

Chapter 4

Neolithic

The New Stone Age (8000 B.C. to 5000 B.C.)

As mentioned earlier, the world's climate was changing at this time. The snow line was receding, and the areas where there was snow all the time were moving north. Many changes were taking place, and the snow line was shrinking. The snow lines in the Arctic and Antarctic regions are known as the Arctic and Antarctic circles. Due to the melting of snow, the sea level rose. Due to this, the sea started flowing between England and Europe, due to which the Thames River became separated from the Rhine River. The sea came between Spain and Africa. In this way, the sea of Bering Straits came between Russia and Alaska.

After the melting of the snow, dense forests grew in those places where there was snow before. Due to this, the migration of human groups changed. The animals that humans hunted for food either became extinct or moved to the north in search of pastures. Some humans followed these animals to the cold regions of the north, while the rest of the humans had to depend on the small animals of the forest.

Some groups of humans also successfully adapted themselves to these changing conditions and, based on their observation that they could easily hunt both land and water animals if they lived by the water, they settled on the banks of rivers.

To hunt fish and other water animals, humans made boats and paddles. To hunt, they cut stones and bones to make fishing spears. They made arrows by inserting small sharp stones into wood. They made tools by lining up these sharp small stones, called microliths, on both sides of the wood. In addition, they made notches at small intervals on pieces of bone, then tied two such bones to a wooden stick in such a way that the notched side faced inward. Sitting in the boat, they used these notches to spear fish with the help of the stick.

Dogs also helped humans a lot in hunting. These dogs were actually wolf cubs. These cubs were raised by humans.

Agriculture

When hunting failed to meet their food needs, these Stone Age humans used the observations and knowledge of their women to begin farming so that they could eat grain along with hunting and fill their stomachs. Along with this, these people started raising goats, sheep and cows. Honey was obtained from honeybees. Gradually, agriculture (and farming) became more important in their lives than hunting. The greatest achievement of the humans of this era was their agriculture, which had far-reaching consequences. In the Paleolithic era, when men went hunting, women stayed together to care for their children and gather fruits and herbs. During this time, they carefully observed the growth of plants. In addition, they also experimented to see which plants were useful for what purpose. It was these women who discovered that grain could be eaten.

The Beginning of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry

The beginning of agriculture and animal husbandry took place in Western Asia because the wild plants of wheat and barley originated in these regions, and sheep and goats were found in the high areas around the deserts of Arabia, Syria, and Iran. The weather of these regions was the same then as it is today.

Agriculture began in Palestine and Iran around 8000 B.C. and later in Egypt. Around 5000 B.C., it began in Greece and the surrounding areas. It came to Northern Europe 2 or 3 thousand years later, and at the same time, it also came to China.

The Beginning of Human Civilization

Evidence of settlements from this period has been found on the banks of the Danube River in Europe. In Palestine, Syria, and Iraq, humans lived in caves until 8700 B.C. Early evidence suggests that they cultivated grains in small enclosures in front of the caves.

But when the weather changed, these early humans were relieved of severe cold, and due to the change in weather, they no longer needed to hide in caves. Due to these numerous changes, the life of humans changed forever. Those humans who wandered the world as hunters from the north to the south settled down as farmers. To cultivate grains, they had to stay in one place, and thus began their social life.

The need for more land and water for agriculture brought them to the banks of rivers, and from there, human social life began. This is why the world's oldest settlements are found on the banks of rivers and lakes. These settlements are in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, and on the banks of the Indus River, the Tigris-Euphrates River, and the Nile River.

After the discovery of fire, the following changes came in human life along with social changes:

(i) Trade (ii) War (iii) Cloth making (iv) Pottery (v) Housing (vi) Villages, towns, cities, countries

Trade:

When humans started to cultivate crops, they realized that it didn't spoil as quickly as meat and could be stored. With storage came the idea of exchanging crops for other goods. If someone had hunted meat, they would give some meat in exchange for crops, thus initiating trade. At this point, they began to understand that one person could not do everything alone. Hence, organized division of labor started in human society. Some people hunted, others farmed, some herded sheep and goats, while others gathered herbs. Similarly, when humans began to make utensils, some people adopted pottery as their profession. In open areas, since there were no caves, humans needed to build houses, leading some to take up construction as their profession.

Thus, a society was formed where each person depended on others for different tasks and could not survive without them. After fulfilling their own needs, people worked for others and benefited from the work done by others in return. This exchange fostered the growth of trade. As the variety of goods increased, so did the scope of trade.

War:

This series of exchanges began due to crop cultivation. However, with the beginning of this exchange, greed also increased in humans. Farmers aimed to cultivate as much as possible, and others sought to increase their work output to obtain more goods and comforts in return. In this pursuit, powerful people exerted pressure on weaker ones and employed them for their work. Powerful tribes exerted pressure on weaker neighboring tribes, fought wars with them, enslaved them, made them work for them, and seized their lands. With the onset of these wars, humans felt the need for a military force to protect their lives and property. In return for this protection, society began to provide the military with the necessities of life.

Making Cloth:

From the beginning of agriculture, humans cultivated various plants, one of which was cotton. During the Upper Paleolithic period, humans used the wool of large animals to make clothes. It took humans thousands of years to learn how to make thread from cotton and weave it. However, before the end of the Neolithic period, humans had started making cloth.

Pottery Making:

After the discovery of agriculture, they were driven by a desire for trade to accumulate as much grain as possible. However, humans lacked a suitable means of storing their collected grain. Initially, humans began making baskets from soft branches of trees and storing grain in them. But grains would fall through the holes in the baskets. So, they started applying a coating of wet mud inside the baskets and drying it in the sun before storing grain. This way, the grain was saved from wastage, but the mud coating broke easily. It is believed that a basket might have accidentally fallen into fire, burning the twigs but leaving the mud coating inside hardened due to heat. Thus, by accident, humans made their first pot. This practice of pottery making began that day and continues to this day.

Initially, humans must have made pots by coating baskets and burning them. Later, pots started being made without baskets as well. But interestingly, the pots made with baskets retained the criss-cross pattern of the basket twigs. Even the pots made without baskets had these criss-cross marks made with a pointed object.

Thus, along with the pots made of polished stones (for which this period is called Neolithic or the New Stone Age), baked clay pots are also associated with this new agrarian society.

As mentioned earlier, clay was baked into animal shapes long ago. An example of this is found in the form of a Venus statue in Czechoslovakia, which was found to be made of baked clay. Similarly, in Japan, Jomon pots with rope impressions were made around 2000 BC, even before

the onset of agriculture in Japan. Still, it is believed that the use of baked clay pots increased after the advent of agriculture.

