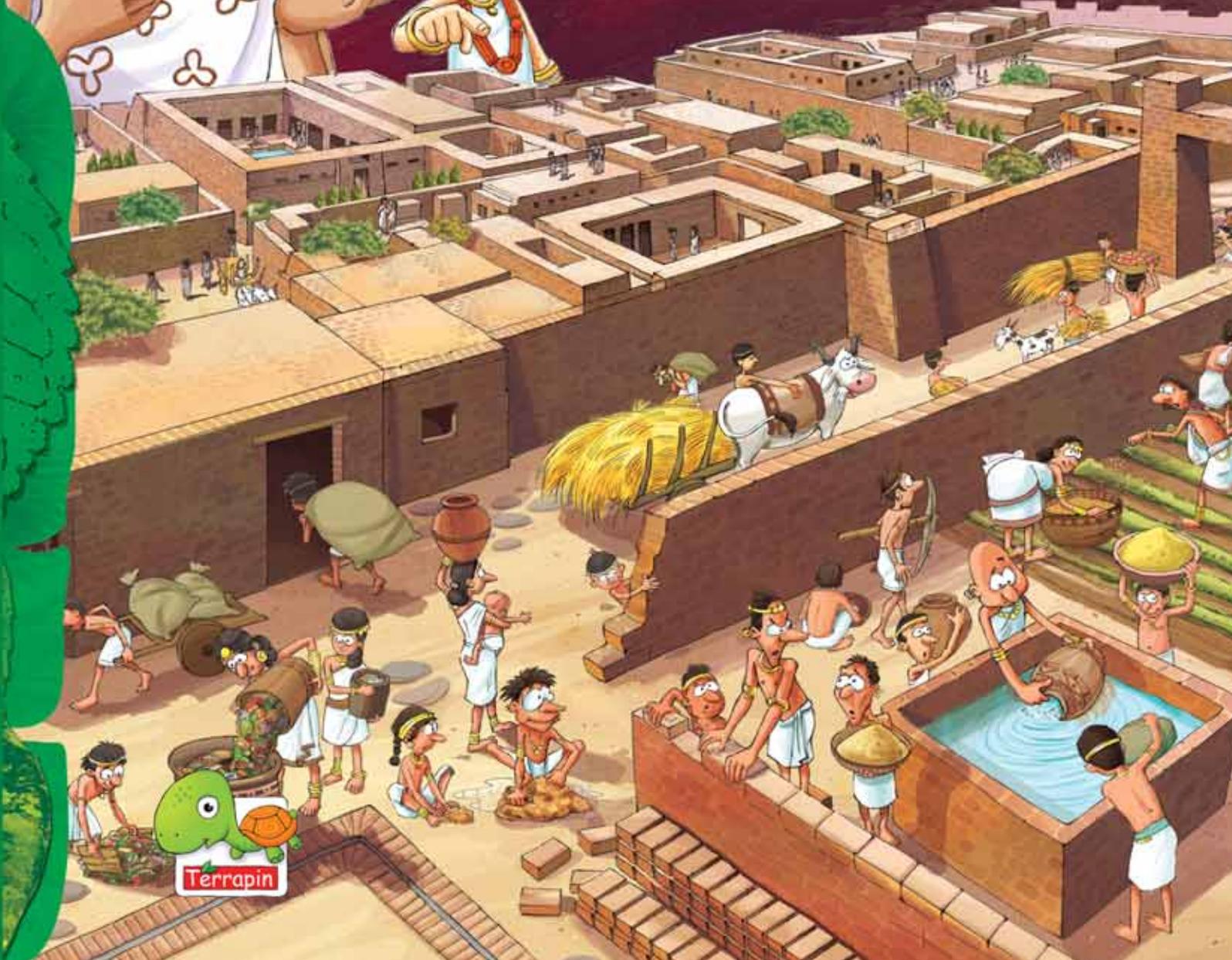


SMART GREEN CIVILIZATIONS

INDUS VALLEY

GREEN LESSONS FROM THE PAST





