Four Central Asian Divisions



Overview

A clear overview of Central Asia, including a full list of countries, capitals, population data, and maps based on the United Nations geoscheme.

Key Takeaways

Central Asia is a region of five countries—Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan—sometimes informally grouped into geographic or cultural divisions.

Overview of Central Asia

Central Asia is a landlocked region in the heart of the Asian continent, bordered by Russia to the north, China to the east, Afghanistan and Iran to the south, and the Caspian Sea to the west. The region is historically and culturally significant, serving as a crossroads for trade, migration, and the Silk Road routes. Its five countries are collectively known as the "-stans" due to the Persian suffix "-stan," meaning "land".

Possible Interpretations of "Four Divisions"While there is no universally recognized "four divisions" of Central Asia, the term could refer to several ways the region is subdivided: Geographic or Physiographic Divisions: Central Asia can be divided into northern, southern, eastern, and western zones based on terrain features such as the Tien Shan, Pamirs, Turan Plain, and steppe regions. These divisions reflect differences in climate, topography, and natural resources. Cultural or Ethnolinguistic Divisions: The region can be grouped by dominant ethnic or linguistic communities.

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For example, Kazakhs and Kyrgyz in the north and east are Turkic-speaking nomadic groups, while Tajiks in the south are Persian-speaking. Turkmen and Uzbeks occupy the western and central plains. Political or Historical Divisions: During the Soviet era, Central Asia was divided into republics that roughly correspond to today's countries.

Some analyses consider northern Kazakhstan and southern Central Asia as separate zones due to historical settlement patterns and economic development. Economic or Strategic Divisions: Modern regional cooperation sometimes categorizes Central Asia into subregions for trade, energy, and security purposes, such as northern energy-rich Kazakhstan versus the agricultural and water-dependent southern states.

Regional Cooperation

Despite historical divisions, Central Asian countries increasingly collaborate through forums like the Consultative Meeting of Central Asian Leaders, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the Organisation of Turkic States. These platforms address security, economic integration, and cultural exchange, reflecting a shift from fragmented national agendas to coordinated regional strategies.

Summary

Although Central Asia officially consists of five countries, the concept of "four divisions" may refer to geographic, cultural, historical, or economic subdivisions within the region. Understanding these divisions provides insight into the region's diversity, strategic importance, and evolving cooperation among its nations.

Article Content

Central Asia Countries: Full List, Capitals, and Map

A clear overview of Central Asia, including a full list of countries, capitals, population data, and maps based on the United Nations geoscheme.

Central Asia

OverviewDefinitionsGeographyHistorical regionsClimateHistoryCultureEconomy

One of the first geographers to mention Central Asia as a distinct region of the world was Alexander von Humboldt. The borders of Central Asia are subject to multiple definitions. Historically, political geography and culture have been two significant parameters widely used in scholarly definitions of Central Asia. Humboldt''s definition comprised every country between 5° North and 5° South of the latitude 44.5°N. Hum

Asia Region Map

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This Asia region map shows the continent''s six major geographic divisions: North Asia, Central Asia, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Western Asia. Each region is color-coded and country

United Nations geoscheme

Studying Website Usability in Asia, Ather Nawaz and Torkil Clemmensen select Asian countries on the basis of United Nations statistical divisions, and Taiwan is also included.

The Rise of Regionalism in Central Asia: From Divisions to Dialogue

In recent years, Central Asia has undergone a remarkable transformation — from a region historically marked by political divisions and competing national interests, to one increasingly

Major Geopolitical Regions Of Asia, Areas and Features

Study the Major geopolitical regions of Asia, their areas and features. Learn key facts about each Asian region in this detailed guide

Maps of Asia

Asia is considered a continent or a distinct landmass in the world since the classical antiquity. Asia has been divided into several regions and subregions: Central Asia: comprising the former Soviet Central

Asia Regions Map, Regions of Asia

With a population of 69,241,030, Central Asia includes five republics of the former Soviet Union, including Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

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United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

Divisions UNGEGN Divisions The Group of Experts is composed of experts from various linguistic/geographical divisions that have been established by the UN Conferences on the

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Global Philanthropy Project

The 2023–2024 Global Resources Report is the most comprehensive report to date on the state of global funding for LGBTI issues.

Map of Central and Eastern Europe

Nations Online Project - The map shows Central and Eastern Europe and surrounding countries with international borders, national capitals, major cities

Guides: Asian Country Research @ Pitt: Regions of Asia

The regions of Asia vary according to geographic literature and organization. The United Nations geoscheme for Asia has been subdivided by the UN Statistics Division: Central Asia

Geography of Asia

The "Northern Asia" name is unofficially recognized; for example, the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names includes an Eastern Europe, Northern and Central Asia Division.

What Are The Five Regions of Asia?

Final Reflections: A Continent of Contrasts and Commonalities In conclusion, the five regions of Asia – Central Asia, East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and Western Asia – each present a unique

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