

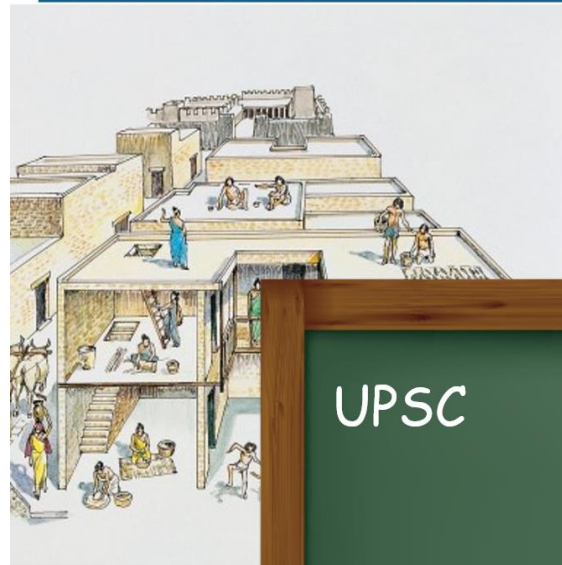


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Harappan Civilisation

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Harappan Civilisation (Indus Valley Civilisation)

The **Harappan Civilisation**, also known as the **Indus Valley Civilisation**, was the **first urban civilisation** of South Asia, flourishing between **c. 2600–1900 BCE**. It was contemporaneous with **Mesopotamian** and **Egyptian civilisations**, but larger in geographical spread. Characterised by **planned cities, standardized bricks, and advanced drainage systems**, it reflected a high level of socio-economic organisation. Its cultural roots were **indigenous**, with no confirmed foreign influence. The civilisation forms a crucial part of **India's proto-historic Bronze Age**.

- **First urban civilisation** of South Asia
- Contemporaneous with **Mesopotamia** and **Egypt**
- Covered an area of approximately **12,99,000 sq. km**
- Known initially as **Indus Valley Civilisation**
- Renamed to **Harappan Civilisation** after discovery of sites beyond the Indus (e.g., Ghaggar-Hakra belt)
- Belongs to the **Bronze Age** and part of **India's Proto-History**
- More advanced than **Chalcolithic cultures**

Geographical Extent

Direction	Site Name	Location
Northernmost	Manda	Jammu
Southernmost	Daimabad	Maharashtra
Easternmost	Alamgirpur	Meerut, Uttar Pradesh
Westernmost	Sutkagan Dor	Baluchistan (Pakistan)

- Also spanned Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Sindh, Baluchistan, parts of U.P.

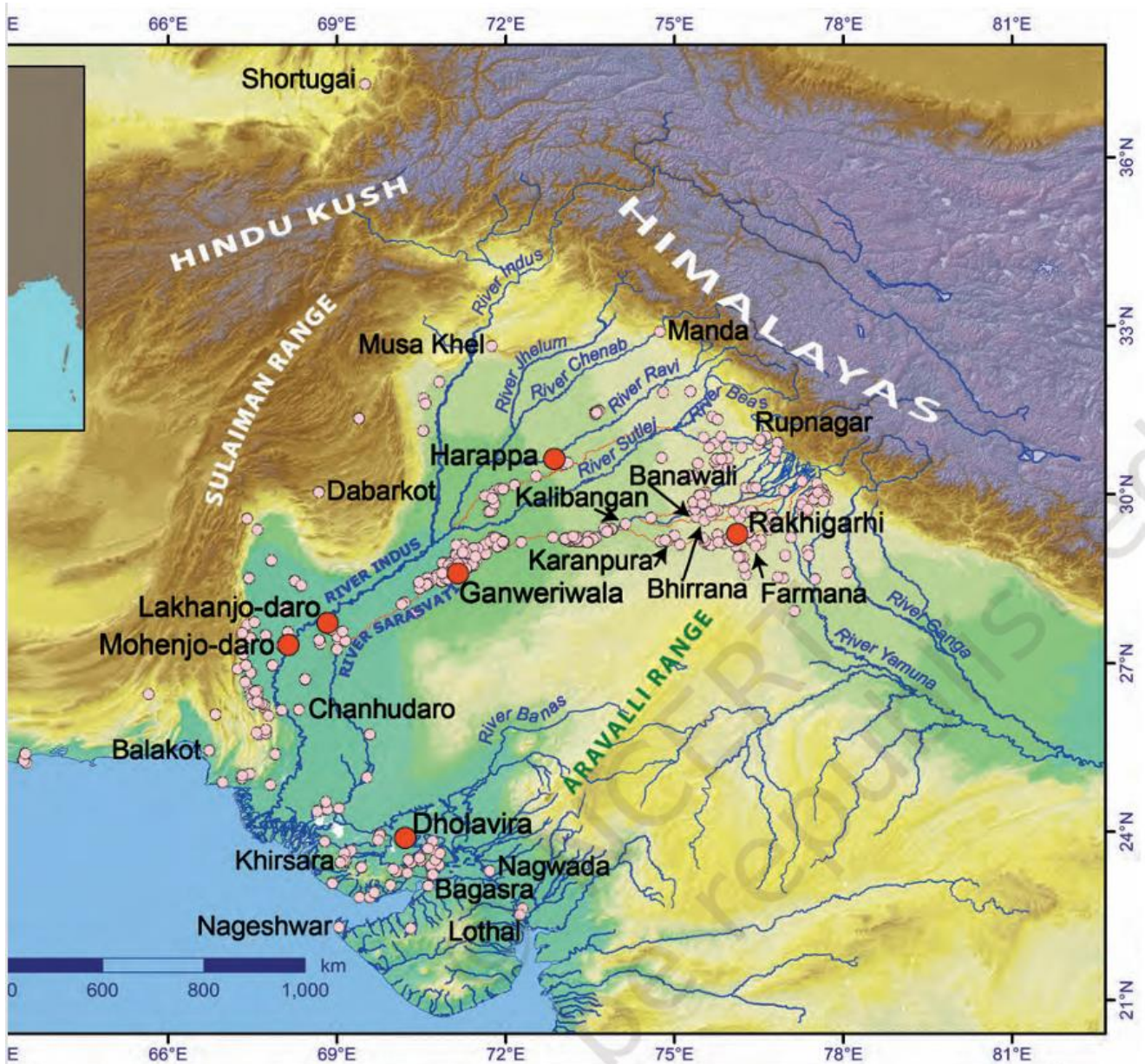
Origin & Nature

- **Indigenous origin** likely; evolved from local settlements
- No strong evidence of external influence (e.g., Mesopotamia, Egypt)
- **Radiocarbon dating: c. 2350–1750 BCE**
- Climate: Moist and forested; Rajasthan and Sind were **not deserts**

Key Discoveries & Archaeology Timeline

Year	Development/Event
1875	Report on Harappan seal – Alexander Cunningham
1921	Excavations at Harappa – Daya Ram Sahni
1924	Civilization officially announced – John Marshall (DG, ASI)

1925	Excavations at Mohenjodaro
1946	Harappa excavation – R.E.M. Wheeler
1955	Lothal excavation – S.R. Rao
1960	Kalibangan – B.B. Lal & B.K. Thapar
1974	Bahawalpur exploration – M.R. Mughal
1980	Surface exploration at Mohenjodaro – German & Italian teams
1986	Harappa – American excavation team
1990	Dholavira – R.S. Bisht



Phases of Harappan Civilisation

1. Early Harappan Phase (3300–2600 BCE)

Also known as: **Regionalisation Era**

- Related to **Hakra Phase** (Ghaggar-Hakra belt)
- **Proto-urban** in character; lacked large cities
- Notable developments:
 - **Fortifications**
 - **Specialised crafts**: bead-making, stone & metal work
 - **Wheeled transport, trade networks**
 - Use of similar raw materials as mature phase (except **jade**)
- Agricultural crops: **Peas, sesame, dates, cotton**
- **Sites**: Padri, Kalibangan, Dholavira, Harappa, Bhirrana, Kot Diji, Amri, Balakot
- No early Harappan sites found in **active Indus plain**

2. Mature Harappan Phase (2600–1900 BCE)

Also known as: **Integration Era**

Peak phase of urbanisation and standardisation

- Unified cultural traits across regions:
 - **Red and black pottery**
 - **Terracotta figurines**
 - **Standardised bricks** (1:2:4 ratio)
 - **Seals, weights, granaries, drainage systems**
- Use of **script**, centralised planning (grid patterns)
- This is the period mostly referred to when using terms “Harappan Culture”
- Major Urban Centres:
 - **Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Lothal, Kalibangan, Banawali**
 - **Surkotda, Sutkagendor, Chanhudaro**

3. Late Harappan Phase (1900–1300 BCE)

Also known as: **Localisation Era**

Marked by **gradual urban decline**

- Cultural **fragmentation** from Integration Era
- Key characteristics:
 - Fewer large cities; more **small, rural settlements**
 - Gradual change in:
 - **Seals, pottery styles, writing, and weights**
 - Continued **agriculture** with diverse crops

- **No abrupt end**; continuity observed till **1000–900 BCE**

► **Sub-Phases / Regional Cultures:**

Phase Name	Region	Key Sites
West Punjab Phase	Punjab (Pakistan)	Cemetery H Culture
East Punjab Phase	Punjab (India)	–
Jhukar Phase	Sindh	Jhukar, Chanhudaro, Amri
Rangpur Phase	Gujarat (Kutch, Saurashtra)	Rangpur, Rojdi
Ganga-Yamuna Doab	Western U.P.	Alamgirpur

Harappan Town Planning

The Harappan Civilisation is renowned for its **urban planning, civic sense, and architectural precision**. Cities were generally divided into two sections: the **Citadel** and the **Lower Town**, with an advanced grid-based street layout and excellent public utility systems.



