

Concept of the World Map

South Asia

1. Bangladesh
2. Nepal
3. Pakistan
4. India
5. Sri Lanka
6. Maldives
7. Bhutan
8. Afghanistan

[According to the UN, Iran is a South Asian country]

Note: Apart from Nepal and Bhutan, all South Asian countries were British colony. Nepal, Bhutan and Afghanistan are not commonwealth members and landlocked countries of South Asia.



Southeast Asia

1. Malaysia
2. Thailand
3. Vietnam
4. The Philippines
5. Indonesia
6. Laos
7. Myanmar
8. Brunei
9. Cambodia
10. Singapore
11. East Timor

Note: Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos were part of French Indochina. Only Thailand was never colonized in Southeast Asia.

Far East

1. China
2. Japan
3. Mongolia
4. South Korea
5. North Korea

Note: Mongolia was a colony of China. The Korean Peninsula was officially divided along the 38th parallel north in 1948.



Central Asia

1. Turkmenistan
2. Kazakhstan
3. Tajikistan
4. Kyrgyzstan
5. Uzbekistan

Note: All these were part of the Soviet Union. All these are landlocked countries. Kazakhstan is the biggest Muslim country by area; it is also the biggest landlocked country in the world.

State	Capital
Assam	Dispur
Mizoram	Aizawl
Tripura	Agartala
Meghalaya	Shillong
Arunachal	Itanagar
Nagaland	Kohima
Manipur	Imphal

Note: China claims Arunachal as a part of China. Kuki and Meitei communities are in conflict in Manipur.



Scandinavian Countries

State	Capital
Finland	Helsinki
Iceland	Reykjavik
Norway	Oslo
Denmark	Copenhagen
Sweden	Stockholm

Note: Scandinavian countries are also known as Nordic countries.

Central America

1. Guatemala
2. Honduras
3. Nicaragua
4. Costa Rica
5. Panama
6. Belize
7. El Salvador



West Asia (Middle East)

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Lebanon | 2. Syria |
| 3. Israel | 4. Jordan |
| 5. Saudi Arabia | 6. Yemen |
| 7. Oman | 8. Bahrain |
| 9. Qatar | 10. United Arab Emirates |
| 11. Kuwait | 12. Iraq |
| 14. Iran | 15. Palestine |
| 16. Cyprus | 17. Turkiye |
| 18. Egypt | |

Note: The number of countries considered to be part of the Middle East can vary depending on the definition used. Among these, 6 are GCC countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates.

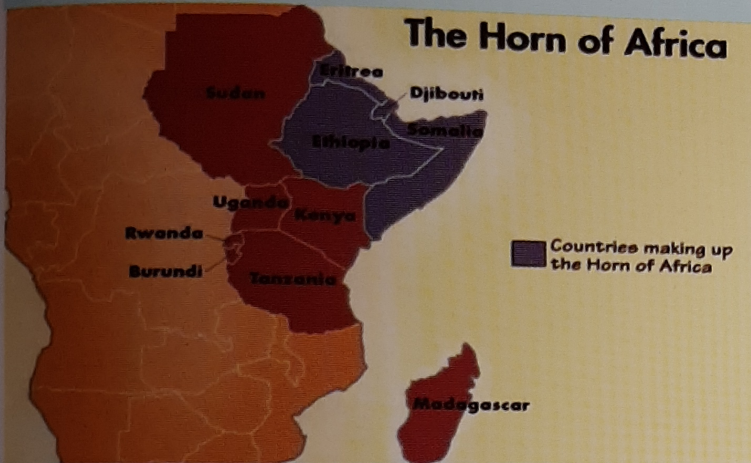
South America

1. Chile
2. Argentina
3. Uruguay
4. Paraguay
5. Bolivia
6. Peru
7. Ecuador
8. Brazil
9. Colombia
10. Venezuela
11. Guyana
12. Suriname

Note: Only Bolivia and Paraguay are the landlocked countries of South America.



The Horn of Africa



Horn of Africa

1. Ethiopia
2. Eritrea
3. Djibouti
4. Somalia

Note: Horn of Africa is a large peninsula and geopolitical region in East Africa.

Baltic States

1. Estonia
2. Latvia
3. Lithuania

Note: All three countries are members of NATO, the European Union, the Eurozone, and the OECD.



Places that separate Africa and Asia

1. Suez Canal
2. Red Sea
3. Bab-el-Mandeb

Note: Suez canal separates Sinai and Egypt; Red Sea separates African countries from Saudi Arabia and Yemen; Bab-el-Mandeb separates Yemen from Djibouti.



Strait of Malacca

1. Connects: Andaman Sea (Indian Ocean) and South China Sea (Pacific Ocean)
2. Separates: Indonesia and Malaysia

Note: It is considered as the biggest strait in the world.



Strait of Gibraltar

1. Connects: North Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea
2. Separates: Morocco (Africa) and Spain (Europe)

Note: It is called the key to the Mediterranean.

Israel-Palestine Map

1. Palestine is divided into two regions: West Bank and Gaza Strip
2. It is called West Bank because it is to the West of Jordan river.
3. The rest of the land is in Israel's control.
4. The holy land-Jerusalem is in the West Bank.



Russia-Ukraine Map

Donbas region is in Eastern Ukraine. The city of Luhansk and Donetsk are in Donbas region where Russia and Ukraine are at war. Russia also annexed Kherson and Zaporizhia.

Continents of the World

The Earth at a Glance

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Age of the earth: 4.5 billion years ➤ The third planet of the solar system: The Earth ➤ Area: 510 million sq km | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Land mass: 29% ➤ Water mass: 71% ➤ Fresh Water: 3% and 97% is salt water |
|---|--|

Continents: 7

Continent	Note
Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia is not only the largest continent by population, but also the largest continent by size. • Although Asia is the largest continent by size and population, the African continent has more countries than Asia. • China is the largest country in Asia while India has the largest population.
Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The continent of Africa has 54 countries. • Africa is the second-largest continent in the world. • The largest country by land area in Africa is Algeria and Nigeria is the most populous country of Africa.
North America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North America is the third largest continent in the world.
South America	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 12 sovereign countries in South America. • Brazil is the largest country in South America. • South America is connected to North America through the Isthmus of Panama.
Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe is divided into about fifty sovereign states, of which Russia is the largest and most populous.
Antarctica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The southernmost continent on earth is Antarctica. • Earth's south pole is located in Antarctica; it is the smallest continent by population. • Antarctica is mainly a polar desert.
Oceania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the smallest continent by area.

