
Chapter – 3 History

From Gathering to Growing Food

- The new stone age started a new era in history.
 - After leading a nomadic life for many years, man around 10,000 years began to lead a settled life.
 - **The Beginning of Food Produce:**
 - (i) As climate of the world changed man observed several things - areas where edible plants were found, how seeds broke off stalks, fell on the ground and how new plants sprouted from them.
 - (ii) Man started cultivating crops.
 - (iii) The first crops to be grown were cereal and barley.
 - (iv) This is how by use of sickle men became food producers or farmers.
 - (v) Agriculture changed the life of man. They started leading a settled life.
 - **Men as Herders:**
 - (i) Humans even began to tame or domesticate animals like dog, horse, pig, goat, donkey, sheep, etc.
 - (ii) The first animal to be tamed was dog.
 - (iii) Animals provided milk, meat and even carried burden on their back.
 - **Human as Inventors of Wheel:**
 - (i) The revolution in early man's life came with the invention of wheel.
 - (ii) Wheel transformed man's life.
 - (iii) Travelling and carrying heavy objects from one place to another place became faster.
 - **How was Invention of Pottery Important:**
 - (i) Man learnt to make clay pottery shaped by hand backed in fire.
 - (ii) Potter's wheel helped them to make pots of different shapes and sizes.
 - **How do we know about Farmers and Herders:**
 - (i) Archaeologists have found many traces of life of early farmers.
 - (ii) Traces of farmers and herders were available through traces of pottery, pit houses, tools, paintings and daily life.
 - (iii) Traces were found in Mehrgarh, Burzahom at North-Eastern parts of India etc.
 - **The Chalcolithic Age:**
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- (i) It was around 6,000 years back that man started using copper.
 - (ii) Tools of copper were better than that of stone.
 - (iii) It was also called the Copper Stone Age.
 - (iv) It marked an important transition from use of stones to metals.

- **The North-West Mehrgarh:**

- (i) The earliest known civilization of the Indian subcontinent was in Mehrgarh (now Pakistan).
- (ii) It was here that man first tamed animals and reared them around 7,000 BC.
- (iii) Charred grains and bones of animals were found here.
- (iv) Glazed faience beads were made.

- **The North-East:**

- (i) Evidence of early settlements were found in Manipur, Tripura, Garo Hills.
 - (ii) One important Neolithic site in Assam was Daojali Hading. Traces of polished stone tools, ceramics and kitchen items were found here.
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