

The Indus Valley Civilization

Additional questions

1. Mohenjo-Daro is located on the banks of the river **Indus** in the **Larkhana** district of **Sind**.
2. Harappa is situated on the banks of the river **Ravi** in the **Montgomery** district of **Western Punjab**.
3. The two newest sites of Indus Valley are **Rakhigarhi** (Haryana) and **Dholavira** (Gujarat).
4. The two types of building were – **dwelling houses** and **public buildings**.
5. Seals were in **rectangular** and **square** shapes.
6. Seals were used by merchants and traders to **stamp goods**.
7. The **Pipal tree** was regarded as sacred and worshipped.
8. The Great Bath was used during **religious ceremonies**.
9. Harappa was discovered by **Dayaram Sahni** in 1921.
10. Mohenjo-Daro was discovered by **Rakhaldas Banerjee**.

A. Fill in the blanks.

1. The main river of the Harappan civilization was **Ravi**.
2. The Great Bath is located in **Mohenjo-Daro**.
3. The main occupation of the Harappan were **farming**.
4. The rich wore ornaments made of **gold, silver** and **ivory**.
5. The Harappan seals are made of **clay, soapstone** and **copper**.

B. Match the following:

- | A | B |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Kalibangan | Rajasthan |
| 2. Houses | baked bricks |

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| 3. Toys | terracotta |
| 4. Dancing girl | bronze |
| 5. Lothal | dockyard |

C. Choose the correct answer:

1. The Harappan civilization belongs to the Mesolithic/ Neolithic/**Bronze**.
2. Lothal/Ropar/**Harappa** was the first city to be discovered in the Indus Valley region.
3. The Assembly Hall is in **Mohenjo-Daro** /Lothal/Harappa.
4. **Wheat**/Fish/Barley was the staple food of the Harappans.
5. The neem/banyan/**pipal** tree was probably regarded as sacred by the Harappans.

D. State whether the following are true or false.

1. The Harappan cities had an elaborate drainage system -
False.
2. Domestication of animals was the main occupation of the Harappans -
False.
3. The Harappans decorated their pottery with various designs -
True.
4. The Harappans built strong boats -
True.
5. Invasion by foreign tribes like the Aryans might have led to the collapse of the Indus Valley civilization -
True

E. Answer the following questions in one or two words/ sentences:

Question 1. What discoveries proved that India had a 4,500-year old urban civilization?

Answer: The excavations carried out at various sites prove that around 4,500 years ago highly civilized people lived in this region and gave to the world its earliest cities, its first town planning, its first architecture in stone and clay and its first example of sanitary engineering and drainage system.

Question 2. Why is the Indus Valley Civilization also called the Harappan civilization?

Answer: The Indus Valley civilization is also called the Harappan civilizations because the things found in all the sites were very much like the articles found at Harappa.

Question 3. Why did the Indus Valley people build granaries close to the river bank?

Answer: All the granaries were built close to the river bank so that the grains could be easily transported with the help of boats.

Question 4. Give one example to prove that the Indus Valley bronze smiths were skilled craftspeople.

Answer: The bronze smiths made tools, weapons and metal sculptures such as the famous figure of the 'dancing girl'. They were also engaged in other crafts like brick laying, boat making, stone cutting, masonry and carpentry.

Question 5. How do we know that the Harappans had trade relations with the Mesopotamians?

Answer: Trade relations with Mesopotamia have been proved with the discovery of Mesopotamian seals in the cities of the Indus Valley Civilization and Harappan seals in the ancient cities of Mesopotamia.

F. Answer the following questions briefly:

Question 1. How were the Harappan cities planned? Explain briefly the main features of their dwelling houses.

Answer: The Harappan cities were well-planned. The main streets ran parallel to each other, cut at right angles by smaller, streets, dividing the cities into rectangular blocks. The main roads were straight and very wide. The streets were often paved with baked bricks.

Dwelling houses were building that people live in. They were in different sizes.

They were made of baked bricks of very good quality. But they not used as office, trading place etc.

