

# The Early Vedic Age

## Q / Ans

Q1. Name any two early Aryan settlements.

Ans. Aryans occupied Sapta Sindhu region which comprises of the five rivers of Punjab and Indus and Saraswati river.

Q2. What does the Rig Vedic Veda contain?

Ans. It contains hymns in praise of different gods and goddesses like Indra, Varuna and Agni.

Q3. Name any two of the four Varnas.

Ans. Two Varnas are -:

1. Kshatriyas
2. Brahmins.

Q4. Describe the social life of the Rig Vedic Aryans with reference to the following.

### a) The family structure

ans.

1. The joint family system was prevalent.
2. Houses in this age were built of wood or reed.
3. The Rig Vedic System Society was patriarchal in which Grihyapati dominated in family and social life.

### b) ~~Perit~~ Position of Women

ans. 1. Women were treated as being equal with men.

2. Women took part in all the religious rites.
3. Women were given education.
4. There were women scholars who composed hymns and were well versed in the sacred scriptures.
5. Girls had freedom to in the choice of husband.
6. Monogamy was the usual practice.
7. Child marriage, sati and purdah did not exist.

### c) Varna system

ans. One hymn in the last book of the Rig Veda refers to four order of of the society - the Brahmins, the Kshatriyas, the Vasisyas and the Shudras.

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2. The people who explained the Vedic text and performed the religious ceremonies were called the Brahmins.
  3. Those who belonged to the ruling class were the Kshatriyas.
  4. The common people, who were engaged in agriculture, trade and industry were Vaisiyas.
  5. The shudras were the servants and labourers.
  6. There was no ban on taking of food cooked by shudras.
  7. No ~~cast~~ restrictions on intermarriage and change of occupation.

Q 5 With reference to the following explain the main features of the Rig Vedic Economy:

### a) Agriculture

1. Rig Vedic economy was agrarian in character.
2. The Rig Vedic Aryans were mainly scattered in villages. They
3. They prayed for plentiful rain and bountiful harvest, large herds of cattle and good health.

## b) Domestication of animals

ans: Cattle formed an important item of danda made to the priests.

2. The word gomast was used to signify a wealthy person. It meant the one who possessed many cattle; especially the cows and bulls.
3. Other domesticated animals were the horse, the dog, the goat and the sheep.

## c) Trade transaction

ans: 1) The people were engaged in trade, cloth and leather goods being the main items.

2. The barter system was practiced for trade transaction.
3. Cow was the standard unit of value.
4. They used horses and bullocks for carrying goods from place to place.

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