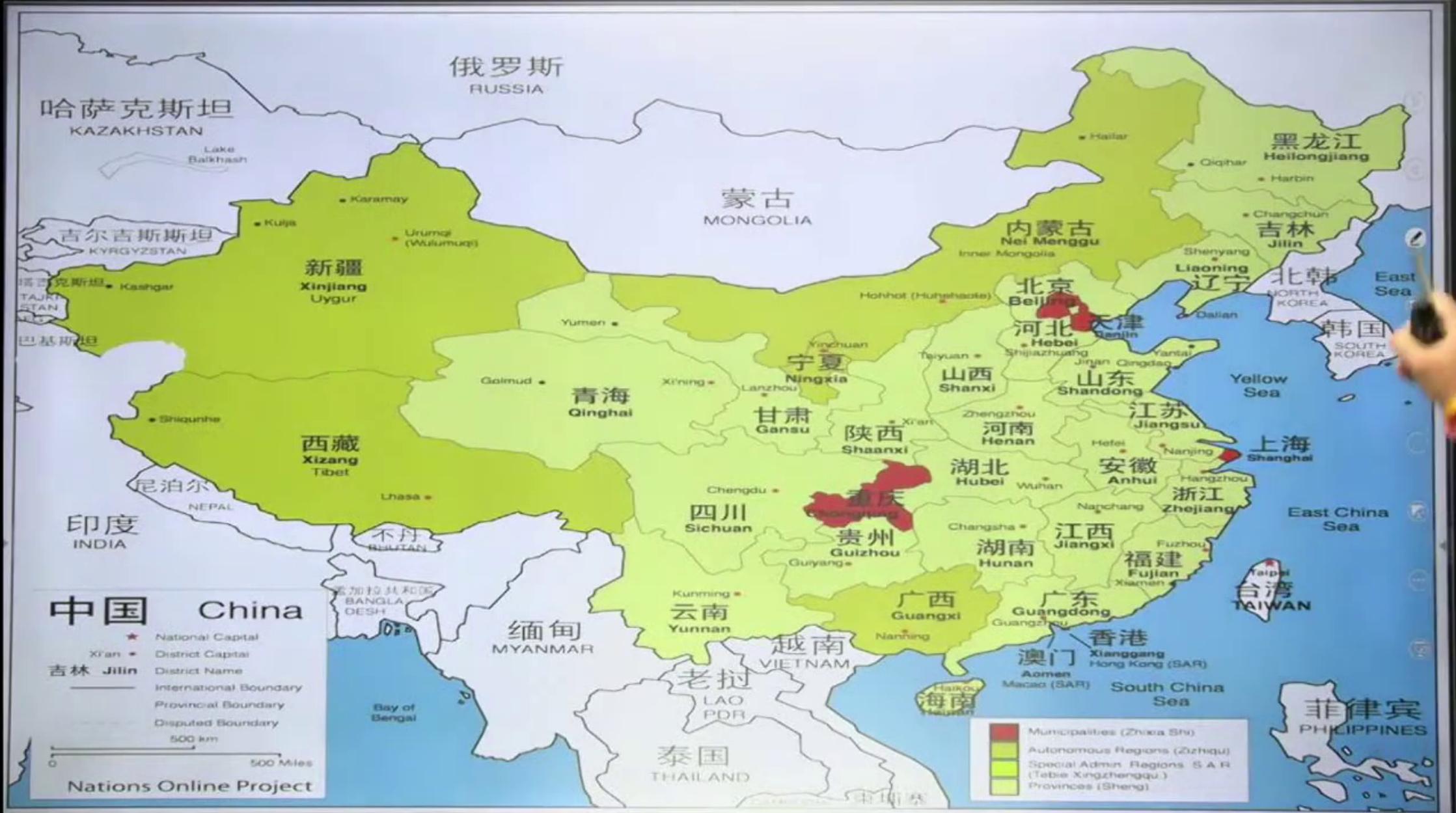


India - China Relations





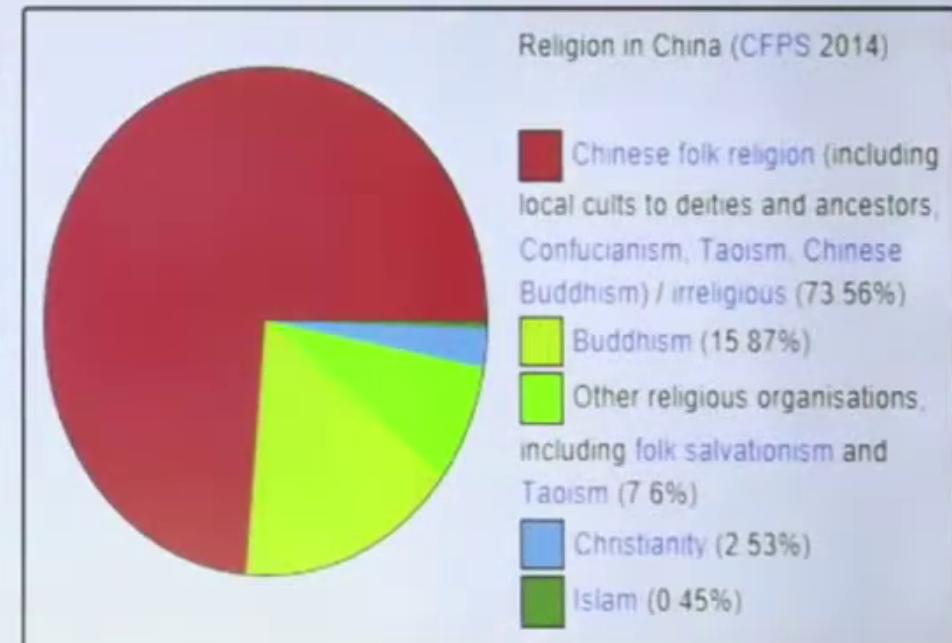
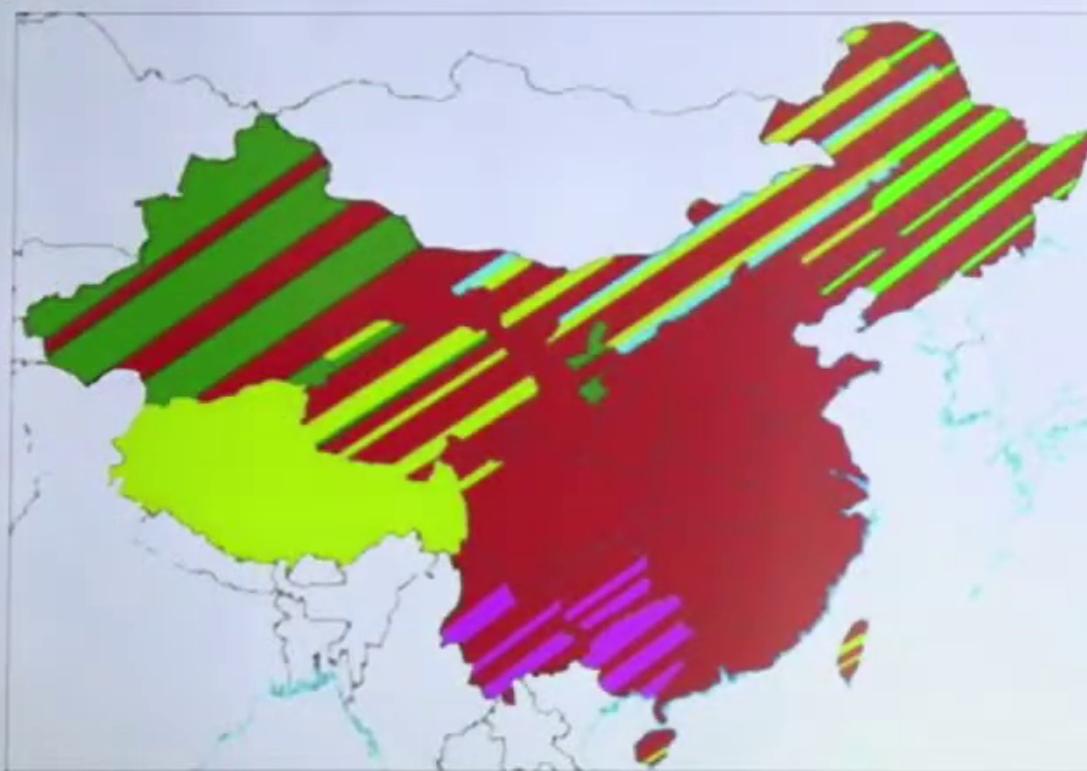
Geography of China

