



APPEARANCE THEN DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNAL CONSTRUCTIONS THROUGHOUT PEBBLE ETERNITIES

¹Name of 1st Dr Megha Arsh

¹Designation of 1st Asst.Prof.

¹Name of Department of 1st Arts Dept.

¹Name of organization of 1st Gokul Global University, Sidhpur, India.

Abstract:

The two main periods of human history are Prehistoric and Historic. The prehistoric era encompasses early man's difficulties acclimating to his surroundings as well as his history since he first appeared on Earth. There are no written documents from this era, however the Historic period started with the invention of writing. The beginning of life and the development of the distant ancestors are described in the Prehistoric era.

The longest portion of human history is covered within this time frame. The Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic are the three stone ages that make up this Prehistoric era. These periods are known as the Stone Ages because stone was the first artefact used by early people. The initial Humans utilized the stones as needed, chipping and breaking them into pieces and using them to make sharp, pointed tools and hunting weapons. The degree of sophistication with which people have fashioned and utilized stone tools has led to the division of stone ages into three periods.

We cannot function in our daily lives without technology, cell phones, power, and many other things. Therefore, the question of how the first humans survived on Earth arises. How they adapted in a hostile setting with lots of untamed creatures and a thick forest covers? How did they construct their initial homes? How did they arrange the food? Furthermore, our society has not always been the same as it is today. How, then, did the first man form social bonds? How did social organizations come into being? These are only a few of the innumerable questions. This article will examine the formation and development of the first social systems during the Stone Age. We'll talk about the three stone eras' social characteristics.

KEY WORDS: Social structures, Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Stone ages.

INTRODUCTION

The history of the first humans on Earth is known as the Prehistoric era. Humans first appeared on Earth about 200,000 years ago, while the planet is roughly 4.5 billion years old. There are four stages in the evolution of the Earth's crust:

- 1) Primary, or Paleozoic
- 2) Mesozoic secondary,
- 3) Tertiary, and
- 4) Quaternary

Together, the Tertiary and Quaternary make up the Cenozoic, or mammalian age, which started roughly 100 million years ago (MYA). Of the seven epochs that make up the Cenozoic, the Pleistocene (ice age) and Holocene (post ice age) are particularly significant for the history of hominids. Evolution. The Holocene, often known as the Recent Period, in which we currently live, began around 10,000 years ago, and the Pleistocene began around 1.6 million years ago. Pre-Pleistocene and early Pleistocene periods are when humans first appeared. Apes originally evolved 30 million years ago, and early humans were not all that different from them. Then, the most significant development in human evolution occurred with the emergence of Australopithecus. The Latin word "Australopithecus" means "Southern ape." They had traits that were both human and ape-like. They were pot-bellied, bipedal animals with a braincase that was just 400 cubic millimeters in size. The hominid line of evolution

includes humans. The final of the Australopithecus species was prehistoric hominids. They are also referred to as proto-humans for this reason.

Homo Habilis, which lived in eastern and southern Africa between 2 and 1.5 million years ago, was the earliest significant Homo (human). A "handy or skilled man" is what Homo Habilis signifies. Their braincase was only 500–700 cubic cm in size. They began crafting tools out of stones. The appearance marked the start of the second crucial step. of the upright or erect man, Homo Erectus. It has a 1.8–1.6 MYA date. With a braincase that measured 800-1200 cubic cm, its skull was robustly constructed. They learned to create and use fire. Their remains have been discovered in Africa, China, South Asia, and Southeast Asia, and they traveled great distances. Homo sapiens, or wise man, emerged at the third step.

Homo sapiens gave rise to our own species. Their forehead was extremely narrow, and their body was short. Its braincase was between 1200 and 1800 cubic millimeters in size. The full-fledged modern man, Homo sapiens sapiens, first appeared in Southern Africa between the late Stone Age and roughly 115,000 years ago. It had a big slimmer bones and a forehead. Its big, spherical braincase measured between 1200 and 2000 cubic millimeters. Humans came into being and developed on Earth in this way. Let's now examine how these prehistoric people established and developed social structures.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To investigate the necessity for the formation of social organizations during the Stone Age.
- 2) To follow how social structures changed during the course of the Stone Age.

