

A Report on the Recent Cultural Objects from Akhorwāl Village and Zindān Dheri-Darra Ādam Khel, F.R. Kohāt Khyber Pakhtunkhwa

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Abstract: Darra Ādam Khel is situated between Peshawar and Kohāt, i.e. 40 km from Peshawar side and 25 km from Kohāt. Darra Ādam Khel Valley is the home of several Afrīdī tribes. On the north, it is bordered by Khyber (formerly Agency) and on the west by Orakzai (formerly Agency) districts. This paper explores the artifacts found at two archaeological sites, Akhorwāl and Zindān. These sites along with a Greek site Boulidāna were first mentioned by M. A. Court in 1836. These sites are located in close perimeters. The site of Zindān dheri is occurred on a medium hill with a diameter of approximately one kilometre whereas, the site of Akhorwāl is partly occupied by modern settlements and partly levelled for agriculture fields and coal stocks. The artifacts reported from these sites include fragmentary Buddhist sculptures, pottery, coins, beads, iron, bronze, and copper objects. It is important to explore the archaeological and historical contexts of these artefacts in order to understand the political and cultural history of this region. The present study reveals the connection and association of these sites with those of the similar sites reported from Gandhāra region. The presence of the coins of Great Kushan kings like Wima Kadphases and Kaniška indicates the historical significance of the site. Moreover, a condenser vessel with dual Kushan insignias and intricately crafted beads suggest a vibrant social and economic activities in Darra Ādam Khel area in ancient times. On the basis of these evidences, the present work highlights the cultural history and archaeological profile of this region.

Keywords: Darra Ādam Khel, Akhorwāl, Zindān Dheri, cultural objects, sculptures, condenser, Kushan, coins

Introduction

This paper deals with the recent archaeological finds reported from the sites of Zindān dheri and Akhorwāl village, located in Darra Ādam Khel tehsil-FR, Kohāt district (Fig. 1). These artifacts were collected from the fore-mentioned sites by the locals while working in their fields and gathering firewood from nearby hilly areas. These artefacts were first brought to the notice of the author when a local resident from Akhorwāl village showed some photographs of a terracotta condenser pot, fragmentary sculptures and rusted coins collected by him. Thereafter, the author himself visited the sites of Akhorwāl village and Zindān dheri, Darra (Ādam Khel) in 2017 and hence collected material for this study. In this regard, I acknowledge the support of Muhammad Yusuf, the son of a renowned religious scholar *Maulāna* Muhammad Amīr Bijligar¹, for arranging me photographs of

these significant artifacts. I am also thankful to the local people who allowed me to investigate and photograph the archaeological material they have collected from their fields. The newly discovered findings from these sites certainly signify the historical and archaeological importance of this region which had been greatly ignored due to its rugged mountainous terrain, interspersed nature and administrative set up till recent past.

Geography and Brief History

The town of Darra Ādam Khel, now tehsil of Kohāt district, is situated at 33°43'52.95"N and 71°30'34.98"E, about the equidistance between the cities of Peshawar and Kohat. It is located 25 kilometres from Kohāt side and 40 km from Peshawar. This valley is bordered on the northwest by the Khyber district and on the southwest by the Orakzai district. It is connected

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to Peshawar from the north side and to the Kohāt from south side through the main metaled road. This route traverses an autonomous area occupied by various Afridi tribes like *Jawākhi*, also called as *Zwakai*, the *Gallī*, and the *Ādam Khel*. These are the principal tribes living in this region (Bellew 1862: 100). The population of this hilly region is predominantly concentrated in a valley that sits between two mountain ranges (Anum 2023: 45). The Afrīdī² tribe constitutes the main population, which is consisted of sections: *Bostikhel*, *Sherāki*, *Torchapar*³, *Zarghūnkhel*, and *Akhorwāl* (Raverty 1888: 422). The area of Darra Ādam Khel tehsil comprises 446 square km which rises 1,500 meters (4,900 feet) above sea level. As describe above, physically it is extremely hilly terrain (Zaman 2011:12). These sites are situated in close proximity to one another. Zindān dheri is a prominent hill site located to the west of Peshawar-Kohāt main highway at the distance of some 200 meters. Its length is 457 meter and width 153 meter, and rises 32 meter high from the surrounding plains (Fig. 2). In contrast, Akhorwāl village is relatively a large modern settlement site of which major portion is now converted into cultivated fields. There are about 250 houses in this village (Fig. 3) where the locals are mostly working in the surrounding coal mines. After the discovery of these mines, now it is the major source of livelihood of this region.

The early history of Kohāt can be traced back to the 1st-3rd century CE with the rule of two kings Adh and Kohāt⁴. Those rulers were settled along the northern borders of Kohāt (Beveridge 1922: 232; Sadeed & Shinwari 2024: 25). But the historical reference of Kohāt's is found for the first time in *Baburnama*, the memoirs of Zaheer al 'Din Babur. This region has been an important hub for sometimes where Nawab Saeed Khan dispersed the Afghans during Prince Aurangzeb's campaign as mentioned in *Shāhjahān Nāma* (Khan & Begley 1990: 10). It was under the regimes of the Mughal Empire during the reign of Akbar the Great and later under the rule of Nadir Shah (Ali & Naeem 2000: 20). Nadir Shāh's army passed through Kohāt in 1738 during his devastating campaign to Delhi. After the death of Nadir Shāh in 1747, the control of this reign passed into the hands of

Durrani rulers. After Shāh Shuja's fall in 1810, Kohāt fell to Kabūl and Peshawar province. In 1827, Samad Khan of the Barakzai tribe occupied this area (Sadeed et al. 2024: 26).

Previous Explorations in Kohāt Region

During his extensive archaeological survey in 1905, Sir Aurel Stein reported an important site in Kohat region. He identified the ruins of a huge fort with *Aad-e Sammud* (Stein 1905:3). The site is located northwest of Kohat city. In 1997, the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (formerly the North-West Frontier Province), conducted a systematic archaeological survey in the region. This survey led to the discovery and documentation of several new sites including the Durrani period cemetery. Subsequently, the Department of Archaeology, University of Peshawar reported additional sites dating to the British colonial period within the city (Ali & Naeem 2000:125). In further explorations conducted in 2003–2004, new archaeological sites were identified, including remains associated with the Buddhist period.

Recent Discovery

As described above, the sites of Akhorwāl and Zindān Dheri, were first mentioned by M. A. Court⁵, in 1836. He also reported a Greek period site in the nearby vicinity which he named *Boulidāna* (Court 1836: 479). This site was perhaps identified as Buledāna Dheri as recently reported by Ihsan Ali. The author identified this site with the Indo-Greek and Hindu Shāhi periods (Ali 2003). The site is situated 5km to the east from present Peshawar-Kohāt highway. It is located in *Ṭilabandh* village of Peshawar district and now mostly encroached by the cultivated fields and houses. In this connection, this site is situated some 21km away to the north-west from Akhorwāl and Zindān dheri. The said author also reported some other important sites such as *Shaikhāno* Dheri (Achaemenid period) and *Khandaq-Mulyāno* Korona (Greek/ Kushan period) in the same vicinity (Ali 2003: 210).

Nomenclature of the Sites

The toponym ‘Zindān’ (زندان) originates from Persian, denotes a ‘prison’ or a ‘cage’ reflecting to semantic root in confinement and enclosure. The local inhabitants assert that upon Babur’s conquest of the region; he incarcerated numerous indigenous individuals in a small penitentiary situated on a nearby hill. Consequently, the hill and its environs acquired the appellation “Zindān.” On the other hand, “Akhori,” (اخوری) from which the village derives its name, is also of Persian origin, and denotes “*a manger or trough refers to a feeding structure used to hold fodder for animals.*” According to local population there was a manger which was fixed here to feed a bull on which a king would ride. Almost a similar tradition describes by Raverty (1880) that according to local tradition, in ancient times, the daughter of a Raja fell in love with a renowned young man from the region. Each night, he would ride a bull to a specific rock at the base of a hill, tie the animal there, and ascended the hill to meet her. As their affair became widely known, the rock came to be known as *Sanda-Bastah*⁶, meaning ‘the place where the bull was tied (Raverty 1888: 422).