Citadel (Western Part)

- The **Citadel** was built on a raised **mud-brick platform** and was smaller but more fortified.
- It housed the **ruling elite** and important public structures like **granaries, workshops, and ritualistic spaces**.
- Most major cities including **Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Kalibangan, and Dholavira** followed this layout.

Key Structures in Citadel:

- **Great Bath (Mohenjodaro):**
 - Dimensions: **39 ft × 23 ft × 8 ft deep**
 - Made watertight with **burnt bricks and gypsum mortar**
 - Surrounded by **corridors and dressing rooms**
 - **Two staircases** led into the tank; water drawn from a nearby **large well**
 - Likely used for **ritual bathing**
- **Granaries:**
 - Largest in Mohenjodaro: **150 ft × 50 ft**

- **Kalibangan** and **Harappa** also had granaries; Harappa had **six** in a row
- Possibly used for **storing surplus grains** and **state-controlled redistribution**

Lower Town (Eastern Part)

- Occupied by the **common people** and professionals
- Residences were laid out in **rectangular/square blocks** using a **grid pattern**
- Streets intersected at **right angles**; main roads were up to **10 meters wide**
- Houses were made of **uniform burnt bricks** in the ratio **1:2:4**

Features:

- **Two-storeyed houses** with bathrooms and sometimes private wells
- No windows faced the street, ensuring **privacy and security**
- Almost all houses had **courtyards and bathing areas**

Unique Urban Features

- **Grid-based layout** – extremely rare for the Bronze Age
- **Private bathrooms and wells** in many houses
- **Public architecture** like granaries and ritual baths indicate **planned community life**
- Presence of **lamp posts, uniform bricks, and structured streets** shows **municipal-level planning**

Building Materials

- **Burnt bricks** of standard size and ratio were used:
 - Houses: **7 × 14 × 28 cm³**
 - City walls: **10 × 20 × 40 cm³**
- Harappan use of burnt bricks contrasts with **sun-dried bricks** used in Egypt at the time
- **Masonry quality** was consistent across sites

Drainage system

Underground drainage system connected houses to street drains

- Made from **mortar, lime, and gypsum**
- Covered with **removable brick slabs** for cleaning access

Water from homes and public buildings like the Great Bath had **outlets leading to street drains**

Shows strong concern for **hygiene and civic infrastructure**

Fortifications

- Cities like **Dholavira** and **Lothal** were **fully fortified**, and some cities had **separate fortifications** for citadel and lower town
- Walls possibly served both **defensive** and **flood-control** functions

Harappan Society and Culture

Social Structure

- **Urban, stratified society** with at least three groups:
 - **Ruling class** (possibly administrative/merchant elites)
 - **Rich merchants**
 - **Poor labourers/artisans** (mostly in lower town)
- Absence of **caste system** but presence of **economic classes** (based on house sizes)
- **No conclusive evidence** of inheritance practices



Social Institutions & Governance

- **No temples** discovered → No dominant **priestly class**
- **No clear ruler depictions** → Power possibly held by **merchant elites**
- Some archaeologists suggest a **rulerless society** with **collective decision-making**
- Lack of centralised administrative architecture weakens the **monarchical theory**

Gender Status & Lifestyle

- **Men and women had near-equal status**
 - Both wore **two-piece garments** (upper & lower body)
 - Both adorned with **jewellery**: necklaces, bangles, fillets, anklets, earrings
- Evidence of **cosmetic use** (e.g., combs, spindles, containers)

Housing & Daily Life

- Houses varied in size → reflects **economic inequality**
- Common household items: **pottery, shell, stone, ivory, and metalware**
- **Fishing, hunting, bullfighting** were common leisure activities

Food & Diet

- **Mixed diet**: vegetarian + non-vegetarian
- Staples included:
 - **Wheat, barley** (Sindh & Punjab)
 - **Rice, millets** (Rangpur & Surkotda)
 - **Maize, pulses, fruits**
 - **Meat, fish, milk, curd**
- Domesticated animals: **cattle, sheep, goats, buffaloes, pigs**

Clothing & Textiles

- Evidence of **cotton weaving** (clay spindle whorls)
- **Woolen garments** also used
- Common attire:
 - **Men**: Long cloth wraps
 - **Women**: Short skirts

Ethnic Composition

- Majority belonged to:
 - **Proto-Australoid** and **Mediterranean (Dravidian)** racial groups
- Others: **Mongoloid, Nordic** features also observed

Water Management in the Harappan Civilisation

General Features

- Harappans attached high importance to **water management and cleanliness**.
- Most houses had **separate bathing areas** connected to **underground drains**.
- Drains ran **beneath the streets**, forming an integrated drainage system.
- Wastewater was efficiently disposed of, showing advanced urban planning.



Fig. 6.8. A large reservoir cut in the rock at Dholavira, measuring 33 metres in length

Site-wise Highlights

Site	Key Features of Water Management
Mohenjodaro	- Hundreds of brick-lined wells used for water supply. - Advanced domestic drainage system.
Dholavira	- Located in Rann of Kutch, Gujarat . - Known for the largest water reservoir : 73 metres long. - At least 6 large reservoirs , some cut into rock , others stone-built . - Connected through underground drains for harvesting and distribution .
Lothal	- Had an advanced drainage system with covered drains and well-defined outlet structures.

Innovative Features

- **Reservoirs and tanks** were used not just for drinking water but also for **rainwater harvesting and storage**.
- Use of **gravity-based flow** ensured minimal manual effort in water movement.
- Demonstrates **scientific planning, hydraulic engineering**, and an early form of **public sanitation infrastructure**.

Significance

- Reflects the **sophistication of Harappan urban life**.
- Shows a deep understanding of **hydrology, public health, and sustainable water use**.

- These systems are **unmatched in contemporary Bronze Age civilisations.**

Economy of Harappan Civilization



- **Barter-Based Trade**
The Harappan economy was primarily based on barter. There was no metallic currency in use; goods were exchanged through direct trade.
- **Internal and External Trade**
Harappans practiced both inland and maritime trade. Inland trade relied on bullock carts with solid wheels, while external trade used boats navigating the Arabian Sea.
- **Trade with Mesopotamia and Persian Gulf**
The Indus region, referred to as *Meluhha* in Mesopotamian texts, had vibrant trade with Mesopotamia through intermediaries like *Dilmun* (Bahrain) and *Magan* (Oman/Makran coast). Harappan seals have been found in cities like Susa, Ur, and Nippur.
- **Commercial Colonies and Navigation**
Harappans established commercial colonies in regions like northern Afghanistan to promote trade with Central Asia. Dockyards at Lothal and sea ports at Balakot, Rangpur, and Somnath support evidence of their seafaring skills.
- **Standardization of Weights and Measures**
Harappans used a binary and decimal weight system, with units made of chert, limestone, and steatite. They also employed standardized length measures using ivory and shell scales.
- **Role of Seals in Trade**
Steatite seals with animal motifs and inscriptions were possibly used for marking ownership, trade goods, and also served religious or amuletic purposes.

Agriculture and Animal Domestication

- **Crops and Cultivation Practices**

Harappans were the earliest people to grow **cotton**, referred to as *Sindon* by Greeks. Main crops included **wheat, barley, peas, sesame, lentils, millets, mustard**, and **rice** (notably at Lothal).

- **Agricultural Cycles**

Cultivation was closely tied to riverine flooding. Seeds were sown post-flood in November and harvested by April before the next flood.

- **Tools and Irrigation**

Evidence from Kalibangan shows ploughed fields, possibly using wooden ploughs. Irrigation was likely practiced using wells and water reservoirs, particularly at Dholavira. Traces of canals have been found at Shortughai (Afghanistan).

- **Domesticated Animals**

Harappans domesticated **oxen, buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs, camels, donkeys**, and even **elephants** in Gujarat. **Humped bulls** were common in seals and terracotta art. Dogs and cats were also kept as pets.

- **Knowledge of Horse**

While not central to their culture, Harappans were aware of the horse, with limited remains found at Surkotada and figurines at Lothal.

