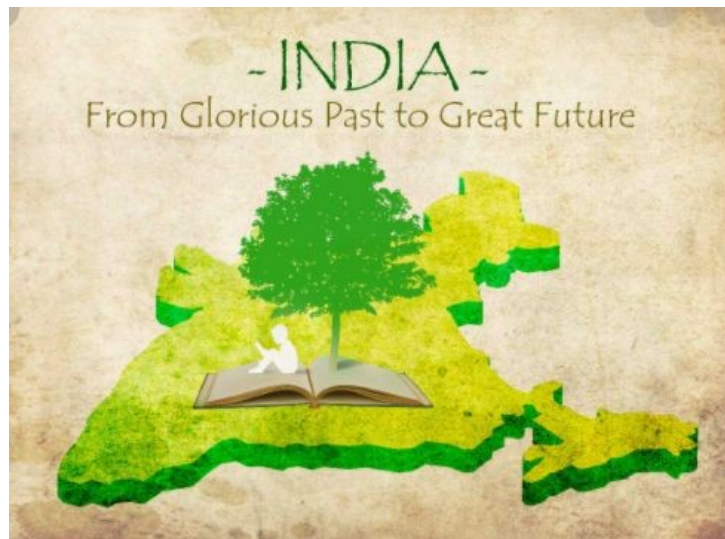


## An Orientation Assignment

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# A PASSAGE FROM A GLORIOUS PAST TO A GLORIOUS FUTURE



## THE GLORIOUS PAST OF INDIA

India is a treasure driven by knowledge, wisdom, and heritage from ancient times from kings to kingdoms, town planning to artistry, scholars to astronomers, philosophers to astrologers, Gurus to shishyas, warriors to strong characters, the list of India's affluent past goes on. Archaeological indications pursuing back to thousands of years and literature from that period corroborate the fact. Besides the architectural creations, monuments, material artifacts, the intellectual achievements, philosophy, treasures of knowledge, scientific inventions and discoveries are also a part of heritage.

In Indian context the contributions of Boudhayan, Aryabhata, Bhaskaracharya in the field of



Mathematics, Astronomy and Astrology; Kanad and Varahaamihir in the field of Physics, Nagarjuna in the field of Chemistry, Sushruta and Charak in the field of Medicines and Patanjali in the field of Yoga are genuine treasures of Indian cultural heritage. And a drop in the ocean, our technological advancements in IT sector has also come a long way.

Culture is prone to alter, but our legacy does not. We people relating to a culture or a unique group may develop or improve certain cultural characteristics of other communities and cultures, but our affinity to Indian cultural heritage will remain Unchanged. Our Indian cultural heritage will bind us together e.g., Indian literature and scriptures namely Vedas, Upanishads Gita and Yoga System etc. have contributed a lot by way of providing right knowledge, right action, behavior and practices as complementary to the improvement of society.

## INDIAN SPIRITUALITY IN 13TH - 18TH CENTURIES

Since as early as the 8th century, India was losing its trade to the Arabs and the Chinese. This led to the weakening of an economy, which, if conditions were different, would have been leading the world now. This led the views to be inward and the local kingdoms faced tension amidst them.

The advent of the 13th century saw the subcontinent deal with the Ghorian invasions. The sentiments of the local people weren't heeded to. Muslim guidelines were imposed on a Hindu settlement, which continued till the British came. In this period, our spirituality was completely uprooted and replaced with a foreign ideology. However, in hindsight, all the blame for the decline can't be simply put on external factors. As Dr. Chidananda Gowda has put it, **the great Indian mind went to sleep**. This sleep was one of the main reasons for the slowing-down of the development of our civilization.

While India faced subsequent failures, slavery, poverty and backwardness from



all this slumber, the European counterparts went through Renaissance, which is one of the greatest awakenings in the history of mankind. Had India kept its pace, it would never have lost the top spot. This period of time is the reason why for the next two hundred years we were exploited. Swami Vivekananda is credited for waking the youth off this sleep and his teachings are what brought us back on the path to greatness.

## **INDIA AT PRESENT**

India has greatly improved its conditions after Independence. Let's take a look at where we stand at the global level.

India is the 5th largest economy in the world. India is one of the 7 nuclear powers in the world. One third of all NASA Scientists are Indians. Over 5,000 professors in the US colleges are Indian. It is due to the talent of our nation that about 50% of Fortune 500 Companies outsource work to India. India is one of the six nations that launches satellites. Indians own about a third of the Silicon Valley start-ups. India is emerging as a preferred destination for high quality health service, R&D, and manufacturing.



India is the 3rd nation in the world, to be able to develop land based and sea based cruise missiles. India has developed ICBMs, becoming the fourth nation to do so and we also have achieved the status of a nation having a multiple billion dollar space business.

However, India still faces many challenges, some of which are water shortage, with almost a third of the population under a grave risk of drought; agrarian problems, with numerous suicides every year by the farmers, failed crops and the recent Kisan Aandolan; failure against management of climate changes; unemployment and a regrettably slow justice system act as hurdles in the glorious passage that we, as a nation have to go through, much like a passage of rite.

## **FUTURE OF INDIA**

By 2050, India is projected to be the world's second-largest economy (overtaking the United States) and will account for 15% of the world's total GDP.

By 2030, urban India will account for nearly 75% of the GDP and Indian cities will act as engines of economic growth for the country's built environment. The Indian economic transition and workforce expansion will also offer vast development and investment opportunities for the real estate sector.

Anything less than US\$10tr would not secure India's future. The nation needs to create 10-12m jobs every year in the coming decades to provide quality of life for its growing population. Young Indians, particularly members of the emerging middle and the middle class, a billion strong by 2034 have rising aspirations.

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offer vast development and investment opportunities for the real estate sector.

This has been a quite interesting task to do, and we are thankful for getting the chance to not only revisit our history, but also being able to clearly view what we, as the youth of the nation, need to do for taking our country on our shoulders to the glorious future.

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