

1: India - Know all about India including its History, Geography, Culture, etc

The British Raj (/ r ɛː dʒ /; from rāj, literally, "rule" in Hindustani) was the rule by the British Crown in the Indian subcontinent between and The rule is also called Crown rule in India, or direct rule in India.

For the histories of these latter two countries since their creation, see Pakistan and Bangladesh. Since early times the Indian subcontinent appears to have provided an attractive habitat for human occupation. Toward the south it is effectively sheltered by wide expanses of ocean, which tended to isolate it culturally in ancient times, while to the north it is protected by the massive ranges of the Himalayas, which also sheltered it from the Arctic winds and the air currents of Central Asia. Only in the northwest and northeast is there easier access by land, and it was through those two sectors that most of the early contacts with the outside world took place. Within the framework of hills and mountains represented by the Indo-Iranian borderlands on the west, the Indo-Myanmar borderlands in the east, and the Himalayas to the north, the subcontinent may in broadest terms be divided into two major divisions: The expansive alluvial plain of the river basins provided the environment and focus for the rise of two great phases of city life: To the south of this zone, and separating it from the peninsula proper, is a belt of hills and forests, running generally from west to east and to this day largely inhabited by tribal people. This belt has played mainly a negative role throughout Indian history in that it remained relatively thinly populated and did not form the focal point of any of the principal regional cultural developments of South Asia. However, it is traversed by various routes linking the more-attractive areas north and south of it. The Narmada Narbada River flows through this belt toward the west, mostly along the Vindhya Range, which has long been regarded as the symbolic boundary between northern and southern India. The northern parts of India represent a series of contrasting regions, each with its own distinctive cultural history and its own distinctive population. In the northwest the valleys of the Baluchistan uplands now largely in Balochistan, Pak. Its residents, mainly tribal people, are in many respects closely akin to their Iranian neighbours. The adjacent Indus plains are also an area of extremely low rainfall, but the annual flooding of the river in ancient times and the exploitation of its waters by canal irrigation in the modern period have enhanced agricultural productivity, and the population is correspondingly denser than that of Baluchistan. The Indus valley may be divided into three parts: East of the latter is the Great Indian, or Thar, Desert, which is in turn bounded on the east by a hill system known as the Aravali Range, the northernmost extent of the Deccan plateau region. Beyond them is the hilly region of Rajasthan and the Malwa Plateau. To the south is the Kathiawar Peninsula, forming both geographically and culturally an extension of Rajasthan. All of these regions have a relatively denser population than the preceding group, but for topographical reasons they have tended to be somewhat isolated, at least during historical times. East of the Punjab and Rajasthan, northern India develops into a series of belts running broadly west to east and following the line of the foothills of the Himalayan ranges in the north. The southern belt consists of a hilly, forested area broken by the numerous escarpments in close association with the Vindhya Range, including the Bhandar, Rewa, and Kaimur plateaus. Between the hills of central India and the Himalayas lies the Ganges River valley proper, constituting an area of high-density population, moderate rainfall, and high agricultural productivity. Archaeology suggests that, from the beginning of the 1st millennium bce, rice cultivation has played a large part in supporting this population. The Ganges valley divides into three major parts: The Brahmaputra flows from the northeast, rising from the Tibetan Himalayas and emerging from the mountains into the Assam valley, being bounded on the east by the Patkai Bum Range and the Naga Hills and on the south by the Mikir, Khasi, Jaintia, and Garo hills. There is plenty of evidence that influences reached India from the northeast in ancient times, even if they are less prominent than those that arrived from the northwest. Along the Deccan plateau there is a gradual eastward declivity, which dispenses its major river systems—the Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna, and Kaveri Cauvery—into the Bay of Bengal. Rising some 3,000 metres or more along the western edge of the Deccan, the escarpment known as the Western Ghats traps the moisture of winds from the Arabian Sea, most notably during the southwest monsoon, creating a tropical monsoon climate along the narrow western littoral and depriving the Deccan of significant precipitation. The absence of

snowpack in the south Indian uplands makes the region dependent entirely on rainfall for its streamflow. The arrival of the southwest monsoon in June is thus a pivotal annual event in peninsular culture. India from the Paleolithic Period to the decline of the Indus civilization The earliest periods of Indian history are known only through reconstructions from archaeological evidence. Since the late 20th century, much new data has emerged, allowing a far fuller reconstruction than was formerly possible. This section will discuss five major periods: The materials available for a reconstruction of the history of India prior to the 3rd century bce are almost entirely the products of archaeological research. Traditional and textual sources, transmitted orally for many centuries, are available from the closing centuries of the 2nd millennium bce, but their use depends largely on the extent to which any passage can be dated or associated with archaeological evidence. For the rise of civilization in the Indus valley and for contemporary events in other parts of the subcontinent, the evidence of archaeology is still the principal source of information. Even when it becomes possible to read the short inscriptions of the Harappan seals, it is unlikely that they will provide much information to supplement other sources. In those circumstances it is necessary to approach the early history of India largely through the eyes of the archaeologists, and it will be wise to retain a balance between an objective assessment of archaeological data and its synthetic interpretation. The early prehistoric period In the mid-th century, archaeologists in southern India identified hand axes comparable to those of Stone Age Europe. For nearly a century thereafter, evaluation of a burgeoning body of evidence consisted in the attempt to correlate Indian chronologies with the well-documented European and Mediterranean chronologies. As the vast majority of early finds were from surface sites, they long remained without precise dates or cultural contexts. More recently, however, the excavation of numerous cave and dune sites has yielded artifacts in association with organic material that can be dated using the carbon method, and the techniques of thermoluminescent and paleomagnetic analysis now permit dating of pottery fragments and other inorganic materials. Research beginning in the late 20th century has focused on the unique environment of the subcontinent as the context for a cultural evolution analogous to, but not uniform with, that of other regions. Increasing understanding of plate tectonics , to cite one development, has greatly advanced this endeavour. Most outlines of Indian prehistory have employed nomenclature once thought to reflect a worldwide sequence of human cultural evolution. The European concept of the Old Stone Age, or Paleolithic Period comprising Lower, Middle, and Upper stages , remains useful with regard to South Asia in identifying levels of technology, apart from any universal time line. Similarly, what has been called the Indian Mesolithic Period Middle Stone Age corresponds in general typological terms to that of Europe. For the subsequent periods, the designations Neolithic Period New Stone Age and Chalcolithic Age Copper-Stone Age also are applied, but increasingly, as archaeology has yielded more-detailed cultural profiles for those periods, scholars have come to emphasize the subsistence bases of early societies. The terms Early Harappan and Harappan from the site where remains of a major city of the Indus civilization were discovered in are used primarily in a chronological way but also loosely in a cultural sense, relating respectively to periods or cultures that preceded the appearance of city life in the Indus valley and to the Indus civilization itself. The Indian Paleolithic The oldest artifacts yet found on the subcontinent, marking what may be called the beginning of the Indian Lower Paleolithic , come from the western end of the Shiwalik Range , near Rawalpindi in northern Pakistan. These quartzite pebble tools and flakes date to about two million years ago, according to paleomagnetic analysis, and represent a pre-hand-ax industry of a type that appears to have persisted for an extensive period thereafter. The artifacts are associated with extremely rich sedimentary evidence and fossil fauna, but thus far no correlative hominin i. In the same region the earliest hand axes of the type commonly associated with Acheulean industry have been dated paleomagnetically to about , years ago. The Great Indian Desert , straddling what is now the southern half of the India-Pakistan border, supplied significant archaeological materials in the late 20th century. Hand axes found at Didwana, Rajasthan, similar to those from the Shiwalik Range, yield slightly younger dates of about , years ago. Examination of the desert soil strata and other evidence has revealed a correlation between prevailing climates and the successive levels of technology that constitute the Paleolithic. For example, a prolonged humid phase, as attested by reddish brown soil with a deep profile, appears to have commenced some , years ago and lasted until about 25, years ago, roughly the extent of the Middle Paleolithic Period.

