

SUMMARY

The thesis titled *An Archaeological Study of the Bara Culture of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh (c. 2300 BCE-1000 BCE)* presents a holistic picture of the Bara Culture which was distributed over a vast stretch of the Sutlej-Yamuna Divide covering the present day states of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh. It was a long spanned archaeological culture surviving from c. 2800/2700 BCE to 1100 BCE. The narratives of this largely ignored and relatively unknown culture has been sought to be reconstructed from its origin to its decline. Its complex relationship with various other contemporary cultures has also been dealt with in detail to better understand the dynamics of this culture. This culture survived for a long period of time and it is obvious that it would not have remained static and unchanged. For this purpose the various developmental stages of Bara culture have been identified.

The results of the analytical research indicate that the dates of the Bara culture can be pushed back to c. 2800/2700 BCE rather than c. 2300 BCE as was largely accepted. For the understanding of its various aspects four phases of the Bara Culture were identified. The various dimensions of these stages have been dealt with including environmental and ecological setting, subsistence patterns, artefacts types, structural features, relationship with its contemporary cultures and chronology. The conclusion on the basis of all the above aspects is that the Bara culture was very important regional culture of the Sutlej-Yamuna Divide in the 3rd and 2nd millennium BCE.