

BIG IDEAS

The breadth and diversity of Asia's physical and human resources have contributed to the development of distinct and disparate political, cultural, and economic regions in the late 20th century.

Colonialism, imperialism, and resource disparity have been the primary reasons for conflict and movement of peoples in Asia.

Ethnic, regional, and national identities, shaped in part by geography and migration, exert significant political and cultural influence in Asia.

Rapid industrialization, urbanization, and economic growth in Asia in the late 20th century have created complex environmental challenges.

Learning Standards

Curricular Competencies	Content
<p><i>Students are expected to be able to do the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Social Studies inquiry processes and skills to ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze ideas; and communicate findings and decisions • Assess the significance of people, locations, events, or developments, and varying perspectives on their historical significance at particular times and places, and from group to group (significance) • Assess the justification for competing historical accounts after investigating points of contention, reliability of sources, and adequacy of evidence (evidence) • Compare and contrast continuities and changes for different groups (continuity and change) • Assess how prevailing conditions and the actions of individuals or groups affect events, decisions, or developments (cause and consequence) • Explain different perspectives on past or present people, places, issues, or events by considering prevailing norms, values, worldviews, and beliefs (perspective) • Recognize implicit and explicit ethical judgments in a variety of sources (ethical judgment) • Make reasoned ethical judgments about actions in the past and present (ethical judgment) 	<p><i>Students are expected to know the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical geography, including resource distribution and physiographic features • human geography, including demography, migration, urbanization, and environmental issues • industrialization, globalization, economic systems, and distribution of wealth and resources • interdependence and co-operation • development, structure, and function of political and social institutions • social and political movements, including human rights initiatives • local, regional, and global conflict • local, regional, and national identities

Content – Elaborations

physical geography, including resource distribution and physiographic features:*Sample topics:*

- geographic features, population density, climates and environments of Asia
- defining “Asia”
- natural borders, resource distribution, and impact of climate and physiographic features on trade, migration, economies
- different standards of living and economic activities in Asian countries and regions
- environmental issues in Asia

human geography, including demography, migration, urbanization, and environmental issues:*Sample topics:*

- migration within, between, and away from Asia
- population growth and decline
- urbanization and the rise of megacities
- role of the state and markets in affecting migration patterns
- impact of climate change on livelihood
- standards of living (rural versus urban and between regions and countries)
- development, structure, and function of political and social institutions
- rise of contemporary nation-states

industrialization, globalization, economic systems, and distribution of wealth and resources:*Sample topics:*

- growth, poverty, and inequality
- pros and cons of foreign trade and investment in Asia and with Asia
- environmental sustainability and economic growth
- labour conditions and economic development
- export-led growth models
- Japan and the four “tiger economies”
- role of the state in economic development
- uneven development and growing inequality

social and political movements, including human rights initiatives:*Sample topics:*

- aging populations in Japan and Korea
- caste system in India

Content – Elaborations

- rise in economic inequality and youth unemployment
- human rights issues
- contemporary social and political movements, including indigenous rights
- corruption
- Southeast Asia's modern statehood and multi-ethnic, multi-faith, multi-lingual populations
- European and US colonization and national liberation movements

local, regional, and global conflict:*Sample topics:*

- impact of colonialism in South, East, and Southeast Asia
- Chinese Revolution, 1949
- Indian independence movement
- World War II in the Pacific
- India-Pakistan partition
- creation of Bangladesh, 1971
- Korean War
- Vietnam War
- Sri Lanka ethnic conflict and civil war