

Two Million Years of Art in Human Evolution

AH 224 Paleolithic Art, Spring 2012

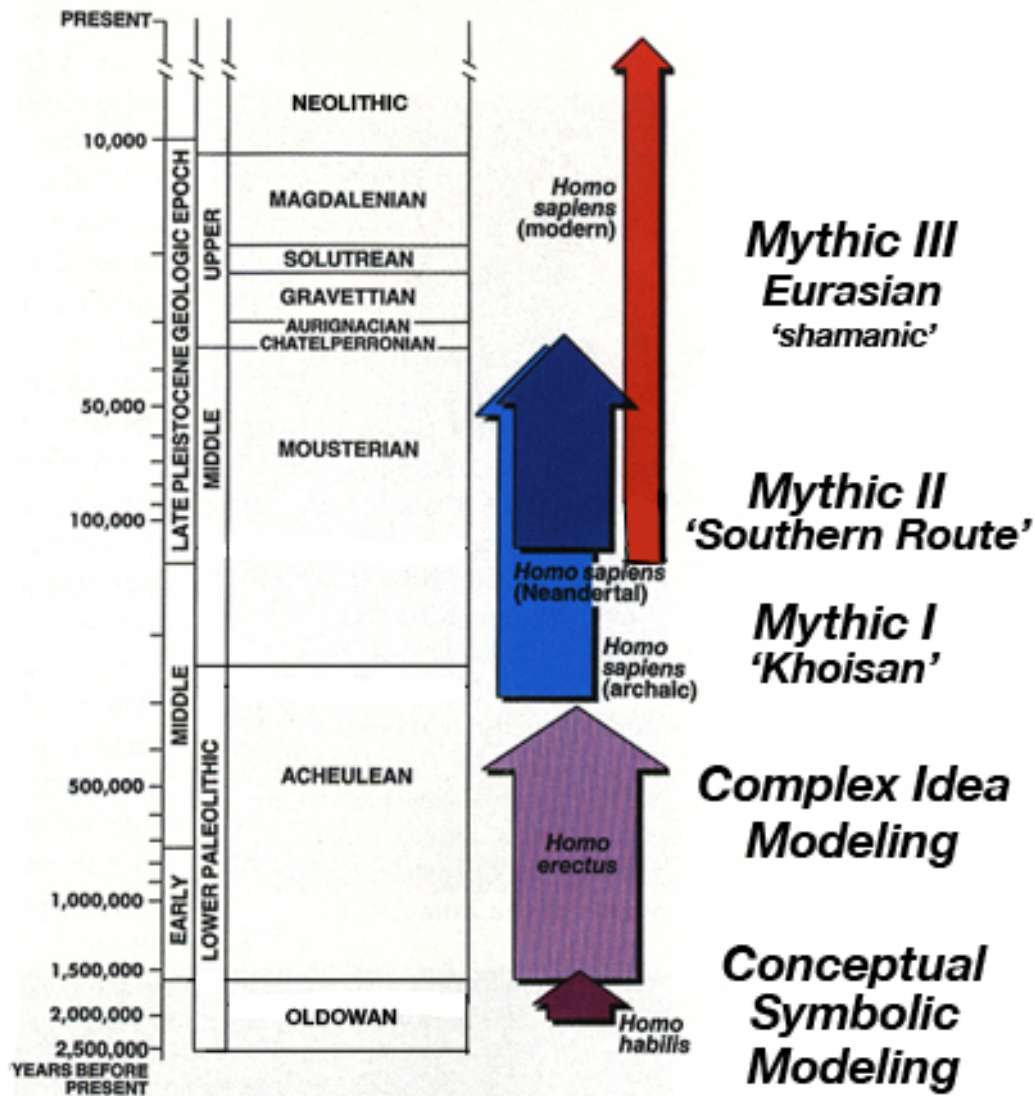
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MYTHO-STRATIGRAPHY



