

Note on Exploration in the Shāngla District and the Swāt Valley

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Although archaeological exploration is being conducted periodically since the last quarter of the nineteenth century by various individuals and missions, there is still a dire need for documentation of sites in the yet unexplored Shāngla district, hanging valleys of Swāt and those of the adjoining territories—Bunēr, Upper and Lower Dīr, and the Mālākand and Bājaur Agencies—once remained constituent parts of ancient Uḍḍiyāna, corresponding to the present Mālākand Division (see *Bibliographic References* at the end.). However, exploration in this mountainous terrain is laborious, time and fund consuming, and at times turns out to be fruitless and disappointing because of misinformation.

The present short exploration conducted in the Shāngla district and the Swāt valley resulted in the discovery of a few archaeological sites and monuments that are mostly robbed and dilapidated (Figs. 1 and 2). The archaeological riches and historical accounts of foreign travellers clearly mark the antiquity of these regions. Lush green valleys, river banks, cliffs, rocks, etc., in short, every nook and corner of this hilly region presents story of the bygoners in one or the other way. The following is a brief inventory of the currently explored sites. Where GPS (instrument for marking latitudes and longitudes) was available, we have given exact global position of those sites only.

The Shāngla District

The Shāngla district is located between Lat. 33°-08' and 34°-31' north and Long. 72°-33' and 73°-01' east. The districts of Kohistān, Swāt and Bunēr bound it in the north, west and south respectively, while the River Indus confines it on the east for about 75km. The tribal area Kālā Dhāka partially covers it on the south. Total area of the district is 1586 square km. The altitude of the district varies from two to three thousand metres with the highest peak being 3400m above the sea level.

Physically, we can divide this region of high mountains into five main valleys of Kāṇā, Ghorband, Beshām, Pūraṇ and Chakesar and, administratively, into five *tehsils* of Alpūrī, Beshām, Pūraṇ, Chakesar and Mārtuṅ (Fig. 1). Each valley has its own drainage system comprised of a number of springs and rivulets originating in the surrounding snow-capped peaks. All the systems drain their water into the Indus in the east. Geomorphology of the area shows thrust faults and tight folds. Gneiss, volcanic rocks, sandstone and precious and semiprecious minerals are found at different localities.

Although excavations at promising sites in the area can only establish its true cultural and historical profile, yet the present survey indicates its continuous occupation, at least, since the Buddhist period onward to date. Currently the Yūsufzai Pathan, Gūjar, Syed, Mian and Qureshi tribes and clans inhabit it. Besides the probable identification of Aornos (some scholars, however, disagree with this identification. See Swati 1997-b: 166 and n. 74; Eggermont 1984: 73-123), Stein during his survey did not come across any archaeological site in this region (Stein 1930: 66-94).

The Kāṇā Valley, Tehsil Alpūrī

1. DAURAY

Owner: Saatho of Bar Gāṇṣāl. The Dauray site situated to the west of Wolandar-Ajmēr road at a distance of 100m to the north of a Government Middle School at Bar Gāṇṣāl is bounded by the Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* on the east and Wuch *Khwaṛ* on the south. It lies at a distance of


approximately 30 minutes walk from the Wulandar *bazaar*, in the south-east. Presently under cultivation, grits and pieces of potsherds spread all over the site surface for about 150m in the north-south and 100m in the east-west directions.

According to the owner, in 2001 illegal diggers had exposed at the site two diaper masonry cells, the stone of which was reused for new construction. He reported pottery and a round hollow structure, like a well, to the northeast of the site. He also claimed that he had found here four sculptures and a dish in schist stone and a large number of terracotta pots and potsherds.

2. AḌAI

Owner: Mr. Abd-un-Nabi S/o of Mr. Shah Madar S/o Mr. Saif-ur-Rahman claimed that the Aḍai site is in their possession for the last 80 years. Overlooking Kūz Gāṇṣāl to the south, it is situated in Bar Gāṇṣāl off and opposite to the west of the Shāhpūr-Wolandar-Ajmēr road, from where it is approached across the Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* through a suspension bridge at Wolandar.

There is a 3.6m high and 2.7m wide huge rock with a now badly defaced rock-carving, measuring 1.8mx1.2m (Pl. 7). Destroyed by the landowner, its faint traces suggest it to be Padmapāṇi, probably Avaloketeśvara, facing the Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* in the east.

Further down to the east roughly 9m above the western bank of the Kāṇā *Khwaṛ*, there is a big boulder with a line of fragmentary Brāhmī characters (...  ...).

Opposite to the boulder and across the *Khwaṛ* on the left bank are situated houses of two brothers, Mr. Ghafūr and Mr. Said Rasūl. Dr. Muhammad Nasim Khan reads the inscription as "... (va)ja(dhaṇa)ṭā". "The initial part of the inscription", he comments, "is most probably, missing. The first letter of the existing inscription can be read as 'va' because of the vertical line, drawn upwards from the right limb of the letter. Without the vertical line the letter would have produced sound 'ba'. Normally letter 'va', generally round or angular in shape, carries the line upward at the middle rather than at its side. That is why we cannot ascertain reading of this letter. The second letter 'ja' is very clear. The shape of the third one is similar to an initial vowel 'e' and linguistically might represent sound 'dha'. The reading of the next letter is doubtful. The last sign 'ṭā' has medial vowel long 'ā' drawn rightwards from the central part of the letter. The right tip of the vowel extends downwards and joins symbols, which are not decipherable."

"The remaining part of the inscription, which might be a compound word having two elements: vāja-dhaṇaṭā, does not give any sense. The first component might be from 'vajra', always used in the beginning of a compound word, meaning 'hard' or 'mighty one', e.g., 'vajra-datta' meaning 'given by a mighty one'. While the second element might be based on 'dhaṇ' meaning 'to sound'."

"It is difficult to date the inscription, however, on the basis of palaeography we can place it between the 2nd-5th century AD."

3. GARAI IN SHUNYĀL

Owners: Mr. Iqbal and Mr. Jehan Afsar. The site located to the east of the Bilkānai-Wulandar road lies at a distance of 1km to the north of the Bilkānai village and is approached from the bazaar over there. To its south is the Shunyāl *Khwaṛ* and to the west, across the road, is the Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* and a Government Primary School. The site spreading approximately over half an acre is covered with potsherds. A terracotta lion head, broken animal figurine, bowl, lids and handle of pots, and a broken stone-plate are found from here (Pl. 8). A 2m high and 4m long exposed structure of diaper masonry runs in the east-west direction. The owner told that he had exposed a circular wall in the southeast corner of the site.

4. SAR PAṬĒ

Owner: Syed Osman, Mr. Fazal Karim and Mr. Naseeb Khan. The site lies about 4km to the north of the Dāmoṛai village and can also be approached from Bilkānai, in the southeast, after a 40 minutes walk. The Shāhpūr-Wolander road is to the west, Laodar *Khwaṛ* and Maṭṭa *Chīna* to the south, Aṛakh *Taṅgē* and Jruque *Chīna* to the north of the site. The site, around 32 *kanāls* (15667.2 sq. metre) in size, is presently converted into cultivated fields. Potsherds, charcoal and dressed-stone blocks scatter on the surface all over. A ruined structure, 2m high and 14m long, running in east-west direction facing south (Pl. 9) and traces of embankment walls in diaper masonry are still visible at the site.

5. KANḌAR, KIKOR

Owners: Mr. Gulbar, Mr. Kamal, Mr. Jehan Bar and Mr. Shah Jehan. The site, located about 1km to the north of the Dāmoṛai village, is bound by the Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* on the west, the Kwanji *Khwaṛ* on the east, Kikōṛ Power-Station on the northwest and the Kikōṛ village on the northeast. The site, an acre (3916.8 sq. metre) in size and now under cultivation, is covered with potsherds and pottery-slag all over. The owner reported few complete jars full of ashes from the site and a well to its south. Structures of undressed stone, modern houses and graves occupy the site at places.

6. ASHĀRĪ MAIDAN

Owner: Abd-ur-Rashid. The Ashārī Maidan site located to the northeast of the Dāmoṛai village is confined by the Baṭobaṭ *khwaṛgai* to the south, Khuṭkhuṭai to the north and Dāmoṛai-Wolander road to the west. It can be approached from Dāmoṛai at a distance of 15 minutes walk. Its area is about 1½ acre (4896 sq. metre).

Presently the site is converted into cultivated fields and its eastern corner is occupied by the tenant's house. Potsherds and dressed stone blocks are lying on the surface. The owner had found a stone, probably schist, sculpture and has smashed it. An old ruined wall, 7m long and 2½m high, of diaper masonry is still visible on the surface.

7. KUNḌICHĀR

Owner: Mr. Gul Ahmad. The site Kunḍichār situated on a high natural mound about 1.0km to the northeast of Dāmoṛai is delimited by Baṭobaṭ *Khwaṛgai* in the south and Khuṭkhuṭai *Khwaṛgai* in the north. Its approach is from the Dāmoṛai village. Being an acre (3916.8 sq. metre) in size, it is levelled into terraces for cultivation. Traces of walls in diaper masonry, stone blocks and slabs and potsherd can be observed on the surface. Dug by the owner, the western part of the site shows traces of small 2x2m cells in diaper masonry. A 2x1m section of an embankment wall at the southern corner is exposed. Terracotta pots, a sculpture and grinding stones are reported among the finds.

8. NĒMAKAI

Owners: Mr. Zafar Iqbal advocate and Mr. Sher. The Nēmakai site situated in the Dāmoṛai village seems to be a huge religious or settlement establishment spreading over more than two huge terraces now entirely under cultivation. Segments of walls of diaper masonry are visible at a number of places (Pl. 10) and the entire surface sporadically presents fragments of potsherds. Human and animal figurines in a large number are reported.

9. DHEHRAI

Owner: Sher Ahmad. The Dherai site situated on a high natural mound to the southeast of Dāmoṛai is bound on the south by the Shērīn *khwaṛgai* and on the north by the Government

Primery School, Dherai. It lies at a distance of 30 minutes walk from the Dāmoṛai village. Being 90x52m in size, it is converted into cultivated fields, which have the owner's house at the southeast corner. Potsherds and dressed stones cover its surface. Its central area seems intact, while illegal diggers have exposed 1½m long and 1m high diaper masonry structures at its western part. During construction of his house, the owner noticed ancient floors (paved with stone slabs and plastered with lime) and segments of terracotta pipeline at certain places of the site. Another 5.7x1m wall segment in diaper masonry ran in the east-west direction. The owner reported terracotta medium size bowls and oil lamps, grinding stones, lapis lazuli, carnelian and fragments of iron and bronze from the site.

10. BAṬOBAṬ

Owner: Mr. Azizullah. Situated in the village Dāmoṛai, the Baṭobaṭ site is approached by Shāhpūr (old Dalāi)-Wolandar road. Presently under cultivation, this large field when bulldozed for making a temporary helipad in 1994 yielded a large number of graves in its middle part. A big wall running in the north-south direction was mostly removed at that time. Some of the graves are reported still to be intact in the eastern part of the field. The local people have collected bronze objects and terracotta pots from here. Potsherds scatter on the surface.

11. GHUNḌ

Owner: Mr. Munawwar Khan. The Ghunḍ site situated to the west of Dāmoṛai is restricted by Sokar *khwaṛgai* and *chīna* (spring) in the north, Kapūno *khwaṛgai* in the south and Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* in the east. The site lies at a distance of two hours walk from the Dāmoṛai village across a suspension bridge. Being 15x10m in area, dressed stone-blocks and slabs scatter on its surface. Robber pits have exposed walls, four small cells, floors paved with stone-slabs and lime-mortar at the site. The owner reported two bronze plates from the site. Pottery is rare.

12. KŪZA KOMĀLAI

Owner: Mr. Faqir Gul. The site, situated in the Kārshaṭ village about 3km to the north of the Shāhpūr village, lies on the left bank of the Gājī *Khwaṛgai* and on the right bank of the Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* and is approached by the Shāhpūr-Wolandar road. It is of a considerable size and presently brought under cultivation. On the basis of finds, it seems to be a Buddhist religious site. *Chakras* (umbrellas) of stupas were found during illegal diggings and deposited on the recent retaining walls (Pls. 11-12). Diaper masonry structures are reported to have been exposed below the surface during the illegal diggings.

