

SECTION 1

NATIONS OF SOUTH ASIA

TEXT SUMMARY

After World War II, Britain agreed to free India. At the same time, riots broke out between the Hindu majority and the Muslim minority. To settle the disputes, Britain gave Muslims control of lands in eastern and western India in 1947. These became East and West Pakistan. (After other conflicts, East Pakistan became the independent nation of Bangladesh.) The **partition**, or division, of India did not bring peace. Many were killed crossing the borders between India and Pakistan.

After independence, India and Pakistan developed similar goals. All wanted a stable government. They needed technology to control nature and raise food for growing populations. Industrial and economic development was necessary to become modern nations.

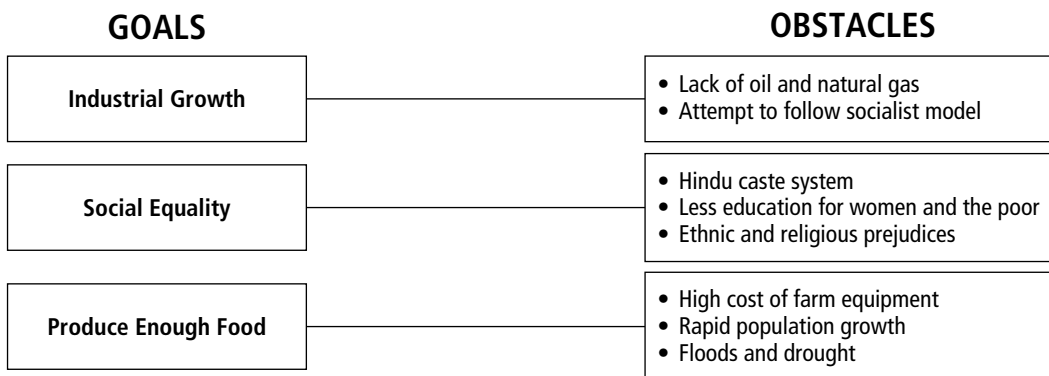
Obstacles, or barriers, stood in the way of achieving these goals. (See diagram below.) Religious and ethnic battles made unity difficult. Floods and droughts ruined crops, and farms could not feed the huge populations. Few countries in the region had natural resources such as oil.

Fear and mistrust often guided relationships in South Asia. India and Pakistan fought several times for control of Kashmir, a region in the Himalayas. Both India and Pakistan developed nuclear weapons and refused to sign a treaty banning their use. In the Cold War, India signed a treaty of friendship with the U.S.S.R, but tried to remain neutral. Pakistan accepted aid from the United States.

THE BIG IDEA

The partition of India in 1947 created two nations—India and Pakistan.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Obstacles to Progress in India*



India aimed to improve life for its people, but problems got in the way.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Why was India partitioned in 1947?

2. **Diagram Skills** What were two obstacles that kept India from growing enough food?

FORCES SHAPING THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST

TEXT SUMMARY

Diversity and nationalism have shaped the Middle East. While most of its people are Muslim, the lands are also home to Jews and Christians. People in the

THE BIG IDEA

Ethnic and religious diversity and an Islamic revival are some of the forces shaping the Middle East today.

Middle East speak many languages and belong to different cultures. These differences have led to conflict. Likewise, nationalism caused turmoil. Europeans created borders for their Middle Eastern colonies, forcing people of different races and religions to live together.

With independence, the artificial divisions led to armed clashes. At the same time, some Arabs dreamed of one unified Arab state.

Resources have had a powerful impact on the region. The discovery of oil brought

power to some Middle Eastern nations, but oil resources are unevenly distributed across the region. The oil-rich nations are able to pay for their own development while those that lack oil must go without. Another precious resource, water, may soon be more important than oil. Nations argue over water rights but also work together to solve water problems.

In many countries, the laws of Islam shape every part of life from government to family to fashion. In the 1950s and 1960s, some people began to take on western styles. Muslim leaders blamed problems on the new ways. By the 1990s, a return to Islam united much of the Muslim world. While Islamic reformers often rejected westernization, they did not reject modernization.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: Forces Shaping the Middle East

Religious and Ethnic Differences	Natural Resources	Governments	Islamic Traditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muslims, Christians, and Jews • Different sects within religions • More than 30 languages • Religious, racial, and cultural prejudices • Desire for a united Arab state 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Largest oil fields in the world in parts of the region • Oil-rich nations gain wealth and political and economic power • Limited water supply • Arguments over dams and water rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Democracy in Israel and Turkey • Rule by royal family in Jordan and Saudi Arabia • Single-party dictators in Iraq and Syria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laws of Islam influence government, society, and personal life • Anti-western feelings • 1990s revival of Islamic traditions

These forces have created a land of unrest where people fight to claim their lands, defend their faith, and guard their wealth.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What religion has the most influence on the way of life in the Middle East?

2. Chart Skills Explain how two resources have shaped the Middle East.

NATION BUILDING IN THE MIDDLE EAST: THREE CASE STUDIES

TEXT SUMMARY

Turkey, Egypt, and Iran have the largest populations in the Middle East. All are Muslim, but each has its own history.

Turkey, after years of military rule, set up a democracy in the 1920s. Then, it joined NATO in the 1950s. In the 1990s, Muslim leaders challenged the tradition of secular government. Ethnic conflicts troubled Turkey. It once aimed to stamp out the culture of the Kurds, but eventually let up. Battles over the island of Cyprus led Greeks and Turks to divide that land in the 1970s.

