

## L-1 ART OF INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION PERIOD

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### Key Words/New Words

Discovery	Civilization	Statuettes	Seals	Flourished	Impart Knowledge
Excavation	Pottery	Steatite	Intaglio design	Exaggerating	Hump
Diagonal	Linear	Decipher	Manipulation	Crafty fingers	Motifs
Vegetals	Tendency	Abstraction	High-polish	Finishing touch	Figurine
Unblemished	Headgear	Elaborate	Adorned	Mini-skirt	

### In-text Questions

#### In-text Questions 1.2

1. Fill up the blanks
  - a. The mother Goddess statue is made of clay (Terracotta).
  - b. This was found at the site of Mohenjo- Daro.
  - c. The figure is wearing a mini skirt.

#### In-text Questions 1.3

Choose the right answer

- a) The seal is made of Steatite
  - i. Clay
  - ii. Stone Dust

iii. Steatite

b) This seal was found at Mohenjo-Daro

i. Harappa

ii. Mohenjo-Daro

iii. Chanho- Daro

### In-text Questions 1.4

a) The jar is made on potter's wheel.

i. With Tools

ii. On Potter's wheel

iii. With Chisel

b) The date of the jar is circa 2500 BC.

i. 1<sup>st</sup> CAD

ii. 6<sup>th</sup> CAD

iii. Circa 2500 BC

c) The size of the jar is 21  $\frac{3}{4}$ "

i. 24  $\frac{1}{2}$ "

ii. 21  $\frac{3}{4}$ "

iii. 30  $\frac{3}{4}$ "

### In-text Questions 1.5

Choose the right answer

a) The necklace is made of Jade.

- i. Diamond
  - ii. Ruby
  - iii. Jade
- b) The number of lockets are three.
- i. Two
  - ii. Five
  - iii. Three
- c) Now, it is in the collection of National Museum, New Delhi.
- i. Indian Museum, Kolkata
  - ii. National Museum, New Delhi
  - iii. Lahore Museum, Pakistan

## Model Questions

1. Write an appreciative note on any one artworks of Indus Valley Civilization?

Answer: The Mother Goddess sculpture is one of the finest example of terracotta sculpture of Indus Valley Civilization. The main features of this sculpture are:

- It is made of clay and then baked as per the Terra Cotta process.
- To achieve an unblemished red color the baking is perfectly done.
- It was identified as “mother goddess” by some scholars.
- The headgear of this statue comprises two small-bowl-like forms on both sides of the head. These were probably used as lamps.

- These two bowls are balanced by an elaborate hairstyle in the middle of the head.
- The figure is wearing a miniskirt with a broad belt to hold it in place.
- It is adorned with jewellery

2. What do you know about Terracotta?

Answer: Terracotta is a **brownish-red clay** that has been baked and is used for making things such as flower pots, small statues, and tiles.

3. Describe some features of Indus Valley Art?

Answer: Some features of Indus valley art are:

- The artists and craftsmen of Indus Valley were extremely skilled in handling all kinds of material like metal, stone carving, terracotta and painting pottery.
- These artists preferred to use simplified motifs of animals, birds and plants.
- They were influenced by their religious beliefs.
- The cult of Siva and Shakti is very prominent in all their art works.

## Previous Year Questions

1. What do you know about Indus Valley Civilization? 2

Answer: Indus Valley Civilization was named after the site from where the first evidence of this civilization was found.

- Main sites of this civilization are **Mohenjo-daro** and **Harappa** (now in Pakistan).
- Initially it was considered that this civilization was mainly concentrated in the Indus River Valley and was named

accordingly. But, recent excavations show that it was extended beyond the basin of River Indus.

- This civilization is also known as Harappan Civilization.
- Great numbers of art and antiquities have been found from this period, which include seals, potteries, jewellery, tools, toys and statuettes and other utilitarian objects.

2. Write on the main characteristics of the statue 'Mother Goddess' of Harappa. 2

Answer: The main characteristics of the statue 'Mother Goddess' of Harappa are:

- It is made of clay and then baked as per the Terra Cotta process.
- To achieve an unblemished red color the baking is perfectly done.
- The headgear of this statue comprises two small-bowl-like forms on both sides of the head. These were probably used as lamps.
- These two bowls are balanced by an elaborate hairstyle in the middle of the head.
- The figure is wearing a miniskirt with a broad belt to hold it in place.
- It is adorned with jewellery

3. What do you know about Indus Valley Civilization and the finding of art and craft object 2

Answer: Answer: Indus Valley Civilization was named after the site from where the first evidence of this civilization was found.

