

SAARTHI IAS

ANCIENT INDIA

INDEX

TOPIC	PAGE NO
• PRE HISTORIC PERIOD	2-9
• INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION	10-19
• VEDIC CULTURE	20-32
• JAINISM	33-42
• BUDDHISM	43-57
• PRE MAURYAN PERIOD	58-67
• MAURYAN EMPIRE	68-77
• POST MAURYAN AGE	78-84
• GUPTA EMPIRE	85-95
• HARSHVARDHAN PERIOD	96-100
• SANGAM AGE	101-108
• SOUTH INDIAN KINGDOMS: PALLAVAS, CHALUKYAS RASHTRAKUTAS	109-115

SAARTHI IAS

1. Prehistoric Times

Pre-Historic Period

1. Paleolithic Age (30,00,000–10,000 BC)
2. Mesolithic Age (9,000–4,000 BC)
3. Neolithic Age (7,000–1,000 BC)
4. Chalcolithic Age (3,500–1,000 BC)
 - *Pre-Harappan Age(3,500–2,500 BC)
 - *Harappan Age (2,500–1,750 BC)
 - * Post Harappan Age(2,000–1,000 BC)

5. Iron Age (1,000–500 BC)

➤ Prehistoric Period (30,00,000 BC – 600 BC)

- It consists of **five periods - Paleolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic, Chalcolithic & Iron Age.**
- **No written records** are available of this period.
- **Archaeological remains** from this period are stone tools, pottery, artefacts, and metal implements used by prehistoric people.
- **Robert Bruce Foote** discovered what was probably the **first Paleolithic tool** discovered in India – the **Pallavaram hand axe.**
- **Robert Bruce B Foote** is known as the **father of Prehistoric Archaeology.**
- **Sir Mortimer Wheeler** contributed towards our knowledge of the prehistoric cultures of India and their sequence.

Historical Sources

Sources	Evidence	Information
Material Remains	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Radio-Carbon Dating is a method for determining the age of an object.• Dendro-Chronology: the scientific method of dating tree rings (also called growth rings) to the exact year they were formed.• Structures: Grand Stone temples of Southern India; Brick Monasteries of Eastern	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Almost every aspect of lifestyle like, use of pottery type, house construction design, agriculture (grains produced), animals domesticated, type of tools, weapons etc. and burial practices of the time and geography.• Vertical Excavations: provides chronological sequence of material culture.• Horizontal Excavation: Gives complete idea of particular culture.

SAARTHI IAS

	<p>India; vertical & horizontal excavations of mounds; Megaliths (South India).</p>	
Coins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The study of coins is called Numismatics. • Coins excavated and collected from the surface and cataloged in various museums throughout the country and outside. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not many symbols were used in earliest coins; Names of the Kings or issuer (guilds/merchants), Gods or dates are mentioned in the coins from later periods. • They help in the construction of religious, cultural and economic history with chronology. • Local and cross-border transactions done through these coins tell about various ruling dynasties and extent of their rule.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metal and number of the coins indicates the level of trade, commerce and wealth in a Kingdom. • Only a few coins belonging to post-Gupta times indicate the decline of trade & commerce in that period.
Inscriptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Epigraphy: the study of Inscriptions. • Paleography: Study of old writings on inscriptions and other records. • Inscriptions carved on seals, stone pillars, rocks, copper plates, temple walls and bricks or images. • Earliest in Prakrit (300 BC), later in Sanskrit and further later in regional languages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pictographic Harappan Inscriptions are yet to be deciphered. • South India: Inscriptions on temple walls. • Inscriptions conveyed various information like royal orders and decisions regarding social, religious and administrative matters (e.g., Ashokan Inscriptions) to officials and people in general. • Ashokan Inscriptions: Scripts used -Brahmi, Kharosthi, Greek & Aramaic. • Donations, land grants, and the achievements of Kings and Conquerors (Example: Samudragupta and Pulkeshin 2nd etc.).

SAARTHI IAS

<p>Literary Sources</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The four Vedas, Ramayana and Mahabharata, Smritis and Dharmasutras, Epics, Jain & Buddhist texts, poetry, Sangam Literature, plays etc. • In India, the oldest manuscripts were written on birch bark & palm leaves. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kautilya's Arthashastra gives exhaustive coverage of affairs that concern a King and his economy, polity, administration and society at large. • Purana provides dynastic history up to Gupta rule. • These sources also indicate the usage of language, script and style of writing. • Rajatarangini: This is the famous book written by Kalhana and depicts the social and political life of 12th century CE Kashmir • Sangam literature: This is the earliest south Indian literature, produced by poets who assembled together (Sangam). It provides valuable information about the social, economic and political life of the people living in deltaic Tamil Nadu. • Literary work of Kalidasa: The works of the great poet Kalidasa comprises kavyas and dramas, one of the most important : Abhijnanasakuntalam
<p>Foreigner's Accounts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounts of Greeks, Romans or Chinese either as official historians, diplomats, pilgrims or even navigators/explorers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexander's invasion: solely reconstructed based on Greek sources. • Indica of Megasthenes: provides information about the Mauryan period. • Pliny's Naturalis Historia: account of trade imbalance between India and Roman empire.

➤ **PALEOLITHIC OR OLD STONE AGE : (30,00,000 BC – 10000 BC)**

- The Paleolithic Age is the **earliest period of the Stone Age**, which developed in the **Pleistocene period or the Ice Age**.
- There was no knowledge of agriculture, house building, pottery, or any metal.
- It spread in practically all parts of India **except** the alluvial plains of the Indus and Ganga.
- **Quartzite men**: Since the stone tools were made of a hard rock called **quartzite**, Paleolithic men are therefore also called **Quartzite men** in India.
- **Chopper-chopping pebble culture**: The implements of this culture were found first from

SAARTHI IAS

Sohan river valley of west **Punjab** (Pakistan), also called as **Sohan Culture**.

- **Hand Axe culture:** The implements of this culture were found **first in Madurai** and **Attirampakkam of Madras**, so also called as **Madrasian Culture**.
- **Famous sites of Old Stone Age:**
 - Son valley and Potwar plateau.
 - **Siwalik hills** in north India.
 - **Bhimbetka** in Madhya Pradesh.
 - **Adamgarh Hills** in Narmada Valley.
 - **Kurnool** in Andhra Pradesh.
 - **Attirampakkam** near Chennai.
- **Lower Paleolithic Age: (5,00,000 to 50,000 BC) (Homoeractus)**
 - **Evolution:** Learned to control fire for roasting meat and warding off animals. Hunting and food gathering. Lived in trees and in caves.
 - **Tools:** Simply chopper-chopping i.e., crude and rough tools prepared out of pebbles. Choppers, Hand Axes and Cleavers.
 - **Sites:** **Soan and Sohan river valley** (now in Pakistan), **Didwana**, (Rajasthan), **Hiran Valley** (Gujarat), **rock shelters of Bhimbetka** (MP), and **Belan Valley of Mirzapur** (UP).
- **Middle Paleolithic Age: (50,000 to 40,000 BC) (Neanderthal)**
 - **Evolution:** Language was invented in this period. Men remained hunters and food gatherers.
 - **Tools: Flake culture:** due to excessiveness of implements made from flakes. Refined and lighter tools made of harder stone material like flint were used. Diversified tools based on flakes were used, for example, blades, pointers, scrapers and borers.
 - **Sites:** **Soan, Narmada and Tungabhadra river valleys, Potwar plateau** (between Indus and Jehlum), **Sanghao Cave** (near Peshawar, Pakistan).
- **Upper Paleolithic Age: (40,000 - 10,000 BC) (Homo Sapiens)**
 - **Evolution:** Other hominin species were eliminated by this time. **Homo sapiens** first appeared at the end of this phase. There is evidence of art in the form of paintings.
 - **Tools: Flake-Blade culture:** due to excessiveness of implements made from Flake-Blade. Even more refined and light tools. These were backed blades with two cutting edges.

SAARTHI IAS

Blades, scrapers, and burrs could be fitted in handles; Bone tools like needles, harpoons were



also found.

