

A detailed landscape painting of a valley. In the background, a large, ornate church with a tall spire stands on a hill. The foreground is a lush green valley with a river or stream flowing through it. Large, leafy trees frame the top and sides of the scene. The overall tone is warm and historical.

ARTS OF THE INDUS VALLEY

Presented by:

humans tbh

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Introduction

Indus Valley Civilisation (c. 2500 BCE) had skilled art like sculptures, pottery, jewellery, and terracotta figures. Cities like Harappa and Mohenjodaro showed advanced planning with grid streets, public baths, and drainage. Key sites: Lothal, Dholavira, Rakhigarhi, Ropar, Kalibangan.



Stone Statues

- Few but refined from Harappa & Mohenjodaro.
- Found at Harappa & Mohenjodaro.
- Includes red sandstone torso & soapstone bust of bearded man (priest).

Bronze Casting

- Widely practised using the lost wax technique.
- Made human & animal figures.
- Famous: 'Dancing Girl' statue, buffalo, goat.
- Notable finds: copper dog & bird (Lothal), bronze bull (Kalibangan), metal figures from Daimabad.



Seals

- Made mainly of steatite, also agate, chert, copper, faience, terracotta, ivory.
- Depict realistic animals and sometimes humans, trees, or mythical creatures.
- Used for trade, as amulets, or identity marks.
- Standard 2×2 inch size with undeciphered pictographs; found in large numbers at Harappan sites.

Pottery

- Pottery – Small Summary
- Mostly wheel-made, plain red clay; some painted with black designs.
- Rare: polychrome, incised, perforated.
- Mostly curved shapes; includes fine miniatures.



Ornaments

- Made from gold, gemstones, copper, shell, faience, clay, bone.
- Both sexes: necklaces, fillets, armlets, rings.
- Women also wore girdles, earrings, anklets.
- Found at Mohenjodaro & Lothal, well-crafted.

Beads

- Materials: carnelian, amethyst, jasper, quartz, steatite, lapis lazuli, etc.
- Shapes: disc, cylindrical, spherical, barrel, segmented.
- Some multi-stone, gold-covered, incised, or painted



Conclusion

- The Harappans made refined stone statues like the sandstone torso and bearded priest bust, and excelled in bronze casting with the lost wax technique, producing works like the 'Dancing Girl' and animal figures. Seals, mostly steatite, showed realistic creatures, served for trade and identity, and had undeciphered pictographs. Pottery was mainly wheel-made red clay, sometimes painted, with rare polychrome, incised, and perforated types, plus fine miniatures. Ornaments of gold, gems, copper, shell, faience, clay, and bone were common, and the bead industry made varied shapes from many materials with high skill.



Thank
You

