



STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 24, Section 1

For use with textbook pages 587–591.

Population Patterns

Terms to Know

jati A group that defines one's occupation and social position (page 588)

megalopolis A chain of closely linked metropolitan areas (page 591)

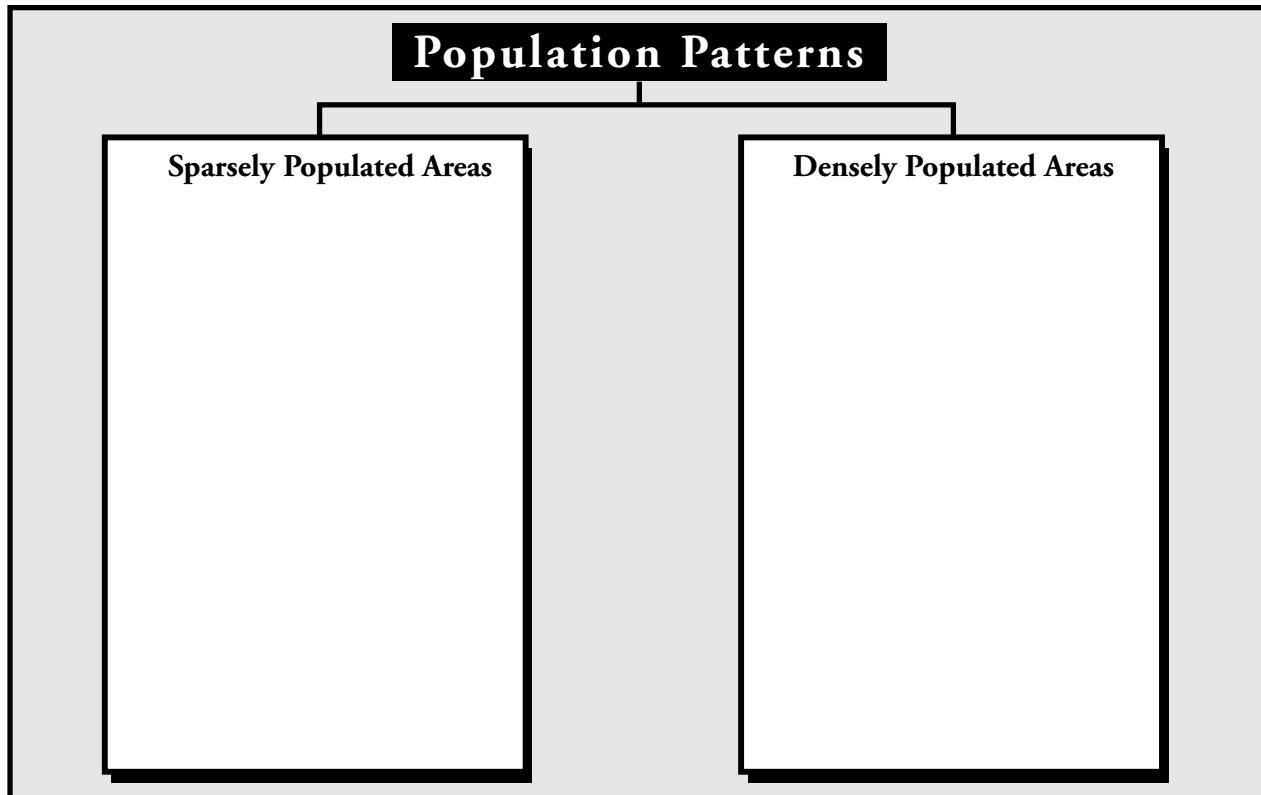
DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Do you live in a rural area or an urban area? How does rural living differ from urban living in the United States?

This section focuses on where people live in South Asia.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the diagram below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about the factors that contribute to the population patterns of South Asia.



(continued)

**STUDY GUIDE****Chapter 24, Section 1****READ TO LEARN****Introduction** (page 587)

Great cities and small villages lie along the Brahmaputra River in South Asia. Life along this river shows the color and diversity of all South Asia.

