

South Asia Study Guide

Vocabulary and important concepts

Hindu Kush the mountain range that is found in Northern Afghanistan

Mt Everest I am the highest elevation in the world found in the Himalayas mountains

Monsoons are seasonal winds which much of India relies on for water for crops

Reincarnation the rebirth of the soul in various forms

Created by the Ayrans, the caste system divided people into four classes called Varna

Brahman the single supreme force which is god is a part of (Hinduism)

Atman the essential soul (Hinduism)

Dharma duties or obligations that should be performed by each caste- can improve your position in your next life

Karma from the Sanskrit word meaning "to do" every deed, mental or physical, in this life affects a person's fate in a future life

Indian National Congress set up in 1885, this group was set up to promote Indian rights

Sepoys Indian soldiers serving in the British army

Satyagraha Gandhi's methods of non-violent resistance- it translates to "truth force"

Civil Disobedience Henry David Thoreau's ideas which inspired Gandhi- it is the refusal to obey unjust laws

Amritsar 1919 event in which more than 10,000 Indians gathered in a public area and British General Dyer ordered his troops to open fire resulting in 379 deaths and more than 1,100 wounded

Indus the ancient cities of Harappa and Mohenjo Daro are found along this river- first civilizations of South Asia found along this river

Caste is the social class system, which you are born into, which defined all aspects of life in India

Taj Mahal this is the ultimate testament to love this great architectural feat is considered one of the wonders of the world, Shah Jahan built this tomb for his beloved wife in the city of Agra in India

What is a subcontinent? Give an example.

Landmass smaller than a continent --- India

What is the importance of monsoons to the people of South Asia?

Depend on them for the fertile soil they bring

Define Hinduism. What are some major aspects of this religion? What is the ultimate goal for Hinduism?

Oldest living religion, 3rd largest, founded in India, based on Aryan tradition
Henotheistic, Moksha

What are the 3 main gods of Hinduism? What do each represent?

Brahma - creator Vishna - Preserver Shiva - Destroyer

Who is the founder of Buddhism?

Siddhartha Gautama

What are the holy books of Hinduism?

Vedas & Upanishads

What is the basic principle for Buddhism? What is the ultimate goal? How can one achieve this goal?

4 Noble Truths Nirvana 8 Fold Path

What is the book of Buddhism?

~~Pandita~~ 3 Baskets of wisdom

What are 3 similarities between Hinduism and Buddhism?

Karma, Reincarnation, Origins in Asia

Who were the 1st Europeans in India?

Portuguese

What was the British East India Company? How did this impact India?

Company set up India to trade Monopoly for the British

Who was the most influential European group in India? What company did they establish?

British British East India Company

Why is the Salt March such a significant part of India's history?

Civil Disobedience, step toward independence,

What is one of the most important lasting effects of British colonial rule in India?

Infrastructure, gov't system, language

In traditional life, why are males preferred over females?

Family Traditions, Family Home, Ceremonies, Patriarchal

What is purdah? How did this impact traditional patterns of life in South Asia?

Complete Seclusion of Women

What types of family are typical for South Asia?

Extended / Joint

Why is the caste system so important to Hindus in India? Name each of the castes and what jobs they may be associated with?

Effects every aspect of life

Brahmans - priest
Kshatriyas - warriors
Vaishyas - landowners, merchants
Sudras - servants

Who are the dalits? How did Gandhi help this group of people? How did he refer to them?

Untouchables

Spoke out, demanded
equal treatment

Harijan - children of god

Why are arranged marriages common in India? What percent of marriages are arranged?

Family Comes 1st

90-95%

What allowed for the caste system to be so successful in India and facilitate the British occupation of India?

It was tied to Hinduism

What was the Sepoy Rebellion? What was the MAJOR result of the Sepoy Rebellion?

Indian soldiers rebelled against
British who may have used cow
and pig grease on paper of gun
cartridge

Major step towards Britain colonizing
India

Officially the caste system was made illegal in 1947. What has weakened the caste system in India?

Modernization, Urbanization, It was made illegal

What is the most widely practiced religion in India today?

Hinduism

Where did Gandhi begin his efforts for non-cooperation against the British government? What system was he protesting?

South Africa, Apartheid

What were 3 examples of Gandhi's efforts of civil disobedience?

Hunger Strike, Salt March, Home Spun, Quiet India

What was Gandhi's ultimate goal for India? (what did he want to happen)

Free Independent Nation for both Hindus & Muslims

After its Independence, India split into two nations India and Pakistan- list the leader of each as well as the major religion.

India - Nehru
Pakistan - Jinnah

~~Give 3 examples of civil disobedience practiced by Gandhi in protest to British rule.~~

Who assassinated Gandhi? Why was he so upset? **Angry Hindu, He wanted 2 separate countries**

India and Pakistan are "fighting" over claims to Kashmir, why? What does Kashmir want?

Both claim it as part of their country because it has lots of resources / Independence

Based on our reading and classroom discussion, what is the most critical global concern with Pakistan?

Nuclear Weapons & Terrorism

What is the economy of Pakistan based on? What is the main export of Pakistan?

Agriculture

Textiles

What are the 2 largest cities found in Pakistan? What is the capital city? What is life like for many in these cities?

Karachi / Lahore

Islamabad

Overcrowded

Who are the mujahedeen? **Afghan freedom fighters who fought the Soviets**

Who are the Taliban? **Terrorist group who took control of Afghanistan after the Soviets left**

Why the Taliban was initially welcomed in Afghanistan?

Looking for peace and stability

Based on our reading, what were three characterizes of the repressive life under the Taliban?

① **Women wear burkas**

② **Women can't go to school**

③ **Women can't leave without male escort**

Where is the world's largest democracy found?

India

Why are cows free to roam the streets in India?

Sacred to Hindus

Describe Bollywood movies.

Colorful, long, music, dancing

What event marks the start of "modern India"?

Split between India & Pakistan

Explain the differences between "midnight's children" and noonday's children".

Very poor, low education

new Young generation, largest group of young people in world, want education, better jobs

Who are the Rohingya? Describe their current situation.

Muslims being discriminated against in Myanmar by the Buddhists

Be familiar with main idea of the current event articles. (graphic organizers)

Map Skills- Be able to place the following on a South Asia map-

Mumbai

Indus River

Afghanistan

Bangladesh

Calcutta

Brahmaputra River

Pakistan

Himalaya Mountains

New Delhi

Ganges River

India

Hindu Kush Mountains