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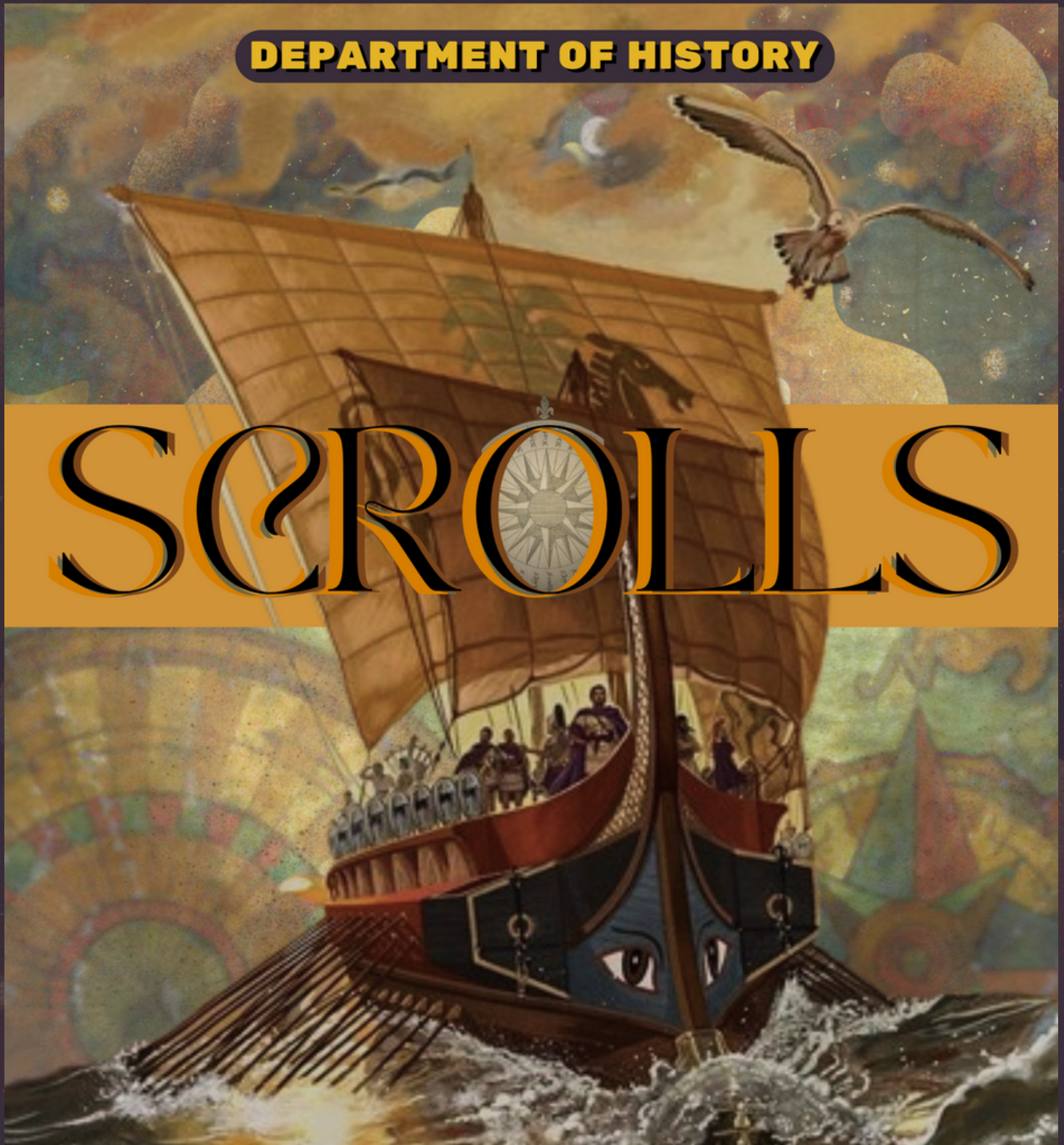
Bengaluru

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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

SCROLLS



TALES OF TRADES - TRACING TRADE ROUTES

VOL.6 ISSUE. 1

KRISTU JAYANTI COLLEGE

PRINCIPAL



The "Tales of Trades" publication is an amazing way for history department students to express their passion in academic writing. The theme investigates historical records of trade and encourages young people to think critically about them. Additionally, the motif has shown to be an understandable idea.

The History Department's passion for publishing the magazine has demonstrated its essential significance in the college's academic life. Students have found the theme "Tales of Trades" to be an engaging subject to learn about and connect to. In contrast to the conservative narrative, it offers a fresh perspective on history. Young students are being inspired by this to explore history in their own unique ways, and as a result, the history department is evolving in remarkable ways. This is also an ideal opportunity to credit the history department for the accomplishments. I would like to extend my best wishes and blessings for the progress of the department.

Fr Dr Augustine George
Principal

DEAN



Being a part of the most recent issue of "SCROLLS," a magazine published by Kristu Jayanti College's history department, is an interesting engagement. Sincere gratitude is extended to the chosen "Tales of Trades," which explore historical commerce.

It is our duty as modern historians to go under the well-worn heroic tales of the past and unearth the lesser-known relationships that have molded the world we live in today. I hope that this issue will give readers a new viewpoint and reveal some of the secrets hidden in history. In addition, I would like to express my gratitude to the entire student editorial team, faculty coordinators, and Prof. Ramya B, Coordinator of the Department of History, for their tremendous efforts in producing an issue that features engaging stories.

In addition, I implore every reader to really delve into the pages of this version in order to get a more profound comprehension of the modern world. I hope that readers will find it to be a compelling and absorbing read.

Dr Gopakumar AV
Dean, Faculty of Humanities

KRISTU JAYANTI COLLEGE

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND LANGUAGES



The SCROLLS has combined many artworks, literature and the other publications to highlight the Department of History's achievements. It sheds light on the world's enigmas, tragedies and conspiracies. The considerable efforts of the students and faculty demonstrate the department's dynamic orientation. The Department of History has served medium for students to enlighten themselves by using disciplined learning. It has combined history and pragmatism, providing doors for students and allowing them to pick a career. SCROLLS was put forth by Prof. Ramya B, Head of Department of History and the other faculty members. Best Regards.

Dr Kaveri Swami
Head, Dept of Social Sciences

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY



Our ancestors' legacy shapes who we are now. It is difficult to find and comprehend history as it was. Students have proposed "Tales of Trades: Tracing Trade Routes" as the theme for the current magazine, with the goal of exploring historically uncharted territory. This theme presents a singular chance to explore the lesser-known and more popular historical narratives. This issue's articles offer a historical overview of trade throughout various historical periods. The journal exposes its readers to lesser-known tales that are lost to time and offers them a new take on well-known historical events. This edition of the magazine Scrolls features a collection of pieces based on the understanding of aspiring historians concerning unearthed historical mysteries, written by them as primary authors of numerous articles as undergraduate students studying history. It's a tiny step in the direction of understanding oneself and the importance of the past. This academic year, the Department of History has made an effort to offer a variety of chances for valuing the finding of a significant historical past and pursuing a lifelong study of history. We thank the editorial team for their tireless efforts, the technical team for creating a historically accurate production of the sixth edition of Scrolls, and aspiring historians for their factual and entertaining writing.

Mrs. B. Ramya
Coordinator, Department of History
Dr. K.B. Sakithyan and Dr. Ashwini Barla,
Assistant Professors, Department of History

Student Editorial



Greetings, History Enthusiasts,

It is a privilege to introduce the latest issue of the annual Scrolls magazine on behalf of the History Department. The magazine edition titled “Tales of Trades - Tracing Trade Routes” explores the interlink between History and the Economy. The main objective is to trace the catalytic effect trade has on the exchange of cultures. Along with the export of commodities lies the introduction of ideas embedded within.

Over the centuries, the hunger for commodities has interwoven a global village with accessible exchange. This transformation has turned the once-alien world into a global neighborhood. The publications exhibit the creativity and passion students in miscellaneous departments bear for the discipline. The diversity portrayed through a simple activity such as trade is a phenomenon worth igniting our curiosity. The publication brings forth a wide array of articles that explore trade from different perspectives.

Our authors have expressed their eagerness and innovation, covering leitmotifs from Nippon to the Yucatan Peninsula. The theme covers finance, commerce, and diplomacy, thereby showcasing history as a multidisciplinary subject.

We wish to express our gratitude for receiving 37 submissions and having the opportunity to integrate them into an enriching publication. We hope the Scrolls issue “Tales of Trades” sets a hallmark for the department and kindles its spirit. We wish the department the best of wishes for its future endeavors.

Warm regards,
Editing Committee

KRISTU JAYANTI COLLEGE



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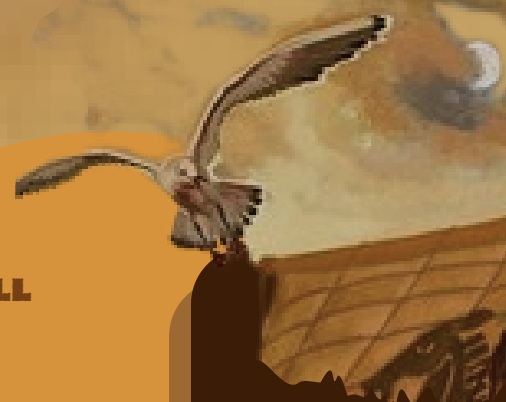
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SCROLLS

THE PHOENICIANS USED OPEN WOODEN SHIPS MADE FROM THE CEDARS OF LEBANON. THESE WERE PROPELLED BY SQUARE SAILS AND 2 STEERING OARS AND WERE THE FIRST PEOPLE TO ESTABLISH SHIPPING ROUTES AND COLONIES THROUGHOUT THE MEDITERRANEAN.



CONNECTOR OF COUNTRIES

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1

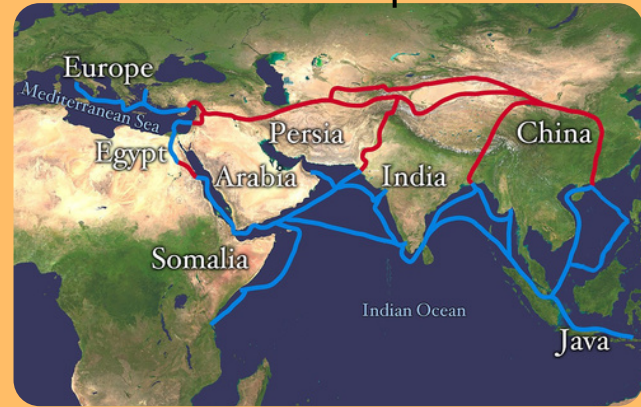
ORIGIN AND MEANING OF TRADE:

Trade is a practice where people exchange goods or services with one another. The word trade comes from the Anglo-Saxon word "Trade" meaning to carry goods to market; it's a term that predates written history. Trade was practiced during prehistoric times. Barter was the major means to exchange goods in absence of currency.

HISTORY OF TRADE

Trade has been well recorded throughout human history. Raw materials used for manufacturing jewelry were traded within Egypt from 3000 BC. Long trade routes first appeared around the same timeline, when the Sumerians in Mesopotamia traded with the members of the Harappan civilization of the Indus valley. From the dawn of Greek civilization to the fall of the Roman Empire in the 5th century, notable trade routes brought valuable spices to Europe from the Orient, mainly China.

One of the most renowned trade routes in history remains the Silk Road, which linked a 5000-mile trade route which encompasses China, India, the Roman Empire, and Persia. It played a great role in catalyzing cultural exchange, economic growth, and the spread of ideas. The Silk Road owes its name to the valuable silk; the most sought-after commodities traded during that timeline. It wasn't just all about the silk, though. Many other goods such as spices, precious metals, ceramics, and exotic animals were also traded. The Silk road was not merely a physical road, but a complex interconnection of land and sea routes that spanned thousands of miles.



Timeline of trade route:

3000 BCE

Trade routes emerged in ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt.

2000 BCE

The Indus valley civilization engaged in long-distance trade.

1200 BCE

The Phoenicians established a trade network across the Mediterranean sea.

500 BCE

The Silk Road begins to flourish, connecting Asia, Europe, and Africa.

300 BCE

The rise of the Roman Empire brings extensive trade networks and economic growth.

7th to 15th century

The Islamic Golden Age sees the expansion of trade across the Islamic world.

15th century

European explorers like Christopher Columbus and Vasco Da Gama seek new trade routes

16th to 18th century

The age of Exploration leads to the establishment of global trade networks.

19th century

The Industrial Revolution transforms trade with technological advancements.

20th century

Globalization and advancements in transportation and communication revolutionize trade

TRADE IN ROMAN WORLD

The Roman Empire was one of the most celebrated civilizations. Its origin dates back to 27 BCE and it remained glorious for about 500 years. At its peak, the empire stretched territorially from Britain to Egypt and from Spain to the Middle East. The Romans were well regarded for their advanced engineering, impressive architecture, and their legal and administrative systems. They also made significant contributions to art, literature, and philosophy. The Roman Empire had a massive influence on the world, and its legacy can still be witnessed today.

TRADE ROUTES

Trade routes and currency aided the Romans to build a solid empire. The Romans owe their expansion to a series of wars. The Romans were well versed in the art of conquest. But more than military influence, administrative commands colonies. Administration heavily relies on the empire's treasury, in order to provide substantial goods as well as luxuries, and pay for its armies and government.

In order to enhance one's economy, trade must eventually be promoted. As the empire grew, the Romans improved trade infrastructure by improving trade routes and introducing a single currency, something novel in ancient history. The ultimate goal was to integrate markets of various regions and channel goods through a uniformly distributed system.

At its height during the 100 CE, the Roman Empire, still at its infancy, reigned over regions surrounding the Mediterranean. The gradual expansion of the empire's territory had blessed the Romans to manipulate trade routes within its borders. Traders commuting by land and sea delivered exotic products to people and enriched the economy throughout the empire. Spain largely dealt with products such as wine, olive oil, copper, and gold.

Britain exported its tin and wool, since it was scarce of other raw materials. Gaul traded their olives, wine, grain, glass, and pottery. Wool, linen, and timber were shipped from Asia Minor (present-day Turkey) and Syria. Egypt provided its iconic papyrus, which was used to make paper, and gigantic amounts of grain. Every year vast grain fleets sailed from Egypt and Africa, bringing much-needed food to Rome. Trade was used as an instrument to import some exotic materials, commodities common Roman folks were rarely familiar with. Caravans are valuable and rare goods to busy markets and urban plazas around the Mediterranean. From Africa came its precious gold, incense, and ivory, and luxuries such as ostrich eggs. Indian spices, Chinese silk, and other goods traveled across Asia by land to cities like Antioch in Syria. From there, they were shipped to Rome.

The Romans upgraded these trade routes and constructed new ones. They constructed harbors, canals, and a vast system of roads. While it lasted, the Pax Romana (Roman Peace) provided the administrative order and stability that trade required. The Roman army patrolled the trade routes to provide security against dacoits.

In turn, trade investments helped expand commercial activities and the economy progressed. People irrespective of their region could use the trade routes to connect with customers or vendors from remote regions of the empire. This meant they could purchase goods which were not available in the region, thereby leading to a rich and diverse economy. For instance, the city of Rome was deprived of food grains to feed its population and could not rely on local farmers to fulfill these escalating demands. By opening trade with Egypt, Rome could satisfy its civilians and Egypt could benefit from the economic surplus generated. The people who made up the Roman Empire came from many cultures and spoke many languages. The Romans knew that people needed a standard way of exchanging money if trade was to flourish. So the government produced currency in the form of coins.



Coins were made of silver, gold, and sometimes bronze. The value of each coin was equal to the value of the metal it contained. Everyone learned to use the same coins, which made it much easier to set prices and to buy and sell goods (and pay taxes). Besides making trade easier, coins helped the government to communicate with people. Inscriptions and images on the coins sent messages from Rome throughout the empire.

Overall, trade has been a fundamental aspect of human civilization throughout history. It has allowed societies to exchange goods, ideas, and cultures, fostering economic growth and development. From ancient civilizations like the Romans to modern globalized world, trade has played a significant role in shaping our interconnected world. It continues to be a driving force in the globaleconomy, connecting people and nations across borders. The evolution of trade has transformed societies and contributed to the progress of humanity.

ROMAN DENOMINATIONS



THE SILK ROAD

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21HSPS13

2



The vast trade network of silk Roads has for over 1500 years played a pivotal role in exchange of social, cultural heritage, beliefs and intellectual ideas across diverse regions.

Silk Road started operations during the Han dynasty of China in 130 BCE until 1453 CE when the Ottoman Empire closed off trade with the west, Serving as the main trade route for centuries.

It extended from the Gobi desert to the Pamir Mountains without the control of any government, robbery and looting was very prominent during early days. Silk route was the most well-traveled pathway that connected Europe to east Asia.

Most common commodities from Asia included silk from China, jade, precious stones, porcelain, tea and spices. In exchange for horses, glassware, textiles and manufactured goods were transported from the west.

Marco Polo was first among the Europeans who traveled via the Silk route. He gravely wrote about his tours and explorations giving modern scholars good substance to study the Silk trade route and the technologies, knowledge and innovations which spread due to it's functioning. Silk route has also played a drastic role in the exchange of ideas, religions like Nestorian, Christianity and Buddhism from India and also philosophies across regions. Towns developed around the silk route leading to modernisation. The intermixing of population and widespread movements also lead to the development of languages, cultures, art, crafts which influenced each other.

