

STONE DISCS FOUND AT MURTAZIGANJ.

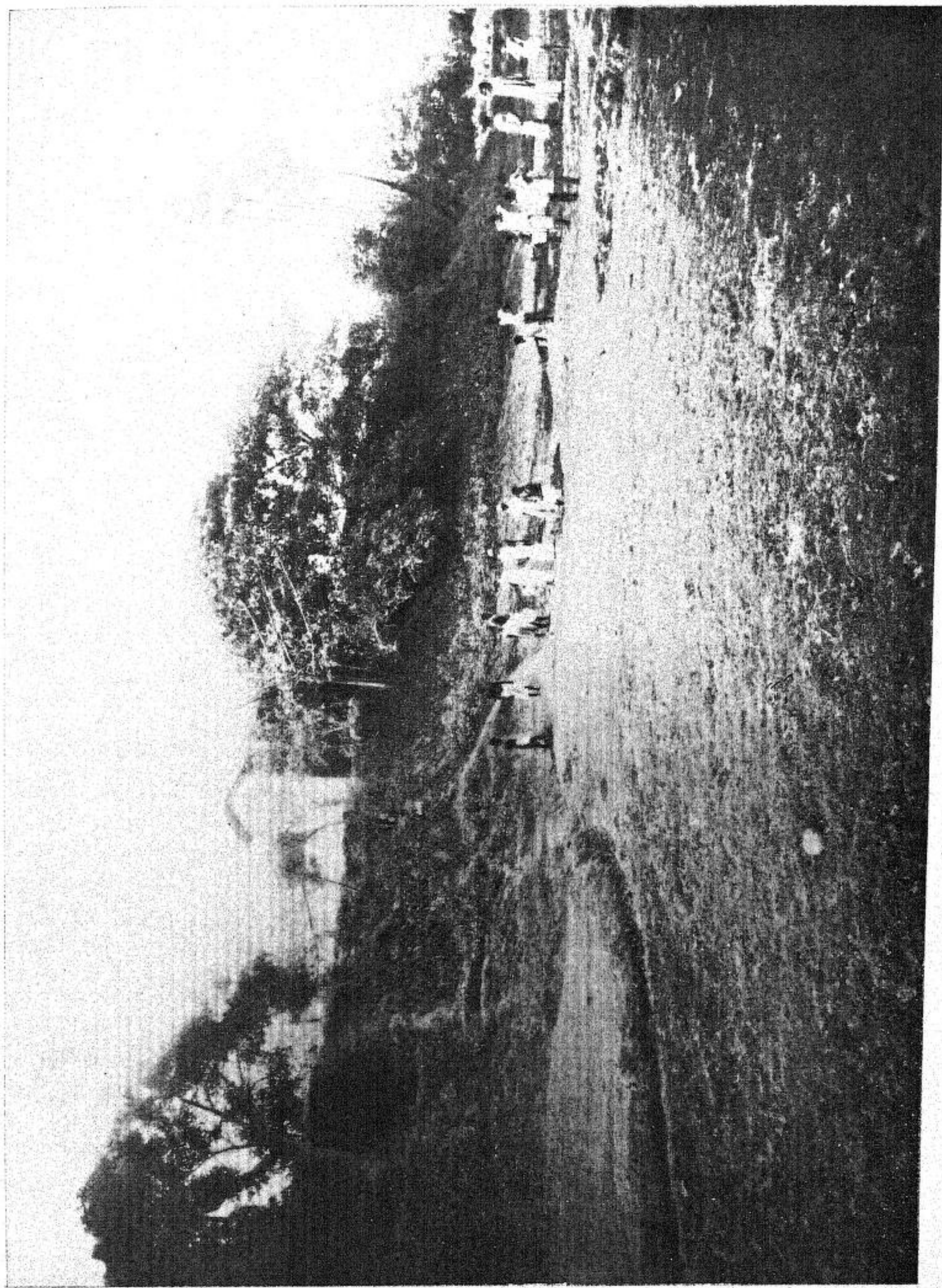
BY

S. A. Shere, M. A. (London), Curator, Patna Museum.

Murtaziganj is one of the quarters under Police Station Khwaja Kalan in Ward No. 25 of the Patna City Municipality. It lies at a distance of about one and a half miles south-west of Gulzarbagh Railway Station on the main line of the East Indian Railway and about two miles east of the two sites of Bulandibagh and Kumrahar situated within the ancient Pataliputra.¹

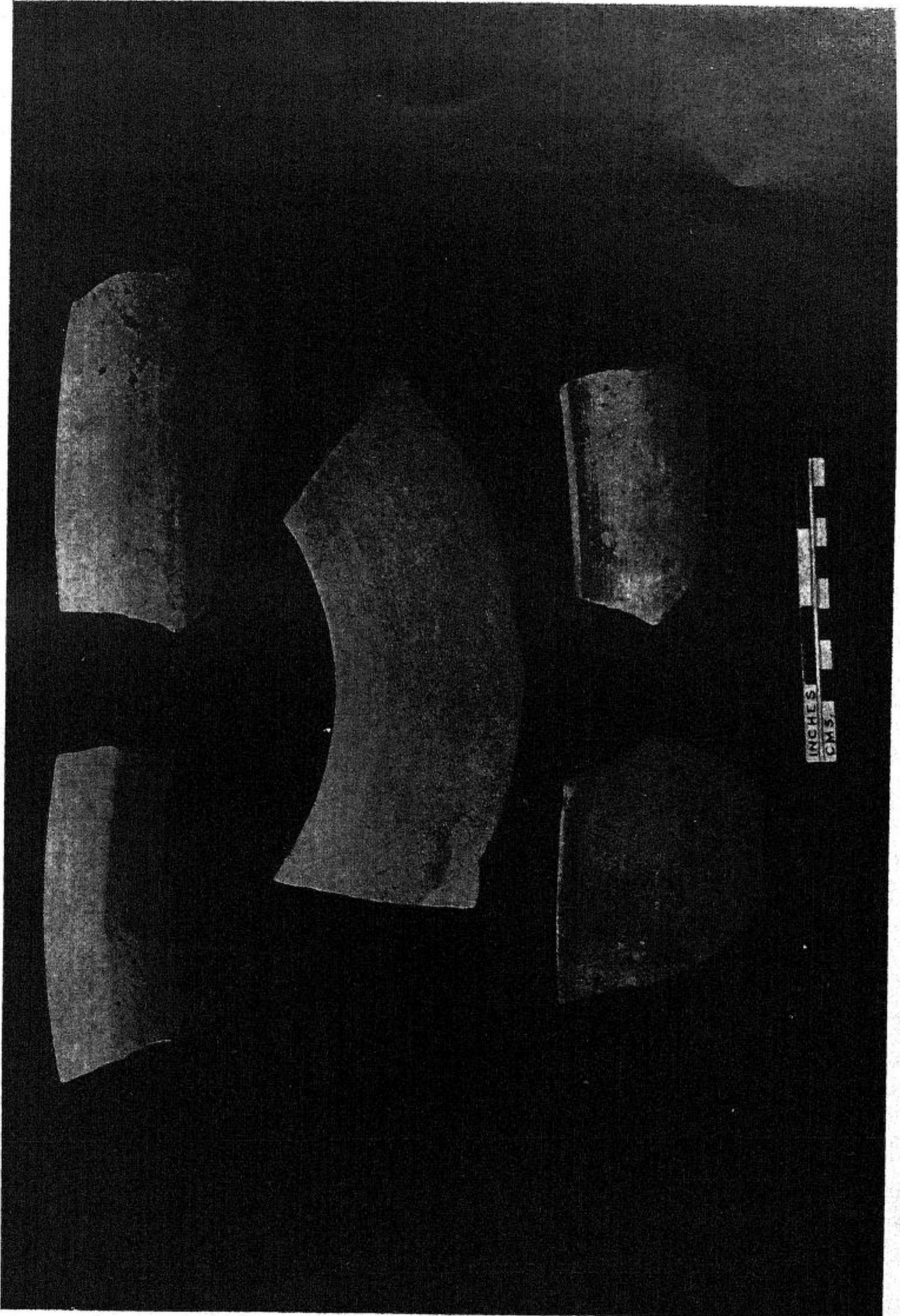
Twenty one stone discs were accidentally discovered in the Mahalla of Murtaziganj some time in the last week of May, 1951. An old school fellow Shri Raghunandan Prasad Sinha mentioned the fact of discovery to me. I visited the site and there I learnt that Shri Jhunak Lal and Shri Hari Lal were digging earth for repairing their houses from the dry nala (drain) which is situated about 17 feet deep on the western extremity of their houses. The spade accidentally struck the stone discs which were all found within the radius of about 3 feet and buried about a foot below the bed of the nala. Near the site of the discovery the nala which runs north to south has on its eastern side houses of the inhabitants of Murtaziganj and on its western side a trenching ground of the Patna City Municipality. A full view of the bed of the nala and the site from where the discs have been found may be seen in *plate I*. On close examination of the site I became hopeful of finding more stone discs. I had the site (the bed of the nala) exca-

1. A. S. I. A. R, 1912-13, pp 53-86; 1915-16 pt. 1, p 13-15; 1917-18 pt. 1, p 27, 1926-27, pp, 135-40; Ann. Report A. S. Eastern Circle, 1913-14, pp 45-74; 1914-15, pp 45-50; 1915-16, pp 27-38; L. A. Waddell, Report on the excavations at Pataliputra, 1903, pp 1-83; L. A. Waddell, Discovery of the exact date of Asoka's classic capital of Pataliputra, 1892, pp, 1-22.



