



45. **Pot** Middle Period
ca. 400–300 B.C.
ceramic
h: 36.5 cm; d: 39.2 cm
Burial 12 Pot B, BCES 1010

This distinctive pot, referred to as a carabel type, is one of four nearly identical vessels from the grave of a one-year-old child. In addition, three nearly identical carinated pots were also reconstructed with a rim type matching the carabel ware. In contrast to the preceding scatter burials, for which apparently no grave was dug, the orientation of the sherds over this burial indicated that the body had been interred in a grave several centimeters deep (fig. 29).

The latest of the Middle Period types, the carabel pots are unique to this particular grave, and the four vessels are so similar in size and construction that they were almost certainly made by a single potter, possibly using a single mold. Although the walls are still thin, the

rather heavy rim and solid red paint suggest a trend toward the more substantial pottery of the Late Period. The paddled cord imprints on the base are also noticeably coarser than preceding styles.

The abundance of this young child's grave goods is striking and suggests that the child was given a burial comparable to an adult. This might indicate that social status was inherited, and that the Ban Chiang society of this period may have had a class structure.

46. **Ladle** Middle Period
ca. 1000–300 B.C.
ceramic
l: 20.4 cm; w: 11.4 cm
Burial 27, BC SF 2040/1114

Although many clay ladle handles were found in the deposits at Ban Chiang, this is the only complete ladle recovered. It is from the burial of a middle-aged male.

