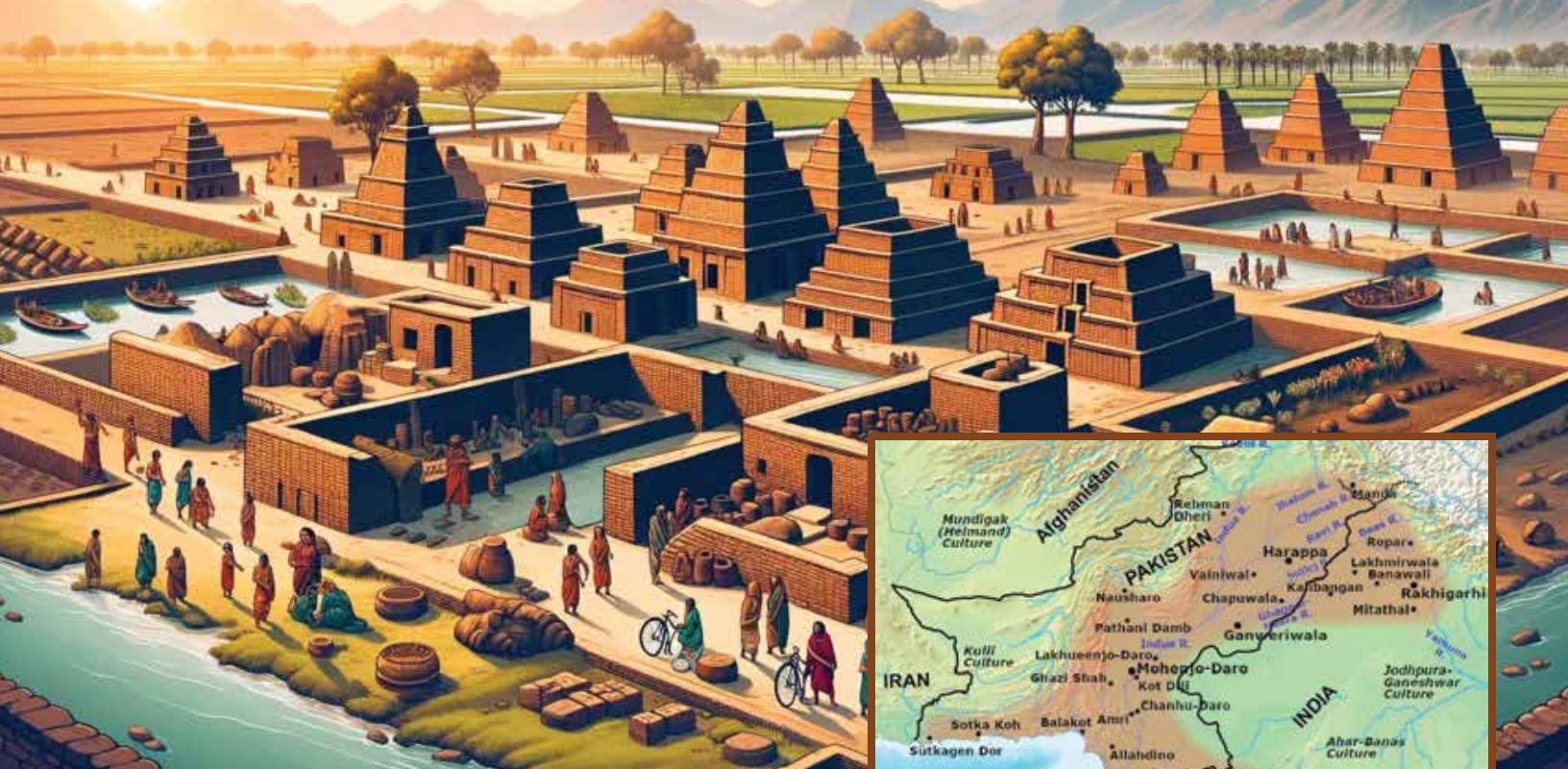


# Indus Valley Civilization (IVC)



## Important places of IVC\_Part 1

### Harappa

◆ **Discovery:** Excavated in the 1920s by **Daya Ram Sahni, M.S. Vats, and Mortimer Wheeler**. Located on the **Ravi River** in modern-day Pakistan.

◆ **City Layout:**

- Citadel mound to the west, lower town to the southeast.
- Surrounded by a mud-brick wall with towers and gateways for defense.
- Lower town had workshops for shell, agate, and copper artifacts, as well as houses, drains, and possibly a well.

