

The Vedic Civilisation

Chapter 5: The Vedic Civilisation · Topic 1

Key Concept

The Vedic period is named after the Vedas, ancient sacred texts composed in Sanskrit, containing hymns, rituals, and philosophical ideas.

Vedic society was organised into a social system based on occupation, which later developed into what became known as the caste system.

Agriculture, cattle rearing, and trade were important economic activities during the Vedic period, alongside the performance of religious rituals.

The Vedic period laid important foundations for later Indian religion, philosophy, and social organisation still influential today.

Quick Revision Notes

- The Vedic Civilisation developed the Vedas.
- Vedas are ancient sacred texts in Sanskrit.
- Vedas contain hymns, rituals and philosophy.
- Vedic society was organised by occupation.
- This later developed into the caste system.
- Agriculture and cattle rearing were important.
- Trade was also economically important.
- The Vedic period influenced later Indian culture.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research what the Vedas contain.
- 2 Discuss the Vedic social organisation.
- 3 Explain the connection to the caste system.
- 4 Research an economic activity in Vedic times.
- 5 Discuss the influence of Vedic culture today.
- 6 Create a timeline showing the Vedic period.