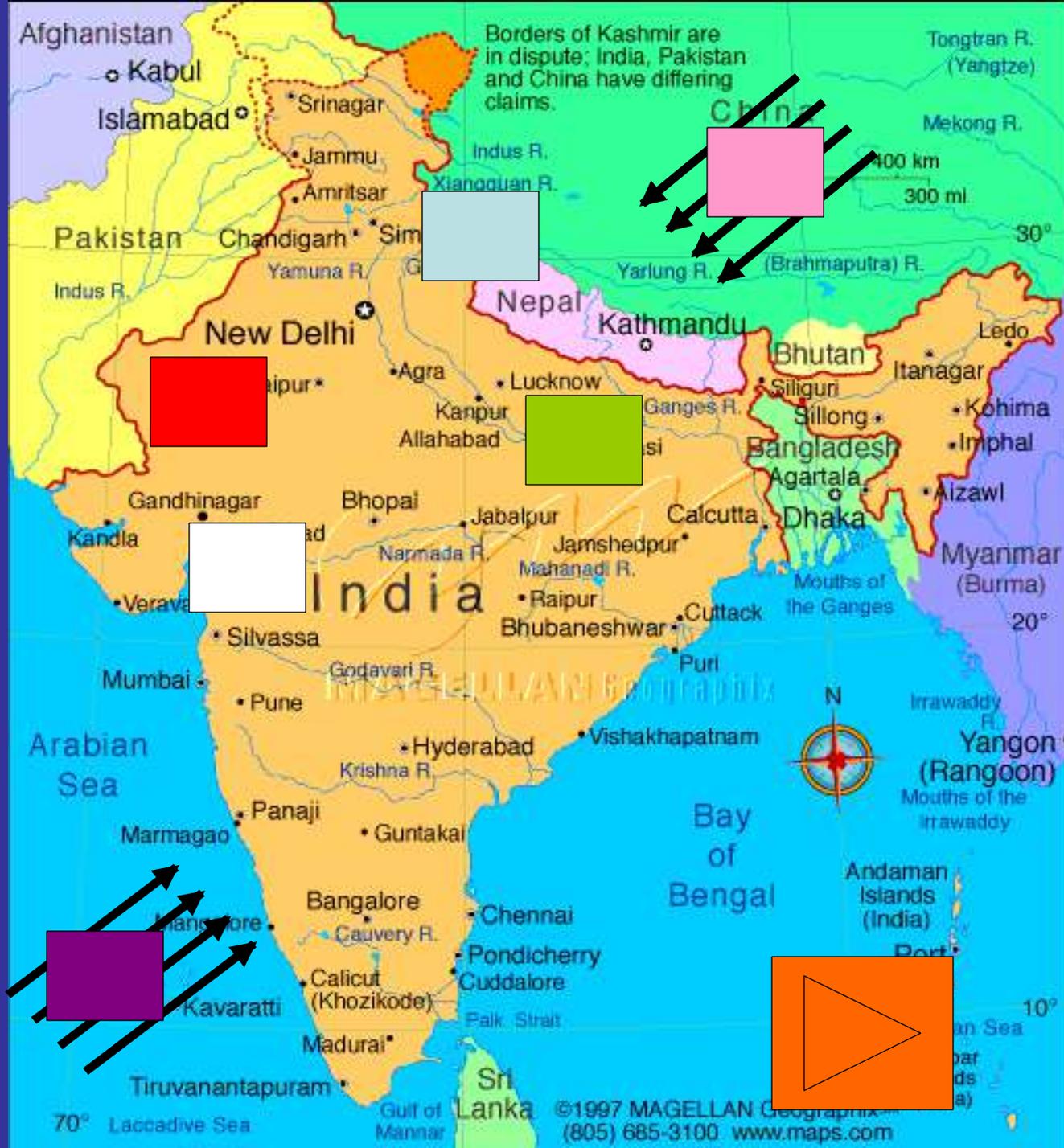


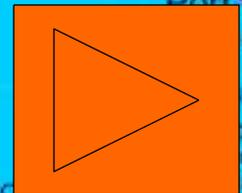
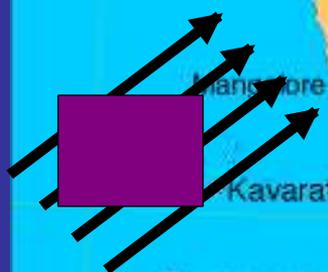
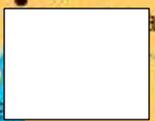
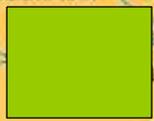
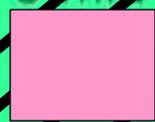
South Asia

Notes on India & the Indian Perimeter



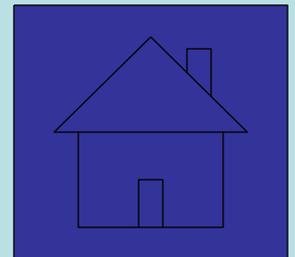


Borders of Kashmir are in dispute; India, Pakistan and China have differing claims.



