

Boys' High School and College, Prayagraj

Session 2020-2021

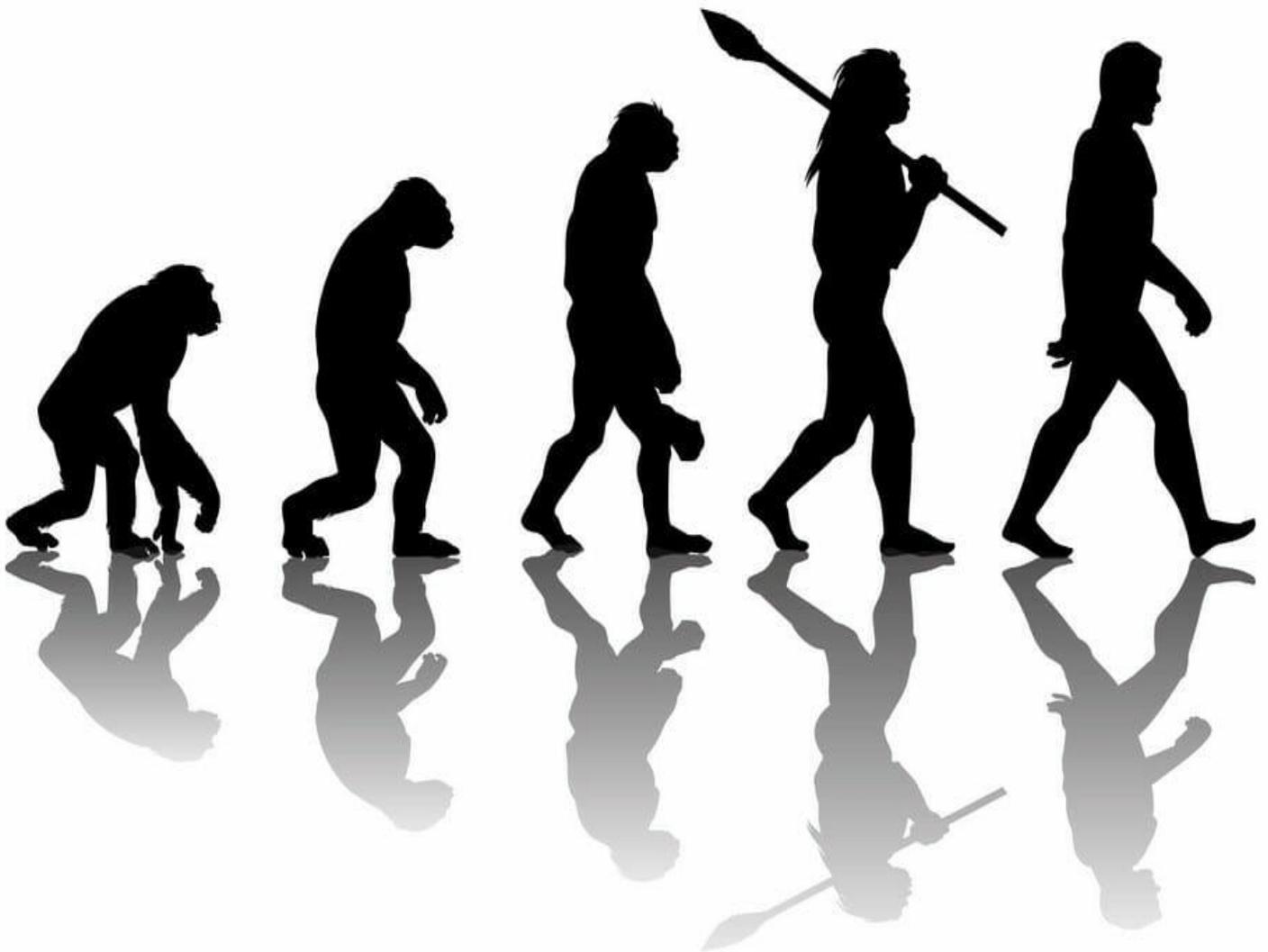
Social Studies

Worksheet No.1

Class V



# Chapter:- Evolution of Mankind



## Theme 1 : Evolution of Mankind

# Evolution of Mankind

### Learning Objectives :

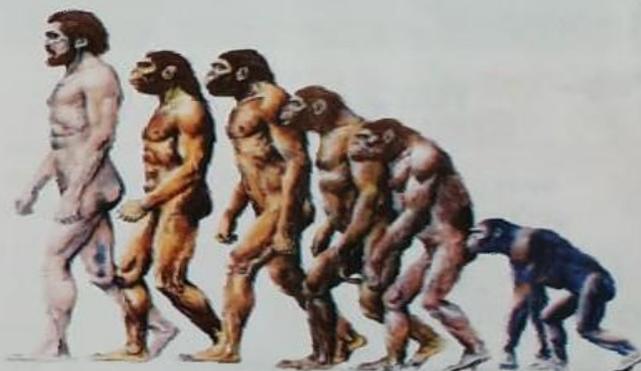
- Life of early humans
- Sources/Evidences of Human Evolution

### STORY OF HUMAN EVOLUTION

Anthropologists and archaeologists have traced human history back to about 500,000 B.C. Human beings have passed through a long process of evolution from their ape-like ancestors to their present form.



In fact, in the early stages human beings resembled apes. They had a hairy body and could not stand or walk erect. Over the centuries they went through several physical changes – their jaws shrunk, their brains developed, and they started walking upright on two feet. All this led to changes in their behavioural patterns too.



Human Evolution

Human-like animals that walked upright were known as **hominids**. There is no evidence that they made their own tools. They used sticks and bones to help them dig and defend themselves.

The second type of early humans living on the Earth were *Homo erectus*, which means '**person who walks upright**'.

The final type of hominids living on the Earth were *Homo sapiens*. *Homo sapiens* means '**person who can think**'. All humans living on the Earth today are *Homo sapiens*.

NTLSS-5



Vivo V15  
AI Triple Camera

It is believed that the earliest hominids lived around 4.4 million years ago in the humid forests of eastern and southern Africa. The fossils of early humans who lived between 2 and 6 million years ago come entirely from Africa.

**Think & Learn**

Write one characteristic of each of the following:

- Hominid .....
- Homo erectus* .....
- Homo sapiens* .....



