Twitter Thread by Aabhas Maldahiyar ■■



Aabhas Maldahiyar ■■
@Aabhas24



1/n #SadarPranam to Ishvara within you @dhume

Once, it was considered that Greece was "mother of democracy". But recent discoveries have contested

If not all, "Democracy" seems to have certainly originated first in India as/ latest researches.

Read

> Good thread on India\u2019s increasingly vocal claim to have invented democracy. [Some of the folks who buy this also believe that ancient Indians invented cruise missiles, fighter jets, and in vitro fertilization.] https://t.co/MPLVfhdx9U
>
> — Sadanand Dhume (@dhume) September 25, 2021

2/n We came across the Rakhigarhi Excavations.

It took the whole world by shock for the revelations it brought.

It happened to be a civilization (6.5+2.0) KY BP*

*Thousand years before present

3/n Here as stated by Dr Shinde, the Panchayat found on the site is around 5.5 KYBP.

We do not find any evidence of Monarchical Set-Up across any Indus Saraswati Civilization belt. https://t.co/37c2W68kCB

4/n Now, it becomes very interesting to observe that even though it was a notion that Greeks gave democracy to world.

Diodorus who is said to have visited India, around 2 centuries after Alexander talks that high level democracy of Indians was peculiar to Greeks (Diodorus 2.39)

39 1 As for Dionysus, then, and his descendants, such is the myth as it is related by the inhabitants of the hill-country of India. And with regard to Heracles they say that he was born among them and they assign to him, in common with the Greeks, both the club and the lion's skin. 2 Moreover, as their account tells us, he was far superior to all other men in strength of body and in courage, and cleared both land and sea of their wild beasts. And marrying several wives, he begot many sons, but only one daughter; and when his sons attained to manhood, dividing all India into as many parts as he had male children, he appointed all his sons kings, and rearing his single daughter he appointed her also a queen.[13] 3 Likewise, he became the founder of not a few cities, the most renowned and largest of which he called Palibothra. In this city he also constructed a costly palace and settled a multitude of inhabitants, and he fortified it with remarkable ditches which were filled with water from the river. 4 And when Heracles passed from among men he received immortal honour, but his descendants, though they held the kingship during many generations and accomplished notable deeds, made no campaign beyond their own frontiers and despatched no colony to any other people. But many years later most of the cities had received a democratic form of government, although among certain tribes the kingship endured until the time when Alexander crossed over into Asia.

5 As for the customs of the Indians which are peculiar to them, a man may consider one which was drawn up by their ancient wise men to be the most worthy of admiration; for the law has ordained that under no circumstances shall anyone among them be a slave, but that all shall be free and respect the principle of equality in all persons. For those, they think, who have learned neither to domineer over others nor to subject themselves to others will enjoy a manner of life best suited to all circumstances; since it is silly to make laws on the basis of equality for all persons, and yet to establish inequalities in social intercourse.

5/n It was peculiar as Diodorous noted "No Slavery."

Slavery was very much predominant in West. In fact, Plato defines Mathematics with notion of "Slave's Soul." @dhume aware of it?

So how can a society with Slaves be considered "DEMOCRATIC"?

6/n Ok @dhume , now what did democracy meant to Greeks, rather Athens?

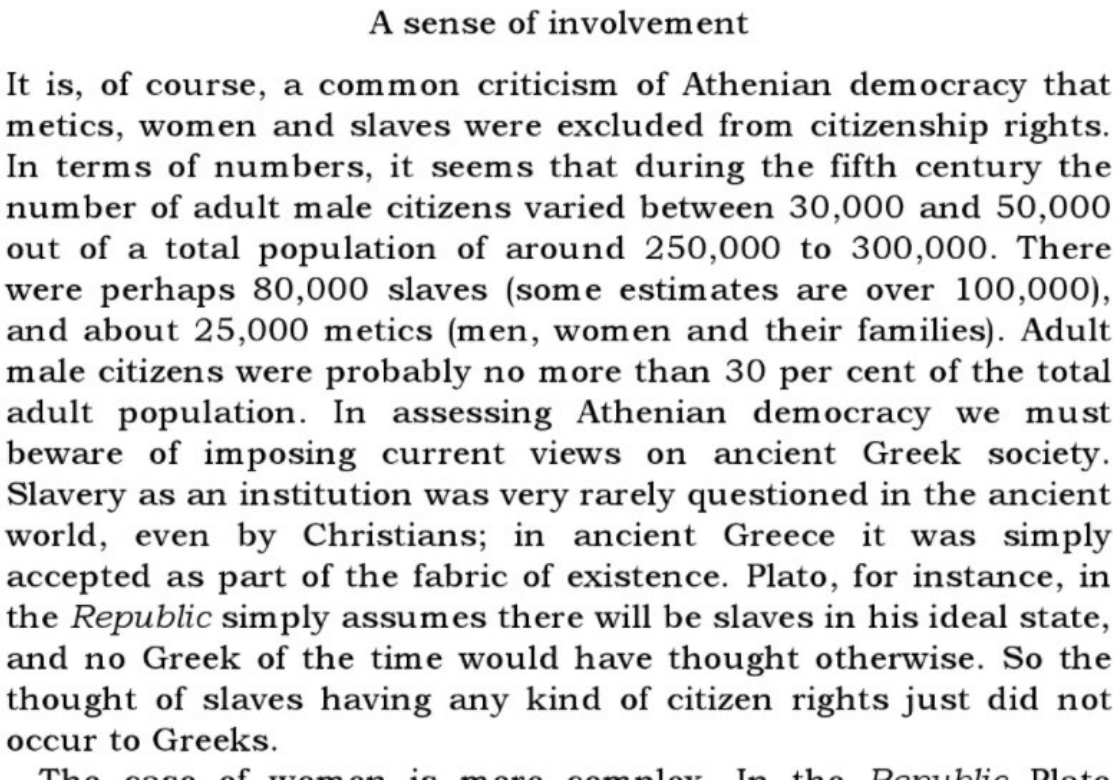
Is it not the common notion that it originated in Athens around 2.5 KYBP?

