South Asia

- Second most populous region in the world
- Distinct landmass separated from the rest of the Eurasian continent: Subcontinent
- India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives
- Regional unity: Shared history and culture
Environmental Geography

- Diverse landscapes
- Severe and complex environmental issues

Natural Hazards and Landscape Change in South Asia

- Flooding
- Deforestation
- Desertification
- Population growth

Flooding in Bangladesh
Monsoon Rain

South Asia's Monsoon Climates

- Monsoon
- Orographic rainfall
- Rain-shadow effect
Climate

Physical Subregions of South Asia

- Mountains of the North
- Indus–Ganges–Brahmaputra Lowlands
- Peninsular India
- The Southern Islands

Population and Settlement: The Demographic Dilemma

- India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh rank in the world’s 10 most populated countries
Population and Settlement: The Demographic Dilemma (cont.)

Population Indicators

**TABLE 12.1 Populations Indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>184.3</td>
<td>348.2</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>80.5</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
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<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>38.9</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>40</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Some values are estimates.*

Population and Settlement: The Demographic Dilemma (cont.)

- Rapid population growth
- Differing approaches to family planning

Population Pyramids of Pakistan and Sri Lanka

Family Planning in Bangladesh

Migration and the Settlement Landscape

- One of the least urbanized regions in the world
- Today, rapid migration from villages to large cities
  - desperate conditions in the countryside
  - employment opportunities in cities

- Concerns:
  - huge shantytowns
  - soaring homeless populations
Agricultural Regions and Activities

- Historically unproductive
- Green Revolution
- Crop zones
  - rice, wheat, and millet

Rice Cultivation

Green Revolution Farming

Urban South Asia

- Rapid growth = serious problems for cities
  - homelessness
  - poverty
  - congestion
  - water shortages
  - air pollution
  - sewage disposal
- Squatter settlements – bustees
- Political and ethnic tensions

Urban South Asia (cont.)

Mumbai Hutments

Karachi Street Scene
Cultural Coherence and Diversity: A Common Heritage Undermined by Religious Rivalries

- Historically Hindu
- Islam added a new element
- British imperialism
- Hindu nationalism
- Islamic fundamentalism

The Controversy of the Ayodhya Mosque

Origins of South Asian Civilizations

- Hindu civilization
  - the caste system
- Buddhism
- Arrival of Islam
  - Mughal (or Mogul) Empire

The Red Fort

Origins of South Asian Civilizations (cont.)

- The caste system
  - complex Hindu social order
- Hierarchy
- Dalits (untouchables)
- Structure being undermined by modern economy and social reform

Hindu Temple
Contemporary Geographies of Religion

- Sikh Soldiers
- Parsi Temple

Geographies of Language
- Dravidian language
  - Family (south)
- Multilingualism
- Indo-European north
- Linguistic nationalism
- Role of English
**Geographies of Language (cont.)**

Kolkata (Calcutta) Bookstore

Multilingualism

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**South Asia in Global Cultural Context**

The South Asian Global Diaspora

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**South Asia in Global Cultural Context (cont.)**

- Widespread use of English
- Global spread of South Asian culture
- Migration from South Asia to the developed world
- Professionals to United States
- Cultural tensions

Goa Beach Scene
Geopolitical Framework: A Deeply Divided Region

South Asia Before and After Independence in 1947
- Mughal Empire
- British colonialism
- Independence

South Asia Before and After Independence in 1947 (cont.)
- The British conquest
- British East India Company
- Sepoy Mutiny
- Independence
- Mohandas Gandhi
- Federal state

Former British Hill Station
Partition, 1947
Ethnic Conflicts in South Asia

- Kashmir

Indian Soldier in Kashmir

Ethnic Conflicts in South Asia (cont.)

India–Bangladesh Fence

Civil War in Sri Lanka

Economic and Social Development: Rapid Growth and Rampant Poverty

Development Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Human Development Index</th>
<th>Life Expectancy at Birth</th>
<th>Literacy Rate</th>
<th>Infant Mortality Rate</th>
<th>Primary Enrollment</th>
<th>Secondary Enrollment</th>
<th>Tertiary Enrollment</th>
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<td>65</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Human Development Index (HDI), world rank (2017) (UNDP)*

Life Expectancy at Birth: Average number of years a newborn is expected to live at birth.

Literacy Rate: Percentage of people aged 15 and over who are literate.

Infant Mortality Rate: Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births.

Primary Enrollment: Percentage of primary school-aged children enrolled in school.

Secondary Enrollment: Percentage of secondary school-aged children enrolled in school.

Tertiary Enrollment: Percentage of tertiary school-aged children enrolled in school.

*Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators (2017)*
South Asian Poverty

- No other region has so many chronically undernourished people
- 2/3 of the people of India live on less than $2/day
- However,
  - growing “middle class”
  - healthy economy

Poverty in India

Geographies of Economic Development

Tourism in Nepal
Grameen Bank
Gujarat Factory

Geographies of Economic Development (cont.)

India’s Silicon Plateau
Indian Institutes of Technology
Globalization and South Asia’s Economic Future

- Historically movements toward self-sufficiency
- 1991: India’s government opened its economy
- Globalization is advancing rapidly
- Workers sent abroad
  - remittances

Indian Investments in Europe

Social Development

- Overall, health and education differ among more and less developed areas of the region
- The educated south
- Gender relations and the status of women

Education in Kerala