

Do Now!

Write a history

What can we conclude about the people that made this artifact?



A Lost Civilization Uncovered!

In the early 1900s, archaeologists digging in the Indus River valley of Pakistan made some startling discoveries. They unearthed bricks, small clay seals, figurines, and other artifacts dissimilar in style to any they had seen before. The archaeologists soon realized they had uncovered a civilization that had flourished 4,500 years earlier. It had been unknown to the world ever since- The Indus valley civilization



Terms, People, and Places

Subcontinent:

Plateau:

Monsoon:

Harappa:

Mohenjo-Daro:

Veneration:

Vedas:

Raja:

Indra:

Brahman:

Mystic:

Acculturation:

Lesson Objectives

- Describe the Indian subcontinent's geography
- Understand the clues archaeology has provided about the rise and fall of the Indus civilization
- Analyze the main characteristic of the Aryan civilization and the Vedic Age
- Explain what ancient Indian epics reveal about Aryan life

Summary

“Early Civilizations of India and Pakistan”

As civilizations took shape in the Nile Valley and the Fertile Crescent, people in India carved out their own civilization. India's first civilization emerged in the Indus River valley. Excavations show that the Indus Valley covered the largest area of any ancient civilization and that its two main cities, Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa, were carefully planned. Aryan civilization then invaded and greatly impacted Indian culture.

CHAPTER

3

SECTION 1

Section Summary

EARLY CIVILIZATIONS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN

READING CHECK

What group was at the top of Aryan society?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *embodied* mean in the underlined sentence? The prefix *em-* means "to put or to cover with." What is the root word of *embodied*? Use these clues to help you figure out the meaning of *embodied*.

READING SKILL

Recognize Sequence Number the following in the correct sequence:

- ___ Aryans build a civilization.
- ___ Organized government plans Mohenjo-Daro.
- ___ Aryan beliefs move toward the concept of brahman and mysticism.
- ___ Flood, earthquake, or other disaster hits Indus civilization.

The Indian **subcontinent** is a large landmass that juts out from Asia. It is divided into three zones: the Gangetic Plain, with rivers that support farming; the Deccan **plateau**, a raised area of level land too dry for farming; and the coastal plains, which receive plenty of rain. **Monsoons**, or seasonal winds, bring dry air from the northeast in winter and rains from the southwest in summer.

Civilization began on the subcontinent around 2600 B.C. in the Indus River valley. Archaeologists believe organized governments helped plan cities such as **Harappa** and **Mohenjo-Daro**. They were built with wide streets, strong building materials, and complex plumbing systems. Most people farmed, although some traded goods by ship with Sumer. People worshiped many gods and regarded certain animals as sacred, perhaps influencing later Indian beliefs such as the **veneration** of cattle. The civilization declined by about 1900 B.C., possibly as a result of environmental damage, a major flood, or an earthquake.

By 1500 B.C., nomadic herders had migrated into India from the north. They married local people, and **acculturation**, or the blending of cultures, took place. Their descendants, known as Aryans, learned to farm and built a civilization after 1000 B.C. There were many kingdoms, and Aryan warriors elected leaders called **rajahs**. Their society was divided into five groups. At the top were priests, followed by warriors, farmers and merchants, and workers and servants. At the bottom were dalits, who had to do work that others would not.

People worshiped gods and goddesses who embodied natural forces, such as the sky and sun. **Indra**, the god of war, was the chief deity and used thunderbolts as weapons. Priests wrote sacred teachings in the **Vedas**, a collection of hymns and religious instructions. Epic poems were part of the culture. They described Aryan warfare, important religious beliefs, and valued behavior.

Over time, Aryan beliefs changed. There was a move toward the concept of **brahman**, a single spiritual power beyond the gods of the Vedas and existing in all things. **Mystics** also sought direct communion with divine forces.