The site where the stone discs and mottos have been found

PLATE III



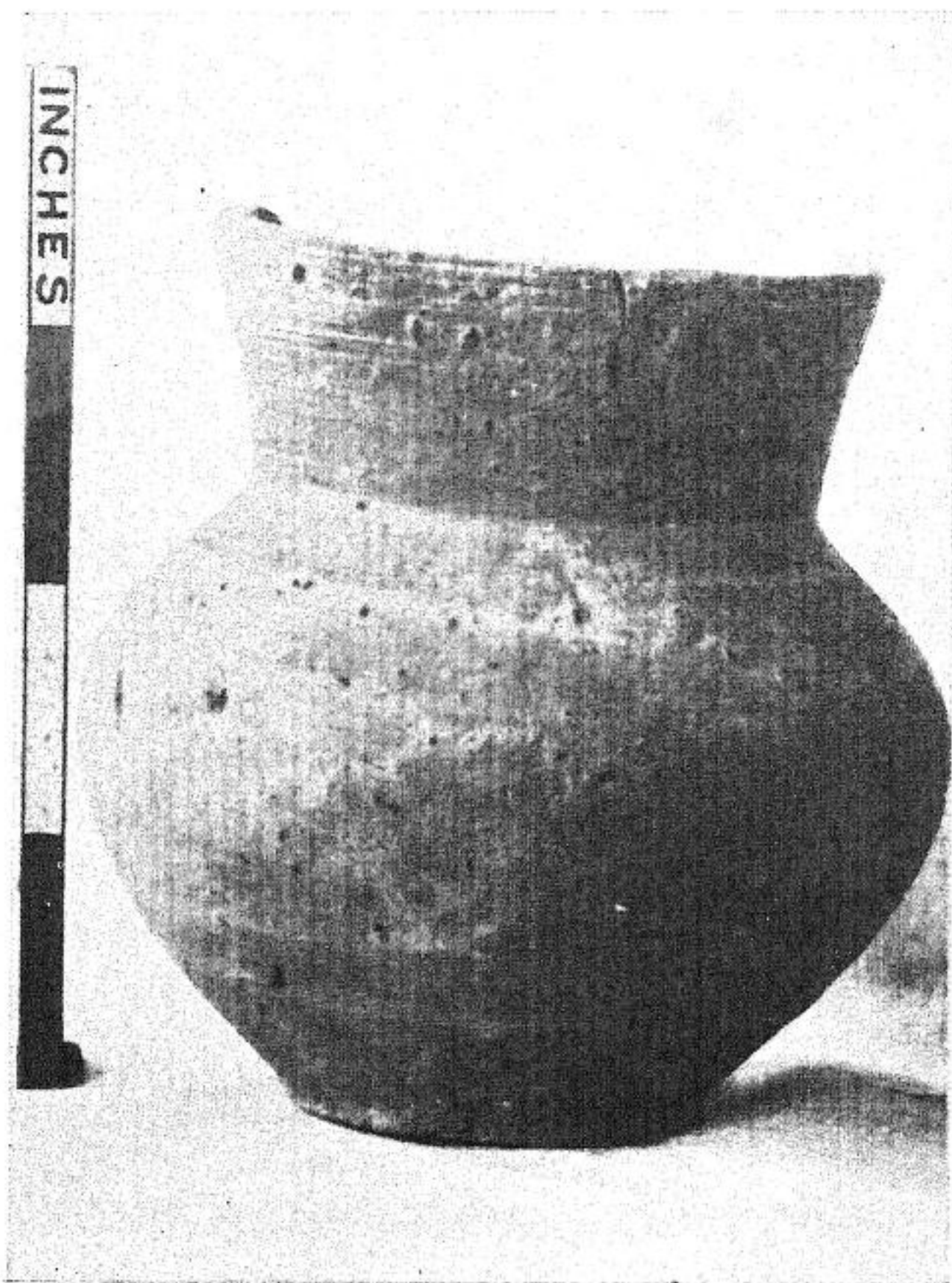


Fig. 1

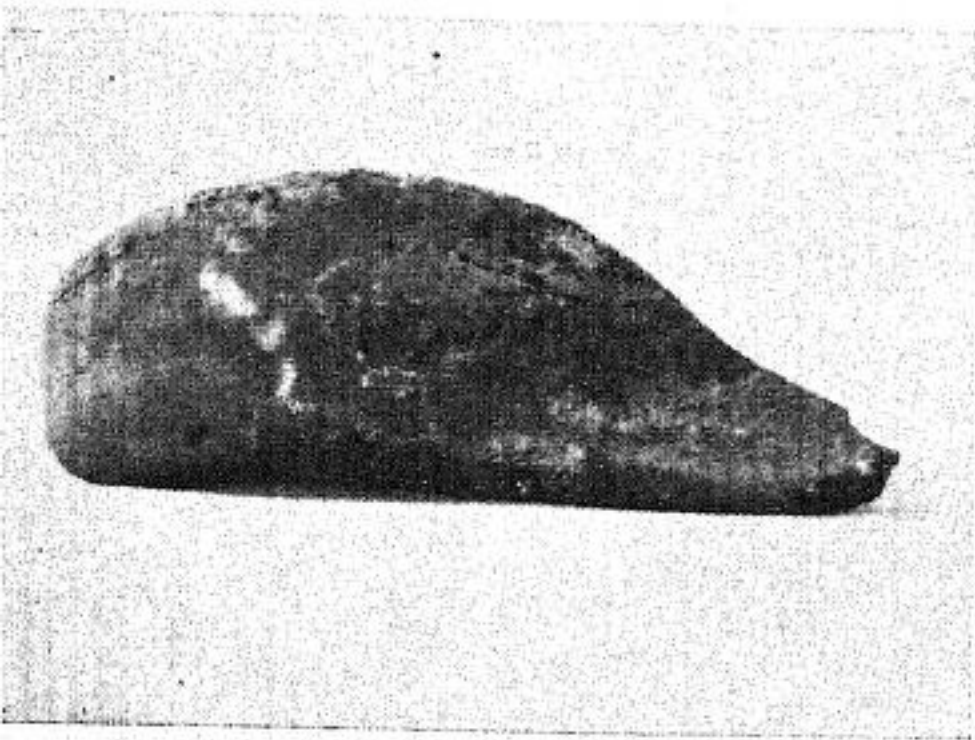


Fig. 2

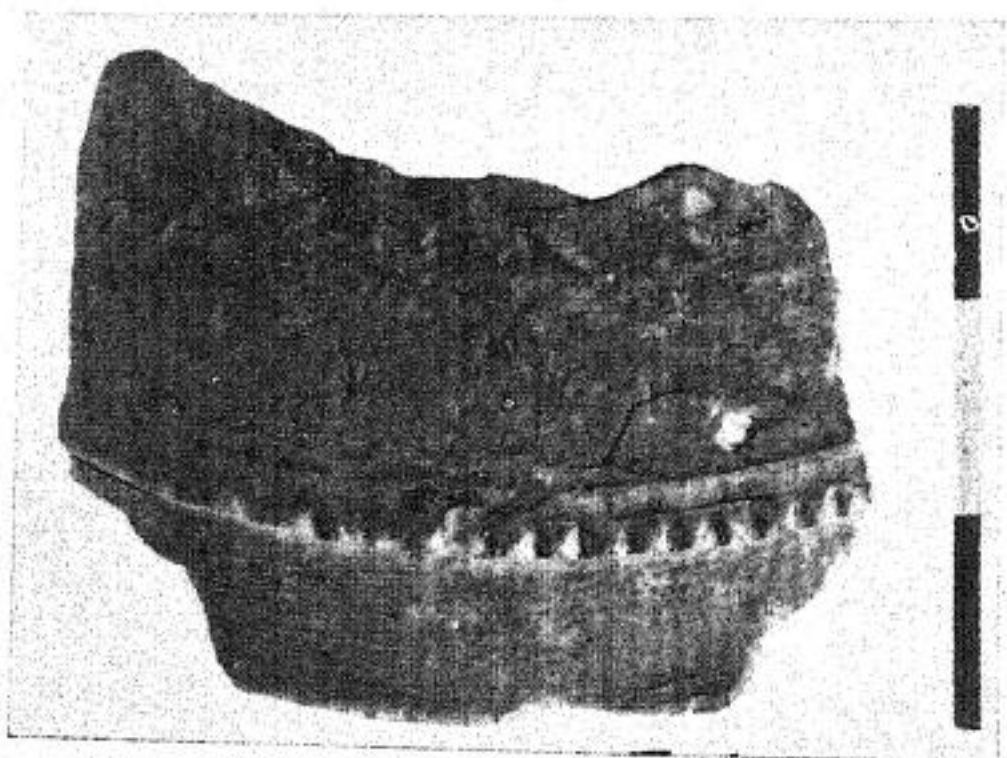


Fig. 3

Pot and potsherds recovered after trial excavations at Murtaziganj

vated, but they were not found. The site yielded a large number ✓ of potsherds some of which are decorated with incised lines and geometrical designs and are of yellowish, brownish, greyish and blackish colour. Fragments showing admixture of mica flakes are interesting specimens from this site. Besides the potsherds, terracotta cups with a flat base, gradually increasing upwards in various dimensions have also been found. Slingballs of various sizes, pieces of terracotta figurines, beads and other objects have also been unearthed (see *plates II, III & IV*). A stone ear-plug was also picked up by a villager from near about the site. If the site is further excavated we might recover other antiquities of importance.

The above 21 discs and the ear-plug may be described thus :

1. This piece has four sections, each section separated from the next by a palmyra palm. In the centre of a section there is the goddess of fertility. She appears to have ornaments covering her breasts and a simple headgear. On one side of her is a winged lion facing left with a goose below it. On the other side of her is an elephant facing left with a figure below it but not clear which may again be a goose facing right. Proceeding clockwise there is in the centre of this section the goddess of fertility already described. On one side of her is a horse facing left with an antelope below it facing right and on the other side of her there is a lion facing front and below it a goose facing left. In the third section there is again the goddess of fertility in the centre. On one side of her there is a lion facing left and below it a goose facing right. On the other side of her there is a horse facing left and below it a goose also facing left. In the fourth section there is again the goddess of fertility in the centre. On one side of her there is a horse facing right and below it an antelope also facing right. On the other side of her is a lion facing the front and a goose below it facing right. In the centre of the piece there is lotus with twenty petals. The background of all these sections is plain. On the reverse of the disc there appear designs of two small circles and plants which look more or less like symbols found on the later silver punch-marked

coins.² Diameter $2\frac{3}{8}$ "', thickness $\frac{5}{8}$ "', weight 1805 grs. (fig. 1) Arch. No. 10736.

2. This is a piece in which there are six major sections and six minor sections. In the very centre of the piece there is a small circle so decoratively designed as to represent the sun with its six rays. In the major sections there are three date palms with their trunks lined very prominently and leaves clearly indicated. The leaves give the impression of the sun with its rays. These trees are separated by the remaining three major sections in which figures of the goddess of fertility are shown. The goddess of fertility appears to be wearing a necklace and some kind of ornaments covering the breasts and a headgear. Out of the six minor sections three have the figures of birds two of which might be cranes and one a parrot, all facing left and the remaining three have some kind of ornamentation. The whole piece appears to be geometrically symmetrical. The entire background of this piece is plain.

