

## **RECENZII**

VASILE POPA, *Geografia statelor Asiei – Geography of Asian Countries*, Edit. Universitară, București, 2012, 412 pages, 76 figures, 16 tables

**Geografia statelor Asiei** can be considered within the range of monographic works focusing on the complex knowledge of the Earth through the domains of physical geography, geo demography, settlements and economic geography for a certain area, in this case for the Asian continent.

Its author Vasile POPA, lecturer at the Faculty of Geography, University of Bucharest, outstands through the high leveled teaching skills and scientific content of his lectures, grace to his erudition and vast knowledge of regional geography at the worldwide level, of cultures and civilizations history. Consequently his initial proposal for the publication of a lecture in regional geography materialized through this book which turned out to be a study that overpasses in a great extent the rigors of a common lecture becoming a real monographic, encyclopedic work and a real instrument of analysis.

The regional geography perspective focuses on each country belonging to the six great regions of the continent (according to a classical regionalization): East Asia (6 countries), South-East Asia (11 countries), South Asia (8 countries), South-West Asia (18 countries), Central Asia (5 countries) and North Asia (Asian Russia). For each country, both general and regional geographic aspects are analyzed according to the classical structure of such studies: the introductory part (geographic position and special characteristics imposed by the historical development), physical geography (geology and geomorphology, climate, hydrographic elements, flora and fauna), population and cities, economy (industry, agriculture, tourism and transports).

Each section is dedicated to a country and is illustrated through an expressive and clear physical and/or economic map, easily to read, in order to create in reader's mind a zoning of different geographic aspects.

An essential attribute of this study is the updated information and statistical data presented at the 2010, 2011 level as well as the references which include recent titles and works elaborated by research institutes of reference for different domains.

Written in a clear and expressive style the work recommends itself through its geographic content. Focusing on a region of great interest at the worldwide level it impresses through its exceptional documentation and the high level of its scientific content.

**Geografia statelor Asiei** can be considered consequently a useful book not only for geographers but also for all those interested in Terra's "destiny".

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