◆ **Granaries & Trade:**

- Known as the "City of Granaries" with 12 granaries, suggesting large-scale grain storage.



- Evidence of trade with Mesopotamia via seals.

#### ◆ Cultural Practices:

- Coffin burials in "H" patterns, possibly linked to organized rituals or invader attacks.
- Identified with the city of Hariyupiya in the Rig Veda.

## Mohenjo-Daro

Mohenjo-Daro, meaning "Mound of the Dead," is located in the Larkana District of Sind (Pakistan), about 5 km from **the Indus River**. It was excavated by **Rakhaldas Banerjee and Sir John Marshall**.



#### ◆ City Features

- Divided into a citadel and lower city, it represents one of the best examples of town planning in the Harappan Civilization.
- The citadel, raised for symbolic or defensive purposes, houses significant structures, including:
  - The **Great Bath**, measuring 14.5 x 7 meters, believed to be one of the earliest examples of waterproofing.
  - A large **granary and a large assembly hall** with rectangular brick piers.
  - **Pashupati Seal** and a **bearded man's bust** indicating potential religious practices or iconography.

## Lothal

**Lothal**, located between the **Sabarmati and Bhogavo** rivers in Gujarat, was **excavated by S.R. Rao**. Known for its role in **maritime trade**, Lothal is unique for its **well-preserved dockyard**.



#### ◆ City Layout

- Lothal was built with a rectangular plan, surrounded by brick walls and divided into a citadel and lower city.
- Some houses were large, with multiple rooms, courtyards, and bathrooms, signifying a well-developed urban lifestyle.

#### ◆ Craft and Trade

- Lothal was a key trading hub, with evidence of bead-making, shell working, and pottery.
- **It was one of the first Harappan towns to cultivate rice, and it boasted a dockyard**, believed to be used for loading and unloading goods, making it a prominent maritime site.

- Recently, the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime, has approved the development of **National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal.**

## Dholavira

**Dholavira** (ca. 3000-1500 BCE) was a key southern center of the Harappan Civilization, located **on Khadir bet Island** in Gujarat's Rann of Kachchh. Discovered in 1968 by archaeologist **Jagat Pati Joshi**.

### City Layout:

- Unlike other Harappan sites, **Dholavira was divided into three sections** instead of the usual two, with each section surrounded by massive stone walls and gateways.
- The walled city consists of a **fortified Castle with attached fortified Bailey and Ceremonial Ground, and a fortified Middle Town and a Lower Town.**
- A large **open area** was present for public ceremonies.



### Unique Findings:

- Large letters of Harappan script** carved from white stone, a rare find compared to small seals.



### Water Management:

- Two **seasonal streams (Manhar and Mansar)** provided water.
- Stone-cut reservoirs** and **rock-cut wells** stored water, with **dams** channeling water into reservoirs.

- Dholavira** was inscribed as India's **40<sup>th</sup> UNESCO World Heritage Site** in 2021.

## Kalibangan

Kalibangan, meaning "**City of Black Bangles**," is located on the banks of the **dry Ghaggar River** in Rajasthan, India. It provides evidence from both the early and mature phases of the Harappan Civilization.

### City Layout

- Kalibangan is divided into a citadel and lower town**, both of which are fortified.
- A notable feature is a **large number of fire altars** associated with sacrificial rituals, indicating the community's spiritual practices.



### ◆ Burial Practices

- **Circular pits with grave goods, but no human remains**, suggest the belief in an afterlife and possibly cremation practices.
- A rich assortment of **bangles, terracotta items**, and materials like shell, alabaster, and **faience** indicates a strong craft industry.

## Rakhigarhi

◆ **Location:** Hisar district, Haryana, in the **Saraswati/Ghaggar-Hakra River plain**.

◆ **Significance:** One of the **five largest** Harappan townships, alongside Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro, Ganweriwala, and Dholavira.



### ◆ City Structure

- The city is divided into a citadel and lower town with fortified structures and significant civic features like platforms, wells, and drains.


### ◆ Crafts and Burial Practices

- A **lapidary workshop** was identified, with unfinished beads and tools for bead-making.
- **Bone and ivory working** evidence has been found, alongside a unique **wooden coffin** associated with burials.
- Excavations uncovered animal sacrificial pits, fire altars, and what may be an "**aristocratic settlement**" at Mound No. 3.







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