

# Indus Valley - History Knowledge Organiser

The Indus Valley civilisation developed next to the Indus River in modern Pakistan and north-west India. The river provided the water needed for crops, drinking and transport. The civilisation began 3300BC and lasted around 800 years. The Ghaggar-Hakra river now only flows during the monsoon rain season. It is thought that it dried up around 2000 BC and that this led to the decline of the Indus civilisation.

## Artefacts and Sources

Historians have found information about the Indus Valley Civilisation that tell us about the lifestyle of the civilisation from artefacts and seals.

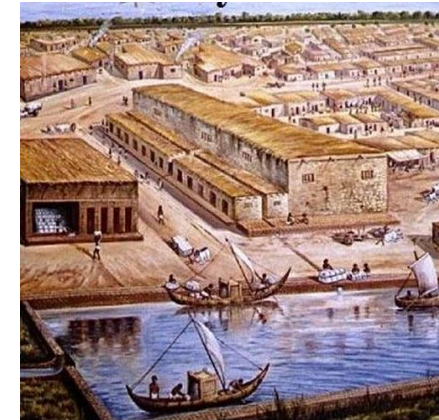


Above are examples of toys and seals that the Indus Valley used by traders to identify sacks. They didn't use money.

We have evidence from sources that suggest they were peaceful people and enjoyed spending time with their families.

They were traders and farmed and hunted their food.

We learn from seals that the civilisations believed in God's and worshipped a 'Mother God'. They also believed in an afterlife.



Stone Age  
15,000 BC- 2,500 BC

Indus Valley Civilisation  
3300 BC - 1300BC

Iron Age  
800BC- 43 AD

Florence Nightingale  
1883

Ancient Egypt  
7,500 BC- 30 AD

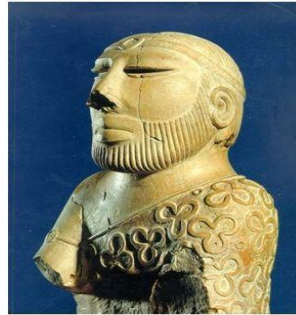
Bronze Age  
3,000BC- 800 BC

Ancient Greece  
776BC- 146 BC

Great Fire of London  
1666

### Clothes

By looking at images from seals and other artefacts, historians can tell that clothing was likely made from cotton and dyed a variety of colours. Men wore tunics or a simple loincloth. Women wore long dresses but sometimes just skirts



### Jewellery

The Indus people were among the first to make jewellery, which was worn by both men and women. Beads were initially made from clay and painted, but later they were made from precious stones like agate and jasper.

### City

It is believed that the Indus Valley Civilisation were incredibly advanced with their infrastructures. They had houses made of bricks, had a drainage system and flat roofs created an outdoor space where people could cool off, socialise or store goods.

### Key Vocabulary

<b>Soapstone</b>	A soft rock that can be carved easily.
<b>Seal</b>	A small stamp with an individual design, used for pressing into a soft material like clay to show who made or sent an item. 'Seal' can also refer to the stamped clay.
<b>Goods</b>	Items for sale or things that have been bought.
<b>Loincloth</b>	A piece of cloth wrapped around the hips, similar to a skirt but generally worn by men
<b>Citadel</b>	An area on a mound of land, higher than the rest of a city. Sometimes citadels have walls to separate them from the rest of the city.
<b>Bitumen tar</b>	A semi-solid, sticky, black substance

3300 BC  
Farmers start small settlements

2650 BC  
The cities of Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa flourish

2500 BC  
Soft clay seals used by traders

1800 BC  
The civilisation begins to decline

3200 BC  
An early form of the Indus script is used

2600 BC  
Ploughs were widely used

2400 BC  
Population nearly 5 million people.

1500 BC  
The civilisation comes to an end.