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STUDYMATE NOTES

English

Salient features of Indus Valley Civilization

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Salient features of Indus Valley Civilization

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Salient features of Indus Valley Civilization

Indus Valley Civilization (Harappan)

Overview

- Indus Valley Civilization, or Harappan Civilization, thrived over 4000 years ago in northwestern parts of the Indo-Pakistani subcontinent.
- It is named after the Indus River, the primary river in the region.

Feature	Description
Time period	3300 - 1300 BCE
Location	North-western India and Pakistan
Geographical Extent	Civilization extended far beyond the Indus Valley. (Full details covered below)
Derivation of name	Indus River
Origin	Mehrgarh in the foothills of a mountain pass in modern-day Balochistan (western Pakistan).
Significance	One of the earliest urban civilizations in the world
Key features	- Highly advanced urban planning and engineering - Extensive trade networks - Sophisticated art and craftsmanship - Undeciphered writing system - standardized weights and measures, seal carving, and metallurgy with copper, bronze, lead, and tin
Distinctive Features	- Cleanliness - Town planning - Burnt-brick houses - Ceramics - Metalworking - Textiles
Major cities	Harappa, Mohenjo-daro, Kalibangan, Lothal, Dholavira (Full details covered below)
Culture	- Religious beliefs - Complex social structure - Advanced crafts like pottery, metalwork, and seals - Homogeneous & Indigenous culture
End of Civilization	The civilization likely ended due to climate change and migration.

The Indus Valley Civilization is often separated into three phases:

Phase	Date	Description
Early Harappan	3300-2600 BCE	Precursor to urbanization, laying the groundwork for later development
Mature Harappan	2600-1900 BCE	Peak and prosperity, characterized by well-developed cities and civilization
Late Harappan	1900-1300 BCE	Decline and de-urbanization, marking the gradual unraveling of the civilization

Discovery

- Until the 19th century, the existence of the Indus Valley Civilization was unknown, with the belief that the Vedic people were India's oldest inhabitants.
- In 1850, railway construction uncovered ancient artifacts, prompting initial excavation plans, which were postponed due to World War I.
- In 1921, Harappa was excavated by Sir John Marshal and D. R. Sahni on the River Ravi in Punjab (Pakistan).
- Mohenjodaro was excavated in 1922 in the Larkana district of Sindh (Pakistan) under R. D. Bannerjee's supervision.
- Despite a distance of 480 miles, similar town planning and artifacts linked both sites, concluding they belonged to the same civilization.
- The civilization was named after Harappa due to its excavation precedence.



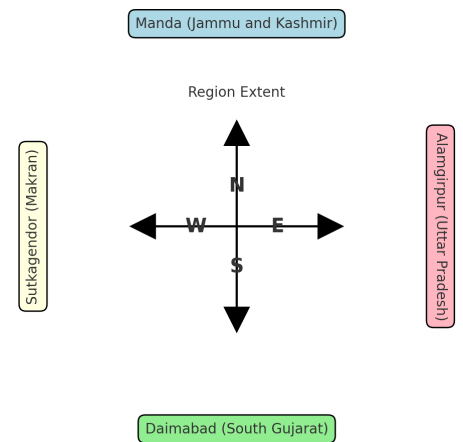
Feature	Description
Previous belief	Vedic people as oldest inhabitants of India
19th century discovery	Ancient artifacts found during railway construction
1921 excavation	Harappa by Sir John Marshal and D. R. Sahni
1922 excavation	Mohenjo-daro under R. D. Bannerjee
Link between sites	Similar town planning and artifacts
Civilization name	Harappan (due to earlier excavation)

Did you know?






- The Harappa civilization was 20 times greater than Egypt and 12 times larger than the combined area of Egypt and Mesopotamia.

Geographical Extent

Feature	Description
Extreme cardinal limits	- West: Sutkagendor (Makran) - East: Alamgirpur (Uttar Pradesh) - North: Manda (Jammu and Kashmir) - South: Daimabad (South Gujarat)
Outermost limits	Shortughai on the Oxus River (Badakhshan)
Spread	Sind, Makran, Baluchistan, Punjab, Haryana, north Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Badakhshan
Modern-day regions	Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan



Important IVC Sites and Key Findings

Important IVC/Harappan Sites	Key Findings or Discoveries
<p>1. Mohenjodaro</p>  <p>Fig: Great Bath</p>  <p>Fig: Great Granary</p>  <p>Fig: Dancing Girl</p>  <p>Fig: Seal</p>	<p>Location: Mohenjodaro, situated on the River Indus, is the largest excavated site of the Indus Valley Civilization.</p> <p>Mohenjodaro findings offer a glimpse into its advanced urban planning, religious practices, and cultural achievements.</p> <p>Key findings include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Great Bath: This large, well-constructed bath suggests the importance of ritual purification and hygiene in the Indus Valley Civilization. 2. Great Granary: The impressive size of the granary highlights the civilization's ability to produce surplus food, indicating efficient agricultural practices and effective administration for storage and distribution. 3. Dancing Girl: This bronze statue showcases the artistic and metallurgical skills of the Indus Valley people and provides clues about their cultural practices and attire. 4. Seals: These intricately carved seals, made of steatite, might have served as currency, trade markers, or stamps of authority. They depict Harappan script, animals, and possibly religious figures. 5. Undeciphered Script: The Indus Valley Civilization developed its own script, consisting of around 400 unique symbols. While the script remains undeciphered, it offers valuable insights into their communication and record-keeping systems. 6. Assembly Hall, Pashupati Seal, Cotton, and Large Building: These findings suggest the presence of public structures, religious practices involving a Proto-Shiva figure, advanced textile production, and potentially a hierarchical governance system. However, the exact nature of this governance remains unclear.  <p>Fig: Pashupati Seal</p> <p>Overall, Mohenjo-Daro's discoveries paint a picture of a sophisticated and well-organized civilization with advanced urban planning, religious beliefs, artistic expressions, and intricate social structures. It continues to be a valuable site for understanding the Indus Valley Civilization and its contributions to ancient history.</p>
<p>2. Harappa</p>	<p>Location: Harappa, on the banks of the River Ravi in Punjab</p> <p>Key Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Granaries: 12 granaries arranged in two rows of six, suggesting significant food production and storage capabilities. 2. Working floors: Circular brick platforms south of the granaries, possibly used for threshing grains.



