

Topics -

Indus valley Civilization, Origin, Socio
Economic Political Aspect, Cities & Its Decline.

Origin of Indus valley Civilisation
Independent Theory

1. The study negate the theory of Harappans having Iranian or Mesopotamian farmers ancestry.

At the time of IVC
Mesopotamia
Egyptian Civilization
Chinese civilisation

As per the study the DNA does not contain any genome from Iranian or Mesopotamian farmers.

The finding also refuting the Hypothesis about mass migration that was claimed from Mesopotamia to Indus valley Civilisation.

The script of Mesopotamia has been deciphered but IVC script has not been deciphered. This also negates IVC origin from Mesopotamia.

Foreign Origin Theory

→ The label of trade and financial transaction between the two source strong relationship.

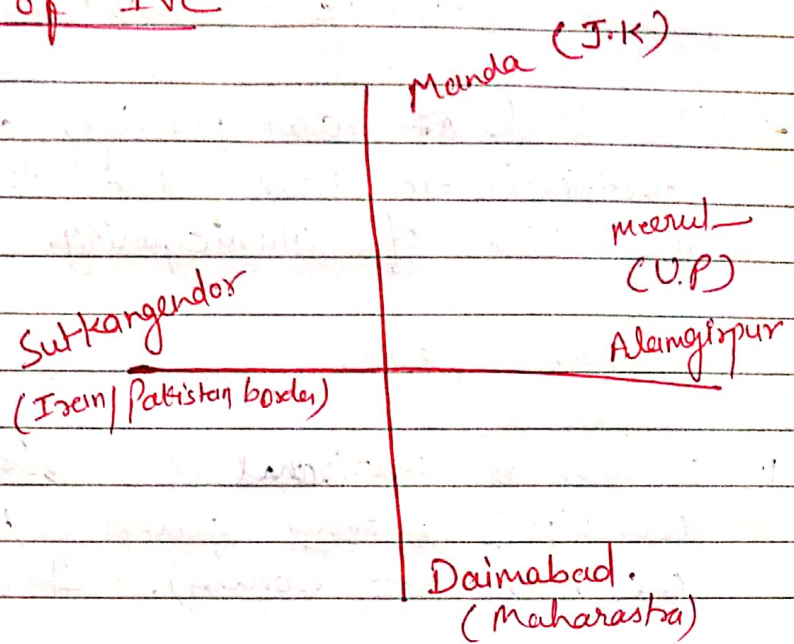
→ Throughout the history of 2000 year there is no evidence of conflict b/w them.

→ Both civilisation show elements of urbanisation.

→ The town planning, architecture and there no relationship with other civilisation shows that they were fulfilling needs of each others resources.

→ So origin of IVC is considered controversial.

Territorial Extent of IVC



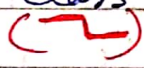
Political Aspect of IVC

1. There are element of centralisation. The kind of town planning, architecture, drainage system was similar throughout the civilization. It shows that there must be a central body of administration.
2. There are also some evidences of decentralisation. The presence of more than one big city like Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Dholavira it shows that there was no one place of centralisation and concentration of power. This shows that the political nature of this civilisation was federal in nature.
3. Probably the king belong to Vaishya community. (because this civilisation was highly commercial and trade based).
4. The prosperity of this civilisation and the strong trade within and outside, its peaceful nature

shows efficient 'Bureaucracy and Democracy.

→ The level of town planning, drainage system, fortification etc. shows that they must have a good kind of municipality.

Social Aspect

1. It was a matriarchal society. (They were worshiped mother goddess, the idol and image are more of women). It was a secular society.
2. They were peaceful society. (Lack of any big weapon).
3. They were a literate society. They were Boustrophedon. (Their writing in pictorial form).
4. The IVC was a class based society. Higher class were living at  higher place.

* Religious Aspect

Most prominent religious figures are unicorn; Pashupati / Protoshiva.

The mother goddess was the main female deity. The Protoshiva image is depicted on seals.

He is surrounded by four wild animals.

An elephant, Tiger, Buffalo and Rhino.

Apart from this skin of two deers can be seen beneath the seat of Deity.

The Pashupati wear number of bangles. There is a image of a lady in which plant is coming out of womb. and probably it is mother goddess or goddess of fertility.

There also some evidence of snake worship, Peepal tree, some evidences of magic & talisman, symbol of Swastika, great bath also had religious importance.

Economic

1. Their main profession was agriculture and trade.
2. The main crops were wheat and barley.
3. Their main sea port was Lothal.
4. Their main trading partner was Mesopotamia. (They were calling IVC Mehula).
5. I.V. people were the first to grow cotton.
6. I.V. people were having both veg and non-veg and milk products.
- Evidences of sweets.
7. The half burnt brick
8. They were importing Khetari in Rajasthan, Tin from Iran, Lapis Lazuli from Afghanistan, Haritmani from South India.
9. For transaction and trade they were using seals.
10. The kind of trades shows that IVC people were always surplus economy.

Science & Technology

Architecture → The town planning, building, drainage system. They were having very good knowledge of oceanography.

Note point

It is a kind of Trephination - a medical intervention in which a hole is made in the skull to treat ^{Do} migrans and mental disorder. (5)

- Lothal was a tidal port which gives idea that they were having very good understanding about movement of oceanography.
- They were having very good knowledge of geometry.
- five altars have been found here. which was following a particular ratio of proportion.
- They were having very good knowledge on metallurgy. most of its product was made of bronze. (This civilisation was a bronze age civilisation).
- They were having very good knowledge of weight and measurement.
- The Harappan system is also known for its decimal and multiplicative measurement.
- They were also having very good knowledge of medical science. They use herbs and drugs to treat diseases.
- They were practising Trephination. (found in Lothal).
- The kind of painting of boat found in this civilisation, they must have a boat making industry.

Entertainment

1. They were having knowledge of dancing.
A dancing girl also gave idea of music.
2. Evidences of toys such as cart, bull, elephant, monkey etc.

3. Evidence of chess.

4. A figure of bearded man has been found in Mohenjodaro who was wearing a designed shawl and it was weared to keep the right hand free.

5. There are evidences which shows that their clothing was related to their Aesthetic sense.

6. Man used to keep long hairs and beard.

Important Cities

Harappa → first city discovered, in 1921, by Daya Ram Sahni, Punjab, Pakistan on the bank of river Ravi.

brick platform, citadel on elevated platform, workers quarters, seals and ceiling, Terracota idols / figurines etc.

Two rows of granary house.

Mohenjodaro →

The literal meaning 'mound of deads'.

It is largest site in IVC. on the bank of river Indus in Pakistan.

It was discovered by R.D. Banerjee in 1922.

Evidence found →

Idol of Dancing girl, Pashupati,
Great bath, Bearded priest, great granary.

Kalibangan (meaning black bangle) → in Rajasthan.

It is located on the bank of a dried river probably Saraswati.

Important findings → fire Altar, Tiled floor, Two kind of burials. Circular and rectangle.

also evidence of semi burials, bricks were baked very limited, lack of drainage system.

Dholavira → located in runn of Kutch Gujarat.
evidence of stadium, longest scripts,
Dholavira was having three citadels.

Lothal

Main port city of IVC.

Evidence of Rice husk, evidence of toy of horse,
only city of the civilisation where doors of house were opening on the main road and not on street.

Bead and seal making factory

Sutragendur

Situated on the bank of Arabian Sea. It was second import port after Lothal. The mesopotamian ships were taking their route broke before going to Lothal.

Decline of IVC

Decline of IVC is controversial.

The theory of decline is divided into two.

1. Sudden decline
2. Gradual decline

Sudden Decline → According to historians willer. This civilisation decline because of foreign invader i.e Aryan coming from central

Asia, the evidence support this are, the skelton which have cut marks which proved violent also the difference in colour complexion, physical appearance among north and south indian support this idea.

- According to John marshal this civilisation was declined because of flood.
- M.R. Sahni said that, this civilisation declined because the tectonic movement of plate.
- Spread of communication disease.
- According some historian because of change of climate, over consumption of non veg, change in rainfall pattern, over urbanization (frequent contact among people).

Gradual Decline of I.V.C

→ Decline in economic activity →

Between 1900 - 1750 BC, the trade activity b/w IVC and mesopotamia have been seen minimal. Pottery found during this period were plain. Houses were made of already used bricks, hardly seals and beads made during this period.

→ Moral Decline

Accr to some historian over prosperity could have lead to decline.

- IVC so big in size, administration failed to it lead to disunity and end of IVC.

→ change in climate pattern → it became over arid, not suitable for agriculture because of shifting of monsoon wind this area close its climatic behaviour. become over arid, people migrated from this area to other area.

Ques → "The Decline of IVC was sudden." ¹² Comment.
(for 10 mark)

