Ancient Indian History(Quick Revision)

Pre-Harappan Period

Lower Paleolithic (600,000 – 60,000 BC)	Hand axe & cleaver industries	Pahalgam, Belan valley (U.P), Bhimbetka, Adamgarh, 16 R Singi Talav
Middle Paleolithic (150,000 – 40,000 BC)	Tools made on flakes	Bhimbetka, Nevasa, Pushkar, Rohiri hills of upper sind
Upper Paleolithic (45,000 – 10,000 BC)	Tools made on flakes & blades	Rajasthan, Parts of Belan & Ganga Valley (U.P).
Mesolithic/ Microlithic (10,000 – 7000 BC)	Parallel sided blades of chert, chalcedony, jasper, agate	Bagor (Raj), Langhnaj (Guj), Sarai Nahar Rai, Chaopani Mando, Mahdaha, Damdama (U.P), Bhimbetka, Adamgarh.
Neolithic (8000 BC – 2000 BC)	Earthern pots	Mehrgarh (Pak) Gufkral & Burzahom (J&K), Mahgara, Chopani Mando, Kodihwa in Belan Valley (U.P.) Chirand (Bihar).
Chalcolithic (3000-900 B.C.)	Distinct painted pottery Fire worship widespread.	Cultures: Ahar culture (oldest), Kayatha, Malwa culture, Salvada culture, , Prabhas culture, Rangpur culture & Jorwe culture (newest).
Copper Hoard Culture	Harpoons, Antennae swords, Anthromorphs	Gungeria (M.P-largest)
OCP Culture (Ochre coloured pottery)	Pottery with bright red slip & painted in black.	All over gangetic plain with same regions as that of copper hoard culture.
•Ahar people (Aravalli region) - distinctive black & red ware decorated with white designs. •Prabhas & Rangpur wares have a glossy suface due to which they are called lusturous red ware. •Jorwe culture (Maharashtra) - painted black on red but has a matt surface treated with a wash.		

Select Harrapan Cities (Chalcolithic Age)

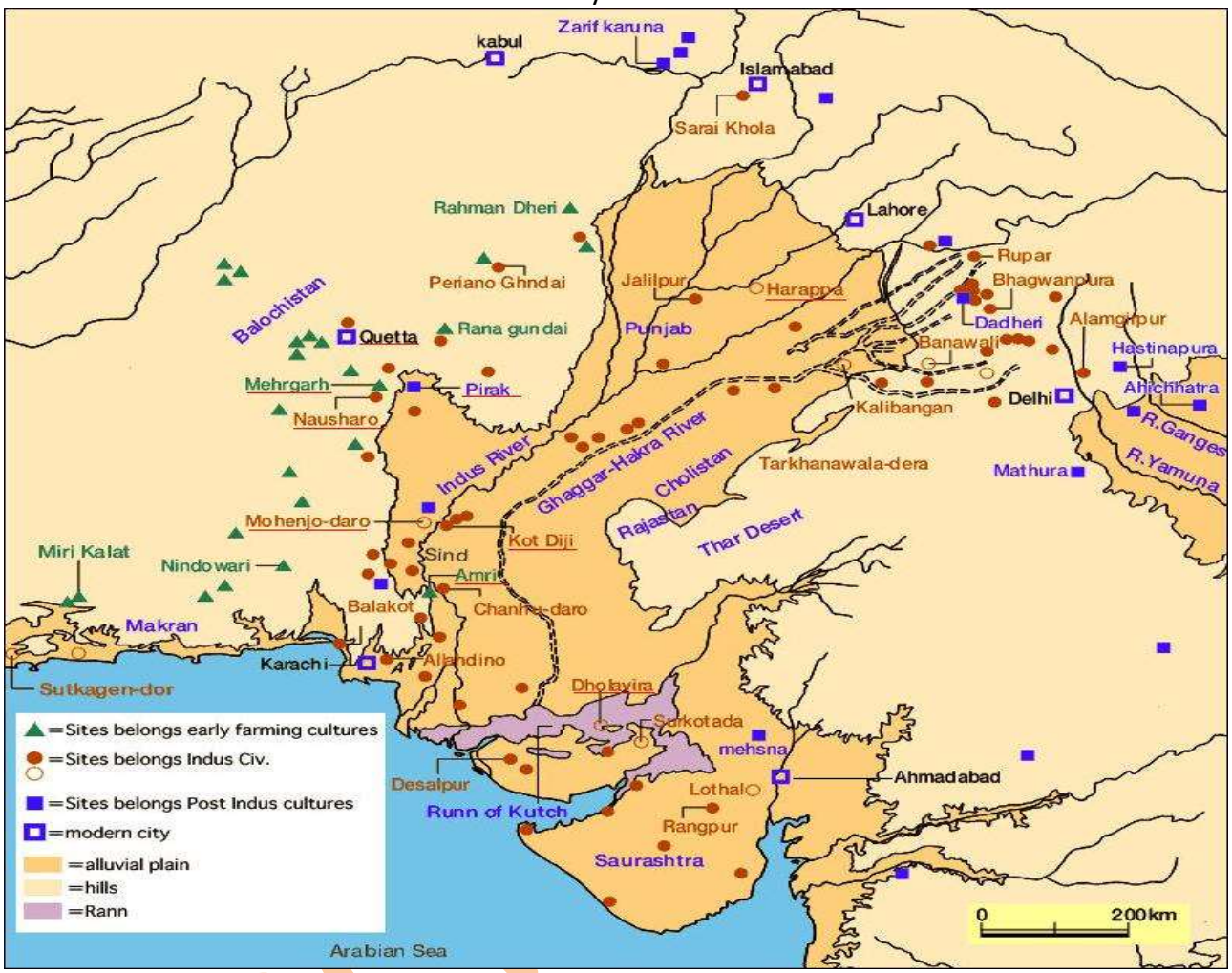
1.	Harappa [Dayaram Sahni]	Great granary, 40 % of total seals found here; Seals usually made of steatite depicting elephant, bull, unicorn, rhinoceros; figurines - torso
2.	Mohenjodaro [R.D Banerjee]	"Mound of the dead"; largest of all cities; Great Bath; granary; city was flooded occasionally, figurines of yogi, bronze dancing girl, seal bearing Pashupati.
3.	Lothal	[S.R. Rao]. Earliest cultivation of rice; Fire altars
4.	Kalibangan	[A. Ghosh]. Fire Altars showing cult sacrifice;
5.	Dholavira,	[R.S. Bisht]
6.	Banwali	[R.S. Bisht] Fire Altars;
7.	Mehrgarh	Evidences of cotton;