Of course, we have no clue that how exactly the discovered "Panchayat" of Rakhigarhi was operating 5.5 KYBP, but we know of Athens.

7/n In the Athenian democracy around 70% of adult population (foreign origin, slaves and women) didn't had right to participate in Legislation & Executive Bills.

Did you know this @dhume ?

Look at this source: Athenian Democracy by John Thorle, I have put pg 74



A sense of involvement

It is, of course, a common criticism of Athenian democracy that metics, women and slaves were excluded from citizenship rights. In terms of numbers, it seems that during the fifth century the number of adult male citizens varied between 30,000 and 50,000 out of a total population of around 250,000 to 300,000. There were perhaps 80,000 slaves (some estimates are over 100,000), and about 25,000 metics (men, women and their families). Adult male citizens were probably no more than 30 per cent of the total adult population. In assessing Athenian democracy we must beware of imposing current views on ancient Greek society. Slavery as an institution was very rarely questioned in the ancient world, even by Christians; in ancient Greece it was simply accepted as part of the fabric of existence. Plato, for instance, in the *Republic* simply assumes there will be slaves in his ideal state, and no Greek of the time would have thought otherwise. So the thought of slaves having any kind of citizen rights just did not occur to Greeks.

The case of women is more complex. In the *Republic* Plato

8/n In case if one is getting confused with status of women as mentioned by Plato in Republic, one need to know that Plato's ideal state wasn't a democracy.

And in Athenian Democracy, men believed women's intelligence to be same as that of animals & barbarians.

9/n Well @dhume ji, there are various reasons why with current researches, India certainly needs to be seen as place to have seen "Democracy" much earlier than West.

I showed you above how discriminatory was Athenian Democracy for Slavery unlike India. https://t.co/TDZozD0LNI

> But what does seem new is this \u201cmother of democracy\u201d expression. Can\u2019t recall any PM using it before.
>
> And while India\u2019s democracy is known internationally, I\u2019ve never heard anyone refer to it as \u201cmother of democracy\u201d... very doubtful that this is a popular perception abroad. 3/4
>
> — Constantino Xavier (@ConstantinoX) September 25, 2021

10/n Now let me let you know a bit about proto-democracies which have in place in records.

We have evidences of "Governing by assembly" in ancient Phoenicians. One such evidence is the story an Egyptian trader who traveled north to the Phoenician around 3.1 kybp.

Source below

Byblos

Consider this tiny first example: from an ancient source, a rare papyrus scroll miraculously preserved in the desert sands of Egypt, comes the strange story of the misfortunes of a diplomat from the city of Thebes, named Wen-Amon (Figure 15). He had travelled by ship around 1100 BCE to the thriving Phoenician port of Byblos, seven hundred kilometres to the east of Athens. There, Wen-Amon was to purchase from local Byblos merchants fine-quality timber hewn from the cedar forests of the nearby mountains. The business was commercially important, but straightforward: with the permission of the local prince, the trimmed cedar would be loaded by slaves on to a ship, freighted across the east end of the Mediterranean sea, unloaded in the kingdom of Thebes, then transformed by the best local craftsmen into a river barge, to be used in the sacred fleet of the Egyptian ruler Rameses XI (1100–1070 BCE), in honour of Amon, the god of fertility and patron of pharaohs.



FIGURE 15: Papyrus fragment of the report of Wen-Amon, discovered in 1890 at al-Hibah, Egypt, and subsequently purchased a year later in Cairo by the Russian Egyptologist Vladimir Golenišev.