

BIRBAL SAHNI INSTITUTE RADIOCARBON MEASUREMENTS III

G RAJAGOPALAN, VISHNU-MITTRE, B SEKAR, and T K MANDAL

Radiocarbon Laboratory, Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany
Lucknow-226 007, India

The radiocarbon dates reported in this date list cover the measurements carried out in 1979 to 1980. Chemical and counting procedures are the same as reported earlier (R, 1978, v 20, p 398-404). Age calculations are based on the conventional ^{14}C half-life (5570 yr) and on the contemporary value of 95% of the activity of NBS oxalic acid. Errors quoted correspond to 1σ value which takes into account the counting statistics, the uncertainty in the half-life, and the instability of the counting system. The ages are not corrected for isotopic fractionation in nature.

Some modifications and improvements have been carried out in the electronics unit. A four-channel preset timer-printer unit has been incorporated with the scalers to record the counting data at preset time intervals. Statistical analyses of the printer output are regularly carried out for the detection of any abnormal behavior in the counting system and rejection of data using the methods described by Erlenkeuser and Willkomm (1972).

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QUATERNARY SAMPLES

Naini Tal series

Peat and laminated clay samples from Naukuchiya Tal (29° 19' N, 79° 35' E) dist Naini Tal. Samples coll by boring, subm by H P Gupta, Birbal Sahni Inst Palaeobotany (BSIP) to date pollen diagrams.

Profile I (lake margin)

BS-116. Organic mud	1110 ± 90
Depth, 190 to 220cm from swamp surface.	
BS-114. Brownish gray peat	2540 ± 90
Depth, 290 to 320cm.	
BS-115. Black humified peat	4620 ± 110
Depth, 390 to 420cm.	
BS-105. Peat with wood fragments	7570 ± 140
Depth, 490 to 520cm.	
BS-104. Humified clayey peat	5240 ± 120
Depth, 590 to 620cm.	

Comment: pollen diagram of this profile is under preparation. Age of profile of pub pollen diagram from this lake (Vishnu Mittre, Gupta, and Robert, 1967; Gupta, 1977) was earlier interpreted much younger than these dates indicate.

Profile II (lake margin)

BS-140. Peat **3790 ± 110**

Depth, 120 to 150cm.

BS-141. **4340 ± 120**

Clay with organic debris and wood fragments at depth 220 to 250cm.

BS-142. **16,000 ± 230**

Clay with wood fragments at depth 320 to 350cm.

Comment: in absence of hiatus in stratigraphy, Profile II indicates low sedimentation rate for compact portion of deposit. Pollen analytic results are awaited for comparison of pollen diagrams of Profiles I and II.

Terrace sediment from natural exposure, Bhim Tal lake (29° 24' N, 79° 26' E) dist Naini Tal. Coll and subm by H P Gupta to date terrace.

BS-144. Sandy clay **620 ± 100**

Depth, 140 to 160cm.

Terrace sediment from natural exposure, bore core profile, Ram Tal lake (29° 22' N, 79° 32' E) dist Naini Tal. Coll and subm by H P Gupta to date climatic oscillations and development of lake basin.

BS-157. Clay **120 ± 130**

Depth, 45 to 60cm.

BS-158. Organic mud **820 ± 80**

Depth, 60 to 90cm.

BS-159. Brown peat **940 ± 70**

Depth, 110 to 140cm.

BS-160. Peat **1400 ± 100**

Depth, 190 to 215cm.

BS-161. Peat **2410 ± 100**

Depth, 235 to 265cm.

BS-162. Clay **1550 ± 70**

Depth, 385 to 415cm.

Nilgiris series

Peat and peaty clay samples from different swampy regions of dist Nilgiris. Samples coll by boring and subm by K Prasad, BSIP, to date pollen diagrams.

Race course (11° 24' 8" N, 76° 42' E).

BS-148. Peat	1780 ± 100
Depth, 20 to 50cm.	
BS-149. Peat	1850 ± 100
Depth, 120 to 150cm.	
BS-150. Peat	2670 ± 170
Depth, 170 to 200cm.	

Kappeathorai (11° 21' 50" N, 76° 38' 40" E).

BS-151. Peaty clay	Modern
Depth, 20 to 50cm.	

Comment: other two samples of Kappeathorai profile at depths 70 to 100cm and 120 to 150cm were very low in carbon content, *ie*, undatable.

Kakathope (11° 35' N, 76° 52' E).

