

Archaeological Investigation at Kaliakair Upazila of Gazipur District in Bangladesh

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[Abstract: Documenting archaeological records and analysing the relationship between the archaeological sites in Kaliakair Upazila is the major concern of this research. Although archaeological excavations have been carried out in different parts of the country, most of the regions especially Gazipur remained unexplored. Important archaeological findings have recently been unearthed in the areas surrounding Matherchala and Dhol Samudra archaeological sites in Kaliakair by the Department of Archaeology. As various archaeological remains are scattered around this site it felt necessary to carry out an exploration to find out the actual history of the area in the light of ancient settlements and other archaeological evidences. The research undergoes a comprehensive and systematic archaeological investigation with the help of reviewing various historical sources in Kaliakair Upazila unearthed throughout the excavation. In this paper, the archaeological sites and artifacts discovered in the various villages of Kaliakair Upazila have been discussed in detail. Furthermore, using satellite images and GIS, the relationship between archaeological sites in the vicinity has been analyzed.]

Introduction:

The sources and evidences of the ancient history of Bangladesh are scattered in different places of the country. Among them, various places in Gazipur district, especially the Kaliakair Upazila (Fig-1) is a home to different archeological remains bearing many traces of the history and heritage of Bangladesh. Most of the region in Gazipur remained untouched and Kaliakair is among them which is one of the oldest traditional areas of Bangladesh bearing many mementos of the past. Through excavation led by the Department of Archaeology a terracotta ornamented temple has been found here with old bricks and various ancient architectural remains. The Archaeological site Baroibari was declared as Protected site by the department of Archaeology. Apart from this, there are various archaeological sites scattered around this region and as a result, it is necessary to conduct systematic fieldwork in this area. Artifacts have been found at various places in the region through systematic field investigations. Archaeological sites are identified and documented by analyzing the findings, and their location on maps. As many as twenty-six archaeological sites have been identified and documented in this archaeological investigation. Pottery fragments, unshaped fragments of bricks, complete brick rows or samples of ancient structures, decorated bricks, and ruined architectural structures have

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been found in these archaeological sites which demonstrated the rich archaeological prospect of this area.

While the Department of Archaeology was involved in excavating and digging out the past, curious mind encouraged us to led an exploration in Kaliakair. This article sheds light on the archaeological sites and artifacts discovered in various villages of Kaliakair. Through spatial analysis of the ancient river channels the connection between the archaeological sites of Kaliakair and Sripure, Kapasia, Egarosindhur and Wari-Bateshwar have been deciphered throughout this paper. With an aim to unearth various archaeological sites and document the archaeological evidences of this area, research has been conducted in Kaliakair. With the objective of getting an idea about the historical evidence of this region in order to understand the chronological history of the region, to know about the topography and geomorphology of the Kaliakair region and the network of other contemporary archaeological sites of Bangladesh, the paper also tried to address the understanding of the ancient human settlement and culture of this area through exploration.

The research involved students of the Department of Archaeology, Jahangirnagar University who throughout the research tried to interview, collect and document the records obtained through archaeological exploration and surface collections to shed light on history by verifying the facts based on locals which might help in future documentation and researches along with encouraging excavations to be led further. The paper emphasized on involving the residents of the investigation area as an observer with an attempt to unearth any hidden stories, myths about the sites and also to bring out the probability of getting information on any possible sites.

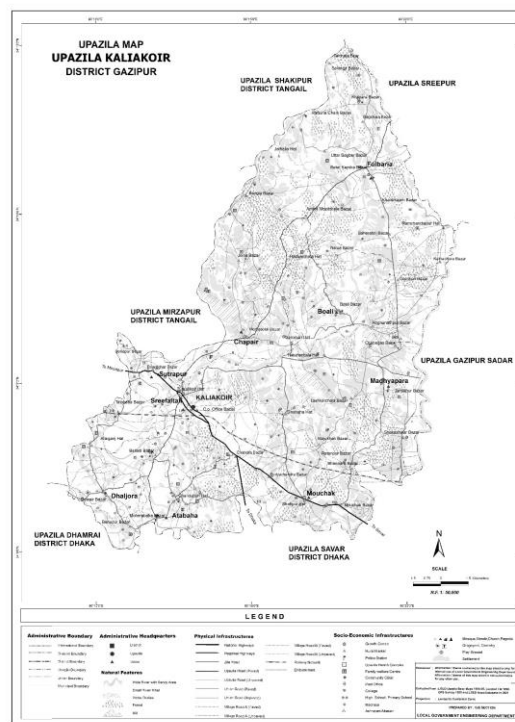


Fig. 1: The Map of Kaliakair Upazila under Gazipur District (Source: LGED)

Methodological Framework

The research is field based and both qualitative and quantitative method has been used. The three stages for archaeological investigation methods described by S.J. Knudson (1978) were followed in this research in Kaliakair Upazila of Gazipur district. The three stages were Pre-survey research and data collection, Field Survey and Post-field analysis activities. Pre-Survey Research includes collecting detailed information about the area before conducting the survey work at Kaliakair Upazila of Gazipur district. A literature review has been undertaken to better understand the historical background of the study area, its historical geography, geology and its demography. Different maps were collected to understand the geological pattern of the survey area. It also includes collecting information regarding the communication system of the area and planning a detailed survey.

The research also has been conducted following two ethnographic approaches as it is mainly based on observation and exploration. An analytic study was carried out through the findings collected through the samplings or data. The majority of ethnographic studies only examine contemporary societies with a focus on their material culture rather than engaging in the usual archaeology of excavation and analysis (Schmidt 1997). In order to produce objective study results, the research itself involves monitoring variables (community, museum, culture, etc.) in their natural surroundings or habitats. The field survey was carried out using an open-ended questionnaire, and samples at random were used for analysis. The field survey was conducted through open ended survey and analyzed through random samplings. The analysis of this research is survey concentrated and has been based of the justifications of those samplings and so it was carried out in a descriptive argumentative manner to examine the relationship and looking for opportunities to fulfill the aim.

In order to obtain information and understand social phenomena, a sociologist can employ the participant observation approach by joining the group being investigated. The researcher simultaneously assumes the roles of participant and observer during participant observation. Sometimes, but not always, the group is aware that the researcher is keeping an eye on them. Furthermore, archival research enables access to enormous amounts of data by utilizing already-existing knowledge to respond to various study-related queries. According to Denzin and Lincoln (2000), participant observation (Spradley, 1980) develops a more expansive qualitative research paradigm. Archival research is a technique for conducting research. A researcher can find patterns or links in historical data that may open up new research avenues. Detailed information about the area has been collected before conducting the survey work at Kaliakair Upazila of Gazipur district. It is very much important to look through what people residing in the area thinks and knows about a site. To collect information, it is vital to include the residents of the area rather than excluding them. The residents do not only act as an interviewee but also as an observer who might help in finding out more unexplored history of Kaliakair Upazila. As a researcher it is impossible to exclude the residents if we want to perform a perfect exploration. There will be or could be many limitations yet including all might help to increase the depth and importance of a research.

One of the advance groups was sent to Kaliakair Upazila to observe the archaeological site at Baroibari and get an idea of the study area. Besides, we have collected maps and a compilation of mouza-based maps of Kaliakair Upazila and satellite images of this area. In this stage, we have prepared a site survey form to collect data from the study area. The Kaliakair Upazila was divided union-wise so that the divided teams can perform a pedestal survey periodically to find the new occurrence of archaeological

evidence in the vicinity. Firstly, the team explored the documented archaeological sites. Secondly, through observing and interviewing the locals, children, households, teachers, Imam, the people affiliated with excavation and the people from the Department of Archaeology information was gathered stepping outside the box of being limited to only the findings. After locating the site, a site survey form is filled out with specific information about the site and sample were collected from these sites.

The local residents are a great source of information to find new sites as they have more knowledge regarding their area and they are the ones who will be able to unfold many untold and unfound facts regarding the area. We have used the myths and information regarding the twenty-six sites in this paper which were collected through interviewing them. In this paper we are using pseudonyms for each participant. Additionally, to locate water bodies, human settlements, and provable find spots of archaeological records google earth engine came in handy. We have recorded geo-coordinate using a GPS receiver. Observing naturally exposed sections, trail trenches, section drawing, contour mapping, photographic documentation, and interviewing the locals was very effective at the time of the field survey. Moreover, there are various potteries found in the different archaeological sites which we have collected and labeled in polybags. Photographs of various artifacts and sites were collected at all the places visited for archaeological exploration. Through contour mapping of some sites the undulation of the sites was identified. The theodolite level machine is placed in the middle of the archaeological mound and readings are taken at regular intervals. The readings at the same height or elevation are added by drawing a line by placing the readings on the graph paper. While surveying on foot, it was seen that common people unknowingly opened various sections while digging roads, ponds, stoves, etc. for their needs which is very important to us. We have carefully observed these sections and drawn them on graph paper. We have conducted and observed the test evaluation section in important sites. Sections have been taken in historically important sites and the information obtained has been documented.

