

## **Chapter IV: Archaeology of the Plains of Jammu**

The primary aim of this chapter is to give an overall review of the status of archaeological research in the plains of Jammu. The compilation of the research done in the past, and the data generated from the current research, is of extreme importance in reconstructing the various patterns of the past. In the background of the previous archaeological investigations, which includes explorations and excavations, the current research data is used to understand multifaceted processes like the man-land interactions, intra site cultural linkages etc. All the information, when seen in totality, gives a definite and clearer picture of the processes going on over the span of several hundred years in the outer plains of Jammu.

The archaeological renaissance of the area of Jammu took place in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (1961 onwards) with the beginning of the exploratory surveys by the Archaeological Survey of India (Appendix III). These surveys essentially were aimed at locating the sites and assigning a chronological identity to them. The information of the material remains of only a handful of sites is available in the report and few of them have properly recorded coordinates.

Nevertheless, it was because of these surveys that the potential of some of the sites was identified which resulted in their excavation. In all, six different sites were excavated in the area, which provided evidence of material culture ranging from Neolithic to Early Historic periods. These archaeological investigations in the form of excavations and explorations had therefore provided a firm foundation to unravel the potential the area of Jammu holds in archaeology. These sites collectively helped in forming an outline of the chronological sequence of the area which became the basis of the current research.

These archaeological enquiries no doubt provided the background for further research but had limitations in defining certain fundamental aspects which are

the basis for explaining the complex cultural processes in the area. The exploratory surveys, for instance, did not justify the parameters taken for defining the cultural period. For example, the lack of proper material on the basis of which medieval period is defined in the region, the absence of proper identification of pottery (especially Harappan pottery) in some of the cases resulting in the misleading representation of the past in the area, vague nomenclature (Muslim glazed ware e.g.) used for cultural periods, and lack of unanimity in using a common nomenclature for defining different periods (e.g. usage of terms like early medieval and late historical as two separate entities). It was also observed that in some cases, the coordinates given were not correct, which would place the site in present-day Pakistan (e.g., Panjor IAR 1981-82: 18). In addition to this, most of the coordinates were of low resolution, only up to the 'minutes' level (IAR 1981-82: 18-19), which made it difficult to record exact location of sites on the ground. A similar trend in fact was also recorded by Singh et al. (2008: 84) while surveying the areas of Western Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. Likewise, there are a few instances where the excavated data has also been incoherently interpreted. For example – Early Historical period and Kushana period addressed as two different entities (IAR 1976-77: 21; 1997-98: 64). Also, sometimes pre-Kushan period is designated as Grey Ware period (IAR 2008-09: 69; 2009-10: 60), and at times grey ware is independently designated as a separate period (IAR 1997-98: 64). This confusion of grey ware in Jammu particularly was already observed by Dikshit (1979: 131) and he therefore opines that no possible correlation can be established between the grey ware and Late Harappan period in the region. The sudden leap of sites from Kushana to medieval periods, from an exploratory context, with a huge gap in between (IAR 1980-81: 23, 25-26; 1981-82: 18-19) is also observed in the extant research.

To assimilate all the existing data in order to make the chronological affiliation of the sites easier, a revised periodical classification is proposed through this

research. The methodology of section scraping, apt for this objective, has already been discussed in the previous chapter. This cultural period terminological makeover (Appendix III) provided the possibility of incorporating as much information as possible from the existing literature, which would have otherwise become difficult, mainly owing to the problems already discussed. There are, however, problems regarding the incorporation of all the extant data available. In certain cases, the period in IAR is generally defined as Early Historical. Early Historical is an umbrella term which incorporates cultural data covering a vast timespan from 6<sup>th</sup> century BCE to early and mid-first millennium CE (Roy, 2009). Hence, assigning shorter and precise period in this case becomes a challenge.

To assign a revised cultural periodisation to the sites discovered as a result of this research, a brief classification of the chronological terminology used is given below. This categorization is essentially based on changes seen in the pottery repertoire from the sections scraped in two sites (Biyan Tibba and Satowali) of the research area and also understood by the analysis of pottery at the index sites of Sanghol and Ropar. This is further elaborated in the following chapter.

Period I: Neolithic/Harappan period. The rationale for grouping them under Period I is largely owing to the scarcity of Neolithic and Harappan sites in the studied region. Furthermore, although there is no evidence of a link between the Neolithic and Harappan period in the Jammu region, the pattern in the neighbouring territory of Kashmir indicates the contemporaneity of these two periods (Lahiri, 1992; Agrawal & Kharakwal, 2002). Hence, the Neolithic and Harappan periods are combined in the study area for convenience of description.

Period II: 4-5<sup>th</sup> century BCE to 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE/ CE (cultural affiliation- Late NBPW. Corresponding mainly to the Mauryan and the Pre-Kushan in the eastern mainland)

Period III: 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE/ CE to 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century CE (cultural affiliation- Indo-Greeks, Indo-Parthian, Indo-Scythian and the Kushanas)

Period IV: 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century CE-10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> century CE (cultural affiliation- Gupta and Post Gupta)

The total number of sites belonging to the time frame concerned with this research is 117 (Appendix III, Fig. IV.1, Fig. IV.2) (this includes all the sites irrespective of the absence of coordinates) Period I has five sites – two excavated and three doubtful explored sites – out of which, the site of Kot Garhi is surveyed by ASI in 1976 and the rest of the two by the researcher during the current survey. Period II sees a raise in the number of sites to 17 which further increases to 82 in Period III. Period IV witnesses a further increase in the number of sites to 91 (Table IV.1 and Fig. IV.1). From the sites mentioned above, there are sites with single cultural entity and sites with multicultural periods with reference to the time frame under study (Single culture sites: Period I-1, Period III-23, Period IV-35: Multi culture sites: Period I II III and IV-3, Period I II and III-1, Period II III and IV-13, Period III and IV-41) (Table IV.2).

**Table IV.1: Distribution of sites based on their periodic affiliation**

Period	Number of sites
I	2 (3 doubtful?)
II	17
III	82
IV	91

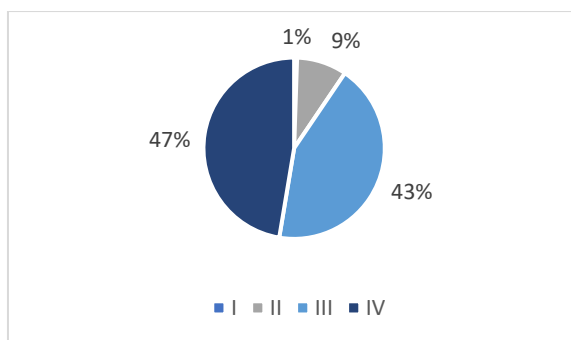


Figure IV.1: Percentage distribution of sites in different periods

Table IV.2: Distribution of Single cultural and multicultural sites

Period	Number of sites
I	1
III	23
IV	35
I, II and III	1
I, II, III and IV	3
II, III and IV	13
III and IV	41

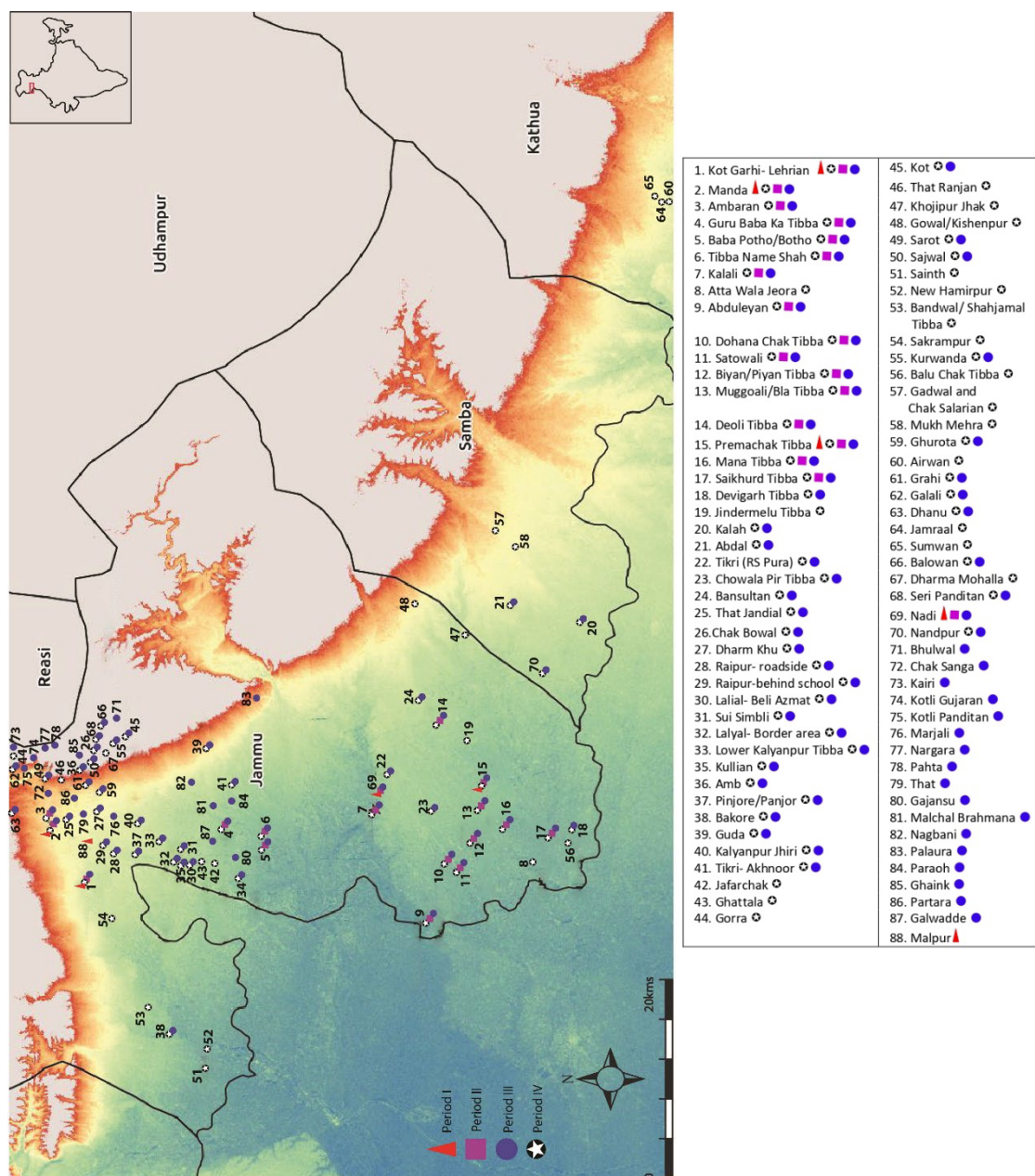


Figure IV.2- Map with period wise distribution of sites in the research area

\*Note the number of sites depicted in the map is 88 as against 117 mentioned in the text, owing to the lack of coordinates (in IAR report) for the rest of the 29 sites

In the following sections, the sites belonging to different periods are described under two major headings. The first section of every period describes the excavated sites, all of which have been revisited by the researcher, followed by second section documenting the explored sites of the particular period. The latter category includes the sites which are listed in IAR and are revisited by the researcher, the sites in IAR which could not be visited and the newly discovered

sites. For the newly discovered sites, explorations in the district of Jammu were essentially confined to two distinct zones – the Chenab Tawi Plains and the Jammu Foot Hill Plains, comprising of the tehsils of R.S Pura and Akhnoor. In addition, the areas of Bishnah Tehsil, Jammu Tehsil, parts of Samba and Kathua districts were also visited, but not thoroughly investigated. Akhnoor and RS Pura Tehsils were explored by the researcher for four years (2015-2019). An area of approximately 1000 sq. km was thoroughly surveyed because of which new archaeological sites were discovered along with the revision of the chronology of some of the already explored sites.

#### IV.1 Period I

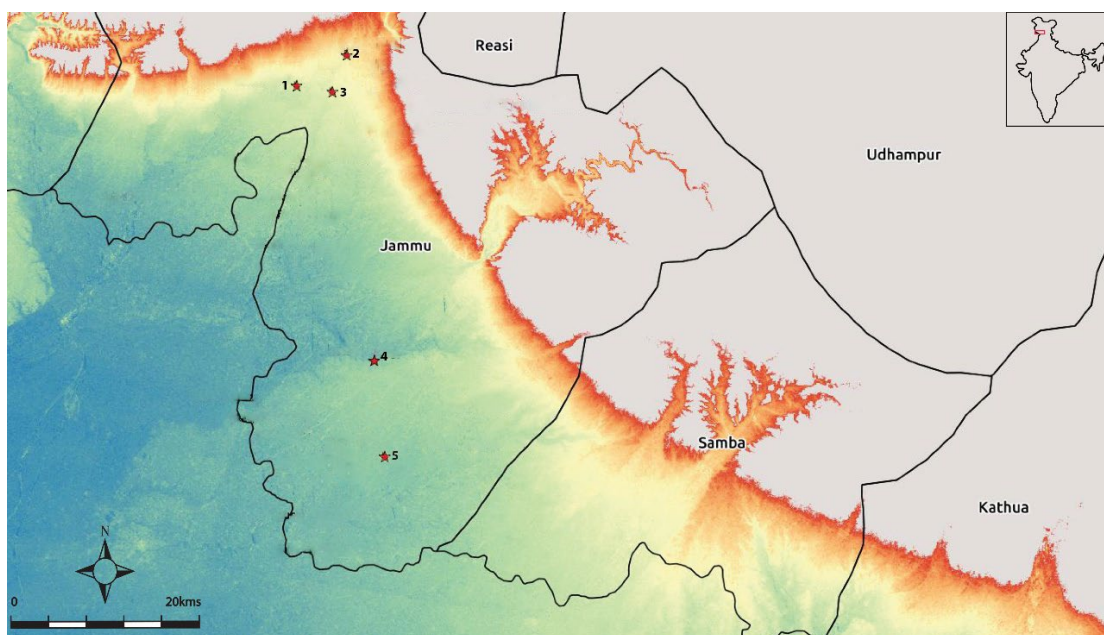
This period comprising of Harappan and Neolithic period is important as the site of Manda marks the northernmost extension of the Harappan dominion in the Indian subcontinent. The possibility of the Neolithic site of Malpur being contemporary to Harappan civilization is strong when the pattern in the adjoining region of Kashmir is seen (cultural material interactions between Neolithic site of Burzahom in Kashmir and Pre-Harappan and Harappan period (IAR 1964-65: 13; Lahiri, 1992; Agrawal & Kharakwal, 2002; Mani, 2008). However, the affiliation of Neolithic site of Malpur with Northern Neolithic complex, of which Kashmir Neolithic is a part, is debatable. Malpur is not related to the Northern Neolithic complex due to the absence of peculiar elements found in the latter, such as pottery (Chaudhari 2000; Yattoo and Bandey 2014; Betts *et al.* 2019), peculiar stone tools (IAR 1961-62: 21; Sankalia 1974), Schist discs and Terracotta bobbin (Yattoo 2012; Yattoo and Bandey 2014) and ubiquity of pits, interpreted variously by different scholars (see Yattoo 2012 for details), dug into loessic deposits. The material culture found from the site of Neolithic Malpur doesn't in-fact follow the Northern Neolithic pattern at all. It is rather the "general artifacts" category found all over the Neolithic cultures in other parts of India that Jammu falls under. Artifacts like celt, chisel, ring-stone, quern,

pounders, ball, blades, and scrapers were found in addition to sherds of hand-made red ware (IAR 1993-94).

