

Archaeological Investigations at Rewat Fort – A Muslim Period Monument in Potohar Region, Punjab (Pakistan)

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Abstract

This paper presents details about the archaeological investigations carried out at Rewat Fort by the Department of Archaeology and Museums, Islamabad during 2020. It was revealed after excavations that the history of Fort belongs prior to 16th century CE, when this area was under the control of Ghakkhars who were local rulers who controlled the region as they have friendly terms with Mughals. The discovered material from the different parts of the monumental complex provides concrete evidences that it remained under the occupations during the different phases of Muslim Medieval period. The present paper covers only the details of archaeological investigations carried out inside the Mausoleum and in the living cells on eastern side of the fortification wall of the Fort. A Catalogue of the objects discovered through the course of archaeological excavations is appended at the end of this paper (Annex-A).

Keywords: Potohar or Potwar, Ghakkhars, Mughals, Sher Shah Suri, Muslim period antiquities.

1. Introduction

The land presently comprising on Pakistan had served as a melting pot of ancient cultures and civilizations. It is a land of many splendors, each conqueror and traveler has left behind an imprint, adding a step to the cultural evolution of this region. Unconnected the established situation of Pakistan's area, the people of this country are acquainted to thousands of years old ethical political inheritance way back to the Old Stone Age. The areas of this earliest ancient period culture are found in the Potohar Highland, (Rawalpindi) which diagnosed to be the earliest abode of Homo erectus and Homo Habilis other than Africa, approximately ranging in the time of the 1st glacial and inter glacial phases of the Glacial epoch Age. The earliest rudimentary stone implements under their

used was found in great number from this area and on this base archaeologists designated them pre-soan tools found in that part of Pakistan. These primates were here for thousands of years and at the point of the Ice Age they had made changes in their life style and started dwelling showing in settled communities and a culture called Middle stone age. Then with advents of agriculture the stone tools refined towards Neolithic or New Stone Age specimen. The organized examination of Paleolithic temporal order of the Potwar region had been conducted by De Terra and Peterson in 1933. Peterson was followed by Paolo Graziosi during 1964. He carried out detailed investigations in Potohar region. However, a comprehensive archaeological Paleolithic survey of entire Potohar region was carried out by Raymond Allchin and Bridget Allchin, University of Cambridge in close collaboration of the Federal Department of Archaeology and Museums during 1979-1990. They registered ancient sites and thousands of years old artifacts near Rewat and other nearby areas having fossils and other related evidences, to infer more about the environmental condition, flora and concomitant phenomenon's to speculate correctly on the fauna aspect of the investigated period.

A team of Federal Department of Archaeology & Museums conducted archaeological researches in the periphery of Taxila valley in 1973 with the objectives to document pre-historic sites. During this expedition the team reported some new Kot Dijian period sites such as Jhang Bahtar and Pind Nowsheri. A team from Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations (TIAC) Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad under the leadership of Muhammad Salim conducted researches at the prehistoric sites in Soan Valley, Potohar highlands and Attock area in 1997 and documented a great numbers of Paleolithic era sites in the area¹. Another important archaeological survey was undertaken in Rawalpindi District and Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) by a team of Taxila Institute of Asian Civilizations (TIAC) Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad under the leadership of Muhammad Ashraf Khan during 2009-10. This team documented 130 archaeological sites and monuments belonging to different periods of history i.e Pre-historic Period (Ca. 1 million-7000 BCE), Proto-historic Period, Harappan (2500-1500 BCE), Gandhara

¹Muhammad Ashraf Khan et al. (2010) Archaeological Remains and Monuments of Islamabad Capital Territory and District Rawalpindi, *Journal of Asian Civilizations*, Vol.33, No.2, Islamabad, p.5.

Grave Culture (1500-600 BCE), Historic Period Buddhist/Hindu Shahi (6th Century BCE - 19th Century CE), Sultanate Period (12th - 15th Century CE), Mughal including Suri Period (16th - 19th Century, CE), Sikh and British Period (18th - 20th Century CE)².