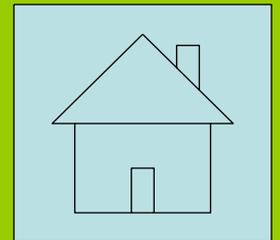
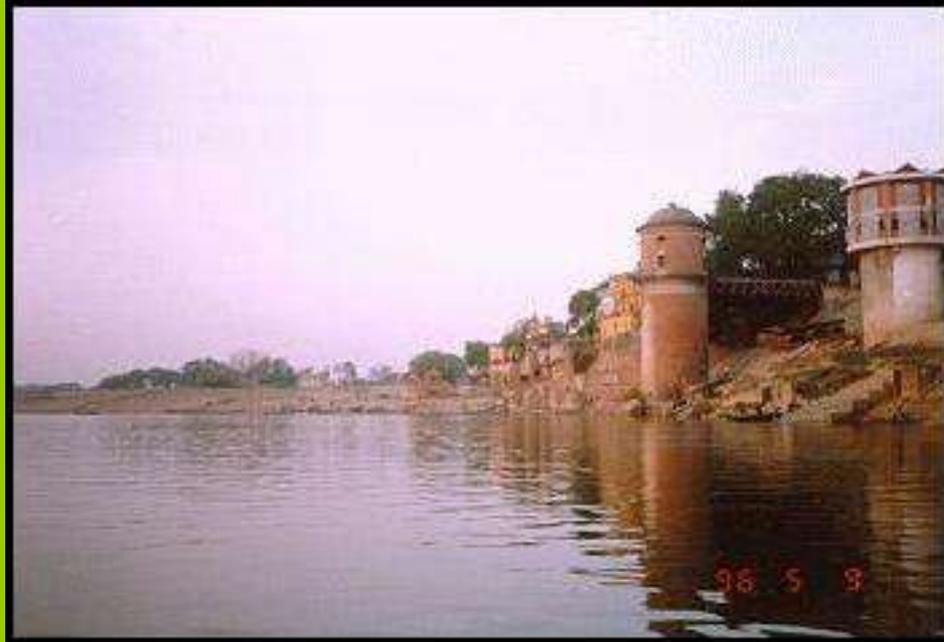
The Himalayas

- The Himalayas are South Asia's main landform region.
- Mount Everest is the world's highest mountain at 29,035 feet. It lies between Nepal and China.



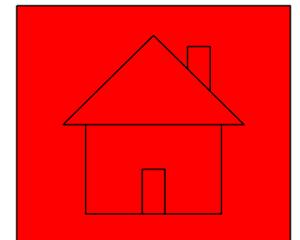
The Ganges River

- The Ganges River begins high in the Himalayas as melting glacial ice.
- It flows more than 1,500 miles southeastward across India's northern plains.
- The Ganges River is considered Holy according to Hindu beliefs.



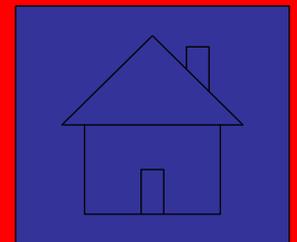
The Narmada River

- The Narmada River cuts across the Deccan Plateau and flows to the west.
- Hundreds of dams are being built on the Narmada.
- The reservoirs created by the dams store much-needed water, but have displaced thousands of people.



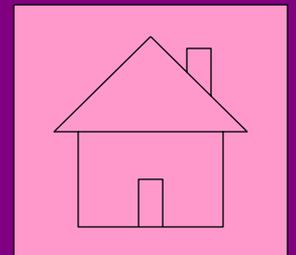
The Thar Desert

- The Thar Desert is also known as the Great Indian Desert.
- It lies in the northwest region of India and extends into neighboring Pakistan.
- The Thar Desert has few residents.



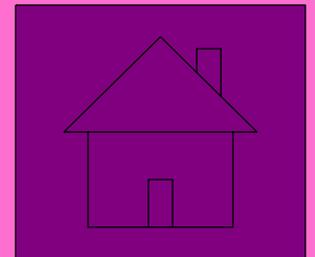
Wet Summer Monsoon

- The wet summer monsoon usually begins around June and continues through October.
- Moist air from the Indian Ocean is pulled inland and brings rain.
- Some areas receive more than 400 inches of rain per year.



