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## **Early historic sites in Bhogavati River Basin with special reference to Barshi Taluka, Dist Solapur, Maharashtra**

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**Abstract**--Barshi taluka is one of the 11 tehsils of Solapur district in the Maharashtra India. River Bhogavati is large tributary of river Sina, originates at south facing scarps of Balaghat range in Osmanabad district & flows through Osmanabad enters in Barshi taluka of Solapur district. The period begins from the 6th century BCE to the 4<sup>th</sup> century BCE. It is an important time span in the development of Indian history, socio-economic factor. In early historic period Black & Red ware potteries, Red Polished potteries and Black Slipped potteries were found at Zadi, Pangaon, Pimpalgaon Sites. These types belong to early historic & early medieval period. These types were not found in next phase of medieval period. From this period may be this region has lost all connections with other parts of country or people using such kind of utensils were not in existence in medieval period mostly potteries found with coarse red ware variety. With reference to size of pottery, if compared in both periods there is not much difference in size of pottery. But if in depth analysis is performed then it is found that in early historic period utensils with high neck rear facing were found while in medieval period short necked potteries were present in more numbers. Black & Red ware, Red Polished ware, Black & Red ware with white criss-cross design can be considered as indicators of pre Satvahana & Early Historic cultures.

**Keywords**--early historic, Bhogavati, river, basin, redware, exploration, archaeological, sites.

## **Introduction**

All the ancient cultures of the world originated & flourished in river valleys. Ancient Indian culture has played important role in the history of the world. Indian culture is the unique in the world which has been continuing since ancient times, contemporary cultures of the world. Water is prime natural resource water & life is having intimate relation to each other. Early man lived only along the water sources. Therefore most of the archaeological sites are observed close to the water bodies.

In Maharashtra, Marathwada region & region in and around of Solapur has developed in cultural, economic, art & architectural fields during the reign of Satvahan, Rashtrakut, Chalukya, Kalchuri, Shilahar & Yadava dynasties. (Deglurkar G.B.:2019;21) Barshi taluka is known as gateway of Marathwada. Today also it has cultural & trade contacts with Marathwada region.

## **Geographical Information & Location of Barshi taluka in Solapur District**

It is necessary to consider the features of geography & topography for understanding the history & culture of particular region. Each landscape & the people living in that region have some notable features that are related to the natural elements of that region. Geographical & natural features are found in some regional divisions of Maharashtra. In other words the culture is closely related & depends on the geography of that region.

**Location:** The Solapur district lies entirely in the Bhima- Sina- Man basins. Solapur district is in the southern part of Maharashtra. Barshi taluka is one of the 11 tehsils of Solapur districts in the Indian state of Maharashtra. Tehsil is located to the Northeast corner of district. It is bordered by Osmanabad district to the north & eastern side. Bounded by 18<sup>o</sup> 19859 north latitudes & 75<sup>o</sup> 68205 east longitudes. Though it has irregular shape, the district is roughly squares' 200 km. east west & 150 k.m. north south. The district has a total area of 15,021 square kilometers. As per 2011 census total population is 4,315,527. (Solapur District Gazetteer: 1977; 7)

## **Bhogavati River**

It is important river of Solapur district. River Bhogavati is large tributary of river Sina, originates at south facing scarps of Balaghat range in Osmanabad district & flows through Osmanabad enters in Barshi taluka of Solapur district Further flows through Madha & Mohol after a south-westerly course of about 65 km falls into Sina at Bhoiare about 7 km. north of Mohol. It has 30 meter broad slender stream. The main feeders of the Bhogavati within the districts of Osmanabad & Solapur are Bodki, Nagzari, Sira, Ram, Nilkantha, Kavalpara, Khadki. (Gazetteer of Osmanabad District.:1972;3-4).

## **Objectives of Research**

- 1) To discover the archaeological sites in Bhogavati river basin in Barshi taluka.

- 2) To study the settlement pattern during early historic period in Barshi taluka.
- 3) To study the Cultural Sequence of Bhogavati River Basin in Barshi taluka.

### **Research Methodology**

For the research study Field survey methods have been applied. While exploring the sites Archaeological 'Field Method' is used. The proposed research is based on primary & secondary sources

### **Primary Sources**

1. Field work (Exploration): Intensive field survey method is used.
2. Documentation: Site location, extent & area have been systematically documented through photographs & measurement.
3. Chronological Methodology for reconstructing cultural sequence.
4. Scrapping river terraces (to known cultural sequence)

### **Secondary Sources**

Published data have been collected from the books, excavation reports, journals & others from various libraries of Solapur & Pune. Web information have been surveyed.

