

Harappan Civilization

The harappan civilization is dated between 2600 bce and 1900 bce. It was an urban civilization. Most of the sites were abandoned after 1900 b.c. Evidence of a ploughed field, associated with early harappan levels have also been found at kalibangan(rajasthan) besides, water reservoirs found in dholavira (gujarat) may have been used to store water for agriculture. 'the great bath of mohenjodaro' was a large rectangular tank surrounded by corridors on all four sides. A small building with eight bathrooms, four at each side of a corridor, with drains from each bathroom connecting to a drain that ran along the corridor. The main source of long distance contacts includes seals, weights, dice and beads. Both the omani copper and harappan artefacts have traces of nickel. Some archaeologists are of the opinion that there were no rulers in the harappan society and that everybody enjoyed equal status. Others suggest that there was a single state. This theory was based on the similarity of artefacts, planned settlements etc. Archaeologists have to determine whether an artefact is a tool or an ornament, or both, or something meant for ritual use. Terracotta figurines of women indicate the worship of mother goddess. Animal motifs suggest the practice of nature worship.

Practice Questions

Question 1: What is the theme of the passage?

Question 2: What is the name of the city of Mohenjodaro?

Question 3: What are the names of the two sites that have been found alongside the drains?

Question 4: What was the main source of long distance contacts?

Question 5: What is the last opinion considered being more plausible as it is doubtful that such complex decisions were made and implemented collectively by entire communities?

Question 6: What is the name of the site where the Harappan civilization was discovered?