The horses brought from the east gave impetus to the might of the Mongol Army. The gunpowder from China changed the military arsenal of the east. Diseases like "Black Death" also traveled along silk Road causing massive devastation.

Silk Road served as a great amplifier to the "age of exploration". Many parts of the Silk Road are currently listed as UNESCO's world heritage site.

MODERN TRADE IN KARNATAKA

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3



Throughout history, Karnataka has held a significant position as a junction of trade and commerce, initially celebrated for exporting essential commodities such as coffee, spices, silk, cashew nuts, handicrafts, and incense sticks. However, over the past two decades, the state has undergone a progressive and innovative shift, emerging as a key player in the export of engineering goods, ready-made garments, leather goods, chemicals, minerals, and ores.

India, and Karnataka in particular, has a rich history of maritime trade, dating back to ancient times. Indian merchants were once masters of sea-borne trade routes connecting Europe, Asia, and Africa. Karnataka, with its strategic location and thriving economy, played a crucial role in these trade networks. Foreign visitors from various parts of the world have provided detailed accounts of India's diverse trade during medieval and modern periods.



One of the key factors contributing to Karnataka's flourishing trade was its extensive network of inter-regional and intra-regional commercial contacts. The state also maintained robust international trade relations with oversea. Pilgrimages to holy sites like Shravanabelagola provided merchants with opportunities to sell their goods to local residents and travelers, while religious festivals and caravans facilitated business transactions. The existence of a standard currency system, uniform weights and measures, well-developed transportation infrastructure, and the sociable nature of merchants further facilitated trade.

The exchange of goods and ideas was not limited to Karnataka's borders but extended far beyond, fostering economic prosperity and cultural exchange. The merchants of Karnataka were known for their adherence to customary rules and ethical business practices, which further enhanced their reputation and facilitated long-term trade relationships.

Over time, Karnataka's trade landscape has evolved, adapting to changing economic dynamics and global trends. The state's transition from traditional commodities to value-added exports reflects its resilience and capacity for innovation. Despite these changes, Karnataka's rich legacy as a center of commerce continues to shape its economic identity, serving as a testament to its enduring legacy in the annals of trade history.

ODE TO PERSIA: CRADLE OF WEALTH

4

Grace S. George
BA Psychology II SEM
23PSYA17

In days of yore, 'neath sunlit Persian sky,
A tale unfolds of trade, both bold and high.
From Shiraz's vineyards to Persepolis' might,
The merchants ventured in the soft twilight.

Caravans laden with silks so fine,
Wove tales of trade in the ancient line.
Through deserts vast and oases fair,
Persian treasures flowed with regal air.

In bazaars adorned with hues so bright,
Amidst the spice stalls, a captivating sight.
Saffron and rugs, a rich exchange,
In Persian trade, a world did arrange.



Trade across Atlantic

5

Hannah Mariam Joseph
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22MBGE15

Introduction

An important aspect of trade is the voluntary exchange of goods and services between different economic sectors such as consumers, companies and nations. Since the parties are under no obligation to trade, a transaction will only occur if both parties consider it beneficial to their interests. Trading usually includes various activities like stock trading, cryptocurrency trading, and international trade.

Throughout history, trade has played a crucial role in shaping societies, economies, and cultures. Here are a few examples listed below:

Age of Exploration:

The Age of Exploration, sometimes called the Age of Discovery, began in the early 15th century and lasted through the 17th century. The period characterizes the time when Europeans began exploring the world by sea in search of new trading routes, wealth, and knowledge. The European powers had sought new trade routes to Asia, which led to the discovery of the Americas. This era of exploration and trade had significantly influenced global commerce and cultural exchange.

Triangular Trade:

The triangular trade took place during the colonial era, in the 16th to the 19th century. It was a trade that connected the European, African, and the American continents. This trade began when European products like metals, brass dishes, knives, tools, textiles, firearms, ammunition and alcoholic beverages were transported by ship to ports on the coast of western Africa.



From here, they were exchanged for enslaved people who were abducted from west central Africa. Finally, these slaves were sent to America where they were finally sold.

The Dutch East India Company:

The Dutch East India Company (VOC) was established in the 17th century, which played a significant role in the spice trade and had a considerable impact on Dutch economic and colonial expansion. It traded goods like spices, textiles, silver and copper across Asia. The company's fleet of ships transported these goods from Asia to Europe and then from Europe to Asia.

Byzantine's Melody

Monisha Anand
21COME17
BCom VI sem



In Byzantine halls enwrapped in riches,
A tale of trade, where the empire transcends.

Silk-clad whispers in Constantinople's heart,
Traders of races, even the rarest

Embraced by murals, royal and golden,
Byzantium's heart in trade is an infant.
From East to West, a tryst for silk,
Through bazaars bustling aside the ambitious moon.

Where hawkers and their crying blend,
Trade's notes resonate, awing the rich.
Through Hagia Sophia and its domes of grandeur,
Commerce and culture, an eternal tenor.

The Silk Road's whispers in Constantinople's ear,
A gateway to world on polar ends.
In bountiful currencies, Byzantium grew proud,
Trade's epic journey, for merchants to recall.



Exchange Across Diverse Mediums

Pranav Raghunath
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7



In the vast tapestry of human history, trade routes have served as the arteries through which cultures, goods, and ideas have flowed. These ancient pathways, etched by the footsteps of merchants and the hooves of caravans, weave stories of connectivity, exchange, and the evolution of societies. Join us as we embark on a journey through time, tracing the fascinating tales of trade routes that have shaped our world.

The Maritime Silk Road:

As overland routes flourished, so did maritime trade routes. The Maritime Silk Road emerged as a seafaring counterpart to its land-based sibling, linking China, Southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, the Middle East, and East Africa. Explore the bustling ports of the Indian Ocean, such as Malacca and Calicut, where spices, textiles, and precious goods set sail on dhows and junks. Encounter the seafaring civilizations that navigated these waters, leaving an indelible mark on the maritime history of trade.

Trans-Saharan Trade:

Venturing southward, we traverse the vast expanse of the Sahara Desert to explore the Trans-Saharan trade routes. Caravans laden with salt, gold, ivory, and slaves crossed the arid landscape, connecting North Africa with sub-Saharan regions. Discover the ancient trade cities like Timbuktu, where cultures converged, and manuscripts were exchanged alongside goods. The Trans-Saharan trade routes exemplify the resilience and adaptability of societies in the face of challenging terrains.

Conclusion:

As we trace the footsteps of traders across the pages of history, it becomes evident that trade routes are more than mere pathways for commerce; they are conduits of cultural exchange, diplomacy, and human connection. The tales of trade routes weave a rich tapestry that transcends borders and binds civilizations together. As we continue to navigate the currents of global commerce, let us remember the timeless stories imprinted on the landscapes of these ancient trade routes, for they are the threads that have woven the fabric of our interconnected world.

The Amber Road: Northern Trails of Amber and Prosperity:

Turning our attention to Northern Europe, we uncover the secrets of the Amber Road. This network of trade routes connected the Baltic Sea to the Adriatic, facilitating the exchange of amber, a precious gemstone, along with other goods. Journey through the medieval towns that thrived on this trade route, such as Gdansk and Nuremberg, and witness how the Amber Road played a crucial role in shaping the economic landscape of Northern Europe.

VIKINGS:

FORTUNE BEYOND VIOLENCE

Saurabh Shekar
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21PSSO10

8

There was more to the Viking Age than just conflict and bloodshed. One of the Vikings' more tranquil endeavours was trade, which was also very successful at the time. During the Viking era, the most significant trading hub for Denmark was the port of Hedeby in Schleswig, which is now in Germany. There were strong defences all around Hedeby. There was a street system inside the fortifications that served as the home of artisans and merchants. The king oversaw and provided safety for them. The town's beginnings can be traced to the eighth century. It became more significant and larger during the Viking era. Hedeby's location at a crossroads of land and sea routes was one of its main benefits.



During the Viking Age, Ribe was yet another significant commercial town. On the northern bank of the Ribe River, a commerce hub was established here from the start of the 7th century. Although Ribe was not as large as Hedeby in terms of trade volume, both sites were an essential component in Viking trading networks. It was always dangerous to transfer goods across great distances by land or water, and trading ships and commercial centres made suitable targets for looters. An account in writing concerning the missionary Ansgar serves as an example of this. It tells how he was ambushed by pirates in 830 during his first missionary trip to the Swedish commercial port of Birka. All of the goods that Ansgar and the merchants he was travelling with had were stolen.

Historical writers are frequently obsessed with wars and battles, but there are also numerous descriptions of diplomatic agreements in the written records. The emissaries of Danish King Sigfred travelled to Worms in 873 to negotiate with King Louis the German, according to the Annals of Fulda. Their goal was to maintain harmony along the borders between the Saxon and Danese lands. As a result, traders could operate throughout the adjoining empire in safety and harmony. Trade agreements bear witness to the amicable coexistence of nations, but they also demonstrate that trade is dependent on the protection of rulers and the accords that link them. The emissaries of Danish King Sigfred travelled to Worms in 873 to negotiate with King Louis the German, according to the Annals of Fulda. Their goal was to maintain harmony along the borders between the Saxon and Danese lands. As a result, traders could operate throughout the adjoining empire in safety and harmony. Trade agreements bear witness to the amicable coexistence of nations, but they also demonstrate that trade is dependent on the protection of rulers and the accords that link them.

A stirrup could be purchased for 125 grams of silver or immediately traded for a sword, according to a number of documented sources. Conversely, an ox and a cow were needed to purchase a female slave. Two horses or four male slaves were required to purchase a suit of chainmail, whereas three cows were equivalent to one horse. Although supply and demand impacted the market back then, as they do now, this also helps us understand the worth of particular products during the Viking Age.



Bengal, located in the eastern part of the Indian subcontinent, has a rich history of trade routes dating back to ancient times. The region's strategic location along the Bay of Bengal and its proximity to Southeast Asia made it a crucial hub for maritime and overland trade. There are a lot of fragmented pieces of information available in the local and south-east Asian sources on the part played by Bengal in this process of

“Indianization ” of SouthEast Asia. Bengal geographically is situated close to Suvarnabhumi, also known as the "Land of Gold," a term that appears frequently in the region's ancient literature.

Reconstructing historical trade routes in and around Bengal.:-

Bengal has always been a significant hub for trade because of its lush plains and advantageous location at the mouth of the Bay of Bengal. Across the ages, the region was connected to other regions of India, Southeast Asia, and beyond via a network of trading routes. There is evidence of the existence of overland trade routes between Bengal and the lands to the east and southeast.

Trade route in Eastern Himalaya: The Bhutanese trade with Bengal

Bhutan had been carrying out regular caravan trade on the rugged Himalayan terrain with Bengal on the south. This is apparent in the works of foreign travellers as well as in modern Bengali literature, which makes references to several goods from Bhutan. A foreign visitor reported in 1626 that Bhutan was "well supplied with Chinese merchandise such as silk, gold, and porcelain"; these goods arrived from Tibet. An eighteenth-century record states that her yearly trade with Bengal was valued at Rs 200000, while her trade with Tibet, including China, was valued at Rs 150000. The trade continued, and perhaps flourished, during the nineteenth century. Given that several of the export goods—such as corals, salt, gold, tea, pearls, and tea—were not native to Bhutan, the commerce appears to be mostly transitory. Along with Bhutanese items, one may detect Tibetan and Bengali goods on either route. When the British government in Bengal briefly closed the border with Bhutan, the transit aspect of this commerce came to light.

Grand trunk road and its connection with Bengal :-

One of the oldest and longest commercial routes in the Indian subcontinent was the Grand Trunk Road, sometimes referred to as the Uttara path. It linked Kabul, in modern-day Afghanistan, to Bengal in the east. The road promoted trade and cross-cultural interactions between many areas. In the contemporary time the Grand Trunk Road, or GT Road, serves as a vital link between Kolkata and Howrah, its twin city. But this is not just any old road. It is, in actuality, among the longest and oldest in South Asia. Sher Shah Suri, the Pashtun monarch, constructed it as "Sadak-e-Azam" in the sixteenth century with the goal of creating an efficient administrative network throughout his empire, which at the time included several regions of northern India.

The Mughals then expanded the route, and the East India Company eventually built it further and named it the Grand Trunk route. India was divided, creating new borders, but the road was still a vital commercial route.

Silk route and its connection with Bengal :

The Silk Route in Sikkim is a branch of an old trading route that originated in Lhasa, travelled via the Chumbi Valley, the Nathula Pass, and ultimately arrived at the port of Tamralipta, which is now Tamluk in West Bengal. This trade route left Tamluk and travelled by water to destinations in the Far East, including Java, Bali, and Sri Lanka. Fa Hein's records date back to 400 AD, and they identify Tamralipta as a busy marine route on the Bay of Bengal. Although very little was travelled on this section of the Old Silk Route, which passed through West Bengal, East Sikkim, and Bhutan, traders are thought to have found it as early as the 1st century AD. While the overland Silk Road connected Central Asia with the Mediterranean, the Maritime Silk Road involved sea routes connecting the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia, China, the Middle East, and East Africa.

Bengal's coastal areas and ports, such as Chittagong and Sonargaon, played a crucial role in the maritime silk trade. Bengal had economic links with China via marine channels, as China was a significant silk-producing region. Along the Maritime Silk Road, Bengal served as an intermediary in the trade of items in addition to trading its own silk products. Cities and trade hubs in Bengal, such as Murshidabad and Dhaka, played a central role in the silk trade. European nations, such as the Portuguese and Dutch, fought for control of Bengal's silk trade during the colonial era. The historical ties to the silk trade gained a new depth with European involvement. Bengal's historical commercial links with the Silk Road,



especially via marine routes, show the region's significance in the larger network of interactions that built Asia's economic and cultural landscapes.

Arab sea trade route and its connection with Bengal :

Historically, the Arabian Peninsula was connected to several places, including Bengal, through the Arab Sea Route, also called the Arabian Sea Route. The interchange of goods, concepts, and cultures between many civilizations was made possible via this trading route, which was an essential component of the larger Indian Ocean trade network. The Arab Sea Route primarily involved maritime trade along the Arabian Sea, connecting the Arabian Peninsula, East Africa, the Indian subcontinent, and Southeast Asia.

Bengal's strategic location along the Bay of Bengal made it a significant participant in maritime trade routes, including the Arab Sea Route. A wide range of items were traded between Bengali traders and Arab traders. Bengal was renowned for having an abundance of resources, including valuable stones, textiles, spices, and other goods.

Bengal's textiles, such as silk and muslin, were much sought after by Arab traders and held great value in the Arabian markets. In addition to facilitating trade in tangible products, the Arab Sea Route promoted intellectual exchange and cultural exchange between Bengal and the Arabian Peninsula. Cultural elements, including language, art, and religion, were exchanged along with the trade goods.

Port cities played a crucial role in the Arab Sea Route. Bengal had several prominent ports, such as Chittagong and Sonargaon, which served as major trading hubs. The Arab Sea Route played a role in the spread of Islam to various regions, including Bengal. Arab traders and settlers had an impact on the cultural and religious landscape of Bengal.

Portuguese and Dutch Trade Routes and its historical connection with Bengal:

During the colonial period, the Portuguese and Dutch were two European powers that sought to establish and control trade routes, including those connected to Bengal. These colonial powers played a significant role in shaping the economic and political landscape of the region. The Portuguese and Dutch presence in Bengal had a significant economic impact, influencing trade patterns and contributing to the emergence of certain port cities as important trade hubs. The Portuguese were among the first Europeans to arrive in Bengal in the early 16th century. Their primary objective was to establish trade links and control the lucrative spice trade of the Indian Ocean region. The Portuguese established a presence in the region along the Hugli River (a distributary of the Ganges), which provided access to the interior of Bengal. The Portuguese engaged in the trade of spices, textiles, and other goods, contributing to the economic development of the region.

The Dutch East India Company was established in the early 17th century to dominate trade in the Indian Ocean region. The Dutch sought to challenge Portuguese and other European powers in the lucrative spice trade. The Dutch established a major trading post at Chinsurah (now Haldia), strategically located on the Hugli River. Chinsura became a key centre for Dutch trade in Bengal.

The Dutch were involved in the spice trade, including the export of spices like pepper and cloves. They also engaged in the trade of textiles, indigo, and other commodities. The Dutch built Fort Gustavus in Chinsurah as a stronghold for their operations in Bengal.

The interactions between Bengal and the Portuguese and Dutch during the colonial era were complex, marked by economic competition, conflicts, and cultural exchanges that left a lasting impact on the historical narrative of the region.

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CONCLUSION :-

In summary, the region's economic, cultural, and geopolitical landscape have all been significantly shaped by the historical trading routes that have passed through and around Bengal. Bengal's history has been profoundly impacted by the Silk Road, Grand Trunk Road, Arab Sea Trade Route, and the participation of Portuguese and Dutch traders.

Bengal played a major part in the manufacture of silk, so even if the Silk Route did not travel through Bengal directly, it had a big impact on the region. Grand Trunk Road promoted economic and cultural exchanges by linking Bengal with remote areas. Bengal and the Arabian Peninsula now have marine connections thanks to the Arab Sea Trade Route, which has increased the variety of products and cultural practices in the area. Portuguese and Dutch trade routes during the colonial period brought European influence, competition, and conflicts to Bengal's shores, leaving a lasting imprint on its economic structure.