STONE AGES

Early Indians made the transition from a primitive to a sophisticated way of life. They had to go through numerous phases in this process, which spanned several hundred thousand years. The various tools, weapons, ceramics, habitats, and other stone and metal items—known as artifacts—that were employed to designate these stages by them in order to meet their basic requirements like clothing, food, and shelter. Based on subsistence foundation, stone tool type and technology, and geological age, the Indian Stone Age is separated into three periods. The ages of these three are:

- 1) Palaeolithic
- 2) Mesolithic
- 3) Neolithic

The Mesolithic and Neolithic cultures date from the Holocene epoch, whilst the Palaeolithic cultures date from the Pleistocene. These cultures did not develop consistently across the subcontinent in a tidy, linear fashion. Their dates and characteristics varied somewhat each location.

THE PALAEOOLITHIC AGE

The Greek words "Palaios," which means "old," and "lithos," which means "stone," are the roots of the English word "Palaeolithic." Palaeolithic, then, is an acronym for "Old Stone Age." Based on the kind of stone tools that people used and the characteristics of climate change, this period is further separated into three phases.

Lower Palaeolithic ◊ from about 2 MYA to 100,000 years ago Middle Palaeolithic ◊ from about 100,000 to 40,000 years ago Upper Palaeolithic ◊ from about 40,000 to 10,000 years ago

The males of the Palaeolithic era hunted and gathered food like savages. They did not construct any homes and lacked any agricultural knowledge. But they had already learned the first lesson in intelligence regarding the necessity of socialization, cohabitation, and meeting their two main needs: first, to fulfill their biological desire to mate, which inevitably resulted in the creation of life and involved collectively protecting and raising their progeny; and second, to act in unison to defend themselves against natural disasters and attacks by other wild animals. Because of their clever behavior, men were categorized as "social animals" and set apart from other animals.

Given how difficult life was for Palaeolithic men and how weak they were physically in comparison to many other animals, group behavior or community life—which was founded on love and cooperation—became essential. A band society was the fundamental social organization of Palaeolithic hunter-gatherers. Bands were small towns, typically with fewer than 100 residents. Band members were typically linked to one another via blood.

The reciprocity laws served as the foundation for the exchange of goods. Age and sex were the basis for the division of labor. They moved about based on the seasonality of the animals they hunted and the plant food they collected, making them somewhat nomadic. Since they had not yet acquired a notion of private property, everyone shared access to the natural resources. There were no official governmental entities. The natural rule of selection dictated the group's leadership; the strongest individual in the group held the others, and the rise of more influential adults among them frequently altered the leadership. Members of the group were governed by social etiquette, conventions, and standards rather than by coercion. A social conscience was thus beginning to take root as the early males learned to care for and feed their elderly members in the same way that they did for their children and minors.

The early humans lived in shelters composed of rock, branches, grass, leaves, and reeds since they lacked permanent homes. They primarily resided in caves or natural rock shelters, which functioned as seasonal camps for them. The availability of plant or animal food determined how long they could stay in a certain location. They continued to exist. nuts or fruits, raw animal flesh, and plant roots that can be eaten. They consumed a wide variety of animals, such as sheep, goats, antelopes, and wild beasts that they could hunt, as well as fish, poultry, birds, and reptiles.

Their area's natural riches were not adequately used. To preserve the environment's resources, they deliberately exercised reasonable restraint when exploiting it. During the Palaeolithic era, there most likely was a division of labor according to gender roles. Women collected food, while males hunted. A large portion of their sustenance came from gathering rather than hunting. Therefore, women must have played a significant role in the Palaeolithic civilizations' ability to subsist. Palaeolithic humans must have had few material needs and desires. They only acquired the necessary amount of food. They had lots of free time to sleep, unwind, converse, and play games as a result.