- **Sites:** Found in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Central MP, Southern UP and Chota Nagpur Plateau. Bone tools found only at cave sites of **Kurnool and Muchchatla Chintamani Gavi** in Andhra Pradesh.

➤ MESOLITHIC OR MIDDLE STONEAGE: (9000 BC- 4000 BC)

- This is the **transitional phase** between the Paleolithic and Neolithic ages.
- No snakes are depicted in Mesolithic Paintings.
- In India, the credit of discovery of Mesolithic archaeological material goes to **John Evan**.
- **Evolution:** It was the **transitional period** between the Paleolithic and Neolithic Age.

SAARTHI IAS

People used bow and arrow and hence, big animals were hunted down easily. First burials are reported and use of stone- ornaments also appears. Domestication of animals like sheep and goats is found. The **first human colonization** of the Ganga Plains happened during this period.

- **Tools: Microlith** tools i.e., tools made of micro-sized stones which were very refined. Bow and arrow and other microliths in various shapes like moon, triangular, square, rectangle, crescents and arrow- head.
- **Sites: Bhimbetka, Mahadaha, Sarai Nahar Rai, Adamgarh (MP), Langhnaj** (Gujarat), etc. **Earliestcave paintings** are found at **Bhimbetka (UNESCO World Heritage Site).**]

➤ **NEOLITHIC AGE OR NEW STONEAGE: (7000 BC - 1000 BC)**

- In India, the credit of discovery of Neolithic archaeological material goes to **Dr. Primrose.**
 - **Neolithic revolution: V.Gordon Childe** termed the Neolithic phase as Neolithic Revolution. It introduced alot of important changes in man's social and economiqlife. The Neolithic age saw man turning into a food producer from food gatherer.
 - Man lived in huts, reared cattle, developed agriculture(wheat, barley, cotton, rice etc.), used earthenware (both handmade and wheel-made).
 - **Domestication of animals: cattle, sheep and goats was also done.**
 - **People of Neolithic age lived in rectangular or circular houses which were made of mud and reeds.**
 - **Tools: Sharper, symmetrical and polished stone tools** for not only hunting but agriculture also. Daggers, digging sticks, celts, grinding stones, sickle, saw, sling-stones etc. (continuous rubbing was done to smoothen the tools).
 - **Sites:**
 - **Kashmir valley, Chirand** (Bihar), **Daojali Hading, Belan valley** (UP), and **Maski** etc.
 - **Chopani–Mando, Belan valley:** earliest evidence of use of pottery.
 - **Burzahom:** unique rectangular chopper, domesticdogs buried with their masters.
 - **Koldihwa and Mahagara:** earliest evidence of rice cultivation in the world.
 - **South India: Maski, Brahmagiri, Hallur and Kodekal** in Karnataka, **Paiyampalli** in TN and **Utnur** in Andhra Pradesh.
 - **Koldihwa** (Belan valley): presence of three-fold
- Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Iron Age settlements.**
- **Mehrgarh** (Pakistan): earliest Neolithic site known as the **Breadbasket of Balochistan.**

SAARTHI IAS

➤ CHALCOLITHIC (METAL) AGE: (3500 BC-1000 BC)

- The **first metal age of India** is called Chalcolithic Age. It was also called the **Stone-Copper Age**.

Chalcolithic age is divided into 3 stages	
• Pre-Harappan Age	• 3500 BC-2500 BC.
• Harappan Age	• 2500 BC-1750 BC.
• Post-Harappan Age	• 2000 BC-1000 BC.

- Chalcolithic: Chalco + Lithic was derived from the Greek words **khalkos** + **lithos** which means copper and stone or Copper Age.
- Chalcolithic cultures had grown in river valleys. Harappan culture is considered part of Chalcolithic culture.
- The Chalcolithic culture corresponds to the farming communities: **Kayatha, Ahar or Banas, Malwa, and Jorwe**.
- **Evolution:**
 - Settled & community life.
 - Crops cultivated were: barley, wheat, lentil, bajra, jowar, ragi millets, green pea, green and black gram and cotton.
 - Rice and Fish was used as food.
 - Technically separate but Harappan civilization evolved out of the Chalcolithic Culture.
 - Unaware of: Iron, horse and script.
 - Marks the beginning of use metal in place of stone yet **burnt brick** was generally **absent**.
 - High Child Mortality is indicated by a large number of child burials.
- Tools/Idols:
 - Knives, axes, fishing hooks, chisels, pins, and rods were made of copper and its alloys.
 - Beads of semi-precious stones and the **Terracotta image of Mother Goddess are reported**.
 - Dead were buried in urns; at times with tools and objects.
- Crafts and Pots:
 - Copper and stone tools were used simultaneously.
 - The chalcolithic people were expert **coppersmiths**. **Weavers** were present.
 - Used Black and Red Ware. Painted pottery, in black pigment; decorated with different shapes.

SAARTHI IAS

- Sites:
 - In India it was mainly found in South-Eastern Rajasthan, Western part of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, and in South and East India.
 - Several bronze and copper objects, terracotta figurines and pottery were found at **Paiyampalli** in **Tamil Nadu**.
 - **Important sites: Navdatoli, Jorwe, Daimabad, Ahar Banas, Malwa, Inamgaon, Songaon, Nashik, Mehgam, Kausambi, Alamgirpur, Ropar** etc.

Chalcolithic Cultures	Sites
Ahara Culture	Aahar (Rajasthan), Balathal, Gilund etc. The distinctive feature is black and red ware.
Kayatha Culture	Located in Chambal and its tributaries, the sturdy red slipped ware with chocolate designs is the main feature.
Malwa Culture	Narmada & its tributaries in Gujarat. One of the largest Chalcolithic settlements.
Savalda Culture	Dhulia district of Maharashtra.
Prabhas & Rangpur Culture	Both of them are derived from the Harappa culture. The polished red ware is the hallmark of this culture.

IRON AGE : 1,000 BC – 500 BC

- The Chalcolithic age is followed by the **Iron Age**.
- Iron is frequently **referred to in the Vedas**.
- The Iron Age of the southern peninsula is often related to **megalithic burials**. Megalith means **large stone**.
- The burial pits covered with these stones are extensively found in South India.

Important Megalithic Sites

- **Hallur** and **Maski** in Karnataka, **Nagarjunakonda** in Andhra Pradesh and **Adichchanallur** in Tamil Nadu.

SAARTHI IAS

2. Harappan Civilization: 2500-1750 BC

- **The Harappan/ Indus Valley civilisation** was the **first urban civilisation in South Asia**, contemporaneous with the civilisations of Mesopotamia and Egypt. It was larger than ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia civilisations.
- **First site excavated:** Harappa site by **Dayaram Sahni** in **1921**.
- **John Marshall:** first scholar to use the term **Indus Civilisation**.
- **Most accepted timeline:** 2500 BC-1750 BC (Carbon-14 Dating).
- **Period:** India Civilization belongs to **proto-historic period- Chalcolithic Age/Bronze Age**.
- **Heartland of Indus Civilization:** Harappa-Ghaggar-Mohenjo Daro axis.
- **Indus sites found in Afghanistan:** Shortughai and Mundigach.
- **Capital cities:** Harappa, Mohenjodaro.
- **Port cities:** Lothal, Sutkagendor, Allahdino, Balakot, Kuntasi.
- **Area covered:** Harappan civilisation was **triangular** in shape and was largest among the three ancient urban civilisations, the other two being **ancient Egypt** and **Mesopotamia** (present day Iraq). It roughly covers modern day **Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, and Pakistan**.
- **Father of Indian archaeology:** **Alexander Cunningham**, the **first** Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
 - **Early Harappan Phase (3300-2600 BCE)**
 - **Mature Harappan Phase (2600-1900 BCE)**
 - **Late Harappan Phase (1900-1300 BCE)**

Phases of Harappan Civilization

- **Additional Information:**
- Northernmost site : **Manda** (Jammu-Kashmir).
- Southernmost site : **Daimabad** (Maharashtra).
- Easternmost site : **Alamgirpur** (Uttar Pradesh).
- Western-most site : **Sutkagendor** (Pakistan-Iran border).
- Largest site of Indus civilization : **Mohenjo Daro**.
- Largest Indian site of Indus civilization : **Rakhigarh**.
- **Oldest script in Indian subcontinent** : Harappan script.
- **Oldest deciphered script** : Brahmi script.
- **Shamans** are men and women who claim magical and healing powers, as well as an ability to communicate with the other world.

