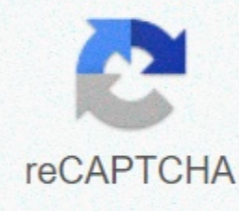




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## Keeladi excavation report pdf 2019

Excavation site keezhadiSato excavation blocks in KeezhadiShown within the map Tamil NaduShow of the excavation site of Tamil NaduKeezhadi (India)Display map of the name IndiaAlternativeVaigai civilization valeLocationLocationKeezhadi, Tamil Nadu, IndiaRegionThiruppuvanam, SivagangaCoordinates9°51'47N 78°10'56E / 9.8630727°N 78.1820931°E / 9.8630727; 78.1820931Coordinates: 9°51'47N 78°10'56E / 9.8630727°N 78.1820931°E / 9.8630727; 78.1820931TypeSettlementArea32.37 ha (80.0 acres)HistoryFounded600 BC-500 BCCulturesSangam periodSite observeSite dates of 2015-currentArchaeologistsAmarnath RamakrishnaManagementArchaeological Survey of India, India, Tamil Nadu Archaeology DepartmentYes Keezhadi (also as Keeladi) is a Sangam period settlement that is being excavated by the Archaeological Inquiry of India and the Tamil Nadu Archaeology Department. This location is located 7.5 miles southeast of Madurai in Tamil Nadu, near the town of Keezhadi in Sivagangai district. It comes under the Thiruppuvanam Taluk from Sivagangai district. This is a large-scale excavation carried out in Tamil Nadu after the archaeological site of Adichanallur. The settlement sits on the banks of the Vaigai River and reflects the ancient culture of the Tamil people. [2] The epigraph V. Vedachalam, who served as a domain specialist for excavation, dated the remains excavated between the 5th century .C. and the 3rd century d.C. [3] Location The excavation was first begun at Pallisanthai Thidal, which is north of Manalur, about a kilometer east of the town of Keezhadi in the district of Sivagangai. Several archaeological residues were found plowing the land around the site. A survey was conducted for the study, which found that this ancient settlement was less than two and a half meters below ground level. [4] The area currently excavated is spread over 80 acres

