

Destination
Pakistan

گندھارا

Gandhara Heritage Sites in Pakistan

Japanese version

ガンダーラ文明

A Project by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) in collaboration with
University of Wah and Gandhara Resource Center.



Content Research: Center for Culture and Development, Taxila - Pakistan
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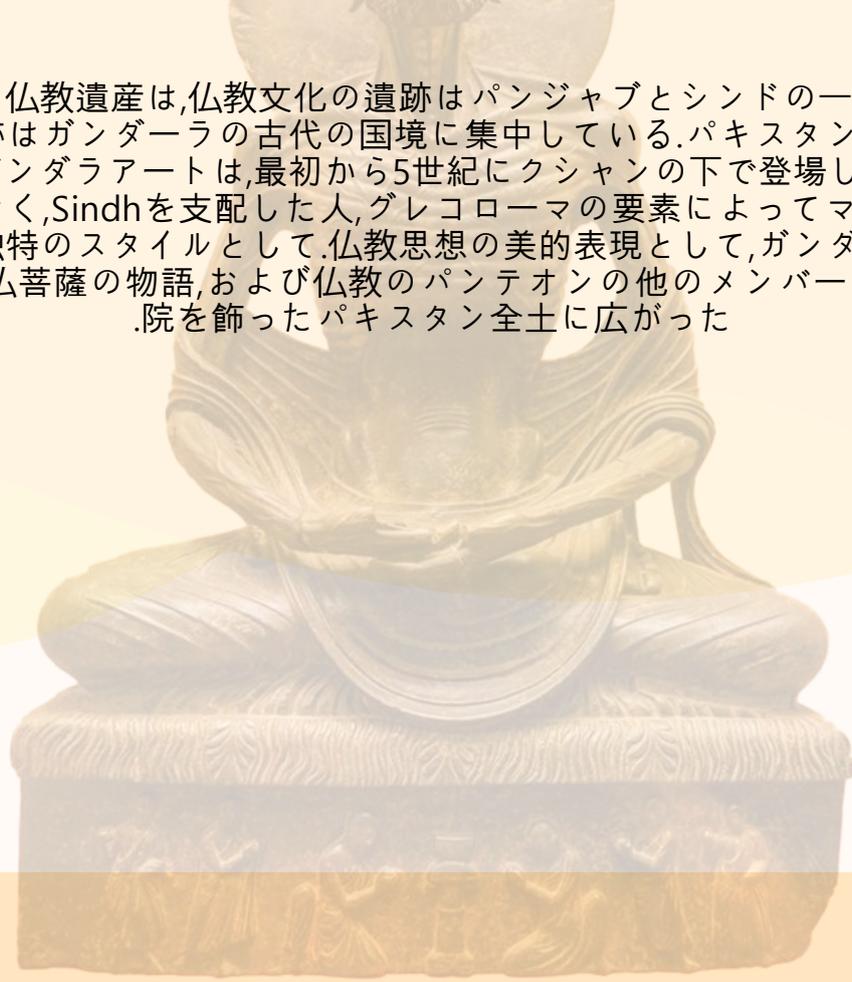
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ガンダーラ文明

パキスタンは若い国ですが、エジプトやシュメールに匹敵する古代文明の国です。仏教は、古代文明を生み出した世界宗教の1つであり、その足跡は、ギルギット、バルチスタン、パンジャブ、シンドを含むパキスタンのすべての州に広がっています。

パキスタンで最も有名な仏教文明の中心地の1つは、「香りの国」を意味するガンダーラと呼ばれています。ガンダーラの古代地域は、豊かで水が豊富な谷と切り立った丘のある風光明媚な自然の景観で知られ、現在のカイバル・パクトウンクワとパンジャブに位置しています。ガンダーラ王国は、現在のチャルサダ（プシュカラヴァティ）、タキシラ（タクシャシイラ）、ペシャワール（プルシャプラ）の首都から統治されていました。中国と中央アジアを地中海世界と結ぶシルクロードのキャラバンルートの合流点に戦略的に位置していたガンダーラは、アケメネス朝、ヘレニズム朝、マウリア朝、バクトリアン、ギリシャ朝、クシャン朝、グプタ朝、フン族、そして最終的にはイスラム教徒

