

WellandGouldsmith School
Class 4 Geography Chapter4
The Northern Fertile Plains

Synopsis

- To the south of the Himalayas lies a huge plain called the Northern Fertile Plain.
- The states of Punjab ,Haryana, Uttar Pradesh ,Bihar ,Jharkhand ,West Bengal and parts of Assam lie in this plain.
- Rivers which originate from the snow covered mountains flow through this plain.
- These rivers are perennial rivers as they have water in them throughout the year.
- A basin is a region drained by a river and its tributaries the three river basins are the Sutlej basin the Ganga basin the Brahmaputra basin.
- The western part of the Northern Fertile Plain around the river Sutlej is called the Satluj basin this basin is watered by the River Sutlej and its tributary. The two important states in this plain are Punjab and Haryana the Bhakra Nangal Dam is built on the Sutlej river is one of the largest dams of India. Some big cities of this basin are Chandigarh, Amritsar and Ludhiana.
- The Ganga basin lies to the east of the Sutlej basin Delhi, Uttar Pradesh Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal lie in this basin . The Ganga and Yamuna are the tributaries like the Ghaghara, ,the Gandak and Kosi flow through this basin.
- The Ganga is the most important river of India the Ganga originated from Gangotri Glacier .
- The Bhagirathi ,the Mandakini and Alaknanda are other small rivers which join the Ganga while it flows down the mountains.
- The river Yamuna originated from another glacier in the Himalayas called the Yamunotri and joins the Ganga at Allahabad.
- When the Ganga reaches West Bengal it splits into two main branches the Hugli flows through the city of Kolkata ,the Padma flows through Bangladesh before it enters the sea. On reaching West Bengal the rivers flows down and its ability to carry sediments reduces, it starts depositing the sediments it is carrying because of this, small Islands of sand are formed in water. These triangular pieces of land are called the deltas. The Delta of the Ganga and the Brahmaputra known as the Sundarbans is the largest in the world.
- Crops grown in this region are rice sugarcane wheat and jute. Since this area produces a large quantity of food crops the Ganga basin is often called the food bowl of India. The old and well known cities are Rushikesh,Haridwar,Delhi,Agra, Kanpur Allahabad, Ayodhya ,Patna Varanasi and Kolkata.
- The Brahmaputra basin lies in Assam. Guwahati is an important city in this basin the river Brahmaputra rises in Tibet ,where it is called the Tsangpo and enters India from the East. It flows through a narrow Valley in Assam then it flows to the south- west towards the sea it enters Bangladesh and joins with a branch of the Ganga.
- There is very heavy rainfall in this space in every year it makes the river overflow its bank .Though the floods cause a lot of damage they also make the soil very fertile the main crops of this region are rice and jute. Tea is grown on the hill slopes India is

famous throughout the world for its tea the Northern Fertile Plain is one of the most thickly populated areas of the world.

Worksheet

1. Answer the following questions:

- a) Name the states which lie in the Northern Fertile Plain.
- b) How do rivers make the soil fertile?
- c) What is a basin?
- d) Name the three river basins in the Northern fertile plain.
- e) Name the two states in the Sutlej basin.
- f) Name five important cities in the Ganga basin.
- g) Where does the Brahmaputra basin lie?
- h) What is a delta?
- i) Where does the northern fertile plain lie?
- j) Name the rivers that join the Ganga.

2. Name Them:

- a) It is a sacred river--
- b) Three crops grown in the Ganga basin--
- c) An important city in the Brahmaputra basin-
- d) A mixture of rock and sand-
- e) Fine fertile soil-
- f) The Bakra Nangal Dam is built on this river-
- g) The Ganga splits into two main branches-
- h) Two rivers flowing through the Deccan Plateau-
- i) Two big cities in the Sutlej basin-
- j) Electricity produced from water-

3. State true or false:

- a) The Ganga basin is called the food bowl of India.
- b) A tributary is a small river which joins a large river.
- c) Rice is the main crop of the Sutlej basin.
- d) The famous Kumbh Mela is held in Delhi.
- e) India is famous throughout the world for its coffee.

4. Fill in the blanks:

- a) The delta of the ____ and ____ known as the Sundarbans is the largest in the world.
- b) ____ cause lot of damage, they make the soil fertile.
- c) River _____ flows through Bangladesh.
- d) Lacks of pilgrims visit _____.

- e) The ____ is the most important river of India.
- f)The river Yamuna originates from another Glacier in the Himalayas called the _____.
- g)____ and ____ are the main crops in the Brahmaputra basin.
- h)The dam provides water for _____and producers _____.
- i)River _____ rises in Tibet.
- j)The northern fertile plain is _____ kilometres long.

5. Explain the following terms:

- a) tributary-
- b) distributaries-
- c) perennial rivers-

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Exercise A and B