

# ***CHAPTER-9***

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## ***LIFE OF EARLY MAN***

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### ***CLASS VI***

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***( 20.7.20 TO 24.7.20 )***

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➤ *We do not know the exact place of the origin of mankind. However, evidence indicate that human species may have developed in Africa as this area has favorable climatic conditions for the evolution of human life. It is believed that later on the human species may have wandered to Asia, Europe and America. Most of the tools are made up of stones. The period when the stone tools were used is known as the **stone age**. It is divided into three main phrases:*

- 1. **Palaeolithic Age or Old stone Age***
- 2. **Mesolithic Age or Middle stone Age***
- 3. **Neolithic Age or New stone age***

## PALAEOLITHIC SITES IN INDIA



# **PALAEOLITHIC AGE**

➤ *Palaeo* means “old” and *lithic* means “stone”. The Paleolithic man prepared stone tools to defend himself from wild animals. He also used them for hunting, chopping meat, cutting wood and digging. The tools were known as core and **flake tools**. The core tools were made from large stones by sharpening the edges. The flake tools were formed when formed( broken pieces) of stone struck off from a large piece of stone. These tools were crude and unpolished. The man of this period was “food hunter” and “gatherer” who moved from one place to another in search of food.

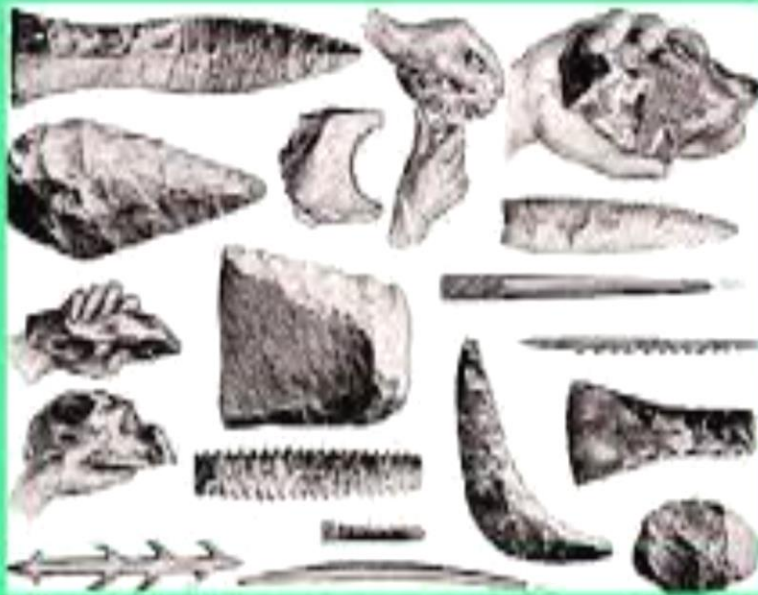
*The greatest achievements of man during this period was when he accidentally discovered fire by rubbing two stones against each other. fire provided him not only warmth in the cold weather but also safety from the wild animals. Moreover, he was able to roast raw food to make it tastier and softer. Some of the remains of this period have been found in India at Bhimbetka, Hunsgi and Kurnool.*