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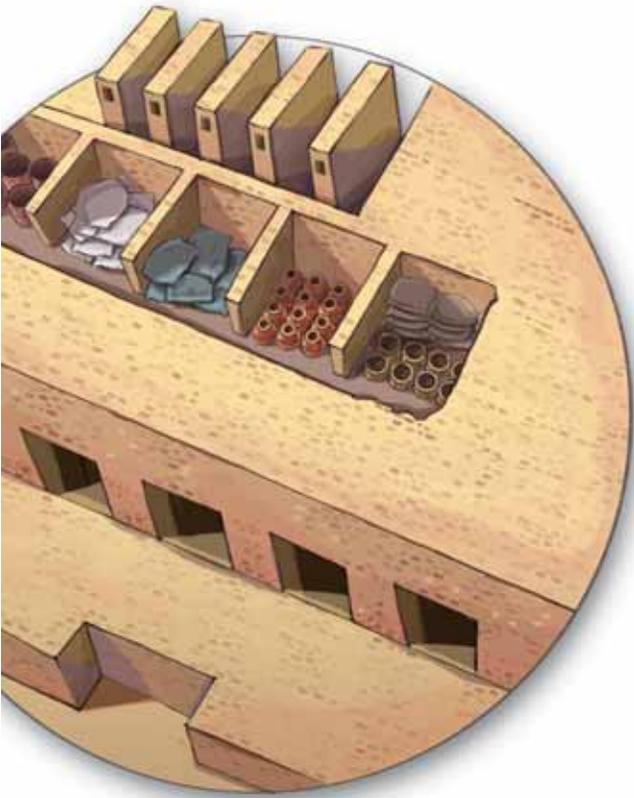
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