

Portal: Asia



Main Geography Projects

Asia (/ˈeɪʒə/ AY-zhə, UK also /ˈeɪʃə/ AY-shə) is the largest continent in the world by both land area and population. It covers an area of more than 44 million square kilometres, about 30% of Earth's total land area and 8% of Earth's total surface area. The continent, which has long been home to the majority of the human population, was the site of many of the first civilisations. Its 4.7 billion people constitute roughly 60% of the world's population.

Asia shares the <u>landmass</u> of <u>Eurasia</u> with <u>Europe</u>, and of <u>Afro-Eurasia</u> with both Europe and <u>Africa</u>. In general terms, it is bounded on the east by the <u>Pacific Ocean</u>, on the south by the <u>Indian Ocean</u>, and on the north by the <u>Arctic Ocean</u>. The border of Asia with Europe is a <u>historical and cultural construct</u>, as there is no clear physical and geographical separation between them. A commonly accepted division places Asia to the east of the <u>Suez Canal</u> separating it from Africa; and to the east of the <u>Turkish straits</u>, the <u>Ural Mountains</u> and <u>Ural River</u>, and to the south of the <u>Caucasus Mountains</u> and the <u>Caspian</u> and Black seas, separating it from Europe.



Since the concept of Asia derives from the term for the eastern region from a European perspective, Asia is the remaining vast area of Eurasia minus Europe. Therefore, Asia is a region where various independent cultures coexist rather than sharing a single culture, and the boundary between Europe is somewhat arbitrary and has moved since its first conception in classical antiquity. The division of Eurasia into two continents reflects East-West cultural differences, some of which vary on a spectrum. (Full article...)

Featured article



Rāma slaying Rāvaṇa, from a royal Mewar manuscript. 17th century

The Ramayana (/rɑːˈmɑːjənə/; Sanskrit: रामायणम्, romanized: Rāmāyaṇam), also known as Valmiki Ramayana, as traditionally attributed to Valmiki, is a smriti text (also described as a Sanskrit epic) from ancient India, one of the two important epics of Hinduism known as the Itihasas, the other being the Mahabharata. The epic narrates the life of Rama, the seventh avatar of the Hindu deity Vishnu, who is a prince of Ayodhya in the kingdom of Kosala. The epic follows his fourteen-year exile to the forest urged by his father King Dasharatha, on the request of Rama's stepmother Kaikeyi; his travels across forests in the Indian subcontinent with his wife Sita and brother Lakshmana; the kidnapping of Sita by Ravana, the king of

Featured picture



Tonle Sap Lake
Credit: CEphoto, Uwe Aranas

A little girl making money for her family by posing with a snake in a water village of Tonle Sap Lake.

<u>Lanka</u>, that resulted in war; and Rama's eventual return to <u>Ayodhya</u> along with <u>Sita</u> to be crowned king amidst jubilation and celebration.

Scholarly estimates for the earliest stage of the text range from the 7th to 5th centuries BCE, and later stages extend up to the 3rd century CE, although the original date of composition is unknown. It is one of the largest ancient epics in world literature and consists of nearly 24,000 verses (mostly set in the Shloka/Anuṣtubh metre), divided into seven kāṇḍa (chapters). It belongs to the genre of Itihasa, narratives of past events (purāvṛtta), interspersed with teachings on the goals of human life. (Full article...)

List of Featured articles

Nagorno-Karabakh War · Parthian Empire · Caspian expeditions of the Rus' • July 2009 Ürümqi riots • Saxaul sparrow · Siege of Malakand · Battle of Musa Qala · Operation Infinite Reach · Franco-Mongol alliance · Pallas's leaf warbler · Nemegtomaia · Bengali language movement · Irrawaddy Dolphin · Climate of India · Telugu language · Karnataka · Kolkata · Tripura · Darjeeling · Gangtok · Hyderabad · Mysore · Tamil $\underline{\mathsf{language}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Tiruchirappalli}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Sind}} \ \underline{\mathsf{sparrow}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Andhra}}$ Pradesh · 2003 Sri Lanka cyclone · Surrender of Japan · Ukiyo-e · Aikido · Air raids on Japan · Battle for Henderson Field · Battle of Midway · Bombing of Tokyo (10 March 1945) · Bonshō · Boshin War · Heian Palace · Kitsune · Taiko · Yamato-class battleship · Gyeongju · Typhoon Maemi · Typhoon Rusa · Acra (fortress) · Iraq War in Al Anbar Governorate · Balfour Declaration · Byzantine navy · Parthian Empire · Roman-Persian Wars · Bagan · Bahá'í Faith · Byzantine Empire · Macedonia (ancient kingdom) · 2002 Bou'in-Zahra earthquake · Cyclone Gonu · Muhammad al-Durrah incident · Temple of Eshmun · Law school of Beirut · Palmyra · Quneitra · Cannon · Han Dynasty · Ming Dynasty · Peking opera · Song dynasty · Tang Dynasty · Jin-Song Wars · Sino-Roman relations · Dhammayangyi Temple · Gwoyeu Romatzyh · July 2009 Ürümqi riots · Nathu La · St. Michael's Cathedral, Qingdao · Tiananmen Square self-immolation incident · Borobudur · Komodo dragon · 1740 Batavia massacre · Javan rhinoceros · Sumatran rhinoceros · Toraja · 1257 Samalas eruption · Slow Ioris · Durian · Ketuanan Melayu · Manila Light Rail Transit System · Raid at Cabanatuan · Conservation of slow lorises · Angkor Wat · Taiwanese indigenous peoples · K-pop

Selected Country



Yemen, officially the Republic of Yemen, is a country in West Asia. Located in southern Arabia, it borders Saudi Arabia to the north, Oman to the northeast, the Red Sea to the west, and the Indian

Ocean to the south, sharing maritime borders with Eritrea, Djibouti and Somalia across the Horn of Africa. Covering roughly 455,000 square kilometres (176,000 square miles), with a coastline of approximately 2,000 kilometres (1,200 miles), Yemen is the second largest country on the Arabian Peninsula. Sanaa is its constitutional capital and largest city. Yemen's estimated population is 34.7 million, mostly Arab Muslims. It is a member of the Arab League, the United Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

Owing to its geographic location, Yemen has been at the crossroads of many civilisations for over 7,000 years. In 1200 BCE, the Sabaeans formed a thriving commercial kingdom that included parts of modern Ethiopia and Eritrea. In 275 CE, it was succeeded by the Himyarite Kingdom, which spanned much of Yemen's present-day territory and was heavily influenced by Judaism. Christianity arrived in the fourth century, followed by the rapid spread of Islam in the seventh century. Yemenite troops played a crucial role in early Islamic conquests. Various dynasties emerged between the 9th and 16th centuries. During the 19th century, the country was divided between the Ottoman and British empires. After World War I, the Kingdom of Yemen was established, which in 1962 became the Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) following a coup. In 1967, the British Aden Protectorate became the independent People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (South Yemen), the first and only officially socialist state in the Arab world. In 1990, the two Yemeni states united to form the modern Republic of Yemen, with Ali Abdullah Saleh serving as the first president until his resignation in 2012 in the wake of the Arab Spring. (Full article...)

List of selected countries

Afghanistan · Armenia · Azerbaijan · Bahrain · Bangladesh · Bhutan · Brunei · Cambodia · China · Cyprus · Georgia (country) · India · Indonesia · Iran · Iraq · Israel · Japan · Jordan · Kazakhstan · Kuwait · Kyrgyzstan · Laos · Lebanon · Malaysia · Maldives · Mongolia · Myanmar · Nepal · North Korea · Oman · Pakistan · State of Palestine · Philippines · Qatar · Saudi Arabia · Singapore · South Korea · Sri Lanka · Syria · Taiwan · Tajikistan · Thailand · Timor-Leste · Turkey · Turkmenistan · United Arab Emirates · United Arab Emirates · Uzbekistan · Vietnam

Featured biography



Narendra Damodardas (born September 1950) is an Indian politician who has served as Prime Minister of India since 2014. Modi was the chief minister of Gujarat from 2001 to 2014 and the member of parliament (MP) for Varanasi. He is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Rashtriya

Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), a right-wing Hindu nationalist paramilitary volunteer organisation. He is the longest-serving prime minister outside the Indian National Congress.