Review Questions

1. Why do archaeologists think organized governments planned Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro?

2. What are the Vedas?

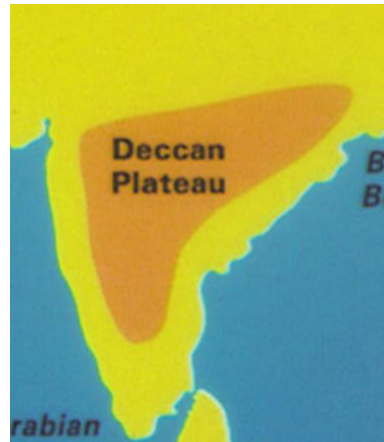
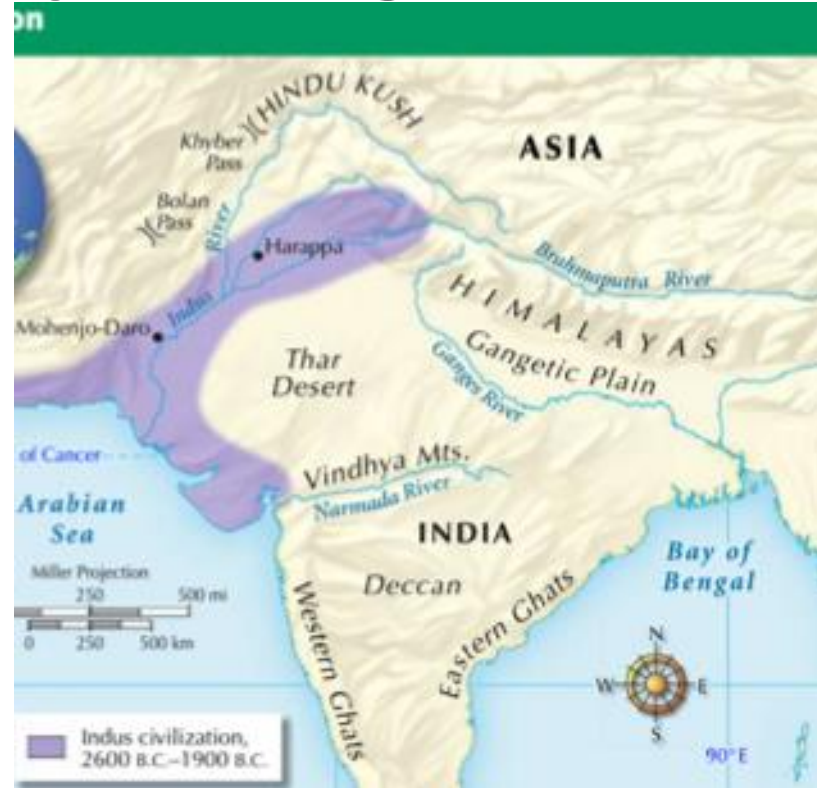
Aim #9: How have scholars learned about India's first two civilizations?