After completing the field survey research and data collection in the field we have undertaken a post-survey analysis of the data collected at the time of fieldwork (Knudson, 1978). Site survey information was used to write the description of the sites and create a map using the GPS data. Photographic documentation of the artifact collection at the time of the field survey has been done in this stage. A list of archaeological sites was prepared with a designated site code number and put on the map. After the fieldwork, we prepared a detailed description of the site from each site form. We have prepared a map with GPS data. Using GIS and remote sensing data a regional network has been established by identifying the apparent paleo channels of this region. Finally, Preparation of post-field activities and reports to complete fieldwork report based on all the data that has been collected during the fieldwork. The present paper is mostly a preliminary report of the field survey conducted there.

The Exploration of Kaliakair

According to local scholars, the present Kaliakair comprise with Dobak (*Dakuirol*, *Dhol Samudra*, *Sakashwar*) and *Bawal* region (Bashar, 2016, p 9). The Sakashwar pillar of Kaliakair, which resembles the Ashokan pillar in appearance, provides evidence of the Mauryan Emperor's authority (Jatindramohan, 1912). The Sakaswar pillar is devoid of any writing. But this stone pillar, which bears some recognizable signs, suggests that this area once had a vibrant society and culture. Additionally, there are a few significant locations in Sripure and Kapasia Upazila of Gazipur. Then, at various points in time,

Zamindars and rulers of both the Hindu and Muslim faiths ruled over this region. Knowing the structural antiquity of the land in a location is essential to determining the age of human settlements there. The red soil upland of Madhupur-Bhawal dominates the Kaliakair. Neolithic stone hand axes, bronze hand axes made of iron ore, and other artifacts may be found in the red-soil hills of Belabo police station, which is in Narsingdi district's northernmost section and is not far from the Bhawal region (আসগর ১৯৯৪).

Kaliakair's history, which dates back to the sixth century BC, is part of the Bhawal region because the modern-day city of Gazipur and its surroundings served as the foundation of the old Bengali empire and the excavation of the sites shows a certainty to this point. We tried to list down the sites and monuments to ease down and lead our exploration on that direction. Twenty-six sites had been listed with a site code (Fig-4) and the surroundings were where we started our exploration and interviews. Throughout the exploration along with the details we collected general myths or legends surrounding the sites. In Fig-2 and Fig- 3 using Landsat TM and GIS maps has been created to mark the sites and indicate their location. Out of 26 sites we chose to point out 13 sites (Fig-2) and 15 sites (Fig-3) in the map.

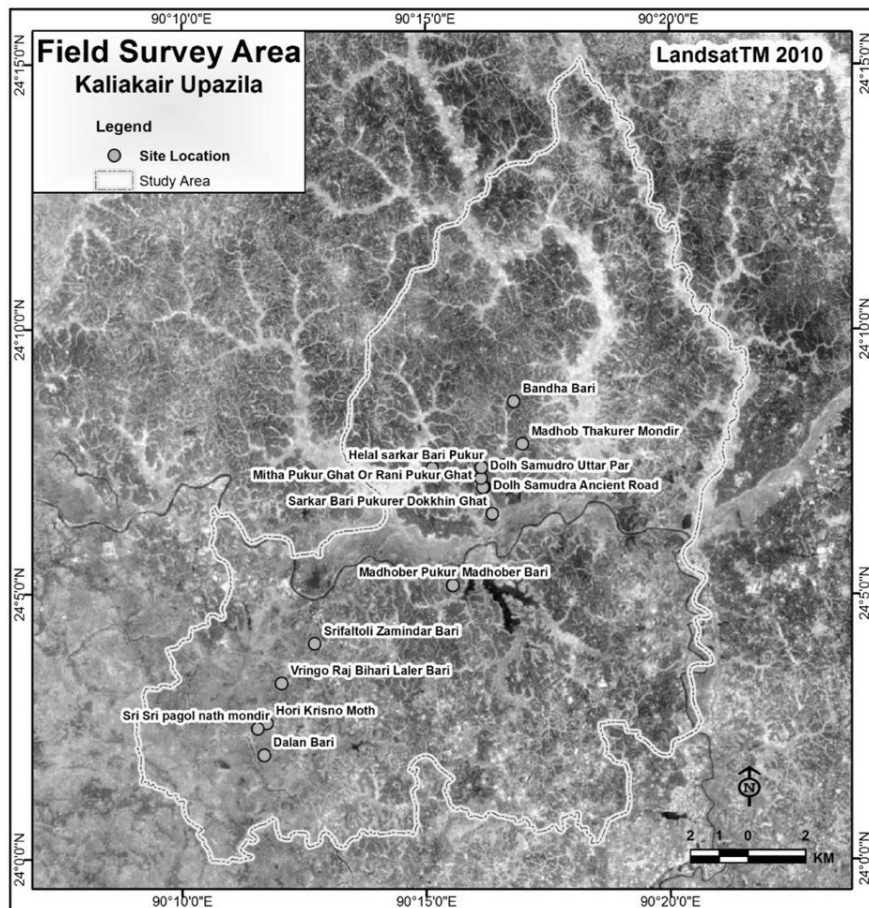


Fig. 2: Showing thirteen sites on Map of the Study area using Landsat TM 2010

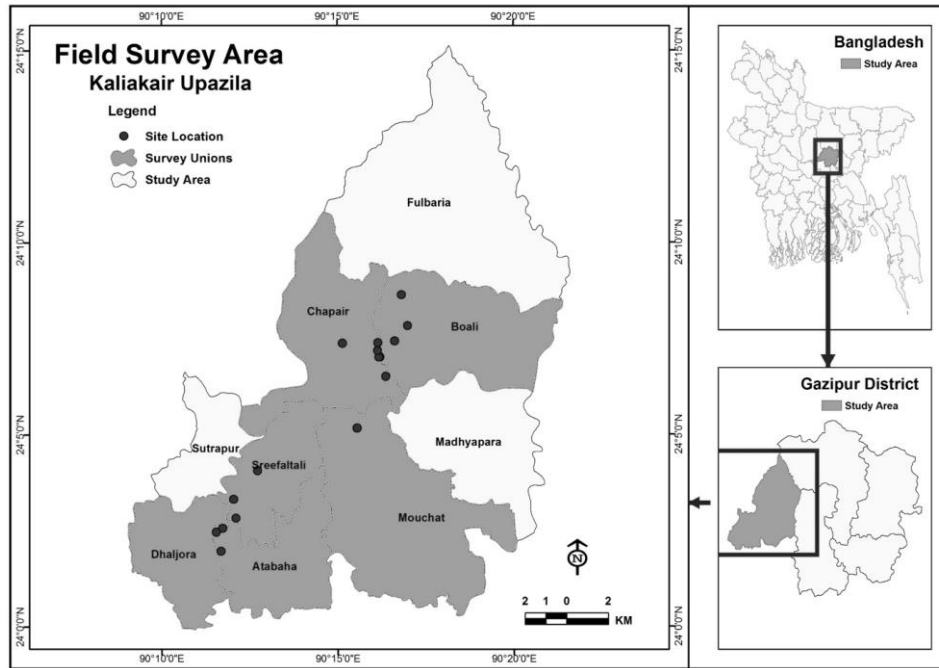


Fig-3: Showing fifteen sites on map showing union and the points of archaeological records

SL	Name of the Archaeological Sites	Site Code
01	Dhol Samudra Chota Pukur	DSP
02	Mitha Pukur	MP
03	Jainatali Pukur	JTP
04	Bandhabari Pukur	BBP
5	Dhol Samudra Boro Pukur	DSBP
6	Dhol Samudra Ancient Brick structure on the northern bank	DSABS
7	Dhol Samudra Ancient Road like trace on the foot of south-eastern bank	DSAR
08	Madhab Pond	MaP
09	The Homestead of King Madhab	KMH
10	Helal Sarkerbari Pond	HSP
11	Taltoli Chala	TTC
12	Majid Chala Mound	MCM
13	Panchabatitola Temple	PBT
14	Gopinath Temple	GNP
15	Kathachora Site	KCS
16	Madhab Tagore Temple (Sakaswar Pillar)	MTT
17	Golwa Uttarpara	GOU
18	The Resident of Bhiringaraj Bihari Lal	BBLH
19	Zamindar Bari in Srifoltoli	STZB
20	Zamindar Bari in Baliadi	BZB
21	Baniachala Site	BCS
22	Bandha Bari	BBS
23	Sahbajpur Bora building house	SBH
24	Sri Dham Pagal-Nath Temple	SDPNT
25	Krishna Hari Monastery	KHT
26.	Baroibari Archaeological Sites (Excavated)	BBAS

Fig 4: List of Reported Archaeological Sites.

The Fig- 4 shows the list of archaeological sites and monuments located in the study area which we have tried to analyze after exploration. A total of twenty-six sites have been identified at the time of exploration in the study area. The brief description of the sites given bellow.

1. Dhol Samudra Chota Pukur

Dhol Samudra Chota Pukur or Dhol Samudra Small Pond is the second-largest pond in this locality. This pond is situated at the village of Dhol Samudra of Chapair Union in Kaliakair of Gazipur. The name of the locality has derived from the name of the pond. A primary school teacher, Arif Hossain stated while mentioning about its size, “The pond was dug about 1200 years ago.” Based on bricks found in the bank of the pond it seems that it’s contemporary to the recent-excavated site, Matherchala.