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Indus Valley Civilization



Indian Religious Books

Puranas	Divided into sarga, pratisarga, manvantantar, vamsa (genealogical list of kings) & vamsanucharita. 18 main puranas & 18 subsidiary puranas.
Vedas	Meaning "knowledge". Rigveda (hymns), Yajurveda (sacrificial formulae), Atharvaveda (magical charms & spell), Samveda. Vedas are called aparusheya (not created by man) & nity
Upanishads	About 200 in number. Deal with philosophy. Oldest & most important are Chhandogya & Brihadranyaka. Other important are Kathak, Isa, Mundaka, Prasna etc. Do not believe in sacrificial ceremonies.
Brahmanas	Talks about vedic hymns, their application, stories of their origin. Each Brahmana is associated with one of the four VedasAitareya brahmana is associated with Rig Veda & Satapatha Brahmana with Yajur veda.
Aranyakas	Meaning 'the forest books'. They discuss philosophical meditation & sacrifice.
Vedangas	Evolved for proper understanding of the Vedas. Six in all: Siksha (phonetics), Kalpa (rituals), Vyakarna, Nirukta (Etymology) Chhanda (metrics) & Jyotisha.

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Vedanta	Advaita Vedanta of Adi Sankara.

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Ancient Books & Authors

1.	Mudrakshasha (Chandragupta Maurya defeating the Nandas); Devichandraguptam	Vishakhadatta
2.	Malavikagnimitram (Pushyamitra Sunga)	Kalidas
3.	Gudavaho (Yasovarman of Kannauj)	Vakpati
4.	Vikramanakadevacharita (Chalukya king Vikramaditya)	Bilhana
5.	Kumarapalacharita	Jayasimha
6.	Hammirakavya	Nyayachandra
7.	Dvayashraya Mahakavya; Sapta Sadhana	Hemchandra
8.	Navashasankacharita	Padmagupta
9.	Bhojaprabandha	Billal
10.	Prithvirajcharita	Chandrabardai
11.	Meghaduta; Raghuvamsa; Kumarasambhava; Vikramorvasiyam Abhijnanashakuntalam (Drama);	Kalidas
12.	Mrichakatika	Sudraka
13.	Uttarama-Charita; Malati Madhava	Bhavbhuti
14.	Amarakosha	Amarasimha
15.	Si-yu-Ki	Hiuen Tsang
16.	Brahmasiddhanta; Khandakhadya	Brahmagupta
17.	Dasakumaracharita	Dandin
18.	Astanga-Sangraha; Astanga-Hirdaya-Samhita	Vagabhatta
19.	Panchsiddhantika; Suryasiddhanta; Brihatsamhita	Varahamihira
20.	Karpuramanjari; Bala Ramayana; Bala Bharata; Kavyamimamsa; Bhuvana Kosha; Haravilasa	Rajshekhara
21.	Adinathacharita (Jaina Narrative)	Vardhamana
22.	Shantinathacharita (Jaina Narrative)	Devachandra
23.	Parsvanathacharita (Jaina Narrative)	Devabhadra
24.	Prithviraja Vijay	Jayanka
25.	Karnasundari	Bilhana
26.	Saraswati Kanthabharana	Bhoja
27.	Dasharupa	Dhananjaya
28.	Harikeli Nataka	Visaladeva
29.	Prasannaraghava	Jayadeva
30.	Siddhanta Shiromani [4 parts – Lilavati, Bijaganita, Grahaganita & Gola (on Astronomy)]	Bhaskaracharya
31.	Rajmariganka (On Astronomy)	King Bhoja
32.	Chikitsakalika or Yogamala	Tisata-Vagbhatta's Son
33.	Mitakasara	Vijnanaeshvara
34.	Nitishastra (On Polity)	Mathara
35.	Nitisara (On Polity)	Kamandaka
36.	Sushruta Samhita (encyclopedia on surgery)	Sushruta
37.	Charaka Samhita (Teachings of Atreya)	Charaka
38.	Buddhacharita, Vajrasuchi, Suandarananda	Asvaghosha
39.	Mahabhasya	Patanjali
40.	Harshacharita, Kadambari	Banabhatta

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