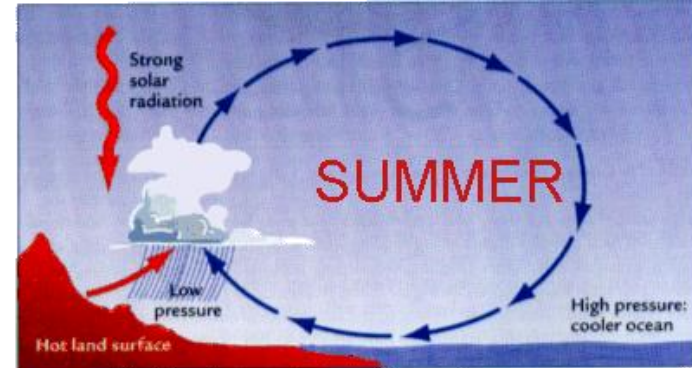
Geography

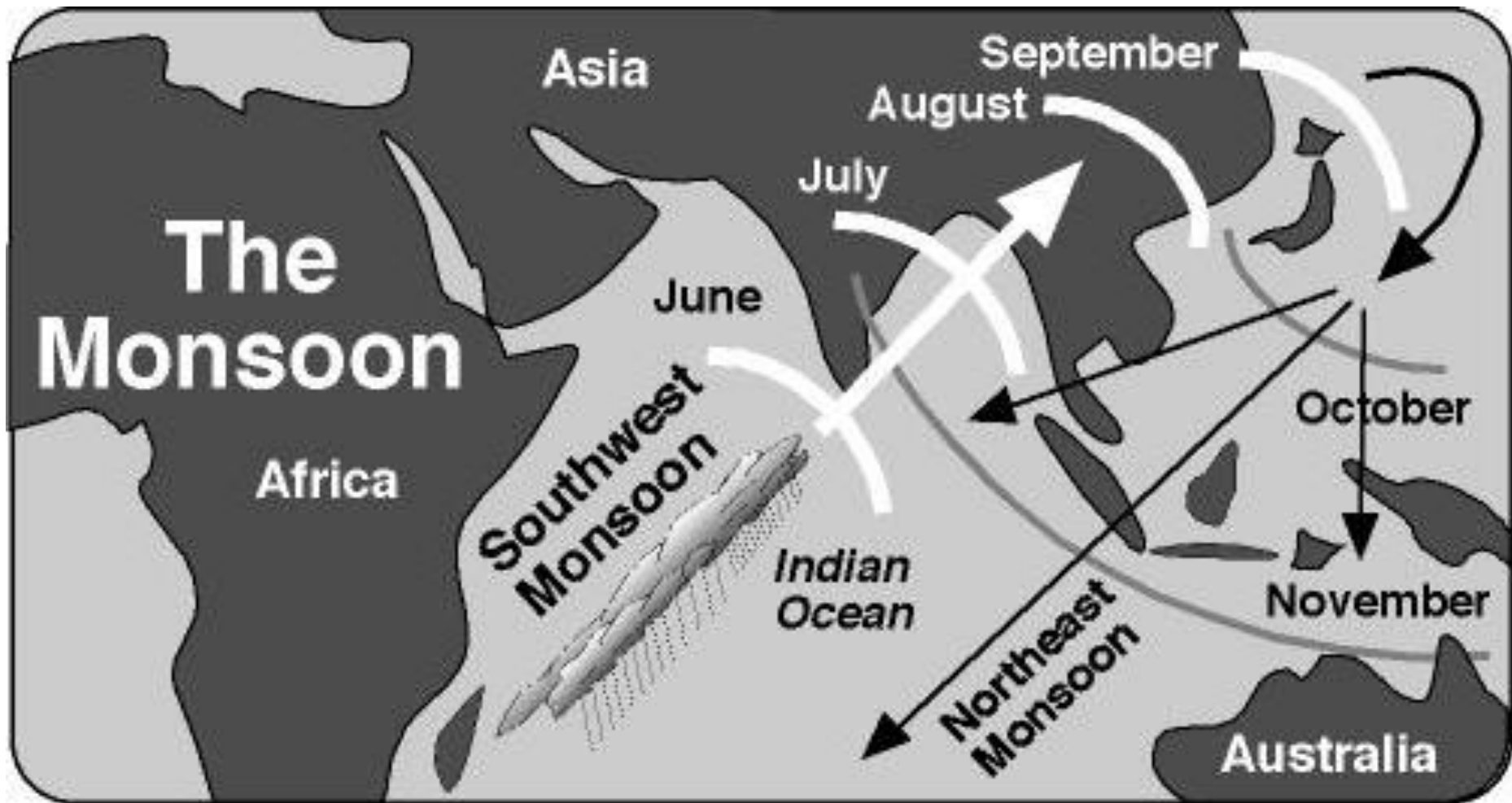


3 Geographic Regions



Monsoons



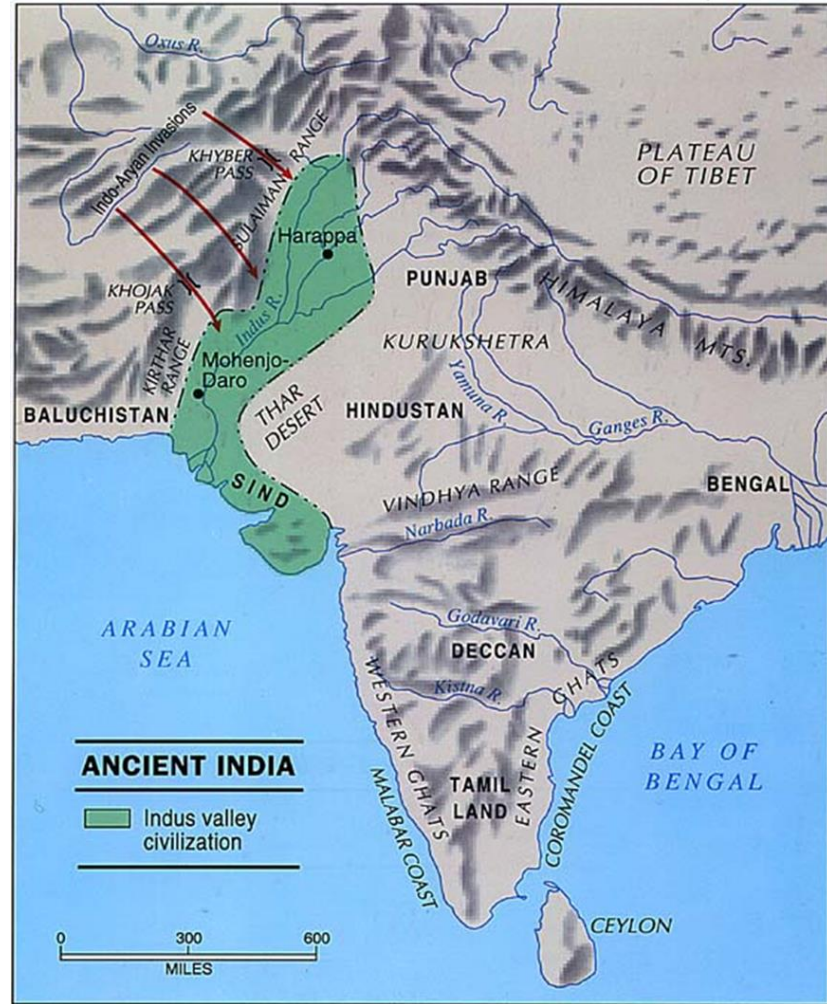




