

# SOL GGC.8

## South Asia and Southeast Asia



# South Asia

BY THE NUMBERS

COUNTRY	LAND AREA (SQ MI)	POPULATION
Bangladesh	50,258	156,118,464
Bhutan	14,824	699,847
India	1,147,956	1,173,108,018
Maldives	115	395,650
Nepal	55,348	28,951,852
Pakistan	297,637	184,404,791
Sri Lanka	24,954	21,513,990
United States	3,537,455	310,232,863

7,486 miles

Washington, D.C.

New Delhi,  
India



## Southeast Asia

### BY THE NUMBERS

COUNTRY	LAND AREA (SQ MI)	POPULATION
Brunei	2,033	395,027
Cambodia	68,925	14,453,680
East Timor	5,743	1,154,625
Indonesia	699,449	242,968,342
Laos	89,112	6,368,162
Malaysia	126,895	28,274,729
Myanmar	252,320	53,414,374
Philippines	115,124	99,900,177
Singapore	265	4,701,069
Thailand	197,255	67,089,500
Vietnam	119,718	89,571,13
United States	3,537,454	307,212,123

Source: CIA World Factbook



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# Major Regions and Countries

- **South Asia** - Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, India



- **Southeast Asia** - Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar (Burma), Laos, Vietnam,



# Major Cities

- **India** - New Delhi & Mumbai
- **Thailand** - Bangkok
- **Pakistan** - Islamabad
- **Philippines** - Manila





# South Asia





# *Southeast Asia*

**There are varying physical features that distinguish the mainland from the islands of the South Asian and Southeast Asian regions.**





# Mountains

- **Himalayas**
  - Tallest mountains in the world
- **Western & Eastern Ghats**
  - Mountain ranges that run along the edges of the Deccan Plateau
- **Hindu Kush**
  - Located in northern Pakistan & Afghanistan



# Mountains

- **Himalayas** - The range was created when two tectonic plates collided. The Himalayas are responsible for many of South Asia's rivers because rainwater runs down the mountain as snow melts. The mountain chain also separates South Asia from the rest of the continent.



Resource Type: NG Photo Gallery

**Caption:** Yaks are similar to oxen and are common at elevations between 14,000 and 20,000 feet. They were probably first domesticated to carry goods along trade routes in the Himalayas. Yaks are nearly twice as big as cattle and have three times greater lung capacity, which helps them breathe more easily at high altitudes. They provide meat, milk, wool, and dung used for fuel.



**Caption:** Mount Everest, on the border of Nepal and China, is the ultimate climbing challenge. In 2006, 70-year-old Takao Arayama became the oldest to climb it. In 2010, 13-year-old Jordan Romero became the youngest. At 29,035 feet, Everest is the tallest mountain in the world.









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**Caption:** For people who live in the Himalaya valleys, the mountains have always been sacred. Tibetans call Mount Everest Chomolungma, often translated as 'Goddess Mother of the World.' The Sanskrit and Nepali name Sagarmatha means 'Ocean Mother.' Until 1865, the mountain was known to the rest of the world as Peak XV. That year it was renamed for Sir George Everest, British surveyor general of India from 1830 to 1843.





©National Geographic Learning, Cengage Learning ©Grant Dixon/Hedgehog House/Minden Pictures

**Caption:** Measuring the exact height of Mount Everest is no easy task. In the early 1950s, an Indian survey calculated the mountain's height as 29,028 feet. Later surveys tried to make more accurate measurements, but the results were disputed. A survey sponsored by the National Geographic Society using GPS equipment in 1999 established the current figure of 29,035 feet, plus or minus 6.5 feet.

# Mountains

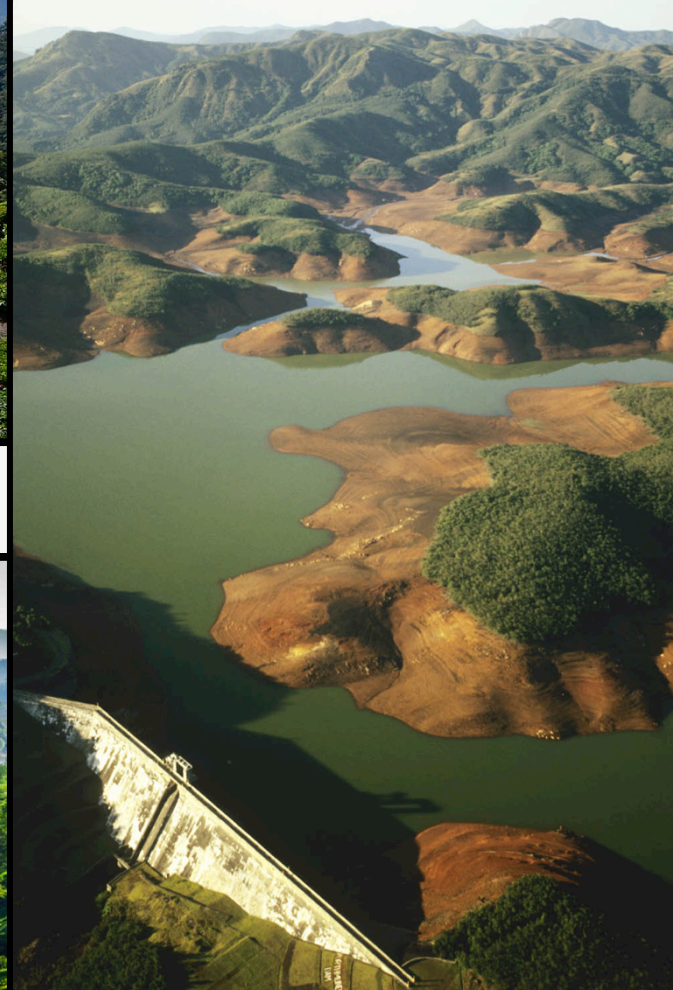
- **Western and Eastern Ghats** - mountains that run along the coastline of the Bay of Bengal & the Arabian Sea (technically they are the faulted edge of the Deccan plateau) ; high rainfall on the seaward slopes has produced dense forests.
- **Hindu Kush** - The mountain rain forms one of the largest watersheds on the continent. The Hindu Kush mountains are also a product of the collision of the Eurasian and Indian plates, like the Himalayas.







## Western Ghats



**Caption:** The Western Ghats are a chain of mountains running north and south along the western edge of the Deccan Plateau in India. The Godavari and Mahanadi rivers originate in these mountains and flow down the eastern slope of the mountains to the plateau. Low dams built on these rivers provide consistent flow of water to the plateau.

