

# iGrip webinar series on GEOSTRUCTURES

## Learning from Civil Engineering in the Harappan Civilization

🕒 Monday, May 11, 2020 @ 10:00AM IST

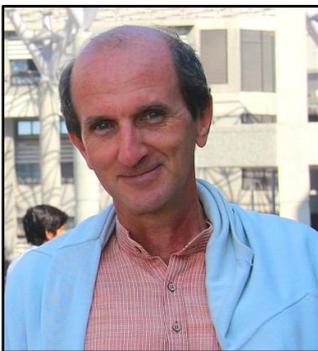
Michel Danino  
Archaeological Sciences Centre  
IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.

[www.igrip.iitgn.ac.in](http://www.igrip.iitgn.ac.in)

for more info email: [igrip@iitgn.ac.in](mailto:igrip@iitgn.ac.in)

*Thank you for joining us for the third lecture of the iGrip webinar series held on 11-May-2020 at 10am. A total of 482 people registered for the webinar with the following estimated distribution: Industry:85, Faculty:199, Students:161, Govt dept/PSU: 33. The webinar was attended by 372 registrants from all over the country and abroad. It was a good blend of professionals, academicians, and students. Participants were from a wide spectrum of organizations, such as the Archaeological Survey of India, RIL, Best Geotechnics, BGC Engineering, BHEL, BIS, CPWD, Defence services, GCUBE Consulting, Geosinindo, L&T, NATPAC, State Govt Water Resources departments, UBC, UNSW IISc, IITs, NITs, etc. Hyderabad topped the chart of participants from a city. We also had a few international participants from Canada, Australia, Indonesia, Kuwait, Bangladesh, USA etc.*

*We are fine-tuning our online program and welcome your further comments and suggestions at Email: [igrip@iitgn.ac.in](mailto:igrip@iitgn.ac.in)*



**Michel Danino**  
Archaeological Sciences Centre  
IIT Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India.

**Michel Danino** is a scholar of ancient India and author of several books, in particular the noted *The Lost River: On the Trail of the Sarasvati* (Penguin India, 2010, a multidisciplinary study of the Vedic Sarasvati river). He has lectured in many institutions on the foundations and manifestations of Indian civilization and has written numerous papers and articles. Apart from archaeology and ancient history, he has an interest in

the history of science and in environmental protection. Since 2011, he has been associated with IIT Gandhinagar, where he has been teaching courses on Indian knowledge systems and assisting its Archaeological Sciences Centre. In 2017, he was awarded Padma Shri for his contributions to education and culture.

### Abstract

Cities of the Indus or Harappan civilization (2600–1900 BCE), such as Mohenjo-daro, Harappa, Dholavira, impressed their discoverers not for imposing pyramids, royal tombs or rich treasures, but for their less glittering achievements: a high civic order visible in particular in the town planning, construction techniques, sanitation and water management. With surprising foresight and impeccable execution, Harappan civil engineers could effectively tackle challenges posed by changes in the environment—from the yearly floods of the Indus river in Sindh to an increasingly arid Rann of Kachchh in Gujarat. This lecture will make use of recent findings to document Harappan excellence in those fields of civil engineering, especially construction and water management.