Since 1950, Egypt has had three strong leaders. Gamal Abdel Nasser ended foreign control and modernized Egypt. He ended British control of the Suez Canal, set up a socialist economy, and built Arab pride. Under Nasser, Egypt lost two wars

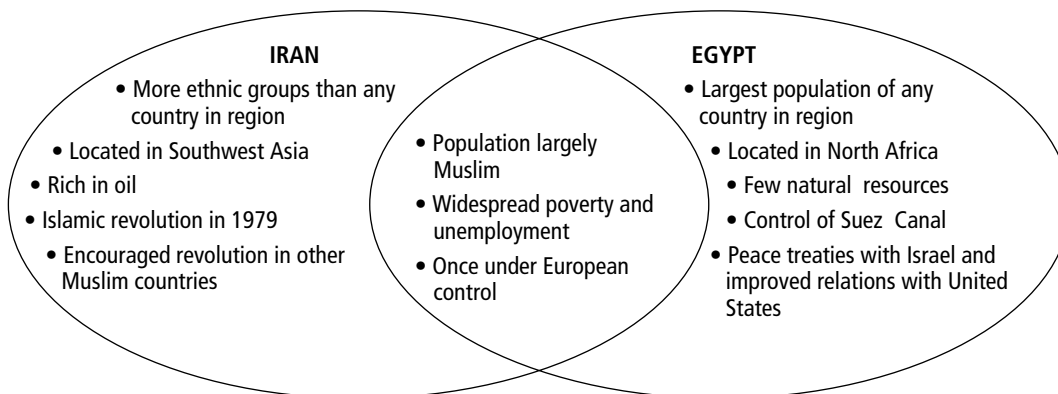
with Israel. In 1970, Anwar Sadat opened doors to private and foreign business. He formed ties with the United States but angered Arabs by making peace with Israel. After Sadat was assassinated in 1981, Hosni Mubarak kept the peace with Israel and improved relations with other Arab lands.

With Western help, the **shah**, or ruler, of oil-rich Iran built industry. He gave land to peasants, granted rights to women, and removed religion from government. However, he used force to keep control. In 1979, Ayatollah Khomeini led a revolt and the shah fled to America. Khomeini died in 1989. More moderate leaders tried to build a modern Iran while staying true to Islam.

THE BIG IDEA

Turkey, Egypt, and Iran have faced similar issues, but have followed separate paths.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: *Two Nations of the Middle East*



While Egypt and Iran share some of the same problems, each has issues of its own.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What steps did Nasser take to end foreign control of Egypt?

2. **Diagram Skills** How do natural resources differ in Iran and in Egypt?

THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE WORLD

TEXT SUMMARY

Shipping routes and oil fields make conflicts in the Middle East global concerns. During the Cold War, the Soviet Union and the United States each had allies in the region.

In the battle over Palestine, America helped Israel and the Soviets aided the Arabs. Both Arabs and Jews saw Palestine as a **homeland**, or country of one's ancestors. Wars broke out in 1948, 1956, 1967, and 1973.

Israel, the Jewish state, fought off Arab attacks, took land, and forced Palestinian Arabs from their homes. The Palestinians answered with terrorist attacks. Although Israel reached a historic agreement with the Palestinians in 1993, some Arabs and Jews accused leaders of giving up "promised lands."

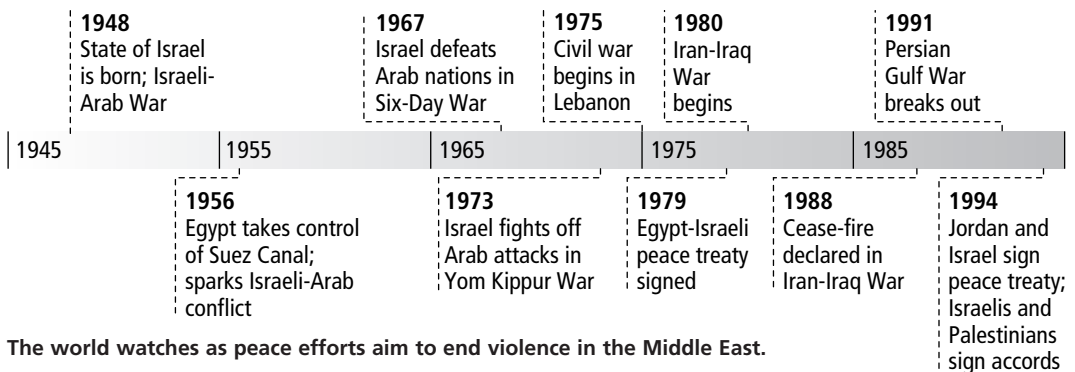
Some Palestinian Muslims fled to Lebanon. There, Muslims fought Christians and Muslim sects fought each other. In 1983, a UN force pulled out after Muslim terrorists killed French and American troops. By 1990, some order returned to Lebanon.

The Persian Gulf has seen two big conflicts, each caused in part by border disputes. In 1980, an Iran-Iraq War threatened ships and oil fields. In 1987, the United States Navy went to the Gulf to protect the flow of oil. In 1990, Iraq invaded Kuwait to seize oil fields. The United States saw this action as a threat to Saudi Arabia and the oil flow. In the 1991 Gulf War, United States bombs pounded Iraq while troops freed Kuwait. The war, however, did not destroy Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein or end Middle East tensions.

THE BIG IDEA

Global concern arises over conflicts in the Middle East because of vital shipping routes and natural resources.

GRAPHIC SUMMARY: Conflict in the Middle East: 1948–1994



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Explain the role the United States played in two Middle East conflicts.
2. **Time Line Skills** Which Arab nation was the first to sign a peace treaty with Israel?