

**Chapter 1 : Asia and the Pacific - ANU**

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Some island groups are independent nations, others are territories or dependencies of the United States, France, and the United Kingdom. The island groups are categorized as Polynesia, Melanesia, and Micronesia. Polynesia includes the U. The islands of Fiji are volcanic, with rugged peaks. The environmental conditions on the islands of the Pacific Ocean support seafood and lush tropical vegetation. They were hunters and gatherers who depended on the plentiful supply of seafood from the ocean that surrounded them. They became known for the great fishing skills they developed. New islanders who arrived around B. Bringing with them seeds and livestock from the Asian mainland, they planted and harvested crops and bred animals. They introduced foods including bananas, coconuts, sweet potatoes, yams, and breadfruit. The animals they brought with them included dogs, chickens, and pigs. Explorers from Europe in the s brought more new foods to the islands. These included carrots, potatoes, turnips, beef cattle, and sheep. It took a long time until the Western world showed serious interest in the Pacific Islands. Over time, they made a lasting impact on the food customs of the islands they controlled. Cooking styles on the island of Tahiti, for example, continue to reflect a strong French influence. Nearly varieties of fish are found in the waters of Polynesia alone. Fish is typically eaten raw, poached, or grilled. Root vegetables and tubers, such as taro also known as a cocoyam , sweet potatoes, and yams, are also central to the diet of the region. A wide variety of tropical fruits are also eaten in large quantities. These include bananas, plantains similar bananas , mangoes, papayas, and pineapples. One dish that is uniquely Hawaiian is poi, made from the taro root. Traditionally, the root was roasted in an underground pit filled with hot coals for several hours, and then pounded with a stone to make a sticky paste. By adding water, the pudding-like poi was created. Hawaiians ate poi by the bowlful, using only fingers to scoop it up. The coconut, a common fruit grown in tropical regions, is a main dietary staple. Nearly all of the Pacific islanders use coconut milk as their main cooking ingredient. The starchy fruit of the breadfruit tree is another Pacific island staple. When it is cooked, it has a texture like bread which is how the tree got its name. It can be peeled and eaten whole or mashed into a paste that is dipped into warm coconut milk. The most commonly used spice in the Pacific islands is soy sauce. Gallon containers of it can be found in many households. Introduced by Westerners, corned beef and Spam canned meat, usually of chopped pork have become very popular throughout the region. Popular beverages include coconut milk and beer. Let cool for 5 minutes. Strain the mixture through a coffee filter into a small bowl, pressing down hard on the solid grated coconut flesh to squeeze out all the liquid. For thinner milk, add a little more water. Use immediately in any recipe calling for coconut milk. Canned coconut milk, widely available in supermarkets, may be substituted for freshly made coconut milk. Fresh coconut milk should be used immediately, since it loses its flavor even if refrigerated.

**Chapter 2 : Asia-Pacific - Wikipedia**

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They also sequenced two pre-Columbian mummies from the Sierra Tarahumara in northern Mexico. In total, 23 ancient samples from the Americas were utilized. Not surprisingly, all of the contemporary samples with the exception of the Tsimshian genome showed recent western Eurasian admixture. As expected, the results confirm that the Yupik and Koryak are the closest Eurasian population to the Americas. Additionally, they found evidence of post-split gene flow between Siberians and Native Americans which seems to have stopped about 12, years ago, which meshes with the time that the Beringia land bridge was flooded by rising seas, cutting off land access between the two land masses. They state that the results support all Native migration from Siberia, contradicting claims of an early migration from Europe. The researchers then studied the Karitiana people of South America and determined that the two groups, Athabascans and Karitiana diverged about 13, years ago, probably not in current day Alaska, but in lower North America. This makes sense, because the Clovis Anzick child, found in Montana, most closely matches people in South America. By the Clovis period of about 12, years ago, the Native American population had already split into two branches, the northern and southern, with the northern including Athabascan and other groups such as the Chippewa, Cree and Ojibwa. Interestingly, while admixture with the Inuit was found with the Athabascan, Inuit admixture was not found among the Cree, Ojibwa and Chippewa. The researchers suggest that this may be why the southern branch, such as the Karitiana are genetically closer to the northern Amerindians located further east than to northwest coast Amerindians and Athabascans. Finally, we get to the Australian part. The researchers acknowledge these are weak trends, but they are nonetheless consistently present. I would suggest that is not a weak signal. The ancient samples cluster with the Native American groups and do not show the Oceanic markers and show no evidence of gene flow from Oceania. The researchers also included cranial morphology analysis, which I am omitting since cranial morphology seems to have led researchers astray in the past, specifically in the case of Kennewick man. One of the reasons cranial morphology is such a hotly debated topic is because of the very high degree of cranial variance found in early skeletal remains. One of the theories evolving from the cranial differences involving the populating of the Americans has been that the Australo-Melanesians were part of a separate and earlier migration that gave rise to the earliest Americans who were then later replaced by the Asian ancestors of current day Native Americans. This second group discovers the same artifact Australo-Melanesian DNA in Native American populations but suggests that it may be from the original migration and settlement event or that there may have been two distinct founding populations that settled at the same time or that there were two founding events. EurekaAlert discusses the article as well. The Anzick Child from 12, years ago does not. He is most closely related to the tribes in South America, where the Oceanic markers appear with the highest frequencies. In the Harvard study, the scientists fully genome sequenced 63 individuals without discernable evidence of European or African ancestors in 21 Native American populations, restricting their study to individuals from Central and South America that have the strongest evidence of being entirely derived from a homogenous First American ancestral population. Therefore, they surmised that the Oceanic admixture cannot be explained by a previously known admixture event. They mention that this result is striking in that the majority of the craniums that are more Oceanic in Nature than Asiatic, as would be expected from people who migrated from Siberia, are found in Brazil. We are their legacy. The Take Away When I did the Anzick extractions , we had hints that something of this sort might have been occurring. For example, I found surprising instances of haplogroup M, which is neither European, African nor Native American, so far as we know today. This may have been a foreshadowing of this Oceanic admixture. It may also be a mitochondrial artifact. Perhaps haplogroup M will turn out to be Native by virtue of being Oceanic and admixed thousands of years ago. There is still a great deal to learn. We know that the Oceanic DNA found in the Brazilian people studied for these articles is not contemporary and is ancient. This means that it is not related to the Oceanic DNA found in the Botocudo people, who, by the way,

