



# BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAMPURA, DELHI – 110034

## SOCIAL SCIENCE: CLASS VI

WEEK: 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

SUBJECT: SOCIAL SCIENCE (HISTORY)

CLASS: VI

NUMBER OF BLOCKS: 2

TOPIC: CHAPTER 3: IN THE EARLIEST CITIES

SUB TOPICS:

- HARAPPA CITIES: MOHENJO-DARO / DHOLAVIRA/ LOTHAL
- STRUCTURE AND CRAFT OF THE CITY
- RAW MATERIAL
- FOOD FOR PEOPLE IN THE CITIES
- DECLINE OF THE CITY

**INSTRUCTIONAL AID:**

VIDEOS: [https://youtu.be/JSYUFqze\\_vg](https://youtu.be/JSYUFqze_vg)

<https://youtu.be/93BpoemaqEg>

NCERT BOOK: <https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php>

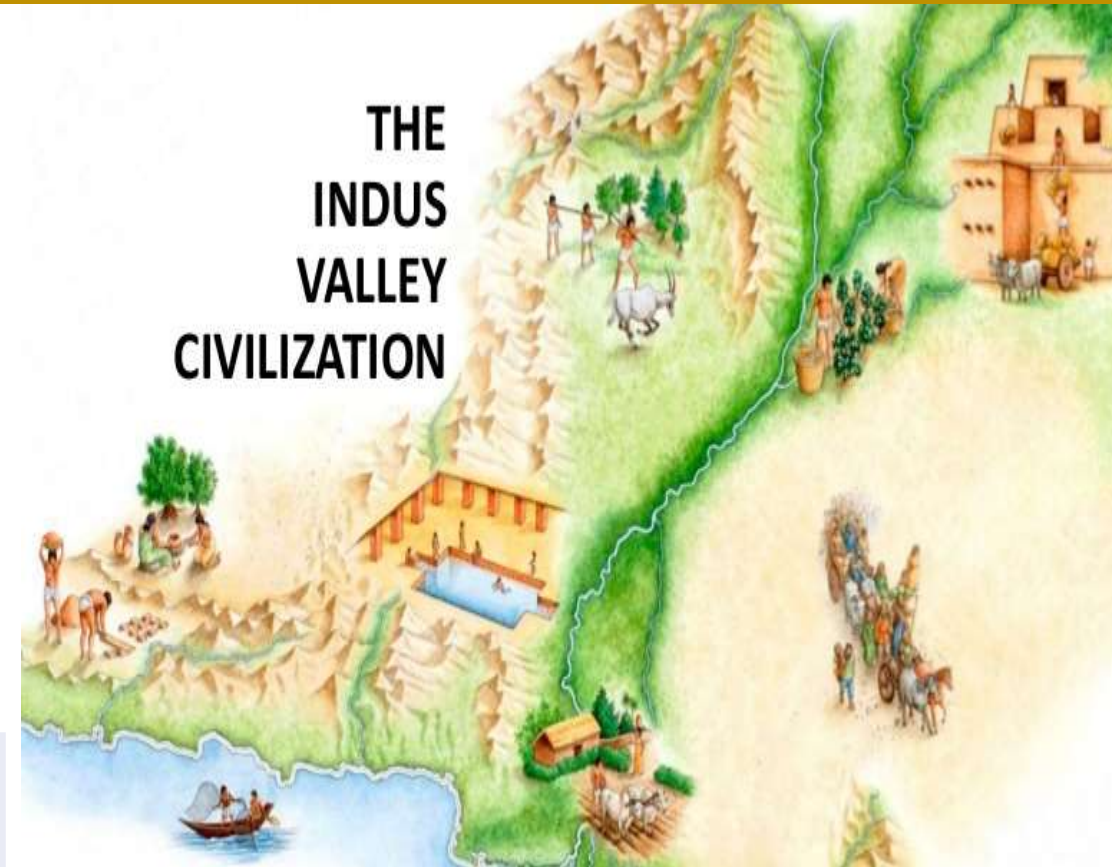
DICTIONARY OF HISTORY FOR SCHOOL:

[http://www.ncert.nic.in/publication/Miscellaneous/pdf\\_files/Dic\\_History.pdf](http://www.ncert.nic.in/publication/Miscellaneous/pdf_files/Dic_History.pdf)

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:** Each student will be able to:

- Examine the significance of the Great Bath.
- Analyse the features of Harappan town planning.
- Identify the role of scribe and ruler in the society.
- Enlist uses of various raw material.
- Highlight any three reasons for the end of Indus valley civilization.