4 Meme Model: 2MY Evolution of Art, Symbol & Myth

<i>Era and Techné</i>	<i>Four Meme Model</i> (James Harrod)
<p>Oldowan EO ~2.6 to 2.0 Ma 'Classic' ~2.0 to 1.4 Ma Developed ~1.7 to 1.2 Ma</p>	<p>'Rudimentary Symbolic' = 2.0-3.5 yrs // human = great ape cognition (A. Russon 2004) = <i>Australopithecus</i> (similar cognitive level by triangulation to common great ape ancestor) First 'art object': 'animacy in stone'; 'animated spirit that inhabits the body'</p> <p>Conceptual-Symbolic Modeling = <i>Homo habilis/rudolfensis</i> (out-of-Africa) First Metaphor = 'core-seed-sustenance-essence in interpersonal interaction'; 'rhomboids of the mind' First Ethos = carnivore axis First Joke: 'hit the baboon head' anvil (drill cupules)</p>
<p>Acheulian <i>(sensu lato)</i> EA ~1.7 to 1.0 Ma MA ~1.0 Ma to 500 ka LA ~650 to 200 ka FA ~300 to 150 ka</p>	<p>Complex Idea Modeling = <i>Homo erectus/ergaster</i> (out-of-Africa) Biface pairing of complementary shapes (<i>contraria sunt complementa</i>, Niels Bohr; <i>coincidentia oppositorum</i>, C. G. Jung; 'co-poiesis', Bracha Ettinger) Sheath, the Womb Source of Animacy (Life-Giver) & Vehicle, Cutting Spirit, Energy of Initiative (Death-Giver) colorants, marking traditions, mortuary practice, adornments, anthropomorphs & zoomorphs</p>
<p>Middle Paleolithic / Middle Stone Age EMP ~300 to 40 ka MMP ~150 to 60(100) ka LMP ~60 to 30/35 ka</p>	<p>Mythic I & II EMP = <i>archaic Homo sapiens</i> / MMP = <i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i> (out-of-Africa) Beings of the Dreaming, Creatrix of Life-Forms, stone arrangements, landscape art, image representation, mortuary practices with grave goods; geometric 'signs'</p> <p>I. 'Gaia' (M. Witzel) = Khoisan II. 'Gondwana' (M. Witzel) = 'Southern Route' Africa to SE Asia & Australia</p>
<p>Upper Paleolithic / Later Stone Age EUP ~150 to 60 ka MUP ~40 to 20 ka LUP ~25 to 10 ka</p>	<p>Mythic III = <i>Homo sapiens sapiens</i> (out-of-SW-Central-Asia) 'Eurasian' (Y. Berezkin) 'Laurasian' (M. Witzel) = Shamanic 6 Worlds Shamanism; Soul Journey, Soul Retrieval; Mother-of-Animals, Master-of-Animals; Geometric Protolanguage, UP(E) array of 12 female and 12 male spiritual transformations (J. Harrod)</p>

Templeton (2010, 2002): genetics = 3 waves out-of-Africa – 1.9 Ma; 650 ka; 130 ka; 1 out-of-Asia (recent)

Daraki-Chattan Petroglyph Site

Bhanpura, Madhya Pradesh, on tributary to Chambal River

Chopping Tool Petroglyph Site, ~200,000 - 500,000 BP or earlier

International Rock Art Congress 2004
Rock Art Society of India

Daraki-Chattan Petroglyph Site: Fact Sheet (James Harrod)

