

Image Source: Digital Artifacts for Global Educators-Indiana university

Southeast Asian Textile Industry

The Southeast Asian textile industry is full of beautiful and unique clothes. In Indonesia, they make a special kind of skirt called a sarong. It is made using a traditional art called batik, where wax and dye are used to make pretty designs on the fabric. The sarong is a tube of cloth that is sewn together at the ends. It has a blue and brown floral design and wavy lines on the borders. The Philippines also has special clothes. They have

a men's skirt that is woven with different colors and patterns. The women's blouse in the Philippines has big butterfly sleeves and pretty embroidery in blue and gold-silver.

There is a museum that has a collection of textiles from Southeast Asia. They have clothes from China, Japan, and Korea too. The museum is open to the public from Tuesday to Saturday. They have a special hanging from Indonesia called a palepai. It is from the Paminggir people and has beautiful designs. They also have a sash from India and a robe from China. The museum has lots of different textiles to see.

The textile industry in Southeast Asia is very important. It helps the countries in the region work together and make lots of clothes to sell. The ASEAN

Federation of Textile Industries is a group of textile and garment associations from the ASEAN member countries. They have created a virtual supply chain called SAFSA to connect apparel factories. This helps businesses offer a complete service package to international buyers. Textiles are also a big export for ASEAN. In 2011, they exported almost \$10 billion worth of textiles. Countries like Vietnam and Lao PDR are benefiting from the industry's growth and getting more orders from other countries.

So you see, the Southeast Asian textile industry is full of beautiful and unique clothes. From the batik sarongs in Indonesia to the woven skirts in the Philippines, there is so much to see and learn about. The museum has a collection of textiles from all over Asia, and the textile industry is helping the countries in the region work together and grow. It's a fascinating industry that has been around for a long time and continues to thrive today.

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1. What is the traditional art used to make designs on the Indonesian skirt called a sarong?
A) Embroidery
B) Batik
C) Weaving
D) Dyeing
2. Which country in Southeast Asia has a men's skirt woven with different colors and patterns?
A) Indonesia
B) Philippines
C) China
D) Japan
3. What is the name of the group that connects apparel factories in the ASEAN region?A) ASEAN Federation of Textile Industries
B) SAFSA
C) Paminggir
D) ASEAN member countries
4. What is the traditional art used to make designs on the fabric of a sarong?

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Writing Extension

Directions: Pick **one** question below and write a response.

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1. How are clothes in Southeast Asia different from the clothes you wear?
2. What do you think is special about the textile industry in Southeast Asia?
3. If you could design your own special clothing, what would it look like and why?

This Diffit resource was created by Mary Wiggins