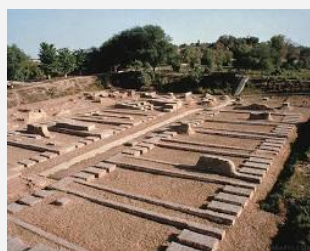


Fig: Granaries



Fig: Working floors with circular brick platforms



Fig: Double Burials

3. Laborer barracks: Two-roomed structures found near the working floors, potentially housing laborers involved in grain processing.

4. Diverse burial practices: Evidence of direct burial, urn burial (cremated remains), and coffin burial, showcasing diverse funerary rituals.

5. Seals: Second largest collection of seals found in the Indus Valley Civilization, offering insights into trade, authority, and societal structures.



Fig: Seals

Overall, Harappa's findings reveal a well-organized urban center with efficient food production and storage systems, diverse burial practices, and a robust trade network, as evidenced by the abundance of seals.

3. Lothal



Fig: Lothal Dockyard



Fig: Persian seals from Lothal

Location: Lothal, situated on the Bhogwa River, was a vital port city within the Indus Valley Civilization.

Key discoveries include:

1. Dockyard: A well-planned structure built with burnt bricks, serving as evidence of shipbuilding and maritime activities. This discovery confirms the importance of trade and commerce in the Indus Valley Civilization.






2. Persian Seals: The presence of Persian seals signifies Lothal's extensive trade network reaching beyond the Indus Valley, potentially connecting with Mesopotamia and beyond. This highlights the civilization's global interactions and economic significance.

3. Rice Husk: Lothal is the only Indus Valley Civilization site where rice husk has been conclusively identified. This finding provides crucial information about agricultural practices and diversifies our understanding of their dietary habits.

4. Double Burials: Several graves at Lothal contained the remains of two individuals, most commonly male-female pairs but also male-male and female-female pairs. The reasons behind this specific burial practice remain a subject of research and debate.

5. Fire Altars: The discovery of fire altars suggests the presence of religious or ceremonial practices in Lothal. This adds to the understanding of the cultural and spiritual aspects of the Indus Valley Civilization.



 <p>Fig: Double burial from Lothal</p>  <p>Fig: fire altar from Lothal</p>	<p>These findings highlight Lothal's importance as a maritime hub, center for trade and commerce, and a site with unique cultural and religious practices.</p>
<p>4. Kalibangan</p>  <p>Fig: Plowed agricultural land</p>  <p>Fig: Fire altars</p>  <p>Fig: Citadel</p>	<p>Location: Kalibangan, on the banks of the River Ghaggar in Rajasthan</p> <p>Key Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dual Cultures: Evidence of both Pre-Harappan and Harappan cultures coexisting at the site, offering insights into cultural transitions and interactions. 2. Agriculture: Discovery of the oldest ploughed agricultural land (2800 BCE), indicating the presence of advanced agricultural practices and the use of wooden ploughs. 3. Religious Practices: Presence of fire altars, suggesting the importance of religious rituals and ceremonies in the life of the inhabitants. 4. Construction Techniques: The citadel's unique construction, with mud bricks used in one section and burnt bricks in the rest, provides clues about evolving building techniques and potentially differentiated spaces within the settlement.
<p>5. Chanhu Daro</p>	<p>Location: Chanhu Daro, on the banks of the Indus River in Sindh, Pakistan</p> <p>Key Findings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Industrial Hub: Chanhu Daro likely served as an industrial center within the Indus Valley Civilization, specializing in the production of beads and bangles.

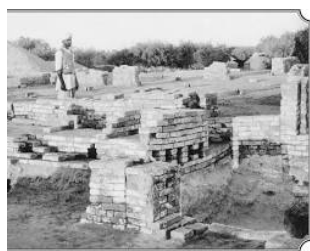


Fig: Chanhu Daro site



Fig: Bead and Bangle Production

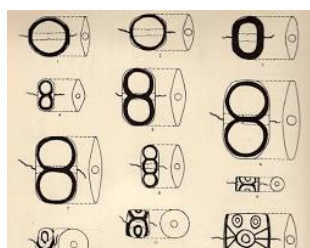


Fig: Carnelian Beads



Fig: Water Management System

2. Manufacturing Activities: Excavations revealed the presence of factories dedicated to bead and bangle production, providing evidence of specialized manufacturing skills and organized production processes.

3. Trade Network: The production of these ornaments suggests that Chanhu Daro was likely involved in a network of trade and exchange, distributing its goods to other Indus Valley settlements.

4. Carnelian Beads: Chanhu Daro is particularly renowned for its production of carnelian beads, prized for their beauty and durability.

Terracotta Products: Evidence for the production of terracotta objects, such as figurines and pottery, has also been found at the site.

5. Water Management System: Chanhu Daro possessed an elaborate water management system, including drains and soaking jars, indicating advanced engineering and understanding of sanitation needs.

Overall, Chanhu Daro's findings offer valuable insights into the Indus Valley Civilization's manufacturing capabilities, trade networks, and urban planning strategies. It highlights the specialization and organization within their society, and the importance of craftsmanship and skilled labor.

6. Dholavira



Fig: Dholavira Citadel

Location: Located on Khadir Bet island in Gujarat, Dholavira is one of the largest and most important cities of the Indus Valley Civilization (IVC). It was discovered in 1967 and has since undergone extensive excavations.

Key findings:

1. Stone Citadel: Dholavira's most notable feature is its impressive stone citadel, built on a raised platform and surrounded by massive walls. This unique construction material distinguishes it from other Harappan citadels, which typically used mudbricks.

2. Smaller Bath: Similar to the Great Bath found in Mohenjodaro, Dholavira boasts a smaller bath structure, suggesting the importance of ritual bathing in the IVC.

3. Water Management System: Dholavira's sophisticated water management system included reservoirs, canals, and wells, showcasing the civilization's advanced engineering capabilities.





Fig: Smaller Bath

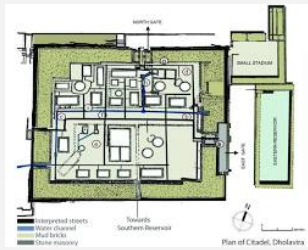


Fig: Water Management System

4. Seals and Inscriptions: The discovery of numerous seals and inscriptions provides valuable insights into trade, governance, and the Indus script.



