Delhi Sultanate

• Islam was first introduce by Abbasid Caliphate expansion as early as the 9th Century

• Islamic Warlords from the region of Afghanistan conquered parts of Northern India in 1022

• Led conquests all over India and spread Islamic rule throughout
Delhi Sultanate

- Muslims conquered Delhi in 1206, establishing a series of kingdoms
- Delhi Sultanates were technically 5 separate dynasties that lasted from 1206-1526
  - Ruled by Afghan and Turkish leaders

- Maintained control of the region via military strength and tributary alliances rather than administration bureaucracy

- Legal system was based on Sharia law
  - Instituted the Jizya tax on non-Muslims
  - Hindus began to viewed as part of the Dhimmi
- Introduced huge influence of Islamic science, culture, and architecture into India
  - Especially Northern and Eastern India

- Helped develop the Urdu Language
  - Combination of Persian, Arabic, & Sanskrit
Delhi Sultanate

• Women, especially Muslim women, gained greater property rights and also the ability to divorce and remarry
Delhi Sultanate

• The Delhi Sultanate helped spread Islamic scientific advancements to India

• Most importantly paper and papermaking technology and spinning wheel to make textiles
Delhi Sultanate

- The Delhi Sultanate continued many of the economic activities already present in India before their conquest

- Cotton Production and sale was one of the most important part of the Delhi Sultanate’s economy

- The Delhi Sultanate also participated in Indian Ocean Trade
  - Major exports included:
    - Spices (PEPPER!)
    - Salt
    - Rice
Srivijaya Empire

• Major trading empire in the Indian Ocean Trading Network prominent 7-14th Century

• Controlled and taxed trade on the Strait of Malacca and Sunda Straits

• The Strait of Malacca connects the Indian Ocean and the South China Sea; at the time, it was the shortest route between China and India. Because water was the fastest way to travel, control of that strait gave the Srivijaya Empire complete power over the international sea trade in Southeast Asia
Srivijaya Empire

- Collected, packaged, & distributed Indian Spices and Chinese Silk/Porcelain
Srivijaya Empire

• Most important city was Malaca aka Melaka

• Was a Buddhist empire, practiced a syncretized version of Vajrayana Buddhism
  • Helped spread Buddhism throughout S.E. Asia via trading practices
Srivijaya Empire

• Chinese pilgrims, on their way to India, had been taught Buddhism during their visit to Srivijaya and brought teachings of Buddhism back to China

• The Srivijaya kings founded many Buddhist monasteries

• Many of which were built throughout all of Southeast Asia
Vijayanagara Empire

- Was a powerful Hindu state in southern India populated by many Hindus from the Deccan Plateau who had refused to accept Muslim rule

- The Vijayanagar Empire developed into a great Hindu kingdom at a time when most of the region had been conquered by Muslims
Vijayanagara Empire

- The empire's capital at Vijayanagar became a center of Hindu culture and religion.

- The Vijayanagar strongly enforced the caste system inspired by Hinduism.
Vijayanagara Empire

- The capital city of Vijayanagar and the entire empire became known for the beautiful Hindu Temples they funded and built.

- It was also a very populous center: by around 1400, Vijayanagar was one of the largest cities in the world with about 350,000 inhabitants.

- The domes and arches of some structures reveal the influence of Islamic architectural forms on Vijayanagar’s builders.
Vijayanagara Empire

- The Vijayanagara became mortal enemies of the Muslims in Northern India and fought eight wars against them between 1349 and 1481.

- Vijayanagara was eventually defeated by Muslim armies in 1565 at the Battle of Talikota.
Vijayanagara Empire

• The majority of the economy was based around agricultural production of crops like wheat, barley, and cotton

• Their location in the Indian Ocean allowed for active trading
  • The empire exported:
    • Cotton
    • Spices (PEPPER!)
    • Iron
  • They imported:
    • Animals (Horses!)
    • Chinese Silk
    • Copper
Rajput Kingdoms

- Rajputs were warriors of mixed ethnic and historical background.
- They rose to prominence during the 9th to 11th centuries and ruled many small northern and central Indian kingdoms.
Rajput Kingdoms

- The earliest Rajput kingdoms were founded by small war bands, groups of armed men in search of plunder and land who managed to occupy a modest territory.