also sport mitochondrial haplogroups that are within the range of Native people, meaning haplogroup B, but have not been found in other Native people. Specifically, haplogroups B4a1a1 and B4a1a1a. Additionally, there are other B4a1a, B4a1b and B4a1b1 results found in the Anzick extract which could also be Oceanic. We know that some Native groups have some Oceanic admixture, and others seem to have none, in particular the Northern split group that became the Cree, Ojibwa, Algonquian, and Chippewa. We know that the Brazilian Native groups are most closely related to Oceanic groups, but that the first paper also found Oceanic admixture in the Aleutian Islands. The second paper focused on the Central and South American tribes. The only Paleolithic skeleton that has been sequenced, Anzick, from 12,000 years ago in Montana also does not carry the Oceanic signature. In my opinion, the disparity between who does and does not carry the Oceanic signature suggests that the source of the Oceanic DNA in the Native population could not have been a member of the first party to exit out of Beringia and settle in what is now the Americas. To me, this argues for one of two scenarios. We still have to consider the possibility that there were multiple events that introduced Oceanic DNA into the Native population. I would very much like to see the Oceanic DNA appear in a migration path of people, not just in one place and then the other. We need to connect the dots. What this new information does is to rule out the possibility that there truly was only one wave of migration – one group of people who settled the Americas at one time. Maybe one of those groups included people from Oceania. We know we still have a lot to learn and this is the tip of a very exciting iceberg. The answer is in the DNA.

**Chapter 3 : Asia Pacific Region - Asia and the Pacific - ANU**

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Pacific Ocean, body of salt water extending from the Antarctic region in the south to the Arctic in the north and lying between the continents of Asia and Australia on the west and North and South America on the east. The Pacific Ocean, with depth contours and submarine features. Of the three oceans that extend northward from the Antarctic continent, the Pacific is by far the largest, occupying about a third of the surface of the globe. Its area, excluding adjacent seas, encompasses about It has double the area and more than double the water volume of the Atlantic Ocean –the next largest division of the hydrosphere–and its area more than exceeds that of the whole land surface of the globe. The mean depth of the Pacific excluding adjacent seas is 14, feet 4, metres , and its greatest known depth is 36, feet 11, metres –in the Mariana Trench –also the greatest depth found in any ocean. The separation between the Pacific and Indian oceans is less distinct, but generally it is considered to lie along the line of islands extending eastward from Sumatra , through Java to Timor , thence across the Timor Sea to Cape Londonderry in Australia. To the south of Australia the boundary extends across the Bass Strait and thence from Tasmania to Antarctica. The portion of the Pacific near Antarctica sometimes is considered to be part of the Southern Ocean. Because of the pattern of major mountain systems of the globe, a relatively small proportion one-seventh of the total continental drainage enters the Pacific–a total drainage area of less than about three times the total area of Australia. The eastern boundary of the Pacific is associated with the American cordilleran system, which stretches from Alaska in the north to Tierra del Fuego in the south. Except for its extreme northern and southern sections, which are characterized by fjords and their numerous off-lying islands, and except for the deeply indented Gulf of California , the coastal boundary is relatively regular and the continental shelf narrow. The western, or Asiatic, coastal boundary, in contrast, is irregular. Although the mountain systems there lie roughly parallel to the coast, as they do on the eastern Pacific coastlands, the western Pacific is noted for its many marginal seas. Their eastern boundaries are formed by southward-jutting peninsulas or island arcs or both. It is of oceanographic significance that the great rivers of eastern Asia–including the Amur , the Huang He Yellow River , the Yangtze , the Xi and Pearl Zhu , and the Mekong –enter the Pacific indirectly by way of the marginal seas. This article treats the physical and human geography of the Pacific Ocean. For discussion of the physical and chemical oceanography and marine geology of the Pacific, see ocean. Physiography Relief The Pacific basin may conveniently be divided into three major physiographic regions: Eastern region The eastern Pacific region, which extends southward from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego, is relatively narrow and is associated with the American cordilleran system of almost unbroken mountain chains, the coastal ranges of which rise steeply from the western shores of North and South America. The continental shelf, which runs parallel to it, is narrow, while the adjacent continental slope is very steep. Its structure is more complex than that of the eastern region. Characteristically associated with the ocean trenches of the western region are festoons of either peninsulas or islands or both. The islands, which include those of Japan as well as numerous smaller islands, represent the upper parts of mountain systems that rise abruptly from the deep ocean floor. The island clusters of the western Pacific form the boundaries of the several wide and deep continental seas of the region. Aerial view of rock islands, Palau. The submerged parts of the series of ridges that are capped by the island archipelagoes of the western Pacific are continuous and are to be found at depths of less than about 2, feet metres. These ridges include the Aleutian Ridge in the northwestern Pacific; the series of ridges extending southward through the Kuril , Bonin , and Mariana island groups, and the archipelagoes of Yap and Palau ; those extending eastward from New Guinea , including the Bismarck Archipelago and the Solomon and Santa Cruz island chains; and, finally, the ridges extending southward, from which rise the Samoa , Tonga , Kermadec , and Chatham island groups, as well as Macquarie Island. Bottom deposits Apart from the narrow coastal zone of the eastern region and the broad continental seas of the western region, the Pacific is floored with pelagic oceanic material derived from the remains of marine plants and animals that once inhabited the