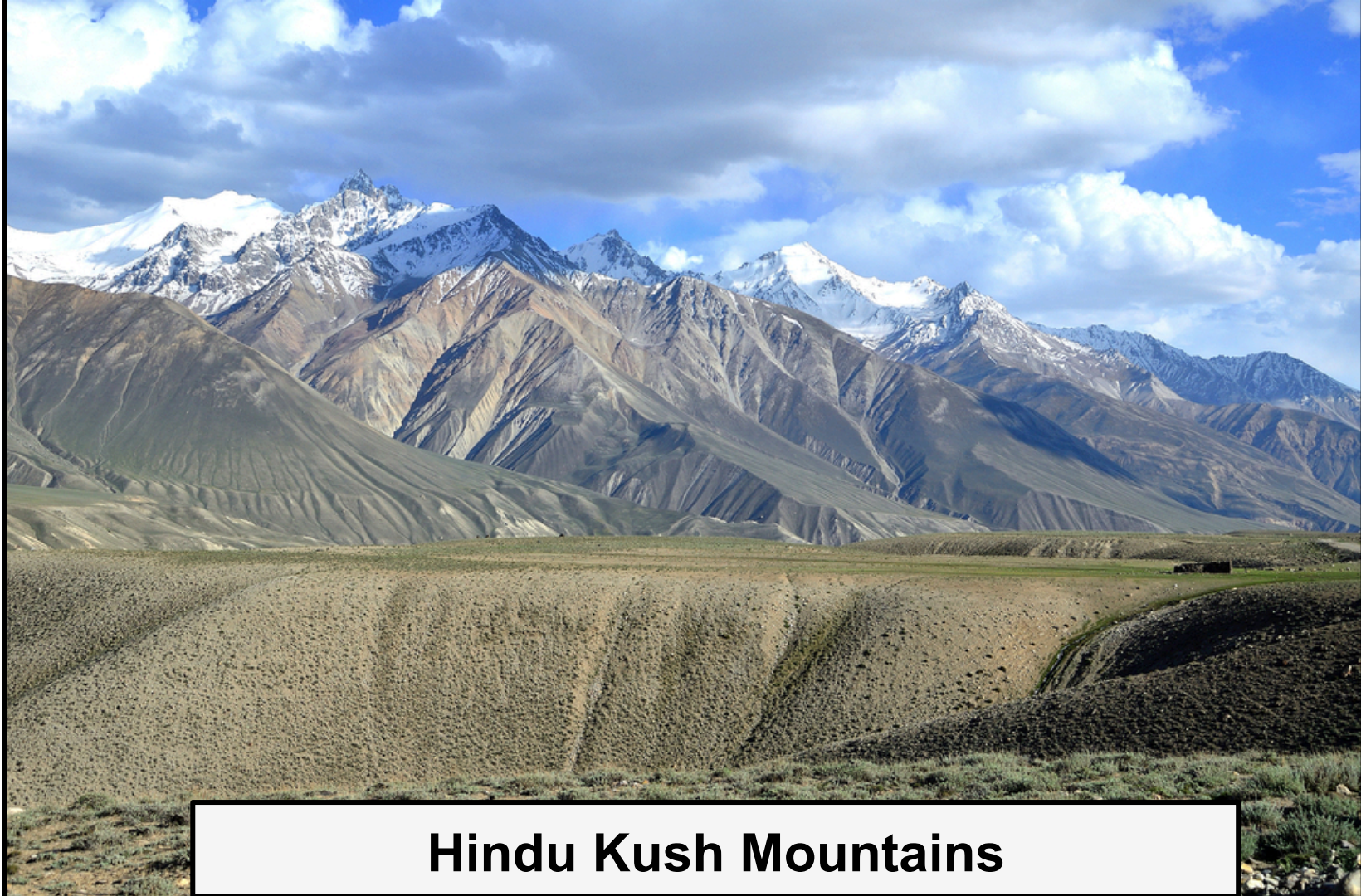




## Eastern Ghats







**Hindu Kush Mountains**



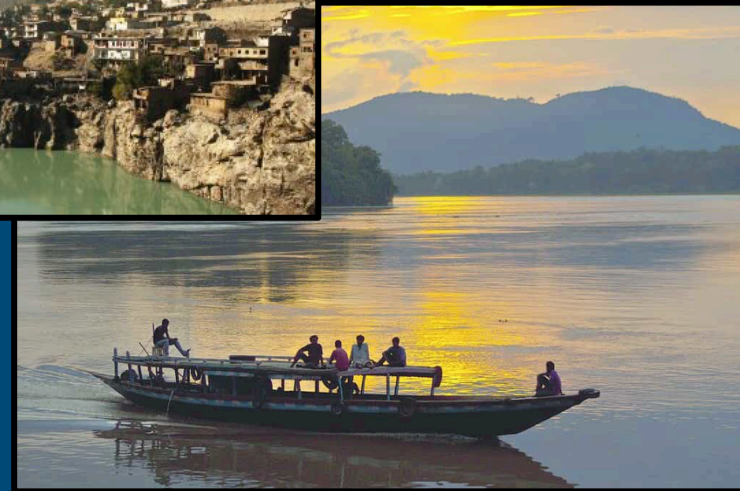
# Bodies of Water - Seas and Oceans

- **Arabian Sea** - northern section of the Indian Ocean; important to travel and trade in South Asia
- **Indian Ocean** - contains vital trade routes that connect to the rest of the world's oceans (important for South Asia's economy)
- **Bay of Bengal** - largest bay in the world; allows for travel into the Indian Ocean for trade and travel
- **Strait of Malacca** - one of the most important shipping lanes in the world; cuts travel time from China to the rest of South Asia



# Bodies of Water - Rivers

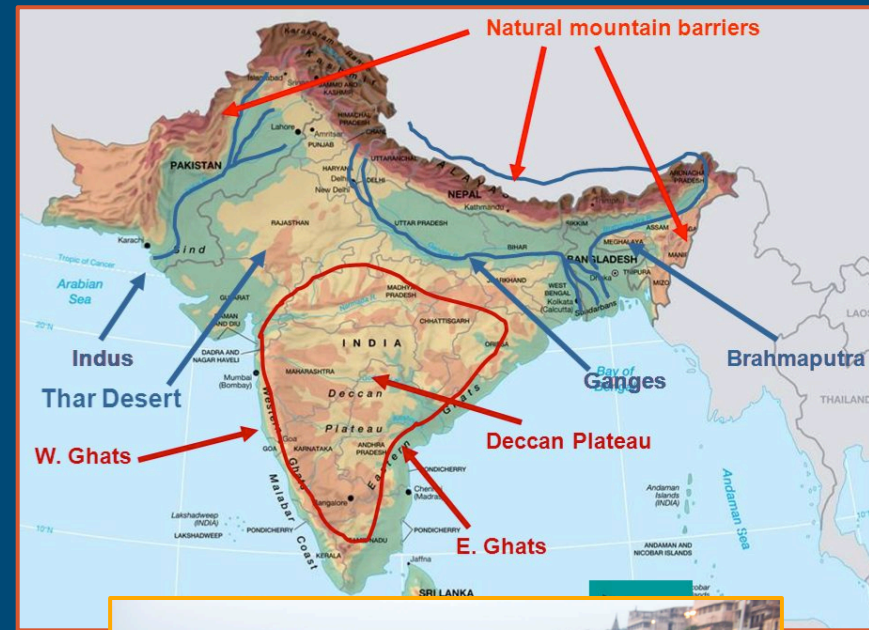
- Ganges River
- Indus River
- Brahmaputra River
- Mekong River



# Bodies of Water - Rivers (South Asia)

- **Ganges River:**

- Considered sacred by Hindus who ritually bathe in the river to purify themselves
- Historically, the river was important to the development of civilization in the area
- Today, the river is heavily polluted.