The sites of period I are discussed in the following section and are summarised in Table IV.3 and represented in Fig. IV.3.

**Table IV.3: Sites belonging to Period I of the research area**

Sites of Period I	Coordinates	Context
1. Kot Garhi (?)	32°52'07.4" N; 74°41'33.6" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
2. Manda	32°53'45.43" N; 74°44'25.48" E	Excavated by ASI
3. Malpur	32°51'40.01" N; 74°44'48.21" E	Excavated by ASI
4. Nadi(?)	32°38'35" N; 74°46'07" E	Discovered by researcher
5. Premachak Tibba (?)	32°33'47" N; 74°46'43" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher



**Figure IV.3- Map with distribution of Period I sites in the research area (The numbers in the map correspond to the table above)**



#### IV.1.1 Excavated sites of Period I

IV.1.1.1. Manda: 32°53'45.43" N; 74°44'25.48" E. Elevation: 324 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Akhnoor (revisited by researcher).

The site is located beneath the modern fort of Manda, on the right bank of River Chenab (Fig. IV.4). It is protected by ASI and is located approximately 25 km north-west of Jammu city.



Figure IV.4: Site of Manda in the vicinity of Akhnoor fort and the river Chenab

The site of Manda being the sole representative of the Harappan culture in the area (apart from some sites which are referred to as Harappan, but concrete evidence is lacking from those sites) was excavated for one season (IAR 1976-77: 19-24). The exploration done by Joshi in 1976 (1993: 239) at the site of Manda had given evidence of Harappan and late Harappan red ware, Grey ware, Black ware and Kushana pottery. The trial trench in the same year exposed a 9.20 m thick occupational deposit which was divided into three cultural periods: 'Period I – Harappan, Period II –Early Historic and Period III –Kushan'.

Period IA<sup>1</sup>: With an occupational deposit of 1.00-1.40 m, it represents the material culture belonging to Pre-Harappan and Harappan period. The pottery of this sub-period is divided into two main traditions:

- i) Pre-Harappan red ware: The Pre-Harappan elements is 15 to 25 percent in the lower levels and diminishes in the upper levels which is represented by Harappan Red ware.
- ii) Harappan red ware: The presence of typical shapes of the apparently mature Harappan pottery is represented in this phase.

Artifacts in the form of copper double spiral head pin, tanged bone arrowhead, terracotta bangles, terracotta cakes, incised Harappan script on potsherds, chert blade, unfinished seal and a few saddle querns and pestles.

Period IB<sup>2</sup>: This phase is represented by an occupational deposit of 1.60 to 1.70 m. Two ceramic traditions represent this phase:

- i) Harappan red ware
- ii) Grey ware: generally associated elsewhere with the well-known painted grey ware.

There is an interlocking of these two ceramic traditions.

Period II: With a habitation deposit of 1.70-2.00 m, it represents the early Historical period.

Period III: With an occupational deposit of 1.70-1.90 m, the period is represented by Kushana pottery. The antiquities consist of glass bangles, terracotta objects, bone arrowheads, stone caskets, iron daggers and arrow heads, copper antimony rods, copper coins and rotary querns.

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<sup>1</sup> The original publication describes it as Subperiod IA, but the term "Period IA" itself suggest that it is a sub period.

<sup>2</sup> Similar to the above statement, it can be renamed to "Period IB"

After the Kushana period, the site was deserted, only to be reoccupied in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century in the form of a fort ascribed to Maharaja Gulab Singh.

The pottery discovered as a result of exploration from the site is primarily red ware of both slipped and unslipped variety. In addition, grey ware, black on red ware and incised decorated ware is also found from the site. The pottery scattered on the mound belongs to Period II to IV. No traces of Harappan pottery were found during the explorations (IAR 1976-77).

**IV.1.1.2. Malpur:** 32°51'40.01" N; 74°44'48.21" E. Elevation: 310 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Bhalwal (revisited by researcher).

The site is located 4-5 km south of Akhnoor town on the Jammu-Akhnoor road, on the left bank of the river Chenab, 2.5 km away. The site is under severe threat because of the continuous extraction of soil for brick production. There are make-shift houses of the labourers on the site itself. The soil for making bricks is sieved on the site, moulds are also prepared but the kiln is located away. The owner of the site is Mr. Jeba and the site is also named as *Jebe di bhathi* (Kiln of Jeba).

It is a single cultural neolithic site in the region. The trial excavation was carried out for one season (IAR 1993-94: 53-54). One trench was dug, and its two opposite quadrants were exposed. Five layers were identified and at the depth of 1.70 m, the natural soil was hit which comprised of boulders and pebbles (Fig. IV.5). The occupational deposit was confined to the upper 50 cm.

Layer 1: Humus

Layer 2-4: compact natural alluvial soil mixed with stone tools and flakes. Tiny pieces of charcoal were found in layer 2.

Layer 3: Floor with patches and burnt boulders

Layer 5: Main bed

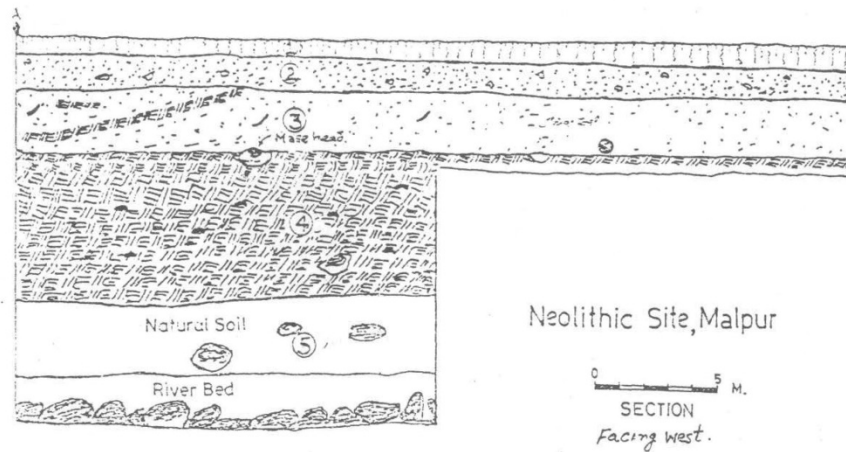


Figure IV.5: Section drawing of Neolithic site at Malpur. Image source: IAR 1993-94

The artifacts in the form of celt, chisel, ring-stone, quern, pounders, ball, blades, and scrapers were obtained from the excavation. In addition, choppers were obtained from the exploratory context. Unfinished tools with reused material were also found. Generally, the raw material used for the manufacture of these tools was sandstone pebble. In addition, a few polished tools were made on black basalt. A limited quantity of pottery – including some sherds of hand-made red ware – was found (IAR 1993-94).

#### **IV.1.2: Explored sites belonging to Period I**

In addition to the above-mentioned excavated sites, two sites – Nadi and Prema Chak Tibba– during the current exploratory survey gave meagre evidence of Harappan settlements (Fig. V.1, V.2 and V.3 and Table V.1 for material culture).

**IV.1.2.1. Premachak Tibba:** 32°33'47" N; 74°46'43" E. Elevation: 270 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- R.S Pura (revisited by researcher).

The site is located 20 km south-west of Jammu city. It was explored by ASI and has been documented in IAR report (1983-84: 35) as a late Medieval site. During current explorations, however, artifacts much earlier than the documented

period were discovered. One small extant mound circular in shape, measuring 50 m east-west and 60 m north-south with a height of 4 m was found in a good condition, mainly owing to the presence of *Pir Baba* on the top of the mound. The site lies at 2 km on the right bank of the Gurore *nadi* and belongs to *Pir Baba* authorities. Some of the Harappan elements in the form of pottery were also found to be present in the site, though the evidence is meagre.

The site is multicultural with cultural material primarily in the form of red ware sherds of unslipped and slipped variety, incised red ware, black on red ware, sturdy red ware and grey ware sherds from Period II to IV. In addition, the site gave evidence of terracotta grinders with impressions of rice husk all over (see Fig. V.55).

**IV.1.2.2. Nadi:** 32°38'35" N; 74°46'07" E. Elevation: 267 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- Satwari (discovered by researcher).

The site is nearly 13 km north-west of Jammu city. Located on the right bank of the Tawi, there are small ancestral temples (*Devte*) in the present village of Nadi. A feeder *nala* (*Kholi nala*) of the Tawi flows close to the site. The site is heavily disturbed due to the agricultural activities and soil quarrying for brick making around the site. Some of the Harappan elements were also found from the site though the evidence was scanty. It is a multicultural period site with cultural material from period II to IV in the form of red ware of both slipped and unslipped variety, black on red ware and few grey ware sherds.

In addition to the above-mentioned excavated and explored sites, the site of Kot Garhi mentioned in IAR with Harappan type material, although the current exploration by the researcher did not yield the concerned material. The site will be described in the relevant period section.

## **IV.2 Period II**

The period II of the current research commences around 4-5<sup>th</sup> century BCE till 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE/CE. This period spans the late NBPW period (Singh, 2009: 259) and so represents the active participation of Jammu plains in supra regional economic transactional processes, peculiar of this period.

The sites of Period II are tabulated in Table IV.4 and represented in Fig. IV.6

**Table IV.4- Sites belonging to Period II of the research area**

Sites of Period II	Coordinates	Context
1. Kot Garhi	32°52'07.4" N; 74°41'33.6" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
2. Manda	32°53'45.43" N; 74°44'25.48" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
3. Ambaran	32°54'12.6" N; 74°45'47.6" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
4. Guru Baba Ka Tibba	32°45'47.1" N; 74°44'15.3" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
5. Baba Potho/Botho	32°43'58" N; 74°43'14" E	Discovered by researcher
6. Tibba Name Shah	32°43'59" N; 74°43'60" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
7. Kalali	32°38'45" N; 74°45'13" E	Discovered by researcher
8. Nadi	32°38'35" N; 74°46'07" E	Discovered by researcher
9. Abduleyan	32°36'28" N; 74°39'10" E	Discovered by researcher
10. Dohana Chak Tibba	32°35'25" N; 74°42'29" E	Discovered by researcher
11. Satowali	32°34'54.48" N; 74°41'58.46" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
12. Biyan Tibba	32°34'18" N; 74°43'32" E	Discovered by researcher
13. Muggoali/Bla Tibba	32°33'58" N; 74°45'24" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
14. Deoli Tibba	32°35'45" N; 74°50'15" E	Discovered by researcher
15. Premachak Tibba	32°33'47" N; 74°46'43" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
16. Mana Tibba	32°32'45" N; 74°44'23" E	Discovered by researcher
17. Sai Khurd Tibba	32°30'37" N; 74°43'55" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher

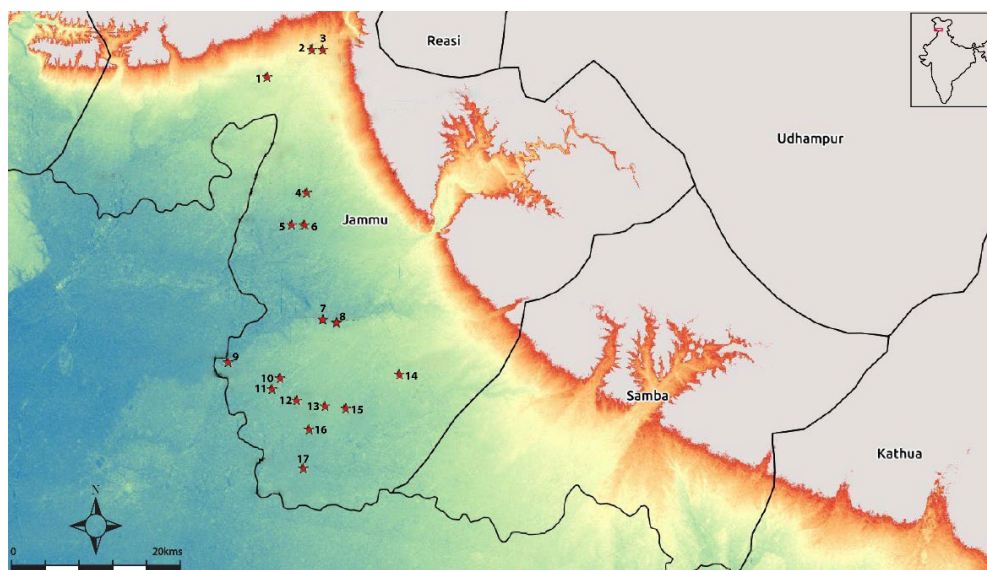


Figure IV.6- Map with distribution of Period II sites in the research area (The numbers in the map correspond to the table above)

Out of the 17 sites belonging to this period, four have been excavated by ASI and revisited by researcher, discussed below:

#### **IV.2.1 Excavated sites of Period II**

**IV.2.1.1. Guru Baba Ka Tibba:** 32°45'47.1" N; 74°44'15.3" E. Elevation: 276 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (revisited by researcher).

It is also known as Dhatriyal *Tibba* (*Tibba* is local term for mound). It is on the way to Gajansoo and Gol Patan, lying 15 km south of Akhnoor town. Adjoining the site is an old brick kiln. The site is on the right bank of Manor *khad* and 5 km east of old bed of river Chenab. The mound is under threat due to its cutting for agricultural activities. The surrounding land has already been used for agricultural activities by the villagers. The extant mound still covers a large area 140 m east-west and 100 m north-south, its height being approximately 3 m. The temple of *Guru Baba* is located on the top of the mound.

The trial excavation (IAR 1997-98: 64-70) was carried out in two quadrants of 4.25 m each. Six meters of habitation deposit with seventeen different layers unearthed at the site was divided into four distinctive periods (Fig. IV.7):

Period I: Grey Ware

Period II- Early Historical

Period III- Kushana- A mud brick wall belonging to this period was excavated

Period IV- Medieval Period.

Antiquities in the form of terracotta beads and balls, shell bangles, copper, ivory, and bone objects were found from the excavation.

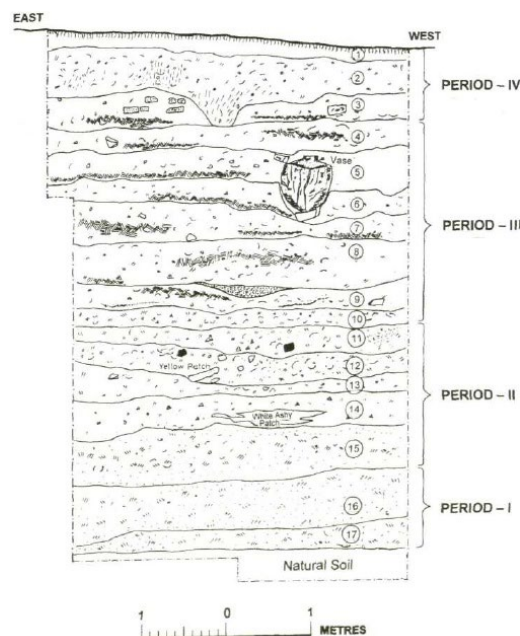


Figure IV.7: Section drawing of Guru Baba ka Tibba- GBT II, Trench 3, QDT- B

Image Source- IAR 1997-98

The explorations done as a part of this research at the site gave evidence of Black on red ware of the Rangmahal ceramic tradition. The sherds of the Rangmahal type were also seen in the excavated pottery of the site housed in Akhnoor fort.

