

## Portal:Asia



Main Geography Projects

Asia (<u>l'erʒə/ AY-zhə</u>, UK also <u>l'er[ə/ AY-shə</u>) is the largest <u>continent</u> in the world by both land area and population. It covers an area of more than 44 million square kilometres, about 30% of <u>Earth</u>'s total land area and 8% of Earth's total surface area. The continent, which has long been home to the majority of the <u>human population</u>, 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 <a href="classical antiquity">classical antiquity</a>. The division of Eurasia into two continents reflects <a href="East-West">East-West</a> cultural differences, some of which vary on a spectrum. (Full article...)

### Featured article

The 2001 Tiananmen Square self-immolation incident took place in Tiananmen Square in central Beijing, on the eve of Chinese New Year on 23 January 2001. There is controversy over the incident; Chinese government sources say that five members of Falun Gong, a new religious movement that is banned in mainland China, set themselves on fire in the square. Falun Gong sources disputed the accuracy of these portrayals, and claimed that their teachings explicitly forbid violence or suicide. Some journalists have claimed that the self-immolations were staged.

According to <u>Chinese state media</u>, a group of seven people had travelled to Beijing from <u>Henan</u> province, and five set themselves on fire on Tiananmen Square. In the Chinese press, the event was used as proof of the dangers of Falun Gong, and was used to legitimise the government's campaign against the group. (**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 language · Tiruchirappalli · Sind sparrow · Andhra Pradesh · 2003 Sri Lanka cyclone · Surrender of Japan

### Featured picture



Gamelan Credit: Fir0002

A **gamelan** is a kind of <u>musical ensemble</u> of <u>Indonesian</u> origin typically featuring <u>metallophones</u>, <u>xylophones</u>, <u>drums</u>, and <u>gongs</u>. The term can be used to refer either to the set of instruments or the players of those instruments. Traditionally, "gamelan" comes from the Javanese word "gamel", meaning hammer.

· 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 Ürümgi riots · Nathu La · St. Michael's Cathedral, Qingdao · 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 · Ramayana

### **Selected Country**



Taiwan, officially the Republic of China (ROC), is a country in East Asia. The main island of Taiwan, also known as Formosa, lies between the East and South China Seas in the northwestern Pacific

Ocean, with the People's Republic of China (PRC) to the northwest, Japan to the northeast, and the Philippines to the south. It has an area of 35,808 square kilometres (13,826 square miles), with mountain ranges dominating the eastern two-thirds and plains in the western third, where its highly urbanized population is concentrated. The combined territories under ROC control consist of 168 islands in total covering 36,193 square kilometres (13,974 square miles). The largest metropolitan area is formed by Taipei (the capital), New Taipei City, and Keelung. With around 23.9 million inhabitants, Taiwan is among the most densely populated countries.

Taiwan has been settled for at least 25,000 years. Ancestors of Taiwanese indigenous peoples settled the island around 6,000 years ago. In the 17th century, largescale Han Chinese immigration began under a Dutch colony and continued under the Kingdom of Tungning, the first predominantly Han Chinese state in Taiwanese history. The island was annexed in 1683 by the Qing dynasty of China and ceded to the Empire of Japan in 1895. The Republic of China, which had overthrown the Qing in 1912 under the leadership of Sun Yat-sen, took control following the surrender of Japan in 1945. The immediate resumption of the Chinese Civil War resulted in the loss of the Chinese mainland to Communist forces, who established the People's Republic of China, and the flight of the ROC central government to Taiwan in 1949. The effective jurisdiction of the ROC has since been limited to Taiwan, Penghu, and smaller islands. (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 · Tajikistan · Thailand · Timor-Leste · Turkey · Turkmenistan · United Arab Emirates · Uzbekistan · Vietnam · Yemen

### Featured biography



Freida Selena Pinto (born 18 October 1984) is an Indian actress who has appeared mainly in American and British films. Born and raised in Mumbai, Maharashtra, she resolved at a young age to become an actress. As a student at St. Xavier's College, Mumbai she took part in amateur plays. After graduation, she briefly worked as a model and then as a television presenter.

