



World Studies for Georgia Students-Grade 7

Chapter 4: The Geography and History of Southwest Asia – Section 4: A Brief History of Southwest Asia

Guided Notes

Instructions: Read the section and complete each item with words from the passages in this section.

1. Until the end of World War I, much of Southwest Asia was controlled by the _____ Empire, as it had been since the 1300s.
2. After the San Remo Agreements in 1920, the remains of the empire were _____, or divided, into smaller countries. Many of these new countries, like _____, are part of Southwest Asia today.
3. When the European politicians drew borders for the new countries, they paid little attention to the _____ and _____ groups living in these areas, and the groups were not allowed to have input into these decisions.
4. As a result, there has been ongoing _____ in the region.
5. One of the most important conflicts that resulted from the new boundaries is the _____ - _____ conflict. In May 1948, the United Nations announced the creation of the country of _____ as a Jewish homeland.
6. Another source of conflict in Southwest Asia is the division in Islam between _____ and _____.
7. These divisions within Muslim communities remain even today, though there is little difference in their basic religious _____.
8. The _____ Muslims have always been the largest branch of Islam.
9. The _____ Muslims have always been a minority, but they make up a large portion of some countries today, like Iran, Iraq, and Lebanon.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

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10. After the dust settled and the new borders drawn, the _____ found their land divided among four countries: Syria, Turkey, Iran, and Iraq.
11. The United States has had major _____ and _____ interests in Southwest Asia since the 1800s.
12. The United States helped with _____ between countries after the fall of the Ottoman Empire and has been one of the biggest supporters of _____ since 1948.
13. As the 21st century began, the United States focused on Southwest Asia with the goal of trying to end _____ and promote _____ within the region.
14. This war was called the _____ conflict and is sometimes referred to as Operation Desert Storm. It began in August 1990, when Iraq invaded _____ in an attempt to gain control over _____ large supplies of oil.
15. After these terrible attacks, United States intelligence sources identified a _____ group called al-Qaeda, or “the Force,” as the people who had planned and carried out the attack.
16. One of the goals of _____ was to stop the influence of American and European culture in Southwest Asia.
17. As a result of this view that _____ was a threat, the United States invaded _____ in 2003. This invasion is often referred to as Operation _____.
18. In 2005, elections were held in _____ for the first time in many years, but the new government was not strong or stable, and conflict continued throughout the country.