Humans and the great apes of Africa – chimpanzees and gorillas – share a common ancestor that lived between 6 and 8 million years ago.

**SOURCES/EVIDENCES**

**A. Archaeological Sources**

Archaeology means digging up the past. It is a systematic study of past cultures and the way people lived, based on objects and materials they left behind, such as tools, pottery, graves, buildings etc. Archaeological sources are very important sources to reconstruct past history. There are many archaeological sources, as discussed below :

1. **Tools** : Man used tools for his life and social development. He made crude tools from the hard stone. Later, flint made better tools with

sharper edges, a knife-like blade, a borer and other such things.



Various tools made by ancient man

2. **Fossils** : By fossils, we mean the imprints of plants, humans and animals preserved in rocks. They are usually made of bones or skull and leave a permanent mark on the rocks. Fossils of animals like dinosaur which have been buried for million of years are the main source of information on these animals because they have become extinct now.



Fossil of a dinosaur

3. **Animal bones** : Animal bones and skeleton inform us about vegetation, climate, temperature etc., of the region. It helps us to know that the early man lived by the side of the lakes and rivers or near the water sources of regular supply of water and food.





Skeleton of a Fish

4. **Pottery, Artefacts, Cave Paintings and Jewellery** : These buried remains of the early man belong to the pre-history period. These were called cultural items of evidence and give us a lot of information about the lifestyle and the customs of the early man. Early man made metal jewellery. He also made rough paintings on rock in the caves. He used burnt bones, wood, coloured earth mixed with water and animal fat to paint on cave walls.



