

Middle East: Past is Prologue

Part 1 of 6

1



T.E. Lawrence

16 Aug 1888	Born
1909	Visited Syria and Palestine
1910	Graduated from Oxford with his focus on Crusader fortifications
1911-1914	Part of archeological dig in Syria
1914	Desert reconnaissance
15 Dec 1914	Reports to Arab Bureau
1916	Assessing an Arab Revolt
6 Jul 1917	Capture Aqaba
1 Oct 1918	Capture Damascus
1919-1921	Foreign and Colonial Offices
1922-23,25-35	RAF as John Hume Ross
1923-1925	Royal Tank Corps as T.E. Shaw
1926	<i>Seven Pillars of Wisdom</i>
1927	<i>Revolt in the Desert</i>
19 May 1935	Died

2



John Bagot Glubb

16 Apr 1897	Born
1915	Commissioned Royal Engineers Western Front WWI Wounded – Shattered Jaw
1920	Transferred to Iraq
1922	Assigned to Ramadi, Iraq
1930	Officer in the Arab Legion
1939	Commander Arab Legion
Apr-May 1941	Led Arab Legion to retake Iraq following a pro-Axis Coup
Jun-Jul 1941	Led Arab Legion against Vichy French Forces in Syria
May-Jul 1948	Led Arab Legion into Palestine during Arab-Israeli War
1 Mar 1956	Removed as Commander Arab Legion
1943-1983	Authored Numerous Books (21)
1963	<i>The Great Arab Conquests</i>
1965	<i>The Empire of the Arabs</i>
1970	<i>The Life and Times of Muhammad</i>
17 Mar 1986	Died

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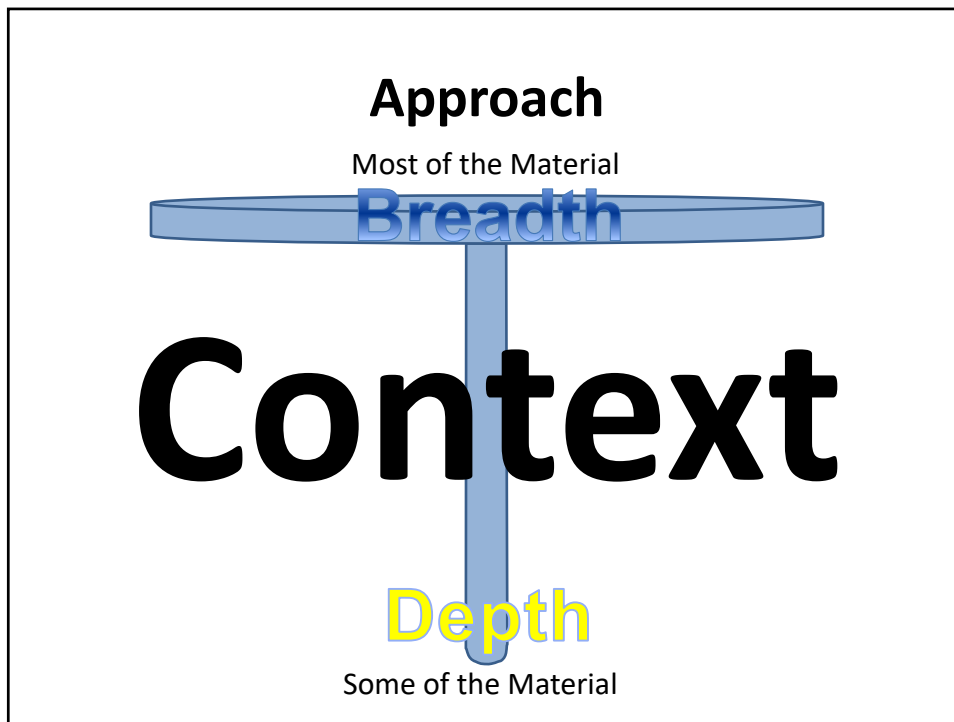
My Background

- Military Background – Served as an exchange officer in the Jordanian Armed Forces
- Lived in Jordan and Israel for 5½ years – lectured by many cab drivers about Middle East history and U.S. (and British) policy
- Taught U.S. Army officers for 13 years – military history, Middle East history, military theory

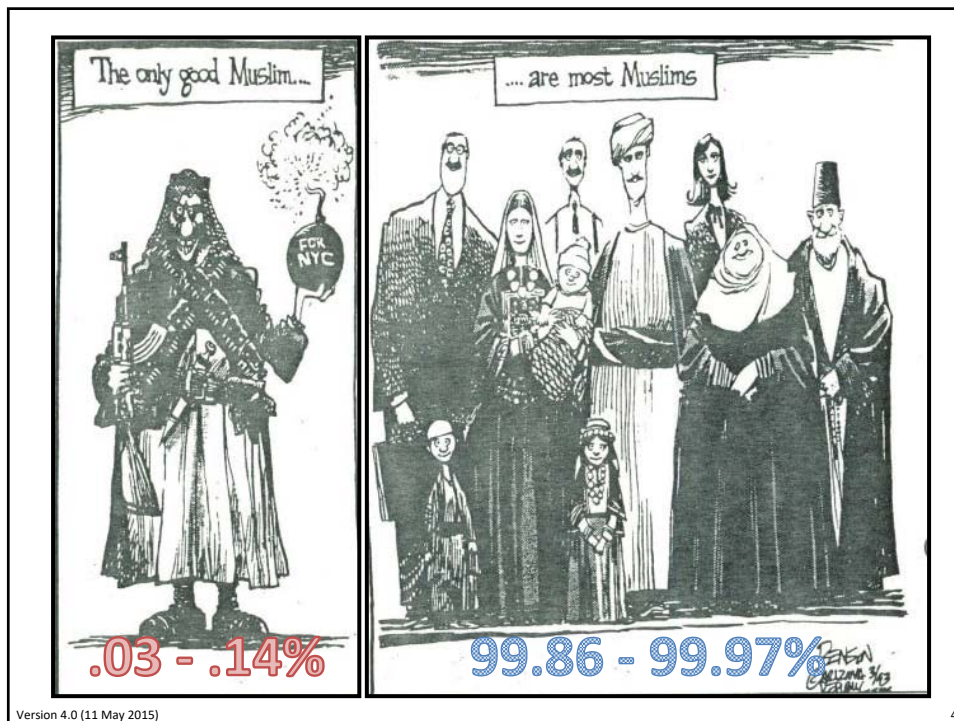
My Approach

- As much as possible, teach this from the perspective of the subject and not the learner
- Be able to hold a conversation with an Arab cab driver on this topic

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5



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Perception: Good Guys and Bad Guys