The presence of Rangmahal type pottery from this site and others mentioned in this chapter is an intriguing aspect as the pottery in question has never been mentioned in the early research as a part of ceramic tradition of the area. The only reference is found in IAR report (1961-62: 17) where the painted sherds are



mentioned to be 'recalling' the ceramic tradition of Rangmahal culture (IAR 1997-98).

**IV.2.1.2. Ambaran:** 32°54'12.6" N; 74°45'47.6" E. Elevation: 320 m. Toposheet No. 43L/13, Block- Akhnoor (revisited by researcher).

Located 2-3 km upstream of Manda, the site is situated on the right bank of river Chenab (Fig. IV.8).

There is an on-site museum housing the antiquities from the site. The mound is being continuously cut by the river Chenab. However, because of the protection of the site by ASI, the side facing river Chenab has been fenced which reduces the chances of further destruction.



Figure IV.8: Site of Ambaran in the vicinity of the river Chenab

The excavation at Ambaran was carried out for two seasons (IAR 1999-2000: 52-63; 2000-2001: 47-68) and the scientific clearance for two seasons (IAR 2008-09: 71; 2009-2010: 60). In total 16 trenches were taken measuring 10x10 m and 42 quadrants were excavated. Four periods were revealed (Fig. IV.9) with following cultural sequence:

Period I- Pre-Kushan Period (c. second-first century B.C)

Period II-Kushan Period (c. first to third century A.D)

Period III- Post Kushan (Gupta) period (c. fourth-fifth century A.D)

Period IV- Post Gupta Period (c. sixth- seventh century A.D)

The site has a rich material culture and is the only site to give evidence of a spoked stupa (IAR 2009-10: 63, Fig. IV.10 in the entire region. Many terracotta figurines and antiquities, a few copper and iron objects, glass and stone bead and copper coins belonging to the Kushanas and the Hunas were reported from the site. In addition, a monastic establishment was also found. A reliquary containing sheets of gold, silver, beads of pearl, coral, metal, amethyst, silver casket, gold casket with small pieces of charred bone and a minute part of tooth was also recovered. Evidence of quite a few votive stupas was also found from the site highlighting the importance of the site as a revered place in the past (IAR 1999-2000; 2000-2001).

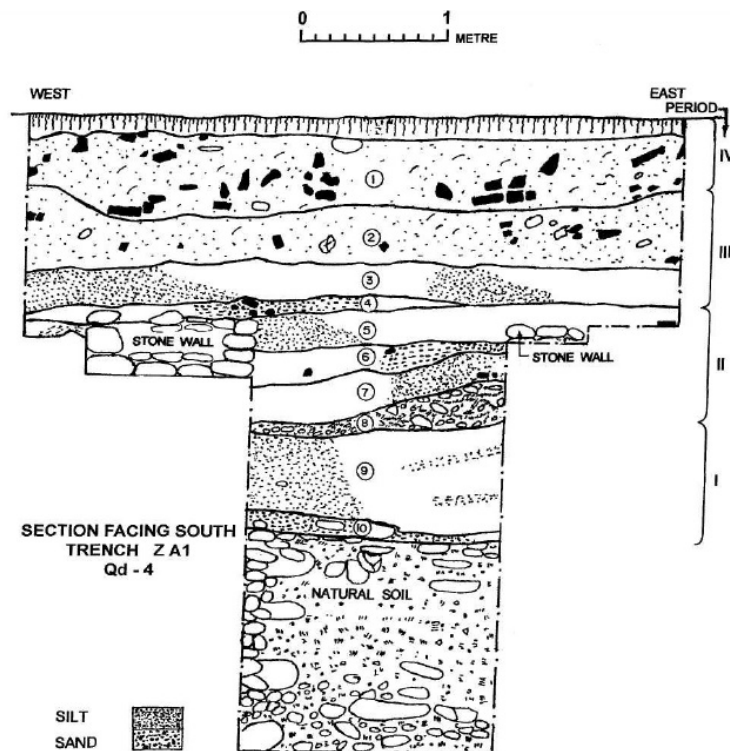


Figure IV.9: Ambaran- Section drawing. Image Source IAR 1999-2000



Figure IV.10: Ambaran- Exposed spoked wheel Stupa. Image Source IAR 2009-10

Exploration from the site gave evidence of the pottery belonging to Period II, III and IV of majorly red ware variety. In addition, pottery sherd with floral motif was also found from the site (Fig. V.18 C).

**IV.2.1.3. Tibba Name Shah:** 32°43'59" N; 74°43'60" E. Elevation- 265 m. Toposheet No. 43L/10, Block- Marh (revisited by researcher).

Also locally known as Taru Chak Tibba, it is located at the distance of around 1.5 km east of Baba Potho temple. Due to the establishment of a shrine of *Pir Baba* (a revered saint) on the mound and due to wild vegetation, the site is partially preserved. The height of the mound is approximately 3 m. The extent of the site is 100 m east-west and around 100 m north-south. There are water bodies in its vicinity, e.g., Balrl *nala* on the right side and Palauraali on the left side. They meet the branch of the river Tawi (*Niki Tawi*).

The site is locally famous for being an old village (*Purana Graan*) of 150 years of antiquity (personal communication with the villagers).

The site was excavated for three seasons (IAR 2007-08: 80; 2008-09: 68-71; 2009-10: 60-70). In the first season, a trial excavation was conducted. Four quadrants, each measuring 4.25x 4.25 m were excavated. The second season's excavation

involved two trenches (10x10 m) of eight quadrant each. A total of fourteen layers were noticed which revealed a five-fold cultural sequence:

Period I: Painted Grey Ware (PGW)

Period II: Pre-Kushana (Grey Ware)

Period III: Kushana

Period IV: Gupta

Period V: Post Gupta

In season three of the excavation (IAR 2009-10), two quadrants of two trenches were excavated which revealed the same cultural sequence (Fig. IV.11) A and B).

Period I: No antiquities were found from this period

Period II: Terracotta bangle pieces, beads, gamesmen, and wheel were found from this period.

Period III: Piece of shell bangle, hopscotch, sling ball, bangle pieces, terracotta cake and beads, etc. were found from this period.

Period IV: Beads of semiprecious stone, terracotta sling balls were the important antiquities found from this period.

Period V: Terracotta beads, bangle fragments, animal and bird figurines and a bone pendant, etc. were found from this period.

The exploration as a part of the current research resulted in the discovery of sherds of rusticated ware, black slipped ware, red ware of both slipped and unslipped variety, decorated incised ware and black on red ware belonging to the Rangmahal ceramic tradition which hitherto wasn't identified as belonging to that tradition.

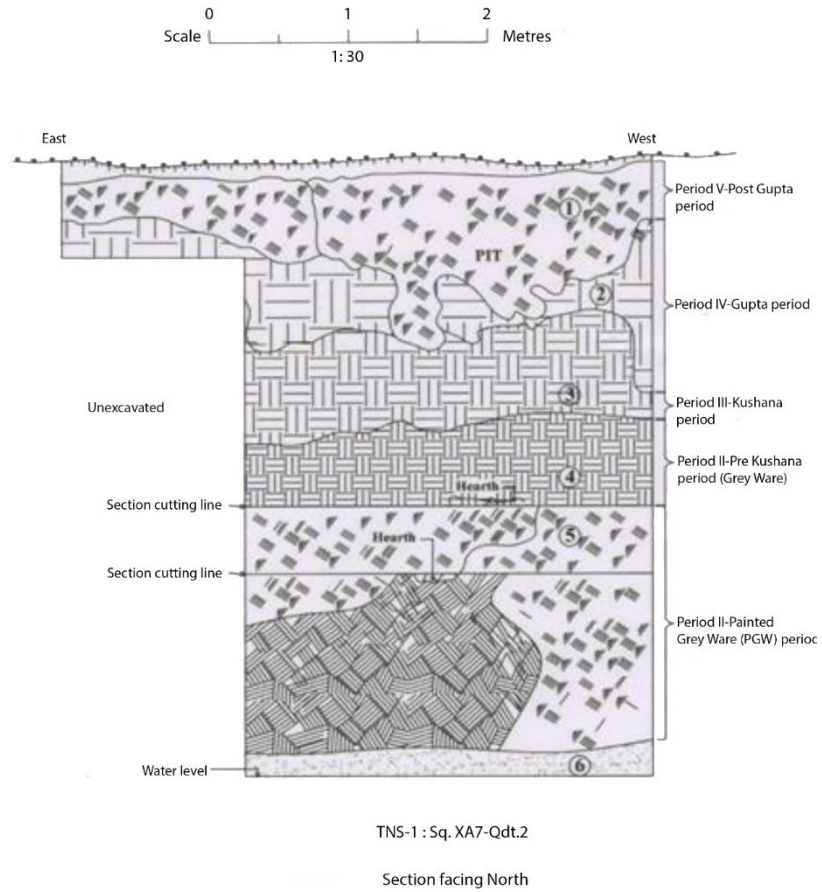


Figure IV.11: A

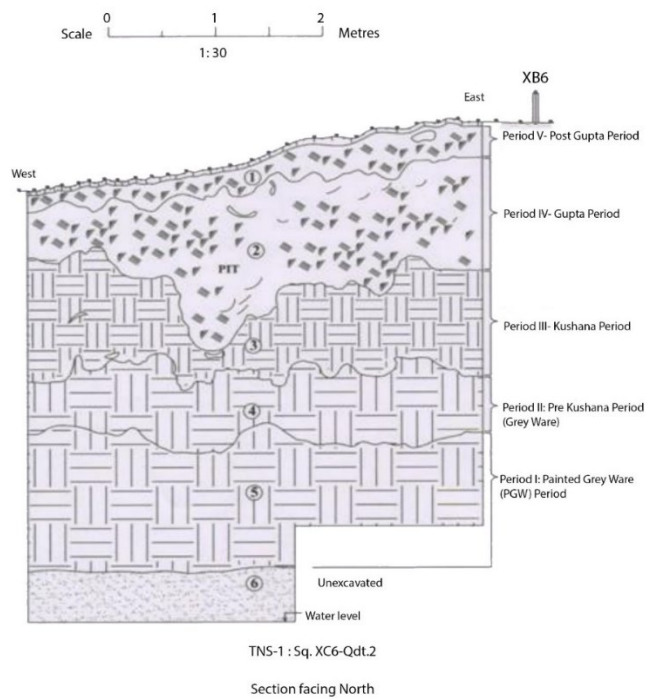


Figure IV.11: B

Figure IV.11 A-B: Tibba Name Shah – Section drawings of trenches from Season 3.

Image courtesy- IAR 2009-10

In addition to the above-mentioned excavated sites, the site of Manda which has already been discussed also gives evidence of period II cultural material.

**IV.2.1.4 Manda:** (see section IV.1.1.1 for description)

#### **IV.2.2 Explored sites of Period II**

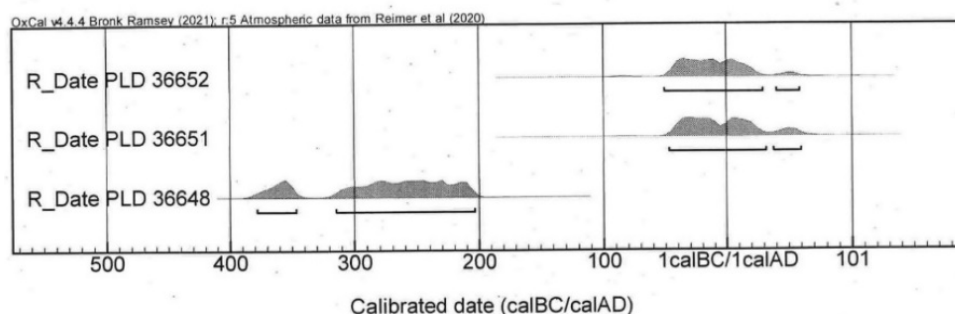
Two sites namely Biyan Tibba and Satowali were scraped for chronological sequencing. These sites had ditches dug up by the villagers which were straightened by the researcher. Data from these two sites provided a verifiable context for establishing the chronological sequence. The straightened sections provided charcoal samples which were dated using radiocarbon technique and was of utmost importance in authenticating the proposed sequence by the researcher (Table IV.5 and 6).

**Table IV.5: Radiocarbon dates of the samples from Satowali and Biyan Tibba**

Sample/ Lab. No.	Depth	C <sup>14</sup> age (Not rounded) (yr BP±1σ)	C <sup>14</sup> age (Not rounded) (yr BP±1σ)	Calibrated dates	
				1σ	2σ
PLD-36648 Satowali	150-170 cm	2230±17	2230±15	362-354 cal BC (7.6%) 292-231 cal BC (60.6%)	376-348 cal BC (15.5%) 317-208 cal BC (79.9%)
PLD-36651 Biyan Tibba	180-200 cm	2012±19	2010±20	42 cal BC- 6 cal AD (68.2%)	51 cal BC-30 cal AD (90.7%) 37-51 cal AD (4.7%)
PLD-36652 Biyan Tibba	180-200 cm	2020±17	2020±15	42 cal BC- 1 cal AD (68.2%)	54 cal BC-27 cal AD (94.4%) 42-47 cal AD (1.0%)



**Table IV.6: Recalibrated Radiocarbon dates from Biyan Tibba and Satowali using OxCal (Courtesy Mark Pollard, the University of Oxford)**



**IV.2.2.1. Biyan Tibba:** 32°34'18" N; 74°43'32" E. Elevation: 267 m. Toposheet No. 43L/10, Block- RS Pura (discovered by researcher; Section scraping)

The site of Biyan Tibba is located around 21km south-west of the modern city of Jammu and is 5 km away from the right bank of Gurore *nadi*, 7 km away from the right bank of Aik *nadi* and 8 km away from the left bank of the river Tawi. The extant mound is the collective property of the *Jats* (local population), and a part of the mound is used for a school and other half is used for dumping trash (Fig. IV.12). The soil from the mound is constantly being bulldozed for soil quarrying and other domestic purpose.



Figure IV.12: General view of the mound at Biyan Tibba

The mound located around the agricultural fields is around 2.25 hectares. This mound on its northern side had recently dug out ditches/pits. One of the pits with 70 cm width and a vertical section going down to a depth of approximately 5 m was scraped and straightened up to natural soil for a depth of approximately

3 m (Fig. IV.13), see the red inset for location of the section). The entire deposit of Biyan Tibba is therefore around 8 m. The upper deposit of the mound (at this spot) was removed by the locals for soil quarrying and other domestic purposes. In total eight cultural layers were observed from the scraped section.



Figure IV.13: Satellite image of Biyan Tibba. Image Courtesy: Apple Maps

Deep sounding in the section revealed 2.8 m thick cultural deposit constituting of nine stratigraphic layers (Fig. IV.14). The natural sediments constituting of compact clayey deposit is the Layer 9 of the strata. There is no occupational evidence associated with this layer.



