

Pearson Edexcel International GCSE (9–1)

May–June 2022 Assessment Window

Syllabus
reference

4BN1

Bangladesh Studies **Advance Information**

You are not permitted to take this notice into the examination.
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Instructions

- Please ensure that you have read this notice before the examination.

Information

- This notice covers all examined components.
- The format/structure of the assessments remains unchanged.
- This advance information notice details the focus of the content of the exams in the May–June 2022 assessments.
- There are no restrictions on who can use this notice.
- This notice is meant to help students to focus their revision time.
- Students and teachers can discuss the advance information.
- This document has 12 pages.

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General advice

- In addition to covering the content outline in the Advance Information, students and teachers should consider how to:
 - manage their revision of content which may be assessed in areas not covered by the Advance Information
 - manage their revision of other parts of the specification which may provide knowledge that helps with understanding the areas being tested in 2022.
- For specifications with synoptic questions, topics not explicitly given in the Advance Information may appear, e.g. where students are asked to bring together knowledge, skills and understanding from across the specification.
- For specifications with optional papers/topics/content, students should only refer to the advance information for their intended option.
- For specifications with NEA, advance information does not cover any NEA components.

A link to the Joint Council for Qualifications guidance document on advance information can be found on the Joint Council for Qualifications website or [here](#).

Advance Information

Subject specific section

What the information shows

- For each paper the list shows the major focus of the content of the exam.
- The specification content is presented in numerical order as set out in the specification, and not reflecting the question order of the examination papers.
- Some questions may be answerable using more than one area of specified content.

Paper 1: History and culture of Bangladesh

SECTION A (mandatory topic)

1 Towards Bengali independence (1947–1975)

Key idea	Detailed content
1.1 Problems facing Pakistan (1947–48)	The Governor-Generalship of the Quaid-e-Azam in Pakistan's early years: (c) strategies to resolve initial difficulties: the adoption of Urdu as the state language, referring Kashmir to the United Nations, co-operation with India over the refugee crisis, use of British military officials, 1948 agreement over water.
1.2 The uneven state (1947–1970)	Cultural, political and economic disparity in the new Pakistan: (a) linguistic differences between East and West Pakistan: the Language Movement, Bengali protests and strikes 1947/8, Mohammad Ali Jinnah's visit to Dhaka in 1948, all-party Rashtrabhasha Sagram Committee (State Language Day 1952).
1.3 The War of Liberation (1971)	The split from Pakistan: (b) the War of Liberation: formation of a Provisional Government, the Mukti Bahini, Operation Searchlight, massacres and refugees.
1.4 Problems faced by the Republic of Bangladesh (1971–1975)	Establishing the new country: (a) immediate issues facing the new country: displaced refugees, economic collapse, breakdown of law and order, the trials of war criminals, the 1974 flood and famine.

SECTION B (choose one topic)

2 Early Bengal (AD 600–c.1538)

Key idea	Detailed content
2.1 Early kingdoms in Bengal (AD 600–1206)	The early kingdoms of Bengal: (a) the reign of Shashanka (AD 600–625): the defence of his kingdom of Gauda against Harsavardhana, the spread of Hinduism and building of a Buddhist university and monasteries.
2.2 Pre-Sultanate Bengal	The development of Bengal before the Sultanate: (b) the reign of Bakhtiyar Khalji: the conquest of Nadia, establishment of control of northern Bengal, administrative reforms, support of education and culture, the building of a new capital at Gaur.
2.3 Sufis and Sufism	The importance of Sufism in early Bengal: (a) the beliefs of the Sufis and their relations with the Sultans of Bengal.
2.4 Bengal under the Sultanate	Independent Bengal before the arrival of the Mughals: (a) the Ilyas Shahi dynasty: Haji Ilyas and resistance to Delhi, conquests and establishment of rule throughout Bengal, Ghiyasuddin Azam Shah's influence on law and justice.

