

## Chapter - 4 History

### In The Earliest Cities

- Man's lifestyle changed significantly after he learnt the art of using metals.
- Copper was the first metal to be used by man. It was followed by bronze which was made by mixing tin and copper.
- The earliest cities in the Indian subcontinent emerged around 4,700 years in the region drained by Indus and its tributaries in the North-West.
- **The Story of Harappa:**
  - (i) British discovered a mound while building Railways.
  - (ii) Archaeologists were informed.
  - (iii) Harappa was the first to be discovered, it became Harappa Civilisation.
- **Architectural Features:**
  - (i) Harappan cities were well-planned.
  - (ii) All houses were build of burnt bricks and were of good quality.
  - (iii) The most imposing construction of Indus valley was the Great Bath at Mohenjodaro.
  - (iv) The Harappan settlements had small citadels. It was in citadels that structures were built for special public puroposes.
  - (v) The largest building excavated at Harappa was the Great Granary.
  - (vi) The most striking feature of Harappa was the well-planned drainage system.
- **Life of the Harappa People:**
  - (i) The Harappan people used common food items like wheat and barley. Animal bones found at Harappa include sheep, goat, pig, etc.
  - (ii) Pots of fine clay were made.
  - (iii) Many kilns for baking bricks have been discovered.
  - (iv) Of the various articles, seals were the most puzzling.
  - (v) Necklaces, armlets, finger rings and bangles were worn both by men and women. Both men and women seemed to be fond of ornaments.
- **Trade:**
  - (i) Trading thrived in Harappa.
  - (ii) It suggests that long-distance trade existed.
  - (iii) Goods coming from outside, include copper from Rajasthan, gold from Karnataka and precious stones from Iran and Afghanistan.
  - (iv) Seals of Mesopotamia have been found in Indus.
  - (v) Seals of Indus Valley have been found in Mesopotamia.
- **Harappan Cities in Gujarat:**
  - (i) Two famous Harappan cities of Gujarat were Dholavira and Lothal.
  - (ii) Dholavira was full of traces of fresh water and fertile soil.
  - (iii) Lothal was an important centre for making objects out of stone, shell and metal.
- **Decline of the Indus Valley Civilisation:**
  - (i) It lasted from 2500 BC to 1500 BC.
  - (ii) Perhaps Indus Valley Civilisation was destroyed by earth quakes, floods or change in the course of the Indus.
  - (iii) Some historians sat that the invasion of Aryans led to the decline of Harappan civilization.