### **Early Historic Period**

The period begins from the 6th century BCE to the 4<sup>th</sup> century BCE. It is an important time span in the development of Indian history, socio-economic factor. Many Historians considered this period as the beginning of the early historic period. (Dhavlikar M.K.1999:72)

Site No.	-	01
Site	-	Zadi
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 12' 04" E 75° 88' 97"
Location	-	The site of Zadi is located at a distance of 27 km from Osmanabad & 03 km from Upale Dumala on Barshi- Tuljapur road.
Cultural Period	-	Early Historic
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	4 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	150m.
Antiquities		

Fragments of decorated shell bangle have been reported. The site is located on the right bank of river Bhogavati, in the field of Nilesh Gujar. Mound was round in shape. The mound has been leveled by farmers, now site is under cultivation the site belongs to early historic period.

Pottery : Ceramic assemblage represented mainly by the Red Polished Ware, Black Ware, some potsherds have white paintings of criss-cross lines. (Fig: 1)

Site No.	-	02
Site	-	Pimpalgaon
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 23' 84" E 75° 05' 95"
Location	-	The village Pimpalgaon is situated about
		15 km from Barshi. The site lies 01 km towards east of village.
Cultural Period	-	Early Historic
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	4 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Nilkantha
Distance from river	-	320m.
Antiquities (Fig: 3 &4)		

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Broken Part of Figurine	T.C	Broken
2	Broken Part of Figurine	T.C	Broken
3	Two Areca nut shaped beads	T.C	Complete

It is located on the right bank of river Nilkantha. Mound is round in shape. The information given by local people is that the mound was originally about 4m high & 3m thick. It is almost leveled in cultivation. It belongs to early historic period. Pottery :Pottery collected of Red Ware, Red Polished Ware, Black & Red Ware, Black Ware, One broken spout some potsherds of fine fabric & very thin. (Fig: 2)

Site No.	-	03
Site	-	Pangaon
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 14' 38" E 75° 03' 50"
Location	-	The site at Pangaon is towards west & 2 k.m. away from present village. Pangaon is located 12 km south of Barshi on Solapur-Barshi road.
Cultural Period	-	Early Historic to medieval
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	2 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	180m.

Antiquities (Fig: 6)

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Bead	Shell	Complete
2	Fragments of Bangle & Shell Waste	Shell	Broken
3	Fragments of Bangle	Glass	Broken

The site lies on the right bank of river Bhogavati in the field of Panse. It has maximum cultural deposit of 4 to 5m. it is 180m away from river bank & round in shape southern part of the mound were cleared for cultivation purpose & towards western side one house was built with old material of the mound middle portion of the mound with thick deposit are well preserved 15 m towards east, west is under cultivation, soil used for domestic & agricultural purposes. The habitation mound is adjacent to the back side of Hanuman Temple. The findings of antiquity & potsherds confirm early historic identity of the site.

Pottery: It comprises Red Ware, Black Ware, Red Polished Ware, Black & Red Ware. (Fig: 5)

Site No.	-	04
Site	-	Goudgaon
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Location	-	The site at Goudgaon is located towards west & 2 km away from present village Goudgaon. It is 12 km from Barshi- Tuljapur road.
Cultural Period	-	Early Historic to medieval
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	2 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	180m.

Antiquities (Fig: 7 & 8)

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Microliths	Chert, Agate	Debitage & Blades
2	Fragments of bangle	Shell	Broken
3	Fragments of bangle	Glass	Broken
4	Coin	Copper	Eroded

Pottery: Red Ware, Red Slipped Ware, Black & Red Ware, Black & Red Ware with criss- cross design. (Fig: 7) This is different feature in this region. These potsherds found here are similar to the site at Zadi. The distance between two sites is 8 k.m.

Site No.	-	05
Site	-	Yawali
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 17° 82' 17" E 75° 65' 26'
Location	-	The site lies on the left bank of river Bhogavati, located in the field of Lokhande.
Cultural Period	-	Early Historic, Medieval
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	5 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	400m.

Antiquities : Fragments of shell bangle have been found on the surface level.

The site has been leveled due to constant ploughing. It is about 2 km from present village. At present site is known as '*LokhandeVasti*'.

