

Good Morning Students,

This is the lesson of Class: VIII for the subject of Geography, Topic- Location and

Political division of Asia, which is covered in Chapter: 6: ASIA - Location,  
Political division and Physical feature starting on page no. 80 of your textbook

Although the term Eurasia includes two continents, Asia and Europe, they are separate continents. Asia is the largest of all the seven continents of the world. It comprises one-third the world's land and four-fifth of Eurasia. It is separated by from Europe by an arbitrary dividing line of Ural Mountains. Besides, water bodies such as Black Sea and Caspian Sea also separate Asia from Europe. Asia is separated from Africa by the Red Sea and the Suez Canal. Thus demarcated, Asia is treated as a separate entity. (See Map of Asia on Page 81).

### LOCATION and EXTENT

- Mainland Asia extends from latitude  $10^{\circ}\text{S}$  to  $80^{\circ}\text{N}$ . Equator, Tropic of Cancer and Arctic circle passes through this continent.
- Longitudinal extent is  $25^{\circ}\text{E}$  to  $170^{\circ}\text{W}$ .
- Asian continent covers about 44 million sq km area.
- Arctic ocean lies to its North, Pacific ocean on its East and Indian Ocean on the South.

★ The western boundary of Asia lies along the Ural mountains and includes the area between Caucasus mountains and Black Sea called Transcaucasia.

## A CONTINENT OF CONTRASTS

The vast continent of Asia is often called the Continent of Contrasts, which is well reflected in political as well as physical geography.

- Physically, this land of extremes has the highest mountain peaks including Mount Everest (8848m) in Nepal as well as it has the earth's lowest land surfaces, Shores of the Dead Sea 392m below mean sea level. in Israel. The Plateau of Tibet The often called the Roof of the World is the highest and most expansive plateau.
- Climatically, the continent has recorded the highest temperature  $57.6^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Jacobabad in Pakistan and the lowest temperature  $-50^{\circ}\text{C}$  in Verkhoyansk in Siberia. It receives the highest rainfall (1087cm) at Mawsynram near Cherrapunji in Meghalaya in North-East India and has the largest area with less than 25cm of rainfall per annum in Thar and Arabian desert.
- Its Natural Vegetation varies from mosses and Lichens of Arctic region to lush green forests of the (Rainforest / Evergreen Forest) equatorial regions.
- Population: Asia has some of the most densely populated areas of the world (Hong Kong, Java, Japan, China and India) whereas some parts of sparse population e.g. Siberia.



## Geography Class VIII CH-6.

- Asia has some of the world's most fertile river valleys like Ganga and Indus, Huang Ho, Mekong, Euphrates and Tigris, where all types of crops are cultivated.

On the other hand, there are vast tracts where almost nothing can be grown and which sustain very small population eg. Iran, Afghanistan, Thar, Tibet, Siberia and Mongolia.

- It is the birth place of great religions like Judaism, Christianity and Islam from West Asia; Zoroastrianism from Iran; Confucianism from China and Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism from India.

From the above discussion it is correct/evident that Asia is a Continent of Contrasts.

### HOME WORK:

Read the chapter carefully and also write the countries and their capital in your note books (Marked in the class)

### Note:

Parents are requested to make their child go through the summary along with the chapter from the book. Please ensure that the child must complete the Home-Work.

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