2. Cultural and historical perspective of Potwar

According to Dani, the Persian form of the name *Marigala* or *Marikala* became popular in the time of the Ghaznavid Sultans (976-1186 C.E) which is an offshoot of the Murree hills.³ It is further elaborated by the same writer that continuity of Taxila site (district Rawalpindi) in the time of the Ghaznavid Sultans can be observed in the form of new expansion enforced by novel chronological circumstances. The stress of dwelling inclined to the Margala spur. It was the navigable Margala, the *rabat the garrisoned out posts*, and with the passage of time the caravanserai, and the dwelling compound adjacent to Giri that sustained to flourish till the advent of era of Khilji dynasty of Delhi in the early fourteenth century. Dani further mentions that in the succeeding time when the marauders Mongols initiated ways of forays, even the Margala settlement washed out from memory; but the Gakkhars, who held strength in the Potohar region, sustained the rabat arrangement of dwelling, as earlier found in Taxila and established their own *rabats* east of the Margala knell. The Mughals (1526-1858) realized the importance of the Margala pass, re-laid the passage and erected a big caravanserai to the west of the Kala rivulet, and gave rise to the growth of the village called Saraikala⁴.

There was an interruption in the Mughal rule from 1540 to 1555, when dynasty ruled over the sub-continent displacing the Mughal in 1540. Emperor Humayun was defeated by Sher Shah Suri at the battle of Chaunsa. Sher Shah Suri realized the importance of having fortified towns at most of the strategic places. Sher Shah Suri wanted to build a fort in every, Sarkar (or district) which in time of trouble, could serve as a shelter for the oppressed people and as out-post to check the rebels. With this in view, he ordered the construction of a fort at Rohtas that lies in present day Jhelum District. The construction of the Rohtas Fort was also

² Ibid. p.7.

³ A.H. Dani, The History of Taxila, UNESCO Publication, France, 1986, p.1

⁴ Ibid. p.7

considered necessary, for some other reasons. First to block the possible re-entry of Emperor Hymayun and secondly to punish and defeat turbulent Gakkhars who controlled the valley and having friendly terms with the Mughals.

3. Physical overview of the area

The Potwar region, as evident from researches, had played a vibrant function in the evolution of human annals since quite faraway era. The aboriginal stone tools of Paleolithic (Old Stone Age) period which were prevalent in the normal human of this region since million of years ago from current era are found present along the bank of the River Soan near Rewat. The Bronze Age sites which are discovered at Jhang Bahtar and Sarai Khola, the Gandharan period settlements at Hathial and the prominent centre of Buddhist art and architecture of Gandhara in Taxila valley are some of the most important and significant discoveries made in this area. The historical period monuments are well known such as; caravan *serais* (Inn) and *baolis* (step well) along the ancient routes, forts, religious and secular buildings of different religions including Hindu, Muslims and Sikh periods, as well as rock shelters, historic mounds, ancient graveyards and sacred ponds in the region.

The ancient city of Rawalpindi went into forgetfulness as a result of the Hun invasion in the 5th century C.E. However, the first Muslim conqueror Mahmud of Ghazni gifted the ruined city of Rawalpindi to a Ghakhar Chief, namely as Kai Gohar Jhanda Khan, whereas another Ghakhar Chief restored it and gave it the present name after the village Rawal in 1493. Rawalpindi remained under the rule of Ghakhars till the rule of Muqarrab Khan. The last Ghakhar ruler was however, defeated by Sikhs in 1765 and later the Sikhs lost the city to the British Government Empire in 1849.

During the Sikh Rule many independent Sikh kingdoms had been established in the region which was later amalgamated into a single but powerful kingdom, founded by Maharaja Ranjit Singh. This kingdom expanded beyond the previously known frontiers of Punjab and included Kashmir and eastern Afghanistan. After Maharaja Ranjit Singh, the kingdom began to disintegrate and the British annexed it to their Indian empire after the Anglo-Sikh wars in 1845-1846 and 1848-1849.

4. Rewat fort (fortress-cum-caravan serai)

Geographically, Rewat Fort is 17 kilometers east of district Rawalpindi of Punjab Province on main Grand Trunk Road (Fig. 1). In this fort a three domes mosque and a tomb is noteworthy⁵. The strategic position of this fort is considered as very important from military defense point of view and its construction is attributed to Sultan Sarang Khan, a descendant of Ghakkhar tribe, who was the local ruler of Potwar region. It was constructed keeping in view the military and administrative requirements. Sultan Sarang Khan after defeated by Islam Shah was killed and buried inside the complex of Fort in 1545. The Serai (Inn) was constructed by Sultan Sarang Khan himself for performing the administrative and official functionary matters.

