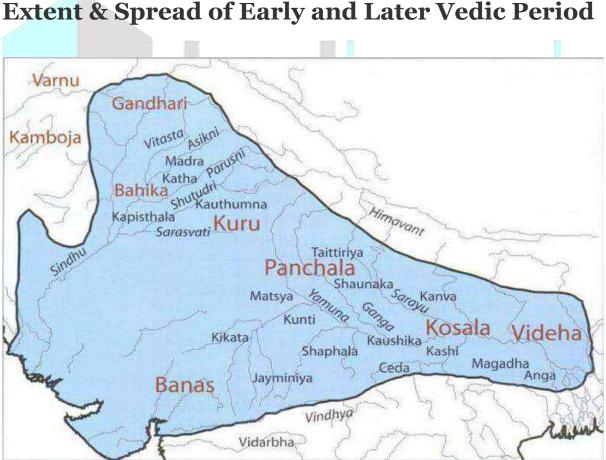






Early & Later Vedic Period -**Society & Culture GK Notes for SSC, Bank Exams**

Most of today's languages of India, Europe and America belong to a common linguistic family called the Indo-European whose parent language is believed to be spoken by the Aryans. Most historians contend that Aryans, the new inhabitants of India after the Indus Valley or Harappan Civilization, were migrated to the northern India from the Indo-Iranian borderlands and Afghanistan around in 1500 BC.



Extent & Spread of Early and Later Vedic Period

The extent of the Vedic people in early and later Vedic period









Divisions of Vedic Period

The information about the Aryans was mainly obtained from Vedas especially the **Rigveda**. They were originally **semi-nomadic and pastoral** and after reaching India, **gradually they became agriculturists** and began to settle down in one place. The core area where they settled down was called **Sapta-Sindhava** or the land of seven rivers.

The Vedic period can be categorized into 2:

- 1. Early Vedic period
- 2. Later Vedic period

Norms and Features in Vedic Age

Sub-feature	Early Vedic period	Later Vedic period
	1. The family also known	<u>Y Y X</u>
	as the <i>kula</i> was the basic	1. Patriarchal families.
	unit of the society.	
		2. The birth of a daughter
Family	2. It had a patriarchal	was often considered
	structure and followed	a source of misery.
	the joint family system	
	- several generations living	3. The head of the family
	under the same roof.	had the right to disinherit
	3. The head of the family	his son.
	was known as the <i>kulapa</i> .	4. Male ancestors were
	4. Only sons had the right	worshiped.
	to inherit father's property.	

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	1. The Rig-Veda talks	
	about <i>Dasas</i> , <i>Dasyus</i> ,	
	Nahusas and Panis.	
	ivanusus and i anis.	
	2. The Rig-Veda gives	
	an impression that <i>Dasa</i>	
	was a collection of tribes.	
	3. The Dasas, described as	
	dark & of hostile speech,	
Social groups	were rich in cattle &	1. Varna system
	lived in fortified strongholds.	became prominent.
	4. The <i>Panis</i> were also wealthy in cattle treasures.	
	5. The <i>Dasyus</i> were said to be tamed & subdued to the people for the Arya i.e., Dasyus were different	pook
	from Aryans and the	
	aboriginal people in India.	
Marriage		1. Polygamy prevailed.
	1. Monogamous	2. Marriage from same
	2. Marriageable age for	gotra (descent from
	girls was 16 or 17 years.	common ancestor) was
	-	no longer permitted.
	3. No evidence of	
	child marriage.	3. Widow Remarriage
		discouraged though
		not stopped completely.

3 | P a g e















	4. Women had the right	
	to choose their life	
	partner - Swayamvar	
	5. Widow Remarriage was common.	
Education	 Gurukuls existed students stayed with guru or the teacher at his house. Subjects taught - science, maths, astronomy, astrology, 	1. Education of women of the higher class was restricted.
The position of women	grammar, ethics & law. 1. Liberal towards women.	1. Women given a lower, subordinate position.
	 Women enjoyed a status equal to men. Women could attend assemblies. 	2. They were not allowed to participate in assemblies.
Division of the society	 Though there was a division into Brahmanas, Kshatriyas, Vaisya & Sudra, this was purely based on occupation as now we have politicians, bureaucrats, scientists, etc. 	 Rigid caste system Varna system. The Brahmans & Kshatriyas enjoyed many privileges.

4 | P a g e













2. Professions werenot hereditary. *"I am a singer, My dad is a physician, My mother's job is to grind corn with stones. Striving for wealth, with varied plans, we follow our desires like a cow herder after his* kine. *Flow, Indu, flow for Indra's sake."*3. The Vaishyas were
andulged in trade & agriculture.
4. Sudras were meant to serve the other 3 classes.

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