

Compare and Contrast Middle East Governments

Read through the Power Point Presentation pertaining to your Middle Eastern Country (Israel, Saudi Arabia, Iran) and complete your criteria organizer including the following information;

- ✓ Identify the form of government
- ✓ title of the leader
- ✓ Identify how the person becomes the leader
- ✓ Determine what role the citizen plays in the government
- ✓ Determine personal freedoms (Freedom of Speech, Freedom of the Press)

ISRAEL WITH THE WEST BANK, GAZA STRIP, AND GOLAN HEIGHTS



Israel

- Israel's population includes Jews from all parts of the world.
- Both Hebrew and Arabic are official languages.

Israel



- About 82 percent of Israel's population is Jewish.
- The rest of it is mostly Arab.
- About three fourths of these are Muslim.
- The rest are Christian.
- Israel's art, music, and literature reflect its great diversity.

Israel – Form of Government



- Israel's government operates under a parliamentary democracy system.
- Israel has a President, a Prime Minister and a Parliament, called the Knesset.
- There are two major political parties and many smaller parties.

Israel – Title of Leader

- The President of Israel, **Shimon Peres**, is the head of state but he serves primarily in a ceremonial role.
- The current President took office on July 15, 2007. Presidents are elected by the Knesset (Parliament) for a seven year term, and are limited to a single term.



Israel – Title of Leader

- The Prime Minister, **Benjamin Netanyahu**, is the head of government.



Israel – Becoming the leader



- President is elected by the Knesset (parliament).
- After election, President nominates a member of the Knesset to become the Prime Minister (following a vote of confidence from the Knesset)

Israel – Role of Citizen (Voting Rights)

- Israel has built a strong military for protection from the Arab countries around it. At age 18 most Israeli men and women must serve in the military.
- Citizens over 18 can vote for members of the unicameral (single body) legislature called the Knesset.



Israel – Role of Citizen (Personal Freedoms)



- In Israel, citizens have many personal freedoms including freedom of speech and freedom of the press.