Archaeological Finds

From an archaeological perspective, Darra Ādam Khel exhibits significant cultural richness, with substantial quantities of artifacts collected from various localities, predominantly from Akhorwāl and Zindān Dheri. The cultural objects discovered from these sites include complete vessels and potsherds, copper coins, beads, terracotta figurines, metal objects etc. Although stone sculptures known in limited number represent only three fragmentary specimens and they are known in broken condition. Of these, one fragment is reported from Zindān Dheri and two from Akhorwāl village. The discovery of a *tamgā*-stamped condenser vessel in particular represents a remarkable piece of art found at the site of Darra Ādam Khel. Apart from these objects, a substantial number of coins including a parcel hoard⁷ are also reported from these sites. The metal objects represent a bronze kohl-pot with rod, a hair-pin, an amulet, finger rings, and a bronze medallion. Moreover, three iron arrowheads are

also reported. Two specimens of broken terracotta human figures (female) are also picked up from these localities. A large number of beads made of various materials i.e. agate, greenstone (likely opaque), lapis lazuli, faience, carnelian, and terracotta are well known from the sites of Darra Ādam Khel. Except a few specimens, the bead collection is usually well-preserved. Few shell and black glass bangles also found in fragmentary condition with one shell specimen is known in complete form. These artifacts are presently housed in private collections. I would request the owners to donate these artifacts to the Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where these cultural assets would be well preserved for future research.

Sculptures

As described above, three fragmentary pieces of stone sculptures are recovered from Darra Ādam Khel sites (Pl. I). These pieces are known in schist stones and badly damaged. Of these, one example is perhaps of a standing Buddha; the upper body above chest is lost, the remaining body is well dressed in typical Gandhāran drapery (Pl. I, 1.1). In complete examples, such type of sculptures usually represents the gesture of *abhāyamudrā* Buddha.

The second example of stone panel made for a false niche is also known in broken condition. It portrays the standing human figures and architectural elements (Pl. I, 1.2). The top cornice of this panel is decorated with a rising festoon and overlapping lanceolate leaves, which is a common decoration element applied in Gandhāran panels. The panel accommodates compartmental cells in vertical (outer left) and horizontal (top of the panel) forms and each is separated by acanthus columns. All such compartment are adorned with a single seated and standing figures in *añjalimudra* poses. The left part depicts standing figures facing to right i.e. towards the main scene of the panel. The main frame of panel adorned with floral motifs. The main panel is depicted with array of a flying winged genius (Faccenna 1962: II, Pl. CXIX). The first figure from left to right is standing with clasped hands following a female figure who is standing with a support of

a staff and her left hand is placed underneath her face. This figure has an elaborate headdress and watching to the right figure who is shown in action like throwing something with his right hand towards the flying figure. This figure wears a long belted tunic and a turban round head. The winged genius is flying above this figure. The right half portion of the panel is missing which probably depicted remaining part of the scene. It remains challenging to assign this scene to a definite theme and recognizable episode of the Buddha's life story or Jātaka. However, comparing with other Gandhāran panels, this scene is likely to represent the Dīpaṃkāra Jātaka. Somehow, the figural representation shown in the Bambolai panel (Dani 1968–69, Pl. 29-b) bears close resemblance with the scene under discussion. Some other panels reported from Swabi and Buner sites exhibit similar compositional features and sculptural forms. Accordingly, these panels usually illustrate the narrative of the Dīpaṃkāra Jātaka (Kurita 2003: I, figs. 4-5).

The third example of the sculpture bears elephant figure with a long trunk standing to left (Pl. I, 1.3). This figure was probably detached from a large panel. There is ornamented cloth round the figure and remnants of the lower portion of a seat arranged above the back of elephant.

Pottery

A significant number of complete vessels and potsherds are reported from these sites. The present paper comprises some complete pots and potsherds which portray some notable features (Pl. II). This assemblage of vessels comprises water pots, dish, and vase and a few fragmentary potsherds including those of painted potsherds and variety of rims. The painted potsherds are made in black-on-red/ buff decorative scheme. These fragments are known in diverse thickness usually range from 0.5 to 1 cm. Of these, the most significant discovery is the condenser vessel reported from Akhorwāl site. (Fig. 4a). It is manufactured of coarse and reddish clay and characterized by its squat form with thick walls, everted rim, and rounded base. This pot was originally made in two separate halves and then coupled together. It has a narrow mouth with broad

triangular rims which is flanked by distinctive stamped *tamgās*. The lower portion received sand treatment before firing. The four-pronged *tamgā* ☙ on right side of the mouth has close resembles with those appeared on the similar condensers reported from Shaikhān Dheri (Fig. 4d/ ii). More importantly, the shape of these *tamgās* is very similar to those depicted on the coins of Huviška, 5th ruler of the Kushans (Jongeward and Cribb 2015: coin nos. 718-66). The second example of the *tamgā* ☙ i.e. stamped on left side of the mouth is quite different from the previous one. It has three-prongs with round base like those of Soter Megas (Kushan king) tamga appeared on his coins and is almost identical to another variety of pots found at Shaikhān Dheri (Fig. 4c/ i). In both cases, the Shaikhān Dheri *tamgās* are enclosed within square frames which were precise executed with accurate angles. In contrast the Akhorwāl *tamgās* are shown in cursive style. Moreover, the Akhorwāl condenser bears an additional symbol (φ), a circle intersected by a vertical line, on its base, (Fig. 4b).

Coins

A considerable number of coins are said to have reported from Akhorwāl site and Zindān Dheri. As mentioned earlier, the antiquity was illegally collected by the local people from this sites and hence many coins have been lost or sold out in the markets. The present study is confined to a limited number of coins picked up from Zindān Dheri and Akhorwāl sites. The available material is known in rusted condition with varying degrees of surface deterioration. The present collection comprises six copper coins where five examples belong to Wima Kadphises and one to his successor Kaniška the Great. They were the great rulers of Kushan dynasty who concluded their rule in the first half of the second century CE. All coins of Wima Kadphises exhibit standing figure of king at altar on the obverse and standing Oesho with bull facing right on the reverse (Jongeward and Cribb 2015: 57). A single issue of Kaniška depicts standing figure of king at altar to left on the obverse and the standing figure of sun-god (Miho i.e. Mithra) with radiating halo on the reverse (Bordeaux 2019: 52).

Minor Objects

Besides above important findings, several minor objects are also reported from the site. This assemblage is made of various materials. Of these, beads are known in good number which show variation in shape and design. Looking to the colour, texture and treatment, the available beads seem to have made of previous and semi-precious stones. A kohl-pot with applicator is also reported from there. The applicator has a broad flattened end probably was decorated but now much defaced. An interesting copper hair-pin with decorated handle is reported from Zindān Dheri. It has a pointed tip on one end and the broader end on the other which is decorated with a lotus motif on both sides (Pl. IV, 4.1). A similar motif carved on one of the Gandhāran panel is reported from Mardan which illustrates the scene of 'Birth of Siddhārtha'. It depicts standing Queen Maya accompanied by her sister and attendants along with princely class females who wear earrings that composed of a blossomed lotus motif (Kiran 2012: 165) (Fig. 5). Another example of similar decoration is reported from *Sanḍasar* site Charsadda (Mohammadzai & Nasim Khan 2011: 86). It is a rusted metal amulet which bears two cord-loops on each end of the spherical body and are nicely decorated with lotus motif. A similar type of element is shown in the jewelry of standing Bodhisattva Maitreya in which he wears multiple amulets arranged in a single cord (Zwalf 1996: 98) (Fig.6). Besides, the jewelry assemblage comprises one serpentine-headed bracelet and two finger rings (one has a bezel for holding gemstone) (Pl. IV, 4.5-6). Amongst the iron objects, three rusted arrow heads of different sizes are reported from Zindān Dheri (Pl. IV, 4.7).

