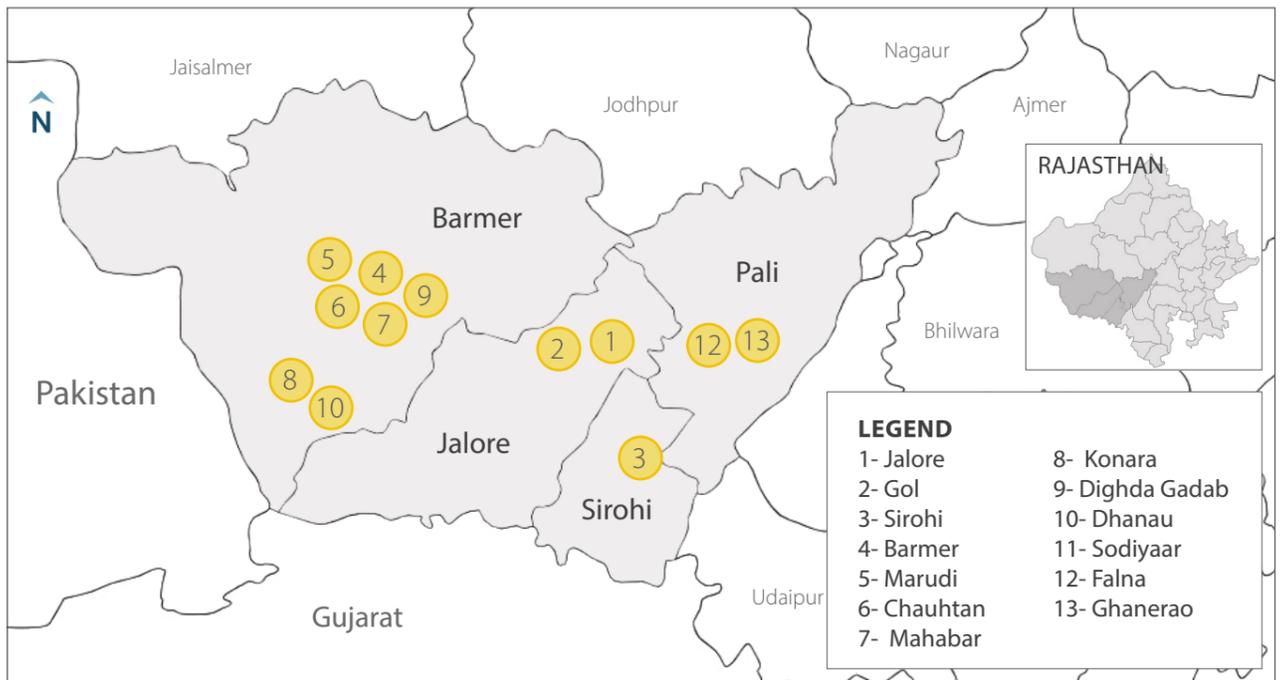


OVERVIEW

Places Visited :	14
Distance Traveled :	1675 km
Elements Mapped :	143
Scholars Approached :	10
Craftspeople Approached :	3



1



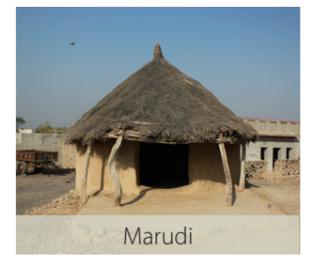
Barmer



Sirohi



Ghanerao



Marudi



2

The first field visit for the project 'Study of Vernacular furniture of Rajasthan' was conducted in the districts of Jalore, Sirohi, Barmer and Pali. These districts are geographically close to the border of Gujarat and were chosen for the pilot study to allow for a seamless cultural transition from the previous project 'Study of vernacular furniture of Gujarat'. The furniture encountered were from houses of urban traders, small village settlements of pastoral communities and also from the *Rawlas* which is the house of regional political head.