Location	Daraki-Chattan Cave is a small, narrow and deep cave in the Indragarh Hill, Tehsil Bhanpura, Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh. It overlooks a tributary (now dammed) to the Chambal River, near the Gandhi Sagar Reservoir, in central India.
Rock Art	<p>The cave walls bear over 500 cupules and another 28 cupules have been found on exfoliated slabs within the excavation at the cave entrance and 1 cupule <i>in situ</i>. At least two engraved grooves have been found in the excavation. 10 hammerstones from different levels beginning close to bedrock. Tiny granules of hematite occur throughout the depth of the sediments.</p> <p>Experimental replication: making a small cupule 30-35mm diameter with conical depth >5mm “is incredibly hard; it requires immense skill, precision and dedication”; e.g., a 9mm depth on vertical quartzite rock required 28,327 direct percussion strokes (lift 5-6cm) 6 hrs, 12 min over 2 days; strokes produce high pitched sound making ears dumb; normal and rhythmic strokes best, two knappers at same time must synchronize strokes or be inaccurate (Krishna & Kumar 2010)</p>
Dating	<p>Mode I Chopping Tool industry and subsequent Acheulian industry, the latter circa 200,000 - 500,000 BP. Hammerstones found below exfoliated slabs in lowest level with Oldowan-like cobble tools and no bifaces (Bednarik & Kumar 2010; Bednarik, Kumar et al 2005)</p> <p>Currently the Early India Petroglyphs Project (EIP), Giriraj Kumar and Robert Bednarik, joint project directors, founded in 1999 under the aegis of the International Federation of Rock Art Organizations (IFRAO), is attempting to date cupules and other petroglyphs at Daraki-Chattan, Bhimbetka and other sites in India.</p>
Discovery & Excavation	<p>Discoverer: Ramesh Kumar Pancholi, Tehsil Bhanpura, Mandsaur, MP, in 1992. [Pancholi RK. (1994) Bhanpura khetra me navin shodha (Hindi). <i>Purakala</i> 5(1-2):75].</p> <p>Study and excavation: Giriraj Kumar since 1995, and EIP excavation commenced 2002; research continues.</p>
References	<p>Kumar G. 1996. Daraki-Chattan: A Palaeolithic Cupule Site in India. <i>Rock Art Research</i> 13,1:38-46.</p> <p>Bednarik RG, Kumar G, Watchman A and Roberts RG. 2005. Preliminary results of the EIP [Early Indian Petroglyphs] Project. <i>Rock Art Research</i> 22,2:147-197.</p> <p>Harrod J. 2006. Comments with Bednarik RG, Kumar G, Watchman A and Roberts RG Response, <i>Rock Art Research</i> 23,1:113-118.</p> <p>Bednarik RG, Kumar G. 2010. Typological context of the Lower Palaeolithic lithics from Daraki-Chattan Cave, India. IRAC 2010: Pleistocene art of the world (online).</p>



Daraki-Chattan, Indragarh Hill, Tehsil Bhanpura, Madhya Pradesh, India

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Hiking up Indragarh Hill to Daraki-Chattan Cave

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Approaching Daraki-Chattan

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Daraki-Chattan Cave, in quartzite buttresses, Indragarh Hill, Chambal Basin

(Kumar G, Vyas N, Bednarik RG, Pradhan A. 2010. Lower Palaeolithic petroglyphs and hammerstones obtained from the excavations at Daraki-Chattan Cave in India. *IFRAO Congress 2010: Pleistocene art of the world*, fig. 1)



Daraki-Chattan Cave, with the discoverer Ramesh Kumar Pancholi

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Back and top, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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Top, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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View south, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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View west, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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View north, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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Entering Daraki-Chattan Cave

