# **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.