Ivory object

A fragment of ivory comb is found at Akhorwāl site. It is rectangular in shape with long vertical spikes in appropriate alignment and a thick side wall. The spikes of the comb are broken whereas side wall and base are preserved (Pl. IV, 4.8). Like this, two example of broken ivory combs are reported from Shaikhān Dheri (Dani 1965-66: 120).

Terracotta Figurines

Three terracotta figures are reported from these archaeological site. Of these, two are human (female) figurines and one example of an animal. The smoothed surface and sophisticated texture of female figurines indicate that they were made of refined clay. Back of both the figurines is plain and flattened, which suggests they were hung on a wall or placed in niches for religious. In one case the female figure is standing frontally, fully naked with protuberant breasts, her hands are straightly hanging down while legs shown in broadly wide position (Pl. IV, 4.10). The entire body is plain without any decorations. The head above shoulder and lower legs are broken and missing.

Another example of the female figurine reported from Akhorwāl site is recognized in moulded form. It seems to be a standing female figurine whereas upper body above navel is missing, her legs are joined and vertically straight (Pl. IV, 4.9). It wears a beaded belt and tunic like a *mekhalā* usually worn by female figures shown in Indian sculptures. This style of the figurine reveals decorative and symbolic elements related to socio-religion and local iconography. An ornamental girdle around the hips in elegant form is often associated with the worship of tree spirits (Jain 2019: 164). Several examples of similar moulded figurines bearing *mekhalā* features are reported from Shaikhān Dheri (Dani 1965-66: pls. XXIX-XXX) and Taxila (Marshall 1951: 443).

A single example of an animal figurine (goat?) is known from Akhorwāl site. The red animal figurine with sharp horns is made of well-levigated clay (Pl. IV, 4.11). The remnants of a short vertical tail indicate it was broken during excavation.

Bangles

Bangles are known in two materials i.e. shell and black glass. Except one example of shell, remaining bangles are found in fragments. The complete one is smaller in size (3.5 cm) and naturally made in heart shape (Pl. IV, 4.12). The remaining bangle fragments are known in different sizes and shapes.

Beads

Beads unearthed from both sites are identified

in substantial quantities. They were made of different materials like terracotta, lapis lazuli, agate, carnelian, faience, and possibly an opaque green stone. These beads were produced in various sizes and shapes. The beads as compared to other objects are found in good state of preservation (Pl. V). The classification and description of these beads are as under:

1. The white agate beads are identified in round, cone, barrel, disc and lenticular shapes. They are 15 pieces preserved in whitish and buff hues (nos. 5.1a-5.1o). These beads possess fine textures and smooth surfaces with distinctive veins in black and chocolate colours round their bodies. The average diameter of these beads ranges from 0.9 to 1.3 cm. In addition to this collection, three lenticular beads are also reported. The size of these beads range from 0.9 to 1.5 cm. The holes for string are usually provided across their sectional bodies (nos. 5.1p-5.1r).
2. The Darra Adam Khel collection contains a single ivory bead which was artistically crafted by the artist into a star shape. This bead is 0.5 cm thick and carries a small hole through its cross-section. (Pl. V, no. 5.2a). Similar star-shaped beads are well reported from Dharmarājikā, a Buddhist period site in Taxila (Beck 1941: 57). A similar specimen of bead, made of marine shell, was found at the Barikot urban site, Swat (Rabbani 2022: 93, Fig. 8a).
3. There is a group of eight beads which seems to have produced from greenstone (opaque?) material. These beads are known in various shapes whereas round type beads are predominant. Some beads were roughly finished with uneven surface. The colours of these stones range from dark to light green. The diameters of these beads vary from 0.6 to 2.3 cm. One rectangular bead of dark green was left unfinished as its one end is found abraded (no. 5.3a). Of these, one example known in boat shape is 2.3 cm long. Several greenstone (opaque) beads have also been found at the Aziz Dheri, Swabi (Nasim Khan 2010: 66).
4. Seven lapis lazuli beads were noticed by the author. They are known in round, short barrel, and cylindrical shapes and well finished with fine smoothed surface. This group of beads occurred in three types i.e. large and medium beads in spherical form and small beads in cylindrical shape. The diameter of large one is 2.5 cm and it is well made (no. 5.4a). The medium sized three beads are comparatively roughly treated. Amongst the cylindrical type, two beads are adorned with double and triple incised white lines running along their outer surface (nos. 5.4f-5.4g). Lapis lazuli was the common material used for bead making in Gandhāra and well documented at Aziz Dheri (Khan 2010: II, 4. ii.a19).
5. Another group of beads featuring pumpkin (lokī) appearance are crafted from faience (talc) material. These beads are found in round shapes with large perforation for string (nos. 5.5a-5.5g). They vary in size, ranging from 1.0 to 1.6 cm in diameter and are predominantly found in white and dull-bluish hues. These beads are decorated with vertically ridges and normally carry rough texture due to its material composition. Similar beads have been reported from many archaeological sites in Gandhara region such as Bhir Mound (Taxila), Aziz Dheri (Swabi), and Barikot (Swat) (Rabbani 2022: 93, fig. 8b).
6. Beside above, the present collection from Darra Ādam Khel comprises large number of terracotta beads. These beads were crafted from well-levigated clay as appeared from their fine and smoothed surface and optimal oxidation. The certain bead are occurred in various shapes (nos. 5.6a-6p). Of these, one example resembling a cart-wheel is adorned with hatched design on both faces (no. 5.6a), two are bicone beads whereas one example embellished with an incised chevron design (nos. 5.6b-6c). The remaining beads, varying in size, are mostly crafted in pot-shapes. Such beads are finished with fine texture in red and black buff slips (nos. 5.6f-6g, 5.6n). This type of beads are common in Gandhara

region and well reported from Shaikhān Dheri (Dani 1965-66: nos, 4-7, pl. XL.b), Aziz Dheri (Nasim Khan 2010: 72) and other sites.

7. The carnelian group is consisted of 21 beads. These beads are also testified in various shapes predominantly long and short barrels in different sizes (nos. 5.7a-7h). The remaining beads are recognized various shapes such as round, bicone, triangular and roughly square. These beads exhibit dark and light red hues and are primarily finished with smoothed surface (nos. 5.7a-7u).
8. The last group of beads is identified by three examples of glass. Amongst them, one is large barrel, one small barrel and one short cylindrical. These beads are provided with vertically narrow central perforation for string (nos. 5.8a-5.8c).

Discussion

The artifacts reported from Darra Ādam Khel, undoubtedly, show great archaeological significance. These artifacts, as described above, bear close resemblance to the various objects unearthed from different sites in Gandhāra region. Although the sites under discussion have not been excavated through systematic archaeological methods, but their value cultural material indicates that this area once had been a flourishing and prominent urban centre in ancient times.

The artifacts discovered in this region particularly the condenser vessels prominently features the Kushan insignia (*tamgā*) stamped on both sides. As described above, similar condenser vessels with stamps have been documented at various sites in Gandhara, notably seen at Shaikhān Dheri and Taxila. These condensers of the Kushan period significantly portray official *tamgās* as appeared on their coins (Allchin 1979b: 161). Such type of vessels were specifically designed for the collection of liquids. The variety and durability of these pots emphasize the sophistication process of distillation fashioned in South-Central Asia (Hussain 1993: 290). The evidence of such vessel reveals the manufacturing of a variety of beverages through the process of

fermentation and distillation that practiced under the royal patronage. Archaeological evidences from Gandhāra (Pakistan), Afghanistan, and northern India obviously show that this area had been an important place for the production of early distillation. With the help of contemporary techniques, the historical techniques of distillation can thus be reconstructed from the fragments of ancient vessels found at archaeological sites (McHugh 2020: 45). In this regard, the scholars analyzed the ceramic artifacts called as 'receiver-condensers' reported from various sites. In view of these evidences, they have yet to encounter the inconsistencies in shape and appropriate functionality of certain vessels. Accordingly, experimental practices are reasonably failed to achieve the effective distillations through the available material. As a result certain flaws have been observed in the available techniques and researches. The present state of research suggests that production of distillation in ancient Gandhāra seems dubious and it requires the reassessment of these artifacts (Groat 2025: 7; McHugh 2020: 59).

