

NCERT Mind Maps



This set of mind maps is intended to cover harappan civilisation efficiently .

Many a times , many words used in the context of indus valley civilisation are not clear like “ terracota bull” etc . We have taken care to illustrate all trivial and non trivial things related to IVC using images .

All data is presented in form of mind maps .

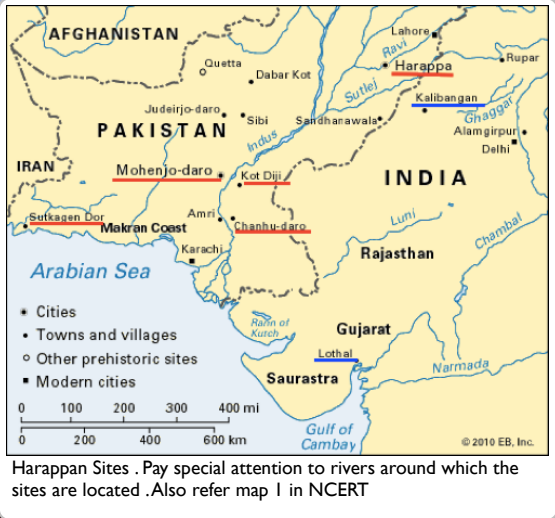
The book closely follows the new NCERT chapter on IVC .

Please read the chapter from original NCERT , section by section and read the same section from the mind maps .

Once done , you can further revise the chapter later only using these mind maps .

If you have not received this material directly from us but by sharing by others , send your email ID to us with "subscription" written in the subject on this email address : notesforias@gmail.com so as not to miss out on any future material .

CULTURE
A group of objects with distinct style, found together within a specific geographical area and period of time.



Indus Valley Civilisation (IVC)
[(mature) Harappan Culture]
2600-1900 CE

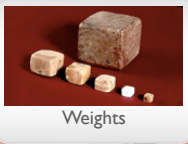
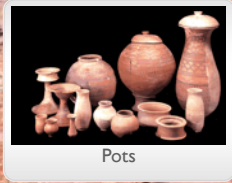
- animal motifs
- made of steatite
- undeciphered script



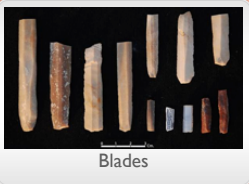
named after the first discovery harappa

How we know about them?

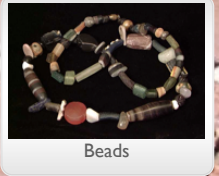
Houses



tools, stones



ornaments



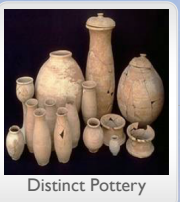
seals

preceding : early harappan

following : late harappan

BP - before present
BCE - before common era
CE - common era
c. - circa (approximate)

- Common between mature harappan sites developed on early harappan sites
- food
- plants
 - wheat
 - barley
 - lentil
 - chickpea
 - sesame
 - Guj- millers
 - Rice- rare
- animals
 - domesticated
 - wild
 - fish and flowl

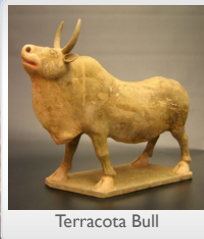


early harappan

1.Beginnings

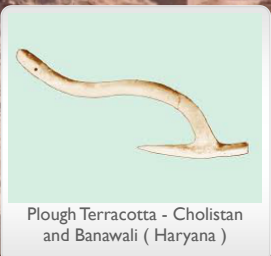
agriculture/pastoralism
evidence of
crafts
small settlements

early harappa- ploughed field at Kalibangan (Rajasthan)- 2 different crops simultaneously



bull for ploughing

evidence



2.Subsistence Strategies

2.1 Agricultural Technologies

tools ??