waters lying above. Calcareous globigerina ooze occurs in the shallower parts of the South Pacific, the dissolving power of the seawater at great depths being sufficient to dissolve calcareous material to such an extent that these oozes are not generally found at depths in excess of about 15, feet 4, metres. Silica-containing material, such as radiolarian and diatom ooze, is found at greater depths, but even these siliceous remains are dissolved at very great depths, where the characteristic deposit is red clay. Red clay, which covers no less than half of the Pacific floor, is believed to be formed of colloidal extremely finely divided clays derived essentially from the land. Manganese nodules on the southern Pacific Ocean floor. Courtesy of the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, Columbia University On the abyssal plains , where sediments accumulate slowly, chemical and biological processes lead to the formation of metal-bearing coatings around objects such as the ear bones of fishes. The nodules so formed contain manganese, iron, nickel, copper, cobalt, and traces of other metals such as platinum. They cover large areas of the ocean floor in the Pacific. Similar processes form coatings, called manganese crusts, on the rock surfaces of seamounts. Among the many different forms of land-derived muds formed by the erosive action of rivers, tides, and currents that floor the continental shelves and slopes of the Pacific, the yellow mud of the Yellow Sea is of particular interest. The mud is conveyed to the seabed by the Huang He, which drains a vast area of northern China blanketed with loess , a fine-grained soil. Geologically, they consist partly of sedimentary rocks , and their structures are similar to those of the coastal mountain ranges of the adjacent continent. In the northern and western Pacific the Andesite Line follows close to seaward the trend of the island arcs from the Aleutians southward to the Yap and Palau arcs, thence eastward through the Bismarck, Solomon, and Santa Cruz archipelagoes, and thence southward through the Samoa, Tonga, and Chatham groups and Macquarie Island to Antarctica. Islands to the west of the line are rich in andesite , a type of intrusive igneous rock; islands to the east oceanic side of it are essentially of basalt , an extrusive igneous rock. The numerous oceanic islands of the Pacific are unevenly distributed. They lie, in the main, between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn and occur in great numbers in the western Pacific. The northernmost chain of oceanic islands is associated with the Hawaiian Ridge. The Hawaiian archipelago consists of about 2, islands, although the term Hawaiian Islands is usually applied to the small group that lies at the eastern end of the archipelago. To the south of Micronesia lies Melanesia , which consists mostly of small coral islands. Geology Evidence drawn from various geophysical fieldsâ€” seismology , volcanology , gravimetry, and paleomagnetism remanent magnetism â€”points to the general validity of the theory of plate tectonics. All the major physical features in the Pacific are understood to originate in plate tectonics. The western Pacific arcs of volcanic islands and deep trenches are convergent zones where two plates are colliding, one being subducted forced under the other. The East Pacific Rise is an active spreading centre where new crust is being created. The northeastern Pacific margin is the strike-slip zone where the American Plate and the Pacific Plate are gliding laterally past each other via the major San Andreas Fault system. The floor of the northeastern Pacific is remarkable for its several major fracture zones , which extend east and west and which, in some instances, are identifiable over distances of thousands of miles. Of great geologic interest are the seamounts submerged volcanoes , guyots flat-topped seamounts , and oceanic islands of the Pacific. The numerous tropical islands of the Pacific are mainly coralline. The principal types of coral reefs â€” fringing , barrier , and atoll â€”as well as the guyots, which rise within the Pacific from the ocean floor in latitudes north and south of the tropics, are explained partially by the slow subsidence theory advanced by the English naturalist Charles Darwin during the 19th century and partially by the theory of plate tectonics. Climate The wind and pressure systems of the Pacific conform closely to the planetary systemâ€”the patterns of air pressure and the consequent wind patterns that develop in the atmosphere of the Earth as a result of its rotation Coriolis force and the inclination of its axis ecliptic toward the Sun. They are, in essence, a three-celled latitudinal arrangement of the atmospheric circulation , with the systems in the Northern and Southern hemispheres mirroring each other on opposite sides of the Equator. The vast extent of open water in the Pacific influences wind and pressure patterns over it, and climatic conditions in the southern and eastern Pacificâ€”where the steadiness of the trade winds and the westerlies is remarkableâ€”are the most uniform on the globe. In the North Pacific, however, conditions are not so uniform, particularly the considerable climatic differences between the eastern and western regions in the same latitude. The rigour of

