

Indian Middle Ages 550-1500s

- Collapse of Gupta during reign of Vishnugupta
 - India once again fragmented
 - Hunas invaded India in 450s
 - Establish supremacy over Punjab & central India
 - Northern and western regions
- Efforts to reunify by Vardhana dynasty
 - Harshavardhana crowned 606
 - Effective warrior & brilliant administrator
 - Implemented satrapal system
 - Patron of both Buddhism and literature
 - Tolerant ruler

- Established first diplomatic relations with China

- Chinese sent Xuanzang

- Xuanzang commemorated in inscriptions at Rajagriha

- Harsha 's reign well documented by Bana & Xuanzang

- Bana composed Harsha Charitha

- Harsha noted author

- *Nagananda, Ratnavali and Priyadarsika*

- Kingdom disintegrated

The coming of Islam

- 712AD first Muslim incursion by Umayyad Caliphate

- Muhammad Bin Qasim defeats King Dahir at Ar-rur

- Bin Qasim subjugates Sindh & Punjab

- Sent letters to "kings of Hind"
- Cavalry sent to Kannauj

Islam

- Developed by Muhammad
 - Born 570 Hashimate clan
 - Raised by Quraysh tribe
 - Left as orphan
 - Never learned to read/write
 - Visited Syria
 - Muhammad marries Khadija
 - Assumed control over Khadija's business
- Had an encounter on Mt. Hira

- He was to become messenger of God

- Muhammad forced to flee

- Invited to Medina
 - Drafts Constitution of Media

 - Established confederation between 8 Arab tribes & Muslim emigrants

 - Addressed relationship with 3 Jewish and 1 Christian tribes

 - Relationship = model

 - Jews refused to submit

 - Solution was simple:

 - Changed direction *qibla*

 - Known as *hijra*

 - Next few years flock grows

- Fights war against Mecca

- Continues receiving messages from Allah

- Predicts terrible final judgment

- Allah would save believers; nonbelievers suffer

- Revelations written down; collected in Quran

- “There is one God and Muhammad is God’s prophet.”

- Islam = means “submission to divine will”
 - “Muslims” = those who follow God’s will

- The Quran flows like a story

- Directed communication against Arab polytheists & Jews of Medina
 - Jews & Christians given Allah’s message

 - 30 prophets before M

- Misunderstood/altered original message

- Sura 9:29
- Sura 9:30
- Sura 9:31
- Sura 98:6

- Demanding ethical system

- Dictates way of life & Sharia
- Essential rules found in Five pillars

- Islam post-Muhammad - Died 632

- Most of Arab polytheists converted

- Muslim armies expand via conquests

- 4 factors contributed

- 1st Conquests = cultural unity yet political division

- Muslims v. Non-Muslims & Arabs v. NonArabs

— Many unbelievers (*dhimmi*) accept Islam

- *Taqiyya*
- Restrictions on *dhimmi*
- *Jizya*
- *Devshirme*
- *Ridda*

— Splitting of Islam

- First 3 caliphs chosen from *Quraysh*
- Abu Bakr (632-34); Umar (634-44); Uthman (644-56)
- Shi'ites

— Ali (656-61)

- Sunnites
- Opposition to Ali

— Forces of Aisha & Muawiya

— Muawiya proclaimed himself caliph

- Founds Umayyad Dynasty (661-750)
- Power from ruling class
- Arab military aristocracy
- *Mawali*
- Granted fewer privileges; less spoils

— *Mawali* join w/ Shi'ites ally = Abbasids

- Establish rebel army; begin civil war

- Bin Qasim implemented system based upon Islamic law
 - Focused on economic gain

 - Minority who converted granted exemption from *Jizya*

 - Hindus & Buddhists granted status of *Dhimmi*

 - Created *sadru-i-islam al affal*

- Islamic civilization in India was formed by a creative interaction
 - Muslims could soon be found outside original areas of Arab conquest

 - Converts were attracted by:
 - Stresses spiritual & mystical dimension of Islam

 - Sufism became very popular
 - Developed as a distinctive tendency

— Muslim leaders ruled a country dominated by different traditions

- Chief obstacle was appearance of a powerful Hindu warrior class

- Class known as *Rajputs*

— India still divided into independent kingdoms

- Rashtrakuta Dynasty (753–982)

- Ruled from Karnataka

- Contributions unrivaled

- Rashtra – Kuta

- Some kings were great soldiers and conquerors

- Ex. Govinda III, Indra III and Krishna III

- Rashtrakuta kings built several capitals

- Malkhed

- Royal insignia was Garuda

- Religious toleration of Rashtrakuta kings

- Ex. King Amogavarsha was a Jainist

- Gave Arabs protection

- Ex. Suleiman wrote about 'Balhara' Kings

- Considered Amogavarsha among greatest emperors

- Upon collapse Karnatka emerged

- Rule by Chalukyas Dynasty (543–753; 982–1189)

- Tailapa II overthrew the last king - Karka

- Declared self sovereign

- Eleven kings; most reigns were peaceful

- Chalukyan period viewed as a golden age

- Kalyan Vikramaditya VI

- Basaveswara
 - Developed Veera Shaivism

 - Also called *Vishwa Guru* and *Bhakti-Bhandari*

 - His teachings are universal
 - Preached a new way of life

 - Monotheistic concept of a singular God

 - Fought against caste system

 - Spread social awareness through poetry Vachanaas

- Many yogis and mystics joined

- Empire came to an abrupt end

- Generals of Someshwara IV began a costly civil war

- Chalukyan Empire disintegrated

- Chola Dynasty (300s BC–1279)

- Was Tamil dynasty

- Heartland was Kaveri River

- Dynasty became power in S. & S.E. Asia

- Ex. Rajaraja Chola conquered much territory

- Ex. Rajendra Chola

- Sent embassies to China

- Sent a victorious expedition to North India

- Cholas left a lasting legacy

- Chola kings were avid builders

- Mahmud of Ghazni

- Showed remarkable administrative ability & statesmanship

- Ghazna

- Gave nominal allegiance to 'Abbasid caliph

- Launched aggressive expansionist campaigns

- Carried away huge amount of booty

- Several cities were laid to ruins

- Destruction of temple of Shiva at Somnath

- Shiva lingam was destroyed

- Mahmud cultivated great minds of time
 - Court at Ghazni into a haven for scholars and artists

 - Known as Charlemagne of the East

- 1206 Dehli Sultanate
 - Mamluk dynasty (1206–90)
 - Khilji dynasty (1290–1320)
 - Tughlaq dynasty (1320–1413)
 - Sayyid dynasty (1414–51)
 - Lodi dynasty (1451–1526)

 - Razia Sultana

 - Period of Indian cultural renaissance
 - "Indo-Muslim" fusion syncretism

 - Language of Urdu

- Converts came from ruling classes
- Sufi orders converted many
- Muslim aristocracy separate caste groups
- Virtual destruction of Buddhism
- Jain tradition flourished
- Hindu religion and culture flourished
- Delhi Sultanate absorbed by Mughal Empire