Geography Summary

Located in the Southeast Asian peninsula area, Myanmar is mostly in the tropics. As such, it has a very tropical climate consisting of a monsoon season, a cold dry period, and a hot, dry period later. Due to this tropical climate, vegetation includes large amounts of rain forests. Many different types of fruit trees, flowers, and other plants dot the terrain. This terrain is high and mountainous in the East, West, and North. These mountains surround a high, rough valley which is flat and similar to Tibet in China. A large percentage of the population is concentrated in the central valley, as the valley lands are suitable for farms, and agriculture is the primary industry of this third-world country. The farms harvest many types of animals and crops that are mostly for food and commercial value. Industrial minerals are also mined for commercial value, in addition to offshore reserves and natural gas. Due to the lack of regulation, pollution in the air and in the water is very much a problem; in fact, Myanmar is one of the highest in pollution in the world. Fresh, clean water and air is pretty inaccessible. Myanmar’s main geographical problem is the high amount of air and water pollution. The air and water content is at very unsafe levels. Residents began to notice this pollution with the low visibility of both mediums. Like many governments around the area, the Burmese government doesn’t acknowledge the existence of the pollution or enact anything to solve it. They should solve it by limiting car transport for a while and improve agricultural practices. In addition, the government should invest in facilities. These facilities include water systems for plumbing and just water in general, electrical systems, and sewer systems.

A large chunk of the population is concentrated in the Irrawaddy river delta, which is the ending point of the main river of the area, providing the fertile soil in the central valley of Myanmar needed for the massive amount of farms that are located there. There are other rivers in addition to this one including the Sittaung and the Salween rivers that are located in the western side of the country and flow into the Bay of Bengal. The many tributaries that make up the Irrawaddy river delta drain out the various mountain ranges that are in the north and in the east of the country.

Surrounding this central valley are the mountain ranges that account for most of the pollution that gets trapped in the area. The mountain ranges on the North and East sides of the country are a continuation of the Himalayas. Being bordered by India, China, and Thailand, its culture is very similar to the cultures of those cultures, although it is unique in it of itself. Going from north to south, the elevation steadily decreases from the high, rugged lands of the north to the flat, low, fertile lands of the south.

The climate of Myanmar consists of three major parts: the hot pre-monsoon season in which temperatures skyrocket, the monsoon season in which rain falls for pretty much the entire time, and the much cooler season.

Most of the area is covered with forests, some getting a dry season over some of the year, and a rainforest that doesn’t. Many different types of fruit trees grow in Myanmar; as well as bamboo and thousands of different flowering plants.

Resources that are found naturally in the area include oil, offshore reserves of natural gas, gems, and industrial minerals mined for commercial value. Farms are common, being the country’s largest industry. These farms harvest many different types of plants and animals that grow well in the tropics.

Myanmar is located partly in the Southeast Asian peninsula. Most of it is south of the Tropic of Cancer, meaning that it is mostly tropical. Unlike the more densely populated countries, India, Bangladesh, and China, that surround Myanmar, the country has an average population density.