Question 2. With reference to the engineering skills of the Indus Valley people, explain briefly the features of

1. The Great Bath and
2. The drainage system

Answer:

1. **The Great Bath:** It was important building at Mohenjo-Daro. This building resembled a large swimming pool, It had six entrances, a central bathing pool, galleries and dressing rooms. It was probably used by the general public during religious ceremonies.
2. **The drainage system:** The people of the Indus valley had an excellent, well-planned drainage system. The Kitchens and the bathrooms had drains connected to the street drains. The street drains ran along the side of the streets and were usually covered. They had manholes at regular intervals. The drainage system proves that the Indus Valley people paid great attention to sanitation and cleanliness.

Question 3. Give a brief account of

1. Great Granary
2. Assembly Hall.

Answer:

1. Great Granary:

The Great Granary at Harappa was a large building. Historians believe that it was used to store surplus food grains. There were two rows of granaries. Each row had six granaries.

2. Assembly Hall:

The Assembly Hall was another striking building found in Mohenjo-Daro. It was a pillared hall with thick walls and 20 pillars made of burnt or baked bricks. This may have been an assembly hall, a prayer hall or a palace.

Question 4. Describe (1) the dress and (2) ornaments of the Indus Valley people.

Answer:

1. Dress:

People wore cotton and woollen garments. Two-piece dresses were worn by both men and women. The men wore a garment similar to the dhoti while the women wore skirts. The upper garment was a shawl worn around the shoulder.

2. Ornaments:

Both men and women wore ornaments. They wore necklaces, amulets and finger rings. The women also wore a headdress, earrings, bangles, girdles, bracelets and anklets. The rich wore ornaments made of gold, silver and ivory. The poor wore shell, bone and copper jewellery.

Question 5. Describe the occupation and crafts of the Harappan people.

Answer: The main occupation of the people of the Indus Valley was farming. Farmers grew wheat, barley, fruits and vegetables. They also cultivated cotton. The land was fertile. The second occupation of the people of the Indus Valley was domestication of animals like goat, sheep, buffaloes, elephants, bulls, dogs and cats.

The Indus Valley people were excellent potters and skilled crafts people. They made pottery of various shapes and sizes. They also made terracotta. The goldsmiths made gold and silver jewellery, copper smiths made utensils and the bronze smith made tools, weapons and metal sculptures. The people were also engaged in other crafts like brick laying, boat making, stone cutting, masonry and carpentry. Spinning and weaving were important occupations.

Question 6. Write short notes on the following:

1. Trade
2. Seals of the Indus Valley

Answer:

1. **Trade:** The Indus Valley people carried on flourishing trade both within and outside India. They traded with countries like Mesopotamia, (Iraq), Persia (Iran) and Afghanistan. Trade was carried on both by land and sea routes. Bullock carts, boats and ships were probably used for transport. A dockyard has been discovered at Lothal.
2. **Seals of the Indus Valley:** More than 2,000 seals have been unearthed from various sites. They are generally small, flat, rectangular or square in shape and made of clay, soapstone and copper. They are skill fully carved with figures of humans and animals such as the unicorn, humped bull, goat, tiger, elephant, etc. These seals were probably used by merchants and traders to stamp goods.

Question 7. The study of objects and artifacts found in the ruins of the Indus Valley cities help us to form an idea of Harrapan religion. Explain.

Answer: Some of the objects found in the ruins help us to form an idea of the religion of the Harappans. No temples have been found. Numerous smoke-stained clay figures of a female deity have been found. This was probably the Mother Goddess. A three-faced figure, seated in a yogic posture and surrounded by various

animals is engraved on some seals. The pipal tree was probably regarded as sacred and worshiped. The discovery of a large number of amulets suggests that people probably wore them as lucky charms to ward off evil spirits.

Question 8. How did the Harappan civilization end?

Answer: These are some causes of the decay of the Harappan civilization

1. The Harappan might have been destroyed by natural calamities like earthquakes, floods.
 2. The climate also began to change and the region became more and more dry like a desert.
 3. Perhaps the Aryans attacked their cities and destroyed them.
 4. An epidemic or some terrible disease might have killed the people.
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OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Question 1. Name some major sites of the Indus Valley civilization?