- They defended and protected their newly won territory and especially the cattle won in battle or robbed during the many cattle raids.
Rajput Kingdoms

- Rajput Kingdoms were Hindu, but for the most part they practiced religious tolerance
  - Muslims and Sikhs were present in the kingdoms as well

- The Rajput Kingdoms enforced the Hindu Caste System
Rajput Kingdoms

• For political reasons, several Rajput rulers agreed upon military and marriage bonds with the Islamic invaders but only a few converted to Islam

• Rajputs were expected to marry only within their own clan and lineage

• Within the Hindu social system, Rajputs traditionally reckon themselves to be of the Kshatriya caste, the social order of warriors and rulers
Majapahit Empire

• The Hindu-Buddhist Majapahit Empire ruled from the 13th to the 16th centuries.

• At its height, the empire contained much of modern-day Indonesia, as well as some territory on the Southeast Asian mainland.
Majapahit Empire

- The culture of the Majapahit Empire was strongly influenced by a Hindu-Buddhist religious tradition.

- Majapahits worshipped the Hindu gods Shiva and Vishnu but were also influenced by Buddhism.

- They blended the two belief systems in the name they called their king: Shiva-Buddha.
Majapahit Empire

- Religious art was supported and paid for by the Majapahits

- Their most important works included elaborate temples and religious statues.

- Other art forms of the period included painting and wood carving.
Majapahit Empire

• This area was one of the greatest rice producing regions in the world

• The area was rich with natural resources such as steel, turtles, diamonds, sugarcane, etc.
  • These were used to make craft items trade within the empire and in Indian Ocean Trade

• The location allowed for major trading ports to develop and trade spices and luxury items flowing from India and China
Sukhotai Empire

- Sukhotai Empire was founded in the first half of the 13th century CE as a small, local kingdom in modern-day Thailand.

- The Sukhotai Empire increased their power and influence through a series of major military successes.

- The empire also made a series of alliances with other empires to prevent invasion.
  - Most importantly, these alliances helped defend against Mongol invasion.
Sukhotai Empire

• Kings portrayed themselves as kings who ruled their subjects as a father rules his children

• A bell was hung at the palace gate; people who wished to seek an audience with the king and obtain his assistance would ring this bell, and the king would readily come to meet them, listen to their complaints, and try to solve their problems.
Sukhotai Empire

- Rice, its main crop, was produced only in sufficient quantities for local consumption and not for sale or trade.

- The empire adopted a free trade policy: to attract more people to settle in Sukhotai.

- Any foreigner who wanted to trade did so without being required to pay taxes.

- Sukhotai had access and control to maritime trade routes in the Indian Ocean.
Sukhotai Empire

• In the early part of the empire Hinduism probably played a vital role in the kingdom.

• Temples built in the earlier period clearly demonstrate Hindu influences.
Sukhothai Empire

• Buddhism became the state religion
• The government supported Buddhist art and statues
• Kings would build Buddhist temples next to their palaces to show support of the religion
Sufism

• Sought emotional encounters that brought them into union with God

• Organized into Orders

• Each group had its own habits and rules and usually formed around a charismatic holy man
Sufism

• Spiritual enlightenment often takes the form of ecstatic dance
  • This dancing often took the form of repeated ritual and action
  • Some Sufi dancers were called Whirling Dervishes

• Divine insights attained are expressed in beautiful verses of poetry
Sufism

• The divine experiences and insights of Sufis were shared with other Muslims in the form of teaching or public performances

• Sufis frequently served as spiritual and moral counselors for mainstream Muslims

• Because of their willingness to share intimate experiences of the divine, Sufis sometimes became the victims of persecution and even violence
Sufism

- The actions and rituals of Sufism gave many mainstream Muslims an outlet for their intense religious feelings that was generally acceptable to the religious authorities.

- Sufis taught Muslims how to love God.

