

WHAT, WHERE, HOW AND WHEN

CLASS VI

CLASS VI CH 1 WHAT, WHERE, HOW AND WHEN? NCERT

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☐ About the past

There are several things we can find out —

- what people ate,
- the kinds of clothes they wore,
- the houses in which they lived
- lives of hunters, herders, farmers, rulers, merchants, priests, crafts persons, artists, musicians, and scientists.
- games children played, the stories they heard, the plays they saw, the songs they sang.

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■ Where did people live?

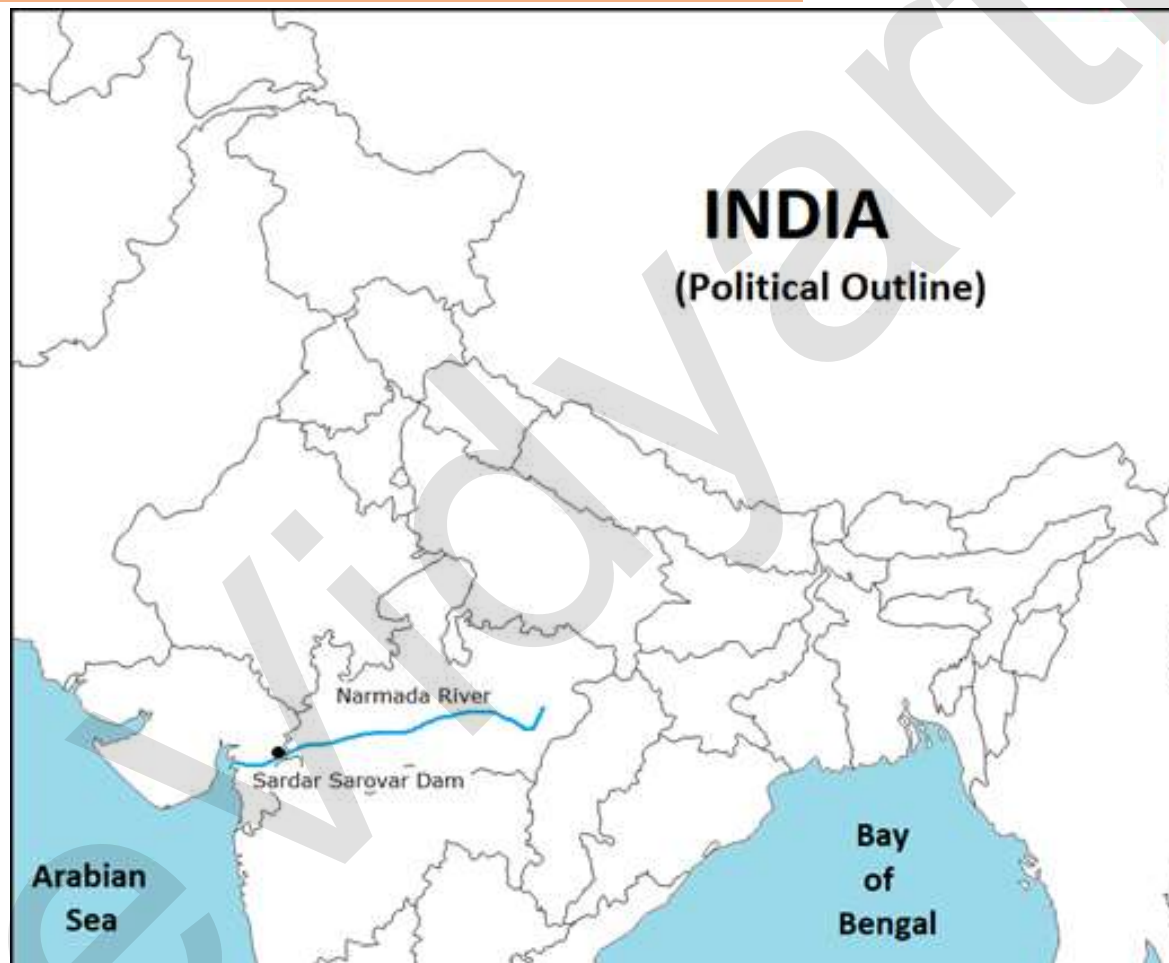


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✓ At the banks of river Narmada

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✓ At the banks of river Narmada