These ancient trade routes served as channels for ideas, technologies, and cultural practices in addition to goods. Bengal became a site for exchanges between various civilizations because of its advantageous position, abundant resources, and active trading hubs. The architectural ruins, cultural influences, and economic trends that still determine Bengal's identity today are clear examples of the trade routes' impact. The region's vitality, adaptability, and ongoing involvement in the global network of commerce and cultural exchange are attested to by the ancient trading routes.



10. LET'S CALL IN SPICE

**Across the Mediterranean,
From the Orient.**

**Came this flavor unknown,
Honing culinary to its tone.**

**Triggers our taste buds,
Burns its sense,.**

**Yet we crave more.
Let's sail to the Oriental land.**

**What shall we dub this commodity,
Let's call it spice!**

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The Amber Road:

Ancient Channel

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11

The Amber Road, an ancient trade network spread across Europe, served as a vital channel for commerce and cultural exchange during antiquity and the Middle Ages. Termed after the valued amber that were traded through these routes, this extensive network of overland and sea paths linked the Baltic Sea to the Mediterranean, facilitating the exchange of goods, ideas, and technology. The inception of the Amber Road dates back to the Neolithic era when early inhabitants started trading Baltic amber, valued for its aesthetic appeal and mystical qualities. As time progressed, the route grew, covering territories ranging from the Baltic region (present-day Poland, Lithuania, Latvia) to the Adriatic coast (Italy, Greece). Secondary routes branched out into Central Europe, connecting key urban centers like Rome, Byzantium, and Constantinople. While amber stood as the primary commodity traded along the road, prized for its utilization in decorations, religious ceremonies, and medicinal remedies, the Amber Road allowed the exchange of a diverse array of goods. These commodities included metals such as copper, bronze, and iron, alongside salt, textiles, pottery, wine, olive oil, and spices.



These exchanges fostered economic prosperity, triggered route for cultural diffusion, promoting the spread of ideas, languages, and artistic motifs. Travelers, traders, and emissaries traversing the route encountered a myriad of cultures, religions, and traditions. Additionally, the road played a pivotal role in diplomatic missions, facilitating the establishment of alliances and treaties.

The Amber Road had a profound influence on European history, contributing to the rise and fall of civilizations, the promotion of Christianity, and the formation of medieval trade networks. Urban centers situated along the route flourished as bustling hubs of commerce and cultural exchange, catalyzing the proliferation of urbanization and the emergence of potent city-states. Furthermore, the road facilitated the territorial expansion of empires, including the Roman, Byzantine, and Carolingian realms. The weakening of the Amber Road began with the decline of the Roman Empire and the subsequent transition of trade routes to maritime modes during the medieval period. Nevertheless, the legacy of the road persists within Europe's cultural heritage, evidenced by archaeological remains, historical manuscripts, and artistic depictions. Present-day endeavors aimed at conserving and celebrating the heritage of the Amber Road highlight its enduring significance as a symbol of connectivity and collaboration transcending geographical boundaries.

In conclusion, the Amber Road symbolizes the potential of trade and cultural interchange in shaping the historical narrative of Europe. From its humble beginnings as a path for amber trade to its pivotal role in fostering diplomacy and urbanization, the road has left an imprint on Europe's landscape and identity. Reflecting on its legacy marks the enduring imperative of fostering dialogue and cooperation among nations in an increasingly interconnected globe.

The Grand Trunk Road

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The Grand Trunk Road was formerly also known as Uttarapath, Sadak-e-Azam, Badshahi Sadak, is one of Asia's oldest and longest major roads. For at least 2,500 years, it has linked the Indian subcontinent with Central Asia. It runs roughly 2,400 kilometers from Chittagong, Bangladesh to Kabul, Afghanistan, passing through Allahabad (now Prayagraj) Howrah, Delhi, and Amritsar in India and Lahore and Peshawar in Pakistan.

This highway was constructed in the third century BC by Chandragupta Maurya, the cynosure of the Mauryan Empire in ancient India. It followed the ancient Uttarapatha or Uttar Path, which stretched from the mouth of the Ganges in Bangladesh (also known as the delta) to the empire's northwest frontier. Under Ashoka, this road received more upgrades. Along a similar path, it was rebuilt numerous times under Sher Shah Suri, the Mughals, and even the British. Sher Shah Suri realigned the ancient path to Rohtas (Bihar) and Sonargaon (central Bangladesh). Under Mahmud Shah Durrani, the Afghan end of the route was once reconstructed. The British era, which lasted from 1833 until 1860, saw yet another significant reconstruction of the route.

Travel and postal communication were made easier by the road, which served as one of the area's main trading routes for centuries. Parts of the Grand Trunk Road have been extended and added to the national highway system, meaning that it is still utilized for transportation on the Indian subcontinent today. The Grand Trunk Road existed before the Mauryan Empire, according to Buddhist literature and Indian epics like Mahabharatha. The "Northern road" was also known as Uttarpath, Uttarapatha, or Uttar Path. The road linked Bacteria in central Asia, north of Hindu Kush, with the eastern part of India. Travel and postal communication were made easier by the road, which served as one of the area's main trading routes for centuries. Parts of the Grand Trunk Road have been extended and added to the national highway system, meaning that it is still utilized for transportation on the Indian subcontinent today.



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The Chandragupta road crossed the old "Uttarapatha," also known as the Northern Road, which was referenced by Panini, an esteemed Indian scholar and Sanskrit philologist from antiquity. In his proclamation, Emperor Ashoka mentions planting trees, building wells every half kos, and constructing numerous "nimis dyas," or rest stops, along the way.

It is also reported that Emperor Kanishka ruled over the Uttarapatha. Chandragupta's Royal Road was rebuilt by Sher Shah Suri in the 6th century. Sher Shah Suri was one of the medieval rulers of the Sur empire (Sur was an empire founded by the Muslim dynasty of Afghanistan). In the 6th century, Sher Shah Suri shifted the route from the old one to the new one. He also extended the width of the route by rerouting it at the places of sonargaon, Rohtas.

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Emperor Chandragupta Maurya constructed the road that preceded the Grand Trunk route, which was modeled after the roadway that connected Sardis, Turkey, with Susa, an Iranian city. Overland trade between India and various regions of Western Asia, as well as the markets of Bactria, took place during the Mauryan Empire in the third century BCE. The cities in the northwest, particularly Takshashila (Pakistan) and Purushapura (modern-day Peshawar in present-day Pakistan), were the main hubs of this trade. Roads connecting Takshashila to other regions of the Mauryan Empire were in good condition. This very old route, which connected Takshashila to Patliputra (modern-day Patna, India), was kept up by the Mauryas. According to Greek diplomat Megasthenes, who served at the Mauryan Court for fifteen years, Chandragupta Maurya had an entire army of bureaucrats in charge of maintaining this road. This road, which was built in eight stages, is said to have connected the West Bengal cities of Tamralipta, also known as Tamruk, and Purushapura, Takshila, Hastinapura, Kanyakubja, Prayag, and Patliputra. The total distance traveled was around 2,600 kilometers (1,600 miles).

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La Manche:

The English Channel

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As a major trading route that links the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, the English Channel has a long history. It is a narrow body of water that separates southern England from northern France and encircles the ports of the United Kingdom and continental Europe. Europe's continental shelf is bordered by this shallow sea, measuring approximately 29,000 square miles. From its mouth in the North Atlantic Ocean to its narrowest point, it gradually narrows to a width of 21 miles, which is an arbitrary limit marked by a line separating the Isle of Ushant and the Scilly Isles. The English Channel has vast historical significance as a trade route and a barrier during the colonization of Britain and the rise of the nation-states of modern Europe, despite being a feature of major scientific interest, particularly with regard to tidal motions. The term "canal" in late 16th-century Dutch marine atlases is most likely



the source of the current English name, which has been in widespread use since the early 18th century.

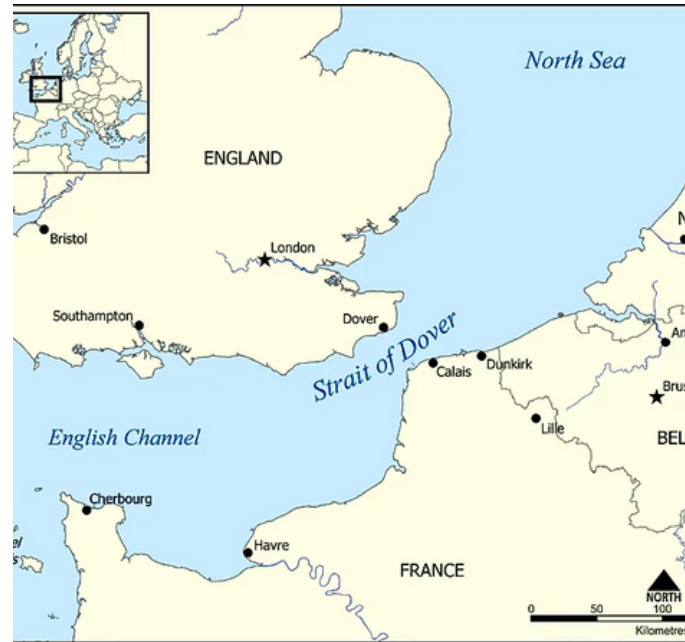
The British Sea and Oceanus Britannicus were among the previous names, and since the early 17th century, the French have frequently referred to the coastal area as La Manche. The busiest maritime route in the world connects the North Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. It's a crucial commercial route connecting the UK with Europe. Every day, almost 500 ships go through this channel. It boasts the busiest shipping lanes on the globe as well. With this route, transit takes the least amount of time—90 minutes instead of 210 minutes. Two of the busiest harbors in the world are located on the French side of the strait, at Calais, and on the British side, at Dover. This contributes to the large volume of vessel traffic on this particular route.

This links the North Sea to the Atlantic Ocean and makes up as much as 20% of all marine traffic worldwide. Both freight and passenger traffic is served by the channel. The Dover Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) was installed in 1967 as a result of the volume of ship traffic and the high frequency of accidents. Ideal temperatures, sandy beaches, and ferry services have all contributed to the English Channel's growing tourism industry. Many coastal towns, like Brighton, England, and Deauville, France, have elegant resorts that date back to the 18th and 19th centuries. Channel-hopping, or leisurely channel crossing, is a popular tourist pastime.

The Channel Tunnel, which crosses the English Channel in the Strait of Dover to link Folkestone with Coquelles, plays an important role in trade partnerships. In 2016, the Channel Tunnel enabled trade valued at €138 billion. The value of goods moving through the Channel Tunnel in 2016 accounted for 26% of all trade between the UK and the EU. After the US, the UK is the EU27's second-largest trading partner. It receives 7% of the total export value from the EU27, contributing to economic growth in various national and regional economies across Europe.

This, in turn, directly supports employment for exporters and has indirect positive effects through supply chain contributions.

According to discussions with clients, the Channel Tunnel enables efficient, quick, and dependable access to the UK, which promotes EU export growth. The reduction of non-tariff barriers and efficient border and customs regulations have allowed the Channel Tunnel to thrive in this interconnected world. In 2016, exports worth €69.0 billion were shipped over the Channel Tunnel from the EU to the UK. This is equivalent to 21% of the entire amount that the EU exports to the UK. Postal and courier freight (€24.6 billion) was the largest category of commodities exported by value, followed by electronics and computers (€10.2 billion), transport equipment (€6.6 billion), textiles, apparel and



leather (€5.0 billion), and automotive parts manufacturing and retail (€6.6 billion). For the transportation of commodities with a high value (like pharmaceuticals) and those requiring prompt delivery (like automobile parts), the Channel Tunnel is especially crucial. Fast, regular, and dependable transport is made possible by the Channel Tunnel, which handles 21 million passenger trips and €138 billion in trade annually. It has changed the way shipping and logistics are done across the continent. Since its establishment in 1994, the manufacturing industry has seen a radical change. Integrated supply chains, cross-border component movement, and tariff-free product sales across member states have all occurred. Customs delays do not affect goods, and drivers and people travel through borders without any problems. Since just-in-time and just-in-sequence production is the standard, fresh food and drink is supplied whenever customers need it, day or night. Online shoppers can receive express deliveries in as little as 24 hours; medical treatments can be made on one side and delivered on the other the same day; and travellers and business travelers can take advantage of quick and frequent travel alternatives. The Channel Tunnel is the only permanent connection between the European continent and the island of Great Britain. It provides a quick and easy way for visitors from the UK to go to mainland Europe and vice versa. The number of people who passed through the Channel Tunnel in 2017 was estimated to be 21 million, or 57,000 each day. 10.3 million of them crossed the Channel via Eurostar.

To conclude, the English Channel stands as a historic and strategic conduit for trade, seamlessly linking the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Approximately 29,000 square miles, this narrow waterway plays a central role in maritime traffic, boasting the world's busiest shipping lanes. The Channel Tunnel, inaugurated in 1994, further solidifies its significance by enabling swift and substantial trade valued at €138 billion annually. This vital artery, handling 21 million passengers yearly, transforms manufacturing and commerce, fostering integrated supply chains and ensuring prompt deliveries. In the interconnected web of European trade, the Channel Tunnel emerges as an indispensable and dynamic lifeline, symbolizing the economic interconnectedness of the region.

Laissez-Faire

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Liberty trodden, adorned with
the star spangled banner,
Aloof was she, from continental
tiffs.

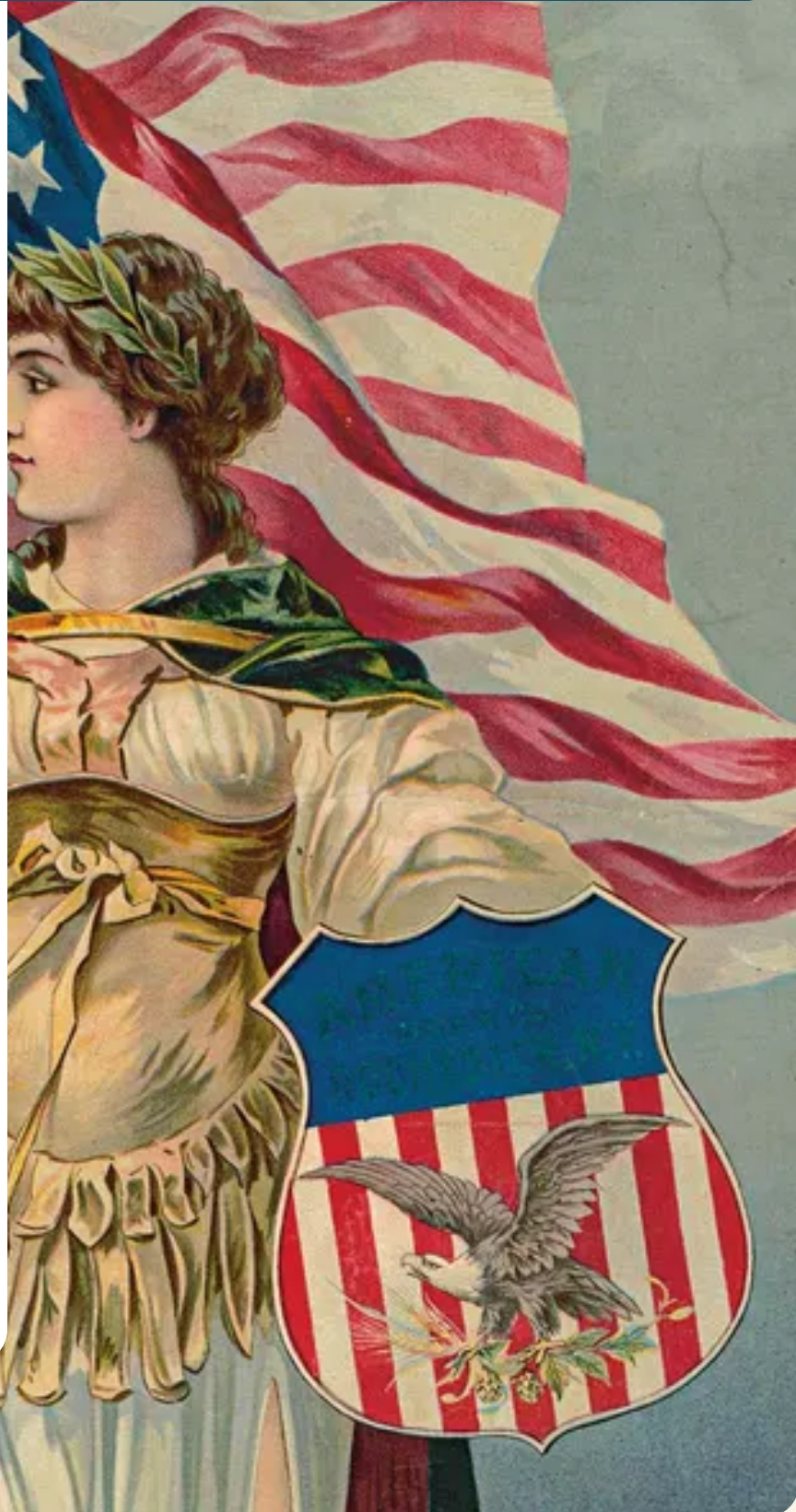
Merely a merchant, gluttonous
for gold,
Barter for blood? Ponder not.

