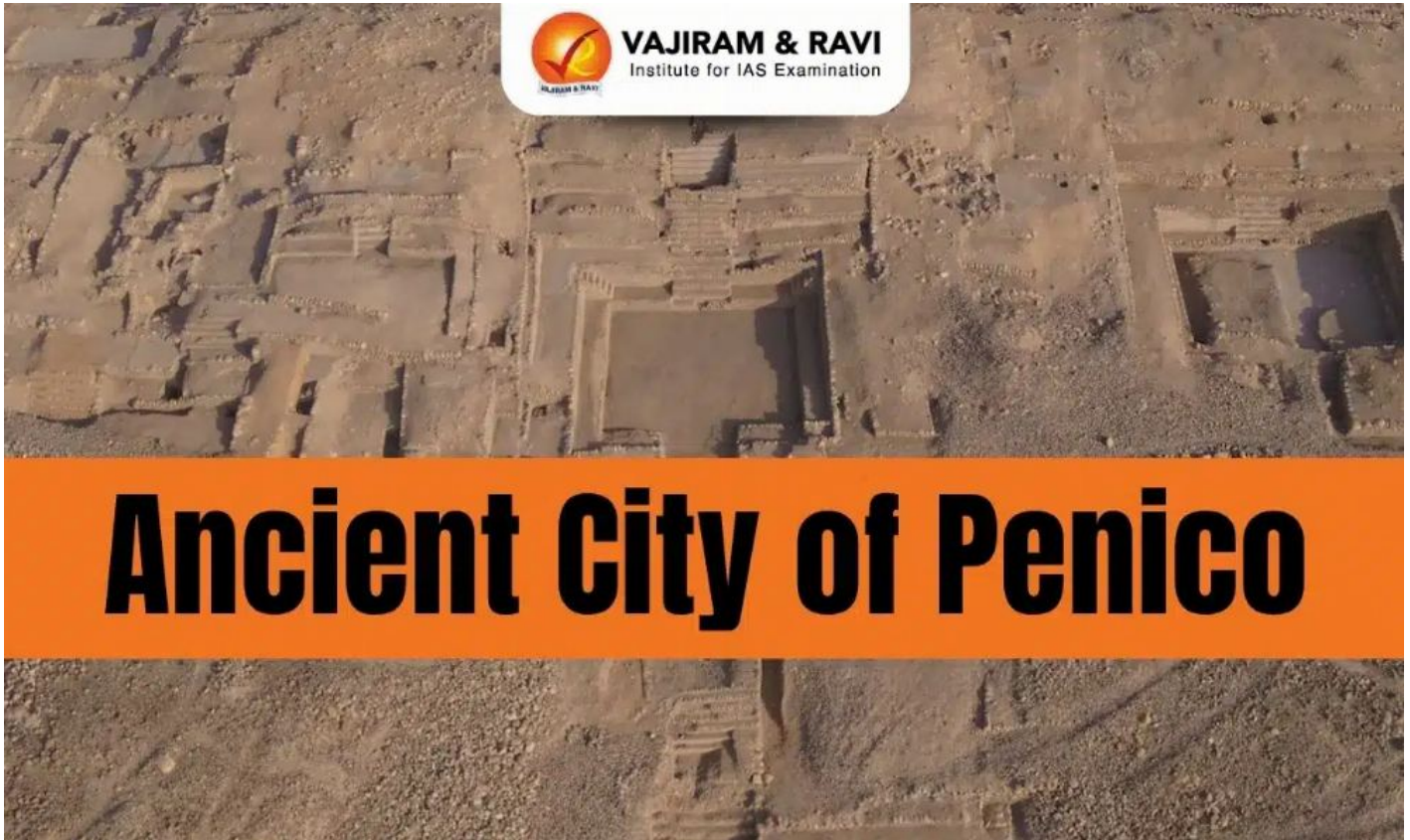


Ancient City of Penico

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Ancient City of Penico Latest News

Archaeologists recently unveiled a 3,500-year-old city named Penico in Peru.

About Ancient City of Penico

- It is a **3,500-year-old lost city** located in **present-day Peru**.
- Located some 200 km **north of Lima** (capital of Peru) in the **Barranca province**, the site lies about 600 metres (1,970 feet) above sea level and is thought to have been **founded between 1,800 and 1,500 BC** around the **same time that early civilisations** were **flourishing in the Middle East and Asia**.
- Peñico is situated **close to where Caral**, recognised as the **oldest known civilisation in the Americas**, **was established 5,000 years ago**, at around 3,000 BC, in the **Supe Valley of Peru**.
- Peñico's importance lies in it being the **continuation of the Caral society**.
- The researchers have identified up to 18 structures in Penico, including **ceremonial temples and residential complexes**.

- The walls of a central plaza stand out for their sculptural reliefs and depictions of the pututu, a conch shell trumpet whose sound carries over long distances.
- In other buildings, researchers found clay **sculptures of human and animal figures**, ceremonial objects, and necklaces made from beads and seashells.
- The height at which the structures were found suggests the ancient city's **settlers** strategically **chose the location**, likely **to enhance the monumentality of their buildings, protect themselves from floods and landslides**, or to **promote interaction** and exchange.
- Peñico is believed to have **served as a key trading hub connecting early Pacific coast communities with** those living in the **Andes mountains and Amazon basin**.

Source: **REUTERS**

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