

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

SOUTHWEST ASIA



PHYSICAL

Sub regions of Southwest Asia

- The Arabian Peninsula - Saudi Arabia Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Yemen, Qatar & United Arab Emirates - Lies between Red Sea and Persian Gulf

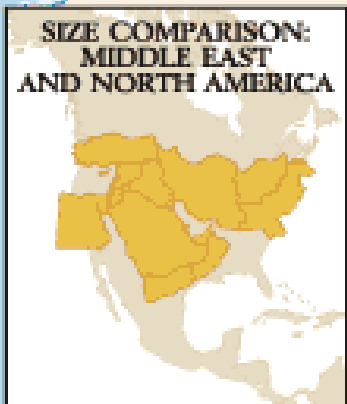


Sub regions of Southwest Asia

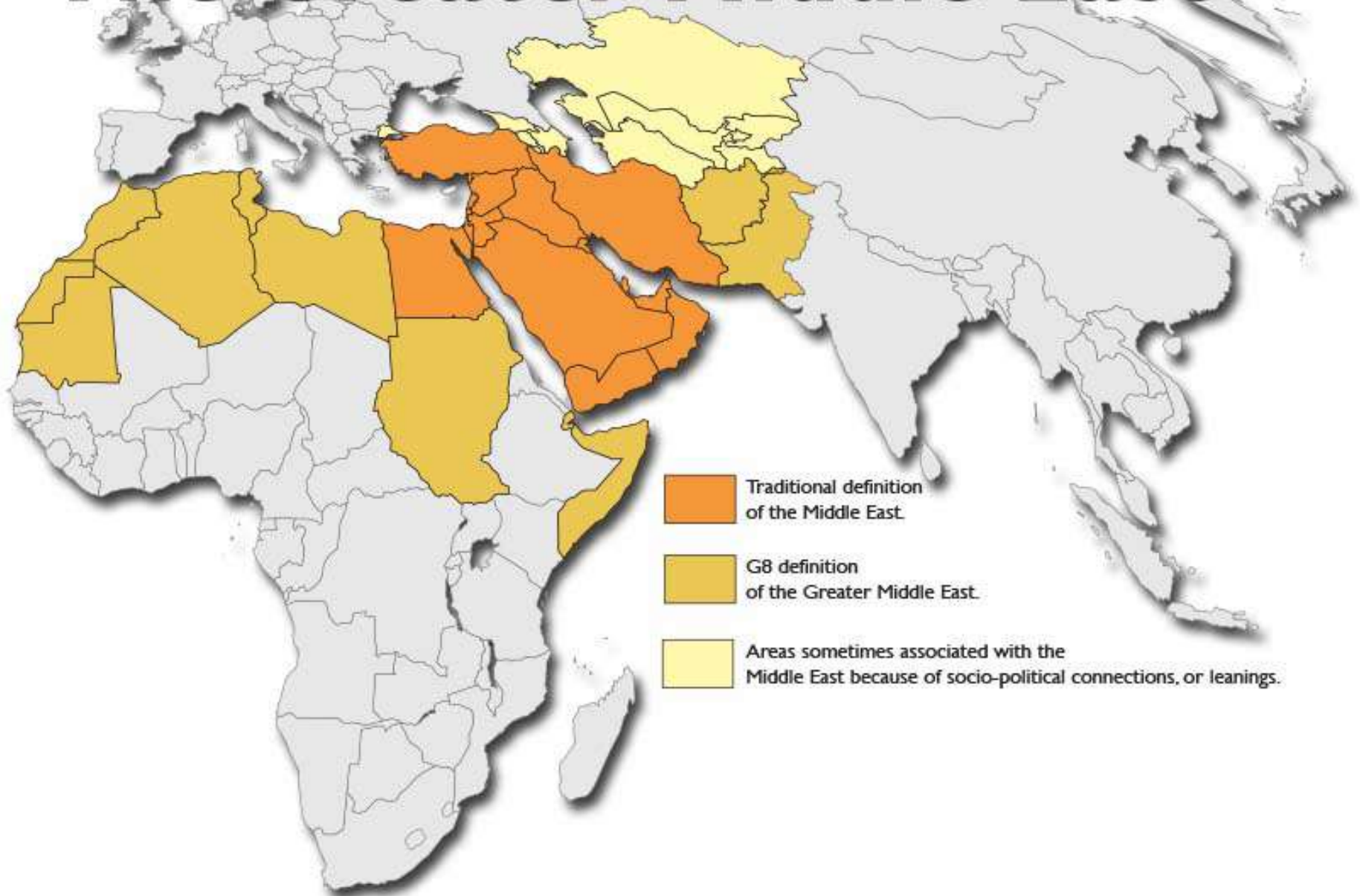
- ▣ The Eastern Mediterranean - Israel, Lebanon, & Jordan
- ▣ The Northeast - Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan & Afghanistan



