**Bangladesh Studies:**

History is the study of past events. History is based on sources.

**Major school of thoughts:**

* **Nationalist Historiography:** In that nationalist approach the historians wrote history to motivate and inspired patriotic feeling to the mass people in India and Bangladesh**. Example: The Revolt of 1857’ renamed as the first ‘Indian War of Independence’; Siraj ud Daula: A hero?**
* **Marxist Historiography:** It also known as Historical Materialism. Example: Karl MARX.
* **Subaltern Historiography:** Subaltern Historiography focuses more on what happens among the masses at the base levels of society than among the elite.
* **Cambridge / British Historiography:** Justification for the continuance of British rule.

**Periodization of the History of Bangladesh:**

***Mainly three categories:***

* **Ancient Bengal (upto 1204)**
* **Medieval Bengal (1204-1757)**
* **Modern Bengal (1757- )**

**Two types of sources:**

1. **Archaeological sources: Archaeological sources include: Inscriptions**

**Ruins of cities, Monasteries, Sculptures, Terracotta plaques, other terracotta objects, and pottery .**

**Some archaeological sites in Bangladesh are:**

* **Mahasthangarh**
* **Paharpur**
* **Mainamoti**
* **Somapura vihara and the like.**

1. **Literary sources : Literature a) *Vedas, Mahabharata and Ramayana***
2. **b) Kautilya’s *Arthasastro: Written in 3rd century BC***
3. **c) Kalahan’s *Rajatarangini***

**Overseas Account : Literature**

* **Fa-Hien (399 AD)**
* **Hiuen- Tsang (c 630-638 AD)**
* **Ibn Batuta (1338-1349 AD)**
* **Lama Taranath (c 1608 AD)**

**Fairy tales/Hearsay/Strories**

**How did we get the Name Bangladesh ?**

**Earliest References to Bengal :**

* + - * 1. **Bangladesh**
        2. **Bangla**
        3. **Bengal**
        4. **Bengala**
        5. **Bangala**
        6. **Vanga**
        7. **Vangal**

Names of same geographical location as of present Bangladesh

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**Indus civilization**

The Indus valley civilization was one of the world’s first great urban civilizations. It flourished in the vast Indus river plains and adjacent regions, in what are now parts of Afghanistan, Pakistan and north- western India.

Beginning Around five thousand years ago, an important civilization developed on the Indus River floodplain named the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) which was a Bronze Age Civilization (3300-1300 BCE; mature period 2600-1900 BCE).

**Discovery and Excavation** Indus Valley was first described in 1842 by Charles Masson in his ’’Narrative of Various Journeys in Balochistan, Afghanistan, and the Punjab”, where locals talked of an ancient city. In 1872–75 Alexander Cunningham published the first Harappan seal (with an erroneous identification as Brahmi letters). Finally, an excavation campaign was started under Sir John Hubert Marshall in 1921– 22.

**GEOGRAPHY OF INDUS VALLEY:** the civilization extended east into the Ghaggar-Hakra Rivervalley and the upper reaches Ganges-Yamuna Doab; it extended west to the Makran coast of Balochistan, The Indus Valley Civilization encompassed most of Pakistan, extending from Balochistan to Sindh, and extending into modern day Indian states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, and Punjab, with an upward reach to Rupar on the upper Sutlej. Recently, Indus sites have been discovered in Pakistan's northwestern Frontier Province as well.

Cities Mohenjo-Daro Harappa To the north is a citadel or raised area.In Mohenjo-Daro, the citadel is built on an architectural platform about 45 feet above the plain. At the upper site of valley, the another city was situated named Harappa. This civilization is also called Harappa civilization.

Culture of Indus Valley Civilization Religion ♣ Some Indus valley seals show swastikas, which are found in other religions worldwide, especially in Indian religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism. ♣ The earliest evidence for elements of Hinduism are alleged to have been present before and during the early Harappan period. ♣ Shiva lingam have been found in the Harappan remains.

 [10.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/presetation-170421140844/95/indus-valley-civilization-10-638.jpg?cb=1492783947" \t "_blank" \o "Culture of Indus Valley Civilization(cont.) Writing System ...) Culture of Indus Valley Civilization(cont.) Writing System Between 400 and as many as 600 distinct Indus symbols have been found on seals, small tablets, ceramic pots and more than a dozen other materials, including a "signboard" that apparently once hung over the gate of the inner citadel of the Indus city of Dholavira.

