

CHINA, MONGOLIA, AND TAIWAN

East Asia is a region with great wealth and extreme poverty, with ancient cultures and religious practices. It is marked with extended mountain peaks and broad plateaus and plains.

Physical Geography:

- China covers most of this region and has geographic forms that vary from the Himalaya Mountains to the high **Plateau of Tibet** in the west and the Gobi Desert in the north.
- Three key bodies of water in China:
 - Yangtze River
 - Huang He (Yellow) River
 - Grand Canal
- Mongolia is primarily mountains and plateau, with the Gobi Desert stretching across the southern portion of the country.
- Taiwan is covered with mountains and rolling hills.
- Separated from mainland China by the **Taiwan Strait**. This strait varies from 81 to 112 miles wide.

Human Geography:

- China's early history was one of river-valley civilizations and isolation from outside groups for centuries.
- Eight Chinese Dynasties ended with the Manchu Dynasty in 1911. The conservative Nationalist Party (**Chiang Kai-shek**) and the Communist Party struggled for control. By 1949 the Communist had seized control of the major cities in China. **Mao Zedong's** leadership of the Communist party was marked with agricultural, economic, and political disasters.
- China's **communist government** closely monitors the activities and movements of its citizens and tries to restrict their access to information that contradicts the propaganda of Chinese officials.
- Uyghur people
- Reforms enacted after the death of Mao Zedong have resulted in China's economy growing to be one of the top in the world.
- Estimated population in 2019 - 1.4 billion. 91% of population identify as Han.

- The nationalist government of China took control of the island of **Formosa** (Taiwan) in 1945 and moved to the island in 1949 when mainland China was controlled by the communists.
- Taiwan has a state-supported twelve-year compulsory education program.
- 35% Buddhist
- Mongolia was settled by **nomadic people**. Genghis Khan 1206.
- 1920s Mongolia came under Soviet influence and had a Communist government for nearly 70 years.
- During the **Revolution of 1990**, the Mongol people rejected communism and established a multi-party system
- Educational opportunities are unevenly distributed in Mongolia, with overcrowded urban schools and sparsely attended rural schools.

VOCABULARY:

- Tibetan Plateau - the highest plateau in the world with an average elevation of 16,000 feet. "Roof of the World"
- "Asian Tiger"
- one-child policy
- Confucianism
- Taoism