

Cornell Notes 	Topic/Objective: Physical Features, Climate, & Resources	Name:
	History & Cultures	Class/Period:
	South, Southwest, Central Asia Today	Date:

Essential Questions:

Questions:	Notes:
What are the physical features, climate, & resources of South, Southwest, Central Asia?	About 40 million years ago, the Indian subcontinent collided with Asia and formed the Himalaya Mountains.
	A subcontinent is a large landmass that is a major part of a continent.
	During the winter months in Asia, the Himalayas keep the dry, cold air from reaching South Asia.
	The Ganges River, located in India and Bangladesh, is the third largest river, by discharge, in the world and is an important religious symbol to the Hindu people.
	In Southwest Asia is the Rub-al-Khali Desert which is the world's largest all sand desert.
	Southwest Asia (also known as The Middle East) has a wealth of petroleum, an important non-renewable resource to the rest of the world.
	Saudi Arabia produces the most oil in Southwest Asia, and is one of the top petroleum producers in the world.
What is the history & cultures of South, Southwest, Central Asia?	The region of North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia is the birthplace of three world religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Although they have important differences, all three religions are monotheistic.
	The religion of Islam has had the greatest impact and influence on the culture and way of life, including government for South, Southwest, and Central Asia.
	The 5 Pillars of Islam are the basic beliefs of Muslims that influence everyday life.
	The 5 Pillars of Islam include - faith, prayer, charity, fasting, and the Hajj.
	Religious beliefs range from monotheism to polytheism in South, Southwest, and Central Asia.
	In the Hindu religion, there is a belief in the caste system, which is a social group into which people are born.
	Hindu has four Pursuits, the proper goals or aims of human life, namely Dharma (ethics/duties), Artha (prosperity/work), Kama (desires/passions) and Moksha (liberation/freedom/salvation).
	Other themes of Hinduism include karma (action, intent and consequences), samsara (cycle of rebirth), and the various Yogas (paths or practices to attain moksha - freedom from death and rebirth - similar to nirvana in Buddhism).

India	India was a colony of Great Britain for 200 years and gained independence in 1947 after a non-violent protest movement led by Mahatma Gandhi (a Hindu).
	After World War I, Mahatma Gandhi led a non-violent protest movement against the British colonial rule of India boycotting British made goods and practicing civil disobedience to British laws. Gandhi was jailed several times for leading the non-violent protest movement.
	Disagreements over dividing regions of India where majority populations of Hindu and Muslim people lived made independence a challenge.
	In 1947, Britain worked an agreement to create Pakistan (a Muslim majority country) from India (a Hindu majority country).
	A period of religious turmoil in India and Pakistan resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands, including Gandhi, who was assassinated by a Hindu fanatic in January 1948 during a prayer vigil in an area of Muslim-Hindu violence.
	After independence, conflicts between India and Pakistan continue over the Kashmir region along the country's borders.
What is South, Southwest, Central Asia like today?	Southwest Asia's location is at a crossroads of Asia, Africa, and Europe.
	Southwest Asia has a variety of cultures, languages, and religions because of trade that has occurred in the region. Islam has spread and united much of North Africa and Central Asia, but you will find Christianity and Judaism in the region as well.
	Most of the industrialized world has become dependent on petroleum or oil production. Many countries in Southwest Asia are some of the leading oil producing countries in the world.
	In the 1960s, Southwest Asian countries formed Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to organize their oil markets.
	In the 1970s, OPEC countries issued an oil embargo on the United States and other industrialized nations that were supporting Israel. This led to an oil crisis with shortages of oil and increased prices for petroleum products like gasoline. Conflicts in this part of the world continue to influence oil prices even today.
	South and Central Asian countries have benefited in recent years with the outsourcing of labor from industrialized countries, creating jobs in these Asian countries, but leading to job cuts in places like the United States.
Summary:	