

## Long Answer Question

### Q.1. Describe the trade under Indus Valley Civilization.

**Ans.**

- i. Trading thrived in Harappa.
- ii. It suggests that long-distance trade existed.
- iii. Goods coming from outside perhaps included copper from Rajasthan, gold from Karnataka and precious stones from Iran and Afghanistan.
- iv. Seals of Mesopotamia have been found in Indus region while seals of Indus Valley have been found in Mesopotamia.

### Q.2. Describe the architectural features of Indus Valley Civilisation.

**Ans.** Harappan cities were well-planned. This is proved by the excavations at Mohenjodaro and Harappa. The architecture consisted of the following features:

- i. **Dwelling Houses:** Residential houses of Mohenjodaro were of different sizes varying from a small house of two rooms to a palatial building. All houses were built of bricks which were usually well burnt and of good quality.
- ii. **The Great Bath at Mohenjodaro:** Perhaps the most imposing construction of the Indus Valley was the Great Bath at Mohenjodaro. It consisted of a large open quadrangle in the centre with verandahs, galleries and rooms on all the sides.
- iii. **The Citadels:** The Harappan settlements had small citadels. The settlement had a small but higher western part and the lower eastern section. It was in citadels that structures were built for special public purposes.
- iv. **Assembly Hall:** A big hall had been unearthed at Mohenjodaro which had been named as 'Collegiate Building'. It had 20 massive pillars made of kiln-burnt bricks arranged in rows of five each.
- v. **Great Granary at Harappa:** The most remarkable and the largest building excavated at Harappa was the Great Granary. In all, there were six such granaries and may have been used as government storehouses.
- vi. **Drainage System:** One of the most striking features of the town was the well-planned drainage system. The drains were made of mortar, lime and gypsum. They were covered with big bricks and stones which could be lifted easily to clean the drains. Smaller drains from houses on both sides of the streets came and joined a brick-laid main channel. For sewage from the houses, pits were provided at either side of the street. It showed skill in town planning and sanitation.

### Q.3. How did Harappan or Indus Valley civilisation decline?

**Ans.** We are sure about the causes of decline of this civilisation but scholars are sure of the following reasons:

- i. Probably the rivers dried up.

- ii. There could be deforestation as fuel was required for baking bricks and for smelting copper ore.
- iii. Grazing by large herds of cattle, sheep and goats may have destroyed the green belt.
- iv. It could be frequent floods troubling people.
- v. Or it could be invasion of Aryans who must have posted then towards South India.

**Q.4. What do you know about Great Bath of Mohenjodaro?**

**Ans.**

- i. It's a special tank, archaeologist called it Great Bath.
- ii. This was lined with bricks, coated with plaster and made water-tight with a layer of natural tar.
- iii. There were steps leading down to it from two sides, while there were rooms on all sides.
- iv. Water was probably brought in from a well and drained out after use.
- v. Perhaps important people took a dip in this tank on special occasions.

**Q.5. Describe the drains laid in the cities of Harappan.**

**Ans.**

- i. Many of the cities had covered drains.
- ii. Very carefully these were laid out in straight lines.
- iii. Each drain had a gentle slope so that the water could flow through it.
- iv. Very often drains in houses were connected to those on streets and smaller drains led into bigger ones.

**Q.6. On an outline map of India, mark major Harappan sites.**

**Ans.** The earliest cities in the subcontinent.