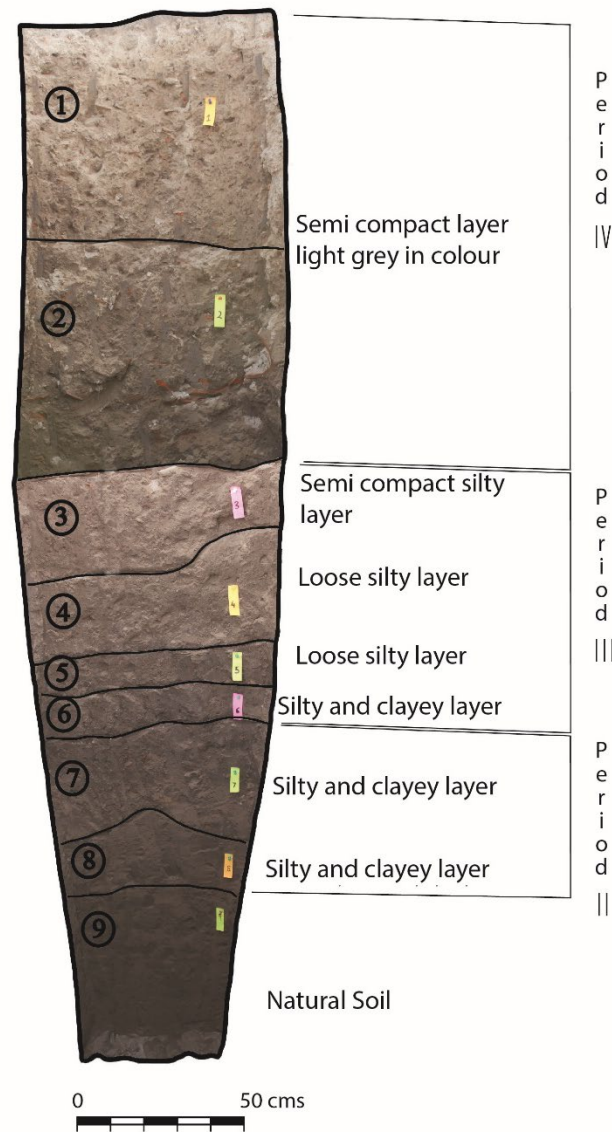


Figure IV.14: Scraped section at Biyan Tibba

On top of the natural sediment is layer 8, which marks the beginning of the earliest occupation at the site. It is composed of the clayey silt deposit and is 20 cm thick on an average. It gave evidence of a few potsherds taking back the antiquity of the site to middle of first millennium BCE. These sherds belonged to the red ware industry which was often found in association with the NBPW. However, no NBPW sherd has been reported from this stratum.

Layer 7 is the thick occupational layer with an average deposit of 40 cm. Made up of silty clay, this layer gave evidence of grey ware and ribbed ware potsherds (Fig. V.4). Some of the terracotta pieces collected from this period, revealed impression of food grains (rice) on them (Fig. V.5). Bowls of red ware with

straight sided rims were found in a great number. Layer 8 and 7 (280- 200 cm) constituted **Period II** of the site.

Layer 6 has a silty clay composition, and it measures an average of 17 cm. It gave the evidence of a few sherds of red ware industry.

Layer 5 with an average thickness of 15 cm is a relatively thin layer but incorporates good evidence of habitation in the form of pottery and charcoal. The pottery found in this layer belongs to the red ware industry.

The following Layer 4 is relatively loose and silty deposit with the average thickness of 30 cm. Like layer 5, this layer also incorporates greater concentration of pottery of the red ware industry. It also incorporated bits and pieces of charcoal. The basal part of this layer is composed of thick clayey deposit of 8cm thickness.

Layer 3 is a semi compact silty layer with an average thickness of 25 cm. The amount of pottery in this layer is relatively less than the preceding and succeeding layers.

The above layers 6 to 3 (200- 100 cm) form **Period III** of the site. Antiquities in the form of incised ware, incised ware with decorated pattern, an intact terracotta bead and a pottery sherd with graffiti were found (Fig. V.16 A-D). In addition, terracotta pieces with rice impressions were also recovered (Fig. V.17)

Layers 2 and 1 together account for over 100 cm semi compact deposit which is ashy in colour. These layers have thick concentration of pottery with eco-facts in the form of mammalian bones (mainly cattle) obtained from layer 1. In addition, from layer 1, cultural material in the form of bricks was reported by the locals.

These two layers form **Period IV** (100-0 cm) of the site.

Apart from the section scraping, the site was also thoroughly explored which resulted in the discovery of the artifact in the form of antiquities and pottery. The

former consisting of animal terracotta figurines (Fig. V.49 D), terracotta bead (Fig. V.50 D) and broken hopscotch. Pottery from the explored context consists of black on red ware, red slipped ware, polychrome ware (black on red ware with white paintings), incised ware, grey ware sherds, sherds with chequered pattern, sherds with perforations and rusticated ware. The black on red sherds has given evidence of the Rangmahal ceramic tradition with similar designs and shape of pottery. This is interesting as this tradition has been discovered for the first time in the area.

Being a multicultural period site, the artifacts scraped belonging to Period II, III and IV, played an important role in identifying the material culture of the other explored sites.

**IV. 2.2.2. Satowali:** 32°34'54.48" N; 74°41'58.46" E. Elevation: 264 m. Toposheet No. 43L/10, Block- RS Pura (revisited by researcher; Section scraping)

The site of Satowali is located approximately 22 km south-west of Jammu city. The area of the mound is around 0.64 hectares (Fig. IV.15) and is approximately 4 m in height. It is located around 8 km on the left bank of the Tawi and around 9 km on the right bank of Aik *nadi* and Gurore *nadi*. It is documented in IAR report (1984-85) as an explored site. Two exposed sections were scraped and straightened at this site. The first section was on the north-eastern periphery of the mound. This part was exposed due to the slope of the mound and due to the activities of the locals. This was however highly disturbed, and all the cultural material seemed to be mixed.

The second exposed section (Fig. IV.16) was taken at the south-eastern part of the mound. It was around 30 to 40 m from the centre of the mound and approximately 2 m below the mound height. This was selected for section scraping since a few deep pits (around 1 m) were seen here due to the local activities. A 70 cm wide section was scraped exposing total of six cultural layers

after clearing approximately 2 m deep section. The entire deposit at Satowali therefore appears to be around 4 m, out of which the upper 2 m is redeposited material and hence not desirable for analysis.



Figure IV.15: Satellite image of Satowali mound. Image courtesy Apple Maps

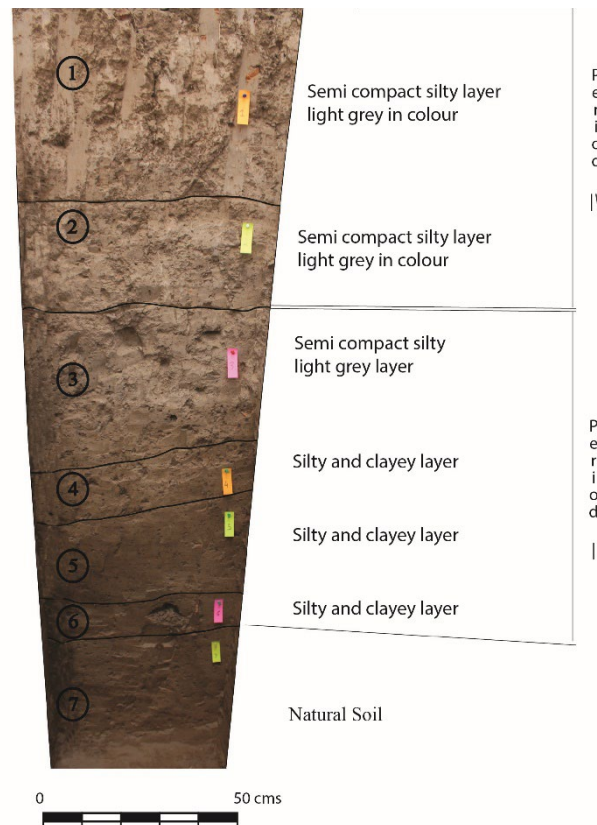


Figure IV.16: Scraped section at Satowali

On top of compact clayey natural soil (layer 7) is 17 cm thick silty and clayey layer (layer 6) that incorporates the beginning of habitation activity at the site. Burnt clay nodules are recovered from this layer in addition to a few pottery fragments belonging to red ware industry.

Layer 5 with an average thickness of 30-35 cm is a thick silty clay deposit culturally affiliated to its preceding layer. Pottery sherds of red ware industry are dominant in this layer. An almost intact red ware bowl was recovered from this layer (Fig. V.6)

Following this are layers 4 and 3 with average thickness of 15 cm and 45-50 cm respectively. Layer 4 is composed of silty clay deposit whereas layer 3 appears to be formed of semi compact deposit and has a light greyish colour. Potsherds of red ware are found from this layer.

The layers 6 to 3 form **Period II** (215-100 cm) of the site. Antiquities in the form of worked potsherds, terracotta bead and bangle pieces were recovered from this period (Fig. V.7 - V.8). A few terracotta pieces from this period also revealed impression of food grains (rice) on them (Fig. V.9).

The subsequent layer 2, which is around 35 cm thick, is a semi compact silty deposit, light grey in colour. The ceramic assemblage from this layer essentially belongs to red ware industry and the concentration of pottery is relatively more. Following this is Layer 1 which in composition is like layer 2. This layer however is disturbed owing to the mixing of modern material due to activities of the locals around the site.

Period III was found to be missing during the section scraping of the site. However, the exploration at the same site yielded material culture belonging to the period.

The Layer 2 and 1 constitute **Period IV** (100-0 cm) of the site.

The exploration at the site provided evidence of pottery like Rangmahal tradition pottery, glazed ware (associated with Rangmahal pottery – See Chapter V – section V.4.2 for description; Fig. V.28 A), fragment of copper vessel (Table V.3 No. 110; Fig. V.23 No. 110; Fig. V.18 D), incised grey and red ware, black slipped ware, rusticated red ware, unique bases with shallow depressions (Fig. V.46 A-B) broken terracotta seated animal figuring (Nandi?) (Fig. V.49 G), terracotta bangle (Fig. V.50 A) and terracotta grinders (Fig. V.53) with grain impressions.

In addition to the sites discussed above, Premachak Tibba and Nadi as already mentioned in Period I have given evidence of Period II as well.

#### **IV.2.2.3 Premachak Tibba** (see IV.1.2.1 for site description)

#### **IV.2.2.4 Nadi** (see IV.1.2.2 for site description)

The below discussion is of the multicultural sites with cultural period primarily commencing from Period II.

#### **IV.2.2.5 Kot Garhi-Lehrian:** 32°52'07.4" N; 74°41'33.6" E. Elevation: 300 m Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Akhnoor (revisited by researcher)

The site is explored by ASI twice with the documentation done in 1976-77 (IAR 1976-77: 19) mentioning it as an explored Harappan period site. The site was re-explored in 2006-07 (IAR 2006-07: 38-39) and has been documented as post-Gupta period site.

The site is around 6 km downstream of Akhnoor town. Located on the right bank of the river Chenab, the alluvial soil of the area is used for brick production. The area is undulating with small, divided mounds. One of the big intact habitation mounds is under constant threat of destruction (Fig. IV.17) because of the procurement of soil for brick making (brick making soil is locally called as *Goldy*).



The site has given evidence of constant settlement occupation from Period II to IV. Pottery mainly in the form of red ware is found from the site. In addition, ill fired pottery that leaves off colour when touched is found in good amount. As already discussed above, the soil from mounds at the site is constantly used for brick making, the artifact is usually found scattered all over the area.



Figure IV.17: Depleted mound of Kot Garhi owing to soil procurement for bricks

**IV.2.2.6 Muggoali / Bla Tibba:** 32°33'58" N; 74°45'24" E. Elevation: 270 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- R S Pura (revisited by researcher)

Explored by ASI and documented in IAR report (1983-84: 35), the site is located approximately 21 km south-west of Jammu town and on the right bank of Gurore *nadi* which is around 3-4 km from the site. The extant circular mound measures 50 m east-west and 60 m north- south. The ownership of the land belongs to the *Pir Baba* Trust, because of which the site is in a good condition. It has given evidence of artifacts in the form of pottery belonging to Period II, III and IV of majorly red ware industry. This includes slipped and unslipped red ware, grey ware, black and red ware, black on red ware and decorated sherds in the form of incised ware and sherds with chequered pattern. In addition, beads of terracotta

(Fig. V.50 C) and carnelian (Fig. V.50 F) and a terracotta scrubber/paddle (Fig. V.51 D) is also retrieved from the site.

People in the area believe that any artefact from the mound with the *Pir Baba* on top can be used as a *taviz* (amulet) and can help people who are sick.

**IV.2.2.7 Sai Khurd Tibba:** 32°30'37" N; 74°43'55" E. Elevation: 261 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- R.S Pura (revisited by researcher)

It has been documented as an explored site in IAR report (1984-85: 24). The site is located 27 km south-west of Jammu, just on the left bank of Aik *nadi* and one km from Gurore *nadi*. The mound is disturbed due to various activities like southern part is encroached by villagers for agricultural purpose, the western part of the mound is eroded by Aik *nadi*, the top of the mound is treated as dump yard by the villagers and construction of an electric transformer on the northern part of the mound. The rest of the mound measures around 70-80 m east-west and 100 m north-south. The vertical section at its highest measures around 8 m.

Artifacts, primarily pottery belonging to red ware industry comprising of both slipped and unslipped red ware, black and red ware, rusticated ware, mica dusted red ware were found that are attributed to the periods II, III and IV, are present at the site. In addition, black on red ware sherds of the Rangmahal ceramic traditions are also found from the site.

**IV.2.2.8 Baba Potho/Botho:** 32°43'58" N; 74°43'14" E. Elevation: 264 m. Toposheet No. 43 L/10, Block- Marh (discovered by researcher)

The site is located 18-19 km south of Akhnoor town. It is near to Baba Potho temple and around 1-1.5 km west of the site of Tibba Name Shah. One extant mound is around 125 m east-west and 70 m north-south, with the thickness of around 2.5 m. It is situated on the left bank of old bed of Chenab and on the right bank of Balrl *nala*. The extent of the site is 125 m east-west and 70 m north-south.



Artifact mainly in the form of pottery consisting of red ware of slipped and unslipped variety, black and red ware and grey ware is found from the site which belong to Period II, III and IV. Black on red ware designs similar to the Rangmahal pottery tradition are found from the site. In addition to the pottery, brick bats and stone rubble structure was also found.

The entire agricultural land of the area gives an impression of a terraced farm. Half of the site is under cultivation and the other half is in a way preserved because of the utilization of the land by temple authorities to hold fair in the memory of Baba Potho for 2-3 days generally 15 days after Diwali. The area in which the site is located is believed to be an old, abandoned village. Baba Potho guarded the village but was killed along with his mother and his dog by drunken *baratis* (procession escorting the groom) of Gupta (Mahajan) caste. Therefore, in his memory, a temple was built.

**IV.2.2.9 Mana Tibba:** 32°32'45" N; 74°44'23" E Elevation: 267 m Toposheet No. 43L/10, Block- R S Pura (discovered by researcher)

The site is situated around 23 km south-west of Jammu city, half a kilometre from the present Mana village. There is one big mound which is cut through by the road. The site extends 80 m east-west and 80 m north-south with an average height of 3 m. The mound is circular in shape. It is situated on the right bank of Gurore *nadi* at around 2 km distance. The site is well preserved since the land is owned by the forest department. There is thick vegetation all over the mound and the section is exposed due to cutting of the road. The shrine of *Pir Baba* is located on the top of the mound.