Answer: Some major sites of the Indus Valley civilization are following.

1. Lothal (Gujarat)
2. Ropar (Punjab)
3. Kalibangan (Rajasthan)
4. Alamgirpur (U.P)
5. Banwali (Haryana)
6. Rakhigarhi (Haryana)
7. Dholavira (Gujarat)

Question 2. What is Mohenjodaro mean and where it is located?

Answer: Mohenjodaro means 'mound of the dead'. It is located on the banks of the river Indus in the Larkana district of Sind, (now in Pakistan)

Question 3. Write a short note on 'Great Bath'?

Answer: It was important building at Mohenjodero. This building resembled a large swimming pool, It had six entrances, a central bathing pool, galleries and dressing rooms. It was probably used by the general public during religious ceremonies.

Question 4. What were the main items of food of the Harappa people?

Answer: They ate wheat, barley, fruits, fish meat and vegetables.

Question 5. Describe the toys used by the Harappa children?

Answer: Harappa children played with various toys like wheeled carts, dolls, animals with movable heads, sliding monkeys, rattles and whistles. The toys were generally made of baked clay or terracotta.

Question 6. How was the Indus Valley civilization discovered? Why is it also called the Harappan civilization?

Answer: Indus valley was discovered by the finding of seals and pottery among the ruins of ancient Summerian cities.

Question 7. What do you know about the religious beliefs and practices of the Harappans?

Answer: The people of the Indus Valley believed in religion. They worshiped 'Mother Goddess'. She was the female deity. No temples have been found. But many smoke-stained clay figures of the Mother Goddess have been found. The pipal tree was probably regarded as sacred and also worshiped people wore amulets as lucky charms to ward off evil spirits. People also believed of life after death. They buried the dead together with items of daily use. Sometimes they cremated the dead and kept the ashes or bones in an urn along with that items.

LESSONN – 5

The Early Vedic Civilization

Additional Questions:

1. The local inhabitants were called **dasas** and **dasyus**.
2. **Aryans** were the nomadic people who lived in **Centra Asia**.
3. The Sapta Sindhu region was called **Brahmavarta** which means the **land of gods**.
4. Early Vedic period was also called as **Rig Vedic** period.
5. The Gangetic Valley was renamed as **Aryavarta** which means the **land of Aryans**.
6. The two epics were – the **Ramayana** and the **Mahabharata**.

7. The **Purohita** performed religious ceremonies and advised the king on important matters.
8. Women could choose their husbands in a ceremony called **swayamvara**.
9. The four classes or varnas in the Aryan society were **Brahmanas, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras**.
10. The craftspeople included **chariot-makers, weavers, leather-workers and potters**.

A. Fill in the blanks:

1. The region of seven river is called the **Sapta Sindhu**.
2. The four Vedas are **Rig Veda, Atharva Veda, Sama Veda, and Yajur Veda**.
3. The two councils, the **Sabha** and the **Samiti** exercised control over the king.
4. The most important god of the early Aryans was **Indra**.
5. Labourers who served people and did menial jobs were the **shudras**.

B. Match the following:

A	B
1. Aryavarta	land of Aryans
2. Jana	tribe of the Vedic period
3. Gramani	headman of the village
4. Sabha	smaller assembly of selected people
5. Grihapati	head of the family

C. Choose the correct answer:

1. The Indo-Aryans were people who migrated to India from South Asia/South-east Asia/**Central Asia**.
2. Each Aryan tribe had a chieftain known as gramani/ **rajan**/senani.

3. The commander of chief of the Aryan warriors was known as **senani**/rajan/purohit.
4. **Indra**/Usha/Varuna was the god of rain and thunder.
5. In the Aryan society kshatriyas were the **warriors**/ priests/traders.

D. State whether the following are true or false:

1. Rice was the staple diet of the Aryans -
False.
2. The Aryans drank intoxicating drinks like soma and sura -
True.
3. The dress of the Aryans consisted of a three-piece garment -
False.
4. Both men and women wore jewellery -
True.
5. The Aryans believed in one supreme God -
True.

