

# WELCOME



# **Slide No- 1**

# **Introducing Bangladesh**

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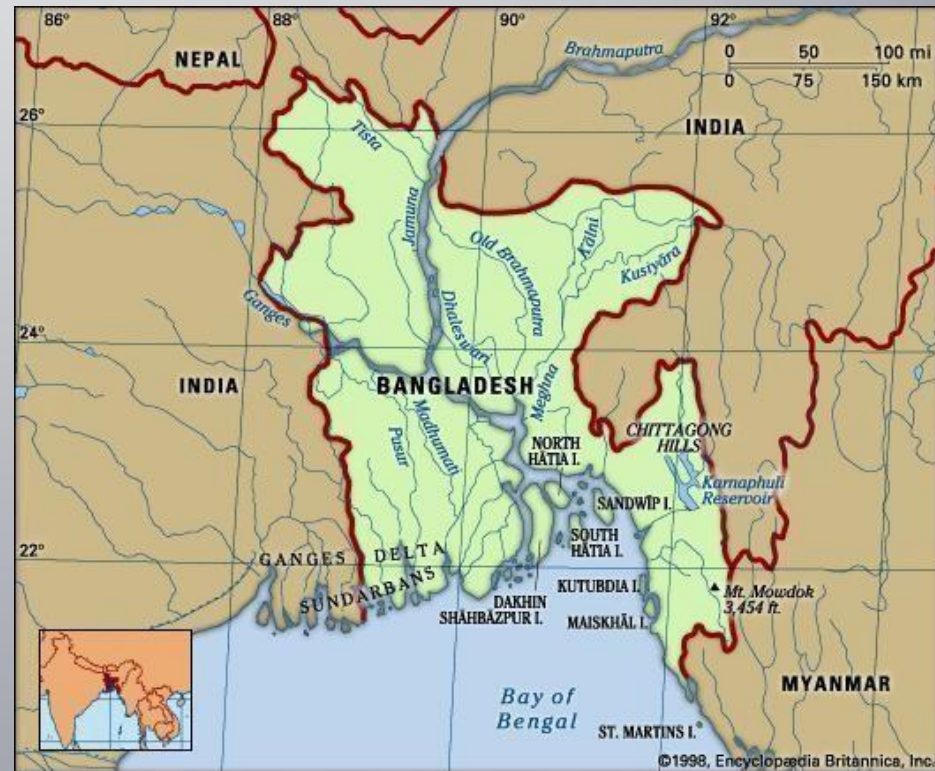
**Environment and Development Studies**

**United International University**

# Country Profile

<b>Official name</b>	: People's Republic of Bangladesh
<b>Location</b>	: South Asia
<b>Capital city</b>	: Dhaka
<b>Nationality</b>	: Bangladeshi
<b>Currency</b>	: Taka
<b>Area</b>	: 148,570 sq.km (WFB 2021) / 147,570 sq km (BBS 2020)
<b>State language</b>	: Bangla
<b>Date of Independence</b>	: March 26, 1971
<b>Per Capita Income</b>	: US\$ 2824
<b>Bangladesh Anthem</b>	: Amar Shonar Bangla
<b>National Animal</b>	: Royal Bengal Tiger
<b>National Bird</b>	: Oriental Magpie Robin
<b>National Fish</b>	: Hilsa
<b>National Flower</b>	: White Water Lily
<b>National Fruit</b>	: Jackfruit
<b>National Tree</b>	: Mango Tree

# Geography of Bangladesh





# Geography of Bangladesh

## LOCATION

Bangladesh is a South-Asian small country. It's total Area is about 148,460 square km.

It is situated from 20°34" north latitude to 26°38" north latitude and from 88°01" east longitude to 92°41" east longitude .

<b>International Boundary</b>	<b>: 5138 km</b>
Border with India	: 4156 km
Border with Myanmar	: 271 km
Coastline	: 711 km



# Geography of Bangladesh

## BOUNDARY & BORDER

**Border:** West Bengal (India) on the west; West Bengal, Assam and Meghalaya (all the Indian states) on the north; Indian states of Assam, Tripura and Mizoram together with Myanmar on the east; and Bay of Bengal on the south.

**Maritime boundary:** The political Sea line of Bangladesh is about 12 nautical miles and the exclusive economic zone of the country is 200 nautical miles.



