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In the Earliest cities [NCERT - VI - Chapter IV]
(Our Posts - I)

The story of Harappa.

150 yrs

Railway line

Harappa - (Present day Pakistan)

High quality bricks

80 yrs later -- archaeologists - one of the
oldest city

4700 years ago.

What was special about these cities.



Special cities → Ex:

- 1) Mohenjodaro - Great Bath - water tight -
layer of natural tar
- 2) Kalibangan & Lothal → Fire Altars

Houses, drains & streets

Houses : one or two storey
rooms around courtyard
separate bathing area
wells

Drains : covered
laid out in straight line
gentle slope for water to flow
smaller drains led to larger ones
inspection holes at regular intervals.

Streets : - ~~horizontal~~ perpendicular
to each other. [Cross / Main Roads.]

Life in the city:

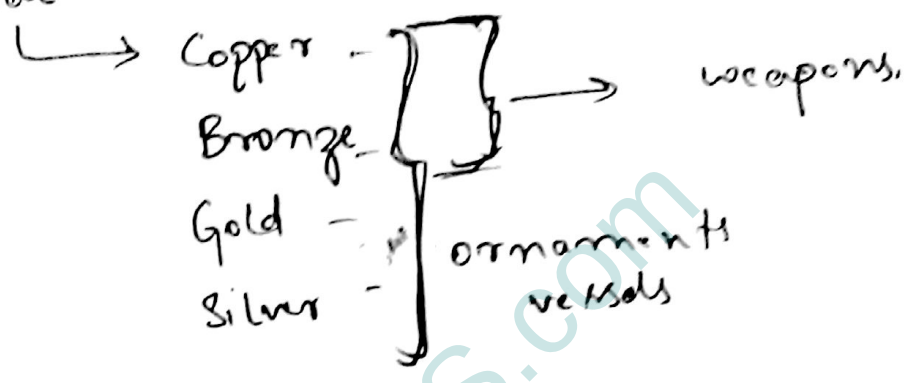
Rulers : planned the city
got precious stones, gems from distant land.

Scribes : ppl who knew how to write
prepared seals.

Crafts persons : made things @ home & special workshops
★ Terracotta toys were found.

New crafts in the city:

Things made of
stone.
shell
metal



Beads, weights and blades found.

Seals of stone

Spindle whorls → made of terracotta & faience

Faience → artificially produced

- gum used to shape sand or powdered quartz into an object.

→ used to make beads, bangles, earrings.

In search of raw materials.

Copper : from present day Rajasthan and Oman (West Asia)

Bronze : Tin mixed with copper.
 ↳ from Afghanistan.

Gold : Karnataka

Precious stones : Gujrat, Iran & Afghanistan.

Food for people in the cities:

Country side people

- Grew crops : wheat, barley, rice, linseed, pulses, peas, sesame & mustard.

- reared animals : cattle, sheep, goat & buffalo.

↓
 - Supplied food to craftsman, scribes & rulers.

- Since no heavy rainfall - irrigation must be used.

A closer look - Harappan towns in Gujarat.

Dholavira - [Rann of Kutch]

↳ divided into 3 parts { normally cities divided into two parts
 { citadel ↔ lower town }

→ Large letters of Harappan Script
 carve of white stone &
 inlaid in wood. { writing usually found on small objects as seals }

Lothal - [on tributary of Sabarmati,
 Gulf of Khambhat].

- Huge tank found - may have been dockyard
- situated near area where semi-precious stones were found.
- remains of workshop of making beads found.

* ~~Seals & sealings~~

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* Seals & sealings

Seals & sealings used to ensure goods arrived safely.

The mystery of the end.

Around 3900 years ago things started changing.

Reasons could be:

- Deforestation / \ grazing
- Rivers drying up, or / \ used as fuel.
- Some areas were destroyed by floods
- Rulers lost control.

New cities emerged 1400 years later.