

Hinduism Class

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Outline

- Introduction about myself
- Introduction about the class
- Topics to be covered
- Expectation
- First chapter- Origin of Hinduism



Prayers



*Shuklam baradaram vishnum
Shashi varnam chatur bhujam
Prasanna vadanam dhyaayeth
Sarva vighno pashantaye*

Gratitude



Introduction about myself

- Name: Baskaran Gunasekaran
- Studied Vedas and Agamas for more than 8 years
- Profession as lecturer & scientist
- Started preaching and sevva since 15
- Conducted multiple classes



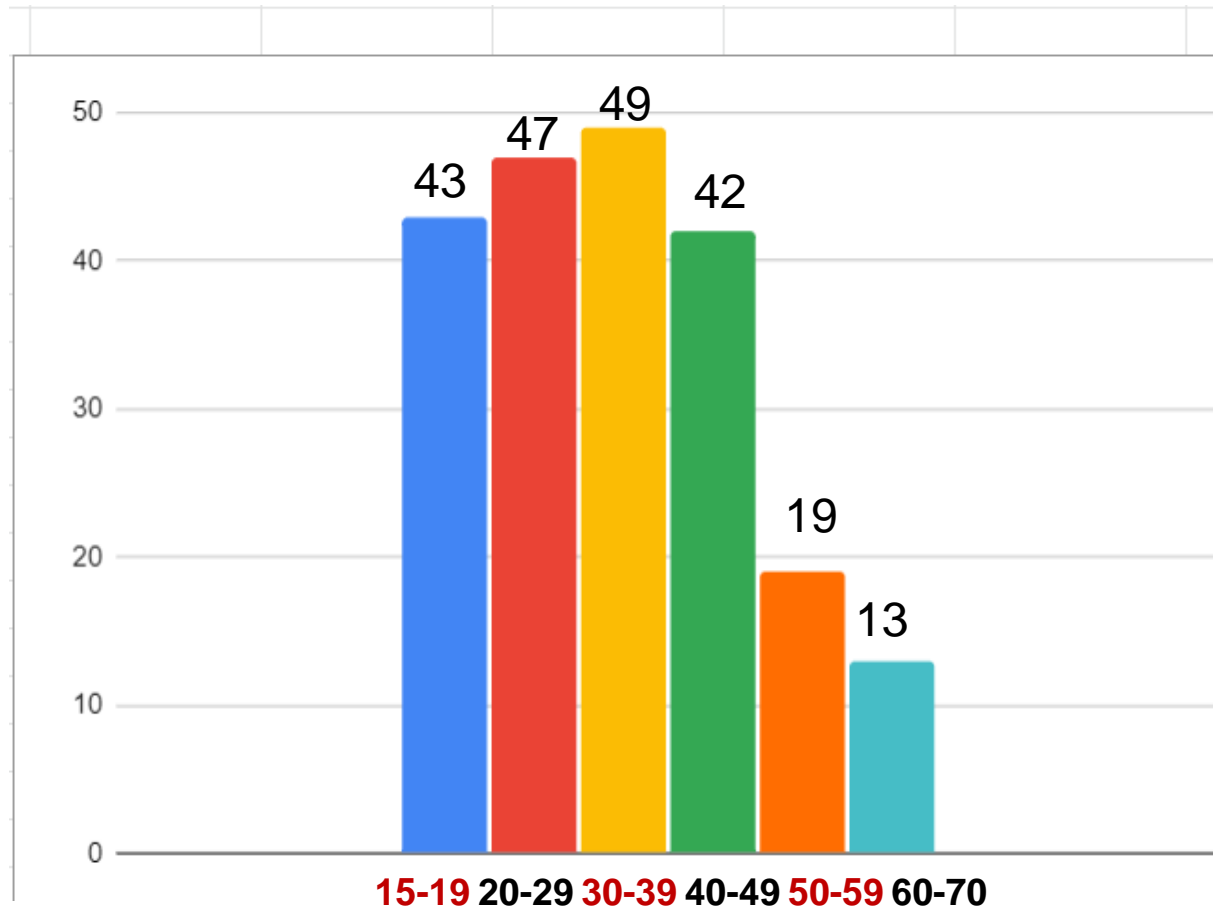


Introduction about the class

- 22 topics
- Weekly Fridays (8.30-9.30pm)
- E-cert for those 90% above
- Estimated duration- 24 weeks
(6 months)

TOPICS
Origin of Hinduism
Hindu Concept of God
God & Goddess
Hindu Scriptures (Tamil & Sanskrit)
Guru Tatwa
Nayanmars, Alwars and Siddhas
Sects in Hinduism
Purushatras
The Law of Karma
Reincarnation
Hindu Dharma
Hindu Yoga
Do's and Don'ts in Hinduism
Hindu Rituals
Mantra, Yantra & Tantra
Hindu Concept of Temple
Hindu Temples & Worship
Hindu Philosophies
Hindu Symbols
Astrology
Vaastu
Home Puja

Registration to date



What you will get?