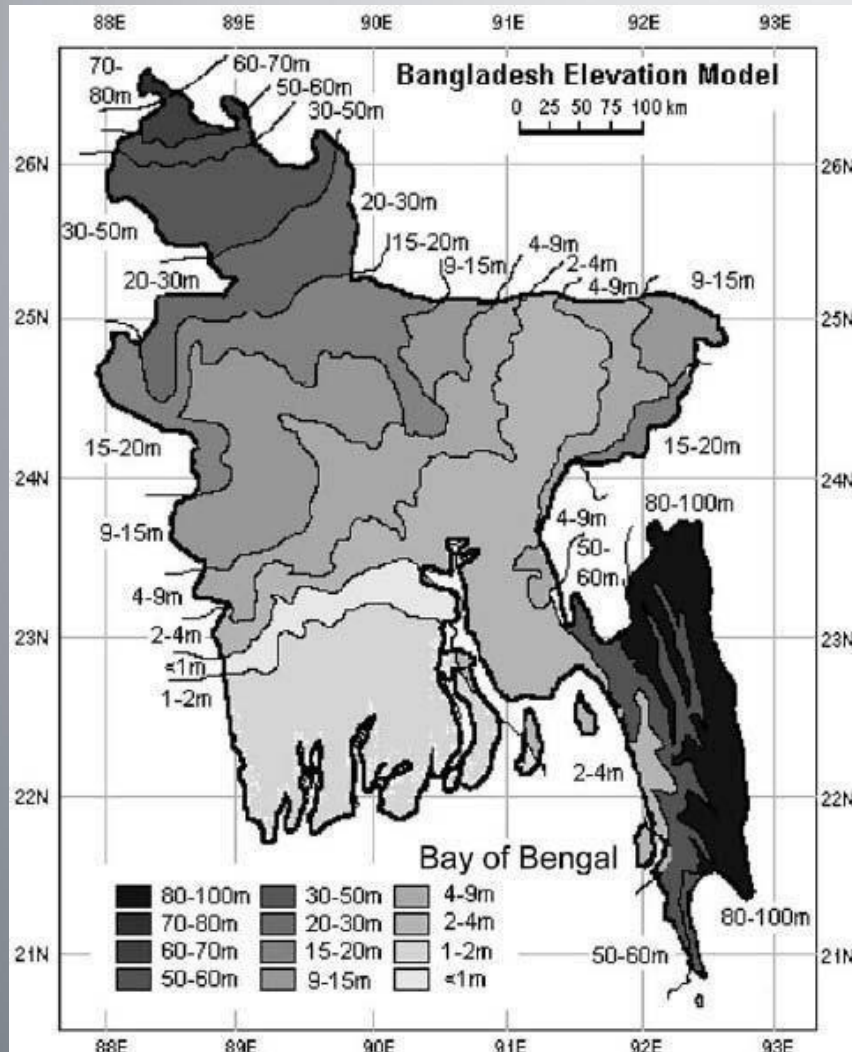
# Geography of Bangladesh

## TOPOGRAPHY

Topography is a configuration of a land surface. There are three typical natural features in Bangladesh.

- A broad deltaic plain subject to frequent flooding.
- A slightly elevated relatively older plain
- A small hill region specially in Chittagong hills in southeast and low hills in northeast.

Bangladesh is also the largest delta of the world. The delta plain of the Ganges (Padma), Brahmaputra (Jamuna), and Meghna Rivers and their tributaries occupy 79 percent of the country.