Furthermore, a brick-made structure (4mx2m) has been discovered on the western-bank of the pond. The brick’s size and form of this structure seems similar to Matherchala edifice. On the base of brick’s size, form and measurement we can accept it as contemporary of Matherchala site.



Fig- 5: Exposed section of Dhol Samudra Small Pond

According to locals, this pond always remains full of water even never get dried. And previously water-hyacinth was so dense that cattle can cross over it easily. During rainy season the water remained at its verge. Furthermore, it is come to know that it was the habitat of a gigantic python. People who are mostly aged believe it as a dwelling-place of incorporeal spirit. According to Professor Farid, a local researcher, there was a Manikotha (treasury) in the pond which was being used in order to store riches i.e., it worked as a secret vault. On the base of his information, we tried exploring the pond in order to find any proof related to it but unfortunately, we couldn’t identify the long-expected Manikotha (treasury).



Fig- 6: Exposed section of Dhol Samudra Small Pond

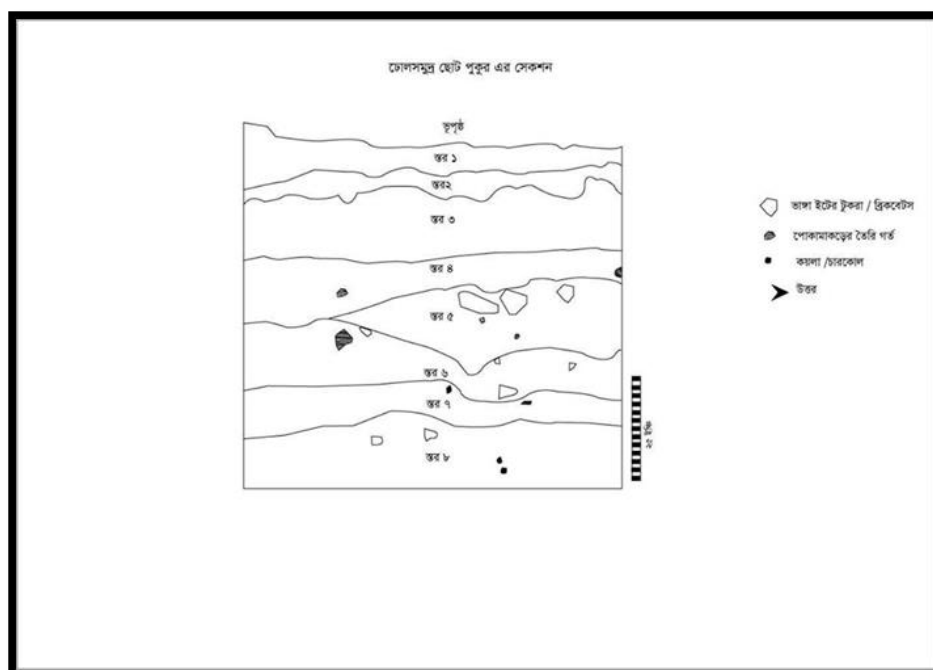


Fig- 7: section drawing of Dhol Samudra Small Pond

A section 1m x 0.95m was drawn and exposed 16-meter east from the western bank of Dhol Samudra which is known as Chota Pukur (small pond). A total of 8 layers have been identified in this section (Fig-7). The layer 1 and 2 are natural deposition whereas the other layers are cultural deposition. Brickbats and charcoal are found in layer 6 and 7 respectively. Whereas, layer 8 contained both brickbats and charcoals.

But was Dhol Samudra a river-port or Harbor? Analyzing the surrounding geomorphology, satellite images it seems to us that the south-eastern bank and side of the pond is gradually sloped making a paleo channel where it connected with a marshy land that has fallen to the main water body of this region, Turag River. Probably in the past it was used as a harbor or internal river port of this region. Professor Ahmad Farid Uddin, a local researcher stated, “Shalok (large boat) used to ferry here.”

Even the section that were exposed on the east from the western bank, we found several layers are formed with sediments. Besides a brick-made structure had also been discovered on the western-bank of the pond, we assume this was used to collect toll from the boats.

Similar structures are found in Egarosindhur of Kishorgonj and Sonargaon of Narayangonj. Soit's assumed that this port was connected with Egarosindhur and Sonargaon. Since, on the basis of findings it is most probable that Matherchala and Dhol Samudra were contemporary. So most probably during king Yashpala it can be assumed that it was used as a trade-center and Matherchala was a trade city.

2. Mitha Pukur

Mitha Pukur (Sweet-water Pond) is the nearest water body of the recent-excavated Matherchala archaeological site under Kaliakair. Locally it is also called *Ranir Pukur*. It is situated in the village of Matherchala of Boali Union. It is supposed; the main water source of Yashpala's palace is this Mitha Pukur (Sweet-water Pond).

Geographically its position is 24°07.433'N and 90° 15. 97'E. The pond is rectangular in shape with a length of 63m and 42m width. While asking about this pond, Faruk, a resident of the locality states,

“The pond was used by Yashpala's queens for bathing. So, this pond is also called *Ranir Pukur* (Queen's Pond).”

Another legend was stated by a shopkeeper named Karim, “Once few people drank the water of this pond after eating Emblic myrobalan (one kind of fruit) and thus the it tasted sweet to them. So, from that onwards they called it as Mitha Pukur (Sweet-water Pond).”

Generally during dry seasons, it remains abandoned but in rainy season it is used for fishing. At present, due to the draining of surrounding high-lands the bank of the pond is being eroded day by day. Because of long-time erosion process the brick-structure had been covered with sediment deposition. A Ghat (bathing-place) has been discovered after sectioning the surface about 1x1m on 5m east of the western bank. The bricks of the Ghat found on the western side looks similar with Matherchala palace. So, it is assumed that these two structures were contemporary.

Eight meters away to the west of the brick-made Ghat another brick-made structure has been exposed. Without extended excavation it is not possible to conjecture it as an extension of the ghat. As no water resources were found nearby, this pond was the main water source and reservoir of the palace.

3. Jainatali Pond

Jainatali Pond, one of the most legendary ponds in Kaliakair. This historical pond is situated at the village of Goshaibari of Boali union in Kaliakair with geographical position $24^{\circ}07.878'N$ and $90^{\circ}16.814'E$. The pond occupies about 82 decimals of land. Through exploration, two Ghats (bathing place) have been discovered on the southern and western bank of the pond respectively. A section of the Ghat was exposed measuring $3 \times 2m$ on the southern bank and $2 \times 1m$ square sized brick-made structure on the western bank. Moreover, potsherds were also found on the exposed section.

According to Faruque who is a teacher in profession, “In the past there was a huge amount of Jaina (a tree) on the bank of the pond. Thus, the name Jainatali pond derived.”

In 1930 a Vishnu sculpture made of stone was found by a Muslim, Ajar Ali which was sent to Dhamrai Ratha (Hindu religious procession). Later on, the sculpture got stolen from Dhamrai Ratha and a wooden Vishnu sculpture replaced stone sculpture which was never found despite extended investigation.”



Fig- 8: Brick structure at Jainatali Pond

Faruque also mentioned that King Yashpala was a landlord and feudal of this region. Perhaps, being defeated in the battle he took shelter in the Jainatali forest. Then he settled down in this locality and dug this pond. Gathering troops, he tried to regain his lost kingdom. Before going for the battle, he said to his queen “I am carrying a pigeon as emissary. If I am defeated, this pigeon would come alone to you but if I win the pigeon would come with me.” In the course of events, in spite the victory the pigeon reached alone to queen. To see the pigeon alone they understood, king had been defeated and no more. To deserve self-respect, they committed suicide in the pond. After returning home king also committed suicide into the pond.

4. Bandhabari Pond

Bandhabari pond, located in Bandhabari village under Boali union, Kaliakair is under threat. Geographically its position is $24^{\circ}04.679'N$ and $90^{\circ}16.638'E$. Through interview

we found out that this pond was dug at the last moment of Pala regime. King Yashpala used to come here riding elephants. At present, the northern-part of the pond is occupied by Dhaka resort and rest of the pond is occupied by three individuals: - Javed Munshi, Mesa Munshi and Rijik Munshi. Earlier the whole pond was occupied by Javed Munshi but later he sold northern tract of land to Dhaka resort. A section measured by 7.5x2.5m had been exposed on the western bank of the pond through which triangle and square shape bricks with 17/18 cm length and 10/16cm width were discovered.



Fig-9: Materials scattered at near Bandhabari ancient pond

The majority of people living here are Muslims. On the further south of the pond a Koch tribal family is found, have been living for centaury years back. It is known from the locals that the family, settled in this region had migrated from Tangail 150-200 years back. Probably, the structure found on the western bank of the pond was more extended but as it has been occupied by land grabbers and the soils had been displaced away by locals, the structure is being destroyed day by day. If the Department of Archaeology, Bangladesh does not take urgent initiatives to protect the site, it will be destroyed and no more traces of the site will be found in future.