- You know yourself better
- Origin, culture and tradition
- Helps you in.....



- Full of happiness and calmness within



Then why less people interested?

- No call yet or you reluctant?
- Didn't realize the secret
- We think it is orthodox (out of time)
- Too much in worldly life
- Boring approach.....
- We think it is for old age people only



Expectation

- Make use of me
- Take this as a challenge- one step forward
- Commit yourself...it is going to be fun
- Appreciate the knowledge

First chapter- Origin of Hinduism

Learning outcome

- Understand the multiple civilizations
- Understand the origin of Hinduism

Facts that you must know

- Oldest living religion in the world
- The 3rd highest number of followers
- More than 1 billion Hindus in 150 different countries
- Mostly in India
- In US; 2 million Hindus
- In Malaysia; ~1.7 million (6-7%)
- Also known as Sanathana Dharma (eternal)



	Faith	Approximate start date	Place of origin
>5000	Hinduism	c. 2000 BCE	Northern India
	Judaism	c. 2000 BCE	Middle East
2,563	Buddhism	c. 500 BCE	Northern India
	Confucianism	c. 500 BCE	Northern China
	Daoism (Taoism)	c. 550 BCE	Northern China
2021	Christianity	c. 100 CE	Middle East
1442	Islam	c. 622 CE	Middle East

Purpose of Hinduism

- Binds the soul back to God is religion.
- Religion shows the way for the attainment of God-realisation.



Hinduism is a religion of freedom

- Absolute **freedom** to the rational mind of man
- It allows the **widest freedom** in matters of **faith and worship**
- Hinduism does not condemn those who deny God



Who is the founder of Hinduism?

- Hinduism has no one founder but is instead a fusion of various beliefs.
- Rishis (the seers)



Who is a Hindu?