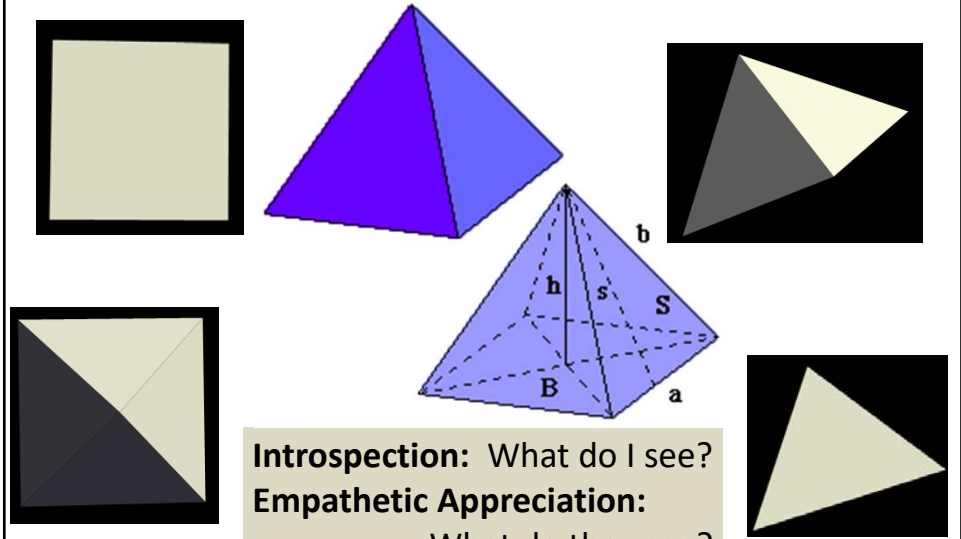


Amaryllis Fox (Former CIA Clandestine Service Agent)

Edited <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WEd34oW98I&t=13s> [accessed 24 March 2017]

7

Seeing the Pyramid



Introspection: What do I see?
Empathetic Appreciation:
 What do they see?

8

Elements of a Story

- Theme
 - Central idea
 - Lesson/Moral
- Characters
 - Protagonist
 - Antagonist
- Setting
 - Time
 - Place
- Plot
 - Key Events
 - Solution
- Conflict
 - Obstacles

9

What are the Roots of Conflict in the Middle East?

How it really is.

Conflict

Roots of Conflict
WWI – Present

Deep Roots of Conflict
Weakening of Empires – WWI

10

Agenda for Course

1. What is the Middle East?
Who are the Arabs?
What is the source and role of ideology?
2. Competing Promises and Inter-War Problems
3. World War II and the State of Israel
4. Islamism
5. America in the Middle East and Resolutions
6. The Management of Savagery and Conclusion

11

Twenty Five + 1

Competing Promises

Hussein-McMahon Correspondence
Sykes-Picot Agreement
Balfour Declaration

Inter-war Problems

Dissolution of the Caliphate
Increased Jewish Immigration
Establishment of the Muslim Brotherhood
Arab Uprisings and the 1939 White Paper

“Solutions”

The Final Solution
The State Solution

The State of Israel and State Responses

1948 War and al-Nakba
Twin Pillars Policy
1967 War
1973 War and the Camp David Accords

Islamism

1979 Iranian Revolution
Birth of Hezbollah
Globalized Jihad and the birth of al-Qaeda
Birth of Hamas
Intifadas

America in the Middle East

Operation Desert Storm
Al-Qaeda’s Declaration of War and GWOT

Resolutions

2006 Lebanon War
Mowing the Grass
Arab Spring
The Abraham Accords
ISIS and the Islamic Revolution

An Appropriate Theory for War

The Management of Savagery

12

Agenda for Today

- Define Middle East
- Define Arab
- Brief Discussion of Islam
- Why is the U.S. in the Middle East?
- The Great Game
- Ottoman Empire

13

Main Subject:
Middle East

14

“In the Middle East there is no such thing as an expert, there are only varying degrees of ignorance.”

—A roughly accurate quote from a USMC Middle East Foreign Area Officer (FAO)

15

Where is the Middle East?

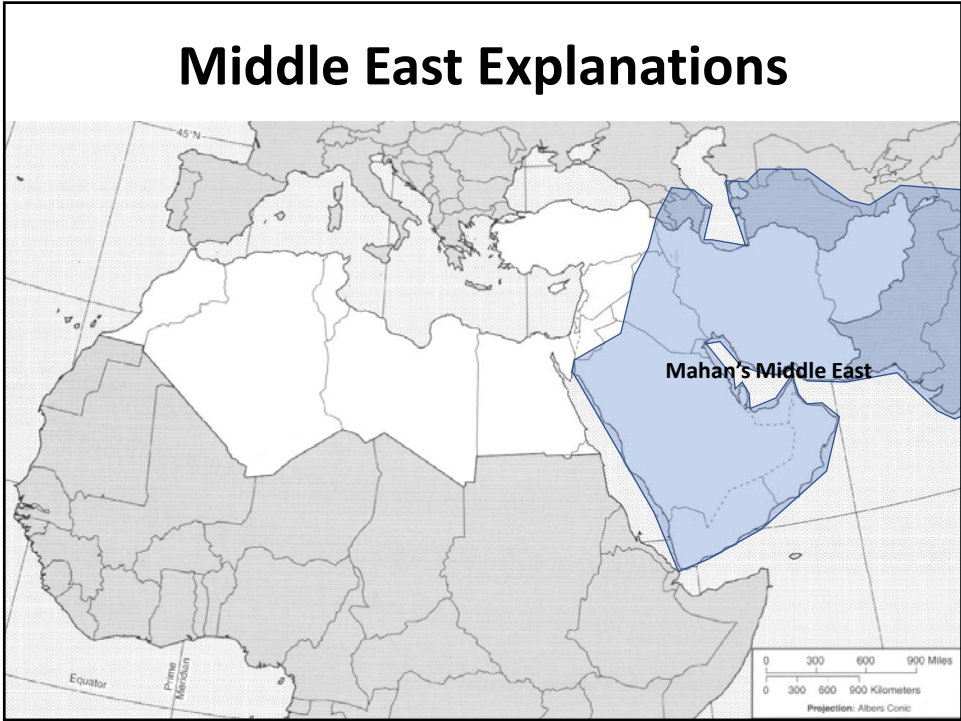


Alfred Thayer Mahan in September 1902 issue of the British journal *National Review*.

