



## LESSON-11

### VEDIC CIVILIZATION

#### NOTES:

- The Aryans developed Vedic Culture based on Vedas.
- The Vedic period is broadly classified into two groups – Early Vedic Period (1500 BC to 1000 BC) and the Later Vedic Period (1000 BC to 600 BC)
- The Aryans were the first people in India to know the use of iron and brought horses along with them.
- In the Vedic Period, four Samhitas were written, they are Rig Veda Samhita, Sama Veda Samhita, Yajur Veda Samhita and Athar Veda Samhita.
- The administration of the Aryans in the Rig Veda Period was done by the tribal chief in the centre. He was called ‘Rajan’.
- The Rig Veda had several tribal assemblies; they were Sabha, Samiti, Vidhata and Gana.
- Women attended Sabha and Vidhata in Rig Vedic times.
- The word ‘rastra’, which indicates territory, first appeared in this period.
- In the Early Vedic Period the tribal society was divided into three groups – warriors, priests and the people.
- The later Vedic society came to be divided into four varnas called the Brahmanas, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras.
- The main occupation of the Early Vedic Period was cattle breeding.
- They knew various metals like gold, tin, copper, bronze, lead, silver and iron.
- The Vedic people worshipped the forces of nature in the form of gods and goddesses.