パキスタンの仏教遺産は、仏教文化の遺跡はパンジャブとシンドの一部にあるが、仏教文明の遺跡はガンダーラの古代の国境に集中している。パキスタンが世界中で知られているガンダラアートは、最初から5世紀にクシャンの下で登場しました。Gandharaだけでなく、Sindhを支配した人、グレコローマの要素によってマークされた神聖な芸術の独特のスタイルとして、仏教思想の美的表現として、ガンダーラの彫刻とレリーフは、仏菩薩の物語、および仏教のパンテオンの他のメンバーは、仏塔と修道院を飾ったパキスタン全土に広がった。

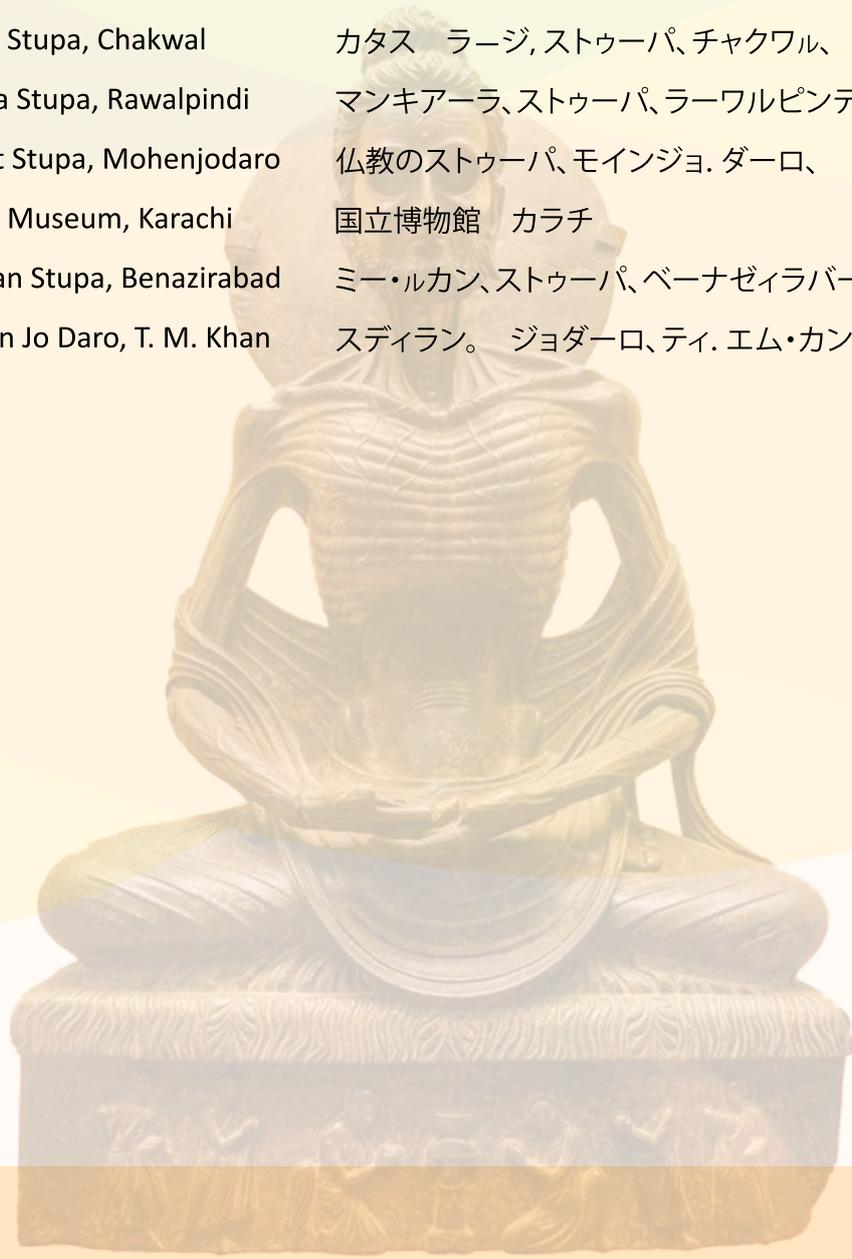


GANDHARA HERITAGE SITES DISTANCE FROM ISLAMABAD (Kilometers)

