

C. Timeline Template for the History of South Asia

1. Starting in ???? BC and ending up at 1947 AD, what does the story to look like overall?
2. Here is the basic pattern:



3. The period of *Hindu Culture* extends all the way into modern times, at which point, like the rest of the world, it is severely disrupted by the period of the *World Wars*. The crisis of the world wars is what leads to its independence from the British Empire, and thus to the “post-colonial” part of South Asian history.

D. Muslim Invasions (c.711 AD -)

1. An undeniably important transformation took place in South Asia upon the arrival of the first conquering wave out of Arabia carrying the banner of *Triumphal Islam*.
2. Like Iberia in Europe, India was invaded by a great army engaged in “jihad” **c.711 AD**.
3. The outcome of this and subsequent invasions is that a big part of South Asia is now Muslim. This the main reason why in **1947**, South Asia was “partitioned” at the same time as it became independent. The Muslim parts became Pakistan and Bangladesh.
4. This means that our timeline needs to show *two* parts to modern South Asia:



6. Following the initial invasion of South Asia by Arab invaders c.711 AD, there were three more major waves. The only obvious significance of these additional waves is that the far eastern portion of South Asia became Muslim as well. It is now a separate country as well: Bangladesh.
7. The ability of Muslim empires to rule India permanently was severely affected by the arrival of Europeans in India, starting with the Portuguese navigator Vasco Da Gama in 1498.
8. After the Portuguese, it was mainly French and the British who also sought trade, who began to challenge the domination of India by its last Muslim empire, the Mughal Empire (1526-1857).