the winters off the east coast of Russia , for instance, contrasts sharply with the relative mildness of winters in the region of British Columbia. The obliquity of the ecliptic an angle of The easterly winds between the two subtropical zones form the intertropical airflow and tend to be strongest in the eastern Pacific. The equatorial region, where the trade winds of the Northern and Southern hemispheres converge, is an area of calms or light variable breezes and is known as the doldrums. The average wind speed of the Pacific trade winds is about 15 miles 24 km per hour. The weather in the trade-wind belts is normally fine, with relatively little cloud cover; such clouds as there are characteristically take the form of broken cumulus small piles of clouds with flat bases at about 2, feet metres above sea level. Precipitation, usually in the form of light showers, is slight. Off the west coasts of the American continents in the trade-wind belts, upwelling of cold subsurface water causes the overlying air to be cooled below its dew point the air temperature below which water vapour condenses as dew , with the consequent widespread formation of low, thick clouds. Fog in those regions is not uncommon. Tropical storms Although in general the climatic conditions of the trade-wind belts are characteristically regular and uniform, storms of great violence do originate there. In such storms, winds of exceptionally strong force spiral inward toward a centre of exceedingly low atmospheric pressure. The regions to the east of the Philippines and in the South and East China seas are notorious for these storms, which imperil shipping and often cause severe coastal flooding accompanied by loss of life and property. NOAA The westerlies Within the belts of the westerly winds, cold easterly winds from polar regions meet the warm westerly winds of the middle latitudes, causing the formation of the traveling depressions characteristic of middle latitudes. The zone of convergence, or polar front , is most strongly developed in winter, when the contrast in temperature and humidity of the air between the converging flows is greatest. The monsoon regime The western Pacific is subject to a seasonal climatic regime that replaces the planetary system. This is the regime of the monsoon rain-bearing winds , which is associated with the heating of the Asian landmass in summer and its intense cooling in winter. The heating of air masses over tropical Asia in summer initiates a low-pressure system, which becomes the focal point of the trade winds of both hemispheres. The doldrums , therefore, do not exist in the western Pacific during northern summer because of the immense flow of maritime air into the Asian low-pressure zone. The cooling of the continent in winter results in the development of the Asian high-pressure system, which leads to a strengthening of the trade winds of the Northern Hemisphere. As a result of seasonal changes in pressure and wind circulation, marked seasonal contrast between continental and maritime influencesâ€”the first associated with drought and cold and the second with moisture and heatâ€”is to be found in the whole of the western Pacific from the Sea of Japan southward. Page 1 of 3.

**Chapter 4 : Scuba Diving Equipment | Oceanic Asia Pacific**

*Melanesian culture: Melanesian culture, the beliefs and practices of the indigenous peoples of the ethnogeographic group of Pacific Islands known as Melanesia. From northwest to southeast, the islands form an arc that begins with New Guinea (the western half of which is called Papua and is part of Indonesia, and the*

It also details the fast improvement of its military capacities on these artificial islands, including through enhanced aviation and port capabilities, fixed-weapons and sensor positions, barracks, communication facilities, and plans for floating nuclear power plants. Beijing first deployed advanced fighter jets and surface-to-air missiles to the Paracels, an island chain near Vietnam. In the Spratlys, Beijing has recently completed defense-related infrastructure, including runways capable of accommodating fighter jets across seven artificial islands. Further, Beijing is installing long-range anti-ship cruise missiles and air-defense missile systems in the contested maritime region. From there, the cruise missile-equipped bombers can attack targets as much as 3,000 kilometers away, or deep into the Pacific Islands and down to Australia. Economic advances, colonial ambitions Over the last five years, Beijing has significantly bolstered its economic ties within Oceania, according to a US-China Economic and Security Review Commission report released in June. Wikimedia Commons China has growing geostrategic interests in the region. Implications for the United States. It starts with financial aid, political donations and investment that pave commercial inroads and an increase in Chinese migration to the region. After co-opting government officials, invariably a PLA Navy-related military objective emerges, he says. Last month, Pohnpei called on Pacific Island leaders to band together and press China to write off their debts. Beijing effectively banned tour groups and further investment in the idyllic tropic archipelago. Another rising concern for Pacific islanders is fast-shifting demographics. While many islanders welcome Chinese investment and trade, they are simultaneously concerned about losing control of their economies and the influx of both Chinese workers and wealthy Chinese expats who live in walled compounds, Bohane said. China boasts it now has more aid projects in Vanuatu than any other Pacific Island country. Since then, other Pacific nations that receive copious Chinese aid like Nauru and Papua New Guinea have followed suit. Recent media reports suggest China aims to establish a naval base at Vanuatu. Some there are nervous about a looming referendum on whether to declare independence from France and if the vote could potentially lead to violence. The islands also provide a refueling and transshipment point between China and the Americas that could support PLA operations in the future. Each island nation, analysts say, provides potential military logistics and intelligence facility sites. Bohane and others highlight the potential for instability in some of the island states. Any outburst of instability could be the initial pretext for China to dispatch its Marines to protect its interests and citizens in Pacific Island nations. Beijing ultimately aims to have 20,000 Marines. It can now deploy these elite soldiers in amphibious assault ships, potentially utilizing its militarized South China Sea islands as staging areas. Will this give Chinese forces an opportunity for mission creep to stay on and protect expanding Chinese interests and populations there? The inability to conduct such training on US territory because of Chinese influence operations has seriously degraded the readiness of frontline US Navy and Marine Corps forces in the Marianas, says Fanell. But it also has military and political ambitions that could soon replicate the destabilizing situation it has created through its militarization of the South China Sea. He is a former US Marine Corps officer, with extensive operational and security policy experience in the Asia-Pacific.