During that time the area of the present desert provided a rich environment for hunting. The Rohri Hills, located at the Indus River margins of the desert, contain a group of sites associated with sources of chert, a type of stone that is a principal raw material for making tools and weapons. Evidence surrounding these chert bands—in an alluvial plain otherwise largely devoid of stone—suggests their development as a major factory centre during the Middle Paleolithic. The transition in this same region to a drier climate during the period from about 40, to about 25, years ago coincides with the onset of the Upper Paleolithic, which lasted until about 15, years ago. The basic innovation marking this stage is the production of parallel-sided blades from a prepared core. Also, tools of the Upper Paleolithic exhibit adaptations for working particular materials, such as leather, wood, and bone. The earliest rock paintings yet discovered in the region date to the Upper Paleolithic. At the latter, local workers readily identified a weathered Upper Paleolithic limestone carving as a representation of a mother goddess. Mesolithic hunters The progressive diminution in the size of stone artifacts that began in the Middle Paleolithic reached its climax in the small parallel-sided blades and microliths of what has been called the Indian Mesolithic. A great proliferation of Mesolithic cultures is evident throughout India, although they are known almost exclusively from surface collections of tools. Cultures of this period exhibited a wide variety of subsistence patterns, including hunting and gathering, fishing, and, at least for part of the period, some herding and small-scale agriculture. It may be inferred from numerous examples that hunting cultures frequently coexisted and interacted with agricultural and pastoral communities. These relationships must have continually varied from region to region as a result of environmental and other factors. Strikingly, such patterns of interaction persisted in the subcontinent throughout the remainder of the prehistoric period and long into the historic, with vestiges still discernible in some areas in the 20th century. Thus, chronologically, the Mesolithic cultures cover an enormous span. In Sri Lanka several Mesolithic sites have been dated to as early as about 30, years ago, the oldest yet recorded for the period in South Asia. At the other end of the subcontinent, in caves of the Hindu Kush in northern Afghanistan, evidence of occupation dating to between 15, and 10, bce represents the Epipaleolithic Stage, which may be considered to fall within the Mesolithic. The domestication of sheep and goats is thought to have begun in this region and period. Many of the caves and rock shelters of central India contain rock paintings depicting a variety of subjects, including game animals and such human activities as hunting, honey collecting, and dancing. This art appears to have developed from Upper Paleolithic precursors and reveals much about life in the period. Along with the art have come increasingly clear indications that some of the caves were sites of religious activity. The earliest agriculturalists and pastoralists Neolithic agriculture in the Indus valley and Baluchistan The Indo-Iranian borderlands form the eastern extension of the Iranian plateau and in some ways mirror the environment of the Fertile Crescent the arc of agricultural lands extending from the Tigris-Euphrates river system to the Nile valley in the Middle East. Across the plateau, lines of communication existed from early antiquity, which would suggest a broad parallelism of developments at both the eastern and western extremities. During the late 20th century, knowledge of early settlements on the borders of the Indus system and Baluchistan was revolutionized by excavations at Mehrgarh and elsewhere. Principal sites of the Indus civilization. The group of sites at Mehrgarh provides evidence of some five or six thousand years of occupation comprising two major periods, the first from the 8th through the 6th millennium bce and the second from the 5th through the 4th and possibly the 3rd millennium. The earliest evidence occurs in a mound 23 feet 7 metres deep discovered beneath massive alluvial deposits. Two subphases of Period I are apparent from the mound artifacts. Phase IA, dating to the 8th—7th millennium bce, was an aceramic i. The main tools were stone blades, including lunates and triangles, some probably mounted in wooden hafts with bitumen mastic; a relatively small number of ground stone axes have been found. Domestication of wheat and barley apparently reached the area sometime during this phase, as did that of sheep and goats, although the preponderance of gazelle bones among the animal remains suggests continued dependence on hunting. Houses of mud brick date from the beginning of this phase and continue throughout the occupation. Accompaniments to the simple burial of human remains included shell or stone-bead necklaces, baskets, and occasionally young caprids both sheep and goats slaughtered for the purpose. Phase 1B, dating to the 7th—6th millennium, is characterized by the emergence of pottery and improvements in agriculture. By the beginning of Phase 1B, cattle apparently Bos

indicus , the Indian humped variety had come to predominate over game animals, as well as over sheep and goats. A new type of building, the small regular compartments of which identify it almost certainly as a granary, first appeared during this phase and became prevalent in Period II, indicating the frequent occurrence of crop surpluses. Burial took a more elaborate form—a funerary chamber was dug at one end of a pit, and, after inhumation, the chamber was sealed by a mud brick wall. From the latter phase of Period I also come the first small, hand-modeled female figurines of unburned clay. The Period I evidence at Mehrgarh provides a clear picture of an early agricultural settlement exhibiting domestic architecture and a variety of well-established crafts. The use of seashells and of various semiprecious stones, including turquoise and lapis lazuli , indicates the existence of trade networks extending from the coast and perhaps also from Central Asia. Striking changes characterize Period II. It appears that some major tectonic event took place at the beginning of the period c.

Much of India's history after the 18th century was then dominated by British influences. The first British colony was in India with the English East India Company at Surat. Shortly thereafter, permanent trading stations opened in present-day Chennai, Mumbai, and Kolkata.

All efforts have been made to make this image accurate. However Compare Infobase Limited and its directors do not own any responsibility for the correctness or authenticity of the same.

Geography of India India is the seventh largest country in the world in terms of area. The Indian subcontinent is surrounded by three different water bodies and is easily recognisable on the world map.

Geographical Features The country covers an area of about 3. The total length of the coastline is 7,414 kilometers. The Indian peninsula tapers southwards resulting in the division of the Indian Ocean into two water bodies - the Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea. In India, there is a great diversity of landforms such as lofty mountains, deep valleys, extensive plains, Plateau and coastal ghats, the desert and a number of islands.

Physiographic Regions On the basis of its relief features, tectonic history and stratigraphy, India can be divided into several physical units.