BS-186. Peaty clay	2260 ± 90
Depth, 20 to 50cm.	
BS-196. Peaty clay	5440 ± 110
Depth, 70 to 100cm.	
BS-187. Peaty clay	7530 ± 130
Depth, 120 to 150cm.	
BS-197. Peaty clay	10,310 ± 170
Depth, 170 to 200cm.	
BS-188. Peaty clay	14,060 ± 220
Depth, 220 to 250cm.	
BS-198. Fibrous peaty clay	21,600 ± 470
Depth, 270 to 300cm.	
BS-199. Clay	13,900 ± 920
Depth, 370 to 395cm.	

Comment: dates support earlier estimate of sedimentation rate based on two ¹⁴C dates (Agrawal, Gupta, and Kusumgar, 1969) for pollen diagram from this site. Pollen analytic studies of this profile are being made at present. Earlier pollen diagram revealed expansion of shrubs at 32,000 yr BP into grassland savannah, formation of Shola forest ca 14,400 yr BP, its decline at 11,000 yr BP, and savannization later (Vishnu-Mittre, ms).

Colgrain (11° 35' N, 76° 52' E).

BS-167. Peaty clay	7360 ± 120
Depth, 20 to 50cm.	

BS-168. Peaty clay **16,640 ± 270**
Depth, 70 to 100cm.

BS-169. Clay **11,820 ± 160**
Depth, 120 to 150cm.

Comment: date of BS-167 agrees well with earlier measurement, BS-10, for another profile from this site (R, 1978, v 20, p 398-404).

Rajasthan series

Clay samples from trial trenches in Didwana lake (27° 30' N, 74° 30' E) dist Nagaur to date climatic and vegetational history of Rajasthan. Coll and subm by A K Saxena, BSIP.

BS-123. Depth, 100 to 105cm **Modern**

BS-121. Depth, 210 to 215cm **5900 ± 100**

Comment: date of BS-121 consistent with earlier measurements (R, 1978, v 20, p 398-404; R 1980, v 22, p 54-60). BS-123 is probably contaminated.

Himachal Pradesh series

Peat samples from lake margin of Parasram Tal, Nahan (30° 30' N, 70° 28' E) dist Sirmur. Samples coll by boring and subm by Chayya Sharma, BSIP, to date pollen diagram. Pollen analysis of profile is in progress.

BS-170. Depth, 100 to 130cm **960 ± 100**

BS-171. Depth, 170 to 200cm **2750 ± 100**

BS-172. Depth, 320 to 350cm **4000 ± 120**

BS-173. Depth, 460 to 490cm **3140 ± 100**

Renuka lake, Nahan (30° 30' N, 70° 27' E).

BS-166. Clay **Modern**
Depth, 30 to 50cm.

Tripura and Manipur series

Samples from trial trenches in peat deposits coll and subm by A Bhattachatrya, BSIP, to date pollen diagram.

Bisalgarh (22° 56' N, 91° 10' E) dist West Tripura.

BS-208. Peat, 2.25m **1750 ± 100**

BS-209. Peat, 2.9m **2600 ± 90**

BS-210. Wood, 2.9m **6930 ± 120**

Chandrapur (22° 56' N, 91° 15' E) dist West Tripura.

BS-205. Peat, 1.9m **1870 ± 100**

BS-206. Peat, 2.75m **2980 ± 110**

BS-207. Wood, 2.75m 2040 ± 90

Comment: dates of wood samples are inconsistent.

Samples from peat deposits. Coll and subm by S Chanda, Bose Research Inst, Calcutta, to date pollen diagrams.

Kalpanya (25° N, 91° E) dist Tripura. Samples coll by boring.

BS-152. 90 to 105cm 2940 ± 200

BS-189. 195 to 215cm Modern

BS-153. 260 to 275cm Modern

Comment: BS-189 and -153 are probably contaminated.

Sekerkot (24° N, 91° E) dist Tripura. Samples coll from trial trench.

BS-174. Peat, 30 to 40cm 1930 ± 120

BS-156. Wood, 380cm 3340 ± 140

Lamphelpet (25° N, 93° E) dist Manipur. Sample coll from trial trench.

BS-194. Peat, 35 to 40cm 7980 ± 470

Turclu (25° N, 93° E) dist Tripura. Sample coll from natural exposure.

BS-175. Lignite >40,000

Tinsukia Forest Bungalow (27° 30' N, 95° 30' E) dist Upper Assam.

BS-154. Peat, 2.10m 12,210 ± 340

Matikhad (27° 12' N, 95° 48' E) dist Upper Assam.

BS-155. Peat, 2.5m 17,920 ± 570

Wood and peat samples from Kantalia (22° 30' N, 88° 27' E) dist Howrah, coll during systematic excavation. Coll and subm by B B Mukherjee, Bose Research Inst, Calcutta, to date sedimentologic processes.

