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Q1(b)

Harappan maritime trade

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2024 · Anthropology GS 1 · 10 marks · Meaning, Scope and development of Anthropology.

1.1 Meaning, Scope and development of Anthropology.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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Meluhha

Mesopotamian texts use this name for a distant trading region widely identified with the **Indus civilisation**; they mention Meluhhan ships and an interpreter.

Lothal

A Gujarat craft and trade centre with a brick basin, warehouse area, seals and bead workshops. The basin's identification as a dockyard is contested.

Dilmun and Magan

Dilmun is associated mainly with Bahrain and Magan with Oman; both mediated Gulf exchange between the Indus and Mesopotamia.

Etched carnelian

Distinctive Indus-made beads found in Mesopotamian and Gulf contexts are a strong material tracer of long-distance trade.

Standardisation

Cubical weights, seals and regulated craft production reduced transaction uncertainty across a very large Harappan interaction sphere.

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