One-Liner Shots: (Indus Valley Civilization: Important Points)

7 Quick Key Points About the Indus Valley Civilization

★ The term 'Indus Valley Civilization' was first coined by John Marshall.

★ Radiocarbon dating suggests that this civilisation existed from approximately 2500 to 1750 BC.

★ This civilisation thrived along the Indus and Ghaggar-Hakra river region.

★ Urbanisation was a notable characteristic of the Harappan Civilization.

★ The people of this civilisation domesticated various animals, including sheep, goats, dogs, humped cattle, buffalo, and elephants.

★ The capital cities of this civilisation were Mohenjodaro and Harappa.

★ Important port cities included Sutkagendor, Balakot, Lothal, Allahdino, and Kuntasi.

★ Cotton and wool were commonly used materials by the Indus Valley people.

- ★ Urbanisation was the defining characteristic of the Indus Valley Civilization or IVC.
- ★ They domesticated animals, had key cities like Mohenjodaro and Harappa, and utilised cotton and wool in their daily lives.
- ★ Port cities like Lothal also played a significant role in their trade and culture.
- ★ Early Harappan phase is - Mehrgarh
- ★ Mature Harappan phase is - Amri
- ★ Later matured harappan phase is kalibangan.
- ★ Lothal is the last Harappan phase.
- ★ Harappa was discovered by Dayaram Sahani in 1921 on the banks of Ravi.
- ★ Mohenjo-Daro (Mound of the Dead) was discovered by R.D. Banerjee in 1922.
- ★ Sir John Marshal played a key role in these discoveries.
- ★ Harappa forms proto-historic India, and it belongs to the Bronze Age.
- ★ The horse was not known to the Indus people.
- ★ Outstanding town planning with a grid system
- ★ Great Bath was discovered in Mohenjo-Daro.
- ★ The 'city without citadel' is Chanhudaro.
- ★ Well-built drainage system.
- ★ Indus people traded through the barter system.
- ★ Indus script was pictographic, having more than 600 undeciphered scripts.
- ★ Overlapping o letters are seen from left to right in one line and right to left in the next line. It is called the 'Boustrophedon' style.
- ★ Pashupati seal was found from IVC- man in a seating position with animal around him. It is called 'Proto Siva'.
- ★ The largest site of IVC is Rakhigarhi, India.

Major Cities of the Indus Valley Civilization

Numerous cities from the Indus Valley Civilization have been unearthed through archaeological excavations. Among these discoveries, archaeologists have successfully identified some of the prominent cities associated with this ancient civilisation.

The table below gives the list of major cities of the Indus Valley Civilization:

Major Sites	Location	Year of excavation	Facts & Features
Harappa	Punjab, on the banks of the Ravi river	1921	• 2*6 granaries • Cemetery H culture • Red stone idol of dancing girl • Trade link with Mesopotamia
Mohenjo-Daro	Sind province (Larkana district, on the bank of the Indus river)	1922	• Assembly hall • The 'Great Bath'. • Bronze dancing girl • Pashupati Shiva, bearded priest and mother goddess.
Lothal	Gujarat	1957	• Ancient dockyard • Port city of IVC • Rice husks • Double burial • Ivory scale and Terracotta ship models
Surkotada	Gujarat	1964	• Horse bones, along with graveyard
Dholavira	Gujarat in Rann of Kutchchh	1985-91	• Water reservoir • Water harvesting system • Harappan signboard • Three phases of Harappan culture
Chanhudaro		1931	• Bead making factory • Cita without citadel • No fortified settlement • Bronze model chariot
Banwali	Hisar, Haryana	1974	• High-quality Barley • Fire alters • Dried well
Kalibangan	Rajasthan on the bank of the Ghaggar river (Hanumangarh district)	1953	• Fire alters showcased a cult of sacrifice • Bangles • Bones of camel • Plough and ploughed field • Did not have a drainage system

Amri	Near Balochistan, Sind	1935	• Mature Harappan phase • Trace of Jhangar culture • Remains of rhinoceros
Sutkagendor	On the banks of Dast River, Balochistan	1929	• A pot filled with ash • Originally a port, but later it was cut off • Trade links with Babylon