- China's landscape is vast and diverse, ranging from the **Gobi** and **Taklamakan** Deserts in the arid north to subtropical forests in the wetter south.
- The **Himalaya**, **Karakoram**, **Pamir** and **Tian Shan** mountain ranges separate China from much of South and Central Asia.
- The country is officially divided into **23 provinces**, **five autonomous regions**, **four direct-controlled municipalities** (**Beijing**, **Tianjin**, **Shanghai**, and **Chongqing**), and **two special administrative regions (SAR)** of **Hong Kong** and **Macau**.
- China's coastline along the Pacific Ocean is **14,500 kilometers**
- China is most populous nation of East Asia and the world.
- China **borders 14 nations**: Vietnam, Laos, and Myanmar, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, Russia, Mongolia, and North Korea.

China's importance for India

Political Importance	Strategic Importance	Economic Importance	Cultural Importance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Beijing still remains stuck to its "view of procedures and processes" on India's membership of the Nuclear Suppliers Group.<input type="checkbox"/> Beijing's influence in both established international organizations like the United Nations and in new institutions China is setting up, such as the AIIB, gives Beijing opportunities to hamper Indian interests and goals in multilateral forums	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> China is a direct military threat to India, particularly in light of the unresolved border disputes<input type="checkbox"/> China's alignment with Pakistan and deepening relations with other South Asian countries represents a significant challenge to India's position in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> The Trade and Economic Relationship between India and China has seen a rapid growth in the last few years.<input type="checkbox"/> In 2022, bilateral trade reached \$135.98 billion.<input type="checkbox"/> China has been India's largest "Goods trading partner" for many years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> India-China cultural exchanges date back to many centuries<input type="checkbox"/> There is evidence that conceptual and linguistic exchanges existed in 1500-1000 B.C. between the Shang-Zhou civilization and the ancient Vedic civilization