Artifacts in the form of pottery comprising of unslipped red ware, slipped red ware, black on red ware, black and red ware and sturdy red ware were found. In addition, decorated sherds with pressed rim were also found. The pottery

belongs from Period II to IV. Other antiquities included a terracotta cartwheel (Fig. V.18 A) and a worked potsherd (Fig. V.51 A).

**IV.2.2.10 Dohana Chak Tibba:** 32°35'25" N; 74°42'29" E. Elevation: 270 m. Toposheet No. 43L/10, Block- R.S Pura (discovered by researcher)

The site is situated 21 km south-west of Jammu city. It is on the left bank of the Tawi at around 8 km and on the right bank of Gurore *nadi* at around 8 km. Located on the south of Dohana village, the mound lies in the vicinity of a *Pir Baba*. One extant (till 2017) circular mound extending 150 m east-west and 150 m north-south, with the height of approximately 5 m was there in the year 2017 (personal observation). The land adjacent to the mound was used for agricultural purpose. But recently (in 2018) the top level of the entire mound has been disturbed due to the cutting of the trees from the mound. The land on the top of the mound has been ploughed, and it faces the threat of getting razed to the ground.

The antiquities from the sites consist of pottery of majorly red ware industry comprising of red slipped ware and unslipped red ware and spouts of fine variety were found belonging to Period II, III and IV. Also, from the exploration were found sherds of black on red ware, black and red ware, and few fragments of grey ware. In addition, a terracotta figurine with applique design (Fig. V.10 B), a broken terracotta bead (Fig. V.50 E) and dabbers, both intact and broken (Fig. V.48 A-C), were recovered from the site.

**IV.2.2.11 Abduleyan:** 32°36'28" N; 74°39'10" E Elevation: 258 m Toposheet No. 43 L/10, Block- R S Pura (discovered by researcher)

The site is located around 25 km south-west of Jammu city, close to Suchetgarh border. The circular habitation mound is approximately 60 m east-west and 60 m north-south and lies 6 km away from the river Tawi, on its left bank. The

presence of *Pir Baba* and the usage of the mound by government authorities are the reason for its good state of preservation.

Pottery in the form of red slipped ware, unslipped red ware, sturdy red ware, black and red ware, grey ware and black on red ware, representative of Rangmahal pottery tradition, was found from the site. In addition, decoration in the form of incisions is also found on the sherds. The periodic affiliation of these pottery sherds is from II to IV. Other antiquities included worked potsherd (Fig. V.51 B).

**IV.2.2.12 Kalali:** 32°38'45" N; 74°45'13" E. Elevation: 276 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- Satwari (discovered by researcher)

The site is located 13 km south-west of Jammu city on the left bank of the Tawi. One big mound measuring 125 m east-west and 125 m north- south and approximately 4 m in height can be seen. The north side of the site is being eroded by river Tawi (Fig. IV.18). The extension of the construction activities by the authorities of Baba Virfa Nath, situated on the top of the mound is responsible for the destruction of the mound. The site is quite famous and almost everyone knew about the site. It is said that Baba Virfa Nath, who belonged to the Guru Gorakhnath *Sampradaya* (spiritual lineage), nullified the magical powers possessed by people in the past.

Antiquities in the form of pottery was recovered from the site. It included unslipped red ware, slipped red ware, black slipped ware, black on red ware, rusticated ware, grey ware and incised ware. Stamped red ware with leaf patterns is also found from the site (Fig. V.18 B). The pottery belongs to period II, III and IV.



Figure IV.18: River Tawi eroding section at the site of Kalali

**IV.2.2.13 Deoli Tibba:** 32°35'45" N; 74°50'15" E Elevation: 286 m Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- Bishnah (discovered by researcher)

The site lies 14-15 km to the south-west of Jammu, near the Deoli village. The circular mound extends 60 m east-west and 60 m north-south with a height of around 4-5 m. It is located at around 5 km on the right bank of Silwan *khad*. The mound is covered by thick vegetation. The site is the property of the Auqaf trust, and the entire mound serves as a Muslim cemetery. The mound is fenced by the trust which in a way helps in the prevention of further destruction of the site.

Exploration of the entire area was not possible due to the fencing of the mound. However, the area which was explored gave evidence of artifacts in the form of pottery belonging to red ware industry, comprising of unslipped and slipped red ware, black on red ware, sherds with chequered patterns, spouts with paintings in black, rusticated ware and antiquities in the form of hopscotch. The pottery found is of Period II to IV.

### **IV. 3 Period III**

The time to which this period belong is from 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE/CE to 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century CE. This period witnessed a surge in the number of settlements. This period politically synchronizes with the period of interaction with the coming of dynasties like Indo-Greeks, Indo-Parthian, Indo-Scythian and the Kushanas. The increase of settlements in this period reflects the area's growing prominence. However, out of the 82 sites, the detail of only 37 site is available (owing to the lack of literature in the IAR reports) (Table IV.7; Fig. IV.19)

**Table IV.7- Sites belonging to Period III of the research area**

Sites of Period III	Coordinates	Context
1. Kot Garhi	32°52'07.4" N; 74°41'33.6" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
2. Manda	32°53'45.43" N; 74°44'25.48" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
3. Ambaran	32°54'12.6" N; 74°45'47.6" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
4. Guru Baba Ka Tibba	32°45'47.1" N; 74°44'15.3" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
5. Baba Potho/Botho	32°43'58" N; 74°43'14" E	Discovered by researcher
6. Tibba Name Shah	32°43'59" N; 74°43'60" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
7. Kalali	32°38'45" N; 74°45'13" E	Discovered by researcher
8. Nadi	32°38'35" N; 74°46'07" E	Discovered by researcher
9. Abduleyan	32°36'28" N; 74°39'10" E	Discovered by researcher
10. Dohana Chak Tibba	32°35'25" N; 74°42'29" E	Discovered by researcher
11. Satowali	32°34'54.48" N; 74°41'58.46" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
12. Biyan Tibba	32°34'18" N; 74°43'32" E	Discovered by researcher
13. Muggoali/Bla Tibba	32°33'58" N; 74°45'24" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
14. Deoli Tibba	32°35'45" N; 74°50'15" E	Discovered by researcher
15. Premachak Tibba	32°33'47" N; 74°46'43" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
16. Mana Tibba	32°32'45" N; 74°44'23" E	Discovered by researcher
17. Sai Khurd Tibba	32°30'37" N; 74°43'55" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
18. Devigarh Tibba	32°29'34" N; 74°43'52" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
19. Nandpur	32°30'53" N; 74°32'59" E	Discovered by researcher

Sites of Period III	Coordinates	Context
20. Kalah	Locality 1-32°32'34" N; 74°56'14" E Locality 2-32°32'35" N; 74°56'12" E	Discovered by researcher
21. Abdal	32°29'18" N; 74°55'27" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
22. Tikri- RS Pura	32°38'21" N; 74°47'21" E	Discovered by researcher
23. Chowala Pir Tibba	32°36'4.7" N; 74°42'29" E	Discovered by researcher
24. Bansultan	32°36'58" N; 74°51'44" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
25. That Jandial	32°53'43" N; 74°45'50" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
26. Seri Panditan	32°51'44" N; 74°49'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
27. Dharm Khu	32°51'32" N; 74°45'48" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
28. Raipur-Roadside	32°50'52.6" N; 74°43'07.6" E	Discovered by researcher
29. Raipur- behind school	32°51'12.3" N; 74°43'32.9" E	Discovered by researcher
30. Lalial- Beli Azmat	32°47'35.5" N; 74°42'20.6" E	Discovered by researcher
31. Sui Simbli	32°48'01.0" N; 74°42'53.1" E	Discovered by researcher
32. Lalyal- Border area	32°48'15.7" N; 74°42'28.7" E	Discovered by researcher
33. Lower Kalyanpur Tibba	32°48'56.8" N; 74°43'51.7" E	Discovered by researcher
34. Bathur	32°45'05" N; 74°41'33" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
35. Kullian	32°47'30" N; 74°42'22" E	Discovered by researcher
36. Amb	32°52'29" N; 74°47' 39" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
37. Pinjore	32°49'39.3" N; 74°42'50.2" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
38. Bakore	32° 48' 16" N; 74°33' 47" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
39. Guda	32°46'31.4" N; 74°48'55.6" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
40. Kalyanpur Jhiri (Kanachak near Jhiri Temple)	32°49'41.3" N 74°43'53.1" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
41. Tikri	32°45'27" N 74°46'12" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
42. Palaura	32°45'33" N 74°51'58" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
43. Nagbani	32°46'55" N 74°46'21" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
44. Malchal Brahmana	32°45'50" N 74°45'12" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
45. Kot	32°49'50" N 74°49'12" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
46. Galwadde	32°46'7" N 74°43'25" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
47. Gajansu	32°45'30" N 74°42'36" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
48. That	32°52'26" N; 74°46'0" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
49. Sarot	32°54'04" N; 74°47'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
50. Sajwal	32°52'0" N; 74°48'0" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given

Sites of Period III	Coordinates	Context
51. Partara	32°52'32" N; 74°46'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
52. Pahta	32°53'52" N; 74°50'40" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
53. Nargara	32°54'6" N; 74°50'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
54. Marjali	32°51'0" N; 74°45'40" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
55. Kurwanda	32°50'38" N; 74°49'0" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
56. Kotli Panditan	32°55'38" N; 74°47'25" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
57. Kotli Gujara	32°54'48" N; 74°48'10" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
58. Kairi	32°56'18" N; 74°49'25" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
59. Ghurota	32°51'34" N; 74°46'55" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
60. Ghaink	32°52'12" N; 74°48'0" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
61. Grahi	32°54'0" N; 74°47'10" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
62. Galali	32°56'12" N; 74°47'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
63. Dhanu	32°57'44" N; 74°45'10" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
64. Chak Sanga	32°54'6" N; 74°46'40" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
65. Bhulwal	32°50'18" N; 74°49'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
66. Balowan	32°51' 04" N; 74°49'25" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
67. Chak Bowal	32°51'44" N; 74°48'25" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
68. Paroah	32°45'30" N 74°45'24" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
69. Chhatha	32°40'N; 74°48' 48" E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
70. Damana	32°34' 12" N; 74°47'E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
71. Kalakam	32°49'N 74°47'18" E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
72. Patnehal	32°44'54" N 74°46'E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
73. Phalora	32°46'55" N 74°46'E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
74. Rathua	32°43'24" N 74°44'E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
75. Dabblehr	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI- Details not given
76. Bhulowal	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI- Details not given
77. Ghirana	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI- Details not given
78. Jaora	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI- Details not given
79. Satrain	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI- Details not given
80. Suchetgarh	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI- Details not given
81. Akhnur	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI- Details not given

82.	Nad	Coordinates not given	Explored by ASI-Details not given
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**\*Incomplete coordinates**

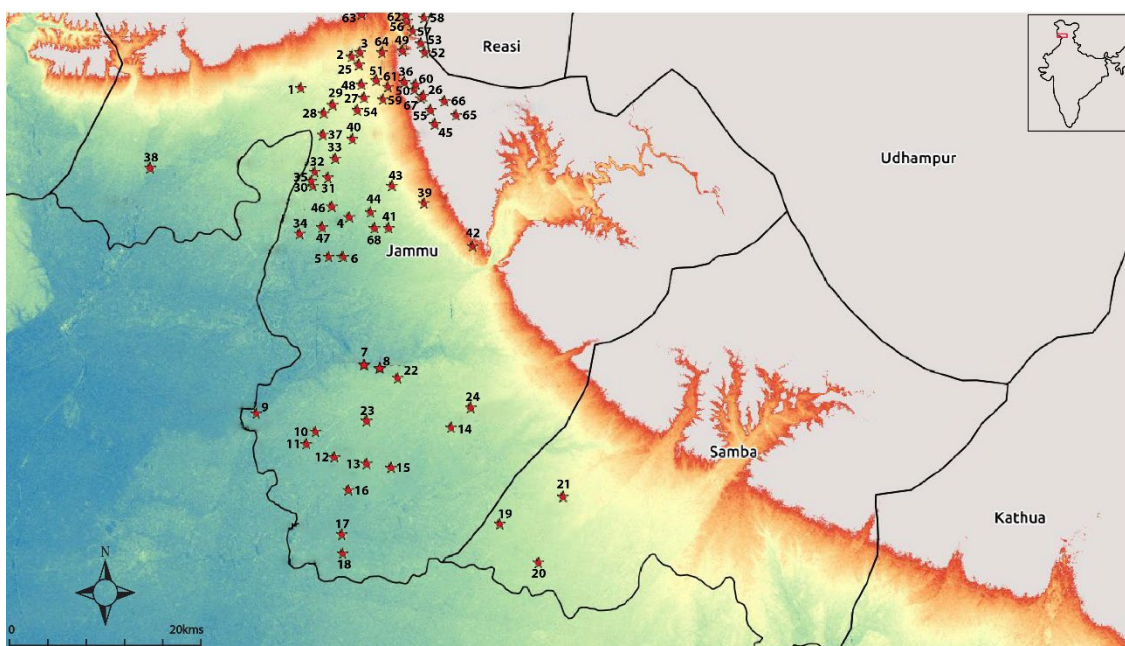


Figure IV.19- Map with distribution of Period III sites in the research area (The numbers in the map correspond to the table above)

### **IV.3.1: Excavated sites of Period III**

The following excavated sites in addition to Period II, have also given evidence of earlier periods and therefore are discussed in the previous sections.

**IV.3.1.1 Manda:** (see IV.1.1.1 for site description)

**IV.3.1.2 Guru Baba Ka Tibba:** (See IV.2.1.1 for site description)

**IV.3.1.3 Ambaran:** (see IV.2.1.2 for site description)

**IV.3.1.4 Tibba Name Shah:** (see IV.2.1.3 for site description)

### **IV.3.2 Explored sites of Period III**

The sites below are multicultural sites and therefore were discussed in the previous sections.

**IV.3.2.1 Biyan Tibba:** (see IV.2.2.1 for site description)



IV.3.2.2 Satowali: (see IV.2.2.2 for site description)

IV.3.2.3 Premachak Tibba: (see IV.1.2.1 for site description)

IV.3.2.4 Nadi: (see IV.1.2.2 for site description)

IV.3.2.5 Kot Garhi-Lehrian: (see IV.2.2.5 for site description)

IV.3.2.6 Muggoali/Bla Tibba: (see IV.2.2.6 for site description)

IV.3.2.7 Sai Khurd Tibba: (see IV.2.2.7 for site description)

IV.3.2.8 Baba Potho/Botho: (see IV.2.2.8 for site description)

IV.3.2.9 Mana Tibba: (see IV.2.2.9 for site description)

IV.3.2.10 Dohana Chak Tibba: (see IV.2.2.10 for site description)

IV.3.2.11 Abduleyan (see IV.2.2.11 for site description)

IV.3.2.12 Kalali: (see IV.2.2.12 for site description)

IV.3.2.13 Deoli Tibba: (see IV.2.2.13 for site description)

Some of the sites were occupied for the first time in Period III and are discussed below:

IV.3.2.14 Abdal: 32°29'18" N; 74°55'27" E. Elevation: 295 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- R.S Pura (revisited by researcher)

The site is located towards the south of the Abdal village. It is explored by ASI and documented in the IAR report (1984-85: 23). Located 28 km south-east of Jammu city, the extant mound is around 150 m east-west and 150 m north-south with the height of around 10 m. The site is on the right bank of the Devaka River at approximately 5 to 6 km and on the left bank of stream of Aik nadi which is at around 4 km from the site. The shape of the mound is circular and is cut in between by a modern road. The western part of the mound is under cultivation and the land has been flattened. The canal also cuts the site on the north-eastern end (Fig. IV.20).