On the reverse of the disc there appear designs of a circle and taurine the latter of which is similar to that found on Mohenjodaro Seal No. 259 (ccxvll) and silver punch-marked coins³. Diameter $2\frac{1}{4}$ "', thickness $\frac{1}{2}$ "', Weight 1332 grs. (fig. 2) Arch. No. 10737.

3. This is a piece having two sections divided by two palm trees. Starting from a palm tree and proceeding clockwise there is the figure of a stag facing right and below it a peacock facing left. On the right side of these two figures there is a figure of a female (?) facing right wearing a skirt and a headgear. Her left arm is raised and appear to be holding some object. Next to her there is the goddess of fertility with a headgear. Next to her there is a goose facing left and next to this goose there is a nude figure of a man with an animal-like face. Next to this man there is a horse facing left and below it a goose also facing left. This section is concluded by a

2. J. P. A. S. B, XXX, 1934. Num. Suppl.

3. J. P. A. S. B, XXX, 1934, Num. Suppl.

Murtaziganj Discs.



Fig. 1

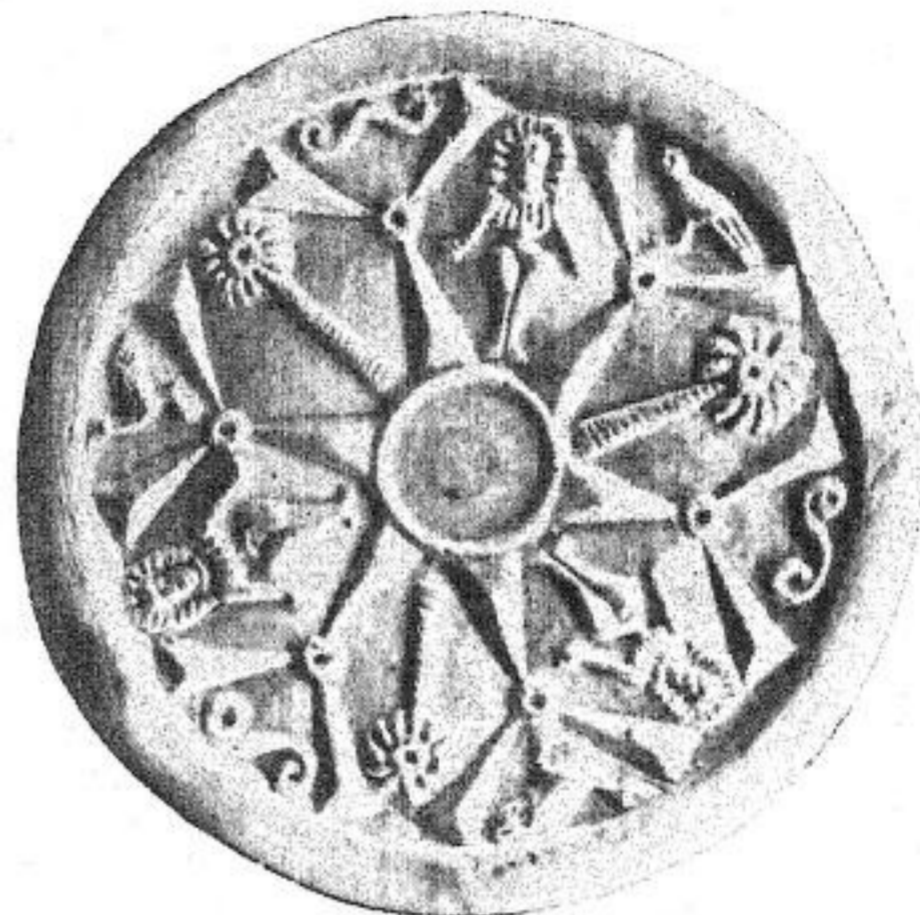


Fig. 2

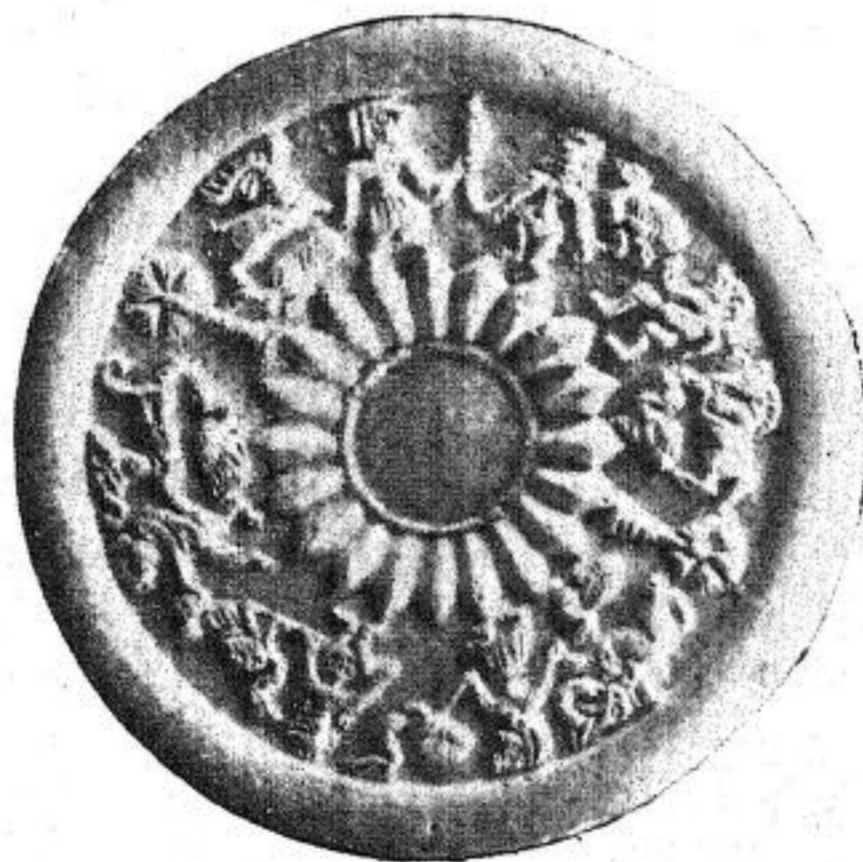
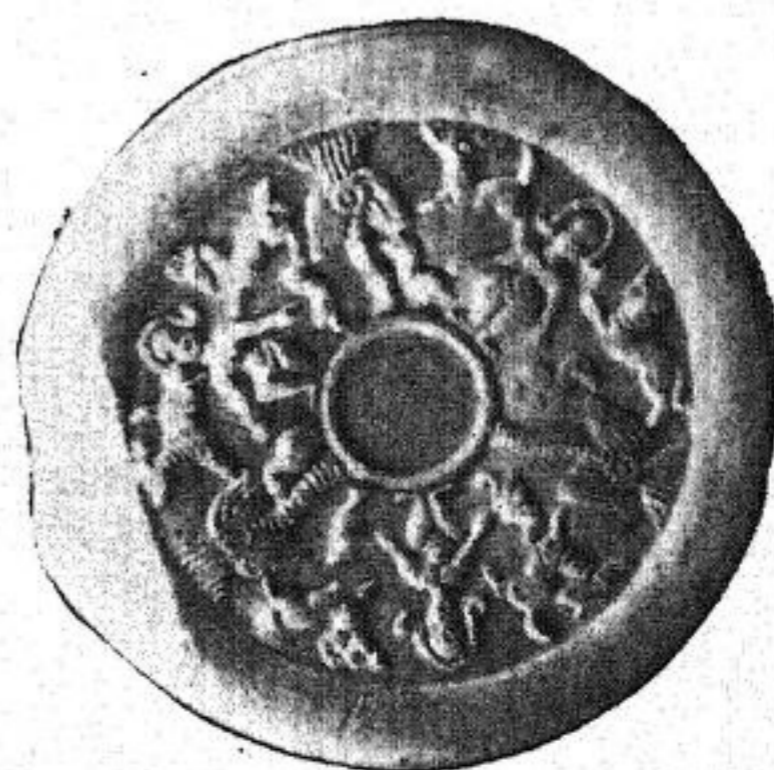


Fig 3



palm tree already mentioned. Next to this palm tree there is an elephant facing right with its head raised and below it a goose also facing right. Next to this is the figure of a skirted female (?) with an animal-like face. Next to her there is a goose facing right and next to it the goddess of fertility and next to her there is a peacock facing left and next to this peacock is the figure of a man with an animal-like face facing left and holding a vessel from which he seems about to pour fluid on the tail of the peacock and next to this figure there is a deer with its head facing away from this man and below the deer there is a peacock facing right. Next to this there is a palm tree already described and this tree concludes the second section.

The entire background of these two sections is plain. In the centre of the piece there is a circle and this circle is in a depression. From this circle there are sunlike rays and inside the circle is a plain forming the depression. Diameter 2", thickness $\frac{1}{2}$ ", weight 1059 grs. (fig. 3) Arch. No. 10738.

4. In this piece there are six sections which are divided from each other by date and palm trees alternately. In the centre there is a circle and in that circle the space is raised. Out of the six sections three have the figures of the goddess of fertility having the same appearance as in the disc first described. On each side of the head of this goddess is a crescent. The remaining three sections have the figures of deer and below them are the figures of three peacocks. The whole of what has been described above has for its background an engine-turned design. At the very outermost circle of this piece there are small dots all the way round making a circle. Immediately below this circle there is in the same manner another circle and immediately below the second circle there are a series of small circles making a 3rd circle and immediately below this there are tau-rine symbols all the way round making a 4th circle. After this the figures, crescents, palm trees, etc. are to be found. Diameter 2", thickness $\frac{3}{4}$ ", weight 1235 grs. (fig. 4) Arch. No. 10739.

5. This piece has three sections. Each section is divided by a palmyra palm and has figures in between them. In all the

three sections there are figures of the goddess of fertility. These figures have headgear of simple design.

In between these sections there are birds probably geese, one facing right and the other left below another figure that of a running lion and of a running deer both facing left. Proceeding clock-wise in the next section there are a deer and a ram both facing left and below them are two geese facing right. In the last section there are a horse and a deer, both facing left and below them are two geese one facing right and the other left.

In the centre of the piece there is a circle and within the circle it is plain. The entire background of the specimen is plain. Diameter $1\frac{7}{8}$ " , thickness $\frac{3}{4}$ " , weight 998 grs. (fig. 5). Arch. No. 10740.

