MODERN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

1945-PRESENT
AFRICA WINS INDEPENDENCE, HOW?

1. African Nationalism Spurred Independence Movements
2. European Nations Had Been Torn Apart By WWII
3. U.S. And The Soviet Union Called For An End To European Imperialism In Africa

- By 1950, only Liberia, Ethiopia, Egypt And South Africa Were Independent
- By 1982 about 50 Nations are Independent and make Africa Strong In The United Nations
MAJOR PROBLEMS LEFTOVER FROM AFRICA'S COLONIAL HERITAGE

1. Colonial Boundaries were Drawn Without Regard For Religion Or Language
   - Unity Became Hard To Achieve

2. New Nations Lacked Experienced Leaders
   - Most African Nations have fallen victim to Military Dictatorships

3. Education is Lacking but many consider it the Greatest Hope for the Future of the Continent
UNFORTUNATELY...MORE PROBLEMS

- Population has Doubled every 30 years since Independence
  - People Moving From Countryside To Cities
  - Causes Unemployment And Crowded Slums

- Improvement Of Agriculture And The Development Of Industry is Needed
  - Majority of Africans are still Farmers
  - Climate change has hurt African Agriculture
  - Africa is too dependent on Imported Manufactured Goods
  - Need to Develop their own Industry
Zaire (Belgian Congo) Is Renamed To Reject Its Colonial Past (Ebola Virus)

Zimbabwe - Guerilla Warfare In Which Blacks Finally Came To Rule, As Long As They Agreed To Protect The Rights Of The White Minority
Colonel Momar Qaddafi Became The Leader Of Libya In 1969, Supported Radical Arab Causes (Terrorism)

In 2011, Civil War broke out in Libya and Qaddafi was driven from power

He was eventually found and killed.
South Africa Gained Independence from Great Britain in 1931
South Africa = The Richest Country in Africa
South African Society:

- 13% White (Afrikaners)
- 14% Asians/Mixed Races
- 73% Native Blacks
Since Independence the White Minority Ruled South Africa

In 1948 The Government Adopted a Policy of Apartheid = Complete Separation of the Races

African National Congress (ANC) was Founded to Achieve Black Equality

Its most Famous Leader, Nelson Mandela, was Arrested in 1960 and was in Prison for Over 30 Years

Foreign and Internal Pressures finally Ended Apartheid

The First Free Elections were held in 1994 and Nelson Mandela was Elected the First Black President of South Africa
MIDDLE EAST = OIL!!!!!
THE MIDDLE EAST

PEOPLE OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Where They Live:
- Farmers 50%
- City-Dwellers 47%
- Nomads 3%
3 Major monotheistic religions started in the Middle East

- Judaism
- Christianity
- Islam = Sunni (80%) And Shiite (20%) And Druze
  - Islam is the Dominant Religion in the Middle East
ETHNIC GROUPS (LANGUAGES)

1. Arabs - Most Countries In the Middle East
2. Turks - Turkey
3. Persian (Farsai) - Iran
4. Kurds - Nomadic; Armenian Mountains
5. Hebrews - Israel
Middle Eastern Countries Received Independence Between WWI And WWII From Great Britain And France, Except Palestine

The Nation That Is Israel Today Was Once Known As Palestine

In 1947, The U.N. Voted To Create The Jewish State Of Israel And The Muslim Arab State Of Palestine
On May 7, 1948 Israel Officially Becomes A Country And Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt And Iraq All Invade Israel And Were Defeated

Keys To Success:
1. Better Weapons
2. 6 Countries Didn’t Coordinate Attack

David Ben-Gurion Leads Israel's War For Independence And Became The First Prime Minister

Israel Took Palestine And Wiped It Off The Map → Palestinians = Refugees
In 1956, Gamal Abdel Nasser Seized Control Of The Suez Canal And Closed It To Ships From Israel

Great Britain And France Run The Suez Canal

Great Britain, France And Israel Attacked Egypt But The U.N. Stepped In And Stopped The War = 1956 Suez Canal Crisis
In 1967, Israel launched a surprise attack on Egypt, Syria, and Jordan and defeated them in 6 days = Six Day War

Israel Took:
1. West Bank (Jordan)
2. Sinai Peninsula (Egypt)
3. Golan Heights (Syria)
Egypt And Syria Attacked Israel On The Holy Day Of Yom Kippur In 1973, But Were Eventually Driven Back And Defeated = Yom Kippur War
OPEC = Organization Of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Influence Oil Prices, Led By Saudi Arabia

In 1973, The Arab Oil Embargo Quadrupled The Price Of Oil
Anwar Sadat was the President of Egypt, who in 1977 took a step towards peace by visiting Israel.

Menachem Begin was the Prime Minister of Israel, who visited Egypt.

In 1979, Egypt and Israel signed a peace treaty in Washington, D.C. called The Camp David Accords.

Egypt gets the Sinai Peninsula back and recognizes Israel's right to exist.
Palestinians Continued To Wage War Of Israel Through The PLO = Palestinian Liberation Organization = "Land For Peace" Led By Yasir Arafat

In September 1993, Israel Agreed To Give The Palestinians A Homeland In Exchange For Peace

Yitzhak Rabin Was Assassinated Before Peace Could Be Reached
LEBANON
- Civil War Broke Out In Lebanon Between Christians And Muslims In 1975
- Lebanon Is Still A War-Torn Country Today

SYRIA
- Since 1971, The Al-Assad Family Has Ruled Syria
  → Supports Extremism
- Currently, a Revolt against the Al-Assad Dictatorship
IRAN

- In 1925, Iran Became Independent And Its Leader Took The Title Of "The Shah"
- The Shah Was A Hated Man By Most People As He Was A Brutal Dictator
- What Country would Support such a Leader???

USA
IRAN

- In 1979, The People Of Iran Revolted And Overthrew The Shah
- The Holy Man, Ayatollah Khomeini, Came To Power, Started Islamic Fundamentalist Movement
- In November 1979, 59 American Hostages Were Seized At The American Embassy In Iran And Held For 444 Days
IRAN

- In 1980, Iraq Attacked Iran, And **Iraq-Iran War (1980-1988)** Became The Bloodiest War Since WWII
IRAQ

- In August 1990, Iraq, Under The Leadership Of Saddam Hussein, Conquered Kuwait In 24 Hours
- The U.S., Under George Bush, Sr., Organized A Worldwide Coalition To Drive Iraq Out Of Kuwait
- In January 1991 Operation Desert Storm Was Launched To Liberate Kuwait And Iraq Was Defeated In 6 Weeks
NATIONS OF THE MIDDLE EAST

- Islamic Fundamentalism (1979), Osama Bin Laden = Former Leader Of Al-Qaida
IRAQ
- In 2003, America Drives Saddam Hussein From Power under the pretenses of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Links to Al-Qaida
- The War has cost over 1 Trillion Dollars and has hurt America’s Reputation Abroad
A Pro-Democracy Movement swept the Middle East in 2011, driving Dictators from Power in Tunisia, Egypt and Libya.

There are currently Uprisings against Dictatorships in Syria, Bahrain, and some other Smaller Protests.