

## REGIONAL GEOGRAPHY OF CHINA

China is located in Southeast Asia along the coastline of the Pacific Ocean, southeastern part of the Eurasian continent and it is the world's third largest country, after Russia and Canada. With an area of 9.6 million square kilometers, Cultivated land is 130.04 million ha, a coastline of 18,000 kilometers and the area of its territorial waters is 4,730,000 sq. km, its shape on the map is like a 'rooster' and is home to approximately 1.25 billion people - nearly a quarter of the world's population.

The Chinese call their country 'Zhongguo' which means 'middle country' derived from the ancient Chinese tradition with the world's oldest living civilization using a currency called Renminbi (RMB)/yuan.

Mandarin Chinese is spoken as a native language by 70% of the population. and Standard Mandarin is the official national language of China. Other commonly spoken languages in China, like Wu, Cantonese, Min, Xiang, Gan and Hakka belong to the Sino-Tibetan language family.

China is divided into 22 provinces, 4 municipalities, 5 autonomous regions - and 2 special administration regions (Hong Kong and Macau). Beijing, the capital, is also the cultural and educational center of China

China is latitudinally located at N19°0 -N54°0, E74°0 E135°0 and stretches some 5,026 kilometers across the East Asian landmass and is bordered by seas and waters eastward, with the East China Sea, Korea Bay, Yellow Sea, Philippines sea, Taiwan Strait, South China Sea and Pacific ocean, bordered by landmasses on its 3 other sides, from North Korea to Vietnam.

China is bordered by 14 countries - Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Burma, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, and Russia.

Marine-side neighbors include eight countries - North Korea, Korea, Japan, Philippines, Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia and Vietnam.

**SKETCH MAP OF CHINA WITH ALL THE 23 PROVINCES.** (using the internet and other sources, draw the sketch map of china and include all provinces,

