

Utilitarianism and Indus Valley Civilization: Is it truly based on Utilitarianism?

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The identification of the Harappan Civilization in the early twentieth century was considered to be the most significant archaeological discovery in the Indian Subcontinent as it pushed the beginning of settled life by 2000 years. Contemporary to the Mesopotamian and Egyptian Civilizations it was unique in its town planning. Spread over major parts of the western and north-western subcontinent, its influence is seen to the Tajikistan border in the north and the Gulf region in the west with over two thousand sites found till date. From the beginning of its discovery, numerous archaeologists have indicate many theories to explicate the ideology which lies behind the architecture, art and crafts of Indus civilization. Among all those theories, a well-established and entrenched theory is Utilitarianism: The hypothesis that elucidate Indus civilization is a complex society which based on Utilitarianism. But when we analyse the information which are depict by its monuments carefully, it is clear that this hypothesis has many flaws than its assets. This paper aims to bring those defects to light and imply that Indus Valley Civilization is not founded on Utilitarianism.

Keywords: Indus Valley Civilization, Utilitarianism, Architecture, Arts and Crafts, Hypothes