Industry and Crafts

- **Craft Specialization**

Harappans were skilled artisans involved in **bead-making, pottery, weaving, metalwork, masonry**, and **seal-making**. Specialized workshops and evidence of craft zoning have been found.

- **Bead-Making Industry**

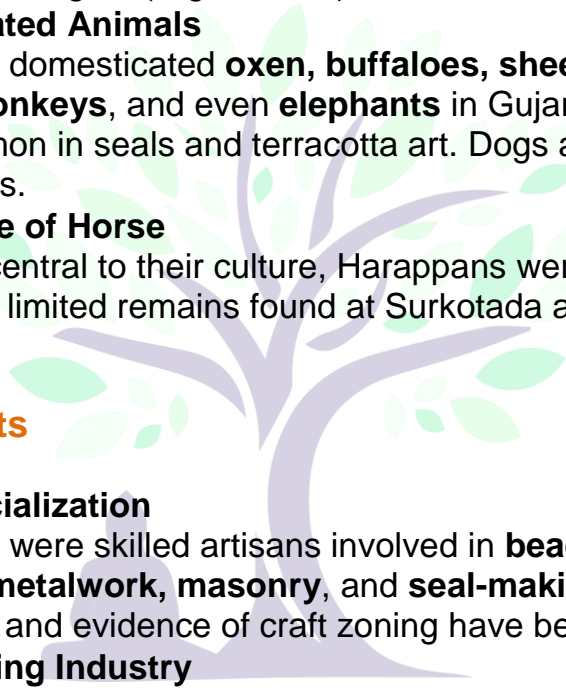
Chanhudaro and Lothal hosted bead-making factories. Beads were made from semi-precious stones, shell, and metal, and were widely exported.

- **Metal and Shell Work**

Harappans crafted tools and ornaments using **copper, bronze, gold, and silver**, and also worked extensively with shell for decorative purposes.

- **Textile Production**

Though textiles haven't survived, impressions on clay and spindle whorls suggest spinning and weaving were common, especially in cotton production.



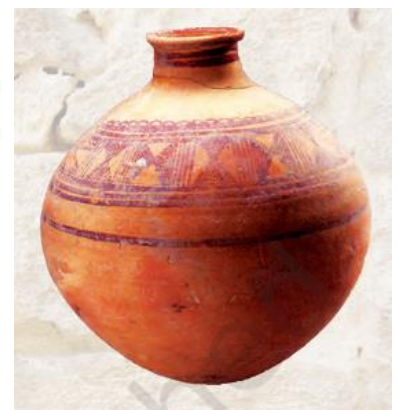
Imports during the Harappan Civilization

Item	Source Region
Gold	Afghanistan, Karnataka
Silver	Afghanistan
Copper	Khetri (Rajasthan), Oman
Tin	Afghanistan, Iran
Carnelian	Saurashtra
Amethyst	Maharashtra
Jade	Central Asia
Turquoise	Central Asia, Iran

- These imports were vital for local industries, especially bead-making and metalwork.
- The presence of exotic raw materials reflects an expansive and well-managed trade network.

Pottery

- **Characteristics**
Harappan pottery was mostly **wheel-made, kiln-fired**, and red or buff in color with black painted motifs. Designs included geometric patterns, animals, and religious symbols.
- **Types of Pottery**
 - **Plain Ware:** Functional pottery for daily use, unpainted and mass-produced.
 - **Painted Ware:** Decorated with intricate black motifs on red ware.
 - **Polished Ware:** Finely made pottery with smooth finishes, likely used by elites.
- **Special Finds**
 - Button seals and painted pottery from **Lothal**.
 - Pottery depictions include **bulls, birds, peacocks, and humans**, offering insight into cultural and religious beliefs.
- **Utility and Storage**
Pottery was used for **storage of grains, water, and oils**. Large jars and urns have been discovered in kitchens and granaries.



Harappan Script

General Features

- **Undeciphered** till date; ongoing efforts led by scholars like **Asko Parpola** and Soviet teams.

- Comprises **400–600 signs**, with **40–60 core signs**; others are modified forms.
- Most inscriptions are **short**, found mainly on **seals, pottery, tools, and terracotta objects**.
- **Script type: Pictographic**, where symbols represent sounds, ideas, or objects.
- No evidence of **alphabetic writing** like Brahmi or cuneiform.

Direction and Style

- Written **right to left** in most cases.
- Use of **Boustrophedon style** (alternate line reversal) seen on some long inscriptions.
- Some symbols may have **phonetic or ideographic** significance.

Indigenous Development

- No influence from **Mesopotamian or Egyptian scripts**; considered **indigenous** to the Indus region.
- First discovered in **1853**, but systematic study began later.

Language Hypotheses

- **Dravidian hypothesis**: Supported by Asko Parpola and Soviet scholars.
- Other scholars suggest alternative origins; **no consensus yet**.

Religious Practices in Harappan Civilization

General Nature

- **No temples** found; indicates a **secular or ritual-centred society**.
- Sacred spaces like the **Great Bath (Mohenjo-Daro)** likely used for **ceremonial bathing**.
- Evidence points to **fertility cults, animism, and nature worship**.

Deities and Symbols of Worship

☐♀ Mother Goddess

- Numerous **terracotta female figurines** suggest **worship of fertility and motherhood**.
- A notable figurine shows a **plant emerging from a woman's womb**, indicating **Earth Goddess symbolism**.



Proto-Shiva / Pashupati Mahadeva

- Depicted on seals in a **yogic posture** with **three faces and horned headgear**.
- Surrounded by animals: **elephant, tiger, buffalo, rhinoceros, deer**.
- Considered an early form of **Shiva or Rudra** (interpretation is debated).



Phallic Worship

- Presence of **lingam and yoni-like symbols** indicate **fertility worship**, later associated with Shiva.

Nature Worship

- Sacred **pipal tree** depicted on seals.
- Animals like **humped bull, unicorn (possibly rhinoceros), dove, and pigeon** were revered.
- Use of **amulets** suggests belief in **evil forces and spirits** (also seen in Atharva Veda traditions).

Fire Worship

- **Fire altars** discovered at **Kalibangan** and **Lothal**, indicating **ritualistic fire worship**.

Funerary Practices

Type of Burial	Description
Complete burial	Full body interment, often aligned north-south .
Fractional burial	Burial of bone remains after body exposure to birds/beasts.
Cremation + burial	Cremated remains buried in urns or pits.

- Bodies were interred with **pottery, food, tools, ornaments**, etc.
- Items were **modest**, unlike Mesopotamian or Egyptian burial goods.

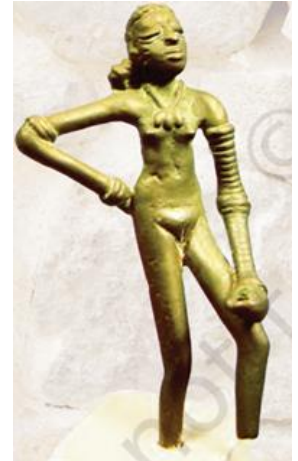
Notable Burial Finds

- **Coffins** with skeletons found at **Harappa**.
- **Kalibangan**: Circular burial pits with urns, triangular terracotta cakes with deity symbols – possibly indicating **animal sacrifice**.
- **Lothal**: Pair of **male and female skeletons** buried together.

Art and Crafts – Indus Valley Civilisation

Metallurgy & Bronze Craft

- Belonged to the **Bronze Age**; Harappans had advanced knowledge of **metallurgy**.
- **Copper** sourced from **Khetri mines (Rajasthan)**; tin possibly imported from **Afghanistan**.
- **Bronze** was produced by alloying copper with tin.
- Tools and weapons made: **axes, saws, knives, short swords, needles, mirrors, spears**.
- A higher number of **pure copper artifacts** over alloyed bronze ones suggests **cultural preference**, not technological backwardness.
- Famous artifact: **Bronze Dancing Girl** (Mohenjodaro) – excellent example of lost-wax casting technique.
- **Metals known and used**: copper, bronze, gold, silver (but **not iron**).
- **Jewellery** of gold, silver, semi-precious stones: **necklaces, earrings, pendants, brooches** (e.g., Allahdino near Karachi).



Terracotta Figurines

- Made from **fire-baked clay (terracotta)**; found in large quantities.
- Served as **toys, votive offerings, or objects of worship**.
- Representations include: **animals** (bulls, buffaloes, monkeys, dogs), **human figures**, especially **female figurines** outnumbering males – linked with **fertility cult**.
- Figurines are **more rudimentary** compared to metal sculpture.

Weights and Measures

- Weights were **cubical, unmarked**, and made of **chert stone**.
- Followed binary and decimal systems:
 - **Lower denominations**: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32... up to 12,800.
 - **Higher denominations**: 16 and its multiples (16, 64, 160, 320, 640).
- Used for **trade and standardised transactions**.
- **Measuring sticks** with calibrated markings found—evidence of precision in measurement.
- Indicate a **highly organised economy** and **regulated exchange** system.