## IN THE EARLIEST CITIES



## INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION

The Indus Valley Civilisation was named after the Indus river system in whose alluvial plains the early sites of the civilisation have been identified and excavated.

Some important Harappan cities of this civilization were :

- A. Mohenjo-Daro
- B. Harappa
- C. Dholavira
- D. Lothal

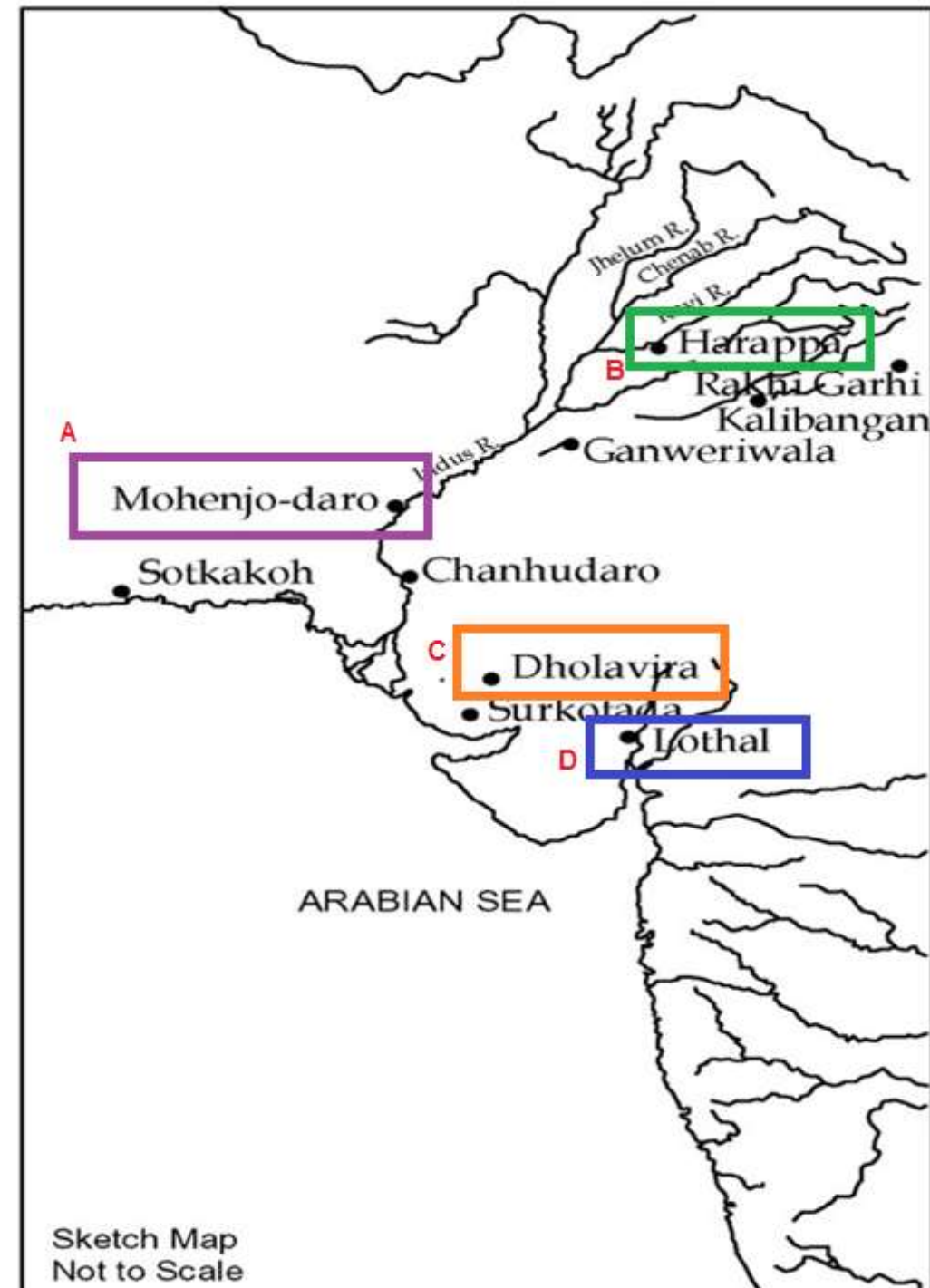
On the given map you can identify these cities.