Fig. 8.31: Details on the flat surface of terracotta tablet.



Fig: Seals and Inscriptions

Note: The following map will show the important sites area of Indus valley civilization

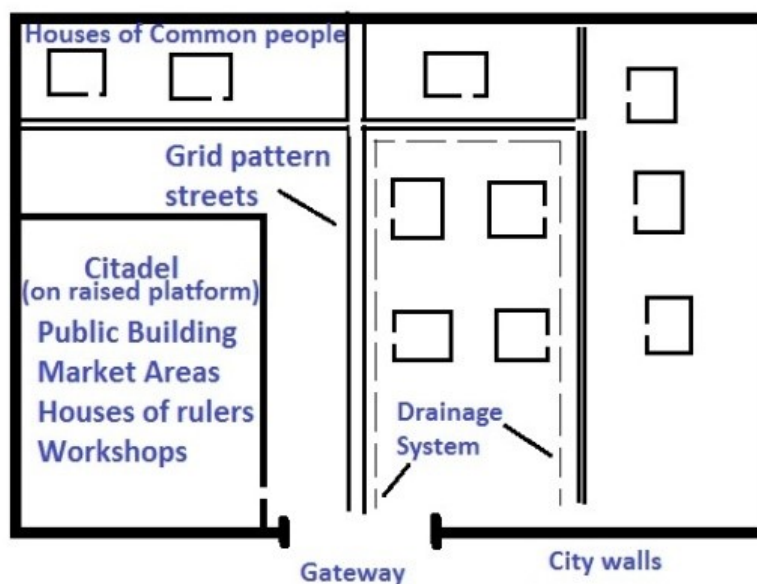


Salient features of Indus Valley Civilization

1. IVC or Harappan Sites	
Feature	Description
Number of Sites	Over 1500
Distribution in India	Approximately 925
Phases	Early, Mature, and Late
Late Harappan/Post-Urban Phase	Most sites found are Late Harappan
Cities	Few (Example - Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro)
Other Major Cities	Chanhudaro (Sindh), Lothal (Gujarat), Kalibangan (Rajasthan), Banawali (Haryana), Rakhigarhi (Haryana)
Coastal Cities	Sutkagendor and Surkotada (mature phase), Rangpur and Rojdi (Gujarat) (later phase)
Dholavira (Gujarat)	Fortified city similar to Harappa, exhibiting all three phases
Rakhigarhi (Haryana)	Larger than Dholavira, also displaying all three phases

2. Town Planning and Structures in the Indus Valley Civilization		
Features	Description	Examples
Town Planning	Grid or chessboard patterns with streets intersecting at right angles, forming blocks.	Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro
Citadel and Lower Town	Citadels likely occupied by the ruling class, lower towns inhabited by the general population.	Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro
Grid Layout and Streets	Streets intersecting at right angles divided the city into blocks for efficient movement and organization.	Common across Indus Valley settlements
Mohenjo-Daro: Extensive Structures	Greater number of building structures compared to Harappa, suggesting a larger population or more complex social hierarchy.	Mohenjo-Daro
Harappan Barracks	Two-room barracks possibly used as dwellings for laborers.	Harappa

Town Planning in Indus Valley Civilization



3. Great Bath	
Feature	Description
Location	Citadel of Mohenjo-Daro
Material	Burnt bricks
Dimensions	Approximately 12 meters north-south, 7 meters wide, and 2.4 meters deep
Access	Flights of steps on both sides
Adjoining Rooms	Possibly for changing clothes
Floor	Burnt bricks
Water Source	Nearby well
Drainage	Outlet for drainage purposes
Main Purpose	Believed to be ritual bathing
Significance	Demonstrates sophisticated engineering and ancient bathing practices in the Indus Valley Civilization



Great Bath



4. Granaries in Indus Valley Civilization Sites

Feature	Mohenjo-Daro	Harappa	Kalibangan
Number of Granaries	1 Great Granary	6 Granaries	Brick Platforms
Location	Citadel	Citadel	Southern Area
Size	Largest buildings in Mohenjo-Daro	Similar to Mohenjo-Daro Great Granary	N/A
Material	Brick	Brick	Brick
Possible Purpose	Grain storage	Grain storage	Grain storage
Additional Evidence	N/A	Adjoining working floors suggest threshing	N/A
Significance	Demonstrate advanced planning and agricultural importance	Highlight role of agriculture and organized storage	Imply importance of grain storage in Harappan cities
Possible Use of Stored Goods	Food supply, taxes, trade	Food supply, taxes, trade	Food supply, taxes

5. Burnt Brick Use in Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description
Extent of Use	Extensive
Contrast with Other Civilizations	Egypt used dried bricks Mesopotamia also used burnt bricks (but not as extensively)
Examples	Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro, Kalibangan
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Durability: Burnt bricks offered greater durability and resistance to weather compared to dried bricks. • Advanced Technology: The construction of burnt bricks required knowledge of heating and temperature control. • Standardized Dimensions: The use of standardized brick sizes suggests efficient construction techniques and planning. • Architectural Achievements: Burnt bricks allowed for the construction of more complex and substantial structures.

6. Drainage System in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Examples
Common feature	Almost all cities and towns possessed a drainage system.	Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro, Kalibangan, Banawali
Individual Drainage	Houses of all sizes had individual drainage facilities for courtyards and bathrooms.	Kalibangan
Wells and Water Flow	Houses in Kalibangan often possessed individual wells, with wastewater flowing to streets with covered drains.	Kalibangan
Street Drainage System	Streets were equipped with drains covered by stone slabs or bricks, featuring manholes for cleaning.	Kalibangan, Banawali
Harappa's Unique System	Harappa's drainage system displayed exceptional complexity and sophistication.	Harappa



Significance	Demonstrates the civilization's advanced engineering skills, attention to sanitation, and possible lead in drainage technology compared to other Bronze Age civilizations.
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7. Agriculture in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description
Region's Fertility	Highly fertile (evidenced by historical accounts and archaeological remains)
Present-day Rainfall	Minimal (around 15 centimeters)
Past Vegetation and Rainfall	Abundant vegetation likely attracted more rainfall
Deforestation's Impact	Clearing land for agriculture, fuel, timber, and grazing may have reduced rainfall
Indus River's Importance	Annual inundation enriched the land with alluvial soil
Floodwalls	Evidence of protective structures against annual floods
Comparison to Nile River	Indus River carried more alluvial soil, supporting a larger population
Agricultural Practices	Sowing seeds after floodwaters receded, harvesting wheat and barley before the next flood
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fertile Indus Valley allowed the civilization to thrive and flourish. • The Indus River played a crucial role in agriculture through annual flooding and soil replenishment. • The civilization developed advanced agricultural practices to maximize crop yields. • Understanding the Indus Valley's agricultural practices can inform modern agricultural strategies in arid regions.

8. Agriculture Tools in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description
Wooden Ploughshares	Likely used for ploughing fields (Evidence - Ploughed fields discovered in Kalibangan)
Physical Evidence	No physical remains of hoes or ploughshares found
Degradation	Possible degradation of wooden components
Draw Method	Uncertain whether drawn by men or oxen
Sickles	Possibly used for harvesting (Evidence - Stone sickles found at IVC sites)
Concrete Evidence	Lack of direct evidence for sickle use in harvesting
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite a lack of physical evidence, the presence of ploughed fields indicates the use of ploughshares. • Wooden ploughshares likely degraded over time without leaving traces. • The method of drawing the ploughshares and the use of sickles remain uncertain. • Understanding the tools used by the Indus Valley Civilization provides insights into their agricultural practices and technologies.

9. Irrigation in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence
Water Storage	Nalās and gabarbands enclosed by dams were used for water storage	Baluchistan and Afghanistan
Channel/Canal Irrigation	No concrete evidence of presence or knowledge	Indus Valley Civilization sites
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Indus Valley Civilization may have relied primarily on floodwater agriculture and other water storage techniques. • While there's no direct evidence of canal irrigation, further research may uncover its potential use. • Understanding the Indus Valley Civilization's water management strategies can inform modern agricultural practices in arid regions. 	



10. Food Grain Production in the Indus Valley Civilization		
Features	Description	Evidence
Food surplus in villages	Villages near flood plains produced surplus food for urban populations.	Archaeological remains of villages and granaries
Harappan crops	Wheat, barley (two types), rai, peas, sesamum, mustard	Grain remains discovered at various sites
Rice cultivation	Discovered in Lothal around 1800 B.C.	Evidence of rice grains and possible irrigation systems
Granaries	Used for storing surplus food grains	Large brick structures found in major cities
Harappan cotton production	Among the earliest producers of cotton	Greek references to "Sindon" (cotton) derived from Sindh
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Indus Valley Civilization developed efficient agricultural practices to produce surplus food. • Specialized farmers provided food for artisans, merchants, and other non-farming communities. • The civilization cultivated a variety of crops, including staples like wheat and barley. • Rice cultivation indicates a diverse and adaptable agricultural system. • The Harappans were pioneers in cotton production, demonstrating their technological advancements and trade with other cultures. 	

11. Domestication of Animals in the Indus Valley Civilization		
Feature	Description	Evidence
Domesticated animals	Oxen, buffaloes, goats, sheep, pigs	Archaeological remains of bones, figurines, and artwork
Humped bull	Favored domesticated animal	Depictions on seals and figurines
Dogs and cats	Kept as pets	Footprints and figurines
Beasts of burden	Camels and asses	Skeletal remains
Horses	Limited evidence from later Harappan phases	Figurines, bone fragments
Horses in early Harappa	No definitive proof	Lack of skeletal remains
Elephants and rhinoceroses	Familiarity with these animals	Depictions in artwork
Similarities with Mesopotamia	Food grain production and animal domestication	Archaeological and textual evidence
Differences with Mesopotamia	Rice production and elephant domestication specific to Harappa	Absence of these elements in Mesopotamia
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal husbandry played a vital role in the Harappan economy, providing food, labor, transportation, and companionship. • The Harappans were selective in their animal domestication, focusing on species best suited to their environment and needs. • The presence of different animals reveals the extent of trade and cultural exchange with other regions. • Comparing animal domestication practices with other civilizations provides insights into cultural differences and adaptations. 	

12. Technology in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence
Era	Bronze Age	Archaeological remains, tools, and artwork
Stone Tools	Continued use of stone tools alongside metal	Stone tools found at Harappan sites
Bronze Manufacturing	Knowledge and application of bronze technology	Bronze artifacts and tools
Metal Sources	Copper from Rajasthan and possibly Balochistan, Tin from Afghanistan, Hazaribagh, or Bastar	Archaeological and geographical evidence
Bronze Composition	Lower tin content compared to modern standards	Analysis of bronze artifacts
Bronze smiths	Skilled artisans playing a significant role in society	Bronze items and depictions of smiths
Bronze Products	Images, utensils, axes, saws, knives, spears	Archaeological remains
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Harappans were pioneers in bronze technology, demonstrating their advanced skills in metalworking. Bronze tools and weapons played a crucial role in agriculture, construction, and defense. The reliance on metal from distant sources indicates trade networks and cultural exchange. The importance of bronze smiths highlights the specialization and skill within Harappan society. Knowledge of bronze technology allowed the Harappans to create a diverse range of objects, contributing to their cultural and technological development. 	

13. Crafts in the Indus Valley Civilization

Craft	Description	Evidence
Textiles	Cotton and wool textiles	Woven cotton and wool remains, spindle whorls
Bricklaying and Masonry	Construction of buildings and infrastructure	Brick structures, tools, and artwork
Boat-making	Trade and transportation	Depictions of boats on seals and pottery
Seal-making	Administration and trade	Carved seals with animal and geometric designs
Terracotta Manufacturing	Toys, figurines, and utensils	Terracotta objects found at various sites
Goldsmithing	Jewelry and ornaments	Gold, silver, and precious stone jewelry
Bead Making	Trade and decoration	Beads made from various materials
Pottery	Utensils and containers	Ceramic pottery with distinctive glossy finish
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indus Valley Civilization was a center for diverse crafts, demonstrating their artistic and technical skills. Crafts played an essential role in daily life, providing essential goods and contributing to the economy. The skill of Harappan artisans was recognized and valued in other regions, fostering trade and cultural exchange. The discovery of craft materials and tools provides insights into the technology, resources, and social organization of the Harappan civilization. The artistry and craftsmanship of the Indus Valley Civilization continue to be admired and studied today. 	