Seals



- Made mostly of **steatite (soft stone)**; sometimes also faience and copper.
- Often bore **short inscriptions in Harappan script** and **pictorial motifs**.
- Used for **trading, authentication, identity marking, and long-distance communication**.
- Depicted animals: **unicorn (mythical), bull, buffalo, tiger, elephant, rhino, goat**.
- Most famous: **Pashupati Seal (Mohenjodaro)**:
 - Central figure seated in **yogic posture**, surrounded by **elephant, tiger, buffalo, rhino, and deer** at feet.
 - Interpreted as **Proto-Shiva**, though contested.

Bead Making

- Harappans were expert **lapidaries** and **bead makers**.
- Materials used: **carnelian, jasper, steatite, crystal, quartz, faience, terracotta, gold, bronze, shell**.
- Types: **disc-shaped, cylindrical, spherical, segmented, barrel-shaped**.
- Techniques: incising, etching, painting, and using gold caps on stone beads.
- Some beads were made by **joining multiple materials**.
- Evidence from **specialised centres**:
 - **Chanhudaro**: exclusive craft production (beads, seals, weights).
 - **Lothal, Dholavira**: advanced **drilling techniques**.
 - **Nageshwar & Balakot**: famous for **shell object production** (bangles, ladles, inlay work).



Important Sites of the Indus Valley Civilisation

Site	Location	Excavator	Findings
Harappa	Montgomery, Pakistan (Ravi river)	Daya Ram Sahni (1921)	Granary, workmen's quarters, vanity case, furnaces, Indus script pottery, limestone weight, copper bullock cart, coffin burials, horse remains (surface).
Mohenjodaro	Larkana District, Sind (Indus river)	R. D. Banerjee (1925)	Great Bath, granary, unicorn seals, Dancing Girl (bronze), Pashupati seal, bearded priest (steatite), woven cloth piece.
Sutkagendor	Baluchistan (Dasht river)	Auriel Stein (1929)	Trade point with Babylon, flint blades, stone vessels & arrowheads, shell beads, horse remains.
Chanhudaro	Mullan Sandha, Sind (Indus river)	N. G. Majumdar (1931)	Bangle factory, inkpot, bead-maker's shop, dog-cat footprint, cart with seated driver; no citadel.
Rangpur	Kathiawad, Gujarat (Madar river)	M. S. Vats, S. R. Rao (1931, 1957)	Post-Harappan site, rice husk, six pottery types.
Amri	Near Baluchistan (Indus river)	N. G. Majumdar (1935)	Antelope and rhinoceros evidence.
Kot Diji	Khairpur, Sindh, Pakistan (Indus river)	Fazal Ahmad, Ghurrey (1935–1955)	Ox figurine, steatite seal, terracotta beads.
Kalibangan	Rajasthan (Ghaggar river)	Amlanand Ghose (1953)	Granary, ploughed field, wooden drainage, earthquake evidence, wooden plough, camel bone, fire altars, earthen bricks.
Lothal	Gujarat (Bhogva river)	R. Rao (1955)	Dockyard, bead-making factory, fire altars, ivory weight balance, rice husk,

			terracotta horse.
Ropar	Punjab (Sutlej river)	Y. D. Sharma (1953)	Stone and mud house, dog burial with human, fivefold cultural sequence.
Alamgirpur	Meerut, UP (Hindon river)	Y. D. Sharma (1958)	Pottery, animal bones, plant fossils, copper tools.
Surkotada	Gujarat	J. P. Joshi (1964)	Horse bones, beads, stone-covered beads.
Rakhigarhi	Hisar, Haryana (Drishadvati river)	Suraj Bhan (1969)	Largest Harappan site, fire altars, cylindrical seal, terracotta wheel.
Banawali	Fatehabad, Haryana	R. S. Bisht (1974)	Radial streets (unique), toy plough, largest barley grain count, street remains, drains, oval settlement.
Dholavira	Rann of Kutchh, Gujarat	R. S. Bisht (1990)	Only site with 3 divisions, giant water reservoir, water harnessing system, dams, Indus script signboard.
Balakot	Baluchistan (Arabian Sea coast)	George F. Dales (1973–1979)	Early Harappan remains, bricks, bead workshop.
Desalpur/Gunthli	Nakhtrana Taluka, Gujarat	S. R. Rao, A. Ghosh (1963)	Copper and terracotta seals, brown pottery.

Decline of the Indus Valley Civilisation

Timeframe of Decline

- The decline began around **1900 BCE**; by **1800 BCE**, most mature Harappan sites were **abandoned**.
- Transition to **Late Harappan Phase** marked by ruralisation and migration to **Gujarat, Haryana, and Western Uttar Pradesh**.

Key Features of Decline

- **Disappearance** of hallmark elements:
 - **Seals, script, standardized weights, specialised beads.**
 - **Long-distance trade**, urban planning, and **craft specialisation** vanished.

- Shift to **regional cultures** with simpler tools and pottery.

Theories of Decline

Cause	Key Proponents	Details / Evidence
1. Aryan Invasion	Mortimer Wheeler, Gordon Childe, Stuart Piggott	Rigveda mentions destruction of forts ; skeletons at Mohenjodaro suggest conflict.
		Aryans had superior iron weapons and horse-drawn chariots .
2. Climate Change	Aurel Stein, A.N. Ghosh	Sudden changes in monsoon patterns ; growing aridity in northwest India.
3. River Shifting/Drying	H.T. Lambrick, Raikes, D.P. Agrawal & Sood	Sarasvati/Ghaggar-Hakra system possibly dried up; key water source disappeared.
4. Flooding	Marshall, S.R. Rao, Mackay	Repeated inundation of Mohenjodaro (e.g., presence of silt deposits).
5. Earthquakes & Tectonics	Marshall & Raikes	Tectonic activity may have caused submergence or river course change (e.g. Dholavira).
6. Epidemic Disease	K.A.R. Kennedy	Evidence of mass deaths in close quarters suggests epidemic outbreak.
7. Ecological Imbalance	Walter Fairservis	Deforestation, overexploitation of resources, soil depletion led to collapse.
8. Natural Disasters (General)	Multiple Scholars	Possibly a combination of floods, drought, and earthquakes.

Interpretation by Modern Archaeologists

- Reject the **sudden collapse theory**.
- Argue for a **gradual decline** involving **de-urbanisation**, not a violent end.
- Transition into **Post-Urban Chalcolithic Cultures** in peripheral zones.

Post-Urban Phase of Harappan Culture (Late Harappan Phase)

Time Period: c. 1900 BCE – 1300 BCE

Also known as: Late Harappan Phase or Sub-Indus Culture

General Characteristics

- Marked decline of urbanism after the Mature Harappan phase.
- Transition from urban cities to rural villages.
- Decline but not complete disappearance of urban elements like seals, crafts, and trade.
- Stylistic diversity replaced earlier homogeneity.

Material Culture

- Chalcolithic nature – usage of both stone and copper tools.
- Decline in craftsmanship – lack of standardized weights and intricate artefacts.
- Pottery:
 - Mature Harappan pottery replaced by Painted Grey Ware (PGW).
 - Thicker, less bright pots, sturdy shapes.
 - Loss of typical forms like perforated jars and S-shaped jars.
- No known length-measuring objects in this phase.

Economic Life

- Economy centred on agriculture, stock-raising, hunting and fishing.
- Start of double cropping:
 - *Winter crops:* Wheat and Barley.
 - *Summer crops:* Rice, Millets, Sorghum.

Settlement Patterns

- Decline of major cities; smaller rural settlements became dominant.
- Surviving urban centres include Kudwala (Cholistan), Bet Dwarka (Gujarat), and Daimabad.
- Expansion of sites in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Eastern India.

Cultural & Demographic Changes

- Absence of writing system.
- No human figurines found in Late Harappan sites.
- Signs of slow infiltration of new groups, inferred from exotic pottery and tools.

Trade & External Contacts

- Collapse of long-distance trade:
 - Disappearance of materials like lapis lazuli, carnelian, copper, bronze.
 - Trade with West Asia ceased.

Important Late Harappan Sites

Site	Region
Prabhas Patan	Gujarat (Somnath)
Rangpur	Gujarat
Manda	Jammu
Swat Valley	North-West
Sanghol	Punjab
Daulatpur	Haryana
Alamgirpur, Hulas	Western U.P.

Contributions of the Harappan Civilisation

Urban Planning

- Introduction of grid-pattern city layout.
- Advanced underground covered drainage system – not matched by contemporary civilisations.

Science & Technology

- Developed first accurate standardised weights and measures.
- Introduced multi-cropping system and irrigation techniques.

Art and Craft

- Produced sculptures, seals, jewellery using terracotta, metal, and stone.
- Pottery and bead-making showed refined craftsmanship.

Trade and Economy

- Extensive maritime and overland trade network:
 - Trade with regions like Iraq, Iran, Kuwait, Syria, and Central Asia.
- Exported goods like beads, pottery, metals, and textiles.