## THE STORY OF HARAPPA

Harappa was one of the oldest cities in the subcontinent, which archaeologists found 80+ years ago. (1921).

This was the first city to be discovered.

All other cities where buildings similar to Harappa were found, were described as Harappan.



# What was special about these cities?

## CITY PLANNING

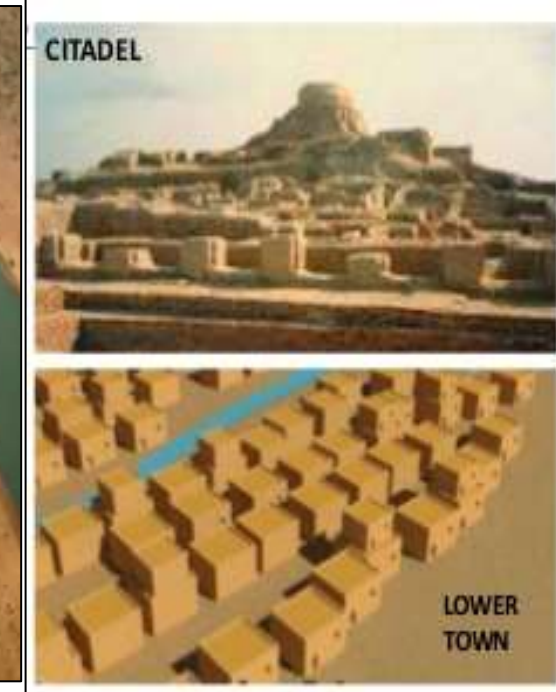
These cities were divided into two or more parts.

### **Citadel**

The part to the west, it was smaller but higher.

### **Lower town**

The part to the east, it was larger but lower.



## BRICKS

- Walls of baked bricks were built around each part.
- The bricks were so well baked that they have lasted for thousands of years.
- The bricks were laid in an interlocking pattern and that made the walls strong.



# SPECIAL STRUCTURES

## GREAT BATH

Located : Mohenjo-Daro

- Constructed on the citadel

### Structure:

- Tank located in the centre
- Steps leading down to it from two sides
- Rooms on all sides
- Water was brought in from a well and drained out after use

### Building Material :

- Lined with bricks,
- Coated with plaster,
- Made water-tight with a layer of natural tar.

SIGNIFICANCE : Important people took a dip in this tank on special occasions.



## FIRE ALTARS

Cities, such as Kalibangan and Lothal have fire altars, where sacrifices may have been performed.



**Kalibangan: A row of seven "fire-altars" discovered on a platform.**

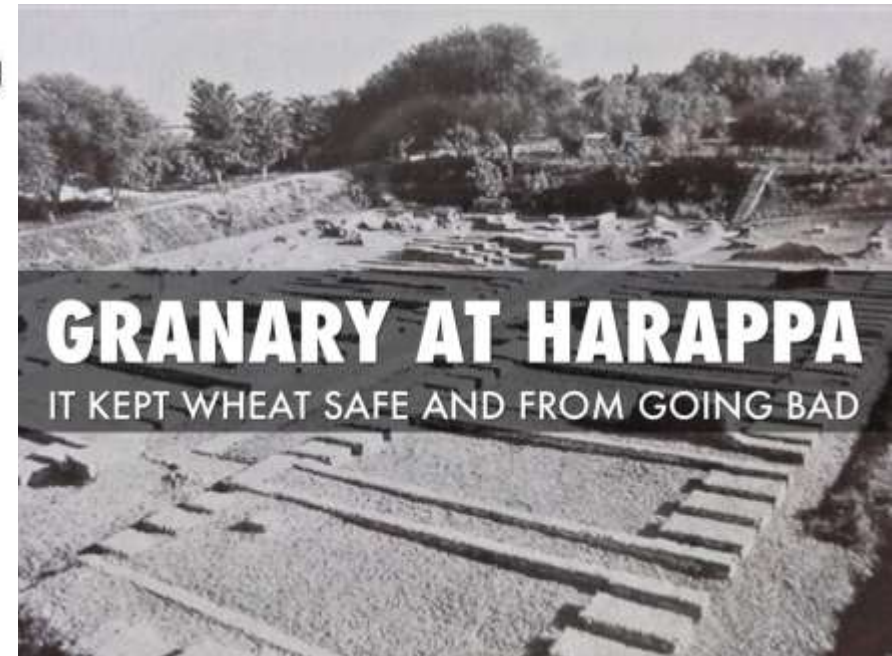
## STORE HOUSES

Storehouses for grain indicate careful planning

Cities like Mohenjodaro, Harappa, and Lothal had elaborate store houses.