# Geography of Bangladesh



## RIVERS OF BANGLADESH

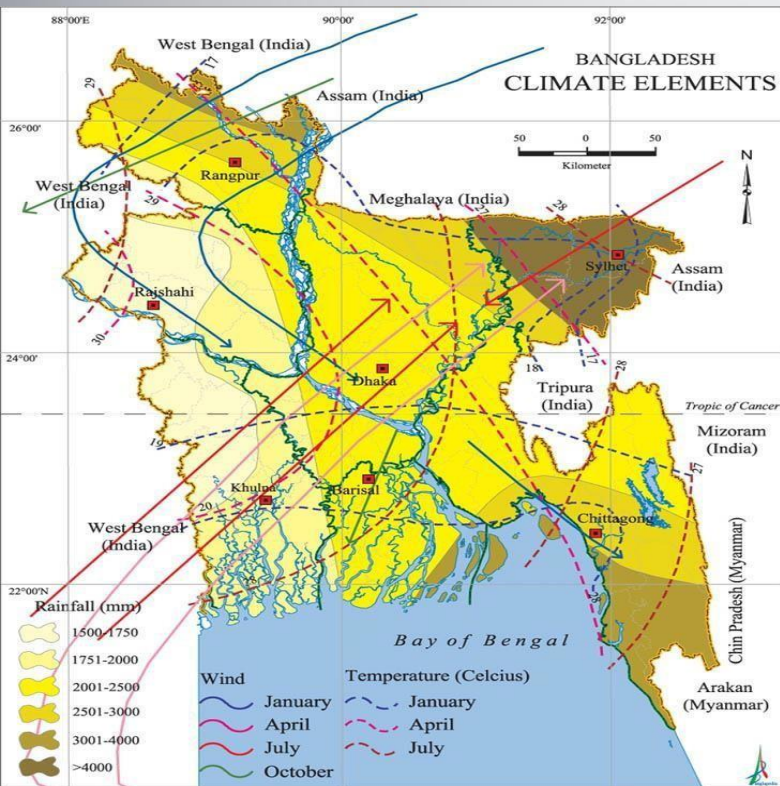
Bangladesh is a riverine country. About 700 rivers flow through the country. Most of the country's land is formed through mud brought by the rivers. These rivers play a significant role in the economic growth of the country.

There are five major rivers as follows :

- ☐ Brahmaputra-Jamuna river system
- ☐ Ganges-Padma river system
- ☐ Surma-Meghna river system
- ☐ Tista river System
- ☐ Karnafuli river system



# Geography of Bangladesh



Bangladesh is subject to devastating cyclones, originating over the Bay of Bengal, in the periods of April to May and September to November. Floods also occur in rainy season.

## CLIMATE

Straddling the Tropic of Cancer, Bangladesh has a tropical monsoon climate characterized by heavy seasonal rainfall, high temperatures, and high humidity. It is the area of Sub-tropical monsoon. Mild winter (October to March); hot, humid & summer (March to June); humid, warm rainy monsoon (June to October).

In general, highest summer temperatures range between 30° to 40°C and April is the warmest month. January is the coldest month, when average temperature is about 10°C.

There are six seasons: summer, rainy, autumn, late autumn, winter and spring. For practical purposes, three seasons are distinguishable: summer, rainy, and winter.

# **Influence of Geography in the history of Bengal**

## **Geography of Bangladesh and its Influences**

Bangladesh is situated in southern part of Asia. The political condition here changed from the very beginning of history. This is why the boundary also changed in course of time. Bengal is divided into two parts after the fall of British rule in 1947. Here the western part adjunct to India and northern part still stands with Pakistan. At first the part adjacent to Pakistan gets a name as East Bengal then changed to East Pakistan. In 1971 it became a free-sovereign state through the Great War of liberation. The new name of this country became Bangladesh.

The great Himalaya is situated in the north of Bangladesh while the Bay of Bengal's widespread blue water is in southern part. Except the south-eastern part adjacent to Myanmar, the whole country is surrounded by India. The total area of Bangladesh is 1,47,570 square kilometers. Most the landscape all over this country is plain land. A number of river-channels and canal-lakes found spread all over this country. The main rivers here are the Padma, the Brahmaputra, the Meghna, the Jamuna, the Tista and the Karotoa.

The lifestyle and history of a country depend on its geographical location. This is why, in the different parts of world we can notice different types of livelihood, customs and varied ways of life. Here the connectivity and transportation of goods depend on river as we get a plenty in number. At a time Bengal soldiers became skilled in naval warfare to defend their country from the outside invaders. Again, an agrarian society was also formed here on the basin of fertile land.

The weather here is tropical. Geographical condition of this land enables the people to be calm and polite. On the other hand, due to the variation in climate, the people here also get used to fighting against the disasters as storm and cyclone that make them brave. This is why they had to struggle for decades to establish their basic rights. Therefore, it is said not only the character but also the food habit, dress, housing pattern of people here are determined by environment. This variation of landscape also gives us some extra benefits for our defence. The rivers keep our land safe from the greedy insight of foreign invaders. After all, the 1100 miles distance also played a vital role in the emergence of Bangladesh in 1971.



# Demography of Bangladesh

**Total Population:** 16.91 crore (2022 census)

16.17 crore (2016-17)

**Population Growth Rate:** 1.37% (2022)

**Ethnic Group:** Highly homogenous as the vast majority (about 98.5%) of Bangladeshis are of the Bengali ethno-linguistic group.

