

Geography of the world

Asia

- Stretching from the frozen Arctic to the hot equator =>
- the largest and most mountainous of all the continents
- Part of Eurasian continent
- Asia = cradle of population
- Vast majority of Asia lies in northern hemisphere
- *Surrounding macro-regions:*
- *N* = Arctic Ocean
- *S* = Indian Ocean, Australia
- *W* = Africa, Europe, Mediterranean Sea
- *E* = Pacific Ocean, Alaska, Australia

Euro-Asian physical boundary

- Ural mountains, Caspian sea,
- Caucasus mts., Sea of Azov,
- Bosphorus and Dardenelles,
- Aegean sea, Red sea, Bab-al-Mandab strait

Physical features

Mountains:

Deserts:

Rivers:

Lakes:

Population and Settlements

- Population distribution is influenced by
 - Climate, especially *monsoons*
 - Topography, i.e. mountain ranges vs. lowlands
- 4 main concentrations:

- *Ganges plains of India*
- *Yangtze and northern plains of China*
- *small alluvial plains of Japan*
- *Malay Peninsula and Archipelago*

Regional segmentation

- Southwest = Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Oman, UAE, Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, Jordan, Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Iran
- South = Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Burma
- Central (+ Caucasian countries) = Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan
- Southeast = Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Brunei
- East (+ Pacific) = China, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan

Main religions

- Hinduism
- Buddhism
- Islam
- Shintoism
- Christianity
- Traditional

Economic regions

- **Well-developed regions**
 - Examples:
- **Newly industrialized countries**
 - Examples:
- **Less developed countries**
 - Examples: