

Aim: What happened to the Indus Valley Civilizations?

Do Now: What are some factors that could cause a civilization to disappear?

I. Geography

1. India has many geographical features.
2. Himalaya Mountains
3. Hindu Kush Mountains
4. Indus and Ganges Rivers
5. The Deccan Plateau
6. Huge size makes it hard to unite
7. Monsoons: seasonal winds that bring rain to all of Southeast Asia

II. Indus Valley

1. 5000-4000 BCE climate, rain, food, population, and trade increased
2. 2300 BCE two major cities appear Mohenjo-Daro and Harrappa

III. Characteristics of the Indus Valley

1. Grid like patterns used for city planning
2. Also used weights & measures
3. Market places, drainage & sewage systems
4. Public baths and wells
5. Pottery, bread making were also main parts of society
6. Polytheistic belief system used many fertility gods and worshipped trees
7. Writing systems in Harrappa, which are still undecipherable today.

IV. Disappearance

1. In 1800-1700 BCE these civilizations disappeared
2. Around 1500 a new group settled in the area known as the Aryans
3. The existence of these sites was found in the 1920's.