

SYLLABUS HISTORY 448(=South Asian Studies 448), 3-4 credits

HISTORY OF MEDIEVAL INDIA

FALL 2000-2001

4:00-5:15 TR 2650 Humanities Bldg

Instructor: Prof. André Wink

Office hours: 3:00-4:00 WR

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This course focuses on the history of medieval India in a broad sense, i. e. the period from about the seventh to the late eighteenth century A. D. In the first few weeks of the course some attention is also given to the earlier history of the Indian subcontinent in order to provide a background for the study of medieval India proper. There will be approximately 27 lectures of 75 minutes each, for which in most cases readings are assigned. These assignments must be read prior to the lectures.

Textbooks and other reading materials required for all students (3 and 4 credits):

A. Textbooks available in the University Bookstore and on reserve in the College Library

1. A. L. Basham, *The Wonder that was India* (New Delhi, 1987) [Basham] DS425B33 1981
2. R. Gombrich, *Theravada Buddhism* (London & New York, 1991) [Gombrich] BQ7185G66 1988
3. G. Johnson, *Cultural Atlas of India* (Oxford, 1996) [Johnson] DS421J6 1996
4. R. M. Eaton, *Islamic History as Global History* (Washington, 1990) [Eaton, *Global History*] DS36.855E2 1990
5. D. Morgan, *The Mongols* (Oxford, 1986) [Morgan] DS19M67 1990
6. B. Gascoigne, *The Great Moghuls* (London, 1973) [Gascoigne] DS461G3 1971a
7. K. N. Chaudhuri, *Trade and Civilisation in the Indian Ocean* (Cambridge, 1985) [Chaudhuri] HF3939.6C47 1985

B. Articles or bookchapters on reserve in the College Library

1. J. G. Shaffer, 'The Indo-Aryan Invasions: Cultural Myth and Archaeological Reality', in: J. R. Lukacs (ed.), *The People of South Asia: The Biological Anthropology of India, Pakistan, and Nepal* (New York & London, 1984), pp. 77-90.

2. K. McPherson, *The Indian Ocean: A History of People and the Sea* (New Delhi, 1993), pp. 8-15, 45-64
3. A. Lamb, 'Indian Influence in Ancient South-East Asia', in: A. L. Basham (ed.), *A Cultural History of India* (Oxford, 1975), pp. 442-454
4. R. M. Eaton, 'Multiple Lenses: Differing Perspectives of Fifteenth-Century Calicut', in: L. M. Sears (ed.), *Autonomous Histories, Particular Truths: Essays in Honour of John Smail* (Madison, 1993), pp. 71-86
5. J. F. Richards, 'The Islamic frontier in the east: expansion into South Asia', *South Asia*, 4 (October, 1974), pp. 91-109
6. J. F. Richards, 'Outflows of precious metals from early Islamic India', in: J. F. Richards (ed.), *Precious Metals in the Later Medieval and Early Modern Worlds* (Durham, 1983), pp. 183-205
7. R. E. Dunn, *The Adventures of Ibn Battuta: A Muslim Traveler of the 14th Century* (London & Sidney, 1986), Chapter 9 (pp. 183-212)
8. S. Dale, 'The Islamic Frontier in Southwest India: The Shahīd as a Cultural Ideal among the Mappillas of Malabar', *Modern Asian Studies*, 11, 1 (1977), pp. 41-55
9. R. M. Eaton, 'Approaches to the Study of Conversion to Islam in India', in: R. C. Martin (ed.), *Approaches to Islam in Religious Studies* (Tucson, 1985), pp. 106-123
10. A. Reid, 'The Islamization of Southeast Asia', in: M. A. Bakar, A. Kaur & A. Z. Ghazali (eds), *Historia: Essays in Commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the Department of History, University of Malaya* (Kuala Lumpur, 1984), pp. 13-33
11. J. F. Richards, *The Mughal Empire* (Cambridge, 1993), Chapter 3 (pp. 58-78) & Chapter 4 (pp. 79-93)

C. Reader available at Bob's Copy Shop (University Square)

André Wink, *Regional Kingdoms of Early Medieval India* (Madison, 1998)

D. Class handouts

Textbooks required for 4-credit students and graduate students only:

1. A. T. Embree (ed.), *Alberuni's India* (New York, 1971), pp. v-xix, 3-32, 50-58 (Ch. V), 99-104 (Ch. IX), 111-124 (Ch. X), 130-153 (Ch. LXIII-LXVIII) DS418B5 1971
2. Wheeler M. Thackston (transl. & ed.), *The Baburnama: Memoirs of Babur, Prince and Emperor* (New York & Oxford, 1996), pp. 20-31, 309-362 DS461.1B23213 1995

Course requirements: attendance of lectures, readings as specified, one mid-term and one final exam, one essay of 5-7 pages (double-spaced) on a take-home question

Additional requirements for 4th credit and graduate students: extra readings as specified, with additional questions at the final exam

Exam dates: mid-term October 24; take home essay question November 21 (hand in December 14); final exam December 14, 4:00-5:15

Lecture 1: September 5

Introduction

Handout: course syllabus

Lecture 2: September 7

Some general problems of Indian history

Readings: Basham, pp. 1-9

Lecture 3: September 12

The periodization of Indian history

Handout: table showing the periodization of Indian history

Lecture 4: September 14

The historical geography of India

Readings: Johnson, pp. 12-56

Lecture 5: September 19

The historical development of Indian languages

Handouts: one map and a graph showing the principal languages of the Indian subcontinent and their numbers of speakers