MIDDLE EAST - POLITICAL

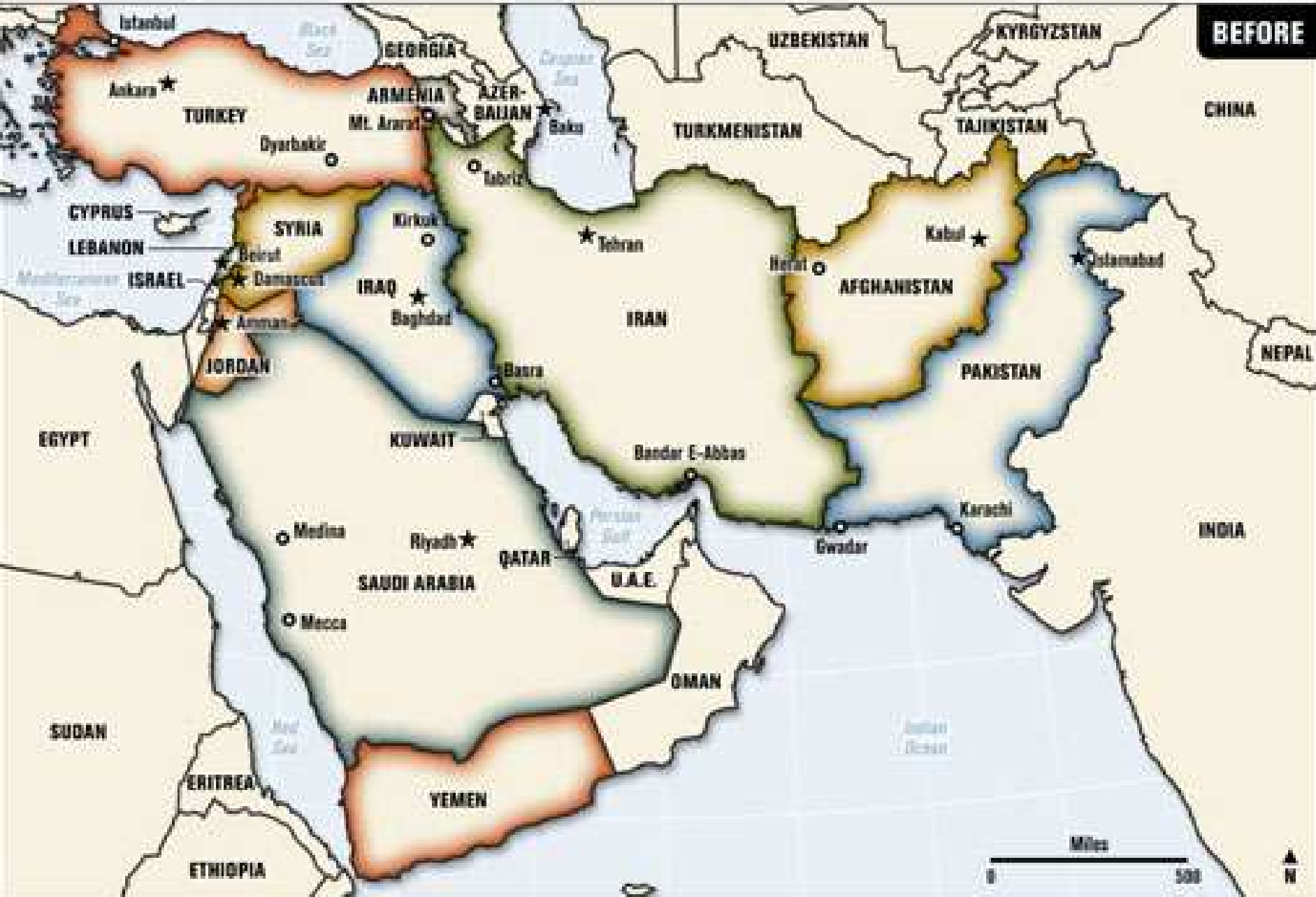


The Greater Middle East

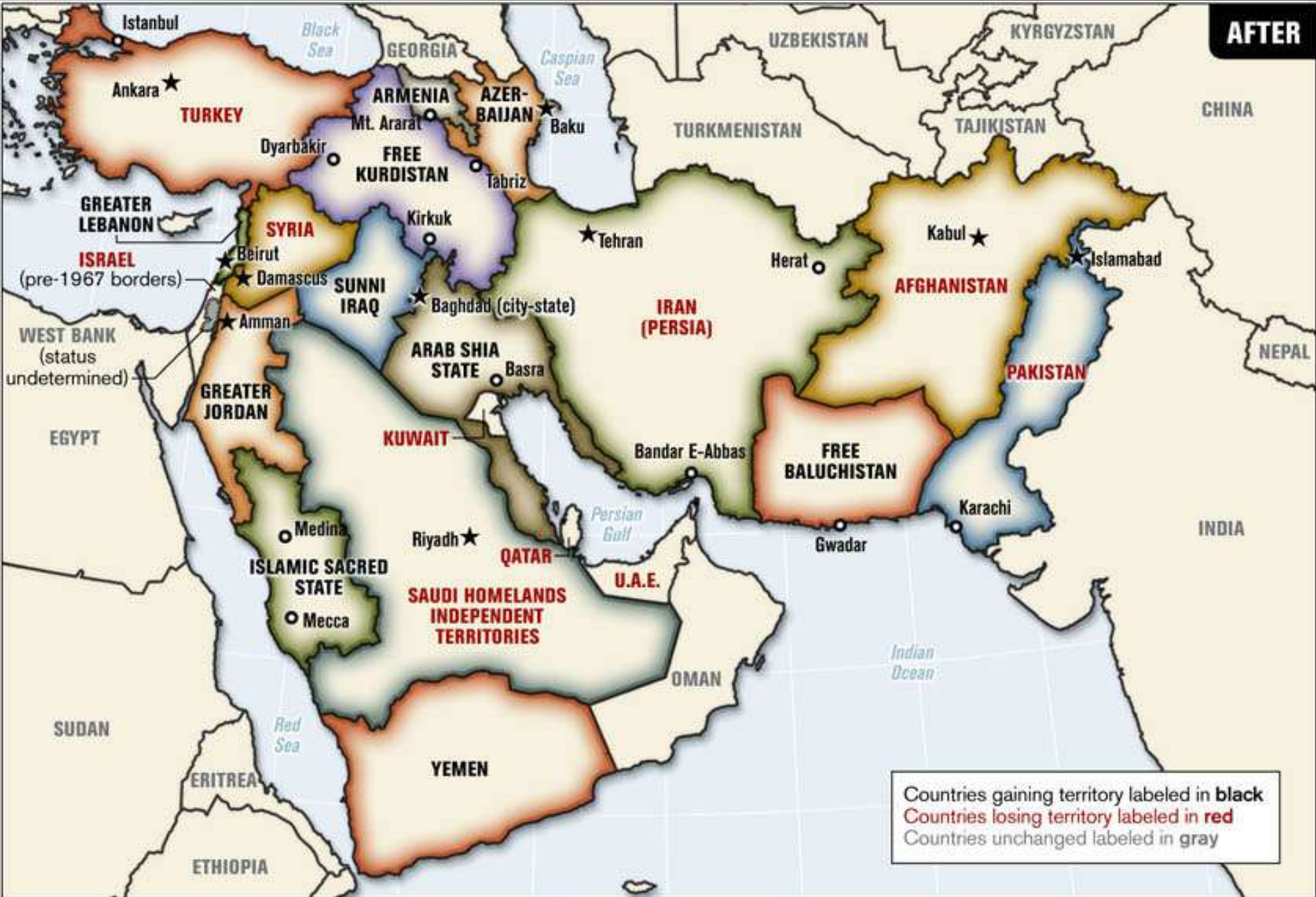


Redrawing the Middle East map

BEFORE



AFTER



Countries gaining territory labeled in **black**
Countries losing territory labeled in **red**
Countries unchanged labeled in **gray**