BS-190. Peat, 3.29m 1400 ± 100

BS-191. Wood, 4.03m 5610 ± 110

BS-192. Wood, 4.61m 5580 ± 130

BS-164. Wood, 7.34m 6540 ± 120

BS-165. Wood, 7.93m 5000 ± 120

Comment (BBM): BS-192 and -165 are inconsistent.

GEOLOGIC SAMPLES

BS-124. Manjrod, Maharashtra 200 ± 90

Charcoal from natural exposure 100m downstream on right bank of Tapti in Manjrod (21° 13' N, 74° 59' E) dist Dhule.

BS-125. Tamasvadi, Maharashtra **250 ± 100**

Charcoal from natural exposure right of Panjhra R, 300m N of Tamasvadi (21° 03' N, 74° 51' 30" E) dist Dhule. *Comment:* samples coll and subm by G V Rao, Geol Survey India to date sedimentologic history of Tapti and its sub-basins.

BS-139. Katra, Jammu & Kashmir **>40,000**

Carbonaceous clay from natural exposure depth, 3m from Katra (33° 15' N, 75° 40' E), dist Udampur. Coll to date Riasi thrust. Coll and subm by K S Krishnamurthy, Geol Survey India.

Peaty clay from trial trenches in area that formed Lohtak lake bed before canal excavation (24° 35' 15" N, 93° 43' E), dist South Manipur. Coll and subm by Eng Geol Div, Geol Survey of India, to date geomorphologic and tectonic history of Lohtak basin under Loktak Hydrel project.

BS-145. Peaty clay, depth 5.3m **11,470 ± 190****BS-147. Peaty clay, depth 12m** **25,500 ± 660**

Peaty clay samples from dist Sirmur, Himachal Pradesh in black zone along Krol thrust. Coll and subm by Eng Geol Div, Geol Survey India, to date neotectonic activity along Krol thrust zone in Himalaya.

BS-183. (30°33'N, 77°48'E) **31,000 ± 1640****BS-184. (30°33'N, 77°42'E)** **>40,000**

Wood and peat samples coll and subm by S Subramaniam, Geol Survey India, to study development of coastal plain and neotectonic activity.

Vyasarjadi (13° 7' N, 15' 45" E), dist Madras.

BS-185. Wood, depth 6.3 to 6.6m **7000 ± 120**

Sengammal (12° 45' 50" N, 80° 12' 50" E), dist Chengalpat.

BS-193. Peat, depth 120 to 150cm **6230 ± 120****BS-195. Carbonaceous sediment** **6400 ± 160**

Depth, 120 to 150cm.

BS-200. Gaik, Jammu & Kashmir **6520 ± 120**

Charcoal, depth 30cm from natural exposure from Gaik (35° 20' N, 79° E) dist Leh. Coll and subm by K K Sharma, Wadia Inst Himalayan Geol, Dehra Dun, to date terrace formation.

Shell samples from E coast of S India to date fossil sand dunes and eustatic changes. Samples coll and subm by R V Joshi, Deccan Coll, Pune.

Idindakarai (8° 10' N, 77° 45' E), dist Tirunelveli.

BS-134. Land snails, surface **20,000 ± 400**

BS-133. Land snails, depth 30cm **33,700 ± 1640**

Kanyakumari (8° 2' N, 77° 35' E), dist Kanyakumari.

BS-132. Marine shells, depth 2m **29,900 ± 960**

ARCHAEOLOGIC SAMPLES

BS-43. Nirgudsar, Maharashtra **39,000 ± 3200**

Wood from trench 6m below modern bed level in cemented pebbly gravel, Nirgudsar (18° 31' 30" N, 74° 22' 30" E) dist Pune. Sample to date Late Stone age culture of Ghod Valley. Subm by S N Rajguru, Deccan Coll, Pune.

BS-146. Inamgaon, Maharashtra **11,700 ± 150**

Shells at depth 90cm, from systematic excavation in Ghod valley of Late Stone age culture at Inamgaon (19° 36' 12" N, 74° 37' 54" E), dist Ahmednagar. Subm by S N Rajguru. *Comment* (SNR): dates agree with estimates based on geomorphic and lithostratigraphic history of Ghod valley.

BS-163. Nandur Madmeshwar, Maharashtra **26,600 ± 430**

Well-preserved shells at depth 7.62 to 9.14m from natural exposure at Nandur Madmeshwar (20° N, 74° 5' E). Coll to date Middle Palaeolithic culture of upper Godawari valley. *Comment* (SNR): date agrees with estimates based on geomorphologic and palaeontologic correlations. Subm by S N Rajguru.