The exploration from the site resulted in the collection of artifacts in terms of pottery, mainly red ware belonging to period III and IV. This includes red

slipped ware, unslipped red ware, black slipped ware, decorated sherds including stamped ware with painted surface and black on red ware with elements of Rangmahal painting tradition.

On the eastern side lies a late medieval temple. The land is used by temple authorities and for government purposes as well. Around 1-1.5 km to the south-west of the site is another late medieval temple with paintings and frescos on the wall.



Figure IV.20: General view of the mound of Abdal

**IV.3.2.15 Bansultan:** 32°36'58" N; 74°51'44" E. Elevation: 293 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- R.S Pura (revisited by researcher)

The site is located 1 km north-east of Bishnah town. It was discovered by ASI and documented in the IAR report (1981-82: 19). One habitation mound, circular in shape is visible extending 60 m east-west and 60 m north-south. The height of the mound is approximately 1-2 m. Agricultural activities are carried on the top of the mound. In addition to it, some part of the land is government owned.

Artifacts, mainly pottery, was recovered which included red slipped ware, black on red ware and sturdy red ware of period III and IV. Antiquities in the form of terracotta animal figurine was also found (Fig. V.49 A).

The site and its adjoining areas give evidence of thick alluvium deposit which goes up to a height of 12 m.

**IV.3.2.16 Devigarh Tibba:** 32°29'34" N; 74°43'52" E. Elevation: 265 m. Toposheet No. 43 L/11, Block- RS Pura (revisited by researcher)

The site is located approximately 29 km south-west of Jammu. It is explored by ASI and documented in the IAR report (1984-85: 23). The extant mound is circular and measures approximately 90 m east-west and 100 m north-south. It is located on the left bank of Aik *nadi*. The mound is almost 7 m in height. Currently the site is used by government authorities.

The pottery primarily of red ware in the form of slipped and unslipped variety, black on red ware is seen scattered on the mound. In addition, decorated sherds with circular pattern are also found. The pottery belongs to period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.17 Amb:** 32°52'29" N; 74°47' 39" E. Elevation: 414 m. Toposheet No. 43L/13, Block- Bhalwal (revisited by researcher)

This site is explored by ASI (1980-81: 23). The coordinated recorded by the ASI however are slightly different from the ones recorded by the researcher (See Appendix III)

The site is in vicinity of sites like That Ranjan and Seri Panditan, 5-6 km south-east of Akhnoor town. Completely flattened by agricultural activities, the site is in vicinity of *Khads* (seasonal streams). The soil of the area is mixed with pebbles and cobbles. The distance from the main river Chenab is around 3-4 km.

Scattered pottery primarily of red ware in slipped and unslipped variety representing Period III and IV is found all over the site and the site is in a highly disturbed form.

**IV.3.2.18 Bakore:** 32° 48' 16" N; 74°33' 47" E. Elevation: 261 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Khour (revisited by researcher)

The site has been referred multiple times in different IAR reports with slight variation in its name (1962-63: 9; 1976-77: 19; 1978-79: 25; 1979-80: 101). Located approximately 20 km downstream of Akhnoor town, on the right bank of the Chenab, most of the site is eroded by the meandering action of river Chenab. Also adjoining the site is the Thindewali *Khad*. The extant mound is some 3 m in height, extending 100-150 m north- south. The western part of the site is occupied by the present population whereas the eastern side is continuously being destroyed by river activity (Fig. IV.21).

The artifacts primarily pottery of unslipped red ware and red slipped ware was collected from the site belonging to Period III and IV.

Almost everyone knew about the presence of the site and a temple which got eroded with the flash floods in Chenab.



Figure IV.21: Site of Bakore eroded by the river Chenab

**IV.3.2.19 Bathur:** 32°45'05" N; 74°41'33" E. Elevation- 270 m. Toposheet No. 43 L/9, Block- Marh (revisited by researcher)

The site is located some 15 km south-west of Akhnoor town. It is explored by ASI and has been documented in IAR report (1981-82: 18). The *panchayat* office lies close to the site. The extant habitation mound extends 60 m east-west and 60 m north-south. The height of the mound is about 1 m above the surface. It lies on

the left bank of old bed of the Chenab River. The site is currently owned by Mr. Jagdish Manhas and the entire site is under cultivation.

Pottery belonging to Period III and IV is primarily red ware comprising of red slipped ware, black on red ware, black and red ware, and sturdy red ware. The black on red ware of Rangmahal ceramic tradition were collected from the site. In addition, brickbats were seen scattered on the site. It is also considered as an old village by the present residents of the village.

**IV.3.2.20 Guda:** 32°46'31.4" N; 74°48'55.6" E. Elevation: 340 m. Toposheet No. 43L/13, Block- Bhalwal (revisited by researcher).

It was explored by ASI and documented in IAR report (1961-62: 16). The site is located near the village named Barnai, situated approximately 16 km south-east of Akhnoor town. The entire mound has been flattened and is used for agricultural purposes. It is located on the left bank of a *khad*.

The pottery explored from the site consisted of both slipped and unslipped variety of red ware belonging to Period III and IV. In addition, gritty red ware is also found from the site.

**IV.3.2.21 Kalyanpur Jhiri (Kanachak near Jhiri temple):** 32°49'41.3" N 74°43'53.1" E. Elevation: 300 m. Toposheet No: 43L/9, Block- Marh (revisited by researcher).

The temples of the site are already reported in IAR (1981-82:18) but the ancient settlements find no mention in the report.

The site reported by the researcher is located near Jhiri temple, some 8 km south of Akhnoor town. Evidence of one habitation mound extending 120 meters east-west and 120 m north- south can be seen. The height of the mound extends up to 3 m. It is situated on the left bank of old bed of river Chenab. The site land is owned by Jhiri temple trust. A major part of the site is under the temple complex.

The condition of preservation of the site is better because of non-agricultural usage (Land is used to hold annual fair – *Jhiri ka mela*).

The pottery primarily in red ware variety consisting of both slipped and unslipped pottery is collected from the site. The pottery belongs to Period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.22 Pinjore/Panjor:** 32°49'39.3" N; 74°42'50.2" E. Elevation: 293 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (revisited by researcher)

The site is already explored by ASI (1981-82: 18). It lies around 9 km south-west of Akhnoor town. The mound is flattened for agricultural purposes and the pottery can be seen spread across a wide area. The site is situated on the left side of the old bed of the river Chenab. The present owner of the land is Mr. Suran Singh.

The local people were quite aware about the existence of an archaeological site at the location. According to them, pottery was found till the depth of 10 m.

Pottery of red ware variety belong to Period III and IV is found from the site. It primarily comprises of red ware of both slipped and unslipped variety and decorated pottery with chequered pattern. The sherds are found scattered on the ploughed field.

**IV.3.2.23 Chowala Pir Tibba:** 32°36'4.7" N; 74°42'29" E. Elevation: 277 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- RS Pura (discovered by researcher).

The site lies around 17 km south-west of Jammu city. It is on the left bank of the Tawi at around 5 km. The site is extremely disturbed due to modern occupation on the mound. The rest of the mound is used as dumping area by the villagers. There is also a *Pir Baba* on the mound. Pottery in highly disturbed context is found from the site. It consists primarily of red ware of both slipped and unslipped variety, black on red ware and rusticated ware belonging to Period III

and IV. Apart from the pottery, medieval bricks aligned in a structure was also recorded from the site.

The belief of curing any disease by making amulet out of the pottery of the mound exists here as well.

**IV.3.2.24 Tikri:** 32°38'21" N; 74°47'21" E. Elevation: 301 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- RS Pura (discovered by researcher).

The site is around 3-4 km south of Tawi river and in the vicinity of small *nala* (stream) called Kholi. The mound is in the middle of the present-day habitation with part of it used for trash dumping and part of it used for agricultural purpose. The extension of the extant mound is around 50 m north-south and 50 m east-west and its height is around 3 m.

The pottery of the site comprises of red ware of unslipped and slipped variety. It also comprises of black on red ware sherds. The pottery belongs to period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.25 Kullian:** 32°47'30" N; 74°42'22" E. Elevation- 277 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (discovered by researcher).

The site of Kullian lies near the village named Chak Shaman, some 13 km south-west of Akhnoor town. It is located on the left bank of old bed of the Chenab at the distance of 200-300 m. There is one habitational mound extending approximately 60 m east-west and 60 m north-south, with height of 1.5 m above the ground.

The site is partially disturbed due to intense agricultural activities in the area.

Pottery primarily red ware of slipped and unslipped variety, black and red ware and black on red ware sherds are scattered all over the place. The chronology of the site covers both period III and IV.



**IV.3.2.26 Lalial – Beli Azmat:** 32°47'35.5" N; 74°42'20.6" E. Elevation: 278 m.  
Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (discovered by researcher).

The site is located around 13 km south-west of Akhnoor town. Located on the left side of old bed of river Chenab, the land is very fertile. The site in its present state is an agricultural land. The pottery on the mound is scattered across a large area. It comprises of both slipped and unslipped variety belonging to period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.27 Lalyal (Border Area):** 32°48'15.7" N; 74°42'28.7" E. Elevation: 284 m.  
Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (discovered by researcher).

The site is located on the left bank of the old bed of Chenab, 11 km south-west of Akhnoor. A small extant mound is still visible. A small rivulet flows next to the site. The area surrounding the small mound has been converted into agricultural land. There is a constant threat that the site may get flattened into agricultural land.

Pottery primarily red ware is recovered from the site. It included both slipped and unslipped variety belonging to period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.28 Lower Kalyanpur Tibba:** 32°48'56.8" N; 74°43'51.7" E Elevation: 292 m  
Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (discovered by researcher).

The site is located at around 10 km south-west of Akhnoor town. Situated on the left bank of the dried bed of river Chenab, the whole mound is flattened into agricultural land. The fertile alluvium of the area resulted in the conversion of the entire mound into cultivable land. As a result, potsherds are found scattered on the field. The local population mentioned the existence of a mound in the past and reported the existence of pottery from lower levels.

The pottery on the site consists of red ware in slipped and unslipped variety of period III and IV. Decorations in the form of chequered patterns were also found on some of the sherds.

**IV.3.2.29 Raipur (Roadside):** 32°50'52.6" N; 74°43'07.6" E. Elevation: 301 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Bhalwal (discovered by researcher).

The site lies on the roadside, approximately 1 km south-west of Raipur. It is on the left bank of the river Chenab, 6-7 km south-west of Akhnoor town. There is no visible mound, and the land has been flattened to an agricultural land with pottery scattered all over the field. The pottery primarily consists of red ware of slipped and unslipped variety belonging to Period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.30 Sui Simbli:** 32°48'01.0" N; 74°42'53.1" E. Elevation: 287 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (discovered by researcher).

The site is located on the left side of old bed of the river Chenab, approximately 12 km south-west of Akhnoor town. The site has been completely flattened into an agricultural land. Opposite the site is the late medieval Vishnu temple known as Sui Simbli, decorated with life size paintings on the walls. A kilometre away from the Sui Simbli is another intricately painted late medieval Vishnu temple called Burj. Pottery in red ware comprising of slipped, unslipped variety, black on red ware and decorated incised ware were also found from the site belonging to Period III to IV.

**IV.3.2.31 Raipur (Behind School):** 32°51'12.3" N; 74°43'32.9" E. Elevation: 305 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Bhalwal (discovered by researcher).

The site lies behind a government school, approximately 6 km to the south-west of Akhnoor town. The mound is flattened because of the agricultural activities. The site is located on the left bank of the river Chenab. The pottery primarily

comprising of red ware in the form of both slipped and unslipped varieties is found, which belongs to Period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.32 Nandpur:** 32°30'53" N; 74°32'59" E. Elevation: 287 m. Toposheet No. 43 L/14, Block- R S Pura (discovered by researcher).

The site is located approximately 25 km south of Jammu city, on the left bank of stream of Aik *nadi*. The extent of the site is approximately 60 m north-south and 60 m east-west, with a height of around 5 meters. The site is currently used by government authorities, and on the top of the mound, there is a *Pir Baba* shrine. The site appears to be in a fine state of preservation with a lot of scattered pottery visible on the surface. The scattered pottery is primarily red ware with slipped variety, black and red ware, black slipped ware and black on red ware with similar Rangmahal ceramic tradition. The pottery collection of the site belongs to period III and IV.

**IV.3.2.33 Kalah – locality 1 and 2:** Locality 1: 32°32'34" N; 74°56'14" E. Locality 2: 32°32'35" N; 74°56'12" E. Elevation: 305 m. Toposheet No.43L/14, Block-Bishnah (discovered by researcher).

These two localities lie in close geographic proximity to each other. Both are in the vicinity of the stream of Aik *nadi*. Locality 1 is on the left of the Sidh Swankha temple. The extension of the mound cannot be estimated because of the presence of a tube well on the flattened land of the mound. The local people were aware of the existence of these mound and reported the occasional findings of antiquities like bricks, coins, iron objects and ring-wells etc. They also mentioned the finding of a polished stone, around 1.5 m long. Locality 2 is near the Sidh Goriya temple. The mound is destroyed due to agricultural activities. The extension of the mound however seems to be 70 m east-west and 80 m north-south, in an inverted saucer shape. Pottery from both the localities is primarily red ware belonging to period III and IV.

#### IV.4 Period IV

The time frame assigned to this period is from 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> century CE – 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> century CE, attributed essentially on the basis of pottery from the sites. It is this period where the important ceramic tradition of Rangmahal fits in and was hitherto undiscovered by the earlier research. The number of sites in this period increases to 91 which majorly includes reoccupation of sites of Period II and III in addition to venturing out for new localities. The details of 57 sites are known and are discussed as under (Table IV.8; Fig. IV.22).