The Discovery of Jarmo and the Development of Pottery

The village of Jarmo, located in the Zagros Mountains of northern Iraq, was inhabited in 6500 BC. There were 25 families here who made a living by growing grains and raising sheep and goats. These people dug pits to store grains, the walls of which were made of baked mud.

In Jarmo and other places around it, pottery and clay figurines continued to be made until 6000 BC. The site of Hassuna is particularly noteworthy, where pottery was painted with geometric designs. This pottery became so famous that all such pottery is named after it.

The pottery from Samarra, located south of Hassuna, is also called Samarra Ware. This type of pottery was decorated with pictures of birds, animals, and humans. After 5000 BC, pottery made at Tel Halaf (on the border between Turkey and Syria) was very delicate and had symbolic images on it.

People made this pottery in their spare time. It is highly likely that women made this pottery. They shaped the clay by hand and baked it in small kilns. Around 3400 BC, potters who made pottery their livelihood appeared in Mesopotamia with the potter's wheel. This work started in China a thousand years later and in Southeast Europe in 2400 BC.

However, the finest Neolithic pottery was made in the city of Susa in southern Iran from 5000 to 4000 BC. This pottery is indicative of the technical skill of this place. The pottery made here is surprisingly delicate and thin, and it is decorated with silhouette images.

These people presented the shape of every human and animal in simple designs by shaping them into straight or round lines. Stylizing means shaping a natural thing into a simple design. Experts believe that by stylizing natural things or by creating such symbols, humans began writing. Therefore, the pottery of Susa is also a precursor to writing. Because in it, humans, animals, and birds are shown very skillfully by drawing a few parallel lines.

In Susa, we are conducting a detailed examination of a vessel to clarify the characteristics of these vessels. At the top of this vessel, a row of FLAMINGO birds has been created using only parallel lines. The necks and legs of these birds have been shown with parallel lines, and the beaks and bodies have been created with slanting lines. Below this, dogs have been made with elongated bodies. Experts believe that the bodies of these dogs have been intentionally lengthened to give a sense of their swift running.

Below an ibex type animal is made. Its body is made by joining two triangles, and its horns are very large and made in the shape of two circles. Writing began with these kind of symbolic pictures, and for a very long time, humans continued writing with the help of these symbolic pictures. Thousands of years later, the Romans formed symbols of sounds instead of symbols of things, and this method is still in use today.

One special thing about Susa's pottery is that in these pictures, humans framed the picture for the first time by putting a border around it. As shown in the picture of the vase, a thick black

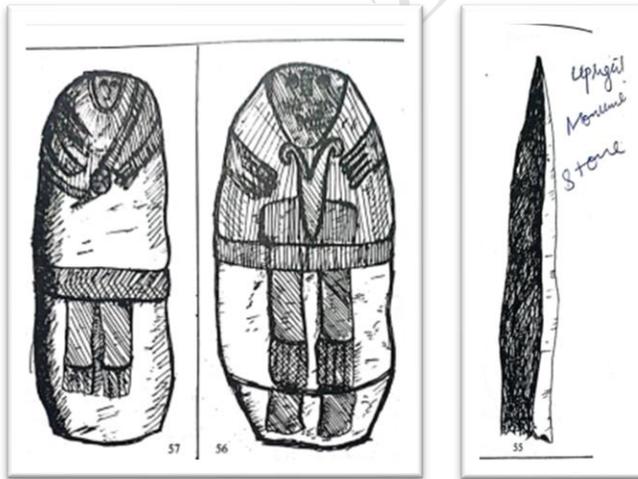
line has been drawn around the deer to create a border. Before this, the pictures drawn in the caves were not bordered, and their boundaries could not be determined."

Neolith Megalith:

The word megalith comes from the Greek word "mega" meaning "big" and "lithos" meaning "stone". Thus, megaliths are large stones. The use of large stones in construction began in the Neolithic era. Before the Neolithic era, humans built huts of reeds and wood that they used as temporary shelters during hunting. Later, when humans settled in plains, they used these crude huts made of reeds and wood as their homes. These structures were necessary for human habitation, but humans also built monuments and memorials under the influence of their emotions. Here is detail about Neolith Megalith Architecture:

1. Menhir:

As human society progressed, greed and enmity increased. Humans fought wars to acquire more land. When one group of humans conquered another, they would erect large pillars in the ground as a memorial to their victory. These pillars still exist today. These large pillars are called MENHIR. Some experts believe that MENHIR was built to connect with the spirits of the dead. The largest MENHIR has been found in the Brittany region of France. It is called "LOCMARIAQUER MENHIR" and is 65 feet tall. Its weight is 342 tons. It is now broken into 5 pieces. The surprising thing is that no stone like this MENHIR is found in France, and it is still unknown how far this stone was brought from. MENHIR was also used for carving, which was a type of art that developed after the MESOLITHIC period. In France, a large number of MENHIR were found in the shape of stylized humans. Some caves in BRITTAKY have such MENHIR built on them, which are in the shape of a woman. Her face and body are separated by strings of pearls. More details are carved by scratching lines on a smooth surface, only the nose and chest are made in RELIEF.

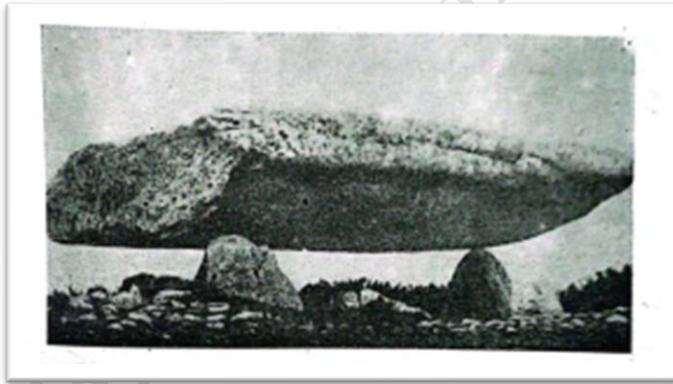


(This is an example of a MENHIR, a type of stone monument that can be found in many different shapes.)

2. DOLMEN:

Dolmen was old graves made from large stones. They are a type of megalith.