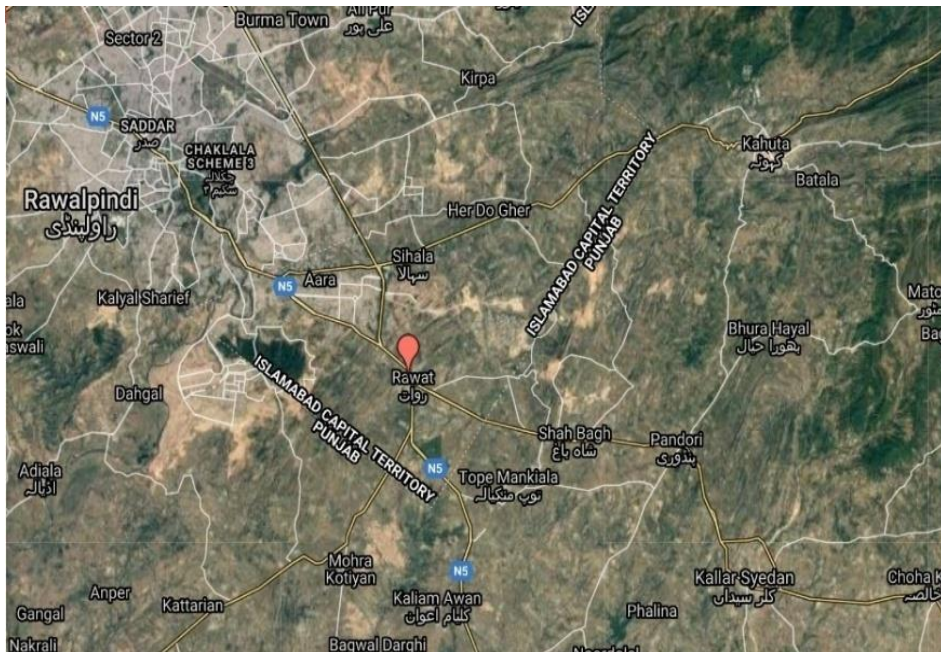


Fig. 1 - Location Map of Rewat Fort.
(source: www.googlemaps.com)

⁵The geographical location of Rewat Fort is 33.4981° N, 73.1942° E.

5. Early history, architecture and significance of Rewat Fort

According to the Gazetteer of the Rawalpindi District for the year 1893-94, Rewat⁶ in District Rawalpindi⁷ is the first camping ground from Rawalpindi on the Grand Trunk⁸ (G.T) Road towards Jhelum, owes its interest to the tomb of Sultan Sarang, the renowned Ghakhar chief, which is situated there. About the early history of the District Rawalpindi, it is mentioned that the names of Alexander the Great, Mahmud of Ghazni, Babur and “Tamurlane” (Timur) are all closely connected with the Rawalpindi district⁹.

The present small fortress Sarai was built during the Sultanate Period in early 15th century C.E. This fort is however also associated with the name of Masud son of famous Mahmud of Ghazna (1039) where he is said to have been arrested by his rebellious soldiers and eventually murdered in the famous fort of Giri¹⁰.

It is also mentioned with the name of Ghakhar Chief Sarang Khan who valiantly lost his life along with his sixteen sons gallantly countering son of Sher Shah Suri and was buried here¹¹. The Rewat fort constitute two gateways¹² on north and east, a three domed Mosque, single domed Mausoleum on the North-Western corner, and several scattered graves inside the Fort.

⁶ The word “Rewat” is derived from Arabic word “Rebat” meaning “*Sarai*” (resting place). The fort is situated about 17 kilometers east of Rawalpindi city towards Jhelum on the main G.T road. It is a small Fortress-cum-Caravan Serai, constructed by Ghakkhars, who were local rulers of this area.

⁷ District Rawalpindi in Punjab Province of Pakistan lies between 33. 4981° N, 73.1942° E.

⁸ Sher Shah Suri, the founder of Suri dynasty constructed the Grand Trunk Road from Chittagong to Kabul in Afghanistan.

⁹ Op.cit. Gazetteer of the Rawalpindi District 1893-94, p.43

¹⁰ Muhammad Qasim Farishta, *Tarekh-e-Farishta*, (2008) Vol.1, (Trans. Abdul Hai Khawaja), Almezan Publishers, Lahore, p. 107.

¹¹ A classified list of Immovable Archaeological sites/monuments protected under Antiquities Act, 1975, compiled by Rana Muhammad Khan, Federal Department of Archaeology and Museums, (DOAM), Karachi, 1987. p.273

¹² Originally it had four gates, on the eastern and northern sides provide access to the interior of monument while the southern one has been blocked in later period. The western gateway was demolished during the construction of the mosque in the Fort.