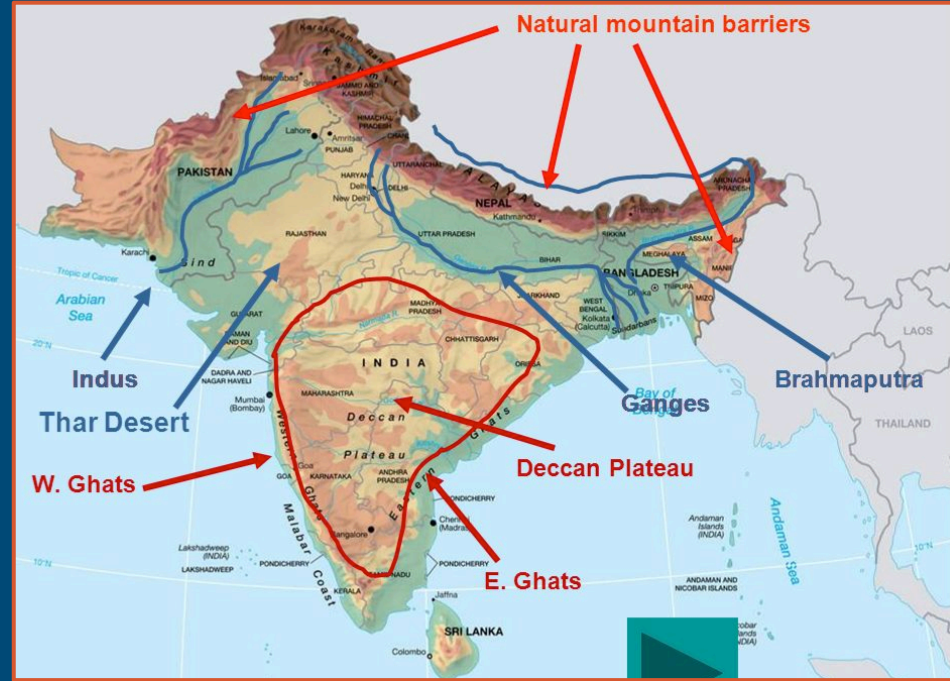




# Bodies of Water - Rivers (South Asia)

- **Indus River**

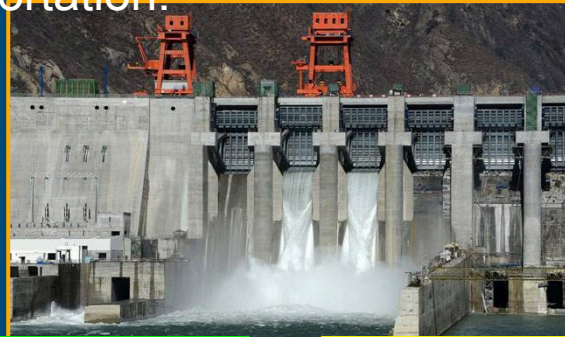
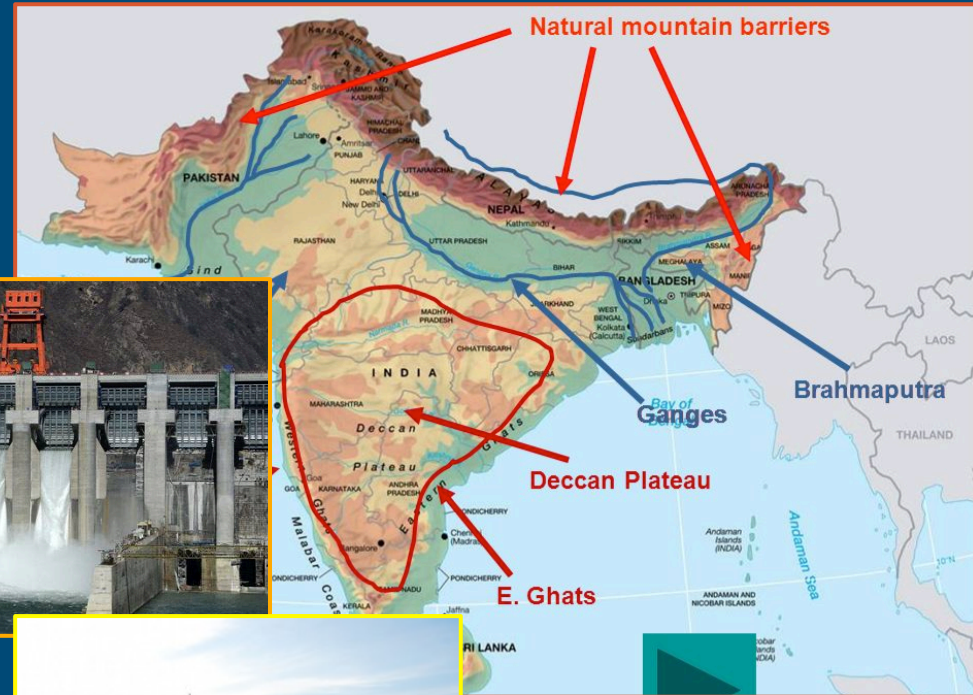
- Historically, this river is important because it is where the first Indian civilization formed
- Today, the river is important for agricultural production in Pakistan.



*Ladakh is located in the northwestern part of the Indian subcontinent, divided between India and Pakistan. With a very high elevation and a cold dry climate, most of Ladakh is not suited to agriculture. Crops such as wheat, barley, and other grains, along with peas, beans, and turnips are grown in the upper Indus River Valley.*

# Bodies of Water - Rivers (South Asia)

- **Brahmaputra River** - At about 2900 kilometers long, the Brahmaputra is an important river for irrigation, hydroelectricity generation, and transportation.





# Bodies of Water

## Rivers (Southeast Asia)

- **Mekong River:**

- Longest in river in SE Asia (2,600 miles)
- It runs through the middle of the mainland and forms part of the borders of Myanmar, Laos, and Thailand.
- It empties into the South China Sea near Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
- The Mekong Delta covers an area about the size of West Virginia (densely populated area; excellent for growing rice)
- Some countries are working to harness the power of the river to produce hydroelectricity.



# Physical Geography

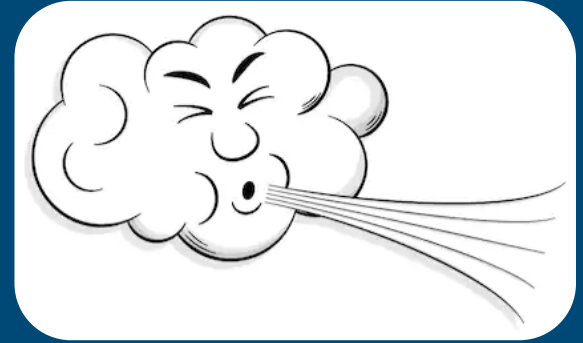
- The region lies between the tropics, with temperatures that are generally warm
- Climatic regions ranging from low to middle-latitude climates



