Chapter Summary

Section 1: Independent Nations of South Asia

South Asia was partitioned between Pakistan and India. Bangladesh later broke away from Pakistan. Religious differences among Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, and others have led to tension and several wars.

Section 2: New Nations of Southeast Asia

After World War II, several nations of Southeast Asia sought independence. Some, such as Thailand and Malaysia, have prospered, while others, including Myanmar and the Philippines, have suffered under dictatorships or instability.
Chapter Summary (continued)

Section 3: African Nations Gain Independence
Beginning in the 1960s, 40 African colonies gained independence. Many suffered through tribal and ethnic warfare, dictatorships, military takeovers, and civil wars.

Section 4: The Modern Middle East
The Middle East has been divided over oil wealth and modernism. Islamic fundamentalists have opposed both secular governments and the adoption of Western ideas.
Independent Nations of South Asia

Objectives

- Understand why independence brought partition to South Asia.
- Describe how Indian leaders built a new nation.
- Summarize how Pakistan and Bangladesh grew apart.
- Explain how India and Pakistan pursued independence from the superpowers in their foreign relations.
Terms and People

• partition – division

• Sikhs – a religious minority in India

• Kashmir – an Indian state located in the Himalayan mountains; subject to persistent unrest due to its divided population of Hindus and Muslims

• Jawaharlal Nehru – India’s first prime minister; served from 1947 to 1964

• dalits – outcasts; members of the lowest Hindu caste in India
Terms and People (continued)

- Indira Gandhi – daughter of Nehru; served twice as Indian prime minister, from 1966 to 1977 and from 1980 to 1984
- Punjab – a large Sikh state in India
- Golden Temple – the holiest Sikh shrine
- Bangladesh – formerly East Pakistan; became an independent Bengali nation in 1971
- nonalignment – political and diplomatic independence from the two Cold War superpowers
How did nationalist demands for independence affect South Asia and the world?

As the Cold War was unfolding, global independence movements were reshaping the world.

Among the first new nations to win independence were the former British colonies of South Asia.
In 1947 the nations of India and Pakistan were given their independence by Britain. The *partition* of the South Asian subcontinent into two nations followed violence between Hindus and Muslims.
Mohandas Gandhi and the Hindu Congress Party wanted a unified India.

Muhammad Ali Jinnah and the Muslim League feared Hindu domination.

Britain decided that India would be largely Hindu and Pakistan mainly Muslim.
An estimated 1 million people were killed; many more starved or died of exposure.

When the new borders were announced, about 10 million people fled, mostly on foot, becoming refugees.

Muslims were murdered by Hindus and Sikhs in India, and Hindus were killed by Muslims in Pakistan.
India and Pakistan fought a series of wars over **Kashmir**, an Indian province on the Pakistani border with a large Muslim population.
Although the province was given to India in the partition, a majority of the people of Kashmir are Muslims.
In the 1970s, a nuclear arms race developed between India and Pakistan.

- Both nations successfully held nuclear tests by 1998.
- Neighboring countries in South Asia were alarmed by the increasing hostility. They feared that extremists might get access to nuclear weapons.
The British colony of Ceylon gained independence in 1948 and changed its name to Sri Lanka in 1972.

- A majority of Sri Lankans are Buddhists who speak Sinhalese.
- A minority of Tamil-speaking Hindus have struggled for independence since the 1970s. Terrorism and brutality have been a constant in the conflict.
When it became independent in 1947 India faced many challenges.

The priority of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first prime minister, was to improve India’s economy.

Food output increased, but so did population growth, leading to family planning programs. Nehru also passed laws to economically assist the dalits, members of the lowest Hindu caste.
In 1966 the Congress Party elected Nehru’s daughter, Indira Gandhi, as prime minister.

- Gandhi’s election represented a great advance for women, who had traditionally been discriminated against in India.
- Gandhi served as prime minister for most of the years from 1966 to 1983, when she was assassinated.
India is the world’s largest democracy, but it has faced great difficulty in creating unity.

