



BPSC

BIHAR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY
& HISTORY OF BIHAR**



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ANCIENT INDIAN HISTORY

TopperNotes
Unleash the topper in you

"HISTORY OF ANCIENT INDIA"

- ✓ Bronze Era / Indus Valley Civilisation / Harappan Civilisation
(2250 B.C. - 1750 B.C.)
(2600 B.C. - 1900 B.C.)



VEDIC ERA (1500 BC - 600 BC)



POST VEDIC

(1000 B.C. - 600 B.C.)

RIG VEDIC

(1500 - 1000 B.C.)



MAHABHARATA ERA (600 B.C. - 322 B.C.)



MAURYAN ERA (322 B.C. - 185 B.C.)



POST MAURYAN ERA (185 B.C. - 319 A.D.)



GUPTA'S ERA (319 AD - 750 AD)



POST GUPTA ERA (750 AD - 1200 AD)



MEDIEVAL PERIOD (1200 AD - 1757 AD)



MODERN HISTORY (1757 AD - 1947 AD)

CONTEMPORARY HISTORY (1947 - - - - -)

HARAPPAN CIVILISATION

* Harappan civilisation was the first Urban Civilisation of the world.

* Contemporary civilisations along Harappa Civilisation

1) Mesopotamian Civilisations (SUMERIAN CIVILISATION)

- This was in Iraq along the banks of river EUPHRATES and TIGRIS
- It is world's ancient / oldest Civilisation.

2) Egyptian Civilisation:

- This was along the banks of River Nile.

→ Among both these Civilisations Indus Valley Civilisation was the largest (area wise) civilisation.

→ Indus Valley Civilisation was Bronze Civilisation

→ Alexander Cunningham was the "father of Indian Archaeology"

→ CHARLES MASON was the first person to give information about Indus Valley Civilisation in 1826 A.D.

→ In 1856 A.D. two brothers named "JOHN BRENTON" and WILLIAM BRENTON used Harrappan Bricks to lay the railway line from Lahore to Karachi

- Harappa was discovered in 1921 A.D. by: DAYARAM SAHNI
- RAKHAL DAS BANERJEE, discovered Mohenjodero in the year 1922 A.D. while excavating a BUDHA STUPA.
- At that time, JOHN MARSHAL was the head of Indian Archaeological Department.
- In 1924 A.D. John Marshall declared this civilisation as "INDUS VALLEY CIVILISATION".

"INDUS VALLEY CIVILISATION"

- He named this as Indus Valley Civilisation because its initial sites were located along the banks of Indus River.
- Later on sites were found on the banks of different rivers, so it was called as HARAPPAN CIVILISATION. as Hanappa was the first discovered site.

According to :-

- PINJOT Hanappa and Mohenjodaro were the "TWIN CAPITALS"
- Hanappan Civilisation was Triangular in shape △
- Its northernmost point was MANDA in JandK.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| | N MANDA (JandK) Chenab River |
| W SUTKANGEDOR (PAK) DASHK RINOR | 1600 km E ALAMGIRPUR (U.P.) Hindon River |
| | S Area- 13 Lakh sq. Km DAIMABAD (MAHARASHTRA) |
| | |

→ Peace-loving Society as no. weapons have not been found.

1. HARAPPA

→ Harappa is situated in * MONTGOMERI district in Punjab State of Pakistan along the banks of * River Ravi.

⇒ Excavators:

DAYARAM SAHNI

MADHOSWAROOP VATS

MARTIMER WHEELER

⇒ Things found in Harappa

- (i) 12 Granaries
- (ii). Circular Platform (where food grain was threshed)
- (iii) 18 Labour Rooms to accommodate labourers
- (iv). Brass Chariot.
- (v) Make up box/Vanity Box

(vi) Graveyard - (R-37)

- 57 graves were found from here.
- Among these one was foreigner's grave as he was buried in a wooden coffin.
- 12 Seven Bronze Mirrors were found.

(vii) Swastik is also found here.

2. MOHENJODARO:

→ Mohenjodaro is situated in Larkana district of Sindh State along the banks of River SINDHU.

→ Literal Meaning of Mohenjodaro : Mounds of Dead.

→ Excavator: RAKHAL DAS BANERJEE.

→ Things found here.

(i) Great Bath: flights of steps at either end lead the surface

• Stairs are there in its northern and southern part. water was drawn from a large well in an adjacent room.

• Water supply was given from nearly well.

• The bottom layer is made up of GYPSUM / CHARCOAL to avoid leakage of water. Burnt Bricks

• There were Priests room and changing rooms constructed near to it.

