

- 1 **World History I**
 HIST 1210
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- 2 **Indian Geography**
 - Indian subcontinent or South Asia
 - Indian Ocean coastline
 - Mountains to North
 - Indus and Ganges Rivers
 - Monsoons (June-Oct.).
- 3 **Indus Valley Civilization**
 - Harappa, Lothal, Mohenjodaro
 - Centered on rivers
 - Ports on coast
 - Inland towns away from rivers too.
- 4 **Indus Valley Civilization**
 - Evidence for government:
 - Town layout
 - Uniform bricks
 - Sewage system
 - Granaries
 - Large religious buildings.
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- 5 **Indus Valley Civilization**
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 - Conclusion:
 - Centralized
 - Militaristic
 - religious.
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- 6 **Indus Valley Civilization**
 - Technology
 - agriculture, possibly irrigation
 - domesticated animals
 - cotton and weaving
 - stone/ivory carving
 - pottery wheel
 - metal-working (including “lost wax”)
 - writing (untranslated).
- 7 **Indus River Valley Collapse:
Evidence**
 - Rig Veda (800 BCE or earlier)
 - Invasion by Aryans (around 1500 BCE?)
 - Some cities already in ruins
 - Fleeting epidemic disease?

8  **Indus River Valley Collapse: Evidence**

- Archaeology:
 - Buildings in ruins (no evidence of violent deaths)
 - Drier climate, disappearance of Saraswati River
 - Continued habitation of ruins.

9  **Indus River Valley Collapse**

- Theories of collapse
 - Invasions
 - Ecological disaster
 - Break-down of central government.

10  **Ganges River Valley and Aryans**

- Aryan invasions in 1500s BCE
- New centers of civilization
 - Ganges River Valley
 - Sri Lanka.

11  **Working through the *Rig Veda's* "Hymn to Creation"**

- Divine and legendary figures:
 - "Thousand-headed Purusha"
 - ="first man" and "universal self" (Leeming, David. "Purusha." In *The Oxford Companion to World Mythology*. : Oxford University Press, 2005. Oxford Reference Books Online Premium.)
 - "From him was Viraj born, from Viraj evolved Purusha"
 - ="the first offspring of Brahmā" (Johnson, W. J. "Virāj." In *A Dictionary of Hinduism*. Oxford University Press, 2009. Oxford Reference Books Online Premium.)
 - "from the mouth Indra and Agni"
 - Indra ="king of the gods" and Agni="fire god" Leeming, David. "Indra." In *A Dictionary of Asian Mythology*. : Oxford University Press, 2001 and "Agni." In *World Encyclopedia*. : Philip's. Oxford Reference Books Online Premium.

12  **Working through the *Rig Veda's* "Hymn to Creation"**

- Religious rituals
 - "then the spring was its clarified butter, the summer the sacrificial fuel, and the autumn the oblation"
 - "sprinkled with sacred water"
 - "verses and sacred chants"

13 **Working through the *Rig Veda's* "Hymn to Creation"**

- What were the important elements in creation
 - "verses and the sacred chants"
 - horses, cows, goats, sheep
 - Brahman, rajanya [=kshatriya], vaishyas, shudra
 - the moon, the sun
 - Indra and Agni
 - the wind
 - atmosphere, heaven, earth.

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14 **Working through the *Rig Veda's* "Hymn to Creation"**

- Nature of Purusha
 - "pervaded the earth on all sides, still extends ten fingers beyond it"
 - "whatever has been and whatever is going to be"
 - "lord of immortality and also of what grows on account of food"
 - "All creatures constitute but one quarter of him"
 - "the sacrificial victim"

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15 **Writing (5 minutes)**

- What can you say about Aryan (early Indian) religion and culture based on "The Hymn to Creation" in the *Rig Veda*?

16 **Ganges River Valley and Aryans**

- Evidence
 - Sanskrit (Indo-European language family)
 - Rig Veda, Upanishads, other literature
 - Archaeology and artwork.

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17 **Vedic Religion**

- Many gods
- Varnas: 4 classes
- Exclusion of untouchables.

18 **Vedic Religion**

- Dharma: duty, maintaining rules of your varna
- Karma: righteousness, acquired through dharma
- Sansara: rebirth (new varna based on karma)
- Moksha: release from cycle of rebirth.

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19 **Vedic Religion**

- Growing formalism (up to 600 BCE):
 - prayers
 - sacrifices
 - ceremonies
 - strict adherence to rules of your varna.

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20 **Aryan Society: Four Varnas**

- 2 • All varnas:
 - dietary restrictions
 - marriage restrictions
 - occupational restrictions.
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21 **Aryan Society: Four Varnas**

- 2 • Brahmins:
 - priests
 - reading sacred texts
 - remaining separate from other varnas
 - performing rituals.
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22 **Aryan Society: Four Varnas**

- 2 • Kshatriya
 - warriors, rulers
- Vaishya
 - merchants
- Shudra
 - commoners: tillers, herders, laborers, servants.
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23 **Aryan Society: Four Varnas**

- 2 • Castes (jati)
 - subdivisions of varnas
 - more fluid than varnas
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24 **Later Developments in Hinduism (after about 600 BCE)**

- Varied forms of religious expression
 - Worship of many gods
 - Rituals (daily or seasonal)
 - Personal meditation
 - Pilgrimage
 - Smaller offerings
 - Personal asceticism
 - Reading of Vedas by warriors
 - Festivals.

25 26 **South Asian Chronology**

- Harappan period (2500-1600 or 1200 BCE)
- Aryan invasions (1700-1000 BCE)
- Composition of Rig Veda and other Vedas (1200-700 BCE)
- Era of Brahman dominance (700-550 BCE)