Harappa granary



**GRANARY AT HARAPPA**  
IT KEPT WHEAT SAFE AND FROM GOING BAD

## Houses, drains and streets — were well planned

- Houses were either one or two storeys high, with rooms built around a courtyard.
- Separate bathing area, and some had wells to supply water.
- Cities had covered drains laid out, in straight lines.
- Each drain had a gentle slope so that water could flow through it.
- Drains in houses were connected to those on the streets and smaller drains led into bigger ones.
- Drains were covered, inspection holes were provided at intervals to clean them.



Inspection holes for closed drains



Drains in houses connected to those on streets



Covered drains at some sites

# LIFE IN CITY

## Rulers

They were people who planned the construction of special buildings in the city.

Sent people to distant lands to get metal, precious stones, and other things that they wanted.

Might have kept the valuable objects, such as ornaments of gold and silver, or beads, for themselves.

## Scribes

They were people who knew how to write, helped prepare the seals, and wrote on other materials that have not survived.

## Crafts Persons

Men and women who made kinds of things like pots, toys at their homes, or in special workshops.

## Specialists

Many of the things that were produced were probably the work of a specialist, a person who is trained to do only one kind of work, for example, cutting stone, or polishing beads, or carving seals.

**Some people travelled to distant lands for raw materials.**



## TERRACOTTA ARTEFACTS



Some of the terracotta toys from the Harappan age that are on display at an exhibition at Indian Museum



# NEW CRAFTS IN THE CITY

Most of the things that have been found by archaeologists are made of :

- Stone,
- Shell ,
- Metal :copper, bronze, gold and silver.



CRAFT	MADE FROM
Tools, weapons, ornaments and vessels.	Copper and bronze
Ornaments and vessels	Gold and silver
Seals Seals were generally rectangular and usually have an animal carved on them.	Stone/ Terra cotta
Black designed Pots	Terra cotta
Stone weights. These were probably used to weigh precious stones or metal	Chert, a kind of stone.
Toys for children	Terracotta





## CLOTHING

- ❑ Cotton: Actual pieces of cloth have been found attached to the lid of a silver vase and some copper objects at Mohenjodaro.
- ❑ Archaeologists have also found spindle whorls.
- ❑ Embroidered cloth. A stone statue of an important man found from Mohenjodaro. shows him wearing an embroidered garment.



## IN SEARCH OF RAW MATERIAL

*Raw materials* are substances that are either found naturally (such as wood, or ores of metals) or produced by farmers or herders.

- These are then processed to produce finished goods.
- For example, cotton, produced by farmers, is a raw material that may be processed to make cloth.

INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION : Some of the raw materials was available locally, many items were brought from distant places.

RAW MATERIAL	BROUGHT FROM
Copper	Rajasthan, and Oman in West Asia.
Tin (To make Bronze)	Afghanistan and Iran
Gold	Karnataka
Precious stones	Gujarat, Iran and Afghanistan.

# FOOD FOR PEOPLE IN THE CITIES

- People living in the countryside grew crops and reared animals.
- These farmers and herders supplied food to crafts persons, scribes and rulers in the cities.
- Harappans grew wheat, barley, pulses, peas, rice, sesame, linseed and mustard.



❖ **PLOUGH:** A new tool, it was used to dig the earth for turning the soil and planting seeds.

❖ **IRRIGATION:** The region did not receive heavy rainfall, water was stored and supplied to the fields when the plants were growing.

✓ The Harappans reared cattle, sheep, goat and buffalo. Water and pastures were available around settlements.

✓ In the dry summer seasons large herds of animals were probably taken to greater distances in search of grass and water.

✓ They also collected fruits like *ber*, caught fish and hunted wild animals like the antelope.