The Great Mountains of the North: India comprises the Himalayas in the North and North-eastern region, separating the country from the Tibetan plateau. The Himalayan region consists of three parallel ranges- Himadri or Inner Himalaya or Greater Himalaya - are the most continuous range, contains the loftiest peaks, are perennially covered with snow and are a source of famous glaciers like the Siachen Glacier, the Gangotri and Yamunotri, etc Himachal or lesser Himalaya - are home to great valleys like Kashmir Valley, Kangra Valley, Kullu Valley. The region is also known for hill stations like. Dehra, Kothri, Chaukhamb, Patli and Kota. These can be further divided into different ranges:

This is the largest range of the lower Himalayas and runs from the East-Southeast to west-northwest. This range extends from the northern side of Leh to the Tibetan border. Considered a segment of the Karakoram mountain range, the Ladakh range has an extreme climate. Leh, which is the main town of the region, is regarded as a trade centre for fine pashmina wool. This range starts from south-eastern boundaries of Kashmir and extends to the eastern limit of Baltistan. This range rises from the plains of India to the north of Mandi and Kangra. This range separates India from Central Asia and is also one of the larger ranges of Asia. It is home to the second highest peak of the world, K2. It lies between the great northern mountain and peninsular plateau and is formed by three major rivers - the Ganges, the Indus, the Brahmaputra and their tributaries. It covers a large area of about 7,00,000 sq. km. The plain is divided into three sections; a. This is formed by the Ganga and its tributaries. It is the largest part of the Northern Plains. Brahmaputra Plains- lie mainly in Assam built by Brahmaputra and its tributaries. The Northern plains can be divided into regions viz. It is a narrow belt that lies in the foothills of Himalayas and comprises of pebbles and rocks brought down by the streams. Rivers flow at very fast speed in this region. It is located next to the Bhabhar region and is made up of newer alluvium, rich for cultivation, has thick forests. It forms the higher part of the plains and is made of older alluvium soil which is less fertile. This region of the Gangetic plains is covered by Laterite soil, rich in iron and aluminium deposits. The Khadar Belt It lies on the lowland areas beyond the Bangar belt and is made up of newer highly fertile alluvium brought down by the rivers. This region is flood prone. The Peninsular Plateau The Peninsular Plateau is a tableland and its characteristic features include shallow valleys and rounded hills, made of igneous and metamorphic rocks. It has black soil which is known to originate from volcanic eruptions. It is broadly divided into two regions: It slopes from West to East. Kaveri, Godavari and Krishna flow through it. It stretches across eight states of India and covers a total area of 1. Vindya ranges border it in the south and Arravalis in the North-west. Chambal River and its tributaries find their way in this plateau and Mahi, Son, Ken, Sind also flow through this region. The rivers which flow through it are Krishna, Kaveri, Godavari and Mahanadi. There are numerous rivers and backwaters in this region. It covers a large part of Rajasthan and extends to Gujarat, Haryana and Punjab. Luni is the only river in this desert and it receives very little rainfall. Major portion of this desert consists of craggy rocks, sand dunes and compacted salt-lake bottoms. The speedy winds that flow with significant force lead to regular soil erosion. It has an arid climate and the vegetation is scanty. Lakshadweep covers an area of 32 sq. km. It has a total of about 35 coral

islands and islets rich in flora and fauna. The Andaman and Nicobar Islands are larger in size and comprise islands. Andaman is located in the north and Nicobar is located in the south. Located close to equator they experience equatorial type of climate and also have thick forest cover. Major Mountain Ranges in India: Everest is also a part of this range. Many great rivers originate here. It acts as a barrier against the frigid Katabatic winds which flow down from Central Asia and protect India from its effects. Purvanchal or Patkai Range: Also known as the Eastern mountain Range, is an extension of the Himalayan Range. This range covers all the eastern states of India, commonly known as the Seven Sisters. Karakoram and Pir Panjal Range: It lies in Jammu and Kashmir and comes under the disputed area between India and Pakistan. It comprises of more than 60 peaks. K2, the second highest peak of the world, is also a part of this range. This also is an area of dispute for India and Pakistan. Jammu, Kangra and Vaishno Devi are a part of this range. Also known as Outer Himalayas, it was known as Manak Parbat in ancient times. Satpura and Vindhya Range: These ranges run parallel to each other and spread across Central India across 1, km. It is believed to be formed from the Aravalli Mountains. Due to its geographical location in central India, it separates Northern and Southern India. Called Purva Ghat is a discontinuous range of mountains which run along the eastern coast of India parallel to Bay of Bengal. The rivers Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna and Kaveri create a large fertile region here which is suitable for crops like rice. Important cities located in Eastern Ghats are Vishakhapatnam and Bhubaneswar. States and Union Territories Spread over an area of 3,, sq. The largest state in India is Rajasthan. It covers an area of 3,42, sq. Goa is the smallest state in India comprising an area of 3, sq. The state is located to the South-west of India. Uttar Pradesh, lying to the North-east of the country, is the most populous state. Gujarat, lying on the extreme West of the country, is one of the most prosperous of all Indian states. The strikingly beautiful Jammu and Kashmir is the Northernmost state in the country. There are seven union territories in India. Delhi, the capital of India, also fell in this category till now National Capital Territory. The other union territories of the country include Chandigarh in the north; Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu in the west; Lakshadweep in the southwest; and Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands in the southeast of the country. There are many water bodies in India in the form of rivers, canals, gulfs, backwaters, etc. There is a large reserve of rivers - big and small, and all these rivers are revered in the country other than merely being the sources of water. There are 12 major rivers in the country. The river Brahmaputra is a trans-boundary river. It originates in Tibet and enters India in Arunachal Pradesh. It passes through Assam before finally making its way through Bangladesh into the Bay of Bengal. The river Ganga is the longest river in India and is considered to be the most pious river in the country. It has several tributaries including river Yamuna, which is the only water body near the national capital - New Delhi. It is surrounded by Myanmar and Bangladesh on its East. The political boundaries of Pakistan and Bangladesh with India are traced according to the Radcliffe Line.

Boundaries. Below are separate lists of countries and dependencies with their land boundaries, and lists of which countries and dependencies border oceans and major www.enganchecubano.com first short section describes the borders or edges of continents and oceans/major seas.

