

CHAPTER VII

OTHER ANTIQUITIES

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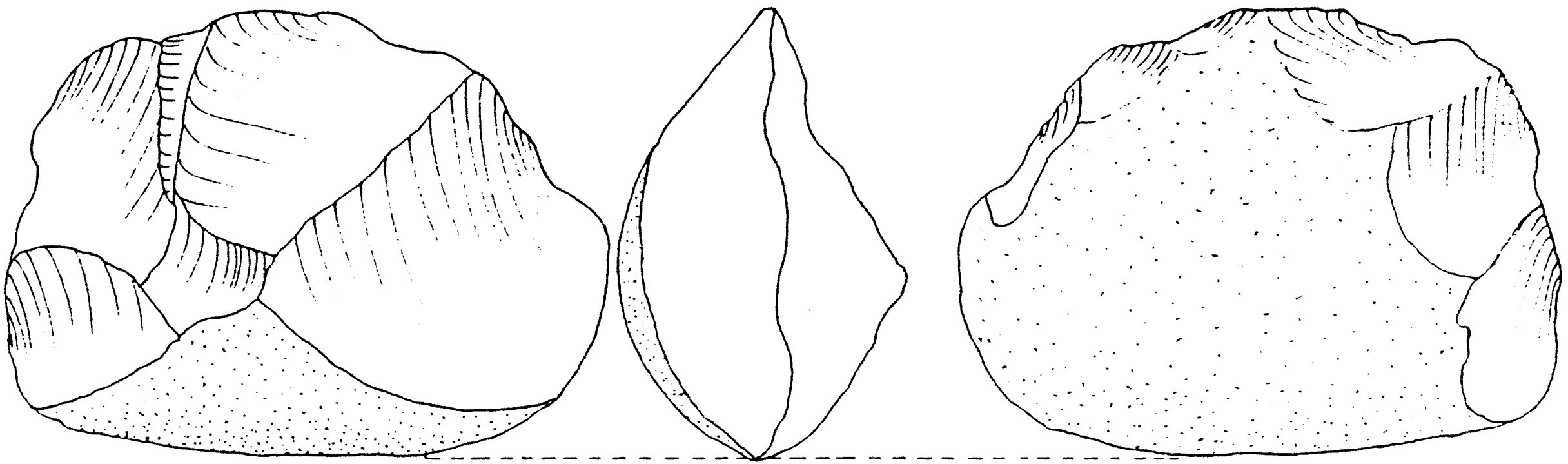
The explorations in the district have brought to light very limited number of antiquities. Pottery, coins and sculptures have already been discussed in earlier chapters. The minor antiquities include stone and terracotta objects.

The earliest stone objects comprise the palaeolithic tools discovered from the Markanda basin and the Bata Valley falling in zone numbers III and IV respectively. The main sites from where the tools have been found include, Jangla Bhud, Kotla, Andheri, Palica, Ram Kundi, Parduni and Kiarda. The tool types include chopper-chopping tools, cores, scrapers levallois flakes and blade-like flakes (Fig.14).