The Largest and Smallest Countries in Population and Size (Based on Continents)

Continent	Population		Size	
	Largest	Smallest	Largest	Smallest
Asia	India	Maldives	China	Maldives
Africa	Nigeria	Seychelles	Algeria	Seychelles
North America	USA	Saint Kitts & Nevis	Canada	Saint Kitts & Nevis
South America	Brazil	Suriname	Brazil	Suriname
Europe	Russia	Vatican City	Russia	Vatican City
Oceania	Australia	Nauru	Australia	Nauru
Antarctica	It has no country and population			

Biggest and Smallest Country According to Area and Population in the World

Biggest in Area	Biggest in Population
Russia (17,125,200 sq km)	India (142 crore 86 lakh)
Smallest in Area	Smallest in Population
Vatican (0.44 sq km)	Vatican (800)

Muslim Population According to Countries

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Indonesia: 23 crore 10 Lakh 2. Pakistan: 21 crore 23 Lakh 3. India: 20 crore 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Bangladesh: 15 crore 37 lakh 5. Nigeria: 10 crore 30 lakh ★ Kazakhstan is the biggest according to area
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Introduction to Important Countries

Asia

Asia is the world largest and most populous continent, located primarily in the eastern and northern hemispheres. It covers 8.7% of the Earth's total surface area (or 30% of its land area) and with approximately 4.3 billion People, it hosts 60% of the world's current human population.

Introduction to South Asia

Country	Capital	Currency	Official Language	National Sports
Afghanistan	Kabul	Afghani	Pashto	Buzkashi
Bangladesh	Dhaka	Taka	Bangla	Kabaddi
Bhutan	Thimphu	Ngultrum	Dzongkha	Archery
India	New Delhi	Rupee	Hindi, English	Hockey
Maldives	Male	Rufiyaa	Dhivehi	Football
Nepal	Kathmandu	Rupee	Nepali	Volleyball
Pakistan	Islamabad	Rupee	Urdu, English	Hockey
Sri Lanka	Colombo (Executive & Judicial capital) Sri jayawardenepura kotte (Legislative Capital)	Rupee	Sinhalese, Tamil, English	Volleyball

Key points of South Asian Countries

❖ Afghanistan

- Official name Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan
- Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is a landlocked country.
- Afghanistan gained full independence from Britain in 1919.
- Until 1973, Afghanistan was a monarchy.
- In 2004, the constitution of Afghanistan was written and a president-based democratic government system was introduced.
- From 1996 to 2001, the Taliban held power over roughly three quarters of Afghanistan, and enforced there a strict interpretation of Shariah, or Islamic law.
- War in Afghanistan (2001-21) ended with the Taliban victory. After 40 years, there is no war in Afghanistan.
- No government has yet officially recognized the Taliban government (until 2023)
- Taliban government has made an impressive economic turnaround recently.

❖ Bhutan

- Since 1907, the Wangchuk dynasty has been ruling the Bhutan.
- It emerged as a religious state in the 16th century.
- Bhutan got UN membership in 1971.
- Bhutan's state currency 'Ngultrum' and its exchange rate are related to Indian Rupee.
- About 70% of Bhutan is covered by forest.
- About 94% of the people are engaged in agriculture.
- They use Gross National Happiness (GNH) instead of GDP to measure its economy.
- It is the first and only carbon negative country in the world.

❖ India

- India is the seventh-largest country by area. It is the world's largest democracy.
- In the cultural perspective, India is a multicultural, multilingual, and multinational state.
- India is a federal union comprising 28 states and 8 union territories, for a total of 36 entities.
- The Siliguri Corridor, also known as the Chicken's Neck, is a stretch of land around the city of Siliguri in West Bengal that divides Nepal and Bangladesh.
- The Indian Constitution, introduced on January 26, 1950, is the world's largest.
- Grand Old Man of India: Grandfather Indrajit Nattoji.
- Babri Mosque: Founded-1527. It was broken-1992.

- Black Cats: National Security Guard.
- RAW: The Research and Analysis Wing is the foreign intelligence agency of India.
- India has two Houses, known as Council of States (Rajya Sabha) and House of the People (Lok Sabha). Membership of Rajya Sabha is limited by the Constitution to a maximum of 250 members and current laws have provision for 245 members. Member of Lok Sabha-543 people.
- 7 Lok Kalyan Marg: Prime Minister's Residence.
- The reign of Mughal rule lasted from 1526-1857.
- Chess was introduced in India.
- Highest civilian award in India is Bharat Ratna.
- Indian space agency is known as ISRO
- Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, Gujrat is the largest stadium in the world.
- Khalistan movement is a Sikh separatist movement originating in the state of Punjab.

★ **Mahatma Gandhi**

- His real name was Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi.
- Rabindranath Tagore gave the name Mahatma Gandhi.
- He was assassinated in 1948.
- Biography: The Story of My Experiments with Truth.
- He is the unofficial father of Indian nation.

★ **Mother Teresa**

- Born: In 1910 in Macedonia.
- Indian Nationality: 1948.
- Foundations of the Missionaries of Charity: 1950
- Nobel Peace Prize: 1979.
- Bharat Ratna Medal: 1980.
- Death: 1997.

★ **A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**

- Abul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam was an Indian politician and aerospace scientist.
- He served as the 11th President of India from 2002 to 2007.
- He thus came to be known as the Missile Man of India for his work on the development of ballistic missile and launch vehicle technology.

★ **Droupadi Murmu**

- 15th and current president of India since 25 July 2022
- She is the first Tribal woman; she belongs to the Shantal community.

★ **Amartya Sen**

- Amartya Kumar Sen is an economist and philosopher.
- He was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences in 1998.
- He was awarded India's Bharat Ratna in 1999 for his work in welfare economics.
- Famous book: Development as Freedom

★ **Taj Mahal**

- Location: On the bank of the river Jamuna.
- Founded: 1632-1653, by Mughal emperor Shahjahan.
- Designer: Ustad Ahmad Lahiri.

❖ **Maldives**

- On November 11, 1968 the Republic of Maldives was created.
- Maldives is South Asia's smallest country; it is the smallest Muslim country in the world.
- World's first underwater cabinet meeting was held here on 20 October 2009.
- It is the lowest and flattest nation in the World.

❖ Nepal

- 8 of the world's top 10 mountains are located in Nepal.
- Democracy was established in Nepal through the anti-monarchy/anti-Panchayat (partyless) political system movement in 1989-90.
- The highest peak in the world is Mount Everest in Nepal.

★ Mount Everest at a Glance

- Mount Everest known in Nepali as Sagarmatha and in Tibetan as Chomolungma is Earth's Highest Mountain above sea level, located in the Mahalangur Himal sub-range of the Himalayas.
- Elevation: 8,848.86 meters.
- First ascent: 29 May 1953, Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay (First winter ascent 17 February 1980).
- Musa Ibrahim of Bangladesh ascent the Everest on May 23, 2010.
- Nishat Majumder ascent the Everest on May 19, 2012 (first Bangladeshi woman).
- Total 5 Bangladeshis have climbed Mount Everest.