There are rows of identical living cells along the four sides of the quadrangular inner face of the defense walls. It is however, mentioned that the graves and Mausoleum of Sultan Sarang Khan in the Rewat Fort was built by Sultan Adam Khan, who became ruler of this area, when Ghakkhars under the command of Sultan Sarang Khan were defeated in the battle with Islam Shah.

6. Description of the Rewat Fort

The Rewat fort is rectangle measuring 306' feet, 9" inches east-west and 348' feet, 9" inches North-South. It has got hemispherical bastion on its all corners and on each side of the two gates located on the eastern and northern flanks. The main gate being on the eastern side, is in the center of the Fort, on the western flank is a big mosque.



Fig 2 - Façade of Rewat Fort.

Contiguous to gates, the mosque and all along the fortification wall are living cells each measuring 6' feet, 3" inches by 7' feet, 9" inches. In early period there were 76 cells. The enclosure wall is topped by merlons

constructed in the shape of pointed arches. The Fort has been constructed with the stone with a pinch of burnt bricks. The vast area within the fortification is occupied by stray buildings of a mosque and a tomb. The tomb is without any cenotaph which is generally ascribed to Sultan Sarang Khan, the Gakhar Chief, who was killed while fighting against Sher Shah Suri's forces in 1546¹³ (Fig. 2).

7. Mausoleum

The mausoleum is built on a typical architectural plan. Externally it is octagonal in shape each side measuring 22 ½' feet. From inside, it is square in shape. The platform on which it is raised is octagonal in shape measuring 39' feet from each side with a height of 2 ½' feet. The dome is squat and has been raised on squinches, which are identical in shape and design to those used in the mosque. The arches, domes and cornices are in brick while the rest of the structure is of stone. The structure is quite massive and robust.

There is also a graveyard within the fortification. It contains mostly the graves of those who had laid down their lives while fighting with the forces of Sher Shah Suri¹⁴ (Fig. 3).

8. The Mosque

It is a three domed mosque and measures 96' feet, 9" inches by 39' feet, 9" inches. The domes have been erected by mains of roughly constructed squinches of local variety. The façade and the interior have recessed decorative panels with pointed arches (Fig. 4).

¹³ The results of archaeological excavations carried out during 2020 by Department of Archaeology and Museums, Islamabad, inside the tomb have revealed the existence of a main grave in the centre of the tomb area. The details of the excavations are mentioned in the present report. At Rewat, an ancient well (approximately 500 meter from the Fort) and a water pond (approximately 800 meter from the Fort) is existed which are presumed as an integral part of Rewat Fort during the heydays. These both ancient constructions are however, still in use by the local people of this area.

¹⁴ Shaikh Khurshid Hassan, (2005) *Historical Forts in Pakistan*, National Institute of Historical and Cultural Research, Islamabad. pp. 63-65



Fig 3 - Tomb of Sarang Khan, Rewat Fort.



Fig 4 - Three domes Mosque, Rewat Fort.

9. Living Cells

There are cells for abode, all along the four sides of quadrangular inner face of the defensive walls. Originally there were 76 cells which were built for the benefit of travelers for the purpose of stay or resting place (Caravan Serai) while travelling on the adjacent G.T road. These living cells are square in plan provided with arched entrance and a domical ceiling in front by a rectangular vestibule connecting it with the central courtyard. There are also living cells inside the bastions located in main gate at east-south side, as well as in the north-east side Bastion and north-west side Bastion of the Fort which were used for the same purposes.

In the present day, civilized world is fully conscience and well aware about the preservation of their cultural heritage and equally consider that all heritage icons are the combine legacy of the whole world. Further the culturally rich countries are just trustees of their respective flabbergasting heritage. As such, all people are responsible for the proper preservation of these relics of the past, and take initiation to conserve, preserve and upkeep their rich heritage to enhance heritage icons life and make it available in perfect condition for future generation.

Therefore, keeping in view this fact, Federal Department of Archaeology and Museums, started a project entitled “Master Plan for Preservation, Restoration, Presentation and Development of Rewat Fort, Islamabad” (2017-20) in order to improve the present state of conservation of this very important (Category-I), monument of Islamic (Sultanate) period (Fig. 5-6)

In order to work with utmost care and to meet the requirements for execution of work effectively, Grid Plan of Rewat Fort was prepared. The western axis of the grid plan was marked by the numerical numbers from 1 to 24, and the northern axis were designated alphabetically from A to Z, in the following order as A1, A2---, B1, B2---, etc. Similarly, the graveyard of Rewat Fort possesses 86 graves (excluding the grave (s) in Mausoleum) which have been marked in the Plan (Fig. 7).

