

Ancient Indian Civilization

Recent Excavations

Important Recent Excavations

- **Haryana**
 - Banawali, Hissar (2500 BC to 1450 BC)
 - Kurukshetra (Late Harappa period)
- **Punjab**
 - **Rupar / Ropar** , Rupnagar (Harappa -2100-1400 BC to 1700 AD)
 - Bara, Rupnagar, (2000 BC to 600 BC)
 - Kotla Nihang Khan, Rupnagar
- **Delhi**
 - Lal-Kot, Delhi
 - Purana Quila, Delhi (From Mauryan period 4th -3rd century B.C)
- **Jammu & Kashmir**
 - Burzahom, Srinagar (2400 BC onwards)
 - Manda, Jammu

Important Recent Excavations

- **Gujarat**
 - **Lothal**, Ahmadabad (2450 to 1900 BC)
 - Malwan, Surat
 - Rangpur, Sundranagar (3000 BC to 800 BC)
 - Surkotada, Kutch (2300 to 1750 BC)
 - **Dholavira**, Kachchh (3000 BC to 1500 BC)
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- **Rajasthan**
 - Gilund, Udaipur (1250-1500 BC to 1000 AD)
 - **Kalibangan**, Hanumangarh (Early Harappan to Harappan)
- **Madhya Pradesh**
 - Besnagar, Vidisha (5000 BC)
 - Sanchi, Raisen (300 BC to 1200 AD)
 - Uijain (600 BC onwards)
- **Maharashtra**
 - Daimabad, Ahmadnagar
 - Prakash, Dhule (1700 BC to 600 AD)

Important Recent Excavations

- **Uttar Pradesh**
 - Ahichchhatra, Bareilly (300 BC to 1100 AD)
 - Hastinapura, Meerut (2000-2500 BC to 1500AD)
 - Kanauj, Farrukhabad (300 BC to 1200 AD)
 - Mathura (600 BC to 600 AD)
 - Piprahwa Basti, (500 BC to 300 AD)
 - Sankisa, Farrukhabad
 - Sarnath, Varanasi
 - Sravasti, Gonda-Bahraich (600 BC to early AD)
- **Uttaranchal**
 - Kashipur, Nainital
- **Bihar**
 - Antichak, Bhagalpur (early 9th century to early 13th AD)
 - Lauriya-Nandangarh, W. Champaran
 - Nalanda, Nalanda (Palas - 8th to 12th centuries)
 - Pataliputra, Patna (from Time of Buddha)
 - Rajgir, Nalanda
 - Vaisali, Vaisali

Important Recent Excavations

- **Orissa**
 - Kuchai, Mayurbhanj (1750 - 2000 BC)
 - Ratnagiri, Cuttack (300 BC to 350 AD)
 - Sisupalgarh, Khurda, Orissa
 - Udaigiri-Khandgiri, Puri, (100 BC)
- **Andhra Pradesh**
 - Dharanikota, Guntur (400 B.C. to A.D. 400)
 - Nagarjunakonda (2500 BC – 1500 BC – 200 AD)
 - Satanikota, Kurnool
- **Karnataka**
 - Brahmagiri, Chitradurga (1000 BC to 300 AD)
- **Pondicherry**
 - Arikamedu (25 AD to 200 AD)
- **Tamil Nadu**
 - Attirampakkam, Chingleput

