

Indus Valley Civilization

Abstract

There were many species found in Indus valley area such as Medeteration, Alpine, Prostoloyad and Mangoloyad. Skeleton contitute in indus valley of Medetration species. On the basis of them we can say that main species who lived there were Medetration. Though according to Several expert there may be many types of ruling administration occurred. It believes that there were four types of ruling activities mainly. According to common believes there were guild or trader in ruling power. Hunter sir explained about republican system, Walterruben and Starv supported slave based on ruling system while Stuart piggat told about priest or preacher based on ruling system.

Keywords: Indus Valley Civilization, Harappa and Mohanjodaro.

Introduction

We found several port in Indus valley civilization for example Lothal, Rangpur, Prabhashpattnam, Sutkangedor, Sotkakoh etc. Harappa and Mohanjodaro were also situated in river bank. We found both type of trade communication as internal and external. Accad (Mesopotamia) famous ruler Sargon claimed that the ships of Dilmun, Makan and Meluha were stay in his port. Some experts identified that Dilmun as Bahreen, Maakan as Makrana (Baluchistan) and Meluha as Harappa area. Mesopotamia's official record also describe about government dialectal, they were expert in Meluha language. During that time led, firoja and lajwardmani were imported from Afghanistan and Iran, while silver imported from Mesopotamia and Afghanistan and Copper came from Rajasthan and Chennai respectively. Export of sheep made things, cotton, cereal, oil, elephant tooth made things were famous from Harappa.

Aim of the study

Aim of this paper titled "Indus Valley Civilization" is illumine all important activity who were took place in Indus valley. Here we also tried to clear about script, culture & religion.

In maximum cities of Indus valley cereal stored in store room in indus valley. Several pots were found that indicated knowledge of saving. Every year people sow grain in month of November to December and crops in month of April to May side of river. They used stone and bronze instruments for graining and cropping. Excavators also found a toy same as plough structure from Mohanjodro and Banwali. People grow cotton in a large number that's for Roman called this area Sinda. There were three types of species of wheat and two types of pea in circulation. People also started herding animals in which mainly were humped bull, goat, dog etc. In a Kalibanga's seal who were founded in Mesopotamia and we found a similar diagram like tiger, so on the basis of this diagram we can easily say that probably they knew about tiger. From Lothal we found jawbone of horse, From Kalibanga bones of camel and from Rana -ghundai horse's teeth were founded. In Indus valley civilization there were many number of trees, it were respected by people, few of them were peepal neem and babool. Peepal and babool worshipped by people that time and it continue till now. Excavator found a coffin from harappa who was made by davdaroo wood. In few seal we can also saw similar structure of tree.

Indus Script

The Indus Script writing system developed by the Indus Valley Civilization and it is the earliest form of writing known in the Indian subcontinent. The origin of this script is poorly understood: this writing system remains undeciphered, there is no agreement on the language it represents, no bilingual texts have been found thus far and its connection with Indian writing systems proper (e.g. Brahmi, Devanagari and Bengali script) is uncertain. This is the main reason why the Indus Valley Civilization is one of the least known of the important early civilizations of antiquity.

During the early Harappan phase, we find the earliest known examples of the Indus Script signs, attested on Ravi and Kot Diji pottery

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excavated at Harappa. Based on the fact that only one sign is displayed on the pottery surface, these examples represent a premature stage in the development of the Indus Script. Its full development was reached during the Urban period (c. 2600-1900 BCE), when longer inscriptions are recorded. Thousands of inscriptions are known from some 60 excavation sites: most of them are short, the average length is five signs and none of them is longer than 26 signs.

Although decipherment of the Indus Script has not been possible yet, the majority of the scholars who have studied it agree on a number of points: The Indus Script was generally written from right to left. This is the case in most examples found, but there are some exceptions where the writing is bidirectional, which means that the direction of the writing is in one direction on one line but in the opposite direction on the next line. The representation of certain numerical values has been identified. A single unit was represented by a downward stroke, while semicircles were used for units of ten.

The Indus Script combined both word signs and symbols with phonetic value. This type of writing system is known as "logo-syllabic", where some symbols express ideas or words while others represent sounds. This view is based on the fact that roughly 400 signs have been identified, which makes it unlikely that the Indus Script was solely phonetic. However, if the hypothesis that the hundreds of signs can be reduced to just 39 is true, that means that the Indus Script could be solely phonetic.