Pricking the pricked, she buzzed
around,
Why fret doomsday? Trade's
content.

Gifting her munition to hues
akin,
Two tiffs enrich a bloody
Europa.

The second enraged Izanami's
sole heir,
To be quelled by Liberty's two
sols.

Her hueful kin, now her hench,
Swayed to her tune of liberal
trade.



Threads in resilience:

Trade in the shadows of plague in India

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15

In the annals of history, the dance between trade and calamity has etched a compelling saga. India, with its kaleidoscopic past, witnessed the intricate choreography of commerce during times of plague. The juxtaposition of pestilence and trade routes painted a tableau where resilience and adaptability met the harsh reality of epidemics.

In the medieval tapestry of India's history, the Black Death cast its long shadow. Yet, amid the macabre dance of mortality, trade persisted as a thread connecting diverse corners of the subcontinent. The bustling markets of Delhi, the vibrant spice bazaars of Kochi, and the intricate silk trade in Varanasi weathered the storm, albeit with a poignant twist.



The traders of the time, donned in vibrant fabrics and veiled in mystique, navigated the narrow alleys of risk. Caravans snaked through the landscape, not only carrying goods but also whispers of distant lands and cultures. The rhythmic jingling of camel bells interwoven with the haunting echoes of the plague, creating an unusual symphony in the desolate streets.

The spice trade, a cornerstone of India's historical commerce, metamorphosed during these trying times. As fear and uncertainty swept through the land, the demand for spices surged not just for culinary indulgence but also for their perceived medicinal properties. Turmeric, cloves, and cardamom became sought-after commodities, believed to possess the power to repel the invisible scourge.

The bustling ports, gateways to the world, faced both the wrath of the plague and the resilience of trade. Coastal cities like Calicut, with their labyrinthine streets redolent with the scent of spices, transformed into veritable fortresses against the contagion. The maritime silk route, despite its perils, endured, weaving tales of seafaring merchants defying the odds to maintain the delicate balance of commerce.

In the wake of pandemics, barter systems resurged, and the concept of trust in trade took center stage. Merchants became custodians of not just goods but also of hope and essential supplies. Local markets, adorned with vibrant fabrics and adorned in the hues of resilience, stood as a testament to the enduring spirit of trade.

As the pages of history turn, the tale of trade in times of plague in India unveils itself as a poignant chapter—a narrative where the indomitable human spirit clashed with the capricious twists of fate. In the heart of adversity, trade not only survived but evolved, leaving an indelible mark on the cultural and economic tapestry of the subcontinent.

ECHOES OF THE EAST:

MARCO POLO

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Marco Polo stands as one of history's most renowned explorers, whose remarkable journey along the Silk Route left an indelible mark on the world's understanding of Asia. Born into a family of wealthy Venetian merchants in the 13th century, Marco Polo's expedition to the East remains one of the most captivating tales of exploration and discovery. At the tender age of 17, Marco Polo embarked on a monumental journey with his father, Niccolò Polo, and uncle, Maffeo Polo, towards the distant lands of the East. Their travels led them through perilous terrains and across vast distances until they reached the fabled court of Kublai Khan, the

Mongol emperor of China, situated in the magnificent city of Xanadu. It was here that Marco Polo's extraordinary adventures truly began. For over three years, Marco Polo resided within the splendid confines of Kublai Khan's court, where he immersed himself in the rich culture, customs, and traditions of the Mongol Empire. Gifted with linguistic abilities and an insatiable curiosity, Marco Polo soon became a trusted confidant of the emperor, earning his favor and respect.

During his tenure at the Khan's court, Marco Polo was entrusted with various diplomatic missions and exploratory expeditions to the far reaches of Asia, venturing into territories never before traversed by Europeans. From the bustling markets of Persia to the remote hinterlands of China, Marco Polo's travels encompassed a vast expanse of the Silk Route, offering him a firsthand glimpse into the diversity and splendor of the East. Upon his eventual return to Venice, Marco Polo brought back with him a treasure trove of knowledge, anecdotes, and experiences from his epic odyssey. His vivid accounts of the wonders of the East, compiled in his seminal work "The Travels of Marco Polo," captivated the imagination of Europe and ignited a fervent fascination with the distant lands and peoples of Asia. "The Travels of Marco Polo" quickly became a literary sensation, spreading like wildfire across the continent and inspiring generations of explorers, merchants, and scholars to embark on their own quests for adventure and discovery. Marco Polo's narrative not only served as a window into the enigmatic realms of the East but also catalyzed a profound cultural exchange between East and West, shaping the course of history for centuries to come. In retrospect, Marco Polo's extraordinary sojourn along the Silk Route not only enriched his own life with experiences beyond compare but also left an enduring legacy that continues to resonate with the world to this day. His intrepid spirit of exploration, boundless curiosity, and cross-cultural empathy serve as a timeless reminder of the transformative power of travel and the unifying force of human curiosity.

The Qhapaq Ñan: The Silk Route of Americas

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Nestled among the awe-inspiring landscapes of the Andes Mountains, the Inca Empire flourished, and at the heart of their ingenuity lay a marvel known as the Qhapaq Ñan. It wasn't just a network of roads; it was a testament to the Inca people's exceptional engineering skills and their ability to overcome the challenges of the rugged terrains that defined their empire. Imagine embarking on a journey along these ancient roads, spanning over an incredible 20,000 miles. The Qhapaq Ñan connected distant provinces, creating a lifeline that pulsed with activity, trade, and communication. It was a carefully woven tapestry of stone-paved paths, sturdy bridges, and skillfully crafted tunnels that ventured through mountains, valleys, and plains. The very essence of Inca craftsmanship was etched into the intricate details of these roads, reflecting their commitment to creating a transportation network that defied the geographical hurdles posed by the Andes. Beyond the engineering marvel, the Inca road system was a bustling conduit of economic activity.



The well-maintained roads facilitated the efficient movement of goods, creating a vibrant trade network that crisscrossed the empire. Picture bustling marketplaces where communities from diverse corners of the empire gathered to exchange a rich array of products. Textiles woven with vibrant colours, ceramics displaying intricate designs, metals forged with skill, and the bounty of agricultural produce all found their way along these roads, creating a lively exchange that enriched the lives of the Inca people. The exchange of resources and products wasn't merely transactional; it was a cultural intermingling that enriched the diverse tapestry of Inca society. Each region along the Qhapaq Ñan contributed its unique flavours, creating a vibrant mosaic that reflected the unity and diversity of the empire. But the roads weren't only bustling with merchants and traders; they played a crucial role in the Inca's strategic and military endeavours. Imagine the swift movements of armies traversing the roads, responding to potential threats with unprecedented speed. The roads facilitated rapid communication, allowing messages to be relayed across vast territories in a matter of days. This strategic advantage ensured that the Inca state could maintain control, respond to challenges effectively, and govern their expansive domain with a level of efficiency that was unparalleled in the pre-Columbian Americas. In essence, the Inca road system was the beating heart of their empire, connecting its various limbs and ensuring a harmonious flow of resources, ideas, and power. The roads were not just a means to an end; they were a symbol of the Inca's mastery over their environment and their commitment to creating a society that thrived on connectivity. The Qhapaq Ñan was a lifeline that sustained the empire's vitality, fostering an atmosphere of growth and prosperity. As we traverse these ancient roads in our imagination, we can't help but marvel at the brilliance of the Inca people. Their road system wasn't merely a feat of engineering; it was a manifestation of their deep understanding of the interconnectedness of life. The roads became a symbol of unity, linking not just geographical locations but also the hearts and minds of the Inca people. In the twilight of the Inca Empire, as the sun set over the Andes, the roads stood as silent witnesses to the rise and fall of a civilization that left an indelible mark on the pages of history. The Qhapaq Ñan, with its grandeur and functionality, remains a testament to the enduring legacy of the Inca people, reminding us that sometimes, the journey is as significant as the destination.

GIFT OF NILE: Fortune in Egypt

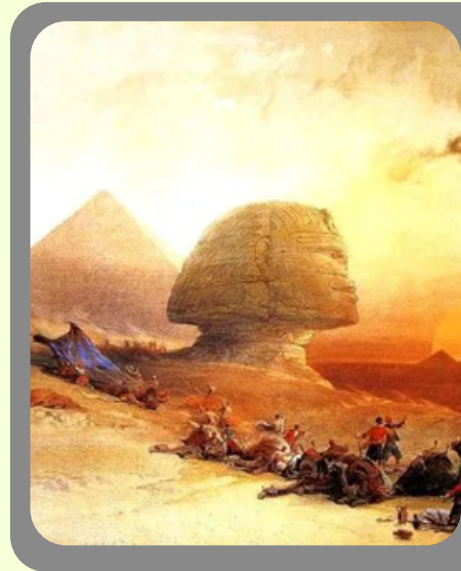
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The trade routes of ancient Egypt weren't just channels for exchanging goods; they were vital links that sustained a celebrated civilisation. These routes, spanning land and sea, linked Egypt with distant lands, enabling the exchange of commodities, ideas, and cultural influences. At the core of Egypt's trade network lay the Nile River, often hailed as the "lifeline of Egypt." Extending over 4,000 miles, the Nile provided a natural platform for trade and transportation. Boats loaded with goods commuted through its waters channels, connecting the wealthy towns of Upper and Lower

Egypt. From the fertile Nile Delta in the north to the remote sections of Nubia in the south, trade flourished along the riverbanks. Among Egypt's most prominent trade partners was the kingdom of Nubia, situated to the south along the Nile's upper reaches. Nubia possessed abundant gold reserves and offered exotic commodities like ebony, ivory, and ostrich feathers. Egyptian pharaohs eagerly sought these resources, built trade networks that dug deep into Nubian territory. To the northeast, Egypt's trade routes extended into the Levant, present-day Israel, Lebanon, and Syria. Serving as a crucial mode for trade between Egypt and the Near Eastern civilizations, including the Phoenicians and Canaanites, the Levant promoted the exchange of prized products such as cedar wood, olive oil, wine, and spices. This trade enriched Egypt's economy and diversified its cultural horizons.



Egypt's strategic location at the nexus of Africa, Asia, and Europe bestowed it with a pivotal role in maritime trade. The Mediterranean Sea provided access to Aegean civilizations, Cyprus, and Crete, while the Red Sea opened avenues to the Arabian Peninsula, East Africa, and the Indian Ocean. Egyptian sailors ventured forth, navigating these waters to trade in exotic goods like incense, spices, precious metals, and gemstones. The influx of wealth from trade fueled the construction of monumental architecture, the flourishing of the arts, and the funding of military campaigns.

In essence, the trade routes of ancient Egypt were more than mere means for commerce; they were means for life itself. From the bustling markets of Memphis and Thebes to the far-flung corners of Nubia and the Levant, Egypt's trade networks interconnected various regions and civilizations, leaving an enduring legacy in ancient history.

MUSLIM MERCHANTS AND THE SPREAD OF ISLAM IN INDONESIA

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With its diverse archipelago of over 17,000 islands, Indonesia stands as a vibrant tapestry of cultures and traditions. At the heart of this rich mosaic lies the profound influence of Islam, a religion woven into the fabric of Indonesian society. One key catalyst in the spread of Islam across these islands was the presence of Muslim merchants who became agents of cultural diffusion through their trade and interactions. The Indonesian archipelago has been a crossroads of trade for centuries, attracting merchants from various parts of the world. As early as the 7th century, Arab and Persian traders

ventured into these waters, establishing trade routes that connected the Middle East, India, and Southeast Asia. Historical records indicate that by the 9th century, the Indian Ocean trade route had firmly linked the Indonesian archipelago with the broader Islamic world, allowing cultural exchange. According to archaeological findings, artefacts such as ceramics and coins from the Islamic world have been discovered in places like Sumatra, indicating the early presence of Muslim merchants engaged in trade with the local communities. Muslim merchants played a pivotal role in shaping Indonesia's economic landscape. Their trade networks facilitated the exchange of goods, technologies, and ideas. Economic historian K. N. Chaudhuri estimates that between the 13th and 16th centuries, the Indian Ocean trade accounted for a significant portion of the global economy, with Southeast Asia, including Indonesia, a key player. One notable example is the influential role of Muslim merchants in the spice trade. Indonesia's strategic location made it a centre for producing valuable spices such as cloves and nutmeg. Arab and Persian traders actively engaged in this trade, bringing spices and their Islamic culture to the archipelago. The influence of Muslim merchants extended beyond the economic realm, shaping the architectural landscape of Indonesian cities. As trade centres flourished, mosques and Islamic schools, or madrasas, emerged as architectural symbols of Islamic culture. According to architectural historian George Michell, blending local building techniques with Islamic architectural elements resulted in a unique hybrid style in Indonesian mosques. Cities like Aceh, which embraced Islam early on, showcase the architectural legacy of Muslim merchants. The Grand Mosque of Baiturrahman in Aceh, built in the 17th century, stands as a testament to the enduring impact of Islamic merchants on the region's urban development. In addition to economic and architectural contributions, Muslim merchants played a crucial role in Indonesia's linguistic and educational transformation. Arabic, the language of the Quran, became a language of scholarship and religious discourse. According to linguistic studies, Arabic loanwords entered the Indonesian language, reflecting the influence of Islamic merchants. Madrasas established by Muslim traders became centres of learning, imparting religious teachings and fostering a culture of intellectual exchange. Statistics from the Ministry of Religious Affairs in Indonesia indicate that thousands of Islamic boarding schools (pesantren) across the country continue the tradition of Islamic education initiated by these early merchants. The success of Islam in Indonesia can be attributed to its ability to integrate with existing local cultures rather than imposing a rigid orthodoxy. Muslim merchants, recognizing the importance of social integration, often married into local families, creating ties that strengthened the bonds between communities.

According to demographic studies, the intermarriage between Muslim traders and local populations contributed to the cultural diversity within Indonesian Islam. Local traditions and customs were not eradicated but adapted to align with Islamic principles.

This syncretism allowed for a harmonious coexistence of diverse cultural practices, contributing to Indonesia's unique blend of Islam. The story of Muslim merchants spreading culture in Indonesia is a tale of convergence, collaboration, and cultural enrichment. These merchants became instrumental in disseminating Islamic culture across the archipelago through their trade, interactions, and the establishment of economic and educational centres. Indonesia's rich Islamic heritage, manifested in its architecture, language, and social fabric, is a testament to the enduring legacy of these enterprising individuals. As we navigate the complexities of the modern world, understanding and appreciating the historical role of Muslim merchants provides valuable insights into the diverse and inclusive nature of Indonesian Islam.

TRADING CARDS: A RACE TO COLLECT THEM ALL

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A trading card, typically crafted from paperboard, features an image of a celebrity, place, or character, whether real or fictional. It often includes a description, alongside additional details like attacks, statistics, or trivia. These cards come in various types, creating a diverse range of collectibles.

The history of trading cards goes longer than one can anticipate. The origin of trading cards can be traced back to the 1860, when they were initially introduced as advertising cards in food packets to make it stiff. Over time, these cards, now known as trade cards, evolved into collectibles inserted into various product packages, featuring vibrant and appealing designs that captivated consumers.

The customers began trading and collecting these cards, leading to the emergence of a hobby centred around completing sets. The cards faded in popularity as patterns became more common, but the concept of collecting trading cards was firmly established.

In the 1930s, the evolution of baseball cards took a new turn with the printings of player biographies with bubble gum packets. The 1950s marked a significant shift when Topps Chewing Gum Inc. introduced sports trading cards, including those of TV and movie stars, football players, and big game hunters. The Topps set, which featured the rookie card for Mickey Mantle, is considered one of the most valuable of all time. However, the 1980s witnessed a change in perception, as sports cards became highly regarded as valuable collectibles, leading to increased production and eventually over-saturated the market. A revolutionary concept with the advent of trading card games grew rapidly in the 1990s. Magic: The Gathering, released by Wizards of the Coast in 1993, became the first trading card game. This genre expanded with the introduction of Pokémon cards in 1996 (1998 in the United States), which has become the most sought-after trading card today. Despite the oversaturation and decline of traditional sports card values, trading card games, including Magic: The Gathering and Pokémon, continue to thrive, with various other games like Yu-Gi-Oh! and KeyForge also gaining popularity in the market.

Mayans:

Cocoa as Currency

Feby Chirayamalil Sunil
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The Mayan civilization, located in the heart of Mesoamerica, not only thrived in the disciplines of astronomy, mathematics, and architecture but also demonstrated a substantial understanding of trade and commerce. The Mayans, with their intricate glyphic writing system, created narratives that transcended time. Their glyphs decorated temples, pottery, and monuments, expressing accounts of trade, cultural exchange, and the economy of their society. These stories, carved on stone and clay, provide a unique perspective into the lives of the Mayan people and the significance of trade in their daily life. Before discussing the dominance of Cocoa in the Mayan economy, it is crucial to understand the commercial structure.



At the core of Mayan trade were the skilled artisans who manufactured raw materials into exquisite products. Whether fashioning jewellery from precious stones, sculpting jade into intricate designs, or crafting pottery with precision, Mayan artisans were the masters. Mayan society was enriched with a diverse array of professions, each contributing to the process of trade. Traders travelled the dense jungles, navigating trade routes that connected city-states. Farmers toiled in the fields, cultivating crops like cacao and maize. Artisans, skilled in their crafts, shaped their products with cultural motifs.