**Chapter 5 : Australasia - Wikipedia**

*Asia-Pacific or Asia Pacific (abbreviated as APAC, Asia-Pac, AsPac, APJ, JAPA or JAPAC) is the part of the world in or near the Western Pacific calendrierdelascience.com region varies in area depending on which context, but it typically includes much of East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Oceania.*

Other examples of early art in New Guinea includeâ€¦ Contemporary Melanesia The colonial processes that caused the indigenous peoples of Melanesia to become part of the world economic system included the pressures of Christianization and Westernization. In some areas these forces have operated for more than a century. In other areas, however, particularly the interior highlands of New Guinea, Western penetration came as late as the s or, in some places, the s. By the early 21st century, even the most remote regions had become accessible, and they have been transformed. Squatter settlements on urban peripheries abound, and migration into towns is increasingly common, with both phenomena serving to link village and urban life. In the colonial period, missions introduced Western education and caused local economic change. As a result, many of the leaders in Melanesia have come from mission schools and backgrounds, and some have been trained as Christian ministers or evangelists. During the late 20th and early 21st centuries, the Melanesian postcolonial states were among the most Christian nations on earth. Different Christian denominations, and even individual missionaries, have in varying degrees been sympathetic to and knowledgeable about local languages and cultures. Together, missionary work and the imposition of colonial rule eliminated a variety of cultural traditions, some of which were quite intricate and rich and others of which were violent and exploitative. Since the s, multinational and transnational corporations have moved into Melanesia and have brought additional changes, especially in Papua New Guinea. Most of the international logging investment in Melanesia has centred on that country which has more than , square miles [, square km] of forested land. Logging also plays a dominant role in the Solomon Islands, where it accounts for a large proportion of merchandise exports. Mining â€”mainly by multinational corporationsâ€”has also become significant for many Melanesian countries, notably Papua New Guinea. Local opposition to copper mining on the island of Bougainville part of Papua New Guinea was apparent when prospecting began in the s. Although various ad hoc agreements were made, local landowners remained dissatisfied with royalty and compensation payments. In rebellion and physical violence brought that mine to a close. Another mine on Bougainville began production in and also ran into major disputes with landowners and provincial governments. Open-pit nickel mine on mainland New Caledonia. Bob and Ira Spring These forms of economic development have caused the formerly classless Melanesian societies to become class-stratified, with politicians, public servants, and entrepreneurs constituting an emerging elite. Moreover, at least in the English-speaking areas, the elites increasingly share a common Westernized and consumerist culture and common political and economic interests that cut across cultural, linguistic, and national boundaries. Art festivals, cultural centres, and ideologies of kastom have cast in a more positive light the traditional cultural elements, such as ceremonial exchange , dance and music, and oral traditions, that had long been suppressed by the more conservative and evangelistic forms of Christianity. The emphasis on traditional culture as a source of identity finds expression in the perpetuation or revival of old systems of exchange. In Papua New Guinea, the kula exchange of shell armbands and necklaces continues in the Massim region in southeastern Papua New Guinea , carried on by air travel and among politicians, professionals, and public servants, as well as by villagers in canoes. Members of the new elite still conspicuously pay bridewealth in shell valuables. Dance of spirit impersonation, Ambrym Island, Vanuatu. The earliest, or Papuan, tradition is ancient. Papuans occupied the Sahul continent now partly submerged at least 40, years ago. As hunting and gathering peoples whose ways of life were adapted to the tropical rainforest , they occupied the equatorial zone of the continent, which became the vast island of New Guinea after sea levels rose at the end of the Pleistocene. Lapita pottery, reconstructed two-dimensional anthropomorphic design, c. Green Modern descendants of these early populations speak languages that belong to a number of different families that together are categorized as Papuan languages. Papuan peoples domesticated root crops and sugarcane and may have kept domestic pigs as early as 9, years ago,

