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How would you explain the presence of those elements in Indian culture & civilization which are found to have existed in the Indus Valley period?

Many elements of Indian culture & civilization can be easily traced back to the Indus Valley period. Various features of the Harappan Civilization do reappear in later periods. The traces of continuity are even found in modern period. Some of those features are -

i) Religious

a) Great bath of Mohenjodaro is comparable to later day ritual tanks. Till today the practice of bathing in rivers on auspicious occasions is continued.

b) Some scholars trace the later day phallic worship & pipal tree worship to the Harappan Civilization.

c) The idea of mother goddesses of Harappa continued in later period in the form of Durga, Kali, Saraswati etc.

d) Grave goods of the Harappan people indicate towards their belief in the concept of life after death which remains an integral part of Indian religion & philosophy.

ii) Cultural

a) Good number of terracotta toys have unearthed in the excavations. The same kind of toys can still be seen in rural India.

b) Items of daily use of the Harappans bear a striking similarity to modern day objects like the ivory comb, bangles, necklaces, use of dye, kajal, garments for both men & women that needed no stitching or pinning.

iii) Miscellaneous

- a) The use of cotton continued since the Indus Valley period.
- b) Wheat still continues to be one of the important parts of the staple diet.
- c) The science of weights goes back to the Indus Valley period.

Thus, some of the elements of Indian culture or civilization are found to have existed even during the Indus valley period. This indicates towards the trend of cultural continuity. Some traits & practices might have been adopted by the post-Harappan period and those traits might have passed from generation to generation, modifying a bit in this process, and thus became an element of Indian culture. In this way, sometimes the 'past' shows its presence in the present time, through these traces of continuity.