See Article History Alternative Titles: As the eastern portion of the historical region of Bengal , the area once formed, along with what is now the Indian state of West Bengal , the province of Bengal in British India. With the partition of India in , it became the Pakistani province of East Bengal later renamed East Pakistan , one of five provinces of Pakistan, separated from the other four by 1, miles 1, km of Indian territory. In it became the independent country of Bangladesh, with its capital at Dhaka. Land Bangladesh is bordered by the Indian states of West Bengal to the west and north, Assam to the north, Meghalaya to the north and northeast, and Tripura and Mizoram to the east. To the southeast, it shares a boundary with Myanmar Burma. The southern part of Bangladesh opens into the Bay of Bengal. Relief Stretching northward from the Bay of Bengal, Bangladesh constitutes roughly the eastern two-thirds of the deltaic plain of the Padma Ganges [Ganga] and Jamuna Brahmaputra rivers. Except for small higher areas of jungle-covered old alluvium rising to about feet [30 metres] in the northwest and north-centreâ€™in the Barind and the Madhupur Tract , respectivelyâ€™the plain is a flat surface of recent alluvium, having a gentle slope and an elevation of generally less than 30 feet 9 metres above sea level. In the northeast and southeastâ€™in the Sylhet and Chittagong Hills areas, respectivelyâ€™the alluvial plains give place to ridges, running mainly north-south, that form part of the mountains that separate Bangladesh from Myanmar and India. In its southern region, Bangladesh is fringed by the Sundarbans , a huge expanse of marshy deltaic forest. The Barind is a somewhat elevated triangular wedge of land that lies between the floodplains of the upper Padma and Jamuna rivers in northwestern Bangladesh. A depression called the Bhar Basin extends southeast from the Barind for about miles km to the confluence of the Padma and Jamuna. This area is inundated during the summer monsoon season, in some places to a depth exceeding 10 feet 3 metres. The drainage of the western part of the basin is centred in the vast marshy area called the Chalan wetlands, also known as Chalan Lake. The floodplains of the Jamuna, which lie north of the Bhar Basin and east of the Barind, stretch from the border with Assam in the north to the confluence of the Padma and Jamuna in the south. The area is dominated by the Jamuna, which frequently overflows its banks in devastating floods. South of the Bhar Basin is the floodplain of the lower Padma. In north-central Bangladesh, east of the Jamuna floodplains, is the Madhupur Tract. It consists of an elevated plateau on which hillocks ranging in height from 30 to 60 feet 9 to 18 metres give contour to cultivated valleys. The Madhupur Tract contains sal trees, whose hardwood is comparable in value and utility to teak. It encompasses the southern and southwestern parts of the Sylhet area including the valley plain of the Surma River and the northern part of the Mymensingh area and has a large number of lakes. The Sylhet Hills in the far northeast of the region consist of a number of hillocks and hills ranging in elevation from about feet 30 metres to more than 1, feet metres. In east-central Bangladesh the Brahmaputra River in its old course the Old Brahmaputra River built up the flood basin of the Meghna River , the region that includes the low and fertile Meghna-Sitalakhya Doab the land area between those rivers. This area is enriched by the Titas distributary, and land areas are formed and changed by the deposition of silt and sand in the riverbeds of the Meghna River, especially between Bhairab Bazar and Daudkandi. Dhaka is located in this region. In southern Bangladesh the Central Delta Basins include the extensive lakes in the central part of the Bengal Delta, to the south of the upper Padma. The belt of land in southwestern Bangladesh bordering the Bay of Bengal constitutes the Immature Delta. A lowland of some 3, square miles 7, square km , the belt contains, in addition to the vast mangrove forest known as the Sundarbans, the reclaimed and cultivated lands to the north of it. The area nearest the Bay of Bengal is crisscrossed by a network of streams that flow around roughly oblong islands. The Active Delta, located north of the Central Delta Basins and east of the Immature Delta, includes the Dhaleswari-Padma Doab and the estuarine islands of varying sizes that are found from the Pusur River in the southwest to the island of Sandwip near Chittagong in the southeast. Lying to the south of the Feni River in southeastern Bangladesh is the Chittagong region, which

has many hills, hillocks, valleys, and forests and is quite different in aspect from other parts of the country. The region has a number of offshore islands and one coral reef, St. The hilly area known as the Chittagong Hill Tracts, in the far southeast, consists of low hills of soft rocks, mainly clay and shale. The north-south ranges are generally below 2,000 feet metres in elevation. Drainage The most significant feature of the Bangladesh landscape is provided by the rivers, which have molded not only its physiography but also the way of life of the people. One spectacular example of such a change occurred in 1970, when the Tista River underwent exceptionally high flooding; its waters were suddenly diverted eastward, where they reinforced the Brahmaputra. The inundations are both a blessing and a curse. Without them, the fertile silt deposits would not be replenished, but severe floods regularly damage crops and ruin hamlets and sometimes take a heavy toll on human and animal populations. The rivers may be divided into five systems: The greater Ganges is the pivot of the deltaic river system of the historical region of Bengal. The greater Ganges Delta covers some 23,000 square miles 60,000 square km, the bulk of it in southwestern Bangladesh. The Ganges in Bangladesh is known as the Padma, and it is divided into two segments, the upper Padma and the lower Padma. The river enters Bangladesh from the west and constitutes, for about 90 miles km, the boundary between Bangladesh and West Bengal. As it flows farther into Bangladesh, the upper Padma forms numerous distributaries and spill channels and reaches its confluence with the Jamuna west of Dhaka, after which their combined waters make up the lower Padma—“which, from a hydrological perspective, is the Padma proper. The lower Padma flows southeast to join the Meghna near Chandpur and enters the Bay of Bengal through the Meghna estuary and lesser channels. Its waters appear muddy owing to the volume of silt carried by the river. Silt deposits build temporary islands that reduce navigability but are so highly fertile that they have been for decades a source of feuds among peasants who rush to occupy them. The Meghna is formed by the union of the Sylhet-Surma and Kusiara rivers. These two rivers are branches of the Barak River, which rises in the Nagar-Manipur watershed in India. The main branch of the Barak, the Surma, is joined near Azmiriganj in northeastern Bangladesh by the Kalni and farther down by the Kusiara branch. The Dhaleswari, a distributary of the Jamuna River, joins the Meghna a few miles above the junction of the lower Padma and the Meghna. As it meanders south, the Meghna grows larger after receiving the waters of several rivers, including the Buriganga and the Sitalakhya. The Jamuna and its adjoining channels cover a large area from north-central Bangladesh to the Meghna River in the southeast. The Tista is the most important water carrier of northwestern Bangladesh. Rising in the Himalayas near Sikkim, India, it flows southward, turning southeast near Darjiling Darjeeling to enter Bangladesh, where it eventually meets the Jamuna. Four main rivers constitute the river system of the Chittagong Hills and the adjoining plains—the Feni, the Karnaphuli, the Sangu, and the Matamuhari. Flowing generally west and southwest across the coastal plain, they empty into the Bay of Bengal. Of these rivers the longest is the Karnaphuli, which is dammed at Kaptai, about 30 miles 50 km upstream from its mouth near the city of Chittagong. The headwaters of the Surma are in India; the upper Padma rises in Nepal and the Jamuna in China, but they too reach Bangladesh across Indian territory. Thus, Bangladesh lacks full control over the flow of any of the streams that irrigate it. The construction of a barrage upstream at Farakka in West Bengal has led to the diversion of a considerable volume of water from the Ganges in India, and the flow to western Bangladesh is insufficient in the dry season, from November to April. Soils There are three main categories of soils in Bangladesh: The fertile recent alluvial soils, found mainly in flooded areas, are usually clays and loams, variously pale brown, sandy, chalky, and mica-laden. They are deficient in phosphoric acid, nitrogen, and humus but not in potash and lime. The old alluvial soils in the jungles of the Barind and Madhupur regions are dark iron-rich brown or reddish clays and loams. They are sticky during the rainy season and hard during the dry periods. The hill soils are generally permeable and can support dense forest growth. Climate Bangladesh has a typical monsoon climate characterized by rain-bearing winds, moderately warm temperatures, and high humidity. In general, maximum temperatures in the summer months, from April to September, are in the low to mids F mids C. April is the warmest month in most parts. The range of high temperatures in the winter months, from November to March, is greater than in the summer months. January is the coolest month, with high temperatures averaging in the mid- to upper 70s F mids C. The conditions of lowest atmospheric pressure occur in Bangladesh in June and July, the storm season. Winds are mostly from

the north and northeast in winter, blowing gently in northern and central areas and somewhat more aggressively near the coast. During the period of the northwestern strong winds from the northwest from March to May, however, wind speeds may rise to 40 miles 65 km per hour. Bangladesh receives heavy rainfall; except for some parts in the west, it generally exceeds 60 inches 1, mm annually. Large areas of the south, southeast, north, and northeast typically receive from 80 to inches 2, to 2, mm , and the northern and northwestern parts of the Sylhet area usually receive from to inches 3, to 5, mm. The maximum rainfall occurs during the monsoon period, from June to September or early October. Storms of very high intensity often occur early in the summer in April and May and late in the monsoon season September to October, and sometimes November. These disturbances may produce winds with speeds exceeding miles km per hour, and they may generate waves in the Bay of Bengal that crest as high as 20 feet 6 metres before crashing with tremendous force onto the coastal areas and the offshore islands, causing heavy losses of life and property. Since the early 18th century, when records were first kept, more than 1,, people have been killed in such storms, some , of them in just three storms occurring in , , and Page 1 of

4: The changing map of India from 1 AD to the 20th century

India is the name given to the vast peninsula which the continent of Asia throws out to the south of the magnificent mountain ranges that stretch in a sword like curve across the southern border.