contemporaneous with the dawn of agriculture in the Middle East. By 5,000 years ago agricultural production in parts of the New Guinea highlands had incorporated systems of water control and swine husbandry, both of which were intensified over subsequent millennia. About 4,000 years ago, Austronesian peoples moved into the area, arriving by sea from Southeast Asia. By 3,000 years ago they had occupied parts of the islands of the Bismarck Archipelago. Their presence is marked by the appearance of the distinctive pottery, tools, and shell ornaments that define the Lapita culture. They spoke an Austronesian language related to languages of the Philippines and Indonesia and ancestral to many of the languages of coastal eastern New Guinea; much of the Bismarck Archipelago; the Solomons, Vanuatu, and New Caledonia; and those of central and eastern Micronesia and Polynesia. Evidence of long-distance trade, particularly of shell ornaments and obsidian, suggests that the widely spread communities characterized by the Lapita tradition had become linked politically by 3,000 years ago. The settlement of eastern Micronesia by Austronesian speakers, perhaps from the Solomons, apparently took place during this period. Fiji was initially colonized by Lapita peoples and became a springboard to the settlement of western Polynesia. The Austronesian speakers, who had a maritime orientation and sophisticated seagoing technology, probably had a system of hereditary chiefs with political-religious authority. They also had elaborate cosmologies and complex religious systems that were similar to those recorded in western Polynesia. The Bismarck Archipelago east of New Guinea was already occupied by speakers of Papuan languages when the Austronesians arrived. The populations that now occupy the archipelago and the arcs of islands extending to the southeast represent the mixing of Papuan and Austronesian peoples and cultures. The mixing may have taken place largely within the Bismarcks before the islands to the southeast were settled, although the exact processes involved and the relative contributions of these historical populations are debated. A great deal of economic interchange took place between the Austronesian peoples, whose economies were based on root- and tree-crop cultivation and on maritime technology, and the Papuans, who also had well-developed agricultural and technological systems. It is probable that an interchange of other cultural traditions, from social organization to religion, took place as well. However, some Austronesian-speaking communities—perhaps those that retained their maritime orientation—appear to have remained relatively isolated from intermarriage and cultural interchange. Although the mix of Austronesian and Papuan cultural elements varies across Melanesia, in many ways the joint classification of both Austronesian peoples and Papuan peoples as Melanesians—in contrast to Micronesians and Polynesians—does a disservice to the ethnological, linguistic, and archaeological evidence. The Austronesians of northern Vanuatu and the southeastern Solomons speak languages very closely related to those of Polynesia and eastern Micronesia. Culturally, Austronesians are in many ways more closely related to these other Austronesian-speaking peoples than to the Papuans of interior New Guinea. Settlement patterns In many areas of Melanesia, local groups lived in scattered homesteads and hamlets rather than villages. Often these settlements were occupied for short periods until the groups moved on to follow cultivation cycles. In general, larger, more permanent settlements were characteristic of coastal environments, and smaller, shifting ones were characteristic of interior areas. Where communities were in danger of surprise attack, they tended to cluster more closely. In interior areas they were usually sited on ridges and peaks. In parts of the Sepik River area of Papua New Guinea, large villages—some with populations of more than 1,000 people—represented the aggregation of descent-based local groups. In the Trobriand Islands in the Massim area of southeastern Papua New Guinea, villages of up to 100 people were arrayed around a central dance ground. Villages at least as large were packed together on coral platforms in the lagoons of northern Malaita, in the Solomon Islands. Residential separation of men and women was common. Women and children typically occupied domestic dwellings, while men resided in clubhouses or cult houses, a focus of ritual and military solidarity common in many areas of Melanesia. The huge cult houses of the Sepik River basin and the southern Papuan coast are examples. Museum of Cultures; photograph, Hans Hinz, Basel Gender relations In some parts of Melanesia, male-female relationships were polarized. In New Guinea a zone of extreme polarization extended from the Papuan coast Marind-anim and Asmat peoples along the southern face of the Highlands Anga speakers and Papuan plateau peoples and the high central mountains Mountain Ok peoples down into the Sepik. Peoples throughout this zone were preoccupied with ideas about growth and the physical fluids and substances semen,

vaginal fluids, and menstrual blood that they regarded as agents of reproduction and growth. All of these were seen as inherently powerful and therefore potentially dangerous. These activities emphasized membership in secret single-sex cults in which they practiced ritualized homosexuality, observed elaborate initiation rituals, and celebrated warfare. Concerns related to reproductive fluids echoed throughout Melanesia in various forms, although relations between the sexes were often seen as complementary rather than conflicting. The central role of women in everyday domestic politics was widely valued and recognized, and in many areas ritual status or local group affiliation was based on maternal as well as paternal links. In addition, women were often accorded importance in ritual and as healers, elders, and ancestors. Museum of Cultures Vb 71 ; photograph, P. In the Massim area, the reproductive and productive powers of women were represented in social relations and in ideologies of descent and cosmic processes, and in some areas women played prominent parts in certain rituals. While some polarization of the sexes is reported in accounts from the Solomons and Vanuatu, there the sexual segregation of and concerns with ritual pollution seem to have had more to do with the preservation of symbolic boundaries than with inherent dangers attributed to bodily essences. Kinship and local groups The societies of precolonial Melanesia characteristically organized themselves into local groups that were based on kinship and descent and linked together by intermarriage. In the usual absence of centralized political institutions, these local groups were relatively autonomous. In most areas they were relatively small, having between 20 and members. In densely settled areas of the New Guinea Highlands and parts of the Sepik River area, however, kinship- and descent-based polities were considerably larger. Under this system, domestic groups or individuals typically held rights over gardens and cultivated trees, while local kin groups held corporate title to the land itself. That is, land was inherited and held collectively by the descendants of those who initially cleared it. Use rights might then be extended to others. In coastal zones, corporate title might also obtain for reefs or fishing grounds. In many areas the relationship between people and land was conceptualized in terms of chains of descent from a group of founding ancestors, the links of which could be reckoned through the male line patrilineal descent , the female line matrilineal descent , or some combination thereof cognatic descent. Patrilineal descent systems prevail in most of lowland New Guinea, northern Vanuatu, and New Caledonia, and matrilineal descent systems are used in much of the Massim, the Bismarck Archipelago, and the Solomon Islands. Nevertheless, considerable variation is found within these areas. Societies of the central and western Highlands of New Guinea have been described as segmentary patrilineal descent systems. The segmentary structures, or phratries essentially groups of clans that share a mythical ancestor characteristically use brother-brother and father-son links to represent what were once in fact relatively unstable political alliances. Phratries were important when intergroup warfare was common because they provided a structure through which to conjoin otherwise distantly related groups during a period when the sheer size of local polities was a key to survival. While some groups have continued to emphasize the chains of descent connecting the living to their ancestors, most seem unconcerned with such connections. They use father-son links as the main mechanism of group recruitment but are open to the attachment of refugees and individuals connected through women. Ties of intermarriage were important in creating and maintaining connections between descent- or kinship-based local groups. Marriages negotiated with enemies made at least temporary allies of them. Polygyny , a form of marriage in which two or more wives share a husband, was relatively widespread, at least for prominent leaders. It also tended to perpetuate the social hierarchies within a community , as polygynous families had more productive and reproductive labour with which to accumulate surplus pigs and root crops than did those of their monogamous counterparts. In some areas, as in the Trobriand Islands , polygynous marriages of high-ranking leaders were instruments of political alliance and of tributary relationships between descent-based local groups. For example, in the Trobriands, because a matrilineal subclan was obligated to cultivate yams and ceremonially present them to the husbands of its absent female members, a leader with many wives became a centre of yam distribution. Where polygyny was not practiced, leaders could draw labour from their followers by financing the bridewealth payments of subsidiary families. Kinship ties created through marriage alliances crosscut and were complementary to divisions based on unilineal descent. The complementary parts played by maternal and paternal subclans in Trobriand mortuary rites were particularly complex. Throughout Melanesia, obligations