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Left wall, depth, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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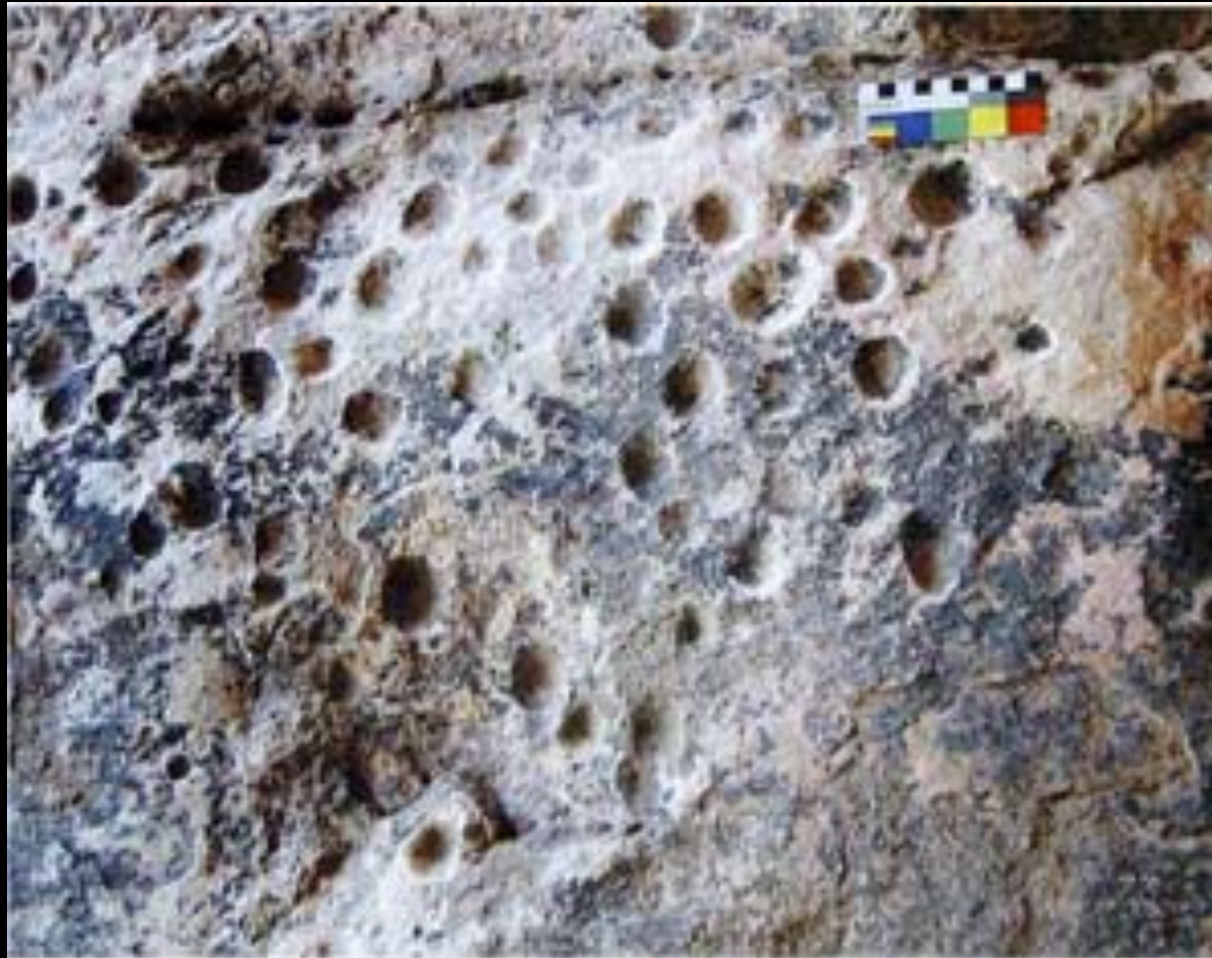
Right Wall, Daraki-Chattan Cave
(Bednarik, Kumar et al 2005, cover photo)



