Southeast Asia

Wednesday, May 28
GEOG 1982

Lecture Outline

• Burma & Thailand
• Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia
• Island & Peninsular Southeast Asia
  – Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei
• Indonesia
• The Philippines
Burma & Thailand

- Burma (Myanmar) – military regime, rural, poor population
  - 100,000 Burmese living in refugee camps in Thailand & Bangladesh
  - Teak, opium
- Thailand – industrializing
  - “Tiger” of 1990s,
  - attracted MNCs
Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia

- Mekong River
- “French Indochina”
- Communist-ish
- Conflict, violent independence
- Economic trouble in 1990s
- Economic growth has resumed

Vietnam

- Pop 81 million (Cambodia 12.6 million, Laos 5.6 million)
- Vietnam War (aka “American War”) 1950s-1973
  - Resistance leaders in northern Vietnam
  - U.S. operated from the south
  - 4.5 million people died (including 58,000 from U.S.)
- U.S. sanctions on Vietnam after the war
Cambodia

- Spillover from Vietnam War (secret war carried out by H. Kissinger)
- Mid-1970s – Khmer Rouge seized control
  - Violent revolutionary party
  - Subscribed to communist ideals
  - Wanted to destroy evidence of European influence; persecuted educated people (labor camps, execution)
- 1979 Vietnam invaded & ran government until 1989, followed by a civil war

Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei

- Economically successful
- Malaysia - capital: Kuala Lumpur
  - Malay (Muslim), Chinese (Buddhist)
  - Violent independence (1969)
  - Bumiputra
  - Wealth disparity
- Singapore
  - 75% Chinese
  - Wealthy
  - Highly planned
  - State control
Indonesia

- 17,000 islands; Java, Sumatra, Borneo, Sulawesi, West Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste
- Sukarno, Suharto
- Deforestation (international logging companies)

Strengthening Indonesian Democracy [Link](http://video.on.nytimes.com/?fr_story=FEEDROOM197164)

Philippines

- Roman Catholic, Spanish speaking
- Mount Pinatubo (1991)
- Ferdinand Marcos dictator 1965-1986
- Wealthy Chinese-Filipino minority