



## EXPLORATION AT GUHLA, KAITHAL (HARYANA)

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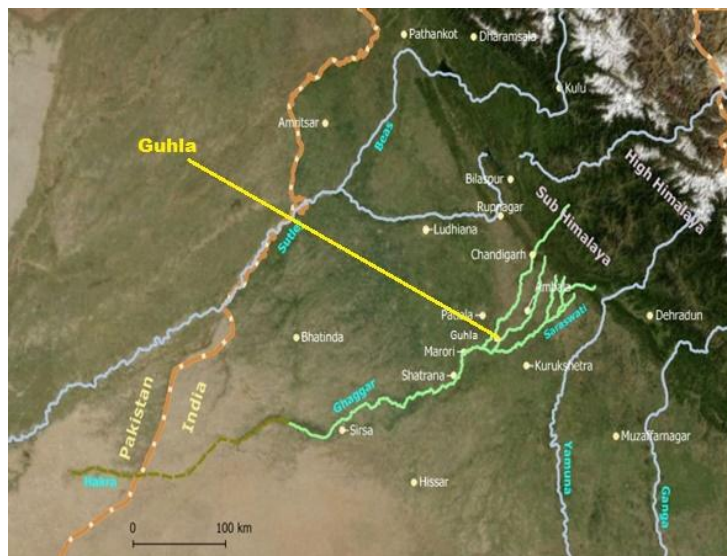
### ABSTRACT

Present research paper is based on exploration at Guhla tehsil of Kaithal district in Haryana. Researcher discovered 31 new habitational sites of ancient time in this region. On the basis of preliminary examination of material remains, sites are belonging to Early Harappan to Medieval period.

**KEY WORDS :** Exploration, Antiquity, Pottery.



### INTRODUCTION



**Map of Guhla Tehsil, Kaithal (Haryana)**

### LOCATION

Guhla is one of four tehsil of Kaithal district which is located between 30.03 North Latitude to 76.29 East Longitude in Haryana. Kaithal is one among the twenty one districts of Haryana. It was earlier a part of district Karnal and 1973 became a part of the newly created district of Kurukshetra. Kaithal became a new district of Haryana on 1<sup>st</sup> November, 1989. The entire area of Kaithal district is 2,389 sq. km. The district headquarter is situated in Kaithal town. Its north-west boundaries which

include Guhla-Cheeka are attached to Punjab state. Ghaggar River which was main Tributary River of ancient Saraswati flows in this region.

### Historical Background

***“Kapishaleti-vikhyatm-sarvaptakanashanam-yasmina-sthitaha-swayam-devovridha-kedora-samgijitaha”***

**Meaning:** The demolisher of all devilish deeds, the famous Kapisthala shrine is here because Lord Vridhakedara himself resides in it.

The town is also referred to by celebrate grammarian Panini, Arian calls it Kambhistholoe. Kapisthala has been mentioned by Al-Beruni as ‘Kavithal’. It was a place of some importance during the time of the earlier Mohammedan emperors and Timur who found its inhabitants to be fire-worshippers, halted here before attacking Delhi in 1398 A.D. Kaithal is famous for the husbandry of rice and wheat with a well-developed irrigation infrastructure. It’s called bowel of Rice.

### Previous Work

The area of research was equally important in ancient times also because of its geographical location, fertile land and river system. It was political significant during medieval period. Alexander Cunningham was the first person who explored this region in 1862-65 during the exploration Programme of Punjab. His exploration was based on Buddhist literature. In 1978 Manmohan Kumar carried out explored in Kaithal district for his Ph.D research. That time Kaithal was the part of Karnal district. Few sites were excavated in Kaithal district in which Balu was only site of this region which was excavated by Archaeological survey of India in 1978-87 and 1992-95 by Kurukshetra University.

### Research Methodology

The researcher adopted exploration method for research. She did extensive village to village survey in the study area. Basically exploration is foundation of this research. Exploration is an important tool of archaeology by which the physical remains of human are found and studied. The physical remains which are discovered by exploration are excavated for complete information about the cultural significance. Historians write a story about people related to that culture after studying the cultural remains obtained from excavation, whose authenticity proves the same physical remains which were discovered through excavation. Thus exploration plays an important role in archeology without it may not be possible to think about the study of a detailed history except modern history.

### DISCUSSION

This study is based on exploration. The present researcher conducted an extensive village to village survey of Guhla tehsil of Kaithal district in Haryana. As result of this comprehensive survey 31 new sites were explored out of 50 sites in the research area. These sites range from Early Harappan to Medieval period. Pottery and other associated findings of different cultures were collected and studied. There are few sites in the area that is intact because of dense forests. But others sites are used as cultivation and habitation purpose. Sites that come light during exploration are given below.