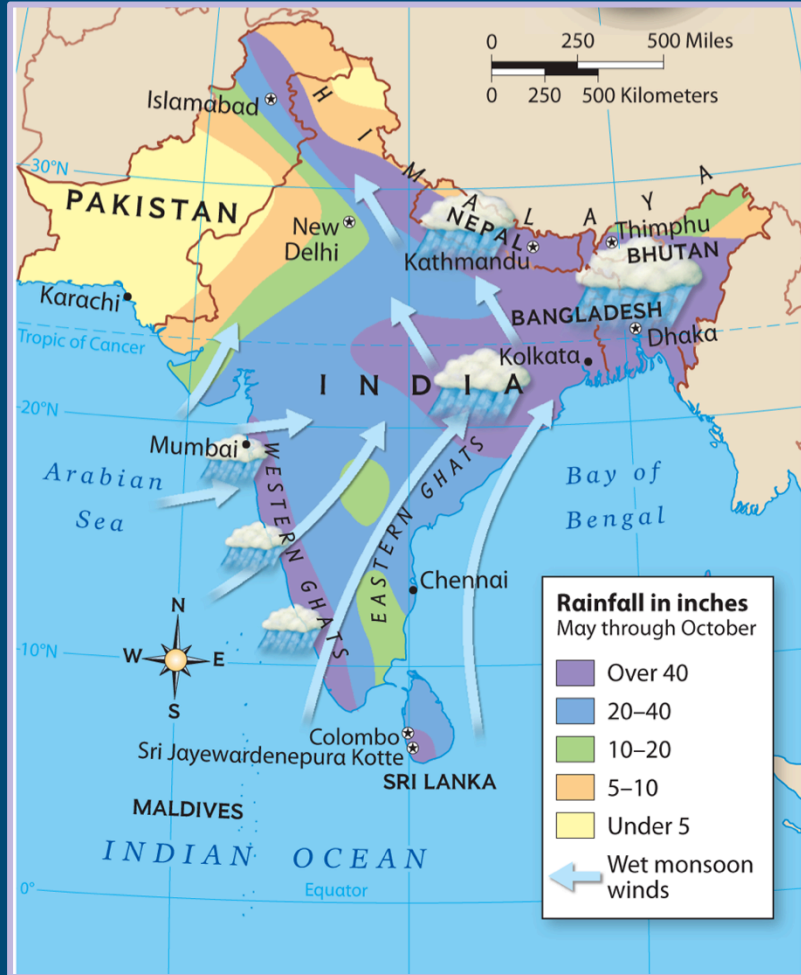


# Monsoon Season

- **Monsoons:** seasonal winds that bring intense rainfall during part of the year
- **Summer: Wet Monsoons**
  - Usually occurs from May to October
  - Winds blow northward from the Indian Ocean and bring heavy rain (some areas receive 100+ inches per year)
- **Winter: Dry Monsoons**
  - Usually occurs from November to April
  - The winds reverse direction and blow southward; the air from this direction is dry
  - Extremely dry monsoon seasons can destroy crops, which threatens farmers' livelihoods and the economic well-being of the region



# Summer Monsoon



# Winter Monsoon





***Which is winter?  
Which is summer?***

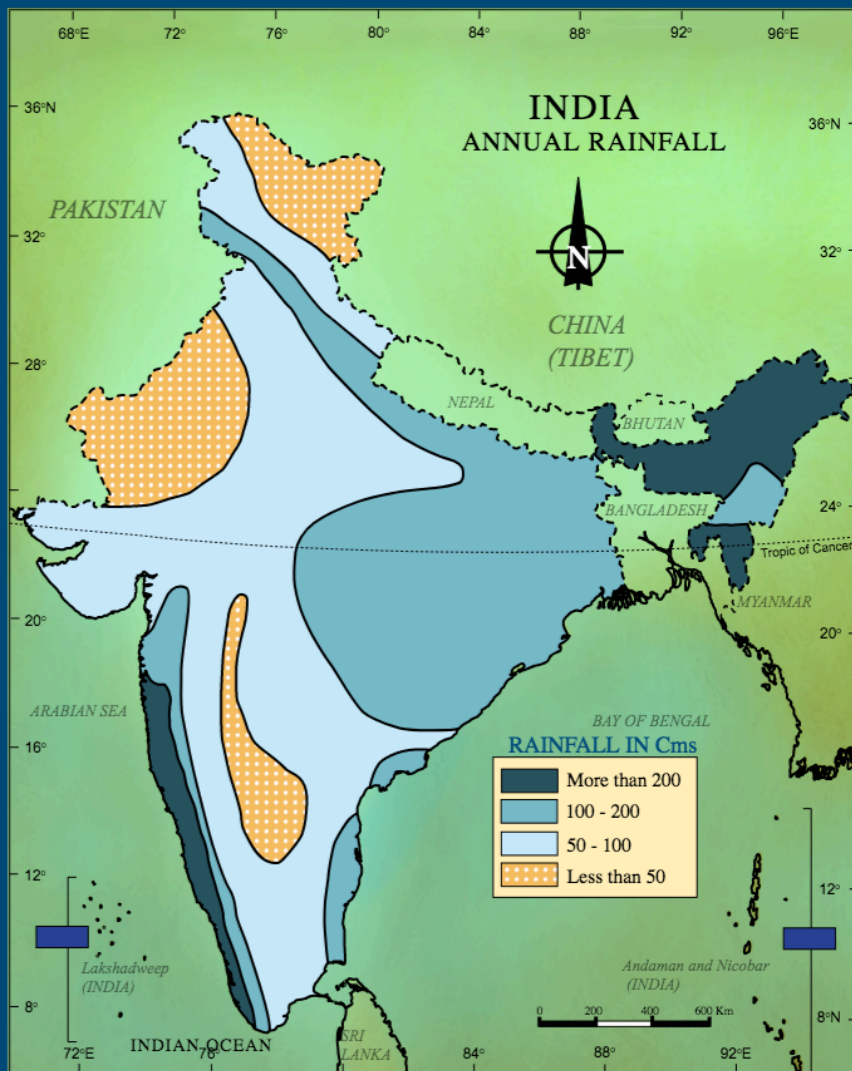


# Precipitation Totals

**FYI**  
**200 cm = 78**  
**inches**

**The average**  
**annual rainfall for**  
**VA is closer to**  
**115 centimeters.**

**What can you infer**  
**about the climate**  
**of the region from**  
**this map?**







**Caption:** The heaviest rains of the monsoon season turned the streets of Delhi into canals and made morning rush hour an ordeal for thousands who found themselves victims of the downpour. Scientists have noted that the monsoon rains seem to be coming in more intense bursts with fewer periods of lighter rain, leading to flash floods like the one shown here.





**Caption:** Bangladesh receives large amounts of rainfall during the monsoon season from June to late September or early October. Most of the country receives at least 60 inches of rain per year, with some areas receiving 100 or even 200 inches. Because most fields flood during the monsoon season, people build houses on higher ground.



# Natural Hazards

- Flooding
- Typhoons
- Volcanic eruptions
- Earthquakes
- Tsunamis

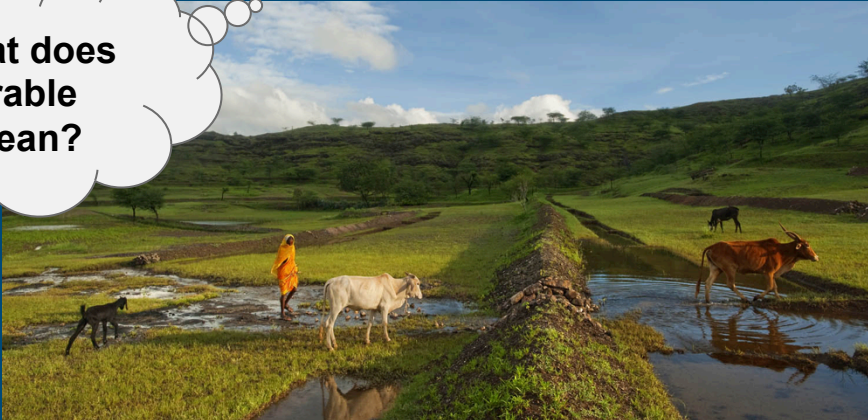


# Physical Geography/Resources

- Resources in South Asia include India's huge coal deposits, Sri Lanka's precious/semi-precious stones, and an abundance of arable land
- The most important natural resource is South Asia's arable land which feeds nearly 1.5 billion people



What does  
arable  
mean?



**Caption:** Visual Vocabulary: Arable refers to land that is suitable for farming. This field is designed to let water soak into the ground. In India, more than 50 percent of the land is arable.