SAARTHI IAS

INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION: LOCATION, RIVER, EXCAVATOR, FINDINGS

Site	Features	
Harappa (first archaeological site to be discovered)	State	• Pakistan (Punjab).
	River	• Ravi.
	Excavator	• Dayaram Sahni (1921).
	Findings	• Granaries, Red sandstone Male torso, Stone symbols of Lingam and Yoni, Painted pottery, Mother Goddess, Dice.
Mohenjo-daro	State	• Pakistan (Sindh).
	River	• Indus.
	Excavator	• R. D. Banerji (1922), E. Makay, Kashinath Dixit, Sir John Marshall(1930).
	Findings	• Largest site of Indus civilization, Post cremation burial, Great Granary, Great Bath (largest building of civilization), Seal with Pashupati and mother goddess, Bronze dancing girl.
Chanhudaro	State	• Pakistan (Sindh), near Mohenjo-Daro.
	River	• Indus.
	Excavator	• N.G. Mazumdar (1931) and E. Makay.
	Findings	• Inkpot, Lipstick, Metal workers, Shell-ornament makers and bead makers shop, dog's paw imprint on brick, Terracotta model of bullock cart, Bronze toy cart.
Lothal	State	• Gujarat (Ahmedabad District, at the head of the Gulf of Cambay).
	River	• Bhogava and Sabarmati river confluence.
	Excavator	• S Rao in 1953.

SAARTHI IAS

Dholavira	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important naval trade site, Cremation site, Dockyard, Granaries, Rice husk, Double burial (male female together).
	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gujarat.
	River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luni.
	Excavator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R Bisht in 1985 (as per NCERT). Some books mention J.P. Joshi (1990–91).
Surkotada	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unique water harnessing system and its storm water drainage system, only site divided in 3 parts, Megalithic stone circle, giant water reservoirs.
	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gujarat.
	Excavator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J.P. Joshi (1964).
	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only site with bones of horse, Oval grave, Pot burials, Soldiers sign on potsherds.
Kalibangan (Black Bangles)	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rajasthan.
	River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghaggar.
	Excavator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amlanand Ghosh (1953) Dr. B. B. Lal and B. K. Thapar (1961).
	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bangle factory, Ploughed field surface, Camel bones, Fire altars.
Banawali	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haryana.
	River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghaggar.
	Excavator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R.S. Bist (1973 – 74).
	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oval shaped settlement, Lack of systematic drainage system, Barley grains, Lapis Lazuli, Fire altars, Only

SAARTHI IAS

Ropar		city with Radial streets; Centre of pre-Harappan, Mature Harappan as well as Late Harappan civilization.
	State	• Punjab.
	River	• Sutlej.
	Excavator	• Y.D. Sharma (1955–56).
Rakhigarhi	Findings	• Dog buried with human oval pit burials, copper axe , first site to be excavated after independence.
	State	• Haryana.
Rangpur	Findings	• Largest Indian site of Indus valley civilization. Granary, cemetery, drains, terracotta bricks. Shows all three phases of Harappa Culture.
	State	• Gujarat (Near Lothal).
	River	• Madar River.
	Excavator	• M.S. Vatsa (1931) S.R. Rao (1953-54).
Alamgirpur	Findings	• Remains of both pre-Harappan and mature Harappan culture; Yellow and gray color pots of pre Harappan people.
	State	• Uttar Pradesh.
	River	• Hindon.
	Excavator	• Y.D. Sharma (1958).
Daimabad	Findings	• Broken copper blade, ceramic items and impression of cloth on a trough.
	State	• Maharashtra.
	River	• Pravara.
	Excavator	• Y.D. Sharma (1958).

SAARTHI IAS

Koti-Diji	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronze images (charioteer with chariot, ox, elephant and rhinoceros).
	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sindh (Pakistan).
	River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sindh.
	Excavator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghurey (1835) Fazal Ahmed (1955).
Amri	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bronze images (charioteer with chariot, ox, elephant and rhinoceros).
	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sindh (Pakistan).
	River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sindh.
	Excavator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghurey (1835) Fazal Ahmed (1955).
Suktagendor	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Harappan settlement; Transitional culture between pre and post- Harappan culture; Actual remains of rhinoceros, trace of jhangar culture in Late Harappan fire altars.
	State	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sindh (Pakistan).
	River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dasht/Dashak River.
	Excavator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Stein, George Dales.
	Findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ash filled pot, copper axe , earthen bangles & pottery; Originally port but later cut off from sea due to coastal upliftment; Had trade links with Babylon.

SAARTHI IAS

PROMINENT FEATURES OF HARAPPAN CIVILIZATION

- **Town Planning and Structures:**

- The towns were in a rectangular grid pattern with roads at right angles.
- Used burnt mud bricks joined with gypsum mortar (contemporary Egyptian dried bricks were used).
- The city was divided in two parts, the city on raised platform, known as Upper citadel & the lower town known as Lower citadel (workingclass quarters). Fortified citadel was found, except in Chanhudaro.
- Most buildings have private wells and properly ventilated bathrooms.
- Do not have large monumental structures such as temples or palaces for rulers unlike Egyptian and Mesopotamian Civilization.
- Evidence of an Advanced drainage system.
- At sites such as Dholavira and Lothal (Gujarat), the entire settlement was fortified, and sections within the town were also separated by walls. The Citadel within Lothal was not walled off, but was built at a height.

- **Agriculture:**

- **Main crops:** Wheat and Barley. Evidence of cultivation of rice in Lothal and Rangpur (Gujarat) only.
- **Other crops:** Dates, Mustard, Sesamum, Cotton, Rai, Peas etc.
- **First to produce cotton in the world** and used it for textiles, Called **Sindon** by the Greeks.
- Used animal drawn wooden plough, and stone sickles.
- **Gabarbands** or **Nalas** enclosed by dams were found but **channel or canal irrigation was probably not practiced.**
- Produced **sufficient food grains** and **cereals** were received as **taxes** from peasants and stored in granaries for wages and emergencies same as Mesopotamia.

- **Domestication of Animals:**

- **Animals:** Oxen, buffaloes, goats, sheep, and pigs, dogs, cats, asses and camels domesticated.
- **Humped bulls** were favored by the Harappans.
- **Lion was not known. Elephants and Rhinoceros (Amari)** were well known.
- Neither horse centered nor were they aware of it, but evidence of horses are found in

SAARTHI IAS

Surkotada, Mohenjo Daro and Lothal.

- **Technology and Craft:**

- This is known as the first urbanization in India.
- Along with stone, they were well **acquainted with copper, silver, gold and bronze** (occasionally mixed arsenic with copper instead of tin).
- Iron was not known to the people.
- **Important crafts:** spinning (Spindle whorls), bricklaying, boat-making, seal making, terracotta manufacturing (potter's wheel), goldsmiths, bead making.
- They were aware of the use of the wheel.

- **Trade and Commerce:**

- The importance of Trade is established by the presence of Granaries, seals, a uniform script, and regulated weights and measures.
- They engaged in inter-regional as well as foreign trade. Sumerian texts refer to trade relations with Meluha i.e. ancient name given to Indus region & mentions two intermediate trading stations- Dilmun (Bahrain) & Makan (Makran coast).
- Used boats and bullock-carts for transportation.
- No metallic money in circulation and trade was conducted by means of barter.
- **Import: Gold, Silver, Copper, Tin, Jade, Steatite.**
- **Exports: Agricultural products, cotton goods, terracotta figurines, beads from Chanhudaro, conch-shell from Lothal, ivory products, copper, etc.**
- **Harappan Imports sources:**
- **Gold: Afghanistan, Iran, Kolar (South India);**
- **Copper: Khetri (Rajasthan), Balochistan;**
- **Tin: Afghanistan, Iran;**
- **Lapis lazuli: Afghanistan;**
- **Jade: Pamir;**
- **Turquoise: Khorasan;**
- **Steatite: Tapi Chahya (Iran);**
- **Bitumen: Balochistan, Mesopotamia;**
- **Lead: South India;**

SAARTHI IAS

- **Social Organization:**

- Hierarchy in urban habitation. Merchants and priests were an important class of this period.
- Harappans were fashion conscious. Different hairstyles and wearing a beard were popular.
- The use of cosmetics was common (Cinnabar, lipstick and collyrium)
- Necklaces, filets, armlets and finger rings were worn by both men and women but bangles, girdles, anklets, ear-rings were worn by women only.
- Beads were made from gold, copper, bronze, cornelian, quartz, steatite, lapis lazuli etc. - naturalistic animal models as pin-heads and beads.