Checkpoint

How has geography affected where people live in the Indian subcontinent?

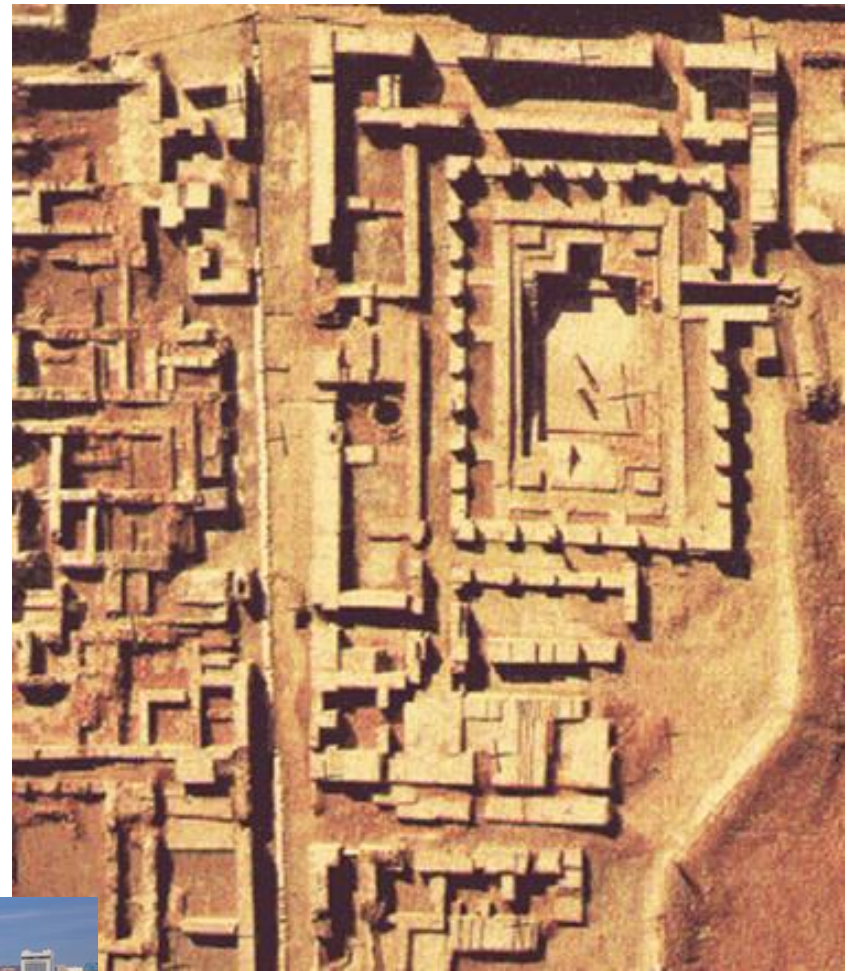
Indus Civilization (2600BCE-1900BCE)