toward kin constituted the ultimate moral imperative.

**Chapter 6 : Test your geography knowledge - Oceania: countries quiz | Lizard Point**

*Despite these significant discoveries and exciting potentials, there is a curious absence of published information about Asia-Pacific region, and consequently, global narratives of our most celebrated cognitive accomplishment “art” has consistently underrepresented the contribution of Southeast Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands.*

The Asia-Pacific region does not, therefore, include all of the countries located in Asia. It also does not encompass all countries which border, or are located within, the Pacific Ocean the Pacific Rim countries , as this would include Russia and many countries which are located in the North, Central and South America. The Asia-Pacific region comprises many countries of varying sizes, which together possess a diverse array of physical and built environments. Human populations within the Asia-Pacific region have also attained varying degrees of social and economic development. See image one Australia Australia is unique in being a country that occupies a whole continent. It is located between the Indian and Pacific Oceans in the southern hemisphere. Australia has an area of 7. Research indicates that the country has been divided into groups and territories by human settlers for as long as 40 years by the first Indigenous peoples. More recently, however, it has been suggested that Indigenous peoples have inhabited the Australian continent for much longer than this; possibly for over years. When Europeans arrived in Australia in , the eastern half of the continent was settled and became the British colony of New South Wales. By the end of the following century, the land was wholly occupied and divided into six colonies, each with a colonial government. Today, it is divided into six States and two Territories, governed both by separate State governments and a national federal government. Australia does, however, also share a contested overland border in the Australian Antarctic Territory, which adjoins territories claimed by several nations. See image three Indonesia is an arc of over 17 islands that stretch for roughly kilometres. Only of these islands are inhabited. Other islands include Timor and Bali. Prior to , Papua New Guinea was a colony of Australia. The Oceania region is divided into the three island groups of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The capital city of Papua New Guinea is Port Moresby, which is the largest urban metropolis south of Honolulu, north of Australia, and east of Indonesia. The country contains two major islands named the South and the North , which are the 12th and 14th largest in the world. Although it only has an area of square kilometres and is one-thirtieth the size of Australia, its population of 3. New Zealand was initially governed as a dependency of New South Wales before it separated as a colony in the 19th century. The South-East Asian region physically stretches from the south-eastern peninsula to the East Asian archipelago. It is also roughly bounded by the Indian subcontinent to the west, China on the north, and the Pacific Ocean on the east. The boundary between Australia and the South-East Asia region is commonly placed between the island of Papua New Guinea and the northern Australian coastline. The Pacific Islands The Pacific, or Oceanic, region can be divided into three island groups that reflect the geography, culture and ethnic backgrounds of the indigenous inhabitants of the islands. These island groups include Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. The larger islands of Melanesia and Polynesia are referred to as continental islands, as distinguished from the much smaller islands of Micronesia and Polynesia. The islands can be further divided into two main groups which include the low islands and the high islands. The low islands consist mainly of coral reefs and atolls scattered through the Pacific. Most of these rise little more than one metre above sea level, including islands in the Gilbert, Marshall, Phoenix, Tuamotu and Tuvalu groups as well as other single islands. The high islands consist mostly of hills, rugged mountains and some active volcanoes, where earthquakes and other tectonic activity are frequent and often severe. Similarly, many countries that are located within, or which share a border with, the Pacific Ocean Pacific-Rim countries are not considered part of the Asia-Pacific region.

Chapter 7 : Pacific Ocean | calendrierdelascience.com

*Abbott has continued in the footsteps of Gillard, repeatedly using Indo-Pacific terminology to describe Australia's strategic environment and referring to the Indo-Pacific as the focus of the world's economic dynamism. 23 Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh began using the term in late and into as a way of defining his country.*

Our relationship with the Pacific was defined by aid. How much should we give? What could we do to lift living standards? The Pacific was a place we felt had to help, but it commanded little attention at the highest levels of government. Jonathan Pryke from the Lowy Institute says most Australian politicians regarded the Pacific as a strategic backwater “ and largely ignored it. But about a decade ago, that began to change. In around , China entered the fray. It started to offer Pacific nations large amounts of money and build up its political influence across the region. And now the Pacific is slowly morphing from a calm expanse of water dominated by Western interests into a choppy ocean churned by global headwinds. So, is this all about China? This is largely all about China. While several nations have ramped up their engagement in the Pacific since , Beijing has built diplomatic and financial muscle in the region with surprising speed. And policy makers have finally taken note. And Australia is paying attention. Some defence and intelligence analysts worry that China is engaged in "debt-trap diplomacy", accusing Beijing of searching for assets in the Pacific that could be converted to military bases. And Mr Pryke says that uncertainty is driving many decisions in Canberra right now. So what are we actually going to do? Right now, Australian aid is largely funnelled into projects to promote health, education and governance across the Pacific. The answer might surprise you, writes Stephen Dziedzic. Mr Morrison has made it clear that will change. Pacific island nations will be able to draw on the bank to get discounted loans for ports, roads, telecommunications infrastructure. They complain that too much Australian aid money is funnelled to well-paid Western consultants. And they say China is quicker to hand over money for projects that they want. Australia has typically left infrastructure building in the region to multilateral institutions like the Asian Development Bank. Pacific nations are among those that have the most to lose from climate change. Darren James Mark Brown says the Cook Islands would like see climate change issues "more accurately clarified" by Australia.