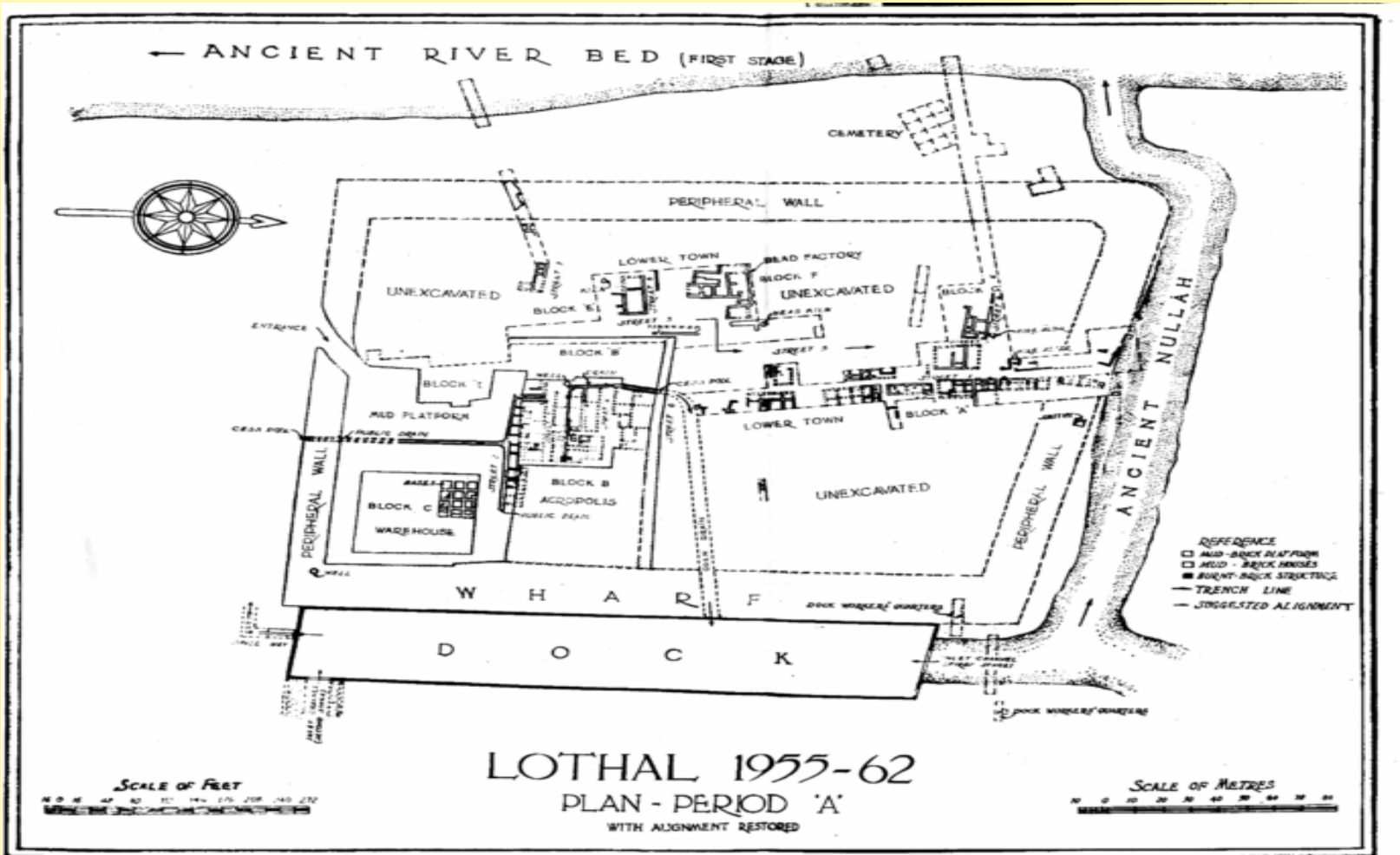
Lothal

- Two Main Periods
 - Mature Harappa Culture (2450 to 1900 B.C)
 - Decadent phase (1900 to 1600 B.C.)
- Lothal's Dock – World's earliest
 - with wooden Shutter to lock water
- Warehouse
 - 65 terracotta sealings with Indus seals
 - Circular steatite seal of Persian Gulf seal class
 - Persian Gulf as intermediary in Indus Mesopotamia trade
 - Indus-like seals found in Mesopotamia – import from Lothal
 - series of Assyrian standard weights for international trade
 - Copper Ingot without Arsenic

Ancient Lothal as envisaged by ASI



Lothal – City Plan



- Lower Town
- Acropolis with 3 streets & 3 lanes with drainage system

Lothal- Dock with Canal Opening



Dock with a canal opening to allow water to flow into river to maintain stable water level

Lothal - Main Well



Lothal - Structure of houses



Ancient well & city drainage canals



Filtering out solid waste from canal



Lothal - Findings



- Carved Stone Tool
- Painted jar with decorated leaves and deer
- Terracotta horse, Mature Harappan