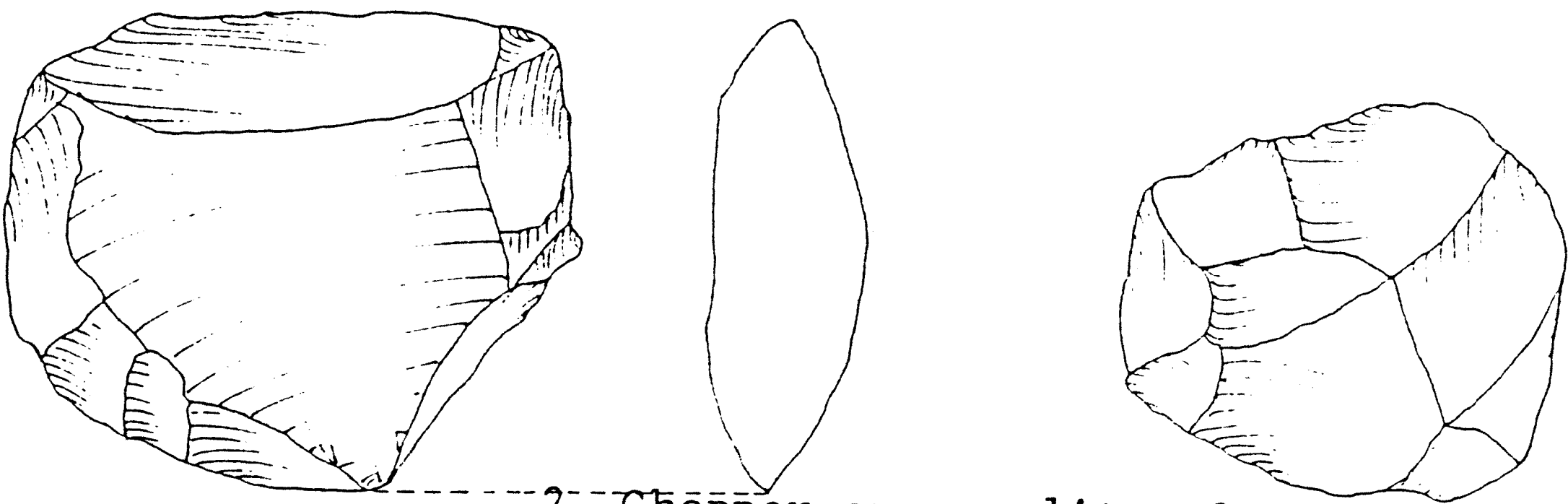
Type 1: The specimen is discovered from Parduni which is situated on a big terrace, on the left bank of Bata *nadi*, a tributary of the Yamuna. Besides, the site also yielded flake cores and scrapers etc.

Type 2: It was recovered from Ram Kundi, situated near Saketi, a long terrace on the left bank of the Markanda (Ram Kundi has yielded choppers and cores also).

Type 3: The tool has been recovered from Jangla Bhud, situated on the left bank of Run, a tributary of the Markanda. The site has yielded cores and flake tools also.