A hole was dug in the ground, the dead were buried in it, then large stones were placed at the head and foot of the grave. Another stone was placed on top of these, creating a roof for the grave, thus forming a dolmen. Later, dolmens were used as collective graves, with examples containing the remains of up to 50 people. Dolmens were later given a room-like shape. In this style of dolmen, a passage was first created, followed by a large chamber with smaller chambers within it. The entire dolmen was then covered with soil to create a mound-like structure. Numerous such mounds are found throughout the world, and more are being uncovered through excavations. The builders of these dolmens must have had some tools to create such precise triangular and rectangular shapes for their foundations, and to shape the stones accordingly. Some dolmens in Brittany, constructed around 4000 BC, exhibit remarkable precision for their time. The stones are stacked on top of each other in such a way that the lower stone slightly overlaps the upper one, creating a structure called a corbel. Corbelling is a unique architectural style. (*In architecture, a corbel is a structural element that projects from a wall to support a weight or load. It's essentially a bracket that extends outward from a vertical surface.*) Similar graves have been found in Europe along the Atlantic coast. However, the differences in design are likely due to the different types of stone found in the region. The excellent corbelling found on the graves in Orkney is possible because the stone there lends itself to this technique.



(An example of Dolmen)

3. TEMPLES

The third type of Megalithic construction, i.e., large stone structures built by Neolithic man, were temples. Such temples have been discovered in the island of Malta and date back to around

6020 BC. Their special feature is that they were the first structures of this type. Construction of such 16 temples began around 2300 BC and was abandoned by 2000 BC. These temples were built with large stones. The largest temple is Ggantija, built around 2020 BC. Its base is made of large slabs of limestone, 12 feet high. Smaller, less refined stones were placed on top, reaching a height of 50 feet. The interior is circular. The most important part is built on a trefoil (three-leaf clover) plan. The remaining parts are roughly oval in shape. Most of the stones were leveled by rubbing, and some were drilled with small holes using a hammer. The temple at Tarxien has a carving of a grapevine in the shape of a circle.

The method of constructing doors in these temples was post and lintel (*two large stones were sunk into the ground, and a horizontal stone was placed on top to form a doorway, and then a new path was created*).



(An example of Temple during Neolithic Period)

4. Stonehenge

In England, around 2100 BC, a remarkable monument called Stonehenge was built using large stones measuring 6 to 8 feet long and 10 feet wide. These stones, known as lintels, were transported from a distance of 190 miles. The exact purpose behind constructing Stonehenge remains a mystery. However, it's widely believed that it served as an important ceremonial site, with its stones carefully aligned to celestial events. The monument was meticulously designed to mark the summer solstice sunrise, the winter solstice sunset, and the extreme northern and southern limits of the moon's rise. Such astronomical alignments were likely significant for both practical purposes like tracking seasonal changes and spiritual beliefs. Recent research suggests that the stones could have been used to observe lunar and solar cycles, even predicting eclipses and solstices for a period of 300 years. (*Solstice refers to the time when the sun reaches its northernmost or southernmost point in the sky.*) From an artistic standpoint, Stonehenge is unparalleled. It showcases the ancient builders' understanding of proportion and harmony, evident in the use of both blue stones and sandstone. It's estimated that around 1100 people worked for five and a half years to transport and shape these stones. The stones were meticulously smoothed

and shaped, with a thicker base and tapering towards the top. The lintels placed on these upright stones were also crafted with precision, creating a circular structure.

The craftsmanship involved in shaping the lintels was remarkable. They were not only drilled and precisely fitted onto the upright stones but also slightly curved to form a complete circle. The builders' skill is evident in the fact that the lintels were tapered at the top, making them appear straight when viewed from below. For thousands of years, people attributed magical powers to Stonehenge, associating it with various rituals, including human sacrifice.



(An example of Stone Henge from Neolithic period)

Neolithic Architecture:

The most significant achievement of the Neolithic period was the development of agriculture. Agriculture transformed human life. We have already discussed some of these changes. Now, let's take a closer look at the changes in human habitation.

Humans needed land and water to cultivate crops. They needed hills for protection and rivers and lakes for water. After descending from the mountains, humans felt the need for permanent dwellings. Previously, humans lived in temporary huts when they went hunting. For a long time after descending from the mountains, humans continued to live in houses made of raw mud bricks and thatched roofs. These houses were neither strong nor secure. It was at this point that human utilized the technique of pottery-making. Just as they made pottery stronger by firing it, they also fired mud bricks to make them stronger and more durable. These fired bricks could withstand rain and storms. Feeling safe and secure in these houses, people began to live in communities. Living in communities facilitated both individual and collective activities. Since survival no longer depended solely on hunting, people had more certainty about their lives. This allowed them to plan their activities better.

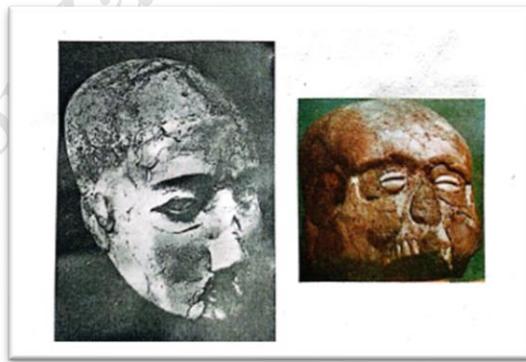
The division of labor provided many conveniences to the people of that time. Individuals no longer had to do everything themselves. People adopted different professions, contributing to the collective good. It became necessary for people of different professions to live close to each other, leading to the formation of cities, villages, and settlements.

The world's oldest cities include Catal Hayuk in Turkey, Jericho in Jordan, and Jarmo in Iraq. Jarmo was excavated recently. These cities represent a crucial link between the past and the present, demonstrating the connection between human history and the present day.

Jericho

It is believed that around 8000 BC, a small village was established on a high, level plain in the Jordan Valley, where a perennial spring flowed. By 1000 BC, this village had developed into a significant city named Jericho. The city had houses made of mud bricks, both oval and round, with foundations built of stones. Due to the increasing prosperity of the city, the inhabitants felt the need for greater security. Around 7500 BC, a strong wall of stone, twelve feet high and five feet wide, was built around the city. The wall had at least one tower, possibly more, which were thirty feet tall. Later, rectangular houses were built on stone foundations. The walls and floors of these houses were plastered and painted. The most surprising discovery in Jericho was the human skulls found there. These skulls had human faces modeled on them using a plaster-like material, with eyes made of shells. These skulls were placed on top of graves.

Here the dead bodies were buried, but their heads were separated from their bodies and their shapes were recreated in plaster and placed on top of the graves. The modeling of these heads was done with great care. It seems that an attempt was made to create a portrait of the deceased, with special attention paid to the size and proportion of the muscles. Each face has distinct features. Even a mustache has been painted on one face.