E. Answer the following questions in one or two words/ sentences:

Question 1. When did the Aryans arrive in India?

Answer: The Aryans arrived in India, the period between 1,500 BCE and 1,000 BCE

Question 2. Which region in India was the first settlement of the Indo-Aryans?

Answer: They first settled in the Sapta Sindhu region, i. e., the region of seven rivers.

Question 3. What is our chief source of information about the early Aryans?

Answer: Our chief source of information about the early Aryans is based mainly on the Rig Veda.

Question 4. What role did the sabha play in the political affairs of the Aryan tribes?

Answer: The sabha was a smaller assembly of important members of the tribe. They advised and guided the king. Women also took part in these assemblies.

Question 5. What was a swayamwara?

Answer: Swayamwara was the ceremony in which the women could choose their husbands.

Question 6. How did the class system originate in the Early Vedic society?

Answer: The Aryans grouped themselves according to their skills in performing certain jobs. In this way the caste system starts and led to development of four classes or varnas in Early Vedic society.

Question 7. Mention two important differences between the Indo-Aryans and the people of the Indus Valley Civilizations.

Answer: Differences between the Aryans and the people of Indus Valley are following

Indus Valley

1. They were idol worshipers
2. Indus Valley civilization was urban in character.
3. They were peace loving people and not knowing swords and other war weapons.

Aryans

1. They worshiped different objects of nature. Aryan civilization was rural in character.
2. They were warrior and know war weapons and their use.

F. Answer the following questions briefly:

Question 1. Give an account of the various stages of the Aryan i settlement in India.

Answer: The Aryans entered India in mainly two stages and took several centuries to bring India under their control.

The first settled in Sapta Sindhu. The region named Brahmavarta, which means the land of the gods. The period between 1,500 bce and 1,000 bce, during which they lived

here, is known as the Early Vedic Period. Then Aryans moved ahead and settled in Gangetic Valley, the region named Aryavarta, the period between 1,000 bce and 600 bce, this period known as Later Vedic Period.

Question 2. Name the four Vedas. How have they come down to us?

Answer: The four vedas are followings:

1. Rig Veda
2. AtharvaVeda
3. SamaVeda
4. YajurVeda

Veda have come down orally handed down from generation to generation and were finally recorded in books.

Question 3. How did the rajan rule his tribe? What features of the political system show that he was not an absolute ruler?

Answer: Rajan was the chief of the tribe. He was ablest and the strongest man. His duties were to protect people from enemies and looked after their welfare.

The Rajan did not have absolute power because the members of two councils (samiti and sabha) exercised control over the king. They advised and guided the

king. The member of the tribe could give his opinion on important matters. In this way Rajan did not have absolute power.

Question 4. Describe briefly (1) The family life and (2) The position of the women in the Rig Vedic period?

Answer:

1. The Aryans lived in villages. Each village was composed of a number of joint families. The head of the family was the Grihapati, the eldest living male member. His decision was final and binding on all the other members.
2. In the Rig Vedic period the position of the women was high and respectable. They were given opportunities for education. Women could choose their husbands. There was no child marriage and widows were allowed to remarry. No religious function could be completed without her presence. Some women composed verses, which is included in Rig Veda.

Question 5. What were the main forms of recreation of the Aryans?

Answer: The main forms of recreations of the Aryans were horse racing, chariot racing, and hunting. They also did the gambling with dice. They were found of outdoor activities. They also like music and dance.

Question 6. Name the gods worshiped by the Rig Vedic Aryans. How did they worship their gods?

Answer: Aryans worshipped the different forces of nature as gods and goddesses. They worshiped Indra, Agni, Surya, Varuna, Vayu, Soma, Prithvi, Usha and Yama. The Aryans did not built temples for worship. They worshipped in open air by recited prayers in praise of these gods and making offerings (grain, ghee and milk) to them. The entire family took part in yagnas and other religious ceremonies.

Question 7. Name the four classes in the Rig Vedic Period. Who were the members of each of these classes?