Pottery : It comprises Red Ware, Red Polished Ware, Black Ware. Broken spout Base portion of bowl were found in large number. It reveals that the site was inhabited from early historic period. (Pl. 38) Potsherds of big storage jar are also found at site. Near the site one big round shape stone object with five hooded Nag sculpture is placed on the square structure measuring 1 m x 1 m. Also there is small stone channel carved for flowing the water. Along with this carved stones were found near the structure. One big boulder with cup marks is noticed at the site. At present 3 hector area is remained undisturbed & 2 hectors area is under cultivation.

### Stone with cup marks

Site :Yawali Tal : Barshi

Place : Lying near ancient site

Measurement :95 cm x 87 cm

Description : Big stone has two cup marks. These are deeply carved in a round shape. It looks like a human face. Currently this stone is worshipped as *Mhasoba* (local deity)

Site No.	-	06
Site	-	Borgaon
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude& Longitude	-	N 18° 44' 47" E 75° 26' 54"
Location	-	The site at Borgaon situated 04 km from Barshi- Tuljapur road.
Cultural Period	-	Late historic & Early- medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	1 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	200m.

The site lies on the left bank of river Bhogavati. The habitation deposit has been removed for use in the fields.

Pottery : Potsherds of Red Ware, Coarse Red Ware Black Ware.

Site No.	-	07
Site	-	Uple Dumala
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 12' 04" E 75° 88' 97"
Location	-	The village Uple Dumala is situated on Barshi- Tuljapur state road & 24 km From Osmanabad.
Cultural Period	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	1 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	150m.

Antiquity :

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Fragments of bangle	Shell	Broken
2	Fragment of Bangle	Glass	black colored
3	Spindle Whorl	T.C.	Edges are broken

The site was located on the right bank of river Bhogavati. To the north of the village mound was located. The mound was leveled by the villagers. Ceramic assemblage shows that site was inhabited during early historic to medieval time. Pottery: It includes Red Ware, Red Polished Ware, Black Ware

Site No.	-	08
Site	-	Hingani
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N18° 13' 47" E 75° 83' 66"
Location	-	Ancient site at Hingani is situated
18 km from Barshi.		
Cultural Period Site	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	2 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	100m.
Antiquity	-	T.C. & Stone Objects

The site is located on the left bank of river Bhogavati. It is one km away from present village. The site is under cultivation. It has leveled for agriculture purpose. Hingani dam also called Pangaon Dam is an earth fill dam on Bhogavati river. Some microliths have been reported near the dam.

Pottery: It yielded few potsherds of Black ware, Red Ware. Coarse Base portion of bowl & spout.

Site No.	-	09
Site	-	Sakat
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 45' 45" E 75° 90' 05"
Location	-	The village Sakat is located 17 km
from Barshi.		
Cultural Period	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	3 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	100m.

The site is situated on the confluence of river Bhogavati & Nilkantha. It is 2 m high from surrounding are. Earlier it has maximum deposit of 4 m mound is disturbed due to digging for agriculture by villagers. Section of Bhogavati River Terrace is clearly visible.

Pottery : It includes Red Ware, Red slipped Ware Black Ware

Site No.	-	10
Site	-	Ghanegaon

Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 45' 45" E 75° 90' 05"
Location	-	The village Ghanegaon is 23 km south of Barshi on the Solapur-Barshi road. The site lies 1.5 km from present village.
Cultural Period	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	1 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	151m.

The site is located on the left bank of river Bhogavati known as *Ghanegaon Pandhar*. Height of mound from surrounding area is 4m, earlier it was 6m high soil was removed from mound. Site is now under cultivation.

There is icon of Hanuman was found near the site. Surface collection includes antiquities & potsherds.

Pottery: Red Ware, Coarse Red Ware, Red slipped ware, base portion of bowl, lid etc. were recovered.

Site No.	-	11
Site	-	Undegaon
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 09' 35" E 75° 73' 91"
Location	-	The village Undegaon is 23 km south of Barshi on the Solapur-Barshi road. The site lies 1.5 km from present village. The site lies towards north of the village.
Cultural Period	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	8 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	500m.

Undegaon village is situated km from Barshi & 7 km from village Kalegaon on Solapur-Barshi road. Height of present habitation from surrounding area is 2 to 3m present site is buried under the habitation of medieval & modern people.

The mound was totally destroyed & soil used in the construction of late medieval structures & houses. While digging the foundation for the construction of house in this area, whitish soil is found up to 2 meters below the ground.