The trade routes of the Mayan civilization reveals a network of pathways that crossed the Yucatán Peninsula. From Tikal to Palenque, Copán to Calakmul, these routes served as roads for the exchange of goods, ideas, and cultural influences. While Maize contributed to the staple diet of Maya, cocoa and jade were considered exotic items. In the Mayan world, cacao was not merely a commodity but a currency that established connections. Cacao beans, used in trade and as a form of currency, became a symbol of economic significance and cultural wealth. Cacao-based beverage, shared during rituals and gatherings, emphasized the communal and economic importance of this precious resource.

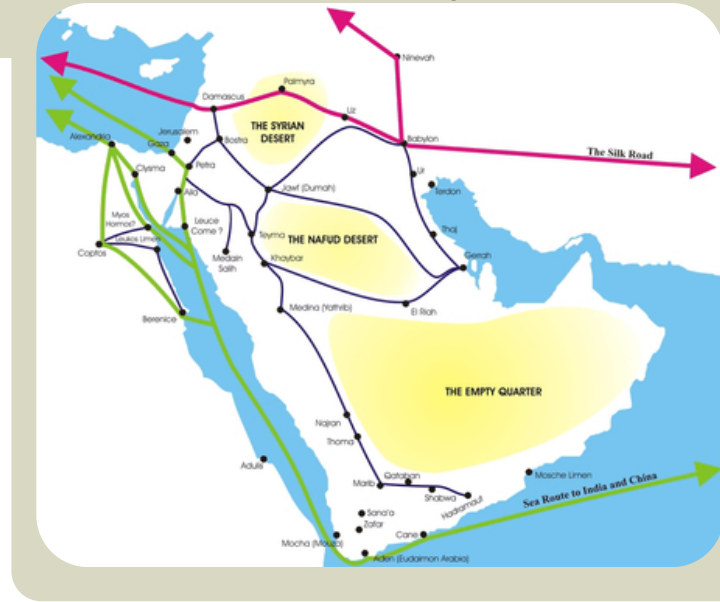
The Maya symbolism and art were greatly influenced by the cacao trade. Pottery, paintings, and sculptures featured intricate representations of cacao pods and containers used for the chocolate beverage, demonstrating the significance of cocoa in Maya aesthetics. Cacao was further highlighted in written documents by the Maya hieroglyphic writing system, which included glyphs for the food. Cocoa can be indirectly linked with the end of indigenous civilizations in America. In 1502, Christopher Columbus expressed keen interest in the beans and resorted to shipping bulks to his homeland-Spain. Another narrative suggests that Spanish conquistador Hernan Cortes was introduced to Cocoa by the Aztecs of Montezuma's court.

The Incense Route

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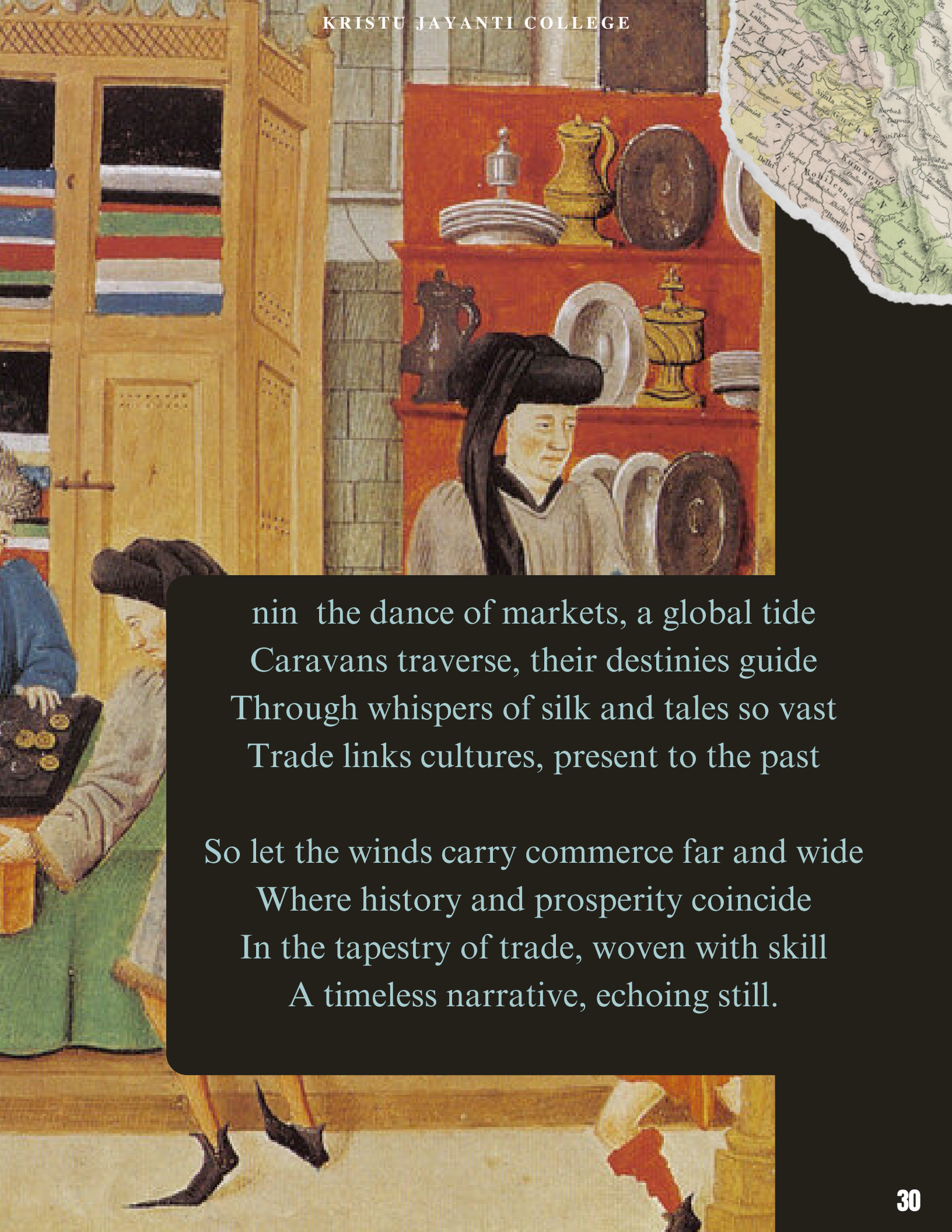
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From the earliest days of human civilization, the exchange of goods, ideas, and culture has been facilitated by a vast network of trade routes crisscrossing the globe. These routes, often comprising arduous journeys across deserts, seas, and mountains, have played a pivotal role in shaping the destinies of nations, fostering economic prosperity, and catalyzing cultural exchanges. Swirls of smoke make you dream and relax. This term, originated in Latin and is derived from the word “incendere” (to burn), and straight away refers to woods, plants and gums that emit scents while smoldering. But its invention took place well before the Roman era ... By 1800 BC, the incense route taking Indian treasures to the gates of Arabia and Egypt had begun.



It was a privileged way to transit other natural materials such as silk or various spices. Some have moreover considered incense as valuable as gold. Over time, whether they were shamans in America, witches in Africa or priests of the land of the pharaohs, all found that the fumes of incense brought serenity, inner peace. A real beginning for wellbeing. The Incense Route emerged as a means of transporting frankincense and myrrh, exclusive to the southern reaches of the Arabian Peninsula in present-day Yemen and Oman. Derived from sun-dried tree sap, these precious substances were utilized for burning as incense or perfume and played a prominent role in burial rituals, aiding in the embalming process. With the domestication of camels by Arab nomads around 1000 BCE, traders seized the opportunity to convey these valuable commodities to the Mediterranean, a pivotal commercial center. Romans, Greeks, and Egyptians highly prized frankincense and myrrh, with anecdotes like the Roman Emperor Nero reportedly burning an entire year's harvest of frankincense at the funeral of his beloved mistress.

This flourishing trade reached its zenith, witnessing an annual exchange of 3000 tons of incense along its length. According to the accounts of the Roman historian Pliny the Elder, the route took 62 days to traverse. However, the precise course occasionally shifted due to avaricious settlements imposing excessive taxes on passing caravans. By the 1st century CE, advancements in ship design rendered this ancient overland route largely obsolete, favoring more enticing sea routes.



in the dance of markets, a global tide
Caravans traverse, their destinies guide
Through whispers of silk and tales so vast
Trade links cultures, present to the past

So let the winds carry commerce far and wide
Where history and prosperity coincide
In the tapestry of trade, woven with skill
A timeless narrative, echoing still.

GRIM TRADE ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA

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The historical narrative of South Africa is deeply influenced by the presence of slavery, a dark chapter that is intricately woven into the fabric of the region's past. This chapter began with the Dutch East India Company's Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC) pursuit of economic dominance during the colonial era. The introduction of slavery was not just an economic strategy, it brought about a profound restructuring of society, where individuals were stripped of their humanity and reduced to mere commodities.

This dehumanizing system, which treated slaves as if they were livestock, set the stage for a complex interplay of historical forces that would have a lasting impact on the region. The establishment of the Cape Colony by the Dutch East India Company marked the beginning of slavery in Cape Town. In order to enhance agricultural production and ensure a stable food supply, the VOC implemented a system that treated human beings as mere property. Slaves, living under strict laws and unique social structures, existed in a society that not only denied their basic rights but also stripped away their individuality. The psychological impact of this oppressive system ensured that slaves remained obedient to their status without question. The slave society in Cape Town and South Africa experienced periods of resistance as a natural response to oppression. The interventions by the British government in the early 19th century, aimed at improving the well-being of slaves, led to uprisings in 1808 and 1825. The abolition of the slave trade further fueled a growing sense of freedom among the enslaved, challenging the deeply rooted chains of oppression. These uprisings and the broader resistance demonstrated the unwavering spirit of those who yearned to break free from the bonds of servitude. The prevalence of slavery in Cape Town was shaped by the interconnected nature of the slave and labor markets. Various factors such as turnover costs, the cost of sticks used for punishment, and the abundance of slaves in the economy played a significant role in this complex system. Changes in these economic dynamics directly affected the lives of the enslaved, as prices and wages fluctuate based on supply and demand in both markets. It is important to consider these economic forces together, rather than in isolation, in order to fully comprehend the perpetuation of slavery in the region. The VOC's reliance on slave labor in the East company had far-reaching consequences, with ethical implications stemming from the exploitation and degradation of countless lives. The economic success achieved through the labor of enslaved individuals casts a shadow over the perceived achievements of the VOC, prompting a reevaluation of the true costs of their success. As we delve into the layers of history, the story of slavery in Cape Town and South Africa emerges as a testament to human resilience and a reminder of the complex and consequential nature of the region's past. The psychological impact on the enslaved, their resistance against oppression, and the intricate economic dynamics of interconnected markets all contribute to a nuanced understanding of this dark chapter in history. To summarize, the historical presence of slavery in Cape Town and South Africa acts as a reflection of the intricate and conflicting nature of colonial pursuits. It compels us to confront unsettling realities regarding the connection between economic prosperity and the mistreatment of individuals. As we continue to grapple with the lasting impact of this somber era, it becomes crucial to recognize and draw lessons from history, fostering a shared dedication to fairness, parity, and a future marked by empathy.

THE BLACK GOLD

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Crowned the 'King of Spices', pepper is the most widely traded spice in the world. Wars were fought over it, empires rose and fell, colonial fortunes were built and entire geographies were shaped by the wrinkly, dark, diminutive peppercorn. The word pepper is derived from Pippali, Sanskrit for 'long pepper' and both the long and round versions are native to the hills of South India.



In chapter five of Buddhist text Samannaphala Sutta, pepper is one of the few natural medicines a monk is allowed to carry. Since ancient times, pepper was exported from Muziris/Pattanam in Kerala to Rome and Egypt. Since Romans conquered much of the Middle East, North Africa and Europe, the craze for pepper spiraled and fuelled more trade with India. Each year, the Roman Empire dispatched a fleet of 120 ships to Kerala to bring back this treasure, valued as 'Black Gold'. It's intriguing that an old temple of Augustus once stood in Kodungallur (proof of well-entrenched trade ties) while Roman ports like Ostia had 'horrea', exclusive pepper warehouses. Intellectuals of the time bemoaned how Rome bled because of pepper trade.

After the fall of Rome, Arab traders took over while the Italians maintained hegemony over the Mediterranean. The lucrative pepper trade spawned the rise of city-states like Genoa and Venice. To bypass Arab middlemen, the Portuguese sought a direct trade route to India. In 1498, Vasco da Gama sailed around the Cape of Good Hope and landed on Kerala's legendary 'Spice Coast', seeking "Christians and pepper". This ushered the Golden Age of Discovery and the Portuguese controlled the spice trade for nearly 150 years. No story of pepper would be complete without mentioning Rani Channabhairadevi of the Saluva dynasty. Ruling from Gerusoppa for 54 years, she thwarted multiple Portuguese attempts to control the seaports, inflicting defeats on them in 1559 and 1570. The Portuguese exalted her as 'Raina de Pimenta' literally 'Pepper Queen'. It was French King Louis XIV the Great who made the greatest contribution to world cuisine — in the seventeenth century, he was the first to put salt and pepper together on his dining table, a tradition that continues to this day.

NANBAN TRADE AND ISOLATION OF JAPANESE ECONOMY

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The Nanban trade era stands as a pivotal chapter in Japan's history, marking its exposure to European culture from 1543 to the issuance of the first Sakoku Seclusion Edicts in 1614. The term "Nanban," translating to Southern Barbarian, was originally applied to civilians from Southern China and Southeast Asia. This period witnessed a profound influence of Renaissance Europeans, particularly the Portuguese, on Japan's socio-cultural and economic landscape. The Renaissance Europeans were captivated by the allure of Oriental countries, and Japan, in particular, emerged as a focal point of interest. The opening of trade routes with Japan attracted many explorers and merchants, with Marco Polo's earlier observations of palaces and gilded temples in the region serving as a catalyst. Japan, in turn, established itself as a significant exporter of valuable resources such as copper and silver. The Portuguese played a pivotal role in initiating contact with Japan, primarily to supply matchlock firearms. Since the Japanese had ceased trade with China, the Portuguese acted as intermediaries, facilitating the exchange of Chinese

silk and porcelain. In 1571, Daimyo Omura and Gaspar Vilela established the first port in Nagasaki, laying the foundation for a flourishing trade relationship. Over the next 30 years, Nagasaki became a bustling hub for Portuguese goods, witnessing a significant surge in trade volume. However, the dynamics shifted with the unification of Japan by Tokugawa Ieyasu in 1603. Fueled by concerns over the rapid spread of Christianity and foreign influence, Japan began to isolate itself from the world. By 1650, only the Dejima outpost in Nagasaki remained open, exclusively for Dutch traders. The Tokugawa shogunate implemented stringent measures, persecuting foreigners and Christian converts, symbolised by the banning of guns and the promotion of traditional swordsmanship. The once-vibrant overseas travel and ship construction were forbidden, ushering in the Edo period, characterised by Japan's seclusion from the global stage. This era of isolation, however, was destined to come to an end. The 250 years of seclusion witnessed a transformative period for Japan as it underwent industrialization. The turning point came in 1854 when an American military fleet, led by Commodore Matthew Perry, forcefully opened Japan to international trade. This marked the end of Japan's self-imposed isolation and laid the groundwork for a new chapter in its history. The forced opening of Japan by Perry not only ushered in a period of renewed international engagement but also prompted significant internal changes. The Meiji Restoration followed, leading Japan on a path of modernization and transformation into an industrial powerhouse. The Nanban trade era, once relegated to the annals of history, had a lasting impact on Japan's trajectory, shaping its interactions with the world and influencing its development in the years to come.

Madagascar

The Emergence of Trading Ports and Highland Development

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In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, Madagascar, situated strategically in the Indian Ocean, underwent a transformative period marked by the rise of trading ports and the development of the highlands. This era not only shaped the island's historical trajectory but also left an indelible mark on its cultural and economic landscape. Madagascar's coastal regions became vibrant hubs of trade during this time, attracting merchants from various corners of the Indian Ocean world. The island's geographical location made it a crossroads for commerce between Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Arab and Persian traders, recognizing the economic potential, played a pivotal role in establishing bustling trading ports along the coastline. These ports became crucibles of cultural exchange, where diverse influences melded to create a unique Malagasy identity. The convergence of Arab, Persian, African, and Southeast Asian influences resulted in a rich cultural synthesis. Madagascar became a melting pot of traditions, as evidenced by linguistic nuances, customs, and material culture. The coastal communities thrived on the dynamic interactions fostered by trade, contributing to the island's vibrant tapestry of diversity. While the and culturally,

the highlands of Madagascar experienced significant development during this period. The Merina people, residing in the central highlands, played a pivotal role in shaping the island's destiny. Recognizing the agricultural potential of the fertile volcanic soil, they initiated the construction of terraced rice fields. This innovative approach to agriculture not only fueled the population growth but also laid the groundwork for stable and self-sufficient highland communities.

