STATEMENT I

(Statement showing the particulars, on which the work is based, the discovery of new facts and of new relationships between facts observed by others and how the work tends to help the general advancement of the knowledge)

The Harappan Culture in 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 re-constructed as the discussions of the previous researchers were based only on artefact type. With the changing perception and the recent trends it is necessary to try, test and carryout new, systematic and more scientific studies to identify the cultural trajectory of the Harappans in Gujarat. This led to the analysis of the artefacts using different methods in combination. This has brought to light various results regarding the Gujarat Harappans in general and Bagasra in particular.

The major results of the study are

1. From the examination and re-arrangement of the artifacts based on structural phases at Bagasra shows that Phase II is the most organized period at the site and all the economic activities are in full swing during this time and are mostly located inside the fortification shows an organized way of production was existed at the site during this phase.

2. The site yielded indications of craft production like shell bangles, beads and blades, copper activity and faience working which can be extracted from the huge amount of manufacturing waste showing different stages of production along with the finished goods.

3. Phase II and III shows evidence of contacts with other sites which is evident from the long chert blades (Rohri Chert Blades) etched and long carnelian and lapis lazuli beads and the some deluxe wares like Black and Red ware and the Black Slipped jars.
4. The production of local chert blades and beads made out of locally available chert (Blood Stone?) clearly indicate the knowledge of the local raw material source and local trade network.

5. The ceramics were produced at the site was produced locally by using the locally available clay and continued the production in full swing even after Phase III.

6. The analysis shows that the clays were collected at least from four major sources and is matching with the local geology.

7. Same clay and different methods has been used for making different wares and shapes at Bagasra.

8. The morphometric analysis shows that among the shapes pots are the most standard shape at Bagasra which is followed by bowls and basins.

9. Bowls show a considerable change in their size and rim features. It is the shape with most variations in phase I and the shape with least variations in Phase IV. It shows changing trend in food habit and preference of different shapes over the other by the people at the site.

10. Dishes at Bagasra are in an inverse relation with the bowls. It is the most standard vessel form in phase I and least standard at Phase IV.

11. Phase IV produces lesser variant or more uniform ceramics. Here the major wares, shapes, texture shows less variants but reached the total production at its maximum. No compromise has been done with the quality except in case of losing the classical shapes and decorations.

12. The ethno archaeological study shows that sometimes the part time specialist can even produce more standard product than the full time specialists.

13. Workshop 4 and Workshop 5 (considering as part time specialists) produces less variable/more standard products than Workshop 3 and workshop 1 (full time specialist).

14. The normal production by the specialist at W1 and production under exclusive instruction/demand (W1D) brings a difference in the quality and
in the variation. It estimates a strong direction or constant demand from the part of consumers/elite can enhance the reduction in variation or standardization.

15. The division of labour also generates uniformity and a desired quality to the product. The micro specialization at Jajasar (W2), where each stage of potting is done by different members of the family brings enormous degree of specialization compared to the single specialists who controls all the stages of production at other workshops.

16. The use of advanced tools (e.g., Electric wheel at Jajasar) and separate provisions for different stages (square and round champers for clay paste preparation at Jajasar and Mota Bela), separate kilns for different size and shapes (Bavpar and Jajasar) shows the different levels of specialization and the degree of standardization reflected on the products.

17. The skill and the adaptation of the potter to the changing environment and demand also facilitate the quality of the product and the notion of standardization.

18. The study (model) tested against the archaeological samples at Bagasra shows that the degree of standardization can be estimated successfully with the help of composite approaches. It may vary with the selection of the parameters that reflect the degree of standardization and has to be worked out according to the nature of the site and the samples.

STATEMENT II

(Statement indicating the sources of information and the extent to which the thesis is based on the work of others and the portion of the thesis claimed as original)

The study is based on ceramics and other artifacts (movable and immovable) from Bagasra, Gujarat through systematic exploration and excavation. The published books, reports, reviews, and articles on previous researches helped in
understanding the environmental and archaeological aspects, formulating strategies of exploration, data collection, artifact analysis and data analysis. For comparison and correlation of artifact data, excavation reports of Lothal, Rangpur, Surkotada, Rojdi, Somnath, Nageshwar and Nagwada were referred. Along with this the results of the study were correlated with the works like, Krishnan (1986), Bhagat, S (2001) and Shah, K (2001) in order to appreciate the level of the standardization of the Harappans. The following is the list of selected references consulted for the present study.


The portion of the thesis claimed as original is the typological, thin section and morpho metric analysis of the chalcolithic pottery from Bagasra. The samples collected through the ethno archaeological survey by the investigator, its analysis and interpretation and comparison of the results with other sites is the novel part of the thesis. An attempt has been made to device a methodology to understand the craft specialization reflected on archaeological ceramics. Here a combination of four methods has been considered and successfully tested against archaeological samples are also to be considered as original contributions of this work.