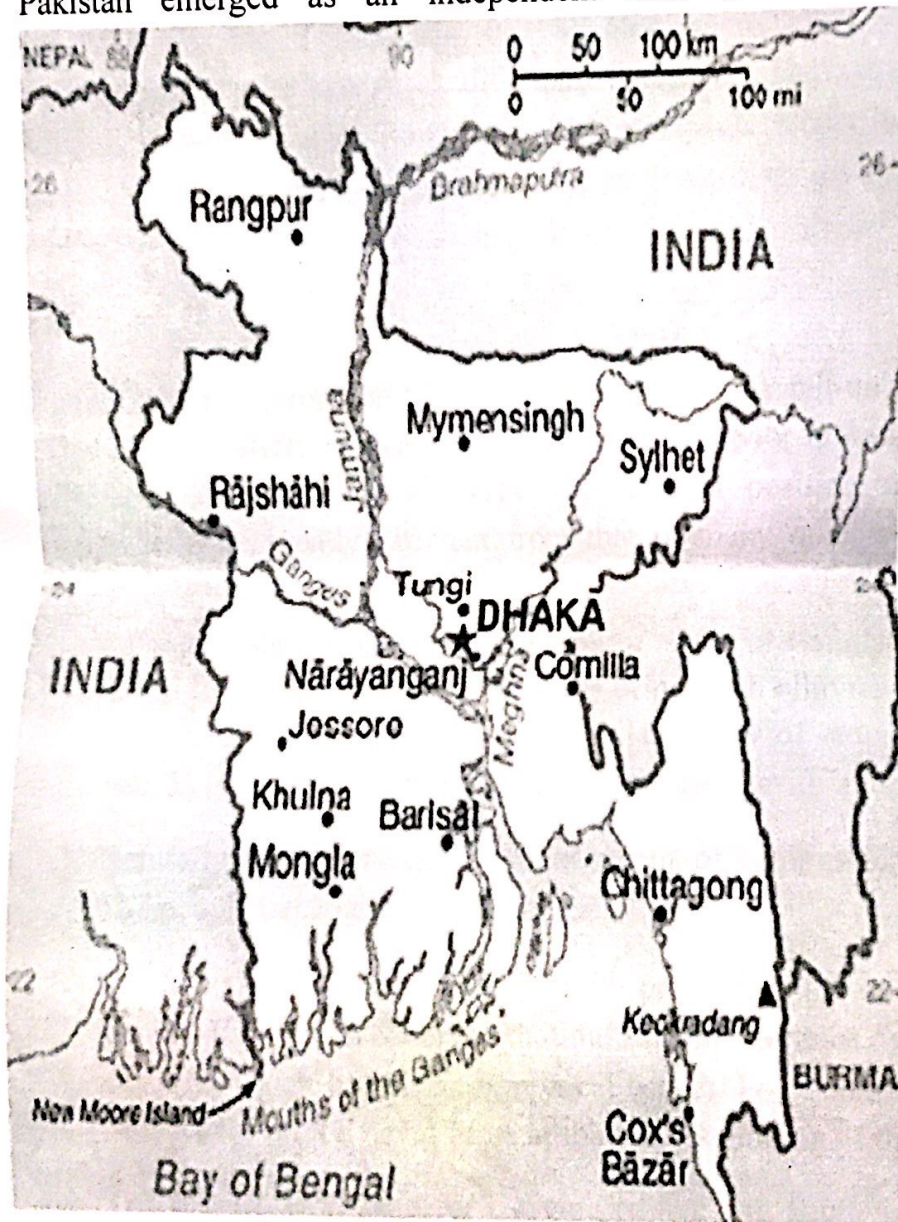


Geographical features of Bangladesh and its impact on people's way of life:

Bangladesh is situated in the south of the continent of Asia. The blue waters of the Bay of Bengal are on the south. Except Myanmar in the southeast the country is bordered on all sides by India. There have been a number of political changes in Bangladesh since the ancient time. Finally, the war of Liberation in 1971, East Pakistan emerged as an independent state and was named Bangladesh.



On the north of Bangladesh stands the mighty Himalaya. On the south is the Bay of Bengal. On the eastern side there are some big and small hills, epically the hills of Assam, Khasia, Joyantika, Tripura and Chittagong. West Bengal and the hills of Rajmahal stand on the west of Bangladesh. Besides, there is dense forest s of Santal Pargana, Jharkhanda and Mayurbhanja on the western border.

The total area of Bangladesh is about 1, 48,540 square kilometers. The populations are about 16 cores. The main rivers are the Ganges, the Brahmaputra, the Megna , the Teesta and the Karotoa. Bangladesh has eight principal administrative units known as divisions. These are Barisal, Chittagong, Dhaka, Khulna, Rajshahi, Sylhet, Rangpur and Mymensingh.. There are 64 districts (zilas) under these divisions and again the districts have been divided into 491 upazilas and 4,554 Unions.

Impact:

The influence of geographical characteristics is deeply felt on people's way of life .That is why variety in lifestyle, manners and behavior is found among people in different parts of the world. The geographical position and the climate of Bangladesh are greatly different from that of many other countries. There are various impacts on Bangladeshi people, these are given below:

1. The vast plain land and an advance of rivers of Bangladesh provide a great advantage for its people. The rivers bring forth alluvial soil. As a result, the soil of this country has become fertile. Plenty of crops grow on the fertile soil. In this way Bangladesh has become green with abundant crops.
2. Naturally the waterway is a great means of communication in Bangladesh. The people became skilled boatmen.
3. The naval force became expert in protecting the country from foreign attacks. It has been observed that the Muslims Sultans of Bengal always kept a careful watch on this geographical aspect. For example, Sultan Giasuddin Iwaj Khalji built a naval force at the very beginning of the Medieval Age.
4. The role of waterways for carrying people and goods is the greatest in this country. The boat has great influence on the cultural life of the people of Bengal. The vast open sky overhead and the flowing river beneath make the

boatman find melodious music in his voice as he rows the boat. The Bhatiali and the sari songs have been created in this way.

5. Bangladesh has an abundant rainfall. The climate is temperate. This geographical environment has made people of the country gentle and peaceful in nature.
6. The people of Bangladesh have to fight against storms and tidal waves because of the diversity of the seasons. They have thus grown a fighting spirit in them. The freedom loving people of Bangladesh have struggled for ages.
7. The food habits and dress, houses of the people of BENGAL are related to the geographical characteristics of the land. The change of the course of the river has always affected the lifestyle and economy of the people in this reason. The old cities and ports that grew up on the banks of the rivers perished because of the change of the course of rivers. Again new habitation of people grew on the banks of the rivers in their new courses.
8. The climate and the position of the rivers have helped the business and economy of Bangladesh. The traders do not only carry their goods by waterways inside the country, but also to many places outside the country. In the same manner, come the necessary commodities from foreign countries. Bangladesh has become prosperous because of the bounty of nature.

So, we look after that the geographical position has provided additional advantages to the people of Bangladesh in the defense matters. The hills the mountains and innumerable rivers have concealed this country from the greedy eyes of foreign powers. There was not much fear of foreign attacks. As a result Bangladesh remained independent for a long time in the ancient period.