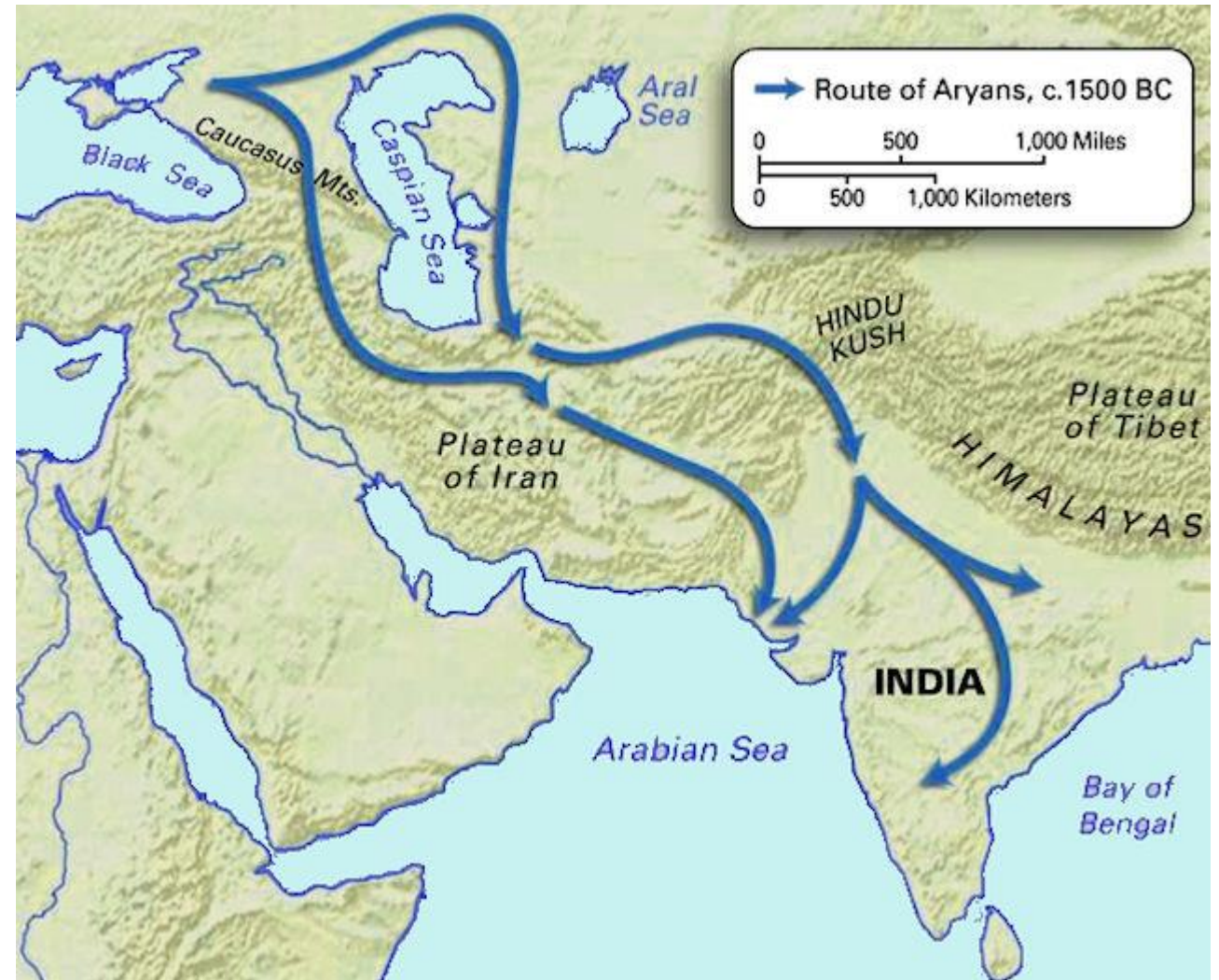
“He who has perfect faith in the Law of Karma, the law of reincarnation Avatara, ancestor worship, Varnashrama Dharma, Vedas and existence of God, he who practises the instructions given in the Vedas with faith and earnestness, he who does Sandhya, Sraaddha, Pitri-Tarpana and the Pancha-Maha-Yajnas, he who follows the Varnashrama Dharmas, he who worships the Avatars and studies the Vedas,

is a **Hindu.**”

-Swami Sivananda-

Indo-Aryan civilization

- Indo-Iranian (Persian) and Indo European travel from center of Asia
- Invaded the North India
- Similarities between Sanskrit and Germanic, Romance, Greek, Baltic, Slavic, Celtic and Iranian were recorded.



Dravidians of south India

- Indigenous of the India
- Believed to origin from Indus
- Civilizations started even back BCE10000
- Kumari Kandam (Earlier Madurei)