Furthermore, the numismatic material provides important evidence for establishing the sequence and chronology of these sites. The coins of Wima Kadphises and Kanishka from these sites undoubtedly show that this area was belonged to the Kushan period ruled in second century CE. Although the complete corpus remains dispersed and disturbed but the accessible coins offer valuable insights of the sites. This paper presents a concise analysis of the available specimens in order to understand the economic, political and cultural profile of the region in context of the Kushan era. The minor objects including skillfully crafted beads, art pieces, copper and bronze tools, terracotta figurines, and number of miscellaneous objects from these sites provide substantial evidences for the establishment of large scale occupation in Darra Adam Khel region. The number of beads manufactured from diverse materials such as agate, carnelian, green stones, bone, and terracotta show great resemblance with those reported from other sites in Gandhāra. These evidences help to understand the links and connections of regional trade, craftsmanship and skills in Gandhara and their further relations with

neighbouring states and surrounding regions. These artifacts also suggest that Darra Ādam Khel region had a vibrant community which retained high social values and diverse economic entities. The inhabitants of this region obviously experienced a flourishing and prosperous existence, which show significant contributions to the ancient history.

Conclusion

The descriptions of the aforementioned artifacts indicate that nearly every object reported from Darra Ādam Khel holds considerable significance. This material is presented to the scholars for the first time. This region, characterized by mountainous terrain and narrow valleys, was initially investigated by M. A. Court in 1836 during his visit to the sites of Akhorwāl and Zindān Dheri. Thereafter, this area disappeared from the views and access of scholars due to the administrative constraints (FATA status) and security situations. As a result of new administrative reforms, the area under discussion is now accessible to the general public and scholars. The unearthed coins and other archaeological material unearthed from this area suggest that Darra Ādam Khel was continually occupied during the rule of Kushan period. On the basis of cultural material, this area was certainly an active component of the greater Gandhāra region. The archaeological artifacts unearthed from these sites have close resemblance with those recovered from different sites in Pakistan, such as: Swat (Uḍḍiyāna), Peshawar and Taxila Valleys. The present study unfolds the history and identification of fresh finds recovered from the hidden area. In view of proper identification, description and analysis of the available artifacts, the history of these sites certainly goes back to the Kushan period that originated during the 1st century CE. Thorough investigations of the archaeological finds from the present contexts will enhance more significant results in order to understand the enriched political history and cultural profile of this region that developed during its glory past.

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Notes

1. Maulana Muhammad Amir, a prominent clergyman from the Pashtun region of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa who served as a political-cum-religious leader for an extended period and delivered speeches and sermons in Pashto, Urdu, and Hindko languages. His discourses covered various topics, and his emotional oratory earned him the epithet 'Maulana Bijligar'.
2. The Afridīs of Ādam Khel are living on border of Peshawar and Kohāt Pass near Kohāt Tunnel. These one of the non-Khyber Afridīs clans (for details see *A Dictionary of the Pathan Tribes on the North-West Frontier of India* (1910)-Calcutta, p. 54).
3. It is misspelling of *torspar* which denotes a sable-shield (for detail see Raverty, *Tor Tsapar* which is also occurred in Kabul Tsapar).
4. The word Kohāt mentioned in Persian and Urdu translations of *Tūzūk Babūrī* with 'کھت' *Kahut*, (for detail see *Tūzūk Babūrī* (Urdu translation also available)).
5. An officer in the service of Mahārājā Ranjīt
6. For detail see Raverty 1880: pp. 222-24.

7. It contained five rusted coins, three or four beads and a shell bangle and its detail account will be published soon.

Catalogue of the Objects

1. Sculptures (Pl. I)

1.1. Standing figure (Buddha?), Schist, 11cm(l)x5cm(h), Akhorwāl Village

A standing figure probably of Buddha (?), upper body is missing, lower part is draped in short tunic and long mantle of which thick folds are prominently arranged and the tunic is dangling to the half of legs level. This free standing sculpture might have been detached from an architectural element.

Reference: Khan and Hameed 2017: 33, fig. 35; Rhi 2023: 20, Fig. 10 (for drapery); Meunié 1942: pl. X.36

1.2. Fals-niche, central register with jamb and part of the architrave, fragment, 21cm(l)x19cm(w)x5cm(t), Grey Schist stone, Akhorwāl Village

A fragment of false-niche panel, top cornice decorated with a rising festoon and overlapping lanceolate leaves on ornamental moulding. Below it, the compartmented cells are separated by Corinthian columns which accommodate the seated figures in *añjalimudra* poses, facing each other. To the left of jamb, the panel is decorated with repetition of above-mentioned decoration but badly defaced, the left projecting of the vertical frieze depicts the representation of standing figures of donors facing right in *añjalimudra* poses. The central frieze of the panel is decorated with rosettes, each containing five petals like a frame and three figures shown in standing pose with a flying figure swinging in the air; the left figure stands with clasped hands in loose-drapery covering the whole body with turban on head and looking to right. Just above his head on the left corner, a bunch of flowers (probably lotus buds) are depicted, the central female figure standing in loose garments, facing right with raised hand upto her chin in flexible position and she wears earrings with pronounced headdress. Next to

her, a princely figure shown in action likely he is throwing something on the flying figure to his right.

Reference: Dani 1968-69: Pl. 29-b; Kurita 2003: I, fig. 4-5

1.3. Figured bracket, 13 cm(l)x12 cm(w)x4cm cm(t), Schist stone, Akhorwāl Village

An elephant of schist material of an architectural bracket element, head is partly damaged and the tusk is touching the fore ground, saddle, carved on back, is further fastened with a belt decorated with oblique lines.

Reference: Ingholt 1957: fig. 451

2. Pottery (Pl. II)

2.1. Condenser Pot, 32cm(Ø)x34cm(h), Terracotta, Akhorwal Village

The condenser vessel is squatter in shape, the average height is almost equal to its diameter. It has a flattened base with thick side walls and short everted rim and the spout is generally heftier and perfectly rounded in section. This vessel was basically made in two halves, lower body and upper portion, where spout is added to the side of upper half and then the two halves were joined together along a central seam. The outer surface of the lower half was then treated with an addition of coarse sand before firing. Just above the confluence line on the exterior of upper body, a four-pronged *tamgā* is deeply stamped on one side of the spout and contrary to it a three-pronged *tamgā* on other side of the spout. A symbol of round circle intersected by a vertical line symbol (φ) is formed on the base of vessel. The outer surface is coarser in fabric and finished with brown reddish-buff slip clay.

Reference: Dani 1965-66: 160, fig. 34; Allchin 1979: 773, fig. 9

2.2. Water Pot, 20cm (Ø) at body, 21cm(h), 12cm (Ø) at mouth, Terracotta, Akhorwāl Village

A water vessel has a wide-open mouth and bulging body with pronounced neck and round base. The spout is flaring outwardly with damage tip and a handle is attached to the tip of rim and body. The

entire pot is made of fine levigated clay, smoothed texture, the exterior body is treated with smoothed red slip.

Reference: Dani 1965-66: 159, no.1, fig. 33

2.3. Jar, 12cm(h) with 5cm(Ø), Terracotta, Akhorwāl Village

A medium sized cylindrical jar with wide open mouth and narrow base, sloping side walls with thin grooved lines round outer rim, medium texture, red slip applied on red surface.

Reference: Samad et al. 2021: 292, Aces. no. 605

2.4. Dish (thali) incised decoration, 16cm(Ø), Terracotta, Akhorwāl Village

A wide open dish with broad flattened rim adorned with deep grooves, low sloping side wall, the central part of the dish is carved with sun-like pattern enclosed within double circles, medium texture, surface partly defaced, red slip applied on red surface.

Reference: Dani 1965-66: 176, no.1, fig. 50

2.5. Painted Bodysherds, Terracotta, Akhorwāl Village

2.5a. Small fragment with hatched design, 5.5x4.8cm, Akhorwal Village

A small fragment of pitcher decorated with hatched design in black painting on fine red surface.