3 The Mughal Empire (c.1550–1764)

Key idea	Detailed content
3.1 Resistance to the Mughals	Early attempts to resist Mughal authority: (b) opposition to the Mughals under Humayan: Sher Shah and the importance of the Battle of Chausa (c) the rule of Sher Shah and the Afghans: instituting law and order, administrative, legal and economic reform, religious toleration.
3.2 The Mughals in Bengal	Bengal is absorbed into the Mughal Empire: (b) Bengal governance under the Mughals: the work and achievements of Islam Khan, Shaista Khan, Murshid Quli Khan.
3.3 The Mughal Empire under Aurangzeb and his successors (c1658–1761)	Reasons for the decline and break-up of the Mughal Empire: (a) the weaknesses of the empire: size, weak administration, the power of nobility, failure to reform, succession issues. (b) the impact of Aurangzeb's policies on the stability of the Mughal Empire: social, religious, economic reform. (c) Aurangzeb's warfare and the later external intervention of the Persians, Marathas and Afghans.
3.4 The end of the Mughals and the arrival of the British (c1608–1757)	The impact of the British: (b) the reasons for British interest in the Indian sub-continent and the development of the East India Company until 1757.

4 Bengal under British rule (1764–1911)

Key idea	Detailed content
4.1 The British in Bengal	<p>The conquests of Robert Clive and establishing British control over Bengal:</p> <p>(a) British administration: The Diwari Treaty, the use of puppet rulers, e.g. Mir Jafar, the Dual Administration, key features and impact of the Regulating Act of 1773 and the India Act 1784, the Great Famine 1769–70 and the British exploitation of Bengal.</p>
4.2 The War of Independence (1857)	<p>The causes, course and consequences of the 1857 War:</p> <p>(b) events and reasons for failure: refusal to use cartridges at Meerut, the opposition of Nana Sahib at Kanpur, poor Indian leadership, disunity amongst Indians, British military strength.</p>
4.3 Bengal in the 19th century	<p>The seeds of resistance to foreign culture:</p> <p>(a) the end of the East India Company (1858) and direct rule of the British Government, government by Viceroys.</p>
4.4 The first partition of Bengal (1905–1911)	<p>Bengal divided and reunified:</p> <p>(a) the reasons for the partition of Bengal in 1905: the Simla Deputation, the formation of the Muslim League.</p>

SECTION C (choose one topic)

5 The road to partition (1909–1947)

Key idea	Detailed content
5.1 First attempts at reform (1909–16)	The reasons for the introduction and impact of early reform: (c) the Lucknow Pact: reasons for and importance of the pact, including co-operation between Hindus and Muslims.
5.2 Reform, reaction and repression (1919–27)	The rejection of dyarchy and British attempts to control opposition: (a) the Rowlatt Act, Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms (the Government of India Act): reasons for introduction, terms and reaction to the reforms. (b) the Amritsar Massacre (events and consequences): the Hunter Committee, Gandhi's policy of non-co-operation and the growth of communalism 1920–27, the increase in Congress influence, the Delhi proposals (1927), Chittaranjan Das and the Bengal Pact.
5.3 The Pakistan Movement: limited progress (1927–1939)	British attempts to pacify Hindus and Muslims: (b) continued attempts at a solution and reasons for failure: the Simon Report, the three Round Table Conferences, the Communal Award and the Government of India Act 1935
5.4 The Pakistan Movement: from stalemate to partition (1935–47)	The British failure to reach agreement and the moves towards a final settlement: (a) the continued search for a solution: the importance of the Day of Deliverance and communal violence, the outbreak of the Second World War, the opposition of Subhas Chandra Bose, the Lahore (Pakistan) Resolution 1940, the failure of the Cripps Mission and the Quit India Resolution. (b) failure to reach agreement: the Gandhi-Jinnah Talks 1944, the Simla Conference, the significance of the 1945–1946 elections, the failure of the Cabinet Mission Plan 1946.

6 Bangladesh: establishing the new country (1975–2001)

Key idea	Detailed content
6.1 Political developments (1975–2001)	Political issues in late 20th-century Bangladesh: (a) the work of General Ziaur Rahman: the 1975 coups, constitutional changes, martial law, the formation of the Bangladesh National Party, the Constitution (Amendment) Order (1977), reforms in agriculture, industry and education.
6.2 Bangladesh in world affairs	Bangladesh as part of the world community: (a) Bangladesh and world organisations: membership of the Commonwealth, the United Nations (UN), the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC).
6.3 The heritage and culture of Bangladesh	The richness of Bangladesh's cultural history: (c) great Bengali figures: Lalon Shah and the Bauls, Begum Rokeya, Zainul Abedin.
6.4 Language and literature developments in Bangladesh	The importance of Bangla in Bangladesh's past and present: (c) Bengali literature and the importance of the work of great literary figures: Rabindranath Tagore, Kazi Nazrul Islam, Jasimuddin, Begum Sufia Kamal.