1. What can traveling along the Brahmaputra River show you about South Asia?

Human Characteristics (page 587)

South Asia has more than one-fifth of the world's population. A complex mix of religious, social, and cultural influences has created a diverse population.

Most Indians are descended from the Dravidians, who have lived in the south for 8,000 years, and the Aryans, who invaded from Central Asia more than 3,000 years ago. Some Indians are descendants of British and Portuguese colonists. Recently refugees from Tibet and Sri Lanka have settled in India. Indians identify themselves by their religion—as Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists, Sikhs, Jains, or Christians. Hindus also identify themselves by a **jati**, a group that defines a person's occupation and social standing.

Pakistan and Bangladesh were once part of British India. Most people in these countries practice Islam. Pakistan has five main ethnic groups. In Bangladesh, most people are Bengali.

Sri Lanka has two main ethnic and religious groups. Buddhist Sinhalese are the majority population who control Sri Lanka's government. Hindu Tamils have been fighting for an independent Tamil state since the early 1980s. Violent clashes between the two groups have killed thousands and forced almost a million people to flee their homes.

The peoples of Bhutan and Nepal are descendants of people from Mongolia. Bhutan's people are divided between Bhote and Tibetan ancestry. Nepal has a complex mix of ethnic groups including the Sherpas, known for their mountaineering skills.

2. What ethnic groups live in South Asia?

Population Density and Distribution (page 588)

South Asia's population density is almost seven times the world average. Although population densities are generally high throughout South Asia,

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they vary from place to place. Factors that affect population densities include climate, vegetation, and terrain.

The Great Indian Desert (Thar Desert) and the region's mountain highlands are sparsely populated because living conditions are difficult there.

The most densely populated areas of South Asia are where rice grows well. These include the fertile Ganges Plain and the monsoon-watered coasts. Population densities in these areas are greater than 2,000 people per square mile.

The small coral islands of the Maldives have the greatest population density of South Asia's countries—2,417 people per square mile. Bangladesh is the second most densely populated country in the region with 2,261 people per square mile. Bangladesh has difficulty feeding its population, so women are encouraged to have fewer children.

3. Why are some areas of South Asia thinly populated and other areas densely populated?

Urban and Rural Life (page 590)

Most South Asians live in rural areas. There are great differences between rural and urban life in the region. Some people in rural areas farm and live in villages. Other rural people are nomadic or seminomadic herding clans who travel in extended family groups.

In recent years large numbers of South Asians have migrated to urban areas in search of better jobs and wages. This rapid urbanization causes housing shortages, overcrowding, and pollution.

Many South Asian cities are very crowded. Mumbai (Bombay) is India's main port on the Arabian Sea and its largest city. It is also a leading center of industry, finance, and filmmaking. Calcutta is a port city on a branch of the Ganges River. It is India's center of iron and steel industries. Delhi is part of an Indian **megalopolis**, a chain of closely linked urban areas. More than a million people live on the streets of Delhi. Dhaka, Bangladesh, is the world's second most densely populated city. Islamabad, the capital, and Karachi, a port, are the largest cities in Pakistan.

4. What do most South Asian cities have in common?



STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 24, Section 2

For use with textbook pages 592–597.

History and Government

Terms to Know

dharma Moral duty (page 593)

reincarnation Rebirth as another living being (page 593)

karma The force generated by a person's actions (page 593)

nirvana A state of insight, calm, and joy (page 594)

raj Hindi word for empire (page 595)