**Languages:** Over 98% people speak the Bengali language. Bangla is the official and state language of the country. English widely used by educated elite. Arabic used in many Muslim homes. Various tribal languages and regional languages used in local level.

**Health:** Life expectancy almost equal for male and female, average 72.8 years (male-71.2& female 74.5).

**Religions:** The main religion is Islam (91.04%), but a significant percentage of the population adheres to Hinduism (7.95%). Buddhists (0.61%), Christians (0.3%), and others (0.1%).

## BANGLADESH POPULATION

1950	3,78,95,000
2017	16,46,70,000
2030	18,55,85,000
2050	20,19,27,000
2100	17,35,49,000

## GLOBAL RANK

1950	12
2017	8
2050	8
2100	14

## LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

1990-95	60
2005-10	69
2010-15	71.2
2015-20	72.9
2025-30	75.7
2045-50	79.9
2095-2100	87.5

SOURCE: "WORLD POPULATION PROSPECTS: THE 2017 REVISION", UN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

# Structure of the Government

The Republic comprises three basic organs :

- (1) The legislature
- (2) The judiciary
- (3) The Executive

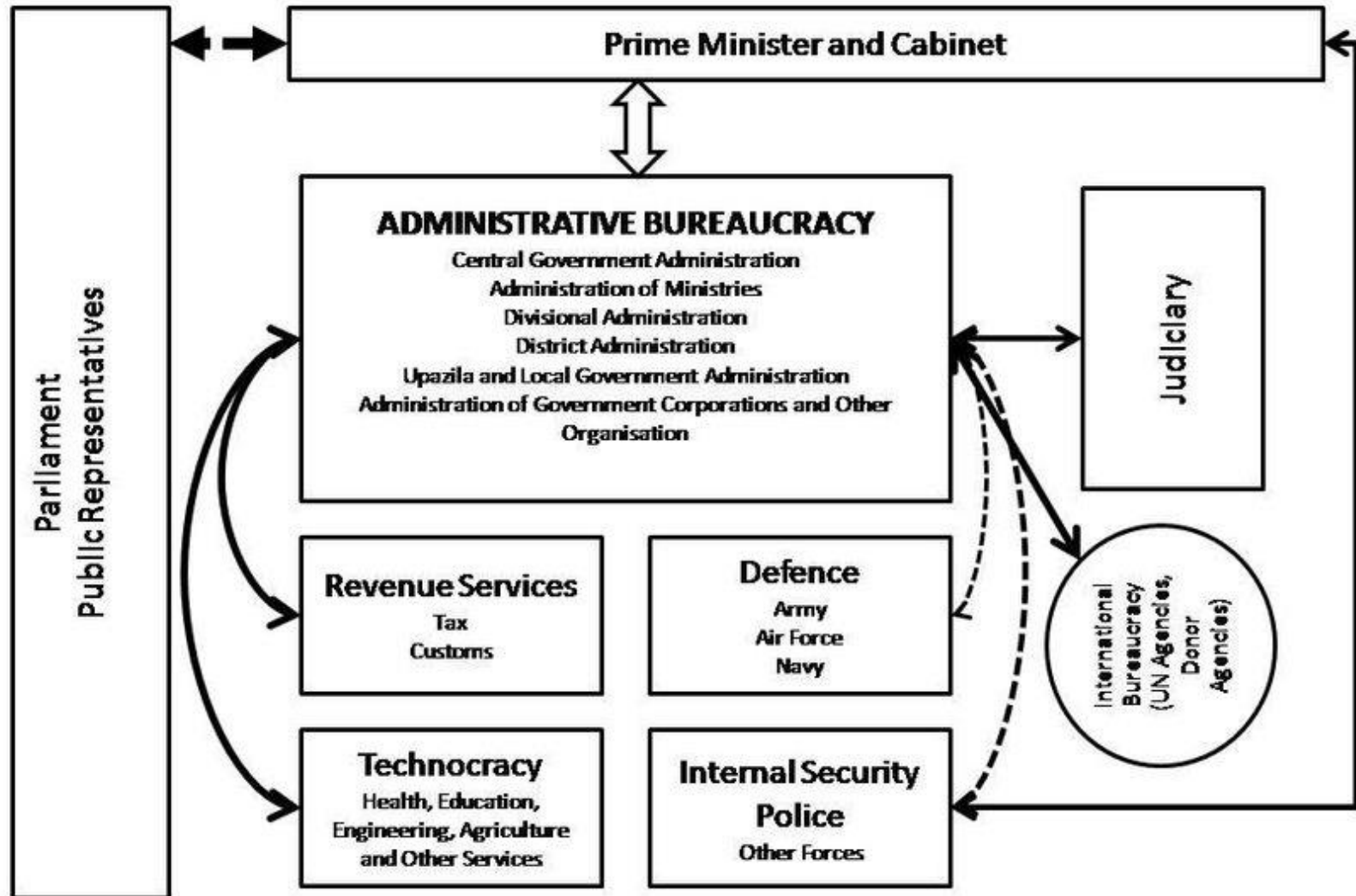
Members of the parliament are elected by democratic voting system.