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02 . Peshawar Museum, Peshawar	پشاور موزیم پشاور۔	180
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04 . Jehanabad Buddha, Swat	جہان آباد بڈھا، سوات۔	180
05 . Nemogram Stupa, Swat	نیموگرام سٹوپا، سوات۔	180
06 . Swat Museum, Swat	سوات موزیم، سوات۔	180
07 . Bazira, Barikot, Swat	بازیرا، باریکوت، سوات۔	180
08 . Mansehra Rock Edicts, Mansehra	منسیرا راک ایڈکٹس، منسیرا۔	161
09 . Bhamala Complex Stupa, Haripur	بھاملا کمپلکس سٹوپا، ہاریپور۔	55
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23 . Manthal Rock, Skardu	مانٹال راک، سکاردو۔	517
24 . Lahore Museum, Lahore	لاہور موزیم، لاہور۔	374

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27 . Bhir Mound, Taxila	ビルモンド、タキシラ、	35
28 . Sirkap City, Taxila	シルカップ市、タキシラ、	35
29 . Sirsukh City, Taxila	シルスフ市、タキシラ、	35
30 . Mohra Muradu, Taxila	モラー・モラドゥ、タクシラ、	35
31 . Pipplan Stupa, Taxila	ピッパラン、ストウーパ、タキシラ、	35
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34 . Mankiala Stupa, Rawalpindi	マンキアラ、ストウーパ、ラーワルピンディー、	36
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36 . National Museum, Karachi	国立博物館 カラチ	1409
37 . Mir Rukan Stupa, Benazirabad	ミー・ルカン、ストウーパ、ベーナゼイラバード、	1133
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MAP OF GANDHARA HERITAGE SITES IN PAKISTAN

ガンダーラ文明

Gandhara Civilization

Pakistan is a young country, yet it is a land of ancient civilizations, comparable in antiquity to the Egyptian and Sumerian. Buddhism is one of those world religions that have spawned an ancient civilization, whose footprints are spread in all provinces in Pakistan, including Gilgit Baltistan, Baluchistan, Punjab and Sindh.

One of the most famous centers of Buddhist civilization in Pakistan is called Gandhara, which means "the land of fragrance". The ancient region of Gandhara, known for its scenic natural landscape with rich, well-watered valleys, and clear-cut hills is situated in the present day Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab. The kingdom of Gandhara was ruled from capitals at present-day Charsadda (Pushkalavati), Taxila (Takshashila) and Peshawar (Purushapura), which in their days of former glory had one of the most splendid art and architecture. Once strategically located at the junction of caravan routes on the Silk road that linked China and Central Asia with the Mediterranean world, Gandhara became a melting pot of various civilizations, which include Achaemenids, Hellenistic, Mauryans, Bactrian-Greek, Kushan, Gupta, Huns, and eventually the Muslims.

The Buddhist heritage in Pakistan, consisting of stupas and monasteries, is largely concentrated in the ancient borders of Gandhara, though the archaeological remains of Buddhist civilization are found in parts of Punjab and Sindh. Gandhara art, for which Pakistan is known for all over the world, emerged under the Kushans from first to fifth centuries C.E. who ruled Gandhara as well as Sindh, as a distinctive style of sacred art, marked by Greco-Roman elements. As an aesthetic expression of Buddhist ideas, Gandhara sculpture and relief illustrated the stories of Buddha and Bodhisattvas, and other members of the Buddhist pantheon that adorned the stupas and monasteries spread all over Pakistan.



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03. Badalpur Stupa, Haripur	40
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Color Key

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Gilgit Baltistan
Punjab	Sindh



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01 Sphola Stupa, Jamrud

Sphola Stupa is located about 25 kilometers from Jamrud on the east caravan route of ancient Silk Road in the historic neighborhood of Khyber Pass. Perched on a high rocky ledge, the Sphola Stupa dates back to the Kushan period, which lasted between the 2nd to 5th centuries C.E. Built of solid stone masonry, the central dome rises upon a three-stepped base. The artifacts and sculptures excavated from the Sphola Stupa in the early 20th century are exhibited in the Peshawar Museum, Peshawar.