**Trade and transportation** ♣ The Indus civilization's economy appears to have depended significantly on trade, which was facilitated by major advances in transport technology. ♣ The IVC may have been the first civililzation to use wheeled transport. ♣ They have been used boat and sea-going craft for transportation. ♣ During the Early Harappan period, similarities in pottery, seals, figurines, ornaments, etc. document intensive caravan trade with Central Asia and the Iranian plateau.

Arts and Crafts ♣ Various sculptures, seals, pottery, gold jewelry, and anatomically detailed figurines in terracotta, bronze, and steatite have been found at excavation sites. ♣ A number of gold, terra- cotta and stone figurines of girls in dancing poses. These terra-cotta figurines included cows, bears, monkeys, and dogs.

 [13.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/presetation-170421140844/95/indus-valley-civilization-13-638.jpg?cb=1492783947" \t "_blank" \o "Culture of Indus Valley Civilization(cont.) Arts and Crafts...) Culture of Indus Valley Civilization(cont.) Arts and Crafts ♣ Many crafts "such as shell working, ceramics, and agate and glazed steatite bead making" were used in the making of necklaces, bangles, and other ornaments from all phases of Harappan sites. ♣ Some make-up and toiletry items that were found in Harappan contexts still have similar counterparts in modern India. Fragment of large deep vesel

**Achievements Carefully Planned Cities** ♣ The cities of the Indus Valley Civilization were well-organised and solidly built out of brick and stone. ♣ Their drainage systems, wells and water storage systems were the most sophisticated in the ancient world.

 [16.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/presetation-170421140844/95/indus-valley-civilization-16-638.jpg?cb=1492783947" \t "_blank" \o "Achievements(cont.) Science & Technology  The people of th...) Achievements(cont.) Science & Technology ♣ The people of the Indus Civilization achieved great accuracy in measuring length, mass, and time. ♣ They were among the first to develop a system of uniform weights and measures. ♣ Harappans evolved some new techniques in metallurgy and **produced copper, bronze, lead, and tin. ♣ The engineering skill of the Harappans was remarkable, especially in building docks.**

 [17.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/presetation-170421140844/95/indus-valley-civilization-17-638.jpg?cb=1492783947" \t "_blank" \o "Achievements(cont.) Writing Skill Government  The people o...) Achievements(cont.) Writing Skill Government The people of the Indus Valley Civilization also developed a writing system which was used for several hundred year There was no single ruler but several: Mohenjo-daro had a separate ruler, Harappa another, and so forth. Harappa society had no ruler, everybody enjoyed equal status.

[18.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/presetation-170421140844/95/indus-valley-civilization-18-638.jpg?cb=1492783947) Effects on Human Civilization Actually each and every achievement make an important effects on sub-continental culture. The Indus Valley Civilization may have been the first civililzation to use wheeled transport. These advances may have included bullock carts that are identical to those seen throughout South Asian teritory today, as well as boats. Their well organized urbanization system make an effects on next civilization. Some of the crafts which were found in Harappa civilization are still practised in the subcontinent today.

 [19.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/presetation-170421140844/95/indus-valley-civilization-19-638.jpg?cb=1492783947" \t "_blank" \o "Decline of Indus Valley Civilization The Indus Valley civil...) Decline of Indus Valley Civilization The Indus Valley civilization was declined at late 1900 BC. There are various theory for describe of destruction of this civilization. Some are given briefly: ♣ The Aryan Invasion Theory Many scholars gave a theories that an invasion of the Aryans into the subcontinent was the cause of this dispersal. But there is currently no historical or archaeological record which shows that the Aryan people ever invaded the region.

 [20.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/presetation-170421140844/95/indus-valley-civilization-20-638.jpg?cb=1492783947" \t "_blank" \o "Decline of Indus Valley Civilization(cont.)  The Evidence ...) Decline of Indus Valley Civilization(cont.) The Evidence Of Natural Disaster The most common held theory used to explain the decline of the Harrapan culture is that climatic changes lead to a long term drought. This environmental disaster, coupled with repeated floods that devastated the arable land. ♣ The Possibility Of An Ancient Tsunami Some geophysicists have begun to theorize that such a disaster could have been responsible for the end of Harrapan civilization. This theory is based upon the premise that a massive wave could have reached inland, traveling up the Indus and Saraswati Rivers simultaneously. ♣ The Saraswati River Runs Dry The geological record does show that the Saraswati River, one of the main arteries of trade for the Harrapans, dried up completely sometime during the early 20th century B.C.E.

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