As the highlands prospered agriculturally, the Merina leaders sought to consolidate their power. Centralized political structures were established, setting the stage for the formation of the Kingdom of Imerina. The rise of this kingdom marked a significant political and cultural shift on the island, as the Merina extended their influence and control over neighboring regions. The Kingdom of Imerina, centered in the highlands, became a key player in the Indian Ocean trade network. The coastal ports, acting as gateways to the interior, facilitated the exchange of commodities that were crucial to the economic dynamics of the region. Madagascar's highlands, with their agricultural productivity, contributed substantially to the trade routes, establishing the island as an integral part of the Indian Ocean commerce. However, external influences, particularly from European powers such as the Portuguese, began to impact Madagascar during this period. While their influence was limited in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, it foreshadowed the challenges and transformations that the island would face in the centuries to come. In conclusion, the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in Madagascar were a pivotal epoch marked by the simultaneous rise of trading ports along the coast and the development of the highlands. This period not only shaped the island's economic and political landscape but also forged a unique cultural identity. Madagascar's role in the Indian Ocean trade network, coupled with the agricultural innovations in the highlands, laid the groundwork for its future trajectory. The complex interplay of local developments and external influences during this era set the stage for the island's dynamic history.



"Harmony on the High Seas:

Gulf Sailors of India and the Timeless Tales of Trade Routes through Sea Shanties"

Chetan Krishna

21HSPS14

BA HSPS VI Sem

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One such remarkable Individual is Ahmet Ruquait Al Ali, a Emirati born sailor who survived a shipwreck in 1958 caused by a Typhoon at a tender age of 16. A miraculous escape latching on to a plank off the Oman coast. Ahmet Ali, now in his 70s, recalls the songs of sailors-the shanties, which provided solace and strength for Gulf mariners on the high seas. For men of his generation, life revolved around the sea. They circumnavigated centuries-old Indian Ocean trade routes on great wooden ships known as dhows and sailed to pearling beds in the final chapter of the Gulf's ancient pearling trade. He was about 12 years old when he heard the mariners' melodies on his first voyage aboard his father's ship, from Ras Al Khaimah to Bahrain. Sea shanties, or maritime work songs, helped sailors keep time during the day's labor. When darkness fell and the day's work was over, music provided the evening's entertainment. "The sailors sang when they raised the sails, they sang when they rowed, they sang for everything to encourage the group, oh yes, to encourage them," says Al Ali, who captained dhows, the sailing vessels used across the region, on the Indian Ocean in the 1950s and 1960s. "We sang of life, of love and longing, of anything."

In the Gulf, shanties are still sung by those who knew the sea's hardships firsthand.

Gulf mariners were Indian Ocean traders, fishermen, and pearl divers, and collective expression through song provided solidarity and hope. Pearl divers lived the most perilous existence of all. Wearing little more than a nose plug, they plunged to depths of 30 meters (98 feet), made up to 100 dives a day, and faced shark and sawfish attacks, blindness and aneurysms, drownings, scurvy, and malnutrition. Added to that was loneliness. The summer dive lasted three to four months, without rest or word from family.

What gets divorced in the (modern) reenactments or the performing of (songs) is that in the lyrics, people are literally asking not to die. It's also a lot of gallows humor dealing with this incredibly risky work. Sometimes, sitting at home on the couch and watching it on our phones, we kind of lose that element of just how dangerous and demanding this work was."

Captains offered competitive wages for the best nahham, who could lead both spiritual shanties and regale sailors. Their performance had strong parallels with Sufism, in which music is central as a way to be closer to God.

As physical and cultural boundaries hardened in the 1960s, the Indian Ocean dhow trade came to an end. Pearling had already wound to a halt following the Japanese invention of the cultured pearl in 1928.

But shanties remained important for new states. After the British withdrawal from the Gulf in the 1960s and 1970s, governments used poetry and folk music to legitimize the nation-state and exemplify its values. It was also recognized as a tool for soft power in diplomacy, and state sponsored troupe tours abroad.

Mumbai

How the Floating Islands Became The Trade Capital.

Jha Ayush Ashok
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In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, Madagascar, situated strategically in the Indian Ocean, underwent a transformative period marked by the rise of trading ports and the development of the highlands. This era not only shaped the island's historical trajectory but also left an indelible mark on its cultural and economic landscape. Madagascar's coastal regions became vibrant hubs of trade during this time, attracting merchants from various corners of the Indian Ocean world. The island's geographical location made it a crossroads for commerce between Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. Arab and Persian traders, recognizing the economic potential, played a pivotal role in establishing bustling trading ports along the coastline. These ports became crucibles of cultural exchange, where diverse influences melded to create a unique Malagasy identity. The convergence of Arab, Persian, African, and Southeast Asian influences resulted in a rich and diverse history.

Mumbai as we see today was once an archipelago of 7 Islands.

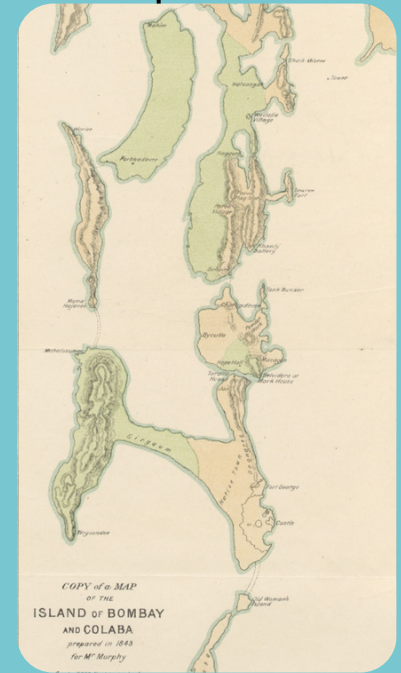
These 7 islands are : Bombay, Parel, Mazgaon, Worli, Mahim, Colaba, Old Woman's island.

The first evidence of human existence was found in the Kandivali area of Northern Mumbai, which dates back to the time of Stone Age. Researchers believe that the Stone tools found there are 15000 years old. Also in 3rd Century BCE, these islands were under King Ashoka of Mauryan Empire whose founder was 'Chandragupta Maurya' who defeated the King of Nanda Dynasty 'Dhananand' with the help of Strategists Kautilya.

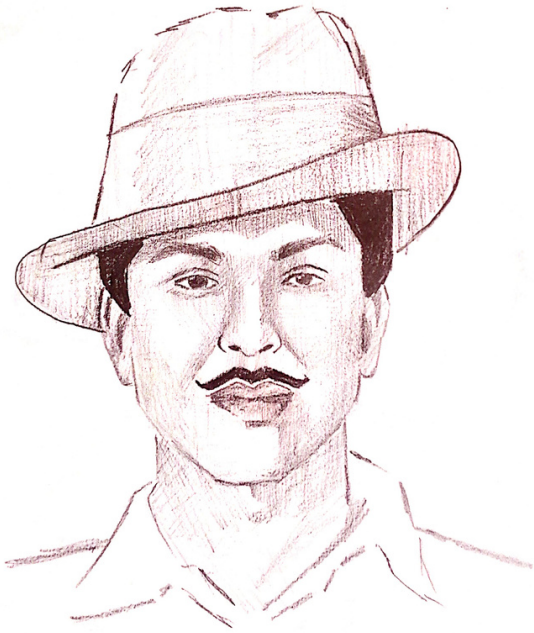
This was the first empire to be set up by an Indian dynasty whose reach even reached these islands. Also this was the time when Buddhism and Jainism rose, Kanheri Cave excavation revealed that this place has also been an important center of Buddhism since the Ancient Century. The Greek geographer of 2nd century CE Ptolemy named this place as Heptanesia- the cluster of 7 islands. From the 2nd century to the 9th century, these islands came under various Indigenous dynasties like Satvahanas, Western Satraps, Abhira. Vakataka, Kaluchuris, Chalukyas & Rashtrakutas. From 810-1206 CE this place was ruled by Shilaharas. That was the time when North India in the 9th century had a tripartite struggle between Pratiharas, Rashtrakutas & Palas. Jogeshwari Cave, Elephanta Cave, Walkeshwar Temple & Banganga Tank. After the Shilaharas King Bhimdev established his kingdom at Mahim Island out of the 7 islands. But in 1347-1348 Delhi Sultanate captured the place & the governors of Gujarat started administering. In 1407 the total control of the place came under the control of the Independent Gujarat Sultanate whose ruler was the famous Bahadur Shah.

The treaty of Bassein between Bahadur Shah of Gujarat & The Portuguese was signed in 1534. The terms of the treaty says Bombay Island has to be handed over to the Portuguese. Since 1534 the Islands had been a part of the Portuguese. But till now Bombay was not an important trade route.

It was the English Empire who first understood its great political & economical significance. After that the struggle continued between the English Empire & Portuguese. This struggle was ended in 1661, Bombay was given to the Britishers accompanying the marriage of King Charles II & Catherine of Braganza of Portugal. The English Empire gave these Islands to the English East India Company in 1668. Under the rule of the East India Company, these 7 islands joined together & became a major part of Mumbai.



Artistry Insights

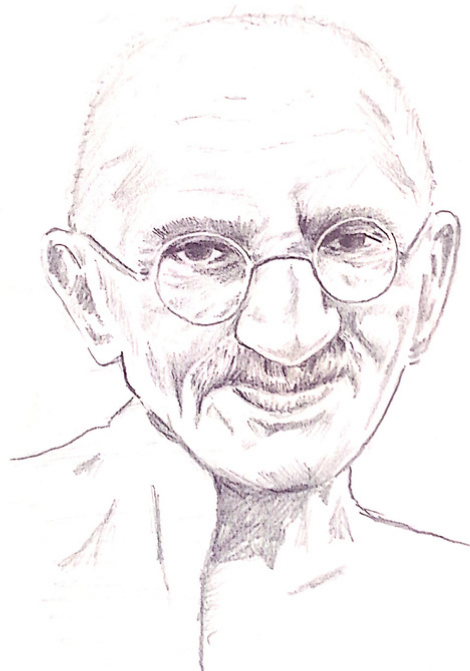


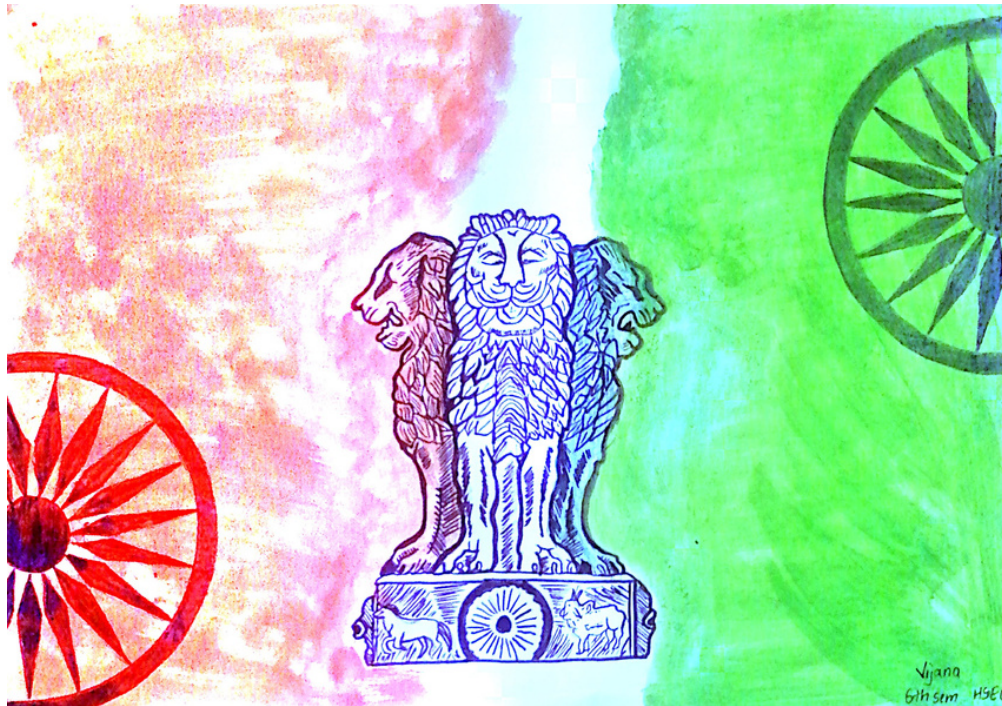
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Rollno. - 23HSPS14

Imolung Jamir
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Name = Mhayio Kikon
Roll no = 23HSPS20

Mhayio Kikon
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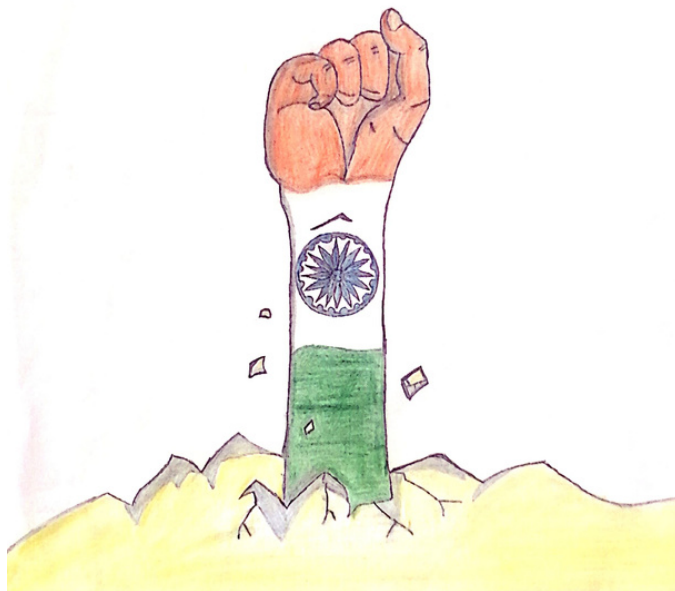




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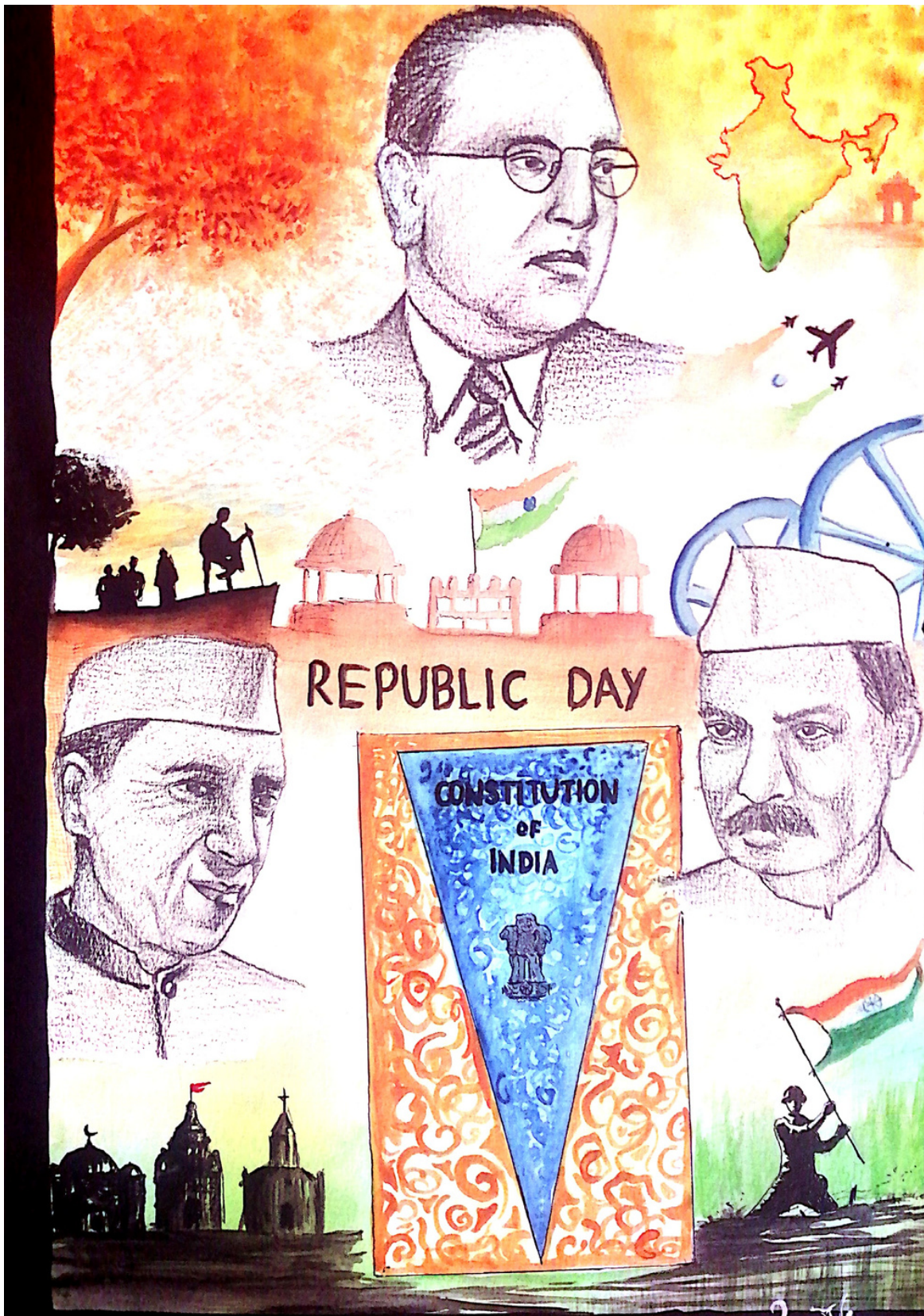
Navneet Singh
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Elina Mary John
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HAPPY
Republic
Day!!