**Table IV.8- Sites belonging to Period IV of the research area**

Sites of Period IV	Coordinates	Context
1. Kot Garhi	32°52'07.4" N; 74°41'33.6" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
2. Manda	32°53'45.43" N; 74°44'25.48" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
3. Ambaran	32°54'12.6" N; 74°45'47.6" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
4. Guru Baba Ka Tibba	32°45'47.1" N; 74°44'15.3" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
5. Baba Potho/Botho	32°43'58" N; 74°43'14" E	Discovered by researcher
6. Tibba Name Shah	32°43'59" N; 74°43'60" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
7. Kalali	32°38'45" N; 74°45'13" E	Discovered by researcher
8. Atta Wala Jaora	32°30'55" N; 74°41'59" E	Discovered by researcher
9. Abduleyan	32°36'28" N; 74°39'10" E	Discovered by researcher
10. Dohana Chak Tibba	32°35'25" N; 74°42'29" E	Discovered by researcher
11. Satowali	32°34'54.48" N; 74°41'58.46" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
12. Biyan Tibba	32°34'18" N; 74°43'32" E	Discovered by researcher
13. Muggoali/Bla Tibba	32°33'58" N; 74°45'24" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
14. Deoli Tibba	32°35'45" N; 74°50'15" E	Discovered by researcher
15. Premachak Tibba	32°33'47" N; 74°46'43" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
16. Mana Tibba	32°32'45" N; 74°44'23" E	Discovered by researcher
17. Sai Khurd Tibba	32°30'37" N; 74°43'55" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
18. Devigarh Tibba	32°29'34" N; 74°43'52" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher

Sites of Period IV	Coordinates	Context
19. Jindermelu	32°34'28" N; 74°48'31" E	Discovered by researcher
20. Kalah	Locality 1-32°32'34" N; 74°56'14" E Locality 2-32°32'35" N; 74°56'12" E	Discovered by researcher
21. Abdal	32°29'18" N; 74°55'27" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
22. Tikri- RS Pura	32°38'21" N; 74°47'21" E	Discovered by researcher
23. Chowala Pir Tibba	32°36'4.7" N; 74°42'29" E	Discovered by researcher
24. Bansultan	32°36'58" N; 74°51'44" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
25. That Jandial	32°53'43" N; 74°45'50" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
26. Chak Bowal	32°51'44" N; 74°48'25" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
27. Dharm Khu	32°51'32" N; 74°45'48" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
28. Raipur-Roadside	32°50'52.6" N; 74°43'07.6" E	Discovered by researcher
29. Raipur- behind school	32°51'12.3" N; 74°43'32.9" E	Discovered by researcher
30. Lalial- Beli Azmat	32°47'35.5" N; 74°42'20.6" E	Discovered by researcher
31. Sui Simbli	32°48'01.0" N; 74°42'53.1" E	Discovered by researcher
32. Lalyal- Border area	32°48'15.7" N; 74°42'28.7" E	Discovered by researcher
33. Lower Kalyanpur Tibba	32°48'56.8" N; 74°43'51.7" E	Discovered by researcher
34. Bathur	32°45'05" N; 74°41'33" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
35. Kullian	32°47'30" N; 74°42'22" E	Discovered by researcher
36. Amb	32°52'29" N; 74°47' 39" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
37. Pinjore	32°49'39.3" N; 74°42'50.2" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
38. Bakore	32° 48' 16" N; 74°33' 47" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
39. Guda	32°46'31.4" N; 74°48'55.6" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
40. Kalyanpur Jhiri (Kanachak near Jhiri Temple)	32°49'41.3" N 74°43'53.1" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
41. Tikri	32°45'27" N 74°46'12" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
42. Jafarchak	32°47'00.50" N;74°42'21.30" E	Excavated by ASI Revisited by researcher
43. Ghattala	32°47'2" N; 74°42'36" E	Discovered by researcher
44. Gorra	32°58'30" N; 74°48'58" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
45. Kot	32°49'50" N 74°49'12" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
46. That Ranjan	32°52'50" N; 74°46'53" E	Discovered by researcher
47. Khojipur Jhak	32°34'28.27" N; 74°54'52.08" E	Discovered by researcher

Sites of Period IV	Coordinates	Context
48. Gowal-Kishenpur Tibba	32°36'5" N; 74°56'16" E	Discovered by researcher
49. Sarot	32°54'04" N; 74°47'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
50. Sajwal	32°52'0" N; 74°48'0" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
51. Sainth	32°46'34" N; 74°30'45" E	Discovered by researcher
52. New Hamirpur	32° 46' 32" N; 74°31' 28" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
53. Bandwal-Shahjamal	32°49'41" N; 74°35'48" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
54. Sakrampur	32°51'36.3" N; 74°40'19.5" E	Discovered by researcher
55. Kurwanda	32°50'38" N; 74°49'0" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
56. Baluchak	32°29'36" N; 74°43'30" E	Discovered by researcher
57. Gadwal and Chak Salarian	32°32'34" N; 74°59'35" E	Discovered by researcher
58. Mukh Mehra	32°32'07.10" N; 74°59'18.09" E	Discovered by researcher
59. Ghurota	32°51'34" N; 74°46'55" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
60. Airwan	Locality 1- 32°21'56" N; 75°24'37" E Locality 2- 32°22'4" N; 75°24'36" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
61. Grahi	32°54'0" N; 74°47'10" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
62. Galali	32°56'12" N; 74°47'30" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
63. Dhanu	32°57'44" N; 74°45'10" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
64. Jamraal	32°22'16" N; 75°24'45" E	Discovered by researcher
65. Sumwan	32°23'28"N; 75°25'27"E	Discovered by researcher
66. Balowan	32°51' 04" N; 74°49'25" E	Explored by ASI- Details not given
67. Dharm Mohalla	32°51'15" N; 74°48'22" E	Discovered by researcher
68. Seri Panditan	32°51'44" N; 74°49'30" E	Explored by ASI Revisited by researcher
69. Nandpur	32°30'53" N; 74°32'59" E	Discovered by researcher
70. Damana	32°34' 12" N; 74°47'E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
71. Nad Da Khu	32°52'N; 74°39'E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
72. Lam	32°52'N; 74°38'E *	Explored by ASI- Details not given
73. Mandli Ka Mehra	-	Explored by ASI-Pottery described- Other details not given
74. Dalpat	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
75. Kat	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given

Sites of Period IV	Coordinates	Context
76. Dabblehr	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
77. Bhulowal	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
78. Ghirana	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
79. Jaora	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
80. Satrain	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
81. Suchetgarh	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
82. Sauli Chak	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
83. Tibba	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
84. Mutthi	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
85. Bidipur	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
86. Gulabgarh	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
87. Kapurpur	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
88. Dhok Khalsa	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
89. Jorian	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
90. Nimesh Tibba	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given
91. Gol Patan	-	Explored by ASI- Details not given

**\*Incomplete coordinates**

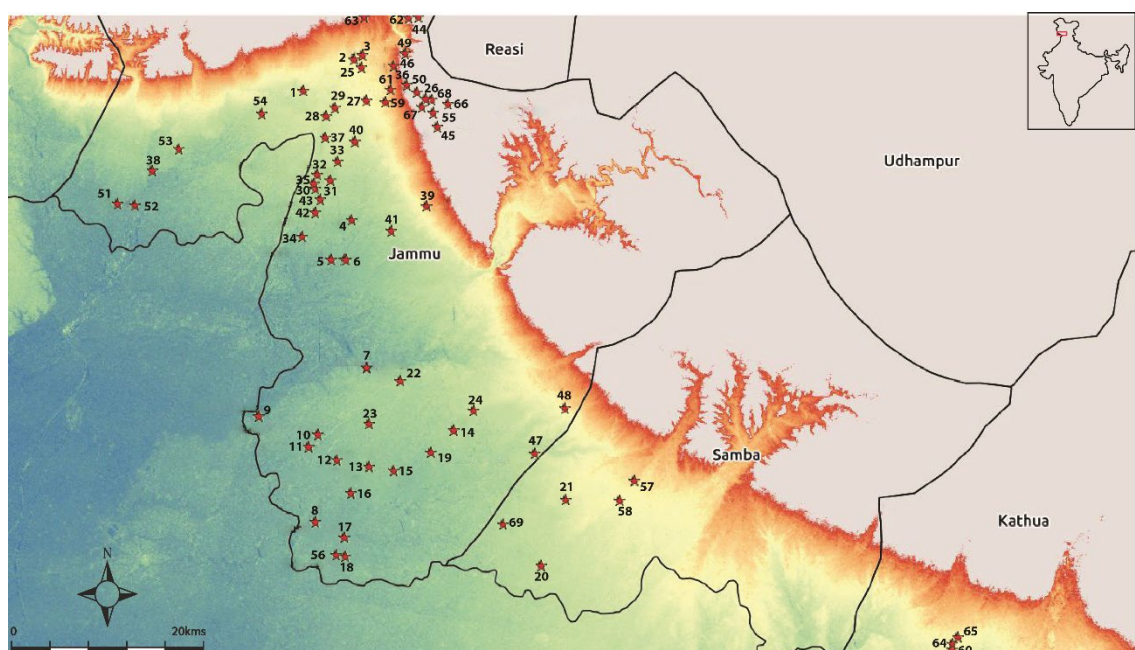


Figure IV.22- Map with distribution of Period IV sites in the research area (The numbers in the map correspond to the table above)



#### IV.4.1 Excavated sites of Period IV

IV.4.1.1 Jafarchak: 32°47'00.7" N; 74°42'21.7" E. Elevation: 278 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (revisited by researcher).

The site was excavated by the ASI and documented in IAR report (1998-99). Owing to the position of the site i.e., around 1 km on the left bank of old bank of the river Chenab, it is a fertile tract. The agricultural activities at the site therefore are extensive. No intact mound is visible at the site.

The excavation at Jafarchak (IAR 1998-99: 49) was carried out in 11 quadrants of 4 squares, measuring 10 x 10 m each. The 7 m thick habitation deposit was divided into three cultural periods stretching from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century AD (Fig. IV.23):

Period I: 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> century A.D deposit

Period II: 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century A.D deposit

Period III: 13<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century A.D deposit

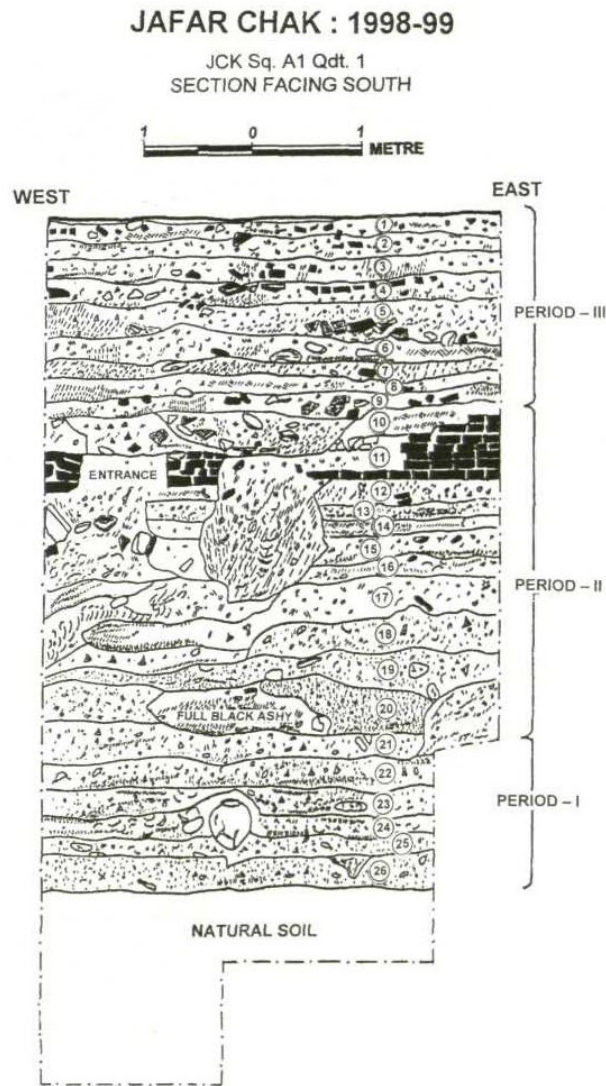


Figure IV.23: Jafarchak- Section drawing- JCK Sq. A1 QDT 1.

Image Source- IAR 1998-99

Among the antiquities, terracotta, stone and glass beads, gamesmen, fragmentary iron and copper objects, bone and shell objects including bangle pieces and terracotta animal figurines were found.

A silver bracelet studded with semiprecious stones belonging to the earliest deposit of Period III and a copper coin of Sultan Zain-ul-Abidin (AD 1421 to 1472) from a late level of Period III are noteworthy (IAR 1998-99).

The below excavated sites are multicultural sites and are discussed in the previous sections.

IV.4.1.2: Manda (see section IV.1.1.1 for site description)

IV.4.1.3: Guru Baba Ka Tibba (see section IV.2.1.1 for site description)

IV.4.1.4: Ambaran (see section IV.2.1.1 for site description)

IV.4.1.5: Tibba Name Shah (see section IV.2.1.3 for site description)

#### IV.4.2 Explored sites of Period IV

The below mentioned sites of Period IV are multicultural sites and are discussed in the previous sections.

IV.4.2.1 Biyan Tibba: (see IV.2.2.1 for site description)

IV.4.2.2 Satowali: (see IV.2.2.2 for site description)

IV.4.2.3 Premachak Tibba: (see IV.1.2.1 for site description)

IV.4.2.4 Kot Garhi-Lehrian: (see IV.2.2.5 for site description)

IV.4.2.5 Muggoali/Bla Tibba: (see IV.2.2.6 for site description)

IV.4.2.6 Sai Khurd Tibba: (see IV.2.2.7 for site description)

IV.4.2.7 Baba Potho/Botho: (see IV.2.2.8 for site description)

IV.4.2.8 Mana Tibba: (see IV.2.2.9 for site description)

IV.4.2.9 Dohana Chak Tibba: (see IV.2.2.10 for site description)

IV.4.2.10 Abduleyan: (see IV.2.2.11 for site description)

IV.4.2.11 Kalali: (see IV.2.2.12 for site description)

IV.4.2.12 Deoli Tibba: (see IV.2.2.13 for site description)

IV.4.2.13 Abdal: (see IV.3.2.14 for site description)

IV.4.2.14 Bansultan: (see IV.3.2.15 for site description)

IV.4.2.15 Devigarh Tibba: (see IV.3.2.16 for site description)

IV.4.2.16 Amb: (see IV.3.2.17 for site description)

IV.4.2.17 Bakore: (see IV.3.2.18 for site description)

IV.4.2.18 Bathur: (see IV.3.2.19 for site description)

IV.4.2.19 Guda: (see IV.3.2.20 for site description)

IV.4.2.20 Kalyanpur Jhiri: (see IV.3.2.21 for site description)

IV.4.2.21 Pinjore: (see IV.3.2.22 for site description)

IV.4.2.22 Chowala Pir Tibba: (see IV.3.2.23 for site description)

IV.4.2.23 Tikri: (see IV.3.2.24 for site description)

IV.4.2.24 Kullian: (see IV.3.2.25 for site description)

IV.4.2.25 Lalial–Beli Azmat: (see IV.3.2.26 for site description)

IV.4.2.26 Lalyal (Border area): (see IV.3.2.27 for site description)

IV.4.2.27 Lower Kalyanpur Tibba: (see IV.3.2.28 for site description)

IV.4.2.28 Raipur (Roadside): (see IV.3.2.29 for site description)

IV.4.2.29 Sui Simbli: (see IV.3.2.30 for site description)

IV.4.2.30 Raipur (Behind School): (see IV.3.2.31 for site description)

IV.4.2.31 Nandpur: (see IV.3.2.32 for site description)

IV.4.2.32 Kalah- locality 1 and 2: (see IV.3.2.33 for site description)

The following sites are occupied in Period IV for the first time and therefore are discussed below:

<sup>3</sup> IV.4.2.33 Chak Bowal

<sup>4</sup> IV.4.2.34 Seri Panditan

32°51'31" N; 74°48'28" E Elevation- 446 m Toposheet No. 43 L/13, Block- Bhalwal (revisited by researcher).