Paper 2: The landscape, people and economy of Bangladesh

SECTION A: The Physical Environment

Key idea	Detailed content
1.1 Location, climate and biomes	(a) Position of Bangladesh in South Asia and globally, and regional variations in climatic zones (tropical savanna, humid subtropical, subtropical highland and monsoon).
1.2 Tectonic and glacial processes and landforms, and geophysical hazards	(a) Tectonic processes affecting Bangladesh and the formation of the Himalayan landscape (fold mountains).
1.3 Relief, drainage and hydro-meteorological hazards	(a) The relief regions and characteristics of the drainage network of Bangladesh (Padma, Jamuna and Meghna floodplains and the Ganges deltaic coastline). (b) The causes and characteristics of tropical cyclones, storm surges and flooding (river and coastal). (c) The responses of national and international governments, agencies and individuals to flooding and tropical cyclones in Bangladesh.
1.4 Natural resources and their exploitation	(a) The distribution and exploitation of two natural resources (water, forest products, fish/shellfish and/or minerals). (c) Environmental impacts resulting from the exploitation of one natural resource (water, forest products, fish/shellfish or minerals), and one renewable and one non-renewable energy resource.

SECTION B: The Human Environment

Key idea	Detailed content
2.1 Bangladesh's economy: the primary sector and the need for food security	<p>(a) Factors influencing the distribution of agricultural production in Bangladesh (climatic events, dynamic floodplains, the deltaic coastline, income, population density).</p> <p>(b) Strategies to increase agricultural output (land rights reforms, plant breeding programmes, fertilisers/pesticides, education, water management and appropriate/intermediate technology).</p> <p>(c) Approaches to managing food security in Bangladesh.</p>
2.2 Bangladesh economy secondary, tertiary/quaternary sectors and transport systems	<p>(b) Factors affecting the type and location of formal and informal services (tertiary sector) and knowledge-based services (quaternary sector).</p> <p>(c) The challenges of the transport system and its impact on Bangladesh's economic development.</p>
2.3 Globalisation including (transnational corporations) TNCs, can cause rapid change for economies such as Bangladesh	<p>(a) One case study of a TNC operating in Bangladesh (global structure and networks).</p> <p>(b) The benefits and challenges of TNCs for the people and government of Bangladesh.</p> <p>(c) The impact of globalisation on Bangladesh (international transport and communication improvements, spread of global culture). Are there winners and losers?</p>
2.4 The challenges of economic development for Bangladesh	<p>(a) The trade balance between imports and exports, including remittances, to ensure economic stability.</p>

SECTION C: Challenges for Bangladesh

Key idea	Detailed content
3.1 Indicators of development, population patterns and trends	<p>(a) The characteristics used to determine the level of development of a country: gross domestic product (GDP), demographic data (population density/structure, birth/death rates and natural increase).</p> <p>(b) The physical and human factors influencing the distribution, density and structure of the population of Bangladesh.</p> <p>(c) The trends in fertility rates, infant/maternal mortality rates, and life expectancy and their implications for service provision such as education, healthcare and employment.</p>
3.2 Quality of life in rural Bangladesh: challenges of life in rural communities	<p>(a) Human Development Index (HDI) factors influencing the 'quality of life' for different groups within Bangladesh: years of schooling, per capita income and life expectancy.</p> <p>(b) Challenges facing Bangladeshi's rural population: population structure of rural communities, poverty, education, gender equality, subsistence agriculture and rural-based craft industries, and impact of remittances.</p>
3.3 Quality of life in urban Bangladesh: challenges of life in urban communities	<p>(a) Rapid population growth creates opportunities and challenges for people living in large cities: housing, employment, quality of services (water, sanitation, energy supplies, health, etc.), traffic congestion and pollution.</p> <p>(b) Case study of the particular challenges and opportunities in one megacity (Dhaka).</p>
3.4 Present and future impacts of climate change on the people, economy and environment of Bangladesh and possible mitigation strategies	<p>(b) Impacts of climate change on Bangladesh's people, economy and environment (more extreme weather, increased frequency and strength of tropical cyclones, increased glacial ablation and river discharge, flooding and sea-level rises).</p>

END OF ADVANCE INFORMATION