Answer: The four classes in the Rig Vedic period are following.

1. Brahmanas: They were educated priests and scholars who performed religious rites and imparted education.
2. Kshatriyas: They were the soldiers and protect the tribe from outside attacks.
3. Vaishyas: They were the farmers, traders and craftsmen. They had to shoulder the entire responsibility of the society.
4. Shudras: They formed the lowest order of society and served the other three groups and did menial jobs.

Question 8. What were the main occupations of the Aryans?

Answer: Agriculture and farming was their main occupations. The cow was considered very valuable and was mark of wealth. The trade was done by land and sea route. Barter system was in practice. The main industries were of goldsmiths, carpenters, blacksmiths, weavers, potters, leathers and physicians.

OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Question 1. Describe the source of information regarding the life of the Aryans?

Answer: The source of information about the life of the Aryans is based on the evidence of the 'Vedas'. The word 'Veda' means knowledge. The Vedas are a treasure house of knowledge and collective wisdom of the Aryans.

Question 2. Name the religious books of Aryans ?

Answer: The four Vedas Brahamanas, the Upanishads, the Puranas and the epics (Ramayana and Mahabharata) are the other important religious books of the Aryans.

Question 3. What was the significance of the yajnas to the Aryans?

Answer: They performed yajans to please the gods of nature to save them from enemies and make them prosperous and wealthy.

Question 4. How did a 'Samiti' differ from a 'Sabha'?

Answer: The Sabha could take suggestions from anyone in the village where as Samiti was meant for the elders of the family.

LN – 12 Rural Local Self-Government

Additional questions:

1. The Union Government deals with the matters of national importance like **defence, national finance, foreign exchange, railways, postal service**, etc.
2. The State Government are responsible for maintaining **law and order, local transport, health services**, etc.
3. The Local Self-Government deals with **local problems** and looks after the **basic needs** of the local people.
4. The two kinds of local self-government are **rural** and **urban**.
5. The Panchayati raj is a **three-tiered** system.
6. Panchayats work at the **village** level.
7. Block samitis work at the **block** level.
8. Zila parishad work at the **district** level.
9. The word panchayat means a group of **five people**.
10. The Panchayati Raj system has three parts such as **Gram Sabha, Gram Panchayat, Nyaya Panchayat**.

A. Fill in the blanks:

1. The Indian government function at the **central, state government and local self-government** levels.
2. The union government deals with matters of **national** importance.
3. All **Adult** members of the village are members of the gram sabha.
4. The nyaya panchayat cannot sent people to **jail**.
5. The gram panchayat makes the villagers more **responsible** and self-sufficient.

B. Match the following:

A	B
1. Union Government	New Delhi
2. Panchayati raj	rural local self-government
3. Village Panchayat	headed by the sarpanch
4. Nyaya Panchayat	settles disputes among villagers
5. Zila Parishad	functions at the district level

C. Choose the correct answer:

1. The union government of India is based in **New Delhi**/ Mumbai/Kolkata.
2. Rural refers to town/**villages**/cities.
3. The Panchayati raj is a two/**three**/five-tier.
4. **One third**/One sixth/One fourth of the seats of the gram panchayat are reserved for women.
5. The panchayat/**block samiti**/zila parishads is the local self-government body at the block level.

D. State whether the following are true or false:

1. The Local self-government deals with matters of national importance -
False.
2. Panchayats are elected for 2 years -
False.
3. The village panchayat is the basic unit of the Panchayati raj system -
True.
4. The Panchayat provides primary education -
True.
5. The Nyaya Panchayat tries petty civil and criminal cases -
True.

E. Answer the following questions in one or two words/ sentences:

Question 1. What are the three tiers of the Panchayati raj system?

Answer: The three-tiers of Panchayati raj system is as:

1. Panchayats at the village level,
2. Block samitis at the block level,
3. Zila parishads at the district level.

Question 2. Who is the head of the village panchayat?

Answer: The village panchayat is headed by the Pradhan or sarpanch.

Question 3. Mention any one optional function of the gram panchayat.