Pinto rose to prominence with her film debut in the drama <u>Slumdog Millionaire</u> (2008), winning a <u>SAG Award</u> and earning a nomination for the <u>BAFTA Award</u> for <u>Best Supporting Actress</u>. She earned critical acclaim for her roles in <u>Miral</u> (2010), <u>Trishna</u> (2011), and <u>Desert Dancer</u> (2014). She also saw commercial success with the science fiction film <u>Rise of the Planet of the Apes</u> (2011), and the epic fantasy action film <u>Immortals</u> (2011). Pinto's other notable roles include <u>You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger</u> (2010), <u>Love Sonia</u> (2018), <u>Hillbilly Elegy</u> (2020), and <u>Mr. Malcolm's List</u> (2022). She also starred in the <u>Showtime</u> miniseries <u>Guerrilla</u> (2017), and had a recurring role in the <u>Hulu</u> series <u>The Path</u> (2018). (**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-Thaqafi · 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 · Kareena Kapoor · Preity Zinta · Shahrukh Khan · Rani Mukerji · Sonam Kapoor · Vidya Balan · Jackie Chan · Ratan Tata · Mukesh Ambani · Narendra Modi

## Did you know...

- ... that although he was a former <u>Indonesian prime</u> minister, <u>Soekiman Wirjosandjojo</u> 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 <u>Empire of Japan</u> turned a Korean royal cemetery at what is now <u>Hyochang Park</u> into a golf course?
- ... that Ein Samiya, which provides the water for Taybeh, the first beer brewed in Palestine, was 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?

### **General images**

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



Angkor Wat, Khmer Empire (from Culture of Asia)



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



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



A stone image of the <u>Buddha</u> (from **Culture of Asia**)



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



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



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)



Philippine cuisine (from Culture of Asia)



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

- ... that the Pakistani film <u>Shehr e Tabassum</u> was the first animated cyberpunk 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



Ancient ziggurat, Iraq (from **Culture of Asia**)



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



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



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



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



Korean peninsula in 476 AD. There are three kingdoms and Gaya Union in the picture. This picture shows the heyday of Goguryeo (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)

## In the news

# 21 December 2024 – <u>Insurgency in Khyber</u> Pakhtunkhwa

Sixteen <u>Pakistani soldiers</u> are killed and five others are critically injured when militants launch an overnight raid on an army post in <u>Makeen</u>, <u>Khyber</u> <u>Pakhtunkhwa</u>, <u>Pakistan</u>. (Al Arabiya) (https://english.a



Deoksugung, the palace where Emperor Gojong established Korean Empire. (from History of Asia)



Sculpture of Prince Shōtoku (from History of Asia)



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



British troops taking Zhenjiang from Qing troops (from **History of Asia**)



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

larabiya.net/News/world/2024/12/21/pakistan-militant-raid-kills-16-soldiers-intelligence-officials-)

## 21 December 2024 - Red Sea crisis

Sixteen people are injured in a Houthi missile attack on the Tel Aviv-Jaffa area in Israel. (CNN) (https://edition.cnn.com/2024/12/20/middleeast/tel-aviv-hit-by-projectile-from-yemen-intl-hnk/index.html)

### 21 December 2024 -

At least ten people are killed when a bus plunges into a ravine in Lorestan, Iran. (Al Arabiya) (https://english.alarabiya.net/News/middle-east/2024/12/21/at-least-10-killed-in-iran-as-bus-falls-into-ravine-)

## 20 December 2024 - Syrian civil war

2024 Israeli invasion of Syria Israeli soldiers injure a Syrian man protesting against the soldiers' presence in Ma'ariya, Daraa Governorate. (Al Jazeera) (https://www.aljazeera.co m/news/2024/12/20/israeli-forces-fire-at-syrian-protes ters-in-deraa-wounding-one) Fall of the Assad regime

### More current events...



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



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)



A Confucian ritual ceremony in Jeju, South Korea (from Culture of Asia)