Religion in China



Establishment of diplomatic relations



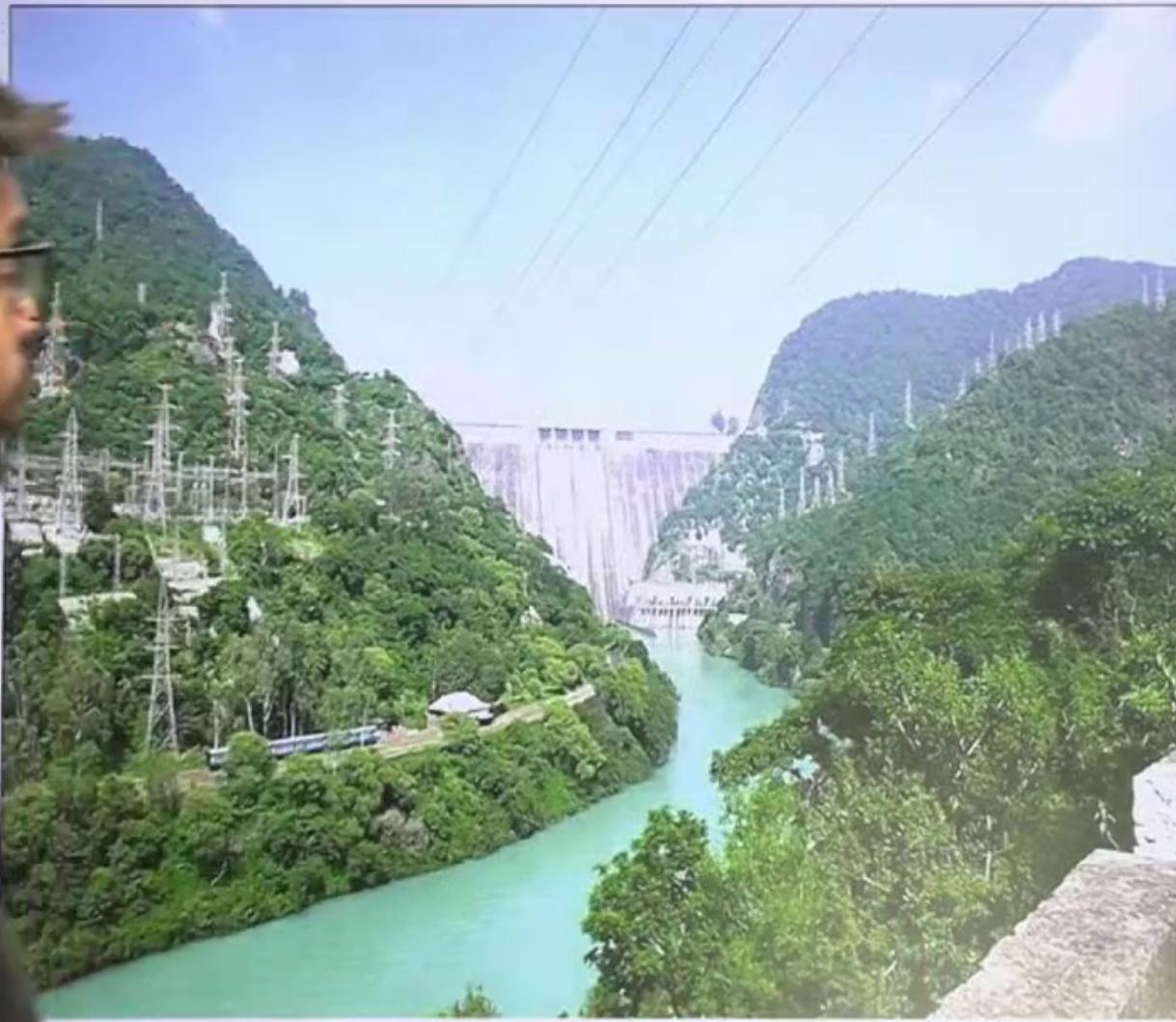
Indo-China war

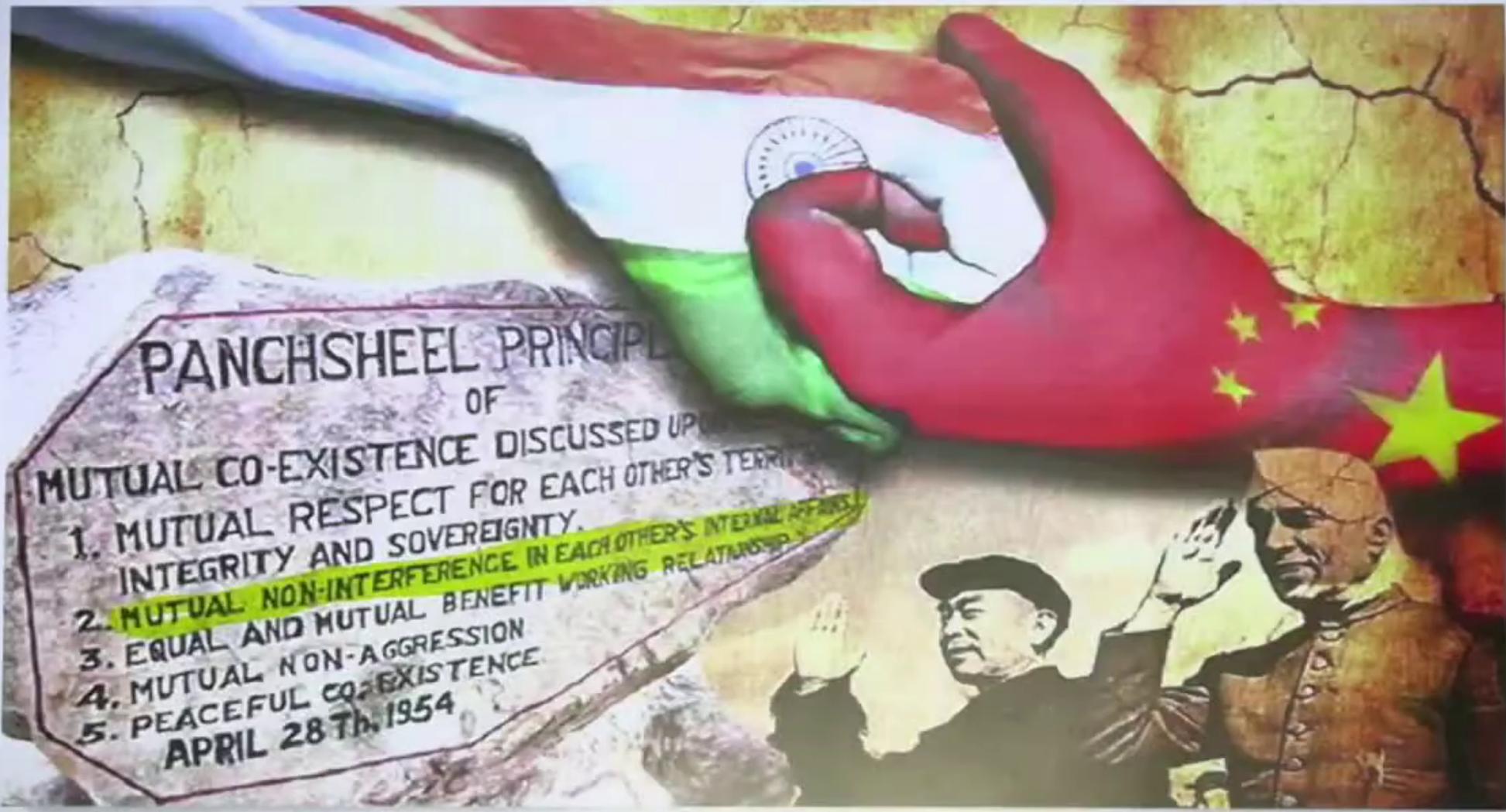
Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and
Tranquility along the Line of Actual Control (LAC)

China-India relationship over the years

Starting of relations 1950

- ❑ One of the most basic policies for the new Indian government was that of maintaining cordial relations with China, reviving its ancient friendly ties.
- ❑ On 1 April, 1950, India became the first non-socialist bloc country to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China.
- ❑ Diplomatic relation started in 1950; 1950 to 1962 first phase of relationship Friendship treaty named "Panchsheel" signed in 1954.