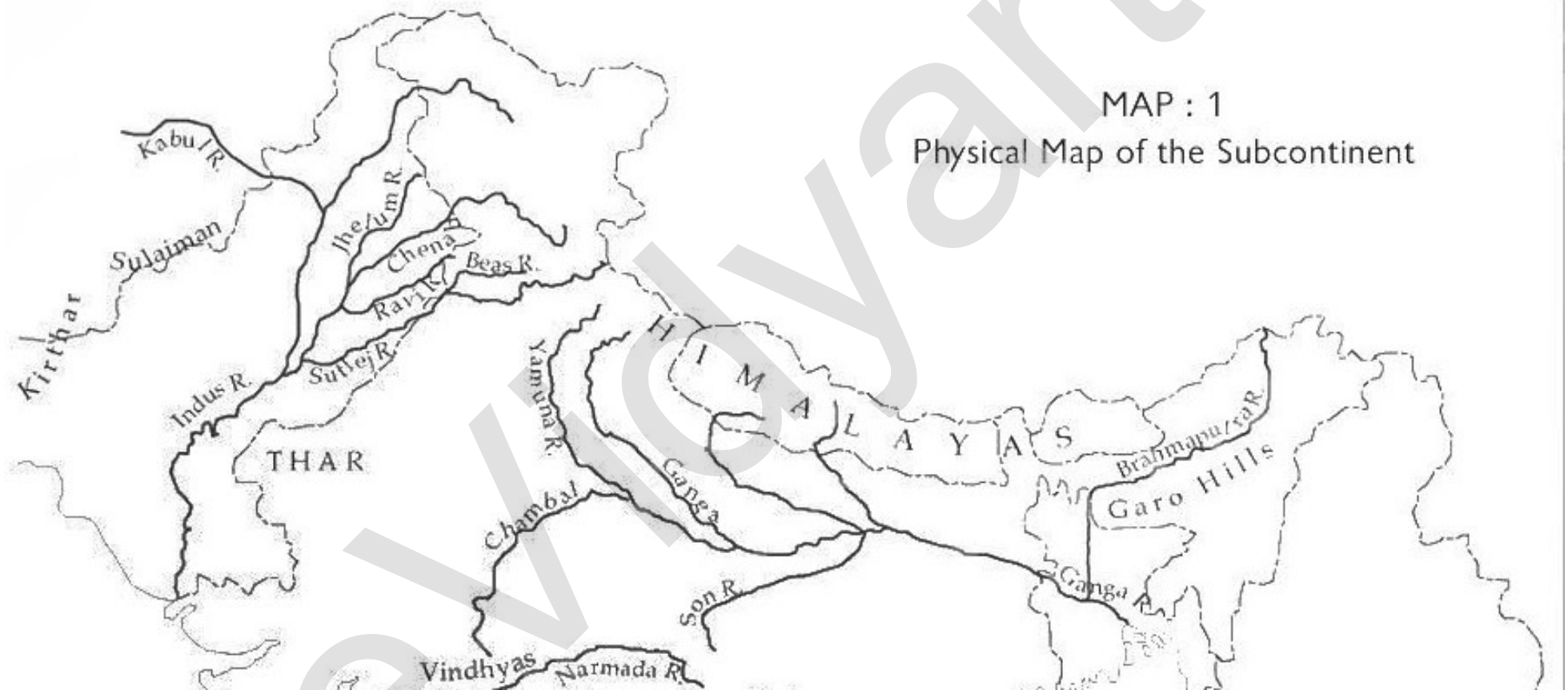
- lived along the banks of this river for several hundred thousand years.
- earliest people were skilled gatherers, — that is, people who gathered their food.
- also, they were nomadic, i.e., did not lead a settled life.



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✓ Sulaiman and Kirthar

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✓ Sulaiman and Kirthar Hills

People lived in the Sulaiman and Kirthar Hills about 8000 years ago.

- They were among the first people to begin farming.
- grow crops; like wheat and barley.
- They also begun to domesticate animals; like sheep, goat and cattle.
- People lived a settled life. Villages came into origin around this time.

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✓ Garo Hills and the Vindhyas

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✓ Garo Hills and the Vindhyas

- People living in Garo hills were among the first to grow rice.
- Rice was also grown towards the north of the Vindhyas.



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✓ Indus and its tribu



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✓ Indus and its tributaries

About 4700 years ago, some of the earliest cities flourished on the banks of these rivers.



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✓ Ganga and Son



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✓ **Ganga and Son**

It was about 2500 years ago when cities developed on the banks of the Ganga and its tributaries like son.

