

## Course Title: Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization

Course Code:

### Course Description:

The course objectives for the History of Indian Civilization aim to familiarize students with the ancient Indus Valley Civilization. Students will examine the archaeological evidence, sociocultural aspects, trade networks, urban planning, and decline of the Harappan Civilization, enabling them to gain a deeper understanding of this fascinating ancient civilization.

### Course Objectives:

- To recall key facts and features of the Harappan Civilization.
- To comprehend the social, economic, and cultural aspects of the Harappan Civilization.
- To use archaeological evidence to analyze and interpret the lifestyle and technological advancements of the Harappan people.
- To evaluate the factors that contributed to the rise and decline of the Harappan Civilization.
- To assess the significance of the Harappan Civilization on ancient Indian history and its influence on subsequent civilizations.
- To generate new insights or interpretations about the Harappan Civilization through research or scholarly discussions.

### Learning Outcome:

- **LO1:** Knowledge of Civilization: Students will demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the concept of civilization and its characteristic features. They will be able to define and identify the key elements that define the Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization within the broader context of ancient civilizations.
- **LO2:** Understanding of Pre and Proto Developments: Students will gain knowledge of the pre and proto-developments that led to the emergence of the Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization. They will explore the early stages of settlement, societal organization, economy, and religion, and understand the geographical expansion and settlement patterns of the civilization.
- **LO3:** Comprehensive Study of Mature Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization: Students will acquire an in-depth understanding of the mature phase of the Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization. They will examine the geographical distribution, settlement patterns, societal structures, art and architecture, economy, trade networks, craft specialization, agrarian systems, and religious practices of the civilization.
- **LO4:** Analysis of the Decline and Late Harappan Phase: Students will critically evaluate various theories and factors contributing to the decline of the Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization. They will explore the late Harappan phase in different regions and analyze its consequences and impact on subsequent cultures. They will also examine the legacy of the Harappan civilization in the context of new research.
- **LO5:** Familiarity with Major Archaeological Sites: Students will gain familiarity with major archaeological sites of the Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization, such as Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro, Rakhigarhi, Lothal, Dholavira, and Sanauli. They will understand the

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significance of these sites in providing insights into the culture, society, and technological advancements of the civilization.

- **LO6: Research Skills and Critical Thinking:** Through the course, students will develop research skills and the ability to critically analyze archaeological evidence, scholarly discussions, and interpretations related to the Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization. They will be able to generate new insights, interpretations, and contribute to scholarly discussions in the field of ancient Indian history.

## 1. Civilization

- 1.1 Definition and various characteristic features
- 1.2 Antiquity of Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization
- 1.3 Research on the SSC- Pre-Independence and Post-independence Era a theoretical approach.
- 1.4 Geographical Expansion of Sapta-Sandhav Region and Saraswati River

## 2. Pre and Proto Developments of SSC

- 2.1 Development of Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization
- 2.2 Early Saraswati-Sindhu Civilization
- 2.3 Geographical Expansion and Settlement Pattern
- 2.4 Society, Economy, Religion

## 3. Mature SSC

- 3.1 Geographical Distribution and Settlement Pattern
- 3.2 Society, Polity, Art and Architecture (Public and Private)
- 3.3 Economy, Trade Hinterland and overseas, trade mechanism, transport facility, craft specialization etc., Agrarian System (SSC plant and animal diet, agriculture and agriculture system, water management, exploitation of natural resources, etc.)
- 3.4 Religion, SSC script various theories about the decipherment, and the present status.