❖ Pakistan

- The ancient Sindh civilization was in Pakistan.
- Swat Valley is located here. It is known as Switzerland of the East.
- Taxila is a Buddhist holy place located in Punjab.
- Quaid-i-Azam is Muhammad Ali Jinnah who is called the father of Pakistan.
- Only country in the world that no prime minister has served a full term yet.

★ Imran Khan

- Imran Ahmed Khan Niazi is a Pakistani politician and former cricketer.
- He was the 22nd and Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- Political party: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf.

★ Muhammad Ali Jinnah

- Muhammad Ali Jinnah was a lawyer, politician.
- He is the founder of Pakistan.
- Jinnah served as the leader of the All-India Muslim League from 1913 until Pakistan's independence on 14 August 1947.

★ Benozyr Bhutto

- Benozyr Bhutto was a Pakistani Politician who served as Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- She was the first woman to head a democratic government in Muslim majority nation.
- She is known as Daughter of the East
- Political party: Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP)
- Spouse: Asif Ali Zardari, former president of Pakistan

★ Malala Yousafzai

- Occupation: Activist for female education, former blogger for BBC Urdu.
- Organization: Malala Fund
- Award: Nobel Peace Prize (2014)
- Born: 12 July 1997, Mingora, Swat, Pakistan.
- Residence: Birmingham, England, UK
- Book: We Are Displaced.
- She is called the Daughter of Pakistan
- She is the youngest person to win Nobel Prize at age 17.

❖ Sri Lanka

- 'Sinhales' Community is the majority population of this country.
- Sri Lankan national sport is volleyball.
- Mannar Island formerly spelt Manar Island, is part of Mannar District, Sri Lanka.

- In 1960, Sirima-vo-Bandaranaike became the sixth Prime Minister of Ceylon and the world's first female prime minister.
- Adam's Peak is the most sacred mountain in the country.
- Tamil Tigers, by name of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), guerrilla organization that fought to establish an independent Tamil state, Eelam, in northern and eastern Sri Lanka. The LTTE was established in 1976 by Velupillai Prabhakaran.

Key points of Southeast Asian Countries

❖ Myanmar

- Old name: Burma
- In 1989, it changed its name to Myanmar.
- 'Aung San Suu Kyi' was the State Counselor of Myanmar. Her party is National League of Democracy (NLD) She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991.

❖ Malaysia

- Malaysia is a federal constitutional elective monarchy, and the only federation in Southeast Asia.
- One of Malaysia's oldest names, Aurea Chersonesus, means 'peninsula of gold'.
- Malaysia's currency is called the ringgit.
- Tunku Abdul Rahman: Father of the Nation of Malaysia.
 - ★ **Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad**
 - Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamad is a Malaysian politician who served as the Prime Minister of Malaysia two times.
 - Mahathir Mohammad's political party name: Pakatan Harapan (PH).

❖ Indonesia

- Indonesia is the world's second largest biodiversity (after Brazil).
- Indonesia has the second longest coastline in the world (over-54,000 km), after Canada.
- Indonesia is the largest Muslim country by population. (By area: Kazakhstan)
- Indonesia is the largest archipelago in the world with more than 18,000 islands.
- Bali Island is located in Indonesia.
- Indonesia is the 4th largest country in the world, with a population of around 250 million.
- Borobudur temple in Central Java is the largest Buddhist temple in the world.
- Indonesia, under the name Dutch East Indies, was the first Asian team to participate in the FIFA World Cup.
- Bali is a famous tourist place in Indonesia.

Other Southeast Asian Countries at a Glance

- Until 1975, East Timor was a colony of Portugal.
- The Philippines was named in honor of King Philip II of Spain.
- Lee kuan Yew is recognized as the nation's founding father of Singapore.
- Singapore an island city-state off southern Malaysia is a global financial center with a tropical climate and multicultural population.
- Singapore has one of the highest per capita GDP's in the world.
- Due to a bloodless coup in 1932, the systematic monarchy was established in Thailand.
- Thailand is called white elephant country.
- 2 September 1945, Vietnam gained independence.

Key Points of Far East Asian Countries

❖ China

- Declaration of China's establishment: 1949 by Mao Zedong
- Cultural Revolution: 1976.
- Tibet : Since 1950, it is the autonomous country of China. De facto leader: Dalai Lama
- Great Wall : Length-6260 km/3890 miles.
- Hong Kong : Britain handed it over to China in 1997.
- Macao : In 1999, Portugal handed over to China.

- Great Hall: It is used for legislative and ceremonial activities.
- Mandarin is the most spoken language in the world.
- Tiananmen Square is in Beijing
- Alibaba: Alibaba Group Holding Limited is a Chinese multinational conglomerate specializing in e-commerce. Founders: Jack Ma, Joseph C. Tsai, Peng Lei, Jianhang Jin including many more.
- Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was taken by President Xi Jinping in 2013.
- Yangtze river is the Asia's largest river. It is in China.

❖ Japan

- In Japanese, the name 'Japan' is Nihon or Nippon, which means "Land of the Rising Sun."
- Japan and Russia still haven't signed a peace treaty to end World War II due to a dispute over the Kuril Islands.
- During the final stage of World War II, the United States detonated two nuclear weapons over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Two atomic bombs were dropped on Japan during World War II. 80,000-people who died instantly in Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945, when the first ever atomic bomb was used in war. The code name of the uranium-based bomb was "Little Boy."
- On August 9, 1945, "an implosion-model plutonium bomb code-named "Fat man." was detonated over Nagasaki.
- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is a governmental agency that coordinates official development assistance (ODA) for the government of Japan. It is a partner organization of the Bangladesh government.
- Japan is called the earthquake country. More than 1500 earthquakes happen in a year.
- Japan is called the sunrise country.
- Japan Parliament: Diet

❖ North Korea

- The North Korean city of Pyongyang has the world's largest football stadium named Rungrado 1st of May stadium.
- They have their own computer operating system. North Koreans use 'Red Star OS' which is offered in only the Korean language.
- It's one of the eight atomic powered countries.
- The 38th parallel line divided North and South Korea.

❖ South Korea

- Mandatory military service of 21 to 24 months is required for South Koreans.
- South Korea, on average, has the fastest internet speed in the world. (However, in 2023, UAE has the fastest internet)

❖ Mongolia

- Bogd Khan Uul National Park (1783), the oldest national park in the world, is in Mongolia.
- Gobi Desert is in Mongolia.

❖ Taiwan

- Most people in Taiwan are Buddhist or Taoist.
- Taiwan is the biggest manufacturer of high-end microchips.

Key Points of Central Asian Countries

Central Asia stretches from the Caspian Sea in the west to China in the east and from Afghanistan in the south to Russia in the north.