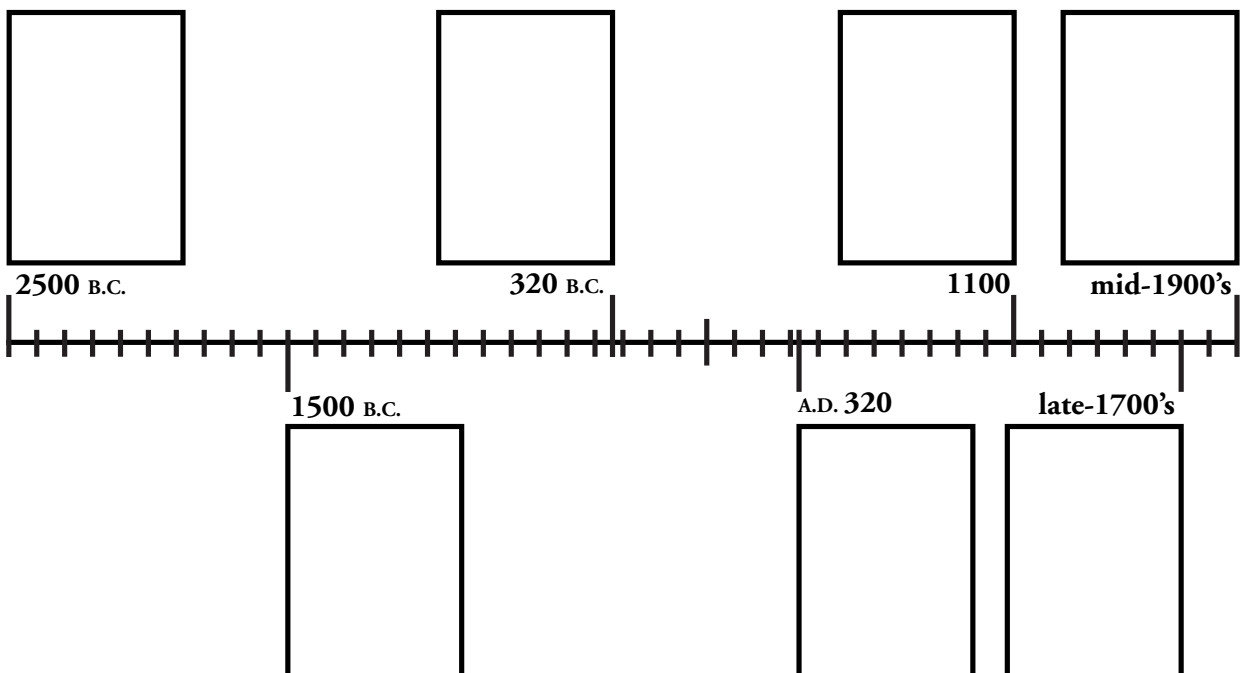
DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

Have you ever seen or heard of a group of people demonstrating to bring attention to their cause? Was the group successful?

In the last section, you read about the human characteristics of South Asia. This section focuses on the history and government of the region.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the time line below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about the civilizations and empires that were established in South Asia.



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STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 24, Section 2

READ TO LEARN

Introduction (page 592)

South Asia's history is the story of groups who migrated to the region because of its wealth of natural resources. Each group influenced the diversity of the region.

1. Why did many groups migrate to South Asia?

Early History (page 592)

There were two early civilizations in South Asia.

- A. Around 2500 B.C. the Indus Valley civilization began in South Asia. This civilization developed a writing system, a strong central government, and an overseas trade. The people built cities with plumbing and sanitation systems. The civilization declined between 1700 and 1500 B.C. when the Indus River changed its course.
 - B. Aryan hunters and herders migrated to South Asia from the northwest and became farmers. They left sacred writings called Vedas, that tell about their society. The Aryan social structure had four groups—warriors (or nobles), priests, artisans and farmers, and enslaved people. As time went on, the social structure became more complex and rigid.
2. Where did the early civilizations of South Asia come from?

Two Great Religions (page 593)

Understanding Hinduism and Buddhism is a key to understanding the history and culture of South Asia:

- A. **Hinduism** is both a religion and a way of life. Every Hindu is required to carry out his or her **dharma**, or moral duty. Hindus believe that after death, people undergo **reincarnation**, or rebirth as another living being. The law of **karma**, or cause and effects, means that all good deeds lead to being reunited with the eternal being, and all bad deeds continue the cycle of rebirth. Hindus honor many gods and goddesses and are generally tolerant of other religions.