The early males led naked lives. However, they had gradually learned to cover their private areas with leaves, tree bark, or animal skins since the beginning of elementary community life and the emergence of social consciousness. Additionally, they had learned how to produce fire by rubbing stones together to roast animals or warm them in cold weather. meat. It's likely that some of them also learned how to construct thatched homes out of tree branches and leaves.

The history of art begins with prehistoric art. Cave paintings are examples of permanent prehistoric art, whereas figurines are examples of portable prehistoric art. Some of them appear to have had cultic or religious importance, and they were undoubtedly an essential and significant component of community life. The most common themes in rock carvings and paintings are animals. Hunting rituals are depicted in certain ways. 'Venus figurines' are female figures that might symbolize fertility rites and beliefs.

THE MESOLITHIC AGE

The climate underwent significant changes during the conclusion of the Palaeolithic era, becoming warmer and more daytime. "Middle Stone Age" is the definition of mesolithic. Rainfalls became less intense. The landscape and the resulting flora and wildlife were significantly impacted by the change in climate. The In India, there was a brief period of transition from the Paleolithic to the start of the New Stone Age.

The Mesolithic phase, which started approximately 10,000 BC and lasted for roughly 4,000–5,000 represented this transitional time. The environment improved throughout this period, making it easier for mankind to survive. Men started to leave the hilly areas and the thick forests as a result of the altered environment, and they eventually started to disperse into the northern plains' more livable streets. There were now woods, verdant greenery, and a wide range of vegetation covering the plains and valleys.

The Mesolithic men continued to have nomadic lives and relied mostly on hunting, fishing, and gathering food. They were progressively learning how to domesticate chickens and a few other animals for milk and meat, including sheep, goats, and cattle. Mesolithic people's seasonal migration into particular regions, which is renowned for The organic development of consumable fruits and crops suggests that they were gradually becoming accustomed to the natural cycle of agricultural production and were about to begin cultivation. The Neolithic, or New Stone Age, was made possible by their early understanding of animal domestication and their familiarity with agricultural crop patterns.

When it came to disposing of their dead, the Mesolithic men were clueless. The corpses were left in the open on the hill slopes and in the jungles to be eaten away by the wild beasts and birds or to rot and decay. Microliths, which were tiny stone tools often composed of chert or flint, were created by the Mesolithic men. They were scaled-down copies of the original pebble tools. In general, they were very little. The Mesolithic men probably glued these stones on to the handles of bones or wood to manufacture tools. These implements were employed for clothing sewing and soil excavation.

It has been discovered that the walls and ceilings of numerous Mesolithic caves and rock shelters feature crude drawings of humans, animals, and birds. These paintings are simple sketches and outlines that represent a variety of objects in the vibrant colors of the juicy fruits and plant foliage. They portray the items in individual or collective hunting and combat scenes. These paintings were likely created by prehistoric humans for a variety of purposes, including expressing their creative impulses, decorating their homes, telling stories through images, and preserving some of their most memorable moments. It's possible that certain paintings were a component of a fertility or hunting ritual.

THE NEOLITHIC AGE

On the Indian subcontinent, the Neolithic, also known as the New Stone Age, started about 7000 BC. Knowledge of agricultural cultivation and animal domestication, the two most notable discoveries that established the groundwork for human civilization worldwide, were hallmarks of Neolithic culture. The Self-sufficient village communities with a balance between population and food production were common during the Neolithic period. Food acquisition and eating are typically social activities. Food products can be a part of social taboos, gift-giving, hospitality, and commerce systems. During the Neolithic era, we saw various instances of communal food preparation and feasting.