- **Polity:**

- Central authority may have contributed to uniform culture.
- No clear idea of an organized force or standing army.
- Priests did not rule in Harappa as they did in the cities of lower Mesopotamia but were possibly ruled by a class of merchants.

- **Religious Practices:**

- Seal: Male deity Pashupati Mahadeva (proto- siva), three-horned heads, and is represented in the sitting posture of a yogi, surrounded by an Elephant, Tiger, Rhinoceros, and Buffalo, and two deer at his feet.
- Harappan was a predominantly secular civilization.
- Prevalence of the Phallus (Lingam) and Yoni, two deer.
- Chief female deity was mother Goddess. They worshiped both male and female deities.
- The people of the Indus region also worshiped trees (pipal), fire and animals (unicorn, humped bull etc).
- Harappans believed in ghosts and evil forces. They used amulets against them.
- Burials: At burials in Harappan sites the dead were generally laid in pits. Some graves contain pottery and ornaments, perhaps indicating a belief that these could be used in the afterlife. Jewelry has been found in burials of both men and women.

SAARTHI IAS

- **Script:**

- Oldest script in Indian subcontinent.
- Pictographic script also found, yet to be deciphered.
- Writing was Boustrophedon - writing from right to left in one line & then left to right in the next line.

- **Pottery:**

- Plain pottery is more common than painted ware and is generally of red clay, and is uniformly sturdy and well baked.
- The painted pottery is also known as Red and Black Pottery as it used red color to paint the background and glossy black paint was used to draw designs and figures on the red background.
- Trees, birds, animal figures and geometrical patterns were the recurring themes of the paintings.
- Most of the pottery is wheel-made. This implies they were well aware of the wheel.
- Rare polychrome pottery has also been found (geometric patterns in red, black, green, rarely white and yellow).

- **Seals and Sealings:**

- Most of the seals are square shaped (2x2 square inches) made mostly from Steatite.
- Seals had an animal (except cow and horse) or human figure on one side and an inscription on the opposite side or inscriptions on both the sides.
- Seals were primarily used for commercial purposes, as an amulet, as a form of identification, for educational purposes as well.
- Seals with symbols similar to Swastika design have also been found.
- The round Persian Gulf seal found in Bahrain sometimes carries Harappan motifs.
- Interestingly, local Dilmun weights followed the Harappan standard.

SAARTHI IAS

- **Art:**

- Bronze Casting: Practiced on a wide scale using the lost wax or Cire Perdue technique. They mainly consist of human and animal figures. Example: Dancing Girl. She stands in a Tribhanga dancing posture.
- Stone Statues: Bearded man: found in Mohenjodaro and made of Steatite, interpreted as a priest.
- Red sandstone: a figure of a male torso is found in Harappa and made of Red sandstone.
- Terracotta Figures: Found are less in number and crude in shape and form. Examples: Mother Goddess, mask of horned deity, toys, etc.

- **Weights and Measures:**

- **Cubical weights in graduated sizes. These weights conform to the standard Harappan binary weight system that was used in all of the settlements.**

DECLINE

- After 2000 BC Indus Valley Civilization declined & gradually faded away. Causes of the decline of this civilization have not been firmly established.
- **Possible reasons** – declined soil fertility, depression in land, Aryans invasion, decline of trade, Floods, Earthquake etc.
- Most acceptable reason is **ecological imbalance**.

SAATH TO SUCCESS

SAARTHI IAS

VEDIC CULTURE: 1500-600BC

- **ARRIVAL OF ARYANS**

- With the advent of Aryans **began the history of Vedic Period (1500 BC-600 BC)**.
- The original home of the Aryans is a **debatable question** and there are several views. Aryans originally lived in the **Steppes region**. Later they moved to **central Asia** and then came to the **Punjab region of India** around 1500 BC.
- Vedic period is divided into **Early Vedic or Rigvedic (1500 BC-1000 BC)** & **Later Vedic (1000 BC- 600 BC)** periods.
- The name 'Aryan' appears in **Hittite inscription (Anatolia)**, **Kassite inscription (Iraq)** & **Mittani inscription (Syria)**.
- An Iranian text, **Zend Avesta**, talks about names of Aryan Gods like **Indra, Varuna**, etc.
- **Language**: spoke the Indo-Aryan language, Sanskrit.
- The word **Veda** is derived from the root **vid**, which means **to know**. The term 'Veda' signifies **superior knowledge**.
- The rise of Buddhism and Jainism was the direct result of this socio-economic problem arising due to Vedic Culture.
- Boghazkoi Inscription: Mentioning four Vedic gods – **Indra, Varuna, Mitra, Nasatya** – proves **Central Asian Theory** as their homeland.

RIG VEDIC/EARLY VEDIC PERIOD (1500 BC -1000BC)

- The Main source of information about this age is the **Rig Veda** (10 Mandalas and 1028 Hymns).
- Mandalas/Chapters from 2 to 8 are called **Saptarishi Mandalas** as these are composed by the **seven great sages**.
- Mandalas 2 to 7 form the earliest portions of the Rigveda while 1 and 10 were latest additions.
- **10th Mandala** has the famous **Purush Sukta** that describes cosmic creation (Adi Purush) along with the **4-fold Varna System**.
- **The 3rd Mandala**, composed by **Vishwamitra**, contains **Gayatri Mahamantra** addressed to **Goddess Savitri**.
- **Geographical Expansion**:
 - Early Vedic people or Aryans settled in the land of seven rivers, called **Sapta Sindhu**: Sindhu (Indus), Vitasta (Jhelum), Asikani (Chenab), Parushni (Ravi), Bipasa (Beas), Sutudri

SAARTHI IAS

(Satluj), and Saraswati (Ghaggar).

- Their region covered present day parts of Afghanistan, Punjab and Haryana.
- **Sindhu (Indus) is the most mentioned** and Saraswati is the most revered (holy) river.
- Saraswati Valley was called **Brhmavarta**.
- **The Himalayas** were called **Himavat**.
- **Hindu Kush** was called **Munjavant**.

- **Society:**

- Rig Vedic communities comprised populations called **Janas**.
- Society was divided into **Aryans and Non-Aryans**; non-Aryans were called **Dasas** and **Dasyus**.
- It was an **egalitarian society**. Unlike the later Vedic period, social divisions were **not rigid** during the Rig Vedic period.
- Rig Vedic society was **patriarchal**.
- Basic unit of society was **family or Graham**. The head of the family was known as **Grahapathi**.
- **Slaves** were used for domestic purposes & not for agriculture.
- The term **Varna is used** in Rigveda with reference to **Aryans & Dasa** having fair & dark complexion respectively.
- **Women poets:** Viswara, Lopamudra, Ghosha, Sikta, Nivavari, and Apala were female sages of the time and contributed to the composition of Rig Veda.
- Women could even attend the popular assemblies.
- **Child Marriage and Sati were absent** and a special widow-remarriage, called **Niyoga** (levirate) was prevalent. This was done to increase the population of the **Jana**.
- Two Drinks – **Soma & Sura** – Soma was sanctioned by religion & was drunk at sacrifices. Sura was disapproved by priests.
- **A wealthy person** was known as **Gomat** and the **daughter** called **Duhitri** which means one who milks the cow.
- **Favorite pastimes:** Chariot racing, horse racing, dicing, music and dance.
- **Monogamy** was generally practiced while **polygamy** was prevalent among the royal and noble families.
- Women were given **equal opportunities** as men for their spiritual and intellectual development.