Mountains & Highlands

- ▣ Zagros and Taurus - experience severe seismic or earthquake activity
- Zagros Mountains isolate Iran from rest of Southwest Asia
- Taurus Mountains separate Turkey from rest of Southwest Asia



MIDDLE EAST - PHYSICAL



Mountains & Highlands

- ▣ Golan Heights - plateau near Jordan River, Sea of Galilee - site of conflict due to strategic location



Seas

- ▣ Dead Sea –
landlocked saltwater
lake
 - Saltiest body of
water on the Earth
 - lowest place on
earth's exposed crust:
1,349 feet below sea
level



Seas

- Mediterranean Sea – borders the Sinai Peninsula
- Black Sea - borders Turkey
- Caspian Sea - North of Iran



Rivers

- Few rivers in the region flow all year
 - **Wadis** - riverbeds that are dry except in rainy season
- The **Tigris and Euphrates** - Two of the most important rivers in the region
 - Flows through Turkey, Syria, Iraq
 - **Mesopotamia** "land between two rivers" located between the rivers
 - Rivers meet at Shatt al Arab, empty into Persian Gulf



Rivers

▣ Jordan River - Forms a natural border between Israel & Jordan



Climates

- Three types of climates are found in Southwest Asia
- Most areas get less than 18 inches of precipitation a year



Climates



▣ Deserts

- Rub al-Khali
(Arabian Peninsula) -
250,000 sq. miles &
has dunes as high as
800 feet (10 yrs can
pass without rain)

- Israel's Negev
Desert produces crops
through irrigation



Climates

- ▣ Oasis - where underground spring water supports vegetation
- ▣ Iran has salt flat deserts - Land is salt-crusted, surrounded by salt marshes, very hot



Climates

▣ Steppe Climate

- borders deserts
- Warm to hot summers; enough rainfall for grasses, shrubs



Climates

▣ The Mediterranean Coast

- Areas along Mediterranean coast and in Turkey have adequate rainfall
- hot summers, rainy winters promote citrus fruits, olives, vegetables
- Mild winters and summer irrigation let farmers grow crops all year