13. KOCH BĀN

Owner: Mr. Rahim Dad. The Koch Bān site lying on a high natural mound and situated to the northwest of the Komālai bridge and to the south of the Kārshaṭ village is bound by Gājī *khwaṛgai* on the south and Mamara *Chīna* on the northwest. It can be approached either from the Kārshaṭ village or the Komālai bridge after 15 minutes walk. Its size is roughly an acre (3916.8 sq. metre). It seems to be an ancient settlement site, which now is converted into agricultural fields. There is a modern house of the owner on its western side. Bits of iron-slag and potsherds are found on the surface of the site. Embankment walls of semi-diaper masonry are noticed at various places. Two walls, 3.2x2m and 10x2.8m in size, running in the north-south and south-east directions respectively. Another wall stretching from the northeast to the southwest measures 3.8x1.5m (Pl. 13).

14. BRAIM BĀṆḌA

The hilltop on the west of the Bar Kāṇā valley is flat and is called Braim Bāṇḍa, which meets with Lilonai in the back valley. Here ruins are reported but due to shortage of time we could not make to visit the site.

15. KĀPAR BĀṆḌA

The flat hilltop on the east of the Bar Kāṇā valley is called Kāpar Bāṇḍa, which meets with the Swāt Kohistān. Further up in the Ajmēr village on the mountain top at Khandarē a rock-carving is reported.

16. DHERAI, SHĀHPŪR

Owners: Mr. Amir Nawab Khan and Mr. Shah Wazir Khan. The Dherai site is situated on a high natural mound to the northwest of the Shāhpūr village and is bounded by the Saṅgar *khwaṛgai* and *chīna* on the north and the Tohay *khwaṛgai* on the south. It can be approached from the Shāhpūr as well as Bar Kāṇā villages after a march of 1½ hours. It is 50x30m in size and is converted into a cultivated field. Huge dressed stone blocks and slabs, sporadic potsherds and walls of diaper masonry are observed at the site. One of the walls running in the southwest-northeast direction is 9m long and 1.7m high (Pl. 14), while another 10m to the southeast of the former is 5.4m long and 1m high.

17. SAṆGAR

Owner: Mr. Pervez. The Saṅgar site situated on a natural mound to the northwest of Shāhpūr is marked by Saṅgar *khwaṛgai* on the north, Tohay *khwaṛgai* on the west and *chīna* on the east and can be approached either from Shāhpūr or Bar Kāṇā after two hours march. Covering approximately one acre, the entire site is converted into agricultural land, having house of the owner at its southwestern corner. The only surviving structure is an ancient pond of diaper masonry that presently used as water reservoir. It is 8m in diameter and 1m in depth and its floor is paved with stone-slabs.

18. DHER

Owner: Mr. Tora. The site situated on a natural mound to the northwest of Shāhpūr is bounded by Saṅgar *khwaṛgai* in the north, Tohay *khwaṛgai* in the south and *chīna* in the east and can be approached from Shāhpūr or Bar Kāṇā after 2½ hours climb. Covering an area of 1½ acre, it is converted into agricultural land having house of the owner at southeastern corner. Dressed stone blocks, potsherds and grinding stones are scattered on the surface of the site. Embankment walls are visible at various places of the site. A ruined wall, 7m long and 2m high, runs in the north-south direction.

19. DĀMĀNA

Owners: Mr. Afsarul Mulk and Mr. Zafar Iqbal advocate. The Dāmāna site is situated at the Shāhpūr village on the west of the road in large terrace fields, presently under cultivation. A large number of terracotta pots, cups and potsherds are reported.

20. SHUNYĀL

Owner: Mr. Muhammad Mustafa Khan. The Shunyāl site is situated to the west of the Shāhpūr *Khwaṛ* (Kāṇā *Khwaṛ*) and about 1km towards the south of the Shāhpūr village. Presently it is converted into huge terraces for cultivation. Ancient walls at places survive up to 10m in length and 2m in height. Small relief sculpture in schist and stucco and large storage jars as well as other types of pottery are reported. To the west across the hill-torrent the hilltop is called Achai Sar, where remains of a stupa are expected.

21. DUNKĀCHA

Owner: Mr. Faridoon Khan. Situated on a natural mound to the southeast of the Shāhpūr village, the Dunkācha site is surrounded by Kozhal *khwaṛgai* and the Primary Maktab School in the south, Kāṇā *Khwaṛ* in the west and *chīna* in the southeast. The site can be approached from the Shāhpūr village at a distance of 1km. Covering an area of 15x30m, potsherds scatter on its surface. During construction of the owner's house at the western corner terracotta pots and segments of pipe, pieces of which are still visible on the surface, were dug out.

Bishām Valley

22. EACHĀR (SHANG)

Owners: Mr. Wajid Ali and Mr. Majid Ali S/o Late Muammad Zahir. The Eachār site is located to the east of the *khwaṛ* of the same name and the Shang village, while the Karākoram Highway and the River Indus lie to its northeast. It is approached at a distance of five minutes walk from the point 4km past Bishām towards Abbotabad on the highway. Covering 15 *kanāls* of cultivated fields, dressed stone blocks, *kanjūr* stone blocks, potsherds, brickbats, charcoal and grinding stone/s scatter on its surface. Coins, terracotta bangles and oil lamps are reported from here.

Illegal diggers had exposed in the past a number of diaper masonry walls, the largest being 4m long and 2m high, at various places on the site. At the northeastern corner there is a small square pit—having 2.4m a side, 1m depth and 0.6m thick walls. Further to its north is reported an arcade of three arches, seemingly, enclosed by a partially exposed diaper masonry wall at a distance of 9m away in the same direction. Nearby to its west, there a floor of *kanjūr* stone is reported by the landowner. He had exposed at the southwest corner a staircase leading to a block of eight cells arranged in two rows, with a 1m wide stone-paved passage between them.

23. LŌE PAṬĒ, MAIRA

Owner: Mr. Muhammad Siraj. The Lōe Paṭē site situated to the south of Bishām is marked by the Naw *Khwaṛ* on the northwest, Government High School of Maira on the north, Laṇḍai *Khwaṛ* on the northeast and the Basic Health Unit on the east. Approximately 18km past Bishām towards Abbotabad is lying the Maira village on the west of Karākoram Highway. The site roughly three acre in area is converted into cultivated terrace fields, having the owner's house at its northeast corner. Potsherds, grinding stones and stone slabs scatter on the surface, while walls of diaper masonry are also recorded at various localities on the site. A terracotta pot full of ashes, four white beads and *kanjūr* stone blocks (each measuring 40x40x20cm) are reported from here.

24. KHUNA PAṬĒ, MAIRA

Owners: Haji Arabistan, Mr. Amir Hamzeb and Mr. Amir Nawab. Khuna Paṭē is bounded by the Bishām town in the north, River Indus in the northeast, Karākoram Highway in the west and Sērai *Khwaṛ* in the northwest. It can be approached from Bishām at a distance of 18km past towards Abbotabad on the left bank of the highway. It is 3½ acres in size now converted into agricultural fields, having the owner's house at the western corner. Potsherds, stone blocks and slabs, grinding stones, charcoal and ashes were scattered all over. Near the owner's house two walls (each 2m long and 2m high) of diaper masonry stretched in the north-south and south-east directions, while another one (1m long and 1m high) was noticed at the north corner. Iron pieces are also reported. It seems to be a settlement site.

25. DANDAI FORT OR QAL'A

Owner: Mr. Omar Zarin. The site is located on 34°-48'-47" North latitude and 72°-56'-59.2" East longitude to the right of the Karākoram Highway 27km past Bishām and about 1½km short of the Tākōṭ bridge. It is a Buddhist site with an elevation of about 30m from the main road. Spreading on 18 *kanāls*, it is converted partly into cultivated fields and partly into residential area. Pottery and dressed stones scatter on the surface. There is a massive tapering wall, further strengthened by embankments. Stone of the embankment walls is used as raw material for modern construction (Pl. 15). The local people reported copper and silver coins, stucco sculptures, pottery, bones, ashes, bronze objects, terracotta lamps and storage jars from here.

Chakesar Valley

26. SABAR SHĀH MŌṚA

Owner: Mr. Hayat Khan. The site of Sabar Shāh Mōṛa is located on Lat. 34°-36'-29.5" north and Long. 72°-46'-4.6" east. It is 1km to the west of Chakesar on a mound overlooking the confluence of three rivers: the Killī *Khwaṛ* to the east, the Paṭé *Khwaṛ* to the northeast and Lēwanē *Khwaṛ* to the south (Pl. 16).

Covering an area of 30x20m, the site presents traces of walls, robber pits and scanty potsherds on its surface and a modern house on its east. The local people reported sculptures extracted from here a few years back.

27. SHABAVARA

Owner: Mr. Sultan Beg of Chakesar. The Shabavara site is located on Lat. 34°-45'-45.3" north and Long. 72°-46'-20.8" east. Lying on the Karin Cliff of the Gumrash ridge, some 2Km to the west of the Chakesar village, it spreads approximately on 15 *kanāls*. On the basis of surface observation and description given by relatives of the landowner, it seems to be an ancient Hindu and/or Buddhist establishment. Most of the area is cultivated, while modern houses and a mosque occupy its eastern part. Dressed stone blocks and potsherds scatter on the surface, and there is a ruined diaper masonry wall (3.6m long and 0.85m high) at the north-western corner. While it was being dug out illegally, the owner had noticed stucco sculptures (Pl. 17) installed on masonry, bronze storage jars, a necklace, pottery, terracotta animal figurines, a *chatra*, a casket containing five different colour beads along with ashes and charred bones. He had also noticed small cells, streets and a covered passage from where steps ascended towards the south.

28. ZŌṬ KATKŌṚ, KATKŌṚ

Owner: Mr. Shujaat. The Katkōṛ site situated to the east of the Katkōṛ village is bounded by the Karārai *Tāṅgē* in the south and the Karārai *Chīna* in the east. It can be approached from Chakesar at a distance of approximately 8.8km. Covering approximately an acre, it is presently converted into cultivated fields, having the owner's house at its western corner. Potsherds and diaper masonry walls are observed at various places on the surface.

29. KŌṬ, KATKŌṚ

Owner: Mr. Siraj. The Kōṭ Katkōṛ site located on a natural mound to the southwest of the Katkōṛ village is marked by the Katkōṛ *Khwaṛ* on the west, Thorē *Tāṅgē* on the east and two springs on the northeast. It can be approached from the Katkōṛ village at a distance of 12 minutes walk. Roughly 70x30m in size, it is converted into agricultural land, having the owner's house at the eastern corner. Potsherds, grinding stones, stone slabs and embankment walls in rubble masonry are still visible on the surface. Terracotta bowls

and dishes are also reported in a large number (Pl. 18). According to the owner, a well, which was 2m in diameter and now refilled, lined with diaper masonry had been exposed in the centre of the site.

30. SARKŪL

Owner. Syed Nawaz Khan and Syeduno S/o Mr. Hamid Khan. The Sarkūl site is situated to the east of the Chakesar village. The Indus river and, across it, Tākōṭ-Kālā Ḍhāka road lie to the south, Government Primary School Sarkūl to the southeast and Bagava *Chīna* to the northeast of the site. The site can be approached either from Chakesar approximately at three hours march or from Tākōṭ-Kālā Ḍhāka road through a chair lift. About an acre in area, it is entirely brought under cultivation, while a modern graveyard occupies its south and a mosque its southeast. Potsherds, dressed-stone blocks and slabs, iron pieces, *kanjūr* stone blocks and rubble masonry walls are observed on the site.

"While being robbed some ten years ago", the owner explained, "the site yielded thirteen bronze sculptures from a pit". The largest among these figures was 0.9m, while the remaining ones ranged from 10 to 15cm in their height. However, the local informants claimed that the sculptures were originally extracted at the time of digging a grave and dumped in a pit, where they were hunted by treasure seekers later at the above-mentioned time.

