

Chalcolithic cultures of Central India are adequately investigated: Gov.

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Recently, the Archaeological Survey of India has received proposals for excavations at the sites of Chalcolithic affiliations at the Sagar district.



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Recent Excavation of Chalcolithic sites In India

Excavation at Eran:

- Eran (ancient Airikina) is situated on the left bank of the Bina (ancient Venva) river and surrounded by it on three sides.
- The recent **excavation** here has unearthed a variety of **antiquities**.
 - It includes a copper coin, an iron arrowhead, terracotta bead, stone beads along with copper coins, stone celt, beads of steatite, and jasper.
 - The site also found a carnelian, terracotta wheel, animal figurines, miniature pots, iron objects, stone querns, pestles, and a red slipped terracotta with inscription in Devnagari.
- The use of iron is evidenced by a few **metallic** objects at the site.
- This excavation at the site also revealed the remains of Chalcolithic culture with four major periods that are:
 - Period I: Chalcolithic (18th -7th BCE)
 - Period II: Early historic (7th – 2nd century BCE)
 - Period II B: 2nd century BCE – 1st century CE
 - Period III: 1st – 6th century CE
 - Period IV: late medieval (16th – 18th century CE).

Excavation at Tewar:

- Tewar (Tripuri) village is located near Jabalpur district on Jabalpur – Bhopal highway.
- This site has provided **antiquarian** remains in this excavation includes:
 - Remains of sculptures, hopscotch, terracotta balls, Iron nails, copper coins, terracotta beads, implements of Iron and terracotta figurine, in ceramics redware,
 - **Black ware, red slipped ware with shapes of handi, bowl, spouted pot, small pot, big jar**, etc., structural remains consist of brick wall and structure of sandstone columns.

What is Chalcolithic

- **Chalcolithic** is also known as **copper age (1800-800 BC)**.
- The **Copper Age** was originally defined as a transition between the **Neolithic** and the **Bronze Age**.

- In this **Copper was probably the first metal used by humans.**
- It was a period in the development of human technology, preceding the **Bronze Age** before it was discovered that adding tin to copper formed the **harder bronze.**
- It was the transition between the **Stone Age and the metal age.**