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Painted Rock Shelter Found in Mahasamund

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Why in News

Recently a **painted rock shelter site** has been discovered in **Mahadev plateau in Mahasamund district of Chhattisgarh**.

Key Points

- The discovery of this rock shelter was done under the leadership of Deputy Director of the Department of Culture, Dr. P.C. Paras .
- Rock paintings of archaeological importance have been found in this rock shelter. In these rock paintings, **geometric figures** including **dancing human groups, monkeys, sun and moon** are made of **red ocher colour**.
- This is the first painted rock shelter known so far under Mahasamund district. Based on the rock paintings available here, the antiquity of human civilization and culture in this area is possible till the **Mesolithic period**.
- Important archaeological sites like **Sirpur and Khallari** already **exist in Mahasamund district**. **Sirpur** also has the distinction of being the capital of **ancient Chhattisgarh**.
- **Megalithic sites** have been found from Bartiabhatha in the district. In this sequence, this painted rock shelter discovered can be considered as the **oldest known site so far from the point of view of history and archeology of Mahasamund district**.