31. ḌHERAI, SARKŪL

Owner; Syed Nawab, Mr. Abdul Sattar and Mr. Maula Jug. The site situated on a natural mound to the east of the Sarkūl village is surrounded by Warūkay *Khwaṛ* and Bagava *Chīna* to the west and the Indus River to the south. It can be approached from the Sarkūl village on a 40 minutes walk. It is a 40x15m barren mound. Potsherds, stone slabs, stone blocks, broken grinding stones and walls in rubble masonry can be seen on the surface.

The Pūrān Valley

32. ḌHERAI ROCK-CARVING

Situated on the right bank of the main road leading from Pūrān to Miṅgora, there is a rock-carving on the cliff at a height of about 12m from the ground level. Facing east, it is completely chipped off except for the right knee, measuring 0.6m.

33. GAṚAI SAR, ṬOWA

Owner: Mr. Qadar Jalal. The site Gaṛai Sar is situated on the top of a natural mound, encircled by a winding road to Koo in the west (Pl. 28). To its southeast lies the Girls Primary School of Ṭowa, south the Alagrām *Taṅgē*, north Jaweroo *Khwaṛgai* and Patand *Chīna*, and east Gaṛai Sar *Chīna*. Past 2km Ḍherai, one can reach the site after 15 minutes walk from the left bank of the Ḍherai-Chakesar road. Its whole area, 20 *kanāls*, is covered with potsherds, pottery slag in abundance, dressed stone blocks and slabs. Grinding stones and pieces of *chattras* are reported from the site. Three round holes, each a metre in diameter and as much in depth, lined with diaper masonry and lying 10m apart from each other are observed on the site. According to the owner, the whole site is like a circular stepped platform. The lowest step presents all around small cells or niches, each 2m in width and as much in depth, exposed 1m above the ground level. A couple of them, however ruined, were observed during the survey on the southern side of the mound. The second terrace is setback 3m from the lower, while the upper one 2m from the second.

Close to the west of the site, a diaper masonry structure is a probable kiln, as indicated by many potsherds and much ash in and around.

34. CHĀGAM GUÑBAT, CHĀGAM

Owner: Said Ahmad and Mr. Sahib. The Chāgam Guñbat located to the west of the Chāgam village is marked on the south by the Government Primary School and a working spring, on the southeast by the Guñbat *Khwaṛ*, on the east by two working springs and on the west by a mosque. It can be approached from the Chāgam village at a distance of about 1.5 hours' walk following the *Khwaṛ* upstream. Extending 60m in the north-south and 90m in east-west directions, its surface is littered with potsherds, huge dressed blocks and slabs of stone. Presently, this stupa site is occupied by a modern graveyard, surrounded by cultivated fields. The exposed eastern wall, facing east, of the stupa is 4m high and 7m long. Illegal diggers, according to the owner, had exposed diaper masonry walls, stone sculptures and iron pieces. The owner has refilled the dug out area.

35. DHERAI, SUNDОВI

Owner: Mr. Nisar Ahmad of Sundovi. The Dherai site is approached from the Sundovi village through a suspension bridge, situated at a distance of 30 minutes walk to the site. Occupying the top of a natural mound, it is situated across the Chāgam *Khwaṛ* on its right bank, i.e., southwest of Sundovi. A number of diaper masonry structures were found. During excavation for the construction of a modern house, fragments of lime plaster, a staircase, stucco figures and a carved panel in green schist stone were found. The stucco figures were destroyed due to moisture and sudden exposure to the air, while those in stone are still lying with the owner somewhere, as he expressed.

36. MĀRIN, NĪMKALĒ

Owner: Khunanai Kaka. The Mārin site situated on a low natural mound to the east of the Nīmkalē village is enclosed by the Bagiaṛ *Khwaṛgai* on the north and the Dunkācha village on the east. Nearby to the east two springs the Dunkācha *Chīna* and the Kohī *Chīna* are located. It can be approached from the Nīmkalē village on 10 minutes walk. Approximately an acre in size, it is occupied by terrace fields, having the owner's house at the south-eastern corner.

According to the owner, illegal diggers had exposed two diaper masonry cells, the stone of which was reused for building a new house. Stone-slabs and potsherds scatter on the surface, while *kanjūr* stone blocks are also reported from here. At the northeastern and western corners segments of walls in diaper masonry are observed.

37. BUNĒRWĀL ROCK-CARVINGS

Owners: Mr. Ahmad Nazir and Mr. Amjad Ali. The Bunēr wāl rock-carving located to the northwest of the Kōṭkē village is bound by the Bunēr wāl Kalē on the east, Government Middle School Bunēr wāl on the northeast and two springs on the northwest. It can be approached from the village Kōṭkē towards the northwest at a walking distance of 30 minutes. The rock is about 3.5m in length and 3m in height facing south. About 100m to the southwest are cultivated fields from where potsherds are reported by the owner.

Among the five figures the central one is seated in *dhyāna mudrā* (meditation pose) on a high throne, supported by two atlas figures (Pl. 21). The enthroned figure, the upper-half missing, is flanked on either side by a figure standing on a pedestal. Both the flanking figures are completely chipped off. The top of the throne and the pedestals is decorated with floral design.

Measurements:

Standing figures on the left and right = 1.4 (1.6m with pedestal) x 0.7m

Atlas figures on the left and right = 0.5m x 0.4m; the central podium = 0.45m.

The enthroned figure = 1.3m without seat (1.85m with the seat) x 1m

38. KARYĒ BABA, CHAWGĀ

Owner: Communal property. Situated on the left bank of Balwaḥ *Khwaḥ* in the village Chawgā, the Karyē Baba site is presently occupied by a modern graveyard. It is an ancient gravesite, having circular pits of various diameters dug out in solid rock. The diameter of these pits ranges from 1.0 to 1.7m. According to local informants, these pits were provided with pottery full of ashes, etc., and were covered with flat stones. Bones of the dead were embedded vertically in sand and ashes in earthen pots (urns). Beside the site is an old fortress of the early twentieth century of the Wali-e Swāt period (Pl. 22). Across the *Khwaḥ* in the cultivated fields are reported numerous structures and storage jars.

39. JABAGAI DHERAI, CHAWGĀ

Owner: Mr. In'amullah, advocate. Jabagai Dherai, approached through the village Chawgā, lies on the left bank of Machkandai *Khwaḥ*. It is a completely wrecked stupa and the whole site is converted into cultivated terrace fields. The local people observed many underground structures and pottery while reclaiming the soil for agriculture. Remains of a large stupa (Pl. 23), a number of *kanjūr* dressed blocks (measuring 35x25x15 cm), fragmented pilasters and terracotta tiles (measuring 20x20x10 cm) were lying on the surface. To the west further up in a cultivated field were observed in a fallen section broken walls, running in the east-west direction.

Coming back to the main Chawgā road and going towards Ashāro Sar, a certain Mr. Ishaq of Gitvaḥa showed me an architectural piece of a miniature railing, carved in black schist, which he had found at an ancient site Baglīla.

40. ASHĀRO SAR, CHAWGĀ

Owners: Mr. Raja, Mr. Dostay and Mr. Fayyaz. The Ashāro Sar is approached through Dilo Barghand, off the Chawgā road. After a forty-five minutes walk from Shinogand *Khwaḥ*, we reached Ashāro Sar. All the field around there are strewn with fragmentary potsherds. Opposite the Ashāro Sar site, across a *taṅgē*, there is the Donkācha village. No apparent structures were found, however, there were reported some at both the places.

41. DAṆḌ BĀRAI GUṆBAT, KŪZ PŌĀ

Owners: Mr. Jehanzeb, Mr. Gul Parin and Mr. Said Parin. The site of DaṇḌ Bārai Guṇbat is situated to the southeast of the village Guṇbat. It is approached by a shingled road from Chawgā and is situated to the southeast of the Kūz Pāo village. It is a huge Buddhist site converted into cultivated fields. Further to the east of the site there is a modern graveyard. The surrounding terrace fields are reported to have a large number of structures buried deep under the ground. According to a local informant Mr. Rashid Ali (an educated young man and presently councillor of the nearby village Kūz Pāo) some metallic images, probably of bronze or copper, were excavated illegally from here. Mr. Said Parin told us that sculptures in stone and stucco were also found there by illegal diggers. Bases, shafts and dressed blocks of *kanjūr* stone are seen scattered on the surface. Old structures, remains of a stupa and segment of a probable fortification wall (22m long and 3.22m high) were observed at the site. The now wrecked stupa is reported to have been fortified.

42. ĐOMĀ ĐOMAI, PĀNĐOĐIA

Owner: Mr. Momin Khan. The Đomā Đomai site is approached through the Pānđođia village. It is a rock-carving site situated on the ridge Maṅgwal Dara that faces Khonāno Dara on the west. From Pānđođia the site can be approached either from the south or north side. From south one has to pass through Shikaolai, Kamlai, Shingrai to Maṅgwal Dara, while from the north it can be approached through Shikaolai and Khonāno Dara to Maṅgwal Dara.

According to Mr. Nasib Khan, a local guide from Pānđođia, there were three adjacent rock shelters, numbered from north to south I-III, each carved with a certain number of figures. Originally, according to him, there were seven figures in each under Rock-shelters No. I and II. Under Rock-shelter No. III, if there were some figures they might have been destroyed due to rock-fall and presently it exhibits nothing but an uneven surface. The first two Rock-shelters are badly damaged and presently each of them exhibits five mutilated and partially preserved carvings (Pls. 24-27).

Rock Shelter No. I

This shelter is crumbled off due to natural hazard. Figures carved here from left to right are: 1. Padmapāṇi seated in *rājalālītāsana* (royal ease pose), holding a lotus stalk in his left hand, while keeping his right hand in *vismaya mudrā* (the pose of wonder or praise). Measuring 80x50cm in size, it is defaced and heavily encrusted—details of the crown, ear and neck-girdle are invisible. No. 2 is the same as No. 1, but necklace and drapery (*dhoti*) folds are more visible and is smaller in size, 70x40 cm. They both face to the east.

Number 3 is large (230x120 cm) figure of the *bodhisattva* Padmapāṇi seated on a throne in the same fashion as of the others, but, unlike them, has a large halo behind his head. He wears an elaborate crown, ear-pendants and a necklace. Hair-locks are visible on the temples under the crown. He is flanked by two other *bodhisattvas* seated in the same pose but the legs are pendant in the reverse order and stretching their right hands in *varada mudrā* (gift-bestowing gesture). On the pedestal there is a seated figure in the same posture as of the *bodhisattva* Padmapāṇi but keeping his left hand on the knee of his pendant left leg, while raising the right one in *vismaya mudrā*. The figure on the right of the pedestal is broken off. Below the pedestal are carved six discs (probably wheels) in diminishing order of their size from right to left as the space would allow. From Left to right: Fig.1 = 80x50cm; Fig. 2 = 70x40cm; Fig. 3 = 80x45cm; Fig. 4 = 45x40cm; Fig. 5 = 230x120cm; Fig. 6 = 70x40cm.

Rock Shelter II

Facing south and from right to left the carved figure under this shelter are: (1) A *bodhisattva* figure facing east is seated in *rājalālītāsana* with his right hand stretched out in *varada mudrā* and his right leg pendant. He is holding some object (probably a pot) in his left hand, placed on his folded left leg. His head and shoulders are broken off. (2) The second *bodhisattva* Padmapāṇi figure is standing in *varada mudrā*. It is also much defaced and faces to the south and is placed at right angle to the first one. (3) Further to the left, this is a seated, much damaged and defaced figure of the *bodhisattva* Padmapāṇi, posed and decorated in the same fashion as that of Rock-Shelter No. I. (4) Further to the left is that of the much defaced Buddha in *dhyāna mudrā*. Facial features are Indian while hair and drapery style is Gandhāran. On the pedestal are carved a spokes-wheel in the middle flanked by a seated deer on each side. Rock Shelter No. II: Fig. 7= 60x45cm; Fig. 7a= 70x30cm; Fig. 8= 80x55cm; Fig. 9= 45x35cm; Fig. 10= 120x80cm; Fig. 11= 13cm; Wheel pedestal (seat)= 80x40cm.

Rock Shelter No. III

It is completely destroyed due to landslide and there is nothing to be described.