5. Dhol Samudra Boro Pukur

Dhol Samudra Boro Pukur (Big Pond) is the largest pond in this locality. This gigantic pond is situated at the village of Dhol Samudra of Chapair Union in Kaliakair. Arif stated, “Even the sound of a striking drum (Dhol) from the bank of the pond does not reach the other side.” So, the locals called it Dhol Samudra Boro Pukur. Even during winter season, the pond’s water level goes so down that sound of a drum striking at foot of the pond does not reach the upper-brink of the pond. Currently the pond is under R.H.M Agro-industries.

On the basis of bricks found in the bank of the pond it seems it was coeval of recent-excavated site, Matherchala. Three sites were found in Dhol Samudra Boro Pukur :

1. Ancient brick structure on the northern bank
2. Ancient structure like retaining wall on the southern bank
3. Ancient road like trace on the foot of south-eastern bank

6. Ancient brick structure on the northern bank of Dhol Samudra

Ancient irregular brick structures have been found at 6 m. depth on the foot of the northern bank of Dhol Samudra Boro Pukur. Geographically its position is 24°07.230N' and 90°15.961'E. The brick measurement found in the structure is 18x10 cm. King Yashpala's palace is situated 200m distant from this site. So, it is assumed the Dighi was dug during legendary king Yashpala and the structure found on the northern bank of the pond also built in the same period of time. A section has been exposed but no layer differences were found.

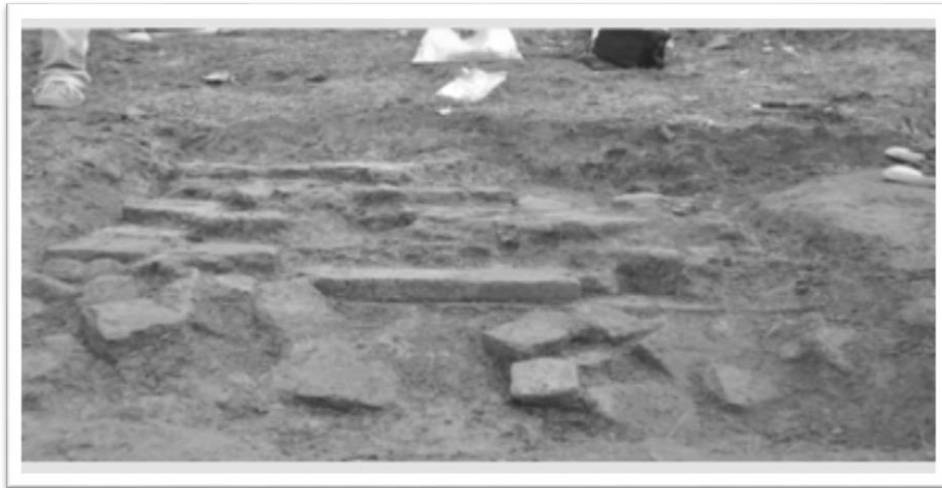


Fig-10: Retaining wall on the southern bank of the Dhol Samudra

Ancient structure like retaining wall on the southern bank

A two-meter brick structure, 6-meter depth from southern bank was found after exposing a section. The structure is steadily stretched upward and westward. Observing the brick size, it seems that the structure was constructed at the period similar to the Dhol Samudra Baroibari site. Apparently, it looks like a Ghat but the local residents refuted our speculation and opined that no Ghat existed on the southern bank and they made a barrage/dam to obstruct flood water entering the pond. The dam was broken down several times by surging flood water. As part of our wide exploration, we exposed surface soil 4m away from the west of the ancient brick structure on the north bank of the Dhol Samudra. So, we strongly assume it was a retaining wall constructed to protect the barrage from horrible surging water.

7. Ancient Road(?) like trace on the foot of south-eastern bank



Fig-11: Ancient Road (?) Compact layer mixed with brickbats, potsherds and clay on the southern bank of the Dhol Samudra

Ancient road like traces have been found at 5.5m depth on the foot of south-eastern bank. The road like trace is increasingly extended south-eastern ward. The construction materials used in the road are brickbats, crushed pottery with clay. Similar type of ancient road trace is seen in Wari-Bateshwar, an early-historic archaeological site in Bangladesh dated back to fourth century BC. A compact pitched road has been made towards south of the pond in recent where steady lowland and Palaeo-channel is seen. Basically, the extended portion of the trace is been buried under the new-made pitched road. If we excavate large-scale, further information might come to light.

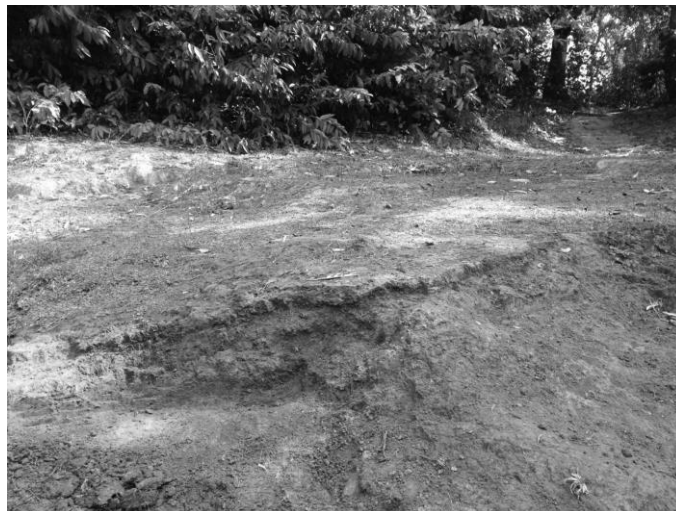


Fig-12: Compact layer of ancient road on southern bank of the Dhol Samudra

8. Madhab Pond

Madhab Pond, carries a load of historical significance. According to the local people Madhab, a Hindu feudal king during Pala period dug the pond as part of his development activities in his ruling territory. The pond, situated in the village of Bastali Moddhapara under Mouchak union and geographically its position is 24°05.213'N and 90°15.374'E. Since the pond was re-dug and reshaped several times thus, the Ghat remained undiscovered. The total area of the pond is 50 acres. By observing bricks found on the bank of the pond, it seemed similar to Dhol Samudra structure. Through intensive exploration complete potteries such as water-pot and candle lighting plate were found. According to Al-Amin, a resident of that area,

“The ancient pond is 800 years old and was contemporary of King Yashpala. The pond water was considered sacred and even worshipped.”

The locals also said, “On any ceremony if anybody prayed for cooking pots to the pond, the expected thing floated above water on the following day but it was to return after meeting necessity. Once a pot was stolen and hidden by a woman. From that time onwards the pots never floated.”



Fig-13: Madhab Pond

9. The Homestead of King Madhab

The homestead of Madhab is situated at the village of Bastali under Mouchak Union, and geographically its position is 24°05.215'N and 90°15.381'E. A little information was known about the homestead because no trace of it were found. A road has been made beside the south of homestead displacing topsoil from there.

At present, the owner of the land is Mostafa who could not give us any information about king Madhab. According to him, “During Pakistani period a Hindu police officer used to live in the house and after his death, the family members left Bangladesh for India. Later on, the local chairman owned the land. I was the first Muslims owner of this land.”

Since the homestead is relic as well as dilapidated, thus huge number of potsherds and broken bricks are scattered here and there. According to the locals, while the top soil was being displaced a large number of regular bricks were discovered.

10. Helal Sarkerbari Pond

Helal Sarkerbari Pond is situated 6 km north-west to Dhol Samudra in Chapair union. Geographically its position is 24°07.423'N and 90°14.966'E. It is connected to Turag River through the canal Medi. At present the pond is owned by Samsuzzaman, the son of Helal sarkar.

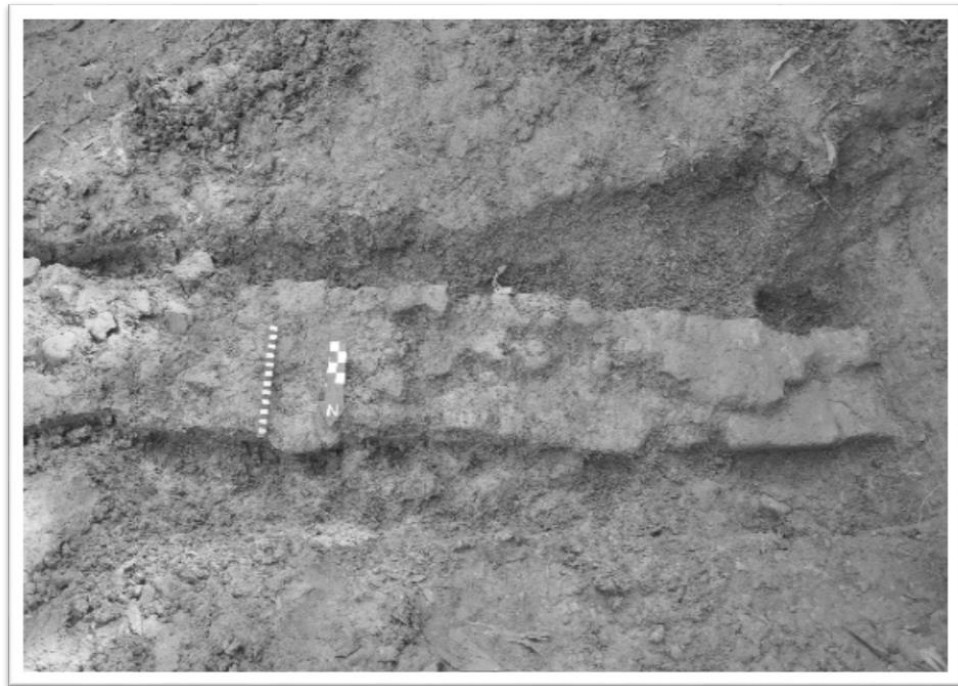


Fig-14: Brickbats at the bank of Helal Sarkar Pond

Through extensive exploration a brick structure was found at the northern bank of the pond. Through exposing a section, a regular brick structure has been discovered where regular brick floor, stones, potsherds and two glazed wares were found.

