



THE EARLY HISTORY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

HUBUNGAN INTERNASIONAL DI ASIA TENGGARA

LECTURE OUTLINE

- The land and its people in Southeast Asia
 - Early kingdoms in mainland Southeast Asia
 - Early kingdoms of Sumatra and Java
 - The rise of new states from the 13th century
 - The legacy of indigenous development

THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

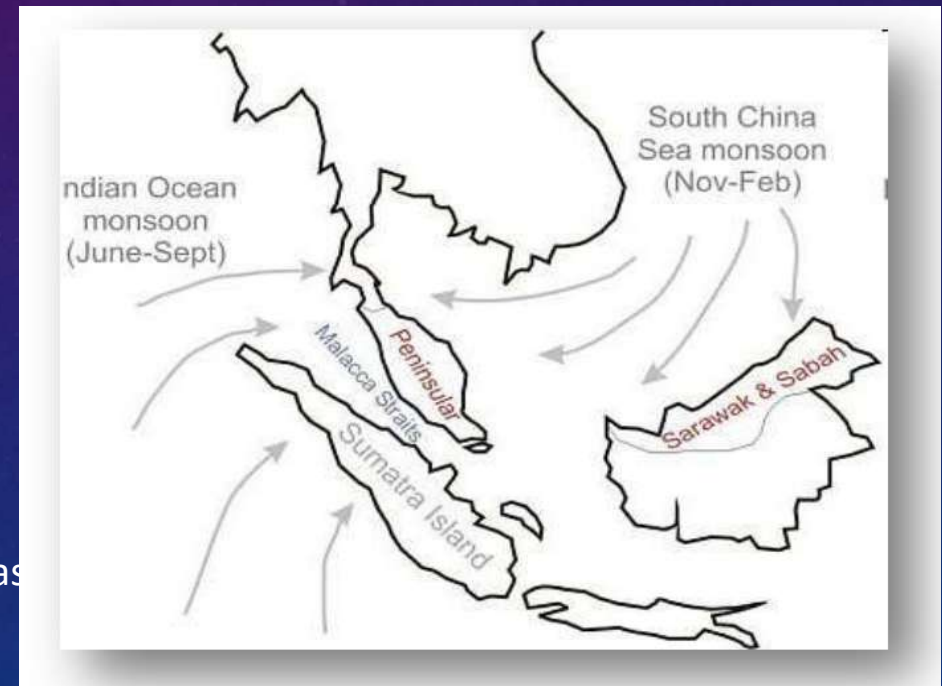
- **The land and its people in Southeast Asia**

The weather

- (Tropical) rainfall well distributed throughout the year
- The monsoons:
 - Southwest (June-Sep)
 - Northeast (Nov-Feb)

- **The geography**

- Mainland: mountains, valleys, rivers and rapids divide the habitable areas
- Maritime: numerous small and big islands form the Southeast Asian archipelago between the Indian and Pacific Oceans



THE LAND AND ITS PEOPLE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

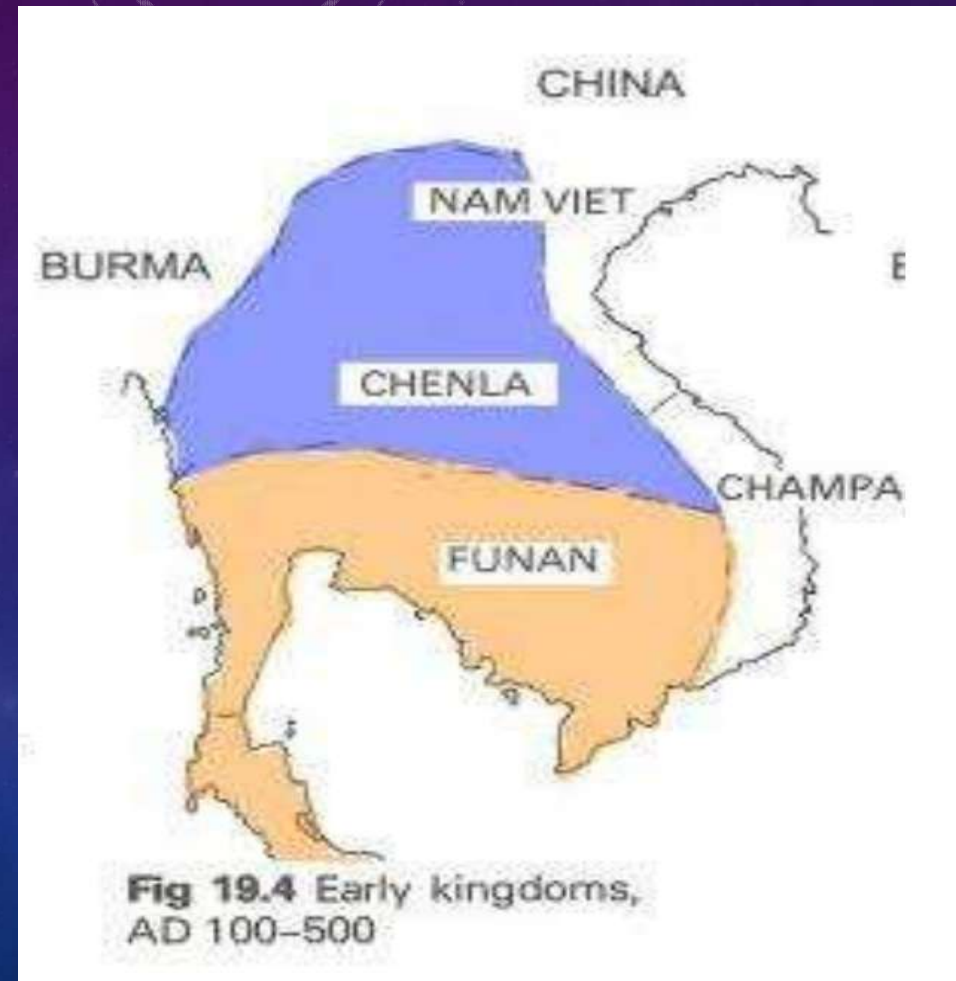
- The region's population mainly migrated from southern China, and from northeast India and eastern Tibet
- Early migration took place well before the 3th century BC
- The trend had been continuing for nearly two millennia
- An ethnically very diversified region
- The Miao, Lolo and Yao peoples are found in North Vietnam and northern Thailand
- The Malays migrated from today's southern China (mainly Yunnan) first in 2500BC and then around 300BC
- Myanmar has several ethnic groups of Mons, Chins, Burmans who came from today's southwest China and northeast India

EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The impacts of weather and geography
 - Located at the center of the Sino-Indian trade route
 - The monsoon allowed maritime navigation around the year
 - Ample rainfall created the rice belt
 - Agriculture and maritime trade were the key factors that consolidated the early kingdoms in Southeast Asia
 - Agriculture requires sophisticated infrastructure of irrigation
- Maritime trade needs custom services and military capacity against potential piracy
 - Both contributed to the centralization of authorities

EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The Funan Kingdom (1st-6th century)
 - Mon-Khmer people
 - In the early 3rd century, it extended to South Vietnam, Cambodia, central Thailand, northern Malaya and southern Myanmar
 - Controlled the maritime intermediaries of the Sino-Indian trade
 - *Mandalas*: a quasi-feudal political structure, with less effective control in distant parts of the kingdom



EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The Champa Kingdom (2nd to 17th century)
 - Mainly the Malay race
 - Covers southern and central Vietnam
 - Under the influences of China and India
 - Matriarchal society



EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The Khmer Empire
 - The state of Chenla was a vassal of the Funanese Kingdom
 - Khmers overthrew the Funanese, but failed to manage the trading route
 - In 706, it splited into Upper Chenla and Lower Chenla
 - Agriculture-based economy and sophisticated irrigation
 - Some magnificent temples were built

EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA





EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Vietnam
 - A Chinese general found an independent kingdom, called Nan Yueh or Nam Viet in 207 BC, remaining part of China till 939
 - The Vietnamese revolt overthrew the Chinese rule and established Dai Viet as an independent kingdom
 - China's influences on Dai Viet

EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA





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EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA



EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Maritime commerce and agriculture were also the key to successful kingdoms in insular Southeast Asia
 - Maritime commerce: Srivijaya
 - Agriculture: Javanese states

EARLY KINGDOMS OF SUMATRA AND JAVA



EARLY KINGDOMS IN MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The rivalry between Java and Sumatra
 - The control of important trade routes
 - The Strait of Malacca and the Sunda Strait

EARLY KINGDOMS OF SUMATRA AND JAVA

- The Srivijaya
 - From 7th to 13th century
 - A powerful fleet, compelling all shipping to pay dues and taxes
 - Excellent anchorage, storage and recreational facilities

EARLY KINGDOMS OF SUMATRA AND JAVA

- - The Sailendras
 - Located in central Java
 - Raided mainland Southeast Asia
 - Mataram
 - Built on the Sailendra legacy in Java
 - Engaged actively in trade with China
 - Rivalry between Srivijaya and Mataram

EARLY KINGDOMS OF SUMATRA AND JAVA



THE RISE OF NEW STATES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The Mongol invasion in the 13th century
 - Initially, most Southeast Asian kingdoms refused to recognize the Mongol rule
 - Mongol invasion: the destruction of Pagan in the mainland and the defeat of Singhasari in Java gave rise to new states
 - Ayutthaya (Thailand)
 - The Thai state Nan Chao was defeat in 1253; southward expansion of the Thai after Pagan was defeat in 1287; the Khmer empire was weakened
 - Ayutthaya established itself as a powerful southeast Asian state between the 13th to 15th century.
 - New alphabet, administrative and social structure and centralized government were established in this period

THE RISE OF NEW STATES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Ayutthaya embassy to France (Louis XIV) in 1686
- -The ruins of Ayutthaya after Burma Invasion in mid-18th century



THE RISE OF NEW STATES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- The ruins of Ayutthaya after Burma Invasion in mid-18th century



THE RISE OF NEW STATES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Majapahit
 - The Majapahit managed to control most of the archipelago in Southeast Asia for about 70 years in the 14th century
 - Relying not on confederate alliance, but on direct conquest
 - The last maritime Hindu kingdom in Southeast Asia

Melaka (Malacca)

- The arrival of Islam from West India
- Melaka offer a safe harbor for trading ships
- -a powerful trading state
 - Send tribute to both China and the Thai court
 - Conversion to Islam



UNDERSTANDING THE EARLY HISTORY OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

- Inter-state competition in early Southeast Asia
 - Mainland Southeast Asia: Dai Viet vs. Champa; Thai Kingdoms competed with Khmer Empire; Burma vs. Thai Kingdoms
 - ☐ Maritime Southeast Asia: monopolizing trading route or controlling territorial spaces
- The political structure of early Southeast Asian kingdoms
 - The *Mandalas* in early Southeast Asia
 - The suzerainty-vassal relationship
- The regional context of Southeast Asia
 - The cultural influences of India
 - The tribute system centered on China



NEXT:

- **Pre-Colonial Southeast Asia
and
the Tribute System**