The site is adjacent to the Shiv temple, popularly known as Undeshwar. Scattered sculptures of elephant, Nag, Nandi, three Shivlings, two Vishnu icons & icons of Hanuman have been found near the site. It gives clues about their social-status & settlement pattern.

Pottery : Surface collection comprise potsherds of early medieval & medieval period.

Site No.	-	12
Site	-	Irlewadi
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude & Longitude	-	N 18° 05' 47" E 75° 76' 62"

Location	-	Irlewadi is 29 km from Barshi& 4 km from Vairag on Vairag-Madha road & 8 km towards west on Vairag- Mohol road.
Cultural Period	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature & Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	3 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	200m.
Antiquity (Fig:9)		

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Arecanut shaped bead	T.C.	Partly broken
2	Bead	Glass, Shell	Complete- blue
3	Fragments of bangle	Glass	Broken

The site lies on the left bank of river Bhogavati, the spread of habitation deposit on both banks of river. The height of the mound is 2 m high from surrounding area. Site is leveled by villagers. Site is now under cultivation.

Pottery: It includes Red Ware, Black Ware, Red Polished Ware, one shred of Black & Red Ware.

Site No.	-	13
Site	-	Irle
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Location	-	Irle is 30 km form Barshi& 4 km from Vairag – Madha road & 5 km. to the west on Vairga-Mohol road.
Cultural Period	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	2 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	150m.
Antiquity (Fig: 10)		

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Fragments of bangle	Glass & Shell	Broken
2.	Bead	stone	Complete
3.	Cowrie	Shell	Complete

The site lies on right bank of river Bhogavati. The distance between two sites Irle & Irlewadi is 1 km. The site is 150 m away from river. The height of mound is 1 m. Ploughing of land has destroyed traces of site, site is under cultivation.

Pottery : It yielded pottery of Red ware, Black ware, Red slipped ware, Black Slipped Ware, one designed potsherd.

Site No.	-	14
Site	-	Dhorale – 1
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Location	-	The village Dhorale is situated 23 km

from Barshi & 06 km from Vairag on Vairag- Madha road.

Cultural Period	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	1 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Bhogavati
Distance from river	-	100m.
Antiquity :		

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Bangle Fragments	Shell	Broken

The site is located on the right bank of river Bhogavati towards east of village. But now the mound is completely flattened & people started cultivation in this area. A large number of pottery remains are found on the surface. These remains provide evidence of early historic settlement.

Pottery : It has yielded Red Ware, Red Slipped Ware, Black Ware, one chocolate slipped ware.

Site No.	-	15
Site	-	Ambegaon
Taluka & Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Location	-	The village Ambegaon is situated of a distance of 14 km from village Vairag
Cultural Period Site	-	Late historic to Medieval period.
Nature & Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	1.5 Hectare
Name of the river	-	Nagzari
Distance from river	-	150m.

The site lies around 2 km west of Ambegaon village known as June (old) *Gawthan* site at Ambegaon is located on the right bank of river Nagzari & 1 m high. Icon of goddess is found at site so the site is locally known as *Sumradevi Tekadi*.

The mound is surrounded by stone fortification wall & old remains of house structures were found. In back water of dam; temple of Shiva of late medieval period was submerged.

Pottery : It includes few potsherds of Red Ware

Site No.	-	16
Site	-	Dahitane
Taluka& Dist.	-	Barshi, Dist. Solapur
Latitude&Longitude	-	N 18° 00' 79" E 75° 76' 83"
Location	-	The site at Dahitane is situated at a distance of 5 km north – east of village Sasure & 2 km from Vairag-Mohol road.
Cultural Period Site	-	Early historic to Medieval period.
Nature And Condition of the site	-	Habitation & Disturbed
Area in hectare	-	04 & half hectare
Name of the river	-	Nagzari
Distance from river	-	100m.
Antiquity:		

Sr. No.	Object	Material	Description
1	Fragments of bangle	Shell	Broken

The site lies on the left bank of river Nagzari. Small stream flows 300 m away towards west. The site is locally known as *More Vasti*. Upper portion of the mound has been leveled for the agriculture purpose. The information given by local people is that earlier it was 3m thick & 4 m high. Remains of Shivling with carving of Hanuman, broken nandi & some remains of old temple were noticed at site.

