

## SOUTHEAST ASIA FROM NATIONALISM UNTIL NOW

### TERMS/PEOPLE YOU MUST USE

- Sukarno
- Ho Chi Minh
- WWII

### Causes of decolonization/nationalism in Southeast Asia (What happened that led to independence for Southeast Asian countries)?

- **WWII had the biggest impact**
  - *Japan took over almost entire region. Brutalize white colonizers and/or play local nationalists against white colonizers (Indonesia).*
    - *Brutal treatment by Japanese led to alliances between locals and white colonizers (Philippines w/ Americans)*
    - *Big picture: Encouraged nationalism and nationalist leaders.*
- *Post WWII – War against imperialism, promises of self-governance. Some promises fulfilled (U.S. in Philippines, G.B. in Myanmar). Others not – French Vietnam, Dutch Indonesia = But WWII was mechanism that encourage nationalism.*

### General characteristics of nationalism in the region (leaders, challenges, role of the military, etc.)

- *Leaders came from the elite and were well-educated (often in western universities eg. **Ho Chi Minh**).*
- *Populations poor, uneducated, agricultural (makes for establishing infrastructure difficult).*
- *Some new nations caught up in the Cold War (Vietnam a proxy war, Khmer Rouge in Cambodia).*
- *Emergence of dictators up until the last 20 years or so (Ho in Vietnam, Pol Pot in Cambodia, Suharto in Indonesia).*

## EXAMPLES OF NATIONALISM IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

PEACEFUL/NEGOTIATED (Pick one): Philippines or Burma (Myanmar) <i>Burma (Myanmar) was a British Colony.</i>	INDEPENDENCE THROUGH ARMED STRUGGLE	
	INDONESIA	VIETNAM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Britain fought WWII against imperialism.</i></li> <li>• <i>Negotiated independence of India (jewel of empire) led to independence in other colonies.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Burmese and British negotiated peacefully and it was granted independence in 1948</i></li> <li>○ <i>Independent Republican nation-state</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><i>Chaos/power vacuum after WWII. Various Indonesian factions vied for power and Japanese, British, and Dutch forces all tried to keep order.</i></p> <p><i>-Dutch reoccupied islands in 1946 and tried to reestablish control with “police actions” – violence against nationalist forces.</i></p> <p><i>-Struggles continued, despite U.N. negotiation efforts. Thousands died.</i></p> <p><i>-International opinions began favoring Indonesia independence.</i></p> <p><i>-Dutch agreed to independence, 1949</i></p> <p><b>Sukarno</b>, who emerged as a charismatic nationalist leader during WWII. was dictator.</p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><i>French colony. Taken over by Japan, WWII.</i></p> <p><i>-Ho Chi Minh, a nationalist, collaborated with Allied officials (U.S./Fr.) against Japan.</i></p> <p><i>-Ho wanted post WWII independence.</i></p> <p><i>Independence not granted post WWII, France reoccupied. Country split. Communists in North, dictator in South.</i></p> <p><i>-War between Ho’s (now communist) forces and the French.</i></p> <p><i>-French lost. U.S. steps in (contain communism).</i></p> <p><i>-Aided by USSR and guerrilla tactics Ho’s forces won, Vietnam united and communist.</i></p> </div>

## SOUTHEAST ASIA IN THE CONTEMPORARY PERIOD

Break down the big, big themes of the region. Think big picture! Focus on the challenges to unity and development

**SOCIAL:** Governance by rich elites. Often dictators emerged as leaders (Sukarno in Indonesia). Most of the population was poor and lacked infrastructure, making upward mobility difficult. Some changes with globalization/free trade – more upward mobility/higher wages. Women get vote, but continue to have lower status (poverty effects women and children to a greater extent).

**POLITICAL:** Cold War struggles throughout region. War in Vietnam. Genocide by radical communists in Cambodia. U.S. and USSR aid to stop/promote communism. Dictators emerge and often control countries. Lack of democracy. Changing, though, in the last 20 years and globalization has promoted, facilitated democracy.

**INTERACTION:** Population bomb (better health promoted by colonial countries, Green Revolution, resistance to birth control). Huge increases in population. Massive urbanization. Pollution, deforestation, general lessening of the environment. Rural overpopulation = deforestation due to livestock overgrazing.

**CULTURAL:** General religious continuity eg. Islam in Indonesia despite colonization by Christian nation.

**ECONOMIC:** Generally speaking, poor and dependent. Resources used for power struggles instead of development. Domination by Western nations (markets for non-diversified exports) – subject to pain during low markets. Many countries depend on international organizations for assistance (IMF, World Bank).

Changes/Continuities in **formation of national identities** from 1914 until now.

### CONTINUITIES

- Economic dependence on “the West” both during colonization and after.
- Influence of foreigners (colonial power, Japan during WWII, the U.S. and USSR during Cold War, international organizations with a western slant over the last 20 years).

### CHANGES

- Independence/nationalism
- Democratic institutions (within the last 20 years or so)