Democratic election is held for electing government in every 5 years.





# Administration System of Bangladesh



# Top Export Products of Bangladesh

Product	Total Export in %
Readymade Garments	83.4
Jute and Jute Manufacture	3.6
Fish, Shrimps, and Prawns	1.4
Leather and Leather Manufactures	1.8
Home Textile	1.7
Vegetable Products	0.7
Pharmaceutical Products	0.4
Plastic and Plastic Products	0.3
Bicycle	0.3
Terry Towel	0.1

# Influence of Rivers in the division of the Lands of Bengal

The Bengal Delta/ Ganges Delta/Sundarbans Delta) is a river delta in the Bengal region, consisting of Bangladesh and West Bengal of India. It is the world's largest river delta, and it empties into the Bay of Bengal with the combined waters of several river systems, mainly those of the Brahmaputra and the Ganges. Being an active delta, Bengal is one of the most fertile regions in the world.

## Main River of East Bengal (Bangladesh)

**The Jamuna:** The Brahmaputra enters Bangladesh from Assam through the northern district of Kurigram and takes the name Jamuna. Then it flows towards the south and merges with the Padma in Goalanda (Rajbari).

**The Padma:** The great Ganga becomes the Padma when it enters Bangladesh through the western district of Rajshahi and flows towards the south-east. In Goalanda (Rajbari), it receives the waters of the Jamuna (coming from the north) and further flows towards the southeast and merges with the Meghna in Munshiganj.

## The Meghna:

Meghna River is a major watercourse in Bangladesh. The name is appropriately applied to a channel of the Old Brahmaputra downstream from Bhairab Bazar after it receives the Surma (Barak) River. Flowing almost due south, the Meghna receives the combined waters of the Padma and Jamuna near Chandpur. Then, after about 164 miles (264 km), it empties in the Bay of Bengal.

Now the Influence of Rivers in the division of the Lands of Bengal is given shortly:

The east-west and north-south divisions of the land of Bengal got their origins from the flows of the rivers and riverine networks.

**East Bengal:** The lands on the eastern side of the line of the confluence of the Padma, the Jamuna and the Meghna came to be known as East Bengal.

**North Bengal:** The land on the northern bank of the Ganga-Padma with its eastern boundary by the Jamuna is known as North Bengal. The ancient Pundra Janapada originated in this region. Before the coming of the Muslims, the Pundra Janapada was absorbed into Varendra janapada.



**South Bengal:** The areas bounded by the Ganga-Padma on the north, Bhagirathi-Hoogly on the west, Meghna on the east and by the bay on the south came to be known as south Bengal.

**West Bengal:** The western part of the Ganga-Bhagirathi Rivers became known as West Bengal. In ancient times, the Radh janapada originated in this region.

# Natural Resources of Bangladesh

Bangladesh is rich in natural resources, including:

- **Agricultural land** - Bangladesh is an agricultural country and its fertile soil is ideal for cultivating various crops, including rice, jute, tea, wheat, sugarcane, and pulses.
- **Water resources** - Bangladesh has numerous rivers and lakes, making it an important source of water for agriculture, industry, and domestic use.
- **Forest resources** - Bangladesh is home to a rich and diverse forest ecosystem, including the Sundarbans, the largest mangrove forest in the world.
- **Mineral resources** - Bangladesh has a modest deposit of minerals, including coal, natural gas, limestone, and hard rock.
- **Fisheries** - Bangladesh has a long coastline and numerous waterways, making it an important centre for the fishing industry.
- **Wildlife** - Bangladesh has a rich biodiversity, including rare species of animals and birds, and is home to the Royal Bengal Tiger, one-horned rhinoceros, and hoolock gibbon.