The two sites lie in the vicinity of each other. They are explored and documented in IAR report (1980-81: 25-26) as Kushana sites. However, the current exploration gave evidence of pottery belonging to Period IV. Located in the Kandi zone, they are at about 7.5-8 km to the south-east of Akhnoor town. There are two visible mounds cut by the road. One of the mounds (M1) is located at the hilltop (approximately 0.8 hectare), whereas the second one (M2) is located on the roadside (1.2 hectares). The height of both the mounds is about 1.5 m. They are situated on the left bank of the Dhangoala *Khad*. The sites are disturbed as they

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<sup>3</sup> This site has been mentioned as Kushana site in IAR report (IAR 1980-81: 26). However, the current exploration gave evidence of only Period IV. The site is nonetheless considered as multicultural site with Period III and IV, however details of the site is provided in Period IV.

<sup>4</sup> Same as above

are under cultivation, because of which scanty evidence consisting of a few potsherds are available from these sites. The pottery is mainly red ware with both slipped and unslipped variety and gritty red ware belonging to Period IV. Sherds with incised marks from Seri Panditan and bottled neck vessel from the site are worth mentioning.

Close to these sites is another site named Tikkrialala (*Tikkri*, locally means potsherd) in the village called Barn. Though the site is now totally covered up by the power station, a meagre amount of pottery primarily red ware was collected.

The soil contains a lot of pebbles, a feature common in the area adjoining the foothills of Himalayas.

**IV.4.2.35 Dharm Khu:** <sup>5</sup> 32°51'33" N; 74°46'08" E. Elevation- 332 m. Toposheet No. 43L/13, Block- Bhalwal (revisited by researcher).

The site of Dharm Khu has already been reported in the IAR (1980-81: 25) as a Kushana site. However, the current exploration gave evidence of Period IV. The current exploration at the site by the author has given evidence of a habitation mound. The coordinates of this mound are however different from the one provided in IAR.

The site is on the south-east of Akhnoor town at around 6 km. Located near Tercha *talab* (pond), the site lies on the right side of Palgedi *Khad* (seasonal stream) which is around 1-2 km away from the site. The extent of the mound is approximately 100-125 m east-west and 75-80 m north-south. The thickness of the cultural deposit is 1 m above the surface.

Explored pottery from the site is majorly red ware belonging to Period IV. It consists of unslipped and slipped red ware and sherds of black on red ware. The

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<sup>5</sup> This site has been mentioned as Kushana and 'Muslim glazed ware' site in IAR report (IAR 1980-81: 25). However the current exploration gave evidence of only Period IV. The site is therefore considered as multicultural site with Period III and IV, however details of the site is provided in Period IV.

site in addition also has considerable amount of ill fired sherds which leaves off color easily. The site is in a disturbed condition as it is under cultivation. The land is currently owned by Mr. Puranchand but it is believed that the original inhabitants of the site were the *Gujjars* (the transhumance group in the state).

**IV.4.2.36 New Hamirpur:** 32° 46' 32" N; 74°31' 28" E Elevation: 254 m Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Khour (revisited by researcher).

It is documented in IAR report as Hamirpur (1978-79: 25), a site with recent antiquity of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The ancient site discovered as part of the research, however, has one flattened habitation mound extending approximately 60 m north-south. The east-west extent couldn't be analysed because of the unprecedented agricultural activity on the land. The thickness of the mound is probably less than a meter. It lies on the right bank of the Chenab at around 25 km downstream of Akhnoor town.

Artifacts in the form of pottery is recovered from the sites which primarily comprises of red ware of varieties like red slipped ware, unslipped red ware, black and red ware and black on red ware. Some of the sherds also have considerable amount of mica incorporated in the fabric.

**IV.4.2.37 Bandwal-Shahjamal Tibba:** 32°49'41" N; 74°35'48" E Elevation- 274 m Toposheet No. 43 L/9, Block- Akhnoor (revisited by researcher).

The site is located on the roadside, on the way to Bandwal village. It is mentioned in IAR, reported as an explored site (1962- 63: 9). Situated at the distance of around 15-16 km downstream from Akhnoor town, the extent of the mound is 80 m east-west and almost 100 m north-south with the height of around 3 m. It is located on the right bank of Chenab at around 1-1.5 km.

Soil quarrying for brick making is seen at some places of the mound (Fig. IV.24). In general, the mound is in a good state mainly owing to the presence of *Pir Baba* on the top of the mound. The pottery recovered from the site is mainly red ware with both slipped and unslipped wares. In addition, black on red ware and mica dusted pottery was also recovered.



Figure IV.24: Soil quarried from Shahjamal Tibba

**IV.4.2.38 Balu Chak Tibba:** 32°29'36" N; 74°43'30" E. Elevation: 263 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- R S Pura (discovered by researcher).

The site is located approximately 29 km south-west of Jammu. Located 2 km, on the left bank of the Aik *nadi* the site is destroyed by recent agricultural activities. Pottery from the site is mainly red ware with both slipped and unslipped pottery belonging to Period IV. Decorated sherds in the form of incised ware are also found from the site.

**IV.4.2.39 Gadwal and Chak Salarian:** 32°32'34" N; 74°59'35" E. Elevation: 322 m. Toposheet No. 43 L/14, Block- Samba (discovered by researcher).

The site is located around 2.5 km west of Degh *Nala*, on its right bank. The circular mound extends 100 m east-west and 100 m north-south and approximately 4 m in height. The mound is privately owned and is under cultivation.



Owing to the cultivation, the pottery, primarily red ware is found scattered in the field. Red slipped ware and unslipped red ware along with meagre amount of black and red ware was found belonging to period IV from the site.

**IV.4.2.40 Jindermelu Tibba:** 32°34'28" N; 74°48'31" E. Elevation: 261 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- Bishnah (discovered by researcher).

The site is approximately 17-18 km south-west of Jammu city. There is one circular mound, extending 100 m east-west and 70-80 m north-south, with a height of around 5 m. There is a *Pir Baba* on the top of the mound (Fig. IV.25A), which has helped in the preservation of the site. It is situated around 3 km on the right bank of a minor Deoli- Saler *nala* which is a tributary of Gurore *nadi*. The red ware pottery is scattered on the mound, giving it a red patchy look. This pottery primarily of red slipped variety as well as unslipped red ware sherds are found in considerable number belonging to period IV. In addition, black on red ware sherds are also found from the site.

Outline of some structural remains, rectangular in shape are visible on the periphery of the mound (Fig. IV.25B). Every year, a fair is organized on the site for paying reverence to the *Pir*.



A

B

Figure IV.25. A: Jindermelu Tibba as seen from a distance  
B: Rectangular patterns on the periphery of the Jindermelu Tibba

**IV.4.2.41 Khojipur Jhak:** 32°34'28.27" N; 74°54'52.08" E. Elevation: 301 m. Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- Bishnah (discovered by researcher).

The site is located around 1 km south of a stream named Pati *Khad* (part of Aik *nadi*) and around 18 km south of Jammu city. The circular mound extends 60 m east-west and 60 m north-south and is around 6 m high. The mound is well preserved and intact.

Pottery in the form of slipped red ware and black on red ware were found from the site belonging to Period IV.

**IV.4.2.42 Atta Wala Jeora:** 32°30'55" N; 74°41'59" E Elevation: 262 meters Toposheet No. 43L/10, Block- RS Pura (discovered by researcher).

The site is located around 1 km north of Aik *nadi* (on its right bank). It extends 100 m east-west and 100 m north-south with an approximate height of 9 to 10 m. The extant mound is owned by the government authorities.

The artifact in the form of pottery was found from the site. It included grey ware, slipped and unslipped red ware and black on red ware belonging to Period IV.

**IV.4.2.43 Mukh Mehra:** 32°32'07.10" N; 74°59'18.09" E. Elevation: 320 m. Toposheet No. 43 L/14, Block- Samba (discovered by researcher).

The site located around 3-4 km east on the Degh *Nala* (right bank). The mound has been completely flattened because of agricultural activities. The pottery from the site included slipped and unslipped red ware and gritty red ware belonging to Period IV.

**IV.4.2.44 That Ranjan:** 32°52'50" N; 74°46'53" E. Elevation: 359 m. Toposheet No. 43L/13, Block- Bhalwal (discovered by researcher).

The site is located on the border of Gharota and Ranjan village, 4 to 4.5 km south-east of Akhnoor town. There is one heavily disturbed mound, some 0.4 - 0.6 hectare in area. The height of the mound is less than 1 m. It lies on the left bank

of a *khad*, hence the soil is mixed with pebbles and cobbles. The distance from the main Chenab river is around 3-4 km. Due to the disturbance at the site, scattered pottery primarily in the form of red ware is found from the site. Grey ware sherds are also found from the site. The pottery belongs to period IV.

**IV.4.2.45 Dharma Mohalla (Barn):** 32°51'15" N; 74°48'22" E Elevation: 429 m Toposheet No: 43L/13, Block- Bhalwal (discovered by researcher).

It is located on the way to Seri Panditan from Tikkrialala on the roadside. There is one flattened mound extending 70 m east-west and 50/60 m north-south. The height of the mound is less than 2 m. The land of the site is owned by Mr. Kasturilal Sharma. Lying around in the vicinity of *khads*, the site seems to be under constant threat due to agriculture activity. The soil is mixed with a lot of stone pebbles. Vegetation is in the form of thorny trees. Pottery at the site was scanty and red ware predominates with varieties like unslipped red ware and gritty red ware of Period IV.

**IV.4.2.46 Ghattala:** 32°47'2" N; 74°42'36" E Elevation- 278 m Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Marh (discovered by researcher).

The site is located half kilometer south-east of Kullian, 12 km south-west of Akhnoor town. A shrine of *Pir Baba* is located nearby the site. It is located on the left bank of old bed of Chenab at the distance of 200-300 m. There is one extant mound, approximately 2 m in thickness but is highly disturbed due to agricultural activities. Pottery in the form of red ware of unslipped red ware and slipped red ware, red sturdy ware, rusticated ware and mica dusted red ware was found, belonging to period IV. The site apart from pottery gave evidence of baked bricks measuring 31 cm in length, 5-7 cm in thickness and 16-17 cm in breadth. In addition, one stone rubble structure was also found. Antiquities in the form of unidentified terracotta figurine (Fig. V.49 B) and terracotta grinders

(Fig. V.54) with rice husk impressions are also found. The villagers informed that the old settlement was disturbed due to heavy flooding of the area.

**IV.4.2.47 Sainth:** 32°46'34" N; 74°30'45" E. Elevation: 256 meters. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Khour (discovered by researcher).

This site is located 26 km downstream of Akhnoor town on the right bank of the Chenab. The extent of the site is around 100 m east-west and 100 m north-south. The height of the mound is around 2 m. There is a lot of soil quarrying on the site by government agencies. In addition, the land is extensively used for agricultural activities. Still, approximately one third of the mound remains intact. The current owner of the land is Mr. Khajuria.

The site gave evidence of interesting artefact in the form of a mould of an apparent deity (Kour and Prasad, 2017) belonging to Period IV (Fig. V.27 A). In addition, pottery in the form of red ware, red slipped ware, grey ware, mica dusted red ware and black on red ware is also retrieved from the site, belonging to period IV.

**IV.4.2.48 Sakrampur:** 32°51'36.3" N; 74°40'19.5" E. Elevation: 294 m. Toposheet No. 43L/9, Block- Akhnoor (discovered by researcher).

The site is located approximately 8 km downstream of Akhnoor town on the right bank of the Chenab (Fig. IV.26). There is no visible mound. The pot sherds were collected from the section of the bank of the Chenab. An interesting feature of the site however is the strong meandering of the Chenab around the area due to which the site is continuously being eroded away. The villagers gave an account of the ancient site in the past which eventually was eroded by the river.



Figure IV.26: The site of Sakrampur on the bank of the river Chenab.

**IV.4.2.49 Gowal/Kishenpur Tibba:** 32°36'5" N; 74°56'16" E. Elevation: 312 m Toposheet No. 43L/14, Block- Bari Brahmana (discovered by researcher).

The site lies 16 km south-east of Jammu city, on the right side of Jammu-Pathankot highway near Patlimorh. A limestone factory lies in the vicinity of the site. One disturbed habitation site was found. It lies in the vicinity of Pati *Khad* and Bari *Khad*. The mound has been flattened for agricultural purpose. Pottery recovered from the site is scanty and consists primarily of red ware which includes slipped and unslipped red ware and sherds of black on red ware.

**IV.4.2.50 Airwan (Locality 1 and Locality 2):** Locality 1- 32°21'56" N; 75°24'37" E. Locality 2- 32°22'4" N; 75°24'36" E. Elevation: 295 m. Toposheet No. 43 P/7, Block- Barnoti, Taluka- Kathua (discovered by researcher).

This site is already explored by the ASI (1985-86: 37). Both localities are in close vicinity of each other. They are located 1 km away on the left bank of Ujh River, around 65 km south-east of Jammu. The circular mounds at both localities 1 and 2 are approximately 100 m east-west and 100 m north-south. Both sites are disturbed due to the intense agricultural activities in the area.

The site gave evidence of artifacts in the form of pottery and bricks. The baked bricks measured 31 cm in length, 5-7 cm in thickness and 16-17 cm in breadth. Pottery on the other hand was primarily red ware consisting of slipped and unslipped variety, rusticated ware, decorated sherds in the form of incised ware,

sherds with circular patterns and chequered patterns and black on red ware sherds belonging to Period IV.

**IV.4.2.51 Jamraal:** 32°22'16" N; 75°24'45" E. Elevation: 300 m. Toposheet No. 43 P/7, Block- Barnoti, Taluka- Kathua (discovered by researcher).

The site is located around 1 km away, on the left bank of the river Ujh. The mound is flattened due to agricultural activities. The extend seems to be 100 meters east-west and 100 meters north-south.

Pottery, mainly red ware belonging to period III, was found scattered on the site. This consists of red slipped ware and unslipped red ware. Decorated incised red ware were also found from the site. In addition, black on red ware belonging to the Rangmahal ceramic tradition was also found.

**IV.4.2.52 Sumwan:** 32°23'28"N; 75°25'27"E. Elevation: 316 m. Toposheet No. 43 P/7, Block- Barnoti, Taluka-Kathua (discovered by researcher).

There are two mounds lying in close vicinity to each other. Lying around 2 km away from the Ujh River. The mounds are under cultivation, still the cultural remains beneath the ploughzone are preserved.

Pottery from the site consists of primarily red ware belonging to period IV. Slipped red ware, unslipped red ware, rusticated ware and incised decorated ware were the commonly found pottery in red ware.

One of the mounds has a late medieval Rama temple with paintings of *Vishnava* and *Shaiva* sect.

This dataset compiled from Period I to Period IV is useful in observing the changing pattern of settlement strategies by the people in the past (Fig. IV.2). The sites belonging to one period, overshadowing the other in certain pockets gives an interesting dimension to the relationship man shared with the landscape. When the distribution patterns of various period sites are considered,

geographical/geological elements have in fact an important role to play. To see how early settlers picked a certain environment, then moved on to other landscapes as the society became more urbanised is an interesting phenomenon in the region. Chapters VI and VII go into further detail on this. The current reconnaissance survey has rendered complexity to the exiting cultural interpretations of the research area. The assimilation of the extant data and the data collected through the current research has helped to reanalyse the earlier periodisation assigned to the sites. The material culture collected from the section scraping of sites and from the explorations inform features of continuous habitation in the Jammu region which is discussed in the next chapter. This compels the settlement strategies adapted by the people in the past to be reassessed. This is important as it will give a different perspective to the cultural forces which shaped the history of the region.