

Interaction between Islamic and Indian civilizations

Interaction between the Islamic and Indian civilizations was recorded in two forms, military conflict and socio-cultural cooperation involving translation. The first form, military conflict, occurred when an Islamic government was first established in the Sind province in the 8th Century CE. Al-Baladhuri (1866) recorded that a well-equipped military force under the command of Muhammad bin al-Qasim conquered Sind province in the year 93H/711CE. The Islamic government of that time was headed by Caliph al-Walid bin 'Abd al-Malik. Further, according to records by al-Baladhuri (1866), efforts to spread Islam to the Sind province first began during the rule of Caliph 'Umar bin al-Khattab. However, such efforts were unsuccessful before the rule of Caliph al-Walid bin 'Abd al-Malik. This situation showed interaction was in the form of military conflict. Even though this interaction did not involve any transfer of knowledge or technology, relations between the two already existed.

The second form, socio-cultural cooperation involving translation, led to transfer of knowledge. The earliest recorded translation was by Abu 'Abd Allah Muhammad bin Ibrahim al-Fazari (m.d. 179H/796CE). This early interaction occurred when Abu 'Abd Allah Muhammad bin Ibrahim al-Fazari (m.d. 179H/796CE) translated works on astronomy into Arabic by order of the Abbasid Caliph, Abu Ja'afar al-Mansur. Table 3 displays a list of works from the Indian civilization translated into Arabic language as follows:

No.	Title of works	Author	Translator	Title of works in Arabic language
1	<i>Brahmasphutasiddhanta</i>		Abu 'Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Ibrahim al-Fazari	<i>al-Sind Hind</i>
2	<i>Khandakhadyaka</i>		Muhammad ibn Ibrahim al-Fazari dan Ya'qub ibn Tariq	<i>al-Arkand</i>
3		Chanakya	Mankah (daripada bahasa India ke dalam bahasa Parsi)	
			Abu Hatim al-Balkhi (daripada bahasa Parsi ke dalam bahasa Arab)	<i>Kitab al-Sumum wa al-Tiryaq</i>
4	<i>Caraka Samhita</i>	Charaka	'Abd Allah ibn 'Ali	<i>Sharik al-Hindi</i>
5	<i>Susruta Samhita</i>	Susruta	Mankah	<i>Kitab Susrud</i>