

the Indus Valley civilization. As per the tradition, the name of the first excavated city is given to civilization. Hence Indus valley civilization is also called Harappan Civilisation as Harappa was the first city to be discovered.

- The highly civilized Harappans knew the art of growing cereals, and wheat and barley constituted their staple food. They consumed vegetables and fruits and ate mutton, pork, and eggs as well. Evidence also shows that they wore cotton as well as woolen garments.
- By 1500 BC, the Harappan culture came to an end. Among various causes ascribed to the decline of Indus Valley Civilization are the recurrent floods and other natural causes like earthquakes, etc.
- IVC was a contemporary Egyptian, Assyrian & Mesopotamian Civilisation. The Mesopotamians used to call the Indus region as Meluha.
- Most of the IVC settlement (about 70%) were located in the valley of Sarasvati river system which is extinct today. The river Sarasvati was known by the name of Ghaggar in Punjab and Hakra in the Baluchistan region.

LIMITS OF IVC:

1. Northernmost Site- Manda J&K, Located near river Chenab
2. Southernmost Site- Daimabad (Maharashtra), located near river Pravara
3. Westernmost Site- Sutkagendor (Pakistan) on river Dask/ Dastkaur
4. Easternmost Site- Alamgirpur (Western UP) river Hindon

CHARACTERISTICS:

- IVC was said to be a Proto- Historic Civilisation, it lived during the Bronze Age. It was also an Urban civilization.
- IVC can be called a Riverine civilization as most of the cities & settlements were situated in river banks.
- The script was written in Boustrophedon style i.e. from right to left and left to right direction alternately. Harappan people had a well-developed pictographic script.
- IVC was an indigenous civilization. Its rise was brought about by indigenous elements.
- It was characterized by large cities, surplus agriculture, specialized craftsmanship, a favorable balance of trade.
- Various sub-Harappan pottery types
 - Lustrous Red Ware - Gujarat
 - Ochre- Coloured Pottery - Punjab, Haryana & Rajasthan
 - Jhukar Pottery - Sind (Buff ware with red slip & black paintings)
- Harappan Sites in Descending Order in Size
 - Rakhigarhi in Haryana (A recent report by the Archaeological Survey of India claims that Haryana's Bhirrana is the oldest Harappan site and Rakhigarhi the biggest Harappan site in Asia)
 - Mohenjo Daro in Sind (Pakistan)
 - Harappa in West Punjab (Pak)
 - Ganeriwala in Bahawalpur (Pak)
 - Dholavira in Gujarat
- In India Rakhigarhi in Haryana is largest followed by Dholavira in Gujarat.
- The earliest Sub- Harappan settlement is located in Prabhas Patan in Gujarat.
- The descendants of Harappa are Mohana people a minority tribe of fishermen living near Mohenjo