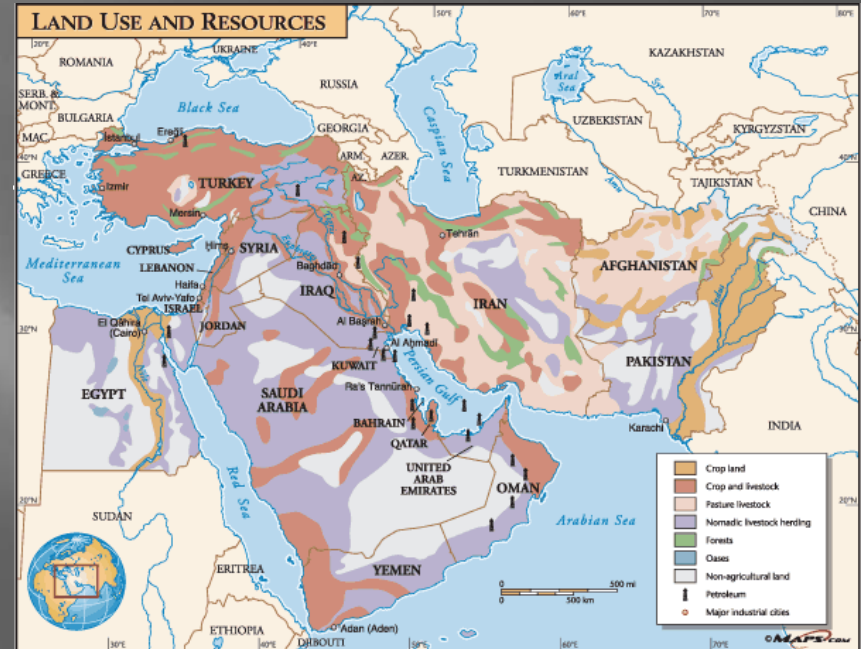
PRECIPITATION



Natural resources

□ Half of the world's oil reserves are in Southwest Asia

- oil fields located in Arabian Peninsula, Iran, Iraq & along Persian Gulf coast

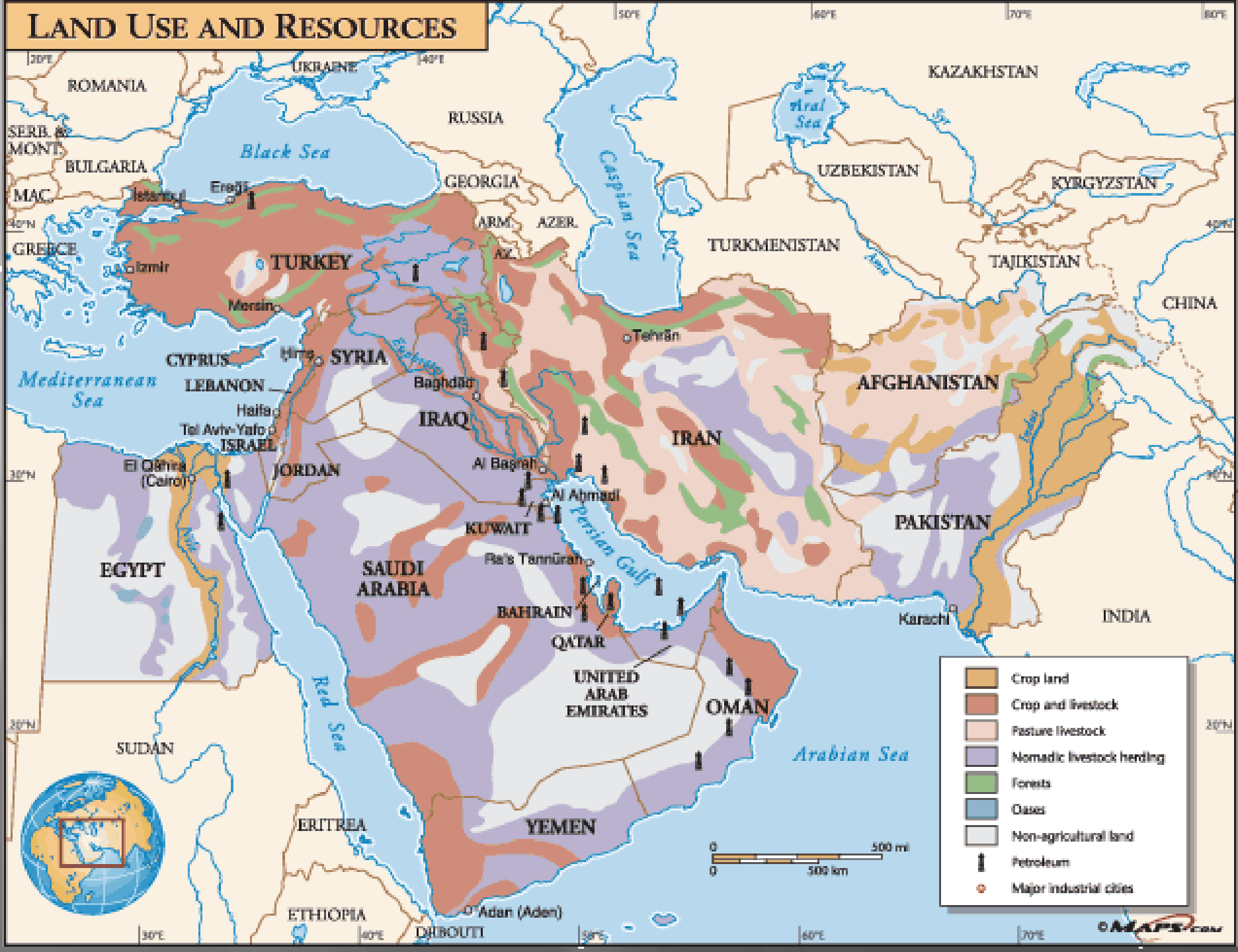


Natural resources

- ▣ Iran & Turkey have large coal deposits
- ▣ Small & scattered deposits of copper & potash, are also found in region
- ▣ Water is the most valuable resource in some parts of the region is
Harnessed for hydroelectric power in Turkey, Iran, Lebanon & Afghanistan



LAND USE AND RESOURCES



CULTURE



Ethnic Diversity (a difference in people based on their origins)

- ▣ **Arabs** - majority of people in the region
Most are Muslims
Speak Arabic

Turks

- ▣ Are not Arab, but they practice Islam
- ▣ Have blended an Islamic culture and a western culture



Iranians “land of the Aryans

- Iran used to be called Persia
- Muslim government is theocratic - religious leaders were in control





Israelis

- Majority of the people are Jewish
- Trace their ancestral roots to Hebrews who settle the region in ancient times
- Believed God had given them the land as a permanent home
- Were driven from the land throughout the centuries
- **Zionism** – 19th-century movement for a Jewish homeland in Palestine
- Jews buy land, begin settling
- 1948 – Israel was established as a home for the Jewish people



HISTORY

Early History

- Iraq's Fertile Crescent between Tigris, Euphrates was a cultural hearth
- People Built empires in Mesopotamia, the "land between the rivers"
 - Located between the Tigris & Euphrates Rives



Birth Place of 3 Religions

▣ Judaism

- Began with Gods' covenant to Abraham
- Synagogue – Place of Jewish worship

▣ Christianity

- Based on the teachings of Jesus

Birth Place of 3 Religions

- ▣ Islam
- ▣ Began in 600 A.D.
- ▣ **Muhammad** – believed he was God’s prophet
 - Muhammad lived in Mecca (Islam’s holiest city)
 - **Mosque** – Place of Islamic worship
 - **The Five Pillars** are required of all Muslims;
 - **Faith** – all believers must testify: “There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah”
 - **Prayer** -pray facing Mecca five times a day; mosque – place of worship
 - **Charity** – give money to the less fortunate
 - **Fasting** – in the holy month of Ramadan, don’t eat, drink during day
 - **Pilgrimage** – all Muslims should make hajj to Mecca once in their life

MAJOR RELIGIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST



THE SPREAD OF ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY



Jerusalem

- Jerusalem is capital of Israel & holy city to all three major monotheistic religions
- Jerusalem is third most holy Muslim city after Mecca, Medina



Jerusalem

- ▣ Dome of the Rock - shrine where it's believed Muhammad rose to heaven
- Jews believe it is the site where Abraham prepared to sacrifice Isaac



Jerusalem: Dome of the Rock



Jerusalem

- ▣ Western Wall - The holiest site in Jerusalem for Jews (Wailing Wall)
 - sole remainder of Second Temple (destroyed by Romans in A.D. 70)



Jerusalem

- ▣ Dome and Al-Aqsa mosque are located on Temple Mount by Western Wall
 - close proximity of holy sites fosters Jewish-Muslim clashes

Jerusalem

- Crusade – Christians unsuccessful attempt to regain holy land from Muslims in Middle Ages – Created hostility between Christians & Muslims



Governments Change Hands

- Ottoman Empire ruled region from 1520 to 1922, but weakened
- WWI – Britain & France gained control of most of region
 - Suez Canal & oil (discovered in 1932) were valuable



