

**Southwest Asia Notes**  
Human Geography

**The Arabian Peninsula**

Countries: \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

**Islamic History**

\_\_\_\_\_ : monotheistic religion based on the teachings of the prophet Muhammad.

\_\_\_\_\_ : a person who practices the religion of \_\_\_\_\_. The word mu-islam in Arabic = a person who practices Islam

\_\_\_\_\_ : Muslims believe he received a revelation from God through the angel Gabriel. He spread the faith and teaching from God.

**Islam Geography**

The Arabian Peninsula is home to Mecca.

\_\_\_\_\_ : the holiest city of Islam

Muslims travel here at least once in their life if they are able to; it is one of their religious duties, which is known as the \_\_\_\_\_.

Pilgrimage to Mecca is part of the 5 pillars of Islam

**Islamic Teachings**

\_\_\_\_\_ five basic things that a Muslim must do.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Muslims believe there is no god but their god who is Allah.

\_\_\_\_\_ : Muslims perform five prayers a day.

Can be done at a \_\_\_\_\_ : place of worship or anywhere they choose.

Zakat (\_\_\_\_\_): Muslims must give charity to others.

Ramadan (\_\_\_\_\_): one month of fasting in a year.

\_\_\_\_\_ : trip to Mecca.

**Government**

The governments of land controlled by Muslims were \_\_\_\_\_ : religious leaders control the government.

Rulers relied on religious law and religious scholars to run the countries.

In \_\_\_\_\_, religious leaders are in control of the government.

**Colonial Powers**

After WWI, the Ottoman Empire (a Muslim-held nation) was broken apart.

\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ had interest in this valuable region for two reasons:

**Suez** \_\_\_\_\_ : vital link between Asian and European ports

\_\_\_\_\_ : was discovered there after 1932.

**Colonial Powers**

\_\_\_\_\_ **al-Aziz Ibn** \_\_\_\_\_ : new leader in the Arabian Peninsula gained power over the region at the same time WWI was ending.

By the end of the \_\_\_\_\_ only small countries on the Arabian Gulf were free of his control

The area became known as \_\_\_\_\_ in 1932.

His descendants still rule Saudi Arabia today.

## **Oil**

Arabian Peninsula nations make almost all of their export money from oil \_\_\_\_\_.

Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries was created to help members control worldwide oil prices by adjusting oil prices and production quotas.

Founded in \_\_\_\_\_ by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait

Members include Qatar, U.A.E., Iran and Iraq.

## **Modern Life**

The region is quickly modernizing

Camels used to be the mainstay of life, but they have been replaced by cars, trucks and motorcycles.

## **Eastern Mediterranean**

Countries: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Religious Holy Places**

\_\_\_\_\_ major monotheistic religions were founded in Southwest Asia

All three claim Jerusalem as a holy city: \_\_\_\_\_

Jerusalem covers \_\_\_\_\_ square miles and contains sections for Jews, Christians, and Muslims

## **Jewish Presence**

\_\_\_\_\_ - the capital of Israel is the center of modern and ancient homeland

\_\_\_\_\_ (wailing wall): Jews come here to pray

It is the only remaining piece of their holy temple which was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70

## **Christian Heritage**

For Christians Jerusalem is the sacred location of the suffering and crucifixion of \_\_\_\_\_

When Jerusalem was under Muslim rule the Christians launched the \_\_\_\_\_ to regain the lands

The land was returned to the Muslims and remained that way until the formation of \_\_\_\_\_ in 1948

## **Islamic Sacred Sites**

Jerusalem is another holy city to Muslims

\_\_\_\_\_ : a shrine where Muslims believe the Prophet Muhammad rose into heaven

\_\_\_\_\_ : Mosque located close to the Western Wall

The locations of these two places being so close together has caused conflict between the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## **History of Unrest**

After WWI Britain and France divided the Ottoman lands in the Eastern Mediterranean region

\_\_\_\_\_ took the northern part including Lebanon and Syria

\_\_\_\_\_ took the southern part including Jordan and Israel

The land controlled by Britain was known as \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ began in the 19<sup>th</sup> century

\_\_\_\_\_ was a movement to create and support a Jewish \_\_\_\_\_ in Palestine

Jewish people began moving here in great numbers to escape the Holocaust

After numbers grew \_\_\_\_\_ living in the area resisted

Britain stopped immigration in \_\_\_\_\_

### **Establishing Israel as a Nation-State**

After WWII thousands of Jewish survivors of the Holocaust wanted to settle in \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_ the United Nations decided to divide Palestine into two states: One for \_\_\_\_\_ One for \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ was made official in 1948