02 Peshawar Museum, Peshawar

Located on the Sher Shah Suri road, the Peshawar Museum has one of the most extensive collections of ancient and medieval history, spanning over 15 thousand years in four major sections. Given the historical location of Peshawar city as one of the imperial centers of the Gandhara Kingdom, Peshawar Museum has one of the world's largest collections of Buddhist sculptures and artifacts of cultural history. It became the regional hub to house and exhibit artifacts excavated in the early 20th century from all the major sites in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, including Shah-Joh-Dheri, Peshawar, Saran, Barikot, Takht-e-Bahi in the Mardan District, and later from Jamal Garhi and other Gandharan sites. Apart from the world-famous Gandharan sculptures and coins collection, the museum also houses a large number of Islamic historical and medieval period, comprising of Quranic manuscripts and other important artifacts excavated in the early 20th century of cultural history, are the lesser-known treasures of Peshawar Museum. The ethnological gallery of Peshawar Museum showcases costumes, weapons, crafts, and household objects representing the centuries-old material culture of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

03 Badalpur Stupa, Haripur

The Badalpur stupa and monastery is situated at a distance of 10 kilometers northeast of Taxila Museum, near Bahra Village in the open valley of Haro River. Dating back to the 2nd to 5th century C.E., the site houses a 20-foot high stupa on the west and a monastic complex on the east. The masonry of the stupa is laid in limestone in the semi ashlar and semi diaper styles with kangur lei in moldings and pilasters. There are traces of procession path which were also found around the drum paved with lime concrete.

04 Jehanabad Buddha, Swat

Jehanabad Buddha is remotely situated by a small river near village Jehanabad at a distance of about 10 kilometers from Mingora. It is a six-meter tall image of a seated Buddha carved into a high rock face of a reddish color. The Jehanabad Buddha is claimed to be the largest carved Buddha in Central Asia after Bamiyan in Afghanistan.

05 Nemogram Stupa, Swat

Nemogram stupa is located 45 km west of Saidu Sharif and 22 km from Birkot, on the right bank of Swat river in Pakistan. The Nemogram site consists of three main stupas in row from north to south with a courtyard of 56 votive stupas and the adjoining monastery on the west of the main stupas. Based on the numismatic evidence, the stupas are believed to have been built in 2nd and 3rd century AD. Apart from the coins and pottery of Sicyoth-Panjab period, a large number of stone, stucco sculptures depict various scenes of Buddhist mythology were found on the site which are showcased in Swat Museum.

06 Swat Museum, Swat

The Swat Archaeological Museum is located at the center of the rich archaeological territory of Helmand Division on the main road Mingora-Saidu Sharif. From its inception in 1959, Swat Museum is the best example of national and international collaboration among Pakistan, Italy, and Japan. It started as a private collection of Wai-Swat and later became a property of the Federal Department of Archaeology and Museums in 1963 to house the artifacts from the excavation in Swat valley undertaken with the Italian Archaeological Mission, which helped its inception and collection. With Japanese assistance in 1990, the Swat Museum was reorganized and developed into a world-class museum. The museum contains Gandharan sculptures and friezes depicting the lives of the Buddha along with seals, small reliquaries, and other treasures mostly from Bafra and Ulogram. Additionally, there are pre-Buddhist artifacts and an ethnographic gallery with traditional carved Swat furniture, jewelry, and embroideries.

07 Bazira, Barikot, Swat

Barikot is an important historical town on the main road to Mingora. One of the significant sites is identified as the ancient city of Bazira, around 15 kilometers from the city of Barikot in the southern end of the Swat Valley in Pakistan. Bazira was conquered by Alexander the Great in 327 B.C, which remained an active town till the early Muslim period. Founded as a small town, Bazira developed into a city during the rule of the Kushan empire (30-375 CE). The archaeological excavations have unearthed sculptures, coins, precious stones, jewelry, tools, pottery and household objects made of metals, and stones which adorn the Swat Museum.

08 Rock Edicts, Mansehra

These Rock Edicts are fourteen laws of the Mauryan emperor Ashoka inscribed on rocks in Mansehra in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The edicts are cut into three boulders and date back to the 3rd century B.C. Written in the ancient Indic script of Gandhara called Kharosthi, the edicts mention aspects of Ashoka's faith. It spells out the rules for the population to follow, such as adherence to the will of the ruler, religious freedom, and respect for women, children, and the elderly, among others.

