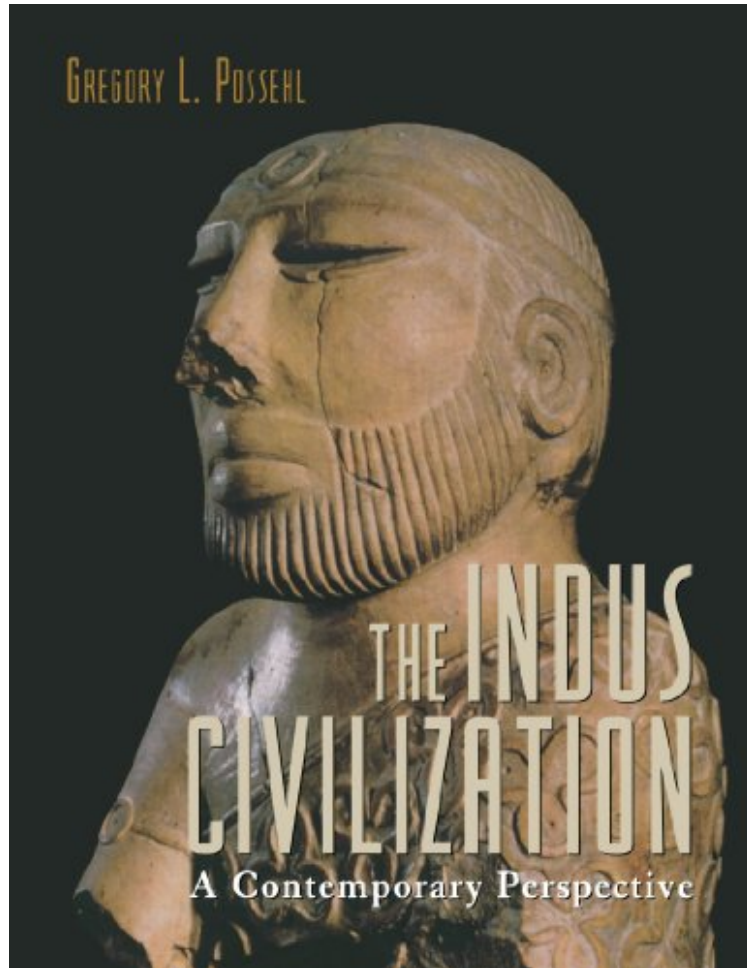


(Free) The Indus Civilization: A Contemporary Perspective

## The Indus Civilization: A Contemporary Perspective

Gregory L. Possehl

ebooks | Download PDF | \*ePub | DOC | audiobook



DOWNLOAD



+

READ ONLINE

#1161683 in Books Gregory L Possehl 2002-10-28Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 11.13 x .68 x 8.50l, 1.76 #File Name: 0759101728288 pagesIndus Civilization | File size: 31.Mb

**Gregory L. Possehl : The Indus Civilization: A Contemporary Perspective** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Indus Civilization: A Contemporary Perspective:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy skkVery detailed information about Mohenjo-daro. Was very helpful for my reference to my course research paper. Provided detailed images.40 of 71 people found the following review helpful. A big disappointmentBy A CustomerGregory Possehl has planned a series of voluminous books to illuminate the Indus Valley Civilization. Some volumes have appeared, and others are in preparation. This particular book purports to be a summary of the volumes that have appeared and are going to appear. It is a sort of a preview of the entire series.The book turned out to be a big disappointment, given the excellence of the large volumes by Possehl. While it claims to be a 'contemporary' perspective, many of the theories are hackneyed, and do not go a step beyond the 'received wisdom' of old colonial understanding and framework of Indian past, which is being propagated with great aplomb by certain Eurocentric Vedicists even today and which seems to have been accepted

without hesitation by Possehl. The book often makes a tedious reading, and compares unfavorably with its competing titles, such as Jane McIntosh's 'Indus- A Peaceful Realm' (2002), or even Jonathan Mark Kenoyer's beautifully illustrated 'Ancient Cities of the Indus Civilization' (1998). There is no doubt that Possehl has given a short shrift to many new ideas and views that are being advocated by Indian archaeologists these days, and in certain cases (e.g. the knowledge of horse in IVC), he seems to be a 'believer' of certain dogmatic scholars who have doggedly refused to come to terms with evidence that runs counter to their long cherished notions. His dating of the Vedic literature is too late, which would be considered with askance by even eurocentric Vedicists. One wonders who he consulted for his statements to this effect. It appears that the book was actually written several years ago, but is being published quickly for some unknown reason. His massive volumes being published one by one often contain more current information, a more reasonable analysis. Having dwelt on the negatives, I must emphasize that an author like Possehl cannot really write a 'bad' book. This book is a big disappointment merely because one expected better from him. I would not spend money on it. 3 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Indus Civilization By Martha Dasenbrock This book is a must have for anyone interested in Bronze Age River Civilizations such as Egypt or Mesopotamis.