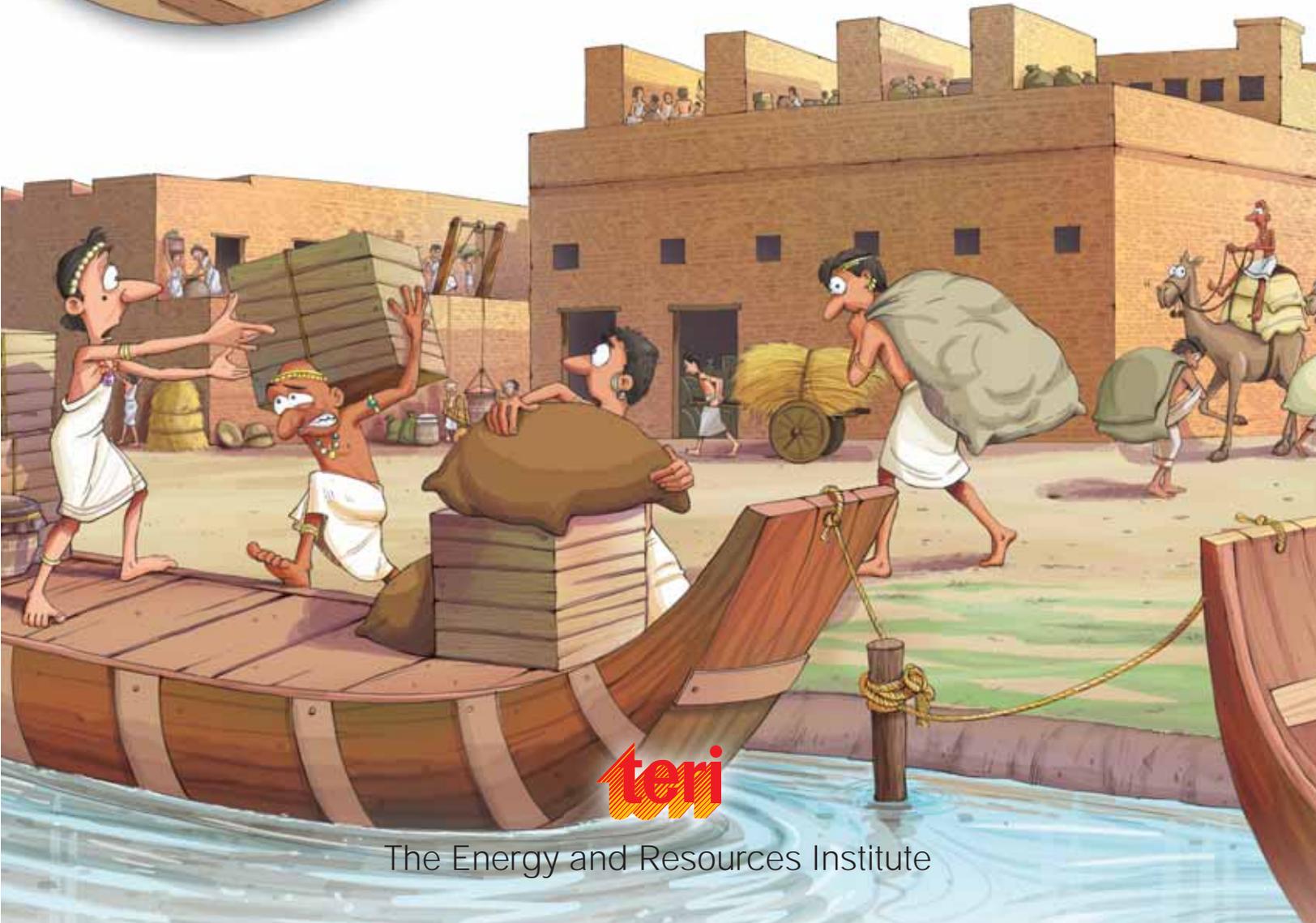
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The Energy and Resources Institute