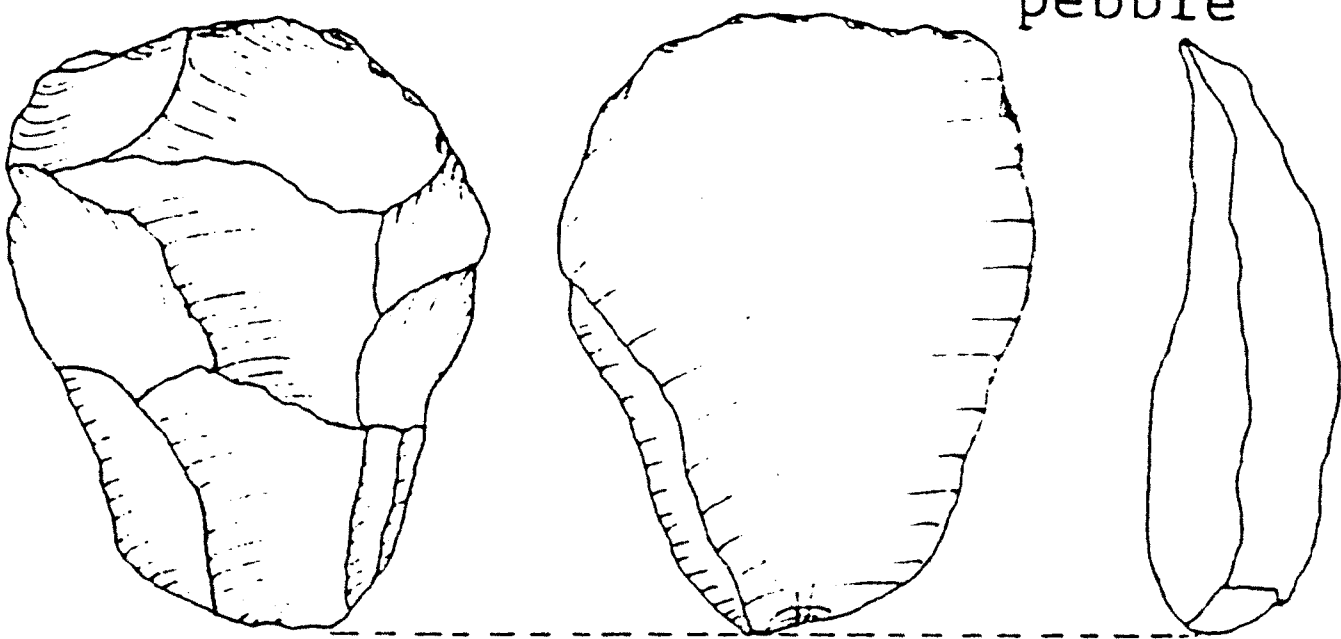


Chopping tool on a pebble

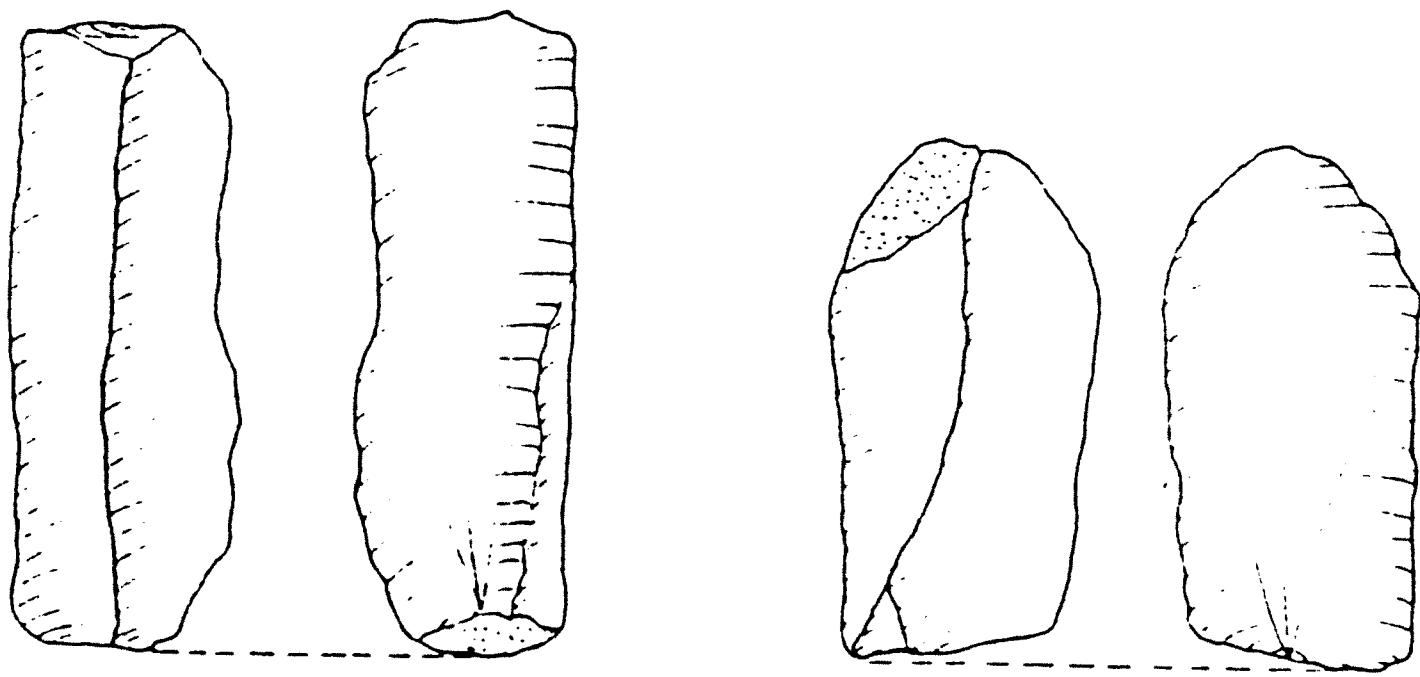


2. Chopper on a split pebble

3. Core



4. Levellois type flake tools



5 Bladish Flakes
PALAEOLITHIC TOOLS

6

FIG. 14

Type 4: The tool was recovered from Andheri which is situated on a long flat terrace on the left bank of Run *nadi*, a tributary of Markanda. Andheri has yielded Levallois type flake tools, cores, flakes and blades.

