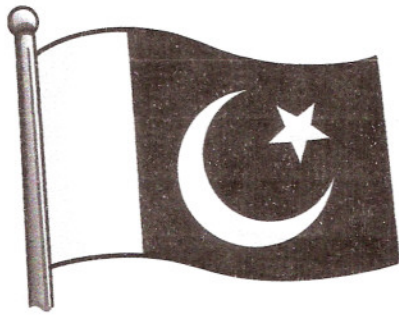


Pakistan



As nations go, Pakistan is relatively young. In 1947, Great Britain granted independence to India, a large nation it had controlled since the 1700s. Sections of India on both sides were then split off to establish the nation of Pakistan. This was done to give India's Muslim population a state of their own. The new nation was divided into West Pakistan and East Pakistan. In 1971, East Pakistan broke away and became known as Bangladesh. After that, West Pakistan was known simply as Pakistan.

Pakistan's geography is even more varied than that of Lebanon. There are beaches, swamps, and deserts. There are fertile plains, beautiful valleys, and high mountains. There are even glaciers!

Until recently, English was the official language of Pakistan. This is because it was once a part of India, and India was controlled by the British. Since 1988, however, Urdu has become the country's national language. Today, English is mostly spoken by government officials and the upper classes. Other languages exist, as there are many different ethnic groups that live in the country. Regardless of language, more than 95 percent of the people are Muslims.

Present-day Pakistan was the home of one of history's earliest civilizations. The ancient cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro seem surprisingly modern when compared to other ancient societies. Both cities had advanced sanitation systems and houses that had chutes for getting rid of garbage. Most houses even had baths and toilets that emptied into underground sewers. Streets were laid out in parallels that criss-crossed, dividing the cities into grids. Along these streets were houses made of mud brick and such buildings as a public bath and a granary.



Project #1

Draw a map of how you think Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro might have looked from the air 4,000 years ago.

Materials

- research materials
- poster board
- colored pencils
- marker

Directions

1. Look up Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro in an encyclopedia, other books, or the Internet.
2. Draw an aerial map of one of the two cities. Include houses, streets, towers, public baths, granaries, etc. Also include nearby fields.

3. Label your map and include a legend.