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



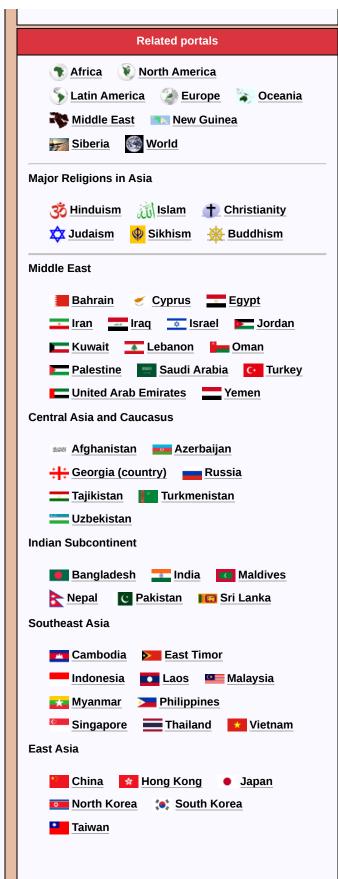
Language families in South Asia (from **Culture of Asia**)



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



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





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



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



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



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



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



The Mughal ambassador Khan'Alam in 1618 negotiating with Shah Abbas the Great of Iran. (from <u>History of</u> **Asia**)



Indonesian
Balinese cuisine
(from Culture of
Asia)



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



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



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



Population concentration and boundaries of the Western Zhou dynasty in China (from History of Àsia)



The Silk Road in Asia (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)



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 econor

GDP o (from Centu



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

panorama



the destruction of Ayutthaya by Burmese invaders.

The Ratchaprasong and Sukhumvit skylines of Bangkok, the capital of and largest city in Thailand, with Lumphini Park in the center, as viewed from the Sathon District. Known in Thai as Krung Thep ("city of angels"), it became the capital in 1768 after

## pics

## Asia articles

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

History

By topic Military conflicts · Sovereignty

Geography

Kabsa also called Majboos, famous

in Saudi Arabia,

Oman, Bahrain,

and United Arab

Emirates (from **Culture of Asia)** 

Kuwait, Qatar,

ties (metropolita fareas · tallest buildings · urban agglomerations) · Countries and territories (by population) ·

akes · Mountains · Rivers

tinental regions

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))

**Detail of Chinese** Anatolia/Asia Minor · Arabia (South Arabia) · Far East/Pacific Asia silk from the 4th (Greater China (China proper · Taiwan · Tibet · Xinjiang) · Indochina · century BCE. The

Malay world · Manchuria (Northeast China · Outer Manchuria) · characteristic Geoptratianof silk through the through the through the transfer of the transfe Greater Mongolia (Inner Mongolia · Mongolia) · Japan · Korea ·

Russian Far East) · Inner Asia (Greater Central Asia · Greater Iran Road connected (Greater Khorasan)) · Global Southeast (Greater India) · Levant/Syria various regions (Southern Levant) · Mesopotamia · Siberia · South Caucasus · Turkestan from China, India.

Central Asia, and (Afghan Turkestan · Chinese Turkestan · Russian Turkestan) the Middle East

Central Asia (Soviet Central Asia) · East Asia (Northeast Asia) · North Asia · to Europe and Africa. (from ntinental subregions South Asia (Subregions) · Southeast Asia (Mainland Southeast Asia ·

History of 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

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

Tibetan Plateau

**Physica** Map of Asia (from

**Politics** 

Society

Anatolian Peninsula ∙ Arabian Peninsula ∙ Indian Peninsula ∙ Indochinese Peninsula Culture of Asia) 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

Heads of government · Heads of state · Elections (political parties) · Democracy · Human rights · Law · Military ·

Pan-Asianism

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

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

Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) · Intergovernmental

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

(renewable energy) · Transport (airports · high-speed rail) **Economy** 

Markets Property markets

Demographics · Education · Etiquette · Health · Languages · Life expectancy · People (ethnic groups)

Culture Art · Cinema · Cuisine · Literature · Music · Philosophy · Religion · Sport

Future Asian Century (Chinese Century · Indian Century) · Pacific Century

> Outline · Index Category · Portal · Maps

## Categories

Select [▶] to view subcategories

Asia

Countries in Asia

Dependent territories in Asia

Regions of Asia Asia-related lists

Buildings and structures in Asia

Culture of Asia Economy of Asia Education in Asia **Environment of Asia**  Geography of Asia Government in Asia Health in Asia History of Asia

People of Asia Politics of Asia Asian society

Stone crosses in Asia Images of Asia

Asia stubs



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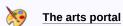


**Biography portal** 









**Current events portal** 









Shortcuts to this page: Asia portal • P:ASIA

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