

## Indus Valley Civilization - Learn the key concepts

Today we are going to learn about the Indus Valley Civilization which was established around 3300 BC. It is a very important topic asked in competitive exams. So dive deep into this topic.

Indus Valley Civilization flourished around 2500 BC, which is often called the age of matured IVC. It forms the backbone of India as it is one of the major civilizations of the world. Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) is one of the four great civilizations of the world. It flourished along the flood plains of Indus and Ghaggar-Hakra. IVC was spread across the western part of South Asia that now lies in India, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It started declining around 1900 BC and disappeared around 1400 BC.

Major sites of IVC are as follows:

## Mohenjodaro

Mohenjodaro, found within Sind on the bank of Indus is among the biggest sites of the Harappan Civilization. Most of the data with respect to the town planning, housing and seals of this civilization comes from this site. Unearthings started at this location in 1922, with R.D. Banerjee and Sir John Marshall taking up the work. Unearthings show that people lived here for a really long time and went on building and modifying houses in the same area

## Harappa

Harappa was the first location to be unearthed and archaeologists like Dayaram Sahni, M.S. Vats and Mortimer Wheeler carried out unearthing at Harappa. It lay on the bank of the Ravi river in the Punjab region. In terms of its size and the assortment of objects found, it positions as the chief city of the Harappan Civilization. In Harappa, a substantial segment of the populace was locked in activities other than food production. It was found within the middle of a few critical exchange courses which are still in utilization. These courses associated Harappa with Central Asia, Afghanistan and Jammu.

## Kalibangan

The settlement of Kalibangan is found in Rajasthan along the river Ghaggar. As pointed out prior this zone had the biggest concentration of the Harappan settlements. Kalibangan was unearthed within the 1960s beneath the direction of B.K. Thapar. This yielded proof for the presence of Pre-Harappan and Harappan homes. There appears significant variation from Harappan within the circle of religious convictions.

## Lothal



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Lothal is located between the Bhogavo and Sabarmati rivers near the Gulf of Khambhat in Gujarat. The word lothal literally means mound of dead similar to Mohenjo Daro. The city was discovered by SN Rao in 1957. The city was mathematically planned and it had a grid pattern with streets crossing at right angles. The dockyard proves the maritime activity of the Harappans. As the Indus script is yet to be deciphered, it is not known if this was really India's first port as is claimed by some and questioned by some historians.

## Chanhudaro

Chanhudaro is situated around 100 km south of Mohenjodaro in the Sindh on the bank of River Indus. It was discovered by NG Majumdar in 1931. The Chanhu Daro has given evidence of factories of various figurines, seals, toys, bone implements so it has been interpreted that it was a settlement with lots of artisans and was an industrial town.

## Dholavira

Dholavira is an archaeological site in Kutch district of Gujarat state. The site was discovered in 1967-68 by JP Joshi and is the fifth largest of the eight Harappan Major sites. Dholavira is an archaeological site in Kutch District, Gujarat State. It is one of the top five Harappan sites and the most prominent archaeological sites in India belonging to the Indus Valley Civilization. It was named as UNESCO world heritage site on 27 July 2021.

The next major civilization that occurred in ancient India after the decline of the Indus Valley Civilization by 1400 BC was the Vedic civilisation. Hence, it was all about the Indus Valley Civilization. Hope you have learnt a lot and it will help further in your preparation.