Rivers, Religion and Civilisation
Contents

• Background (India, Varanasi, Ganges)

• Rationale & Research Strands
  • Land and resource management
  • Evolution of Civilisation & Religion
  • Pure research (ancient seds)
India
Varanasi
Varanasi
The Ganges River
The Ganga River & Religion
Civilisation & the Ganga
Civilisation & the Ganga

Rigveda: c.1500 - 1200 BC
Exceptionally flat alluvial plain
Civilisation & the Ganga
Civilisation & the Ganga

Orientation change & entrenchment
Water Resources

- Human consumption (~2m ppl & growing)
- Animal consumption (minimal)
- Industrial consumption (cottages industry)
- Transport (tourists and residents)
- Waste
- Wildlife
Water Resources
Water Resources
Water Resources
Drilling campaign
Drilling campaign
Drilling campaign
Drilling campaign
Bedrock @ depths <1 m

Bedrock @ depths >300 m
Bedrock

Road cutting outcrops
Bedrock
Bedrock
Scarp Sandstone
Scarp Sandstone
Scarp Sandstone

Thinner sets

Thicker sets
Scarp Sandstone
Scarp Sandstone
Scarp Sandstone
Scarp Sandstone

Brisbane River, Australia
Conclusions...

• Fantastic place to work
• Lots of scope to affect land and subsurface management
• Great sediments everywhere!