(This city was discovered in 1960, but its history dates back to 7000 B.C. and it remained inhabited for eight hundred years.)

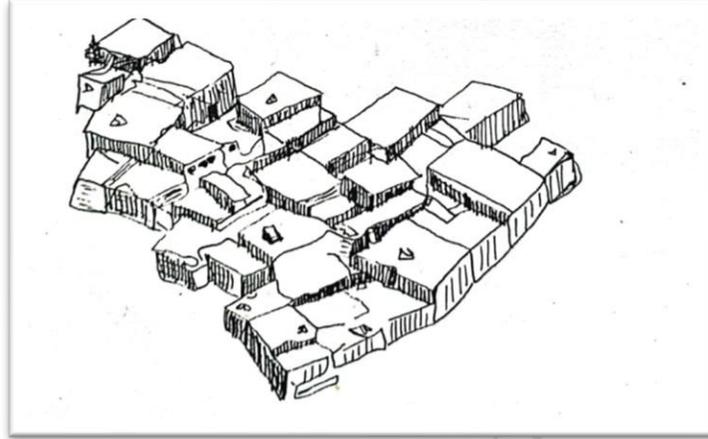
Catal Huyuk:

This city was discovered in 1960, but its history dates back to 7000 B.C. and it remained inhabited for eight hundred years. The people who lived here not only hunted wild animals, but

also cultivated peas, beans, and grains. They also raised sheep, goats, cows, and buffaloes. They polished shells and obsidian (a volcanic stone) to make glass and traded it.

Architecture of Catal Huyuk:

Their rectangular residential buildings were built on a strong wooden frame with mud bricks. More planning is visible in this city compared to Jericho.



This is a map of one of the oldest cities in the world, CATAL HUYUK, where all the houses were built close together and the entrance was through the roof.

In this city (Catal Huyuk), there were no roads or streets between the houses. Their special feature is that these houses could only be accessed through the roof. In this way, people also arranged for the protection of their houses and the houses became stronger by supporting each other. If someone forcefully entered someone's house, their entry was limited to only one room. To go to another room, you had to go to the roof again. In some places, there were courtyards between these houses. Garbage was thrown in them. By throwing ashes on this pile of dirt, it was used as fertilizer.

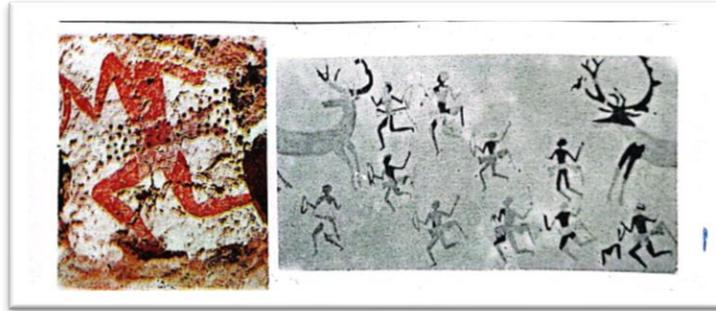
Along with the inner walls of the rooms, there were small pulpits and platforms that were used for sleeping, eating, and working. There was also a shrine or temple inside every four houses. The dead were buried in them. These shrines (SHRINES) have been decorated more than the houses inside.

Paintings from Catal Huyuk:

From these shrines, very beautiful painting, sculpture and decorative items are found."

Example 1:

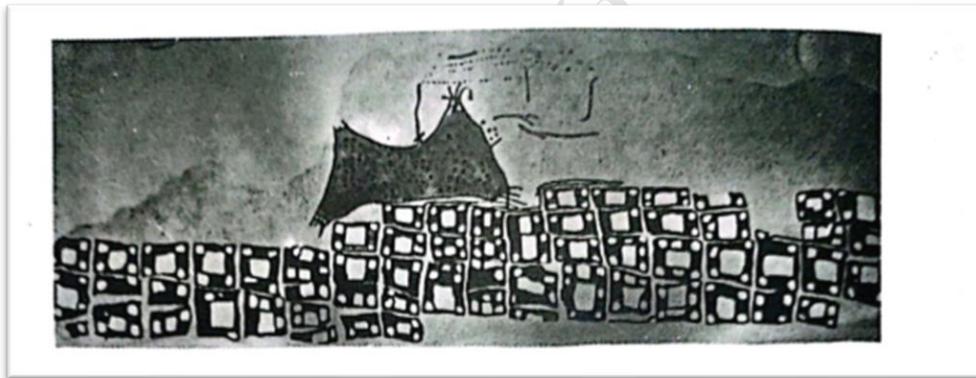
A very large wall has been found, on which many humans are drawn. These are countless men and women drawn in SILHOUETTE in vibrant colors. They are so close to reality that even the movement and weight of their bodies can be felt.



A painting from a Wall in Catal Huyuk "Deer Hunt"

Example 2:

Another amazing picture has been found from CATAL HUYUK, which is the world's first LANDSCAPE. In the front view of this picture, rectangular houses have been built very orderly, perhaps showing CATAL HUYUK. There is a slightly smaller mountain behind it, which has two peaks. A few dots and lines on top of the mountain's high peak clearly indicate a volcanic mountain. Experts have discovered that there is a Hasan Dag mountain near Catal Huyuk, which has two peaks, and it was a volcano at one time.



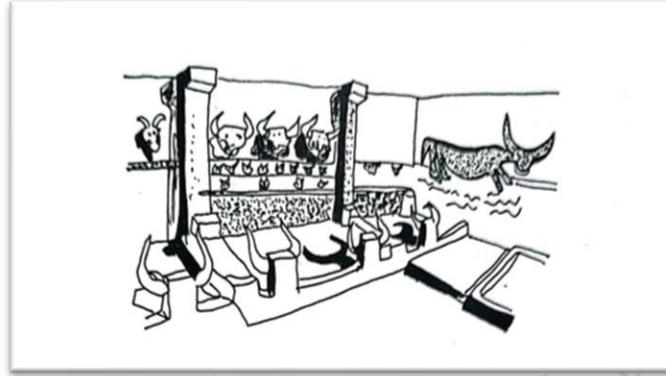
The first Landscape of world in Catal Huyuk

One of the special features of the pictures of Catal Huyuk is that its artists prepared the surface by applying a coat of one color over the natural surface and then painting on it. Even in these, the figures appear to be made in space due to the lack of background, margins, or lines. And there is no sense of where the sky and the earth end in the picture. Only the boundaries of the wall have determined the boundaries of the picture.