09 Bhamala Stupa, Haripur

Bhamala archaeological complex is part of UNESCO world heritage site, located at a distance of 25 kilometers from Taxila Museum, in the Bhamala village in Haripur District, on the bank of Haro River. The Bhamala complex houses the remains of a cruciform-style stupa, a monastery, and a wall of the ruler, religious figures, and respect for women, children, and the elderly, among others.

10 Jaulian Monastery and Stupa, Haripur

Jaulian is located in Haripur District, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa at a distance of 3 kilometers from Taxila Museum. Perched on a low hillside, it is one of the most preserved Buddhist mosaic complexes with a number of stupas and rooms of different sizes for housing and living. The main stupa adorned with stucco sculptures reflected Greek, Persian, and Roman aesthetic influences is surrounded by a number of smaller stone votive stupas. The rooms of the monastery with walls built in diaper masonry-style face a central courtyard. Other architectural structures include an assembly hall, kitchen, and storeroom.

11 Shingard Stupa, Swat

Shingard, the capital of the former state of Swat is the site for a massive stupa, considered to be the largest in India and Pakistan. Shingard Stupa is situated on the main Grand Trunk Road, near Mohabat Shingard. The stupa made of large stones and layers of thin tiles covers the mouth of a small gully descending from a bare spur above the valley plain. Owing to the accounts of ancient Chinese pilgrims, the legendary fame of the stupa rests on the fact it was built by Ushansara, an ancient king of Swat, to enshrine his share of the relics of Buddha.

12 Ghalegoy Rock Carving, Swat

By the Grand Trunk Road stands the relief of Buddha sculpted on a rock. There are remnants in a cave right next to the rock carving.

13 Butkara I, Mingora

Butkara I is located about one kilometer from the Swat Museum in Saidu Sharif. It houses stupas, which date from the 2nd century B.C., built by the Mauryan emperor Ashoka to house the ashes of the Lord Buddha. The stupa was enlarged during the following centuries away from building over and encapsulating the previous structure. Around 200 votive stupas surround the central stupa. One of the most important on-site exhibits is the sculpture of a Buddha (or Bodhisattva) with figures which is considered to be one of the earliest, if not the earliest, known iconographic statues of the Buddha in the northwestern India.

14 Amluk Dara Stupa, Swat

Shehered by the great Mount Iman, the Amluk Dara Stupa is an ancient relief situated about 2 kilometers on the north of Nawal village in a beautiful small valley on the main road from Barikot to Dheri. The main stupa was possibly one of the best-preserved places of Buddhist architecture ever excavated in the province. The main stupa with its sacred area was founded around the 1st century C.E. and lasted until the 10th century AD. Amluk Dara is also very significant as it lies on the route followed by the Hindu deity Lord Shiva on their annual visit to the sacred height of Mount Iman. The top of the mountain was an object of pious pilgrimage already in Buddhist times.

15 Shahbaz Garhi Rock Edicts, Mardan

The small town of Shahbaz Garhi is presently situated 13 kilometers east of Mardan. It was once a thriving trade town surrounded by stupas and monasteries with hundreds of monks, given its location at the junction of major trade routes to Central Asia, China, and India. Here at the base of a small hill, Ashokan inscriptions, dating back to the 3rd century B.C. are carved. Ashoka became a devotee, Buddhist and ordered series of edicts to be inscribed on the rocks all over his empire for public information. Written in Kharosthi script used in Gandhara, the Ashokan inscriptions form the oldest surviving specimens of writings in Gandhara.

16 Takht-e-Bahi Stupa, Mardan

A UNESCO World Heritage site since 1981, Takht-e-Bahi is located 15 kilometers from Mardan. Translated as the throne of the water spirit, Takht-e-Bahi is an ancient Buddhist monastery that was founded in the 1st century CE and remained in use until the 7th century. It is divided into several separate sections such as monastery, court, assembly, court, chapel, vaulted chambers, and private houses. The monastery complex is exceptionally well-preserved and has undergone partial reconstruction.

17 Seri Bahlol, Mardan

The second component of the UNESCO World Heritage site of Takht-e-Bahi monastery in the neighboring city remains at Seri Bahlol, which is located approximately 3 kilometers away in a brick plain. The Seri Bahlol ruins are the remnants of a small ancient fortified town of the Kushan period. The town is set on an elongated mound up to several meters high and surrounded by portions of the defensive stone wall constructed in diaper masonry, characteristic of Gandharan style.