SAARTHI IAS

- A variety of **ornaments were used by both** men and women.
- The **eating of cow's meat was prohibited** since it was a sacred animal.

- **Political System:**
 - The basic unit of political organization was **kula or family**.
 - Rig Vedic polity was normally **monarchical** and the succession was **hereditary**.
 - The **Purohita** or domestic priest was the first ranking official.
 - Janas were headed by a **Rajana** who was assisted by Purohit, Gramani and Senani and popular bodies like **Sabha, Samiti, Vidhata, Gana** and **Sardha** were present.
 - **Sabha** had few chiefs while **Samiti** was a larger body.
 - **Vidhata** was the oldest.
 - **Janas** were further divided into **Vis** and **Vis** in turn was divided into many **Kul** or **Kutumb**. Kul has **Griha** as its unit and **Kulapa** as its head while the **Griha** was headed by **Grihapati** or **Dampati**.
 - **Gaun** was the place where cattle were kept and **Gavishthi** was a quest or war for cows.
 - Group of **Kulas** made a **Gram** and **Gram** was headed by **Gramani**.
 - **Vajrapati:** Had authority over a large land and was leader of Kulupa & Graminis.
 - **Rajana** ruled over his people (Jana) and not over any specified area of land and hence, was called their protector (Gopa Janasya or Gopati Janasya).
 - There were **few non-monarchical states**, whose head was **Ganapati or Jyestha**.
 - **Rajana** had no standing army and bureaucracy too was absent. Military functions were performed by tribal groups called – **Vrat, Gana, Grama, Sardha**.
 - **Tribal kingdoms:** Bharatas, Matsyas, Yadus and Purus.
 - The **Battle of Ten Kings** (Dasrajan war) was fought on the banks of **Ravi river** for protection of Wealth i.e. **cow and cattle** and was won by **Rajana Sudas** of **Bharat Jana** (tribe).

 - **Right to property existed.**

 - **Rig Vedic Aryans used the coat of mail and helmet in warfare.**

- **Economy:**
 - Rig Vedic society was **pastoral** and secondary occupation was **agriculture**. Cattle was the main form of wealth;

SAARTHI IAS

- Agriculture production was for **consumption only**. They had better **knowledge of agriculture**. Rigveda mentions wooden ploughshare.
- **Yava** was the common name for any grain.
- **Bali** was a voluntary gift from producers to the **Rajana**.
- Trade was conducted on a barter **system**. In the later times, gold coins called **Nishka** were used as media of exchange in large transactions. Coins were not known.
- Neither tax was imposed nor treasury was maintained.
- **Copper tools** of this era are reported from Punjab and Haryana.
- **Ayas** is the common name used for any metal. Gold was called **Hiranya**.
- Aryan introduced **spoked wheels**.
- **Horses** played a significant role in their life. Rig Veda has mentioned a horse-drawn **chariot with spoked wheels**.
- **Economic activities:** Hunting, carpentry, tanning, weaving, chariot-making, metal smelter etc.
- **Pottery type:** Ochre Colored Pottery
- **Religious Aspect:**
 - **Important Rig Vedic gods:** Prithvi (Earth), Agni (Fire), Vayu (Wind), Varuna (Rain) and Indra (Thunder). Indra was the most popular.
 - **Other important gods:** Rudra, Dyaus, Ashwin, Yama and Soma.
 - **Female gods:** Aditi, Sindhu and Ushas.
 - **Agni** was regarded as an **intermediary** between the **gods and people**.
 - **Elaborate rituals** were followed during the worship.
 - **Chanting of mantras** was an important part of the ritual.
 - Sacrifices were practiced mainly for **praja** and **pashu** i.e. increasing population, protecting cattle, birth of male child and against disease. **Magic and Omen** were not prevalent.
 - Maharishi **Vasistha & Vishwamitra** were important priests.

SAARTHI IAS

LATER VEDIC PERIOD: (1000 BC – 600 BC)

- Sources of Information about this phase are: **Sam Veda, Yajur Veda and Atharva Veda.**
- **Other sources:**
 - **Brahmanas:** Detailed commentaries and explanations on the Vedas.
 - **Aranyakas (forest books):** Explains metaphysics & symbolism of sacrifice.
 - **Upanishads:** or books on philosophy or deeper knowledge about **Aatma, Brahma** etc.
- They are **anti-ritualistic.**
- The motto **Satyameva Jayate** written in **Devnagari script** below the profile of **Lion Capital** is a part of the **State Emblem of India**. It is taken from the **Mundaka Upanishad.**
- **Geographical Expansion:**
 - Western Ganga-Valley was called '**Aryavarta**'
 - **Arabian Sea** and the **Indian Ocean**, Several **Himalayan peaks** and **Vindhya** mountains (indirectly) are mentioned.
 - **Growth of large kingdoms:** **Kuru** (famous rulers: Parikshat and Janamejaya) and **Panchala** (popular king: Pravahana Jaivali) kingdoms. **Kosala, Videha** (King: Janaka; Scholar in court: Yajnavalkya) and **Kasi** (King: Ajatasatru) came into prominence.
 - **Later Vedic texts also refer to the three divisions of India:** **Aryavarta** (Northern India), **Madhyadesa** (Central India) and **Dakshinapatha** (Southern India).
 - **Easternmost tribal kingdoms:** Magadha, Anga and Vanga.
- **Society:**
 - **The 4-fold varna system** (Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaisyas and Sudras) and appearance of several **jatis** or castes made the **social system complex.**
 - **Untouchability** appeared; **women's position degraded** as they no longer got formal education.
 - **Gotra** was the place where cattle resided together with 'janas' and later developed into an identity for the **janas.**
 - **Nishad, Chandala** and **Shabar** were the untouchables mentioned. Guests were called **Goghna** (cow-killer).
 - **Niyoga** too was considered a negative activity.
 - Male members of the upper three varnas were called **dvija** or twice born. Only these were entitled to **Upanayan** i.e. wearing the sacred thread.

SAARTHI IAS

- Women like **Gargi and Maitreyi** accomplished in the knowledge arena; **Gargi outwitted Yajnavalkya** in a philosophical discourse.
- Child marriages had become common. According to **Aitareya Brahmana** a daughter has been described as a source of misery.
- Institution of **Gotra** & practice of **gotra exogamy** appeared.
- **Maitrayani Samhita** mentions 3 evils – liquor, women and dice.
- **Political System:**
 - **Janas** evolved to become **Janapadas**. **Hastinapur** and **Indraprastha** were capitals of **Kuru** janapada. Frequent battles among these janapadas were fought for territory.
 - Authority of the **rajana** became more evident and a support staff called **ratnin**; they were 12 jewels of the king, working for **rajana**.
 - Chiefship became **hereditary**. Still, there was **no standing army**.
 - **Rajana** started various sacrifices like **Rajsuya** (consecration ceremony), **Ashwamedh** (horse sacrifice) and **Vajpeya** (chariot race).
 - **Kings assumed titles:** Rajavisvajanan, Ahilabhuvanapathi, (lord of all earth), Ektrat and Samrat (sole ruler).
 - Dependence on **Sabha** and **Samiti** reduced. **Vidhata** completely disappeared.
 - **Women lost their political rights** of attending assemblies.
 - Term **Rashtra**, indicating territory first appeared in this period.
 - **Rajana** assumed titles like Samrat, Ektrat, Sarvabhouma and Virat.
- **Economy:**
 - Later Vedic culture is also called **Painted Grey Ware (PGW) – Iron Phase culture**.
 - **Iron (krishna/shyama ayas)** was discovered and **use of fire** for clearing forest for cultivation increased.
 - **Tin, lead, silver, Iron, gold, bronze, and copper were known to Later Vedic people.**
 - Predominantly pastoral society of Early Vedic times had **become agricultural** - Wheat, Barley, Rice, Beans, Moong, Urad and Sesamum were cultivated.
 - Surplus produce led to **Bali and Bhaga (1/6th or 1/12th)** i.e. customary contributions (minor taxes) to the King's treasury.
 - Treasurer, called **Samgrahitri** and **Bhagdukha**, collected the taxes and Vaishya were only

SAARTHI IAS

taxpayers.