## 4. Decline and Late SSC

- 4.1 Various Factors and Theories about the SSC Decline and Consequences
- 4.2 Late SSC phase in Sindh, Cholistan, Haryana, Punjab, Gujarat and Western U.P.
- 4.3 SSC legacy
- 4.4 Contemporary Researches

## 5. Major Archaeological Sites of SSC

- 5.1 Harappa, Mohanjodaro
- 5.2 Rakhigarhi, Kunal
- 5.3 Lothal, Dholavira
- 5.4 Sanauli



## Suggested Readings:

1. Anindya Sarkar, Arati Deshpande Mukherjee, Navin Juyal, P. Morthekai, M. K. Bera,
2. R.D. Deshpande, V. S. Shinde and L. S. Rao 2016. Oxygen isotope in archaeological bioapatites from India: Implications to climate change and decline of Bronze Age Harappan civilization, Nature Scientific reports 6.
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4. Agrawal D.P. and D. Chakrabarti (Eds.) Essays in Indian Protohistory. New Delhi: D.K. Publishers
5. Bhargva, Manohar Lala, The Geography Rigvedic India: A physical geography of Sapta Saindhava, Publisher: The Upper India Publishing House, Lucknow, Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi.
6. Bisht, R. S. 1989. The Harappan colonization of Kutch: an ergonomic study with reference to Dholavira and Surkotada. In K. Deva and L. Gopal (Eds.) History and Art (pp. 265-72). Delhi: Ramanand Vidya Bhavan.
7. Bisht, R.S. 2000. Urban Planning at Dholavira: A Harappan City. In J. M. Malville and
8. L.M. Gujral (Eds.), Ancient Cities, Sacred Skies: Cosmic Geometries and City Planning in Ancient India (pp. 11-23). New Delhi: Aryan Books International.
9. Chakrabarti, D.K. 1990. The External Trade of the Indus Civilization. New Delhi: Munshiram Manoharlal.
10. Dales, G. F. 1966. The Decline of the Harappans, Scientific American 214 (5): 93-100.
11. Dales, G.F. and J.M. Kenoyer. 1986. Excavations at Mohenjo Daro: The Pottery. Philadelphia: The University of Pennsylvania.
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16. Jarrige, J.F. and R.H. Meadow 1980. The Antecedents of Civilizations in the Indus Valley.
17. Scientific American 243(2): 122 133.
18. Joshi, J.P. 2008. Harappan Architecture and Civil Engineering. New Delhi: Rupa & Co.
19. Kenoyer, J.M. 1991. The Indus Valley Traditions of Pakistan and Western India, Journal of



World Prehistory 5(4):331-385.

20. Kenoyer, J.M. 1992. Harappan Craft Specialization and the Question of Urban Segregation and Stratification, *The Eastern Anthropologist* 45(1&2):39-54.
21. Kenoyer, J.M. 1998. *Ancient Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization*. Karachi: Oxford University Press.
22. Kenoyer, J.M. 2008. Indus Civilization in *Encyclopedia of Archaeology*, Vol.1 (Ed. Deborah M. Pearsall) pp.715-733. New York: Academic Press.
23. Khan, F. A. 1964. Excavations at Kot Diji, *Pakistan Archaeology* 1: 39-43.
24. Lal, B.B. and S.P. Gupta (eds.) 1984. *Frontiers of the Indus Civilization*. New Delhi: Books and Books.
25. Madella M, Fuller DQ (2006) Palaeoecology and the Harappan Civilisation of South Asia: a reconsideration, *Quaternary Sci Rev* 25:1283–1301.
26. McIntosh, J., 2007. *The Ancient Indus Valley: New Perspectives*. ABC-CLIO, Santa Barbara.
27. Majumdar, N. G. 1934. Explorations in Sind. *Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India*, 48: 1-172.
28. Mughal, M.R. 1997. *Ancient Cholistan*. Lahore: Ferozsons.
29. Mughal, M.R. 1990. Further Evidence of the Early Harappan Culture in the Greater Indus Valley, *South Asian Studies* 6:175-200.
30. Possehl, G.L. (ed.) 1979. *Ancient Cities of the Indus*. New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House.
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37. Rao, S.R. 1973. *Lothal and the Indus Civilization*. Bombay: Asia Publishing House.
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Publishers.

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