Modi was born and raised in <u>Vadnagar</u> in northeastern <u>Gujarat</u>, where he completed his secondary education. He was introduced to the RSS at the age of eight. At the age of 18, he was married to <u>Jashodaben Modi</u>, whom he abandoned soon after, only publicly acknowledging her four decades later when legally required to do so. Modi became a full-time worker for the RSS in Gujarat in 1971. The RSS

Did you know...

- ... that although he was a former Indonesian prime minister, Soekiman Wirjosandjojo was not arrested during a political purge as he was considered a nonthreat?
- ... that Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, India's second Muslim president, was also the second Indian president to die in office?
- ... that the Empire of Japan turned a Korean royal cemetery at what is now Hyochang Park into a golf course?
- ... that <u>Ein Samiya</u>, which provides the water for Taybeh, the first beer brewed in Palestine, was

assigned him to the BJP in 1985 and he rose through the party hierarchy, becoming general secretary in 1998. In 2001, Modi was appointed Chief Minister of Gujarat and elected to the legislative assembly soon after. His administration is considered complicit in the 2002 Gujarat riots, and has been criticised for its management of the crisis. According to official records, a little over 1,000 people were killed, three-quarters of whom were Muslim; independent sources estimated 2,000 deaths, mostly Muslim. A Special Investigation Team appointed by the Supreme Court of India in 2012 found no evidence to initiate prosecution proceedings against him. While his policies as chief minister were credited for encouraging economic growth, his administration was criticised for failing to significantly improve health, poverty and education indices in the state. (Full article...)

List of Featured biographies

Muhammad Ali Jinnah · Akhtar Hameed Khan · Satyajit Ray · Hrithik Roshan · Shah Rukh Khan · Ram Narayan · Murasaki Shikibu · Ayumi Hamasaki · Hasekura Tsunenaga · Toru Takemitsu · Choe Bu · Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan · Antiochus XII Dionysus · Antiochus XI Epiphanes · Demetrius III Eucaerus · Antiochus X Eusebes · Hasan al-Kharrat · Al-Mu'tadid · Muhammad ibn Tughi al-Ikhshid · Al-Mu'tasim · Salih ibn Mirdas · Unas · Alexander II Zabinas · Teresa Sampsonia · Tiridates I of Armenia · Muhammad I of Granada · Mukhtar al-Thagafi · Abu Nidal · Zenobia · Du Fu · Shen Kuo · Shunzhi Emperor · Yao Ming · Zhang Heng · Luo Yixiu · Zhou Tong (archer) · Oerip Soemohardjo · Sudirman · Albertus Soegijapranata · Amir Hamzah · Andjar Asmara · Lê Quang Tung · Deepika Padukone · Freida Pinto · Kareena Kapoor · Preity Zinta · Shahrukh Khan · Rani Mukerji · Sonam Kapoor · Vidya Balan · Jackie Chan · Ratan Tata · Mukesh Ambani

General images

The following are images from various Asia-related articles on Wikipedia.



Detail of Chinese silk from the 4th century BCE. The characteristic trade of silk through the Silk Road connected various regions from China, India, Central Asia, and the Middle East to Europe and Africa. (from History of Asia)



Gyeonghoeru of Gyeongbokgung, the Joseon dynasty's royal palace. (from **History of Asia**)



The Qing Empire in 1832. (from **History of Asia**)



A typical example of <u>Dravidian</u> architecture (from **Culture of Asia**)

- depopulated in 2023 after genocide and displacement by Israeli settlers?
- ... that the popularity of "10 Minutes" by Korean singer Lee Hyori led to 2003 being dubbed the "year of Hyori" by domestic media?
- ... that Sun Haiyan is the first Chinese ambassador to Singapore who was not a member of the Foreign Ministry of China?
- ... that University of Nebraska alumnus M. Khalid Roashan helped draft the 1964 Constitution of Afghanistan?
- ... that the Pakistani film <u>Shehr e Tabassum</u> was the first animated <u>cyberpunk</u> film to be made by an <u>Urdu</u> development team?
- ... that the Mughâret Umm et-Tûeimîn Caves in Filistin (or Palestine) was home to a Bronze Age alabaster quarry, a refuge cave during the Jewish-Roman wars, and a possible center for necromantic activity in late antiquity?