11. Taltoli Chala

Historically Taltoli Chala is a raised flat place. Locally such types of raised flat place is called *challa*. This terra, located under the union of Fulbaria is also known as Gazaria chala. Through investigation we have known that this chala was inhabited by potter community once. Different types of artifacts such as red and black color potsherds, stamp design is found from an exposed section. A considerable number of potsherds have been discovered under the surface after a short-scale excavation conducted by the survey team. We strongly believe that if a large-scale excavation is conducted, more information about potter's community will come to light.

There is an ancient, abandoned pond to the south of the Chala. Geographically its position is - 24°01'6024"N and 90°27'8"E. No artifacts were found despite conducting an intensive exploration. But it is confirmed this pond is contemporary of potter community who used to dwell in this Chala and the only water source then of this locality.

12. Majid Chala Mound

Majidchala Mound is situated at the village of Majidchala of Fulbaria union, Kaliakair. Geographically its position is 24°01.687'N and 90°2.640'E. According to local residents it is a relic from Pala period. The measurement of the mound is 128.61 sq.m. It is a 13m square shaped mound. From surface collections- decorated brick, lion and fruit carved brick has been found.

13. The Temple in Panchabatitala

The Temple Panchabatitala Mandir is situated behind Narendra Narayan High School in the market of Boali union, Kaliakair. Geographically its position is 24°01.164'N and 90°2.983'E. There is a wooden, half broken Kosal Nath (Shiva) sculpture in the temple. During the liberation war in 1971 the statue had been ruined. Besides there is a kali sculpture wearing tiger skin and mundu garland in the temple.

According to Shudhir, a resident near the Temple, "There were five trees Neem, Bael, Mango, Tamala and Haritaki. Thus, the name of this area has been derived from these five trees. But now only Tamala and Haritaki exists." Furthermore, Milon, another resident of that area tells us, "The remaining trees could not be cut down. Whenever anyone tried a venomous snake appears from the root-hole. From that time onwards, people began worshipping Manasa goddess."

14. Gopinath Temple

There are a number of private temples in Boali village and Gopinath temple is one of them. It is also known as home of Tagore (priest). Geographically its position is 24°01.158'N and 90°2.982'E.

Soma, a local resident said, "couples who gave birth to a dead baby or are not being able to conceive, give offerings to this temple and they give birth to a hearty baby. A daily offering such as sweets, fruits are a part of this temple. There was a sculpture of Gopala, Radha-Krishna and a copper icon in the temple but the copper icon had been stolen in 2006.

15. Kathachora

Kathachora is situated under Fulbaria Union. Earlier, Kathachora was called Shantinagar. Sahidul, a primary school teacher said "Kathachora tract is comparatively higher than surrounding areas. So, this territory is called Kathachora". Although Kathachora is a legendary region but no archaeological evidence seen at the surface of the mound.

16. The temple of Madhab Tagore

The Temple of Madhab Tagore, one of the prominent and legendary archaeological heritages situated at Chargram of Madhyapara union under Kaliakair with geographical position 24°0.56'N and 90°3.34'E. Locally it is known as Temple of Madhab Tagore. There is an ornamented pillar (Fig-15) in the temple. The main water source and river Turag flowing by the east of the temple. The pillar with a length 77 cm, width 32 cm and

height 120 cm is placed in the temple. A number of Buddhist portraits are engraved on the pillar. Although the pillar refers to Buddhism but it is worshipped by the people of Hindu community. The worshippers believe the stone pillar is enlarging day by day. The temple is located in the eastern part of a local market. According to Manik, a 63 years old resident, “The market developed in this area centering the temple.”



Fig-15: Stone pillar at Madhab temple (Locals assumed as Asokan Pillar)

While investigating about the myths related to this temple, a resident named Sahin said, “At first the pillar was in Madhab Chala. During riot in 1947 the pillar was thrown into river Turag later during winter season the pillar floated on water and locals placed it on the bank of the river. Later a temple was established centering the pillar.”

Furthermore, according to a regular worshipper Rani,

“It is Madhab God’s icons. The female icon is in Dhamrai. Once the icon was being brought to Dhamarai Ratha by boat but on the way a group of pirates attacked and snatched out gold ornaments from the icon and threw it into river water.”

17. Golwa Uttarpara

Golwa Uttarpara, with geographical position 90°250.13’N and 24°04.130’E is an ancient dwelling place. Jahanara, a resident claimed that, “Human settled down here about 600 years ago.” A floor like brick-structure was found after a section had been exposed. Bricks found from the exposed section carries similarity of the bricks of Dhol Samudra site. So, we can’t ignore Jahanara’s claim about human settlement. She also informed us that there was a Hindu temple and a charity box in this place. Eventually the box was stolen and the temple was abandoned as it got destroyed by natural calamity. At present a local influential man named Ismail has leased the land.

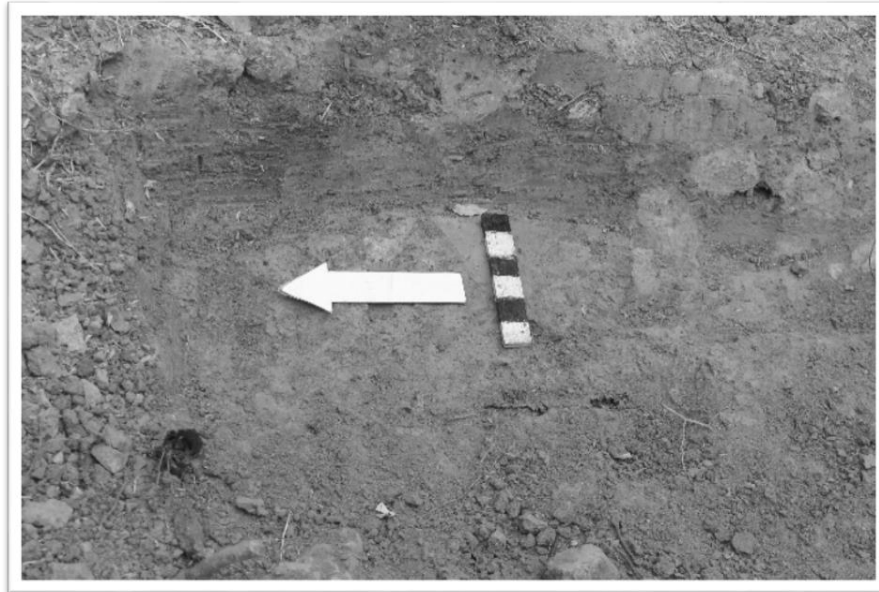


Fig-16: A floor like brick-structure at Golwa Uttarpara

18. The Residence of Bhingarajbihari Lal

The Residence located at the village of Bhingaraj in Boiladi union of Kaliakair with geographical position 24°03.36'N and 90°11.864'E. A two storied building built in 1930 where the first storied was constructed by Bihari Lal and the top floor was constructed by Upendra Pala.

This building was the resident of an influential and powerful king called Bhringa on whose name the village been named. Most of the people residing in this village are Pala community: The Kunda Pala (businessmen), Teli Pala (service by profession) and Rudra Pala (Potters). The building shows different types of architectural style such as false arch, true arch, curve-celling style, floral design, multi-foiled arch and even serpent fang designs.

19. Zamindar Bari in Srifaltali

Afzal Chowdhuri Apple, the present heir of the Srifaltali Zamindar state claimed that, "Talialabad Pargana formed by the declaration of Mughal emperor Jahangir in 1612. Srifaltali landlord estate was formed by half of this land property. The chief helmsman of this estate was Khoda Newaz khan. Rahim Newaz khan Chowdhury, one of the successors of this family was well-known for his good-governance. Their real estate house is called Srifaltali Zamindar Bari. With the location 24°06.848'N and longitude-90°20.910'E, it comprises several buildings such as center building, harem although now harem is being used as a shooting spot. Basically, the center building is being used as museum. Because of leeching ceiling of the center building the metal tin were replaced. Moreover, a library for research purposes with a good number of books and documents are conserved in the library. The two stored rectangular size building is standing with magnificent architectural style and arched entrance and gigantic columns.



Fig-17: Srifaltali Zamindar bari

20. Land lord house in Baliadi

Baliadi estate was established in the region of Kaliakair, Dhamrai and Basail in 1612 by the declaration of Mughal emperor Jahangir. At that time these three areas were called Talebabad, Chandra Pratap and Amenabaad pargana respectively. Baliadi estate, one of the ancient estates of Bangladesh is still active in their ruling tradition by landlord. According to their claim they are the descendants of Abu Bakar, the first caliph of Islam.