2.5b. Small fragment with triangular motifs, 5x6.3cm, Akhorwal Village

A small fragment of pot, painted with a row of solid black triangles on fine buff background.

2.5c. Jar fragment with black-on-red design, 9x8.5cm, Akhorwal Village

Thick bodysherd, the central part painted with a series of criss-cross pattern on red surface in black, thick fabric, coarse surface with visible mica in texture.

2.6. Rim fragments, Terracotta, Akhorwāl village

2.6a. Pitcher fragment, Terracotta, 10x7cm 0.5cm (Thick), Zindān Dheri

Rim fragment of a pitcher with everted rim in

triangular section and short concave neck, made of well-levigated clay, reddish was applied on red surface.

2.6b. Storage fragment, Terracotta, 11x6.5cm 0.5cm (Thick), Akhorwāl Village

Rim's fragment of a storage jar with a deep groove, brownish slip applied on red surface.

2.6c. Storage fragment, Terracotta, 11x6.5 0.5cm (Thick), Akhorwāl Village

Fragment of a storage jar with out-curved broad rim adorned with grooved design, medium fabric, and the outer surface is treated with red wash upto inner neck.

3. Coins (Pl. III)

3.1. Wima Kadphises (Kushan King), Weight 17.0g, Æ

Obv: King standing facing to left, offering at a small fire altar with stretched right hand; wearing belted tunic over loose trousers, clasped hilt of sword in the left field, club and tamga (faded) in the right. Greek legend badly defaced.

Rev: Oesho standing facing, head turned to left, probably naked except for diaphanous garment that falls, holds trident in raised right hand, leaning against a bull standing behind him to right; nandipada symbol in upper left field. Kharoshthi legend fragmentary.

Reference: Khan and Nasim Khan 2012: 112, no. 1; Whitehead 1914: 183-85, PL. XVII. 36

3.2. Wima Kadphises (Kushan King), Weight 18.0g, Æ

Obv: As 3.1.

Rev: As 3.1.

Reference: Khan and Nasim Khan 2012: 112, no. 1; Whitehead 1914: 183-85, PL. XVII. 36

3.3. Wima Kadphises (Kushan King), Weight 16.7g, Æ

Obv: As 3.1., badly defaced and corroded.

Rev: As 3.1.

Reference: Khan and Nasim Khan 2012: 112, no. 1; Whitehead 1914: 183-85, PL. XVII. 36

3.4. Wima Kadphises (Kushan King), Weight 16.0g, Æ

Obv: As 3.1., but badly corroded.

Rev: As 3.1., but figures almost faded.

Reference: Khan and Nasim Khan 2012: 112, no. 1; Whitehead 1914: 183-85, PL. XVII. 36

3.5. Wima Kadphises (Kushan King), Weight 16.0g, Æ

Obv: As 3.1., but ruseted defaced.

Rev: As 3.1., but ruseted defaced.

Reference: Khan and Nasim Khan 2012: 112, no. 1; Whitehead 1914: 183-85, PL. XVII. 36

3.6. Kanishka (Kushan King), Weight 16.0g, Æ

Obv: King standing facing with head turned to left, has long beard, wears diadem, cloak over shoulders with double clasps near chest, knee-length tunic, trousers, and boots; offering at a fire altar with outstretched right hand and holds a spear in raised left hand, the Bactrian legend defaced.

Rev: Mithra (Miuro) standing to left, radiate halo round head, holding sword hilt with left hand and right arm extended. Bactrian legend MII.....

Reference: Khan 2009: 74, no. 27

4. Minor Objects (Pl. IV)

4.1. Kohl Container and rod, Bronze, 8cm(h) and 5cm(Ø) & 7cm, Zindān Dheri

A pear-shaped small kohl-pot (container) with long sloping neck, broad flattened rim and round base with three legs in regular interval, a thick perceptible ridge round body. No traces of decoration are seen.

The container was found with a rod, which has a beaten heart-shaped handle and pointed tip. The handle seem to have carved but now the decoration are badly defaced.

Reference: Marshall 1951: Pl. 173, no. 235 (Kohl-rod)

4.2. Hair-pin, Copper, 7.5cm (L), Zindān Dheri

A complete hair pin with ornamented handle, the top end is adorned with floral motifs on both sides; the concave side has a dotted floral motif with a dot in the centre and the convex side is carved

with the same dotted floral pattern shooting up from stamen. This motif is further clustered with same pattern of five motifs, each enclosed within a circle.

Reference: Mohammadzai and Nasim Khan 2011: 86, Pl. 10, no. 3

4.3. Amulet, Copper, 3.2cm, Zindān Dheri

An amulet formed in cylindrical shape, round hooks are attached to each end, it is found in rusted condition.

Reference: Marshall 1951: Pl. 191, no. q=84

4.4. Pendant, Copper, 5cm(Ø), Zindān Dheri

An ornamented round shaped beaten pendant medallion, central part bedecked with a lotus flower, three circular hooks with rings attached to outer ones, the upper part carries a single hook. The circular frame is decorated with incised slanting strokes at some places these lines take V-shaped designs.

Reference: Nasim Khan 2006: fig. 223, no. 2

4.5. Finger Ring, Copper, 1.8cm(Ø), Akhorwāl Village

A broken finger ring with an oval shaped deep bezel and raised hoops, a circular hole at the centre of bezel, the outer ring is in convex form, rusted condition.

Reference: Nasim Khan 2006: fig. 204, no. 18.

4.6. Bracelet, Copper, 7cm(Ø), Zindān Dheri

A complete bracelet in rusted condition, the middle ring has a beaten body and both ends are out-curved and ornamented with lotus buds which give an expression of serpentines.

Reference: Mughal 1967: Pl. XXX, no. 13

4.7. Arrowheads, Iron, (a)-5x3cm (b)-7x3cm (c)-7x4.5cm, Zindān Dheri

A set of three arrowheads in various sizes with broken tangs (fixing with wooden stick), all are made in trilobate form, heavily rusted.

Reference: Khan et al. 2020: 95, no. 112

4.8. Comb, Ivory, 6cm(l)x5cm(b)x1.2cm(t), Zindān Dheri

A half broken comb with thick a side wall and base, dentals are missing, burning signs are seen on base.

Reference: Dani 1965-66: Pl. XLVIII, no. 3

4.9. Female figure, Terracotta, 8.6cm(h) x5cm(b)x1.9cm(w), Akhorwāl Village

Lower body of female figurine with closed parallel legs, remnants of a long chiton round waist, the upper body above naval is missing, fine texture and smoothed surface with red slip.

Reference: Dani 1965-66: Pl. XXIX, nos. 4-5

4.10. Female figure, Terracotta, 9cm(h) x5.5cm(b)x1.7cm(w), Akhorwāl Village

Female figurine with prominent breasts, naked, dangling hands parallel along with body, wide open legs but broken below knees, head also missing, hand-made of fine clay, pinkish colour.

Reference: Marshall 1951: Pl. 132, no. 15

4.11. Animal figurine, Terracotta, 5cm(l) x6cm(h)x5cm(h), Akhorwāl Village

Animal figurine (goat) with legs partly broken, horns attached to the head, traces of raised tail seen, texture shows well oxidation but the surface seems to be treated rough, pinkish colour.

Reference: Dani 1965-66: Pl. XXXVIIa, no. 4

4.12. Bangle, Shell, 3.5cm(Ø)x0.07(b), Zindān Dheri

A complete bangle in heart shape, squarish section, smoothed surface, finely made in off white colour.

4.13. Bangle, Shell, 3.2cm(Ø)x0.06(b), Zindān Dheri

Small fragment of bangle, rectangular section, smoothed surface and off white colour.

4.14. Bangle, Shell, 3.6cm(Ø)x0.07(b), Zindān Dheri

Fragment of bangle, squarish section, smoothed surface and off white colour.

4.15. Bangle, Glass, 2.2cm(Ø)x0.08(b), Zindān Dheri

Small fragment of bangle, broad section with raised surface, roughly made in black colour.