Cave Painting



Metal Jewellery



Pots

5. **Megaliths** : These are huge stones dug out at most burial sites. They inform us about the religious beliefs

and customs of the early man. In India, graves lined with megaliths have been found all over Deccan. Most of these graves were in North-South direction. Vessels, bowls and some other items of use were found around the feet of the dead man. This showed some kind of belief of the early man, in the life after death or immortality of the soul.

6. **Shelters** : Besides caves, the early man used wood, branches of trees, hides, bones of large animals to make his shelters. These can be dated by the carbon dating.



7. **Coins** : The study of coins is called numismatics. We have also come across ancient coins. These fill up many missing gaps in completing the story of the pre-historic period. From these coins, we know about the period, the age and the chronological order of the rulers. We also learn about the personal character

and qualities of the rulers, the span of their rule and the extent of their domain.]



Ancient Coins

### 8. Old Buildings and Monuments :

Historical buildings, monuments, temples, forts, palaces, stadia, public baths and granaries etc., have been excavated. Whole towns like Mohenjodaro, Harappa, Patliputra and Taxila have been found. They inform us about the lifestyle and culture of those people. Some temples of the early times such as the temples of Deogarh, Bhitargaon, the Rathis at Mahabalipuram give us an insight into the architectural skills of the people of the pre-historic period.



Ancient Buildings and Monuments

## B. LITERARY AND DOCUMENTARY SOURCES

A handwritten record of an event is called a manuscript. The first written script was in the form of pictures of objects like the sun and the moon. This script was called Pictogram. In the ancient times, learned people wrote on stone, clay-tablets, dry leaves of trees like the Bhojpatras and the parchments i.e. the skin of goat or sheep. Written records of ancient India can be divided broadly into the following categories :

1. Religious and Secular Texts
2. Memoirs
3. Chronicles
4. Travelogues and Accounts of Foreigners.

**1. Religious and Secular Texts :** The four Vedas, namely the Rigveda, Samveda, Yajurveda and Atharvaveda of the early vedic period are very important written sources of ancient history.

Brahmanas, Aranyakas and the Upanishadas are the expansions of the Vedas.

Ramayana and Mahabharata throw a flood of light on later Vedic life, rites and rituals, customs and

traditions and the value-system of that period. These are very useful sources of reconstructing history of ancient India.



Detail of a Rigveda Manuscript  
(1781 : courtesy British Library Board)

Jatakas contain stories of the previous lives of Gautama Buddha. They are concerned with previous births of him in both human and animal form. The Jatakas throw light on the political, economic, social and cultural conditions between 3rd and 2nd centuries B.C.

Bana's Harshacharita (the life of Harshavardhana), Panchatantra and Manusmriti are very useful written sources of history.

Equally important is the Sangam literature written in Tamil between 500 B.C. and 500 A.D. This was patronised by the Pandyan rulers of Madurai. This literature also throws a flood of light on life and the socio-economic, politico-religious conditions of that time.

2. **Memoirs** : Memoirs are biographical and historical accounts written from the personal knowledge about a certain ruler by the author close to him. In this category falls the biographical account of King Harshavardhana by Banabhatta, his court poet, entitled Harshacharita. Bilhana's Vikramankadevacharita, Chand Bardai's Prithviraj Raso, Sandhyakar's Ramachritam are other very useful and important sources of written history.



Do You Know?

History in Depth

The Palm leaves were cut into pages and tied together to make books.



3. **Chronicles** : A chronicle is an account of event in order of time. These were kept by certain rulers in their courts. For example, Abul Fazal, an eminent historian in Akbar's court, wrote two important chronicles, namely Ain-i-Akbari and Akbarnama. The first one informs us about the legal and the revenue system in Akbar's



time, while the second one tells us about Akbar's life and other Mughals in general.

#### 4. Travelogues and Accounts of Foreigners :

Greek historian Herodotus in his book Histories has given an account of the invasion on

India by Darius in the 6th century B.C.