- Sufis gave Muslims a richer and more fulfilling personal life for all Muslims.
Sufism

• Responsible for spreading Islam in Africa and throughout Asia in two ways:

  • Because they begged for food and did not own homes, Sufis were wandering mystics and became missionaries

  • Secondly, their emphasis on experience rather than doctrines allowed them to adapt to many host cultures and form syncretic belief systems
SPREAD OF SUFISM
13TH-16TH CENTURIES

NORTHERN AFRICA
MIDDLE EAST
INDIA
SOUTHEAST ASIA

http://www.worldhistorymaps.info/Maps.html
Bhakti Movement

• Developed in India

• Bhakti was a new interpretation of Hinduism

• Grew in popularity in India from 500 to 1000 CE

• It emphasized developing a personal relationship with a god, particularly Vishnu
Bhakti Movement

• Followers of the Bhakti movement believed they had a personal relationship with their chosen god

• They displayed and described this relationship with their god in metaphors in the form of friendship, family, or even romantic love

• Followers believed that having and maintaining these kind of relationships in their lives was a form of worshipping their god
Bhakti Movement

- It appealed to groups and people that were discriminated against or with limited rights in traditional Hindu culture
  - Most importantly it challenged the Caste System

- It stressed the individual's relationship with a god rather than his or her position in society

- It gained a strong following among Hindu women, mainly those of low caste
Bhakti Movement

- Bhakti followers showed love and respect for their god through personal worship and adoration

- The most common way to do this was through the creation and reading of poetry

- Bhakti also encouraged all people to participate in religious chants, songs, rituals
  - Traditional Hinduism only allowed priests and high caste people to participate in these ceremonies
BUDDHIST MONASTICISM

• Buddha and his bhikku, or monks, adopted a pattern of traveling and preaching, followed by rest. The pattern was encouraged by the three-month monsoon season, when rains made it difficult to travel.

• Local believers supported the bhikku with donations, allowing them time to study and meditate. The retreats gradually became known as viharas and eventually grew into monasteries.
BUDDHIST MONASTICISM

- Life in the monasteries was regulated by a set of rules to create a bond between the monks

- The most common rules followed included:
  - Personal poverty
  - Vegetarianism
  - Forbidding drinking alcohol, fornication, and engaging in violence
  - Regular Meditation and study of Buddhist teaching
  - Decisions were made in a democratic manner,
    - A final decision requiring a unanimous vote
BUDDHIST MONASTICISM

• Buddhist Monasteries became centers of Buddhist learning and education
  - Children could be sent to monasteries to be educated and chose to become or not become monks themselves

• Buddhist monasteries were also known for their incredible creation of art and architecture
  - Monks created/built
    - Beautiful temples
    - Statues
    - Paintings
    - Works of Gold
BUDDHIST MONASTICISM

• Some like the Theravada Buddhist monks refused to do manual labor and others like the Zen Buddhist monks thought manual labor taught discipline

• Buddhist monasteries were established in China and the refusal to work caused some Confucians to label the monks as unproductive parasites on society
BUDDHIST MONASTICISM

• Life in the Monasteries gave people a new alternative to simply being peasants and farmers

• Monks and nuns were given a chance to be educated, create art, live a life of simplicity, and travel

• This was especially important for women
  • Most Asia societies were extremely patriarchal and women had very limited power
  • A life of monasticism opened up many opportunities that would otherwise have
BUDDHIST MONASTICISM

• The discipline and piety of the monks attracted great support from the local population, who often donated gold, slaves, land, and other valuables to the local monastery.

• Kings and local rulers would often build monasteries or donate wealth to monasteries in order to win popularity and support from their citizens.

• However, it was not uncommon for local rulers to attack monasteries to gain their wealth and attempt to weaken their influence.
BUDDHIST MONASTICISM

• The construction and influence of new monasteries helped spread the teachings and influence of Buddhism throughout South Asia, Southeast Asia, and East Asia.

• Buddhist monks and nuns traveling to visit new monasteries also helped to spread Buddhism throughout the region.

• Monks and nuns served as missionaries both on purpose and purely through their personal interactions.