

# PREFACE AND LEARNING SYSTEM IDEAS AND RESPONSES

This 2002 Update for the Second Edition of *World Regional Geography: The New Global Order* brings more than current statistics and events and responses to reviewer comments. All that is done—and more.

The first chapter has been recast to focus on the processes of globalization and localization within the New Global Order and their impacts at four geographic scales—global, world regional, country, and local. This places a greater emphasis on the need for a World Regions course at the start of a new century.

Chapter 2—Basics of World Regional Geography—has also received the sort of attention it would get for a full new edition since events and ideas have moved on in the last two years. The regional chapters 3 through 11, have new openings related to the new ideas introduced at the outset.

Two sets of diagrams that occur in each of the regional chapters—age-sex “pyramids” and demographic transition—have been updated and increased in usefulness. Moreover, the book’s website has been redesigned and contains new matter to augment both instructor’s and student’s experiences of the course. A new e-source CD containing the text and illustrations of this edition, links to current websites, and a study base will be available in the fall of 2001.

*This preface combines:*

- an introduction to the ideas that stimulated the writing of the book;
- the ways in which the author responded to reviewers across the United States; and
- connections to ways in which instructors and students may use the book’s resources in the learning process.
- New features in the second edition, often suggested by reviewers, are highlighted in bold type.

As we enter a new century, a new global order is emerging. Travel and communications extend our experience of the world, while international trade and political agreements become more wide-ranging in significance. Knowledge of world geography—and of how local



places relate to the global context—is increasingly important for living in our world.

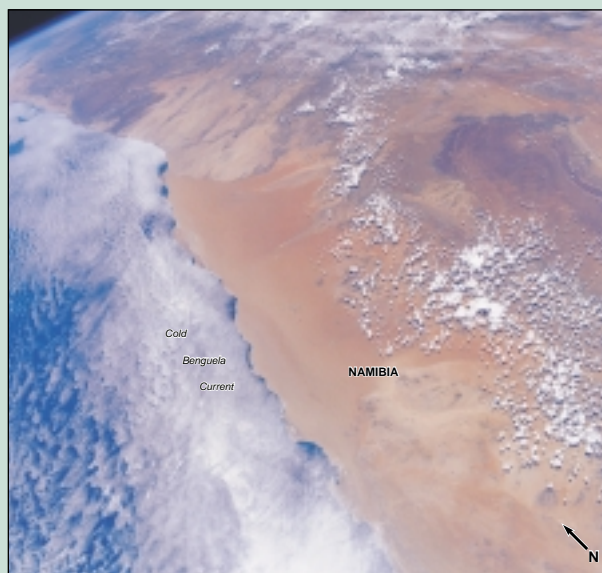
What problems face the Israeli-Palestinian negotiators? Why are some West Indian islands vulnerable to volcanic eruptions? What made the African countries fall behind the rest of the world’s economic and political development? Why did the United States ignore Africa until recently, and why is it now showing interest? What differences are the political changes in Russia making to the lives of people in different parts of that country? Will China become a leader among world countries? What are the real problems behind conflicts in Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Kosovo, or Chiapas? Why did the “Asian Miracle” turn sour? Can the European Union overcome national differences among its members—let alone admit former Soviet bloc countries? How are Islamic extremists affecting the

governments of their own countries? These issues get headlines in newspapers and on TV news. Each has a geographic component, affecting a particular country or region within that country. Many issues have wider implications for the surrounding countries and may be worldwide.

This text provides a geographic account of the world for the new century. Geographic studies not only inform as to where places are in relation to each other. They evaluate the implications of current movements of people from place to place and shifts in the distribution of economic activities. Geographers examine such features in the contexts of continuing cultural characteristics and environmental conditions.

## Global View

The global view is growing in significance, but does not—and may never—reduce the significance of the regional or local views. Since 1991, world political relationships are no longer inevitably divided as they were by the Cold War ideologies. And yet the end of that conflict did not lead to worldwide political leadership from the United Nations or the United States. A single economic system now operates around the world, and



## WEBSITES: Southern Asia

**New!**

[www.virtualbangladesh.com/](http://www.virtualbangladesh.com/) is an excellent site. Take the "Grand Tour" and access satellite views and maps. What have you learned about the country that affects its place in the wider world?

[www.dailystarnews.com](http://www.dailystarnews.com) is a Bangladeshi newspaper site, giving news highlights and fuller information. What events happened over the last few days that have an influence on the political or economic environment of the country?

[www.indiagov.org](http://www.indiagov.org)

[www.pak.gov.pk/](http://www.pak.gov.pk/)

The government sites of India and Pakistan. Find out reasons given for hostilities between the two countries. Look up the sections on "Economy—Industry" (India) and "Economy—Energy" (Pakistan).