6. This piece has an outer circle consisting of only figures of animals and birds. There is an inner circle which is plain. Commencing with the figure of (No. 1) a horse and proceeding clock-wise there are the following figures :—(2) a peacock, (3) and (4) stags, (5) a peacock, (6) a dog (?), (7) a boar, (8) a peacock, (9) & (10) horses, (11) a peacock, (12) a stag, (13) an elephant (14) a peacock (15) a deer and (16) a stag. All these animals and birds are facing left. The background of all these figures is plain. Diameter $2\frac{1}{2}$ " , thickness $\frac{3}{4}$ " , weight 2150 grs. (fig. 6). Arch. No. 10741.

7. This is a piece having twelve sections. In the very centre of the piece there is a small circle which represents the sun with its six rays. These rays make six sections containing animals only. Besides these there are six other sections having birds only. Commencing with the figure of (1) a heron facing left in the outer sections, and proceeding clockwise there are the figures of (2) a goose facing right, (3) a goose facing left, (4) a crane facing left, (5) a goose facing left and (6) a cock facing left. In the lower sections below the heron of the upper section there is (1) a stag facing left and proceeding clock-wise there are the figures of (2) a goat facing left, (3) a humped bull facing left, (4) an elephant facing left (5) a horse facing left (6) a lion facing left. The background of all these figures is plain. Diameter

Murtaziganj Discs.

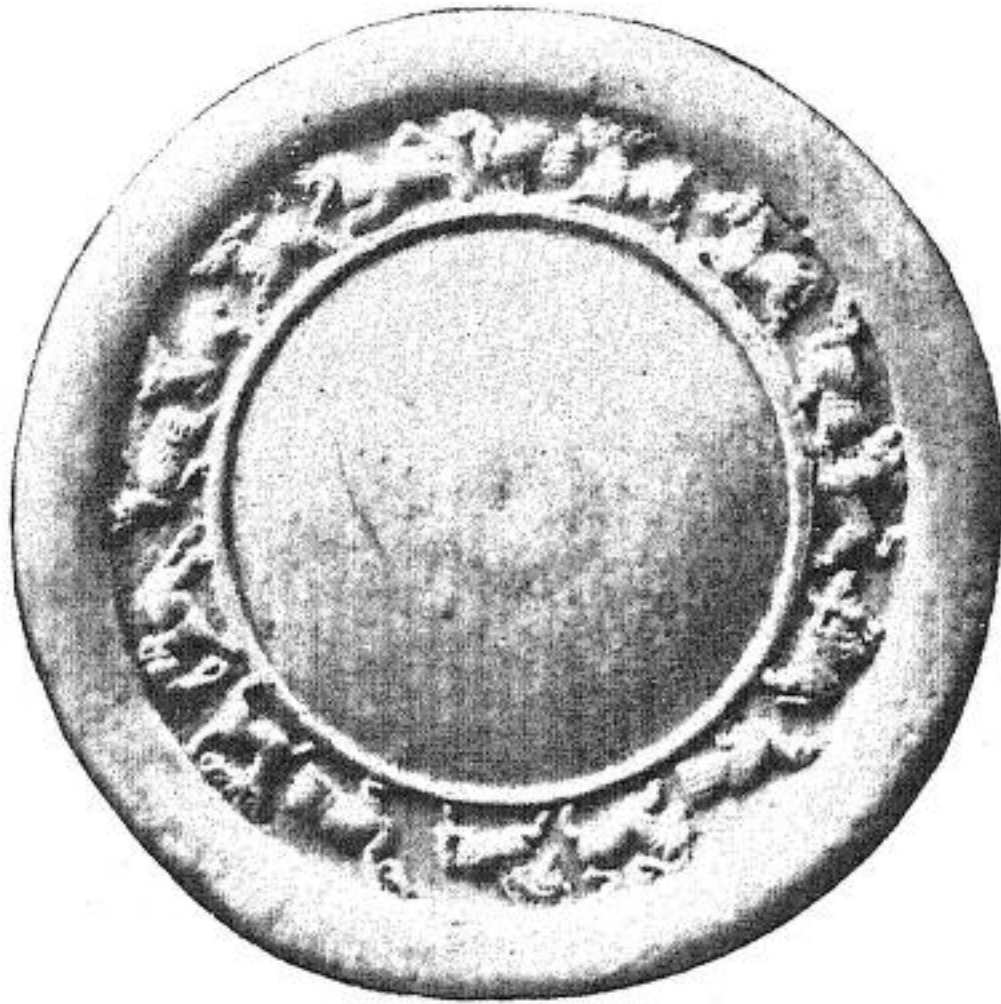


Fig. 1

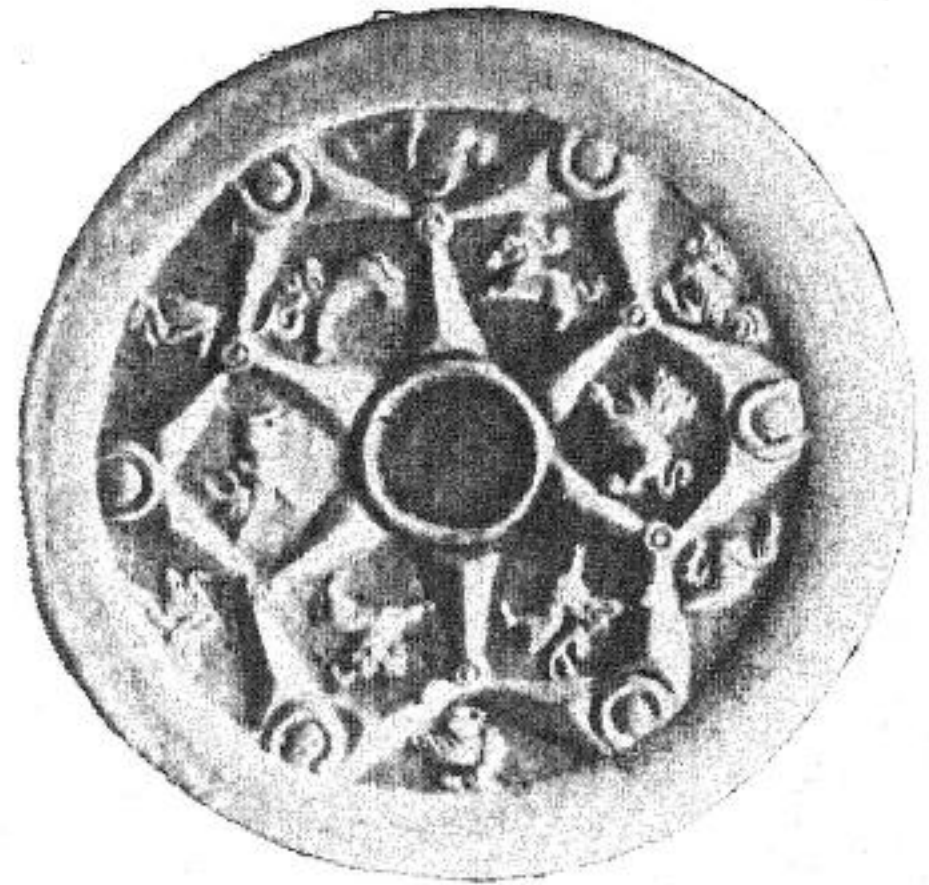


Fig. 2

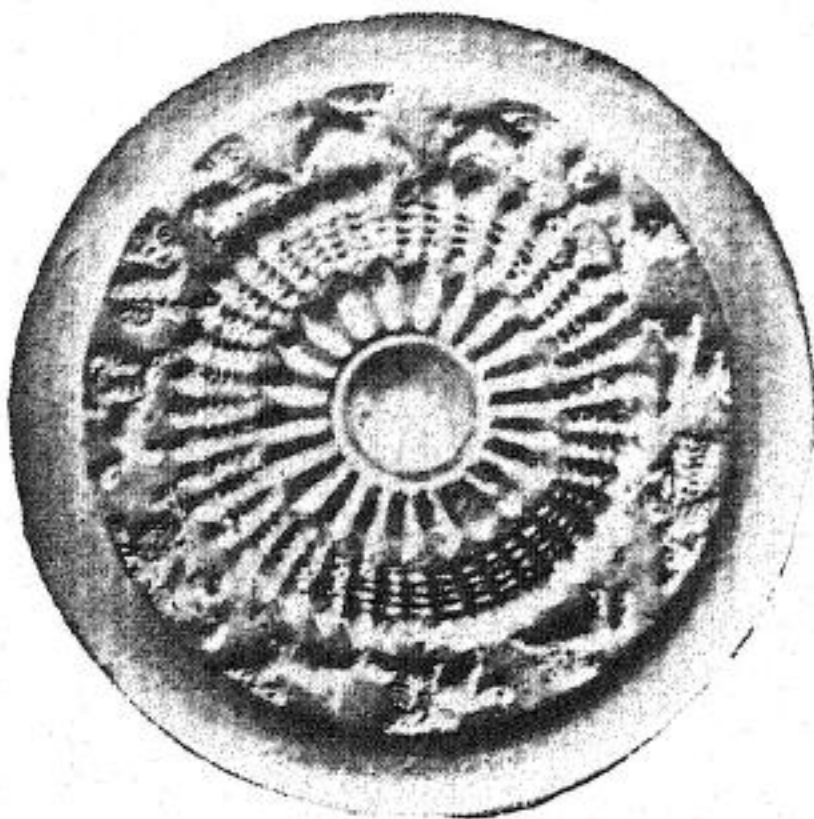


Fig. 3

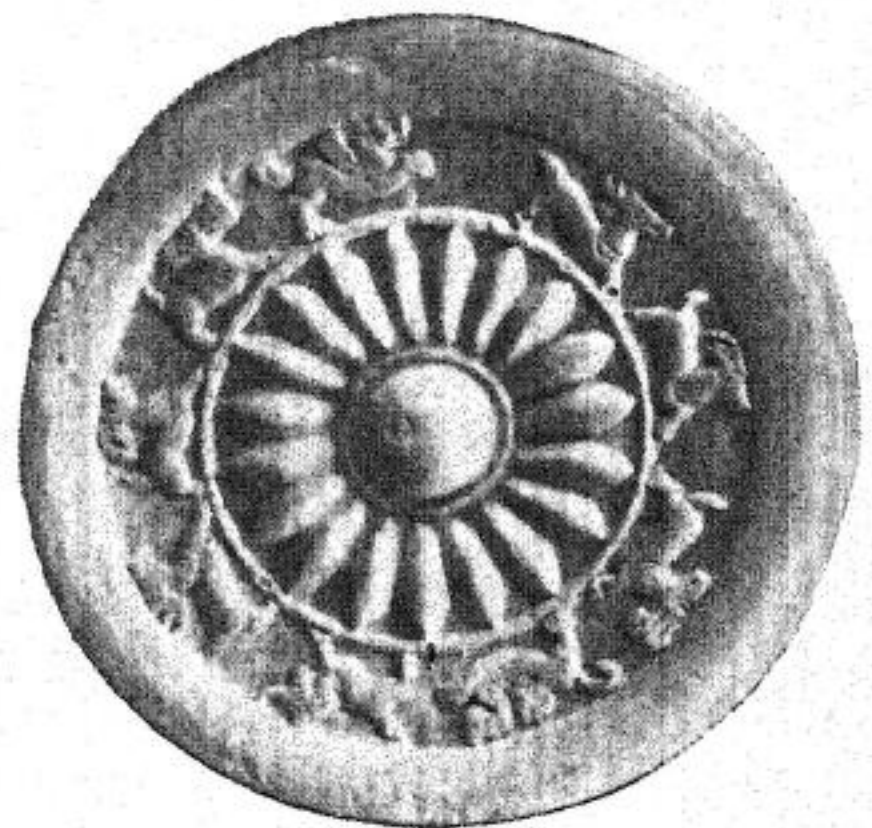


Fig. 4

2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " thickness 5/8", weight 1140 grs. (fig. 7). Arch. No. 10742.

