India and the Indian Ocean Basin &
1/3\textsuperscript{rd} of the world’s wealth
The Indian Ocean Networks

**Commercial zone**

- Vast wealth, ideas, knowledge, technologies circulated.

1) Network of sea-lanes and port-cities:
   
   a) wide scope of trade
   
   b) Innovation in maritime technology
   
   c) led to specialized production and economic development in lands involved in trade networks of the Indian Ocean basin
Calicut
Goa
Oceanic Trade

- Dhow and Junk
2) Trade and Agriculture

a) With increase of trade in the Indian Ocean basin, lands also changed with the production of commodities for the transregional market.

b) Trade brought water management systems for irrigation (in the south)

c) Agricultural production: with the increase in agricultural yields, people began to trade more and manufacture goods (rather than produce food).
Monsoon: large scale-sea breezes

- Summer (Chinese)
- Winter (Arabs and Persians)
Agriculture & irrigation

- Southern India: arid land without rivers like the Indus or the Ganges.
- Dams, reservoirs, canals, wells and tunnels.
- Reservoir: Artificial lakes (250 square miles).

Therefore: Rise of agricultural goods and population!!!
Manufacturing:

- cloths, textiles, pottery, leather goods, and jewelry
• Products: pepper (favorite of the Romans)
Refinement of sugar
Leather tanning
Stone Carving
Carpet weaving
High Carbon steel
3) Cities and Emporia

- Warehouses and settlements
- Highly cosmopolitan: Arabs, Buddhists, Hindu, Jews, Muslims, Christians, etc.
Cambay (Kambhhat)
Siraf
Urbanization

• By 1500 the subcontinent had a population of 105 million.

• Delhi

1) Internal Trade:
   a) Rise of cities led to an increase in
   b) trade: caravan and sea routes (coastal towns like Calicut and Quilon flourished).

2) Maritime trade
Mumbai
Parsi
Freddie Mercury
Hindu Temples

- Economic centers.
- Organized agricultural activities.
- Provided schooling
- delivered tax receipts to the Hindu rulers and did other community activities.
III. Culture and Religion: cross-fertilization

- Era of Indianization (100-1200 C.E.):
  - A process by which Indian ideas spread into and influenced many Southeast Asian societies; hybrid cultures (indigenous ideas with Indian ideas).
  - Occurred around the time when Greco-Roman cultures and Islam were spreading around the Mediterranean and Mesopotamian regions.
Culture & Religion

- Decline of Buddhism and Jainism.

1196 Muslim forces conquered the city of Nalanda and destroyed Buddhist libraries.

- Rise of Islam (throughout India and east Asia) and Hinduism and/or devotional cults (within India)
- Rajputs resisted Muslim invasion.
- Maintained Hindu resistance
- Mahmud of Ghazni (971-1030)

“utterly ruined India’s prosperity. To Mahmud the Hindus were infidels, to be dispatched to hell as soon as they refused to be plundered.”

Persecution of Buddhists
Delhi Sultanate (1192-1526)

- Founder Qutb-ud-din Aibak (1206-1210)
- Iltutmish (1211-1236)
- Raziya Sultan (r. 1236-1240): the daughter of Iltutmish only female Muslim ruler in Indian history

- “Great monarch, wise, just and Generous. She was endowed with all The qualities befitting a king, but she was Not born of the right sex, and so in the Estimation of men all these virtues were worthless.”
Contribution

- Brought unity in northern India.
- Islamic authority and religion spread throughout northern India.
- Royal rule Persian style: “Shadow of God on Earth”
- Indo-Muslim civilization.

- Went into decline in the 14th century and Tamelane (1336-1405)
Islam

- Appeal: egalitarianism & pragmatic (to improve their economic situation).
- Sufism (& Hinduism)
  a) Mysticism: Divine as self.
  b) Spiritual Authority: Pir and Guru
Hinduism

- Hinduism and Hindu monarchies in the south and east India.
Ramanjua (1017-1137)

- Emphasized devotional worship of a personal Hindu god
● Cross-fertilized sects

The Bhakti Movement: Southern India.

a) Cult of love and devotion, worship of a personal god, gods should be accessed without the help of a priest.

a) Fused with Islamic values (as moved to the north)

a) Shiva, Vishnu and Allah were all manifestations of a single deity.
Benares and pilgrimage
Kabir (1440-1518)

- A member of the low-status cast of weavers from Benares.
- Blind and illiterate, Kabir wrote spiritual poetry
- Revered by both Muslims and Hindus
- Direct experience with the divine
The songs of Kabir

• O servant, where dost thou seek Me? Lo! I am beside thee.
• I am neither in temple nor in mosque; I am neither in Kaaba nor in Kailash (abode of Shiva). Neither am I in rites and ceremonies, nor in Yoga and renunciation....

• All the men and women of the world are His living Forms.
• Kabir is the child of Allah and of Ram (God): He is my Guru, He is my Pir (Sufi saint.)
Devotional Cults

- Hindu Kingdoms
- Polytheism
- Vishnu: god who entered the world in human form to resist evil.
- Shiva: god of fertility and destruction.
- Other cults
Guru Nanak (1469-1539)
Shi’i Islam
Buddhism reached its peak
Postclassical East Asia emerged out of China

• Early Medieval:

Middle Kingdom:

Chinese political theory: China as the civilization that brings stability to the nations.

● (589-907) Sui-Tang Dynasties: making China more integrated and Chinese state more centralized.

● (618-907) Tang Dynasty:

1) STATE: Three Departments and six ministries; Scholar officials; Imperial examination

2) Agricultural developments: harvest of two crops of rice a year.

3) Transportation—commerce—population—urbanization.
Song Dynasty (960-1279)

- 907-960: China divided into several competing states: Five Dynasties.
- Song dynasty brought back imperial rule in the late 10th century.
- Considered the high point of China’s “golden age”
- Major innovations; economic dynamism; expansive urbanization and cultural developments.
Song Imperial power

- Song Taizu (960-976) advocated a policy of civil administration, industry, education and arts (not military).
- State bureaucracy based on merit (civil service examination) and tributary system (patronage to state supporters and officials).

Expansive state
- a) civilian-led army
- Civil-military transformation
- b) State bureaucracy
  caused financial problems
Song economy

- Because of commerce merchants grew in size.
- Maritime trade began to expand, linking Chian to the rest of Afro-Eurasia.
- Tax revenues increased: more money for the state.
- Grand Canal, which linked the Yellow and Yangzi river Basins, linked the north with the south.
Song products

- Silk.
- Porcelain.
- Books.