History

- Go back to 6000 years back to Saraswati-Indus religion



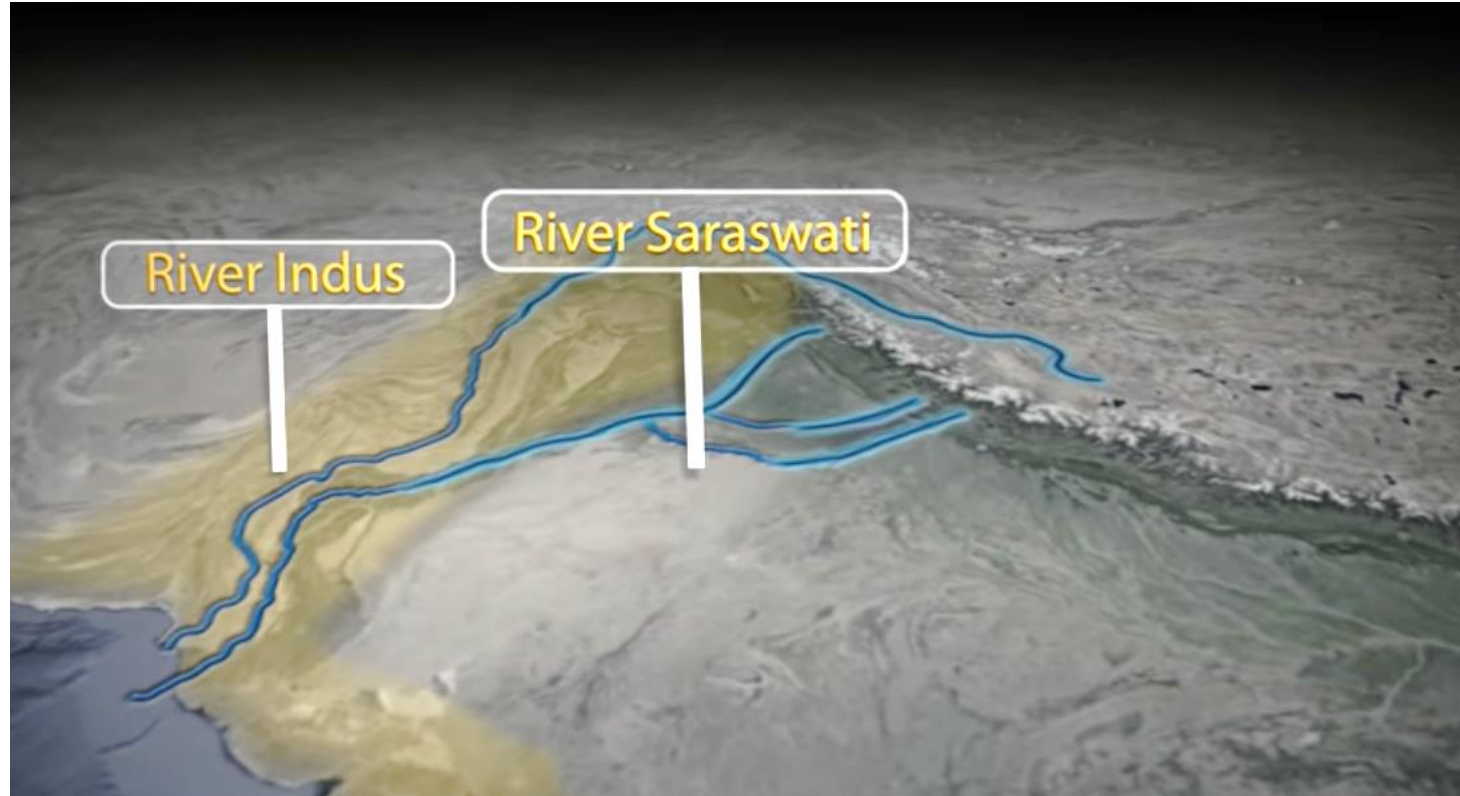
- Widespread covers all areas of India