- **Shataman Krishnala** are believed to be coins used but have no archaeological backing; there is reference to money lending (Satapatha Brahmanadescribes a usurer as **kusidin**).
- **Arts and crafts:** smelting, carpentry, weaving, leather-working, jewelry- making, dyeing and pottery-making, glass hoards and bangles.
- Commerce and trade are indicated by **mention of sea voyages**.
- **Pottery type:** Painted Grey Ware (PGW).
- **Religious Aspect:**
 - Religion of early Vedic Aryans was primarily worship of **nature** (natural forces such as earth, fire, wind, rain and thunder) and **Yajanas**.
 - **Varun and Indra**, the most important gods of Rig Vedic age, **lost prominence** in later Vedic phases.
 - **Prajapathi** (the creator), **Vishnu** (the protector) and **Rudra** (the destroyer) became prominent during the Later Vedic period.
 - **Rituals, sacrifices and the requirement of a supervising priest (Purohita)** made religious life complex. The importance of prayers declined and that of sacrifices increased.
 - **Priesthood became a profession** and a hereditary one.
 - There were **no temples, no idol worship**.
 - **Magic and Omen** entered the socio-religious life.
 - At the end of the later Vedic phase **Upanishad philosophers made efforts to simplify the religious practices**.
 - Few Kshatriyas, in Later Vedic phase, like **Janak** and **Vishwamitra** succeeded in knowing the supreme i.e. 'Brahma'.
 - **Dharma** meant one's duties to oneself and to others. **Rita** was the fundamental law that governed the working of Shrishti (Universe).
 - Towards the end of this period there was a **strong reaction against priestly domination and against sacrifices and rituals**. The rise of Buddhism and Jainism was the direct result of these elaborate sacrifices.

SAARTHI IAS

VEDIC DEITIES

Deity	Information
Indra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God of Lightning. • Most Mentioned, 250 hymns, known as Purandhar or destroyer of forts. • Lost prominence in the Later Vedic Phase.
Vayu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God of Air.
Agni	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God of Fire. • For purity and Yajna.
Surya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God of Life Source. • Had Vishnu, Savitri (Gayatri), Mitra and Pushan (vegetation, cattle-wealth and marriage) as its attributes.
Rudra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God of Destruction. • Also worshiped for healing from diseases. • Merged with Shiva in the later Vedic phase.
Aditi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother of Gods.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
Usha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goddess of Dawn.
Varun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God of Water and Morals. • Most Powerful, maintained cosmic order/laws. • Lost prominence in the Later Vedic Phase.
Vishnu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An aspect of Surya. • Least Mentioned, mentioned in 3 hymns.
Marut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God of Wind.
Prithvi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goddess of Fertility.

SAARTHI IAS

Aranyani	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goddess of Forest.
Parjanya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• God of Rain.
Prajapati Adipurush	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supreme God.• Most prominent during the Later Vedic period.
Pushan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• God of the Shudras.• Supposed to look after cattle.

VEDIC TEXTS

Shruti	Smriti
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shrutis are the texts 'that are heard' or product of Godly revelation to the great sages (rishis) while in meditation ('dhyaan').• The four Vedas and Samhitas are included in the shrutis.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 'Smritis' on the other hand are those that are recollected by normal humans.• The detailed commentaries/ explanations on the Vedas (Brahmanas, Aranyakas and Upanishads), 6 Vedangas and 4 Upavedas make the smritis.

SAATH TO SUCCESS

SAARTHI IAS

VEDIC LITERATURES

THE FOUR VEDAS

Veda	Upaveda	Brahmana	Upanishad	Aran yakas	Mantra	Priest
Rig Veda	Ayurveda (Medicine)	Aitareya, Kaushtiki/Sankhyana	Aitareya, Kaushtiki	Aitareya, Kaushtiki	1028	Hotr/Hotar
	Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oldest surviving text. • Mentions the concept of Origin of the Universe. • Hymns are dedicated to several deities mostly to Indra • Themes: Life, death, creation, sacrifice and 'soma' (godly pleasure). • Recently, the Rig Veda has been included by UNESCO in the list of literaturesignifying World Human Heritage. 				
Sam Veda	Gandharva Veda(Music)	Panchvimsh/Tandya, Jaiminiya	Kena, Chandogya	Jaiminiya, Chandogya	1810	Udgatar
	Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earliest book on music (Sama = Melody; ragas & raginis). • Poetic text, derived from Rig Veda. • Contains the famous Dhrupada raga, later sung by Tansen. 				
Yajur Veda	Dhanurveda (Warfare)	Taittiriya, Shatapatha	Taittiriya, KathaIsa, Brihadaranyaka	Taittiriya	2000	Adhvaryu
	Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sacrifices and rituals, composed both in prose and poetry. • Two related samhitas: Shukla and Krishna. 				
Atharva Veda	Sthapatya Veda/Shilp Veda (Architecture)	Gopatha	Mandukya, Mundaka Prashan	-	6000	Priests (Brahmins) didn't recite it.

SAARTHI IAS

	Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Magic, charms, omen, agriculture, industry/craft, cattle rearing, cure for disease; composed by Non-Aryans.
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OTHER TEXTS

Upanishads	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Philosophical texts dealing with topics like the soul, the absolute, the origin of the world and the mysteries of nature.• Upanishad indicates knowledge acquired by sitting close to the teacher.• A collection of over 200 Upanishads are known but out of these 108 are called muktikas.• Mundaka Upanishad (largest of all): contains the famous phrase Satyameva Jayate.• Maitrayani Upanishad: Doctrine of Trimurti.
Brahmanas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brahmanas describe the rules for the performance of sacrificial ceremonies.• Most important Brahmana is the Satapatha Brahmana, which is attached to the Yajur Veda.
Vedanta	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vedanta literally signifies the end of the Vedas, as they reveal the final aim of the Vedas.• They condemn sacrifices and ceremonies and denote the last phase of the Vedic period.• Sankaracharya, Ramanujacharya and Swami Vivekananda promoted the Vedanta school.
Vedanga	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The word Vedanga means the limbs of the Vedas.• For proper understanding of the Vedas, one needs to know Vedangas which are supplements to the Vedas. These are 6 in number:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Siksha: Pronunciation of the words; education.○ Nirukta: Origin of the words.○ Chhanda: Metrics used in Sanskrit verses.○ Jyotish: Understanding of astronomy.○ Vyakaran: Sanskrit grammar.○ Kalpa: Knowledge of rituals (Dharma sutras).
Aranyakas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Called forest books and they deal with mysticism, rites, rituals and sacrifices.

SAARTHI IAS

Ramayana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roughly composed between 400 BCE-300CE. • Author was Valmiki, known as Adi Kavya, the oldest epic of the world.
Mahabharat a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roughly composed between c. 400 BCE-400 CE. • Author was Ved Vyasa; the longest epic of the world; Bhagavad Gita is extracted from Bishama Parvan of Mahabharata. Shanti Parvan is the largest Parvan (chapter) of Mahabharata.
Purana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Puranas literally means old. • Puranas mention four ages: Krita, Treta, Dvapara and Kali. • Some Puranas such as the Brahma, Matsya, Harivamsha, Vishnu, Brahmanda, and Vayu provide useful information on historical dynasties (of Haryankas, Shishu Nagas, Nandas, Mauryas, Shungas — till the Guptas).
Dharamshastr a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanskrit texts dealing specifically with Dharma (code of conduct) that conceptually signifies a righteous moral law. • Jabala Upanishad: 4-fold ashram (stages) for 4 purusharthas (goals): it was not applicable to women or shudras - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brahmacharya (Celibate Student) for knowledge i.e. Dharma. ○ Grihastha (Householder) for wealth and progeny i.e. 'Artha' and 'Kama'. ○ Vanaprastha (hermit in retreat) for spiritual wisdom. ○ Sanyasa (Renunciation) for liberation i.e. Mukti/Moksha. • Out of the four varnas, three varnas, i.e., Brahmanas, Kshatriyas, and Vaishyas were considered Dvija (twice born, as they had the right to the sacred thread ceremony considered akin to second birth).

