



UNIQUE STUDY POINT

NCERT Solutions for Class 6 Social Science History Chapter 4 In the Earliest Cities

Question 1: Match the columns

Sukta	Stone Builder
Chariots	Sacrifice
Yajna	Well-said
Dasa	Used in battles
Megalith	Slave

Answer:

Sukta	Well-said
Chariots	Used in battles
Yajna	Sacrifice
Dasa	Slave
Megalith	Stone Boulder

Question 2: Complete the sentences

- (a) Slaves were used for _____.
- (b) Megaliths are found in _____.
- (c) Stone circles or boulders on the surface were used to _____.
- (d) Port-holes were used for _____.
- (e) People at Inamgaon ate _____.

Answer: (a) Slaves were used for **work**.

(b) Megaliths are found in **South India, Kashmir, North East**.

(c) Stone circles or boulders on the surface were used to **point out the exact place of burial**.

(d) Port-holes were used **for burying other members of the same family at the same place**

(e) People at Inamgaon ate **peas, pulses, rice, barley, sesame**

Let's Discuss

Question 3: In what ways are the books we read today different from the Rigveda?

Answer: The most important points of difference between the Rigveda and the modern books is that today books are written and read. The Vedas, instead, were memorised by students, and later passed on to the later generations by speaking, listening and then memorising.

Question 4: What kind of evidence from burials do archaeologists use to find out whether there were social differences amongst those who were buried?

Answer: Archaeologists found that in some burials, skeletons found were buried with lots. The number of pots buried was more if the person had higher social status.

Question 5: In what ways do you think that the life of a raja was different from that of a dasa or dasi?

Answer: A raja had the highest social status whereas the dasa or dasi were slaves who were often captured in war. They were treated as the property of the owners who could make them do whatever work they wanted.

Extra Questions

VERY SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Name the four Vedas.

Answer: The four Vedas are:

1. Rigveda
2. Samaveda
3. Yajurveda
4. Atharvaveda

2. In what language has the Rigveda been composed?

Answer: The Rigveda is in Vedic Sanskrit.

3. What were the various purposes of fighting battles as depicted by the Rigveda?

Answer: Battles were fought for cattle, land, water, and for capturing people.

4. What were the groups of people in terms of their work?

Answer: There were two groups of people in terms of their work—the 'brahmins' and the 'rajas'.

5. Who were the 'Aryas' and the 'Dasas'? [V. Imp.]

Answer: People who composed the hymns called themselves Aryans and they called their opponents 'Dasas'.

6. What were megaliths? [Imp.]

Answer: Stone boulders used to mark burial sites are known as megaliths.

7. Name some areas where megaliths were prevalent.

Answer: Megaliths were prevalent in the Deccan, South India, in the North-east, and Kashmir.

8. How is it known that burial spots were meant for families?

Answer: Sometimes megaliths contain more than one skeleton. This indicates that families were buried together.

9. Where is Inamgaon situated?

Ans: Inamgaon is a site on the river Ghod, a tributary of the river Bhima.

SHORT ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. Write a short note on the Rigveda.

Answer: The Rigveda is the oldest of the Vedas. It indicates over a thousand hymns in Vedic (old) Sanskrit. These hymns (called 'Sukta' — well said) are in praise of various gods and goddesses, mainly: Agni, Indra and Soma. These hymns were composed by sages, who learned them and made their children learn. Finally, they were printed about 200 years ago.

2. Describe in brief about how the Rigveda depicts cattle, horses, chariots, and battles.

Answer: Rigveda has prayers for cattle and horses. Horses were used in battles. Battles were fought for cattle, land, people and water. Most men took part in wars. There was not any regular army. There were assemblies where people met and discussed matters of war and peace. They chose brave warriors as their leaders.

3. Write a short note on megaliths.

Answer: Megaliths are stone boulders used to mark burial sites. They were prevalent around 3000 years ago in the Deccan, South India, in the northeast and in Kashmir. Some megaliths are seen on the surface and some are underground. Sometimes a circle of stone boulders or a single large stone is found standing on the ground, to indicate the position of burials.

4. How do megaliths show that there were social differences? [V. Imp.]

Answer: Sometimes, more objects are in found in one grave than in another. This indicates that people were buried according to their social status. In Brahmagiri, a skeleton was found with 33 gold beads, 2 stone beads, 4 copper bangles, and a conch shell. Whereas other skeletons have only few pots.

LONG ANSWER TYPE QUESTIONS

1. How have people in society been depicted in the Rigveda? [V. Imp.]

Answer: According to the Rigveda, there are two groups of people in terms of their work: (i) The priests, called Brahmins, and (ii) The 'rajas'.

The priests performed various rituals while the 'rajas' ruled. These 'rajas' did not, however, have capital cities, palaces or armies, nor did they collect taxes. Two words were used to refer to the people of the community as a whole — those words were 'jana' and 'Vish'.

The people who composed the hymns referred to themselves using the word 'Aryas' and called their opponents 'Dasas' or 'Dasyus', The 'dasas' were later slaves and were treated as the property of their owners.

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