16



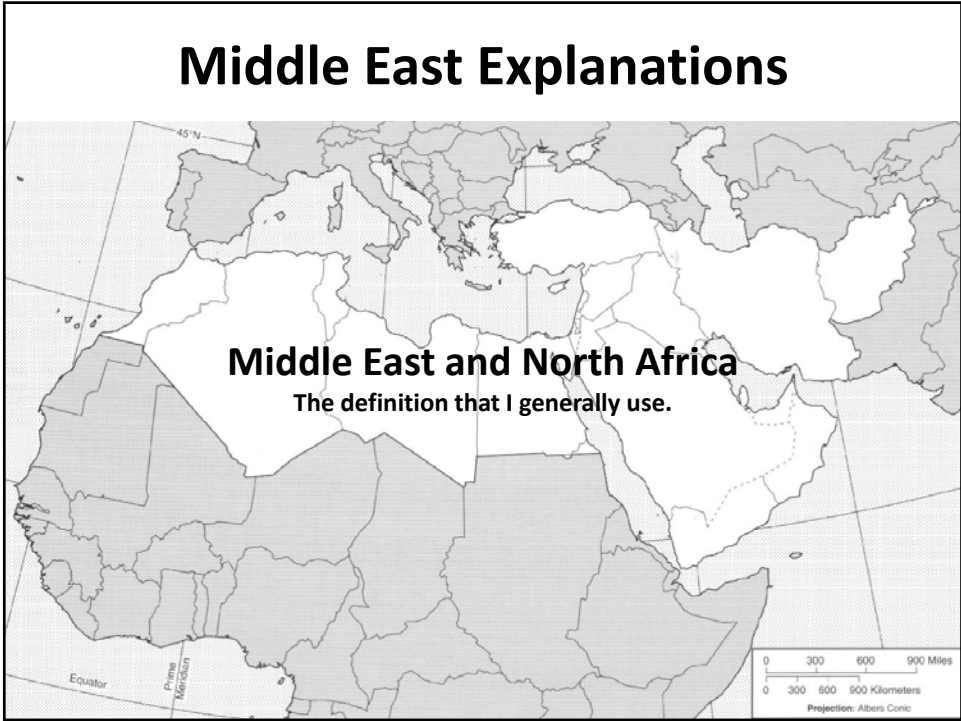
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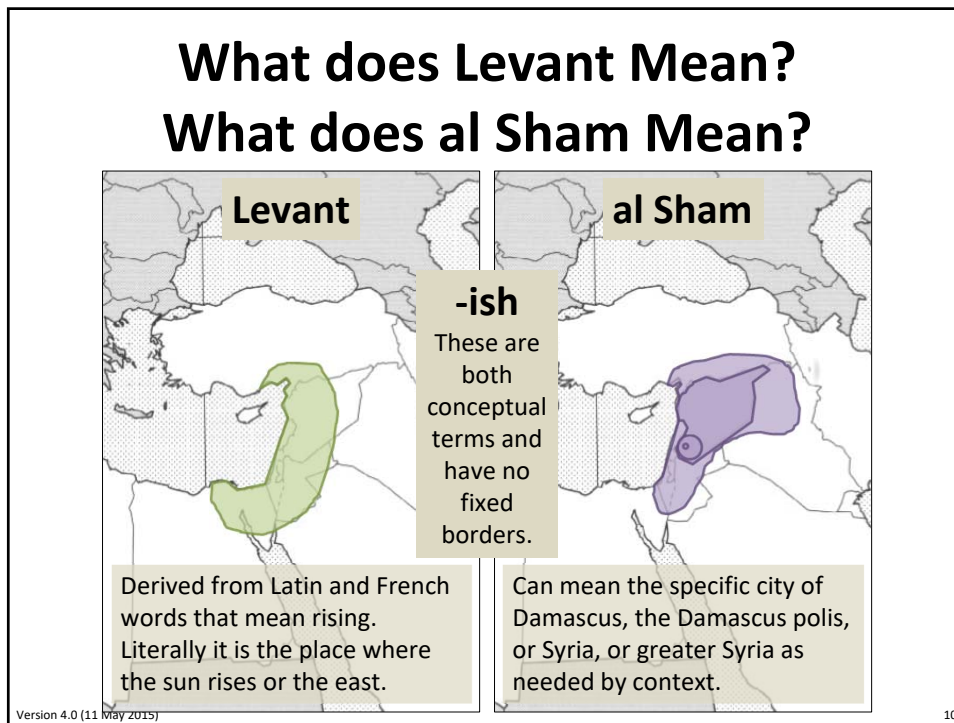
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22

Main Subject:
Arab v Muslim

23

Islamic World

1. Various sects.
2. 1 Billion plus and growing.

24

Major Ethnic Groups

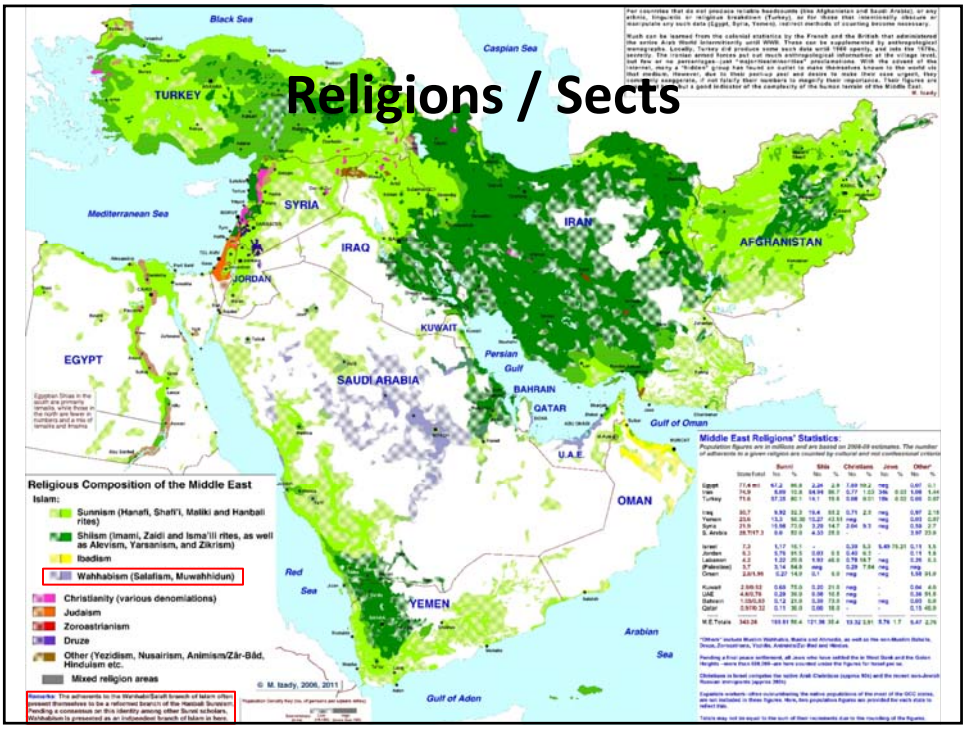
- Alawis (Syria/Lebanon)
- Arabs (MENA)
- Assyrians (Syria, Iraq)
- Chaldeans (Iraq, Syria)
- Copts (Egypt)
- Druze (Syria, Lebanon, Israel)
- Jews (Israel, Iran, Turkey, Yemen)
- Mandaean (Iraq)
- Maronites (Lebanon)
- Samaritans (Israel)
- Berbers (Egypt)
- Afshar (Iran)
- Armenians (Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Israel, Jordan, Iraq)
- Circassians (Turkey, Syria, Jordan, Israel)
- Azeris (Iran)
- Qajars (Iran, Caspian Sea Coast)
- Qashqai (Iran)
- Ilsvan (Iran)
- Tartars (Turkey, Iran)
- Turks (Turkey)
- Turkoman (Iran, Iraq, Turkey)
- Yoruk (Turkey)
- Bakhtiari (Iran, Zagros Mountains)
- Baluch (Iran, Pakistan)
- Hazaras (Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan)
- Kurds (Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Iran, Syria)
- Persians (Iran, Iraq)
- Pushtun (Iran, Pakistan)
- Nubians (Egypt, Sudan)