8. This is a piece with lotus design in the centre. Beyond the petals there are finial-like objects encircling the lotus. Outside the decoration there are figures of ten animals and two birds. Starting with the figure of the (1) winged lion and proceeding clock-wise there are the following animals and birds :— (2) a stag facing right, (3) a lion looking behind, (4) a lion facing right, (5) an owl facing the front, (6) a stag looking behind, (7) a deer facing right, (8) a deer facing right, (9) a lion facing right, (10) a deer looking behind, (11) a peacock facing right and (12) a horse looking behind. These figures are on a plain background. On the reverse of the piece there is a rough design of a taurine symbol. Diameter 2", thickness 5/8", weight 965 grs. (fig. 3). Arch. No. 10743.

9. This is a piece with lotus design in the centre and having nineteen petals within a circle. Outside this circle there are figures of nine animals. Starting from the figure of the winged lion facing right and proceeding clock-wise there are the figures of (2) a stag facing right, (3) a goat facing right, (4) a stag looking behind, (5) a winged lion facing right, (6) a lion facing the front (tail damaged), (7) a stag facing right, (8) a goat facing right and (9) a stag looking behind. These figures are on a plain background.

The reverse of the disc is uneven and contains many rectangular marks. Diameter 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", thickness 5/8", weight 1105 grs. (fig. 9). Arch. No. 10744.

10. This is a piece with a lotus design in the centre and having eleven petals. The background of the entire piece appears to be engine-turned. In the outer circle there appears the figure of one heron facing left and 8 closed lotus flowers and each flower appears to be joined by tendrils.

On the reverse of the disc there is a beautiful rough design of an elephant. Diameter 2", thickness 5/8", weight 1020 grs. (fig. 10). Arch. No. 10745.

11. In the centre of this piece there is a depression which is encircled. There are twenty-four petals emanating from this circle. The depression in the circle is plain. Beyond the petals there are thirteen figures of animals and birds on plain background. Commencing with the figure of (1) a stag facing left and proceeding clockwise there are the figures of (2) a peacock facing left, (3) a stag looking behind, (4) a stag facing left, (5) a stag facing left, (6) a peacock facing left, (7) a stag looking behind, (8) a stag facing left, (9) a stag facing left, (10) a stag facing left, (11) a peacock facing left, (12) a stag facing left and (13) a stag facing left.

On the reverse of the disc there are designs of a taurine and a small circle. Diameter $1\frac{7}{8}$ " , thickness $\frac{5}{8}$ " , weight 1235 grs. (fig. 11). Arch. No. 10746.

12. This is a piece having its entire background engine-turned. There is lotus with fourteen petals in the centre. Beyond the petals there is a circle and beyond this circle are the figures of seven animals and two birds. Commencing with the figure of (1) an elephant facing right there are the figures of (2) a peacock looking behind, (3) a stag facing right, (4) a stag (?) facing right, (5) a rhinoceros facing right, (6) a stag looking behind, (7) a stag facing right, (8) a horse facing right and (9) a peacock facing right. The reverse of the disc shows a rough design of a ladder. Diameter 2" , thickness $\frac{5}{8}$ " , weight 1175 grs. (fig. 12). Arch. No. 10747.

13. The entire background of this piece is plain. There is a lotus in the centre with fifteen petals enclosed in a circle. Beyond this circle are the figures of five animals and three birds. All the animals and two birds are facing left. The owl is facing the front. The reverse of the disc is uneven and has a rough design of two triangles joined at the vertex. Commencing with the figure of (1) a stag and proceeding clockwise there are figures of (2) a peacock, (3) a stag, (4) a horse, (5) a peacock, (6) a stag, (7) a horse (8) an owl. Diameter $1\frac{7}{8}$ " , thickness $\frac{1}{2}$ " weight 830 grs. (fig. 13). Arch. No. 10748.

Murtaziganj Discs.

