

Harappan Civilization

Q / Ans

- Q1. Mention any two sources to reconstruct the Harappan Civilization.
- Ans. Two sources to reconstruct the Harappan Civilization are:
1. A dockyard surrounded by a massive black brick wall, ~~was~~ discovered at Lothal in Gujarat. The dockyard suggests that they practised navigation on the coast of the Arabian sea.
 2. Objects of Sumerian origin found at the Indus cities indicate that there were trade relations between India and Mesopotamia.
- Q2. Why did the Indus Valley Civilization come to be known as Harappan Civilization?
- Ans. As Harappa was the first site that was excavated, it ^{Indus Valley} came to be known as the Harappan Civilization.

Q3.

Describe the famous sculpture in metal which was found among the ruins of the city of Mohenjo-daro.

ans.

The most outstanding work in metal is the bronze figure of a dancing girl with her right hand on her hip in a dancing posture. She is shown wearing necklaces and her left arm is covered with bangles made of ivory or bone. Her hair is neatly fashioned in the form of a bun and her head is tilted slightly backwards.

Q4.

Give one evidence to show that the Harappan people excelled in the art of sculpture: a) metal b) in stone and c) terracotta

a) Metal

ans.

The most outstanding work in metal is the bronze figure of a dancing girl with her right hand on her hip in a dancing posture. She is shown wearing necklaces and her left arm is covered with bangles made of ivory or bone. Her hair is neatly fashioned in the form of a

man and her head is tilted slightly backwards.

b) Stone

ans. Two stone statues, which have been found at Mohenjo-daro and Harappa, show the remarkable skill of their sculptures. One of them is the statue of a noble man or a priest wearing a shawl over the left shoulder and under the right arm. His eyes are half closed and his beard neatly trimmed.

c) terracotta

ans. The terracotta figurine of the Mother goddess which was found at Mohenjo-daro is an exquisite piece of sculpture.

Q5. Harappan civilization was a highly developed urban civilization. Discuss the significant features of this civilization with reference.

a) The Town Planning

ans. The ruins of the sites reveal that the Harappan people were primarily urban and

These cities were designed skillfully. The streets divided the entire city into square or rectangular blocks each of which was further divided by number of lanes. The main streets were feet wide and straight and intersected each other at right angles. Fire burnt bricks were used for paving the streets.

A brick lined drainage channel flowed alongside every street. The house drains were connected to the underground main drain. The drains were provided with manholes at regular intervals for proper inspection and cleaning.

b) The Drainage system

One of the unique features of the city was its elaborate drainage system. A brick lined drainage channel flowed alongside every street. The house drains were connected to the underground main drain. The drains were provided with manholes at regular intervals for proper inspection and cleaning.

Q6. The seals may be considered as the most valuable finds of the Harappan Civilization. Concentrate on the picture given below and answer the following questions:

a) What does this seal depict?

ans. The seal depicts a three-faced deity seated in a yogic posture with horned head-dress and surrounded by animals.

b) How important are the seals as sources of information about the Harappan Civilization Culture?

ans. From the figures on the seals we come to know about the physical features, dress ornaments and hair style of the people.

- They throw light on the religious faith and beliefs of the people.

- They give us an idea about their commercial activities.

- They reveal the remarkable skill of the artists.