4.16. Bangle, Glass, 6cm(Ø)x0.08(b), Zindān Dheri

Broken bangle, broad section, roughly treated in black colour.

4.17. Bangle, Glass, 5cm(Ø)x0.09(b), Zindān Dheri

A thick fragment of bangle, squarish section, uneven surface in black colour.

Reference: Khan et al. 2020: 86-88, nos. 131, 132, 168

5. Beads Collection (Pl. V)

5.1. Agate Beads

[For this group of beads see Beck 1941: Pl. III, no. 1-41]

5.1a. Stone bead, Agate, 1(h)x0.6(Ø)cm

Round bead with a large hole, highly smoothed surface, off-white colour with light brown lenses.

5.1b. Stone bead, Agate, 1.1(h)x0.7(Ø)cm

Roughly barrel bead with a large hole, smoothed surface, off-white colour with light brown lenses.

5.1c. Cone bead, Agate, 1.3(h)x0.8(Ø)cm

Cone-shaped bead with narrow perforation, highly smoothed surface, off-white colour with light brown and chocolate lenses round body.

5.1d. Round bead, Agate, 1.5(h)x0.9(Ø)cm

Roughly spherical shape with narrow hole, smoothed surface and off-white colour.

5.1e. Barrel bead, Agate, 1.5(h)x0.8(Ø)cm

Roughly barrel shape with sharp cut ends, highly smoothed surface, off-white colour with light brown lenses.

5.1f. Barrel bead, Agate, 1.5(h)x0.8(Ø)cm

Short barrel bead with broad cut ends, smoothed surface, off-white colour with irregular light

brown lenses.

5.1g. Disc bead, Agate, 1(h)x0.8(Ø)cm

Thick round disc, highly smoothed surface, off-white colour with dark brown spot.

5.1h. Spherical bead, Agate, 0.9(h)x0.7(Ø)cm

Spherical shape, highly smoothed surface, off-white colour with brown and yellow lenses.

5.1i. Squarish bead, Agate, 1 (h)x0.7(Ø)cm

Chamfered square shape, surface mostly abraded, light bluish grey colour.

5.1j. Round bead, Agate, 1 (h)x0.7(Ø)cm

Roughly round bead with a large hole and irregular sides, rough surface, cream colour.

5.1k. Globular bead, Agate, 1.3(h)x0.8(Ø)cm

Globular body with a narrow hole, surface slightly abraded, off-white with pinkish lenses round body.

5.1l. Spherical bead, Agate, 1.2(h)x0.9(Ø)cm

Spherical shape with narrow hole in the centre, highly smoothed surface, off-white colour with brown veins.

5.1m. Barrel bead, Agate, 1(h)x0.7(Ø)cm

Low barrel cone, surface partly corroded, brown colour with which spots.

5.1n. Cylindrical bead, Agate, 7(h)x0.8(Ø)cm

Standard cylindrical shape with a hole in the centre, off-white colour with light brown lenses.

5.1o. Spherical bead, Agate, 0.9(h)x0.8(Ø)cm

Small spherical bead, centrally perforated, outer body slightly chipped off, rough surface, yellowish colour.

5.1p. Lenticular bead, Agate, 0.9(Ø)x0.3(t)

Small low disc with perforation along the sectional side, smoothed surface, off-white colour.

5.1q. Lenticular bead, Agate, 1.5 (Ø)x0.4(t)

Medium low disc with perforation along the sectional side, smoothed surface, off-white colour.

5.1r. Lenticular bead, Agate, 1.2(Ø)x0.4(t)

As 5.1p, but heavily tarnished with brown spots.

5.2. Ivory Bead

5.2a. Star-shaped bead, Ivory, 1cm(Ø)x0.5(t)

Star-shaped bead with perforation along the sectional side, highly smoothed surface, cream colour.

Reference: Beck 1941: Pl. VIII, no. 31

5.3. Green Stone Beads

[For this group of beads see Nasim Khan 2010: nos. 4.ii.a.26-27]

5.3a. Rectangular bead, Green stone, 1.4cm(l)x0.8(w)

Rectangular bead in two steps with slightly round end, rough surface, abraded from one side, dark green colour.

5.3b. Boat-shaped bead, Green stone (Opaque), 2.3cm(l)x0.7(w)

Boat-shaped bead with pointed ends, large standard hole in the centre, smoothed surface, light grape colour with off-white lenses.

5.3c. Spherical bead, Green stone (Opaque), 1cm(Ø)x0.8(h)

Small spherical bead with a large hole in the centre, roughly finished, green colour.

5.3d. Oblong bead, Green stone (Opaque), 1.1cm(Ø)x0.8(h)

Oblong shape with a large hole in the centre, medium texture, light greenish colour.

5.3e. Barrel bead, Green stone (Opaque), 1.5cm(Ø)x1cm(h)

Standard barrel bead with a large hole in the centre, medium texture, dark green colour.

5.3f. 6 Short barrel bead, Green stone (Opaque), 1.5cm(Ø)x0.9(h)

Short barrel bead with coarse surface, green colour.

5.3g. Round bead, Green stone (Opaque), 1cm(Ø)x0.6(h)

Round bead with irregular sides and oblong hole in the centre, coarse surface, one end slightly damaged, green colour.

5.3h. Tiny barrel bead, Green stone (Opaque), 0.6cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Tiny short barrel bead with a large hole in the middle, medium texture.

5.4. Lapis Lazuli Beads

[For this group of beads see Nasim Khan 2010: nos. 4.ii.a.18-23]

5.4a. Spherical bead, Lapis lazuli, 2.1cm(Ø)x1.2(h)

Large spherical bead with thin perforation in the centre, well-made with smoothed surface, dark blue colour.

5.4b. Short barrel bead, Lapis lazuli, 0.9cm(Ø)x0.6(h)

Unfinished short barrel bead, no perforation is made, corroded surface, blue colour with white lenses.

5.4c. Short barrel bead, Lapis lazuli, 0.8cm(Ø)x0.6(h)

Short barrel shape bead in hexagonal form, coarse surface, light blue colour with white and yellowish lenses.

5.4d. Short barrel bead, Lapis lazuli, 0.8cm(Ø)x0.7(h)

Short barrel shape with rough and corroded surface, blue colour with irregular yellowish spots.

5.4e. Cylindrical bead, Lapis lazuli, 1cm(Ø)x0.6(h)

Standard cylindrical bead with a large hole in the centre, smoothed surface, blue colour.

5.4f. Cylindrical bead, Lapis lazuli, 0.9cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Long cylindrical shape with a large hole in the centre, smoothed surface, outer surface decorated with triple incised lenses.

5.4g. Cylindrical shape, Lapis lazuli, 0.7cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Standard cylindrical bead with a hole in the centre, smoothed surface, a pair of white incised lines round outer body, dark blue colour.

Corrugated Pumpkin (lokī) Beads

For this group of beads see Marshall 1951: Pl.1991, no. 8; Beck 1941: Pl. V, no. 4

5.5a. Corrugated bead, Faience (talc), 1.5cm(Ø)x0.9(h)

Corrugated bead in standard barrel shape with a large perforation in the centre, coarse surface, light glaze is applied on buff surface.

5.5b. Corrugated bead, Faience (talc), 1.1cm(Ø)x0.9(h)

Corrugated bead in standard barrel shape with a large hole in the centre, coarse surface, dull blue glaze is applied on exterior.

5.5c. Corrugated bead, Faience (talc), 1cm(Ø)x0.9(h)

As 5.5b, but flattened ends and off-white glaze is applied on exterior.

5.5d. Corrugated bead, Faience (talc), 1.5cm(Ø)x1cm(h)

As 5.5a, but bluish glaze on exterior.

5.5e. Pumpkin bead, Faience (talc), 1.5cm(Ø)x0.9(h)

As 5.5a, but brownish glaze on exterior.

5.5f. Pumpkin bead, Faience (talc), 1cm(Ø)x0.8(h)

As 5.5a, but off-white glaze on exterior.