# The Green Revolution

- In spite of vast farmland, India often suffered terrible famines
- Improvements were made in the 1950s & 1960s
  - Farmers started using new seeds to grow wheat (crop yields increased)
  - Farmers increased production of rice, fruits, sugarcane, and vegetables...this rapid and significant rise in food production was known as the **Green Revolution**

**GRAIN PRODUCTION AND POPULATION  
(1950–2012)**

	Food Grain Production (millions of metric tons)	Wheat Production (millions of metric tons)	Population (millions)
1950	50.8	6.4	361
1960	82.0	10.3	439
1970	108.4	20.0	548
1980	129.6	31.8	683
1990	176.4	49.8	846
2000	201.6	76.3	1,000
2012	257.4	94.0	1,220

Sources: CIA Factbook; Indian National Science Academy

# Negative Effects of the Green Revolution

- **EXPENSIVE:** High-yield seeds required more fertilizer, irrigation, and pesticides. Since these things are expensive so wealthy farmers benefited more than most farmers.
- **POLLUTION:** Rain washed fertilizers and pesticides into rivers causing pollution.
- Today, South Asian governments and farmers are developing methods that are sustainable to decrease damage to the environment (i.e. using manure for fertilizer; practicing crop rotation, etc.)





# Southeast Asia - The Malay Peninsula

- The mountains of the Malay Peninsula are rich in mineral resources and valuable rain forest.
- Tin and bauxite (used to make aluminum) are mined in the mountains
- In Malaysia, the rainforest is cut down to make room for large farms of rubber and palm oil trees
  - Rainforest tourism has become an important part of the peninsula's economy so conservation efforts have increased





**Caption:** As this photo shows, slash-and-burn agriculture and logging have cleared out parts of Borneo's rain forest. With traditional slash-and-burn agriculture, the cleared area is farmed for a while and then it is left fallow for ten years. During this time, the forest starts to grow back. This approach created few greenhouse gases. However, recent slash-and-burn techniques result in permanent deforestation and also emit significant amounts of harmful gases.





# Southeast Asia - Island Nations

- Five countries in SE Asia are islands  
*(Indonesia, Singapore, Brunei, East Timor, & the Philippines)*
- Geographic conditions on the islands affect settlement (mountains & water barriers have given rise to isolated cultures w/ distinct features)
- Four tectonic plates come together in this area which means volcanoes are common
  - Most are dormant
  - Volcanic ash makes the soil fertile
- Indonesia consists of thousands of islands  
(largest in both land and population)



# Krakatoa

VOLCANO, RAKATA ISLAND, INDONESIA





The economies of South and Southeast Asia have seen rapid integration into the global economy, which has led to many benefits and challenges.



# Economic Characteristics

- Varied economies in the region - they range from **subsistence** and **commercial** agriculture to high-tech industrial manufacturing and service industries

What is subsistence farming?  
Commercial farming?



*Rice paddies on hillside terraces in Bali, Indonesia.*



*Aerial view of a Malaysian palm oil plantation.*



*High-tech manufacturing in India.*



# Rice Field in the Philippines



## MAJOR CROPS

### Cotton & wheat fields in India



### Tea Plantation in Malaysia



# Economic Characteristics

- Fishing is both a major source of food and employment in SE Asia



*Fishing boats in  
Pattaya City, Thailand*



*A variety of dwellings cover one of the many islands of the Philippines. Fish is a main staple of the Filipino diet. The Philippines exports large amounts of tuna.*



*People fish for prawns in the  
Mekong River in Laos.*



# Economic Characteristics

- Increased participation in global markets
- ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)



# Impact on the Environment

- Humans have a powerful impact on the land and the way it is used. One way they can protect the earth is through conservation.
  - Efforts to protect tigers and Asian elephants
  - Preserving marine ecosystems in the Maldives
  - Conserving the Ganges River
    - Contamination from raw sewage & industrial waste have caused so much pollution scientists refer to parts of the river as “dead” (can’t support plant/animal life)
    - Local non-governmental organizations are helping to reverse the damage by raising awareness and through cleanup efforts





## POLLUTION BY THE NUMBERS

55

Percentage of New Delhi's people who are connected to the city's sewage system

80

Percentage of Yamuna River's pollution resulting from raw sewage

500

Millions of dollars that the Indian government has spent trying to clean up the Yamuna River

855

Length in miles of the Yamuna from the Himalayas to the Ganges

1,815

Growth of India's population every hour, 2012

**Sources:** Daniel Pepper, "India's Rivers Are Drowning in Pollution," *Fortune*, June 4, 2007; Rakesh Jaiswal, "India in Peril," *Smithsonian*, October 31, 2012

South Asia is characterized by cultural and religious diversity.

Vast differences in physical geography caused isolation and forced populations to adapt to their environment, causing a blend of different cultures and traditions.





# Cultural Influences - History

## The Indus River Valley Civilization

- Ancient civilization located in what is modern day Pakistan and northwest India
- The site was located along the fertile floodplain of the Indus River
- The site was urbanized and well-planned; agriculture was key to their growth
- The Hindu religion was born here



*Archaeological ruins in the Indus River Valley.*







# Historic Empires

3 South Asian empires made significant cultural contributions in religion, science, & the arts.

## Mauryan Empire:

- Efficient & organized govt
- Asoka was the greatest ruler
- He adopted Buddhism and spread nonviolent teachings
- He built many **stupas** (Buddhist religious structures)

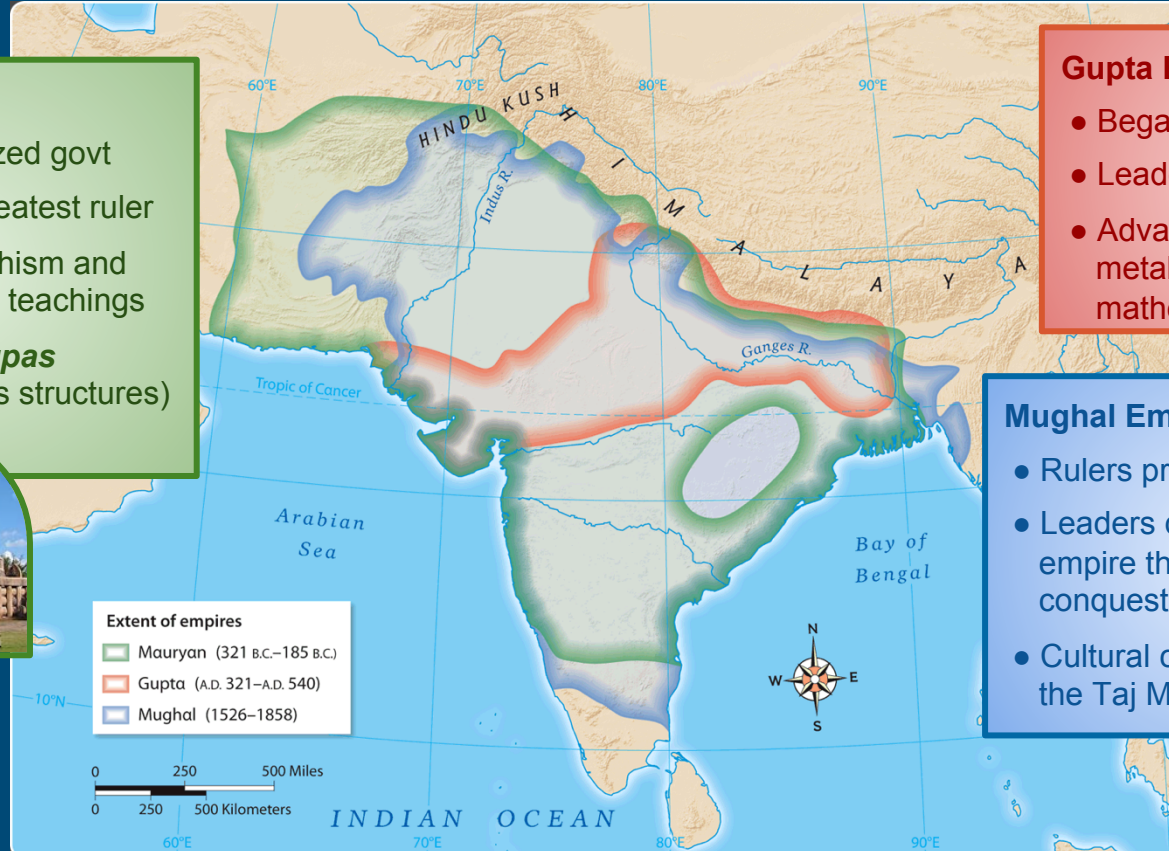


## Gupta Empire:

- Began in the Ganges R. Valley
- Leaders were Hindu
- Advancements made in metal working, literature, mathematics, and astronomy