Deep into back of Daraki-Chattan Cave

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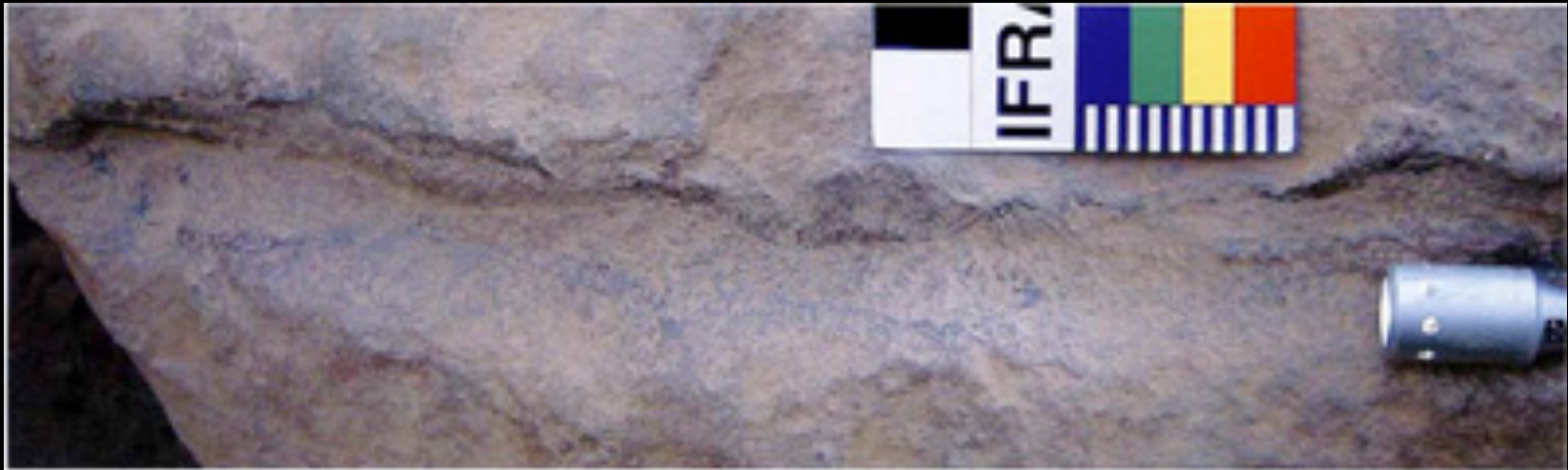
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*Cupules on the northern wall of Daraki-Chattan Cave, India.
(See Bednarik et al., page 168ff.)*

Daraki-Chattan Cave

(Bednarik, Kumar et al 2005, back cover photo)



One of two engraved grooves from Lower Palaeolithic level, Daraki Chaffan Cave, India. (See Bednarik et al., page 178.)

Engraved groove on boulder, upper part of layer 4, Daraki-Chattan Cave
(Bednarik, Kumar et al 2005, back cover photo)