Fig-18: Baliadi Jamindar House

21. Baniachala Site

Baniachala, a village under Chapair union, with geographical position is 24°07.915'N and 90°13.59'E. Through interviews we get to know that, in the past there was a business community who used basket made of bamboo to carry their products for sales purposes. Locally this business is called *Bain*. So, this locality is known as Baniachala or settlement of *Bain community*. A section measuring 70*70 cm had been exposed and a huge amount of pottery had been discovered. There were three deposits found in the section. The details of the sections are given here; in deposit one we found broken pottery and soil color is grey, deposit two we found complete pottery and soil color is reddish, deposit three we found potsherds and soil color is blackish.



Fig-19: Exposed section at Baniachala or settlement of *Bain community*

At present the owner of the land is Mamun Ahmed who inherited this property from his father, Lalmia and Lalmia bought this land from the landlord of Srifaltali.

22. Bandhabari Pond:

Bandabari Pond Ghat is geographically located at 24°04.679' N and 90°16.638'E. The site is located in Bandabari village of Bowali Union under Kaliakair Upazila. The pond structure is located on the south side of the Dhaka resort, and in the east is Nalua, in the south Boali, Paikpara in the west and Amtali and Kathalia para in the north. The infrastructure of this pond is probably more extensive. The locals have removed the soil from most of the places near the archaeological site to build their house. Hence, the infrastructure appears fragmented and spreaded. According to local folklore, the site dates back to the last period of Pala period i.e., 11th century.



Fig-20: Surface collections near the Bandhari Pond

A section of 7.5 feet in length and 2.5 feet in width was taken along. The description of bricks obtained in the section is as follows:

Length- 18cm, Width- 15cm, Height- 5cm

Length- 17 cm, Width- 10 cm, Height- 3 cm

Fragments of broken pottery are found beside the bricks. There are no other water source in the vicinity of the pond. However, Chanpaora canal flows through Nalua village to the east. The water of Chanpaora Canal flows into Turag River through Guila Canal.

The surrounding areas of the archaeological site adjacent to the pond are Muslim sanctified. But on the south side there is a house of the Koch community. The inhabitants of this region are said to have come from Tangail by boat 150-200 years ago.

23. Sahbajpur Bora Dalan Bari

Sahbajpur Bora Dalan Bari or big building house, situated in the village of Sahabazpur of Atabaha union in Kaliakair was built in 1931 by Agrodipsaha. Later inheritors were Surendrosaha, Kalikonasha and Mependrosaha. Geographically its position is 24°02.005' N and longitude- 90°11.607'.



Fig-21: Sahbajpur Bora Dalan Bari

According to Nipendrosaha, the Saha family built and resided in the building. They were businessman by profession. Agrodipsaha, a moneylender built the building from his business profit. The building occupies 150 decimal of land and the structure is 18.5 meter in length and 12.2 meter in width. The two storied building with colossal entrance, inside the entrance a temple for offerings and worshipping was constructed. In front of the building a well was dug although now it is abandoned and used for garbage disposal. The architectural style of the building is eye-catching and captivating. Among the design false arch, key stone, multi foil arch. Flower design on the wall and door. Since it is an ancient building so generally plaster, brick, lime is being decayed and bricks are being displaced. Plant roots are penetrating wall. So, government interference can protect such ancient heritage.

24. Sri Dham Pagal-Nath Temple

The Sri Dham Pagal-Nath Temple is situated in the village of Deoir of Dalzor union under Kaliakair with geographical position 24°02.507'N and 90°11.378'E. Basically, it is a mausoleum complex with the tombs of Pagal-Nath and his daughter Dhakeshwari in the center. To the west there is a tomb of Pagal- Nath and to the east there is a hermitage and an entrance on the south. According to Sharkar, a regular worshipper of the temple, "About 200 years ago a man called Pagal-Nath was born in the Cinail village. He was raised up here and later he went to the village of Pukrail and Deoir consecutively. He settled down in Deoir and continued his preaching. Already most of the people of the village became his follower. After his death he was buried in this village. At present the owner of this land is the great-grandson of Pagal-Nath. Although Pagal-Nath was Hindu by born but he did not put emphasis on any religion. Basically, his philosophy was: abstinence from protein and worshipping idols/icons, and doing meditation.



Fig-22: Sri Dham Pagal-Nath Temple

25. Krishna Hari Monastery

Krishna Hari, a Hindu temple located at the village of Seoratali of Atabaha Union in Kaliakair. A wealthy devotee Krishna constructed this splendid structure. Its geographical position is $24^{\circ}02.605'N$ and $90^{\circ}11.557'E$. About 40 meters high, the monastery lies upon a square based measuring 5m. Relief type floral design is carved on the Monastery. An octagonal dome with finial is imbedded on the temple. Among the architectural styles panel design, flower-vase imbedded upon panel are noteworthy. There was a Trisula (weapon of Hindu God Shiva) with five magnets which was stolen. In 1970 few miscreants made fire inside the temple as a result much of the portions had been damaged.



Fig-23: Front view of Krishna Hari Moth

26. Baroibari Matherchala Excavated Site:

Through investigating, some information popped up such as: - what was found in the previous excavations, especially the structure found under the high mound in the southwest corner of the site and its detailed description. Brick debris has been found in the Rani Pond next to the excavation site and the section taken by the previous exploration team on the bank of the pond. There found the ruins of a brick building under the ground. It may be the old ghat of the pond. During collecting information of the excavation work, we have discussed with the locals who came to visit the site, collected details of the site including ancient legends. Some part of the report of these excavations was published at Pratnacharcha -8 by Department of Archaeology.

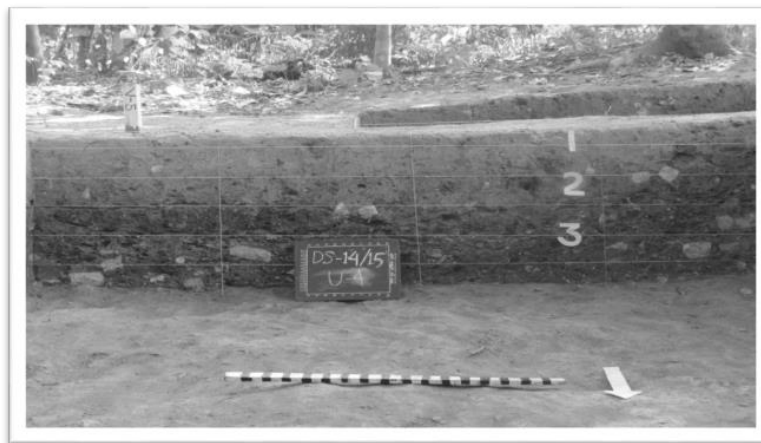


Fig-24: Picture of the section of one excavated Trance U4 the site Matherchala of Baroibari



Fig-25: Photo of the Grid Q-11 (Courtesy- DoA)

Revealing the sites through Analysis

The paper followed a spatial analysis to understand inter site relationship. Landsat TM image 2010 has been used to analyze and identify the paleo-channels. It is found that Wari-Bateshwar, Egarosindhur, Sripur, Kapasia and Baroibari site was inter connected by water channel in ancient time (Fig-26). Line was drawn studying the Landsat TM map. Beside this Baroibari also connected with Mahasthagarh by cannels (Fig-27). Throughout the exploration it became a major concern if it is possible to provide a clear idea about the history of any archaeological site? The folklores and myths collected from the residents, the artifacts found while excavating and the settlements indicates the richness of Kaliakair as a bearer of heritage and history. according to them, the place got its name from Matherchala. One of them, Chand Mia, a school teacher, said that the high mound where the excavation was done was called Matherchala.

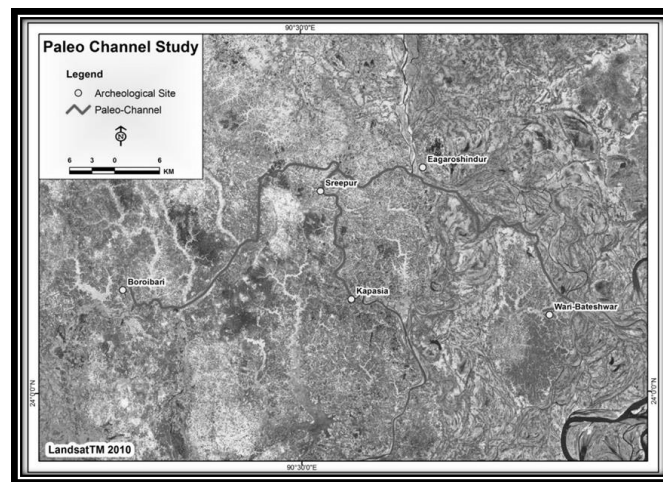


Fig. 26: Map showing provable interconnection with Boroibari, Sripur, Kapasia, Egarosindhur and Wari-Bateshwar