43. SANĀ SARĒ, ALŌCH

Owner: Mr. Farid Khan. On the right side of the road leading from Alōch to Chawgā an ancient site *Sanā Sarē* is fully converted into cultivated fields. Terracotta figurines, pottery and bones are reported. Segment of an ancient wall, 4m long and 1.6m high, still survives

44. SHĒRJAṆḠ GUṆBAT

Owners: Mr. Husain Khan and Mr. Noorullah Khan of Awarai. *Shērjaṅḡ Guṇbat* is situated to the north of the Awārai village and on the left bank of the Awārai *Khwaṛ* about two kilometres to the east of the Alōch village. It is a medium size stupa now badly damaged and defaced (Pl. 20). The entire surrounding area presently under cultivation, according to one of the owners, had a large number of structures. Up in the glen are two springs, the upper one is called *Girō Chīna* while the lower one *Koī Chīna*.

45. SHĀH ḌHERAI

Owner: Mr Anwar Ahmad, a school teacher. Old name of the *Shāh Ḍherai* site, located 1km to the south of the Mārtuṅḡ village, was *Ḍherai*. It is bounded on the south by the Mārtuṅḡ *Khwaṛ* and a working spring, called *Karim Chīna*, lead down from the site by a staircase. On the opposite cliff across the *Khwaṛ* there are similar ancient remains. According to the owner, 'it was a large settlement site constructed of beautiful diaper masonry. Tall walls on the site suggested a double story construction. Some of them 12 feet high forming a beautiful gateway. Many illegal diggers have worked here, but except for pottery nothing special was recovered.'

The owner showed to us a bone antimony rod, two semiprecious beads and a small bowl that he had picked up from the site while constructing his house. A stamped or moulded potsherd decorated with a horse-rider holding a spear, a peacock and scorpion was also found in the ruins. Another piece decorated with spokes, surrounded by zigzag lines, then by a circular band of arrowheads, then by a band having a peacock, scorpion and a horse rider with a spear and then by an outermost semicircular band of trees. (Pl. 19). The owner disclosed that the whole site was robbed by a contractor to extract stone for constructing a nearby girls' middle school some six years ago, while the remaining stone was utilised for building his own house some four years ago.

46. CHAṆCHAṆṚAKĒ

Owners: Mr. Ajeeb Zaman, Mr. Sher Ali and Mr. Shams-uz-Zaman. The *Chaṇchaṇṛakē* site situated in the Shaga village at a distance of 1km from the Mārtuṅḡ Bazaar is brought under cultivation and partly occupied by modern houses. At one place a 3m high diaper-masonry wall is exposed for 8.1m in north-south direction. From the terrace fields, to the west and southwest of the wall, according to the local people, illegal diggers have extracted stucco sculptures. Fragmentary potsherds spread all over the fields.

Swāt Valley

The natural extent of the Swāt valley is from Lat. 34°-31"-55' to 35°-53"-40' north and Long. 71°-47"-15' to 73° east, while political boundaries of the Swāt District are constricted than those of the valley (for detailed geography and history see Ali and Khan 1991: 97; Swati 1997-a: 1-2, 1997-b: 151-54). Administratively, the District is divided into two sub-divisions and eight *tehsils*. Following the road from the Maṭṭa town towards Sakhrā, we discovered seven completely finished historic period sites as described below (see Fig. 2).

47. ALLAHOO BABA DHERAI

Close to the west of the roadside near a big village Kūza Durushkhela, there is a secluded natural mound called *ṭope* or Allahoo Baba Dherai, which is a communal property. There are ancient remains on its top to which a ruined staircase leads up from the north side. Due to shortage of time, we were not able to see the coins collected from the remains by the local people.

48. BAR KAS OR MATHURIGRĀM

Owner: Haji Muhammad Amin and relatives. Situated to the north of Allahoo Baba Dherai at the skirt of the mountain in Kūza Durushkhela, this site once held a stupa, now completely wrecked (Pl. 1). It seems that the original stupa was encased, as it had been a common practice in the heydays of Buddhism. According to the owner, the inner stupa, about 2m in diameter, in diaper masonry was lime-plastered and terracotta figures installed on it. The outer stupa also of diaper masonry was plastered, painted and had pilasters, cornices and niches. Illegal diggers had found a figure of a *bodhisattva* (probably Padmapāṇi) in one of the niches. A flight of stairs, now demolished, lead up the stupa on the western side. From the description given by the local people, it seems that a monastic establishment had laid to its south and a kiln, from where the owner had collected fragments of terracotta figures, to its east in the now cultivated fields.

Boṭi or Jukhtakai, Koṭkay and Ṭiki Sar are glens situated on the western, while Wallay Godar on the northern cliff of the surrounding mountains. In the past illegal diggers have extracted a large number of sculptures, some nearly life-size, from ancient remains in these glens. According to the local informants, they had also found a gold necklace in ruins on the northern cliff.

49. KAWDARI

Owner: Mr. Tayyeb Khan of Ashārī. It is situated in Pīrāwdai village, some 2km to the west of Ashārī village, on the left bank of Shaheeda *Khwaṛ*, also called Galshā *Khwaṛ* after Galshā village up on the nearby western hill. The mountain in the west is Mērāmai, while those in the north are Madyan and Dheri Sar in the far back. They have a large number of ruins, mainly graves.

The site levelled for cultivation and heavily strewn with potsherds once had a stupa of moderate size. The owner of the land showed us a stone plate, coins, finger ring, antimony rods, grinding stones, saddle querns, terracotta lamps and beads that he had picked up from the site (Pls. 2-5).

50. PAṬĀN PAṬĒ

Owner: Mr. Humayun Khan of Doshagrām. A little off the village Doshagrām, Paṭān Paṭē site is situated to the north, i.e., on the right of the road leading to Sakhrā. On the opposite cliff, across the *khwaṛ* are situated two other ancient sites called Saidkuma and Saidkumai, locally believed to have been names of a husband and wife respectively. We guess that these names are the possible corrupt forms of two ancient names Sitakumār and Sitakumāri.

Presently it is a terraced cultivated field heavily strewn with bits and pieces of potsherds. No other diagnostic features were visible on the surface, except ruined structures reported by the owners.

51. QĀSIM BĀGH (TĀṆGU KAS)

Owner: Muhammad Qasim Khan of Ashārī. Situated on the right bank of the road leading to Sakhrā, a climb of 15 minutes from the *hujra* of Mr. Muhammad Tahir Khan takes us to

the site (Pl. 6). Illegal diggers have dug out it at places. The local people have collected pottery, bronze and iron pieces, potsherds and bones from here. The robber-trenches display walls of half-dressed sandstone boulders, commonly found in this area.

52. SŌR BĀṬ

Owners: Mr. Risladar Khan and Omer Dēr. The Sōr Bāṭ site lies near the Dārmai village off to the north of the road leading to Sakhrā in a cultivated terraced field. According to one of the owners, they had dug out it some fifteen years ago and found diaper-masonry walls forming square rooms and lanes. Apart from potsherds of historic period, there were no worth-considerable features on the surface.

53. AMLŪK OR QALĀGAI

Owner: Mr. Jibrail Khan of Ashāṛī. Approached to the Amlūk or Qlāgai site is through the village Sakhrā, situated to the west of the road, by crossing a suspension bridge and walking up roughly for a kilometre towards the north.

It is a cultivated terraced field with sporadic grits of potsherds on the surface and having no distinguishing visible features.

Malakand Agency

The Malakand protected area occupies the lower reaches of the Swāt Valley and piedmont area to the south of the Malakand range. It lies from Lat. 34°-22' to 34°-41' north and Long. 71°-37' to 72°-14' east and is bounded by the districts of Dir, Swāt, Buner, Mardan and Charsadda respectively on the north, northeast, east, southeast and southwest, while the Mohmand agency bounds it on the southwest and Bajaur agency on the west. It covers an area of 952 sq. km.

Geomorphology of the area presents volcanic, phyllite, slate, green schist, quartzite and oceanic metasedimentary rocks.

54. KANḌAKO DIWĀLGĒ (BĀNḌA SANI RAHMAN KHAN)

Owners: Mr. Shakeel Khan and Mr. Manzoor Khan. Location: 34°-36'-10.3" north latitude and 71°-53'-59.4" east latitude. The Kanḍako Diwālgē is situated on Rangmala-Ḍherai road about 1½km to the east of the Dargai *Khwaṛ* and covers an approximate area of 40 *kanāls*. Most of the site is under cultivation and partly covered with modern houses. The exposed profile shows occupation level, cross walls at various places and ruined structures in diaper masonry still stand to a considerable height (Pl. 29). Exposed while reclaiming the land for cultivation, there is an ancient well, which is about 1.5m in diameter, 12m in depth, lined with diaper masonry and presently covered with a *chakra*. The tenant Mr. Ziarat Khan reported copper coins, pottery, storage jars, ashes and dressed stones.

The following coins were shown to us at the Hujra of Manzoor Khan (Pl. 30, nos. 1, 3-9). The owner very kindly allowed us to take their picture, from which Dr. M. Nasim Khan and Mr. Gul Rahim of the Department of Archaeology, University of Peshawar, prepared the following note:

Indo-Greek Coins

1. Eucratides I: Obv.: Diademed bust of king to right wearing crested helmet adorned with ear and horn of a bull. Rev.: Mounted Dioscuri holding palms and spears, prancing to right. Legend: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΜΕΓΑΛΟΥ ΕΥΚΡΑΤΙΔΟΥ. A monogram in the right field is not clear.

2. Apollodotus II: Obv.: Diademed bust of the king to right. In the margin Greek Legend: ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΣΩΤΗΡΟΣ ΚΑΙ ΦΙΛ[ΟΠΙΑΤΟΡΟΣ ΑΠΟΛΛΟΔΟΤΟΥ]. Rev.: Athena Alkedemos standing to left holding shield on the outstretched left arm and hurling a thunderbolt with the right. Kharoshthi Legend: *Mharajasa tratarasa [Apaladatas]*. The coin is debased, titles on both the sides are clear and readable but names on the obverse and reverse are difficult to decipher. Monogram on the left field is probably similar to that on 292, Pl. IV, where it is found in the right field of (Whitehead 1914: Pl IV, no. 292).

Roman Coins

3. Augustus: Bare head of Augustus facing right. Legend in the left field: AVGVSTVS; in the right field: DIVI.F Rev.: Standing animal facing left. Below: MDXII
4. As no. 3 above.
5. Legend very defaced. Difficult to assign to any certain ruler.

Kushan Coins

6. Kanishka: Obv.: Standing king facing left sacrificing on altar to the left. Rev.: Probably figure of standing Mao. The coin is defaced on both the sides, legend and tamgha are not traceable.
7. Vasudeva: Obv.: Standing king facing left sacrificing on altar in the left field. Rev.: Shiva leaning on a bull standing left.
8. As no. 7 above.

Coin nos. 7 and 8 assigned to Vasudeva (probably Vasudeva-I). Possibly belong to the post Vasudeva-I period, especially the latter one.

Mughal Coin

9. Muhammad Shah: Obv.: Muhammad Shah Sultan Ghazi, Sahib Qiran Sani, Sikka Mubarak; Hijra date: 11...(?). Rev.: Darul Khilafat Shah Jehan Abad, Zarb Jalus Memanat Manus, Sanah 10.

The coin of Muhammad Shah, a Late Mughal king, belongs to the 10th year of his reign as seen on its reverse, while double figure (11) of the Muslim Era is also visible below Muhammad on the obverse.

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ضرب
جلوس میمنت مانوس

55. TAKHT

Location: The Takht (meaning a throne or platform) site is situated in a glen overlooking an ancient pass Hāthi Dara (meaning the Elephant Pass; Pl. 31) at Lat. 34°-33'-21.1" north and long. 72°-01'-06.6" east. Dug out at its centre by robbers, this rectangular platform measures 21.4m east-west, 12.5m north-south and 3.4m in height (Pl. 32). It has moulding at the base and 11 pilasters on the long sides. No steps, leading up, could be traced. All over the cliff of the mountain, there are ruined structures of various dimensions facing the pass and exposed unlike the Buddhist establishments. It seems that they served as check-posts for watching the traffic and export-import control point.