Rupar / Ropar

- On the left bank of Sutlej
- Migration from Harappa to Ropar
 - postulated through lost Saraswati River to Satlej
- Period I (Harappa, c. 2100 to 1400 B.C.)
 - Houses with river pables and cut slabs of lime
 - Walls were plastered with water repelling sticky clay
- Period II (PGW, c. 1000 to 600 B.C.)
 - Painted Gray Ware
 - Mahabharata Period
 - Early coins, copper
 - Ivory seal inscribed in Mauryan Brahmi script (4th-3rd century BCE)

Rupar / Ropar

- Period III (NBPW, c. 600 to 200 B.C)
 - Northern Black Polished Ware Period
- Period IV (middle-late historical, 200 BC to A.D. 700)
 - Dwelling complexes with houses of stone and mud bricks
- Period V (late historical, c. 700-1200)
 - copper coins from the Kushan and Gupta periods
 - gold coin issued by Chandragupta of Gupta dynasty
 - Yakshini figure
- Period VI (medieval, c.1200-1700)



Kalibangan

- Early Harappa Period (3500BC-2500BC)
 - Fortification walls
 - Earliest Ploughed Fields
 - Walled city with gridiron street plan
 - Baked bricks – wells, drains, bathing platforms
 - Unique Fire Altars
 - Cylindrical Seals
- Harappa Period (2500 BC – 170 BC)
 - Fortified Settlement with mud bricks
 - Houses of same mud bricks
 - Baked bricks – drains, ovens, cylindrical pits with lime plaster

Kalibangan – Ploughed Field



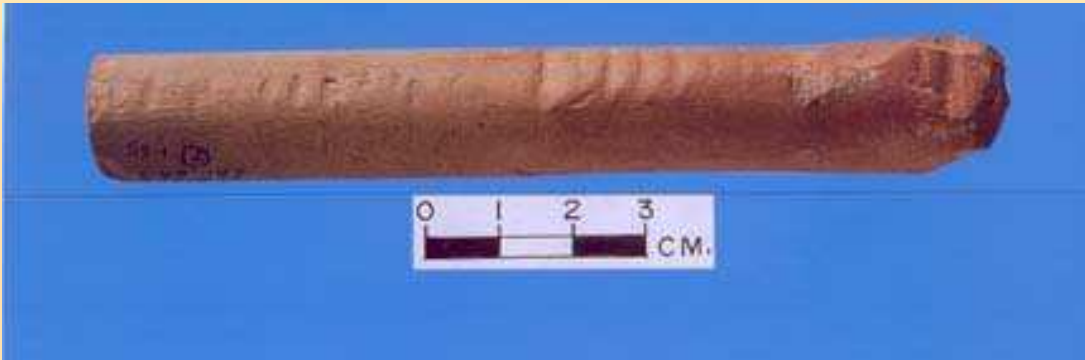
An agricultural field, showing criss-cross pattern of furrows