Pottery : Potsherds of Red Ware, Black Ware, Red Slipped ware. It shows that the site was inhabited during early historic to medieval period.

### **Settlement Pattern in Early Historic Period.**

The location of the settlement is determined on the basis of good transportation or communication, political institutions, war, religion and means of livelihood, apart from this migration change in the population and different uses of land depending on the location. This method has been used for the study of settlement pattern in talukas. Provincial composition, Survey findings provide evidence that the area was inhabited during the Pre Historic, Pre-Satvahana, Late Historic, Early medieval & in Medieval period. According to the extent of the sites in same periods sites have shown some kind of contacts. Three different types of the term for settlement studies were used such as settlement pattern, Settlement System and Settlement Archaeology.

- i) Settlement Pattern; for the study of the distribution of sites over a given area.
- ii) Settlement System- for the study of rules governing the physical arrangements of sites across a landscape.
- iii) Settlement Archaeology-for the study of reconstruction of cultural ways of life and processes of change. (Shinde V.S.:1998;71)

Economic Factors : The formation & development of human settlements is affected by natural as well as economic factors. Economic factors also appear have had an effect on the early historic to medieval sites.

### **Trade & Trade centers**

Many of the towns in Maharashtra rose to prominence only in the Satvahana period. The later phase was most prosperous in the history of Maharashtra because of the flourish trade with grade route connected to Tagar (modern Ter). The distance between Pratishtan & Tagar was ten days journey. Ter became the longest trading emporium in the Deccan Dakshinpatha (Dhavlikar M.K. 1999;72) Due to the development of the International Trade Center, the scope of its benefits expands in line with the principle of supply & demand. All the settlements in and around Barshi taluka & Osmanabad were directly or indirectly connected to Ter. The main trading centers it also shows exchange. It reveals also that trade centers play an important role in influencing settlement structure.

### **Main Trade Routes**

The development of Trade centers increases the density of settlements in their catchment is the settlements on the way to the two trading centers also develop due to trade. This trade route has its own benefits.

From the banks of river Bhogavati in Osmanabad city & its tributaries, this trade route must have passed through Solapur district via Khunteundi, Dhamangaon, Sasure, Pangaon. It is evidenced by Big Stone jar of Satvahana period, near Dhamangaon.

### **Economy**

1. Agriculture: The economy in the both districts should be mainly dependent on agriculture.
2. International & Regional Trade: favorable & geographical conditions trade developed due to political stability during the Satvahana period as result, Ter became an International trade & center.
3. Small scale Industries: The available remains suggest that various small scale industries should be operating in this international trading hub. The textile industry is associated with fabric painting, knitting, painting & other small businesses & businesses that thrive on the needs of society thrive. As a result of all this, the economy of the region seems to have developed strongly. The early farming societies lived in textile river basins began to produce surplus food.

At that time, self-sufficient villages were everywhere, providing for the daily needs of human life & providing some amenities .The village was designed to have a river in front of it. It indicates local origin of the village life. The various sites had been deserted for about four or five centuries after the end of the first farmers civilization. In the sixth & fifth centuries BCE new cultures resettlements were established in many places, this is where the ancient historical period begins. In the most places these cultures, appear to have flourished until the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> century CE. It means the Satvahana period is the culmination of the ancient historical period. The Mediterranean trade between Maharashtra of Karnataka started during the Satvahana period for a period of one and half thousand years. Along with foreign trade, internal trade was also carried on in a large scale & these were the major trading posts at Junnar, Paithan (Pratishthan), Tagar in Maharashtra. The inscriptions found at rock cut caves & in other region record the donations made by the merchants of all these trade centers. Inscriptions in rock-cut caves of Western India record that artisans were organized into guilds (*shreni*); they had wide ranging power to settle disputes & even functioned as bankers. (Dhavlikar M.K.:1998, 39)

The day to day administrations of the merchant guilds or business class are non-governmental & their form is sustainable. The common man was of course making his living on agriculture. The common man's livelihood depended on agriculture. The farming patterns, methods of the facilities were not different than they are today. The village system is based on ancient traditions & like other places in India; the elders in the village were in charge of the daily affairs of the Panchayat.

## Discussion

Pottery from early historic period is mainly classified into Red ware; Red slipped ware, Coarse Red ware, Black ware, Grey ware, Red polished ware, Black & Red ware etc. The levigated clay used for making ceramics in this period is fine & without impurities than the clay used for making pottery in later times. Because of well firing technique the core of these pots looks red. Concave necked globular pot, constricted necked globular pot, medium naked globular pot have been reported from Dahitane Site. It is of Red Slipped Burnished variety & Red wash variety.