18 Ranigat, Buner

The Ranigat, named after a gigantic granite rock called the Queen's Rock, is situated at a distance of 25 kilometers northeast of Swat, village Nemogram. It is one of the largest Buddhist complexes in Gandhara, whose remains are scattered in the valley along the ridge. The structures on the site include stupas, monasteries, shrines, diana networks, and other buildings. The site is known for its diadems stone masonry, a specific method of bonding granular and dressed stones. The architectural remains of stone-cut cottages, shrines, and watchtowers are exceptional features of the Ranigat.

19 Jamal Garhi, Mardan

Jamal Garhi is the site of a Buddhist monastic complex with a monastery and the main stupa located on an elongated hill 13 kilometers from Mardan city in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Jamal Garhi is divided into two parts i.e. stupa area and the monastic zone. There is a circular stupa situated on high ground in the center with a number of votive stupas spread all around it. The monastery spread over a vast area is constructed in large diaper masonry.

20 Shatial Rock Carvings, Chilas

Shatial village used to be an ancient halting-place for caravan routes along the Indus River, presently located on the Karakoram Highway near Chilas. Shatial is known for its boulders which are profusely covered with rock engravings dated between 3000 B.C. and 1000 C.E. Using red and brown oxides, there are hundreds of rock art carvings set by traders, pilgrims, and merchants who traveled through the Silk trade routes. In addition, there are inscriptions in many script such as, especially Kharosthi, Sogdian, Bactrian, and Chinese.

21 Thalpar Rock Carvings, Chilas

Thalpar is located near a small village of Thalpar on the banks of Indus River in Chilas town, Gilgit-Baltistan. The site is a large rock face, which is about 1000 meters long and 100 meters wide. It is an ancient millennium, owing to its strategic location on ancient trade routes as a resting and trading hub in the ancient world. The Thalpar site is also depicted in the Shatial rock carvings as well as huge stupa engraving covers the face of the Boulder flank by a low votive stupa.

22 Kargah Buddha, Gilgit

Kargah Buddha is located at the junction of two rivulets, the Kargah and Shukogah, about 10 kilometers west of Gilgit city. It was a site of three stupas and a monastery known as a renowned Buddhist center between the 3rd to 11th century C.E. It is a 50-foot high carved image of the reclining Buddha with its right hand raised and it dates back to the 7th century. The image is surrounded by holes for a wooden house structure, which would have sheltered it from Indianist weather.

23 Manthal Rock, Skardu

Manthal rock is located at a distance of 3 kilometers from Sapatara road in Skardu town. It is a relief and inscription on the natural flat surface at a 30-feet high and 20-foot wide triangle-shaped granite rock. The structure dates back to the 6th century C.E. There are carvings and inscriptions which depict the 'Mantala' - the assembly place of Buddhas. The script of the inscription is ancient Tibetan. Some parts have been translated as follows: "The faithful are allowed from time to time (make the offerings and) sculptures) bright, and clean the place of offering that it may not decay."

24 Lahore Museum, Lahore

Lahore Museum is one of Pakistan's oldest museums, established in 1861 to house the best specimens of the national, ethnological and art collection of North India. Drawn from the first Punjab Exhibition of 1864. In the present building, built in the Indo-Saracenic style of colonial architecture in 1904, the collection of the Lahore Museum began to grow exponentially, displaying a large number of Greco-Buddhist sculptures. The museum holds the largest collections of artifacts of paintings, sculptures, coins, musical instruments, ancient jewelry, textiles, pottery, and armory not only from South Asia but also Central Asia and parts of Africa.

25 Taxila Museum, Taxila

Taxila Museum is a colonial-era building located on the Taxila Harpur Road adjacent to the first historic city of Bhir. The museum holds more than 1,400 Gandhara era artifacts for the period between the 1st to the 7th centuries C.E. In addition to Buddhist art, this museum also includes artifacts from Hinduism and Jainism. There are six subject-wise galleries of the museum exhibited in wall and table showcases. There are archaeological exhibits from the stupas and monasteries, as well as walls of showcases exhibiting stone and stucco sculptures, originally parts of friezes and niches of stupas and monasteries of Taxila. There is an exclusive silver and gold jewelry and coins section. The last section showcases the articles of daily use in the urban settlements of Taxila, including silver trays of different shapes, bowls, spoons, toilet brushes, small pottery pieces, and plaques of terracotta and pottery.