INDEPENDENCE FROM COLONIAL RULE



Creating the State of Israel

- Britain controlled area of Jordan & Israel after WWI
- Arabs & Jews cooperated
- 1930s & 1940s - German persecution increased number of Jewish immigrants
- Arabs begin to resist Jewish state
- After WWII - many Jewish Holocaust survivors settled in Palestine
- UN divided Palestine into two states: one Jewish, one Arab
- 1948 - Israel was created



Creating the State of Israel

- ▣ Palestinians -Arabs and descendents who lived in Palestine were displaced
 - As many as 1 million Palestinians fled Israel & became refugees
 - **Stateless Nation** - Name given to a nation of people without land to legally occupy
 - **Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO)** - uses politics, military to regain land in, Israel and return of refugees to Israel



PALESTINE AND ISRAEL

During Biblical Times



Palestine, 1923-47



U.N. Partition Plan, 1947



Israel, 1949



Israel, 1967



Israel, 2005

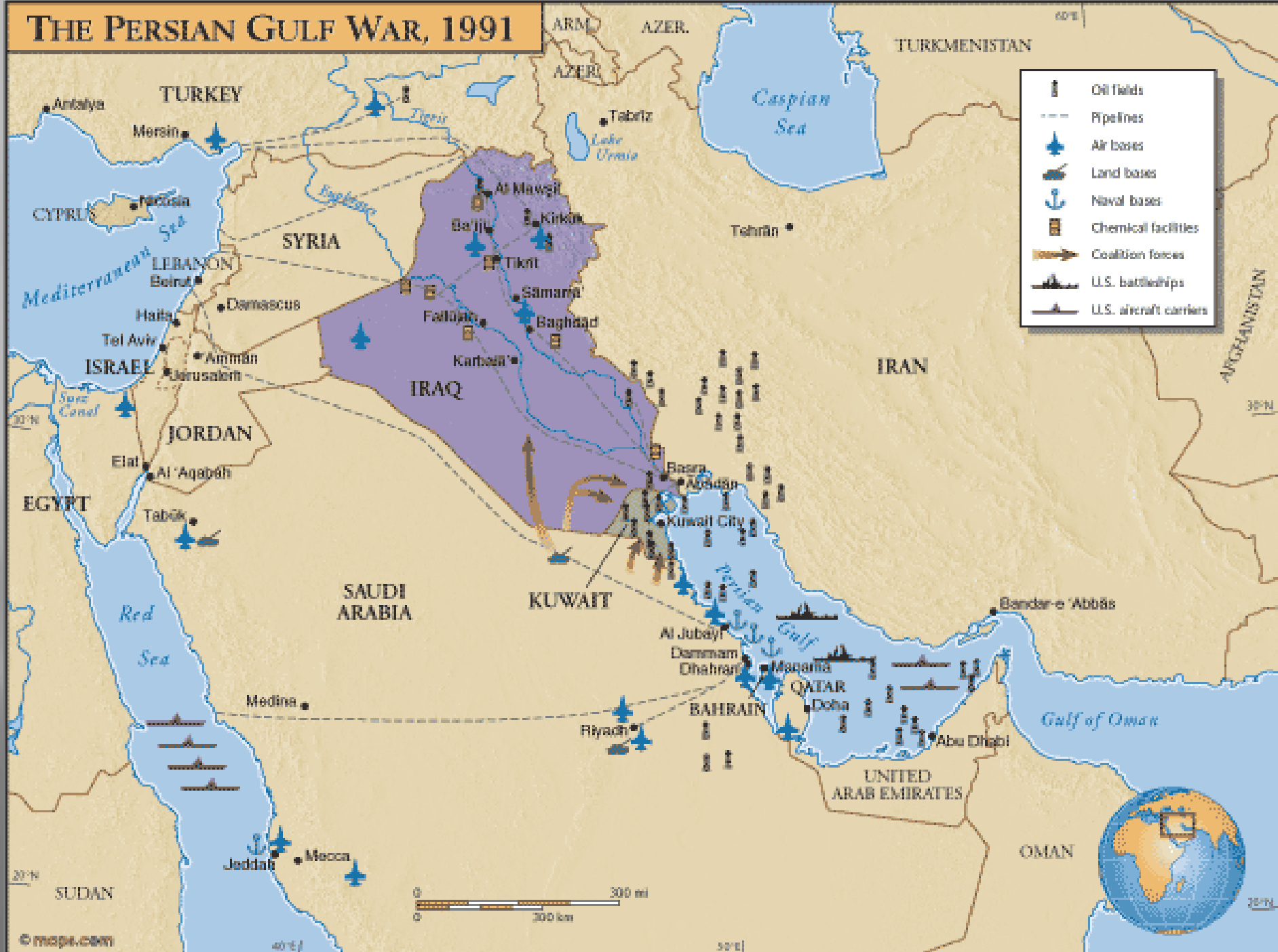


Control of Oil Fields

- ▣ 1980s - Iran, Iraq fight war over Persian Gulf oil fields
- ▣ 1990 - Iraq invaded Kuwait & was driven out in Persian Gulf War



THE PERSIAN GULF WAR, 1991



- Oil fields
- Pipelines
- Air bases
- Land bases
- Naval bases
- Chemical facilities
- Coalition forces
- U.S. battleships
- U.S. aircraft carriers



Clashes Over Leadership

- ▣ Taliban –
fundamentalist
Muslim political
group ruled
Afghanistan
- protected **Osama bin
Laden** and **al-Qaeda**
terrorist network





Clashes Over Leadership

- ☐ - October 2001 – U.S. attacked Afghanistan following 9-11
- Operation Enduring Freedom targets terrorist assets, infrastructure
- March 2002 Taliban removed from power by
- Osama bin Laden and some Taliban leaders



THE CONFLICT IN AFGHANISTAN, 2001

 Regions of air strikes and heaviest fighting
 Major refugee movements



Following the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on 11 September 2001, international forces bombed Taliban and al-Qaeda forces in Afghanistan in order to destroy terrorist training camps and capture suspected terrorists and those who harbored them. Alliances of Afghan forces also fought on the ground to rid the country of its strict Taliban leadership, considered by many to be oppressive. The conflict compounded the hardships faced by the people of Afghanistan, already suffering from years of war and drought. Hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees fled to neighboring countries. The Taliban was ousted in December and refugees began returning to Afghanistan, but leading terrorists remained at large at year's end.