14. Trade in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence
Emphasis on Trade	Significant role played in the civilization's economy	Granaries, seals, standardized script, regulated weights and measures



Inland Trade	Exchange of materials like stone, metal, and shell	Archaeological remains and distribution patterns
Barter System	Possible method of exchange due to lack of metal currency	Limited archaeological evidence
Maritime Trade	Navigation along the Arabian Sea coast	Depictions on seals and artifacts
Use of Wheel	Employed in carts resembling primitive "ekka" design	Terracotta models and depictions
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade was fundamental to the prosperity and cultural exchange of the Indus Valley Civilization. The civilization developed efficient systems for trade, including standardized weights and measures and a possible barter system. Inland and maritime trade facilitated the acquisition of essential resources and the exchange of goods with other cultures. The use of the wheel in carts improved transportation and trade efficiency. Understanding the trade networks of the Indus Valley Civilization provides valuable insights into their economic structure and global connections. 	

15. Trade Relations of the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence
Extent of Trade	Extensive relations with various regions	Archaeological remains, seals, and textual evidence
Trading Colony	Established in northern Afghanistan	Archaeological findings and historical records
Trade with Mesopotamia	Lapis lazuli trade around 2300 B.C.	Harappan seals found in Mesopotamia
Meluha	Mesopotamian reference to the Indus region	Texts and records
Intermediate Stations	Dilmun and Makan facilitated trade with Mesopotamia	Historical accounts and geographical analysis
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indus Valley Civilization actively participated in international trade, demonstrating their economic and cultural influence. Trade routes connected the Harappans with diverse regions, promoting cultural exchange and knowledge transfer. The trading colony in Afghanistan highlights the Harappans' strategic approach to expanding their trade network. Trade with Mesopotamia was extensive, as evidenced by the discovery of Harappan seals and textual references. Understanding the trade relations of the Indus Valley Civilization provides insights into their economic prosperity and global connections. 	

16. Indus Valley Resource Acquisition

Despite lacking crucial raw materials locally, the Indus Valley Civilization flourished due to its extensive trade networks and resource acquisition strategies.

Archaeological evidence from settlements across the region reveals their purposeful pursuit of specific resources:

- Shortughai (Afghanistan): Lapis lazuli
- Balakot (Pakistan): Marine gastropods
- Cholistan (Pakistan): Copper
- Sukkur Rohri (Pakistan): Flint/Chert
- Manda (Jammu and Kashmir): Timber

Their expansionist nature and well-established trade routes facilitated this resource acquisition.



Resource	Location	Significance
Lapis lazuli	Shortughai (Afghanistan)	Ornamentation, decorative objects
Marine gastropods	Balakot (Pakistan)	Shell jewelry, tools
Copper	Cholistan (Pakistan)	Metalworking, tools, weapons
Flint/Chert	Sukkur Rohri (Pakistan)	Stone tools, weapons
Timber	Manda (Jammu and Kashmir)	Building materials, furniture, tools

17. Political Organization in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence
Limited Information	Difficulty in reconstructing the political structure	Archaeological remains and limited written records
Cultural Uniformity	Suggests possible central authority	Standardized weights, measures, and architecture
Decentralized System	Unlikely to be a vast political entity like the Maryann empire	Lack of evidence of a single ruler or ruling dynasty
Stability	Civilization enduring for approximately 600 years	Archaeological evidence of urban planning, infrastructure, and administrative systems
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite the lack of definitive evidence, the Indus Valley Civilization likely possessed a form of political organization to maintain order and stability. The cultural uniformity observed across Harappan sites points to a centralized authority influencing the development and regulation of society. While not a vast empire, the Indus Valley Civilization maintained a decentralized political system that fostered cooperation and cultural exchange. The long duration of the civilization suggests a successful political structure capable of governing efficiently and ensuring the well-being of its citizens. Further research and discoveries may shed light on the specific details of the Harappan political system. 	

18. Temples in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence
Lack of Direct Evidence	No definitive structures identified as temples	Absence of typical temple features in archaeological remains
Great Bath in Mohenjo-Daro	Possible use for ablution rather than religious ceremonies	Large structure with bathing facilities
Absence of Priest Class	Contrasts with Lower Mesopotamian societies	Limited evidence of religious hierarchy
Possible Fire Cult in Lothal	Hints at religious practices	Limited archaeological evidence
Merchant Class Governance	Speculation about societal focus	Lack of weaponry and emphasis on trade
Significance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The absence of temple-like structures presents a contrast with other ancient civilizations, indicating a 	



	<p>potential difference in religious practices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Great Bath might have served a ritualistic purpose, though not necessarily associated with temple worship. • The lack of evidence for a priestly class suggests a different social and religious structure compared to other civilizations. • The speculation about a merchant-led society emphasizes the importance of trade and commerce in Harappan culture. • Further research and analysis are needed to fully understand the religious beliefs and practices of the Indus Valley Civilization.
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19. Religious Practices in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence	Significance
Earth Goddess Worship	Mother goddess associated with fertility and the earth	Terracotta figurines, similarities to Egyptian beliefs	Emphasis on agriculture, life-giving power of nature
Uncertain Matriarchy	Unclear if Harappan society was matriarchal	Lack of inheritance evidence	Contrasts with Egyptian practices
Evolution of Goddess Worship	Earth goddess initially minimized, later elevated	Vedic texts, Puranas, local variations	Dynamic evolution of religious beliefs
Local Variations	Individual villages had their own goddesses	Diversity in religious practices	Highlights cultural adaptation and regional differences

20. Male Deity and Phallus Worship in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence	Significance
Male Deity Representation	Seated deity with three-horned head, surrounded by animals	Seals found at Harappan sites	Potential connection to Pashupati Mahadev
Uncertain Identification	Horned deities appear in various ancient cultures	Lack of definitive evidence	Need for further research to confirm connection to Shiva
Phallus Worship	Prevalence of phallic symbols made of stone	Archaeological remains	Evidence of this practice in Harappan society
Rigveda Reference	Mentions non-Aryan people associated with phallus worship	Literary evidence	Broad cultural context beyond Harappan civilization
Evolution of Worship	Initiated by the Harappans, later incorporated into Hinduism	Religious texts and practices	Demonstrates how religious beliefs and practices evolve over time

