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Q2(b)

Describe the evidences of food production and domestication of animals with special reference to Mehrgarh. Throw light on its significance.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2024 · Anthropology GS 1 · 15 marks · Neolithic

(iii) Neolithic

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

<https://wrapexams.com/upsc/mains-answers/anthropology-gs-1/2024/describe-the-evidences-of-food-production-and-domestication-of-animals-with-special-reference-to-mehrgarh-throw-light-on-its-significance/>

Excavation

The French Archaeological Mission under Jean-François Jarrige began major work at Mehrgarh in the 1970s.

Aceramic Neolithic

Early levels combine mud-brick architecture, storage, wheat and barley, grinding equipment and managed animals before widespread pottery.

Domestication test

Body-size change, horn morphology, age-sex profiles and herd abundance are more diagnostic than finding a wild species near a settlement.

Dental drilling

Drilled molars in Neolithic burials provide rare evidence of skilled intervention with stone tools, though not proof of a specialised modern dentist.

Zebu question

Bos indicus became central, but the exact balance of local domestication, introgression and introduced management remains debated.

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