Religion and Culture

- Practised burial of the dead.

- Worship of:
 - Shiva (Pashupati image on seals).
 - Mother Goddess.
 - Phallus (linga), pipal tree, humped bull.
- Religious bathing practices possibly precursors to Vedic and Hindu rituals.

Continuity with Later Traditions

- Several Harappan cultural traits continued into later Indian traditions:
 - Worship patterns (Shiva, Goddess).
 - Ritualistic bathing.
 - Agricultural methods.

Indus Valley Civilisation and Culture PYQ's

1. Eastern boundary of the Harappa culture is indicated by which of the following?

- (a) Manda
- (b) Rakhigarhi
- (c) Alamgirpur
- (d) Harappa

UPPCS (Pre) 2023

2. Match List-I with List-II in connection with the commercial items imported by the "Indus Valley Civilization."

List-I (Metal)	List-II (Source)
A. Lapis Lazuli	I. Khetri
B. Jade	II. Afghanistan
C. Copper	III. Kolar
D. Gold	IV. Pamir

Manipur PSC (Pre) 2023

Select the correct answer:

- (a) (A)-(i), (B)-(ii), (C)-(iii), (D)-(iv)
- (b) (A)-(iii), (B)-(i), (C)-(ii), (D)-(iv)
- (c) (A)-(ii), (B)-(iv), (C)-(i), (D)-(iii)
- (d) (A)-(ii), (B)-(iv), (C)-(i), (D)-(iii)

3. From which of the following Harappan Civilization sites, we find evidences of water conservation?

- (a) Kalibanga
- (b) Mohenjo-daro
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Dholavira

UPPSC (J) 2023

4. Match List - I with List-II and select the correct answer using the code given below the lists:

List-I (Harappan Site)	List-II (Crop)
A. Chanhudaro	1. Sesame
B. Harappa	2. Kodo
C. Kuntasi	3. Rice
D. Hulas	4. Mustard

UPPSC (J) 2023

Codes:

- (a) 4 1 2 3
- (b) 3 2 4 1
- (c) 1 2 3 4
- (d) 2 4 1 3

5. Scholars suggested that the Great Bath in Mohenjodaro was meant for:

- (a) Ritual bath
- (b) Family bath
- (c) Diving competition
- (d) Steam bath

Mizoram PSC (Pre) 2023

6. During the Indus Valley Civilization, the beads manufacturing industry was located at

- (a) Dholavira
- (b) Suktagendor
- (c) Chanhudaro
- (d) Daimabad

APPSC (Pre) 2023

7. Which of the following animals was not known to the people of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) Bull
- (b) Horse
- (c) Elephant
- (d) None of the above

69th BPSC (Pre) 2023

8. Who among the following discovered 'Surkotda', a site of Harappan culture?

- (a) B.B. Lal
- (b) S.R. Rao
- (c) Y.D. Sharma
- (d) Jagatpati Joshi

RPSC (Pre) 2023

9. With reference to the prevalence of agricultural technologies in the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

- A. The terracotta models of the plough have been found at the site of Banawali.
- B. The evidence of the ploughed field was found at Kalibangan.
- C. Traces of canals for irrigation have been found at the site of Shortughai in Afghanistan.

Choose the correct answer:

JKPSC (Pre) 2023

- (a) B and C only
- (b) B only
- (c) A and B only
- (d) A, B and C

10. Rakhigarhi, which was seen in the news recently, is a Harappan site located in which State?

Tripura PSC (Pre) 2022

- (a) Haryana
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Punjab

11. Which one of the following statement(s) is not correct about the Indus Valley People?

- (i) The Indus Valley People worshipped trees and animals
- (ii) The principal deity of Indus Valley People was Krishna
- (iii) The Indus Valley People worshipped fire and water
- (iv) The principal deity of Indus Valley People was mother goddess

TNPSC (Pre) 2022

- (a) (i) and (iii) only
- (b) (ii) only
- (c) (i) and (ii) only
- (d) (ii) and (iii) only

12. Dadheri is a later Harappan site of:

UPPCS (Mains) Jst Paper G. S. 2014

- (a) Jammu
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Uttar Pradesh

13. Match List-I and List-II and select the correct answer:

List-I (Ancient Sites)	List-II (Archaeological Finding)
A. Lothal	1. Ploughed Field
B. Kalibanga	2. Dockyard
C. Dholavira	3. The Dancing Girl
D. Mohenjodaro	4. An inscription comprising ten large size signs of the Harappan scripts

Codes:

- (a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3
- (b) A-1, B-2, C-3, D-4
- (c) A-4, B-3, C-1, D-2
- (d) A-3, B-2, C-4, D-1

J & K PSC Pre 2022

14. The shape of which tree is found in the seals from the Indus Civilization?

- (a) Mango
- (b) Peepal
- (c) Parijat
- (d) Sal

MPPSC Exam 2022

15. From which archaeological site of Indus Valley Civilization, the figures or models of boat were found?

- (a) Dhaulabira and Bhagatrav
- (b) Harappa and Kotdiji
- (c) Mohenjodaro and Lothal
- (d) Kalibangan and Ropar

UPPSC (Pre) 2022

16. Which one of the following Harappan sites is in Gujarat?

- (a) Lothal
- (b) Dabarkot
- (c) Kalibangan
- (d) Rakhigarhi

67th BPSC Pre-2022

17. Which one of the following is the port city of Harappa?

- (a) Sikandarabad
- (b) Lothal
- (c) Mahasthangarh
- (d) Negapatnam

BPSC (Pre) 2011

18. Measuring scale of elephant tusk in Harappan context is found in:

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Lothal
- (c) Mohenjodaro
- (d) Banawali

UP RO/ARO Pre 2021

19. The port city of Indus Valley Civilization was:

- (a) Harappa
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Mohenjodaro

UPPCS (Mains) G.S. 2016, UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1999

20. Which place of Indus Valley Civilization is located in India?

- (a) Harappa
- (b) Mohenjodaro
- (c) Lothal
- (d) None of the above

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1995

21. To which of the following river the port area of Lothal was connected through a canal?

- (a) Bharavi
- (b) Bhogava
- (c) Chitra
- (d) Chakra

UPPCS (Mains) G.S. 1st 2012

22. Lothal, a Harappan site is situated in:

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Punjab
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Sindh

Uttarakhand PCS (Pre) 2009-10

23. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Indus Valley Civilization?

- (I) Mohenjodaro is on the right bank of the Indus River in Larkana District of Sindh.
- (II) Lothal is situated on the Sabarmati River at the head of the Gulf of Cambay on the west coast of India.
- (III) Kalibangan lies in North-West of Delhi along the left bank of the now-dry Ghaggar.
- (IV) Harappa, usually identified with Hariyupiya of the Rigveda, is situated on an old bed of the Beas River.

- (a) I, II, III and IV
- (b) II, III and IV only
- (c) I, II and III only
- (d) I and IV only

GUJARAT PSC Pre-Paper-I

24. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Indus Valley Civilization?

- I. Fire-altars were a special feature of the Vedic Age which were completely absent in the Indus Valley Civilization.
- II. Gujarat has a large number of the Indus Valley Civilization sites whereas Rajasthan has comparatively fewer Harappan sites.
- III. Indus Valley Civilization was primarily an urban civilization whereas Kunal has yielded evidence of rural setup.

Options:

- (a) I and II only
- (b) II and III only
- (c) I and III only
- (d) I, II and III

GUJARAT PSC Pre-Paper-I

25. The Bronze figures that were produced in the Harappan Civilization were made through which process known as:

- (a) Lost Wax Process
- (b) Hot Wax Process
- (c) Bronze Wax Process
- (d) Black and Red Wax Process

GUJARAT PSC Pre-Paper-I

26. Which of the following is/are seen as seated yogi on the Harappan seal?

- (I) Buddha

- (II) Pashupati
(III) Varuna

GUJARAT PSC CIVIL PRE-PAPER-I

- (a) Only I
(b) Only II and III
(c) Only II
(d) Only I and II

27. Which animal is NOT engraved on the famous seal of 'Pashupati Shiva' found from Mohenjodaro?

- (a) Elephant
(b) Buffalo
(c) Bull
(d) Tiger

UPPSC ACF Mains Paper I 2021

28. Kalibangan was situated on the dried bank of the river:

- (a) Tapi
(b) Ghaggar
(c) Narmada
(d) Chenab

GUJARAT PSC CIVIL PRE-PAPER-I

29. The bust of bearded man which was found in Mohenjo-Daro is made of:

- (a) Terracotta
(b) Sandstone
(c) Steatite
(d) Redstone

GUJARAT PSC CIVIL PRE-PAPER-I

30. Which of the following statements about the Indus Valley Civilization is/are correct?

- (I) Sites of the Indus Valley Civilization are not confined to the valley of the Indus River.
(II) Typical pottery of the Indus Valley Civilization is red, as designs painted on it in black.