Even the imposition of an official boundary has not stopped conflict between them. Boundary issues, left unresolved by the British, have caused two wars and continuing strife between India and Pakistan. August 14, 1947, saw the birth of the new Islamic Republic of Pakistan. India won its freedom from colonial rule at midnight the next day, ending nearly two centuries of British presence in India. When the British left, they partitioned India, creating the separate countries of India and Pakistan to accommodate religious differences between Pakistan, which has a majority Muslim population, and India, which is primarily Hindu. The partition of India and its freedom from colonial rule set a precedent for nations such as Israel, which demanded a separate homeland because of irreconcilable differences between the Arabs and the Jews. Unenforced UN Resolutions to map out boundaries between Israel and Palestine have led to several Arab-Israeli wars and the conflict still continues. Indian nationalism had expanded as the result of British policies of education and the advances made by the British in India in the fields of transportation and communication. However, British insensitivity to and distance from the people of India and their customs created such disillusionment among Indians that the end of British rule became necessary and inevitable. There were several reasons for the birth of a separate Muslim homeland in the subcontinent, and all three parties – the British, the Congress, and the Muslim League – were responsible. As colonizers, the British had followed a divide-and-rule policy in India. In the census they categorized people according to religion and viewed and treated them as separate from each other. The British based their knowledge of the people of India on religious texts and the intrinsic differences they found in them, instead of examining how people of different religions coexisted. They also were fearful of the potential threat from the Muslims, who were the former rulers of the subcontinent, ruling India for over two centuries under the Mughal Empire. To win them over to their side, the British helped establish the Mohammedan Anglo Oriental College at Aligarh and supported the All-India Muslim Conference, both of which were institutions from which leaders of the Muslim League and the ideology of Pakistan emerged. As soon as the league was formed, Muslims were placed on a separate electorate. Thus, the separateness of Muslims in India was built into the Indian electoral process. There was also an ideological divide between the Muslims and the Hindus of India. Some people felt that the very nature of Islam called for a communal Muslim society. Added to this were the memories of power over the Indian subcontinent that the Muslims held, especially in old centers of Mughal rule. These memories might have made it exceptionally difficult for Muslims to accept the imposition of colonial power and culture. Many refused to learn English and to associate with the British. This was a severe drawback as Muslims found that cooperative Hindus found better government positions and thus felt that the British favored Hindus. However, tied to all the movements of the Muslim revival was the opposition to assimilation and submergence in Hindu society. Hindu revivalists also deepened the chasm between the two nations. They resented the Muslims for their former rule over India. Hindu revivalists rallied for a ban on the slaughter of cows, a cheap source of meat for the Muslims. They also wanted to change the official script from the Persian to the Hindu Devanagiri script, effectively making Hindi rather than Urdu the main candidate for the national language. The Congress made several mistakes in their policies which further convinced the League that it was impossible to live in an undivided India after freedom from colonial rule because their interests would be completely suppressed. The Congress banned support for the British during the Second World War while the Muslim League pledged its full support, which found favor from the British, who needed the help of the largely Muslim army. The Civil Disobedience Movement and the consequent withdrawal of the Congress party from politics also helped the league gain power, as they formed strong ministries in the provinces that had large Muslim populations. At the same time, the League actively campaigned to gain more support from the Muslims in India, especially under the guidance of dynamic leaders like Jinnah. If that is too much, then leave her to anarchy. The process of partition claimed many lives in riots, rapes, murders, and looting. Women, especially, were used as instruments of power by the Hindus and the Muslims. Fifteen

million refugees poured across the borders to regions completely foreign to them because their identities were rooted in the geographical home of their ancestors, not their religious affiliations alone. Many years after partition, the two nations are still trying to heal the wounds left behind. The two countries began their independence with ruined economies and lands without an established, experienced system of government. They lost many of their most dynamic leaders, such as Gandhi, Jinnah and Allama Iqbal, soon after the partition. Pakistan later endured the independence of Bangladesh, once East Pakistan, in India and Pakistan have been to war multiple times since the partition and they are still deadlocked over the issue of possession of Kashmir. British East India Company is established. Indian National Congress founded by A. Hume to unite all Indians and strengthen bonds with Britain. First Partition of Bengal for administrative purposes. Gives the Muslims a majority in that state. All India Muslim League founded to promote Muslim political interests. Revocation of Partition of Bengal. Creates anti-British and anti-Hindu sentiments among Muslims as they lose their majority in East Bengal. The Congress and the League unite in demand for greater self-government. It is denied by the British. Rowlatt Acts, or black acts passed over opposition by Indian members of the Supreme Legislative Council. These were peacetime extensions of wartime emergency measures. Their passage causes further disaffection with the British and leads to protests. General Dyer opens fire on 20, unarmed Indian civilians at a political demonstration against the Rowlatt Acts. Congress and the League lose faith in the British. A step to self-government in India within the Empire, with greater provincialisation, based on a dyarchic principle in provincial government as well as administrative responsibility. Communal representation institutionalised for the first time as reserved legislative seats are allocated for significant minorities. Gandhi launches a non-violent, non-cooperation movement, or Satyagraha, against the British for a free India. Twenty-one policemen are killed by Congress supporters at Chauri-Chaura. Gandhi suspends non-cooperation movement and is imprisoned. Simon Commission, set up to investigate the Indian political environment for future policy-making, fails as all parties boycott it. Congress calls for full independence. Allama Iqbal, a poet-politician, calls for a separate homeland for the Muslims at the Allahabad session of the Muslim League. Gandhi starts Civil Disobedience Movement against the Salt Laws by which the British had a monopoly over production and sale of salt. The Round Table conferences, set up to consider Dominion status for India. They fail because of non-attendance by the Congress and because Gandhi, who does attend, claims he is the only representative of all of India. Gandhi re-starts civil disobedience. Congress is outlawed by the British and its leaders. Government of India Act: Congress is successful in gaining majority. Jinnah calls for establishment of Pakistan in an independent and partitioned India. Cripps Mission to India, to conduct negotiations between all political parties and to set up a cabinet government. Congress leaders arrested for obstructing war effort. Muslim League gains more power: Gandhi released from prison. Unsuccessful Gandhi-Jinnah talks, but Muslims see this as an acknowledgment that Jinnah represents all Indian Muslims. The new Labour Government in Britain decides India is strategically indefensible and begins to prepare for Indian independence. Direct Action Day riots convince British that Partition is inevitable. Partition of India and Pakistan, 15 August. Radcliffe Award of boundaries of the nations, 16 August. East Pakistan separates from West Pakistan and Bangladesh is born. Stories About the Partition of India. Clear Light of Day. Unit 3 MM, Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, Longmans, Green and Co. Process, Strategy, and Mobilization. The Partition of India. Philips and Wainwright, eds. The Partition of India: Policies and Perspectives Role of Muslims in Indian Politics Shirin Keen, Spring Last edited:

5: BBC - History - British History in depth: The Hidden Story of Partition and its Legacies

The cartography of India begins with early charts for navigation and constructional plans for buildings. Indian traditions influenced Tibetan and Islamic traditions, and in turn, were influenced by the British cartographers who solidified modern concepts into India's map making.