Readings: Basham, pp. 388-401 (=Chapter IX, 1. Language)

Lecture 6: September 21

Pre-historical origins: the Indus valley (Harappā) civilization and the transition to Vedic India

Readings: Basham, pp. 10-44; Johnson, pp. 58-64; Shaffer, 'The Indo-Aryan Invasions: Cultural Myth and Archaeological Reality'

Lecture 7: September 26

Ancient empires: from the Mauryas to the Guptas; Rome and the trade of the Indian Ocean

Readings: Basham, pp. 45-71 (=Chapter III, up to 'The Middle Ages in the North'); Johnson, pp. 64-81; McPherson, *The Indian Ocean*, pp. 8-15, 45-64

Lecture 8: September 28

Buddhism, state and society in ancient India

Readings: Gombrich, pp. 1-136

Lecture 9: October 3

The Buddhist tradition in Sri Lanka

Readings: Gombrich, pp. 137-171

Slides: Buddhism in Sri Lanka

Lecture 10: October 5

Early medieval India and the expansion of Islam, seventh to early eleventh century

Handout: maps of the early medieval world

Readings: Eaton, *Global History*, pp. 1-29

Lecture 11: October 10

Regional kingdoms of early medieval India: Arab Sind and Makran; Karkotas of Kashmir; Palas of Bengal; Gurjara Pratiharas of North India; Rashtrakutas of the Deccan and Gujarat; Colas of South India

Readings: Wink, 'Regional Kingdoms of Early Medieval India'

Slides: Makran and Sind; monuments of Kashmir, Bengal, North India, the Deccan, and South India

Lecture 12: October 12

The rise of monumental temple Hinduism

Slides: Indian temples from the fifth to the fourteenth centuries A. D.

Lecture 13: October 17

The Indianization of Southeast Asia

Readings: Lamb, 'Indian Influence in Ancient South-East Asia'

Slides: monuments of the Indianized states of Angkor, Pagan and Java

MID-TERM EXAM: October 24

Lecture 14: October 26

The trade of India and the Indian Ocean in the half millennium prior to the Portuguese discovery of the sea route in 1498

Readings: Eaton, 'Multiple Lenses: Differing Perspectives of Fifteenth-Century Calicut'

Lecture 15: November 2

India and the Turko-Mongol world

Readings: Morgan, pp. 32-96, 199-206

Lecture 16: November 7

The Islamic frontier of conquest in India

Handout: summary of dates and dynasties, from the Ghaznavids to the Sultans of Delhi and their contemporaries

Readings: Richards, 'The Islamic frontier in the east: expansion into South Asia'; Johnson, p. 81

Slides: monuments of the Ghaznavids, Ghurids and Slave Kings of Delhi

Lecture 17: November 9

State, society and economy of the Sultanate of Delhi and its contemporaries (1206-1526 A. D.); regional varieties of Indo-Muslim architecture in the period of the Sultanate of Delhi

Readings: Richards, 'Outflows of precious metals from early Islamic India'; Dunn, *The Adventures of Ibn Battuta*, Chapter 9 (pp. 183-212); Johnson, pp. 82-83

Slides: architecture of the Sultans of Delhi and their regional successors; architecture of Vijayanagara

Lecture 18: November 14

The Indian Ocean: a Muslim Mediterranean?

Readings: Dale, 'The Islamic Frontier in Southwest India: The Shahīd as a Cultural Ideal among the Mappillas of Malabar'

Slides: Indian Ocean dhows, harbor towns, pearl-divers; architecture of Muslim settlements on the Indian Ocean coasts of Gujarat, Malabar, Sumatra, and the Malay Peninsula

Lecture 19: November 16

Conversion to Islam

Readings: Eaton, *Global History*, pp. 31-51; Eaton, 'Approaches to the Study of Conversion to Islam in India'; Reid, 'The Islamization of Southeast Asia'

Lecture 20: November 21

The age of Muslim empires: Mughals, Safawids and Ottomans in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries

Handout: map showing the political configurations of Muslim empires in the lands around the Indian Ocean in the sixteenth to eighteenth centuries

Take home: essay question

Lecture 21: November 28

The rise and early development of the Mughal empire under Babur (1526-1530) and Humayun (1530-1556)

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 11-74; Johnson, pp. 84-86

Slides: Timurid Herat, early Mughals and Suris

Lecture 22: November 30

Akbar and the consolidation of the empire (1556-1605)

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 75-128; Johnson, pp. 86-97

Slides: art and architecture in Akbar's India

Lecture 23: December 5

The Mughal empire under Jahangir (1605-1627), Shah Jahan (1627-1658) and Aurangzeb (1658-1707)

Readings: Gascoigne, pp. 131-249; Johnson, pp. 97-111

Slides: monuments of Jahangir, Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb

Lecture 24: December 7

Political constitution, agrarian system and economy of the Mughal empire

Readings: Richards, *Mughal Empire*, Chapters 3 (pp. 58-78) & 4 (pp. 79-93)

Lecture 25: December 12

Guns and sails: European mercantile expansion in the Indian Ocean; India in the eighteenth century

Readings: Chaudhuri, Chapters 3 & 4 (pp. 63-97); Johnson, pp. 112-145

FINAL EXAM: December 14