56. ZALAMKŌṬ

Zalamkōṭ is approached by a road, branching off in the east from the main Malakand road at Thana, that leads us to Sadiq Abad hamlet, which is situated on Lat. 34°-39'-39.5" north and Long. 72°-01'-55.6" east on the right bank of a large seasonal *khwaṛ*, descending from Lōe Taṅgē. A little further to the south in fields on the same bank of the *khwaṛ*, there is an area called Koaper occupied by Taj Muhammad Khan *Koroona* (houses). Here is an ancient working well (called as *wuch koi*, dry-well.) situated on Lat. 34°-34'-27.6" north and Long. 72°-01'-43.8" east. Having a diameter of 2.8m it is lined with ashlar masonry of rectangular block of stone. The water table in the well was noted at the depth of 26m from the surface. Opposite Sadiq Abad and across the *khwaṛ* is situated the Bāghdara glen, in which the last hamlet is Drē Sarē. To the south-southeast of this glen is the Palai village and, further in the same direction, across the Malakand range is Warter-Dobandai. The Girls Middle School of Drē Sarē is situated on Lat. 34°-34'-23.9" north and Long. 72°-01'-20.7" east. Near this school at the skirt of the mountain in the cultivated property of Yūsuf Khan's sons, a coin, a stone lamp and other terracotta objects were found (Pls. 30, no. 2; 33, 34). Situated near Drē Sarē, the remains (locally called *koḍalē*) at Zalamkōṭ are referred to as Shāhḍherai Bāghdara. Apart from modern graveyard, here an old necropolis lies on Lat. 34°-34'-11.5" north and Long. 72°-01'-04.2" east. It is, most probably, from this vicinity that an old bilingual inscribed grave-stone was recovered (Abdur Rahman). On the nearby cliff, there are numerous structural remains and charred barley in abundance was found stored at many places. The Bāghdara glen converge on the working spring called Bāghdara *Chīna* (the source of the Bāghdara *Khwaṛ*), which has Shamai *Kaṇḍao* (pass) to its east and Nīhrag *Kaṇḍao* to its west. On the top of the glen are two more springs, Nāwē Ḍaṇḍ and Shaki Ḍaṇḍ.

Leaving the ancient graveyard towards the east one enters Lōe Taṅgē (large glen), where once stood ruins of the now completely finished stupa complex. From here, reported by the local people, a large number of sculptures were extracted by the Gūjar settlers of the area. Further east is situated the Drē Sarē ridge at Lat. 34°-23'-47.8" north and Long. 72°-00'-55.4" east, overlooking the Lōe Taṅgē on the west and Hāthī Darah on the east that connected the two ancient states Uḍḍiyāna and Gandhāra (Beal 1906; Stein 1930; Tucci 1958).

As discovered during the survey, it is very encouraging that the successive settlers of the area have not changed most of the place names, which clearly indicate their antiquity. Passing from one ethnic group to another speaking different languages, these names, however, are inevitably distorted over the long passage of history. When properly analysed and traced back to their original form, they might disclose their derivative sources: geographical, historical, religious or epithetical. It is high time to collect these names for study, carried out in historical and archaeological profile of the area, before they are changed for new ones and are lost forever.

The cultural richness as well as the historical and archaeological importance of the area, which has remained a holy place of Buddhism for over a millennium, we strongly feel the need for establishment of a research centre for Buddhist studies in the Swat Valley. This should be affiliated to the University of Peshawar where an infrastructure and expertise in the concerned field are already available.

A comprehensive long-term project is urgently needed for exploration, documentation, and excavation of promising historical sites, especially Buddhist, in the hanging valleys of Shanāgla, Swāt and the adjacent areas. The Department of Archaeology, University of Peshawar, although doing her best in this regard, yet, despite of having the required skill, she in her meagre resources cannot accomplish what actually is required. Apart from natural hazards, all Buddhist sites are

extremely prone to destruction due to illegal diggings for extracting sculpture, which is world-widely in high demand for illicit trade. We hope that national and international donor agencies as well as individuals would come forward to saving these valuable antiquities from being plundered and torn away from their original context. And, as such, help in preserving the world heritage for future generations.

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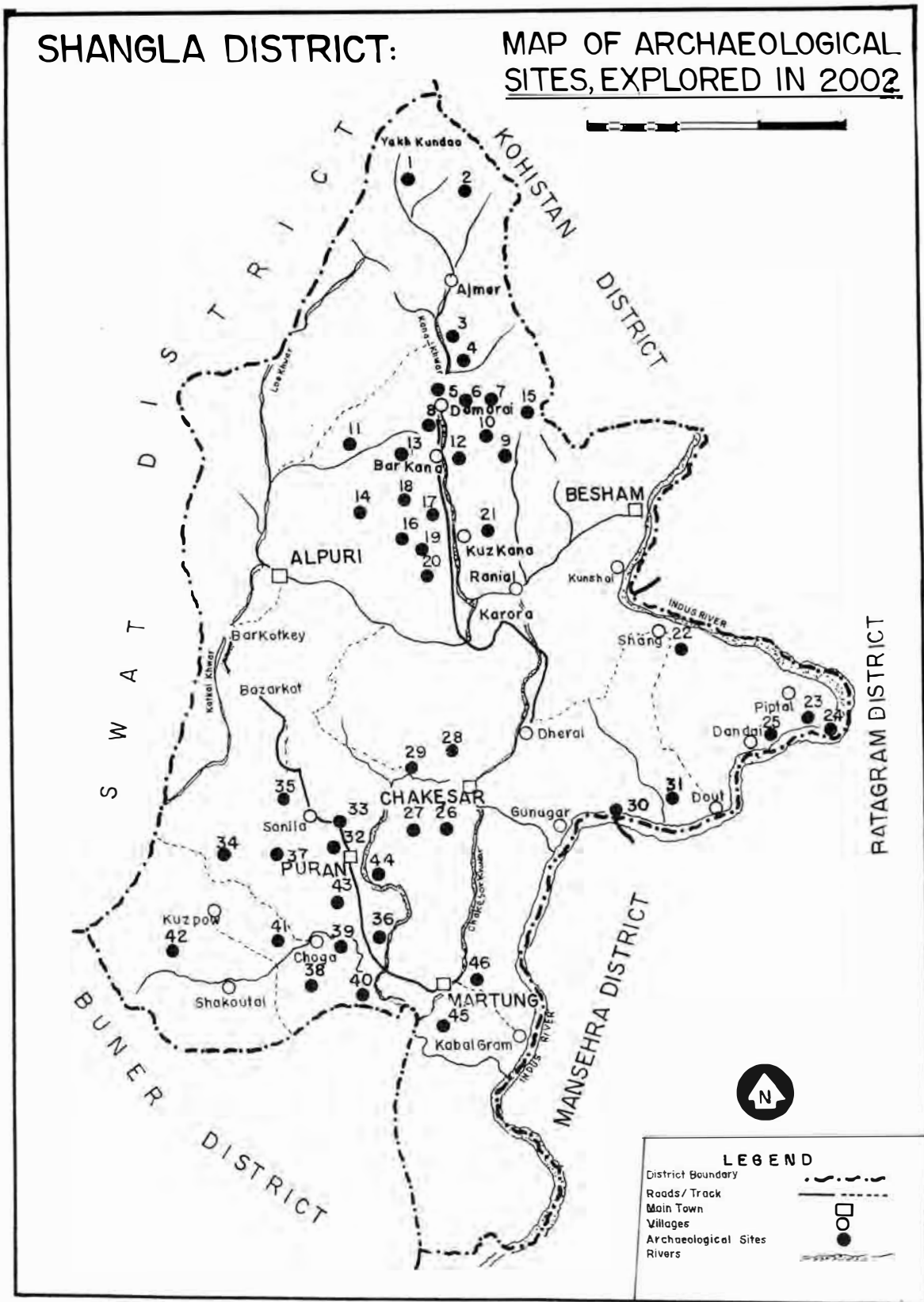


Fig. 1

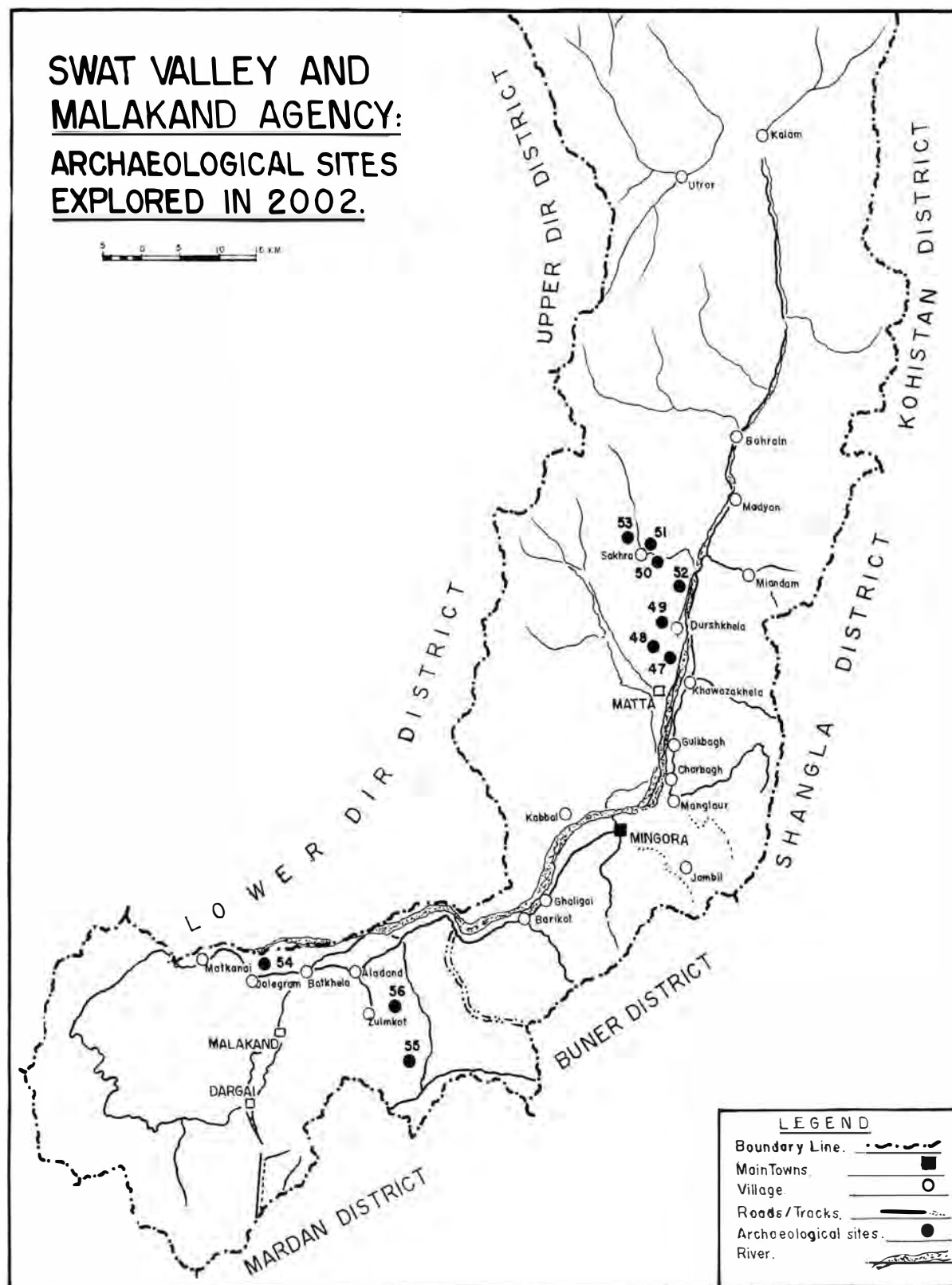
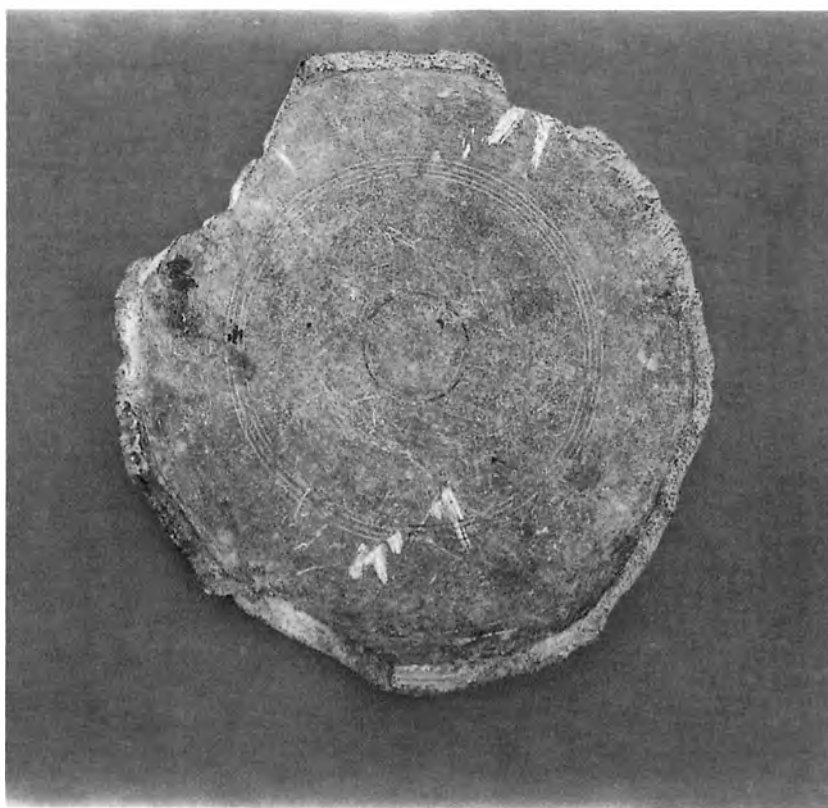


