

## Indus River Valley - Harappa

<b>Artistic and Technological Advances:</b>	<p><b>Steatite Seals:</b> Most commonly a square shaped seal with a knob on the back and a carved design on the front. These seals were created mostly during the very beginning of the civilizations. Although the Harappa people traded their seals with other civilizations, it is known that the techniques of manufacture and variations originated with them. It is also now known that these seals were seen as symbols of power and authority to the Harappa people.</p> <p><b>Ornaments:</b> During the beginning of the civilization, ornaments were found to be simple, using procedures such as chipping, grinding and drilling. Any complex ornaments found in Harappa were likely traded. Over time they began to create their own more intricate ornaments made of all types of stone, shell, bone and pottery objects. The Harappa people also included many ornaments, steatite bead necklaces and bracelets, along with pendants of lapis lazuli, carnelian and other semiprecious stones in their burials.</p> <p><b>Blue-Green Glazed Faience Beads:</b> Beads that required high temperatures and specialized technology of frit and glaze preparation.</p> <p><b>Terra-Cotta Figurines:</b> Figures made of stone or clay that were covered in ornaments and other features. Techniques include appliqué, modeling, and incising as well as painting with red, black or yellow pigments.</p> <p><b>Button Seals:</b> Early ones were made of carved animal bone but were then replaced with carved soapstone or steatite with geometric incised designs.</p> <p><b>Tools and Weapons:</b> Although not many of these were found specifically in Harappa, Arrow heads, stone saws and stone blades were all found in surrounding Indus Valley civilizations that likely traded with Harappa people.</p>
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<p><b>Political:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~ Chandragupta: son of herdsman, ruler of India's first empire</li> <li>~ Chanakya became Prime Minister of Chandragupta</li> <li>~ Priests considered "Rulers"</li> <li>~ Monarchy government; ruler in complete power</li> <li>~ Irrigation network was an accomplishment of the government</li> <li>~ Rulers did not have right to change the religious beliefs of others</li> <li>~ Princes were independent</li> <li>~ <b>Social Classes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priests (Brahmins)</li> <li>Warriors, Rulers (Kshatriyas)</li> <li>Artisans, Merchants (Vaishyas)</li> <li>Landless, "Peasants" (Shudras)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Economics</b></p>	<p>The civilization comes from a very hard archeological excavation area. The Indus River Valley people made a living by farming.</p> <p>The earliest traces of cotton known anywhere in the whole entire world are actually found in the Indus River Valley. The Indus people also domesticated animals in the local area, which were wild species.</p> <p>Every crop that a farmer had grown had to be paid into public granaries. People say that a lot of the Indus people hunted the abundant wildlife in their life.</p>
<p><b>Intellectual</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>~ Few remnants of weaponry suggest little conflict</li> <li>~ Could afford to make goods such as toys that were not essential; suggests prosperous and wealthy society</li> <li>~ Animals were important to culture</li> <li>~ Several figures were made, meanings remain a mystery to archaeologists</li> <li>~ Writing developed when inscriptions were made on pottery</li> <li>~ Recognized plant symbols in early writing</li> <li>~ During Kot Dijian Period, symbols were created on the bottom of terra cotta</li> <li>~ These in 2800-2600 BC incorporated to Indus writing in 2600 BC</li> <li>~ Suggest graffiti-like signs, indicating name of artist or owner</li> <li>~ Geometric signs were also found</li> </ul>
<p><b>Religious:</b></p>	<p>Polytheistic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tentatively thought of as Hindus</li> </ul>
<p><b>Social:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Population between 30,000-40,000 people (one of the largest “Bronze Age” cities)</li> <li>- Games such as Chatur-Anga (chess) were played. However, in its original form it was played by four players</li> <li>- Musical instruments include the Sarangi, Sitar, Tabla, Tambora, and Tanpura.</li> </ul>

