

## Bonds that bind shared historical and sociocultural characteristics of southeast asia

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Abstrak

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The region between mainland China on the east and the Indian sub continent on the west is referred to as Southeast Asia since the conclusion of the Pacific War (1941 until 1945). As a region, Southeast Asia appears as a hodgepodge of disparity and diversity, but a closer scrutiny reveals numerous common attributes and characteristics. This study attempts to identify and examine the cohesive and shared characteristics across the Southeast Asian region from a historical and sociocultural perspective. The intention is to differentiate an identity borne of the underlying commonalities of shared characteristics whether physical, experiential, emotive, and/or in terms of heritage. Subsequently, Southeast Asia has more grounds to claim itself as a distinct region, and an area of study, besides the political expediency of ASEAN.