



Australian
National
University



INDIA IN THE AGE OF ASIAN EMPIRES

ASIA2270

- > Discover the historical background to Indian culture in the subcontinent and beyond
- > Learn about the Hindu tradition, Jainism, Buddhism, and Islam in India
- > Understand the role India played in the competition of the Portuguese, Dutch and English for control of the spice trade

This course surveys the history of South Asia from the earliest periods of history to 1757 in the context of empire. India has been at the centre of world culture and trade for millennia. South Asia has been the location of great empires, such as the Mauryas, Guptas and Mughals; has provided cultural and religious foundations for empires of southeast Asia and in turn has received cultural, political and religious influences from its neighbours in the middle east, central Asia and China. This course provides the necessary background knowledge to understand the later processes of colonisation and state formation in South Asia within its

Asian context and introduces changing conceptions of the past of South Asia through examining the current major scholarly debates on issues in pre-colonial South Asian history.

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