

GEOG 370 Geography of Sustainable Development

Name -----

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### Mid-term Exam Q. 3

**Write an essay about the Asian Green Revolution as an example of a success of the development theory in the developing countries. Give at least 4 examples from peer reviewed articles.**

- The Green Revolution has tremendously increased cereals such as maize, rice and wheat in the developing countries by 25% and 50%.
- **Governments**, above all in Asia, funded agricultural research and extension to promote the new high-yielding varieties of **maize**, **rice**, and **wheat**.
- Government supplied improved seeds, chemical fertilizers and pesticides.
- Governments also complemented this by **building roads** and **irrigation works** (such as pumping ground water),
- Governments provide **inputs on credit** and guaranteeing to buy surpluses from farmers.
- They bought from the whole sale and retail as well.
- Since the beginning of the 1980s and with the implementation of globalization, and privatization policies as well as Structural Adjustment Programs, green revolution suffered.
- These policies are based on strengthening the private sector.
- Governments are not allowed to intervene in development.
- As a result, development suffers from equity and failure in achieving stability and sustainability of food production. For example,
- Farmers with small or marginal holdings have benefited less than large-scale farmers.
- Intensive monocropping has made production more susceptible to environmental stresses and shocks (pest and diseases, rainfall variability ...)
- There is an evidence of diminishing return from intensive production with high-yielding varieties (HYVs)..
- This means even with the use of agricultural in-put there is a decrease in crop production

### **References**