



Archaeological investigation in Khatta Prahaladpur in Baghpat District

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Abstract:

This paper seek to investigate the ancient settlement pattern and archaeological material culture to support the oral and literary history and main reason of disappearance of the sites in Khatta Prahaladpur. On the basis of Archaeological evidences, it has been observed that, NBP associated thick grey ware, early historic, Gupta, Post Gupta and Medieval potteries. We have continuous records of human settlement up to medieval period. An attempt has been made here to exploration of Khatta Prahaladpur. This paper explores the method of Archaeological study which tells about site ancient history from the earliest time to medieval period.

Keywords: Khatta Prahaladpur, Exploration, NBPW, Kushana, Gupta Period, Artefacts, Cultural sequence, Settlement, Pattern.

Introduction:- As a part of my Ph.D research work, field investigations were carried out by me in Yamuna – Hindon Doad area. In addition to exploring the previously reported sites/ occurrence areas, the explorations were also aimed at documenting new clusters of artifacts along those river valleys. The present site was discovered during this process.

Khatta Prahaladpur:- The village of Kattha Prahladpur¹ is situated in 5 km from Pilana block and 10.4 km from Baghpat, 27 from New Delhi.

The Site – The site Latitude 28°52', 77°21' longitude. About 3 km north of Baragaon is the village Khatta Prahaladpur as called by the local villagers. However, in map of Survey on India no 53 H, Delhi, second edition 1980, the village is named as Khatta Pahladpur. This village has a palta-hua-khera (mound). The length of the mound is about 60 metres, breadth is 50 metres and the height is about 3-4 metres. Area is .3hact².

In currently, here a new ITI college is under consturation and also a Goshala, a temple situated in Khera area. Here construction work destroying the ancient archaeological site which is very serious concern matter for our past history.

Rewant Vikram Singh³ (2003), Dr. K.K. Sharma⁴ (P-92) (2017) also mention this site on his book.

Exploration :- After archaeological field investigation in Khatta Prahaladpur. It provides a significant in sight regarding the settlement pattern⁵ and settlement system of the area. The present work is based on field exploration and investigation in village. Khera which was not produced only substantial new data in light of number of clasters but also provide and information of pedological, hydrological, land use pattern and natural resources. These factors might have been influenced the settlement patterns of the Khatta Prahaladpur village.

During my explorations on the Khera, I picked up cultural remains belonging to NBP associated thick grey ware, early historic, Gupta, Post – Gupta and Medieval potteries. The resulted in the discovery of a large number of artefacts from following

clusters :-



Cluster (a) :- The Khera



Cluster (b) :- The area of adjacent to the ground



Cluster (c) :- The field



Cluster (d) :-Near ITI college

Drawings of some of the potteries recovered from Khatta Prahaladpur are shown in the fig. (a), (b), (c)

