

Murgi is the most important rock art site in Ladakh it most probably dates back from the Bronze Age (about 5000 years old), its study is crucial at national level.

Tirisha presents one of the most ancient Buddhist complex in Nubra, its study will certainly gives clues about the introduction of Buddhism in the valley.

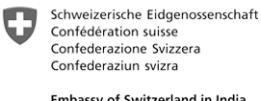
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Deskit Tingang has one of the largest pre-Buddhist necropolis known in Ladakh, excavations on this site will undoubtedly enable to identify the cultural peculiarities of the valley.

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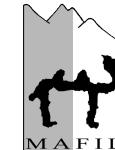
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M A F I L - ଯାଁବା

Indo-French Archaeological Mission in Ladakh / MAFIL

ਕੁਝ ਵਿਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨਾਂ



MAFIL is the first ever official archaeological project in Ladakh.

It focuses for four years (2013-2016) on the Nubra valley.

Archaeology is the study of man's past by scientific analysis of the material remains: ruins of forts, palaces, temples, inscriptions, graveyards, stone sculptures, engravings on rocks, pottery, lithic tools and all other types of ancient objects.

In Ladakh these material remains span from the very first settlement of humans (around 5000 years ago) up to the Namgyal lineage.

First archaeologists carry out surveys by means of: photography, mapping, drawing and gathering of local knowledge about the past.

Secondly excavations are conducted on specific sites. During excavations various samples are collected (for example broken pieces of pottery, bones, wood, textile etc....).

The study of the site's underground and samples enable the archaeologists to identify the age of the remains and who made them.

In Nubra archaeological researches will lead to identify the various peoples who lived in the valley in the past and better understand the long history of contacts with its Tibetan, Central Asian and Indian neighbors over time.

It is the aim of archaeologists to share the information gathered through the MAFIL project with the local people.

The archaeological sites of Nubra are a unique part of the cultural heritage of Ladakh and have to be protected for future generations.

Three sites were selected for the MAFIL project: Murgi, Tirisha and Deskit.

In collaboration with religious authorities adequate ceremonies will be conducted whenever needed.

All findings are property of the Indian Government and will remain in Ladakh.