

Abstract:

This thesis deals with the phenomenon of chars, riverine islands that emerge in the deltas of Indian and Bangladeshi rivers and subsequently erode in short span of time as a result of the geologically unstable local area. The thesis focuses on Bangladesh. It characterizes chars in the context of related natural events, describes the process of settlement in the Bengal delta and changes the delta underwent in the course of history, and it also focuses on the char-dwellers' life condition and way of life, the description of which is completed with an analysis of the ownership rights' transformations in the region of contemporary Bangladesh.