BS-135. Peddarajupalli **1010 ± 100**

Freshwater molluscan shells from natural exposure below red sandy loam layer, depth 10 to 20cm found in assoc with artifacts of Upper Palaeolithic culture at Peddarajupalli (14° 4' 30" N, 79° 22' E), dist Cuddapah. Subm by M L K Murthy, Deccan Coll, Pune. *Comment*: sample probably contaminated due to percolation of water from surface.

BS-127. Dhupdhara, Assam **3370 ± 130**

Wood from trial trench at depth 8m, from Dhupdhara (25° 26' N, 90° 30' E), dist Goalpara. Subm by M C Goswami, Dept Anthropol, Gauhati Univ, Gauhati.

Daimabad series

Charcoal samples in sequence from Jorwe to Late Harappa cultures from systematic excavation at Daimabad (19° 30' N, 74° 31' E), dist Ahmednagar. Coll and subm by S A Sali, Archaeol Survey India, Aurangabad.

BS-176. Trench GZ 63 **3590 ± 90**

Sample from depth 4.1m, Sec I, Layer (15), House No. 12.

BS-177. Trench Z/3 **3460 ± 100**

Sample from depth 2.25m, Sec II, Pit 145, sealed by (10A).

BS-178. Trench Y'2 **2950 ± 100**

Sample from depth 10cm, Kiln No. 1, sealed by (1), Sec II.

BS-179. Trench DZ'3 **2970 ± 100**

Sample from depth 30cm, upper levels of House No. 38, Sec II.

BS-180. Trench ZD60 **3390 ± 100**

Sample from depth 2.3m, Sec IV, from hearth sealed by (11).

BS-181. Trench Y'3 **2990 ± 100**

Sample from depth 1.36m, Sec II, Layer (7).

BS-182. Trench Z'3 **3130 ± 90**

Sample from depth 2.1m, Sec II, Layer (10).

Comment (SAS): dates for BS-176, -180, -181, and -182 are stratigraphically inconsistent. Dates also do not agree with estimates for various phases of Daimabad series based primarily on ¹⁴C dates for Malwa and Jorwe cultures from Inamgaon, Chandoli, Songaon, and Navasa in Maharashtra and chronology of Harappa culture.

Allahabad series

Samples from various phases of Mesolithic and Upper Palaeolithic cultures in Ganga valley coll during systematic excavation. Subm by G R Sharma, Dept Ancient Hist & Archaeol, Allahabad Univ.

Mahagara (24° 54' 50" N, 82° 3' 20" E) dist Allahabad.

BS-130. Trench L/6 **11,550 ± 180**

Shell from depth 17 to 33cm, upper level cemented gravel III, Loc XXX-XXXVI.

BS-131. Trench L/6 **9830 ± 160**

Shell from depth 33 to 73cm, middle level cemented gravel III, Loc XXX-XXXVI.

BS-128. Trench G/7 **3330 ± 100**

Charcoal from depth 2.8 to 3.5m, Pit 8B(18), Loc XXXVI-XXXVII.

Chopani Mando (25° 34' N, 81° 53' E) dist Allahabad.

BS-129. Trench F/5 **4540 ± 110**

Charcoal from depth 20 to 30cm, Layer (2A) and (3), Loc I-VI.

Mahadaha (25° 59' 2" N, 82° 11' 30" E) dist Pratapgarh.

BS-136. Trench F/3 (cemetery area) **4010 ± 120**

Charred bones (carbonate) from depth 20m, Pit 8B(2), Loc XII-XIV.

BS-137. Trench F/3 **2880 ± 250**

Charred bones (carbonate) from depth 16 to 26cm, Layer (3), Loc XII-XVIII.

BS-138. Trench F/2 3840 ± 130

Charred bones (carbonate) from depth 27 to 42cm, Layer (4), Loc VI-XII.

Comment (GRS): dates are much younger than estimates based on PRL-100 and -101 (Agrawal *et al*, 1976). Samples are probably contaminated by percolation of water through secs.

Satanikota series

Charcoal samples from Satanikota (15° 56' N, 78° 14' E), dist Kurnool, coll during systematic excavation of megalithic site. Subm by N C Ghosh, Archaeol Survey India, Nagpur, to date megaliths of S India.

BS-201. Depth, 0.75m 1620 ± 100

BS-202. Depth, 1.7 to 1.85m 1440 ± 100

BS-203. Depth, 1.95m 7520 ± 140

BS-204. Depth, 2.55m 8960 ± 120

Comment: BS-201 and -202 are inconsistent with estimate. BS-203 and -204 agree with estimates based on assoc Black and Red ware and red slipped sherds belonging to Megalithic period.

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