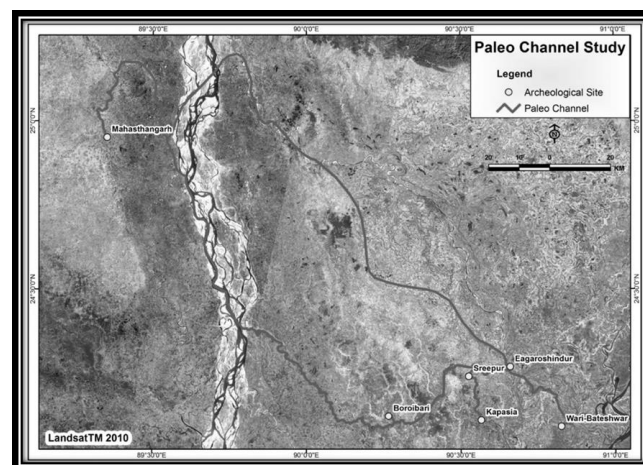
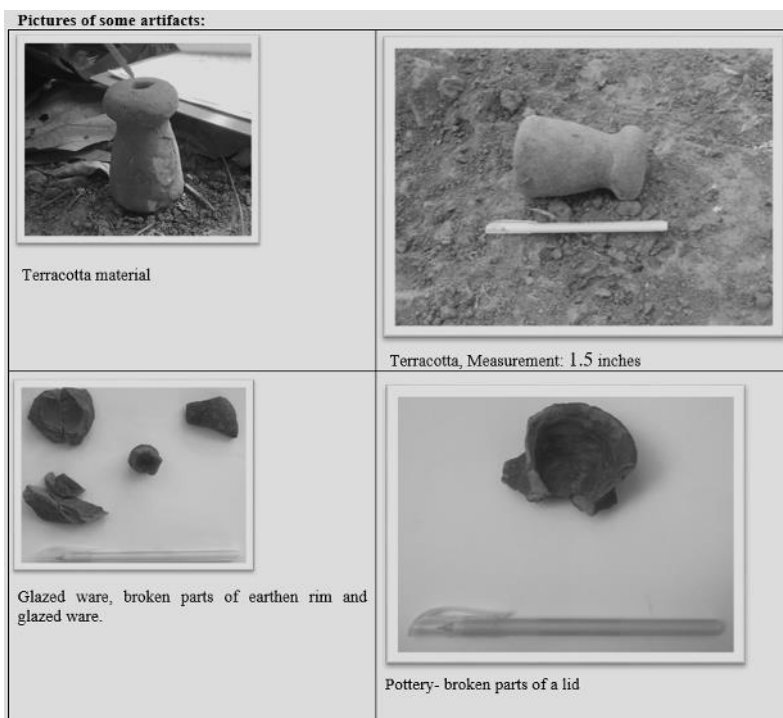


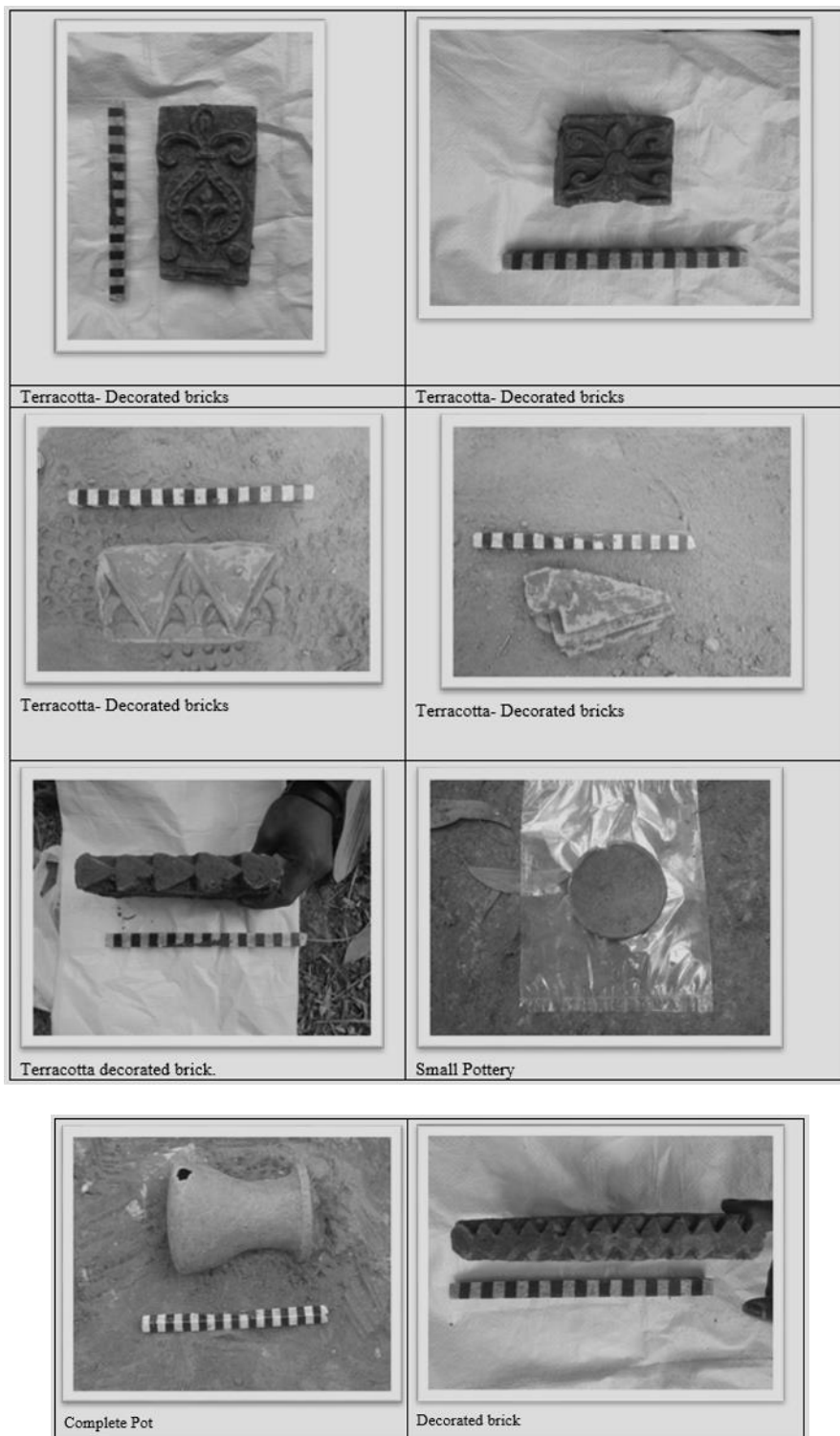
Fig. 27: Map showing interconnection with contemporary Archaeological sites of the region.

Our exploration found out that the Chala site of the Matha was the residence of a Hindu king Yashpala and the main center of all the king's activities. According to some people, the place was a cremation ground for Hindus, there were monasteries and Hindu temples, the place was earlier covered with forest. People did not come here because of fear. There was a fox sanctuary. Locals also said that there was a port called 'Loblong Sagar' next to this place. Civilization was built around that port. Most of the people said that the place belonged to Hindu tradition. Excavations led by the Department of Archaeology also opened many doors and the artifacts takes us a step ahead to our long-lost answers (Pandit et al 2022). A long thick terracotta brick wall as a security sign about two and a quarter meter wide and about two and a half meters high, decorated terracotta bricks (with designs of flowers, vines, palm leaves), various types of pottery fragments (red, black, glazed ware), a few complete pots, corner turret, staircase found inside the room, terracotta ware, fragments of glass bangles, small stone fragments, and ash artifacts.

All this finding indicates that Kaliakair is an important ancient center of human activities. It was also well connected with the Savar region since ancient times. Historically and geographically, Savar was a prominent center of trade and commerce using waterways. Bramhmaputra-Shitalakhya and Bramhmaputra-Bansi are two probable waterways to connect with various centers in the early historic period (Hoque et al. 1996). There are several ancient sites reported along with the river Bansi at Savar near Ghatail of Tangail district (Zakaria 1984). Our present findings also support the connections of various ancient sites using waterways. It is necessary to undertake more elaborate archaeological exploration work using new technology to find out ancient sites along with the ancient canals.

Pictures of some artifacts:





Conclusion

In light of the above information the following conclusions that can be drawn about the Matherchala and its surrounding areas is that the excavated site may be a medieval structure. In light of the artifacts found in the archaeological site, this place can also be said to belong to the Sultanate period due to the decorated terracotta bricks (with designs of flowers, vines, and leaves), patterns on the surface of the pottery etc. However, no Muslim Sultan can be known through the locals of this place, the above signs bear testimony to the Sultanate period. Because terracotta brick is one of the characteristics of Sultanate architecture. But the place can also belong to Hindus, because- to the south of this site were found the remains of a structure containing a pedestal but no sculpture was found. The door of the mosque is usually on the east side but here the door is found on the west side. Again, no mihrab was found in this structure, so it cannot be called a mosque with certainty. It cannot be called a temple for sure. Because no sculpture is found. However, bricks with terracotta designs of flowers, vines, and leaves have been found on the walls of the structure, which are found on the walls of mosques of the Sultanate period. Pottery, pits, ash patterns found at the site, long thick terracotta brick walls as security signs, corner turrets, staircases inside the rooms, etc. are indicative of nobility, past royal residences, or residences of nobles.