5.6. Terracotta Wheel & Beads

[For this group of beads see Nasim Khan 2010: nos. 4.ii.b.1-41; Khan et al. 2020: 68-71, nos. 161-98]

5.6a. Cart-wheel, Terracotta, 2.5cm(Ø)x1.3(h)

Cogged cart-wheel with a deep groove on the central edge, both sides are decorated with incised

hatches design, partly damaged.

**5.6b. Bi-conical bead, Terracotta, 2.9cm(Ø)
x2cm(h)**

Large bicone bead, the outer body is decorated with incised chevron pattern, pinkish colour.

**5.6c. Bi-conical bead, Terracotta, 2.1cm(Ø)
x2cm(h)**

Standard bicone, the body is incised with chevron pattern, pinkish slip on pink surface.

**5.6d. Tapered bead, Terracotta, 2.9cm(Ø)
x2cm(h)**

Tapered shaped bead with concave ends, coarse surface, and white saline is seen all around the body.

**5.6e. Spherical bead, Terracotta, 2.7cm(Ø)
x2cm(h)**

Spherical body with perforation in the centre, smoothed surface with dark chocolate slip.

**5.6f. Pot-shaped bead, Terracotta, 1.5cm(Ø)
x1.7cm(h)**

Pot-shaped bead with a lug collar at top, fine smoothed surface, buff slip provided on pinkish surface.

**5.6g. Pot-shaped bead, Terracotta, 1cm(Ø)
x1.5cm(h)**

Small pot-shaped bead with a heavy lug collar at top, smoothed surface, red slip on pinkish surface.

**5.6h. Fig-shaped bead, Terracotta, 1cm(Ø)
x1.5cm(h)**

Fig-shaped small bead with projected base engraved with a shallow groove, smoothed surface, outer body treated with black slip.

5.6i. Conical bead, Terracotta, 1cm(Ø)x1.5cm(h)

Short convex cone with flat base, smoothed surface, outer body furnished with grey slip.

5.6j. Conical bead, Terracotta, 1cm(Ø)x1.5cm(h)

Short convex cone with projected base and engraved with a deep horizontal groove in the middle filled with white colour, smoothed surface,

red slip on pinkish surface.

**5.6k. Fig-shaped bead, Terracotta, 1.2cm(Ø)
x1.5cm(h)**

Fig-shaped cone, centrally perforated, finely smoothed surface, pink slip on pinkish surface.

**5.6l. Squat-shaped bead, Terracotta, 2.6cm(Ø)
x2cm(h)**

Squat-shaped bead with a short collar at top, a shallow groove round narrow end, black slip on grey surface.

**5.6m. Conical bead, Terracotta, 2cm(Ø)
x1.8cm(h)**

As 5.6l.

**5.6n. Pot-shaped bead, Terracotta, 1.3cm(Ø)
x1.1cm(h)**

As 5.6g, but grey slip on greyish surface.

**5.6o. Conical bead, Terracotta, 2cm(Ø)
x1.8cm(h)**

Cone-shaped bead with a shallow groove on narrow end, fine texture, black slip on greyish surface.

**5.6p. Pot-shaped bead, Terracotta, 1.2cm(Ø)
x1.1cm(h)**

Pot-shaped bead with a vertical collar and a thin groove at narrow end, smoothed surface, outer body is decorated with black horizontal bands alternated by grey bands.

5.7. Carnelian Beads

[For this group of beads *see* Nasim Khan 2010: nos. 4.ii.a.34-41; Khan et al. 2020: 44-45, nos. 134-76; Rabbani 2019: figs. 10-12]

5.7a. Long barrel, Carnelian, 1.4cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Long barrel bead with a large hole in the centre, smoothed surface, red colour.

**5.7b. Standard barrel, Carnelian, 1.4cm(Ø)
x0.6(h)**

Standard barrel bead, both ends slightly cut for perforation, pinkish colour.

5.7c. Long barrel, Carnelian, 1.3cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

As 5.7b, but brownish colour.

5.7d. Standard barrel, Carnelian, 1.4cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Standard barrel bead with cut edges, well-made, smoothed shiny surface, shade of different coloured veins, pinkish colour.

5.7e. Standard barrel, Carnelian, 1.4cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

As 5.7d.

5.7f. Elliptical bead, Carnelian, 1.2cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Standard elliptical shape, smoothed surface, brownish colour with small lenses.

5.7g. Elliptical hexagon bead, Carnelian, 1.5cm(Ø)x0.8(h)

Long elliptical hexagon-shaped bead, smooth surface, pinkish colour with small lenses.

5.7h. Bullet-shaped, Carnelian, 1.4cm(Ø)x0.6(h)

Long bullet-shaped bead like pendant, highly smoothed surface, brownish colour.

5.7i. Biconical bead, Carnelian, 1.2cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Standard biconical bead, smoothed surface, brownish colour.

5.7j. Cylindrical bead, Carnelian, 1cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Standard cylindrical with a large hole in the centre, highly smoothed surface, red colour with small lenses.

5.7k. Spherical bead, Carnelian, 1cm(Ø)x0.7(h)

Large spherical bead with a narrow hole in the centre, highly smoothed surface, pinkish colour.

5.7l. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 0.8cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Short barrel bead with incurved ends, smoothed surface, red colour with lenses.

5.7m. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 0.8cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Small barrel bead with convex ends, smoothed surface, red colour.

5.7n. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 0.9cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Standard barrel bead with cut ends and centrally narrow perforation, smoothed surface, red colour.

5.7o. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 1cm(Ø)x0.6(h)

Short barrel bead, smoothed surface, red and orange colours' combination.

5.7p. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 1cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Roughly barrel-shaped bead, smoothed surface, red colour.

5.7q. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 0.8cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

Short barrel bead, smoothed surface, red colour.

5.7r. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 0.8cm(Ø)x0.6(h)

As 5.7q.

5.7s. Barrel bead, Carnelian, 0.9cm(Ø)x0.5(h)

As 5.7q.

5.7t. Triangle cone, Carnelian, 0.9cm(Ø)x0.8(h)

Triangular cone-shaped bead, smoothed surface, red colour.

5.7u. Square bead, Carnelian, 0.7cm(w)x0.7(b)

Square-shaped low barrel bead with a hole in the centre, smoothed surface, red colour.

5.8. Glass Beads

[For this group of beads see Khan et al. 2020: 33, no. 323]

5.8a. Barrel bead, Glass, 2.9cm(l)x2cm(h)

Long barrel bead in crystal form, smoothed surface, bluish colour.

5.8b. Barrel bead, Glass, 1cm(Ø)x0.8cm(h)

Small barrel bead in crystal clean form, smoothed surface, bluish colour.

5.8c. Cylindrical bead, Glass, 0.9cm(Ø)x0.8cm(h)

Small cylindrical bead, dull opaque body, one end partly chipped off, smoothed surface, greenish colour.

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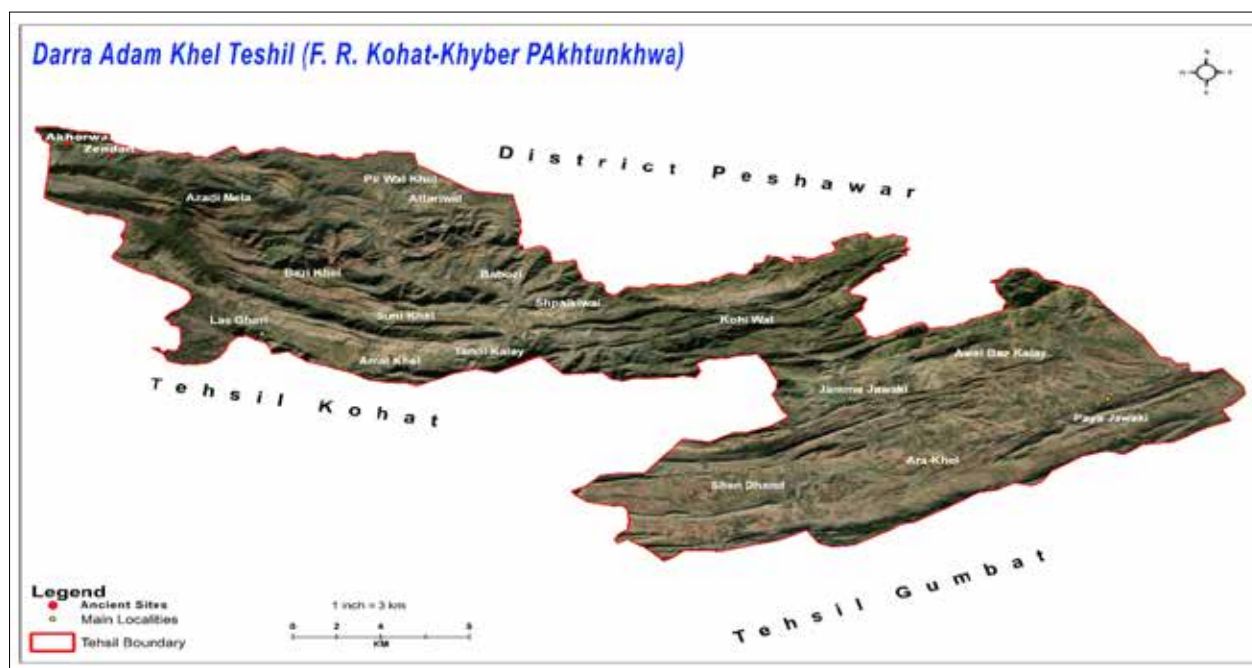