Venice Thongbam
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Sudharson
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Department & Club Reports

NATIONAL EXPERT LECTURE Pakistan: State of Politics in 2023



The Department of History in collaboration with the National Institute of Advance Studies-NIAS organised an expert online lecture on 'Pakistan: State of Politics in 2023'. Ambassador. TCA Raghavan provided a succinct introduction to international law and the official institutions through which nations exercise their international relations. He also tracked reasons and how the international order has been changed over the period of time. He provided an excellent overview of the history of the Indo-Pakistan relations and how the geopolitics of Pakistan is significantly altered by the shifts in the balance of power. Narrated details of the recent political events of Pakistan, arrest of their leaders, conflict between military leaders, democracy and judiciary. The guest lecture elaborated on the reasons of the failing economy of Pakistan and the intervention of IMF to bailout its loss. The upcoming elections were also discussed. The event ended with the guest answering queries from participants of Kristu Jayanti College, NIAS scholars and students of Pondicherry University.



INDIA AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD



The Department of History in collaboration with the National Institute of Advance Studies-NIAS organised an expert lecture on 'India and the neighborhood'. Prof.D.Suba Chandran, Professor and Dean at School of Conflict and Security Studies provided succinct introduction to India and the Neighborhood through four propositions. Geographically, it is not an easy neighborhood for India. Politically and economically, the Indian neighborhood is not stable. Difference between "Neighborhood First" for India, and "India First" for the neighbours India will face a difficult neighbourhood in the 2020s. To begin with, the "Ring of Fire" is a term used to describe the highly active edges of Myanmar, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan. India's neighborhood has witnessed crucial developments in the last decade: complex security challenges, looming economic crises, socio-political unrest, border clashes, China's expanding engagement, India's rising profile, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the last eight years, India has advocated the "Neighborhood First" policy which 'focuses on creating mutually beneficial, people-oriented, regional frameworks for stability and prosperity'. India's neighborhood presents complex dynamics, and the challenges demand attention and serious consideration in its policy options. The versatile neighborhood also offers opportunities for India to extend cooperation at the regional level and address common strategic, economic, social and security concerns.



77th Independence Day Quiz



On August 15, 2023, The History Department organised a Quiz on the occasion of the 77th Independence Day 2023 on the theme of Nation First, Always First. The Independence Day Quiz conducted was a creative and interactive initiative aimed at engaging participants in commemorating Independence Day by remembering freedom movement. This event served as an innovative way to promote patriotism and educate participants about the country's history and culture. The event was promoted through social media, email invitations, and relevant online communities to maximize participation. The event witnessed enthusiastic involvement from participants of various age groups, reflecting their keen interest in learning about their nation's history and achievements. Upon completing the quiz, participants were provided with their certificates. The event fostered a sense of pride and historical awareness. The accessible and flexible nature of the digital platform ensured a wider reach and allowed participants to celebrate their nation's heritage in a convenient and engaging manner.



**YOUNG IPRI NATIONAL WORKSHOP
COUPS IN AFRICA
COURSE | CAUSE | CONSEQUENCE**



The Department of History and the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) organized a workshop to discuss ongoing coups in Sahel region of Africa. In the introductory session Prof. Ramya B welcomed the gathering and Prof. Suba Chandran briefed about the workshop and the insights of the functioning of NIAS. Fr. Dr. Augustine George, Principal Kristu Jayanti College provided the inaugural address. In the first session, panellists discussed the coups of Gabon, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Mali. Ms. Nithyashree from Stella Maris Chennai provided insights on the socio-economic state of Gabon, while Mr. Sanoop Suresh from Pondicherry University provided further insight into the military and ruling dynasty.

The workshop took place in 2 sessions. Aleena T Sabu from Pondicherry University discussed Niger's religious insurgencies, economy, and relations with France. Riddhi Sanyal, Assistant Professor at Kristu Jayanti College, discussed the history of coups in Burkina Faso, their causes, and future steps. Shreyas Sudip Mishra and Shreya Prasanna from St. Joseph's University Bengaluru discussed the causes of the Mali coup, its consequences, and necessary steps for stability.

The second session focused on Sudan, the Sahel region, and coups in Africa. Anjali Bajaj from Kristu Jayanti College discussed the weakening democracy in Sudan, while Namratha S from the University of Madras and Vivek N D from the University of Hyderabad discussed the effects of colonialism in Sudan and military coups. Jerry Franklin from Madras Christian College discussed the neo-colonialism of coups in Africa, and Anu Maria Joseph from NIAS discussed the trajectory of coups in Africa. Amrit Arya discussed the changing landscape and coups in the Sahel region.

The concluding remarks were provided by Prof Ramya B of Kristu Jayanti College followed by the student remarks by Ryan Marcus. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sakithyan, from Kristu Jayanti College and Anu Maria Joseph, from NIAS. The sessions were commemorated by taking pictures of the presenters and also group photos that included everyone.



EXPERT LECTURE

THE EARLY HISTORY OF KARNATAKA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KEMPEGOWDA



The Guest Lecture was conducted by the Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College, Bengaluru on 04.09.2023 from 2.00 – 4.00pm. The resource person was Dr.Vasudha. N, Associate Professor & PG Coordinator, Department of History, from Government First Grade College, K.R. Puram. The topic of the lecture was “The Introduction to Early History of Karnataka with Special Reference to Kempegowda”. The guest was addressed by Dr. Sakithyan. The speaker illuminated us with the History of Kempegowda. The lecture started from the time of ancient history as it was divided into three phases and the topic started with the Iron Age and Aryanization, where Mauryas, Satavahanas, Kadambas and Western Ganga dynasties were studied. In the second phase Chalukyas of Badami, Rashtrakuta, Kalachuris and Chalukyas of Kalyana, and the Hoysala dynasties were studied. Phase 3 consisted of the Vijayanagara Empire and the chieftains or Nayakas were studied. The chieftains served as a Segway into the topic of Kempegowda the founder of modern Bangalore, where we learned about his contributions to the city of Bengaluru and its development, and his achievements as a vassal of the Vijayanagara Empire and as an independent ruler. After the end of the lecture there was a questionnaire session, various questions were asked by our students. The vote of thanks was given and then followed by a sh few words by Prof. Ramya regarding collaboration with Government First Grade College and Kristu Jayanti College, Bengaluru for the future research work.



HUMANTRA 2023

Charades Through Time



The event was conducted on 27th October, P1 Conference Hall. There were 6 teams of 3 participants each. The Charades event took place in a historical-themed, where participants were asked about historical personalities, political figures, movies based on history. Given the time limit of 1 min per participant, winners were announced on the basis of time taken and correct answers given. The winners were announced during the valedictory ceremony held at 4:30 pm. The prizes and certificates were distributed to the respective teams.

Pioneers of the Past



The event was stretched for two days. On the 26th of October the prelims for Pioneers of the Past were held which consisted of a worksheet. Four teams out of seven qualified for the event. The main event was conducted on 27th of October, in the Conclave Hall, Admin block, at 10:30 am. The event consisted of two rapid fire rounds for the participants. The first round dealt with Global affairs. Two teams qualified for the second round. The second round dealt with Indian History, Indian freedom movement and Indian literature. The winners were announced during the valedictory ceremony held at 4:30 pm. The prizes and certificates were distributed to the respective teams.



TAIWAN AND INDO PACIFIC SECURITY



On 3rd November 2023 Department of history partnership with NIAS organized a lecture session on Taiwan and Indo Pacific Security. Dr. Mumin Chen was the resource person of the session. Dr. Mumin Chen is Deputy Representative of Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in India, and Professor at Graduate Institute of International Chung Hsing University (NCHU), Taiwan. Before he also served as Vice President for International Affairs, and Director of the Center for Studies on South Asia and Middle East at NCHU.

The speaker engaged 1st and 3rd year BA HSPS students and touched on topics such as Taiwan's culture and history, connections with India and Chinese Influence in the region. The session began with video showcasing the culture of Taiwan which included cuisine, religion, festival, nature, tradition and customs of Taiwan. In the lecture the following topics were discussed: Political connection between Taiwan and India, Future goals of building strong relation between the two nations, Taiwan contribution to the world by growing chip making industry. The sessions were commemorated by taking pictures of the presenters and also group photos that included everyone



Panel discussion
Why Conflicts Continue
And
Conflict weekly: release of the 200th issue



The Department of History in collaboration with the National Institute of Advanced Studies-NIAS and Konrad Adenauer organized a conference involving the discussions about the reasons as to why there is a persistence of conflicts. The session began with the prayer song by the college choir, and the host was Dr. Ashwini Barla. The conference was held in A2 auditorium of Kristu Jayanti College, the session with Prof. Ramya B who gave the welcome speech, and introduced the delegates and introduced the highlights of the collaboration with the Department of History and Kristu Jayanti College with KAS and NIAS, and gave a short introduction about the college. Mr. Ashish Gupta, from KAS India Office, gave the inaugural address. Professor D Suba Chandran, from NIAS, introduced the Publication 'Conflict Weekly'. Fr. Dr. Augustin George, Principal Kristu Jayanti College, released the 200th issue of 'Conflict Weekly' with the German Delegation. The presidential address was delivered by Fr. Dr. Augustin George, Principle Kristu Jayanti College. Fr. Dr. Augustine George and Professor Ramya B received 'Conflict Weekly' and 'Europe Monitor' Publications respectively in the ending notes by Professor D Suba Chandran. The inaugural session concluded with the college anthem.

Session 2 Consisted of the Panel Discussion. The moderator was Professor D Suba Chandran. The panelists were Dr. Shaji Sadashivan, assistant professor, Department of Political Science University of Hyderabad, and professor D Suba Chandrsn, Professor and Dean, school of conflict and security studies, NIAS. Once the panelists concluded, the discussants gave insights into the topic. The discussants panel included Prof. Uma Maheshwari, Head Department. of Politics and public administration. University of Madras.; Prof. Sabu Thomas, head Department of political science, University of Calicut.; Dr, Prabhakaran, assistant prof. Department of Defense and Strategic studies, University of Madras; Dr. Gopakumar A V, Dean faculty of Humanities, Kristu Jayanti College; Ms. Dhriti mukherjee, Research assistant NIAS. The floor was opened for the Question & answer session, once the panelists' discussions concluded. The concluding remarks for the second session were provided by Mr. Elias from KAS india office, Ms. Anu Maria Joseph from NIAS and Dr. Sakithyan K B from Kristu Jayanti College.



EUROPE IN 2023



National Institute of Advanced Studies
Area Studies | Europe

Second NIAS-KAS Annual Conclave

Europe in 2023

Organised by
NIAS Europe Studies, STIR Programme, NIAS
&
India Office, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, New Delhi & in
collaboration with
Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College Autonomous, Bengaluru
Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, University of Madras, Chennai

07 November 2023, Tuesday

Programme

07 November, Tuesday

Venue:



Gokulam Grand

0900-

0930 hrs: Welcome & Introduction

Prof D

Suba Chandran

Professor and Dean, School for Conflict and

Security Studies, NIAS

Mr



Ashish Gupta

Researcher in Konrad-Adenauer- Stiftung,
Delhi

New-

Ms Ramya Balasubramanian



Head, Department of History, Kristu Jayanti
College, Bangalore

Europe in 2023 organised by NIAS Europe Studies, STIR Programme, NIAS & India office, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung, New Delhi & in collaboration with Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous, Bengaluru, Department of Defence and Strategic Studies, University of Madras, Chennai.

Second NIAS-Kas Annual Conclave was held at Gokulam Grand on 7th of December. The programme began with the welcome and introduction speech by Prof. D Suba Chandran- Professor and Dean. School for Conflict and Security Studies, NIAS, introduced the delegates and introduced the highlights of the collaboration followed by the welcome speech by the following delegates Mr. Ashish Gupta- Researcher in Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung, New-Delhi, Ms Ramya Balasubramanian- Head, Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College, Bangalore, Dr. Prabhakaran, Prof. A Subramanyam Raju Dean of International relations Department, Pondicherry University , Dr. Sabu Thomas, Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Calicut, Kerala and R Adm.Amit Bose (Retd) Director, Chennai Campus, Indian Maritime University, Chennai.



**NIAS - KJC EUROPE LECTURE SERIES
RUSSIA AND TWO YEARS OF THE UKRAINE WAR**



The Department of History, in collaboration with NIAS organised a session on the 2nd year of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. The session began at 2:00 PM, with a welcome note by Mr. Pranav Raghunath, and introducing the guest speaker of the day, Ambassador D B Venkatesh Varma who was a former ambassador to the Russian Federation. He spoke about the two years of the Russo-Ukrainian war, and the military strength, the assistance given to Ukraine, and the various aspects involved in present day warfare. He spoke about the involvement of international organisations, the world polarity, influences and global superpowers. He also touched upon the impacts it has on India, and also the rest of the world. He also spoke about potential consequences of prolonging it and the diverging polarity in global power. The question and answer session followed the lecture. After the question and answer session concluded, the event approached it and ended with a vote of thanks, followed by a group photo.



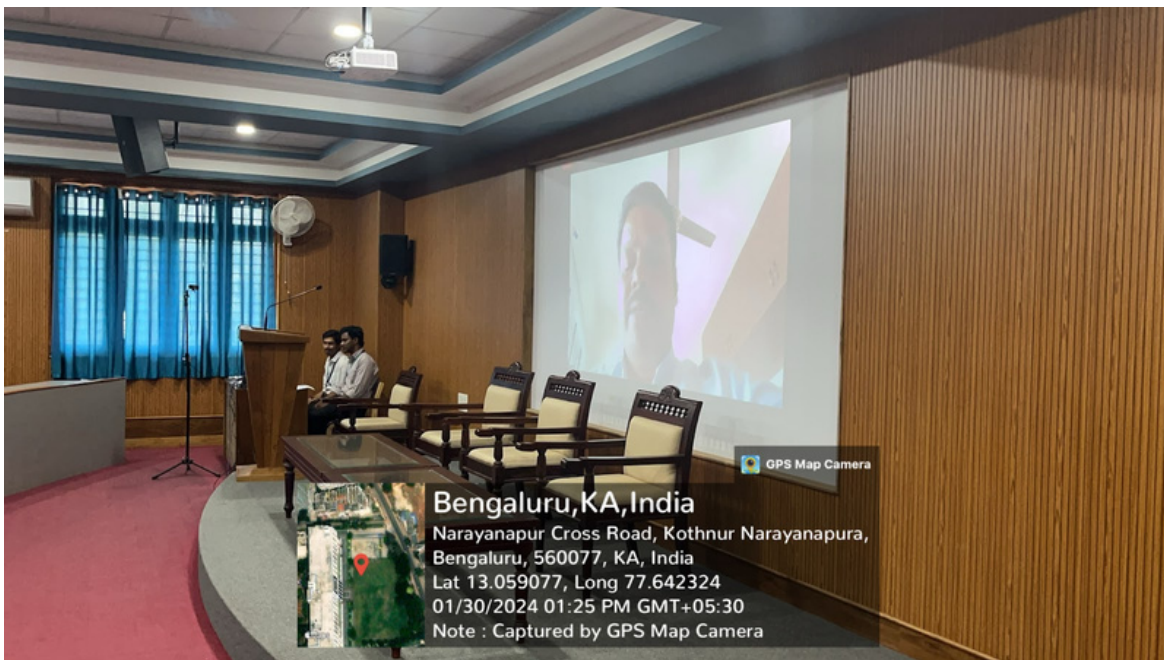
75th REPUBLIC DAY 2024
THEME: REMINISCING PAST



The event began precisely at 1:30 pm, with the dignitaries sitting on the dais. The welcome note was given by Pranav Raghunath, the student coordinator. Then a speech was given by the chief guest Dr. Ravishankar, Assistant Professor of the Kannada Department. He spoke about the pivotal role of the Indian constitution and the effective administration in Karnataka. It was enlightening and interesting to listen to. The cultural programmes began after the speech, the first performance was a patriotic song by Athulya of 3rd year HSPS, then a patriotic speech by 1st year Rithik shetty, and it was . This was followed by two patriotic songs, one by Hena Benny and group who were from 1st year HSPS, and then one by Kimberly from 1st year HSPS. Next was a second student speech by Lucky from 3rd year HSPS, the speech was informative and motivating. The next event was a mime, the sacrifice of a soldier and the tribute by the loved ones was beautifully portrayed. This was followed by a video recording of fellow Jayantians screened, speaking about why we celebrate Republic day and its facts in various languages. The last participants, Ryan Marcus and Manoja Yadavilli, form 3rd year and 2nd year respectively, gave a presentation on the first Republic Day Parade and unseen Pictures during the making of the Indian Constitution, on the theme 'Saluting the Spirit: Republic Day in Frames'. The event concluded with the vote of thanks given by Dr. Sakithyan K B



**A National Webinar
on
Cultural Heritage of India
Celebrate... Cherish... Conserve...**



The event was held in hybrid mode, and began with the inaugural session, marked with lighting of the lamp. The Head of History Department, from Jyothi nivas College, Dr. Nalini, gave the welcome note and introduced the activities of the department from Jyothi Nivas College. Then, Ms. Ramya B, Head Department of History from Kristu Jayanti college introduced the activities of the college and the department. The Presiding address was given by Sr. Dr. Mary Louisa S, Principal, Jyothi Nivas college.