26 Dharmarajika Stupa, Taxila

The Dharmarajika stupa is located at a one-kilometer distance from Taxila Museum. It is one of the most sacred stupas containing the relics of the Lord Buddha displaced by Mauryan king Ashoka. The site is divided into two parts: the stupa area and the monastic zone. The Dharmarajika stupa has been rebuilt over time, increasing the size of the dome to currently 45 feet. The dome was originally coated with lime plaster and gilding, and there was a seven-tier umbrella stone that once crowned the top. The solid core of the stupa is filled with rubble masonry and the base of the stupa is faced with a band of ornamental stonework. There is a wide ambulatory passage, originally lined with glass tiles, which allow the pilgrims to circumambulate around the stupa. The monastic zone contains a number of chapels built in the diaper masonry and interiors which were decorated with stucco, terracotta, and stucco sculptures. There is a large number of shrines and cells in the monastic zone, built over time to perform various functions.

27 Bhir Mound, Taxila

The Bhir Mound is situated next to the Taxila Museum. It was founded in the 6th century B.C. by the Achaemenians and founded until the 2nd century B.C. Built on a small plateau in the open fields, the city took advantage of the various trade routes connecting central Asia. Its stone walls, house foundations, and winding streets represent the earliest forms of urbanization in the subcontinent. The city of Bhir was the spot where Alexander King Alexander was reinvigorated by Raja Imra in 326 B.C.

28 Sirkap City, Taxila

Sirkap is situated on the Taxila Harpur Road, at a distance of 2 km from Taxila Museum. The very name of the city is part of North Indian folklore, the legends of Raja Ravana, wherein the site of the Sirkap was the name of a demon which was killed by Raja Sirkap (modern Sirkap). The city of Sirkap was founded around 100 BC and rebuilt by successive rulers of the Greco-Bactrian kingdom. The archaeological remains of Sirkap, palace and other structures as well as the urban planning models of flat ground, the grid pattern of streets, and geographical location with natural defenses on all sides are still visible on the site. The streets of the sites were more regular than those at Bhir, and the houses were mostly made of coarse stone. There were temples, houses, shrines, and stupas along the main north-south street. On the eastern side of the street are several notable structures, such as the apical temple of the double-headed eagle, the spiral tower, and a platform to the south end of the street. Next to the spiral temple is a votive stupa. Sirkap is famous for its wall paintings, frescoes, beginning with the Greeks, then the Sogdians, Parthians, and finally the Kushans. The city lay to the northwest after the Kushan dynasty founded another city nearby Sirkap.

29 Sirsukh City, Taxila

One of the best of the great ancient cities of Taxila placed on the World Heritage List, the city of Sirkap is situated at a distance of 2 kilometers from Taxila Museum, on the Taxila-Harpur road. Based on the town masonry, rectangular planning, and other features of architectural remains such as fortification walls and other masonry, it is attributed to the Kushan dynasty in Taxila in 100 B.C. However, Sirkap is also one of the least excavated sites, and only a small part of the fortification wall of the city remains. The wall is 18 feet thick and built of rough rubble masonry with neatly fitting limestone courses. It is a roughly rectangular city which is in the open plain with no natural defenses but with solidly built limestone fortifications having round towers at regular intervals.

30 Mohra Muradu, Taxila

Mohra Muradu mosaic complex is situated near village Mohra Muradu, at the edge of a plain, surrounded by hills covered with shrubs. It comprises a stupa and a monastery. It was constructed in the 2nd century C.E. The stupa stands on a rectangular surface and is decorated with stucco reliefs depicting scenes of Buddha and Bodhisattvas in various poses. The monastery was a double-story building consists of 84 courts of cells for monks built around a courtyard with a pool. The large square-shaped central courtyard was filled with water and was about half a meter deep. Stairs to the pool were present on all sides. The monastery also contained a kitchen and a well for water. Six niches in the monastery consist of the remains of Buddhist sculptures in varying poses.

31 Pipplan Stupa, Taxila

Pipplan is the ancient Buddhist mosaic complex, located on the way to Julian monastery in the neighborhood of thick peepal trees. The complex houses two monasteries with an iconic Gandharan style of architecture during the succeeding centuries on the eastern and western sides evidenced by the different styles of wall masonry. It consists of an open quadrangle in the center, with a range of cells on all four sides, a hall of assembly, kitchen, refectory to the south, and a converted stupa to the east.