The Indus Civilization of India and Pakistan was contemporary with, and equally complex as the better-known cultures of Mesopotamia, Egypt and China. The dean of North American Indus scholars, Gregory Possehl, attempts here to marshal the state of knowledge about this fascinating culture in a readable synthesis. He traces the rise and fall of this civilization, examines the economic, architectural, artistic, religious, and intellectual components of this culture, describes its most famous sites, and shows the relationships between the Indus Civilization and the other cultures of its time. As a sourcebook for scholars, a textbook for archaeology students, and an informative volume for the lay reader, The Indus Civilization will be an exciting and informative read.

This volume offers the best description and analysis of the nature of [Indus] civilization. Illustrated with an abundance of line drawings, charts, and maps, the volume richly illuminates architecture, material culture, and arts and crafts....Offering the best available presentation of the Indus civilization, this volume successfully fulfills the needs of both general readers and specialists...Essential...[f]or all those interested in ancient civilizations (C.C. Lamberg-Karlovsky, Harvard University CHOICE, June 2003) Possehl's book is more detailed, and in particular highlights his ability to synthesize information into a coherent whole. In addition he offers a number of hypotheses that will serve as catalysts for academic debate. (London Times Higher Education Supplement) This book by a well-known anthropologist puts together all that is known about this fascinating culture. He examines the economic, agricultural, religious and artistic aspects of this ancient civilisation and draws some startling conclusions...[The] explosive observations of the author, who...has done extensive research on the Indus civilisation, make this volume valuable for scholars, students and lay readers alike...he makes the riddle of the Indus Age all the more enigmatic. (Jaswant Singh The Sunday Tribune- Spectrum)...makes an important contribution to the archaeology of South Asia by bringing together a large body of information from an area that has generally been ignored and misunderstood by nonspecialists. (Michael P. Neeley, Montana State University American Antiquity, Vol. 69, No. 1, 2004) An accessible volume for the nonspecialist...There is a great need for such a book...the work is refreshing: Possehl takes strong stands on a variety of issues, but he presents his perspective clearly and in ways that can contribute to productive classroom discussions...this book will make a valuable launching point for undergraduate and graduate courses on South Asian archaeology or comparative courses on early states and civilizations. (Carla M. Sinopoli, University of Michigan Journal of Anthropological Research, Vol. 60, 2004) A succinct but thorough and comprehensive textbook, readable, clearly arranged and invitingly designed, The Indus is a most welcome guide to a topic widely known of but not easy, until now, to learn more about. (Antiquity) The Indus civilization was one of the most important complex societies in the pre-industrial world. But despite significant archaeological attention over the years, it remains one of the most enigmatic civilizations to both scholars and the general public alike. Professor Possehl's engagingly written and well-illustrated book sheds useful new light on the Indus Age and makes recent scholarly advances readily accessible to a broad range of readers, especially students of the ancient world. (Jeremy A. Sabloff, University of Pennsylvania Museum) This volume offers the best description and analysis of the nature of [Indus] civilization. Illustrated with an abundance of line drawings, charts, and maps, the volume richly illuminates architecture, material culture, and arts and crafts....Offering the best available presentation of the Indus civilization, this volume successfully fulfills the needs of both general readers and specialists...Essential...[f]or all those interested in ancient civilizations (C.C. Lamberg-Karlovsky, Harvard University CHOICE, June 2003) About the Author GREGORY L. POSSEHL is a professor of Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania and Curator of the Asian Collections at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. He has been engaged in archaeological research in India and Pakistan since 1964, from Iron Age megaliths to Mesolithic encampments, including directing excavations at Rojdi in Gujarat and Gilund in southern Rajasthan. Possehl has written and edited a number of important books on the Indus Civilization and related topics.