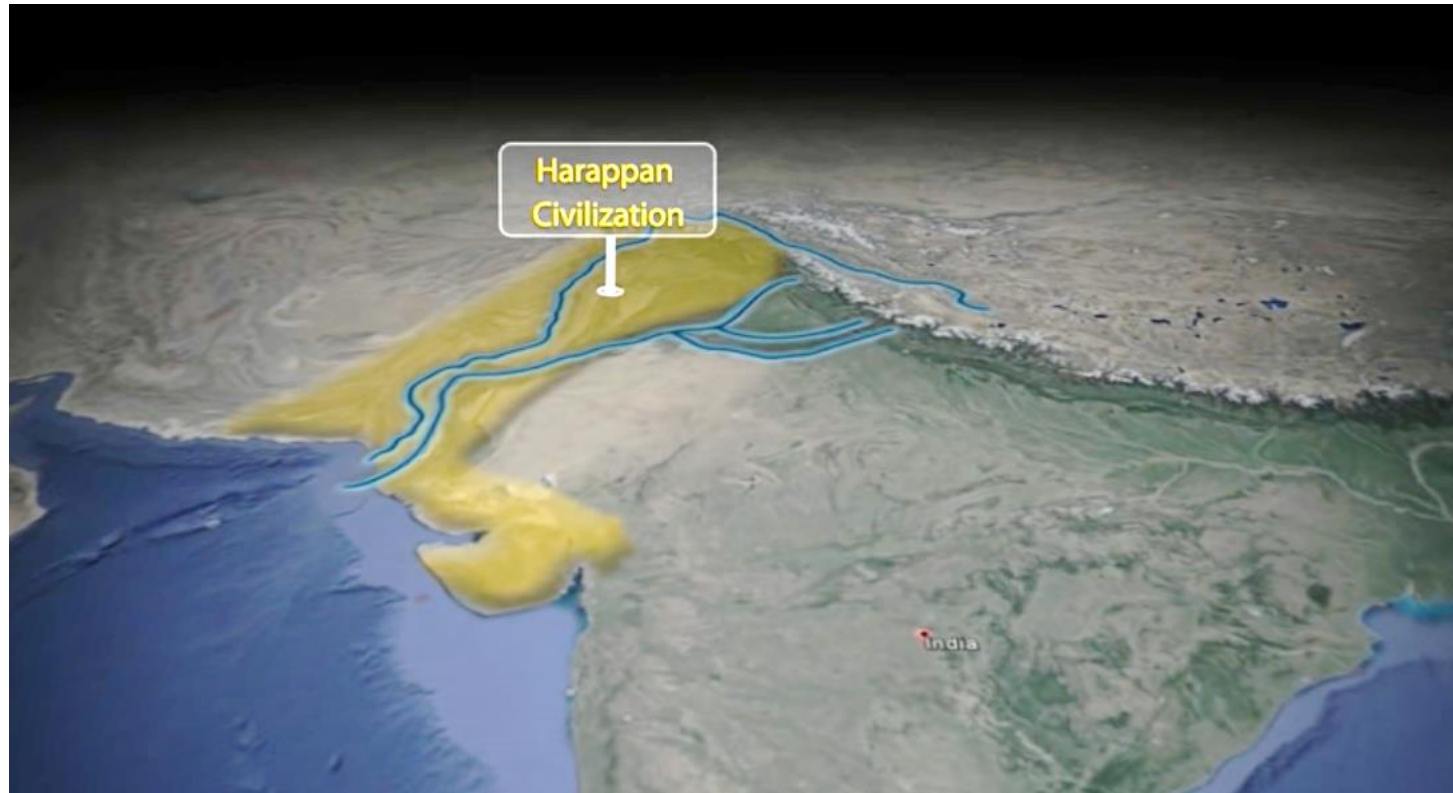
- Saraswathi-Indus civilization is the largest surpassing those Egypt, Mesopotamia and China.