Surrounding \_\_\_\_\_ nations invaded Israel. Jewish troops fought back, and Israel was a secure Jewish nation by 1950

This tension still causes \_\_\_\_\_ today

Palestinian Arabs and Christians were caught in the middle they either fled their homes or were forced into \_\_\_\_\_ camps

### **Opposing Israel**

When \_\_\_\_\_ was established as a country in 1948, that action caused the Palestinian \_\_\_\_\_ to become a “\_\_\_\_\_” nation.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Liberation** \_\_\_\_\_ (PLO): created to regain the land for Palestinian Arabs

The \_\_\_\_\_ has pursued political and military means to take possession of Arab land in Israel and allow refugees to return to their homes.

**Modern Life:** Blend of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ cultural tradition

Eating in restaurants is not as common as it is in the U.S. Most meals are eaten in the home

Men and Women usually eat separately Host of dinner may not eat with guests so that he can wait on them

\_\_\_\_\_ : hummus-ground chickpeas, pitas, chicken, lamb, Kolaicha (sweet cake), thick coffee or tea is also served.

### **Growing up in Israel**

School from 5-15 At age 14, you would choose between going to a technical school or a more academic school

You could begin working at age 15 You could drive at age 17 You could get married at age 17

You would enter the armed forces at age 18: Men for 3 years Women for 2 years

**Moving North:** Countries: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

### **Blend of Cultures**

\_\_\_\_\_ : an ethnic group in Southwest Asia. They have occupied the area known as Kurdistan for thousands of years

These lands are located in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

The Kurds have tried to establish a homeland of their own, since the breakup of the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of \_\_\_\_\_.

For most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, these three nations have \_\_\_\_\_ with the Kurds over control of these lands

Hlabja, Iraq (a Kurdish town) was faced with the \_\_\_\_\_ Air Force. They released mustard gas into the air killing 5,000 people.

### **Blend of Cultures**

Turkey, Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan are mostly Muslim in religion, but only Iraq is Arabic in culture

Ancient Civilization: \_\_\_\_\_ : “the land between rivers” is one of the earliest human civilizations

-Found between the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rivers in Iraq.

## Ethnic Differences

Divisions of Islam: After the death of the Prophet Muhammad Muslims split into two groups

\_\_\_\_\_ : Believe the Muslim leader should be the person who knows and sets the best example of the religion (majority)

\_\_\_\_\_ : Believe the Muslim leader should be a direct descendent of Muhammad

## Clashes Over Land

The \_\_\_\_\_ have been called a stateless nation. They claim a homeland in parts of Turkey, Iran and Iraq

They were promised a homeland at the end of WWI, but never received one.

Clashes between the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ of surrounding nations have prevented the Kurds from becoming a nation-state.

## Modern and Traditional Life

In each country a division exists between those who want to adopt a modern lifestyle and those who want to preserve traditional ways

This division is most apparent in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ : a fundamentalist Muslim group which imposes strict rules on people's behavior

Similar groups exist in Turkey, Iraq and Iran but have never been in control of the government

## Southwest Asia Notes – Today's Issues

### Today's Issues

Issue #1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ is so profitable to every Arab nation, that it has become known as a "strategic commodity"

strategic commodity = \_\_\_\_\_

Because of \_\_\_\_\_, countries cannot rely on oil alone to support their economies, they must diversify.

Issue #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Two reasons for people to relocate: (Push/Pull factors)

Changing \_\_\_\_\_ conditions and \_\_\_\_\_ conflict

In the early 20th century, the discovery of \_\_\_\_\_ caused rapid urbanization all over the region.

Western oil companies leased land in the region and brought \_\_\_\_\_.

Effects of the Oil Boom:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Two examples of political conflict:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ conflict with the \_\_\_\_\_.

The government in Iraq forced \_\_\_\_\_.

Those Kurds who did not leave suffered Saddam's \_\_\_\_\_.

By the year 2000, about \_\_\_\_\_ Kurds had been displaced and forced to live in relocation camps.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ conflict with the \_\_\_\_\_.

Palestinians who relocated out of Israel live in refugee camps located in \_\_\_\_\_,

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

An estimated \_\_\_\_\_ Palestinians live in refugee camps.