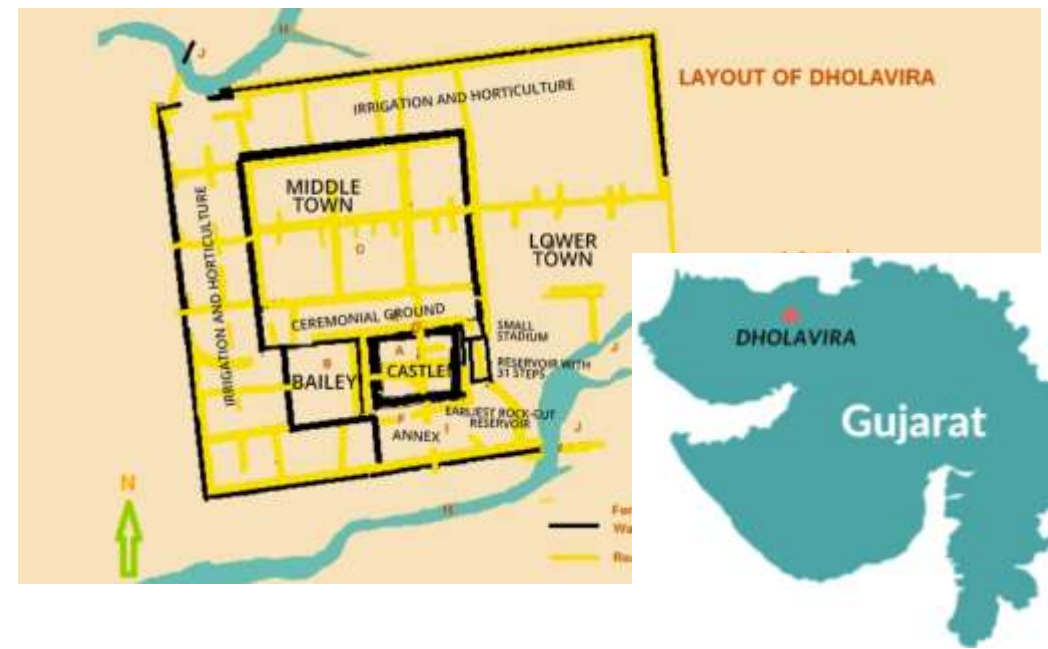
# A closer look — Harappan towns in Gujarat

## DHOLAVIRA

- The city of Dholavira was located on Khadir Beyt (also spelled as Bet) in the Rann of Kutch,
- There was fresh water and fertile soil.
- Unlike some of the other Harappan cities, which were divided into two parts Dholavira was divided into three parts, and each part was surrounded with massive stone walls, with entrances through gateways.
- There was also a large open area in the settlement, where public ceremonies could be held.

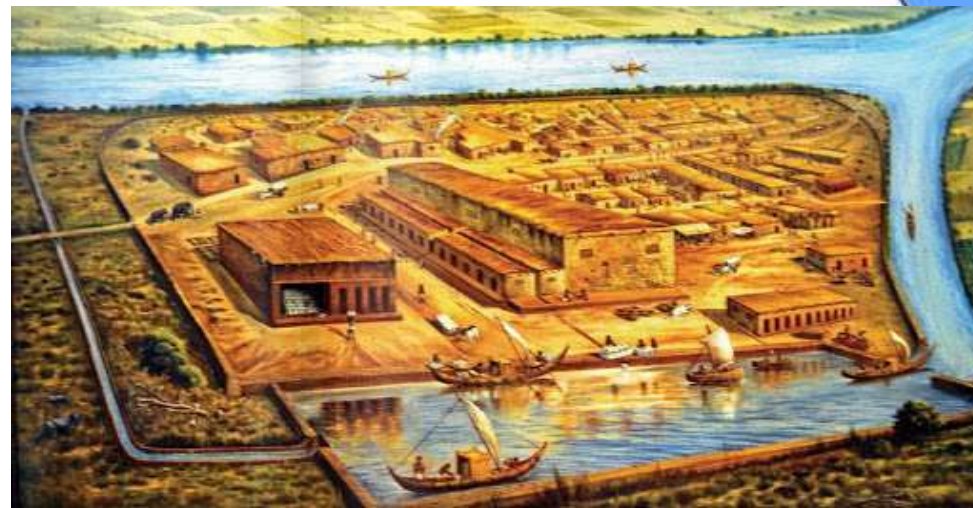
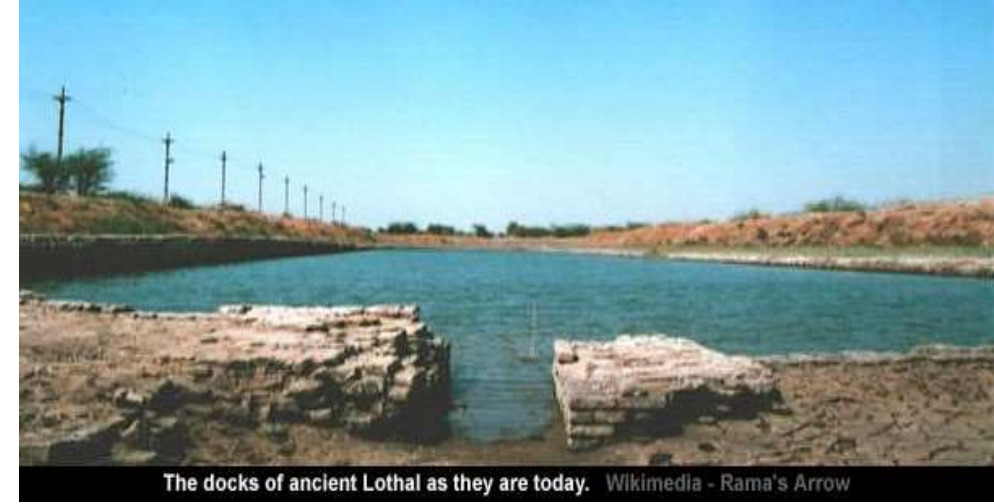
Large letters of the Harappan script that were carved out of white stone and perhaps inlaid in wood.

