



COVER STORY: India: Between Past and Present (pp. 12-17)

► NCSS STANDARD
Global connections

The young sisters on this issue's cover are members of a generation growing up in an India that is experiencing rapid change. Long stuck with a "poor nation" label, India has a dynamically expanding economy made possible by an educated, technologically savvy workforce that is willing to take lower wages than those in the U.S. and other developed countries. As in China, India's economic boom is bringing about societal changes. What does this shift mean to teens in today's India?

■ Begin With Basics

Before students read the article, go over the elements that usually appear in magazine articles.

- **head:** the title—usually the largest text in an article.
- **deck:** a blurb, immediately following the head, that gives readers a better idea of the article's focus.
- **byline:** the name of the writer of the article. It may appear at the beginning or end of the piece.
- **subhead:** a line of text, boldface or larger than the body text, that divides an article into topic sections.
- **sidebar:** a block of text set aside from the main article, providing related information. In this article, India in Brief and Teen Diary are sidebars.
- **caption:** text that explains what is shown in a photograph or an illustration.

■ Vocabulary

- **migrant:** see p.12; also, the root for *immigrant*, one who arrives in a foreign country to stay; and *emigrant*, one leaving a homeland to live in a foreign country.
- **taboo:** improper or unsafe; from the Tongan word *tabu*—something so sacred or dangerous that anyone who violates it faces a heavy punishment or death.

■ Content-Area Questions

CULTURE/SOCIAL STUDIES

1. The girls and their mother sometimes wear *salwar kameez* or saris. Is there such a thing as a traditional American outfit? Explain.
2. Do you agree with the girls' mother on how middle-class kids in India differ from those in the U.S.? Support your answer with examples.

GEOGRAPHY

1. What do the MapSearch Fast Facts (p. 17) tell you about life in India? Which facts are most likely to

affect Akshaya and Aishvarya Radhakrishna?

2. Which of the cities shown on the map is closest to the equator? (Madurai)

LANGUAGE ARTS

1. How might you use each term in the Words to Know box in a sentence? (Each sentence should be different from the one in the article.)
2. *Bollywood* is a combination of *Bombay* (Mumbai's old name) and *Hollywood*. Can you think of other words formed this way? (Mexicali, from *Mexico* + *California*; Brangelina from *Brad Pitt* + *Angelina Jolie*; many others)

MATH

1. "Half the population in India survives on less than a dollar a day." What could you buy with that little?
2. "Trillion-dollar economy"—A *trillion* is a 1 followed by how many zeros? (12) How would you write 1 trillion in powers of 10? (10^{12})

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News Analysis: After Katrina (pp. 8-9)

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People, places, & environments

In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina ripped across the Florida Panhandle, then along Louisiana's and Mississippi's Gulf Coast. More than 1,800 people died. New Orleans (which lies below sea level) was devastated when levees protecting the city gave way, flooding about 80 percent of the city. Three years later, how is the area faring? We checked in with teens living in and around New Orleans.

■ The Story in Stats

- There were 1,833 official fatalities in five states: Louisiana, 1,577; Mississippi, 238; Florida, 14; Alabama and Georgia, 2 each.
- Although New Orleans is now

the fastest-growing large city in the U.S., the estimated population as of early summer 2008 was 300,000, down from 450,000 pre-Katrina.

- New Orleans suffered about \$200 billion in damages. The city lost 95,000 jobs during the first 10 months after the hurricane.
- According to *The Washington Post*, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) housed more than 300,000 homeless Gulf Coast residents in trailers and other temporary dwellings. As of late May 2008, about 17,000 of them had filed lawsuits claiming health damage through exposure to formaldehyde used in the trailers' construction.

■ Ways You Can Help

If your students would like to help flood victims in the Midwest or Gulf Coast area, guide them toward dealing with a reputable aid agency. For the URLs of two respected aid organizations, see the second item in the box below.

WEB LINKS

- For another Scholastic article on Hurricane Katrina's aftermath: scholastic.com/juniorscholastic/survivingkatrina
- For URLs to Web sites on Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath: scholastic.com/juniorscholastic/urls



American History Play: De Soto's Dream (pp. 18-21)

► NCSS STANDARD

Time, continuity, & change

This summer, the Mississippi River made headline news when extreme weather caused serious floods in the Midwest. Our play introduces readers to the European explorer credited with discovering it.

■ Backstory

Hernando de Soto was born about the same time as Christopher Columbus's third New World expedition. For young de Soto, Columbus was not a figure of history, but someone who was living in his own time and place.

■ Word's Worth

- **chronology:** as used on pp. 20-21, it is a table or chart

showing events in the order in which they occurred. *Chronology* comes from the Greek word *chronos*, meaning time. *Chronos* is also the basis of *chronic* (something that lasts or recurs over time) and the suffix *-chronous*, as in *synchronous* (happening at the same time). Other related words: *chronicle*, *chronogram*, and *chronometer*.

■ Rapid Review

- The 15th and 16th centuries are referred to as the **Age of Discovery** because that was an era of exploration and rapidly expanding knowledge about the world.
- Hernando de Soto was a key participant in the **Spanish conquest of**

the Inca in South America.

- De Soto was not the first European to **explore the American Southeast**, but he went farther north and west than had previous Spanish expeditions.
- De Soto is credited with **discovering the Mississippi River**.

WEB LINKS

- For activities about the Age of Discovery's most famous explorer: scholastic.com/juniorscholastic/webhuntcolumbus
- For URLs to Web sites on de Soto and the Spanish conquests in America: scholastic.com/juniorscholastic/urls