

For CMAT Exam

SCULPTURES OF HARAPPAN CIVILISATION

The Harappan sculptors were extremely adept at handling three-dimensional volumes. The most commonly found were seals, bronze figures and potteries.

Seals

- Shapes - square, triangular, rectangular and circular seals were being used.
- Material - Steatite, a soft stone found in the river beds, was the most common material used to make seals. Agate, chert, copper, faience gold, ivory and terracotta seals have also been found.
- Script - pictographic script which is yet to be deciphered, written mostly from right to left, but, bi- directional writing style i.e. right to left on one line and left to right on another line has also been found.
- Animal motifs - unicorn, humped bull, rhinoceros, tiger, elephant, buffalo, bison, goat, markour, ibex, crocodile, etc. No evidence of cows has been found on any seal.
- Seals with symbols similar to 'Swastika' design have also been found.
- Seals were primarily used for commercial purposes and helped in communication.
- Seals discovered in Mesopotamia and various sites such as Lothal indicate that seals were extensively used for trade.
- Some seals with a hole on them have been found on dead bodies indicating its use as amulets.

Pashupati Seal

- Steatite seal
- Discovered at Mohenjo-daro
- Depicts a human figure or a deity sitting cross-legged.
- Surrounded by animals. - An elephant and a tiger are there on the left side of the figure while a rhinoceros and a buffalo are seen on the right side. Two antelopes are shown below the seat of the figure.

Bronze Figures

- The bronze statues were made using “lost wax technique” or “Cire Perdue”.



Seals



Bearded Man



Dancing Girl

Bronze Dancing Girl

- It is the world's oldest bronze sculpture.
- Found in Mohenjo-daro.
- This four inch figure depicts a naked girl wearing only ornaments, which include bangles in the left arm, and amulet and bracelet on the right arm.
- Stands in a 'tribhanga' dancing posture with the right hand on her hip.

Terracotta

- Found less in number and crude in shape and form.
- Found mostly in the sites of Gujarat and Kalibangan.

Mother Goddess

- Found in many Indus sites including Harappa.
- It is a crude figure of a standing female adorned with necklaces hanging over prominent breasts.
- She wears a loincloth and a girdle.
- She also wears a fan-shaped headgear.
- The facial features are also shown very crudely and lack finesse.

Bearded Priest

- Made of Steatite.
- Found in Mohenjo-daro.
- Figure of a bearded man, draped in a shawl with trefoil patterns.
- Elongated eyes and half closed as in meditation.

Red sandstone figure of a male torso

- Made of Red sandstone.
- Found in Harappa.
- The torso has a frontal posture with well baked shoulders and a prominent abdomen.
- There are socket holes in the neck and shoulders.

INDIAN CALENDAR SYSTEM

- Saka calendar used officially in india
- Adopted as national calendar in 1957 on recommendation of calendar reform committee
- Came into use from 22 march ,1957 of gregorian calendar