Print this page

Reasons for partition India and Pakistan won independence in August , following a nationalist struggle lasting nearly three decades. It set a vital precedent for the negotiated winding up of European empires elsewhere. Unfortunately, it was accompanied by the largest mass migration in human history of some 10 million. As many as one million civilians died in the accompanying riots and local-level fighting, particularly in the western region of Punjab which was cut in two by the border. This explanation, however, renders the mass violence that accompanied partition difficult to explain. If Pakistan were indeed created as a homeland for Muslims, it is hard to understand why far more were left behind in India than were incorporated into the new state of Pakistan - a state created in two halves, one in the east formerly East Bengal, now Bangladesh and the other 1, kilometres away on the western side of the subcontinent [see map]. It is possible that Mohammed Ali Jinnah, leader of the Muslim League, simply wished to use the demand for a separate state as a bargaining chip to win greater power for Muslims within a loosely federated India. One explanation for the chaotic manner in which the two independent nations came into being is the hurried nature of the British withdrawal. This was announced soon after the victory of the Labour Party in the British general election of July , amid the realisation that the British state, devastated by war, could not afford to hold on to its over-extended empire. This left a great many issues and interests unresolved at the end of colonial rule. Tellingly, although Pakistan celebrated its independence on 14 August and India on 15 August , the border between the two new states was not announced until 17 August. It was hurriedly drawn up by a British lawyer, Cyril Radcliffe, who had little knowledge of Indian conditions and with the use of out-of-date maps and census materials. Communities, families and farms were cut in two, but by delaying the announcement the British managed to avoid responsibility for the worst fighting and the mass migration that had followed.

Top Tensions in India Many have wondered why the British and Indian leaders did not delay until a better deal over borders could have been agreed. One explanation is that in the months and years immediately following World War Two, leaders on all sides were losing control and were keen to strike a deal before the country descended into chaos. Immediately before World War Two, India was ravaged by the impact of the Great Depression, bringing mass unemployment. This created tremendous tensions exacerbated during the war by inflation and food grain shortages. Rationing was introduced in Indian cities and in Bengal a major famine developed in The last months of British rule were marked by a naval mutiny, wage strikes and successful demonstrations in every major city. With the cessation of hostilities, the battalions at the disposal of the government in India were rapidly diminished. At the same time, the infrastructure of the Congress Party, whose entire leadership was imprisoned due to their opposition to the war, had been dismantled. The Muslim League, which co-operated with the British, had rapidly increased its membership, yet still had very limited grassroots level organisation. The day had dissolved into random violence and civil disruption across north India, with thousands of lives lost. This was interpreted by the British as evidence of the irreconcilable differences between Hindus and Muslims. In reality, the riots were evidence as much of a simple lack of military and political control as they were of social discord. A leading role was played in both by the Communist Party of India. Elsewhere, the last months of British rule were marked by a naval mutiny, wage strikes and successful demonstrations in every major city. In all of these conflicts the British colonial government remained aloof, as it concentrated on the business of negotiating a speedy transfer of power.

Top Hopes for Pakistan Strong support for the idea of an independent Pakistan came from large Muslim landowning families in the Punjab and Sindh, who saw it as an opportunity to prosper within a captive market free from competition. Support also came from the poor peasantry of East Bengal, who saw it as an opportunity to escape from the clutches of moneylenders - often Hindu. Both were to be disappointed. The heartland of support for the Muslim League lay in Uttar Pradesh, which was not included within Pakistan. The

economy of Pakistan was chiefly agricultural, and controlled by feudal elites. Once the army had been paid, nothing was left over for the purposes of economic development. The great advantage enjoyed by the Indian National Congress was that it had worked hard for 40 years to reconcile differences and achieve some cohesion among its leaders. The heartland of support for the Muslim League, however, lay in central north India Uttar Pradesh which was not included within Pakistan. Muslims from this region had to flee westwards and compete with resident populations for access to land and employment, leading to ethnic conflict, especially in Sindh. Top Post-partition and conflict over Kashmir The death of Muhammed Ali Jinnah in , the conflict with India over the Princely State of Kashmir which both countries claimed at independence , as well as ethnic and religious differences within Pakistan itself, all combined to stymie early attempts to agree on a constitution and an effectively functioning civil administration. This failure paved the way for a military takeover of the government in and later on, a civil war in This saw the division of the country and the creation of the separate state of Bangladesh. Ever since then, military rule has been more often than not the order of the day in both countries. India has maintained remarkable cohesion since independence, especially considering it is nearly the size of Europe. At independence, in India and in Pakistan, civil unrest as well as ethnic and religious discord threatened the stability of the new country. However, the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi on 30 January by a Hindu fanatic strengthened the hand of secularists within the government. Indian politicians ratified a constitution, which led to the first democratic elections in However, major tensions have persisted among both Muslim and Sikh communities, which suffered most from the violence and land loss resulting from partition. These tensions erupted most seriously in the s in a violent campaign for the creation of a separate Sikh state which led ultimately to the assassination of Indira Gandhi. Renewed victimisation of Muslims has also occurred, notably with the destruction of the Muslim shrine at Ayodhya in and anti-Muslim riots in Gujarat in With such notable exceptions, however, India has maintained a remarkable level of cohesion since independence, especially if one considers that it is a country nearly the size of Europe. For both India and Pakistan, the most singular conflict unresolved since partition has concerned the former Princely State of Kashmir, whose fate was left undetermined at the time the British left. Lying as it did on the border, Kashmir was claimed by both countries, which have been to war over this region on numerous occasions. The conflict has wasted thousands of lives and millions of dollars, but is closer to a solution now than at any time since independence. If achieved, it might finally bring to fruition the dreams of Mohammed Ali Jinnah and Mahatma Gandhi and once more set an example for post-colonial societies elsewhere in Africa, Asia and the Middle East to imitate and follow. Find out more Books Inventing Boundaries: Oxford University Press, Pakistan as a peasant utopia: Westview, The Sole Spokesman: Kali for Women, Remembering Partition:

6: Partition of India – Postcolonial Studies

The ancient diamond shaped country of India, the largest region of the Indian Subcontinent, extends from the Himalayan Mountains in the north and south into the tropical reaches of the Indian Ocean. With a population of 1,, (est), India is the most populous country in the world, and certainly one of the most intriguing.