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STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 24, Section 2

B. **Buddhism** is both a religion and a way to achieve happiness. Siddhartha Gautama, known as the Buddha or the Awakened one, taught that people suffer because they are too attached to material things. He taught people to think clearly, work hard, and care for all living things in order to be free of endless rebirth. By following the Buddha's teachings people could achieve knowledge and enter **nirvana**, a state of insight, calm, and joy.

3. What are the major beliefs of Hinduism and Buddhism?

Invasions and Empires (page 594)

After the Aryans, other groups invaded South Asia. Four major empires emerged in South Asia.

- A. The **Mauryan Empire** lasted from about 320 to 180 B.C. The empire extended to most of India. The last and greatest Mauryan emperor, Asoka, promoted Buddhism and nonviolence.
- B. The **Gupta Empire**, a highly advanced civilization, lasted from about A.D. 320 to 550. Science, technology, and the arts grew. Arabic numerals were developed by the Gupta.
- C. The **Mogul Empire** was led by Muslims who had conquered northern India by the 1100s. It lasted for several centuries. During Muslim rule, many South Asians converted to Islam.
- D. Europeans took over South Asia in the late 1700s. Portuguese traders first arrived in the region in about 1500. The French and British followed. The British expelled the French in the late 1700s and became the main European power in South Asia. The British **raj**, or empire, introduced the English language to South Asia. The empire reworked the educational system, built railroads, and developed a civil service.

4. What four empires emerged in South Asia?

**Modern South Asia** (page 595)

In the early and mid-1900s Mohandas K. Gandhi led the country's fight for independence. Gandhi used nonviolent methods, such as boycotting British goods, peaceful demonstrations, and hunger strikes. In 1947 Britain granted India its independence. The land became two countries. Areas with a Hindu majority became India. Areas with Muslim majorities became Pakistan. Pakistan consisted of East Pakistan and West Pakistan—separated by 1,000 miles of Indian land. This division of British India caused hundreds of thousands of Hindus and Muslims in the region to move. The movements were often marked by violence.

In 1948 Britain gave Ceylon its independence. In 1972, Ceylon took back the name Sri Lanka. Nepal and Bhutan have always been independent. The Maldives became independent from Britain in 1965. In 1971 East Pakistan revolted against West Pakistan and became the new country of Bangladesh. West Pakistan remained Pakistan.

Border disputes between India and Pakistan have existed since independence. Both countries now have nuclear weapons. Ethnic and religious tensions continue to trouble Sri Lanka.

Today India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh are federal parliamentary republics. India's government has been relatively stable. The military took control of Pakistan's government in 1999. Bhutan and Nepal are monarchies. The Maldives is a republic.

5. What kinds of governments do the countries of South Asia have today?



STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 24, Section 3

For use with textbook pages 600–605.

Cultures and Lifestyles

Terms to Know

guru A teacher (page 601)

mantra A repetitive prayer (page 601)

sadhu A Hindu holy man (page 602)

raga The melody of Indian classical music (page 603)

tala The rhythm of Indian classical music (page 603)

stupa A Buddhist domed shrine (page 604)

dzong A fortified monastery (page 604)

DRAWING FROM EXPERIENCE

What kinds of holidays do you and your family celebrate? How do you celebrate these occasions? South Asians celebrate many holidays.

In the last section, you read about the history and government of South Asia. This section focuses on the cultures and lifestyles of South Asians.

ORGANIZING YOUR THOUGHTS

Use the chart below to help you take notes as you read the summaries that follow. Think about the daily life of people who live in the countries of South Asia.

Cultures and Lifestyles					
Language	Religion	The Arts	Health	Education	Celebrations

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STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 24, Section 3

READ TO LEARN

Introduction (page 600)

The ethnic diversity of South Asia has produced a rich cultural blend of contrasting elements.

1. Why does South Asia have a rich cultural blend?

Languages (page 600)

South Asia has 19 major languages and hundreds of local dialects.

