Religious Studies 20
Indian Civilization

Winter    HSSB 1173, TR 3:30-4:45
Instructors  Gurinder Singh Mann, 3051 HSSB, mann@religion.ucsb.edu
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Office hours  TR 2.00-3.00

Description: The course begins with an examination of the Indus culture and goes on to trace
the developments associated with the rise of Hindus, Jains, Buddhists, and Sikhs, the arrival of
Muslims and the British, and the challenges of modernity and globalization presently faced by
the people living in the Indian subcontinent. Attention is paid to the evolution of religious
beliefs, socio-political institutions, and literary and artistic achievements.

Requirements:
1. Section attendance (15%)
2. A quiz on the readings of week 1 to 2, April 14 (10%)
3. In class mid-term test on, April 28 (30%)
   Report (2-pages) due May 12 (5%)
5. A quiz on the readings of week 6-8, May 24 (10%)
6. A research paper (7 pages) due in class on June 2 (30%)
   The topic of the paper is to be decided in consultation with the instructors

Readings:
The class reader is available at <www.alternativecopy.com> Tel. 968-1055
Recommended: A.T. Embree, ed., Sources of Indian Civilization (Columbia UP, 1988)
Hermann Kulke and D. Rothermund, A History of India (Routledge, 2003)

Schedule of Classes and Readings:
Week 1 (March 29-31)
I. Introduction to the course
   Western and World History (M. E. Sharpe, 1997), 631-662
   *“The Kumbh Mela,” a documentary about a Hindu religious gathering
   Recommended: R. Thapar, “Landscapes and Peoples,” Early India (UC Press, 04), 37-68
II. Indus valley civilization

J.M. Kenoyer, [http://www.harappa.com/indus/indus0.html](http://www.harappa.com/indus/indus0.html)

Week 2 (April 5-7)

I. Early Aryan culture
A. T. Embree, ed., *Sources of Indian Civilization*, 7-28
H. Kulke and D. Rothermund, *A History of India*, 29-46

II. Classical period
A. T. Embree, ed., *Sources of Indian Civilization*, 43-48
H. Kulke and D. Rothermund, *A History of India*, 47-102

Week 3 (April 12-14)

I. Buddhism
P. Harvey, *Buddhism* (Cambridge University Press, 2003), 9-31
*“Sanchi,” a Marg documentary*

II. Jainism
*“Ahimsa,” a Karma Presentations*

Quiz on the readings of weeks 1 to 2 (10%)

Week 4 (April 19-21)

I. The Hindu way of life
A. T. Embree, ed., *Sources of Indian Civilization*, 213-233
R. Thapar, *Early India* (UC Press, 2004), 462-489
*“Konarak,” a Marg documentary*

II. Arrival of Muslims
A. Wink, *Al Hind* (Delhi: OUP, 1999), 1: 192-218
*“Vadali Brothers,” Sufi singing in the Punjab*

Week 5 (April 26-28)

I. Rise and fall of the Mughals
Metcalfs, *A Concise History of India*, 1-27
C. Markovitz, *India* (Anthem, 2002), 150-171
*“Visions of Paradise,” a Marg documentary*

II. Mid-term Test (30%)

Week 6 (May 3-5)
I. The Bhakti Movement
A. T. Embree, ed., Sources of Indian Civilization, 342-378
*“Kabir in Song,” Folk Bhajans by Prahlad Singh Tipaniya
II. The Sikhs
G. S. Mann, “Sikhism,” The Columbia Companion of Eastern Religions

Sunday, May 8 (12.30-2.30), Visit to the Sikh temple, 3076 Loma Vista, Ventura

Week 7 (May 10-12)
I. Arrival of the Europeans
Metcalfs, A Concise History of India, 55-90
C.A. Bayly, Indian Society and the Making of the British Empire, 7-44
II. 1857 and its aftermath
A.T. Embree, Imagining India (Delhi: OUP, 1989), 110-116
*“Shatranj ke Khiladi,” a film by Satyajit Ray

The Sikh temple visit report (2-pages) due in class on May 12 (5%) 

Week 8 (May 17-19)
I. Cultural engagements I
S. Hay, ed., Sources of Indian Civilization (New York: CUP, 1988), 2: 36-83
S. Bose and A. Jalal, Modern South Asia, (Delhi: OUP, 1999), 107-125
II. Cultural engagements II
S. Bose and A. Jalal, Modern South Asia, (Delhi: OUP, 1999), 107-125

Quiz on the readings of weeks 6 to 8 (10%)

Week 9 (May 24-26)
I. Rise of nationalism and Partition of India
S. Bose and A. Jalal, Modern South Asia, 156-164
S. Sarkar, Modern India 1885-1947 (McMillan, 1986), 414-454
Recommended: U. Butalia, The Other Side of Silence (Delhi: Penguin, 1999)
*“Khamosh Pani,” a film by Sabiha Samar
II. Post-Independence India
S. Walpert, A New History of India, 371-405
*“Indira Gandhi,” a BBC film
Week 10 (May 31-June 2)

I. Post-Independence India

*"In the Name of God," a film by Anand Patwardan*

II. Global South Asians

*"Your Ever Well Wisher," an ITV production*

Research Paper Due in Class (30%)