In ancient times the area along these rivers to the south of the Ganga was known as Magadha now lying in the state of Bihar. Its rulers were very powerful and set up a large kingdom. Kingdoms were set up in other parts of the country as well.

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☐ **Travel: search for livelihood, expansion of territories or adventure ?**



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✓ Travel: search for livelihood

People travelled from one part of the subcontinent to another.

- The hills and high mountains including the Himalayas, deserts, rivers and seas made journeys dangerous at times, but never impossible.
- So, men and women moved in search of livelihood, as also to escape from natural disasters like floods or droughts

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✓ Travel: expansion of territories and cultures

Men marched in armies, conquering others' lands. Besides, merchants travelled with caravans or ships, carrying valuable goods from place to place. And religious teachers walked from village to village, town to town, stopping to offer instruction and advice on the way.

All these led to the sharing of ideas between people.

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✓ Travel: search for adventure and sharing cultures

Finally, some people perhaps travelled driven by a spirit of adventure, wanting to discover new and exciting places.

- Hills, mountains and seas form the natural frontiers of the subcontinent. While it was difficult to cross these frontiers, those who wanted could and did scale the mountains and cross the seas.

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- People from across the frontiers also came into the subcontinent and settled here.
- These movements of people enriched our cultural traditions. People have shared new ways of carving stone, composing music, and even cooking food over several hundreds of years.

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☐ Names of the land

- The name India came from the river Indus (Sindhu in Sanskrit). 2500 years ago, the Iranians and the Greeks who came to India from the Northwest side called the river Indus as 'Hindos' or 'Indos'. And the land to the east of this river was called India.

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- The name Bharata refers to a group of people who lived in North West part of India. They are mentioned in Rig Veda some 3500 years ago. Later this name was use for the country.

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❑ Finding out about the past

There are several ways of finding out about the past. In this class we will study 2 ways to study about past .

1. Manuscripts
2. Inscriptions

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■ Manuscripts



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■ Manuscripts

Books are great source to know about past. Therefore, we can read books that were written long ago. These are called manuscripts, because they were written by hand (this comes from the Latin word 'manu', meaning hand).



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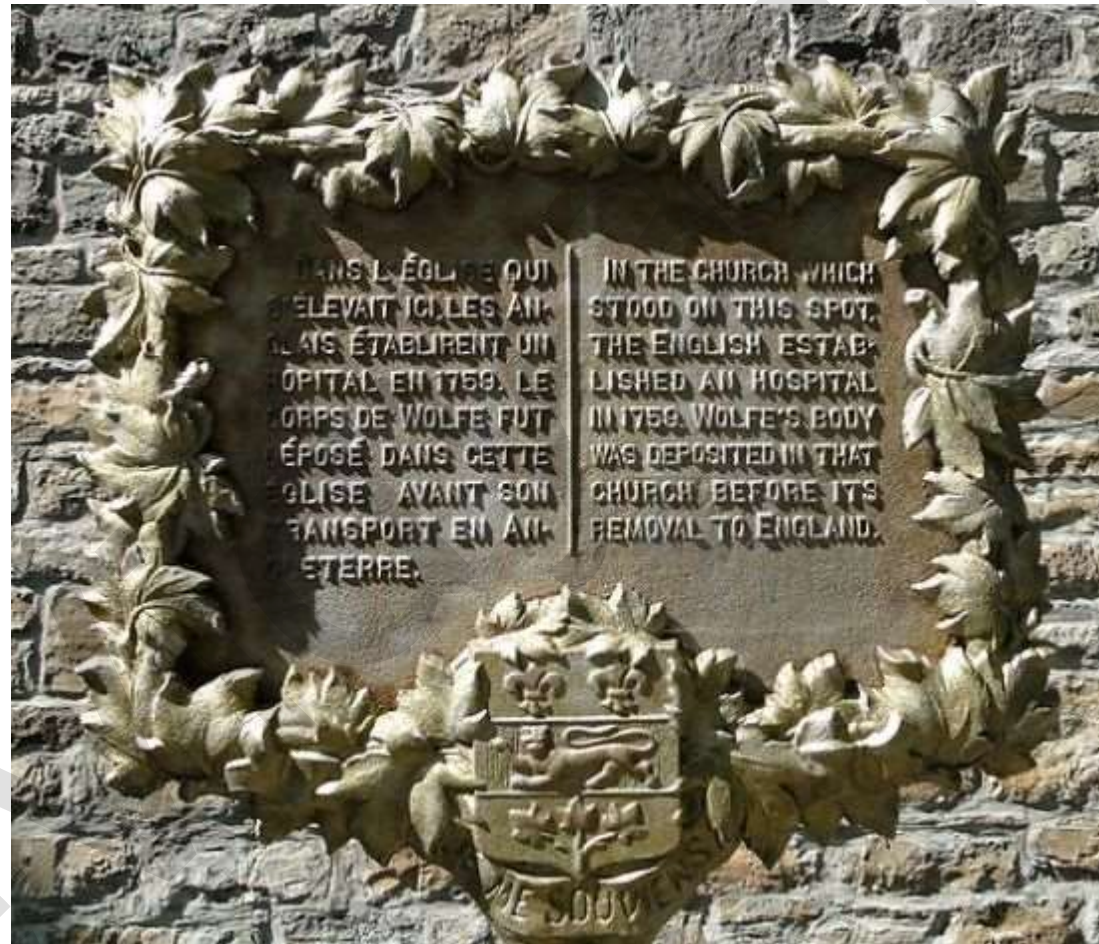
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- These were usually written on palm leaf, or on the specially prepared bark of a tree known as the birch, which grows in the Himalayas.
- Many of these were written in Sanskrit, others were in Prakrit (languages used by ordinary people) and Tamil.