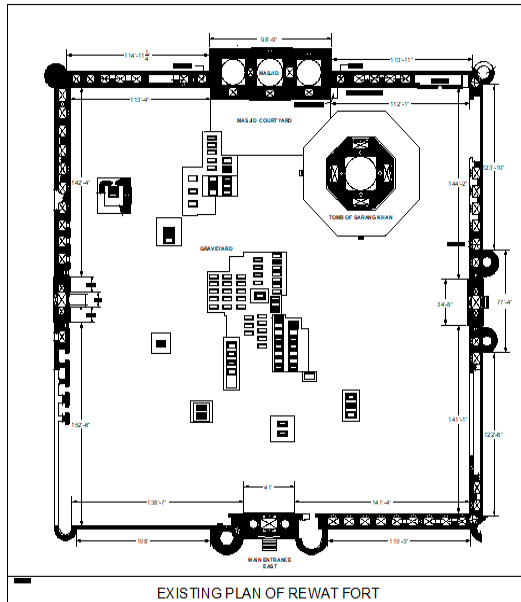


Fig 5 - Existing Plan of Rewat Fort.

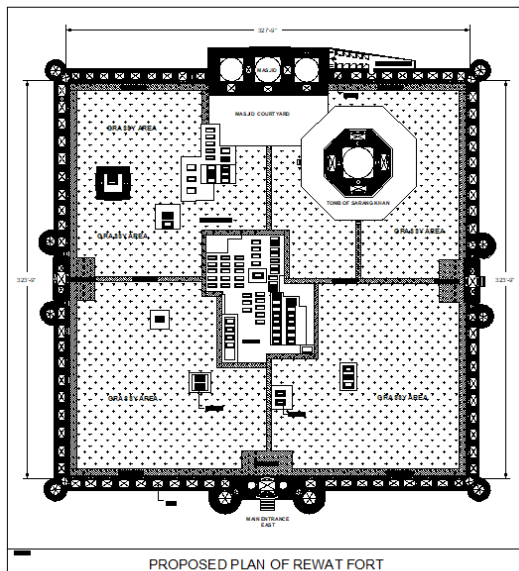


Fig 6 - Proposed Plan of Rewat Fort.

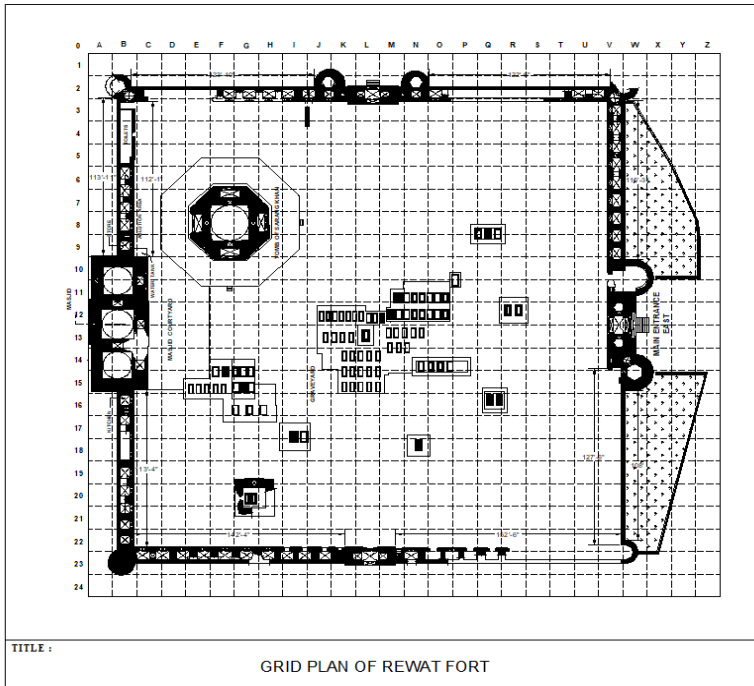


Fig 7 - Grid Plan of Rewat Fort.

