

## **META DATA**

**Theme: Layout of the Houses in Harappa**

**Subject-History**

**Linkage of Theme- Bricks, Beads and Bones –The Harappan Civilization**

**Class- XII Part I**

**Objectives- Teachers**

- 1 To use pictures as an aid to make children understand the layout of the houses of Harappa.
- 2 To appreciate the technology used for sewage disposal and waste management.
- 3 To initiate a discussion with children about health and sanitation.

**Key Words :** Drainage system, covered drains, sump.

**Description**

Harappan civilization or the Bronze Age Civilization is the most ancient civilization which had urban culture characterized by town planning ,irrigated agriculture, domesticated animals and bead making industry. The most characteristic feature of this civilization was a developed lavatories and drainage and sewage systems. There was centralized sanitation and sewers in the Mature Harappa period. The waste water management of the Harappan sites was of two types:

1. Centralized-this was characterized by sewage and drainage networks
- 2 Decentralized- this was characterized by soak pits

However, in sites like Harappa ,Mohenjodaro and Lothal where centralized wastewater management was implemented ,decentralized techniques were also used for the houses which were away from the existing sewage network. The sewage system of these three sites was made of standardized baked bricks set in clay mortar. Drains were covered with stone, wooden boards or

baked bricks. The effluent flowed into a larger drain. Bathrooms and lavatories were located next to each other on the street side of the building and wells were often in an adjacent room. Thus the sewage system had a network of drains made of baked brick running along the streets. The drains were located along one side of the street .

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**Source-**Image sources have been taken from open source and creative commons

## **LAY OUT OF THE HOUSES**

- Single storey and double storied
- Emphasis on privacy- from the entrance the lay out could not be seen, no windows on the ground floor
- Large courtyard surrounded by rooms





**Q2 Compare and contrast the emphasis on sanitation and hygiene with present day standards.**

**Q3 Evaluate the laying of streets and drains of the past and present.**