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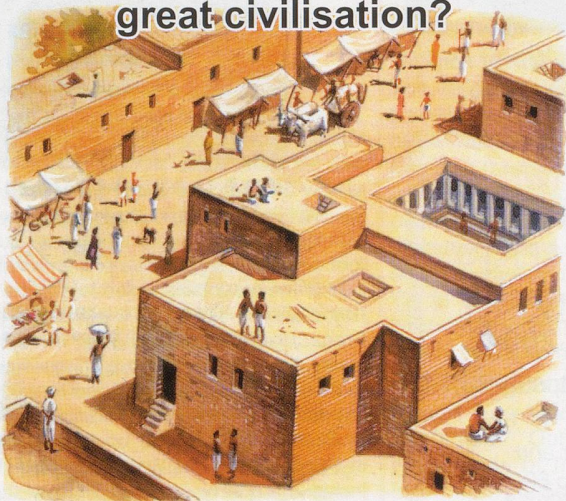
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# Hello Children

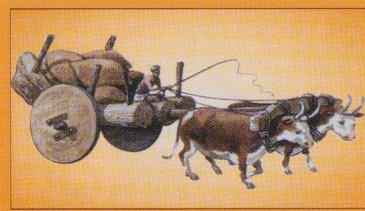
**Where was the world's first great civilisation?**



The Indus Valley civilisation was one of the world's first great societies. It developed out of farming and herding communities that carried on trade with each other. The civilisation began to flourish about 4500 years ago and was based in the vast river plains of what are now Pakistan and Northwestern India. There were two main cities - Harappa in the north of the Indus Valley and Mohenjo Daro in the south. They were both carefully planned cities and laid out on a grid system. They had wide roads and brick houses, most of which had at least two storeys. Most homes had a bathing area that was supplied with water from a nearby public well or from a well in the courtyard of the house. The people who lived there were farmers, tending to fields and watering crops with silt-laden waters washed down when the snows melted in the mountains to the north.

## FACT FILE

The farmers of the Indus Valley used wooden carts pulled by a pair of oxen. Deep grooves made by heavily laden carts have been found in the excavated streets of Mohenjo Daro.



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