

Subject:- History and Civics

Teacher:- Mili Bhargava

Chapter 2 Indus Valley Civilization (Continued)

Good Morning Students!

We will continue the chapter and study about the religious life of the Indus Valley people. No evidences have been found of any temple. One of the significant feature was the worship of Mother Goddess and also a male deity who is seated in a yogic posture. On the seals it was surrounded by animals and historians believed it to be Lord Shiva represented as 'Pashupati'. We also find evidences of worship of trees, stones and animals. The people wore amulets to do away or protect themselves from the evil spirits.

The Indus Valley people followed or had different occupations. Agriculture was the main occupation as also cattle rearing. The Indus Valley people made tools and weapons of stone, copper and bronze. Bead and jewellery making were other important occupation. Trade both internal and external flourished under Indus Valley civilization. Evidence of dockyard suggests that Indus people had trade relations with other contemporary civilizations. The important items of import were copper, tin, gold and precious stones. They exported ivory, pearls, designed pottery and cotton cloth.

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More than 2000 seals have been discovered from different sites of the Indus Valley. They are mostly made of clay, stone or copper and are either flat, square or rectangular in shape. All seals have some kind of pictorial writing inscribed on them. These seals provide us with valuable information like religious beliefs, artistic skills, trade contacts, script of the Indus Valley people. The Harappan script was pictographic. But as it is not yet been deciphered it does not provide any direct information.

Historians cite a number of reasons for the decline of Indus Valley civilization. Floods and earthquakes could be one reason for its decline. Some historians hold that the invasion of Aryans could have led to the end of the civilization.

Reason Assertion

1. (a)
2. (d)
3. (b)

State whether True or false

1. False

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2. False
3. True
4. True
5. False

Fill in the blanks

1. RD Banerjee
2. Chenab, Beas, Sutlej
3. Rakhigewhi, Dholavira
4. Animism
5. pictographic

MCQ (7) Match Column A with B

1. Alauddinpur
2. Daimabad
3. Dholavira

- i) Uttar Pradesh
- ii) Maharashtra
- iii) Gujarat

Kalibangan

v) Rajasthan