Lid, basin, dish, short concave necked globular pot, 'V' shape bowl are medium fired & fast wheel made; reported from other sites of Satvahana period. (Kulkarni Amol:2009;23 Globular pots have variety of concave necked, short constricted necked & it is of Red ware & Red Slipped Burnished variety. Basin, carinated handi, miniature globular pot gives the valuable clues about early historic habitation at Zadi, Goudgaon, Pimpalgaon sites in Solapur district. Rim portions of shallow basin & shallow dish at Dhorale site has Red ware & Red slipped Burnished variety. Flat bottomed base portions were also found at Yawali, Dhorale & Goudgaon. Potsherds with coarse fabric, ill fired were found in medieval period.

## Antiquities

### Shell Objects – (Shell Bangle Fragments & Shell Waste)

Shell Bangles were reported in large scale from early historic period. These bangles have variety of sizes & thicknesses. Few of them have carvings. Broken (raw material) with shell bangle fragments have been recovered from Pangaon. In Maharashtra shell working was very common. Excavations at chalcolithic, Iron age & Early Historic sites such as Inamgaon, Paithan, Ter, Nevasa, Bhokardan, Junnar etc. have revealed the shell fragments of *Turbinellapyrum* resulting from shell working activity. It indicates their use during these periods. (DeshpandeAarti : 2002;176) The evidence of conch shell debitage & large amount of shell bangle fragments at site Pangaon suggests that the raw material was imported for shell working. Objects like bangles, beads, rings, discs & miscellaneous objects have been recorded. Fragments of shell bangles have been reported in large number from sites like Pangaon, Irle, Pimpalgaon, Goudgaon, Zadi.

## T.C. Objects

- A) Arecanut Shaped Beads : Large & round shape arecanut shaped beads are obtained from early historic sites at Dhorale, Pangaon, Pimpalgaon etc.
- B) Broken Part of Figurine: These are recovered from Pimpalgaon site.

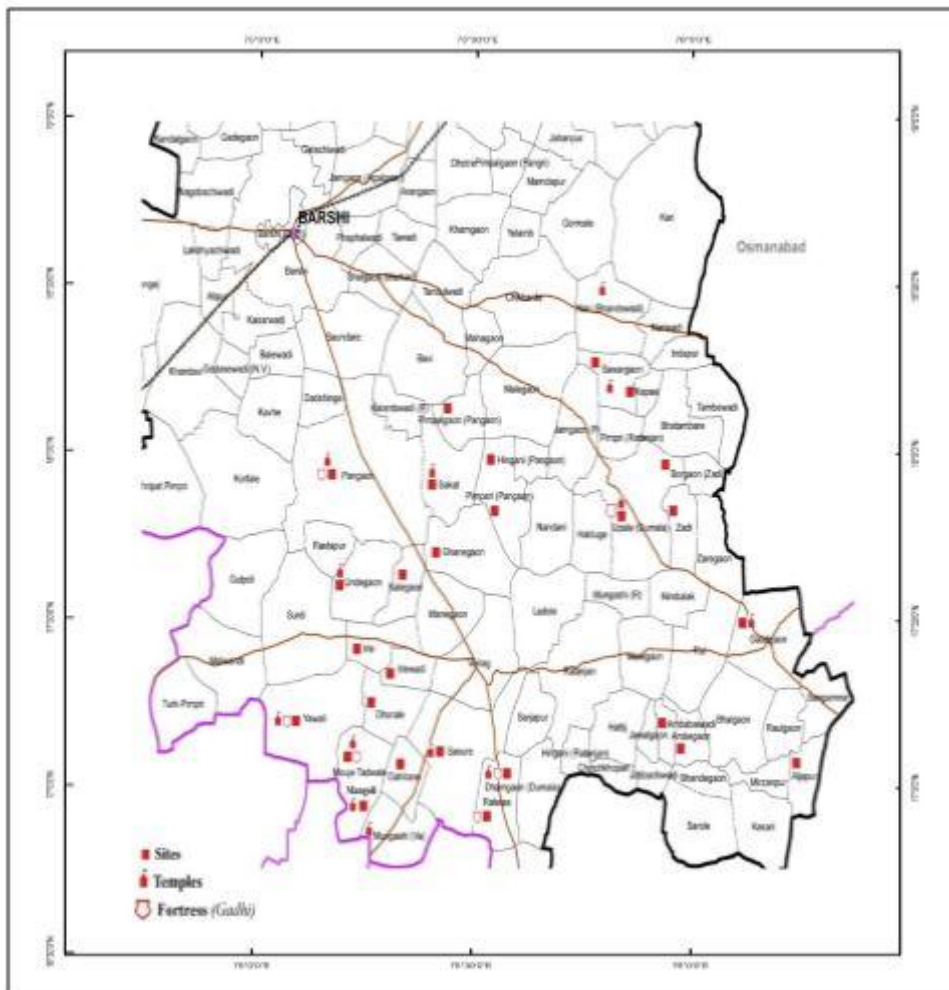
In early historic period Black & Red ware potteries, Red Polished potteries and Black Slipped potteries were found at Zadi, Pangaon, Pimpalgaon Sites. These types belong to early historic & early medieval period. These types were not found in next phase of medieval period. From this period may be this region has lost all

