Chapter 4- Ancient India

Section 1- The Indus and Ganges River Valleys

India's Geographic Setting

- - Kite shaped- in Asia, _____ to the north, Indian Ocean to the south
 - India, Pakistan, Bangladesh
 - Culturally separated- Hindu Kush, Himalayas, Indian Ocean created dividers

India's Geographic Setting

•	Α	C	limate	of M	lonsoons
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_	Monsoons-			

- October-May: winds from northeast- dry air
- June-September: winds from southeast, Indian Oceanrains drench plains and river valleys
- Monsoons are critical to life- too little:______; too much:

India's Geographic Setting

- Barriers and Pathways
 - Some passes in the mountains- highways for

_____thru history

- Rivers begin in the mountains
 - ______- Himalayas to Arabian Sea
 - ______- Himalayas to Bay of Bengal
 - Both fueled by melting snow and rain
 - Make farming possible

Life in the Indus River Valley

- Wheat and other grains;= population growth
- 2500-1500 bc cities flourished in valley

 - Mohenjo-Daro was the largest- along Indus River

Life in the Indus River Valley

- Ancient City Planners
 - Mohenjo-Daro built above ground, protect from floods
 - Homes/workshops on one side of city, public buildings on other side
 - Streets between them
 - High point- citadel (fortress)- enclosed with a brick wall
 - Protected most important buildings (grain house, etc)
 - Had a drainage system- took waste and excess water out of city
 - Canals outside city caught floodwaters- directed to where it was needed

Life in the Indus Valley

- Life in Mohenjo-Daro
 - Merchants and artisans lined the streets- grain carts walk streets
 - Traders from as far away as
 - Homes opened to courtyards- kids played
 - Language, writing, government, religion-

No ancient tombs, no evidence to suggest polytheism

Life in the Indus Valley

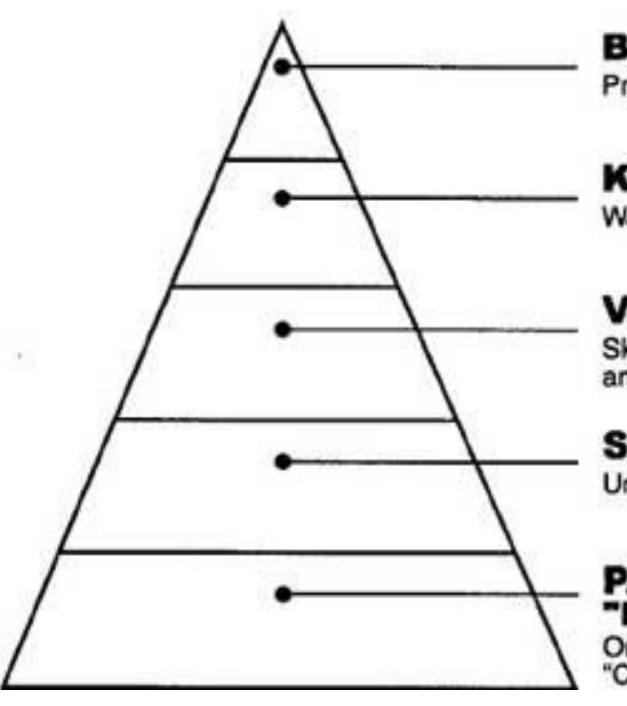
- A Mysterious Decline
 - 2000bc- Indus farmers abandoned land
 - Drought? Climate change? Earthquakes? Floods?
 - 2000bc- 1500bc- newcomers came in and eventually controlled the region

- Newcomers- _____- "noble" or "highborn"
- Migrated (moved) from central Asia-
- Horse-drawn chariots- overwhelmed enemies
- Cultures began to blend- Aryan and traditional

- Aryan Culture Spreads
 - First developed in northern Indus valley
 - Spread to Ganges in east
 - 800bc- northern India- tools and weapons of

Iron axes- cleared forests- farms, villages, cities

- Aryan Life
 - Religious books- _____"knowledge"
 - Early Aryans- herders/warriors- temporary villages
 - 3 social classes
 - 1. ______- priests- religious services, hymns, prayers
 - 2. _____
 - 3. _____
 - 4. (later) farm-workers, laborers, servants



BRAHMINS

Priests

KSHATRIYAS

Warriors and rulers

VAISYAS

Skilled traders, merchants, and minor officials

SUDRAS

Unskilled workers

PARIAH "Harijans"

Outcastes, "Untouchables," "Children of God"

- The Social Order
 - 500bc- strict class division-(class) system
 - Born into a caste
 - Castes became ______
 divided into 100s of groups based on occupation
 - Still exists but less rigid- interact and modern professions do not use castes