

India and the Indian Ocean Basin – Cultural & Economic Diffusion

Directions. Printout and review the outline & Study Guide prior to reading the Chapter. Not all the terms or people are to be found in the Chapter. For these, you are expected to research their relevance and include them.

Introduction. During the postclassical period there emerged in India no long-lasting imperial authority, as there were in China and the Islamic world. Regional kingdoms were the norm. Nevertheless, Indian society exerted profound influence on the cultures of south and Southeast Asia. Through the extensive trade networks of the Indian Ocean, Indian forms of political organisation, religion, and economic practices spread through the region. Several developments in India during this era gradually spread throughout the larger culture zone.

- Dramatic agricultural growth fueled population growth and urbanisation. These phenomena, combined with specialised industrial production and trade, resulted in unprecedented economic growth for the region.
- India’s central position in the Indian Ocean basin resulted in it becoming a major clearinghouse for products of the voluminous maritime trade that encompassed east Africa, Arabia, Persia, Southeast Asia and Malaysia as well as the entire Indian subcontinent.
- Islam originally appeared in India through a variety of conduits, and it eventually became the primary religion of one quarter of the population. From India, Islam, along with Hinduism and Buddhism, spread to Southeast Asia and the nearby islands.

“**People & Terms**” are to be highlighted on the **Chapter Outline (O)**. Words not appearing in the outline must be added to the outline. Incorporate the “**People & Terms**” into your responses to the **Study Questions (SQ)**

People & Terms	Study Questions	
	Directions. Complete SQ in Cornell notes format w/ Bulleted responses (min. ¾ pg hand written; ½ page typed)	
<p>You should be able to explain <i>who, what, where, when, how & why this is person and the terms are important</i></p> <p>Buzurg of Shahriyar Harsha Mahmud of Ghazi Shankara Harihara & Bukka Raminuja Cosmos Indicopleustes Guru Kabir Sind Sultanate of Delhi Chola Kingdoms Dhows Kingdom of Axum Junks Bhakti Funan Srivijaya <i>Bhagavata Purana</i> Angkor Melaka</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How did India manage to exert such a significant influence on other cultures in the Indian Ocean basin during this era without ever establishing any long-term centralised political institutions? ○ Compare the influence of India on Southeast Asia to Greece in the Mediterranean and China in Korea & Japan. Are there any similarities? In what ways does Indian influence differ from that of the other cultures? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Examine the complex religious world of India. What were the main religions and what accounted for the success of Islam in the Indian subcontinent? Discuss the changes to Hinduism that occurred in response to Islam. ○ Explain the relationship between the following pairs. How does one lead to the other? Be specific <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monsoons & dhows ○ Caste & Islam ○ Angkor & Buddhism ○ Cotton & Silk

India and the Indian Ocean Basin – Cultural & Economic Diffusion

I. Islamic and Hindu kingdoms

A. The quest for centralized imperial rule

1. North India
 - a. Tension among regional kingdoms
 - b. Nomadic Turks became absorbed into Indian society
2. Harsha (reigned 606-648 C.E.) temporarily restored unified rule in north India

B. Introduction of Islam to northern India

1. The Sind were conquered by Arab Muslims and passed to Abbasids
2. Muslim merchants formed small communities in all major cities of coastal India
3. Turkish migrants and Islam: Turks convert to Islam in tenth century
 - a. Some moved to Afghanistan and established an Islamic state
 - b. Mahmud of Ghazni, Turk leader in Afghanistan, made expeditions to northern India
4. The sultanate of Delhi (1206-1526 C.E.)
 - a. Mahmud's successors conquered north India, 1206
 - b. Established an Islamic state known as the sultanate of Delhi
 - c. Sultans' authority did not extend far beyond the capital at Delhi
 - d. Islam began to have a place in India

C. The Hindu kingdoms of southern India

1. The south: politically divided but relatively peaceful
2. The Chola kingdom (850-1267 C.E.) was a larger kingdom; ruled Coromandel coast
 - a. At its high point, conquered Ceylon and parts of southeast Asia
 - b. Navy dominated waters from South China Sea to Arabian Sea
 - c. Not a tightly centralized state; local autonomy was strong
 - d. Began to decline by the twelfth century

D. The kingdom of Vijayanagar (1336-1565 C.E.)

1. Established by two Indian brothers
2. They renounced Islam in 1336 and returned to their Hindu faith

II. Production and trade in the Indian Ocean basin

A. Agriculture in the monsoon world

1. The monsoons (rains in spring and summer)
2. Irrigation systems were needed for dry months
 - a. No big river in south India; waterworks included dams, reservoirs, canals, wells
 - b. Stored rainwater in large reservoirs connected to canals
 - c. One reservoir constructed during the eleventh century covered 250 square miles
3. Population growth: 53 million in 600 C.E. to 105 million in 1500 C.E.
4. Urbanization took place in Delhi and other large port cities