A note from Dr R K Pachauri

Human civilization in its race towards progress has at times ignored its adverse effects on nature. With every passing century, man has intensified his quest for a tomorrow better than today, and issues like environment-friendly living, usage of clean energy and preventing the harmful effects of chemicals on nature are becoming increasingly important. Contrary to popular belief, these can be tackled without compromising on our comforts. All we need to do is turn a few pages of history and relearn lessons that civilizations from various parts of the world have left behind.

This series provides a unique and interesting perspective of history from the eyes of an environmentalist. It highlights the environmental wisdom of ancient people. These books bring alive ancient civilizations and their simple, earth-friendly lifestyles—building bright and airy houses from mud bricks, using the sun's energy to heat homes, utilizing plants to make natural dyes, applying manure to grow crops, and many more such techniques.

Exploring the fascinating civilizations of the ancient world and bringing forth little known 'green lessons' from the past, I hope these books will ensure that young readers put to use the knowledge of yesteryears to lay the foundation for a prosperous future.



R K Pachauri

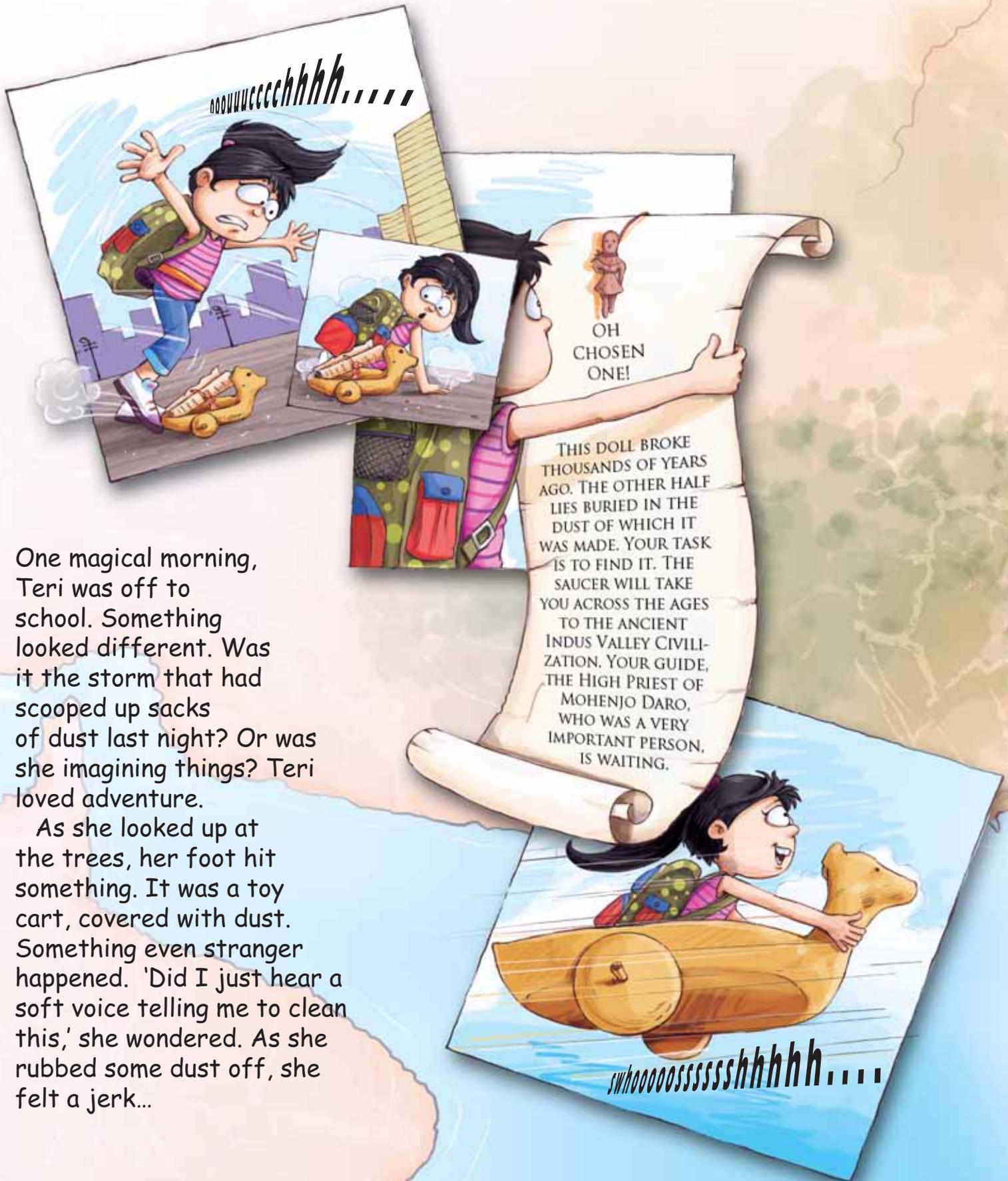
Director-General, TERI

Chairman, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

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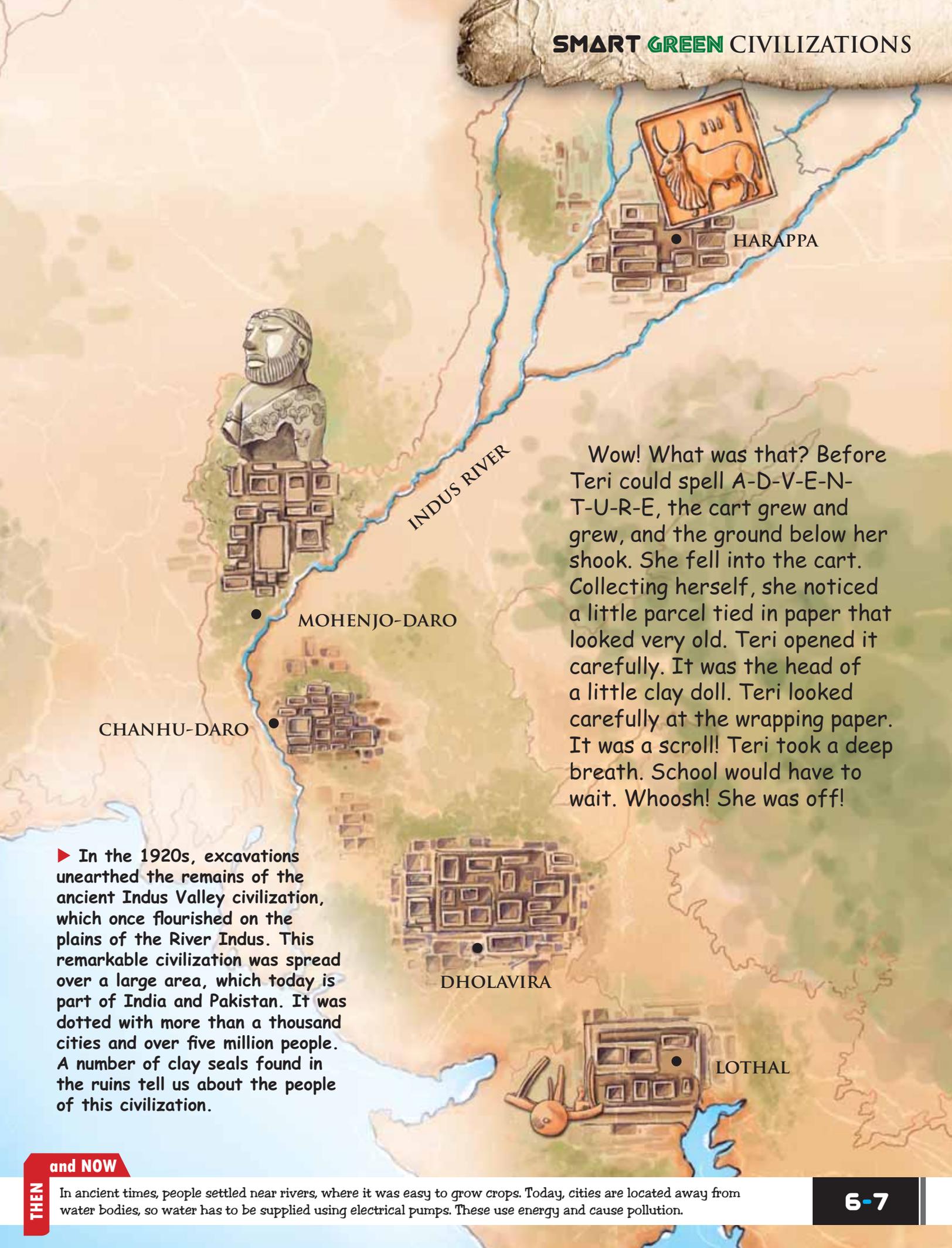
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Teri travels to the ancient past



One magical morning, Teri was off to school. Something looked different. Was it the storm that had scooped up sacks of dust last night? Or was she imagining things? Teri loved adventure.

As she looked up at the trees, her foot hit something. It was a toy cart, covered with dust. Something even stranger happened. 'Did I just hear a soft voice telling me to clean this,' she wondered. As she rubbed some dust off, she felt a jerk...