## Mughal Empire:

- Rulers practiced Islam
- Leaders developed a large empire through military conquest
- Cultural contributions included the Taj Mahal



# Cultural Influences - History

## Colonization in India

- In 1600, the British established the East India Company, beginning an extensive trading relationship with countries in East and South Asia
- As the Mughal Empire declined, the East India Company was able to take control over parts of India. Eventually, this power grew into colonialism.
- The British used trade practices that favored Britain and crippled India's economic growth for more than 100 years

What were some reasons for colonization?



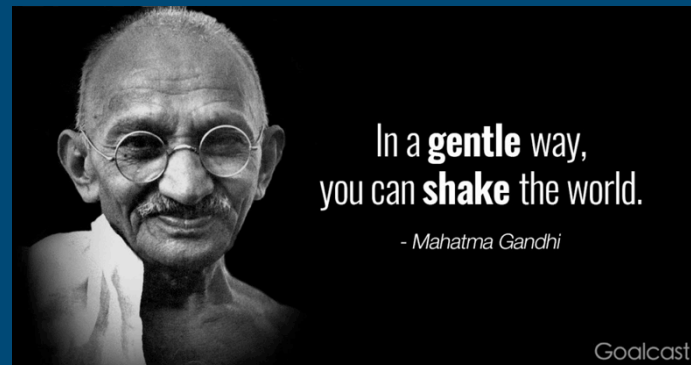
What are some of the ways life could have been restricted?



# Cultural Influences - History

## Independence and Partition

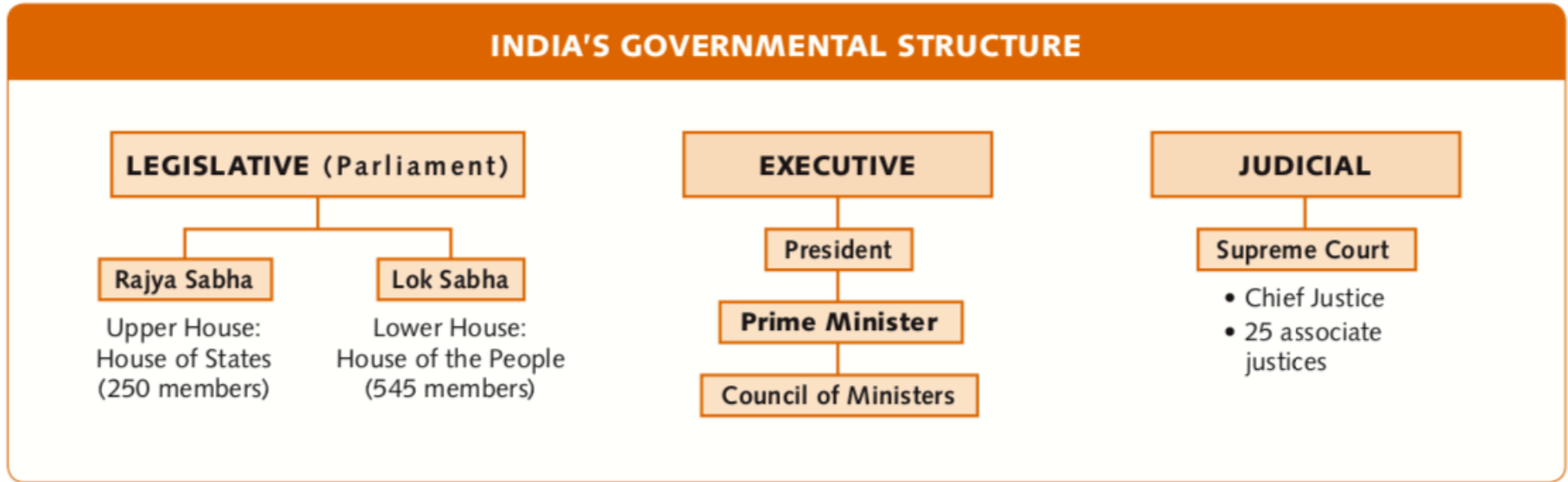
- India's move toward independence began in the 1880s but increased in the 1930s under the leadership of **Mohandas Gandhi**
  - Advocated for civil disobedience, or the nonviolent disobeying of laws, against the British
- At the same time India faced conflict between Hindus and Muslims
  - In 1947, the British Parliament passed the Indian Independence Act which split British India into India, Pakistan, & Bangladesh (1971)



**Partition of India, 1947**



**Quick Check:** The chart below outlines the structure of India's current government. Which parts of it point to the fact that India was once a colony?





# Cultural Influences - History

## The Largest Democracy

- When India gained independence in 1949 it drafted a Constitution that created a democracy
- India's government has 3 branches: the legislative, executive, & judicial
- India's Parliament is the legislative branch of the government (2 houses)
- India has a president but the prime minister has the most political power