21. Tree Worship in the Indus Valley Civilization

Feature	Description	Evidence	Significance
Prevalence of Tree Worship	Alongside phallus, male deities, and mother goddesses	Seals, cultural practices	Emphasis on nature and reverence for its life-giving forces
Pipal Tree Significance	Sacredness and continued veneration	Representations of deities amidst its branches on seals	Strong cultural connection and respect for this specific tree
Cultural Continuity	Practices persisting in modern times	Ongoing veneration of the Pipal tree in contemporary society	Provides evidence for enduring cultural traditions and beliefs



22. Animal Worship and Amulets in the Indus Valley Civilization			
Feature	Description	Evidence	Significance
Animal Worship	Depictions of animals on seals and other artifacts	Seals, artwork	Reverence for animals and potential connection to deities
One-horned Unicorn (Rhinoceros)	Significant animal deity	Seals, artwork	Specific veneration for this particular animal
Humped Bull	Revered animal	Seals, sculptures	Cultural continuity with contemporary practices
Animals in the Pashupati Seal	Suggesting their veneration	Pashupati seal	Connection to religious beliefs and practices
Absence of Animal Temples	Unlike Egypt and Mesopotamia	Archaeological evidence	Different approach to representing animal deities
Amulets	Found in large quantities	Archaeological remains	Belief in protection against evil forces
Similarities to Atharvaveda	Use of charms and spells for protection	Religious texts	Cultural and religious context for the use of amulets



23. Harappan Script			
Feature	Description	Evidence	Significance
Early Writing System	Developed independently by the Harappans	Archaeological remains	Cultural and intellectual advancement
Undeciphered Script	Mystery to researchers and historians	Lack of Rosetta Stone equivalent	Limited understanding of Harappan culture
Possible Language Connections	Dravidian, Proto-Dravidian, Sanskrit, Sumerian	Linguistic analysis	Uncertainties and ongoing debates
Indigenous Creation	Believed to be independent from other languages	Lack of definitive links	Unique cultural expression
Limited Insights	Undeciphered script restricts knowledge	Religious beliefs, ideas, and cultural aspects remain unclear	
Use on Seals	Likely for authentication purposes	Archaeological remains	Functional application of the script
Pictographic	Consists of 250-400 pictographs	Archaeological remains	Symbolic representation of ideas and objects
Non-Alphabetic	Symbols don't represent phonetic sounds	Linguistic analysis	Different approach to writing compared to other civilizations

24. Weights, Measures, and Measurement in the Harappan Civilization			
Feature	Description	Evidence	Significance
Trade and Recordkeeping	Possible use of script for transactions, property details, and daily activities	Limited textual evidence	Suggests a complex and organized society
Weights and Measures	Artifacts discovered with standardized weights and measuring units	Archaeological remains	Evidence of advanced mathematical and technical skills



Weight System	Revolved around the number 16 and its multiples	Weights and inscribed artifacts	Continuity with later Indian currency system
Measurement	Sticks inscribed with measurement units	Archaeological remains	Demonstrates understanding of length and distance measurement
Bronze Measuring Stick	Indicates precision and knowledge in measuring objects or distances	Archaeological remains	Highlights the Harappans' advanced technological capabilities

25. Harappan Pottery, Seals, and Images:

Feature	Description
Harappan Pottery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used potter's wheel to made pots Numerous pots painted in various designs. Designs – trees and circles and also geometry
Seals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 2000 seals found Majority carried short inscription with pictures of one horned bull, buffalo, tiger, rhinoceros, goat and elephant Square or quadrilateral.
Image: Dancing girl	<p>Dancing girl made of bronze is master piece of Harappa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> She is naked Right arm on hip Left arm hanging down Wearing large no. of bangles Hair is plaited Masterpiece of Harappan art Drooping eyes 
Image: Bearded priest	<p>Figure of the bearded man was interpreted as a priest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> He is draped in a shawl which is coming under right arm and covers the left shoulder. Shawl decorated with trefoil pattern Eyes – little elongated and half closed like in meditation Nose – well-formed and medium size Mouth – average size, close cut moustache, short beard and whiskers Hair – parted in middle Plain woven fillet passed round head. Head – armlet in right hand 
Terracotta figurines	<p>Large no. are found from Harappan settlements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terracotta figurines of animals – birds, monkeys, sheep, dogs and cattles, humped and humpless bulls Male and female figurines Terracotta bullock carts (today 's bullock cart's ancestors) Quality- less than Mesopotamia
Beads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Made of – agate, turquoise, carnelian and steatite Workshop- chanhudaro Making - Stone is first sawn into oblong bar and then flaked into Cylindrical shape and polished. Finally bored with chert drills or bronze tubular drills. Gold and silver beads also found Common material – steatite



26. Origin of the Harappan Civilization	
Feature	Description
Time Period	2550 BC - 1990 BC
Characteristics	Uniformity in tools, seals, terracotta figurines, and town planning
Major Cities	Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro
Decline	Gradual, continued in parts of India
Predecessors	Pre-Harappan settlements in lower Sindh, Baluchistan, and Kalibangan (Rajasthan)
Origin	Indigenous with possible trade influences from Mesopotamia
Evidence	Lack of substantial external influence

27. Reasons for the Decline of the Harappan Civilization		
Factor	Description	Impact
Fluctuating Rainfall	Changes in rainfall patterns around 3000 BC affected agriculture and stockbreeding, reducing productivity.	Decreased food production, economic strain.
Decreasing Fertility	Expansion of desert areas increased salinity, lowering fertility and impacting agricultural output.	Reduced food security, potential famines.
Natural Disasters	Land subsidence, floods, and earthquakes altered the landscape and potentially damaged cities like Mohenjo-Daro.	Infrastructure damage, loss of life, economic disruption.
Foreign Invasion	Hypothesis suggests Vedic Aryans invaded and caused destruction, but concrete evidence is lacking.	Potential conflict, social unrest, cultural disruption.
Internal Factors	Limited technological advancements and adaptability to changing environmental conditions.	Difficulty coping with ecological imbalances, potential stagnation.
Conclusion	The decline of the Harappan Civilization was likely a complex event caused by a combination of environmental, natural, and internal factors.	