- Uniting speakers of over 100 languages and dialects has been a challenge.
- Religious hostility between Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, and others has threatened India’s democracy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religions of India</th>
<th>Population (millions)</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Regional Concentration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hinduism</td>
<td>828</td>
<td>80.5</td>
<td>Throughout India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islam</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>Kashmir, Northern India, Southwest Coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Northeastern India, Southwest Coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikhism</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>Northwestern India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhism</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>Northeastern India, West Coast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Throughout India</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: Census of India 2001
Religious strife has led to several crises.

- In 1984 armed separatists took over the Sikh’s holiest shrine, the **Golden Temple**, seeking independence for the **Punjab** province.

- After Gandhi sent in troops to end the revolt, her Sikh bodyguards assassinated her.

- In the late 1980s, Hindu nationalists of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) challenged the secular government. They wanted a Hindu government and encouraged violence against Muslims.
East and West Pakistan were created as one nation in 1947.

- The two parts were separated by 1,000 miles of Indian territory.
- West Pakistan dominated the government, though East Pakistan was more populous.
- Economic growth focused on West Pakistan.
- East Pakistan’s Bengali population resented this neglect.
Bengalis resented the governmental neglect of East Pakistan.

- In 1971 they revolted, **declaring their independence** from Pakistan.
- The Pakistani army tried to crush the rebellion, but this failed because of Indian aid.
- Pakistan had no choice but to accept an independent **Bangladesh**.
Bangladesh struggles to modernize.

- It is a very crowded and poor nation.
- There are frequent tropical storms and floods.
Pakistan has suffered from political instability.

- Muslim fundamentalists favored stricter Islamic law.
- Other groups sought to separate government from religion.
- Tension between ethnic groups and other factions has caused frequent conflict.
The Islamic regions of South Asia have experienced significant ongoing challenges.

- During recent Pakistani elections, conflicts and assassinations have occurred.
- The government faces **tough economic challenges**.
- **Islamic fundamentalism is on the rise** in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Terrorists, including Al Qaeda, have launched attacks.
Pakistan and India were among the first former colonies to gain their independence after World War II.

Over 100 new nations followed; in 1955 they met to reject colonialism and Cold War expansionism.

A doctrine of non-alignment emerged among many “Third World” nations.

Nonaligned nations opposed joining either Western or Soviet alliances in the Cold War.
Objectives

- Explain the political and economic contrasts in mainland Southeast Asia.
- Understand how Indonesia’s size posed challenges.
- Summarize how the Philippines sought independence.
Terms and People

- **autocratic** – to have absolute power
- **Aung San Suu Kyi** – Nobel Prize winner who struggled unsuccessfully against the military government in Myanmar
- **Sukarno** – first president of Indonesia
- **Suharto** – Indonesian general who ruled as a dictator for three decades
Terms and People (continued)

- **East Timor** – former Portuguese colony seized by Indonesia in 1975; gained independence in 2002

- **Ferdinand Marcos** – elected president of the Philippines in 1965; became a dictator; had his main rival murdered and removed basic freedoms

- **Benigno Aquino** – popular political rival of Ferdinand Marcos; murdered by Marcos

- **Corazon Aquino** – widow of Benigno Aquino; elected in 1986 and became president after a “people power” revolution forced Marcos to retire
What challenges did Southeast Asian nations face after winning independence?

Southeast Asia includes a portion of the Asian mainland and thousands of islands. Much of it had been colonized by Western nations. During World War II, the Japanese occupation broke the power of the Europeans, spurring local rebels to fight against foreign occupation.

After World War II, these rebels demanded independence from colonial powers.
Southeast Asia is a region of great contrasts.

- Prosperous market economies such as Malaysia and Thailand have existed side by side with brutal autocratic regimes such as Myanmar.
- It is also a region of great religious diversity.
Religious Composition of Major Southeast Asian Nations

- Indonesia: Muslim 70%, Buddhist 20%, Christian 5%, Hindu 2%
- Malaysia: Muslim 50%, Buddhist 30%, Christian 10%, Hindu 7%, Other 3%
- Myanmar: Buddhist 95%, Christian 4%
- Philippines: Buddhist 1%, Christian 30%, Muslim 5%, Hindu 1%, Other 64%
- Thailand: Buddhist 95%, Christian 1%
- Vietnam: Buddhist 90%, Christian 5%, Muslim 2%

*Source: Encyclopaedia Britannica*
Malaysia has been one of the most prosperous nations of Southeast Asia.