- The civilization named after two great river systems: **Saraswathi and Indus**
- Known as the **vedic culture** after the earliest Hindu sacred text



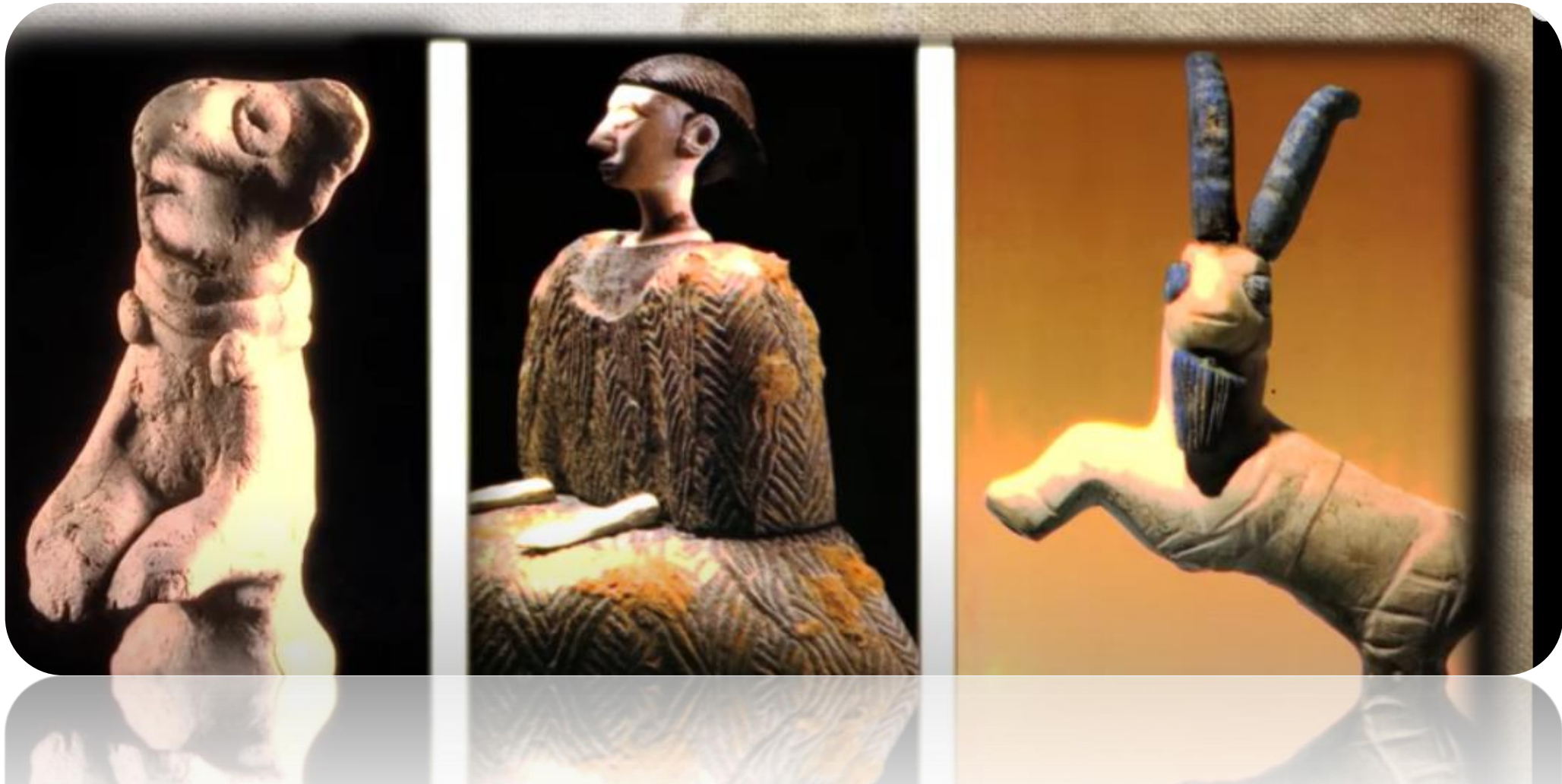
- Also known as **Harrapan culture** after the first discovery 1920.