25

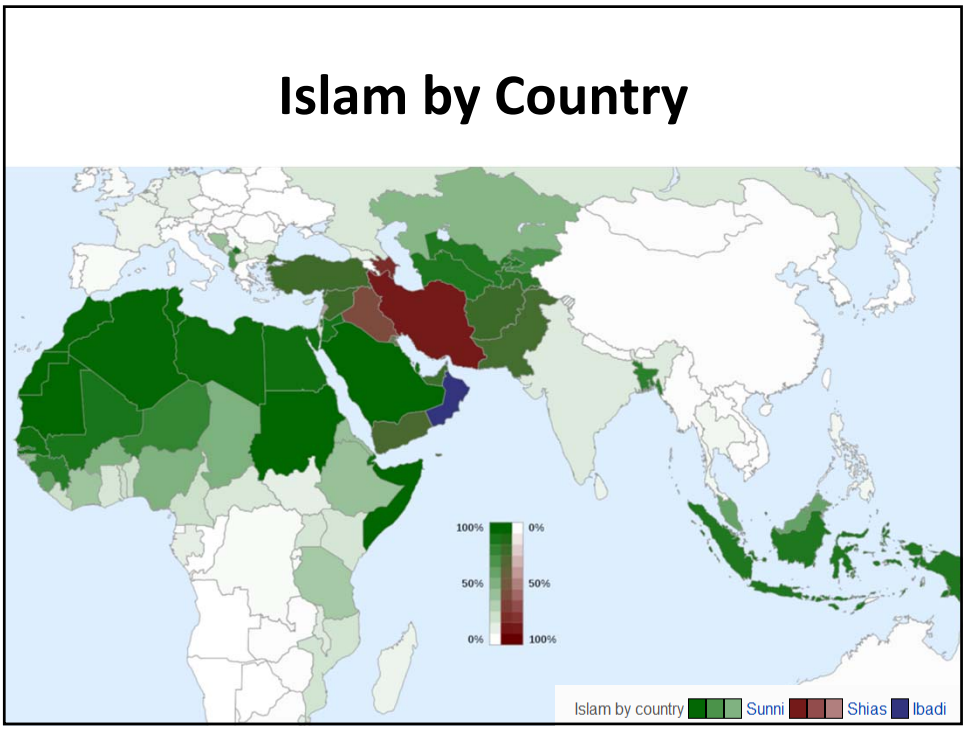
Religions of the Middle East

- Sunni Islam (Most of Middle East)
- Shia Islam (Iran, Iraq, Lebanon)
- Shia Imamis (Iran, Iraq)
- Shia Ismailis (Levant)
- Shia Zaydis (Yemen)
- Shia Alawis (Syria)
- Shia Druze (Syria, Lebanon, Israel)
- Ibadhis (Oman)
- Coptic Orthodox Church (Egypt)
- Armenian Orthodox Church (Middle East)
- Syrian Orthodox Church (Syria, Iraq)
- Ethiopian Orthodox Church (Egypt)
- Greek Orthodox Church (Levant, Egypt)
- Maronite Church (Syria, Lebanon)
- Syrian Catholic Church (Levant)
- Armenian Catholic Church (Levant)
- Chaldean Catholic Church (Iraq)
- Melkite Church (Syria)
- Roman Catholic Church (Mideast)
- Various Protestant Churches (Mideast)
- Orthodox Judaism (Israel)
- Hasidic Judaism (Israel)
- Samaritanism (West Bank)
- Yazidism (Iraq, Syria)
- Bahaism (Iran, Levant)
- Zoroastrianism (Iran)

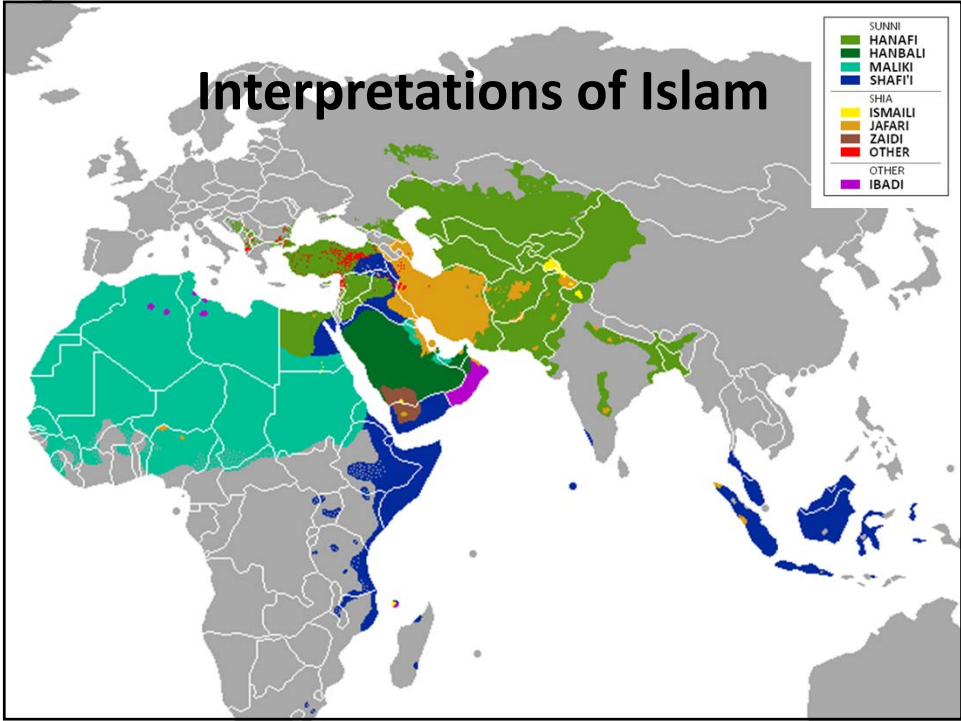
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27



28



29

Main Subject:
Islam

30

Culture

"The host must fear the guest, when he sits and shares your food, he is a company. When he leaves your house, he is a poet"

– Arab Saying

31

Five Pillars of Islam

The Five Pillars of Islam

This declaration of faith is called the Shahadah. "There is no true god (deity) but God (Allah), and Muhammad is the Messenger (Prophet) of God." Every convert must say it to enter Islam. It is also said in the Salah. In Arabic it is pronounced this way: "La ilaha illa Allah, Muhammadur rasoolu Allah."