# Mineral Resources

Bangladesh has a modest deposit of minerals, including:

- **Coal** - Bangladesh has coal reserves in the northwestern part of the country, including in the Phulbari region.
- **Natural gas** - Bangladesh has large reserves of natural gas, particularly in the offshore fields in the Bay of Bengal.
- **Limestone** - Bangladesh has abundant deposits of high-quality limestone, which is used for the production of cement.
- **Hard rock** - Bangladesh has deposits of hard rock, including granite, marble, and sandstone, which are used for construction purposes.
- **Glass sand** - Bangladesh has deposits of high-quality silica sand, which is used in the production of glass.
- **Clay** - Bangladesh has deposits of various types of clay, including brick clay, China clay, and kaolin, which are used in the production of ceramics and refractories.

# Bangladesh: A Land of Blessings

**Weather:** Suitable weather for agriculture. (describe this point by following the previous geography content)

**Rivers:** A lot of rivers for easy and cheap communication. (describe this point by following the previous geography content)

**Fertile Land:** Fertile land of Bangladesh is suitable for agriculture.

**Mineral Resources:** Natural gas, coal etc. (describe this point by following the previous natural and mineral gas content)

**Manpower:** Though Bangladesh is an over-populated country, the manpower is helping in receiving remittances, RMG sector is totally dependent on man-power. (describe this point by following the previous top export products content)

**Sea Ports:** Chittagong and Mongla sea ports are blessings for imports & exports

**N.B:** Dear students- for describing the above points, you will read from the earlier mentioned section( like- climate, rivers, top export products, natural and mineral resources)



