

B. B. B. S. S. School

Class 6 History  
Chapters 1 part 2

1) Why do we need to study  
history)?

Ans) To understand the  
present and past we need to  
study history.

Que2) Mention the four  
geographical division of  
India.

Ans) the four geographical  
division of India is given

below :-  
1) the great himalayas 2) the  
Gangetic plains. 3) the  
vindhya of Central India  
4) the deccan plateau

Qns 3) what is  
manuscript.

Ans) manuscript is the  
handwritten text.

Qns 4) what are  
fossils?

Ans) fossils are  
basically imprint of plant,  
animals or humans  
preserved in rock.

QNS. 5) What  
are artefacts?

Ans) An artefact is  
something made or given  
shape by humans, such  
as a tool or a work of

art. 

# ***Write the meaning of following words***

- 1) Epigraphy***
- 2) manuscripts***
- 3) numismatic***
- 4) prehistory***
- 5) decipher***
- 6) archaeologist***
- 7) inscriptions***

regions:

- ☞ The Great Himalayas
- ☞ The Gangetic Plains
- ☞ The Vindhyas of Central India
- ☞ The Deccan Plateau

History provides the time, while geography provides the space. So, history without geography is incomplete. Climate, rainfall, soil, vegetation and environment greatly influence the evolution of human culture and their way of life.

## SOURCES OF HISTORY

In our quest to know history we need to look at the records of the past events. These records are known as **sources** of history. Historians have to use evidence or clues to write history and give us a complete picture of the past. Where do they get these clues and evidence from?

There are several sources from which we may get information about the past. Two main types of sources are **archaeological** and **literary**.

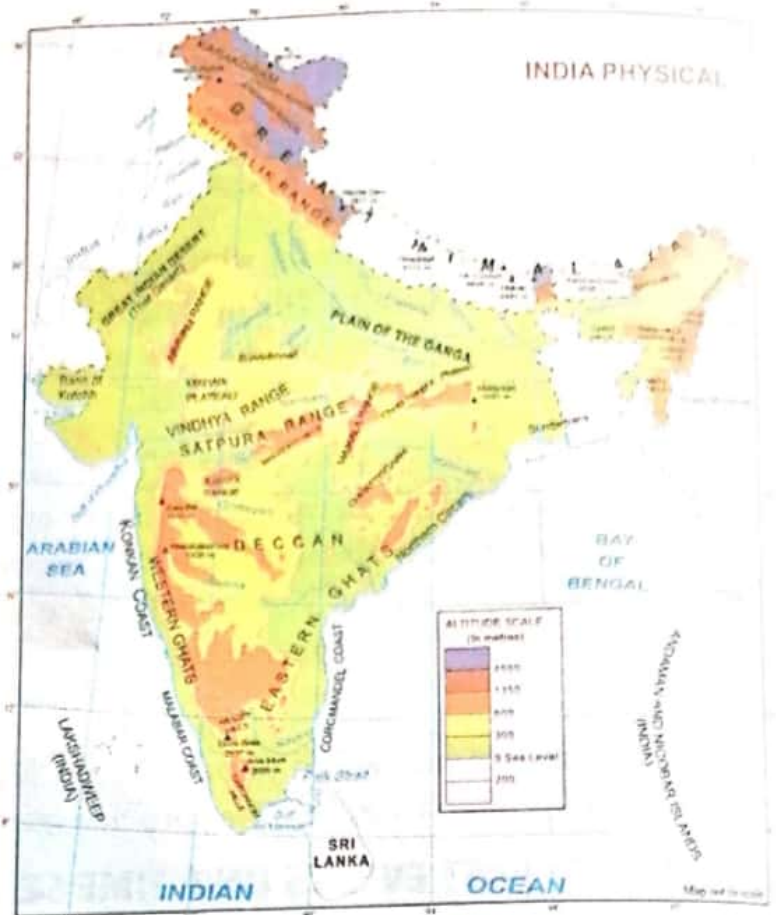
### Archaeological Sources

Archaeology is the study of the past, of the people who lived long long ago through the things they left behind.

The archaeological sources include fossil remains, **artefacts**, tools and implements, edicts and inscriptions, monuments, coins, etc. Archaeologists use them to reconstruct the past. Artefacts include man-made objects such as pottery, tools, jewellery and toys. Let us briefly understand each of these.

#### Fossil remains

**Fossils** are basically imprints of plants, animals or humans preserved in rocks. These have been buried for millions of years. These imprints are usually made from hard body parts such as bones or skulls, which leave a permanent mark of the rock. Fossils are the



Physical Map of India

### •Do you know?•

According to historians, cities began to develop in the Indian subcontinent by 2500 BC. Around the same time, human settlements started coming up in the Nile valley in Egypt. In Sumer (present-day Iraq), cities were already flourishing. The Sumerians invented the wheel and created the first script.



Fossil

main source of information of the species that have become extinct, for example, dinosaurs.

### Artefacts

Artefacts (man-made objects) such as tools and implements, ornaments, and pottery have been found in various archaeological findings. They tell us about the kind of life people lived, their occupations and their social set up.

### Monuments

Monuments are ancient buildings and structures such as temples, mosques, tombs, palaces and forts. They throw light on the social, religious and cultural life of the people of the age when they were built, rebuilt, repaired or altered. They also give an insight into the architectural styles prevalent during their period.



Sanchi Stupa

For example, Sanchi Stupa in Madhya Pradesh is an important Buddhist monument. The Stupa provides information of historical significance. It was originally built of brick during Ashoka's time. It was expanded and remade of stones during the Sunga period. An inscription on the southern gate of the stupa informs us that the gate was donated by King Satakarni. The northern gate and the panels depict stories from the *Jatakas*.

### Inscriptions

**Epigraphy** is the study of inscriptions. Inscriptions are written on hard surface like copper plates, rocks and stone pillars. Inscriptions also contain scripts and languages of old times. They can be understood by modern people only by decipherment. The Harappan scripts are undeciphered till now.



Birch bark manuscript

### Coins

The study of coins is called **Numismatics**. Coins were made of copper, bronze, silver and gold.

Coins help us to understand the economic condition of a kingdom. They help us to ascertain the territorial extent and reign of the rulers. Sometimes they also provide valuable personal information about rulers, such as their religion. For example, Samudragupta's coins tell us that he was a good *veena* player.



Coins

### Literary Sources

#### Manuscripts

One way of finding out about the past is to search for books or what was written years ago. These are in the form of manuscripts or hand written records.

Long ago, before paper was used, books were written on palm leaves or on the bark of the