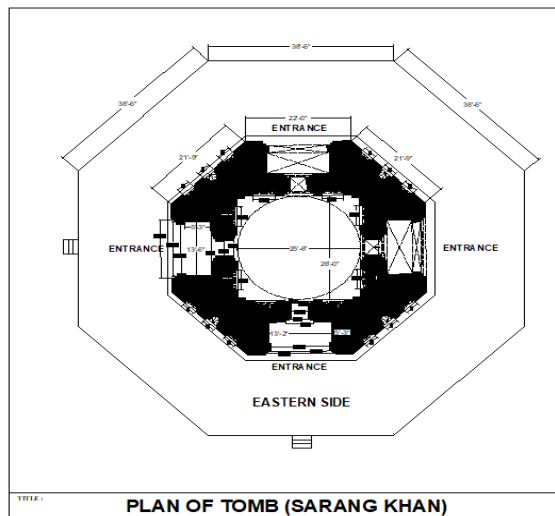


Fig 8 - Plan of Mausoleum Sarang Khan (Before Excavations).

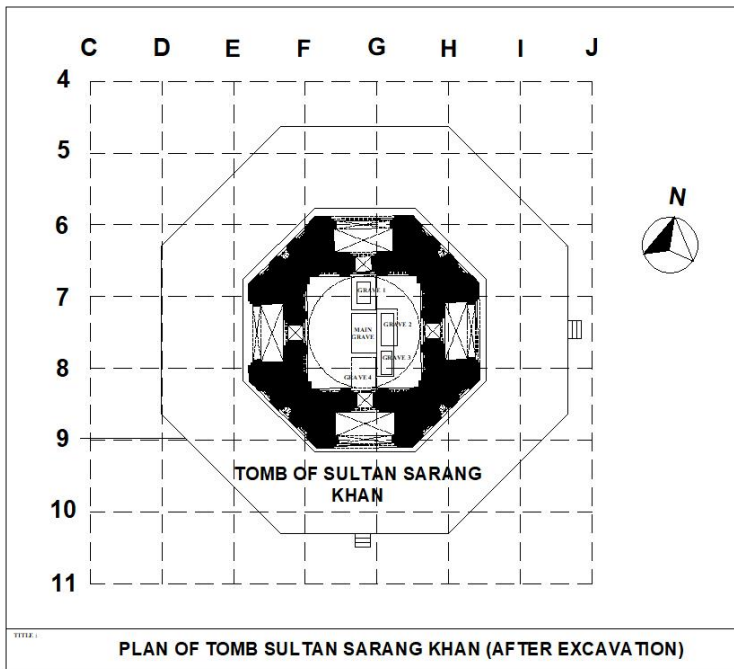


Fig. 9 - Plan of Mausoleum Sultan Sarang Khan (After Excavations).

10. Archaeological investigations at Rewat Fort

To close the gaps in the history of the evolution of human society and to provide meaning and substance to the dry bones of history, archaeological explorations and excavations constitute an essential source of knowledge. By piecing together, the evidence from scientific excavation the archaeologists write the blank chapters of nation's history.¹⁵ Archaeology is a science as well as a discipline to study the humanity of past cultures. It is concerned with the full range of past human experiences and to answer the questions such as; how the people organized their way of life into the social groups and exploited their environments, their food, religious

¹⁵ Ahmed Nabi Khan, *Archaeology in Pakistan, Administration, Legislation and Control*, Department of Archaeology and Museums, Karachi, 1990, p. 46.

beliefs how they communicate and why their societies changed.¹⁶ The artefacts which are discovered through the course of excavations are manmade or tailored transportable objects such as; earliest tools, earthenware, and weapons of different materials. These artefacts provide evidences to help us to prove answers all the key questions about the past¹⁷.

Therefore, keeping in view the cultural and historical significance of the Rewat Fort, it was essential to conduct archaeological excavations. The team of Federal Department of Archaeology and Museums carried out archaeological excavations mainly in the living cells and inside of the Mausoleum at Rewat Fort for the purpose of investigations (Fig. 8). All the antiquities discovered during the process of archaeological excavations carried out in the living cells, Mausoleum and other areas of Rewat Fort which pertains to Mughal and Sikh including the British Period were properly documented and recorded. The digital photographs and drawings of cultural material were prepared for analysis and further research studies/investigations.

11. Archaeological Excavations in the Mausoleum

There exists a majestic tomb inside the Rewat Fort complex which presents an excellent example of Muslim period monument of Sher Shah Suri period in this region. The tomb is generally and rightly attributed with the name of Sultan Sarang Khan, who was a brave ruler of this region. He along with his sixteen sons was defeated and killed by the forces of Islam Shah and were buried in Rewat Fort. The architecture of this splendid memorial is simple in design but it is very impressive and imposing. The similar architectural design was followed in later period during the Muslim Era.