❖ Kazakhstan

- Kazakhstan is the world's largest landlocked country but it still has a navy which is based on the similarly landlocked Caspian Sea.
- Capital: Astana (Old name is Nur Sultan)

Other Central Asian Countries at a Glance

- Kyrgyzstan gained independence in 1991.
- Turkmenistan has the world's 4th largest natural gas reserves.
- Tajikistan is central Asia's smallest state.

Key Points of West Asian (Middle East) Countries

There are 18 countries in West Asia, also known as the middle east. It is an unstable region due to on-going wars in some of the countries.

* Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA)

- Almost half of the country's GDP comes from oil.
- Saudi Arabia was one of the founding members of OPEC.
- There is no written constitution in Saudi Arab. It is governed by Shariah Law.
- It is home to the two of the holiest sites in Islam: Mecca and Medina.
- Osama bin laden was born in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
- Approximately 22% of the world's oil reserves are located in Saudi Arabia.
- According to government statistics, the crime rate in Saudi Arabia is almost zero.
- Crown Prince: Mohammad Bin Salman is the de-facto leader of KSA.
- Neom city is a futuristic city in Tabuk region of Saudi Arabia.
- Saudi Aramco is the biggest oil producing company in the world. The IPO of Saudi Aramco in 2019 is the biggest in the world.

* United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- Burj Khalifa, tallest building in the world since 2008, is situated in UAE. It's total height 829. 8 meters (2,722ft.).
- The UAE economy depends on the oil industry.

* Iraq

- It gained independence from Britain on October 3, 1932.
- The United States invaded Iraq in 2003.
- During the Iraq War, at least 189,000 people died directly from the war.
- Mesopotamian civilization formed on the banks of Tigris and Euphrates rivers which are located mainly in Iraq.

* Israel

- 1917: Belfour Announcement (Arthur James Belfour).
- 1948: Establishment of the State of Israel.
- 1949: Turkiye was the first muslim country to recognize Israel.
- 1979: Egypt was the first Arab country to recognize Israel.
- Bangladesh has no diplomatic and commercial relations with Israel.
- Abraham Accords are a series of normalization agreement between Israel and Arab states.
- Israeli intelligence is called Mossad.

* Palestine/Philistines

- Palestine was partitioned and a big part of it was taken away to establish the state of Israel in 1948.
- Millions of people were displaced in 1948. The event is known as Nakba.
- 1964: Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was established.
- Orient House: The PLO's headquarters was 1980-90.
- The State of Palestine is recognized by 138 UN members.
- 1988: Independence announcement.
- 1993: Oslo Agreement Israel and Palestine recognized each other.
- Intifada means awakening.
- Two major political parties are Fatah and Hamas; Fatah controls the West Bank and Hamas controls Gaza strip.
- Rafah and Erez are the only two border crossings to get out of Gaza.
- Hamas is a Muslim liberation group opposing the Zionist regime of Israel.
- Jersuallem is called the holy city. The 3rd holiest site is Islam, the Al Aqsa mosque, is located there.
- Palestine day is 29 November.
- Recently, Hamas launched Operation Al Aqsa Flood on 7th October, 2023 after 75 years of systematic oppression by the Israelis. Israel launched Operation Swords of Iron in response that killed thousands of children in Gaza and committed war crimes.

* Yasir Arafat

- **Born:** 24 August 1929. Cairo, Egypt
- **Died:** 11 November 2004. Clamart, Hauts-de-Seine, France
- **Nationality:** Palestinian.
- **Political party:** Fatah.
- **Profession:** Civil Engineer.

* Egypt

- Egypt is called agriculture grassland.
- The Pyramid of Giza is located in Egypt considered as the the tallest pyramid in the world by the Guinness World Records.

* Turkiye

- It recently changed its name to Turkiye from Turkey.
- The last Islamic caliphate known as Ottoman Empire was located mainly in Turkey.
- It is a transcontinental country.
- Founder of Turkey: Mustafa Kemal Ataturk
- Ancient capital: Istanbul (Old name: Constantinople); Hagia Sophia Grand Mosque and the famous Blue Mosque are located in Istanbul.
- Asian part of Turkey is known as Asia Minor.
- Historic troy city is in Turkey.

* Iran

- Its old name is Persia.
- Iranian revolution took place in 1979.
- The Great Wall of Gorgan is in Iran.

* Other Countries of West Asia at a Glance

- Aljazeera is a Qatar-based news channel.
- Bahrain gained independence in 1971.
- Dubai is the first paperless government in the world.
- Iraq's ancient name is Mesopotamia.
- Jordan was part of the Ottoman Empire. It is one of the neighbouring countries of Palestine.
- The capital of Syria is Damascus; Syria is known as the cradle of civilization.
- Hezbollah is a Shia Islamist political party of Lebanon. It's chief is Hasan Nasrallah. Hezbollah opposes Israel.
- The Arab Spring began in Tunisia in 2010.
- Houthi is a shia Islamist political party in Yemen.

Key Points of Caucasus Countries

- In 301 AD, Armenia accepted Christianity as the state religion in the first state of history.
- During the Russian Civil War, on 28 May 1918, the northern part of Azerbaijan declared independence as an Islamic republic.
- Nagarno-Karabakh is a disputed territory between Azerbaijan and Armenia. However, it is internationally recognized as a part of Azerbaijan.
- Russia is the world's largest country. It was formerly part of the Soviet Union (USSR) that dissolved in 1991.

Europe

Europe is the world's second-smallest continent by surface area, covering about 10,180,000 square kilometers (3,930,300 sq mile) or 2% of the earth's surface and about 6.8% of its land area. Of Europe's approximately 50 states, Russia is by far the largest by both area and population, taking up 39% of the continent (although the country has territory in both Europe about Asia), while the Vatican City is the smallest. Europe is the third – most populous continent after Asia and Africa, with a population of 741 million or about 11% of the world's population as of 2016. Alps mountain range is in Europe. **The Ural Mountain range** divides Europe and Asia.

Key Points of European Countries

* United Kingdom

- King Charles III is the current monarch of the UK
- Government system: Monarchy.
- Prime Minister of the United Kingdom: Rishi Sunak
- First King: Alfred the Great.
- First Prime Minister: Sir Robert Walpole.
- Winston Churchill: The only Prime Minister who received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1953.
- Great Britain: England + Scotland+Wales
- United Kingdom: England + Scotland+Wales+ Northern Ireland

- There is no written constitution in England.
- UK is the first country to announce budget.

★ **Royal Family of the UK**

- Current Monarch: Charles III; He is the king of the United Kingdom and the other commonwealth realms.
- Longest reigning monarch: Queen Elizabeth II. Her reign: 6 February 1952 to 9 September 2022. She died on 8th September in Balmoral castle, Scotland at the age of 96. She was buried in Windsor Castle, England.
- Princess Diana: She was the first wife of Charles, Princess of Wales. She died in a car crash in the Port de l'Alma tunnel in Paris, France.
- Buckingham Palace: The House of the Royal Family.
- White Hall: Formerly the residence of the royal family (1530-1698)
- Westminster Abbey: It is the coronation site for the British monarchs.