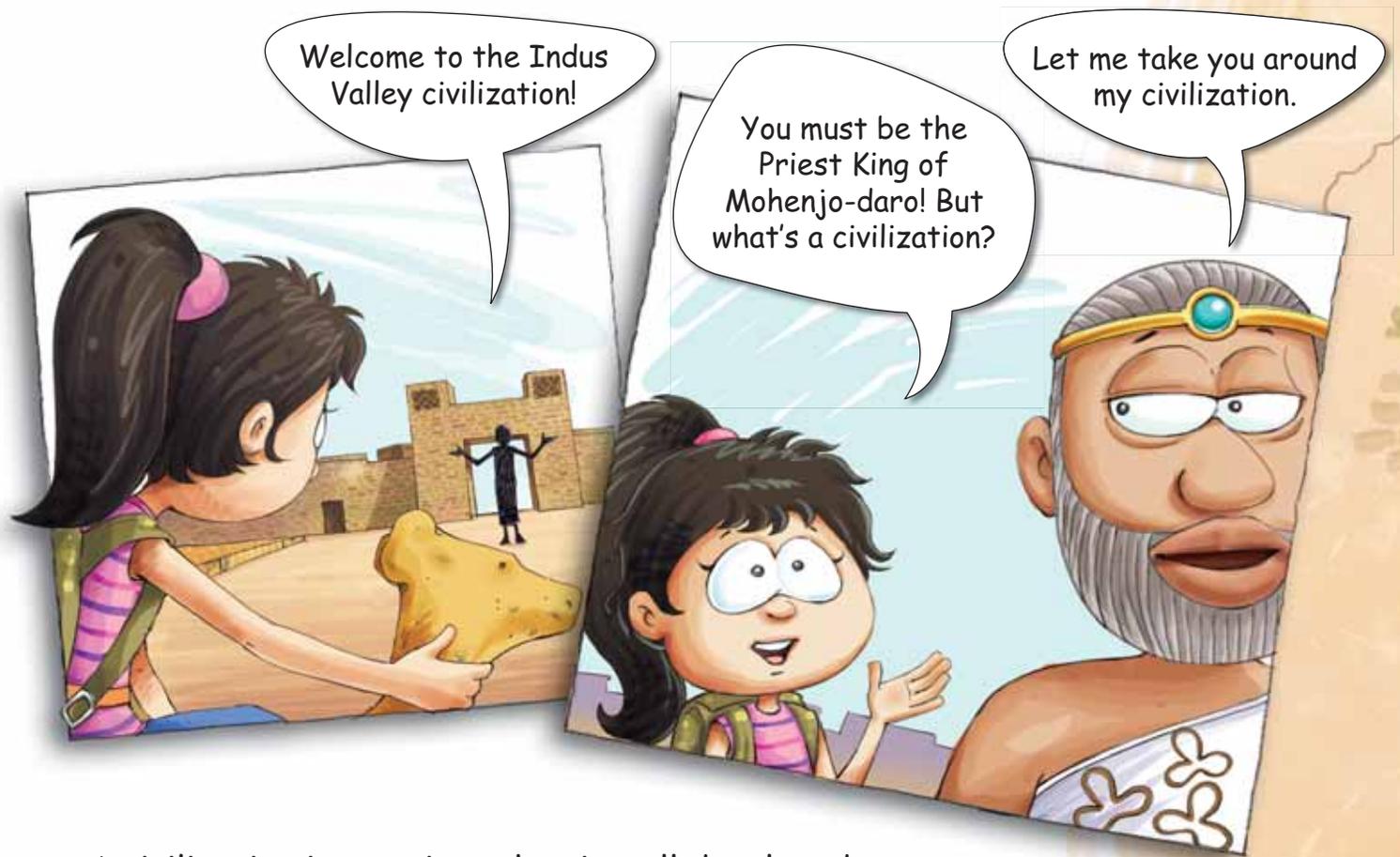
Wow! What was that? Before Teri could spell A-D-V-E-N-T-U-R-E, the cart grew and grew, and the ground below her shook. She fell into the cart. Collecting herself, she noticed a little parcel tied in paper that looked very old. Teri opened it carefully. It was the head of a little clay doll. Teri looked carefully at the wrapping paper. It was a scroll! Teri took a deep breath. School would have to wait. Whoosh! She was off!

► In the 1920s, excavations unearthed the remains of the ancient Indus Valley civilization, which once flourished on the plains of the River Indus. This remarkable civilization was spread over a large area, which today is part of India and Pakistan. It was dotted with more than a thousand cities and over five million people. A number of clay seals found in the ruins tell us about the people of this civilization.

THEN and NOW

In ancient times, people settled near rivers, where it was easy to grow crops. Today, cities are located away from water bodies, so water has to be supplied using electrical pumps. These use energy and cause pollution.