The tomb is basically built on a typical architectural plan, which is externally octagonal in shape, but internally it is square in shape. The structure of the tomb is however, very colossal. The platform of the tomb is octagonal in shape which measures 38'-6" from each side with a height of 2 ½' feet. The dome measures 25'- 6" is just squat and has been raised

¹⁶ Colin Renfrew, *Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice*, Thames and Hudson Limited, London, 1991 (Reprint 1993), p.16.

¹⁷ *Ibid.* p.41.

on squinches, which are identical in shape and design to those used in the mosque close to the mausoleum. The arches, domes and cornices are in brick while the rest of the structure is of stonework. There are four elegant entrances to the tomb, each one entrance side of octagon measures 22' feet while the other four octagons each side measures 21'- 9" decorated with 12 blind arch panels of 3' feet each along the four corner sides of the massive walls of the mausoleum.

The floor of mausoleum was found plain without any traces of grave or cenotaph. No traces of the structural remains were visible on the surface. As the tomb is generally attributed with the name of Sultan Sarang Khan, therefore it was considered essential to trace the evidence by carrying out archaeological excavations. It is generally believed that during the Sikh Period in Punjab, the cenotaph of the grave in the Mausoleum may have been removed and the floor was left open to use it for government official purposes as it is evidenced in the Tomb of Noor Jehan and the Tomb of Jehangir at Lahore. During the process of cleaning of area around the eastern side gate of the mausoleum, we found two horseshoes along with other cultural material which provides material evidence that this area was used as a stable in the Sikh or later period during 19th- 20th Century.

In order to expose the buried structural remains inside the mausoleum an archaeological excavation was started by a team comprising on Dr. Tahir Saeed, Dr. Abdul Ghafoor, Mr.Arshad Ullah, from the Department of Archaeology and Museums in the month of June 2020. The area from inside of the Mausoleum measures 26' 11" from east to west direction and 27' 3" from north to south direction. The floor of the Mausoleum at the top was laid down with 10 cm solid cement concrete. This existing floor was laid down on the earlier floor during the conservation work carried out at the monument during 2004-05. The concrete floor was removed and after deep digging of 6 cm first layer of compact soil was found which comprises on deposits of some cultural material in the shape of potsherds, fragment of pottery etc.

The second layer of compact soil was observed at further deep digging of 20 cm with deposits of material such as; potsherds, arrow head, bridles used for horse, horseshoes of iron material, bones etc. belonging to the Islamic period. During archaeological excavations, the main grave was exposed in the middle of the tomb area at the depth of 0.5 meter. The main grave in the centre of the mausoleum measures 10' – 4" x 5' – 7". The distance of the main grave from centre measures 10' 3" from eastern and

western entrance gate wall, and 8' 7" from northern and southern entrance gate wall of the mausoleum. The four sides of the grave walls of main grave were constructed with limestone blocks laid in lime mortar. Between the walls a considerable amount of loose soil was found along with debris mixed with rough material, pebbles and hearth deposits.

The results of the limited archaeological excavations testify the evidence of a main grave inside the tomb which can now be safely considered as the grave of Sultan Sarang Khan. Beside this main grave, located in the centre of the Mausoleum, the evidences of four more graves were also recognized as; one on northern side entrance gate, two on eastern side entrance gate, and one on southern side entrance gate of the mausoleum. All these graves after excavations have been mentioned with numbers as; main grave, grave 1 to 4 as indicated in Plan of Mausoleum (Fig. 9). The walls of the graves were laid down with limestone and the lime mortar was used as binding material.

The four graves were covered with massive stone slabs of different sizes at the top of each grave. The present scope of the archaeological excavations was however, limited but a complete archaeological excavations plan in future on the remaining part of the western side entrance gate of the mausoleum will help to discover more concrete evidences to record stratigraphy of the monument. Further, it will help to learn more about the actual history of the Rewat Fort from Islamic Period to British Colonial Rule including the episode of Sikh Period in this part of Punjab province of Pakistan (Plate 1-7).

12. Archaeological Finds

During the process of archaeological excavations carried out inside the Mausoleum a reasonable quantity of artefacts found which comprises on; terracotta wheel made pottery (potsherds) of thick as well as thin texture, red ware, some painted fragments decorated with black colour motive lines, iron objects, bones and some glass fragments, terracotta decorative tiles etc. The result of limited archaeological excavations and antiquities which mainly comprises on pottery and other cultural material provides substantial evidences about the history of the monument from 16th to 20th Century CE.

