

MENHIRS, CROMLECHS, STONE CIRCLES-GOA-18

“Dolmens, menhirs, and cromlechs are mysterious rock structures spread throughout the world which have kept the secrets of their origin and purpose for many millennia.”ⁱ



Fig. 1 (15°16" N 74°18" E) (Photo, Borkar)



Fig.2 A wider view of the area. (Photo, Miranda/wikimapia)

A group of menhirs-cum-dolmen is located in Curdi, District of Sanguem. These rare granite stones for the area must have been transported from far to this site for a purpose. The alignments of the standing and inclined stones and their configuration in a circle were probably influenced by observations of solar and lunar cycles, perhaps to serve as an observatory or a seasonal calendar. The inclined third stone from the left in fig.1 is pointed in the easterly direction. Similar stone circles were also discovered in Mudumal, in the State of Telengana.ⁱⁱ

As it is located in an open area close to Selaulim Reservoir in Curdi, about 7 km NE of Usgalimal Rock carvings, (southeast of the three iron mine pits filled of water) – as seen in the satellite map (fig.3) – in the vicinity of the former location of the Earth Mother and Usgalimal, it is another indication that the region was inhabited from very early times.



Fig.3. Satellite map showing Usgalimal (left of mining pits) and Selaulim dam

Menhirs seen in fig. 4, are in the vicinity of the 12th century Tambdi Surla Mahadev Temple in the District of Satari. One of the four stones has several clearly visible horizontal markings.



Fig.4 Four granite menhirs at Tambdi Surla

Much older-looking circle of unfinished granite menhirs were also located, hidden in the bushes, to the right side of the road when driving from Margao to Chandor in *Xeldem*, as seen in fig. 5.



Fig.5 Granite cromlech menhirs seen at *Xeldem* along Margao-Chandor road

Additional menhirs, dolmens and stone circles have also been documented at several other locations in Goa.ⁱⁱⁱ

ⁱ <http://ancients-bg.com/dolmens-menhirs-cromlechs-the-magical-stones/>

ⁱⁱ <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/Megalith-from-5000-bc-found-in-telangana/articleshow/55030266.cms>

ⁱⁱⁱ http://shodhganga.inflibnet.ac.in/bitstream/10603/105026/15/15_chapter%2011.pdf, pp.221-231.