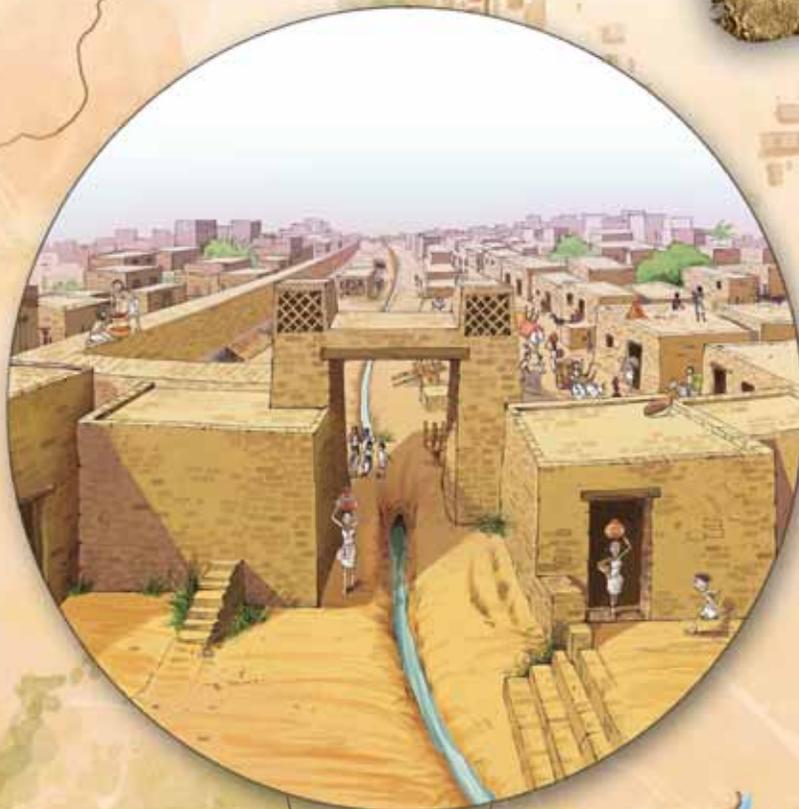
Welcome to the Indus Valley civilization



A civilization is a society that is well developed. Generally, in ancient civilizations, people settled in one place where they grew crops. These places became villages, towns or cities. The people followed a set of rules and were governed by a king or group of rulers. They also practised one or more religions and spoke a language. They wrote on tablets, seals and scrolls, played sports, painted, and made statues and buildings.

The people of the Indus Valley civilization built their towns and cities around the River Indus. The two largest cities were Harappa and Mohenjo-daro (both now in Pakistan). Mohenjo-daro came up between the Indus and the Ghaggar-Hakra rivers. Harappa stood on the bank of the River Ravi.

► The Indus is one of the longest rivers in the world. Many smaller rivers flow into it. It rises in China and flows through India and Pakistan, covering about 3,200 kilometres. This is about one-third the distance around the moon at its middle!