Updated: 6:33, 14 February 2024



The <u>Song</u> dynasty and main polities in Asia c. 1200 (from **History of Asia**)



The Taipei 101 skyscraper in Taipei, Taiwan, which was the tallest building in the world from 2004 to 2010 (from Asian Century)



The First Persian
Empire at its
greatest extent, c.
500 BC (from
History of Asia)



Invasions, destruction and possible population movements during the Late Bronze Age collapse, beginning c. 1200 BC (from History of Asia)



Angkor Wat, Khmer Empire (from Culture of Asia)



Borobudur, a Buddhist temple in Indonesia (from <u>Culture of</u> **Asia**)



Map of Marco Polo's travels (from <u>History of</u> **Asia**)



The Great Wall of China at Jinshanling (from Culture of Asia)



A view of the Fort St George in 18th-century Madras. (from History of Asia)



The Taj Mahal, Agra, India (from **Culture of Asia**)



India's middleclass population of 300 million is growing at an annual rate of 5%. Shown here is an upmarket area in South Mumbai. (from Asian Century)



Some henges at Göbekli Tepe in Turkey were erected as far back as 9600 BC, predating those of Stonehenge, by over seven millennia. (from History of Asia)



Traditional
Rajasthani
garments from
Jaipur, Rajasthan
(from Culture of
Asia)



Church of the
Holy Sepulchre in
Jeruslam (from
Culture of Asia)



Badshahi Mosque built under the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb in Lahore, Pakistan (from Culture of Asia)



Language families in South Asia (from Culture of Asia)



A Confucian ritual ceremony in Jeju, South Korea (from <u>Culture of</u> **Asia**)



Hinduism expansion in Asia, from its heartland in Indian Subcontinent, to the rest of Asia, especially Southeast Asia, started circa 1st century marked with the establishment of early Hindu settlements and polities in Southeast Asia. (from History of Asia)

In the news

13 December 2024 - Syrian civil war Israel and the Syrian civil war 2024 Israeli invasion of Syria Syrian sources report that Israeli forces met with village dignitaries in the Yarmouk Basin area of Daraa Governorate, instructing them to surrender all weapons in the villages and for villagers to comply with home searches. (Erem News) (https://www.erem news.com/news/arab-world/gd8e55c) (Sada El-Balad) (https://www.elbalad.news/6413121) US intervention in the Syrian civil war The U.S. military evacuates American citizen Travis Timmerman out of Syria after Timmerman was reported missing in the country. (NBC News) (https:// www.nbcnews.com/news/world/missing-american-trav is-timmerman-found-syria-released-us-forces-offic-rcn a184171)

13 December 2024 – Israel-Hamas war December 2024 Nuseirat refugee camp attack

More current events...



The Qing conquest of the Ming and expansion of the empire (from History of Asia)



Ancient ziggurat, Iraq (from Culture of Asia)



Daily life of people from the Song period at the capital, Bianjing, today's Kaifeng (from History of Asia)



Battle of Talas between Tang dynasty and Abbasid Caliphate c. 751 (from History of Asia)



Balhae in the north, Later Silla in the south (from **History of Asia**)



East Asian cultural sphere (from <u>Culture of</u> **Asia**)



The <u>early Muslim</u> <u>conquests</u>, 622–750 (from **History of Asia**)



Detail of the Dragon Throne used by the Qianlong Emperor of China, Forbidden City, Qing dynasty. Artifact circulating in U.S. museums on loan from Beijing (from Culture of Asia)



