

# ANCIENT DYNASTIES

(The significant attribute of Harappan Civilization, was its well-planned town planning system. The cities of Mohenjodaro, Harappa, and Lothal, etc., were nicely planned, and surrounded by Citadel or Acropolis, which was possibly occupied by ruling class. Below the Citadel, in each city, lay a lower town, inhabited by common people.

## ① Roads

The roads running from North to South, and East to West had width from 2 feet to 30 feet. Adjacent to the main roads, there were lanes in both sides of the roads, where citizens resided in big houses.

## ② Houses

One storied and Two storied buildings were traced in both sides of the roads. Most of the buildings were built by burnt bricks. There was a courtyard, well, bathrooms, and drainage in each houses.

③ Drainage System The drainage system of Harappan Civilization was impressive; water flowed from the houses to the streets, which had drains. These drains were covered by bricks or with stone slabs. The street drains were equipped with manholes.

④ Granary & Great Bath In Harappa, the largest building was the Granary and the most important public place was the Great Bath. The Great Bath was 29 feet long, 23 feet wide, and 8 feet deep. The Great Bath was surrounded by rooms on all 4 sides; bathing water used to come from nearby well. There was a separate system for draining out the water.

⑤ Discuss the Town Planning of Harappan Civilization

include → Measurement of Roads, Great Bath, & write a Conclusion of my answer

# Knowledge System During Vedic Period

The education system of Ancient period has unique characteristics and qualities, which were not found in the ancient education system of any other countries. Gurukul (Ashram) was a type of school in Ancient India. It was residential in nature, with students living in proximity to the teacher (Guru). In a Gurukul, students would reside together as equals, irrespective of their social status. They learned from the Guru and distributed works among themselves to help the Guru, in day-to-day life. At the end, students would offer Gurudakshina (one-time fees) to the Guru. It is a traditional gesture of acknowledgement, respect and thanks. Sanskrit was the language of Vedic Period. It developed during the first few centuries of the first millennium B.C.E.

# VEDIC CORPUS

The Vedic Corpus or the Vedic texts that were taught during the Vedic period are VEDAS, BRAHMANS and UTASHADS.

## A) VEDAS

The vedas are a collection of ancient Hindu scriptures that are considered to be the foundation of Indian culture and civilization. Vedas are made up of four sacred texts -

### (1) Rig Veda → (Oldest Veda)

provides information about the social, economic, political and religious aspects of the Rig Vedic period.

### (2) Sama Veda

Collection of verses with musical notation for sacred songs.

### (3) Yajur Veda

Collection of prose mantras for Vedic rituals and sacrifices.

#### (4) Atharva Veda:

It was not considered as Veda during the Vedic era. Some of its materials may date back to the time of Rig Veda.

(B)

**BRAHMANAS** →

Brahmanas are prose texts that explain the significance of rituals and the symbolism behind them. Each Veda has its own set of Brahmanas.

(C)

**UPANISHADS** →

Upanishads are a class of Hindu scriptures that discuss the nature of the universe, soul and the relationship between the two.

# INDIAN ARCHITECTURE

With the shift in ruling powers, India has become the living hub of multiple architectural marvels. From the Konark Sun Temple to Taj Mahal, the power of architectural taste, blended with Indian culture and landscape. While most of the architecture is well-documented, there are many that exists in all their glory, without any recognition.

## ① HARAPPAN Period →

- i) Modern urban civilization with expert town planning and engineering skills.
- ii) Advanced drainage system along with well-planned roads and houses.
- iii) Walled cities to provide security
- iv) Standardized burnt mud-bricks, as building material
- v) Public buildings include granaries, great bath, private wells, and bathrooms.

(VI) Lothal, a site in Gujarat; also has the remains of its dockyard.

(VII) Some Harappan sites are Harappa, Lothal, Mohenjodaro, Dholavira.

## 2 VEDIC Period

- (1) It is a Rural civilization.
- (ii) Houses were build of wood, bamboos, etc.
- (iii) Fire altars play an important role in Hindu homes, specially during marriages.
- (iv) Courtyards and Mandaps were common.
- (v) Granaries were also common.

## 3 MAURYAN Period

- (1) It is considered as the beginning of the classical period of Indian architecture.

- (ii) Large palaces were carved out of wood.

iii) Monolithic stone pillars for teachings of Dhamma, were inscribed.

iv) Lion figures of the Sarnath Pillar has been accepted as the emblem of Indian Republic.

Veg → ① Stupas of Sanchi

② Sarnath Temple

④ Gupta Period

① Architecture attained high level of excellence.

② Adorned with towers, and elaborate carvings, the temples were often dedicated to the Hindu Gods.

③ Example of Deogarh

④ Ajanta & Ellora Caves (Maharashtra)

foreign invasion periods →

## ⑤ TURKISH Period

- ① Architectural styles of Persia, Arabic and Central Asia.
- ② Islamic structures of domes, arches are found.
- ③ Palaces, Mosque, and Tombs were built.
- ④ ① Ala-ud-din Khilji's Qutub - ul - Islam Mosque (Delhi)
- ② Qutub Minar (Delhi)
- ③ Tomb of Muhammad - Bin Tughlaq (Delhi)

## ⑥ AFGHAN Period

- ① Buildings of this period are stony and practical.
- ② Some indigenous styles were adopted.
- ③ Tomb of Ibrahim Lodi (Delhi).

## 7) MUGHAL Period

- i) It is mostly Indo - Islamic architecture.
- ii) Central Dome, four elegant pillars, gateway, inlay work, surrounding the main buildings, gardens, surrounding the main buildings, built on platforms, ornamental foundations, etc are some features.
- iii) Living beings such as elephants, lions, peacocks and other birds were sculptured.

- iv) Eg. i) Fatehpur Sikri (Agra)
- ii) Tamā Masjid (Delhi)
- iii) Tomb of Humayun (Delhi)
- iv) Red fort (Delhi)
- v) Taj Mahal (Agra)

## 8) COLONIAL Period

- i) Portuguese built many churches at Goa: the most famous of these are:
  - ① Basilica of Bom Jesus,
  - ② Church of Saint Francis,

Q

II During the British colonial period, European style architecture including neo-classical, Gothic Revival, became prevalent across India.

III Combination of Indo-Islamic and European styles lead to a new style known as Indo-Saracenic style.

- eg. I Rashtrapati Bhawan (Delhi)  
of  
Indo-Saracenic style  
II Madras High Court (Chennai)  
III Victoria Memorial (Kolkata)  
IV Taj Mahal Palace Hotel (Mumbai)

IV Gothic Revival architecture.  
eg.

- I Bombay High Court (Mumbai)  
II University of Bombay (Mumbai)

V Examples of Neo-Classical architecture

- I Raj Bhawan (Kolkata)  
II National Library of India (Delhi)

### III) Taj Falaknuma Palace Hotel (Hyderabad)

## Q) Temples of India

### III) Temples of India

① BRIDHADISHVARA Temple

at Tanjore is a  
Dravidian - style temple built by the  
Cholas

② MIGARATA temple at Muktesvara  
(Bhubaneshwar), Jagannath temple, Puri,  
are built by the  
Ganga Rulers.