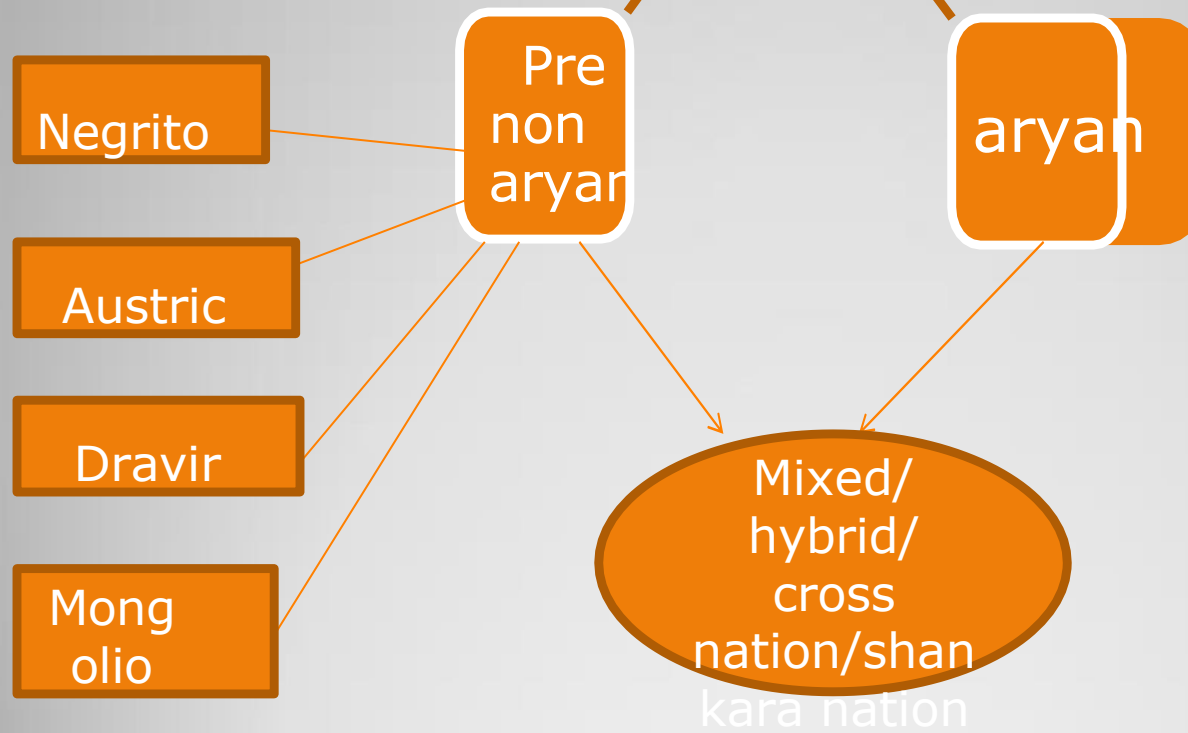
# The People of Bangladesh

We can describe this content using by two categories like

1. The origin of the race of Bengali
2. Present scenario of the Bengali people based on different determinants.

**That's are given in the following pages-**

# Origin of Benga li race



## Origin & Identity of the People of Bangladesh

Anthropologists agree that Bangladesh has historically been a land of many races. Long before the arrival of the Aryans in the 5th and 6th centuries B.C., the Bangalees were already racially mixed.

It is said that the origin of human beings is Africa, but that some of them at first moved into the northern part of the Middle East and then dispersed across the world.

# The main reasons for coming to Bengal were:

- **the zeal to conquer and occupy a new region,**
- **to do business in the wealthy and prosperous Bengal**
- **environmental.**



# Origin of Bengali Ethnicity

- Some groups of the people like Negrito, Austric, Dravidian, Mongoloid who went to Africa, Australia, Indochina, Iran had crossed the land of Bangladesh more than ***fifty thousand years*** ago.
- Among them the Austric group of people developed languages, known as **Austric** Languages with their name **Austric or Austro-Asiatic** people. These people entered Bangladesh several thousand years ago from South-East Asia. Near about the same time or later some other people, whom we now classify as **Mongoloid** also entered the territories of Bangladesh from the East and spread mainly into the uplands and hilly areas.

## According to the Anthropologist

- Austro-Asiatic from southeast Asia
- Mongoloid from east part of Asia
- Dravidian from the Southern and western parts of South-Asia
- Indo-Aryan people from the Northern parts of the middle-east and the eastern parts of Europe.
- Arabs, Turks and Pathan

# The Pre - Non Aryan Origin

- Pre-Non Aryan group first came to this region. They are named as:

**Negrito:** Phylogenetic tree analyses show that Negritos are basal to other East and Southeast Asians, and that they diverged from West Eurasians at least 38,000 years ago. The term Negrito refers to several diverse ethnic groups who inhabit isolated parts of Southeast Asia and the Andaman Islands.

- **Austriac:** The people of Mundari language group such as Santal, Khasia are the two prime components of this group.
  - In Sanskrit literature the same group is named as **Nishad**
  - Austriac or Australoids were an ethnic group of people in ancient Bengal. Anthropologists considered them as the early Australian people. Scholars stated that the early inhabitants of the Australoids were in from central India to South India and also from Shinghal to Australia. Mainly laborers in the tea gardens of Sylhet. Some living in Chittagong hill tracts and different districts of Rajshahi Division.

## The Dravidian Origin

- ***Dravidians*** came to this place as the third group.
- The Dravidian peoples, or Dravidians, are an ethnolinguistic and cultural group living in South Asia who predominantly speak any of the Dravidian languages. There are around 250 million native speakers of Dravidian languages.
- They have the similarity with the people of ***Mediterranean*** region. So, some scholars say that the Dravidians are the generated from the ***Ancient Egyptian*** group.

## *Mongoloid or Votchina*

- Most of the ethnic groups of Bangladesh are mongoloid.
- At present we can see them in Chakma, Marma, Mog, Murong race.
- To form the Bengali nation they have 5% contribution.

### **The Bangalis:**

Describe this content by using differing categories like age-sex composition, rural-urban and so on and use the update information for illustrating the percentage.

After the discussion in conclusion we can say based on the above explanation that bengali is called the hybrid/ cross-nation/ mixed race /shankara nation.



## The Aryan Origin

- The **Aryans** came to Bengal at last through invasion from the north of South Asia. The Aryan race emerged in the late-19th century to describe people of Proto- Indo-European heritage as a racial grouping.
- The terminology derives from the historical usage of Aryan, used by modern Indo-Iranians as an epithet of 'Noble'. They are of two categories in general:
  - **Alpine:** Resided in the high mountain valley and due to the living in the highland, having ***fair complexion*** and ***short forehead***. The upper-class Bengali Hindus (Brahmins) are mostly from this group.
  - **Nordic:** the character of this Aryan group is found among the North Indian people who have ***fair complexion*** and long ***forehead***.

**THANK YOU**