Then the sessions began, with the first resource person was Ms Sindhu Nagaraja Archival Conservator from NCBS, who spoke on Conservation of Archival Materials in Science Institutions. And preserving the artifacts and manuscripts and their maintenance and restoration. The next resource person was Ms. Chetana Hamsagar, Conservation Architect and Engineer, INTACH, who spoke on Conserving Heritage Monuments of Bengaluru and the importance of conserving the architecture. The third speaker was Mr. M Satish Chandra UGC Senior Research Fellow, School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Who spoke on Preserving Folklore in Karnataka and how folk tales, and folklore can contribute to tradition, culture and studying the society from various perspectives.

The next speaker was Dr. Remya V P Associate Professor, Dept. of History & Archaeology, Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburgi. who spoke on Oral Heritage Resources in the history of karnataka, and their role in understanding history. This was followed by a summarizing of all the sessions by Mr. Pranav Raghunath, followed by a vote of thanks by Dr. Ashwini Barla from Kristu Jayanti College.

Guest Lecture on Heritage Resources of Karnataka



The event was an expert lecture on Heritage resources of Karnataka by Dr. K G Venkatesh who was from VS Arts and Science college, Shimoga. The event began with introducing the guest speaker, the guest speaker Dr. K G Venkatesh spoke, he touched upon the topics of Culture, heritage, their evolution, the language, folk tales, songs, plays, legends, etc. , and how these become resources to study history . He touched upon how to preserve them and many more. The lecture was a mix between English and Kannada which made it more interesting. Once the main session was done, the question and answer session began, where the students asked interesting questions. The session concluded with a vote of thanks and group photo.



Research Based Experiential Learning: Interaction with Soliga Tribals

The Department of History at Kristu Jayanti College organized an insightful experiential visit to BR Hills, with the primary objective of immersing students in the rich culture and way of life of the Soliga Tribals. This initiative aimed to provide students with a hands-on understanding of indigenous communities and foster a deeper appreciation for cultural diversity. The program initiated with an enlightening class conducted by the coordinator Mr. Suresh from the Vivekananda Girijana Kalyana Kendra NGO. Students gained valuable insights into the history, traditions, and challenges faced by the Soliga Tribals. The session served as a foundation for the upcoming interactions with the community. Students explored the operations of the Vivekananda Girijana Kalyana Kendra NGO, gaining insights into the various initiatives aimed at supporting and preserving the cultural heritage of indigenous communities. This exposure broadened the students' perspectives on the role of NGOs in community development. Following the educational session, students had the opportunity to engage directly with the Soliga Tribals. Through guided interactions, students learned about the tribe's unique customs, traditional practices, and their close connection with the natural surroundings. This hands-on experience allowed for a more nuanced understanding of the Soliga way of life. The day concluded with a memorable tribal dance and campfire gathering, providing an informal setting for students and Tribals to share stories and experiences.



Numismatics Exhibition



The Department of History organized a captivating Numismatics Exhibition, drawing a crowd of around 350 visitors, including faculty members from various departments. The program was inaugurated by Fr. Jais V Thomas, Financial Administrator, Kristu Jayanti College. The highlight of the event was a compelling talk by HK Ramarao, who shared insights into his remarkable coin collection.

His 167th exhibition was conducted in Kristu Jayanti College. Mr. Ramarao's talk was both informative and engaging, providing attendees with a glimpse into the fascinating world of numismatics. He showcased his collection with enthusiasm, and historical context for each coin, enriching the audience's understanding of the subject. Mr. Ramarao's collection, spanning various dynasties and epochs, offered a fascinating journey through India's numismatic history. From the coinage of ancient Mahajanapadas to the intricately designed coins of medieval dynasties, and finally to modern currency, his collection offered a glimpse into the evolution of Indian coinage over millennia. Following Mr. Ramarao's talk, the students of the History Department took the reins, eagerly sharing their knowledge and passion for numismatics with all attendees. Their dedication and expertise ensured that visitors received a comprehensive overview of the exhibition and its significance. The student community consists from all over India, East, North East, West, South, North etc. ancient coins and specially Indian Princely state coins were the cynosure. Just by looking at name the of state they could connect to their homeland, specially coin of Ahom (Assam), Cooch Behar, Kutch, Mewar, Jodhpur, Gwalior, Baroda, etc. Throughout the event, visitors had the opportunity to explore the diverse range of coins on display, spanning various periods and civilizations. The exhibition served as a valuable educational experience, fostering a deeper appreciation for the historical and cultural significance of numismatics. The success of the Numismatics Exhibition underscores the Department of History's commitment to promoting academic enrichment and engaging the wider community. We extend our gratitude to Mr. Ramarao, the students, faculty members, and all attendees for making this event a resounding success.



Global Politics Young Voices(GPYV)#119

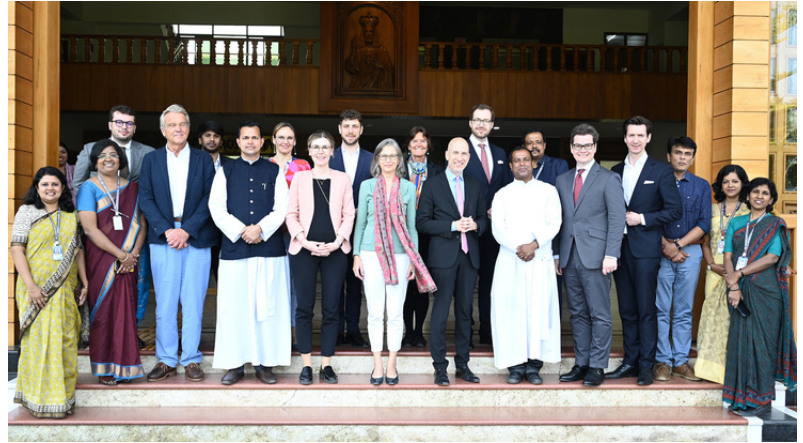
“20 Years of Facebook”



The Department of History, Kristu Jayanti College has organised the 119th Global Politics Young Voices (GPYV) in collaboration with International Peace Research Initiative, NIAS, Department of Media studies, Kristu Jayanti College and Department of International Relations, Peace and Public Policy, St. Joseph's University. The topic for this conference was “20 Years of Facebook”. A total of 7 speakers presented this topic for debate and discussion. The first speaker was Joicy Olvita Pinto who presented about the Behaviour of a user of Facebook and various impacts of Facebook on a common man. The second speaker Chayanika Sarma presented about Facebook's role in Politics and its affect on democracy along with Data and Privacy Breaches. The third speaker Eangwang Konyak P presented about the contributions of Facebook in India's Economy and Job Market. The fourth speaker Nuha Aamina spoke about the wepanisation of Facebook due to regional conflicts and also gave us some insights about Shadowbanning, Censorship and Disinformation. The fifth speaker Rajika Kanungo spoke about Facebook's impact on social movements by discussing a case study about Arab springs and Black Lives Matter. The sixth speaker Dhriti Mukherjee presented about the gender-bias for jobs on Facebook. She spoke about how Facebook's algorithm for recommending jobs to females is stereotypical compared to their male counterparts. The last speaker of the panel, Padmashree Anandhan presented about the Accountability, Protection and Disinformation of Facebook in European Union (EU). After all presentations of all the speakers, a debate and discussion round was started where the audience had asked questions to the speakers along with adding a few insights to the discussion on the topic



NIAS-KJC Europe Lecture Series- "A New Geopolitical Epoch: Economic Challenges from a European Standpoint"



NIAS-KJC Europe Lecture Series- "A New Geopolitical Epoch: Economic Challenges from a European Standpoint" address by Dr Martin Kocher, Federal Minister of Labour and Economy, Republic of Austria and accompanied by Ambassador Katharina Wieser, Ambassador of Republic of Austria to India, Prof D Suba Chandran, Dean School of Conflict and Security Studies at Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous, Bengaluru on the 20th of February 2024. Dr. Martin Kocher, Federal Minister of Labour and Economy, Republic of Austria welcomed Indian Scholars and workers to Austria, highlighting the requirements in the labour market. The International students can study in Austria with the residence title "Residence Permit - Student". As practical experience is important, international students can work up to 20 hours per week alongside their studies. To make it particularly easy to enter the workforce after graduation, students receive a work permit (Red-White-Red Card) after completing their studies. The recent Innovations in the Red- White- Red (RWR) card are

- a. More points for shortage occupations to make it easier to get RWR card
- b. Equal points for English and German if the company language is English
- c. In the future, apprenticeship degrees will be assessed equally with university degrees in terms of points
- d. More flexibility in temporary employment (e.g. project work)



KRISTU JAYANTI COLLEGE
NIAS CONFLICT HISTORY PROJECT
INAUGURAL WORKSHOP



The Department of History and the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) organized an inaugural workshop to create a qualitative database at NIAS, on conflicts worldwide. The study will examine the following: the beginning (issues, actors, state responses), the continuation (phases, issues, attempts to resolve), the transition/transformation, responses (local, regional/provincial, national, and global), the state of conflict in 2024, and a forecast. It will include a detailed chronology, an extensive literature survey, an annotated bibliography, field research (if possible), and interviews.

In the introductory session Prof. Ramya B welcomed the gathering and Prof. Suba Chandran briefed about the workshop and the insights of the functioning of NIAS. Fr. Dr. Augustine George, Principal Kristu Jayanti College provided the inaugural address. Followed by the key note address by Amb Dr. TCA Raghavan, former Indian High Commission to Pakistan, on South Asian Contestation: Historical and Diplomatic Perspectives. The workshop took place in 2 sessions

In the first session Day 1, the following panellists discussed upon the Conflict History were Femy Francis on The Xinjiang conflict in China, Akhil Ajith, Research Assistant, NIAS on The Moro Conflict in the Philippines, Kavithasri M, Postgraduate student from Pondicherry University on the topic Rohingya Conflict in Myanmar. Shamini Velayutham, Research Assistant, NIAS on Baluchistan Conflict in Pakistan. Rishita Verma, Postgraduate students, Pondicherry University on the topic Houthi conflict in Yemen. The last speaker of the day Padmashree Anandhan, Research Scholar on The Ethno-Nationalist conflict in Northern Ireland. Input discussants for Day 1 were Ashik Bonofer, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Madras Christian College, and Chennai. Lyola Thomas, Program Coordinator (PG), Department of English, Kristu Jayanti College. Ashok Alex Luke, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, CMS College, Kottayam. Kaveri swami, Head, Department of Social Sciences and Languages, Kristu Jayanti College.

The Second day of the workshop was continued by the following panellists Anu Maria Joseph, Research Associate, NIAS on The Anglophone conflict in Cameroon, Jerry Franklin, Postgraduate student of Madras Christian College, Chennai presented on The conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Narmatha S and Vetriselvi Baskaran Postgraduate students, University of Madras discussed on The Tigray Conflict in Ethiopia. Vaneeta, Postgraduate student from Pondicherry University presented on Armed conflict and Peace Agreement in Colombia. Input discussants for Day 2 were Sourina Bej, Ph.D. Scholar, University of Bonn, Germany and K Vinodha Devi, Senior Professor, Department of Economics, Kristu Jayanti College.

The concluding remarks were provided by Pranav Raghunath. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. Sakithyan, from Kristu Jayanti College and Anu Maria Joseph, from NIAS. The sessions were commemorated by taking pictures of the presenters and also group photos that included everyone.

PAKISTAN'S ELECTION AND ITS LONG CRISES



On 15th March 2024 Department of history partnership with NIAS organized a lecture session on Pakistans Election and its long crises. Ambassador Dr. TCA Raghavan was the resource person of the session. Dr. TCA Raghavan is Former diplomat from the Indian Foreign Service. He served as India's High commissioner to Pakistan (2013-15) and earlier as High Commissioner to Singapore (2009-2013). He is a historian and the author of "Attendant Lords: BAiram Khan and Abdur Rahim, Courtiers and Poets in Mughal India," which was awarded the Mohammad Habib Memorial Prize by the Indian History Congress.

The speaker engaged 1st, 2nd and 3rd year BA HSPS students on understanding Pakistan's electoral landscape requires an assessment of its political parties, regional dynamics, and the presence of non-state actors. The speaker talked about the dominance of specific parties, the rise of new political forces, and how ethnicity, religion, and ideology influence electoral outcomes. An analysis of Pakistan's elections would be incomplete without the role of the international community was considered. The session also looked into at how international organizations, foreign governments, and election observers in Pakistan are supporting democratic processes and increasing electoral openness.

Finally, the session looked at Pakistan's ongoing electoral reform efforts and the possibilities for democratic consolidation. What are the critical improvements required to solve the underlying issues? What role can civil society, the media, and grassroots movements play in promoting democratic values? The speaker examined the intricacies and paradoxes inherent in Pakistan's election journey. While the path to democracy is plagued with obstacles, it is also distinguished by perseverance, hope, and the Pakistani people's unrelenting dedication to creating a more inclusive and democratic society.

The session was then followed by questions, comments, and reflections from the audience. Lastly, the session was commemorated by taking pictures of the presenters and also group photos that included everyone.



“13 YEARS AFTER FUKUSHIMA: LESSON IN NUCLEAR SAFETY AND NUCLEAR ENERGY”



On 26th March 2024 Department of History and dept of Physical Sciences partnered to host a special lecture on “13 Years after Fukushima: Lesson in Nuclear Safety and Nuclear Energy” in collaboration with NIAS. The session began with a documentary video on Fukushima: The nuclear disaster that shook the world.

Prof. Ramya, Head Department of History officially welcomed the Speakers of the day Prof. V S Ramamurthy and Prof.D.K.Srivastava. The lecture aimed to reflect on the events of the disaster, draw lessons learned, and discuss the advancements made in nuclear safety and the future of nuclear energy. The speakers provided an overview of the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant and the sequence of events that led to the disaster, including the earthquake and tsunami.

The impacts of the disaster on the environment, public health, and the economy were discussed. Prof also highlighted the significance of the event in shaping nuclear safety policies globally.

Speakers emphasized the need for proactive safety measures and effective emergency response protocols to mitigate the risk of similar disasters. The significance of transparent communication with the public and building trust in nuclear energy projects were presented as the crucial lessons from Fukushima.

A lively discussion followed the presentation. It addressed challenges and opportunities ahead in nuclear energy management, managing nuclear waste and decommissioning unsafe plants. Challenges associated with nuclear waste management and decommissioning of legacy reactors was answered , along with opportunities for innovation in waste disposal technologies. Strategies for addressing public concerns and improving public perception of nuclear energy were highlighted , emphasizing the importance of education and transparent communication.

The lecture provided a unique overview of uses of nuclear energy and its relationship to international relation, power dynamics and climate change



Kristu Jayanti College



AUTONOMOUS Bengaluru

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**Awarded A++ Grade
by NAAC with CGPA 3.78 out of 4**

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OF THE CENTURY
at NATIONAL LEVEL**



India Today - MDRA Survey 2023

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MBA Business Analytics | MBA Fintech
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(5 year Integrated Programme)

Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous (Arts, Commerce & Science)

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- M.Com.** Financial Analysis
- M.Sc.** Economics
- B.Com.** Bachelor of Commerce
- B.Com.** Integrated with ACCA
- B.Com.** International Business and Finance
- B.Com.** Business Analytics
- B.Com.** Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- B.Com.** Professional
- B.Com.** Integrated with CMA
- B.Com.** Investment Banking
- BBA** Bachelor of Business Administration
- BBA** Aviation Management
- BBA** Business Analytics
- BBA** Tourism and Hospitality Management
- BBA** Branding and Advertising
- BBA** Retail Management
- BBA** International Business
- BA** Applied Economics
- PG Diploma in Business Administration (One Year)**

FACULTY OF SCIENCES

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- M.Sc.** Computer Science
- M.Sc.** Data Science
- M.Sc.** Biotechnology
- M.Sc.** Microbiology
- M.Sc.** Biochemistry
- M.Sc.** Forensic Science
- BCA** Bachelor of Computer Applications
- BCA** Analytics
- BCA** Cloud Computing
- BCA** Cyber Security
- B.Sc.** Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning
- B.Sc.** Internet of Things (IoT)
- B.Sc.** Data Science
- B.Sc.** Computer Science, Electronics
- B.Sc.** Computer Science, Mathematics
- B.Sc.** Computer Science, Physics
- B.Sc.** Computer Science, Statistics
- B.Sc.** Statistics, Economics
- B.Sc.** Statistics, Mathematics
- B.Sc.** Biotechnology, Genetics
- B.Sc.** Biotechnology, Biochemistry
- B.Sc.** Biotechnology, Botany
- B.Sc.** Microbiology, Genetics
- B.Sc.** Forensic Science
- B.Sc.** Forensic Science, Biotechnology
- B.Sc.** Forensic Science, Criminology

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

- M.Sc.** Psychology
- M.Sc.** Counselling Psychology
- M.Sc.** Clinical Psychology
- MA** English Literature
- MA** Journalism and Mass Communication
- MA** Public Administration
- MSW** Master of Social Work
- BA** Journalism, English Literature
- BA** Journalism, Political Science
- BA** Psychology, Journalism
- BA** Psychology, English Literature
- BA** Political Science, Sociology
- BA** History, Political Science
- BA** Psychology
- BA** English Literature
- BA** Journalism and Mass Communication
- B.Sc.** Visual Communication

**Research Centre -
Biotechnology, Commerce,
Management, Psychology**



Application Forms are Available on the College Website
www.kristujayanti.edu.in



Kristu Jayanti College, Autonomous

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