Sculpture from Catal Huyuk:

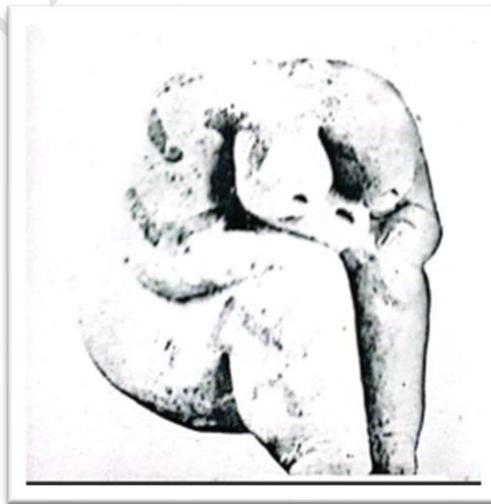
This is a time when the sculptures of mother goddess are increasing. It shows that with the decrease in the importance of hunting, the role of women in society and the nature of their work increased with the increase in professions associated with agriculture. Grinding grains, cooking, sewing clothes and taking care of domestic animals were all the responsibility of women.

In their shrines, pictures drawn on the walls, animal heads, buffalo skulls and bull horns have been found in large numbers. These horns are placed on pillars, on top of sitting benches and on top of bull heads made of plaster. This shows that they were probably placed under the idea that they could somehow help in the protection of man and save him from bad times. But these people did not consider cows and bulls to be deities. Which religious idols are taken from Catal Huyuk.



An inner view of a shrine in Catla Huyuk

It is evident from these that the people who worshiped this deity used to create it in human form. And when they showed it with animals, they always made the animals inferior to humans. Women were often shown with cheetahs and men were always shown with bulls. Their idols were made of clay and baked in fire. Most of them were very small, their diameter ranging between two and eight inches. Two or four idols have also been found to be twelve inches. More idols of women have been found, and it is believed that the idol of a woman has been made as a MOTHER GODDESS. She has been presented in various ways with great clarity, such as in youth, old age, at the time of marriage ceremony, in the state of pregnancy, giving birth to a child and as the ruler of animals.



The statue of " Seated Goddess" from Cartal Huyuk

This statue's head is broken, but the way it is molded reminds us of the Venus Of Willendorf. The artist has made the terra cotta statue very realistically. Its breasts are made very sensually. The hands, despite being small, are made very carefully. Although the head is not present, looking at other statues from this place, it is felt that they must have also made its head clearly.

Cross-like flowers are painted on this statue. These flowers were also present in the wall paintings. The purpose of making flowers on this statue may have been to show it as a goddess of farmers.

In the paintings and sculptures of Catal Huyuk, the symbols of reproduction and agriculture are very prominent. But the importance of hunting was also quite clear in the Neolithic period. Therefore, the rituals of the old era related to hunting are also found in the new era. In this regard, numerous incomplete and simply made animal statues have been found in Catal Huyuk, which have been marked with arrows or deliberately broken. After being used in magic rituals, these statues were buried in a pit.

Catal Huyuk was a prosperous and organized city. It had several centers for various types of art and craft. Besides pottery, painting, and sculpture, clothes were made here, and The process of smelting metals from their ores, such as copper began before 6000 B.C. In this society, the traditions of the Paleolithic era remained for a very long time. Gradually, it became a food-producing society from a food-gathering society. It shifted from realistic art towards symbolic art. The status of women also increased in this new society. In 5700 B.C., it became a complete agricultural society. A hundred years after that, these people built a new city, Hacilar, two hundred miles west of here, but the Neolithic period ended in Turkey by 5000 B.C.

NEOLITHIC PAINTING

Many paintings of the Neolithic period have been described in Catal Huyuk. It is also necessary to mention the paintings made before Catal Huyuk, i.e. in the Paleolithic period. It was clarified with reference to the paintings of Eastern Spain in the Paleolithic period that these paintings continued even after the end of the Paleolithic period and many changes came in Europe due to the melting of snow, due to which the paintings stopped being made. The paintings made in the Levant of Spain are called 3000 BC paintings, which is the middle link of Mesolithic, i.e. Neolithic and Paleolithic.

These paintings are considered to be from the Mesolithic period, although some believe they belong to the Neolithic period as well. These were painted in rock shelters. This style of painting is found not only in Spain but also in North Africa.

There have been different opinions about the dates of these paintings, but now it is agreed that they are from the Mesolithic period, which is found only in Spain and North Africa. The special thing about these paintings is that humans are depicted in them. There is movement in these paintings, and they are painted in dark colors on a light background.



A painting from Gasula Gorge (The Gasulla Gorge is a remarkable site in Spain, renowned for its ancient rock art)

The image of 5 soldiers meeting at GASULA GORGE reflects the characteristics of the paintings of that era. The entire image is only 9 inches wide. To show movement, the basic shape of the pose has been slightly exaggerated, which creates a connection in motion. There is not much detail. Still, their bows and arrows and the hats on the leader's head are visible. The spread legs show their height, which successfully shows their eagerness to reach the battlefield. These images give a little idea of how humans started pictorial writing in Eastern countries 5,000 years later by simplifying natural shapes. The places where these images are made have been associated with supernatural powers for a long time.

Besides, from 8000 BC to 5000 BC the drawings of mammoth are found from the south of the Ural mountains, in Kapouaya cave, which resemble those found in the Dordogne region. Similarly, engravings have been made on the stone mountains of Libya in Africa. There is a rhinoceros made 26 feet high, and on top of it, engravings of a giraffe and an elephant have also been made. Although these are later images, they also have the characteristics of French and Spanish images. How the similarities came about in the images of all these places has not been known yet.



Two Giraffe and an elephant superimposed

On a stone mountain in Addaura, Sicily, animal outlines have been found, dating back to 8000 B.C. Naked human figures have been made with them, which are 10 to 15 inches long. These figures have been made close to nature and reality like animals. These naked humans look physically fit and have been made in outline. This outline has been applied with such skill that it can be estimated from it how they are sitting and how they are moving. This naked human figure appears physically fit and is drawn in outline. This outline is drawn with such skill that it gives an idea of their muscles and movements. Before this, no drawing had been made so close to the reality of man and so accurate in terms of limbs, nor were such elegant and correct human images made for another 5000 years. Apart from this, there are two bound men near the feet of three men standing wearing animal masks. It is clear that these two groups have some connection with each other. And they have some story which cannot be said with certainty. According to different opinions, this is either a dance or a ceremony of illumination. Or it is the execution of a crime.