★ **Downing Street**

- 10th Downing Street: Prime Minister's Residence and Office.
- 11th Downing Street: Finance Minister's Office.
- 12th Downing Street: Prime Minister's Press Office.

- Legislative Assembly: Westminster palace.
- Trafalgar Square: It is located in the heart of London, where political gatherings are held.
- Reuters and BBC are the two famous news portals in the world.
- Big Ben: The official name of the tower in which Big Ben is located was originally the Clock Tower, but it was renamed Elizabeth Tower in 2012 to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Elizabeth II.
- Tower Bridge: Tower Bridge is a combined bascule and suspension bridge in London built between 1886 and 1896. The bridge crosses the River Thames close to the Tower of London and has become an iconic symbol of London.
- Amnesty International is a London based non-governmental organization focused on human rights. Founded in 1961.
- University of Oxford: Established in 1096.
- University of Cambridge: Established in 1209.

★ **Brexit**

- British exit (Brexit) was the withdrawal of the United Kingdom (UK) from the European Union (EU) at 23:00 GMT on 31 January 2020.
- UK is the only sovereign country to have left the EU after 47 years of having been a part of the union the EU and its predecessor the European Communities (EC) as a member state since 1 January 1973

★ **France**

- French Revolution: 1789-1799.
- The collapse of Bastille Castle: 1789.
- Waterloo Battle: 1815.
- Napoleon was a French monarch who lost in the Battle of Waterloo (1815). He died in St. Helena Island in 1821
- Government system: Semi-president-ruled democracy
- Charles de Gaulle: The pioneer of freedom struggle
- Elysee palace: President's residence.
- AFP (founded in 1835) is a news media from Paris, France.
- Zinedine Zidane (Zizu): Won the 1998 FIFA World cup.
- Eiffel Tower: On the banks of the river Seine.
Founded in: 1889
Height: 324 meters/1063 feet.
Designer: Gustave Eiffel.

★ **Italy**

- Italy is called the state of the holes. Because Vatican City is located within it.
- Benito Mussolini: The pioneer of fascism.

★ **Leonardo da Vinci**

- He was known for art and science.
- Works: Mona Lisa, The last supper, Salvator Mundi, The Vitruvian Man, Lady with an Ermine Etc. Mona Lisa was painted around 1503 (16th century).

* **Russia**

- Russia (and China) borders the highest number of countries: 14
- Russia encompasses one-eighth of Earth's inhabitable landmass.
- Russia extends across eleven time zones.
- It is the ninth-most populous country and the most populous country in Europe, with a population of 145.5 million.
- The country's capital and largest city, Moscow, is also the largest city entirely within Europe.
- Saint Petersburg is Russia's cultural centre and second-largest city.
- Volga river in Russia is the biggest river in Europe.
- Russian Government: de jure federal semi-presidential republic; de facto centralized authoritarian state.

* **Ukraine**

- Ukraine is the second-largest country by area in Europe after Russia, which it borders to the east and north-east
- Ukraine also shares borders with Belarus to the north; Poland, Slovakia, and Hungary to the west; Romania and Moldova to the south.
- Russia and Ukraine together account for nearly 30% of the global wheat trade.
- Ukraine has a coastline along the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea.
- Ukraine is the eighth-most populous country in Europe.
- The nation's capital and largest city is Kyiv.

* **Crimea**

- Crimea is a peninsula along the northern coast of the Black Sea in Eastern Europe.
- It is located south of Kherson Oblast in Ukraine. Since 2014, it is under Russia's control.

* **Germany**

- **Unification and establishment of modern Germany:** 18 January 1871
- **Monarchy abolished:** 9 November 1918
- **Nazi Germany:** 23 March 1933
- **Reunification:** 3 October 1990
- **German emperors** were known as Kaiser.
- **Former chancellor:** Angela Dorothea Merkel
- * **Adolf Hitler**
 - **Born:** 20 April 1889.
 - **Died:** 30 April 1945. Berlin, Nazi Germany.
 - **Cause of death:** Suicide by gunshot.
 - **Citizenship:** Austria (1889-1925) & Germany (1932-1945).
 - **Political party:** National Socialist German Workers' Party (Nazi Party) (1921-1945).
 - **His book:** Mein Kampf = My Struggle.

* **Spain**

- Sophia was the famous queen of Spain.
- The Kingdom of Spain, as it's officially known is the second largest country in the E.U
- Spanish is the second most widely spoken language in the world.
- Spain has the second highest life expectancy of all the OECD countries.
- Catalonia is a major region in Spain.
- Al-Andalus was the name of Spain and Portugal when Muslims ruled the land for more than 700 years under Umayyad Caliphate.

* **Vatican City**

- By both area and population, it is the smallest state in the world (0.44 km²).
- It is located within the city of Rome, Italy.
- The city-state is ruled by the bishop of Rome-The Pope.
- The government of Vatican is known as the Holy See. It's head is called the pope.

* **Portugal**

* **Cristiano Ronaldo:**

- The birthplace of Cristiano Ronaldo (famous football player) is in Portugal.
- He won the Ballon d'or five times (second-most after Messi)
- He has scored over 850 official goals for club and country, making him the top goal scorer of all time.
- He is the first footballer to earn US \$1 billion in his career.
- He was ranked the highest paid athlete by Forbes in 2023.

* Switzerland

- Bern is the capital of Switzerland. Zurich is its largest city.
- Half of the luxury watches produced in the world come from Switzerland. Brands like Tissot, TAG Heuer, Rolex, Patek Philippe and Longines are all Swiss.
- Assisted suicide in Switzerland is legal. It is also legal in China, Belgium, Canada and other few countries.

* Greece

- Alexander was the king of ancient Greek kingdom of Macedon. He extended his empire as far East as India.
- Socrates was a Greek philosopher from Athens who is credited as the founder of Western philosophy. He authored no texts and is known mainly through the writings of his student Plato. In 399 BCE, he was accused of impiety and sentenced to death.
- Plato was a student of Socrates. His best-known work is Republic concerning justice. In his "Republic," Plato describes an ideal state ruled by a philosopher-king.
- Aristotle was one of the greatest philosophers who ever lived and the first genuine scientist in history. He made pioneering contributions to all fields of philosophy and science; he invented the field of formal logic. He is considered the father of political science. Metaphysics and Politics are books written by Aristotle. Aristotle believed in the concept of the "Golden Mean," which suggests that good conduct lies in finding a moderate and balanced approach between extremes. He was the teacher of Alexander the great.
- Herodotus was a Greek historian and geographer. He is considered as 'Father of History.'
- Pythagoras was a famous Greek philosopher and mathematician.
- Homer was a Greek poet who is credited as the author of the Iliad and the Odyssey, two epic poems that are foundational works of ancient Greek literature.
- Greek architecture is known for its emphasis on perfect balance, universal harmony, and order.