### List of Archaeological Sites of Guhla, Kaithal

Sr. No	Name of site	Culture Sequence	Tehsil	District	Size (in hectare)	Reference
1.	Agondh-I	P.G.W Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
2.	Agondh-II	Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
3.	Arnoli	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	2-3	New site

4.	Badsui-I	Late Harappan, Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
5.	Badsui-II	Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	0-1	New site
6.	Balbehra	Late Harappan, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
7.	Bhagal-I	Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	0-1	New site
8.	Bhagal-II	Late Harappan, Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
9.	Bhagal-III	Late Harappan, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
10.	Bhuna-I	Late Harappan/Bara	Guhla	Kaithal	2-3	New site
11.	Bhuna-II	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
12.	Bhuna-III	Late Harappan/Bara	Guhla	Kaithal	2-3	New site
13.	Bichhian	?	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
14.	Bubakpur	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	2-3	New site
15.	Chaba	Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
16.	Cheeka	Late Harappan, P.G.W, Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
17.	Dasaipur	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	0-1	New site
18.	Harigarh Kingan	Late Harappan/Bara, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
19.	Kakrala Inait	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
20.	Kholikhera	Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	8-10	New site
21.	Kekeour	P.G.W, Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
22.	Kangthali	Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
23.	Kasaur-I	Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
24.	Kasaur- II	Early Harappan, Late Harappan/Bara, P.G.W Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
25.	Kasaur-III	Early Harappan, P.G.W	Guhla	Kaithal	3-4	New site
26.	Khambahera	Late Harappan/Bara	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
27.	Kharkara	Late Harappan/Bara, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
28.	Ladana Chakoo	P.G.W Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
29.	Ladana Chakoo-II	Late Harappan, P.G.W, Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
30.	Machhanarheri	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	0-1	New site
31.	Madkalian	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	0-1	New site
32.	Pasawal-I	P.G.W Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	4-5	New site
33.	Pasawal-II	Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
34.	Pasawal-III	Late Harappan, P.G.W, Historical	Guhla	Kaithal	2-3	New site

35.	Pasawal-IV	P.G.W, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
36.	Peedal	Late Harappan/Bara	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
37.	Peedal-II	Late Harappan/Bara	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
38.	Pupsar	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	4-5	New site
39.	Ramthali	?	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
40.	Rasulpur	P.G.W	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
41.	Rasulpur II	Late Harappan/Bara, P.G.W	Guhla	Kaithal	1-2	New site
42.	Ratta-Khera	Late Harappan/Bara	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Suraj Bhan 1975
43.	Riwar Jagir	Late Harappan/Bara, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Vivek Dangi 2010
44.	Riwar Jagir-II	Late Harappan/Bara, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	2	New site
45.	Sair	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	2-3	New site
46.	Sahjadpur	Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	2-3	New site
47.	Sarwala-I	P.G.W	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
48.	Sarwala-II	P.G.W, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	?	Manmohan Kumar 1978
49.	Sarwala-III	Late Harappan/Bara, P.G.W, Historical, Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	1.5	New site
50.	Sehum Majra	Medieval	Guhla	Kaithal	2	New site

## CONCLUSION

On the basis of this research, it is found that the area was continuously habited from the beginning of Early Harappan to Medieval period, because of its geographical location. As much as ancient civilization developed on the banks of rivers and flourished. A geological survey has revealed that the ancient Saraswati River and its tributary Ghaggar flowed in this area. All the ancient sites found through exploration are near to river basin and related to more than one cultural activity.

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Plate I



a. Early Harappan Pottery



b. Late Harappan Pottery



c. Painted Grey Ware Pottery



d. Early Historical and Historical Pottery



e. Early Medieval and Medieval Pottery



f. Terracotta Beads

Plate II



a. Fragment of Dish on Stand



b. Miniature Pot



c. Miniature Pot & Bowl



d. Lid



e. Shell Bangles



f. Faience and Glass



g. Iron Object



h. Silver Ring and Copper Object

Plate III



a. Obverse of Coins

b. Reverse of Coins



c. Terracotta bangles



d. Terracotta Animal Figurines



e. Dabber

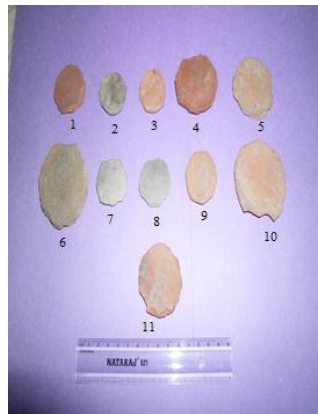


f. Broken Toy Cart Wheel

**Plate IV**



**a. Stone Objects**



**b. Hopscotches**



**c. Semi-Precious Stone beads and  
and Copper Bead**



**d. Shell Cowry**