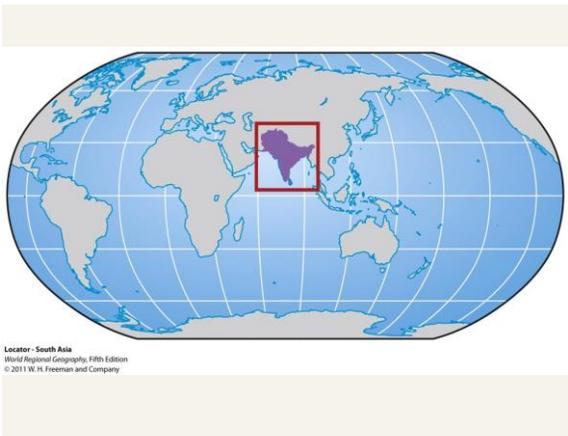


SOUTH ASIA – Part 2

Regions

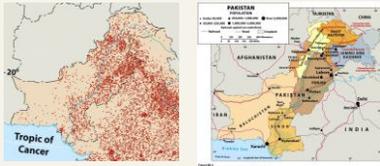


Pakistan: On South Asia's Western Flank: A Hard Place to Govern

- ❑ Few centripetal forces:
 - ❑ Islamic faith
 - ❑ Aversion to Hindu India
 - ❑ Urdu as official language and English as *lingua franca*
- ❑ Centrifugal forces:
 - ❑ Sunni vs. Shi'ites
 - ❑ Democratic vs. military governments
 - ❑ Ineffective government: social policy and terrorism
 - ❑ Environmental woes: water-supply and 2010 floods

Pakistan: On South Asia's Western Flank

Map Analysis Activity: Pakistan's Population Distribution



1. What two features in Pakistan seem to determine population distribution patterns?
2. How does Pakistan's population distribution impact the allocation of political power among its subregions and the government's ability to effectively govern?

Pakistan: On South Asia's Western Flank: Subregions of Pakistan

- ❑ Punjab
 - ❑ Core area: 55% of total population
 - ❑ Lahore: Center of Islamic culture
- ❑ Sindh
 - ❑ Lower Indus Valley
 - ❑ 25% of population
 - ❑ Karachi
 - ❑ Finance, crime and social contrast





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Pakistan: On South Asia's Western Flank: Subregions of Pakistan

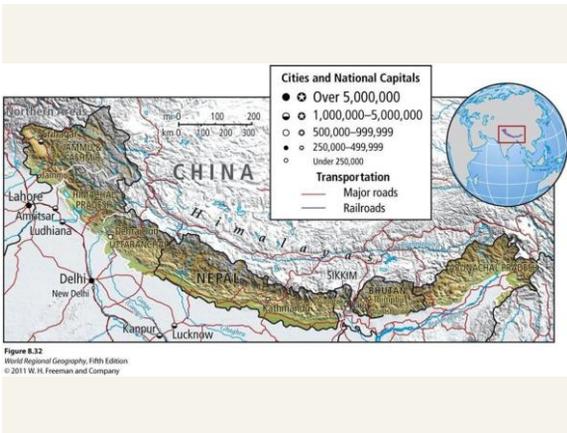
- **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa**
 - "Belonging to the Pushtuns," Afghan-associated tribes
 - Relative autonomy, out of government's reach
 - Conservative and militant
- **Baluchistan**
 - Mountainous desert
 - Source of fossil fuels
 - Insurgency



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Himalayan Country

- ❑ The Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh is one of the more lightly populated and more prosperous areas of the subregion
- ❑ This is one of the most pristine regions in India
- ❑ Conditions at different altitudes are good for the cultivation of exotic crops that are grown commercially for upscale specialty stores, primarily in India



The Northwest India Subregion

- ❑ It is dry country, yet contains some of the wealthiest and most fertile areas in India
- ❑ So little rain falls in the west that houses can safely be made of mud with flat roofs
- ❑ Along the northern reaches of the subregion, the rivers descending from the Himalayas compensate for the lack of rainfall

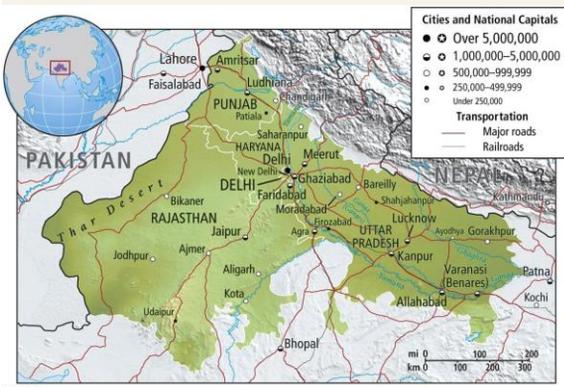


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Central India

- The Central India subregion stretches across the widest part of India, from Gujarat in the west to Orissa in the east
- It contains India's last untouched natural areas as well as much of its industry
- Narmada River, site of many hydroelectric dams, flows across the subregion and empties into the Gulf of Cambay