- The former British colony has a diverse population.
- People of Chinese and Indian descent have long dominated business, but the government worked to include the majority Malay in the prosperity.
Myanmar is the former British colony of Burma.

- A military dictatorship has limited foreign trade, and living standards are low.
- **Aung San Suu Kyi**, whose election in 1995 was rejected by the military, was awarded a Nobel Prize for her peaceful yet unsuccessful efforts to free Myanmar.
Indonesia gained independence in 1949 from the Netherlands. Roughly half the people are Javanese and 90 percent are Muslim.

The country is spread over 13,000 islands, so achieving unity has been difficult.

Indonesia has faced difficulties due to its diversity and geography.
Indonesia’s first president, **Sukarno**, helped establish a democratic nation.

He called for unity and acceptance of minority rights.

His reforms did not last, however.

**Sukarno became more authoritarian and was ousted.**
Indonesia began as a democracy under its first president, Sukarno.

In 1965, General Suharto seized power.

Under Suharto’s authoritarian rule, hundreds of thousands of Indonesians were killed.
In 1997 Indonesia was hurt by an Asian financial crisis.

Suharto was forced to resign in 1998 after massive demonstrations against government corruption.

Elected leaders have worked since to restore democracy.
In the Molluccas, Christians and Muslims have battled.

Discrimination against the Chinese minority has been a problem.

Rebels in Papua on the island of New Guinea and Muslim separatists in Aceh have sought independence.

Religious and ethnic tensions have been a source of conflict in Indonesia.
Indonesia faced additional challenges.

- **East Timor**, which Indonesia seized in 1975, fought for and won its independence in 2002.

- A tsunami in 2004 killed 100,000 people in Aceh. It also ravaged Thailand, Sri Lanka, and other lands in the region.
The Philippines is also made up of many islands and a diverse population.

- After 50 years of United States rule, the Philippines became independent in 1949.
- Catholicism remains the predominant religion, but there is a large Muslim population.
A wealthy elite ruled the nation, and communists, called Hooks, rebelled.

Elected in 1965, Marcos ended basic freedoms.

He had main rival Benigno Aquino killed.

The Philippines was originally a democracy, but Ferdinand Marcos became a dictator.
In 1986 Marcos was finally forced to hold elections. He was beaten by Corazon Aquino, the widow of his slain rival.

While the economy has grown, poverty and urban unrest are still issues.

A “people power” revolution forced Marcos to accept the loss.
Objectives

• Describe how Africa’s colonies gained independence.

• Explain how Africans built new nations.

• Analyze the recent history of five African nations.
Terms and People

- **savannas** – grasslands with scattered trees
- **Kwame Nkrumah** – leader of the independence movement in the Gold Coast (which became Ghana) and later president of the nation
- **Jomo Kenyatta** – leader of the independence movement in Kenya and its president for 15 years.
- **coup d’État** – the forcible overthrow of a government
Terms and People (continued)

• **Mobutu Sese Seko** – dictator in the Congo who ruled brutally for 32 years before being ousted

• **Islamists** – people who want a government based on Islamic law and beliefs

• **Katanga** – mineral-rich province in the Congo

• **Biafra** – oil-rich region of Nigeria that declared itself independent and suffered hundreds of thousands of deaths as it was retaken by Nigeria
What challenges did new African nations face?

In 1963 Kenya became one of the forty African colonies that would become independent nations. Bands played new national anthems, and crowds cheered the good news.

However, as Africans celebrated their newfound freedom, they also faced many challenges.
Africa has great geographic diversity including deserts, savannas (grasslands), and tropical rainforests.
Africa has many resources.

| **Fertile farmland** | • Nigerian savanna and forests  
|                     | • Moist East African highlands  
|                     | • Coastal lands in the north and south |
| **Mineral wealth**   | • Gold, copper, and diamonds  
|                     | • Petroleum (oil) and natural gas |
| **Cash crops**       | • Coffee  
|                     | • Cacao (chocolate) |
In some areas political pressure was enough to gain independence, as in Nigeria and Ghana.

In others, where many Europeans had settled, there was violence, as in Algeria and Kenya.