In Sicily, in ADDAURA, on a stone mountain, animal outlines were found. Their history is 8000 B.C. Along with them, naked human figures were made, which are 10 to 15 inches long. These figures are made natural and close to reality like these animals.

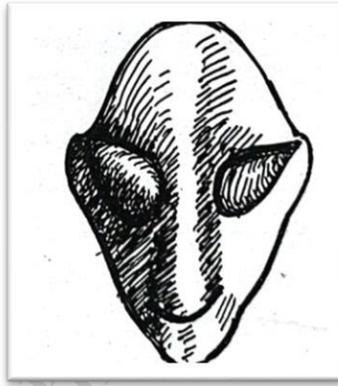
Around 5000 B.C., a narrative art (NARRATIVE) started in Spain, the story of which can be easily inferred.

In the mountainous regions of the northern coast of the Mediterranean, in Vallitorta and REMIGIA and several other nearby places, in shallow overhung shelters where natural light falls, many paintings have been found. These paintings differ from cave paintings not only in terms of location but also in terms of style and subject matter. In many places, these paintings are protected by layers of Stalagmite (A stalagmite is an upward-growing mound of mineral deposits formed on a cave floor by dripping water). And they are only clearly visible when water is poured on them. And for this reason, their pictures cannot be taken in a satisfactory manner. In these pictures, there are many more humans than animals, which are made very small (from one inch to 8 inches). These humans are seen engaged in various occupations. Some people are fighting each other. It is especially noteworthy that humans fighting each other had never been painted before in Paleolithic or Neolithic art. There are some scenes in which cows, buffaloes, sheep and goats are shown. Horses are also shown, with humans advancing towards them. It is believed that these paintings were made later than other paintings, but still not before 2000 B.C. These paintings show that by that time, the human life of hunting and gathering food had changed to a life of food production and animal husbandry. Even in the old pictures of the Sahara Desert, sheep and goats are visible.

NEOLITHIC SCULPTURE

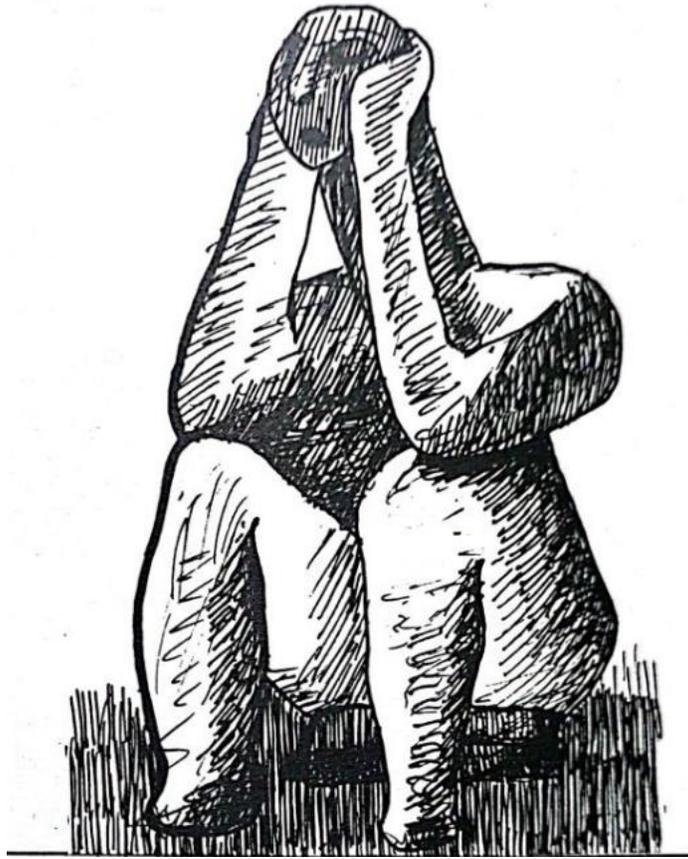
The Neolithic period was a time of great innovation in the art of sculpture. During this time, stone carving reached new heights, as evidenced by the famous sculptures of Jericho and Catal Huyuk. However, the use of clay for creating figurines continued throughout the Neolithic period. These clay figurines were often fired to harden them, and many have survived to this day. In Europe, a collection of fifteen hundred small figurines was found at the site of Vinca, located along the Danube River in Serbia and Germany.

These figurines date back to around 5000 BC. Many depict animals, both domesticated and wild. There are also numerous figurines of humans, both male and female. Remarkably, each individual figure is so distinctively stylized that it can be considered a portrait or a representation of a specific person. In contrast, the figurines found at the site of Predonica, located slightly further north, have a more formulaic and stylized appearance. Their faces are often elongated with slit-like eyes, lacking any real expression or emotion.



Head from Predonica (A human head made in design form)

In addition, another type of statue has been found in Cernavoda, Romania, on the banks of the Danube River in Europe. These are two small statues, about four and a half inches tall. One is of a woman and the other of a man. Despite their small size, they possess monumentality. The seated male figure has his head resting on his hands. Experts believe that this statue (Man from Cernavoda) is the first statue of a thinker in the world of art, which was made of clay around 4000-3500 BC.



A Terracotta Statue of first thinker of world “ MAN FROM CERNAVODA”



Small size statue of terracotta from Vince



Neolithic Terracotta Work

Neolithic Terra Cotta work

An important aspect of the Neolithic era is the terra cotta (baked clay) figurines and vessels. These also depict stylized human figures. Examples of this art form have been found in excavations of settlements in Hungary and Romania-Yugoslavia-Greece. These settlements date back to the prehistoric era. Among these, the Vinca pottery with its small figurines is noteworthy. These figurines are very stylized, depicting humans in a designed form. The facial features are also designed. Sometimes, the figure is seated or standing, and adorned with necklaces and bracelets. The production of these figurines ceased around 3000 BC.

The Neolithic era lasted for a long time in Northern Europe. Much earlier, the Bronze Age had arrived in the Middle East and the Mediterranean. Even before that, the use of bronze and copper tools had begun in Central Asia as a replacement for stone tools. In Central Asia, humans extracted copper lumps from the earth's surface and used hammers to shape them into small objects. Gold was also shaped in the same way. Due to their softness, gold and copper could not be used as tools. This method of metalworking continued for 3000 years. Later, in the Middle East, humans discovered that copper and tin could be melted together to form bronze, which is a harder metal. Bronze tools were made in Europe and China around 2500 BC. There is disagreement about whether these people made bronze themselves or learned the technique from the Middle East. However, it is certain that people in South America had also discovered bronze by 1000 BC.