Key points of Scandinavian (Nordic) Countries

There are 5 nordic countries: Finland, Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden

* Finland

- Only Nordic country to adopt Euro as currency
- First country to impose carbon tax since 1990
- Considered as the happiest country in the world.
- 31st country to join NATO

* Norway

- The northernmost city in the world is Hammerfest in Norway
- Parliament: Storting
- Noble Peace Prize is given from Norway

* Denmark

- Denmark is the owner of Greenland Island.
- Football is the national sports of Denmark.
- Denmark's flag is the world's oldest and longest-running flag.

* Sweden

- Capital Stockholm is known as European Green Capital
- Sweden is the first cashless country in the world.
- It is the birthplace of Alfred Nobel.
- The oldest central bank in the world is Sweden's Riksbank.
- Volvo, IKEA and Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications are three of the largest companies in Sweden.
- The Northern Lights can be seen every fall and spring all throughout Sweden.
- Sweden joined the European Union in 1995.
- Sweden is the 32nd country to join NATO.

* Other European Countries at a Glance

- Austria is the only European Union nation that is not a member of NATO.
- The term Belarus means 'White Russia.'
- A majority of Icelanders believe in elves.
- There are no forests in Iceland.
- Poland joined NATO in 1999 and the European Union in 2004.
- Serbia's capital is one of the oldest cities in Europe.
- Serbia on the first transatlantic video transmission.
- Louis I Kahn was born in Estonia.
- Greece is called Cradle of Democracy

North America

It is the third-largest continent by size after Asia and Africa, and the fourth-largest continent by population after Asia, Africa, and Europe. The region includes Bermuda, Canada, the Caribbean, Central America, Greenland, Mexico, and the United States. Although Greenland is part of Denmark, it is geographically in North America. Rocky Mountains are in North America.

Central America is a subregion of North America that consists of 7 countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua and Belize.

Key points of North American Countries

★ Canada

- Biggest country in North America. (Second biggest in the world)
- It is called the land of Maple Leaf
- Quebec is a French speaking province in Canada
- Vancouver is a famous seaport in Canada
- Canada has the greatest number of lakes in the world
- First climate related law was formulated in Canada

★ Mexico

- Maya Civilization was centered in Mexico
- Paricutin, a cone-shaped volcano is in Mexico. It is one of the seven natural wonders in the world.
- Cancun is a popular beach destination in Mexico

★ The USA

- It has 50 states in total.
- The Parliament is called Congress. Its lower house is called House of the Representatives and upper house is Senate.
- President's residence is known as White House and his office is called oval office.
- President's annual speech in congress is known as State of the Union.
- Defence headquarter is called Pentagon
- NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) is their space agency.
- The USA is the leading exporter of arms and biggest producer of natural gas and oil.
- Their film industry known as Hollywood is in Los Angeles, California.
- Grand Canyon, one of the seven natural wonders in the world, is in the state of Arizona.
- One of their founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin, is called 'the first American'
- 16th president Abraham Lincoln delivered the famous Gettysburg Address in which he stated, "Democracy is a government of the people, by the people, for the people". 7th March speech in 1971 by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is often compared to this address.
- The USA is the only country to have a space force which is a branch of its military. (China has rocket force)
- Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement started in 2013 in the US. This movement is against racism experienced by the black people.

South America

South America is bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean and on the north and east by the Atlantic Ocean; North America and the Caribbean Sea lie to the northwest. The continent generally includes twelve sovereign states: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, and Venezuela. The biggest country in South America is Brazil and the smallest one is Suriname. The Andes Mountains are in South America.

Key points of South American Countries

★ Peru

- Lake Titicaca, the highest navigable river in the world, is in Peru.
- Inca Empire started in Peru.
- The famous Machu Pichu citadel is located here.

* Argentina

- Former Spanish colony
- First lady president in the world was Isabela Peron
- Revolutionary leader Che Guevara was born here. His autobiography is 'The Motorcycle Diaries'

* Venezuela

- World's tallest waterfall Angel Falls is in Venezuela.
- Venezuela is the initiator country to form OPEC.
- It has the largest crude oil reserves in the world.

* Brazil

- Former Portuguese colony
- It is the largest coffee producing country in the world.
- 60% of Amazon rainforest is in Brazil. It is the biggest rainforest in the world; it is spread across 9 countries.
- Amazon river is the largest river in the world by volume and second longest river in the world after the Nile.
- Brazil won the greatest number of FIFA World Cups (5)

* Other countries of South America at a glance:

- Bolivia's city La Paz is called the highest city in the world.
- Colombia is called the gateway to South America.
- Uruguay hosted and won the first FIFA world cup in 1930
- Chile is the narrowest country in the world. Puerto Williams is the southern most city in the world.

Oceania

Oceania is a geographical region comprising Australia, New Zealand and three regions: Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. It is the smallest continent in the world. Papua New Guinea, a sovereign state in Oceania, is the most linguistically diverse country in the world. There are 839 living languages spoken in the country.

Key points of Oceanian Countries

* Australia

- It is the biggest country in Oceania; Tasmania is its island.
- The indigenous group of Australia is called Aborigines and their citizens are known as Aussie.
- The hottest month in Australia is January and coldest month is July.
- Great Barrier Reef is the biggest coral reef in the world.

* New Zealand

- The indigenous group of New Zealand is called Maori and their citizens are known as Kiwi.
- In 1893, women got their first voting right in New Zealand.

Africa

Africa is the world's second-largest and second most populous continent. There are 54 countries in Africa. The **Horn of Africa** (HoA) is a large peninsula and geopolitical region in East Africa. Horn of Africa has 4 countries (Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia). Sahel region is also in Africa where many of the countries are engaged in rebellion against their respective governments. Sahara is the biggest hot desert in the world which is in North Africa. Lake Victoria is the biggest lake in Africa. Atlas mountain range is in Africa.

Countries of Africa at a glance:

- Egypt is called the gift of Nile. Sinai Peninsula is in Egypt. Famous Tahrir Square is in capital Cairo. It is the first Arab country to sign peace treaty with Israel in 1979.
In Ancient Egypt, monarchs were called Pharaoh.
- Tunisia is the country where Arab spring started in 2010. Ibn Khaldun widely acknowledged to be one of the greatest social scientists of the Middle Ages and considered by many to be the father of historiography, sociology, economics, and demography studies is a Tunisian,
- Morocco is home to famous cities like Casablanca and Fez. Al-Karaouine by Fatima al-Fihri is the oldest university in the world situated in Fez.