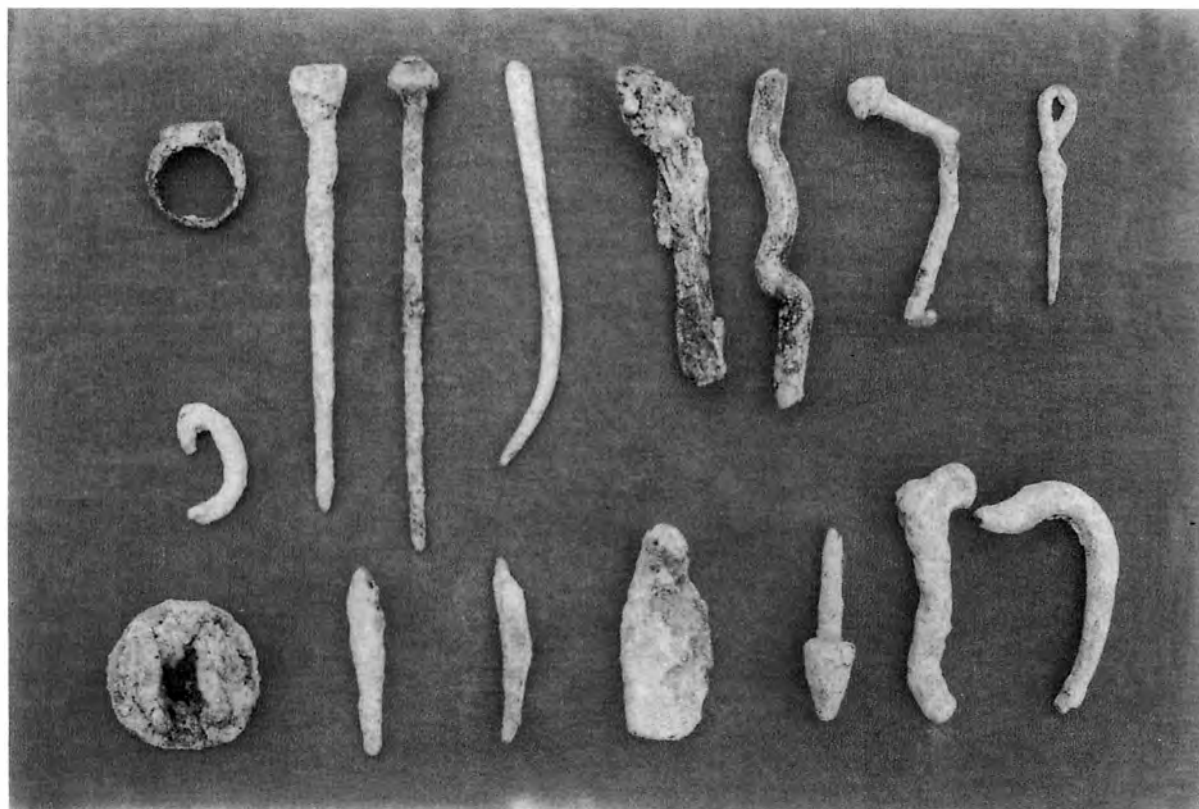
Fig. 2



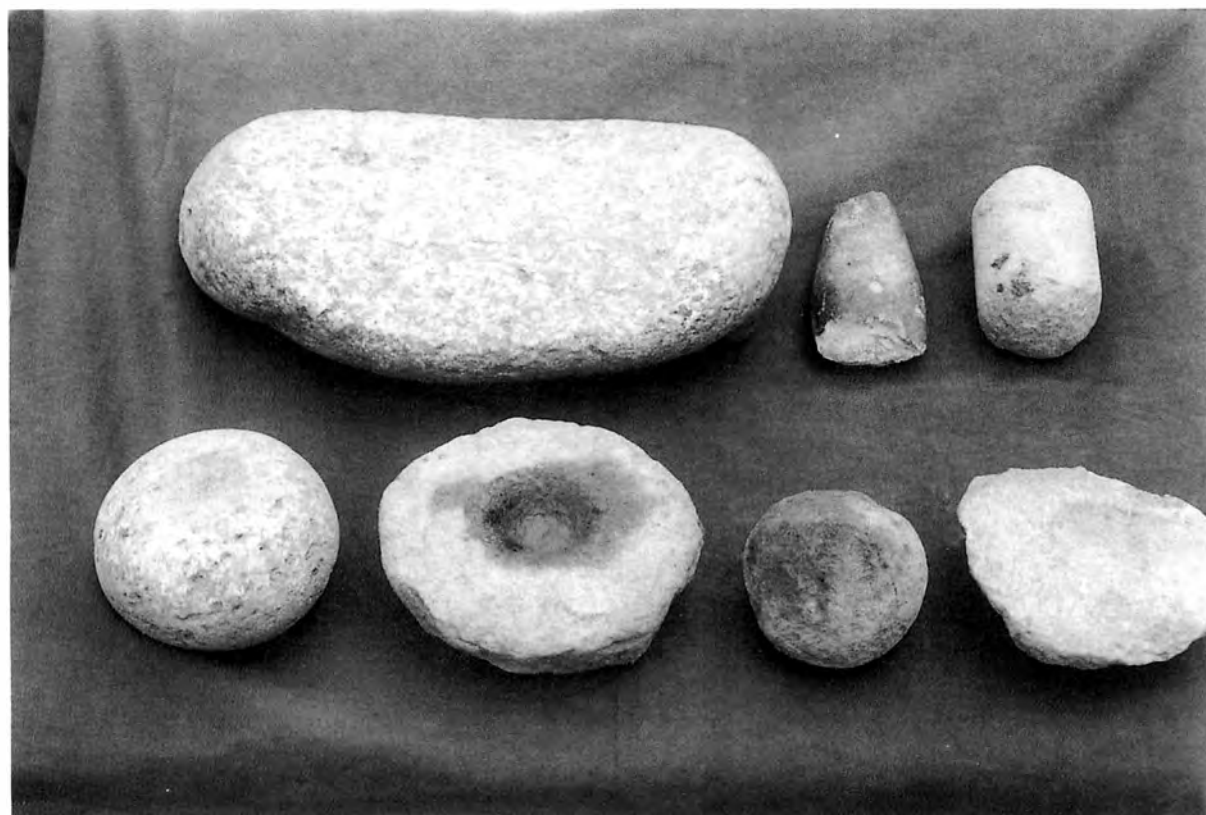
Pl. 1. Swāt Valley: Barkas or Mathurigrām site.



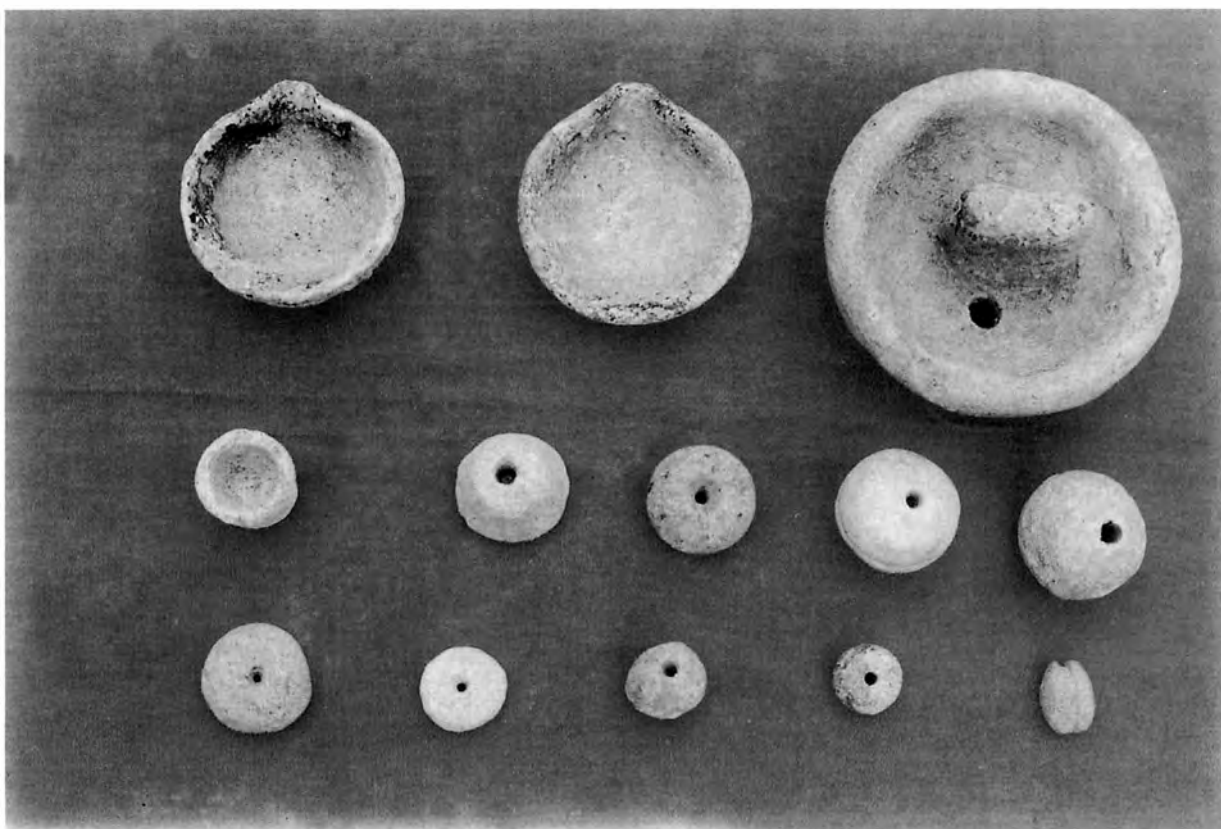
Pl. 2. Swāt Valley: Kawdari site: Inscribed schist plate.



Pl. 3. Swāt Valley: Kawdari site: Metal objects.



Pl. 4. Swāt Valley: Kawdari site: Grinding stones.