Historian Arrian's account relates to invasion of

Alexander on India in the 4th century B.C.

Megasthenes, the

Greek ambassador in the court of

Chandragupta Maurya, wrote his famous book Indika, which gives us

information about the Mauryan rule in the 4th century B.C.

Fa-Hien, another Chinese historian, visited India in the 5th century

B.C. during the times of Chandragupta-II.



Megasthenes

### New Words

**Memoirs** : A record of events based upon personal observation of the writer.

**Travelogues** : A written account of a traveller's observation of things and events.

Another Chinese scholar, Hiuen Tsang (7th century A.D.), who studied at the Nalanda University has given a detailed account of Harsha's time, his religion and administration.

Similarly, Al-Biruni, an Iranian scholar, came to India in the 11th century A.D. along with Mahmud of Ghazni. He wrote his famous book titled Tarikh al-hind or Kitab-al-Hind.

From the above study of the Archaeological and literary sources of history, we can reconstruct the past, both of the pre-historic and historic periods.



## **Lesson at a glance**

- **Human evolution is the process of change by which human beings originated from apelike ancestors.**
- **Scientific evidence shows that the physical and behavioral traits shared by all humans evolved over a period of approximately six million years.**
- **Evolution of mankind has been broadly divided into 3 stages.**
  - **1. Hominids-human-like animals that walked upright.**
  - **2. Homo erectus – person who walks upright.**
  - **3. Homo sapiens – person who can think.**
- **According to sources it is believed that human first evolved in Africa.**
- **The fossils of early human who lived between 6 and 2 million years ago come entirely from Africa.**
- **Archaeology is the study of human behaviors through material culture, the things we rely on for survival.**
- **Vedas provided a great source of information about ancient history.**
- **The use of various tools has been interpreted as a sign of intelligence.**

- The use of tools have stimulated certain aspects of human evolution, especially the continued expansion of the human brain.

## Exercise



### Fill in the blanks:-

1. Anthropologists and archaeologists have traced human history back to about 500,000 BC.
2. In the early stages human beings resembled apes.
3. Human – like animals that walked upright were known as hominids.
4. The palm leaves were cut into pages and tied together to make books.
5. Ain-i- Akbari was written by Abul Fazal.

### State True or False:-

1. Homo erectus means early humans that walked upright. [ True ]

2. **Homo sapiens means ‘person who can think’. [ True ]**
3. **Archaeology means digging up the past. [ True ]**
4. **The study of plants is called numismatics. [ False ]**
5. **Early men used bricks to make their shelters. [ False ]**

**Match the following:-**

**Column A**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Numismatics       | (a) Samveda (3)                             |
| 2. Megaliths         | (b) Coins (1)                               |
| 3. Veda              | (c) huge stones dug out at burial sites(2)  |
| 4. Memoirs           | (d) Fa-Hein (5)                             |
| 5. Chinese historian | (e) Biographical and historical accounts(4) |

**Unscramble the following words:-**

1. veolugtrase --- Travelogues

2. crnhoelcsi --- Chronicles

3. orsimem--- Memoris

4. Uomnmnest--- Monuments

**Name these famous Historians :-**

1. Chinese historian visited India in the 5<sup>th</sup> century B.C.

Ans. Fa-Hein

2. Chinese historian visited India in the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD.

Ans. Hiuen Tsang

**3. An Iranian scholar came to India in the 11th century A.D.**

**Ans. Al-biruni**

**4. An eminent historian in Akbar's court.**

**Ans. Abul Fazal**

**Answer the following questions:-**

**Q1. What do humans and the great apes of Africa share in common?**

**Ans. Humans and great apes of Africa- chimpanzees and gorillas share a common ancestor that lived between 6 and 8 million years ago.**

**Q2. Explain the following terms:-**

**1. Archaeology   2. Fossils   3. Megaliths**

**Ans. 1. Archaeology- It is the study of human behaviors through material culture and the things we on rely for survival.**

