based on the expertise of navigation and deep diving capacity of the collectors of raw materials.

(14) Crested guiding röde technique was known to Chalcolithic people or even possible to late stone age people.

(15) Local raw material was used for manufacturing variety of tools by crested guiding röde technique during Chalcolithic period.

(16) Few extensive sites with large number of crested röde cores indicate the profuse use of blade tools and huge factory sites were developed near the source of raw material.

(17) Flake scrapers resembling the tools of Series-II were also used during Chalcolithic period.
(13) Brahmi script on a pot shard, from Deyt, noted by Hiranand Shastri of Mauryan origin indicate that the district was active during this period.

(19) The occurrence of red polished and black-on-red wares from nearly forty sites testifies to the fairly thick habitation of the district during the Ksatrapa period.

(20) The presence of Roman or Mediterranean amphorae and red polished ware indicate that Jammagar had relations with Mediterranean world during early centuries of Christian era.

(21) The presence of thick sturdy, black-on-red ware resembling Ksatrapa pottery from Banarshapal (Rajasthan) and figured terracotta spouts indicate that the inhabitants had some relation with those of distant Rajasthan.

(22) The people of early historic period had also developed their own shell industries.

(23) The tradition of manufacturing objects from shell continued in the historic period also. Moreover, the bangles became more decorative but the technique of manufacture remained unchanged.

(24) Some of the terracotta objects obtained from the district, belonging to early centuries of Christian era and historic period III are of great importance and also noteworthy so far the terracotta art of the region is concerned.
(25) A 4th century sculpture depicting Kubera was brought to light. This is the earliest sculpture in stone of this region.

(26) Number of Jain and Meltraka temples testifies a thick habitation in this period.

(27) The presence of large number of Shivite images and two Shivite Matha's at Ghamli indicate towards the popularity of Shivism during Seindhava period.

(28) The presence of Brahminical and Jain sculptures indicate the prevalence of these religions in the district.

(29) The architectural and sculptural remains of historic period I, II, III & IV are described in detail.

(30) The study of pottery, stone tools and other minor antiquities are also incorporated in the thesis.

(31) A comparative study of the material remains brought to light by explorers for the first time that the development of Jamnagar did not keep itself aloof from the main currents of the Indian civilization and moved along with neighbouring region of the area and participated in the development of the material culture through the ages in the country.
I. Source of Information:

Published works having some bearing on the history and archaeology of the Jamnagar district such as Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency, Vol.I and III, Jamnagar district Gazetteer - 1970, Progress Reports of the Archaeological Survey of India, Western Circle and some stray articles, research papers or monographs published by scholars like, G.L. Jacob, C.C. Carver, A.C. Altekar, James Burgess, W.H. Sankalia, (Capt.) H. Sellwngerfora, S. Subrahmanya, C.V. Soundararajan, P.P. Pandya, C.A. Dhank, J.K. Sharav, H. Ansari, M.I. Hato, R.N. Mehta, etc. were used as a source of information for this thesis. Details of these works are given in bibliography. For comparative study, archaeological reports of the Government of India and various excavation reports of various institutions were also referred to. The original data collected by the field work spreading over a period of three years, is the main source of information for this work. The material and data thus collected in the field work and information gathered from the work of previous scholars are studied critically and summarised their results in this thesis.
II. The Extent To Which This Work Is Based On The Work Of Others:

All the earlier works of the scholars mentioned above and also others have been utilised but their help is taken only for information and comparative study. P.H. Kolte's work on Saurashtra was very useful for noting the Late stone age sites in the district and for correlating the Late stone age finds from other sites of the district.

For the study of Chalcolithic cultures in the District, "Excavation at Rangpur and other exploration in Gujarat" by S.R. Rao (Ancient India, No. 18-19) and the excavation reports of Somnath, Jaiha, Thatwa, Kanovel by P.H. Kolte were consulted for comparative studies. Besides these excavation reports, the report of Navdiali, Chandoli, were also utilised to draw some conclusions.

The excavation of Dwarka by Z.A. Ansari and P.H. Kale (Deccan College Post-graduate and Research Institute, Pune) was extensively consulted for the historical periods in the archaeology of the district, as well as for the interpretation and comparative study. This previous work also gave background and insight for proper understanding of the cultural developments and strengthened the results achieved by the recent studies.
Moreover, the work of Nanavati and Dhankar on Vadodara and Sindhava temples were of great help for studying the temple architecture of the district.

III. Original Portion Of The Thesis:

This thesis is mainly based on the results of the original work done by the investigator. As many as hundred sites have been discovered and described their archaeological importance in light of material remains obtained from each site. Besides this, the sites brought to light by earlier investigators were re-examined and critically studied by archaeological view-point. Architectural remains, sculptures, terracottas, coins, ceramics, stone tools etc. are compared and described as the first hand information for the study of material cultures of the district. The chapter regarding conclusion is the original contribution as Jamnagar district as a whole is reviewed from the view-point of Archaeology.

The thesis represent the regional studies in archaeology and for the first time discloses the vast amount of archaeological material lying in Jamnagar district of Gujarat State. The material remains of the human activities through the ages revealed a distinct personality of the district. The district was not at all backward in any sense, but it was leading in some extent in the cultural contacts and development than some other districts of Gujarat State.