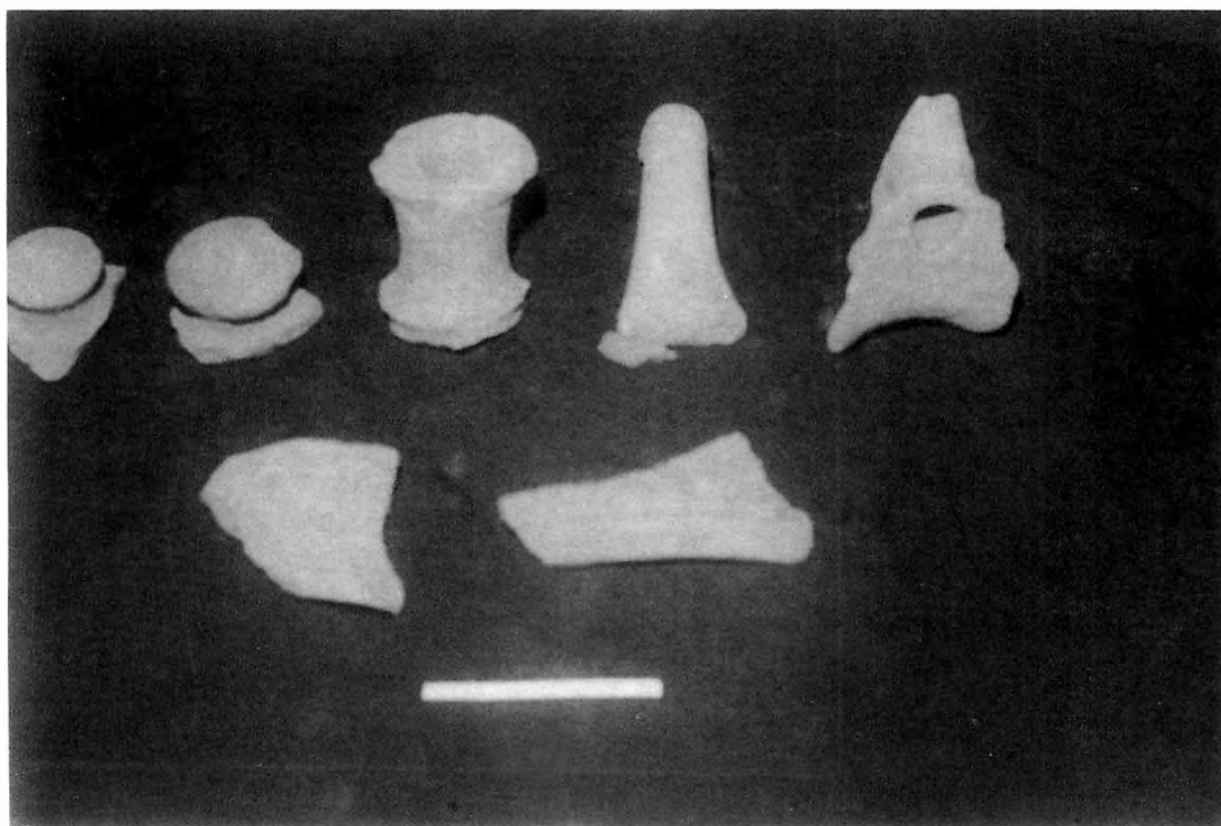
Pl. 5. Swāt Valley: Kawdari site: Terracotta lamps and beads.



Pl. 6. Swāt Valley: Qāsam Bāgh or Tāngu Kas site (left corner).



Pl. 7. Kāṇā Valley: Aḍai: Defaced Padmapāṇi on a rock.



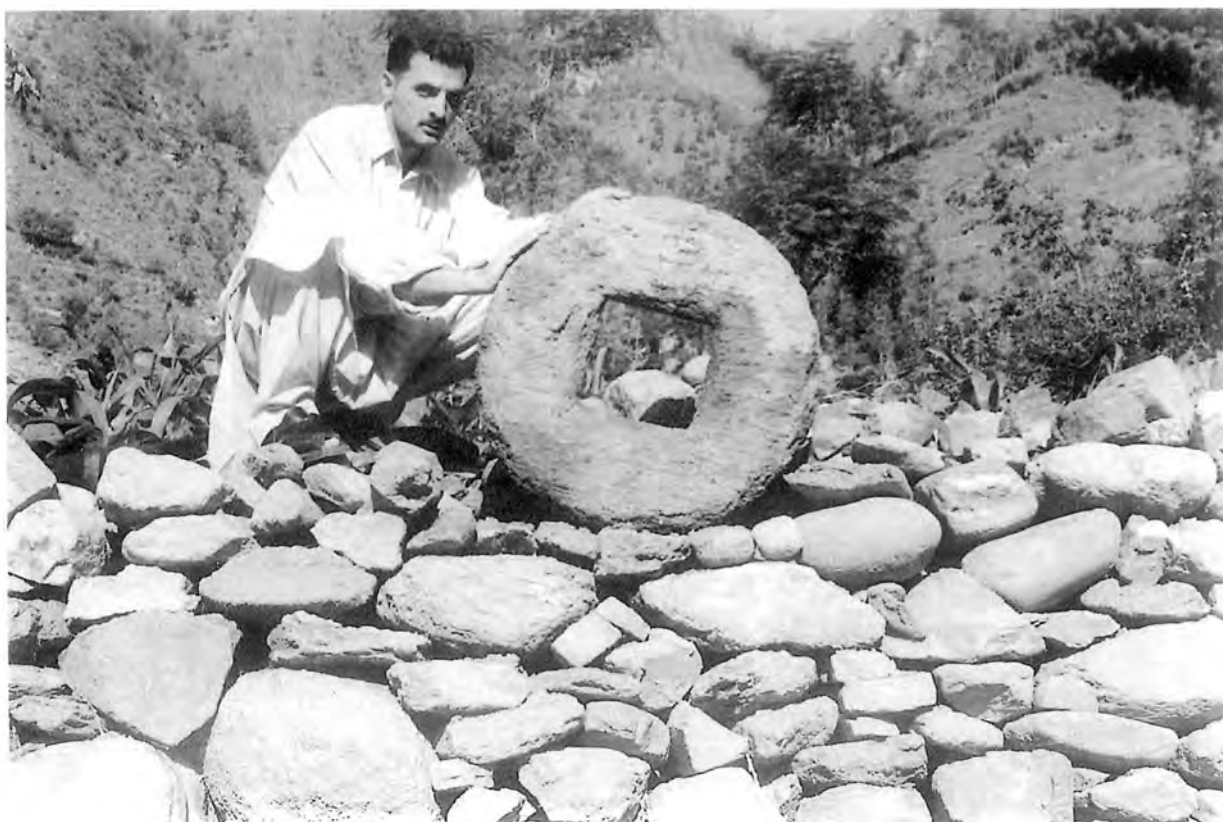
Pl. 8. Kāṇā Valley: Garai in Shunyāl: Potsherds.



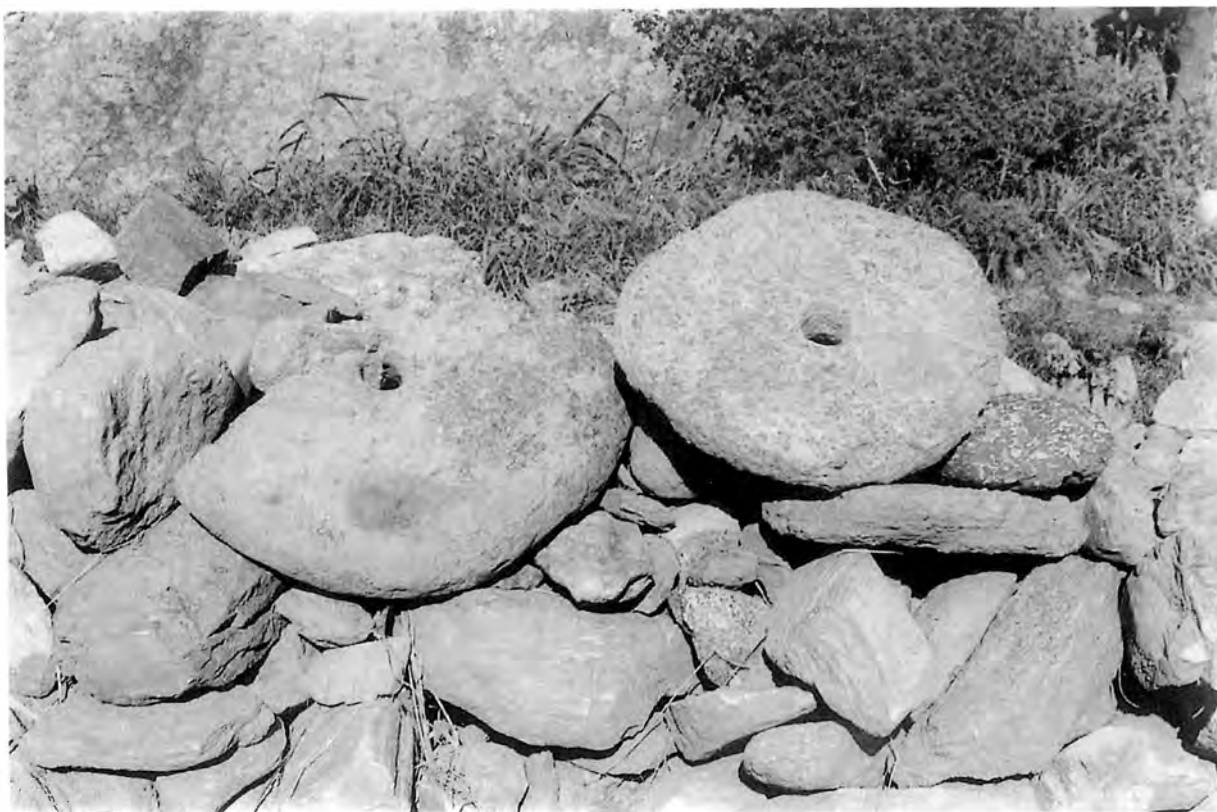
Pl. 9. Kāṇā Valley: Sar Paṭē: A ruined structure.



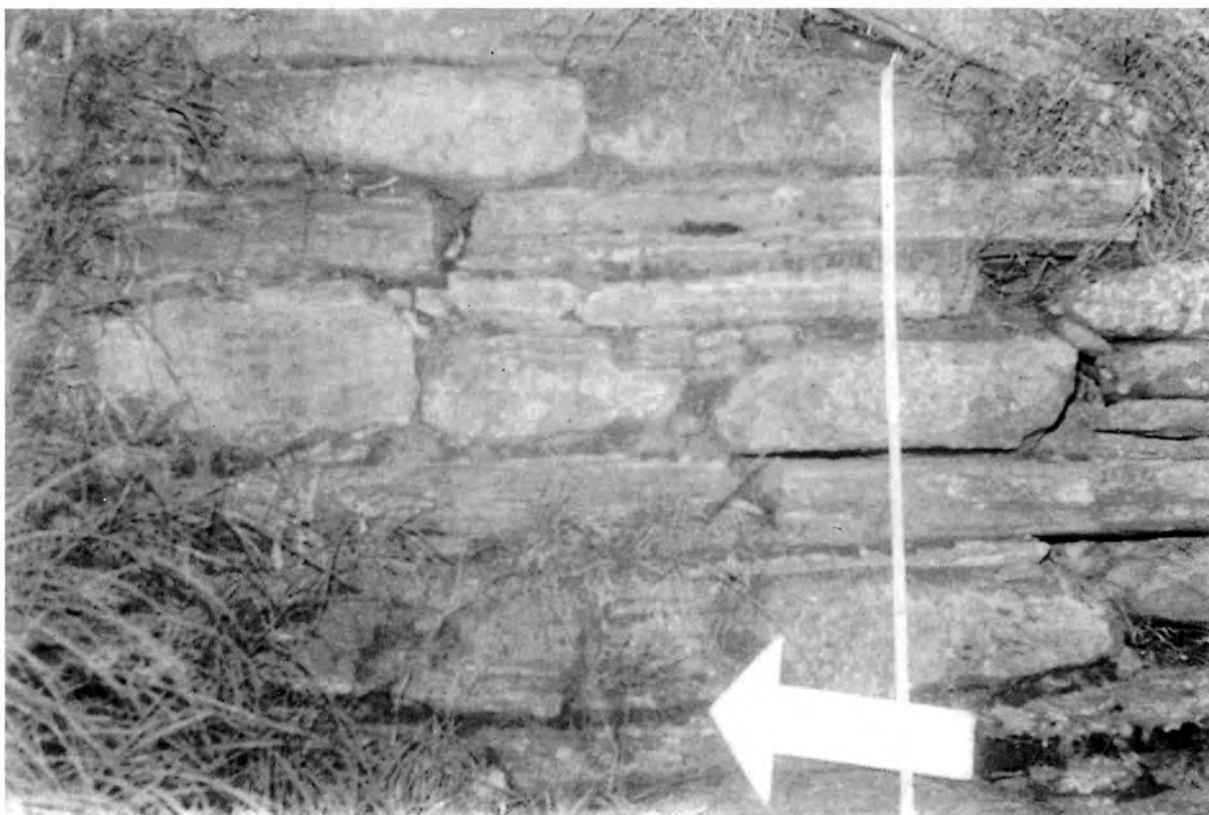
Pl. 10. Kāṇā Valley: Nēmakai: A ruined structure.