Stone was still crucial for the creation of tools. Neolithic man advanced in their ability to make tools. Their stone tools were more effective and practical since they were smaller and sharper than earlier models. Animal bones and ivory had also been utilized to make tools. The males of Neolithic times started

farming as well as the domestication of animals. This shift in occupation from gathering food to generating it did not happen overnight. Over a few thousand years, they underwent several trials and made significant advancements in this area. In the first case, they began harvesting after closely observing the cycle of seasonal growth of edible vegetables and the ripening of fruits and grains in the wild. Since people had to remain there after cultivating in order to watch their crop ripen, the adoption of this practice signaled the start of settled life. It gave rise to farming communities and the foundations of the rural economy.

Animals like sheep and goats were first domesticated almost concurrently with the Neolithic men's introduction of farming. Thus, the growth of agriculture enabled population growth and encouraged a settled lifestyle. Human history saw a revolution as a result of these changes. In the long run, this shift from hunting and gathering to food-producing societies resulted in both an increase in population and rising levels of sedentariness.

New equipment and tools were needed for food production. It also included changes in the contributions of men, women, children, and the elderly, as well as a new type of scheduling of subsistence tasks. Because farmers had to store food grains for later use, there were also some modifications in food ethics. These Much more long-term planning was needed. Clay pottery became widely used once agriculture and animal domestication were introduced. They made a lot of kitchen tools and pots out of clay.

Hunting was still significant, and fishing was a popular pastime. However, the bulk of Neolithic men became farmers after agriculture and animal domestication were introduced, and they began establishing permanent settlements as agriculturists along the riverbanks. While some chose to pursue artisanal crafts, others became shepherds and herdsmen. The art of cooking gained popularity when people learned how to make fire. Neolithic men acquired skills in cloth weaving and spinning. During this time, cloth dyeing also began. Both sexes wore clothing resembling a dhoti and knotted or combed their hair in different ways.

The women, in particular, used ornamental decorations to beautify their bodies. The Neolithic Indians' emergence of social cognition sparked affection for their fellow humans and reverence for their elders. These honorable Out of respect for the departed spirits, sentiments were mirrored in the origin of the custom for the burial of their deceased. Along with food items and home items that the departed souls were thought to have needed, the bones or ashes of the deceased were placed in special pots and buried deep into the earth.

CONCLUSION

The emergence of modern people is linked to prehistory, which is the longest period of human history. The Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic eras were among them. Based on the stone tools discovered during these eras, they have been categorized. However, the precise difference between these There are always regional and temporal variances, and periods are not feasible. During the Palaeolithic era, the social structures were still developing. There were several small-sized "bands" within the basic society. The transitional period between the old and new stone ages was known as the Mesolithic age. During the Mesolithic age, tiny tools known as microliths appeared. The final stage, the Neolithic, saw the beginning of the domestication of plants and animals. The evolution of humans was revolutionized by these events. At this point, the hunter-gatherers became pastoralists and farmers. Their life of nomadism ended, and they began residing in permanent settlements. In Neolithic communities, social systems became more intricate and social distinctions of some kind surfaced. The struggle for survival, where a group of people had to fight against large, wild animals, led to the emergence of the earliest social organizations. These social systems then continued to develop and evolve in response to new environmental shifts and human demands.

REFERENCES

- 1) Singh, Upinder. (2009). A history of ancient and early medieval India: from the stone age to the 12th century. Noida : Dorling Kindersley (India) Put. Ltd.
- 2) Mehta, J.L. & Mehta, Sarita (2010). History of Ancient India (From the earliest times to 1206 AD). New Delhi: Lotus Press Publishers & Distributors.
- 3) <https://medium.com/@hamzabneb/mesolithic-social-Structure-53ab4c13c39b>
- 4) <https://anthroholc.com/mesolithic-age>
- 5) <https://www.studocu.com/in/document/aligarh-muslim-university/ancient-india/the-neolithic-revolution-social-structure-belief-system/20008026>
- 6) <https://www.Vedantu.com/history/Palaeolithic-Societies>