targets grades 6–9. The video is complimented by a teacher’s guide that includes background essays, supplementary readings, and lesson plans. Both resources are broken into thematic units: geography, language, history, education, belief systems, population and resources, and family life. The topics are well aligned with geography and history frameworks, offering thoughtful and appropriately thorough coverage for these grade levels. The lessons and materials are easily adapted to use with or without the video.

The video introduces American students collaborating on a media project using visuals culled from actual Korean news sources. Each segment begins with an introduction by the students and follows with media footage and narrated explanations that are clear, concise, and informative. As the segment ends, a section recap is offered. This clearly-defined format makes each segment an independently usable teaching tool.

There are a few challenges to the resource. As with any video, time itself is the greatest threat to contemporary content. In addition, the lack of access to media clips from North Korea narrows the scope of the information largely to South Korea. Finally, the black and white pictures in the teacher’s guide are poor quality reproductions. This is easily remedied by use of images available on the internet, as noted in the extensive reference list in the guide.

Tune in Korea is an excellent choice as an introductory or closing video for a unit on Korea. In the classroom with limited time available to the subject, it would serve well as the centerpiece for sharing information. Certainly, the use of readings and activities offers a rich compliment to a unit on East Asia. The real value of this resource is in the potential for project work that leaps out from every topic segment: generating hyperstudio, power point, travel brochures or infomercials; conducting debates or Socratic circle discussions on issues of gender, social programs for a graying population, or reunification; poster presentations for common economic ties between our nation and South Korea; graphic representations on the costs of reunification vs. maintaining separate governments; reflecting Confucian influence through short skits of family life; or jigsaw presentations by small groups on in-depth study of each thematic topic presented in the video.

Tune in Korea packs an enormous amount of information into a one hour video. Every segment offers critical information that both ties Korea to its geographical and cultural region of East Asia, and sets it apart as a unique nation; each segment invites further research into deeper understanding of the complex issues, concepts, and values that are introduced.

JOAN BARNATT is a World History Teacher at the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School in Orleans, MA. She is a National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) facilitator through the Five College Center for East Asia Studies and curriculum consultant on East Asian Studies. She recently traveled to South Korea with The Korea Society Summer Study Program.

War and Peace

DIRECTED BY ANAND PATWARDHAN
DISTRIBUTED BY FIRST RUN/ICARUS FILMS
32 COURT STREET, 21ST FLOOR, BROOKLYN, NY 11201
PHONE: 800-876-1710, FAX: 718-488-8642
E-MAIL: MAIL@FRIF.COM, WWW.FRIF.COM
2002. 170 MINUTES. VHS. BLACK AND WHITE AND COLOR.

Recent world events have made Anand Patwardhan’s new film War and Peace more attractive for classroom use than it might otherwise have been. A thoughtful critic of Indian society and politics, this prominent documentary filmmaker offers an insider’s view of the historical trajectory leading from the independence and partition of Pakistan and India in 1947 to nuclear competition between the two states today. Patwardhan’s iconoclastic approach offers a noteworthy alternative to the dominant Indian voices heard through the news media.

War and Peace is divided into two major parts and in turn into chapters. Part I begins with Patwardhan’s reminiscence of Gandhi’s

Queen Jin’s Handbook of Pregnancy:

assassination, noting that India was already speaking in two voices—represented by Gandhi’s pacifism and the violence that killed him. After a five-minute overview, the film moves to its first major chapter, “Non-Violence to Nuclear Nationalism.” Running approximately 45 minutes, this section of the film juxtaposes the two central themes and players in India’s nuclear drama. A Shiv-Sena festival immediately links extremist (for Patwardhan) Hindutva with enthusiasm for India’s 1998 tests at Pokaran and the political priorities of the Bharatiya Janata Party (Indian People’s Party) led government. Values that Patwardhan has explored in earlier films permeate his framing of the issues. For example, strident nationalism is subtly linked to a search for Indian “manhood” characteristic of fundamentalist Hindutva (see Patwardhan’s 1994 film, Father, Son and Holy War). The inequities of caste and class (found also in his 1995 film, Narmada Diary) emerge through interviews with villagers and tribal peoples living near the nuclear tests. Although Patwardhan’s sympathies are unabashedly with a small peace movement protesting nuclear tests and weapons, the defenders of the government’s policy use phrases familiar to most viewers: “This bomb is only for peace,” says Prime Minister Vajpayee.

The next chapter of the film, “Enemy Country,” follows Indian delegates to a peace forum in Pakistan. Here, interviews with Pakistanis ranging from peace activists to average citizens reflect the range of views found in India. Back in India, “Line of Control” shifts to the conflict in Kashmir. The pain of a family whose son is killed in battle scarcely competes with the patriotic fervor magnified by front-line reporting, television commercials, and a theater production portraying the military drama of a 1999 battle at the Line of Control that divides disputed Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

Part II links local and national politics in South Asia to the international context. “The Legacy” reviews the horrors of Hiroshima and Nagasaki before shifting to the 1995 controversy in the United States over displaying the Enola Gay at the Smithsonian. Returning to India, the film explores the impact of uranium mining on the surrounding population. The final half hour of War and Peace, “Song of America, Song of India,” links Indian nationalism and militarization to a “sell-out” by Indian politicians to an Anglo-Indian definition of economic development. In their search for a shortcut to greatness, Indian elites emulate the U.S., leading Patwardhan to insist that “We are in a fight for the soul of Indian nationalism.”

War and Peace is a long film, and its discursive, occasionally disjointed structure may be frustrating to viewers accustomed to standard documentaries. With so many shifts of mood and themes, careful preparation by the instructor is essential. For students with little background in India, a variety of words need explanation to clarify key points and images, such as Dalit (and caste more generally), Hindutva, (Lord) Ram, and Sufi. In most cases, the pressure of class time means specific segments only are likely to be used, with the risk that linkages made in the film may be lost unless instructors provide context and make time for discussion.

Whether used in part or in its entirety, War and Peace offers a unique opportunity for students to use the Indian experience to explore questions vital to courses in international relations, Asian politics and history, peace studies, and American foreign policy: What is the meaning of national identity? Who benefits and who loses in an arms race? What is the link between patriotism, nationalism, and jingoism in a democracy? Why do so many Asians see globalization as synonymous with Americanization? Used carefully, this film is worth purchasing, especially by larger schools with a variety of curricular offerings. ■

SUE ELLEN M. CHARLTON is Professor of Political Science at Colorado State University, and currently a visiting Professor at Kansai Gaidai University in Japan. She has been an American Institute of Indian Studies Senior Scholar in New Delhi and Co-Director of a Fulbright group studies project in India. She is currently working on the second edition of her book, Comparing Asian Politics: India, China and Japan (Boulder: Westview Press, 1997).