

# THE WELLAND GOULDSMITH SCHOOL, PATULI.

## HISTORY AND CIVICS

### CLASS 9

#### INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION SYNOPSIS:

#### **Civilization**

Civilization is defined as an advanced stage of human cultural development. It implies use of technology and complex economic relationship. There are certain traits which mark a civilization some of these are.

- Evolution of cities
- Surplus food production
- Division of labour
- System of writing
- Monuments
- Development of technology

Some of the earliest civilizations we have found have been around river valleys, and that is no coincidence because some of the first agriculture emerged around river valleys and the agriculture supported higher population densities and more sedentary population and allowed for more specialization.

#### **Origin**

- The Indus valley civilization flourished in the Bronze Age from 3300 B.C.E. to 1200 B.C.E. The use of Bronze for making tools, by the Harappans gave the Age its name.
- The Harappan civilization extended from Jammu in the North to Narmada in the South, from Baluchistan in the West to Meerut in the East.

#### **Sources**

- The Great Bath
- Citadel
- Seals
  - a. Pashupati seal

- b. The Unicorn seal
  - c. The Bull seal
- Lothal Dockyard
- Human figurines
  - a. Bearded Man
  - b. Dancing Girl
  - c. Terracotta figures of Mother Goddess

## **Characteristic Features of the Harappan Civilisation**

- Urban Planning.
  - a. Indus cities followed a grid pattern.
  - b. divided into two areas, citadel and the lower town.
  - c. Roads at right angle.
- Proper drainage system
- The Great Granary where food was stored
- The Great Bath
- Use of regulated weights and measures
- Assembly hall

## **Art and Craft**

- Ornaments, eg. Earrings, bangles, bracelets, anklets worn by both men and women
- Furniture and utensils
- Sculptures,
  - a. Dancing girl figurines
  - b. Bronze figure of a hump bull
  - c. mother goddess
  - d. bearded man
- Metal works like beads and ornament making
- Weaving and pottery.

## **Economic Activity**

- Main stay of economy was agriculture
- Domestication of animals
- Trade

## **Religious Practices**

- Centered around worship of nature and its elements

- Forms such as Mother Goddess and Pashupati were also worshiped

## **Decline**

- The Harappan civilization declines around 1800 B.C.E.
  1. Natural calamity
  2. Foreign Invasions
  3. DeforestationAre considered to be some of the reasons