Culture of Indus Valley Civilisation

Dress and Ornaments in Indus Valley Civilization The dress on the clay figures can be considered as the normal attire of the female population. These figures are bare to the waist and wear only a scanty skirt. The skirt is held by a girdle made either of beads or of bands of woven material. There are also head-dresses probably made of stiffened cotton cloth. The male figures are generally nude. There is a probability that robes with or without embroidery was worn over the left shoulder and under the right arm. No footwear as such is to be found. It seems that people were fond of jewellery and hair-dressing. Various types of jewellery have been unearthed made both of stones and of gold and silver. Men had varied styles of hair-dressing, for instance, one wears his hair parted in the middle and the short locks at the back of the head are kept tidy by a woven fillet. Curling hair is also found. Beards were trimmed in various fashions. The metal ornaments were made of gold, silver, copper and bronze. Stones used were like lapis lazuli, turquoise. The ornaments are girdles, necklaces, bracelets, pectorals, beads, cones, earrings, nose-rings, finger-rings, anklets, bangles, Amusements in Indus Valley Civilization Toys were used by children for amusement. Men were indulged in gambling. This was the board game in which men were moved on the boards and dice was used. Games were also played with pebbles. Dancing was popular. Drum, tambourine, castanets are the musical instruments that have been found.

Arts and Crafts in Indus Valley Civilization The people of the Indus Valley had a large variety of pottery, both decorated and plain. All the ornamented wares are coated with opaque, red slip, upon which various designs and motifs are painted with a thick black pigment. Figures of trees, animals and birds also occur. Pottery was used as jars for storage purposes of various kinds. It was used for drinking and keeping ornaments. Use of glaze has been found. Objects of extraordinary fine workmanship were also visible. Vases were made of ivory has been also found. Gold needles have been discovered; probably they were used in embroidery.

Religion in Indus Valley Civilization

Religion in Indus Valley Civilisation is a subject matter which has not been available in any ancient texts or documents but rather in the inscriptions, seals, images and other materials. These have been excavated by various archaeologists at the site. The Harappan religion was polytheistic. Scholars are unable to draw a conclusion regarding the religion of Indus people. However, some historians are of the opinion that Harappan people were Hindus. No temple, however, has yet been discovered at the excavated site. Evidence for presence of Hinduism is believed to have been present during the Harappan period. Phallic symbols, similar to that of the Hindu Shiva Lingam, have been found in Harappa. Various figures of the Mother Goddess, made out of clay have been found. It was considered as a symbol of fertility and was venerated by the people. A figure of a male god in a seated posture was also found. It was carved on a small stone seal. A stone figure has been found with a white steatite head and bust. This figure is clothed in a robe which is carried over the left shoulder. This was considered a sacred symbol. The figure has a short beard and the upper lip is shaved. The hair is cropped and parted in the middle. The figure is decked up with a necklace. The eyes are half-shut suggesting yogic contemplation. Several pottery figurines suggest that female deities were worshipped as well. Probably it represented the Mother-Goddess, which symbolises fertility. Clay figures resemble the horns of a goat or bulls were also found suggesting that animal worship was common. The seal amulets and talismans of stone and pottery do indicate the religious attitude of the Harappan people

A nude image of a deity with horns and 3 faces, seated on a stool with heels closely pressed together suggest some ritualistic posture. The early archaeologists called him Pashupati, the lord of cattle, as animals like deer, antelope, rhinoceros, elephant, tiger and buffalo surround him. His arms are adorned with bangles. Another seal-amulet shows a horned goddess in the midst of a Peepul or sacred fig-tree before which another horned deity is kneeling and doing obeisance. A row of female deities occupy the whole of the lower register of the seal-amulet, each figure wearing a spring on the head, a long pigtail behind. Stone objects suggest that veneration was paid to phallic symbols as well. Few of the phallic remains closely resemble the Hindu symbol of Shiva lingam. Tigers with a goddess seated on them have

been found on seals. Carved figure of a snake has been discovered. Many seals reveal the symbol of swastika which is also found in other religions like Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism etc. Dove was considered a sacred bird. Demons and demigods are suggested from figures fighting with animals.

Sun was regarded as one of the greatest gods. People believed in magic and superstitions also and wore amulets for some protection. A dancing-girl of Mohenjodaro, a bronze figure, has also been found suggesting ritual dancing in the temples. Evidence shows that the Harappan people not only buried their dead but they also conducted cremations and kept the ashes in urns. The discovery of pottery items and ornaments in the burial grounds suggest that they might have believed in life after death. Temples or any kind of religious buildings have not been discovered yet. Though there are possibilities of a temple and Buddhist shrine towards the eastern region of the Great Bath site.

Excavated evidence seems to suggest that many of the features of modern Indian cults are derived from very ancient sources. In the Indus civilisation worship of the Shakti, Lord Shiva and his consorts, worship of the animals like the tiger, the bull, the goat and the snake and also the worship of Peepul tree and the Neem tree. The unicorn God probably represented 'Ma', while the cattle God possibly represented Goddess Kali or Uma, the mother goddess. It has been recommended that four-armed deities are anticipated to be Gods like Lord Brahma and Lord Vishnu, while the standing deities suggest Jain Yogis in the posture of Yoga known as KayotSarga.

Conclusion

In this paper we describe about Indus script, and its origin, its wide area and diagram. Here we also describe about culture and religion. Those girdles, necklaces, bracelets, pectorals, beads, cones, earrings, nose-rings, finger-rings, anklets, bangles were special and important part of life. If we talk about religion then we find Mother Goddess, Sun, Moon, Tree, River, Snake etc.

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