Kalibangan- Fire Altars



A row of seven 'fire-altars' discovered on a platform

Kalibangan – Other Findings



Crude Scale



Terracotta linga
Mature Harappan

Dholavira

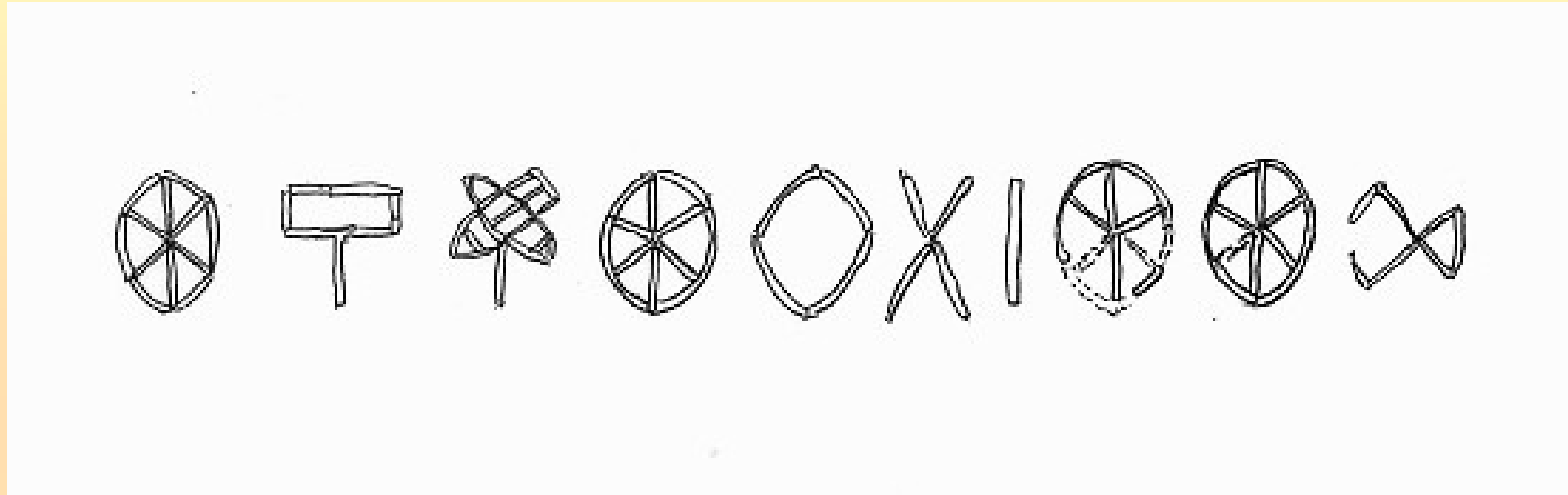
- From 3000 BC to a millenniums
- Declining after 2100 BC
- Fifth largest Harappan Site
 - Harappa, Mohenjo Daro, Ganeriwala in Pakistan
 - Rakhigarhi, Dholavira and Lothal in India
- Ractangular Shape spread over 100 hectares
- Three Divisions
 - Citadel
 - Middle Town
 - Lower Town
- All building built out of Stone

Dholavira- Water System



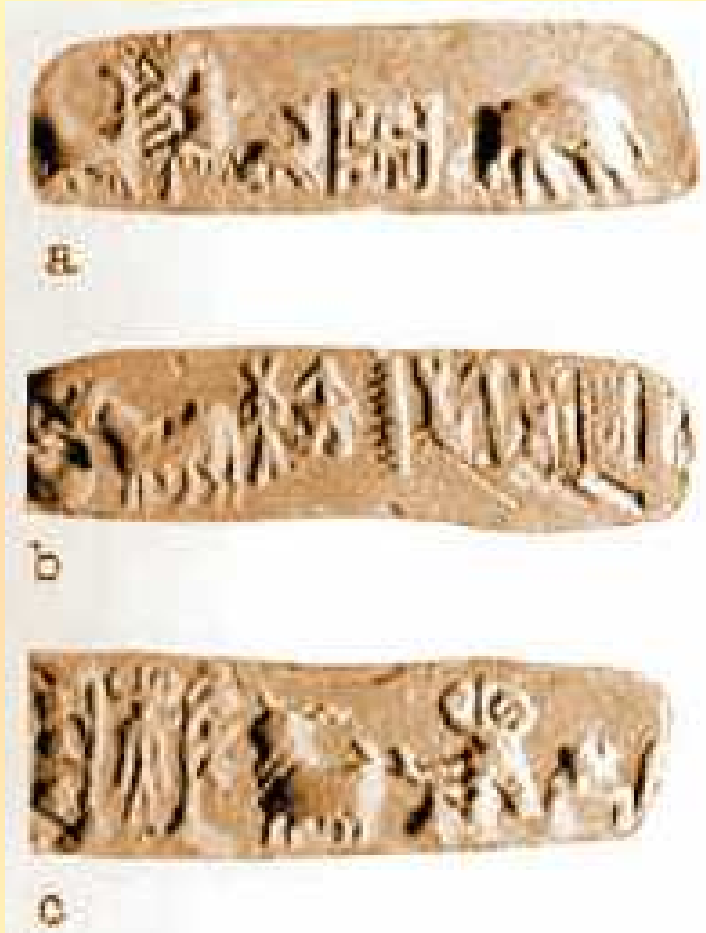
sophisticated water conservation system of channels and reservoirs built out of stone

Dholavira- Sign Board



pieces of gypsum mineral to form ten large letters on a big wooden board

Dholavira- Calligraphy



Indus Valley Seals.

The first one shows a Swastika

- 400 basic signs with variations
- Signs for words/ syllables
- Direction of the writing was from right to left
- Most inscriptions are found on seals made out of stone and sealings