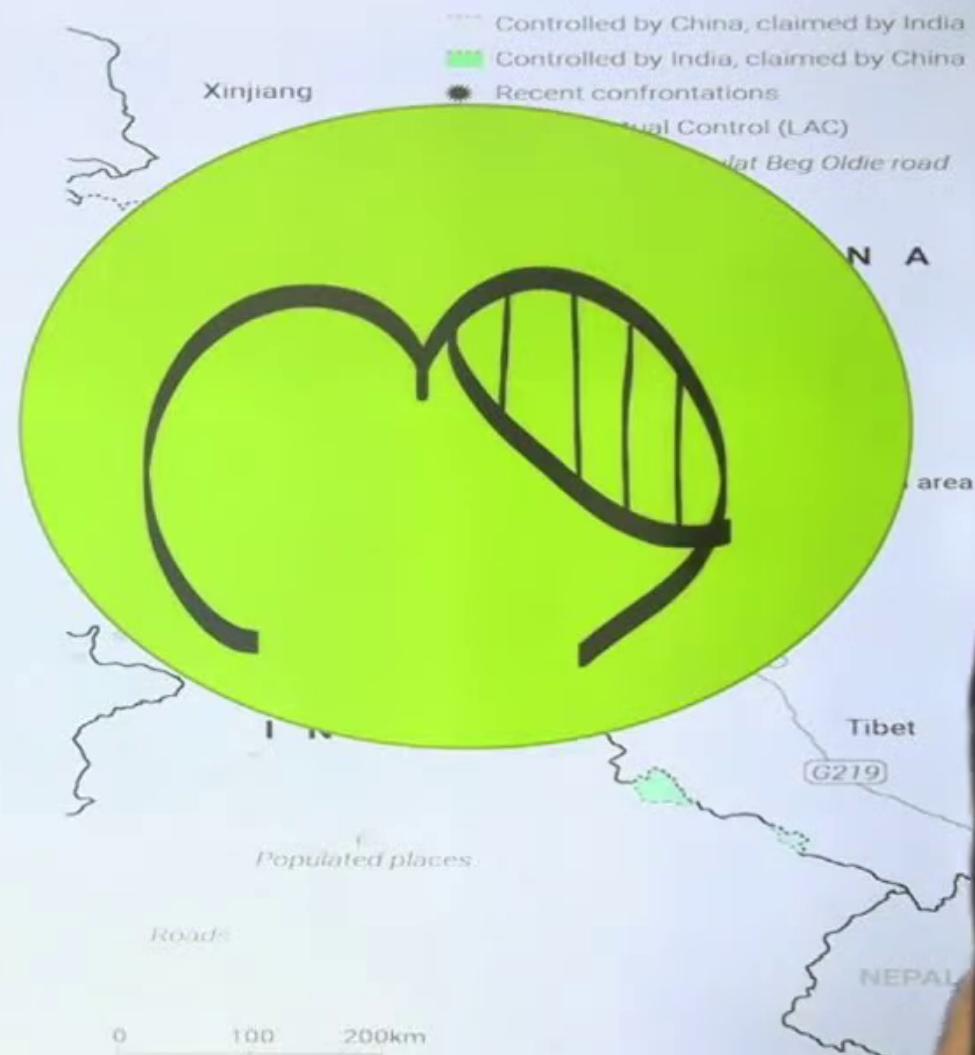
Nehru-Mao ideology differences

- Nehru followed Gandhian principles like non violence while Mao used violence in political objectives (cultural revolution).
- Mao was against NAM and wanted spread of communism and socialist revolution.
- China started occupying Tibet after 1950 which hurt India's sentiment.
- Dalai Lama with followers came to India in 1959
- Diplomatic ties were cut off after 1962 war.