Entry excavation pit, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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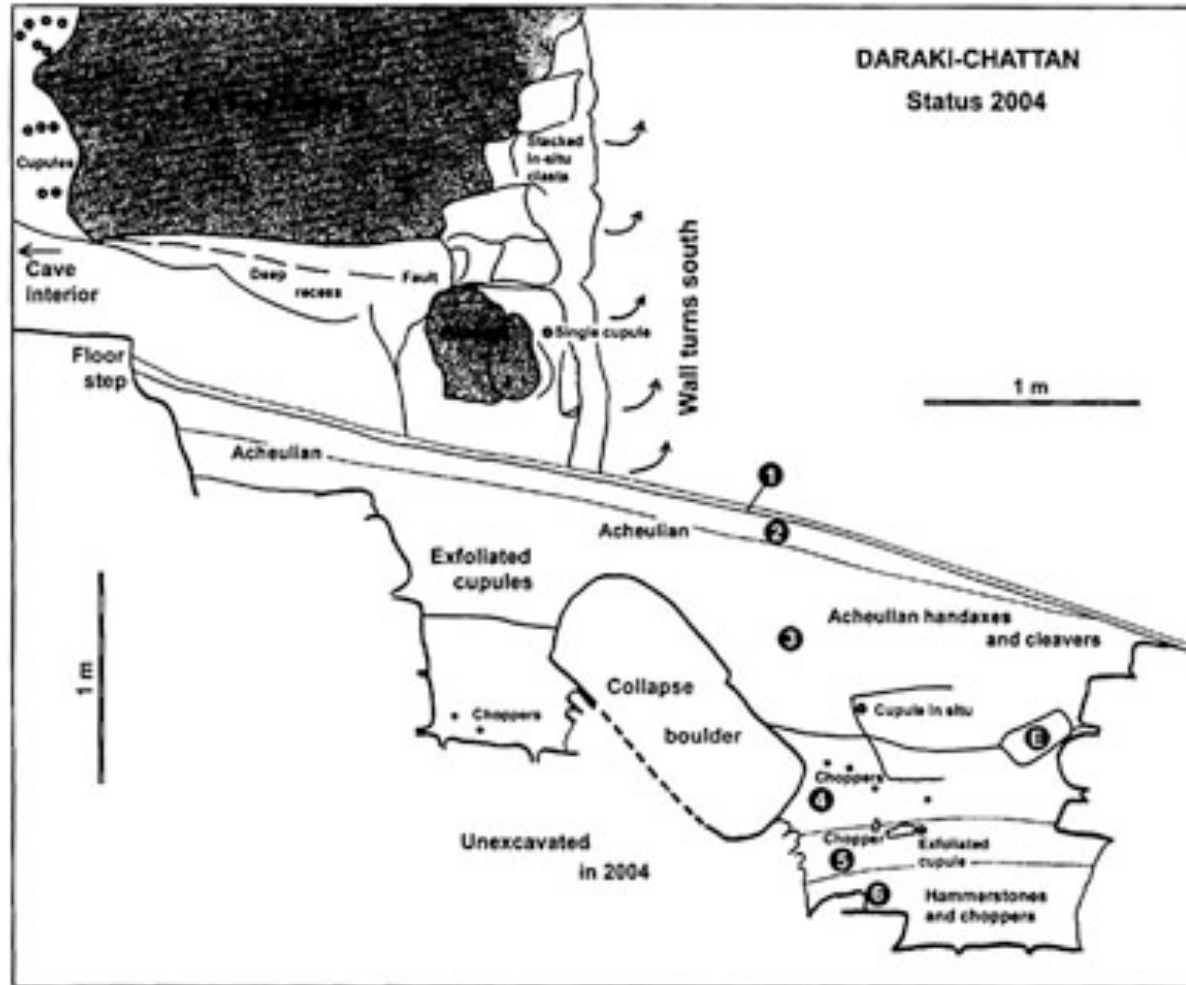


Figure 26. Generalised section view of the entrance of Daraki-Chattan, looking south, showing the spatial

Daraki-Chattan, Indragarh Hill, Tehsil Bhanpura, Madhya Pradesh, India
(photo J. Harrod)

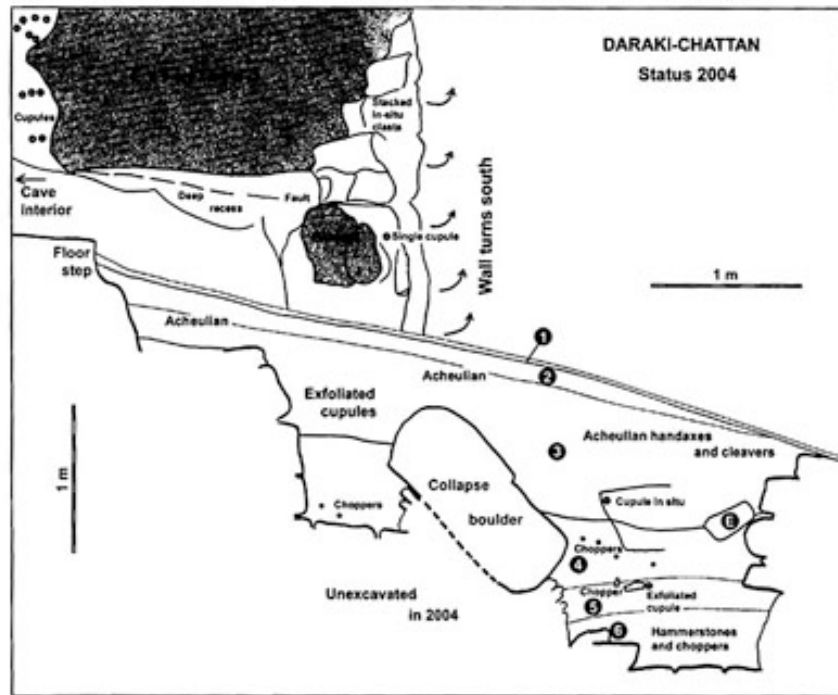


Figure 26. Generalised section view of the entrance of Daraki-Chattan, looking south, showing the spatial

