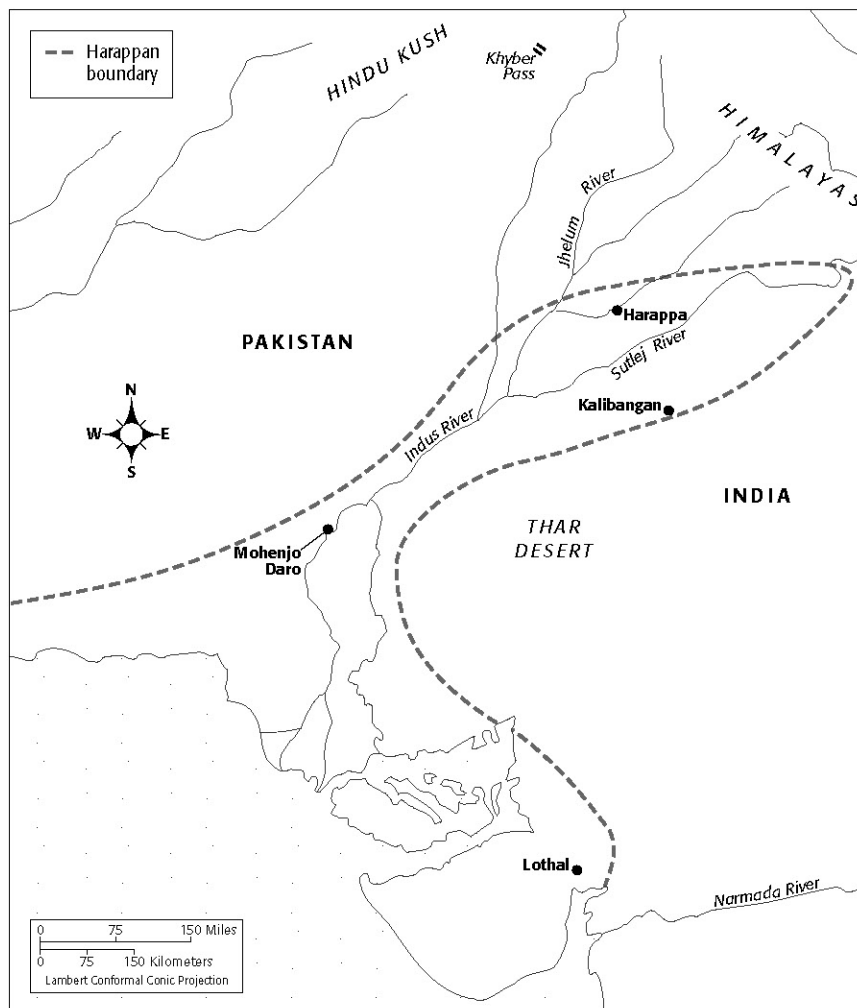**History of Ancient India**   Geography and History

The Indus River Valley

Harappan civilization began to develop in India in the Indus River
Valley in what is now Pakistan and western India. One of the largest
cities in the region was Mohenjo Daro. Ruins of this ancient city show
that high brick walls surrounded the city in order to defend it against
floods and hostile neighbors. The city was built according to a grid
system. Its brick streets crossed at right angles and were lined with
storehouses, shops, and homes.

MAP ACTIVITY

1. Use a light color to highlight the Indus River Valley.

2. What desert is located east of the Indus River valley? Color it yellow on the map.

3. The Ravi River runs near Harappa. Label it on your map. What river does the Ravi flow into?

4. Update the map's legend to reflect your changes and colors.

ANALYZING MAPS

1. Movement If you lived in Harappa, about how many miles would you have to travel to get to Mohenjo Daro?

_____

2. Location In what modern-day countries is the Indus River Valley located?

_____

3. Location What reasons might the people of Mohenjo Daro have had for constructing high walls around the city?

_____

_____

_____

4. Place How might the location of both Harappa and Mohenjo Daro have led to their end?

_____

_____

_____

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Imagine that you are an ancient engineer and you have been given the task of designing a new city somewhere in the Indus River Valley. Where would you place your city? What would it look like? How would you build it to protect it from invaders and natural disasters such as floods? What would you name it? Draw your new city on a large sheet of paper.