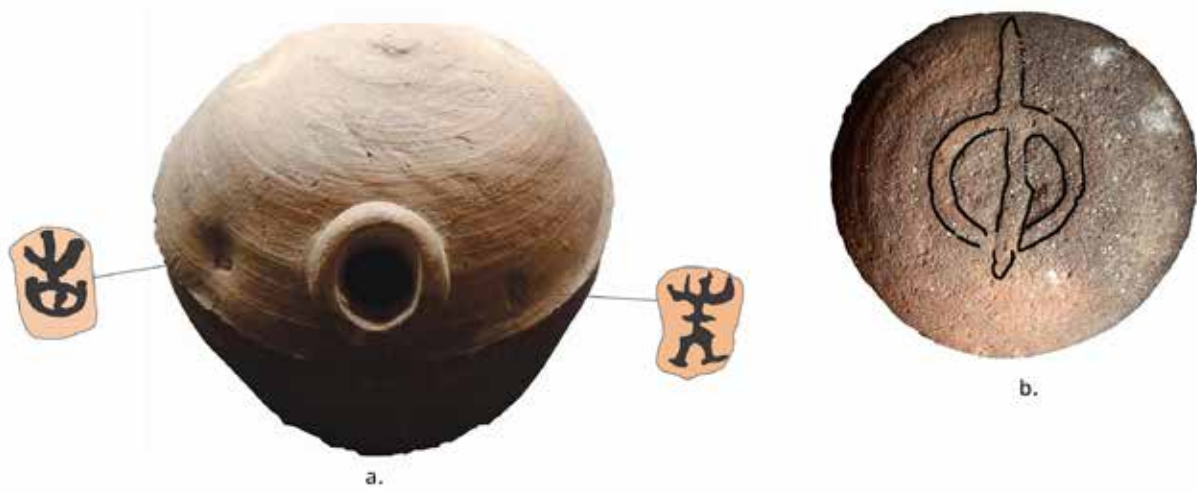
Fig. 1. A map of Darra Ādam Khel showing sites of Akhorwāl Village and Zindān Dheri



Fig. 2. A view of Zindān Dheri from road side



Fig. 3. Sectional view of Akhorwāl site occupied by modern houses and levelled for fields



a. Condenser vessel with deep stamped tamgas
 b. Base surface with circle symbol intersecting by a vertical line



c. Details of tamga
 Akhorwal condenser vessel



d. Detail of tamga



detail of i.
 Shaikhan Dheri Tamga on
 condenser. i. Figure.2-2 Class R,



detail of ii.
 Shaikhan Dheri tamga on condenser
 ii. Figure.2:1 Class N (Allchin 1979)

Fig. 4. Condenser vessels stamped with Kushan *Tamgās*



Fig. 5. Queen Maya with her attendants' ear rings motif in Mardan panel with details, and the hair-pin decoration of Akhorwāl site, (Courtesy: Kiran 2012)



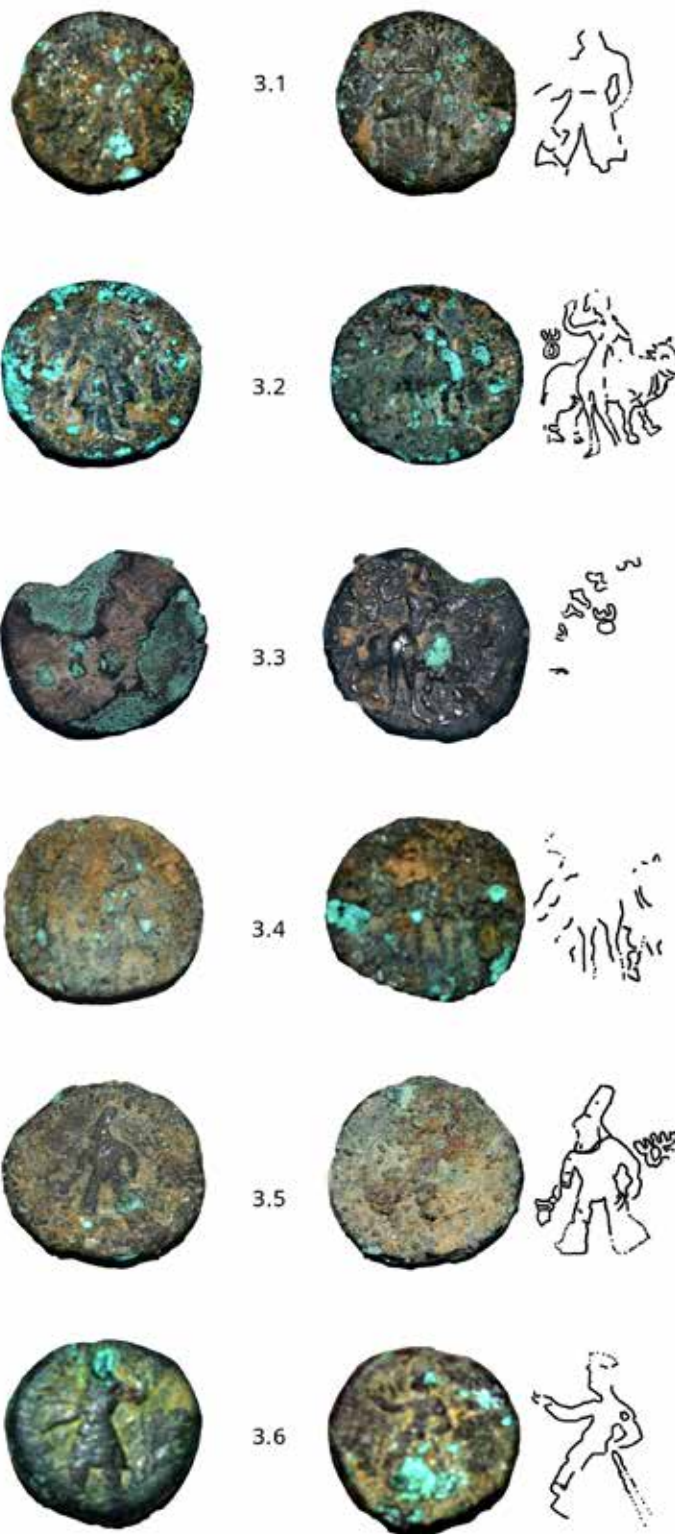
Fig. 6. Standing Bodhisattva Maitreya in Gandhara art who wears jewelry and amulets (Zwalf: 1996)



Pl. I. Three stone sculptures from Darra Ādam Khel



Pl. II. Variety of pottery including condenser vessel from Darra Ādam Khel



Pl. III. Copper coins of the Kushan period



Pl. IV. Minor objects from Darra Ādam Khel sites



Pl. V. Variety of beads made in stones, terracotta and glass