Ancient India

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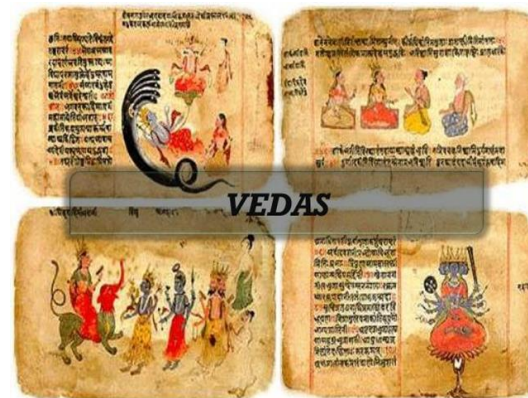
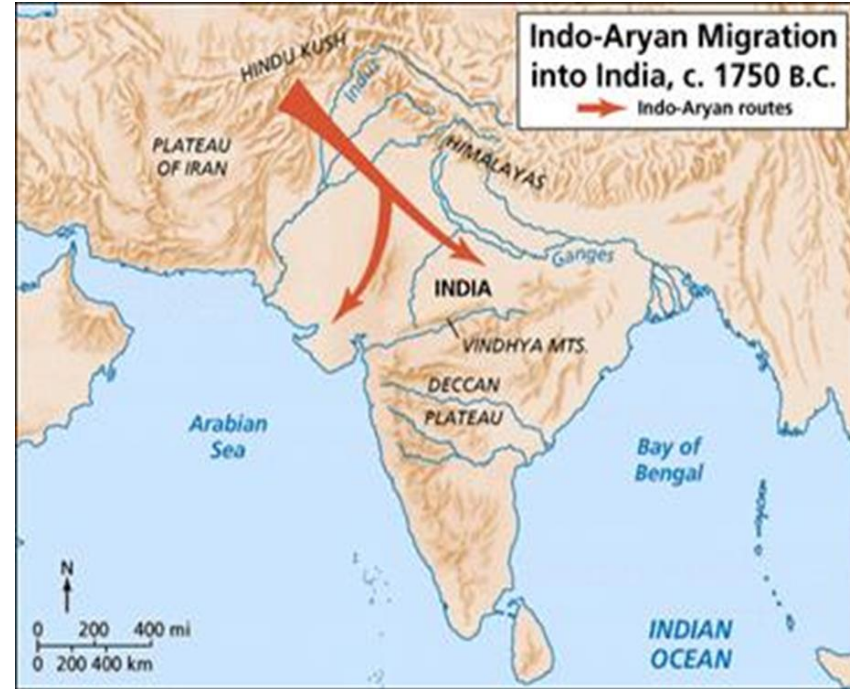




Checkpoint

What clues has archaeology provided about the Indus civilization?