• JOHN MARSHALL called it the most "SURPRISING
STRUCTURE OF WORLD"

- It was used for "collective Bath" before Yagna.
- Size 12x7x2.4m

(ii) GREAT GRANARY:-

- It is the largest structure of Mohenjodaro.

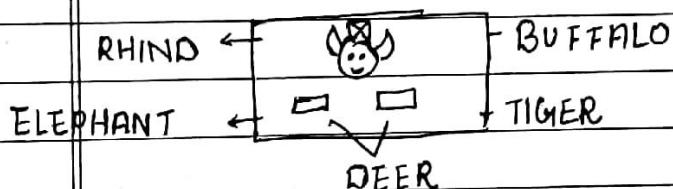
(iii). There was no graveyard found in Mohenjodaro, which shows that people were burnt there.

(iv). 42 human skeleton has been found here.

(v) IDL OF PRIEST/YOGI-

(vi). Bronze Idol of a Dancing girl.

(vii) A seal of "PASHUPATI SHIVA"



John Marshall gave him the name of, PASHUPATI SHIVA

(viii) Cylindrical Seals of Mesopotamia.

(ix). Traces of cotton found here.

(x) Cylindrical seal of Mesopotamia.

3. LOTHAL

→ Lothal is situated in Gujarat. Along the banks of BHOGVA river.

Maximum sites of Harappa Civilisation are in Gujarat

→ Excavator: RANGNATH RAO

→ In Lothal, door of house are opening on Main Road

→ Lothal was an Industrial City it was not a housing society/m.

→ People used to make Beads in Lothal (Beads factory)

→ Things found in Lothal-

(i) DOCKYARD

It is the largest structure of whole Harappan Civilisation

(ii) COMPASS.

(iii) MODEL OF BOATS

(iv) FARTHER WARE:

The story of cunning fox and Crow has been inscribed over it.

→ Lothal has been termed as "MINI HARAPP" / "MINI MOHENJODARO"

4. KALIBANNA

5. DHAULAVEERA (GUJARAT)

- Dhaulaveera is situated in Gujarat.
- Excavator : RAVINDRA SINGH BISHT (1990)
- The newest excavated site in Dhaulaveera.
- Dhaulaveera is divided into 3 parts.
- It is constructed in a Quadrilateral shape.
- Things found in Dhaulaveera .
 - (i) Pond (Artificial source of Irrigation)
 - (ii). Stadium.
 - (iii) Notice - Board Polished.

* Max. Sites of this civilisation is in Gujarat.

6) CHANHU DARO :

- It is situated in Indus state of Pakistan
- Excavator - N.G MAJUMDAR
(he was killed by dacoits).

- ERNST MACKAY.

- A bead manufacturing factory was there.
- We do not find evidence of participation from here.
- Imprints of paws of a Dog Chasing Cat was found in bricks.
- A lipstick was found from here.

7. BANAVALI

- Bonavali was situated in Haryana.
- Excavator : RAVINDRA BISHT
- No Drainage system was found in Bonavali.
- A Wash Basin has been found.
- Remains of Barley has been found.
- A mud toy plough has been found.

8. RAKHIGARHI

→ Rakhigarhi is situated in Haryana.

→ Excavator : RAFIQ MUGHAL

SURAJ BHAN

→ Largest Centre / site of Harappan Civilisation.

Rakhigarhi > Mohenjodaro > Harappa > Dholavira

9. ROPAR

→ Ropar is in Punjab State of India along the banks of River Sutlej.

→ Excavated by : YOGENDRA DUTTA SHARMA (1953)

→ Newest excavated site post independence.

→ A dog has been buried along with a man.

During Neolithic era there was a tradition of burying dogs with man in * Burzoham (Kashmir)

10. SURKHOTADA

→ Situated in Gujarat.

→ Excavated by : JAGDIPATI JOSHI.

→ Horse's Bones have been discovered from here.

- A unique grave has been discovered from here, as a big stone / rock was kept on the grave.
- Only single fortification has been done for both the colonies (some was done in LOHAL)

11) SUTKANGENDOR

- Was situated in Punjab (Pak.)
- Excavated by: OREAL STEIN
- It was also a * DOCKYARD CITY like Lothal.

12) ROTDI

- Situated in Gujarat
- Remains of * Elephant.

13) DAIMABAD

- Southernmost part of Harappan Civilization (Maharashtra)
- * Bronze chariots has been found.

14) KUNAL

- Situated in Haryana.
- * 2 Silver crowns have been found.

TOWN PLANNING AND STRUCTURE OF HARAPPA

- It was an Urban Civilisation
- Towns were developed on centres of Trade and Commerce
- Towns were divided into 2 parts.
 - Western part was build ~~at a height~~, which was known as CITADEL.
 - Buildings of Community Importance were built here

- Probably this was for the ELITE CLASS
- Eastern part was at a comparatively lower height, called as LOWER TOWN which were inhabited by the Common people.
- Both parts followed separate participation.