- (a) I only
(b) II only
(c) Both (I) and (II)
(d) Neither (I) nor (II)

GUJARAT PSC CIVIL PRE-PAPER-I

31. What is name of the material with which the Harappan Seal is made of?

- (a) Copper
(b) Bronze
(c) Steatite
(d) Iron

J & K PSC 2021 Paper-I

32. Most of the Harappan Civilization's seals are made of:

- (a) Chert
(b) Steatite

UP PSC ACF/RFO (Mains) 2020 Paper I

- (c) Copper
- (d) Iron

33. Which one of the following sites contains the evidence of cemetery 'H' culture?

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Mohenjo-Daro
- (c) Harappa
- (d) Chanhudaro

Arunachal PSC (GS)

34. According to Mortimer Wheeler and Stuart Piggott, the date of Indus Civilization was:

- (a) 2350 B.C.–1700 B.C.
- (b) 2500 B.C.–1500 B.C.
- (c) 2500 B.C.–1750 B.C.
- (d) 2800 B.C.–2500 B.C.

UK RO/ARO (Pre.) 2021

35. In which State of India is the Harappan Civilization site Mandi situated?

- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Uttar Pradesh

UPPCS (Pre.) 2021

36. Which one of the following ancient towns is well-known for its elaborate system of water harvesting and management by building a series of dams and channelizing water into connected reservoirs?

- (a) Dholavira
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Rakhigarhi
- (d) Ropar

UPSC (IAS) 2021

37. I. From the inscriptions on the seals, pottery and other objects, it is clear that the Indus Valley people did not know reading and writing.

II. The use of weights and measures proves that the Indus Valley people knew arithmetic.

- (a) I is correct but II is incorrect
- (b) I and II are correct
- (c) I is incorrect but II is correct
- (d) I and II are incorrect

Mizoram PCS Pre 2015 Paper-I

38. Which of the following statements are correct?

1. Harappa site was excavated in the year 1921.
2. At present, Harappa is in Pakistan.
3. Harappa was at the bank of River Beas. It was excavated by R.D. Banerji.
4. Bronze chariot was found at Harappa.

- (a) Only 1 and 2
- (b) Only 1, 2 and 4
- (c) Only 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the above

MPPSC (Pre-Exam) 2019

39. Which one of the following is not a Harappan site?

- (a) Chanhudaro
- (b) Kot Diji
- (c) Sohgauna
- (d) Desalpar

IAS (Pre) 2019

40. Which of the following centres related to Indus Valley are situated in Uttar Pradesh?

- I. Kalibangan
- II. Lothal
- III. Alamgirpur
- IV. Hulas

UPPCS (Pre) 2018

Codes:

- (a) I, II, III, IV
- (b) I, II
- (c) III, IV
- (d) II, IV

41. Which of the following statements is/are correct about Indus Valley civilization?

- (1) The civilization was first identified in 1921 at Harappa and then in 1922 at Mohenjo-Daro
- (2) The outstanding magnitude of both the cities suggests political centralization, either in two large states or in a single empire with alternative capitals.
- (3) The southern region of the civilization, on the Kathiawar Peninsula and beyond, appears to be of later origin than the major Indus sites.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1 and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

Gujarat PSC Pre-2019 Paper-I

42. Which of the following statements are correct regarding excavated sites in Gujarat? Site on the River/Or Else:

- 1. Lothal – Saraswati
- 2. Rojdi – Bhadar
- 3. Dholavira – In the Desert of Kutch
- 4. Malwan – Tapi

Gujarat PSC Pre-2019 Paper-I

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2, 3 and 4 only

43. According to the report of IIT, Kharagpur study group, continuous low rainfall for how many years was the cause of fall of the Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) 600 years
- (b) 700 years
- (c) 800 years
- (d) 900 years

64th BPSC (Pre) 2018-19

44. A Bronze statue of 'a dancing girl' was found at:

- (a) Bijnor
- (b) Dholavira
- (c) Mohenjo-Daro
- (d) Harappa

NAGALAND NCS PRELIMS, 2018

45. Which is the most significant feature of Indus Valley civilization?

- (a) Buildings made of bricks
- (b) First real arch
- (c) Worship place
- (d) Art and architecture

BPSC (Pre) G.S. 2017-18

46. Which of these sites of Indus Valley Civilization is located in present day Pakistan?

- (a) Lothal
- (b) Dholavira
- (c) Mohenjo-Daro
- (d) Kalibangan

Nagaland NPSC (Pre-2017)

47. Which site of Indus Valley Civilization is located in Pakistan now?

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Harappa
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Alamgirpur

UPPCS (Pre) spl. G.S. 2004

48. The Harappan people had their maritime contact with

- (a) Samarkand
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) Mesopotamia
- (d) Malaya

TPPSC Group-II Pre-2016 Paper-I

49. Name the site where Harappan ploughed field has been found:

- (a) Harappa
- (b) Banawali
- (c) Rakhigarhi
- (d) Kalibangan

Himachal PCS (Pre) 2014

50. In which of the following Harappan cities, furrows of ploughed fields have been found?

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Dholavira

66th BPSC 2020(pre)

- (c) Mohenjo-Daro
- (d) Lothal

51. A ploughed Field was discovered at

- (a) Mohenjodaro
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Harappa
- (d) Lothal

UPPCS (Mains) G.S.1st 2005

52. Which Indus Valley Civilization site has shown archaeological evidence of rice cultivation?

- (a) Chanhudaro
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Dholavira
- (d) Rangpur

Haryana PSC (Pre) 2017

53. Rangpur, which was contemporary to Harappan Civilization is located in

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Eastern Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Sind (Pakistan)
- (d) Gujarat

RAS/RTS (Pre G.S. 1998)

54. Which of the following characterizes/characterize the people of Indus Civilization?

IAS (Pre) G.S. 1st paper 2013

1. They possessed great palaces and temples.
2. They worshipped both male and female deities.
3. They employed horse chariots in warfare.

Select the correct statement/statements using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3
- (d) None of the statements given above is correct

55. Regarding the Indus Valley Civilization, consider the following statements:

1. It was predominantly a secular civilization and the religious element, though present, did not dominate the scene.
2. During this period, cotton was used for manufacturing textiles in India.

Which of the statement/statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

IAS (Pre) G.S.1st 2012

56. Which of the following is represented by the Harappan Civilization?

- (a) Second urbanization

- (b) Third urbanization
- (c) First urbanization
- (d) Fourth urbanization

Himachal PSC (Pre) 2013

57. Which one of the following is not found in Indus Valley Civilization?

- (a) lion
- (b) Horse
- (c) Cow
- (d) Elephants

IAS (Pre) G.S. 2010-11

58. Indus civilization is associated with:

- (a) Pre historic age
- (b) Proto historic age
- (c) Historic
- (d) Post historic age

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1996 | BPSC (Pre) 1994

59. The basic source to know about Indus Valley Civilization is:

- (a) Seals
- (b) Pots, Ornaments, Weapons, Tools
- (c) Remains of the towns
- (d) Script

RAS/RTS (Pre) G.S. 1996

60. Which of the following statements about Indus Valley Civilization is false?

- (a) There was proper drainage system in the towns
- (b) Trade & Commerce was progressive
- (c) Worship of mother Goddess
- (d) People were aware about iron

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1992

61. Indus Valley Civilization was different from Vedic civilization because:

- (a) It had the facilities of developed urban life style
- (b) It had pictographic script
- (c) They were not aware of iron
- (d) All of the above

UPPCS (Main) Spl. G.S. 2004

62. Which of the following site is not associated with Indus valley civilization?

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Ropar
- (c) Patliputra
- (d) Lothal

MPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1st 2013

63. Indus valley civilization is known for:

1. Its town planning
2. Mohenjo-daro and Harappa
3. Its agriculture activities
4. Its industries

Uttarakhand UDA (Pre) 2003

Choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

- (a) 1 & 2

- (b) 1, 2 & 3
- (c) 2, 3 & 4
- (d) Above all

64. The aspect of which of the following animals is not found on the seals of Harappan civilization?

- (a) Ox
- (b) Elephant
- (c) Horse
- (d) Sheep

UPPCS (Mains) spl. G.S. 2004

65. The figurines of which animal found on seals proves the trade relation between Indus and Mesopotamian civilization?

- (a) Horse
- (b) Ass
- (c) Ox
- (d) Elephant

RAS/RTS (Pre) G.S.1994-95

66. The people of Indus Valley believed in:

- (a) Soul and Brahma
- (b) Rituals
- (c) Sacrificial act
- (d) Mother Goddess

RAS/RTS (Pre) G.S. 1993

67. Two statements are given below:

Assertion (A): The towns of Mohenjodaro and Harappa are extinct now.

Reason (R): They appeared during excavation.

Which of the followings is true in the above context?

- (a) A & R both are true and R is correct explanation of A.
- (b) A & R both are true but R is not a correct explanation of A.
- (c) A is true but R is false.
- (d) A is false but R is true.