Thus, the Stone Age (Neolithic) came to an end in human life, and humanity took another step towards progress. During this time, new civilizations emerged. In the world, the civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, the Indus Valley, and China were emerging and the human race was striving for progress.

Pakistan's Stone Age

Paleolithic and Neolithic Periods

Paleolithic Period:

The first traces of human-like creatures in the region of Pakistan date back millions of years. These remains were found in the Pothohar region and are attributed to hominids known as Ramadicus and Punjabicus.

During a warm period between 500,000 and 300,000 years ago, ancient humans inhabited the vicinity of the River Soan in the Rawalpindi Division. They subsisted on hunting and gathering, using stone tools. While their appearance remains unknown due to the lack of skeletal remains, their tools suggest they coexisted with rhinos, mammoths, and large sheep in the area.

Tools from this period have been discovered near the River Beas and in various parts of India. Southern region inhabitants favored hand axes, while those in the Soan Valley crafted choppers. Flake-type tools made from leaves have been found near the Nomal Lake and are estimated to be 1.5 million years old. Evidence suggests these early humans did not live in caves. They likely constructed temporary shelters using wood, leaves, and grass.

Neolithic Period:

Dr. Wali discovered a hearth near the Sanghao Valley in Mardan, dating back 70,000 years. The tools found there, along with ash and burnt bones, indicate the use of fire during that time.

With the onset of the Neolithic period, humans in Pakistan adopted agriculture from the Middle East. Recent research suggests a possible influence of this region on the development of agriculture in the Middle East. The oldest Neolithic settlement in Pakistan is Mehrgarh, located in the Bolan district of Balochistan. Founded around 5000 BC, it consisted of houses made of mud bricks and housed a variety of domesticated animals. The inhabitants consumed melons, and archaeologists have even recovered melon seeds from the site. They used to cultivate crops with hoes and cut them with a type of stone sickle. In addition, they also used stone axes and Flint tools.

You will be surprised to know how much information even the small things of a society can provide. For example, the jewelry found in this area includes necklaces and bangles made of stone, shell, and turquoise.

One grave, dated back to seven thousand years ago, contained two beads. One was made of Lapis Lazuli stone, which is only found in Afghanistan. This indicates that these people traded with Afghanistan. The other bead was made of copper, which is one of the oldest objects made of metal found in our region.

Fine and polished tools from the Neolithic period have been found in many places in Pakistan, such as Khanpur in Sindh and Hyderabad. Cemeteries from this period have been found in Rawat, near Rawalpindi. The people buried here had long heads.

Pottery:

Many settlements dating back to 5000 B.C. have been discovered in the region of Pakistan. Numerous artifacts from this era have also been unearthed, including pottery. By examining these artifacts, experts can determine the cultural affiliations of these ancient settlements.

The pottery found in Balochistan, particularly near Rana Ghundai in Quetta, is adorned with paintings of bulls, deer, goats, and bison. These vessels bear a striking resemblance to the pottery of Kandahar in Afghanistan. Similarly, the pottery discovered in southern Balochistan exhibits influences from Iranian and Iraqi art.



A Pot found from Pakistan “Amri Ware Pottery”

Metal Work:

Metalworking in Pakistan is thought to have started around 5000 B.C. However, it is believed that metals were only used by the elite, while common people continued to use stone tools.

Early Settlements:

One of the oldest urban settlements in the region, Rahman Dheri, was discovered in N.W.F.P., (N.W.F.P., which is an older name for the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in Pakistan).

14 miles from Dera Ismail Khan. This settlement dates back to around 4000 B.C. and appears to have been a fortified city with a population of 10,000 to 15,000 people. The presence of pictographic symbols suggests the beginning of writing in this region. These early settlements emerged as a result of agricultural developments, influenced by similar changes in Iran and Iraq. Areas closer to Iran and Iraq experienced faster agricultural development and saw the rise of these settlements while most of the Indian subcontinent was still reliant on hunting and gathering.

Once agriculture was established, people naturally sought out more fertile areas with water sources. The Indus Valley, enriched by annual floods, became home to numerous small settlements.

Over 32 settlements dating back to 4000 B.C. have been discovered in the Bahawalpur region, located along the banks of the Hakra River (now dried up). Pottery found in Jalilpur, 46 miles from Harappa in Punjab, connects these two regions.

Fortified Cities:

In Sindh, the Amri Fort, situated south of Mohenjo-daro, dates back to around 3600 B.C. Similarly, Kot Diji and Kalibangan, both fortified cities, flourished around 3000 B.C. Whether these fortifications were built to protect against floods or human attacks remains unclear. The pottery found in these sites shares similarities with older Baloch pottery, indicating trade connections between these regions.

Indus Valley Civilization:

It is believed that these smaller settlements gradually evolved over thousands of years, giving rise to a larger and more sophisticated civilization. This civilization, known as the Indus Valley Civilization, marked Pakistan's transition from the New Stone Age to the Metal Age. Alongside Egypt and Mesopotamia, it is considered one of the world's first three great civilizations.

A more detailed exploration of these three civilizations will be presented later.

Ornamentation

Ornamentation is a tradition that has been around since ancient times. This aspect of human nature has not changed for thousands of years. Humans have been decorating themselves in various ways since ancient times. In ancient times, people could not decorate themselves with clothes, so they devised other ways to adorn themselves.

Tattooing

Tattooing is the process of cutting the skin and filling it with color. This is the oldest method of self-decoration. We learned about tattooing from ancient statues that were tattooed.

What is Tattooing?

Tattooing is the process of creating tattoos. It is the oldest form of body art. Tattoos are created by tattooing designs into the skin.



Example of Tattooing

It is believed that the early prehistoric people used to paint their bodies for decoration. But these colors would fade very quickly. The designs that were made on the body with great effort, would surely have disappointed them when they faded so quickly. Therefore, they devised a method by which the color would not fade. By applying color after cutting the skin, the color was permanently preserved inside the skin.

Origins of Tattooing: It is believed that the early prehistoric people used to paint their bodies for decoration. But these colors would fade very quickly. The designs that were made on the body with great effort, would surely have disappointed them when they faded so quickly. Therefore, they devised a method by which the color would not fade. By applying color after cutting the skin, the color was permanently preserved inside the skin.