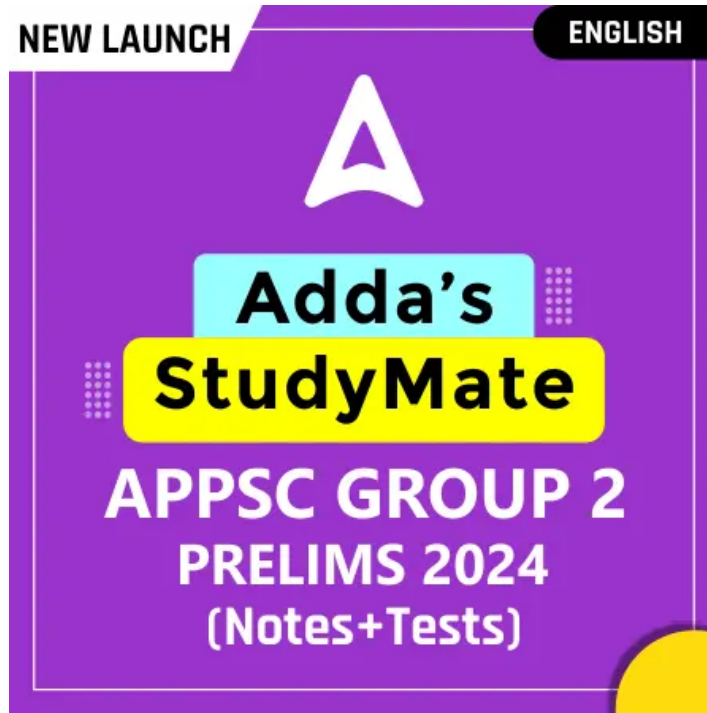
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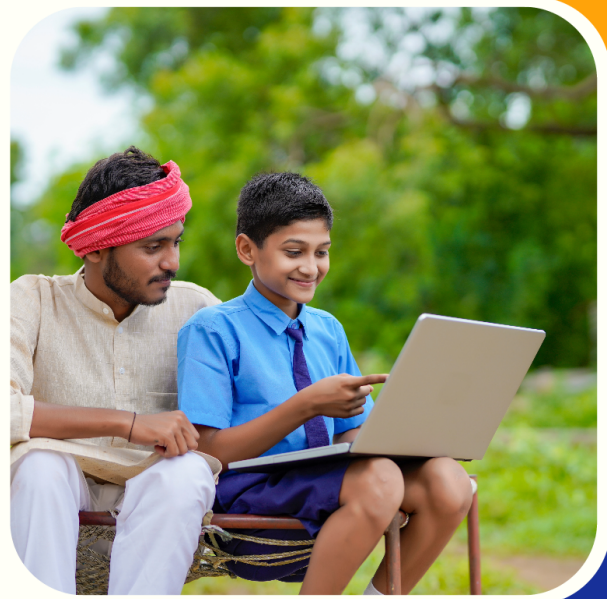
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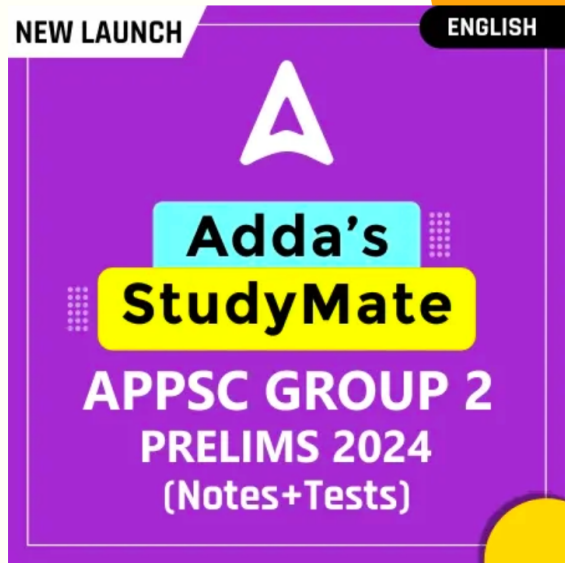
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Schedule/Daily Plan

Date	Day	Subject	Chapter	Topics (Notes)	Tests	Subject	Chapter	Topics (Notes)	Tests Geography	Current Affairs
15 Dec	Day 1	INDIAN HISTORY (30M)	Ancient History	Saileent features of Indus Valley Civilization & Vedic age	Ancient History Topic-wise Test 1	GEOGRAPHY (30M)	General and Physical Geography	The Earth in our Solar System	Topic Test 1	Addapedia Sept CA 2023
16 Dec	Day 2			Emergence of Buddhism and Jainism Mauryan Empire - Their administration, Socio-Economic and Religious Conditions, Art and Architecture, Literature Gupta Empire - Their administration, Socio-Economic and Religious Conditions, Art and Architecture, Literature	Ancient History Topic-wise Test 2			Interior of the Earth	Geography Topic Test 2	
17 Dec	Day 3			Harshavardhana and his Achievements	Ancient History Topic-wise Test 3			Major Landforms and their features	Geography Topic Test 3	
18 Dec	Day 4				Ancient History Topic-wise Test 4			Climate: Structure and Composition of Atmosphere	Geography Topic Test 4	
19 Dec	Day 5				Ancient History Topic-wise Test 5			Ocean Water: Tides, Waves, Currents	Geography Topic Test 5	
20 Dec	Day 6		Revision Holiday				Revision Holiday	Revision Test - 2	Sept CA Test	
21 Dec	Day 7		Revision Holiday				Revision Holiday	Revision Test - 2	Sept CA Test	
22 Dec	Day 8	INDIAN HISTORY (30M)	Medieval History	The Chola Administrative System	Medieval History Topic Test 1	GEOGRAPHY (30M)	General and Physical Geography	India: Major Physiographic features, Climate, Drainage System, Soils and Vegetation	Geography Topic Test 6	Addapedia Oct CA 2023
23 Dec	Day 9			Delhi Sultanate - Their Administration, Socio-Economic and Religious Conditions, Art and Architecture, Language and Literature Mughal Empire - Their Administration, Socio-Economic and Religious Conditions, Art and Architecture, Language and Literature	Medieval History Topic Test 2			Andhra Pradesh: Major Physiographic features, Climate, Drainage System, Soils and Vegetation	Geography Topic Test 7	
24 Dec	Day 10				Medieval History Topic Test 3			Natural Hazards and Disasters and their Management	Geography Topic Test 8	
25 Dec	Day 11		Revision Holiday				Revision Holiday	Revision Test - 4	Sept-Oct CA Test	
26 Dec	Day 12		Revision Holiday				Revision Holiday	Revision Test - 4	Sept-Oct CA Test	
27 Dec	Day 13	INDIAN HISTORY (30M)	Medieval History	Bhakti and Sufi Movements	Medieval History Topic Test 4	GEOGRAPHY (30M)	Economic Geography of India & AP	Natural resources and their distribution	Economic Geography Topic Test 1	Addapedia Oct CA 2023
28 Dec	Day 14			Shivaji and the rise of Maratha Empire	Medieval History Topic Test 5			Agriculture and Agro based Activities; Distribution of Major Industries and Major Industrial Regions	Economic Geography Topic Test 2 Economic	
29 Dec	Day 15			Advent of Europeans	Medieval History Topic Test 6			Transport, Communication, Tourism and Trade	Geography Topic Test 3	
30 Dec	Day 16		Revision Holiday				Revision Holiday	Revision Test - 6	Oct CA Test	
31 Dec	Day 17		Revision Holiday				Revision Holiday	Revision Test - 6	Oct CA Test	
1 Jan	Day 18		Revision Holiday				Revision Holiday	Revision Test - 6	Oct CA Test	