connections with other parts of country or people using such kind of utensils were not in existence in medieval period mostly potteries found with coarse red ware variety. With reference to size of pottery, if compared in both periods there is not much difference in size of pottery. But if in depth analysis is performed then it is found that in early historic period utensils with high neck rear facing were found while in medieval period short necked potteries were present in more numbers. In all periods design on neck portion or embellishment can be seen everywhere on potteries.

### **Conclusion**

Ambegaon, Borgaon, Zadi, Upale Dumala, Hingani, Sakat, Ghanegaon, Undegaon, Yawali, , Irle, Irlewadi, Dhorale-1 ceramic evidences of these sites reveals that sites belongs to Early Historic & early medieval period. Some of these sites have cultural sequence from Early Historic to late historic period. The predominant ceramic is a Red ware medium to coarse in fabric, commonly found in early historic sites. Black & Red ware, Red Polished ware, Black & Red ware with white criss-cross design can be considered as indicators of pre Satvahana & Early Historic cultures.

The decorations on ceramics are very few & more than 90% of sherds are devoid of any decorations. Painted decorations can be divided into two categories. i.e. geometric & non-geometric. The geometric designs include horizontal bands & vertical lines. Pottery from the Zadi, Goudgaon, Pimpalgaon, Pangaon sites shows similarities to pottery at Pimpalgaon, Zadi having design of vertical lines in white color. One pot sherd found at Goudgaon has white colored criss-cross painting on Black & Red ware. Red Polished sherds of sprinkler, spout, and rim portion have been reported from Pimpalgaon site. These potteries give valuable clue about socio-economic factors of regional culture. During early historic or pre-Satvahana period Bhogavati river basin has rich & developed cultures. These site are contemporary with the other rural chalcolithic cultures.



Map No. 1 : Sites in Barshi Taluka (Dist. Solapur)



Fig. 1 Criss-cross painted pottery, Zadi Site



Fig: 2 Red Polished Ware, Pimpalgaon Site



Fig: 3 Arecanutshaped beads, Pimpalgaon site



Fig: 4 Broken part of Figurine, Pimpalgaon site



Fig: 5 Black on Red & Black & Red Ware, Pangaon site

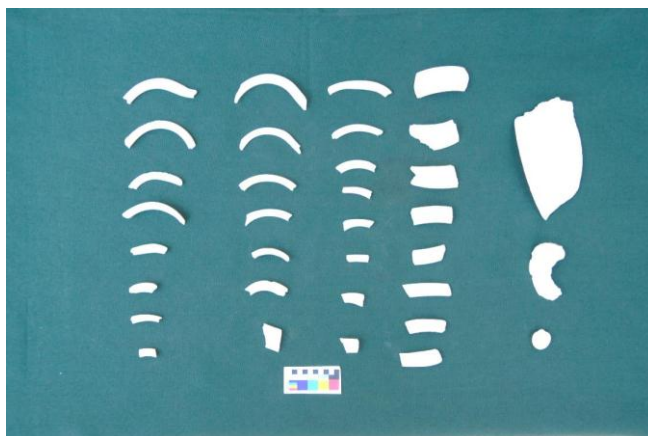


Fig: 6 Shell bangle Fragments & shell waste, Pangaon site



Fig:7 Black & Red Ware with Criss-cross design, Goudgaon site



Fig: 8 Antiquity & Potsherds, Goudgaon site

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