traces of canal - shortagai (Afg)

wells- may be



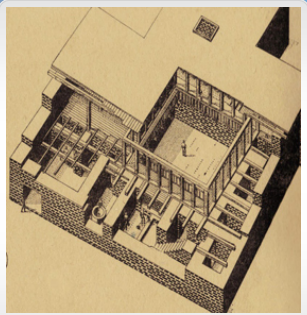
most sites - semi arid

require irrigation



3. Mohenjodaro (A planned urban centre)

3.2 Domestic architecture



Layout of a harappan house

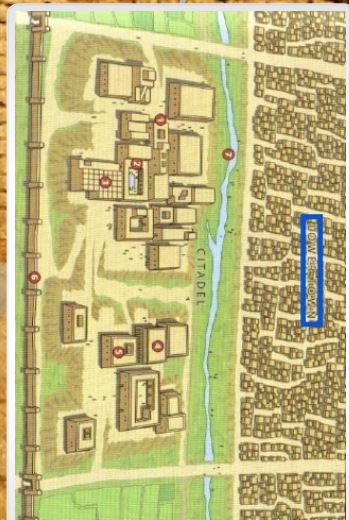
- center courtyard
- center of activities
- surrounding rooms
- privacy
 - no windows on ground level
 - no view of court from entrance
- bathroom
 - brick paved
 - drain connected
- staircases
- wells
 - could be reached by passers by

3.1 Laying out drains



streets with drains (at right angles) - grid pattern

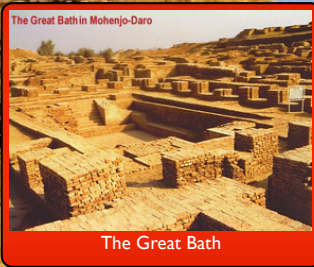
Then houses built along them



Citadel and Lower Town

3.3 The Citadel

structures for public purposes



The Great Bath in Mohenjo-Daro

The Great Bath

- watertight by bricks and gypsum
- surrounded by corridor
- stairs - N and S
- rooms on three sides
- water into a huge drain
- N - 8 bathrooms
- ritual bath (perhaps)
- warehouse

Evidences of planning

All building activity on platforms



Bricks (sun dried / baked)

Std ratio

$$l=4h ; b=2h$$

Layout

- Lower Town : Low/large/walled
- Citadel : High/small/walled separately
 - High due to construction on mud brick platforms
 - Some variations : ENTIRE settlement fortified and sections separated by walls - Dholavira and Lothal
- Lothal (Guj)
 - Citadel not walled , but built at a height
 - Houses ← mud brick but drains → burnt brick

5. Finding out about craft production



Harappa Burial Pottery

contained pots & ornaments , jewellery (both M/F)

brick lined

variations- SOME pits were ...



Laid in pits

4.1 Burials

4. Tracking Social Differences

5.1 Identifying centres of production

by looking at raw materials , tools , rejects

by waste at a place of production

centres

small and specialised

also in larger cities like M.jodaro

utilitarian

Gold found in Hoards



Eg. Faience Pot

found more in larger settlements like Harappa, M.jodaro

made from costly non local material / hi-tech

luxuries

artefacts

4.2 Looking for "luxuries"

craft production

specialised settlements . Eg. Chanhudaro , Lothal

taken to large settlements like harappa

bead making

Material

Stones like Carnelian (red) , jasper , steatite , etc

Metals like gold , bronze

shell , faience , terracota

various shapes

designs

by incision

etched

techniques

moulding soft stones like steatite

geometrical forms from harder stones

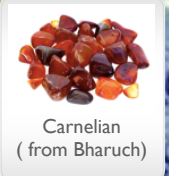
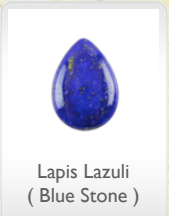
specialised drills found at chanhudaro , Lothal , Dholavira



Shell Objects made in coastal settlements

Balakot and Nageshwar

6.1 Materials from the subcontinent and beyond

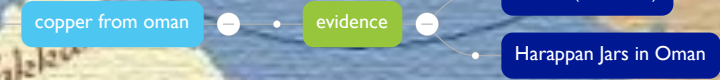


- Shortugai (Afg)
- Lothal
- Metal
- Rajasthan
- Steatite
- S.Rajasthan
- N.Gujarat

