Invention of Agriculture

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The thinking mind used agriculture as an instrument in the areas of human civilization and social development.
• Homo sapiens have existed for 200,000 years. But agriculture began only 10,000 years ago.

• Why is there a gap of 190,000 years in between?

• What is the process by which human beings invented agriculture?
• Homo sapiens spent a lot of their time just surviving.

• Dangerous game:
  Man survived by hunting animals and eating them.
  No doubt, sometimes animals hunted man and ate him!

• When there were no opportunities
  • for this game
    - Starve and move
Observation

• Long and slow process.

• Early humans observed the relationship between crops, soil types, rain, sunlight, temperature and changing seasons over a long period.

• Humans could replicate and even improve on the natural process
  - First conscious realization

• Humans developed the capacity to observe and imitate nature. As a hunter, man went to where the food was. As a farmer, man could bring food to where he was. By these capacities, he could control nature to an extent.
Causal relationship in Agriculture

• Also known as Causality or Cause and effect.

• Agent that connects one process (which is called the cause) with another process or state (which is called the effect).

• First (cause) is partly responsible for the second (effect), and the second (effect) is partly dependent on the first (cause).
Initially man did not see any relationship. For example, he did not know that a seed becomes a tree after a period of time. There was no observation because of the time gap.

Then man saw only direct relationship. A tree comes out of seed after sometime. This is the result of observation of visible facts.

But there are several factors that are responsible and dependent. Studying them leads to causality.

One effect can be cause of another effect. A seed is cause. Tree is Effect. Tree gives fruit. Here Tree becomes cause and Fruit becomes effect.

How much thinking is needed to understand all this relationship
Observation - was it enough to develop agriculture?

• Without language, how did humans communicate and observe?
What can you learn about mind from the history of Agriculture?
Learn about Mind from history of Agriculture

Sensation

Inedible (too early)                         Tastes sweet (on time)      Inedible (too late)
Learn about Mind from history of Agriculture

Connecting senses together.

Observation leads to thoughts.

When we correlate two thoughts, it leads to a conception.

Incorrect correlation leads to superstition.
How do they come to conclusion that what to eat and what not to eat?
What is the amount of knowledge needed to grow a plant from one seed successfully?
• To discover how to grow plants from seeds require enormous knowledge.

• Countless trials and failures would have been needed
Learning about Soil types

How did they invent the soil types?

How did they discover which soil provides better yield?

What is the process by which early human acquired this knowledge?
Inventing Fertilizers and Pesticides

Fertilizers is all about nutrition and micronutrients and each plant require certain proportions of micronutrients.

How did they learn all this?

How did they get the knowledge about pesticides and where, when and how to apply them?
Breaking Superstitions

Childbirth was mysterious. It was vital and was envied. Women were worshipped because of it, were considered superior.
What were the difficulties in storing knowledge and passing it to future generation?
Agriculture has played an important role in the development of human civilization and society.

Agriculture = Domestication of humans.

Man is the author of conscious creativity.

Creativity is the child of thinking mind.
The human mind itself is evolving.

Looking back to ancient times, we find evidence of the progressive development of different mental capacities and different types of thinking. Each stage in the development of humanity’s mental capacities has led to new discoveries and creative capacities.

In case of Agriculture, instead of keep moving in search of heaven, Man discovered the process of creating his own heaven without moving away from where he lived.
Agriculture was an organization whose chief role was production of food grains, but its main evolutionary role was to create stable communities around tracts of lands.

Even non-thinking or wrong-thinking mind can at times produce unexpected creativity!

Observation leads to thoughts. Thoughts lead to conceptions. Correlation of observations or thoughts lead to an idea could be either superstitions or real knowledge.