Clashes Over Leadership

- ▣ UN ordered Iraqi dictator **Saddam Hussein** to disarm & destroy chemical, & biological weapons after Gulf War
- 2002 - President **George W. Bush** turns focus to Iraq
- ▣ - Bush believed Hussein had weapons of mass destruction
 - March 2003 - U.S & U.K. attacked Iraq in Operation Iraqi Freedom
 - May 2003 - major fighting ended
 - December 2003 - Hussein captured





Saddam Hussein hanging



02:07 / 02:13

POLITICAL CONFLICT: 1948-1980

1960: Military takeover of Turkish government
 1961: Civilian government reinstated
 1980: Military coup in Turkey

1968: Turkey and Greece on brink of war over Cyprus, crisis averted
 1974: Turkey declares cease-fire in Cyprus, controls 1/3 of the island nation

1958: Lebanon requests U.S. help with internal crisis
 1975: Civil war in Lebanon

1952: Military coup in Egypt ousts King Farouk, Nasser becomes head of state
 1972: Egypt and Libya engage in border clashes

1948: Israel proclaims itself a nation; Arab League invades Israel
 1956: Israel invades Egypt as far as Suez Canal; conflict ends with U.N. cease-fire
 1967: Six-Day War; Israel attacks allied neighboring countries and gains Sinai Peninsula, Gaza Strip, West Bank, and Golan Heights
 1972: Border clashes between Israel and Syria
 1973: Yom Kippur War; Egypt and Syria, aided by Arab states, battle Israel
 1974: Syria and Israel battle over Golan Heights, then end hostilities; Golda Meir resigns as Israel prime minister
 1978: Israelis attack Palestinian camps in Lebanon

1971: Syrian military coup; Hafez al-Assad elected president

1970: "Black September"; Palestinian guerrillas ejected from Jordan; Syrian tanks enter to protect Palestinians

1964: King Saud deposed
 1972: Saudis lead Arab states in declaring embargo on all exports to the U.S.
 1975: Saudi King Faisal assassinated

1958: Iraq's King Faisal II overthrown; General Qasim takes power
 1962: Qasim killed when military junta takes control in Iraq
 1966: Kurd rebellion halted and cease-fire declared
 1968: Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) takes power in coup
 1979: Saddam Hussein assumes power as president of RCC
 1980: Eight Year War commences after Iraq claims the Shatt-al-Arab waterway and invades Iran

1952: Prime Minister Mossadeq ousted by coup
 1962: Ayatollah Khomeini exiled from Iran
 1979: Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi flees Iran; Khomeini establishes the Islamic Republic
 1979: Iran hostage crisis; 52 hostages taken in U.S. Embassy in Tehran

1961: Kuwait achieves independence; Iraq claims sovereignty
 1973: Armed border clashes with Iraq

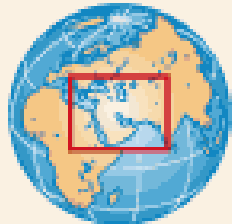
1968: Trucial states (later U.A.E.) in land dispute with Saudi Arabia over Al-Bunaymi oasis

1973: Military coup in Afghanistan ousts the King; Sardar Mohammad Daoud proclaims himself president
 1978: Guerrilla warfare begins in Afghanistan; President Daoud assassinated
 1979: Afghan leader Mohammed Taraki ousted by Hafizullah Amin, who in turn is killed in a coup backed by the USSR; Soviets invade Afghanistan to fight Muslim rebels; Soviet military involvement will last 10 years

1948: First Pakistan-India war over Kashmir and Gilt border areas
 1962: Second Pakistan-India war over northern border areas
 1971: Third Pakistan-India war over northern border areas
 1971: East Pakistan (Bangladesh) breaks away from West Pakistan in civil war
 1979: Pakistani President Bhutto hanged for suspicion of ordering opponent's murder

1970: Sultan of Muscat & Oman overthrown by seer; country name changed to "Oman"

1948: Imam Yahya assassinated; succeeded by son
 1962: Start of eight-year civil war in Yemen; Egypt and Saudi Arabia aid opposing factions
 1967: British withdraw from South Yemen (Aden)
 1970: Marxist government established in South Yemen
 1979: Border clashes between Yemen and South Yemen



CULTURES AND LIFESTYLES

Modern Arabic Life

- ▣ Rapid development as technology undermines traditional lifestyles
- ▣ - trucks replace camels; malls replace marketplaces
- ▣ Villagers, farmers, nomads have moved into cities
(Urbanization)
 - 25% urban in 1960 to 70% by 2015



Modern Arabic Life

- ▣ Religious Duties Shape Lives
 - Women often cover their heads, faces with scarf, veil
 - women's roles are slowly expanding: more are educated & working
 - Prayers performed dawn, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset, before bed
 - attend mosque services on Fridays
 - Fasting in **Ramadan** reinforces spirituality, self-control, humility



Modern Arabic Life

- ▣ Eating In / Eating Out - People don't eat in restaurants as much as in U.S.
 - some restaurants have separate male, female sections
 - cafés are usually for men only
 - Most meals are eaten at home, with dinner between 8-11 pm
 - Meals include hummus (ground chickpeas), baba ganouzh (eggplant dip) chicken, lamb, & dessert of fruit, kolaicha (sweet cake)

LIVING IN NORTH SOUTHWEST ASIA

Water and Population

- Large farms and growing populations require dams & irrigation systems



Water and Population

- Irrigation projects cause controversy when the body of water flows through several countries



Water and Population

- ▣ - Turkey is building dams and a man-made lake on upper Euphrates that will deprive downstream countries of water



Water and Population

- ▣ - Israel's National Water Carrier project - carries water from northern areas to central, south, Negev Desert