- A. Most languages in northern India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh are of the **Indo-European** family. These languages, including Hindi, Urdu, and Bengali, trace their roots to the Aryan invaders. About half of India's people speak Hindi. Urdu is Pakistan's official language, and Bengali is the language of Bangladesh. Hindustani—a mix of Hindi and Urdu, is spoken in parts of northern India. The official languages of Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Maldives also have Indo-European roots.
 - B. About 20 percent of the people in southern India and Sri Lanka speak **Dravidian** languages, such as Tamil. These languages go back to the earliest people of southern South Asia.
 - C. The languages of Bhutan and parts of Nepal reflect ethnic ties to East Asia.
 - D. English is widely spoken in areas that were once part of the British Empire.
2. How do the languages of the region reflect its ethnic history?

Religions (page 601)

The major religions of South Asia are Hinduism, Islam, and Buddhism. Most people in India and Nepal are Hindus. Most people in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and the Maldives are Muslims. Buddhism is an important religion in Sri Lanka, Bhutan, and Nepal.

(continued)



STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 24, Section 3

Other religions in the region include Jainism, Sikhism, Christianity, and Zoroastrianism. India's three million Jains practice strict nonviolence. Sikhism was founded in the 1500s by a **guru**, or teacher, named Nanak. Most of the 20 million Sikhs live in northwestern India. Many want an independent Sikh state there.

Religion is part of everyday life in South Asia. In Bhutan and Nepal, monks chant **mantras**, or prayers that are repeated over and over. In India, Hindu holy men called **sadhus** wear bright yellow robes and go from temple to temple with blankets and begging bowls. In India cows are sacred, so they roam freely. Many religious groups have formed their own political parties. These organizations try to influence the government to pass laws dealing with religious or social issues.

3. What are some everyday examples of the importance of religion in the life of South Asians?

The Arts (page 602)

The literature of South Asia has its roots in religion. India's two great epic poems, the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*, combine Hindu beliefs with detailed plots and characters. They were written between 1500 and 500 B.C. and are still popular today. India's classical dance styles are based on themes from Hindu mythology. Indian classical music is divided into two types—Hindustani (northern) and Karnatic (southern). The melody is called the **raga**, and the rhythm is called the **tala**. Movies are popular in India and Bangladesh. India's film industry is the world's largest.

South Asians use visual arts to express religious beliefs and record daily life. Some art objects date back to the early civilizations and empires in South Asia. The Hindu temples, Buddhist shrines called **stupas**, and fortified monasteries called **dzong** show the South Asian artistic spirit. The Taj Mahal and the Sikhs' Golden Temple are world famous. Modern South Asian art and architecture blend traditional and Western styles.

4. What is the theme of most works of arts in South Asia?

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**🌐 Quality of Life** (page 604)

South Asian governments and economies are still developing. Lifestyles are a mixture of the traditional and the modern.

Life expectancies in South Asia are generally shorter than those in more developed countries. Sri Lanka has the highest at 76 years. Bhutan's life expectancy is the lowest at less than 53 years. India's is 60 years. Most tropical diseases that were once widespread have been brought under control. South Asia and Southeast Asia have the second-highest rate of HIV infection and AIDS in the world.

The scarcity of clean water in the region makes waterborne diseases common. Infant mortality rates are high in Nepal and Bangladesh.

Farming techniques in the region have improved, but poor nutrition is a challenge. Almost one-third of South Asia's people are too poor to buy high-quality protein foods.

Governments throughout South Asia are working to raise literacy rates. They hope to extend educational opportunities to women and members of lower social classes.

5. What challenges affect the quality of life in South Asia?

🌐 Celebrations (page 605)

Muslims celebrate the end of Ramadan with feasting and family visits. Buddhists, Hindus, Christians, Jains, and Sikhs all celebrate their traditional holidays. South Asians also celebrate national holidays such as Republic Day.

6. What kinds of occasions are celebrated in South Asia?