As no animal motifs were found during the excavations, it may be Muslim architecture. However, given renowned medieval researcher and professor of Jahangirnagar University Dr. AKM Shahnewaz claimed that the place may be a Vaishnava Math. The objects found at the Dhol Samudra archaeological site show Muslim decorative features, but they cannot be called Muslim architecture, Mosques, or Khanqahs.' They asserted themselves as a separate community in opposition to the Brahmins. Vaishnavas did not worship idols, and since Muslims were ruling around them, they might have used Muslim materials in some architecture. Muslim architectural structures scattered around the area and several large ponds suggest that feudal kings, Ghazis, and Sufi saints may have ruled the region. Based on the information and artifacts found, it cannot be inveterate as a Muslim architecture or artifact, but it can be confirmed as a medieval site.

Finally, historians and archaeologists believe that it can be said that although it is not confirmed as Muslim architecture, the artifacts found in this region can open new doors in the search for the history of Muslims in this region. If these ancient monuments are not preserved immediately, another chapter of history will be lost. A detailed archaeological exploration is needed to document the archeological evidence of Kaliakair. An extensive excavation of some selected sites will unearth valuable information about the past. Rapid urbanization is a big challenge to protecting our heritage sites. It is suggested that the authority should take measures to acquire and protect the reported archeological sites to prevent vandalism and looting.

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- মোহাম্মাদ আবুল বাসার (২০১৬) ইতিহাসে শ্রীফলতলী, সমন্বয় প্রকাশন, ঢাকা ।
- রতন চন্দ্র পণ্ডিত, সূরত ভৌমিক, এ কে এম শাহনাওয়াজ, আবু সাঈদ এম আহমেদ, মালিহা নার্গিস আহমেদ, আমিরুজ্জামান, আতাউর রহমান সম্পাদিত, *মঠেরচালা প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক খনন প্রতিবেদন: কালিয়াকৈর, গাজীপুর (২০১৩-২০১৫)*, Department of Archaeology, Ministry of Cultural Affairs, Bangladesh, Dhaka, 2022.
- ভূমি মৃত্তিকা সম্পদ ব্যবহার নির্দেশিকা, কালিয়াকৈর থানা, গাজীপুর জেলা কৃষি মন্ত্রণালয় মৃত্তিকা সম্পদ উন্নয়ন ইন্সটিটিউট, ২০০০, পৃ. (২- ৩)।
- প্রত্নতত্ত্ব অধিদপ্তর (২০২০), প্রত্নচর্চা- ৮: পৃ. ৭- ১৫ ।

[সার- সংক্ষেপ: প্রত্নতত্ত্বের সাহায্যে অতীত মানুষের রেখে যাওয়া নিদর্শনগুলো অনুসন্ধান, পর্যবেক্ষণ, নিরপেক্ষ ব্যাখ্যা- বিশ্লেষণের মাধ্যমে অতীত সমাজ- সংস্কৃতি সম্পর্কে জ্ঞান অর্জনের প্রচেষ্টা করা হয়। প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিকগণ নির্দিষ্ট কিছু সূত্রের উপর ভিত্তি করে যৌক্তিকভাবে ব্যাখ্যা- বিশ্লেষণের মাধ্যমে প্রাচীন ইতিহাস খুঁজে বের করেন। বাংলাদেশের প্রাচীন ইতিহাসের নিদর্শন ছড়িয়ে ছিটিয়ে রয়েছে দেশের বিভিন্ন অঞ্চলে। তন্মধ্যে গাজীপুর জেলার বিভিন্ন স্থান, বিশেষ করে এই জেলার কালিয়াকৈর উপজেলাটি বাংলাদেশের অন্যতম প্রাচীন ঐতিহ্যবাহী এলাকা। অতীতের অনেক স্মৃতিচিহ্ন বহন করছে এই অঞ্চলটি। দেশের বিভিন্ন স্থানে প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক অনুসন্ধানকর্ম চালানো হলেও গাজীপুর অঞ্চলের বেশিভাগ অংশই এর আওতাভুক্ত ছিল। সম্প্রতি কালিয়াকৈরের মঠেরচালা ও ঢোলসমুদ্র প্রত্নস্থানের

আশেপাশের এলাকাগুলোতে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ প্রত্ননিদর্শন পাওয়া গেছে। ঢোলসমুদ্রের সন্নিকটে মঠেরচালা নামক স্থানে প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক খনন কাজ পরিচালনা করেছে বাংলাদেশ সরকারের প্রত্নতত্ত্ব অধিদপ্তর। এখানে পুরোনো ইট, বিভিন্ন প্রাচীন স্থাপত্য নিদর্শন এবং একটি পোড়ামাটির অলংকৃত মন্দিরের সন্ধান মিলেছে। এছাড়া এই অঞ্চলের আশেপাশে ছড়িয়ে ছিটিয়ে রয়েছে নানা প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক নিদর্শন। এরই পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে এখানকার প্রাচীন বসতি এবং অন্যান্য প্রত্ননিদর্শনের আলোকে এই অঞ্চলের সঠিক ইতিহাস খুঁজে বের করতে সংশ্লিষ্ট এলাকায় অনুসন্ধানকর্ম পরিচালনার প্রয়োজন অনুভূত হয়। এমতাবস্থায় এই অঞ্চলের প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক গুরুত্ব অনুধাবন করে বিভিন্ন ইতিহাসের সূত্রের সহায়তা নিয়ে একটি বিস্তৃত ও পদ্ধতিগত প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক অনুসন্ধানের পরিকল্পনা গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে। বর্তমান এই গবেষণার জন্য কালিয়াকৈর উপজেলাকে বেছে নেয়া হয়েছে। ঢাকার অদূরে গাজীপুর জেলা শহর থেকে প্রায় ১৫ কিলোমিটার পশ্চিমে ৩১৪, ১৪ বর্গ কি. মি. সীমানা নিয়ে ২৪°০০' থেকে ২৪°১৫' উত্তর অক্ষাংশ এবং ৯০°০৯' থেকে ৯০°২২' পূর্ব দ্রাঘিমাংশে কালিয়াকৈর উপজেলার অবস্থান। এই থানার উত্তরে মির্জাপুর ও সখীপুর উপজেলা দক্ষিণে সাভার ও ধামরাই উপজেলা, পূর্বে গাজীপুর সদর ও শ্রীপুর উপজেলা, পশ্চিমে মির্জাপুর উপজেলা রয়েছে। কালিয়াকৈর সদর থেকে মাত্র ১৩ কিলোমিটার উত্তরে বোয়ালী ইউনিয়ন এবং এই ইউনিয়নের অধীনে রয়েছে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ প্রত্নস্থান মঠেরচালা ও ঢোলসমুদ্র। এ থানায় ৯টি ইউনিয়ন, ১৮১টি মৌজা এবং ২৮২টি গ্রাম রয়েছে। এটি বংশী, তুরাগ ও গোয়ালিয়া নদীর অববাহিকায় ঐতিহ্যবাহী ভাওয়াল গড়ের পশ্চিমে অবস্থিত এবং বনভূমির প্রাকৃতিক সৌন্দর্যে ভরপুর। পদ্ধতিগত মাঠ অনুসন্ধানের মাধ্যমে এ অঞ্চলে বিভিন্ন স্থানে প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক নিদর্শনের সন্ধান পাওয়া গেছে। প্রাপ্ত নিদর্শন ও মানচিত্রে এর অবস্থান বিশ্লেষণ করে প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক স্থান সনাক্ত ও নথিভুক্ত করা হয়। এই প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক অনুসন্ধান সাঁতাশটি ছোট-বড় প্রত্নস্থান সনাক্ত করা হয়েছে। প্রত্নস্থানগুলোতে মৃৎপাত্রের ভগ্নাংশ, নানা আকৃতির ইটের টুকরো, সারিবদ্ধ ইট বা প্রাচীন স্থাপনার নমুনা, অলংকৃত ইট, ধ্বংসপ্রাপ্ত স্থাপত্য কাঠামো ও জলাধারের সন্ধান পাওয়া গেছে। এই প্রবন্ধে কালিয়াকৈর উপজেলার বিভিন্ন গ্রামে অনুসন্ধানে আবিষ্কৃত সেই সকল প্রত্নস্থান ও নিদর্শনগুলো সম্পর্কে বিস্তারিত আলোচনা করা হয়েছে। স্যাটেলাইট ইমেজ এবং জিআইএস-এর ব্যবহারের মাধ্যমে এসব প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক স্থানের সঙ্গে পার্শ্ববর্তী অন্যান্য প্রত্নতাত্ত্বিক স্থানের সম্পর্ক বিশ্লেষণ করা হয়েছে, যার মাধ্যমে দেখা গেছে কালিয়াকৈরের প্রত্নস্থানগুলোর শ্রীপুর, কাপাসিয়া, এগারসিদ্ধুর এবং উয়ারি-বটেশ্বরের সঙ্গে প্রাচীন নদীখাদের মাধ্যমে যুক্ত থাকার লক্ষণ দেখা গেছে। আশা করা যায় পরবর্তীকালে আরও বিস্তারিত গবেষণার মাধ্যমে এ অঞ্চলের ইতিহাসের অমূল্য সম্পদ বেরিয়ে আসবে।]