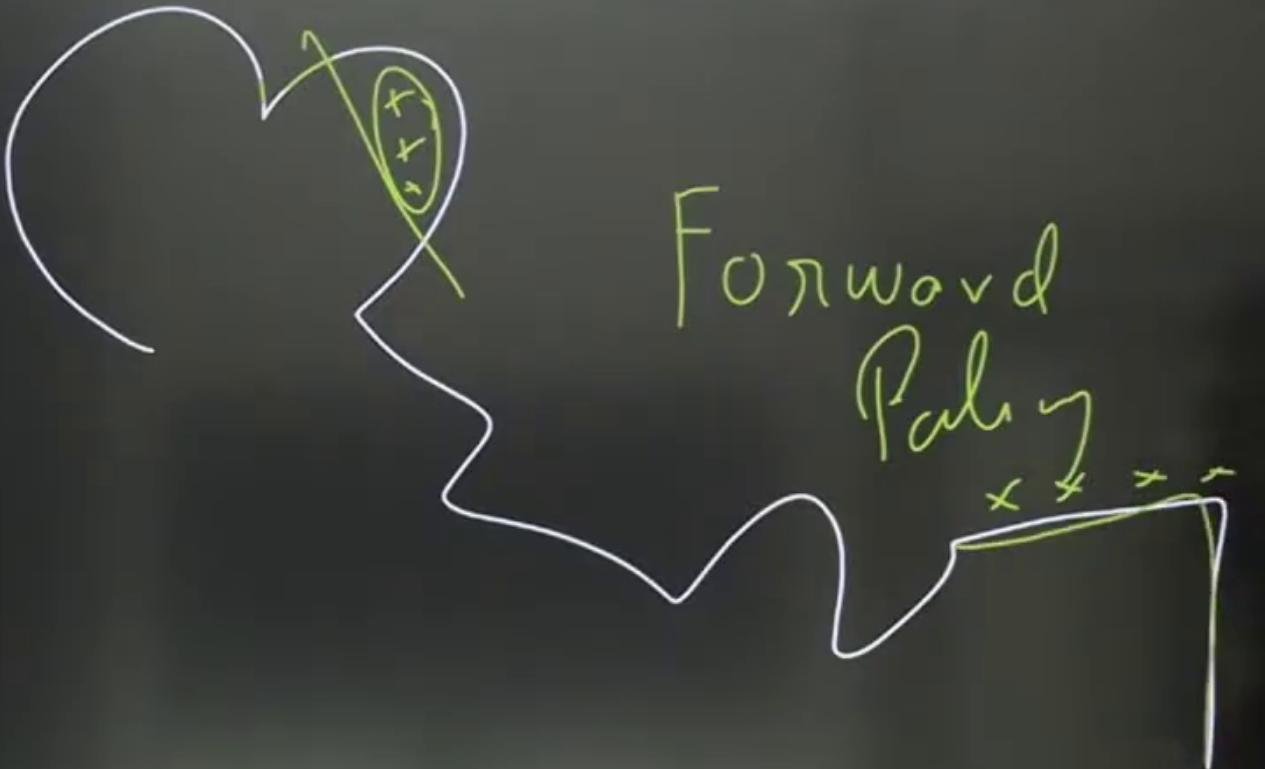
Aksai Chin

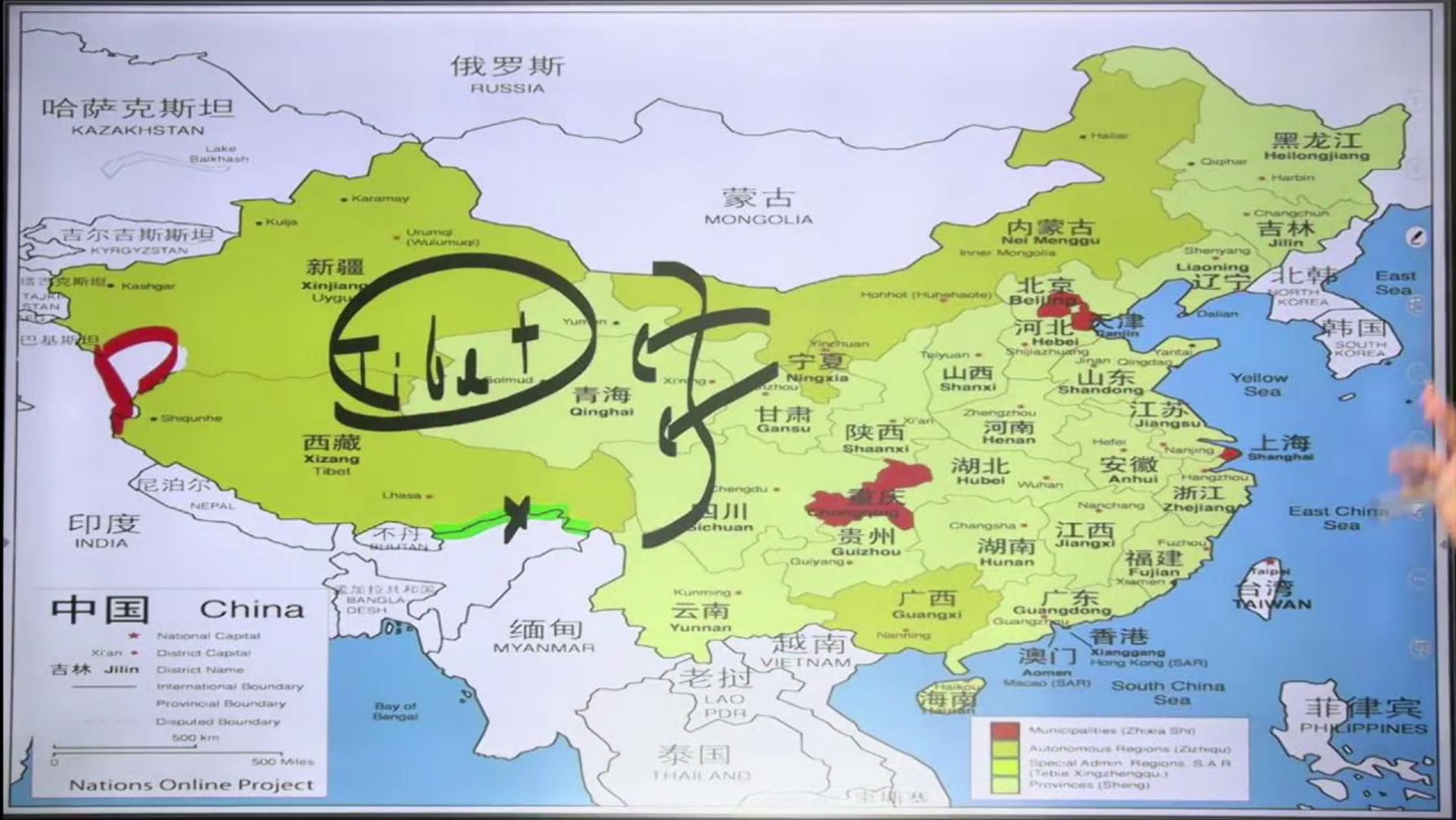
- ❑ Aksai Chin, claimed by India to belong to Kashmir and by China to be part of Xinjiang, contains an important road link that **connects the Chinese regions of Tibet and Xinjiang**.
- ❑ Aksai Chin was easily accessible to the Chinese, but access from India, which meant negotiating the Karakoram mountains, was much more difficult.
- ❑ In **1956-57, China constructed a road** through Aksai Chin, connecting Xinjiang and Tibet.



India – China War 1962

- A disputed Himalayan border was the main pretext for war, but other issues played a role. There had been a series of violent border incidents after the 1959 Tibetan uprising, when India had granted asylum to the Dalai Lama.
- India initiated a Forward Policy in which it placed outposts along the border, including several north of the McMahon Line, the eastern portion of a Line of Actual Control proclaimed by Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai in 1959.
- Unable to reach political accommodation on disputed territory along the 3,225 kilometre-long Himalayan border, the Chinese launched simultaneous offensives in Ladakh and across the McMahon Line on 20 October 1962.
- The buildup and offensive from China occurred concurrently with the 13-day Cuban Missile Crisis and India did not receive assistance from either of the world powers (USA & Russia) until the Cuban Missile Crisis was resolved.





Rajeev Gandhi 1988 visit

- For 26 years, relations between the two Asian giants remain deep-frozen, activated only by hostility and armed tension.
- At the invitation of Premier Li Peng, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India paid an official visit to China between December 19- 23, 1988.
- They had extensive exchange of views on bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest.
- The two countries had agreed to set up a joint task force to find a solution to the border issue during this visit.



Agreement on the maintenance of peace & tranquility along LAC

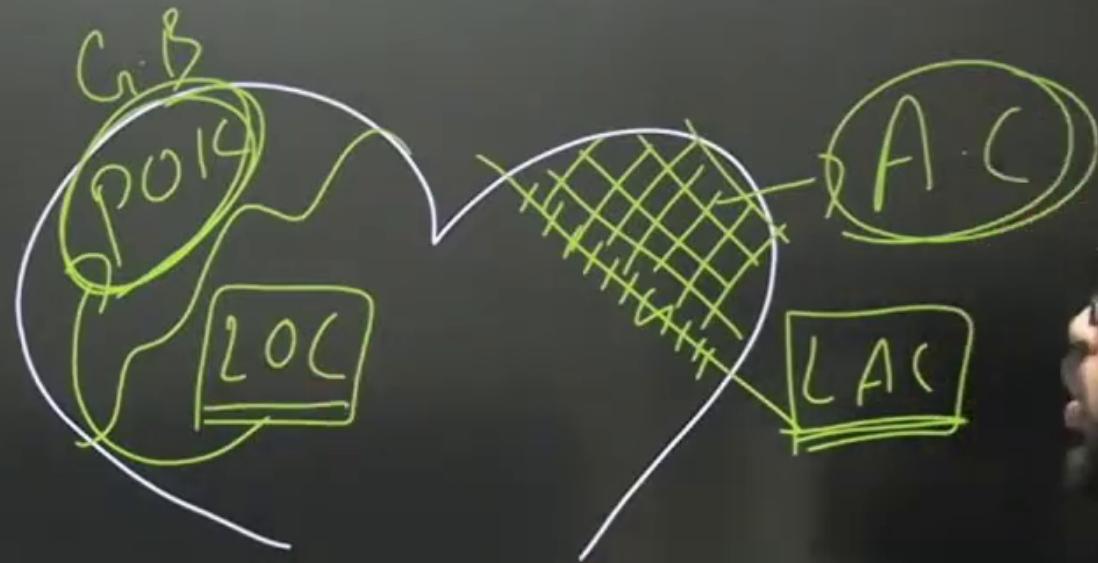
- It was signed in **September 1993** during **Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's** visit to China.
- The agreement recognized that the maintenance of peace and tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas accords with the **fundamental interests of the two sides**.
- It will facilitate the process of **early clarification and confirmation** of the alignment of the Line of Actual Control.



Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control

1996

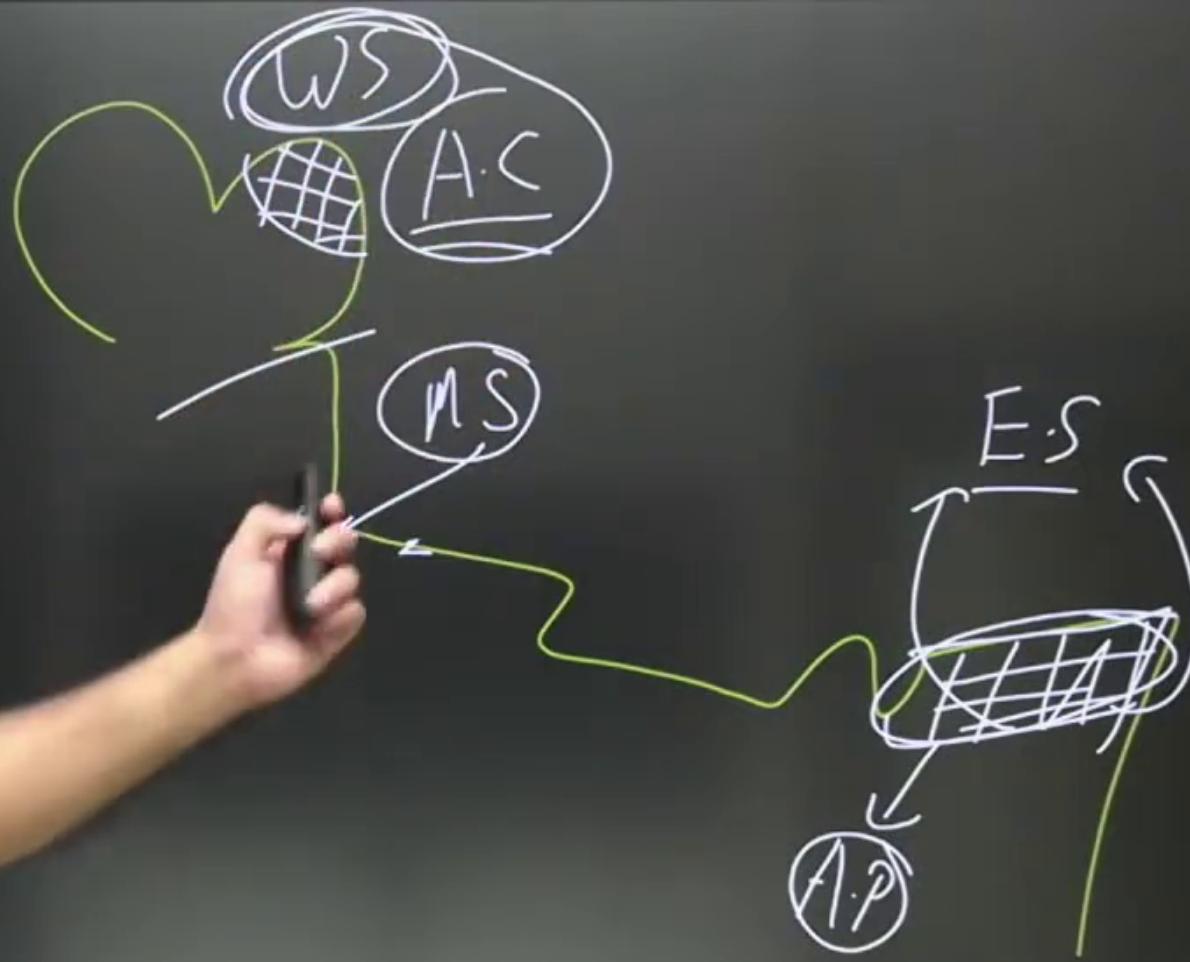
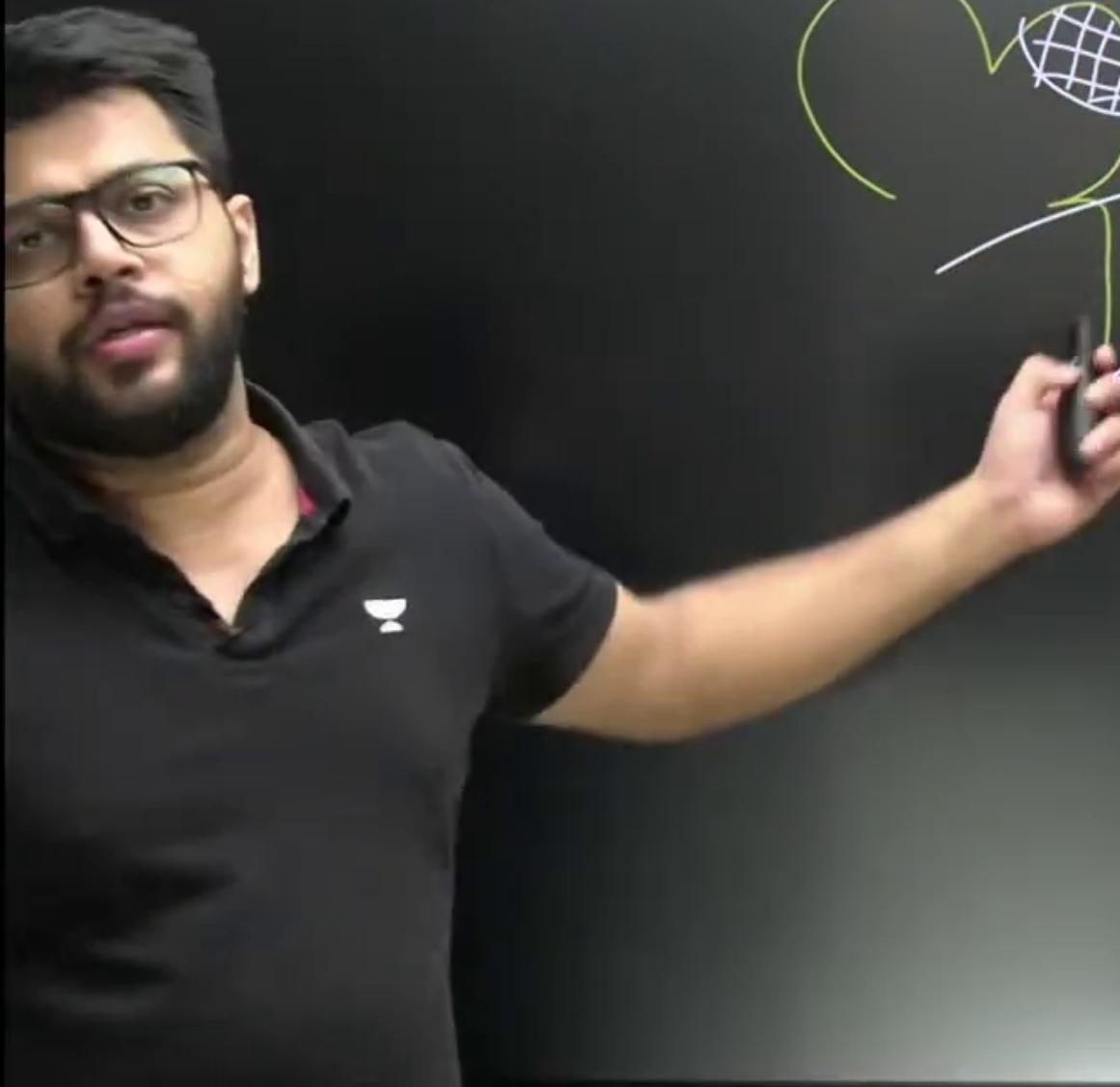
- Convinced of the need for agreed modalities for the implementation of confidence building measures between the two sides in the military field along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China border areas, both countries signed this agreement in November 1996
- It provides provisions to avoid holding large-scale military exercises involving more than one Division (approximately 15,000 troops) in close proximity to the Line of Actual Control