Đại Việt, Champa, Angkor Empire and their neighbours, late 13th century (from History of Asia)



Kabsa also called Majboos, famous in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, and United Arab Emirates (from Culture of Asia)



Sun temple at Konarka, Odisha, India (from **Culture of Asia**)



Map of <u>Vietnam</u> showing the conquest of the south (the <u>Nam</u> <u>tiến</u>, 1069–1757). (from <u>History of</u> **Asia**)



The Syriac Orthodox Saint Ahoadamah Church was a 7th-century church building in the city of Tikrit, one of the oldest in the world until its destruction by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant on 25 September 2014. (from **Culture of** Asia)



The <u>Delhi</u> <u>Sultanate</u>. (from **History of Asia**)



Political cartoon depicting the Afghan Emir Sher Ali with the rival "friends" the Russian Bear British Lion (1878) (from History of Asia)



The Hindu-Buddhist temple of <u>Angkor Wat</u>. (from <u>History of</u> **Asia**)



Eunpyeong Hanok Village in Seoul, South Korea (from Culture of Asia)



Projected shares of global GDP by region to 2050 (from <u>Asian</u> <u>Century</u>)



Dome of the Rock, an Islamic shrine in Jerusalem. (from Culture of Asia)



The <u>Grand</u> <u>Mosque</u> in <u>Kuwait</u> <u>City</u>, one of the largest mosques in the region (from <u>Culture of</u> **Asia**)





Tang dynasty
Chinese poet Li
Bai, in a 13thcentury depiction
by Liang Kai
(from Culture of
Asia)



The global contribution to world's GDP by major economies from 1 AD to 2003 AD according to Angus Maddison's estimates. Before 18th century, China and India were the two largest economies by GDP output. (from Asian Century)



Chicken tikka, a well-known dish across the globe, reflects the South Asian cooking style. (from Culture of Asia)



Sculpture of Prince Shōtoku (from <u>History of</u> <u>Asia</u>)



The Russian Znamensky Cathedral in Tyumen built in 1768 (from Culture of Asia)



Daian-ji temple at Nara, Japan (from <u>Culture of</u> **Asia**)



Byzantine and Sassanian Empires in 600 AD (from <u>History</u> of Asia)



Philippine cuisine (from Culture of Asia)



Map of Asia for early 20th century (from <u>History of Asia</u>)



Gojong (1852– 1919), the 26th king of Joseon dynasty and the first emperor of Korean Empire. (from History of Asia)

Indian Subcontinent Bangladesh 💶 India **Maldives** C Pakistan III Sri Lanka **Nepal Southeast Asia Cambodia East Timor** Indonesia Laos Malaysia **Myanmar** Myanmar Philippines Singapore **Thailand** ▼ Vietnam **East Asia** China 🙀 Hong Kong Japan North Korea **South Korea** Taiwan



Population concentration and boundaries of the Western Zhou dynasty in China (from <u>History of</u> **Asia**)



Robert Clive and Mir Jafar after the Battle of Plassey, 1757 by Francis Hayman (from History of Asia)



The Silk Road in Asia (from History of Asia)



Here a Jesuit, Adam Schall von Bell (1592–1666), is dressed as an official of the Chinese Department of Astronomy. (from History of Asia)



The third Inter-Korean Summit, which was held in 2018, between South Korean president Moon Jae-in and North Korean supreme leader Kim Jong Un. It was a historical event that symbolized the peace of Asia. (from History of Asia)



The Great Wave off Kanagawa, c, 1830 by Hokusai, an example of art flourishing in the Edo Period (from History of Asia)



Machiya in Heian period (from **History of Asia**)



The Han dynasty and main polities in Asia c. 200 BC (from **History of Asia**)



Political map of Asia in 1860 (from <u>History of</u> **Asia**)



Indonesian
Balinese cuisine
(from Culture of
Asia)



the Goryeo ware, which shows splendid culture of Goryeo in mediaeval Korea. (from History of Asia)



A stone image of the Buddha (from Culture of Asia)





British troops taking Zhenjiang

panorama



The Central Area of Singapore surrounded by the perimeter of five planning areas: the Marina Bay, the Downtown Core, Marina East, Marina South and Straits View. The area surrounding the bay itself, also called Marina Bay, is a 360 hectare extension to the adjacent CBD. It is also the new downtown of Singapore built on reclaimed land.