- Highly organized cities
- Populations more than 8000 people believed reside in each cities



- Archeologist discovered statues



Beads



Jewelries



Tools



Toys



Miniature carts



Pottery



seals

(image of deities, ceremonies, symbols, people, plants and animals)



Connection with today practises

Lord Shiva



Meditation posture



Swastik



Goddess



Shiva Lingam



Agni puja/ homam



Bathing place



Acharya



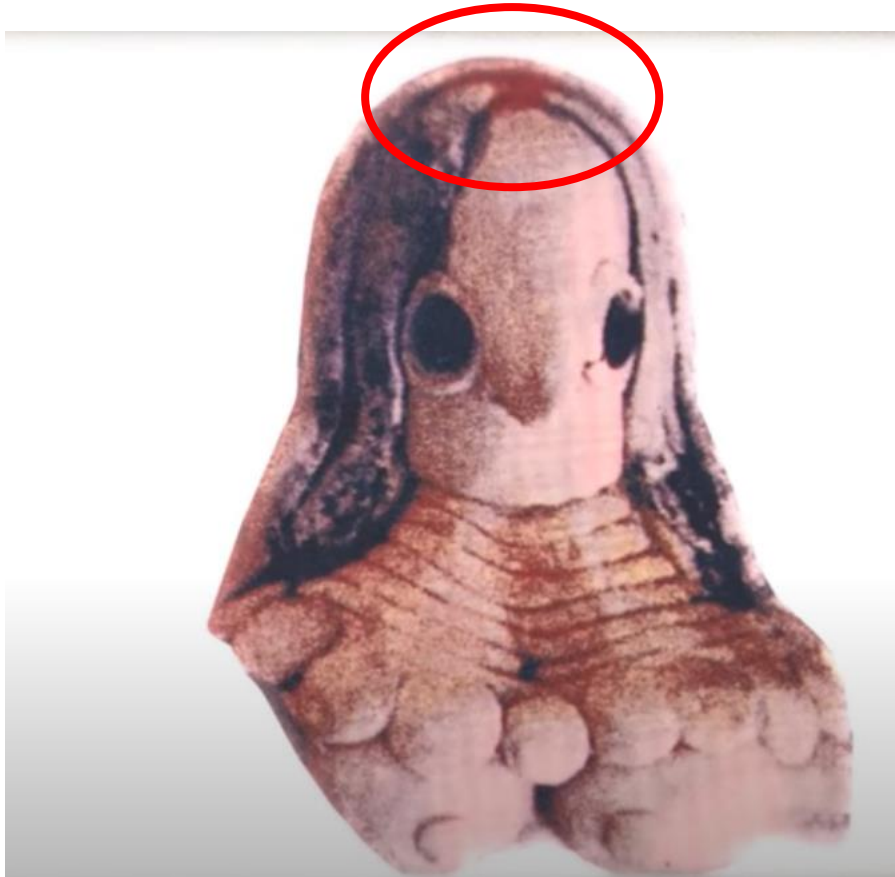
Nandi



Vanakam



Kumkum/ sindhoor



History continues

- 2000 BCE Saraswathi river declined
- People start to migrate to fertile places

BCE: Before Common Era

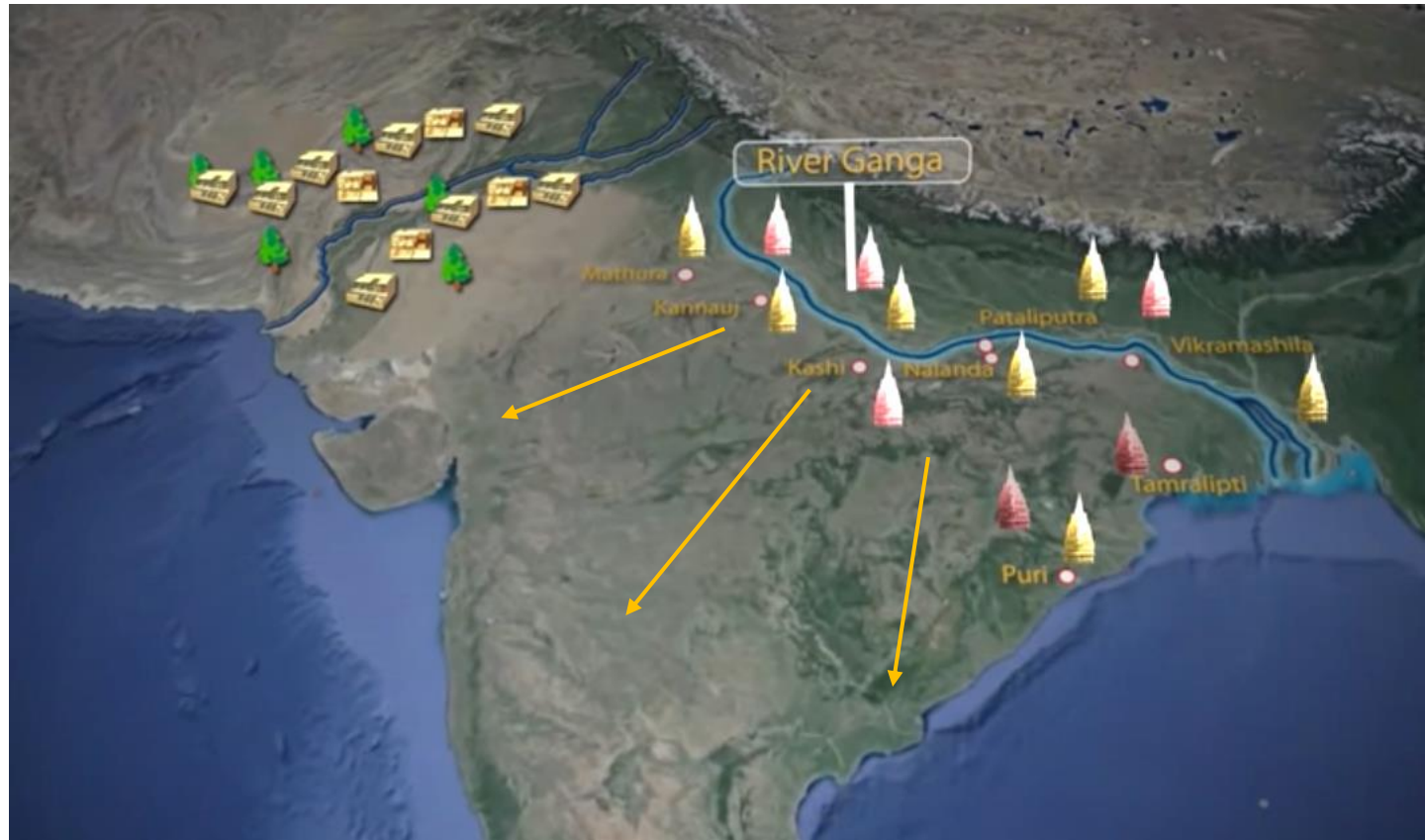
BC: Before Christ



- River Ganga (East and Center of India)