13. Archaeological Excavations in the living cells

There are regular rows of identical living cells along the four sides of the quadrangular inner face of the defense walls overlooking the inner courtyard of the Rewat Fort. Fortification wall and living cells on southern wing of the Rewat fort had been collapsed due to the passage of time and human vandalism. No traces of the structural remains were visible on the surface to follow for ongoing conservation work. As such complete layout of the structures to be restored was found essential to meet the conservation ethics and standards. Therefore, in order to expose the buried remains of the destroyed structures an archaeological excavation was started by a team comprising on Dr. Mehmood-ul-Hassan, and Mr. Arshad Ullah, Assistant Director from the Department of Archaeology and Museums in the month of June 2018. The students of TIAC, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad were also included in the team. During archaeological excavations, foundations of the fortification wall and small cells were exposed at the depth of 0.5 meter. The remains of the walls were constructed with limestone blocks laid in lime mortar. The preserved height of the walls was recorded only 50 centimetres. Based on the archaeological excavations and investigations further work to complete the living cell was carried out with the same limestone material and lime mortar as binding material for restoration of the living cells of the Fort.

14. Archaeological Finds

During the process of archaeological excavations in the living cells of the Fort, a reasonable quantity of artefacts found comprises on; pottery (terracotta, potsherds) of thick as well as thin texture, red ware, pale red ware and plain and rough surface potsherds or fragments of pottery. All the antiquities found were documented, recorded and digital photographs were prepared for analysis and further research studies/investigations (Plate 8-23).

15. Description of antiquities discovered

A brief account of the discovered material from archaeological excavations in different areas of the Fort is given as below.

Pottery

The study of pottery discovered at the archaeological site is considered of a great help to make certain the chronology of the site as it provides significant information about the inhabitants of area or site. Besides, it also reflects the everyday life of the people of that period. During archaeological excavations, a reasonable number of potsherds were found which includes; different types of pots, bowls, miniature pots, saucers and lids with knobs. The fragment of wheel made pottery which includes; small fragments of pots, dishes with folded and dull rims, with smoothed base and rims of different shapes and sizes. The red ware pottery is wheel made and represents thick and medium texture. The potsherds show normally red or dull red wash, almost on the external surface sometimes interior sides.

Most of the potsherds are however, plain, red, dull red and pale red ware (Plate 9 – 16, 18, 20, & 22). There are found six significant pottery rims which are red ware and treated with traditional wheel made (Plate 9, Fig.1-4, Plate 18, Fig. 1 &2) in addition to a prominent knob of a pot lid (Plate 18, Fig. 3). A few pieces of pottery depict decorations like parallel lines in black-blue colour and one potsherd with decorative flower leaf design (Plate 17, Fig. 3 & 4). Following periods are observed at Rewat Fort: -

- i) Early Muslim Period: 8th-11th Century CE
- ii) Sultanate/Pre Mughal Period: 12th-15th Century CE
- iii) Mughal including Suri Period: 16th-18th Century CE
- iv) Late 18th-20th Century CE

Iron Objects

The iron objects include; one Bridle used as headgear for horse (Plate 19, Fig. 1), one Hinges (Plate 19, Fig, 2), two horseshoes(Plate 19, Fig.3 & 4) and one arrow head (Plate19, Fig. 5) which were discovered during the archaeological excavation of Mausoleum area, are very significant and worth mentioning.

Glass fragments

A few small pieces / fragments of glass were found during excavations in the area of Mausoleum which seems pieces of glass jars, or other objects (Plate 17, Fig. 1, 2 & 6).

Bones

Some bone pieces of human skull were found during the excavation from the Mausoleum area (Plate 8 & 21). Besides, some pieces of human bones of child (?) were also found during the excavation from the Mausoleum area (Plate 23).

Coin

Only one coin minted and issued during 1970's by Government of Pakistan (5 Paisa) was found from the Mausoleum area during the excavation (Plate 17, Fig. 7).

Miscellaneous objects

Some miscellaneous objects like pebble, fragments of different types of pottery, small pieces of iron and other cultural material were found during the archaeological excavations mainly from the Mausoleum area of Rewat Fort (Plate 17). A terracotta tile (partially broken from one side) decorated with carved with geometrical designs/patterns on the front surface was found during excavations from the Mausoleum area which is however, very significant.

A descriptive catalogue of the discovered antiquities (Plate-wise) from Rewat Fort is appended (Annexure-A).

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