



October 9, 2006
Vol. 168, No. 15

26

A scavenger scours the Angke River, used as a garbage dump for the city of Jakarta

ASIA'S ENVIRONMENT

Asia's environmental woes—putrid air, foul water, mountains of trash, unstable weather patterns—have reached a perilous tipping point. In this special report TIME examines what has gone wrong, and how to reverse the damage

STATE OF ASIA: Pollution is an ugly side effect of economic development. For the region to sustain its momentum, Asia must quickly learn to grow green..... **26**

BY THE NUMBERS: Which cities have the worst air? Which animals are most endangered? A graphic snapshot..... **30**

URBAN BLIGHT: Tech hubs like Bangalore are the celebrated face of the new India. Kanpur—a filthy city with a rapidly expanding population—is a harbinger of a darker future..... **32**

KITAKYUSHU: One Japanese town's remarkable transformation offers other cities a vision of hope..... **40**

TRASHING A CONTINENT: Greater wealth has led to Asians buying more—and throwing away more. Lax regulations and inadequate recycling mean there are few ways to properly dispose of all that garbage..... **42**

ECO-HEROES: From Indonesia to Tibet, Japan to Vietnam, a new generation of young, enterprising activists is determined to fix this mess..... **46**

PARCHED EARTH: China has always been a thirsty land, but historical errors coupled with a lack of foresight have left the country struggling to manage a most basic resource: water..... **50**

TO OUR READERS..... **4**

NOTEBOOK 8 *M.A. 2549*

A corruption scandal topples Shanghai's Party boss..... **9**

UNITED STATES

POLITICS: Republicans hone their tactics for the fall campaign..... **16**

MIDDLE EAST

IRAQ: Saddam's trial unleashes new terror for one family..... **20**

ASIA

VIEWPOINT: Many Asians cheered the Thai coup, but they should be careful what they wish for..... **25**

ARTS

BOOKS: *No Babylon* is the memoir of a decidedly unusual civil servant... **59**

COVER: *Photo-illustration by Dennis Wong. Hand by Danny Chiu for TIME; Smoking Chimneys by Antonio Mo—Getty Images; City by Jeremy Woodhouse—Getty Images; Sky by Craig Aurness—Corbis; Trash by Keimal Jufri—Polaris for TIME; Water by Panorama Photo Stock*

TIME Asia publishes four double issues a year. Each counts as two of 54 issues in an annual subscription. TIME Asia may also publish occasional extra issues. Principal office: Time & Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York, N.Y. 10020-1393. U.S. TIME Asia principal editorial and business office: Oxford House 30th floor, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong. © 2006 Time Inc. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. TIME and the Red Border Design are protected through trademark registration in the U.S. and in the countries where TIME magazine circulates. Subscribers: if the postal services alert us that your magazine is undeliverable, we have no further obligation unless we receive a corrected address within two years. Customer service and subscriptions: for 24-7 service, please use our website timeasia.com/customer_service. You may also contact our Customer Services Center at (852) 3128-5688 or e-mail enquiries@timeinc.com or write Oxford House 30th floor, Taikoo Place, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong. (In Japan enquiries can be made to 0120-666-236 or custservjapan@timeinc.com or Roppongi Hills P.O. Box 58, Minato-ku Tokyo 106-6134.) Mailing list: we make a portion of our mailing list available to reputable firms. If you would prefer that we not include your name, please contact our Customer Services Center. TIME Asia is edited in Hong Kong and printed in Singapore. Singapore MICA (P) No. 119/10/2005. Malaysia KKDN permit no. PPS 676/5/2007. Worldwide publisher: Ed McCarrick.