32 Jinnah Wali Dheri, Taxila

Jinnah Wali Dheri translated as the mound of demons is an archaeological site on the left bank of Haro River near Taxila, Pakistan, dating to the 6th century C.E. It is one of the largest ancient Buddhist monastic complexes in Taxila. The complex includes the main stupa, relatively smaller in size, votive stupas, and a monastery with cells built in a central hall. The fragments of murals, decorated scenes from Jataka tales were found on the walls of the corridor of a monastery leading to the main stupa.

33 Kataraj Stupa, Chakwal

A 4 meter high Buddhist stupa, built by Mauryan emperor Ashoka in the third century BCE is situated at the Kataraj complex, at a distance of 40 meters from Sath Gatha temple. Originally built over 200 feet above the ground, the stupa was surrounded by perennial streams of water. There are partially restored remains of the stupa masonry and in lime mortar as well as relief sculptures on the side walls of the stupa. There are extensive remains of a Buddhist monastery around the stupa.

34 Mankiala Stupa, Rawalpindi

The Mankiala stupa is situated near the village of Tope Mankiala, close to the Grand Trunk Road at a distance of 25 kilometers from Rawalpindi. It is one of the largest stupas of Gandhara which has been cited by ancient Chinese and Korean travelers to be the site where Prince Siddha an incarnation of the Buddha is said to have been seen hungry tiger skulls. It was built by Khasan Emperor Mankiala in the 2nd century C.E. to commemorate the spot for the right of ascetic.

35 Buddhist Stupa, Mohenjodaro

One of the most dramatic structures in the center of a large Indian city, the Buddhist stupa was constructed with unglazed brick over the ruins of Mohenjodaro in the 2nd century C.E. It rises about 20 feet above the surrounding area. The dome of the stupa has long since disappeared and what is left is the lower part of the circular drum which is still standing to a height of 8 feet above the plinth. The drum, the full diameter of which appears to be about 33 feet is hulked in the center and composed of sun-baked brick laid in mud mortar. There is a small image carved attached to it. Some fragments of a sculpture of the Buddha seated cross-legged were found and are exhibited in the National Museum Karachi.

36 National Museum, Karachi

The National Museum of Pakistan at Karachi is located in Burns Garden, Dr. Zakariya Ahmed Road, since 1970. The Museum has a collection of 50,000 old coins and hundreds of well-preserved sculptures. It has more than 70,000 publications, books, and other reading materials. One of the 11 galleries is dedicated to a gallery of Gandhara civilization. In addition, it has artifacts from the Indian subcontinent, including Islamic calligraphy and miniature paintings, ancient coins, and manuscripts.

37 Mir Rukan Stupa, Shaheed Benazirabad

The stupa of Mir Rukan is one of the better-preserved structures situated about 15 kilometers southeast of Dawatpur town in District Shaheed Benazirabad (formerly Nawabshah). Based on the archaeological evidence of pottery, it is dated back to a period between the 6th to 11th centuries C.E. Standing 83 feet high over a square base, the stupa is a solid cylindrical form, constructed with a brick casing. It is divided into five horizontal phases. The traces of terracotta images and line paintings, illustrating the life story of Buddha were found on the outer walls of the stupa. Several small effigies and sculptures were also excavated and displayed in the National Museum Karachi.

38 Sudheran Jo Daro, Tando Muhammad Khan

The Sudheran Jo Daro stupa is remotely located about 50 kilometers south of Tando Muhammad Khan city. The stupa had a pagoda-like form and appears to be a tower built around the 5th-6th century C.E. It rests on a 20 feet high undulating mound. The tower is constructed with burnt bricks and mud mortar in masonry, and its present height is about 18 feet from the surface of the mound. More than 4 acres of the surrounding area of the mound is speckled with potshards and pieces of burnt bricks, groups of stone, plain painted and stamped pottery including black color potsherd and gilded pottery. There are terracotta animal figurines, toys, and shells which suggest the presence of an elaborate complex. There was evidence of a wide burnt-brick wall, perhaps a fortification wall, on the southern side of the mound, to the south of the tower.

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