Aryan Civilization



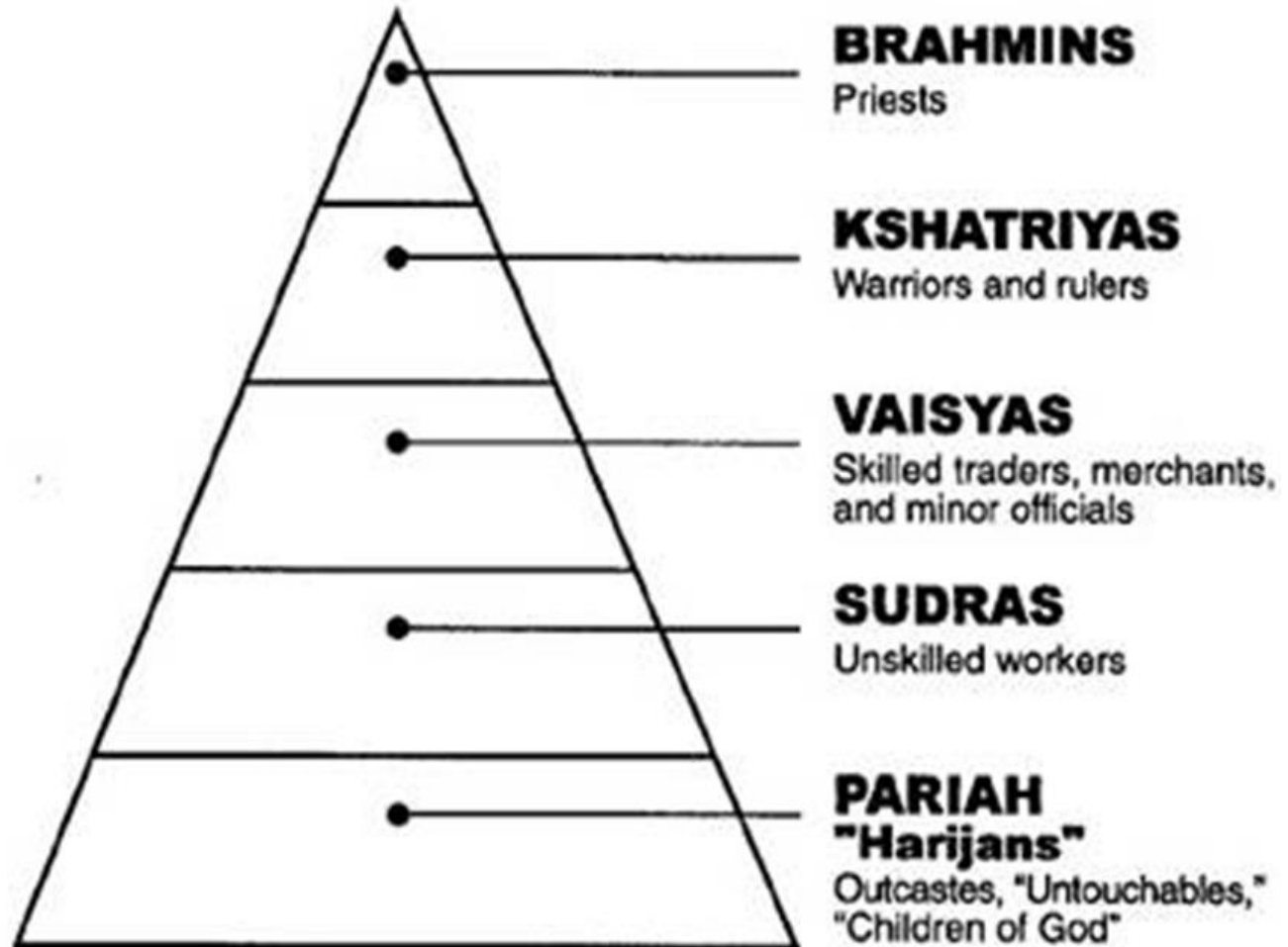
VERSES OF HOLY VEDAS

- इन्द्र ऋतु न आ भरा।
- "O' God, please bless us with (Divine) wisdom". (Atharva Ved 18-3-67)
- सं श्रुतेन गमेमहि
- "O' God, bless us with divine knowledge." (Atharva Ved 1-1-4)

VERSES OF HOLY VEDAS

- तस्य वयं हेडिसि मापि भूम सुमृडीके
अस्य सुमतो स्याम्।
- "May we remain under the blessing and love of God, and we should never come under the wrath of God."
(Atharva Ved 7-20-3)

Aryans Structure Society

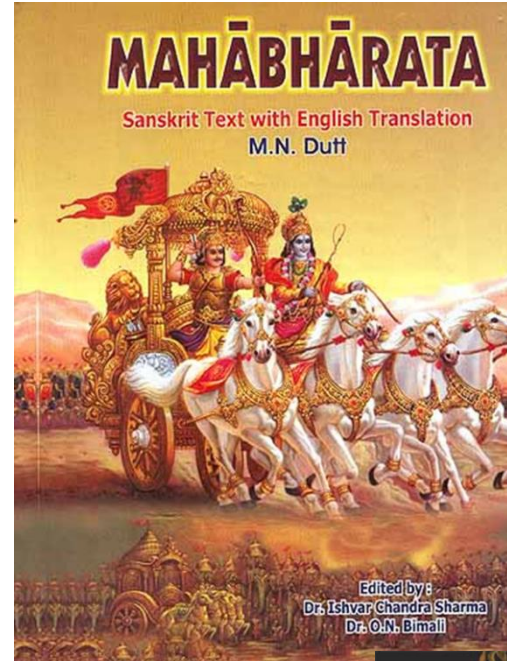




Checkpoint

What are the main characteristics of the Aryan civilization and the Vedic Age?

Epic Literature Tells About Aryan Life





Checkpoint

What values are revealed in Indian epics?



I don't get it...



I get it!

EXIT CARD
Please jot down what you
have gotten from today's
lesson and what you still
have questions on.