Type 5: The tool was recovered from Kotla, which is situated on the right bank of Run *nadi*. It has yielded scrapers and blade-like flakes. Besides, the site yields numerous hammer stones of various sizes and types indicative of the use of these for some special purpose.

Type 6: The tool was discovered from Palion, situated on a terrace on the right bank of Run, a tributary of Markanda. The site has also yielded blade-like flake tools, scrapers and cores. Some of the tools found are of indeterminate nature.

During the period when climate remained congenial, the readily available vegetation and animal life created a suitable habitat for early human settlements here. The early man preferred to camp on the terrace which was the most convenient flat surface. The raw material readily available in the form of pebbles was also at hand to design and fabricate the tools required for his hunting pursuits. For cutting the hunted animals, extracting flesh and removing their skins the early man employed stone tools like choppers

and scrapers which have sharp edges suitable for such functions. These tools clearly indicate the earlier stage of human culture.

The other stone tools include saddle querns and stone balls (Pl.20), mullers and a pebble pounder or hammer (Pl.21) looking like a neolithic celt. The pebble hammer, stone querns, mullers and stone balls have been recovered from late Harrapan sites like Hatwar-I (No. 111) in zone IV and Tokion-I (No. 131) in zone V. A few of the querns and mullers have been recovered from N.B.P. - Grey ware settlements such as Kunthal-I (No. 30) in zone III, Danger (No. 5) in zone II etc. The stone hammer and the round balls are made of granite. The balls were probably used as missiles and the querns and mullers for grinding the corn and masala.

The terracottas from the exploration included human figurines (Pl.22) and the animal figurines (Pl.23-24), terracotta wheel and discs (Pl.25), terracotta beads (Pl.26), terracotta balls (Pl.27) votive tank and dabbers.

The terracotta human figurines include fragmented female figurines. The figurines are applied with decorated girdles and are flat. The features are not clearly defined. Similar figurines have been found from Sugh¹ and other early

1. Suraj Bhan, Excavations at Sugh, *JHS*, Vol.IX, Nos.1-2, Kurukshetra, 1977.

historical sites. Stylistically these may be dated on the Mauryan period.

The terracotta animal figurines include bull and elephant. Although it is difficult to place all the terracotta figurines correctly in time, some of the bull figurines from Hatwar-I (No. 111) zone IV and Ambwala (No. 101) in zone IV seem to belong to the late Harappan phase. A terracotta elephant with only the hind portion from Kunthal-I (No. 30) zone I may be placed in the N.B.P. - Grey ware period.

The terracotta wheel and the circular discs carved out of potsherds may date to the N.B.P. - Grey ware period. A terracotta with a hub has been found from Dhali-I (No. 7) zone I. The pottery discs have been found from Barman-II (No. 73) zone III and Manpur Devara (No. 107) zone IV and Kotla-III (No. 88) zone III fall in all N.B.P. - Grey ware sites.

Terracotta beads include simple beads, plano-convex and *ghata* shaped and arecanut shaped beads. These have been recovered from N.B.P. - Grey ware sites such as Burman-II (No. 73) zone III, Manpur Devara (No. 107) zone IV and Kotla-III (No. 88) zone III.

A terracotta votive tank of the Kushana age comes from Bhanog-II (No. 3), zone I.

A small terracotta marble and terracotta balls have also been recovered from late Harappan, N.B.P. - Grey ware or Kushana sites.

A terracotta dabber used for manufacturing pottery was discovered from the early historic site Danger (No. 5), zone II.

The terracotta objects are poor man's antiquities while the art figurines, votive tanks and sculptures as well as metal objects reflect their association with the elite in the society. The small antiquities include not only toys and gamesmen and utilitarian domestic tools, but also objects connected with beliefs and rituals like the mother goddess and votive tank.