- bullock carts
- riverine routes (Indus)
- Coastal routes

Trade and importing raw material for crafts

6. Strategies for procuring materials



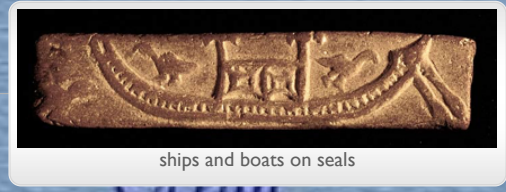
various products from meluhha

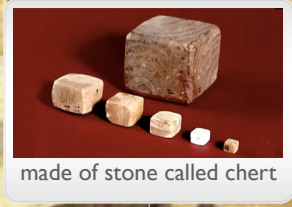


6.2 Contact with distant lands



likely by sea

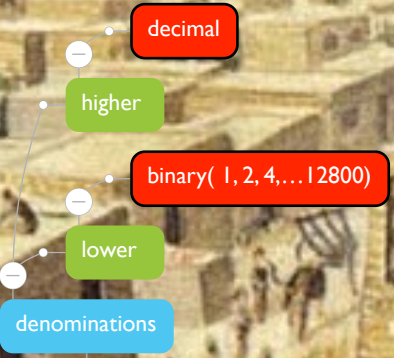




made of stone called chert



used metal scale pans



7.3 Weights

7. Seals , Script , Weights

7.2 An enigmatic script

7.1 Seals and sealings

long distance communication

bag tied with rope and sealed with wet clay

intact sealing implied no tampering

carried identity of the sender



Seals had a line of writing (also on many other objects)



motif - a meaning for illiterate ??

name and title of owner ??



undeciphered



right to left

~400 symbols

9. The end of the civilisation



The decline

by 1800 BCE

many sites abandoned

simultaneous growth in new settlements (Guj, UP, Har)

post 1900 BCE

transformation of material culture

more rural way : "late harappan"

disappearance of distinctive artefacts , long trade , writing , etc

fewer materials used for fewer things

house construction techniques ↓

Possible causes ?

climate change , deforestation , floods, shifting/drying of rivers , overuse of landscape

but can be true only for parts

possibly a stronger unifying element like state came to an end

evidenced by disappearance of std weight , script , seal etc

- evidence
 - uniformity in artefacts
 - uniform brick ratio throughout
 - strategic settlements
 - mobilisation of labour for massive construction

complex decisions implemented

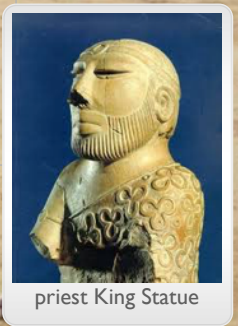
most likely scenario

single state due to uniformity in many aspects

several rulers ??

no rulers ; equal status ??

power ??



findings and speculations

8.1 Palaces and kings

8. Ancient Authority

Symbols Used

↓ - would mean something decreasing / declining in further mind maps

↑ - increasing/ rising

10. Discovering the Harappan Civilisation

Cunningham's Confusion

used chinese pilgrims (4th - 7th CE) - to locate early settlements (But harappa , not a part of it)
⇒ could not identify the harappan artefacts

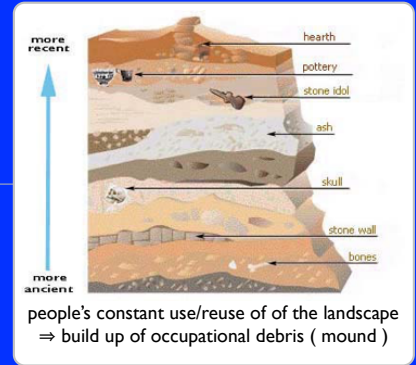
A new old civilisation

subsequent discoveries ⇒ announcement of discovery of IVC (contemporary of mesopotamia) in 1924

new techniques and questions

- major sites → Pakistan
- explorations in india led to discovery in
 - Kutch
 - Dholavira (most recent)
 - Punjab , Haryana
 - other areas
- fresh explorations and investigations continue

Sites , Mounds , Layers



people's constant use/reuse of the landscape ⇒ build up of occupational debris (mound)

the layers used to figure out the chronological depv of a culture - called stratigraphy

The rest of this chapter should be read once but does not have much relevance from GS point of view . All the points of relevance are summarised here , though .

terracotta figurines of women

" priest king"

great bath



conical stone objects - linga ?

seals → ritual scenes

seals with plant motifs → nature worship

one horned animal (unicorn) → mythical , composite creatures

religious significance ?

Problems of interpretation

11. Problems of piecing together the past

more than the script , its the material evidence that helps reconstruct the harappan life

- Classifying finds in terms of ...
 - material
 - function



parallel with later traditions → Rigveda mentions Rudra god - a name of hindu diety shiva - but the proto shiva depiction does not match Rudra . was it a shaman ?

proto shiva



Shaman : ppl claiming magical/healing/communicating with other world powers
Linga: polished stone - symbol of shiva

see the timelines and summary on page 24-25 of the book