African calls for independence were led by speakers such as Kwame Nkrumah in the Gold Coast and Jomo Kenyatta in Kenya.
Some nations enjoyed peace, democracy, and prosperity. Some fell into civil war, chaos, and dictatorships.

Ethnic divisions have been a major challenge, because the European colonial powers paid little attention to these loyalties when drawing boundaries.
Dictators outlawed opposing parties as threats to unity.

Dictators used their positions to enrich themselves and a privileged few.

One-party dictatorships and military coup d’états have been problems.

Bad government policies often led to violence, resulting in military takeovers or coup d’états.
Africans in most nations have demanded an end to strongman rule.

Western nations have made aid contingent on democratic reform.

Nations such as Tanzania and Nigeria have held elections, ousting long-ruling leaders.

Military governments often promised to restore democracy, but they frequently remained in power—until another coup.
African nations have faced difficulty eliminating foreign control.

- Some remained economically dependent on aide from former colonial powers.
- During the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union competed for alliances among African states, leading to support for corrupt dictators such as Mobuto Seso Seko.
New nations have many experiences in common, but the history of each is unique.
The first new nation in Africa south of the Sahara was the Gold Coast, which became Ghana in 1957.

- Led by a socialist, **Kwame Nkrumah**, Ghana nationalized businesses and constructed a huge power dam. These steps led to massive debt.

- Government corruption and dictatorial rule led to several military coups, starting in 1966.
After a coup in 1981, the economy was strengthened and power was restored to the people of Ghana.

- Military officer Jerry Rawlings took control.
- An economy based on exports of gold and cacao was improved.
- He peacefully handed over power after losing an election in 2002.
In East Africa, Kenya gained independence in 1963 after an armed rebellion.

- White settlers in the fertile highlands had displaced Kikuyu farmers and were determined to keep the land.

- Kikuyu spokesman Jomo Kenyatta, who was jailed, had demanded return of the land to the Africans.
The British withdrew, but only after great violence.

In 1963, Kenya achieved independence. Kenyatta had became a national hero and became president.

However, he ruled as a dictator until the 1990s. Recent elections have been plagued by corruption.
Over a million French citizens lived in Algeria. France did not wish to leave or to give up oil and natural gas wells.

- Algeria gained independence after eight years of war.
- The military took over Algeria and fought rebels who were **Islamists**; over 100,000 people were killed.
- The conflict slowed in 1999, but the tensions still remain.
The Democratic Republic of the Congo was the former Belgian Congo.

- In 1960 Belgium rushed independence so that mining officials could work with rebels to control mineral-rich Katanga Province.
- This was complicated when Cold War superpowers backed rival leaders in Congo.
In 1965 Mobutu took over in a military coup. His 30-year rule was corrupt and bankrupted the Congo.

- Mobutu was finally driven from power in 1997.
- Civil war continued.

In 2006 Joseph Kabila became president in the nation’s first free elections in 41 years.
Nigeria, the most populous nation in Africa, gained independence in 1960.

- Discovery of oil in 1963 gave hope for a better future, but prosperity has been elusive.
- Religious, ethnic, and regional differences have led to friction and military coups. This includes the three-year war over Biafra.
- Conflict continued despite free elections in 1999.
Objectives

• Analyze the diversity of the Middle East and the political challenges it has faced.

• Explain the region’s conflicts over religion and resources.

• Outline the history of nation-building in three Middle Eastern nations.
Terms and People

- **kibbutz** – a collective farm in Israel
- **secular** – nonreligious
- **hejab** – traditional Muslim headscarf and loose-fitting, ankle-length garments meant to conceal
- **Suez Canal** – waterway linking Europe to East Africa and Asia
- **Gamal Abdel Nasser** – Egyptian nationalist leader who seized power in 1952; determined to modernize Egypt and stop Western domination
Terms and People (continued)

• **Anwar Sadat** – successor to Nasser, and the first Arab leader to make peace with Israel

• **Mohammad Mosaddeq** – in 1951, elected prime minister of Iran; nationalized Iran’s oil industry, but was ousted by Shah Pahlavi, with American help

• **Ruhollah Khomeini** – ayatollah or religious leader who condemned the West; in 1979 proclaimed an Islamic republic and forced the exile of the shah

• **theocracy** – a government run by religious leaders
What were the main similarities and differences among Middle Eastern nations?

