

NCERT Dancing Girl Row

Context

- After facing backlash, NCERT has decided to restore the original image of the Indus Valley Civilization's iconic Dancing Girl in its Class 9 textbook, reversing its earlier decision to depict the figurine with a covered torso.



Dancing Girl

- The "Dancing Girl" is a 4,500-year-old bronze statuette unearthed in 1926 by archaeologist Ernest Mackay at Mohenjo-daro (present-day Pakistan), a major urban centre of the Indus Valley Civilization.
- The statue is around 10.5 centimetres tall and is adorned with a necklace and a large number of bangles stacked on her arms.
- Material and Technique:** The bronze sculpture was created using the lost-wax technique, a metal-casting method that continues to be practiced in parts of India, including West Bengal, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh.
- Today, the original artefact is housed in the National Museum, New Delhi.



Harappan Civilization



- The Harappan civilization is believed to be one of the oldest world civilizations together with Egypt and Mesopotamia.



- It was developed along the river Indus and for that reason it is also known as the Indus Valley Civilization.



- The Harappan civilization is identified as a Bronze-age civilization because many objects have been found that are made up of copper based alloys.



Major Harappan Sites

Site	Present Day
 Harappa	-----> Punjab, Pakistan
 Mohenjo-Daro	-----> Sindh, Pakistan
 Dholavira	-----> Kutch district of Gujarat
 Kalibangan	-----> Rajasthan
 Lothal	-----> Gujarat
 Rakhigarhi	-----> Haryana
 Chanhudaro	-----> Sindh, Pakistan
 Ganweriwala	-----> Punjab, Pakistan
 Sutkagendor	-----> Baluchistan Province, Pakistan
 Alamgirpur	-----> Uttar Pradesh

Key features of the civilization



Town planning: This civilization had brick houses and an excellent drainage system.



Economy: Their trade network extended up to Mesopotamia; people mainly grew wheat and cotton.



Culture: People wore gold ornaments and worshipped the "priest king" and the bull with devotion.



Society: The size of the dwellings clearly indicates a hierarchical society.



Decline: This civilization was destroyed due to environmental changes and invasions.