No.	Thickness	Nature of sediment	Associated cultural material
1	Only a few cm to 10 cm	Loose rubble with little humus	Artefacts representing transitional phase from Lower Palaeolithic to Middle Palaeolithic, mostly of purple red quartzite, a few of patinated chert. Because of the gradient, rainwater sweeps away the soil leaving behind the heavy material, hence difficult to separate constituents of layers 1 and 2.
2	15 to 24 cm, including layer 1	Loose greyish-brown sediment with rubble	
3	37 to 110 cm	Loose brown soil with exfoliated flakes and stones	Lower Palaeolithic flake artefacts, some of cobbles, mostly of purple-red quartzite, a few of patinated chert. Hammerstones, exfoliated slabs bearing cupules, no handaxe, no cleaver.
4	26 to 50 cm	Compact calcareous yellowish-brown soil	Lower Palaeolithic flake tools along with cobble tools. Cupules, petroglyphs and stone structures, mostly on purple-red quartzite, a few of patinated chert. Hammerstones, exfoliated slabs bearing cupules, no handaxes, no cleavers.
5	25 to 28 cm	Compact brownish-red soil	Lower Palaeolithic flake tools along with cobble tools. Cupules, petroglyphs and stone structures, mostly on purple-red quartzite, a few tools of patinated chert, rare occurrence of handaxes, only one cleaver, some hammerstones and slabs bearing cupules.
6	25 cm (?) (still to reach bedrock)	Red lateritic soil, comparatively loose because of rain water	Lower Palaeolithic. More artefacts of quartzite cobbles and thick nodules (cobble tools, discoids and spheroids (bolas?)), some also of natural flakes, split cobbles and man-made flakes of quartzite, a few of patinated chert also. Hammerstone found at the beginning of the red laterite soil.

Table 1. Stratigraphy and tool typology, section facing south, main trench. Layers 1 and 2 are visible only in the area of XB3 and XB4 and are almost indistinguishable.

Preliminary 2004 Site Profile, Stratigraphy, Tool Typology, Daraki-Chattan Cave

(Bednarik, Kumar et al 2005, fig 26 and Table 1)