Shahadah

Salah is the name for the obligatory prayers which are performed five times a day, and are a direct link between the worshipper and God. It is the first thing you are questioned about on the Day of Judgement. It also distinguishes between a muslim (believer) and a kafir (non-believer).

Salat

The third pillar of Islam is Zakat. Zakat is giving 2.5% of your capital to the poor and needy. Charity is a necessity for every muslim. The Prophet said "Even meeting your brother with a cheerful face is charity." A person may also give as much as he or she wishes as voluntary alms or charity.

Zakat

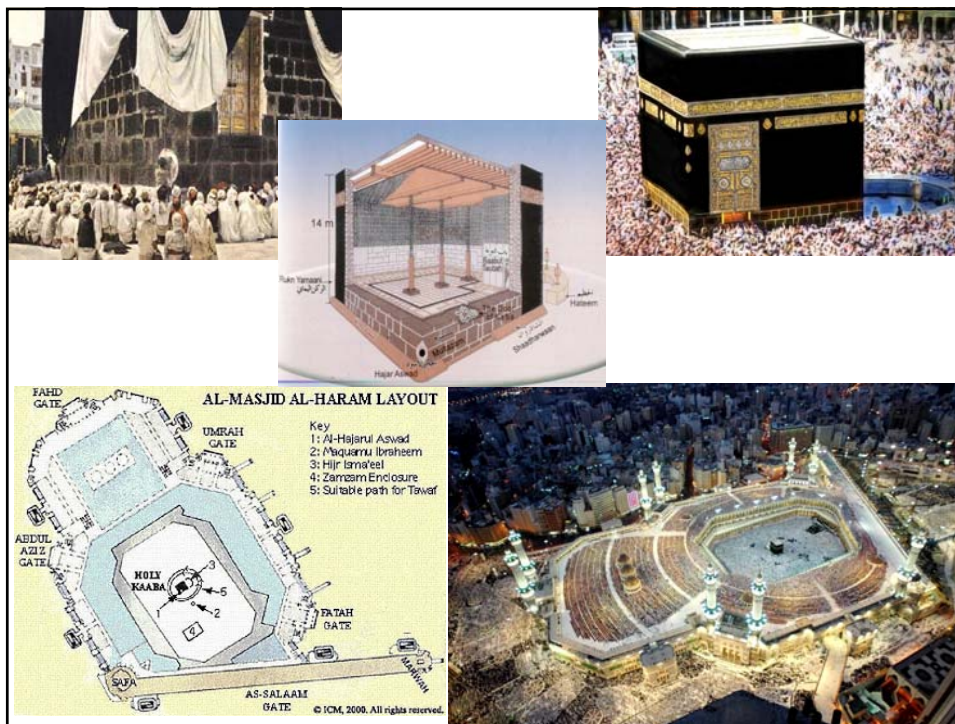
Sawm means fasting the month of Ramadan. Ramadan is the ninth month of the lunar calendar. In this month, Muslims must stay away from food and drinks. Fasting spiritually purifies us and is also very good for our health. A fasting person also gains sympathy for the poor who don't have food and can be hungry.

Sawm

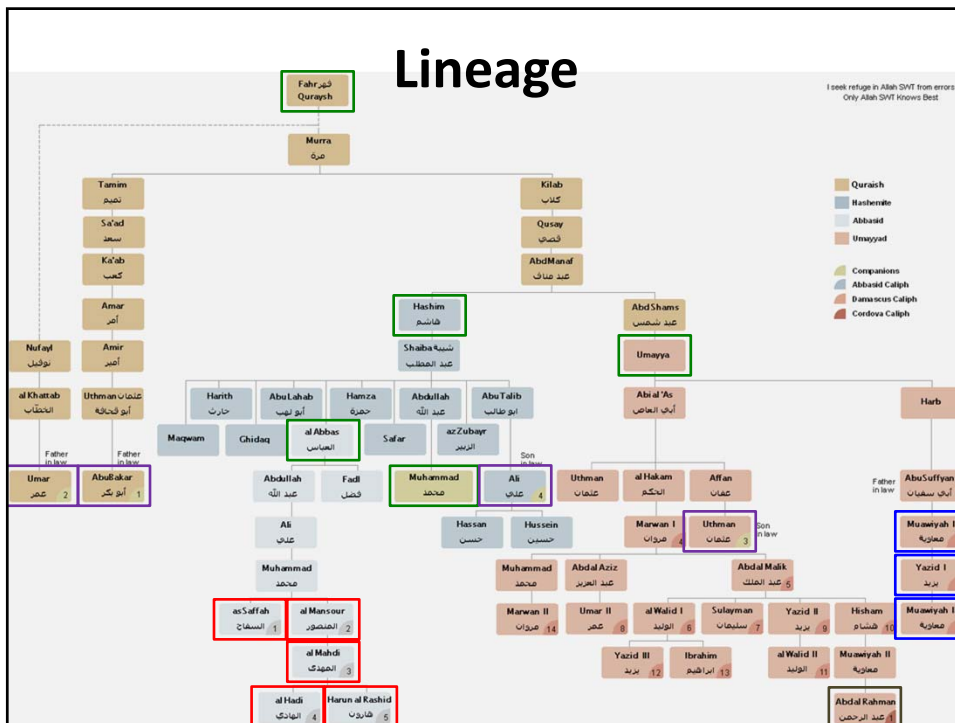
The final pillar of Islam is Hajj. Hajj is obligatory for Muslims to perform once in a lifetime if they are physically and financially able to. This pilgrimage to Makkah is performed in the twelfth month of the lunar calendar. Male pilgrims must all wear simple, seamless sheets. We celebrate the end of Hajj with Eid Al-Adha.