Dry Winter Monsoon

- The winter monsoon lasts from November through March.
- Cold, dry winds blow from northern Asia into India.
- As the winds pass over the Himalayas, they become dry and warm causing most of India to have warm, dry winters.





History



Mohandas K. Gandhi



Religions of South Asia



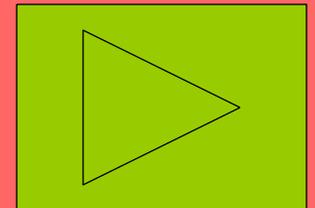
Hinduism



The Caste System

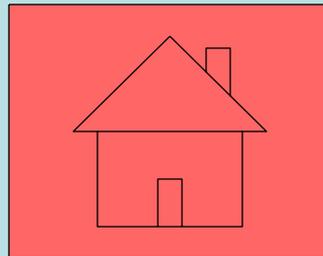


Challenges in the region today



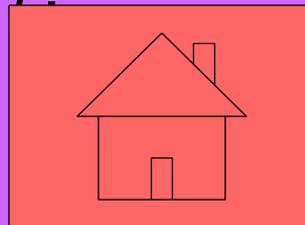
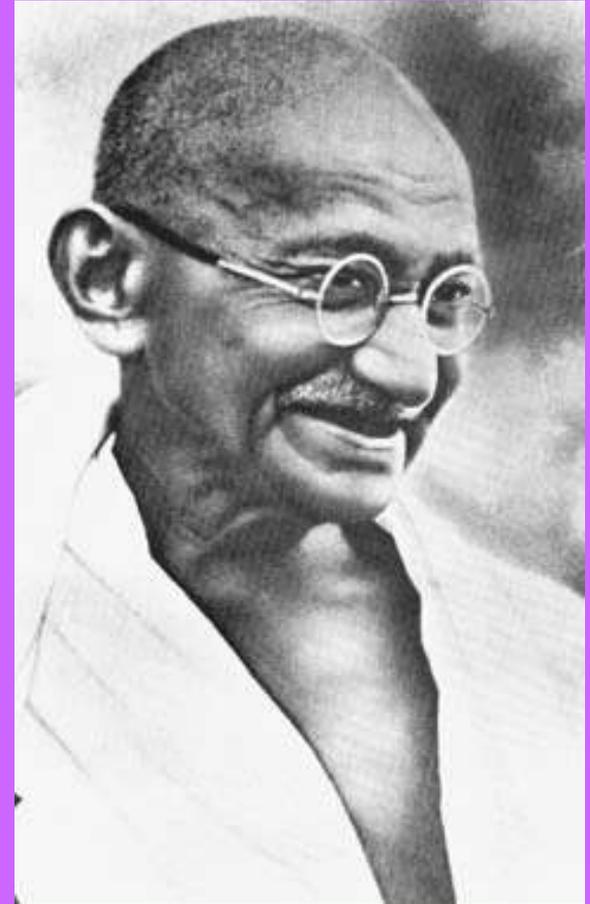
History

- The Harappan civilization was the first highly developed civilization in the Indus River Valley.
- The Aryans moved into northern India from central Asia and brought Sanskrit which developed into modern Hindi.
- Around A.D. 1000, Muslim armies began attacking northwestern India. They established many different empires in the region.
- Europeans arrived in India in the late 1490's to trade, expand their empires, and spread Christianity.
- British rule was established in India in 1858.



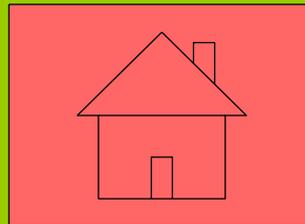
Mohandas K. Gandhi

- The British did not treat Indians as equals and many Indians wanted independence.
- Mohandas K. Gandhi led the independence movement in the early 1900's.
- Gandhi believed in nonviolent cooperation and peaceful protests to bring about change.
- India was granted independence in 1947.



Religions of South Asia

- South Asia's main religions are Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam.
- Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Maldives are mostly Muslim.
- Bhutan is 70% Buddhist.
- About 80% of India's people are Hindu.
- Two other religions that began in India are Sikhism and Jainism.
- Sikhism combines the Muslim belief in one god with the Hindu beliefs of reincarnation and karma.

