

India's Largest Circular Stone Labyrinth

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India's Largest Circular Stone Labyrinth Latest News

Archaeologists recently discovered a remarkable circular stone labyrinth in the Boramani grasslands of Solapur, Maharashtra, identified as the largest of its kind ever recorded in India.

About India's Largest Circular Stone Labyrinth

- It was discovered in the **Boramani grasslands of Solapur, Maharashtra.**
- It is approximately 50 feet by 50 feet in size and has **15 concentric circles** formed from **small stone blocks.**
- The **rings guide movement inward** toward a **tightly coiled spiral at the center**, creating a design that reflects both precision and symbolic intent.
- This structure **dates back** to nearly **2,000 years ago** and is linked to **Indo-Roman trade during the Satavahana dynasty period.**
- The presence of soil accumulation between the stone rings shows that this structure has remained untouched for several centuries.

- Its design **resembles classical labyrinth forms found in Mediterranean cultures, including motifs seen on Roman-era coins**, while **also incorporating** a central spiral associated in India with the **concept of the Chakravyuh**.
 - The Chakravyūha is a **complex military formation** described in the Hindu epic **Mahabharata**, **designed to encircle and overwhelm enemies** through multiple defensive layers.
- Before this discovery, the largest known circular labyrinth in India had 11 circuits, making the Solapur example unprecedented in terms of circular complexity.
- Although **there is a larger square labyrinth** in Gedimedu in **Tamil Nadu**, **this newly documented site is the largest circular stone labyrinth** identified in the country to date.

Mazes vs. Labyrinths

- Labyrinths and mazes are not the same; however both are patterns for a path from the entrance to the centre.
- Though the terms are often used interchangeably, they mean different things.
- **Mazes** are a **kind of puzzle with multiple paths and decision points**, and **sometimes high walls**.
- **Labyrinths**, by contrast, **are unicursal: a single path twisting and turning** through **several concentric circles** or circuits **to arrive at a central goal, without walls** or other obstructions to visibility.
 - There are **no “wrong turns” in a labyrinth**.
 - Labyrinths and/or labyrinth carvings in rock and stone date back more than 4,000 years.
 - There are labyrinths etched in Roman mosaics, in caves, cliffs, and tombs, on stone floors of medieval churches, and cut into turf.

Source: IT

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/indias-largest-circular-stone-labyrinth/>

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