Call for off-line availability Title Iconic wall sized map of India chronicling the British military campaign in the subcontinent against Tipu Sultan of Mysore. Highly desirable third edition. Presented in two panels, as issued. This chart depicts the subcontinent from Bombay Mumbai and Aurangabad, south to include the northern half of Sri Lanka Ceylon. Also shows the acquisitions of the British through the Partition Treaty of This map was engraved by R. A must for any serious collection of South Asia maps. Compiled from papers communicated by the late Sir Archibald Campbell, the surveys of Col. William Faden - was an English Cartographer and publisher of the late 18th century. Faden worked under the direction of Thomas Jefferys. Jefferys held the position as "Geographer to the King and to the Prince of Wales", and upon his death in , this position passed to William Faden. By Faden published over known maps, atlases, and military plans. Faden had a particular interest in the mapping of North America and is best known for his important publication of the North American Atlas. William Faden is also well known for his publication of the first maps for the British Ordnance Survey in Condition Very good, near fine, example. A couple of minor spots to the outer margins. A couple of period notations regarding the colonial activity in the region, some in pen, some in pencil. In two panels, as issued, but can be joined upon request. Phillips atlases , , The Geographical Construction of British India,

In the aftermath of the rebellion a power shift within the British Crown came to light, and subsequently India was colonized and ruled by Britain throughout much of the 19th and 20th centuries.

The country aims to become a higher middle-income country by and that calls for even faster growth in the years to come. With new government in place this year, India currently stands at the threshold of a unique opportunity regarding governance reforms. Governance is central to equitable socio-economic progress and political legitimacy. Good governance runs on four wheels: Governance in India has always been a critical issue for the governments since independence. Neither the soviet style socialist path nor the free-market western capitalist economy appeared the best answer for the country. It strives to craft a unique blend of its own socio-economic policies that would leverage its unique strengths and catapult it to centre-stage of the global economy. Government machineries at all level need to be strengthened. But mindset is changing as the government at the Centre has made it clear not only to its own wings but even to States that this chaos has to go with better use of information and communication technology. Some of the organisations have successfully transformed their way of functioning and service delivery system with the help of modern technology. The quality and effectiveness of service delivery today is directly linked to good governance practices and use of modern technology, especially ICT. It is widely accepted that governance should be citizen-centric and we need alertness and responsiveness in every aspect of governance. Modern technology is increasingly in demand at the government departments and organisations across the country, either due to the increasing pressure from the public or on the initiatives of bureaucrats and elected representatives. Corruption and sustainable economic development are key problems in India. But, as a vibrant democracy, India has a distinct advantage as it has an accountable government that is subject to transparent surveillance on multiple fronts, democratically elected legislatures, an independent judiciary and evolving regulatory watchdogs. The Right to Information Bill was passed in in an effort to improve governance and public administration and eliminate corruption. By transferring functions, fund and functionaries 3Fs , efforts are being made to transform the lives of people. Increased financial autonomy was supposed to be the game changer but we are still far behind from our cherished goals. Administration at various levels is still weak and the poor still suffer the most. Accountability, access to information, political will for real devolution of powers at all levels would only make the desired change and would lead to good governance. Prime Minister Narendra Modi says, "one of the biggest benefits of good governance is that it does not look at welfare of any particular section of the people; it results in welfare of all. For example, if you improve water supply, everyone benefits. Technology and innovation are the backbone of governance. Technology also plays a large role in creating and maintaining transparency. Reducing public expenditure is yet another critical area. The government spends huge amount wages, pensions, interest payments, and agricultural subsidies and social sector schemes. Good governance calls for drastic reduction in wasteful public expenditure. Rational and inclusive growth oriented expenditure would lead us to a higher stage of advancement. A long-established legal system has given India the underpinnings necessary for free enterprise to flourish. Property rights are not fully secure, but the rule of law generally prevails. High and inclusive growth is entwined with good governance and the Modi government is making efforts to take to it to the next level. Good leadership is the basic ingredient of governance. Quality leadership must be available at every level. The government must be policy-driven. If governance is policy driven, those who have to execute those policies will be clear in their mind as to their functions, and responsibility and accountability will follow. When decisions are taken, the nation moves forward. The country is maintaining a balance with regard to bilateral relations with the United States and Russia. He became the first US President to get that honour and also the first one to visit India twice while in office. While moving closure to the US, India never undermined its old and trusted friend Russia and recently it warmly welcomed Russian President Vladimir Putin. India and Russia signed agreements in oil exploration, infrastructure, defence and nuclear energy including construction of 12 Russian-built nuclear units in India over the next two decades. It is a nuclear weapons power and has joined the elite space club. India would be

the third largest economy in the world by and a middle income country by It has already become the second largest market in the world. The appurtenances of democracy - adult suffrage, a free media, an independent judiciary, the rule of law, the sanctity of property rights - are essential for inclusive growth which in turn strengthens democratic institutions. Borrowed from British model of Parliamentary democracy, India has adopted best practices from every one. It is a republic where Constitution is supreme. Elected legislature, executive, independent Judiciary and free media are four pillars of our democracy. Democracy has given Indians an institutional framework for the exercise of political choice and freedom to express dissent. This has acted as an indispensable safety valve in an inequitable milieu with great discrepancies in the distribution of power and wealth. Democracy has given the weakest and the poorest a stake in the system. The Indian electorate now numbers more than million, making Indian elections the largest organised single political activity even in human history. It is part of the inheritance India received from the British after more than years of their Colonial rule, and the same is obvious from the many similarities the Indian legal system shares with the English Legal System. The frame work of the current legal system has been laid down by the Indian Constitution and the judicial system derives its powers from it. Now a debate on the need to repeal obsolete laws has been set in motion in India with the government appointing a committee to look into the matter. The first Law Commission of Independent India was constituted in by the Government of India for democratic Indian law reforms in accordance with the directives laid down by the Constitution of India. The primary objective behind setting up of the Law Commission was to introduce suitable changes in pre-Constitution laws recognized by the Constitution of India under article , as and when required. India of my dreams For many, India of their dreams is a place for equal opportunities, where all the talented people are given equal opportunities for growth irrespective of their caste, gender and economic and social status. India is witnessing a jobless growth even while it is very young country with regard to workforce. One hopes that one day every youth of the country will get a job and employability would be achieved through large-scale skill development programmes. Women safety and empowerment is yet another dream. Lessening of economic disparity across various social strata in the country is another cherished goal. While friendly ties with India and Pakistan as well as with India and other countries in the world become the priority for a majority, an improvement in living standards is the concern of all those who are Below Poverty Line at present. In India, democracy can be actualised in the true sense of the term if Indian politics can do away with casteism, vote bank politics, nepotism and criminalisation. For many, this is the India of their dreams. Defence Indian Defence capability is ranked 4th in the world with the 2nd largest army at its command. In India, defence forces have grown from strength to strength after every major armed conflict and military operation in the past 60 years. In the current geopolitical context, India is faced with a complex array of internal as well as external security threats and the Indian Armed Forces are well-equipped to deal with them. India spends huge amount to enhance its military capabilities. The Modi government has enhanced Foreign Direct Investment in defence sector from 26 per cent to 49 per cent and the move aims at increasing domestic production and less dependence on imports. However, defence sector needs structural reforms to increase domestic production. Elections Fair and free elections are the backbone of our democracy. From Lok Sabha to local bodies, elections have become a part of our life and a strong tool for empowerment. But Lok Sabha elections was different from the previous ones in more that one ways. After a very long period over 30 years a single party got majority on its own. The elections were personality centric. The elections clearly manifested that youth was no longer ready to digest the blunders done by the previous UPA regimes. Modi assumed the mantle of power and right now, as things seem, we are seeing a rather unconventional mode of politics and governance. The year was something that triggered a series of changes in India and the trickle effect will possibly cover the entire to settle down and give a final picture. A changed political landscape would result in two important aspects in times to come. Indian politics was, since independence, dominated by vote banks politics based on religion, caste and other class factors and forces. Smart politicians have realised the change mind set of the youth and the graffiti is on the wall! Indian Economy With the new government taking over this year, India seems to be back on course to getting back to the growth rates seen earlier in the best years. By any standard, this is indeed a smart recovery. With the new government demonstrating serious intent in reforming the economy by initiating steps towards reforms in land