Additional Information:	
The Six Theistic Philosophies(Darshan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Samkhya: theoretical foundation; by Kapil. • Yoga: union of soul with God; by Patanjali. • Vaisheshika: discusses atomic theory; by Kanad. • Nyaya: philosophy of logic; by Gautam. • Mimansa: rituals; by Jaimini. • Vedanta: most important; by Badrayan.

SAARTHI IAS

Atheistic Philosophies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buddhist School of Siddhartha Gautama. • Jaina School of Mahavir Swami. • Charvak or Lokayat School was actually propounded by Brihaspati but was systematized by Charvak.
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OFFICERS AND THEIR PROFILE IN VEDIC PERIOD

Officers	Profiles	Officers	Profiles
Vrajapati	• Officer-in-charge of pasture land	Jivagribha	• Police official
Kshatri	• Chamberlain	Senani	• Supreme commander-in-chief
Sthapati	• Chief Judge	Gramani	• Head of the village
Bhagadugha	• Revenue collector	Kulapati	• Head of the family
Mahishi	• Chief Queen	Spasas	• Spies & Messengers
Suta	• Charioteer	Madhyamas i	• Dispute resolving
Takshan	• Carpenter	Palagala	• Messenger
Sanghrahriti	• Treasurer	Govikartan a	• Keeper of forests & games
Akshavapa	• Accountant	Purohita	• Priest of highest order

KEY CONCEPTS

Key Concepts	Source
Gotra	• Atharva Veda
Purusha Sukta Hymn (Four-fold division of society)	• Rig Veda (Tenth Mandala)
First three ashramas (Brahmacharya, Grihasthya, Vanaprastha)	• Chandogya Upanishad
Four ashrams (Brahmacharya, Grihasthya, Vanaprastha, Sanyasa)	• Jabala Upanishad
Samsara (transmigration of soul)	• Brihadaranyaka Upanishad
Sabha and Samiti as the two daughters of Prajapati	• Atharva Veda
Doctrine of Trimurti	• Maitrayani Upanishad
Mention of the Great Flood	• Satpatha Brahamana

SAARTHI IAS

JAINISM

• ORIGIN OF JAINISM

- The doctrine of Jaina is **older than the Buddhist doctrine and as old as Vedic religion.**
- **Rig Veda** mentions names of **Rishabha** and **Arishtanemi** Jain Tirthankara.
- **Vishnu Purana** and **Bhagavat Purana** describe Rishabha as an incarnation of Narayana.
- Jainism **does not have a single founder.** It is commonly mistaken that Mahavir was the founder of Jainism. However, he was the last **Tirthankara.**
- Jainism came into **prominence in 6th century B.C.**, when Lord Mahavira propagated the religion.
- The word **Jain** is derived from **Jina or Jaina - means the Conqueror.** A Jina is said to possess **Avadhi Jnana**, (Superhuman cognition or psychic power.). All the Tirthankara were **Kshatriyas by birth.**
- The **symbol hand with a wheel on the palm symbolizes Ahimsa in Jainism.** There is a word **ahimsa** written in the middle of it.

Additional Information:

- Jain community makes for **4.5 million or 0.36 percent** of the Indian population as per 2011 census, the **sixth community** to be designated this status as a **national minority**, after Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis. **Gujarat** and **Rajasthan** have the highest concentration of Jain population in India.

• FACTORS BEHIND THE RISE OF JAINISM

- **Vedic religion** had become highly ritualistic.
- It was accessible to people of **all castes.**
- The early Jainas adopted the **Prakrit language** of the common people to preach their doctrines and discarded Sanskrit language (which was mainly patronized by the Brahmanas).
- Jainism offered **lower people an honorable place** in the society.
- The **sacrificial ceremonies** were also found to be too expensive.
- It accorded **equal status to women.**
- The **teachings of Upanishads**, an alternative to the system of sacrifices, were highly philosophical in nature therefore not easily understood by all

SAARTHI IAS

- **TEACHINGS OF MAHAVIRA**

- Rejected authority of the Vedas & Vedic rituals.
- Did not believe in the existence of god.
- Believed in Karma & transmission of Soul.
- Emphasized the equality but did not condemn the Varna system.
- Advocated a life of austerity and non-violence.
- Women had an equal role to play and were not looked down upon.
- Man may be 'good' or 'bad' as per his actions and not birth.

Additional Information: There were 24 Tirthankara (teachers)	
● 1st Tirthankara	● Rishabhdev or Rishabhdev.
● 2nd Tirthankara	● Arishtanemi.
● 23rd Tirthankara	● Parshvanatha: born in Varanasi.
● 24th Tirthankara	● Vardhaman Mahavira.

- **VARDHAMAN MAHAVIRA : (539-467BC)**

- **Birth:** Kundagrama near Vaishali. Belongs to **Gnatrika Clan**. Buddha and Mahavira were contemporaries.
- **Parents:** Siddhartha (Head of Jnatrika Clan) and Trisala (Sister of Lichchhavi chief Chetaka).
- **Wife & daughter:** married to **Yashoda** and had a daughter **Anojja or Priyadarshana**.
- **Teachers:** Alarakama and Udraka Ramputra.
- **Kaivalya** (highest spiritual knowledge): attained at the age of 42 under Sal tree at Jrimbhikagrama, on the bank of River Rijupalika. Henceforth, they are called Mahavir (brave), Jina or Jitendriya (one who conquered his senses), Nigrantha (free from all bonds), Arhat (blessed one), Kevalin (perfect learned).
- **First sermon:** on the Vipula Peak at Rajgir to his 11 disciples – known as Gandharas/Gandharvas.
- **First disciple:** Indrabhuti Gautama (female)
- **Death:** at the age of 72 years in c. 527 BCE at Pavapur near Patna.

SAARTHI IAS

- **Symbol:**
- **Mahavira's symbol** was a **lion**.
- Rishabh'natha's symbol was a bull.
- **Parsvanatha's symbol** was a **hooded serpent**.

PHILOSOPHY AND TEACHINGS OF JAINISM

<p>Tenets of Jainism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belief in God: Jainism recognised the existence of god but placed them lower than Jina (Mahavira). • It did not condemn the varna system but attempted to mitigate the evils of the varna order and the ritualistic Vedic religion. • According to Mahavira, a person is born in higher or lower varna as the consequence of the sins or the virtues in the previous birth. Thus, Jainism believes in transmigration of the soul and theory of Karma.
<p>Anekantavada</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasizes that the ultimate truth and reality is complex, and has multiple-aspects i.e. theory of plurality. • It refers to the simultaneous acceptance of multiple, diverse, even contradictory viewpoints.
<p>Syadvada</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All judgments are conditional, holding good only in certain conditions, circumstances, or senses. • Syadvada literally means the method of examining different probabilities. • Seven modes of prediction (Saptabhangi Nayavada).
<p>Five Doctrines of Jainism</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parshvanatha's teachings (Chaturthi): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ahimsa: Non-injury to a living being. ○ Satya: Do not speak a lie. ○ Asteya: Do not steal. ○ Aparigraha: Do not acquire property. • Mahavira added One more teaching: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brahmacharya: Observe continence. • It mainly aims at the attainment of liberation, for which no ritual is required.
<p>Three Jewels/ Triratna</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right Faith: Samyak Darshan – belief in Tirthankara. • Right Knowledge: Samyak jnana – knowledge of the Jain creed. • Right Action: Samyak charitra – practice of 5 vows of Jainism.