- Main sites of this civilization are **Mohenjo-daro** and **Harappa** (now in Pakistan).

- Initially it was considered that this civilization was mainly concentrated in the Indus River Valley and was named accordingly. But, recent excavations show that it was extended beyond the basin of River Indus.
- This civilization is also known as Harappan Civilization.
- Great numbers of art and antiquities have been found from this period, which include seals, potteries, jewellery, tools, toys and statuettes and other utilitarian objects

4. Write a note on any *one* seal of Indus Valley Civilization. 2

Answer: The seal with Bull design is one of the seals of Indus Valley Civilization. The main features of this seal are:

- The seal is made of Steatite.
- It has an elaborate intaglio design of a bull.
- The size of bull's horns and humps are big to show power and strength.
- The youthful energy of the bull is shown using diagonal linear motif of the neck.
- There are writings on the upper part of the seal. No one has deciphered them yet.

5. Write the main characteristics of the statue 'Mother Goddess' of Harappa. 2

Answer: The main characteristics of the statue 'Mother Goddess' of Harappa are:

- It is made of clay and then baked as per the Terra Cotta process.
- To achieve an unblemished red color the baking is perfectly done.

- The headgear of this statue comprises two small-bowl-like forms on both sides of the head. These were probably used as lamps.
- These two bowls are balanced by an elaborate hairstyle in the middle of the head.
- The figure is wearing a miniskirt with a broad belt to hold it in place.
- It is adorned with jewellery.

6. What is "Terra cotta"? Write a short note on the statue "mother goddess"- found at Mohanjo-daro. [2]

Answer: Terracotta is a **brownish-red clay** that has been baked and is used for making things such as flower pots, small statues, and tiles.

The main characteristics of the statue 'Mother Goddess' of Harappa are:

- It is made of clay and then baked as per the Terra Cotta process.
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7. Write a note on the seal of Indus Valley Civilization. [2]

Answer: The seal with Bull design is one of the seals of Indus Valley Civilization. The main features of this seal are:

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8. With examples, write about the characteristics of jewellery of Indus Valley. 2

Answer: The characteristics of jewellery of Indus Valley are:

- Jewellery was found in great abundance and variety at Indus Valley sites.
- Lot of Gold, Silver or Jade necklaces, ear rings, pendants, belts and bangles were found.
- The jade necklace is an excellent example of craftsmanship and designing.
- The necklace has 30 round beads and six (6) oval beads.
- Three lockets in the middle part of the necklace enhance its beauty.

9. Write about the jewellery of Indus Valley Civilization with example. 2

Answer: Same as above

10. Write about the storage jar of Mohenjo-daro. 2

Answer: A short note on the storage jar of Mohenjo-daro is:

- This jar is made on potter's wheel with clay.
- The shape of the jar is manipulated by the crafty fingers of the potter.



- After baking the clay model, it was painted with black colour.
- The motifs are vegetals and geometric forms.
- Designs are simple and abstract.
- High polish is used as finishing touch.

11. **4** Describe the artifacts of the Indus Valley civilization included in your text book. **2**

Answer: The description of artifacts of Indus Valley civilization included in NIOS sr secondary textbook are:

SI No.	Artifact	Description
1	Mother Goddess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is made of clay and then baked as per the Terra Cotta process.</li> <li>• To achieve an unblemished red color the baking is perfectly done.</li> <li>• The headgear of this statue comprises two small-bowl-like forms on both sides of the head. These were probably used as lamps.</li> <li>• These two bowls are balanced by an elaborate hairstyle in the middle of the head.</li> <li>• The figure is wearing a miniskirt with a broad belt to hold it in place.</li> <li>• It is adorned with jewellery.</li> </ul>
2	Seal with Bull design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The seal is made of Steatite.</li> <li>• It has an elaborate intaglio design of a bull.</li> <li>• The size of bull's horns and humps are big to show power and strength.</li> <li>• The youthful energy of the bull is shown using diagonal linear motif of the neck.</li> <li>• There are writings on the upper part of the seal. No one has deciphered them yet.</li> </ul>
3	Storage Jar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This jar is made on potter's wheel with clay.</li> <li>• After baking the clay model, it was painted with black colour.</li> <li>• The motifs are vegetals and geometric forms.</li> </ul>

SI No.	Artifact	Description
4	Jade Necklace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High polish is used as finishing touch.</li> <li>• The jade necklace is an excellent example of craftsmanship and designing.</li> <li>• The necklace has 30 round beads and six (6) oval beads.</li> <li>• Three lockets in the middle part of the necklace enhance its beauty.</li> </ul>