This is a unique find as generally Harappan writing has been found on small objects such as seals.



# Lothal

- The city of Lothal stood beside a tributary of the Sabarmati, in Gujarat, close to the Gulf of Khambhat.
- It was situated near areas where raw materials such as semi-precious stones were easily available.
- This was an important centre for making objects out of stone, shell and metal.
- There was also a store house in the city.
- Many seals and sealings (the impression of seals on clay) were found in this storehouse.
- A building that was found here was probably a workshop for making beads: pieces of stone, half made beads, tools for bead making, and finished beads have all been found here.



# The mystery of the end

## SIGNS OF DECLINE

- People stopped living in many of the cities.
- Writing, seals and weights were no longer used.
- Raw materials brought from long distances became rare.
- In Mohenjodaro, we find that garbage piled up on the streets,
- The drainage system broke down, and new, less impressive houses were built, even over the streets.

## REASONS FOR DECLINE

- Rivers dried up.
- Deforestation to meet demand of, fuel for baking bricks, and smelting copper ores.
- Grazing by large herds of cattle, sheep and goat may have destroyed the green cover.
- Floods
- Rulers lost control.
- Sites in Sind and west Punjab (present-day Pakistan) were abandoned, while many people moved into newer, smaller settlements to the east and the south.

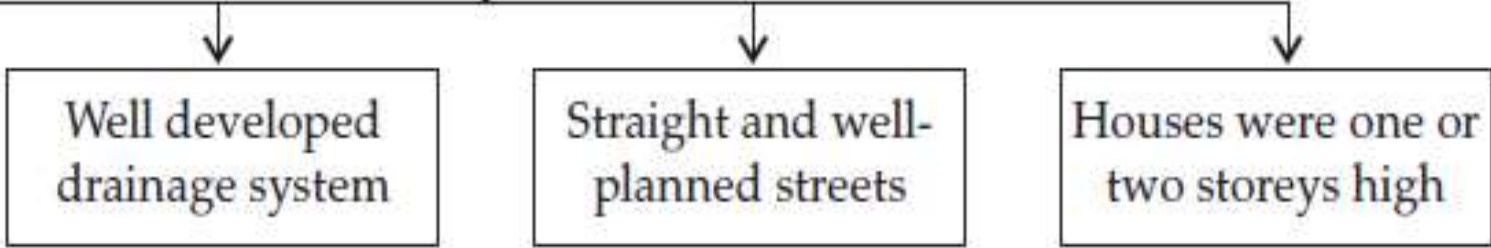
But none of these reasons can explain the end of *all* the cities, it would have effected only some of the areas.



# SUMMARY

# DECLINE OF THE CIVILIZATION

Specific Features of Earliest Cities



<b>GREAT BATH</b>	Mohenjodaro was a tank used for bathing rituals.
<b>FIRE ALTARS</b>	Kalibangan and Lothal had fire altars where sacrifices may have been performed.
<b>MEHRGARH</b>	Cotton cultivation started in Mehrgarh.
<b>LOTHAL</b>	Dockyard and stone factory found here.
<b>DHOLAVIRA</b>	Was divided into three parts.