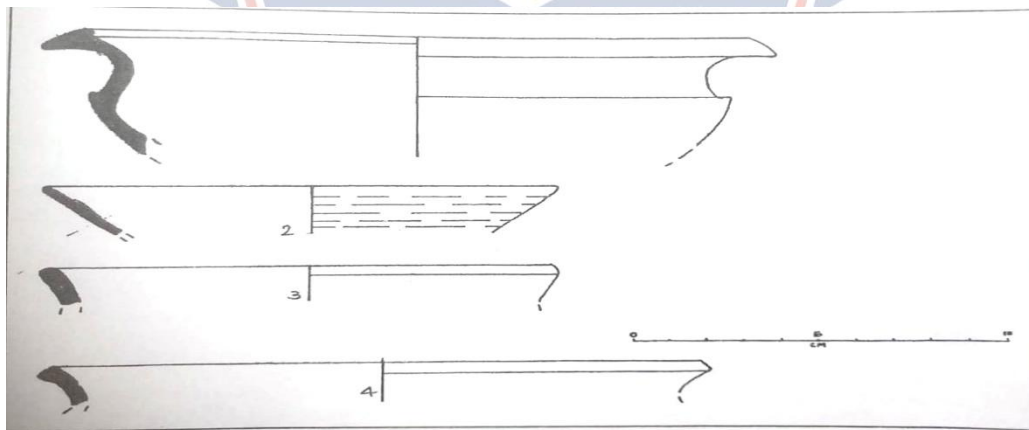
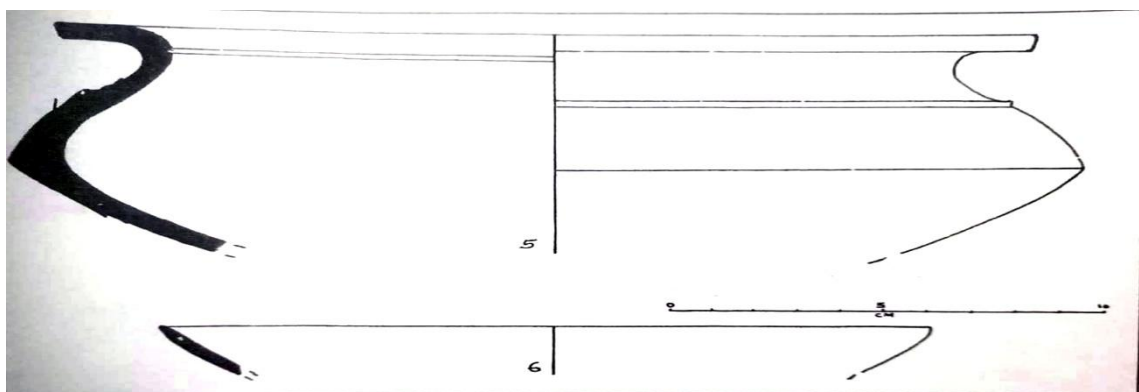
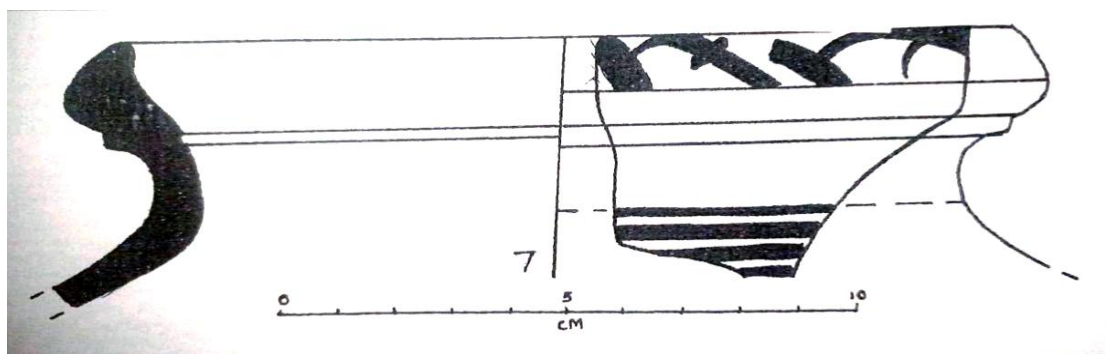


fig. (a), Pottery shapes from Khatta Prahaladpur.



fig(b), Pottery shapes from Khatta Prahaladpur



fig(c). Pottery shapes from Khatta Prahaladpur

Here is brief description of these potteries⁶.

1. Vase of red ware, red slip, concave neck, angular flaring and down-curved rim, Early Historic.
2. Bowl of brownish grey ware of thicker fabric, NBP associated.
3. Vase of brownish grey ware of thicker fabric. NBP associated.
4. Vase of red ware (brownish from interior), fine fabric, Early Historic.
5. Cooking vessel of red ware, carinated, lenticular bottom, concave neck, out curved rim, medium fabric, Gupta – Post Gupta.
6. Medieval Kulhar, red ware.
7. Vase of red ware, it has thick red slip, concave neck out – curved rim with intersecting strokes in black pigment, fine fabric, Early Historic,



Fig. (d) :- Potsherds from Khatta Prahaladpur



Fig (e) :- Potsherds from Khatta Prahaladpur

Conclusion – Archaeology is an important source for the reconstruction of the human part of a region where written records of the ancient period are rarely available. When the written records started appearing even the importance of Archaeology does not diminish and then these evidences are used for corroboration purpose. After investigation of Prahaladpur we found so many artifacts After analysis these artifacts we can say that the settlers initially occupied Khera and later they shifted to the present Khatta Prahaladpur village or probably Khera was destroyed for a period and new people got settled on the neighboring area i.e., the present village. In short, the settlement pattern of the Khatta Prahaladpur was governed by two main factors, the nature and the necessity. This pattern of human settlement continues right from the earliest time (NBPW) to till now. Needless to say, excavation⁷ at the site can bring to light new facts of Archaeology in Khatta Prahaladpur in Baghpat district and we find right chronological boundary of the recovered artifacts with authenticity.

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