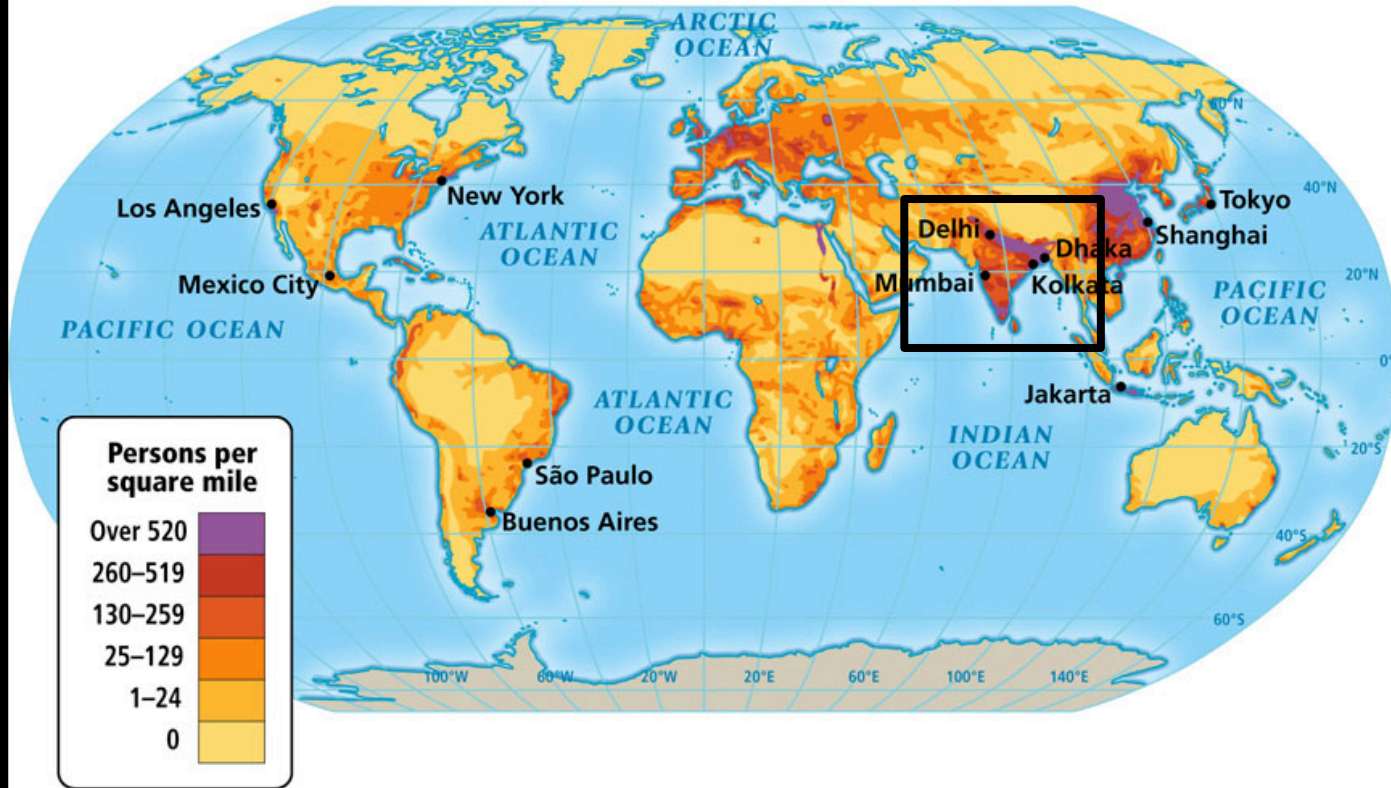
*Rashtrapati Bhavan, the Presidential Palace in New Delhi, India, was designed in 1931 by British architect Edwin Lutyens for the viceroy-the top British official in India. Covering 4.5 acres of land, the building has 340 rooms. Durbar Hall beneath the main dome is the site of all important official state ceremonies.*

# Cultural Influences

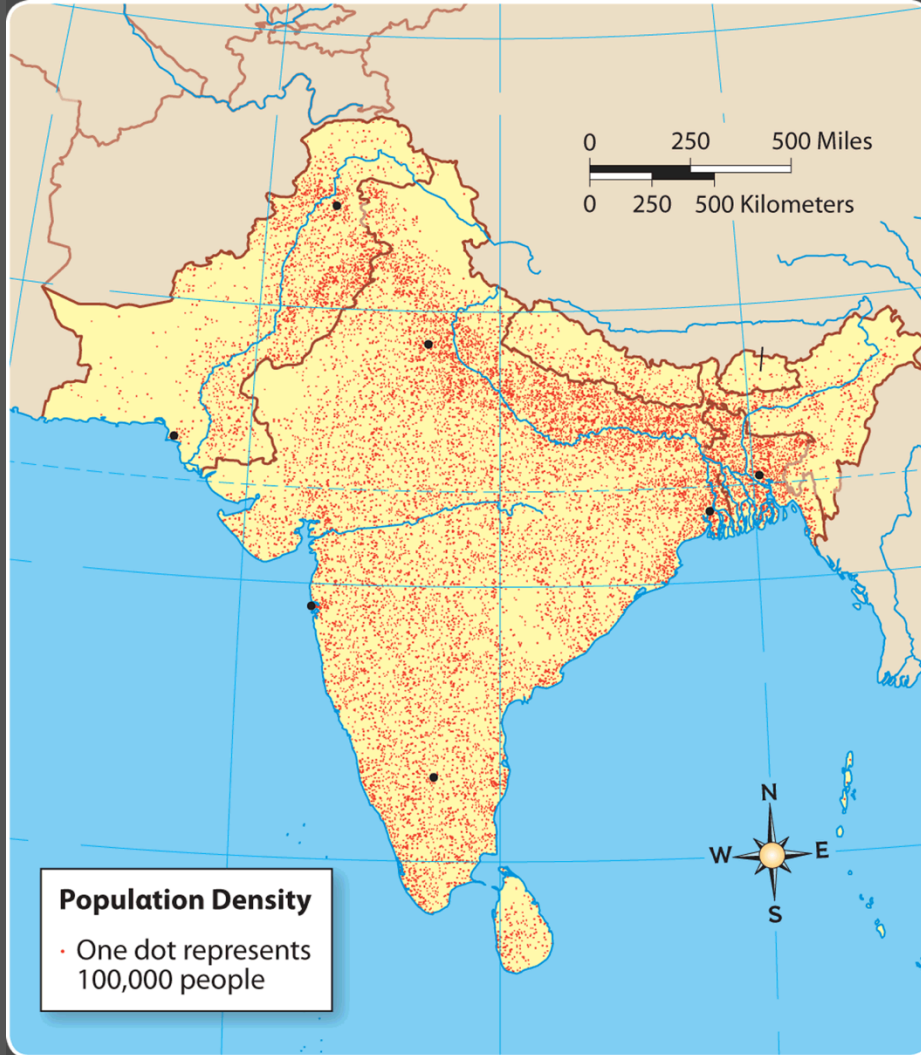
- Areas of extremely dense and sparse population
  - Large cities are overcrowded while villages usually support only small groups of people
- Contrast between rural and urban areas
  - Major cities v. small villages



## World Population Density







# Religious Diversity

South Asia is home to many religions. The most practiced religions are **Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, & Christianity**. At times, religion has worked to bring people together while at other times it has divided



## Religions of South Asia







**HINDUISM** Hinduism is the world's third largest religion and developed over thousands of years. Today it is the main religion in India and Nepal, with significant Hindu population in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan. Hindus worship many **deities** as the representation of one supreme being, often called Brahman.

Hindus also believe in **reincarnation**, or the rebirth of the soul. After death, a person's soul is reborn into another physical life. The kind of life is

determined by the soul's *karma*, or actions during a previous life. If the soul has lived a good life, it is reborn into a better life. If the soul has lived an evil life, it is reborn into a worse life. This process continues until the soul lives a perfect life.

These beliefs and others are recorded in many different texts. The most important are the **Vedas**, the *Puranas*, the *Ramayana*, and the *Mahabharata*.

**Followers in South Asia:** Approximately 63 percent of the population



**BUDDHISM** Buddhism was founded in India around 525 B.C. by a prince named Siddhartha Gautama. Gautama

left his royal life to find a solution to human suffering. After six years, he discovered and began teaching the Four Noble Truths: 1) Suffering is a part of life; 2) Selfishness is a cause of suffering; 3) It is possible to move beyond suffering; and 4) There is a path that leads to this point.

People who followed Gautama's teachings called him the Buddha, or "Enlightened One." They recorded his teachings in a set of books called the *Tripitaka*, or "Three Baskets." During the next few centuries, Buddhism spread throughout Asia. In South Asia, it is the main religion of Bhutan and Sri Lanka. You can learn more about Buddhism in the chapters on East Asia.

