

CHAPTER
33
SECTION 3

Note Taking Study Guide

CHINA AND INDIA: TWO GIANTS OF ASIA

Focus Question: How do China and India compare in building strong economies and democratic governments?

As you read this section in your textbook, complete the table below to record the main ideas about reform and change in China and India.

Reform and Change in China and India		
Type	China	India
Economic	Free market	
Political		

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Section Summary

CHINA AND INDIA: TWO GIANTS OF ASIA

After Mao Zedong died, moderate leaders took control of China. **Deng Xiaoping** began a program called the Four Modernizations, which allowed some features of a free-market economy. Some private ownership of property was permitted, and entrepreneurs could set up businesses. Farmers were allowed to sell surplus produce and keep the profits. Foreign investment was also welcomed. These reforms brought a surge of economic growth, although a gap developed between poor farmers and wealthy city dwellers. After 30 years of reforms, China's economic output quadrupled.

Despite these economic reforms, however, Communist leaders refused to allow more political freedom. Demonstrators seeking democratic reforms occupied **Tiananmen Square** in Beijing in May 1989. When the demonstrators refused to disperse, the government sent in troops and tanks. Thousands were killed or wounded.

China continues to face many challenges. Its population is the largest in the world. The government started the **one-child policy** to prevent population growth from hurting economic development. Population growth slowed. Many rural workers have moved to cities, but they often live in poverty there. Pollution and HIV/AIDS are also problems. Critics of the government are jailed, and human rights abuses continue.

By contrast, India is the world's largest democracy. After gaining independence, India's government adopted a command economy, but development was uneven. The Green Revolution in the 1960s improved crop output, but most farmers continued to use traditional methods. In the 1980s, India shifted toward a free-market system. By the 1990s, several Indian industries were expanding rapidly.

Despite these improvements, India's population growth has hurt efforts to improve living conditions. The Indian government backed family planning, but it had limited success. More than one-third of Indians live below the poverty line. Many rural families moved to overcrowded cities like **Kolkata** and **Mumbai**. To help the urban poor, **Mother Teresa** founded the Missionaries of Charity.

Changes in India have brought improvements for India's lowest social castes and women. India's constitution bans discrimination against **dalits**, people in the lowest caste, but prejudice persists. The constitution also grants equal rights to women.

Review Questions

1. What impact have economic reforms had in China?

2. Name two groups that have benefited from changes in India.

READING CHECK

Which country, India or China, has had more success in limiting population growth?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *disperse* mean in the underlined sentence? Notice that demonstrators occupied, or gathered in, Tiananmen Square and then refused to *disperse*. Use this clue to help you figure out the meaning of the word *disperse*.

READING SKILL

Identify Main Ideas In your own words, write the main idea of the first paragraph of this Summary.
