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Q6(a)**Make a critical appraisal of the mesolithic culture of Ganga basin with reference to artifacts, faunal and human skeletal remains excavated from different sites**

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2026 · Anthropology GS 2 · 20 marks · Evolution of the Indian Culture and Civilization

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1.1 Evolution of the Indian Culture and Civilization-Prehistoric (Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic and Neolithic-Chalcolithic), Protohistoric (Indus Civilization). Pre-Harappan, Harappan and post-Harappan cultures. Contributions of the tribal cultures to Indian civilization.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round.

Sarai Nahar Rai

Key Mesolithic site in Pratapgarh district, Uttar Pradesh, known for human skeletal remains and hearth structures.

Mahadaha

Excavated site featuring specialized bone-tool manufacturing areas and evidence of butchering floors and multiple burials.

Damdama

Major multi-mound site yielding 41 human burials, including double burials and joint inhumations, reflecting complex mortuary rituals.

G.R. Sharma

Prominent archaeologist who led foundational excavations of the Mesolithic sites in the middle Ganga valley.

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