# ASSIGNMENT

## CHAPTER 3: IN THE EARLIEST CITIES

Q1) Differentiate between:

- a) Lower town and Citadel
- b) Ruler and Scribe

Q2) Examine the features of Great Bath. (5 points)

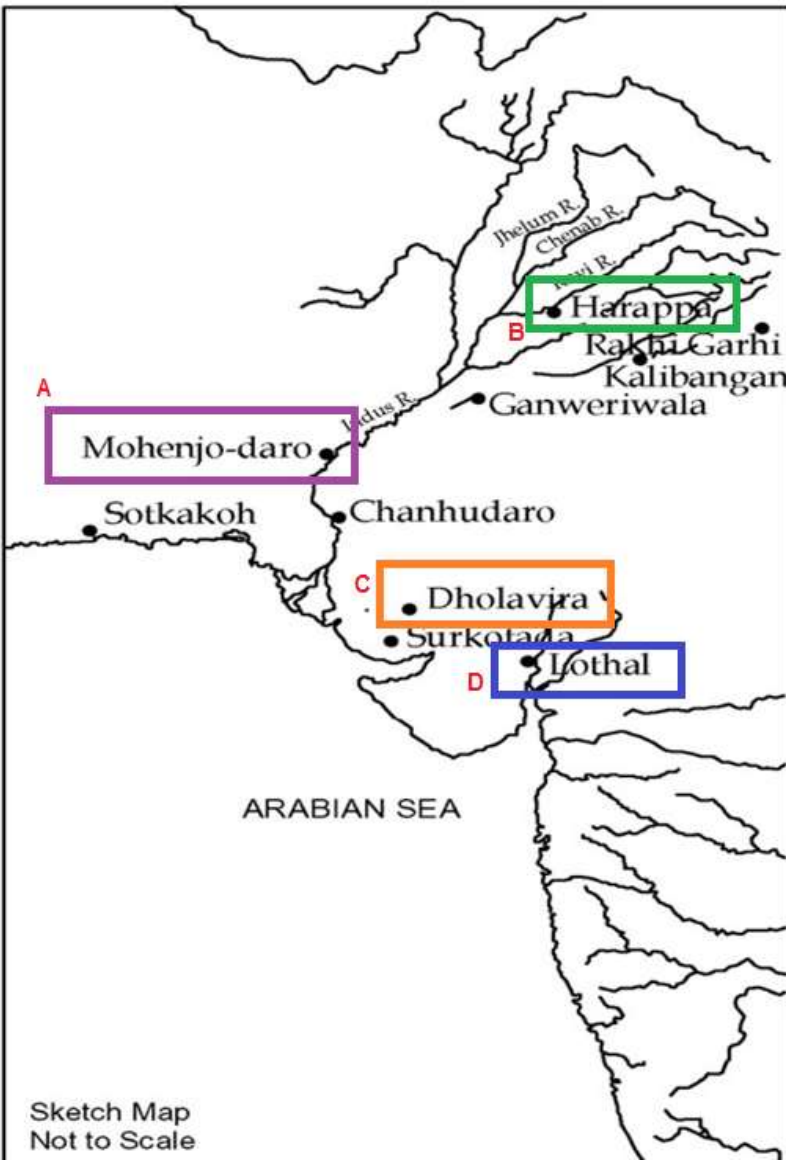
Q3) "Houses, drains and streets were well planned and built in the Harappan cities." Justify the statement by citing any three relevant points.

Q4) Examine any three features of the Harappan city of Dholavira.

Q5) Identify and list any three reasons for the decline of Harappan civilisation.

Q6) Identify the following :

- i) Harappan city located beside a tributary of the Sabarmati.
- ii) Metals used for making weapons.
- iii) Fire altars have been found in these two cities.
- iv) Country from where copper was brought during Harappa period.
- v) City where a stone statue of an important man showing him wearing an embroidered garment has been found.



**MAP WORK :** Revise location A, B, C and D on the given map for Identification based question.

# VIRTUAL TOUR

[CLICK HERE TO START THE TOUR : https://g.co/arts/XHwMfWFJ4ECZEFWc7](https://g.co/arts/XHwMfWFJ4ECZEFWc7)



# THE INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION