

The Extent of the Indus Valley Civilization

Sutkagan Dor on the Makran coast represents Western boundary, Alamgirpur Uttar Pradesh represents Eastern boundary, Manda Jammu and Kashmir represents Northern extreme, Daimabad in Maharashtra represents Southern boundary.



1. Charles Masson was first person to visit Harappa in 1826 and gave the earliest reference of the civilization.
- 2 In 1912, J. Fleet discovered the Harappan seals, which led to the excavations under Sir Joh Marshall.
- 3 In the year 1924, Sir John Marshall named this civilization as Indus Valley Civilization.
4. Harappan people used different types of pottery such as glazed, polychrome, incised perforated and knobbed..
5. Indus Valley Civilization belongs to Chalcolithic age.
6. Indus Valley Civilization was a Urban Civilization.



7. According to Anthropological survey, authors of Indus population were of four types
8. The civilization of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Chinese resemble a great deal with the Indus Valley Civilization -a) Proto-Australoid b) Mediterranean c) Alpine d) Mongoloid.
- 9.. A seal consists of three faced deity seated in yogic posture with two horned head, surrounded by seven animals- Rhino, Elephant, Bison, Humped Bull, Tiger, Buffalo, Deer.
10. Mesopotamians named Indus Valley Civilization as 'Meluha'.
11. Flood, drought, deforestation, orthodox mentality etc were the various reasons to the end of the Indus Valley Civilization.
12. Time period of the Indus Valley Civilization - Early Harappan 3200-2600 BC, Mature Harappan-2600-1900 BC, Late Harappan-1900-1300 BC.

13. Radiocarbon dating, or carbon-14 dating, is a scientific method that can accurately determine the age of organic materials as old as approximately 60,000 years.

First developed in the late 1940s at the University of Chicago by Willard Libby, the technique is based on the decay of the carbon-14 isotope.

14. Rakhigarhi is the largest site of Indus valley Civilization. The world's largest museum of Harappan culture is coming up in Haryana's Rakhigarhi to display Indus Valley artifacts, some 5,000 years old. Rakhigarhi village was part of the Indus Valley Civilization between 2600- 1900 BC.



Major Indus Valley Civilisation Sites

Harappa

- **Excavated by**-Daya Ram Sahini in 1921
- Situated on the bank of river Ravi in Montgomery district of Punjab (Pakistan).
- Cemetery H & R37.
- Coffin burial.
- Granary outside the fort.
- Bullock carts
- Sandstone statues of Human
- Workmen's quarter

Mohenjodaro (Mound of Dead)

- Excavated by- R.D Banerjee in 1922
- Situated on the Bank of river Indus in Larkana district of Punjab (Pakistan).
- Great bath
- Granary
- Bronze dancing girl
- Seal of Pashupati Mahadeva
- Steatite statue of beard man
- A piece of woven cotton

Sutkagendor	Stein in 1929	In southwestern Balochistan province, Pakistan on Dast river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A trade point between Harappa and Babylon
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Chanhudaro	N.G Majumdar in 1931	Sindh on the Indus river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bead makers shop • Footprint of a dog chasing a cat
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Amri	N.G Majumdar in 1935	On the bank of Indus river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antelope evidence
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Kalibangan	Ghose in 1953	Rajasthan on the bank of Ghaggar river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Fire altar •Camel bones •Wooden plough
Lothal	S.R.Rao in 1953	Gujarat on Bhogva river near Gulf of Cambay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •First manmade port •Dockyard •Rice husk •Fire altars •Chess playing



Surkotada	J.P Joshi in 1964	Gujarat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Bones of horses •Beads
Banawali	R.S Bisht in 1974	Hisar district of Haryana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Beads •Barley •Evidence of both pre-Harappan and Harappan culture
Dholavira	R.S Bisht in 1985	Gujarat in Rann of Kachchh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Water harnessing system •Water reservoir



Town Planning

- One of the most outstanding features of the Indus cities was their well-planned town planning. The excavations at **Harappa** and **Mohenjo-Daro** have revealed a great deal of evidence of this.
- **Two parts:** Generally, the cities of Harappan culture had two parts - the **citadel** and the **outer city**.
 - The citadel was erected on an elevated site. The outlying city was on a lower level.
- **Grid patterns:** The IVC cities were constructed in a grid arrangement, with streets flowing north-south and east-west, resulting in a well-organised structure.
 - The roadways were large and straight, cutting each other at **right angles**.
- **Drainage System:** They had an excellent drainage system. The drains were built of **mortar, lime, and gypsum**. Each residence featured a sturdy washbasin from which water poured into the **subsurface drains**.
- **Houses:** Houses were of different types, small and large.
 - **Burnt bricks** were extensively used to make houses and other structures.
 - Houses were also provided with wells and bathrooms.
- **Other important structures:** The Great Bath and Pillared Hall at Mohenjo-Daro, the dockyard at Lothal, and the granary at Harappa.

TOWN PLANNING

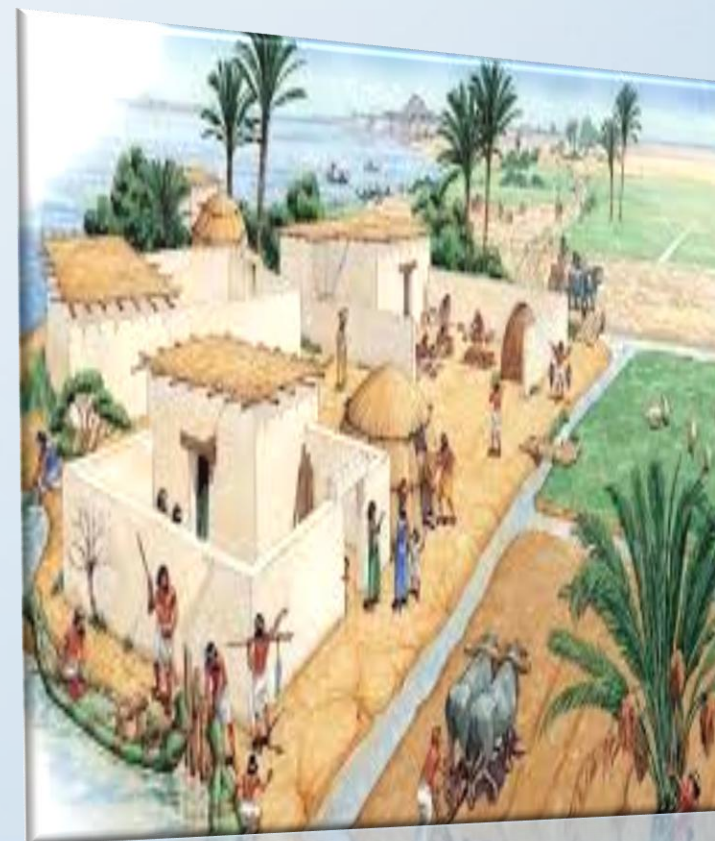
Urban Layout

Great Bath

Citadel

AGRICULTURE

- Main crops: Two types of **Wheat and Barley**. Evidence of cultivation of **rice in Lothal and Rangpur (Gujarat) only**. Other crops: Dates, mustard, sesamum, cotton, rai, peas etc.
- **First to produce cotton in the world so Greeks called them Sindon.**
- Used animal drawn wooden plough, and stone sickles.
- Produced sufficient food grains and cereals were received as taxes from peasants and stored in granaries for wages and emergencies same as Mesopotamia.



TRADE AND COMMERCE

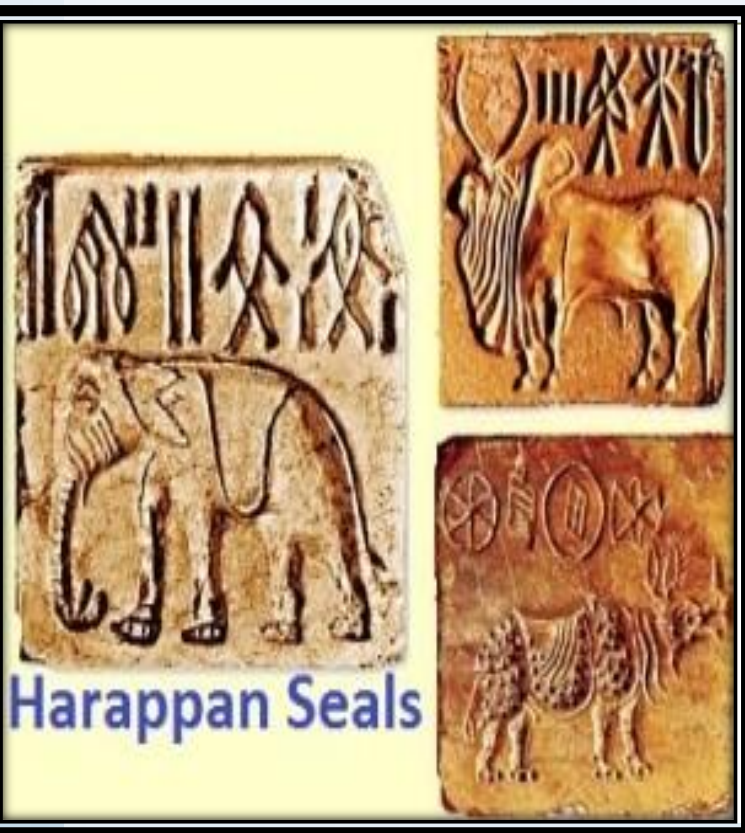
- Trade importance supported by **Granaries, seals, a uniform script, and regulated weights and measures.**
- Engages in **inter-regional as well as foreign trade.** Sumerian texts refer trade relation with Meluha , ancient name given to Indus region & mentions 2 intermediate trading stations- **Dilmun (Bahrain) & Makan (Makran coast).**
- Used **boats** and **bullock-carts** for transportation.
- Carried **exchanges through a barter system.**
- **IMPORT:** Gold, Silver, Copper, Tin, Jade, Steatite
- **EXPORTS:** Agricultural products, cotton goods, terracotta figurines, beads from Chanhudaro, conch-shell from Lothal, ivory products, copper.



- **Art:** Most human figurines were handmade and made from bronze, terracotta, steatite, and **faience material**.
 - The female figures were embellished with ornate jewellery and headdresses. **Example:** Dancing girl Statue and priest-king (male figurine).
 - **Faience:** It is an artificial material made from quartz. Several faience items, including beads, bangles, earrings, and figurines, have been discovered in Harappan archaeological sites.
- **Crafts:** The Harappan people were good craftsmen. They used more copper than bronze.
 - Brick-making and masonry were other important occupations.
 - **Spinning** and **weaving** too were a common craft.
 - Pottery made on a **potter's wheel** was decorated with different designs and painted **red and black**.



Harappan seals



Harappan seals are made up of **Steatite** (soft stone)

Size- half an inch to 2.5 inch

Shape-generally **Square and Rectangular** seals with carved animals and inscriptions were used

Hump less bull is the most used animal in seals

Harappan seals are the **greatest artistic creation** and were used to mark **ownership of property** and in **trade**

Weights and Measures



Copper Balance of
Mohenjo-Daro

Weights in IVC



Weights and Measures

Weights followed a binary system — 1, 2, 8, 16, 32 to 64, 160, 320, 640, 1600, 3200, and so on.

Weights were made **of chert, limestone, and steatite** and were generally **cubical**.

The measure of length was based on a **foot of 37.6cm and a cubit**

The standardization and accuracy of weights and measures throughout the IVC were remarkable.

Religious Practices

- ❑ Mother Goddess was a common feature of religion.
- ❑ The chief male deity, Pashupati or Adi Shiva.
- ❑ Trees (pipal), animals (bull), birds (dove, pigeon) and stones were worshipped.

❖ Major Imports by the Harappans

- Gold - Afghanistan, Persia, Karnataka.
- Silver- Afghanistan, Iran.

❖ Script

- The Harappan script is yet to be deciphered. It is pictographic in nature. It was written from right to left in the first line and then left to right in the second line. This style is called Boustrophedon. The fish symbol is most represented. More than 400 symbols or letters used in Harappan script.



❖ Recent discoveries regarding Burials

- (a) Largest cemetery of 70 burials was unearthed at Farmana (Haryana).
- (b) Four skeletal remains of mature Harappan phase were found at Rakhigarhi (Haryana).
- (c) A skeleton of a woman was found at Bijnor (Rajasthan)
- (d) A skeleton having a copper crown on its skull was found at Chandayan (UP).

❖ Decline of Indus Valley

- ☐ Gordon Childe, Stuart Piggott - External aggression.
- ☐ R. Mortimer Wheeler - Aryan invasion.



1.The main source of knowledge about the inhabitants of Indus Valley civilizations is the discovery of:(R.A.S./R.T.S. (Pre) 1996]

- (a) Seals
- (b) Utensils, Jewellery, weapons, tools
- (c) Temple
- (d) Scripts

2.Which colour was commonly used in Harappan Pottery? [40th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1995]

- (a) **Red**
- (b) Blue-grey
- (c) Yellow
- (d) Blue

3. Which of the following is a correct statement about Indus Valley civilization? (WBCS PRE 2020)

- (A) Both Harappa and Mohenjodaro are located on the banks of river Ravi (Irabati).
- (B) Both Chanhudaro and Kalibangan were located within the boundaries of present day Rajasthan.
- (C) Both Surkotada and Dholavira are located in the Kutchh region of Gujarat**
- (D) Lothal site was located on the bank of Narmada river.

4. Which among the following Harappan sites is not located in Gujrat? (Wbcs pre 2018)

- (a) Surkotada (b) Lothal (c) Dholavira **(d) Banwali**

5. Which of the following is a Harappan site located in Rajasthan? (Wbcs pre 2017)

(A) Mohenjo Daro (B) Suktagen Dor (C) **Kalibangan** (D) Lothal

6. Rice cultivation is associated with the Harappan site of:(Wbcs pre 2016)

(A) Kalibangan (B) **Lothal** (C) Kot Diji (D) Ropar

7. Which was the ancient port of Indus Civilization? (2015,2014 Wbcs)

(A) Harappa (B) **Lothal** (C) Dholavira (D) Surkotada

8. The great Bath was found in: (Wbcs 2011)

(A) Lothal (B) Harappa (C) **Mohenjo-daro** (D) Kalibangan

(A) China (B) Russia (C) Iran (D) Sumer Wbcs 2010

9. With the people of which country Harappan people carried trade?(Wbcs 2010)

(A) China (B) Russia (C) Iran (D) **Sumer-**

10. Which metal was unknown to the Indus people? (Wbcs 2009)

(A) Copper (B) Bronze (C) **Iron** (D) Gold -

11. Indus Civilization existed in-[U.P.P.C.S. (Pre) 1996, 39th B.P.S.C. (Pre) 1994]

(a) Prehistoric age

(b) **Proto-historic age**

(c) Historic age

(d) Post-Historic age