SAARTHI IAS

Two elements of the world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jiva- meaning conscious. • Atma- meaning unconscious.
Three Sources of Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pratyaksha: Direct Knowledge. • Anuman: Contemplation. • Sayings of Tirthankara.
Five types of Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mati Jnana – perception through activity of sense organs. • Shruta Jnana – knowledge revealed by scriptures. • Avadhi Jnana – clairvoyant perception. • Mana Paryaya Jnana – telepathic knowledge. • Keval Jnana – temporal knowledge.
Jain Metaphysics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nirjana: Destruction of karma. • Moksha: complete deliverance from karma. • Jiva: living matter or soul. • Ajiva: non-living matter. • Paap: sin.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Punya: actions which lead to good karma. • Asrava: flow of karma. • Samvara: impediment of flow of karma. • Bandha: bondage of soul to karma.
Anuvrata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anuvrata means the ‘lesser vows’ which Jain lay-people take, as a kind of parallel to the great vows of the ascetics. They are applied to the practice of daily life. • The five great vows apply only to ascetics in Jainism, and in their place are five minor vows for householders. • The five minor vows in Jainism are modeled after the great vows, but differ in degree and they are less demanding or restrictive than the same “great vows” for ascetics.

• SECTS/SCHOOLS OF JAINISM

- **Jain order has been divided into two major sects: Digambara and Svetambara.**
The division occurred mainly due to **famine in Magadha** which compelled a group led by **Bhadrabahu** to move South India.
- During the 12 years famine, the **group in South India stuck to the strict practices**

SAARTHI IAS

while the **group in Magadha adopted a more lax attitude** and started wearing white clothes.

- After the end of famine, when the Southern group came back to Magadha, the changed practices led to the division of Jainism into two sects.

<p>Digambara</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monks of this sect believe in complete nudity. Male monks do not wear clothes while female monks wear unstitched plain white sarees. ● Follow all five vows: Satya, Ahimsa, Asteya, Aparigraha and Brahmacharya. ● Believe women cannot achieve liberation. ● The earliest record of Digambara beliefs is contained in the Prakrit Suttapahuda of Kundakunda. ● Monasticism rules are more rigid under Digambara School. ● Bhadrabahu was an exponent of this sect. ● Major Sub-Sects: Mula Sangh, Bisapantha, Terapanth, Taranpantha or Samaiyapantha. ● Minor Sub-Sets: Gumanapantha, Totapantha.
<p>Svetambara</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monks wear white clothes. ● Follow only 4 vows (except brahmacharya): Satya, Ahimsa, Asteya, Aparigraha. ● Believe women can achieve liberation. ● They believe tirthankaras can be men or women. ● Svetambara tradition of Jainism indicates five eternal substances in existence: Soul (jiva), Matter (pudgala), Space (akasha), motion (Dharma) and rest (Adharma), unlike Digambaras which add the sixth eternal substance as time (Kala). ● Sthulabhadra was an exponent of this sect. ● Major Sub-Sects: Murtipujaka (Deravasi), Sthanakvasi, Terapanthi.
<p>Ajivikas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Ajivikas or 'Followers of the way of life,' were an ascetic order that started at the time of Buddha and Mahavira, and lasted until the 14th century. ● Makkhali Gosala left Mahavira to found the sect of the Ajivikas (pre-determinism or 'Niyati'). ● No human effort could have any effect against Niyati, and therefore karma is a fallacy.

SAARTHI IAS

Other Sects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uchche Dvd: Its promoter was Ajita Kesh Kambali. According to him, everything is destroyed after death. • Akriyavad: According to this view promoted by Puran Kasayap, there is no fruit of good and bad deeds of human beings. • Nityavad: Its promoter was Pakudha Kachaiyan. He told only seven elements, such as earth, water, fire, air, happiness, sorrow and soul (these elements do not interact with one another). • Sandehvad: Its promoter was Sanjay Beluttaputra. He neither accepted any opinion nor denied any opinion. • Sthanakvasi: It is a sect of Svetambara Jainism founded by a merchant named Lavaji in 1653 AD. It believes that idol worship is not essential in the path of soul purification and attainment of Nirvana/Moksha. Svetambaras who are not Sthanakavasins are mostly part of the Murtipujak sect.
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IMPORTANT TERMS RELATED TO JAINISM

Terms	Information
Asrav	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inflow of karmas to the soul that occurs at every second in life.
Shramana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeker, one who performs acts of austerity and ascetic.
Samvara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stopping the influx of the material karmas into the soul consciousness.
Nirjara	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shedding or removal of accumulated karmas from the Atma (soul), essential for breaking free from samsara, the cycle of birth-death and rebirth, by achieving moksha, liberation. • It is one of the seven fundamental principles, or Tattva in Jain philosophy.
Sallekhana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the religious practice of voluntarily fasting to death by gradually reducing the intake of food and liquids, also called Santhara.
Kaivalya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also known as Kevala Jnana, means omniscience in Jainism and is roughly translated as complete understanding or supreme wisdom.
Pratikraman Posadha	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a process during which Jains repent for their sins during their daily life, and remind themselves not to repeat them. • Fasting by a Jain member on full Moon and new Moon day.
Theravali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The second section of the Jaina Kalpasutra contains a list of schools.
Ajnanavad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Jaina doctrine of agnosticism. The Jain texts mention 67 kinds of Ajnanavada.
Mahavratas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five principles observed by Jain monks.

SAARTHI IAS

Siddha	• Fully liberated.
Jiva	• Soul.
Gunasthana	• Stage of purification.
Basadis	• Jaina monastic establishment.
Guna	• Quality.

JAIN COUNCILS

Council	Venue	Chairperson	Outcome
First 300 BC	Patliputra.	Sthulabahu, Patron- Chandragupta Maurya.	• Compilation of 12 Angas to replace 14 Purvas.
Second 512 AD	Vallabhi.	Devardhigani.	• Final compilation of 12 Angas & 12 Upanga.

• ROYAL PATRONS OF JAINISM

North India	Bimbisara, Ajatashatru, Chandragupta Maurya, Bindusara, Harshavardhana, Bindusara, Kharavela, Udayan, Pradyota.
South India	Kadamba dynasty, Ganga dynasty, Amoghavarsha (Rashtrakuta dynasty), Kumarapala (Chalukya dynasty).

• IMPORTANT JAIN LITERATURE

- Traditionally, the original doctrine of Jainism was contained in scriptures called **Purva**. There were fourteen Purva. Jain literature is mainly written in **Prakrit language**.
- **These Agamas are further divided into:** Angas, Mulasutra, Upangas, Prakirnaka Sutra, Chedasutra & Ulikasutras.
- **Kalpasutra:** written by **Bhadrabahu**. It contains biographies of Jain Tirthankaras.
- **Agam or Canonical Literature (Agam Sutras):** Agam ('what has come down to us' or tradition) literature consists of many texts, which are the sacred books of the Jain religion. They are written in the **Ardha- magadhi**, a form of Prakrit language. The **canonical Jain literature** is claimed to have **started from Adinatha (Rishabh Nath)** (first Tirthankara).
- **Non Agam Literature:** consists of commentary and explanation of Agam literature, and

SAARTHI IAS

independent works, compiled by ascetics and scholars. They are written partly in Prakrit dialects (such as Maharashtri) and partly in Sanskrit.

• EIGHT AUSPICIOUS SYMBOLS UNDER JAINISM

Swastika	• It signifies peace and well-being of the humans.
Nandyavarta	• It is a large swastika with nine end points.
Bhadrasana	• A throne which is said to be sanctified by the Jain's feet.
Shrivasta	• A mark which manifested on the Jain's chest and signified his pure soul.
Darpana	• The mirror which reflects the inner self.
Minayugala	• A couple of fish which signifies the conquest over sexual urges.
Vardhamanaka	• A shallow dish used as a lamp which shows the increase in wealth, due and merit.
Kalasha	• A pot filled with pure water signifying water.

Additional Information:

Comparison between Jainism and Buddhism:

- Jainism **recognised** the **existence of god** while **Buddhism did not**.
- Jainism does **not condemn** the varna system while Buddhism does.
- Jainism believed in the **transmigration of soul i.e. reincarnation** while **Buddhism does not**.
- Buddhism prescribes a **middle path** while Jainism advocates its followers to live the life of **complete austerity**.

• JAIN ARCHITECTURE

- **Manastambha**: It is found in the front side of the temple, having religious importance with an ornamental pillar structure carrying the image of Tirthankara on top and on all four cardinal directions.
- **Basadis**: Jain monastic establishment or temples in Karnataka.

• SPREAD OF JAINISM

- Through **Sangha**, it consists of women & men.