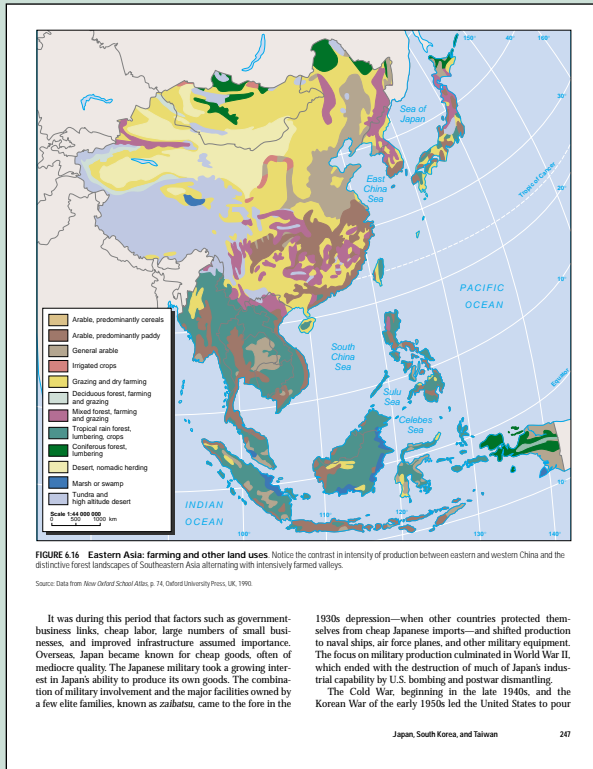
[www.lk/](http://www.lk/) The Sri Lankan site. Access "Economy" and "Tea Board" to find out how one of this country's major crops is marketed.

yet regional variations may give advantages to some countries. The globalizing of popular culture is likewise gaining ground wherever radio, TV, and the Internet penetrate, but it cannot destroy the influence of older cultural factors. There is a growing sense of environmental oneness, but differences of concern and ability or willingness to deal with issues remain. **At the outset, Chapter 1 emphasizes the impacts of global forces on local activities—a major focus throughout the text.**

## Regional Views

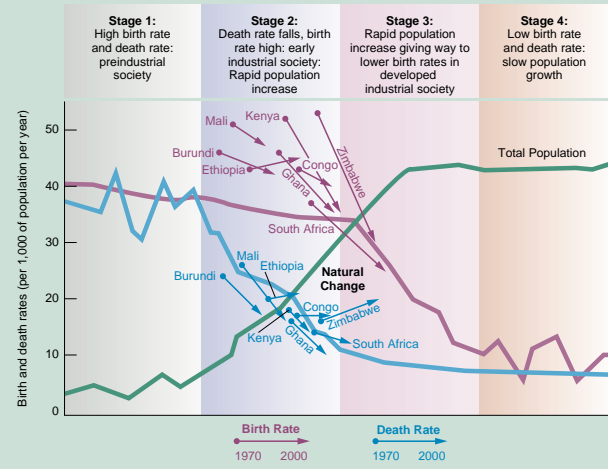
Today regions at world region, country, and local scales operate within the global context. Each contributes its own resources and character to the overall picture and together form the basic elements of geographic studies.

Geographers focus on human and physical elements of our world. **Chapter 2 is devoted to describing the general geographic principles that underlie regional**



studies. They include the significance of political divisions, population distributions and dynamics, economic processes, cultural impacts, and the influence of natural environments. Geographers examine the world using a variety of tools that have been enhanced by modern technology. Maps combined with satellite images and statistical data become geographic information systems; book-based information is extended by Internet websites. As geographic studies become more aware of the global, technology has made it possible to gain a greater comprehension of the daunting task of understanding such a large and complex world.

Each of Chapters 3 through 11 contains two boxes that emphasize the significance of both global and regional elements. The *World Issue* boxes focus on issues that affect the region concerned but also have worldwide implications. The *Living in . . .* boxes focus on day-to-day issues in a specific country through the



eye of an individual who has lived there; they give a more personalized view of local conditions. A *Living in Russia* box is added to Chapter 8.

## Comparisons

World regions are the subject of most of this book—Chapters 3 through 11. The global outlook of regional geographic studies, based around contrasts in human development, makes comparisons inevitable. Such comparisons further the understanding of problems faced and of ways in which those problems are met in other regions.

## Learning System

A textbook is designed to help students make the most of their course. A number of features in this text facilitate study:

- Each regional chapter follows a pattern that makes it straightforward to compare one region with another. Chapters begin by covering regionwide features such as the place that region holds in the world, the major common cultural historical factors that formed the region's character, and the natural environmental backdrop. The common sections are reinforced in the maps and diagrams, providing the same pattern in each chapter.

## RECAP 5B: India

India has the world's second-largest population and dominates Southern Asia in land area, population, resources, and economic activity. India remains a largely rural country, although the major cities such as Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi are growing rapidly. Most of the people are Hindus, and still affected by the caste system. India's economy is characterized by low productivity in agriculture and manufacturing that produces goods for local markets, but the northwestern agricultural area and the west coast industrial area around Bombay are developing rapidly.

- 5B.1 What are the advantages and disadvantages of the Green Revolution in India?
- 5B.2 How do the poorer and richer areas of India contrast with each other? What factors are responsible for the geographic differences?
- 5B.3 Were India's nuclear tests in May 1998 really necessary? What would an Indian government minister say?