Hajj

32

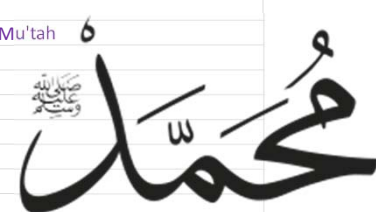


33



34

Timeline of Muhammad in Medina	
c. 622	Emigrates to Medina (Hijra)
623	Caravan Raids begin
623	Al Kudr Invasion
624	Battle of Badr: Muslims defeat Meccans
624	Battle of Sawiq, Abu Sufyan escapes capture
624	Expulsion of Banu Qaynuqa
624	Invasion of Thi Amr, Muhammad raids Ghatafan tribes
624	Assassination of Khaled b. Sufyan & Abu Rafi
625	Battle of Uhud: Meccans defeat Muslims
625	Tragedy of Bir Maona and Al Raji
625	Invasion of Hamra al-Asad, successfully terrifies enemy to cause retreat
625	Banu Nadir expelled after invasion
625	Invasion of Nejd, Badr and Dumatul Jandal
627	Battle of the Trench
627	Invasion of Banu Qurayza, successful siege
628	Treaty of Hudaibiyyah, gains access to Kaaba
628	Conquest of the Khaybar oasis
629	First hajj pilgrimage
629	Attack on Byzantine Empire fails: Battle of Mu'tah
630	Bloodless conquest of Mecca
630	Battle of Hunayn
630	Siege of Ta'if
631	Rules most of the Arabian peninsula
632	Attacks the Ghassanids: Tabuk
632	Farewell hajj pilgrimage
632	Death, on June 8 in Medina



35

Islamic Law of War

O people! I charge you with ten rules; learn them well!
 Stop, O people, that I may give you ten rules for your guidance in the battlefield. Do not commit treachery or deviate from the right path. You must not mutilate dead bodies. Neither kill a child, nor a woman, nor an aged man. Bring no harm to the trees, nor burn them with fire, especially those which are fruitful. Slay not any of the enemy's flock, save for your food. You are likely to pass by people who have devoted their lives to monastic services; leave them alone.

<p>Do Not ...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ...commit treachery 2. ...deviate from the right path 3. ...mutilate dead bodies 4. ...kill a child 5. ...kill a woman 6. ...kill an aged man 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. ...harm the trees 8. ...burn trees with fire, especially fruitful ones 9. ...slay any of the enemy's flock, save for your food 10. Leave monasteries and monks alone
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36



37

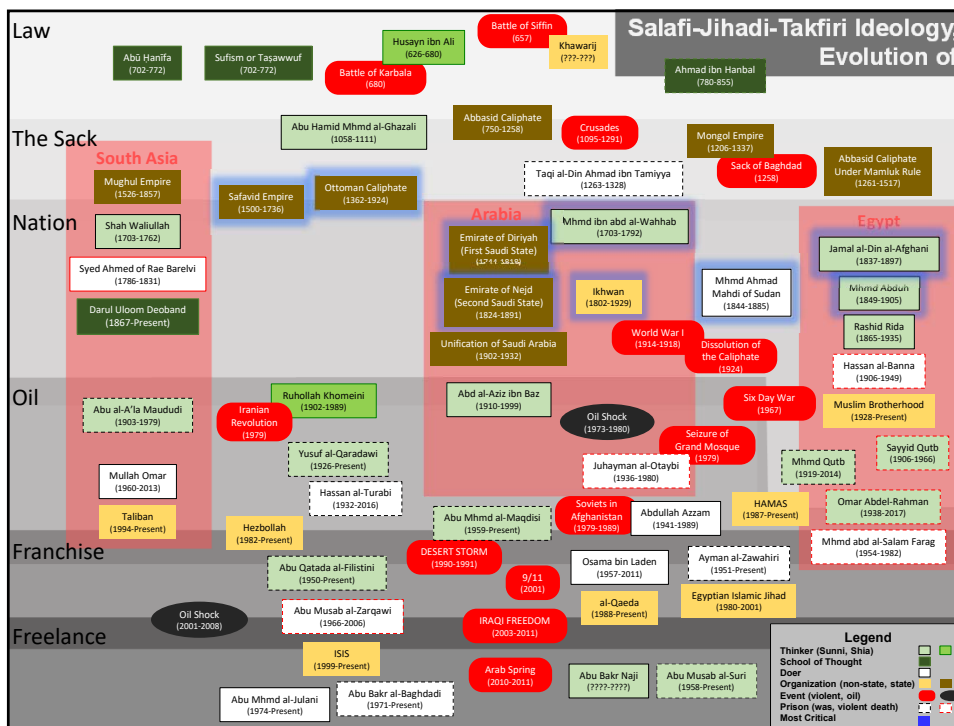
When comes the ISIS identity Salafist

Mohamed said, "The best people are those of my generation, and then those who will come after them (the next generation), and then those who will come after them (i.e. the next generation), and then after them, there will come people whose witness will precede their oaths, and whose oaths will precede their witness." (Sahih Bukhari Volume 8. hadith number 437)

Version 7.0 (20 February 2016)

17

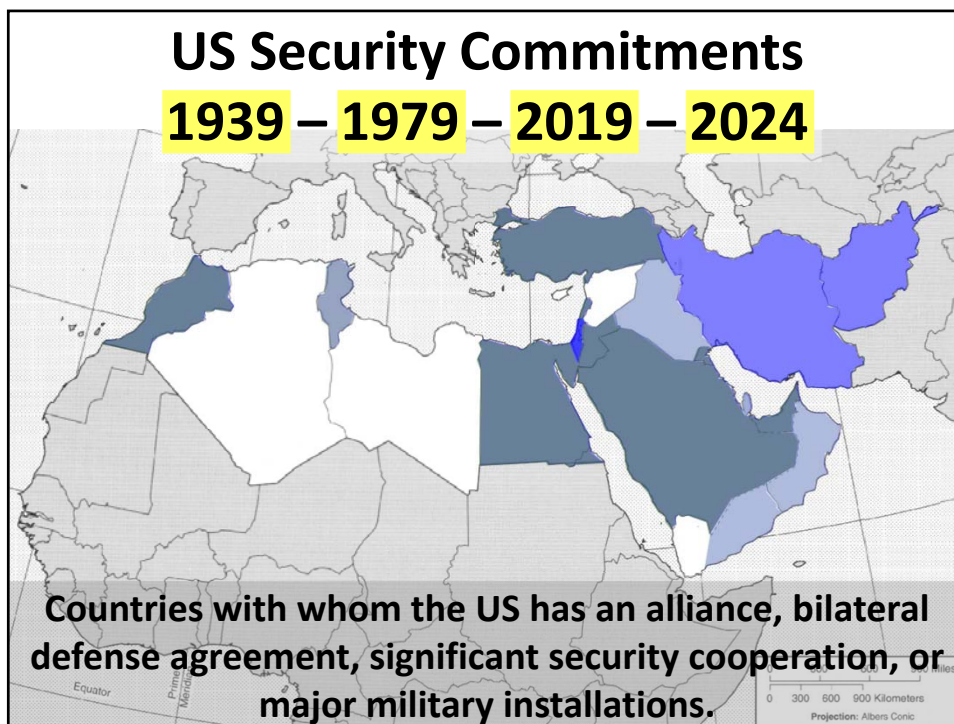
38



39

Main Subject:
Why is the U.S. in the Middle East?