- Towns were developed like "CHESS-BOARD".
- Roads were made of concrete which cut across one another almost at right angles and all these roads would lead to the main road.
- There were single storey / double storey houses meaning they knew about Stair Case.
- Houses were made of Pucka Bricks.
- Each house contained stairs, well, Kitchen, Bathrooms.
- 700 wells were found in MOHANJODARO.
- The doors of houses would not open at main road.
- First floor / ground floor did not have windows.
- Drainage System uses the most peculiar feature in Harappan Civilisation.
- World first Civilisation where drainage system has been found.
- Drainage system was made from pukka Bricks and were covered.
- Man holes made somewhere in between for cleaning.

Economic Condition of Harappan Civilisation

① Agriculture:-

- Economy was agriculture based.
- There was surplus production in Agriculture.
- All types of crops were grown.
- We do not find any evidence of RAGI crop.
- People used to grow One crop between November April.
- Water from Rivers was used for irrigation.
- They also developed artificial sources of irrigation
eg * POND - Dholavira.

* CANAL - SHROTUGHAT (Afghanistan)

- We find remains of Rice and Beans from Gujarat.
- Harappans probably used wooden plough share.

2) ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

- All types of animals were domesticated.
- * Humped bulls were favoured by the Harappas.
- Harappan culture was not Horse centred, horses did not play an important role in Harappan civilisation.
- Remains of Elephants have been found from Gujarat.
- Humped Bulls have been found in seals.
- Maximum picture on Seals is of UNICORN

3) INDUSTRY

i) METAL INDUSTRY

- Bronze was made by the Smiths by mixing tin with copper. Copper was obtained from Kshetri (Raj) and Tin was probably brought from Afghanistan.
- They used to make ornaments of Gold and Silver.

2. Bricks Industry

- Brick Industry was the most developed Industry.
- Bricks were made in ratio of 4:2:1
- L-Shaped bricks were also made

3. Cottage Industry:

- Piece of woven cotton has been discovered from Mohenjodaro.

4. Shell Industry:

- Shell Industry was a developed industry in Coastal areas.
- Colonies of Coastal Areas-
 - (i) GUJARAT - Nageshwar
 - (ii) PAKISTAN - Balakot
- Bangles were made from shells.

5. Beads Industry

- Beads were made from various types of stones.
- Previous stones were brought from Middle Asia
- Beads Industry was established in * LOTMAL and CHANHUDDARO.

(4) Trade and Commerce ⇒

- Both domestic and foreign trade took place from sea and land route.
- Harappan people did trade with Mesopotamian civilization
- We get this information from * SARGON INSCRIPTION

* SARGON INSCRIPTION:-

- Indus Valley Civilisation has been called "MELUHA" in it
- It has been called a SAILOR'S CITY (Port city)
- It has been described as a country of HAJA BIRD (Peacock)
- Trade was carried out from a port called "UR"
- Dilmun (Bahrain) and Makan (Oman) were intermediate trade stations.

SEALS -

- Seals were made of Shalihani stone.
- It described the "possession" and "quality" of an object
- Most of the seals were * Square in shape.
- They did not use metal money, as coin system was not established that time.
They carried all their exchanges through Barter.
- Urban people of Indus region use weights and measures for trade and commerce.
- Weights were made of *CHERT STONE*.

RELIGIOUS CONDITIONS:-

- The people believed in "Natural Polytheism" culture.
- Both male and female Deity were worshipped
However female deities were worshipped more.
- Yajna was preferred here.
- We don't find evidence of temple.
- Trees and plants were worshipped. pipal trees was

mainly worshipped.

- People of Indus region also worshipped Birds and Animals.
- "Swastik" was worshipped (₹)
- They believed in "reincarnation".
- They believed in "IMMORTALITY OF SOUL".
- Evidence of "fire Wars" have also been found.
- Evidence of "animal Sacrifice" has been found.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF HARAPPAN CIVILISATION

- We could not read the script of Harappan Civilisation. Therefore not much has been discovered about their social conditions.
- Harappan Civilisation was a "Material Society".
- People were "PEACE LOVING".
- People were both "Vegetarians and Non-Vegetarians".
- The Prohibit class had great importance in the Society.

POLITICAL CONDITION

- We do not have a clear Idea about political Organisation of the Harappans, as we could not read their script.
- After seeing their cultural homogeneity, it can be said that this cultural homogeneity would not have been possible to achieve without a central authority autonomous body.
- Probably "Purohit" or "Vaishya" class ruled over Harappa.