



Continent- Asia

Indus River

Pakistan

# Mountain - Ancient Indus Valley



## Timeline

3300 B.C	3200 B.C	2650 B.C	2600 B.C	2500 B.C	2400 B.C	2000 B.C	1800 B.C	1500 B.C
Farmers came to the Indus Valley.	The Indus people use an early form of Indus script.	Houses are made from mud bricks.	Ploughs are used to help with agriculture.	Seals are first used by traders.	The Indus Valley is at its peak.	The Indus people are referred to in writing.	The Indus civilisation began to decline.	The Indus civilisation comes to an end.

## Key Knowledge

### Location

The Indus Valley ran along the banks of the **Indus River**. As the river moved downstream, it carved out a **valley** where the Indus people **settled**. Farmers used the **fertile** soil near the river to grow crops. During this time, towns and cities developed.

### Cities

Cities were carefully planned with high walls and criss-crossed, straight roads built in a grid pattern to form blocks. Although walls around the city were built, there is no evidence to suggest they were victims of attack or war. It is thought that the ancient Indus civilisation was a peaceful one.

### Trade

Farmers prepared big fields using wooden **ploughs** and oxen, whilst traders brought materials and food, and took finished goods to other cities. There is evidence that some **traders** set sail to trade with other lands e.g. Mesopotamia.

## Famous Figures

Little is known about specific people of this period, and one of the most fascinating aspects of study of the civilisation is the investigation to identify rulers. However, square stone **seals** were important symbols of power and city rulers carried **seals** with animal symbols and writing.

### Zebu Bull Seal



Symbolised leader of the herd. Probably representing the most powerful clan with script representing royalty.

### Elephant Seal Seals



Used by administrative officers probably attached to goods to be **traded**.

### Male Water Buffalo Seal



Represented defence, protecting the herd and females. Also used by administrative officers.

### Tiger Seal



Found in larger cities. Also, used by administrative officers.

## Key Vocabulary

Bronze Age	New techniques in using metals such as: copper, bronze, lead and tin.
Crops	Food grown by farmers such as: melons, grapes, dates and peas.
Drainage	Indus cities had a central well for clean water and systems to move dirty water from homes.
Harappa	An ancient Indus Valley city in Punjab, with up to 23,500 citizens live in clay brick houses.
Indus River	One of the longest rivers in Asia (over 3000km) running through Pakistan, India and China.
Mohenjo Daro	Meaning 'Mound of the Dead Men'; and it was one of the earliest of the worlds major cities.
Ploughs	A machine which runs over soil to help with growing crops.
Seals	Images carved in to stone, then pressed in to clay. These would be used as a label for tax.
Artefacts	Lost objects belonging to a previous human culture.
Trade	To give something, in exchange for another item.

### Did you know?

The Indus people created the standardised system of weights and measures. Even the bricks they used were made to a standard ratio!