**Chapter 8 : 5th Asian and Oceanic IRPA Regional Congress on Radiation Protection**

*Australasia, a region of Oceania, comprises Australia, New Zealand, neighbouring islands in the Pacific Ocean and, sometimes, the island of New Guinea (which is usually considered to be part of Melanesia).*

Lake Pukaki looking to the Southern Alps of New Zealand From an ecological perspective the Australasia ecozone forms a distinct region with a common geologic and evolutionary history and a great many unique flora and fauna. The Wallace Line marks the biological divide from the Indomalaya ecozone of tropical Asia – Borneo and Bali lie on the western, Asian side. Australia, New Zealand and New Caledonia are all fragments of the ancient supercontinent Gondwana , the marks of which are still visible in the Christmas Island Seamount Province and other geophysical entities. These three land masses have been separated from other continents, and from one another, for millions of years. All of Australasia shares the Antarctic flora , although the northern, tropical islands also share many plants with Southeast Asia. Mainland Australia, New Guinea and Tasmania are separated from one another by shallow continental shelves , and were linked together when the sea level was lower during the Ice Ages. They share a similar fauna which includes marsupial and monotreme mammals and ratite birds. Eucalypts are the predominant trees in much of Australia and New Guinea. New Zealand has no extant native land mammals aside from bats though it once did , but also had ratite birds, including the kiwi and the extinct moa. The Australasia ecozone includes some nearby island groups, like Wallacea , the Bismarck Archipelago , Solomon Islands , and Vanuatu , which were not formerly part of Gondwana, but which share many characteristic plants and animals with Australasia. The Australasian ecozone is an ecological region that is coincident, but not synonymous by some definitions , with the geographic region of Australasia. New Zealand and its surrounding islands are a distinctive sub-region of the Australasian ecozone. The rest of Indonesia is part of the Indomalayan ecozone. From a biological point of view, Australasia is a distinct region with a common evolutionary history and a great many unique plants and animals, some of them common to the entire area, others specific to particular parts but sharing a common ancestry. The long isolation of Australasia from other continents allowed it to evolve relatively independently, which makes it home to many unique families of plants and animals. Australia and New Guinea are distinguished by their marsupial mammals , including kangaroos , possums , and wombats. The last remaining monotreme mammals, the echidnas and the platypus , are endemic to Australasia. Prior to the arrival of humans about 50, years ago, only about one-third of Australasian mammal species were placental. The boundary between Australasia and Indomalaya follows the Wallace Line, named after the naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace who noted the differences in mammal and bird fauna between the islands either side of the line. The Islands to the west of the line, including Java , Bali , Borneo , and the Philippines share a similar fauna with East Asia , including tigers , rhinoceros , and apes. During the ice ages , sea levels were lower, exposing the continental shelf that links these islands to one another and to Asia , and allowed Asian land animals to inhabit these islands. Similarly, Australia and New Guinea are linked by a shallow continental shelf, and were linked by a land bridge during the ice ages. A group of Australasian islands east of the Wallace Line , including Sulawesi , Halmahera , Lombok , Flores , Sumba , Sumbawa , and Timor , is separated by deep water from both the southeast Asian continental shelf and the Australia-New Guinea continental shelf. These islands are called Wallacea, and contain relatively few Australian or Asian mammals. While most land mammals found it difficult to cross the Wallace Line , many plant , bird , and reptile species were better able to make the crossing. Australia , New Zealand , and New Caledonia are all portions of the ancient supercontinent of Gondwana , which started to break into smaller continents in the Cretaceous era , million years ago. New Zealand broke away first, more than 80 million years ago, and Australia finally broke free from Antarctica about 45 million years ago. All the Australasian lands are home to the Antarctic flora, descended from the flora of southern Gondwana , including the coniferous podocarps and Araucaria pines, and the broadleaved southern beech *Nothofagus* , and proteas Proteaceae. As Australia moved north into the desert latitudes, the continent became hotter and drier, and the soils poorer and leached of nutrients, causing the old Antarctic flora to retreat to the humid corners of the continent in favor of new drought and fire tolerant flora,

dominated by the Eucalyptus , Casuarina , and Acacia trees , and by grasses and scrub where the rainfall was too scarce to support trees. Presently Australia is the smallest continent, and also the driest continent and the flattest lowest in elevation continent.

## Chapter 9 : China's plan for conquest of the South Pacific | Asia Times

*Countries of the region, The Asia-Pacific region, Asia-Pacific Challenges - World Environments, SOSE, Year 9, QLD Introduction The Asia-Pacific region includes countries which are situated along the western shoreline of Pacific Ocean, as well as countries which are situated in the western part of the Pacific Ocean.*