Regional Chalcolithic cultures/traditions of Gujarat were mainly understood through the ceramic data generated from explorations and excavations carried out at different parts of Gujarat. However, a complete picture of these cultures could not be reconstructed as the discussions of the previous researchers were based only on one artifact type. With the changing perception and the recent trends in Chalcolithic research in Gujarat, it was necessary to carry out a systematic study to verify the identity of regional Cultures in Gujarat. This led to fresh explorations in various parts of Gujarat, re-analysis of artifacts and compilation of all available data. This has brought to light various results regarding regional Chalcolithic cultures and they are as follows.

1. As of today the earliest agricultural or food processing communities of Gujarat are the Mesolithic communities or the microliths using communities. This is well proved through the excavations at the north Gujarat sites.

2. The aforesaid Mesolithic communities or microlith using communities formed the base for the development of indigenous Chalcolithic traditions in Gujarat towards the beginning of the fourth millennium BC.

3. The earliest dated regional Chalcolithic culture/tradition in Gujarat is the Anarta Tradition and chronometric date for the initial stages of this tradition is 3700 BC.

4. The chronometric dates from the Pre Urban Harappan levels at Padri
(Padri Ware) also go back to c. 3700 BC, however, there is no evidence for its antecedent culture within the site or its neighbourhood indicating an evolutionary pattern.

5. It appears that at its beginning the 'Anarta tradition' did not have any contact with other Chalcolithic cultures for a long time (approximately 500 years as evident from its assemblage). This isolation needs to be addressed in detail to explain the factors that led to the same.

6. Based on archaeological data and due to the discrepancies in c14 dates, the proposition of stratigraphical break between Mesolithic and Chalcolithic communities at Loteshwar needs revision.

7. While observing the distribution pattern of the Anarta sites in Gujarat, it is seen that South Gujarat is completely devoid of this tradition and the reasons for the same needs to be explored further.

8. Some of the Anarta vessels in form and the scheme and style of painted decorations share common features with the Pre Urban Harappan ceramics from Sindh region and Ghaggar basin.

9. One burial found during the excavations at Loteshwar without burial goods appears to be the earliest Chalcolithic burial in Gujarat. From the limited evidence available it appears that the regional Chalcolithic people disposed their dead within the habitation area. This also calls for further detailed investigation.

10. Another regional Chalcolithic tradition which appears to have originated from the Mesolithic communities during the Pre Urban Harappan period is Pre Prabhas ceramics using communities of Datrana IV. The ceramics from
the site appears to be texturally inferior in its quality, indicating an incipient stage of pottery production.

11. The Pre Prabhas ceramics using communities appears to have started cultural contacts with the Pre Urban Harappans of Sindh region and Anarta ceramics using community around 3200 BC or little later.

12. If the Chalcolithic community at Datrana IV appears to have evolved from the Mesolithic community. The presence of Pre-Prabhas assemblage at the site, which is older than the same in Somnath/Prabhas Patan is intriguing. The possible explanation for this is that the inhabitants from the site may have moved to Saurashtra after coming in touch with the Pre Urban Harappans of Sindh region. Due to the absence of structures and the nature of deposit, which is flimsy, many researchers consider Datrana as the seasonal habitation/camp site of the pastoral nomads. But the evidences suggest stone tool production at the site and an economy not entirely dependant on pastoral activities. Therefore, it is possible to say that the status of a full time settlement can be attributed to Datrana which specialized in stone tool production.

13. The earliest evidence for the crested ridge blades in the Chalcolithic context of Gujarat occurs in Datrana IV (c. 3200-2800 BC) and Somnath. The Pre Urban Harappan Sindh type ceramics collected from various parts of Gujarat were made using fast wheel. The crested ridge blades and fast wheel made pottery in Gujarat may have been introduced by the Pre Urban Harappans of Sindh region. It must be mentioned here that the Pre Urban Harappan site at Datrana IV is the biggest stone tool production centre so far known during Pre Urban Harappan time.

14. The vessels of regional Chalcolithic traditions/cultures like Anarta
tradition, Pre Prabhas Assemblage, Padri Ware and Micaceous Red Ware were made using hand or slow wheel/turn table.

15. A comparative study of ceramics of Anarta tradition and Padri indicate that similarities are very few in shapes and decorations, while differences are pronounced. Therefore the use of 'Padri/Anarta Cultural Complex' is irrelevant and meaningless.

16. The relative dates suggested for different periods of Padri require a reappraisal.

17. Among the Chalcolithic cultures/traditions, Anarta tradition (3700-1700 BC) and Padri ware (3600-2000 BC) show an extensive time span, while the Pre-Prabhas assemblage (3000-2500 BC), Prabhas Ware (2299-1769 BC) and Micaceous Red Ware (2500-1600 BC) have shorter time span. Pre-Prabhas assemblage probably vanished by the Urban Harappan Period.

18. The artefacts those can be clearly labelled as belonging to regional communities and differentiable from Harappans are ceramics. It is almost impossible to classify other artefacts as there are no clear-cut differences from those of Harappans. These artefacts include steatite beads; terracotta materials, i.e, pellets, spindle whorls, perforated discs, beads and pinched cakes; stone blades, rubber stones, grinding stones, querns and hammer stones; and shell beads and bangles.

19. Though, the regional ceramic types show a geographical boundary for their distribution, their influence at a minor level are often seen in areas far away from their core region of occurrence. In a simplistic way this may be explained as due to migrations/moving communities that led to inter site/inter regional relationships.
20. In sites like Bagasra and Lothal, quantity of regional ceramics are much more than Harappan pottery in the initial stages, however at Bagasra and Lothal during later stages and at Shikarpur from the beginning, the Harappan ceramics outnumber the regional types in quantity along with other materials. These may be viewed as an indication of integration of indigenous Chalcolithic communities into Harappan culture.

21. The availability of Micaceous Red Ware in limited quantities at Lohumjo-Daro and Shimal cannot be considered as the result of major inter-regional trade relations as the evidences from both the sites are very scanty.

22. Based on the chronometric and relative dates of artefacts from various excavated and explored Chalcolithic sites in Gujarat, the Chalcolithic phase in the region can be dated between c. 3700-900 BC. At North Gujarat and Saurashtra the Chalcolithic period is datable from c. 3700-1400 BC, at Kachchh between 3200-1400 BC and at South Gujarat between 2500-900 BC.