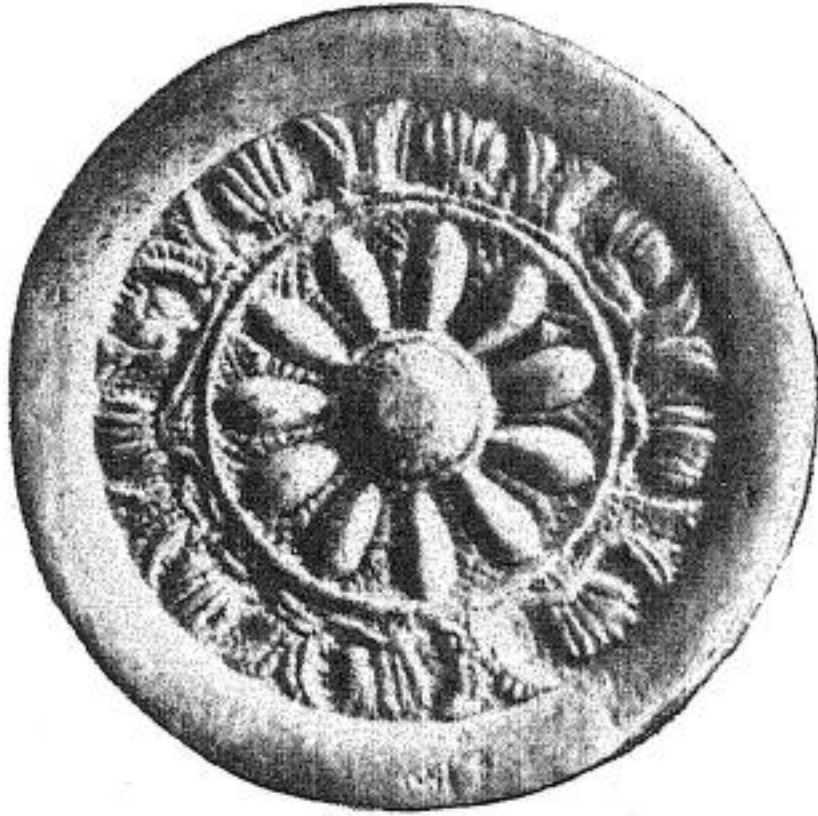


Fig. 1

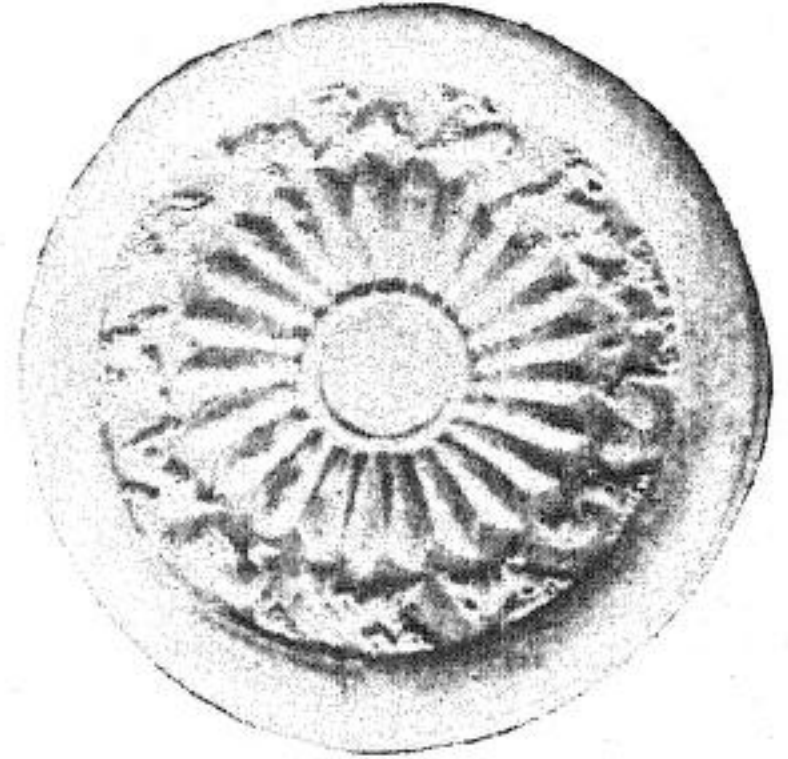


Fig. 2

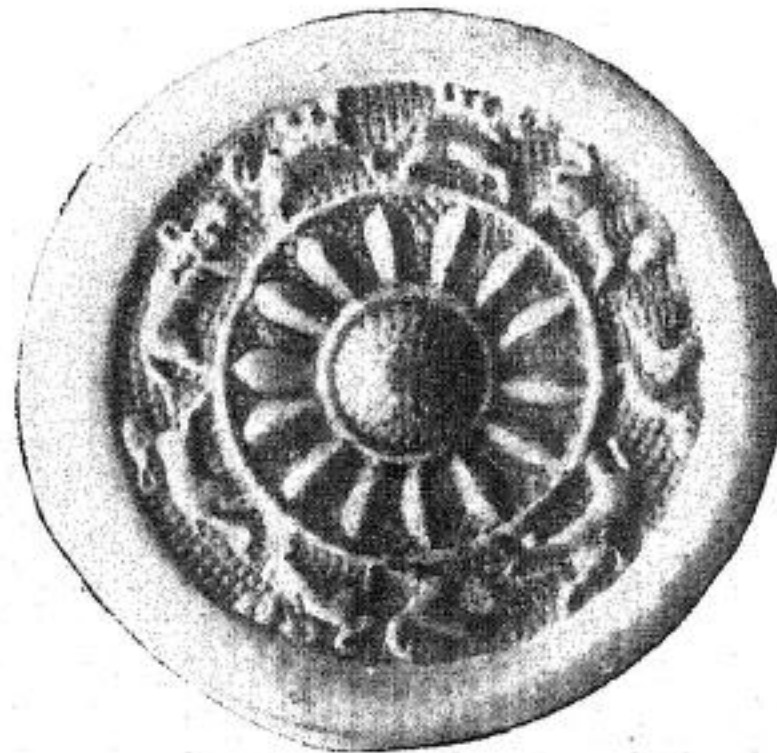


Fig. 3

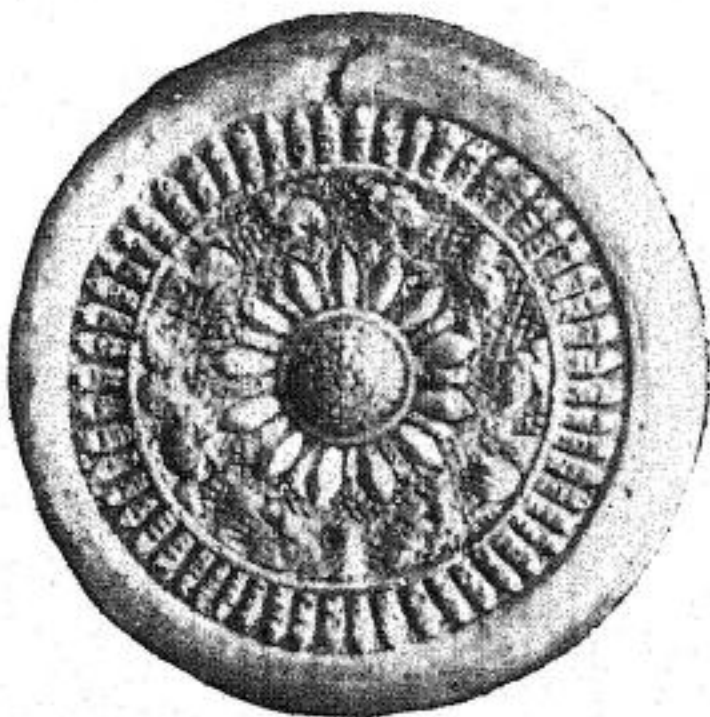


Fig. 4

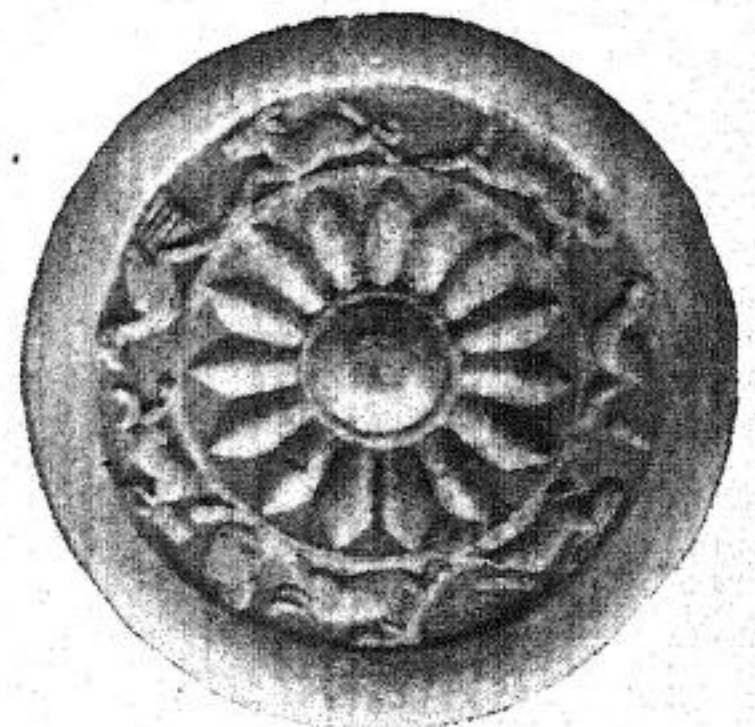


Fig. 5

14. In the centre of this piece there is a lotus having 13 large and 13 small petals all of which are below the figures. Beyond the petals are the figures of one animal and nine birds and these figures are in an engine-turned background. Commencing with the figure of (1) a peacock facing left and proceeding clock-wise there are the figures of (2) a heron facing left, (3) a goose facing left, (4) a heron facing left, (5-8) herons looking behind, (9) a cat facing the front and (10) a heron facing left. These figures are all enclosed in one circle and beyond this circle there are 56 finial-like objects. Diameter $1\frac{7}{8}$ " , thickness $\frac{1}{2}$ " , weight 907 grs. (fig. 14). Arch No. I0749.

15. This is a piece gradually rising from its extreme edge to the centre. There are a number of solid triangles and each one of them is shewn separately within dotted lines. The whole impression of the piece is symmetrical. Diameter 2" , thickness $\frac{1}{2}$ " weight 1265 grs. (fig. 15). Arch No. 10750.

16. This is a piece with a lotus flower in the centre having fifteen petals. Beyond the petals there are finial-like objects shown within two circles. The background of the lotus is engine-turned. The reverse of the disc has a rough design of a triangle. Diameter $2\frac{1}{4}$ " , thickness $\frac{1}{2}$ " , weight 1275 grs. (fig. 16). Arch. No. 10751.

17. This is a piece with a lotus flower in the centre having fourteen petals. The background of the flower is engine-turned. Beyond the petals are 42 taurine symbols all round the flower. Diameter 2" , thickness, $\frac{1}{2}$ " , weight 915 grs. (fig. 17). Arch. No. 10752.

18. This is a piece with a lotus flower having eighteen petals with a plain depression in the centre. Beyond the petals there are finial-like objects all round the flower. Diameter $1\frac{3}{4}$ " , thickness $\frac{5}{8}$ " , weight 898 grs. (fig. 18). Arch. No. 10753.

19. This is a piece with a lotus flower in the centre having ten petals in the centre. The background is engine-turned. Beyond the lotus there are seven crescents and six taurine symbols and beyond these there are finial-like objects all round the piece.

Diameter $1\frac{3}{4}$ ", thickness $\frac{3}{8}$ ", weight 745 grs. (fig. 19). Arch. No. 10754.

20. This is a piece with a lotus flower in the centre having twelve petals. Beyond the petals there are finial-like objects within a circle and beyond this circle there are taurine symbols shown all round the piece. The background of the flower is engine-turned. Diameter $1\frac{5}{8}$ ", thickness $\frac{3}{8}$ ", weight 545 grs. (fig. 20). Arch. No. 10755.

21. This is a piece with a plain depression in the centre enclosed by a circle and beyond the circle is plain gradually rising to the summit of the piece. Diameter $1\frac{3}{4}$ ", thickness $\frac{5}{8}$ ", weight 898 grs. (fig. 21). Arch. No. 10756.

22. This is a small earplug with concentric circles. Height $\frac{1}{2}$ ". Arch No. 10757.

In 1935-36 the Public Health Department of Bihar and Orissa started digging in Patna with a view to construct a sewerage system. In order to lay down pipes and also for maintaining the desired levels for drainage the excavations were conducted in some places down to 20 ft. below ground level. The whole area where the diggings were made yielded household articles of every day use. With other articles the stone disc bearing Patna Museum Register no. 9574 was recovered from the site of Govind Mittra Road at a depth of 14' ft. (fig 22). This disc though bigger in size is very much similar to our Murtaziganj disc mentioned above against serial no. 14. Both these discs appear to have been executed by the same artist. In the centre of the disc bearing Arch. no. 9574 there is a lotus flower within a circle having 20 petals all of which are below the figures of animals and birds. Beyond the encircled petals are the figures of 8 animals and 4 birds and these figures are in an engine-turned background. Commencing with the figure of (1) a horse facing left and proceeding clock-wise there are the figures of (2 & 3) stags looking behind, (4) a heron facing left, (5) a lion facing left, (6) a stag looking behind, (7) a cock facing left, (8) a stag facing left, (9) a stag looking behind, (10) an owl facing the front, (11) a lion facing left (12) and a peacock

Murtaziganj Discs.