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■ Inscriptions



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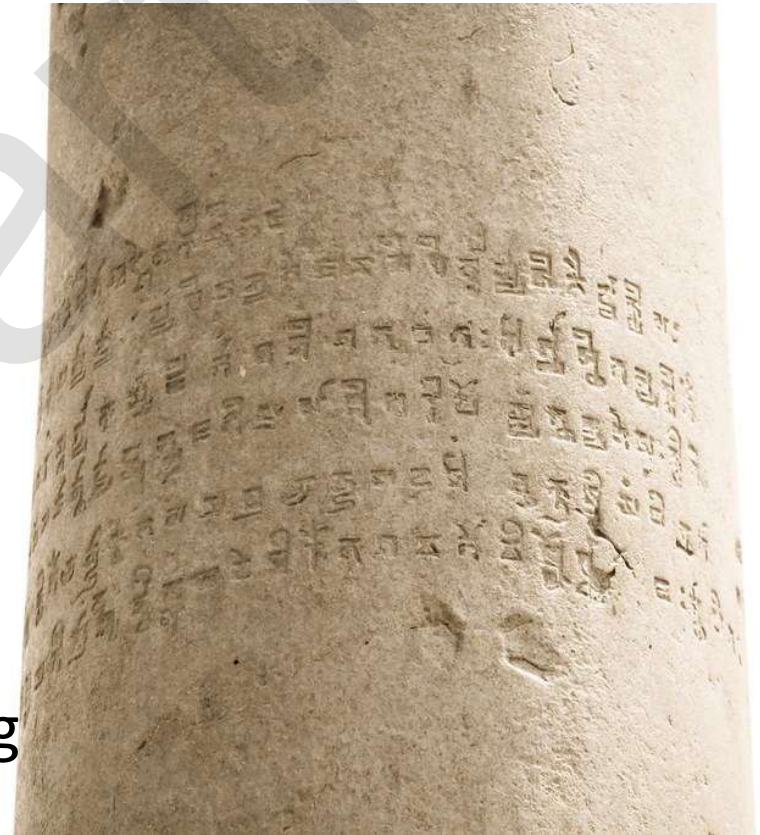
■ Inscriptions

- Writings on relatively hard surfaces such as stone or metal is known as inscriptions. Sometimes, kings got their orders inscribed so that people could see, read and obey them.
- There are other kinds of inscriptions as well, where men and women (including kings and queens) recorded what they did. For example, kings often kept records of victories in battle.

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- An archaeologist is a person who studies the people and what they did in the past by the things they left behind.
- They look for artifacts, which are the things made by the people and these artifacts reveal more about the past. They also carry on excavations (Digging the surface of the earth).



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- Archaeologists also study bones of animals, birds and fish to find out the food habits of the people of past. They even study the plant remains, but the plant remains barely survive for so long.
- The evidences found by the Archaeologists are called Features.

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❑ What do dates mean ?

- CE (Common Era) or AD Anno Domini, means in the year of Lord.
BCE (Before Common Era) or BC- Before Christ.
- All the dates before the birth of the Christ are counted Backwards.