with a radius of 3.5 km . The ancient cities of Kondagai and Manalur are also considered associated with this region. [5] Age of the site Initially, this site was estimated to be from the period between the 5th century .C. and the 3rd century .C. Two samples were sent for carbon dating from this excavation site for confirmation in 2017. The results that came in July 2017 confirmed that the samples were about 2,200 years ago (3rd century a.C.). [7] Radiocarbon dating of samples obtained from the fourth phase of the excavation revealed that one of the artifacts was from the 6th century .C. In 2017, ASI sent two keezhadi samples to Beta Analytic, a Radiocarbon dating lab based in Miami. The laboratory dated from samples from about 2,300 to 2,600 years (from the 3rd century .C.). In 2018, six carbon samples collected from the fourth phase of excavation were sent to Beta Analytic in the United States for the dating of Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS). It was found that a sample collected at a depth of 353 cm dates back to 580 a.C. [10] Historical and of the study An archaeological survey was carried out for the first time in 2013 in the vicinity of the river from Theni district to the district of Ramanathapuram where the river meets the sea. [11] During the study, 293 sites, including Keezhadi, were identified as archaeological waste. [12] The first three excavation phases at Keezhadi were conducted by the Archaeological Survey of India, while the later phases were conducted by the Tamil Nadu Archaeology Department. Phases of the excavation of Keezhadi First phase In June 2015, an archaeological research group from India led by Amarnath Ramakrishnan began the first phase of excavation in the area near the Vaigai River in Keezhadi. Second phase The second phase began on 2 January 2016. Several documents, including medical vials, old kitchen wells and factory and government seals, were found. At the end of the second phase, more than 6,000 artifacts were found. It was confirmed that these artifacts were 2,200 years old when they were tested by radiocarbon dating. Third phase The third phase of the excavation was carried out under the chairmanship Sri Ramanan of the Archaeological Survey of India from January 2017. The work ended on September 30, 2017. In the third phase, 16 excavation sites were selected, occupying a total area of 400 square meters, which is 80 hectares of land. [13] Fourth phase The fourth phase of the excavation was carried out between 2017 and 2018, bringing 5,820 artifacts. This phase was conducted by the Archeology Department of Tamil Nadu, while the first three phases were conducted by the Archaeological Inquiry of India. [14] Six carbon samples collected from the fourth phase of the excavation at Keezhadi were sent to Beta Analytic, Miami, Florida, USA for accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) dating; a sample, collected at a depth of 353 cm, was dated to 580 a.C. [15] The graphite marks on the artifacts obtained from the excavation site were found to be similar to the Indo Valley script by the excavators and therefore give credence to the long-standing view that the language of the Indo Valley Civilization was proto-Dravidian. [16] Fifth phase In June 2019, the Tamil Nadu Archaeology Department began the fifth phase of the excavation led by Dr. R Sivanantham. [14] This phase will be completed in four to five months, where 15 trenches were planned to be excavated. In the 5th stage of the excavation, sangam-era bricks and more than 700 objects were found and these were sent for testing. [17] [19] The preliminary report of the fifth phase of the excavations is about to be completed. [20] Sixth phase of the excavation, along with simultaneous excavation in nearby villages (Manalur, Kondhagai and Agaram) began on February 19, 2020. [21] Brick wall finds found in the excavation. Almost 48 square wells were cut and various structures and artifacts were found, including frosts, brick walls, tiles, ceramics, imitation accessories, tools plates engraved by Tamil-Brahmi letters. [15] This place is considered the city of the Pandyan dynasty called Perumanalur, the literature. [22] The use of fan bricks, the size of the building complex, an array of pots placed in such a way that it must have been used as a lamp or for painting, and other findings suggest that the settlement is of a more civilized population than previously suspected during the Sangam period. [24] Canals and sewage systems Water and sewage supply are considered important milestones in civil development. [citation required] At the bottom of the settlement, there are buildings with a sewer channel station made of ceramic pipes. [citation required] Ring pits and brick walls Were found old clay and ring pits. [25] Archaeologist Velappan said this proves the ancient tradition of the Tamils indicating that they used these wells on riverbanks and ponds for water. [26] Brick buildings are considered rare in ancient times, but a large number of brick buildings have been found. [27] Ceramics The rouletted, arretine-type ceramics brought by merchants demonstrate commercial connections with the Roman Empire. It is noteworthy that such products were discovered. In addition, fragments of black and red parchment and black pieces, red papillae and reddish pieces were also unearthed. [29] There are Tamil words engraved on ceramics that mention the names of individuals such as 'Aathan', 'Uthiran' and 'Thiesan'. [30] Pottery Tamil-Brahmi script and graffiti in the fourth phase of excavations at Keezhadi, 72 potsherds scripted by Tamil-Brahmi were discovered at the site. Some of these artifacts have insated graffit marks, similar to graphite marks that some believe evolved from the Indus script. [31] According to T. Udhayachandran, artifacts found at the site of Keezhadi's excavation may point to a link between the Indo valley civilization and Tamil-Brahmi scripts. [32] Based on these marks, and a discovery of Keezhadi's fourth phase, dated 580 .C., R. Sivanantham and M. Seran argue that the date of The First Station of Tamil-Brahmi may be postponed to the 6th century to .C., [best source needed][10] a few centuries older than Dhamma Lipi (Prakrit in the Brahmi Script) of Ashokan Edicts, which is expected to be dated from 268 to .C. to 232.C. It is unclear whether potsherds containing inscriptions were found in the same archaeological layer as the 6th century samples, and Calcutta University archaeologist Bishnupriya Basak said this is unfortunately unclear from the report and is very crucial, adding that the issues of layer, period and absolute dates needed clarity. Dravidian University archaeologist E. Harsha Vardhan said that a single report was not enough to scientifically state that Tamil-Brahmi's script belongs to the 6th .C. [34] Ornaments and antiimes ornaments were found including sponges, marble, beads of green, yellow and blue glass beads. [35] The findings also include copper ointment and wire sheets. [36] Rare artifacts including iron-edge corners, gold ornaments, stiletto, terracotta seals, diaphragm tiles, firefly toys were also found. Controversy In 2017, some Tamil academics, including V Arasu (former head of the Tamil Literature Department at Madras University), claimed that the bhariatiya Janata-led central government had made deliberate attempts to halt excavations in Keezhadi. Arasu claimed that the BJP government had a Hindutva agenda, and wanted to stop the Keezhadi project because the excavations at the site provided undeniable evidence of a secular culture in southern India. [38] ASI typically conducts excavations at a large archaeological site for five seasons. In 2016-17, after the end of the second season in Keezhadi, ASI transferred Superindutronarchaeologist (SA) K. Amarnath Ramakrishna to his guwahati circle. [40] This caused controversy in Tamil Nadu, leading to allegations that ASI had deliberately transferred SA to paralyze the project. [41] K. Amarnath Ramakrishna stated that he wanted to complete the excavation work at Keezhadi, and challenged his transfer order before the Central Administrative Court. [40] ASI clarified that the transfer was ordered in accordance with the organization's policy, which states that the maximum ownership of an SA in a given circle is only two years. K Amarnath Ramakrishna completed more than three years in the Bengaluru circle, under which comes the site of Keezhadi. So the ASI decided to replace him with P S Sriraman, who had previously served as SA deputy in the Jodhpur circle. [40] K Amarnath Ramakrishna was not the only officer to be transferred: Another 26 officers were transferred to all of India. In addition, the newly named SA P S Sriraman was a native of Tamil Nadu. [41] The Ministry of the Union also clarified that it had no intention of stopping or delaying excavations in Keezhadi. He also explained that there was a delay in allocating resources for the third excavation season, as the ministry had not received the report for the work carried out in the last two years. Once the report was submitted, the ministry immediately released funds for the third season of excavations in Keezhadi. [39] Reports from the first two years of research will be released as a book. [42] Gallery The following photographs were taken at the excavation site on October 11, 2016. See also Arikamedu Adichanalur archaeological site Kodumalan References ^ Dennis S. Jesudasan (September 20, 2019). Excavations keezhadi: it was sangam older than previously thought, finds study. The Hindu. ^ Keeladi: Digging up the 'Vaigai Valley' Civilization of the Sangam Tamil Nadu era. ^ எஸ். அண்ணாமலை (June 18, 2015). அகழ்ந்தெடுக்கப்பட்டது: பாண்டிய-ரோம வணிகத் தொடர்பு (ஆங்கிலத்தில்). The Hindu. Retrieved September 12, 2015. ^ The ancient city of Madurai was discovered near the age old city. Discovery!. 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