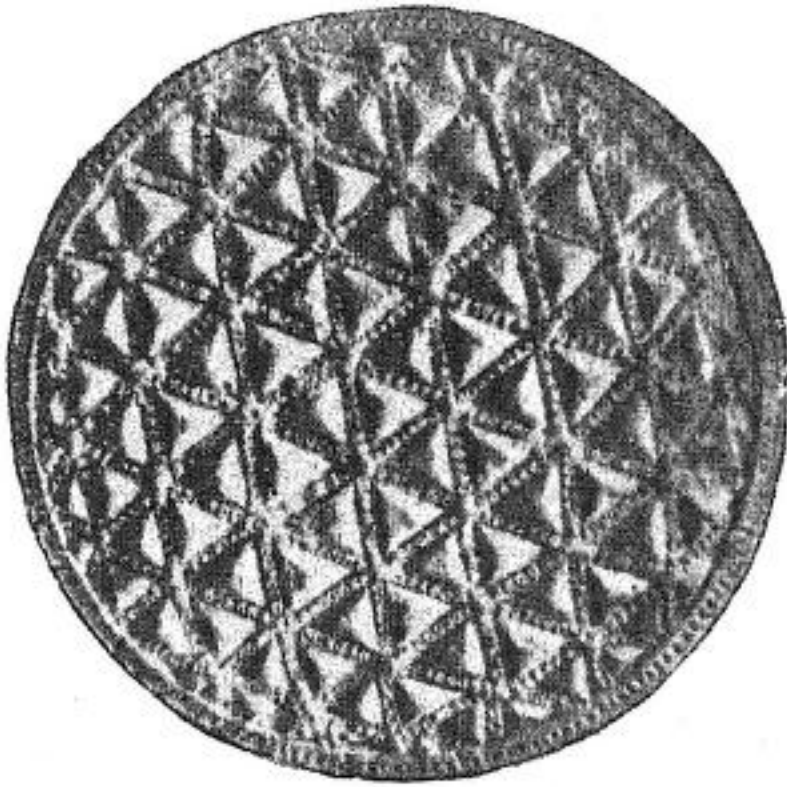


Fig. 1

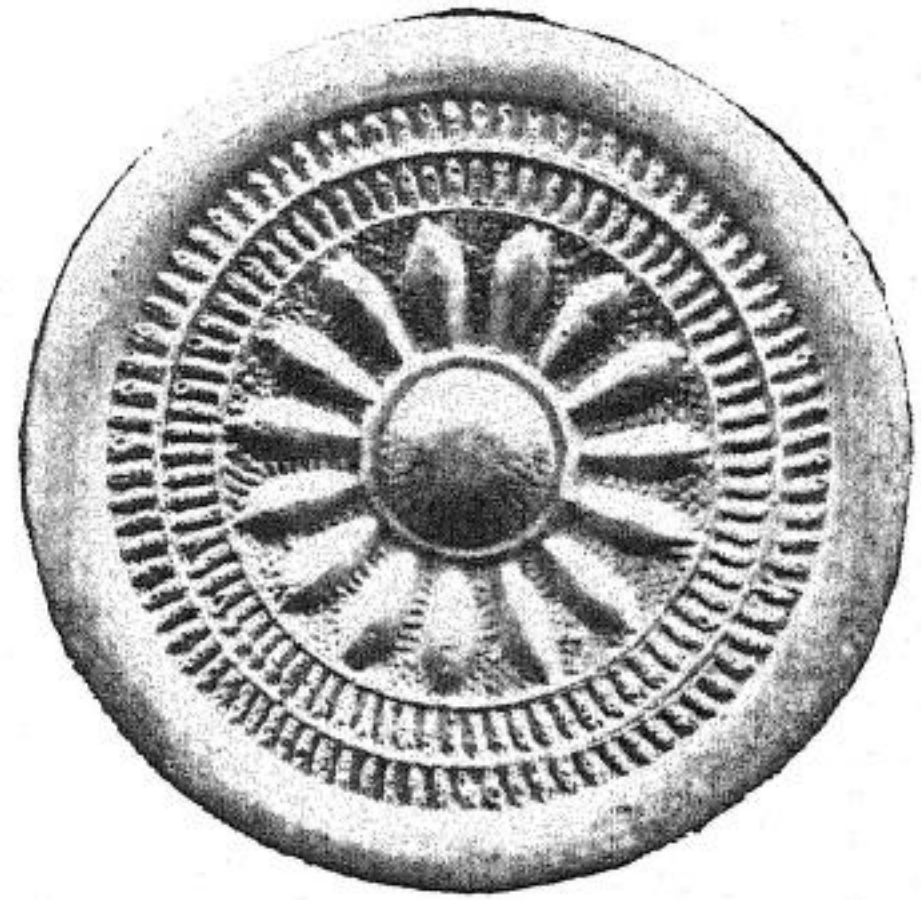


Fig. 2

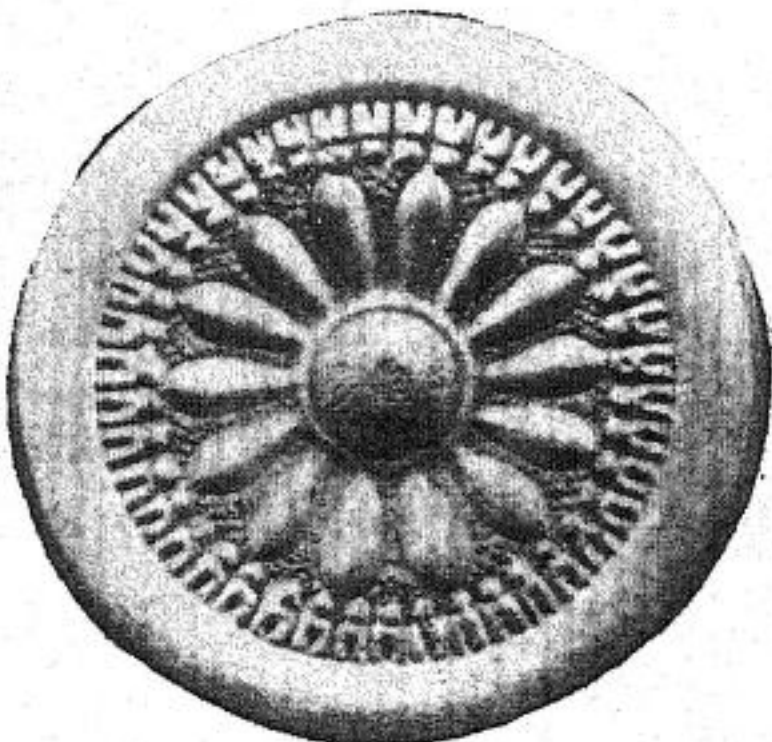


Fig. 3

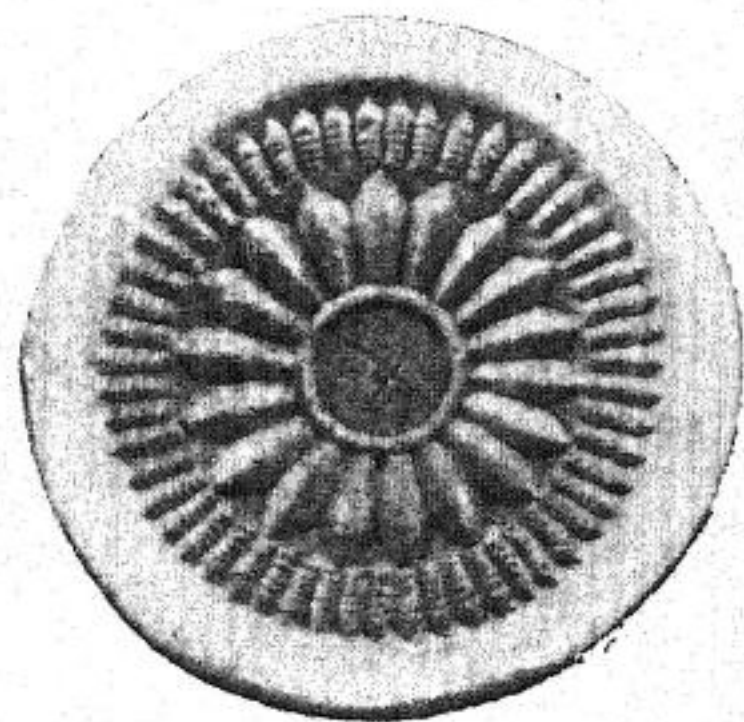


Fig. 4

facing left. These figures are all enclosed in one circle and beyond this circle there are 68 finial-like objects.

Cunningham obtained a similar disc in hard fine-grained soapstone, two and three quarter inches in diameter at Sankisa. He had obtained also a broken piece similar to the Sankisa disc from Shahdheri or Taxila having the same figures and the same trees.⁴ Cunningham has described the inner circle of the Sankisa disc as having twelve spaces, three of which are occupied by "figures of men standing, three by palm trees, and the remaining, six by a common Buddhist symbol".⁵ Coomaraswamy mentioning this disc rightly noticed that the "figures of men standing and the common Buddhist symbol" as described by Cunningham are no other than the figures of the "nude Earth goddess and taurine symbols".⁶ In the Murtaziganj discs numbering 1 to 5 the figures of the nude mother goddess have been clearly engraved.

In this connection reference may be made to some carved perforated ring-stones which have been found at Taxila,⁷ Kosam, Mathura, Rajghat and Patna. Accounts of some of these ring-stones and their illustrations have already been published. Sir John Marshall reporting the discovery of the two ring-stones found at Taxila remarks that "for jewel-like workmanship and exquisite finish these two objects are unsurpassed by any other specimens of stone work from ancient India".⁸ Ordinarily these ring-stones have the nude figures engraved on them but the ring-stone found at Patna has no such figure.⁹

4. Cunningham 4, Vol, XI, Pl. IX, 3.

5. Archaeological Survey of India Report, Vol. XI, p. 28.

6. History of Indian and Indonesian Art by A. K. Coomaraswamy, p. 20.

7. Mohenjo Daro and the Indus Civilization, Vols. I & III, p 62 & Pls. XIII, 14 and CLIX, 9 & 10.

8. Archaeological Survey, 1920-21, p. 21.

9. JISOA, 1935 Dec, p. 1.

A. S. 1927-28, p. 66 Sir John Marshall says, "It could hardly have been utilitarian nor are they suited for personal ornaments. The nude figures engraved on them appear to represent a goddess of fertility, perhaps the Earth goddess Prithvi, and they point to the discs having served as

The Patna ring-stone similar to the ring-stone found at Taxila which Jayaswal described as a toy wheel was recovered from a depth of 14' and has an inscription in the oldest forms of Asoka letters giving the name of the owner 'Visakha' (Visakhasa) (fig. 23) Arch no. 8814.

It may be clearly stated that the stone-rings found at Taxila and other places are entirely different in design to the Murtaziganj discs, for the latter have no central hole, albeit the Sankisa disc found by Cunningham and the one found in Patna in 1935-36 as mentioned above bear a close resemblance to the Murtaziganj discs. To my knowledge no other stone discs beside the two discs mentioned above can be compared to the 21 discs found at Murtaziganj.

In all the discs found at Murtaziganj including the one bearing museum No. 9574 we find a great variety of details. The figures in general are endowed with real grace and are of quite extra-ordinary actuality. Such figures as the winged lion, lion, elephant, horse, rhinoceros and dog are indeed advanced in their knowledge of pose and movement. The art of these discs expresses a philosophy of decorative art. The whole approach is in fact realistic and directed to human life,

votive offerings. The Earth itself, it may be recalled, was conceived of as wheel-shaped in the Rigveda, and is said to be 'circular' in the Satapatha Brahmana. A disc of terracotta bearing an image in relief of a goddess of fertility, who may be identical with Prithvi, was unearthed by me in 1911-12 at Bhita and is published in my Report for that year. It belongs to the Kushan or early Gupta age and depicts the goddess with legs wide apart and with a lotus emblem of birth-issuing from her neck in place of her head. A similar plaque was also found at Kosam and is now in the Indian Museum. With these may be compared a sealing from Harappa (No. 649) exhibiting the goddess of fertility with her legs wide apart as on the plaques referred to, but portrayed upside down with a plant issuing from her wombs instead of from her neck. These figures of the fertility goddess are particularly significant, because the form of the ring-stones from Taxila and Kosam also calls to mind the peculiar ring-stones from Harappa and Mohenjo Daro, which I have elsewhere suggested were votive offerings as pre-Aryan in origin and examples of it might naturally be expected to occur among the antiquities of Harappa and Mohenjo Daro, which there are the strongest reasons for regarding as pre-Aryan. Whether the pre-Aryan goddess of fertility afterwards came to be indentified with the Vedic Prithvi, and whether it is the latter or the former who is represented on the Taxila ring-stones are questions on which further light is needed."