### Key Terms:

Hindi                      Green Revolution

### Key Places:

India, Republic of	<i>Delhi</i>	<i>Bangalore</i>
	<i>Bombay</i>	<i>Madras</i>
	<i>Calcutta</i>	<i>Ahmadabad</i>
	<i>Hyderabad</i>	

- Each major region is divided into subregions, and studies of these focus on the internal variety of countries and smaller regions, the characteristics of the people, and the level of economic development.
- At the end of each chapter two regionwide sections summarize the geographic character of a region through its landscapes and assess the region's future prospects.
- The first two pages of each chapter now combine two **globelike maps** showing the region, its subregions, and its physical features. There is an **overview of chapter contents** and a **diagram that highlights the relationships of countries in the region** to the rest of the world in terms of income per head.

## CHAPTER REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following countries was an original member of the European Economic Community in 1957? (a) The United Kingdom (b) Denmark (c) Spain (d) France (e) All of the above were original members of the EEC.
2. In 1997, NATO invited which former communist country(ies) to apply for membership in 1999? (a) Ukraine (b) Poland (c) Czech Republic (d) Hungary (e) b, c, and d
3. Transportation in Europe during the early periods of colonialization and industrialization was eased by (a) an integrated road network (b) an abundance of navigable major rivers and sea ports (c) comprehensive railroad networks (d) early airline links (e) all of the above
4. Which of the following is a reason for the pollution problem in the Mediterranean Sea? (a) Many surrounding countries discharge their sewage into the sea (b) Oil and other pollutants leak from ships passing through the sea (c) The relatively closed basin limits the amount of seawater coming in and out to dilute the pollutants (d) There are many urban-industrial centers on, or close to, the Mediterranean coast (e) All of the above
5. Europe has some of the highest population densities in the world. Which subregion of Europe has the highest population density? (a) Alpine (b) Western Europe (c) Eastern Europe (d) Balkan Europe (e) Mediterranean Europe
6. Which sector of the economy employs the largest proportion of the workforce in most Western European countries? (a) Mining (b) Agriculture (c) Manufacturing (d) Service sector (e) Military
7. Which of the following European countries are monolingual (i.e. have only one official language)? (a) Belgium (b) France (c) Switzerland (d) Serbia-Montenegro (e) All of the above
8. Which of the following European countries were part of the Soviet Union before 1991? (a) Estonia (b) Czech Republic (c) Slovenia (d) Poland (e) Hungary
9. Which of the former Yugoslav republics is the wealthiest and has the closest ties with the stronger European economies to the north and west? (a) Macedonia (b) Serbia-Montenegro (c) Croatia (d) Slovenia (e) Bosnia-Herzegovina
10. Cities with medieval cores and strict protections on building preservation are characteristic of which subregional urban landscape? (a) Northern European cities (b) Swiss cities (c) Balkan cities (d) Eastern European cities (e) All of the above
11. The modern world economic system was established in Europe. True / False
12. The European Union (EU) arose from attempts to reclaim lands invaded by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II. True / False
13. From 1750 to 1900, northwest Europe took a central role in the technological innovations that led to fresh expansions of industrial activity in products and new places. True / False
14. Countries which are invited to apply for EU membership in the near future include Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, and Switzerland. True / False
15. The climatic pattern most prevalent in Europe, and extending from northern Norway to northern Italy, is the Mediterranean climate. True / False
16. Europe is the world's major center of tourism. True / False

Chapter Review Questions

353

- The text is written in a style that is clear but does not insult by being too simple.
- **Much has been written for the new edition**, paragraphs are shorter, there are more sideheads, and some sections (like this one) are bulleted.
- Several times in a chapter the information is summarized in **RECAP sections** that have been expanded to include critical theory questions (some suggested by reviewers) about that region, and a list of Key Terms and Key Places.
- **Websites provide a huge potential set of connections** to materials that extend and update available information. Websites are introduced in Chapter 2 and listings close each regional chapter. There is a special website for this book (<http://www.mhhe.com/earthsci/geography/bradshaw2e>) that includes updated examples and a bulletin board.
- The illustrations—photos, maps, and diagrams—are designed to work with the text and to provide a visual impression of each region. The legends draw your attention to details, sometimes by asking

questions about the content. Where diagrams, such as the demographic transition diagram, are repeated in each chapter, they are explained in Chapter 2.

- NASA space shuttle photos are a special feature of the new edition (see Figures 3.30, 4.5, 5.10, 6.21).
- Maps are designed to be appropriate to the course level. There are new maps of population distribution and natural vegetation/land uses in each regional chapter (see Figures 3.12, 3.17).
- At the end of each chapter are 30 sample test questions that will help students review the chapter.
- The Reference Section at the end of the book contains glossaries of the Key Terms and Key Places, together with additional information on map projections, a list of further reading and CD-ROMs that can be consulted, and an index. The new data tables have been designed to provide information on each country.
- Use of compass directions. All uses of "western," "northern," "southeastern," etc., are in lower case, except where they are part of the title of a specific World Region or subregion. Thus, "North Africa" (a subregion including Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya), but "northern Africa" to indicate whole north coastal area of Africa including Egypt.