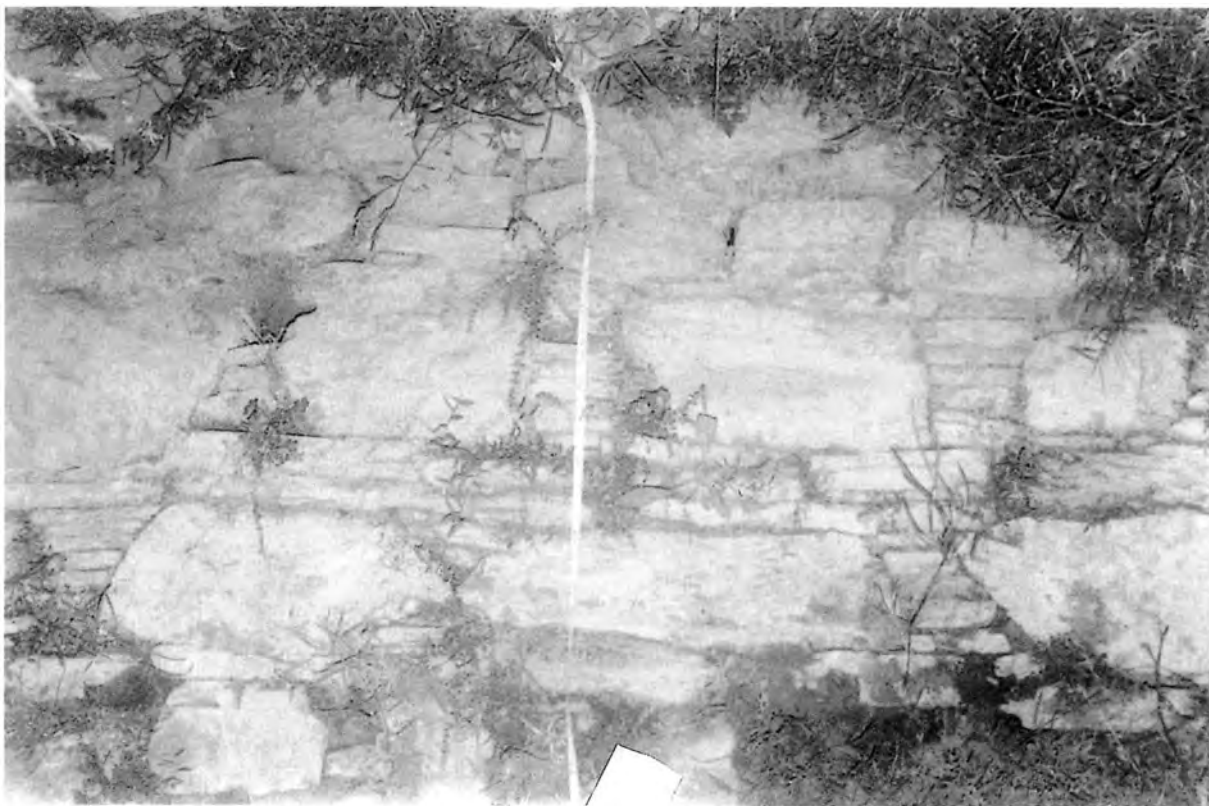
Pl. 11. Kānā Valley: Kūza Komālai: Anciently worked stone.



Pl. 12. Kānā Valley: Koza Komalai: Anciently worked stone.



Pl. 13. Kāṇā Valley: Koch Bān: Ancient ruined structure.



Pl. 14. Kāṇā Valley: Dherai Shāhpūr: Ancient ruined structure.



Pl. 15. Bishām Valley: Dandai Fort or Qal'ea: Part of retaining wall.



Pl. 16. Chakesar Valley: Sabar Shāh Mōra: The mound.



Pl. 17. Chakesar Valley: Shabavara: A stucco head.



Pl. 18. Chakesar Valley: Kōṭ Kaṭkōṭ: Grinding and pecking stones.



Pl. 19. Pūran Valley: Shāh Dherai: Potsherds, beads and antimony rod.



Pl. 20. Pūran Valley: Shērjaṅg Guṇbat: Ruined stupa.



Pl. 21. Pūran Valley: Bunērwāl: Rock carvings.



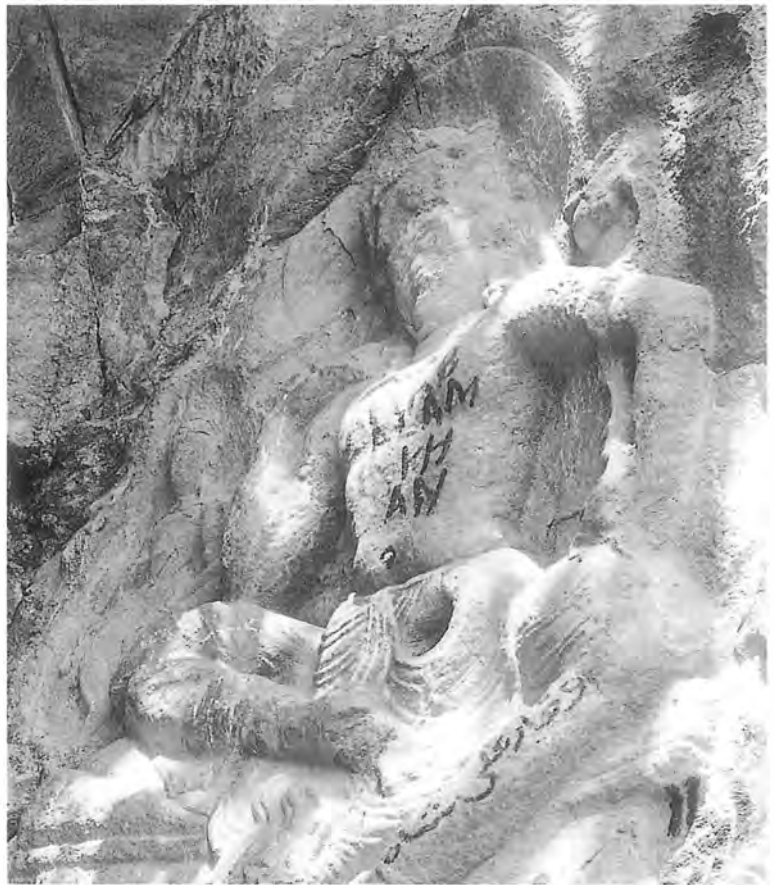
Pl. 22. Pūran Valley: Chawgā: Kaṛyē Baba pit graves beside the fort.



Pl. 23. Pūran Valley: Chawgā: Jabagai Dherai ruins.



Pl. 24. Pūran Valley: Pāndoria: Dōmā Dōmai rock carvings.



Pl. 25. Pūran Valley: Pāndorīa: Ḍomā
Ḍomai rock carvings.



Pl. 26. Pūran Valley: Pāndorīa: Ḍomā
Ḍomai rock carvings.



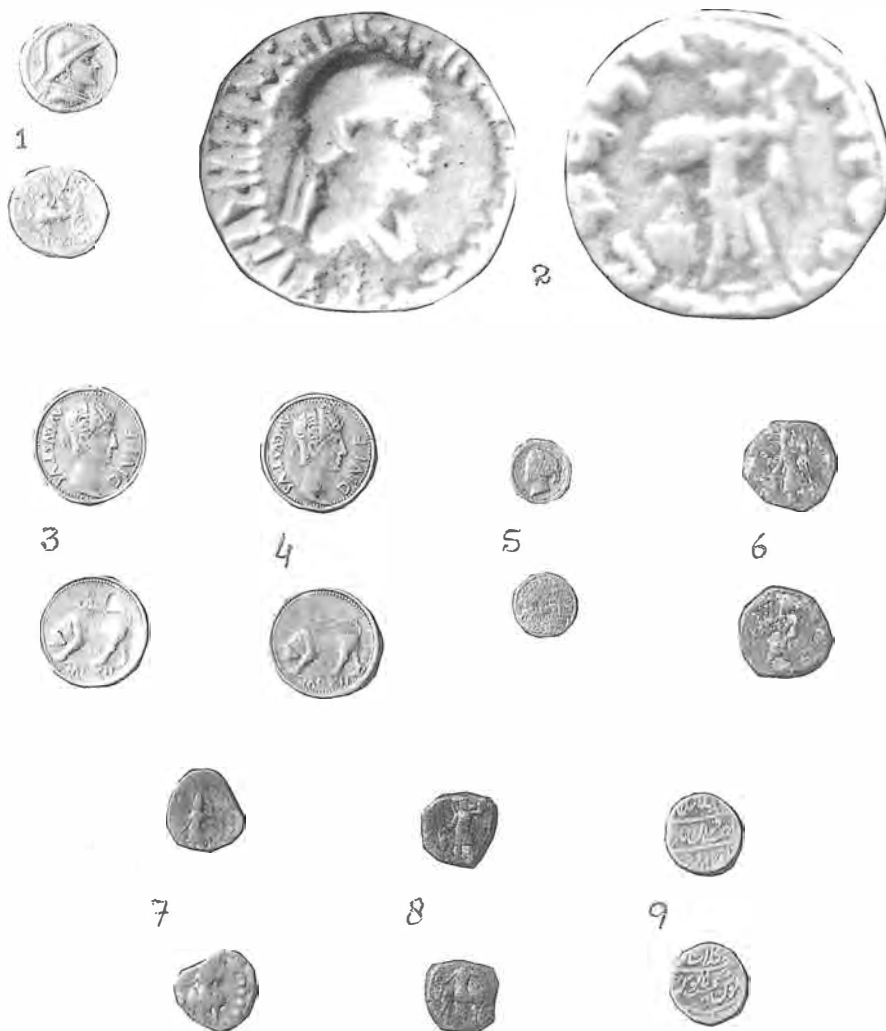
Pl. 27. Pūran Valley: Pāṇḍorīa: Ḍomā Ḍomai rock carvings.



Pl. 28. Pūran Valley: Ṭowa: Gaṛai Sar mound.



Pl. 29. Malakand Agency:
Kandako Diwalgē
ruins.



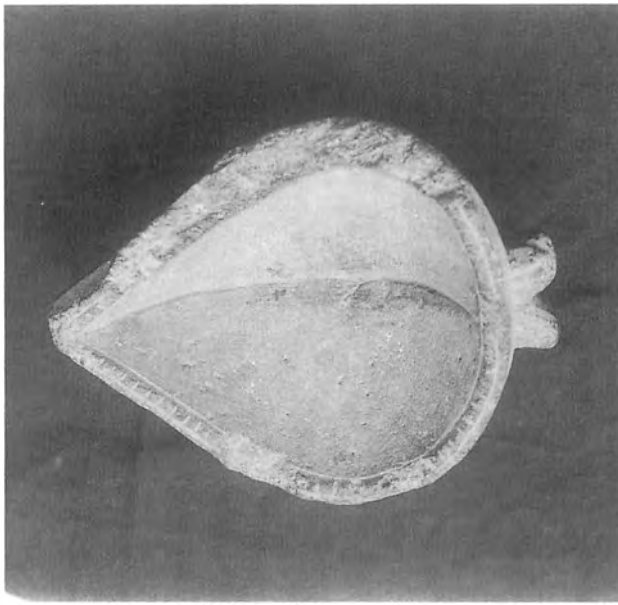
Pl. 30. Malakand Agency:
Coins.



Pl. 31. Malakand Agency: Hāthi Dara.



Pl. 32. Malakand Agency: Takht



Pl. 33. Malakand Agency: Zalamkōṭ: Schist-stone lamp.



Pl. 34. Malakand Agency: Zalamkōṭ: Broken terracotta foot.