Murtaziganj Discs.



Fig. 1

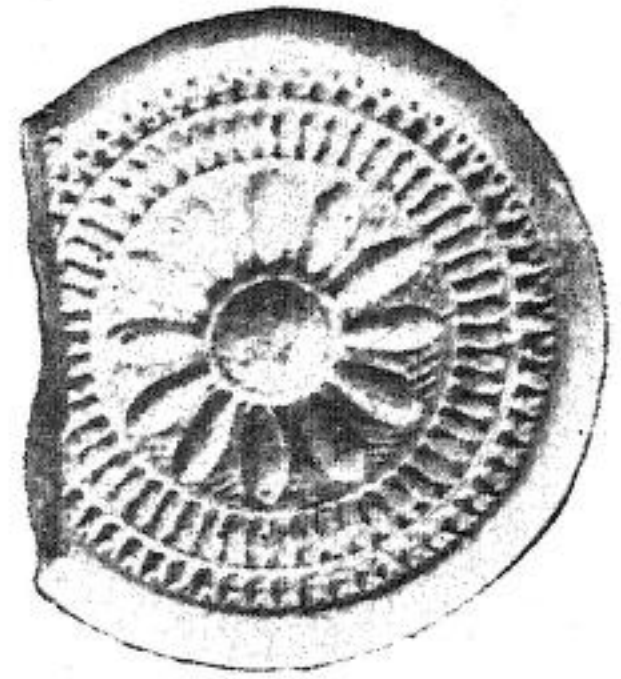


Fig 2



Fig. 3

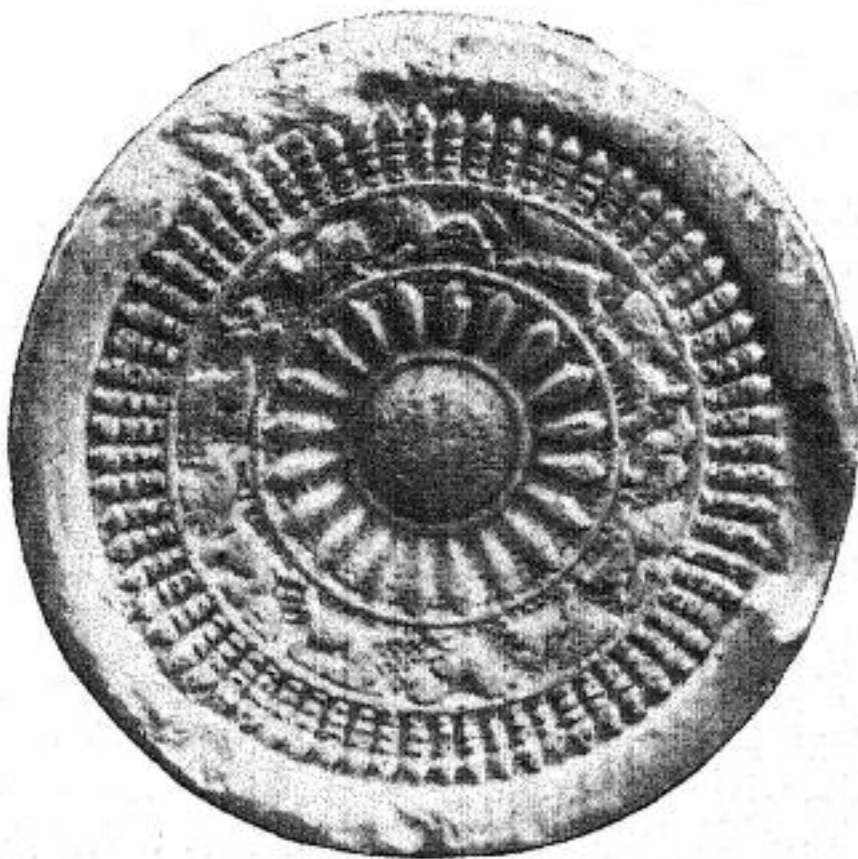


Fig. 4

Reg. No. 9574 (1082).

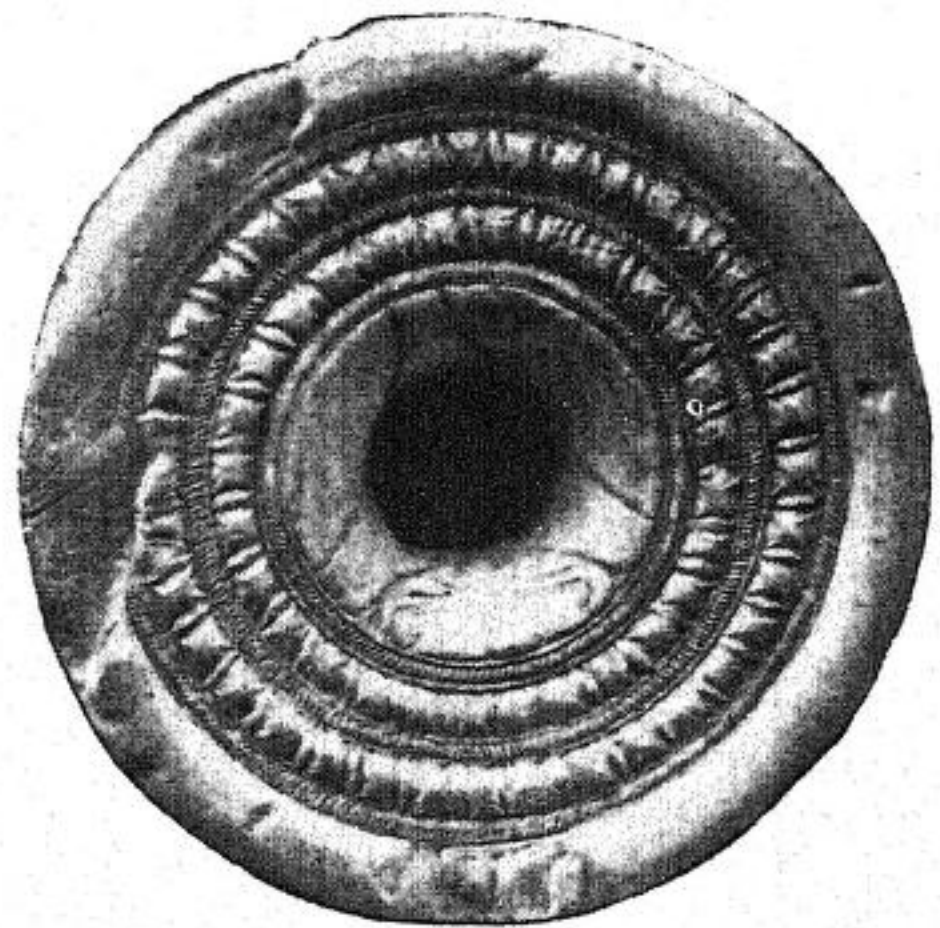


Fig. 5

Inscribed ring-stone, Patna.

luxury and pleasure. The chiselling and polishing of the discs have been executed with extra-ordinary precision and accuracy. The material being soap-stone, very great technical skill has been displayed in engraving the figures. The elements of floral and geometrical design are treated with an impeccable sense of decorative values. Some of the animals are so well represented in minute forms that it is difficult to find similar figures in any sculpture or object of the Mauryan or Sunga periods. It is admirable to have cut the details of the figures or lotus flowers with such a great elegance and precision. These are indeed pieces of exquisite workmanship.

Their use is still a mystery. It is just possible that they may have served the purpose of decorating walls of rooms or doors. It must be remembered that the diameter of the bottom surface of each disc is slightly bigger than that of the upper surface. It therefore seems most likely that each of these pieces was an inset of a door or wall as suggested above.

The discs are finished with the high polish which characterises Mauryan or Sunga art. By the determination of the specific gravity of the material and by its other characters such as soapy feel and softness it is identified as a variety of steatite or soap-stone. Steatite being the pure form of the mineral talc it is better to describe this material as soap-stone since it contains many impurities. All the 21 discs are slightly different from each other in colour. As the percentage of magnesia increases the colour of the soap-stone tends towards being white but as the percentage of iron increases in the soap-stone (as an impurity) the colour of the soap-stone becomes various shades of red, such as brownish-red, dark-red and brownish-grey.¹⁰ Although soap-stone is widely distributed in Chotanagpur, the best available areas are in Manbhum and Singhbhum. Deposits of steatite are worked in Hazaribagh to the west of Parasnath.

In fact the art as shown by the discs is of an advanced nature. The exquisitely fine technique of the carving on soap-

10. The Geological Survey of India, Vol. 78, p. 218-220.

stone coupled with the style and movement of the figures lead us to suggest that all these discs may be products of the 1st Century B. C.

Considering the Indo-Sumerian and Indo-Iranian cultures one may find many common factors in early Indian art as is evidenced by the large number of motifs found in Maurya, Sunga and early Andhra examples of art. The common motifs found in Sumerian, Assyrian, Scythian and early Indian cultures such as the mythical monster as winged lion and animals formally posed in profile with head forward, facing front or turned back have been shewn in 14 discs found at Murtaziganj. These 21 discs may be classified as five having the figures of mother goddesses, human beings, animals and birds, nine having the figures of only animals and birds, one with only geometrical designs, five having only lotus flowers, and the remaining one absolutely plain with a depression at the centre. In all the first five discs there appear the figures of mother goddesses and the following animals and birds :—(1) winged lion (2) lion (3) elephant (4) horse (5) antelope (6) stag (7) deer (8) ram (9) goose (10) peacock and (11) parrot. Out of these three discs bearing serial numbers 2, 4 and 5 have no lotus flowers. Only the disc bearing serial No. 3 has got figures of human beings with animal-like faces. The nine discs bearing serial numbers 6 to 14 have got the following figures of animals and birds :—(1) lion (2) rhinoceros (3) elephant (4) horse (5) bull (6) boar (7) deer (8) stag (9) dog (10) goat (11) cat (12) peacock (13) goose (14) crane (15) heron (16) cock and (17) owl. Serials 6 and 7 have no lotus flowers. The disc bearing No. 15 has got only a geometrical design as mentioned above. Discs numbering 16 to 20 have got only lotus flowers with different designs beyond their petals. Disc No. 21 is plain. It seems to have remained unfinished.