During the 1950s and 1960s leaders such as Egypt’s Gamal Abdel Nasser tried to build strong nations across the Middle East.

Despite rich reserves of oil and natural gas in some parts of the region, internal divisions and autocratic governments have hindered progress.
Britain and France carved much of the Middle East into mandates after World War I. During the 1930s and 1940s these became Israel, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan.
Most people in the Middle East are Muslims.

- There are also ethnic and religious minorities, including some Christians and Jews.
- Most governments are autocratic, including hereditary monarchies and nationalistic military rulers.
The Kurds are an ethnic group with their own unique culture and language.

- They are a minority in Turkey, Iran, and Iraq.
- They have experienced harsh treatment and discrimination, especially in Turkey and Iraq.
- The Kurds fought with the Iraqi and Turkish governments, who suppressed their cultures and denied them independence. Thousands have died in these conflicts.
Israel was established as a Jewish homeland.

Many Jewish Holocaust survivors sought to migrate there after World War II.

In 1947, the UN drew up a plan to divide the Palestine Mandate into an Arab and a Jewish state.
In 1948 Israel proclaimed its independence. Neighboring Arab states attacked, but were defeated.

- This was the first of several Arab-Israeli wars lost by the Arab nations.
- Hundreds of thousands on both sides were displaced by the fighting.
- Camps were set up by the U.N. in neighboring Arab lands for Palestinians.
Parts of the Middle East sit atop huge oil reserves.

The result has been that some Arab nations have prospered, while others, without oil, have struggled.

Muslim Middle Easterners have also struggled over the role of Islam in a modern economy.
The oil-rich nations of the Middle East formed OPEC in 1960.

- In OPEC is the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.
- Today OPEC focuses more on regulating oil prices and distribution rather than politics.
Some nations have adopted **secular** models for the economy, government, styles of dress, and behavior.

Islamists want to return to Sharia, or Islamic law, blaming social ills on Western, secular ideas.

Disagreement exists on modernism and Islam.
Conditions for women vary greatly from country to country.

- In most countries women have legal equality.

- In urban areas of Egypt, Turkey, and Syria many have given up wearing the traditional hejab.

- In conservative Saudi Arabia or Iran, however, women must be covered in public.
Traditionally, women in Muslim countries were not educated.

Literacy for both men and women has been improving.

**Rising Literacy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage Over Age 15 Able to Read and Write</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Turkey 87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Turkey 94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia 79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Males (Blue) &amp; Females (Orange)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOURCE: Encyclopaedia Britannica
Egypt is the largest and most populous nation in the Middle East.

- Most people live within the narrow Nile River valley.
- Egypt’s location is important because it controls the Suez Canal linking Europe to Asia and East Africa.
Gamal Abdel Nasser seized power in 1952. He worked to modernize Egypt and end Western domination, including the nationalization of the Suez Canal.

In 1979, his successor Anwar Sadat was the first Arab leader to make peace with Israel.

When Sadat was assassinated, Hosni Mubarak took over. Extremists turned to terrorist attacks; the government cracked down.
Iran’s oil made it a focus of Western interest. In 1951 Mohammad Mosaddeq became prime minister and tried to nationalize the oil fields.

The shah, who favored the West, ousted Mosaddeq and gave the oil fields back to Western owners.

Iranian nationalists were enraged. Islamic clerics also opposed the shah.
Over the following decades Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi continued to anger Muslim clerics.

- He used oil wealth to build industry and redistributed land.
- He continued to Westernize Iran.
- His secret police terrorized his critics.
In 1979 the shah was driven from power and an Islamic theocracy was established.

- It was led by the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, a religious leader who condemned Western influence.
- The new government was a theocracy based on Islamic law. It silenced critics in the same manner as the Shah had done.
- Theocratic rule led to violent conflict with Iraq and tensions with the West.
The royal family has been criticized for its economic ties to the West, but it has backed fundamentalist Islam as well.

Some fear that the Saudis and other oil-rich Arab states of the Persian Gulf are in danger from terrorist attacks.

Saudi Arabia is home to the Muslim holy land and also has the world’s largest oil reserves.