B. Trade and economic development of southern India

1. Internal trade
 - a. Self-sufficient in staple food
 - b. Metals, spices, special crops found only in certain regions
 - c. Through trade, south India and Ceylon experienced rapid economic growth
2. Temples and society in south India
 - a. Hindu temples served as economic and social centers
 - b. Possessed large tracts of land, hundreds of employees
 - c. Temple administrators were to maintain order, deliver taxes
 - d. Served as banks; engaged in business ventures

C. Cross-cultural trade in Indian Ocean basin

1. Dhows and junks--large ships involved in maritime trade in Indian Ocean
2. Emporia -- Indian port cities, were clearinghouses of trade and cosmopolitan centers
3. Trade goods
 - a. Silk and porcelain from China
 - b. Spices from southeast Asia
 - c. Pepper, gems, pearls, and cotton from India
 - d. Incense and horses from Arabia and southwest Asia
 - e. Gold, ivory, and slaves from east Africa
4. Specialized production
 - a. Production of high-quality cotton textiles thrived
 - b. Other specialized industries: sugar, leather, stone, carpets, iron and steel

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Axum was a Christian empire centered in Ethiopia <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Resisted Islam; stayed prosperous through trade b. Controlled most prominent port on Red Sea <p>D. Caste and society: caste provided guidance in absence of centralized political authority</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Caste helped to integrate immigrants (Turks, Muslim merchants) into Indian society 2. Caste and social change: guilds and subcastes (<i>jatis</i>) 3. Expansion of caste system, especially to southern India
	<p>III. <u>The meeting of Hindu and Islamic traditions</u></p> <p>A. The development of Hinduism</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hinduism predominated in southern India, Islam in the north 2. Vishnu and Shiva <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Decline of Buddhism benefited Hinduism b. The growth of Vishnu and Shiva cults (and other gods associated with them) 3. Devotional cults: to achieve mystic union with gods as a way of salvation 4. Shankara: philosopher (ninth century) who preferred disciplined logical reasoning 5. Ramanuja: philosopher (eleventh and twelfth centuries) believed that understanding of ultimate reality was less important than devotion <p>B. Islam and its appeal</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conversion to Islam occurred in a slow and gradual way <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Some converted to improve their status b. Often an entire caste or jati adopted Islam c. By 1500, c 25 million Indian Muslims (1/4 of population) 2. Sufis <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The most effective missionaries, devotional approach to Islam b. let followers observe old rituals & venerate old spirits c. Emphasized piety and devotion 3. The bhakti movement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sought to erase distinction b/w Hinduism and Islam b. Guru Kabir (1440-1518), important bhakti teacher, taught that Shiva, Vishnu, and Allah were one deity

IV. The influence of Indian society in southeast Asia

A. The states of southeast Asia

1. Indian influence in southeast Asia
 - a. Indian merchants brought their faiths to southeast Asia
 - b. Ruling elite of southeast Asia adapted some Indian political traditions
 - c. The states sponsored Hinduism and Buddhism
 - d. Showed no interest in Indian caste system
2. Funan (first to sixth century C.E.) in the lower reaches of Mekong River (Cambodia/Vietnam)
 - a. Drew enormous wealth by controlling trade
 - b. Adopted Sanskrit as official language
 - c. Decline of Funan in sixth century
3. Srivijaya (670-1025 C.E.) was established on Sumatra after the fall of Funan
 - a. Maintained sea trade between China and India by navy
 - b. Chola kingdom of south India eclipsed Srivijaya in the eleventh century
4. Angkor (889-1431 C.E.)
 - a. Kingdom built by Khmers at Angkor Thom, later Angkor Wat
 - b. The city was a microcosmic reflection of Hindu world order
 - c. Turned to Buddhism during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries
 - d. Thais invaded the capital in 1431, and Khmers abandoned it
5. Other states: Singosari (1222-1292 C.E.) and Majapahit (1293-1520 C.E.)

B. The arrival of Islam in southeast Asia

1. Conversion to Islam was slow and quiet
 - a. Ruling elite converted in cities while rural residents retained their traditions
 - b. Islam was not an exclusive faith in southeast Asia
 - c. Sufis appealed to a large public in these countries
 - d. Melaka was powerful Islamic state during fifteenth century