Agreement on Confidence Building Measures in the Military Field along the Line of Actual Control

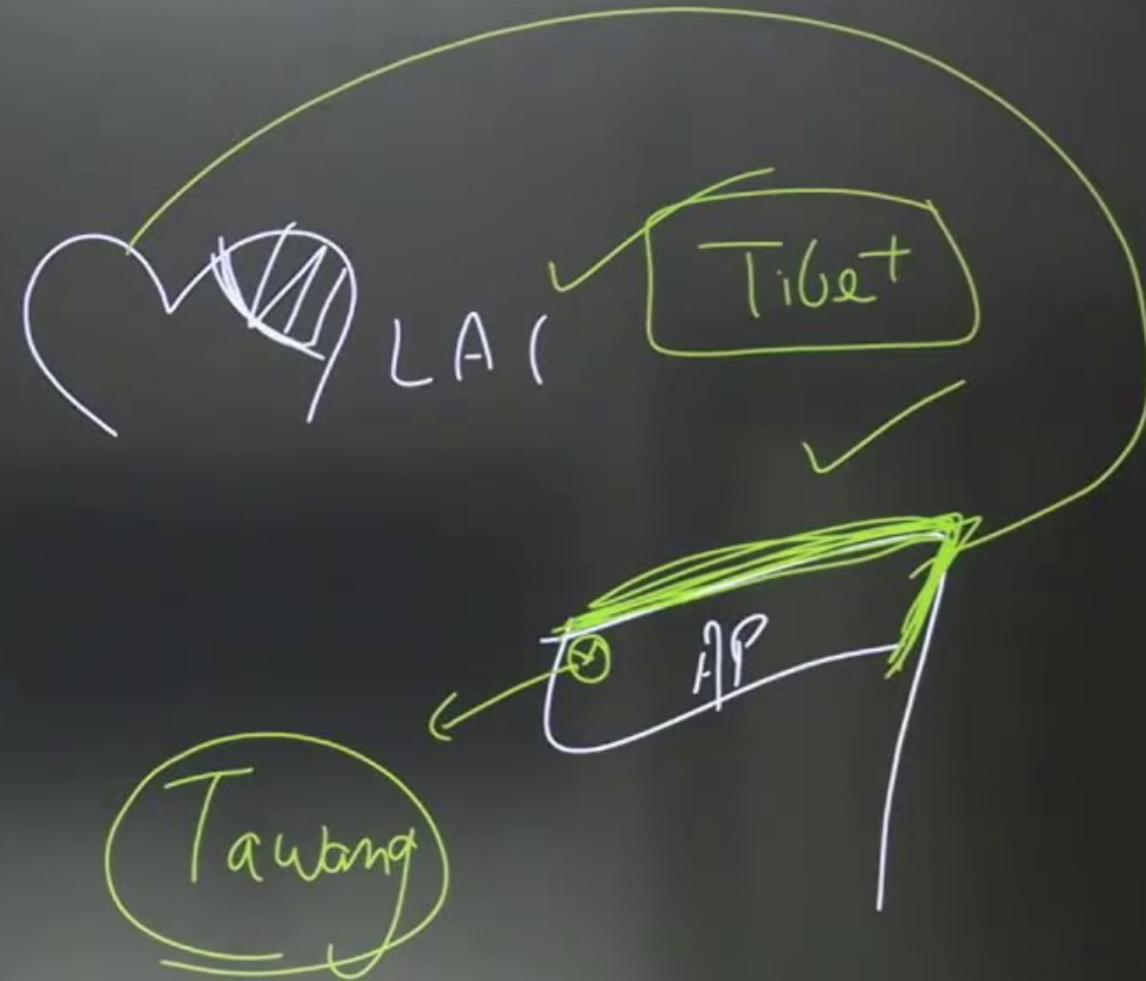
1996

- If the border personnel of the two sides come to a face-to-face situation due to differences on the alignment of the Line of Actual Control or any other reason, they shall exercise self-restraint and take all necessary steps to avoid an escalation of the situation
- Both sides shall hold two additional border meetings each year at Spanggur Gap in the Western Sector, Nathu La Pass in the Sikkim Sector and Bum La in the Eastern Sector respectively in celebration of the National Day or Army Day of either side



The MacMohan Line

- In **1826**, British India gained a common border with China after the British wrested control of Manipur and Assam from the Burmese, following the **First Anglo-Burmese War of 1824-1826**.
- In **1913**, representatives of Great Britain, China and Tibet attended a conference in Shimla regarding the borders between Tibet, China and British India.
- Whilst all three representatives initiated the agreement, **Beijing later objected** to the proposed boundary.
- The foreign secretary of the British Indian government, Henry McMahon, who had drawn up the proposal, decided to bypass the Chinese and settle the border bilaterally by negotiating directly with Tibet.