acquisition laws, labour laws, introducing GST, increasing FDI in Insurance, Railways, Construction, Infrastructure and Defence. Sensitive issues like deregulation of diesel have been initiated, while the coal and mining sector is being given an impetus through fresh auctions. Policies pertaining to clearances from the Environment and Forests are being revised to ensure faster clearances of projects. The fall in global commodity prices, especially crude oil has helped India improve its Balance of Payments situation. The domestic financial investors have also shown marked improvement in sentiment with mutual funds that were net sellers in the last couple of years having turned net buyers this year. Mutual funds alone have pumped in 25, crore in equities this year. From , the economy saw its lowest GDP growth rate of 4. The best years saw growth rates touch 9. Industrial Growth However, the industrial growth rates have shown a different trend. The highest growth rate of During the recession years, the industrial growth rate plummeted to 0. The industrial growth rate has been slow to post a recovery but current signs confirm that will be better than the previous two years. The agriculture and allied sectors have been erratic in growth rates and the period in question has not shown consistent growth or decline, in fact there have been sharp growth and decline in respective years. The year saw a negative growth rate of The very next year saw the best year posting 9. Similarly, saw growth rate dip to 1.

8: British Raj - Wikipedia

Geography of India India is the seventh largest country in the world in terms of area. It lies on the Indian Plate, which is the northern portion of the Indo-Australian Plate.

Prehistory[edit] Joseph E. The fact that towns as far apart as Mohenjodaro near the Indus and Lothal on the Saurashtra coast were built in the second millennium BCE with baked bricks of identical size on similar plans denotes a widespread recognition of the need for accuracy in planning and management. In the 8th century CE the Kailas temple at Ellora in Maharashtra was carved down into mountain for feet, with intricate sculptures lining pillared halls, no easy task even with an exact map to follow, impossible without. So if no maps have been found, it should not be assumed that the Indians did not know how to conceptualize in a cartographic manner. Cartography of India as a part of the greater continent of Asia develops in Classical Antiquity. More detailed knowledge becomes available after the conquests of Alexander the Great , and the 3rd-century BCE geographer Eratosthenes has a clearer idea of the size and location of India. By the 1st century, at least the western coast of India is well known to Hellenistic geography, with itineraries such as the Periplus of the Erythraean Sea. Marinus and Ptolemy had some knowledge of the Indian Ocean which they considered a sea but their Taprobane Sri Lanka was vastly too large and the Indian peninsula much reduced. They also had little knowledge of the interior of the country. Native Indian cartographic traditions before the Hellenistic period remain rudimentary. Early forms of cartography in India included legendary paintings; maps of locations described in Indian epic poetry , for example the Ramayana. Indian cartographic traditions also covered the locations of the Pole star , and other constellations of use. Also considered in the study were copper-plate text inscriptions on which the boundaries of land, granted to the Brahman priests of India by their patrons, were described in detail. He would, with other Portuguese , navigate and chart much of the sub-continent's coast line, within decades. These charts were rapidly reproduced, and appeared in say the Cantino planisphere. A map describing the kingdom of Nepal , four feet in length and about two and a half feet in breadth, was presented to Warren Hastings. One British observer commented on the tradition of native Indian cartography: Besides geographical tracts, the Hindus have also maps of the world according to the system of the puranics and of the astronomers: They also have maps of India and of particular districts, in which latitudes and longitudes are entirely out of question, and they never make use of scale of equal parts. The sea shores, rivers and ranges of mountains are represented by straight lines. To achieve the highest accuracy a number of corrections were applied to all distances calculated from simple trigonometry:

9: Cartography of India - Wikipedia

Effectively the border between British India and China was to be decided on the basis of the highest continuous mountain ridge line – the "crest of the mountain range" in the convention.

Amateur historian Thomas Lessman, who has been researching world history for over 20 years, has created a series of maps of India showing these shifts from 1 AD till the rule of the Delhi Sultanate. The best maps are in books that cost more than I make in a week. The maps provide a vivid history tour. They start from the time the Sakas or Indo-Scythians firmly established their presence in India. The Indo-Parthian and Indo-Synthian era: This map shows the Indo-Parthian rule and the Indo-Synthian kingdom. The Indo-Scythians were descendents of the Scythians who had migrated from southern Siberia and displaced the Indo-Greeks. Kanishka expanded the kingdom till as far as Varanasi and captured areas in present-day China. During this time, literature, art, astronomy and math flourished in the region and much of the subcontinent was unified under one kingdom. The Huna Empire extended from parts of eastern Iran to northwestern India. This proximity is the reason why, some believe, the Huna tribe finds a mention in the Mahabharata. After the collapse of the Gupta Empire, a minor line of the clan ruled in Magadha. Down south, the Kalabhras kingdom crumbled. The Chalukyas ruled southern and central India from the 6th century to the 12th century. Kannada and Telugu literature thrived in this era, as did Chalukyan architecture. In the north, the Chachas dynasty began ruling over Sindh by AD. Meanwhile, the Deccan was under the Rashtrakuta dynasty. By AD, the Rajput states had established their presence. The Vijayanagar Empire in the south was still strong. We welcome your comments at letters scroll.

The tragic vision The United States as master builder in the Philippines Semi detailed lesson plan in math grade 8 Nonlinear Models, Labour Markets and Exchange (Creedy, John, Introductory Surveys in Economics, V 2.) Return of Rinaldo, the Sly Fox, The (A North-Sourth Paperback) Buffalos Thayer hangings Public policy analysis and public administration Series 6 Investment Company Representative Marie Curie and radium National Geographic Destinations, Wild Shores of Australia (NG Destinations) Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law (Max Planck /Yearbook of United Nations Law) The 20th Century Year by Year AutoSketch for Windows Software Configuration Management Patterns Suzuki piano book A Talk In The Orchard Piping stress analysis manual calculation The wonderful porridge pot . UP TO THE STARTING LINE Continuing long-term care services Staying Together Book and Audio CD Pack What language shall I borrow? Problem of divine foreknowledge and future contingents from Aristotle to Suarez An angry community A Year Along the Garden Path Geek girl The Enforcement Of Directors Duties In Britain And Germany Current Perspectives on Aging and the Life Cycle: A Research Annual Business continuity and disaster recovery policy Do you believe our survival on planet earth is being threatened? Sauces, seasonings, and other incidental stuff Psychology applied to human problems in Nigeria Elementary process of Bremsstrahlung Jeffys Lookin at Me Dominikanie W Srodkowej Europie W XIII-XV Wieku Administration priorities for Europe in the 112th Congress Discovering Whales Dolphins The Mythology of the Aztec and Maya Marigold the Stranger FoxPro programming