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2009

68. The remains of 'Great bath' has been found from which site of Indus civilization?

- (a) Mohenjo-daro
- (b) Harappa
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Kalibangan

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1992

69. The structure known as the 'Great Bath' is associated with which of the ancient civilizations?

- (a) Greek civilization
- (b) Egyptian civilization
- (c) Roman civilization
- (d) Indus Valley Civilization

Arunachal PSC (GS) 2021

70. The remains of wells inside the houses is found from which site of matured Indus civilization?

- (a) Harappa
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Mohenjodaro

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2004

71. From which one of the following places of Indus valley civilization the famous Ox seal has been found?

- (a) Harappa
- (b) Mohenjo-daro
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Surkotada

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2004

72. Mohenjo-daro is located at which of the following places?

- (a) State of Gujarat in India
- (b) State of Punjab in India
- (c) Sindh Province of Pakistan
- (d) Afghanistan

MPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1st 2012

73. The figurine of a horned deity inscribed on terracotta is found from:

- (a) Banawali
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Surkotada

UP Lower (Pre) G.S. 2002

74. In context to Harappan civilization, which of the following rock cut architecture has been found from:

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Dholavira
- (c) Kotdiji
- (d) Amri

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2006

75. Which of the following town of Harappan civilization was divided in to three parts?

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Lothal
- (c) Chanhudaro
- (d) Dholavira

UP RO/ARO (Mains) G.S. 1st 2010

76. The largest Harappan site in India is:

- (a) Alamgirpur
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Rakhigarhi

Jharkhand PSC (Pre) G.S. 1st 2016

77. Which of the following pair is related to the sites of Harappan civilization and their location is not correctly matched?

- (a) Alamgirpur – Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Banawali – Haryana

UP UDA/LDA (Pre) 2006

- (c) Daimabad – Maharashtra
- (d) Rakhigarhi – Rajasthan

78. Copper chariot during Harappan period was discovered from:

- (a) Kunal
- (b) Rakhigarhi
- (c) Daimabad
- (d) Banawali

Chhattisgarh PCS (Pre) G.S. 1st 2012

79. Which of the followings pair is not correctly matched in context to the origin of Harappan civilization?

RAS/RTS PCS (Pre) G.S. 2015

- (a) E J H Mackay – Migration of people from Sumer
- (b) Mortimer Wheeler – Immigration of the idea of civilization from West Asia
- (c) Amalnandana Ghosh – Origin of Harappan civilization is a result of maturity of early Harappan civilization
- (d) M Rafiq Mughal – Harappan civilization emerged as an effect of Mesopotamian civilization

80. Excavation work in Chanhudaro was directed by:

- (a) John Marshall
- (b) E J H Mackay
- (c) R E M Wheeler
- (d) Aurel Stein

UP Lower (Pre) 2015

81. Who had used the word Indus Civilization at first?

- (a) Sir John Marshall
- (b) Mortimer Wheeler
- (c) Ernest Mackay
- (d) M.S. Vats

UP UDA/LDA Spl. 2006

82. Who among the followings was not associated with excavation of Harappa & Mohenjodaro?

- (a) R.D. Banerji
- (b) K.N. Dixit
- (c) M.S. Vats
- (d) V.A. Smith

BPSC (Pre) 2015

83. Name of two Indians who were associated with the exploration of Indus valley civilization are:

Chhattisgarh PCS (Pre) G.S. 2003

- (a) Rakhal Das Banerji & Dayaram Sahini
- (b) John Marshall & Ishwari Prasad
- (c) Ashtridol Lal Srivastava and Ranganath Rao
- (d) Madhho Swarup Vats and V.B. Rao

84. In-charge of archaeological excavation of Mohenjo-daro and Harappa was:

- (a) Lord Macaulay
- (b) Sir John Marshall
- (c) Clive
- (d) Colonel Todd

RAS/RTS (Pre) G.S. 1997-98

85. The first archaeologist who excavated Harappa, but could not recognize its significance, was:

- (a) A Cunningham
- (b) Sir John Marshall
- (c) Mortimer Wheeler
- (d) George F. Dales

UPPCS (Mains) G.S. 2006

86. Match List-I (Ancient site) with List-II (Archaeological findings):

List-I:

- A. Lothal
- B. Kalibangan
- C. Dholavira
- D. Banawali

IAS (Pre) G.S. 2002

List-II:

- 1. Ploughed field
- 2. Dockyard
- 3. Terracotta replica of a plough
- 4. An inscription comprising ten large sized signs of the Harappan script

Codes:

- (a) 1 2 3 4
- (b) 2 1 4 3
- (c) 1 2 4 3
- (d) 2 1 3 4

87. Match the list-I with list-II and choose the correct answer from the codes given below:

List-I (Sites of Harappan civilization):

- (a) Harappa
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Lothal
- (d) Ropar

UP UDA/LDA (M) 2010

List-II (Location of Rivers):

- 1. Bhogava
- 2. Ghaghar
- 3. Ravi
- 4. Sutlej

Codes:

- (a) 3 2 1 4
- (b) 2 1 3 4
- (c) 1 2 4 3
- (d) 2 1 3 4

88. List-I (Harappan site):

- A. Manda
- B. Daimabad
- C. Kalibangan
- D. Rakhigarhi

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2012

List-II (Location):

- 1. Rajasthan
- 2. Haryana
- 3. Jammu Kashmir
- 4. Maharashtra

Codes:

- (a) 1 2 3 4
- (b) 2 3 4 1
- (c) 3 4 1 2
- (d) 4 1 2 3

89. Which one of the following is not correctly matched?

- (a) Harappa – Daya Ram Sahni
- (b) Lothal – S. R. Rao
- (c) Surkotda – J.P. Joshi
- (d) Dholavira – R.K. Thapar

UPPCS (Mains) G.S. 2006

90. Match list-I with list-II and select the correct answer from the codes given below:

List-I:

- A. Harappa
- B. Lothal
- C. Kalibangan
- D. Mohenjo-daro

UPPCS (Main) G.S. H 2017

List-II:

- 1. Burial R-37
- 2. Dockyard
- 3. Figurine of Dancer
- 4. Ploughed field

Codes:

- (a) 1 2 3 4
- (b) 2 1 3 4
- (c) 3 1 4 2
- (d) 1 2 4 3

91. Which of the following is not correctly matched?

- (a) Alamgirpur – Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Lothal – Gujarat

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1996

- (c) Kalibangan – Haryana
- (d) Ropar – Punjab

92. Which of the following were sites located in the valley of Ghaggar and its tributaries?

- (a) Alamgirpur
- (b) Lothal
- (c) Mohenjodaro
- (d) Banawali

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2006

93. Which one of the following animals is not represented on the seals and terracotta art of Harappan culture?

- (a) Cow
- (b) Tiger
- (c) Rhinoceros
- (d) Elephant

IAS (Pre) G.S. 2001

94. Evidence of bead making factories were found from which of the following archaeological sites?

- 1. Chanhudaro
- 2. Mohenjodaro
- 3. Kot-Diji
- 4. Lothal

UPPCS AC (Pre) 2017

Select the correct answer from the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 2 and 4
- (c) 1 and 4
- (d) 2 and 3

95. The earliest evidence of silver in India is found in the:

- (a) Harappan culture
- (b) Chalcolithic cultures of Western India
- (c) Vedic texts
- (d) Silver punch marked coins

IAS (Pre) G.S. 1994

96. The people of Indus valley worshipped:

- (a) Pashupati
- (b) Indra and Varun
- (c) Brahma
- (d) Vishnu

Uttarakhand PCS (Mains) 2006

97. The maximum Indus sites were located in:

- (a) Indus valley
- (b) Ganga valley
- (c) Saraswati valley
- (d) Narmada valley

UP UDA/LDA Sol. 2006

98. Which of the following was not known to Harappan people?

- (a) Construction of wells
- (b) Construction of pillars
- (c) Construction of drainage system
- (d) Construction of Arches

MPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2009

99. Consider the following statements:

- I. Chanhudaro was the major Indus site.
- II. Horse remains are found from Surkotda.
- III. Harappan people were not aware about iron.

MPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2008

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- (a) 1 & 2
- (b) 1 & 3
- (c) 2 & 3
- (d) 1, 2 & 3

100. Which metal is not used for making tools by Harappans?

- (a) Copper
- (b) Gold
- (c) Silver
- (d) Iron

CHHATTISGARH PSC (PRE) G.S. 2010-11

101. Harappa is associated with which of the following civilizations?

- (a) Sumerian Civilization
- (b) Egyptian Civilization
- (c) Vedic Culture
- (d) Mesopotamian Civilization

MPPSC (Pre) G.S. 1990

102. Indus valley civilization was situated in which of the river systems?

- 1. Indus
- 2. Narmada
- 3. Jhelum
- 4. Sutlej

MPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2011

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 3 & 4
- (b) 1 & 2
- (c) 2 & 4
- (d) 1, 2 & 4

103. Which Harappan site is located in Haryana?

- (a) Lothal
- (b) Kalibangan
- (c) Banawali
- (d) Mohenjodaro

MPPCS (Pre) G.S. 1999

104. The lord worshipped in Indus Valley Civilization was:

- (a) Indra
- (b) Varuna
- (c) Shiva
- (d) Marut

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2004

105. Which site of Harappan civilization is located in Haryana?

- (a) Kalibangan
- (b) Ropar
- (c) Dholavira
- (d) Banawali

UPPSC Asst. Forest Conservator exam 2013

106. From which of the following Harappan site a terracotta replica of plough is found?

- (a) Dholavira
- (b) Banawali
- (c) Kalibangan
- (d) Lothal
- (e) None of the above / More than one of the above

BPSC (Pre) G.S. 2017

107. Cotton cultivation for the clothings was started at first in:

- (a) Egypt
- (b) Mesopotamia
- (c) Central America
- (d) India

UPPCS (Pre) G.S. 2006

108. Based on findings of excavation of Harappan Civilization, what are not true?

- (i) For all kinds of constructions, same size of bricks were used.
- (ii) Mostly all the houses were single storey.
- (iii) Main roads were on average ten meters in width.

Choose the correct answer:

- (a) (i) and (ii)
- (b) (ii) and (iii)
- (c) (i) and (iii)
- (d) (i), (ii) and (iii)

CGPSC Pre 2022

109. Match List-I with List-II:

List-I	List-II
A. Dilmun	1. Sindh Area
B. Makan	2. Mesopotamian Port
C. Meluha	3. Bahrain Island
D. Ur	4. Makran coast(Balochistan)

JPSC (Pre) 2024

Codes:

- (a) A-i, B-ii, C-iv, D-i
- (b) A-iv, B-i, C-iii, D-ii

- (c) A-ii, B-iii, C-i, D-iv
(d) A-iii, B-iv, C-i, D-ii

110. At which of the following Indus Valley sites was a terracotta replica relating to exploration of a plough discovered?

- (a) Dholavira
(b) Kalibangan
(c) Rakhigarhi
(d) Banawali

111. Consider the following statements on the late Harappan cultures:

- (i) The late Harappan cultures are primarily chalcolithic in nature, with the use of stone and copper etc.
(ii) They do not show metal objects requiring complicated costing.
(iii) The Chalcolithic people in the later Harappan phase lived in villages.
(iv) In the late Harappan phase at Bhagwanpura in Haryana, burnt bricks were not found.

Which of the above statement are correct?

- (a) I, II and III
(b) I and II
(c) II, III and IV
(d) I, II, III and IV

ANSWERS :

1. Answer: (c) Alamgirpur

(Harappa culture in order from West to East: Harappa, Manda, Rakhigarhi and Alamgirpur.)

2. Answer: (d)

- Lapis Lazuli – Afghanistan
- Jade – Pamir
- Copper – Khetri
- Gold – Kolar

3. Answer: (d) Dholavira

(Known for giant water reservoirs and harvesting system.)

4. (a) 4 1 2 3

5. Answer: (a) Ritual bath

Mohenjo-Daro is known for its Great Bath, generally meant for rituals.

6. Answer: (c) Chanhudaro

Known for bead-making industry, unfortified site.

7. Answer: (b) Horse

Evidence of horse is not found in Harappan sites.

8. Answer: (d) Jagatpati Joshi

Discovered in 1960 near Bhuj, Gujarat

9. (d) A, B and C

10. Answer: (a) Haryana

Located in Hisar district; largest Indus Valley site and one of the largest in the world.

11. Answer: (a) (ii) only

Krishna is not associated with Indus Valley religion; their principal deity was mother goddess.

12. Answer: (b) Punjab

Located in Ludhiana district; associated with Painted Grey Ware culture.

13. (a) A-2, B-1, C-4, D-3

14. Answer: (b) Peepal

Identified as the 'Tree of Wisdom'; seal from Mohenjodaro.

15. Answer: (c) Mohenjodaro and Lothal

Terracotta models and seals depict boats; best representation found in Lothal.

16. Answer: (a) Lothal

Excavated by S.R. Rao; known for its dockyard.

17. Answer: (b) Lothal

Famous for dockyard; considered the port city of Harappa.

18. Answer: (b) Lothal

Measuring scale made of elephant tusk found; 13 inches long.

19.(c) Lothal

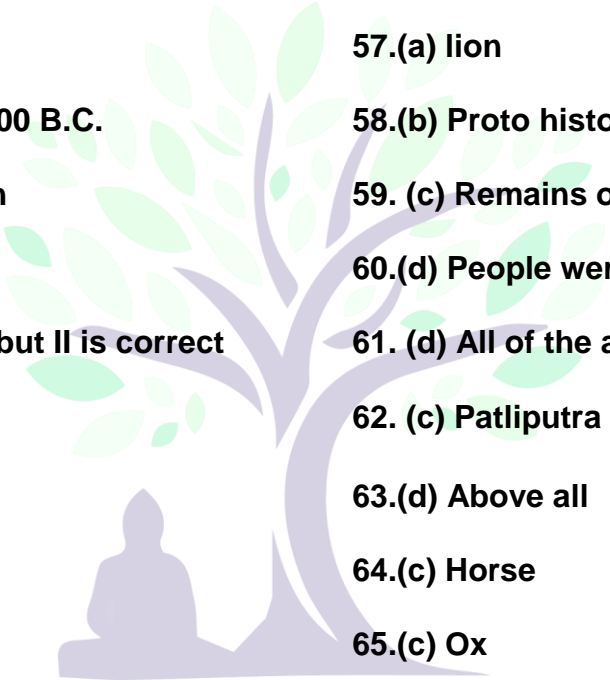
20.(c) Lothal

21.(b) Bhogava

22.(a) Gujarat

23.(c) I, II and III only

24. (b) II and III only

- 
- 25.(a) Lost Wax Process
26. (c) Only II
- 27.(c) Bull
- 28.(b) Ghaggar
29. (c) Steatite
- 30.(c) Both (I) and (II)
- 31.(c) Steatite
- 32.(b) Steatite
- 33.(c) Harappa
- 34.(b) 2500 B.C.–1500 B.C.
- 35.(d) Uttar Pradesh
- 36.(a) Dholavira
- 37.(c) I is incorrect but II is correct
- 38.(a) Only 1 and 2
- 39.(c) Sohgaura
- 40.(c) III, IV
- 41.(d) 1, 2 and 3
- 42.(c) 2, 3 and 4 only
- 43.(d) 900 years
- 44.(c) Mohenjo-Daro
- 45.(a) Buildings made of bricks
- 46.(c) Mohenjodaro
- 47.(b) Harappa
- 48.(c) Mesopotamia
49. (d) Kalibangan
- 50.(a) Kalibangan
- 51.(b) Kalibangan
- 52.(d) Rangpur
- 53.(d) Gujarat
- 54.(b) 2 only
- 55.(c) Both 1 and 2
- 56.(c) First urbanization
- 57.(a) lion
- 58.(b) Proto historic age
59. (c) Remains of the towns
- 60.(d) People were aware about iron
61. (d) All of the above
62. (c) Patliputra
- 63.(d) Above all
- 64.(c) Horse
- 65.(c) Ox
- 66.(d) Mother Goddess
- 67.(b) A & R both are true but R is not a correct explanation of A
- 68.(a) Mohenjo-daro
- 69.(d) Indus Valley Civilization
- 70.(d) Mohenjodaro
71. (b) Mohenjo-daro

72.(c) Sindh Province of Pakistan

73.(c) Lothal

74.(b) Dholavira

75.(d) Dholavira

76.(d) Rakhigarhi

77.(d) Rakhigarhi – Rajasthan

78.(c) Daimabad

79.(d) M Rafiq Mughal

80.(b) E J H Mackay

81.(a) Sir John Marshall

82.(d) V.A. Smith

83.(a) Rakhal Das Banerji &
Dayaram Sahini

84.(b) Sir John Marshall

85.(a) A Cunningham

86.(b) 2 1 4 3

87.(a) 3 2 1 4

88.(c) 3 4 1 2

89.(d) Dholavira – R.K. Thapar

90.(d) 1 2 4 3

91. Answer: (c) Kalibangan is situated
in Hanumangarh district of
Rajasthan

92. Answer: (d) Banawali – located in
Hisar district of Haryana

93.(a) Cow

94.(c) 1 and 4

95.(a) Harappan culture

96.(a) Pashupati

97.(a) Indus valley

98.(d) Construction of Arches

99.(c) 2 & 3

100.(d) Iron

101.(b) Egyptian Civilization

102.(a) 1, 3 & 4

103.(c) Banawali

104.(c) Shiva

105.(d) Banawali

106.(b) Banawali

107.(d) India

108.(c) (i) and (iii)

109.(d) A-iii, B-iv, C-i, D-ii

110.(c) Rakhigarhi

111.(a) I, II and III