FRESHWATER RESOURCES



POPULATION DENSITY



Modern Water Technology

- ▣ **Drip irrigation** - small pipes slowly drip water just above ground
- ▣ **Desalinization** - Removes salt from ocean water at treatment plants - plants are expensive, cannot provide enough water
- ▣ **Fossil water** - is pumped from underground aquifers - water has been in aquifer for long periods of time - rainfall won't refill aquifers; only 25–30 years of usage remain



Unconfined Aquifer

Confined Aquifer

Recharge

Spring

Water Table

Water Wells

Cone of Depression

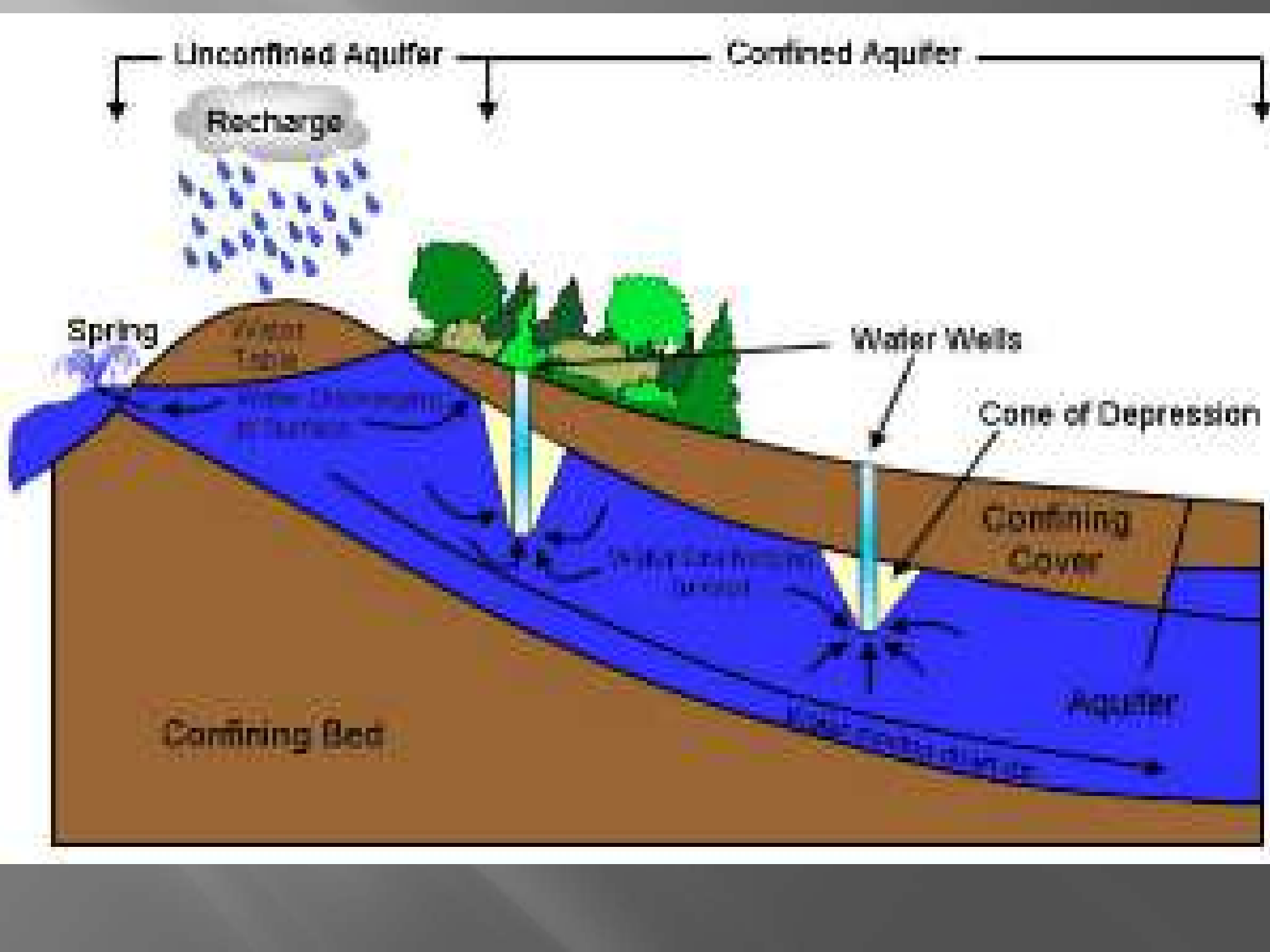
Confining Cover

Confining Bed

Water Table

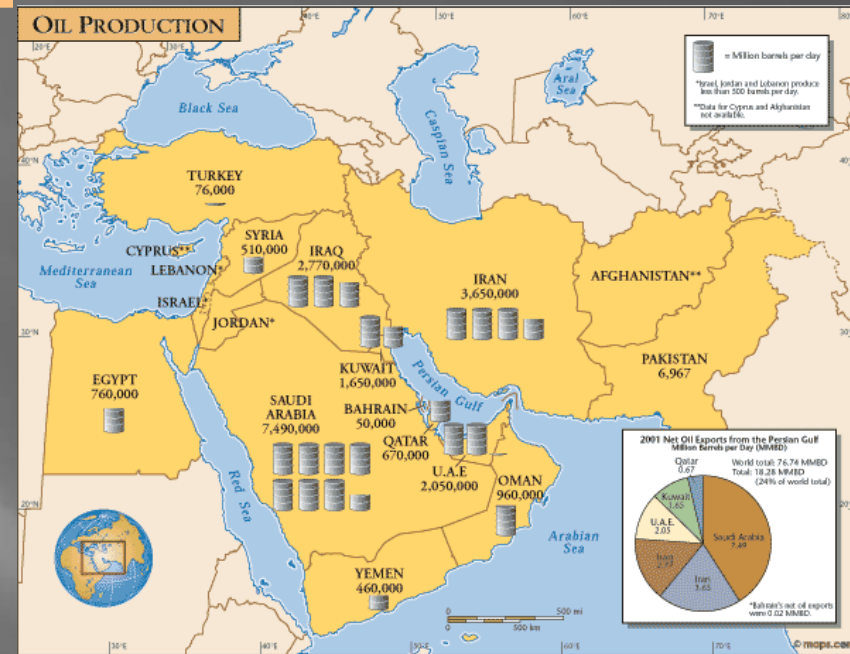
Aquifer

Water Table



Economy Dependent on Black Gold

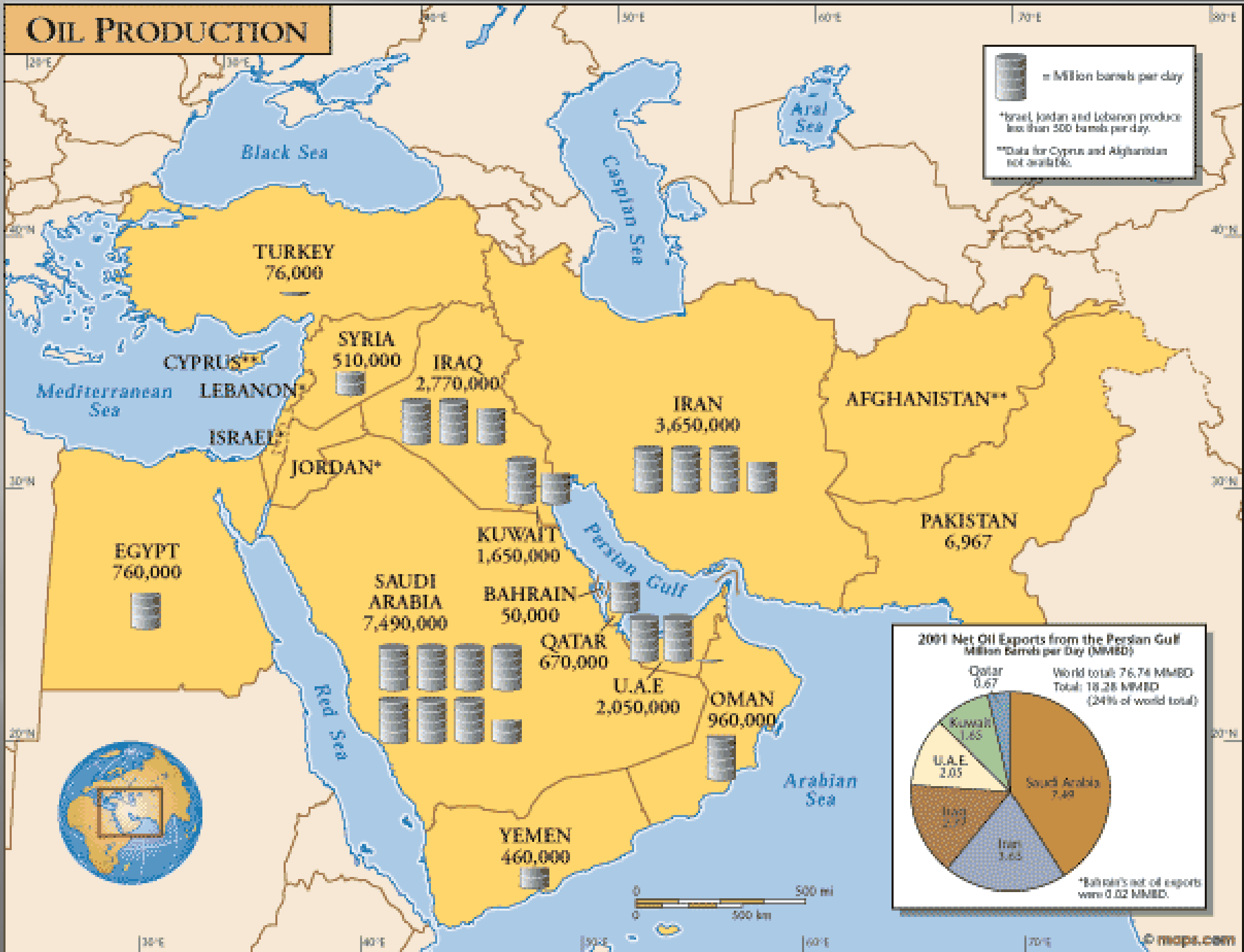
- Oil is principle resource of economy, makes region globally important - source of almost all of nations' export money, GNP
- Region has 64% of world's oil deposits, 34% of natural gas reserves - by 2020 will provide 50% of world demand
- Strategic commodity – important resource nations will fight over



Economy Dependent on Black Gold

- ▣ Oil prices rise & fall unpredictably; revenue not assured - makes steady economic growth difficult; nations need to diversify
- ▣ 1960 - oil-producing nations formed economic group called OPEC - Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries
 - coordinate petroleum-selling policies, control worldwide oil prices
