

LEGEND

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 01 - Barwa | 18 - Bargaon |
| 02 - Nagpur | 19 - Kalwa Heri |
| 03 - Khumber | 20 - Tikri |
| 04 - Bodhia Khera | 21 - Jhajhari |
| 05 - Bargaon | 22 - Uchana |
| 06 - Matana | 23 - Hemda |
| 07 - Umra | 24 - Shahpur |
| 08 - Sultanpur | 25 - Dadupur Rhoda |
| 09 - Sisai | 26 - Kurukshetra |
| 10 - Ghirai | 27 - Pehwa |
| 11 - Talwandi Rana | 28 - Gumthala Garhu |
| 12 - Khedar | 29 - Barrachpur |
| 13 - Dhigtana | 30 - Sirsa |
| 14 - Pundri | 31 - Mirpur |
| 15 - Pai | 32 - Sheikhupura |
| 16 - Serda | 33 - Buria |
| 17 - Karnal | |

Focus

Bhiwani, Fatehabad, Hisar, Kaithal, Karnal, Kurukshetra, Sirsa, Yamunanagar

Overview

Places visited : **33**
 Distance travelled : **4250 Kms**
 Elements mapped : **231**
 Scholars approached : **2**



Ghirai, Hisar



Pai, Kaithal



Khumber, Fatehabad



Mirpur, Sirsa

Haryana is a geographically small state (44,212 sq.km) with diverse cultural heritage. The state is divided into five cultural regions; Ahirwal, Mewat, Bagar, Nardak and Khadar. Ahirwal consists of Mahendergarh, Rewari and western parts of Gurgaon districts. Mewat region comprises of eastern parts of Gurgaon, Faridabad, Mewat and Palwal. Bagar consists of the districts of Sirsa, Hisar, Fatehabad and Bhiwani. It derives its name from the bagari dialect of Rajasthan and shares similarities with the region. Nardak consists of the districts of Kaithal, Yamunanagar, Panchkula, Ambala and Kurukshetra. Khadar consists of the districts of Rohtak, Jhajjar, Sonapat and Jind. Khadi boli is one of the main dialects spoken in this part of Haryana.

The architecture and furniture found in the north western districts of Haryana share similarities with Shekhawati region of Rajasthan. In this region, a charpoy was called a **palang**. It was also called a *macha* or *manja* in other districts. The *palang* found on the field had carved legs made of *kikar* or *sheesham* wood. *Sal* wood is commonly used to make the frames of the *manja*. The webbing is done using cotton ropes. A few decades ago, using ropes made from dried date palm leaves was a popular choice. Each person in the house have their individual *manja*.

Takhtposh (bed) is another commonly found furniture in community spaces called *Thai* or *Chaupal*. A number of *palang* (charpoy) and *takhtposh* are generally laid out

in the *chaupal*. These are used by the men in the village to sit during social gatherings and for afternoon naps. A *takhtposh* has metal bracing and rods as reinforcements. This makes it sturdy and allows a number of people to sit on them in gatherings.

Smoking **hookah** (smoking pipe) is another activity that takes place in the *chaupal*. *Hookah* holds an important place in the everyday life of the people of Haryana. Adolescents and old people (mostly men) come together to smoke the *hookah*. This is an act of socialising and often triggers intellectual discussions and debates within the community. The gathering is commonly called "*Paancho ka pyala*", as usually five people would sit and smoke hookah. A smaller hookah used by women (who have separate indoor gatherings) is known as a **hookhi**. In some places a wet cloth was wrapped onto the *naad* (pipe of the hookah) to keep it cool because of which the taste of the tobacco remained unaltered.

Some of the seating furniture that were found were **pidha** (low chair) and **pidhi** (stool). *Manja* and *takhtposh* were the main sleeping furniture. **Sandook** (cabinet) and **peti** (chest) were used to store clothes and mattresses. A number of objects like **charkha** (spinning wheel), **chakki** (hand mill grinder) and **dalri** (basket) were also found during this visit.



01



02



03



04



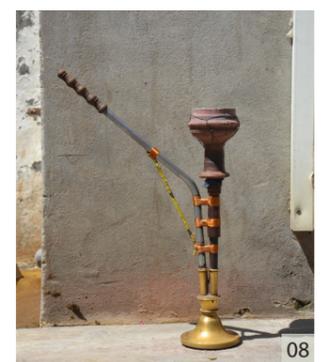
05



06



07



08

01. Sandook (Cabinet), 02. Takhtposh (Bed), 03. Palang (Charpoy), 04. Pidha (Low Chair), 05. Charkha (Spinning Wheel), 06. Peti (Chest), 07. Dalri (Bowl), 08. Hookah (Smoking pipe)

A monthly report of field visits conducted as a part of study of Vernacular Furniture of North West India | Phase 3b - Haryana

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