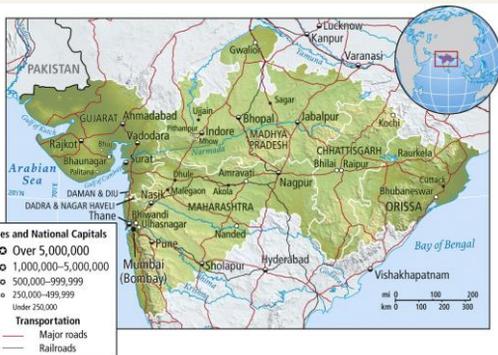


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Southern South Asia

- Southern South Asia encompasses the southernmost part of India and the country of Sri Lanka
- Between 50-70% of people work in agriculture
- This part of India normally receives consistent rainfall and is well suited for growing rice, peanuts, chili peppers, limes, cotton, cinnamon, cloves, and castor oil plants
- Anomalies in weather patterns are always a possibility

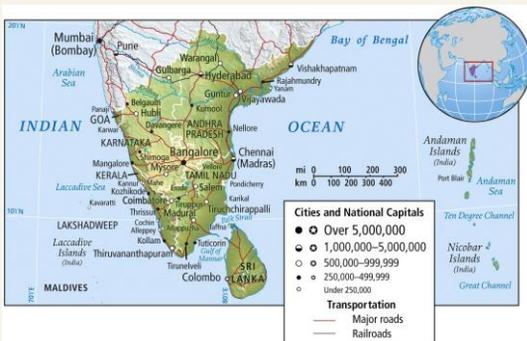


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India: Giant of the Realm *Communal Tensions*

The Sikhs

- Religion created to unite Hindu and Islam gained adherents in Punjab and adjacent areas.
- Sikhs supported British administration of India.
- Large Sikh middle-class emerged in colonial period as a result of favored status.
- Post-independence were serious separatist problem demanding autonomous state.

India: Giant of the Realm *Communal Tensions*

The Muslims

- Legacy of independence and partition
- Faster growth than rest of Indian population
- Not regionally concentrated
- Challenges to Muslim integration:
 - Complicated by relations with Pakistan, issue of Kashmir, and Islamic terrorism
 - Fairly low levels of education and economic standing

India: Giant of the Realm *Communal Tensions*

Hindutva

- Hinduness:
 - Hindu movement seeking to remake India into a society where Hindu principles prevail
 - Hindu nationalism, fundamentalism, or extremism
- Worrisome to other minorities and secularists:
 - Forging a new India where non-Hindus are outsiders
 - Separation of religion and state indispensable to democracy

India: Giant of the Realm *Communal Tensions*

The Persistence of Caste

- **Caste system:** system of social stratification, where castes are fixed layers based on ancestry, family ties, and occupation
 - ▣ Past life determines current station in life
- **Dalits = the oppressed:**
 - ▣ Lowest tier suffer severe discrimination and harsh treatment.
 - ▣ Many have chosen to convert to other religions.

India: Giant of the Realm *Communal Tensions*

The Persistence of Caste

- Government abolished caste at independence
 - ▣ Has been hard to dismantle
 - ▣ Created system of affirmative action in cities
 - ▣ Quotas for schools government jobs, and legislature
 - ▣ Debates over extending system to include other minorities and women

India: Giant of the Realm *Economic Geography*

East and West

- East: industrial decline and economic stagnation:
 - ▣ Inward-looking
 - ▣ 1950s industry out-of-date and uncompetitive
- West: signs of economic progress:
 - ▣ Outward-looking
 - ▣ Small, private manufacturing



India: Giant of the Realm *Infrastructural Challenges*

- ❑ Golden Quadrilateral
 - ❑ Nationwide four-lane superhighway linking its urban system
 - ❑ Impacts:
 - Expand urban hinterlands and commuter travel
 - Link once-remote rural areas and increase migration
- ❑ Other impediments:
 - ❑ State border checkpoints and tolls
 - ❑ Red tape and corruption

India: Giant of the Realm *The Energy Problem*

- ❑ Power outages:
 - ❑ Energy demand exceeds available supply.
 - ❑ Inadequate national power-supply grid, exploding population; many villages have no power at all.
- ❑ India's electricity:
 - ❑ Sources are fossil fuel-burning, hydroelectric, and nuclear plants.
 - ❑ Capacity for expansion of power supply is limited.
- ❑ Geopolitical quandary:
 - ❑ Increase imports from Iran, central Asia, or beyond?