Korean peninsula in 476 AD. There

are three kingdoms and

Asia articles

pics

Chronology Indian Ocean trade · Silk Road · Imperialism · Decolonisation · Cold War

Gaya Union in the picture. This By topic Military conflicts · Sovereignty picture shows the

haveagraphy Cities (metropolitan areas · tallest buildings · urban agglomerations) · Countries and territories (by population) ·

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History of Asia)

Asia-Pacific · Caucasus · EMEA (Mediterranean world · MENASA

(Greater Middle East/Middle East and North Africa (Middle East/Near East))) ·

Indo-Mediterranean · Indo-Pacific (Indian Ocean world · Pacific Rim

(Pacific Asia))

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Geopolitical

Intracontinental regions

Transcontinental regions

Greater Mongolia (Inner Mongolia · Mongolia) · Japan · Korea · Russian Far East) · Inner Asia (Greater Central Asia · Greater Iran

(Greater Khorasan)) · Global Southeast (Greater India) · Levant/Syria $(Southern\ Levant) \cdot \underline{Mesopotamia} \cdot \underline{Siberia} \cdot \underline{South}\ Caucasus \cdot \underline{Turkestan}$

(Afghan Turkestan · Chinese Turkestan · Russian Turkestan)

Central Asia (Soviet Central Asia) · East Asia (Northeast Asia) · North Asia ·

Continental subregions South Asia (Subregions) · Southeast Asia (Mainland Southeast Asia ·

Maritime Southeast Asia) · West Asia

Cultural Austronesia · Indosphere · Sinosphere (Nanyang · Northern and southern China)

Supercontinents Afro-Eurasia (Afro-Asia · Eurasia)

Subcontinents Arabian subcontinent · Indian subcontinent

Plateaus Anatolian plateau · Deccan Plateau · Iranian plateau · Mongolian Plateau · Mongolian Plateau ·

Tibetan Plateau

Physical Anatolian Peninsula · Arabian Peninsula · Indian Peninsula · Indochinese Peninsula

Peninsulas (Malay Peninsula) · Korean Peninsula · Leizhou Peninsula · Liaodong Peninsula ·

Shandong Peninsula

Japanese Archipelago (Ryukyu Islands) · Malay Archipelago (Indonesian Archipelago

Archipelagos (Maluku Islands · Sunda Islands (Greater Sunda Islands · Lesser Sunda Islands)) ·

Philippine Archipelago (Visayan Islands)) · Mergui Archipelago

Biogeographic Eastern Asia · Indo-Pacific · Malesia · Tropical Asia

 $\underline{\text{Heads of government}} \cdot \underline{\text{Heads of state}} \cdot \underline{\text{Elections}} \ (\underline{\text{political parties}}) \cdot \underline{\text{Democracy}} \cdot \underline{\text{Human rights}} \cdot \underline{\text{Law}} \cdot \underline{\text{Military}} \cdot \underline{\text{Milit$

Pan-Asianism

Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) · Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) · Bay of Bengal Initiative (BIMSTEC) · Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) ·

Politics Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) · Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) ·

Intergovernmental Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO)

Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (CCASG / GCC) ·

Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) · Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) ·

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) ·

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

Countries by average wage · Countries by GDP (PPP) · Countries by HDI · Currencies · Stock exchanges · Technology

Economy (renewable energy) · <u>Transport</u> (airports · high-speed rail)

Markets Property markets

 $\frac{\underline{\mathsf{Demographics}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Education}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Etiquette}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Health}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Languages}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{Life}} \ \underline{\mathsf{expectancy}} \cdot \underline{\mathsf{People}} \ \underline{(\mathsf{ethnic} \ \mathsf{groups)}}$

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Categories

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