- Then to all subcontinents of India



- Spread to all over India



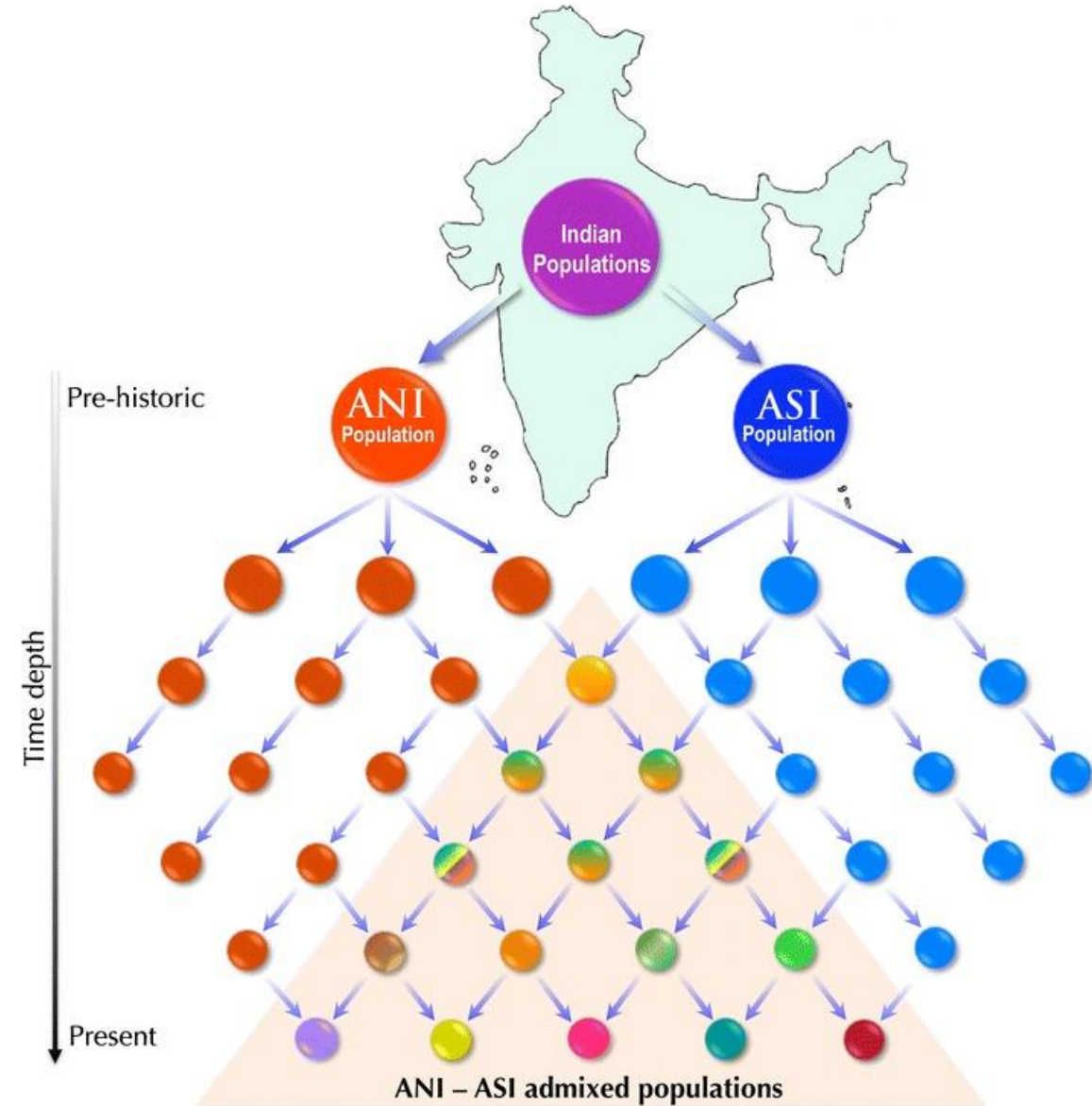
- Major evidence that **vedas exist** before **2000 BCE** before river Saraswathi dried up.
- **Major activities**: agriculture, trade, commerce, industry and cattle raising.
- Basically nearby the major **7 rivers** in India

- Vedic addresses the country as the **saptha sindhu (7 rivers)**



Genetic mapping study

- Current population is the mix of Aryan and Dravidian



- The word **Hindu** and **India** originated from vedic Sanskrit texts that originated from the word **Sindhu**.
- Sindhu = Hindu
- Sindhu = India (Bharat)
- Tamil and Sanskrit is the oldest language in India and the world.

- Om Shanti ! Om Shanti ! Om Shanti !