Answer: It builds playgrounds and rest houses, installs television and radio sets in the community centres, and organizes educational programmes, etc.

1. It organizes cattle fairs and village markets.

Question 4. What does the nyaya panchayat do?

Answer: Its function is to settle disputes among the people. It also provides a cheap and speedy way to resolve disputes.

F. Answer the following questions briefly:

Question 1. What are the functions of the union, state and local self-governments?

Answer: Union (Central government) deals with matters of national importance like defence, national finance, foreign, exchange, railways, postal services etc.

1. State government maintain law and order, local transport, health services and it also carries out the community development programme.
2. Local self-government deals with local problems and looks after the basic needs of the local people.

Question 2. What is local self-government? Name the two kinds of local self-governing bodies in India?

Answer: It is a government run by the elected representatives of the local people. In India there are two kinds of local self-government.

They are following.

1. **Urban:** It refers to towns and cities. Municipalities, corporations and cantonment boards are urban local bodies.
2. **Rural:** It refers to villages. Zila parishads, block samitis and panchayats are rural local bodies.

Question 3. Mention any five compulsory functions of the Gram Panchayat.

Answer: They are following:

It provides drinking water, school, health and sanitation facilities.

1. It constructs buildings, roads, drains and tanks.
2. It helps farmers to develop and improve their farms and cattle.
3. It looks after the welfare of the weaker sections.
4. It organizes educational programmes, cattle fair and village markets.

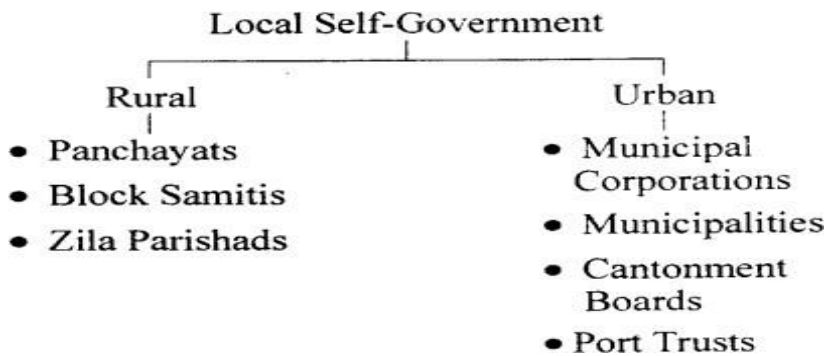
Question 4. What is the importance of Gram Panchayats?

Answer: The Gram Panchayat assists the villagers in dealing with day-to-day problems. It performs administrative, social, economic and judicial functions. It ensures the participation of the villages in developing their community. Hence, people learn to cooperate and participate in the government of the country at the grass-roots level.

OTHER IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

Question 1. Make a Block diagram of Local self-government?

Answer:



Question 2. Name three parts of Panchayati system at the villages.

Answer:

1. Gram Sabha
2. Gram Panchayat
3. Nyaya Panchayat

Question 3. Why is Panchayati raj a three-tiered system?

Answer: Because this was done to involve the people of the villages in the management of their own affairs.

Question 4. Why do you think panchayats are so important in this country?

Answer: India is vast country with a large population. The Prime Minister alone cannot attend to each and every need of the people in remote village. To make the task of administration easier the government in India operates panchayat.

Question 5. List three functions of:

- (1) Block samiti and
- (2) Zila parishads.

Answer: Functions of Block Samiti:

1. It supervises the working of the village panchayats.
2. It arranges funds from the government for block development programmers.
3. It prepares the community development programmer for their area.

Functions of Zila Parishad:

1. It supervises the working of the block samitis and panchayats.
2. It advises the state government on the working of the Panchayati raj system.
3. It approves the budget of the block samitis and distributes funds among them.

Question 6. What are some of the sources of income for block samitis and zila parishads?

Answer: The sources of income for block samitis and zila parishad are following:

1. The state government and the central government give grants and aids.
2. It advised the state government on the working of the Panchayati raj system.
3. Taxes are imposed on land, houses, water, electricity, fairs and cattle.