

Banawali

-1 Location and History:

-Banawali is an archaeological site dating back to the Indus Valley Civilization period, located in the Fatehabad district of Haryana, India. The site is approximately 120 kilometers northeast of Kalibangan and 16 kilometers from Fatehabad.

-Previously known as "Vanawali," Banawali is situated on the left bank of the dried-up Sarasvati River.

-In comparison to Kalibangan, which was established in the lower middle valley of the dried-up Sarasvati River, Banawali was built in the upper middle valley of the Sarasvati River.

-Existed between 2600-1700 BCE

-Excavated in 1973 by RS Bisht.



-2 Urban Planning and Architecture:

It included three main cultural phases:

- **Pre-Harappan**
- **Harappan**
- **Bara (Post-Harappan)**
- **Fortified Town** : A town surrounded by defensive walls for protection
- **Radial Pattern** : Streets and buildings were arranged in circular or radiating lines from a central point

Construction Techniques: Molded Bricks: Bricks formed into specific shapes for uniformity and strength. Sophisticated Building Techniques: Advanced methods and materials used for constructing buildings. Public and Private Spaces: Residential Areas: Zones designated for housing. Public Spaces: Areas accessible to the community, such as parks or squares. Administrative Buildings: Structures used for governance and official functions

-Urban Planning: The site reflects well-organized streets and residential areas, indicating advanced urban planning and civil engineering.



-3 Advanced Water Management System:

The presence of a well-planned and advanced drainage system, public baths, and a large tank.



-4 Archaeological Discoveries:

Seals and Inscriptions Found

- Inscribed steatite seals were used for identification and trade.
- Pottery seals reflect administrative and possibly religious aspects.

Agricultural Tools:

- Discovery of pottery models of the plow.
- Indicates advanced agricultural practices and techniques of that era.



-5 Trade and External Relations:

Innovations in Trade Networks

Evidence suggests that Banawali was connected to other urban centers of the Indus Valley Civilization, such as Harappa and Mohenjo-daro, and may have been involved in the trade of goods such as cotton, timber, grains, and animals.

Referancers:

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