 - includes Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Iraq
- ▣ Nations have made an effort to use oil wealth to diversify economies & develop non-oil resources, & agriculture

OIL PRODUCTION



Transporting Oil

- ▣ Crude oil is petroleum that has not been processed
 - **Refineries** - convert crude oil into useful products
- ▣ Pipelines move crude oil to refineries or ports
 - ports on Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Mediterranean Sea
 - tankers carry petroleum to world markets
- ▣ **Risks of Transporting Oil**
 - Oil spills – Largest was in January 1991, during Persian Gulf War
 - Pipelines may leak
 - Tankers may collide or run ashore



AVERAGE INCOME PER CAPITA



	\$20,000 and more
	\$10,000-\$19,999
	\$5,000-\$9,999
	\$3,000-\$4,999
	\$1,000-\$2,999
	\$999 and less

New Industry Requires More Workers

- ▣ Human resources — skills and talents of a nation's people
- nations must invest in people, including women (education & technology training)
- ▣ Oil creates so many jobs that local workers couldn't fill them all



New Industry Requires More Workers

- ▣ Guest workers - mostly unskilled laborers; do jobs native peoples find unacceptable (South, East Asia)
 - outnumber native workers in some places
 - Face problems such as -cultural misunderstandings intolerance, violence toward workers & fear immigrants weaken countries' national identities