Purposes of Tattooing:

- **Beauty:** These people made tattooing a means of beauty. With this purpose in mind, they thought of new and innovative designs. They decorated their bodies in the same way people today wear clothes in different designs and colors.
- **Sign of Bravery:** Since tattooing is very painful, a person who had more tattoos was considered braver. Therefore, people got more and more tattoos to show themselves as braver than others.
- **Weapon Against Enemies:** Initially, tattooing was used as a weapon or a war tactic against enemies. These body decorations proved to be a means of scaring the enemy. When a tribe with tattooed bodies suddenly appeared before the enemy, the enemy would be frightened and flee. However, this weapon did not last long because everyone soon learned about tattooing. But it did have the advantage that people of one tribe could easily distinguish between themselves and others because of tattoos. This was particularly beneficial during wars. It is believed that the flags of specific countries were created based on this tradition.

Tattooing of Women: Women used to get tattoos on their bodies according to the number of their children. Since the importance of children increased with their number, getting a tattoo

immediately indicated their importance in society. Today, tattooing is done in different parts of the world. In Japan, it is so important and skilled that it can be done on the entire back in a few hours. Even today, fishermen there consider it a substitute for a shirt.

Modern Tattooing: Today, tattooing is done for various purposes, including beauty, fashion, and self-expression. Tattoos are often used to express personal beliefs, values, and experiences. People get tattoos of various designs, from simple symbols to complex artwork. While tattooing has become more mainstream, it is still important to consider the potential risks and to choose a reputable tattoo artist.

Damages (Disadvantages) of Tattooing:

Tattooing has been practiced for thousands of years, but it has many disadvantages:

1. **Painful Process:** It's a decorative process, but it's very painful.
2. **Risk of Poisoning:** During the process, ink is injected into the body. Sometimes, this ink can act as poison and lead to death.
3. **Blood Loss:** A lot of blood is lost during this process, which can also be fatal.

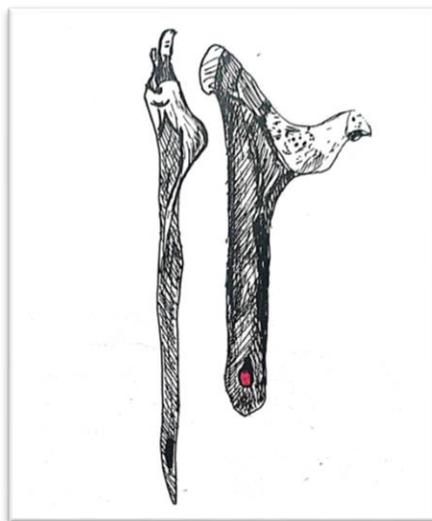
Jewelry

People in the Paleolithic era didn't just rely on tattooing for decoration. They also made jewelry. Since metals like gold and silver, and gemstones like diamonds, weren't being used to make jewelry at that time, these people would decorate themselves with the bones or teeth of hunted animals. They would string these bones or teeth into necklaces or bracelets and adorn them in their own unique ways. They would also arrange small or large seashells into various jewelry pieces.



Some Jewelry from Neolithic Period in Pakistan

Many examples of these types of jewelry have been found in the Grimaldi cave in Italy. There were other reasons for making and wearing these ornaments. A person who hunted an animal would wear a necklace of its bones with great pride as it was a sign of his bravery. In addition, after the death of a friend or relative, people would string their teeth and wear them around their neck as a memento. In addition, bones were carved into animal shapes and pierced to be worn around the neck.



Birds carved on bone and deer with holes for wearing as necklaces.

In addition to jewelry, people of that era also used to adorn their ears and hair with feathers. To prevent the feathers from falling off their ears, they started piercing their ears. They would often come across objects while hunting that they wanted to keep due to their beauty or utility. However, since they didn't have clothes with pockets or carry purses or bags, they often resorted to cutting their bodies and creating pockets within them to store these objects. This practice of cutting the body is known as scarification.

They made piercings in their lips, ears, and nose to hold objects. Later, these piercings were used for adornment. Today, people wear gold, silver, and diamonds in these piercings. Tribal people living in forests even today find objects from the forest and wear them as ornaments in these piercings. You might be surprised to learn how the mention of tribes living in forests in the modern era came about. We will briefly describe how their lives are today.

Prehistoric and Primitive People

Prehistoric This era refers to the time before written history, before 7000 BC. This includes the Paleolithic and Neolithic periods, which you have already studied. The history of this period is inferred from artifacts found buried in the earth, as there are no written records of their circumstances.

Primitive This refers to a way of life that still exists in the modern world, following old traditions. People who live in this way today can be found in dense forests and vast deserts. They have not been reached by modern ways of life because of the difficulty of access to these areas.

Primitive people still exist in the world today, living in Australia, Africa, India, and the Andaman Islands. Primitive people in India and Australia hunt, while Red Indians in North America and Africans practice agriculture. Many of them use prehistoric weapons, do not wear clothes, and practice tattooing on their bodies. They are very fond of singing and dancing, and during dances, they wear masks shaped like animals or spirits. They also paint their bodies.

Similarities between Primitive and Prehistoric People

- Like Prehistoric people, Primitive people cannot read or write and express their thoughts through drawings.
- Both rely on hunting to feed themselves and obtain clothing.
- They live in tribes, which today consist of several thousand people.
- Both Primitive and Prehistoric people used art as a form of magic.

Differences

- Prehistoric people relied solely on hunting, starting agriculture much later.
- Primitive people, in addition to hunting animals, also fish and practice agriculture.

Primitive and Prehistoric Art and Children's Art

There is a strong resemblance between the art of primitive and prehistoric people and the art of children. This is because all three groups rely more on memory than on observation when creating images. Even today, these three groups depict humans or animals in a way that maximizes their visibility. They don't consider how these limbs might appear from a particular pose or angle. Instead, they draw each limb from the angle that makes it most visible. For example, they draw the human body from the front, but since the nose is largely hidden in a frontal view, they draw the face in profile. Similarly, the eyes appear smaller in a profile face, so they solve this problem by drawing the eyes in a frontal view on a profile face.

Symbolic Significance of Color in Ancient Societies

Red has always been a color of great significance. It is considered a sacred color because it resembles the color of the rising and setting sun. Since red is also the color of blood, it has been considered a symbol of life. Perhaps this is why ancient societies believed that applying red color could bring life to the dead. In New Zealand, the bodies of tribal chiefs were painted red before burial. Even today, red-leaved and flowered trees are planted around cemeteries in Japan.