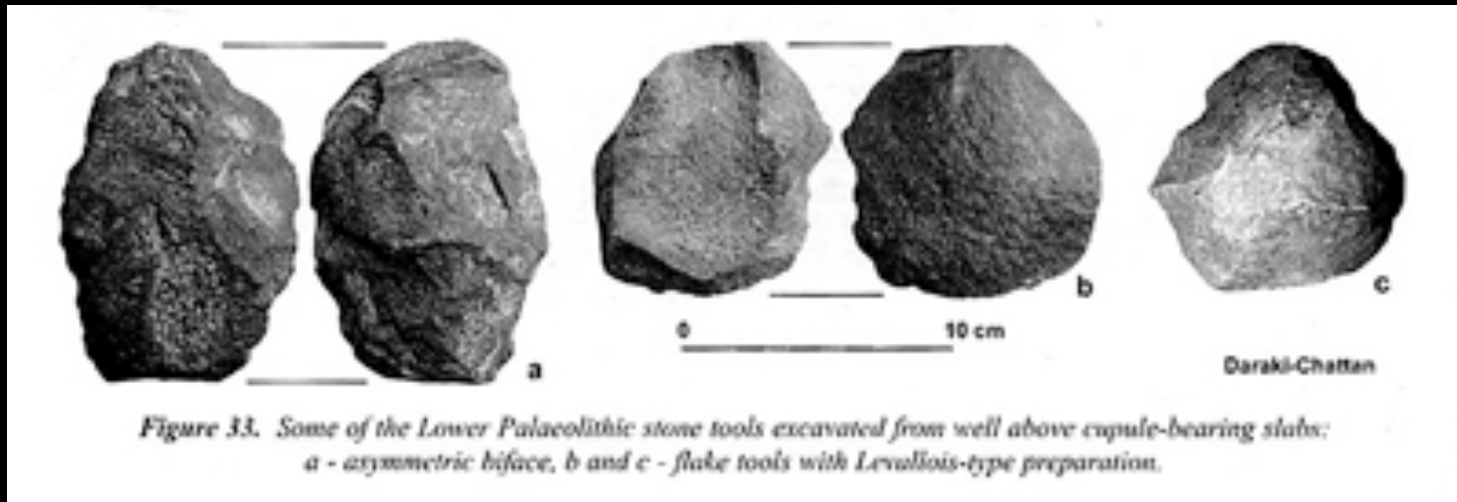


Figure 33. Some of the Lower Palaeolithic stone tools excavated from well above cupule-bearing slabs: a - asymmetric biface, b and c - flake tools with Levallois-type preparation.

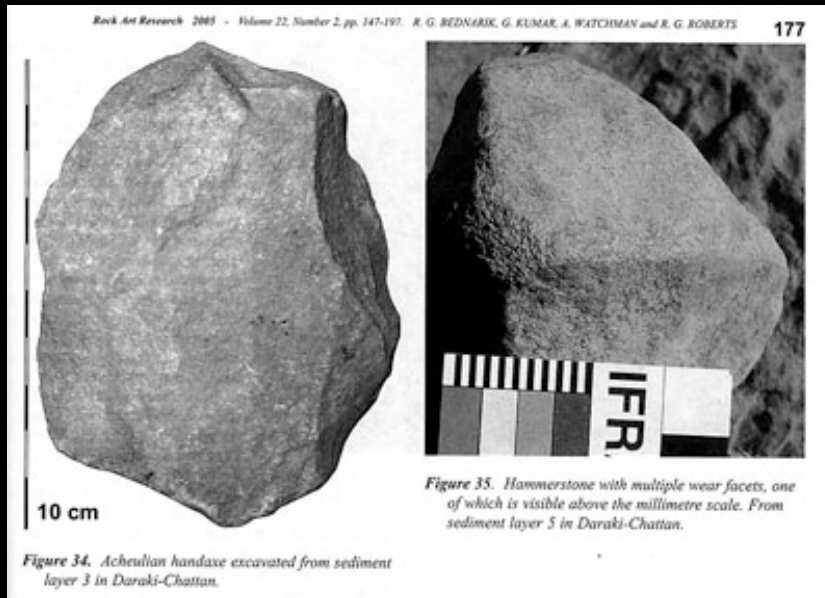


Figure 34. Acheulian handaxe excavated from sediment layer 3 in Daraki-Chattan.

Figure 35. Hammerstone with multiple wear facets, one of which is visible above the millimetre scale. From sediment layer 5 in Daraki-Chattan.

Cores, tools, Daraki-Chattan Cave
 (Bednarik, Kumar et al 2005, fig .33, 34, 35)



Large flake 1, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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Large flake 2, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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Large Flake 3, 'zoomorph'?, Daraki-Chattan Cave

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IRAC 2004 Reception, Daraki-Chattan

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IRAC 2004, Reception officials, personnel, Daraki-Chattan

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Rock Art Society of India & International Federation of Rock Art Organizations (photo J. Harrod)



IRAC 2004 Reception3, Daraki-Chattan

International Rock Art Congress 2004

Rock Art Society of India & International Federation of Rock Art Organizations (photo J. Harrod)