# Palaeolithic Age in India

EXAMS DAILY

## Study Materials



# Paleolithic Age (Old Stone Age)



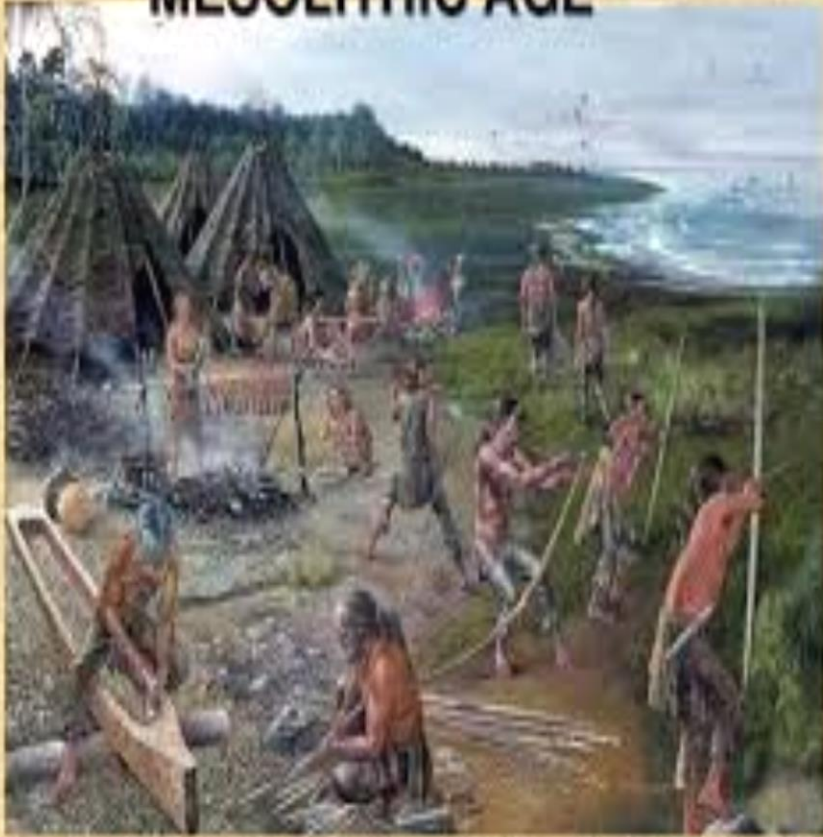
# **MESOLITHIC AGE**

➤ *Meso means “middle”. Hence, this age refers to the period between Palaeolithic Age and the Neolithic age. The tools and implements of this period improved gradually. Man started using horns and bones in addition to the stone tools. He learnt to fix small to sticks and used them to hunt animals. The man of Mesolithic age started making age huts with the branches of trees. He continued to eat a variety of seeds, berries, roots, nuts and fish as his ancestors did.*

➤ *Gradually, the man became a “food producer” and he moved close to water like rivers and lakes. The beginning of agriculture took place during this period when the man learnt to drop seeds in the soil to grow plants. He also started taming animals, like cow , goat, sheep and pig that serves his needs. It is said that dog was the first animals to be tamed by man . The mesolithic man protects himself from cold and rain with the skin of animals. In India the remains of Mesolithic Period have been found in Ujjain , Jorwa , Chandoli and Singhapur.*



## MESOLITHIC AGE




They invented wooden bows and arrows for hunting, boats for fishing.



# **NEOLITHIC AGE**

➤ *Neo means “new”. During this period , man prepared new stones tools which were harder and stronger. He became a skilled “tool- maker”. He started and grinding his tools and weapons . His weapons included stone- axe, knives, harpoons, wooden bows and stone-tipped arrows. The remains of such tools have been found in different parts of the world. The places related to Neolithic age in India are Mehgarh, Chirand , Hading , Hallur and Koldihwa. The Neolithic man believed in life after death. The dead were buried along with the objects, like beads, pots, tools etc.*



➤ *It was believed that they might need them in another life. The cultivation of crops and domestication of animals were the important achievements of man of Neolithic Age. As he did not have to move constantly in search of food, he started leading a “settled life”. The settled life gave birth to the institution of family. Due to the availability of time and opportunity, man developed new skills. He invented the sickle for cutting crops and grass, axe for cutting trees and grinding stone to grind the grains. He also learnt the art of knitting and weaving. He started weaving clothes with wool and jute. He carved little statues from ivory and bone.*



➤ *The man of Neolithic Age was responsible for developing the first **pottery**. In the beginning , the hand- made pots were dried in the sun and used. Later on, learnt to bake the clay pots. Baking on fire gave lustre , strength and durability to the pots. They were decorated with carvings of flowers, leaves etc. It may have been during the baking of the clay pots in kilns that man discovered that metal is produced when some ore metals. It is believed that copper was the first metal to be discovered by man. Hence, the **Stone Age**, came to an end and the **Metal Age** began when man started using copper tools in addition to the stone tools and implements. This period is known as **Chalcolithic Period** ( **Chalco** means “copper”).*

# The Neolithic Age





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You...

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