Among the Realm's Great Cities: *Kolkata (Calcutta)*

- ❑ British colonial capital:
 - ❑ Well-placed for commerce, defense
 - ❑ Adjacent to plantations
 - ❑ Social contrasts: wealth and poverty
- ❑ 20th century changes:
 - ❑ British capital moved to New Delhi
 - ❑ Partition cut off hinterland and influx of refugees
- ❑ Kolkata today: 16.1 million
 - ❑ Left behind in modernization
 - ❑ Reputation as true cultural capital

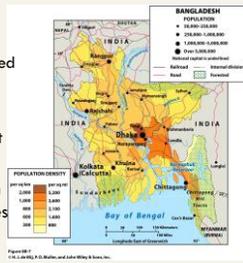


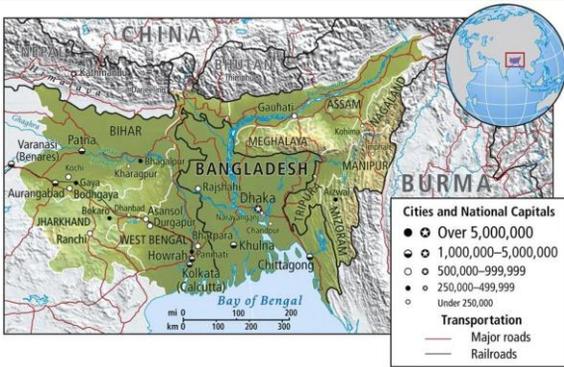
India: Giant of the Realm *India's Prospects*

- Today, India's economy is the world's sixth largest:
 - By 2020, it may be in third place.
- India's future?
 - Leapfrog from an "underdeveloped" to "postindustrial" information-based economy.
 - India must dramatically expand manufacturing to provide jobs and improve lives.
- Growth from the bottom up:
 - Challenge of balancing diverse interests

Bangladesh: Challenges Old and New *A Vulnerable Territory*

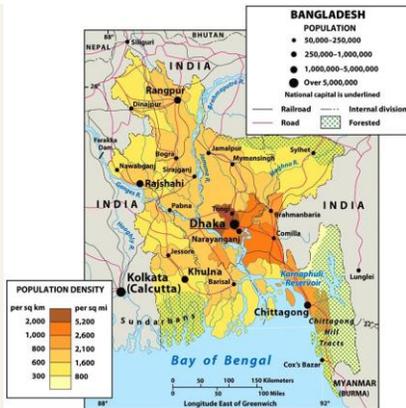
- **Double delta:** occupies the area of Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers
- One of the poorest and least developed countries in the world
- Vulnerable to natural hazards:
 - 8 out of 10 of the world's deadliest natural disasters struck here
 - Physical geography and location exposed to flooding and cyclones
 - No money for preparedness, rescue, or response





The Ganga-Brahmaputra Delta

- The largest delta on earth was formed by the Ganga and Brahmaputra rivers
- The rivulets of the delta change course repeatedly, and then periodically the bay is flushed out by a huge tropical cyclone
- The people of the delta have learned never to regard their land as permanent
- Villages that sit on river terraces or in the lowlands are raised on stilts above the high-water line and people move about in small boats



Bangladesh: Challenges Old and New

Limits to Opportunity

- Nation of subsistence farmers:
 - More than half of workforce in agriculture
 - Highest *physiologic densities* in the world
- High demographic burden:
 - Birthrates are falling, but still very high
- Troubled country:
 - Economy driven by few industries, remittances, and foreign aid
 - Politics are chaotic and corrupt



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Among the Realm's Great Cities: Dhaka

- ❑ Focus of the country and its biggest city:
 - ❑ 15.4 million
- ❑ City's position:
 - ❑ Advantageous waterfront
 - ❑ At sea level and prone to flooding
- ❑ High rural-urban migration
- ❑ More than 90 percent Muslim



The Mountainous North: Nepal

- ❑ **Buffer state** between India and China
- ❑ Nepalese people:
 - ❑ Mixed origins: Chinese, Indian, and Central Asian
 - ❑ Hindu, but blended with Buddhist ideals
- ❑ Underdevelopment, environmental ruin, and strong regional divisions



- Three geographic zones:
 - Southern, subtropical, fertile lowland
 - Central belt of foothills
 - High Himalayas to north

The Southern Islands: *The Maldives*

- More than 1000 tiny islands:
 - Small area and low elevation
- Population: 100 percent Muslim:
 - Dravidian and Sri Lankan sources
- Tourism: South Asia's highest GNI per capita:
 - Industry vulnerable to economic downturns
- Future impact of global warming:
 - Rising sea levels



The Southern Islands: *Sri Lanka: Paradise Lost and Regained?*

- Post-British independence:
 - Neither Muslim nor Hindu
 - Plantation economy
- Migrant population:
 - Sinhalese: 2500 years ago
 - Tamils: brought by British
- Civil war
 - Tamil *insurgent state* in the north
 - 2007 to 2009 counteroffensive
- Reconciliation?



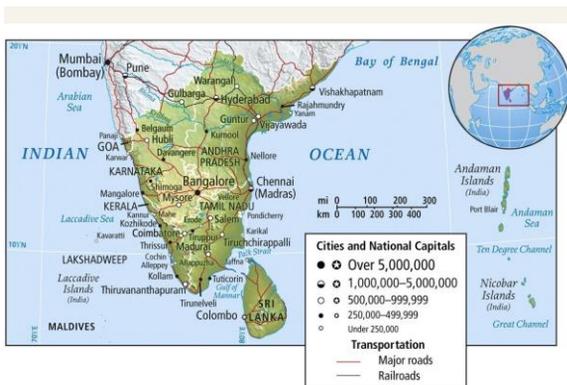


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