

Question 4.

Discuss the main 'characteristics of the planned urban centres of the Harappan civilisation.

Or

"The most unquestioned feature of Mohenjodaro was the planned urban centre."

Support the statement with examples.

Or

Describe briefly the most distinctive feature of urban centres of Harappa.

Or

How did architectural features of Mohenjodaro indicate planning? Support with suitable examples.

Answer:

1. The urban planning was of high quality in the Harappan civilisation.

- 1. All towns were developed under a plan. The streets and roads of the towns were quite wide.**
- 2. All the roads intersected at right angles. The people who lived in houses made of bricks.**
- 3. The people belonging to the ruling class had their homes on the citadel of the town. The common people lived on the land below the citadel.**
- 4. The houses had a provision of doors and windows. Each house had a courtyard, bathroom, kitchen and a staircase to take the residents on the roof.**
- 5. A few houses had two or three storeys. Many people had big houses.**
- 6. Mohenjodaro had a Great Bath with a length of 11.88 meters, the width of 7.01 metres and depth of 2.43 metre.**
- 7. The largest building in this town was the citadel which was 45.71 metres long and 15.23 metres wide. Six citadels have been found in Harappa.**
- 8. There was a very good provision of drains for the out let of wastewater in the towns of the Harappan civilisation.**
- 9. All the drains were made of concrete that was covered with such bricks which could be easily removed to be cleaned.**

10. The water of the residential drains fell in the street drain. There was a big drain outside the city where the wastewater of the whole town was accumulated.

Question 5.

Discuss the development made into the field of craft and industry during the Harappan period.

Answer:

1. The people of the Harappan civilisation were familiar with the use and production of bronze.
2. The metal craftsmen prepared bronze by mixing tin with copper. The community of bronze craftsmen occupied an important place among the sculptors of Harappan society.
3. They made many kinds of instruments and weapons besides statues and utensils. For example, many things have been excavated like an axe and dagger.
4. The things that have been found after excavations indicate that there were other important crafts as well in the towns of Harappa.
5. people of Harappa used spinners to prepare wool and coarse thread. They knitted both woollen and cotton clothes.
6. The vast buildings made of brick bear testimony to the fact that architecture was one of the most important crafts of the masons.
7. The people of Harappa also built boats. They were also proficient in making public currency (seals made of mud) and sculpture. Some people made gold, silver and diamond or gem ornaments.
8. The craftsmen of Harappa were also very efficient in the making of beads.
9. They were aware of the art of making utensils of mud, copper and bronze. The mud-utensils made by them were quite smooth and shini.