- Algeria is the biggest country in Africa.
- Morocco's famous traveler Ibn Batuta came to Bengal in 1346 during the reign of Fakhruddin Mubarak Shah.
- Nigeria is the biggest country in Africa by population. It is also the richest country in Africa by GDP.
- Senegal is the first African country to recognize Bangladesh.
- South Africa had a system of racial segregation called Apartheid. This system was officially abolished in 1994.
- Anti-apartheid politician Nelson Mandela became the first president of South Africa. Cape of Good Hope in South Africa is often believed to be the dividing point between Atlantic and Indian oceans.
- The Gambia has filed a case in the ICJ against Myanmar on Rohingya genocide.
- South Africa has filed a case in the ICJ against Israel on Gazan genocide.

Landlocked Countries

* Landlocked Countries

Approximately one-fifth of the world's countries are landlocked, meaning they have no access to the oceans. There are 46 landlocked countries that do not have direct access to an ocean or ocean-accessible sea.

* Landlocked Countries in South America

South America has just two landlocked countries: Bolivia and Paraguay.

* Landlocked Countries in Europe

Europe has 16 landlocked countries: Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belarus, Kosovo, Czechia, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, North Macedonia,

Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland and Vatican City.

* Landlocked Countries in Africa

Africa has 16 landlocked countries: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Eswatini (former Swaziland), Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

* Landlocked Countries in Asia

Asia has 12 landlocked countries: Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Laos, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Oceans at a Glance

5 Oceans in the World

Ocean	Area (sq.km)	% Of Total	Avg. Depth (In meter)	Deepest Point	Important note
Pacific Ocean	168723000	46.6	3970	Mariana Trench (11033 m deep)	Largest and deepest ocean. The International Date Line passes through the Pacific Ocean. Mariana Trench, the deepest oceanic trench on Earth, in the Pacific. South China sea is a part of the Pacific.
Atlantic Ocean	85133000	23.5	3646	Puerto Rico Trench (8648m)	Second largest ocean; The largest island- Greenland and Bermuda Triangle are located in the Atlantic Ocean.
Indian Ocean	70560000	19.5	3741	Java Trench (7187m)	Warmest ocean in the world
Southern Ocean	21,960,000	6.1	3,270	South Sandwich Trench (7236m)	Also known as Antarctic ocean
Arctic Ocean	15558000	15558000	1205	Eurasian Basin (5449m)	Smallest ocean; completely covered with ice in the winter. It has the lowest salinity on average of the five major oceans.

Seas, Bays, and Gulfs of the world

Name of Major Seas, Bays and Gulf	Important note
South China Sea	Largest Sea
Caribbean Sea	Deepest Sea
Dead Sea (Jordan)	Saltiest sea

Name of Major Seas, Bays and Gulf	Important note
Andaman Sea	Adjacent sea to the Bay of Bengal
Caspian Sea	The biggest lake in the world (Lake Baikal in Russia is the deepest lake)
Mediterranean Sea	Surrounded by Asia, Europe and Africa; Cyprus is an island in the Mediterranean sea.
Red Sea	Connected to the Mediterranean via Suez canal
Baltic sea	Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia are the Baltic states
Bay of Bengal	Area 2,172,000 km
Persian Gulf	Part of Indian ocean; divideds Iran and Arabian peninsula

Rivers in the World

River	Flows through	Important Points
Nile (6695 km length)	Egypt, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nile is the longest river in the world. It flows through 11 countries. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It originates in Lake Victoria flows into the Mediterranean Sea.
Amazon (640 km length)	South America (Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia and Brazil)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The river originates from the Mantaro River in Peru. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It originates from Montaro River in Peru and drains in the Atlantic Ocean. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amazon is the largest river in the world in terms of its flow rate, or by volume of water. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Amazon River is the longest river of South America and second-longest river in the world. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The river does not have any bridges across it throughout its entire length.
Yangtze (6300 km length)	China	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It is the longest river in Asia and the third-longest in the world. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It rises in Tanggula mountain and discharges in East China Sea.
Volga (3530 km length)	Russia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The longest river of the European continent. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The source is Valdai Hills and drains in the Caspian Sea.

Mountains of the World

Greatest mountain range	Himalayas	Longest mountain range	Andes
Europes' largest mountain range	Alps	Largest single rock in the world	Ayers rock/ Uluru (Australia)

Top 3 mountains in the world

Mountain	Metres	Location
Mountain Everest	8,848.86	Nepal and China
K2	8,611	Pakistan and China
Kanchenjunga	8,586	Nepal and India

7 Summits of the World

The Seven Summits refer to the highest peak on each of the seven continents. Climbing all Seven Summits is considered a significant mountaineering challenge. Wasfia Nazreen is the first Bangladeshi to climb the seven summits in 2011.

Summit	Region	Height (meters)
Mount Everest	Asia (Nepal/China)	8,848
Aconcagua	South America (Argentina)	6,960
Denali (Mount McKinley)	North America (USA)	6,190
Mount Kilimanjaro	Africa (Tanzania)	5,895
Mount Elbrus	Europe (Russia)	5,642
Vinson Massif	Antarctica	4,892
Puncak Jaya (Carstensz Pyramid)	Oceania (Indonesia)	4,884

Waterfalls	Country	Important Notes
Angel Falls	Venezuela	It is the world's tallest uninterrupted waterfall
Niagara Falls	North America	It is on the border of New York (the US) and Ontario (Canada)
Victoria Falls	Zambia	It is located on the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe
Livingstone Falls	Congo	-
Brown Waterfalls	New Zealand	-

Deserts of the World

The four main types of desert include hot and dry deserts, semi-arid deserts, coastal deserts, and cold deserts. Sahara is the largest hot desert in the world and the third-largest desert overall, smaller only than the deserts of Antarctica and the northern Arctic.