40



41

Oil

**Zionism
(Religion)**

Why is the U.S. in the Middle East?

**(Great Powers)
Cold War**

**(Non-State Actors)
Terrorism**

42

Main Subject: The Great Game

43

A cartoon from the English satirical magazine *Punch*, or *The London Charivari* (13 Dec 1911).

The Great Game



As Between Friends
(British Lion to Russian Bear)

'If we hadn't such a thorough understanding I might almost be tempted to ask what you're doing there with our little playfellow.'

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Great_Game#/media/File:As_Between_Friends_\(Punch_magazine_13_December_1911_detail\).jpg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Great_Game#/media/File:As_Between_Friends_(Punch_magazine_13_December_1911_detail).jpg)

44



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46

Main Subject: The Ottoman Empire

47

Ottoman Sultan-Caliph

Sultan Only 1299-1517 (218 years)

Sultan-Caliph 1517-1922 (405 years)

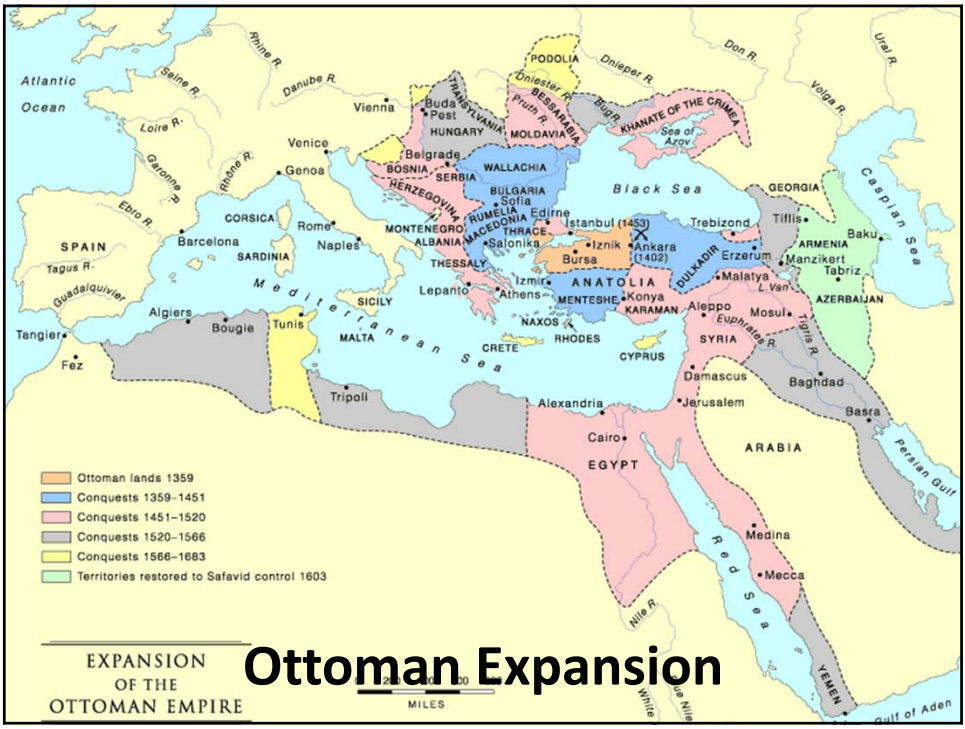
Caliph Only 1922-1924 (2 years)

Selim I Suleiman I

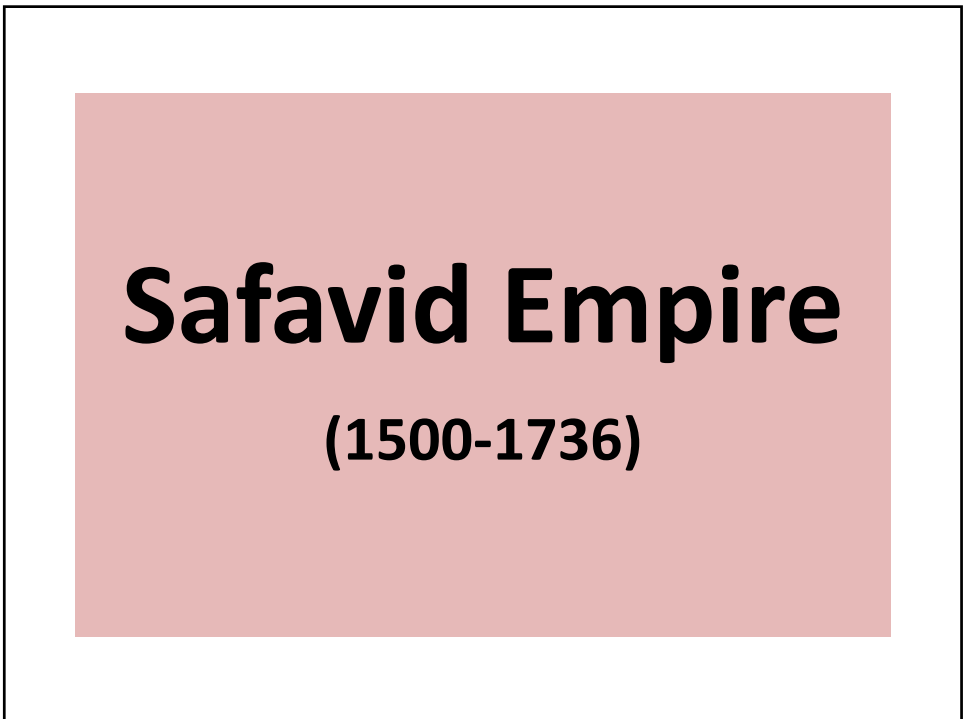
Mehmed VI

Abdulmejid II

48



49



50

Ottoman – Safavid Clash

1501 (1500-1502) - 1736

It still matters!

- Transformation of Shia Islam – makes Twelver Shiism the largest branch of Shia Islam
- Creation of modern Persia and makes it predominantly Shia by compulsory means
- Mesopotamia becomes a conflict zone between expansionist Twelver Shiism and Sunni missionary efforts.

51

Religions / Sects

Middle East Religions' Statistics:
Population figures are in millions and are based on 2000-03 estimates. The number of adherents in a given religion are counted by cultural and not confessional criteria.