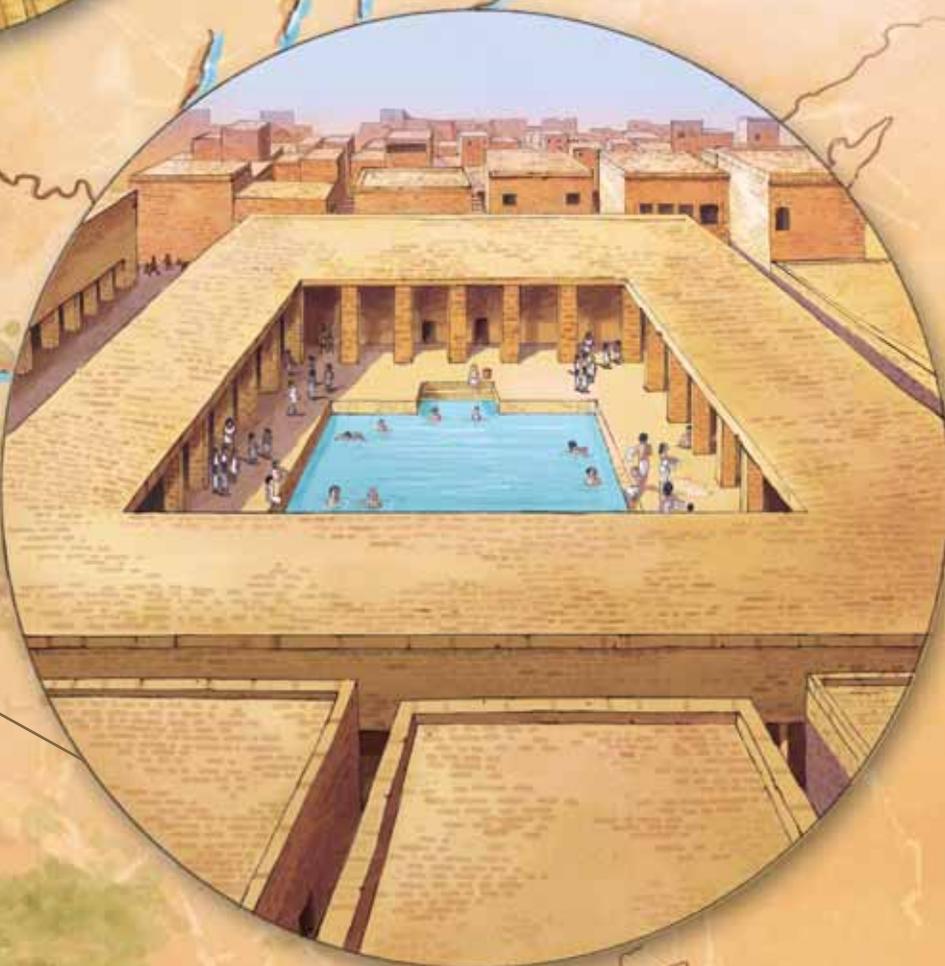


Modern archaeologists—scientists who study the past by examining their remains—believe that the Indus Valley civilization was much larger than anyone suspected. It could have stretched up to Iraq in the west, Kashmir in the north, Haryana in the east, and the Godavari river in the south.

▲ Harappa was the first city of the Indus Valley to be discovered in modern times. It came into existence around 3300 BC. It was so large and important that the Indus Valley civilization is also known as the Harappan civilization.

HARAPPA

MOHENJO-DARO

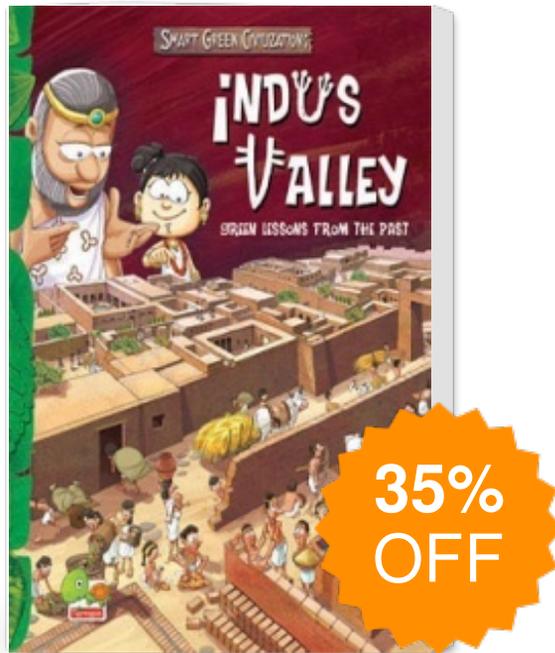


▲ Mohenjo-daro is a modern name. It means 'mound of the dead'. No one knows what the city was called when people lived here. The city was built around 2600 BC.

and NOW

Crops grew well in alluvial river soil. Unlike today, farmers of the Indus Valley did not need to add harmful chemical fertilizers to grow crops.

Smart Green Civilizations : Indus Valley



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