**2. Fossils- The imprints of plants, human and animals preserved in rocks. They are usually made of bones or skull and leave a permanent mark on rocks.**

**3. Megaliths- These are huge stones dugout at most burial sites. They inform us about the religious beliefs and customs of the early man.**

**Q3. How does the study of coins help us to learn about ancient times?**

**Ans. From coins we know about the period, the age and the chronological order of the ruler. We also learn about the personal character and qualities of the rulers, the span of their rule and the extent of their domain.**

**Q4. Who was Abul Fazal?**

**Ans. Abul Fazal was an eminent historian in Akbar's court. He wrote two important chronicles, namely Ain-i-Akbari and Akbarnama.**

**Q5. Differentiate between-**

**1. Religious and secular texts.**

**Ans. Religious texts are text related to religious traditions. It is a compilation or discussion of beliefs , mythologies, ritual practices, spiritual aspirations and for creating or fostering a religious community.**

**While**

**Secular text is any text or literature which is not rooted in religious beliefs, practices and traditions. Any story which has no significant basis in any religion can be called secular text.**

**Q6. How did early men make their shelters?**

**Ans. Besides caves, the early man used wood, branches of trees, hides, bones of large animals to make his shelter.**

# Quick Recap Test:-

*Mahendra's*

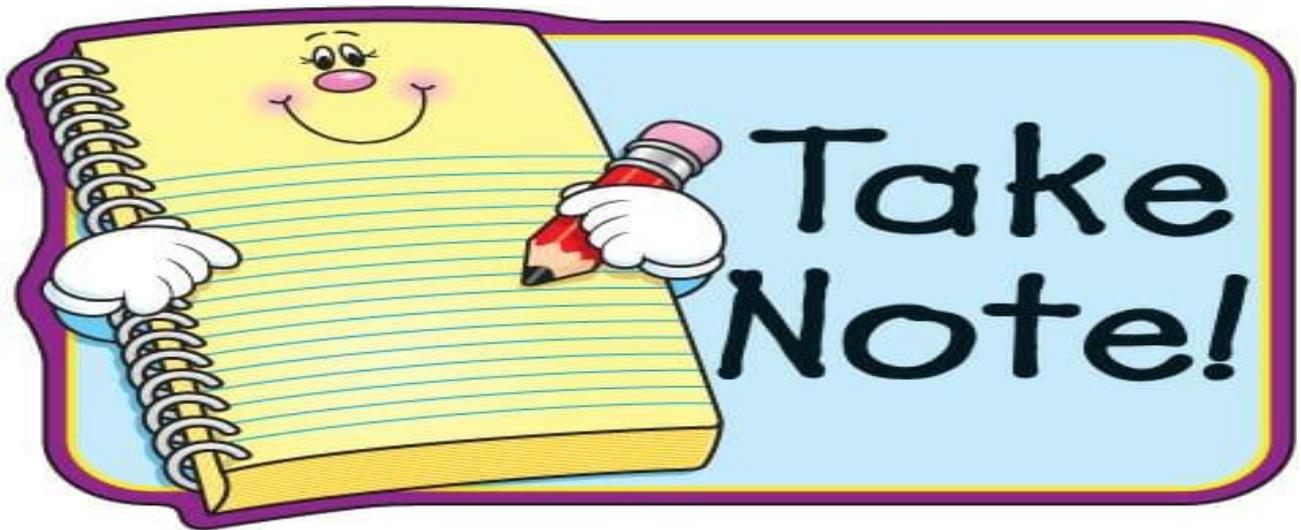


**LET'S RECAP**



**Answer in one word:**

1. The study of coins. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Person who walks upright. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Imprints of plants, humans and animals preserved in rocks. \_\_\_\_\_
4. A written account of a traveller's observation of things and events. \_\_\_\_\_



- **Students must read the chapter carefully.**
- **Lesson at a glance** to be read carefully.
- **All exercises to be done in an interleaf notebook.**
- **Assessment questions can be framed from inbetween the chapter.**