

Class 6 th Social Science

Name Of The Chapter: VITAL VILLAGES THRIVING TOWNS

NAME OF THE MODULE:2/2

Summary/Handout of the chapter

.As explained in the previous module another source of knowing the earliest cities is the account of sailors and travellers.

We come to know about Bharuch, Mathura, and Arikemadu from other accounts as well as archeological evidences.

BHARUCH (BARYGAZA) ----It was an important coastal settlement and was a narrow gulf

Imports-----wine, copper, tin, lead,coral,topaz,gold,silver,coin,cloth.

Exports-Himalayan plants,ivory,agate,cotton,perfume,carnelian.

Merchants gifted kings silver,singing boys,beautiful woman, fine wine,fine cloth, etc. to get business favour.

MATHURA-Generally cities develop as **ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRES,PILGRIM CENTRES OR COMERCIAL CENTRES.**

MATHURA was an important city for the following reasons-----

Location-----Mathura was the gateway from Northeast to the East and from North to south.

It was also a Centre of fine sculpture. The archeologists find out many facts from the stone slabs, and statues of Mathura (the inscriptions)

It was also a major pilgrim city where Buddhist Monasteries, Jain Monasteries were found. It was also associated with Lord Krishna.

PUNCH MARKED COINS-It was named so as designs were punched on to the metals—silver or copper.

Inscriptions from Mathura mention people of various occupations such as Blacksmith, Basket makers, Goldsmiths, Weavers, Garlandmakers lived in Mathura.

SHRENIS---Association of Crafts persons and Merchants. It served as a modern Bank.

FUNCTIONS-It provided loan, received deposits from rich men and women, procured raw material, and distributed finished products. They invested money and used the part of the interest to support religious institutions.

Cloth Manufacturing was also an important activity. There were other famous centers such as **VARANASI and MADURAI**. There were specific rules for Spinning and Weaving as mentioned in ARTHASHASTRA.

The other important trade settlement was **ARIKAMEDU near PUDUCHERRY**. (given in page 113 map 7).

ARIKAMEDU was an important trade Centre between 2200 and 1900 years ago. Ships from distant lands unloaded goods in ARIKAMEDU.

Archeologists found Roman lamps, glassware, gems, pottery with Roman designs which indicates that there was trade contact with Rome.

Other Findings-----pottery from Mediterranean region, objects such as Amphorae, Arretine ware, and a massive brick structure which may have been a ware house,

.there were small tanks probably used as dyeing vats to dye cloth.

ROMAN EMPIRE---It was a great empire spread across Europe, North Africa, and West Asia.

AMPHITHEATRES-open arenas surrounded by tiers of seats –where people can watch all kinds of shows. Public baths were there with huge Aqueducts to supply water to baths, fountains and toilets. People met and relaxed there.

AUGUSTUS-----the great emperor of Rome once said “I FOUND ROME A CITY OF BRICKS I MADE IT A CITY OF MARBLE.” This statement justifies the glory of ancient Rome.