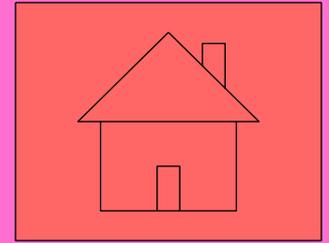


Hinduism

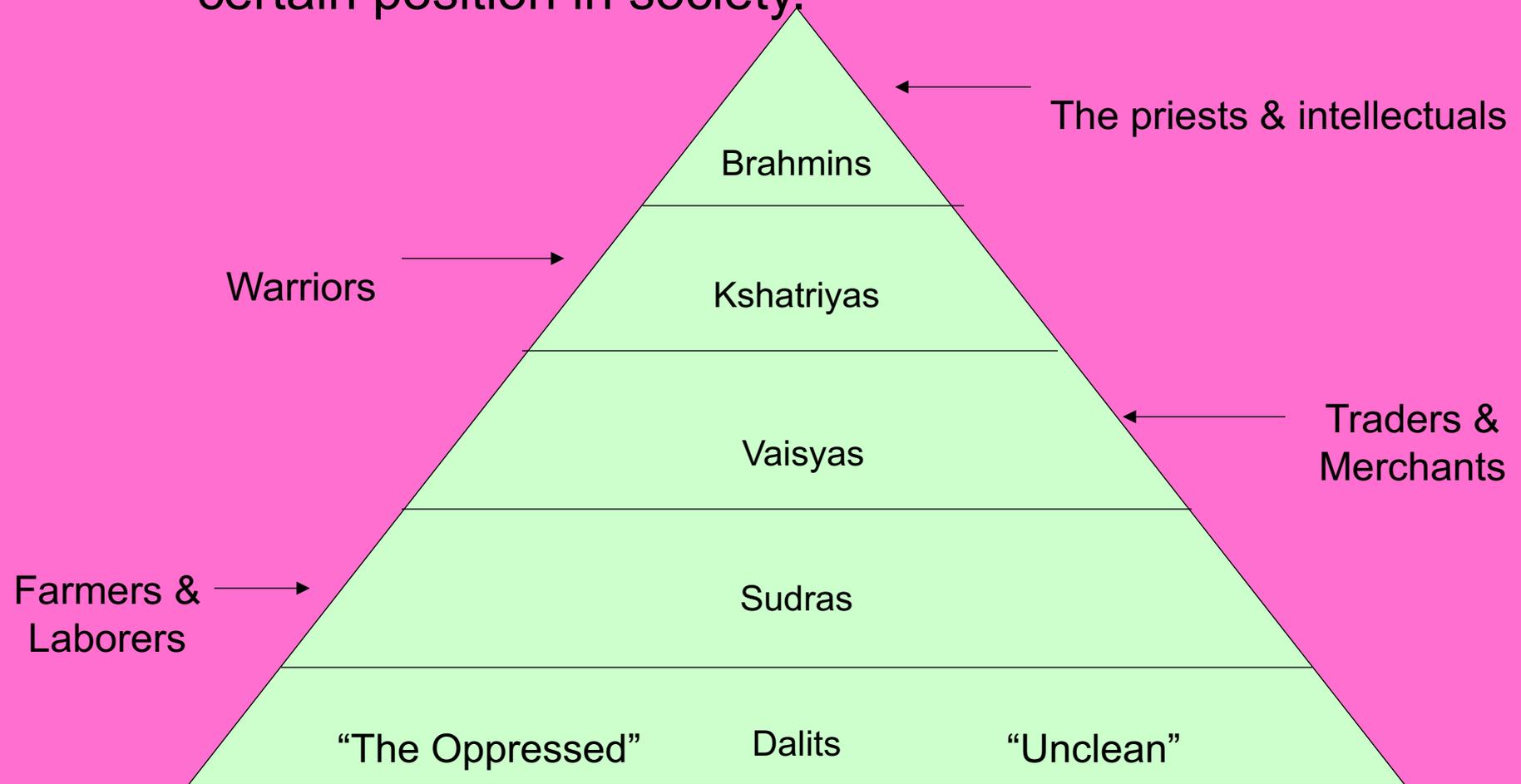
- Hinduism is an ancient religion and the largest ethnic religion in the world.
- There are many gods and goddesses in Hinduism.
- Three interrelated beliefs of Hinduism:
 - Reincarnation: The belief that the soul is reborn again and again in different forms.
 - Dharma: The importance of doing one's duty according to one's station in life.
 - Karma: The positive or negative force caused by a person's actions.
- Hindus believe that people who fulfill their dharma earn good karma and may be reborn as persons of higher status. People with bad karma may be reborn with lower status or as animals or insects.



The Caste System



- A caste is a group of people who are born into a certain position in society.



Challenges in the Region Today

- Millions struggle with extreme poverty and inequality.
- Rapid population growth- India has over 1 billion people!
- India and Pakistan have border disputes over the Kashmir region. Both countries have nuclear weapons which creates tension between them.
- This region is also recovering after the tsunami hit in 2005.

