

6th Standard Social Science

From Gathering to Growing Food

Farming developed as a consequence of the climate change of the world. People observed plants and how they grow. Gradually, they also started growing crops.

People also started taming animals. The dog was the first animal to be tamed.

Animals like sheep, goat, cattle were also tamed and so people became herders.

Grains were used as seeds, as food, and also as gifts. They were stored by humans.

Animals were also 'stored' since they can serve as a source of milk and also provide meat. So, animals were used as a 'store' of food.

The period of history after about 10,000 years ago is called the Neolithic Age. Mortars and pestles and other tools of the Neolithic age have also been found.

People grew cotton by this time and so weaving of clothes had begun.

Many farmers and herders lived in groups, which were known as Tribes. Certain customs and practices were followed by them.

Mehrgarh was situated in a fertile plain, near the Bolan Pass. Here, people learnt to grow barley and wheat. It is one of the earliest villages.

Different plants grow in different conditions. Different animals also prefer different environments.

Farming developed as a result of the climate change of the world. People observed plants and how they grow. Gradually they also started growing crops.

People also got interested in taming animals. The dog was the first animal to be tamed. Animals like sheep, goat, cattle were also tamed and so people became herders.

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Some sites have given evidence of farmers and herders. Plant remains and animal bones have been found and studied.

Archaeologists have found traces of huts or houses at some sites. Pit-houses were built by digging into the ground.

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On excavation, levels are found which indicate chronology (order of events).

In Mehrgarh, remains of houses have been found. They had four or more compartments.

Several burial sites have been found in Mehrgarh.

Stone tools, a stone called jadeite, etc. have been found in Daojali Hading near the Brahmaputra Valley.

Domestication: The taming of animals for various purposes is referred to as Domestication.

Fossil Wood: Ancient wood that has hardened into stone is called Fossil Wood.

Levels: Layers of a mound formed by various waste material over hundreds of years, are called Levels.

Neolithic Age: The part of history after about 10,000 years ago is referred to as the Neolithic Age.

Tribes: Many farmers and herders lived in groups, which are called Tribes.

About 12,000 years ago: the beginning of Domestication.

About 10,000 years ago: the beginning of Neolithic Age.

About 8,000 years ago: the beginning of settlement at Mehrgarh.