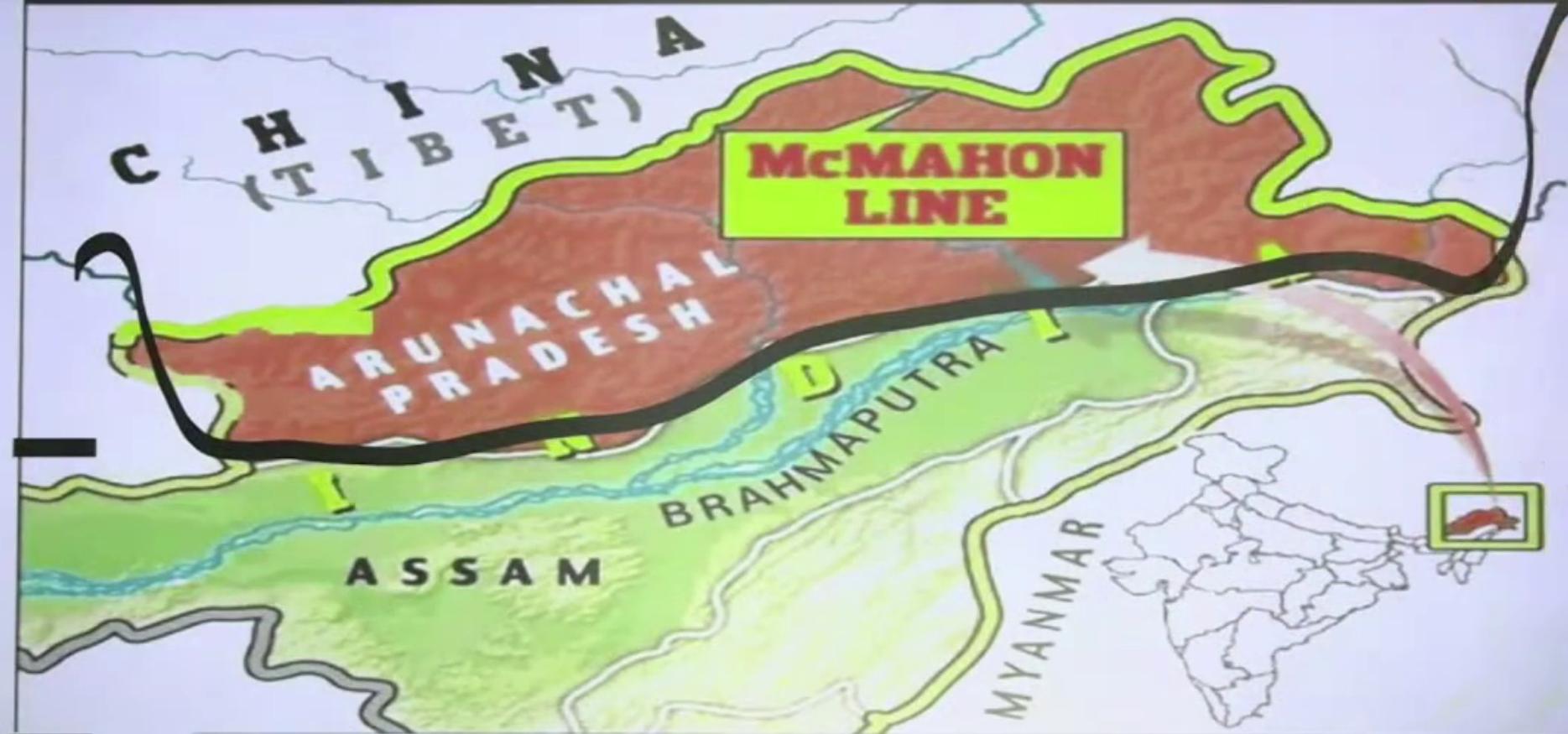


The MacMohan Line

- Tibet did not object to any section of the McMahon Line except the demarcation of the trading town of **Tawang**, which the Line placed under ~~British-Indian jurisdiction~~.
- Months after the Shimla agreement, **China set up boundary markers south of the McMahon Line**, the portion which was claimed by India.
- In **1950, the Chinese People's Liberation Army took control of Tibet**, which all Chinese governments regarded as still part of China.



THE HOTSPOT



Stapled Visa

- The practice **of issuing stapled visa instead of proper visa** by the Chinese embassy **to Indian citizens from Arunachal Pradesh** in last few years, and **earlier in respect of Indian citizens from Jammu and Kashmir**, has been an irksome issue in the Sino-Indian relations.
- Chinese inference is that if its visa is embossed on the Indian passport, **it may tantamount to recognizing India's sovereignty over Arunachal Pradesh**.
- The Indian position is that **if the holder of a stapled visa with Indian passport is allowed to travel** to China, it may be construed as conceding to Chinese claim over Arunachal Pradesh, and hence dilute India's stand towards Chinese claims.

Claiming Arunachal Pradesh, the north-eastern state of India as a part of South Tibet, China destroyed 30,000 world maps for not showing Arunachal Pradesh and Taiwan as a part of its territory

India and South China Sea dispute

- The ongoing disputes in the South China Sea (SCS) have been regarded as one of the **most enduring and complicated regional conflicts in the Asia-Pacific**.
- The disputes **involve China along with several states** in the region and encompass issues such as **overlapping territorial claims** and access to critical resources like **energy and fisheries**.
- Within this turbulent environment, India has been expanding its influence through implementing its **Act East Policy**.
- India's decision to involve itself in such a complex environment, even at the risk of provoking its giant neighbor demonstrates the significance it places on the region and its sea lanes.



CHINA

PARACEL
ISLANDS

SCARBOROUGH
SHOAL

PHILIPPINES

VIETNAM

CHINA'S NINE-DASH LINE

Disputed claims in the South China Sea

Claims

- China
- Brunei
- Malaysia
- Philippines
- Vietnam



Area:

South China Sea covers more than 3 million sq km

Trade:

Over \$5 trillion in ship-borne trade passes through the sea annually

Oil and gas:

Major unexploited oil and gas deposits are believed to lie under the seabed



* Under Chinese control since 2012

** Exclusive Economic Zone

Sources: CSIS/AMTI; D. Rosenberg, Middlebury College, Harvard Asia Quarterly, Philippines/China Maritime Safety Administration



Importance of SCS

- The SCS is located in a region of great strategic interest for India.
- Geographically, it connects the Indian Ocean and the East China Sea via the Malacca Straits, which is one of the busiest sea lanes in the world.
- Up to 97 percent of India's total international trade volume is sea-borne, half of which, passes through the straits.
- Energy is another component of India's interest in the SCS.
- In 2015, India became the third largest oil consumer in the world
- Already importing up to 80 percent of its total oil requirements, India will likely need to secure new energy sources as domestic demand rises
- The potential energy deposits in the SCS have thus drawn New Delhi's attention.
- Similarly, should a potentially hostile power come to control this region, it could threaten India's access to this vital waterway.