**Followers in South Asia:** Approximately 2 percent of the population

# Compare Religions

## Hinduism v. Buddhism



- Originated in India
- Oldest religion in India; formed over thousands of years
- Believes in many forms of one major deity (god)
- Most Hindus are vegetarian (*the cow is sacred*)
- People were divided into castes based on religious laws

- Originated in India
- Founded by Siddhartha Gautama
- Siddhartha Gautama did not emphasize the worship of any gods
- Siddhartha Gautama rejected the caste system
- Did not take root in India but rather spread to other parts of Southeast & East China

# Religions of South Asia



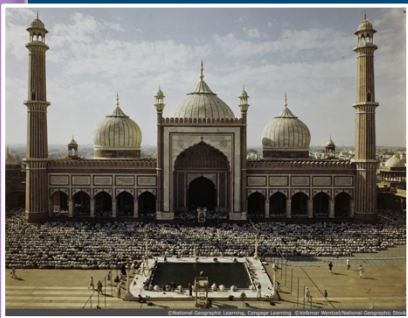
**JAINISM** Jainism developed in the 7th century B.C. Jains believe in *ahimsa*, or nonviolence towards all living things. Most Jains live in northwestern India.

**Followers in South Asia:** Approximately 1 percent of the population



**ISLAM** Islam arrived with Muslim traders in the early A.D. 700s. Today it is the main religion of Pakistan and Bangladesh. It is also the largest minority religion in India. You can learn more about Islam in the chapters on Southwest Asia.

**Followers in South Asia:** Approximately 30 percent of the population



**SIKHISM** Sikhism began in India in the late A.D. 1400s. It was created to combine aspects of Hinduism and Islam. Sikhs believe in one god, truthful living, and equality of humankind. Today, most Sikhs live in the Indian state of Punjab.

**Followers in South Asia:** Approximately 1 percent of the population





# Southeast Asia



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Buddhist monks pray in a Buddhist Temple in Bangkok, Thailand. Most people in Thailand are Buddhist and most young men in Thailand spend at least a short time living as a Buddhist monk.



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Pura Lempuyang Luhur is a famous temple in Bali. The people of Bali are mainly Hindu, which make them a minority in predominantly Muslim Indonesia.

This Roman Catholic church is located in the Philippines. About four-fifths of the people of the Philippines practice Catholicism, which is a legacy of Spanish colonization of the islands.



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## Religious Conflict Hindus vs. Muslims



- India has always had a Hindu majority
- Islam entered the country as early as the 700s; Muslim rulers took control in the 1200s; the Mughal dynasty began in the late 1500s
- Some Muslim rulers forced Hindus to convert while others were more tolerant (created tension/conflict)
- The division of India into two parts did not bring peace. Violence still erupts occasionally between Muslims & Hindus.

# Cultural Heritage

Due to the many different ways of life, including religious tendencies, South and Southeast Asia are home to various cultural practices that make the region unique.





# Silks

- Created by the silkworm and then woven into the silk that we are most familiar with by using a loom



# Batik

- Batik is a process for dyeing fabric that originated in Indonesia
- To make a batik, selected areas of the cloth are blocked out by applying hot wax. The cloth is then dyed. The parts covered in wax resist the dye and remain the original color. This process can be repeated to create elaborate and colourful designs.





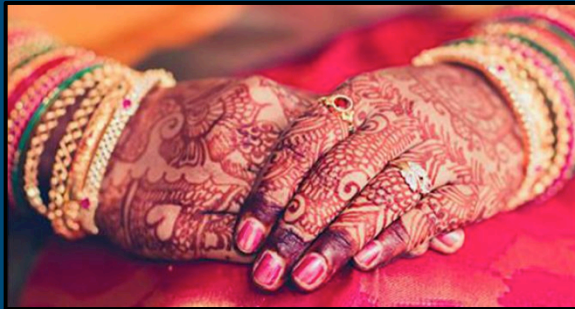
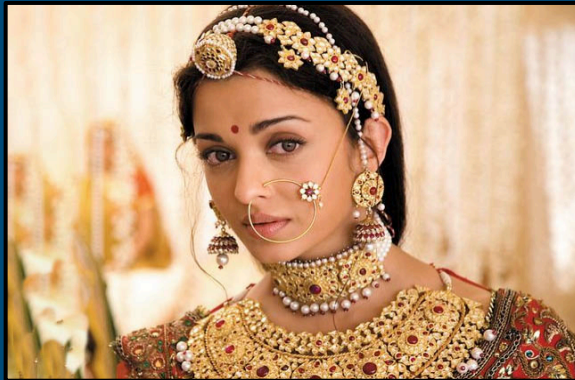
# Batik





# Jewels

- Jewelry is so culturally important in South Asia that all members of society (rich, poor, male, female, adults & children) wear it even if it is only simple.



# Cultural Landscape

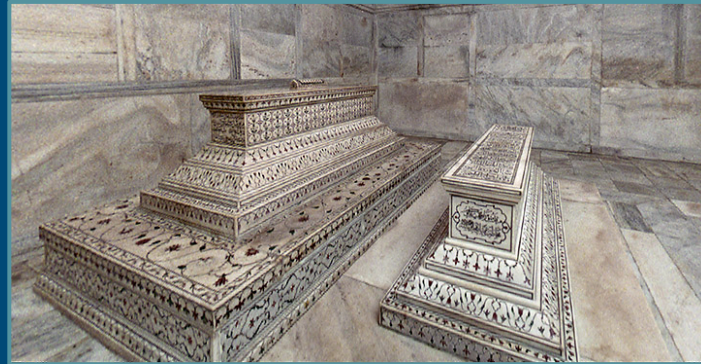
The vast degrees of physical geography also create many different forms of cultural geography, many relating to religion.





# Taj Mahal

- An immense mausoleum of white marble, built in Agra between 1631 & 1648 by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his favorite wife.
- The Taj Mahal is the jewel of **Muslim** art in India & one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage.





# Taj Mahal



# Angkor Wat

- Angkor, Cambodia is one of the most important archaeological sites in SE Asia.
- The Angkor Archaeological Park contains the remains of the different capitals of the Khmer Empire, the famous Temple of Angkor Wat, and the Bayon Temple with its countless sculptural decorations.





# Angkor Wat





# Mosques and Minarets



**Remind me:  
What is a  
mosque and a  
minaret?**

# Pagodas

Pagodas are temples that are usually associated with Buddhism.  
Pagodas have many layers (tiers).





# Temples and Shrines

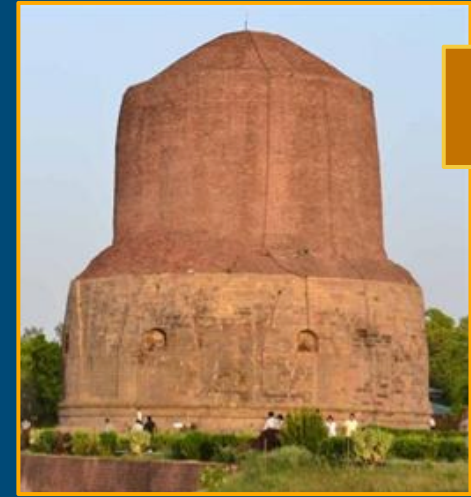
- In South & Southeast Asia, temples are usually larger buildings or complexes used for worship, religious ceremonies, etc. A Buddhist temple is often referred to as a wat.





# Temples and Shrines

- In Buddhism, shrines are constructions that mark locations considered sacred. Buddhist shrines, called stupas, are often dome-shaped.
- Many Hindus have small shrines in their homes where they can personally and privately carry out religious practices



*Dhamek  
Stupa*



*Shrine in Hindu Home*

# Stupas

A dome-shaped structure erected as a Buddhist shrine.



*The Great Stupa in India*

# Terraced Rice Fields

Graduated terrace steps are commonly used to farm on hilly or mountainous terrain. Terraced fields decrease both erosion and surface runoff, and may be used to support growing crops that require irrigation, such as rice.



What other region utilized terrace farming?

Define erosion and irrigation.