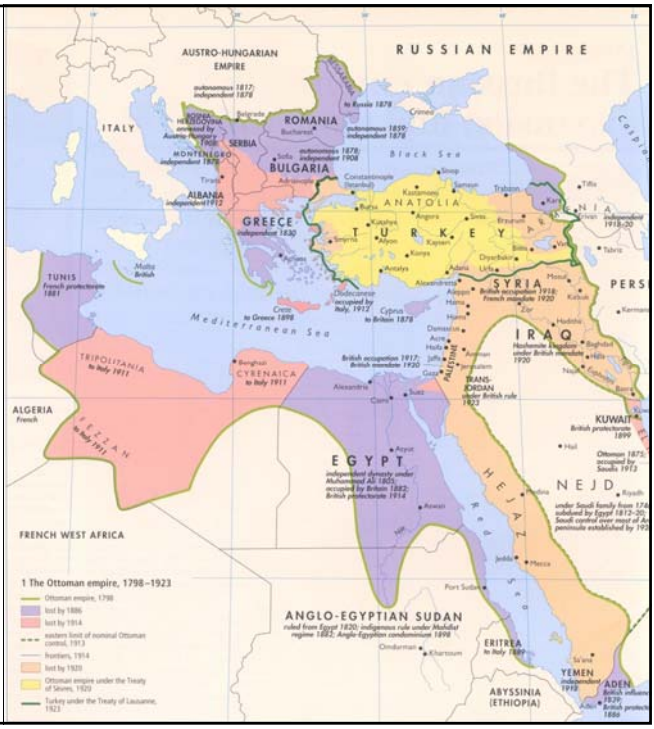
Country	Population (Millions)	Islam (%)	Shia (%)	Christians (%)	Others (%)
Egypt	71.6	92.2	0.0	4.8	2.0
Turkey	70.8	99.8	0.0	0.1	0.1
Iran	68.7	92.0	10.0	0.1	0.1
Yemen	23.0	10.0	10.0	0.1	0.1
Saudi Arabia	21.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
U.A.E.	2.0	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Religious Composition of the Middle East:

- Islam:
 - Sunni (Hanafi, Shafi'i, Maliki and Hanbali rites)
 - Shiism (Imami, Zaidi and Isma'ili rites, as well as Alevism, Yarsanism, and Zikrism)
 - Ibadism
 - Wahabism (Salafism, Muwahhidism)
- Christianity (various denominations)
- Judaism
- Zoroastrianism
- Druze
- Other (Yezidism, Nusairism, Animism/Zar-Bad, Hinduism etc.)
- Mixed religion areas

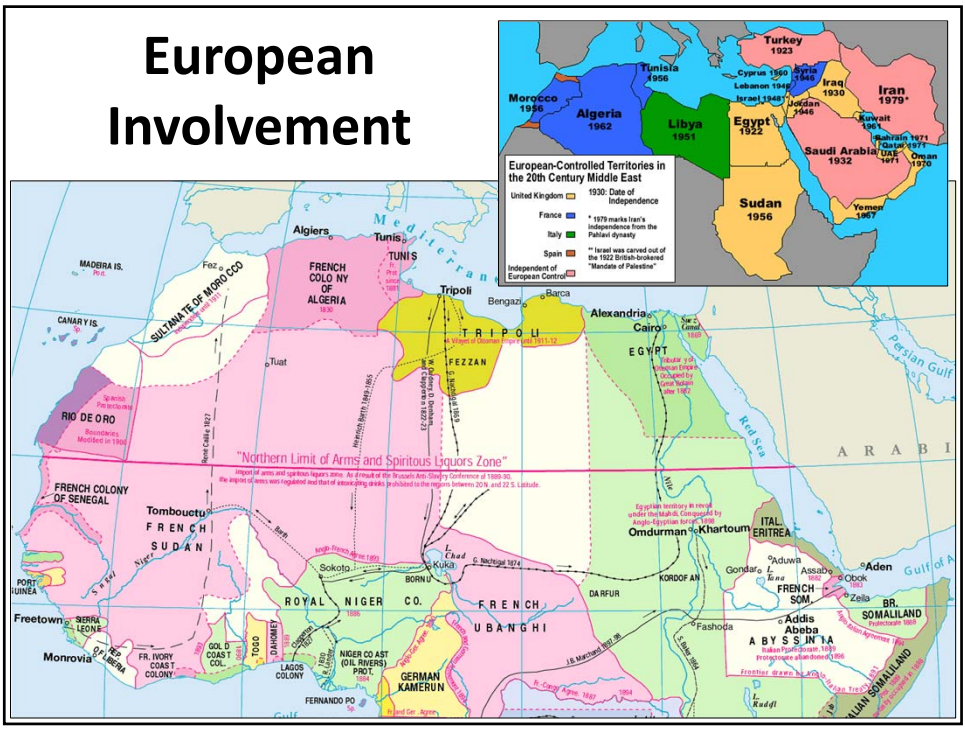
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Ottoman Decline



53

European Involvement



54

Mhmd ibn abd al-Wahhab

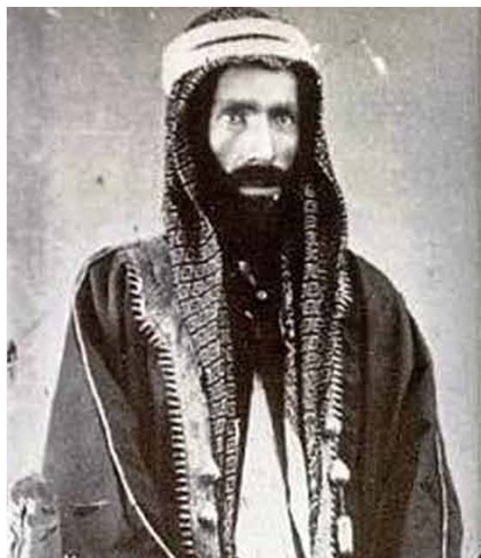
(1703-1792)

55

Mhmd ibn abd al-Wahhab

(1703-1792)

- S: Revivalist who criticized reverence for shrines and saints.
- J: Called for and led action against Mecca – cleansed mosque
- T: All those who revere shrines and saints are kafr.



56

Contact Information

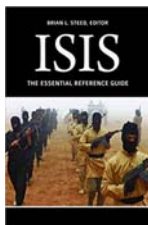
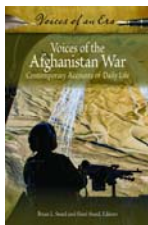
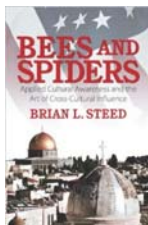
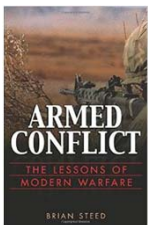
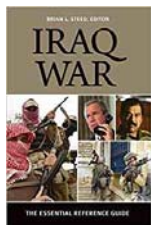
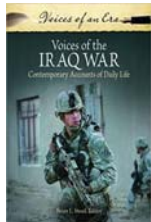
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CHANGING THE WAY POWER WORKS