

JORWE CULTURE

The Jorwe culture was first discovered at the site of Jorwe, Maharashtra. This culture practically covers all the area of Maharashtra except the Konkon coast.

- The Pravara-Godavri valley seem to have been the nuclear zone of this culture.
- The main excavated sites are Daimabad, Inamgaon, Theur, Songaon, Chandoli, Bahal, Prakash, Jorwe and Nevasa.
- Prakash is the largest Jorwe site in the Tapi Valley, Daimabad in the Godavri valley and Inamgaon in the Bhima valley.

- All these settlements were 20ha or more in size. These large sites represented permanent agricultural villages.
- Jorwe, Bahal and Nevasa were medium-sized habitations.
- The average Jorwe culture sites were, however, much smaller-usually 1 or 2 ha.
- This category includes Walki and Gotkhil, which seems to have been sites of predominantly seasonal agricultural-cum-pastoral occupation.

- Radiocarbon dates from Nevasa, Chandoli, and Songaon suggest a time frame of c.1300BCE-1000BCE.
- At Inamgaon, on the other hand, the dates for the Early Jorwe culture are c.1400-1000BCE, while the Late Jorwe phase is dated c.1000BCE – 700BCE.

POTTERY

- Jorwe pottery is fine, well baked and rich in form and design.
- The pots have a red or bright orange matt surface on which designs – usually geometric – were painted in black.
- Shapes : concave-sided bowl with sharp carination, spouted jar with flaring mouth, and high-necked jar with globular profile.
- There is also a coarse, hand-made red and grey pottery.
- Oval lamps of red and grey ware are also found.



DAIMABAD

- At Daimabad, Period V represents the jorwe culture.
- The settlement grew to about 30ha in this period.
- There were traces of mud fortification wall with bastions.
- The excavators identified the houses of butcher, lime maker, potter, bead maker, and merchant.

- There was an elliptical structure with approach paths plastered with cow dung; clusters of pots seem to have contained offerings including copper objects, shaped stones and tool hafts made of cattle bones.
- The artifacts included microliths, copper objects, beads and terracotta figurines.
- There was also a terracotta cylinder seal depicting a horse-drawn cart or chariot.

- Out of the 48 burials, 44 were urn burials, three were extended pit burials and one was an extended burial in an urn.
- One of the curious things about Daimabad burials is that except for one burial belonging to the late Harappan phase, all of them were of infants and young people.
- An analysis of teeth remains of the skeletons showed the presence of dental caries, gross enamel hypoplasia, tartar accumulation, and calculus deposits.
- There was one instance of infantile scurvy.