List of Top 10 Largest Desert in the World

S. No.	Name	Type	Location	Area (in sq.km)	Area (in sq.mi)
1.	Antarctica Desert	Polar ice and Tundra	Antarctica	14,200,000	5,482,651
2.	Arctic Desert	Polar ice and Tundra	Eastern Europe Northern America Northern Asia Northern Europe	13,900,000	5,366,820
3.	Sahara Desert	Subtropical	Eastern Africa Middle Africa Northern Africa Western Africa	9,200,000	3,552,140
4.	Great Australian	Subtropical	Australia	2,700,000	1,042,476
5.	Arabian Desert	Subtropical	Western Asia	2,330,000	899,618
6.	Gobi Desert	Cold winter	Eastern Asia	1,295,000	500,002
7.	Kalahari Desert	Subtropical	Southern Africa	900,000	347,492
8.	Patagonian Desert	Cold winter	South America	673,000	259,847
9.	Syrian Desert	Subtropical	Western Asia	500,000	193,051
10.	Great Basin	Cold winter	North America	492,098	190,000

Straits, Canals, Channels

Major Straits and Channels

Strait	Contiguous Landmass	Joining Seas/Water Bodies
Formosa Strait	China and Taiwan	The South China Sea and the East China Sea
Strait of Tartary	Russia (East Russia-Sakhalin Islands)	Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan
Yucatan Strait	Mexico and Cuba	The Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea
Mesina Strait	Italy and Sicily	The Tyrrhenian Sea and the Ionian Sea, within the central Mediterranean
Otranto Strait	Italy and Albania	Adriatic Sea & Ionian Sea
Cook Strait	New Zealand	The Tasman Sea and South Pacific Ocean
Mozambique Channel	Mozambique and Madagascar	Indian Ocean
North Channel	Ireland and Scotland	Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean
Hormuz Strait	Iran and Oman	The Gulf of Oman and the Persian Gulf
Bab-el-Mandeb	Djibouti, Yemen, and Eritrea of the	The Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea

Strait	Contiguous Landmass	Joining Seas/Water Bodies
Ten Degree Channel	Somali Peninsula	
Sunda Strait	Car Nicobar Islands and Little Andaman	Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal
Florida Strait	Java island of Indonesia with its Sumatra island.	Java Sea and the Indian Ocean
Bering Strait	Cuba and the USA	Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean
Strait of Gibraltar	Asia from America	The Arctic Ocean and East Pacific ocean
Korea Strait	Spain and Morocco	The Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea
Strait of Malacca	Japan and South Korea	The East China Sea and the Sea of Japan
Bonifacio Strait	Malaysia and Indonesia (Sumatra)	The Pacific Ocean to the east with the Indian Ocean to the west
Palk Strait	Corsica island of France and Sardinia islands of Italy	The Tyrrhenian Sea and the Mediterranean Sea
Palk Strait	India and Sri Lanka	The Bay of Bengal in the northeast with the Palk Bay/Arabian Sea in the southwest
Bosphorus Strait	Divides Europe from Asia	The Black Sea to Sea of Marmara
Bass Strait	Tasmania island and mainland Australia	The Great Australian Bight and the Tasman Sea
Davis Strait	Between Greenland and Canada	The Baffin Bay and the Labrador Sea
Jamaica Channel	Jamaica and Hispaniola	The Caribbean Sea and North Atlantic
Hudson Strait	Baffin Island and Labrador peninsula	Hudson Bay and the Labrador Sea
Strait of Bosphorus	Turkey (Europe)-Turkey (Asia)	Black Sea and Sea of Marmara
Strait of Dardenelles	Turkey (Europe)-Turkey (Asia)	Sea of Marmara- Aegean Sea
Dover Strait/ English Channel	England and France	Atlantic Sea and North Sea
Keren Strait	Crimea and Russia	Black Sea and Azov Sea
Suez Canal	Egypt and Sinai	Mediterranean and Red Sea
Panama Canal	North America (Panama Mainland) and South America (Panama City)	Atlantic and the Pacific

- ★ Longest Canal in the world: Grand Canal
- ★ Longest Strait in the world: Malacca strait

★ **Grand Canal**

- It is located in China.
- Length of the Grand Canal- 1,776 km.

★ **Panama Canal**

- Deepest Canal in the world- Panama Canal (14 Meters)
- Panama Canal is an 82 km long artificial waterway.
- Panama Canal is called- the 'Gateway to the Pacific'
- Construction of Panama Canal was started by- France and finished by- the United States
- Panama gained ownership of the Panama Canal in- December 31, 1999

★ **Suez Canal**

- Suez Canal was opened on- 17 November 1869 (after 10 years of construction)
- At present Suez Canal is- 193.30 km long, 24 m deep and 205 meters wide
- Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser Nationalized the Suez Canal on- July 26, 1956.
- 2nd Arab-Israel war was centered over Suez Canal.
- Engineer of Suez Canal- Ferdinand de Lesseps (France)
- Start Point : Port Said
- End Point : Port Tewfik, Suez

Important Information Regarding the Super Powers

Superpower is a state or supranational union that holds a dominant position characterized by the ability to exert influence or project power on a global scale. This is done through the combined means of economic, military, technological, political, and cultural strength as well as diplomatic and soft power influence. Traditionally, superpowers are preeminent among the great powers.
The United States of America is the sole superpower.

Potential superpowers

✓ China

✓ European Union

✓ India

✓ Russia

According to Global Firepower Index 2023, the rankings of the superpower are:

1. The USA

2. Russia

3. China

4. India

Important information at a glance

- Among the superpowers, China and Russia have hypersonic missiles. Hypersonic missiles are superfast and can evade most air defenses.
- Russia has the greatest number of nuclear heads in the world, followed by the US.
- The father of atomic bomb is American theoretical physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer
- The Manhattan Project was a program of research and development undertaken during World War II to produce the first nuclear weapons. It was led by the United States in collaboration with the United Kingdom and with support from Canada. Oppenheimer was the director of Manhattan project.
- The first test of a nuclear weapon is known as the Trinity Test, which took place on July 16, 1945 in New Mexico, the USA.
- On 6 and 9 August 1945, the United States detonated two atomic bombs over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki respectively. HS Truman was the US president back then.
- Russia (then USSR) tested their nuclear weapons in 1949.
- The Tsar Bomba was the most powerful nuclear weapon ever created and tested. It was detonated by Russia.
- Father of All Bombs (FOAB) is Russian designed bombs; Mother of All Bombs (MOAB) is the US designed bombs.
- China tested its nuclear weapon in 1964.
- India first tested its nuclear bomb in 1974 codenamed the Smiling Buddha.
- Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) is an anti-ballistic missile defence system of the USA.
- Fifth generation fighter jets: F35 (USA), Chengdu J-20(China), Sukhoi Su-57(Russia); Rafale is the 5th generation fighter jet of France.

List of Countries with Nuclear Weapons

There are nine sovereign states that have successfully detonated nuclear weapons. Five (USA, Russia, UK, France & China) are considered to be nuclear-weapon states (NWS) under the terms of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of nuclear weapons (NPT). These 5 countries comprise the permanent members (P5) of UN Security Council. Since the NPT entered in to force in 1970, three states that were not parties to the Treaty have conducted nuclear tests, namely India, Pakistan, and North Korea. North Korea had been a party to the NPT but withdrew in 2003.

List of countries

✓ United States

✓ France

✓ Pakistan

✓ Russia

✓ China

✓ North Korea

✓ United Kingdom

✓ India

✓ Israel

Note:

Israel is also generally understood to have 400 estimated nuclear warheads, but does not acknowledge it, maintaining a policy of strategic ambiguity, and is not known definitively to have conducted a nuclear test.