2 Jan Day 19	INDIAN HISTORY (30M)	Modern History	1857 Revolt and its Impact	Modern History Topic Test 1	GEOGRAPHY (30M)	Human Geography of India & AP	Human Development	Human Geography Topic Test 1	Addapedia Nov CA 2023
3 Jan Day 20			Rise and Consolidation of British Power in India	Modern History Topic Test 2			Demographics	Human Geography Topic Test 2	
4 Jan Day 21			Changes in Administration, Social and Cultural Spheres	Modern History Topic Test 3			Urbanization and Migration	Human Geography Topic Test 3	
5 Jan Day 22			Social and Religious Reform Movements in the 19th and 20th Century	Modern History Topic Test 4			Racial, Tribal, Religious and Linguistic groups	Human Geography Topic Test 4	
6 Jan Day 23			Revision Holiday				Revision Test - 7	Revision Holiday	
7 Jan Day 24	Revision Holiday			Revision Holiday					
8 Jan Day 25	INDIAN HISTORY (30M)	Modern History	Indian National Movement: it's various stages and important contributors and contributions from different parts of the country	Modern History Topic Test 5	INDIAN SOCIETY (30M)	Structure of Indian Society	Family, Marriage, Kinship, Caste	Society Topic Test 1	Addapedia Dec CA 2023
9 Jan Day 26			Post Independence Consolidation and Reorganization within the country	Modern History Topic Test 6			Tribe, Ethnicity, Religion and Women	Society Topic Test 2	
10 Jan Day 27	INDIAN SOCIETY (30M)	Social Issues	Casteism, Communalism and Regionalisation	Social Issues Topic Test 1	INDIAN SOCIETY (30M)	Welfare Mechanism	Public Policies and Welfare Programmes	Welfare Topic Test 1	
11 Jan Day 28			Crime against Women; Child Abuse and Child Labour	Social Issues Topic Test 2			Constitutional and Statutory Provisions for SCs/STs, Minorities and BCs	Welfare Topic Test 2	
12 Jan Day 29			Youth Unrest and Agitation	Social Issues Topic Test 3			Constitutional and Statutory Provisions for Women, Disabled and Children	Welfare Topic Test 3	
13 Jan Day 30	Revision Holiday		Revision Test - 9	Revision Holiday		Revision Test - 10	Dec CA Test		
14 Jan Day 31	Revision Holiday			Revision Holiday					
15 Jan Day 31	Revision Holiday		Revision Test - 11	Revision Holiday		Revision Test - 12			
16 Jan Day 33	MENTAL ABILITY (30M)	Logical Reasoning (Deductive, Inductive, Abductive):	Statement and Assumptions	Logical Reasoning Topic Test 1	MENTAL ABILITY (30M)	Basic Numeracy	Number System	Numeracy Topic Test 1	Addapedia Jan CA 2023
17 Jan Day 34			Statement and Argument	Logical Reasoning Topic Test 2			Order of Magnitude	Numeracy Topic Test 2	
18 Jan Day 35			Statement and Conclusion	Logical Reasoning Topic Test 3			Averages	Numeracy Topic Test 3	
19 Jan Day 36			Statement and Courses of Action	Logical Reasoning Topic Test 4			Ratio and Proportion	Numeracy Topic Test 4	
20 Jan Day 37			Revision Holiday				Revision Test - 13	Revision Holiday	
21 Jan Day 38	Revision Holiday			Revision Holiday					

22 Jan Day 39	MENTAL ABILITY (30M)	Mental Ability	Number Series & Letter Series	Mental Ability Topic Test 1	MENTAL ABILITY (30M)	Mental Ability	Odd Man out & Coding - Decoding	Mental Ability Topic Test 2	Addapedia Jan CA 2023
23 Jan Day 40			Problems relating to Relations	Mental Ability Topic Test 3			Shapes and their Sub Sections	Mental Ability Topic Test 4	
24 Jan Day 41			Percentage, Simple and Compound Interest	Mental Ability Topic Test 5			Time and Work; Time and Distance	Mental Ability Topic Test 6	
25 Jan Day 42			Data Analysis (Tables, bar diagram, Line graph, Pie-chart)	Mental Ability Topic Test 7			Data Analysis (Tables, bar diagram, Line graph, Pie-chart)	Mental Ability Topic Test 8	
26 Jan Day 43			Revision Holiday				Revision Test - 15	Revision Holiday	
27 Jan Day 44	Revision Holiday			Revision Holiday					
28 Jan	Revision Holidays			Revision Holidays					
29 Jan	Revision Holidays			Revision Holidays					
30 Jan	Revision Holidays			Revision Holidays					
31 Jan Day 45	Revision Holidays			Revision Holidays			Jan CA Test		
1 Feb Day 46			APPSC Group II	Mock 1					
5 Feb Day 47			APPSC Group II	Mock 2					
10 Feb Day 48			APPSC Group II All India Mock 1	Mock 3					
15 Feb Day 49			APPSC Group II All India Mock 2	Mock 4					
20 Feb Day 50			APPSC Group II All India Mock 3	Mock 5					

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