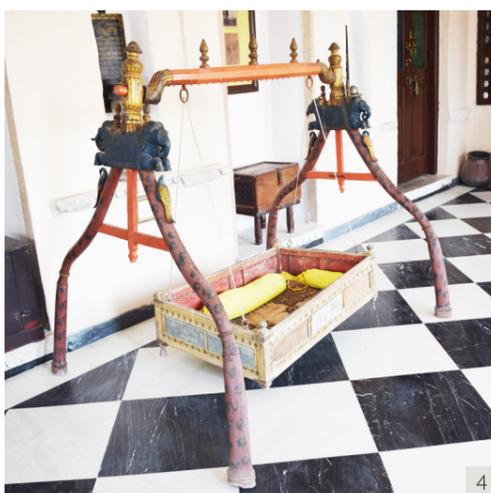
Khatlo (charpoy) is one of the most commonly found furniture piece throughout the region. A smaller sized variant of the charpoy called the **khatli** (feminine usage of *khatlo*) is used by children of the house. Some *khatli* have metal rings fixed on the top of the legs, so a rope can be rigged to suspend them and be used as swings. **Ghodiya** (cradle) from varying social contexts were found, with differences in size, scale and ornamentation. The royals has elephant head and peacock carved on the big trestle like structure while the ones from humble households have smaller trestles with horse heads. The royal cradle's posts are painted in golden colour and legs resemble the tusk of an elephant and are painted in deep pink with blue flowers. In other activity furniture, a **basni**

(low stool), a hand mill grinder called **garathia** and **bajot** (low table) used to serve food were found. Wooden **majus** (chest) used to keep clothes and other valuables were also mapped. These were ornamented with geometric pattern of brass studs, reinforced with metal angles on sides for safety and rigidity. The chest is mounted on wooden wheels which aid in moving it inside a room for cleaning and other purposes. **Kothar** (grain storage) and **kathatra** (food storage) are unique to the arid region of Barmer, part of Thar desert. The *kathatra* are apt in the extreme seasons since they act as thermal insulating cabinets and are used for storing fresh food. Both are made of clay with the *kathatra* having wooden shutters. Both these storage items have also been found to be made from paper mache in some cases. Decorated with lac and mirror work, the storages vary in size and decorative style from region to region.

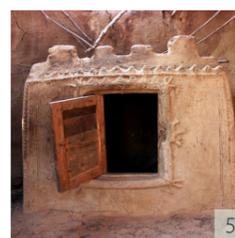
Objects such as **talaa khuta**, a brass storage container with heavy metal-ware for safety were found. It was used to store valuables and then hidden in earth pits. The other element found commonly is the **khuti**, an inbuilt wall hook, made out of a single wooden piece, used to hang clothes and lamps. The *khuti* are designed with abstraction of animals like peacock and horse.



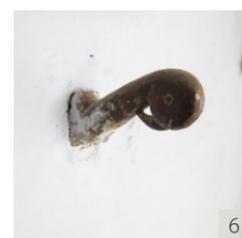
3



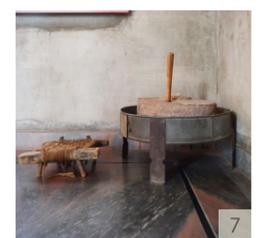
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5



6



7



8



9



10

A monthly report of field visits conducted by Directed Research Project at DICRC, CEPT University, as a part of Study of Vernacular Furniture of North West India.

1. *Majus* (Chest), 2. *Kathatra* (Cabinet-paper mache), 3. *Khaat* (Charpoy), 4. *Palna* (Cradle), 5. *Kathatra* (In-cabinet), 6. *Khuti* (Hook), 7. *Basni-Garathia* (Stool and hand mill grinder), 8. *Khatli* (Charpoy), 9. *Talaa-khuta* (Container) & 10. *Sinhaasan* (Throne).