

Chapter 4 – Ancient India and China  
Lesson 1 notes

**Lesson 1 – Cities on the Indus River**

**A. Cities the World Forgot**

1. **H.G. Wells**

- a. Believed wars began because of the ways people think
- b. The ways people think depends on history they learned

2. **Harappa** – ancient city of about 35,000 people

**B. Archaeologists Uncover Lost Cities**

1. Archaeologists dug up a mound known as:

a. **Mohenjo Daro**

- 1) Means “hill of the dead”

2. Also dug up Harappa

3. Both cities stood on river plains frequently covered by floods so they:

- a. Built cities on built-up platforms of earth and brick to be above the floods.

4. Subcontinent – see vocab

**C. Ruins tell a story**

1. City Plan

- a. Streets were laid out in straight lines forming a grid, brick houses with a bathroom with a drain in the floor

2. **Ancient Findings**

a. **Games and Toys of Indus People**

- 1) Dice
- 2) Stone marbles

b. **Artifact toys that have been found include:**

- 1) Clay monkey
- 2) Clay bull
- 3) Clay cart

c. **Some Traded goods that were found include:**

- 1) Turquoise beads
- 2) Jade
- 3) Jasper

d. **Crops grown there include:**

- 1) grain
- 2) cotton – Indus 1<sup>st</sup> to grow it

D. **Mysteries Still Remain**

1. Religion
2. Language
3. Why they were abandoned. – Historians are unsure what happened to the Indus cities

E. **The Aryans on the Subcontinent**

1. **Subcontinent**

a. Set off from rest of Asia by a mountain wall formed by the Hindu Kush and Himalayas.

2. Aryans entered through them

3. **Aryans**

- a. Early Aryans were nomads.
- b. Nomads – see vocab.
- c. Built no cities and left no ruins to tell their stories to archaeologists.

d. Had no written language

e. What we do know comes from hymns and chants.

- 1) Hymns were put into books called Vedas which means “knowledge”
- 2) Language of Vedas is Sanskrit

f. They were war-like people that drove horse-drawn chariots